

LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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BASKETBALL
IS BACK

FOLLOW
COYOTE **7**

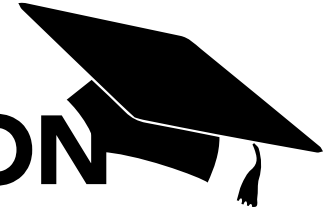
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STORY BY
SIMON
HUTTON

DESTINATION GRADUATION



Destination Graduation: A student's first requirement.

The purpose of LBCC's Destination Graduation (DG) program is to introduce students to the resources available on campus and connect them with an advisor. Preparing students for their college career, this mandatory class has changed over the past three years and continues to be modified to better enable student success.

DG was introduced in 2011 after LBCC went through Foundations of Excellence, an evaluation that focused on the first year of a students' college career. The idea was an attempt to maximize the college experience.

"The suggestion for a common first-term course focused on student success came out of Foundations of Excellence," said Leslie Hammond, associate dean of student affairs.

In 2012, the college passed Admission Standards rule 7075-02 which stated, "Newly admitted students are required to [satisfactorily] complete the Destination Graduation course in their first term."

When first implemented, the rule was designed as an admissions requirement for new students, however, LBCC staff did not mandate attendance. Students could skip the class, and not face consequences.

"Even though it was mandatory, it wasn't really

mandatory," said Hammond.

According to Hammond, in 2012, 68 percent of eligible students took DG. In 2013, the class became a requirement for priority registration. Attendance dropped to 49 percent. New students had heard that they could avoid the class.

"Word had gotten around," said Hammond.

In 2014, DG was made mandatory. New students added to LBCC's computer network have an attribute placed on their profile. When first-term students hit "submit" to register for classes, if DG isn't one of them, it denies registration for all classes. An exception is made for new students enrolled with 24 or more credits, or dual enrolled OSU students.

Student feelings are mixed.

"It's a good time to ask the teachers questions," said Delphine le Brun Colon. "But for me [the class] was unnecessary, because I am 31 and know where to go to get what I need."

"I didn't get much fulfillment from it," said Tobi Morris, but added, "It's a good class to help you make friends."

Some students are skeptical about DG's length and tuition cost.

"I think it should be a one or two week class before the start of term," said Katelynn Monroe.

"If it's mandatory, it should be free," said Colon.

Beyond students, the program adds significant work for LBCC faculty, both in teaching classes and advising students.

"I spent an extra 32 hours last term advising," said Professor Greg Mulder.

Despite the extra workload, Mulder has hopes for the program.

"If it can get more students to the point where they graduate, it's worth it."

So far, data the college has collected indicates that students who take DG have higher retention rates and are more likely to stay in school.

The college has worked to improve the program over the past two years. This year, with every new student taking Destination Graduation, it offers an opportunity to improve the experience.

"We definitely want to continue to collect and analyze data from every class, every term," said Richard Gibbs, head of the Destination Graduation steering committee.

For more information on Destination Graduation, contact Richard Gibbs at gibbsr@linnbenton.edu or 541-917-4244. ♡

FOLLOW SIMON @PARADOXUS11

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL IS BACK

Linn-Benton Community College announced plans to re-establish its women's basketball program starting this fall, with an emphasis on the "student" in student athlete.

The search for a coach will begin in the next few weeks. Player recruitment will begin shortly after the hire, with team play starting in the 2015-16 intercollegiate basketball season.

The recommendation to reinstate the program was presented to LBCC President Greg Hamann by the college Athletics Advisory Board, led by LBCC Athletic Director Randy Falk and Associate Dean of Student Engagement Leslie Hammond, with representation from community members, high school sports and LBCC alumni.

The decision to re-establish the program came after months of work with community members to create

a program structure that fosters high completion rates among student athletes and generates significant involvement of the community in supporting the program.

"Re-establishing our women's basketball program is a win-win for our students, our athletic program and our community, creating opportunities for student athletes and the community to engage in a program that promotes student completion as well as a positive athletic experience," said Falk.

LBCC's athletic programs are committed to student-athlete scholarship and completion of academic goals, with an expectation that players will accomplish a 50 percent completion rate and a high rate of transfer to four-year institutions.

In addition, the programs are committed to providing local students an opportunity to compete and pursue

their academic goals, with a requirement that 40 percent of players come from LBCC's service district or the district of a bordering community college, and at least 80 percent from the state of Oregon.

At the end of the 2013 school year, the decision was made to end LBCC's baseball and women's basketball programs in response to a \$2.9 million budget deficit. The baseball program was re-established in the spring of 2014, with new measurements established to guide both athletic and academic progress.

LBCC athletics continues to rely on community involvement and support of its athletics teams. Community members who have an interest in getting involved as a supporter should contact LBCC Athletic Director Randy Falk at 541-917-4245. ♡

LBCC PRESS RELEASE

STORY BY
CAT
REGAN

EVOLUTION AND RELIGION

Evolution and religion are subjects of much controversy, especially since Charles Darwin published his book "On the Origin of Species" in 1859. On

Friday, Jan. 16, Jon Perry, a former LBCC student, spoke at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis to shed some light on the importance of evolution.

Perry is a graphic design artist and science enthusiast who believes evolution can solve many of the world's problems we face today, but people have a challenging time understanding the concepts of evolution in plain text.

Perry creates digital animations that explain science in a way that makes the scientific concepts interesting, fun, and easy to learn. His animation series "Stated Clearly" can be found at statedclearly.com. During the discussion, he showed a couple of videos and other interactive show-and-tells.

Perry introduced the audience to live animals that were used to exemplify the resemblance between human anatomy and that of animals. Oliver, a wolfhound and labrador mix, a merlin falcon, a turkey vulture, and a great horned owl were in attendance that evening as Perry introduced them to a room full of both religious and scientific community members. The concept that all organisms came from the same origin; comparing humans to birds and dogs was meant to help people grasp that concept.

On Oct. 27, Pope Francis said he believes in Darwinian evolution. Some people are realizing that they can still believe in a divine creator and believe that organisms evolve over time. Believing in one idea does not necessarily make the other untrue.

"Religion helps us accept why we are here and evolution helps us accept how we are here," said Scott Breslin, the master of ceremonies and a member of the church's congregation.

This discussion included people of varying backgrounds. Some in attendance came from religious backgrounds, while some have firm beliefs in evolution. They came together and were able to project their opinions and questions calmly, yet still walked away with a deeper understanding of evolution.

"The theory of evolution says nothing about God or religion. It simply explains how living creatures came to be the way they are and it helps us understand how they will continue to change in the future. This understanding gives us incredible power as we wrestle with diseases, pests, and resource management," said Perry.

The creators of "Stated Clearly" are trying to have discussions on evolution more frequently. If you are interested in participating in a similar discussion on Feb. 12 regarding Darwin Day, Perry is planning on holding another meeting at LBCC. ♡

FOLLOW CAT @RAINDANCERCAT



PHOTO: CAT REGAN

Jon Perry has collected skulls and skeletons over the year including this brown bear skull.



STORY BY
CHRIS
TROTCHIE

SLC PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

The Student Leadership Council is holding a campus wide student presidential election Feb. 19-20. This year's election will be comprised of two students vying for the support of a majority vote of the student body.

The impact of the upcoming election will be felt by students currently attending LBCC as well as future students. As the SLC President, along with SLC staff members, they will address issues that impact students

at the monthly Board of Education meetings and help to develop and implement regulations that will shape life for students here at LBCC.

February's election marks the second time in LBCC history in which the decision of who will best represent the interests of students such as student fees, campus policies and inclusion, will be left in the hands of students.

The office of the SLC presidency will continue working to bridge the gap between students and administration

officials in the year to come. It will be up to students to decide who will be the best fit for the job this February. Further election information is available on the SLC website.

