

THE COMMUTER

Your Community Compass

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Photos from the 2011 Graduation Ceremony



Congrats, Grads!

Amanda Hayden
Copy Editor

The 2011-12 school year is drawing to a close. Some students will only have a few days for a break before starting another round of classes, and some students will be back for fall term. There are some who are transferring to a four-year university, and then there are those who will be graduating from LBCC on Thursday, June 14.

The 44th annual commencement boasts a record number of graduates for LBCC, with 994 receiving a GED, adult high school diploma, certificate, or associate's degree.

Almost 730 of those graduates are receiving an associate's degree, over 180 will receive a certificate, and over 80 will receive their GED. About 325 of these graduates will be participating in commencement.

Ceremony participants were offered the opportunity to submit a photo and up to 50 words for a powerpoint slide, which will be shown before the ceremony.

As students are wrapping up their studies for finals and stressing over that last essay of the term, there are just as many preparations being made for the commencement celebration itself. Students rarely worry about whether or not their graduation ceremony will run smoothly. That doesn't mean it's a small task; many people are involved in the process.

Tammy Drury began the summer commencement preparations over six months ago, making sure that it goes seamlessly. She organizes all of the groups responsible for making sure things run efficiently.

Drury said, "The marketing department prepares the program and pays for the faculty regalia (faculty gowns). Marilyn Hale, from the president's office, is responsible for preparing the faculty regalia for the ceremony. LBCC Student Life and Leadership organizes bagpipers, flowers for the commencement stage, provides cake and punch for after the commencement ceremony, and they also help students pay for their gowns if ordered by the deadline."

This year, LBCC is sharing the cost of setup and preparations with South Albany High school, since they will be holding their own commencement ceremony at the Linn County fairgrounds on Tuesday, June 12. Custodians will be setting up chairs for both ceremonies early next week, and volunteers will be preparing for lead ushering.

Remember that other people are putting in a lot of work for graduation, and your finals are just part of the high-stress roller coaster of the next week!

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Wednesday(6/6) ☀️ Clouds and Sun 65°/51°	Thursday(6/7) ☁️ Some Rain 62°/46°	Friday(6/8) ☀️ Rather Fluffy 59°/45°	Saturday(6/9) 💧 Drizzly 61°/46°	Sunday(6/10) 💧 Shower? 67°/45°	Monday(6/11) ☀️ Rather Comfy 75°/51°	Tuesday(6/12) ☁️ So Fluffy 73°/44°
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THE COMMUTER STAFF

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

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



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LBCC Commuter

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Stronger Prerequisite Enforcements Starting Summer Term

Sean Bassinger

Staff Writer

Starting this summer, LBCC will implement stricter registration policies for course prerequisites. These changes are part of an effort to ensure student preparedness for certain classes.

Implemented recently, the "Check the Prereq" campaign aims to keep students from signing up for classes they're not properly prepared for. As of now, individuals registering for classes who have no record of certain prerequisites (for instance, if you place into Math 95, but attempt to register for 111) will be automatically restricted from entering advanced courses. Before these changes, students were able to join many classes without the technically required preparatory courses.

Some instructors, however, still manually dropped students who had no signs of these prerequisites on their transcripts. Though many students were confident in their abilities after bypassing classes recommended on their placement tests, there have been multiple students who ended up not succeeding in certain courses – most commonly math and writing classes – because they were unprepared.

Some disagree of these new regulations. Austin Emigh, an LBCC student

approaching graduation, believes students should remain responsible for their actions, regardless of the outcome.

"It should be up to the student to decide if they can handle a class or not," he said. "It's their money."

Due to a shortage of a certain prerequisites offered, Emigh had to wait nearly a year to enroll into an accounting class he wanted to take sooner. Believing he would have understood the curriculum in the next class, he disliked waiting longer for the prerequisite when he could have taken the higher course sooner.

Emigh also cited an example where he bypassed a prerequisite and still succeeded throughout many math courses. He even succeeded in Math 111, which is statistically one of the most failed math programs in college.

"I tested into Math 65, but I took 95 and still got an A," said Emigh.

Two other students, Travis and Cody Lamont, also agree that the final call should be made by students, so long as they're prepared to face the challenge and possibly lose their money.

"If I'm paying for school and going to screw up, it's my own money and future," said Travis Lamont.

Cody Lamont ultimately believes enforced prerequisites will make things more difficult for many students, and expressed how more waitlist spots should be opened.

"I don't understand why it's becoming required since you can still drop the class during a certain period."

Bruce Clemetsen, vice president of student affairs, agrees these enforcements are for the best. He claims advanced prerequisite policies helped other Oregon institutions, such as Oregon State University, and that LBCC would greatly benefit from similar policies. Clemetsen also stated how enrollment rates have dropped due to many students getting frustrated when they don't experience success in certain courses. More often than not, classes required beforehand were completely omitted.

"[Students] leave because they're tired of the experience," he said. "We want our students to be successful, and we want to maximize their chances of success."

Clemetsen also addressed the lack of overall explanations regarding these implementations and how additional publicity may be necessary to clarify how these changes will help students more than hurt them.

"Other institutions have gone this route and saw student performance go up."

According to Clemetsen, many registration procedures will actually speed up due to the inclusion of automated prerequisite implementations. Since there are hundreds of courses, he believes it will cut down on the amount of students frantically tracking down faculty members for last minute signatures.

Though some students may resent these changes, these new policies should at least ensure other individuals head into certain classes more prepared. While some believe many prerequisites can be avoided, they may be surprised to discover how much more prepared they'll be for classes like Math 111 or Writing 121. In some cases, it could even mean the difference between a C and an A.

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Green Technology Education Program to Shut Down

Johanna Lundahl
Contributing Writer

The Community Services Consortium (CSC), in partnership with LBCC is offering one last opportunity to earn an Oregon Green Technology Certificate. The green technology program was started Spring term of 2011, but this year their federal grant has reached its end.

The program will continue to operate while one last round of students go through the three-term program, but after Summer term, new students will not be accepted. Financial aid is now available for it through LBCC. So if interested, you better sign up now.

There are also part and full scholarships for tuition and books available through the Community Services Consortium in Corvallis. To apply for one, students must contact Maggie Underwood for an orientation into the program and to apply for a scholarship.

The CSC is a community action agency/anti-poverty

organization located on 2nd St. in Corvallis.

The Oregon Green Technology Certificate is an entry-level program designed to teach foundational skills training with green technology jobs. The certificate is a beginning to a career in electrical or building systems for beginners in the field.

It has also been taken by workers who are already in an electrical or mechanical field and who want to expand their green technology knowledge for their work. The certificate is useful in fields like construction, maintenance, engineering, landscaping, etc.

The program is run in partnership with LBCC, and those in it take 12-16 credits a term. It should take three terms to complete, depending on the level of math and writing levels the student is at initially. To keep up with the material, students must be at least at a Writing 115 level, and have taken Applied Math.

Maggie Underwood, an employment advisor at the CSC explained that since it is a full-time program, it cannot be taken alongside another degree.

"Students have told me that the program is very demanding. It's a lot of work."

Most of the work is done online. There is one weekend per term where students come together to gain hands on experience, and one day a week when a classroom is provided for the students to come and collaborate on their work with the aid of LBCC academic advisor Tom Smith Burg, who advises in the Science, Engineering and Technology Department. Dan Lara, the dean of the Science, Engineering, and Technology Department heads up the project.

Seven community colleges are working together on this project including LBCC, Blue Mt. Community College, Umpqua Community College, Tillamook Community College and Treasure Valley Community College.

Underwood is sad that the program is ending, saying that it provided great opportunities for employment for students.

"It was great for getting into how companies can meet their bottom line and still be sustainable. ...It's a really good program for people who are concerned with sustainability and the direction that were going with our planet."

Fireside Chat: Symbols, Free Speech, and College Campuses

Sean Bassinger
Staff Writer

From Noon-1:30 p.m. last Wednesday, an open diversity chat titled "Symbols, Free Speech and College Campuses" took place in LBCC's fireside room. The gathering featured two guest speakers along with an open audience of students and faculty.

The fireside chat allowed members of the LBCC community to discuss topics of diversity throughout history, and what they can teach us about improving our own environments. According to Javier Cervantes, director of diversity and community engagement at LBCC, there may be similar events coming this fall.

"Obviously the student has free speech," said Cervantes. "But when attempting to promote a non-hostile environment, how do we regulate it?"

The first guest speaker was Angelo Gomez, interim executive director for equality and inclusion at OSU. Gomez mentioned how when he was younger, he once had to walk out of a room when another individual taunted him with a racial slur.

"There's always some who want to provoke," said Gomez. "In a session like this, you can at least learn what to do in these situations."

Among many of his initial points, Gomez also expressed the importance of having these discussions within a college environment.

"More speech is needed on the subject," he said. "[It's okay to] express your discontentment regarding [impacting] symbols."

Among these many symbols is the Confederate flag from the Civil War era. Following Gomez's initial introduction to the chat, LBCC's instructor Robert Harrison jumped in to share both his knowledge and experiences on the subject matter.

Harrison started by describing a trip to the town of Harrison, Ark. In a particular hotel, Harrison explained how the Confederate flag was displayed on two different walls in his room. When describing the rest of the town, Harrison made it clear that this and many other southern cities felt strongly about their Confederate ties. Though many southerners claim the flag is displayed and maintained for "historical" purposes, Harrison stated how the flag ultimately represents an old Confederate cause.

"They only changed their tune after they were defeated," Harrison said.

Representing a government once bent on securing slavery in the US,

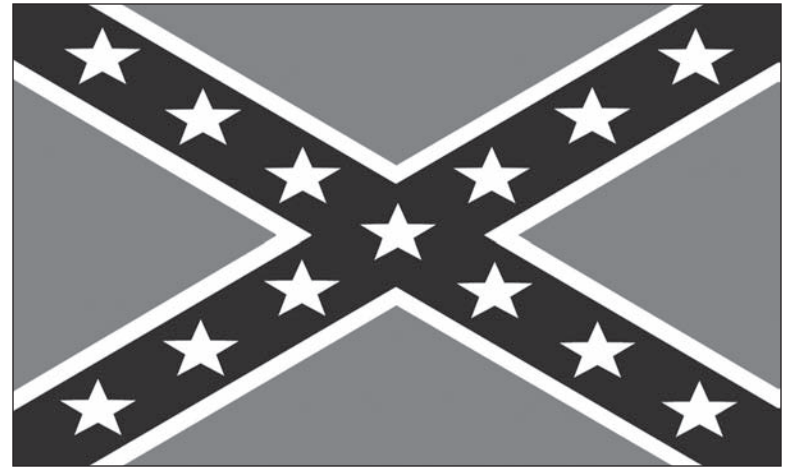
Harrison explained how the Confederate flag once again gained prominence during the civil rights movement. Around the same time, some states were even reincorporating the Confederate symbol into their own state flags. One such state was Georgia in 1956; they removed the symbol from their flag in 2003.

