

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



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



Get a life

Adam LaMascus Opinion Editor

T'S ALIVE!!! While it isn't quite Dr. Frankenstein, history has been made. Microbiologist J. Craig Venter has created life in a laboratory. According to topnews.us, Venter and his team spent 15 years and \$40 million to take an empty bacteria cell and fill it with man-made DNA, designed and built using a computer and human ingenuity. Then this living bacterium went on to go and reproduce, completely run by artificial DNA. Some people argued that this isn't technically man-made life, as the host of the DNA was naturally made. I would argue that DNA is what makes anything actually alive; without it there is nothing more than an organic compound. By creating the process by which organisms do things, we have created life.

According to the Los Angeles Times, there is already a massive controversy. First, there is the argument about the applications of such an organism, experts saying that this could either be used to create a being for environmental cleanup, some sort of medicine, or as a biological weapon. Didn't they make a movie called "I am Legend" about using bacteria as medicine and what happens? See, we told you it is important to prepare for the zombie apocalypse. I jest. The National Farmers' Union is already claiming that all of humanity and life on earth is at risk because of this progress. Numerous people were concerned that the atomic bomb would destroy the world too. This response is the farmers being concerned about their business, not a legitimate threat of world

destruction.

What are the implications of this though? Beside the technological implications, we have the very obvious religious one. If God is the only one who can create life, what does it mean that we just did? I think this is going to be a largely polarizing event. Of course, there will be religious outcry against this, and the government will probably try to regulate/shut this down. On the other end of the spectrum, there will be the more science-prone individuals saying that this shoots down many age-old and outdated religious beliefs.

Personally, I find this to be amazing and very exciting. You cannot stop progress, and this is just another step along that path. Just about everything we have ever made can be used for good or evil: dynamite, nuclear fission, blades, etc. We have a natural talent for killing each other, yet this hasn't made us stop researching, and neither will this. Examiner.com reported that the Vatican gave a "tentative OK" on the project, saying the potential for helping people is huge. I am really surprised, seeing as the Vatican has, historically speaking, often been very slow to give the green light to such discoveries. I am thrilled by this discovery, and I think it is a huge step forward. Most of the people who oppose this vigorously will either be concerned it will affect their income, or will be the types who cannot stand to have their beliefs challenged. I feel like if you are actually comfortable with your faith, this discovery won't blow your mind or radically change your view of the universe. Just make sure somebody doesn't go and try to make the T-virus with this.

Back in the day

Adam LaMascus Opinion Editor

This day in history...

May 26, 1647: What do you do with witches?

Alse Young is executed in Windsor, Connecticut, for witchcraft, making her the first person in the American colonies executed for being a witch. Witchcraft became punishable by death in Connecticut in 1642. The law was based on the Biblical passage Exodus 22:18 "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live." The law was removed in 1750. The Puritans came to America to escape religious persecution and so they could persecute other people.

May 27, 1907: You thought H1N1 was bad ...

In the wake of the devastating 1906 earthquake, an epidemic of Bubonic Plague breaks out in San Francisco. The earthquake forces many people into refugee camps, where the plague quickly spreads. The government offers a bounty on rats, a major carrier of the plague, and as a result the epidemic is over by 1909.

May 28, 1754: Irony is great ...

The first battle of the French and Indian War occurs. Virginia militiamen led by Lt. Col. George Washington defeats a French reconnaissance party. The French and Indian War was where American colonists gained valuable skills fighting for the British against the French — skills they would use 20 years later with the help of the French to fight the British.

May 29, 1780: Should've taken his offer ...

During the Revolutionary War, Loyalist Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton encounters revolutionary Col. Abraham Buford and his men. Tarleton calls for Buford's surrender, which is refused. The loyalists proceed to massacre the colonials, who begin to surrender. However, as they are surrendering, Tarleton's horse is shot out from under him. The loyalists believe the colonials pretended to surrender as a ploy to kill Tarleton and in a fit of rage proceed to kill over 100 surrendered soldiers. This is known as the Waxhaws Massacre.

May 30, 1431: Truly an amazing person ...

Joan of Arc, age 19, is burned at the stake for heresy. Upon being captured by the English, they accused her of heresy; however, even with a heavily biased jury, the best charge they could come up with against her was that she violated the law and wore men's clothes. She swore to only wear women's clothes and was sent to prison. Even though the law stated she should have been sent to a Catholic prison run by nuns, she was sent to a normal prison, where she was raped. She resumed wearing men's clothes as an effort to blend in more and avoid more rapes. The court used this as "proof" of her heresy and disregard of the rulings of the court. Joan of Arc was executed for wearing men's clothes.

May 31, 1916: That accomplished nothing ...

During WWI, the British Royal Navy engages the German Navy at the battle of Jutland. It is the largest naval battle of the war. The British lose 6,094 men and 14 ships. The Germans lose 11 ships and 2,551 men. Both sides claim a victory.

June 1, 1215: Only non-Chinese to conquer China ...

Genghis Khan and his Mongol horde capture Beijing from Emperor Xuanzong of Jin. The Jin Dynasty ended in 1234, after being overthrown by the Mongols. Genghis died in 1227, and by 1279 his Mongol Empire had conquered China, most of Central Asia, the Caucasus region, much of Russia, much of the Middle East, and substantial territories in Eastern Europe.

Thought for the Week:

"Conquering the world on horseback is easy; it is dismounting and governing that is hard." *Genghis Khan* http://commuter.linnbenton.edu

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

Campus News

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

Franklin returns from Iraq deployment

Alethea Skinner Staff Writer

After an 11-month deployment to Iraq, 1st Sgt. Lewis Franklin is home. Franklin, who teaches in LBCC's graphic arts department, shared his experiences and his opinions about the war.

For instance: Would he go back? With a relaxed smile on his face and no apparent tension in his manner, he said, "Yes, I'm up to go again!"

This was his second deployment to a war zone and Franklin, a husband, father, and the one responsible for the Digital Imaging and Prepress Technology certificate program at LBCC, would go back. There had to be a reason.

Is our strategy working? Are things different? Franklin said there is stabilization. The sectarian violence is probably the same — just not reported as much. And yes, the military does tend to catch the overflow of that violence.

But is our presence appreciated? Franklin believes that the average citizen probably trusts the United States more than the Iraqis. While the political sector probably wants the United States to leave, Franklin said, the government realizes they need our support. They would probably say, "We want to say 'We've got it, go home,' but in reality we probably don't [have it]."

Franklin posed this question: "Is it realistic to impose a democracy on a tribal country?" Answering his own question, he said, "I believe the Iraqi people were angry with us for ending the Gulf War. They felt abandoned. We did not help with the revolution, and that caused a mistrust of



1st Sgt. Lewis Franklin recently returned from an 11-month deployment to Iraq with the 1-82 Cavalry, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team based in Lebanon. Photo by Alethea Skinner

Family and bribery is how it functions. The strong are leaders and not necessarily the elected."

Additionally, Franklin said, "We've started to fill the vacuum we created with the invasion in 2003 by disbanding the military and the police."

Did Franklin think that was a good idea, a good strategy?

"It wasn't, and the U.S. has come to terms with that being a mistake."

Since Franklin would return to this war-torn land, what advice would he offer to LBCC students who want to follow his footsteps. What would he say to young collegians who can't get a job in this economy, or who might wish to have a military career?

His response was forthright.

"The military is still a good opportunity to get a college education, although they are a little stricter on who they take right now. That happens every time the economy tanks, though. It is not a bad way to make a Franklin was quick to add this caveat: "They must be realistic; it is not a free ride anymore. You have to assume that you will be going to war."

How would one mentally, physically and emotionally prepare to be a part of the military – especially when a combat tour is more of a probability than a possibility?

Franklin advised: "Expect that you will be deployed. War is not what you expect; it is not a video game. There are no 'start-overs.' People you know will die and nobody comes through it the same person – they don't come back the way they left. Some come home worse than others. Nobody comes through war scot-free."

Franklin provided a sobering statistic – 30 percent of those going to war return with some kind of mental illness. However, Franklin assured that we are doing much better with returning veterans than with those who returned from Vietnam. Vietnam-era vets in his group say they are happy with the way new vets are treated when they return.

"The country has learned that we do not need to support the war in order to support our military."

Did we do as well in supporting deployed troops and their families?

The Albany/Lebanon area supports the military very well, Franklin said, and his LBCC family maintained contact by e-mail.

However, many in our armed forces do not have family support, and we can help meet that need by contacting the local armory, the Air National Guard and perusing Oregon military web sites

WANTED

All persons who are seeking to experience a unique historical event. The Diversity Achievement Center (DAC) is having a **Juneteenth Celebration** embracing culture diversity education in early American Black history and what effect it has had on our growth and development today. June what? What does it mean? Why is it celebrated?

🔐 REWARD

For those who attend!

- Sample & enjoy the tasty traditional foods served honoring this festive and historic celebration
- Guest speakers & Exhibits
- A rich and rewarding educational experience



Friday, June 4th, 2010 Diversity Achievement Center, F-220 11:30 a.m. – 1:30.p.m.

Space is limited so mark your calendars and plan to attend this educational and historical event! This is the last sponsored event by the Diversity Achievement Center this term. **Don't miss it!**

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

THE COMMONS FARE 5/26-6/1

Wednesday

Dishes: Braised Beef Short Ribs, Smoked Beef Brisket, Spicy Vegetarian Chili Soup: Cowboy Stew and BBQ Bean Soup

Thursday

Dishes: Cuban Spiced Pork Loin, Coq au vin, Sweet & Sour Tempeh Soups: Beef Mushroom Barley and Portuguese Tomato

Soup

Friday Chef's Choice

Monday No School

<u>Tuesday</u>

Dishes: Chicken Biriyani, Penne with Beef Stew, Tempeh Tacos

Soups: Sunday Soup with Cheese Pasta and Beer Cheese

us. This is a tribal country.

living."

