

THE COMMUTER

Linn-Benton Community College • Albany, Oregon

Volume 44 | Issue 10

'Tis the Season

William Allison

Photo Editor

Now that Thanksgiving has come and gone, it's time for Christmas, and time for people to get into the holiday spirit. Every year, there are many Christmas events occurring in the Willamette Valley, and this year is no exception.

One of the most popular annual events to take place is Christmas Storybook Land, the free display held at the Linn County Fair and Expo Center in Albany.

Each year, there are dozens of cartoon and storybook scenes set up in a Christmas fashion. It is planned year-round, and takes about 200 volunteers over two weeks to set up. Storybook Land started 36 years ago with just 11 scenes, according to co-founder Karen Dahlinger.

The allotted space in the fairgrounds is maxed out with 88 scenes, the newest being "Pirates of the Caribbean." Some of the most popular scenes include "Bear Country" and "The Grinch."

Christmas Storybook Land is open on Friday, Nov. 30, and runs through Dec. 14. It is open from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. until 8:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Canned food donations accepted at the door.

Another holiday favorite is the Pepsi Lights display at the Pepsi Cola Bottling Co. in Corvallis. Each year, the colorful display of lights and cut-outs of Disney characters, Santa Clauses, and angels is set up for visitors to be amazed by.

Pepsi Lights has been going on for over 30 years, and doesn't seem to be stopping anytime soon. However, if you're in a crunch for time, you might want to make a change of plans, as it's been known to take upwards of 20 minutes to even enter the display.

Pepsi Lights is open from 5 to 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and 5 to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday until Christmas. Admission is free. Address: 2636 NE Belvue St., Corvallis.

Wrapping up this brief list of amazing things to go and see this holiday season is ZooLights, held at the Oregon Zoo. This vibrant display of over a million LED lights runs from now until Dec. 31, excluding Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Each night, starting between 5 and 5:30 p.m., the Oregon Zoo comes to life with bright, animal-shaped light displays. Hop on the ZooTrain for an even better experience.

ZooLights hours are Sunday through Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. then Friday and Saturday from 5 to 8:30 p.m., visitors are permitted to stay one hour after gates close. Admission for ZooLights and the ZooTrain ride is \$12.50 for adults, \$9.50 for children under 11.

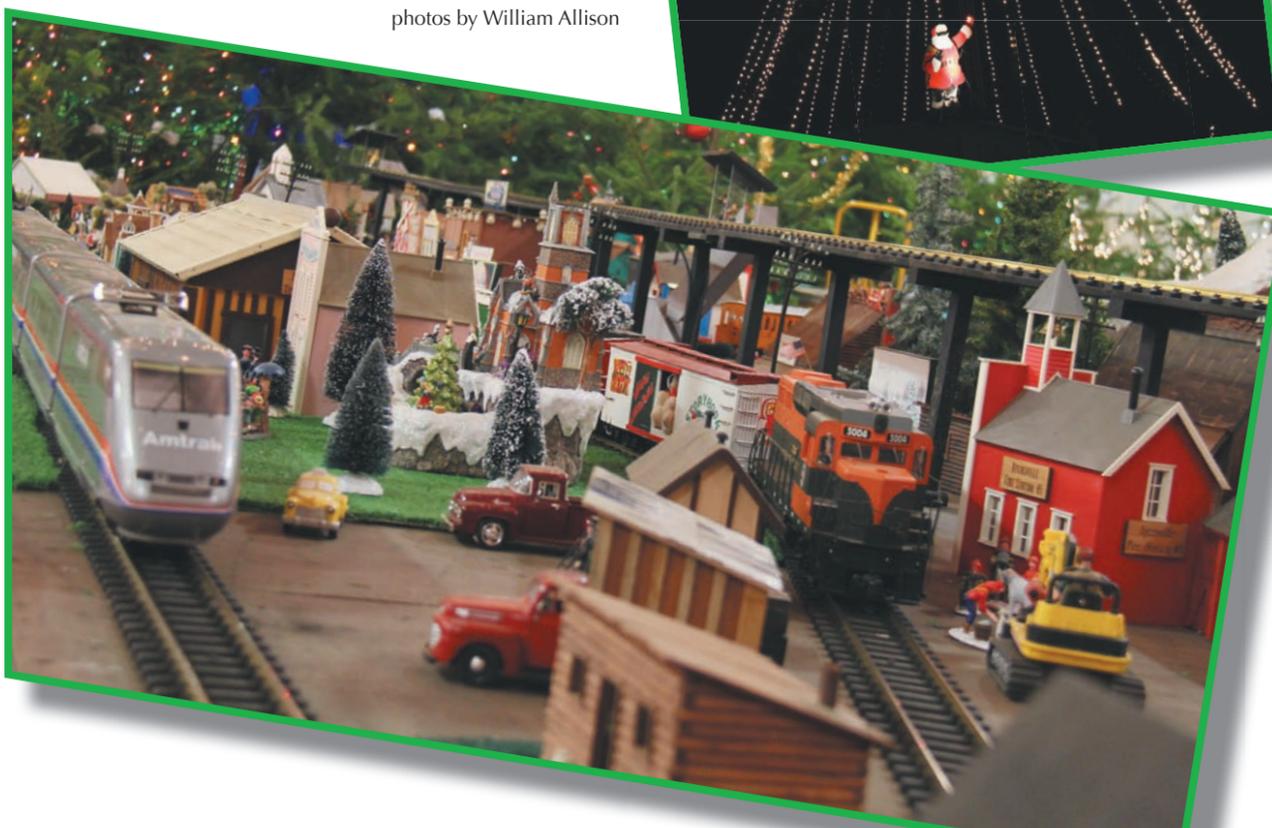
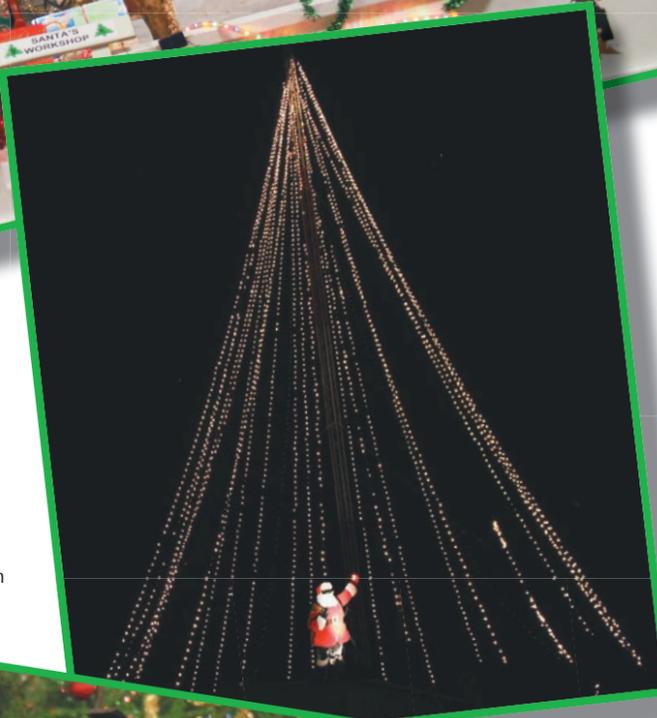
For more information, visit the Oregon Zoo website at <http://oregonzoo.org/visit/zoolights>.

More local holiday events on Pg. 10



Scenes from Albany's Storybook Land (above and below) and Corvallis' Pepsi Lights. See more photos online at commuter.linnbenton.edu.

photos by William Allison



-NEWS-
Sex Offenders
pg. 2

-SPORTS-
Civil War
pg. 9

-A&E-
LB Comedy Syndicate
pg. 11

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:
Ian Butcher

Sports Editor:
Michael Rivera

Webmaster:
Marci Sischo

Page Designer:
Ashley Christie

Graphics Editor:
Mason Britton

Advertising Manager:
Natalia Bueno

Advertising Assistants:
Jill Mahler, Dorine Timmons

Photo Editor:
William Allison

Staff Photographers:
Michael Kelly

Video Editor:
Michael Rivera

Adviser:
Rob Priewe

Cartoonists:
Mason Britton, Jason Maddox

Copy Editors:
Justin Bolger, Gary Brittsan,
Michelle Strachan

Staff Writers:
Ron Borst, Tiffany Curran,
Dale Hummel, Will Tatum

**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



The Commuter

@lbcommuter



LBCC Commuter

Web Address:
commuter.linnbenton.edu

Phone:
541-917-4451, 4452 or 4453

Address: 6500 SW Pacific Blvd.
Albany, OR 97321



Ari Nunez

Sex Offenders Are Closer than you Think

Ron Borst

Contributing Writer

LBCC and Oregon State University both have sex offenders in their midst.

Nobody wants to talk about predatory sex offenders living in neighborhoods, working at jobs, and going to schools is unwanted conversation. It is, however, needed.

How safe is the general public and the public's children? Who provides that safety? Can society help that process? And at places like LBCC and OSU, can sex offenders be integrated as well?

In Linn County, the Parole and Probation Office supervises the county's 250 convicted sex offenders, 20 of whom are classified as predatory. The office's main objective is to provide public safety through not only monitoring, but rehabilitation of the offender. Lie detector tests, sobriety screening, and personal check-ups help Linn Parole increase society's safety.

Lie detector tests help regulate provisions, including no drugs or alcohol and no inhabiting areas with children. The general rules regarding the offender's daily life are tailored to public safety. Meaning, if the parole officer thinks a particular place is a problem, then that environment is restricted. Counseling and check-ins with the parole office also help keep offenders from re-violating.

Supervised offenders are less likely to re-offend, and statistics show about "a 2 to 3 percent occurrence of sex offenders re-offending" under this type of non-stop supervision, Linn Parole employee Maureen Robb said.

The parole office also creates awareness in the public and in law enforcement. The office sends out "alerts" to local police, schools, and places where large groups of children or potential victims congregate. The idea is to help the public increase awareness of social atmosphere and to help law enforcement monitor offenders, officials noted.

OSU and LBCC Offenders Cause Concern

In October, KATU News and local newspapers ran stories about Christopher Wacek, a listed predator on the state website who is employed at OSU. The KATU broadcast of the story featured interviews with some employees and an administrator

from OSU, but not anyone involved with Wacek's supervision. KATU reported on Wacek's status, his employment at OSU and staff concerns.

Linn County Parole and Probation and Wacek himself are examples of successful supervision. Wacek's crime was 20 years back, and Wacek has not re-offended or violated any terms of his parole.

"You have to not want to re-offend," said Wacek.

Although the public should be aware of Wacek, society should also be aware of the offender's treatment, supervision and of the little threat that Wacek poses to society. "Wacek is not considered a threat," said Ric Bergy, director of Linn County Parole and Probation.

During Fall Term at LBCC, several alerts were visible to the school's faculty, student body and security personnel.

"Communication with the parole office helps us stay informed," LBCC Safety Office Manager Marcene Olson said.

Awareness and communication are paramount to successful integration of offenders into society. Those alerts are posted publicly as flyers and sent as e-mails with more relevant info to students and faculty. LBCC has a nine-person security unit, with six of those being security guards, Olson added.

The LBCC Campus Security Office keeps a list of sex offenders who are registered students, employees, and local threats. The communication with the parole office allows the LBCC Security team to assess risk, provide a safety plan, and monitor the sex offenders.

The Security Office then implements a dialogue with those offenders to keep them on track and focused on continual rehab, Olson said. That communication includes mapping the campus and avoiding trouble spots, detailing school policies and once-a-month conferences.

Awareness

The term "predator" is applied by the state to classify the risk of certain offenders. This assessment is based on offender history, but can include a wider scope. The risk associated with a one-time statutory offender is less than a repeat offender who targets 8-year-old children. That classification

is essential for public awareness, even when an offender has completed treatment, prison and probation.

In theory, if the entire population of a college campus were aware of a predator on that campus, efficiency regarding campus safety would exponentially rise. Obviously, public discussion on the topic of sex offenders is paramount to a week's worth of dental surgery. Nobody wants that. Regardless, it's needed since unaware victims are targets.

