

THE COMMUTER

LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Play Ball!

RoadRunners look to improve on last year's success with league play beginning April 1, and a doubleheader scheduled for the home opener April 2 against Lane.

PAGE 12

COMMUTER

Cover Credit:
Brian Hausotter

On the cover:
Tyger Liner

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

Letters always welcome.

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FREE CASH FOR COLLEGE



Local scholarships available for local students

About 60 percent of college students graduate with student loan debt, according to www.debt.org. It's no secret college can be expensive, but what is often a secret is how many organizations are out there to help students pay for their education.

Zonta Club of Corvallis is one such organization, and they are seeking Linn-Benton Community College and Oregon State University students to receive their next round of locally funded scholarships through their Zonta Service Foundation of Corvallis.

"Part of the strategy with Zonta is rather than waiting for [students] to find us, we want to reach out to find them," said Sally Widenmann, LBCC dean of instruction and member of the Zonta scholarship committee.

Zonta International is an organization devoted to empowering women and improving their lives through service and advocacy. It was founded in 1919 and is now in 67 countries working closely with the United Nations to influence laws

impacting women worldwide.

The Corvallis Club holds an auction each year to raise money for the club's scholarship fund. Part of the auction includes straight donations.

"People can put up their paddle at the amount that is comfortable," said Widenmann. "There is certainly a spirit of generosity."

Last November's auction generated \$50,000 for local students, and from that money the club is looking to award at least 15 scholarships for the next school year. The majority of the scholarships are \$3,000.

Pete Bober, scholarship committee chair for Zonta Club of Corvallis, is a former director at LBCC. A member since 1992, he is one of the first male members of Corvallis' club.

"As a retired community college director, I would like to see more Linn-Benton students take advantage of our scholarship program," said Bober.

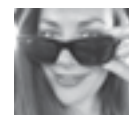
Zonta scholarships are not exclusive to females, however, the recipients must be

entering a career in which women are the minority, such as S.T.E.M. students, or for those that plan to dedicate their careers to helping women and/or children.

Scholarships available for LBCC and OSU students give no preference to which school one attends. There is a diverse group of scholarships available with varying criteria and preferences including merit, financial need, older-than-average students, and student-parents.

Applicants must be either currently enrolled in one of the two institutions or returning to school after a minimum one year hiatus. Students must be enrolled with at least nine credits for the length of the scholarship and reside in Oregon.

Applications are due by April 1. More information can be found on Zonta's scholarship database at www.zontacorvallis.org.



STORY BY
ALLISON LAMPLUGH
@LUCYLAFLOURE

CAMPUS VOICE

Question: What did you do over spring break?



Taylor Rash
Animal Science major

"I worked all spring break."



Eric Florek
Psychology major

"I worked and did some gardening."



Kira Jiroux
Robotics major

"I went to Portland to celebrate a friend's twenty-first birthday, got new piercings, and met a really nice guy."



Kyle McCollum
Psychology major

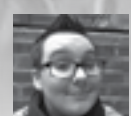
"I did nothing true story."



Nicole Francis
Math Instructor

"I went to Seattle with my family."

Next Week's Topic: Best class or teacher on campus.



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
MELISSA CHANDLER
@MJEFFERS

The Freeze

is OVER

Board of Education increases tuition by 6 percent

Just out those piggy banks and hang on to your beer money! It's time to dig deep into the lousy recesses of your pockets and scrounge for change, because you're facing an imminent change in tuition.

Prepare to pay more for your education at LBCC, beginning with a 6 percent tuition increase for the 2016-17 academic year. International students can anticipate an 8 percent increase.

On March 16, LBCC's Board of Education held session. Members of the Student Leadership Council, the ROV Team and students of LBCC gathered to protest the 6 percent increase and push instead for 2 percent. Their pleas left the majority of board members unswayed, who voted 5-1 in favor of the tuition increase, passing Resolution 35-16.

A plan to get the college's finances back on track is under way. The plan hopes to create consistency in budgets for both students and the college.

Students can expect continued tuition hikes with the Board of Education's current projected budget, raising tuition steadily over the next four years. This tentative budget shows a 5 percent increase in the 2017-18 academic year, followed by three consecutive 3 percent increases.