Valley Writers Series hosts Ted Cox

Alethea Skinner Staff Writer

"An old farmhouse still stands near Toledo, Oregon, on a section of 1911 road," Richard G. Mitchell wrote in his review. "Listen to the fierce intelligence of a modest man telling a compelling tale of American growing up."

In her online review, Lizanne Southgate said the story "is similar in tone to the 'Little House on the Prairie' as it traces the family's history for just under a century and a half."

What are they talking about? "Murray Loop," the newest book by Oregon author Ted Cox. This will be the featured reading at noon today, Wednesday, May 26, in Forum, F-115. Valley Writers Series hosts the event.

Reviewers say "Murray Loop" is an absorbing story that spans five generations of an Oregon family (1808 - 1949) who left Scotland in 1841 to seek a better life in America. According to a recent LBCC news release, "It profiles the conflict between the Territorial Act of 1848, which acknowledged Indian possession of land, and the Donation Land Act of 1850, which opened the land to settlement by whites. It is an unembellished, straightforward story based on oral interviews, diaries and family artifacts."

Cox is a native of Eugene, and a 1975 OSU graduate who served as a Peace Corps volunteer, owned and operated the Old World Deli in downtown Corvallis, and has taught at LBCC. His other writings include "The Toledo Incident of 1925."

Campus News

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



Matt Walton catches some air while sandboarding.

Photos provided by Matt Walton

Surf's up on the dunes

"Sandboarding: It's snowboarding on the sand dunes," sandboarding instructor Matt Walton said.

Sandboarding is similar to snowboarding, except you board on the sand, you're in shorts rather than a snow bunny suit, and when you fall, it usually doesn't hurt. When he's taking a break from studying history in the summer time, Walton is at the Sand Master Park (sandboard shop) in Florence, Ore. offering lessons to eager boarders (providing it doesn't rain).

Walton recommends sandboarding because, "It's low key and about having fun."

Walton also acknowledges that the local sandboarders in Florence are enthusiastic to help out beginners. They like that someone is taking interest in this alternative sport.

"They see it as a way to help this sport grow," Walton explains.

Walton encourages anyone to try sandboarding even if you're not sure you're



into board sports.

Walton said the cool thing about sandboarding is "there's a lot of people in the sport who couldn't really find a niche in another sport or any athletic facet. It really is a sport for everybody."

However, that's not Walton's favorite part. "My favorite thing about the sport is that it's something we can do without a lot of money or gear. You get the board, find a dune, and go have fun."

When beginning a lesson, Walton emphasizes the importance of safety and stance/posture on the board (shoulders square, weight slightly on back foot, knees bent, etc).

Then comes the fun part: coasting down the dunes. Walton starts by checking out what the new boarders can do on a small hill. Then the hill sizes progress. Depending on time, Walton will also give some turning/ carving lessons. Usually by the end of the hour lesson, trainees feel comfortable going from top to bottom of a considerable slope. If you're really ambitious, ask Walton to show you some tricks.

While the sport is pretty relaxed, there is still a competitive side to it. Walton said there are competitions worldwide. In Florence there are three competitions every year. Places like South America, Australia and even the Middle East (particularly Egypt) are jumping on board the craze.

Sandboarding is a unique sport you need to see to believe. Or just try it out for yourself.

For more info check out the Sand Master Park at http://www.sandmasterpark.com, call 541-997-6006, or contact Matt Walton at matt.walton@gmail.com.

Meet The Commuter's next editor: Justin Bolger

Rob Priewe

Adviser

This year Justin Bolger was managing editor of a Commuter staff that earned 15 awards at the annual statewide journalism competition. He's looking to raise the bar even higher as editor-in-chief.

On Wednesday, LBCC's Student Publications Committee appointed Bolger the next editor-in-chief at the Commuter. He will succeed Max Brown, whose tenure will wrap up with the newspaper's last issue of the school year on June 2. In collaboration with Brown and other staffers at the paper, Bolger focused on expanding the coverage of campus news, focusing heavily on LBCC events, staff and students. In interviewing for the top job, Bolger said he would like next year's staff to maintain the paper's commitment to campus coverage but also expand interactions with readers, including more interactivity on the newspaper's website as well as more diversity of opinion in the pages of the printed edition

The Commuter's editor-in-chief manages the daily activities of the student newspaper beginning in the summer and continuing through the school year. The duties of the newspaper's top editor include:

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

artion.

Earlier this month, the Commuter earned 15 awards in the annual Collegiate Newspaper Contest organized by the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association. Bolger earned a first-place award for editorial writing. LBCC and the Commuter hosted this year's Collegiate Day, ONPA's annual college journalism conference and awards program.

The 10-member Student Publications Committee consists of LBCC students, faculty and staff and meets each spring to interview editorin-chief applicants and appoint a new Commuter editor.



Justin Bolger, new editor-in-chief of The Commuter

Photo by Max Brown

Campus News

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

Games + prizes = mathematics fun

Chris Foster Staff Writer

How do you get students more involved in math? How do you make them more ... what's the word ... aware? Simple. Hold a weeklong event. Well, in this year's case, a day.

Held in a corner of Linn-Benton's courtyard, games, prizes and food were available to LB students, during Math Awareness Day, courtesy of the math department and student volunteers. Running from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., the event showcased various math puzzles for participants to solve for prizes, T-shirts for sale to show some love for the math department, and food in the way of hot dogs and root beer floats.

The event has been going on 16 years. Members of LB's math faculty first put together the event as a way to give students a chance to apply math outside of a class environment. Due to budget, the event was scaled back this year from a full week to one day.

Last Thursday's event had a decent turnout of students. Even with the threat of Oregon's liquid sunshine, many students took the opportunity to come by the event. Roger Maurer, one of the teachers who has organized the event each year, remarked that every year sees a good rate of attendance. Last year when the event ran for a week, about "two hundred hotdogs a day were sold."

Math Awareness Day



Kevin Smee solves a puzzle at Math Awareness day.

gave the students a fun way to apply what they know and interact with their teachers without the stress of tests and textbooks. Math 256 student Ben Williams stated he "loves attending [these] functions at LB." Prizes such as pencils, squirt guns and candy were handed out to those who could complete games like a 3D cube and shape puzzles.

This year some aspects were different than years

Photo by Tony Brown

past. Normally each year has a theme to go along with the week. Themes such as "Math/ Biology" and "The Lighter Side of Math" have been used. This year they opted to leave that aspect out. To reduce some losses from budget cuts, the event sold T-shirts this year for five and ten dollars, while in the past several were given away as prizes. Maurer stated the event is more for awareness and students than about the money.

Farewell to an inspiring teacher: Mary Ann Lammers to retire

Maggie O'Reilly Head Cartoonist

Mary Ann Lammers knew she wanted to be a business teacher since she was a sophomore in high school. Others may see this as a limiting approach but her dedication seems to have paid off.

In April the National Business Education Association awarded her Teacher of the Year. When asked about her feelings about winning, she said she was "Truly humbled and excited to have won."



Mary Ann Lammers Photo by Maggie O'Reilly

Adding that there are so many deserving teachers in the world, and it was wonderful to be honored by her peers.

Mary Ann Lammers is the kind of teacher who makes a difference. And after a 35-year career in teaching, she's ready for some well-deserved time off. Twenty-five years of her teaching career has been right here at LBCC. "LBCC has been good to me," she said.

With her retirement on the horizon, Lammers looks forward to it with excitement and opportunity. "It's time," she says, as she plans her transition with grace and aplomb, looking forward to spending time with her family and grandchildren, building a new home with the same zeal she used in the classroom.

Lammers assures us she will remain active. She currently teaches business technology, is a consultant for the Oregon Business Education Association (OBEA) and is a chairperson on the National Policies Commission for Business and Economic Education board. Mary Anne Lammers definitely has a full plate of obligations, and yet she still insists on the importance of the individual students.

Lammers placed a very high value on the role of community colleges. "Everyone deserves an education," she said, adding that the role of LBCC and community colleges is to take students from where they are and to lift them up as far as they can go.

An aware student is a safe student

Lisa A M Bauman Advertising Assistant times. Use lockers and make sure you use locks on them if you are in the gym," she continued. LBCC's Campus Security

Security and Safety Services Location: Red Cedar Hall 119 Phone: 541-917-4440 you know the evacuation routes and how to communicate if an emergency situation occurs while you are on campus. "We

really are on campus?

Instead of wondering, take steps to be proactive. Marcene Olson, LBCC manager of safety and loss prevention, gives pointers on how to make sure you and your valuables are safe while you study.

"Relatively speaking, LBCC is a pretty safe campus," she said. She admitted that theft is still an issue. "Occasionally vehicles will get broken into, and accidents will happen," said Olson. She advised students to make sure their car is locked and not to leave valuables anywhere they can be seen. "Don't leave items of value anywhere if you are not with them at all website offers other suggestions for being safer, such as locking your vehicle, walking in groups and in well-lit areas, and having your keys ready before arriving to your vehicle.

"We have rollouts frequently, usually several per term," said Olson. "Students can register vehicles here, which is a good thing to do. If something happens, then we can find you and let you know."

Olson also mentioned that students must notify security about any issues. "Things need to be reported so we can help you," she said. In addition to vehicle

After-Hours Phone: 541-926-6855 Email: security@linnbenton.edu Website: www.linnbenton.edu/go/security Register for FlashAlert at: www.flashalert.net

registration services and 24-hour patrol, there are campus security officers on all campuses. They provide personal safety escort, a first-aid station, and a lost and found for property returns. They even offer the use of a jump-start battery pack free of charge!

"We have seven full-time and four part-time [security officers]. On main campus we always have someone here."

It is also important to make sure

always have brochures. They're right inside the security office," Olson noted.

net "If you have a cell phone, subscribe to FlashAlert," said Olson. Once students enroll in this service, it will send vital information via twitter, text, or email about emergency and weather closures. Olson mentioned that you must register yourself for this service; students are not automatically enrolled.

