

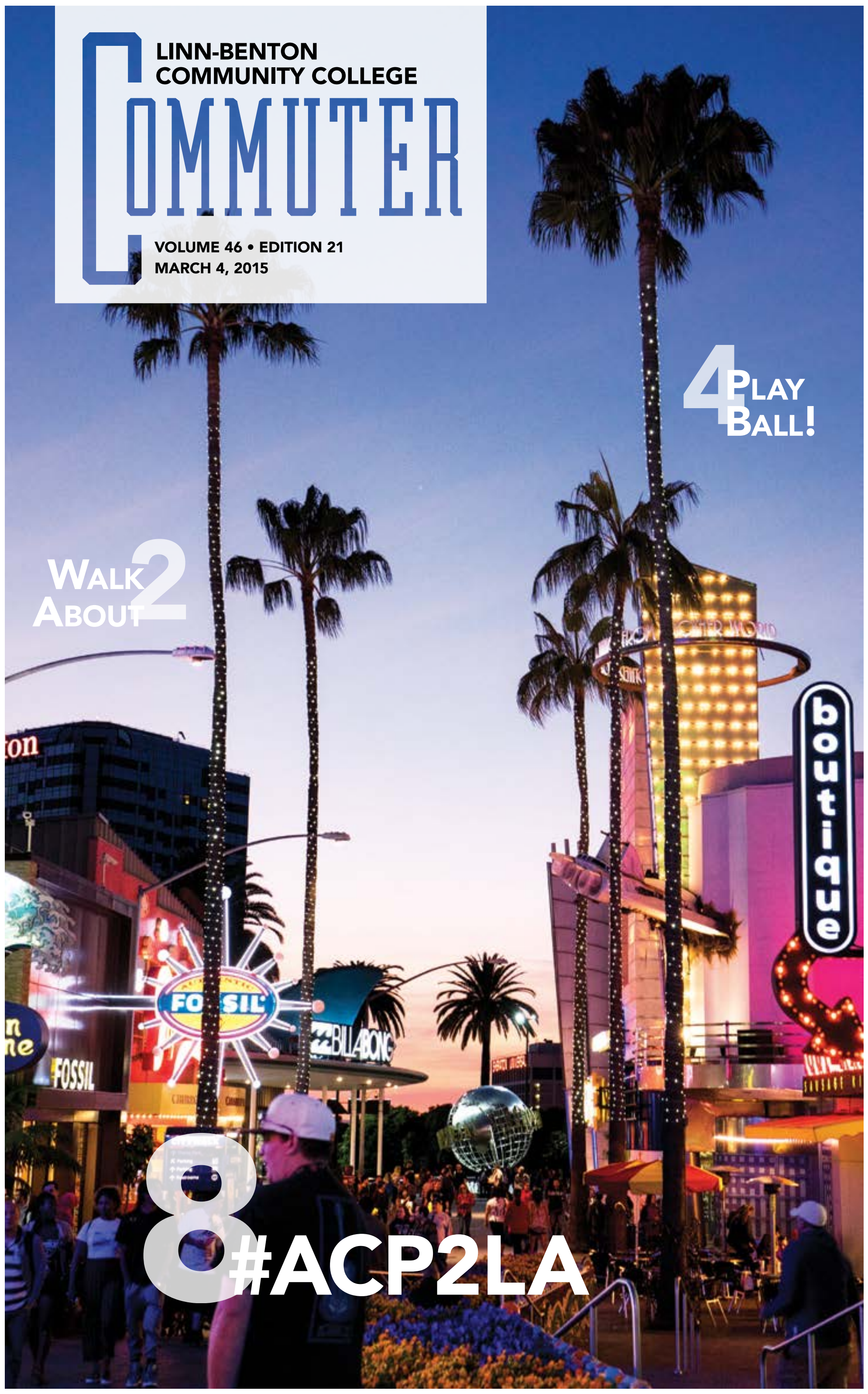
LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COMMUTER

VOLUME 46 • EDITION 21
MARCH 4, 2015

4 PLAY
BALL!

WALK
ABOUT **2**

8 #ACP2LA



COMMUTER

Cover Credit:
Christopher Trotchie

On the cover:
CityWalk at Sunset
#UniversalStudios #ACP2LA

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Letters Welcome

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

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SOCIAL MEDIA AWARENESS

Social networking vs. handwritten letters to remain connected

When's the last time you wrote a letter? On Feb. 23 the Diversity Achievement Center presented the pro's and con's regarding social media.

During the event, a film called "Social Bankruptcy" showcased what life would be like without social media, and how it affects individuals. Social media is everywhere, and it's unavoidable, having become a communication tool for the majority of society.

According to outthinkgroup.com there are six types of social media: social network, bookmarking sites, social news, media sharing, microblogging and blog comments, and forums.

Apps are now being developed to curate your apps. One creator is Appcrawlr, and they have designed a site to better organize apps and how they're used. A major focus is on social networking apps.

With social media as the number one activity on the web it has dangers associated with it. According to statistics

from InternetSafety101.org, "Of the active adult users of Facebook, 66 percent reported they did not know privacy controls existed on Facebook and/or they did not know how to use the privacy controls."

"If I could make a change to social media, it would probably be to get rid of the dangers that come with it," said student Luis Cabeza.

Social media isn't just about the apps used daily, it's about the communication people have with each other. What happened to all the hand-written letters? At the end of the event cards, envelopes, and stamps were provided to write a letter that the DAC would send out.

According to The Wall Street Journal, studies suggest there's real value in learning and maintaining this ancient skill, even as we increasingly communicate electronically.

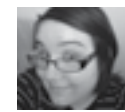
"It seems there is something really important about manually manipulating

and drawing out two-dimensional things we see all the time," says Karin Harman James, assistant professor of psychology and neuroscience at Indiana University who led the study.

According to huffingtonpost.com there are nine reasons to not abandon hand written letters.

Those nine reasons are that they create lasting memories, show how much a person cares, make people feel good, make every word count, spark creativity, require undivided attention, require unplugging, they honor tradition, and they are timeless.

"It has been a pretty long time since I have written a letter. It's kind of hard to say, but I feel like I haven't written one since my sophomore year in high school," said Cabeza. ♡



STORY BY
MELISSA CHANDLER
@MJEFFER8

STUDENTS OF A NON-TYPICAL AGE

Generational gaps can make a return to school difficult

On any given day at Linn-Benton Community College you will see students of non-typical age, doing their best to make their dreams come true. Bobbi Finch is one of them. Her biggest challenge coming back to school was not knowing where she fits in.

There are many older students at LBCC that are unsure where they socially fit in. After all, the school scene is typically geared for the younger generation, not middle-aged. After being out of school since 1998, Finch has had some challenges returning at age 50.

She traveled all over the world while married to a U.S. Marine Corps soldier. She and her now ex-husband had five children. They moved a lot due to being stationed somewhere new every 23 months.



LBCC Student Bobbi Finch.

Finch has lived in Oregon 17 years, where she has finished raising her children as a single mom. She has been trying to earn her degree since 1998. This in itself has been a challenge, being a sole provider for her kids. She has had to interrupt her schooling many times over the years to work and take care of their needs before her own.

Now that all of her kids are adults, even her baby, Nick, who is 18-years-old, she no longer feels like she has to be responsible for their needs.

"All I have to worry about is me, it's my time to finish college and get my English degree. I want to be a travel reporter," she said.

"I'm proud of her. I'm glad she still has the will to go back and finish what she started so many years ago. My mom is a strong woman," said son Nick.

Starting college again this fall, she only had four classes left to earn her English degree. She thought this would be an easy transition, knowing she had been here before. However, Finch has encountered some uncomfortable situations.

"The attitude of the younger generations is so rude. I have been told things like, 'if you don't get your homework done, you're on your own.' Their attitude is if you can't keep up with us, then why are you here?"

"When it comes to the younger generation there is a big world of difference between us and them, it's a sad one, because it's a ME, ME, ME, from them, instead of 'we have to help each other.'"

Vikki Maurer, a math instructor at LBCC for 21 years, has also seen generational differences.

"What I see more now with all the social media with the younger people so plugged in, they tend to

isolate themselves, because they connect with their phones better than anything else. Interpersonal communication is hard for them, where just a few years ago it wasn't that way."

Finch's son Nick offered some insight.

"I think what is going on is that the younger generation thinks that the older generation doesn't want to have anything to do with them, because they think that they couldn't have anything in common with them. So it's just no one talking to no one, and that's the problem."

Maurer is worried about communication skills younger students are learning in life.

"We had high school students mixing with the older students, and I never saw the kind of problems I'm seeing now, the rudeness, but from both sides. So from Bobbi's point of view, she has had some interactions that weren't favorable, but I see it both ways. The younger generation, they just need somebody to reach out, because they are uncomfortable now making those connections in person."

Maurer has Finch in her Math 98 class this term. She calls Finch a bright student, always thinking and asking questions, always working very hard. She sees her as a caring person.

