

The Commuter

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YOU NEED TO SHOUT!!!!

Free Speech Week
April 18-22
Diversity Achievement Center

Wednesday, April 20

- "Berkeley in the Sixties" movie 10-Noon-DAC
- Discussion and Lobby Day Recruiting 12-2 pm-DAC
- Movie Night in the DAC re-showing of "Berkeley in the Sixties" 5-7 pm-DAC

Thursday, April 21

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

Friday, April 22

- Lobby Day Recruiting and "Berkeley in the Sixties" 1-3 pm-DAC

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**You Gotta Fight for Your Right**

Jeb Oliver
Staff Writer

In 1964, 100 students united in Berkeley, Calif., to lead a free-speech movement. This week the DAC hosts a free-speech forum in the hopes of educating the student body about the free-speech movement as well as showing that as college students today we still have the ability to do great things through activism.

One of the leading organizers of the forum, Ricky Zipp, hopes to bring awareness of this movement to campus and hopes it will inspire.

"I think the want to get involved is there," says Zipp, "just not the knowledge. Students are just super busy. It's about the little sacrifices that can make a difference."

The hope of the forum is to have a discussion about how to be positive-ly active. They will also be showing the movie "Berkeley in the Sixties" each day.

On Wednesday from noon to 2 p.m., there will be a discussion in the DAC about positive activism and freedom of speech and how to use them. "We have a lot of rights," Zipp says. "We need to use them responsibly."

On Thursday from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., there will be another open discussion on freedom of speech and positive activism. Zipp also hopes to start a debate club on campus this week.

Zipp, who has been working for the DAC since organizing the Malcolm X event last year, wants

to teach and sees this as just one of many opportunities to get the word out. "I want to teach; I wanted student activism groups on campus," says Zipp.

Zipp started a magazine, The Communiqué, with a group of other budding activists on campus, including Emma Berry, James Smith and Dick Gentry.

When asked about activism on campus, Zipp says, "This has all been trial by fire. We start, it fails. We try again and hope it sticks. We really feel that the students are out there. They are willing to do this. They just need the spark. It's about education and activism," he says.

If you want to be part of the activism on campus, attend some of the events during this week.

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OFFICE HOURS with Gary Ruppert

Marci Sischo
Webmaster

Gary Ruppert, LBCC's dean of instruction, is retiring on June 30, after more than 35 years of service. He'll be giving a Farewell Concert on April 27 at 7:30 p.m. The free concert is open to everyone. It'll feature Ruppert on piano, his wife Karen singing, and will include songs such as the theme from M*A*S*H, "Well You Needn't," "All That Jazz," and more.

The Commuter recently caught up with Ruppert to talk with him about the concert and his career.

Commuter: So, tell us about your career at LBCC. What have you taught here? Have you taught elsewhere?

Gary Ruppert: I started in 1974 as part-time faculty, and became contracted faculty in 1975. I started with teaching music theory and appreciation, and jazz appreciation, and went back to do grad work to be certified to teach speech.

I became the department chair for Performing Arts, and then, in 1998, I became the dean of Arts and Communication. In 2009, I became the dean of instruction, where I'm responsible for the catalog of scheduled classes, approving programs with the state, and approving faculty to teach.

I did teach part-time at Lang for a while, and I taught at a high school, too, where I discovered I did not want to teach high school.

C: How long have you been playing piano?

GR: I have a master's in piano performance. I've been playing piano – jazz and classical – for 55 years. I was in a rock band in high school – several, actually, kind of a "band of the month."

C: What will you miss most about LBCC? What are your plans for retirement?

GR: I'll miss the people, particularly as I look back to the Arts and Communications faculty. I hired a lot of the people there.

I'm giving myself four months to be totally unscheduled, just to see what that feels like. After that, I want to write a course of study for private piano instructors, jazz in particular. Many of them aren't sure how to teach it, and the materials are pretty poor. We want to do some traveling, also, but



provided by LBCC

Dean of Instruction Gary Ruppert prepares to retire after 35 years.

we don't have anything finalized. Maybe an Alaskan cruise in September.

C: You're giving a farewell concert on April 27 – what prompted that idea?

GR: The idea of the concert – the thing I like about it is it's my way to say goodbye instead of just walking out the door. It's a way to give back to the school.

Gary's Good-bye

What: A farewell concert by Gary Ruppert with a wine reception afterward
Where: Russell Tripp Performance Center
When: 7:30 p.m.
Tickets: \$10 (benefiting the Arts Special Events Fund)
Available at the LBCC Box Office

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LBCC Career Fair Packed with Opportunities

Marci Sischo
Webmaster

Marci Johnston, a career and employment specialist for Linn-Benton Community College, expected 1,200 or more people to brave the blustery April rain and attend LBCC's 33rd Annual Career Fair last Thursday, April 14.

"There's typically been between 800 and 1,600 attendees in past years," Johnston said. "Last year was our highest attendance, due to the bad economy."

Both federal and state government agencies are reporting a recovering economy. Job opportunities certainly abounded at the career fair.

There were 54 employers at the career fair, 46 of which were actively recruiting. Among the employers were longtime LBCC career fair attendees ATI Wah Chang, Miller Timber, Samaritan Health, and the Corvallis Clinic, as well as fresh faces such as Lowe's, Clean Water Systems, Edward Jones, and Peak Internet.



Hundreds crowd into the LBCC Activity Center for Career Day. *Tony Brown*

"We usually try to get a big variety of employers, and try to match the programs we offer," Johnston said.

Police and City employers were in attendance, as well as many of representatives from industrial, technical, health, and forestry fields.

The LBCC Activity Center was packed with students and non-students alike, swarming the employer stands. Each table had a few people waiting in line to speak with representatives, and most had

lines 10 deep or better.

"I can't even imagine how many people I've talked to today," said Keith Lynch, HR manager for Lowe's. "This is my first year here. It's been a great experience today."

His comment stood in contrast to some of the jobseekers at the fair, squeezing through the aisles, searching the tables with resigned eyes and stacks of resumes and applications held to their chests.

Gary Weder has been unemployed for 31 months. The former Hewlett-Packard employee with

three degrees was at the job fair, looking for "anything he could find." He said he had 200 resumes out at the moment. "I've had five interviews. My wife owns a flower shop in Corvallis, and I'm using up my retirement funds. We're just trying to hold on to the house."

Mike Brown, a former LBCC student, was also prowling the aisles. He's a self-employed online reseller. "I was in real estate a few months ago, just got out of that," he said. "I'm here to see what is available. I'm looking for anything."

Linda Hite a self-employed caregiver, is looking for a full-time job. "It's tough to work for yourself," she said. "It would be nice to have something I can depend on."

It's hard to collect information about how successful the career fair is. Johnston explained, "We send out questionnaires to the employers after the event, but we only get a small percentage back. Most of the employers say they're recruiting, though. So maybe things are finally looking up."

Can Silence Make a Statement?

Jeb Oliver
Staff Writer

The Gay Strait Alliance (GSA) will hold a Day of Silence on Friday, April 22, to bring awareness to the suffering and silence the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) community often endures because of society's intolerance.

The GSA also plans to host a pride panel on April 22. This panel will include members of the LGBT community who will speak about and answer questions relating to their experiences. The GSA is a support group for the LGBT community and their allies.

The GSA does its best to provide education to the general community and to give members of the LGBT world a place where they can feel comfortable and safe -- a place where they can feel like they belong.

The advisor, Karelia Stetz-Waters, who is also an instructor at LBCC, wanted to give back to the LGBT community. "I grew up in Corvallis," says Stetz-Waters.

"When I came out at 16, at the time there was no group for gay teens. So when I came back, I wanted to reach out to other LGBTs, I wanted to make this exist for someone else."

Cory Warren, the student leader of the GSA, looks forward to the Day of Silence.

"The issues that deal with equality relate to the intolerance of any kind in our society," says Warren. Quoting Martin Luther King Jr., he adds, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

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Hutch Is on the Case



Jeb Oliver
Staff Writer

LBCC will soon be the new training area for Hutch and his trainer, Officer Aaron Davis of the Albany police department. Hutch, a drug-sniffing dog, is a three-year-old Belgian Malinois who was most likely bred in Holland.

When Hutch was found, he was reported as a coyote hanging around a gas station just outside of Los Angeles. An officer from Medford, Rob Havice, flew down to evaluate the dog. He found that Hutch came from fine breeding – the kind you would find in Europe, where the best police dogs are from.

Officer Havice brought Hutch back to Oregon, where the Albany Police Department took control of him on Labor Day 2010.

Officer Davis, who has over 18 years of experience in law enforcement and spent seven years as a detective investigating narcotics manufacture, distribution, and trafficking in Albany, was selected to be the dog's trainer. Davis went to the Border Patrol's K9 center near Fort Bliss, Texas, for a six-week course in dog handling.

"The class had 34 border patrol

agents and me," says Davis. "One of these things is not like the other."

The border patrol does some of the hardest police training in America. According to Davis, the border patrol has graduated 2,000 dogs through its program.

Out of the 18 drives that dogs have, Hutch has four attributes and three character traits that make him a great drug-sniffing dog. He has trainability, is active and playful, has the desire to hunt, retrieve, and play, and can detect air scents.

When asked to describe his relationship with Hutch, Davis said "I'm the pack leader," and that they get along very well. Hutch is a very friendly dog.

Davis went on to say, "He would very easily be a great pet, but that's not his job. His job is to find drugs." Hutch is trained to smell cocaine, meth, heroine, and marijuana. Hutch was never trained as a patrol dog, so he isn't violent in any way.

Patrol dogs do protection work, tracking work, and pursuit. Drug-sniffing dogs are called detection dogs because they do just that – detect. There are many different kinds of detection dogs, from drug-sniffing dogs like Hutch, to bomb-, accelerant- and even

agriculture-sniffing dogs. All these kinds of dogs do their part in law enforcement around the nation.

Hutch allows for the APD to do further investigations. He is a great tool to build probable cause in criminal investigations.

"He is also a great labor-saving device," says Davis. "He can search a greater area than people can. He won't find scales or guns, but he will find the drugs."

"Detection dog training is entirely based on positive reinforcement. This is unlike most law enforcement; you don't get pulled over because you do something right or to get a great citizen award. In detection dog training, he gets an award instead of getting punished, unlike most law enforcement." Davis goes on to say "Hutch exists for one purpose, and he loves it job."

When asked how he felt about his job, Davis was nothing but filled with joy when he described his work. "I have a partner who is happy to see me every morning. In 18 years of law enforcement I was looking for a challenge. It wasn't easy, but if it was I wouldn't do it."