In anticipation of the election, The Commuter offers a first look at this year's candidates. 📍

FOLLOW CHRIS @CHRISTOPHER999



"My goal is to make out student body a more unified community"

COURTESY: ROXANNE SMITH

Roxanne Smith

I have spent almost the entirety of my short 18 years living in Sweet Home, Ore. Growing up in a small town has given me a strong sense of community and motivation to get involved. I am like any other student here on campus.

For the last three years I've lived in a little house on the edge of town with my single mother who has supported me both fiscally and emotionally through my entire journey as a student. I have had to work two jobs trying to pay for as much of my student expenses as I can afford, and public transportation is my main source of mobility. I am no different than any other student here; just trying to get a reasonably priced education.

This is my first year at LBCC and it has been one of the most rewarding, and educational, experiences that I have had the opportunity to get involved in. I

have spent countless hours in our Student Life and Leadership office volunteering on things from blood drives to different campaigns to helping students in Oregon. I have seen firsthand how short staffed we are on people who are willing to get involved in our student government here at LBCC. I want to help people feel more connected here on campus, and be proud to say, "I am a Linn-Benton Community College Student!" My goal is to make our student body a more unified community.

If I am elected as your Student Body President I promise that I will represent students accurately, honestly, and objectively.

Roxanne Smith
Presidential Candidate

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Voting on all LBCC campuses will be Feb. 19-20



"As your student body president you will help me better represent you in these spaces and conversation."

PHOTO: MARWAH ALZABIDI

Paola Gonzalez

I'm a student, I'm a volunteer, I'm an advocate, I'm a leader. My name is Paola Gonzalez and I'm running as your 2015-16 student body president.

As a volunteer I have acquired over 800 hours in multiple organizations. This year alone I have spent over 60 hours helping and running campaigns at LBCC that directly concern you, specifically the tuition freeze rally. In addition to dedicating the free time I

have to fight for change on campus, I represent you at a local and statewide level as your Hype Steering Committee and as your OSA OSCC representative, leading conversations and propagating changes at LBCC.

As your student body president you will help me better represent you in these spaces and conversation.

Paola Gonzalez
Presidential Candidate



STORY BY
ANDREW
DONALDSON

BUDGETING FOR SCHOOL

The most important step to gaining control over your finances is actually a very simple one, and it is something we should all do. Yet, if I were a betting man, I'd wager straight odds that you don't.

Budgeting gets a bad rap. Especially considering all it takes is a sheet of paper and as much financial information about yourself as you can find. Your goal? To figure out if you spend more than you make.

Grab a sheet of paper and split it down the middle. At the top of the right side, list all of your monthly income: Jobs, loans, grants, etc. This is the total amount you can spend every month without having to sell something.

At the top of the left side, list all of your repeating bills: Rent, car payments, insurance, credit cards, utilities, etc. Tally up a total. Add \$300 for food. This is your mandatory money. You don't pay one of these bills, you lose something.

Now list all of the bills that are more subjective—phone, cable, etc.—and write down what you currently pay. Next to each each, write what you COULD pay and

still survive. Tally up both columns and contemplate for a moment about the space between those numbers, pray its brief.

Finally, list all of the things you know you don't need but you really want: Coffee, alcohol, movies, clothes, music, apps, etc. Marvel at how many bills that number would pay.

Now compare your expenses against your income. How far apart are the two numbers?

While food is a must, you do not need to eat out. You also do not need new clothes, new music, the latest app, or even an expensive phone plan. Though easy to get caught up in, the habit of spending every dollar in your pocket rarely does any good. Trust me.

If you struggle with budgeting, debt or figuring out how much to borrow, there are programs at LBCC to help. The Financial Aid office offers two free programs to help you learn to better manage your college finances: SALT and CashCourse.

SALT offers free counseling to help you borrow less, spend less and repay your loans successfully. SALT

also offers searchable job, internship, and scholarship opportunities.

- Track and plan your student loans
- Get personalized financial guidance
- Find scholarships, internships, and jobs
- Gain know-how to be money smart

CashCourse offers financial information and management tools that can help you manage your money and learn to make informed financial choices. It is your real-life guide to taking charge of your money. Online personal finance tools help you build real-life-ready financial skills.

- It's free from commercial ties. CashCourse is independent and noncommercial.
- It's 100 percent FREE

Contact LBCC Financial Aid at 541-917-4850 with any questions. 📍

FOLLOW ANDREW @ADW_ONE12



RAD TECH CLUB

STORY BY
SIMON
HUTTON

The RAD Tech club consists of 10 LBCC students, nine of whom are in LBCC's 22-month intensive Diagnostic Imaging program that readies students for job placement in medical radiography.

In its second year, the club is working to introduce new students to radiography, the science of taking medical images. Students that join gain access to inside information on navigating the Diagnostic Imaging program from peers already acquainted with the courses.

"A huge part of the club is the advice that gets carried down. The second-year students helping out the first-year students and first-year students helping out incoming students. To me that's invaluable," said Paula Merino, club advisor and clinical faculty for the program.



PHOTOS: SIMON HUTTON

DI club Vice-President Kipp Iv looks over an x-ray with President Jason Bond

The club activities are informal and focused on team building.

"We try to make this club as relaxed as possible," said Club President Jason Bond.

Students involved with LBCC's Diagnostic Imaging program devote at least 40 hours a week to class work and studying. The program currently includes 24 LBCC students and three distance students. Through the Distance Program, students connected to an LBCC



Kipp Iv and Jason Bond

partner college attend real-time virtual classes to succeed in the program.

LBCC students work as a cohort in labs on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital. There are two labs per day, one from 9 a.m. to noon, and another from

1 to 4 p.m. Half the students attend the morning lab, then swap out with the other half for the afternoon.

Labs offer students hands-on radiography practice on medical dummies, students might also zap photons through cat skulls or audio recorders.

The road to becoming a radiographer is not easy.

"As much as it's a wonderful profession, it's not for everyone," said Merino.

The job requires being a people-person, working with patients, and in a team.

"This is one of the most intensive things I've done in my whole life," said Vice President Kipp Iv, who worked as an emergency medical technician for 10 years.

The DI club offers an opportunity for students to test the waters before jumping into the program.

"Anyone who's not even in the program yet can join our club to see what it's all about," said Bond.

Despite the intense work, the students consider DI engaging and rewarding.

"If medical work is your type of thing, I think this is an amazing field, possibly the best," said Bond.

"It is a lot better than any other job I could think of," said Kipp.

Club meetings are on the first Saturday of every month, but subject to change.

For more information contact Paula Merino at merinop@linnbenton.edu or Jason Bond at jason.bond.0872@mail.linnbenton.edu. The DI club will also be at College Night on Feb. 9 at LBCC's Commons Cafeteria. 📍

FOLLOW SIMON @PARADOXUS11



WINTER WONDERLAND

STORY BY
ALLISON
LAMPLUGH

During Fall term 2013 when printing cost 10 cents a page, a total of 102,773 pages were printed campus wide. Fall term 2014, when printing was free, 202,275 pages were printed campus wide. That's a 96 percent increase, estimating the use of an additional 12 trees.

The Library staff noticed the increased usage and spent six weeks collecting paper from the recycling bins and unclaimed print jobs. Their "winter wonderland" display seen in the display windows of the Library

TIPS TO REDUCE:

- "Print preview" before printing to make sure it will print as you want it to avoid a reprint.
- Print double-sided with your instructor's approval.
- Submit assignments via Moodle, Email, Google Drive, or Dropbox when possible.
- Select specific pages of a needed document rather than its entirety.
- Don't forget what you have printed.

entrance was made from what they collected.

"As important as it is to highlight this, it's not to shame people," said Laura Nagel, librarian. "But we do think there is a correlation between it being free and people forgetting their print job because they didn't have to pay for it."