Finch's dream is to travel around to places no one has written about, and see things that people never knew were there.

"Like some small town that no one would have ever known hosts a rodeo every year," said Finch.

No matter what, she is going to make it through her last four classes and get her degree, and walk down that aisle into her future this June. ♡

STORY AND PHOTO BY
CAROL COLE

FAMILY FUN DAY

Children and parents fill the Activity Center to raise funds



Kids play putt-putt golf.

For 38 years Family Fun Day has provided an opportunity for children and their parents to bond.

This year's annual Family Fun Day kicked off on Feb. 28 in the Activities Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Parents, children and staff all played a major role in the event.

The event featured activities for children and parents to embrace their imagination. The fun included a photo booth, putt-putt golf, face painting, target toss, karate, obstacle course, bounce house, fishing, Dr. Seuss games, and a reading area, transforming the gym into a playground.

Safe Haven Humane Society offered children a chance to meet Bailey and Fozzy the dogs, and a chance to color a critter. There was a used toy and books sale. Children also purchased playdough and silly putty from the Philomath Parent Cooperative Preschool.

Along with the activities, Mid-Valley Doula Network provided a family rest area for feeding and changing.

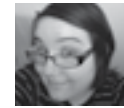
The event raised approximately \$6,000. All money raised was from donations, ticket sales and concessions. All proceeds go the Parenting Education

Grant Fund, allowing families to attend classes regardless of their financial situation.

Anyone who purchased over \$20 in tickets received an Oil Can Henry's VIP pass, generously donated for 50 percent off their full service oil change or any other maintenance service.

Sponsors were G2 Fun Zone, Denise and Paul Strombeck and Good Samaritan Preschool. Food sponsors were Costco, Scio Thriftway and Fred Meyers. Volunteers were Kohls Associates in Action and LBCC Parenting Education faculty, class participants, families, and friends.

For \$1 guests could purchase a ticket for a chance to win a variety of prizes ranging from handmade jackets, monthly flower delivery from Raindrop Flower Farm, OSU men's sweatshirts and t-shirts, a free yoga session from Tiny Buddha Belly, and a marine discovery tour for two in Newport. ♡



STORY AND PHOTO BY
MELISSA CHANDLER
@MJEFFERS



Adjunct instructor Dan Jones.

ADJUNCTS WALK ABOUT

On Feb. 24 adjunct instructors across the nation "walked out," "taught in," or in the case of LBCC's campus "walked about."

Taking shifts throughout the day as their teaching schedules would allow, many adjunct instructors including Peggy McDowell, math instructor, picketed in the Courtyard between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

"This campus was the best place I ever worked at until a few years ago," said McDowell.

The concept of teachers taking time out of their busy day to create awareness sounds counter intuitive to some, but the fact that adjunct employees are creating a fuss is concerning for many students.

"You get a lot more out of people when they are comfortable and secure," said student Gerald Thomas.

Mary Borman, part-time faculty association president was disappointed in the turn out but blamed a lack of advertising as the main factor. She acknowledged that even though the planning for the event came together at the last minute, she was happy with the end result.

"Most students had no idea about the part-time issues. So, it was really good to be able to have conversations with them."

According to Borman the administration supported their efforts and Dale Stowell, executive director of institutional advancement, confirmed.

"We support free and civil discourse," said Stowell.

On March 18, the PTFA will have an action item presented at the Board of Education meeting that if supported will acknowledged the PTFA as a bargaining unit for part-time faculty members. ♡



STORY AND PHOTO BY
CHRISTOPHER TROTCHIE
@CHRISTOPHER999

UNITY CELEBRATION

Students gathered at the Fireside room for Unity Celebration

Stand out students along with socially conscious community members were acknowledged for their contributions towards the promotion of social justice, at the sixth annual Unity Celebration Wednesday, Feb. 26.

The Fireside Room of the Calapooia Center, located on the Albany campus of LB, drew a large crowd of students, school faculty, and community members.

This year's event showcased a live performance from Turiya Autry, renowned artist and acclaimed author. She performed selections from her book "Reality and Rhyme." She also led a reluctant room of tentative participants through some spoken word exercises by cuing the audience to interject "Justice now! Freedom now!" during one of her pieces. At one point she was able to get everyone singing in harmony.

During the evening Autry challenged the room full of people to examine their personal beliefs about race and community during her presentation by explaining that all life came from Africa and in actuality we are all related.

"I want us to unify," said Autry.

Robin Havenick, one of the founding members of The Unity Celebration, led a performance that infused an assortment of African American literature recited to a guitar played by Mark Weiss, LB counselor. As the ensemble read in unison, the group would pause letting a single member of the group read a short passage from different poems.

The LB Poetry Club offered individual readings over the course of the evening. Some were meant to be funny while others carried an emotional toll on the reader. All were enjoyed by the audience.

"I really enjoyed the poetry readings.

Each one was unique and captivating to hear. I had no idea we had a poetry club but they were truly talented," said student Nikki Aman.

Food at the event was a selection of world cuisine. Beverages were provided by the local cider house Two Towns, and wine was also available.

The emotional height of the evening came to a crescendo during the award ceremony where members of the LB community along with Linn and Benton counties were called to the stage where they were recognized for their individual efforts.

The Analee Fuentes Unity Award and the Gary Westford Community Connection awards signify efforts to create a more socially responsible society. Those awarded received a certificate and a undisclosed monetary endowment. This year's Gary Westford Community Connection award went to Dee Curwen for her involvement as the director of the Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center.

LB student Kamran Mizra was awarded the Analee Fuentes Unity Award in recognition for her efforts while working with the gender, sexual and romantic minorities of the LB community. Mirza was instrumental in the realization of LB's unlabeled gender neutral bathrooms.

Mary Mayfield, faculty member in The Adult Basic Education and GED department, won the Analee Fuentes Unity Award for her efforts in overcoming circumstances, that had she not, would have resulted in the discontinuation of the Spanish GED



Turiya Autry leads Unity Celebration.

program. Kim Sullivan won the non-faculty award for her efforts with the International Student Program.

The audience applauded at the conclusion of the event showing the appreciation for the opportunity to be involved at this year's celebration. The biggest takeaway appeared to be the sense of community each attendee experienced in the room that night.

"It is up to people like us, the scholars, artists, writers, and teachers to infuse our community with light we've kindled in our own hearts," said Dari Lawrie, LB student poet laureate.

Anyone interested in helping to continue the Unity Celebration's success should contact Dana Emerson in the communication department. ♡



STORY AND PHOTO BY
CHRISTOPHER TROTCHIE
@CHRISTOPHER999



DID YOU KNOW?

Each hour the U.S. throws away 2.5 million plastic bottles.

FIRST SERIES TESTS ROADRUNNERS

This past weekend marked the long awaited return of Linn-Benton baseball. A return that many, including donors, staff, students, and most importantly the players have been waiting for.

In 2013 Linn-Benton decided to cut the baseball program due to lack of funding under the new budget. After a year of hard work, Head Coach Ryan Gipson led his team onto the field for the first time this spring season, traveling north to take on Tacoma CC in two days of doubleheaders to start their 2015 campaign.

Over the past year Gipson has put together a team consisting of both local and out of town players. Highlighting the RoadRunners roster are pitcher/first baseman Austin Kelly, third baseman Trevin Stephens, and a host of other talented players.

Kelly comes to Linn-Benton by way of transfer from University of Portland. The sophomore was named Oregon Sports Awards' Prep Baseball Player of the Year in 2013. After spending a year at UP, Kelly decided to transfer to Linn-Benton.

Stephens comes to LB from Canby High School in Aurora, Ore. with high praise from the coaching staff. Stephens spent most of his time playing third base during fall ball and displayed a polished swing at the plate.

Saturday, Feb. 28, Linn-Benton took on Tacoma marking the start of the spring season for the RoadRunners. Tacoma rattled off a 27 game winning streak last season and will be one of the favorites to win the league this year.

In the first game of the day LB could not get anything going and lost in five innings 10-0. Tacoma started ace Justin Vernia who is one of the best pitching prospects in NWAC. It was not the start the team was hoping for.

Game two of the doubleheader didn't go much better. LB suffered another big loss, this time by a score of 9-0.

Stephens, who started at third base, and sophomore left fielder Lamon Harvey, had the only hits for the RoadRunners in the game. Connor Qualley started the game on the mound for LB. He pitched five innings, giving up three runs while

striking out three batters.

Despite the tough losses Gipson and his staff remained positive for the games on Sunday.

"Theres not a lot of guys on our roster who have experience. Saturday was about getting their feet wet," said Gipson.

The RoadRunners took the field again Sunday, March 1 and looked to improve on their disappointing first day. With nerves out of the way, LB felt confident they could come out and play better in the doubleheader.

Sunday showed what the RoadRunners are capable of, getting the bats going early and putting up two runs in the first inning. LB was able to put runs on the board behind good hitting from Stephens who went 1-3 with an RBI and right fielder Eric Allen who hit 2-4 with 2 RBI's.

