

The Commuter

Get in the Game
pg. 8-9



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OFFICE HOURS
with *Jed Wyman*Q & A
with Jed Wyman**What kind of challenges have you faced in the classroom?**

I'm always amazed at how many different perspectives there are at LB. It's a real challenge sometimes to bridge certain differences and find a balance. Especially this past week with the death of Osama bin Laden, trying to address that and keep a dignified discussion going without letting emotions run rampant. But it's great to hear a diversity of viewpoints.

Would you ever go back to Kenya to teach?

I'd love to. I've thought about it a lot lately. I was recently contacted by a former student who asked me to visit. I'd like to try to make that happen somehow.

Which of your favorite writers would like to speak with and what might you say?

I think some of the writers I love the most might have been the most difficult to talk to. I'm trying to imagine a lucid conversation with Charles Bukowski but it might have been out of the question: he'd probably be too drunk and ornery.

It would be really interesting to talk with an author who writes about place, like Steinbeck, and to have a conversation with him in that environment: to walk the fields of the Salinas Valley and just notice how he appreciates the areas he writes about.

What's the best advice you've received or given on writing?

They always say to write about what you're most familiar with, but recently I heard author Annie Proulx say the exact opposite. She basically said – and I'd been waiting to hear someone say this for a long time – “That is rubbish, write about whatever interests you the most, immerse yourself in it, research it relentlessly. That's just as important and valid as writing about things you're familiar with.”

I felt a huge relief to hear her say that. For so long I stuck by the mantra “Write what you know,” so I wrote about guys washing dishes and playing in rock bands, things like that. And it was so ingrained in my head that it was liberating to break free of it.

The advice that I always try to impart on my students is that good writing is a healthy mixture of brevity and detail.

You mentioned that you're constantly searching for obscure and interesting words, are there any you've found recently?

Imbroglio. As in, I hope my reading doesn't turn into an imbroglio.

im-bro-glio [im-brohl-yoh] – noun
an intricate and perplexing state of affairs; a complicated or difficult situation.

Ben Davis

Staff Writer

Jed Wyman, an instructor of composition at LB and the latest speaker at the Valley Writers Series, likes to begin class sessions with students sharing “humorous anecdotes, minor mishaps, and strange encounters,” along with news and current events to help generate ideas for journal entries.

But unbeknownst to most students, sensitive topics and public speaking often test his, and other instructors', nerves.

In his third term teaching at the collegiate level, Wyman is establishing methods to approach delicate issues and determine what is appropriate for classroom discussion while overcoming teacher anxieties.

Karelia Stetz-Waters, Instructor and Coordinator of Composition at LB, commented “It's something we all think about, because in any given classroom some students' world experience may be sheltered, while others may be so colorful you'd be shocked ... and there's a great challenge in reaching that diverse of an audience.”

Wyman's own world experience paints a broad spectrum. After bouncing between boarding schools in Southern California, Wyman left high school before his junior year to begin a life of travel and adventure.

His spirited curiosity has led him twice to Kenya, where he taught English to high school kids and helped fight government corruption amongst tribal conflict.

He poured whiskey for Hell's Angels and



provided by LBCC

LBCC Instructor and Author Jed Wyman

played in a heavy metal band in Missoula while earning his B.A. in history from the University of Montana. He packed burros and worked on a trail crew for nine summers in Sequoia National Park, where he will return after spring quarter.

Aside from being an avid reader and active musician, Wyman is also a classic film buff. I had the pleasure of discovering him to be a preservationist of the lost art of conversation, rollicking through stories that included discovering German hand grenades from WWII

See Jed Wyman**What:**

Reading by Corvallis Author and LBCC Composition Instructor

Where:

Albany campus, CC - 203/205

When:

Wednesday, May 11, at Noon

in Italy, leading students on crawdad fishing field trips in Kenya, and narrowly escaping the fangs of a rattlesnake strike.

With both his parents being college professors, Wyman has taken well to the family trade. “He's a delightful colleague to work with and a pleasant person,” said Stetz-Waters.

Chair of the English Department, Terrance Millet, agrees, “Jed's a dedicated teacher and fiction writer and an asset to the program. He's up on literature, and he reads my stuff, so he must have good taste.”

Wyman is currently working on a collection of short stories described as “loosely linked with obscure common themes like rock'n'roll, baboons, women's feet, and (mule) packer language.”

He will read fresh-brewed, unpublished selections for the Valley Writers Series that address topics like teacher anxiety, public speaking, and general neurosis.

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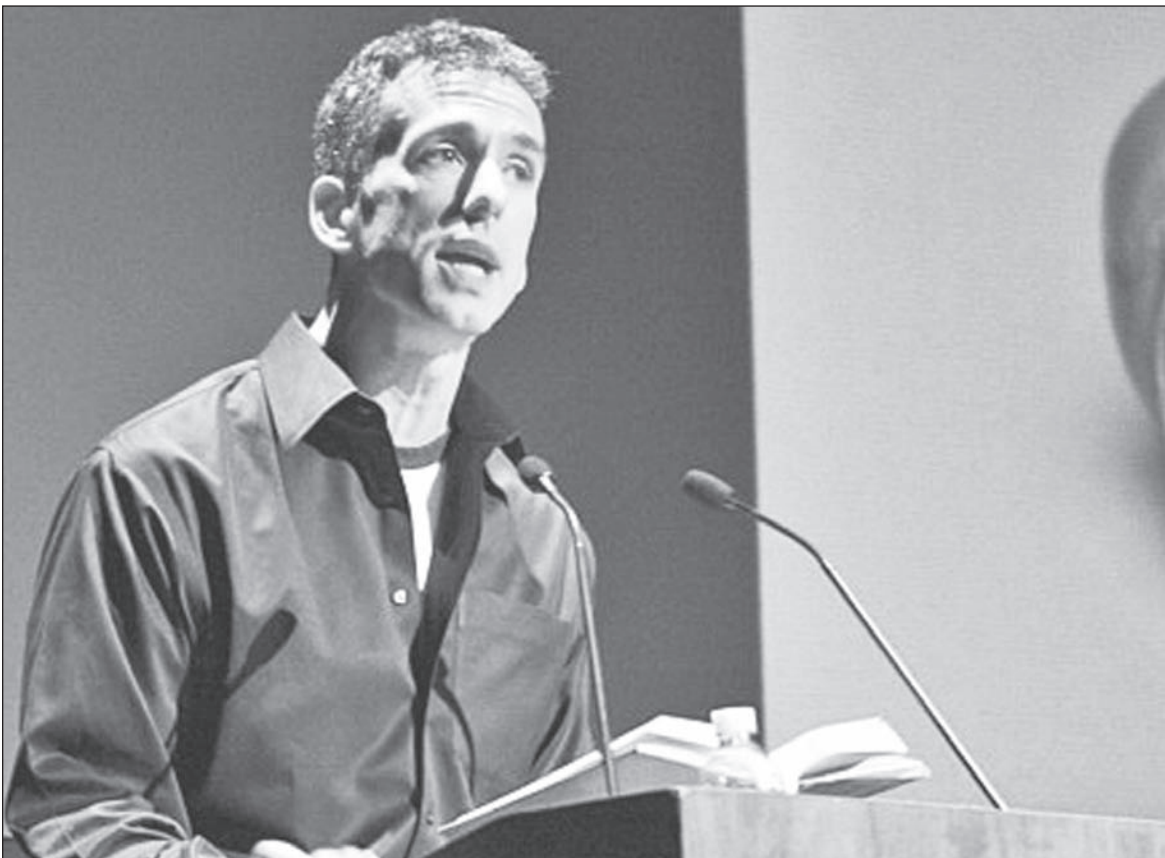
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Dan Savage

provided by Dan Savage/facebook

“Savage Love” Author Talks LGBT at OSU

Jeb Oliver

Staff Writer

I had the absolute privilege of attending Dan Savage's lecture at the LaSells Stewart Center on Oregon State campus. The center was almost full with students, staff and curious citizens.

For those of you who don't know, Dan Savage is a well-known writer of a sex column called "Savage Love." He also is a gay rights activist and creator of the "It Gets Better Project," which is about preventing suicide in the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) teen community.

Savage began his lecture by explaining the "It Gets Better Project." The hope of the project is to show positive gay role models living real and fulfilling lives. Savage hopes this will help prevent suicide of gay teens like the series we had in 2010. The site has been a huge success and now has over 10,000 videos and many more links.

The site is something very personal to Savage who just wanted to help kids, "I needed to talk to LGBT kids, especially those who have parents who are hostile and or bullying themselves."

Savage looked for an outlet and realized the age of the Internet gave him his opportunity. He said, "In the Youtube era, I

was waiting for permission, which I didn't need."

In the end, Savage and his husband, Terry Miller, created the "It Gets Better Project."

The project itself has had a huge impact, affecting how people go about reaching out to LGBT teens who feel scared and alone in this world. According to Savage, "The goal was to save lives, and we have done that." He talked about how a preacher who was linked to his website was actually able to prevent a suicide. "It saved lives. It still saves lives," Savage said.

For the second half of his lecture, Savage took questions from the audience. They ranged from harmless questions like how to lose your virginity at 21, to fetishes about urine, to more fun questions like, "Who would you go straight for?"

Savage was a light of personality as the whole crowd ate up his humorous and searing openness to every question. He truly was fearless in all aspects, both sharing his personal sex stories and his views on our culture and how we treat each other. Savage was a true inspiration to those who believe in a world more kind and less judgemental about sex.

Savage said it best when he talked about all the changes we have made since he came out in 1981. "I had to tell my parents I couldn't be a Marine, but just in my lifetime I'm married, I have children, and I can be a Marine."

Ian Priestman: Instructor and Rock Star

Justeen Elliott

Contributing Writer

Ever wonder if your teacher could be a secret rock star?

Well, Ian Priestman is just that. He leads a double life. During the day, he teaches. By night, he rocks out at pubs.

Originally from England, Priestman is one of the Business and Supervision instructors, and has been at LBCC since 1997.

On Thursday, May 5, he played at the Calapooia Brewery Pub in Albany. Throughout the three hours he was there, people heard anything from the Beatles' song "Lucy in the Sky with

Diamonds" to one of Bob Marley's most famous songs, "I Shot the Sheriff."

The Calapooia is one of those hole-in-the-wall pubs, but as soon as you walk through the door you are instantly greeted by the smell of good food, the taste of amazing local chili beer, loud music (and even louder people), and very friendly bartenders. One downside is they only sell beer, wine and water - nothing stronger.

"If anyone wants to play in our pub, then they need to send their demo to the manager, Paul," Steve Rose, one of the bartenders, said. "And if we like you, then we will ask you to come and play, and we will pay you to sing here."

Priestman was very entertaining from his witty banter between songs to his Elvis impersonation. This was Priestman's first time singing solo at Calapooia.

"I learned that in gym class, you know!" said Priestman, referring to his Elvis dance impersonation. "People always wondered where Elvis learned that move - turns out he learned it in gym!"

