



Let it Shine

Students get back in the swing of things following a rainy spring break as the sun comes out and classes re-open for a new term.

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Boys of Spring

LBCC's baseball team has yet to hit its stride, starting the 2007 season with a disappointing 6-18 record against tough competition.

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THE

COMMUTER

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Students spend spring break by lending a hand

Spanish major Brooke Wilkinson cuts siding on house number four as part of the Alternative Spring Break program in Pittsburg, Calif. Ten representatives from Linn-Benton Community College, including ASG President Joey Markgraf and Student Activities Coordinator Ann-Marie Yacobucci traveled to the Bay Area to work in tandem with Habitat for Humanity the week of March 25-31, helping build houses for needy families.



photo courtesy of Joey Markgraf

LB battles for budget increase in state legislature

Will Parker
The Commuter

Starting Tuesday in Corvallis, the state Legislature's Joint Ways

and Means Committee kicked off a week-long series of Town Hall discussions. The topic: The state budget for the next two years.

Scores of LBCC student lead-

ers, administration officials and faculty members attended Tuesday's meeting to speak out for increased funding for community colleges.

And all across the state, community colleges are hoping for the best and preparing for the worst as three different budgets for the state's community colleges are lobbied for at the Capitol. The reason for the commotion is that the difference between the budgets is \$71 million.

The budget for the Community College Support Fund represents the bulk of the state's funding for continuing and developing operations at the state's community colleges.

The most liberal (and most desired by community colleges) budget would allocate \$529 million for the state's community colleges. As proposed, this would allow for LBCC to add classes and potentially lower tuition.

The governor's proposed budget of \$483 million would allow for maintaining the existing programs. This amount is considered the minimum to

maintain the existing programs because it is the figure that the community colleges planned on and budgeted around.

The Joint Ways and Means Committee's budget is the lowest proposal at \$458 million. If this budget is adopted, the cuts that would have to take place would be seen next year. Some combination of tuition increases or program cuts would have to be made in order to compensate for the deficit, according to college officials.

However, the topic of the town hall session isn't limited to only the general budget for community colleges. And neither is LBCC's interest in the budget.

Another budget up for discussion is the community college capital construction budget, which is specifically for major improvements and new construction. It is also a separate budget taken from the state's

► Turn to "Budget" on Pg. 3

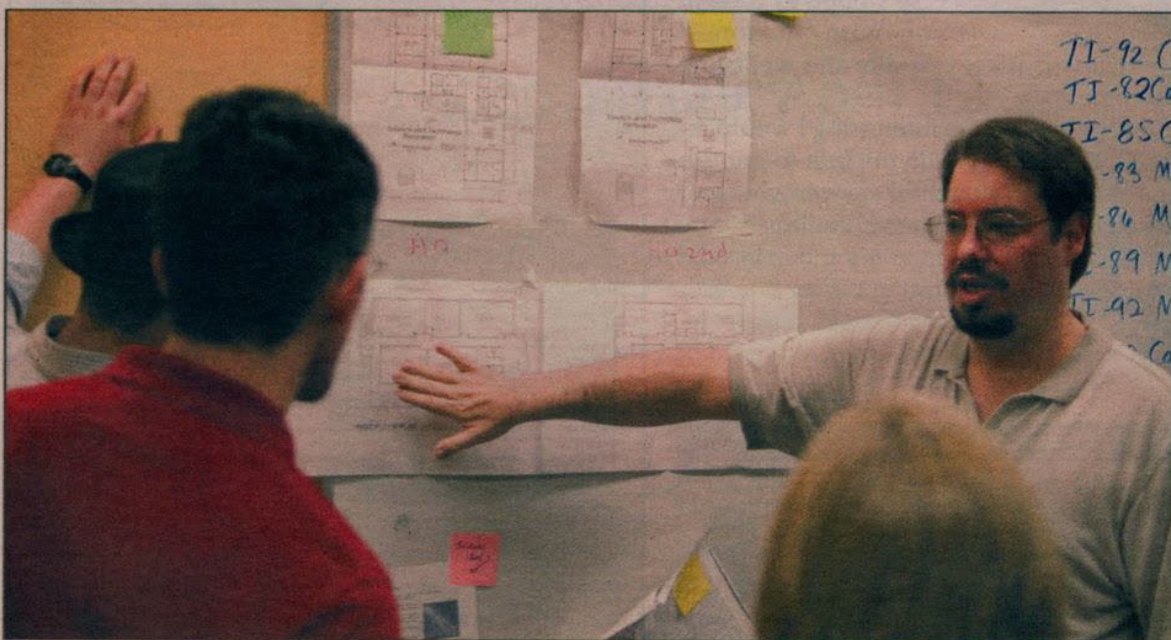


photo by Will Parker

ASG President-Elect J.J. Quinlivan shows students plans for the expansion of LBCC's science labs.

The Weather Through the Week

Source: Yahoo! Weather Service

High 58
Showers
Low 41
Wednesday

High 58
Showers
Low 40
Thursday

High 62
Showers
Low 45
Friday

High 55
Showers
Low 41
Saturday

High 64
Partly Cloudy
Low 41
Sunday

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OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter:
Turn into Forum 222. Please sign them
and keep them at 300 words or less.

Scanty Spring Break offers little relief

Elizabeth Uriarte
The Commuter

Flowers are in bloom, eyes are itching and noses are running, and the mythical egg-laying bunny has hopped his way through town—spring is indeed upon us. So I find myself asking, where was the break?

We are given one week off between winter and spring terms to rest our academically fried brains. That is seven days to recuperate from our previous finals before we bound back into our full load of classes and homework, and adjust to new teachers with new material.

I don't know about everyone else, but I feel as though we just had one of those four-day weekends or something.

After fall term, we are given four weeks off before returning to classes winter term. While it is understandable that this is during the holiday season and people need time to spend with their families and loved ones, a four-to-one ratio just doesn't seem right.

During my exceptionally long winter break, I enjoy the rest and relaxation—at first. By the end of it, I'm afflicted with a severe case of cabin fever, and am all too

eager to return to school. During my exceptionally short spring break, all I can think about is how ridiculous it is that I have to return to school so soon. Not everything can be fair, but it could be evened out just a bit.

Why can't we be given three weeks off between fall and winter terms, then two weeks off between winter and spring? It's still five weeks total, just more evenly dispersed. It seems strange that we get an extended vacation when the weather sucks, but as soon as it starts to warm up, our break is cut short and we're forced to return to the classroom where we'll gaze longingly out

the window at the beautiful sunshine and flowers that seem to taunt us as we're stuck indoors.

It has gotten so that winter term and spring term have blended almost into one. We should call it "spwinter" or "wing" term, the evil 22-week period of incessant homework. The only change is a shift of classes/instructors in the middle.

Whoever is in charge of deciding the lengths of our breaks between terms needs to come out of hibernation, and wake up and smell the flowers. This may seem a trivial plea for equality in such an unjust world, but come on—give us a break!



ELIZABETH URIARTE

Why can't we be given three weeks off between fall and winter terms, then two weeks off between winter and spring?

Truth, honesty becoming a rare commodity in today's spin-happy world

Walt Hughes
The Commuter

Have you noticed that truth and honesty seem to be confusing terms that are fast becoming more vague as time marches on?

Have you noticed that the vagueness is especially true when it comes to politics these days?

Truth seems to be whatever definition politicians and their spin doctors can manufacture to fit a given situation and induce you to believe, while honesty seems to depend on whose story sounds best at any given time.

Both descriptive words seem to fit modern day politics and religion on an equal footing. The majority of the world's population claims to believe in and worship the one true God while political parties claim to tell things as they are.