With the game tied 5-5 going into the 8th inning, LB was able to put a run on the board after second baseman Ty Deckwa hit a triple and scored on a fielders choice the next batter.

Linn-Benton could not hold onto

the lead when in the bottom of the 8th inning Tacoma scored three runs to go up 8-5. LB was not able to get a run in the 9th inning and lost the game.

Despite losing the first three games of the series LB remained positive. They would have Austin Kelly on the mound for the fourth game and would look to rally behind his pitching.

Kelly did not disappoint. The big right-hander pitched 6 2/3 innings of one run baseball while striking out three. He also hit 2-5 and scored a run on the offensive.

Stephens again had the hot bat for the RoadRunners driving in two runs while going 1-3 with a walk. Rondeau hit 2-5 with two RBI's in the leadoff spot for LB.

The RoadRunners won 7-4 with great pitching and totaled 10 hits for the game. Overall for the weekend the RoadRunners went 1-3 and will use this first series as a building block for their season

The weekend series was a good test for the RoadRunners early in the season. Coach Gipson was happy the way his team responded Sunday.

"Saturday we didn't compete very well, but the way we responded Sunday gives the staff hope for the upcoming year," said Gipson.

LB will host Lane CC at home on Wednesday, March 4 in the first home game for LB baseball in over a year. SLC staff will be on hand to give out Hype Points to students who attend. Freshman Nolan Bastendorff will start, and the team will use a pitching by committee approach as they are recovering from the weekend series. ♡



PHOTO: ANDREW GILLETTE

RoadRunner baseball team finishes cleaning the field in preparation for first home game.



STORY BY
CALEB CLEARMAN
@CLEAR_MAN10

Student Profile: *Jake Boyd*

California student athlete commits to Linn-Benton over OSU to pitch immediately

With the dark days of winter almost behind us, California native Jake Boyd and the rest of LBCC's student body can look forward to spring.

Better weather isn't the only thing on Boyd's and LBCC's horizon; spring weather brings spring ball. Baseball is back at LB, and rain or shine, Boyd is ready to take the mound.

Wearing his size 10 and a half cleats and already 6' 1", Boyd stands tall on the pitchers mound. A right handed pitcher for the RoadRunners, he weighs in at 170 lbs; every ounce of which he puts behind his newly developed sidearm throwing motion. His father Bob encouraged him to experiment with the motion as a little leaguer when facing a batter that was down in the count 0-2.

A degree partnership student, Boyd developed his new motion practicing at Oregon State this past fall. Before developing his sidearm motion, Boyd modeled his game after another California native, Anaheim Angels ace Jered Weaver, who is described by the Los Angeles Times as dominate.

Boyd came to Corvallis after OSU's Head Baseball Coach Pat Casey offered him a premiere walk on spot at OSU. But, at 19-years-old and a freshmen in college, Boyd did not make the highly competitive roster. He was however, offered an opportunity to redshirt. For

Boyd that meant being put on a strict weight lifting regimen, not being able to practice with the team, and absolutely no playing time. Boyd declined Coach Casey's offer.

"I wanted to play," said Boyd.

This is precisely what corralled him into the RoadRunners bullpen.

"Here I actually get to pitch."

Joining the RoadRunners on the baseball diamond this season, Boyd sacrificed a possible year of eligibility at OSU.

Almost 900 miles from home, Boyd is a transplant from the sunny southern California town of Ojai, and despite the differences in climate, he has survived his first rainy winter in the wet Willamette Valley.

"The weather people warned me about it, but you get use to it," said Boyd.

Boyd misses friends and family back home, but is adjusting well to life in Corvallis. He is excited about getting to know and play ball with his new teammates. Although hundreds of miles apart, the two cities share similarities in Boyd's eyes.

"Ojai is a lot like Corvallis, a small town," said Boyd.

Ojai was the beginning of Boyd's sports career and Corvallis is his future.

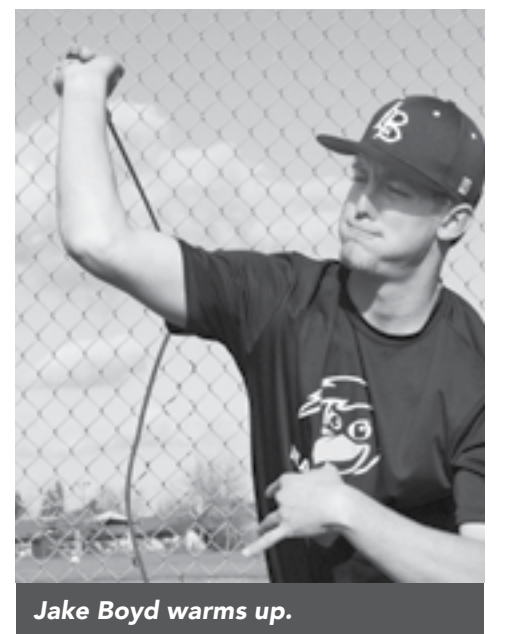
Boyd attended Nordhoff High School where he excelled as an athlete winning

the Mike Mikos award for male athlete of the year. He is on the Nordhoff High Wall of Fame, and still holds school records for most 3-pointers made in a basketball game with nine, and most varsity athletic letters in school history with 10. Earning a varsity letter all four years in both basketball and baseball, Boyd also lettered in football his Junior and Senior year.

Baseball may be Boyd's chosen collegiate sport of play, but the gridiron is where his greatest sports moment, and most influential coaching mentor, hail from. Led by Boyd's head coach and mentor Tony Henney, the Nordhoff Rangers arrived at Boyd's greatest sports moment when they won back-to-back CIF-SS Football Championships.

"As a football player who was a deep threat, who could change a game with explosive plays, as a baseball player he is much more methodical in his abilities," said Henney. "He is a competitor, wants to win, has fun doing it."

Boyd holds his athletic future in the palm of his pitching arm, but he didn't just move here for baseball. Getting an education and earning a degree is a top priority. Like many freshmen, Boyd's major is undeclared but he has one advantage most freshmen don't: baseball, a tool that Boyd sees as the key to his academic success.



Jake Boyd warms up.

"The help you get as a student athlete helps me out a lot in school...My goals are to get bigger and better every day in baseball, and to go to class everyday."

"Everything I do is for my family and friends back home. I miss them everyday and push myself to make them proud. I would be nothing without the huge support group that I have back home." ♡



STORY AND PHOTO BY
RICHARD STEEVES
@RSTEEVES84

SOPHOMORE NIGHT

Another group of student athletes say goodbye in their last home game for LBCC



PHOTO: MELISSA CHANDLER

Adam Moore pulls up for a jump shot.

Linn-Benton basketball held Sophomore Night on Wednesday, Feb. 25, honoring five LB players on their final home game of their careers as LB basketball players. The RoadRunners took on Umpqua CC for their final home game of the season.

The five sophomore players that returned to the program this year were: Caleb Wilson, Adam Moore, Trever Cooley, Taylor Vicknair, and Braden Monnot. Together they battled adversity on the court after struggling their first year, winning only one game.

“I wish we could have played to our potential, but it is what it is. Life goes on. However, I did have some great times and made some great friends,” said Wilson.

Before the game the players were honored for their accomplishments accompanied by their parents. The pregame ceremony was a final thank you to the players who have contributed to the athletic program over the last two years.

“Linn-Benton and Coach Falk have given me many opportunities. I have had the opportunity to play college basketball for two years and that is something I don’t take for granted,” said Cooley.

The game did not go Linn-Benton’s way as they lost by a score of 81-72. Forwards Moore and Monnot led the RoadRunners in scoring with 20 points each.

For Linn-Benton’s final game of the season they traveled to Clackamas on Saturday, Feb. 28. The RoadRunners fell in the season finale by a score of 97-81.

“Sophomore night will always be something to remember,” said Vicknair. “Win or lose I got to play with such great teammates who always gave 100 percent. I wouldn’t have wanted to play with anyone else.”



STORY BY
CALEB CLEARMAN
@CLEAR_MAN10



DID YOU KNOW?

A butterfly has as many as 12,000 eyes.



DID YOU KNOW?

There are 34 million sheep in New Zealand compared to only 4 million people.

C

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For details or to apply stop by our office in Forum 222 on Albany Campus.

SPORTS BULLETIN

Civil War Basketball:

UO vs. OSU Wednesday, March 4 8 p.m.

LB Baseball:

vs. Lane CC Wednesday, March 4 2 p.m.
at Treasure Valley CC Saturday, March 7 4 p.m. Doubleheader
at Treasure Valley CC Sunday, March 8 10 a.m. Doubleheader

OSU Baseball:

at Portland Wednesday, March 4 2 p.m.
vs. Fresno State Friday, March 6 5:35 p.m.
vs. Fresno State Saturday, March 7 1:05 p.m. Doubleheader
vs. Fresno State Sunday, March 8 1:05 p.m.
vs. Portland Tuesday, March 10 5:35 p.m.