Most importantly, students must take a pro-active stance about understanding safety resources on and off LBCC. "Number One: Be aware of your surroundings," says Olson.

Campus News

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

Festival of Hope has great turnout

Giving A Hand Up

Chris Foster Staff Writer

This past Saturday, vendors and entertainers came together at LBCC to raise awareness and money for those in need at the second annual Festival of Hope.

Organized by Bob Ross, the festival kicked off outside McKenzie Hall and was a huge success compared to last year. Ross stated that while the total amount of donations won't be known till next week, he feels confident they did well since the turnout was double that of last year. He received a lot of positive feedback about the event from attendees and June 4, 2011 has already been set for next year's festival.

Each of the six nonprofit organizations that will benefit, as well as the sponsors and the vendors, were decided upon by the Festival of Hope committee. Ones like CASA

and FISH are lightly staffed and rely heavily on volunteers and money from grants and donations.

After fees and cost are paid to the vendors, profits and donations will be added to the overall goal that Ross and the festival committee hope for. Some games, such as a mini putt-putt croquet charged a small fee, but players received

\$30 in local coupons. Other booths just asked for a suggested donation, such as the Festival of Hope T-shirts for seven dollars.

Numerous events were held throughout the day to raise funds. The "Fun Run," an obstacle course sponsored by Kiwanis, and a miniputt croquet course gave children a chance to be a part of the event. Parents and adults had the chance to browse around the vendors or just sit and watch the various bands play. The event was capped off at 7:30 p.m. with a musical performance by the Misty River Band in the Russel Tripp Performance Center.

Attendees shopping at the vendor tables had a wide option of choices

to buy from. Just about all the tables had some form of art to buy. Figurines, paintings, hand made baskets and beaded jewelry were all available.

Those searching for a bite to eat were somewhat limited. A carnival-style trailer serving funnel cakes, soda and hot dogs and a vendor selling oriental

food were the main staples. A few of the vendors, such as Obertos', were selling their own snack foods. "Nuts for Jesus," a vendor from a Methodist church in Sweet Home had a wide variety of nuts and almonds for sale, as well.

The vendors seemed to enjoy the festival as well. Donna Ego of Nuts for Jesus said they are expecting to return next year and this year she could tell attendance has improved. Festival board member Cherie Jackson of CJ Beads was also a returning vendor. She was happy with the turnout and planned to set up shop again next year.

While this year was great, Ross stated that next year he hopes to "run a tighter ship." Fellow organizer and FISH board member Dave Schnebly agreed that an event "takes a few years to get rolling." Ross would like to see more organizations and students involved with next year's festival.

You don't know "Jack"

Cameron Vasseur Staff Writer

When you hear the word Ireland, what's the first thing that comes to mind? If it was music then good! But if not keep paying attention because you might be interested to hear about Three Fingered Jack; A local Corvallis band who specializes in music from the Emerald Isle.

Friday May 21, Three Fingered Jack played at the Benton Center in Corvallis as a part of an annul show commemorating the building's dedication. In 2004, when the Benton Center was built, there was a scheduled celebration including a live show put on by a local band. However, since this is Oregon, the weather decided it wouldn't put up with that, and the show was moved inside. Many people commented on the acoustics of the student lounge, and holding the small event inside actually proved to be better for the whole celebration.

Penny York, the former director of the Benton Center, liked it so much that she told Tom Demarest, music, GED, and ABE instructor, as well as the Adult Acoustic Showcase Coordinator, that she would like it to happen more often. Demarest agreed and wrote up a proposal for the idea. As a result of so much attention, the show is held twice every term and six years later is still going strong. This year, local Irish music band Three Fingered Jack was the star of the showcase. The band is made of up of Bruce Marbin, guitar and bouzuki player; Sharie Ame, (who was a Celtic fiddle instructor at LB) plays the fiddle as well as sings, Loreen Yurey plays a hand drum called a bodhran, and Beth Brown plays the cello and pennywhistles. From start to finish, the band played



Three Fingered Jack plays at the **Benton Center. Cameron Vasseur**

music originating in Ireland, including old Celtic tunes, Irish jigs and a few dance songs. The band members are not actually from the country, though with the way they play you might think so. All of the band was self-taught, and their talent with the instruments shows the dedication and love that they put into learning.

The band members come from all over the country. Marbin comes from Pennsylvania, Yurey from Michigan, and Ame and Brown both hail from California. They have been playing together for the past two years and are currently working on putting a CD together, though without a producer it has been difficult for them. Currently, Three Fingered Jack is recording at Wild Rose Studios in Corvallis, and because they have so much tying them to their homes, they are not looking to do anything out of state. Although the bad is happy to play locally, they have made trips as far as Portland, and Medford. The show was excellent and everyone stayed through to end, thoroughly enjoying the music. If you like Irish music and want to hear it without having to make the trek across the Atlantic, definitely give Three Fingered Jack a listen.

Save money with the Linn Shuttle

Tim Downin Contributing Writer

Photo by

How cool is your ride? Or maybe more appropriately for the times, how economical is it?

One student from Sweet Home says that he saves \$65 a week just in gas by riding the Linn Shuttle for his daily commute to the LBCC campus in Albany. More students and faculty are choosing the more economical and environmentally friendly route, as new manager Ken Bronson will attest, citing that over the last three years ridership has been flat, yet saw a 30 percent increase in just the last four weeks.

In an attempt to gauge how to best address the issue, Bronson took the bus routes personally and began surveying riders, asking them what changes and additions in scheduling they would most like to see. As a result, the shuttle has permanently increased its route schedule from four routes a day to six, with the possibility of a seventh appearing in the near future.

Bronson took into consideration the fact that some

days, as much as 80 percent of the morning ridership is LBCC students and faculty, and has tailored many of the changes to meet their needs. Bronson spent some time recently updating his own degree at Lane Community College, and is sympathetic to what students have to go through to achieve their educational goals.

"I want to hear from the community, and want people to tell us what changes we can make to best suit their needs. Students should take advantage of the fact that the cost of ridership is included in their tuition," Bronson said. He would encourage anyone who considers utilizing the public transit options available in the community to have a look at their website, www.linnshuttle.com, and give him a call if there is anything they can do to better meet the needs of LBCC students and faculty.

Office Hours: Q&A with Mike Houglum

Alx George Staff Writer

Mike Houglum has been teaching communication classes at LBCC for 26 years. With his 16-ounce cup of coffee and the choir serenading in the adjacent classroom, Houglum put his communication skills to practice. Having graduated from California State University Northridge with a BA and master's and earning a Ph.D. from UO, it's safe to say Houglum knows his stuff.

Commuter: You've mentioned in class that you were originally going to declare your major to be psychology. What made you change your mind?

Mike Houglum: A serendipitous series of events occurred and I was unable to declare that major. At the time I was told that they didn't have enough resources to do advising for any more psychology majors. A lady told me that I could declare a speech major and I said 'sure.' So she changed my entire destiny just by a suggestion. The dominoes really fell after that. I may not have gone for a Ph.D., I wouldn't have met my wife (she was in speech at UO), everything changed.

C: What would you say your favorite speech class to teach is?

MH: I like two of them really well: persuasion and small group communication. I think those are both the most fun because in those classes students push to really explore things. They take it because they are interested in those topics and not because they are required to. I think it draws an audience of students that are really interested in the subject and so they push me to do better or try to stay ahead. And I learn a lot of things in those classes.

C: What do you learn?

MH: I learn new theories, I learn new ways of doing things, I learn about topics I would NEVER study on my own but that are really interesting and/or really significant to society. I get a chance to do what I originally set out to do, which is to learn things and try to find ways to teach other people about them.

C: Being a speech instructor, would you say it would be difficult to persuade you on anything?



Photo by Alx George

At a glance

Mike Houglum

Classes taught at LBCC: Speech 111, 112, 218, 219

How long has he been at LB: 26 years

Usually has:

A 16-ounce cup of house coffee

Speech topics heard most often: How to make a speech, and the classics like legalizing marijuana and lowering the drinking age to 18 aka the file folder speech in the frat house.

Quote: "Well you know how it is. The students are all with their energy drinks, or something like that, taking some sort of brain stimulants and if you're not on the top of your game you really feel like you're behind. I'm already fighting that."

Where to find Mike Houglum

Office: SSH - 231B Phone: 541-917-4281 E-mail: mike.houglum@linnbenton.edu **Office Hours:** Monday/ Wednesday/ Friday 10-11 a.m.

MH: No, the overriding quality is being a teacher. Teachers are generally easy because they want to help students, just like agreeing to this interview, and even though I know a lot about persuasion it doesn't always help protect me. It makes me suspicious but it doesn't make me immune.



Wednesdav **Diversity Dav**

11 a.m. – 2 p.m. • *Courtyard* Student Life & Leadership and the Diversity Achievement Center would like to invite you to our first annual Diversity Day celebration! This event will highlight some of the ways we explore and experience diversity at LBCC. Events for the day will include music, a fashion show, the Clothesline Project and so much more! Hope to see you there!

Courtyard Lunch: Curry Chicken

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. • Courtyard Fill your tummy with delicious curry chicken and support LBCC Clubs & Organizations! Lunch will include curry chicken or vegetarian option, vegetables, chips, cookie and a soda. Cost is \$3.50 for students and \$4.50 for staff.

Rosemary Bennett Book Signing

3 p.m. • Library Retired LBCC counselor Rosemary Bennett will hold a book signing for her new book titled "The History of Linn-Benton Community College." Bennett's book will be available for purchase at the book signing, through the LBCC Foundation and at the LBCC Bookstore, or online at Xlibris, Amazon, Borders, and Barnes and Noble.

Native American Student Union Meeting

3 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center

A meeting of the NASU will be held in the DAC today.

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

are limited to 8 per person. The theme this year is "L'amour de Cuisine" (The Love of Food). For more information, contact LBCC Culinary Arts at 541-917-4391.

