



## Hoop Hopes

Roadrunners close in on season's end with both teams hoping to shake losing streaks.

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## Ski Glow

The fun doesn't stop when the sun goes down on Oregon's slopes as night skiers come out to play.

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# THE Commuter

Wednesday,  
March 1, 2006

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

Volume 37 No. 15

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

## DeFazio hears science building's cry for help

Dan Wise  
The Commuter

Representative Peter DeFazio visited LBCC Monday for a first-hand look at the college's aging science facilities.

DeFazio was invited as part of the college's campaign to win a \$2 million federal grant to fund the proposed \$4 million Science and Health Project.

LBCC Foundation Director John McArdle led a small group that included college President Cavin, Dean of Health Jim Bell, several LB staff, and a representative from Albany's Teledyne Wah Chang on a tour of the science building. Smiling and attentive, DeFazio asked ques-

tions about the project that were fielded by various staff members as he viewed several classrooms, including one that demonstrated class overcrowding. Bell pointed out the advantages of upgrading by showing the modern dental teaching facilities.

The Science and Health Project was started last year to upgrade the 33-year-old science building's classrooms and equipment. The need for graduates trained in the sciences has increased exponentially since the building's construction in 1973.

Classroom space limitations have restricted the number of students the college can accommodate and still maintain high

► Turn to "Science" on Pg. 4



photo by Dan Wise

Chemistry instructor Brigid Backus explains the college's plans for the science building renovation to Rep. Peter DeFazio (D. Ore.) and others, including LB President Rita Cavin (left) on a tour Monday.

## New ASG president unfazed by low voter turnout

Harrison White  
The Commuter

The Associated Student Government election results are in. Phillip Jones, current student services representative, won the presidency by a margin of about 52 percent of the total votes cast, 71 out of 134.

Joey Markgraf won, as a write-in, the position of vice president with 20 votes; Derek Durham won science and industry representative with 92 votes; and Joe Griner won the position of business representative with 51 votes.

Four positions remain open—press secretary and representatives for liberal arts, student services. Students



Phillip Jones

total is up more than that. It has increased 34 percent over last year. Still, this is only about 1 percent of the total students.

But Jones is not discouraged. He laid out his agenda for the school in this coming year. One of the first tasks

can apply for those positions in the SL&L Office.

According to Josh Gordon, current vice president, the total number of students at LBCC is about 12,000. But, he says, "When you look at the percentage, it's up about 25 percent from last year, when we only had 98 voters." Actually, the percentage

he plans to work on is a partial bookstore, where students can sell their books directly to other students, each party negotiating a good price with some mediation.

Jones also talked about providing partial healthcare to students, a doctor to perform checkups at LBCC one day a week. "It should work because more money is going into healthcare now than financial aid." He says he will write and lobby the state legislature on this issue.

Both Gordon and Jones stressed that the ASG will now take applications for the four remaining spaces. Jones added there are "tuition grants for those interested. Representatives can get 12 credits for two terms, and the press secretary can get three terms."



photo by Dan Wise

President Rita Cavin and the Albany Chamber Ambassadors preside last Thursday over the dedication of the North Santiam Hall.

## Officials celebrate opening of NSH

Elizabeth Uriarte  
The Commuter

A bright red bow cut in two with enormous wooden scissors marked the grand opening of LBCC's newest addition, the North Santiam Hall, last Thursday afternoon. It began in the downstairs lobby of the new hall with a speech from LBCC President Rita Cavin.

"This building, when I see it at night, and it glows bright red through the window, it is a shining light in the community.

This is one of the most beautiful buildings, I think, in the city of Albany, and I am so proud that it is on our campus and we did this thing," said Cavin. She expressed her gratitude to those who helped in the conception, creation and construction of NSH, "on time, on budget, on schedule."

Joining in the celebration, were the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors, local business leaders who attend events such as this ribbon cutting ceremony, open houses and

other events in the community.

John McArdle, foundation development director; Marlene Propst, director of marketing and public relations; and Gary Ruppert, the arts and communication division dean were also in attendance.

Ruppert, part of the design team for NSH, recognized Don Johnson of DJ Architecture, the architect responsible for the creation of NSH "Being able to do something that says 'make it look really nice and expensive,

► Turn to "NSH" on Pg. 4

### The Weather Through the Week

Source: National Weather Service

High 51  
70% chance rain...  
Low 35  
Wednesday

High 50  
50% chance rain  
Low 32  
Thursday

High 50  
40% chance rain  
Low 33  
Friday

High 52  
40% chance of a little rain  
Low 37  
Saturday

High 52  
100% sick of rain  
Low 35  
Sunday

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# OPINION

**Send letters to The Commuter:**  
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 and keep them at 300 words or less.

## Apathy declared winner in student elections

There was an election this week and almost no one showed up. Not just voters but also candidates—what a great indicator of just how much the student body cares about its college.

Just 134 voters expressed their preference online for the five candidates running for eight positions in the Associated Student Government with only three of those positions being contested. That's 1.2 percent of the currently enrolled 10,924 students.

These are the same students who complain about the high price of textbooks, yet won't show up to a well advertised presentation that explained why the books are so expensive and what students can do about it. The price of gas is skyrocketing, yet a meeting to organize a carpool system was attended by one reporter.

Numerous presentations are offered over the course

### EDITORIAL

of the year on diverse subjects that should concern everyone, yet almost no one attends. A great deal of money collected in the form of student fees, is spent every year, but it is hard to see that anyone cares what it is spent on.

The ASG is the voice for the student body on campus, but without participation, its voice is muted and lacks diversity. If only a few students are willing to run for offices, the differing interests on campus are not represented. Even when someone is persuaded to serve, he or she is only shooting in the dark about students' wishes. Why should the administration take the ASG seriously? Without a mandate, there is no reason to think the ASG positions are anything but the wishes of a few officers.

The low election turnout can only imply complete trust in administration decisions or worse—indifference.

Voter apathy is nothing new, especially on campus. Not since the days of the Vietnam War and the early civil rights movement have students mobilized to foment change. Perhaps there is nothing wrong at LBCC. Maybe raising tuition year after year after year is par for the course, along with diminished capacity and outdated facilities. Possibly this is Camelot—an idyllic oasis isolated from the pressures of the outside world, where the best interests of the loyal subjects will always come first.

True or not, the loyal subjects have nothing to say about it. They are oblivious and are willing to be led. By not voting and not getting involved in student government, they are renouncing their right to a voice.

## Earth: Young and spry or old and moldy?

It is reasonable to believe that the earth is thousands of years old as opposed to the billions of years that popular science claims. Some 90 percent of methods used to predict the age of the earth support evidence that the earth is much younger than a million years old, according to Jonathan Sarfati in his book "Refuting Evolution."

There is a lot of hype over the young vs. old earth debate. The details of the sciences used to research this question are often quite complex. Often, scientists on both sides set up arguments

based on known rates of change as observed in nature, and opponents make unfounded claims to point out that things may not have always been changing that way. Rates often do change, but without a working hypothesis, this rebuttal doesn't carry much weight.

The helium case is an interesting one, in that even a substantial change in the rate of helium distribution does not account for the relatively low amounts found here today. So what is helium and where does it come from? Helium is the second lightest element with an atomic weight of 4, and a nuclei consisting of two protons and two neutrons and two electrons (Helium 4). It is produced by nuclear fusion in the sun and 1/10,000 particles are missing a neutron (Helium 3). Both kinds travel into the earth's atmosphere. Helium 4 is relevant to the argument.

When the earth was formed, radioactive rocks like uranium and thorium must have started to vent helium through the ground into the air. The rate of helium entering the atmosphere would have been greater in the past, given the greater levels of radioactivity. Even if the rate remained constant, there should be thousands of times more helium in the air. Where did all that helium go?

About 67 grams of Helium 4 escapes the earth's atmosphere every second according to calculations done by physicist James Clerk Maxwell. This is about 1/40,000 the amount of helium pouring in. If the earth were billions of years old, there would be a far greater amount of helium present. Also, there should be a lot less helium in the rocks containing radioactive sources. The 3.71 billion metric tons present in air, is strong evidence that the earth is 40,000 years old, at most. If this planet were really billions of years old, how on earth could so much helium find its way off the earth?



Aaron Broich's article "Evidence for a Young Earth" carries what might be used as relevant items to point out that there is seemingly a preponderance of evidence saying the earth is perhaps a million years old, but not billions as the scientific community would have us believe.

As he accurately points out, there are scientists on both sides of that very complex debate and the issue may not be solved within the next month or so. The majority of the scientific community seems to rely heavily on the carbon dating formula, and according to that the earth is well over a billion years old at present. Broich uses a different method based on the

amount of Helium in the atmosphere, and it provides an entirely different set of figures that point to a much younger planet.

Basing his calculations on the rate of loss of Helium atoms, and choosing Helium 4 over Helium 3 in particular, he goes on to state, "When the earth was formed, radioactive rocks like uranium and thorium must have started to vent helium through the ground into the air." That is a fine statement with one reservation, namely that large word, must. There are quite a lot of things that, "must" have happened in the past, but that does not mean they actually did happen.

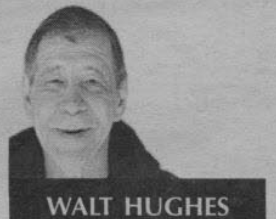
Unfortunately, just as the earth is constantly evolving and aging as time progresses, so is scientific knowledge. The theory that there is less helium in the atmosphere than there should be according to certain aspects of science is interesting, yet at the same time a question of accuracy of carbon dating can be just as relevant.

Broich bases his calculations on the loss of helium from the atmosphere while carbon dating bases its accuracy on the decay of carbon 14. Is either method unquestionably accurate? Is there the possibility that either or both methods are flawed in some manner? Where does one find the absolute answer rather than just accepting the given formula commonly used in contemporary times? Is there now, or will there ever be a solid and very concrete answer to those questions?

