



# THE COMMUTER

Linn-Benton Community College • Albany, Oregon

Volume 44 | Issue 28

## Playoffs!



The LBCC baseball team advances to playoffs after a winning season that serves as the program's swan song. See more pics from the team's last home game against Lane CC on May 14 and the 2013 NWAACC playoff bracket inside.

Ball Game: continued on Pg. 6-8

Dale Hummel



-NEWS-

Differential Tuition  
pg. 3

-CAMPUS-

Student Pipesmith  
pg. 5

-A&E-

Star Trek  
pg. 12

## THE COMMUTER STAFF

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

**Editor-in-Chief:**  
Sean Bassinger

**Managing Editor:**  
Justeen Elliott

**News Editor:**  
Nora Palmtag

**A&E Editor:**  
Lex Porter

**Sports Editor:**  
Michael Rivera

**Opinion Editor:**  
Will Tatum

**Webmaster:**  
Marci Sischo

**Page Designer:**  
Ashley Christie

**Advertising Manager:**  
Natalia Bueno

**Photo Editor:**  
William Allison

**Staff Photographers:**  
Michael DeChellis, MJ Kelly,  
Shuo Xu

**Adviser:**  
Rob Prieve

**Cartoonists:**  
Jason Maddox

**Copy Editors:**  
Justin Bolger, Ted Holliday,  
Denzel Barrie

**Staff Writers:**  
Dale Hummel, Tejo Pack

**Newspaper Distribution  
Facilitator:**  
Dale Hummel

### Letters Welcome

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



The Commuter

@lbccommuter



LBCC Commuter

**Web Address:**  
[commuter.linnbenton.edu](http://commuter.linnbenton.edu)

**Phone:**  
541- 917-4451, 4452 or 4453

**Address:** 6500 SW Pacific Blvd.  
Albany, OR 97321

# Students Debate Legalization of Marijuana

**Nora Palmtag**

News Editor

Colorado did it. Washington did it. Who's next?

Students, staff and faculty joined forces in the DAC on May 15 to debate the legalization of marijuana and hemp in Oregon.

Frank Clark and Cole Coleman argued in favor of marijuana legalization while Eric Noll and Grant Garcia argued in opposition.

Those in favor of the proposition argued that, "Marijuana is safer than both cigarettes and alcohol, which are both addictive. They also pointed out that it has never killed anyone from over-consumption.

Additionally, the medical benefits are evident for people with glaucoma, AIDS, cancer, multiple sclerosis, PTSD, Fibromyalgia, arthritis" and other diseases per Coleman.

Clark further urged adoption to compensate for reductions in state education funding due to the loss of tax revenue from declining home values.

Coleman later stated, "Knowledge is power, but enough with 'just say no and drugs are bad.'" He argued for having safe drug classes akin to safe sex

classes. He further stated, "Educators must be honest about the harm or risk associated with different drugs."

Clark also said that hemp should be made legal. He proclaimed, "Hemp is illegal despite its diverse uses."

He noted that the drug cartels are using Oregon forest regions to hide and grow a multi-billion dollar marijuana industry.

In the meantime, our "rural economy is suffering" and since "one of the main revenues of this state is farming," it would make sense if we cultivated marijuana.

Clark pointed out that Oregon has "the optimal climate, necessary equipment, a ready workforce looking for jobs, and a need to increase the quality of living."

Both noted that legalization would lead to a reduction in arrests, especially for recreational users. This would enable police to devote more time to pursuing 'real' criminals.

On the other side of the aisle, Eric Noll argued that the voters have already spoken by defeating the legalization measure in the last election. He also argued that "legalization for the purposes of funding education is wrong."

He felt that there are other bills that should be adopted by legislators. He also inquired as to what would be done with people who had broken the law and were already incarcerated. Do they get a free pass even though they broke the law? Is there a guarantee that money will actually be made from this legalization scheme? He also questioned whether it was possible to regulate the industry, since pot is so easy to grow.

Garcia basically supported the opposition with references to HB 3194 and SB 822 which have addressed this issue.

He also stated, "Excessive use of marijuana reduces cognitive learning." Both contenders against legalization stated that legalization should not be done to subsidize funding for education.

Javier Cervantes, director of the DAC, was concerned with the excessive impact on people of color by law enforcement due to drug laws. He stated, "How can we justify the disproportionate amount of arrests in our communities?"

The debate ended with the audience giving the nod to the team arguing for legalization. All of the team

members were commended for doing a great job.

Mark Urista, communication instructor, hosted the event and the audience was shown the short movie, "The Art of Debate", from THINKR. According to this short, people are continuously engaging in debate, even when they are not aware of it.

While conducting a survey of 12 students, there were three against and nine for the legalization of marijuana/hemp.

Brianna Hook stated, "Marijuana has put my mother's Crohns Disease in remission for a year and half so far, and I believe that is better to prescribe than chemically made drugs in a lab."

Deanna Page responded by saying, "It grows in the wild; we can go pick it. So why not make it legal? If you don't like it, don't do it."

While researching this subject, the Pew Research Center has reported that 52 percent of Americans are supporters of legalization marijuana. Proponents in Oregon are getting ready to get signatures for the ballot in 2014, so remember the seven percent loss from last year.

## What do you think?

Both letters to the editor  
and guest columns are  
welcome.

Submit your thoughts to  
[commuter@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@linnbenton.edu)

The Commuter attempts to print all letters received, although we reserve the right to edit for grammar and length. Letters that raise libel, poor taste or privacy concerns will not be printed.

## ARE YOU READY TO LOOK FOR A JOB?

The CASE Program at LBCC offers *Free Career Success Workshops*. These workshops will teach you how to create an effective resume and cover letter, find job openings, prepare for interviews, and become a valued employee. Workshops are open to all students on a drop-in basis. Join us and begin preparing for your career success today!

### "Keep the Job" Series

**Effective Workplace Communication**  
Thursday, May 30th, 12-1pm RCH 116

This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information on linked sites, and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. LBCC was awarded \$1,170,571 in grant funds.



## 'Additional Tuition' Charged to Science and CTE Classes

Ted Holliday  
Copy Editor

On April 15 the LBCC Board of Education approved a \$3 per credit tuition increase. In addition to the increase, the board approved another policy affecting costs to students, "Differential Tuition."

A growing trend to recoup expenses of selected degree programs in colleges is implementing differential tuition fees. The new fees are intended to help recover expenses from programs that cost colleges more to operate. Some programs targeted include degrees or certificates that make students ready for immediate employment after completion.

"Differential Tuition," put into plain terms is "Additional Tuition." The new expense will be absorbed by students and is above and beyond the \$3 per credit increase already implemented. Starting Summer of 2013 this new tuition will be imposed on selected classes.

For certain lower-division transfer courses with labs such as animal science, biology and chemistry, the increase will be \$19.70 per course. In Career and Technology Education (CTE) programs, the increase will be the standard tuition rate plus 21 percent per credit. Other programs that have not been targeted under this new program will continue to pay the standard tuition fee.

Dean of Instruction, Jonathan Paver said, "Some programs have higher costs, to help recover some of those costs, this model was accepted by the [LBCC] board [of education]."

Traditionally the expense of these programs has been disbursed equally among all programs. With the diminishing state funding to the university systems, new ways to recover costs needed to be implemented.

Students may not be aware of the additional fees until they receive their statement from the college. On the billing statement there will be an extra line stating "additional tuition."

"We are preparing for questions, and more information will be available soon on the LBCC website," Paver said.

Not everyone is with happy with this new policy. Full-time student and single mom Sandra Moreno said, "I'm a single mom, work part time, and I go to school to make a better life for my kids and I. I can't afford the additional costs."

Moreno already has transferred her information to Chemeketa Community College. She will be attending online classes and utilizing the science help desk that is available through the CCC program. She said, "If I stayed, I will be paying more without seeing additional help. I need science classes to graduate and there's just not enough help that fits my schedule."

Eric Noll, former legislative director for the Student Leadership Counsel (SLC) said, "There are a couple of key problems with differential tuition. We prioritize, as a state and nation, producing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) majors to be competitive in a global economy.

"By increasing the cost of welding classes, for example, by 21 percent we are dis-incentivizing students from enrolling in these programs."

For example, a student interested in a welding program can take classes at Chemeketa for \$88 per credit compared to the \$118 and change per credit at LBCC.