See more pictures online at:
commuter.linnbenton.edu



Counter-clockwise from top: Police dog Hutch keeps a watchful eye while taking a rest.

Officer Aaron Davis shows Hutch some love for a job well done.

Hutch finds the hidden drugs during a demonstration.

Officer Davis of the Albany Police Department.

Officer Davis lets Hutch lead him to the suspicious material.



Words and Pictures Fill South Santiam Hall



Alyssa Archer

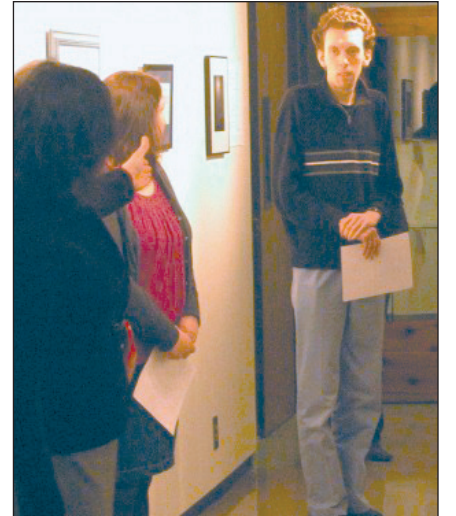
Alyssa Archer
Photography Assistant

In honor of National Poetry Month, the LBCC Poetry Club and Willamette Valley PhotoArts Guild combined forces to put together an inspirational display in the SSH Gallery on campus. Many guests and students were among the audience at a reception held last Wednesday, April 13, for the artists and writers to discuss their work. It was complete with poetry readings by the authors

themselves and brief descriptions from some of the photographers who could attend.

Some of the most impacting poems had the fewest words, and the photos that made the biggest statement were possibly the most simplistic. Many may say "a picture is worth a thousand words," yet something can be said for words that can create a thousand pictures.

The poems and photos will continue to be on display until April 29 in the South Santiam Hall Gallery.



Drew Wilson-McGrath

From left: Photographer Walt O'Brien stands in front of one of his pieces.

Robin Havenick introduces one of the poets.

A visitor to the gallery admires a piece of art.

Tav Knight prepares to read his poem.



Alyssa Archer



Alyssa Archer

"Lobby Day"
April 25th

Students Unite to Increase LBCC funding.

Lobby Meeting at 7:30am leaving time

Save Our School Rally at 11:00am leaving time

Find out more by emailing Student Life and Leadership
at asgvicepresident@linnbenton.edu

Lobby Day April 25th
Save Our School

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

Letter to the Editor

No Delays in Military Pay

I spent four wonderful years in the United States Marine Corps. During that time, I went overseas twice, once to Iraq and once to South Korea. However, I don't want to talk about me. I want to voice my thoughts of what could happen to the men and women who are there now.

I'm sure that somewhere you have heard of the possible government shutdown, the cutting of non-essential workers, and the pay freeze of the military. If you haven't heard of it, here is some background.

Last week, according to CNN, the government almost shut down because they are spending too much. Now they want to cut government spending by getting rid of non-essential workers and freezing the military's pay. I can understand getting rid of the non-essential workers. I would not pay for something I did not need either; however, freezing the military's pay is not something I would suggest.

I speak from my experience now. During my time in the Corps, I did a lot of things that should be worth much more than I was paid. For example, I worked 23-hour days for almost a year and only got paid \$1,200 a month. The men and women who now make up the nation's defenses do similar things, especially the men and women who are overseas. Every day men and women get injured or killed fighting a war against an unseen enemy and all the government wants to do for them is freeze their pay. Why? I have a theory.

I believe that the spending of the government represents the spending of individuals as well. Congressmen and senators, even the president, go to work every morning in the best clothes. They all wear high-priced suits. Superstars and athletes make millions of dollars for one game or one song. The men and women overseas get shot at for the sole purpose of protecting that way of life and the closest they get to those amounts is their \$400,000 life insurance policy. Do you see the horror in this? We, as a nation, pay people who play games for a living more money than they could ever use, but we neglect the people who save our lives every day without hesitation or regret, and now we want to stop paying them.

Let's break this down. First, the government stops paying the troops. Does anyone think that is a good idea? Why would we not pay the people who protect us? This concept does not make sense to me. Second, the troops stop fighting. They don't get paid enough for what they do anyway, would you do their jobs for free? Who knows what's coming next? INVASION. That's right. If the troops stop fighting, then the terrorists they are fighting are free to walk right into our homes. That does not sound very fun! I can't speak for everyone when I say, "I don't want that!" I have a wife and son, and under no circumstances would I ever want them to deal, first-hand, with what our troops have to deal with. I would gladly give up every dime I have to pay the troops fighting to keep that from happening. I also think that it is high time that our leaders do the same because without our troops we, as a country, would not make it much longer.

The United States of America is the land of the free, but what makes us free? We still pay taxes. We still have laws. Don't get me wrong, both of these examples have their places and we need them to have a country. However, before everything else, to keep the land of the free free, we need our troops, not our government. If we don't pay our troops and support their sacrifice, then we won't have a country to have a government. Think about it and support our troops.

Nicholas Harvey



Wish O'Keefe's Nose Grew like Pinocchio's

Why does anybody ever listen to James O'Keefe, the young man who became particularly notorious when he dressed up as a pimp and got members of ACORN (a group for helping low-income families) to "give him advice" on opening a brothel for underage women? The stunt caused a massive outcry and ACORN lost most of its funding. It actually turned out that O'Keefe was a lying dirtbag. The video had been massively edited to make ACORN look bad. He hadn't actually dressed as a pimp until after the interview for a retake that was used in the edited video.

Well, he's done it again. Perhaps you heard a few weeks back about a video released showing former CEO of NPR, Ron Schiller, talking with two men claiming to be part of a Muslim group dedicated to spreading Sharia law in the U.S.? Well, in that video, he said he supported the spread of Sharia law, that all liberals are more intelligent and educated than conservatives, that the GOP is anti-intellectual, and that it has been taken over by the Tea Party, who are all a bunch of racists and scary. NPR hastily fired him for this video. Well, the Blaze, a website started by Glen Beck, got its hands on the original video, and guess what? Turns out James O'Keefe is a lying dirtbag! No way! Who knew? It isn't like he hasn't done this before or anything!

Once again, he had edited the video to death to make it appear that Schiller was saying all of this.



Adam LaMascus
Opinion Editor

Admittedly, he did make a few comments that were a little embarrassing, but they were because he said them in a smug way, not because he was being an elitist asshat. He certainly didn't say the vast majority of what the video claimed. He also said a number of compliments about good things and ideas the Republicans have, and anything negative he said about the Tea Party he said was told to him by Republican friends. Was any of that in the released video? Of course not.

As I asked before, why do we even listen to this manipulative punk who edits with a machete? Not only has he caused a media frenzy twice by lying to intentionally make other people look bad, (isn't that libel, which is illegal?) but he also got in trouble for trying to enter a senator's office while in disguise (illegal). He also got in trouble for another scam in which he tried to "sexually humiliate" a CNN reporter.

Regardless of the complete crap he turns out, the way he is accepted doesn't help anybody. I remember seeing O'Keefe on FOX News, hearing multiple pundits refer to him as "a great young Right-winger" and an ideal Republican. Really? The slimy snake who is known for being a manipulative liar to everybody, including his friends, is the ideal Republican? Sure, that's a great message to tell the world. Personally, I'd want to be associated with him as little possible.

I can only hope that the next time an O'Keefe video pops up, the media learns from its prior mistakes and doesn't instantly declare that somebody needs be fired or lose funding. But, then again, that's hoping that the mainstream media will be intelligent, so I suppose it's more a prayer than a hope.

Death and Facebook

Recently, a friend of mine died. It was a sudden blow to all of us, and we're still mourning her loss. She had moved to Portland, and I had not seen her for a while. In a society that connects so many over such great distances, it's becoming increasingly common for people to discover such sad tidings over the internet. This is exactly how I found out: on Facebook. This was my first encounter with grieving a friend I had come to see almost exclusively over a social networking site. Her page was filled with messages of love and support for her family.

Then something happened.

When I went to check my messages, there she was: online. Excuse me? For a split second I toyed with the possibility that the whole thing had been a sick joke. But no. She was gone, that much was certain. It made me wonder, who exactly has her password and why are they on her page? It unnerved me.

Later in the week I kept getting updates from her. People were tagging her in photographs – that is, they were tagging the blank space next to them at the bar. She continued to "check in" from different places. Isn't the "check in" feature something you do with your phone? And if so, who



Maggie O'Reilly
Cartoonist

has her phone and why? Eventually I made the decision to remove her from my friends list.

I know different people grieve in different ways. I tried to ignore it. I'm

not a conservative person, and I try to be open-minded to the needs of others. But that was too much for me.

At the risk of sounding prudish, I found the whole situation in extremely poor taste. I don't think it's appropriate to continue someone's updates on a social networking site after they've died. On top of being rude, it was downright creepy. It does not help the grieving process if I am haunted by the ghost of my friend's status updates.

It makes me wonder what social networking sites are doing to our relationships. Some say they are connecting people, while others warn

that they cheapen our friendships. What side does this behavior ring true of? Are people so attached to this woman that they want to continue to include her, even in spirit? Or are they so far removed from reality that they can't see her as anything but a way to get attention for themselves?

I suppose it's up to us to decide individually. Tragedy eventually comes to all of us, but I implore you all to remember my story. To be blunt: this was very, very weird for me. Please consider the other people mourning before you decide to indulge in creepy public fantasies.

Belief-ism?

I'm not sure why there's such a war between atheists and the religious communities; both have their blind, closed-minded extremists – just as both have their reasonable nuggets of gold.

(As the peanut-gallery from both sides cry, "Nuh-uh! THEY'RE the blind, closed-minded crazies!")

Forgive my agnostic self while I pick on the atheists first. It's just that most of my friends fall into this category, so I hear their side more often.

I was discussing with a pal of mine different ways humanity could better itself and save the world. Catching me totally off-guard, my buddy said, "But humans will never be able to save themselves as long as people still believe there's some big man in the sky."

First of all, this comment came completely out of nowhere. In no way were we talking about religion or even alluding to it.

Second, I found it offensive, even though it didn't apply to me (nor am I easily offended). There was definitely some eyebrow-furrowing action, but I mostly just dismissed the comment and moved on with the conversation. Sure, it struck me, but it took me until after the conversation to realize why.

