

The Commuter

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Library, Learning Center to open this spring

A Casillas
The Commuter

On March 31, the now familiar distant ring of construction will come to a close on LBCC's Albany campus. For a year construction on the massive \$3.5 million project has been conducted under the careful supervision of construction workers and LBCC faculty, but what changes will the renovated library and Learning Center see? And will students see some long-awaited requests finally met in this costly undertaking?

According to Kristen Jones, dean of Academic Development and project coordinator overseeing the renovation, a lot of care was put into ensuring students' voices were heard.

"Before we started the remodel we surveyed students about what they would most like to see in a remodeled library and Learning Center, and we worked really hard to put those most-requested features into the remodel," said Jones.

We worked really hard to build those most-requested features into the remodel."

Kristen Jones

According to those surveys, out of 102 students, 77 listed access to bathrooms and water fountains as a high priority, with quiet study

areas, better lighting, more computers, and an elevator high on the list. The building reflects those needs, boasting 10 study rooms available for reserve, 38 additional computers, restrooms, an internal staircase linking both floors, and a \$45,000 third elevator.

Jones attributes the success of meeting those needs to a group of library and Learning Center faculty that were responsible for making decisions on literally every detail of the renovation process.

"I think bringing together that core team helped to encourage the Learning Center and the library to work together, because in the past we haven't had the mecha-



photo by Will Parker

nisms to do that, and so I think we'll be able to work collaboratively to better serve students," Jones said.

The library staff made up of Department Library Chair Jorry Rolfe, and reference and instructional services librarians Richenda Wilkinson and Bryan Miyagishima found some of the renovation a challenge, but are pleased with the results.

"Choosing these artistic decisions, the color and fabrics,

none of us are experts on design, it's been hard for us to make those decisions and getting together a group of people with the Learning Center to make coordinated decisions," said Rolfe.

Although the Learning Center saw a significant increase in square footage, the same could not be said of the library space. As a result some dated media had to be cut from the shelves when the library was moved to a temporary location much tighter than they were used to.

Miyagishima saw this as a positive: "It's easy to think downsizing is a bad thing, but it was good for us, it forced us to look at what we didn't need."

Wilkinson elaborated on what was removed, "It was based off a variety of criteria, age of the item, and its usage; we ran reports of items that were older than like 1980, and got rid of a lot of outdated media like cassette tapes."

"We chose when we moved here to downsize the collection," Rolfe explained. And although the cramped temporary quarters provided numerous complications the library staff bears it well, looking forward to the changes being made on their new home and the influences that brought them about.

"A lot of the students ideas were implemented in the new library. It makes me really happy that students said the old library was dark and we made this one really bright for example," said Rolfe.

"We have a nicer entrance, we got bathrooms, drinking fountains, you know like sort of the basic amenities," said Wilkinson.

"At least we're all together. The Learning Center people have all had to split up into different areas. Adversity has brought us closer together," Rolfe said with a laugh.

The long arduous task of leaving one's imprint on every detail surrounding the project has left Lynne Trimpe, Learning Center co-coordinator drained and ready to see it to a close.

"Most of my energy has gone into this remodel; everything from figuring out how big a classroom we need,

► Turn to "Library" on Pg. 6

ASG elections begin today; few candidates run

Chris LaMuerta
The Commuter

The LBCC Associated Student Government is electing new officers beginning today at 7:30 a.m. and ending tomorrow at 11:30 p.m.

Only three people are currently running for the three open positions: Ihadira López de Search for public relations / secretary, Roxanne Goodwin for health occupations representative, and Stephanie Ware for vice-president / center representative. The other open positions include student body president and the division representatives for science and industry, business, student services and education, and humanities.

With no students running for these positions, they are all open for write-in vote.

"There have been a lot of open positions in the past, so it seems like an ongoing thing," said Chris Peters, the current ASG science and industry representative. Peters said that the ASG officers

act as the public voice of the student body.

"We get to represent the students when decisions are made, like with tuition increases," said Peters.

Any LBCC student is eligible to vote. Voting takes place online at www.linnbenton.edu/edu/go/elections. Information about running candidates can also be found on the LBCC Web site by going to the link under Student Life & Leadership and clicking on ASG Elections in the bar on the left.

"I have been wanting to serve on the student government so that I may help my fellow students," Search says in her written response on the Web site.

Goodwin says, "What interests me about ASG is being part of a group that works together to make decisions for the students and to be the voice for students."

"I am running again for vice president because I am effective and competent," says Ware.

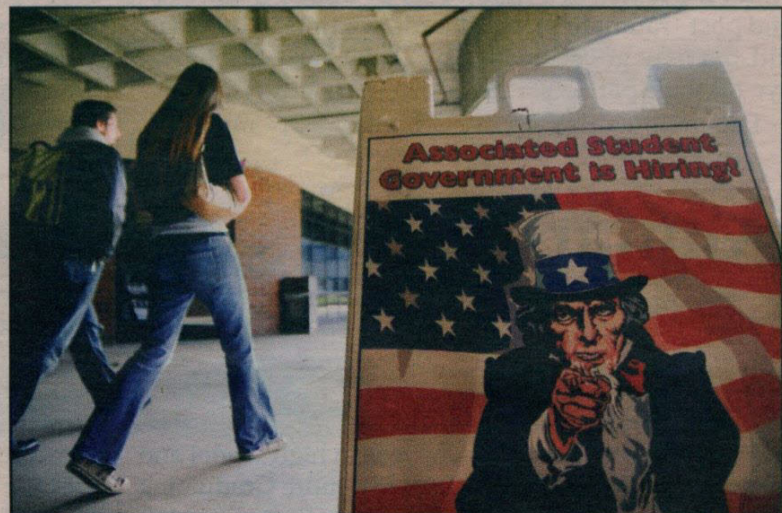


photo by Will Parker

Outside the Student Life and Leadership offices, a sign advertises the ASG election. The polls open today.

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Perfect!
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Opinion Editor: Gregory Dewar
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OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter
 commuter@linnbenton.edu (F-22)
 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less

Do not ask me if I have killed

Gregory Dewar
 The Commuter

I served in the United States military in a time of war; I performed my duties without question or hesitation to the satisfaction of my superiors. I have had to live a life with the consequences and causalities of my actions. I had become so intimate with life and death that they were the same entity, and now, through so many chain-smoked cigarettes and sleepless nights, I am forced to bear witness to my own sin. This is a secret shame that I have born entirely in private, and for this: I am a coward. Those closest to me know not the shades of red that have passed before my eyes. Not my mother, nor any woman I have loved since. I did not want them to think me a monster, I do not want you to think me a monster.

The stigma of serving in an unjust war, a war no longer supported by its people is a terrible thing to overcome. I came home, unrepentant, expecting to be welcomed by a public that largely does not care or looks down upon me with disdain in their eyes. People who only remember in passing that there are good men and women dying for a cause somewhere on this globe toss pity at me like coins into a bum's hat. I am surrounded everyday in this civilian life by those who do not understand or respect the sacrifices that the military must make.

There was no support system in place for Vietnam Veterans, Chris Jordan, and I would argue that little has changed since. In fact, our country is clinging to a long-standing heritage of the abuse of veterans. During the revolutionary war, the brave men of these newly founded colonies banded together, jeopardizing their physical integrity against the most prominent naval power in the world. They put down plow and hoe, pen and coin, and took up muskets against tyranny. The soldiers of this conflict in the receding years, those who risked most, were rewarded the least. Being discharged from the continental army meant that you were left with little more than the shirt on your back, save land vouchers belonging to parcels that the new government had not even created yet. Many had no homes to return to for they were destroyed in the war. More still sold their vouchers, which were frequently invalidated by new states and new laws, for the basest of living essentials: food, clothing, and an inn to stay at while they sought honest work. Many failed: out of this stumbled America's first influx of bums, criminals, and post-traumatic stress disorder victims. And what did the new government do? They turned a blind eye on their patriots.