Minimizing Mistakes

LBCC has 18 registered sex offenders as students. Some are listed as "Predatory" by the State Police Sex Offender Website.

Some facts concerning these offenders were unknown to some of the LBCC Security Staff. However, LBCC Security has had the same kind of success and sex offenses on campus are virtually nonexistent, which is a credit to the office and past success.

LBCC Security reported 18 offenders on campus and that none were predators. However, more than one is listed on the Oregon State offender site as a "predator" sex offender. And at least one was on the state list but was not on LBCC's list of offenders.

One of the LBCC offenders is student Richard Aldridge. Linn County Parole and the LBCC Safety Office were both involved in Aldridge's registration at the college, but somewhere communication broke down. Fixing that breach of student confidence can be addressed rather easily by accepting facts and addressing solutions.

When it comes to good supervision, striving for the best should be society's goal and law enforcement's priority. If a student at any college campus has multiple convictions for violent and disturbing sex crimes, regardless of that offender's supervision, the public should be informed.

Sometimes, when confronted with offender questions, the public is extreme in its response. We need more critical approaches. Education and information are relevant, rhetoric is not.

Education about risk is essential to this cause. Do not ignore that risk or its management.

Go online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu to read the full article and links to student resources.

What's to Drink? Alcohol and College Students

Alex Porter

Contributing Writer

Alcohol remains the favored substance of abuse on college campuses by far, but the abuse of prescription drugs and marijuana has increased dramatically since the mid-1990s, according to the study released today by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University.

As noted by USA Today, a new study shows nearly half of the 5.4 million full-time college students in the U.S. abuse drugs or drink alcohol on

binges at least once a month, which portrays substance and alcohol abuse as an increasingly urgent problem on campuses across the nation.

Although heavy episodic drinking in college is a major public health problem, the majority of college students do not binge drink or drink heavily. In contrast, students who binge drink three or more times in a two-week period consume very large quantities of alcohol.

White students are more likely to use drugs and alcohol than minority students, and students at historically black colleges have much lower rates of

substance abuse than other students, the study found.

The percentage of students who reported smoking marijuana heavily — at least 20 days during the past month — more than doubled, from 1.9 percent in 1993 to 4 percent in 2005.

The percentage of students who reported using illegal drugs other than marijuana, such as cocaine and heroin, in the past month jumped from 5.4 percent in 1993 to 8.2 percent in 2005.

A study done by Sober Recovery, a rehab for people with alcohol problems, stated that, "with respect

to alcohol abuse in higher education, many reactive and proactive measures have been initiated at some colleges and universities that have reduced the availability, acceptability, and irresponsibility of alcohol use on and off campus. The result: a noticeable, if not a significant reduction in alcohol-related problems manifested by students."

Since the holidays are here, the amount of gathering together and having fun will be higher, especially on New Year's Eve. There is hope that everyone will be safe during the holidays and be aware of what is going on.

All are Welcome at Albany's Writers Network

Ron Borst
Contributing Writer

On a typically cool and damp and already dark October evening, I soaked my feet inside the worn-out, laceless, faded-blue sneakers, as I walked the half mile or so to the Albany Writers Network once-a-month-for-20-years meeting.

Writers from all strands of life meet to share their writing passion as a group. All ages are encouraged to attend the meeting at Ray's Market in North Albany. I met with the group at their October meeting, and have to say, the stories were fantastic.

The half dozen or so members that made it out on such a normal autumn night took turns reading to the group. Meetings generally last an hour and a half, and everyone is encouraged to read some writing they like. Coffee is on tap, and as important as the literature.

The network has a number of leaders, each responsible for different tasks.

The club's facilitator, Evedene Bennet, read from a book called "Between Us" by Thrity Umrigar. The short but savvy reading offered critical thought to the general reader, encouraging reading and writing as a social medium. Bennet is the group leader and contact, and one of Bennet's published (paid) writings appeared in P.I. Magazine.

Another in the group, teacher Dinaz Rogers, read a personal haiku. The poetry was alive with emotion and vivid scenes, in just a scant handful of words. Her enthusiasm is not only palpable, but rather contagious, as all that were present seemed to share that fervor for good writing.

Henry and Shirley Pollack, a married couple that attend regularly, read



Ron Borst

Henry Pollack reads "Thunder and Mud" at a meeting of the Albany Writers Network.

as well. Shirley Pollack read from a story her husband brought, written by her sister. The story, "Thunder and Mud," told a tale of family upbringing involving parenting, sibling influence, and heartwarming drama brought to life with Shirley Pollack's sister's writing, and her husband's voice.

The group meets in North Albany on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. (Tuesday for the November gathering) at the conference room in Ray's Market. From poetry and documentary to biography and fiction, readings include all genres. Readings are not too long, so everyone has a turn.

For 20 years, the Albany Writer's Network has regularly met on Wednesday nights. The meeting usually consists of a group circle that takes turns reading from a personal choice. More often than not, a conversation follows the reading.

In November, the network of writers (and readers) will try Tuesday evening, which may continue into the new year.

Sometimes a speaker is present. "One time we had Hasso speak to the group," said Bennet. Hasso Hering was the longtime editor of the Albany Democrat Herald. Other times they meet at the Albany Library and just recently a few members attended an "open mic" at the library.

"The excitement one night was an ambulance," said Henry Pollack. But it wasn't actually needed, Pollack added.

Generally, the membership is local, with its furthest commuter from Scio. But all writers are always welcome. The smallish group does enjoy the coziness, however, and members are good friends. The group celebrates Christmas together and sometimes gathers in the summer for the standard barbeque.

The Albany Writers Network, on the third Wednesday of every month, is open to anyone. New literature enthusiasts are always encouraged. Bring some writing that you would like to read, whether it be a favorite author or your own writing.

Pacific Northwest Due for Earthquake

Robert Schlip
Contributing Writer

Within the next 350 years we will have an earthquake that will be upwards of magnitude 9.0. How's that for pulling the Band-Aid off?

This isn't really new information. Every couple of centuries around the world, subduction plates have a larger-than-average earthquake. This is due to pressure building up on overlapping tectonic plates over hundreds of years. Eventually, the overlying plate releases the pressure from being curled up by the subducting plate, and causes an instantaneous drop.

This gigantic land drop unleashes a massive amount of energy, equivalent to that of a large-scale nuclear weapon going off. To put it another way, the same destructive tectonic forces that took place just off the coast of Japan this last year is what's currently happening on our coast line.

There are, however, some fundamental differences between Japan's earthquake scenario and the one we will face. Japan spent lots of money and brain power on building the best earthquake protection in the world. Unfortunately, we don't practice their building techniques, so most standing structures will likely be annihilated.

According to the website of the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network (PNSN), we are right on the verge of a large-

scale earthquake that could possibly rupture the entire length of the Cascadia fault. Geologists know this because earthquakes tend to happen in a semi-predictable time-frame and carry a somewhat predictable behavior.

"Even knowing the odds doesn't change the fact that the earthquake could happen 500 years from now or even tomorrow," says the PNSN. It's also stated that for each passing year, the odds of the quake's occurrence increases. Regardless, if the entire Cascadia fault ruptured, it could very well be larger than Japan's quake. So the million kiloton question is, "what can I do about this?"

The answer doesn't come that simple. The most anyone can do, aside from getting the heck out of here, is to be conscious of the fact that it will happen. Try to be proficient in earthquake and tsunami safety. It never hurts to know how to behave during such natural disasters. Besides, learning safety precautions really don't take up much of your time.

If you want more information on earthquake and tsunami safety, check out the preparedness section on the American Red Cross's website. If you own a home, then it might be a good idea to include earthquake damage in your insurance plan.

The bottom line is that although this earthquake is projected to be catastrophic, it won't be armageddon. I mean, it's happened in the past and we're still here, right?

Pacific **BRONZE & Bliss**

Our Motto is "It's not just a tan"

We have Tanning, Spray Tan, Hydrotherapy, Massage and Reiki Services.

This Holiday Season give your special someone the gift of a blissful experience with a gift certificate from Pacific Bronze & Bliss!

25 % off regular priced packages*

*Bring this L/BCC ad for 25% off regular priced packages or to receive a coupon for 2 free tans!

Reserve your Pacific Bronze & Bliss Experience by calling 541 704-0633 or book your services on our Facebook page!

1249 Pacific Blvd SE Albany, OR 97321

25 % off regular priced packages*

Lin-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE

STUDY JAM!

...come get your study on!

ALBANY CAMPUS

December 1st & 2nd
(SATURDAY) & (SUNDAY)

Math Help Desk: 10 am to 8 pm
Computer access: 10am to 8pm
Math Angle: 12pm to 4pm
Testing: 10am to 8pm
(no tests issued after 7pm)

FREE FOOD & DRINKS!

Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at Lin-Benton Community College, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321. Phone (541)-917-4452 or use Oregon's Telecommunications Relay (TDD) at 1-800-735-2590 or 1-800-735-2222. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event. LBOC is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

The Commuter Advertising Department

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

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

November 30th **B I G** **H O L I D A Y** *SALE*

**1 Day
Only!**

25% off
Christmas
Books &
Gifts

\$1

25% off
General Books
Calendars
Toys & Games
Posters

ALL SOCKS

plus:

25% off
select

**Scarves • Winter Hats
Purses • Wallets
Totes**

Some exclusions
may apply.
Limited to stock on
hand.

**Look for
More
Holiday
Specials
Throughout
The Store!**

\$5 • **T-shirts**
select

\$10 • **Sweatpants**
select

\$15 • **Hoods**
select



LBCC Bookstore
Store Hours: 7:30am to 3:30pm

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

Student Rosa Calabrese and Fowl Play

Nora Palmtag
News Editor

For Rosa Calabrese, life has gone to the chickens. While others complained about the amount of homework in math class, Calabrese said, "My chicken ate my homework."

She actually meant it.

Calabrese is the proud owner of two chickens, Spot and Ophilia. Unfortunately, Spot ate her math homework, and she was out of luck in trying to get it done before class. Seeing these unusual animals and learning why someone would consider such an unusual pet seemed the ideal assignment.

More recently, Spot ate Rosa's entire math textbook.

Actually trained to wear diapers, Spot and Ophilia even let Calabrese know when they need to be changed. Calabrese said she almost got her eye pecked when she tried ignoring Ophilia one morning when she wanted her diaper changed.

When talking with Calabrese, she stated that chickens could be trained in a number of ways and to do a number of tricks they won't forget. Calabrese got two of her outdoor chickens and had to keep them in the house for a few days until an enclosure was made. Regardless, they still want to sit on her lap.

Calabrese has loved chickens since she was a little girl. This love of chickens developed into a professional interest, and she was going for a poultry degree. However, LBCC dropped this course, and she has to complete her degree in Arkansas.

Calabrese plans to become a hatchery, meat and egg production inspector, whose job is to inspect any poultry production places and make sure they are following standards, such as how the animals are kept and treated.

Another goal Calabrese has is to raise her own poultry and hopefully create the largest breed of chicken, while also founding her own poultry exhibition.

Having won the state championship with her rooster, Diablo (who unfortunately was killed by two roosters she was babysitting for a friend), Calabrese has shown that she is very capable in this field and has many awards with Spot, her two-year-old.

Besides the two chickens and two snakes she has living with her in the house, there are two dogs and six other chickens (Araucana and Polish). Calabrese lives with her dad, a state computer engineer, and her older sister Angela, a biology student who volunteers at the Chintimini Wildlife Center in Corvallis as the head turkey vulture handler.

Although diagnosed with ADHD as a little girl, Rosa Calabrese demonstrates that each person has their own special talent; hers is with animals. ADHD never



provided photo

LBCC Student Rosa Calabrese and her pet chicken Spot.

got in her way as she strove to find her path, even though she was picked on in school, which made making friends very hard. When Calabrese was 16, her mother died from complications involved with pneumonia after chemo treatments for cancer.

