

Your Community Compass



Michael Rivera

Staff Videographer

t was a night filled with song and celebration as the LBCC Choir showed the large audience how to have a lot of fun with song and dance.

The Second Annual Cabaret was held on April 5 in Forum 104, and proved to be a great success for the LBCC choral department. With over three months of work, the student-organized event was held in order to raise money for the LBCC Chamber Choir's upcoming trip to London for the Olympics.

After an audience packed the choir room last year, they moved the Cabaret to the Forum building auditorium, where there was

plenty of space for the crowd and performers. Many participants performed songs, such as "Beauty and the Beast," "Chasing Cars," "Poker Face," and "Crazy for You."

Katherine Lee, one of the performers and emcees for Cabaret says, "It is a student-led spotlight show in its second year. We hope to show our talent in music."

Overall, the audience seemed impressed with the student-run program. Reactions were positive all around.

"Last year, I brought the idea to James. People absolutely loved it. We hope to accomplish fundraising for our traveling. So far, we have 30 people and about \$1,500 per person," says Cameron Graham, choir member and one of the founders of Blue Light Special, LBCC's male a capella group.

"They did an excellent job due to them putting in the time, effort and energy. Attendance has doubled from last year, the caliber of performances has improved, and the ability to use the sound system has definitely improved our performance from last year," says James Reddan, director of choral activities here at LBCC.

The choir department plans on continuing to make Cabaret an annual event as its popularity grows every year. If you are interested in becoming involved or making a donation, contact the LBCC Choral Department here at LBCC.

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THE COMMUTER Staff

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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

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LBCC Commuter

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New Man on Campus: Javier Cervantes

Sean Bassinge

Staff Writer

Javier Cervantes has been named LBCC's new director of diversity and community engagement. In honor of welcoming Cervantes to LBCC, a reception was held in the Diversity Achievement Center on Monday, April 2.

Nearly 20 individuals came to greet Cervantes, including members of LBCC's administration, such as President Greg Hamann and Bruce Clemetsen, vice president of Student Services. Multiple students and faculty members also attended the event.

"I met lots of nice people who've welcomed me warmly," said Cervantes.

Formerly involved with OSU, Cervantes has worked to enhance diversity in colleges for over 12 years. When he lived in Chicago, Cervantes gauged student experiences of incoming college freshman and researched bias documentation in addition to contributing to a Cultural Competency Committee.

Cervantes also visited LBCC in the past. One experience includes an event in May 2007 when former LBCC President Rita Cavin invited him to discuss pathways to higher education in front of Latino and Latina students from Calapooia and Memorial middle schools. Cervantes also shared his experiences of living and learning in the United States and Mexico.

When it comes to LBCC, three areas Cervantes wishes to focus on are student outcomes, experiences and cultural fluency for newer LBCC employees and faculty members. Cervantes wants to make it clear as to what inclusion and diversity really mean, and wishes to emphasize their importance in our local college community.

"There's no reason why you can't be educated at a local community college and be prepared for a globally diverse world," said Cervantes.



Sean Bassinger

Javier Cervantes, LBCC's new director of diversity and community engagement.

When asked what he was most looking forward to, Cervantes stated how eager he was to constantly accept new challenges and meet extraordinary people.

Cervantes is thrilled to contribute toward diversity awareness at a community college. "The best part is how every day will be different," he said. "In community colleges, you're going to get a nice tapestry experience of people with different life experiences." An example of the diverse demographic at LBCC Cervantes experienced was when he had a

discussion with an Iraq war veteran.

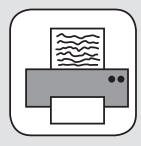
Cervantes can be found in the Diversity Achievement Center, where many events on cultural awareness and inclusion are always taking place. While emphasizing the importance of diversity and inclusion in a community college environment, Cervantes hopes many individuals will help make a difference here at LBCC.

"You choose to accept challenges, or you choose to ignore them," said Cervantes. "That's your choice."









Write. Snap. Edit. Print.

The Commuter is constantly looking for new additions to our staff.

Here are some of the positions we have open:

Features/News Writers: Those interested in reporting a wide variety of topics, covering campus, local, national and world news. Some experience with journalism preferred, but not necessary.

Photographers: Have an eye for capturing photojournalism? Basic knowledge of cameras, equipment and design programs, such as Flickr and Photoshop preferred.

Sports Editor and Sports Writers: Those interested in reporting and covering a variety of LBCC and OSU sports.

Photography Assistant: Work with other photographers and videographers to take photos for an assignment. Knowledge of cameras, equipment and design programs, such as Flickr and Photoshop required.

Production Assistant: Delivering issues of The Commuter to areas of Lebanon, Albany and Corvallis. Access to mode of transportation necessary.

Design Assistant: Interest in graphic design and page layout. Help put the paper together.

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

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

Francis Plus Math Equals Fun Saving Money

Kay M Roth

Staff Writer

Nicole Francis is not your stereotypical math instructor. She makes math interesting and, even for non math majors, fun! Math is more than just numbers to Francis - it's understanding that math is part of our world, not a world apart.

"I have always enjoyed doing math and solving problems." One reason she decided to become a math instructor was to share this enjoyment with her students. And, for students who are lucky enough to take a class from her, she does just that.

A graduate of McMinnville High School, Francis went on to do her undergraduate work at the University of Oregon before heading to Arizona State University for graduate school. She got her first taste of teaching math as a TA at UO and as a graduate teaching associate at ASU. After ending up in Maryland for several years, Francis had a desire to move back to the Pacific Northwest. She found Linn-Benton Community College.

She liked the area and the fact that "LBCC is a really nice-sized community college." That was six years ago, and Francis has never regretted the move. She really likes working with college math students. "They are so enthusiastic about their prospects and are all working to better them-

When asked if she has a math hero, Francis was quick to note that Isaac Newton is her favorite mathematician. "He developed his theories of Calculus, while avoiding the plague." In honor of Newton, Francis named her oldest son

While she teaches a wide variety of math classes, including Math 65 and Math 105, Francis calls Math 232 "Topics

Earn Your Degree in Bend



Math Instructor Nicole Francis

in Discrete Math," her favorite class to teach. "Every day you do something cool in that class." This term, she is teaching two classes of Math 65 (Elementary Algebra) and one class of Math 256 (Applied Differential Equations).

Francis makes her home in the Willamette Valley with her husband and two young sons. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, learning to sew, and a wide variety of outdoor activities that she can do with her family, including camping and biking.