"It is becoming to be the symbol of the white race and the cause of the white people," said Roy V. Harris, a Georgia politician who passed away in 1985.

According to GeorgiaEncyclopedia.org, Harris greatly opposed the civil rights movement. Though never elected himself, he excelled at getting other candidates in office.

Both Harrison and Gomez made it clear how striving for a diversely open college environment is essential for both maintaining a comfortable environment and ensuring student success in the rest of the world. Just as Cervantes stated in a previous interview, we must be prepared to face a globally diverse world.

As a closing note, Gomez presented everyone with a simple question to reflect on for the future: "What can we do proactively to create the environment we want to be in?"



in accordance with a proclamation from the executive of the United States, all slaves are free...in accordance with a proclamation from the executive of the United States, all slaves are free...in accordance with a proclamation from the executive of the United States, all slaves are free...

CELEBRATION OF
United States, all slaves are free...in accordance with a proclamation from the executive of the United States, all slaves are free...in accordance with a proclamation from the executive of the United States, all slaves are free...

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Changing of the Guard

So long, and thanks for all the fish

Look Out World, Here I Come!

Jill Mahler

Outgoing Editor-in-Chief

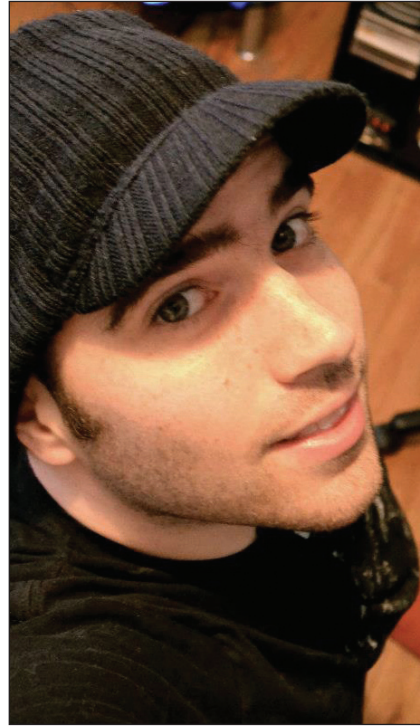
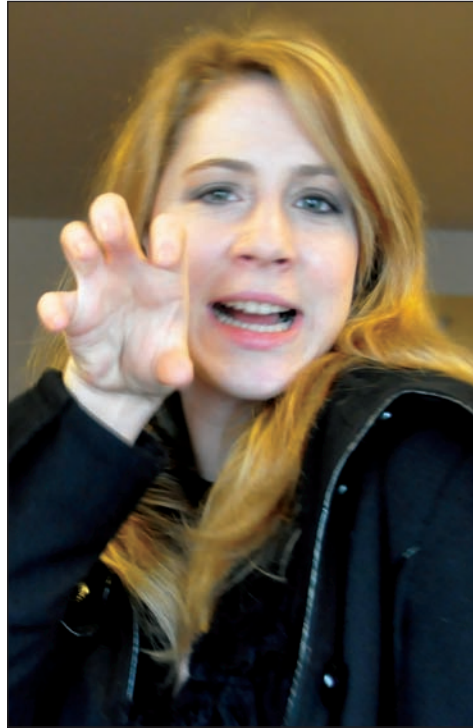
W^hew, time has really flown by. It was the best of times and the worst of times. It seems like yesterday when I began my role as editor-in-chief of The Commuter. I have had a fantastic time managing The Commuter and learning about the campus, the community, and myself. I am glad I'm leaving it in capable hands. Sean Bassinger is next in line to join the proud few before him. God help him. (Just kidding.)

I have had the privilege of seeing Bassinger's progress as a staff writer throughout this year. His passion and knack for the journalism realm will undoubtedly bring a fresh and new depth to The Commuter. I wish him all the best as he approaches next year's challenges and successes.

As far as what my plans are for next year, I know I am looking forward to completing my transfer degree and contributing to The Commuter in a variety of roles, such as copy editing, reporting, and advertising. I also intend to continue writing the weekly Sex and the Campus column and my Dear Conscience response as the Shoulder Devil. I enjoyed being able to work alongside numerous individuals towards a common goal. Although there is a lot of work to be done each week, Bassinger is blessed to have a staff and contributing writers who will assist to get the job done. I know I would have been unable to achieve a fraction of what I did if I did not have such talented and dedicated individuals around me.

Each member plays a key role; however, a few have been really crucial each week. Ashley Christie is a fantastic page designer. Justin Bolger, a former editor-in-chief, is a great resource and copy editor. Gary Brittsan is the king of AP Style. Marci Sischo keeps our website running and top notch. Our advertising team, Natalia Bueno and Dorine Timmons, allows us to grow and network with our community. I also want to thank our past staff members, contributors, community, campus and the following: Justeen Elliott, Jennifer Hartsock, Carli Gibson, Kelly Griffith, Mason Britton, Kody Kinsella, Arielle Nunez, Marcea Palmer, Michael Rivera, Rob Priewe, Amanda Hayden, Ian Butcher, Dale Hummel, Grant Garcia, Alan Boone, Kay Roth and Nora Palmtag.

See you next year; hope everyone enjoys their summer!



Sean Bassinger

Incoming Editor-in-Chief

W^hith excellent content and an awesome crew, this was a fantastic year for The Commuter. Even now our current editor-in-chief, Jill Mahler, is continually working to keep our paper going on the right track. And next year, it's only going to improve.

For starters, many of our editors from previous terms are returning to assist us. They've led us on an amazing path, which can only get better as time progresses. We're also planning to expand both what we write in our news section and the type of news we write about.

Because news doesn't need to stop at "hard news," it's important that our staff and contributors (this could be you) are passionate about the topics they write about. To stay afloat with current trends and maintain relevant content, our news section will feature more enterprise journalism stories involving students and faculty.

For instance, how do outside activities and interests (or a lack of them) affect study habits? Do most students prefer online courses over face-to-face learning opportunities? What about the instructors who teach

these courses? The possibilities are endless, which is why this should be an excellent treat for both readers and contributors alike.

We'll also look into greater ways we can reach out to you, our reader, because we want to hear from you. Contact us on the website, even if it's just to say "I like this!" or "I'm not into this." If you strongly agree or disagree with an article in our paper, send us an email. We're here to listen and serve you, so let's make the best of what we have. If you like, you can even stop by our office (Forum-222) and have a chat.

But aside from the paper you're used to, readers will get to know The Commuter like they never have before. We'll start by improving our social media capabilities in order to enhance our overall communication with readers. We'll also feature routine in-office video updates to give you an idea of who we are and what we're writing about. And heck, you might even catch us in the courtyard here and there. Does anyone like barbecue?

As the new editor-in-chief for your LBCC Commuter, I'm thrilled to take part in this new adventure, and I look forward to bringing all of you along for the ride. Here's to another fantastic year!

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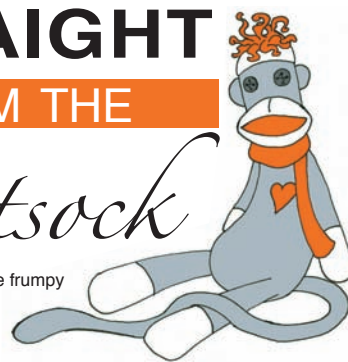
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STRAIGHT FROM THE

Hartsock

Brain stuffing from the frumpy sock monkey



Human Responsibility

Jennifer M. Hartsock

Opinion Editor

Oⁿe of the greatest pursuits of mankind is determining our responsibility to ourselves, other people, and the world. If we are truly governed by a higher power that pulls our strings, these responsibilities are outlined for us. However, if we are truly independent of a metaphysical influence, we outline our own responsibilities and take over God's role. If we are truly gods of this existence, this requires attention and dedication to our existence.

With an involved god, one would assume morality would be a direct likeness of his expectations. If he was an observer, perhaps humans created morality. We noticed patterns, proposed a purpose, and constructed guidelines for a well-lived life – yet are still judged. What is even more fascinating, yet terrifying, is if the universe is a product of random chaos.

If this is indeed true, then we are, in a cosmic sense,

contributors. However, on a planetary scale, we are creators. Our consciousness is the sole instrument for creating purpose. When a spectrum of light forms in the sky, we call it a "rainbow," and see a purpose. When we see a mass of chemicals and water in the atmosphere, we call them "clouds," and we see shapes, beauty, or an omen for hard times yet to come. We care for our loved ones, pet or human, and when they die, we mourn the loss of their life. With the knowledge that we will someday die, we hope it's many years in the future. We go as far as idolizing gods because we crave a purpose in life, but also because we never want to die. In a world composed of energy and material, our consciousness not only finds value in itself, but in everything – and we never want to let go.

If we are truly alone in the universe, we are the protectors of this world. Without us, life would be without our pollutions and the constant depletion of land and water, but life would also be without compassion, watchful direction, and cognitive reason. Because we are capable of changing the world, it is irresponsible to ignore or demean the consequences of our decisions. We cannot be self-absorbed, because the fate of this world has more to do with us than we ever imagined. The world is full of purpose, and will burn from the depths of our arrogance or thrive from our dedication.

Thus, we need not fear a civilized society, only redefine its goals. We must acknowledge our bodies as composed of the same material as the universe. To have a relationship with life, instead of a dictatorship, reveals our truest nature as guardians. Perhaps then, when we feel peace from a sunset, or empowered after summiting a mountain, or bliss on countryside hill, we will know that we're seeing the aspects of ourselves. Like loving or fearing a god in the heavens, we love and fear the magnificence within our own minds.

When we do not hinder, nor destroy life, but prolong its well-being and value, we can heal the world.

Read the full article online at: jennifermhartsock.wordpress.com

Experiences with Discussing Interests

Sean Bassinger

Staff Writer

Believe it or don't, I love music. Like everyone else, I have (and have had) favorite songs, favorite bands, and preferred genres. However, unlike most "normal" folks I've had the pleasure of knowing, I rarely discuss these topics as much as they do. Though as I've gotten older, I've noticed there are many others like me who rarely make music a subject of discussion.

Like politics and religion, music and other socially collective interests can be sensitive matters to certain individuals. There are many people who greatly judge what others like or dislike. For example, if you mention disliking The Beatles to a cluster of diehard fans, prepare yourself – these folks may never speak to you again.

To demonstrate the impact of this topic, think of someone above the age of 12 who likes Justin Bieber (yes, they exist). How do they make you feel? And if you're this awesome grown-up "Belieber" I'm describing, how does that last condescending statement make you feel?

Regardless of your preferences, the above scenario probably makes you want to get off this planet.

In my life, I remember when a musical discussion with those I looked up to – namely my brothers – was a do-or-die situation. In their minds, they knew what to love (heavy metal), and they also knew what to instantly thrash (rap).