UO Baseball:

vs. St. John’s Friday, March 6 6 p.m.
vs. St. John’s Saturday, March 7 2 p.m.
vs. St. John’s Sunday, March 8 Noon
vs. San Francisco Tuesday, March 10 6 p.m.

REALLY BUSY?



Linn-Benton’s
Veterans Club
Needs your
Participation!

Next Meeting
Monday,
March 9th
1330 (1:30)
Rm RCH116



YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARDED

Corvallis Boys and Girls Club honors outstanding community teens

The Boys and Girls Clubs of America makes a difference in young people's lives. They have been working for more than 150 years to make a positive impact in local communities.

The club's charitable reputation was on full display Friday, Feb. 27 at the Boys and Girls Club of Corvallis during the 2015 All Service Clubs Luncheon & Youth of the Year Award held in the facilities gymnasium.

In a tradition started in 2005, this year's luncheon honored three finalists. Contestants were selected on the basis of multiple sets of criteria, including but not limited to academics, volunteerism, and obstacles they've overcome on the path to becoming the upstanding young citizens they are today.

Greeted by a packed house of over a 150, there wasn't an empty seat in the building. Finalists Nelly Blanca, senior at Crescent Valley High, Christian Guerrero, senior at Corvallis High, and Blanca Pulido, a senior at College Hill, were honored. Each were given a table reserved directly in front of the stage. Each were surrounded by family, friends and their school principal, all showing up in support of the talented young students.

With three scholarships up for grabs, valued between \$500 and \$5,000, being Youth of the Year is a great honor. The previous two winners: Mariah Morales 2013, and Yared Silva 2014, were on hand to help pass the torch to this year's top contestant.

Silva is currently attending LBCC and the \$5,000 provided by the Dr. Bob & Billie Holcomb Family Fund Scholarship she won as last year's Youth of the Year, is enough to pay for all of her tuition this year. She is the first in her family to graduate high school and attend college.

"I had to step up to the plate for my younger siblings and set a good example for them," said Silva.

Corvallis Police Department Captain Dave Henslee and president elect of the



(left to right) Nelly Bianca, Christian Guerrero, Blanca Pulido, and Mark Urista.

Corvallis Boys & Girls Club's board of directors exceed the event.

"I want to recognize the clubs and what they do for the community," said Henslee as he acknowledged the numerous sponsors of the event.

Edward Jones received a special round of applause from the audience for providing all three finalists with a laptop.

The crowd exploded when mother and daughter duo Judy and Kami Corwin sang the National Anthem.

"That was amazing," said Henslee. "Let me catch my breath."

The ceremonies keynote speaker was Marianne Vydra, OSU senior associate athletic director for women's athletics. Vydra's sincere and strong presence, quickly took over the microphone and podium, the same demeanor she likely uses when she's hot on the recruiting trail for OSU athletics.

Passionate about OSU and Corvallis, she praised the Boys and Girls Club and everyone involved with the event for its positive contribution to the community.

"I can't tell you how important the work you are doing is to this town," said Vydra. "It pays off in dividends you're not aware of...I thank you, I commend

you for the work that you're all doing."

A moment of silence was held in honor of Dr. Bob Holcomb who passed away Feb. 24. Afterwards the finalists stepped up to the bright lights of the stage to give their Youth of the Year speeches. Starting with Blanca, then Guerrero, and ending with Pulido each brave high schooler told empowering stories of what they've overcome on their road to becoming a finalist. Pulido, raised speaking Spanish, struggled learning English early in her education.

"When I was young I didn't have the ability to talk," said Pulido. "Despite all my hard work I had to repeat second grade."

With plans to attend LBCC in the fall, Pulido couldn't help but come to tears on stage. She is on track to be the first one in her family to graduate high school and attend college.

"All these programs helped me vocalize myself."

Guerrero also has plans to join Pulido at LBCC this fall and aspires to join the choir as he pursues a music major. Guerrero didn't always see himself with such a bright future, as both Guerrero and Blanca divulged darker demons they

overcame when they spoke of battling depression and thoughts of suicide.

"I'm a survivor of depression," said Guerrero. "I will always be in debt to the Boys and Girls Club because I feel they helped save my life."

There was hardly a dry eye or throat that wasn't choked up listening to the teenagers pour their emotions out, each receiving the audience's undivided attention as they spoke. The finalists were met with tears, hugs, and applause as they individually stepped off the stage.

Before the Youth of the Year winner was revealed, the second place Mario & Alma Pastega Family Foundation Scholarship announced that instead of the \$1,000 they committed to that this year they would be upping it to \$2,500. Not to be outdone, the third place Corvallis Elks Club Scholarship increased their \$500 scholarship to \$1,000.

The winners were announced pageant style, Pulido taking third and being awarded the Elks scholarship. Guerrero came in second as the gracious audience and 2015 Youth of the Year winner, Nelly Blanca, gave him the spotlight and respect he deserved before accepting her award.

"Were very happy for her and very proud," said Blanca's mother Maura Lopez.

Overwhelmed with joy and fighting back tears, Blanca was stunned by the news. She too will be the first one in her family to graduate high school and attend college. She will attend Western Oregon and be moving to Monmouth in the fall.

"All of these candidates have become people we can be proud of; all of these candidates are winners," said judge and retired Corvallis school teacher Carol Kronstad. 📍



STORY AND PHOTO BY RICHARD STEEVES @RSTEEVES84

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Culinary Arts Theme Day

Wednesday, March 4, 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Students have been hard at work for eight weeks researching and planning the menu. The menu will feature the following authentic dishes from Japan: ramen bowl, chicken yakitori, okonomiyaki, red bean steam buns, tempura sweet potatoes with ponzu sauce, stir fried edamame with sake and garlic, chicken miso soup, vegetarian kabocha squash soup, and a sushi station with three kinds of made-to-order rolls.

The Black Jews Dialogues

Wednesday, March 4, noon

A social justice theatrical comedy will bring its unique blend of education and entertainment to the Forum, Room-104. Featuring Emmy-award winner Ron Jones and seasoned actor Simon Pringle-Wallace, this two-man show tackles the often-difficult issues of diversity and multiculturalism, speaking to the need for an ongoing cross-generational commitment to social conscience.

"Ruby Boots"

Thursday, March 5, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

A reception talk in South Santiam Hall will be held for the works of Kathryn Cellerini Moore "Ruby Boots." Her works collectively speaks to the woven qualities of emotion, memory, place and time.

\$tart \$mart Salary Negotiation

Thursday, March 5, 4 to 7 p.m.

In the Fireside Room, this interactive workshop is designed to give students of all backgrounds the confidence and skills they need to earn fair compensation. Particular attention will be paid to the special challenges faced for women.

Game Developer Meeting

Friday, March 6, 6 to 9 p.m.

At the Valley Library (room 6420) on the OSU campus, a meeting for all skill levels of programmers, artists, musicians, and

animators interested in the gaming industry are invited to discuss industry options.

A Night on the Bayou

Friday, March 6, 6 p.m.

In the Commons Cafeteria, LBCC culinary arts students present a creole buffet. Featuring frog legs, jambalaya, smoked duck gumbo, crawfish boil, bananas foster, and serving Glo from Block 15 and Bright from 2 Towns Cider. Tickets are \$24 and must be purchased in advance. Call 541-917-4385 for details and reservations.

Alex the Aunt Goes to the Beach

Tuesday, March 10, noon

Take a study break during Dead Week and get Hype Points from Student Life and Leadership. In the Reading Room in the library, author Eric Wayne Dickey will read his picture book and answer questions about writing and publishing children's books. Cookies will be provided.

TIPS TO LAND A JOB

Former CNN broadcaster offers advice to students preparing for careers

Having no job history or little work experience is not a reason to settle for less than you deserve. Brought to you from professionals, these five steps will help prepare you to land a job.

Tammy Trujillo is an award-winning former broadcaster for CNN. She is now

a professor at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, Calif., and spoke at the Associated Collegiate Press conference in Los Angeles last week. She offered advice to students on how to sell themselves as the best candidate for an internship.



COURTESY: TAMMY TRUJILLO

acp!

#ACP2LA

1 MARKET YOURSELF

“Be bold. Do not follow the herd. You don’t need an invite to call some place and ask a question.”

When you find an internship listed online, consider it similar to a cattle call. There will be dozens, if not hundreds of responses, and the further down the list you are the less your chances of a call. Find the information needed to contact the company and call, even if it suggests not to.

Take the chance to make a connection with the hiring manager and move yourself higher up the list.

2 BE PREPARED

“You want people to stop looking at you as kids and look at you as an accomplished young person.”

To present yourself as a complete package you need a cover letter and resume. Like deciding whether to purchase a book, consider your cover letter the book synopsis and your resume the table of contents. You want the interviewer to first read what you are about, and then see your qualifying experience.

Even with no employment history you can include volunteer work, school club involvement, relevant classes taken, or community organization involvement. All of them will help define your character, commitment and motivation.