Friday 5/28 **Priority Registration for Fall** 2010

7 a.m. • Online

Beginning with students who have the most credits, registration for fall term starts May 28 at 7 a.m. Credits required for priority registration will decline until Friday, June 4 at noon, which will mark the beginning of open registration.

Monday 5/31 Campus Closed It's Memorial Day. 6/1

Tuesday

Spring Choir Concert 7:30 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center LBCC music instructor James Reddan will conduct the performance by the Re-Choired Element Chamber Singers, The Concert Choir, the Men's Ensemble, and the Women's Ensemble, with appearances by Blue Light Special and another special presentation. "Celebrating All That We Are" brings the message of hope and the wonderful amount of music that we all share together in our lives. Tickets are \$6 nonreserved seating, and can be purchased at the Russell Tripp Performance Center Box Office, or by phone at 541-917-4531

Tue & Thu 6/1 & 3 Presentation from the African

American Literature Class

1 - 3 p.m. (DOT) Diversity Achievement Center There will be multi-media, dramatic and conceptual art projects focusing on issues related to the Civil Rights movement, Voodoo, Slavery, Folklore, and the Blues. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!** 6/4 Friday

Performing Arts Showcase 4 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center FREE!! A fun and informal sharing from spring term's dance, music and theater students. Sat & Sun 6/5-6 Study Jam 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. • Learning Center Resources from the Learning Center and the Library will be available during Study Jam to help you prepare for final exams. Every student is welcome!

First Alternative Natural Foods CO-OP



SOUTH CORVALLIS 541)753-3115 NEW! Open 7-9 NW 29th & Grant (541)452-3115 Open 7-9 www.firstalt.coop

A convenient stop for quick, nutritious breakfast or lunch on the go! fresh • local • organic good-for-you food New South Store

> 7AM-9PM DAILY Featuring our new Breakfast Bar 7-IIam

Hours!

Albany Kali *"teaching the* Filipino Martial Arts" Single Stick Single Knife Dos Manos

www.albanykali.com

Everyone is welcome! For more information, contact JR Tharp at tharpjj@linnbenton.edu or Michelle Wilson at 541-917-4835. Thu & Fri 5/27-28 LBCC Culinary Arts French Banquet 6:30 p.m. • The Commons The banquet is prepared and served by LBCC culinary students. Cost for the banquet is \$32 per person. Ticket sales

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

Campus News

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



From left: Dana Emerson, Abel Soriano, Toni Klohk, Whit Hamilton and Art Mota participate in campus diversity forum on May 24. Photo by Alethea Skinner

Moving toward diversity **Alethea Skinner**

Staff Writer

If LBCC had a strong diversity program now, what would the college look like in five years?

That was the question presented for discussion at the noontime forum hosted by the Diversity Achievement Center on Monday, May 24. The discussion, led by a panel representing faculty, staff and students (Whit Hamilton-classified staff, Jim Bell-management, Abel Soriano-students and Dana Emersonfaculty) discussed the results of a recent campus diversity survey and included time for audience questions.

Unfortunately, there was more panel than audience.

Moderator Lynne Cox, associate dean of Student Affairs, led the sometimes-intense discussion. The panel was passionate about the apparent lack of diversity on campus and what can be done to remedy the situation.

Is it reasonable to expect that a predominantly Caucasian community have a thriving and effective diversity program on its college campus? Should that be a goal? If so, is it reasonable?

This panel said it is reasonable and necessary. If we can acknowledge differences, we can look for the similarities from which to move forward, panelists agreed.

We want to move beyond discussion and writing things down, Bell said.

It is time to get "down and dirty," because people do not talk about the real issues, Emerson added. People are afraid of being "real" with each other when discussing differences.

"It is time to get beyond the fear," Bell said. "Remove the taboo subjects and realize it is possible to have difficult and pleasant conversations [about our differences]."

In discussing diversity programs, panelists agreed diversity should not separate groups. Isolation is not good.

In academic environments it is important to offer choices - places where people can be together, learn from each other and a place to return to (a "comfort zone") when feeling the need to retreat to the familiar.

Panel members sought to move the campus from appearing diverse to being diverse. They agreed behavior needs to change at all levels, beginning with administration. Then teach instructors how to facilitate discussions in their classrooms.

We 🎔 **Cathy Edmonston**

Marci Sischo **Contributing Writer**

When Cathy Edmonston laughs, it lights up her whole face. Her eyes sparkle and her smile is infectious. Before you know it, you're laughing and smiling too.

"She has the most contagious laugh you've ever heard," said Phyllis Copeland,

LBCC's Driver's Education coordinator. She has known Edmonston for 14 years. "Without going out on a limb, I'd say most people really like Cathy. She's a good person."

Edmonston has worked in LBCC's **Community Education** Department for 22 years. She's been the center coordinator for most of those years. Although Edmonston was diagnosed with breast cancer in October, she hasn't let the treatments slow her down, or let the diagnosis affect her positive attitude.

Edmonston has been working

in education since 1969. She worked over a dozen years at Louisiana State University, in the clerical department for their teaching hospital, and as the secretary to both the director of Graduate Studies, and the chairman of the English department. She worked in the library at Louisiana's Southwestern University for a couple of years, too.

In 1985, her husband accepted a position at OSU, and Edmonston and her family moved to Corvallis.

"I took a couple of years off to settle the kids, then found this job opportunity and started here," Edmonston said.

Since then, she's made a lasting impression with her co-workers. Debby Zeller. who works in the registration department, has known Edmonston for 20 years, and calls her "a doll."

"She's an amazing woman," said Roxy Putnam, who works in Admissions. She has also known Edmonston for 20 years. "I love her with all my heart."

in burgeoning enrollment. As the economy has faltered, registrations have increased throughout the school.

Edmonston said that she deals with a wide variety of ages, from 8- and 9-year-olds to students who are nearing 100 years old. Albany has an extremely active senior community, according to Edmonston. The Community Education department caters mostly to

community enrichment classes. One of the hardest parts of her job is finding enough instructors.

"You don't necessarily need a degree," she said. "Experience and knowledge helps, but you have to have a love for a certain area, to be engaging for a class." Edmonston brings her passion and knowledge of her job five days a week, despite regular chemotherapy treatments for her recently-diagnosed breast cancer. Edmonston was diagnosed almost by Photo by Justin Bolger accident. She had gone in to see her doctor

Cathy Edmonston

for another test, and on her way out the door, happened to mention to her doctor that she was late in taking her yearly mammogram.

"Should I make an appointment for that, or just leave it to next year?" she asked her doctor. There just happened to be an opening, so Edmonston was ushered in for her breast exam.

She calls finding her cancer providential. "I didn't have a lump, or anything," she said. Edmonston has just finished her chemotherapy, but she has 33 more radiation treatments ahead of her, as well as injections in her chest for the next two years.

"I've had so many tests," Edmonston said, "and I've tested positive for just about everything I could test positive for." One thing Edmonston has tested positive for is the presence of HER2, a protein that makes one more susceptible to breast cancer, and the cancer more aggressive when it develops. "It's like jet fuel for cancer," she explained. It's been especially trying since she lost her father last year to cancer, but Edmonston takes strength from her father's example. "He's my hero," she said. "He never complained, never felt sorry for himself. He had a full life, and he was very much at peace when he passed."



Page 8

"We don't know about other people because of lack of dialog," Soriano said. "Diversity of thought leads us to good decision making. We are so polite we don't want to offend, and that keeps us from growing. We need to get beyond that and get talking."

How? By force, if necessary, they said.

Suggestions were:

* Put it in the curriculum.

* Have diversity classes or "brown-bag" sessions where people meet at lunchtime to talk openly about current issues.

* Provide incentives requiring attendance at

opportunities for interaction.

* Deal with fear by cross-cultural awareness training. * Partner with OSU's diversity program.

Panelists agreed it is time to get out of the "comfort of ignorance."

It's easy to see how Edmonston inspires such friendship among her co-workers. You only need to talk to her for a few minutes to see her passion for life. It shows in the enjoyment in her eves as she describes the smell and taste of her favorite wine, pinot noir, or the writing techniques of her favorite authors, Eudora Welty and James Lee Burke. The woman glows with vitality and good humor as she speaks.

That same passion extends to her job, and it's clear that Edmonston loves her work. She's seen a lot of change in the Community Education Department since she started, mostly

"She has a large support group here," said Copeland. "We love her very much." "She doesn't deserve this," Zeller said. "I wish it were me instead of her."

"Linn-Benton is full of wonderful people," Edmonston said, smiling. "Wonderful, supportive, and encouraging. I can't say enough nice things about the people here."

Editor-In-Chief: Max Brown

Feature Editor: Maya Lazaro

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

The Commuter

ature

Something a little different.

You auto know



Cameron Vasseur Staff Writer

Have you ever needed basic maintenance done on your car, with no idea how to do it? Then you should have come out to the Dare to Repair session last Wednesday.

Sabrina Chapen and Jordan Glass, both first year students in Automotive Technology and Associated Applied Sciences, volunteered their time, as well as Jordan's car. to offer a visual course on routine maintenance for your vehicle. They began with changing sparkplugs and worked their way into replacing the oil, switching out bad fuses, and finally, changing wiper blades.

Though the information they were giving was of good value to many people who do not know how to do these things themselves, the wind and the rain of the day brought a low turnout of only about ten people who came and went throughout their presentation.

Valerie Zeigler, who put the small event together, originally hosted a Dare To Repair home session and later found a how-to manual

by the same people for automobiles. Zeigler thought it would be a good idea and would offer many helpful tips to people who want to know these skills but don't have anyone to teach them. "I thought it





Above: Sabrina Chapen (left) and Jordan Glass change the windshield wipers on Glass' car.

Left: Glass (left) and Chapen tinker under the hood of Glass' car.

Photos by **Cameron Vasseur**

would be cool to get the women from the auto department to do this for the day" she said.

