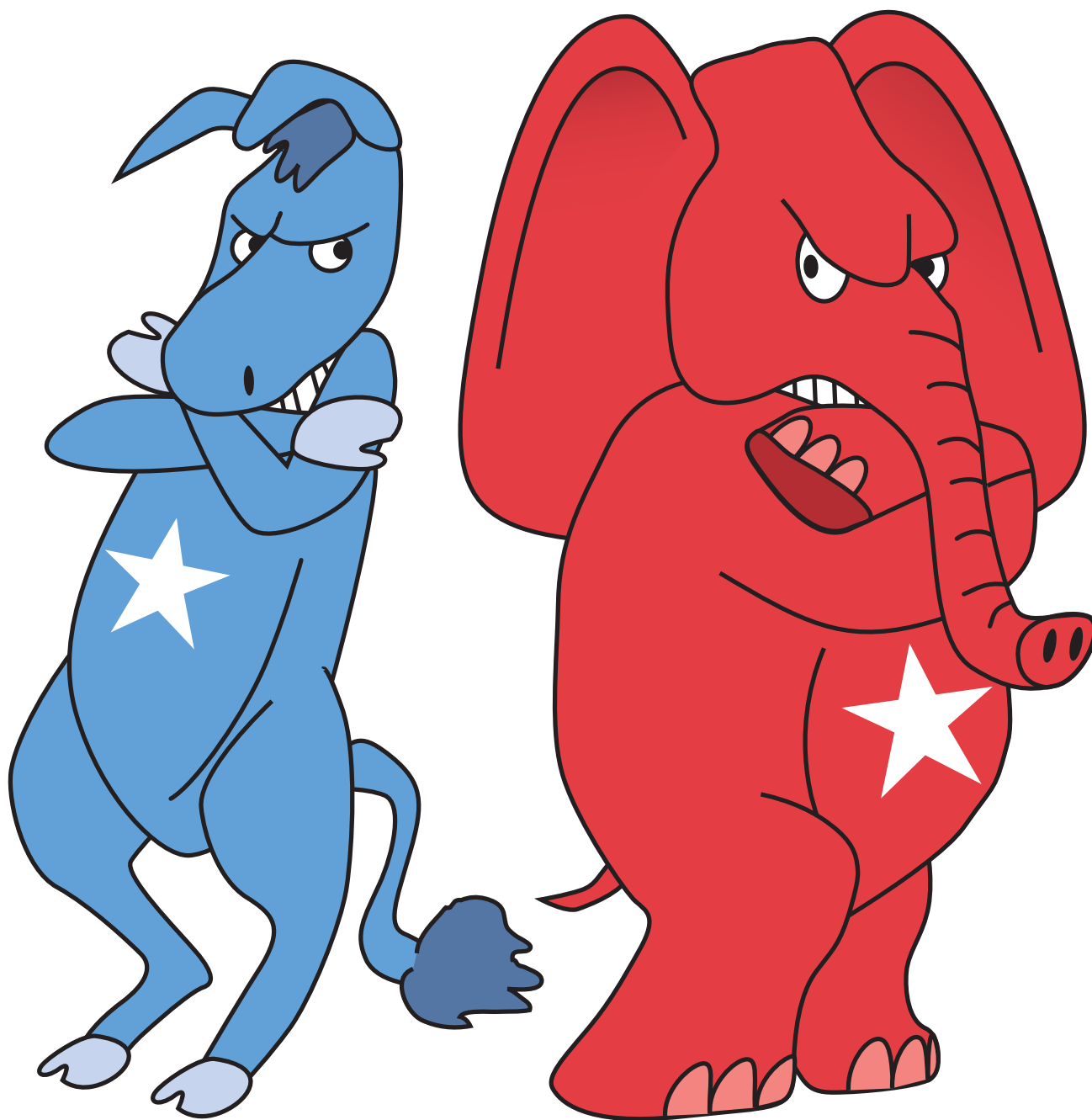


THE COMMUTER

Your Community Compass

COMMUTER.LINNBENTON.EDU

Today's Politics



Justeen Elliott

News Editor

In any political candidate debate, the candidates look professional, they don't directly answer any of the questions and turn the questions around to attack their opponents. This is the typical way they deal with anything. Voters today often feel like the politicians running for office have a lot of empty promises and are only saying what they think voters want to hear.

People seem to have lost faith in their government and don't believe a word of what they have to say, especially when it comes to voting time. Are they saying it only to get votes, or are they saying it to actually change the economy and improve America?

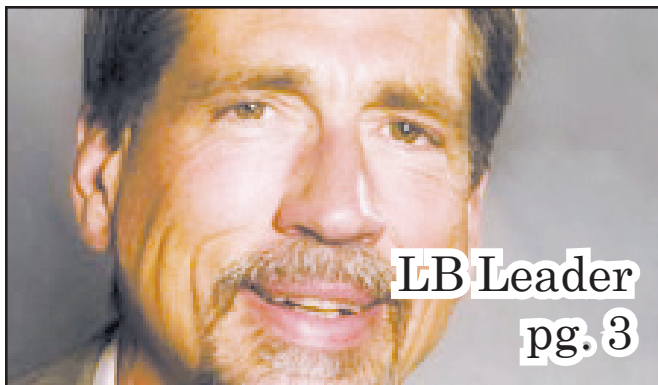
Many people, especially voters between the ages of 20 and 40, have the same opinion as Brian Lytle, "All they want is your vote and your money."

"Honestly, all they are telling us are all lies just to get re-elected," said Lytle. "They don't care as long as they get their money."

What are today's politicians promising voters and America?

There are two Democrat candidates running for president, President Barack Obama and Randall Terry. Obama is promising to create more jobs and that he is going to help the economy turn around. Terry is promising to create an alternative to the four years of misery we've had with Obama.

Two Evils: on Pg. 5



LB Leader
pg. 3



Winter's Light Entertains
pg. 10



Brewing Something Good
pg. 12



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Wednesday(2/29)



Snow Blows
45°/35°

Thursday(3/1)



Rain Drops
48°/36°

Friday(3/2)



Showers?
50°/41°

Saturday(3/3)



A Cloud - or more
55°/41°

Sunday(3/4)



Sun and Fluff
53°/40°

Monday(3/5)



Cloudy ... Mostly
52°/36°

Tuesday(3/6)



Clouds and Rain
51°/31°



WEATHER

Source: accuweather.com

THE COMMUTER STAFF

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

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Mid-Valley Made

Marcea Palmer

Staff Photographer

This weekend in downtown Albany, many will have the opportunity to take part in a first for the city. Sponsored by the Historic Albany Recovery Program (HARP), Mid-Valley Made is a showcase for local artisans from Eugene, Salem, Albany, and other cities across the Willamette Valley.

According to Katie Roseboro, "[They have] displays of handmade longboards, hand-shaped custom jewelry, hand-turned wooden pens made from felled Oregon timber, and more."

The event was born out of a series of articles in the Corvallis Gazette-Times and the Albany Democrat Herald about locals who are skilled at such crafts. This is an opportunity for "promoting local businesses and master crafters with Made-In-America products," Roseboro stated.

Event organizers are hoping Mid-Valley Made will become an annual tradition.

The show takes place in the downtown Two Rivers Market complex on Second Avenue and Broadalbin Street in downtown Historic Albany on March 2-3.

For more information or to volunteer, contact them through their website at midvalleymade.tumblr.com, by email at midvalleymade@gmail.com, or by phone at 541-791-9892.

Brad Boden

Contributing Writer

Staying out of Wal-Mart is a way of refusing to participate in a very damaging economic practice.

There is little doubt that Wal-Mart has taken the world by storm. Providing inexpensive alternatives for similar products has made big discounts possible, popular with lower and middle class consumers in America. In a time of increasing economic instability, people take advantage of the savings.

To understand the damage that has been done to our economy, it is vital that we take a more in depth look into Wal-Mart's business strategies.

Wal-Mart's business practices are designed to take down competition. With their "always low prices," Wal-Mart is destroying other American businesses. They undercut prices that other companies, such as Toy's "R" Us or Kmart specialize in. By having lower priced toys than Toy's "R" Us or cheaper electronics than Kmart, it leaves consumers choosing Wal-Mart.

Many companies can't compete with the slave labor pricing. This directly affects American citizens because of the jobs it takes from these businesses. Wal-Mart employs 2.1 million people worldwide and 1.4 million in the U.S. The company wants us to believe that the jobs it takes from people, it gives back.

Wal-Mart does a good job creating space for new employees.

Editorial Wal-Mart A Poor Choice



Brad Boden

The new Wal-Mart store in Albany shows just how low they are willing to drop prices.

Unfortunately, Wal-Mart employees get paid less than the national average per hour of work. The problems don't stop there.

Wal-Mart is best known for its slogan, "Satisfaction Guaranteed." Who exactly is satisfied? Is it the consumers or the suppliers? Of course the consumers, they are paying low prices. The suppliers aren't as lucky. Many companies can't keep up with the demanding needs of Wal-Mart and concedes their designs for the products to the competitor.

As a monopoly, Wal-Mart becomes the single supplier in the market. Instead of overcharging consumers, Wal-Mart under pays their suppliers. This eventually forces suppliers into an economic behavior that leads to poor

working conditions and outsourcing off-shore suppliers.

Wal-Mart has crippled their suppliers in order to provide better prices. By contributing to this, Wal-Mart makes more money to build new stores. By them building more stores in the country, it brings down the price of the competitors. This creates less money, which leads to less money in circulation in the economy. Less money in our economy can lead to a recession.

The more Wal-Mart stores that we have in America, the closer we get to a recession. That is not what Americans want. Now that we have a Wal-Mart in our own backyard, where will you shop?

THE COMMONS FARE

MENU FOR THE WEEK OF:
2/29 - 3/6

Wednesday: Cassoulet*, Pork Schnitzel, Portabella Polenta w/ Mascarpone Cheese and Sundried Tomato Pesto*. Soups: Chicken Noodle, Minestrone.