In either case it depends on which brand or variety of the story they can induce you to believe.

In the next few weeks I would like to attempt to bring you a fair and unbiased look at the present day court system, the political situation and how both influence your life and your future. While some of you will be leaving Linn-Benton at the end of this term, others are just starting the trek toward higher education and greater enlightenment of things in the world around you. In either case I hope to present you with an honest

view of things that will affect your life and wellbeing in the years to come.

In order to make things more interesting I would really like your feedback and will do my best to publish your questions along with a truthful answer wherever possible. You can either e-mail your questions in care of The Commuter or drop a note in my inbox located just inside the door of The Commuter office.



WALT HUGHES

Truth seems to be whatever politicians and their spin doctors can manufacture to fit a given situation and induce you to believe . . .

The Commuter

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STAFF

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

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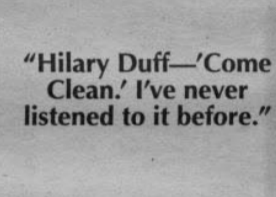
PERSPECTIVES

"What is the most embarrassing song on your mp3 player?"



• Beck Fillmore •
General Science

"*NSYNC—'Bye bye bye'—my friend got a hold of my ipod and put it on."



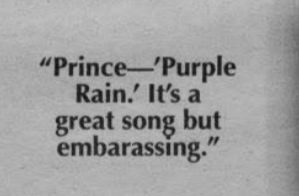
• Joel Munson •
Engineering

"Hilary Duff—'Come Clean.' I've never listened to it before."



• Helen Vanterzanden •
Exercise/ Sports Science

"Gretchen Wilson—'Red Neck Woman.' I live by it."



• Jairo Martinez •
Undecided

"Prince—'Purple Rain.' It's a great song but embarrassing."



• Bri Stackhouse •
Dental Hygiene

"It's by Blue October and it's called 'Calling You.' It's like he's always calling her in the night asking her if she's dreaming about him."

"I'm too embarrassed to say. Another one is the Aladdin song—you know where they're flying through the air."



• Chris Beach •
Liberal Arts

Compiled By Aaron Broich
Pictures By Gary Brittsan

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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus.

Students invited to explore job prospects Thursday

Maggie Busto
 The Commuter

LBCC's annual Career Fair will be held Thursday, April 12th from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the LBCC Activity Center (Gym).

This year the event is hosting 76 employers, eight which are LBCC Departments. The employers are from the Willamette Valley varying from the Lebanon Fire Department to the Albany Democrat Herald. The variety of businesses and careers represented allows students to find information pertaining

to their fields of study.

Students and community members are encouraged to attend, even if they are not currently searching for a career. Employers are eager to share information with potential employees, and business contacts can come in handy when looking for a job after graduation.

"You can learn about the different careers and fields that are represented, the hiring practices of companies and key skills that employers are looking for besides a degree," said Career Fair Coordinator Marci Johnston.

This event also allows employers to

get to know you before they ask for an interview, and as most students understand, first impressions are incredibly important.

Johnston encourages students to dress appropriately for the positions they are interested in and to bring resumes as well as any needed information to fill out job applications. It is also a good idea to prepare a brief, one-minute personal statement to introduce yourself and present skills and interests.

"[When you fill out an application] you're just a piece of paper. The career fair allows you to present yourself in

an interview. You're getting face to face contact with people who aren't normally accessible," said Johnston.

The Career Center is expecting around 600 attendees this year. The career center is open during the week and offers services such as help with building resumes, on-line job database and personal assistance with helping students find employment in the short or long term.

"This is the quickest way to do the job search. It helps save time; you don't have to run around town and look online, you get to meet people face to face," said Johnston.

Fallen soldier grants to ease financial burden on dependents

LBCC News Service

The LBCC Board of Education last month approved funding for a new fallen soldier dependent benefit program that is designed to assist dependents of Oregon soldiers to attend community college at a reduced cost.

The program will provide grants of up to \$500 per quarter to cover tuition, fees, books and supplies not covered by the Veteran's Administration or other federal, state or private scholarships or grants.

Qualifying dependents include the

spouse or child of the Oregon soldier whose death occurred after Jan. 1, 2002 while participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Afghanistan Campaign, or while deployed outside the United States as part of the global war on terror. Dependents must be residing in the LBCC district.

Benefits will be available for up to eight terms or until the dependent has completed a degree, whichever comes first. The benefits are to begin no later than 20 years from the death of the soldier.

For more information, contact LBCC Veterans Benefits at 917-4858.

Budget: \$71 million difference in state funding proposals creates concern

◀ From Pg. 1
 general budget.

As proposed, there are 14 projects on the list—LBCC's science building project is ninth on the list. The college is asking for \$3.75 million to build a new Science and Technology Building, expand existing facilities, and update labs with a focus on adding more support for computers in the classrooms and labs.

Currently space in LBCC's science classes is hotly contested—courses fill up

within minutes of registration opening. College officials say they have to turn away approximately 3,300 students each year from the science classes.

Students and staff interested in expressing their opinions on the matter can contact their state representatives or members of the ASG.

The next meeting of the Joint Ways and Means Committee is tonight at 6:30 p.m. at the University of Oregon, Lillis Business Complex, Room 282 in Eugene.

Cavin to give leadership talk April 12

LBCC News Service

LBCC President Rita Cavin will present "A Meditation on Leadership," at the next general meeting of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges (AAWCC) on Thursday April 12 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Board Room.

Her talk will deal with her view of leadership as shown through different world leaders, both real and animated, and her view of leadership today.

Lunch of soup and rolls is provided for AAWCC members. Non-members are welcome and can purchase lunch for \$2.75.

LB to recognize Day of Silence with multiple events

Elizabeth Uriarte
 The Commuter

The 11th Annual National Day of Silence is being held on campus next Wednesday, April 18. This is LBCC's second year participating in the event, coordinated by Matt Hamel, student ambassador.

The Day of Silence brings attention to the harassment and discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals in schools, according to dayofsilence.org. It is a

day where students, instructors and faculty members show support by taking a daylong vow of silence to echo the silence that LGBT students face everyday.

At LBCC, students may purchase T-shirts to wear on the Day of Silence to show their support of the event. Red T-shirts are for those who are planning to remain silent throughout the day; white T-shirts are available for those who wish to show their support but cannot be silent all day for work or related purposes. Shirts are on sale now through

the 18th at the Student Life & Leadership office for \$5 each. The shirts have not changed since last year, so if you have it, you may wear the same shirt.

A number of events are scheduled throughout the day. From 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Multicultural Center, a documentary entitled "Freedom to Marry" will be shown. From noon to 1 p.m. is the film "Soup with Substance: OSU Pride Center Students," also in the MC. Students from the OSU Pride Center will join LB students for soup and a con-

versation about gender identity. Then from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. is another documentary, "The Times of Harvey Milk," in the MC.

Also throughout the day will be a visual display in the Courtyard, which hopes to expand awareness of hate crimes and discrimination based on sexual orientation. Recordings of actual hate crimes in the U.S. will play from noon to 1 p.m. in the Courtyard.

Finally, at 3 p.m., it is time for "Breaking the Silence," when

students who wore red shirts are able to speak out and share their experiences of the day. Everyone is welcome to share (in a respectful manner) their thoughts and experiences about hate crimes and sexual orientation. Three of LB's counselors will be there to help facilitate the discussion, and a free lunch will be served for all participants.

For more information, contact Hamel at 917-4457 or at ambassador@linnbenton.edu. Shirts can be purchased at the Student Life & Leadership Office.