Priestman is an amazing guitar player who has been playing since he was 13 and performing since he was 14. He was able to do all of the chords from the songs requested from the crowd, even songs he's never played before. However, he tried to do reggae,

and while he did the best he could, it just didn't sound the way it should have. Nonetheless, people were there to just have a good time, drink good local beer, and eat amazing food.

There were around 20-30 people staggering in and out, requesting songs. Everywhere you looked, you saw laughing, happy people having a good time. One audience member in particular, Michelle England, was very entertaining.

"Puff the Magic Dragon!" screamed England. "I'm drunk and I want to hear Puff!"

There were many songs requested that he didn't know if he should sing, like "The Battle of New Orleans," for

example, particularly because it talked of killing the British! "Puff the Magic Dragon" was also one of those songs he didn't know if he should play or not.

"I don't think you guys know what you're requesting. I already had a drunken Irishman request an outrageous song!" joked Priestman. "I had an entirely different song list prepared for you guys!"

Priestman's next show will be at the Beanery in Corvallis this Saturday, May 14. Also, for more information on the brewery, who will be playing, or where they are located, go to their website www.calapooiabrewing.com

Student Leaders Recognized for Efforts

Jeb Oliver

Staff Writer

Thursday, May 5, at the Holiday Inn Express in Albany, student leadership was recognized for their efforts throughout this school year. This included the ASG, DAC personnel, student ambassadors and the Student Programming Board. They all gathered with food and presentation, each receiving a certificate recognizing their service to the school and a glass star, which had the inscription, "Shoot for the moon ... Even if you miss you'll be among the stars."

Everyone was very festive, excited and overjoyed to be there. "It's pretty cool they are doing this. It's cool to have everyone in one place. It doesn't happen very often," says Rickey Zipp, one of the many student leaders recognized during the evening.

Another student, Tim Babcock, also expressed his excitement over the ceremony, "It's going to be a nice event [...] good turnout; lots of people worked hard to be here tonight."

The support staff of our many student leaders was also there. Barb Horn, adviser to the ASG, stated, "I'm really pleased so many people came here."

Also Jeanette Emerson, who works in the DAC, was pleased with the way students were being treated, "I think it's wonderful they are recognizing all the student leaders for their achievements and everything they do for LBCC." The staff seemed to overflow with passion for the student leadership they helped mentor over the last year.

LBCC president Greg Hamann was there to show his support for student leadership, giving an inspiring speech. The speech covered what it was to be a student, thanking the students for their ongoing service to LBCC, and about how many can do more than one.

"The idea of community is that we can do more together than we can do alone," says the Hamann. "Leadership is really about maximizing the potential in others."

The event marked many turning points in student leadership, including the passing of the new constitution. No longer will the ASG exist in its current form, but all, if not most, of the student-leader groups will be brought together under one organization, the Student Leadership Council.

With all the changes, you could really tell the student leaders really care about LBCC and the difference they were making. In the Hamann's own words, "You can't really lead people you don't love."

Student Art Show Displays Talent



Alyssa Archer
Photo Assistant

You may have already noticed all of the incredible art on display in the North Santiam Hall, but what you might not have seen is the small "award labels" that were added just to the side of some of the pieces.

Last Wednesday, there was a reception held for the 2011 Juried Art Student Exhibit. Many students entered works of art into the show which went through a process of elimination to decide which ones would be accepted and hung in the gallery.

Beverly Soasey, curator and director of the Jacobs Gallery in Eugene, was the guest juror and in charge of this daunting task as well as selecting the winners for several awards.

At the start of the reception she stated, "The work I select is not always something I want to put in my home and live with. I took into consideration that this is a school and [the art show] is part of the learning process."

This shows in the vast variety of pieces she chose to be in the show.

Soasey awarded Best of Show to Johnny Beaver for his acrylic painting called "The Idealist".

Beaver's response when asked about his inspiration for the piece was "It was just evolutionary, as I drew one part and then perhaps I [was] intoxicated it would instruct me to do the other part. I kind of give it more credit than I give myself."

Soasey encouragingly replied with "That's what's so great about art! It can happen in any number of ways."

She also gave Juror's Choice Awards to Jessica Purkerson for "Jellyfish" (acrylic painting) and Spike Keenan for "Stereotypes and Labels" (ink drawing). Keenan's ink drawing was also a big hit with LBCC's president who chose her piece for the President's Purchase Award.

Gary Westford, one of LBCC's art teachers, gave some encouraging advice to students who may not have won awards or made it into the show: "It's a hard road; For every 10 shows I entered, I only got into maybe 3. So don't give up!"



Special guest juror Beverly Soasey awards Best of Show to Johnny Beaver for his acrylic painting "The Idealist" (pictured at right).

photos by Alyssa Archer

Among over 60 works of art submitted by 42 student artists, 15 students received awards in various categories. Award winners were:

Sarah Maddox
the Carol Schaafsma Award in Photography, the Oregon Camera Award, and the PhotoArts Guild Award.

Janey Beville
the Carol Schaafsma Award in Painting.

Rinee Merritt
the Carol Schaafsma Award in Sculpture.

Jerral Murphy
an Art Faculty Award of Merit and the People's Choice Award.

Diana Guittron
an Art Faculty Award of Merit and the Santiam Restaurant Food For Art Award.

Theresa Griffith
an Art Faculty Award of Merit.

Rick Lorraine
the Art Media Award for best overall body of work.

Nancy Mildren
the Corvallis Fall Festival Fine Arts Showcase Award.

Anthony Brown
the Creative Crafts Award.

Kristin Chandler
the Hester Coucke Award.

Morgan Gregory and Sean Hamling
LBCC Bookstore Freedom of Expression Awards.

LBCC Student Newspaper Rocks Awards

The Commuter

The Commuter is a fine example of what LBCC can do.

On Friday, May 6, LBCC and The Commuter staff hosted the Oregon Newspaper Association (ONPA) Collegiate Newspaper Contest.

We took home 15 awards overall, tying the record set by Max Brown and his staff last year. General Excellence eluded us, but we did win the second greatest number of awards in our district. Another point of interest: The Commuter swept the Best Cartooning category.

Here is a press release by Laurie Hieb, executive director of the ONPA, detailing the contest:

ONPA awards 2011 Collegiate Newspaper Contest honors

Albany, Ore. – The Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA) presented its 2011 Collegiate Newspaper Contest awards to member Oregon college and university newspapers during the Oregon Newspapers Foundation's annual Collegiate Day conference, held at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany, Oregon on Friday, May 6.

All but eight of ONPA's 25 Collegiate Member newspapers competed in this year's contest. Together, these 17 newspapers submitted a total of 603 entries in 21 categories that cover the spectrum of newspaper arts. Those entries were judged in March and April by a group of individuals in the editorial and advertising departments at ONPA member newspapers.

The judges awarded a total of 174 awards, including 62 first-place, 62 second-place, and 50 honorable mention awards. A complete list of these awards, including images of the winning entries, can be found on the ONPA web site at www.orennews.com. In addition to the awards presentation, conference attendees chose to attend two of the five educational sessions offered during the conference.



Tony Brown

The Commuter staff shows off their awards from the 2011 ONPA Collegiate Day.

The Commuter's Victories

First Place

Best Special Section: The Commuter Staff
Best Review: Ashley Christie
Best Cartooning: Maggie O'Reilly
Best Website: Marci Sischo

Second Place

Best Review: Marci Sischo
Best Columnist: Marci Sischo
Best Design: Ashley Christie
Best Graphic: Ashley Christie
Best Cartooning: Ben Carson

Honorable Mention

Best Section: The Commuter Staff
Best Headline Writing: The Commuter Staff
Best Editorial: Marci Sischo
Best Graphic: Maggie O'Reilly
Best Cartooning: Mason Britton
Best House Ad: Ashley Christie

Commuter Seeks Editors for Next School Year

The Commuter

For journalism and other students looking to step up their involvement at LBCC's student newspaper, now is the time to apply.

The Commuter is accepting applications for editor-in-chief, as well as the other positions on staff, such as managing editor, photo editor, webmaster, and arts and entertainment editor.

Editor-in-chief applicants will be interviewed by the Student Publications Committee on Wednesday, May 18, beginning at 3:30 p.m. The 10-member committee consists of LBCC students, faculty, and staff, and meets each spring to appoint a new Commuter editor-in-chief.

The duties of The Commuter's editor-in-chief include:

- Appointing and managing the newspaper's staff of editors, reporters and photographers.
- Coordinating the work of the staff, including assigning and editing stories and photos.
- Leading staff meetings and other newspaper activities.
- Representing the newspaper in the college community.

The next editor-in-chief, who will succeed current editor Justin Bolger, starts the position over the summer and continues through the 2011-12 school year.

The deadline to submit editor-in-chief applications is Monday, May 16.

Applications for staff positions are available at The Commuter office in Forum 222, or from the newspaper's adviser, Rob Priewe. His office is in North Santiam Hall, room 114.

For more information about the application process or duties of the various Commuter staff positions, contact Priewe at 541-917-4563 or rob.priewe@linnbenton.edu.



Nerd Rage: Warner Brothers to Remake "Akira"

Dear Hollywood,

I hate you. I hate your stupid ideas, and I hate what you do with good ideas. You take something that has quality and greedily squeeze it for all it's worth. But not before lowering it to standards of the most inbred, drug-addled, wall-eyed schmucks with enough cash to enter a cinema. I hate that you want to make everything PG-13, so panicked suburban moms with permanent wedgies won't get upset and not let their wretched spawn watch your movies. You deserve every cent your industry has lost to Internet piracy, and as long as you continue to violate my brain with these offensively stupid remakes, I hope you lose more.

Love and kisses,
Maggie

It sounded like a bad joke—the kind of joke that someone cracks when you're walking out of the theater after the latest abysmal film rehashing. "Just wait, next time they'll remake _____." "The Shining 2," "Casablanca Again: This Time It's Personal" and of course "Akira." It belongs to a list of movies we all know should never be remade. To my shock and utter dismay, it is being remade ... and it's live action.



For those of you not familiar, "Akira" is a classic sci-fi epic set in a dystopian future. Originally made in Japan, it released in the U.S. in 1988 and is widely considered to be the reason Japanese anime became popular here. It's action-packed and ultra-violent but also explores deep philosophical questions about mankind. The story follows Shotaro Kaneda and Tetsuo Shima, two members of a teenage biker gang, but the film is ultimately about man



Maggie O'Reilly
Cartoonist

pushing science too far and running the risk of destroying itself in the process.

Warner Brothers (WB) studios bought the rights to "Akira" and have already burned through several writers. They seem to have settled Steve Kloves, who has written the majority of the "Harry Potter" film adaptations. I suppose that counts for something, since "Akira" was originally a manga (Japanese graphic novel). The idea of anyone ever thinking it would be successful confuses me. The only people who would want to see it are hardcore science fiction and anime buffs, and the concept of remaking it is infuriating that very fan base, so who in God's name do they expect to watch this monstrosity? Well, that's where they've taken a few, shall we

say, liberties, with the plot.

