

February 2, 2011

The Commuter

A Weekly Student Publication
Vol. 42 No. 15

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

pg. 10



Inside

Drug Testing pg. 2

Rebellion in Egypt pg. 4

Dealing with Stress pg. 9

The Commuter
 Your Source for News and Events at LBCC
Advertising Department

Contact Commuter Ads at 541-917-4452
commuterads@linnbenton.edu



An evening with
CHRIS BOTTI

Friday, April 1, 7:30 pm
Saturday, April 2, 7:30 pm
 LaSells Stewart Center, OSU
 Tickets \$30, \$45, \$60, \$75
TicketsOregon.com (503) 432-9477
 Visit COSUSymphony.org

CORVALLIS-OSU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
cosusymphony.org

Oregon State UNIVERSITY

OPINION

Stand Up and Pee for America

Shayne Morgan
 Contributing Writer

A newly crafted Senate Bill, Bill 538, would require drug testing for anyone applying for or receiving state benefits.

Sen. Bruce Starr (R-Hillsboro) has penned Senate Bill 538 that reads: "The Department of Human Services shall adopt rules that require adult applicants for and recipients of public assistance to undergo testing for substances of abuse as defined in ORS 438.010. In a nutshell, you would have to undergo urine testing to obtain state assistance and be required to submit to testing every six months thereafter or as the bill reads; "the department shall deny or terminate public assistance to an individual for whom the testing described in this section produces a positive result."

A second Bill, House Bill 2995 sponsored by State Rep. Dennis Richardson (R-Central Point), if passed into law, those who apply for or receive unemployment insurance will also need to pass a drug test. Those who fail will be denied the insurance unless they take part in a drug-treatment program.

David Fidanque, executive director of the Oregon Chapter of the ACLU, said, "It's unconstitutional; there would be no way it could be implemented. What Senator Starr has in mind is urinalysis, which would be an unreasonable search under the Fourth Amendment of the federal constitution. Article one, section nine in the



provided by Bruce Starr/facebook.com
Sen. Bruce Starr (R-Hillsboro) recently crafted a bill that would require drug testing in order to receive state benefits.

Oregon Bill of Rights, also prevents unreasonable searches and seizures. It would be unconstitutional."

Once again, we have politicians trying to take away our civil rights. I feel it's time we take a stand. When the Republicans had enough of taxes – they started the TEA party. Taxed Enough Already.

Well, it's time we stand up against UAs. It's time to start the PEA party. Peed Enough Already. The PEA party must stand up and defend what we pee for.

And, since we're on the subject of peeing. I think it's time for politicians to submit to random urine testing as well. We taxpayers pay your benefits and salaries. We elected you; it's time to practice what you preach. UAs for all.

CHALK TALK

So, last week I forgot to explain exactly what a "Chalk Talk" is. For those unfamiliar with the term, I would define it as the following:

It is a way of passing along vital information about upcoming events or situations that a specific group may face. It allows everyone to ask questions in an informal setting. It also allows for peers to help answer the questions of others. In a way, it helps promote a greater collective knowledge of the situations at hand.

Knowledge is power; the more you know, the better off you will be. That is what I hope this will become - a reliable source of Veteran-related knowledge.

Since we are now in February, and it is Black History Month, I wanted to take a moment to pay tribute to some great African-American veterans.

The Tuskegee Airmen – They were the first group of African-American military aviators in the U.S. Armed Forces. They trained and flew with great distinction. They were first sent overseas on Operation Torch. They saw action in Italy before being sent on bomber escort missions in the European Theater.

The Buffalo Soldiers – They were formed in September of 1866. Some say that they got the nickname from the Cheyenne, saying that they "fought like cornered buffalo ...". Thirteen enlisted and six officers form this illustrious unit of men each earned the Medal of Honor during the Indian wars. They kept to their tradition well enough through the Korean War.

Upcoming Veteran-related events:

- This Thursday, Feb. 3, the Associated Veterans Community (AVC) will hold their weekly meeting at 1630 in the Fireside Room. They are still looking for more members. It is open to family members of veterans, as well as anyone who supports our veterans.
- Soon the AVC will be holding an information table concerning the cuts at the Roseburg V.A. Hospital. There will be a potation and letterheads for those who would like to help fight against the cutbacks to our local veterans, young and old.
- Coming soon at Oregon State University will be a national veteran fraternity, Omega Delta Sigma.

David Mayotte




– One block from the LBCC Lebanon campus
 – 15 minutes from Albany via Hwy 20
 – 25 minutes from Corvallis via Hwy 34

Monthly Discount For Students!

- BRAND NEW
- 1, 2 AND 3 BEDROOMS AVAILABLE
- PET FRIENDLY
- FULL SIZE WASHERS & DRYERS IN EVERY UNIT
- 24 HOUR FITNESS CENTER
- PLAYGROUND
- CLUBHOUSE WITH DVD LIBRARY

701 NORTH 5TH STREET, LEBANON, OR 97355
 1-888-676-7819
 EMAIL IS INFO@CASCADERIDGELIVING.COM
 WEBSITE IS WWW.CASCADERIDGELIVING.COM

PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED BY
C&R Real Estate
 OPPORTUNITY

PERSPECTIVES

What do you think about drug testing for food stamps?



Terra Anne,
 Art

"Probably a good idea. I know people trade food stamps for drugs. The state shouldn't be paying for drugs."



Tyler Horn,
 Medical
 Transcription

"Why would people buy drugs with food stamps?"



Mel Hite,
 Education

"I'm not opposed to it but I would want to make sure its handled properly because there are people who have their medical marijuana cards."



Shadow Martin,
 Health &
 Human Services

"I guess it's okay if it's what they want to do. I don't see anything wrong with it."



Allysa Blyth,
 Medical
 Assisting

"I think it's okay mainly since our economy sucks to make sure the money is actually going to families that deserve it."

Dear Conscience,

Question: What do you do when your ex-girlfriend, who you still have feelings for, starts dating another guy?

Ashley Christie
Shoulder Devil

First of all, remember that those feelings you still have for your ex-girlfriend are feelings of hatred and contempt. She was clingy and narcissistic. We hate her.

What you need to do is call some friends and get yourself to a bar. Friends – you remember them, right? Those guys you haven't seen in months because all your spare time was spent groveling at her feet? She thought they were negative influences because they might try and convince you that you could do better (which you can). She was awful and we hate her.

You're angry and need to vent. That's great. That's an appropriate feeling. Just be sure to target all this hostility at the right person. It's not this new guy's fault that your ex doesn't know a good thing when she had it. He'll learn in time and realize what you already know: she is selfish and immature, and we hate her.

It reminds me of a similar situation, where I found myself coincidentally stumbling upon my ex's car (which was always more important than me and our relationship, not that I'm bitter – 'cause I'm not). My pitchfork accidentally slipped and scratched the paint ... and stabbed the tires ... and broke a window ... or three. But I'm totally over it; we're talking about you and her -- and -- we hate her.

She wasn't right for you. You're only thinking about her because you can't have her, which is fine because you don't want her. She was terrible and we hate her.



Justin Bolger
Shoulder Angel

First of all, remember that those feelings you still have for your ex-girlfriend are reminiscent of something that was once great and beautiful. She was

always understanding and encouraging; she's good people.

You should write all of your feelings down to get them out where you can see them. Maybe you can write in a journal, or perhaps you would like to write a letter addressed to her. You don't necessarily have to send it – just be focused on being very open and honest. She's good people.

It's not her fault, and it's not the new guy's fault. Remember who broke it off in an attempt to stop dragging the last thing you loved into your own spiral of despair and rediscover yourself? Now that you're whole again, don't let this discovery shake what you've worked so hard to accomplish. You didn't only do it for her. You did it for yourself – for your own sense of self-respect. You're good people.

The last thing you want to do is anything that will bring you back to the negative cloud that used to follow you everywhere. Don't jump into another woman's arms – that's neither fair to her nor good for your healing. Don't be steered by your anger – giving yourself reason for guilt will take you back to that original feeling of being too lost. You'll never realize true happiness if you can never forgive yourself. You must make yourself into the person you can respect most. You're good people.

Have questions? We have answers.

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

Academic Success Seminars

Boost Your COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE!

Just drop in, or sign up in WebRunner (formerly SIS) under 'Study Skills.'

www.linnbenton.edu/go/webrunner

Get Organized

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

Active Learning Strategies

Tuesday	February 8	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50 p.m.
Wednesday	February 9	Albany	WH-225	3:00 – 3:50 p.m.
Wednesday	February 9	Lebanon	LC-202	1:30 – 2:20 p.m.

Accomplish Your Academic Goals

Tuesday	February 15	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50 p.m.
Wednesday	February 16	Albany	WH-225	3:00 – 3:50 p.m.
Wednesday	February 16	Lebanon	LC-202	1:30 – 2:20 p.m.

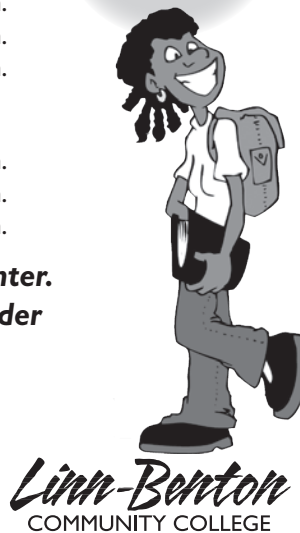
Academic Success Seminars are organized by the Learning Center. For more information and to sign up, visit WebRunner (SIS) under 'Study Skills' or call 541-917-4684.

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

Always 50 minutes!

ALWAYS FREE!

Always helpful!



BACK in the DAY

Adam LaMascus
Opinion Editor

This day in history ...

Feb. 2, 1989: Those who do not learn from history ...

After a decade of warfare against local fighters, Soviet troops withdraw from Kabul, Afghanistan. This sounds a little too familiar. I hope we learn from the mistakes the Soviets made fighting American-trained guerillas and actually win this war.

Feb. 3, 1989: SNAFU ...

Paraguayan dictator Alfredo Stroessner is ousted by a military coup. (Stroessner took over Paraguay in 1954 by means of a military coup.) He is known for creating a stable and more developed nation. The trouble is, he achieves this by means of brutal repression and genocide. Stroessner famously has the leader of the Paraguayan Communist party hacked to bits with a chainsaw while he listens over the phone. Because he is anti-Communist, he is considered a good friend of the U.S. until President Jimmy Carter, who boycotts the nation due to the aforementioned human rights violations. Thank you, Jimmy.

Feb. 4, 1992: SSDD ...

