## COMMUTER

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inn-Benton Volleyball (LBVB) continued their absolute tear in the Southern Region of the Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAC) by defeating Clark at home three sets to one. LBVB celebrated their annual "Dig Pink" night on Wednesday, Oct. 28, a night devoted to raising funds for breast cancer awareness. This win pushed the team to an 11-0 record in their region and 36-0 overall.

The Roadrunners hosted their toughest opponent in the Southern region as Clark was sitting with a win-loss record of 9-1, second only to the Roadrunners. LBVB took set one in a very tight 25-23 game, showing that Clark wasn't going to be a pushover. In set two the Roadrunners fell into a hole early, giving up the first six points to Clark. However, LBVB showed just why they're the number one team in the region by rallying back to win the set 25-23 in remarkable fashion.

"We try and prepare for tough competition by adding challenges in practice," said Sophomore Alyvia Sams. "This puts more pressure on us so when we get into a game it's easier for us. But nothing can truly replicate a game situation because of the intensity and adrenaline you get when playing."

The Roadrunners gave up set three 19-25, sending the game into a decisive set four. Last week at Chemeketa, the team was pushed to a set five, something that the Roadrunners aren't used to. The Roadrunners showed an obvious sign of improvement by finishing off Clark in set four, 25-23.

Freshman Montanna Gubrud, who finished the match with 52 assists, was again named NWAC Setter of the Week.

Congratulations to LBVB Coach Jayme
Frazier who picked up her 500th career win last
week against Mount Hood Community College.
This accomplishment is a testament to the
significant skill, drive, and ability of Coach Frazier.
Way to go, Coach!

The Roadrunners last three games of the regular season will all be played at home. First, the team hosts Umpqua on Friday, Nov. 4 at 6:30.

"We will prepare as usual with scouting information, review of how we played them last time and their tendencies," said Head Coach Jayme Frazier. "We have three weeks left of the season so it's important to keep our cardio and lifting going strong through the next two weeks. We have really tried to focus on one step at a time so this week will be no different than last in how we prepare."

The following games will be on Saturday, Nov. 5 against Southwestern Oregon Community College, and Wednesday, Nov. 9 against Lane. Playoffs in the NWAC will start on Nov. 17 and LBVB looks poised to make a great run towards winning it all.



STORY BY
NICK FIELDS



#### **#NODAPL**

"This was an all-out war that was waged on indigenous people that were peacefully assembling."

Story on Page 6



#### **Chalk Shock Responses**

Students share their thoughts and opinions on the shocking chalking that took place at LBCC.

Story on Page 3

# SEXUAL ASSAULTS NEAR OSU CAMPUS

Multiple sexual assaults reported in Corvallis over the last two weeks

ne in four women experience sexual assault by the time they reach their college graduation. According to the Bureau of Justice's recent Campus Climate Survey Validation Study, the highest percentage of sexual assaults occur during the month of October.

This October, two serious sexual assault cases involving OSU have been reported to Corvallis police and are under investigation. Another incident occurred over the weekend in Corvallis unrelated to OSU. There are currently two rape cases under investigation that occurred over the weekend.

One rape was reported on the 700 block of S.W. Chickadee Street on Saturday, Oct. 29 around 11 p.m.

Another assault reportedly took place at one of OSU's fraternities near campus either late Friday Oct. 28, or early Saturday morning.

"At this point I don't have anything to release; it's an ongoing, open investigation," said Lt. Dan Duncan of the reported OSU-related assault, an investigation listed as "rape 1st degree," reported around 1 a.m. Saturday morning on the 800 block of SW Madison Avenue.

Duncan stated that release of information could harm the investigation.

LBCC's Public Safety office were notified by police and issued a safety warning to LBCC students.

"We thought it was worth notifying our students that there was a threat going on and they should exercise safety precaution," said Marcene Olson, safety and loss prevention director of LBCC.

Olson said that the close proximity of the LBCC Benton Campus and amount of dually enrolled students means LBCC students could be affected by a threat.

Earlier in the month, OSU students received a similar email brief from OSU's Department of Public Safety (DPS) regarding another attack.

On Oct. 16, a male suspect reported to be in his early 20s entered a private residence through an open door and sexually assaulted an OSU student. The incident occurred on the 600 block of Northwest 23rd Avenue.

All reports are currently under investigation and no connection between the events has been announced.

In 2015, OSU opened the Survivor Advocacy and Resource Center and has received media praise for the recent attempts to improve how it deals with campus-related sexual assault.