Being a little twerp desiring to impress his older siblings at a young



age (spoiler alert: it never happened), I would naturally freeze up when it came to discussing music; my strategy was to avoid making an ass out of myself if I couldn't impress them.

I do, however, remember once saying I liked a certain Michael Jackson song, and my oldest brother still found me a cassette with the track after laughing at me (yes, I remember the time).

Now it's fantastic to share your life with people who enjoy the same things as you. But if you're cutting off other people because of some disagreement over a material – yes, music is technically material – aspect in life, you could be making a mistake.

For instance, I'm not a fan of sports video games. In fact, I'm terrible at them. Though if a friend of mine loves to play a certain genre of games and says Diablo III is "boring," I'm not going to hit the "unfriend" button on Facebook.

There are obviously other reasons

we became friends, and I'm going to work on that – even if they tell me Mario games have no heart. We all have opinions – theirs is "Mario sucks" and mine is "your opinion blows, but I still like you."

Sometimes people get along great and still have certain differences in their areas of interest. After all, a wise individual once said "opposites attract," and we're never going to find folks (at least where "soul mates" and significant others are concerned) who are exactly like us.

And hell, if we do find those people, they might eventually irritate us since they're a little too familiar. Many would agree that it's nice to mix things up.

Perhaps I'll continue discussing the topic of music (among other interests) as I become comfortable around certain individuals. Though for now, if you'll excuse me, I'm going to go enjoy a timeless classic from The Bieb – I mean Beatles.

Dear Conscience,



What are some ideas for an enjoyable summer?

Jill Mahler

Shoulder Devil

There are many ways to enjoy the summer. I recommend making use of the time and perfecting some of your skills, such as bomb assembly, staging a coup, and avoiding people's feelings.

Why waste the opportunity ahead of you by preparing for the following school year, working, visiting family or traveling? Lame. Snooze.

Take me for example; I started my summer off right. I took care of a little nuisance I have been dealing with all year.

That's right, I killed the Shoulder Angel! You're welcome!

All year, every question she was all "Be nice, do the right thing," yada, yada, yack, yack. Driving me crazy. Believe me, I tried to deal with her earlier, but that pesky head kept getting in my way. She was surprisingly resilient.

Now I get to kick up feet and sit back. Total domination. No one to have to debate matters with. I have complete say, just as I always wanted.

It's like Christmas in June. I will admit, I'm a bit lonely... wait, what am I saying? No, it's great!

Curse the Angel. She must have rubbed off some of her goodness onto me when I was finishing her off. No worries, nothing a little mayhem can't fix.

How did I do it, you ask? Looking for ideas for your annoying sibling, neighbor, in-law, co-worker? I'll give you a few hints. Involves a lot of lime, a sword, evil laughter, sharks with lasers, and some chocolate pudding (a snack for later, of course). I'm not crazy.

Jennifer M. Hartsock

Shoulder Angel

JENNIFER "ANGEL" HARTSOCK

Jan. 11 – June 6, 2012

THE SHOULDER ANGEL, age six months of Heaven, has been "taken care of" by the Shoulder Devil on Wednesday, June 6, 2012, during the regional deaf marching band competition.

Visitation will not be available to the mortal public.

A burial will also not take place. Her ashes will be spread all across the eleven herbs and spices of the cosmos.

Sex AND THE Campus

Bad Marriage Advice

Jill Mahler

Editor-in-Chief

June is a popular month for weddings, and for some brides, the wedding season is already here. During the engagement, not only are there numerous preparations, but also there is a lot of advice given to the bride and groom, some good and some just down right terrible. Being engaged myself, I have encountered many individuals who believed to have the keys to marital bliss. However, I have to wonder how some of the advice I have received could even be uttered, let alone perceived as beneficial.

"You have to live together first to know if you are compatible."

Where do I begin? Living together should not be how you know if you are compatible. You date before you get married to see if you are compatible. If you do not know if you are compatible, then you shouldn't be getting married. How wise is it to move all of your belongings in together and share expenses, if you have concerns with your partner? Does that mean if your partner leaves breadcrumbs on the counter or dirty laundry lying around, then you are not compatible?

"If it doesn't work out, there is always divorce."

Absurd to me, but some believe this is appropriate to say. When you say your vows, "through sickness and health," "for richer or poorer," and most importantly, "until death do us part," you are giving your word to be your partner's other half until hell or high water, not until you grow sick of them or until they fail you in some way. The reason for divorces is mostly due to those who enter into matrimony with fair weather mindsets. You should never enter a union if you have an exit strategy.

"If he doesn't behave, withhold sex."

When you withhold sex from your partner, you are withholding much more than the physical part of yourself. You are using your love and affection as a weapon. Intimacy is a crucial part of marriage and should not be corrupted into something else. What do you have if you don't have intimacy?

"It's just a piece of paper."

Marriage is much more than a piece of paper. Yes, the legality of marriage is based off of a certificate, but that does not represent the relationship, the moments, or the love you share. Being married means you have made an enduring vow to one another, not just signed a piece of paper and called it good.

"Sow your oats first."

Yes, because heaven knows, your life will end once you are hitched. There is no way you can be each other's teammate and achieve success together. You have to have and do everything you want in your life because your ball and chain will never let you out of the door.

I understand marriage is not always peaches and cream and should not be entered into lightly. I also believe that to have a successful marriage, you have to be willing to sacrifice and love, even when times are hardest. For my own marriage, I have begun to surround myself with those who will support us and provide us with wise advice.

Have questions? We have answers.

We offer advice on ANY topic from two different points of view. Send your questions to: commuter@linnbenton.edu

"Dear Conscience" does not necessarily reflect the views of any of The Commuter staff.

What do you think?

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome.

Submit your thoughts to commuter@linnbenton.edu

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

A word from your local SLC

Who can you count on to put your student needs and concerns above all else? Your student leadership team! We are here to advocate for student needs, wants and concerns and our goal this year is to ensure your Linn-Benton Community College experience is one you will look back on with fond memories for years to come!

SLC exists on campus to provide a voice for students when it comes to student affairs and activities and this year we want to ensure every student voice be heard. We want to foster and ignite a sense of school pride and excitement within our student body and ensure a sense of welcoming and community here on campus.

In order to do so, this fall will see the implementation of open forums called, "Coffee Talks," where we invite the student body to come and voice opinions and tell us your concerns so that we can better serve and cater to your student needs. These will be held in our very own Hot Shot Café, so come in, have a cup of coffee and get to know your student leadership team. Together we can make a difference and enjoy all of the experiences this college has to offer!

Have a Good Summer!

Amanda McCown
SLC President

Benton Center Pottery Sale

Press Release

The semi-annual LBCC Benton Center Pottery Sale will be held on Friday, June 8 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on the patio outside of the center ceramics studio, 757 NW Polk Avenue, Corvallis.

LBCC ceramic faculty, instructional assistants and students will

showcase and sale their work including raku, high fire, salt fire and wood fire pieces. Both functional and one-of-a-kind pieces range from very affordable to collectible.

A portion of all sales is used to purchase studio equipment. For more information, contact LBCC's Benton Center at 541-757-8944.

Welcome Day 2012 Set for Sept. 19

Press Release

The arrival of Fall Term at LBCC may seem like the distant future, but it will be here before you know it! And to kick it off, LBCC will host the third annual Welcome Day on Wednesday, Sept. 19.

This year's theme is "Oh the Things You Will Find," which ties into the beginning of Destination Graduation for all first-year students. Destination Graduation, or DG, gives students an introduction to LBCC and gets their college career off to a great start.

Welcome Day gives both new and returning students the chance to learn more about LBCC and its outlying campuses. In addition to all the other fun activities, students can stop by

campus to meet their instructors and advisers, tour campus and find classrooms, and buy their books.

Fall Term classes begin Sept. 24. Welcome Day will take over LBCC's main campus from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m., before and after dozens of DG sessions for students.

Among the highlights of this year's Welcome Day will be the:

- Kickoff program in the Russell Tripp Performance Center.
- Campus-wide scavenger hunt.
- Courtyard carnival of games and activities -- along with swag bags -- hosted by the Student Leadership Council.
- Fashion show and shopping spree sponsored by the LBCC Bookstore.
- Performances by LBCC students

in the award-winning choir and theater arts program.

- Vendor Fair featuring campus departments, clubs and area businesses and community organizations.
- Pizza from the Commons wood-fired oven.

Welcome Day-related activities also are being planned at the LBCC Centers in Corvallis, Lebanon and Sweet Home.

For more information or to get involved in planning this year's Welcome Day, contact Susan McNaught, associate dean of ADCAM (541-917-4572 or susan.mcnaught@linnbenton.edu), or instructor Rob Prieue (541-917-4563 or rob.prieue@linnbenton.edu).

Albany Learning Center Operating Hours End of Spring Term 2012

Sat. - June 9 Open 10:00 am - 8:00 pm **STUDY JAM!**
Service availability Computer Lab
Math help desk

Testing - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
(no tests issued after 4:00 pm)
Math Angle - 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
College Skills Zone - (closed)
Writing Center - (closed)
OWL service* - (closed)
Tutoring (closed)

Sun. - June 10 Open 10:00 am - 8:00 pm **STUDY JAM!**
Service availability Computer Lab
Math help desk

Testing - 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
(no tests issued after 4:00 pm)
Math Angle - 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
College Skills Zone - (closed)
Writing Center - (closed)
OWL service* - (closed)
Tutoring (closed)

Mon. - June 11 Open 7:30 am - 9:00 pm **EXTRA HOURS!**
Service availability Computer Lab
Math help desk

Testing (no tests issued after 8:00 pm)
Math Angle - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
College Skills Zone - 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Writing Center - 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
OWL service - (closed)
Tutoring (closed)

Tue. - June 12 Open 7:30 am - 9:00 pm
Service availability Computer Lab
Math help desk

Testing (no tests issued after 8:00 pm)
Math Angle - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
College Skills Zone 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Writing Center - 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
OWL service - (closed)
Tutoring (closed)

Wed. - June 13 Open 7:30 am - 5:00 pm **EARLY CLOSING!**
Service availability Computer Lab
Math help desk

Testing (no tests issued after 4:00 pm)
Math Angle - (closed)
College Skills Zone 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Writing Center (closed)
OWL service - (closed)
Tutoring (closed)

* OWL submissions can be sent to the following link through 3:30 pm on Friday, June 8:
<http://lbcc.writingcenteronline.net/WCenterWebTools/OWL/owl.php>

Thursday and Friday - June 14 & 15 CLOSED



Wednesday: Chef's Choice

Thursday: Chef's Choice Chicken Wings*, Broccoli Beef Stir Fry, Vegetarian Frittata*. Soups: Creamy Chicken and Mushroom, and Vegetarian Vegetable*

Friday: Chef's Choice

Monday: Chef's Choice

Tuesday: Chef's Choice

Items denoted with a * are gluten free

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 won't knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in unfairly. Any ad 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 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 First Stop Center).