By 2020, in-state tuition may cost \$114.08 per credit hour, compared to the current \$93.80. It's an increase of almost \$1,000 in yearly attendance cost for a 15-credit-per-term, 3-term-year. The complex budget is subject to multiple variables and is likely to fluctuate.

The 6 percent increase means students will pay between \$200 and \$250 more for attendance next year, a difference in about \$6 per credit hour. That's a difference that adds up quickly, according to Student Leadership Council President Candalyann Johnson.

"It's an increase of about the average cost of a textbook per term, which a lot of students say they don't have enough money to pay for," said Johnson while addressing the board.

Johnson and other students implored the board to consider a smaller increase, sharing personal stories of hardship and the necessity of an affordable education.

"A tuition increase of 6 percent will make it harder for struggling families with low income to be able to stay in school, and we know that this is a really great place for low income families to be able to get their lives back," said Johnson. "I understand that the board and administration are trying to do as best to increase the

quality of education and that increasing tuition is a way to do that, but I don't see the point of increasing the quality if spiking the tuition will price students out of being able to even attend."

LBCC receives a majority of funding through student tuition and state aid. State funding has proved unreliable, with funding of Oregon public universities plummeting 38 percent since 2007. In the middle of the 2010-11 academic year, LBCC tuition skyrocketed 18 percent after unexpected cuts.

However, the state increased funding by 18 percent in the 2015-17 biennium, giving \$550 million to community colleges and returning funding close to the pre-recession rates of the early 2000s, according to the HECC 2015 Legislative Summary.

This increase in funding contributed directly to the tuition freeze LBCC students received over the past two years. It's also why SLC Volunteer Coordinator Nikki Aman and her colleagues believe it's misleading for the Board of Education to "catch up" on tuition after the freeze.

FUN FACTS

Student loan debt in the U.S. is over \$1.2 trillion, according to a report published by The Economist in June 2014.

State funding per student declined at a national average by 27 percent from the 2000-01 academic year to 2013-14, according to the Urban Institute report.

According to the 2014 editions of State Higher Education Finance Report, Oregon is ranked No. 47 for state support of post-secondary education.

Spring has arrived, flowers are blooming, the frost has long since gone and so has the tuition freeze. The only way the college can be sure to receive more dollars is by shaking the pockets of students and their families.

"It's looking at how much we actually need, not how much can we charge," said Bruce Clemetsen, LBCC vice president of student affairs. "It's hard for us to turn around and think about growing, not cutting."

LBCC President Greg Hamann believes the only way the college can be sure to avoid future large spikes in tuition is by rebuilding a savings safety net with incremental tuition increases.

"Our tuition policy asks us not to replicate our history, which is relatively large, episodic increases," said Hamann.

The five-year budget estimate aims to replenish the college's diminished savings while allowing for expansions and projects, deemed "performance packages" and "strategic investments."

"Most of the budget essentially takes our current operations and moves it into the next year, but there are two areas of addition," said Hamann. "Performance packages are areas in which we feel it is critical to add capacity in order to better serve our students and move us towards achieving our strategic goal."

The costs of these expansions total over \$1 million,

LBCC
Tuition raised
6%

predominately going towards new faculty and staff positions and new program implementation.

"We believe that this is really the best time in our history to be rebuilding our structural capacity which we have been cutting for a decade," said Hamann.

Johnson and other students expressed disappointment with the board's decision.

"I'm glad that the school has a safety net savings account. It's too bad students will have to drain theirs to go here," said Aman.

State-funded institution's dependence on tuition rose on a national average to 47.4 percent of educational costs according to the 2014 State Higher Education Finance Report.

Some schools in Oregon are nearing 60 percent. "I am stressed by the idea that a state funded institution will, in the following year, obtain more than half of its revenue from students," said Aman.

Between 2000 and 2014, states across the nation slashed funding while the recession increased enrollment rates. Oregon colleges faced a 51 percent decline in per-student funding, second only to Michigan, according to Urban Institute's 2015 report, Financing Public Higher Education.

Oregon institutions found money in the only place they could: tuition hikes.