"President" (dictator) Andres Perez of Venezuela is overthrown in a military coup by future Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. It seems Chavez may not be any better. Though he has worked to prevent dictatorships and increase the standing of Venezuela, murder rates have quadrupled since he took office on Feb. 2, 1999. His administration also is frequently accused of corruption, press control, and human rights violations. South America can't get a break.

Feb. 5, 1859: Have to start somewhere ...

The regions of Wallachia and Moldavia are joined to create the United Principalities. This area is a semi-autonomous region in the Ottoman Empire. In 1878 the Principalities defeat the Ottomans and achieve independence, though they immediately come into conflict with Russia, who wants to control the region. In 1881 the Kingdom of Romania is proclaimed, and lasts until 1947, at which point it is occupied by the Soviet Union.

Feb. 6, 1989: Jeszcze Polska nie zginęła!

The so-called Polish Round Table Talks begin. Lasting until April 4, the talks result in the first free elections in about 50 years, since before WWII, which in turn causes the downfall of Communism in Poland and the establishment of a free country. The nation of Poland has spent more time being occupied or conquered than it has as a free country. It is telling that the Polish national anthem, "Poland Has Not Yet Perished," has the line: "That which alien force has seized, we shall at sabre point retrieve."

Feb. 7, 1497: Yay tolerance, oh wait ...

The Dominican priest Girolamo Savonarola and his supporters gather and burn thousands of books, mirrors, dresses, paintings, sculptures, and anything else they can get their hands on. The purpose of this event is to reduce the amount of temptation and sin in people's lives. All it really does is destroy priceless works of art and free thought. This is known as The Bonfire of the Vanities.

Feb. 8, 1968: Freedom isn't free ...

Three people are killed and another 28 wounded when police officers open fire into a crowd protesting racial segregation in Orangeburg, S.C. Officers involved claim that the crowd fired at them and threw Molotov cocktails and other firebombs at them. Investigations conducted after the event show that the students had lit a bonfire and that one police officer had been injured when he had a piece of a banister thrown at him.

Thought for the week:

"... he who destroys a good book, kills reason itself ..."
-John Milton

Unrest in the Desert

Revolution via Internet

Marci Sischo

Webmaster

Jan. 25 is National Police Day in Egypt. In recent years, it's become an attractive date for Egyptians to rally and protest the abuses they've suffered under President Hosni Mubarak.

Egyptians protested this year, just as they have in years past. Unlike the last few years, however, the National Police Day protests were bigger than ever before. The Christian Science Monitor called the size of the protests "unprecedented." Egyptians are feeling inspired by the recent Tunisian uprising and are turning out in the tens of thousands.

They aren't the only ones feeling inspired, either. Southern Sudan voted to secede from Sudan proper on Sunday, a process they've been working on for months, and Yemen plans to hop on the revolution bandwagon, too. Large protests are sweeping Jordan and Lebanon. Some are wondering if Syria might be next in line.

Change is coming to the Middle East, and one of the tools helping it arrive is social media. June 13, 2009, saw the start of the Iranian "Twitter revolution" (although some would argue exactly how much Twitter had to do with anything). Since then, the Internet and major social media networks like Facebook and Twitter have played larger and larger roles in organizing protests against everything from oppressive regimes to the local rodeo.

Their role was important enough in the Egyptian protests that one of the first things Mubarak did to quell the revolution was shut down Internet access. On Jan. 27, Twitter, Facebook, and SMS (short message service) was disrupted. By Jan. 28, Internet and cell service saw major interruptions. Late Jan. 29, Internet and cell service was shut down almost entirely.

The Internet responded by restoring service. WeRebuild, Anonymous, and Telecomix have been instrumental in this endeavor. Internet proxy service, Tor, saw a gigantic upswing in users from Egypt, and information on how to run Tor relays and bridges (to help provide more safety for Egyptians) swept the Internet. As one commenter at the Tor blog said, "Who'd have thought nerds would enable the revolution?"

It's not such a far-fetched thought. Communication and the free flow of information is one of the most vital tools in people's hands. It's taken for granted in the United States, but countries around the world deal with Internet filtering on a daily basis. Witness the Great Firewall of China, for starters. Other countries, such as Afghanistan, Australia, Egypt, and dozens more see filtering and censorship ranging from total, such as Egypt (even pre-shutdown), to nominal, like Canada, which censors some information relating to underage criminal offenders and child pornography.

The United States enjoys nominal to non-existent Internet filtering, but that may soon change. The Protecting Cyberspace as a National Asset Act was introduced by Senators Joe Lieberman, Susan Collins, and Tom Carper on June 10, 2010. According to CNET, "The legislation announced Thursday says that companies such as broadband providers, search engines, or software firms that the government selects 'shall immediately comply with any emergency measure or action developed' by the Department of Homeland Security. Anyone failing to comply would be fined." Basically, it broadens presidential emergency powers to include shutting down at least portions, if not all, of the private Internet. Groups like TechAmerica and DemandProgress worry that this legislation is tantamount to handing the president an "Internet kill switch," or the ability to shut down the Internet here in America at will.

This is the same power Egypt used to shut down its Internet on Friday.

The bill stalled in the last Congressional session, but Lieberman intends to re-introduce it this session. PCMag says "... the updated bill will include a provision that says 'the federal government's designation of vital Internet or other computer systems 'shall not be subject to judicial review.'"

Now might be a good time for Americans to ask themselves just how much they treasure free speech, and freedom of information, and just how much control over it we want our government to have.

Check the online article at commuter.linnbenton.edu for informational links.



Egyptian protesters surrounding a tank in Tahir Square in Cairo on Jan. 29 2011.

Ramy Raouf/Wikimedia Commons

America's Contradictory Support

At the time of this writing, Egypt is entering its seventh straight day of rioting. Thousands of people, young and old, are gathering throughout this ancient country to protest its "president" Hosni Mubarak, a man who has been "elected" (with no opposition) for almost 30 years.

Egyptians are furious at this man, whose government is known to be corrupt and uses torture, extreme censorship, beatings, and arrests as methods to keep itself in power, all the while claiming to promote democracy. What's more, this dictator is heavily backed by the U.S. government for its previous help in checking radical Islam in the region. His government receives about \$1.3 billion in aid annually.

The New York Times quoted Marwan Mossaad, who has dual American-Egyptian citizenship, as saying: "I brought my American passport today in case I die today. I want the American people to know that they are supporting one of the most oppressive regimes in the world and Americans are also dying for it."

Egypt is in something resembling a state of anarchy, with looters and thugs roaming the streets and pillaging at will. However, it is believed by many, in Egypt and abroad, that the chaos is being caused by the secret police in an effort to undermine the protesters and give the government an excuse to

crack down. While papers such as the New York Times mention this as a possibility, other papers are taking a more definite stand. For example, Foreign Policy, Süddeutsche Zeitung, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Der Spiegel, Die Welt, Die Tageszeitung, and Bild, German news sources which span the political spectrum, all agree that Mubarak is behind the anarchy.

While Mubarak's intention to prevent the spread of militant Islam is admirable, his means far outweigh the ends, and he is actually hurting the goal. It is no coincidence that as part of this riot against Mubarak, the United States embassy was attacked. Our claim of universal freedom and democracy while supporting corrupt dictatorships like this does nothing but hurt us. People who would otherwise support us are viewing the United States as the evil masterminds behind their local thugs, and this can only strengthen the people we are fighting.

In June 2005, Condoleezza Rice visited Egypt, and the New York Times quoted her as saying: "For 60 years, my country, the United States, pursued stability at the expense of democracy in this region here in the Middle East, and we achieved neither."

I never thought I'd say this, but Ms. Rice is completely correct in this case. The United States has put immediate security and gain before democracy for years, and so far it hasn't really helped us.

We invaded Russia during WWI to try to support the incredibly brutal and corrupt Tsarist regime and prevent the

Communists from taking over. The result was American soldiers were killed and a new nation was created that was extremely hostile to us from its inception.

In South America we established pro-U.S. dictators after invading numerous countries to overthrow their democratically elected governments because we thought they were a little too leftist/communist/anti-American. All that got us is an entire continent that really doesn't like us.

We had a similar experience with the dictatorship in Greece during Nixon's administration.

We now have fundamentalist Muslims in Iran chanting "Death to America!" as a normal part of political rallies because we propped up the brutal Shah and his government.

Our support of Karzai and his corrupt government in Afghanistan is not getting us any friends in that area, either.

We need to open our eyes and stop behaving like short-sighted idiots.

We need to encourage actual democracy in these nations and strongly support the governments that adhere to it. Yes, we will inevitably have some problems when people we don't like get elected, but we can and have dealt with that for decades. Supporting tyrants like these may solve our immediate problems, but it is just a recipe that creates hatred over time.

I hope President Obama and his administration will listen to Condoleezza Rice. We need to stop supporting corrupt dictators and actually create freedom in democracy like we claim to.



Adam LaMascus
Opinion Editor

Steelers and Packers Set to Face Off

Drew Wilson-McGrath
Contributing Writer

Thus begins one of the most exciting and deflating two weeks of the year. Exciting in that the contenders for Super Bowl XLV have been decided; deflating because it means that come the eve of Feb. 6, the 2011 football season will be over, sending many Americans into a sports-deprived deep freeze of sadness for another nine months.

The pressure is mounting for Pittsburgh Steelers and Green Bay Packers fans. Wielders of the "Terrible Towel" (Pittsburgh) will clash with the raucous nation known as "The Cheeseheads" (Green Bay) when the black helmets of Pittsburgh collide against the green and gold of the Packers in the newly revamped, multi-million dollar Cowboys Stadium.

These two teams are both historically superb; though neither franchise has faced one another in a Super Bowl before, they have certainly made their presence known since the inception of the championship in 1967 (a game which The Pack won 35-10 over the Kansas City Chiefs).

Pittsburgh has been to seven Super Bowls, winning all but one (a 27-17 loss against the Dallas Cowboys in 1996).

Green Bay has been in four championship games, winning three.

Combined, the two teams will have played in 13 out of 45 Super Bowl games; Pittsburgh and Green Bay claiming a spot in a healthy 28 percent of all NFL Championship games to date.

Let us not forget that the Super Bowl is an unofficial (but totally official) national holiday that gives



Pittsburgh Steelers vs. Green Bay Packers

many the excuse to drink too much and watch far more skilled athletes than themselves beat the crap out of one another up and down the field for a couple hours.

And when a final score is reached, that one guy who didn't support the victorious team is ushered kindly to the nearest exit in a hailstorm of taunts and beer cans.

And the commercials! Oh the commercials. Every Year, this event is responsible for one of the biggest rushes to advertise on national television by corporate America; some of the funniest and most innovative advertisements of the year will be displayed in an attempt to make us spend a paycheck on Doritos or Coors Light.

