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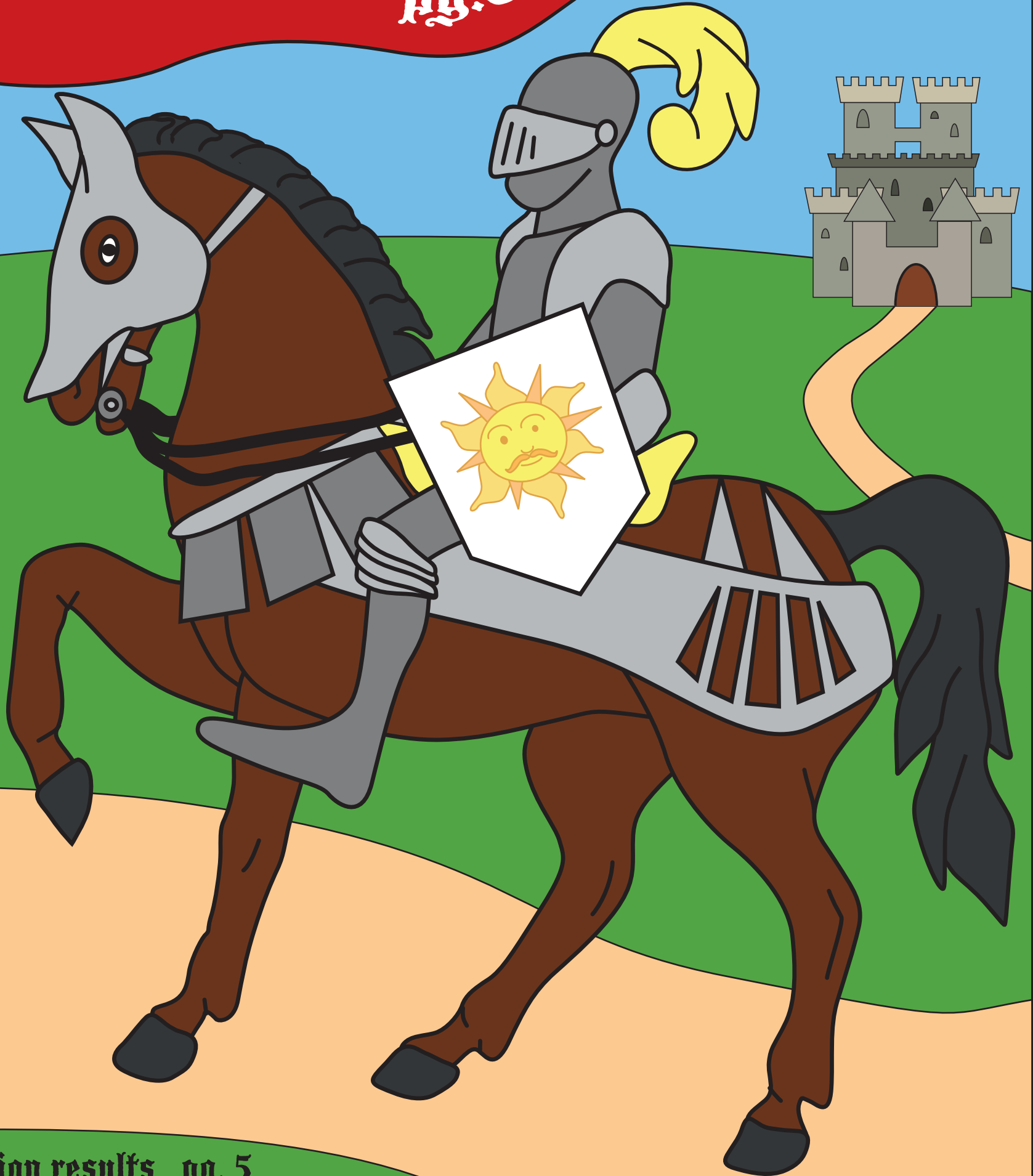
A Weekly Student Publication

March 3, 2010

# Commuter

Medieval Games

pg. 8



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**The Commuter**  
**Editor-In-Chief:** Max Brown  
**Managing Editor:** Justin Bolger  
**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.

## Office Hours: Q&A with Alyx Lyons

**Justin Bolger**  
 The Commuter

LBCC has one of the brightest personalities on campus tucked away into a deep hidden recess of the Learning Center.

Alyx Lyons was a lot of fun to chat with; her personality is apparent in every word. After she showed off her new shoes, I got a chance to hear some great stories.

**The Commuter:** What brought you to LB?

**Alyx Lyons:** My husband and I both graduated from LBCC. I have my associate's in general studies, which seems like I was undecided. I loved that my instructors could still challenge me and make me feel supported at the same time. High school is not always that welcoming; you get a lot of angry parents or angry students. Occasionally you get an angry student at Linn-Benton, but they take a lot of accountability for what it is that they do, and they're here because they choose to be. Hopefully nobody's forcing them. In doing the dual-credit classes, I worked a lot with Jane Wille in the English department and Natalie Daley - they were both fabulous! It's an incredibly positive, uplifting, amazingly supportive atmosphere, which is not like high school.

**C:** What other teaching experience do you have?

**L:** I taught in Eastern Oregon for a year at a really small town called Elgin. There were some great kids there, but it was a really scary place. Really, really small town. Really, really low income. It's dead and dry and brown, but there's a river. Yay, the river! They have the Umatilla Army Depot there, and across the river you have the nuclear plant. So it's not pretty. I taught there for a year. I had a lot of fun. I taught mostly freshmen, but I taught newspaper too. Then I taught at Santiam Christian for three years. I taught freshman English and senior composition for credit, and now I'm here. Yay me! Yay LB!

**C:** What led you to becoming an English and writing "geek"?

**L:** I love artsy things and I can't draw and I can't paint and I can't sculpt because I suck at it, but I love artistic ventures and

### Where to find Alyx Lyons

**Office:**  
 Willamette Hall - 210  
**Phone:** 541-917-4695  
**E-mail:**  
 lyonsa@linnbenton.edu  
**Office Hours:**  
 12-12:30 p.m. Mon/  
 Wed/Fri; 11-11:50 a.m.  
 Tue

I love admiring other people's artwork, but that doesn't really do it for me. You need that outlet on your own. When I was in the seventh grade, I was still searching for an outlet. I had an English teacher who was so cool. She told us her first name! We were seventh-graders and she was like, "My name is Sheila Upjohn," and we were like, "Gasp!" She treated us with respect, and she seemed like she enjoyed what she was doing - it wasn't punishment for her. She actually cared about us as students, and I thought that was the most amazing thing.

My dad was very paranoid, so he wouldn't give me his tax information to fill out the FAFSA. So I started working, and my dad passed away from Vietnam-related things, so the military said, "Hey, we killed your dad. We'll give you some money." I thought, "Okay, I'll go to school." So I started back and got married and quit (my job) and had a baby. I always wanted to be involved in English, but I was always looking at that kind of situation like, "Is it realistic for me to become a teacher, or is it more realistic to get a two-year degree and go get a job?"

I started studying the medical terminology to be a medical office administrator, because it sounded important. It bored the snot out of me! I was sneaking in English and theater classes like I was doing something wrong. So I said, "I really can't do this. I really need an English degree." (My husband) looked at me like I was crazy and said, "Of course that's what you should do!" Well, that was easier than I thought.

We went to the University of Southern Colorado for a year. It was



Alyx Lyons

Photo by Justin Bolger

a horrible place: they have tarantulas that migrate through the town twice a year, rattlesnakes and moth season, which is ridiculous. I hate bugs! We came back and went to La Grande for three years. I finished up my bachelor's degree with 272 undergrad credits. I thought, "If you're going to do an English degree, why not take every English and writing class? I don't care that it doesn't do anything for you." I finished my master's in education through there as well. I'm currently finishing my thesis for my master's of fine arts and creative writing through National University.

**C:** Tell us about your family.

**L:** I have a sister who's 11 years younger than I am. My mom lives in the portions of Idaho where the crazy people go like unabombers, skinheads and that kind of thing. So we don't visit her much, and when I say "much," I mean "ever." My husband is a high school teacher at Cascade High School. He collects more degrees than I do. I'm a little jealous that he's ahead of me. I have as many credits as he does; I just couldn't fit them into degrees.

I have three kids. I have a 12-year-old, seventh-grade boy who is adorable and smart. I have a 9-year-old daughter who's actually really cool. Then I have an 8-year-old, and he is the baby.

**C:** What sort of hobbies do you have outside of LBCC?

**L:** I'm a big basketball fan. My son is in seventh grade, so he's playing basketball. I get to follow him. I read a lot.

Finishing a second master's degree while you're working full-time, having three kids and with a husband who's doing a master's takes a lot of time. I admire shoes. I write. I like to exercise and dance around the living room to bizarre songs from the '80s and '90s. I bike ride and play a lot of board games. The Wii - I love the Wii! I'm not very exciting when it comes to that sort of stuff. I tell a lot of stories!

I'm very spontaneous. I was driving home yesterday, saw the same bald eagle I had seen before. So I raced home, picked up the kids, grabbed the camera and went back out. Of course it was gone. The buildup was good! They're like, "Where are we going?" "I'm going to show you something you've never seen in real life before! ... Look at the empty tree where a bald eagle was." It just didn't have the same impact as if there would've actually been a bald eagle in the tree.

**C:** What are some favorites of yours?

**L:** My favorite recent book is "The Story of Edgar Sawtelle." I didn't think I'd like it, partially because it was an Oprah book - I'm not an Oprah fan, and because Stephen King wrote a reference on the back. I can read a Stephen King, but I'm not going to think it's great literature. It's just going to scare the crap out of me! It's over 800 pages, but that doesn't scare me. Also it's a modern retelling of Hamlet. I thought, "You can't out-do Shakespeare," but it was an amazing book.

I love Shakespeare - all of Shakespeare. It drives

### Alyx Lyons at a glance

**Classes taught at LBCC:**  
 Reading 115, Writing 90, Writing 95 and some college study skills classes.

**How long she's been at LBCC:**  
 This is her second term. "I'm a newbie."

**Favorite book:**  
 "As I Lay Dying" by William Faulkner.

**Favorite video games:**  
 Mario games, especially Mario Tennis for the Wii.

#### Trivia:

- She has been to every state except Alaska. "I don't remember most of it, but I'm still claiming it!"
- Lyons describes herself as "an English geek, research geek and writing junkie."

me crazy when people try to teach Romeo and Juliet as a serious drama. It was a comedy through three-quarters of the play. It wasn't until people started dropping like flies that the audience went, "Oh my gosh, maybe this isn't funny anymore!"

**C:** Do you have a teaching philosophy?

**L:** I really take the viewpoint that English can be incredibly fun. You look at the realm of human experience in books and things that people have expressed, and it's not all drudgery and sadness and "Oh, woe is me" kind of junk. There's some really amazing, fabulous things out there, and there's some hilariously funny things out there. Why should you have to sit in an English class and take it with the utmost of seriousness? Why not have some fun with it? Why not figure out how inserting those dependent clauses and an independent clause as an interrupter couldn't be like a scene from the movie "Alien" where the alien screams out of the person's stomach? Why not have fun with it, make it interesting, and see how to make it visual as well as technical?

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# Campus News

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

## Come cram at the Study Jam

**Max Brown**  
 The Commuter

Finals are right around the corner, and once again your local ASG is here to help.