Operations & Maintenance Technician (#9788 Wilsonville) Performs a variety of operation and maintenance functions under the direction of a certified operator at water production and related facilities.

Federal Jobs with TSA (#9784 Various in USA) Variety

Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone (541)-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232.



Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.

of positions with Federal Government: Transportation Security Officers, Managerial, Administrative, Human Resources, Program Analysts, Financial Specialists & Technology Specialists.

Caregiver (#9786 Albany) Provide direct care to clients allowing them to remain in their home. Employer willing to train and provide education for those interested in a career as a CNA.

R & D Internship/P/T (#9787, Philomath) Science focused position. Intern will primarily be responsible for assisting with experiments to test and validate sensor technologies

RECYCLE

 YOUR BOOKS FOR 

GASH

June 11-15



Albany Campus
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri
9am to 4pm
Wed
9am to 6pm

Benton Center
Mon - Fri
9am to 4pm

**Bring All CDs, DVDs, And Supplemental Materials Purchased With
Your Textbooks. Check Buyback Prices Online At Our Website
www.bookstore.linnbenton.edu**



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

LBCC Vice-President to Retire this Month

Johanna Lundahl
Contributing Writer

Carol Schaafsma, executive vice president of academic affairs and workforce development at LBCC and long time faculty of the college, is to retire this June. After spending 18 years at LB, with only the last six of them as the VP, she plans to enjoy her retirement.

"I've picked the perfect time to retire," said Schaafsma. She enjoys gardening during nice weather, and volunteering in her community, something she hasn't had much time to do until now. And this fall she is also planning a three-week trip to Italy with her nephew.

Schaafsma says that what she'll miss most about LB are the people. "This is a great place to work because of all the people that work here and all of the inspiration that the students provide. Where all the students are trying to change their lives and we get to help them."

During her term as vice president, Schaafsma said that she was proud of her ability to keep the college focused on their mission during numerous times of transition, such as the different members of faculty retiring and being replaced, including a few different college presidents.

"I think I've helped the college stay steady on its course during those times,"

Schaafsma said.

Beth Hogeland, who is to replace Schaafsma, agrees. "She has such a sense of balance, and willingness, and a sense of perspective. She is extremely skilled at helping people stay focused."

Hogeland is the current dean of Liberal Arts, Social Systems and Human Performance. She has worked at LBCC for 22 years, and is very excited for her new position. "That idea, to use my experience to give back to the college, is really important to me."

Schaafsma says that she's confident the staff will benefit from Hogeland's strong teaching background here at LBCC. "That strength will be a really great match for things like improving advising for students. It will also be great for improving discussions on how to get students all the way through the programs."

Schaafsma says that she will have a hard time letting go, but is grateful for the time she has gotten to spend here.

"There's something about the spirit of this place that is bigger than the individual or the collective. Part of it is its history. Many people feel a sense of belonging here ... I just believe in what we do so much that it's been very enjoyable to work here. Not many people have that. I've had the opportunity to be excited to go to work everyday. I'm very grateful for that."

New Deans at LBCC

Mike Rivera
Videographer

The winds are changing at LBCC as two young administrators take over as the deans of Liberal Arts and Instruction.

Katie Winder has begun her new position as dean of Liberal Arts, while Jonathan Paver is finishing up his time at Triton College before starting Monday, July 2. Since they excelled in their respective interviews, LBCC decided to offer both Winder and Paver positions for the good of the college.

There were four candidates for the dean of Liberal Arts position during the month of April. They interviewed over a period of three days. Teresa Thomas, administrative assistant for the dean of Liberal Arts, was part of the hiring committee that interviewed Winder.

"Some people will give you long, lengthy presentations, where Katie was enthusiastic, works well with people, and brings a new breath of excitement," says Thomas.

After becoming a finalist to become the dean of Liberal Arts, Winder was a contender for the dean of instruction position as well.

In all, the college had seven candidates for the dean of instruction.

Beth Hogeland, executive vice president of Academic Affairs and former dean of Liberal Arts, describes the choices as difficult. Both Paver and Winder were well qualified for the dean of instruction job.

"Both candidates (Paver and Winder) are really young for college administrators. It makes me think of how the world is changing; they are both very tech savvy, knowledgeable about distance education and



Kody Kinsella

New Dean of Liberal Arts Katie Winder

are researchers with curious minds," says Hogeland. "We hired both of them within three weeks of each other. They both have a strong interest in students. Even though they didn't have the years of experience, they were able to captivate us by that interest."

The position of dean of instruction was offered to Paver. Overall, the choices appear to be a win for everyone.

Both new administrators want to focus on helping students, and will have the opportunity in the time to come.

Read full bios of Katie Winder and Jonathan Paver online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu



Michael Kelly

Adam Shields (left) helping Carver Heins (middle) and Arianna Shroyer learn the ropes during the Technical Rappelling class at the Adventure Learning Institute in Corvallis.



Luis Martinez-Salinez

Left: Brian Gamboa plays a tennis game with friends on West Albany High's court.

Community Pictures



Nora Palmtag

Above: Jim's Fruit Stand on Highway 34.



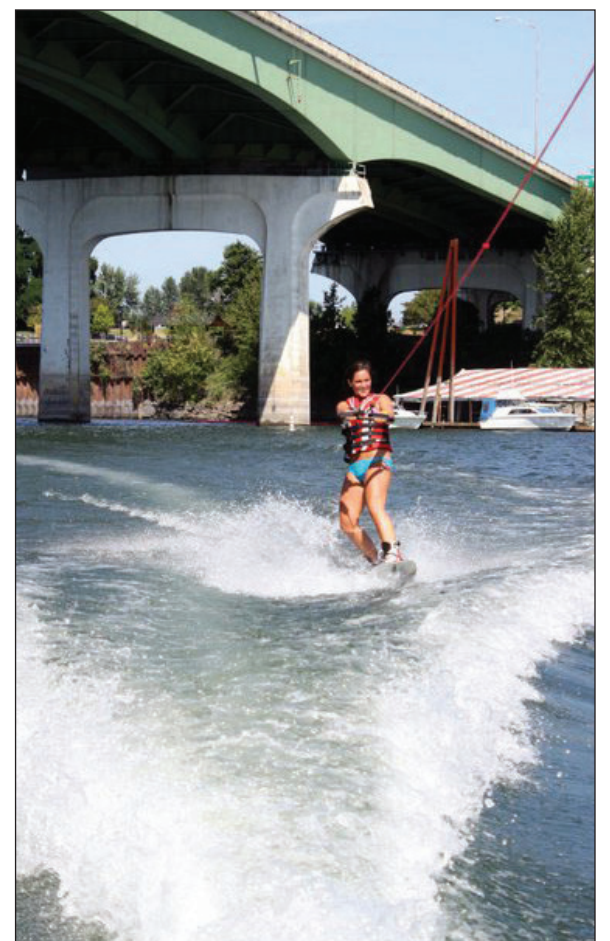
Mason Le Britton

The Harrisburg Bridge.



William Allison

A long exposure of the Santiam Highway I-5 Overpass, taken at night.



Andre Armattoe

Callan Gray spends the day wakeboarding on the river.

Carousel Project in Albany Moves Forward

Kay M Roth

Staff Writer

Gwenn Marchese can't help but smile as she talks about the dream she shares with hundreds of volunteers. The former Director of Community Education at Linn-Benton Community College now spends her days as the volunteer lead painter for the Brass Ring Carousel project in downtown Albany.

This is the project's ninth year. As for the expected completion date, Marchese smiles. "It will be done when it's done." She noted that the project is expected to be complete within another seven years or so. The completion date depends on how many hours the volunteers can put in.

"We are all volunteers," she said, adding that there is one paid staff member whose job it is to make sure the attached museum runs smoothly and the funds keep flowing.

Considering it takes about four years to complete just one of the 58 animals, for the volunteers working on the project truly is a labor of love. Mickey Gavin was seated at a long table stippling a small portion of one of the animals. "I love it," she said without pausing in her work.

In the backroom, animals in various states of completion line the walls. Steve Yellan of Albany inherited the animal he is carving from a former volunteer.

Yellan has a lot of work to complete before Kitty the Unicorn will be ready for the front painting room. "She isn't born yet," he said as he diligently chiseled one of the unicorn's legs. Yellan has been volunteering for four years.

In the middle of the carving room, Roger Lindquist worked on a different type of carving. He has been volunteering for about a year. Instead of working on one of the carousel animals, Lindquist's job is to create a hobby horse to be sold in the project's gift shop. He estimated that it takes him about four days of work to finish one head.

All of the animals are made of basswood from the linden tree. The wood used for the Albany project comes from the Midwest. According to Yellan the basswood is pressed together and the basic form is cut out. From there, the carvers take over. "It's pretty easy to carve because it doesn't have much grain."



Kay Roth

Steve Yellan of Albany carves Kitty the Unicorn.

In the backroom, the carousel's floor spans almost the entire width of the room. The mechanism is actually being put together off site. According to information provided by Marchese, the mechanism was built in 1909.

The Gustav Dentzel mechanism was donated to the Albany project by the National Carousel Association with the approval of the Dentzel family. When completed, the Albany carousel will feature 52 animals, with six replacements.

"Each animal tells a story," Marchese said. She pointed to Munchie, on display in the painting room. Each sponsor works with the designer to create an animal that is special and unique. Munchie, sponsored by Stan and Sharon Chrapkowski, holds a special place in their hearts.

According to Marchese, the blanket contains White Dogwood because of the family's ties to Texas as well as a Rose of Sharon. "If there was a Rose of Stan, that would be there too!"

Marchese said the volunteers love visitors. The workshop and museum are open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. except on Wednesday when it is open until 9 p.m.

Lebanon Veteran's Home

Justeen Elliott

News Editor

How far along is the Veteran home in Lebanon?

Well, they are now looking for a contractor.

Companies that are interested in becoming the construction manager/general contractor for the house will have until 2 p.m. on Friday June 8. Once awarded, the initial contract period will be from July 2012 to March 2015.

The Veterans house will have 150 beds and will offer long-term skilled nursing care, rehabilitation services, and Alzheimer's and memory related care. The house will be constructed on 10 acres, adjacent to the Samaritan Health Sciences Campus.

The facility will be constructed on a small house model for skilled nursing facilities. The model creates a small community for a group of residents and staff. This is a departure from traditional skilled nursing homes and assisted living facilities. The small house model alters facility size, interior design, staffing patterns, and methods of delivering skilled professional services.

Oregon also has a 151-bed veterans' home in The Dalles. It includes 25 beds for memory care and Alzheimer residents.