I am still waiting on my G.I. bill. All of my mili-



"At night my dreams are filled with the cacophonous rumble only the machina of war may engender, for I am proof: those who see war never stop seeing it."

Gregory Dewar

tary training has amounted to little more than a few tracers in the darkness. My VA and mental health benefits have been scaled back. I have no support network: none from the government and nothing from the people around me in my daily life, for who can ever understand? I ask you what has really changed since the Vietnam Conflict? Since the Revolutionary War? The flag has been raised, but it will never be enough. We are so quickly swept under a rug, yet I read that they are bringing dogs to Iraq to soothe soldiers, I ask, where was my golden retriever when I needed a friend in the desert? Patriotism is more a prison sentence than an exercise in freedom when the fighting is over.

I find a sickness in the people around me, discovering my prior-service, they ask, with a gleeful exuberance in their eye known only to children: "Did you kill anyone?", "Have you been to Iraq?" in rapid-fire sequence, forgetting to breathe. They possess no interest in our war dead, merely the statistics of my tours.

I have suffered, many have bled, and too many have died. When I close my eyes at night my dreams are filled with the cacophonous rumble only the machina of war may engender, for I am proof: those who see war never stop living it. I have done my duty and served my time. I do not need to be reminded of the past, for I will never forget. I do not need you to trivialize and disrespect honest sacrifices. This is no more kosher than quizzing a disabled victim of a car accident or a rape victim about the experience and asking if it was "cool".

People preach day in and day out about civil rights for homosexuals, for religion, and skin colors. I challenge you to provide those same civil rights to veterans, irregardless. We are not the monsters of your nightmares: we are not become death, destroyer of worlds. We are mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters. We love and we contribute to this society. I ask for you to find the love we all fought so hard for in the only battleground worth protecting: your hearts and minds. I have spent too long in the shadows as a mimetic eyesore on the blithe suburban landscape gently harboring these unwelcoming streets.

I ask not for a second chance, I don't need one. I stand up with pride at my time in the service, I puff out my chest when I think about the company of heroes I have kept. I have lived a life you will know nothing of, and it is because of me and others like me that you will never know. If I could make all the same choices again, I would gladly.

Give us a break, lend an ear, hold a hand, and smile when a veteran needs you for once. And, for fuck's sake, do not ask us if we have ever killed anyone in the service of our country, you won't like the answer.

Military, Vets not to blame for Vietnam

To the Editor,

Dear Chris,

I am an older student who was in high school and college during the Vietnam War. My entire Graduating class of males (42) in high school were drafted and left for Vietnam shortly after we graduated. I am moved and excited about your article. It is excellently written and I challenge you perhaps to eventually write a larger essay and perhaps a book to set the history straight. As you say the facts of the war are not being taught, perhaps a book would help educators an alternative.

Most of all, I objected to the war, but did not see our military as at fault. I know however having lived through those times that it was trendy and popular to blame the servicemen. From the stories they told me when they returned, the war was more of what you and the vet you refer to have stated. Why should we blame these men who did an excellent job, for the so called outcome of the war. This I could never understand.

Regardless, it was uplifting and satisfying to hear the truth from you and to have it be so well written. Politically, I objected to the war and how the powers that be handled it and our troops. The military went to do a job on behalf of us, they were not at fault, and we did not "lose" the war where they are concerned. Politically it served others to interpret the war as a loss.

On a personal note, we were some of us sensitive to our Vietnam Vet brothers, because we were aware they needed to get some things out, but making them look like they were crazy again suited the politics and the media of the time, I think as I remember. I have not met one that has not overcome these strains and continues in a productive life, especially here on campus.

You have brought the truth to light, I look forward to perhaps hearing of your further work in this topic.

Patricia Chappell
 LBCC English Major

PERSPECTIVES

Q: What features in the new library are you most looking forward to?



"It looks like it will be a lot better lit."

• Sammy Roe •
 Anthropology

"More space, and more opportunities to work with groups."



• Arije Nohed •
 Science

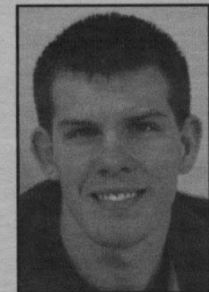


"A better layout, hopefully will make it easier to find what I need."

• Tyler Fenn •
 Business Admin

"That it's finally open."

• Derrick Dobson •
 Undeclared



"Being able to have a quiet place to study."

• Tim Faulconer •
 Oregon Transfer

"A quiet place to study that's warmer than the college center."

• Angela Calabrese •
 Biology



Compiled by Rick Casillas
 Photos by Elliott Duke

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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College campus events.

Writing help available at LB

Monique Cohen
The Commuter

At times, writing can seem to be a daunting task. There sits a blank page waiting to be filled. Student writers in need of assistance are in luck because the Writing Center has peer tutors and writing assistants available to help.

The Writing Center helps students with class papers, as well as scholarship applications and essays. Students seeking help don't have to be in a writing class to get assistance.

The Writing Center is informal, friendly and no appointments are necessary.

"It's quite a dynamic place with computers for working individually or stations where you can work with a writing assistant or peer tutor," said Robin Havenick, Writing Center liaison.

The student tutors are nominated by faculty, have high GPAs and good writing and people skills. The writing assistants are also instructors.

"This is a place to come at any stage of the writing project," Havenick said.

For those students unable to visit the Writing

Center there is another option; the center staffs an Online Writing Lab. Havenick said to allow a 24 to 48-hour turnaround when using the online service.

The Writing Center has numerous resources available such as books and handouts. The Writing Center is temporarily located in SSH-108 right off the gallery. The center will be back in the newly remodeled Learning Center spring term. The Writing Center also has locations at the Benton Center and Lebanon Center. The hours vary and are listed on the LBCC Web site.

"We all struggle with writing and that's something a lot of people don't understand...we need to help each other and that's what we do here," Havenick said.

The Writing Center is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Next term the center will be open the first week of class and will be located on the second floor of the Learning Center. For more information contact the center at (541) 917-4708 or by e-mail at: WritingCenter@linnbenton.edu. The online writing lab can be accessed at: www.lbcc.writingcenteronline.net.

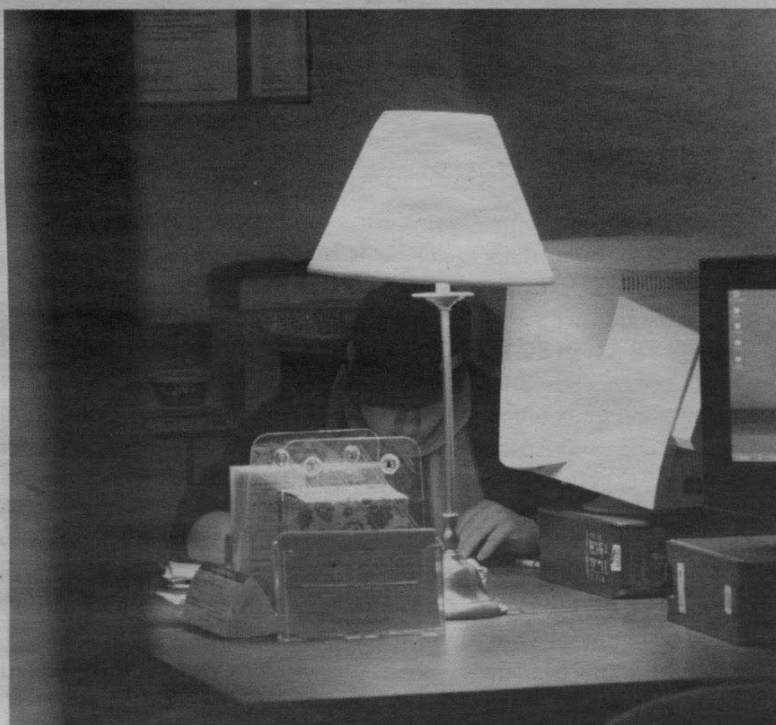


photo by Elliott Duke

Above, Joe Westlind works diligently to help students plow through writers block. Westlind is one of many tutors available to LBCC students at the Writing Center. This quiet corner is a perfect place for one on one help, proof-reading and revisions.