Last term the Library was responsible for nearly 50 percent of all printing on campus with an estimated 1,600 pages printed a day. By the end of the term that's enough pages to be lined up from LBCC all the way to Grants Pass!

About half the paper used in the "winter wonderland" display was left unclaimed in printing areas. One print job in particular was a third of a ream of paper, which can be seen held together by a rubber band in the display.

Staying true to the message to reduce, reuse, and recycle, the display was made using as many reusable items as possible, including reusable tacks and sticky adhesives instead of tape.

In an effort to be more sustainable, the Library staff advise students to be more aware of their usage. Students are encouraged to print double-sided with approval from instructors, to select only the pages needed from a document, and to submit electronically whenever possible.

"I've thought a lot about when I pick up a paper



PHOTO: MARWAH ALZABIDI

to write a note, 'Do I really need to write this?'" said Nagel. "Just putting up this display has made me realize my own use and how I can reduce."

Recycling is a global issue. According to the EPA, producing recycled paper causes 74 percent less air pollution and 35 percent less water pollution than making new paper. In the U.S. paper makes up 40 percent of all waste, an estimated 71.6 million tons. Keep in mind that every page matters when you look at the bigger picture. 📍

FOLLOW ALLISON @LUCYLAFLOURE

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Art Reception - Wednesday, Jan. 28, noon to 1 p.m.

A reception and gallery talk will be help for the show "Viviendo Muerto!" featuring the work of marquetry artist Christian Barrios in the South Santiam Hall Gallery.

Creating Inclusive Environments for Trans* and Gender Nonconforming People - Wednesday, Jan. 28, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

In the Library, a moderated panel discussion on creating a more inclusive and welcoming environment for trans* and gender nonconforming people, with a specific focus on customer service interactions. General background information about trans* and gender nonconforming people and the issues they face will also be provided. Customer service will be considered from various aspects - inside LBCC, outside of LBCC, and from "both sides of the counter."

World Human Rights Day - Wednesday, Jan. 28, noon to 2 p.m.

Join the DAC and LBCC's Poetry Club in F-220, master poet Tim Black, and our own Poet Laureate, Crash, for poetry, essays, reflection, and discussion about what human rights means to us. Snacks and beverages provided.

Spring Graduation Application - Friday, Jan. 30

Make sure you go online to complete a graduation application.

Student Forum - Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2 to 4:30 p.m.

Students are invited by SLC to attend a forum in the Diversity Achievement Center discussing tuition fees. Topics will include what they are, what they aren't, and how they are used.



COLUMN BY
JAVIER
CERVANTES

EMBRACE EQUALITY

LBCC's Department of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion had the honor of co-sponsoring Albany's third community reading of a Martin Luther King, Jr. speech at City Hall on Jan. 15. What made this year's selection of the "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech so impactful for me personally was reflecting on how far we have come and how far we have yet to go with respect to the national discourse related to race relations. Over the last three months, we as a society have witnessed some very ugly and unsettling incidents nationally from New York to Ferguson to Cleveland and even here locally—albeit on a much smaller scale with the distribution of hate literature at the last Veterans Day Parade—leaving our communities wondering, what's next? Where do we go from here?

Given that I work in the area of diversity and inclusion, I found myself pondering my own sphere of influence. Where can I make a difference? Since I work at an institution of higher learning, I have a chance every day to influence people and motivate them to think beyond

their life experience. So that is what I will do: I will ask people to think about our country's progression as it relates to unity, co-existence, discourse, and critical thought as it pertains to sensitive topics.

So here are a few questions:

Have you ever asked yourself, "What would it be like to live outside of Oregon? What if I land a job that requires me to move to another country? Does Oregon accurately reflect the country's population?" If you have pondered these questions, I'd like you to consider one more important question:

Are we at LBCC preparing you sufficiently to be successful in a very diverse and increasingly global community and workforce?

Really think about these questions. Considering them will go a long way at your next job interview, I promise. You see, employers want to know if you can interact and be effective.

I have many colleagues pushing students to be ready for changing demographic realities locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. The kind of education

and skills you'll need are not only reflected in the ways you receive classroom instruction here at LBCC, but the manner in which you choose to engage your learning. Will you engage with difference that prepares you for tomorrow? Or will you choose to live life as if nothing is going to change? As if Oregon is its own planet?

Here's a secret: It isn't. There is a big, big world out there very different than the one we experience daily in Oregon. My advice for you is to prep for it. Embrace it. Love it—'cause it's coming. And this train won't be late.

The choice is yours, and yours alone.

If you want to chat about these hard questions, you can find me in the Department of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion located inside the Diversity Achievement Center in F-220.

Thank You & In Your Service,

Javier Cervantes,

Director

Department of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Lately I've grown concerned with the lack of sensitivity toward certain issues as displayed in your publication. Of particular interest is a piece that appeared in the Jan. 21 edition. Melissa Jeffers wrote, "...wearing barely anything down there you're asking for the unwanted attention." I would like to remind Melissa, and anyone else of a similar mind, of the mandatory sexual harassment training we were all supposed to complete last fall. You may wish to review this training, with emphasis on the

section about victim blaming.

Of course, said article was an opinion piece, but your paper represents this school and contributes to the tone of the campus. It is the responsibility of everyone here to maintain a safe environment for their peers, regardless of personal taste in fashion.

*Your loyal reader,
Kait Pettit*



DID YOU KNOW?

Beer consumption soars through the roof with Saveonbrew.com estimating that during the 2013 Super Bowl 50 million cases of beer were consumed, and roughly 7 million people called in sick after the Super Bowl

Consumption of chicken wings on Super Bowl weekend goes above and beyond with Americans expected to eat 1.25 billion chicken wings. That's 100 million pounds, according to a report by the National Chicken Council.



COLUMN BY
MARK
WEISS

ADVICE FROM WEISS

Question: I'm having trouble sleeping. Feeling weird. Feeling tense all the time. My doctor, she thinks I have anxiety. I just think I'm stressed out. I thought I had it all together. I graduated high school in June, got a job, moved in July. Worked all summer, then went to part time when college started. I did okay in my classes this Fall, that's not the biggest problem. I just don't feel right and some nights I hardly sleep, and it's been going on the whole time I've been at LBCC.

Answer: "Stressed out" is a pretty good description for what's going on with you. I'm sure it did seem like you had it all together. You certainly made all the right moves. But you've also made a lot of changes in your life, and we know from research that change creates stress.

Let's look at the number of the changes: You stopped high school. Because you stopped high school, some relationships ended. You started a job, and had to learn some new skills and work in an unfamiliar setting. You moved. You are now living in a new setting, and seeing new people. Then, on top of all that, you started college.

And the parade of change doesn't stop there. Once you start college there is an entirely new environment to adapt to. All of the differences between high school and college have to be adapted to. New relationships have to be built. And you are in four or five classes that are all bringing change into your life, with mid-terms, finals, papers, and presentations.

Given all that, it's pretty natural that you might feel some anxiety or stress. In a very short period of time,

your life has changed dramatically.

What can you do about it? Well, seeing your doctor was a great start. Please pay attention to her suggestions. Especially in regard to the sleep issue. There's very little that helps with stress and anxiety like a good night's sleep.

You can also see a counselor, here at LBCC, in Takena Hall at the Albany Campus. We also have counseling at our Benton Center and our Lebanon Center. Counselors help students with stress and anxiety every day and will have techniques and suggestions for the kind of thing you are going through.

If your stress has in any way affected your school work, then I encourage you to seek help at the Learning Center above the library.

And then, I know this may not be easy, but you may need to do less, for awhile. Maybe you drop a few hours at work, or just take a week off? Maybe you take one less class next term? Or maybe you get some help with things you need to do at home? But if there's something you can let go of, or ask for help with, it could make a difference.