According to US Department of Veterans Affairs statistics, Oregon needs 800 skilled nursing beds for its aging veterans. A survey conducted in 2,000 indicated the need for an additional 800 beds to serve the aging veterans of the state.

Learning How to Rock

Michelle Stachan

Contributing Writer

King for a Queen rocked the house Friday night with songs by Red Hot Chili Peppers, Van Halen, Franz Ferdinand, Ozzy, and more.

With the energy coming from the stage and the cheers from the audience, you'd think you were at a sold-out Aerosmith concert, but tonight it was King for a Queen playing the eighth grade "Black Tie Dance" at Memorial Middle School in Albany.

The crowd went wild when they played Bob Seger's "Old Time Rock and Roll" and a tender moment was shared by all when Jayden traded her drum sticks for a sparkly red guitar and joined the band center stage for an acoustic version of "The Only Exception" by Paramore.

So what's so special about this kick-ass cover band? For one, their ages are 14, 15, and 16. And two, they're one of the "touring bands" from Musicafe' Rock School.

Musicafe' Rock School is a unique and colorful music school that teaches music lovers of all ages to develop and grow performance skills while learning how to play their favorite musical instruments. They have several instructors who are experienced, professional musicians, as well as exceptional mentors, to give students the tools necessary to excel in rock band classes, as well as individual artists.

Conner Farrell, 15, who plays guitar and sings, belted out "Smells Like Teen Spirit" with a confidence and charisma that would make even Kurt Cobain proud. Kyler Crocker, 14, was on bass; with shaggy hair and shades on, he looked and sounded like a natural born rock star, dancing around while he rocked his instrument.

Sophie Welch, 16, who played keyboard and tambourine, wowed the crowd with her angelic voice when she sang "99 Luftballons" and Jayden Landucci-Arellano, 14, with an up-do and a strapless party dress on, sang with the greatest of ease



Michelle Strachan

The Rock School in Corvallis.

as she banged her drums like she was Keith Moon of The Who. They've got stage presence, talent, professionalism, and a lung capacity that might just leave your ears ringing in the morning.

If you're starting to fantasize about how cool it would be to play an instrument, sing, or rock a crowd like that, you might be surprised to learn that your rock star fantasy could become a reality a lot easier than you think.

Musicafe' Rock School offers private one-on-one lessons for many instruments, as well as Rock School sessions, called "Rockmesters," which are classes dedicated to practicing and performing as a band. Rockmesters run from Sept.-Dec. and Feb.-May, with private lessons available all year. Kids, adults, experienced musicians, and beginners are all welcome.

Groups are formed according to musical ability and stage experience, and usually get together

one night a week for a two-hour rehearsal. Each Rockmester culminates in a live, public performance with full production lighting, sound, and special effects. As bands become more advanced and "gig ready," they may be booked at special events and shows around the community.

Students learn to play the music that most inspires them and are often amazed at what they can accomplish as a group that individually they couldn't imagine doing in such a short time. "It's a good way to break out of your shell," says Landucci-Arellano, who's been going to Rock School for seven years and plays multiple instruments.

Some of the instruments taught at Rock School include keyboard, bass, guitar, brass and wind instruments, and school instruments. Musical instruments can be purchased through Rock School if needed, and a rent-to-own program is also in the works.

Musicafe' Rock School

Phone: 541-738-ROCK (7625)

Web: rockschoolstar.com

Corvallis Studio:
2521 NW Ninth Street

Albany Studio:
126 East 1st Avenue

A lot of students, like Katie and Ray, take private lessons to focus on learning their instrument, and also schedule band lessons directly after that. They are members of a rock band called "The Rock Mechanics," and both are 10 years old.

Some days, while Katie practices her bass in one of the "jam rooms," Ray, who plays guitar and sings, reads a book and waits for the other band members to arrive for the band lesson. They enjoy playing gigs or even just practicing at Rock School. "It's fun because you get to rock with someone else," says Katie.

Every summer, kids ages 7-17 also have the opportunity to go to Rock School's Summer Camp. Several one-week sessions are offered from June 18 through August 24. Camp bands meet for half a day, every day for a week, and end with a live concert where family, friends, and neighbors are encouraged to come and cheer for their young rockers.

There's always something exciting going on at Musicafe' Rock School, whether it's cool studio renovations, new music instructors and camp counselors, or upcoming programs. Rock School is currently planning programs for flash mob choir, recording/engineering class, digital arts squad, and a DJ/spinning class to be offered this fall.

When it comes to rock, you're never too old or too cool for school.

What to do in June

Michelle Strachan
Contributing Writer

Are you ready to start your summer off with a bang? Check out the local events happening in the month of June. There's plenty to see, do, eat, and explore. So get out there and enjoy yourself. Be safe and let the good times roll!

Ongoing

Now - Mid-Oct.
Lebanon Farmers' Market
3-7 p.m., (Thursdays) Free
www.lebanondowntown.org/farmers
Grant & Main St.
541-928-1914

Now - Oct. 13:
Brownsville Farmers' Market
9 a.m.-1 p.m. (every Saturday), Free
www.brownsville-farmersmarket.com
Downtown, Corner of Park Ave. and
North Main St. SNAP and WIC are
welcome at the market.
541-868-4822

Now - Nov. 17:
Albany Farmers' Market
9 a.m.-1 p.m. (every Saturday), Free
www.locallygrown.org
4th & Ellsworth
541-740-1542

Now - Nov. 23:
Corvallis Farmers' Market
9 a.m.-1 p.m. (every Sat. and Wed.),
Free
www.locallygrown.org
1st & Jackson, 541-740-1542

June 8

Grapes & Grains
Enjoy an evening of local brews, wine,
food, and music. 4-11 p.m.
Tickets are \$10 (age 21 and over)
www.albanygrapesandgrains.com
Linn County Fair & Expo Center
3700 Knox Butte Rd. NE, Albany
541-754-9511

June 9

World's Ultimate "Elvis" Tribute Artist Concert
7-10 p.m.,
General admission \$20, Preferred
seating \$25
Eagles Club
127 Broadalbin SW, Albany
541-926-6622

June 10

Nihon e Ikimasho! Let's Go to Japan!
The OSU Wind Ensemble
The inaugural OSU Alumni Concert
Band joins the Wind Ensemble for
this "send off" concert featuring guest
conductors.
3 p.m.
Price: \$10, Students, Staff, & Faculty:
Free with ID www.oregonstate.edu/
cla/music
LaSells Stewart Center
875 SW 26th St, Corvallis
541-619-9063

June 12

An Evening with PRIMUS
7:30 p.m.
\$45 general admission.
www.thecuthbert.com
Cuthbert Amphitheater
2300 Leo Harris Parkway, Eugene
541-762-8099

June 15-17

Linn County Pioneer Picnic
Games, food booths, logger jamboree,
equestrian events, talent shows, and
entertainment.
Free
www.historicbrownsville.com
Downtown and Pioneer Park,
Brownsville
541-928-0831

June 16

An Evening with COLLECTIVE
SOUL
8 p.m.
\$28-\$40
www.roselandpdx.com
Roseland Theatre
8 NW 6th Ave, Portland

June 19

Concerts in the Park - Corvallis Com-
munity Band
Concert Theme: Summer Begins! 8
p.m.
Free
www.c-band.org
Central Park Gazebo, Corvallis
541-766-6918

June 20

Talking Water Gardens Opening Cer-
emony
Constructed wetland with roaring
waterfalls, meandering streams, trails,
birds, and other wildlife.
4-6 p.m.
www.cityofalbany.net
Talking Water Gardens
577 Waverly Dr NE, Albany
541-497-6224

June 23

Redneck Soldier Presents: DMX
8 p.m.
\$25
www.roselandpdx.com
Roseland Theatre
8 NW 6th Ave, Portland

June 26

Concerts in the Park - Corvallis Com-
munity Band
Concert Theme: Music from Ireland
and Scotland.
8 p.m.
Free
www.c-band.org
Central Park Gazebo, Corvallis
541-766-6918

June 30

Oregon Jet Sprint Boat Races
Participants race 13 foot aluminum
hulled V8 powered boats through a
dug track at speeds up to 80 miles per
hour.
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
www.oregonsprintboat.com
33131 Witt Dr, Tangent
541-967-8998

For more info on parks, recre-
ation, and upcoming summer
events, visit:

- www.albanyvisitors.com
- www.co.linn.or.us/parks
- www.visitcorvallis.com
- www.sweet-home.or.us
- www.eventful.com
- www.lebanon-chamber.org
- www.travelsalem.com
- www.all-oregon.com
- www.eugene-cascades-coast.org

Avoiding Online Scams



William Allison
Contributing Writer

The would-be scammers have been posing as different banks (Bank of America, Chase Bank, Wells Fargo, etc.) in order to get your bank login information.

If you get an email asking you to click a link and log into your account, delete the email immediately and do not click on any links. As a safety precaution, always type the web address of your bank in the address bar instead of clicking on links to get to their website.

In addition to these scams, emails stating "you have exceeded your storage memory" have been seen as well. Treat these emails the same way: Delete them and do not click on any links inside of them.

There have also been an increased number of phished email accounts recently. If you get an email from one of your friends with just a link inside, do not click it, as it will attempt to gain access to your account and forward it to all of your friends. Instead, delete the email right away. If possible, inform the account owner of the email and advise them to change their password as soon as possible.

Prevention Tips

- Never click on links in emails from unknown sources.
- Delete any suspicious emails immediately.
- Inform friends of skeptical emails sent from their accounts.
- Type the URL for websites that you will be logging into as an added protection.