When it comes to math, Francis suggests, especially for math majors, "Don't let the Algebra drag you down." She explained that some people really enjoy Algebra, while others don't. "Mastering it is absolutely necessary, but there is so much more to math than Algebra. Just because you don't love Algebra, doesn't mean you can't love math!"

in School

Alan Boone

Contributing Writer

It's a struggle trying to stay afloat financially in the real world. Taking classes on top of that can make living that much more difficult. Not many students exercise the resources that we have available and there are many to choose from.

There are many easy ways to save money, and while you put more cash back into your pocket, the principles of doing so will help you keep saving even after you graduate.

One huge amenity is offered right here at LBCC. Did you know that when you enroll as a student, a small portion of your tuition charge goes directly to public transportation? You pay to ride the bus, so why not use it?

This will save you hundreds of dollars on gas, insurance and maintenance costs on vehicles. Not to mention you are helping the environment. The route areas covered are Albany, the Linn-Benton Loop (which connects Albany to Corvallis), and all Corvallis routes are free to anyone! Check the City of Albany and Corvallis websites for route times and downloadable schedules, or stop by Takena Hall for more information.

You can also save a ton of money by purchasing your books online. Retrieve your books ISBN numbers at LBCC's bookstore website. The numbers are usually available during registration times, so you can order what you need in time for the following term.

Since most online book sites are structured similar to Ebay (i.e. Half.com or Abe Books) you can look at the seller's profile to see where they are located. Staying close to the west coast ensures faster delivery. The seller "BookByte" is based out of Salem and offers most all texts for LBCC courses, and this seller has profiles on most of the popular websites.

Amazon Student offers free two-day shipping when you sign up for a six month free trial, but make sure you cancel the trial before the six months is up to refrain from paying the \$39 annual fee, which still isn't bad.

For those of you on financial aid who have to use bookstore credit, you can also rent books or buy eBooks as opposed to buying new or used texts. There are money savings all around the home as well. We are lucky to have deposits on cans and bottles here in Oregon, so save your cans!

Buying food at a grocery store instead of eating at restaurants saves a bunch! Think about it this way. A fast food combo averages about \$5 to \$10. Take that \$10 and go to the grocery store, get a loaf of bread, sandwich meat, and cheese to have sandwiches for a week or more.

Yes, it's boring and repetitive, but you're a college student. At the end of the term, reward yourself with a nice dinner. Are you a coffee drinker? Start brewing at home! An average bag of coffee is about \$7 which yields about 40 cups. If you take creamer add another \$4 for a big bottle. Let's say a 12 ounce cup of espresso is \$2.50, multiplied by 40, and that's \$100!

So you see, cutting corners here and there will help you save, save, save! Use that extra money to buy something nice for working so hard in college. It's always





American Nightmare:

Sub-Prime Lending and Institutions that Want More

Mike Rivera

Contributing Writer

The all want to achieve that "American Dream" of owning our own homes. A home represents more than just a place of shelter, but a means of comfort, safety, and pride. However, not everyone has the credit to do so.

In 2011, Karla Bowsher reported for Money Talk News. com that "the average American debt is more than \$10,000." Take into account student loans with that debt. Oh, it doesn't stop there; how about that nice new car you just bought for yourself? No wonder it's hard to find someone to lend you more cash for a house.

It's plain and simple: These private lenders and governmentsponsored enterprises need to answer for the damage they've done to our American Dream. Due to their poor decisions, young people just getting out of college will have to fight an uphill battle in order to qualify for these home loans.

This goes beyond the surface of just the housing market; this influences college students everywhere who are trying to get loans.

It will be up to us, the freshly educated, to put back the pieces and be the ones responsible for rebuilding this torn apart market.

Sub-prime lending is one of the riskiest types of lending out there. It takes people who don't have the credit score and (for a higher interest rate) lends you money for a home. These sub-prime loans do not fall under the category of mortgage-backed securities, so the lender takes all the risk.

Carter Briscoe, an accountant for Georgia-Pacific's Wauna Plant (one of Oregon's biggest timber mills), a business analyst well-versed in housing market and recent graduate of Oregon State, talked about his own research and studies of the mortgage market. He gave good background on sub-prime lending and how it actually produces a more profitable market during its boom.

"It started with a financial instrument called a mortgage-backed security. What happens here is that mortgage-owning banks will pool mortgages together, split them into even portions, and sell them as bonds to other financial institutions and investors. So when people who owe these mortgages make payments to the bank, the bank is considered a "pass through" entity because it essentially pays that money to the investors in which it sold the mortgage backed securities to," says Briscoe.

Mortgage-backed securities date as far back as the Great Depression in 1934. As part of the New Deal, President Franklin D. Roosevelt created a government-controlled enterprise (commonly know as Freddie Mac) that insured people could pay their mortgages to the lender.

In 1968, Lyndon B. Johnson privatized Freddie Mac in order to ease fiscal pressures during the Vietnam War. In the process, Freddie Mac was split in to two entities in order to prevent a monopoly of the secondary mortgage market. This second company is commonly know as Fannie Mae. Yet, the government still maintained a part of this company. This allowed the companies direct access to funds from the U.S. Treasury.

This brief history presents the nuts and bolts of why these institutions gave some loans away. Once these companies realized how much money they could make on sub-prime



loans on securities, the banks went on a hay day of loan giving. Yet, as Briscoe explains, the repercussions were drastic:

"The mortgage backed securities were selling so fast that banks decided to increase their sub-prime lending, offering loans to individuals often without doing their due diligence to understand the true credit risk of the individual, just so they could cut them up into more securities. Then, the bubble broke, people started to default on their loans, which in turn created a large inventory on the banks' books of houses," says Briscoe.

Even so, there is a reason that sub-prime lending was arose from government demands. Alan Fudge, Instructor of Business Management at LBCC said, "What many people don't know is that the lending market is dictated by congressional action. Before the Great Recession, the industry was told by Congress to give out more loans to people; this lessened restrictions on who received loans."

"Eventually, after many foreclosures, the government stepped in to try and fix the situation. One reason the Obama Administration is doing well right now is that he is holding the interest rate to the lowest ever in U.S. History," Fudge continued.

How do we change the market today? With so many past mistakes coming from bad loans, is there a form of oversight we can continue when the nation gets back on its feet?

"The answer is a huge possibly. If we look at what got us into the mess, a lot of it had to do with the credit agencies rating highly risky investments as low risk," says Briscoe.