Thursday: Coconut Braised Shortribs, Poached Chicken*, Tempura Vegetables. Soups: Spanish Chicken*, Beer Cheese

Friday: Chef's Choice

Monday: Chef's Choice

Tuesday: Chef's Choice

Items denoted with a * are gluten free

St. PATRICK'S DAY GATHERING

THURSDAY MARCH 8TH
12PM - 2:30PM
LOCATED IN THE DAC (DIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENT CENTER)

Featuring:
Irish Food
Treasure Hunt
Short Movie on Irish history

PERSONS HAVING QUESTIONS ABOUT OR REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS AND ACCOMMODATIONS SHOULD CONTACT THE DISABILITY COORDINATOR AT LINNBENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE, ROOM 1242P, 6500 SW PACIFIC BLVD, ALBANY, OREGON 97321. PHONE 541-917-4450 OR VIA OREGON TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY TTY AT 1-800-735-2900 OR 1-800-735-1222. CONTACT SHOULD BE MADE 72 HOURS OR MORE IN ADVANCE OF THE EVENT. LBCC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATOR AND EMPLOYER.

Greg Hamann Shows LB How it's Done

Sean Bassinger
Staff Writer

For LBCC President Greg Hamann, there is no such thing as an average day. There are always people to talk to and communities to connect with.

When you first walk into his office, you'll notice large windows facing sloped meadows with moss-covered trees. Even in the winter, the landscape was a magnificent emerald green. Though since Hamann's either always on the go or focusing on projects, he hardly has time to admire the view.

"In the perfect weather, you can see the middle of the Three Sisters," he said while gazing outward towards the mountains.

Hamann is serious about maintaining an efficient institution, advocating college completion and communicating with various organizations in and out of our school's community.

But he's not all business – he's even been known to surf with students during his time at Clatsop Community College. Though he'll be the first to admit he's not the world's best surfer, Hamann says educating yourself in other areas is essential for character building.

"I think it's important that we learn to do things we're not good at," said Hamann. "If we only do things we're good at, it's pretty limiting."

Hamann enjoys physical activity in general. He goes running every afternoon and currently plans to climb Mt. Rainer in the summer.

"I think everyone needs to do something that forces them to look inside themselves," he said

when referring to his outdoor adventures.

Roots as a teacher

Hamann was born on a dairy farm in Minnesota. He's lived in many cities throughout the country, including Chicago, Spokane, Wash., Powell, Wyo. and Astoria, OR. Hamann started his educational career as a teacher, and spent 15 years in administrative positions at many private liberal arts colleges before becoming president at Clatsop Community College.

When recalling his experiences at Clatsop, Hamann knew it was a task he was prepared for.

"The school was terribly challenged through accreditation and facility issues," said Hamann. "During my time there, we solved every one of those, and so I decided it was time to do something else."

As soon as he heard LBCC needed a new president in 2010, following the retirement of former president Rita Cavin, Hamann knew he needed to apply.

"I still love Astoria, but [LBCC] is where I need to be," he said.

His first day at LBCC was Feb. 1, 2010.

Spirited involvement

Renee Windsor-White, executive assistant to the president, remembers one of her first moments working with Hamann. During an in-service back in 2010, Hamann actually wore the RoadRunner costume.

"He's very creative," she said when recalling the events. "He's been involved since day one."

Audiences roared in excitement as Hamann



Sean Bassinger

LBCC President Greg Hamann at a recent board meeting.

removed the RoadRunner mask. When giving his speech, he brought up the topic of "beaver or duck," stating he was most proud to be a RoadRunner.

But his involvement with the students didn't stop there.

In January 2011, Hamann switched places with Ivan Merlin, a student who had won the opportunity to become president for a day. Casually dressed in a yellow LBCC hoodie and blue jeans, Hamann attended all of Merlin's classes and activities.

"He loved it," said Carol Schaafsma, LBCC's executive vice president of Academic Affairs and

Workforce Development, when describing the day. "Greg is eager to know and understand the student experience at LBCC, and this day gave him a chance to experience being a student."

Windsor-White also remembers the event in January, as she finished describing his overall passion for both LBCC and his position here.

"He's a big picture kind of guy," she said. "You have to be in this job."

Devoted leader

Schaafsma has always been impressed with his ability to help groups stay focused on their purpose.

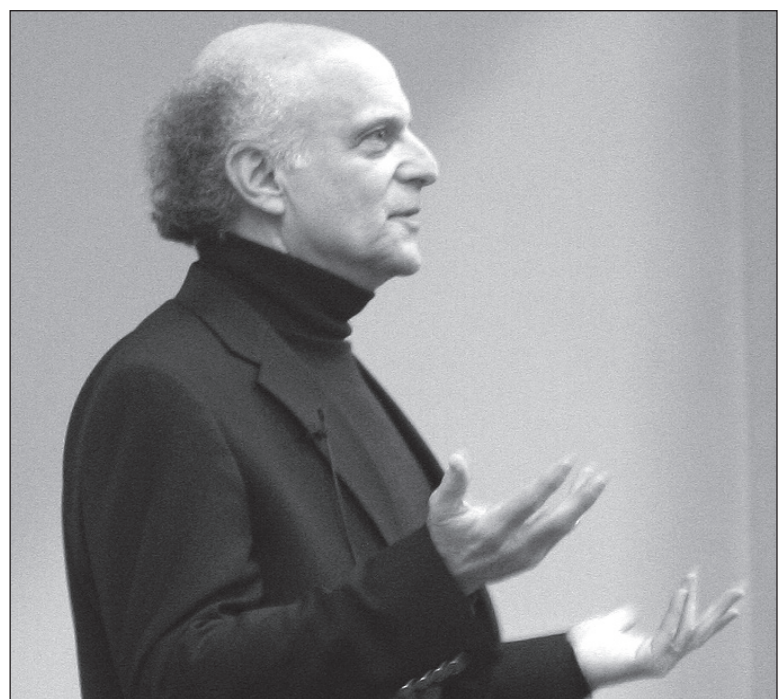
"He thinks deeply about the issues and opportunities our students face, our employees face, and our college faces," she said.

During his time at LBCC, Hamann's primary focus has been on completion. He believes in students finishing what they've started, and not just at LBCC. Hamann says students must be prepared, whether it's setting foot into the workforce or transferring to a four-year university.

"They'll be more successful, and our communities will be more successful as a result," said Hamann. "That's the goal, and we as a community college need to work very hard at being more effective in that area."

As LBCC moves forward, Hamann hopes to maintain a learning environment that caters to every individual's needs. He realizes there are many great challenges ahead.

"We're all human," Hamann said. "This is supposed to enrich our lives, so I think we need to be really careful, and that's a great challenge for us."



Ari Nunez

Dr. Harvey Kaye speaks on Thomas Paine, writer of "Common Sense."

Kaye Presents Thomas Paine

Ari Nunez
Staff Photographer

If you don't know who Thomas Paine is, then you might want to look him up. Often an unnamed source in political speeches and anecdotes, Thomas Paine's radical view of what America should be helped mold the Revolutionary War. However, because of his "radical" status, few are comfortable with holding Paine as their historical champion.

Dr. Harvey Kaye of the University of Wisconsin is a highly anticipated guest of LBCC's History department, who centered his most recent lecture on "Thomas Paine and the Unfinished American Revolution."

Kaye's lecture was mainly focused on the fact that Paine was an "every man" kind of guy with a knack for words. Paine was once a corset maker, for goodness' sake! If Paine was able to become one of the greatest men of the war, then what do you think you are capable of?

Kaye, a witty and knowledgeable Paine enthusiast, went on to share his love of the concept that within every generation there is a rebel waiting to happen. It is his opinion that history does not repeat itself, and that that rebel will be part of a radical break from the past. As American citizens, our job is never done; we must continue to right the wrongs that exist and strive for justice and change.

"White Out"

The Future of Racial Diversity in Oregon

Dale Hummel
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Feb. 23, the Conversation Project Program presented "White Out!: The Future of Racial Diversity in Oregon." The term "white out," according to Emily Drew, the speaker at the presentation was supposed to sound racist and grab attention.

Drew is from Oregon Humanities, and is an associate professor of ethnic studies from Willamette University, where she teaches courses on race and ethnicity. Drew holds a doctorate from Loyola University in Chicago.

Oregon Humanities is also known as O. Hm. Drew has been doing presentations on diversity in Oregon for about a year and has been in nearly every corner of the state, from Klamath Falls to Portland, and from Salem to John Day. The presentations were made possible through the support of Oregon Humanities, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Oregon Cultural Trust.

About 30 people attended, including students and faculty alike, to hear Drew speak on race issues of the past and in the present. She asked the group if they thought the race issues were better today than they were 40 years ago. Most of the group raised a hand in agreement; however, she assured us that there are places that struggle with racism. Someone in the group said it



Dale Hummel

Emily Drew makes a presentation on diversity in Oregon.

was an assumption that a black man was president, most of America's racial issues were gone. Drew explained that was not the case. The idea of "reverse-racism" was also discussed.

Drew presented to the audience a list of "sundown towns." These are communities that may not be safe for people of color after dark. There are several towns in Oregon that are on that list. You can see the list of Oregon towns that might be sundown towns at <http://sundown.afro.illinois.edu/sundowntownsshow.php?state=OR>. The "whitest" city in Oregon happens to be Portland. Albany is 87.8% white, according to the 2010 Census.

According to Drew, "Racism is the new normal; however, it is masked by culture." It is not always as clear as it was in the South during the 1960s and 1970s. But it is still there, such as

landlords that won't rent to people of dark skin, with unusual names, or accents that are difficult to understand. Today, Drew claims, we are under "institutional discrimination."