OSU DPS warned students to travel in groups at night, keep doors and windows locked, and to use SafeRide on the OSU campus, as well as DPS escort services. SafeRide operates from 7 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. in Corvallis and Philomath seven days a week and is available to any OSU student. Their services are available through the SafeRideOSU, an app downloadable at Google Play or the iTunes Store.

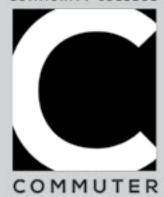
LBCC campus security also provides an escort service and a safety app available on Google Play and iTunes. They can be reached 24/7 at 542-926-6855.



STORY BY
EMILY GOODYKOONTZ
@SHARKASAURUSX



THE LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE



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 students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters, and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

#### **Letters Welcome**

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:

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On Tuesday, Oct. 25, members of the Students For Life Club wrote pro-life statements in chalk around the LBCC campus. While the school received emails and complaints on behalf of offended students, others supported the club's messages.

Lucas San Nicholas, a former club member and supporter spoke out in in response to the controversy.

"I totally understand how people can see a lot of this info as "negative," said Nicholas. "Ultimately, our goal is to help as many people as we can and spread compassion and help to those in need. However, a significant part of that goal is to spread the science, truth and statistics regarding abortion. Unfortunately, abortion is, in itself, an extremely 'negative' topic, no matter how

you approach it. In my opinion, it is the worst injustice our world has ever known. As much as we'd love a 100 percent positive way to speak out against it, it is just inherently a negative thing. Our club never aims to upset, shame or harm anyone in any way. However, that being said, it is not our responsibility or even a possibility to ensure that every single person feels positive around our events regarding such a controversial topic. We go to great lengths, planning and training to be as sensitive as possible. But at the end of the day, we are still speaking out against one of the most sensitive triggers that exists. Abortion."

Another problem that occurred was the placement and rules regarding the chalk. According to Sophia Metzler, student leadership coordinator, messages

are only permitted in areas that receive rainfall, and the club chalked covered areas across campus.

"We did get permission to do the chalk, and that our club was unaware of the breezeway rule and that it hadn't been a problem at past chalking events," said the club's president Elizabeth Lang.

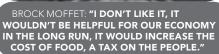
Members of the Student Leadership Council washed the chalk off the pavement in areas that were not permitted.



## CAMPUS VOICE

What's your opinion on Measure 97?







KELSEY HARTER: "I AM UNDECIDED, FROM ALL THE DIFFERENT INFORMATION IN THE MEDIA, I HAVEN'T MADE MY MIND YET."



KEVEN CLAY: "LEANING TOWARDS NO, BECAUSE THERE WOULD BE ECONOMIC REPERCUSSIONS, CONSUMERS WOULD HAVE TO PAY. THERE WOULD BE A SALES TAX ON CONSUMERS."



MICHELLE SOUTAR: "I'M VOTING NO ON 97 BECAUSE IT IS POORLY WRITTEN AND IT IS NOT CLEAR, WE ALSO DON'T KNOW WHERE THE MONEY IS GOING."



KAYLA KUMLE: "IT'S GOOD TO TAX BIG CORPORATIONS, DISTRIBUTE MONEY AND IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR SCHOOLS."



@LBCommuter

STORY AND PHOTOS BY **ELLIOT POND** 



I would first like to start out by saying this: Yes, you totally came off as negative. And no, you didn't necessarily handle this the right way.

Abortion is the hardest fucking thing that a WOMAN, not a man, will have to go through if presented with the situation. You're literally deciding whether or not you want to A) keep this baby and find some way to raise it on a minimum wage salary and a prayer. Or, B) You get the abortion and have a child if and when you want them. When you want one. On your time.

Does spreading compassion include writing that "abortion is murder?" Does spreading compassion include calling the women who made this decision murderers? Because there are plenty of ways to sit down and talk about this issue without calling women murderers, which doesn't exactly sound like a pro-life thing to say.

And believe me, if I had gotten an abortion and had read the words that you had written, you wouldn't hear the end of it.

Abortion should be a choice that the mom and the mom only makes. Yes, she should know her options. But this is a choice that she and she alone should have to make. Politics should have never been dragged into this. A cisgendered man, especially a politician who probably has never had a medical background whatsoever, should never have the ability to take control over my health care rights.

I'd also like to present this idea: We live in a country where Freedom of Religion is our First Amendment. We pride ourselves in it, whether we're atheists who don't believe in the concept of a deity, Mormon missionaries going door to door passing out Books of Mormon, or Muslim women wearing their hijabs with pride.