Ten years ago, you'd have contractors build houses just to put them on the market and sell. This allowed many construction workers to capitalize and live in a higher middle-class lifestyle. The government was pushing banks to lend more money and the institutions got greedy. They realized that with these sub-prime loans, they could manipulate the numbers just enough to categorize them as low-risk assets. Then, the government came along and bought these loans, without even

realizing what had happened to them. As time continued and the default rate rose higher and higher, the metaphorical weight of lies and fraud broke through the roof of one of our most established markets.

In today's market, we are experiencing dramatically low housing prices. This is all great and attractive to the home buyer, but there is a catch. Wendy Krislen-Adams, an accounting instructor at both Linn-Benton Community College and Western Oregon University, gives insight into how the market has changed today due to the collapse of the housing market.

"Now, you're seeing higher restrictions for people being able to buy houses. You have to fit a very specific profile today in order to buy one of these house. These companies can't just loan out money anymore because they need guaranteed returns. As before, where loans were relatively easy to get with bad credit, that is almost never happening now," says Krislen-Adams.

"With the collapse of people wanting to buy houses, the demand for building is sparse. This puts a lot of pressure on those who built specialized houses to be sold on completion and are now sitting empty. This influences the small business man as far as he owes for these houses and for larger corporations, since they cannot continue to pull large loans from banks. Overall, the complete recovery of our market will be a very long and grueling process that will take years or decades to fix the mess that has been made," Krislen-Adams continued.

With so many people finally recovering from the economic downturn, how do we go forward? A wise man once told me that you never repeat the same mistake twice. These institutions need to answer for the lies that have been made, and as we see in the news now, many are already being sued and taken to court over claims of bad lending. As the saga continues, it's hard not to think about how that sweet American Dream is turning into an American Nightmare.

Advice from Weiss



Counselo

uestion: Dude, what's the story about dropping a class. My friend says there's a deadline coming up, but I've dropped classes later than this.

Answer: Your friend makes a good point. The last day to "drop" a class, and not have it count on your record, is Friday (live) or Sunday (on-line).

After Sunday, if you pull out of a class it counts as a "withdrawal," not a "drop" and a "W" is put on your transcript. Now "W's" don't count against your grade point average, the way a "D" or an "F" do, but it does count against your completion percentage, and that is very important. The college requires that you complete 70% of your classes to graduate, so completion of individual classes is very related to completion of degrees. You need a high percentage of the one to achieve the other.

Those students who use financial aid have a second reason to avoid "W's" and keep a high completion percentage. You can lose your aid if you don't.

So, my two cents worth is, don't be in any class after this Friday (which happens to be Friday the 13th) that you don't think you can finish.
Completion matters, on multiple

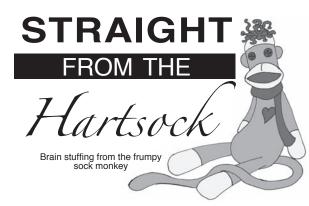
Starting this summer quarter, the time to drop and avoid getting a "W" on your transcript will be moving up. Instead of the second Friday of the term, it will be the second Monday of the term. So students will have to make even faster decisions about their classes than they do now. Just a heads up.

Mark Weiss Counseling Mark Weiss has been a counselor and adviser at LBCC for 20 years. The purpose of this column is to answer students' 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.

OPINION

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

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Falling for the Cliché

Jennifer M. Harsock

Opinion Editor

We've all graduated from high school, or at least attended high school for some amount of time. Either way, we were there for an adequate amount of time to notice that most nice girls fall for the bad boys, and most nice boys want the popular girls. Those of us in the middle (we're not jerks, we're not red-hot beauties) wondered why the heck we're always left in the "friend zone." Don't we have something to offer?

I've been a girl all of my life, and have taken three sociology courses, but I still can't figure out the romantic mindset of young people, and then, of course, the mindset of adults who never seem to break the routine. Based on my own observations and my own personal experiences, this is my guess:

When young girls are interested in having a boyfriend, they are subconsciously attracted to a risky, bad-boy type because of two reasons. 1) He's a challenge, and 2) He's someone they can change. If the jerk likes you, and promises to change for you, you are the only girl out of

the entire school who is worth being a better person for. To a young girl seeking acceptance, love, and importance, this is the ultimate compliment, the number one form of flattery.

It works very similarly for a young boy who seeks the prettiest and most popular girl in school, even if she isn't that interesting or nice. Since I'm not a guy, I can't say for certain if this is true at all. But, if you're a popular stud, you might want to date a good looking gal in order to compliment your status and self assurance. If you're a normal guy just doing his own thing, you might want to date the popular girl because if she likes you back, you must be important (she can have anyone, and she likes you). If you're at the complete opposite of the spectrum from her, maybe it just comes naturally to want someone (and her lifestyle) that is unknown. After all, she looks happy.

Sometimes, you don't get the girl because it's really better off that you don't. In time (and sometimes this takes years), most nice girls are hurt one too many times and finally realize that seeking self-assurance by changing someone isn't healthy. It's a shame that nice guys have to wait for girls to grow up, but when they are ready for a good relationship, that is when they'll find you. However, if you're gawking over the Queen-Supreme who doesn't have a brain in her head or a heart in her chest, you're going to miss out on finding a real person and consequently, a good relationship.

Nice girls, the bad guy is a bad guy, and you will never be able to change him. It's his choice to change, it's his responsibility. Some people never decide to be better people, and you'll end up feeling used.

Nice guys, the wait may be a long one, but nice girls eventually realize that bad boys are bad news. Some gals never grow up, but those aren't the kind of women you want to waste your heart on anyway.

The point is: Be yourself, seek someone who compliments you for just the person you are.

Dear Conscience,



Experimenting in college ... self discovery or dangerous waste of time?

Jill Mahler

Shoulder Devil

Tmm... let's think about Hmm... let s think about this. The whole point of going to college is to earn a higher education, so you can shove it in your loser friend's face and say, "I'm smarter than you." However, with that said, you would be the mush brain if you choose to spend four years of college or more, countless hours and thousands of dollars for strictly studying. No one is going to remember you for your awesome study notes or grade point average and why would you want to be remembered for that? You want to be known for your steady hand at beer pong, your perseverance despite sleep deprivation and how many "study partners" you had.

So live it up! Attend less class and more parties. Don't worry about your professors, they are understanding. In fact, you might see them around a keeger or two.