The cost of a single 30-second ad spot during the Super Bowl is estimated to be \$2.6 million (this being the cheapest spot available).

Expensive assuredly; bear in mind the predicted viewer-ship of this year's NFL championship is about 90 million people, making the obscene price of a 30-second time slot somewhat reasonable from a business standpoint.

Every year for the last 44 years, this game has been tremendous in popularity, a seemingly religious gathering during which even your sweet grandma

Meredith busts out her favorite jersey and takes part in the festivities, drinking canned generic American brew and reminiscing of the days when the way Joe Namath threw a football made her blush.

All anecdotes aside, this is the first Super Bowl I have looked forward to in a long while. The Green Bay Packers boast a complex and diverse offense with a chip on its shoulder after Brett Favre became a traitor (leaving Green Bay two seasons ago for the rival Minnesota Vikings after essentially pretending to retire), leaving the team in the fully capable hands of quarterback Aaron Rodgers.

Rodgers has three-time pro bowl wide receiver Donald Driver at his command; backed by a defense that had a ground-breaking year under nose tackle B.J. Raji and linebacker Clay Matthews.

Pittsburgh will be lead by "Big" Ben Rothlisberger at quarterback. And with Hall-of-Fame-bound Hines Ward as a main receiving weapon coupled with the elusive half back Rashard Mendenhall behind him during snaps, the Steelers have every reason to be cocky going into this game on the offensive side of the ball.

Defensively they have struggled all season, and against the mighty offensive capabilities of The Pack, a curtain that is no longer made of steel is going to have to attempt hold back a barrage of bombs flying from the hand of Rodgers.

Football pundits see the Pack pulling out a victory by a small spread; three points. However the Steelers are known to be a second half team, and this game is sure to wow fans and players alike.

My predictions: Green Bay beats out Pittsburgh, 27 to 17.

LBCC Women Play Hard, Earn Split

Scott Landgren
Sports Editor

The LBCC women's basketball team played some good basketball this week and ended with a 1-1 record. On Friday night, the LB women fell at Clackamas Community College by a score of 103-56. On Saturday, LB beat Chemeketa Community College 72-70 at home.

On Friday night, LB had a hard time getting a shot to fall as they shot 22.6 percent in the second half and overall shot 31.3 percent for the game. The team was led by freshman Heidi Halemeier who had 26 points. Freshman Sami DeVore was second on the team with 13 points.

Clackamas shot an amazing 60.0 percent overall and had 24 assists on 36 baskets. Both teams had 24 turnovers for the night. LBCC was outrebounded 45-29 by Clackamas. Freshman Lacey Wood led the team with seven rebounds.



Samantha Sanders air for a lay-up.

On Saturday, LB returned home and played a great overall game. Sophomore Sam Sanders had a team high 23 points, Halemeier had 15 points and DeVore added 12 points. Overall, LB had four players in double-figure scoring. While LB shot 50 percent overall for the game and 58.3 percent on three's, they played good defense and held Chemeketa to only 37.5 percent shooting.

Two players for LB had double-doubles. Halemeier had 15 points and 11 rebounds and Lacey Wood had 10 points and a team high 13 rebounds. On

Home Show

Linn County Expo Center
February 4, 5, & 6, 2011

**Multi-Nursery Plant Sale • Patio Covers
Backyards • SafeHaven Pet Adoptions
Greenhouses • Tractors • Pole Barns**

\$500 CASH
Home Show Passport Live Giveaway
2 CASH PRIZES!

Free!
Evergreen Trees
(first 200 people each day)

2 FOR 1
Admission
\$4.00 Per Adult
Fri. 3pm-8pm • Sat. 10am-8pm • Sun. 10am-4pm
Must present coupon to receive discount.

3700 Knox Butte Road E, Albany

the night, LBCC had 48 rebounds compared to 33 from Chemeketa.

With the split on the week, LB now has a record of 5-12 overall and sit with a 3-4 record in the Southern Division. LB returns to action on Saturday when they host Lane Community College at 4 p.m.

Do the Surreal Living pages leave you hungry for more games?

We have more crosswords and sudoku puzzles online. Plus, more fun time-wasters in our arcade.

**Visit our games section at
commuter.linnbenton.edu**

LBCC Men Lose Pair of Heartbreakers



Tony Brown
Taylor Roos takes a shot as his brother Trent goes for the block.

Scott Landgren
Sports Editor

This past week was a heartbreaking one for the Linn-Benton men's basketball team. On Friday night, LB was at Clackamas Community College and lost a close one, 74-72. LB returned home on Saturday night to play Chemeketa Community College; LB played hard, but in the end fell by a score of 73-70.

Friday night, LB's leading scorers were sophomore Taylor Roos with 25 points and sophomore Mike Kruesi with 14 points. LB did out rebound Clackamas 44-35, sophomore Kyle Wolf and freshman Josh Yundt had a team high of six rebounds. LB only shot 37.5 percent for the whole game, while Clackamas shot 50 percent overall and 50 percent on its three-point shots.

On Saturday night, LB came up short against Chemeketa. It was a battle of the Roos brothers that night, as Taylor Roos had a team high 25 points for LB and

his brother, Trent, had 23 points - leading his team to victory over the Roadrunners. Mike Kruesi also added 13 points for LB.

"Bottom line tonight was I liked our effort, but we were two or three possessions away from a win. And we have to be able find those possessions," said Head Coach Randy Falk.

Many of the stats in this game were the same, as both teams had 12 assists and 13 turnovers; Chemeketa had a slight edge in rebounds at 32-30. The first half of the game was a great one to watch; both teams came out strong and neither could get more than a four-point lead.

Chemeketa built a 39-30 lead with 15 seconds left in the first half. A three pointer by Roos, then Wolf stole the inbound pass and laid it in, to cut the Chemeketa lead to 39-35 at the half.

The second half was like the first with both teams staying close and neither getting a good lead. Each team took the lead at one time in the second half. LB had three chances to tie the game at the end,

but the shot would not go down. After Chemeketa missed a free throw with four seconds remaining, Roos took a half court shot that just fell short.

"We played hard and passed well tonight and were a couple of stops away from a win," said Taylor Roos.

LB ended the game shooting 45.3 percent while Chemeketa shot 50.9 percent and 47 percent from three-point land. One of the main stats was the 18-9 advantage Chemeketa had in second-chance points.

"Moving forward we need do work on rebounding and the defensive side of the ball," said Falk.

With the losses, LB now has an overall record of 8-9 and a league record of 5-2 in the Southern Division, which is a tie for second place. This Saturday LB returns to action when they host Lane Community College at LB at 6 p.m. This will be the second meeting of the year for these two teams; LB won the first meeting on January 8 with a 74-61 victory at Lane.

LBCC / OSU Degree Partnership Program Day



- Academic Advising
- Admissions & General Information
- Financial Aid Information
- LBCC & OSU Advisors
- Free Pizza

**Wednesday, February 9
11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

Fireside Room, LBCC Albany Campus

**Also at the Benton Center on
Thursday, February 17, 4 – 6 p.m.**

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator & employer. If you have questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations, contact LBCC's Disability Coordinator, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, OR 97321, phone 541-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TDD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.

MOTO MAN RIDES AGAIN

Storing Your Bike for Winter

Chris Brotherton
Staff Writer

It is a heartbreaking experience, pulling your trusty steed out of the spot where moss has started to form around the tires. As you push it out to a nice clear space to start it, you wonder why you don't remember your bike weighing so much. You soon realize that the rolling resistance is caused by the completely flat rear tire.

Then you turn the key. Although the headlight comes on, when you push the starter button, the motor hardly turns over. Damn. If you are lucky, there is merely a single plastic cover over your battery. However, if you have a full fairing, out come the tools.

Once the fairing is off you realize that the battery is low on water. Usually this is an easy thing to fix, except that your terminals are corroded together. Double damn. Suddenly the pleasant day of riding has turned into two hours of work, frustration, and the delusion that the birds chirping merrily in the background are actually mocking you.

There are a few simple steps you can take to make sure this scenario isn't the beginning of your riding season. The simplest answer is of course to not end the riding season. Brad Lawrie commutes daily on his motorcycle and his response to storing his bike for the off

season is, "There's an off season?" Through the use of proper riding gear, including electric clothing, he is able to ride year round.

However, if you are not into riding during inclement weather (safety first) then you will have to prepare your bike for storage. First, get a cover of some sort. Covers are fairly inexpensive and can be found at most auto parts stores and motorcycle dealerships.

Disconnect the battery. This does two things positive for you. First, trying to get corroded terminals to disconnect is an arduous task, as they are usually brass and can strip easily. Also, if there is a slow voltage leak, it will keep your battery from draining. If you have a garage, getting a Battery Tender is a great idea. This is a product that charges your battery and keeps it at a constant charge without blowing it up.

Also before you store your motorcycle, you should address the fuel. Gasoline degrades quickly, so adding something like Sta-Bil fuel stabilizer will help keep the fuel in the tank from turning into paint thinner later. And speaking of your carbs, draining them is always a good idea for long term storage. As the fuel breaks down, it leaves a gummy residue on important internal parts, keeping your bike from performing at its peak.

Taking these small steps before the weather kicks you off your bike, will save you a huge headache when the sun does come out for the season.

Labels & Stereotypes can be a good thing... Right?

FREE!

Please join a discussion facilitated by Communication Faculty Dana Emerson and Mark Urista, examining the role of labels and stereotypes in society. Participate in exercises that illuminate how labels and stereotypes are beneficial in creating our social cultural structure as well as destroying it.

Wednesday, February 9 • 1 p.m. & Thursday, February 10 • 2 p.m.

Diversity Achievement Center, 2nd Floor of Student Union

SHORT...TALL...
lazy liberal ugly SMART HYPER
Beautiful RICH fat poor ability
conservative country

Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

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.

Love
your
bookstore

valentine Sale! Feb. 7-14

Find something to Love every day!

mon.
Love your
ART
30% OFF
Art Boxes &
Select Pocket
Journal

TUES.
Love your
SPIRIT
20% OFF
LBCC Spirit Items
(use your Spirit Card to
Save even more!)

wed.
Love your
HEALTH
40% OFF
Stethoscopes
assorted colors

valentine's Day Feb. 14

THURS.
Love your
SNACKS
99¢
King Size
M & M and Snickers
candy bars

Love your
valentine
25% off
ALL Valentine
Merchandise

FRI.
Love your
READING
25% OFF
ALL General Books
(does not include
textbooks)

Love Feb. 14
your
**Benton
Center**
\$2.00
Mochas
12 oz.

while supplies last.
some exclusions may apply.