If things don't get a little less stressful each term, if the anxiety stays high, then you may want to see your doctor again, or speak to one of our counselors for a referral.

Please write to me again. I'd like to be in touch.

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STORY BY
ALLISON
LAMPLUGH

GREG HAMANN GOES TO MEXICO!

LBCC President Greg Hamann recently returned from Puebla, Mexico from a six-week learning adventure. Accompanied by his wife Rita for a cultural immersion program via the Spanish Institute of Puebla, they studied the language and culture for six hours a day and took “field trips” to historic sites.

They lived with a host family, a retired couple with a large extended family, in what is the fourth largest city in Mexico. The metro area of Puebla is home to 2.7 million people. In comparison, the Portland metro area has 2.3 million people.

“Our host family didn’t speak any English. It was very interesting, but we still found ways to communicate,” said Hamann.

After the 2010 census, data showed that over the next decade LBCC will need to prepare for an increase of students of Hispanic decent. In preparation for this, Hamann decided to pursue the immersion program to better understand the culture, and in return, better serve such students.

“We have all kinds of false ideas of what Mexico is about based on the media or the 100 miles along the border. We think of it as this lawless place and that’s not true.”

Puebla is a designated historic city and is the site of the battle Cinco de Mayo. Built by the Spanish in the 1500s, it has a Roman Catholic influence. There are centuries-old stone buildings towering among modern skyscrapers.

Puebla is now home to large industrial and manufacturing companies such as Volkswagen, making all the Beetles of the world there.

The city draws most tourists from other parts of Mexico or Europe, however is not frequented by many

Northern Americans. For this reason, Hamann recalled meeting only a few people from the States, most of whom visited Puebla and never left.

His time there revealed differences in the way that people relate to each other in comparison to people in the U.S. For example, he saw very little homelessness. His interpretation of this is because families have a cultural setting, putting their members above all else, giving a deeper fabric of connection and sharing all they have with each other.

He saw a culture of trust that is beyond anything he has seen in the States, like the way street food is purchased. The sidewalks are lined with food choices. When getting a meal, you are not expected to pay until you are done eating. It’s considered impolite to ask for money ahead of time.

Social gatherings and street parties with tents and activities took over the streets daily. Everyone was invited and many brought food to share. A sense of community was integrated into neighborhoods.

“I ran every morning, and every morning somebody was celebrating something,” he continued. “They did seem to be happier with less than we have. They just seem to be happy with each other.”

Hamann enjoyed exploring the food Mexico offered. He tried native eats such as cactus and fried crickets. He rarely ate bread, enjoying tortillas instead. He ate a lot of eggs, chicken, fresh fruit and juices, and sauces on everything.

“A sauce which we call molé is from Puebla. The real and original molé is made of chocolate, and I can’t tell you how many times I ate it!”

On their first weekend, he recalled an afternoon they attended a family lunch with their host family.

“I didn’t know that meant we were going to eat, talk, and drink for the next seven hours. It was fantastic. They just like being together.”

On another afternoon Hamann and Rita rode the bus for 40 cents from one end of Puebla to the other. They decided to walk



Greg Hamann with Lucha Libre Wrestlers in Puebla, Mexico.

much of the way back seeing the city as a local might see it, discovering cafes serving locally grown coffee and stopping into sports bars with avid football fans.

“Sometimes I think you can really learn about a place by intentionally getting lost.”

Their immersion classes were with a diverse group of students from Ireland, Slovakia, London, Canada, and the Netherlands. One of the trips the class took was to the pyramids of Teotihuacan just outside of Puebla, in Cholula. The pyramids date back to 100 B.C.E.

“You walk amongst these pyramids and these houses, or what is left of them, and it’s amazing. We just don’t have things like that here.”

Because of the migration of many indigenous peoples of Central and South America, Mexico is scattered with hundreds of sub-cultures. Some have prominent facial features identifying their lineage, but all seem to live in harmony.

“We in the United States are so aware [of our differences] but I didn’t get the sense that’s what they fixated on.”

His immersion taught him to read Spanish and he can now grammatically organize a sentence. He admits that he is still a little lost when speaking and hearing the language, but can get the general idea.

“You really can’t understand the language if you don’t understand the culture because it’s all a matter of context. So you have to learn culture at the same time you learn language. That’s the beauty of an immersion school. We felt really positive about our experience.”



PHOTOS COURTESY: GREG HAMANN

FOLLOW ALLISON @LUCYLAFLOURE

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“My tutor helped me understand where I needed to focus my time and energy.”
LBCC Student

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DID YOU KNOW?

The Super Bowl has become a quasi-national holiday. Last year’s game set the record as the most watched TV show in U.S. history with 111.5 million viewers.

It’s big business for advertising with NBC charging \$4.5 million for a 30 second commercial. That’s \$150,000 a second.

CORVALLIS-DSU
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Hope and Music

Stephen Paulus:
“To Be Certain of the Dawn”
Heart of the Valley Children’s Festival Choir
Corvallis Repertory Singers
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"FOLLOW COYOTE"

STORY AND
PHOTOS BY
**ANDREW
DONALDSON**

This Feb. 6, 7, and 14 the LBCC Performing Arts Department will proudly present their 40th annual Children's Show "Follow Coyote." Led by a cast of boisterous and fun loving theatre majors, this year's presentation is a coming-of-age story about the lives of two young children separated from their parents while traveling along the Oregon Trail in 1842.

Written by LBCC English and Theatre major Dari Lawrie and directed by Tinamarie Ivey of the Performing Arts department, "Follow Coyote" tells the story of a day-dreaming young William and his bossy sister Sarah. They become separated from their family and lost in the woods along the Oregon Trail. Helped by a one-eyed trapper, a Métis boy named Louis, and a coyote whose love of tricks may be their undoing, join young William and Sarah as they struggle to overcome their fears and learn about trust.

Geared towards children between third and eighth grade, the show promises entertainment and excitement for an audience of all ages. From the fearless Shawna Osenga's injection of rampant energy into the coyote, to innocent Grace Hess embracing a character that allows her to release her inner voice, there is a character for every fan.

In part at least, this is thanks to Dan Stone, head of the Performing Arts department and a passionate lover of the arts. Through his program, students at LBCC have been bringing joy and awe to local children year after year. In fact, one of this year's actors, Jakob Holden,

clearly remembers becoming hooked years ago in Russell Tripp auditorium when he witnessed a play that shaped his life.

"I remember thinking, this is what people do. They get to dress up and become other characters and it makes people happy. I realized I wanted to be a part of that."

This is perhaps the main reason Dan and his wife Tinamarie do what they do. They see more and more of the arts being cut from schools, a problem they feel passionately about.

"For a lot of kids, going to something like this can be their only exposure to any kind of global culture at all," said Stone.

This would be why Dan believes in children's plays. Judging by the 250,000 audience members over the past 40 years, he is on to something.

This year you will not be a passive viewer. With audience participation a must, "Follow Coyote" promises to wrap you in a story of fear, struggle and personal growth so engrossing that your personal life will fall away, replaced by your desire to help William and Sarah find their way back to their family.

Becoming a part of something larger and using this experience to better understand who we are and how we fit into the world around us is what theatre is



Unbeknownst to Sarah, the Coyote and William make fun of her behind her back.

truly about. This is possible, whether simply a viewer or even an actor such as pixie-like Nicolette Gibson, who plays Little William. Feared destined for a life she didn't want, it was finding a home in theatre that gave her direction.

"I found the stage to be so much fun, and I fell in love with how it helped me step out of the life that I felt holding me back."

Whether you are curious or passionate about acting, find yourself to be a technical expert, good at following directions, or you simply want to learn how to build world-class sets, the door to theatre is always open. For more information contact Dan at stoned@linnbenton.edu.