If you do not have at least one dealer friend at the end of your time at college, than you have done something terribly wrong. If you haven't drawn on someone's face while they "slept" on the couch, you aren't that great of a friend. Don't feel bad if you can't remember that person's name or why you found them so funny.

Your main goal should be to live for the day that you are being interviewed and the employer asks you what you learned from college, you can hold your head up proud and say, "I learned about life!" Jennifer M. Hartsock

Shoulder Angel

If by "experiment" you mean talking to new people in class, joining new clubs, or creating new ways to express your gratitude of being alive—then yes, "experiment" away. College is the time when you're both impressionable, and expressive! Allowing instructors and young adults to saturate your brain with encouragement and motivation is a good thing. Learning new cultural norms and customs enhance your life experience. Becoming known by others for your work and goals improves self-confidence.

If by "experiment" you mean using drugs, sleeping around, and blacking out every weekend at parties—then no, silly, do not "experiment." It is almost impossible to use illegal drugs responsibly, because even if you're in a safe setting, it is still against the law with legal consequences. Yikes! For a lot of people, drugs of any sort can lead to addiction and abuse, which does not work well with being a responsible individual! C'mon, folks, be smart and don't start! Let's not even talk about sleeping around—we all know that's just tainting. Blacking out from alcohol is a great way to be taken advantage of, or dumping your responsibility for yourself onto your friends. Thanks, a lot.

Okay, let's just agree that experimenting in college will lead to negative consequences! We must act within the norms, take only a few (well thought out) risks, and by golly, go to church or something. Unless you're improving your life, you're not doing things right.

ge for you, you are the

AND Campus

Moving In

Jill Mahler

Editor-in-Cheif

In relationships, the order of events from the first kiss to the first time you say "I love you" occurs at different rates. However, every relationship eventually faces the transition from his things and my things to "our" things. You would assume that finding a place you both can afford and comfortably live in for a duration is the hardest part, but the truth is what happens after the boxes are unpacked is much more difficult.

As some couples can already attest to, the first few months of living with your significant other are the greatest and most challenging times during your relationship. There is a lot of strain placed on your relationship and your sanity. Your patience is tested when you are forced to see how the other person behaves when their guard is down and you see them in their natural environment, but they are also the most rewarding.

In the beginning of the relationship, every one is on their best behavior. No rude manners,

disconcerting comments and every thing are organized down to their linen closets. The great moments come when you are able to truly enjoy the other person when you are able to be with them longer and in more intimate moments, however, with that said, no one wants to see someone

So, how do you make the most out of living together, without feeling the need to rehearse your 911 call?

leave the bathroom door open or wax

their mustache.

Be honest. There is no reason you shouldn't be upfront with what you want and do not want. Take for example, some couples benefit from discussing their personal needs, such as having quiet time after you get home from work to unwind and relax. Having 30 minutes of silence when you walk through your front door may seem like a simple request, but can make a huge difference. Not to mention, sometimes when your needs are met, you find you do not need them anymore.

Be open ... but not too open. Taking the extra time and energy to do something minimal like shutting a door is essential to every relationship. Keeping romance in your relationship can be challenging at times, but is an underappreciated integral part to having a lasting and successful relationship.

Be realistic. No relationship will be without it's peaks and valleys, but whenever you choose to take that big step, it is important to be prepared for moments when you will need to go to your separate corners. Have a place in your home, where you can relax and

Boundaries. Living together means you will be sharing much more than house keys, so it's important to respect the other person's belongings and needs. Contrary to the popular saying, not everything that is yours is theirs as well. You should treat each other's items as if they were yours, with courteey.

Sometimes with the blending of belongings, couples may feel they are blending their identities as well. Allowing some space and respecting each other's needs is important when it comes to maintaining some independence and easing the tricky transition. Remember, bulldozing your partner, whether it is with decorating or decision making, you are not truly making room for them in your life.

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.

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What do you think?

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome.

Submit your thoughts to commuter@linnbenton.edu



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

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

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give me books, fruit, French wine and fine weather and a little music out of doors by somebody I do not know - John Keat.

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

Life is a Cabaret Photo Gallery

more photos and video online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu



Gary Brittsan The cast of Cabaret strikes a pose to close the show last Thursday, April 5.



Elise Hermes sings "Annie's Song."



Katie Godfrey (left) and Antonio Puppo seranade each



Michael Rivera Sarah Toney belts out "I Know Where I've Been" from Hairspray.



Gary Brittsan **Jordan Uhlman busts a move.**



Male a capella group Blue Light Special performs.



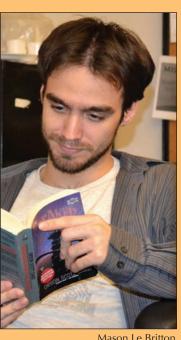




Students 'Round Campus



Ethan Sneed spends time in the Diversity Achievement Center.



Justin Bolger reads his book.

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Corvallis Golf Course Floods

Johanna Lundahl

Contributing Writer

Recently, Corvallis citizens experienced flooding when water from the Willamette River began to flow up over Highway 34. Water covered a lane, began to breach onto another. Trysting Tree Golf Club is located on the north side of Highway 34. Trysting Tree is no stranger to the effects of flooding on their course.

Sean Arey, manager for Trysting Tree, has worked there for 21 years. He says the recent flooding is surprising, since this is the time of year when business increases. Instead their course had to be closed for six consecutive days last week. However, the driving range was able to stay open. Trysting Tree's business relies on revenue from golf rounds played, since they do not charge a membership system. "We don't have business, we don't have income." says Arey.

Trysting Tree Golf opened in June 1998 and was designed for floodings. To minimize damage when the waters recede, they use culverts, a type of underground channel for quickly draining water placed down the center of the course. Usually they work to lessen the build up, unless the water levels raise above twenty-four feet and cause the culverts to be overwhelmed. Last week's flooding caused the middle of the golf course to become a flowing river, cutting the golf course in two.

On a typical sunny day, around 150 golfers play at the course, while a cloudy or rainy day will serve about 30 to 50 golfers. Arey estimates that with this flood, they lost around 350 rounds of golf. Even one day closed can be an expensive loss. Early in March, when they had to close for two days due to bad weather, they lost about 300 rounds of golf. Not to mention this is compiled with the natural costs of employees wage and landscaping.

The Trysting Tree Golf Club is affiliated with the Oregon State



kezi com

Flooding at the Trysting Tree Golf Course in Corvallis.