LBCC Bookstore

Horse Power: Centuries Old and Going Strong

Tony Brown
Photo Editor

From royal courts to western forts, for many societies the use of horses was as essential as the modern car. In fact, that is where the term "horsepower" comes from.

In Britain, horses were used for travel, work, game play and the ever-famous fox hunt. In North America, the horse was also used for travel, hunting, work, and of course, rodeo.

There is a style and attitude associated with each of these class differences that is still practiced in equestrian societies today.

This was evident at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association's competition hosted by LBCC at the Linn County Expo Center on Jan. 29 and 30. Riders from several college and university teams attended, including Oregon State University and University of Oregon.

The LBCC Equestrian Team are quite accomplished riders and consist of eight active western riders and eight active English riders, with five of those members participating in both disciplines.

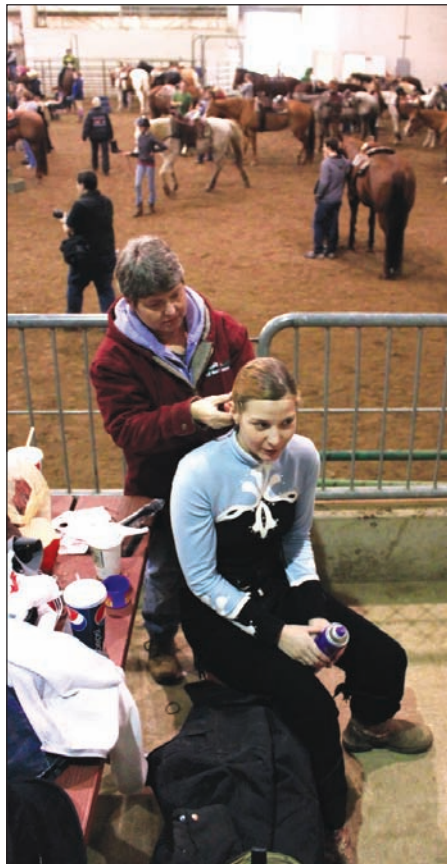
The event included both Hunt Seat Equitation and Western disciplines of riding.

LBCC student Alicia Warren took second place in Western Horsemanship on both days of the competition.

"I think we have a really strong team," she said.

The Western team took high-point team awards for both days of the competition with four riders qualifying for regionals.

The Hunt Seat team has two more competitions



Photos by Tony Brown

Left: LBCC student Katie Woodward prepares for competition with some help from her mom Kim.

Above: Jessica Fritzke from University of British Columbia jumps a fence during the Intercollegiate Horse Show.

Go online at commuter.linnbenton.edu for more photos from the event.

this season and also expects at least four riders to qualify for regionals this year.

With only four members at its start in 1999, the team struggled, but it gained support and has grown in the last five years. LBCC is the only community college equestrian team in the Pacific Northwest region. This year's team president is Cole Newman and Jessica

Johnson is co-president.

Faculty advisor Jenny Strooband coaches riders in English style and Cindy Gooch, the horse center facility manager, coaches riders in Western.

"I anticipate the equestrian team to be around and competing as long as the ISHA exists as a show association," said Strooband.

THE COMMONS FARE

2/02-2/08

Wednesday
Dishes: Meatloaf, Fish and Chips, Vegetarian Chili
Soup: Dill Potato Chowder, Chicken and Wild Rice

Thursday
Dishes: Pork Piccata, Chicken Mornay Gratinee, Tempeh Enchiladas
Soup: Potage de Boeuf, Beer Cheese

Friday
Chef's Choice

Monday
Dishes: Turkey Cutlet with Brown Butter Sauce, Texas Chili con Carne y Frijoles, Spinach Lasagna
Soups: Creamy Tomato, Albondigas

Tuesday
Dishes: Shrimp Etouffée, Swedish Meatballs, Huevos Rancheros
Soups: Egg Flower, Cheddar Cauliflower

LBCC Instructor in the Business of Performing

Jordan Tunstill
A&E Editor

"I don't want students to think teachers are all vampires who live in the darkness of their offices when they aren't teaching a class." ~Ian Priestman.

Ian Priestman got a taste of teaching at LBCC when he participated in a year-long exchange program in 1994. In 1997 he returned and has been a full-time business instructor ever since.

However, Priestman is not just an instructor, he also is an accomplished musician. Well versed at playing the guitar, keyboard, harmonica, and saxophone, Priestman said two of his favorite genres are jazz and folk. A couple of his favorite artists are Leonard Cohen and David Bowie.

Priestman is performing this Friday, Feb. 4, at the 2nd Street Beanery in Corvallis at 8:00 p.m. Admission is free, and

requests are welcome, as he has a 300 song repertory. He will be performing originals and covers of popular songs as well. It's going to be family friendly, so have no worries about trying to find a babysitter in order to avoid coarse lyrical content.

"You can even get up and sing along if you would like," said Priestman. "Like my classroom, anything goes. To a point anyways." (Laughs) "My grandkids will be there. It's a friendly atmosphere."

Priestman's favorite thing about writing music is that it is "Like doing a jigsaw [puzzle]. You get loads of satisfaction when the last piece is clicked in."

His particular favorite thing about teaching is using humor in the classroom to lighten the mood and create a friendly environment. He blends his love for performance with his love of teaching by utilizing his comedic side. He said he has "brought a guitar into a classroom maybe one or two times (when relevant



provided by Ian Priestman

LBCC Business instructor Ian Priestman shares his love of music with the Corvallis community.

to subject matter)," but that he "uses humor in the classroom almost every day."

So if you have room in your busy schedule, stop by the Beanery, located in Corvallis at 500 Southwest 2nd Street, take a load off, and enjoy music from a man who isn't wearing his teacher hat, but instead the hat of a performer.

Just Relax: Ways to De-stress Your Life

Cameron Vasseur
Staff Writer

Feeling stressed out over school and not sure how to cope? Counselor Mark Weiss recently held a workshop at LB to help students deal with stress. Here are some ideas that he and participants offered:

Exercise, Cry, Laugh

A good way to reduce stress is to do things that will help clear your head, whether they are physical or emotional activities. Physical activity is good for distracting you from what you have to do in the future and can help put you in the here and now. Not only can it provide a good body high from the adrenaline you might release, but it can also make you more focused on what you are doing rather than what you still need to do.

Maybe you just need to relax and get away from your problems by letting your mind wander. In that case, just pop in a calming CD or listen to your iPod while you're in the bath tub. Just relax. Don't worry about that stressful exam tomorrow; instead focus on how good it feels to just lay there in the water and have some time for yourself. The same goes for a sauna, hot tub, or a massage.

Maybe you like to get your feelings out rather than be distracted from them? Have a good cry. As Dane Cook has joked about in his own way, sometimes you just need to get



Mark Weiss leads a discussion on stress in the DAC.

your tears going to release all those pent-up feelings. If crying isn't for you, then watch your favorite comedy or go to a show, something that will make you laugh and put your mind at ease, so you can get back to an easy-going state of mind before tackling that big project.

Walk, Fish, Draw, Write

Maybe you're a nature person, and being cooped up inside is driving you bonkers. Get out and do what you love then! Take a walk in the park and enjoy the scenery. Maybe a relaxing day of fishing is more your speed. Whatever it is that you enjoy, get out and do it for the day, or even just a few hours, and you will begin to feel less stressed.

Do you prefer to be creative with your overburdened mind? Get to it! Maybe the only way you can get your feelings out is to write them away. Make up a story, and find release through your character as they make their way through pitfalls and perils, narrowly escaping, either to their

happy ending, or their untimely demise. If you are an artistic type, then draw what you're feeling. Seeing what you've put on paper may be able to help you reflect on what you've got going on inside so that you can better tackle it. The more you realize what's going on inside, the better you can understand and overcome it.

Of course these are just a few of the suggestions made by Weiss. Others include deep breathing, talking to someone or yourself, take a drive, pray, meditate, volunteer or help others, watch a movie or TV, play a video game, cook, read, and sing. The general consensus on de-stressing, whatever your method may be, is to simply *do less*. Let your mind take a break and just do what comes most naturally to you so that you will feel better about what you've accomplished rather than worrying about everything you still have to do.

Diversity Achievement Center Offers Grants

Jordan Tunstill
A&E Editor

The DAC is inviting students groups to come up with a diversity-focused campus program. They are offering ten \$200 grants to student groups like clubs and classes to start a diversity program this school year.

The requirements for the programs are that they:

- Cannot be exclusive.
- Their purpose must be to educationally raise diversity awareness on campus.
- The program has to adhere to college procedures, policies, and rules.
- Students must be organizing the program.
- An LBCC staff member or faculty adviser/instructor must be in charge.

The DAC student leadership team will review all potential programs to see if they are deserving of the grant. Student groups can win two grants in a year, which adds up to \$400 for a program. The DAC grant is quite a lot of money to get a program going, which means that students should take advantage of this excellent opportunity to showcase diversity in their own special way on campus.

To apply, a student group needs to send in an admission form to the DAC two weeks before the program start date. These applications can be found on the DAC web site.



Harrison Helps History Come to Life

Sarah Roth
Contributing Writer

As Robert Harrison passes out his class syllabus for the term, students look through it and settle on the last few pages. These pages are the schedule of what will happen each class meeting, but there is something students don't expect to see – names of historical figures.

Scott Joplin, Alice Paul, Henry Ford, Amelia Earhart, Rachel Carson, and Lt. William Calley. What do they have in common? Of course, they are important historical figures, but they will also be visiting Harrison's History 203 class, US History, this term.

Each student gets to pick a figure to portray from a list that Harrison puts together. The people come to life as students share their unique stories and their time in history.

He got his inspiration from the

TV show "Meeting of the Minds." This show inspired both the idea and the name for these interviews.

"I think I always had in the back of my mind, the idea of re-creating it," said Harrison.

These "Meetings of the Minds" have appeared in Harrison's classes for years. Different historical figures are chosen each term. Harrison chooses people based on who he would like to meet as well as how historically interesting they are. He also tries to make sure there is a balance of males and females.

After each student picks a persona, they do research in order to present themselves as the historical figure of their choice. About three weeks before their meeting, Harrison sends questions for each student to answer about their persona.

"It is quite possibly the most inventive major project any teacher at

Meeting of the Minds <i>based on the book "Famous Lives"</i>	
Contact:	Robert Harrison - 541-917-4571
Office Hours:	Mon./Wed. 10-10:45 a.m. and 1-2 p.m. Tue./Thu. 8:30-9:30 a.m. and 12:30-1 p.m. Fri. 10-10:50 a.m.
Where:	SSH - 203

LB assigns," said Travis Watters, one of Harrison's current students.