"Oregon's enrollments and disinvestments in higher education exceeded virtually every other state in the nation," said Ben Cannon, executive director of Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC).

The HECC works with state-funded institutions to create a biennium budget to propose to the state, and allocates funds received from the state to colleges.

"Affordability remains a high priority for the HECC," said Endi Hartigan, communications and policy specialist for the HECC.

However, Hamann described anything less than a 6 percent increase as "kicking the can further down the road."

One board member, Keith Frome, voted in solidarity with students.

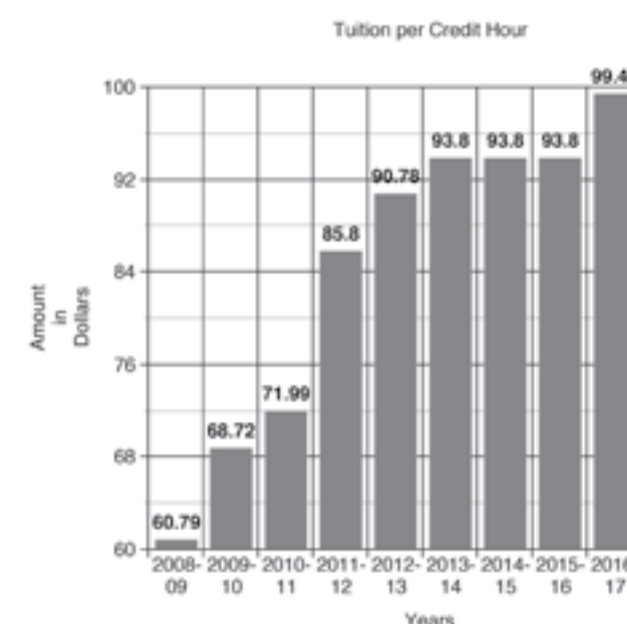
"I'm willing to make an investment in the basic running of the school," said Frome. "I want to make it perfectly clear that I cannot put it on the backs of the students to increase programs at the school they don't necessarily need to have."

The rest of the board remained adamant about the expansions.

"I realize that expansions and increased revenue is necessary, but it should not fall on the backs of students. This institution is no longer, in my mind, a state-funded institution, but is student-debt funded," said Johnson.



STORY BY
EMILY GOODYKOONTZ
@SHARKASAUR





BECOME A COLLEGE COACH

Mentors help aspiring students to achieve their academic dreams

Volunteer Opportunities:

What College Coaches do:

Mentoring:

How to volunteer:

College Coach is seeking volunteers from LBCC for the spring term and beyond. It is a group of LBCC students who seek to help their community by providing academic tutoring to young students in K-12 schools and, is organized by the local chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. A diverse pool of volunteers includes education majors who are seeking to gain valuable work experience, students who wish to enhance their résumés, and members of the Student Leadership Council (SLC) who want to inspire future generations of college students.

College Coaches fill a variety of roles depending on the needs of the school. The primary way volunteers interact with younger students is by tutoring them one-on-one. Volunteers may also work directly in a classroom as a teacher's aide, assisting them with keeping classrooms under control on rowdy days, assisting students with projects as requested, and providing support to school staff in a professional manner.

College Coach currently operates at several Albany elementary schools, such as Periwinkle and South Shore Elementary School. They are also reaching out to schools in the Corvallis area in an attempt to expand College Coach and make participation more convenient for LBCC students from the Corvallis area in the future.

Some schools have welcomed College Coach volunteers to organize an after school program called College Club. Volunteers who are part of College Club visit these schools once a week and teach a group of young students about college life, class availability, and financial aid opportunities. This program also includes a trip to the LBCC campus where the younger students get to see the school up close and interact with faculty from different departments. A field trip occurred during Winter term and included a tour of the SLC office to learn about school politics, the welding shop to get a glance at some heavy machinery, and Madrone Hall to watch some chemicals explode.

College Coach members will be holding information sessions during spring term on April 4 and 5 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Mt. Jefferson room located next to the cafeteria. Free lunch will be provided. You can grab a bite to eat while you learn about what it means to be a part of College Coach and what is expected of volunteers. Bring a friend and come for the food or for an opportunity to give back to your community and become a positive role model in the lives of local children who may also be future Linn-Benton students.