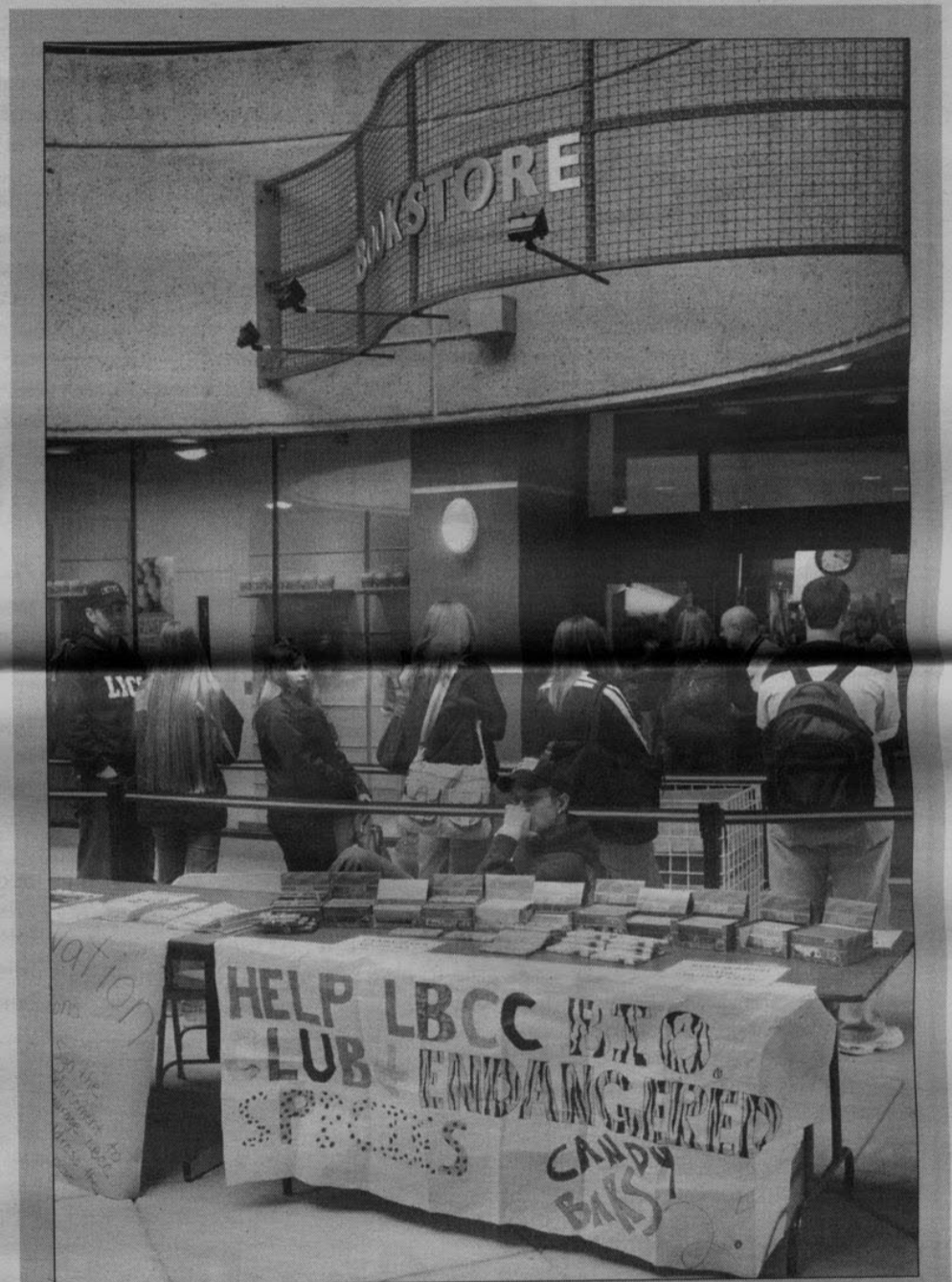


photo by Will Parker

Back in Business

Although it opened for business in the middle of last term, The Bookstore will celebrate its official Grand Opening on Thursday April 26 in its original location in the College Center Building.

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CAMPUS NEWS

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CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. For more information about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101) x4788

LBCC CAREER FAIR!!! Need a job or career information? Visit with over 70 employers at the 29th Annual LBCC Career Fair to be held tomorrow, April 12th from 10:30-2:30pm in the AC Gym. It's Free and Open to the Public! 64 employers are recruiting employees. See <http://cf.linnbenton.edu/careerfair> for a list of employers and tips for job seekers and career fair tips.

Instructional Aide III (#5035, LBCC) Take accurate & comprehensive notes using laptop computer for students with disabilities. Strong typing/computer skills and overall GPA of 2.5 or higher. \$9.66/hr. Work on campus, part-time, various hours.

Plant Sales/Customer Service (#5150, Corvallis) If you have knowledge of annual and perennial plants and can use a cash register, this job is for you!! Some weekend hours needed. Work is April through end of October.

CWE Certification Typist (#5148, Albany) Use your computer and typing skills and collect CWE credit toward your degree at the same time. Part-time, flexible between 7am-5pm, 5 days/week. Need 20-32 hours/week.

HELP AVAILABLE

Call Valley AIDS Information Network for information, support and referrals on AIDS/HIV, STD's and Hepatitis. 752-6322 or 800-588-AIDS.

MISCELLANEOUS

Student Life and Leadership is hosting a clothing drive for spring term. All proceeds go towards the Lebanon Clothing Closet. Appropriate, gently-used business or interview attire is needed. Drop offs located in Takena Hall and the Student Life and Leadership Office.

FOR RENT

Room for rent close to LB campus. \$375 a month. For additional information please contact Melissa at 503-409-5161 or JC at 503-881-3295.

New poetry club invites staff, students

A new poetry club is forming on campus, and organizers ask any students or staff interested in poetry to attend the first meeting.

It will be held April 18 at 1 p.m. in the Courtyard Amphitheater, weather permitting. If it's raining, then the meeting will be held in the second floor Foyer in North Santiam Hall.

More information is available from English instructor Robin Havenick (robin.havenick@linnbenton.edu) or student Jeanna Weathers (hippiejeanna@yahoo.com).

One of LB's founding fathers passes on

Rich Bergeman
For the Commuter

One of LBCC's founding fathers, Herb Hammond of Corvallis, passed away last month at the age of 93, ending four decades of service to the college, first as a founding board member and in later years as an emeritus member of the LBCC Foundation Board.

Hammond's contributions to the college, to the community and to his family were remembered during a memorial held in the Russell Tripp Performance Center in Takena Hall on March 24. Speakers included current LBCC Board Chairman Robert Hyland, fellow World War II veteran Dr. Craig Leman of Corvallis, former employees of Hammond Building Supply, and friends and family.

Hyland credited Hammond with being one of a core group of community leaders who, in the 1960s, had the foresight to recognize the need for a com-



Herb Hammond, 1914-2007

munity college in the mid-valley and also praised the energy he put into campaigning for its establishment.

Hammond was elected to the first LBCC Board of Directors on Dec. 6, 1966, the same date that local voters approved the formation of a community college district covering Linn and Benton counties.

He served on the board for the next 20 years, three times as chairman. He participated in

the selection of the college's first three presidents and served on several state education committees.

When he retired from the board in 1986 he was awarded the LBCC Distinguished Service Award, and in 1993 was recognized as an emeritus member of the LBCC Foundation Board.

Born in Portland in 1914, Hammond graduated from Oregon State University with a bachelors in technical forestry in 1939, the same year he met Helen Miller, whom he married a year later.