3 BE PROFESSIONAL

“Show me that you fit into my world.”

In preparation for making contact with a potential employer, know that the interview starts before they meet you. Employers judge you on how you digitally present yourself. Your voicemail should be professional and simple, just state your name and that you will return their call. If you have an email address that is nameless, create an easy-to-remember address with your name. Clean up your social media. Employers are searching the internet to see how you spend your time and who you associate with. What do you want them to see?

4 STAND OUT

“Make it easy for me to hire you, don’t make it hard, because I probably won’t.”

Consider the paper on which you print your resume and cover letter. It could benefit you to use thicker than the average, non-white paper and text that is blue or green. Remember, most of the papers on someone’s desk will be standard white with 10-point black text. You want yours to get their attention. The interviewer may use your resume as talking points to ask you questions. List awards you may have received or accomplishments achieved that could create good discussion.

5 BE CONFIDENT

“Don’t be scared to say you are good at stuff!”

When you meet your potential employer show them how you will represent them when they hire you. Stand straight, make eye contact, have concise answers and be assertive. Shake their hand, be polite, be personable and smile. Most employers will want you to treat their clients in the same way.

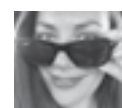
When asked what you are good at, don’t be bashful. Tell them a talent you have that they will be lucky to have. Don’t tell them how much you need the job, tell them why they need you.

HELP WANTED

PERSONAL CARE AIDE PART-TIME Job: 923 Corv. / Albany, OR Pay: DOE Closes: 3/5/15
MECHANIC PART-TIME Job: 1097 Lebanon, OR Pay: \$10.00/hr Closes: 3/12/15
MANAGER TRAINEE PART-TIME Job: 971 Corvallis, OR Pay: DOE Closes: 3/6/15
BUSINESS OPERATION ASSISTANT FULL-TIME Job: 1050 Corvallis, OR Pay: \$16.82/hr Closes: 3/9/15
TUTOR PART-TIME Job: 1023 Albany, OR Pay: \$20+/hr Closes: 4/15/15

For more information, visit

Career Services
 Takena Hall | Albany Campus
www.linnbenton.edu/career-connections



STORY BY
ALLISON LAMPLUGH
@LUCYLAFLOURE

Learning From the Pros

Journalism students sit down with professional journalists to learn from their experiences

Student journalists traveled to Hollywood, not for the movies, but for education.

Members of The Commuter staff visited Los Angeles over the weekend to attend the 31st annual Associated College Press (ACP) Conference. The goal of the conference was to teach and showcase the changing landscape of the journalism market. In attendance were over 700 students and 100 speakers. Students were able to choose from 135 practical sessions, workshops, and one-on-one interactions with professional journalists.

Attendees traveled from across the country and Canada to learn new techniques to improve their journalism skills and to share their own experience covering journalism. The event included sessions across multiple disciplines including; design, photography, sports, management, advertising, online media, and reporting.

"I enjoyed the sessions on covering controversy on campus, how to tactfully discuss sex in our generation, and seeing how our peers are presenting such things in their campus papers," said Editor-in-Chief Allison Lamplugh.

Conference sessions began on Thursday, March 26, highlighted by keynote speaker Rory Kennedy, a documentary filmmaker and daughter of the late senator Bobby Kennedy.

"The highlight of the trip for me was being apart of promoting Mathew to editor of the Arts & Entertainment section of the paper. His hard work shows me that the paper is working to better itself," said Managing Editor Christopher Trotchie.

Friday's keynote speaker was originally acclaimed New York Times journalist David Carr. After his sudden death, CNN's Brian Stelter filled in with an emotion-filled talk that centered around his friend and mentor, Carr. Many of the students that attended took to Twitter after and during his speech.

"My favorite sessions were definitely the Chicken Salad series. Michael Koretzky is my new hero. Even though I may not have learned anything brand new as far as design goes, he pushed for radical experimentation and bold design. I'm looking forward to the future of the paper with a renewed excitement and confidence," said Layout Designer Nicole Petroccione.

Saturday and Sunday's keynote speakers consisted of KPCC's Vice President Melanie Sill and Editorial Cartoonist for the Sacramento Bee Jack Ohman. Both talked about their experience in the industry.

Best of Show Awards were given out on Sunday afternoon. The Commuter took home seventh place for website design.

"They earned this award competing against dozens of other schools and journalism students from across the country. Given the outstanding work on display during the conference, this was quite an achievement," said Rob Priewe, journalism adviser. 📍



STORY BY
ANDREW GILLETTE
@ANDREWJGILLETTE

2015 COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE

ACP

#ACP2LA



"Transferring information is the basis of knowledge, and knowledge is power."

Melanie Sill

(KPCC vice president of content)



"You have 50 years to be boring. Be bold now." Michael Koretzky
(director of SPJ Member Spotlight)

"Try, fail, try again; fail better."
Michael Koretzky (director of SPJ Member Spotlight)

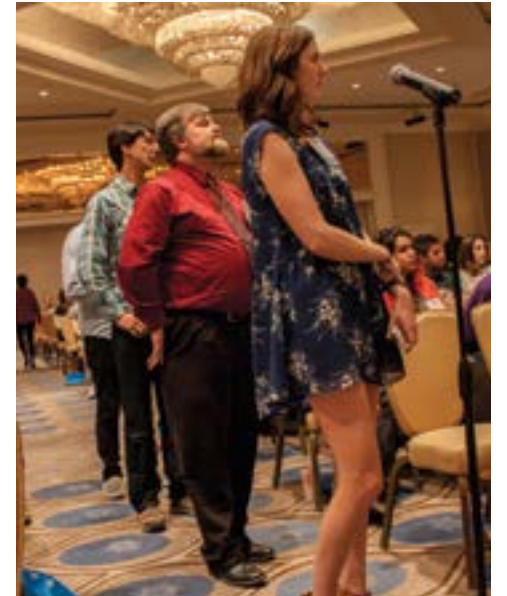


PHOTO STORY BY
CHRISTOPHER TROTCHIE AND
NICOLE PETROCCIONE

"Follow your passion. As cliché as it may sound, it's always true." Brian Stelter (CNN media correspondent)



BRIAN STELTER

CNN host Brian Stelter honors mentor, inspires students at journalism conference

LOS ANGELES -- We need more reporters, and not as many pundits, people who think they know all the answers, according to Brian Stelter.

Stelter is CNN's senior media correspondent and host of "Reliable Sources," the weekly TV program that examines media and journalism. He got his professional start as a media reporter at the New York Times, after launching a blog called "TV Newser" when he was still in college.

On Friday, Stelter was the keynote speaker at the annual West Coast conference of the Associated Collegiate Press, which attracted some 700 journalism students, advisers and media professionals from around the United States and Canada. He filled in for his mentor and former New York Times colleague David Carr, 58, who died Feb. 12.

In his talk, "What David Carr Taught Me About Journalism," Stelter paid tribute to Carr and shared with students the skills and attributes he believes they will need to succeed in journalism in the 21st century.

In addition to the skills of the trade -- reporting, interviewing, writing, mastering social media -- Stelter said students must have a passion for journalism. His own passion for reporting and commenting on media goes as far back as his childhood, when he created a website to write about R.L. Stine's "Goosebumps" books.

Today, Stelter joked, he and the popular

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Brian Stelter is CNN's senior media correspondent and the host of "Reliable Sources." Before that, he was a media reporter for the New York Times.

"Reliable Sources" airs at 8 a.m. Sundays on the West Coast.

Follow Stelter on Twitter by way of @BrianStelter or @CNNReliable.

Or search "Reliable Sources" on Facebook.

Stelter, along with David Carr, is among the journalists featured in the 2011 documentary "Page One: Inside the New York Times."

"I had a lot to learn from David Carr. He would say, he learned more from me," Stelter said. "Page One' really solidified our bromance."

author follow each other on Twitter!

When he arrived at the Times, however, he was not so confident he belonged among the likes of Carr, who Stelter described as the "most important and influential media reporter of our time."

Stelter said he kept his head down and kept reporting and writing as many stories as he could, gaining confidence and the skills he needed to succeed with every published story, which quickly numbered in the hundreds in his first year at the Times.

"I absolutely did not belong there," he recalled. "I was terrified."

Like his mentor, Stelter believes good journalism results from thorough reporting and interviewing. Journalists have to exercise curiosity, make phone calls, and write with confidence.

Stelter recalled Carr saying that a funny thing happens when you do more reporting and more interviews -- a story gets *more* complicated. It's the responsibility of the reporter to sort it all out and explain it to readers.

These days, students must be multitaskers -- versatile and talented. He noted how he recently broke a story that involved writing an article for CNN's website, which posted the story the same time he reported it on TV. Meanwhile, he had already teased the article on social media, and linked to the full story soon after.

Building video skills will be essential for journalists, he said. Americans watch an average of five hours of video a day. That's not going away.