We seem to see things in "boxes." If a person is told, or if they notice that blonde women are bad drivers, a person would look for poor divers who are blonde women. "This box," Drew claims, "is trying to make sense of a system that is not designed to make sense."

About half way through the presentation, the participants broke off into small groups for further discussions.

Questions like, how does race shape our ability to live together, were asked. If we did not have integration, how would we live?

The presentation finished with final comments on thinking inside the "racial box" and with the negativity of stereotyping.

A few people in the presentation seemed to agree to disagree on a few of the ideas shared.

The presentation was enlightening and showed that just because we have people of color who are in high levels or our society, doesn't mean we are free of our racial problems.

For more information about the racial diversity in Oregon, contact the LBCC Diversity Achievement Center at 541-917-4461 and o.hm@oregon-humanities.org.

Blazers/Comcast Contract: Bad Business for Fans

Aaron Keen

Contributing Writer

It is painstakingly hard to be a Portland Trailblazers fan.

No, I'm not referring to the fact that the Blazers are currently eight games out of first place in the Western Conference Northwest Division, or the fact that perennial All-Star Brandon Roy recently announced his retirement; I'm not speaking of the ever so constant reminder that the Blazers drafted Greg Oden over Kevin Durant, and I'm certainly not bringing up the 1984 draft debacle when Portland missed out on you know who.

I am referring to the fact that many Oregonians are forced to go "out of their way" to follow Oregon's only professional sports team. The Blazers are currently locked into a television contract with Comcast that leaves many Oregonians little or no options when it comes to viewing Blazer games.

Fans in regions surrounding Pendleton, Medford, Astoria, Lincoln City, and Seaside don't even have the option to purchase Comcast. These good folks are left to view only the games shown locally on KGW. To give you a good idea of how many that is, I will tell you that of Portland's remaining 32 games this season, five will be televised on KGW.

The Blazers did come up with an agreement in late December of 2011 that allows fans in those areas to stream live games to their computers for a minimal fee via the team's official website.

Yes, I can picture it now, rowdy groups of fans in living rooms in Pendleton and Medford, all huddled around a 15 inch computer screen, having the time of their lives cheering their Blazers on to victory.

Give me a break!

We live in the age of flat screen TVs, high definition, and 3-D capabilities. People don't want to follow their favorite team on their laptops, they want to watch the games on their 50 inch flat screens, while they kick back in their favorite recliner.

In response to Jason Quick's reporting of the agreement, one fan stated, "That's just a band-aid on the situation." While another showed their frustration by saying, "More fail on this deal from the Blazers. I still can't get the games locally without pirating or getting Comcast. Oh well, I guess my kids will just have to grow up as Lakers fans. At least we can see those games."

Not exactly the kind of things an NBA organization wants to hear if they're committed to keeping a strong fan base.

Oregonians who have Directv or Dish Network are allowed to watch the same five out of remaining 32 games broadcast on KGW, as well as four on ESPN and one on TNT. That's a grand total of 10 out of 32 remaining games. Around 31%. Hardly enough for a true fan.

Directv offers an NBA League Pass for a couple hundred bucks a year that broadcasts all NBA games in hi-def. The League Pass is designed for fans of out of market teams to still be able to enjoy



their games. So, if I lived in Kansas City, Mo. and was a huge Blazers fan, I could see all of their games. But, if I live in Albany, OR., those games would still be blacked out under the current Comcast contract.

That's right, even if you dish out a couple hundred extra dollars for Directv's NBA League Pass, you will not be able to watch more than 31% of Blazers games unless you have Comcast.

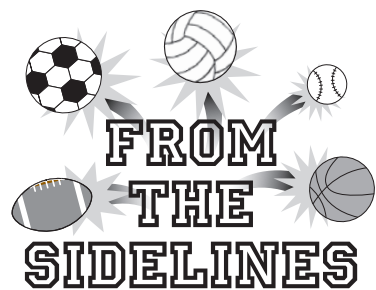
Absurd.

In many ways, the Blazers current contract not only puts them in direct competition with Directv, but also with the NFL.

Sure, Comcast airs the standard "games of the week" and the Seahawks, but as every NFL fan and fantasy football enthusiast knows, the Sunday Ticket is the only way to go, and as expected, only available on Directv.

This ridiculous lack of exposure throughout the Trailblazers' own home state has been going on too long and needs to be put to a stop. I'm sure Blazers owner Paul Allen has the millions or even billions of dollars needed to annul this horrid contract with Comcast, and he didn't get that money from being a bad business man. This contract is bad business, for the Portland Trailblazers, their fans, and the future of this franchise.

All I know is Paul and the boys better get it together real quick, before another NBA franchise is forced to pack up and move its team from the Pacific Northwest.



Civil War Edition

Kyle Holland

Sports Editor

The Oregon State women's basketball team completed a season sweep of the Oregon Ducks on Saturday with a 68-53 victory. Meanwhile, the men lost an epic battle to the Ducks on Sunday, 74-73, giving the teams a split on the season.

The Lady Beavers (18-9, 9-7 Pac-12) trailed by seven points at half before taking the lead midway through the second half behind an 18-1 run and never looked back. It's their first season sweep of the Ducks, since the 1992-93 season.

Junior Patricia Bright scored 14 points, while going 8-8 from the free throw line and had five blocked shots. Her five blocks put her season total to 95, breaking the school record of 92 set last season by El Sara Greer.

The Oregon State men (15-13, 5-11 Pac 12) fought a hard battle all the way to the end in front of a sellout crowd of 9,604 at Gill Coliseum, but lost a heartbreaker in the 337th Civil War series.

The team has been struggling as of late and was hoping to end the season on a high note by sweeping the Ducks after beating them in Eugene earlier in the season.

Challe Barton's three-pointer with three seconds left bounced off the rim, ending the late rally the Beavers had going.

The game featured 12 lead changes and 11 ties.

RoadRunner Season Comes to a Bittersweet Ending

Kyle Holland

Sports Editor

Dealing with adversity and inconsistency gave the Lady RoadRunners many challenges throughout the season. Their record (11-16, 4-10 in NWAACC) might not indicate a successful season however, the progression of the program is still on the rise.

The team ended their season on Saturday with a nice win over Mt. Hood, 69-56. Dorian Perkey had a dominating performance with a season high of 29 points, 8 rebounds, and five assists.

Coach Teresa Guerra said, "It was our first complete game since the beginning of the season."

With the season now in the rearview however, it's a small victory in a season that started with such high hopes.

The team battled injuries from the start, sharpshooter Michelle Bromagem went down early in the season with an injury, and Alicia Love missed time throughout league play with knee issues.

"The team faces adversity all season, we were never at 100 percent, having to battle injuries all year, but the girls played hard day in and day out."

The team had a strong pre-season run before coming into league play. In five pre-season tournaments the Lady RoadRunners pulled off two second-place finishes.

In both championship games they played (Everett Basketball Classic and Wenatchee Valley Cross-over) they only lost by two points in each game, nearly coming home with titles.

Several of the girls have either been talked to (or recruited by) four-year schools, including Alicia Love, Dorian Perkey, and Heidi Halemeier.

Halemeier has already signed a letter of intent to keep playing with Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, while Love and Perkey are keeping their options open.

Losing teams often end in disaster or controversy. This team was different and if anything got stronger throughout the year.

"Even with the highs and lows of the season, it was still fun and my teammates are people that I

can always see myself being friends with throughout life," Love said.

Love had some incredible games this year, including a 46 point outburst in which she hit 10 three-pointers against Umpqua. When asked what her season high was, her response had nothing to do with this performance.

"The high point for me was beating Chemeketa the first time we played them. They were ranked high and we beat them."

Halemeier was the team's leading scorer and rebounder on the season at just over 13 points a game and 10 rebounds a game, good for fifth in the NWAACC. She too, had nothing, but good things to say about the season and her teammates.

"It was a learning season of different mentalities and losing, but great bonding moments, and best of all, it was fun."

Next year's team will return five players, and recruiting is already underway to fill roster spots. Coach Guerra admits the team will need to find more scorers to be more competitive and run a

faster paced tempo, but this year's team is definitely an improvement over last year's, and with any luck, the trend will continue.

"We had goals that we didn't meet, but in the end the girls worked hard, kept a positive attitude, and always came ready to work."



Men's Team Falls Short

Kyle Holland

Sports Editor

The Linn-Benton men's basketball team fought tooth and nail trying to make it to the NWAACC playoffs Monday night, but ultimately fell just three points short in a 74-71 loss to SW Oregon in a one-game play in game.

The two teams finished the season tied for fourth in the South division at 7-7, leading to the two to have to play a one game playoff game in Albany. The winner would represent the fourth seed in the South Division of the NWAACC playoffs coming up this weekend.

They had split their two earlier games in the season, both winning on their home court. The last two games were both decided by three points.

Josh Garlington led the way for the RoadRunners with 16 points and 11 rebounds.

"We battled back and forth, but we couldn't get stops when we needed them," Garlington said after the game.

Three other players scored in double figures, including Adam Hastings with 14, Brady Brent with 13, and Joseph Vance with 11. Vance also had a team high with seven assists.

Stay tuned next week for a complete recap on the RoadRunners up and down season that fell just short of another NWAACC birth.

The Lesser of Two Evils

continued from Cover

The Republican candidates running for president are Mitt Romney and Rick Santorum. Romney has promised that if elected, he will get the government out of businesses. He proposes lowering personal, investment, and corporate taxes, to offset the revenue loss. He also wants to reduce non-defense government spending by cutting regulations and government departments, and is in favor of returning some of the federal power to the state level. Santorum is promising to cut the budget deficit, balance the federal budget in five years, and not cut the defense budget. He also plans to help the economy, global warming, energy independence, the steel industry, and other manufacturing.

Of course I didn't list every single candidate running, because if I did, this would be way too long. I decided to keep this short and only write about the four candidates in the lead: the two ahead in the Democratic Party and the two ahead in the Republican Party.