New program awakens to train sleep technicians

Carolyn Quibrera
The Commuter

LBCC is developing a new certificate program based on using polysomnography, a test given to evaluate sleep disorders. Sleep technicians use this method of testing.

What is polysomnography? It's a continuous recording of specific physiological variables during sleep. Polysomnography typically records brain wave changes, eye movements, muscle tone, respiration, and leg movements.

A sleep tech helps discover why a person is suffering from sleep deprivation.

John Long, a supervisor of the Sleep Disorder Diagnostic Lab at Good Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis, says that the

demand for sleep techs has increased. There are more than 80 recognized sleep disorders, that we know of, Long said.

Dagmar Johnson, program chair of Accelerated Short Term Training at LBCC, is helping form this new certified program.

Johnson said LBCC has partnered with Highline College in Seattle. Highline has already created and developed a sleep tech program, and it's successfully in action.

Highline is assisting LBCC by providing tools and helping LBCC to format efficient online and clinical classes.

The polysomnography courses will begin on July 7. This program will run for three terms, summer, fall, and winter terms. It will be offered online, in addi-

tion to students attending clinicals in the sleep tech lab, every other Saturday. These clinicals will be done at LBCC.

After earning a certificate, students will then proceed with a six-month class, to help prepare for their national exam.

Polysomnography typically records brain wave changes, eye movements, muscle tone, respiration, and leg movements.

Johnson indicated that there are some prerequisites, and there is information on the LBCC student Web site. Students can access forms and applications for this program at www.linnbenton.edu.

When describing what type of person would do well in this program, Johnson said someone with good computer skills, very good with people, with an ability to reassure someone and make them feel comfortable, and lastly, someone who enjoys working at night.

Johnson said sleep techs are earning a national low of \$39,115, a median of \$44,750, and a high of \$50,076, upon entering this work. She indicated that she has seen ads for sleep techs in Oregon. The pay is ranging between \$41,787-\$59,113 starting salary.

"I want to get people into entry-level positions that will pay well, and provide them with a future," said Johnson.

ANYONE CAN SHOP THE CO-OP!

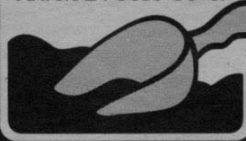


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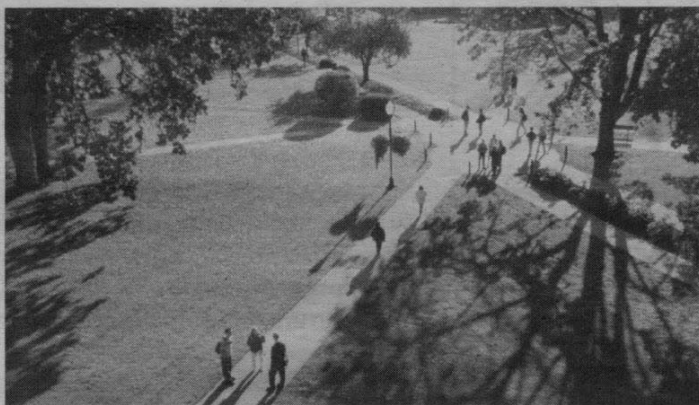
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Information about plays, movies, books, artwork, and other entertaining or artistic endeavors.

'Persepolis' is charming

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

Freedom comes with a price. "Persepolis" recounts the true story of a girl growing up during the Islamic Revolution of the late '70s and follows her through the repressive religiosity of the '80s at the hands of the Mullahs, the counter-cultural scene of France and Austria (punk and anarchism), and back to a post-war Iran of the '90s.

The film is based on Marjane Satrapi's two-volume autobiographical graphic novel and is also directed by her, along with Vincent Paronnaud. Young Marjane's voice is done by Gabrielle Lopes and Chiara Mastroianni takes over from adolescence on. "Persepolis" was nominated for Academy Award's best animated film of the year but didn't win.

This coming of age story includes heavy-handed topics—political persecution, torture, the Iran/Iraq War, and loss of virginity. The film treats these with sarcasm and a self-persevering texture shines through. Marjane's grandmother (Danielle Darrieux) supplies plenty of moral exhortation and pithy feminism. The

film skillfully surfs the cultural currents of religiosity with remarkable neutrality.

Although the film is simple, it is masterfully told. The mood of the pacing is contemporary with Marjane's own age, so when she's young, the mood of the film is childish. It works well. Also, events that could have been long and drawn out were summed up with succinct dialogue and playfully selected scenes like Marjane's romantic run-in with a seemingly charming writer in Vienna. The whole affair was wrapped up in five minutes. After she catches him with another girl, she sees him without rose-colored glasses—bucked toothed, owleyed, and a hack to boot. Her memories lend themselves well to animation.

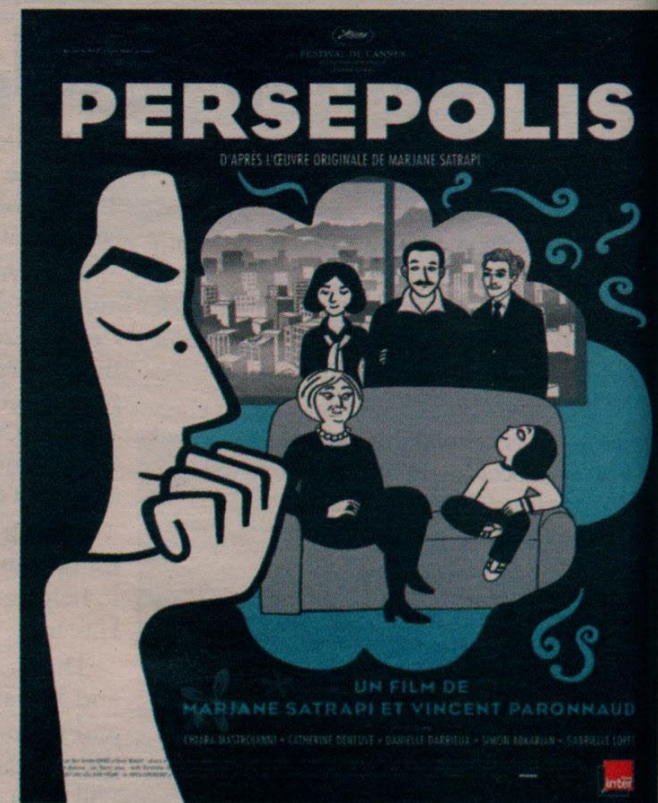
The film lacks empathy and depth of characters, perhaps because it moves so quickly over so many events and years. To its credit it avoids being bogged by the drama of the world, which never seems to take center stage. However, "Persepolis" is overly capricious and relies too much on feelings to tell a story lacking in spiritual sophistication. The context of the story offered so many more possibilities. At 95 minutes, the

film could have easily incorporated more characterization, and even offered additional material not found in the graphic novel.

The movie abounds with quirky intricacies that add a lot of flavor. Marjane's childhood hero is Bruce Lee and she imagines that she is the last prophet in the galaxy—some what ironic considering the Islamic culture of Tehran! After returning from Europe, the police tell her to stop running down the street because it makes her butt look obscene—"Then stop looking," she yells. In a few scenes, she talks with God, and it is after she shuts Him out that she really starts making bad decisions.