"There's always a consideration to our neighboring schools. We try to avoid out-pricing ourselves," Paver said. "[LBCC] has the best quality instructors in the region. And we need to continue to offer these programs."

Noll said, "In addition to deterring students from taking science and CTE courses, the communication regarding differential tuition to students and departments being affected was very poor."

When Noll asked faculty around the campus about the tuition changes, the response he most commonly received was, "What's differential tuition?"

"If the campus is going to heal and move forward from the major cuts and conflict we saw this year, this is a step in the wrong direction," Noll said.

Other schools in Oregon are implementing this type of fee scheduling, including Oregon State University. For the 2013-14 school year OSU has implemented the new fees. For LBCC, the increased tuition and new fees come on the heels of program cuts, layoffs and retirements.



Ted Holliday

Former SLC Legislative Director Eric Noll addresses the LBCC Board of Education on May 14 about his disappointment on the approval of differential tuition.

### At a Glance

Differential Tuition Starts Summer 2013

#### Classes with \$19.70 Per Course Increase

Animal Science  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Geology  
General Science  
Physics

#### Classes with base tuition plus 21 percent per credit:

Automotive Technology  
Construction and Forestry Equipment Technology  
Dental Assistant  
Heavy Equipment/Diesel Technology  
Machine Tool Technology  
Mechatronics Technician/Industrial Technology  
Nursing Assistant  
Welding and Fabrication

#### Culinary Arts will pay tuition from the new model, but no longer pay the program (F131) fee.

For a complete list of individual classes that will implement the additional tuition fee go to [linnbenton.edu/additional-tuition](http://linnbenton.edu/additional-tuition)

Not all states welcome the new trend. In an open letter to the California Community College board, Brice W. Harris, the California chancellor of community colleges, opposed the idea.

"I strongly believe that charging different students different fees depending on demand, ability to pay or program of interest would ultimately be devastating to open access and has the potential to undermine a system that has been the gateway to a better life for all Californians regardless of their background," Harris wrote.

Does LBCC really need to follow the trend of other institutions in the wake of financial turmoil? In last year's Bloomberg Businessweek, Louis Lavelle wrote, "Many schools that are opting for differential tuition are doing so out of desperation."

"The California community colleges have been a system that promised equal access opportunity to everyone regardless of educational, economical or family background," Harris wrote.

The new fees have the perception of creatively collecting additional money while at the same time leaving students with greater loan debt.

## Stetz-Waters Lives Life with Intent

Tejo Pack  
Staff Writer

Sitting at the front of the class on a large wooden desk conversing and engaging with one of her students about his life inside the military, Karelia Stetz-Waters, English department chair, makes it obvious that caring is a big part of her style.

She's smiling, and yet carries a face lined with intent. Not just to understand the conversation that is ensuing, but to truly be a part.

As the class gets moving Stetz-Waters paces the front of the room, not out of nervousness or tick, but with the desire to engage each student. She connects eye-to-eye as she speaks and the room comes alive.

You can feel the liberation as students freely ask questions, and after watching a TED Talk video, begin to engage in a conversation far deeper than the subject matter of a Writing 115 course.

"Karelia is an intellectually adventurous spirit," says Scott McAleer, Social Science department chair and longtime friend of Stetz-Waters.

The students continue, discussing life, love, and their futures. When Stetz-Waters finally contributes to the conversation, she continuously keeps the mood light and upbeat by telling jokes, and then without skipping a beat, steers the class discussion towards the curriculum.

"She is really easy going and optimistic, and yet quirky and complex at the same time," McAleer continued.

Her complexity is obviously within the words of her latest published novel, "Dysphoria." A thriller that lacks none of the trade qualities you would hope to find within a quality writing of the genre. She weaves a story of murder that is strangely familiar and yet unique in every way. And though her content is heavy, her colleagues paint her in a different light.

"During one term, Karlie and I had classes at the same time in conjoint rooms. My students wanted to play a joke on me, so they had Karlie come in and tell me that a bus was outside, and I needed to move my car. When I got out there, there was no such bus and the class had followed me out laughing. It was pretty hilarious," explains Chris Riseley, English instructor.

"She's a fun, lively, and creative instructor," Riseley continued. "Not to mention she is one of the most hard-working and brilliant writers I have ever met."

Stetz-Waters teaches a variety of courses at LBCC, from English 208 to Writing 115 and serves as the English department chair.

When asked what she does outside of the LBCC environment, Stetz-Waters explained that family, being married to her partner Fay, and hanging with her friends takes up the bulk of her time.

The rest she dedicates to writing.

"I have a sequel to 'Dysphoria' called 'Dicephalic' coming out in December or January about conjoint twins that are dicephalic parapagus twins," says Stetz-Waters.

She also has a fictional novel coming out that was just confirmed for publishing called "As Though Our Beauty Was a War" in which she tells the story of an adolescent girl.

Whether writing her next novel, teaching her next course, or hanging with her friends, one thing is certain: Stetz-Waters lives life with intent.

### Where to find Karelia Stetz-Waters

Office: NSH-212  
Phone: 541-917-4556  
Email: [stetzwk@linnbenton.edu](mailto:stetzwk@linnbenton.edu)  
Office Hours: Mon./Tue./Thur.  
11 a.m.-Noon



Tejo Pack

Instructor Karelia Stetz-Waters and her book "Dysphoria."

For more coverage visit us at [commuter.linnbenton.edu](http://commuter.linnbenton.edu)

## Next Commuter Editor-in-Chief Selected

News Release

Journalism student Ted Holliday will be the next editor-in-chief of The Commuter newspaper at LBCC.

Holliday was appointed last Wednesday afternoon by the Student Publications Committee. He will succeed Sean Bassinger, who will wrap up his tenure as editor-in-chief at the end of spring term.

"The Commuter's responsibility to the campus community and covering events is extremely valuable," Holliday wrote in his application for The Commuter's top editor job. "When it is at its best, it includes current events, pictures, news, opinions, and features from around the campus. It brings all the information to one place that students may not be aware of otherwise."



Ted Holliday

Holliday said he aims to build on the strong foundation laid down by his predecessors, including the current staff, where he has served as a copy editor, reporter, and photographer.

In addition, he wrote, "I would like to see continued development in the digital media, creating faster access to articles online and develop applications for smart phones and more effective use of social networking."

In addition to studying at LBCC, Holliday works as a school bus driver and serves as a volleyball coach at East Linn Christian Academy. He previously worked at Medtronic Inc.

Holliday and the rest of The Commuter staff can be contacted at [commuter@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@linnbenton.edu) or 541-917-4451.

## LBCC 'Dreams' of Brighter Future

Tejo Pack

Staff Writer

Discussion on Achieving the Dream and what role it plays here at LBCC can be confusing.

On one hand, it is perceived that this group of 42 people has been tasked with raising the completion rates here at LBCC, and more specifically, that by 2025, 40 percent of the adult population in our community should have an associate degree or certificate degree from a community college.

Though this information is important from a funding perspective, in all actuality the purpose Achieving the Dream serves on the LBCC campus is far more reaching.

"We see AtD not just as a philosophy for getting students through quicker, but also as a process model for achieving our plans and goals," says Pam Gordon the co-chair for the core team of AtD.

Gordon and the AtD staff are not the only ones interested in student success.

As quoted on the AtD webpage for LBCC, "Linn-Benton Community College's (LBCC) Board of Education has made student success a top priority." This is an idea that is multifaceted and starts by observing the data.

Data, according to Katie Winder the data team lead for AtD and Gordon is compiled from multiple resources, including placement test scores, course-taking behavior, and destination graduation.

It's this data that tells its own story.

"At pretty much a nationwide level, it has been found that 60 percent of entering students are not ready for college-level courses," says Gordon.

Whether it is math, reading, or writing, community colleges and universities alike are finding that a large population of their students are not ready to begin college-level courses and are therefore required to take developmental courses to catch up.

These courses, which for the most part are not accredited towards completion of a student's degree, eat up time and money.

"Achieving the Dream's goal is to try and figure out how we can help this population of students enroll and get through these courses as fast as possible without them running out of time and money."

This requires the campus staff and faculty as a whole to work together.

"We all have an obligation to make changes and stand up and do as much as is possible for our students to achieve their dreams," Gordon expounded.