It's right on par with racism. In my eyes, he single handedly created belief-ism with his belief-ist



Justin Bolger
Editor-in-Chief

statement. (Yeah, it sounds a little goofy, but I think it's a pretty apt descriptor.)

"Wahhh! But religions oppress other people and their choices/personal freedoms!" Yeah, well, that's exactly what your disgust of religion is doing, too.

I think putting a blanket aggression over something as diverse as religion is completely foolish and blind. There are just too many flavors; it's like harboring hatred for something as vague as meals that are cooked. The spectrum is just too great in regards to beliefs as well as for believers.

I appreciate that people need to have trust in something, whether it's a particular ideal, philosophy, mentor, study, theology or what have you. It gives people strength and drive regardless of their choice. If a person had zero total faith, why would they do anything at all?

I don't know if you realize this, but there's a certain degree of faith one puts into trusting science as well – just sayin'. Also, you can disprove spiritual beliefs about as well as you can prove them, so good luck either way.

Religious extremists are just as guilty, but I'm fairly certain they've been doing it a lot longer. (Hmm... now that I'm pondering the idea of typing down this path, I don't really want to open two cans of worms at once. I think I'll just leave it to your imagination to fill in the blanks. Work is about to get started anyway.)

Read moer on Justin's blog at:
justbolger.wordpress.com

BACK *in the* DAY

Adam LaMascus

Opinion Editor

This day in history ...

April 20, 1818: Justice is blind ...

The case of Ashford v. Thornton is concluded in Britain. Thornton had been arrested for the murder and rape of Mary Ashford, but had been acquitted and set free. However, he is rearrested when Mary's brother declares he wants to make an appeal on the case. In response, Thornton declares his right to Trial by Combat, essentially a duel where the winner is determined to be right, that hadn't been used since the 1500s, but had never officially been taken off the books. Ashford declines to fight Thornton, who is set free and immigrates to the U.S.

April 21, 1836: Don't mess with Texas ...

The ragtag group of 753 Texan rebels led by Sam Houston charges across a field near the San Jacinto river and assaults the Mexican army of over 1,500 men led by President Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. The Mexican army is resting during a siesta and had forgotten to post sentries and didn't even notice the Texans until they were less than 200 yards away. Right before the charge hits home, a cry is raised for the first time: "Remember the Alamo!" The Mexican army breaks like a twig. While the actual combat goes on for only 18 minutes, the Texans massacre the fleeing Mexicans for over an hour. Nine Texans are killed and 23 are wounded while the Mexicans lose 630 killed, 208 wounded, and 730 captured. This heroic victory directly leads to Texas' independence from Mexico. On a side note, at the time, residents of Texas were known as "Texians."

April 22, 1954: Are you now or have you ever been ...

The first witnesses are called in the Army-McCarthy hearings. The Army accuses McCarthy of trying to get his friends preferential treatment in the military. McCarthy accuses the Army of being infiltrated by Communists. The trials end on Dec 2, 1954 with the jury deciding to censure McCarthy, effectively ending his career.

April 23, 1635: Sumus Primi ...

The Boston Latin School is opened in Boston. It is both the first public school and the oldest school in the United States. Four years of Latin are required at the school. The school's logo is of Romulus and Remus (the brothers who founded Rome) suckling a wolf. The mascot is a wolf (the wolf that raised Romulus and Remus) and the school colors are purple and white (colors popular in the upper class of ancient Rome).

April 24, 1918: The future is now ...

The first tank vs. tank battle in history occurs during World War I. Three German A7Vs engage and defeat three British Mark IV tanks in the small French commune of Villers-Bretonneux.

April 25, 1945: Everybody loves San Francisco ...

Representatives from 50 nations meet in San Francisco, beginning the United Nations Conference on International Organization. After two months of talks, the charter creating the UN is signed on June 26, 1945.

April 26, 1865: Sic semper tyrannis ...

John Wilkes Booth is cornered in a barn by Union soldiers, who demand his surrender. He refuses, and they light the barn on fire. At this point, Sgt. Boston Corbett shoots and kills Booth, who is still hiding inside the barn. Corbett claims Booth was raising a pistol to shoot at the soldiers. The other witnesses say Corbett shot for absolutely no reason, directly disobeying an order to take Booth alive.

Thought for the week:

"... Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But I repeat myself."

-Mark Twain

Common Knowledge

OR AT LEAST IT SHOULD BE

Oversharing

Gabriela Scottaline

Contributing Writer

During the three short terms I have been attending LB, I've observed many of its little quirks. I suppose these quirks can be seen almost anywhere people gather for a common purpose, but college campuses seem to be particularly susceptible.

One little social phenomenon that continuously presents itself is the endearing way students treat class lecture time. Just the other day in my psychology class, the topic of the placebo pill came up as part of the relevant subject matter.

This topic sparked the interest of a female classmate who piped up with, "On Grey's Anatomy ..." and continued her thought until it was fully exhausted -- and we were all painfully bored. The professor did a fairly good job of wrangling this wildly stray topic back in and regaining control. But it took some valuable time.

I find it entertaining that students chime in like that. Do they really think the rest of us are as interested in their personal anecdotes as they are? Do they sign up for a class thinking, "Oh, yes! This will be a perfect class in which to regurgitate

my life stories!" and triumphantly click the "add class" button?

If you think your class is exempt from indiscriminate sharers, don't be fooled! The term is still young. Every class has them. They give themselves away with their twitchy arms, always ready to shoot that hand up in the air when they feel they can wiggle in a personal story or two.

Those of you planning to transfer to OSU, beware! That school has sharers, too. Only there, the classes are bigger and the stories grander.

How do I know? During winter term, I sat in on a class at OSU with a friend who is enrolled there. It was a Families class, and the majority of its attendants were women of various ages. Toward the end of the class, I felt an eerie anticipation in the air, like a coming storm.

Then, like lightning, a hand shot up. A woman behind us decided that the whole class would benefit from hearing that she and her brothers lived on a farm and shared the responsibilities it held. I could sense, without even looking up, that laptops were being opened and Facebook statuses were being checked.

As the bored students perused their favorite websites, I asked my friend why this woman couldn't just go home and write in her diary. We stifled our inconsiderate laughter.

That's right, I said inconsiderate.

In my classes here at LB, there are always students willing to share. In one of my classes in particular, the sharers don't even bother to raise their hands. Honestly, I wouldn't either if I were just going to interrupt every five minutes. Raising your hand that often and waiting to be acknowledged wastes more precious class time, and absolutely no one likes time wasters.

What to some people is a nugget of unalloyed golden prose, to others is simply a clump of useless chatter. For example, the next time you are tempted to blab about when you babysat and the children were so entertainingly cute and funny – ask yourself this: Would I want to hear someone else tell the same story? The honest answer would usually be "nope."

Don't get me wrong, I love the quaint family feel of LB – it's what draws so many students. And, I have to admit, I have been caught enjoying a personal story or two. Besides, there isn't anything terribly wrong with these semi-annoying interruptions. I've never witnessed a class lecture where an extreme sharer needed to be carried off by security. I simply believe that sharing is not always helpful, contrary to the centuries of mothers telling us otherwise.



Our Healthy World with Dineen

Breakfast Does a Body Good

Dineen Charest

Staff Writer

Mom always said, "You have to eat breakfast; it is the most important meal of the day." However, what she didn't say is: What you eat is just as important as when you eat.

If you are trying to lose weight or even trying to maintain a healthy body composition, skipping breakfast is one of the worst things you can do.

Our bodies are in a "fasting mode" when we sleep. There is a 45-minute window of time to fuel the body when you awake or it automatically goes into fat storage mode. Not only does it store fat, it burns your muscle as its energy source.

By skipping breakfast you set up your body for a variety of health issues leading to obesity, poor body composition and physical problems like sarcopenia (age-related muscle loss), diabetes, and hyperglycemia. In children, we can correlate poor school performance and behavioral problems with skipping breakfast.

This brings us to the next subject -- What is a healthy breakfast? You may say it is a VooDoo Doughnut covered in Fruit Loops because it will give you energy, and it might for a short time. However, it will also raise your blood glucose levels.

Foods that are high in sugar give you what is called a high glycemic load. They are high in simple carbohydrates or refined sugars which may cause a burst of energy but which result in fatigue, headaches and concentration problems. High-glycemic-index foods have also been linked to ADHD and obesity.

Some breakfast foods that are high in refined sugars are cereals that have more than six grams of added sugar per serving, products made from white flour (like bagels and pastries), also soft drinks, energy drinks, and fruit-ades (like fruit punch or lemonade).

The first step in avoiding foods with refined sugars is to read labels. Beware of words on package labels with "ose" in them like (sucrose, fructose, dextrose and maltose,) or corn syrup, molasses, honey, sorbitol and corn sweetener. Refined sugars often hide themselves.

What are *good* breakfast foods? Low-fat proteins such as eggs, nonfat cottage cheese or yogurt, and tofu are a good place to start. Grains like oatmeal, along with fruits and vegetables, are excellent choices. Even nuts like almonds or walnuts (make sure they are not roasted) which add fiber and healthy fats to your meals are good for breakfast. If you are a cereal person, then the best choices are lower sugar/high fiber cereals.

So, take the breakfast challenge!

Try eating a healthy breakfast within a half of hour of waking for one full week. You will find yourself starting to gain an appetite in the morning. An appetite in the morning means your metabolism is waking up and starting to work. Not only is your metabolism working, but your body will start using your fat stores instead of your muscles as a source of energy.

Note to oneself ... Darn! Mom was right again; how does she *do* that?

Additional Resources

Healthy Breakfast Recipes:

eatingwell.com/recipes_menus

ADHD dietary information:

newideas.net/adhd/adhd-diet

Top Eight Best Tasting Healthy Cereals:

webmd.com/food-recipes

List of low, medium and high glycemic foods:

hsph.harvard.edu/nutritionsource

Obesity and skipping breakfast:

vaxa.com/healthtip

Toenail Polish, Gender Roles, and J. Crew

Jennifer M. Hartsock

Contributing Writer

"Lucky for me, I ended up with a boy whose favorite color is pink. Toenail painting is way more fun in neon."

This quote is from Jenna Lyons, the president of J.Crew, regarding quality time she spends painting her son's toes. From what I've seen on the news, many people are in an uproar, concerned that this little boy will have psychological problems along with gender confusion.

After taking three sociology classes last year, I must say, a little boy who loves pink and wears nail polish is a GOOD THING.

Because he likes to.