Marjane's family members are left leaning intellectuals, one of whom is executed after the Islamic Revolution because of his ideology. Marjane is caught having to choose between her home (along with her family) and freedom of individuality. The film avoids coming off as self-righteous—Marjane's own experiences are tinged with overt selfishness that safely diffuse any pretensions.

There are a few well-placed dashes of color in the movie. The pervasive monochrome coloring of the animation is thoughtfully tex-



ured and the movement of characters is as poetic as it is whimsical. Even the layout of the cities and rooms is meaningfully tone setting. The lighting is sophisticated and the expressiveness of the characters seems more fitting in animated form that could be with real actors.

The film is in French with English subtitles, and although it could have easily have been dubbed in

English, Satrapi seems to be pressing mild rebellion in this music by Olivier Bernet is minimal and tasteful. "Persepolis" is an elegant slice of Persian culture—a new-wave fairytale with historical events that have the right amount of commentary. The film leaves something to be desired, but it must see for anyone interested in Middle Eastern culture.

Sinead O'Connor's 'Theology' has a godly first half and gaudy second

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

What started with a sublime acoustic set, the "Dublin Sessions" became a double album with the nearly identical addition of the dismal "London Sessions." Together they are "Theology"—Sinead O'Connor's first album of mostly original music since 2000's "Faith and Courage."

"Theology" is mostly worship music that expresses adoration for the Lord and is strongly influenced by the Rastafari religious movement.

In 2005, O'Connor announced that she had converted to the faith. According to O'Connor, she also drew inspiration from the 9/11 attacks, as well as other acts of war and tried to create something beautiful. "Theology," the record, apart from being a place of peace and meditation, is a very personal and emotional response," O'Connor said.

Many of the songs are good and suitable for an acoustic set, but when all the other instruments are added it becomes a mess. There are two notable exceptions to this—"33" and "Whomsoever Dwells." The first has pronounced reggae bass and whimsical strings. In this praise song O'Connor sings, "It's right that the upright should acclaim Him/Sing to Jah with your guitar/turned up yer bass amp/Whack it up all the way to 'save Him.'" The harp adds a nice touch, and the bass is sufficient but should have been more explorative and includes some chops.

"Whomsoever Dwells" is a deep groove with haunting strings and sweeping fretless bass. O'Connor sings about help and protection from the Lord—a security in times of trouble, "And His truth will be your/Shield and rampart/So U need not fear/What comes looking for you in the dark." The string arrangements are pop-y and even danceable.

O'Connor does an all right cover of Curtis Mayfield's "We People Are Darker Than Blue." Its very pop-y and its use of the whammy bar on the keyboards is reminiscent of the '80s, as is its

substandard drum machine and background wa-wa guitars. O'Connor sings, "I'm just the surface of our dark deep well/If your mind could really see/You'd know your colour's same as me."

The one song unique to the "London Sessions" is a cover of "I Don't Know How to Love Him" originally by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber who wrote then piece for the satirical musical "Jesus Christ Superstar." This song is horrible. The singing is breathy and flat and has the effect of nails on a chalkboard.

The "Dublin Sessions" are a success. The music



"Theology" is mostly worship music that expresses adoration for the Lord...

Aaron Broich

is quiet and contemplative and O'Connor's breathiness is kept in check although her singing can be a little bit shaky (this is far more evident in the "London Sessions"). These are charming psalms that express intimacy with the Lord and His willingness to unconditionally accept us apart from our efforts.

In "Out Of the Depths" O'Connor focuses on the strength of spiritual forgiveness over the fear-based mentality common in religion, "And I've heard religion say You're to be feared/But I don't buy into everything I hear/And it seems to me You're hostage to those rules/That we're made by religion and not by U."

"Hosanna Filio David" is the only song unique to the first half of the album. It's a traditional Christian hymn that sounds like the Muslim call to prayer that blares through microphones five times a day all across the Islamic world. I think it is no coincidence that it sounds this way.

The first half of "Theology" is pretty good, but the second half is over produced and gaudy (although somewhat godly). The album will likely find little appeal with secular and Christian audiences, but is worthy looking into.

vagrant

by Benjamin Lewis

It is the ignorance that bleeds us, blinds, and conceives us
 Nothing more than that.

Suspicious hatred, and anger and malice

Have only homes in the lax minds that drive our economy

What about this social introspection,

The work for your bread repression,

Or the bum who leaves me notes

Thanking me for my cigarette butts,

He said that:

'I know you think I am gross

For smoking cigarette butts,

But I thank you in these Hard times.'

He did not use punctuation.

As I read this note four hundred cars were around,

He wrote a smile face in as a signature.

I left him a fresh grit which he has not yet found,

And then I went into my furniture.

I could not smile at him back.

I thought about what is really important for people,

But I could not get over my age old questions,

Does anyone know, was that whole Vietnam thing settled?

I bet the bum who left me a note would know.

I bet he would say: no.

Back stateside real progress is being put forth,

What about the students, teachers, and the future,

The knowledge born in passionless halls.

The foundations for commerce,

The competitors of Sputnik,

The tormented toilers of truth.

These institutions

Are backwards,

The learning falls far from the hands of the learners,

While the captures are cruxed, shackled and shackling

My cauldron used to ask:

Why not take fast to the gait of a stallion,

Racing across the desert,

Find a phoenix and resurrect it.

Why not struggle with life and make it hurt,

Until faith and hope mesh with disparity,

And when all that is left is clarity,

Love, grow, and cherish with abandon.

James Baldwin told me:

'The past is all that makes the present coherent, and further

That the past will remain horrible

For exactly as long as we refuse to assess it honestly'

Baldwin didn't like when people liked him,

Because he was black,

I like him,

Because I think that he was onto something.

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LOCAL NEWS

News about our local community, including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Sweet Home and Philomath.

White tents and giant crabs

Minda Trulove
 The Commuter

Standing in line outside, the sounds of breaking glass could be heard followed by roars coming from the crowds within the tents. At the entrance, there was a large red crab to welcome people to the 31st Annual Seafood and Wine Festival.

Entering the event, attendees were greeted by two city block sized white tents. Entry fee was ranging from \$5-\$13 depending on the day of attendance. Over the age of 21 was a must. IDs were checked at the door.

Once inside the tents, the smell of seafood and sounds of a large crowd onslaught

the senses contributing to the anticipation of wine and food. Attendees were able to try wines from over 70 wineries ranging from wineries right here in the Willamette Valley all the way to California. One-hundred-fifty vendors brought their goods and services to this year's festival in Newport, Ore.

This year boasted one of the largest events yet. Over 14,500 people walked the tents over the three-day event. This was the first year that the festival has provided online tickets for e-ticket purchase prior to the event starting. E-ticket holders benefited from purchasing tickets ahead of time because they were able to walk right into the event after ID and baggage check

without the wait outside. Out of the 14,500 people that attended only 1668 were from the e-ticket sales.

Lorna Davis, director of tourism development for the Newport Chamber of Commerce anticipates that next year's e-ticket sales will be very popular. The event, which was founded by the Newport Chamber of Commerce, has become the largest event for the city of Newport during the winter. "It is estimated anywhere from \$1.5 to \$2.5 million come into the community during this time, which is significant given the time of year that the event is held."

During the event the city benefits from the influx of patrons to the city's lodging and



retail districts. Arranging the trip to the festival early is a key component. "Those who wait until the last minute to book may be out of luck - unless there's a last-minute cancellation," Davis

photo courtesy of Newport, Ore. commented. The festival is held the last weekend in February and information can be found from the Newport Chamber of Commerce Web site at www.newportchamber.org.

Domestic funding cut further by inflation

News Release

Silverton-President Bush's proposed 2009 budget would cut over \$200 million in federal funding for a slew of social programs in Oregon, shifting costs to the state at time when a weakening economy has shrunk state revenues, according to the Oregon Center for Public Policy.