When questioned with what we are doing at a state level to insure that students are not "bleeding out" their financial aid monies and completing these courses as fast as possible, Gordon spoke of an Oregon plan to readjust the way they are financing community colleges.

"Roughly a third of funding will in the future come from milestone and momentum points."

These milestones and momentum points include student's completing their first 15-credit and 30-credit marks, as well as increases in enrollment from fall to winter term.

Basically to get the funding, as Gordon put it, "you have to produce."

The AtD staff will also be looking at ways to change policies at LBCC that may be impeding on student's successfully getting through the process.

"We are concerned not just with the classrooms and classes these students are a part of, but also the rules and regulations that may be getting in the way," concluded Gordon.

"We hope that the end result of AtD will be that we improve our programs and policies so that we have more students persisting from term to term, more students passing all of their classes, and ultimately, that they reach their educational goal," says Winder.

OSU-LBCC Degree Partnership Program

## Reverse Transfer

Another benefit of being a DPP student

Oregon State University has partnered with Linn-Benton Community College to help identify and award Associate degrees to students that have completed the degree requirements but may be unaware of this achievement.

At the conclusion of week six each term, the OSU Registrar's office will send OSU transcripts for qualifying degree partnership program students to Linn-Benton. Linn-Benton will evaluate the course work to determine if requirements have been met for an Associate degree at LBCC. LBCC will contact eligible students.

For questions:  
LBCC: 541-917-4912  
LBCC: 541-737-4331

**Oregon State UNIVERSITY**

[oregonstate.edu/dpp](http://oregonstate.edu/dpp)

### First Alternative Co-op

Become an owner today  
and  
Choose your own  
**Owner Sale Day!**

owners get  
**10% OFF**  
once a month\*

\*details at:  
[firstalt.coop/ownership/benefits-of-becoming-an-owner/](http://firstalt.coop/ownership/benefits-of-becoming-an-owner/)

<b>First Alternative NATURAL FOODS CO-OP</b>	<b>SOUTH CORVALLIS</b>	<b>NORTH CORVALLIS</b>
	1007 SE 3rd St (541)753-3115 <a href="http://www.firstalt.coop">www.firstalt.coop</a>	2855 NW Grant (at 29th) (541)452-3115 both open daily 7-9

## The Commuter Advertising Department

- Reach a Wide Audience
- Affordable Rates
- Print & Online Ad Options

Contact Commuter Ads at 541-917-4452  
[commuterads@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuterads@linnbenton.edu)

## Dan Bender Crafts Pipes as Pieces of Art

**Stephen Blair**  
Contributing Writer

LBCC is home to a wide assortment of people from all walks of life with varied hopes, dreams, goals, and interests.

While no one student shines brighter than the rest, there are an unmistakable few who strike interest as individuals. One such student is Dan Bender, general education student at LBCC, and his hobby of crafting tobacco pipes is becoming more and more intriguing.

Students who venture out to the smoke shack can't help but be amazed by his skill. "He has one shaped like a dragon claw holding a stone," says LBCC student Megan Seek. "He usually has more pipes on him or in his truck to show off other than the one he is smoking out of," and if you ask him, he has no problem opening his backpack or walking to his truck and returning to show off his incredible works of art.

Bender developed his enthusiasm for wood carving at a young age. His grandmother, Christine Wechensky, is a now retired master carpenter who loved to teach her children and grand children about the creativity and passion that goes into making these works of art. "I used to love just watching her work," says Bender, taking a long pull from his tobacco pipe. "My whole family inherited a bit of her woodworking skills and my focus is on making tobacco pipes."

Bender is usually a quiet man who can be seen often on campus smoking from his self-made pipes. Though he's made these tobacco pipes for the last 13 months, he still considers himself an amateur.

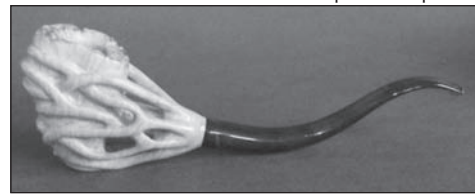
Not one to boast about his work, Bender keeps mostly to himself. That is, until the question arises that strikes interest in all who witness, "Where did you get that pipe?" Soon, this usually self-contained man opens up and is more than happy to discuss the ins and outs of his hobby.

Bender has made over 30 wooden tobacco



LBCC student Dan Bender crafting one of his pipes (above) and some examples of his work. See more photos online at: [sickcanabus.blogspot.com](http://sickcanabus.blogspot.com).

provided photos



pipes by hand and has sold some for as much as \$140. His aunt takes them to Saturday Market in Salem and sells them for him when he finishes one of these works of art that he is willing to part with. Though the process of pipe making seems long, Bender has no complaints about the time

he puts into every piece.

He starts out with an idea that he sketches in his art pad. His inspirations come from everywhere, and he spends a lot of time drawing, erasing, and re-drawing each idea before beginning work. He then purchases a small block of wood,

his favorite being Briar wood. These blocks of wood or "Blanks" can cost anywhere from \$20 to \$70 each. Working in his lean-to shed turned workshop, Bender has a variety of tools he uses to carve out each piece. From dremel to lathe, drill press to hand sander and buffing wheel, Bender puts a lot of time into each piece.

"After I sand it by hand with 4-600 grit sand paper, I use a special wax called Carnuba Wax to make the finish," said Bender. "I also lathe and melt together Ebonite and Acrylic to create each stem for each individual pipe." Added with the process of wood staining, buffing, and occasionally having to repeat a few steps, should he find a flaw, each pipe can take over a month beginning to end.

"One time I was approached by a man named Coburn Grabenhorst at the market who turned out to be a pipe collector, and he really liked Dan's pipes," said Aunt Theresa Bender. "He has over 300 pipes in his collection from the Napoleonic Era to Danish Freehand pipes, and he even invited Dan over to see his collection." This only strengthened Bender's love of his craft, as well as taught him to put his signature on each piece, which Coburn pointed out was essential if you want your work to become more well-known.

Due to interest in his tobacco pipes, Bender is unable to take many commissions because, as would seem obvious, he is only one man and most who have had a chance to hear about his pipes want a Dan Bender original for themselves, even if just as an art piece if not to actually smoke out of. However, he is still very willing to talk about this hobby he loves and who knows, maybe he will be famous some day and you can say, "I knew him when."

For more information about this skilled craftsman, he can often be found at the Takena Hall smoke shack, standing around, quietly smoking his pipes, and as stated before, he is very willing to talk to anyone who would like to know more about his passion for pipe making.

## Students Sought for Day of Caring

**Elizabeth Mottner**  
Contributing Writer

Looking for an opportunity to help your community? Want to volunteer with your friends and fellow students? LBCC will be hosting its first annual Spring Day of Caring.

On May 31 from 2-4:30 p.m., students and staff can service their local communities by signing up for LBCC's Spring Day of Caring. In partnership with United Way and HandsOn, LBCC organizers have found three non-profit agencies to help and offer support to in Corvallis, Albany and Lebanon.

Students who are interested can register at [www.handsonw.org](http://www.handsonw.org) and select the location they wish to participate at in their communities. The first 50 students to sign up will receive a Day of Caring T-Shirt, and once the service is completed individuals can log back on to the website and print out a certificate of participation.

This year, students can choose from three locations: Albany, Lebanon, and Corvallis.

In Albany, students can help out Fish of Albany at their Hill Street location. Volunteers will help to sand and

repaint the benches and parking spaces.

Lebanon volunteers will be cleaning, painting and landscaping at the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Santiam.

Finally, students wanting to serve in Corvallis will be trimming, weeding and mulching Riverfront Park.

All three venues offer a great opportunity to volunteer and help your local community as an individual, group or club. While helping the non-profit agencies, students will have a fun, social time and chance to bond with one another.

The English Language and Culture Institute are encouraging international students to volunteer at the event so they can interact with their peers within the community. Campus Club Advisors will ask their students to volunteer as a club for Day of Caring.

"This event will give students a chance to reach out to the circles that have influence at LBCC. We are encouraging groups to commit to one project to serve together," said Barbara Horn, Student Activities Coordinator.