STORY AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF LBCC SLC

ORIGINS OF EASTER

More than fuzzy bunnies, painted eggs, and baskets of candy

Easter: a holiday that is celebrated not just at home, but all over the world. The origin of Easter varies from culture to culture, but is centered around new life and celebration.

In American culture, two types of Easter traditions are generally most popular: Easter in Christianity, and Easter in Paganism.

In Christianity, Easter is looked upon as a celebration of Jesus Christ's resurrection from the grave after his crucifixion which is described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day of his burial. In Christian churches, individuals are taught that Jesus Christ, through sacrificing himself, paid the sins, or the "debts" of individuals on Earth.

In some branches of Christianity, Christians begin Lent, a 40-day fasting and spiritual discipline on the start of Ash Wednesday. During Ash Wednesday, like that of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Lebanon, Ore., church members listened to a sermon on the resurrection of Jesus, had communion, and ended the night with each member coming forward to the podium, and having a cross of ash drawn on the member's foreheads.

In Paganism, Easter is a celebration of life and the spring equinox. The word Easter is of Saxon origin, Eastr, named after the goddess of spring. Bunnies, for

example, are in reference and symbolic to Eastr and were present during the pagan festival of Eostre.

Eggs are known as a fertility symbol in Paganism, which is why in American culture, individuals color and decorate eggs. Exchange of eggs is an ancient custom as well, celebrated by many cultures. A myth behind why people hide eggs for "Easter Egg Hunts" is the story that eggs were decorated and offered during the spring time, but as Christianity rose, the ways of "Old Religion" were no longer favorable. Pagans decided they would hide the eggs and make a game out of it for the children to go on a hunt.

There is debate in when Easter should be celebrated. Usually, Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox (the halfway point between the summer and winter solstices). The full moon is referred to as the "Paschal Moon" in Christianity.

Although Jesus celebrated a Passover meal with his followers the day before his crucifixion, the Thursday before Easter Sunday, connecting Easter to passover; during the fourth century the Christian Council of Nicea "put it on paper" that Easter would be the first Sunday after the Paschal moon. Jewish scholars set the date for Passover to a fixed date in the Hebrew Calendar. Both of these occurrences

caused the dates to be altered. Through both the Christian and Pagan religious cultures, America's Easter culture has been created, and is celebrated.



COLUMN BY HANNAH BUFFINGTON @JOURNALISMBUFF

BREAK AWAY FROM BEING DIALED IN

Cellphones have taken over the minds of millions

Go anywhere and try to relax for a moment without your cell phone; I bet you can't. That's the norm today.

In today's world everyone is connected to their cell phones.

An alarming 67 percent of cellphone owners find themselves checking their phone for messages, alerts, or calls.

Over the past decade cellphones have become the new personal digital assistant. Everything has gone from computers to cell phones for notifications.

Forty-four percent of cellphone owners have slept with their phone next to their bed because they didn't want to miss any calls, texts, or other updates during the night.

There are a few problems that could be potentially harmful if sleeping with a cellphone such as setting a pillow on fire, staying awake because of calls or texts, and radiation.

Twenty-nine percent of cell owners describe their cell phone as something they can't imagine living without. According to pewinternet.org, as of October 2014, 64 percent of American adults own smartphones.

These percentages are astounding. No matter how surprising the numbers are, people today have lost touch with person-to-person communication and activities without a cellphone.

How have people let this cell phone takeover happen? Each person has their

own reason, but there is a way out and away from cell phone land, or even technology.

These simple steps can take you away from the stress.

Implement Rules:

Vow to stay off your cell phone during meals, when commuting, and when you're in the bathroom or in bed.

Buy an Alarm Clock:

Use your phone as an alarm? First thing you'll do each day is stare at the screen.

Sign Off for a Weekend:

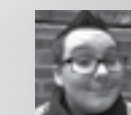
Stay disconnected for the weekend.

Check With Purpose:

Ask yourself, do I have a specific, positive reason for this?