The proposed budget would slash about \$20 billion spending nationally on domestic "discretionary" programs - those that must be approved each year - outside of homeland security, while making permanent all of the 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts.

The budget cuts would come on top of proposed administrative changes to Medicaid that over the next five years would erode funding for health coverage nationally by \$17 billion. OCPP policy analyst Janet Bauer said reduced federal funding for Medicaid would shift more health care costs to Oregon.

"The President's budget continues to steer Oregon and the nation in the wrong direction," said Bauer. "Instead of investing in families and their future, we get tax cuts favoring the wealthy. Oregon's congressional delegation must rise to the challenge and help right this ship."

Under the President's plan, Oregon would lose

about \$23 million for adult education and worker training programs, according to Bauer.

"At time when a slowing economy may cost some Oregonians their jobs," she said, "worker training programs must be strengthened, not weakened."

Bauer said that the proposed list of cuts is long and would include a \$4.8 million reduction in aid for low-income Oregonians' heating bills, \$1.7 million less for clean water projects, \$1.7 million less for law enforcement and \$7.1 million less for community development. She added that cuts in prior years have already undermined these programs.

Child care grants for low-wage workers in Oregon would also be cut by almost a half-million dollars, said Bauer, noting that it would be the eighth straight year of cuts to this program.

The President's budget would continue to neglect a number of other critical programs by freezing funding levels, according to Bauer.

She pointed to the case of education funding. Since 2004, federal funding for K-12 education has remained frozen. Therefore, in inflation-adjusted dollars Oregon would receive \$35 million less for K-12 education under the proposed 2009 budget than it did in 2004. Similarly, in today's dollars, federal funding for Oregon's Head Start program would be \$8 million below the 2002 level

under the proposed budget.

Despite the frozen funding, the state must still meet its obligations for federally-mandated education programs such as No Child Left Behind, said Bauer.

"Congress must reject this pattern of disinvestment in education, so that all children have a chance to succeed," Bauer said.

The prospect of reduced federal funding could not come at a worst time for Oregon. Two weeks ago, state economists forecast an ending balance of just \$29 million, down from \$207 million projected in December. The ending balance represents just 0.2 percent of state appropriations.

"As it stands, Oregon has no room to maneuver," said Bauer. "The President's budget adds to the gloomy economic news and may force the state into an agonizing process of slashing crucial public services."

A full analysis of the cuts contained in the President's proposed budget can be found in a report released yesterday by the Washington, D.C.-based Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

The Oregon Center for Public Policy is a non-partisan research institute that does in-depth research and analysis on budget, tax, and economic issues. The Center's goal is to improve decision making and generate more opportunities for all Oregonians.

A brush with police ends better than expected

Minda Trulove
 The Commuter

So I'm driving to work today and stop off at my parents', who happen to live in the south Albany area for a brief chat. It gets to be about 9:30 a.m., I usually get to the office around 10 a.m., so I leave my parents' and head to campus.

I'm driving on Waverly south bound toward Highway 34. I just pass the intersection of Waverly and Grand Prairie with a white Ford F150, the newer body styles. We're driving about the same speed. I know the road is going to merge into one lane just before South Albany High School, which happens to have a school zone that is about as wide as a crosswalk.

I can just feel that this person is not paying attention to the road. So I speed up enough to get ahead of his truck so that I don't end up getting side swiped by this guy. I get to the crosswalk and I realize there is an unmarked Albany Police Department car sitting at the intersection. I see him turn towards the white truck and me.

I'm thinking, "Nice, finally a cop when you want one." I think that he's seen the truck's behavior and inattention to the road. I'm watching in my rear view and side mirrors so that I can gloat to

myself and finally be vindicated for all those times of having stupid drivers around me, and not being able to do a dang thing.

The officer turns on his stop right now lights and the white truck pulls over. "Woo Hoo!!!" Not so much. He goes around the white truck and I get popped. I pull to the side of the road, put the window down, turn off the car, turn on my hazard lights and place my hands on the wheel. I assumed the position.

I have an officer at my window. 'Good Morning, I'm Officer Jones.* Just to let you know this conversation is being taped. The reason that I stopped you was because you were going 41 in a school zone.' So I wait for my moment and I give him the reason why I was driving that speed.

Let me say, I'm no angel. I tend to have a bit of a lead foot and I admit it fully. But if I get pulled over and I'm at fault I keep my mouth quiet and it's, 'Yes I was going over the speed limit,' but this time I spoke up. I didn't think that it was fair for me to get popped and not the other guy.

I explained my situation. and the officer still asked for my "stuff" and I hand it all over to the officer. The officer explained why I was still wrong and when I got to the office I did a bit of research on my own. So under the Oregon House

Bill 2840-A, amending ORS 811.111 you are in violation if... "[e] Drives a vehicle in a school zone at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour:]." There are a bunch of other instances but that is the main part of why I was in the wrong.

So even if the school zone is about the size of a crosswalk, it still applies. So in case you're wondering the first sign that you see for schools zone is the start of the zone. It's not like a stop sign where you get an advance warning. Then it's not over until you pass a speed limit sign.

So, I sit in my car and stew in my head over the situation thinking this could make a decent article. After about five minutes or so, the officer comes back and gives me a written warning and tells me that he thinks that a warning should be sufficient enough for me to, "change your driving behavior."

Yes, I am thankful for the get out of jail free card. Thank you Officer Jones for that. I do appreciate the community police force for doing what they can to keep us safe. But the guy, in the white truck got off free without even a nod in his direction. I do not appreciate the guy in the white truck. No, not so much. Thanks for the almost ticket buddy.

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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College campus events

Campus shorts

"America's Parklands" filmmaker focus of Travel at the Tripp

The Travel at the Tripp film series continues the 2007-08 season with "America's Parklands" with Gray Warriner on Sunday, March 9 at 2 p.m. at LBCC's Russell Tripp Performance Center.

Join the filmmaker whose award-winning programs have become the official films for over 20 of our national parks. Gray Warriner begins the show with a trip to the National Parks in Alaska. Soar to the heights of Alaska's Denali. Then hike the wild beaches and moss-festooned rain forests of Olympic National Park, discover the secret life of sea otters along California's coast and explore the spectacular beauty of Lake Powell, a place where water, stone and sky meet.

LBCC Performing Arts and Azumano Travel of Corvallis produce the Travel at the Tripp film series. Experts from Azumano will be on hand along with the filmmaker to answer your travel questions, with prizes given from Azumano Travel. Ticket prices are \$7 for each show, \$6 for students/seniors. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Russell Tripp Performance Center box office at 917-4531. Box office hours are Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m. and two hours prior to the performance. Online tickets sales available at www.linnbenton.edu, click on the "Travel at the Tripp" quick link under News & Events; go to Buy Tickets. The next film in the series is "Cruising Russia with Clint Denn, Sunday April 20 at 2 p.m.

For disability accommodations, call 917-4789.

Reception held for "African/American Experience" in SSH Gallery

A reception for the African/American Experience art exhibition on display in the South Santiam Hall Gallery at Linn-Benton Community College will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 27 from noon to 1:30 p.m.

The show includes 13 original "psychedelic" posters from 1960's San Francisco that feature many influential African-American musicians who contributed to American music and culture. Also shown are 12 original works of art from Africa including bowls, masks and headdresses.

The show also includes an abundance of written background information for students and visitors to gain background information and insight into the history and function of the posters and objects.

The African/American Experience exhibit will close at 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28. SSH Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The gallery is located on the LBCC Albany campus. For more information, contact the gallery at 917-4247.

Call for Auditions for "The Rainmaker"

Auditions for LBCC's production of the American classic comedy/drama, "The Rainmaker," will be held Sunday, March 9 and Monday, March 10 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the LBCC Russell Tripp Performance Center on the Albany campus.