To me, part of that freedom of religion means some people don't believe that Abortion is wrong. That Abortion is necessary. I mean, the alternative to Abortion is lethal. According to feminist.com,

"In the 1950s, about a million illegal abortions a year were performed in the U.S., and over a thousand women died each year as a result. Women who were victims of botched or unsanitary abortions came in desperation to hospital emergency wards, where some died of widespread abdominal infections. Many women who recovered from such infections found themselves sterile or chronically and painfully ill. The enormous emotional stress often lasted a long time."

Over 1,000 women dying because they're trying to take care of their own bodies is not pro-life!

And while yes, you could make the argument that we now have birth control, then run with that as your argument. Give out condoms, help women get contraception like the pill or an IUD for lowered prices.

Wait, I think there's a infamous women's clinic that's trying to do this. It's called Planned Parenthood, and they're not just for abortions. The place you protested against is the place that hands out contraception for cheap. It's the place that gives women, and even men, hope.

When you say "defund Planned Parenthood!" you're really defunding this:

Anema testing. Cholesterol screening. Diabetes screening. Physical exams (for employment and sports). Flu vaccines. Helping cessation of t o quit smoking addiction. High blood pressure screening. Tetanus vaccines. Thyroid screening. Erectile dysfunction help. Jock itch treatment. Prostate cancer screenings. STI screenings. UTI screening. Help with yeast infections. Pregnancy tests, counseling, PAP smears. And, most importantly, birth control access so people can avoid abortions.

But what really irks me is when you say, "Abortion is the worst injustice our world has ever known."

No. No it's not

There are wanted children dying of malnutrition in impoverished third-world countries. There are wanted children being abandoned by their parents just because they came out as an LGBTQ individual. There are girls all across the globe who are being raped, and sexual assault is something that affects 1 in 5 women, and 1 in 16 men.

You didn't have to have your message come across as negative. There are plenty of ways to sell your message and still come out as sweet rather than scathing.

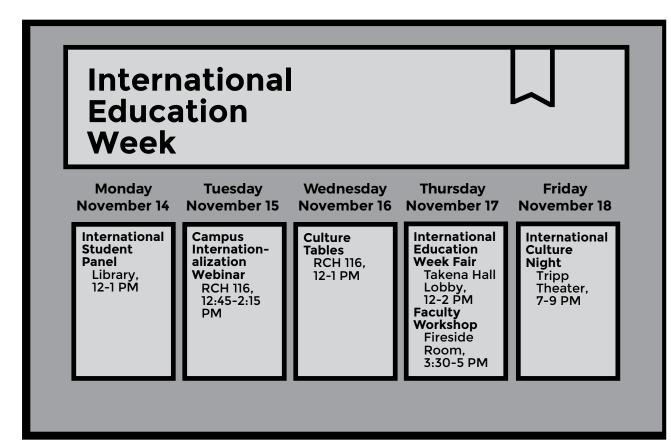
However, I applaud you for providing diapers and formula for mothers. This, to me, is the greatest way to go about your cause. Not by writing controversial messages on the ground, but proving that you're prolife by giving to parents in need of basic baby supplies.

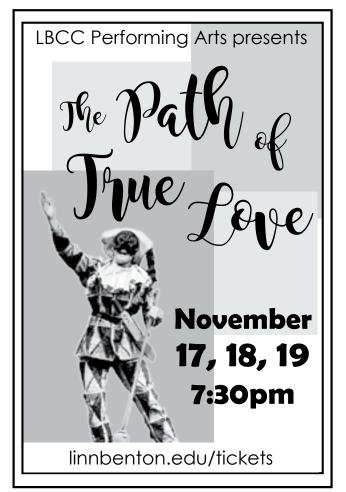
BUT LET ME BE CLEAR: LBCC, to me, is a haven for people to be themselves. And in a period of time when people are at a pivotal point in their maturation --moving out of home, making big decisions on their own, figuring out what the hell they're going to do with the rest of their lives -- they need love, support, and in my opinion, perhaps even a diverse group of friends to provide a new perspective.

I love all the diversity on campus, and am proud to say that everyone I've interacted with has so much to add to my life experiences. The last thing I want is for someone to feel excluded.



COLUMN BY
MORGAN CONNELLY
@MADEINOREGON97





### HARVEST FEST 2016

SLC throws their second annual harvest fest

Student Life and Leadership office, was held in the Courtyard Cafe on October 28, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Clubs provided activities. Some of the clubs present were the Chess Club and Drama Club. The chess club brought their giant chess set. The Drama Club provided a photo booth. Other activities included putt-putt, bobbing for apples, face painting, tug-of-war, cookie decorating, costume contest and raffle.