Organizers have a goal of 50



**Hands On**  
MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY

students for the first year of Day of Caring in hopes that it will grow as Oregon State University's Day of Caring event now gathers over 300 students. Coordinators are working with OSU, using their model to create this pilot event; United Way, the organizer of Day of Caring Program and who finds local projects; and HandsOn, a company who handles the logistics, offers training, and recruitment of volunteers and non-profit agencies in need of help.

"This is a great event for those who are new to volunteerism - a one-time opportunity like this is great option to

try something new, get to know an organization and see if it will click to see if they would like to continue volunteering long term," said Melissa Padron, Program Manager for HandsOn Willamette. "Everyone [here] has been so friendly, supportive and excited about the Day of Caring."

Students and clubs wishing to volunteer can log in and register on the HandsOn website, [www.handsonw.org](http://www.handsonw.org) or if question arise, an informational meeting will be held for students on Friday, May 24, 2013 at noon in the Hotshot Cafe on the Albany campus. Students may also contact Horn with any other questions.

Instructors and staff will be team leaders for the project locations. On the Day of Caring, students and staff will meet in front of the Hotshot Cafe at 1:30 p.m. Students will meet the team leaders for their location, receive a T-Shirt and water cup, and sign a waiver. Students are requested to have their own transportation to and from the project locations. Some team leaders may be able to provide

transportation and the time of the projects will match up with the bus schedule.

Come support LBCC's first Spring Day of Caring. It will be a great opportunity to join with peers in volunteering and serving the local communities.

"Do Good. Be Together. Smile."

### Spring Day of Caring

**When:** Friday, Wed. 31

**Time:** 2-4:30 p.m.

**Where:** throughout the Linn-Benton community

**Meet:** Hot Shot Cafe at 1:30 p.m.

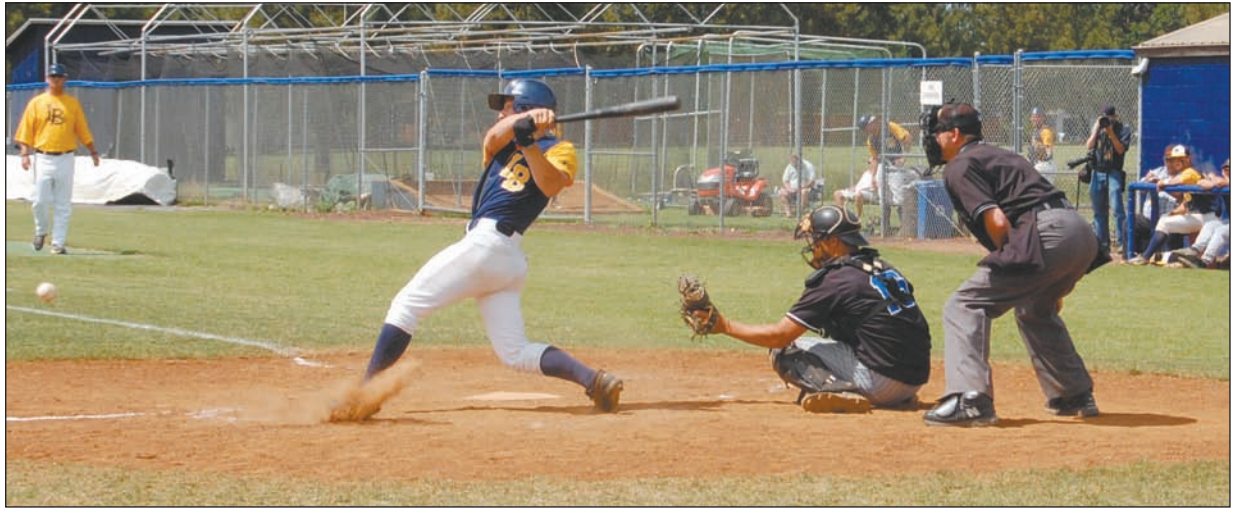
**More Info:** There will be a info meeting Friday, May 24, at noon in the Hof Shot Cafe.

**Contact:** Barb Horn  
[hornb@linnbenton.edu](mailto:hornb@linnbenton.edu)

**Sign-up:** [handsonw.org](http://handsonw.org)



Sean Bassinger



Taylor Higgins

Dale Hummel



The LBCC baseball team raises the flag after the game.

Sean Bassinger

### Congratulations to the 2013 LBCC Roadrunner Baseball Team

Cody Blount	44
Taren Bradd	1
Seth Brown	21
Derek Cartwright	7
Brandon Farley	23
Jordan Farley	8
Justin Gardner	2
Austin Hamilton	11
Josh Hanson	13
Logan Henry	6
Jacob Herklotz	28
Taylor Higgins	9
James Leach	10
Austin Marsh	17
Clark McKirtrick	33
Reese Merriman	4
Christian Morrison	32
Darin Nelson	5
Trevor Nix	3
Tyler Pollman	29
Tyler Raskin	35
Joel Shippy	19
Lee Stoops	22
Brady Thomas	27
Brady Williams	18
Austin Woodward	25

**Greg Hawk**  
Head Coach  
**Ryan Godfrey, Mitch Nelson**  
Assistant Coaches  
**Brad Reid**  
Volunteer Coach



Dale Hummel



Sean Bassinger



Trevor Nix

Michael DeChellis



Sean Bassinger



Devin Staebler



Austin Hamilton Devin Staebler



Devin Staebler



Taylor Higgins and Rocky fistbump

Tejo Pack

Seth Brown

# OPINION

## Value of Cell Phones Soar

**William Tatum**  
 Opinion Editor

Humanity is on the precipice of one of the most significant changes in our evolutionary history. For the first time ever, more than 95 percent of the world's population has a cell phone and more than 40 percent of households have access to the internet. More people have access to a cell phone than have access to running water, indoor plumbing, or consistent electricity.

While that might seem a simple thing, a cell phone and access to the internet, these two technologies are the most disruptive and empowering technologies since indoor plumbing and refrigerators. Think about just how much the Western world has changed since cell phones and the internet went mainstream. New words, communities, jobs, and services have made their way into mainstream society.

The same is true in the developing world, new jobs are being created in the very communities that need them. The desire for western electronics and access to the internet has already ready spurred market innovation. In rural India charging Kiosks have sprung up in response to the demand for electricity for charging electronic devices, and for 15 Rupees, about 10 cents, an individual can get their device recharged.

In fact, according to the OECD

20 percent of the world's population still lacks basic access to electricity, and yet many of these people have access to a cell phone. The local desire and need for mobile technology is creating the demand that will drive development.

So while American's might

**More people have access to a cell phone than have access to running water ...**

complain about multi-hundred dollar phone bills, billions of people are connecting, for the first time, to the global

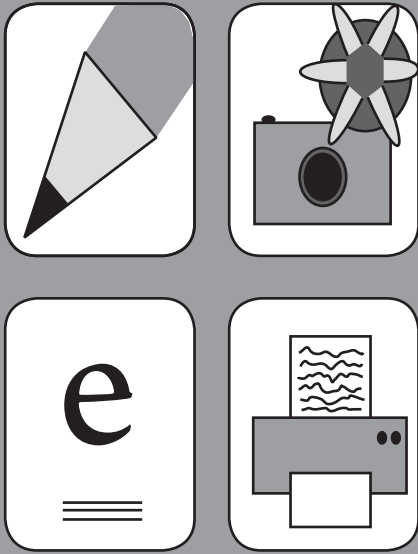
telecommunications network. People who never had running water, never had consistent electricity, don't know how to read, and have never had a landline, are suddenly plugging into the 21st century.

Whole continents are leapfrogging legacy landlines and bypassing desktop computers in favor of mobile devices that enable them to start small businesses and create cooperative exchanges for trading their goods and services.

In fact, throughout the developing world, mobile broadband is cheaper than fixed broadband, despite prices dropping 82 percent over the last decade. So while their per bit prices are still higher than the prices paid by their Western counterparts, their societies are saving billions by not

investing in legacy technology.

It is important to remember that for these people cell phones are more than just a way to twiddle away with their thumbs. The adoption of cell phones represents an existential change to the way they live their lives. Farmers, crafters, and artisans, many of whom are women supporting extended families, who have never traveled more than a few kilometers outside of their villages are suddenly networking with other small groups to exchanges goods, services, and information about potential threats from warlords and opportunities in regional and global markets.



### Write. Snap. Edit. Print.

The Commuter is looking for reporters, photographers, cartoonists, columnists, and copy editors to join the staff.