Though they have already done it once, Zeigler looks forward to doing it again when the weather is nicer. Doing so would hopefully yield better results than the first, besides offering students some basic knowledge that will serve them later in life. Helping out with this even offers credit for Cooperative Work Experience, which is required for second year automotive students. Support shown for future events such as these could bring about a larger spectrum of helpful workshops hosted at LBCC. If you would like to help out as well as get requirements for class out of the way, talk to Valerie Zeigler and ask to be a part of a second presentation.

Jordan Glass checks the oil in her car.

Photo by Tony Brown

Perspectives: What's your greatest auto-related horror story?



Engineering

Chad Sarni

"Me and my buddy were driving to San Francisco and his car died. We thought we were gonna have to hike out of the mountains and forage what we could find to survive. But then it started back up again."





Trever Thorp

Music



Ashley Edelmann

Animal Science



Machine Tool Technology

"Ran out of gas in the middle of nowhere and had to camp in the woods for the night before I hiked out for help."

'Changing the entire rear end setup of a '93 suburban with a '96 we found buried up to the windows in Lebanon."

"I was getting back from a concert in Salem and closed my hand in the door and it latched."

"I was out four wheeling and rolled my truck seven times down a 75 to 90 foot cliff with my kid."

Compiled by Cameron Vasseur. The views expressed in Perspectives do not necessarily represent the views of The Commuter staff

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

sports

News about local and national sports and activities.

Classifieds

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

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

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

Libel/Taste: The Commuter will not knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner. Any advertisement judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

Help Wanted

You can sign up at www.linnbenton. edu/go/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. *For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101).

<u>CWE Quality Clerical</u>

<u>Assistant</u> (#8060, Albany) Need to get your CWE credits for an office-related major? Here is the job for you! Pays \$9-14/hr. Part-time during school and full-time in the summer.

Political Interns (#8061 &

8062, Corvallis/Albany) Find out what it is like to work for a political campaign—could be CWE if your major is related. Non-paid & must commit to at least 12 hrs/week.

Teller I or II (#8059, Junction City/Harrisburg) This fulltime teller position needs someone with good customer service and cash handling skills.

Service Tech Trainee

(#8045, Albany) Do you have good customer service skills & a mechanical aptitude? This full-time job troubleshoots & repair/ maintains coffee & related equipment in Oregon and Washington.

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

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

Roadrunners clash with the Titans

Erik Bender Sports Editor

Last Thursday the Linn-Benton Roadrunners visited Lane Community College to play their last league games before the summer against the Titans.

The Roadrunners (6-24) split wins with the Titans (20-10) with Linn-Benton winning the first game 3-2. However, Linn-Benton let Lane slip by with four runs to the Roadrunners' two runs in game two.

Roadrunner pitcher Mackie Unruh was able to strike out four batters at the plate. Linn-Benton had one less hit than Lane, but managed to keep their game error-free to keep the one-run victory over the Titans.

Titan pitcher Chris Reed kept his team ahead in game two with Lane having seven hits and four runs. Linn-Benton scored two runs with two hits but was unable capitalize on game two and ended their season with loss.

The Roadrunners will not be going to the NWAACC championship this season and will have to salvage for next year.

Linn-Benton's baseball program has taken several league titles in the past, and is currently the only sport program at Linn-Benton to take home a NWAACC championship.

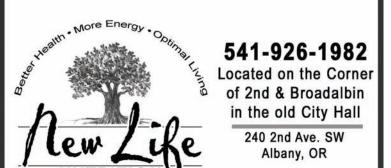




Above: Julian Zirkle runs to catch a fly ball.

Left: Cameron Dixon keeps alert in the outfield.

> Photos by Erik Bender



THE COMMUTER'S 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.

Editor-in-Chief: Max Brown Sports Editor:

Cover by:

Staff Writers:



Eri

Managing Editor: Justin Bolger

Opinion Editor: Adam LaMascus

Feature Editor: Maya Lazaro

A & E Editor: Joel DeVyldere

Letters Welcome

Erik Bender

Advertising Manager: Frank Warren

Advertising Assistant: Lisa A M Bauman

Page Designer: Ashley Christie

Head Cartoonist: Maggie O'Reilly Cameron Vasseur Ashley Christie

Photo Technicians: Tony Brown, Simon Nam

Adviser: Rob Priewe Ryan Henson, Alethea Skinner, Alx George, Jana West, Chris Foster, Lacey Jarrell, J.E.B. Oliver, Cameron Vasseur

Copy Editors: Gary Brittsan, Selena Gwin

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

Web Address: http://commuter.linnbenton.edu Phone: 541- 917-4451, 4452 or 4453 Fax: 541- 917-4454 Address: 6500 SW Pacific Blvd. Albany, OR 97321

The Commuter

Editor-In-Chief: Max Brown A & E Editor: Joel DeVyldere Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events and the cure for weekend boredom.

Trails of Corvallis

Joel DeVyldere A&E Editor

Did you know that North Corvallis is the site of several incredible networks of trails? Whether you're into running, hiking or biking, these natural areas are bound to become some of your new favorites. You're not that far from a nice run, hike or bike with serene calm and breathtaking views at the peaks. Here are three of the most notable:

Bald Hill This recreation area can be accessed through a few different

NW Oak Creek Dr VW 53rd St Benton County Fairgrounds SW Reservoir Ave

Peavy Arboretum

top are outright phenomenal.

This area, located just North of Corvallis on Highway 99W, is owned and operated by the Oregon State College of Forestry. It was the site of a Conservation Corps camp in the 1930s, but is now used by the college to educate people about Oregon forests. In these woods you'll find Cronemiller Lake, which is a naturally beautiful place to stop on your run, bike or hike. Behind the lake is the George Brown Sports Arena, a site for the practicing of logging sports (yes, OSU has a logging sports team).

trailheads. Set behind the Benton County fairgrounds, this forest

features a variety of different trails, including a relatively flat 1.5-

mile paved trail. For those more adventurous, there are plenty of

unpaved routes that extend far up into the hills. The views from the

The Lewisburg Saddle

A little way up the hills past Lewisburg, Oregon, will put you near the Saddle. Here is a trailhead that serves as the starting point for a whole network of trails and gravel roads. Some routes available can be as long as seven miles, while others can be significantly shorter. If you head down one of the logging roads for about a mile, you'll find an old quarry that is filled with water much of the year.

"Red Dead" cowboys

you want.

Cameron Vasseur Staff Writer

If you're familiar with your history, you know that Marty McFly traveled back in time to 1885 to save Doc Brown from the savage "Mad Dog" Tannin. It was a simpler time, it was a safer time; especially when compared to Rockstar's new epic, "Red Dead Redemption."

This game, set in 1911, brings us into the end of an era where the wild frontier is closing and absolutely everyone is pissed about it. We've all seen a western at some point in our lives. For

John gets shot by his former gang and is left to die. Found by the classic kind stranger, Miss Bonnie MacFarlane, he is nursed back to health and goes looking to fulfill his contract with the government when the plot ensues. As with any Rockstar game however, the plot can take the backseat as you make your way into a dusty free-roam paradise filled with every old west cliché imaginable. What makes these clichés so bearable you ask? The fact that the big gunfight you've been waiting the entire movie to see can happen every five minutes if



careful, because this isn't the real world, it's a classic Hollywood setting where bears roam in packs and WILL chase after you if they see you. Cougars, coyotes, boars, wolves and even deer populate the landscape and all of them are looking for a piece of you, which is OK really, because you can just show them who's boss and then skin them and sell their pelts for cash. Take that, Mother Nature. With mini-games galore, graphics that put real sunsets to shame, and enough explosions to keep the most hardcore action gamer happy, "Red Dead Redemption" will keep you occupied enough to forget that 2010 brings you great things like the computer, or anything else post-WWI, for that matter.

THE HOBBIT **STRIKES BACK**

Cameron Vasseur Staff Writer

"Star Wars," or "Lord of the Rings?" Which camp are you in? Or are you standing in the middle, unable to decide? Either way, there is an epic film coming soon that may make the choice irrelevant.

Amateur filmmaker Jason Angelone is currently working on a project entitled "Samwise the Brave" which links the "Lord of the Rings" universe with that of "Star Wars," featuring Samwise Gamgee as the main character.



Director Jason Angelone Photo by After the journey of the and his clone trooper. Cameron Vasseur Fellowship is over, Sam

goes on another adventure, since his memories of journeying with Frodo leaving him unable to be content with a simple life in the Shire. While he is gone, an evil Sith Lord has found his way into Middle Earth where he enters the Shire and kills everything in his path, leaving a trail of destruction.

Upon Sam's return, he finds the world he loves in shambles, and is determined to right the wrongs inflicted on his simple people. Underestimating the power the Sith holds, Sam finds and faces the man, only to find his power far outweighs Sam's own. Fortunately for Sam, a Jedi who had been tracking the Sith intervenes and is able to deter the villain before he strikes a fatal blow against the hobbit.

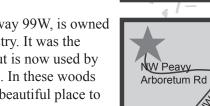
Sam is taken under the wing of the Jedi and is taught the ways of the force to avenge his people and make the world peaceful once again. Along the way, they run into several characters, one of which is a clone trooper played by Cody Anderson, who was defective and no longer wanted by the Empire.

Though they have no official name at the moment, Jason Angelone and his friends call themselves Very Independent Films and have been making short films together for the past few years. To date, Jason has directed about 15 movies, six of which include the cast of "Samwise the Brave." They have been working on the project for a few months; all their costumes are together and they are starting to film and promote their project.

"We've been promoting by having Cody stand on the corner dancing in his Clone Trooper outfit," Angelone said. Angelone has been making movies since he was 13. He started with making small films and music videos, where he learned quick fixes and simple tricks to make the movies better. He makes a lot of knock-off movies like "Indiana Jones and the Lost Gift," often as gifts for those close to him. Along with his friends, Angelone has been in the Commuter, as well as the Democrat Herald, for past activities, many of which have involved super-heroes in downtown Albany.







me, it's generally a boring time that I always want back afterwards.