Calabrese has owned goats, alpacas, cows, cats, lizards, snakes and parrots. She also rides horses almost every day with her best friend, Kat Conway.

"[Calabrese] has a genuine quality about her that is rare in people, and sees the best in people and animals," said Conway. "She has a determination and an interest that I have only seen so strongly in my own horses."

So when someone tells you the chicken ate my homework, it just might be true.

Time to Jam Students Get Help Preparing for Finals

Wayne Dorman
Contributing Writer

After a long Thanksgiving weekend, here comes finals week. For those students needing to put in a few long days of finals preparation, there is a perfect upcoming opportunity.

LBCC is holding its end of the term Study Jam for students preparing for finals week. The resources available include math, writing and reading help, as well as testing and computer use along with textbook rentals.

Study Jam provides students with a distraction-free environment to buckle down and put in the necessary effort to make that final grade. Final exams, projects, papers – no matter what the class, finals generally make up a bigger portion of your grade.

It is imperative, whether you are pushing for that "A" or even teetering on a "C", that you work extra hard for the final. I have utilized the extra time provided by the Study Jam on several occasions for Math finals, and it has truly made all the difference in the world. The math tutors are available and the Testing Center is open for on-line math students.

The Study Jams are held at the Albany Campus Learning Center, on Saturday, Dec. 1 and Sunday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. both days.

The Benton Center will also have an open Study Jam on Saturday, Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For students requiring more incentives, drinks and snacks will be provided for attending students. Group and private study rooms are also available.

Albany Study Jam

When: Dec. 1 and 2
Time: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Where: Learning Center

Benton Center Study Jam

When: Dec. 1
Time: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Where: Learning Center

Past President Presents Poetry

Rita Cavin, a former LBCC president, visited campus Wed., Nov. 14, to present travel journals she's created using poetry and watercolors. The program highlights journals she created while in Morocco, India, Baja California, Ireland and Spain. See more photos and some of Cavin's work online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu.

Shuo Xu



Ceramist Demonstrates Technique at Benton Center

Stephen Mickey, the former Mt. Hood ceramics instructor, shared his work and firing experience to the public at no cost at a lecture Nov. 16 at the Benton Center. The following day, he demonstrated his clay techniques in a day-long workshop. See more photos online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu

Right: Ceramist Stephen Mickey throws a piece on a potter's wheel at the Benton Center.

Below: Mickey demonstrates removing a bowl from a throwing bat at an all-day workshop.

photos by Shuo Xu



Holiday Sale

What: Stephen Mickey's annual pottery sale
Where: Finn Hill Studios
19806 NE 224th Ave.
Brush Prairie, WA
When: Dec. 3 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Dec. 4 - Noon to 5 p.m.
Dec. 10 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Dec. 11 - Noon to 5 p.m.
Email: dmickey@aracnet.com
Phone: (541)917-4847

Sex AND THE Campus

"Oneitis"

Ian Butcher
 A&E Editor

Breakups suck. Everyone knows this. "But she seemed so perfect. I mean she was the 'one.' I'll never meet another girl like her. I guess I'm just destined to die alone."

No. No you're not. I'm going to tell you something and you're not going to like it: She's not the "one." There isn't a "one" for you. There isn't a "one" for any of us. You'll find someone else. There's always someone else.

Movies, music, and tv have all hammered into our heads the idea of the one true love. Pop culture would have you think somewhere out in the world there is the one girl who is your perfect match.

I'm not trying to sound bitter or cynical, just realistic. Too often I've seen people who get so spun up about a girl

(hey it happens to all of us) that they must be that perfect soulmate. They can do nothing wrong, and the stars have aligned in such a way that we can be together forever. This habit (we'll call it oneitis) is something that if not broken, can really warp the way you view the dating world as well as yourself.

Where does oneitis come from? It comes from a perfectly understandable fear of being alone. No one in a happy relationship wants it to end. However, dealing with that point if you unfortunately come to this, is what defines the rest of your dating habits. If you begin developing the ideas that the person you are pining after is the only one who can ever be in a relationship with you, then it looks like we're in trouble.

This kind of behavior usually creates low self-esteem on your part. Your own self-worth is diminished because you consider your significant other to be the perfect person and the only one who would consider dating you. This kind of mindset can make single life a living hell.

What's the key for breaking away from oneitis? You need to realize that even if it seemed like your ex was the perfect girl for you, there are others. There is a whole half of the Earth's population to explore, and I'm sure there are more than a few girls out there who will be compatible with you.

While breakups may suck, it's important to realize that this isn't the end. You'll find someone else because there is someone else out there. There are plenty of other fish in the sea. It's up to you to get out there and give it your all.

Dear Conscience,



Any gift giving advice?

Nick Foster
 Shoulder Devil

Christmas time always involves the big question of what to get everyone, so trying to make it easy is an impossible matter.

Sometimes, gift-giving keeps Christmas from being less jolly, and more about who wants what – but enough of that.

You could always make the gifts, though that's really tacky. Then again, isn't it the thought that counts?

Bah! Humbug! It's about money and what they have been keeping their eyes on during these festive holiday months. If anything, just give them 50 bucks and let them spend it how they want.

Half the time, people are difficult and don't want what you give them anyway. So by just giving them money, they're sure to like "your" gift for Christmas this year.

You could also just get them some joke items as well. Fake vomit or crap is sure to get laughs, or they might throw it at your face. Just be ready to duck out of the way.

However, your friend or family member may not even see their gift this year, with the "end of the world" coming and all.

Maybe gift giving will be a bit earlier this year.

Danya Hayder
 Shoulder Angel

Wonderful – the Christmas Spirit!

Yep, that's the whole gift-giving attitude. Now what gift does one give a friend?

Still stuck? Well, don't worry! I have the perfect idea!

How about silver bells? What? Don't like the idea?

Then think about it. People usually love hearing music. Classical (the one with pianos), Jazz, Rock and Roll (guitars and drums must be included), and the whole listed music genres go on and on.

So, they would love to hear the music, thus getting those silver bells makes perfect sense.

Yes, most people would say other things. However, music is the peaceful route to go. So why not get them every musical instrument you can think of?

Well, it would take you years to get every instrument in the world. Secondly, silver bells symbolize peace.

On a gift-giving day like this, where all go out just to go crazy with gifts, everyone needs a little peace.

Have questions? We have answers.

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

"Dear Conscience" does not necessarily reflect the views of any of The Commuter staff.

Advice from Weiss

Question: I know what days my finals are on, and I know what day I register for winter term classes. And that's all I need to know, right?

Answer: Almost. There are two more things to watch for.

One is that, even though you will register for classes in early December, you should double-check your schedule in early January. Each term, for a variety of reasons, a few classes are canceled. Not many, but it happens. You'll want to check your WebRunner account around Jan. 3 or 4 to make sure that everything you registered for is still there. Just as a precaution.

Also, be sure to check for emails from the college to your student email account. If your advisor, admissions, or financial aid has critical information for you, this is how they will communicate with you; and it is the only way they will communicate with you.

So, a couple of things to check on as the holidays progress. Hope you've all had a good term, and keep the questions coming.



Mark Weiss
 Counselor

Mark Weiss

Mark Weiss has been a counselor and adviser at LBCC for 20 years. The purpose of this column is to answer questions about the college, academic advising, and how to be successful at LBCC. Please send your questions to mark.weiss@linnbenton.edu or stop by the Career and Counseling Center in Takena Hall.

New Morning Bakery

PLEASE ORDER TODAY!
 Gift Boxes & Baskets
 SHIPPING AVAILABLE

219 SW 2nd. St Ph. 541-754-0181
 Corvallis, OR 97333 Fax 541-738-1393



Christmas Cookie Trays (A selection of our delicious cookies & bars).....Call for prices
Christmas Cookies Galore (Shipping Available) Recipes from around the world!
 Gingerbread Beings, Czechoslovakian Cookies, Hazelnut Noel Bars, Raspberry Delights, Tia Elenas, Austrian Spritz, Mexican Wedding Cakes, Fruitcake Bars, Decorated Butter Shortbread, and more!

Christmas Wreath CoffeeCake (Marionberry or Raspberry)..... \$9.95
Gingerbread Houses ~ Decorated Gingerbread Houses OR
 Decorate your own using one of our freshly baked Gingerbread House Kits
 Kit (with instructions) \$17.95 Fully Decorated House \$48.50

Buche de Noel (Yule Log) Traditional chocolate mousse-filled dessert OR
Swiss Chocolate Mint Log Chocolate cake & peppermint whipped cream
 1/2 Log \$19.95 Whole \$39.95

Linzer Torte Spiced almond crust with raspberry jam - 8" \$18.00
Cranberry (or Marionberry) Walnut Tart With a cheesecake filling\$39.00
Almond Pear Tart With poached pears & Frangipane filling\$44.95

Pumpkin Cheesecake Garnished with whipped cream & chocolate ... OR
Eggnog Cheesecake Garnished with brandy whipped cream & nutmeg
 6" (serves 4-6) - \$23.00 10" (Serves 16-20) - \$39.00

Sacher Torte Dark chocolate cake with raspberry filling and chocolate ganache
 8" (Serves 10-12) - \$43.00 10" (Serves 16-20) - \$52.50

Fruitcake (Shipping Available) 1 lb - \$10.95 2 lb - \$19.95
Honey Natural Made with natural dried fruits, nuts, and brandy
Traditional English Dark and rich with candied fruit, nuts, and rum

Panettone Italian sweet bread with citron, pignoli nuts & golden raisins..... \$9.75
Stollen German iced sweet bread made with butter & candied fruit.....\$9.75

Pies (All are 9" deep dish, gluten free available for extra charge)
Pumpkin (garnished with whipped cream add \$1.00)\$13.50
Pecan\$14.50
Apple (Traditional or Dutch Crunch)\$11.95
Oregon Marionberry\$11.95
Cherry\$11.95
Kentucky Bourbon Chocolate Pecan\$17.50

Sweet Breads: Cranberry Orange Walnut Bread, Triple Ginger Bread,
 Pumpkin Date Nut Bread and Banana Bread \$6.95
Dinner Rolls1/2 Doz \$3.95
 Parkerhouse, Butterflake, Challah, Buttermilk Sesame, 100% Whole Wheat Honey

Let us cater your Holiday Party

Breakfast to Dinner and Hors d'oeuvres!
 Gift Certificates & Gift Baskets also available
www.NewMorningBakery.com



Next RoadRunner Could Be You!

Amanda Mendell
Contributing Writer

Sparty, Mr. Met, Benny Beaver. Regardless of how you feel about the teams they represent, these are some of the most recognizable mascots. They are the symbols of inspiration and pride for their players and fans.

At LBCC, our hero is Rocky the Roadrunner. He became our mascot because, before the main campus in Albany was built in 1974, the college was spread out over several locations. Students had to rush to get to classes that were occasionally across town from their previous class.

These students were referred to as roadrunners. The tenacity that kept those students striving forward, the resistance to giving in or taking the easy path even when the right path is less convenient, is what our hero represents.

It just so happens, the job to be the



Tony Brown

symbol of inspiration to all of LBCC is open.

But that's a big job. What does one have to do to even be considered for this position? Well, I'm glad you asked,

ambiguous reader, I'm glad you asked.

There are only two steps. The first thing you have to do is evaluate your traits. We need someone who is an extrovert or at least willing to be one when they're in costume.

The biggest task a mascot has is to motivate a crowd. A good mascot is one that isn't going to be afraid of doing a silly dance at a game or interacting with students in the courtyard.

The last step (and this one's vital) is to apply. You can do that by leaving your information in the Student Leadership Office (located in the courtyard, beside the Hot Shot Café).

Tryouts for the new Rocky will be held during the Men's basketball game tailgate on Nov. 30, in the activity center gym. The game starts at 7 p.m., and there will be prize giveaway opportunities for everyone in OSU or LBCC gear.

Come by to support the team and vote on the new Rocky.