Lets start with the biggest gripe: Robert Pattinson. Yes, you read that correctly - the sparkling vampire from "Twilight" is being considered for the role of Kaneda. In fact, others considered for the cast include Justin Timberlake, Joaquin Pheonix, and James McAvoy. Seems strange to cast a movie set in futuristic Tokyo with all white actors.

And that's the next big change. The movie will be set in "Neo Manhattan" and not Tokyo. The outrage is so severe that actor George Takei (Star Trek's Mr. Sulu) has begun a petition to stop the all-white casting. An early version of the script even included an obnoxiously shoehorned reference to 9/11. That's on top of being terribly written. This is turning out to be a complete whitewashing of one of the greatest Japanese epics of all time.

With the added insult that the WB doesn't think that American audiences could ever accept a Japanese protagonist, couldn't they at least try to cast Asian actors? I could believe Jackie Chan was Japanese if I tried. In the end, the remake angers me. It's just another grab for money at the expense of a film that genuinely deserves better.

Be the next
LBCC Student Poet Laureate

"Poetry is a way of remembering what it would impoverish us to forget."
~Robert Frost

A Poet Laureate helps us to "remember."

Laureates are practicing poets who believe in the power of reading poetry as well as writing poetry, and so are good at visioning ways to cultivate poetry reading and writing in their community. Our nation's Poet Laureateship is a tradition which began in 1937. Our state's tradition (though not continuous) dates back to 1923. On any stage, the appointment of a poet laureate recognizes and encourages the poet's work. Equally, the appointment invests in the poet's promise to encourage and promote poetry in their community's lives. Recognizing the vital importance of poetry, Linn-Benton Community College joins this hallowed tradition.

Student Laureate – Eligibility, Term of Award & Stipend:

- Continuous enrollment at LBCC (minimum of 6 credit hours)
- Not more than 1 year as Poet Laureate
- \$250 per quarter – Fall, Winter, and Spring

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS:

- Applications are available at Albany Campus Library Reference Counter
- Must return completed application by 5:00 p.m., Friday, May 20, 2011 to Albany Campus Library Reference Counter

For questions please contact Robin Havenick
541-917-4574
robin.havenick@linnbenton.edu



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Common Knowledge

OR AT LEAST IT SHOULD BE

Dream Telling

No matter how enthusiastic you may be about your dreams, no one else really wants to hear them. It's not that your audience doesn't care about you, or that your stories are generally uninteresting and your feelings don't matter to them, it's just that no one wants to hear about nonsense things that haven't even happened.

I am extremely guilty of sharing dreams that interest no one. Just the other night I was overly excited to retell a recent dream to a friend. In the middle of beginning my enthralling dream story, I stopped to catch myself. I told my friend that even though nobody likes to hear about other people's dreams, I would tell him mine (as if that qualifier magically peaked his interest). I couldn't back out of my story though, so I painfully committed until I had sufficiently embarrassed myself. (The funny thing about warning people that your story is going to be lame, is that your prediction usually turns out to match the outcome.)

I remember reading that the two most uninteresting topics of conversation at social gatherings are: diets and dreams. First of all, allow me to point out the major flaws in these two subjects. They are incredibly self-involved, and once you get certain people talking about themselves they just can't seem to bring it to a close. But, I suppose that is why we have cell phones—so that we can "receive" an "important text" and "regrettably" evacuate the scene. And, if you haven't heard of this little escape plan (which I can't imagine), you are now in the loop.

Also, I am sure many of you have heard of a little thing called a dream journal. I'm sure a boyfriend of some overly excited girlfriend invented them to serve as not only a birthday gift, but also an alternate listener to all things boring and tedious. Whomever dreamed up this idea was a genius. Loquacious dreamers all over should invest in this resource.

So, remember dear reader: dreams may be exciting and silly and unbelievable. But, remember, they're your dreams and nobody else's. No matter how polite your audience may be, those listening to you recount your night visions are anxiously waiting for morning to come.



Gabriela Scottaline
Contributing Writer

Dear Conscience, Should a student and their teacher date?



Ashley Christie
Shoulder Devil

This is a touchy area. I'll have to be very sensitive in my approach to answering.

Well, there's one important question you have to first ask yourself: How badly are you doing in the class?

Seriously, what are you going to get out of this relationship?

And no, the chance to ruin someone's career doesn't count as a perk, as much fun as it may be.

Are grades the only benefit you'll get? If this is an 8 a.m. class and it'll give you license to sleep in a little more, it's totally worth it—unless this is a teacher you're going to need to take multiple classes from. If that's the case, then this thing is going to have to stretch over multiple terms, and with summer coming up, I'd have second thoughts.

Maybe this is something to re-think in the fall.

Besides the benefits you'll get, there are other important questions you have to answer before entering into any relationship. How attractive are they? What kind of car do they drive? Do they make a lot of money? etc

If they're a teacher, they don't make that much, and I think you can do better there. But, they do have a steady income, which is saying something in this economy, although it is only nine months out of the year.

There are a lot of factors that go into this decision. I suggest writing out a pro and con list to help you decide. Once that's done, throw it away, and just do whatever you want, consequences be damned!



Justin Bolger
Shoulder Angel

Uh, no. I'll go ahead and say there are some gray areas in the scheme of good and evil, but this is not one of those. Dating your instructor is wrong for a great number of reasons. I honestly don't even understand how it can be a moral quarrel, buddy.

A good instructor cares to impart knowledge, not kisses. The whole point of the teacher/student relationship is to have a guide in the world of academics, someone to inspire you toward greatness. An emotional/physical relationship will create a crutch. All your hard work will get the stuffing kicked right out of it. All your awesome points: lost.

Inevitably, justice will hit both of you. Your instructor will be discovered and, consequently, fired. They'll lose their job, spouse, visiting rights to their children, etc.

Who's fault is that? Yours. How should you feel? Awful. I see a lifetime of penance in your future.

If you're asking yourself, "How is this my problem?" A) You should be ashamed. B) You will totally be kicked from school – forever. That's for cheating and an overall lack of integrity.

On the otherhand, if you believe this is love, you'll have to be strong about it. Patience, friend. You'll just have to bide your time until you're no longer a student at the same school. There is no harm in this.

In any case, they're not your teacher at that point. So, what'd we learn today? Do not, under any circumstances, date your instructors.



Have questions? We have answers.

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

Pakistan: Ally or Otherwise?

Pakistan, supposedly one of our most important allies in the War on Terror, fairly recently received over \$3 billion in aid from us. However, Pakistan was also the home of Osama bin Laden for the past six years, and, as many officials suspected, may not have been entirely honest with us during the process of this manhunt. I can't help but think that by giving them all this money, we rewarded them for lying and aiding terrorists.



Adam LaMascus
Opinion Editor

Had bin Laden been hiding in some tiny, nondescript shack, it would have been understandable that he had managed to hide for all this time, but he wasn't. The compound in Abbottabad is, as one Fox News reporter put it, "a McMansion." A diagram on the ABC news website shows that it is a large, triangular compound surrounded by a wall that is about 18' tall and capped with security cameras, barbed wire, and a massive satellite dish on the roof of the largest building. What's more, Abbottabad is a small village, so the buildings surrounding the compound are all pretty small.

As if that wasn't suspicious enough, CNN reports that people noticed that the compound would burn all of its trash instead of throwing it out like everybody else. Whenever children would accidentally lose balls over the wall, rather than giving them the ball back, somebody would come out and give them money, telling them to go get a new one.

But wait, there's more! The compound was only 35 miles away from the capitol city, and most impressively, half a mile away from, and in plain sight of, the Pakistani Military Academy. As John Stewart put it, "he was half a mile away

from Pakistan's version of West Point in a town surrounded by ex-military officers ... If the Pakistani Military Academy were Domino's, they would deliver to bin Laden on foot."

CNN says that Pakistan is "dismayed" by accusations that they were being dishonest, such as the one you are reading, but is it really all that surprising? Jon Stewart said he felt former President Pervez Musharraf (who even was a guest on the Daily Show) was lying when he said he didn't know bin Laden's whereabouts. On a recent show, Stewart played a clip where Musharraf was asked about the possibility that the ISI (the Pakistani intelligence service) actually helped bin Laden hide. Musharraf's response was that they would never be so dumb as to hide him in such a conspicuous place.

Stewart's synopsis of the argument: "So your defense is basically that the ISI is way too smart to put him in such an obvious place, but far too clueless to know he was there?"

The U.S. is in a financially tough place right now, as are many of our actually honest and helpful allies. Why are we spending billions to help the deceitful government in Islamabad? I think back to an article I wrote last year, in which I argued in favor of the war in Afghanistan and aiding Pakistan to prevent them from being taken over by the Taliban. I think it still holds true. Yes, Pakistan's government was most likely lying to us and possibly helping bin Laden while taking our money, but at least they aren't as crazy or openly hostile to us as the Taliban.

A cold comfort, to be sure.

"If the Pakistani Military Academy were Domino's, they would deliver to bin Laden on foot."

Sex AND THE Campus

Responsibility of Birth Control !!!

Birth control is very personal. With so many available choices -- from rings to creams, pills and shots, it can be hard to choose. That's something I can't do for any of you. You need to make that decision with your doctor based on your own needs, like hormones issues, age, weight, body type etc. Another birth control option would be protection, and that's something I can give some advice on.

Use it!!! The condom is the best protective choice when used with other forms of birth control, and it's a must to prevent STIs. So, here comes the question -- "Whose responsibility is it to have protection?"



Jeb Oliver
Staff Writer

EVERYONE'S! Look, we all are responsible for safe sex. If you're going to have sex, have it safely, please. If you're not in a long-term committed relationship with someone your trust, then a condom for STI prevention is a must. It's the best choice to prevent all sorts of bad things from happening.

To guys out there, the condom, though it can make sex not as "joyful" to some, it will prevent some less joyful occurrences. Look, you can't always trust someone to take their birth control or to be as clean as you would hope. Shit happens. Girls are human too, guys, and they forget to take their pills, they space doctor appointments and other crazy things that happen to people. So just be safe and use the condom.

Women, don't expect that bone-headed guy to always have your best interest in mind. Make him wear a condom. Bring your own, so he doesn't "forget" to bring one. You see, he may beg and he may whine, but wearing one is always the best choice for your safety and peace of mind. Look. We all are human and we make mistakes. Having a backup plan is a great idea. The condom, if used properly everytime, prevents up to 99.99 percent of disease and helps prevent unwanted pregnancy. With the addition of another birth control method, it's almost fool proof. So be careful out there people and remember to wrap your tool.