You don't have to be a theatre major to take a theatre class. Maybe you too can become like this year's Louis, Christopher Cochran, and find that digging into other characters means a greater understanding of how you can truly help others. 📍

FOLLOW ANDREW @AWD_ONE12



During a rehearsal Louis, Sarah, William and the trickster Coyote (Shawna Osenga) look on as one-eyed Joe fixes William's broken musket.



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Oregon State
UNIVERSITY

CREATIVE CORNER

"Waiting for Justice" (in the Blues Tradition)

I've been waiting such a long time for justice.
I've been waiting such a long time,
But there ain't no justice here.

I lift my head so early in the morning.
I wake up so early in the morning,
But there ain't no justice here.

I hold these children high when they stumble.
I hold these children high,
But there ain't no justice here.

I work all day and smile at the world.
I work all day and smile,
But there ain't no justice here.

I take one drink and I know my way home.
Yeah, I know my way home,
But there ain't no justice here.

I feed the dog and mind the children.
I love those children,
But there ain't no justice here.

I build the henhouse and I plug the leaks.
I fetch the eggs,
But there ain't no justice here.

I held him close and stroked his cheek.
I stroked his cheek,
But there ain't no justice here.

I throw down my bundle at the feet of Jesus
I throw down my bundle at His feet
Cause there ain't no justice here

I've been waiting such a long time for justice.
I've been waiting such a long time,
But there ain't no justice here.

By Dari Lawrie

"Vampire"

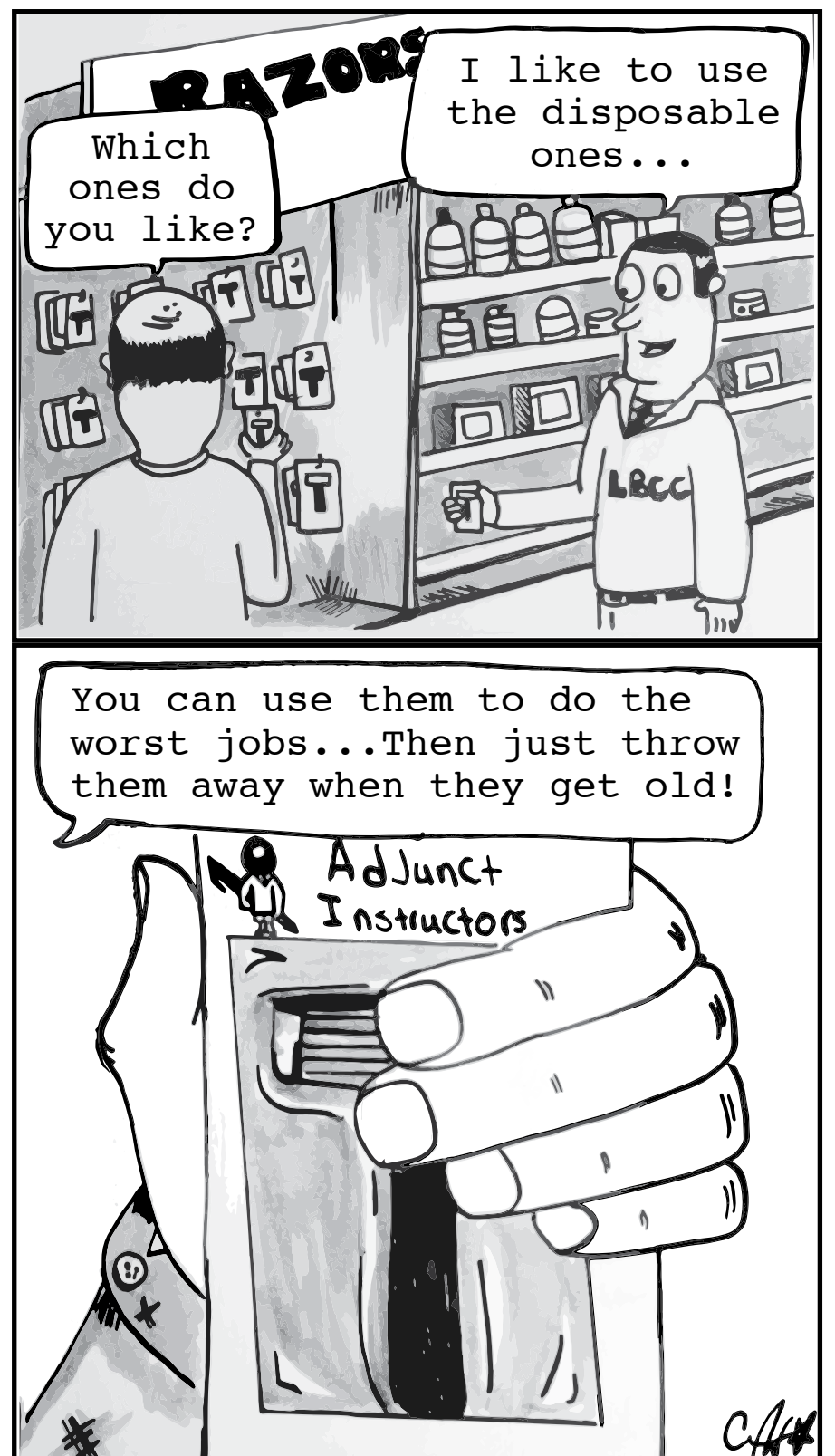
From the palace of your dreams
She offers you a bedtime prayer
But under the angel's breath—
Her poisoned lips are waiting there.
Inhale the promise of a heaven
And you will feel your spirit fly.
Chase the dragon through the clouds
And you will find her kingdom's a lie.
That's where her kiss will slaughter you
And when she's finished with her meal
She'll cast you down into a darkness—
Then bound by cravings you will kneel.
Believe these words, I know they're true
Because I'm trapped in her abyss—
And now I'm tortured by the angel
But I admit, I loved her kiss.

By Tony Makosica

JK



CREATED BY:
**CAMERON
REED**



"Do I Paint a Different Picture"

Do I paint a different picture
If I call it Royal Blue air
draped with Copper and Gold
Rather than an Egyptian Blue sky
swathed in Tangerine and Amber
Or a Zaffre expanse veiled
beyond wisps of Gamboge and
Aureolin?

By Nathan Tav Knight

SUBMIT YOUR WORK

Submit your poetry to The Commuter by email at commuter@linnbenton.edu or drop by the office in Forum 222.

Join the Poetry Club Tuesdays in the DAC, 3-4pm.



STORY BY
MATHEW
BROCK

SONY'S EARLY ACCESS GAME

Gamers flock to open-world-zombie-survival-sandbox-crafting-games like flies to a dead horse that's been beaten 10 times too many. It's not our fault. These games look and sound amazing, like the lucid daydreams that everyone has after watching a zombie flick and fantasizing about their ideal zombie apocalypse survival plan.

Lucky for us there are dozens of these games, each promising their own unique features and atmosphere, and all competing to see which one is worth our valuable time and sub sandwich money. It's a real shame they're all still in early access...

The latest entry to this bandwagon genre is Sony Entertainment's "H1Z1," a zombie MMO that should finally have a AAA budget behind it, yet for some reason Sony has chosen to release an early access alpha build for \$20, with potential pay to win microtransactions. The game will eventually be free-to-play at full release.

So to clarify, one of the largest companies in the entire video game industry has chosen to release a title so early and so unpolished that it can barely even be considered proof of concept, and then they'll give it to me for free when it's actually finished. Huh?

Early access should be a tool of desperation, a tool for small game studios to eke out a living by allowing fans to help fund projects and give constructive feedback. Instead, many developers use it as an excuse to charge you full price for a bad game, and string you along by slowly feeding the game to you piece by piece.