He took a job with the U.S. Forest Service in Roseburg after college, but when the United States entered WWII he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corp.

His active duty included participation as a platoon leader in the 5th Marine Division in the famous battle of Iwo Jima.

His role in the battle was praised by Dr. Leman in his remarks at the memorial. Leman, who served in that battle

with a different company, noted that Hammond led his company with bravery, persistence and compassion during the entire 36 days of the fighting on Iwo Jima, and in later years was a voice advocating for world peace through international cooperation.

After the war Hammond returned to Corvallis, where he owned and operated Hammond Builders Supply with his wife Helen for nearly 25 years.

During that time he served two terms as a Corvallis City Councilman, and following his retirement from business served as project manager for the construction of the joint Corvallis-Benton County Law Enforcement building in the mid 1970s.

He is survived by his wife Helen, sister Vivien Cogswell of Milwaukie, son Herb of British Columbia, daughter Vicki Eckerdt of Eugene, and two grandsons, two granddaughters and two great-grandsons.

Hammond remembered as 'true hero, gentleman'

Terry Weiss
For The Commuter

Herb Hammond died last month at age 93. He was a true hero and a true gentleman.

I served on a board with him 20 years ago and found him an amazing person. He brought an enormous body of knowledge and experience with him, and something more unusual: an ability to listen. He was able to reassess his opinions, and to change them if he felt the arguments were valid. I have rarely known any other person in public life capable of this. At the same time, he was able to instruct and enlighten novices in a way that was respectful and kind. I

Herb wouldn't want the world to be poorer without him . . . but it will be.

—Terry Weiss

have found the lessons I learned from him invaluable—to this day I remember things he said and change my course of action accordingly.

Herb retired from business life decades ago, and took his wisdom into the public arena. While he is often mentioned for his work for LBCC, there are many other committees for the public good of Corvallis that benefited from his presence. His talent was

for helping groups work well together, keep on task, and complete a mission. As I said, he was unusual, and he will be missed.

I call him a hero because he devoted his time, energy, and talent to the public good, with no goal except to better the community. You may not have heard his name, but I guarantee you have benefited from his work. I call him a gentleman because no one ever left his presence feeling badly about himself.

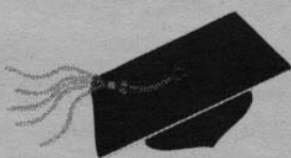
We could use a million Herb Hammonds' and I'd take even one more, if one more could be found. Herb wouldn't want the world to be poorer without him; that wasn't his style. But it will be.



Graduation Application Deadline April 13

Cap & Gown Orders:
April 25 & 26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.,
Takena Hall

Cap & Gown Distribution:
June 5, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
June 6, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Takena Hall



PLEASE NOTE: You may be required to meet with your advisor before you apply. Don't wait until it's too late! Graduation applications and worksheets are available at the Admissions Office or online at www.linnbenton.edu/admissions, and click on "forms".

CAREER FAIR

MEET POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS & CHECK OUT JOB RESOURCES

Thursday, April 12, 2007

10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

LBCC Activities Center Gym, Albany

Approximately 70 businesses, industries and government agencies will provide information on careers and employment opportunities. Agencies that assist with employment, training and family needs also will be on hand to inform job seekers about their services.

Come dressed for success and be prepared to ask questions, distribute your resume, and complete applications. For sample questions, maps and participating employers, visit www.linnbenton.edu/go/careerfair. LBCC representatives from admissions, career and counseling services, non-traditional careers and some professional and technical training programs will also be available.

Linn-Benton
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus.

Customer contact tops Gary Snyder's menu

Will Parker
 The Commuter

If you have ever picked up a hot entrée at the cafeteria, chances are Gary Snyder served it. As the Food Services manager, Snyder has become a well-recognized, if not well-known, member of the LBCC staff here on campus.

OFFICE HOURS

You are a very visible guy here on campus, at least in the café and the cafeteria. What is your formal title?

Conference Services and Food Services manager. I manage the conference services, the catering program, as well as overseeing room reservation for events.

With regards to your job with Food Services, what do you do there?

At LBCC, Food Services and Culinary Arts basically function as one department, even though technically they're separate. It hasn't always been that way. Before, both were separate; Culinary Arts had a section, Food Service had their section. It was inefficient, and there was duplication of effort in ordering things and such. What they decided to do with Culinary Arts was give the students more of a real world situation where they're producing products for sale on a daily basis so they have daily production needs. This way its more realistic for what they'll face out in industry. Instructional staff supervises production for the cafeteria and second-year students provide food for the Santiam Room.

In the absence of something



photo by Will Parker

Food Services Manager Gary Snyder serves up lunch to a customer in The Commons Cafeteria recently. Snyder is in charge of all the food available on campus, although his department works in cooperation with the Culinary Arts Department to operate the cafeteria and Santiam Room.

like the LBCC Culinary Arts program, what would Food Services normally do?

Food Services is responsible for all the food available on campus. Things like catering, the cafeteria and the café are all Food Services. The café right now is more Food Services than Culinary Arts. If the Culinary Arts sections were more Food Services, then we would be producing food for sale everyday and we wouldn't have the variety. A lot of times things will be on the menu that won't necessary be good sellers, but have a strong instructional value. It's a benefit to the college as a whole. Our food service here is superior to any I'm aware of because Food Services and Culinary Arts function together. Most colleges you

go to won't have the choices and variety we have here.

How is Food Service funded?

First and foremost Food Services is an enterprise operation. Like the bookstore and catering. That means that they aren't funded from the general budget, and instead are responsible for themselves. Ideally, they function independently, without the college's support.

How did you get started in the food service industry?

Initially I graduated from

Oregon State University in Microbiology, and at the time I needed funding so I took ROTC and then joined the Army. I went to school during the late sixties, early seventies. I got out of ROTC and my branch was Quartermaster Corps, which had food service as part of it. I went and did my training at Ft. Lee, VA for food service. Once I got out of the Army, I was a science teacher for a few years. And then I got out of that and opened up a restaurant in Corvallis, Rube's Deli in the Cannery Mall. We were there for 14 years. We sold

out in '92 and that's when I came to LBCC. I was the instructor for Quantity Kitchen for 5 years.

What's Quantity Kitchen?

Quantity Kitchen is the instructional kitchen responsible for producing all the food for the hot line in the cafeteria.

What's your favorite part of working here?

Well, when I was the instructor for Quantity Kitchen, I really liked working with the students. Being the Food Services manager, I really like what I do here. But the position I have here doesn't have the customer contact. That's why you'll see me out there everyday serving on the line, getting customer contact. I really enjoy cooking and customer contact. You know, it's kind of like serving lunch for 200 of your best friends everyday.

What is your biggest challenge?

Well, the challenge here, with Food Services being an enterprise, is breaking even. LBCC wants certain services available, but we also have an instructional requirement to fulfill. Our customers are locked in, the students and staff here. We don't have any outside traffic, so our traffic is really tied to enrollment. When enrollment is down, we really struggle to break even. Things that drive up tuition costs drive down our business, and make it harder for us to do what we need to do here and still be independent.

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8th Annual International Dinner

Scottish Food & Folklore

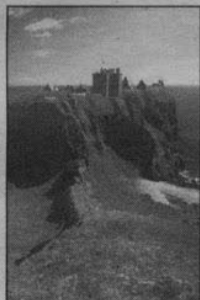
Wednesday, April 25, 2007

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The Commons, LBCC Albany Campus

PERFORMERS INCLUDE:

- Scotty Dutton on Bagpipes
- Teri Robertson on Fiddle
- Alexander MacKenzie, Scottish Speaker
- Colin Robertson, Scottish Dance Instructor



Kiosk with Scottish Souvenirs Sponsored by North West St. Andrews Society.