University Foundation. The OSU Foundation is an entity that manages funds donated to OSU and funds projects around OSU, such as the Trysting Tree Golf Club.

Interestingly, during the flooding, the waters rose to around 29 feet. If the Willamette had rose another foot, the entire highway could have been closed, similar to the flooding that occurred in 1996 and closed down the entire highway.

In 1996, the southern part of Corvallis was cut off. All roads

going East and West of Highway 99 were closed, and part of Highway 34 was closed too. Commuters were forced to utilize the Harrisburg Bridge, forty minutes away. According to Roger Irvin, the Benton County public works director referred to the 1996 flooding as a 100-year flood. "Most of our flood regulations are based on our estimate of the 100-year flood," says Irvin, "This year was only a thirty-five to forty year flood."

In the News:

Local:

Rainer, Ore.: Nick Clark plans to open "Nature's Choice" at a prime location, right off the main highway, even after being denied opening his marijuana business. He still has a lot of work to do to turn the old video store, Rainier Moviehouse, into a resource center for medical marijuana like the one he runs in Astoria. Cardholding marijuana patients could come to the collective to pick up medicine, maybe a t-shirt and video or network with each other; however, they won't be able to use the marijuana there. But neighboring businesses still aren't too happy about his new business opening up near them.

source: KVAL

Portland, Ore.: Sarah Cloutier, a senior at the Pacific Northwest College of Art, has created a portable house for the homeless. The idea of the small mailbox-shaped camper with a sink, stove, storage and sleeping space, was inspired by her desire to help the homeless. Cloutier's hand-drawn designs were akin to the story boards she hopes to create for a living when she graduates. The Bootstrap home prototype took Cloutier six weeks and \$300 to build.

source: KGW

Eugene, Ore.: Beginning this year, graduating seniors will have to do more to get their diploma than show they've successfully earned 24 high school class credits. Under rules set by the Oregon Board of Education, students will have to prove that all those hours in class have resulted in actual skills. This year, they must show that they can read at a level that will

serve them in college and on the job. In 2013, graduating seniors will have to show both reading and writing proficiency, and the 2014 graduating class also must pass a math test demonstrating that they won't need remediation classes to get them up to speed when they hit the university. It's part of a nationwide movement to make sure U.S. students are better prepared for college and work.

source: Oregon Live

Nation:

El Centro, Calif.: A British Chinook helicopter suffered a mishap Saturday during a landing exercise in the Arizona desert, leaving seven people with minor injuries. The crew were practicing how to land the aircraft 15 miles northeast of Yuma when something went wrong. The people aboard the Chinook had non-life-threatening injuries and were sent to the hospital for evaluations as a precaution. It is unclear how many people were aboard the aircraft or their nationalities. The helicopter sustained damage. The cause of the landing problem is under investigation. The Chinook was operating out of the naval base in California's Imperial Valley.

source: KPTV

Virgina Beach, VA: A fighter jet that malfunctioned just after takeoff hurtled into a Virginia Beach apartment complex on Friday in a spectacular crash that sent flames and black smoke billowing from the rubble. The two pilots managed to eject just before impact, suffering minor injuries along with five others on the ground. Several residents described hearing a loud

explosion and looking out their windows to see the red and orange blaze. In the confusion that followed, two men helped one of the bloodied pilots from the two-seat F18 Hornet move to safety. The plane had dumped loads of fuel before crashing, though it wasn't clear if that was because of a malfunction or an intentional maneuver by the pilots. Seven people, including the pilots from nearby Naval Air Station Oceana, were taken to a hospital.

source: Fox News

US: Oil and gas production may explain a sharp increase in small earthquakes in the nation's midsection, a new study from the U.S. Geological Survey suggests. The rate has jumped six-fold from the late 20th century through last year, and the changes are almost certainly man-made. The increase over the nation's midsection has become steeper since 2009, due to more quakes in a variety of oil and gas production areas, including some in Arkansas and Oklahoma. It's not clear how the earthquake rates might be related to oil and gas production. Others have linked earthquakes to injecting huge amounts of leftover wastewater deep into the earth.

source: Fox News

World:

London: A cruise carrying relatives of some of the more than 1,500 people who died aboard the Titanic nearly 100 years ago set sail from England on Sunday to retrace the ship's voyage, including a visit to the location where it sank. The Titanic Memorial Cruise, carrying the same number of passengers - not including crew - as the

Titanic did, cast off from Southampton, where the doomed vessel left on its maiden voyage. The 12-night cruise will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the White Star liner. The organizers are trying to recreate the onboard experience - minus the disaster - including the food and a live band playing music from that era, in a tribute to Titanic's musicians who reportedly played their instruments until the ship sank. The tickets varied in cost from 2,799 pounds (\$4,445) to 5,995 pounds (\$9,520).

source: AP

Kabul, Afghanistan: The United States and Afghanistan signed a landmark deal Sunday that affords Afghan authorities an effective veto over controversial special operations raids. A bid to end visceral Afghan anger over raids on private residences, the deal prevents NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) from conducting such operations without the explicit permission of Afghan officials, said a senior NATO official. It was not clear, however, whether the deal ceded 100% of U.S. capabilities over special forces operations, ISAF's key tactic against the insurgency. From now on, an Afghan review group will have to authorize an operation before it goes ahead, the official said. And special operations forces will operate under Afghan law.

source: CNN

Vatican City, Italy: Pope Benedict XVI on Sunday called for an end to violence in Syria, as well as a renewed peace effort in the Middle East, in his annual Easter Mass message from the Vatican as Christians worldwide

marked the holiday. According to the Pope, the Iraqi people should be encouraged to spare no effort in pursuing the path of stability and development. In the Holy Land, may Israelis and Palestinians courageously take up anew the peace process.

source: CNN

Weird:

Canberra, Australia: An airline executive says a pilot on a cargo run found a snake loose in his light plane and turned back to his north Australian base. In a scene reminiscent of the 2006 movie "Snakes on a Plane," pilot Braden Blennerhassett saw the snake's head pop out from under the dashboard of his twin-engine Beechcraft Baron G58 shortly after takeoff from Darwin airport on Tuesday. The reptile quickly slithered away. A snake handler was later unable to find the snake, which might have escaped after the plane landed. The snake's species is not known.