I know that this isn't everything that these candidates have talked about. It is basically what they all have in common and what they have promised from the start of their campaign. Their opinions will change once it gets closer to election time and more people are dropping out of the race.

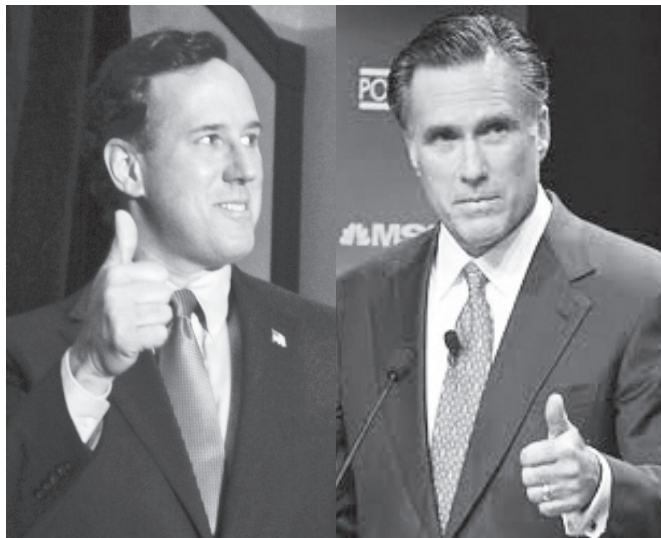
Out of everything that they have said, do you actually believe what is coming out of their mouths? I know I don't. I am tired of being lied to, but it is not like it will change anytime soon, so when it comes to election time, I will choose the lesser of two evils. It is either that or write in Rosanne Barr, as she is also running for the Green Party. If I don't like any of the candidates, I wouldn't vote for any of them.

Let's start with Obama. His approval rating is currently at 65 percent, or a -15 Approval Index Rating. Twenty-five percent of voters think he is doing a great job as president and 40 percent disapprove. The other 35 percent had no opinion. Many people believe that Obama is spending too much money on his campaign and not spending enough time being America's president. I agree.

I think it is better to fix the problems that we have now, rather than make speech after speech of what you're supposedly going to do once in office.

Obama has stated that he will create more jobs and to help the economy turn around. Didn't he promise all of that in the last election?

I haven't heard much about Terry. All I know is that he is a pro-life and anti-gay democrat. As far as I know, I don't think he has made it too far in the polls and is nowhere near Obama. The only things I know that he wants to do if he becomes president is to outlaw abortion and make it illegal for gay marriage. He has also stated that he will end the four years of misery we have had with



Republican candidates Rick Santorum (left) and Mitt Romney.

Obama.

Romney is in second place for the presidential polls. He has good speeches and tells voters what they want to hear, just like every politician, only better. Romney has recently been in the news talking about how he compares Obama's promises to a Kardashian marriage: It's all false and won't have a good ending.

"You know, I've been looking at some video clips on YouTube, of President Obama, then candidate Obama, going through Iowa making promises," said Romney. "The gap between his promises and his performance is the largest I've seen since, well, the Kardashian wedding and the promise of 'till death do us part.'"

Finally, there is Santorum. Santorum is in the lead in the polls, taking Romney's stance. He is just bad-mouthing every candidate, especially Obama. Lately Santorum is trying to appeal to the Independent Party, as well as the Republican Party.

As far as I can see, everyone has pretty much the same ideas on the current issues, e.g. economy, jobs, abortion, gay marriages. The only one that seems to have a different voice is Obama.

It is still too soon to determine who to vote for, if any of them. No one will truly know if what they are saying is true, until they are in office, so I encourage all of you to think before voting. Don't vote for someone just because they're in the lead or because they seem most popular. Vote for someone who appeals to you and is more relatable. If there is no one that is ahead, remember there is always a write-in. Candidates can still win by a write in. Just remember to do your research before voting. You don't want to make the wrong decision.

Occupy Movement VS. Tea Party

Dale Hummel
Contributing Writer

Throughout the history of our country, citizens have shown disapproval of society and politics by protesting. The reasons are quite diverse. In the early days people protested an oppressive monarchy 3,000 miles away, excessive taxes, and abuse of people, among others.

Today, the people of our country have not lost the skill or the will to protest. It seems however, "We the people" have split protesting into two groups; the Occupy Wall Street Movement, and the Tea Party Movement.

Both movements label themselves as "grass roots" movements. Both groups are extremely passionate about what they believe in, but their differences are much more numerous than what they have in common. Both groups seem to have a common enemy: big money and the corruption it brings.

The Occupy Wall Street Movement began Sept. 17, 2011, according to www.occupywallst.org. When the Occupy Movement first came into the limelight of the media, the people that were commonly shown were college-aged people who

seemed to protest their lack of pizza, beer, marijuana, and strippers. However, like many times before, the mass media seems to bring out the worst of people.

Eventually, people with coherent thought and speaking skills came forth with ideas that made sense. When this happened, celebrities, politicians, and the mass media seemed to jump on the Occupy protest bandwagon. OWS was everywhere, from Main Street to Wall Street.

The Tea Party, as we know it, was created in 2009 for the education and advancement of constitutional conservative values. The Tea Party Movement (TPM), for a while, also never really had central leadership or a main spokesperson; however, the Occupy Wall Street (OWS) movement had something that the Tea Party did not: mass media coverage. For a few months, the media seemed to create a "blackout" of the Tea Party and their protests, unless someone in the movement did or said something that was controversial, which was far and few between.

Occupy people seem to believe that big business and large corporations are one of the biggest problems with our society; however, the list goes on.

Other grievances include mortgage foreclosures, corporate bailouts, student

loans, right to work issues, and many others. You can find one of the lists of grievances the OWS has at www.indybay.org.

TPM's grievances are more political and include reduced individual liberty, excessive government, abuse of the Constitution, runaway government spending, gun control, disrespecting the military, disrespecting christianity, and many others. This list can be found at teapartypatriots.ning.com. TPM also has a list of demands that they claim are "non-negotiable," such as a strong military, pro-domestic employment, gun ownership is essential, balancing the national budget, and several others. There is even a documentary on the Tea Party Movement.

According to www.ibtimes.com, OWS also has a list of demands. Some of these include elimination of the corporate state, health care for all, jobs for all Americans, a fair tax code, ending a constant and perpetual war for profit, and several others. Their voice seems to be in more of a liberal mindset and many outspoken OWS speakers blame large corporations and the Republican Party for many of negative issues of today.

Continue reading online at:
commuter.linnbenton.edu

Currently in Politics

Justeen Elliott
News Editor

What are the current issues eating away at our beloved politicians at the moment?

None other than vasectomies, abortions, and gay marriages, of course!

According to the Huffington Post, a group of female Democratic legislators in the Georgia House of Representatives has proposed a bill to ban men from seeking vasectomies.

"Thousands of children are deprived of birth in this state every year because of the lack of state regulation over vasectomies," said bill author Yasmin Neal in a statement. "It is patently unfair that men can avoid unwanted fatherhood by presuming that their judgment over such matters is more valid than the judgment of the General Assembly, while women's ability to decide is constantly up for debate throughout the United States."

This proposed legislation comes after the response of legislation HB 954, making it illegal for women to get an abortion once they are past 20 weeks, saying that once the fetus is at, or around 20 weeks, it can start to feel emotions, like pain.

As for the abortion issue, this will never truly go away.

In Virginia, lawmakers have decided to shelf the abortion issue until next year. This measure, if passed, will grant individual rights to an embryo from the moment of conception. Last week, the Republican-controlled House of Delegates voted 66-32 in favor of defining the word "person" under state law to include unborn children "from the moment of conception until birth at every stage of biological development." This measure is aimed at banning not only abortion, but contraception, and infertility treatment.

Well, I guess women have one Republican lawmaker to thank for the bill being shelved, or rather thank his wife.

David Albo's wife said that she would not have sex with him because of the ultrasound bill. After seeing her husband on TV during a debate about the measure, she decided she was no longer "in the mood" and went to take a cold shower. Ouch!

If this ultrasound bill is passed, it will require women to get a transvaginal ultrasound before an abortion. If the fetus is healthy, they won't let the woman get an abortion, even if she is not ready to be a fit parent.

Finally, there is gay marriage.

We all know what the sides are. On the Democratic side, we have the politicians saying "Who are we to judge who people love? If you're in love and want to get married then do so." On the Republican side, we have politicians saying "It is a sin against God and Christianity, therefore it needs to be illegal in all 50 states."

Isn't it written somewhere in the bible, that God doesn't care who you love, as long as you love and not hate? Why is it that a bunch of politicians think they can determine what is morally right, and what is wrong? If you love someone and want to tell the world how much you love them, then you should be allowed to get married regardless of what gender you love.

In Maryland, the Senate has decided to delay the debate on gay marriages, but are still expecting to have a final vote by the end of the week. The Republicans asked to postpone the debate. The bill is expected to pass.

"This is such a sensitive issue," said Sen. C. Anthony Muse, D-Prince George's. "It's an issue that I think deserves the kind of time and debate that we'll need in order to deal with this in an adequate fashion."

If this bill does pass, the opponents vow to petition the bill to referendum, which would put the measure to voters in November.

Here's a thought: How about instead of debating non-issues such as these three, you do your job? Do what you're so overpaid to do. Help make America better. Instead of creating even more conflict for everyone, do the opposite and help create jobs, or drill oil in America and not over in Iran (which would help gas prices go down drastically), or what about creating better health insurance for the people that can barely afford to go to a "cheap" doctor? Stop debating over things that have nothing to do with what Americans want, and start DOING what we actually elected you to do.

Dear Conscience,



Is there an afterlife?

Jill Mahler

Shoulder Devil

Life after death? Of course there is no life after death.

As comical as the concept of an afterlife is, it fails to compare to the drones that spend their entire lives believing in it. I say live now.