In the News:

Local:

Portland, Ore.: A Portland couple has filed a \$6.25 million lawsuit against OHSU and Kaiser Permanente because they said doctors failed to detect a serious genetic disorder in their child. According to court documents Anna and Cory Miller said that doctors told them their child would not have major disabilities. However, several days after their daughter was born in May 2010, they discovered she has Charge Syndrome. The condition often includes heart defects, problems with breathing and swallowing and hearing and vision impairments. That couple's daughter was born with Down syndrome, despite having prenatal tests at Legacy Health that showed no signs of the condition.
source: KPTV

Salem, Ore.: Flags will fly at half-staff at all public institutions on Monday in honor of Marine Cpl. Keaton G. Coffey. That's according to Gov. John Kitzhaber, who made the announcement Thursday. Coffey, 22, of Boring, OR, died May 24 during combat operations in Afghanistan. He was assigned to the 1st Law Enforcement Battalion, 1st Marine Headquarters Group, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA. Kitzhaber called Coffey a dedicated young leader who was committed to his family and country. He said Coffey's death is a "tragic loss and a reminder of the burden our military and their families continue to bear overseas."
source: KPTV

Nation:

Greensboro N.C.: A North Carolina jury found former presidential hopeful John Edwards not guilty of one out of six counts in his federal corruption trial Thursday. The judge in the case declared a mistrial after the jury failed to return a verdict on the remaining five charges. Edwards was found not
source: BBC News

guilty of misusing campaign funds donated by wealthy benefactor Rachel "Bunny" Mellon. The former senator was accused of using almost \$1 million in campaign contributions to hide his pregnant mistress, Rielle Hunter.
source: RNN

Vancouver, Wash.: A Vancouver woman used a hammer to kill her husband two weeks ago, but didn't call 911 until Wednesday, according to court documents. Once police were on the scene, they found the body of 55-year-old Mark Williams covered with bed sheets on a bed in the home. There were numerous red stains on the walls, and the bedding was stained with what appeared to be blood, police said in the court documents. Mark Williams' remains were taken to the Clark County Medical Examiner's Office to determine the exact time of the death and the official cause. Donna Williams is being held in the Clark County Jail on a charge of first-degree murder. Her bail was set at \$750,000.
source: KPTV

World:

Astronomers have used the Hubble Space Telescope to work out when precisely our Milky Way Galaxy will crash into its neighbor, Andromeda. The pair are being pulled together by their mutual gravity and the scientists expect them to begin to merge in about four billion years' time. A further two billion years on and they will appear as a single entity. Our Sun's position will be disturbed but the star and its planets are in little danger of being destroyed. Viewed from Earth, however, the night sky should look fairly spectacular. That is assuming, of course, that a human species is still around billions of years into the future to look upwards.
source: BBC News

Seoul, South Korea: North Korea proclaimed itself a "nuclear state" this
source: AP

week following a revision of its constitution earlier this year. Kim Jong-Il has "transferred the country into an undefeated country with strong political ideology, a nuclear power state, and invincible military power," according to the updated constitution posted on its portal website Naenara. The website posted the revised constitution on Wednesday.
source: CNN

Weird:

Elyria, Ohio: Police in suburban Cleveland say a woman who owns a cleaning service broke into a house and washed the dishes, took out the trash, and vacuumed before leaving a handwritten bill with her name on it. And police say it might not be the first time. The woman, Sue Warren of Elyria, is in jail on a burglary charge. Police in Westlake say Warren broke into a home last week and began tidying up, but she didn't take anything. They say she then wrote out a bill for \$75 on a napkin and included her name and address. One officer says Warren told him she does it all the time.
source: AP

Phoenix, A.Z.: An Arizona court says a man's heirs are entitled to \$500,000 cash that was found in the walls of his former home years after he died. The Court of Appeals ruling Thursday upholds a judge's decision that the money, stashed in ammunition cans inside the walls, belongs to Robert Spann's estate. Spann died in 2001. According to the ruling, his daughters found stocks, bonds, cash and gold hidden in his suburban Phoenix home before they sold it seven years later. The couple who bought the home in Paradise Valley claimed the cash after a worker found it in the walls during kitchen and bathroom remodeling. The Court of Appeals said that legally, the money was only mislaid, not abandoned, so it still belonged to Spann's estate.
source: AP

Olympic Dreams Return This Summer

Get ready for the 2012 Summer Olympics in London

Andre Armattoe
Contributing Writer

Every two years there comes a time for countries to unite and ban together. July 27 will mark the beginning of the 2012 Summer Olympics, to be held in London this year.

If you payed any attention to the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, you might recognize names such as Michael Phelps, Shawn Johnson, or Tyson Gay from our very own team USA. Each Olympian has made a name for themselves and has made several appearances in the media, ranging anywhere from commercials promoting products to videos on YouTube.

Of course the Olympics aren't solely about individual performances. Who can forget the 1992 "Dream Team," which was arguably the most talented team to have ever taken the basketball court. What about the inspiring 1980 "Miracle on Ice?" A group of ragtag collegiate and amateur athletes took down the hockey dynasty that was the Soviet Union, who had won nearly every major event since 1954 at that time, and gritted out one of the most historic underdog stories.

Basketball, soccer (football to the rest of the world), and swimming tend to be the only events people pay any attention to anymore, but there really shouldn't be any surprises in these areas.

Phelps should dominate the swimming events like he did last year, but he might be looking to pass the torch on to the often-overlooked Ryan Lochte. In men's soccer, the US team failed to qualify, which is a big blow for the sport's progression in our country, but the current European champions, Spain, will be favored to win it all. The infamous Brazilian team will be threatening

Spain however, as they look to obtain the top prize that has eluded them for so many years.

The US women's national soccer team will be participating in the event though, and they are surely among the favorites to win it all, along with other great teams such as Great Britain and last year's World Cup champions, Japan.

Gold will be the aim for the US basketball team as they strive to retain the gold after the "Redeem Team" earned the gold back during the last summer Olympics. With the likes of Kobe, LeBron, and Durant on the team, it seems nearly impossible for the team to get anything less than the gold.

Although it will be exciting to see the national team succeed in the different sports, it will be even more exciting to watch our other Olympians achieve greatness as the underdogs, even if that means fighting to earn a bronze medal.

Of course the US won't excel in every event the competition has to offer, especially with the likes of the world's fastest man and current world and Olympic record holder, Usain Bolt, taking to the track. Few could believe the scene of this six-foot-five-inch man blowing past the competition with ease in both the 100m and 200m dash. Bolt's talent is only exceeded by his ego. Ever since his climb to success and fame, he hasn't let anyone forget who he is and what he has done.

These Olympic games are no doubt going to showcase many familiar names, but they are also anticipated to pave the way for the next generation of Olympians. Hopefully the US maintains its strength in these games and ultimately stands a place above the competition on the winner's podium



photo by Graham Hogg

Giant Olympic rings hang in St Pancras International Station in London. These are the first of several rings set to go up at landmark locations around the city.

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Oregon State University
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Nicola Nine-Zielke, assistant director and accompanist

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RoadRunner Baseball



Congratulations to the LBCC men's baseball team on their winning season (21-19) and the student athletes who were selected to the NWAACC Southern Region Baseball All-Stars.

Selected to First Team: Cameron Newell, Sean Curry, Austin Hamilton, and Michael Bradshaw.

Selected to Second Team: Chase Clair and Kellen Sparkes.

Honorable Mentions: Ken Norgaard, Nick Schnedar, and Garrett Miller.

Photos by Tyler Bradley

Catcher Ken Norgaard catches part of a pitch from Lane. Norgaard has a .295 batting average with 12 runs for the season.



Nick Schnedar clinches one of five runs for Linn-Benton against Lane. Schnedar has a .318 batting average, and 20 runs for the season.



(Left to Right) Lacy Wood, Hannah Bell, Julianna Evola, Mona Goudarzian

Four Plays Sign to Four-Year Schools

(Left to Right) Hannah Bell (California State University), Julianna Evola (Montana State University), Mona Goudarzian (Southern Oregon University), and Lacy Wood (Warner Pacific College) all signing their commitment letters to their four-year colleges. The LBCC Women's Volleyball finished their season as Southern Region Co-Champions, with a 4th place finish in the NWAACC conference, and a winning record of 39 wins, 11 losses.



Photos by Michael Kelly



Angulet Jones



Ron Borst

Runnin' Round

Top Left: Boys 100m hurdles at a competition in Sweet Home.

Top Right: A high jumper at the annual Eagle Invitational Track Meet at LBCC.



Bottom Left: A member of the Sweet Home track team during practice.

Bottom Middle: A pole vaulter competing at a track meet in Eugene.

Bottom Right: Charli Prunk doing a standing long jump during a regional track meet.



Mason Le Britton



William Allison

Trudee Bahester

Give me books, fruit, French wine and fine weather and a little music out of doors by somebody I do not know - John Keats

Best Buzz Spots in Albany

Carli Gibson

A&L Editor

If you're a coffee addict like myself, then you have your favorite place to go where the baristas know you and know exactly what you want. However, you're always looking for new places to try. So I took the liberty of trying (almost) every coffee place in Albany and came up with a top five list.

Number five: Spirit Espresso. Spirit Espresso is on the corner of Geary and Queen street. The barista who made my coffee was nice, she wasn't as enthusiastic as the other baristas I encountered, but she was friendly enough. The problem with me, is that I love my coffee iced, but the coffee doesn't always taste the best iced. This is one of those cases where my point is proven. I got an iced "chocolate overload" and I wasn't impressed. The coffee flavor itself was good, but I don't know why the word "overload" was in the title because I barely tasted any chocolate. However, it did come with a chocolate covered espresso bean, which was quite tasty!

Number four: The Human Bean—located on Hill street across from Papa Murphy's. The baristas working here were really nice and friendly, which made my stressful morning a little sweeter. What I loved about their attitudes the most was that they were genuine; they weren't the "I'm going to put on a fake smile and sweet attitude so that you give me a nice tip" type of attitude. However, I encountered the problem of the iced coffee. I got an iced peppermint mocha here, and yet again the coffee flavor was good, but it was almost ... weak. I couldn't really taste the peppermint. I'm not saying the coffee was bad, though. Actually it was good, just not iced.

Number three: Starbucks, but not just any Starbucks, the North



Carli Gibson

A delicious butterbeer frappuccino from the Starbucks in North Albany.

Albany Starbucks. When I started writing this I wanted to steer clear of Starbucks because it's a large corporation, but I can't ignore their delicious coffee. Why did I choose the North Albany Starbucks? Aren't they all the same? No. Granted, any Starbucks you go to is going to be practically the same -- keyword practically.

I have my favorite from here: the toffee-nut caramel frappuccino, and although it's good at the other Starbucks, the one in North Albany is just the best. Not to mention the baristas are always nice and friendly and are willing to experiment with whatever concoction I've decided to try. Oh, and I can't forget to mention that they have a drive-thru for days I'm feeling extra lazy.

Number two: Dutch Bros. I chose Dutch Bros as number two for many reasons, but one big reason: the iced coffee. On my coffee adventure, I had lots of iced coffee, but no one does it like they do. The iced mochas have a texture to them; they're not watery coffee. I also chose Dutch Bros for their party persona. Before I've had my morning coffee, I don't want to deal with any overly-happy people, but you throw in some loud music and friendly faces, and I can manage a happy attitude while they make my coffee.

My number one favorite pick is the Coffee Spot. I went a little out of bounds because technically this place is in Tangent, but it's only a couple minutes away from the LB campus. Coffee Spot is a tiny little shop that's along Highway 99. Not only are their drinks about 75 cents to a dollar cheaper than the other places, but the coffee is great! I stumbled upon this place while I was rushing out of town and decided to give it a try, and I fell in love. The barista there was really sweet and even gave me an extra shot for free. Not only do they have the typical choices of coffee and smoothies and Italian sodas, they also have milkshakes and good-looking food. Not just your typical muffins or cookies, but warm cheesy bagels.

There you have it, my top five coffee places to go to in town. Go give them a try because you're going to need it while you study for finals!