Applications available in The Commuter office (F-222).  
 Call (541) 917-4451 for more info.

### The Commuter is EVERYWHERE!

Keep up to date on all the latest news.



# SPORTS

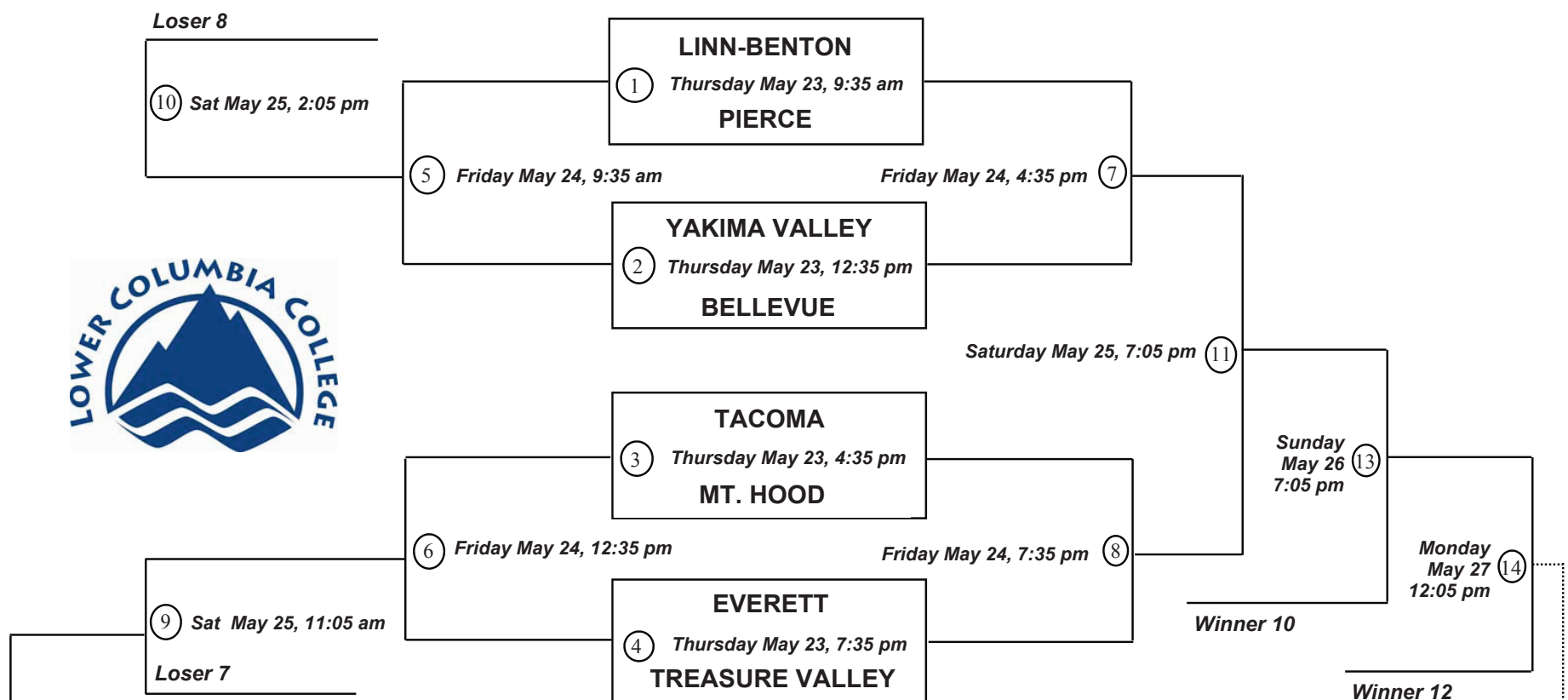


## BASEBALL Championship

**MAY 23-27, 2013**

*Story Field*

Longview, Washington



Pairings for Games 12 & 13 will not match previous opponents against each other unless absolutely necessary.  
 If three teams remain after Game 13, the winner of Game 11 automatically draws the bye in Game 14.  
 Game 15 will be needed if winner of Game 11 loses Game 13 or winner of Game 12 wins Game 14.

**2013 Champion**

Monday May 27  
 Approx. 3:30 pm  
 If Necessary



## Jenny Boylan Visits OSU

Lex Porter  
A&E Editor

Many people know her as a superwoman, public speaker, and an inspiration. Other people know her as best-selling American author, political activist, professor of English at Colby College in Maine, and transgender woman.

Jennifer "Jenny" Boylan, born James Boylan, made a trip all the way from Maine to Oregon State University, last Wednesday, May 15 to discuss her books and how they related to her life and experiences.

Sydney Carbaugh, an OSU student, had heard about Boylan's book and found it to be uplifting. She is also the person who had gotten Boylan to come to OSU for a presentation.

"I found her book to be courageous and well written," said Carbaugh, "I asked around to see if she toured. She helped to show me I shouldn't hide who I am."

This was Boylan's first time being in Corvallis, but this was not her first time in Oregon. She had been up to Portland in 1982, when she was 24 years old.

"Being here again in Oregon, and even here in Corvallis is remarkable and a blessing," said Boylan.

Boylan was born in Valley Forge, Pa. She graduated from The Haverford School, a private all-boys prep school in Haverford, Pa. in 1976. This makes her now one of only a few female graduates of the school.

She graduated from Wesleyan University in 1980 before completing graduate work in English at Johns Hopkins University.

She became a professor at Colby College in 1988, where she works to this day.

Boylan has made appearances in a variety of media outlets to discuss her life, books, and activism. She's been featured on The Oprah Winfrey Show, Larry King Live, The Today Show, 48 Hours, and NPR.

During her presentation, Boylan took the time to talk about her 2003 autobiography, "She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders," and even took the time to read some sections of her book to the audience.

Boylan has written a total of 13 books, including novels, collections of short stories, and her autobiography. She has even written contributions to the op-ed section of The New York Times.

"She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders," was the first book by a transgender American to become a bestseller. The book focuses on Boylan's life as of now and inner struggles of her life as a teenager. The book gives flashbacks of moments in her life where she felt conflicted.

"Many times when I was younger and growing up, I had lost hope. It's hard to be gay or lesbian; it's even harder to be transgender," said Boylan.



Jenny Boylan

James Bowdoin

Boylan had done a couple readings for the audience from her autobiography. The chapter was titled, "In the early morning rain."

It had talked about how before she came out as a woman, it felt as if there was no one to turn to and no one to tell what was really in her heart. After a few struggles with her identity, she came to the realization that, "it will get better."

In another reading, Boylan describes a fencing match one of her two sons, Zach, was involved in. Casual conversation can turn into describing everything about yourself in a few moments.

"I will admit, sometimes I have to lie as a shortcut when people ask about me, it just saves time from telling my entire unique history," said Boylan.

Boylan said that she hopes that the fact that her kids went from having a dad to having a mom is more of a gift, rather than a curse. She wants to keep them open-hearted, rather than that of their peers.

She closed her presentation by telling her audience to educate everyone about things they don't know.

"Be loving, read books, learn about this community," said Boylan, "if you withhold support, you might be missing out, be welcoming, you have to know their whole story in order to open your heart."

This is the 10th anniversary of her autobiography, "She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders," and she is proud to announce her new book, "Stuck in The Middle with You," a memoir of parenting dealing with motherhood and fatherhood, is in bookstores now.

## Bump, Set, Sign



Sean Bassinger

Left to right: Whitney Hightower, Miah Boeder, and Lindsay Verboort commemorate getting signed as players to four-year college volleyball teams.

## FARMERS' MARKET

both cities on SATURDAYS  
4th & Ellsworth \* Albany  
1st & Jackson \* Corvallis  
9 AM - 1 PM



LocallyGrown.org  
products \* vendors \* maps



WEDNESDAYS  
Corvallis only  
same time & place

## Be Aware of Dogs Eating Toxic Treats

William Tatum  
Opinion Editor

With June fast approaching local gardeners are gearing up for their yearly battle with the common garden pests, slugs, and snails. The most common tool for combating these pests are metaldehyde and iron-phosphate-based Molluscicide.

Researchers from OSU, writing for the National Pesticide Information Center, recently released a meta-analysis looking at the previous 11 years of reporting on iron toxicosis in pets due to exposure to molluscicides and the results are heartening. Their intent was to determine whether or not EPA mandated warning labels had reduced incidents of canine exposure to toxic garden pesticides.