The event planners went all out, providing hot food

The second annual Harvest Festival, hosted by the from Panda Express, fresh fruits and veggies, cookies, turkey sandwiches, drinks and an abundance of candy.

"I like the energy," said Taylor Gastorf. "Everyone is so happy and having a good time. It is liberating."



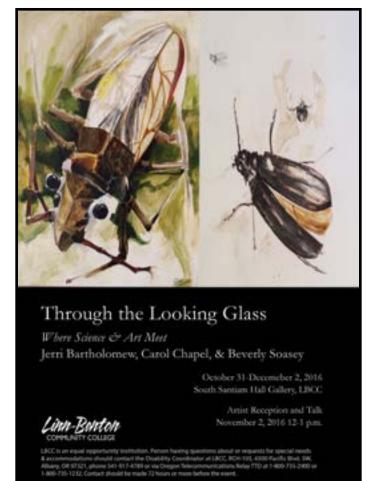
STORY AND PHOTOS BY DANIELLE JARKOWSKY @DANIELLEJOY













## WHO ARE YOU VOTING FOR?

Researching candidates is hard, reading this article is slightly less hard

Having trouble filling your bubbles? Don't worry, The Commuter's got you covered. Below are quick overviews of who's running for governor, secretary of state, state treasurer, and attorney general.

#### **Oregon Governor:**

**Kate Brown:** Brown currently holds the office, and is a Democrat. On her website she's displayed her proudest achievements, which include: passing a minimum wage increase, passing eco-friendly bills like the coal-to-clean bill, and her focus on increasing the graduation rate.

**Bud Pierce:** Pierce is the Republican candidate. According to his website, he'd like to control the state's spending, fix the ever present gridlock in Oregon's major cities, and get rid of administrative bloat in the healthcare insurance system.

Cliff Thomason: Thomason is an Independent candidate who, according to his website, dislikes Brown's law regarding paid sick leave for all workers because it didn't have funding behind it to pay for itself. He also disagrees with the geography-based system of the minimum wage law, and wants to create an even Progressive candidate, he aims to cut out mad here," hung crooked at minimum wage across the state.

Aaron Auer: Auer is a Constitution party candidate. On his website he expresses that he'd like Oregon to be once again run by a "Preaching Statesman" and base his actions as Governor on the Bible and Constitution.

James Foster: Foster is a Libertarian who wants to uphold Libertarian party values and base his actions on the Cato Handbook for Policymakers.

#### **Secretary of State:**

Brad Avakian: Avakian is the Democratic candidate. He is devoted to returning shop classes to schools and as labor commissioner, he has worked towards "equal pay for equal work," according to his website. He also is very passionate about women's rights.

Dennis Richardson: Richardson is the Republican candidate. He aims to restore accountability, transparency, and integrity to the office, according to his website. He wants to use his actions as secretary in a non-partisan manner, and instead work in

a people-focused manner.

Paul Wells: Wells is the Independent candidate. Wells hails from Corvallis, Ore., and is focused on breaking the two party system as well as focusing on creating jobs by decreasing Labor Unions.

Alan Zundel: Zundel represents the Green Party, his aim is to create changes that will change how voting works in Oregon, making it easier for third party candidates to make it through.

#### **State Treasurer:**

Tobias Read: Read is the Democratic candidate. He aims to increase transparency, help Oregonians save for college and retirement, as well as reducing inefficiency and waste.

Jeff Gudman: Gudman is the Republican candidate. He wants to spend within our means so as to reduce taxation and be open to new ideas.

Chris Telfer: Telfer is the Independent candidate. She is an ex-state senator, and lottery commissioner, and runs a business doing taxes.

Chris Henry: Chris Henry is the investment funds through the federal government, and use this cash on the state of Oregon.

#### Oregon Attorney General:

Ellen Rosenblum: Rosenblum is our current attorney general. She is the Democratic candidate and wants to continue making sure that all nine divisions of the Department of Justice act with integrity.

Daniel Zene Crowe: Crowe represents the Republicans. He wants to focus on wiping out human trafficking in Oregon.

Lars Hedbor: Hedbor is the Libertarian candidate. He is a chair at the Libertarian Party of Oregon, and is the owner of My Web-My Way.