American culture has some pretty strict gender norms. For example, when a newborn baby is taken home, usually the room is blue or pink depending on the sex. Dolls or Hot Wheels? Toy Guns or Easy-Bake Oven? Pink nail polish or no nail polish?

From the get-go, we're conditioned into these gender roles and expected to act and enjoy certain feminine or masculine things. I think it's a shame that boys feel embarrassed to enjoy certain "feminine" things, or that girls feel unfeminine if they don't partake in "normal girl things."

As quoted from Fox News: "This is a dramatic example of the way that our culture is being encouraged to abandon all trappings of gender identity," psychiatrist Dr. Keith Ablow wrote about the ad. Uh, I say, "Good!"

Also from Fox News: "Media Research Center's



This ad stirred a lot of controversy for J. Crew.

Erin Brown agreed, calling the ad "blatant propaganda celebrating transgendered children." Again, we wouldn't have unintelligent comments like this if our culture accepted boys who like pink--or whatever color, really--to do whatever they choose with their own toes!

I'm not saying that being completely feminine or completely masculine is a bad thing; if it's truly who you are. I feel that most of us deal with a mix, but perhaps can't admit such a thing to friends or family or society.

In time, I would love to live in a culture where your personal tastes are not made fun of or considered wrong, as long as they aren't hurting anyone. Until then, I feel that we're missing out on knowing some pretty amazing people--for everything they are.

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

Sex AND THE Campus

Forget Cosmo, Try a Convo

The column lives!!!

The fight continues over the sex column, but it seems that, at least for now, we still get to have a real conversation about something important to all of us. Ideas are starting to flow from all of you, so thank you for all of your support.

Now, on to the advice of the week.

I recently spent the night at a friend's house. The only reading material to be found was a Cosmopolitan magazine. So, I actually picked it up and read a few articles. I have to say, this magazine, which caters to women, is the most awful example of advice for relationships I could possibly imagine.

If women listen to this advice, they may try something that is insane, or that is at least just uncomfortable. At worst, it is a sex move and/or advice that is physically dangerous or that makes you seem like the most crazy woman any man has ever dated or married.

So, my advice is to put the nutsy magazine down. Okay. Now, step away from it, walk right up to your man and say, "Honey," "Hubby," (whatever pet name you have for him) "What do you like?" or "What do you want in bed?" Trust me, men usually like to know you are thinking about sex and usually will be more than willing to tell you what they would like to try in bed.

The same thing goes for you guys out there. Ask your woman what she wants, what she likes. Trust



Job Oliver
Staff Writer



me if you have good communication, you're going to be very happy with the results. Make your lady or man happy people, and they will be very likely to return the favor.

You see, communication between the two of you is the most important factor in your relationship. You need to be able to communicate about sex as well as everything else in your relationship. Without communication, without talking about things, how can you fix what's wrong or improve what's right? This goes far beyond the bedroom and should be part of your everyday life. Be free to tell your lover, man or woman, what you feel and listen when they tell you. By compromise and willingness to try new things together you can build a lasting relationship. Don't get your advice from Cosmo, get it from each other.

I promise that if you stop getting nutsy advice from mostly sexist magazines and instead listen to each other's needs, your sex life and your relationship as a whole will improve tenfold. Remember when I said "own your sexuality?" Well, this is part of it. Owning how you feel and being able to express it with your partner is important. How can you hope to have a lasting relationship without the important conversation about your boundaries, wants and needs?

Questions?

Send in your questions to:
commuter.linnbenton.edu

Celebrate Earth Day at LBCC



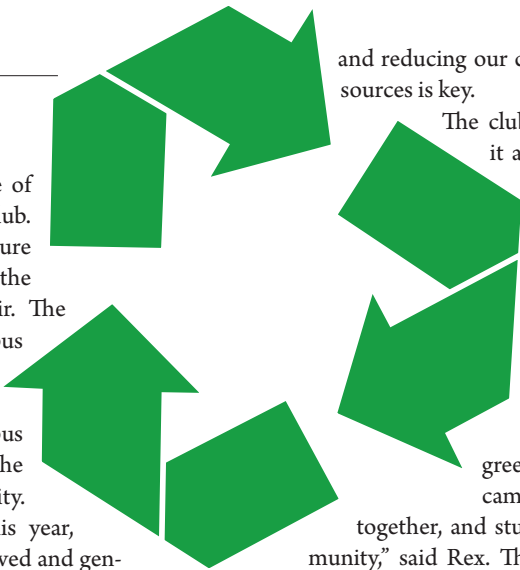
LB Clubs Team Up for Sustainability Fair

Tiffani Day
Contributing Writer

Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.
Sustainability is the name of the game for LB's Green Club. Green Club and the Horticulture Club will team up and host the Earth Day Sustainability Fair. The fair will be held in the campus courtyard from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The goal? To raise awareness, educate the campus community, and transfer the education to greater community.

Green Club reformed this year, "Hoping to get students involved and generate more interest," says Lori Fluge-Brunker, the club advisor. This year, Green Club has made recycling information more available, teaching students what can and can't be recycled. "We are all committed to seeing more sustainable actions around campus," said Coquille Rex, student representative.

"Living a simpler life can extend our resources for generations to come, as well as making more resources available now," said Rex. Sustainability includes more than just recycling. Reusing materials



and reducing our consumption of natural resources is key.

The club's mission statement says it all: "We are students committed to making our campus greener and to inspire our campus community to take these initiatives home and spread the word."
Joining Green Club can help you take steps toward making your life greener. "Joining any club on campus is a great way to get together, and students get a sense of community," said Rex. The club meets every other Thursday, starting April 7. The meetings are held in the Library Conference Room at 1 p.m.

"Green Club could be a neat organization to join; it could make a big impact on the campus community," said Fluge-Brunker.

For information on joining Green Club, contact Lori Fluge-Brunker at flugebl@linnbenton.edu or 541-917-4411. You can also email Coquille Rex at coquillerex@comcast.net.

For more information on the club, visit www.linnbenton.edu/go/clubs/students-for-sustainability.

Ways to Start Spring off Right

Jill Mahler
Staff Writer

Currently, LBCC has taken small steps toward encouraging renewing and re-utilizing resources such as recycled coffee lids and napkins in the cafeterias. Following that spirit, here are some ways you can do your part, and even make a buck.

Prioritize car trips and carpool.

With the rising gas prices, why not? Also, students ride LBCC shuttles for free with student IDs. Jump on whenever you can!

Recycle old school books.

Rent textbooks rather than buying new. For the texts you do buy, reselling is always a smart option.

Recycle bottles and cans.

Earn a quick buck by returning them for the deposits.

Take old clothes and items to local consignment shops.

Before you toss out old items, research ways to repurpose them. Check out sites such as realsimple.com for ideas.

Earth Day Sustainability Fair

Campus Courtyard, at the Solar Gazebo
by White Oak Hall

Friday, April 22
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Solar Energy Demos
Climate Change Presentation
Water Pump System Demo
Recycling Info
Re-use Albany Directory
Garden & Green Roof Tours
Campus Sustainability Efforts

Sponsored by the LBCC Sustainability Committee
& the student Green Club

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, B33-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TDD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.

Linn-Benton
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firstalt.coop

We are also celebrating with:

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FREE Styrofoam recycling at both
stores

Take 10% off all Local 6 products & grower direct produce!

MOTO MAN RIDES AGAIN

Electric Motorcycles: The New Commuter?

Chris Brotherton
Staff Writer

Hybrid and electric vehicles are taking off right now because gas prices are steadily climbing and not showing any signs of coming back down. This particular issue is also driving up motorcycle sales, which is a good thing. However, what if you could still ride to work or school and only stop at a gas station to laugh at a Prius owner? If you had a Zero, you could.

Zero Motorcycles is a company started in 2006 around Santa Cruz, Calif., that has taken the lead in the electric motorcycle world. They currently offer two off-road models, the MX for track and jumps, and the X for technical trails. They also have two street models. One is a strictly street bike and the other is a dual sport. Dealerships are popping up all over the country, even internationally.

The street and dual sport models are quite similar and both would make great commuters. With a top speed of about 67mph, both would easily keep up with traffic on Highway 34 and with a range of about 58 miles, you could easily ride to school and back home before needing a charge. Meanwhile, you will never have to change the oil or buy gas.

There is a down side to this, however. The charge time. Standard charge time is about two hours. However, the street and the dual sport models both come with a quick charge mode that cuts the charge time almost in half. Admittedly, it is much easier to just stop and get that tank of gas, but that gas is going to cost you \$10 for about two and a half gallons. It costs approximately 48 cents to recharge a Zero.

Now for the real kick: how much? Base price for the dual sport model is \$10,495, with the street model costing just \$500 shy of that. The quick-charge option costs almost another \$600 for both models. Considering what you get for this price, that really isn't too bad. The lack of gas and maintenance costs alone will almost pay for the bike in a year.

Another good thing about buying one of these new "green" machines is that you will be eligible for the 10 percent federal tax credit, and the Oregon Alternative Fuel Vehicle and Charging Tax Credit. This additional tax credit will net you another \$1,000 worth of savings.

However, if you plan to do long distance traveling, the Zero isn't for you. As a commuter and tooling around town bike, it is perfect. You don't pay for gas or add harmful fumes to the air. And you still get the freedom of a bike.

OSU Men's LAX: Striving for Greatness

Drew Wilson-McGrath
Staff Writer

Bright green turf etched with white chalked lines stretches for yards in each direction. The stands in Reser Stadium, generally full during football season, are now naked in comparison to the usual hubbub of black-and-orange-clad students and fans.

All the while, small groups of diehard enthusiasts from all over campus cheer on the OSU men's lacrosse (LAX) team as they rush to and fro with lacrosse sticks in hand, a small solid ball being tossed among them in an attempt to win a game that is physically demanding and exhausting.

It doesn't matter whether you attend OSU or LBCC, seeing a live sporting event can bring joy to anyone. You get caught up in the aggression, the emotion, and the soul of the game – even if its only for a few moments at a time.

"The game has the speed of soccer and the teamwork of basketball, mixed with the rough physicality of football," said Jeff "Jazzy" Saporito, an OSU LAX player.

This reporter was able to sit in on part of a typical OSU lacrosse practice on a sun-soaked but chilly afternoon. Folks, I couldn't play this sport. It is incredibly fast-paced and requires excellent hand-eye coordination. The players steam ahead, lacrosse sticks in hand, trying to focus on a heavy rubber ball roughly the size of a tennis ball being launched swiftly through the air in an attempt to make a goal.