Sony is far from desperate, and they should really know better. I'm pretty sure you're supposed to pay someone to quality test your game for you, not the other way around.

The fact that they included micro-transactions in a game about scavenging and slowly building yourself up only adds insult to injury. The idea was that players

could spend real money to buy supply drops in-game that would spawn randomly on the server. This means that there's a good chance you won't even see the crate, much less its contents.

Currently the crates contain very useful items, like guns, that would otherwise require a large time investment and no small amount of luck to find. Even the fact that players who paid for a free game get to have a head start seems fishy.

Many see this as pay-to-win, but I can kind of see where the developers are coming from. Being able to affect the world in some way in a MMO game has a certain appeal. Imagine hordes of players, competing factions, and scavengers in a massive free-for-all of your own design. It sounds fairly satisfying. But regardless, the game isn't finished. No matter how interesting these mechanics are, at the end of it you're just paying early for a watered down experience.

These crates also cost \$5, and you're given several for "free" when you buy the early access version of the game instead of waiting for the free-to-play release version. The only real incentive to buy into the game is to get a head start on people waiting for the free version. That seems like pay-to-win to me.

Personally, I have actually had some very rewarding experiences with early access games like "Minecraft" and "Terraria." Being able to play a game, get my fill of it, and then come back to it a few months later with added content and features is a lot of fun. It's what made me choose some games out of my massive back-catalogue over others.

The problem is those games were both fantastic from inception. They demonstrated legitimate proof of concept when they started selling. In both those cases I would have been satisfied with my initial purchase, regardless of the many promises of what was to come. Many of those who bought "H1Z1" at launch were far

from satisfied with its initial state.

The reason for the avalanche of complaints and the skeptical glare of critics is that the developer saw fit to release the game in a poor state, had the gall to actually charge money for it, and thought slapping early access and alpha in front of it would give it some kind of anti-criticism shield. Eventually, refunds were offered to customers who were legitimately upset with their purchase, but I can't help but feel that a dangerous precedent was almost set here. Hopefully the backlash will be great enough to deter similar situations.

What Sony has done feels like a predatory marketing strategy that relies on people's ignorance, naivety, and fear of missed opportunities in order to squeeze some extra cash out of gamers. Customer justification is a powerful marketing tool, it's very common for people who get burned on bad games to instead justify their purchase by ignoring obvious faults and aggressively arguing with anyone who tries to tell them otherwise. I'll even go as far to admit I've done so myself.

All of this controversy aside, "H1Z1" actually looks like it will be a drop in the bucket for the genre, but a good game nonetheless. Many bugs have already been fixed. The planned features look interesting and unique and the game doesn't need to rely on its early access sales to survive since it's backed by Sony, with completely optional micro-transactions to subsist on later.

Releasing games with early access or unfinished in an alpha stage of development should be considered unnecessary for large companies, even if the final version is free to play. Gamers aren't stupid, we aren't all children, and we aren't afraid to start calling out developers on their nonsense. If you expect me to spend \$19.99 on your game, expect me to critique it, because that's \$19.99 that I could have spent on several sub sandwiches, instead of a broken video game. ♡

FOLLOW MATHEW @MATHEWQBROCK



The Commuter Cares

Did you know that 80% of all antibiotics sold in the U.S, are for use on livestock and poultry, not humans? Source: civileats.com

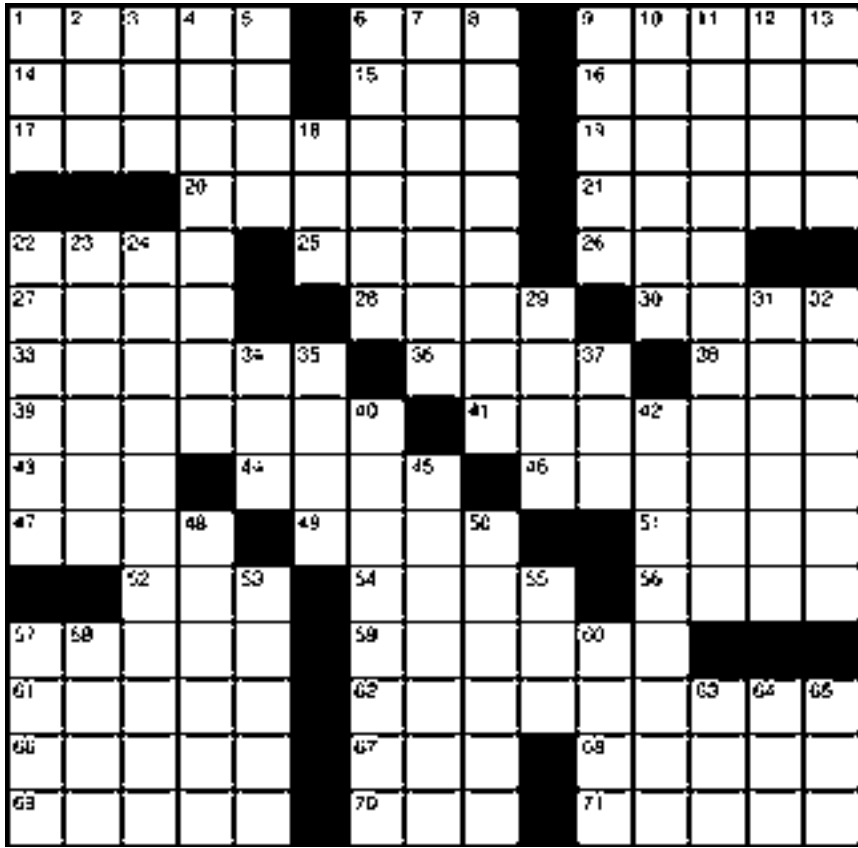


Scientists around the world have provided strong evidence that antibiotic use in food-producing animals can have a negative impact on public health. Source: CDC
Take action now notinmyfood.org

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Ancient Egyptian pictograph, e.g.
 - 6 Game, __, match
 - 9 Signs
 - 14 Tiny South Pacific nation
 - 15 High-tech film effects, for short
 - 16 Spreading like wildfire, as online videos
 - 17 Place for a Hold 'em game
 - 19 Breathing
 - 20 Missouri tributary
 - 21 Approved of, on Facebook
 - 22 Golf club part
 - 25 Some evergreens
 - 26 Visualize
 - 27 Hindu royal
 - 28 Feels poorly
 - 30 Lith. and Ukr. were part of it
 - 33 Swear (to)
 - 36 See 38-Across
 - 38 With 36-Across, needy people
 - 39 Located in that place, in legalese
 - 41 Arctic wastelands
 - 43 Slippery fish
 - 44 Baby bed
 - 46 Veterans Day tradition
 - 47 Trace amount
 - 49 Afternoon socials
 - 51 Garden locale
 - 52 __ de plume
 - 54 Onetime Russian monarch
 - 56 DUI-fighting gp.
 - 57 Social division
 - 59 Trojan War hero
 - 61 Some highway ramps
 - 62 Nabisco cookies ... and what you might cry upon solving this puzzle's three other longest answers?
 - 66 Long-extinct birds
 - 67 Assembly aid
 - 68 Open-mouthed
 - 69 Opposition
 - 70 Sloppy farm area
 - 71 Bedbugs, e.g.