Auditions are open to the community, LBCC students and staff. Audition appointments can be arranged by contacting the LBCC theater box office at (541) 917-4531. Callbacks will be held on Tuesday, March 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. on the Albany campus. Auditioners are asked to prepare a brief monologue, under two minutes, of their choice.

"The Rainmaker," written by N. Richard Nash, will be performed in the Russell Tripp Performance Center on May 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 and June 1. Rehearsals will generally be in the evenings Sundays through Thursdays starting in late March.

Scripts for perusal are available on reserve in the LBCC library and at the LBCC box office in Takena Hall. Theater box office hours are 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.

For more information, contact LBCC The-

ater Faculty and Director Brian Newberg at 917-4566 via e-mail at brian.newberg@linnbenton.edu.

Multicultural Center shows "Raising Cain"

Mark your calendars now to join us in the Multicultural Center on two Wednesdays, Feb. 27 and March 5 from noon to 1 p.m. for a two-part series as we view and discuss, Raising Cain, a two-hour PBS documentary an outreach project that looks at the emotional lives of boys in America today.

Michael Thompson, one of America's leading experts on boys is the film's host. His book Raising Cain, with author Dan Kindlon, was a New York Times bestseller. The film explores the lives of boys from birth through high school through powerful documentary footage.

Thompson's in-depth interviews and interactions with boys reveal the challenges and confusion they encounter while growing up in America.

Free soup and rolls will be provided for participants. Sponsored by the Non-Traditional Career Program.

Library: Finishing touches

◀ From Pg. 1

or what kind of furniture we need for the open areas. If I have to look at any more catalogues with chairs or tables I'm going to scream," said Trimpe.

The opening of the center also marks the merger of the library and Learning Center, meaning policies and resources will have to be shared and agreed upon by both. Given the nature of synergy that will be required for the two entities to operate under the same roof, she was glad that the library and Learning Center had bonded on decisions leading up to the culmination of the project.

"We've had all kinds of meetings, and discussions in the hall, and looking through catalogues,

looking at blueprints and floor plans, that sort of thing; a lot of energy has gone into that. We're recognizing there are some differences and we need to get together on those things," said Trimpe.

Although a bevy of new features will be made available once opened, one of the most notable will be the presence of group study rooms, providing a healthy alternative for students who felt like smashing every laptop and MP3 player set on full volume.

"One will be a designated quiet room. Some students get real frustrated in the open study area of the Learning Center. It gets loud, so the best we could do

in the past is we handed out earplugs. We literally handed out earplugs," explained Trimpe.

The new center is set to be up and running for the spring term, with services slowly being made available over finals and spring break until its grand opening on April 30.

The first two weeks of the term the building will host a multitude of events from tours and banquets to a reading from an Oregon author. Jones hopes that students will be pleased by how the time and resources were spent. "It's more space where we needed it, and it's more welcoming, and user-friendly. I think students are really going to want to be there."

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Break! Come tan, look awesome
and be safe for your time away
from the books!

CLASSIFIED SECTION

Help Wanted

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. For more information about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center in Takena Hall. (541) 917-4788

Sales Associate (#6113, Albany)

This specialty footwear store is looking for part-time (will work with student) and full-time sales associates. Pay is \$8-12/hr DOE.

Stall Cleaner (#6112, Albany)

This 7-days a week job is needed to clean 6-10 stalls at a boarding stable. Pay is per stall. Must be dependable.

Laborer 1 (Fire Fighter) (#6109, Sweet Home)

These are full-time, summer jobs fighting forest fires and maintaining fire trails. Do something exciting this summer and get paid \$10.20-13.77/hr - DOE.

Want to place an ad in

The Commuter? Come to The Commuter's office located at Forum 220, talk to advertising for information.

Summer help at Clear Lake (#6105, 6 & 8) Work full-time at a beautiful lake resort as a cook, Wait Person/Cashier, or Boat and Cabin Cleaner this summer. Housing provided along with the fresh air.

Misc. Info.

Need writing help? Have a major essay due? Need to discuss some of your ideas before you start writing? Need help brainstorming topics? Focusing? Organizing? The Writing Center invites you to stop by for help with these and any other writing questions. The Writing Center is in SSH-108. Drop in Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Can't stop by? Then visit our online service: lbcc.writingcenteronline.net.



LBCC MAIN CAMPUS

Commons

FEBRUARY 27TH - MARCH 4TH

Wednesday:

ENTREES: Pork Schnitzel and Beggars's Chicken with Steamed Rice
 VEGETARIAN: Carey Pocket
 SIDES: Jojo Potatoes and Second Starch
 SOUPS: Beef Consomme and Corn Chowder

Thursday:

ENTREES: Corned Beef Hash and Eggs
 VEGETARIAN: Tempura Vegetables
 SIDES: Buttered Noodles and Second Starch
 SOUPS: Spanish Chicken and Split Pea

Friday:

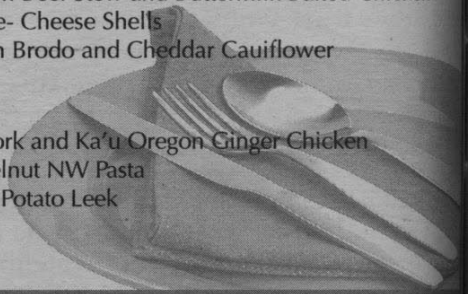
CHEF'S CHOICE

Monday:

ENTREES: Mushroom Beef Stew and Buttermilk Baked Chicken
 VEGETARIAN: Three-Cheese Shells
 SOUPS: Tortellini en Brodo and Cheddar Cauliflower

Tuesday:

ENTREES: Yucatan Pork and Ka'u Oregon Ginger Chicken
 VEGETARIAN: Hazelnut NW Pasta
 SOUPS: Pozole and Potato Leek



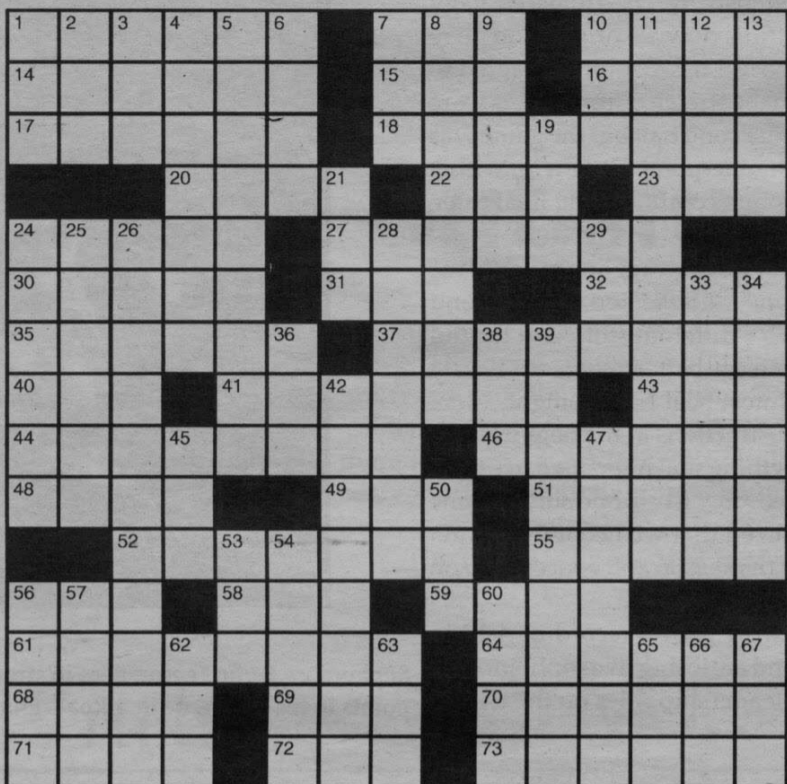
Editor: Davis LaMuerta
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