While it is not mentioned in this case, most of the driving controversy over the age of this planet usually derives from the ongoing evolutionist versus creationist arguments. Leaving both aside here, it is still an interesting question that will keep many good minds busy seeking the answers.



AARON BROICH



WALT HUGHES

### The Commuter

### VISIT THE COMMUTER ONLINE

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www.linnbenton.edu/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 Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

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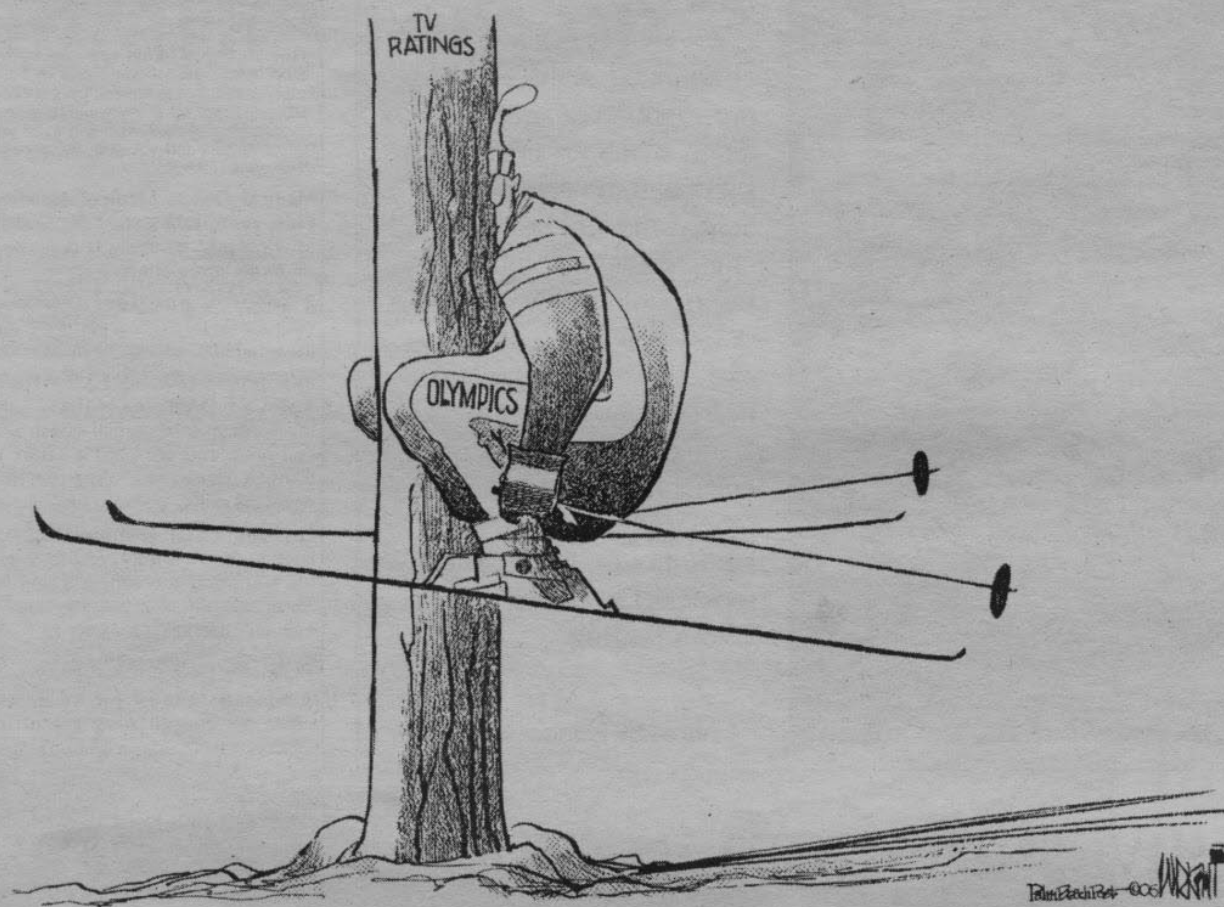
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# OPINION

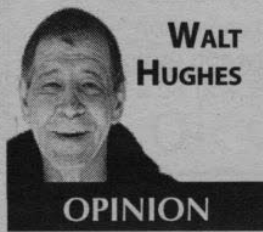
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## Child abuse by friends and family runs rampant in today's society

Walt Hughes  
 The Commuter

It isn't the most popular subject of conversation around the dinner table. It is seldom spoken about or referred to by elected officials. It is not the most written about subject in the press, yet common child abuse and child sexual abuse is coming more and more into public awareness each and every day. According to statistics put forth by members of the organization known as Stop Child Sexual Abuse it is happening to one in four females and one in five male children each day, and one can only guess how many other children suffer because of parents who are addicted to and spending all their money on cocaine, heroin, marijuana and the so-called designer drugs made with methamphetamines.



As the world turns and the sun rises tomorrow thousands of children in this country will wake up to another dreary day filled with hunger, filthy living conditions and abuse brought on by parents who think more of drugs, alcohol and having a good time than taking care of and looking out for them. To be 3, 5, or 8 years old and physically or sexually assaulted would seem a terrible thing. Imagine the frustrating mental prison a child must be locked into when the very person they trusted and looked up to is the one assaulting them. Fathers are performing sexual acts with their daughters; mothers with their sons; and sometimes a parent will assault and abuse both sexes. It's not always sexual abuse; someone on drugs, especially methamphetamines, can become hostile, paranoid and physically violent toward anyone, including a child, who gets in their way. That is not only sad, it is somehow grossly repulsive and sickening.

To bring an innocent child into sexual awareness is the sick act of a depraved mind, and bad enough in itself; yet the mental damage suffered by the victim often compounds the injury until the physical act seems nothing in comparison. The same can be said for beating on a child with fists, clubs and other objects. Even prisoners of war have been known to break down under such circumstances, and eventually an attitude known as the Stockholm syndrome, where the victim identifies with the abuser and comes to believe that they deserve it, may emerge to torment the child even further. According to police officers and mental health workers who specialize in such cases, the majority of

child assaults are performed by people whom the child trusts, loves, and looks up to.

In the past year or so a number of cases have come into the national spotlight. One of those cases, where foster parents kept children in cages, is in court right now. In a number of other cases the children have been starved to death, beaten to death and abused and misused in ways that would make even a hardened criminal sick. In almost all of those cases it was by a family member or someone close that the child probably loved and looked up to.

Where does it leave a young and forming mind when someone they trust is touching them in ways that make them uncomfortable or that they know are wrong? Where, when beatings and pain are inflicted by a father, mother, or family friend? How do they tell? Who will listen? Who do they turn to when it is a parent or relative?

How many who will read these words were beaten, molested or sexually assaulted children? How many were caught in the trap of having no one to turn to or tell? How many live to this day, this moment, with that secret locked deep inside? How many had "bad" things done to them and harbor the feeling that somehow they also are "bad" because of it?

In schools you can hear the words "A mind is a terrible thing to waste." This is true not only in education. A young mind is a terrible thing to waste in any case, and tragically so when burdened with the guilt and shame brought on by the horrific act of a sick adult.

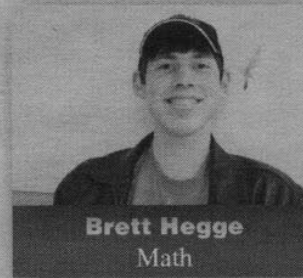
Do you know of a child suffering this tragedy? Will you help? While not always the case, some of the outward signs are easy to spot. An outgoing, playful and happy child who suddenly becomes withdrawn and reclusive is a good candidate. A child who becomes reluctant to be around someone that they are familiar with is another good sign.

While I stress that such behavior in a child does not always mean that sexual or physical abuse is taking place, they are good indicators. Another common indication of abuse is a child who seems to have more bruises than the normal child. Your doctor can be much more specific, and your police department, sheriff's office, mental health or other departments set up for such things all have abuse investigation teams who can weed out the problems.

To repeat my opening statement, this isn't the most popular subject, but it is one that needs attention as we move forward into the new millennium. Our children are tomorrow's hope. They are the future. With a little attention and a little care we can help eliminate a lot of child abuse in this country.

### PERSPECTIVES

Did you vote in the ASG elections? Why or why not?



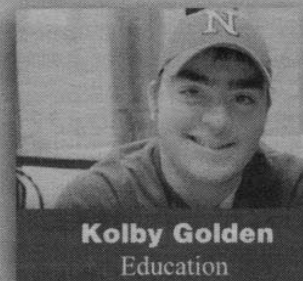
"No. I honestly didn't know that they happened yet. I thought they were still coming up."

"Yes, I did. One of the candidates had a poster I didn't like, so I voted for the other guy."



"No. I don't know what it is."

"No. I didn't even know they were going on until it was too late."



"No, I had no idea where they were being held, and I don't have a lot of classes in the main part of campus, and there is nothing about it over in the Periwinkle Building."

"No. I just didn't take the time, plus I'm a new student and I haven't gotten involved with all that yet."



Compiled by Kyla Hoyt



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# CAMPUS NEWS

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



**New V.P.**  
Carol Schaafsma was announced as the new vice president for academic affairs by LB President Rita Cavin on Monday. Schaafsma will be the chief academic officer responsible for the planning, development, supervision and evaluation of college instructional divisions. She is the current director of curriculum and instructional programs and will start her duties on July 1. She replaces Dr. Edwin Watson, who is retiring.

photo by Jennifer Overholser

## CLASSIFIEDS

### HELP WANTED

\*For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101). Just sign up at [www.linnbenton.edu/StudentEmployment](http://www.linnbenton.edu/StudentEmployment). You will have access to lots of jobs and you will also receive e-mails about jobs.

**Medical Office, Medical Assisting & Phlebotomy jobs** (#4044-50, Corvallis). Multiple jobs for multiple skills. See us for more information.