The EPA, in 2006, began requiring pesticide manufacturers to clearly label pesticides with metaldehydes in them because pets, dogs specifically,

exposed to metaldehydes can experience severe muscle tremors, hyperthermia, and metabolic acidosis (renal failure).

Metaldehyde baits are attractive and toxic to more than just slugs and snails. Dogs, because of the addition of food byproducts like molasses, are also very attracted to these kinds of baits. According to the researchers, "Dogs tend to eat all of the bait available, even digging to retrieve buried bait applications."

In the analysis, the researchers found that 1,500 molluscicide animal exposures had been reported between 2001 and 2011, with the majority, 81 percent, coming from the West coast. Of these 1,500 exposures, 1,285 stemmed metaldehyde exposure and resulted in 35 canine deaths and 603 symptomatic events. The remaining 215 exposures were from iron phosphate exposure and resulted in no canine deaths and only 86 symptomatic

events.

Because there is no antidote for metaldehyde poisoning the EPA and these researchers feel it is important that all gardeners who have dogs, or whose neighbors have dogs, be aware of the dangers of using metaldehydes and instead opt for alternative compounds for dealing with garden pests.

Thankfully, gardeners appear to be getting the message. The researchers noted that there was an apparent increase in the number of exposures from 2001-2006, pre EPA mandate, and an apparent decrease subsequently. They attribute this to an increasing usage of Iron-phosphate based alternatives.

So this year when you head to your local garden shop for slug and snail bait, make sure you reach for the Iron-phosphate based molluscicides instead of the metaldehydes. Your dogs and your community's dogs will thank you.



options  
Pregnancy Resource Centers

### Pregnant? We can help.



Scan to schedule a confidential appointment and take control of your unplanned pregnancy.

867 NW 23rd St, Corvallis  
541.758.3662

1800 16th Ave SE, Albany  
541.924.0160

possiblypregnant.org

## Campus Events

**Wednesday 5/22**
**Memorial Day Vigil**

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. · Courtyard

**Bratz: Courtyard Lunch**

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. · Courtyard

Bratwurst or vegetarian sausage and all the fixings, includes chips and a beverage. Students are \$4, staff \$5. Sponsored by ASCET Club.

**Thursday 5/23**
**Student Summit**

2 – 3 p.m. · Fireside Room

Come and discuss ideas to increase student engagement and ideas to improve student campus experiences. Hope to see you there!

**LBCC FM Radio Club**

3 p.m. · Library

Come talk about the radio industry and what happens behind the mic.

**Friday 5/24**
**Day of Caring Info Meeting**

Noon · Hotshot Cafe

**Benton Center Acoustic Showcase: Tom and Ellen**

Noon – 1 p.m. · Benton Center Lounge

Join us for an hour of free acoustic music. Best described as “contemplative folk music,” Tom and Ellen’s music is both thought provoking and reflective. It is a musical potpourri of ballads, love songs, traveling songs, and reflections on life, an excellent cross section of music of the folk era of the ‘50s, ‘60s, up to the present.

**Active Minds Meeting**

Noon · NSH 110

Bring your creativity and help LBCC’s psychology club promote mental health awareness on campus and in the LB community. Public is welcome.

**Monday 5/27**

LBCC Closed (Holiday)

**Tuesday 5/28**
**Veterans Club Meeting**

Noon – 1 p.m. · RCH-116

**Wednesday 5/29**
**Polynesian: Courtyard Lunch**

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. · Courtyard

Kahlua Port or tofu, rice, fresh fruit, and coconut pudding, includes chips and a beverage.

**Library Open House**

2 – 4 p.m. · Library

Beat end of term stress with free food, drinks, and prizes!

**Phi Theta Kappa Spring Graduation and Induction Dessert**

6 p.m. · Commons

A celebration for the new Phi Theta Kappa members and graduates.

**Thursday 5/30**
**National Day of Prayer**

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**LBCC FM Radio Club**

3 p.m. · Library

Come talk about the radio industry and what happens behind the mic.

**Friday 5/31**
**Day of Caring**

2-4:30 p.m. · various locations

**Tuesday 6/4**
**Veterans Club Meeting**

Noon – 1 p.m. · RCH-116

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

## A word from your local



Hey y'all,

We have had several questions concerning the change in the student fee (ASLBCC fee), and we would like to address those now.

In order to be an accredited institution, LBCC must meet certain criteria, one of which requires us to have a student government (your SLC). The ASLBCC fee is the money that supports the student government and clubs on campus. In the past, we paid for our tuition and fees in one lump sum based on the number of credits a student takes per term, but the SLC has worked for the past year to make the fees more transparent. So, in the spirit of transparency, we have had that fee separated out and revamped. Now,

instead of paying a certain amount per credit, the fee is dependent on enrollment status. Non-degree seeking students (only taking one to five credits) have a total fee for the term of \$3.80. Degree seeking students (taking six credits or more) have a total fee of \$7.60 for the term.

Isolation of these funds gives student's control of the student fee, in compliance with board policy 7015. Now you have a say in what it's used for and the amount of the fee itself. In order to help us govern this money, we have created two councils in addition to the SLC. The Student Leadership Council will control the money set aside for events. The Council of Clubs will be made up of club members and

will be tasked with the distribution of club funds and approvals. The Judiciary Board will act as our check and balance to ensure that this money is being managed responsibly.

As this is the first year this system will be implemented, there are bound to be improvements that can be applied. If you have concerns, would like more information, or would just like to chat about it, feel free to stop by the Student Government Office in the Forum Building 120 behind the clock tower.

Hope this helped!

*Amanda Mendell*  
Student Outreach Director

## Vets Conduct Memorial Vigil

**Justeen Elliott**

Managing Editor

On Wednesday, May 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. the Veterans Club will host 2013's Memorial Day Vigil. The LBCC choirs will help the Veterans Club present this event.

During the event, there will be a soldier's cross and flags displayed to honor MIAs and POW from wars spanning the American Revolution to our most current conflicts. There will also be a ceremony explaining the history of Memorial

Day, as well as a flag presentation to the family member of a fallen soldier.

If you would like to honor someone that you know in the military or just want to honor the men and women that have been a part of the military, please come out to this event happening in the Courtyard.

In case of rain the event will be moved by the fountain by the Calapooia Center.

## Classifieds

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

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

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

**Libel/Taste:** The Commuter won't knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in unfairly. Any ad judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

**Help Wanted**

Sign up at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment) to look at student & graduate jobs. After completing a simple Student Employment Profile form, you will have access to job postings, many of them are self-referrals. If you have questions, please email [jobs@linnbenton.edu](mailto:jobs@linnbenton.edu) or call 541.917.4803.

**Accounting Assistant (#10369, Albany)** Responsible for processing a wide variety of time sensitive vendor invoices for payment according to and within the guidelines of the Oracle Payables System ensuring maximized discounts and minimized overpayments. DOE, Closes 5/24/13.

**Auto Service Advisor Assistant (#10361, Corvallis)** Entry level position working with the public on the administration side of the automobile industry. A GRADUATE of the automotive program or getting close to GRADUATING is highly desirable. Competitive Wages Closes 5/31/13

**Adult Foster Care (#10376, Philomath)** Take care of five elderly people including laundry, meals, and cleaning. Will train you to work in an adult foster care home. Looking for Fri, Sat, Sun 10pm-6am. \$8.95/night shift; \$9-\$9.50 day shift closes 8/31/13

**Several Summer Farm Jobs (#10347, Halsey) (#10345, Jefferson)** Summer Camp Counselor (#10338, Albany) Check out our Student Employment Website.