Ticket information:

\$7 Students • \$10 Non-Students • \$7 Children • RSVP to LBCC Student Life & Leadership Office at 917-4457 for a guaranteed seat. Tickets will be sold at the door only and are limited to 250 guests.

Sponsored by: Student Programming Board

Linn-Benton
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.

A&E Editor: Aaron Broich
Newsroom Desk: 917-4453
commuter@linnbenton.edu

PHOTO GALLERY

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

Spring Sprang Sprung

Sunny skies and high temps greet students returning to campus for spring term



photo by Jennifer Northcutt

Clockwise from top: Photo major Amanda Brazeal finds an appropriately sunny and colorful spot to crack open the textbook for her color photography class; arboriculture students in Scott Altenhoff's Arboriculture II class watch as he demonstrates pruning techniques on a tree in the Courtyard last Wednesday; sunny skies don't seem to be keeping students from coming to class, as cars continue to fill up the south parking lot; Max Ginsburg, Lee Collins and Ezekiel Brown take a break to play hacky-sack on the lawn outside the Benton Center in Corvallis.



photo by Jake Rosenberg



photo by Will Parker



photo by Gary Brittsan

LBCC MAIN CAMPUS

Commons

APRIL 11TH - APRIL 17TH

Wednesday:
ENTREES: Beef Stew and Chicken Cordon Bleu
VEGETARIAN: Kolokopita Triangles (Zucchini, feta and dill in filo dough)
SOUPS: Red Lentil and Chicken and Rice

Thursday:
ENTREES: Turkey Club with Pasta Salad and Chili Verde with Flour Tortilla (platter style)
VEGETARIAN: Eggplant Parmesean
SOUPS: Turkey Vegetable and Split Pea

Friday:
CHEF'S CHOICE

Monday:
ENTREES: Buttermilk Baked Chicken and Pappardelle Bolognese (Pasta with meat sauce)
VEGETARIAN: Friatta
SOUPS: Pozole (Mexican pork and hominy) and Puree of Potato and Leek

Tuesday:
ENTREES: Beef (Style) Stroganoff and Seafood Risotto
VEGETARIAN: Stuffed Portabella Sandwich
SOUPS: Mulligatawny (creamy pepper soup with chicken and rice) and Vegetarian



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

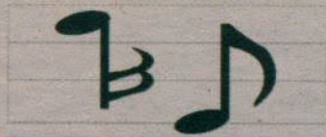
Turtle Island jazzes up cover tunes in new album

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

Turtle Island String Quartet turns out another jazzy album of cover tunes, featuring saxophonist John Coltrane's epic composition, "A Love Supreme." Coltrane explains his inspiration: "I experienced, by the grace of God, a spiritual awakening which was to lead me to a richer, fuller, more productive life." "A Love Supreme" is Coltrane's attempt to thank God whom he credits for saving him from a life of drinking and hard drugs. The album was first released in 1964.

Turtle Island String Quartet's "A Love Supreme" has many other songs as well, composed by varying artists such as Thelonious Munk, Miles Davis, Stanley Clarke, and Chick Corea.

The opening song "Moment's Notice," by Coltrane, is reminiscent of the Quartet's earlier works, which are heavily influenced by bluegrass and swing. The music is fast pasted with sweeping highs and swooping lows.



MUSIC REVIEW

★★★★☆

"A Love Supreme" Turtle Island Quartet

second of four parts, "Resolution," and "Naima," a song by Coltrane.

There are parts of the album that slow down and allow one instrument to carry the music, which is fortunate, considering that much of the music is rather full along with fragile yet dynamic musical instabilities. Such tensions are built up in the music with elegant moments like in part four of "A Love Supreme" called "Psalm," provide a serene contrast from much of slashing

Intricate solos weave in and out of much of the entire album. Percussion is sparse, yet the rocking stand up bass provides enough action for ballroom dance enthusiasts. The bass lines are nothing short of extraordinary, especially in "A Love Supreme's"

around. "Psalm" is appropriately followed by "Round Midnight" by Bernard Hanighen, Thelonious Monk, and Charles Williams. This piece also carries a delicate tenderness.

Another famous piece on the album is "My Favorite Things," by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein. "These are a few of my favorite things" is sung in the original. Although it remains fairly slow, the song is fired up by the quartet's fast paced string solos.

The four parts of "A Love Supreme" take up four tracks of the album. The Quartet does not maintain the bebop style of the original all that much, because of the lack of brass flashiness and the complete lack of drums, but the group adds their own special flavor to the music. They also left out the chanting-singing of the original, which works well for the project.

Overall, the album provides similar elements as past works, which will please fans, but it also brings live beloved jazz tunes that strike with complexity and dynamic fervor.

Benton Center to showcase local artist

LBCC News Service

An artist's reception and Acoustic Showcase celebrating the public art work recently installed in the Benton Center will be held on Thursday, April 19.

It will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. at the BC, 757 Polk Avenue, in Corvallis.

The reception will host artist Lee Hunt, who was commissioned in 2004 to design a piece of art for the newly remodeled Benton Center.

Hunt's piece, titled "Crossing a Bridge," was installed last December on the west wall of the Benton Center Student Lounge.

The local musical comedy group Free Range Chix will play during the reception from 5 to 6 p.m.

The four women—Vicki Hannah Lein, Stephanie Long, Barbara Case and Harriet Nelson—serve up harmony with a little humor and wisdom on the side.

Hunt's sculpture is comprised of five interlocking diverse figures that depict the sense of community at the Benton Center.

"They seem to participate in a passage that involves connection with community, humor, dance, consternation, support, uncertainty and joy," said Hunt. "They speak about change, movement, power and patterns."

Hunt is a native of Panama and currently resides in Portland.

She holds a Master of Fine Arts in Sculpture from Portland State University.

Hunt creates many of her pieces in the relief format, often using a fiber-glass reinforced ultra hard gypsum product.

This event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, contact the center at 757-8944.



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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



Artist Ron Mills is showing his "non-objective" paintings on exhibit in the South Santiam Hall Gallery. This month Mills is professor of art and visual culture at Linfield College.

Painter to lecture on exhibit of his charcoal, acrylic works

LBCC News Service

"Drawings and Paintings in Grisaille" by Ron Mills, a professor of art and visual culture at Linfield College, are on exhibit through May 11 at the South Santiam Hall Gallery.

Mills will present his lecture "Perched on the Edge: The Studio Armchair as Metaphysical Symbol" with a reception to follow.

The lecture takes place today

at noon on the LBCC main campus, Forum 104.

Mills works with acrylic and charcoal on canvas, creating non-objective pieces that range in size, although most are large.

"My work, 'Painting in Gray-scale' (Grisaille), is for me drawing writ large," said Mills. "Such work is often assumed to be mere underpainting, the provisional work done before a painter executes the real stuff. It is also said that drawings and under-

paintings give insight into the unmediated and unconscious workings of the artist's true and natural 'habits of mind.' Of the two notions, the latter is mostly true in my work, the former generally is not. For me, drawing and painting are of one cloth—complete works, not studies of a model for something else."

For more information, contact the South Santiam Hall Gallery at 917-4247.

Albany Swing Band performs in Takena Hall

LBCC News Service

The Albany Swing Band will perform a free concert on Sunday, April 15 at 3 p.m. at the LBCC Russell Tripp Performance Center at the Albany main campus.