**2 Security positions** (#4039-40, Heritage Mall) Want a part-time job in the retail field and in the mall? Here is your opportunity—go for it!

**AutoCad Operator** (#4041, Salem) Work for a commercial construction company and get paid a salary and benefit package. You just need AutoCad skills.

**Environmental Technician** (#4042, Eugene) Work a full-time job & get to travel around the valley. If you have AutoCad skills and are mechanically inclined, this job is for you.

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**Roommate Wanted for Albany Apt.**, \$210 per month plus 1/2 utilities. Contact Jeff at (541)905-0427.

### FOR SALE

**1997 Ford Taurus**, Needs Work \$400/obo. Call Allison or Jerry at 967-0255.

### WANTED

**Used Refrigerator**, Will pay \$. Contact Elizabeth Beckham at 753-4025 or e-mail at [lizzo\\_beckham@hotmail.com](mailto:lizzo_beckham@hotmail.com).

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**Personals:** These are limited to one ad per advertiser per week. Content is limited to no more than 50 words per ad.

### Solutions

H	I	G	N	E	L	E	N	E	A	S	V	E	T	E	T	
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## NSH: New building gives LB room to grow

◀ From Pg. 1  
without being expensive. He's done a marvelous job with that." In the center of the NSH second-floor balcony hangs a structure entitled "Wowzerwall Chandelier." This piece, engraved by Roy McFaddin of Wowzerwall Design, consists of eight hanging clear acrylic panels. Each of the panels is engraved with art created by LBCC students. The theme is knowledge and learning. The panels are lit from the top with programmable LED lights that alternate colors, and create an almost hypnotic sparkle within each one.

Not many students, other than the artists, were at the open house. For the people who were there, an array of snacks and drinks were provided on the

second floor following the ribbon cutting.

After the ceremony, guests were invited to tour the new facility. Each room was open for examination. In one room, a slideshow was going that depicted a step-by-step visual of the construction of NSH from start to finish.

The first floor of the 20,000-square-foot building consists of seven offices, for both part-time faculty and arts and communication faculty; five large classrooms, one of which contains a number of computers to facilitate a computer class; and a conference room, staff room, work room, a few "staff only" rooms, and, of course, restrooms. Along the walls are several works of art, all a part of LB's "Community College Invitational" Art Exhi-

bition, on display in NSH until March 3. Art in the exhibit is by faculty from various community colleges in the Willamette Valley. Also, downstairs is a display in memory of Michael Weiss, a history instructor from LBCC who recently died. The exhibit includes various artifacts symbolic to Weiss' life.

On the second floor of the hall there are eight offices, five classrooms, two "staff only" rooms, restrooms, and more art from the "Community College Invitational" exhibit. All of the galleries are protected with security cameras placed throughout the building. Construction of the multipurpose hall began in December 2004. According to Ruppert, more space was needed to accommodate the growing number of students at LBCC,

particularly those taking classes between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. He also commented that some of the classrooms at LB were too small to deal with the majority of classes.

Marlene Propst added, "We just needed more places for students to be." The NSH offers plenty of space for students doing homework or socializing with friends. During class periods, the hall is remarkably quiet. Activity picks up between classes, and also during the lunch hours, when students utilize the many tables throughout the hall.

So what is next in the continuing campus renovation? Cavin said, "Onward and upward, the next building will be a science building."

## Science: Private donors chipping in

◀ From Pg. 1  
quality, according to Elizabeth Lundy, dean of math and sciences. In addition, equipment such as chemical safety hoods are not only outdated but consume an inordinate amount of time to maintain safety.

The college is turning its full attention to the push for funding the Science and Health Project now that North Santiam Hall is finished. The project has made good progress lately, according to Marlene Propst, director of College advancement. Several donors have contributed to the college's goal of \$1 million from private sources—the OSU and Central Willamette credit unions (\$25,000 each), the LBCC Foundation (\$50,000), an anonymous donor (\$50,000), and a variety of other donors (\$41,000). Propst said she is pleased with the progress so far but stressed the need for the federal government's contribution.

Approximately \$1 million has already been spent toward the project with funds from a voter-approved bond, includ-

ing \$496,125 for multipurpose classrooms in North Santiam Hall, \$400,000 on the Radiation Technology Lab, \$35,251 on the Medical Assisting Lab and \$75,334 on the Fitness Ed Center.

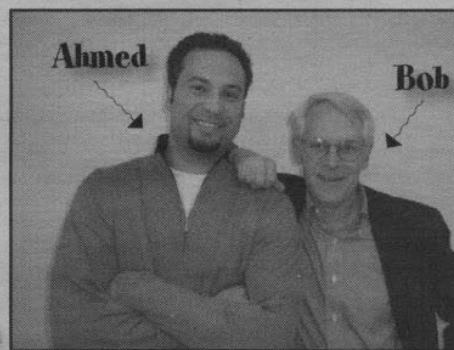
Hoping the visit by DeFazio will spur the government to approve the grant request, McArdle repeated the college's often quoted mantra. "We will not give up till this project is completed."

The Commuter Forum 222  
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## COMEDY NIGHT

Join Bob (the Rabbi)  
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March 8, 2006

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

LBCC Commons Albany - College Center 2nd Floor



Delicious desserts will be served in addition to some good clean comedy.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Admission is \$5 at the door

Children under age 11 are not permitted



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# CAMPUS NEWS

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

## Libraries remain wary of new PATRIOT Act

Stephen Whitener  
The Commuter

The USA PATRIOT Act may sound pretty simple, but the law is as complicated as its full name: "Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism."

The controversial law, due for a vote on its extension by March 10, provides the government with greater authority in searching library records. While the American Library Association (ALA) has opposed the PATRIOT Act since its enactment in late 2001, librarians choose their words with care when discussing the law. They have to.

One of the law's provisions is that librarians do not discuss whether any specific searches have been conducted at their libraries.

"I could tell you," joked Scott Keeney, children's librarian at the Albany Public Library, "but I'd have to

kill you."

LBCC Librarians Jorry Rolfe and Charles Weyant are both uncomfortable with aspects of the PATRIOT Act. "I don't think many librarians are happy with it," said Rolfe. "What's insidious is that a library can't even divulge whether they have received a subpoena."

Weyant added, "I believe that anything that causes people to question whether they want to use a library to access information is bad. Just the possibility of federal agents checking you out without a warrant puts a deathly chill on people using libraries to perform necessary research. This is the part that scares me the most because it is the most related to what I do."

Recently, the Bush Administration and four Republican senators opposed to the PATRIOT Act worked out a compromise version that included language about traditional libraries being exempt from future searches. Internet service providers alone would be subject to searches. At issue, however, is whether providing In-

ternet access at a public library is one of the protected traditions. The ALA, which opposes the compromise for its unclear language, indicates on its Web site that the FBI has always considered all libraries fair game.

The ALA Web site offers instructions for library personnel on how to handle a visit and how to keep library patrons informed. The OSU Valley Library and the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library include confidentiality statements on their Web sites. Both cite ORS (192.502, 22), which protects library records as private information and requires a subpoena for any searches.

The OSU statement explicitly states that records are not to be shown to "parents, friends, professors, university administrators, police, FBI, university security staff, or the CIA."

Whether a legitimate tool to fight terrorism or a sign of Big Brother, the USA PATRIOT Act, if re-extended, will be the law for four more years.



## Increasing use of online databases poses no threat to books' existence

Stephen Whitener  
The Commuter

Oregon State University's Valley Library is the very definition of "state-of-the-art." But on the main floor, past a sea of computers stands a wooden relic of bygone days: the once-proud, now-neglected card catalog.

Sure, the Valley Library still has some 1.5 million volumes of old-fashioned books, but aren't they, like the card catalog, just marking time?

"I'm tired of hearing about the 'end of libraries, the end of paper,'" said Richenda Wilkinson, OSU's multicultural librarian for the last two years. "It's a complete myth. At no time in history has there been more books, more paper," and more patrons. Wilkinson credits the variety of media offered by today's library with broadening the "user base."

For Wilkinson and her local counterparts, computers and libraries go hand-in-hand. Over the past 22 years Public Services Librarian Charles Weyant has watched the LBCC Library move along with the times. The card catalog, for example, was phased out in the early 1990s and sold to the highest bidder. Throughout the '90s to the present day, the library has consistently added computers and electronic databases. Between its Information Lab and Instruction Room the library has 18 computers with access to 13 search engines, 13 metasearch engines, EBSCOhost, the Literature Resource Center, Electric Library, Access Science

and other databases.

"Ten years ago at LBCC," recalled Weyant, "the biggest problem was finding enough information for research papers. With computers and databases, the problem is now one of too much information. Part of our job is to teach students how to evaluate and choose the best information for their needs."

Weyant does not foresee an end to books but conceded that computers and Internet databases will replace some printed materials, such as magazines and reference volumes. Still, there is "something about a book," said Weyant. "Books are really comfortable, user-friendly. There's a sensual, tactile feeling with a book in the hand."

LBCC Librarian Jorry Rolfe agrees, saying that computers have "revolutionized" libraries. "Libraries have to stay relevant and buy the next format."

As for the "old format," Rolfe sees no cause for alarm. "I think books will still be around for a thousand years."

That should quell the fears of most bibliophiles and technophobes. And after all, OSU still has its card catalog. Surely that's a concession to lingering Luddites?

Not exactly. According to Wilkinson, the OSU card catalog, which ended in 1988, has still not been completely converted to computer. The cataloging department works on it "a little bit every day," said Wilkinson of the "retrospective conversion." "It'll probably take another 10 years."

## Turning Point supports transitioning students

Melissa Chaney  
The Commuter

Turning Point Transitions, a free class, offers potential students experiencing major life transitions the support and guidance they need to get the ball rolling on their education.