A word from your local



Dear LBCC Students,

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: The Student Leadership Council is looking for dedicated students who want to be involved. I am putting together a team of students to work at a legislative level to better the lives of students on campus and build student power. I call this the Legislative Core Team.

We're looking for students with skills in any of the following areas: lobbying, research, public relations, coordinating volunteers, student engagement, event planning, clipboarding, and liaison work. If you are skilled in one of the previously stated areas, I can use you on my team. If you want to fight for student rights and funding, I want you on my team.

Tuition rates continue to rise, and cuts continue to be made to our services and faculty. This happens because we have seen a disinvestment of community colleges at a state-wide level. The purpose of the Legislative Task Force will be to represent students in lobbying work at the Oregon State Capitol during the 2013 legislative session.

We will be working on issues like tuition, financial aid, textbooks, and student fees. For too long now, LBCC students have not had a strong enough voice, and our needs have not been met. By joining this team, you can help SLC change that for the better.

As part of this student voice, you will be a direct advocate for students and have incredible opportunities to gain valuable skills employers are looking for in a difficult job market. If you are willing to put in 60 hours of work with this team, we can offer you a tuition waiver that will pay for three credits of your tuition the following term (a \$288 value).

If you want to be part of the team, please contact me for an interview. You can reach me at eric.m.noll@gmail.com or (503) 302-0099.

We can make change for students, but only if you speak.

Eric Noll

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 for 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 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 or call 541.917.4803.

Wastewater Plant Operator Intern (#10050, Hillsboro) Interns will be working side by side with operators and learning what skills are required to operate an advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant. They will have an opportunity to work in the Process Lab and be assigned to utility work involving hosing and cleaning up projects. Upon selection, all candidates must possess a valid State of Oregon driver's license. \$16/hr.

Tech Support/Customer Service (#10044, Salem) Assist with technical support calls. Perform analysis and troubleshoot various network, software and hardware issues.

Install, de-install and configure hardware and software for Macs, PCs and network connections. Perform computer and peripheral relocation. \$2,889 - \$4,166 / mo + benefits.

Eligibility Clerk (#10046, Albany) Screens clients to determine eligibility, verifies information provided, and provides information regarding pertinent programs. Works under the general supervision of the Emergency Services Program Manager. Interviews clients, obtaining information and documentation regarding eligibility for energy conservation and assistance programs. \$10.74/hr

Environmental Interns (#10041, Corvallis) Looking to gain work experience in the environmental nonprofit sector? We have five internship openings this Winter! Interns take on meaningful work and gain the opportunity to learn more about the local food system, sustainable agriculture, food justice, and outreach work. Unpaid.

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.

Campus Events

Ongoing

Students for Life Diaper Drive
Takena Hall

This holiday season, we are collecting diapers to assist single and struggling mothers and pregnant women on campus to be able to make it through their higher education more easily without having to resort to dropping out or getting an abortion.

Thursday

11/29

Veterans Club Meeting

SSH Conference Room · 11:30 a.m.

Pharmacy Technician Info Session

Lebanon Center · 1 to 3 p.m.

Come and learn how to apply for this high-demand, certificate program - 17 weeks, with earning potential of \$16.50 per hour, average wage, working in pharmacies, clinics, and hospitals. No sign-up required. For more information call 541-917-4927.

Fall Choir Concert

Russell Tripp Theater · 7:30 p.m.

The Linn-Benton Community College choirs will perform "A World in Harmony."

Friday

11/30

Active Minds Meeting

NSH 207 · Noon

Active Minds, the psychology club dedicated to raising awareness of mental health issues. Come and bring your creativity and help us create a campus community that cares.

TNT Club Meeting

RCH-116 · Noon

Come and meet other students in non-traditional career programs and educate others to consider all career options. Everyone is welcome.

Men's Basketball Game

Activities Center · 7 p.m.

LBCC VS Linfield JV

Saturday

12/1

OTMA Piano Festival

Russell Tripp Theater · 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Oregon Teachers Music Association

Albany Study Jam

Learning Center · 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Come to the Study Jam., sponsored by your Student Leadership Council! Learning Center resources, math, writing and study skills help, test book rentals and free food will all be available at the Hot Shot Café!

Benton Center Study Jam

Learning Center · 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Winter Term Books Available Online

Sunday

12/2

OTMA Piano Festival

Russell Tripp Theater · 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Albany Study Jam Continues

Learning Center · 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

All Week

12/3-12/7

Book Buyback

Thursday

12/6

Veterans Club Meeting

SSH Conference Room · 11:30 a.m.

Men's Basketball Game

Activities Center · 7 to 9 p.m.

LBCC VS Willamette JV

Friday

12/7

WTF - Wild Thinkers Forum

Fireside Room · 3 to 5 p.m.

Benton Center Pottery Sale

BC Ceramics Studio · 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Shop locally for your holiday pottery gifts and help support the ceramics studio. Faculty, students and instructional assistants from LBCC will showcase their work and offer raku, high fire, salt fire, and wood fire pieces for sale. A portion of all sales is used to purchase studio equipment. For more information contact Lin Olson at 541-757-8944.

THE COMMONS FARE

MENU FOR THE WEEK OF:
11/28-12/4

Wednesday: "A Culinary Tour of America"

Sesame-Crusted Ahi Tuna with Hawaiian Sticky Rice and Pineapple Salsa*, Kansas City Style BBQ Ribs, Macaroni and Cheese, Buffalo Chicken Wings. Soups: Ciopino with Sour Dough Bread Bowls, and Knoephla.

Thursday: Holiday

Friday: Holiday

Monday: Broccoli Beef Stir Fry over Steamed Rice, Jamaican Jerk Chicken with Mango Chutney*, Cheese and Fred Onion over Spaetzle. Soups: Thai Chicken Noodle and Beer Cheese

Tuesday: Korean Style Chicken Wings, Coulibiac, Spanish Tortilla*. Soups: Won Ton and Corn Chowder.

Items denoted with a * are gluten free

MrTieDye Brings Customers Some Color

Ron Borst

Contributing Writer

After a short spell of selling books and creating tie dye goods, a craft learned by way of a purchased kit, sales of the books had slowed, but the tie-dye was decent. Word of mouth had spread and Carl McClellan was in the business, as they say.

The tie-dye business started in Pendleton, and expansion into La Grande followed a couple of years later.

But he had no working title, no company name. Sure, a few had come to mind. And his friends had suggested a couple. But none were really right.

A teacher friend had asked McClellan to instruct a class on the tie-dye art and its methods. The kids in the class had a hard time saying the tie-dye instructor's name.

"Mr. Tie Dye," came a little voice. "Can you help me, Mr. Tie Dye?" And then another. Soon, the class was calling McClellan MR. TIE DYE. He had found a name.

"MrTieDye" began the adventurous, multi-splashed journey in northeast Oregon. After running a couple of small tie-dye stores in the sparsely populated corner of the state, McClellan brought the art to the Willamette Valley. Selling in various "Saturday Market" type venues and creating a fan base, proved successful.

Publicity in the valley and a continuing spread of reputation has McClellan working full time. MrTieDye's reputation has led to community gigs and out of state ventures that keep that word-of-mouth an ongoing conversation.

The success is founded in the expressive quality of McClellan's inventory. MrTieDye, the brand,



Carl McClellan shows off his Rolling Stones tie-dye shirt.

Ron Borst

has built a devoted and persistently growing fan base. Learning the trade and its artistic infinity has enabled McClellan to generate revenue without a brick-and-mortar store. Inventory on Etsy and other social media helps, but the word of mouth goes beyond customers.

MrTieDye has attended conventions in South Dakota and Utah, and he has done presentations

at Warm Springs Reservation and Western Oregon State College. In addition to the Etsy store, the multi-colored business sells on The Mountain, a well known T-shirt company and "green" retailer.

McClellan also focuses on teaching the craft to anybody who is interested. Classes and forums are part of the artistic process, and MrTieDye uses

Mr. Tie-Dye

AKA: Carl McClellan
Email: carl@mrtiedye.com
Phone: (503) 569-5832
Website: mrtiedye.com
Etsy: MrTieDye

those outlets to stay in tune with the medium. Schools, clubs, private groups, and seminars are available and encouraged.

The "old days" of Saturday Markets are over for McClellan. "The focus now is mostly on custom orders," he said. MrTieDye has managed to stay fairly busy during the recession, and business grows every day.

Growth brings challenges. "I love a challenge," said McClellan. From sun-glass wearing guitar pics to one woman who wanted "hearts on my butt," MrTieDye has it covered. Anything is possible, even Converse All-Stars tie-dyed by McClellan. And that only spurs more requests. People see the quality of the product and the care invested into the art, and they ask for more.

The colorful array of merchandise available through MrTieDye ranges from the typical T-shirt to shoelaces, bandanas, sheets, tapestries, socks, shoes, hoodies, dresses, ties, and just about anything else that one could think of.

Since 2004, McClellan has chased the artistic depths of tie-dye, and his goal is satisfaction. If you would like a MrTieDye product or would like to set up a class, that is always available upon request.

CORVALLIS-OSU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Holiday Favorites
with OSU Choruses

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2
3:00 PM
LaSells Stewart Center

RESERVED TICKETS:
\$18, \$25, \$30 in advance
\$20, \$27, \$32 at the door
www.cosusymphony.org

GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS:
\$18 in advance
\$20 at the door
Grass Roots Books & Music
Gracewinds Music

CAFA and student discounts apply

Corvallis
ARTS
for all



Oregon State
UNIVERSITY

Birds and Beavers Come Together

Beaversnest.org: A Student Sourced Virtual Hub

Ron Borst

Contributing Writer

The "beaversnest" is part beaver lodge and part roadrunner nest. The virtual hub is anything but virtual in its approach to social networking.

The website acts as a resource for both Oregon State University and LBCC students, helping students find housing, buy and sell textbooks, and functions as an events calendar. The site also has dating, local and campus news, forums, classifieds, advice, and a "rideshare" forum – how relevant in a progressive, quaint, and foggy college town.

The site's present management, Zachary Zimmerman and Marielle Macuil, are both students and social media entrepreneurs who started the website in early October. The beaversnest objectives are to "provide safe and fun social media at LBCC and OSU," said Macuil.

The website is still in development, but it is running and available for students to use and connect with other students. As of October, about 50 members registered on the beaversnest. Currently, students can check local events, participate in forums, and check classifieds. Private group access is also an option.

The beaversnest has a particular focus on housing. "Coming to OSU from California wasn't hard," said Zimmerman.

Zimmerman also said that finding housing was beyond difficult. "There were so many applications and fees," he said. "We hope the website will connect students and help them find better solutions."

The website also focuses on advertising that is relevant to local businesses and benefits both owners and student customers. "We want to have ads that are also discounts for students," said Macuil.

Although new and simplistic, the beaversnest oozes coolness. On the Ride-share page of beaversnest, a supercar (Lamborghini?) sits with the simple questions: "Have a ride?" and "Need a ride?"

The forums are there as well, and new topics are encouraged. On the News page of beaversnest is a post about growing membership. If you or any other student would like to be involved with helping the website grow, contact beaversnest support.

Signing up for the beaversnest has the potential to bring instant connectivity and real-time distribution to OSU, LBCC, and the community.



Roadrunners Off to Terrific Start

Michael DeChellis

Contributing Photographer



Michael DeChellis

Power Forward Kaden McFarland takes a shot against Linfield's Chris Dirks. See more photos online at commuter.linnbenton.edu

The first official game for the LBCC men's basketball team was Friday, Nov. 16, against the Linfield Wildcats from McMinnville.

Head Coach Randy Falk thought the team had many new players starting this season, so he was unsure how it would go and just stated he was full of pre-game jitters and anxious to get started.

Power forward Kaden McFarland made one of the first shots of the game, helping the Roadrunners get to an early lead. Both forward Adam Hastings and forward Logan Bertram seemed to be the main targets of most of the fouls that night, which resulted in both of them scoring eight points each in free throws by game's end. Wildcats had a total of 26 fouls, Roadrunners 12.