But RDR is an entirely different story. Beginning with the classic western cliché of the bandit gone good, the game introduces John Marston, an upstanding family man with a shady past. The government swoops in on John's life and takes him back to his past, demanding that he deal with his old gang and shut them down.

After a brief chat,

Dealing with things the bandit's way not your style? That's fine, because you can choose to play like the good Wyatt Earp, who takes time out of his busy schedule to save people from the rope, stop that bar fight, or even make good use of his time playing a game of horseshoes. If you're wondering about the wilderness, don't, because it's there too. Whether you like to hunt or just ride for hours, the game will let you do what you want. But be

"I've always had a passion for it," Angelone said. "I have a hard time not relating something to a movie. I'm always quoting lines."

He is currently looking to move to Portland to attend the Art Institute and get involved with their audio-visual program, but he hopes to have 'Samwise the Brave' finished before he leaves. Whether you're a "Star Wars" fanatic, or a "Lord of the Rings" fan, Angelone hopes to unite the two camps at long last, and end the controversy of which trilogy is better.

The Commuter

Editor-In-Chief: Max Brown

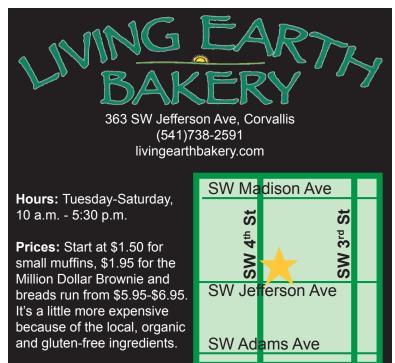
A & E Editor: Joel DeVyldere

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

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events and the cure for weekend boredom.

Good eats without the wheat



LIVE & LOCAL

5/27

5/28

Thursday

Michael Stroup, Mike 5 (Folk) Sunnyside Up Cafe 116 NW 3rd St, Corvallis 7 p.m. \cdot All ages \cdot Free sunnyside-up-cafe.com

Wild Hog in the Woods (Old-Time String Music) Calapooia Brewing Co. 140 Southeast Hill St, Albany 7:30 p.m. \cdot 21 & over \cdot Free calapooiabrewing.com

Caddywhompus (Rock) Cloud 9 126 SW 1st St, Corvallis 10 p.m. \cdot 21 & over \cdot Free dinecloud9.com

Friday

Reggae Rockers (Reggae) Sunnyside Up Cafe 116 NW 3rd St, Corvallis 7 p.m. \cdot All ages \cdot \$3 sunnyside-up-cafe.com

Johanna Beekman (Soul) 2nd Street Beanery 500 SW 2nd St, Corvallis $8 \text{ p.m.} \cdot \text{All ages} \cdot \text{Free}$ allannbroscoffee.com

Jake Payne & Dixie Creek

Saturday

5/29

Symmetry/Symmetry, The Vicious Kisses, SEACATS (Rock) The Ike Box 299 NE Cottage St, Salem 7 p.m. \cdot All ages \cdot \$5 ikebox.com

AkaBella (World)

Fireworks Restaurant 1115 SE 3rd St, Corvallis 7 p.m. \cdot All ages \cdot Free fireworksvenue.com

Moebius K (Experimental) 2nd Street Beanery 500 SW 2nd St, Corvallis $8 \text{ p.m.} \cdot \text{All ages} \cdot \text{Free}$ allannbroscoffee.com

Sons of Confusion, Forrestal's Fall (Rock N' Roll)

Calapooia Brewing Co. 140 Southeast Hill St, Albany $8 \text{ p.m.} \cdot 21 \& \text{ over} \cdot \text{Free}$ calapooiabrewing.com

The Ben Rice Blues Band (Blues/ Rock) Sunnyside Up Cafe 116 NW 3rd St, Corvallis 8:30 p.m. \cdot All ages \cdot \$3 sunnyside-up-cafe.com

Krista Goeke **Contributing Writer**

Since I was little, a trip to the bakery has always been a special experience for me. This trip to Living Earth was no exception. Friendly faces greeted me from behind the glass case. This case held the goal of my journey. Cinnamon rolls, brownies, muffins, cookies and cake all pleaded with me to take them home. I stood my ground and only asked to try a Million Dollar Brownie and a Lemon Poppy seed Cranberry Ginger Muffin.

Living Earth Bakery resides in a small building in downtown Corvallis. Inside, small round tables await hungry visitors in the cottagelike surroundings. Living Earth is no ordinary bakery. All baked goods within these walls contain no gluten and are made of as many organic and local ingredients as possible. "We try to always get it through the source," says Amy, a worker at Living Earth. "All ingredients in (the) muffins and cookies are organic and all flours are milled locally."

Because they contain no gluten, these baked goods are safe for those with gluten intolerance and celiac disease and Living Earth Bakery tries to make products that taste as much like normal baked goods as possible.

The brownie was excellent. Rich chocolate chunks helped to define the deep chocolate flavor and the texture was nice and soft. I tried the muffin and was equally satisfied. It was both sweet and sour as lemonade would be on a warm day. The icing on top brought a sweet tangy taste that matched wonderfully with the muffin.

Bob, a regular at Living Earth, says



Mmm ... warm and gooey blueberry bundt cake.

Photo by Krista Goeke

he comes in "quite often "and was quick to recommend his favorite cookie: Oatmeal Raisin. I wasn't able to try it this time but it will stay on my list of to do's. Amy thought that the Lemon bundt cake was her favorite. "I really like the tangy lemon taste," she said. This cake is a special order item that's perfect for summer.

Other items in the shop come and go as well. I glanced at snickerdoodles that were specially made for this particular day as well as another bundt cake filled with blueberries. Everything was beautiful. The sweets that I decided to order are available on a regular basis. Other items, such as pizza crust and breads can also be found on a daily basis. Sprouted flax bread is the most popular bread, but they also sell gluten-free cinnamon bread and sandwich bread.

Overall, my trip to the bakery was vary enjoyable. Good snacks, friendly service and a homey feel made it worth the visit.

redbox review

Brothers (Rated R, Runtime 110 min.)

Selena Gwin Copy Editor

"Brothers" stars hunky Jake Gyllenhaal as Tommy Cahill, an ex-con who is released from jail just in time to see his older brother Sam (Toby Maguire) off on his fourth tour of duty as a Marine captain in Afghanistan.

Tattooed booze-hound Tommy is no likely hero, but when Sam is presumed dead in Afghanistan, Tommy offers his support to Sam's wife Grace (Natalie Portman), and their two girls. It's not an easy truce, however. Grace can't come to terms with the fact that her husband is dead. As the black sheep, Tommy is constantly berated by their military father for being alive, while oh-so-perfect Sam is dead. Or is he? Shortly after the funeral scene, we see Sam imprisoned somewhere in the Afghanistan desert, alive. While his family are trying to move on with their lives, albeit rather unsuccessfully, Sam is put through unimaginable torture. And then one day, Grace gets a phone call. Sam's not dead, after all. But once home, Sam is suspicious of Tommy and Grace, and accuses them of sleeping together. He also has severe problems adjusting to civilian life,



frightening his family. Will his new lease on life be the death of his family?

In the beginning, the family interactions seem natural. Grace, Tommy and the kids share some funny moments that serve as a poignant counterpoint to Sam's tragedy. Sam Shepard and Mare Winningham are solid as the parents, especially during some awkward dinner scenes. Surprisingly, Tommy's three buddies who fix up Grace's kitchen have some of the best lines in the film.

Even though it has some very powerful scenes showing what it must be like to be imprisoned and tortured by an enemy, the movie just isn't as great as it wants to be. Gyllenhaal, Maguire and Portman all do their best to make us care, but there is more than one scene where you'll go "Okay, I get it. They're brothers. They love each other." But by then end, it's all just a little too predictable. It's hard to pin-point exactly what it is, if not just a abundance of bad lines. If the director had opted not to kick that final confrontation up one emotional notch, "Brothers" might have won the war, not just the battle. If you're a big war movie fan, and you're looking for blood and guts, "Brothers" isn't it. But fans of Jake Gyllenhaal and family war-time dramas will be satisfied, at least for most of the film.

(Americana/ Country) Calapooia Brewing Co. 140 Southeast Hill St, Albany $8 \text{ p.m.} \cdot 21 \& \text{ over} \cdot \text{Free}$ calapooiabrewing.com

Colour (Jazz) Bombs Away Cafe 2527 NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis 9 p.m. \cdot All ages \cdot \$3 bombsawaycafe.com

The Arcadians, Marzipan Handlers, Catch It-Kill It (Rock) Cloud 9 126 SW 1st St, Corvallis 10 p.m. \cdot 21 & over \cdot Free dinecloud9.com

Space Neighbors (Funk) Bombs Away Cafe 2527 NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis 9 p.m. \cdot All ages \cdot \$3 bombsawaycafe.com

Oblivion Seekers, Lucky 13's, Ignorant Sluts (Gothabilly/ Vampire Funk) Cloud 9 126 SW 1st St, Corvallis 10 p.m. \cdot 21 & over \cdot Free dinecloud9.com



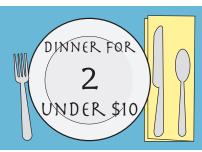
The Commuter

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

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT







Salmon **BLT** with fried shallots



J.E.B. Oliver Staff Writer

Last week I had the chance to visit the Calapooia Brewery in downtown Albany not once, but twice. I was given the tour of a lifetime, from seeing the inner workings of the brewery, tasting malted barley, smelling the delicious crisp and bitter smell of crushed hops, to the tasting of over 10 of the 15 brews on tap. I felt like a kid in Willy Wonka's candy factory.

The brewery, known today as Calapooia, originally opened as Oregon Brews Trader in 1993, and was reincarnated as Calapooia with a change of ownership in June 2006. They have over 30 beer recipes on book and 15 on tap at any given time. I asked my tour guide, General Manger Paul Huppert, "Why do you do this? Why do you make beer?'