Our Healthy World

with Dineen

Vitamin D Deficiency: The Most Common in the World

Dineen Charest

Staff Writer

Did you know 50 percent of children living in the United States are at a high risk of being vitamin D deficient, and three out of four Americans are deficient in vitamin D? In fact, vitamin D deficiency is the most common deficiency in the world.

Understanding what vitamin D is and how it affects us is the first step in understanding how to combat vitamin D deficiency.

According to Michael Holick Ph.D., M.D., the author of "The Vitamin D Solution," vitamin D is actually a hormone that plays a central role in metabolism, muscle, cardiac, immune and neurological function.

Holick has devoted over 30 years to studies on vitamin D deficiency. He also states that vitamin D deficiency is not about the lack of drinking milk or taking supplements. While they help, those alone cannot give us adequate levels of vitamin D.

Vitamin D deficiency mostly stems from the lack of adequate, regular, and sensible sun exposure without the use of sun block.

No sun block? What about the myth - skin cancer is caused by the sun?

Studies have shown that melanoma "the deadly form of skin cancer" can occur in people who don't spend time in the sun. Some other factors are: having a defective DNA repair system, weakened immune system, heredity (two or more people in the family with melanoma), people who have a large number moles and have had excessive sun exposure (sunburns).

How much time is sensible sun exposure?

First, you must estimate the amount of time it takes in the sun to get a mild pinkness without sun block. Then expose your arms and legs for about 25-50 percent of that length of time. Do this two to three times per week. After getting this amount of sun exposure, then protect

your skin with the use of a SPF 15-30 sunscreen. This will prevent over-exposure and lessen the risk of skin cancer.

In addition to sun exposure, taking an oral form of vitamin D is suggested. The over-the-counter supplement "D3" can be taken daily depending on how low your vitamin D levels are. Those who live in low-sunlight areas, like the Northwest, need higher supplementation.

Vitamin D deficiency has its role in increasing children's and adults' development of deadly cancers, diabetes, autoimmune diseases, multiple sclerosis, Crohn's disease, and rheumatoid arthritis.

Don't increase your chances, educate yourself, be preventative, have your vitamin D levels checked, and always consult with a physician before taking any supplements.

Vitamin D3 Safe Dosage Table

Age Group	mcg/day (IU/day)
Infants (0-6 months)	25 mcg (1,000 IU)
Infants (6-12 months)	37.5 mcg (1,500 IU)
Children (1-3 years)	62.5 mcg (2,500 IU)
Children (4-8 years)	75 mcg (3,000 IU)
Children (9-13 years)	100 mcg (4,000 IU)
Adolescents (14-18 years)	100 mcg (4,000 IU)
Adults (19 years and older)	100 mcg (4,000 IU)

Tolerable Upper Intake Level (UL) for Vitamin D
Set by the Institute of Medicine

Additional Resources

- Vitamin D Solution:
drholicksdsolution.com
- Vitamin D myths, facts, statistics:
naturalnews.com

BACK in the DAY

Adam LaMascus

Opinion Editor

This day in history ...

May 11, 330: Old Istanbul was once Constantinople...

The formerly small-port town of Byzantium is officially renamed Nova Roma (New Rome) by Emperor Constantine. However, it is known to everybody as Constantinople. Constantine had moved the capitol of the Roman Empire to Byzantium in 324. After the fall of the Western Roman Empire, the Eastern Roman Empire becomes known as the Byzantine Empire.

May 12, 1942: For the Motherland!

Over 765,000 Soviet soldiers launch an attack on the German 6th Army and its 300,000 men in what becomes known as the Second Battle of Kharkov. The battle lasts until May 28, at which point the 6th Army successfully surrounds and destroys the Red Army force. The Soviets lose almost 280,000 men while the Germans lose around 20,000. Battles like these are the reason the Soviets lost about 23 million people during WWII.

May 13, 1865: Pointless...

The Confederates defeat a Union army at the Battle of Palmito Ranch in south Texas. It is the last major battle of the Civil War, and takes place over a month after Robert E. Lee's surrender, and a month before the Confederacy surrenders.

May 14, 1955: Cold War gets colder...

The Soviet Union, East Germany, Poland, Albania, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia sign the "Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance." The treaty is more commonly known as the Warsaw Treaty, and it creates the Warsaw Pact, the Soviet Bloc's response and counter to NATO in the west. The Warsaw Pact is dissolved on July 1, 1991.

May 15, 1525: "A" for effort...

An army of around 6,000 Landsknecht mercenaries massacres a revolting "army" of around 8,000 peasants near the town of Frankenhausen in modern-day Germany. The battle marks the end of the German Peasant's War, a series of revolts by the peasantry across German-speaking central Europe.

May 16, 1966: Mao is a jerk...

The Chinese Communist Party declares the Cultural Revolution, designed to reform China into a purely communist nation. Instead, it throws much of the country into chaos, and results in over 500,000 people being killed by the government and many, many more dying of starvation. Even more disturbing, a journalist finds evidence and photographs state-sanctioned cannibalism parties, known as "human flesh banquets." The Chinese government denies that they encouraged or allowed such actions, and that while these banquets did occur, they were against orders.

May 17, 1974: Poor Ireland...

Four car-bombs are detonated in Dublin and Monaghan, Ireland, by the Ulster Volunteer Force, a paramilitary force loyal to Britain. Thirty-three civilians are killed and 300 are wounded. The UVF later denies they did it. Many in Ireland believe British agents were also involved, which Britain, of course, denies.

Thought for the week:

"To punish me for my contempt of authority, Fate has made me an authority myself."

-Albert Einstein

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www.linnbenton.edu/go/webrunner

Tips to Overcome Procrastination

Wednesday	May 11	Lebanon Center	LC-202	1:30 – 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	May 11	Albany Campus	WH-225	3:00 – 3:50 p.m.

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

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

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Linn-Benton Roadrunners Baseball COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Upcoming Games

Thu	May 12	SWOCC	Coos Bay, OR	1:00 PM
Sat	May 14	Chemeketa C.C.	Salem, OR	1:00 PM
Tue	May 17	Lane C.C.	LBCC	1:00 PM
Thu-Mon	May 26-30	NWAACC Baseball Championships	Longview, Wa	TBA

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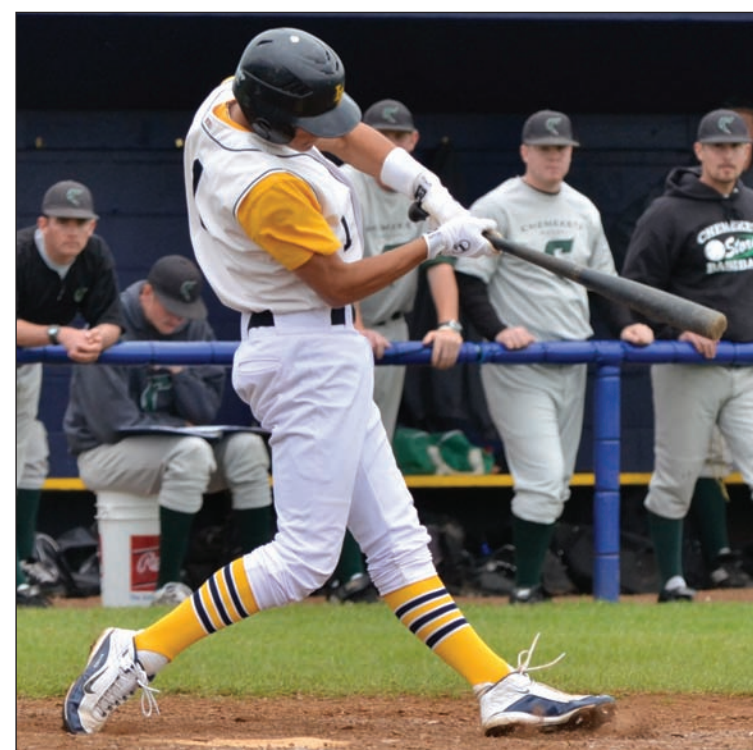
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The Commuter

Your Source for News and Events at LBCC



ROOT, ROOT, ROOT, FOR THE HOME TEAM



Top: RJ Phillips pitches a fastball with a runner on first.



Above: Jordan Keecker hits the ball and brings in a run.



Top Right: Third baseman Carl Beckert prepares to make a tag.

Bottom Right: Sam Paterson pitches the ball.

Photos by Tony Brown

LBCC Baseball Completes Successful Week at 3-1

Scott Landgren
Sports Editor

This past week was a successful one for the LBCC baseball team. On the week the team won three out of the four games they played. Last Tuesday they split a doubleheader on the road at league leading Mt. Hood Community College. LBCC then returned home and swept the doubleheader from Chemeketa Community College. LBCC's doubleheader on Saturday at SWOCC was rained out and rescheduled for this Thursday, May 12.

Game One: Mt. Hood 4, Linn-Benton 2:

In the first game Mt. Hood CC came out fast and proved why they are first in the Southern region. Mt. Hood scored three runs in the first inning and added one more in the sixth to hold off a LBCC rally. Linn-Benton only managed two hits on the day. Sophomore pitcher AJ Burke took the loss for LB and saw his record fall

to 6-3 on the season.

Game Two: Linn-Benton 8, Mt. Hood 4:

During the second game on the doubleheader the LBCC bats really came alive as they had 16 hits on the day and got eight. LB spaced their runs out well as they scored in the first, third, fifth and ninth innings. Head Coach Greg Hawk was pleased with the effort in the doubleheader, "We played very well against the league leading club, and we played really well in both games."

Game One: Linn-Benton 10, Chemeketa 9:

If you arrived late to this game you got to see a great comeback for both teams. LBCC had a 8-5 lead going into the top of the ninth inning. In the ninth, Chemeketa scored four big runs to take a one run lead to the bottom of the ninth inning. LBCC came to bat in the ninth inning and scored two runs to win in a walk off fashion. LB scored at least one run in the last five innings of the game. LBCC had another great day at the plate getting another 16 hits on the day. Sophomore Bobby Ragasa took the win for Linn-Benton.

Game Two: Linn Benton 4, Chemeketa 3:

LBCC was in another close game in game two of the doubleheader. LB only managed six hits on the day but they were productive with those hits. Chemeketa had 11 hits in the game; three of the hits were solo homeruns accounting for all their runs in the game. Sophomore starter Travis Iverson picked up the win and now has three wins on the season.

The 3-1 record over the past week leaves LBCC with an overall record of 17-17 and they currently are in third place in the Southern division with a record of 11-11.

This week is another big week for the LBCC baseball team. On Tuesday May 10 they host a doubleheader against Clackamas Community College starting at 1 p.m. On Thursday LB will travel to Coos Bay and play the makeup doubleheader against SWOCC starting at 1 p.m. Finally on Saturday the busy week for the team ends with another doubleheader in Salem against Chemeketa Community College again starting at 1 p.m.

"We are hoping for a late run and push for the playoffs, we have to take care of ourselves down the stretch," Said Coach Hawk.