FUNNY BONES

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Fluffy dessert
- 7 Guy's sweetie
- 10 Laptop image
- 14 Actress Bassett
- 15 Lennon's lover
- 16 Traffic diverter
- 17 Prepare leftovers
- 18 Leftovers
- 20 Minuscule
- 22 Self-image
- 23 Distress letters
- 24 City on the Adige
- 27 Farm measure
- 30 Undue speed
- 31 "Nova" network
- 32 Highest point
- 35 Honda model
- 37 Additional publishing
- 40 Actress Farrow
- 41 That's out of the question!
- 43 Tic-toe link
- 44 Joined up
- 46 Unpigmented
- 48 Cause to wither
- 49 Fizzle out
- 51 Pearl collector
- 52 Prufrock's creator



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10/20/07

- 55 TV movie critic
- 56 DH's stat
- 58 Kilmer of "The Doors"
- 59 Restore to health
- 61 Brazilian city
- 64 Experience a flashback
- 68 Creeper
- 69 Team cheer
- 70 Kowtow
- 71 Emily of manners
- 72 Pompous one
- 73 Value highly

DOWN

- 1 Damage a bit
- 2 Any person
- 3 Word of disgust
- 4 Pursue an inquiry
- 5 Untidy women
- 6 Beanery sign
- 7 Gunk
- 8 "The Ugly Duckling" author
- 9 Ski-resort building

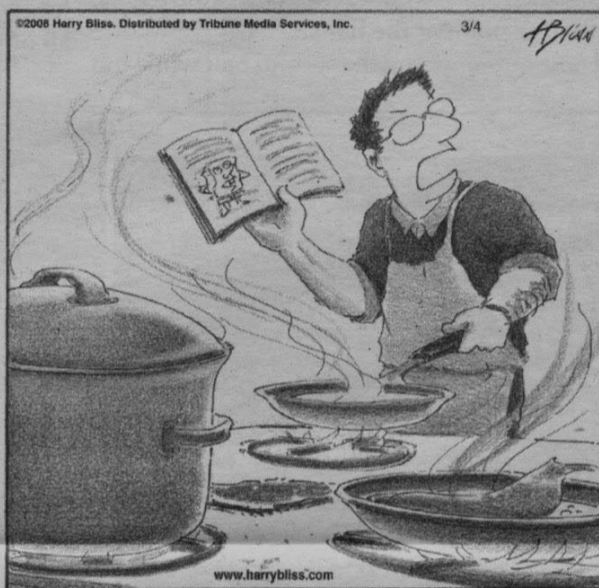
- 10 Hockey surface
- 11 One after another
- 12 Fully aware of
- 13 Scottish loch
- 19 Large, extinct bird
- 21 Big fat mouth
- 24 English river
- 25 Wisconsin city
- 26 Intensifications
- 28 Trucker's communicator
- 29 Argon or neon
- 33 More hateful
- 34 Social companion
- 36 WWW follower
- 38 Actress Lupino
- 39 Metallic parts joiners
- 42 French accent marks
- 45 April 15 addressee
- 47 Trinket
- 50 & so on
- 53 One Gabor

For answer,
look down.

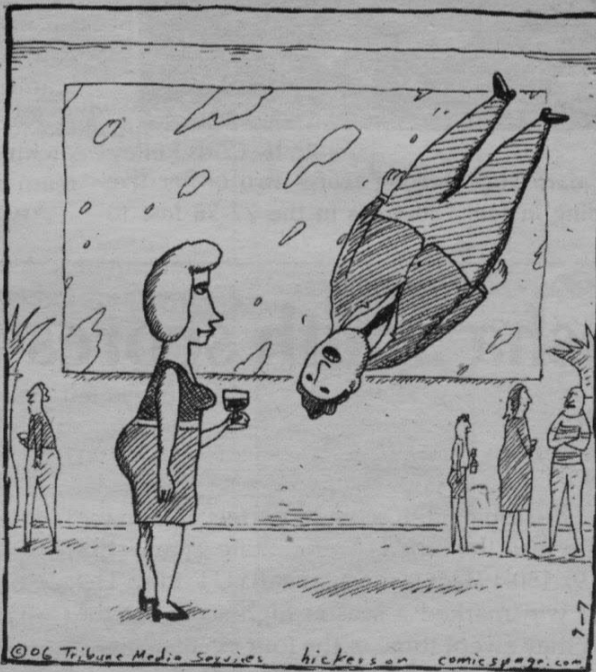
- 54 Davies of the LPGA
- 56 Invitation acronym
- 57 "Charles in Charge" star
- 60 Strong impulse
- 62 Family dog
- 63 Sighs of delight
- 65 "___ Got a Secret"
- 66 Two-finger sign
- 67 Blighted tree



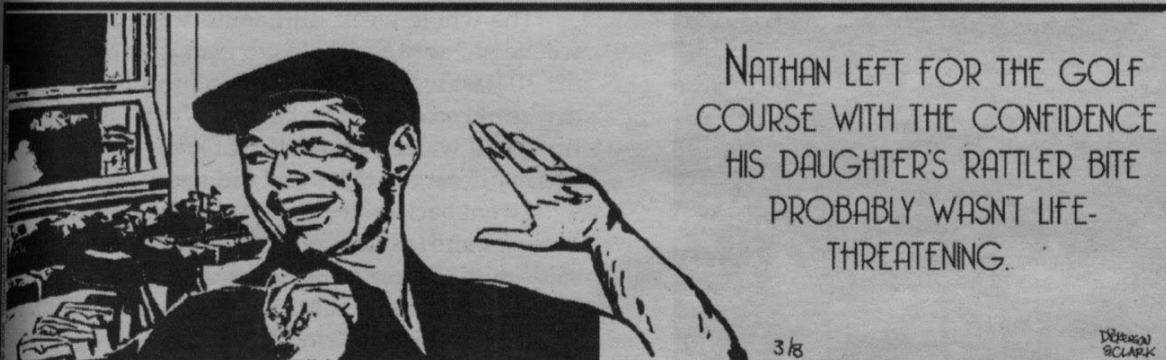
"I'm sorry, there's been some kind of mistake. I ordered kosher rodent."



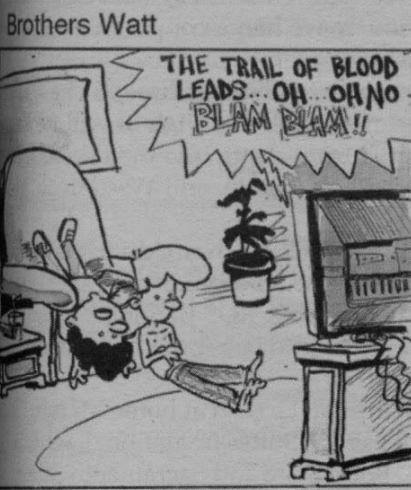
"Which one of my fiendish offspring defaced the bordelaise recipe with SpongeBob?"



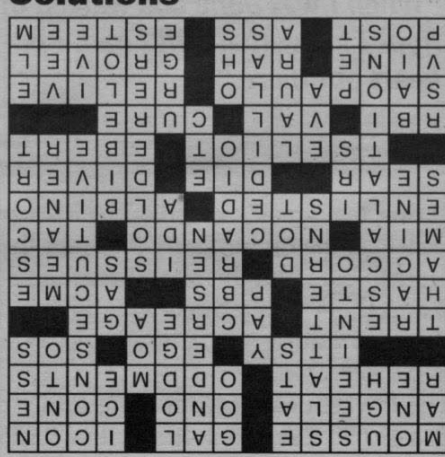
"Why, yes, as a matter of fact, I AM an astronaut. But how did you know that?"



NATHAN LEFT FOR THE GOLF COURSE WITH THE CONFIDENCE HIS DAUGHTER'S RATTLER BITE PROBABLY WASN'T LIFE-THREATENING.