By Dave Sarpola

1/28/15

- DOWN**
- 1 Treasury Dept. variable
 - 2 Mekong River language
 - 3 Relative of har
 - 4 Dressed more like an Exeter student
 - 5 Fling
 - 6 Nova __
 - 7 Self-serving activity
 - 8 Broadcaster's scheduling unit
 - 9 Racetracks
 - 10 Surroundings
 - 11 Officer Frank Poncherello portrayer of '70s-'80s TV
 - 12 Congregation area
 - 13 Snowy day toy
 - 18 U.K. flying squad
 - 22 Like Parmesan, commonly
 - 23 Newsman Dan
 - 24 Slogan seen on computer stickers
 - 29 Salad go-with
 - 31 Treelined
 - 32 Email again
 - 34 Wall Street watchdog org.
 - 35 Tangy

Last Edition's Puzzle Solved



(c)2014 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

3/25/14

- 37 Genetic info transmitter
- 40 Dapper pins
- 42 Equestrian competition
- 45 Single or double, say
- 48 Deepest part
- 50 Rational state
- 53 Complicated, as a breakup
- 55 Sales staff member
- 57 Give up, as territory
- 58 Nervous system transmitter
- 60 With all haste, in memos
- 63 Owns
- 64 Get off the fence
- 65 Hoped-for answer to a certain proposal

THE COMMUTER

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

Letters Welcome

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

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The Commuter Office
Forum 222
6500 SW Pacific Blvd.
Albany, Oregon 97321

Web Address:

commuter.linnbenton.edu

Phone:

541-917-4451, 4452 or 4449

Email:

commuter@linnbenton.edu

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Facebook

The Commuter

Google+

LBCC Commuter

Correction:

Club Expo photos in 1/21/15 edition should have credited: Marwah Alzabidi

Cover Credit:

Nicole Petroccione

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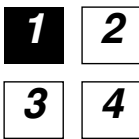
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Jarred Berger

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:



SOLUTION TO LAST EDITION'S PUZZLE

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

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

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

THE COMMONS

Cafeteria

... MENU ...
1/28 -2/3

Wednesday: Poached Salmon with Tomato and Tarragon Browned Butter*, Prime Rib with Jus and Horseradish, Falafel. Soups: Billy Bi, and Vegetarian Vegetable*.

Thursday: Chili Verde*, Parmesan Chicken with Tomato Sauce, Vegetarian Risotto. Soups: Spanish Chorizo and Chickpea*, and Beer Cheese.

Friday: Chef's Choice

Monday: Poached Salmon with Pesto and Roasted Tomatoes*, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Vegetable Stir-Fry. Soups: Chicken Tortilla*, and Cheddar Cauliflower.

Tuesday: Braised Lamb*, Roasted Turkey with Stuffing and Pan Gravy, Butternut Squash Spaetzle with Caramelized Onions and Fontina Cheese. Soups: Beef and Grilled Vegetable*, and Corn Chowder.

Items denoted with a * are gluten-free

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

Sweet Potato Skins

What You Need:

- 6 medium sweet potatoes
- 3 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella
- 2 tbsp. grated parmesan
- 2 scallions, thinly sliced
- 1/2 cup salsa verde
- 1/2 avocado, pitted and cut into small pieces
- 1 cup black bean chips, crushed

Position an oven rack in the top of the oven, and preheat to 350 degrees. Put sweet potatoes on a rimmed baking sheet, and bake 40 to 50 minutes. Let cool completely. Split each in half lengthwise, and scoop out most of the flesh, leaving about a 1/4-inch border all around.

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Put a rack on a rimmed baking sheet. Arrange the potato skins skin-side up on the rack, and brush with 2 tbsp of oil. Bake until slightly browned, 20 to 30 minutes. Let cool completely, then cut each in half crosswise.

Arrange the pieces skin-side down on the rack, and sprinkle each with mozzarella, Parmesan and scallions. Bake 8 to 10 minutes. Remove the potato skins from the oven, and drizzle with the remaining oil. Top each with some salsa verde and avocado. Sprinkle with crushed chips.

CELEBRATE THE SUPER BOWL



STORY BY
RICHARD
STEEVES

Super Bowl XLIX will feature the defending champion Seattle Seahawks versus the New England Patriots. The Seahawks, led by quarterback Russell Wilson, look to become the first team to win back to back Super Bowl titles since the Patriots did it in 2004 and 2005.

The Patriots will take the field led by three time Super Bowl champion quarterback Tom Brady. Brady looks to join Joe Montana and Terry Bradshaw as the only NFL quarterbacks with four Super Bowl rings. This will be Brady's sixth appearance in the big game, losing his last two appearances to the New York Giants in 2008 and 2012.

Wilson and the "Legion of Boom" will be looking to shatter the Patriots and Brady's dream of a fourth Lombardi Trophy. If Russell Wilson can pull out a win he will have beaten arguably the greatest two quarterbacks of this generation in future Hall of Famers Peyton Manning and Tom Brady, in back-to-back Super Bowls.

The big game, dubbed the "Desert Duel," is being held on Feb. 1 at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Ariz. With both teams and quarterbacks looking to reach historical milestones, this year's game will be a showdown.

On a local level, The University of Oregon may have came up short in the National Championship game but they boast the most projected starters of any collegiate program with four alumni: Max Unger and Will Tukuafu will start for the Seahawks, and Patrick Chung and LeGarrette Blount will take the field for the Patriots.

Patriot Brandon Browner won last year's big game as a Seahawk, is the only Oregon State University alumni to represent Beaver Nation. DeShawn Shead, a Portland State graduate, will also be on the field representing Seattle's infamous defense.

For those that don't have a place to watch the big game, included are some local watch spots. For those that are hosting or attending a party but don't know what to make or bring, our staff has included some favorite Super Bowl recipes. Bon appetite! 📍

FOLLOW RICHARD @RSTEEVES84

Pigs in a Blanket with vegetarian option

Makes 8 Piggies

What You Need:

- Cheddar Cheese
- Hot dogs
- (Vegetarian option use vegan/vegetarian hot dogs)
- Crescent rolls

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and line a baking sheet with foil or grease it slightly.

Open crescents and roll them out. Slice your "dogs" into quarters and roll them into your triangle crescents with some cheese.

Bake for 15 minutes. Enjoy your piggies!

Strawberry Margarita Jello-O Shots

What You Need:

- Strawberry Jell-O
- Water
- Strawberries
- Tequila
- Cointreau
- Sugar
- Lime

Cut the top off the strawberry. Cut off part of the tip so that strawberry stands upright. Scoop out the inside. Place on a baking sheet. Combine Jell-O mix with 3/4 cup boiling water until

completely dissolved. Combine 1 cup of tequila with 3/4 cup of cointreau. Add booze to Jell-O mixture. Pour mixture into strawberry cups. Fill them up as much as possible. Refrigerate until firm.

Spinach Dip

Makes 5 cups

What You Need:

- 16 oz frozen spinach
- 3 cloves garlic
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1-2 Tbsp apple cider vinegar (or more lemon juice)
- 1 cup cashews
- 1/2 cup fresh parsley
- 1 cup fresh arugula
- 2-3 Tbsp nutritional yeast
- 1-2 Tbsp Vegemise (or mayo)
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 1 tsp sea salt
- topping: cheese

Thaw spinach. Blend all ingredients except cheese, and blend until smooth. Add spices and cheese to taste. Pour dip into heat-safe serving dish. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees and bake for about 15 minutes. You can also pop it in the microwave and heat until cheese is melted.

Remove dip, let cool, and serve with crackers, bread slices, and veggie sticks.

WHERE TO CELEBRATE

Lebanon:

Game Time Sports Bar and Grill, located at 3130 S. Santiam Hwy. For more information call 541-570-1537.

Albany: Game Time Sports Bar and Grill, located at 2211 Waverly St. For more information call 541-981-2376.

"I am a Patriots fan and will be watching the game at a local bar, probably Sky High. Tom Brady is going to lead the Patriots to a win by at least 14," said Anselmo Chavez, an accounting major at LBCC.

"I am a Seahawks fan and my prediction for the final score is 23-14, I will be watching the game at my house with friends," said Wyatt Zuber, a agriculture major at LBCC.