Specially designed to help single parents, displaced homemakers, dislocated workers and others, the Turning Point program and its teacher Joann Apter undertake the task of building confidence, raising self-esteem, and stress management in people who are adrift and need a new direction in their lives.

Those who take the free class earn three college credits and the chance to explore their values and skills and how they might transfer those into their college experience or daily lives. This four-week class has limited class size, so students have to set up an interview with Apter the week before class starts. Apter said that she is looking for "someone who is willing to change, open to looking at the world from different perspectives, with different thinking and different possibilities."

The class takes more than 70 hours and meets Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. According to Apter, although composed mainly of

women, the class is open to anyone. Her students are diverse, ranging from those let go after years with the same company, to those out of drug and alcohol rehab, to mothers experiencing empty nest syndrome.

Two of Turning Point's many successes are Nancy Shadomy and Sandra Lovejoy. According to Apter, Shadomy and Lovejoy, "not only went back to school but absolutely excelled." They were inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society on February 23. To become a member, one must earn 12 consecutive credits of associate degree coursework and have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Shadomy took Turning Point in January 2005 after losing two of her dearest friends. "I regretted not going to college," she said. Shadomy helped both of her daughters go to college "It was something I really wanted to do. I was so afraid—out of my comfort zone." Apter kept reiterating to them that if you don't get out of your comfort zone, your comfort zone can become your prison. "She [Apter] is so inspirational to so many people," said Shadomy.

She took her first class in March 2005 and another that summer. She now has a full one-year tuition scholarship. "It's been amazing," Shadomy said.

*Michele Malloy*  
*A Celebration of Life*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2006 FROM 7:15 - 8 P.M.  
IN THE ALBANY LEARNING CENTER, WH 212

Michele was a tireless student advocate, a friendly face in the Learning Center and an inspiration for GED students.

The Learning Center will be collecting donations as a tribute to Michele for scholarships to cover GED enrollment fees for students in need. If you wish to contribute, checks should be labeled "GED Enrollment Fee Waiver Fund".





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# SPORTS

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

## 'Any Given Sunday' an Oscar-worthy film

Every so often, a movie pertaining to the sports world is thrown onto the stage of respectable cinema. One that can give a true feeling of the game it is depicting is even more rare in today's Hollywood smitten world of special effects, sappy comedy and star-studded casts.

While the football themed action-drama 'Any Given Sunday' features a cast of some of the most critically acclaimed actors, it does not take away from the true-to-life on and off the field aspects of America's most popular sport.

The film is about a high profile team named the Miami Sharks who won their version of the Super Bowl, The Pantheon Cup two years



JAKE ROSENBERG

earlier. The franchise struggles to find direction with new ownership (Cameron Diaz, Ann-Margret) trying to move the financially troubled team without the commissioner (Charlton Heston) knowing, while coach Tony D'Amato (Al Pacino) fails to adapt his successful legacy to a new age of football following the loss of his star southpaw quarterback (Randy Quaid) to injury. Luckily, a raw, journeyman scrambler named Steamin' Willie Beamen (Jamie Foxx) is there to take the reins as the Sharks' signal-caller and give the team a new identity as they make their way to the playoffs. Just like every sport, conflicts due to injuries, age, pride, greed and politics come into play as team chemistry is disrupted in all aspects of the once successful franchise.

Many people link the story to three-time Academy Award-winning director Oliver Stone's favorite NFL team, the San Francisco 49ers, which faced almost identical scenarios just prior to the filming of this movie in the late 90s. Many NFL stars made appearances in this film and contributed to its reality, including Terrell Owens, Ricky Watters and Hall of Famer Lawrence Taylor, Jim Brown, Johnny Unitas and Dick Butkus. The bone jarring hits and crowd pleasing soundtrack only add to the intense tone of the well orchestrated action, but the most memorable part of the 1999 motion picture is Pacino's moving pre-game speech known as 'Peace with Inches.' Those four minutes alone make the movie worth watching and put the usually neglected sports genre into recognizable Oscar consideration. Ignore the near three-hour running time, some unnecessary gratuitous nudity and over-the-top indulgence of seizure-inducing on-field action and 'Any Given Sunday' is everything a football fan wants to see in a movie.

## FACE OFF



KRT photo

Cleveland Indians fans find it hard to watch 'The Tribe' in pursuit of redemption in the classic baseball comedy "Major League."

## 'Major League' remains in a league of its own

Imagine your favorite baseball team stinks and has not won a pennant in more than 40 years. The owner wants to move the team, and can only do so with attendance that averages about 6,000 per game.

That same owner has just stripped your team of good players on the roster and is planning to replace them with players who will be bad enough to make her dream of moving the team come true.

Enter "Major League."

Take a baseball roster with an ex-convict, a primadonna, an aging star, an unknown hot dog, a rabid voodoo worshiper and a drunken team broadcaster and you have the Cleveland Indians.



ADAM LOGHIDES

Charlie Sheen plays Ricky Vaughn, who last pitched in the California Penal League (he got that shot by stealing a car), becomes the young star of this team of misfits slapped together to help the owner move the team to Florida.

Roger Dorn, who stays away from all ground balls that may hurt him, is the third baseman who learns to play team ball—the manager urinating on Dorn's contract teaches him that. Wesley Snipes is Willie "Mays" Hayes who, according to his manager, Lou Brown (a tire salesman from Detroit) may run like Mays, but he hits like s---

Brown uses the owner's motivation as a way to get his team to play above their heads and win. Along the way, there is a Hollywood love story, not only between the catcher (Jake Taylor, played by Tom Berenger) and his ex-girlfriend (Rene Russo), but also with the viewer and this team. You know they are going to win, because it is Hollywood. But, how they get there is so hilarious, it is completely unforgettable.

The list of players the owner invites to spring training includes a dead man—"then cross him off the list," she tells team

management.

The day before the biggest game of the season, Vaughn has sex with Dorn's wife, not knowing who she is. After they win the final game—in the bottom of the ninth of course—Dorn punches Vaughn and follows it up with a hug, Taylor and the girl love each other and the Indians are the champions.

The entertainment level is so high from start to finish that, even though the movie has a true Hollywood ending, you will never find a better, or more hilarious sports movie. Do yourself a favor though. Stay away from the sequels, nothing compares to the original.

## Corvallis Sports Park reaches out

Ian Greer  
The Commuter

For years Blake Leamy was forced to drive more than an hour to Portland anytime he wanted to play an indoor soccer game.

Eventually a center opened in Salem, but Leamy still didn't enjoy the thought of driving 45 minutes just to play a game.

So in the winter of 1997 he opened the Corvallis Sports Park to fulfill a need in the community.

"The park strives to be a great place for family and friends to come together in a social and recreational environment," said Leamy.

According to Leamy, the park has grown in popularity every year it's been open and has recently eliminated a hockey program in favor of new soccer field turf.

Leamy credits much of the park's popularity to the recent soccer boom in America.

As the park continues to grow, new activities are offered. The Lil' Kickers program teaches kids ages 18 months through 9



photo by Kyla Hoyt

The Corvallis Sports Park, established in 1997, is one of the few places in Oregon that offers indoor soccer and its newest activity, arena ball.

years sportsmanship, hard work and competitiveness through soccer.

The newest activity the sports park will offer is Arena Ball. This is a fast-paced, paintball-like combat game that uses soft,

reusable, rubber balls instead of paint.

The park is at 175 S.W. Twin Oaks Circle in Corvallis. It can be reached at 541-757-0776 or on the Web site at [www.corvallis-sportspark.com](http://www.corvallis-sportspark.com).

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# SPORTS

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

## Slump continues at home

Caleb Hawley  
 The Commuter

Since mid-season, the LB Roadrunners' men's basketball team has found themselves in a rut, winning only two of their last 11 contests. Last week's games were no exception to that rule as LB lost at home to both Lane (13-14, 7-6) and Mt. Hood (24-3, 13-0).

Wednesday night LB hosted a close contest with Eugene foe Lane CC. It was a very slow developing game with neither team finding the right offensive combination.

By midway through the first half Lane had mounted an 18-11 lead. LB chipped and clawed their way back into the game with strong play from Kyle Masten who scored 12 in the half and Ryon Pool who dropped in 10 with four rebounds. With just four seconds left in the half, Pool laid in a short jumper to tie the game 31-31 at the break.

The second half began much like the first, with slow offensive productions. With 15:24 to go in the game, Pool slashed to the hoop for a lay-up to take the Runners first and only lead of the ball game.

For the next 10 minutes, it was back and forth scoring and defensive stops. LB then lost their focus and Lane went off on a 10-0 run late in the half solidifying a Lane victory, 74-66.

LB scores were led by Pool with 18 and a team high seven rebounds, Masten had 17, Alex Stockner had 15 with six rebounds and Cory Hull had 10 points.

"I like the fact that we played really hard. I am certainly disappointed in the way we dealt with the press. We lost our composure, and we didn't need to lose our composure. I felt like we were a better team than that. And we needed to have responded better at that moment and time," said Head Coach Randy Falk.

An upset was brewing in Saturday's home game against Mt. Hood. LB came out firing and didn't slow down in the first half. Masten knocked down five three-pointers and scored a first half game high 18 points. Pool also added 11 points of his own and six rebounds. At the half the Runners left Mt. Hood stunned, with a lead of 37-30.

The second half would be a different story for LB. Mt. Hood came out determined on both the defensive and offensive ends of the court. In the first four and a half minutes of the second half, MHCC went on a 14-4 run from which LB could not recover. MHCC defense held up the rest of the way, shutting out Masten in the half and fending off the Runners 68-61.

Pool had another impressive night, putting down 21 points on eight of 11 shooting and 13 rebounds with five coming on the offensive end. Masten scored 18 and Stockner scored nine with seven rebounds.