Solutions



Sports Editor: Chris Kelley
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SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation.

Men much improved at season's end

Tyler Dahlgren
 The Commuter

In the team's final game of the season last Wednesday, Tyson Christie scored 16 points while Eddie Leeson added 15 and Trevor Siefken earned himself a double-double scoring 13 points and grabbing 10 rebounds in a 66-74 losing effort against the visiting Lane Titans.

The game was something similar to a high light reel for the Runners as Christie threw down two ally-oop slams from Leeson, giving him two of his eight assists for the game. Kyler Kirchner added an ankle-breaking crossover on Lane's Devon Richards at the top of the key, bringing Richards to the ground while adding more insult to injury by hitting the jump shot.

The first half was neck and neck as the teams kept the score close. The Runners showed how much they have improved during the season as they looked equally matched against one of the South's top teams, down only one point at the half, 32-31.

Lane came out prepared the second half while the

Runners struggled offensively. The Titans' strategy appeared to be shutting down Christie and they succeeded in doing so as Linn-Benton struggled to get him the ball down the stretch. The Runners were outscored 43-34 in the second half but the game was much closer than the nine-point Titan win, with a majority of Lane's points coming in the final three minutes.

"We started out very slow, struggling much of the first half of the season," said Siefken. "The second half of the season was a different story and I could tell we were getting a lot better when we nearly beat Umpqua and almost beat Lane tonight."

"We had a lot of distractions at the beginning of the season with everything that happened to Coach Randy Falk," said Leeson. "Everyone sort of came together and we realized that we needed to forget about the first half of the season and concentrate on playing our best basketball."

The Runners finished with a record of 4-10 in league, 8-17 overall and are losing five sophomores, all of whom played leadership roles on the team.

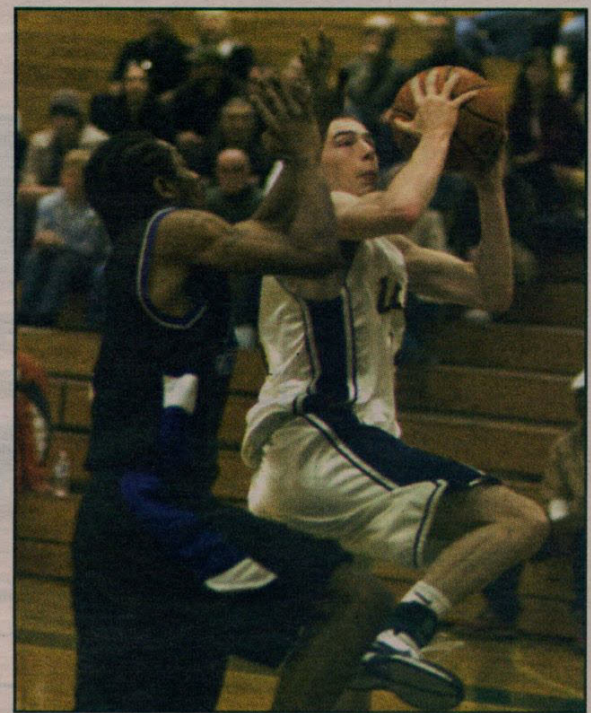


photo by Chris Kelley

Sophomore Eddie Leeson goes in strong for a layup as part of his points in his last game in a Roadrunner's jersey.



photo by Chris Kelley

Freshman guard Luci DeLong scores two of her five points, adding in four rebounds in the 77-56 loss to

Women: Fourth seed for playoffs

Tyler Dahlgren
 The Commuter

Emily Irwin scored 13 points and Destiny Neuschwander added 11 but it wasn't enough to stop the league champions losing to Lane, which cruised to a 77-56 win in the final league game of the season this past Wednesday, Feb. 20.

The match-up turned out to be a fast-paced, track meet kind of game as both teams continued to press throughout the game's entirety, using many substitutions.

Falling behind immediately 5-0, the Runners quickly rebounded, going on a 10-0 run and climbing back into the game. Lane however responded and narrowed the Runners lead, eventually taking the lead as the two teams headed into the locker room, 39-31.

Katelyn White didn't play much of the first half, picking up two fouls early, a devastating blow to the team as they faced two athletic Titan posts.

"White would have played more of the first half

but we couldn't afford to get her in even more for trouble. We needed to save her for the second half," said Coach Chuck Gibeaut.

Second half troubles were apparent from the start as Lane began to score easier and more often. The game abruptly became out of reach as LB fell behind as many as 28 points.

The loss drops the Runners to fourth place in the South, forcing a tough match-up against the West number-one seed, the Centralia Trailblazers, as they head into the NWAACC playoffs at the end of the week.

"We just need to play Linn-Benton basketball and take each game one at a time," said Neuschwander. "We know our personnel and know what we need to do in order win."

The match-up between the Lady Runners and Centralia takes place Thursday, Feb. 28, at 4 p.m. in the Kennewick Toyota Center. Log on to www.nwaacc.org to follow the ladies in their quest for some hardware.

Tasha Smith scores a perfect 10.0 in OSU win over BYU

Chris Kelley
 The Commuter

CORVALLIS-Tasha Smith scored a perfect 10.0 on the floor to help lead the No. 8 Oregon State gymnastics team to a 197.150-194.925 win against BYU Friday. The six-straight win marked a season high score for the Beavers, as they swept three of the four events.

The vault was highlighted by Mandi Rodriguez's anchoring score of 9.925, which put her in first place. Jami Lanz and Yuki Lamb tied for second with a 9.875 score.

Jen Kesler was again dominant on the uneven bars,

"When I was done and walked off the floor I knew that's all I had. I put my heart out there."

Tasha Smith



photo by Chris Kelley

Tasha Smith finishes a landing in her electrifying 10.0 floor routine. Mandi Rodriguez and Jami Lanz tied for second with 9.90 scores.

bettering last week's personal best score with a first-place 9.925, the highest bars score for the Beavers and her fourth win this year. Lanz had a second-place 9.90 and there was a three-way tie for third as OSU's Rodriguez, Laura-Ann Chong and Whitney Watson scored 9.825.

The lowest Beaver team score came from the beam with a 49.050. Lanz took first with a 9.925 and was followed by BYU's Hayley Jensen and OSU's Smith and

Kesler for a tie for second scoring a 9.825.

The highlight of the night came from the star-powered Beaver floor team when Kera Bolen scoring a 9.85 followed by back-to-back excellent performances by Lanz and Rodriguez who scored second place 9.90s. All the ladies set up the energy and momentum for and excited

Smith, who outscored her last year score of 9.975 with a perfect 10.0.

"The whole week, all I could think about was this weekend," said Smith. "I am glad they didn't give me the 10 [last week] because I don't feel I deserved it. In my head I said 'I can do better'. When I was done [this time] and walked off the floor I knew that's all I had. I put my heart out there and did everything I could."

"I went back and watched videos at practice during the week and I noticed my finishes weren't as dynamic," said Smith. "I worked on my landings more and realizing if I do a huge finish it brings out my tumbling more." "We went in knowing we had to average a 9.85 on each routine to reach the 197.0 mark," said Coach Tammy Chaplin. "Obviously we had a couple 9.0 plus scores that helped push our average over."

The ladies are away for the next three weeks, visiting Cal-State Fullerton, UCLA and Utah. It will be key to better their overall team going into the Pac-10 Championships March 29 in Seattle, and Western Regional at home April 12.

"These next three weeks on the road are huge for us," said Lanz, who won the all-around with a 39.60. "We are starting to get into our RQS [Regional Qualifying Score] and that is going to better our 195.3 team score average."

OSU gymnastics can be seen at home March 12 at 7 p.m. for the Salbasseon Suites Invitational, which will bring Missouri, Boise State and Sacramento State.