The clash of helmets, padding and sticks can be heard throughout the stadium. Calls of "Help!" and "Ball, ball!" fill the atmosphere.

Coach Chad Stelling, who has been leading the OSU men's lacrosse team for the last two seasons, knows that the road for his



OSU men's lacrosse team members scrimmage.

Drew Wilson-McGrath

team and the lacrosse community on the West Coast has been, and will be, rough.

But he is optimistic for the future of OSU LAX: "We have a really dedicated core group of guys. The problem facing us is that we are a very young team – 26 out of 35 players are freshmen or sophomores."

This season has been tough for Oregon State's lacrosse team. They have played some highly-developed and organized teams, including Boise State, San Diego State, and USC. However, through it all, they stay fresh, enthusiastic, and resilient about their goal.

OSU LAX boasts one of the largest allotted budgets of any club sport at OSU (and there are a total of 40 athletic clubs, excluding football and basketball). Last year the group netted a total of \$75,000 in support from the university and alumni.

It is also one of the biggest athletic clubs

at OSU in terms of active team membership, with 35 members to date.

The idea that "it's all about having fun" still rings true at the collegiate sports plateau, but the competitive aspect of college sports often overshadows "having fun" as the primary objective. That's why as fans, friends, and sports enthusiasts, we should be out there supporting them. They work hard, go to school with the rest of us, and are helping to create a more diverse athletic community at OSU. Heck, admission is FREE to students, and everyone loves free stuff.

Their last regular season game will be this Saturday, April 23, against PSU at 1 p.m. in Reser Stadium.

"What we really work on at the college level is commitment to the team and hard work," Stelling said. "Have fun, and work hard. Resiliency is key."

LBCC Earns Yet Another Draw



Linn-Benton's Sam Paterson winds up.

Alyssa Archer

Kiger Plews
Staff Writer

The Linn-Benton Roadrunners once again split a doubleheader April 12 with I-5 rival Lane Community College. The split was the fifth straight for the host Roadrunners, who moved to 11-11 overall and 5-5 in the division with the win and loss and maintained their tie with Southwestern Oregon Community College for third place in the division.

Game 1: Linn-Benton 6, Lane 3

LB upended the Titans in the first game behind Kellen Sparkes' bat and Sam Paterson's arm. Sparkes, a freshman from Corvallis, recorded three hits, an RBI, and one run scored to ignite the Roadrunners' offense.

While Sparkes was leading the offense, Paterson was doing a superb job on the mound. He struck out just three but held Lane to just three runs in seven innings of work to pick up his third win of the season. Relief pitcher Bobby Ragasa finished off Lane by striking out two and recording the save.

Coach Greg Hawk said of the

victory, "Sam threw well and got great relief help in the first game against Lane."

Game 2: Lane 4, Linn-Benton 0

Lane's Nick Phillips pitched a near-perfect game in the nightcap to lead the Titans to the win. Phillips threw a complete game one-hitter as the Roadrunners did not help themselves by committing four errors. Lane's Tym Pearson singled twice to lead the Titans offense. Sophomore pitcher Mackie Unruh got the loss to fall to 0-4 for LBCC.

"Phillips threw a great game, and we committed too many errors to get the win in the second game," Hawk said.

LB hosted Southwestern Oregon on Tuesday. (*Just before deadline, LB recorded a pair of victories: 12-2 and 6-1.*) They travel to Clackamas Saturday. That doubleheader starts at 1 p.m.

The Roadrunners also were scheduled to host division-leading Mt. Hood Community College this past Saturday for their second doubleheader of the week, but the game was canceled due to poor weather. The teams are rescheduled to play this coming Thursday, April 21, at Linn-Benton.

Campus Events

Ongoing

"Words and Pictures" Gallery

South Santiam Hall Gallery

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

Wednesday 4/20

Movie: Berkeley in the Sixties

10 a.m. & 5 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center

Free-Speech Week Discussion

Noon • Diversity Achievement Center

Student Art Show Deadline

4 p.m. • Gallery Office (NSH-111)

Last chance for students to submit their work into the Juried Student Art Show. Entry forms available in NSH Gallery.

Thursday 4/21

Free-Speech Week Discussion

12:30 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center

Friday 4/22

Earth Day Sustainability Fair

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Courtyard

Faculty and students will give demonstrations on solar energy, light bulb efficiency, alternative fuel technology, and more. LBCC's recently donated electric car also will be on display. Earth Day, a free event, is open to the public and is sponsored by the LBCC

student Green Club and the LBCC Sustainability Committee.

Day of Silence Panel

Noon - 1 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center

Former LBCC instructor Art Bervin will be speaking about making Lutheran Campus Ministry (at OSU) a gay friendly church. Sponsored by the GSA.

Movie: Berkeley in the Sixties

1 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center

Monday 4/25

Lobby Day

Sponsored by Student Life and Leadership

Tue-Wed 4/26-27

Blood Drive

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Calapooia Center

To schedule your appointment, sign up in Takena Hall or online at red-crossblood.org, sponsor code LBCC

Tuesday 4/26

Love, Lies, & Lunacy Tickets on Sale

8 a.m. • Russell Tripp Box Office

Tickets on sale for the theater department's spring production. Performances will be May 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. and May 22 at 3 p.m. \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors.

Home Baseball Game

1 p.m. • baseball field

Opponent: Chemeketa Community College

Thursday 4/28

Valley Writers Series: Rick Borsten

3-5:30 p.m. • North Santiam Hall 207

The Valley Writers Series at Linn-Benton Community College will host a reading by Corvallis author Rick Borsten

Friday 4/29

Gary Ruppert Farewell Concert

7:30 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center

Say goodbye to Dean of Instruction Gary Ruppert with a program of jazz and classical piano and a no-host wine bar reception following. Tickets are \$10 and proceeds will benefit the LBCC Arts Special Events Fund. Available at the LBCC Box Office.

Wednesday 5/4

Student Art Show Reception and Awards Ceremony

Noon - 1 p.m. • North Santiam Hall Gallery

Come celebrate LBCC's students and enjoy the artwork they've created.

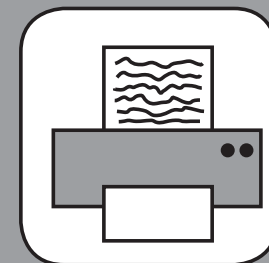
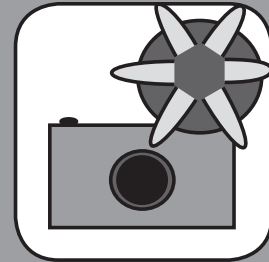
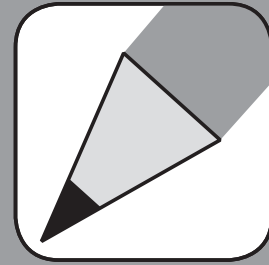
Tuesday 5/10

Home Baseball Game

1 p.m. • baseball field

Opponent: Clackamas Community College

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



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The Commuter is looking for reporters, photographers, cartoonists, columnists, and copy editors to join the staff.

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Academic Success Seminars

Boost Your COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE!

Just drop in, or sign up in WebRunner under "Study Skills."

www.linnbenton.edu/go/webrunner

Prepare for Tests

Wednesday	April 20	Lebanon Center	LC-202	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	April 20	Albany Campus	WH-225	3:00 - 3:50 p.m.

Time Management & Organizing for Success

Tuesday	April 26	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 - 5:50 p.m.
Wednesday	April 27	Lebanon Center	LC-202	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	April 27	Albany Campus	WH-225	3:00 - 3:50 p.m.

Improve Your Memory by Learning Actively

Tuesday	May 3	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 - 5:50 p.m.
Wednesday	May 4	Lebanon Center	LC-202	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	May 4	Albany Campus	WH-225	3:00 - 3:50 p.m.

Tips to Overcome Procrastination

Tuesday	May 10	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 - 5:50 p.m.
Wednesday	May 11	Lebanon Center	LC-202	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	May 11	Albany Campus	WH-225	3:00 - 3:50 p.m.

Academic Success Seminars are organized by the Learning Center. For more information and to sign up, visit WebRunner under "Study Skills" or call 541-917-4684.

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Always 50 minutes!

ALWAYS FREE!

Always helpful!

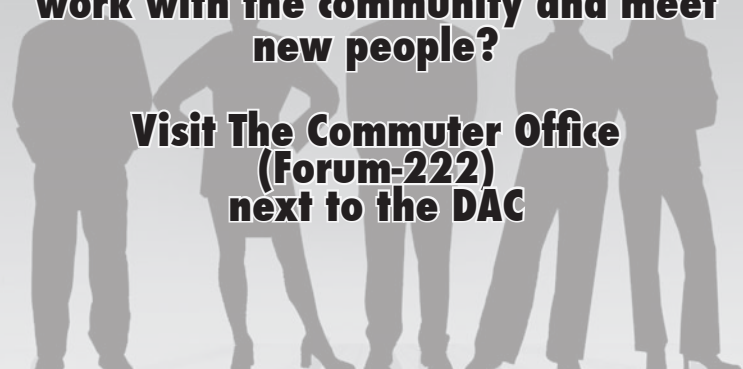


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If Only They Had a Unicorn

Ashley Christie

Page Designer

In honor of Unicorn Appreciation Day on April 25, I wanted to create a list of the greatest unicorn movies of all time. Unfortunately I could only find two. As much as I'd enjoy writing about the awesome animation of "The Last Unicorn" or how badass Tim Curry is as the devil in "Legend," I came up with a different idea.

Here are some movies that would've been better if they'd had a unicorn in them:

Casablanca

In the end, Rick convinces Ilsa she needs to leave without him. They say their famous goodbye, then she climbs on the back of a flying unicorn and takes off into the night. It's a classic.

Interview with a Unicorn

Louis has lived for centuries as a unicorn and one day sits down with a human reporter to share his story of love, betrayal, and loneliness.

Horns in the Wood

The dramatic saga of a group of childhood friends (and unicorns) and the day-to-day discrimination they face growing up in the South Central wood.

Titanic

The finest cruise ship ever sets off on its maiden voyage but disaster strikes when it collides with the horn of a unicorn who's taking a casual swim across the Atlantic.

Fatal Attraction

Dan has an affair with Alex, but when he tries to call it off, she goes a little crazy and decides to make soup out of Dan's daughter's pet Unicorn.

The Wizard of Oz

The Wicked Witch of the West's sister is murdered by a mid-westerner who doesn't get the Weather Channel, and she sends out her evil flying unicorns to find her and bring her to justice.