It's also "vitally important" that students take their "personal brand" seriously. When they "Google" themselves, the top 10 results better be work they've created.

Think about specializing in something, he urged all the young reporters in the audience.

"Follow your passion. What can you do better than anybody else?"

Most people today don't trust the mainstream media, he said. Every

day journalists have the opportunity to earn the public's trust or further erode that trust.

David Carr was terrified of making an error, Stelter said, and so should every journalist.

As for the future, Stelter said he shares Carr's optimism -- not just for media but also for the young people heading down that career path.

He ended his talk by quoting from one of his favorite Carr columns, "The Fall and Rise of Media," which was published in the Times in November 2009:

"Somewhere down in the Flatiron, out in Brooklyn, over in Queens or up in Harlem, cabals of bright young things are watching all the disruption with more than an academic interest. Their tiny netbooks and iPhones, which serve as portals to the cloud, contain more informational firepower than entire newsrooms possessed just two decades ago. And they are ginning content from their audiences in the form of social media or finding ways of making ambient information more useful. They are jaded in the way youth requires, but have the confidence that is a gift of their age as well.

"For them, New York is not an island sinking, but one that is rising on a fresh, ferocious wave." ♡



STORY BY
ROB PRIEWE
@ROBPRIEWE

GET YOUR STUDY ON!

With finals approaching, LBCC offers cozy spots to hit your books

Finals can be overwhelming, and finding a solid place to settle down to study can make the difference in making the grade.

The thought of trying to secure a table for studying at the library is cringe worthy. Luckily, Linn-Benton has a variety of beautiful and practical study spots spread throughout the campus. The most convenient part of these study spots is the proximity to instructor offices and classes. It's perfect for when those surprise questions arise.

Library & Learning Center

While the library is one of the most obvious of places, it does offer a hidden treasure; the reading room. The reading room is tucked away in the back right corner and is a silent area with tables, perfect for someone serious about studying.

Above the library is the Learning Center. Within the Learning Center are additional tables. Perhaps the best part are the study rooms, located to the right of the staircase, which are great for big groups.

The rooms can be reserved by signing up for a time slot on the clipboards outside of them. They may be reserved up to a week in advance for no more than two hours per group, and can be reserved once per day. A group will lose their reserved time slot if they are more than 10 minutes late.

White Oak Hall

For a smaller, more individual study, White Oak Hall has sets of tall two person tables next to giant windows in the main entrance both up and downstairs. Linn-Benton student Kami Quesenberry enjoys this area.

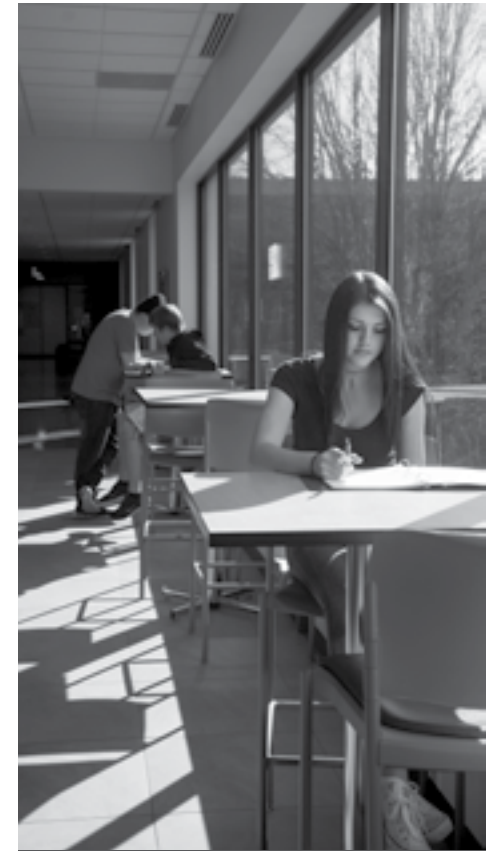
"I frequent here Tuesdays and Thursdays and study before I have to go to my next class nearby."

Closer to the biology department is a windowed alcove with a couple chairs that are perfect for sunlit studying. Right next to the window is another group studying style table where dual enrolled student Samantha Vosika and classmates frequently meet before exams.

"I like being next to the big windows, it's accessible and it's close enough to my instructor's office. We all meet here because it's big enough to hold that a large study group."



Biology student Samantha Vosika enjoys the sunlight in WOH.



Kami Quesenberry studies in WOH.

Madrone Hall

One of the best halls for studying is Madrone Hall. On the first floor, near the courtyard entrance, is the Frances A. Staten study area. This is a neat little area with four person yin and yang shaped tables.

On the other side is a study room called the "Fishbowl." Room-105 is open to students until 9:30 p.m. daily, has a giant white board with ample Expo markers, a few tables, a microwave, and many windows available to draw on.

"I love it here. I spend a lot of time here because it's close to my classes and my instructor's office is right around the corner so if I have any questions I can just go grab him," said Gabe McDowell, an organic chemistry student.

There's an almost identical study room on the above floor.

The Marvin and Marcia Coats study area is located beneath the stairs in a corner of windows overlooking the front parking lot. This area is where students can find the designated physical sciences help desk. A schedule of tutor hours is located to the right of the staircase. It's furnished with a mobile white board and tables that may be easily moved for small or large group studying.

On the other side of the building is the Pacific Corps study area with more yin and yang tables and multiple person tables, plus a large white board. Madrone

Hall hosts a plethora of small study areas in front of the stairs and down the halls.

Takena Hall

Another area for late night study sessions is Takena Hall. Typically, security doesn't lock up until 9 or 9:30 p.m. and the four person booths, both up and downstairs, are perfect study spots.

Within Takena Hall is the Courtyard Café. The café is great to grab a bite to eat while studying at one of the booths along the windows. It's open 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Fridays.

North Santiam Hall

Within North Santiam Hall is a window-walled rotunda with beautiful glass art pieces hanging in the middle. There are a set of two person tables against the windows that are perfect for studying in the sun.

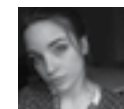
"I like this area because it's quiet and really pretty being right next to the windows. It's a nice area to go to, especially in the mornings, when other places like the library is packed," said Alexis Delgadillo.

On both sides of the hall are bridge-like hallways lined with four person booths up against the windows with a nice view of other students walking to class.

Calapooia Center

One of the most unique places to study at LB is the skylight lit rotunda above the bookstore. There are booths against windows as well as smaller tables around the rotunda. It has an outdoor feeling being that there are no doors, making it a very open space. It's a perfect area to study when the weather isn't permitting.

On the first floor there are a handful of tall tables and chairs outside of the bookstore. It's a great area to get some studying done while listening to the awesome playlist by the bookstore staff and enjoy the massive skylights. 📍



**COLUMN BY
PAIGE HARKLESS
@PAGIEHARKLESS**



NSH window-walled rotunda on second floor.





**Pregnant?
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YO'LYFE

This column aims toward providing alternative spiritual, culture-related rifts focused on day-to-day life. Student interaction, feedback, and suggestions on topics are more than welcome @geiryder.

"Yoga is the practice of tolerating the consequences of being yourself." - Bhagavad Gita

Yoga, whatever that means for you whether it is Hatha asanas - physical practice - breathwork, mindful eating, service, activism, study or discipline, is a subtly distinguishable way to cultivate a common ground of experience between yourself, your environment and community surrounding. Essentially it enhances the quality of each moment lived. It has been exemplified through nonviolent, compassionate messages from Ghandi, Martin Luther King, Buddha, Jesus. . . bringing us outside the box of insanity: To stop doing the same things expecting different results.

As pain, anger and fear - all unconscious energy forms - trigger further forms of separation, oppression and violence, presence, compassion and curiosity, giving way to positive potentials of innovation, willpower, peace, and community. This is the transformational

process which "yoga" ignites, beginning with the mind.

Yoga has become increasingly popular across the globe. It is good to remember that yoga is not a mere form of exercise, but rather a practice of mindfulness in day to day life. As social energy becomes more heated with people standing up for their rights, exposing corrupt truths and bonding together, the need to maintain equilibrium will increase as well. Truly, at this time we are reaching the apex of the new social revolution, and undoubtedly it's root lies in the layers of "love."

In the Willamette Valley community where daily life falls on the end of enjoyable and safe, it is our duty to not separate from the events that are "disrupting" our nation, our own lives, but rather it is our duty to hold ground for those experiencing conflict and hold space - "presence."

It is a matter of becoming that which you are within and exposing it without. Recognizing self for only what it is, not

what you would like it to be. Lose control.

Allow yourself to be your best without worrying that you might possibly be capable of giving anything but that.

To whom may be so inclined to practice the art of perfection - seek only a mere essence of already established peace: #NeedNothing #MakeDo #InnerInnovation. Adaptability becomes second nature when enforced by way of Prana: #Breathe.