source: Huffington Post

Manatee, Fla.: Christine Faith Baker, 47, was arrested after she allegedly offered sexual favors for two McDonald's dollar-menu cheeseburgers. An undercover officer invited Baker into his car on Friday and started talking about sex. Baker allegedly said that her fee was two McDoubles, the dollar-menu version of a double cheeseburger, costing a grand total of \$2.75. Baker was also allegedly looking for a tip of another \$40 for her services. The detective bought the burgers and drove to a vacant lot, where other agents arrested Baker on charges of prostitution.

source: Huffington Post

LBCC Career Fair

Press Release

The 34th annual Career Fair at Linn-Benton Community College will be held Wednesday, April 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Activities Center Gym. More information online at: www.linnbenton.edu/go/career-fair

Participating Employers Include:

- Aaron's
- Aflac
- ATI Wah Chang
- Barrett Business Services, Inc.
- Beckwith & Kuffel, Inc.
- Technology, Machine Tool Technology
- Benton County Human Resources
- Benton County Sheriff's Office
- Bicoastal Media
- Bi-Mart
- Cascade Pacific Pulp
- Central Electrical Training Center
- Central Willamette Community Credit Union
- City of Salem
- Clean Water Services
- Community Outreach Inc.
- Consonus Healthcare

- Enterprise Contact Center
- Farmers Insurance
- Flakeboard America Ltd.
- Galt Foundation
- Goodwill Job Connection
- Home Life Inc.
- Iron Mountain
- Kaiser Permanente
- Kidco Head Start
- Early Childhood Education LB
- Linn County Medical Reserve Corps
- Regional Distribution Lowes Center
- Mega Tech of Oregon
- Mennonite Village
- Mid-Willamette Human Resource Association
- Mid-Willamette Family YMCA
- Miller Timber Services, Inc.
- Oregon Department of Human Services
- Oregon Department Transportation
- Mechanics and Maintenance Tech
- Oregon National Guard
- Oregon Secretary of State
- Oregon State University Athletics

- OSU Federal Credit Union
- Renew Consulting, Inc.
- Safeway
- Samaritan Health Services
- Selectemp Employment Services
- Shangri La Corporation
- Symantec Corporation
- TEKFAB Inc.
- The Corvallis Clinic
- The Home Depot
- The Papé Group of Companies
- T-Mobile
- University of Oregon Human Resources
- U.S. Army
- Valley West Health Care Center
- Visiting Angels
- Western University of Health Sciences
- Willamette Graystone
- Work Unlimited, Inc.
- WorkSourceOregon: Employment

Free Workshops at the Career Fair:

- On-the-Job Training Options
- Interviewing Tips
- · Targeted Resumes
- Apprenticeship Training Options

LBCC 2nd **Annual Earth Day** Sustainability Fair

Press Release

Correction

The 2nd Annual Earth Day Sustainability Fair at Linn-Benton Community College will be held Wednesday, April 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the college courtyard, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany.

Learn about green college programs including solar energy, alternative fuel cell technology, and college efforts bike transportation, composting and recy-

Tour the Green Roof on White Oak Hall and the organic farm and garden, and buy some fresh produce from the garden at a farmer's market.

Meghan Dalton with OSU's Oregon Climate Change Research Institute and Pacific Northwest Climate Impacts Research Consortium will give a presentation on "Understanding the Science of Climate Change and Impacts in the Pacific Northwest" from noon to 1 p.m. in Madrone Hall, room MH-113.

Kim Kagelaris and Ed Hodney with the City of Albany will provide information on resource protection initiatives, the Talking Waters project, the East Thornton Lake Natural Area, water conservation, and storm water pollution prevention.

The Green Team from the Albany First United Methodist Church will hand out their Reuse Directory, which offers locations in the community where gently used items may be taken for re-use.

Sustainability posters designed by graphic arts student Jasper Hostler will be on display in the college Library. The Bookstore will showcase their "green" merchandise that helps fund campus recycling efforts.

The LBCC Sustainability Committee and student Green Club will have tables showcasing campus sustainability initiatives and information on recycling and composting on campus.

The Earth Day Sustainability Fair is free and open to the public and sponsored by the LBCC Green Club and the LBCC Sustainability Committee.

We'd like to apologize to Kimber Hoang. In last week's

cover story, "Chefs Show Off," we reported that Regina

lovino won the Chefs' Show-Off, but she wasn't the only

winner. After reviewing the judges comments and scores,

they awarded First Place to Kimber Hoang of Magenta's in

Corvallis. Congratulations to all the cheftestants!

Wednesday

4/12

LBCC 34th annual career fair! 10 a.m.- 2p.m. AC Gym Free and open to the public.

7:30 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts

Rock performances by Tea Leaf Green with The Silent Comedy! Tickets are \$14 in advance; \$16 at door.

"Celebration of A Cappella" featuring

groups from OSU, Portland State, West Albany High, and LBCC. Tickets available at the door. \$10 students, \$7 seniors/ students, \$5 kids under 12.

8:30 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts

Diego's Umbrella, Mood Area 52, Manoverboard perform! Tickets are \$10 in advance; \$12 at door.

Saturday 7 p.m. Dennis Community Hall

Upbeat cafe: socialize, eat, dance, en-4/13 joy! Come and socialize, hang out and 7:30 p.m. - Rusell Tripp Performance listen to music. Tickets are \$3 for students, \$5 for adults, under 18 is free.

8 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts

Hip-Hop performances by Slaugterhouse with Classified. Tickets are \$18 in advance; \$20 at door.

Wednesday 7 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts

Portland Cello Project CD release party! Tickets are \$15 in advance; \$18 at door.

If you have an Upcoming Events, please e-mail them to commuter@linnbenton.edu.

Classifieds

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

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

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

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

Help Wanted

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/go/ StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. *For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena First Stop Center).

2012 LBCC Career Fair 10am-2pm in AC Gym, Albany--58 employers (41 are hiring!) are coming to talk to you! Check out www.linnbenton.edu/go/career-fair for the latest list of employers and "Job Seeker Links" for Career Fair Tips", "Sample Questions", and "Planning Tools".

Youth Sport Coaches (#9614, Albany) Do you enjoy working with children in sports? Be a volunteer coach and work only 3 days a week (includes Saturday) for 3-4 hrs/week. Must be 18 years.

Veterinary Surgical Prep Assistant (#9616, Coos Bay) Do you have vet tech skills or want some training in that field? This job is 20-40 hrs/week, 2-4 days/week with pay at \$9-10/hr DOE.

Entry-Level Service Technician (#9615, Philomath) If you have a related associates degree or 1-3 years related work experience, this might be the career for you? This full-time job pays \$14-15/hr DOE with benefits.