The Albany Swing Band is a "big" band in the tradition of the Big Band Era. Comprised of musicians from the local area, the band has been performing in the Willamette Valley and all over Oregon for more than 30 years. Their library consists of nearly 200 charts, and per-

formances include many of the original standards from the 1930s and 1940s ranging from swing and jazz to rumba's, cha cha's, waltzes and polkas.

They have performed at many venues, including the Monday's at Montieth Park Concert Series, the Lebanon Community Concert Series, the Corvallis Country Club, and the Lincoln City Jazz Festival.

For more information, contact the LBCC theater box office at 917-4531. For disability accommodations, call 917-4789 or TDD at 1-800-735-2900.

Spring... a time to start fresh.
Start by cleaning out your closet!

Come support LBCC's Student Life and Leadership Clothing Drive by donating gently-used business and interview attire for the Lebanon Clothing Closet.

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 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Drop offs located in the Student Life and Leadership Office and Takena Hall



LBCC Bookstore

GRAND OPENING

Celebration!

Thursday, April 26

10am to 2pm

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

Audiences graced with amazing film about slavery

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

MOVIE REVIEW

★★★★☆

In the movie "Amazing Grace," parliament member William Wilberforce works to abolish slavery in England in the late 18th Century. Supported by his good friend William Pitt (Benedict Cumberbatch), who goes on to become England's youngest Prime Minister, Wilberforce (Ioan Gruffudd) responds to a spiritual awakening through his relationship with Christ Jesus by gathering a crew of zealous abolitionists.

At 21, Wilberforce had been elected to Parliament representing Yorkshire, and after becoming a passionate Christian, he lobbied against slavery for 20 years. In the movie, he's inspired by Thomas Clarkson (Rufus Sewell) and John Newton (Albert Finney) who is well known for writing the hymn "Amazing Grace."

The movie captures the horrific aspects of the slave trade with Finney's powerful performance as John Newton, who had been a slave-ship captain for many years. The experiences of that living hell so thoroughly haunt him that he's powerless to fight against England's slave trade, much less talk about it. Eventually he goes blind, and his sinful memories burn within him to be shared. His account provides convincing evidence that shocks many people into realizing the barbarity of selling hu-

man lives. Newton's realization of his own wrongdoing helps him to understand his need for reconciliation with God and inspires him to write, "Amazing grace-how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me." In his physical blindness he comes to understand his own words, "I was blind, but now I see." He was working evil, but God used it for good, saving him despite his many wicked deeds.

Much of the story is told in flashbacks, which take place with Wilberforce recounting his struggles against slavery to his romantic interest, Barbara Spooner (Romola Garai), who shares his passion for fighting injustice on many fronts. Whereas flashbacks are often not effective when used a lot, "Amazing Grace" makes good use of them, by developing tension and showing the stages of Wilberforce's political and spiritual development. He is plagued by chronic illness and political defeats. The House of Commons is virtually unmoved by all of his efforts, he explains to the captivated Spooner.

The acting is seamlessly effective and many characters help bring the story to life, such as Lord Charles Fox (Michael Gambon) and the well known writer, Oloudah

Equiano (Youssou N'Dour). Equiano was a prince in Africa before he was sold into slavery in North America. He gets a thorough Western education and earns his own freedom—telling the story in a successful book instrumental in changing the hearts of the people.

The director, Michael Apted, made alterations to the script emphasizing the political aspects of the story more than the spiritual in an attempt to make the characters seem more real. Whereas the spiritual realm is not as tangible, this decision makes sense; however, the source of Wilberforce's motives was spiritual, and in this way his spiritual identity defines who he is more so than his political opinions. Apted skillfully presents the politics of the day and also includes the spiritual dimensions of several characters, but it would have been nice to have included even more spiritual material which would have further enriched the presentation of the characters.

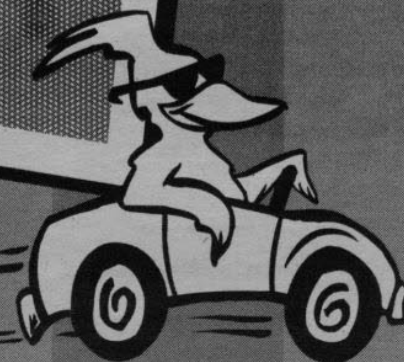
"Amazing Grace" is filled with witty dialogue, accurate costumes and clever cinematography. It has many exciting scenes along with emotional tension that is effectively channeled through the use of flashbacks and diverse characters. There is romance that has inspirational tones, but it does not compromise the style of the movie. It is essentially dialogue driven, and has enough material to intrigue the politically and spiritually minded. The movie is amazing on many levels.

The last day
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April 16

LBC Bookstore

Store Hours:
Albany Campus
 Mon-Friday
 8am to 4:30pm



Managing Editor: Michelle Turner
Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus.

President-elect urges students to lobby for more state funds

J.J. Quinlivan
for The Commuter

On March 22, the Joint Ways & Means Committee Co-Chairs Sen. Kurt Schrader and Rep. Mary Nolan released the state budget for the '07-'09 biennium.

Unfortunately, it is significantly under what the governor has recommended. The governor's recommendation of \$483 million would only allow LBCC

to maintain its current programs and tuition. If the proposed budget passes it will force LBCC to raise tuition and/or cut programs.

In addition, LBCC has asked our state government for 3.75 million to renovate and expand the science labs. If you've ever tried to register for a science class, you know how desperately we need this—3300 students are turned away from science classes each year. The proposed budget also puts this project at risk.

This is only a proposed budget. Our state legislators often propose a low budget and wait to see who protests. We can make a difference. If our legislators hear from students they will likely raise the amount allocated for Community Colleges. Contact our state legislators as soon as possible to ask them to raise the budget and ask your friends to do the same. Fax, call or e-mail each of our state legislators and include the following

information:

1. The Community College budget needs to be at a *minimum* \$483 million. We need the full \$529 million that the Oregon Community College Association has asked for to expand programs and possibly lower tuition.

2. Explain in your own words how a tuition increase would affect you.

3. Explain how much trouble you have getting the classes you need now and how it would get worse if more classes were cut.

4. Add the importance of the 3.75 million to expand and renovate the science labs.

Here's how to contact our legislators and the co-chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee:

•Sen. Frank Morse: 503-986-1708, E-mail: sen.frankmorse@state.or.us

•Rep. Sara Gelsler: 503-986-1416, rep.sara-gelsler@state.or.us

•Rep. Andy Olson: 503-986-1415, rep.andyol-son@state.or.us

•Sen. Kurt Schrader: 503-986-1720, sen.kurtschrader@state.or.us

•Rep. Mary Nolan: 503-986-1436, rep.marynolan@state.or.us

The Joint Ways & Means Committee will be discussing the budget for Community Colleges at 3 p.m. on Monday, April 16, at the State Capitol. If you are available to testify then contact ASG in the Student Life & Leadership office next to the Hotshot Coffee House for more information.



If the proposed budget passes it will force LBCC to raise tuition and/or cut programs.

ASG PRESIDENT'S CORNER



photo by Will Parker

Annette Easdale (second from left) and Wellness Coordinator Richard Gibbs hand out tickets to participants in last week's Fun Run in the Courtyard.

Prizes awarded at wellness Fun Run

Joe Hodgson
The Commuter

The LBCC Courtyard was a spectacle of synchronized effort last Friday as around 45 people walked, strolled, sauntered, and yes, one even ran around its perimeter in the annual Fun Run put on by the Independent Association of Classified Employees and Wellness Committee.

It had somewhat the appearance of a promenade as staff, faculty and students walked around the Courtyard. When a runner completed a circuit

of the Courtyard, said Annette Easdale, administrative assistant to the dean in the Arts and Communications Division and the secretary of the IACE, he or she, collected a ticket stub from one of the event managers, up to a maximum of five.