STORY BY

MORIAH HOSKINS @MORIAH\_HOSKINS



## LET'S PLAY DRESS UP!

Offices around LBCC compete in Halloween decoration and costume contest

Halloween, year on L'administrative and staff offices on the Albany campus bedeck themselves in themed costumes and decorations to compete for a grand prize: To be the judges of the next year's contest.

This year, the staff of the Human declared Resources Office the Admissions and Registration offices the winners of the 2016 contest out of a total of 12 contesting offices.

"They had so many characters, the office was decked out; it was pretty incredible," said Diana Ward, human resources specialist.

The office chose a theme of "Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass." A sign at the office entrance reading "We're all the gate of the dark and draped "rabbit hole." Beyond the rabbit hole, Vickie Keith, administrative assistant to student affairs could be seen sitting behind her desk, a striking and fully-costumed Queen of Hearts.

The previous year Keith decorated her desk to look like a pirate ship, but the office recieved only an honorable mention.

"We were totally robbed," said Keith. This year the Alice-themed office found their "vindication." They will be the judges for next year's contest.

The contest's honorable mentions include the Cooperative Work Experience Office Information Services.

"Halloween is a big thing around here," said Ward.

The decoration and costume contest has been running since 2005, but the staff's affection for and celebration of Halloween has continued for much longer than the past decade.

The President's Offices tried the "National Lampoon's Christmas

Vacation" theme on for size, but the joke fell a little flat.

"We were surprised how many people haven't seen the movie and so didn't get it," said Amanda Kliever, executive assistant to the president.

Their decorations included the electrocuted cat on the floor and a squirrel in their

Christmas

"They had so many characters, the office was decked out; it was pretty incredible."





The Indians must conform to 'the white man's **⊥** ways,' peaceably if they will, forcibly if they must," said Bureau of Indian Affairs Commissioner Thomas Morgan in 1889.

This insidious belief sent destructive ripples churning throughout the course of American history, an articulation of violence, genocide and cruelty. It's an attitude which began long before the Allotment Act of 1887, an act that stripped tribal lands from 138 million acres to 46 million over the course of 47 years. This dismissive treatment of Native rights and culture arose when the first white settlers crept up on the unfamiliar shores of North America and pushed westward in the narcissistic throes of Manifest Destiny; it has not stopped since.

Waves of racial destruction are still rippling through modern society and are currently crashing down in the plains of North Dakota, at the edge of the Standing Rock Sioux reservation.

One mile north of the reservation, a great "black snake" slowly winds its way towards the Missouri River. Flanked by bulldozers, mercenary-esque security armed with dogs, policemen in riot gear carrying assault rifles and driving Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles (MRAPs), the "black snake," or Dakota Access Pipeline, pushes towards the thousand peaceful protesters that have gathered to end its encroachment on the river.

The pipeline will carry crude oil from the Bakken shale of North Dakota, 1,134 miles to Patoka, Illinois. It will be capable of transporting more than 450,000 barrels of crude, hydro-fracked oil per day through North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, and Illinois.

Filled with heavy crude oil, laden with toxic fracking chemicals, the pipeline is a threat to the tribe's only water source and will pass under the Missouri river one mile from their reservation. If the pipeline were to break, it would be devastating to the tribe.

In the continental U.S., nearly 8,000 pipeline incidents have occurred since 1986. These have resulted in over 500 deaths, 2,300 injuries and \$7 billion in damage and losses, according to The Center for Biological Diversity. In 2013, a rupture in the Pegasus pipeline in Mayflower, Arkansas left a community badly damaged, environmental and air toxins persistent weeks later, including benzene and toluene; this is just one example of hundreds in the last few years.

The Standing Rock Sioux have all the reason in the world to worry about their water.

Reuters released an investigative report regarding Sunoco Logistics, the subsidiary of Energy Transfer Partners that will run the Dakota Access Pipeline after its construction. Sunoco is the operator with the highest number of crude oil incidents in the U.S., leaking 3,406 barrels over the last 6 years.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced a punitive settlement with Sunoco just earlier this year. Again in September, the EPA slapped Sunoco with corrective action after its new Permian Express II pipeline in Texas leaked 800 barrels of oil.

It is not surprising why members of the Sioux community have gathered to protest the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline since April.

Now, over 100 other tribes and a multitude of allies have gathered as water protectors to fight the construction. The pipeline will cross through sacred territory and burial sites the tribe lost through forced laws and treaties such as the Allotment Act, also known as the Dawes Severalty Act.

The water protectors have been met with extreme force and oppressive action, surely meant to subdue them into compliance with the "white man's ways": the way of oil, and of cultural and environmental destruction.