Don't spend your seconds worrying about consequences or morals. Why waste time you will never get back?

Don't fret over taking what is yours and savoring the sweeter moments, such as driving 150 mph down the highway. Grab life by the cojones and enjoy those opportunities as they arise.

For example: that alley you pass in fear of being tempted by the shady guy or that nice lady on the corner – she just wants you to feel better. Those who try to get you to turn the other cheek have never won a fight in their lives.

Don't let that person take your parking spot or hinder you with laws and fines. Trust me here: I do not gain from convincing you to enjoy your life or that you do not have a soul to fuss over.

It's not like I get something out of it.

Whoever spread the rumor I was after people's souls to reduce them to slaves who will feed me grapes for eternity by roaring flames is ridiculous.

First of all, I do not like grapes, but I digress. Life is all about what you make it. Live as if today is your last day.

Don't live in fear of making a mistake or burning in a lake of sulfur. Trust me, it's quite nice.

Jennifer M. Hartsock

Shoulder Angel

Of course there is life after death! If there wasn't, who you know to be "you" would cease to exist! What would be the point to eighty-some-odd years of choices without getting rewarded for it?

Nevertheless, because there are so many beliefs – theist, atheist, agnostic, and otherwise – I'll just offer some general advice that will resonate with everyone.

If you're a theist, believe in your holy book and don't shy away from its word. If you pick and choose which passages to follow, carefully analyze why you've chosen which passages to ignore.

If you're an atheist, realize that you are just as radical as a full-fledged theist. You are denying the existence of a higher power, just as a theist embraces the existence of a higher power. You both hold these ideals to be solid facts, so hold true to your faith, or lack thereof, but have an open eye to other beliefs as well.

An agnostic has researched both sides and has come to terms with their morality: I don't know everything. You can do what you please without the fear of God's wrath, yet you cannot feel comforted that everything (even bad things) happen for a higher reason. Live your life the best you can by the code of your own morals, and I'm sure you'll reach your rightful destination after death.

No matter what you believe in, there is an ultimate truth, and we will all encounter it someday. In the meantime, do your best to make this life the best it can be – just in case it dictates your afterlife or this life is all you get.

Have questions? We have answers.

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

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

Sex AND THE Campus

Why is the Grass Always Greener?

Jill Mahler

Editor-in-Chief

I am definitely luckier than most. I am pursuing a career field I love, engaged to my other half, and generally life is pretty good. So why is it that I still feel empty when I finally buy that item that has been on my wish list for months or accomplish a goal? Why is there always something else to cross off my list?

Continue reading the full article online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu

OPINION
STRAIGHT
FROM THE

Hartsock

Brain stuffing from the frumpy sock monkey



Another Form of Segregation

Jennifer M. Hartsock

Opinion Editor

Segregation is not an easy topic to discuss. Plain and simple, all people should have rights common with all people. It's too bad we don't; students can take many different languages in high school, promoting integration, yet heritage can benefit or hinder grants for college, creating boundaries between people.

Before the 1960s, American Sign Language wasn't considered an independent language, and the deaf community was expected to learn oral language. In time, ASL has become considered separate from English, but even though we're finally better at understanding ASL for what it is, we still find traces of segregation – only this time, it's from some members of the deaf community.

Several years ago, a deaf journalist named Marvin T. Miller and his mother-in-law proposed to create a community designated for deaf people and ASL users. The town would be called Laurent, after the famous Laurent Clerc, or "The Apostle of the Deaf in America." The proposal fell through due to personal bankruptcy, and without any further outside support in order to relocate the town, the future of Laurent became history.

The message behind the proposal did not.

In a room full of hearing people, a deaf person feels isolated from the conversation. A town designated for the

deaf community provides a comfortable zone for these people, but what of those who are hearing? If a deaf girl invites her hearing friend over to play, this hearing girl – or anyone who doesn't know ASL – will feel isolated.

With all due respect, in order to be a strong nation of people, we must learn to understand and live amongst each other. Some people need extra help to get through school, and in order to create a fair and equal environment, reasonable accommodations are given to those with disabilities. Students are required to learn the basics of a foreign language in high school, encouraging a basis for the culture and conversation. Because of establishing women's rights in 1920, abolishing slavery in 1864, and legalizing interracial marriage in 1967, for example, our nation is growing to be more accepting of each other.

Establishing a town that is designated for a certain group of people clearly separates us. Can the United States not learn to interact with deaf people, and not only deaf people, but all people? Yes, it is difficult for a foreign speaker to learn a new language, and it is unjust for a deaf person to learn English, so in order to be one nation of individuals, we have to find a way to make it all work.

In addition to many other reasons for reforming public schools in the United States, the school curriculum should put more focus on learning multiple languages. Countries in Europe introduce a second language in the first grade, and students begin learning their third language in seventh grade. If we cannot incorporate these same values into American public schools, perhaps we can at least promote learning the basics of several major languages, including ASL.

The idea of Laurent may bring comfort to those who feel isolated, but it does not help our nation move toward integration. When we begin separating clusters here and there, we begin to form walls, and the progress we've made to be an equal people falls apart. Instead, we should do whatever we can to make it easily accessible to communicate with many different people. This is how the world becomes a less-divided place.

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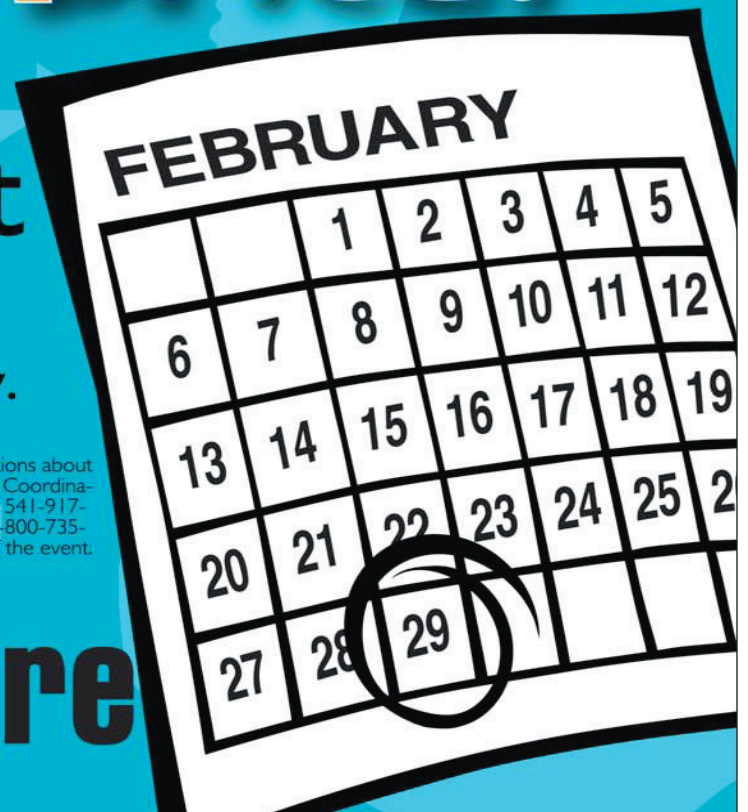
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LBCC Bookstore

HOROSCOPES Poetry Spotlight



ARIES
3/21-4/19
Try as you might, you shall never be as awesome as you believe yourself to be.



TAURUS
4/20-5/20
You may be willing to go the extra mile, but why should you?



GEMINI
5/21-6/21
Ready for a challenge? Nothing can stand in your way - unless the challenge is hard.



CANCER
6/22-7/22
Being a leader is a noble position, but being a follower is easier.



LEO
7/23-8/22
Never fear fear. It's the scary things that cause fear that should be feared.



VIRGO
8/23-9/22
There is nothing wrong with being innocent, naive on the other hand ...



LIBRA
9/23-10/23
Your plans are taking shape - just don't lose too much focus. They could crumble.



SCORPIO
10/24-11/21
You will feel challenged this week.



SAGITTARIUS
11/22-12/21
When life gives you lemons, ask why life couldn't have just given lemonade instead.



CAPRICORN
12/22-1/19
Several people will look to you for guidance. Show them the way, or send them away.



AQUARIUS
1/20-2/18
You may feel like a fish out of water this week, but you'll find your land-legs quickly.



PISCES
2/19-3/20
A difficult situation will present itself, but you know a thing or two about being difficult.

Graveyard Set by Jefferson L. Greene

Darkness before death
Heavens light or Hell's dark fire
Wait! I am not dead!

Shadows pass me by
Never seeing me slowing
What am I? A ghost

I hear them laughing
In my coffin I still hear
Trying to sleep here!



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Thursday March, 1
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BACK in the DAY

This day in history ...

February 29, 2004 - Their last good decision

"Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" wins the Oscar for Best Picture along with 10 other awards. Too bad the Oscars haven't had a good decision since then.

March 1, 1692 - Salem witches wish for a land far far away

The entire course of human history is changed when the supernatural is questioned to be real. Those witches got the wrong end of that broom.

March 2, 1904 - It has begun

Theodore Geisel (better known as Dr. Seuss) is born today, and hallucinogenic drugs finally found their place in the universe.

March 3, 1887 - Indecision

A six-year-old Helen Keller meets her miracle worker Anne Sullivan. I don't know if a Helen Keller joke would be appropriate here.