MOTO MAN RIDES AGAIN

A Rider's Undergarments: Riding in the Buff

Chris Brotherton
Staff Writer

Although spring is here in the Willamette Valley and the riding season has begun, for those who don't ride year round, the temperature isn't stable yet. The downside to this is that if you take off for a ride during the afternoon hours, there is a chance that you won't be getting back until after the sun has gone down. Once that happens, the temp drops like a rock.

Packing extra gear can get a little bulky sometimes. However, there are some products out there that are both protective and don't take up very much space when you pack them. One of those products is The Buff. This microfiber garment is one of the most versatile pieces of headwear out



there.

The Buff is woven on a specially designed loom to give it a smooth, seamless tubular shape. The lack of seams means more comfort for the wearer, preventing material and stitches from bunching up against a rider's skin. This is good news when you want to wear it with a helmet.

This solid tubular construction also means that there are no stitches that will wear out over time or get caught in buttons or zippers on your

riding gear. This translates into a long-lasting product that you can rely on to keep performing.

The Buff is thin enough that it can be comfortably worn under a helmet, and is long enough that it will protect both your head and neck. The thin material is wind resistant and does a great job of keeping the elements off your neck.

However, because of the versatility of this product, you don't have to wear it only while you are riding. The Buff can be transformed into a head wrap, keeping unruly helmet hair under control. On a hot day, if you soak The Buff in water and pull it all the way down around your neck, it makes a great way to keep you cool. There are tutorial videos on The Buff website, www.planetbuff.com, that show you all the different ways to wear it.

At a retail price of around \$20, The Buff is a versatile product that can easily fit in a jacket pocket or tucked in a corner of your luggage, so I never leave mine at home.



Need a free place to bring your kids while you attend Study Jam?

June 4 • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Periwinkle Child Development Center
For potty-trained children aged 2 1/2 - 10 years old
Sign up soon! Only 30 spots available!
Sign up in the Student Life & Leadership Office in the Student Union or the PCDC
• • • **Volunteers Also Needed!** • • •
Call Student Life & Leadership for information.

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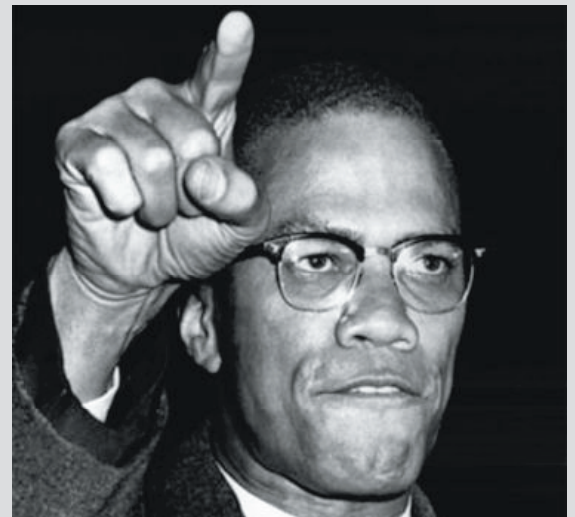
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MALCOLM X DAY MAY 19



BY ANY MEANS
NECESSARY

May 19 1-3pm in the Diversity Achievement Center (F-220 above the Hot Shot Café)


LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TDD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event. For more information please call (541) 917-4461 or email dac@linnbenton.edu



LBCC's Female a capella group,
The Sirens
are holding auditions for their 2011-2012 group!

Auditions will be held on:
Tuesday, May 17th from 5-6:30pm
Wednesday, May 18th from 4:30-6:30pm

Both days will be in SSH - 213



Please prepare a 1 minute song, and be ready to sight-read. We are looking for fun, enthusiastic ladies to add to our group!



For any questions, email: thesirenslbcc@gmail.com

THE COMMONS FARE

5/11-5/17

Wednesday
Dishes: Prime Rib w/ Popovers, Turkey Saltimbocca and Tofu Stir-Fry w/ Broccoli
Soup: Billy Bi and Split Pea

Thursday
Dishes: Hungarian Soup, Sushi and Chile Rellenos
Soup: Loaded Potato Chowder and Chili Mac

Friday
Chef's Choice

Monday
Dishes: BBQ Ribs, Moroccan Chicken and Omelet Bar
Soup: Loaded Potato Chowder and Chili Mac

Tuesday
Dishes: Spice Rubbed Beef, Moroccan Chicken and Portabella w/ Mascarpone & Sun Dried Tomato Pesto
Soups: Chicken Consommé and Corn Chowder

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Tell us what you're thinking and keep up-to-date on the latest news. Plus, check our website for more stories, pictures, videos, and blogs at commuter.linnbenton.edu.

Campus Events

Ongoing
Juried Student Art Exhibit
North Santiam Hall Galleries
Sixty works by 42 student artists are on view at the annual Juried Art Student Exhibit. The exhibit was open to students who have taken art classes at the college during the 2010-11 academic year. The media on exhibit include paintings in oil, watercolor and acrylic; drawings in pencil, ink, and pastel; photography; glass; ceramics and mixed-media sculpture. The exhibit runs through June 3.

Wednesday 5/11
Spring Fling/Courtyard Lunch: Cheeseburgers!
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. • The Courtyard
Enjoy fun and exciting activities, college resources tables and a special performance! Also, come out to the courtyard for some mouthwatering cheeseburgers and support LBCC Clubs and Organizations! Lunch will include hamburger or vegetarian option, all the fixings, chips, cookie and the beverage of your choice. The cost is \$3.50 for students, \$4.50 for college employees. This event is made possible through a collaborative effort between Student Life & Leadership and Food Services. Your support today will benefit the ROV Co-Curricular Program.

Reading by Jed Wyman
Noon • CC-205
Corvallis author and composition instructor Jed Wyman will be reading from his works.

Friday 5/13
Remaining Tuition Balance Due

Deadline to Withdraw from a Full-term Class

Fri. & Sat. 5/13 & 14
"Love, Lies and Lunacy" Play Performance
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center
Adapted from Les Fourberies de Scapin by Moliere. Adapted and directed by Dan Stone.

Monday 5/16
Priority Registration for Summer Term Begins

Tuesday 5/17
Home Baseball Game
1 - 3 p.m. • Baseball Field
Opponent: Lane CC

Wednesday 5/18
Courtyard Lunch: Pulled Pork Sandwich!
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. • The Courtyard
Head out to the courtyard for a delicious pulled pork sandwich and support LBCC Clubs and Organizations! Lunch will include coleslaw, chips, cookie and the beverage of your choice. The cost is \$3.50 for students, \$4.50 for college employees. This event is made possible through a collaborative effort between Student Life & Leadership and Food Services. Your support today will benefit the ITS Welding Co-Curricular Program.

Thursday 5/19
Acoustic Showcase with Tom and Ellen Demarest
Noon - 1 p.m. • Benton Center
Join us for some good tunes.

Thu.-Sat. 5/19-21
"Love, Lies and Lunacy" Play Performance
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center
Adapted from Les Fourberies de Scapin by Moliere. Adapted and directed by Dan Stone.

Friday 5/20
Acoustic Showcase with Tom and Ellen Demarest
Noon - 1 p.m. • Benton Center
Join us for some quality tunes!

Sunday 5/22
"Love, Lies and Lunacy" ASL Interpreted Performance
3 - 5 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center
Adapted from Les Fourberies de Scapin by Moliere. Adapted and directed by Dan Stone.

Monday 5/23
Open Registration for Summer Term Begins

Wednesday 5/25
Courtyard Lunch: BBQ or Buffalo Hot Wings
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. • The Courtyard
Head out to the courtyard for some finger-licking wings and support LBCC Clubs and Organizations! Lunch will include potato salad, chips, cookie and the beverage of your choice. The cost is \$3.50 for students, \$4.50 for college employees. This event is made possible through a collaborative effort between Student Life & Leadership and Food Services. Your support today will benefit the Linn-Benton Renaissance Club.

Friday 5/27
Priority Registration for Fall Term Begins

Monday 5/30
Memorial Day
College closed.

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

COUPON SPECIAL
Buy 1 \$10 ticket get one FREE!

Linn-Benton Community College Performing Arts Department presents

Love, Lies, & Lunacy

Directed by Dan Stone

A student devised play, performed in the style of Commedia dell'Arte



May 13, 14, 19, 20 & 21, 2011
7:30 p.m.

May 22, 2011
3 p.m.

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

\$10 Adults
\$8 Seniors & Students

PG-13
Some humor may not be suitable for younger audiences.

The Russell Tripp Performance Center
in Tadena Hall, LBCC Campus
6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany

Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE

www.linnbenton.edu/go/theater • Box Office: 541-917-4531

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Now In Theaters

Jill Mahler
Staff Writer

Fast Five

The boys are at it again in "Fast Five," the next part of "The Fast and The Furious" franchise, when Dominic Toretto (Vin Diesel) and former cop Brian O'Conner (Paul Walker) find themselves in new territory.

After breaking Dom out of custody, they seek a new haven in Rio de Janeiro, where they plot one last job to set them free. Meanwhile, federal agent Luke Hobbs (Dwayne Johnson) is hot on their trail.

Directed by Justin Lin, audience members can rest assured they will not be shorted on any action scenes or hot ... cars. In "Fast Five," all the old faces are back to settle the score, including Jordana Brewster (Mia), Tyrese Gibson (Roman) and Ludacris (Tej).

The returning actors jived well together except for Dwayne Johnson, who started off a little ridiculous with an overkill tough guy performance. However, the macho settles down and pulls you in for the ride of a lifetime.

Car enthusiasts and action junkies will delight in the numerous and lengthy car chases and fight scenes.

Usually the more movies you add to a series, the worse they become, however "Fast Five" destroys that stigma. Setting the stage with jaw-dropping and appealing cars and action did well to silence those who might have disliked the cheesy and over-rated predecessors.

What lacked in car-drooling screen time was made up for with squealing tires, fists and lots of damage.



Something Borrowed

"Something Borrowed" follows the old cliché of a great girl who has everything but no man to make her complete. One part of her life has remained constant, her best friend from childhood, Darcy. "Something Borrowed" takes the old adage with a twist: Rachel (Ginnifer Goodwin) has found the man of her dreams, and the only problem is he is already engaged ... to Darcy.

After a night of drinking on her thirtieth birthday, Rachel sleeps with Darcy's fiancé Dex. Matters only worsen as Rachel and Dex struggle to undo past mistakes and the wedding day quickly approaches. There are several comical moments when tensions flare and a few nice twists to keep you guessing. However, with the running time at 103 minutes, the ending is quickly wrapped up due to the long lead in.

The film is the adaptation of the bestselling novel, "Something Borrowed" by Emily Giffin. "Something Borrowed" illustrates the pressure set upon single women, while it begs the question, "What would you do in the name of love?"

Rachel fits her character's descriptions, while Kate Hudson struggles to sell her role as dominating and selfish. John Krasinski (The Office) plays Rachel's friend, Ethan and her rock when things get tricky. He delivers well, providing his normal go-lucky demeanor.