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

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

## THE COMMONS FARE

 MENU FOR  
THE WEEK OF:

5/22-5/28

**Wednesday:** Chef's Choice Pork Chop, Chicken Gumbo over Creole Rice, Thai Veg Stirfry\*. Soups: Chicken Tortilla\* and Cream of Broccoli

**Thursday:** Chef's Choice Poached Chicken Breast, Braised Short Ribs, Butternut Squash Curry\*. Soups: Borscht\* and Roasted Vegetable Chowder

**Friday:** Chef's Choice

**Monday:** MEMORIAL DAY

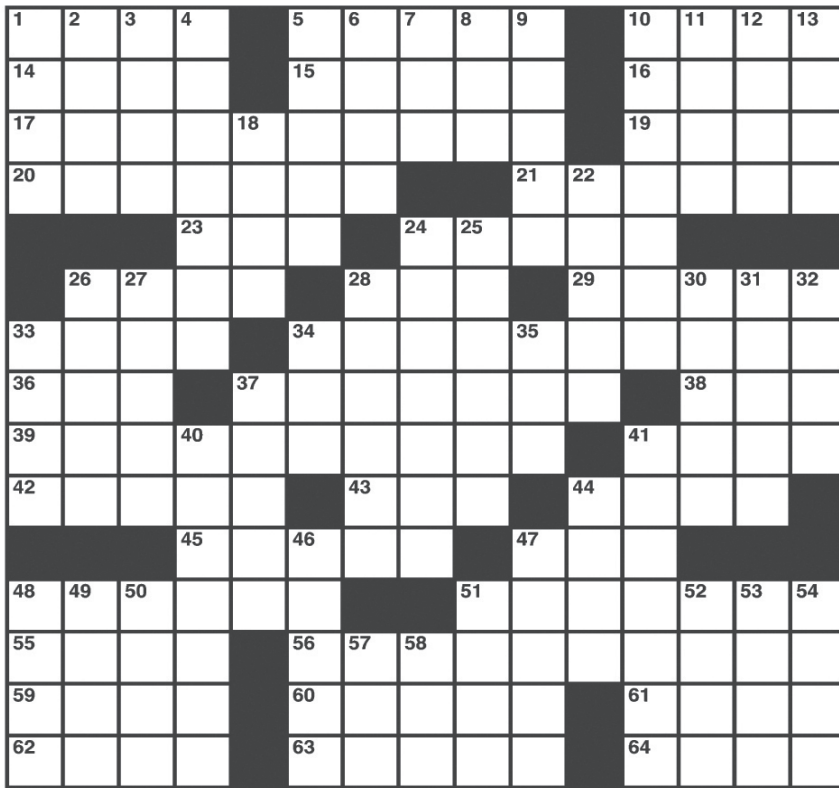
**Tuesday:** Chef's Choice Chicken Breast, Sweet Potato Sheppard's Pie, Spicy Peanut Tofu over Noodles. Soups: Chicken Noodle and Sweet Corn Bisque\*

Items denoted with a \* are gluten free

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Highway hauler
  - 5 Cut off
  - 10 "\_\_\_ Silver, away!"
  - 14 Gas in a sign
  - 15 Utah city
  - 16 Sign of the future
  - 17 Hymn whose title follows the line "When I die, Hallelujah, by and by"
  - 19 Fill to excess
  - 20 "Cats" poet
  - 21 Gum arabic tree
  - 23 Adviser Landers
  - 24 Traffic cone
  - 26 Knight's lady
  - 28 Slimy stuff
  - 29 Relative known for quitting?
  - 33 Run the country
  - 34 Scout's motto
  - 36 Kimono sash
  - 37 Air ace's missions
  - 38 Climbing vine
  - 39 How duelists begin
  - 41 Baseball stats
  - 42 "Old MacDonald" refrain
  - 43 Rile up
  - 44 Ado
  - 45 Resided
  - 47 Dance from Ireland
  - 48 \_\_\_ Tar Pits
  - 51 Daybreak
  - 55 French franc successor
  - 56 With "The," Schwarzenegger film released 10/26/1984, and a hint to the puzzle theme found in the first words of 17-, 34- and 39-Across
  - 59 Ford Explorer Sport \_\_\_
  - 60 Storage room
  - 61 "Star Trek: T.N.G." counselor Deanna
  - 62 Armored vehicle
  - 63 Snappish
  - 64 Lip-\_\_\_: mouth the words



By Jerome Gunderson

- DOWN**
- 1 Grumpy mood
  - 2 Morays, e.g.
  - 3 Lawn burrower
  - 4 Arouse, as passion
  - 5 Watch covertly
  - 6 The E in Q.E.D.
  - 7 Solemn promise
  - 8 Sister of Zsa Zsa
  - 9 Fit for a king
  - 10 Biblical cry of adoration
  - 11 Popular Apple
  - 12 Himalayan giant
  - 13 Fit to be drafted
  - 18 Queue
  - 22 Political takeovers
  - 24 Kellogg's toaster pastry
  - 25 "Alas, poor \_\_\_!": Hamlet
  - 26 Persian Gulf emirate
  - 27 Wonderland girl
  - 28 Rodent kept as a house pet
  - 30 Baby beds
  - 31 Lee jeans alternative
  - 32 Ice cream brand
  - 33 Judge's attire
  - 34 Scarer's shout

### Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 35 Scared response
- 37 Uncle Tom's creator
- 40 Duetist with Sheryl Crow in the song "Picture"
- 41 Toon babies of '90s-'00s TV
- 44 Sawyer's friend
- 46 Frequent, as a diner
- 47 Like ripe peaches
- 48 Riga native
- 49 Distinctive emanation
- 50 Muffin ingredient
- 51 Infatuated, old-style
- 52 "This is my best effort"
- 53 Any minute now
- 54 Guitarist Clapton
- 57 Somme summer
- 58 Privileges: Abbr.

# Poetry Spotlight

## The Road by Sean Dooley

Walking down the road  
A pitch black gauntlet of trees;  
Wander in the blackness,  
Memory faded in the garden of doom.  
The mist rising leading me astray -  
I don't know who has come  
Or who has gone away.

Walking down the road,  
Where is my guiding light?  
No one but the evil one  
Dressed up in lily white.

Walking down the road  
My eyes they cannot see;  
The evil one all along  
Was a glimpse of what I'd be.

Walking down the road  
I speak but I have no voice.  
To get myself off this road  
It seems I have no choice.

Walking down the road  
I stare into the unforgiving sea;  
Unreachable, she looks at me.

Walking down the road  
I keep my soul and body sore.  
As she starts to fade away  
Is when I'm wanting more.

Walking down the road  
I fail to ever say no;  
Weakened I can only say, yes;  
I forced your choice to go.

Walking down the road  
And I have things to say;  
I, say, but one word  
Then you walk away.

Walking down the road  
I give you the power;  
To steal my empty soul  
In this dark and lonely hour.

Walking down the road  
The rain of ashes begins;  
I smell no burning  
But my empty soul.

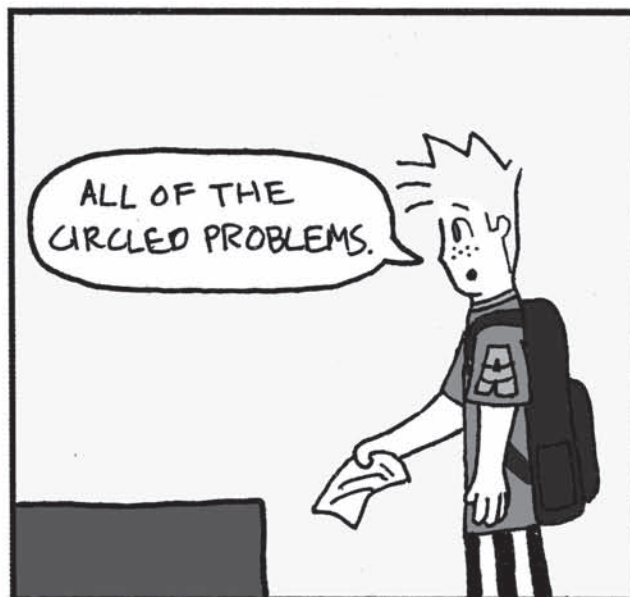
Down the road the creatures stare at me;  
The road will fulfill your fantasies.



Submit your poems and artwork to  
commuter@linnbenton.edu



By Jason Maddox  
An LBCC student-generated comic



## Albany Sings! Concert

LBCC News Service

Celebrate choral music in the Willamette Valley at the 5th annual "Albany Sings!" choir concert Thursday, May 30 at 7 p.m. at the Linn County Expo Willamette Hall Event Center, 3700 Knox Butte Road, Albany.