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.

MMONSFAR MENU FOR THE WEEK OF 4/11 - 4/17

Wednesday: Swedish Meatballs, Fish Tacos*, Eggs Florentine. Soups: Loaded Potato Chowder and Tom Kha Gai*

Thursday: Sweet and Sour Tempura Chicken w/ Steamed Rice, French Dip, Teriyaki Tofu w/ Pineapple Salsa*. Soups: Tomato Basil* and Beef Barley

Friday: Chef's Choice

Monday: Chicken and a Biscuit, Monte Cristo, Cheddar and Broccoli Frittata*. Soups: Chicken, Bacon and Potato, and Ginger Curried Carrot* (vegan)

Tuesday: Poached Salmon over Mushroom Rice Pilaf w/ Bearnaise*, Roasted Turkey w/ Dressing and Pan Gravy, Sweet Potato and Black Bean Empanadas. Soups: Beer Cheese and French Onion*

Items denoted with a * are gluten free



Pepsi throwback, Fore you are a classy gentle-



<u>TAURUS</u> 4/20-5/20

Dr. pepper, Smart and pepper-y. You know what you want.



GEMINI

Fanta, you're really annoying just like the advertisements.



CANCER

Jolt, for the five year old with ADD in all



Cherry Pepsi, uber tasty, but not for everyone. Rock it with pride.



VIRGO 8/23-9/22

Shasta, Cheap and super yummy. Add some Rush and game on!



 $\frac{\angle IBRA}{9/23-10/23}$

Mountain Dew Throwback, super sweet and kinda sexy, like me.



<u>Scorpio</u> 10/24-11/21 7 up yours.



Ginger Ale, it's like booze for redheads, just not as fun.



CAPRICORN Henry Weinhard's Root Beer. Because

you are fizzy, and filled



AQUARIUS

with awesome.

Fresca, It probably has bubbles, you like bubbles right?



Ruby Red Squirt, You're sweet, adorable, even though you sound a lil naughty.

HOROSCOPES Poetry Spotlight

<u>Untitled Poetry</u>

by Ariel Avery

Worms slink from the dirt To drown in puddle water, And I'm waiting for lunch.

I will not even lift My hand to turn off the alarm, It is too cold outside the blankets.

Even in my dreams There is bacon.

I can taste it with my nerve endings

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

possibly **pregnant**.org



Linn Benton Community College Music Program Presents The 1st Annual

Celebration of A cappella

FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 2012

7:30 p.m. **Russell Tripp Performance Center in Takena Hall Linn-Benton Community College**

FEATURING:

- Rezonate
- Oregon State University's "Divine" Portland State University's "The Green Notes"
 - The No Names &
 - West Albany High School

Hosted by LBCC's Own Blue Light Special & The Sirens

Tickets are \$10 General Admission \$7 for Students and Seniors \$5 for Children under 12 All Tickets Available At the Door!



www.linnbenton.edu/go/performing-arts • 541-917-4531

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BACK in the DAY

This day in history ...

April 11, 1814-Kick him while he's down.

Napoleon is exiled to the island of Elba. This didn't help with his height complex

April 12, 1861-And so it begins.

The Civil War begins. Thankfully we had a president on our side who moonlighted as a vampire hunter.

April 13, 1997-Why cheat on the supermodel.

Tiger Woods wins his first major tournament. It's about this time when he begins cheating on his wife. That turned out so well for him.

April 14, 1865-Silver Bullets?

Lincoln is shot at the Ford theater. See Civil War comment.

April 15, 1912-Iceberg? We can take it.

The Titanic sinks. Thus completing phase one of James Cameron's evil plot to make more money than God.

April 16, 1943-That's who we have to thank.

Dr. Albert Hoffman discovers the hallucinogenic effects of LSD. Thus inspiring entire runs of Dr. Strange 20 years later.

April 17, 1970-That could have been handled better.

Apollo 13 returns to Earth. This completing phase two of James Cameron's evil plot to make more money than God by creating an alter ego. Ron Howard.



139 Main Street, Lebanon

April 14th

Crafters Market & Home-Based Business Expo

From 9-4

Find hand made soaps, candles, baby items, bath & body, jewelry, chocolate, home décor, other great products and home-based business opportunities

Flea Market Buy-Swap-Sell From 9-4

www.santiamplace.com



Wednesday, April 11, 2012

ACROSS

- 1 Hired goons 7 Snub
- 14 Power to attract
- 15 Like an unexpectedly large gift
- 16 Buys time
- 17 Heed
- 18 "The Bridges at Toko-Ri" setting
- 19 Sticking points?
- 20 Suggested actions
- 21 "Fantastic Voyage" setting
- 24 Bad check letters
- 27 Land buy
- 28 Refuse to make changes
- 30 Heroic
- 32 Cologne title
- 34 Rivera with two Tonys
- 35 Its contents are under pressure
- 37 Authority level 39 Nottingham's river
- 40 1973 Toni Morrison novel
- 42 She played WKRP's Jennifer
- 43 Fancy watches 45 Benchmark
- 47 Defense agency since Nov. 2001
- 48 Geneticist's pursuit
- 51 Keep entirely to oneself
- 52 Work with dough 53 Rhodes with a
- scholarship 57 Some tattoos
- 59 Equivalence
- 60 "I kid you not!" 61 "8 Simple Rules"
- star John 62 Son of Agamemnon
- 63 Biological catalyst

DOWN

- 1 Diver's need
- 2 "It's not __ me" 3 Box for training
- purposes 4 Tabloid subject
- 5 "Deck the Halls" ending
- 6 Some commuter lines

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By Barry C. Silk & Doug Peterson

- 7 They're next in line
- 8 Detailed windows
- 9 Rakes it in
- 10 Realm until the 19th cen.
- 11 SUV that replaced the Passport
- 12 Cuckoos in clocks, e.a.
- 13 Chinese menu possessive
- 15 Quiet aircraft
- 19 Gourmet mushrooms
- 22 Three less than once
- 23 Waters of music
- 24 "Super-duper!" 25 Solution for a fertility problem,
- perhaps 26 Vehicle with a
- deluge gun 29 Patty Hearst's
- nom de guerre 31 Partygoers may get their kicks out of one
- 33 Switch magazines, maybe

Last Week's Puzzle Solved

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(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 36 "Sorry, Charlie" brand
- 38 "Locked room" mystery writer John Dickson
- 41 Restless
- 44 Hill body
- 46 2002 Campaign Reform Act co-sponsor
- 49 Hawks
- 50 Big name at airports
- 51 Jaunty greeting
- 54 Normal in Illinois, say
 - 55 One often follows a bullet
 - 56 Instrument played with a plectrum
 - 58 Some NFL pass catchers
 - 59 Postopposite

THE SAMURAL OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:

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Last Issue's Puzzle Solved

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

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

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An LBCC student-generated comic

By Mason Britton







Give me books, fruit, French wine and fine weather and a little music out of doors by somebody I do not know - John Keats

"Wicked" Awesome Play Retells Old Story

Carli Gibson

A&E Editor

There's no way to beat around the bush, "Wicked" was the best play I have ever seen. It's a toss-up between the fantastic performance combined with a creatively powerful storyline.