Despite the usual flaws found in every romantic comedy, the actors mesh well with each other. There is talk of creating a sequel to follow the second book, "Something Blue." If so, hopefully the same actors return to deliver again.



The Game's Afoot on BBC One

Marci Sischo
Webmaster

When you think "World's Greatest Detective," you might think Batman. But before Batman, there was Sherlock Holmes.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous detective has starred in short stories, novels, plays, television shows and movies. Since the character lapsed into public domain, he's shown up in some pretty unlikely places, including 1980, the 22nd century, fighting Dracula, hunting Cthulhu, and once as Jude Law's boyfriend.

For all the strange locales and wild adventures Sherlock Holmes has found himself in, none of them have been quite like BBC One's modern adaptation, "Sherlock."

"Sherlock" aired in July 2010, receiving rave reviews for its three 90-minute episodes and went on to be nominated for best actor, best supporting actor, and best drama series for the British Academy Television awards. In this modern update of the Holmes mythos, Benedict Cumberbatch plays Sherlock Homes and Martin Freeman

plays Doctor John Watson, portraying the legendary characters as written by none other than Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss of "Doctor Who" fame.

Steven Moffat may be one of the best writers working in television today. He's written the best episodes of the new "Who" series, and he was the man behind the brilliant 2007 mini-series, "Jekyll." Mark Gatiss is another renowned "Who" writer, and both Cumberbatch and Freeman are incredible actors. Folks, we couldn't ask for a better crew to tackle these tales.

In "Sherlock," Doyle's famous detective is updated to modern day. Holmes is still a "consulting detective" to Scotland Yard as well as a private eye, taking advantage of the latest scientific advantages to solve crimes. Doctor Watson is freshly returned from the war in Afganistan, just as the Victorian version was. In fact, it's amazing how very little had to be changed in the update. Hansom cabs and telegrams may have turned into taxis and text messages, but at the end of the day, all that's changed is the set dressings.



Our Sherlock is still the dryly sarcastic, asexual nigh-sociopathic genius we've all come to know and admire, and Watson is still his loyal companion, keeping Holmes grounded and out of trouble. Penned by Moffat, Gatiss and Stephen Thompson, the mysteries are dark, thrilling, complicated and never quite what you thought they were going to be. The writing is dynamic and clever, offering as many surprises as laughs.

Cumberbatch's Sherlock is cold, snobby, haughty, overly superior, and just charming enough to carry it off without becoming insufferable. Freeman's Watson, on the other

hand, is immediately likable, quietly hilarious and serves as the perfect down-to-earth foil, unafraid to poke fun at Sherlock whenever opportunity knocks. Cumberbatch and Freeman have great screen chemistry, and it's easy to believe their characters are fast friends.

"Sherlock" is smart, stylish, and tons of fun. It's got a second season due in autumn of this year, so it'll almost certainly be airing in repeats sometime this summer. In the meantime, you can find this gem at Amazon or Netflix, or buy the first two episodes on iTunes. Hunting this show down is definitely worth your time, and you'll be glad

The Commuter

Fashionista

International Edition: Hijab

Maya Sharuma
Staff Writer

Fashion can identify one's social heritage, cultural background, and sometimes economic status.

Fashion also plays a role in self-expression; whereas, traditional clothes are more likely to express one's faith.

For this week's edition, I'd like to explore another cultural beauty: Islamic fashion. When I think of Islamic fashion, I immediately picture thawb and hijab.

Hijab is the headscarf commonly worn by Muslim women to cover the head and neck. The word Hijab in the Arabic language means "covering up." In countries like Saudi Arabia, women wear abayah, which covers the body from shoulders to feet. In other countries like Iraq, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon, women wear a combination of hijab or abayah with casual jeans, shorts, and skirts.

Dress is similar for Muslim men. Some can be seen in western clothes or their traditional dress called thawb. Thawb is common especially in Persian Gulf states like Oman, Qatar and Kuwait.

When the term thawb is applied to the long, over-sized garments worn by women, its front is embroidered. Typically made of cotton, wool is sometimes used in Thawb for



Joe Faizal Photographer/flickr.com

colder seasons.

The hijab, as well as abayah, represent the beauty and modesty of Islam. They are symbols of faith. Because the meaning of them is not understood, the hijab and abaya have not been received favorably by the western world. Putting on coverings like hijab is a sign of honor and equality with men. By concealing the body, it provides a security from the unwanted gaze of men. It is also another way of paying respect to their faith, according to the Quran, the holy book of Islam.

However, there is an ongoing debate about hijab among Muslim women, too. They argue that it is a matter of choice whether or not they dress in hijab.

Those Muslim women whom I have met

How to wrap a hijab

Wrapping hijab seems like an art. To wrap a hijab:

1. Place the scarf over the head, leaving one side of it longer than the other side.
2. Fold up the scarf behind the neck, and pin the two edges together.
3. Bring the longer side of the scarf to the chin. Then keep wrapping it around to the opposite side.
4. Make an adjustment so that both sides of the scarf will fall equally.
5. Lastly, pin the top of the scarf onto the part at the neck.

Above is just one of many styles of wearing a hijab. For more, there are a number of tutorial videos on Youtube, so enjoy learning a portion of Islamic culture!

were from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and they combine an Islamic style and a western style. I found it a beautiful combination of two cultures. Some wore fashionable hijabs in colors such as pink, blue, and purple. Interestingly, hijab look good with casual clothes.

There certainly has been a controversy surrounding Islamic dresses. Before judging it, take the opportunity to look at them individually, and you may find their cultural legacy is very similar to your own.



“Thor” Demands Thunderous Applause

Ashley Christie
Page Designer

Summer is getting close. I know this because the first of the summer blockbusters have started making their way into theaters. And who better to welcome the upcoming wave of heavy hitters than a film about the God of Thunder himself, “Thor.”

Norse God, and Marvel super hero, Thor (Chris Hemsworth) is a warrior prince from the realm of Asgard. With his mighty hammer, no one is a match for Thor, which has made him somewhat arrogant. After Thor defies his father, King Odin (a surprisingly buff looking Anthony Hopkins), by waging war with the Frost Giants he is banished to Earth until he sees the error of his ways.

He crash lands in a small town in New Mexico where he meets astrophysicist Jane Foster (Natalie Portman) and her team (Stellan Skarsgard, Kat Dennings). On Earth, without his hammer, Thor learns a little humility and falls in love with Jane and must find a way home in time to stop his brother Loki from killing their father and inheriting the throne and yada yada yada.

The plot may be a little predictable, but it's an adaptation of a Marvel comic book character, so it doesn't really matter. “Thor” is a great kick-off to the summer movie season. It has everything you want in a blockbuster: action, humor, and awesome effects.

I loved every minute of this movie! Even the forced romance between Thor and Jane which felt rushed and a little unnecessary.

It seems impossible to talk about one Marvel movie without mentioning the others. They all exist within the same universe, borrow characters from each other, and are all ultimately building up to the same thing: 2012's “The Avengers.”

(Keep your eyes peeled for an uncredited Hawkeye appearance by Jeremy Renner.)

“Thor” follows in the Marvel blueprint for creating a solid movie: start with a solid script, find a capable director (Kenneth Branagh here), and cast

good, preferably well-known, actors.

I was worried about Hemsworth as the title character considering his most well-known role before this was five minutes as George Kirk in the 2009 “Star Trek” but he really impressed me. He had a good mix of bravado and heart needed to play the warrior god.

I thought that Portman would feel out of place too, but she fit in nicely, similar to Gwyneth Paltrow in “Iron Man.” Hopkins was incredibly effective as King Odin and brought the needed reverence to the role. Tom Hiddleston was the real surprise though as the conniving and manipulative Loki, who just may be the greatest villain ever.

The action and fighting are fun but what I enjoy most is the humor that is infused into the script and the way the characters are written. Wolverine, Iron Man, Thor - no one does egoistical heroes better than Marvel. These cocky bastards make the movie. They may save the world but they're also flawed. And they're given the best lines.

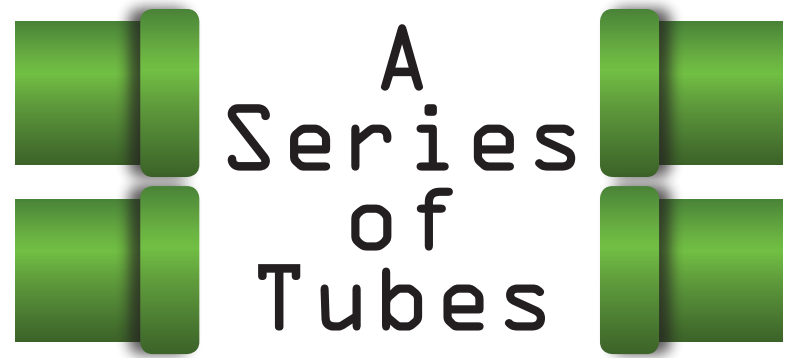
Although, in “Thor,” Kat Dennings does steal some very funny moments with her comedic timing and deadpan delivery.

Another reason to love “Thor” are the stunning visual effects. Earth looked like ... well ... Earth, but the realm of Asgard was gorgeous. You felt a true sense of grandeur; it's everything you'd expect from Valhalla.

The the Frost Giants of Jotunheim, they're the scariest looking smurfs I've ever seen. Seriously, they looked impressively evil.

Is “Thor” the greatest super hero comic book adaptation ever? No. But it's pretty good. It has some good fights, some funny moments, and is an awesome addition to the Marvel movie universe.

Thor
Starring: Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Anthony Hopkins
Rated: PG-13
Runtimes: 114 min.



Your Guide to the Interwebs

Fact-Checking on the Internet

Marci Sischo
Webmaster

Lifehacker recently wrote a great how-to for identifying urban legends and rampant BS on the Internet. The article is an excellent little starter kit for fact-checking online. You should read it, learn it, and live it.

The Internet is a glorious place, full of information about absolutely everything. It is the repository of all human knowledge, the new library of Alexandria. Sadly, the Internet is also just chock-full of utter crap. The trick to getting the most out of the Internet comes in learning how to distinguish between the information and the crap.

The Lifehacker article offers a handful of links to great resources for fact-checking and some really good tips for avoiding the waves of BS crashing up on the Internet's shores. I'd like to offer a few more tips, links, and words of advice when it comes to this subject.

If It's A Forwarded Email, It's Probably BS

You know the kinds of forwarded emails I mean -- the ones with lists of recipients longer than your driveway, with bolded, super-sized text, usually in multiple colors, lots of all-caps, and extra exclamation points? And Comic Sans. You should immediately doubt anything typed in Comic Sans.

Okay, now obviously if your aunt Sally forwarded you the recipe for blueberry muffins that her friend Sheryl sent to her, that's probably legit. But if you see more than 10 recipients, and that email isn't business-related and/or an invitation to tonight's party, the chances are real good that nothing in that email is true.