Alter Your Settings:

There are apps that you can download to help limit that time you use certain apps. freedomapp.us and selfcontrolapp.com



COLUMN BY MELISSA CHANDLER @MJEFERS



options
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ADVICE FROM WEISS

Question: One of the classes I'm in is not one I'm sure of. I'm not sure I want to keep it. How long do I have to make a change, if I decide to, without messing up my financial aid.

Answer: You have until Monday, April 4. The last day to Add and Drop, and get a refund is always the second Monday of the term. On the evening of the second Monday financial aid pays for classes, and after that, if you bail out of a class, they hold it against your completion rate and you may lose your aid.

If you do ever have your aid denied, see your advisor. He or she can help you with a "financial aid appeal."

Question: What's the best way to decide on what kind of job I want, in the long run, so I know which degree to get. I can't seem to decide.

Answer: We spend so much time at work, we really need to pick something we are going to, at least partially, enjoy. And, in order to be successful, we probably need to pick something we're going to be good at.

Career counseling can help. LBCC has career counselors in the Career Center in Takena Hall, at the Lebanon Center, and at the Benton Center.

Another service (at all three locations) is career testing. Career tests ask you about a key factor, and then match you up to folks in the world of work, based on that factor. So there is a career test based on skills you list as being skills you enjoy using; and then you are get a profile of which jobs call for those skills... Or you list the interests you have, and get a profile of jobs where you would get to pursue those interests... Or you give a list of values, and get a profile of which jobs reflect those values.

A second part of any career test is that you can immediately get information on the jobs listed: Starting wages, job trends, what kind of training (degree) is needed, all the schools that offer that specific training, etc.

If you are truly undecided about a major, you might want to get some career testing done and then make an appointment with a career counselor to evaluate the results.



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COUNSELOR
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COMMUTER

LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RAISING TRANSGENDER AWARENESS



Nursing student brings educational talk to campus

Transgender individuals often face tremendous disparities, especially when seeking competent medical care. Encounters with stereotyping, legal discrimination, inequitable insurance coverage and health care professionals uneducated in basic transgender patient care are just a few of the most common frustrations. Obstacles like these quickly turn basic health care into a nightmarish struggle.

Second-year LBCC nursing student and LGBT ally Andrew McClain recognized a lack of transgender education for medical students at LBCC. With the help of faculty member Jane Sandberg, McClain set out to create change and raise awareness on campus, beginning with the nursing students.

"I just felt there was this staggering disconnect between competent transgender care and providers," said McClain.

Organized by McClain and Sandberg, An Introduction to Transgender Hormone Therapy and Patient Care was held on Friday, March 4 in the Russell Tripp Performance Center. The free, educational talk intended to raise awareness about discrimination issues in healthcare and the lack of transgender focused education in the medical community.

Dr. Sarah Swarts, an endocrinologist at Samaritan Endocrinology, spoke to the audience about proper transgender terminology, use of respectful language, common discriminations faced in healthcare, and basic methods of care during the transition process.

"Maybe 10 people show up who have misconceptions or knew nothing about transgender people," said Swarts. "My hope is we change their perspectives. If they take something away from this, it's a worthwhile effort."

Swarts provides care to about 20 trans patients, assisting primarily in hormone therapy, often the first step in transitioning genders. In her experience as a medical student and 10 years as a practicing endocrinologist, Swarts observed a pronounced lack of education for medical students about transgender care.

"If you aren't having forums like this, nobody's talking about it," said Swarts. "I feel like it's any physician's responsibility to educate."

According to Swarts' presentation, a recent survey of endocrinologists found

only 20 percent feel "very comfortable" discussing gender or sexuality, and only 41 percent feel "somewhat competent" providing transgender care. Only 16 percent of endocrinologists care for more than 5 transgender patients in their practice.

"This was frankly sobering to me, when I read this," said Swarts. "At the core of transitioning genders is hormones; estrogen, testosterone. These are things that I would expect endocrinologists should be reasonably good at."

Matti Guilliams, electrical engineering

fear of discrimination, and 27 percent reported being refused treatment.

"Insurance and coverage is a nightmare for some people. Some offices and some places are not trans friendly and that's a huge challenge," said Swarts.

She advised the audience to be as aware and inclusive as possible when treating patients.