ASG will be hosting Study Jam on March 13 and 14 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Learning Center on LBCC's Albany campus. The event keeps the Learning Center staffed with help while also offering free snacks and drinks most of the day for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Study Jam happens every term and takes place right before finals to give students one last chance to study with help close by.

This term the hours have been shortened. ASG representative Caleb Doner said this was due to lack of demand. Not enough students were attending during the first and last hour last term, so to save money they cut back an hour on each side.

"My favorite thing about putting Study Jam on is I feel like it has a direct impact on student success," Doner said.

He said students can get help from the staff or you can form study groups with friends while enjoying free food. People have told him that they love Study Jam because they can actually study there, unlike at home where they have many distractions.

Doner said the ASG is looking for volunteers, and encourages anyone interested

For more information on Study Jam and Kids Jam stop by the Student Life and Leadership office.

to come by the Student Life and Leadership offices. He also encourages teachers to come down and help out during the event.

Last term they had 171 students check in on Sat. and 194 on Sun. Doner said about 25 percent of students don't check in. Doner said a lot of people used the math help. This term they will not be staffing the science help desk because not enough people used it.

They will be issuing a Study Jam survey again this term. They use the information from this survey to change Study Jam to help students more. They will also be conducting another raffle. Once a student finishes at Study Jam they can fill out a survey, which will enter them into a drawing for prizes. Winners will get items like LBCC T-shirts, refillable popcorn cups for the student store, water bottles and more.

Kids Jam is happening again as well. This event runs on Sat. from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Students interested in this need to sign up before March 13. Kids Jam offers free day care so students can attend and focus during Study Jam. The day care will be on campus so students can drop their kids off then go to Study



**Remember to check your registration time for spring term!**

**Mar. 5 (Fri)**  
**LBCC Winter Banquet**  
 6:30 and 7 p.m. • College Center Commons  
 Tickets are now on sale for the annual Linn-Benton Community College Winter Banquet presented by the LBCC Culinary Arts students. Tickets are \$21 per person and include the complete buffet and beverages. Tickets must be purchased in advance through the LBCC Culinary Arts Department at 541-917-4391 or 541-917-4385.

**Mar. 6 (Sat)**  
**Artistic Travel Journaling**  
 10 a.m. – 3:50 p.m. • Benton Center, Room 106  
 Learn to draw what you see using simple sketching and painting techniques. No drawing or painting skills are needed to succeed. Discover the best supplies to travel with, as well as the ins-and-outs of buying a travel journal or designing your own. Cost is \$39. For more information or to register, contact the LBCC Benton Center at 541-757-8944.

**Mar. 7 (Sun)**  
**Ghost Towns of the Wild West**  
 2 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center  
 Join filmmaker Gray Warriner as he presents the third film in the LBCC Travel at the Tripp film series. Explore Tombstone, Deadwood, and Virginia City, towns founded as gold fever ignited. Visit real ghost towns and those reborn. Ticket prices are \$8 for each show, \$6.50 for students/seniors. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Russell Tripp Performance Center box office at 541-917-4531.

**Mar. 11 (Thu)**  
**"Heaven is Music" Choir Concert**  
 7:30 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center  
 Listen to performances by the award winning LBCC choirs including the LBCC Concert Choir, Men's Choir, Women's Ensemble, The Blue Light Specials, and the Re-Choired Element Chamber Choir. Additional performances will highlight several students in solos and duets. Tickets are \$6

non-reserved seating, and can be purchased at the Russell Tripp Performance Center Box Office, or by phone at 541-917-4531. Box office business hours are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m.

**Sustainability Fair and Town Hall Meeting**  
 5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. in the OSU CH2MHill Alumni Center  
 Come to this interactive, model "green" event and learn about what local organizations have been doing to promote sustainable living. Doors open at 5:30 for the fair, which will feature exhibits, music, and refreshments. The interactive Town Hall meeting begins at 7. Admission is free, but space is limited. Register by March 9 at [www.sustainablecorvallis.org](http://www.sustainablecorvallis.org). Attendees are encouraged to walk, bike, carpool, or take public transportation to the event.

**Mar. 12 (Fri)**  
**Dance Showcase**  
 4 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performing Arts Center  
 Join us for a fun and informal show. Includes a sampling of dances from LBCC dance classes and "works in progress" from the dance club's Spring Dance Concert. Free.

**Mar. 13 (Sat)**  
**Traffic Control Flagger Certification Course**  
 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. • Fireside Room  
 Upon completion of this non-credit training course and after meeting all requirements, students will be certified to flag traffic in Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Washington. Job finding information will be provided in class. Cost for the course is \$80 and includes all materials, certification test and card. Minimum qualifications: must be at least 18 years of age and possess a valid driver's license. For more information or to register, call 541-917-4923.

**Mar. 15 – 19 (Mon – Fri)**  
**Book Buyback**  
 LBCC Bookstore  
 This is your chance to get money back for your used textbooks.

**Mar. 15 - 17 (Mon - Wed)**  
**Text Book Swap**  
 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. • Calapooia Center  
 Would you like to magically change your current textbooks into books you'll need next term? Come to the St. Patty's BookSwap Extravaganza! We will be located near the book buyback window during finals week. We'll take down your information and help facilitate a book exchange. Brought to you by the Student Programming Board.

## Study Jam

A warm place to study the weekend before Finals

**3/13 - 3/14**  
**10 a.m. - 8 p.m.**  
**Learning Center**

**Writing Help**  
 Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Computer Lab**  
 Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**Math Help**  
 Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**Testing**  
 Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.\*  
\*No tests issued after 4 p.m.

**Computers, Textbook, & Calculator checkout available!**

Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
 Hosted by the LBCC Associated Student Government

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. For disability accommodations, call 541-917-4789. 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.

Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Kids Jam

Need help with the kids while you attend Study Jam? Sign up in the student Life and Leadership Office before Saturday, March 13 for Kids Jam!

**Saturday, March 13**  
**10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
**in the PCDC**  
**Limited Space**  
**Lunch Provided**

# FREE!

Please note: We are not using the PCDC Childcare License or rules as this is not a licensed day care program or event. This event is hosted by the Associated Student Government and staffed volunteers.

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. For disability accommodations, call 541-917-4789. Submit requests four to six weeks before the event.

**If you have a Campus Short, please e-mail them to [commuter@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@linnbenton.edu).**

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## Panel explores power of language

**Maya Lazaro**  
 The Commuter

College faculty from Oregon State, the University of Oregon, and LBCC filed into the Cascade View Room Thursday to participate in a panel titled "The Language of Racism." It served as a powerful and informative way to end Black History Month, giving both students and teachers the opportunity to reflect on how language and discrimination are intertwined.

The event, hosted and moderated by LBCC Speech Communication instructor Dana Emerson, was a precursor to the Unity Celebration, which was set to begin shortly after the panel discussion ended at 4:30. There was also a brief question and answer period after the panel where students could ask questions and share their own experiences with discrimination.

Emerson gave a brief introduction before posing the question to panelists: "What is the role of language in racism and other isms and how does it impact our social, political, and cultural relationship?"

Panelist Art Mota, program assistant for the Student Life and Leadership office, was the first to speak.

"It's not just language, it's actions as well," said Mota.

He then told the audience of an experience he had shopping at Costco with his wife and children. The cashier had followed him and his family out of the store after they'd paid for their



Panelists (from left) Art Mota, Carla Gary, Bryan Miyagishima, Dee Curwen, and Terry Ross discuss the language of racism.

Photo by Max Brown

groceries, checking items off the receipt as though they had stolen something. Mota noted that the cashier had not treated the white customers in front of him with the same suspicion. His daughter had asked him why he didn't stop when the cashier followed them out of the store.

"I told her, 'The problem isn't why didn't I stop, it's why did she do that to us.'"

Carla Gary, who serves as assistant vice president at the UO office of Institutional Equity and Diversity, talked about how white has become the "default" race in the United States.

"If you're not white, you're 'non-white.' If you're white, you're not 'non-black.'"

LBCC reference and instruction librarian Bryan Miyagishima of LBCC brought up subtle forms of racism. He used the recent light rail controversy in Atlanta as an example. The light rail going into Chinatown was originally named the "yellow line." After receiving complaints, the city quickly renamed it to the "gold line." Miyagishima was trouble

by the incident and shocked that people didn't know that such language was racist.

"It wasn't that long ago that we had the 'yellow peril,'" Miyagishima said, speaking of the use of the term "yellow" to describe those of Asian ancestry.

Gary agreed with him about the "disingenuousness of saying 'Oops.'"

"I call it the new racism - the ability to say 'freedom of speech' when saying something offensive. Speech has never been free, it has always cost some more than others," said Gary.

Miyagishima then talked about stereotyping and labeling. When Miyagishima taught in Fort Bragg, his students would routinely do karate moves when they saw him, assuming he practiced martial arts because of his Japanese American heritage.

"I don't know anything about karate," Miyagishima told the panel.

During another incident, a coworker who knew nothing of his educational background said, "If you teach math, I've got a job for you," as though Miyagishima taught math because he was Asian.

"They can put us in some sort of box that, really, we don't belong. Language helps us cement those assumptions," said Miyagishima.

OSU Director of Community and Diversity Terry Ross also had something to say about labeling. He talked about how the Webster Dictionary redefined the "N" word to mean African American when that was not its original usage.

"Nigger" [once] meant 'ignorant person.' It has now been contextualized to be black people."

He was shocked that a corporation had the ability to define what a word should mean culturally.

"[The dictionary] said people are using the word this way. I said, 'What people? My people aren't using it this way!'"

Gary took this opportunity to chime in.

"That's the definition of power - to deny people's identity as they see themselves."

Dee Curwen, a retired professor at CMLC who taught English to non-English speakers for several years, brought up how language was used historically to dehumanize those who were deemed different or threatening.

"During Vietnam we gave the Vietnamese names to the point where killing one of them seemed reasonable."

Curwen hoped for a future in which language could "do what it does best, when it communicates something respectfully."

## LB celebrates unity

**Max Brown**  
 The Commuter

Teachers and students drank wine and chatted about diversity as jazz played in the background during this year's unity celebration.

The second annual



LBCC speech instructor Dana Emerson speaks passionately during the unity celebration.

unity celebration took place on Thursday, Feb. 25 immediately following the language of racism panel discussion. The event went until 7 p.m. and featured live music, food, poetry reading, and more. The event was meant to be the capstone event of Black History month.

Around 40 people attended the unity celebration. This was a mix of students, faculty, and members from the language of racism event. Most of the attendees stayed for both events. Dana Emerson, speech instructor at LBCC, noted that there were more students at this year's event compared to last year.

"This unity celebration doesn't just unify us with diversity in terms of race and other isms, it unifies us on campus in terms of where we work and the roles we play on campus," Emerson said.

Robin Havenick, poetry club adviser and instructor at LBCC, spoke

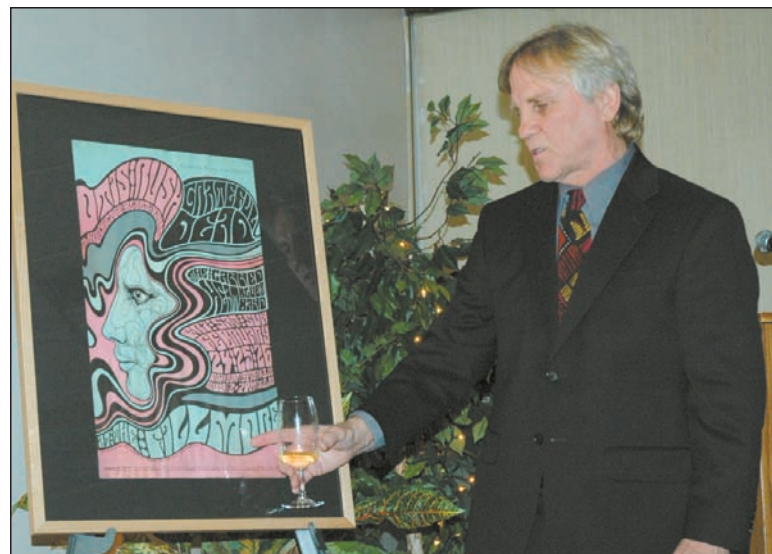
about poetry and invited guests to read poems. She provided books of poetry so individuals could find their favorite works, and many took up the offer and shared.