Your first stop for fact-checking a forwarded email is Snopes.com. If it's one of the political ones, FactCheck.org and MediaMatters.com can also help you out. FactCheck is a non-partisan fact checking organization, and Media Matters is a media watchdog group. (They have a known progressive bias, but I've seen them call the liberal media out, too.)

Links, Plz

For any given topic you're researching or talking about, you, or the person you're talking to on the 'Net, should be able to produce reputable sources to back up their arguments. Preferably, more than one.

The tricky part there is, what constitutes a reputable source?

Here's what you're looking for in a reputable source: lack of bias, a good reputation, and multiple sources of confirmation. Ideally, you want links to Wikipedia, academic papers, peer-reviewed journals, and/or reputable newspaper accounts. If you have one shaky source -- for example, someone's blog -- then you'll want to back that up with confirmation from other sources that follow the above rules. If the only places you can find confirmation *also* break all or most of the rules up there, then I'm afraid you've wandered onto shaky ground.

Let Me Google That For You

Lifehacker says it; I'm repeating it. If you aren't sure if something is true, ask the Google. The cool thing about the Internet is that a few billion people a day use it, and they all had the same question you did. The answer you need is already out there, and it's actually really easy to find.

Google offers some great tips for effective searching. (Check the web version of this article for a link to Google Search Tips.) Keeping Google's tips in mind, you can quickly find good sources of information that can answer your questions, and help you figure out if that thing you just read on the Internet is gold or garbage.

Protip: One of my favorite searches is what I call the “+scam” search. If you're looking for more information about a person or company that seems a bit shady, search for their name, plus the word “scam.” For an example, try searching for “Monex scam.” If someone out there is writing about how scamtastic Monex.com is (and holy crap, is it ever), then that combination will help you find their articles.

When it comes to the Internet, you're wise to take what you read with a grain of salt. A helping hand from Google, a healthy side of skepticism, and a little common sense will help you sort the Internet wheat from the chaff and send you on your way to the truth.

New Tech Tool Helps Tell Users' Stories



Marci Sischo
Webmaster

Journalists and bloggers are going to love Storify.com, the nifty new website that helps writers turn bits of social media flotsam into coherent narratives.

Storify's interface makes it simple to find and add social media content to your blogs and

articles. An intuitive two panel interface lets you easily search your Twitter lists, your tweets, or just Twitter in general for content relevant to keywords that you chose.

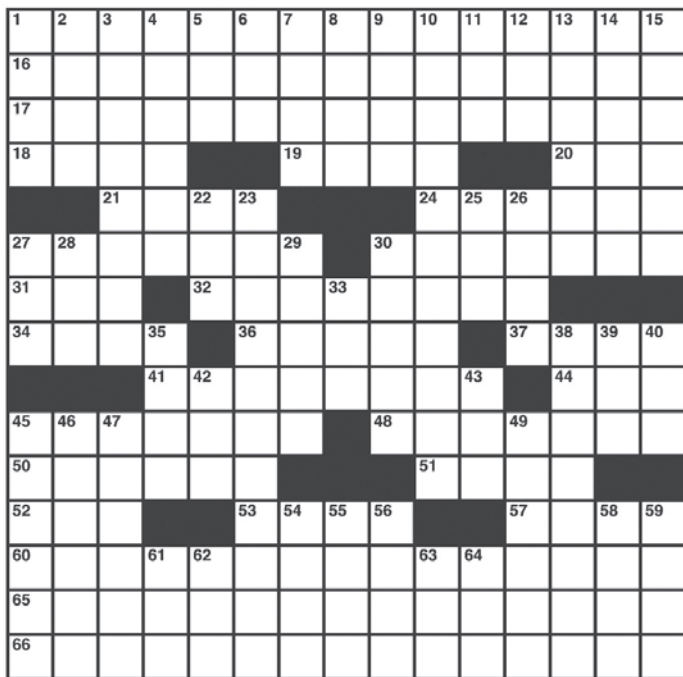
You can also search through public Facebook statuses, although you don't (yet) connect your Facebook account like you do with your Twitter account. You can also search Google, Flickr, SlideShare, Audioboo, and Youtube, add individual

RSS feeds from your favorite sites so you can pull in their content, or import a specific URL.

When you find something you want to use, you drag and drop it into the left column, where you can add text, and rearrange things in the order you want.

Read the full review and see Storify in action at:
lbcommuter.com/category/tech-reviews/

- ACROSS**
- 1 Obsolete item
 - 16 "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" and others
 - 17 Pet that's larger than a toy
 - 18 Group originally named the Jolly Corks
 - 19 Zaire's Mobutu Sese ___
 - 20 No longer serving: Abbr.
 - 21 Bk. before Job
 - 24 Themes
 - 27 Try to bean, in baseball
 - 30 Easing of tension
 - 31 Roadside grazer
 - 32 False show
 - 34 Fountain beverage
 - 36 Verdi aria that translates to "It was you"
 - 37 Diamond stats
 - 41 Hearty entrée
 - 44 Caviar, say
 - 45 Quantities possessing only magnitude
 - 48 Veneration
 - 50 Seat of Washington's Pierce County
 - 51 1956 Mideast crisis site
 - 52 Part of a loop
 - 53 "Given that ..."
 - 57 McAn of shoes
 - 60 Tax service, familiarly
 - 65 It may be awakened after a period of inattention
 - 66 Retail security staff



By Thomas Heilman

- 8 Cab hailer
- 9 Serious trip
- 10 Some triangle sides
- 11 WWII zone
- 12 Kung ___ chicken
- 13 Second man on the moon
- 14 Choose
- 15 Safari menace
- 22 Local govt. unit
- 23 Half-baked
- 25 They may end with 27-Down
- 26 Equal
- 27 Passes may result in them: Abbr.
- 28 "Yoo-___!"
- 29 Alaska and La., once
- 30 Remove pitch stains from
- 33 Spanish uncle
- 35 Alice's chronicler
- 38 Soviet leader who signed SALT I and II
- 39 Biennial games org.
- 40 Tennis unit

- Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**
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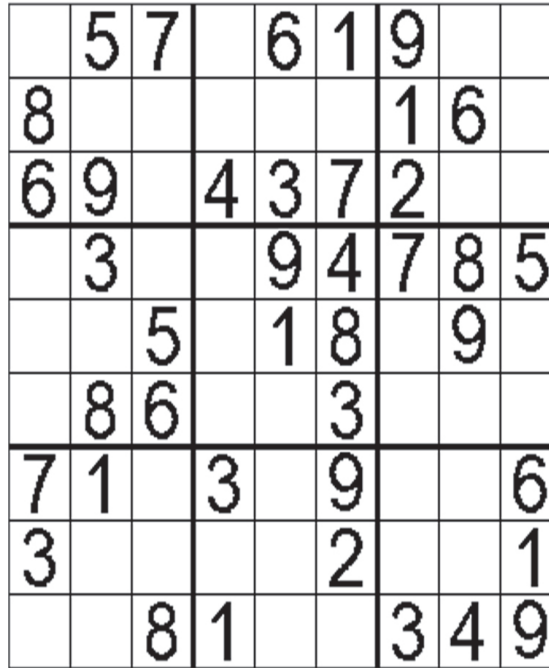


- 42 Descartes's conclusion
- 43 Nashville sch.
- 45 Connecting flights
- 46 Customs exemption for an auto
- 47 Customer ID
- 49 Czar known as "the Great"
- 54 Lose color
- 55 Narrow opening
- 56 Normandy river
- 58 York's river
- 59 "Miracle" 1969 World Series winners
- 61 Chariot ending?
- 62 "Self-Reliance" essayist's monogram
- 63 List-ending abbr.
- 64 Lab caretaker?

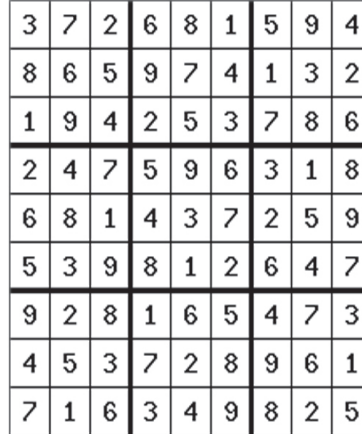
SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4



Last Week'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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MOVIESCOPES

ARIES
3/21-4/19

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World: Only seven evil exes? That's not the world! What a chump! You could easily defeat the entire world if you tried - that's what you tell yourself at least.



TAURUS
4/20-5/20

Raging Bull: You have some pent-up hostility. But you know what? That's what makes you a champion. Way to go!



GEMINI
5/21-6/21

The Shining: You're never lonely because you have your imaginary friends to talk to and those creepy twins to keep you company. Go out and play!



CANCER
6/22-7/22

Misery: When you love someone you have to forcibly keep them against their will. Cut off their feet so they can't run away. Do whatever it takes to hold onto them. That's true love.



LEO
7/23-8/22

The Lion King: Be honest, when you watch "The Lion King" you totally identify with Scar and wonder where you can get some hyena lackeys.



VIRGO
8/23-9/22

Jennifer's Body: If you suddenly became a demonic succubus and everyone thought you were evil, I'd still totally be your friend, cause hey, a girl's gotta eat. Besties for life!



LIBRA
9/23-10/23

Twilight: Eclipse: Like Bella, you really need to make up your mind. Jacob or Edward, wolf or bat, life or death. News flash - no one cares, spider monkey!



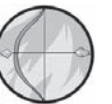
SCORPIO
10/24-11/21

Apocalypse Now: You love the smell of napalm in the morning. Fine, but you don't have to tell that to everyone you meet. Some things are better left unsaid.



SAGITTARIUS
11/22-12/21

Robin Hood: Men in Tights: You rob from the rich and give to the poor while saving maidens, singing songs, and looking damn good in those tights!



CAPRICORN
12/22-1/19

Die Hard: You're an official badass and don't let anything or anyone stand in your way. No terrorist is going to ruin your holiday, just remember to wear shoes next time.



AQUARIUS
1/20-2/18

One Hour Photo: Unhappy with your life? Just become obsessed with someone else and try to steal theirs. That's not creepy at all.



PISCES
2/19-3/20

Little Mermaid: Always striving for what's next, you can never settle for the world around you. Just don't go making deals with giant octopi.



Poetry Spotlight

True Mom

by Anonymous Campus Mother

The name I love
Above any other
Is the name God gave me,
Call me Mother

Psalms 127:3
"Behold, children are a gift of
The Lord:
The fruit of the womb is a
Reward."



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

Student-Submitted Art

email your own artwork to commuter@linnbenton.edu





by Tom Ryan
Carved Horse

By Maggie O'Reilly
An LBCC student-generated comic
Add/Drop



Where on Campus?

Do you know where this picture was taken?
Answers must be emailed to commuter@linnbenton.edu by 8 a.m. the following Monday. One winner will be drawn from correct entries each week and will win a prize.