As each term reaches the third or fourth week, his classes hold their first "Meeting of the Minds." The personalities are interviewed and questioned about their parts in history. "Sometimes, guests respond to each other, since I sometimes pair them up, creating a 'reunion show,'" Harrison says.

"The most enjoyable part of the meetings is seeing how each person brings life to the historical figure they have spent the last several weeks researching," Watters said.

Usually the meetings are limited to about five guests, which allows time for questions from the audience after Harrison himself interviews the figures. Bringing these personas to life helps bring history to the classroom.

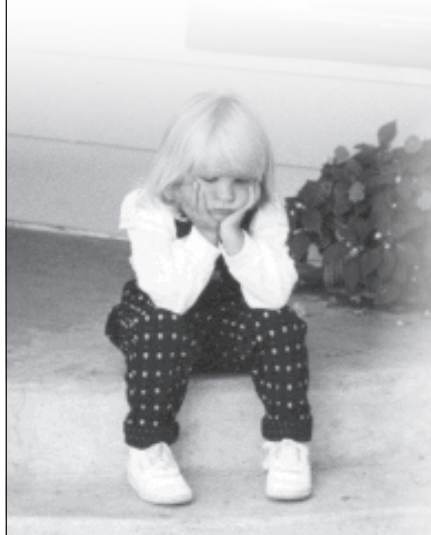
"These personal stories are really why I love history and love learning about it," Harrison said.

If you see any LBCC students walking around in clothes not of this era, you now know why. Stop and talk with them, you may learn something about history that you hadn't known before.

***Bridal Show**
Sunday, February 20th, 2011
 Show Hours: Noon to 5pm
Santiam Place LLC
 139 Main St., Lebanon
 Free Admission Door Prizes www.santiampplace.com

Will you be our Friend?

Follow *The Commuter* on Facebook & Twitter



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

DAC Plans for Black History Month

Lacey Jarrell
 Managing Editor

In honor of Black History Month, throughout February, the Diversity Achievement Center (DAC) is hosting a series of events aimed at celebrating civil rights history and helping students overcome stereotypes.

Kicking off the month, the DAC is celebrating the birthday of Rosa Parks on Feb. 4. The event, which coincides with Parks' birthday, will feature a documentary about her. Cake and refreshments will be served.

"It falls on Rosa Parks' birthday, but the event is really about all of the women of the civil rights movement like Fannie Lou Hamer and Rosetta Scott King," said student leader Ricky Zipp.

"Women of the Civil Right Movement" is the title of a biography board that will be set up for the event. The board will feature photos and biographical information about women who successfully challenged the status quo. Students are encouraged to put up photos or quotes of women they feel contributed to the movement.

"We really want people to feel like they can participate in the celebration," said Zipp.

Portland Community College's "Illumination Project" will also be returning for the second consecutive year, giving two live performances on Feb. 22. The Illumination Project performances are interactive skits that encourage audience members to get involved in social injustice.

"We wanted to bring them back because it's a very powerful way to highlight subtle racism that goes on. It's also a great way to open an honest dialog about it," said DAC Coordinator Toni Klohk.

Last year's theme "Living While Black" focused on discrimination and prejudice. Audience members were asked to yell "Stop!" when they saw an act of injustice. They then went on stage and took the role of one of the characters, acting out the rest of the scene and working through the oppressive behavior.

Student Alethea Skinner participated last year, stepping on stage and assuming the role of witness to a conversation between three friends who believed the police were harassing the young black men in North Portland. She did not agree with the student's conclusion, and offered a solution that would de-escalate rather than escalate such situations.

"It's important that people understand that stereotypes and racism are not one-way streets. I wanted to show that the young men could have been reacting from their own stereotypical and racist opinions.

The project opens the door for communication on a subject that desperately needs open, honest discussion. While dealing with a situation that can be 'sensitive,' it is done in a way that is non-confrontational, non-threatening," said Skinner.

Communications instructor Dana Emerson will be hosting a workshop entitled, "Labels and Stereotypes," on Feb. 9 and 10 to help students identify stereotypes and understand when stereotypes are beneficial and when they are detrimental.

"They have the ability to create, and destroy," she said.

According to Emerson, stereotypes are not evil, instead they are a necessary part of life that help categorize information. However, when we reinforce those stereotypes with labels and concepts of "otherness," stereotypes have the ability to have a negative impact.

"It's not the stereotype that gets us into trouble, it's what we do with it."

The workshops will center around providing a safe environment where students can discuss these concepts and explore exercises based on gender, race, and sexist stereotypes.

For more information on the month's events, visit the Diversity Achievement Center on the second floor of the Forum building.

ASG Urges Students to Stand Up Against Budget Cuts

Paula Buck
 Contributing Writer

LBCC's Associated Student Government (ASG) will be holding a meeting this week to get students involved in standing up against more budget cuts to our school.

The meeting, on Thursday, Feb. 3 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., is aiming toward a petition-like goal, to get as many students as possible to attend and each to fill out a paper with a story about how attending LBCC is affecting your life and what your life would be like if you could not attend LBCC. (There will be free pizza!)

Then, the collection of stories will go to the legislature and act as our voices to tell the legislators that cutting more money from community college funding is doing more harm than good. Just think about your favorite class getting cut, or even your favorite teacher getting reduced hours or losing their job completely, and so many other devastating possibilities.

This affects all of us, but there is power in numbers, together we have a voice and the more students who get involved, the louder we become. So please, come support this urgent cause, and stand as a community.

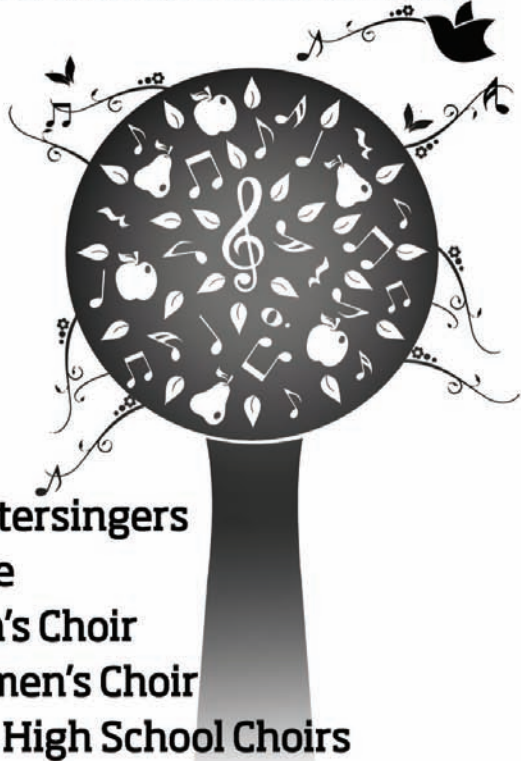
The Oregon legislature has *again* targeted community college funding for further budget cuts. The initial budget cuts from the state forced LBCC to make up over \$2 million in funding for this year alone. To begin making up for the shortfall LBCC raised our tuition by \$7 per credit this term and has proposed raising tuition another \$7 per credit starting summer term and then again by \$5 the following year. The tuition increases make up only 40 percent of the shortfall. The other 60 percent is through reducing staff, faculty, services, programs and classes. These reductions affect the quality of our education.

contributed by
 Student Life and Leadership

SCHOOL OF ARTS & COMMUNICATION: MUSIC

Gala Concert

OSU Men's & Women's Choir Festival



OSU Meistersingers
 Bella Voce
 Mass Men's Choir
 Mass Women's Choir
 Featured High School Choirs

THURSDAY
FEB. 10
 7 P.M.

LaSells Stewart Center
 875 SW 26th St, Corvallis
\$10 at the Door
 OSU Students Free

oregonstate.edu/cla/music/chorus

Oregon State
 UNIVERSITY

Accommodations for disabilities may be made by calling 541-737-5592



Ongoing

Gallery Features Northwest Artists
North Santiam Hall Gallery
Salem artists Carol Hausser and Cynthia Herron, two painters whose abstract styles offer an engaging contrast, share the walls with Eugene artist Beverly Soasey, who works in mixed-media sculpture and assemblages. They will be on display until Feb. 25.

Help LBCC Punch-Out Hunger!
Hot Shot Café
For each food item a customer brings in until the end of the term, they will be eligible for extra stamps towards free coffee and a chance to win \$20 in gift certificates for the Hot Shot Café! The café is located next door to Student Life and Leadership.

Wednesday 2/2
Veteran's Benefits Q&A
10:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center
This is an event to meet the Veteran's Service Officer, Gus, and Veteran's Certifying Official, Kathy Martinak. This is a great way to learn about Financial Aid and other benefits Veterans can receive BOTH Veterans

Aid and FAFSA/Pell aid. Sponsored by the Student Ambassador Program.

Get Yourself Organized Seminar
Albany: 3 - 3:50 p.m. • WH-225
Lebanon: 1:30 - 2:20 p.m. • LC-202
Learn to organize better for college life!

Thursday 2/3
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center
Join us for traditional Chinese hospitality. Spin the wheel to get your fortune for the year and receive a gift of Chinese prosperity!

Eyes on the Prize Film Series
4 - 6 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center
Watch this film in the DAC!

Friday 2/4
Movement Birthday Celebration
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center
Join the DAC for birthday cake to celebrate the women of the civil rights movement. Sponsored by the DAC Student Leaders.

Saturday 2/5
Basketball Games
4 - 8 p.m.
Vs. Lane CC. Women play at 4 p.m. Men play at 6 p.m. Free admission to LBCC students and staff. General admission is \$2.

Monday 2/7
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. • Commons Cafeteria
Free. Explore individual programs

and your career options. Learn how to finance your college education. Discover the LBCC/OSU Degree Partnership program. Free pizza and drinks from 5:30 - 6 p.m. Register online at www.linnbenton.edu/go/college-night or call the hotline at 541-917-4490.

Tue.-Fri. 2/8-11
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. • Takena Hall
Show someone your appreciation and affection while supporting LBCC campus clubs! Flowers will be delivered on the Albany campus only on Feb. 14 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Cost: \$2 for one flower or \$10 for six flowers. Sponsored by Student Life and Leadership.

Tuesday 2/8
Beware of Stalking and Rape
10 - 11 a.m. and Noon - 1 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center
Come chat with peers and "dating survivors." Learn how to enjoy the opportunities of dating while managing the risks. Are relationships between men and women sometimes confusing? When I asked her out and she said, "No," was it no, not this time, or no never? How did I end up being accused of stalking? How did I end up raped or charged with rape?

Active Learning Seminar: Benton Center
5 - 5:30 p.m. • BC-232
Learn strategies to become an active learner. Free.