"There's so much beauty and respect and moving forward. I learned so much listening to the different voices," Havenick said.

Gary Westford, an art instructor at LBCC, provided posters of concerts from the 1960s. These posters are usually on display in the LBCC library, but Westford brought them to help tell a story about diversity that he experienced in his life.

"That's one of the things that is great about working with Robin (Havenick) and Gary Westford; we can bring in the poetry and the art," Emerson said.

Steve Fletcher, Havenick's husband, brought his band, RoughJazz, to play jazz through some of the night. They played a number of jazz



LBCC art instructor Gary Westford talks about his original poster from a 1966 show where Otis Rush opened for The Grateful Dead at the Fillmore auditorium in San Francisco.

Photos by Max Brown

tunes at the start of the event, and then the event opened up to open mic time.

The food, which many at the event raved about, consisted of chicken wings, shrimp skewers, sandwiches, meats, cheeses, and crackers. Coffee, lemonade, and water were offered for drinks, as well as Wine being served to those over 21.

Toni Klohk, director of

the DAC, said the event went really well. She was really enthusiastic about the number of people that attended. She also noted that conversations about the language of racism panel continued during the unity celebration, which she enjoyed.

"The experience will expose you to other ways of thinking, and that's important," Klohk said.

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## And the winner is...

**Justin Bolger**  
 The Commuter

The ASG elections didn't go very well this year.

There were only 51 ballots turned in by voters, only one position was contested and four positions had no candidates at all.

"It's certainly sad that the turnout was as low as it was," said ASG President Nic Bowman.

Last year, the voter turnout was closer to 250, which is still a low number considering the size of the student body. Where did the breakdown come from? Was it poor advertising, an apathetic campus, a lack of support or something else entirely? According to Bowman there is no certain blame for these "dismal results."

One issue may have been the voting web site, Balloteer.com. Being the first year that Balloteer.com was used, there were a lot of technical difficulties. ASG had a lot of trouble submitting documents because the web site only accepted a particular format. There was also a confusing option to vote for and against a number of items, and some students said it was difficult to navigate to the correct web page.

When asked how the elections could be improved in the future, Bowman said, "A lot of it comes down to the transition period between the two groups, and how well there can be fluidity from year to year."

There's a tendency for ASG to spend their first couple of months trapped in the office due to red-tape processes and a need to learn the ropes of how ASG functions. This is time not spent getting their faces out there to build support for ASG.

"Institutions and processes have these systems

### ASG election results:

**President:** Tyler Spevacek

**Representative for Science and Industry:** Eric Fleming

**Representative for Business:** Justin Cordier

**Representative for Health Occupations:** Brittany Oleman

**Amendment to the LBCC Constitution:** Approved



**New ASG president Tyler Spevacek**

Photo provided by Student Life & Leadership

set up so that there is a definitive, credible way to do things," said Bowman. "Sometimes we get so hung up on those that we lose sight of what our real focus should be ... just helping students. If we're caught up in the day to day operations of just cutting through the tape, it becomes harder."

Becoming a member of ASG gives students leadership training, an excellent addition to a resume, talent grant compensation and a life-changing experience.

The vacant positions

will be filled through an interview process.

"It'll be more like a job application now rather than a political campaign," says Bowman.

Students who want to apply will need to stop by the Student Life and Leadership office to fill out an application. It is recommended that students also read through the constitution and by-laws to gain a better understanding of what will be asked of them. This process is planned to begin during the first week of spring term.

## Bowling Bash is a big blast for students

**Chris Foster**  
 The Commuter

Last Friday LBCC students had the opportunity to unwind after a week of classes. For the second year in a row Lakeshore Lanes and Linn Benton teamed up to present the "Bowling Bash", a free two hour event to LB students that included free pizza and soft drinks provided courtesy of Lakeshore. The event was reminiscent of the "Cosmic bowling" events Lakeshore holds every weekend, with music blaring and the black lights on. Being a joint venture between LB and Lakeshore, Linn Benton rented out the whole place and it was closed to the public.

Originally the idea to hold bowling events for LBCC students was submitted as a club. That whole idea didn't take shape. However, last year the Student Programming Board started the bowling bash as one of other events planned to create a social setting for the students. When the event took place in 2009, over a hundred students showed up, convincing the SPB to hold the event again this year.

Along with free bowling, pizza and drinks, a few students had the opportunity to win prizes. The top three scores at the end of the event received gift cards to the LBCC bookstore ranging from \$20 to \$40.

Coach Greg Hawk enjoyed the idea of a free bowling event. Along with coaching the men's baseball team, he teaches two one-credit classes on bowling that teach concentration, etiquette and approach.

"It's a great sport," Hawk said.

Hawk brought along some of his team members and students from his classes to the event. He thinks the event made for a great social setting during these cold winter months, and gave his students a chance to apply what they learn in class.

John Arnold, a student who attended the "Bowling Bash", agreed, stating, "It's a fun event." Going to OSU next year, he said he may not make it to the next bash, but will consider going to other LBCC events if their a fun as the "Bowling Bash".

According to Allison Walkingshaw, the Team Coordinator for the SPB, this year had more student turnout than the previous one, proving it to be a huge success. Hoping to continue getting a "good reaction from students", Allison plans on creating other social events for students. One such event is a tailgating party for the soccer team April 17. The SPB tries to get around eight diverse events a quarter to get students involved. If the bowling bash gets another strike (considered a good thing in bowling), the SPB will have a turkey of a tradition.



**LB students enjoy bowling at Lakeshore Lanes.**

Photo by Chris Foster

## Perspectives:

What can the ASG do to improve voter turnout?



Jordan Tunstall

Journalism

"Helping people know what they are voting about."



Emily Turnbull

Psychology

"More widespread advertising about what the voting could change. Maybe in-class announcements."



Russell Foster

Business

"More notifications, like flyers, better posters, maybe an email. More than just the word 'vote' on the wall."



Casey Hilenski

Education

"I would do some serious advertising. Get someone dressed up as the bird to hand out fliers. Have people on every corner getting the word out. It needs to be in people's face."



Daniel Rasberry

Culinary Arts

"Group assembly, or some kind of assembly in the quad. Not flyers in a coffee shop."

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## Cold days, warm food

**Max Brown**  
 The Commuter

This term, LBCC chefs will be put to the test for the annual winter banquet.

The event, which has already sold out, will have two seatings in the Commons Cafeteria on Friday, March 12, at 6:30 and 7 p.m.

The winter banquet is a buffet style dinner that provides culinary students with the experience of cooking for a large amount of people. Students will prepare around 45 different dishes for approximately 300 people.

This term they will also be offering beer from the Calapooia brewery. The chefs spent some time tasting the beers and talking with the brewers so they could figure out what would pair well. Chef Scott D. Anselm is grateful to the company, which is generously donating the beer.

"They've been really great, and it's fun to feature a local brewery," Anselm said.

Each term the culinary program holds a different type of event so their students can learn how to work in a variety of environments. Spring term will feature a seven course French dinner that will take place over two nights and serve 120 people.

During the fall term banquet they usually serve a prime rib dinner. Chef John R. Jarschke said the prime rib

dinner is something that is done often in the industry, so it's important to learn.

Jarschke also said the banquet is a great opportunity for students because they get to plan the majority of the event. They have to multiply out recipes, figure out the cost, and take care of the ordering themselves. Students also get to spend some time waiting on tables and interacting with patrons.

Anselm said that the event really teaches students about management skills.

He said that they have to look at a number of factors that they may not normally have to, such as ordering. He thinks this event adds some complexity because chefs cannot really be sure what people will eat during the banquet, as one dish may be wildly popular while another might flop.

"My favorite thing is to see the students successful and having a really good time. It's really important for us to enjoy this because it's such hard work and for them to be successful and feel like they've done a wonderful job. Truly they are very skilled and they do great work," said Jarschke.

Students interested in attending the next banquet in the spring should keep their eyes open for more information about the event and tickets should go on sale on May 3. Price to be decided.

## Celebrate women of history

**Maya Lazaro**  
 The Commuter

It's March, Women's History Month is upon us. To help you celebrate and honor women

of both the past and present, LBCC offers some fun and informative events for students to take part in during this month dedicated to the recognizing the plight of women around the world.

**Mar. 1 - 31**  
 Women Throughout History Photo Display  
 Diversity Achievement Center

**Mar. 4**  
 "A History of Women's Achievement in America"  
 Noon-1 p.m. in the Diversity Achievement Center  
 The DAC will be showing a two part DVD series that celebrates the contributions and accomplishment of women in American history.

**Mar. 4**  
 From the Culture of Poverty to the Culture of Professionalism  
 Noon-1 p.m. in the Diversity Achievement Center

Students are invited to a discussion hosted by Sandra Shinkle.

**Mar. 8 and 29**  
 Monday Movies in the DAC  
 Noon-1 p.m. in the Diversity Achievement Center  
 The DAC will be showing films centered around women's issues.

**Mar. 10**  
 "Images of Women in the Media"  
 Noon-1 p.m. in the Diversity Achievement Center  
 OSU graduate student Jessica Uhlman will present her research focused around Dr. Jean Kilbourne's documentary,

"Killing Us Softly." Soup and rolls will be provided for participants.

**Mar. 11**  
 International Working Women's Day Tea  
 Noon-1:00 p.m. Location to be announced.

Come and recognize the contributions made by working women over a cup of tea with the American Association of Women in Community Colleges. The event, put on by the Non-Traditional Careers Program, will include finger foods and entertainment provided by James Reddan and the Chamber Choir.

## Five American women you may not know . . .

**Mary McLeod Bethune** (1875-1955) was one of first few female college presidents. A civil rights leader and activist, Bethune formed the Bethune-Cookman University in 1923 for black students who wanted to attend college. The university was known for its high educational standards and rivaled white schools during a time when there was a great disparity of funding in segregated institutions.



lover were deported to Russia for conspiring to "induce persons not to register" for the draft.

**Iva Toguri D'Aquino** (1916-2006) was a Japanese American woman wrongly convicted of treason during the war. After returning to Japan before WWII with her family for a brief visit, D'Aquino was forced to work as a "Tokyo Rose", one of the many Japanese women who broadcasted



**Grace Brewster Murray Hopper** (1906-1992) is known for being one of the first programmers of the Harvard Mark 1 computer and for developing the first compiler for a computer programming language. A computer scientist with the United States Navy, Hopper is also believed to have brought the term "debugging" (fixing computer glitches) into popular culture.



propaganda during the war. Although D'Aquino maintained her innocence that she was forced to broadcast by the Japanese authorities, she was convicted of treason and sentenced to 10 years prison. It wasn't until 27 years after her conviction that journalists discovered she was telling the truth. D'Aquino received a full and unconditional pardon from President Gerald R. Ford in 1977, the first time in American history that a pardon had been granted for treason.