March 4, 1933 - Inauguration

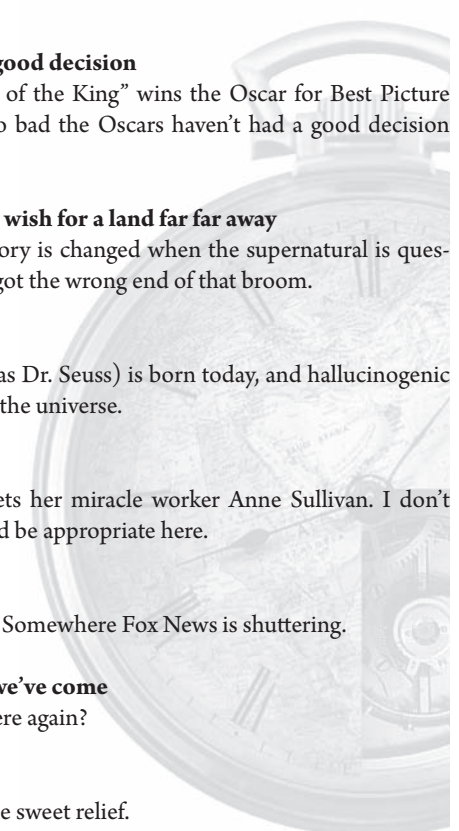
FDR is inaugurated as president. Somewhere Fox News is shuttering.

March 5, 1770 - Look how far we've come

The Boston Massacre occurs where again?

March 6, 1899 - Relief

Bayer patents aspirin. And cue the sweet relief.



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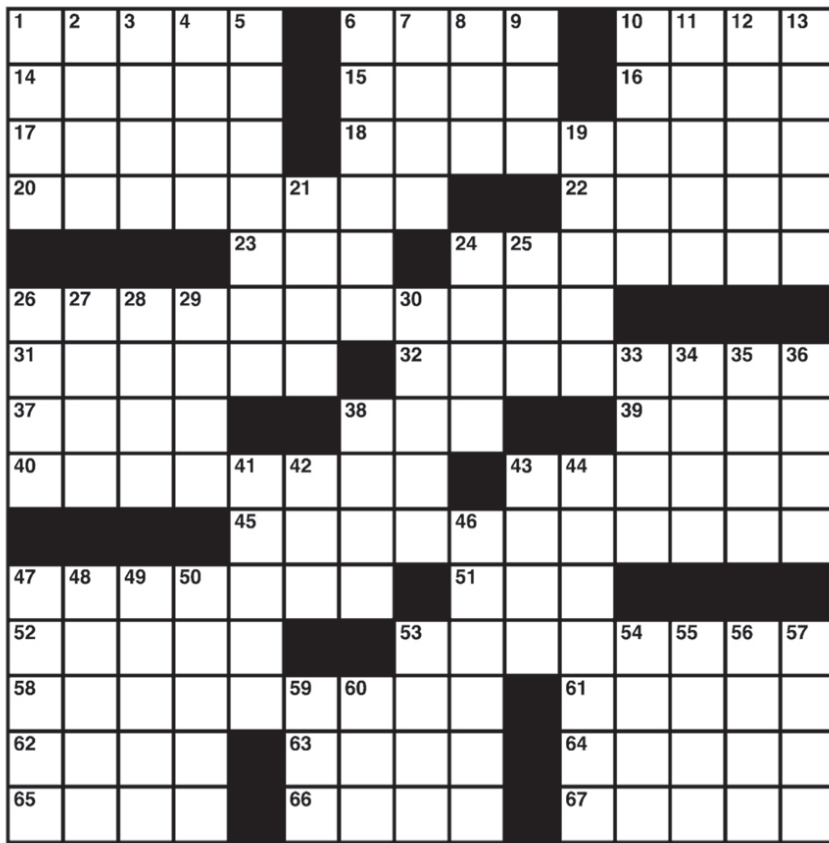
Corvallis 541.758.3662 Albany 541.924.0160

possiblypregnant.org

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ACROSS

- 1 Sirs' counterparts
- 6 "Fernando" singers
- 10 Endure
- 14 Have ___ on one's shoulder
- 15 Defeat soundly
- 16 Sailor's patron saint
- 17 Another name for Farsi
- 18 *Undeveloped home site
- 20 Slangy "Don't lose any sleep over it"
- 22 Overdo it on stage
- 23 W. Hemisphere gp. formed to defend against communism
- 24 Made changes to
- 26 *1977 Triple Crown winner
- 31 Tell-all news story
- 32 One just hanging out
- 37 Antiquing substance
- 38 Heartache
- 39 Pouty expression
- 40 Evade
- 43 A ___: valid independent of experience, in logic
- 45 *2,240-pound unit
- 47 Handyman's nickname
- 51 Poetic dusk
- 52 Windy City airport
- 53 At risk
- 58 *Huck Finn conveyance
- 61 Neighbor of Florida's St. Petersburg
- 62 Shortly, to Shakespeare
- 63 Vaulted church part
- 64 Writer Nin
- 65 Wisdom of the elders
- 66 Cattle rancher's tool
- 67 The answer to each starred clue ends in a big one



By Bruce Venzke

DOWN

- 1 Everystreet
- 2 Prefix with bat or phobia
- 3 Obsessed fictional whaler
- 4 Revealing skirt
- 5 Urn taps
- 6 Give counsel to
- 7 Highlands hillside
- 8 61-Across NFLer
- 9 Lawyers' org.
- 10 "Here, I'll do that"
- 11 "It's ___ nothing!"
- 12 Hit, biblical-style
- 13 Schlepped
- 19 Meas. of a package's contents
- 21 It's not quite a hurricane
- 24 Medicinal plant
- 25 Luau memento
- 26 Aegean and Bering
- 27 Military vet
- 28 Imitated
- 29 Ripped
- 30 Hillside
- 33 Jannings of old films
- 34 Underlying cause
- 35 Continental currency

Last Week's Puzzle Solved



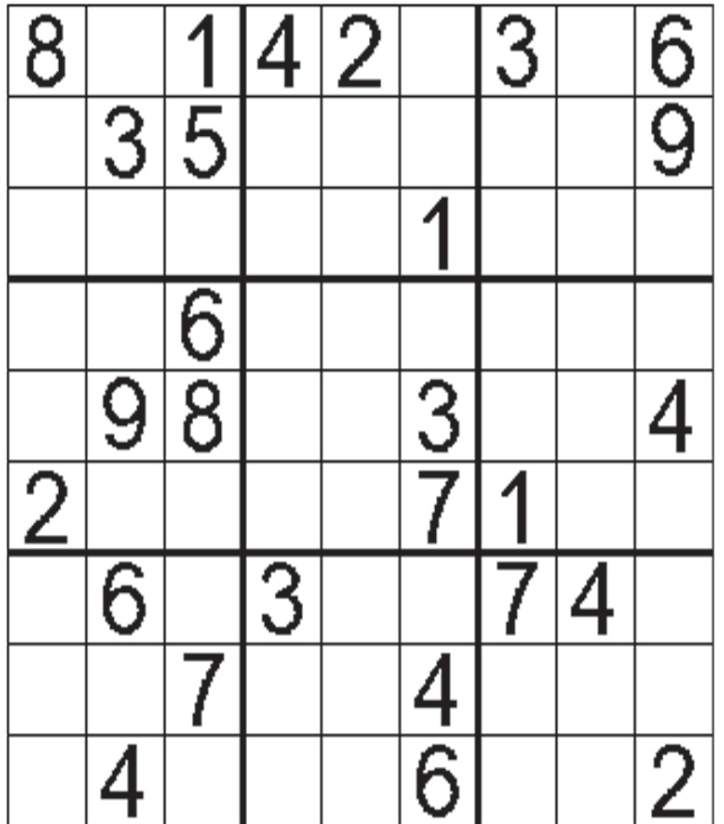
(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 36 Harness lead
- 38 Cried
- 41 Philly cager
- 42 1979 meltdown site, briefly
- 43 Like the Piper's clothes
- 44 Drank on credit
- 46 Like many a tux
- 47 Story's lesson
- 48 Horned safari beast
- 49 Party gift
- 50 "I'll see you in my dreams" girl of song
- 53 Should that be the case
- 54 When repeated, Mork's sign-off
- 55 FBI agent
- 56 Grand in scope
- 57 Impulsive
- 59 Knock
- 60 Month after Mar.

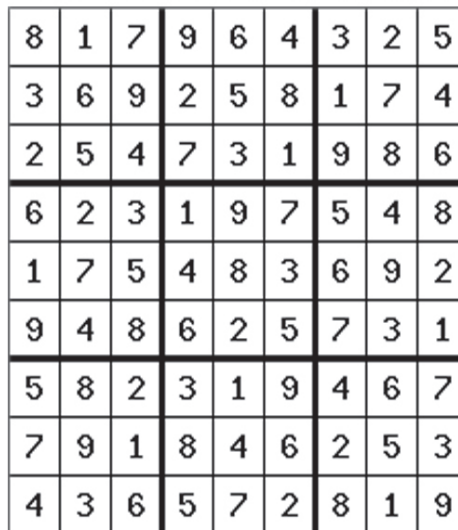
SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4



Last Issue's Puzzle Solved



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

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Fried Bananas An LBCC student-generated comic By Mason Britton



Mason LeBritton © 2012

Classifieds

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

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

Personals: Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one ad per advertiser per week; no more than 50 words per ad.

Libel/Taste: The Commuter won't knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in unfairly. Any ad judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

Help Wanted

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs.

*For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena First Stop Center).

Respite Care Providers (#9523, Corvallis) Provide care for a child in the family home to give them a break. Must be at least 18 years & pass background check. 6-20 hours a month. \$9/hr.

Direct Care Staff Positions (#9525, Corvallis) \$250

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

sign on Bonus. Need 4-6 months verifiable experience work in the health care industry or a CNA license.

Various Intern Positions (#9529-9535, Corvallis) Work for a nonprofit doing environmental work and sustainable agriculture. We maintain and promote our community gardens and educate the gardeners of the future. Various non-paid internships. Great way to help your community!

Biological Technician (#9526, Corvallis) This is a full-time, seasonal position for the Forest Service in the Siuslaw National Forest. Two positions available. Deadline is March 5th.

"Winter's Light" Shines



Many gathered at the Benton Center Friday, Feb. 24, for the English Department's presentation of "Winter's Light." It was an evening of fun as many LB staff members read from original works.

See the entire slideshow online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu.