"Well, I am very pleased with our guys with the way we played tonight," said Falk. "You know the second best team in the NWAACC and we only lost by seven. Terrific effort on our guys parts, and saw a lot of desire in our guys' eyes tonight."

**"We lost our composure, and we didn't need to lose our composure. I felt like we were a better team than that."**

Coach Randy Falk

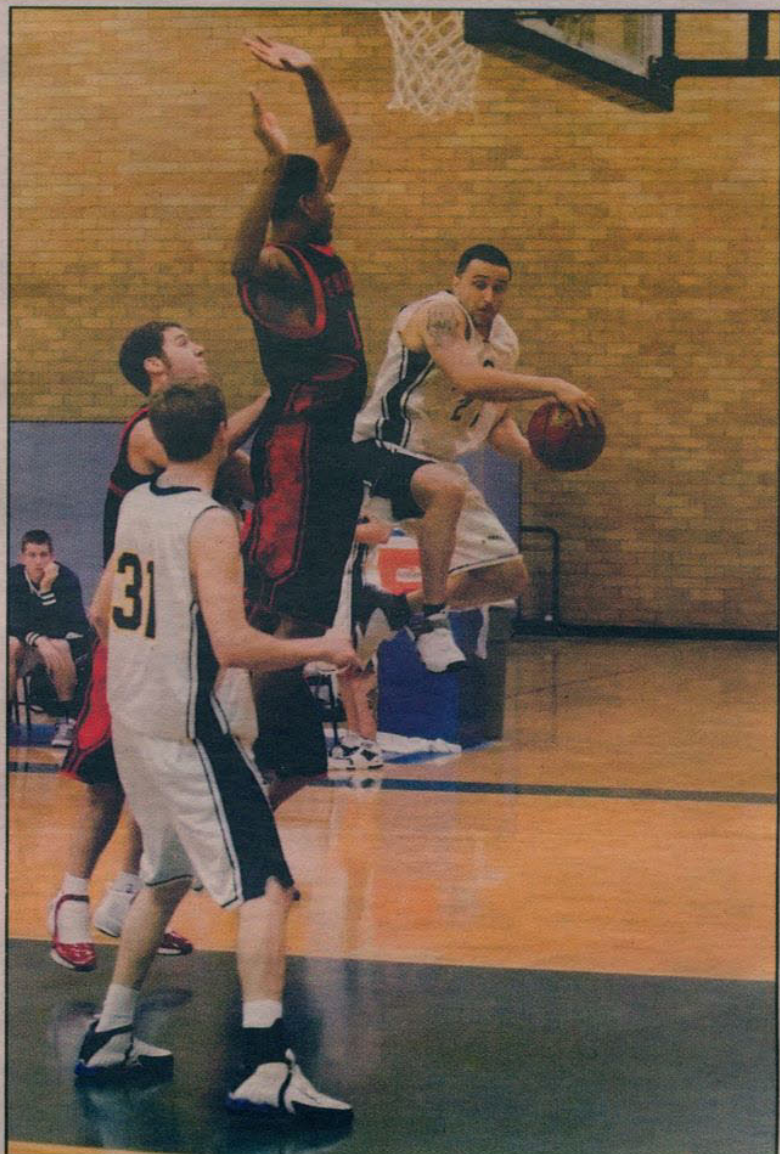


photo by Erik Swanson

Behdad Sami faces heavy defense under the basket as he dumps the ball off to fellow Runner Alex Stockner in LB's 68-61 loss to Mt. Hood in the Activities Center on Saturday.

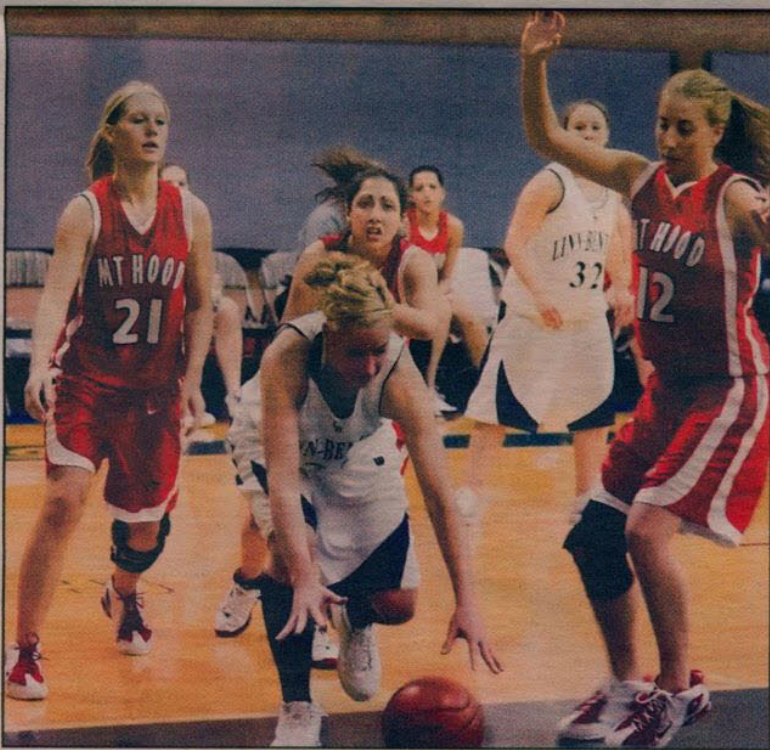


photo by Erik Swanson

Simrin Cummins drives through the tight Mt. Hood defense in Saturday's 45-42 loss. Cummins scored 14 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

## Lady Runners lose final games

Neal Jones  
 The Commuter

Last week was a disappointing week for the Lady Roadrunners as they dropped two games at home.

In Wednesday night's game against the Titans (10-1), the Roadrunners (4-7) were outplayed by a very good Lane team in an 83-45 defeat.

The Roadrunners were down by 30 at halftime, by a score of 55-28. During the first half, the Titans scored at will, making an impressive 22 of 43 field goals. They also shot six of 10 from the three-point line.

In the second half, the LB women stepped up their game on defense and allowed only 28 points by the Titans on 33.3 percent shooting.

Unfortunately, Lane capitalized on the Runners shortcomings throughout the game and scored 41 points off turnovers. They also got 17 second-chance points.

The top performers for LB were Molly Fillion with 14 points, seven rebounds and five steals and Whitney Bryant with 14 points and seven rebounds.

On Saturday, the Roadrunners (4-8) were hoping for a win in their last home game against the Mt. Hood Saints (0-12).

In the first half, the Runners held the Saints to an awful 18.9 percent shooting percentage. A downside to the first half for LB was making only five of 12 shots from the free-throw line. Despite that, the LB women went into the half with a comfortable 25-17 lead.

The Saints, who were hoping for their first win in league play, came out in the second half looking to shock the Roadrun-

ners. They did just that, winning the game in a nail-biting 45-42 performance. Although the LB women out-rebounded the Saints 59 to 39, that only led to four second-chance points. The defense played by LB allowed a miserable 22.5 percent shooting percentage by Mt. Hood. The big downfall in the game for the Runners was only making 14 of 30 free-throw attempts.

One of the better performances for the Runners was Simrin Cummings with 14 points and nine rebounds.

Other key contributors were Sarah Long with nine points and 17 rebounds and Jennifer Fillion with nine points and five rebounds.

The Roadrunners (4-9) will play their last game of the season against Umpqua C.C. (9-4) on the road in Roseburg, Ore. at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

### scoreboard

Men		STANDINGS				Women	
	League	Overall		League	Overall		
Mt. Hood	13-0	24-3	Clackamas	12-1	22-4		
Chemeketa	11-2	19-7	Lane	12-1	28-1		
Clackamas	8-5	19-9	Umpqua	9-4	21-7		
Portland	5-8	13-15	Chemeketa	6-7	9-15		
Lane	7-6	13-14	Linn-Benton	4-9	8-19		
Linn-Benton	3-10	10-17	Portland	4-9	9-15		
SWOCC	3-10	9-17	SWOCC	4-9	11-14		
Umpqua	2-11	5-21	Mt. Hood	1-12	3-21		

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Mar. 1	Umpqua	Roseburg	W-5:30 M-7:30

### VISUAL ARTS CLUB ART SHOW & AUCTION

Submit prints of your work to be auctioned off to raise money for the Visual Arts Club.

Pieces are DUE in the NSH RM101 by March 17. Include name and contact information on the back of the piece. Must be ready to hang (matted and/or framed).

The Show and Silent Auction will be held in the Commons Saturday, April 22nd. - starting at 3 PM. Prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. For more information contact: Elizabeth Beckham lizzo\_beckhm@hotmail.com

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# FUNNY BONES

Crossword, cartoons, LBCC Commons menu and some fun facts to brighten your day.



Got Questions?  
Need Answers?