**Emma Goldman** (1869-1940) was a Russian immigrant and political anarchist who lectured on topics such as atheism, capitalism, free love, and homosexuality throughout the United States. She was sentenced to prison multiple times, including once for illegally distributing information about birth control. Eventually she and her



**Mary Edwards Walker** (1832-1919) became the first female in the Army during the Civil war. Walker worked as a nurse and surgeon for the Union army and after crossing enemy lines to treat wounded civilians she was captured by the Confederate army and charged as a spy. After being released in a prisoner exchange, Walker became the first and only woman ever to receive the Medal of Honor.



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**Managing Editor:** Justin Bolger  
**Newsroom Desk:** 541-917-4451  
**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu

# Letters

Letters to the editor. These do not reflect the views of the Commuter staff.

## A letter of thanks

I want to thank The Commuter and their wonderful staff for highlighting the Diversity Achievement Center in last week's edition. The reporting was wonderful and the nice things said about me personally were truly humbling. The articles and reporting in The Commuter are outstanding and well written. I hope the Commuter staff feels a real sense of accomplishment. It is well-deserved.

I do want to mention that the events held in the DAC and sponsored by the DAC are joint efforts by many people on campus. I personally don't think of all of them or coordinate the whole projects. I want to thank:

- The DAC leadership team, consisting of Sandra Shinkle, Manager of the DAC, Valerie Zeigler, Retention Specialist and Non-Traditional Careers Coordinator, Art Mota, SL&L Program Assistant, and Chelsea Ellertson, Student Programming Board Advisor
- All of the faculty and administrative support we receive
- The Student Programming Board, as well as the Associated Student Government
- The DAC student staff

Without all of these people working together, the events and programs in the DAC would not be able to happen.

Black History month is a coordinated effort between the DAC and faculty Dana Emerson, Robin Havenik and Gary Westford. Dana, Robin and Gary have worked several years to bring awareness of Black History Month, and are the coordinators of the annual LBCC Unity Celebration. Thank you to them and the Student Government and Student Programming Board for their sponsorship.

Thank you to everyone.

*Toni Klahk*

## Classifieds

**Deadline:** Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.

**Cost:** Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

**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.

### Help Wanted

You can sign up at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment](http://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).

**Retail Sales Reps** (#7829, Oregon) On the job training and competitive pay with benefits is waiting for you. Work at retail kiosks within Best Buy stores to promote Comcast products.

**Recovery Act Team Leader** (#7837 & 7838, Oregon) These summer jobs will take you to the forest to work on a variety of environmental projects. You will be camping and blazing trails among other activities. These AmeriCorps positions pay a stipend plus at end of the job, you get an education award.

**Disney World & Disneyland College Program** (#7808, California & Florida) If you are a LBCC student and want to have some adventure, this paid internship will stand out on your resume! You'll make friends from around the world. Reps will talk with you Wed, March 3 12-2pm in Takena hall and an e-presentation will be Mon., March 8 from 3-5pm in CC211.

**Volunteer** (#7817, Linn County) Coach and work with developmentally disabled individuals as they train for sports competition. Must pass background check. Make a difference working with Special Olympics!

**Online Bookkeepers** or Account Rep needed asap, to earn \$200 per duty, registration free, contact; [fbenneth@gmail.com](mailto:fbenneth@gmail.com)

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

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**Phone:** 541- 917-4451, 4452 or 4453 **Fax:** 541- 917-4454  
**Address:** 6500 SW Pacific Blvd. Albany, OR 97321

**The Commuter**

**Editor-In-Chief:** Max Brown  
**Feature Editor:** Maya Lazaro  
**Newsroom Desk:** 541-917-4451  
**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu

# Feature

Something a little different.

**Maya Lazaro**  
 The Commuter

Men and women dress as peasants and nobles while eating turkey legs the size of a baby's arm. Simultaneously kids play-fight with wooden swords and practice their aim with a bow and arrow.

Behind them, guarding a giant castle, are two knights wearing the emblem of their king over a layer of chainmail. In a moment, a tournament will begin that will pit four knights on horseback against one another, testing their abilities as they fight to the death.

No, this isn't the 1300s and we aren't in Camelot. This is "Knights of the Realm," a stadium event that gives participants a chance to experience, if for a moment, what 14th century entertainment was like.

The event, which took place last Friday and Saturday at the Linn County Fairgrounds, is currently in its fourth year. It was started by medieval enthusiasts Greg Hoppla and Wayne White, who met at White's "Wild West" rodeo show.

Hoppla, who had been putting on medieval events since 1981, liked the way White had produced the show and asked him for help with his own. From there, the tournament was born.

On this particular evening, although the main program is scheduled to begin at 7:30, the doors open at 6 to give the audience an opportunity to purchase event memorabilia and participate in activities such as axe throwing, archery, and darts. Visitors can also snap photos of their friends and families in the stockades with an "executioner."

Promptly at 7:30, a ferocious-looking announcer herds the audience back up into the stands.

"Welcome, lords and ladies, to the 'Knights of the Realm!'" he screams. "Art thou ready?"

The man is master-at-arms "Ray Sancho," an "old, grizzled pro" played by stand-up comedian Lance Solo. Solo's job is to host the event and keep the audience enthused with his booming voice and witty quips. Helping him is "Jonny the Jester," a pint-sized joker with plenty of tricks up his sleeve to excite the crowd.

At hearing Sancho speak, the crowd erupts into cheers. Kids hold their swords into the air and stomp their feet. For the evening, everyone gets lost in the fantasy.

During the "Procession of Royalty," Sancho introduces the knights who will be participating in the competition, telling the audience, "It's (their) job, nay, (their) duty" to root for the knights wearing the color of their section.

One by one, the knights ride out on their steeds. First to enter the arena is "Sir Jean Luke," the blue knight from France. Then comes the green knight from Scotland, "Sir Matthew." Following him out are the red and yellow knight

## Knights of the Realm



**Above: Sir Gregorio rides off while Sir Matthew waves to the crowd.**

**Left: Sir Jean Luke signs a fan's shield after the joust.**

Photos by  
 Ashley Christie

from Spain, "Gregorio," played by none other than Greg Hoppla himself. Last to ride into the arena is "Romeo," the black and white knight from Deutschland, played by Greg's own son Dakota. The characters are part of a traveling jousting team from all over the world.

The first half of the competition includes a rings event, in which the knights must use their lances to spear through hanging rings as they ride past; the javelin toss, in which the knights must throw their javelins at a fixed target; and cabbage slicing, in which the knights must attempt to slice the cabbage straight down the middle.

Above the knights atop the castle sits "the protector of the throne, the keeper of the one true faith, King James

the Great," played by Wayne White. He and the young princess beside him hand out flowers for the knights to give to fair maidens in the audience.

After the first half, there is a brief intermission in which audience members are asked to participate in a medieval costume contest. A horde of men, women, and children dressed as peasants, nobles, knights, and royalty line up to be judged. One of the contest entries is April Winkle and 6-month-old daughter Svea, who is dressed as a dragon.

This is Winkle's first time coming to a medieval tournament. She and her husband had kept a list of activities to do as a couple, and going to a medieval event was one of them. After reading about "Knights of the Realm" in

a magazine, Winkle decided it was time for the family to try something new.

"We wanted to cross something off our list," says Winkle.

Although they weren't sure what to expect, the Winkle family quickly fell in love with the lively event.

"It's so much fun. We've been yelling and cheering for our country," says Winkle.

In the end, Svea is named the winner. Winkle receives two tickets to the Oregon Seafood and Wine Festival.

After the contest, the audience returns to their seats for the final event: jousting. Two knights must ride past one another and attempt to knock each other off of their horses.

"You will fight with honor, you will fight with chivalry, and you will fight to the death!" Sancho tells the knights as they face each other across the arena.

The jousting begins. Many of the knights receive fake injuries and "fall" off their horses. Once a knight has been knocked off his horse, the knights engage in choreographed sword-fighting until one is "fatally wounded."

The actors play their parts well, and many of the younger audience members are convinced this is a realistic battle. Sometimes, however, real accidents do happen. Matthew Alexander, the actor who plays Sir Matthew, injures his finger during a joust and has to bandage it after the performance.

After much jousting and fighting, Sir Matthew is declared the winner of the tournament. The king hands him a crown to give to the fairest audience member of them all.

Suddenly, two knights wearing shorn helmets ride out of the castle. They reveal themselves to be none other than Romeo and Gregorio. Matthew and two squires fight Gregorio and Romeo until only Sir Matthew and Gregorio are left. In the end Matthew knocks Gregorio to the stadium floor with his sword and cements his position as champion. Gregorio is sentenced to 1,001 lashes and is taken away to face his fate.

"Let the rats eat out his eyes!" screams Sancho as two squires drag Gregorio out of view.

Sancho decides to "awaken the other knights from their deadly sleep" so that they can accept their applause. The crowd gives them a standing ovation. After the tournament, spectators could stick around for a meet-and-greet with the actors.

The event brings out a variety of medieval fans that are drawn to various aspects of the time period.

Veteran attendee Rebecca Parsons, who has been attending "Knights of the Realm" for the past three years, is particularly drawn to that era.

"I think it's a wonderful time. Either you were strong or it was off with your head."

Clearly, organizer Wayne White understands the fantasy appeal of the event.

"Every guy wants to be a knight or a cowboy, and every girl wants to find her knight in shining armor."



**The Commuter**  
**Editor-In-Chief:** Max Brown  
**Sports Editor:** Erik Bender  
**Newsroom Desk:** 541-917-4451  
**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu

# SPORTS

News about local and national sports and activities.



Kenny Yukich, left, blocks a Mt. Hood shot.

Photos by Erik Bender

## Women lose last game

**Erik Bender**  
 The Commuter

It's been an up and down season for the women's basketball team, which played its last game Saturday against the Mt. Hood Saints. Unfortunately, LB lost 61-52.

LB kept the Saints (10-4) within 10 points throughout the first half, holding the lead once in the opening minutes, but ended the period down 29-21.

Mt. Hood, which already has a spot in the playoffs, turned up its defensive game, forcing mistakes and turnovers from LB (2-12) and allowing the Saints to pull away with a 17-point lead.

The frustration was apparent for both coach Teresa Guerra and her team. However, starters Jamie Wilson and Kalah Heacock put together a combined 10



Jamie Mayhew drives to the center of the lane last Saturday against Mt. Hood. LB lost the final game of the season 61-52, ending with a 2-12 record.

steals, giving Wilson a chance to set up and land back-to-back 3-pointers, sending the crowd into a frenzy.

This proved to be one of Heacock's best defensive games. Heacock, who played the full 40 minutes, had seven rebounds, five steals and was 100 percent on free throws, making 7 of 7.

Off the bench, Kiana Saluni had one of her best games, scoring 4 of 8 field goals and 3 of 4 free throws for 11 points.

"We lost tonight, but we probably had the best defense we've had all season, and I don't think any of us have any regrets," said Saluni. "Our team is a family; we've had our ups and downs. We didn't have the best season, but our downs made us so much stronger in the end."

"We're a young team with only two sophomores; it has been a learning experience for them and for myself," said coach Guerra. "We've always had sparks of when we could have been good and just fell short, and hopefully this wakes them up that they need to be in the gym all the time."

This marked the final game for sophomore players Heacock and Wilson, who will be graduating in spring.

## Saints take down Roadrunners

**Erik Bender**  
 The Commuter

The Mt. Hood Saints came to play Linn-Benton in the last league game of the season before the NWAACC playoffs start March 6. Both teams already clinched a spot in the playoffs, so this game was more of an intense practice. Nonetheless, both sides played hard, though LB (7-7) could not put together a win, losing the game 84-69.