Only five and a half minutes into the game, guard Ben Bly received a hard hit to the jaw, knocking him down while defending. He was dazed but not confused and insisted on continuing to play.

During the first half it was a close game. The Wildcats were constantly on the Roadrunners' tail - there were 16 lead changes, but their lead was almost immediately reversed. By the end of the first half the score was 46 to 42 in LBCC's favor.

At the beginning of the second half the Wildcats got their second wind, scoring five points in a row leading 47 to 46. But within a few minutes, LBCC turned it around, leading 50 to 49.

Even though the Roadrunners had almost a 10-point lead with about seven minutes to go, Falk could not keep his calm anymore. You could tell he didn't want to take any chances the Wildcats would catch up and was making sure the team stayed on track.

All the team's and coaches' efforts paid off with a final score of 86 to 74, breaking the ice and getting the season off to a great start.

According to Falk, the team came out with a lot of energy and maintained it throughout the game. "They were persistent in the way they played and had a very strong finish," said Falk.

Next home game will be on Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. against the Wildcats again

Billiards Champ Is a Real Ball-Breaker

D Mary Mahoney

Contributing Writer

When Jasmin Ouschan plays pool, she breaks the balls with a high, hard kick. She isn't very big, but her break speed clocks in at about 25 mph. According to the Women's Professional Billiards Association's tournament director Steve Tipton, that's the average men's professional speed.

The main event began Nov. 8 with competitors completing double-elimination rounds, playing down to semi-final and final matches on Sunday, Nov. 11. The event was hosted by the Chinook Winds Resort and Casino, located on the beach in Lincoln City.

In October, Ouschan was the first female ever to make it to the quarter-finals of a men's Euro Tour Event. Originally from Austria, this pro-pool-player even has her own postage stamp.

The Women's Pro Billiards Association Tournament ended when Ouschan won the final championship game with a breaking shot that slammed the 9-ball into the top corner pocket, a shot that qualifies for an instant win.

Ouschan remained undefeated throughout the five-day tournament, which consisted of 48 of the best women pool players in the world.

Ouschan played Karen Corr in the championship final match, winning 7-3. Corr, originally from Northern Ireland, is a former world champion and a member of the Billiard Congress of America Hall of Fame.

To qualify for the final playoff match with Ouschan, Corr had to beat reigning

10-Ball world champion, Ga-Young Kim, in the second semi-final game played earlier in the day.

In the first semi-final game, Ouschan played U.S. Open champion Allison Fisher, nicknamed "The Duchess of Doom." Fisher, originally from England and a snooker player, is also a BCA Hall of Famer. After winning the semi-final match, Ouschan was asked if she was happy about her playing. She answered with a big smile: "Yes, very happy with my performance, thank you very much."

After beating Fisher in the semi-final game, Ouschan killed time before the final game at the WPBA sales booth, signing autograph pictures and billiard balls for fans. Sitting beside her and cracking jokes was her opponent, Fisher, who was also signing photos. While there the ladies talked to fans waiting in line, had their photos taken and kidded with each other.

While the crowd of over 200 fans waited for the second semi-final game to begin, the box set of the official championship game balls was auctioned off for \$1,000.

Along with prize money, both finalists received Pendleton blankets and locally-crafted hand-blown glass sculptures.

In her winner's speech, Ouschan expressed her gratitude to the resort for hosting the event and said she believes the ocean at the Oregon coast is a magical place - or maybe she just feels that way because her name is pronounced ocean.

Either way, the 26-year-old champ is right; the Oregon coast is a magical place.

Both semi-final and the championship game will broadcast Dec. 16 at 11:00 a.m. on ESPN

#5 Oregon Takes Fifth Straight Civil War

Michael Rivera

Sports Editor

It was a cold day in Corvallis when the University of Oregon Ducks came into town for the 116th Civil War. Oregon State gave up six turnovers to hand Oregon many scoring opportunities. Oregon relied heavily on their running game to out-score the Beavers, 48-24.

This win for Oregon solidifies their No. 5 spot in the BCS rankings, even though they dropped one spot in the AP Poll. Mostly likely, Oregon will be facing Kansas State (No. 6 in BCS and No.7 in AP Poll) in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl in Arizona. Oregon State doesn't move a spot, staying No. 15 in the BCS and No. 16 in the AP Poll. Oregon State could go as high as the Valero Alamo Bowl, but looks like a likely candidate for the Bridgepoint Education Holiday Bowl.

Oregon State faces their first home loss of the season by struggling with stopping the run, giving up scores on turnovers and not effectively getting their running game started. The Beavers had six turnovers, three of which were converted into an Oregon score.

They managed 309 yards total offense, after dropping 559 yards against Cal. Terron Ward had a great day returning kicks, going four for 102 yards (including on break out for 52 yards), but couldn't get much momentum going in the back-field (6 carries for 13 yards, 2 receptions for 15 yards).

Quarterback Sean Mannion seemed to be a little intimidated by the Ducks' defense. The offensive line struggled to keep the outside pressure off of Mannion, who was constantly throwing off his back foot, rushing/forcing throws and struggling to find a rhythm with his receivers. Mannion finished with 31 completions on 49 attempts, 311 yards, one touchdown and four interceptions.

The Ducks dominated the amount of offensive yardage with 570, 430 of which were generated by running. Ducks running back Kenjon Barner had a career day, putting up 148 yards in the first half of play alone. Even though he left injured for a while, Barner came back and added more damage. He finished the game with 198 yards on 28 carries and two touchdowns.

His counterpart, De'Anthony Thomas, had a nice day with 122 yards on 19 carries and three touchdowns. Quarterback Marcus Mariotta showed his skill as he threw and rushed for a touchdown, generating 140 yards in the air and 85 on the ground (including a 42-yard touchdown run).

The Civil War did bring out some of the rivalry that we have seen year in and year out. Oregon State cornerback Jordan Poyer and Oregon running back De'Anthony Thomas were constantly getting physical with each other, with Poyer pulling on Thomas's ankle or Thomas stomping on Poyer while he was on the ground. These acts of unsportsmanlike conduct fuel animosity between the two



Shuo Xu

Kenjon Barner sprints pass the Oregon State Defense in this year's Civil War. See more photos online at commuter.linnbenton.edu

schools. Thomas was notorious for taunting players and fans the entire game.

If you watch the end of the game, you may notice that not a single Oregon State player came to congratulate Thomas on his win. Mostly, it was just shoulder bumps and dirty looks.

Is this what the Civil War has become? Is this a healthy rivalry, or does it go too far? Many fans have been arguing over these events. It is true that unsportsmanlike conduct shouldn't be allowed. But let's face it: these two teams were born and bred to rival each other for 116 years.

This game and the bragging rights it holds is unlike any other in the country, no matter what anyone says. It's this tension that builds up all year long as Beaver and Duck fans become spiteful. Yet, after all is said and done, we just continue with life, hoping that next year's Civil War will be better than the last. We all want to see a tough battle until the end of each game.

We want to see blood, sweat and tears coming off each of those players as they put their school's pride on the table for the next 60 minutes.

As Oregon finishes their season and waits for their bowl game, Oregon State will host Nicholls State this Saturday, Dec. 1, at Reser Stadium to finish out their season.



Upcoming Games

LBCC

- Men's Basketball
Nov. 30 vs. Linfield JV
7 p.m. @ Home
- Women's Basketball
Nov. 30 @ Columbia Basin College
2 p.m.
- Dec. 1 @ Walla Walla CC
6 p.m.
- Dec. 2 @ Yakima Valley CC
2 p.m.

Oregon State

- Football
Dec.1 vs. Nicholls State
11:20 a.m. @ Home
- Women's Basketball
Nov. 29 vs. CSU-Bakersfield
Noon @ Home
- Dec. 1 vs. Sacramento State
4:30 p.m. @ Home
- Men's Basketball
Nov. 30 @ Kansas
5 p.m. - Away

Holiday Happenings

Albany

The World in Harmony

Nov. 29 · 7:30 p.m.

Russell Tripp Theater · LBCC

Cost: \$10 adults, \$7 senior and students, \$5 under 18 years old

LBCC Choir Concert conducted by James Reddan, accompanied by Diana Hancock, and featuring Re-Choired Element Chamber Choir, Women's Choir, Blue Light Special, and the Sirens.

More info: (541) 917-4531

Christmas at the Roost

Opens Nov. 30 · 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

935 NW Scenic Dr

A seasonal shop filled with gifts made by 30 local crafters, antiques, collectibles, baked goods, fresh greens & more! Open Fridays and Saturdays.

More info: (541) 990-4191

Town and Country Bazaar

Nov. 30 · Noon-8 p.m.

Dec. 1 · 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Dec. 2 · 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Linn County Expo · 3700 Knox Butte

Cost: \$1

Craft bazaar with over 200 artisans.

More info: (541) 926-4314

Parade and Tree Lighting

Dec. 2 · 5 p.m.

Two Rivers Market · Second and Ferry

Music, laughter and Santa Claus are the highlights of the Christmas Tree Lighting immediately following the parade.

Annual Christmas Parlour Tour

Dec. 9 · 2-7 p.m.

Downtown Albany

Cost: \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors

Enjoy the sights & sounds of an old-fashioned Christmas while touring the parlours of several historic homes.

More info: (541) 928-0911

Legacy Ballet's: The Nutcracker

Dec. 13 and 14 · 7 p.m.

Dec. 15 · 2 and 7 p.m.

Russell Tripp Theater · LBCC

Cost: \$12

LBCC and Legacy Ballet of Albany present The Nutcracker Ballet. Featuring community children and adults, this timeless ballet will delight and entertain.

More info: (541) 917-4531

Breakfast with Santa

Dec. 15 and 16 · 10 a.m.

Sybaris Restaurant · 442 First Ave SW

Cost: \$20

Kids will get breakfast with Santa and time for them to tell him what they want for Christmas. Each child gets a toy, a free photo taken with Santa.

More info: (541) 928-2469

Corvallis

Teal Gallery

Open thru Dec. 28 · 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

120 Southwest 4th Street

TEAL has the reputation as 'the place' to shop for unique, high-quality gifts.

More info: (541) 754-6338

The Annual Holiday Marketplace

Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 · 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Memorial Union · 26th and Jefferson

Handmade crafts, fine art and specialty foods made by Oregon artisans.

Live local entertainment.

More info: (541) 737-2937

Corvallis Nativity Festival

Nov. 30-Dec. 4 · 1-8:30 p.m.

4141 Northwest Harrison Boulevard

See Nativity scenes, a puppet theater, and nightly concerts. With a special Spanish night on Saturday evening.

More info: (541) 929-2427

Spirit of Christmas Bazaar

Dec. 1 · 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Life Community Church · 4900 Northwest Highway 99

They'll have crafts, art and other great gifts along with horse carriage rides, pictures with Santa, Christmas trees, a showing of "Polar Express."

More info: (541) 908-5405

Artisans Holiday Market

Dec. 1 · 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Odd Fellows Hall · 223 SW 2nd St

Enjoy local artisans, crafters, food and music. Co-hosted by Womyn Centric and Corvallis Odd Fellows Hall.

More info: (541) 752-3023

Corvallis-OSU Symphony Orchestra: Holiday Favorites

Dec. 2 · 3 p.m.

LaSells Stewart Center · 875 SW 26th

Cost: \$18, \$25, \$30 in advance or \$20, \$27, \$32 at the door

Steven Zielke conducts the Corvallis-OSU Symphony Orchestra, accompanied by the OSU Choruses. Tickets available online, Grass Roots Books, and Gracewinds Music.

More info: (541) 752-2361

Evening of Celtic Music Celebrates Christmas

Dec. 6 · 7 p.m.

LaSells Stewart Center · 875 SW 26th

The Celtic concert will feature Jeff Johnson Brian Dunning, and Wendy Goodwin. Young and old alike will enjoy this holiday event.

More info: fofm.org

Holiday Baskets Class

Dec. 9 · 1-5 p.m.