Die Hard

John McClane is at his wife's company Christmas party when a terrorist, Horns Gruber, shows up and – what am I thinking? Nothing could make "Die Hard" better. It's already perfect.

Citizen Kane

A publishing tycoon dies and the world goes crazy trying to decipher the meaning of his last word, "Rosebud." The twist: it's the name of the stuffed unicorn toy he loved as a child.

Dude, Where's My Unicorn?

Two friends get drunk and forget where they left their unicorn. What? They couldn't make it worse!

The Godfather

When you wake up and find a unicorn head in your bed you know the mafia means business.

A Few Good Men

In the climactic courtroom scene Jack Nicholas delivers one of his most famous lines, "You want unicorns, YOU CAN'T HANDLE THE UNICORNS!"

Twilight

Bella must choose between Edward, a cold and brooding vampire, or Jacob, a hot-headed were- ... unicorn? Wait, I take that back, nothing could save these movies.

Children of the (Uni)Corn

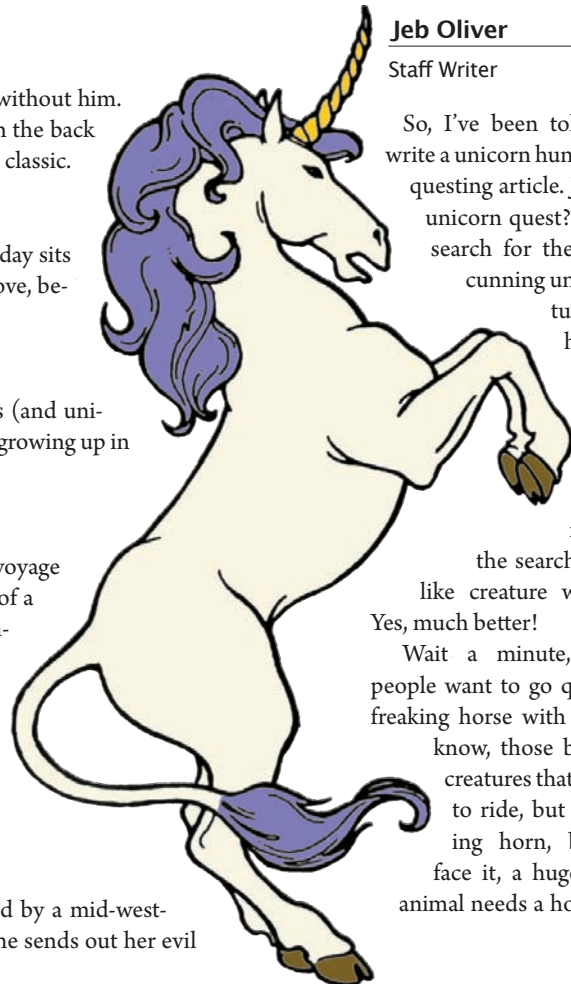
The children of Gatlin have all been possessed by an evil demon known as "He Who Has One Horn" and kill all the adults in town.

Dawn of the Dead

Zombie. Unicorns. I know they're supposed to be immortal and whatever, but just think about it for a second. Awesome right?

Old Yeller

A loyal yellow lab adopts the Coates family and protects them from a group of rabid unicorns.



Jeb Oliver

Staff Writer

So, I've been told I need to write a unicorn hunting – I mean questing article. Just what is a unicorn quest? Well, it's the search for the elusive and cunning unicorn, a creature which is horse-like and has wings. Wait, scratch that folks, that's a Pegasus. I meant to say, the search for a horse-like creature with a horn! Yes, much better!

Wait a minute, you mean people want to go questing for a freaking horse with a horn? You know, those bad-tempered creatures that knights used to ride, but with a freaking horn, because let's face it, a huge thundering animal needs a horn or it's just

not scary.

I mean, Napoleon's armies road combat-trained horses which could rip your eyeballs out with their teeth and hoof you to death while under fire from grape shot. But I guess that wasn't scary enough. Lets add a horn with which to impale yours truly.

Now, with that scary bit out of the way, it's good to remember that unicorns are mystical creatures that, beyond being horse-like, also may or may not have special abilities which will give them the power to come and go on random rainbows and pretty, sparkly clouds. So never underestimate the cunning unicorn.

Secondly, remember to keep your distance from the unicorn. This may be hard since they live (I think) in large, thick, dark, scary, magical forests where many things wish to poke you, bite you, or perhaps eat you. (Much like the rainforests of South America.)

So, the best way to do this is by using your trusty 338 Winchester

magnum – I mean your really huge 20-power spotting scope. This way you get a really good look without getting close.

Next thing you should bring is a GPS to show your location and that of the unicorn -- for future unicorn questing. Also, a pack with all your basic survival necessities: poncho, knife, skinning kit – I mean mess kit, compass, and whatever else you feel necessary to survive in the woods if need be. And water, never forget water.

Okay, so remember, unicorns are beautiful creatures who live in magical woods and should be respected. Be safe on your quest and don't, please don't, forget water! Plus a unicorn makes a great mount – I mean picture on the wall. People will want to hear the brave stories of your unicorn-questing trip.

Get your official

Unicorn Questing License online at:
commuter.linnbenton.edu

Charlie's a YouTube Sensation

Carli Gibson

Staff Writer

Anyone who still believes unicorns are just for children should probably take a look at the Charlie the Unicorn videos on YouTube.

There are four videos total. In each video, Charlie the Unicorn is annoyed by two other unicorns who are ... well, they're not drug-free.

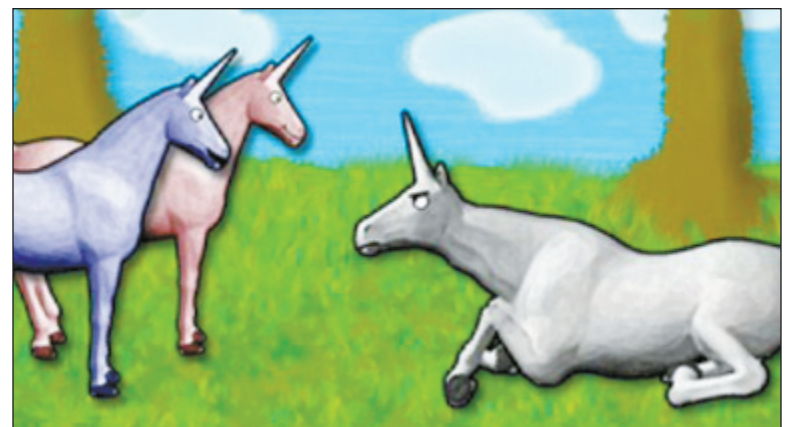
Through creative-but-not-the-greatest animation, creator Jason Steele has created the Charlie the Unicorn videos, the first three reaching over 19 million views and the fourth reaching around 4 million views.

In the first episode, the two annoying unicorns take Charlie on a quest to "Candy Mountain," where our characters meet the "magical leopluradon" and cross a rickety bridge, while challenging the question: Is there really a candy mountain?

The second episode is much more action packed. This time Charlie is suckered into helping the two other unicorns get the amulet to the banana king! They do this while being threatened by the Fugu fish and needing to speak Spanish to get past the letter Z.

During the third episode, the characters encounter frightening magical creatures like the "oomoos" and the "bleh bleh blehs."

The collapse of civilization happens in the fourth episode, along with surprise musical guest, Rick Astley (I



Charlie the Unicorn tries to get rid of his two annoying sidekicks.

promise you do not get Rick-rolled).

I'm pretty sure Steele was somehow not in his right mind (perhaps a good acid trip?) when he made these videos, but somehow, they became very popular. Merchandise was even being sold at stores such as Hot Topic.

Each episode is no longer than six minutes, however for such short episodes you still feel like you've gone off the edge. Don't get me wrong, I guarantee you will laugh; these videos are hilarious. But the entire time you're watching the videos you'll most likely be wearing a "WTF?" look on your face.

This is partly because each episode has a song in it. Don't take the advice of the songs. For instance, in the second episode, the song recommends that when you're sad you should put a banana in your ear. Although that

sounds hilarious, don't do it. Through experimenting, I have found that when one puts a banana in their ear, it creates an unpleasant experience of the banana squishing out of the peel and into your ear.

If you happen to enjoy these videos, you should also check out "Charlie Teh Unicorn" (no that's not a typo). Charlie Teh Unicorn was also created by Steele, but instead this video makes fun of the real Charlie the Unicorn videos. It's as if he came down from his high and created what he meant to create.

To sum all this up: watch the videos. They're crazy, but funny. And whatever you do, do not stick a banana in your ear.

See all the "Charlie" videos and more at:
youtube.com/user/SecretAgentBob

And a Wine Time was Had by All

Jeb Oliver

Staff Writer

At WineStyles in Corvallis you find a plethora of delicious wines and beers from all over the world, and many more of the local variety. The ambiance of the place is perfect, and the small platters of food are excellent for the kinds of wines you will be experiencing.

The owner and staff of WineStyles are incredibly knowledgeable about wine. Stephanie Gwin, the owner, quit her job of 20 years with the EPA to start up a wine shop. "I wanted to try doing wine," said Gwin. "I took the leap and opened this store. I knew I didn't have the education to make wine, so I thought this would be the best way to get into the wine business. We took the leap of faith."

The store has its wines organized by flavor profile, which is different from most other wine stores. First are the nectars, which are sweet, crisp, refreshing, and light. These are the wines which are fermented in stainless steel, rather than oak, barrels.

Silky wines, which are the next step in the store, are another group of white wines but with more body compared to the crisp. They all have a silkier texture and tone.

Rich wines, the next choice, are heavy-bodied, oaky, and buttery white wines.

The red wine selection, which is more of my personal taste, is next. They have a fruity section which, as is evidenced by its name, are those fruity-tasting red wines. The mellows section are the softer reds. But my personal favorites are the bolds, which have



WineStyles

Because every day is an occasion.

WineStyles Corvallis/ facebook.com

WineStyles in Corvallis offers an alternative to the college bar scene.

Above Right: Owners Stephanie and Bryan Gwin invite you to their wine bar.

that intense, complex, heavy flavor, which I prefer in the wines I drink.

This allows for people to step out of their comfort zones and try something new. Plus, this system is well set up for those who, like me, are very new to the wine game.

WineStyles also has a great selection of very good cheese plates, breads, and fruit dishes. Everything that would go well with wine seems to be found there. The antipasti were truly to die for and went very well with the robust flavor of my bold wine choice.

WineStyles has more than just wine, they have an impressive selection of both local and out-of-state micro brews, with more on the way. They also have a beer tasting starting up more and more often, which is great news for all of us beer nuts out there.