The first half was anything but boring. The Saints (10-4) exchanged the lead with LB six times. But what raised the crowd's spirits were the aerial maneuvers by LB's Andrew Carter, who came out of nowhere to catch a teammate's rebound and slam it right back into the net.

Immediately following Carter's performance, Mt. Hood's Dustin Jones caught a fast break and answered with his own aggressive slam dunk. With so much action in the first period, fans could hardly contain themselves.

The second half had LB making a charge to close the five-point deficit at the beginning of the period, but the Saints did not let up and LB started to make mistakes in the final minutes, allowing Mt. Hood to stretch their lead and secure the win.

"We wanted to come out hard and go on to the NWAACC's [playoffs] with a win, and we gave it all we could, and all that matters is we played hard," said LB's Taylor Roos.

"The way we win ball games is getting to the free-throw line, and we're very successful at that, and if we remember to do that we give ourselves a better chance," said head coach Randy Falk. "I appreciate how hard our guys played, and we are going to the NWAACC's [playoffs] for the second year in a row, and that's a very positive reflection on our guys."

The top scorer for LB was Jordan Highland, who added 17 points with 6 field goals, two 3-pointers and 3 free throws.

Roos scored 15 points with seven field goals and 1 of 1 free throws, which is unusual for Roos, who averages at least three free attempts.

Southern league teams with a playoff spot include Chemeketa (12-2), Clackamas (11-3), Mt. Hood (10-4) and Linn-Benton (7-7). Check the Commuter online - commuter.linnbenton.edu - to follow the Roadrunners' progress in the playoffs.

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**Newsroom Desk:** 541-917-4451  
**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu

# Opinion

**Submissions to The Commuter:**  
**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu  
**Drop-in:** Forum 222

## A word from your local **ASG**

As winter term of 2010 is drawing to a close, I would like to highlight some of the things that have been going on in Student Life and Leadership. As those of you who were paying attention to the signs around campus know, the Student Government had an election last week. Students were elected to four positions in the Student Government and a new constitution for the Associated Students of Linn-Benton Community College (ASLBCC) was voted into effect.

I want to say a big thank you to all the students who participated in the election by either voting or running for a position. The results to the election are posted on the LBCC website on the ASG elections page. Unfortunately, we did not have applicants for all the positions in the Student Government. Because of this shortage, we will be opening up the application procedure again soon and will be conducting interviews to fill the vacant positions. So if you are interested in an amazing opportunity to get involved in student leadership, please consider applying for a position in the near future.

As many of you know, the structure of college administration was changed significantly last year. Because of this change, it was impossible to keep using the old ASLBCC constitution. Our new constitution is more flexible to allow administrative changes in the college without throwing the Student Life office into chaos. One of the major changes in the constitution is that we no longer have five specified division representatives. Because the divisions of the college were switched around, our previous division representative positions became nonsensical. We still have the same three executive positions, but we now have five representatives-at-large who will all represent the entire student body.

I am personally looking forward to passing the torch of student leadership on to next year's team. My experiences as a student leader have done a lot to shape my life and to prepare me for my future career. Education takes place not only in the classroom, but also in the experiences that we have. Skills in the areas of teamwork, communication, project management, and visionary action are not things that can be developed in a classroom setting. My message to next year's leaders is this: Your road will have its bumps, but it will lead you to a place that no other road can take you to. Dive in with both hands and both feet because this is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that will give you the opportunity to learn skills and character that will guide you for the rest of your life.

*Caleb Doner*  
 ASG Representative

ASG meeting schedule		
from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Tadena Hall, Main Entrance		
Public welcome		
<b>March 3</b>	<b>March 10</b>	<b>March 17</b>

The views of the ASG do not necessarily reflect those of The Commuter. Any questions or comments can be directed to the Student Life & Leadership office.



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## Real men swing swords

**Adam LaMascus**  
 The Commuter

Why is it manly to dress up in Spandex, but dorky to dress up in steel armor? Why is it macho to whack a little ball with a stick, but geeky to hit somebody with a sword? Running an air-filled sack across a line? Awesome. Storming a castle? Nerd.

Football, baseball, soccer, hockey, basketball; all of these are typically viewed as "manly" or "cool" pursuits, so why is it that medieval combat re-enactments, which have been around since the 1890s, fall in the realm of mockery and dorkiness? I am talking about the groups that dress up in historically accurate metal armor and go fight battles with more than foam swords. The group I am part of, the Adrian Empire, regularly uses steel weapons, with dulled edges of course.

I know there is the stereotype of the overweight, socially inept nerd, which of course there are some, but hey, I have yet to see a sport that does not have similar people in its fan base. Also, I ask, do you have the strength and endurance to wear about 70 pounds of armor, hold a 15-pound shield, and run around for a few hours fighting people with a five-pound sword? Do you have the coordination to block arrows and take down multiple opponents at once? Also, in all honesty, I'd really rather not have to tackle a big sweaty guy. I'm less likely to get a concussion, too.

It isn't that much different from most sports—you use tactics to complete objectives and defeat your opponents. Sure the equipment may be different, the uniforms may be different, but the idea is often the same. You get the fun and exhilaration of fighting and competition, sans the "death" and "crippling injuries" bit.

Another aspect I particularly enjoy is actually making the armor. Designing, hammering, shaping, riveting, and decorating armor is fun, and seeing it completed gives you a warm, fuzzy

feeling of pride. Shields provide an opportunity for even more customization, if you are into that sort of thing. Some of the armor I have seen are works of art, and they allow a level of individuality and expression that I haven't really seen in any other sport.

I don't understand the often-negative attitude surrounding medieval re-enactments here, considering how much we seem to like knights in movies, books and video games. In Europe it is accepted and encouraged, with massive annual re-enactments happening in the U.K., France, Germany, Poland and Sweden. The events there are of epic proportions, such as the Hastings 2006 event, held in England, where 3,400 re-enactors fought on the site of the original Battle of Hastings with 25,000 spectators. Also in 2006, a large-scale re-enactment of the Battle of Grunwald was held in Poland with thousands of attendees.

Maybe it is because Europe actually has a medieval history, while the U.S. does not. In places like the U.K., Germany, France and Italy, they literally have thousands of years of cultural history under their feet. The U.S. has only been around for about 230 years. Europe has Romans, Normans, Vikings, knights, the Renaissance. We have cowboys. Also, Newsweek had a recent report showing that the US education system is falling behind globally, particularly in social sciences and reading, so maybe that has something to do with it too.

We are notoriously ignorant of other peoples' cultures. How many people reading this actually know about the battles of Hastings and Grunwald? Hastings was where the invading Normans defeated the Saxons ruling England, one of the most important events in European history. Grunwald was where the Polish defeated the Teutonic Knights, ending their domination of northern Europe; again, very important.

Do Americans just not care enough about the past to enjoy this sort of thing?

Regardless, everybody who has ever seen a joust knows that the participants are awesome.

## Ideas for networking with LBCC

**Justin Bolger**  
 The Commuter

Are we an apathetic campus? Only about 30 students showed up to the Mardi Gras dance last month. Only 51 people voted in the ASG elections. I fear any statistics that have to do with The Commuter.

If this is a matter of simply being informed, you should search for the various LBCC groups that promote their events on Facebook or Twitter. I'm positive that 90 percent of you have one of these, and it's so easy to become a fan!

Here are the ones I've been able to find on Facebook so far:

- The Commuter: Your friendly neighborhood newspaper.
- Associated Student Government of Linn-

Benton Community College: These are our leaders, the ones who set up a lot of the events around campus.

- Diversity Achievement Center (LBCC): This is just about the most welcoming place on campus. They love setting up forums and inviting guest speakers.
- Performing Arts of Linn-Benton Community College: Up to date information on theatre-flavored events!
- LBCC Bookstore: Our bookstore has sales all the time. Do you need a deal on a tasty snack or a brand new notebook? This is the spot!

- Linn-Benton Community College Library: They have videos posted, and it's a great chance to learn about some of the staff.
- Linn-Benton Community

College Admissions: For deadlines around campus, this is the place to look.

And only on Twitter:

- LBCC: Sort of your all-purpose connection to campus information.
- LBCC eLearning: Progressing media technology and how it relates to our campus.

Become a fan of these Facebook pages and follow the Tweets. Ignorance is no longer an excuse, but I suppose there's not much I can do about whether or not you have the free time - finals are killer.

Students should try to connect with their campus in every way they can. Showing support and participating in events around campus can only serve to enhance your college experience and improve the campus environment.

**The Commuter**  
**Editor-In-Chief:** Max Brown  
**Opinion Editor:** Adam LaMascus  
**Newsroom Desk:** 541-917-4451  
**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu

# Opinion

**Submissions to The Commuter:**  
**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu  
**Drop-in:** Forum 222

## The new face of hate

**Frank Warren**  
 The Commuter

If you are white, middle-age, and attend tea parties, you are probably a racist. If you don't agree with President Obama's health care plan, you are probably a gun-toting conservative. Come on, are you serious? From the other side of the aisle there is the issue of being a hippy, pot-smoking, Kool-aid drinking liberal. Will the madness ever end?

I don't know about you, but my mom and dad taught me that it was wrong to talk about people and call them names. Have we gotten to the place where name-calling and stereotyping is now OK?

All month long at Linn-Benton Community College I had the wonderful privilege of attending many workshops held by the Diversity Achievement Center. One such workshop, the "Illumination Project," helped me to see the effects of stereotyping and the pain and violence that is brought about by such prejudices. During one of the skits a young white man remarks to his African-American friend about the neighborhood in which he grew up, saying "My mom smoked crack too," to which the African-American replies, "My mom doesn't smoke crack."

Stereotypes: they are everywhere and coming out of our ears. The wars between MSNBC, CNN and Fox News have shown us

since the last election that it is an acceptable thing to low-blow those who disagree with you politically by calling them names and stereotyping.

Keith Olberman, in a special report about racism, called those who went to the tea parties throughout America the "Tea Klux Klan." The tea party movement is about lowering taxes and limiting government control, but according to Olberman they are racist and only attended by whites.

According to the Media Awareness Network, a stereotype is "a fixed, commonly held notion or image of a person or group, based on an oversimplification of some observed or imagined trait of behavior or appearance."

In the words of the late great Martin Luther King Jr. in his "I Have a Dream" speech, "There is something that I must say to my people, who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice: In the process of gaining our rightful place, we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred."

It's OK to disagree with people, but it should not be OK to mark these people through stereotypes. Let us as Americans stand above the prejudices and discriminations that come our way and use good judgment toward our fellow man.

## Back in the day

**Adam Lamascus**  
 The Commuter

**This day in history ...**

**March 3, 1924: The end of an empire ...**

The Caliph Abdul Mejid II of the Ottoman Empire is deposed, ending 1,400 years of rule by the Islamic caliphate. Power is transferred to the Grand National Assembly under the control of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, a WWI war-hero who reformed the Ottoman Empire into the modern, secular, democratic nation of Turkey. I've been told by a Turk that the man made most of his important decisions with a glass of whiskey in hand.

**March 4, 1887: German engineering ...**

Gottlieb Daimler reveals and test-drives his first automobile. Daimler AG, the manufacturer of the Mercedes-Benz brand vehicles, is his legacy. I prefer BMW though.