Corvallis: Sky High Brewing and Pub, located at 160 NW Jackson Ave. For more information call 541-207-3277.

"I don't care who wins necessarily, but if I had to choose I would go with the Seahawks, but it will be very close. I will be watching the game at my house in corvallis," said Michael Lohman, a dual enrolled student majoring in education.

Albany: VFW Post 584, located at 1469 Timber St., will host a free Super Bowl party beginning at 1 p.m. Prizes will be given out and a 50/50 raffle will be drawn at the end of the game. There will be chili and chili dogs with all the fixings. Guests are asked to bring their favorite finger foods to share. All money raised will go towards the purchase of a new dishwasher. For more information, call Linda or Ed Rose at 541-928-7925.

Corvallis: Buffalo Wild Wings, located at 1820 NW 9th St., is hosting its annual Super Bowl party and are now taking reservations. For \$10 you can reserve a place at the party and you will receive a gift bag. Prizes will be given out during the entirety of the game. For reservations call 541-207-3066.



JAKE BATES

different sports in the Lebanon area.

"I have played basketball, baseball, and soccer my entire life. I just love playing sports, whatever it is," said Bates.

Family ties run strong with Bates as his choice to attend LB keeps him close to home and provides him the opportunity to play the game he loves in front of his dad.

"My dad coached a lot of my sports teams when I was growing up and has been, and still is, my biggest motivator."

Bates attended high school at East Linn Christian in Lebanon. There he excelled at the three sports he grew up playing. After high school he knew he wanted to play either baseball or basketball at the next level. Linn-Benton provided him that unique chance.

"I really wanted to play basketball or baseball in college. Basketball was my first choice, but whatever gave me the best opportunity is what I was going to pick.

After playing summer baseball before my freshman year of college I contacted Coach Falk and attended an open gym and decided to come here."

After sitting out to redshirt last year, Bates has got a chance to play this season. Bates is a point guard, but can play at the shooting guard position. Bates prides himself on his ball handling and shooting skills.

"I love to create. I like to drive in and kick the ball back out and set people up to score."

This season Bates has come off the bench as the backup point guard. With an injury to LB guard Trevor Cooley, Bates will have the opportunity to fill in and help the team.

"My goal is always to be the best that I can possibly be. This season we hope to get to the NWAC tournament, that's the ultimate goal." 📍

STORY BY CALEB CLEARMAN



ROADRUNNERS SELF-DESTRUCT

STORY BY
CALEB
CLEARMAN

Linn-Benton basketball suffered two tough losses this past week.

Wednesday, Jan. 21, Linn-Benton hosted Lane CC in a league matchup. LB came into the game looking to pick up its second league win in a close South Region. LB would again be without leading scorer Trevor Cooley as he recovers from a hand injury.

The RoadRunners would look for other players to step up in Cooley's absence. Sophomore guard Caleb Wilson would get the start and look to make the most of the opportunity.

"Trevor being out obviously hurts the team, and it's unfortunate because he was playing so well. He has stayed positive though and is still with the team everyday," said Wilson. "With him out, the rest of the team is going to have to step up, including myself. I'm not trying to fill his role or

anything, I am just going to do whatever I can to help the team."

However, Wilson and the RoadRunners came out flat shooting a dismal 25 percent from the field in the first half. Despite the poor shooting, Linn-Benton was still in the game trailing only 35-30 at the half.

In the second half Linn-Benton rallied from behind, led by the play of Adam Moore. The sophomore guard has been Linn-Benton's go-to man this year, and he

in the hunt at the top of the standings.

Linn-Benton started the game just the way they needed to, making shots and playing good defense. The RoadRunners opened up an early 10 point lead and looked to be in control of the game going into the half. However a familiar problem this year struck again; turnovers.

"We battled hard at the beginning of the game and were sitting comfortable with a 10 point lead. They

had a nice run and we panicked and didn't know what to do," said sophomore forward Taylor Vicknair. "It turned into a fast paced game."

After a closely contested first half Linn-Benton went into the half trailing by a score 33-27. LB was going to need to take care of the ball and get stops defensively to get back in the game.

"We started the game well and took an early lead, then we flattened out and couldn't get anything going offensively," said guard Jake Bates. "We made some turnovers that let them take the lead going into half and then we couldn't get back into the game."

The second half continued as the first did. Turnovers plagued the RoadRunners as they ended up having 24 at the end of the game.

Linn-Benton was able to keep the game close due to their three-point shooting. The team shot 10/26 for 38.5 percent for the game. Vicknair had four threes while scoring 14 points for LB. Wilson, in his second straight start, added another four

three pointers while scoring 16 points.

Mt. Hood was able to hold on to their halftime lead and ended up winning the game by a score of 69-57.

"We just haven't been able to finish games this year. Our team is better than our record and I feel like we could beat anyone in this league," said Wilson. "We just need to do more of the little things at the end of games. I expect a strong finish to end the season."

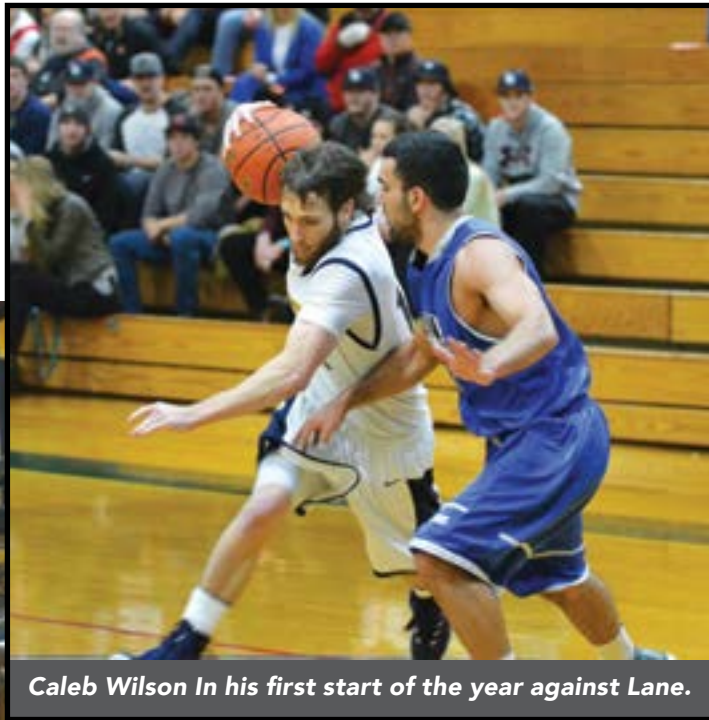
After losing two games Linn-Benton dropped to a record of 5-10 and 1-4 in league play. They will look to get back on track against Umpqua CC Wednesday, Jan. 28. The game will tip at 7:30 p.m. at Umpqua. 📍

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PHOTOS: COOPER PAWSON

Brett Blackstock brings LB within one point with this late game layup.



Caleb Wilson In his first start of the year against Lane.

produced again with 16 points and six rebounds, leading the RoadRunners in scoring.

LB was able to overcome the first half deficit and send the game to overtime. However, Lane CC proved to be too much and walked away with a 70-67 win.

After the loss, Linn-Benton looked to rebound on the road Saturday, Jan. 24 against Mt. Hood CC. Both teams came into the game with a 1-3 record in league play needing a win to stay

SPORTS BULLETIN

LB Basketball

at Umpqua
Wednesday, Jan. 28 at 7:30 p.m.
vs Clackamas
Saturday, Jan. 31 at 4 p.m.

OSU Basketball

at Arizona St.
Wednesday, Jan. 28 at 5 p.m.
at Arizona
Friday, Jan. 30 at 7 p.m.

UO Basketball

at Arizona
Wednesday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m.
at Arizona St.
Friday, Jan. 30 at 5 p.m.