SAY HELLO TO CLEAN LIVING!

SOUTH CORVALLIS
1007 SE 3rd St
(541)753-3115
Open Daily 7-9
NORTH CORVALLIS
NW 29th & Grant
(541)452-3115
Open Daily 7-9

www.firstalt.coop

we have solutions for your resolutions
Healthy food for your lifestyle

ON SALE THROUGH FEB 1ST!
Yerba Prima Internal Cleanses, \$22.99, reg. \$31.39

Corvallis-OSU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
105th SEASON 2010-2011

DEC 5, 7:00 PM
HOLIDAY FAVORITES

FEB 23, 7:30 PM
TWILIGHT OF THE GODS
Wagner: Ride of the Valkyries
Prokofiev: Piano Concerto No. 2
Wagner: Götterdämmerung

MAY 24, 8:00 PM
SCALING THE HEIGHTS
Richard Strauss: Alpine Symphony
Schwandtner: Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra

Visit COSUSymphony.org
Tickets available at TicketsOregon.com

Corvallis-OSU Symphony welcomes students of all majors to audition. Scholarships available for advanced players. Call (541) 737-5591 for information.

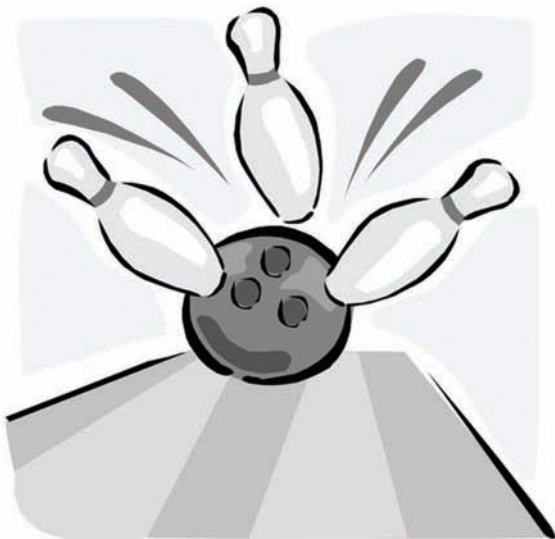
LBCC's Student Programming Board Presents:

BOWLING BASH

& MINI GOLF TOURNAMENT

(weather permitting)

Lakeshore Lanes
5432 Pacific Blvd SW • Albany



FEB. 17, 2011

3 to 6 p.m.
FREE to the first 100 students

Must be an LBCC student.
Sign up at the Student Life & Leadership Office.



FREE FOOD!



DOOR PRIZES!



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 Performing Arts Department Presents its
36TH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S PLAY PRODUCTION

Nick Tickle, Fairytale Detective

A Comedy from author of the popular *Once Upon A Wolf*,
STEPH DEFERIE
Directed by Dan Stone

Sunday February 20 & Saturday February 26* 2011 • 3 p.m.

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

6500 Pacific Blvd. SW., Albany
The Russell Tripp Performance Center in Takena Hall
\$9 Adults, \$7 Children under 18
541-917-4531

www.linnbenton.edu/go/tickets



LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Persons having questions about or requests for special needs & accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at LBCC, 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.

“The Dilemma” of the Bro Code

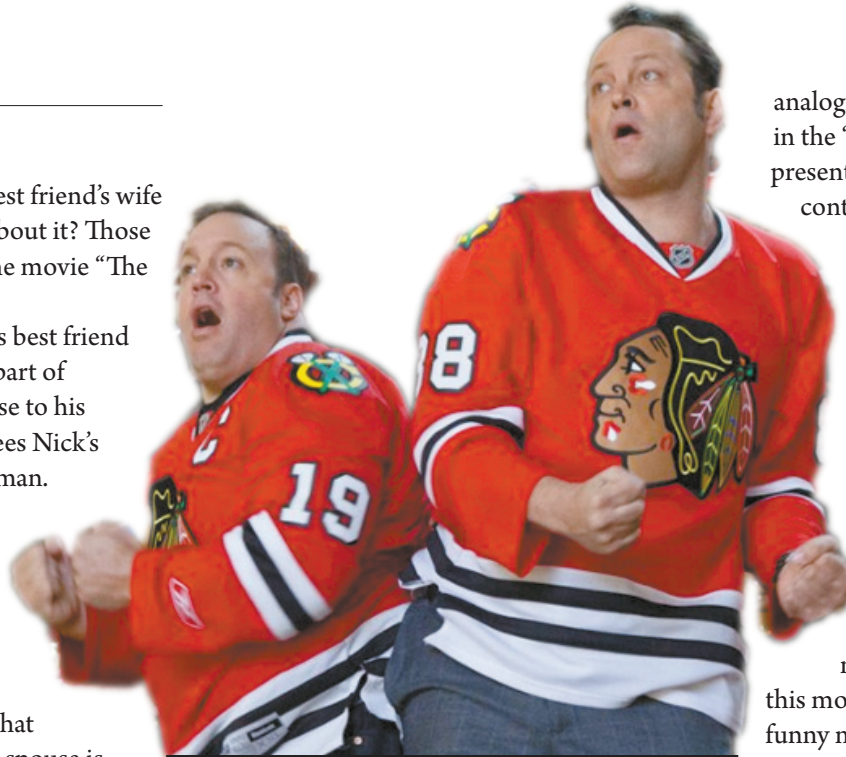
Scott Landgren
Sports Editor

What would you do if you saw your best friend’s wife cheating? How and when would you tell him about it? Those are some of the questions that face Ronny in the movie “The Dilemma.”

Ronny (Vince Vaughn) works with his best friend Nick (Kevin James) in a small business that is part of the auto industry. Ronny is preparing to propose to his girlfriend Beth (Jennifer Connelly) when he sees Nick’s wife Geneva (Winona Ryder) kissing another man. Geneva threatens to expose the relationship she and Ronny had in college if he tells Nick what he knows. Ronny must then figure out a solution – before the biggest presentation of their work careers.

“The premise is actually something I think any 20- or 30-something can relate to: what do you do when you find out your best friend’s spouse is cheating?” commented Elena Nola in her review on the BSC website.

“The Dilemma” has a few good parts. The way Vaughn and James play off each other really works for this film; both actors are seasoned veterans who know how to get laughs. Some of the best parts were the many sports



The Dilemma

Starring: Vince Vaughn, Kevin James, Winona Rider, Jennifer Connelly
Director: Ron Howard
Rating: PG-13
Runtime: 111 min.

analogies. They also used a lot of sports terms, such as being in the “redzone” and being close to a “touchdown” (the big presentation) when referring to their job. Many Vaughn films contain a heavy sports theme, and this is another one.

They also attend a Winterhawks game, and the movie ends at a game, as well. The last sports connection is the use of the speech from the movie “Miracle” to get James pumped up before the presentation.

“Vaughn films rarely fail to access their male audience, but the ongoing use of sports analogies in this particular flick should strike an exceptionally masculine chord!” said Justine Ciarrocchi, who writes movie reviews online.

With a run time of 111 minutes, this movie is a miss in length. By the end, it seemed it did not need to be that long for the story to play out. IMDB lists this movie as a “comedy and drama.” While there were some funny moments in the movie, more comedy could have been used in the situations that were presented.

Overall, the funny moments and sports references any guy could relate to and the real-life situation both men and women could relate to made this a fun little comedy/drama to watch in January, which normally has mediocre movies at best.

If you have time, go see it. If not, it is worth a DVD rental when it is released.

Countdown to Summer!

09 weeks until Summer Session registration begins.

Cold outside?
Warm up by planning your summer now.

Schedule of classes now available online!

Registration begins April 10.
Classes start June 20.



OSU SUMMER SESSION 2011
summer.oregonstate.edu
summer.session@oregonstate.edu | 541-737-1470

Oregon State
UNIVERSITY

Find us on Facebook

Follow us on twitter

Corvallis Weiner Eatery is a Winner

Maya Sharuma
Contributing Writer

As soon as I walked in, a friendly worker welcomed me with a smile, making my first impression of Roxy Dawgs pleasant.

Named after the owner’s yellow lab, Roxy Dawgs is a hot dog restaurant, located in Corvallis at 1425 NW Monroe Ave., Suite G, that opened on Dec. 5.

There are several varieties of hot dogs and a variety of condiments from which to choose, including six kinds of mustard! Moreover, there are many choices of fillings, such as red onions, sport peppers, sauerkraut, dill relish and sweet relish that are self-serve. Salads are also on the menu.

Although I don’t like spicy food very much, I chose the Chicken Habenero Jack.

After receiving a hot chicken sausage in a bun, I picked my fillings – diced onions and diced tomatoes with some ketchup. It turned out to be less spicy than I expected. It was rather delicious! In fact, it was excellent! The sausage tasted like a chicken steak.

Although the hot dog was only about 6 inches long, it really was as good as a feast.

“The varieties of hot dogs and our smiling faces are the most fascinating thing about this restaurant,” said Barbara Whitted, the manager of Roxy Dawgs.

The price of the sausages is fairly affordable, costing only \$3.95 each. The lunch special, which consists of a sausage, drink, and salad or chips, is popular among college students. It costs \$5.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Go in hungry and make your hot dog yummy!

Roxy Dawgs
1425 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis
(541)207-3351
www.roxydawgs.com

Hours:
Mon-Wed 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Thu-Sat 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Sun 11 a.m.-7 p.m.



LAST CALL BEER REVIEW

Discovery Channel Explores the History of Beer

Jeb Oliver
Staff Writer

Did beer save the world?

According to a Discovery Channel special, "How Beer Saved the World," the answer is yes.

Beer has been part of the world since the ancient Egyptians brewed it a millennia ago. It was far different from what we know as beer now, but it was brewed in a similar way.

Beer played a role in the founding of America too. When the Pilgrims sailed from England to the New World there was no way to store fresh water, so they brought beer with them instead. The alcohol in the beer kept it somewhat purified.

When they ran out of beer, they had no choice but to change course from Virginia to Plymouth Rock. Here they brewed some of the first beer in America.

This was not from barley, but from acorns. Beer often became the driving force for changes in how people viewed the world. When people think of Louis Pasteur and his process of pasteurizing

foods, they think of milk.

They would be dead wrong in this assumption.

According to this Discovery Channel special, Pasteur was studying beer. When Pasteur looked at beer under the microscope he saw yeast, but what else did he see? He saw a smaller particle, unwittingly discovering bacteria.