"We opened the first month of the recession, but we are still here," says Gwin. That is a true measure of success. So head on down to WineStyles - they have great and affordable wines and beers with a great ambiance. Tastings are every Thursday evenings and flights of wine every Friday.

WineStyles
2333 NW Kings Blvd, Corvallis
541-738-WINE (9463)
winestyles.net/corvallis

Hours:
Everyday Noon - 8 p.m.

The Commuter *Fashionista*

Classic Skirts

Maya Sharuma

Staff Writer

Fashions revive. They constantly come and go. Nowadays, '60s, '70s, and '80s fashions are seen in modern styles. The coolest thing about this is that even if you weren't born in those times, you're able to go back in time by wearing fashions from the past.



BeauBazer/ flickr.com

There's a skirt out there for everyone!

One of the trends back in style is skirts. Personally, I used to resist wearing them. It's not that I was a tomboy, but whenever I went out, I wore jeans.

To tell the truth, I needed some guts to

wear skirts because I wasn't brave enough to show my legs. Not anymore. I've fallen in love with skirts that are dominating the scene. Current designs are so cute my resistance has started to ease. I now own several. Luckily, I can wear skirts without showing my legs by covering up with tights.

If you prefer a girly look, I suggest flowery skirts. Even if the top is black, floral prints on skirts will spark up your appearance. Besides, now that spring is here, flower-printed skirts will match the season.

On the other hand, if you want to try a daring look, tulip skirts and high-waisted skirt are options. Events like weddings, concerts, and social gatherings are suited for tulip skirts. If you want to dress formally, choose pencil skirts. For the top, wear a blouse with a blazer jacket. And then, get your feet into ankle boots.

Another popular design is the flared skirt. It may seem childlike, but it is easy and comfortable to wear and looks great even just for chilling outside.

The beginning of a fashion trend oftentimes comes from films. My favorite classic movie actress (of all time) who I adore is Audrey Hepburn. She is iconic - as an actress as well as a role-model of fashion. Many envied her long legs, slender hips, and perfect height. Whatever clothes she put on, the audience, including me, was mesmerized by it.

In the film "Roman Holiday," Hepburn was dressed up in a full circle skirt with a white blouse tucked in. Throughout the movie she cleverly converted her original look by adding a scarf, sandals, and even chopping her hair short.

In the same way her look was transformed with simple touches, you can change yours. Although my legs aren't like Hepburn's, I've discovered a way to feel comfortable in skirts. If you don't feel comfortable in wearing skirts with bare legs, wear tights. Tights will go along with any type or color of skirts, so there's nothing to be afraid of! Slip into skirts and glitz the style!

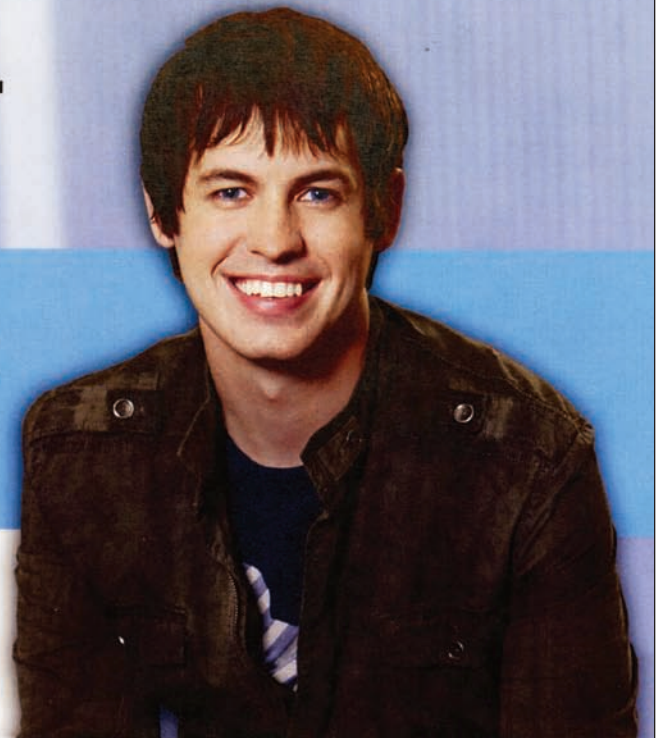
I give blood. Will you?

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

— Tim, 21



1-800-RED-CROSS | redcrossblood.org



Linn Benton Community College

BLOOD DRIVE

Calapooia Center, Cascade View room

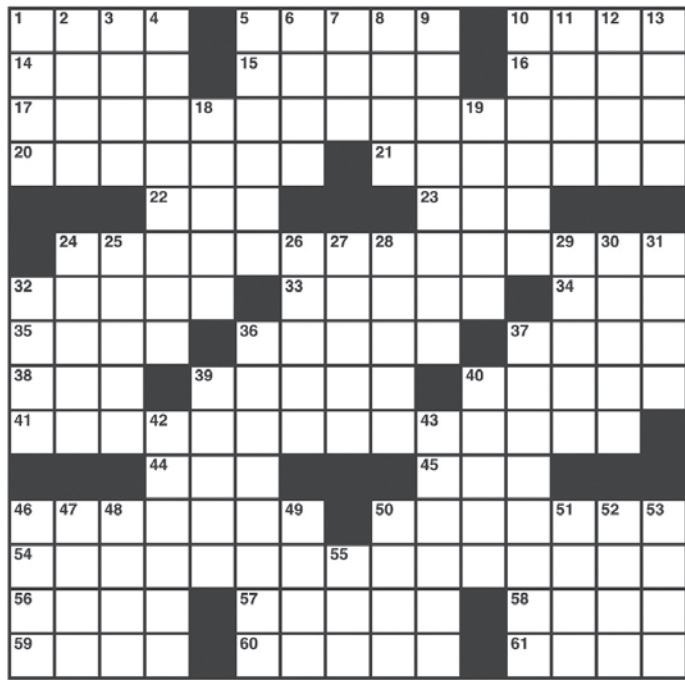
Sponsored by the Student Programming Board

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

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

Identification is required.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Droops
 - 5 Benchwarmer
 - 10 Dull
 - 14 Spiritual guide
 - 15 Pageant trophy
 - 16 Tot's first word, often
 - 17 Electrical worker's action
 - 20 Stuff to capacity
 - 21 Like the healthiest corned beef
 - 22 White House advisory gp.
 - 23 "Don't tase me, ___!"
 - 24 Discount retailer's action
 - 32 Virginia, for one
 - 33 Sits on the sill, as a pie
 - 34 Absorb, with "up"
 - 35 Exaggerated publicity
 - 36 Type of servant or engineer
 - 37 Ready for picking
 - 38 "You ___ here": mall map words
 - 39 Arrested
 - 40 Parson's home
 - 41 Feuder's action
 - 44 In the past
 - 45 Actress MacGraw
 - 46 Traffic jam causes
 - 50 Toronto skyline landmark
 - 54 Accused speeder's action
 - 56 On a single occasion
 - 57 Two-time U.S. Open winner Fraser
 - 58 Opposite of aweater
 - 59 "The ___ the limit!"
 - 60 Freezing cold
 - 61 Bakery offerings



By Donna S. Levin

- 5 Pain in the side
- 6 Movie
- 7 Tabloid
- 8 Russia's ___ Mountains
- 9 America's pastime
- 10 Key of Beethoven's Ninth
- 11 Distance divided by time
- 12 Gremlin and Pacer
- 13 Capital of Thailand?
- 18 Out of fashion
- 19 Time irregularities, in sci-fi
- 24 Prefix with foam
- 25 Boutonniere site
- 26 Cupcake topper
- 27 Spanish sweetheart
- 28 Continuing to operate
- 29 "Of Thee ___"
- 30 Thicket
- 31 Olympics sword
- 32 Peacock Throne occupant
- 36 Challenging the rapids, maybe

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 37 Police cruiser
- 39 On the money
- 40 Poly- equivalent
- 42 Sprints
- 43 Went on a tirade
- 46 Corp. money bigwigs
- 47 Place where the starts of this puzzle's four longest answers result in a penalty
- 48 Part of CIA: Abbr.
- 49 Dagger of yore
- 50 Colombian cartel city
- 51 How many employees are pd.
- 52 Hard-to-find shoe width
- 53 Numbered hwy's.
- 55 Word before Friday or pal

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4



Last Issue's Puzzle Solved



Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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HOROSCOPES



ARIES
3/21-4/19

Take advantage of your downtime this week and get some rest. It's not easy being that awesome all the time.



TAURUS
4/20-5/20

You know that expression, "Like a bull in a china shop?" I don't get it. Why would a bull need porcelain dinnerware?



GEMINI
5/21-6/21

Disruptions in your relationship may make you question who you are. Remember, you're the good twin ... or are you?



CANCER
6/22-7/22

A wise crab once told me, "The seaweed is always greener in somebody else's lake. You dream about going up there, but dat is a big mistake."



LEO
7/23-8/22

Life has been hard on you Leos lately so I've decided to give you some advice: Hakuna Matata.



VRGO
8/23-9/22

Patience is a virtue. But it's no fun, is it? I say do what you want, where you want, when you want. Life's too short.



LIBRA
9/23-10/23

Let the creative juices flow and do what you do best - find someone more talented and steal their work.



SCORPIO
10/24-11/21

Do you remember when people use to value your opinion? Me neither. Maybe if you weren't such a sarcastic jerk people would care more.



SAGITTARIUS
11/22-12/21

Don't be a Gloomy Gus, Spring is here! It's time to run and frolic and skip and ... boy that sounds like a lot of work.



CAPRICORN
12/22-1/19

It's time to step it up. You've really been letting yourself slack off the past couple weeks. Get your head back in the game!



AQUARIUS
1/20-2/18

Aquarius, I honestly have nothing to say to you. Except ... you killed my father - prepare to die.



PISCES
2/19-3/20

You've got thousands of ideas swimming your head. Now all you need to do is pick one and follow through!

Poetry Spotlight

At Last

by Whitney Smith

Blackberry brambles
Such uncomfortable places.
Prickly, stickled, webbing in wings
Not letting them out.

To be picked is just another
Way of saying chosen.
There remains in all hearts
A honey drunk awe of it.

You who hibernate coolness,
Your day shall come.
So still for it, wait for it
To rest is, after all, one of many ways to praise.

Someday—yes—
It
Will
Find
You.

That growing warmth of ripened grace
When you know in each wondering burst
Of your body that your time has come

At last.