Most recently, on Oct. 28, 141 protectors were violently arrested. LRAD sound cannons, mace, tear gas, rubber bullets, bean bag rounds and flash-bang grenades, were used to disperse peaceful and praying water protectors. The protectors had erected a new opposition camp directly in the path of construction just days before. Two hundred militarized policemen confronted the camp.

According to The Guardian, the arrested were later held in makeshift cages in an underground parking garage with little access to healthcare and facilities, and protesters reported having numbers written on their arms in ways reminiscent of concentration camps.

Water protectors reported the use of stun grenades and the presence of snipers at the Oct. 28 action. A no-fly zone, with the exception of police aircraft, was issued over the recently erected protest encampment that stood directly in the path of the construction. This left protesters unable to monitor police The water protectors have activities with drones; their drones were shot down with been met with extreme

DemocracyNow. A teenage boy on horseback with shot off his horse with rubber bullets; the Huffington Post reported his horse was killed in the incident.

rubber bullets, according to

of oil, and of cultural and police actively trying to hurt people, pushing them back environmental destruction. to allow construction of the Dakota Access pipeline. They were defending monetary interests as human beings were being physically hurt," Tara Housaka, National Campaign Director for Honor the Earth, told DemocracyNow.

Housaka saw teenagers maced directly in the face, people shot with rubber bullets and bean bag rounds, water protectors ripped from the front line and beat with clubs. (Visit DemocracyNow.org for video footage)

This is not the first violent incident the water protectors have faced. Energy Transfer Partners, the Texas-based oil corporation in charge of the \$3.8 billion project demonstrated their aggressive tactics one day after the tribe filed an injunction to stop construction on land they had identified as an ancestral burial ground. The next day, the company bulldozed the land and guards armed with dogs clashed with the peacefully protesting water protectors, resulting in vicious dog bites and injuries to the water protectors.

"This was an all-out war that was waged on indigenous people that were peacefully assembling," said Houska.

There is no current information on injury totals, yet plenty of injuries can be seen on live streams and video footage released by the water protectors and journalists.

Hundreds of protectors have been arrested in the past few months; many on false or trumped-up charges, including journalists attempting to cover the story which has been mostly ignored by mass media. Arrests for minor misdemeanors have included strip searches, (famous actress Shailene Woodley described her stripsearch arrest to DemocracyNow) violent beatings and reported broken bones.

The oppression does not stop with the rights of Native Americans; authorities in North Dakota have actively

suppressed the First Amendment right of freedom of the press.

Videographer Deia Schlosberg faces three felony charges and 45 years in prison for doing her job and filming a protest action in Walhalla, N.D. DemocracyNow's journalist and anchor Amy Goodman faced felony trespassing charges after filming the Sept. 3 action. Several other journalists have been arrested on similar charges.

This fight has clearly grown larger than just the water and environmental impacts fracking and oil pipelines bring to the land and the American people; it is a clear message that big business, oil business, will stop at nothing, unless we stop them. They will leave nothing not even if it for the future of our lands and the future of our children who will have to live on those poisoned grounds.

"Our Tribe can no longer sacrifice our sacred water, our graves and our Mother Earth, and our future generations for the financial gain of private industry which has shown no regard for our force and oppressive action, rights or concerns," wrote Standing Rock surely meant to subdue them Chairman Sioux David Archambault.

> Why should you care about all this, 3,000 miles away and safe in your sleepy Oregon towns? Because if the police can militarize against peaceful, civil disobedience with state support at the behest of oil corporations in North Dakota, they can do it here, too. The fight for the sanctity of water and American human rights is on the line in Standing Rock, and don't kid

> yourself into thinking this will not affect you. On Oct. 31, the United Nations sent a group to

into compliance with the

"white man's ways": the way

investigate the allegations of human rights violations. This just got serious, folks.

I implore you to take note of the events in North Dakota. Do not bury your head in the sand; instead stand tall. Stop the racial violence and discrimination. Reroute the pipeline. Stand with Standing Rock. #NODAPL



## ACTION-RPG GAME REVIEWS



### KINGDOM HEARTS

Seven measures are going up to bat on November 8th.