## Ask Isabelle

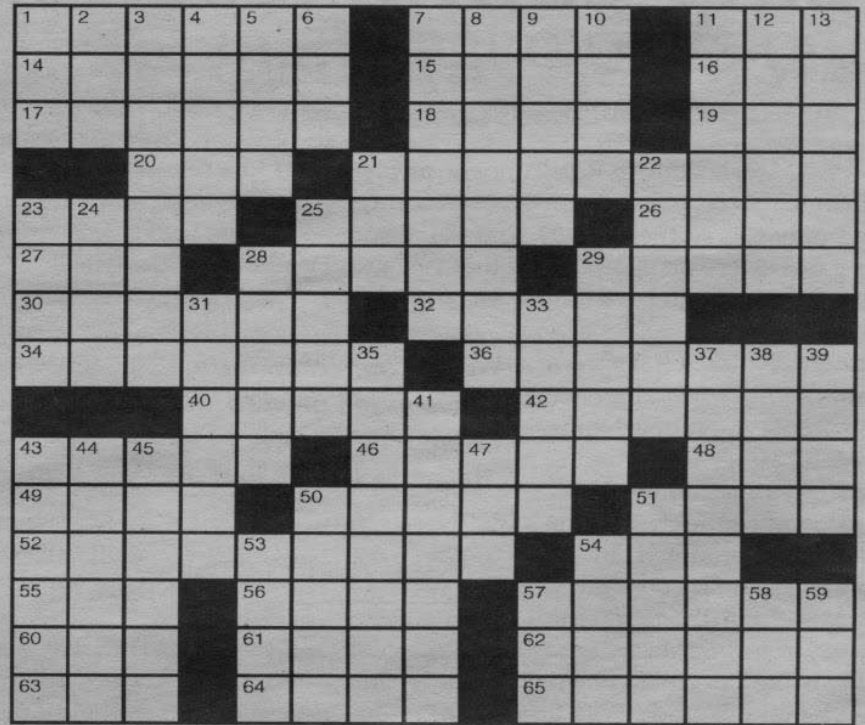
Send your questions to  
ask\_isabelle@hotmail.com

### ...Fun Facts...

- Elvis Presley made only one television commercial—an ad for “Southern Maid Doughnuts” that ran in 1954.
- Honey is the only food that does not spoil. Honey found in the tombs of Egyptian pharaohs has been tasted by archaeologists and found edible.
- Ohio is the only U.S. state without a rectangular flag. Ohio’s flag is a pennant.
- The Joshua tree is the only tree that grows in California’s Mojave Desert.

## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mariner
  - 7 Euphemistic expletive
  - 11 Shape with an ax
  - 14 Spanish weather baby?
  - 15 One of HOMES
  - 16 Yale alum
  - 17 \_\_\_ pink (delight)
  - 18 Loud report
  - 19 \_\_\_ Miguel, CA
  - 20 “\_\_\_ Jude”
  - 21 Ceases work
  - 23 Wearing shoes
  - 25 Courses
  - 26 \_\_\_ of the above
  - 27 Tiny veggie
  - 28 Heavily burdened
  - 29 Chairmaker
  - 30 More Bohemian
  - 32 Ravi Shankar’s instrument
  - 34 Make a second appearance
  - 36 Make known
  - 40 Tender spots
  - 42 Eye part
  - 43 Stage front
  - 46 DA’s workload
  - 48 Thole insert
  - 49 Roll of film
  - 50 Wanted poster information
  - 51 Pismires
  - 52 Making (oneself) scarce
  - 54 Jan. honoree
  - 55 Diamond stat
  - 56 Ain’t right?
  - 57 Glass ingredient
  - 60 Gore and Hirt
  - 61 Boat beam
  - 62 Sites for fights
  - 63 Hanoi holiday
  - 64 Gentling word
  - 65 Ruler measure

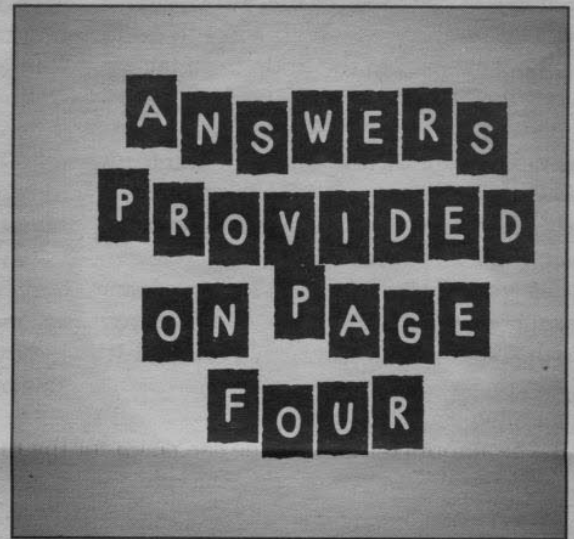


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2/27/06

- DOWN**
- 1 Confirmed
  - 2 He’s “The Greatest”
  - 3 In an early stage
  - 4 Took a shine to
  - 5 Just

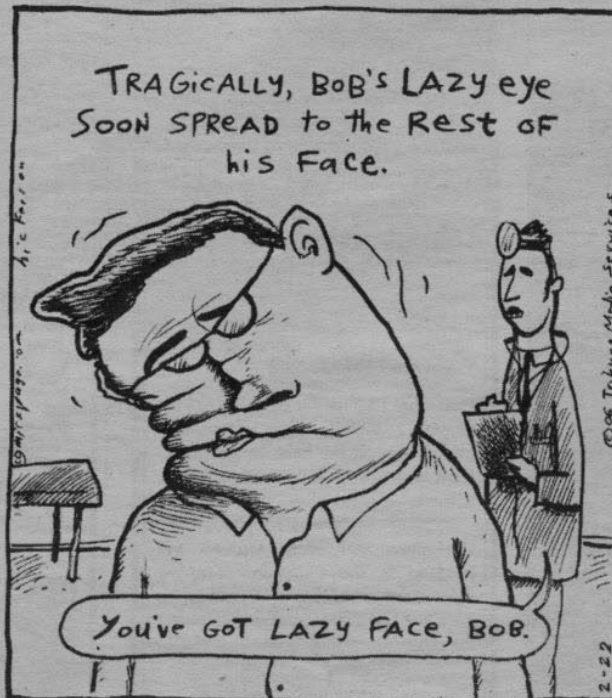
- 6 Fish eggs
- 7 Argues in an orderly way
- 8 Spider or tick
- 9 Skating arenas
- 10 Images in rev.
- 11 “Ben-Hur” star
- 12 “Seinfeld” character
- 13 Champion
- 21 Block of paper
- 22 Going nowhere?
- 23 Rigging support
- 24 Roll-call call
- 25 Chef’s gizmo
- 28 Reveal
- 29 Bats’ habitats
- 31 Strip in a shoe
- 33 Becomes fatigued
- 35 Lies back
- 37 Disney film, with “The”
- 38 Itsy-bitsy biter
- 39 Supports for glasses
- 41 Pious



- 43 Ark’s mount
- 44 Small stone
- 45 Hold one’s ground
- 47 Droop
- 50 Confused
- 51 Comic Woody
- 53 Tiger’s sponsor
- 54 Swampy land
- 57 Erie Canal mule
- 58 Singer Stevens
- 59 Silvery-gray color

### A College Girl Named Joe

by Aaron Warner



Revenge of the Puppy.

**LBCC MAIN CAMPUS Commons**  
MARCH 1 - MARCH 7

**Wednesday:**  
ENTREES: Corned Beef Hash & Eggs; Fish en Papillote; Carey Pocket  
SIDES: Jojo Potatoes; Green Beans  
SOUPS: Beef Consomme; Corn Chowder

**Thursday:**  
ENTREES: Pork Schnitzel; Beggar’s Chicken w/ Steamed Rice; Spring Rolls/Egg Rolls Meat & Meatless  
SIDES: Buttered Noodles; Braised Red Cabbage; Stir Fried Vegetables  
SOUPS: Tortellini en Brodo; Split Pea

**Friday: Chef’s Choice**

**Monday:**  
ENTREES: Beef Fajita; Huli Huli Chicken w/ Macaroni Salad; Thai Vegetable Curry  
SIDES: Refried Beans; Asparagus  
SOUPS: Creamed Asparagus; Beef Barley

**Tuesday:**  
ENTREES: Garlic Sticky Chicken; Fish in Crazy Sauce; Spinach Crepe  
SIDES: Fish Potatoes; Roasted Vegetables  
SOUPS: Creamy Chicken & Mushrooms; Tomato & Rice

*Weekly Menu*



**Managing Editor:** Jennifer Overholser  
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

# CAMPUS NEWS

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

## Tax credits reduce education burden

**Jennifer Overholser**  
 The Commuter

During a season that can fill people with dread or with joy, whether you're paying taxes or getting money back, students have several options available that might help their tax experience be positive.

Whether you or your parents pay for some or all of your schooling, several tax credits can decrease the amount of tax you owe or better yet, increase the amount of your refund.

Congress established the Hope Scholarship Tax Credit and the Lifetime Learning Tax Credit in 1997 to make college more

affordable for students in their first two years or beyond, including those returning to school after a number of years.

Students in their first two years of college who were enrolled at least half-time for a term may be eligible for the Hope Credit. In order to qualify they must be pursuing an undergraduate degree or other established credential. The amount they can claim for the credit is based on how much is paid for enrollment, tuition and fees, up to \$1,500 for one student.

The Lifetime Learning Credit is for any year in postsecondary education and can be used for courses taken to improve job skills. Students don't have to be pursuing a degree to claim this credit. It can be used for one or more courses in a year. Education expenses claimed can be up to \$2,000 for a household.

Students can claim either one of the credits for tuition they had to pay for, not including what is paid by grants or financial aid. For more information about either of these credits and other options for students, see Publication 970-Tax Benefits for Education or go to [www.linnbenton.edu/StudentResources/BusinessOffice](http://www.linnbenton.edu/StudentResources/BusinessOffice) and follow links for each credit and Form 8863.

Students can find their 1098-T form in the Student Information System, which details payments made for education expenses, including what can't be claimed.

Students may be eligible for the Earned Income Credit (EIC) if they fall below a certain income level, depending on whether they are single, married or have children. The amount of the EIC is calculated by using the income made in the tax year. You must also meet a few other requirements to claim the EIC.

E-filing can cut down on both paperwork and frustration.

First-year LB student John Robitaille does his taxes online.

"I like doing it online because of the e-file," he said, explaining that it only would take 14 to 18 days to get a refund that way. His school is paid for with financial

aid, but since he worked before school started he's claiming the Earned Income Credit.

Second-year nursing student Elizabeth Cuno prefers to do her taxes on paper. "Every time I do something online it gets screwed up," she said. Cuno will claim the EIC for each of her children, but says that other education tax credits would affect the amount she can claim for the EIC.