The LBCC Poetry Club meets every Tuesday from 3-4 p.m. in the Hotshot Cafe. For more Poetry Club info visit their website at insidetheheartswalls.blogspot.com

Where on Campus?

Do you know where this picture was taken?

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



Bryana Bittner

Last Issue's Answer: The Wowzerwall chandelier in North Santiam Hall.

Last Issue's Winner: No winner last week.



Add/Drop

By Maggie O'Reilly
An LBCC student-generated comic



Student-Submitted Art

email your own artwork to commuter@linnbenton.edu

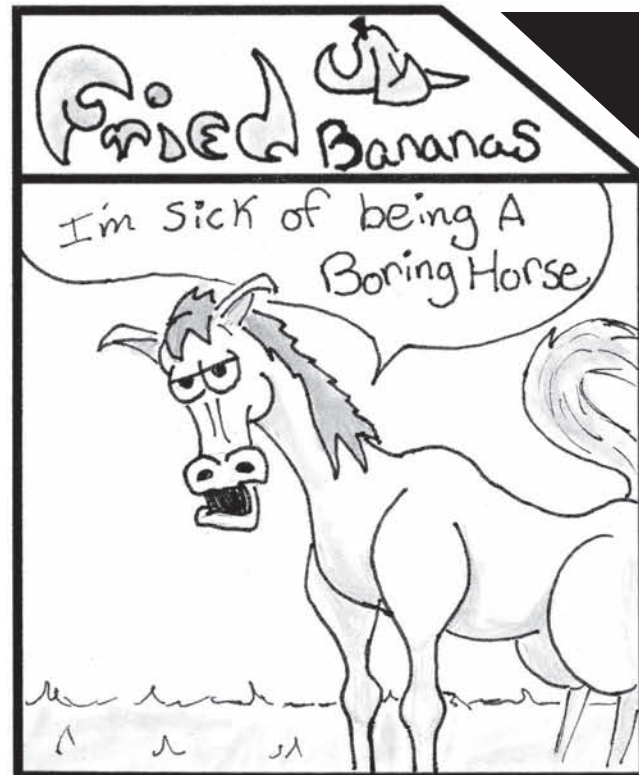
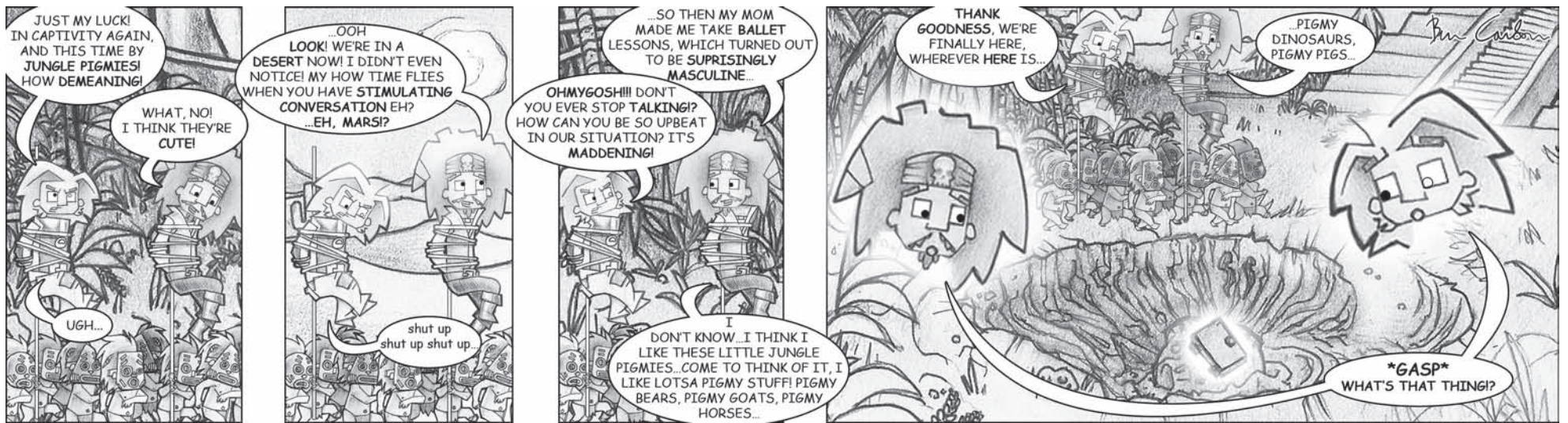


by Tyler Diaz
Untitled
assignment: Text and Words
medium: Ink on Paper

MINUS GRAVITY

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Ben Carson



An LBCC student-generated comic

By Mason Britton



THE COMMUTER STAFF

The Commuter

@lbcommuter

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

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The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. The Commuter attempts to print all submissions received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, privacy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter submitters do not represent the views of the Commuter staff or the College. Deliver letters to The Commuter Office, Forum 222 or at commuter@linnbenton.edu

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Tony Brown
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Cover Design by:
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COMING ATTRACTIONS



Water for Elephants
Robert Pattinson drops out of Vet school and joins a circus during the Great Depression. He falls in love with Reese Witherspoon, who is the star of the show, and who is also the ringmaster's wife.

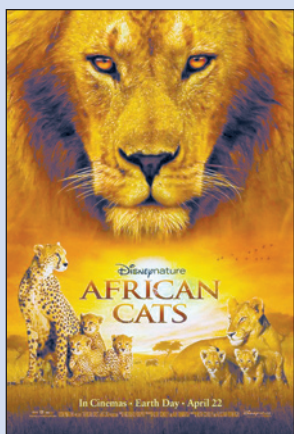
Rated: PG-13 • **Runtime:** 122 min.
Genre: Period Drama

Madea's Big Happy Family

The Old Spice guy (Isaiah Mustafa) stars in Tyler Perry's latest Madea movie as he struggles with his suburban life. Also stars: Loretta Devine and Bow Wow



Rated: PG-13 • **Runtime:** 106 min.
Genre: Comedy



African Cats
A Disney nature documentary that follows a lioness, a leopard, and a cheetah, and their struggle to protect their young in the plains of Africa.

Rated: G • **Runtime:** 89 min.
Genre: Documentary

Sources: IMDb, Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com



Ghostface Still Scares Up Screams

Ashley Christie

Page Designer

What's your favorite scary movie?

It's hard to believe that it's been 15 years since that question first struck fear into the residents of Woodsboro. In "Scream 4," all your favorites that you've come to know and love are back. Sidney (Neve Campbell) has written a self-help book and wraps up her promotional tour in her hometown on the anniversary of the Woodsboro massacres.

Only, what do you know, good ol' Ghostface shows up, starts making a few phone calls, and people start getting real dead, real fast. It's up to Sheriff Dewey (David Arquette) and Gale (Courteney Cox) to help Sidney catch the killer, again, before he can slaughter everyone in town, again, including Sid's cousin Jill (Emma Roberts) and all of her friends.

Sound Familiar? Of course it does. If you've seen "Scream" 1, 2, or 3, or any other slasher flick, you know exactly how this is supposed to go. The director, Wes Craven, knows this and takes full advantage of the typical horror movie cliches you'll be expecting. He'll even have the characters point them out to you as you're watching the movie.

"Scream" and its subsequent sequels have always been about establishing the "rules" of a horror movie (i.e. never say "I'll be right back," the killer's never really dead, virgins always live, etc.) and then breaking them.

That's what was always so great about the "Scream" franchise. It's irreverent, self-aware, and self-deprecating. It walks a fine line between horror and homage. The line can get a little blurry at times, leaving some people to wonder if "Scream" is a real movie or a spoof.

For example, within the "Scream" world you have the "Stab" movies, which are nothing but parodies of the "Scream" movies. The opening of "Scream 4" is actually the opening of "Stab 6," which is really the

opening of "Stab 7." You get this whole "Inception"-like movie within a movie within a movie thing going on that's hilarious and a great excuse to see a lot of inconsequential blondes bleeding out.

Now, in anyone else's hands, being able to predict who's the next to get sliced-and-diced would be really boring. Yet somehow Craven is able to tell you exactly what he's going to do and still surprise you.

The audience I saw the movie with was very participatory, and besides the round of applause when Dewey first appeared, and the unified sighing each time a character thought they could outrun the killer with a stab wound in the chest, there was a collective gasp when the killer was finally revealed. I didn't think "Scream" had any shocks left.

I still jumped when Ghostface popped up. I still cringed when someone's carotid got slashed. And I still laughed hysterically at the references to the horror movie "rules."

My problems with the film are minor. As much as I love all the in-jokes, sometimes "Scream 4" can be a little too self-aware. The incessant references to Ghostface apps for your cell phone get a little old. Plus, in a world where there are approximately 20 gazillion different ringtones, why does everyone in Woodsboro have the same one?

If you are a fan of the "Scream" movies, then I highly recommend this latest installment. If you haven't seen any of them, then you probably don't care and won't go see this one. In comparison, it's not as good as the first one, but better than the third.

So, what's your favorite scary movie?

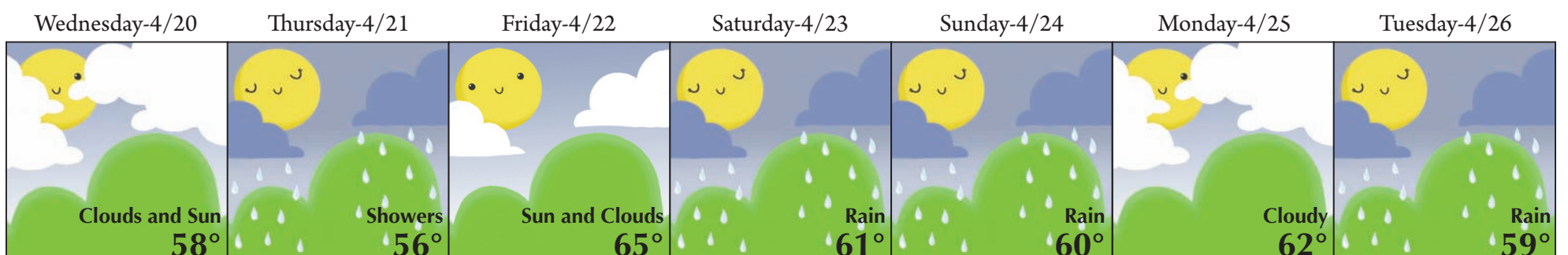
Scream 4

Starring: Neve Campbell, Courteney Cox, David Arquette, Emma Roberts

Rated: R • Runtime: 103 min.

Read more reviews online at: imamovienerd.wordpress.com

Weekly Weather Predictions



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