"Beer is good," he said "Beer is yummy. You can make it locally from local water, hops and wheat."

According to Paul, the bestselling beer at Calapooia is the Riparian, which is a flavorful IPA. Also, the Rockhard Rye was most excellent. But my favorite brews were the Caber Toss, a classic Scottish ale, and the Chili Beer, which was a fusion

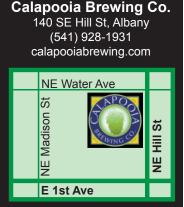


Bartender at the Calapooia Brewing Co. pours a drink.

chili tea. Overall, their beer was amazing. What made it even better was the fact that 60 to 70 percent of the hops they use to make the beer come from the Willamette Valley. Bartender Kim Brogoitti said the best part of her job is "watching people taste beer. They look like kids in a candy store."

The Calapooia is a great place to calm down, unwind and enjoy hearty company and amazing food. When I was there, I loved it so much I got a place on the waiting list for the coveted old times mugs, and played plenty of games of darts. So if you're looking for a place to go out tonight and drink some awesome beer, head down to Calapooia and try some Caber Toss.





<u>Hours:</u>

Sunday Pub: 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Kitchen: 1-9 p.m. (grill shuts down at 8 p.m.)

Monday-Wednesday Pub: 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Kitchen: 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. (grill shuts down at 8 p.m.)

Thursday-Saturday Pub: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 a.m. Kitchen: 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m



BLTs are one of my favorite sandwiches. Bacon makes everything taste better, as far as I'm concerned, and I'm on a mission for bacon. As I was walking up to the meat department to grab a few slices of bacon, I noticed some fresh wild salmon on sale and I thought to myself, "Hey, let's crank this BLT up a few notches and throw some salmon on there."

Usually I would use peppered bacon, but it looked too fatty so I chose a few slices of the thick cut. You can use whatever bacon you prefer, even maple bacon works. As for the wasabi, you can buy prepared or powdered wasabi; either can be found on the ethnic aisle of your grocery store. You can replace the wasabi with horseradish or a packet of Chinese hot mustard, but I prefer the taste of wasabi.

<u>Grocery list:</u>	
2 medium red potatoes	\$.48
4 slices bacon	\$1.40
1 small shallot, sliced	\$.42
2/3 lb. salmon filet	\$5.35
1 sm. tomato, sliced	\$.66
handful of spring mix	\$.46
2 buns	\$1.18
GRAND TOTAL:	\$9.95
You will also need: 1/2 cup light oil for frying 1/2 Tbs. olive oil	2 Tbs. mayo 1/2 Tbs. wasabi (optional)

- 1. Start by slicing potatoes into thin slices, soak them in water until ready to use, and make sure to dry them completely before frying. Heat 1/2 cup oil in a skillet on medium-high heat, place chips in oil, making sure not to crowd the pan. Fry until potatoes are golden brown and crispy on the outside (the thinner your slices, the quicker they will cook). Drain on paper towels and sprinkle with salt and pepper.
- 2. Cook bacon until it's crispy, drain on paper towels and set aside. Reserve bacon fat for frying shallots and salmon.
- 3. Cook shallots in a little of the bacon fat until caramelized, remove and set aside until assembling burger.
- 4. Cut salmon into two equal pieces, season with salt and pepper and cook skin-side down in remaining bacon fat and half tablespoon of extra virgin olive oil. Cook for about three minutes, flip, and cook for about two more minutes, then assemble bun while salmon rests.
- 5. I used a little wasabi mayo for some kick but tartar sauce or adding dill to mayonnaise would work great. Toast the bun, spread with mayo, add salmon then top with tomato, bacon and spring mix and plate it with your chips.

of great light beer and warm





We're going to need a bigger bun.

Photo by Jana West

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

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

14

17

Surreal Living

10

16

19

62 Cyclades island

TA M

Ε

L

S

I R A

12

13

geles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

15

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

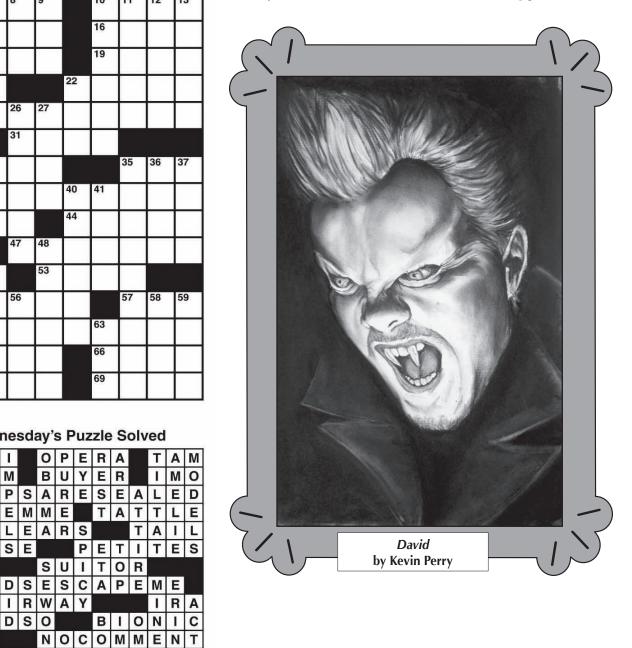
18

Los An
ACROSS 1 Alaska's state
gem 5 Sonora natives 10 Soup du <u>14</u> 14 Shepard in space 15 Designer
Simpson 16 Biblical
preposition 17 Nursery rhyme dish?
19 Island garlands 20 Uncanny ability, for short
21 Blond Wells race 22 Pained reaction 23 Toaster Swirlz
brand 25 "Time is fleeting" philosophy?
philosophy? 28 Tumblers and tongs, e.g.
31 Booty 32 Beneath 33 Bloke 35 One of a cup's
48: Abbr. 38 Reasons? 42 Cio-Cio: Madama
Butterfly 43 Actress Skye 44 Three-time pairs skating gold medalist
Rodnina 45 Gag 47 Reaganomics principle
49 "Good grief!"? 53 "Just the facts,
54 Posture-perfect 55 Brest milk 57 Garb for dreamers, briefly
60 Really smell 61 1999 Kidman/Cruise
film? 64 Pencil puzzle 65 Pothole sites 66 Mother of Pollux 67 Sit tight 68 Up to now 69 Sign that something has turned?
DOWN 1 Wisecrack

11	Shepard in space								_			_						_			
15	Designer	20				21		Т						2	2		Т			Т	
	Simpson			23	24	_				25	20	2	27		_		+	_		+	_
16	Biblical			23	24					25	2	2	21								
	preposition	28	29					3	0		3			+	-						
17	Nursery rhyme								-		-										
10	dish?	32						3	3	34							3	5	36	3	7
19	Island garlands	-					00				╇					44	-	_		╇	_
20	Uncanny ability, for short	38					39	L			1			4		41					
	Blond Wells race	42					43	╈			╈	-		4	4		╈	-		╈	-
	Pained reaction			_								_									
	Toaster Swirlz				45	46		Т			47	7	48	Т			Т			Т	
	brand							∔	_	50				+	_	_	+	_			_
25	"Time is fleeting"	49	50	51				Т		52			53								
	philosophy?	54						-		55	5	6		╋	-		57	7	58	5	9
	Tumblers and	2 A								22		5									2
04	tongs, e.g.	60					61	6	2		T			╈		63				╈	
31	Booty Beneath							⊥	_			_								╇	
	Bloke	64					65	Т								66					
	One of a cup's	67	<u> </u>				68	╋	_		╋	_				69	+			╋	_
	48: Abbr.																				
	Reasons?	By	Share	n E	Doto	arcor					-	_									_
	Cio-Cio:					1301	•														
	Madama		mbi		:				W	ed	ne	sda	ay's	s F	uz	zle	S	olv	ed		
10	Butterfly		lusic				в	A	M	в	T		0	Ρ	E	R	A		T	Α	ſ
43	Actress Skye		irpor ompo		Bria	n	U	N		R	M		В	U	Y	E	R		i	M	-
44	Three-time pairs		ame			11	1000	Y	Ĺ	<u>n</u>		0	1 cmm	12.1	2005	S	E	Δ.	18 A.	100.000	
	skating gold medalist		refix				Μ	Y		-	Ρ	S	Α	R	Ε	_	10-01	Α	L	E	-
	Rodnina		syncr							L	Ε	М	М	Ε		T	Α	Т	Т	L	
	Gag		lilitar		vsici	an	I	Μ	A	L	L	Ε	Α	R	S			Т	Α	1	
47	Reaganomics	8 A	frical	n co	untry	1	R	Е	P	0	S	Е			Ρ	Е	T	1	Т	Е	
	principle		n the			ea	E	0	S				S	U	1	Т	0	R			
49	"Good grief!"?		nder					W	0	R	D	S	Е	S	С	Α	Ρ	Е	М	Е	
53	Just the facts,	10 ""	lisb	ut th	<u>y</u>		2			A	1	R	W	A	Y			_	1	R	
- 4		na	ame	that	is m	y	C	0	Δ		D	S	0	~		D	1	0		100	ť
	Posture-perfect	11 10	nemy	y sp	eake	er	S	0	-	Ν	D	5	1.000			В	1	0	Ν	1	-
	Brest milk	11 In 12 E	rio C	anal	ny city		E	R	-	к		_	Ν	0	-	0		Μ	Ε	Ν	
57	Garb for dreamers, briefly	13 G	rier	of the	a		Т	Ε	S	L	Α	S		L	Α	R	G	E			
60	Really smell		earso				S	1	L	E	Ν	С	Е	1	S	G	0	L	D	Ε	1
	1999	_	ourse				Α	D	E		Ν	Α	1	V	E		Ν	E	U	R	1
	Kidman/Cruise	18 TI					Т	A	D		Α	в	Ν	Ε	R		Е	Т	н	Е	1
	film?	22 ld				n	- 21		-	ine N		-		-			-			_	
	Pencil puzzle	24 S												10							
	Pothole sites	26 B		aux	wine)				site		at				TV					
	Mother of Pollux	27 D								ca	n					Gik					
	Sit tight	28 P	kces					eo			+~*	.+	2			Lee			ry		
	Up to now	20 F 29 R)		40	1000		s in	lei	itty				Bro		1000	acl		
	Sign that something has		oveli		eton		41			9 00	202	n				He			aur	N.	
	turned?	30 B								ator						Jap			е		
	turneu.	34 Fa								we		er				ma					
	DOWN	35 C	ame	out	on to	р	46									Pa				ore	y
1	Wisecrack	36 O				1.54	48	In	the	e thi	ick	of			61	Sa	vin	gs	vel	hic	
	Heidi's home	37 A					49	Ve	erm	ino	ph	obe	e's			for					
	Well-groomed		ising		spot	s,		fea		- and	J					Су					
	guy	10	or sho	л			50	Sp	Jier	ndic	1				03		pit	cn	501	liDa	1

Student-submitted art

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





Add/Drop

An LBCC student generated comic.