Garland Nursery · 5470 NE Hwy 20

Cost: \$25

Learn how to make and go home with a fresh greens arrangement or hanging basket. Registration required.

More info: (541) 753-6601

The Emerald City Jazz Kings: Let It Snow!

Dec. 13 · 7:30 p.m.

LaSells Stewart Center · 875 SW 26th

Cost: \$12-24

At The Shedd's 5th annual Christmas show. Shirley Andress, Bill Hullings, Bob Cross and Tracy Williams take you back to a cooler time when Bing was King!

More info: (541) 434-7000

Lebanon

Holidays in the Park

Dec. 1 · 3-7 p.m.

Ralston Park · 925 Park St

Come enjoy carriage rides, meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, face painting, twilight parade and tree lighting.

More info: (541) 258-4900

Sweet Home

Singing Christmas Tree

Dec. 7 and 8 · 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 9 · 3 p.m.

Sweet Home High · 1641 Long St.

See the community choir's program of choral music and rhythmic movement of lights to the Christmas music.

Sublimity

Silver Falls Christmas Festival

Dec. 7 and 8 · 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

S. Falls Lodge · 20024 Silver Falls Hwy

Cost: \$5

Join in various country Christmas time crafts: make a wreath, a gingerbread house, cards and ornaments. Enjoy storytelling and live music.

More info: (503) 874-0201

Brownsville

Festival of Trees

Nov. 29 - Dec. 8 · Downtown

See the beautiful decorated trees on display throughout the businesses in downtown Brownsville.

Moyer House-Open House

Dec. 26 - 31 · 4 p.m.

Moyer House · 204 North Main St.

Join us as the Moyer House opens its doors for public viewing. The Moyer House will be adorned for the holidays and members of the Brownsville Women's Study Club will serve as your hostesses.

More info: (541) 466-5566

Dallas

Dallas Winterfest

Nov. 30 · 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

850 Main St.

Enjoy music, shopping, refreshments and Santa!

More info: (503) 623-2564

Junction City

Parade of Lights

Dec. 7 · 7 p.m.

Downtown Junction City

A fairyland of lights as floats parade through the city streets.

Harrisburg

Parade of Lights

Dec. 8 · 7 p.m.

Downtown Harrisburg

A fairyland of lights as floats parade through the city streets.

Coburg

Parade of Lights

Dec. 9 · 7 p.m.

Downtown Coburg

A fairyland of lights as floats parade through the city streets.

Silverton

Santa's Workshop at The Garden

Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 · 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Oregon Garden · 879 W Main St.

Cost: \$11 adults, \$9 seniors, \$8 students, \$5 for children

Families will enjoy meeting Santa and his live reindeer! Kids can participate in games and take photos.

More info: (503) 874-8100

Get ahead without leaving your faith behind...now with a new iPad.

Corban University now issues a new iPad to students enrolling in their bachelor's completion programs.

Your new iPad comes loaded with everything you'll need, no more heavy text books!

Corban University offers these affordable programs online or on campus:

Bachelor in Psychology: Family Studies

Bachelor in Business: Organizational Leadership

Bachelor in Business: Healthcare Administration



CORBAN
UNIVERSITY



To take advantage of this great offer, call 1-800-764-1383 or check us out online at www.corban.edu/lbcc

Black Curtain Society Is Good for a Laugh

Alex Porter

Contributing Writer

Someone once said that laughter is the best medicine, and with the help of the Black Curtain Society, laughter is guaranteed. The Black Curtain Society is a theater club at Linn-Benton Community College. The Black Curtain Society was formerly known as the Theater Club – that is, until performing arts teacher Dan Stone stepped in.

The B.C.S. has been working hard to keep the club going. Anyone is welcome to join and participate. The club has been working diligently to raise money for the theater department.

The club recently put on a variety show on Nov. 17. It involved everything from music to sketch comedy and more. The show was titled “Comedy Syndicate,” and was put on by the theater club members.

This was the B.C.S.’s first comedy show for the public.

“I had never heard of the Black Curtain Society at LBCC. I knew they had a theater department but I didn’t know they had a club,” said Albany resident Monica Hollings. “I used to do theater in high school and so I love everything about it.”

Hollings grew up in Southern Oregon and has always had a passion for the arts.

“I have always loved improv and plays, so I was very excited to hear about this,” said Hollings. “I thought it was absolutely hilarious and incredibly well put together.”

“I would say we are funnier than ‘Mad TV’” said Denzel Barrie, a member of



provided photo

LBCC’s Black Curtain Society

the Black Curtain Society and also a performer in the show.

“We are hoping to make this a regular thing,” said Kim Willaman, another member of the club. “We want to make it a monthly event.” Willaman has been in multiple theater productions at LBCC, and is also in a few other performing arts groups, such as the concert choir, on campus.

“We are hoping that this show helped raise awareness about our club and also raised our funds,” said Willaman.

Anyone that is interested, or wants to see what the drama club is about, can join. They often meet in the theater and hold weekly and/or bi-weekly meetings. Everyone is welcome to join Black Curtain Society. If you have a passion for drama and love being with theater groups, this club is for you. For more information contact Dan Stone at dan.stone@linnbenton.edu or (541) 917-4566.

Follow us!

take the
COMMUTER
with you

The Commuter

@lbcommuter

LBCC Commuter

commuter.linnbenton.edu



You Don’t Know Jack

“Guardians” Puts New Spin on Old Faves

Ashley Christie

Page Designer

Did you know Santa is Russian? And that the Easter Bunny is Australian? And there are like a bajillion tooth fairies?

Mind. Blown.

“Rise of the Guardians” puts a whole new spin on all the classic characters you thought you knew. The Man in the Moon has selected a choice few individuals to be Guardians. They are charged with protecting the innocence of all the children across the globe. When Pitch Black, a.k.a. the Boogeyman (Jude Law), reappears and starts turning dreams to nightmares, Man in the Moon appoints a new Guardian.

Jack Frost (Chris Pine) is selected to join North (Alec Baldwin), Sandy, Bunny (Hugh Jackman), and Tooth (Isla Fisher). He’s resistant at first; Jack is all about the fun and being a Guardian seems like a bit too much responsibility for him.

This movie wasn’t perfect, but the good outweighs the bad. This was a brand new take on characters we already know. Santa, Sandman, Easter Bunny, Tooth Fairy, Jack Frost ... they’re kind of like the first Avengers. They’re out there, doing what they do, then one man brings them together to take down the ultimate evil.

Each character is packed with personality and the voices match perfectly. Pine exudes mischievous charm and confidence which is perfect for perpetual trouble-maker Jack Frost.

Baldwin’s Santa is Russian and a tattooed badass who carries swords and

hangs out with yetis. Elves are kind of useless. I know, who knew?!

Bunny is very angry and Jackman is a perfect fit for that hostility. Fisher, as the head tooth fairy, is super sweet and adorable. And the rich, velvety voice of Law is the perfect villain.

The animation of “Guardians” is beautiful. From the very beginning, one of the first things I noticed was how pretty everything looked. The detail is incredible and the colors are bright and vivid and it was a world I wanted to see more of. Watching the battle scenes between the Sandman’s dreams versus Pitch’s nightmares were especially impressive.

“Guardians” is not a light-hearted family comedy I was expecting. It’s much darker than that. Pitch is scary. There are some laughs, but it doesn’t strike the balance between fun and heartfelt like similar animated features.

The end of the film is very touching and heartwarming, and I may or may not have cried.

There is one pretty big plot hole towards the end that really bothers me. It’s probably my biggest gripe with the movie. It’s just missing one scene. Not even a whole scene, just one line of explanation and I’d be happy.

Also, a name change, I think. While “Rise of the Guardians” does sound epic, it’s a horrible title.

Setting these minor problems aside, I really enjoyed “Rise of the Guardians” much more than I expected to. I love these characters and this world that was created. It’s definitely worth a watch.

Call of Duty: A Royal Flush

Sean Dooley

Contributing Writer

Can someone make a movie out of “Call of Duty: Black Ops 2”? Or any of the “Call of Duty” games for that matter? After Infinity Ward came up with an honestly lackluster game in “Modern Warfare 3,” Treyarch struck back with another counter-punch with “Call of Duty: Black Ops 2,” and it’s a knockout.

We find ourselves in the world of 2025, following David Mason (son of Alex Mason from the first “Black Ops”) talking to both Alex and Sgt. Frank Woods (also from the original “Black Ops”) now in a retirement home telling David everything he needs to know about villain Raul Menendez and his organization Cordis Die.

With new technology, new people and World War III, firefights are happening in Los Angeles and are mixed with missions in the Cold War era to smoothly transition the story. All of these elements help capture what I hope the future will be like.

As mentioned above, the campaign plays like a movie. I almost wanted make a bowl of popcorn instead of play the game, but I had to in order for the “movie” to continue. We dive into the story of each character, and even add a dimension and some depth to Menendez’s character.

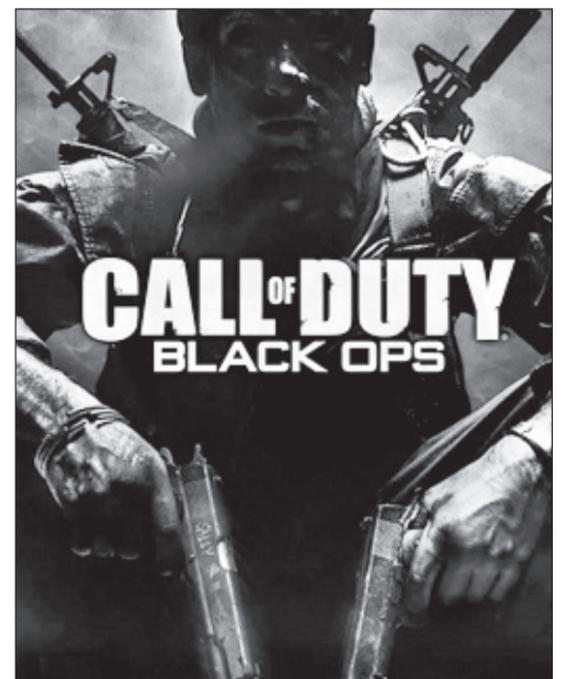
No spoilers, but we learn that there is more to Menendez than a Joker-esque philosophy of anarchy for anarchy’s sake, but reasons to why he does what he does. You end up almost feeling for the guy, but you can figure it out for yourself.

A new addition to the campaign mode in certain spots was a near role-playing aspect where the character is faced with two choices, and the game continues based on the choices you make the character decide. Though not an enormous aspect to the game, in a way it connects you to the game with the added curiosity of what will happen with what you will decide, besides the captivating story line.

The only disappointing thing about the campaign was that as you progress through the game, it doesn’t necessarily get more difficult, not as much as in “Modern Warfare 3.” Even though MW3’s story dragged on, “Black Ops 2” could have done something to make it last longer with harder levels like player’s expect.

Multiplayer also has an added twist, which is a somewhat appreciated. Aesthetically, the look of the multiplayer lobby is different, but a change that affects the players is the addition of unlock tokens. More specifically, when leveling up your “prestige,” you can use your unlock token to increase your prestige without having to start all over again with default weapons, avatars and equipment.

In the first “Black Ops” this was a big complaint and discouraged leveling up in the game. Another new feature in the multiplayer mode is the “league match” option, which is great if you’re a beginner to “Call of Duty” games. Instead of dying constantly to people much better or more practiced,



you can have the game match where you’re at in the game with other people more your rank. I personally didn’t use this feature, but if I were new to “Call of Duty,” I would have used it definitely.

My biggest complaint with the multiplayer mode in “Black Ops 2” is that there are no wager matches. My favorite thing about the first “Black Ops” game is the wager matches, and I continue to play them often to this day.