"Wicked" tells the tale of the Wicked Witch of the West (yes, from "The Wizard of Oz"), before she was declared the bad witch and before Glinda was the good witch. It goes all the way back to when the two witches first met.

It's no longer the children's tale we once knew and loved. Instead, it's the same story from a new perspective, a more mature attitude, and it's ready to take on the world. Dare I say, you will most likely end up loving it more than "The Wizard of Oz," but would that really be so terrible?

Elphaba, or the "bad witch," was played by Mamie Parris who gave an outstanding performance alongside Alli Mauzey (Glinda). They both owned the show – not only through their



acting, but through their singing. Parris, with a powerful voice hitting every single note perfectly, stole all the attention, while Mauzey, with a higher voice creating a perfect harmony, made it impossible to look away from her.

Their characters, blonde and ditzy Glinda and the smart and emerald-skinned Elphaba, work to unfold a story of drama, romance, comedy, suspense, and one of the most powerful on-stage friendships. From beginning to end, this production put me in a trance that made me completely forget I was sitting in an auditorium and sucked me right into the story. Come intermission, I was completely irritated that I had to wait for they play to begin again! I wanted to know what was going to happen next; I was hooked. And by the audience's reactions – silence, laughter, applause, sobs – you could tell they were all hooked too.

I think the worst part (or the best, depending how you view it) is the fact that the only thing I have to complain about was the talking child next to me. The performance was so great and flawless that it even made it simple to drown the kid's non-stop questions. Overall, this is definitely a performance I'd pay to go see again, and as cheap as I am, I wouldn't even mind paying the hundred-and-some dollars for a good seat.

I believe Richard Zoglin of Times Magazine put it best in his review, "If every musical had a brain, a heart and the courage of Wicked, Broadway really would be a magical place."

Android Gaming Fun on the Run

Steven Pryor

Contributing Writer

Since Android OS was first made, it has proven a worthy alternative to Apple's iOS (their Operating System for iPhone, iPod Touch, and iPad), allowing many open-source games and applications to be made for it.

In addition to the staple of the paid version of "Tetris," EA has now made a free version for people to get from Google Play (the new name for the Android Market). Namco has put up many of their classic arcade games (Pac-Man, Galaga, Dig Dug, and many others) for people to play.

The once-dead sub-genre of arcade games has made a resurgence on Android OS. Sega re-mastered "Space Harrier" and "Afterburner" with new touch and motion controls. Konami finally gave their revered X-Men beat-em-up a home

release with the Android format. And yes, it still features Magneto's broken English of "I am Magneto! Master of Magnet!" and "Welcome to die!"

There was once a time where the only good cell phone games came from Japan, and Americans thought cell phone games would never live up to consoles or dedicated handheld devices. With the Android OS's open-source format, it can deliver just as rich an experience. Sega has made a version of "Sonic the Hedgehog 4" for the format, and it proved to be a good platform for the game.

The platform is also a boon for retro gam-

ing, as there are all manner of emulators that can be run on Android OS devices. There are ones for the 8-bit Nintendo, Super Nintendo, Sega Genesis, Nintendo 64, and the original PlayStation. There is even an Android version of the popular SCUMM VM emulator (which can be used to play older point and click PC games such as "Maniac Mansion" and "Day of the Tentacle").

Once you have the emulator of choice installed, you can find plenty of ROMs of old games through a quick Google search on your device. Emulation, however, poses some risks. A general rule is that you should only get ROMs of games you own physical copies of, lest you risk falling into piracy complaints from the Entertainment Software Association. Also, if something is missed, you can brick your device; something customer service generally frowns upon.

Android gaming has another advantage for cash-strapped gamers: While console games generally cost \$50 and handheld games go for around \$35, there are all sorts of free games for Android. Even if you do pay for a game, I rarely found one that cost more than \$10 to download.

In short, if you're looking for a fun way to kill time, your PlayStation Vita was defective, or you just want to save a few bucks on a game, Android gaming is for

What's Wrong with the Motion Picture Rating System?

Ian Butcher

Staff Writer

It's come to my attention that this little movie called "The Hunger Games" has stirred up some controversy in the rating department. The film, which pits kids against each other in a battle to the death (like there's anyone who doesn't know what it's about) has had some fans up in arms. Many think that the PG-13 film should have an R rating due to the violent content of the book. There's one thing that's preventing that from happening though. Money. That's what it always comes back to.

At the time of this writing, "The Hunger Games" has made over \$460 million at the worldwide box office and I think it's safe to assume that it wouldn't have made anywhere near as much money had the movie been R. Why? Because of the kids, of course. Kids and making sure to reach the widest possible audience. This may not be the worst thing ever for "Hunger Games" fans though.

I would like to pose a question to the "Hunger Games" fans. Does the rating make that big of a difference? If you could clearly see a



kid getting his throat slashed rather than having it implied, would the movie be that much better? It just seems that fans should be judging the film on what is there and what it does right rather than what is left out. Implying the deaths of children, rather than showing every bloody moment of it on screen, seems like it would make for a better film that is not glorifying the deaths of children. And isn't that the point of "The Hunger Games"? We are supposed to be horrified at the notion of kids killing each other.

In a nutshell, it might suck that there isn't that much more blood in "The Hunger Games," but with the film being PG-13, doesn't that mean that more people will get to see the movie? This would lead to more money and better chances of the next book being made into a movie. Plus, more people being able to see the movie means more people could get turned on to the book. So "Hunger Games" fans, no we don't live in a perfect world. We do have to settle though with the good movie that we did get and deal with the fact that it might be a little lighter on the violence than anyone would have wanted.