Fishes Fail Second Time Around

Ashley Christie

Page Designer

I'm going to preface this review by saying that I do know the difference between good movies and bad movies. "Piranha 3D" was, and is, a BAD movie. That doesn't mean I still didn't enjoy it. I loved that piece of trash! I had high hopes for the sequel, "Piranha 3DD," and that it would be equally as terrible, in a terribly good kind of way.

Sadly, it failed to meet my mediocre standards.

This time around, a water park is getting ready for its season opening and the piranhas have figured out how to get in through the pipes and wreak havoc on the barely clothed patrons. I'd go into more detail about the plot line, but let's be honest, seeing this kind of movie for the story is like looking at a Playboy for the articles.

"Piranha 3D" was a fun ride. It was an exploitation film, definitely, but it didn't take itself seriously and was just trying to entertain its audiences with its ludicrous story and ridiculous amount of carnage. "Piranha 3DD" lacked the same light-hearted spirit.

Whereas the first time around the characters were forgettable, though likable ... okay, likable is a bit strong, let's go with tolerable, here they are detestable. I didn't really root for anyone to come out alive.

The best scenes were the ones featuring the surviving cast from the first one. Christopher Lloyd reprises his role as the kooky scientist who can explain everything, though no one listens to him. Except for the fans of his YouTube videos.

And Paul Scheer and Ving Rhames



are back using the water park as a therapeutic tool to get back in the water because they're still a little traumatized from the last time. I'd be a little shaky too if the last time I went for a swim a fish ate both my legs. Luckily, Rhames brought his titanium legs with the shotguns attached.

David Koechner plays the owner of the park and if the bloody stumps littering the kiddie pool don't make you vomit, his character will. He's revamped the parks image which includes a new slogan, "DD's Get in Free!" He's also created a new suit-optional adults only pool and replaced all the lifeguards with water-certified strippers. His death did not come soon enough.

I'm all for over-the-top blood and guts when it's done right. Here the CGI is just lazy. Heads getting sliced off and thrown through the air, half-eaten corpses washing up in the tide pool, I've seen better ... from this franchise. What do you mean there are no faces getting pulled off by boat propellers or

parasailers getting dunked in the water and only half of them coming up? That was at least a little bit creative.

Some things in this movie were just unnecessarily gross. And I don't mean David Hasselhoff running in slo-mo so his chest jiggles as much as the implant-friendly bimbos in the "adults only" pool. At one point, a piranha finds his way into a female skinny-dipper and later, while ... umm ... getting intimate with her boyfriend, the little fishy ... well ... let's just say it's the best abstinence ad I've ever seen.

Perhaps I'm just bitter because I didn't get to enjoy this film in 3D on the big screen the way it was intended. "Piranha 3DD" was only released in about 100 theaters across the country and the closest one to me was in another state so I had to settle for renting the 2D version from Amazon.com.

I never opt for the 3D version of films, unless it's for an incredibly cheesy movie like this or "Drive Angry 3D." These movies are the only way 3D should be used, with cliched gimmicks like a school of piranhas swimming towards the camera, or a plastic (and deadly) trident getting thrown, or a bloody arm getting spit up.

The best moments of "Piranha 3DD" are in the trailer. Except for the final death, which was the only death that made me laugh even a little. The first one was fun and had a huge payoff once the fish and flesh started flying. Here we had 60 minutes of boobs and build-up, 10 minutes of bloody carnage, and 10 minutes of bloopers and credits.

I wanted "Piranha 3DD" to be craptastic! Instead, it was just crap.



"Battleship" is a Miss

Nora Palmtag

Staff Writer

This movie does not live up to the hype from its trailers.

The story is about two brothers, one being the responsible, military man who knows what he wants and how to get it, Stone Hopper (Alexander Skarsgaard). While Taylor Kitsch plays Alex, the younger, irresponsible brother, although highly intelligent, has no direction and true character with a cocky, I-don't-care attitude.

Samantha (Brooklyn Decker) is immediately entranced by the bad boy appeal of Alex, but her father, by-the-book Admiral Shane (Liam Neeson) doesn't approve. There's a new technology that allows Earth to send out a signal to wherever in space. Military intelligence steps in to get communication with aliens.

The aliens in this movie are not dramatic or alien enough for most sci-fi fanatics. They're so underplayed, they're almost human-like, just taller and bigger with Predator-like suits.

One great moment in the movie, which all Americans will love and want to own the movie for, is the resurrection of the Battleship-USS Missouri, along with some of the original crew members from that era.

With a \$200 million dollar budget this movie should have rocked the house and the box offices. "Battleship" is a movie you would want to rent or own, because paying \$10 for admittance, and adding \$13.50 for popcorn and drinks seems a bit extreme.

The plot is too predictable, the aliens are too human-like, and the main characters are totally unbelievable.

Nail-biting, chair-holding and scary gasping should have been the reaction of the audience with so large a budget and cast.

SUMMER HOROSCOPES



ARIES 3/21 - 4/19

Get ready for some adventure this summer. Your routine is becoming too ... routine. Time to shake things up!



TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20

Your time has been divided by way too much. This summer, try just focusing on one ultimate thing.



GEMINI 5/21 - 6/21

Big changes for you this summer! Focus on the big picture and find someone else to worry about the small details.



CANCER 6/22 - 7/22

You tend to focus on yourself a wee bit too much. Try giving back to others this summer.



LEO 7/23 - 8/22

It's time to show the world who's king. You know what you want - now take it! Who cares about the people you have to pounce over along the way.



VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22

It's time for some introspection, and not just because no one wants to be around you this summer. Put yourself first for a change.



LIBRA 9/23 - 10/23

Work stress has been weighing you down. Go crazy this summer and find some balance!



SCORPIO 10/24 - 11/21

Your outer shell is looking a little ragged - time for some R&R this summer. After that, you'll be back to that conceited self in no time.



SAGITTARIUS 11/22 - 12/21

Get ready for a creative burst of energy. Follow your passions and trust your instincts.



CAPRICORN 12/22 - 1/19

Try something new this summer and take a vacation! Your work woes will still be waiting for you when you get back.



AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18

You have the ability to work with various types of people, which is good because so many people don't like you.



PISCES 2/19 - 3/20

You have a tendency to swim from here to there with no real thought. Try staying in one place for a bit and see what comes from it.

BACK in the DAY

This day in history ...

June 6, 1944 - D-Day

The allied forces began their invasion of Normandy, France. And if you didn't know that, put this newspaper down and go read a book.

June 7, 1893 - And so it begins

Gandhi commits his first act of civil disobedience. No joke to be found on this one.

June 8, 1948 - And so this also begins

The first Porsche is completed. James Bond wished he had one.

June 9, 2006 - Anyway...

Pixar's "Cars" is released. In other news ...

June 10, 1752 - The Electricity Hipster

Benjamin Franklin flies his kite during a thunderstorm. He knew about electricity before the rest of you.

June 11, 1979 - Death of a Titan

John Wayne dies. The world has never been the same since.

June 12, 1987 - Ultimate Fistfight

Reagan challenges Gorbachev to tear down the Berlin Wall. He then impaled Gorbachev on the American flag.

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Guest Conductors
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JUNE 10
7:30 PM**

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Oregon State UNIVERSITY

Accommodations for disabilities may be made by calling 541-737-5592

Poetry Spotlight

take some more stream-of-consciousness before you wake

by Chelsea Baker

i was wrong
i read you wrong,
is that an excuse?
not at all, no.

i forced angry words together
a disjointed mess acquired in my blindness.
would these really bother you?
how was i supposed to know?

a supposed indifference conceals all emotion.
i was thrown off by your indifference.
supposed indifference.
my impression.
assumption.
wrong.

would forgiveness be worse at this point?
the martyr in me thinks so.

can it be losing when i know where i lost you?
retrace my steps.
no need.
i remember every detail.

apology?
i've given you every apology
one more?
will this last help or hinder?
is that in question anymore?

your inbox must be full by now
text after text
my unbridled thoughts.
disjointedness.
anger.
regret.
will this last help or hinder?
i'll know when you wake.
will you stop when we walk past?
or is this the last refrain of our time together?
a broken cry at 3am while others lie asleep.
i wish you had not fallen too.

i refuse to cry
it would only add insult to injury now.
my tears don't fall when it's my fault.
to shed them?
selfish.
oh trivial guilt of a broken heart.



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with Washington, D.C. pianist extraordinaire

John Eaton

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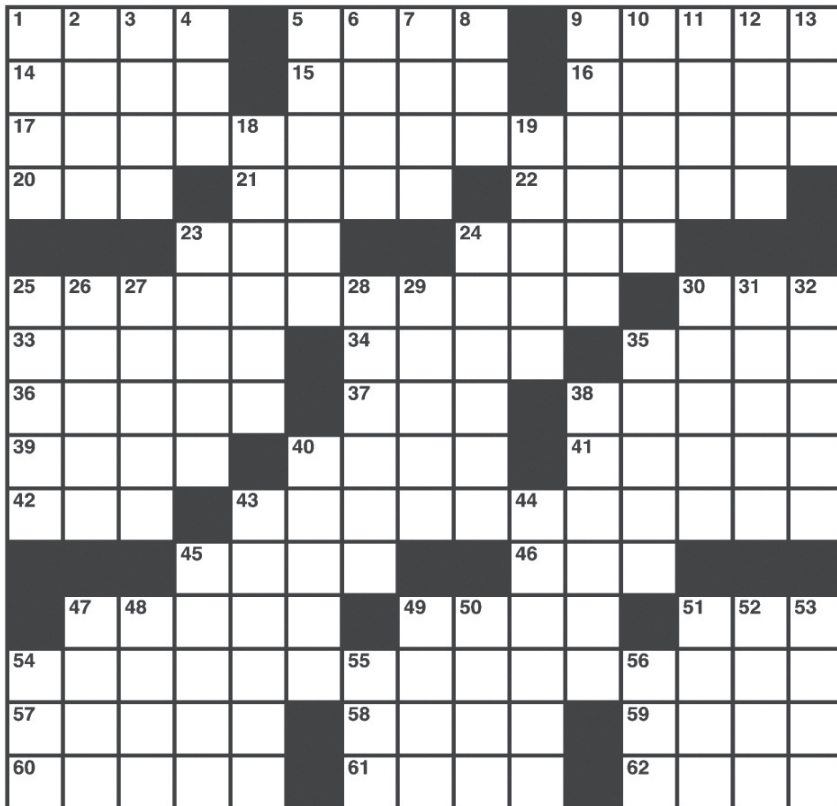
Oregon State UNIVERSITY