**March 5, 1770: Back when five people was a massacre ...**

British troops open fire after being attacked by a rioting crowd in Boston. Five civilians are killed. The event is labeled as the Boston Massacre. The traditional image of a line of Redcoats firing a volley into a horrified-looking crowd is false. If that were the case, a lot more than five people would have been killed.

**March 6, 1836: Remember the Alamo!**

The Alamo falls to Mexican soldiers under the command of Gen. Santa Anna after a 13-day siege. All of the Texans are killed in action or executed, while between 400-600 Mexicans are killed. There are so many myths about the Alamo that it would take an entire essay to discuss them all.

**March 7, 1965: One of the many "Bloody Sundays" ...**

Over 600 civil rights marchers are violently broken up by police during a protest in Selma, Alabama. Seventeen protesters are hospitalized after the police attack with nightsticks, teargas, and troopers mounted on horses. The day earns the nickname "Bloody Sunday" and results in increased support for the civil rights movement. Police brutality, anyone?

**March 8, 1782: Good Christian behavior ...**

Militiamen from Pennsylvania massacre 98 pacifistic, Christian, unarmed, Native American civilians (28 men, 29 women, and 36 children) in the town of Gnadenhutten, Ohio. The slaughter was in retaliation for a raid committed by different a different group of Native Americans who were allied with the British. Once again, Jesus' message of love and peace was blatantly ignored by Christians.

**March 9, 1862: The beginning of an age ...**

In response to a Confederate attack on the Union naval blockade, the USS Monitor intercepts the CSS Virginia (aka Merrimack) at Hampton Roads. It is the first battle between two ironclad warships. After an indecisive three-hour duel, the Virginia withdraws. The battle demonstrates that the age of wooden warships had ended, and metal ships are the way of the future.

**Thought for the week:**

"Men willingly believe what they wish."  
 -Gaius Julius Caesar

## Advice from Weiss

**Mark Weiss**  
 for The Commuter

**Q**uestion: This is my first term. What do I do now? How do I get signed up for classes? How do I know what to take?

**A**nswer: Priority registration for admitted students (those who have been through a college orientation) begins Friday, March 5. Those with the most credits register on the 5th, and students with fewer credits are allowed to register each day, until the afternoon of Friday the 12th, when admitted students with no credits are allowed to register. Starting on Monday the 15th we have "open registration," when non-admitted students and anyone in the community can register, at least part-time.

If you qualify for "priority registration," you can look on your SIS account to see the day and time you can begin registering for



Counselor Mark Weiss

classes. You can also find it on page A29 of the winter schedule of classes.

There are at least three sources of information to help you to know what classes you should register for.

1) The college catalog. All of our programs are in the catalog, alphabetically, and they list the classes required for graduation. You can also find course descriptions and pre-

requisite information in the back of the catalog, where every class LBCC offers is also listed alphabetically. The catalog is available on-line, as well as in paper copies.

2) Speak to a faculty advisor. If you have a major, your advisor would be a teacher who works in the department you want to get a degree from. If you do not yet have a major, you can see a counselor for advising.

3) LBCC has an Academic Planning Assistant for each of our academic divisions. These are folks who specialize in helping students pick their classes and get registered.

If you need help finding an advisor or academic planner, come to the 1st Stop Center, in the middle of Takena Hall, and they will get you to the right person for your area of study.

Registration for spring term is upon us, but there's no need to panic. Help is available. Just ask.

Mark Weiss has been a counselor and adviser at LBCC for 20 years. The purpose of this column is to answer students' questions about the college, academic advising, and how to be successful at LBCC. Please send your questions to mark.weiss@linnbenton.edu or stop by the Career and Counseling Center in Takena Hall.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## Tip your hat to "Hatless"

Joel DeVylde  
 The Commuter



The minimalist folk group "Hatless Atlas" has created a very small splash in the Portland indie scene. No waves made yet, but the melodic riplings that emanate from the voices and fret boards of acoustic duo Luke Bogue and Derek Sweet have perked a few ears.

Though they haven't yet released an album, the hatless fellows have some songs up online. Have a look at their Myspace page, and you'll find among the tracks currently posted "A Stranger," "A Ruler" and "A Widow."

"Stranger" is the best tune by far, talking about leaving and expressing a hope for finding a home in the eventual. "Ruler" also has some lyrical tact, as it references the complacent depravedy of man:

"The sinking of regret that by their life or in their death, the people in this town may never change."

And lastly, "Widow" brings out a lyrical genius that lurks through the first two tracks. Well-conceived melts into brilliant with this six-and-a-half-minute interview with the man on the moon.

You can also see Hatless Atlas' lead singer Luke Bogue performing other original songs in videos on Youtube (the recordings are low quality, but they're worth it).

My favorite of these is "Like Song," in which the singer/songwriter asserts very unconvincingly: "I'll get over you. Don't you pay me any mind. I've got better things to do than lose track of the time ... it's probably just your eyes."

Hatless Atlas is very good, and not very well known. They've already demonstrated loads of lyrical creativity and a spectacular mellow sound. I can't wait to see how they improve on it in the future.



## THE COMMONS FARE 3/03-3/09

### Wednesday

Dishes: Roast Pork Calypso, Grilled Caribbean Swordfish and Jerk Tempeh  
 Soups: Turtle Soup and Callaloo

### Thursday

Dishes: Coq au Vin, Beef & Broccoli Stir-Fry and Bibimap  
 Soup: Muligatawny and Moroccan Lentil

### Friday

Chef's Choice

### Monday

Dishes: BBQ Pork Ribs, Jambalaya and Tofu Phad Thai  
 Soups: Salmon Chowder and Wild Rice

### Tuesday

Dishes: Kalua Pork, Beef Tamale Pie and Eggplant Parmesan  
 Soup: Chicken Noodle and Cream of Asparagus

Joel DeVylde  
 The Commuter

I don't want to let on, but I'm nervous as hell. The cold has claimed my fingers, and is starting on my toes, as I look up at the next car coming along. The driver shoots one half-cocked glance at me, surveying my shivering body, which feebly props up a cardboard "Portland" sign before turning away. Speeding up allows him to simultaneously ignore me and "California Stop" the sign beside me.

"Five," I mutter.

According to my calculations, five out of ten people run the stop sign that I'm standing next to. I wait, and wait. And wait. Ninety minutes. This intersection would be pure gold if the cops caught on and started dishing tickets.

The cold and constant rejection is really getting to me. I start to feel like those free puppies outside of Walmart that are just a little too sketch to take home. At the same time, I'm pretty sure I won't give anyone rabies. Frustrated, I throw my "Portland" sign into the bark chips nearby.

Looking up, I notice a car waiting to pick me up.

I sheepishly hop in to the car to find that my host is a male escort, on his way back to Portland from a "job" in Eugene. He has some interesting stories, and shows me a ridiculous cartoon on his iPhone. Having a sociable and talkative individual pick you up really cuts down on the awkward silence time. I feel fairly confident in a successful hitchhiking experience.

But standing there at the northernmost Albany exit, I realized that a lot of college students don't have the knowledge that they need to navigate the perils of hitchhiking and couch surfing, and so this article was conceived.

Hitchhiking is a sport for all seasons, although it is considerably more enjoyable in warm weather. To be successful,

## Sketch-reducing resources

Conventional hitchhiking and couch surfing can be tense as an etch-a-sketch. But there are some resources online to help you make the most of your unconventional travel experience.

### Craigslist Rideshare

Here you'll find some local listings for people traveling city to city. To use it, click the "Rideshare" link on the Craigslist page for the city that you're traveling from. Most of the people advertising rides on Craigslist are already going someplace, and would like a little company and/or some gas money.

### Couchsurfing.com

Couchsurfing.com exists so that people traveling about are able to find a place to crash for the night. As always, use caution and common sense when meeting strangers online, though. It's a community dedicated to hooking the couch surfers up with the couch surfers... or something like that.

you need to focus primarily on the location that you are hitching from. Are the cars generally headed in the right direction? Are they traveling at a speed that allows them to see you and slow down in time? These are valid questions that generally need to be addressed by the hitchhiker.

The next thing that you want to pay attention to is the quality of the ride that you will get. Once the driver slows down or stops, you have only seconds to figure out whether or not they are a safe person to drive with. A couple years back I convinced a guy in a suit to give me a ride to work after my car broke down. Halfway there he started freaking out and talking about how he was off his meds and wanted to stab me with a pen! It turned out to be some sort of sick joke on his part, but needless to say, I keep an eye out for the crazies now.

As far as couch surfing goes, the method is more madness in my experience. To be safe, I always try to find friends to stay with in the town I'm crashing in each night. Alternatively, if the weather's good and I have a sleeping bag, sometimes I'll just sleep in my car if I have it or under a tree. This can be good, but it really depends on the area of town that you choose. Cities like Ashland are relatively easy to do this in, but for

locations like downtown Portland, you're going to want a real place to stay.

To couch surf is to hit up a house (or apartment) and sleep on one of its couches, preferably with the consent and knowledge of one or more of the legal occupants of that house. You can couch surf with people you know, but if all else fails, couch surfing with strangers can be fun as well.

Once I had been playing music late in downtown Eugene, and came back to find that the apartment which I was supposed to stay at, was locked and no one was awake. I kept walking in the campus district until I found some drunk kids trying to take a couch that someone had ditched upon moving out of a house up the street. I talked to them a bit and they said I could stay on that couch, soon as they got it in the door. I scored some free pizza and caught some sleep, before heading out in the morning while they were all still hung-over.

One thing that's really important to know is that if you're female you shouldn't couch surf, hitchhike, or pick up hitchhikers alone. It's way too dangerous! Almost any girl that picks me up while I'm hitchhiking hears this speech, only usually after I get out of the car. So have some adventures ... but be careful out there!

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

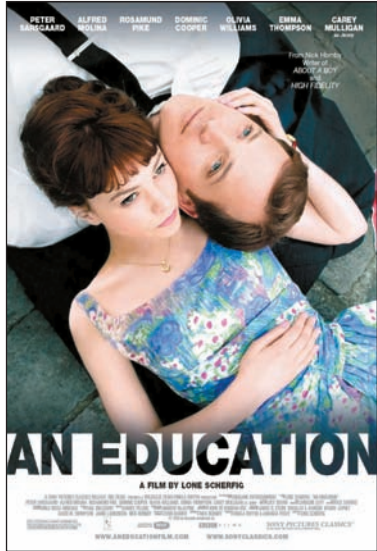
## A good "Education"

**Ashley Christie**  
 The Commuter

Life's most important lessons are seldom learned in a classroom.

"An Education" is the coming-of-age story of Jenny (Carey Mulligan), a naïve 16-year-old girl growing up in a London suburb in 1961. Jenny is smart, confident, and knows exactly what she wants out of life ... or at least what her domineering father (Alfred Molina) wants for her. One day, when Jenny meets David (Peter Sarsgaard), a handsome older man, she is swept up into a world no amount of studying could have prepared her for.

Jenny's life has always been focused on one goal: an Oxford education. She sees her life of cello lessons and Latin classes as dull and boring; especially after meeting David and being introduced to his seductive life of jazz clubs, art auctions, and weekend trips to Paris. She is mesmerized by David, and when he proposes to her, even her father agrees that a wealthy husband is as good as, if not better than, a university degree. But is David



too good to be true? Jenny has to decide what her priorities are and what kind of education she really wants.