I will admit I am a big gun-game knifer that makes everyone angry, and maybe I’m the reason why there are no wager matches anymore. Perhaps it’s because Treyarch saw the pitiful attempt Infinity Ward did in “Modern Warfare 3” with wager matches even though Treyarch invented and perfected wager matches, but nonetheless, it was a bitter disappointment to hear, especially after hearing that the zombies mode was being improved on. The new zombie mode did impress me, as the version in the first “Black Ops” wasn’t my cup of tea.

Now to the question we are all waiting for: Would you recommend this game to buy and/or play? The answer is simply “yes.” This game is exactly what’s right with the direction first-person shooters are headed, and explains why “Call of Duty” has surpassed the Halo franchise as the most played Xbox Live game currently.

The real juggernaut as of present, that tried a few new things that improved instead of took away and stayed “Call of Duty.” It took away the endearing cartoonish simplicity the first “Black Ops” made work, improved it but stayed on task from where the first “Black Ops” left off. Overall, it’s an excellent game.



Dec 3rd - 7th

 **Lbcc Bookstore**

Albany Campus
Mon • Tue • Thu • Fri
9am-4pm
Wed • 9am-6pm

Benton Center
Mon-Fri
9am-4pm

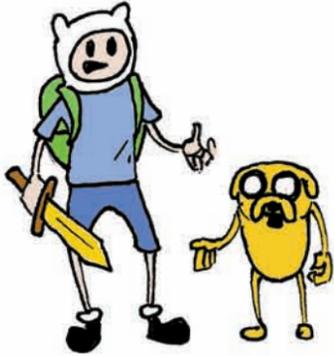


Bring All CDs, DVDs, And Supplemental Materials Purchased With Your Textbooks.
Check Buyback Prices Online At Our Website
www.bookstore.linnbenton.edu

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



Mason Le Britton © 2012
Groovysweet.wordpress.com



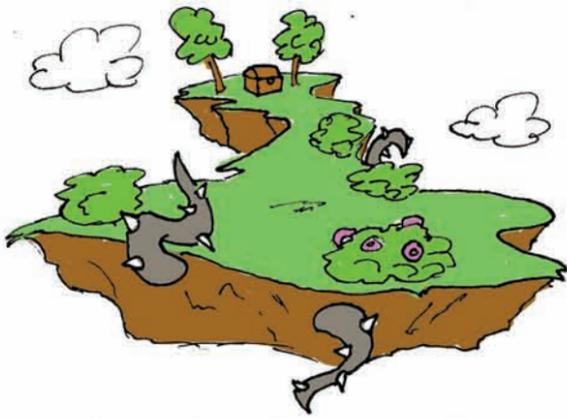
A 3-D epic Adventure Time browser game? Oh glob yeah, this is gonna be mathematical!



Bmo has created a new game for Finn and Jake, and forced them to play. They must follow the ransom notes and find Bmo.



The player controls both Finn and Jake, switching between them. Each have their own way of fighting. I grew fond of Jake.



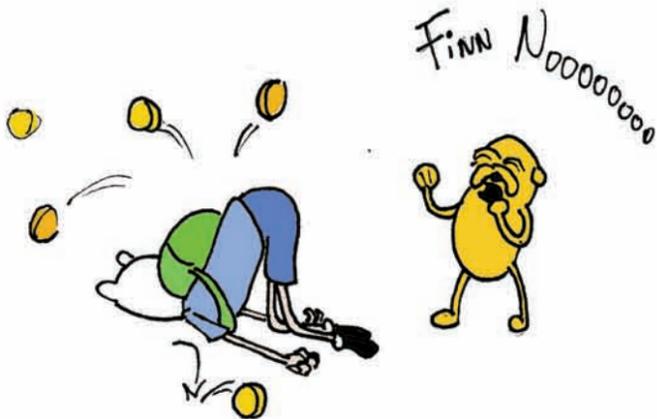
The levels are broken up into floating islands.



I faced many terrifying enemies, such as the adorable baby pigs in cute outfits.



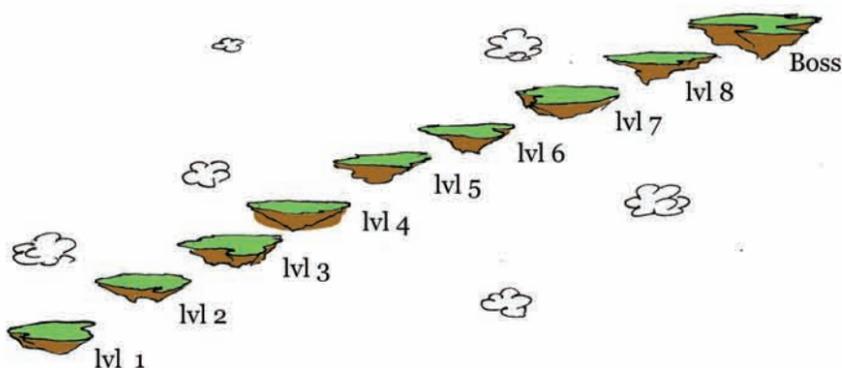
Thankfully, by falling off an island, the game would transport me safely to the previous level.



The combat was simple, but I had a hard time getting used to it. I had much better luck fighting with Jake.



Scattered around the levels are pages of the Enchiridion, containing power spells. Spells such as summoning Lady Rainicorn to fly across the level, or jumping into Jake's mouth.



I battled my way through the grasslands and defeated an evil witch, but Bmo was nowhere to be found.



Next stop: the Fire Kingdom. Hold on Bmo, I'm coming for you!

Linn-Benton Community College
Performing Arts Department presents

Celebrate the Season with
A World in Harmony!

Featuring LBCC
Concert Choir
Re-Choired Element Chamber Choir
Women's Choir
A cappella groups:
Blue Light Special • The Sirens

James M. Reddan, conductor & Diana Hancock, accompanist

Thursday, Nov, 29 • 7:30 p.m.

Russell Tripp Performance Center, Tadena Hall Albany Campus Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE 541-917-4531	\$10 adults \$7 seniors & students \$5 under 18
--	--

Online ticket sales begin Nov. 12
Box office sales begin Nov. 19
Mon-Thu 8-10 a.m. & 2-4 p.m.
and 1 hour prior to curtain.

www.linnbenton.edu/russelltripptheater

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

X-SCOPES



ARIES
3/21 - 4/19
Santa Claus - The giver of gifts, the saint of sappy, the lord of loving. This is you. It's a tough gig, but you're the one for the job.



LIBRA
9/23 - 10/23
Emma Frost - Who needs Jack Frost, the sharer of snow, when we can plug some X-men instead? Psychic powers are way better.



TAURUS
4/20 - 5/20
The Abomidable Snowman - You're big and mean! Nah, I don't mean that really. You're rocking the whole gentle giant thing for sure.



SCORPIO
10/24 - 11/21
Teddy Bear - Everybody loves a teddy bear. You're not Christmas-y enough? We'll just put a santa hat on you. No one will ask questions.



GEMINI
5/21 - 6/21
Elves - You're, um, plentiful. And helpful, I suppose. You definitely serve a purpose. Does being short and annoying count? Yes? Yeah!



SAGITTARIUS
11/22 - 12/21
The Grinch - You've a heart three sizes too small or whatever. You're also green, and you probably smell bad. Merry Christmas.



CANCER
6/22 - 7/22
Snow - It's a plague, and you are too. I'd say chill the eff out, but you have that down. You make my bones ache and my socks soggy.



CAPRICORN
12/22 - 1/19
Humbug - Bah! No one even knows what the heck you are. You're an expletive, a grumpy curse word for children's stories. Terrible.



LEO
7/23 - 8/22
Rudolf - Sure, you lead the pack of reindeer slaves, but that's just because of your nose job. Even so, you're still just a slave to the man.



AQUARIUS
1/20 - 2/18
Frosty the Snowman - That's a mighty fine hat you've got there. It looks like I'll have myself a new hat come spring. You won't need it.



VIRGO
8/23 - 9/22
All of the presents - You wanted to hear about what you were getting, huh? Well, now you're destined to be someone else's generosity. Ha!



PISCES
2/19 - 3/20
Little Drummer Boy - No gifts to bring? Yeah, right! You've got soul, and you've got it in spades, little buddy. Carry on, my man.

The CASE Program at LBCC supports your college, job search, and career success!

Diversity and Difference in the Workplace

November 28th RCH 116, 1:00-1:50

Employers are looking for employees that work well with others. Cultural competence is a critical component of career success. This workshop covers how culture and difference can impact workplace performance. Key differences between individuals and workplace cultures will be explored. Success strategies will be presented.

The Commuter is EVERYWHERE!

Keep up to date on all the latest news.

The Commuter

@lbcommuter

LBCC Commuter

First Alternative Co-op

Indulge Yourself

with **Fair Trade Chocolate**

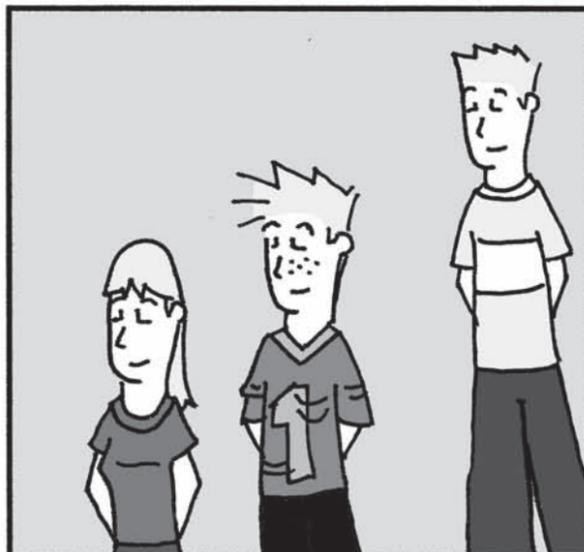
Stimulate your brain while you save the world.

First Alternative NATURAL FOODS CO-OP

SOUTH CORVALLIS 1007 SE 3rd St (541)753-3115 www.firstalt.coop	NORTH CORVALLIS 2855 NW Grant (at 29th) (541)452-3115 both open daily 7-9
---	--

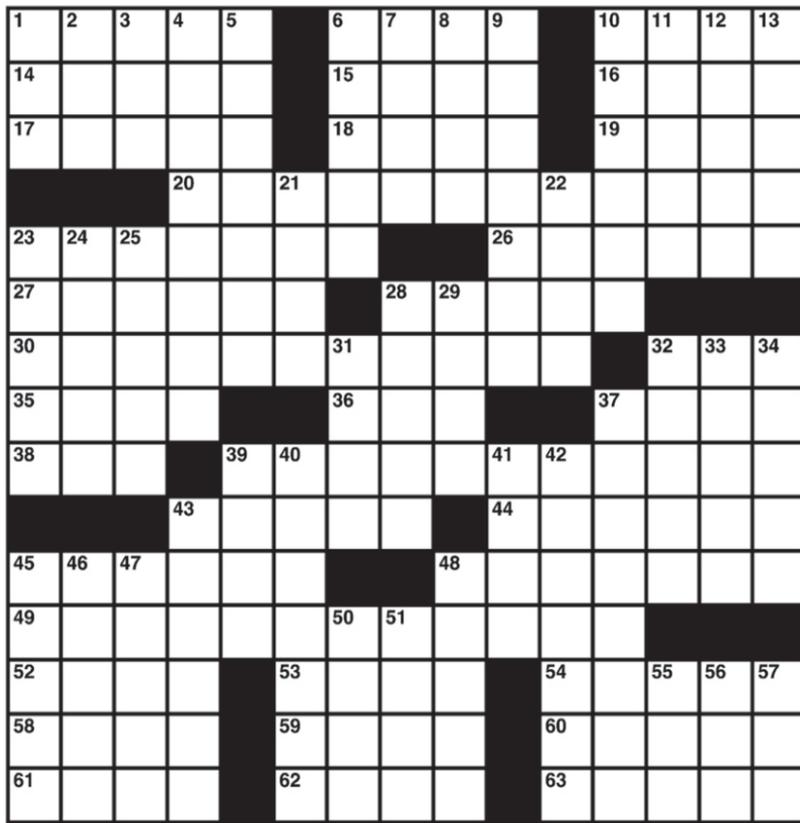


By Jason Maddox
An LBCC student-generated comic



ACROSS

- 1 Choir member
- 6 Quite
- 10 Ending with slug or gab
- 14 Make amends
- 15 Faulkner's "As ___ Dying"
- 16 Pearl Harbor site
- 17 Blazed furiously
- 18 Common nickname for a doter
- 19 66 and others: Abbr.
- 20 Weightlifting event
- 23 Ben-Gurion, e.g.
- 26 "It's ___ business"
- 27 Kind of biological network
- 28 Sea
- 30 Golf course pest
- 32 Corp. money manager
- 35 Fighting
- 36 Gallery hanging
- 37 Hang onto
- 38 ID with hyphens
- 39 Spinning toy manipulated with sticks
- 43 River in Lyons
- 44 Belfast's province
- 45 Early Ford success
- 48 Actors, often
- 49 Honest info
- 52 Road sign silhouette
- 53 Debt indicators
- 54 Ticked off
- 58 Like some vaccines
- 59 Dresden's river
- 60 Landlocked African country
- 61 A handful of
- 62 Navy commando
- 63 Gothic house feature