When the last person received the final stub, Easdale and Richard Gibbs, wellness coordinator and co-sponsor, drew numbers and distributed prizes to 20 of the runners.

Megan Merrill, a pre-nursing major on work-study in the Arts and Communication Division,

won a ham, which she said would be put to great use as she has guests coming for Easter.

IACE and Wellness sponsor two events each year according to Easdale: the Fun Run prior to Easter, and the Turkey Trot at Thanksgiving. She said they have been doing it for four years.

Tristan Pickens, 7, son of Megan Pickens, a clerical specialist with Facilities, did not have school and got to participate saying, "it was hot out there," but he ran the five laps and was a winner in the drawing.

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Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Thursday: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Lebanon Center - LC 220B

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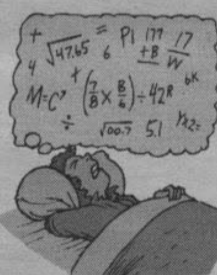
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So Much Math - So Little Time: Strategies that Work

Wednesday, April 11th

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How to Prepare for Math Tests

Wednesday, April 18th

Do you want better results on math quizzes and exams? Come learn effective strategies that will help you study smarter.



Overcoming Test Anxiety

Wednesday, April 25th

Do tests stress you out? Does your mind go blank when you take tests? Come find resources to conquer test anxiety so that your tests reflect what you know!



Creating Visual Study Aids

Wednesday, May 2nd

Too much to memorize? Learn how to make flash cards, diagrams, charts and visual "study sheets" that strengthen your comprehension and recall. Start organizing and consolidating your notes early (that means now), and you'll be amazed at your ability to pump out what you do know when test time rolls around.

All Seminars take place from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. in WH-210 on the Albany Campus

For more information, contact Charene Wimbley-Gouveia at (541) 917-4691 or email wimblec@linnbenton.edu.

Sports Editor: Jake Rosenburg
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

SPORTS

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



Joe Bryan
The Commuter

FACE OFF

Is the one-year draft rule a bane or a boon to the NBA?



Chris Kelley
The Commuter

We are one year into the NBA's controversial rule change requiring all players entering the draft to be one year removed from their senior year in high school, and the change has already been a smashing success.

This year's rookie class has been regarded as one of the best in the last decade, and it also has allowed players like Texas's Kevin Durant to become collegiate super stars. Players like Durant in previous years would have gone into the NBA and sat on the bench while teams waited for them to develop, rather than gain valuable on-the-court experience. Or in Durant's case become the first freshman to earn the NCAA Player of the Year Award.

The new rule change will continue to be successful for college basketball, the NBA, and the players it affects for several reasons.

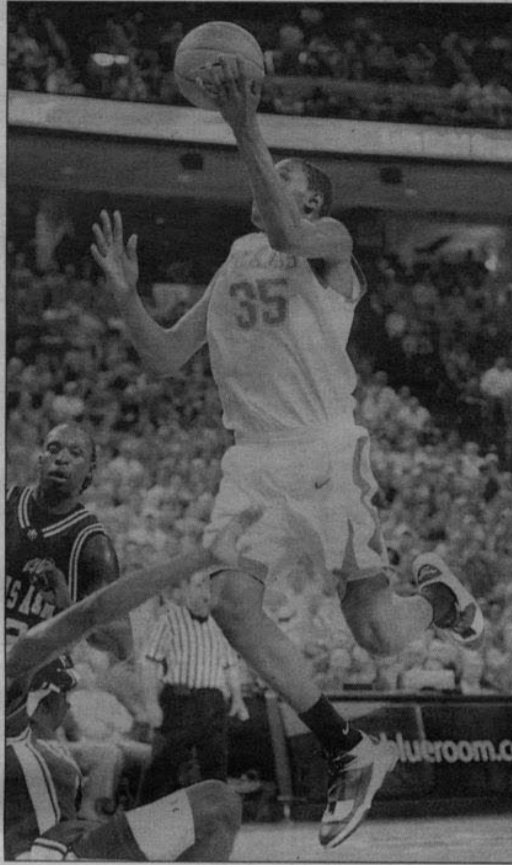
NBA teams have drafted 28 high school players in the first round since 1996. For every Kobe Bryant, LeBron James and Kevin Garnett there are two players that are either not physically ready or mentally tough enough to handle the rigors of the NBA straight out of high school.

If you throw out the eight players picked out of high school in the 2005-06 draft (the jury is still out on most of them), you have 20 high school players that have been picked since 1996. Six have become smashing successes. In addition to the three players previously named, only Amare Stoudamire, Tracy McGrady and Jermaine O'Neal have become immediate successes while the other 14 have become marginal players at best.

Of the 14 players chosen in the first round outside of that elite group only three players have averaged more than 10 points for their career. A one-out-of-three success rate seems pretty high in the "what-have-you-done-for-me-now" world of professional sports, but not when compared with the fact that 104 of 216 players, or 49 percent of those drafted with at least one year of college experience go on to have greater impacts in their careers than the less successful high school players.

Finally let's consider high school standout Taj McDavid. McDavid is a 6-foot-6-inch guard who decided to forgo school in favor of entering the NBA draft only to lose his college eligibility, not get drafted and injure his back playing minor league ball.

Do you think he wishes the rule had been in place when he graduated from high school? How about former high school star and first round pick Leon Smith. Smith played in 15 career games before being bounced out of the league in 2004 after one season in Atlanta in 2002 and one game for Seattle in 2004. This is a good rule that makes perfect sense and protects these talented young men in the long run.



Freshman phenom Kevin Durant is expected to be the first or second draft pick if he opts to declare for the NBA Draft this year instead of returning to the Texas Longhorns.

The one-year rule for the NBA is one of the worst rules ever thought of, right up there with illegal defense. The rule was added so that a player must go to college for at least one year before they can declare themselves eligible for the NBA draft.

The one-year rule established by the NBA was set in order to prevent athletes from avoiding anything to do with college on their way to the NBA.

It was brought in hopes that if athletes experience college, they might think about their education and stay a couple years to not only gain some education beyond high school, but also refine their basketball skills at the collegiate level.

This year the nation watched arguably the two best college freshman ever, Greg Oden and Kevin Durant, dominate the March Madness tournament, leaving their school to wonder how great they would be if they stayed for another year or two.

The problem athletes face is money, and they seem to do anything to get it. It is the goal of every kid to get a college scholarship to play, or to win a contest based on his or her skills. If athletes could be paid for playing sports while in college we wouldn't be facing problems with inner-city kids looking for a way to move their family out.

I know it seems extreme, students losing their amateur status while competing in college, but lets face it, this is a problem happening every year with a new school facing punishment.

It would eliminate two problems we have: athletes giving up on their chance to further their education by jumping to professional sports, and boosters buying gifts for players.

We have seen Moses Malone, Darryl Dawkins, Kevin Garnett, Kobe Bryant, Sebastian Telfer and LeBron James thrive financially as well as their success on the court by making the jump to the NBA after high school.

If athletes in gymnastics, skiing and track can represent the U.S. at the Olympics without needing to go to college, why should the NBA put a rule saying a year of college is needed? Baseball players are frequently drafted in high school and Sidney Crosby has dominated the NHL as an 18-year-old, so why are basketball players being cut short?

Basketball is a sport in which an athlete's spring and summer are consumed with AAU traveling teams since middle school. If a player thinks they can make the jump from high school to the pros, they have been scouted enough to know their draft possibility. So if an athlete out of high school decides to go into the draft, it is based off of years of scouting and invitations to national camps—it wouldn't be off a whim and last second decision. Let's let them decide for themselves.