Left: Lucette Wood discusses the Writer's Series coming soon to LBCC.

Below: Audience members are packed into the Benton Center lobby listening to the speakers.

Photos by Marcea Palmer



In the News:

Local:

Gresham, OR: Several Gresham middle-schoolers got sick after eating cookies that administrators strongly suspect were laced with marijuana. It happened Thursday morning at Dexter McCarty Middle School. Athena Vadnais, community relations director at Gresham-Barlow School District said a seventh-grade student brought the cookies to school and shared them with seven other students. One of the

students reported the incident to the school after becoming sick. A total of four students got sick and reportedly had a heightened heart rate and lower blood pressure. The district says administrators are investigating the incident, and the student who brought the cookies has already been suspended.

source: KPTV

World:

South Africa: Former South African President Nelson Mandela

was hospitalized Saturday for a test to determine what is behind an undisclosed stomach ailment, and the country's current leader said the much beloved 93-year-old icon was in no danger. Mandela, a Nobel peace laureate, who spent 27 years in prison for fighting racist white rule, has officially retired and last appeared in public in July 2010. He became South Africa's first black president in 1994 and served one five-year term.

source: MSNBC

More news highlights available online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu

Upcoming Events

Thursday 3/1

7 p.m. Fireworks Restaurant and Bar
Jim Paige performs!

Friday 3/2

8:30 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts
Typhoon, Moto pony, and Ravenna Woods perform!
Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at door.

Saturday 3/3

8 p.m. Calapooia Brewing Company
Satori Bob performs!

Thursday 3/8

9 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts
A DJ dance with performances by 12th Planet, Flinch, and Kastle!
Tickets are \$20 in advance.

Sunday 3/4

8 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts
Hip-Hop performance by The Dean's List with Rockie Fresh!
Tickets \$13 in advance or \$15 at door.

Tuesday 3/6

3 p.m. Student Life and Leadership
Informational meeting for anyone

interested in visiting France and Spain in March 2013. For more info contact Robert Harrison at harrisar@linnbenton.edu

Wednesday 3/7

1 p.m. Lebanon Community Hospital Training Center
Free phlebotomy program information session for those interested in training to become a phlebotomist.

Thursday 3/8

7:30 p.m. Bombs Away Cafe
Ryan David Orr performs!

Thursday 3/8

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Forum 115
A Revolution in Media and Politics
Democracy Club Forum featuring Rob Priewe, LBCC Journalism instructor, and Dr. Rob Sahr, OSU Political Science professor.

Friday 3/9

5:30 The Arts Center (Corvallis)
Oregon Ceramic Artist Exhibit reception!

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

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The Damn Few Make Audiences Proud

Jill Mahler
Editor-in-Chief

"Act of Valor" is an innovative film, directed by Mike McCoy and Scott Waugh. It follows a group of active-duty Navy SEALs in a story of anti-terrorism. "Act of Valor" is inspired by true events, with ample supply of combat sequences, patriotism, and current military technology. We watch as a group of SEALs fight a terrorist plot and rescue a kidnapped CIA operative, meanwhile balancing their commitment to each other and their families.

I have to admit, I entered the theatre with the anticipation I would be watching an, admittedly action-filled, propaganda flick. I half-way expected to see a Navy recruiter waiting outside when the movie ended. However, I did not expect how much I would enjoy the film or the pride I would feel watching. Whether you agree with current politics or not, there is no dispute to the nobility or pride you have with military members. It was refreshing to



see a group of military members dedicated to the ideal we hold our country to, both on the battlefield and at home.

I appreciated this movie for several reasons. Using active members instead of actors, with the exception of stars Alex Veadov, Roselyn Sanchez, and Nestor Serrano; allowed an authentic and unprecedented feel you could only imitate with actors. There was a true sense of camaraderie coupled with elite training, which provides the meat and potatoes of any good action movie.

In several action movies, there is usually a former Navy SEAL member to add to the tough-guy appeal. You automatically feel safe, knowing he is there to either lead the mission or assist the hero, but how many really understand what a Navy SEAL member endures or represents. There have been several films attributed to other branches of the military, but I have yet to see a decent portrayal of a Navy SEAL member until now.

There was little polish when it came to the acting, but that was a trade every audience member made when they bought their movie ticket.

The action within the scenes kept the movie from creeping into a documentary style. There is definitely the feel of country first; all else is second within this group of SEALs. I wished there had been more to the film in terms of length and content, but for a film crossing into uncharted waters, I approve.

Act of Valor | Rated: R

Musing Over the Love of Shakespeare

Nora Palmtag
Contributing Writer

Interested in puzzles and mysteries? So is Peter Jensen, an English instructor and a Shakespearean scholar at LBCC, whose puzzles revolve around Shakespeare's sonnets. He has captured the language and spirit of Shakespeare's life and times in his newest book, a fictional narrative about William Shakespeare and the loves of his life.

After researching for ten years, Jensen has written a novel based on his findings about the relationship between William Shakespeare, Henry Wriothesley, Christopher Marlowe, and Aemelia Bassano.

Many writers and historians have speculated about the connections between these historical figures, and according to Jensen, he has "written what I thought might have happened, conflated the time line, and made something of a mess for others to disentangle if they wish."

From the information Jensen gleaned, Shakespeare both loved and hated the dark lady.

"While several candidates have been put forward as the possible Dark Lady, a woman who is dark in complexion and eyes, musically inclined, unscrupulous and married. The most convincing women possessing these myriad qualities is Emilia Bassano Lanier, a fiery woman with several connections to Shakespeare."

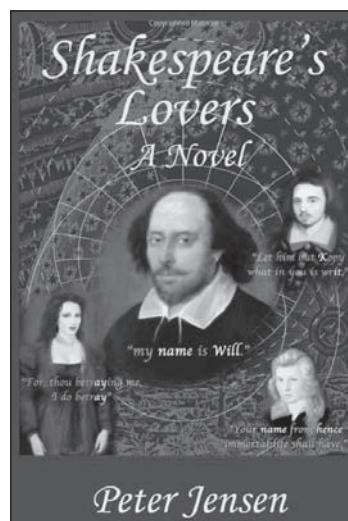
Although many of Shakespeare's sonnets were written about the dark lady, over 126 sonnets were written to and about Henry Wriothesley,

Lord Burleigh, with whom Shakespeare is suspected of having an affair at the same time Burleigh and the dark lady were also having an affair.

Jensen said he wrote the first person narrative as an imagined record kept by Henry Wriothesley, the Third Earl of Southampton, begun in prison in 1601 and continued up to 1623.

Although Christopher Marlowe and Shakespeare were rival poets and writers, in "As You Like It," Shakespeare quotes a line from a Marlowe poem, ascribing it to a "dead shepherd," Shakespeare's only certain reference to a contemporary poet. Further allusions to Marlowe's work abound, attesting not only to Shakespeare's admiration but also to his confidence that his audiences knew and appreciated Marlowe's work.

"Shakespeare's Lover: A Novel" can be found at the LBCC Library, Albany Public Library, and Amazon.com.



"War" Could be Better

Ari Nunez
Staff Photographer

"This Means War" is a comedy/action flick that follows CIA agents FDR Foster (Chris Pine) and Tuck (Tom Hardy) on their battle to win the girl, Lauren Scott (Reese Witherspoon). Lauren is new to town and has not been able to find "the One" in between avoiding her ex-boyfriend and working as a product tester.

FDR and Tuck have hit a rough patch at work, so they have more time on their hands than should be allowed. Their status as best friends is put to the test when they find out that the woman they're each dating is one and the same.

Hilarious hijinks ensue as FDR and Tuck go to great lengths to sabotage each others' success in winning the girl, while Lauren debates which boy-toy to drop as she takes some "special" advice from her loudly - and sometimes vulgar - best friend, Trish (Chelsea Handler).

While all of this love drama is happening, a man named Heinrich is out for revenge, and is quickly zeroing in on FDR and Tuck; you'll



see how the crazy man comes into play within the first five minutes.

Let's start with the script: if Pine or Hardy were not present on screen, the script was less than gold; thankfully they were on it most of the film. The Heinrich plot felt like it was added to the script much like the way a person would throw eggs at a car - wherever it landed worked for the writers.

If it weren't for the dynamic duo of Pine and Hardy, I probably would have hated the movie. Not only was the script below par, but so was Witherspoon as the female lead. Witherspoon has not made an outstanding movie since 2002's Sweet Home Alabama, and did not prove wrong the disappointing view of her acting skills that I had going into the theater.

Her portrayal of Lauren seemed like many of her other characters that she has done, and felt quite superficial. I will say though, sidekick Handler was hilarious, even if she wasn't perfect. Then there are the fight scenes and explosions - everyone loves those, right?

While certain occurrences (like a car floating on water that it just dove into) and explosions were highly improbable, the hand-to-hand combat was quite enjoyable and convincing to watch.

Now why, you may ask, have I called Pine and Hardy the dynamic duo? Those men made FDR and Tuck come alive, and lost themselves in their roles. If I forget who you are as I watch you on screen, I give you a figurative gold star. The appropriate emotions, attitude, and brotherly love they exuded through their deliveries were impeccable.

Not only that, but when they were on screen, I laughed non-stop; the movie was hilarious, if nothing else. Because of these men, I give "This Means War" 3.5 out of 5 stars; that's an extra half a point for the boys.

This Means War | Rated: R

A Series of Tubes

Your Guide to the Interwebs

Pinterest

Marci Sischo
Webmaster

Pinterest.com is the hottest new social network. I know, I know, I can hear you thinking "OMG, not another one!" right through my computer screen. And to be honest, a few weeks ago, I would have been right there with you. Seriously, one person can only handle so many social media networks.

But Pinterest is something new and different. It's not like any social media network you're using anywhere else, and unlike a lot of social media networks these days, Pinterest is actually engaging and - most importantly - fun to use.