By Maggie O'Reilly



http://commuter.linnbenton.edu

Page 15

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

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

Suppeal	Living	,



THE SAMURAL OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4										
						2				
	9	3		4			1	8		
2				1				7		
	5				3	8	2			
			4		1					
	7	1					4			
5				9				4		
9	2			3		5	8			
		7								

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

1	9	4	6	2	8	7	5	3	Complete the grid			
2	5	3	7	9	4	8	6	1	so each row,			
8	6	7		5	3	4	2	9	column and			
5	2	9	8	7	1	6	3	4	3-by-3 box (in bold borders)			
4	8	1	9	3	6	5	7	2	contains every			
7	3	6	5	4	2	1	9	8	digit, 1 to 9.			
9	1	5	2	8	7	3	4	6	For strategies on how to solve			
6	4	2	3	1	5	9	8	7	Sudoku, visit			
3	7	8	4	6	9	2	1	5	www.sudoku.org.uk			
	@ 0010 The Manham Oraum Distributed hu											

© 2010 The Mepham Group. Distributed by Tribune Media Services. All rights reserved.

Student-submitted art

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



Dear Muse

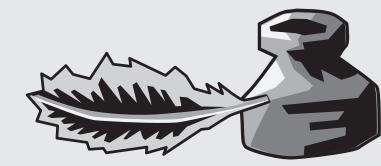
by Amy Earls

Dear Muse,

spotlight

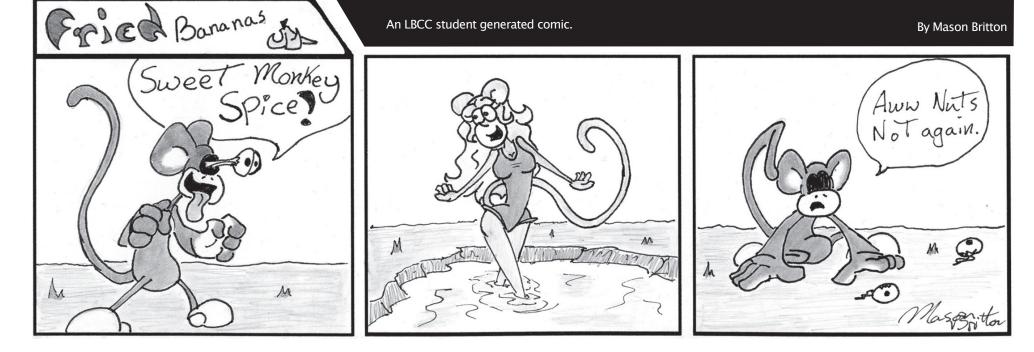
DOCI

Why must you leave when I need you? I want you to come. I want to feel something different than unfeeling. Numb tongue, numb mind, unprepared to face you but wanting to know you're there. I can't go on and on and on and on and on waiting. Don't forget about me. Alone. Bored. Looking for a home that will make me weep at the sight of it, a land to dig my fingernails into and carry its dirt and my tears to you. A place that will let you breathe revelations all over me. A place that will free me. Oh, let me find it quickly! Before I'm completely gone.



Díd you know?

- The entire European Union has a GDP of about \$14.5 trillion. The United States has a GDP of about \$14.3 trillion.
- As of 1981, the CIA conservatively estimated that the Soviet Union spent \$4 billion on propaganda alone.
- Dungeons and Dragons was originally published in 1974.
- The British Royal Navy has had eight ships named "HMS Indefatigable."
- 90% of the Chrysler Building is owned by the United Arab Emirates.



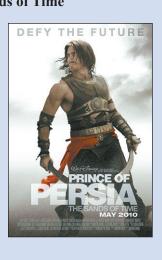
The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Max Brown A & E Editor: Joel DeVyldere Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

Coming attractions

Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time

Set in 6th century Persia, this film stars Jake Gyllenhaal as the rebellious Prince Dastan. This hero, along with an alluring princess (Gemma Arterton), is fighting to protect an ancient dagger, which has properties of time travel. An evil tyrant (Alfred Molina) would use the dagger to make all of humanity slaves under his command. Directed by Mike Newell.



Runtime: 116 minutes•Rating: PG-13

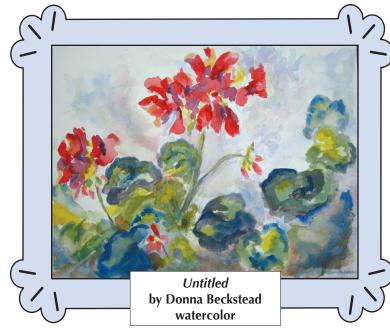


Sex and the City 2 Carrie (Sarah Jessica Parker) and friends Charlotte, Miranda and Samantha (Kristin Davis, Cynthia Nixon and Kim Cattrall) return to the big screen to expose more of their glamorous lives in New York City. This time, though, there's also a trip in store for the four companions to the Middle East, where they find adventure waiting for them. Runtime: 120 minutes•Rating: R

Sources: Imdb, Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com

Student-submitted art

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



Weekly Weather Predictions

It's not easy being green

Ashley Christie Page Prettifier

It's not very funny, either.

Shrek, Donkey, and the rest of the gang are back in the fourth and final (supposedly) installment of the ogre franchise, "Shrek Forever After." This time around, everyone has fallen into a monotonous daily routine that is predictable and boring. Shrek (Mike Myers) misses his days of terrorizing villagers and having the swamp all to himself.

One night, Shrek runs into Rumpel Stiltskin (Walt Dohrn) and makes a deal with Rumpel that will give him 24 hours of being a real ogre again on one condition: In order to gain a day, Shrek will have to give up a day from his past. The catch is Rumpel gets to pick what day. Rumpel, being the sneaky bastard that he is, picks the day Shrek was born.

If Shrek was never born, he never met Donkey (Eddie Murphy) or Puss in Boots (Antonio Banderas), and he never rescued Fiona (Cameron Diaz) or fell in love with her. In this new world, Rumpel is king of Far Far Away and Shrek has 24 hours to re-befriend Donkey and Puss, find Fiona, and make her fall in love with him all over again, because only true love's kiss can break the spell.

When the first "Shrek" opened in 2001 it was a new kind of animated movie. It disproved the theory that

Starring the voices of: Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy

Starring the voices of: Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy, Cameron Diaz, Antonio Banderas, Julie Andrews, John Cleese, Craig Robinson, Jon Hamm, and Jane Lynch

proved that it was a force to be reckoned with in the animation world.

Since "Shrek," DreamWorks has gone on to produce hits like "Madagascar," "Kung Fu Panda," and most recently "How to Train Your Dragon." So I'm left wondering how a studio can come out with an original film like "Dragon" and this tired old ogre within two months of each other.

The basic idea of this film is "Shrek" meets "It's a Wonderful Life." Shrek goes back to a world where he never existed so he has to do everything we watched him do in the first movie. You know a film series is in trouble when it's not only stealing ideas from other movies, but from itself.

Besides the recycled story, the humor that was in the first two movies isn't there either. This "Shrek" forces a lot of laughs in order to incorporate 3-D technology. In one scene Shrek roars towards the audience so spit and other movies have always had topnotch animation, and the 3-D isn't needed when the world already felt like it had some depth to it.

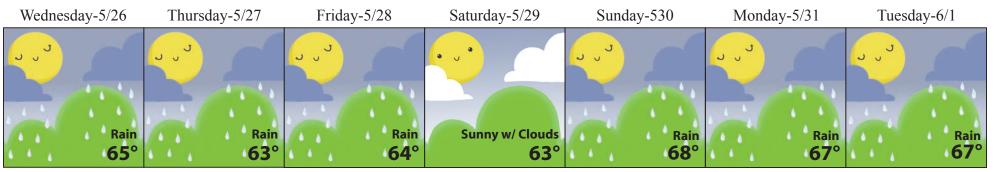
While this movie wasn't great, it was better than the last one, "Shrek the Third." And it's not bad, per say, there just isn't much in it for the grown ups who will get dragged along.

The only real humor for those over the age of 12 is the soundtrack, which interjects some energy in an otherwise lifeless story. It has a little of everything from Beastie Boys "Sure Shot" to The Carpenters "Top of the World," which come in at just the right moments. In one standout scene, Donkey meets Dragon for the first time, again, and Lionel Ritchie's "Hello" starts playing, then she eats him.

Once upon a time "Shrek" was a fresh and witty comedy that challenged the conventional fairy tale. If you do go see "Shrek Forever After" definitely do yourself (and your wallet) a favor and skip the 3-D. Be warned, this once great ogre film has been reduced to nothing more than a mere kids movie.

cartoon equals kids movie. "Shrek" appealed to everyone and had jokes for every age range. With it, DreamWorks

grossness gets flung our way. This isn't funny, and the effect isn't that great. The 3-D doesn't enhance the viewing experience at all. The "Shrek"



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