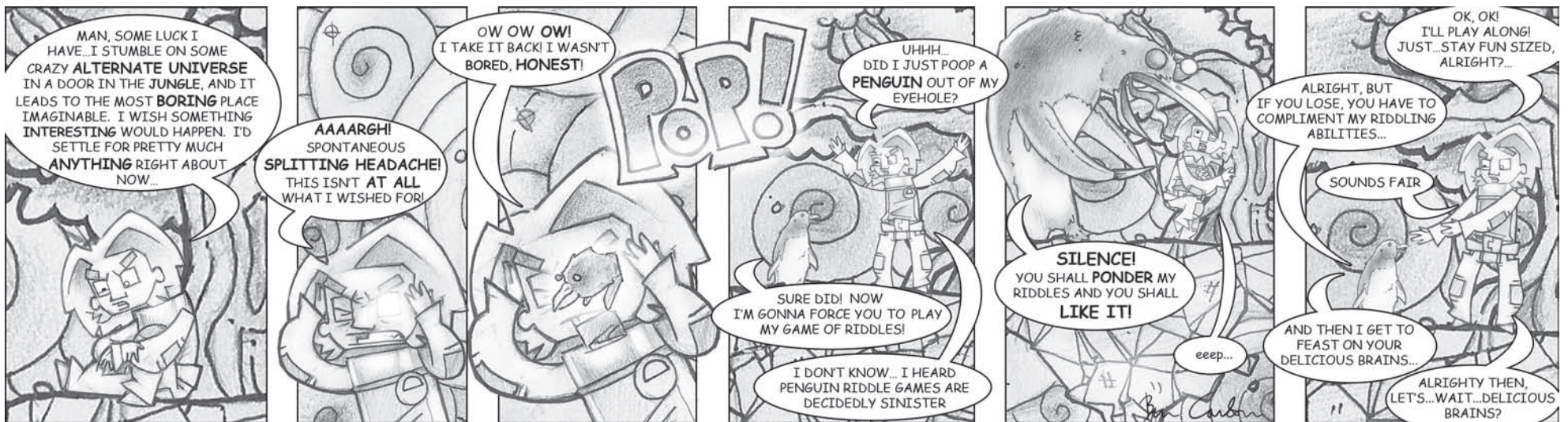
Last Issue's Answer: The trophy case in the Athletic Center.
Last Issue's Winner: Sorry, no winner last week.

Tony Brown

MINUS GRAVITY

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Ben Carson



THE AWARD WINNING COMMUTER STAFF

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- | | | | | | |
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Scott Landgren | Advertising Assistant:
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SPOILER ALERT: John Dies at the End

Cracked.com Humorist Pens New Novel

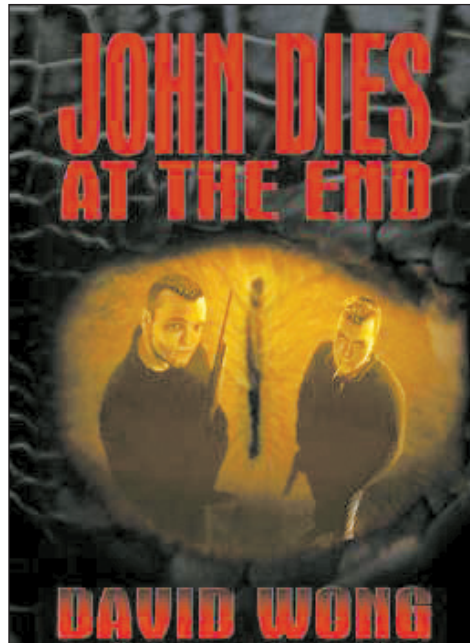
Marci Sischo
Webmaster

I just read the best book, and you have to read it, too. Do you like hilarious books? Of course you do. Stupid question. What about terrifying books?

What about books that are both at the same time?

If laughing between fits of horror sounds like your kind of thing, drop what you're doing and go get your hands on "John Dies at the End" by Cracked.com's senior editor David Wong. You will read sections of this book to your family, the people on the bus with you and anyone else who holds still long enough, and you'll do it gasping for breath around giggles. And even as you laugh until your eyes water, you'll be terrified, because this book is the scariest damn thing I've read in years.

You don't have to take my word for it, though. Reviewer Lee Gaiteri at Amazon.com says of the book, "If you blended the works of Lovecraft and Kevin Smith, then mixed that with about three parts pure awesome and left it to grow behind your fridge, you might get a



vague sense of the genre David Wong bullseyes with this book."

Jess Haines, author of "The Others" urban fantasy series, says "This book is crazysauce. CRAZYSAUCE, people. I mean that both literally and figuratively. [...] Funny, gross, scary, chilling, surreal -- all of these words and more could be used to describe [John Dies at the End]."

Dave and John are chronically under-employed, drunken losers. Dave barely squeaked out of high school, pays his bills by schlepping videos at a crappy video store in an unnamed midwestern town and suffers the stigma of a mysterious, possibly violent event that he instigated back in high school. His buddy John will drink, snort, inject or smoke just about anything that isn't nailed down, has brass balls the size of the moon, a habit of getting into fights armed only with puns and folding chairs and is obsessed with his genitalia.

These two yahoos are our heroes.

One night at a party, John and Dave stumble into a new drug called "soy sauce." John's only too happy to try it out, and Dave ends up dosed with the sauce by accident. Most people who take the drug die, and they're the lucky ones. Fortunately, our heroes don't end up dead, or explode into extra-dimensional flying parasites, or get possessed. They just end up cursed with the ability to see the unspeakable horrors acting in their small town and stuck with the job of putting a stop to it. John takes to this duty with glee and gusto and Dave with a resigned dread. Events spiral from bad to worse to hellish as our heroes fight monsters made of ham and sausage with the holy power of Whitesnake and the occasional help of a former preacher turned Vegas performer. Little by little, they uncover a

plot so insidious, masterminded by a being so relentlessly evil, that one has to wonder how these two bumbling, drunken madmen are possibly going to save us from it.

"John Dies at the End" started life as an Internet serial novel. It was so awesome, it was picked up by Permuted Press and eventually fell into the hands of "Phantasm" and "Bubba Ho-Tep" director and producer Don Coscarelli, who snapped up the film rights, because seriously, this book rocks. With the book heading towards film, St. Martin's Press jumped on board and reprinted it, sending it out to a wider audience.

The only real downside to "John Dies at the End" is that, as far as I can tell, at no point during the above process did anyone think to give it a thorough editing. It's not packed with spelling errors and typos or anything like that, but the plot does have a habit of meandering off a bit. The meanders are pretty entertaining, though, so you won't really notice it.

Despite the occasional tangent, "John Dies at the End" is a gripping read, fast-paced and clever, and boasts a fresh take on supernatural bad guys. Even better, there's a sequel on its way, and the movie is due out next year. (And if it's half as good as the book, it'll be the best thing you see in 2012.)

Learn more at: johndiesattheend.com

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Bridesmaids
Lillian (Maya Rudolph) is getting married, and it's up to Kristen Wiig, as her Maid of Honor, to keep her rag tag group of bridesmaids out of trouble. Think "The Hangover" but with girls.
Rated: R
Runtime: 125 min.
Genre: Girl Raunch

Priest
A sci-fi thriller starring Paul Bettany as a priest who goes against the Church to rescue his kidnapped niece from some super creepy vampires.
Rated: PG-13
Runtime: 87 min.
Genre: Vampire

Sources: IMDb, Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com

redbox review

Flipped (Rated PG, Runtime 90 min.)

Carli Gibson
Staff Writer

Normally, I'm not a fan of PG-rated, teen-romance-type movies; however, it's hard to find a movie in redbox that few people have seen, heard of, or more importantly, have not already written a review on.

So, with my dog trying to drag me away from the redbox machine in the excitement of all the people around, I settled on the movie "Flipped."

"Flipped" is the film adaption of the book by the same name that was published in 2001. The movie was written by Wendelin Van Draanen and starred Madeline Carrol as Juli Baker and Callan McAuliffe as Bryce Loski.

The movie begins with Bryce's point of view of how he and Juli met when they were children. He thinks she was being creepy — friendly, but creepy. She just couldn't take the hint that he didn't want her around.

Then the movie flips! And the point of view is being told by Juli about when she first met Bryce. She was head over heels for him; she fell in love with his eyes, so she says.

Throughout the movie the story flips back and forth between Bryce and Juli's points-of-view, which sounds like it would get confusing, but it doesn't. It's not some sudden twist that comes out of nowhere when the narration changes between the main characters; it's a very subtle change.

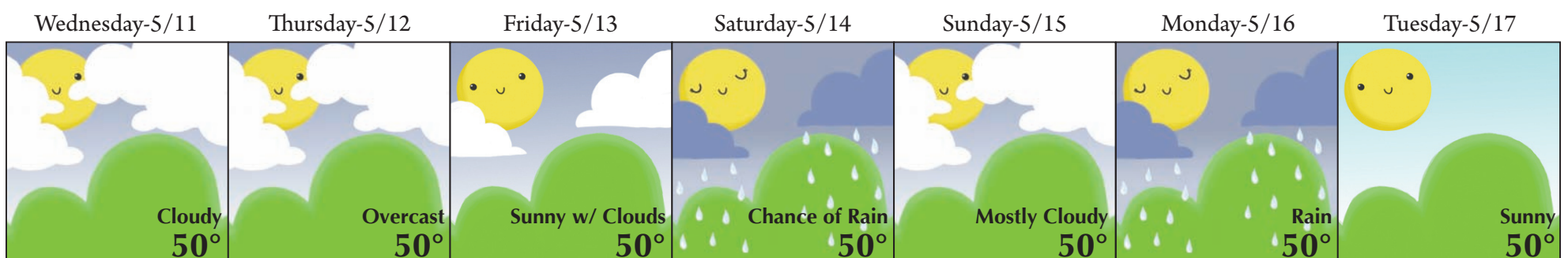
It's not necessarily a repetitive thing when you hear the same thing you just heard from a different perspective. Obviously, it's not something completely different, but in a movie like this, it's nice to know how differently each character perceives each event.

This movie is pretty plain and simple in terms of its story. Girl likes boy, boy doesn't like girl. Girl stops liking boy, boy starts liking girl. And the story continues. Sounds boring, I know, but it wasn't. I'm not sure if it was just the fact that this story was told from the perspectives of both the boy and the girl or what, but this was a pretty entertaining movie. It's not a corny childhood-romance movie either; it's a good watch (or read if you decide to read the book).

What probably made this movie so great was that it was directed by Rob Reiner. His most famous show was "All in the Family" where he played Michael 'Meathead' Stivic. He's also famous for directing "When Harry Met Sally" and many other movies.

Overall, this movie was well done. I would recommend watching it. It's a reminder of your childhood, the time when you chased that one person you always had high hopes of being with.

Weekly Weather Predictions



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