By Jack McInturff

- 6 Source of the Law
- 7 ___ Bator, Mongolia
- 8 Where Jesus turned water to wine
- 9 Cape Cod site of a JFK museum
- 10 How some jump?
- 11 Corroded
- 12 Sex researcher Hite
- 13 Mammoth features
- 21 Contemporary of Dizzy and Billie
- 22 Finished
- 23 Early Peruvians
- 24 Senate posts
- 25 Confrontation
- 28 Carried
- 29 Classroom drilling
- 31 Come out ahead
- 32 British actor Robert, the original Colonel Pickering in "My Fair Lady"
- 33 Candidate's handout
- 34 Trash emanations

Last Week's Puzzle Solved



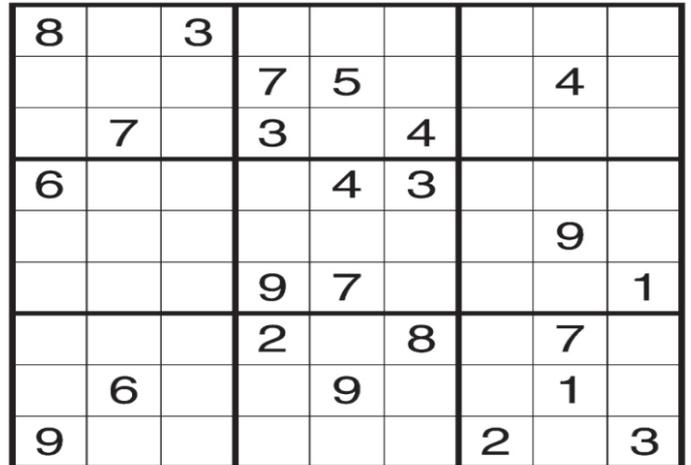
(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 37 Common crowd reaction in monster films
- 39 Colombian city
- 40 Some heroes
- 41 Sport for 300-pounders
- 42 Like lovers skipping church?
- 43 Pharmaceutical giant that developed Celebrex
- 45 Windows predecessor
- 46 Alamogordo's county
- 47 Nightmare, e.g.
- 48 Ill-fated Ford
- 50 Putter's target
- 51 Very big wind
- 55 Soviet spy org.
- 56 Snakelike fish
- 57 Hip-hop Dr.

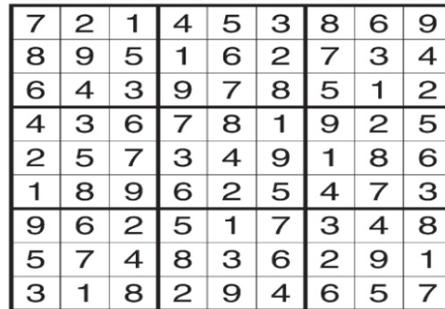
SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4



Last Week's Puzzle Solved



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

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

Unplanned pregnancy? Take control.

Options PRC is committed to providing accurate information and compassionate care to those facing unplanned pregnancies.

We offer **free**, confidential services including:

- ✓ Pregnancy test
- ✓ Information on your options
- ✓ Local physician referrals
- ✓ Limited obstetrical ultrasound

Take control of your unplanned pregnancy.

Corvallis 541.758.3662 Albany 541.924.0160

possiblypregnant.org

options
Pregnancy Resource Centers



An LBCC student-generated comic

By Mason Britton



Mason Le Britton © 2012

Concert Helps Choirs Prepare for Competition

Wayne Dorman

Contributing Writer

The LBCC Fall Concert takes place this Thursday, Nov. 29, in the Russell Tripp Performance Center, and will feature our two a cappella groups. Both The Sirens and Blue Light Special will perform at the Thursday night event before they prepare for a January date for the opening round of the International Championships of Collegiate A Cappella.

The ICCA competition gives collegiate vocal groups a chance to meet other vocalists, spread their music, and receive valuable feedback from professional judges.

Both groups performed last year after qualifying and performed well against the vast field of competition. The experience was vital in the growth of both groups as each competed in their first collegiate competition. Another year of perfecting their music gives both groups a chance to highlight what they've learned.

A lot of hard work goes into these performances. The groups practice not only to put on a good show with choreography, but also to sing at a very high level. Come show your support for both these talented groups as they gear up for competition. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m.

For more information on the ICCA's visit www.varsityvocals.com

Choir Concert

Where: Russell Tripp Theater
When: Thur., Nov. 29
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Cost: \$10 adults
\$7 senior and students,
\$5 under 18 years old
More Info: (541) 917-4531

"Breaking Dawn Part 2" Doesn't Totally Suck

Ashley Christie

Page Designer

There are two different ways to judge a movie. One is quality. Is it a well-made film? The other, is based on an entertainment factor. Do you enjoy the time you spend watching it?

"The Twilight Saga" films may not be good, but they're a lot of fun.

"Breaking Dawn: Part 2" is finally out and with it the end of the franchise (fingers crossed). In the conclusion, Bella (Kristen Stewart) is a newborn vampire. She has everything she's ever wanted: a loving husband, beautiful daughter, super strength, a thirst for blood, immortality, and even a pet dog.

But those evil Volturi are on their way to Forks, because they think her daughter Renesmee (WTF is with that name?!) was bitten, not born. It's up to the Cullen clan to round up their blood-sucking friends from across the globe to try and talk some sense into the Volturi. Because they're known for being so reasonable.

Like the first four films, "Part 2" is not good. The acting is awful, the dialog is ridiculous, and just the general plot and story are absurd. Bella is a horrible character. I cannot say that enough. As much as I want to blame Kristen Stewart for that, I can't. She's written badly, and I blame Stephanie Meyers for all of this.

I believe that the cast does the best they can with the material. After watching all the films again (yes, I was one of those crazy people that went to the 12-hour marathon), I think that after the first one came out, most everyone involved realized how terrible this story was and embraced the badness.

It's fun seeing these actors chewing the scenery and hamming it up. I feel like after the Twilight frenzy began everyone knew they were committed and thought, "If we're going to make a melodramatic, over-the-top mess of a movie, let's make it the biggest mess we can."

Mission accomplished!

Vampire Bella is a vast improvement over human Bella. She's way more confident, and it's good to see her take charge for once. And you get to see her wrestle a mountain lion. But with vamp Bella comes a lot of scenes being all "I'm a vampire, look how



sparkly I am." It gets old ... fast.

Also there's lots of "Hey, we're both vampires now. I don't have to worry about breaking you while we have sex. Let's have sex." Again, it gets old ... really fast.

So, what made this movie so enjoyable?

The new vampire characters. I've always enjoyed the Cullen family more than the Bella, Edward (Robert Pattinson), and Jacob (Taylor Lautner). This time we get about a dozen new immortals to meet. Each one vastly more interesting than what's going on in the main plotline.

Why are these characters so much better? Well, it's simple. These actors aren't doing any of the "heavy-lifting" so to speak, so they get to come in, make their funny one-liners, and be gone. Similar to the way Charlie (Billy Burke) and Jessica (Anna Kendrick) stole any scene they were in in previous films with their great delivery and comedic timing.

Garrett (Lee Pace), a nomad who's fought in almost every war since the American Revolution, gets the best lines and is probably my favorite. But there are lots more as anyone who's read the books knows. Casting did a good job of bringing them all together, and while they all don't get a detailed backstory like in the book, it's still fun to see them all brought to life.

The best part of the movie was the final battle scene, which I can't talk too much about without giving away some spoilers. This battle was completely unexpected because Meyers never wrote anything like this. There were gasps across the theater once it started. It was like watching an episode of "Game of Thrones." The only word to describe it is ... epic.

Wait, that's not true. Unbelievable, absurd, outlandish, ludicrous ... all good words for describing the final battle. It was a twist I didn't see coming.

As the end credits began to roll, I felt like I was watching a graduation montage. Photos and names of everyone who had been in parts one and two. The only thing missing was Green Day's "Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)." Of course they saved the big three for last. Taylor Lautner ... big round of applause. Robert Pattinson ... bigger applause. Kristen Stewart ... silence ... wait, pity clap.

To sum up: "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2" is a bad movie but a good time.

I've enjoyed my time with "The Twilight Saga" and "Part 2" was a good bookend, but I'm very glad they're over now, and we can all move on to the next pop culture phenomenon, whatever that may be.

Read more about my Forks adventure online at: imamovienerd.wordpress.com

Greek Art on Display at Portland Museum

Luis Martinez

Contributing Writer

See the beauty of the human form at the Portland Art Museum.

The exhibit, titled "The Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece," is on display now through Jan. 6. It's an impressive collection of ancient Roman and Greek art on loan from the British Museum.

LBCC art instructor Gary Westford arranged a trip of about 50 students to meet at the museum and go through its collection as a part of the Understanding Art class. The students congregated in the lobby, eagerly waiting to enter as you could

already spot out some of the sculptures in the following room.

The sculptures, humans frozen in time, are representative of ancient Greek culture and values. They emphasize the beauty of youth and the male and female bodies. The lines and features of the body are refined and shaped, allowing no detail of movement or curvature to escape, showing the human form and contortions in a way only art can.

The atmosphere is provided by the fact that most of the pieces pre-date A.D. 500. The preservation of the art is impressive to all of those who look upon the fractures and cracks in contrast

with the smooth surface. The perfection, coming from imperfection, can be seen in the missing fingers or limbs from millennia of standing alongside us.

The students walked through the exhibit jotting down notes and observations as part of a complementary task for the class. Other students were there drawing the sculptures into sketchpads.

It's an opportunity for students and the general population to view and learn about another nation's culture through something other than images.

When you walk through the rooms and look

Body Beautiful in Ancient Greece

Where: Portland Art Museum
1219 SW Park Ave., Portland
Cost: \$15 adults, \$12 students
Free children 17 and under
Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday Noon - 5 p.m.
More info: portlandartmuseum.org

at the variety of art on display, you come out with an experience you would never have gotten otherwise. I would highly recommend to anyone taking a trip to see the exhibit before it's over.

Ronald Borst Journalism
Take care of our children. Make the planet their own.
<http://ronborst.blogspot.com/>

THIS WEEKEND AT THE MOVIES



Silver Linings Playbook
Rated: R
Genre: Romantic Dramady



Killing Them Softly
Rated: R
Genre: Mob Action

Sources: IMDb, Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com

WEATHER

Wednesday (11/28)	Dark and Wet	52°/43°	
Thursday (11/29)	Wind and Wet	53°/46°	
Friday (11/30)	Gray and Wet	55°/46°	
Saturday (12/1)	Clouds and Wet	52°/43°	
Sunday (12/2)	Sunless and Wet	51°/41°	
Monday (12/3)	Cool and Wet	51°/42°	
Tuesday (12/4)	Wet and Wet	48°/37°	

Source: accuweather.com