Essentially, also, we must remember, that appropriately there isn't a right way to do yoga, or a proper way to grow, or change, or be the best a person can be. It merely comes with practice and expansion of the body by focusing and relaxing the mind. Consistency is key, as students, parents, teachers, we should know. #BreakdownBarriers.

"Reshape yourself through the power of your will; never let yourself be degraded by self-will. The will is the only friend of the Self, and the will is the only enemy of the Self." - Bhagavad Gita

YOU DO NOT NEED TO...

- Be a woman to practice yoga.
- Listen to a certain kind of music to practice yoga.
- Become a Nag-Champa incense fanatic to practice yoga.
- Create a fire hazard with candles to practice yoga.
- Be happy to practice yoga.
- Small, flexible, or athletic to practice yoga.
- Religious or spiritual to practice yoga.
- Give up pleasure to practice yoga.
- Be young to practice yoga.
- Eat organic food or be vegetarian to practice yoga.
- Do anything you do not want to do to practice yoga.



COLUMN BY GEORGIA DUNN-HARTMAN @GEIRYDER



PHOTO: MARWAH ALZABIDI

Community Consciousness

Yo-jah: Life doesn't come easy. Not to no one, no how. And that's okay, because as humans, creators of our realities, dynamic aspects of our ecosystem, we too are apart of nature. We so are part of each and every now. We are the ones, and we are the hows. Our trip-ups make this nature real and worth it.

By Georgia Dunn-Hartman

Linn-Benton Community College Performing Arts Department presents

Wander in Song

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015
7:30 p.m.



Featuring Linn-Benton Community College
Concert Choir
Re-Choired Element Chamber Choir
A cappella groups: Blue Light Special • The Sirens
James M. Reddan, conductor
Penny Bazanele, accompanist

\$10 Adults • \$7 Seniors & LBCC Students
\$5 under 18 (with adult)

Box office open 1-4 p.m. week of performances

Russell Tripp Performance Center
Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

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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, OR 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 employer & educator.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Earth takes 365 days and six hours to orbit the sun. The adding up of the extra six hours is why every four years there is a leap year.

Jupiter has 63 known moons, the most of all the planets.

BUSY BUSY BUSY

Linn-Benton's Veterans Club Needs your Participation!

Next Meeting
Monday,
March 9th
1330 (1:30)
Rm RCH116



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Student Submission: *Hanna Hadi*

Students from Analee Fuentes' Drawing 131 class were assigned to draw a comic strip based on an experience from real life. Hanna Hadi was inspired by a dream her

friend had about getting shot and waking up the next morning with her face covered in blood. Hadi used pencil, ball point pen, sharpie, and colored pencils to create the

comic. She found that it was necessary to simplify her style, but then challenging to clearly tell the story with a finite amount of panels. ♡



STORY BY
CAT REGAN
@RAINDANCERCAT



THE ART OF REVIEW

The role of review and its importance in modern society

Reviewers are human shields, they are willing to risk taking a bullet so no one else has to. That, or they want to get the word out so no one else gets burned. Not every company has the consumer's best interest at heart and it's important to know which products are worth your money. If you're ever on the wall about a purchase, there's always an authority waiting to share their opinion with you.

The amount of products that are marketed to the masses is staggering. Defective products, predatory marketing, and misrepresentation of products by companies is a real problem in our society. From a gaming perspective no one wants another "Duke Nukem Forever" or "Aliens Colonial Marines." Reviews are like the gift of fire, stolen from corporate titans.

A review is meant to be an evaluation

of a product, service, or anything else available for purchase. The best way to do this is to present the details about a product and allow the potential customer to decide for themselves to make the purchase. This is the job of a reviewer, who has made the purchase and can comment on the experience.

Anyone can find a review for anything at anytime with the power of the Internet. Amazon, Metacritic, and Yelp are three major review sites that cover nearly every product or service out there, though they go for quantity over quality of reviews.

The personal opinion of a reviewer should always be second to the presentation of the facts, but that doesn't mean opinion isn't important. A reviewer should have an opinion and express it, but as a side note to the information they are providing. People have different tastes

and some qualities can be a deal breaker, while others could be overlooked.

All bases need to be covered in a review. When emphasizing with readers, anecdote is the most powerful tool in a reviewer's arsenal and is quickly becoming the basis for most forms of review.

You can get a pretty good indication on the overall quality based on the ratio of good or bad reviews. A thousand small voices can often be stronger than a single great one. For example, you can easily identify what is good about a product on Amazon by reading some of the five-star reviews. Then you can get a good idea by reading all of the one-star reviews to figure out what's particularly bad about your potential purchase. The gaps can then be filled by everything inbetween.

In my own reviews I try to take a more conversational tone. From my perspective

the most helpful way to decide whether or not to purchase a video game is to listen to someone who has played it, talk about it. I then decide whether or not it is something I'm interested in and make my own decision from there.

A reviewer's responsibility is to protect consumers by educating them. If a product is low quality, deceptive, or even dangerous it's a consumer's right to know. That said there's no harm in rewarding good behavior by spreading the word around. ♡



COLUMN BY
MATHEW BROCK
@MATHEWQBROCK

THE LEGEND OF ZELDA MAJORA'S MASK™

GAME REVIEW:

The Legend of Zelda: Majora's Mask 3D

PUBLISHER: Nintendo

PLATFORM: 3DS

RATED: E10

OVERALL RATING:

★★★★★

COURTESY: NINTENDO

After 15 years “The Legend of Zelda: Majora’s Mask” was remastered for a new generation on the Nintendo 3DS.

Having played the game since its launch March 13, I can say the game has stood the test of time in a similar manner to other Nintendo remakes such as when “Pokémon Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire,” remade the classic “Pokémon Ruby and Sapphire.”

The story concerns the moon threatening to crash into the land of

Termina within three days time; leaving Link only 72 hours to stop it. This is where the big innovation in gameplay comes in from the initial release in 2000: one minute of gameplay equals one hour in the game’s universe. The challenge comes from finding ways to complete the necessary tasks within the allotted time.

If this sounds like a daunting task; never fear: you still possess the Ocarina of Time from

the game of the same name, which

allows you to go back to the first day and try the tasks at hand in other ways. In essence, it often resembles the film “Groundhog Day.”

The graphics were given a massive overhaul to ensure the transition from Nintendo 64 to 3D. The frame rate and colors were improved dramatically from the initial N64 release; and the use of 3D is some of the best on the system for those who can handle it.

Despite massive accolades in its initial

release, this title is often overlooked among the two N64 Zelda entries.

“Ocarina of Time” has the distinction of being my all-time favorite game. Be that as it may; I strongly recommend “The Legend of Zelda: Majora’s Mask 3D” to those who want to revisit an underrated gem in the Zelda canon as well as those who missed it the first time around. 📍

REVIEW BY
STEVEN PRYOR

MEDIA BULLETIN

Games

- La Mulana Ex
- OlliOlli2: Welcome to Olliwood
- Runes of Camelot
- Mario vs. Donkey Kong: Tipping Stars
- Cooking Mama: Forest Friends
- Grapple
- Assassin’s Creed Rogue

Platform

- PS3
- PS4, PSV
- PC
- 3DS, Wii U
- 3DS
- 3DS
- PC
- PC

Developer

- Rising Star Games
- Roll7
- Fingerpunch Games
- Nintendo
- 505 Games
- 505 Games
- Mac Midnight City
- Ubisoft

Release Date

- March 4, 2015
- March 4, 2015
- March 4, 2015
- March 5, 2015
- March 6, 2015
- March 6, 2015
- March 9, 2015
- March 10, 2015

Movies

- Chappie
- Faults
- Unfinished Business

Studio

- Columbia Pictures
- Screen Media Films
- 20th Century Fox

Genre

- Sci-fi
- Thriller
- Comedy

Director

- Neill Blomkamp
- Riley Stearns
- Ken Scott



DID YOU KNOW?

The average human head weighs 10 pounds, three of which are the brain.

The Amazon makes 20 percent of the world’s oxygen.

“Always Sometimes Monsters”
“A game about making tough decisions in desperate and emotional situations. Your actions define you and every choice matters.”

CREATIVE CORNER

“Storming Sea”

There’s nothing more to say.
 I’ll tell you I’m okay.
 Because all you do is tear me down.
 Put me back on the ground.
 Never to breathe a sigh of relief.
 Always clinging to the past.
 Curled in a ball.
 Wishing I could breath.
 Wishing to leave what once was you and me.
 Its no longer how it was.
 We crossed a line.
 That line was our one way out.
 It was our safety rope in the boat.
 We sailed stormy seas.
 Only seeing what we could be.
 We lost track of the line.
 The line to save our lives.
 Now I’m here.
 Watching a person I no longer know.
 Storm about like that sea.
 The sea that drove us to the line.
 The storm that tore us apart for all time.

By: Michelle Soutar

“Do I Paint a Different Picture”

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

By. Nathan Tav Knight

SUBMIT YOUR WORK


Submit your poetry to The Commuter by email at commuter@linnbenton.edu or drop by the office in Forum 222.
 Join the Poetry Club Tuesdays in the DAC, 3-4pm.