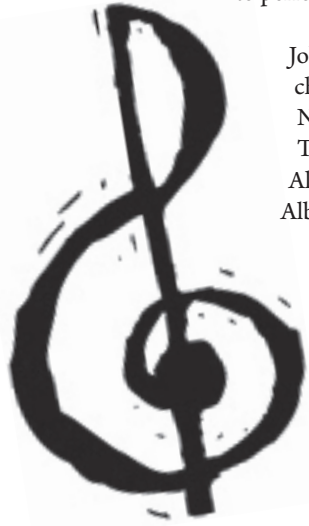
Approximately 350 singers from Calapooia, Memorial, and North Albany Middle Schools, Timber Ridge School, West and South Albany High Schools, and the Linn-Benton Community College choirs will perform a plethora of choral works sure to knock your socks off!

After individual performances, the ensembles will combine to perform Baba Yetu, a Swahili piece.

Conducted by James Reddan, LBCC; John Kluttz, Calapooia Middle School; Julie Buchert, Memorial Middle School; LeAnn Wind, North Albany Middle School; Frank Craig, Timber Ridge School; Brett DeYoung, South Albany High School; and Cate Caffarella, West Albany High School.

The concert is free and open to the public, no tickets required. Come out and celebrate music, singing, and the many award-winning Albany choral programs and show your support for choral music education and the students whose lives these programs impact.

Sponsored by the LBCC Vocal Music Program and the GAPS Choral Music Programs.



## Confessions of a Baptist

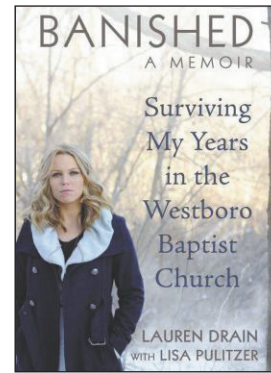
Emily Smucker

Contributing Writer

Simply hearing the name "Westboro Baptist Church" can cause people to seize up with anger and frustration. It is nearly incomprehensible that a group of people could be so hateful, insensitive, and crude.

Lauren Drain, a former member of the Westboro Baptist Church, has recently released a memoir about her experiences in the church. The book, titled "Banished: Surviving My Years in the Westboro Baptist Church," takes a fascinating look at what life is like inside the WBC.

Although the book is a memoir, it is focused less on Drain's personal story and more on the strange little world of the WBC. Drain lays out a fascinating cast of characters, from her charismatic former-atheist father, to power-hungry Shirley Phelps-Roper, to her best friends who eagerly stab her in the back if she does something wrong. But Drain doesn't portray herself in a very interesting or relatable way.



sickening clear-cut depiction of what the WBC actually believes. "There were billions of people in hell, 99.9 percent of all the people who had ever lived and died," says Drain at one point. "The other 0.1 percent was in heaven. The 'saved' could see the reprobates down in hell burning, which was conveyed to us as the most appealing part of being one of the chosen ones."

As a memoir, this book wasn't very good. Drain came off as unrelatable and uninteresting, and her own motives were sometimes hard to follow.

However, as a cultural insight into the Westboro Baptist Church, this book was amazing. Even though she was writing about such hateful people who had hurt her so deeply, Drain somehow managed to keep her writing fairly objective, describing what drove the bizarre characters in her life to do what they did.

We've seen them picketing, but the book tells us what drives them to picket, as Drain writes, "The pastor said it was the church's duty to tell our countrymen they were doomed, not to save them but to open their eyes."

Still, Drain provides great insight into the WBC. Some of the more fascinating details include the favoritism shown to the members of the Phelps family, who are children and grandchildren of the pastor, and the complicated system of gossip undermining the entire group.

Another interesting aspect is the enormous role that intelligence and education play in the WBC. "With well-rounded insights into lots of different subjects, we could not be accused of being brainwashed or being bumbling idiots," says Drain.

But mostly, the book gave a

## Beam Me Up, Abrams

Nora Palmtag

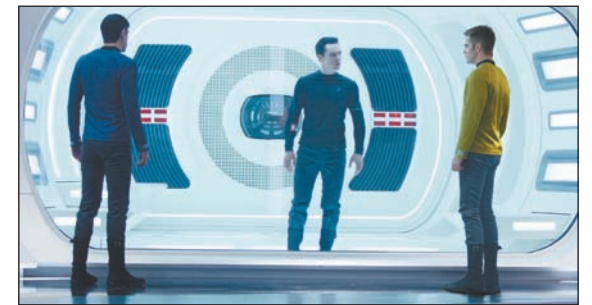
News Editor

Even though filmmaker J. J. Abrams only became a fan of "Star Trek" in 2009, he has redeemed himself, because he was able to connect with repeat and new audience members. When a director makes the viewer forget that they are in a theater and are truly in the Trekkie world, then he has done his job. Abrams had the audience enthralled with the graphics and continuation of the theme from the last movie "Star Trek" with "Into the Darkness."

Starting with the dramatic action of James Tiberius Kirk being chased through the forest by beings similar to a primitive tribe on Earth, Abrams introduces the primary tenets of scientific exploration which is being done by the Enterprise for The Federation of Planets. Knowing the difference between the young Kirk and the Kirk many of us grew up with brings excitement to the scenes but leaves us wanting more.

Chris Pine portrays a believable Kirk, but Zoe Saldana as Uhura steals the show as a strong, confident, and brave woman in the midst of many crises they face and overcome. The actors Karl Urban as Bones, Simon Pegg as Scotty, Anton Yelchin as Chekov, and John Cho as Sulu are great character actors who have studied their counterparts and nailed their personalities and idiosyncrasies.

Zachary Quinto is Spock with a cameo by Leonard Nimoy to advise himself during their time of crisis. The enigmatic Vulcan, played by Quinto, is as serene as ever and tries to explain the Vulcan philosophy to the audience. This is not necessary for true Trekkies and stops the momentum of the action and continuity of the interplay between the



characters.

Benedict Cumberbatch plays a powerful irascible and intelligent villain, testing all the physical and mental abilities of the crew as a team.

A fan of "Star Trek," Sean Welty said, "It is a good stand-alone movie which allows a neophyte to experience 'Star Trek' with no previous knowledge of 'Star Trek.' It is a modern day retelling of a classic 'Star Trek' storyline."

Mark McIntyre replied, "I thoroughly enjoyed this movie, better than the ones they normally put out."

Empire Online reported that "working with screenwriters Roberto Orci, Alex Kurtzman and Damon Lindelof, Abrams can flip between different tones in a heartbeat — a comedic lovers' tiff in the midst of battle turns into an affecting meditation on fear — and will leave no stone unturned in trying to entertain ... Not all of it works — compared to the opener, the last-reel action is enjoyable rather than jaw-dropping — but there is the sense of a true showman at work."

This movie is good enough to pay for, but it definitely leaves the true Trekkie hungry for the next movie, which unfortunately will not be made until about 2016.

get inspired this Summer!

Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- **Get the Classes You Need! Take your General Ed classes this summer!** The class schedule is structured so you can take select math, writing, communication, liberal arts and science courses without conflicting with each other.
- **Work Ahead Towards Your Degree!**
- **Try a Condensed, Five-Week Class!**
- **And...Still Enjoy a Break!**

[linnbenton.edu/summer](http://linnbenton.edu/summer)

**The Commuter is EVERYWHERE!**

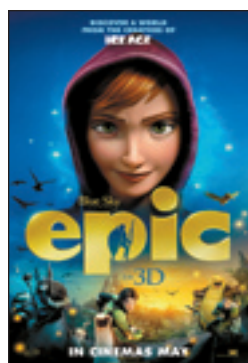
Keep up to date on all the latest news.

The Commuter

@lbcommuter

LBCC Commuter

## THIS WEEKEND AT THE MOVIES



**Epic**  
Rated: PG  
Genre: Animated Adventure



**Hangover III**  
Rated: R  
Genre: I swear I've seen this before



**Fast and Furious 6**  
Rated: PG-13  
Genre: They still make these?

Sources: IMDb, Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com

## WEATHER

Wednesday (5/22)	Wet and Cloudy	55°/42°	
Thursday (5/23)	Cloudy and Wet	56°/45°	
Friday (5/24)	Shower?	65°/40°	
Saturday (5/25)	Spring Mix	71°/44°	
Sunday (5/26)	Showers	68°/46°	
Monday (5/27)	Cloudy	68°/51°	
Tuesday (5/28)	Rain	61°/47°	

Source: accuweather.com