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Run smoothly
- 5 Uzi filler
- 9 Bench warmers aren't on it
- 14 Excellent
- 15 Known as "the Impaler," prince who inspired "Dracula"
- 16 American competitor
- 17 Life insurance clause
- 20 Printers' widths
- 21 A deadly sin
- 22 Posh
- 23 Neurologist's test, briefly
- 24 Publicizes
- 25 Hoedown activity
- 30 Poor, as an excuse
- 33 Second most populous Oklahoma city
- 34 Alan of "The West Wing"
- 35 Marquis de ___
- 36 Youngest of the musical Jacksons
- 37 Golfer's concern
- 38 Mass of grass
- 39 Vocalized
- 40 Defendant's answer
- 41 Accountant's review
- 42 Barely squeeze (out)
- 43 Apple variety
- 45 Petting places
- 46 BMOC, for one
- 47 Washington neighbor
- 49 Yoked beasts
- 51 Psychic's asset, for short
- 54 Inadvertent remark
- 57 Common news hr.
- 58 "I'd advise against it"
- 59 Brand with a paw print in its logo
- 60 Bears, in Latin
- 61 Pump or loafer
- 62 17-, 25-, 43- and 54-Across begin with a kind of one



By Barry C. Silk

DOWN

- 1 Lose brightness
- 2 Weaver's machine
- 3 "We're treating"
- 4 Surfing area with no water, with "the"
- 5 Get even for
- 6 LXII x XVII
- 7 Quite a few
- 8 Unusual
- 9 Regard highly
- 10 Portable shelters
- 11 Part of QE2: Abbr.
- 12 ABA member
- 13 Perhaps will
- 18 Ogle
- 19 "Fear of Flying" author Jong
- 23 Painter's stand
- 24 Like llamas
- 25 Missouri city nickname
- 26 Fundamental particle
- 27 Radii neighbors
- 28 City in which the State Fair of Texas is held annually
- 29 Out of this world
- 30 Riyadh resident
- 31 Fess up

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



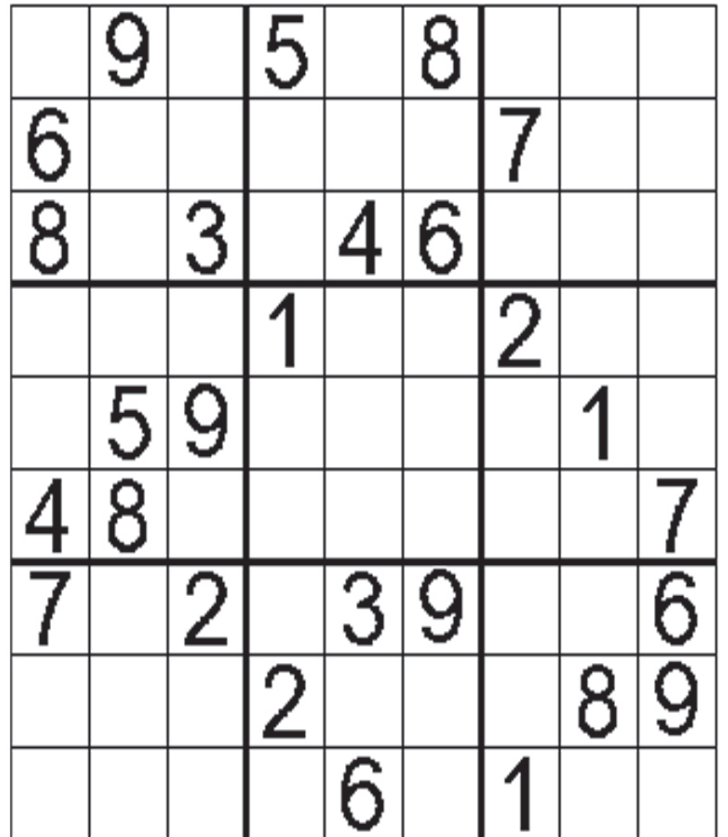
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- 32 Pool measurement
- 35 Batter's dry spell
- 38 Vegas attraction
- 40 Evidence
- 43 End a vacation, say
- 44 Mimieux of "The Time Machine"
- 45 Mothers of Invention musician
- 47 Robert of "The Sopranos"
- 48 Cacophonies
- 49 "Whoops!"
- 50 Strange: Pref.
- 51 Alaska's first governor
- 52 Japanese wrestling
- 53 Nuisance
- 54 Early Beatle Sutcliffe
- 55 NFL six-pointers
- 56 Ending with beat

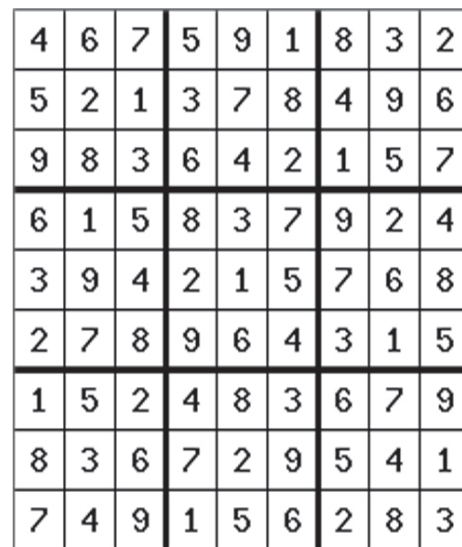
SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4



Last Issue's Puzzle Solved



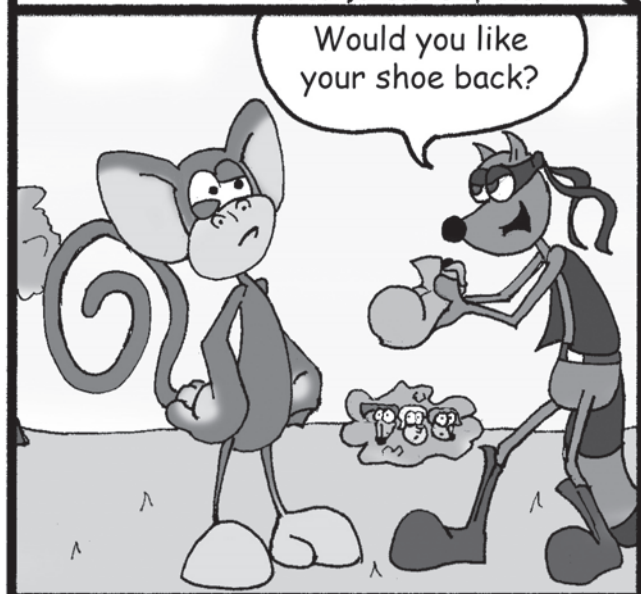
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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An LBCC student-generated comic

By Mason Britton



Give me books, fruit, French wine and fine weather and a little music out of doors by somebody I do not know - John Keats

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Summer edition

JUNE

<p>June 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madagascar 3 • Prometheus <p>June 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rock of Ages • That's My Boy • The Woman in the Fifth 	<p>June 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brave • Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter • Seeking a Friend for the End of the World <p>June 29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ted • Magic Mike • Madea's Witness Protection
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JULY

<p>July 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Amazing Spider-Man <p>July 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savages • Katy Perry: Part of Me • Crazy Eyes <p>July 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ice Age: Continental Drift 	<p>July 20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dark Knight Rises <p>July 27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Watch • Step Up Revolution
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AUGUST

<p>August 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bourne Legacy • Total Recall • Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days <p>August 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hope Springs • The Campaign <p>August 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Odd Life of Timothy Green 	<p>August 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ParaNorman • Sparkle • The Expendables 2 <p>August 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premium Rush • Hit and Run • The Apparition <p>August 31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Possession • Lawless
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Sources: [Imdb](#), [Yahoo! Movies](#), [Fandango.com](#)



Film Is a Fairy Tale Delight

Ian Butcher
 Staff Writer

I have a secret to share with you all. That Snow White movie with Thor and what's-her-face from "Twilight." It's actually pretty good.

It's best to describe "Snow White and the Huntsman" as more of a revisionist fairy tale than anything else. Sure there are some dwarfs, there's an evil queen with a mirror on the wall, and an apple; but this is a film that takes the overall concept of Snow White and goes off in it's own new direction. And the best part is that they made it work.

First-time director Rupert Sanders takes on this big-budget fantasy epic with ease and a strong eye for visuals. Sanders brings a very gritty believability to this fantasy world while never forgetting its magical side. The creature design stands out the most in this visual feast for the eyes. If there is one thing to take away from this film, it's that Sanders is someone to keep an eye on in the coming months.

Aside from the visual fest that this film offers, there's also that ever-important thing called a cast. My major sticking point going into the film was Kristen I'm-going-to-bite-my-lip-and-look-pensive Stewart. She as Snow White didn't really seem to fit. Well, she wasn't horrible, that's for sure.

While she might have been the weakest part of the film, she did a serviceable job with the material that she was

given. Being the weakest link of the film had less to do with her performance and more to do with the fact that the script writes her as a rather one-note character. There isn't really a whole lot to Snow White as a character, and for a film called "Snow White and the Huntsman," it seems kind of strange to do that.

However, the rest of the cast is able to make up for the so-so performance given by Stewart. Chris Hemsworth is able to overcome my fear that his performance as the huntsman would simply be a rehash of his performance as Thor.

While still an all-around badass in a fantasy setting, he is less of a regal character and more of a Han Solo rouge type.

Charlize Theron as the evil queen is without a doubt the standout performance of the film, though. She is able to go from the usual evil fairy tale character we are used to, to a complete psycho crazy person just like that. She's able to sell having crazy power, while being crazy herself at the same time.

All in all, despite a passable performance from its lead, "Snow White and the Huntsman" has enough else going for it that it is able to stand out as a really engaging fantasy film.

From the rest of the cast picking up the slack to the amazing visuals and stand-out direction, the film is a real surprise that's sure to please fans of darker fantasy films. I would give "Snow White and the Huntsman" a much-deserved 4/5.

Gamer's Log: Diablo 3

Mason Le Britton © 2012
Groovysweet.wordpress.com

<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Diablo 3, the most anticipated hack'n'slash dungeon crawler. Ten years in the making...</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">I created a female monk, a magic hand-to-hand fighter.</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">The monk has some interesting skills, such as the Whirly Charge of Dooooom! If only it did anything.</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Must Run! or just Keep Fighting...</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Gameplay is fun, especially with friends. Battle mechanics are neat, if you can move.</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Demons Aren't Real Uncle Reckard!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">The story is a bit lacking, and honestly, what is with Leah?</p>
<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Whimsyshire is a lovely secret level filled with unicorns, flowers, and cuddle bears... Oh my!</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Impossible</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Once you reach inferno difficulty, it's not uncommon to come to a champion group that requires a zone reset.</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Eeek!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Inferno is the hardest difficulty, which translates to getting one shot. If you're lucky, you'll see it coming.</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">YOU HAVE DIED. Your items have lost 10% durability</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">The game is an item grind, which takes the place of an endgame. Yeah...</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Have fun with the Balanced PVP</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Game bugs, unbalanced, lag issues, poor movement control, impossible monster groups, and a huge disappointment.</p>