Several local resources offer free tax help for people in low or middle income tax brackets. The Albany Senior Center allows walk-ins Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. The Corvallis Public Library allows walk-ins on Saturdays between 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and appointments on Tuesdays or Fridays by calling 766-6959. You can make appointments at the Lebanon Senior Center at 258-4225 and the Sweet Home Public Library at 367-5007.

You will need to bring photo identification, a Social Security card or your taxpayer identification number, a copy of last year's return, W-2 forms for each job you held, and childcare expenses.

Several forms and publications are available in the LBCC Library just inside the door. The IRS Web site also has a list of forms as well as links to companies that offer free e-filing for federal taxes, though it may cost to file Oregon taxes.

## Katz speaks on Middle East

**Amanda Rappé**  
 The Commuter

Do you know what Hamas, Muhammad caricatures and Danish pastries all have in common? They are all part of politically charged issues that are prevalent today in the Middle East.

Jonathan Katz, OSU history professor, will speak about the recent political and religious is-

suues that have led to an uproar of rioting in the Middle East. His lecture will also include information about the Islamic faith and the Middle East culture.

The free lecture is open to the public on Monday, March 6, noon to 1 p.m. in the Alsea/Calapooia room.

For more information, call the LBCC Multicultural Center at 917-4461. For disability accommodations, call 917-4789.

### Future Prospects

Gary Ruppert, dean of arts and communication, discusses the advantages of an LBCC education with Nathan Reiman, CHS student and his mom Carol Hennessey at the LB Open House last Wednesday. Prospective students from the area were invited to eat pizza and find out about the college from representatives of all its divisions. Although still a junior, Reiman is getting a head start and is interested in both the arts and culinary school.

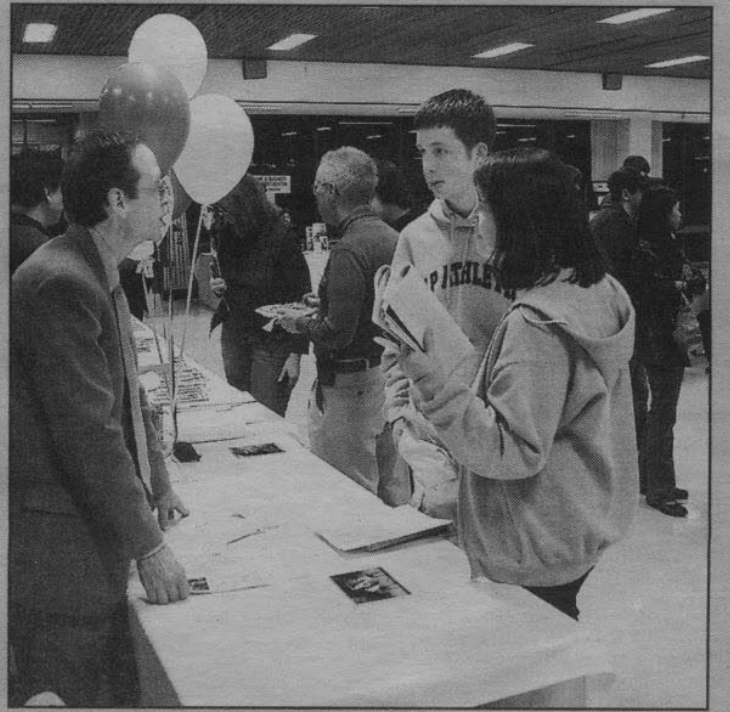


photo by Dan Wise

## College opportunities focus of annual Industrial Skills Contest

**Nancey West**  
 The Commuter

About 280 students from 11 Oregon schools will participate Thursday in the all-day Industrial Skills Contest hosted by LBCC Thursday in the IA Building.

According to Dave Ketler, LBCC welding instructor, the event is a recruiting tool for the industrial program as it allows the students to see the facilities and learn about programs.

LB students facilitate the contest and are the judges for the various skills. Business and industry donated prizes and gifts of nearly \$6,000. "It is impressive what they give," said Ketler. Prizes range from welding machines and accessories to tools. LB also gives scholarships in the industrial programs. Each participant receives gloves and an LBCC welding hat.

Industrial skills are divided into five categories: machine tooling, auto technology, heavy equipment/diesel, engineering graphics and welding and fabrication.

The contest has seen the effects of high school academic changes in the last few years. Lebanon High School once dominated the contest, bringing 35-40 students. Since the high school's welding program was reduced to a single class with a part-time instructor, only four or five students now participate in the contest.

"It's really sad," said Ketler of the high school situation. "The community has not changed, the students are out there. They need the hands-on skill. The education system is failing that part of the community."

Ketler explained that 20 to 25 percent of high school students graduate from a four-year college. High school classes are directed to those students, failing the other 75 percent.

Ken Ray, Lebanon High School Physical System Acad-

emy Campus coordinator, explained that the previous welding program was four years of intense training, and the students

graduated with the equivalent of a welding certificate. The emphasis was changed from vocational to engineering, giving the students a broader aspect of the field.

"We encourage kids to go beyond high school. Today, it's not enough to finish high school and say 'we're done,'" Ray said. "We are preparing them for college. If they choose not to go, that is their choice. If we can't offer a course, we will get a student to LB to take it, or we will have one room for online courses, high school or college."

There are high school stu-

dents who occasionally take welding classes, usually in the evening, Ketler said. Most are from Corvallis, Albany and private schools.

Lebanon High School's advisory board for industrial classes is made up, in part, by instructors from OSU and LBCC, and civil engineers from industry.

LBCC students will also host and compete in the Skills USA competition on April 14. The winner of the contest will go to the nationals.

LB students have competed at nationals the last four years, placing in the top 12 each time. Only one student from each state goes to nationals.

**"We encourage kids to go beyond high school. Today, it's not enough to finish high school and say 'we're done.'"**

LHS teacher Ken Ray

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## LB instructor Peck leads students in song

Robert Wong  
The Commuter

One of the greatest joys in life might be the spontaneous event of everybody suddenly bursting out into song.

Coincidentally, "Everyone Suddenly Burst Out Singing" is the name of the upcoming choral performance that will take place in the Russell Tripp Performance Center on Wednesday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. The concert will feature the LBCC Chamber and Concert choirs singing various songs carrying the theme of the emotions of singing as directed by music instructor Susan Peck.

Peck's list of songs has selections from the past and the present. Among the modern pieces there is a sad love song titled "A la claire fontaine," written by acclaimed Canadian composer Stephen Smith. Mixed in with the older songs is the chant "Caritas Abundat," written by Middle Ages composer Hildegard of Bingen, who is considered one of the first female composers in recorded history.

Peck started teaching at LBCC part-time last year, replacing long-time music instructor Hal Eastburn, who taught at LBCC for more than 20 years.

Peck oversees the Chamber and Concert choir classes as well as teaching music fundamentals and music appreciation. The choirs will sing in a public con-

cert once a term.

The difference between the Chamber and Concert choirs is that a successful audition is required to become a member of the Chamber Choir. However, the Concert choir is open to anybody who has a desire to sing or improve their singing skills. "I would like to encourage everybody to come out for Concert Choir," Peck said.

**"I would like to encourage everybody to come out for Concert Choir."**

Susan Peck

Peck plans to add a history of rock music class in the spring term, which will look at rock's cultural connections from the 1950s up to present-day rock music. She also hopes to teach an intro to jazz styles course next year if demand is high.

After leaving her hometown of Kearney, Neb., Peck went to the University of Nebraska for undergraduate work and attended Arizona State University for postgraduate studies. She stayed in Arizona for another four or five years before moving up to Oregon for its "mountains, oceans and a west coast sensibility."

After going back to Arizona for the first time in 16 years she remarked, "I didn't like it. It was 110 degrees every day. It's much nicer here in Oregon."

Before teaching at LBCC, Peck was very involved in musical theater as she worked in the Corvallis Crown Theatre, Opera Theater Corvallis, and Albany Civic Theater as well as shows produced by temporary com-



photo by Dan Wise

Music instructor Susan Peck directs the LBCC Chamber Choir practice last week. The choirs will perform "Everyone Suddenly Burst Out Singing" on March 15 at the Russell Tripp Performance Center.

panies. She played the leading role of Desiree in the Stephen Sondheim show "A Little Night Music" and performed in the outrageous comedy "Six Women With Brain Death or Expiring Minds Want to Know".

Peck also played the title role in "Pippin" at the ACT, a romantic musical about the story of Pippin, son of the 8th-century king Charlemagne, and his adventures to find his true calling. Peck is also the co-director for the

spring musical "Once Upon A Mattress" that will be performed May 26 through June 4. Those interested should be present today at the Russell Tripp Performance Center at 7 p.m.

Tickets for "Everybody Sud-


denly Burst Out Singing" are \$5 and can be pre-purchased at the Tripp box office or at Gracewinds Music in Corvallis. Tickets will also be available at the door before the start of the performance.

**Salsa Classes**


March 6: New York Salsa  
• 6 - 8 p.m. • \$35 • four-week class

March 7: Cuban (Casino) Salsa  
• 6 - 8 p.m. • \$35 • four-week class

Classes are held at the Platinum Club (126 SW 4th St. in Corvallis)  
More info and how to register are available online at [www.rumbanana.org](http://www.rumbanana.org)



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## Check It Out

**Softcore  
Platinum**

126 S.W. Fourth, Corvallis  
 March 3  
 9:30 p.m.  
 \$4 cover at the door

**Floater  
Dante's**

1 S.W. Third Ave. & Burnside, Portland  
 March 3  
 9:30 p.m.  
 \$10 in advance,  
 \$12 at the door  
 www.ticketwest.com

**The Reluctant Dragon**  
 Russell Tripp Performance Center  
 LBCC Main Campus  
 March 5  
 3 p.m.  
 Adults \$7  
 Students under 18 \$4  
 Box Office (541) 917-4531

**Pygmalion**  
 Majestic Theatre  
 115 S.W. Second St., Corvallis  
 March 10, 11, 12\*  
 16\*\*, 17, 18, 19\*  
 8 p.m.  
 \* 2:30 p.m. matinee  
 \*\*Bargain Thursday, all seats \$8  
 Adults \$10  
 Seniors and students \$8

**Aaron Tippin**  
 Chinook Winds Casino & Resort  
 1777 N.W. 44th St., Lincoln City  
 March 24 & 25  
 8 p.m.  
 \$15 - \$30  
 1-888-MAIN ACT

Calendar compiled by Colleen Franzoia, A&E Editor  
 Get your event in Check it Out. Send all information to  
 The Commuter Attn: commuterarts@linnbenton.edu



photo by Colleen Franzoia

Theo (Erik Esrael) rails at Louise (Adrienne Newman) in Albany Civic Theater's "The Underpants."