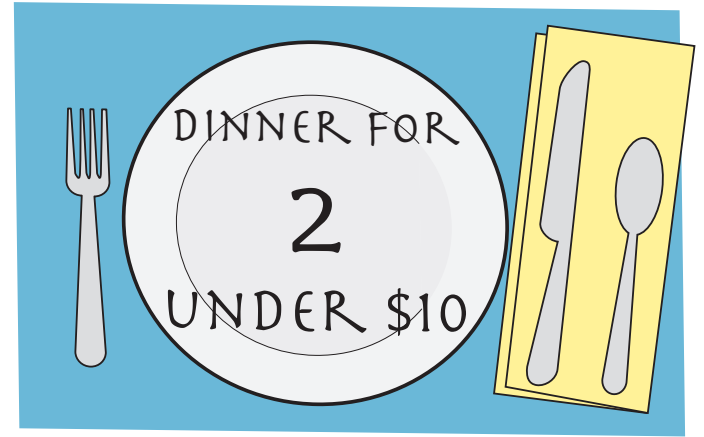
"An Education" is a touching and poignant film that deserves each of its three Oscar nominations (best adapted screenplay, best leading actress, and best picture). The relationship between Jenny and David could easily go to a very creepy place, but the pacing of the film makes it easy for the audience to look past his age and see the mutual attraction that they share. Sarsgaard's David does not come across as

a seducing con man, preying on young girls, but as a man who falls in love with Jenny's open mind and eagerness to learn.

Sarsgaard, Molina, and the rest of the supporting cast are wonderful, but it is newcomer Carey Mulligan's portrayal of Jenny that really steals the movie. The film hinges on Jenny; if the audience doesn't care about her they won't care about her story. Luckily, Mulligan's Jenny is impossible not to fall in love with. She's confident, but uncertain and intelligent, yet still unwise all at the same time. She's a complex, layered character who, by the end of the film, is a completely different person than when it started.

In the beginning, Jenny knows everything. By the end she realizes that she knows nothing. This movie is a must-see for anyone who has ever found out that life is not what they expected it to be.

"An Education" is currently playing at the Darkside Cinema at 4th and Madison in Corvallis.



## Homemade green enchiladas

**Jana West**  
 The Commuter

### Grocery list:

3/4 lb. tomatillos	\$1.49
3 Anaheim peppers	\$ .86
1 poblano pepper	\$ .42
1 jalapeño pepper	\$ .20
1 medium yellow onion	\$ .22
2 chicken breasts	\$2.70
1/2 lb. cheddar, grated	\$1.49
4 corn tortillas	\$1.00
1 head garlic, roasted	\$ .50
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$8.98</b>

I start by roasting the peppers until they are just blackened. You can do this under the broiler, on your gas stove or on the grill. Then I put them in a paper bag to allow the skin to loosen up.

After the peppers have cooled, peel off the blackened skin. I leave the seeds in, but if you don't want the sauce too hot you can remove the seeds. Since I was grilling the peppers, I also grilled the onion, which just adds to the finished flavor.

Peel the husks off the tomatillos and wash them to get the sticky residue off. Blanch in boiling water for about 5-7 minutes.

In a food processor combine peppers, garlic, onion and tomatillos and process until smooth, season with salt to flavor.

I boil the chicken so it's nice and tender and easy to shred, but you can grill your chicken (a rotisserie chicken would work great too).

Fill tortilla shells with chicken and half the cheese. Roll and place in a small casserole or baking dish. I warm tortilla shells slightly so they are pliable and won't break when I'm filling them.

Pour the sauce over the tortillas, making sure to shake the pan so the sauce gets down into all the nooks and crannies.

Cover with remaining cheese and bake for about 30 minutes at 375.

*Optional: garnish with sliced olives, green onions or sour cream.*



A little spice is very nice.

Photo by Jana West

## redbox review

### The Hurt Locker (Rated R, Runtime 131 min.)

**Joel DeVylidere**  
 The Commuter

Kathryn Bigelow's "Hurt Locker" is up for nine Oscars this year, including best picture, best actor and best director. Why? I was a little puzzled as to the cause of all this



acclaim while watching the 131-minute Iraq War drama. There was a lot there, but I'm not so sure that this movie can legitimately rival "Up" or even "Zombieland" for the status of the best picture of the year. It was just a little too hard to watch.

In the heat of the desert, three bomb specialists (Jeremy Renner, Anthony Mackie and Brian Geraghty) are tip-toeing from one crisis situation to the next, attempting to save civilians and minimize the military damages caused by the bombs that Iraqi insurgents keep leaving for them. Searching for tripwires and often ambushed by snipers, these three soldiers see a lot of trouble in the last month and a half of their deployment.

I'll start my evaluation with my concession to the academy: Jeremy Renner does indeed deserve his nod for best actor.

His character, bomb specialist William James, is losing it the entire movie. He essentially establishes very little connection with the audience, which is puzzling as he almost carelessly risks his life and the lives of other soldiers in order to do things his way.

Despite the fact that he is a veteran bomb technician with a long and excellent record, it turns out his way is not always the best. Far from a likeable character, Renner's Sergeant James is rough around the edges and apparently rough in the center as well. He's losing his mind, which is a hard thing to depict on-screen. Kudos to both the director and the actor for making this one of the most uncomfortable movies of the year!

I've concluded that the greatness in "Hurt Locker" mainly consists of the shock factor. Each scene is silent: little is going on, the score is turned down, and everything seems hunky dory. The silence is unsettling. It seems like it's always a perfect time for a bomb to explode or a sniper to start taking people down. This is a minimalist depiction of the war zone, and it's super effective. So, if you're bored this weekend, and you have a dollar for redbox ... don't go rent "Hurt Locker." It's really well done, but not really enjoyable to watch.



**The Commuter**  
 Editor-In-Chief: Max Brown  
 Managing Editor: Justin Bolger  
 Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451  
 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

# Surreal Living

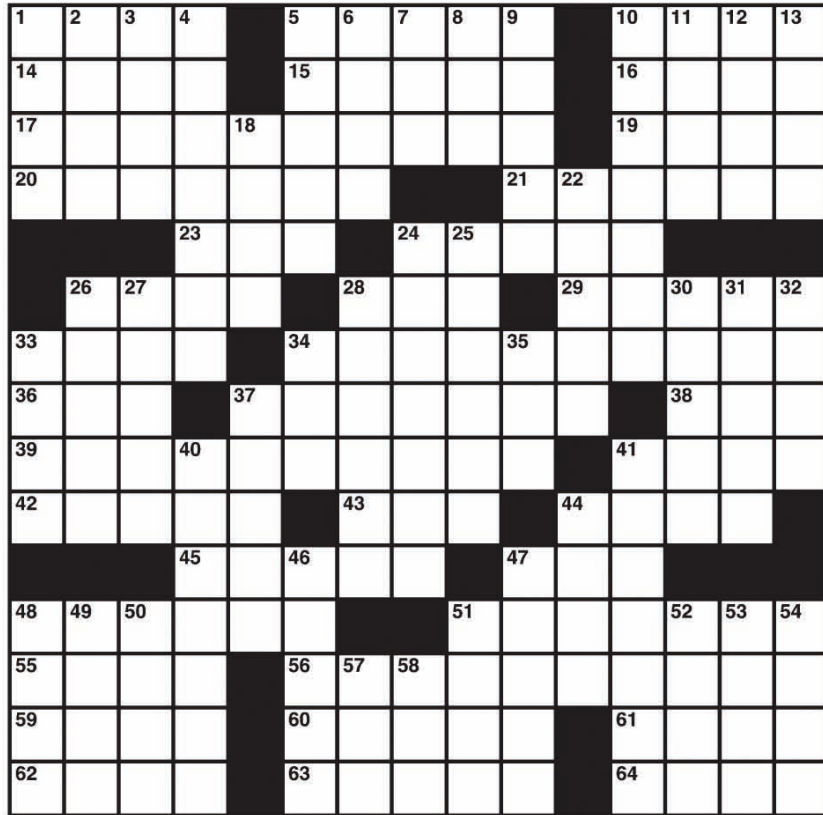
Crosswords, cartoons and some fun facts to brighten your day.

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

### ACROSS

- 1 Highway hauler
- 5 Cut off
- 10 “\_\_ Silver, away!”
- 14 Gas in a sign
- 15 Utah city
- 16 Sign of the future
- 17 Hymn whose title follows the line “When I die, Hallelujah, by and by”
- 19 Fill to excess
- 20 “Cats” poet
- 21 Gum arabic tree
- 23 Adviser Landers
- 24 Traffic cone
- 26 Knight’s lady
- 28 Slimy stuff
- 29 Relative known for quitting?
- 33 Run the country
- 34 Scout’s motto
- 36 Kimono sash
- 37 Air ace’s missions
- 38 Climbing vine
- 39 How duelists begin
- 41 Baseball stats
- 42 “Old MacDonald” refrain
- 43 Rile up
- 44 Ado
- 45 Resided
- 47 Dance from Ireland
- 48 \_\_ Tar Pits
- 51 Daybreak
- 55 French franc successor
- 56 With “The,” Schwarzenegger film released 10/26/1984, and a hint to the puzzle theme found in the first words of 17-, 34- and 39-Across
- 59 Ford Explorer Sport \_\_
- 60 Storage room
- 61 “Star Trek: T.N.G.” counselor Deanna
- 62 Armored vehicle
- 63 Snappish
- 64 Lip-\_\_: mouth the words



By Jerome Gunderson

### DOWN

- 1 Grumpy mood
- 2 Morays, e.g.
- 3 Lawn burrower
- 4 Arouse, as passion
- 5 Watch covertly
- 6 The E in Q.E.D.
- 7 Solemn promise
- 8 Sister of Zsa Zsa
- 9 Fit for a king
- 10 Biblical cry of adoration
- 11 Popular Apple
- 12 Himalayan giant
- 13 Fit to be drafted
- 18 Queue
- 22 Political takeovers
- 24 Kellogg’s toaster pastry
- 25 “Alas, poor \_\_!”: Hamlet
- 26 Persian Gulf emirate
- 27 Wonderland girl
- 28 Rodent kept as a house pet
- 30 Baby beds
- 31 Lee jeans alternative
- 32 Ice cream brand
- 33 Judge’s attire
- 34 Scarer’s shout

### Wednesday’s Puzzle Solved

A	T	H	I	N	G	O	F	T	H	E	P	A	S	T	
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S	T	O	R	E	D	E	T	E	C	T	I	V	E	S	

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- 35 Scared response
- 37 Uncle Tom’s creator
- 40 Duettist with Sheryl Crow in the song “Picture”
- 41 Toon babies of ‘90s-’00s TV
- 44 Sawyer’s friend
- 46 Frequent, as a diner
- 47 Like ripe peaches
- 48 Riga native
- 49 Distinctive emanation
- 50 Muffin ingredient
- 51 Infatuated, old-style
- 52 “This is my best effort”
- 53 Any minute now
- 54 Guitarist Clapton
- 57 Somme summer
- 58 Privileges: Abbr.

## Student-submitted art

e-mail your own artwork to commuter.submissions@gmail.com



by Ira Strubhar  
Self-portrait

## Poetry spotlight

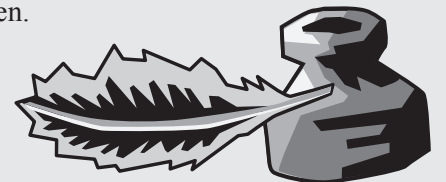
### Oh Woman

Amy Earls

Oh woman in the pages of history, I look at you, who you were, the pain you went through so that man could discover the power you possessed, the ability you had to unlock and push doors open all by yourself.