“Beauty in Life”

I think I get it now
 Beauty is not the touch
 But in the sound
 Of a voice the whisper
 Into the ear
 The breath of a being
 That makes life so dear
 For the grime of life
 Washes off
 But you are still here.

But beauty is not just a sound
 It is an idea
 That will expound
 Your voice to hush
 Her fears
 Into silence
 It is not a being
 Of lust
 For beauty is
 As always was.

By. Nethaniel Edwards



BLACK CURTAIN SOCIETY
 LBCC Theatre Club

A Support Organization for LBCC Theatre

- Assisting in Theatre Productions
 - Annual Ashland Retreat
 - Kennedy Center Trip
 - OSU Theatre Plays
 - Fundraising
 - Performing
 - Meetings


All Students Welcome
 A Student Operated Club
 Advisor : Dan Stone
 Facebook : Black Curtain Society

This artwork was created by LBCC student Joan Linse for Analee Fuentes’ Art 234 figure drawing class.

WORRIED????

Linn-Benton's Veterans Club Needs your Participation!

Next Meeting Monday, March 9th 1330 (1:30) Rm RCH116



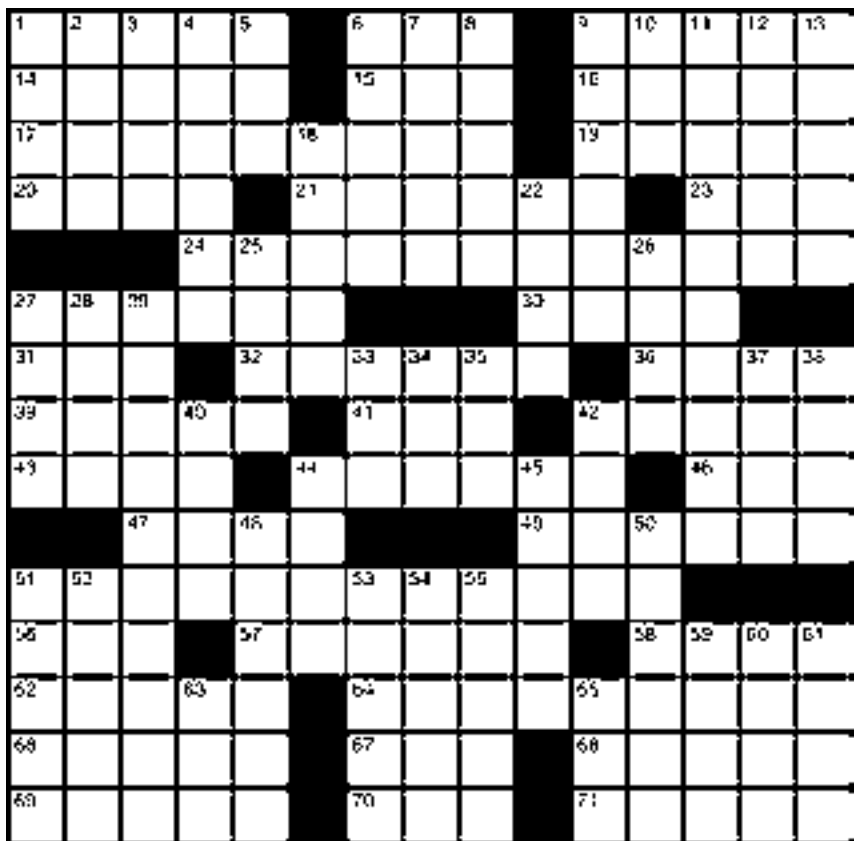

DID YOU KNOW?

The reason chess pieces are designed like castles is because it was played by European royals who designed them to reflect their lives.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Insect stage
 - 6 Sink down in the middle
 - 9 Heavy haulers
 - 14 Not quite spherical
 - 15 Single
 - 16 Mild-mannered reporter Kent
 - 17 Tennis court official
 - 19 Overzealous type
 - 20 Point after deuce
 - 21 More narcissistic
 - 23 Asian New Year
 - 24 Harbor long-term resentment
 - 27 Portuguese explorer Vasco
 - 30 Open court hearing, in law
 - 31 News org.
 - 32 Construction zone cones
 - 36 Earth-orbiting Gagarin
 - 39 Birds that symbolize peace
 - 41 Right, vis-à-vis left: Abbr.
 - 42 Early PC interface
 - 43 Glasses, in ads
 - 44 More than mono
 - 46 Workout facility
 - 47 Water, in Juárez
 - 49 Amazingly enough
 - 51 Creamy confection
 - 56 End of a prof's URL
 - 57 Type of vegetable oil
 - 58 Yucky muck
 - 62 Soup scoop
 - 64 "Stay put!"
 - 66 Partner of vim
 - 67 Seventh Greek letter
 - 68 Love, to Luciano
 - 69 Length-times-width calculations
 - 70 Opposite of NNW
 - 71 Yankee shortstop Jeter who announced he will retire at the end of 2014
- DOWN**
- 1 Whatever she wants, she gets
 - 2 Zealous
 - 3 Rice-A-___
 - 4 Capital of Austria
 - 5 Wd. modifying a noun
 - 6 Dr Pepper and Dr. Brown's
 - 7 1973 Rolling Stones ballad
 - 8 Davis of "A League of Their Own"
 - 9 Move like a squirrel
 - 10 Right-angle bend
 - 11 Political commentator with an Internet "Report"
 - 12 Discount rack abbr.
 - 13 Glide on ice
 - 18 Sunlamp danger, briefly
 - 22 Narcissists have big ones
 - 25 Men pocketing baseballs
 - 26 Sometimes-illegal turns, for short
 - 27 Fizzling firecrackers
 - 28 Each
 - 29 Push gently
 - 33 Valet's purview
 - 34 Not shut, poetically



By Ed Sessa

3/4/15

Last Edition's Puzzle Solved



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3/31/14

- 35 "All Things Considered" aier
- 37 Rogers and Clark
- 38 Beliefs
- 40 WWII vet, say
- 42 Synthesizer pioneer
- 44 Room in una casa
- 45 Conclude by
- 48 Stomach ailments
- 50 Lentil or pea
- 51 Aqua ___: aftershave brand
- 52 Firefighter Red
- 53 South American range
- 54 Pays, as the bill
- 55 Radii-paralleling bones
- 59 Skunk's defense
- 60 Fairy tale fiend
- 61 Eye on the sly
- 63 Hawaii's Mauna ___
- 65 Terrible

THE COMMONS

Cafeteria

*** MENU ***
3/4 - 3/10

- Wednesday:** Japanese Theme Day: Ramen Bowl, Chicken Yakitori*, Okonomiyaki (Savory Pancake,) and Red Bean Steam Buns. Soups: Chicken Miso Soup, and Vegetarian Kabocha Squash*. Please come and join us for this student planned menu!
- Thursday:** Braised Lamb*, Huli Huli Chicken, Vegetable Lasagna. Soups: Pozole*, and Beer Cheese.
- Friday:** Chef's Choice
- Monday:** Biscuits and Country Gravy with Poached Eggs, Stuffed Turkey Meatloaf, Vegetarian Risotto*. Soups: French Onion*, and Broccoli Cheddar.
- Tuesday:** Poached Chicken over Mushroom Rice Pilaf with Bearnaise*, Grilled Steak, Red Onion and Sweet Potato Strudel. Soups: Smoked Salmon Chowder, and Tomato, Roasted Garlic and Herb*.
- Items denoted with a * are gluten-free

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

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

SOLUTION TO LAST EDITION'S PUZZLE

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

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

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

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REPORT SEXUAL ASSAULT

https://linnbenton-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report/ | 541-926-6855



COMMUTER

do YOU love Social Media?

The Commuter Wants You!
Beginning Spring Term The Commuter will have an open work study position for Social Media Editor. Come join our team and help keep your campus connected to their favorite source of news. For details or to apply stop by our office in Forum 222 on Albany Campus.



DID YOU KNOW?

Google, Apple and Microsoft were all companies started in a garage.

France makes 75 percent of their energy from nuclear power.

Your Ticket TO Spring Break

AT THE COAST!

7-Day Pass... ONLY \$30

The NW Connector runs daily round trip buses from Corvallis to Newport. Affordable three and seven day passes, with unlimited free transfers up and down the scenic coast from Astoria to Yachats.

Plan your trip at:
www.nwconnector.net/coasttovalley

(Oh yeah... did we mention they're equipped with bike racks?)

NORTH & NORTHWEST



Graduate sooner

Being a student has its perks, but let's be honest: You want to earn your degree as quickly as possible. We can help. Take summer classes at Oregon State and speed up your journey to graduation.

Registration opens April 12.

summer.oregonstate.edu

Can't stay in Corvallis this summer? Take classes online: ecampus.oregonstate.edu

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YOU CAN DO IT ALL THIS SUMMER

2015 SUMMER CLASSES