For those craving a deep story that isn't necessarily dark and serious, look no further than the love-child of Disney and Square Enix: Kingdom Hearts. After Sora, our main character, ends up in a different world after his own is ripped apart by darkness, he begins his quest to find his friends, which turns out to be a lot bigger deal than he intended. The main point of the game: Travel to numerous Disney-themed worlds with Donald Duck and Goofy at your side as you beat up embodiments of darkness known as Heartless in order to save the Disney-galaxy. Did I mention that your weapon is also a big key called the Keyblade? Find this action-RPG on the PlayStation 2, or the remastered version on the PS3 called Kingdom Hearts HD 1.5 ReMIX.

### XENOBLADE CHRONICLES

Seven measures are going up to bat on November 8th.

Every action-RPG has three things in common: an engaging story that is always throwing curveballs at 85 mph, an easy-to-pick-up combat system that takes time and strategy to master, and characters that we can attach to and feel for. Xenoblade Chronicles has all of these things and then some. Unlike your traditional JRPG (Japanese Role-Playing Game), Xenoblade Chronicles has an open-world to explore with a fast-paced and unique combat system that will really get your clock ticking. Your mission: Use the Monado, an ancient weapon that can reveal the future, to lead the battle against an army of mecha-robots. Prepare for sacrifices to be made, all in the name of saving the people. Xenoblade Chronicles can be found on the Wii, and is also available for the New Nintendo 3DS under the title Xenoblade Chronicles 3D.

## BALDUR'S GATE: DARK ALLIANCE

Seven measures are going up to bat on November 8th.

If you are looking for an action-RPG with a little more old school beat-'em-up style, Baldur's Gate: Dark Alliance is your type of game. The big draw to this game is that it's set in the "Dungeons and Dragons" fantasy world of Forgotten Realms. You play as a lowly adventurer out for revenge against some thieves that stole your possessions. However, things quickly escalate and you find out you are only at the tip of the iceberg. Best of all, this game has a simple battle system that allows anyone to be able to pick it up and play. This top-down beat-'em-up can be found on Xbox, PS2, Gamecube, or Game Boy Advance, and can be played solo or split-screen with a friend.

REVIEWS BY
SCOTT WATNE



#### The new system from Nintendo

The latest console from Nintendo is scheduled to launch next year: the Nintendo Switch. Originally codenamed the "NX," this console will bring the industry headfirst into the ninth generation of video games.

While the previous Nintendo consoles have had varying degrees of success since the American launch of the Nintendo Entertainment system in 1985, they have all contributed to creating a sizable and loyal fanbase. Their handheld systems, however; have been consistent leaders in portable video games since the original Game Boy launched in 1989. With the Switch, Nintendo aims to combine both fronts into one unit.

A video on the company's YouTube channel shows how it works: the console can be used in all manner of settings, both at home and on the go. The system can not only deliver a gaming experience that Nintendo has built its name on, but it also aims to capture the emerging market of mobile gaming beyond what a game on a cell phone or other device can offer.

Although many are unsure how the console itself will perform, the idea in itself has generated a considerable amount of hype for the Switch. In addition to key games like Mario, "Pokémon" and "The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild" confirmed to be in development for the system (not to mention newer IPs such as "Splatoon"), many big-name third-party developers such as Sega, Activision and Bethesda have pledged their support for the Switch.

Even though there hasn't been that much information revealed, there is a strong feeling that the Switch can succeed in a gaming market that's been increasingly obsessed with mobile games. At worst, it's hard to imagine the console being a bigger failure than the Virtual Boy.

Above all, the Switch has the potential to revolutionize the way we all play video games. As the introductory video shows, we could all enjoy "Breath of the Wild" from our living room to a plane at 40,000 feet. The experience can be whatever you make it out to be. Now you're playing with power: Switch power!

PREVIEW BY
STEVEN PRYOR

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Water flowed up from the ground and into LBCC's storage building on the northwest edge of campus, Tuesday, Oct. 25.

Deep beneath 2 layers of pavement and a 3-ft layer of gravel, a broken water main sprayed for over four hours. The waters pressurized through cracks in the pavement in at least three places, directly in front of the storage building, according to Facilities Director Scott Krambuhl.

LBCC's Facilities Department organized the repair of the water main. Facilities were unable to turn off water to the area without shutting off water to the entire campus; this meant no bathroom facilities or fire sprinkler systems, and would require campus to be evacuated.

After communicating with campus administration, the decision to evacuate campus at 3 p.m. was made, in order for repairs to commence.

"It couldn't have gone much better than it did, once we got past the initial panic of trying to find a valve we couldn't find," said Scott Krambuhl, director of facilities.

An old valve operator was the flood's culprit. "We didn't know what was there until we dug it up. We were really surprised the valve was there," said Krambuhl.