SCOREBOARD		
Standings	League	Overall
Mt. Hood	7-1	14-5
Lane	5-3	8-18
SWOCC	4-4	15-12
Clackamas	3-3	10-7
Chemeketa	3-5	12-15
LBCC	0-6	6-12

Schedule:

April 10 @ Chemeketa
Results not available as of press time.

April 12 Clackamas
1 p.m.

April 14 @ SWOCC
1 p.m.

GLOBAL WARMING
 A LIVE PRESENTATION BY
 OREGON SECRETARY OF
 STATE BILL BRADBURY
 Wednesday, April 18
 12-2 p.m., Forum-107
 LBCC Albany Campus

Presentation includes part of Al Gore's *Inconvenient Truth* slide show as well as localized slides regarding steps Oregon and other Pacific Northwest states are taking to curtail global warming. Time for questions will follow. Sponsored by LBCC Student Programming Board.

For disability accommodations, call 917-4789. Submit requests four to six weeks before the event. LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.

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Sports Editor: Jake Rosenberg
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

SPORTS

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

Runners stumble to 0-6 start in league play

Jake Rosenberg
 The Commuter

With the always-competitive Southern Region schedule in mind, Baseball Coach Greg Hawk scheduled his 2007 squad for a tough month of March. Before diving into league play, the Roadrunners faced some of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community College's fiercest competition, ultimately escaping the preseason with a respectable mark of 6-12.

LB sits last in the division at 0-6 and had hopes of breaking the losing streak with their Saturday twinbill against Clackamas, but threats of rain delayed the series until Thursday.

To begin league play, visiting Southwestern Oregon came to Albany and swept LB 9-7, 10-8.

Their next two opponents wouldn't lighten up as they traveled to play Lane (5-3) and first place Mt. Hood (7-1). The Runners lost all four contests by a combined score of 32-20.

If the weather is playing any role in their fortunes, don't expect the team's progress to halt. While it is still early in the season,



photo by Jesse Skoubo

LBCC Athletic Equipment Coordinator Tom Bohmker prepares the baseball field Thursday for Saturday's double-header against Clackamas. The game was rained out and is rescheduled for Thursday at 1 p.m.

Hawk is not taking things lightly as displayed by his multi-surface practices between Activities Center gymnasium, parking lot sessions and field play.

Twenty-four games in, LB hasn't been able to put together complete games, but they are finding a few leads into who will carry the club in the coming months.

Leadoff hitter Mitchell Nelson

has been a notable standout with his multiple shoestring grabs in the outfield and an uncanny knack for getting on base.

"He's a good centerfielder and he swings it," says Hawk of Nelson. "He has the passion to play baseball and any coach would love to have a bunch just like him."

The freshman from Roseburg has established himself as an

early season catalyst, looking to set the table for such sluggers as co-captains Bryant Kraus and Casey Humphrey.

Nelson feels that coach Hawk may already have all the personnel he needs to do so.

"I can add a glove in the outfield and speed on the bases," said Nelson after the game. "We have a lot of good freshman on this team but everybody doesn't

see us as freshmen, they see us as baseball players."

Finding ballplayers has never been a problem for LB's coach of more than two decades. The key to success is getting them to capitalize on their strengths.

"We don't have a lot of big hitters on this team so we have got to do the little things well," says Hawk. "We have got to do things defensively and execute the small ball. We're scrappy."

In a league that utilizes only wood bats, options other than small ball are usually minimal, but that doesn't mean the Runners will lay the bunt down whenever their middle of the order hitters come to the plate.

With Hawk's scrappy squad, small ball will be the key to success, but don't expect the Runners to lay the bunt down on the season.

Look for them to get the green light and swing away.

Results for Tuesday's games at Chemeketa were not available as of press time.

LB (0-6, 6-18) hosts Clackamas on Thursday at 1 p.m. and then travels to Coos Bay to play Southwestern Oregon on Saturday.

New Fed Ex Cup merely muddies the waters of PGA Tour

Chris Kelley
 The Commuter

Thanks PGA for making your events more competitive! Golfers, starting this year, aren't only trying to win the Majors to be the best in the world, but now they are trying to win the Fed Ex Cup.

This is just a ploy for the PGA to try and name a distinct winner for their year, just like NASCAR does with their chase for the cup at the end of the year.

As if the world rankings weren't enough, I think this Fed Ex Cup idea is just another way for Tiger to not be seen as the best every year. The world rankings have worked fantastic for Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh



I think this Fed Ex Cup idea is just another way for Tiger to not be seen as the best every year.

A WORD WITH 'CHEESE'

the last six years. I don't think they would object to keeping things the way they were.

There is already the PGA Grand Slam at the end of the year that has each winner of the majors face each other. Shouldn't that determine the best player of the year? The winner of the FEC should get an automatic

spot on the Ryder Cup, or they should get free shipping from Fed Ex for a year, that would spice things up more.

Anyway for the PGA to make more money is all they think about. The FEC doesn't better their sport, because if a golfer doesn't win a couple large events and a major tournament, they wouldn't be in contention in the first place, and wouldn't be in the top of the world rankings.

Leave it the way things have been, because no one, other than Vijay, has been able to knock Tiger off his first place pedestal in world rankings. It would be almost cheating to make a new way to determine the best golfer, if it wasn't Tiger Woods.

Zach Johnson holds off Woods for Masters victory

Caleb Hawley
 The Commuter

Zach Johnson now has two career victories on the PGA Tour. His first tour victory was in 2004 at the BellSouth Classic (now the AT&T Classic). The second of the two came on Sunday and it was on a little larger scale. It was the Masters Tournament in Augusta, Ga., and you could say that winning one of those green jackets and \$1,305,000 carries a little more clout than winning the BellSouth Classic.

Johnson, 31 came up clutch in the final round in a four-hole stretch from No. 13-16, where he holed three birdies to essentially secure his championship. Johnson finished with a 3-under-par 69 on the day and a 1-over-par 289 for the tournament, two shots better than second place finishers Tiger Woods, Retief Goosen and Rory Sabbatini.

Holding off the likes of Goosen, Woods and Sabbatini in the 71st Masters at Augusta National was no easy task. Woods is the world's top golfer, Goosen is No. 8 and Sabbatini is No. 23.



photo by MCT Campus

2006 Masters Tournament winner Phil Mickelson crowns Zach Johnson the 2007 Champion with the green jacket on Sunday.

Now ranked No. 15 in the world, Johnson entered the tournament with a world ranking of 56. He is being touted as the least accomplished Masters winner since Larry Mize, who only had one tour

victory prior to his 1987 Masters victory, which he won on a chip-in to defeat Greg Norman.

Stuart Appleby, the 18th ranked player in the world, had a one shot lead on the

field heading into the final round, but stumbled to the finish line with a 3-over-par 75 that landed him in a tie for seventh place.

The 1-over 289 tied with the highest score ever registered to win the Masters. Johnson is tied with the 1956 winner, Jack Burke, Jr.

The high scores can be attributed to the high, swirling winds and extremely dry conditions that made the greens slate-like. Johnson found a way to persevere through what the rest of the world's best golfers could not.

Defending champion Phil Mickelson struggled throughout the tournament. Though he was still in distant contention going into Sunday, a 5-over-par 77 in the final round crushed any hopes of a repeat, or even a solid finish, as he limped off the 18th green in a tie for 24th.

Freddy Couples made the cut for the 23rd consecutive time at Augusta, which ties him for the record with Gary Player, a record that was overshadowed by Johnson's surprising finish. Couples has never missed the cut at the Masters.