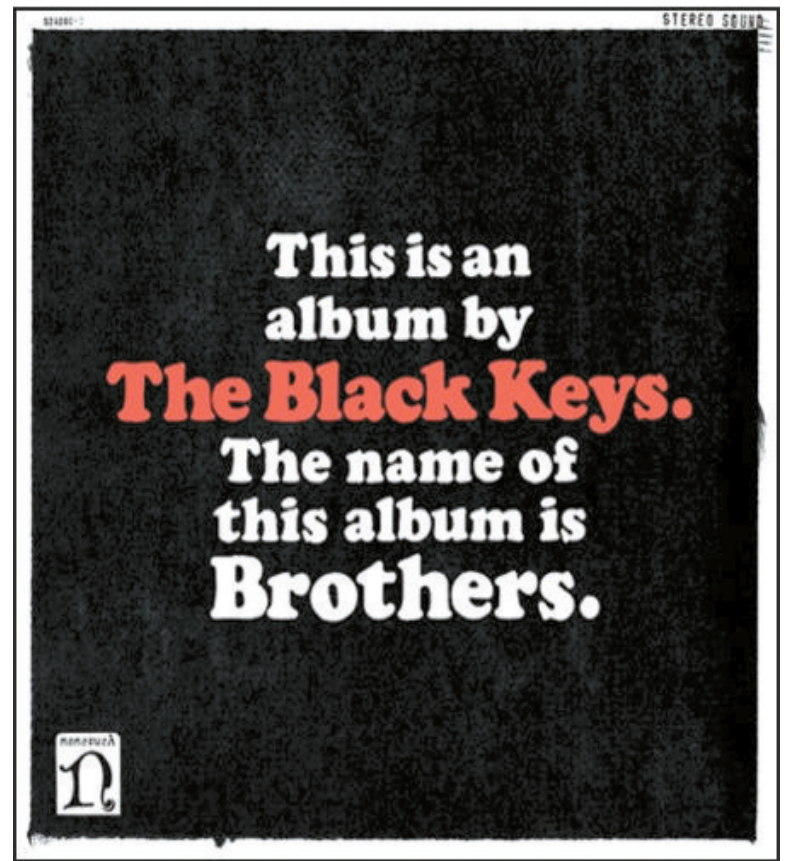
In one fell swoop, we found a way to make beer and other foods last longer. Also, we found a new way to fight and understand human diseases.

Who's to thank? Beer!

Beer contributed to another invention that might surprise you. When the Pilgrims came to America they brought with them lager from the north. It needed to be brewed under very cold conditions.

Back in the mid-1800s, this meant ice from nature. It was costly to ship from the cold north to the breweries. In trying to find a cheaper way, they invented refrigeration.

So when we open up our fridge, we can thank beer for the coldness of the next one we're pulling out.



Black Keys Don't Disappoint in New Album

John Rosales
Contributing Writer

"Brothers" is the latest album release from the blues alt-rock band The Black Keys. The Black Keys are a rock duo formed in 2002 that consists of vocalist/guitarist Dan Aurbach and drummer Patrick Carney. "Brothers" is the sixth album from the band and it is their most successful to date. The album sticks to the band's roots, which is hard-driving, soulful blues rock. It provides the right amount of catchy, modern blues rock tunes and slower, soulful rhythm that will get your heart wailing.

Their methods haven't changed much from previous albums with the deep smokey-whiskey voice of lead singer Dan Aurbach belting out tunes that seem as though they should be emanating from a 60-year-old blues barroom singer. Aurbach sings of similar topics related to most blues rock songs; he's singing of trifling women and lovers long gone, but with enough of a new and modern twist to keep the old material fresh.

The beats are solid and catchy as Carney shows his dominance over the drums, making you tap your feet and move along to most of the songs. Aurbach's mastery of the guitar is prevalent in long guitar solos that are up there with some of the best guitarists in the genre.

But, if you're looking for variety from The Black Keys you're not getting it with this album. That isn't necessarily a bad thing though. The band plays the music that garnered them the attention and the audience they received in the first place. Each song is enjoyable and fun in its own respect (think AC/DC - same stuff but always enjoyable). It's pure raw, simple blues rock that's headed by talented musicians that know how to play the blues.

This album has not only been a commercial success for the band (the album has reached number three in the Billboards charts), but has also gained the band recognition from critics. "Brothers" has been nominated for a Grammy (Best Alternative Rock Album) and their single "Tighten Up" has also been nominated for Best Rock Song.

After years of struggling to gain attention, the band has finally received the recognition they deserve. This latest album deserves all the attention that it has been given. It is one of the best alternative rock albums of 2010, and if you enjoy catchy blues rock songs with unrelenting guitar riffs and pulse pounding percussion fronted by an incredibly soulful and powerful voice, then this album is the album for you.

redbox review

The Other Guys (Rated PG-13, Runtime 107 min.)

Ashley Christie
Page Designer

Samuel L. Jackson. Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. Mark Wahlberg. Will Ferrell? One of these things is not like the others; one of these things just doesn't belong.

That was my thought as I watched the Adam McKay/Will Ferrell comedy "The Other Guys." Ferrell and Wahlberg star as Allen Gamble and Terry Hoitz, two New York detectives.

They spend a lot of time behind their desks while they watch the rock-stars of the force, Highsmith and Danson (Jackson and Johnson) catch the bad guys and get all the glory.

After Highsmith and Danson are taken off active duty (I won't spoil the how or why, but it's kind of ridiculous), Gamble and Hoitz seize the opportunity to become the star detectives they think they are.

When they go to arrest David Ershon (Steve Coogan), a Wall Street tycoon, for failing to file some building permits they unexpectedly stumble into the biggest Ponzi scheme NY has ever seen. It's up to Gamble and Hoitz to bring in the bad guys



and not get themselves killed in the process.

It's hard to pin-point exactly what's wrong with this film. None of it works really. None of it is funny. It starts off bad and doesn't get any better.

I laughed at it, instead of laughing with it.

There are a couple of running jokes (and I use the term loosely) through-out the movie that I didn't understand the point of.

The first, about incredibly hot women finding Ferrell irresistible and the second about Wahlberg wanting to fly like a peacock for some reason.

Believe it or not,

Michael Keaton, who plays the Police Captain, was my favorite part of the movie.

In order to put his kid through college, he moonlights at Bed, Bath, and Beyond and the sight of Batman in a Bed, Bath, and Beyond smock just made me chuckle.

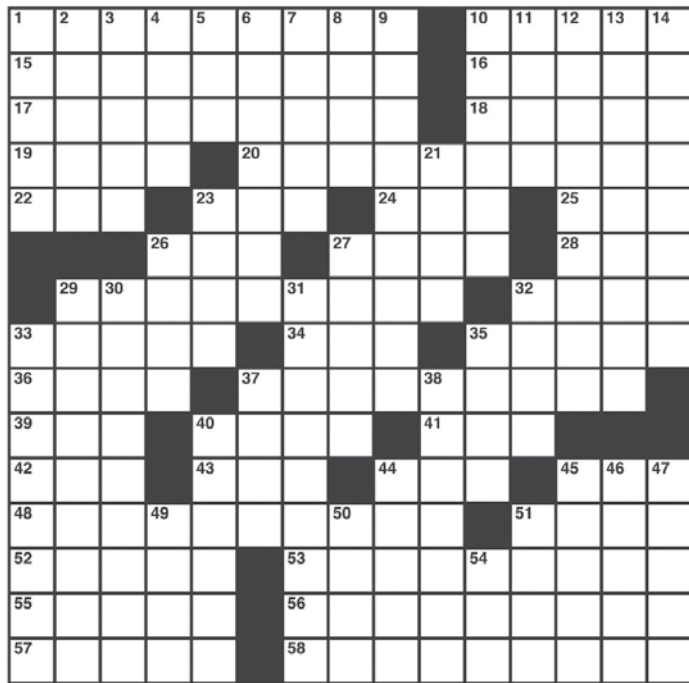
He also uses TLC lyrics as part of his regular dialog but claims to not know who TLC is. I don't know why, but I found it stupidly funny.

The plot and the Ponzi scheme are really unimportant and there's so much talk about Wall Street and stocks and numbers that I didn't really care about. The end credits roll over an interesting animation about CEO incomes and Ponzi schemes that just seemed out of place.

I'm not sure why I keep going into these McKay/Ferrell films expecting something. Nothing can top "Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy." It was comedic greatness and I keep hoping that they'll tap into that same vein again but all I find is disappointment. Even the FunnyorDie.com videos have gotten less amusing.

"The Other Guys" was a huge let-down for me.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pretax sums, e.g.
 - 10 Hero at the Battle of Cabra, 1079
 - 15 Blackmailer in "David Copperfield"
 - 16 Actress Téa
 - 17 They reach very large audiences
 - 18 Agreements
 - 19 Yucatán years
 - 20 Wall Street down time?
 - 22 Jailbird
 - 23 Trains overhead
 - 24 Prof's aides
 - 25 Memorable period
 - 26 "Love Don't Cost a Thing" singer, familiarly
 - 27 City south of Fort Worth
 - 28 Former Ger. currency
 - 29 Football boot that takes unexpected bounces
 - 32 Newsmen Huntley
 - 33 Grinch creator
 - 34 Bird Down Under
 - 35 Poke fun at
 - 36 Fail to mention
 - 37 Foliage-eating pest
 - 39 Lush's sound
 - 40 Chatters
 - 41 Western alliance: Abbr.
 - 42 Luther opponent Johann _____
 - 43 NASDAQ debut
 - 44 Shooter
 - 45 Closest pal, in texting shorthand
 - 48 Product sold below cost to attract customers
 - 51 Jezebel's deity
 - 52 Flannel shirt pattern
 - 53 Booming voice quality
 - 55 _____ Carlo
 - 56 "Cogito ergo sum" philosopher
 - 57 Came to a close



By Brad Wilber

- 58 Shrub with fluffy grayish flower clusters

DOWN

- 1 "Poison" plant
- 2 Seventh planeta
- 3 Plains bovine
- 4 Soviet news agency
- 5 Resistance unit
- 6 Amoebalike movie alien
- 7 Dreaded mosquito
- 8 Darth's daughter
- 9 Title gladiator played by Kirk Douglas
- 10 West Texas city
- 11 Goneril's father
- 12 Old military topper with a turned-up brim
- 13 Fit together
- 14 Repugnance
- 21 Big truck name
- 23 Yale Bowl cheerers
- 26 Equitable
- 27 Timid types
- 29 Long-sentence punctuation
- 30 Marsh hazard

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 31 Rows on pianos
- 32 CNBC interviewees
- 33 "... on my honor"
- 35 Fed who tracks down money launderers
- 37 Rubberneck
- 38 Exuberant modern compliment
- 40 Word before Age or cage
- 44 Gypsum painting surface
- 45 African language group
- 46 Looks toward
- 47 It's pressed on the campaign trail, with "the"
- 49 Place to build
- 50 Consider
- 51 Cutting remark
- 54 Highland refusal

HOROSCOPES



ARIES
3/21-4/19

You are riddled with that nagging feeling of impending doom. This is foreign to you, but its purpose will reveal itself in good time. Whatever it is, you can handle it.