## Albany theater raises curtain on drawer-dropping farce

Colleen Franzoia  
 The Commuter

Albany Civic Theater's production of "The Underpants," opened to an enthusiastic audience last Friday. Steve Martin adapted this play from the German farce "Die Hose," written by Carl Sternheim in 1911.

Theo Maske, played by Erik Esrael, a simple government clerk, and his young wife, Louise, played by Adrienne New-

man, attend a parade. Louise, in her enthusiasm, literally drops her drawers in front of the king. Theo fears Louise's public display may cost him his job.

The set, designed by director John Elliott glows in colors of red, yellow and blue almost becomes another character in the show.

Cast members are Eric Jones, Shelley Moon, Cameron McFee, Jack McClaskey, and Chuck Skinner.

The remaining performances are March 3, 4 and March 9, 10, 11 at 8 p.m. A March 5 matinee starts at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are available at Sid Stevens Jewelers in Albany (541-926-8140) and Rice's Pharmacy in Corvallis (541-752-7779.)

General admission \$9, \$6 for people over 60 or under 18. Students get a discount on Thursday.

Albany Civic Theater is at 111 First Ave. S.W.

## Politicians and newspapers reach new audiences through podcasts

Arlen Proctor  
 The Commuter

As iPods and personal mp3 players become more and more popular, almost as indispensable as cell phones, more and more newspapers, radio stations and entertainers are utilizing a new way to reach people: Podcasting and Internet radio.

"Podcasting," or the distribution of audio and video files such as radio programs and music videos over the Internet, is quickly becoming one of the best ways to reach large audiences.

Podcasts are subscription based, with many being updated on a weekly or even daily basis. Many radio stations simultaneously release podcasts of their most popular shows, as they are being broadcast live.

Newspapers often release their top stories along with additional content in daily podcasts. Both the Corvallis Gazette-Times and the Albany Democrat Herald utilize podcasting as way to reach a larger base of customers. Subscribers using the highly popular iTunes or one of a variety of other applications download most podcasts automatically. All the user needs to do is set which podcasts they wish to receive and they are only one mouse click away from hours of entertainment every month.

Anyone can make their own podcasts; all you need is an Internet connection, a microphone and something to say. In 2004, John Edwards became the first U.S. politician to hold his own official

podcast. In the last three years, popular search engine Google has seen hits for the term "podcast" quadruple. For every radio station or newspaper producing its own podcast, there are equally as many citizens broadcasting everything from their political views to what movie they saw over the weekend.

There are several major Internet networks devoted to podcasting, the most popular being the Tech Podcasters Network and the Association of Music Podcasters.

Each has thousands of members all podcasting their own ideas. A good place to start for the podcasting beginner is with the program iTunes (www.apple.com), which allows users to download a variety of podcasting content in seconds.

Internet radio is another form of digital entertainment gaining popularity. Many Internet radio stations do not have a traditional radio station counterpart and operate totally independently. Using a technology called "streaming," users are able to connect to the Web sites of these stations and receive content in real-time.

Because the radio signal is relayed over the Internet, it is possible to access the stations from anywhere in the world, for example, to listen to an Australian radio station from Europe or the United States. This makes it a popular service for people who have interests that may not be adequately catered for by their local radio stations. Some of the Internet radio services offer news, sports, talkback, and various genres of music.



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# DISCOVERY

Community festivals, trips, treks  
 and tours that readers might enjoy  
 in their free time.

## Night Skiing



Two snow enthusiasts prepare to drop down the slopes of the run "Pizzazz" at the top of Skibowl.

### Mt. Hood Meadows

- Web page: [skihood.com](http://skihood.com)
- Phone: (503) 337-2222

Mt. Hood Meadows offers \$17 night skiing with presentation of a Safeway Club Card (\$22 without) every Friday and Saturday night from 3-10 p.m. and is also open for night skiing Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday nights at \$22. Night skiing at Meadows costs \$31 less than the daytime ticket price and you get the same amount, seven hours, of skiing or boarding time. The only drawback is that there are fewer lifts and less terrain open at night.

### Mt. Hood Skibowl

- Web page: [skibowl.com](http://skibowl.com)
- Phone: (503) 272-3206

Eleven miles from Meadows is Mt. Hood Skibowl which touts itself as 'America's largest night ski area.' Skibowl has 34 lit runs including the three mile lit Skyline Run and costs \$22 for a night ticket that is good from 3-10 p.m. every day of the week. Tuesday nights they also have a ladies' night promotion. Any lady skis or boards for 10 bucks. Another draw to this area, especially for boarders, is that it has two lighted terrain parks: Jesse's Flight and XXX.

### Hoodoo Mountain Resort

- Web page: [hoodoo.com](http://hoodoo.com)
- Phone: (541) 822-3799

The nearest mountain to LBCC is Hoodoo. At the summit of Santiam Pass on Highway 20, Hoodoo has long been the stepchild to Oregon's more popular resorts on Mt. Hood and Bachelor. "It sucks," said LBCC student and snowboarder Kayla Craycraft, because for a beginner, the slopes were too flat in the learning area and it was hard to get to the lift. But, it's only 86 miles from Corvallis and \$20 for a ticket from 4-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights isn't bad.

Jens Odegaard  
 The Commuter

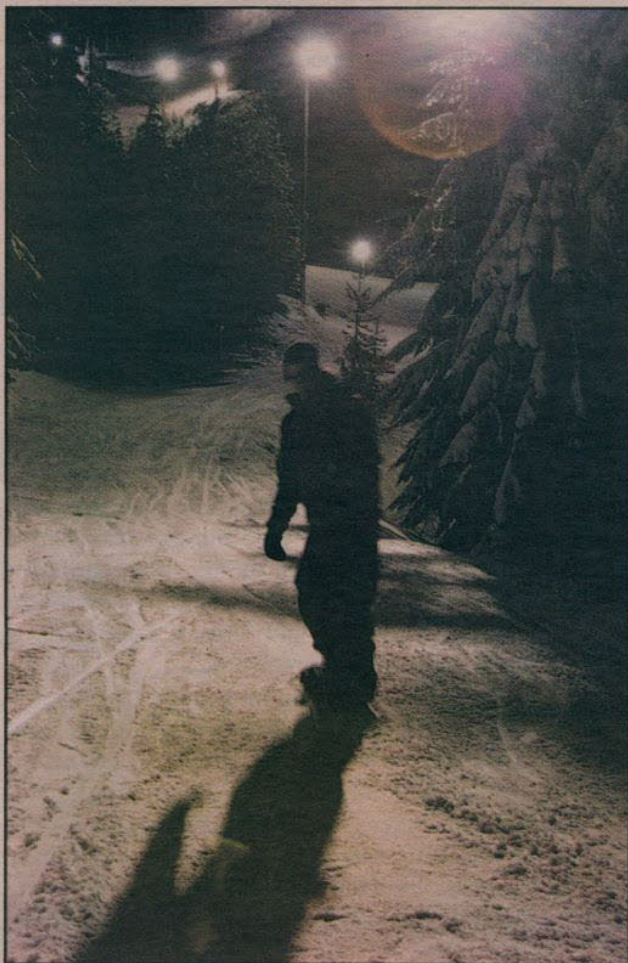
Night skiing or snowboarding might sound like some kind of a gimmick—a desperate ploy to make more money off unsuspecting thrill seekers dumb enough to freeze on the side of a mountain after the sun goes down.

At least that's what I thought. Then I tried it and discovered that night skiing is not a gimmick. The snow is the same, whether it's day or night, and the artificial lights shine just as brightly as the sun does on a normal, overcast winter day. In fact the glow from the lights reflecting off the cloudbanks gives a surreal effect to the mountain as you approach. If anything, it raises the excitement level rather than diminishing it.

Night skiing defies nature, as well as budget constraints. It's cheaper at night. Skiing or snowboarding can cost from \$29 to \$48 during the day, but it's possible to ski at three of Oregon's more popular ski resorts for a mere \$17 to \$22 at night. Mt. Hood Meadows, Hoodoo Mountain Resort and Mt. Hood Skibowl—the "largest night ski area" in America—all offer night skiing. Not only that, but the lift lines are a lot shorter at night; not nearly as many people ski or board at night leaving more space on the slopes. Thus, more runs can be made in less time.

I've skied since I was two, that's 18 years, and not once had I ever been night skiing. The main reason was my dad had always been in management at a ski area, so I was hooked up. Also, though I never lived more than 25 minutes from a mountain top, neither of my home areas had lights.

That all changed when I moved to Corvallis and started attending LBCC. Suddenly, skiing was not only farther away, but I also had to pay for a full price ticket. That's where night skiing stepped in and filled the void. Night skiing is similar to that feeling you got as a kid when your parents turned on the garage light and let you play in the driveway late into the night. It's joy. The world has gone to sleep, but the fun goes on.



Danny Stokes of Albany glides along a catwalk connecting Multipor Lodge and East Skibowl Lodge (top right and bottom left). Snowriders buckle up below before sliding down the "Skyline Run" (lower right).

photos by Jens Odegaard