Basically, Pinterest is scrap booking. You can sign up for free at Pinterest.com, either by making an account or logging in with your Facebook or Twitter account. You set up a profile, much like you'd do at any social networking site, and you can connect your Twitter and/or Facebook accounts to your Pinterest account, so that your "pins" are automatically shared with those sites. Once that's done, you can set up your "boards." These are categories of things you like. "Dream House," "Places I Want To Go," and "So n' So's Wedding" are pretty popular boards, but that's just the tip of the iceberg. You can make a board for any topic you want.

After setting up a few boards, the next step is adding a bookmarklet to your browser of choice. Once you've got that done, you're good to go. As you surf the web, you can use the "Pin It!" button to add things to your pinboards. You can even make a new pinboard on the fly if you find a photo, article, song, video, etc, that doesn't fit into the pinboards you made earlier.

The "photo, article, song, video, etc" is important to keep in mind, too. You can pin just about anything, but if it doesn't have a photo or video or something else that's visual for Pinterest to add, then you're pretty much wasting your time. Pinterest is extremely, exclusively visual, which is part of what makes it so engaging and addictive. You don't have to read misspelled status updates. You don't have to keep floods of information organized. You don't have to do anything other than stop in to stare at a gorgeously-arranged screen full of beautiful, funny, interesting, intriguing photos. And trust me, despite your best intentions, you'll find yourself doing that for hours and hours.

As much fun as Pinterest can be, it's not all puppies and roses. For one thing, the network is still in beta, which means it can be pretty buggy and wonky. It's no worse than Facebook can be when they're adding new code, though.

Pinterest also just caught some attention for the fact that they've already monetized their site - at least, partially - and didn't mention it to anyone. They're turning pin links into affiliate links and generating revenue that way. See, each pin links back to its source, so if you pin an awesome pair of boots from Amazon.com, Pinterest automatically turns that into an affiliate link. That means they can make a few bucks off of anything or everything you pin. It's not illegal, but it is a little shady of them not to mention they're doing it.

Another problem Pinterest is running into is allegations of copyright infringement. A Pinterest user can pin almost anything - including copyrighted photos. That wouldn't necessarily be an issue, except Pinterest also displays those photos at full size and resolution, causing plenty of photographers to cry copyright infringement even though those photos all link back to the source.

Still, despite these issues, Pinterest has definitely stumbled into a unique idea for a social media network. This site is worth keeping an eye on, whether it's for fun or for business.

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

Calapooia Brews Up Something Good

Kelly Giffith
Editorial Assistant

Calapooia Brewing Co. sits downtown at the end of Hill Street near the Willamette River in Albany. Established in 1993, it's still running strong in its 18th year. The atmosphere is warm and inviting, from the moment you walk through the doors until closing time.

A pleasant roar filled the room with a sea of voices and laughter. Everyone was having a wonderful time on this evening. Tables of different shapes, sizes, and types of wood fill most of the room, and the walls are covered with memorabilia. Random snapshots of customers are clustered together on the walls.

While the band sets up, customers enjoy dinner accompanied by their favorite microbrew or glass of wine. We were greeted with a smile as soon as we walked in to the small, but alive room filled with satisfaction.

Menu prices are competitive with similar

restaurants in the area, ranging anywhere from \$5.75 for a chili dog to \$9.25 for the Cobb burger. Beers offered are brewed on site, sold in their restaurant, as well as other area restaurants and pubs.

The selection is impressive, with everything from a pale ale to a porter. They also offer seasonal microbrews. The average price for a glass of beer is around \$4. They also have beer-to-go available in half-gallon growler jugs. The jug is \$5 empty, plus \$12 to fill. This jug can be brought back and refilled. Prices are spot-on compared to similar local microbrews.

Jim Jarvis, a customer, decided to try something new and decided on the Cobb burger with tater tots. "That's good!" exclaimed Jarvis.

To his surprise, he really liked the flavor the blue cheese gave to this burger, not normally carrying too much for blue cheese. "Ok, this burger has brought a new light to blue cheese," said Jarvis.

He accompanied this with SantiAmber Ale,



Kelly Griffith

Chicken Ciabatta with chips from Calapooia Brewing in Albany.

a typical microbrew. According to Jarvis, "The flavor of hops come through more than other amber ales, but subtle at the same time."

Another popular item on the menu is the grilled chicken ciabatta with chips. After the first bite - oh geez, it just ran down my sleeve - the juicy goodness of the chicken ciabatta is apparent. This dish was paired with the beer 'Pooia Porter,

Calapooia Brewing Co.

Where: 140 NE Hill St.
Albany
Hours: Sun.-Thur.
11:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Fri.-Sat.
11:30 a.m. - Midnight
No minors after 8 p.m.

one of their regular microbrews. The 'Pooia Porter has a bold, nutty, coffee flavor.

Also sampled was Undertow Imperial Stout, one of their specialty microbrews. This beer is robust with the slight flavor of molasses.

The Bourbon Porter is a seasonal beer, the last one sampled. Sweet and smooth, yet bold, with the gentle aftertaste of bourbon. This is my favorite of the three.

Wonderful food and excellent beer, along with the pleasant, comfortable atmosphere, make Calapooia Brewing Co. worth the visit.

"Wanderlust" Lets it all Hang Out

Carli Gibson
A&L Editor

It's fair to say that previews usually make a movie look better than it actually is, and although this movie was pretty funny, I felt distracted by other things going on.

When married couple George (Paul Rudd) and Linda (Jennifer Aniston) find themselves unemployed and no longer able to afford their New York lifestyle, they're forced to move in with George's brother. During their road trip to his brother's house, the couple stop at a bed and breakfast and find themselves staying at a place full of free love, weed, and hippies!

"Wanderlust" wasn't great, but it wasn't terrible. It definitely had its ups and downs to it.

I'll be straightforward with this: there was too much nudity. Sure, it was funny in the beginning when some naked guy is running towards the main characters, and it's understandable that he's naked throughout the movie,



but there's more than just him (mainly towards the end of the movie).

Normally nudity doesn't bother me that much, but when someone's private parts are on the big screen and in my face for too long, it starts to get really old really fast.

The nudity is just one point to the whole problem with this movie: it's taken too far. It's as if the same joke is repeated a million times when, really, it was only funny the first time.

Despite the over-told jokes, the performances put on by the actors were great.

Although Rudd and Aniston gave

a great performance, my favorite performances in the movie were given by the residents of the bed and breakfast. The many comedic portrayals of living a life full of free love, music, and being one with Mother Nature was pretty funny.

Director and writer David Wain is also known for directing "Role Models," which received an average 7/10 star rating; it's still better than the 6/10 rating given to "Wanderlust." And even that low IMDB rating is slightly better than the RottenTomatoes.com rating of 5/10 stars, saying that, "It isn't always as funny as it should be, but 'Wanderlust' benefits from an extremely talented cast and some of David Wain's most confident, assured work behind the camera."

Overall, I believe "Wanderlust" was an okay movie. It definitely wasn't as funny as I hoped it would have been, but the actors' performances really saved it from being a terrible movie.

Wanderlust | Rated: R

COMING ATTRACTIONS



Project X
Rated: R
Genre: Fake-umentary



The Lorax
Rated: PG
Genre: Dr. Seuss

Sources: IMDb, Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com

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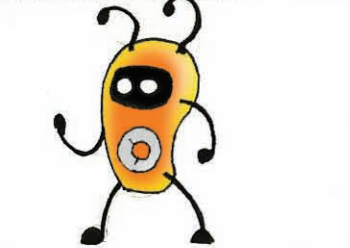

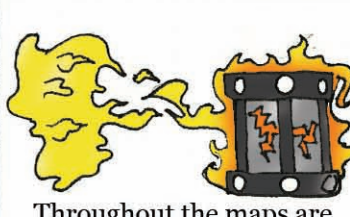

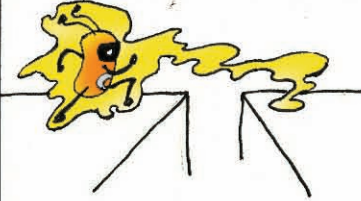
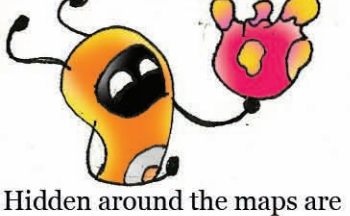
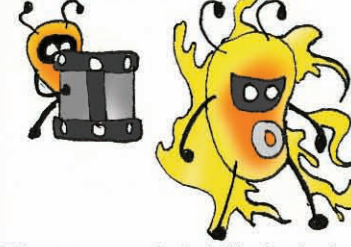



LBCC Commuter

@lbcommuter

The Commuter

Gamer's Log: WARP

Mason Le Britton © 2012
Groovysweet.wordpress.com

				
<p>The game is a puzzle-stealth-action game with a top-down view. Sounds confusing, yes, but that's what it is.</p>	<p>This is Zero, an innocent little alien. That is until he is locked away in a research facility.</p>	<p>Zero has the power teleport short distances, which he will have to use in order to escape the underwater facility.</p>	<p>Throughout the maps are containers, which Zero can warp inside of to hide. He can also burst out of these objects with a bit of a bang.</p>	<p>Containers aren't the only thing Zero can warp into. Warping into a human may end ugly.</p>
				
<p>The game also offers challenge maps. These range from testing warping skills to human-killing speed.</p>	<p>Hidden around the maps are grubs. Zero thinks they are mighty tasty, plus they help power him up, which is to say they are used to purchase upgraded skills.</p>	<p>These upgraded skills include creating echos, swapping places with objects, launching things across rooms, and many more.</p>	<p>Stealth your way around or blast everyone in your path apart, either way escape is the name of the game.</p>	<p>Adorable, yet lethal</p> <p>Warp is available on Xbox Live, and will be on PC and the PSN March 13th. Definitely a great little title worth playing.</p>