TAURUS
4/20-5/20

A great weight has been lifted off your shoulders. It's as if something you have been putting off for a long time has finally come to fruition. Well done!



GEMINI
5/21-6/21

It's so close! That gold at the end of the rainbow is right around the corner - just a little while longer, Gemini. Be excited!



CANCER
6/22-7/22

Step up to the responsibility plate. It's your turn at bat, and you had better be swinging like crazy - it's all on you this week.



LEO
7/23-8/22

Last week may have shown you some harsh times, but rest assured things will be on the up and up this week. Stay proud, mighty Leo! You deserve it.



VIRGO
8/23-9/22

Epiphany - that's what's up, Virgo. Have it and wield it like a champion. Who knows? It might even change your life forever. Potential for happiness - acquired!



LIBRA
9/23-10/23

Stay focused. There are a lot of goals floating around that noggin of yours, but remember which ones mean the most to you. Do your darnedest to stay on track!



SCORPIO
10/24-11/21

You learned something recently that deeply impacts your life. Keep your chin up and your wits about you, Scorpio. Allow this event to make you stronger, nobler.

SAGITTARIUS
11/22-12/21



Seek out old friends, ones who you've grown apart from. They'll remind you of old ideals you may have lost sight of. Let them remind you of who you used to be.



CAPRICORN
12/22-1/19

Obscure news of an even more obscure object has given you a new perspective on life and a few new questions as well. Do you really want to know what you want to know?



AQUARIUS
1/20-2/18

This is the perfect week to hunker down and get creative. You've inspiration like you would not believe; it will drive you to finish a long-time project and start yet another.



PISCES
2/19-3/20

Pressure you've been allowing to build up has been released, and while hesitant to believe in resolution, you may find a genie in the bottle.

THE COMMUTER STAFF

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

Editor-in-Chief: Justin Bolger	Editorial Assistant: Sarah McClanahan	Photo Editor: Tony Brown
Managing Editor: Lacey Jarrell	Advertising Manager: Frank Warren	Photo Assistant: Alyssa Archer
News Editor: Alethea Skinner	Advertising Assistant: Lisa Bauman	Adviser: Rob Prieue
Opinion Editor: Adam LaMascus	Page Designer: Ashley Christie	Copy Editors: Gary Brittsan, Audrey Gomez
A&E Editor: Jordan Tunstill	Cartoonists: Mason Britton, Ben Carson, Maggie O'Reilly	Staff Writers: Chris Brotherton, David Mayotte, Jeb Oliver, Cameron Vasseur, Drew Wilson-McGrath
Sports Editor: Scott Landgren	Webmaster: Marci Sischo	Cover Design by: Ashley Christie

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 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

D'oh! Corrections to the Jan. 26 Commuter

We had a number of errors in last week's edition of The Commuter:

- In "The Beautiful People of Poverty," there was no by-line. The letter was submitted by Coquille.
- In "Where on Campus Am I?" we credited Tony Brown for the photos. Alyssa Archer was actually the photographer.
- In "Paying Homage to History's Heroes," we put a picture of William Wallace instead of a picture of Frederick II of Prussia.

Add/Drop

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Maggie O'Reilly

Tips for surviving a scary movie...

The "Turning on every light" technique.

Tactic 2 - The Blanket technique.

Tactic 3 - "Seeing only 50% of the screen makes it less scary" technique.

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephams Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4

4				5	3	9		
3	9		4				1	
5		1		6		7		
2				7	1	5	6	
	7	5		1	6		3	9
1		6	5			8		
	8	3				2	7	5
9				8			1	4
		4		5			8	3

Last Week's Puzzle Solved

9	8	3	4	2	1	5	7	6
6	4	2	5	7	3	8	1	9
1	5	7	9	8	6	2	3	4
3	9	4	1	5	8	7	6	2
2	6	1	3	9	7	4	5	8
8	7	5	6	4	2	1	9	3
5	3	6	8	1	4	9	2	7
7	1	8	2	6	9	3	4	5
4	2	9	7	3	5	6	8	1

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

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

Where on Campus?

Do you know where this picture was taken?



Alyssa Archer



Last Week's Answer: The Cycloid mural in White Oak Hall.

Last Week's Winner: Sorry, no winners this time but submit your answers for a chance to win this week.

Answers must be e-mailed to commuter@linnbenton.edu by 8 a.m. the following Monday. One winner will be drawn from correct entries each week and will win a prize donated by the campus bookstore.

Poetry Spotlight

A Curing Thought

by Erin Merrell

What if my reader couldn't read at all?
Someone less fortunate than you and I.
Whether they be a he or a she, it doesn't matter to me.
They'd look at the canvas that holds my thoughts.
They (my words) would be open to interpretation,
After all my reader can't read.
They'd be words of inspiration, an answer to prayer.
They'd be conversation on a rainy day.
They'd be the idea of 'nothing is impossible'.
And so my reader, the he or she, they'd learn to read.
And they'd find my poem was exactly what they need.



The LBCC Poetry Club meets Tuesdays to share poems they've written about a given prompt. This week's prompt was "Selecting a Reader." If you could choose one person to read your work, who would it be? Next week's prompt will be "We live so much of our lives without telling anyone."

MINUS GRAVITY

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Ben Carson

Fried Bananas

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Mason Britton

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Sanctum

A team of cave divers find a large, uncharted cave in New Guinea and can't wait to jump in to explore. After a tropical storm causes a cave-in, they're forced deeper into the tunnels and have to find a new way out of the underwater maze. Produced by James Cameron.



Rated: R • **Runtime:** 109 min.
Genre: Underwater Adventure

The Roommate

"Gossip Girl's" Leighton Meester moves in with Minka Kelly of "Friday Night Lights" and the two become instant besties. She idolizes her new roommate and would kill to be just like her. Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, right?



Rated: PG-13 • **Runtime:** 93 min.
Genre: Cute Girl Goes Crazy

Sources: [Imdb](http://imdb.com), Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com



Four Limbs Way Up

Cameron Vasseur
 Staff Writer

Twinkle twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are. For fans of the original "Dead Space," those words no longer hold meaning of childhood and innocence, but instead are merely the creepy reminder of a time spent aboard a derelict starship filled with death and fear at every turn.

"Dead Space 2" opens with a bang. We find Isaac Clarke, engineer and sole survivor of the disastrous events upon the planet cracker USG Ishimura, which claimed the lives of every crew member aboard, imprisoned in a straight jacket and drugged into delirium while a stranger brings him to consciousness. As the man speaks through a com link, a scythe is thrust through his abdomen and he is transformed into one of the horrors our protagonist had escaped only a short time before.

Clarke is then guided by the voice of a woman named Daina, as well as an escaped mental patient by the name of Norman Stross. He struggles to find out how he has come to be on The Sprawl, a space station that orbits Saturn's moon, Titan, with no memory of the last three years or why he has ended up in this place. His ultimate goal, however, is to discover how the necromorphs have come to this station after he destroyed both the Hive Mind and the Red Marker on Aegis VII. Through this, he struggles with a deteriorating mental state and constant reminders of the loss he faced during his first encounter.

Definitely worth waiting for, "Dead Space 2" provides an awesome new look into what it's like to experience an outbreak first hand and how difficult it is to survive during one. The game wastes no time throwing you into the thick of the enemy outbreak and makes it clear that it is not here to be your friend. It is looking to kill you and wants all the

blood it can get as you arm yourself against old foes and new who will find you within the first hour of the game, all of them looking for a piece of you.

The overall gameplay mechanics are the same, with a few added tweaks to keep you on your toes. While the controls are very much the same, Clarke has been given a voice and will tell you exactly how he feels about being hit by a necromorph or what joy it brings him to stomp the items from a fallen enemy. In addition, he takes a very active part in the story and dictates just as much as he is told, despite how little he knows of his surroundings. No longer the gofer, Isaac is now looking to take charge of the action as he knows his enemy.

As interesting as it is dark, DS2 leaves several surprises for the player, many twisted occurrences and background sounds, and action that will leave you questioning the mental stability of the game's creators.

The moment that has stuck the most since playing this long awaited sequel was just this: Clarke is walking down a hallway of the living quarters when from inside one of them, the sounds of a screaming woman can be heard as she is dragged away by a vicious necromorph, and slowly the sound fades into nothing. Suddenly, when all is quiet, the sound of a whimper and the cry of a baby, as it was left alone to cry in the dark. The child's fate, and that of those like it, is soon made clear as you progress through the game.

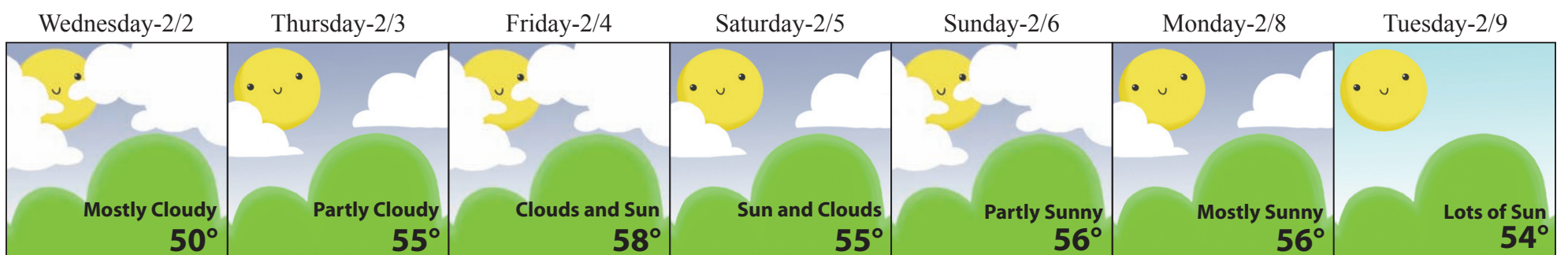
Shocking, suspenseful, bloody, and fun, "Dead Space 2" takes everything that makes the original great and expands on it to drag you deeper into their reality, making the game everything a good sequel should be. Just remember the words of the long-dead tram engineer from the Ishimura: "Forget about shooting them in the body, you gotta cut off the limbs!"

Are you in the know?

Check out The Commuter's website at
commuter.linnbenton.edu
 and keep up-to-date on all the latest
 campus news.

Find us on Facebook and Twitter too!

Weekly Weather Predictions



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