Krambuhl said the repair was a coordinated effort with the City of Albany, excavators Mid-Pacific Enterprises, as well as Northwest Mechanical.

"Once we opened it up it was an incredible stroke of luck; the city had a valve operator in their warehouse," said Krambuhl. "It was a great team effort to just get it done quick."

Without the spare part, repairs would need a part all the way in Eugene.

Despite the successful repair, some LBCC property was damaged.

"I've opened up a property claim just in case the damage goes above our deductible," said Marcene Olson, LBCC's safety and loss prevention director.

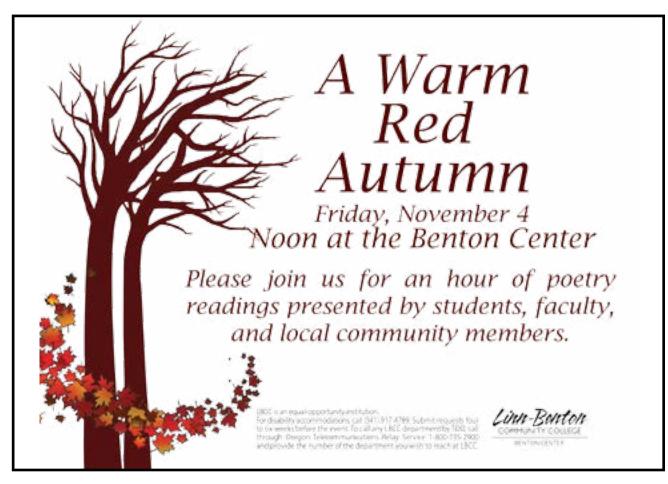
The storage facility houses equipment, furniture and some paperwork belonging to various LBCC departments.

"They [LBCC Facilities] haven't assessed what the actual loss is," said Olson.

Krambuhl expressed gratitude towards the City of Albany and LBCC administration, for making what could have been a difficult repair situation into a swiftly solved problem.



STORY BY
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# It's Freedom OF EXPRESSION (WHEN I AGREE WITH IT)

Javier Cervantes leads discussion

Some folks have more freedom than others," Said LBCC Department of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Director Javier Cervantes. "That's just the America we live in... I don't agree with it, and I don't condone it."

With political expression and freedom of speech at the top of the list for the afternoon's agenda, students and staff filled the Vineyard Mountain Room at noon, on Wednesday, Oct. 26, for a conversation led by Cervantes on "It's Freedom of Expression (When I agree With It)."

"You'll be surprised at how disarming that is when you can calm yourself down enough, to think clearly enough," said Cervantes. "When we're on the defensive, we're in fight or flight mode, then we get more angry."

A remark from the crowd suggested people who resort to violence are simply uneducated, ignorant, caught up in the emotion around them, and don't have the capacity to form an uneducated, unbiased, opinion.

Others disagreed, stating it has a lot to do with where you are physically, and not just who you are as a person. Another student suggested the extreme response may

not actually have anything to do with lack of education, but instead can have a lot to do with feeling in danger.

This led into another topic of discussion: introspection can lead to greater understanding.

"Our lived experiences will always put us in some kind of an opinion, somehow someway, it's always going to put some



kind of filter on how we interpret history, so you can't stay neutral. It's almost impossible," said Cervantes, in reference to Howard Zinn's "You Can't Stay Neutral on a Moving Train."

Some highlights from the discussion included a topic that's been creating conflict in sports, classrooms, and the media: The decision to protest reciting the pledge of allegiance and the National Anthem.

"Nobody's talking about the issue on why he's protesting, everyone's talking about him protesting," said Cervantes, in response to the backlash following the NFL protests.

A clip from a Fox News "Face Off" episode was shown. The episode was about Matt Patrick and Houston Texas's New Black Panther Party leader Quanell X, who discussed 10-year-old girl Skyla Madria's decision to take a knee and protest during the pledge of allegiance.

"She knelt periodically over the past two weeks to protest the barely known, unsung third verse of the poem written by Francis Scott Key that would become the national anthem. It mentions slavery," wrote Merrill Hope, in an article for breitbart.com.

Where do we go from here, and how do we get our points across without attacking each other? How do we talk about the ideas without making it personal? These are the conversations Cervantes believes are necessary.

"I found it interesting how we were discussing how we should present arguments and disagreements with each other. He touched on the importance of the way we communicate with each other, with our disagreements and different beliefs, and I thought that was interesting," said Digital Art student Daner Locke. "Step back and look back at yourself, and think about the other person's point of view, listen."



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