Oh woman in the pages of present, I look at you, who you are, the pain you go through, the striving to be noticed, your significance, your success, your ability to do more than you know. I see a woman with the tenacity to accomplish the impossible. I see inventors, discoverers, heroes, patient woman courageous woman persistent woman, strong.

Oh woman, unleash the power that is inside, the power to change, the power to learn, the power to grow. For your power is the key. And it is with your power that you will push future doors open.



## Add/Drop

An LBCC student generated comic.

By Maggie O'Reilly



The Commuter  
Editor-In-Chief: Max Brown  
Managing Editor: Justin Bolger  
Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451  
E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

# Surreal Living

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

## SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:  1  2  3  4

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

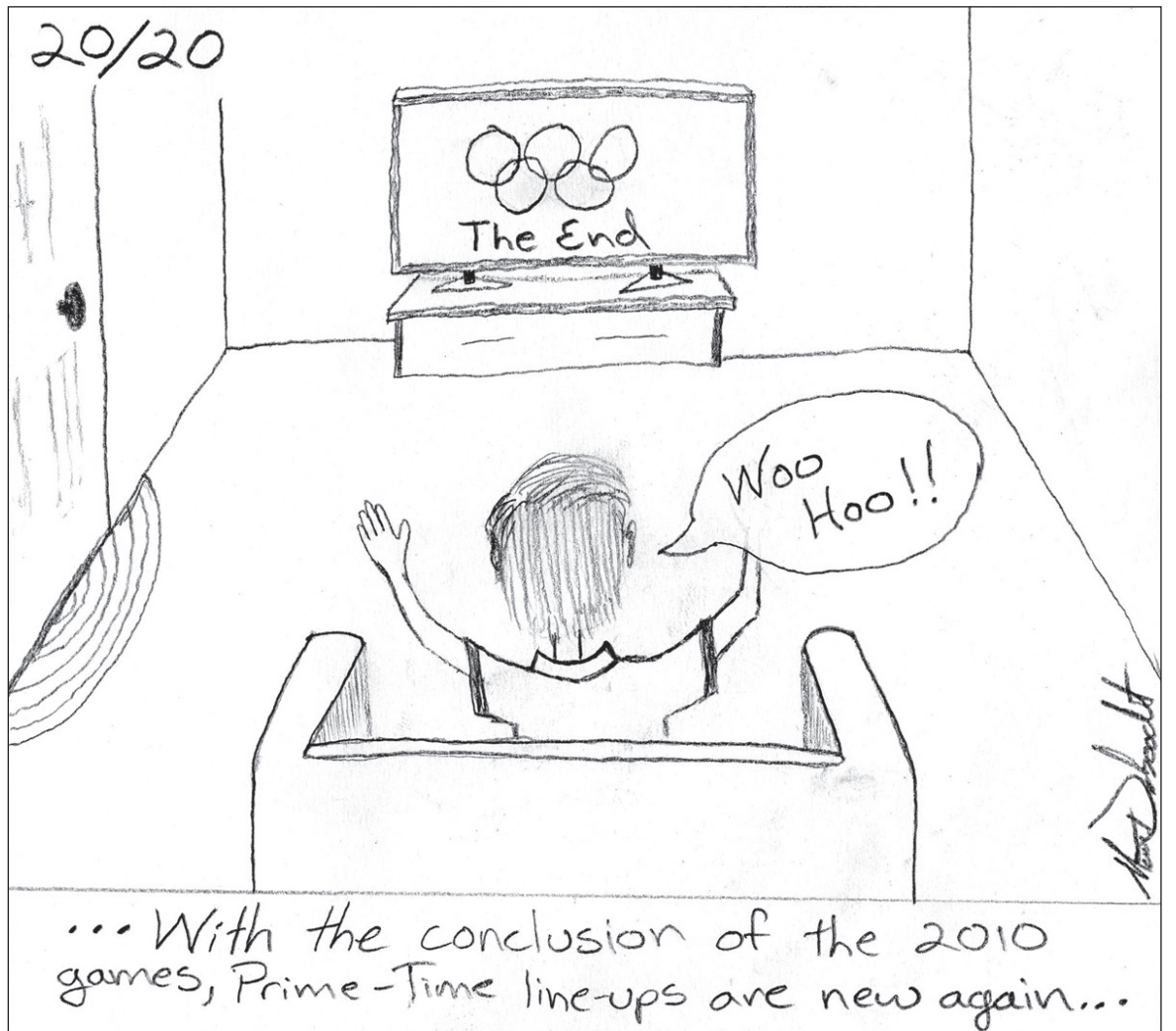
4	7	8	1	3	6	9	5	2
1	2	9	5	7	8	3	4	6
6	3	5	9	4	2	7	8	1
2	9	1	8	6	4	5	7	3
7	8	3	2	9	5	1	6	4
5	6	4	3	1	7	2	9	8
8	5	7	6	2	3	4	1	9
9	4	2	7	8	1	6	3	5
3	1	6	4	5	9	8	2	7

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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

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### Did you know?

- In 1966, the United States alone possessed approximately 32,000 nuclear weapons.
- The big red spot on Jupiter is a giant storm that is possibly 350 years old and about three times as wide as the planet Earth.
- In LBCC's student government elections last week, only the Health Occupations Representative position had more than one person running for the job. Four of the positions had no candidates.
- It is believed that the kilt was invented in the late 1500s.
- American toothpicks are predominantly made out of birch and over 90% come from Maine.



An LBCC student generated comic.

By Mason Britton



Mason Britton Feb 2010

The Commuter  
Editor-In-Chief: Max Brown  
A & E Editor: Joel DeVylde  
Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451  
E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## Coming attractions

### Brooklyn's Finest

Eddie (Richard Gere), Tango (Don Cheadle), and Sal (Ethan Hawke) are all officers with the NYPD who work in the 65th precinct. Each has separately become entangled in the crime of the area, and each is facing extraordinary personal circumstances on the day when their department is set to raid a drug-ridden housing project. Who will survive the crossfire?

**Runtime:** 125 Minutes  
**Rating:** R



### Alice in Wonderland

Director Tim Burton brings a grown-up Alice (Mia Wasikowska) back to Wonderland, where she finds her old childhood friends. This includes the Mad Hatter, played by Johnny Depp. Alice reconnects and makes an effort at ending the Red Queen's reign of terror.

**Runtime:** 109 minutes  
**Rating:** PG

### The Last Station

This double-Oscar-nominated film, currently running at the Darkside, chronicles the last hours of Russian novelist Leo Tolstoy (Christopher Plummer) as his health begins to fail after he takes shelter in the train station of Astopovo. By the end of his life, he has already declared himself celibate and started a movement based on brotherly love and striving for world peace. Meanwhile, Leo's wife Sofya (Helen Mirren) is at odds with his followers, distressed that the great writer has forsaken his title and belongings and may be planning to give away the rights to his books.

**Runtime:** 112 minutes  
**Rating:** R



Sources: [Imdb](#), [Yahoo! Movies](#), [Fandango.com](#)

## Extremely good yogurt

Krista Goeke  
The Commuter

After moving back to Oregon from Southern California, one of the things I missed most was my frozen yogurt excursions. Six crazy college kids would pack into the car, then cruise down the freeway to our favorite dessert destination.

Frozen yogurt is "big" in Southern California. Sadly, as soon as this Oregonian returned home, she realized that Oregon didn't seem to get the same excitement out of this frozen treat.

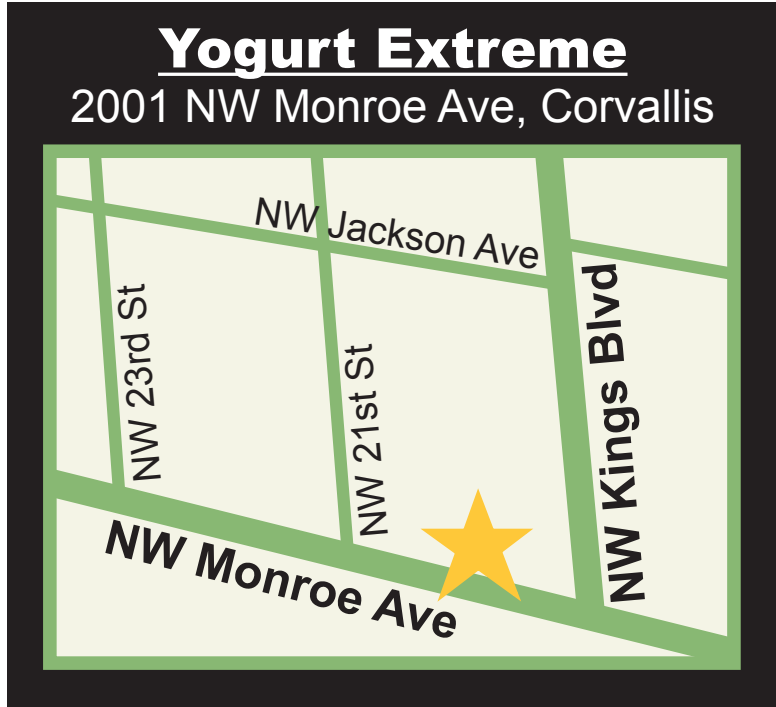
I was wrong. The party has arrived.

Yogurt Extreme has now opened up shop on Monroe Street in Corvallis, pleasing all ages with self-serve frozen yogurt, covered with toppings according to the individual's preference. This is the only self-serve frozen yogurt shop in the area and has become the "place to be" during evening hours, with crowds lining the walls, anxious to pick out their flavors and mix-ins.

Here's how it works: Follow the tile wall to the paper cups and check out the flavors of soft-serve yogurt listed on the back wall. Samples can be tried by grabbing a sample cup and simply taking out a dab of the yogurt from whatever machine's flavor sounds good.

When finished choosing what flavor(s) to grab, fill the cup with as much yogurt as wanted and head to the toppings. Yogurt Extreme offers a huge selection of toppings, including: mochi, strawberries, and several different types off crushed candy bars.

After the yogurt has been smothered with yummy toppings and



decorated to the extreme, it's time to bring it up to the scale at the front counter. All yogurt is weighed and costs 40 cents per ounce.

Student Nicole Pease likes "that you get to choose your own portion size." She has already eaten there several times and her friend, Kelcey Delach, says she's "been here four times" since the grand opening. Delach likes the idea of Yogurt Extreme being self-serve and also enjoys the atmosphere present in this bright shop.

Bright pink walls surround the front counter, while brightly colored tile with perfectly placed yogurt machines fit in the

center of the back wall. The shiny metal tables give off a funky party feel, as do the slides playing on a flat-screen TV. The pictures all capture happy customers with big smiles as they dig into their personalized frozen yogurt treats.

I overheard a table of college guys next to me discussing the amount of people filling this restaurant, surprised at the interest. "It'll be the 'neat place,' ya know," one student commented. They kept repeating to each other that they'd never seen an ice cream place this packed.

As the hour got late, the shop began to fill up so fast with people in search of a sweet dessert that the line stretched all the way to the back door.

My yogurt was gone, and it was time to go so that someone else could use my table. The yogurt had been excellent. The carefully created dessert was just what I wanted, and I owe it all to the genius chef in charge: me.



## Weekly Weather Predictions

Wednesday-3/3	Thursday-3/4	Friday-3/5	Saturday-3/6	Sunday-3/7	Monday-3/8	Tuesday-3/9
Rain 59°	Cloudy 56°	Rain 57°	Cloudy 58°	Sunny w/ Clouds 58°	Cloudy 57°	Rain 56°

Warning: These are only predictions. For up-to-date forecasts, please look out your window. Source: [weather.com](#)