"Be guided by the principles of dignity, affirmation, and inclusion," said Swarts. "Treat people like you want to be treated."

Though some transgender education does take place during national medical



DR. SWARTS AND ANDREW MCCLAIN.

student at LBCC, had plenty of frustration obtaining competent healthcare through the Veterans Health Administration.

"I've had to do all my own research in the transition process because the VA is clueless," said Guilliams. "I was the first trans person my endocrinologist met, to come through his door for transition purposes."

According to Swarts' presentation, another study found 28 percent of LGBT individuals postpone healthcare due to

conferences and through LGBT dedicated organizations, a deep lack of medical education about trans issues remains. Swarts urged students to continue to fight for transgender health care equity and education.

"Nothing will change until people demand change," said Swarts.

More information for straight allies on creating LGBT friendly spaces can be found at www.straightforequality.org.

AT-A-GLANCE

In 2011, the National LGBTQ Task Force and National Center for Transgender Equality surveyed 6,450 trans and gender nonconforming individuals. They discovered:

- 41 percent had attempted suicide at some point in their lives
- 78 percent reported harassment in K-12 schools
- 90 percent reported experiencing harassment or mistreatment at work
- 26 percent lost a job due to being transgender
- 19 percent experienced homelessness
- 53 percent experienced verbal harassment in a place of public accommodation

"Nothing will change until people demand change."



STORY AND PHOTOS BY MARINA BRAZEAL @SHARKASAU



CHAMBER CHOIR GOES ON TOUR

LB choral ensemble travels the PNW to share their passion for music

A bus ride that felt like a lifetime led to a trip filled with memories to last a lifetime. March 17 was the day it all began. LBCC's Chamber Choir hopped aboard a bus, and tackled the long trek to Seattle, Wash. for their 2016 tour.

The first day consisted of a butt-numbing bus ride, checking into the hotel, and a workshop with Dr. Eric Banks.

Banks obtained his degree from Yale and received his master's from Washington University. He is now a musician and the conductor of professional choral groups.

The ensemble sang three songs for Banks to critique; "Richte Mich Gott," "O Nata Lux," and "Unclouded Day." Banks listened and gave advice on their German lyrics, vowels, and listening to one another.

After the workshop, the choir was dropped off at Pike's Place Market in downtown Seattle for a free night of adventure. Some of the group went shopping, some explored the food options, and some just got lost.

Instructor, Raymund Ocampo wanted the group to get the chance to experience Seattle life.



"Don't spend your money on material things, spend it on experience."

"Don't spend your money on material things, spend it on experience," said Ocampo.

The second day was spent at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash. where the choir attended their second workshop of the trip with PLU's director of choral music, Richard Nance.

Nance has been part of the PLU family since 1992. He is a composer and writes music for the french horn, as well as conducting the college's choir.

Nance gave the choir the opportunity to enhance their breathing techniques and develop a unified sound throughout the combination of parts.

After leaving PLU, the choir headed back to Seattle to attend the symphony at Benaroya Hall. Benaroya is one of the most respected music halls in the world. The symphony was directed by John Adams.

Adams composed a three part piece that had a solo performed by Liela Josefowicz. Her talent

had the entire choir watching in awe. The piece was called "Scherherazade.2." It was a tale of an independent woman who rises against the oppression of male dominance, taking a stand against the discrimination of women everywhere.

Getting the chance to watch a performance in a famous hall was an unforgettable experience. "Seeing these places was an experience like no other," said choir member Jacob Birchard.

The third and final day of the tour was spent making the trek back to Oregon to perform at Central Lutheran Church in Eugene. The ensemble was the opening act for a professional choir and quartet.

The overall goal of this tour was to give the ensemble an opportunity to explore their strengths, weaknesses, and unrealized potential within music.

"The best part of this tour was the new knowledge and experience gained alongside my peers," said choir member Rosie Welch.



STORY AND PHOTOS BY MARINA BRAZEAL @MARINABRAZEAL

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COURTESY: WARNER BROS.

MOVIE REVIEW:
**Batman v Superman:
Dawn of Justice**

STARRING: Ben Affleck, Henry Cavill, Jesse Eisenberg, Amy Adams and Gal Godot
DIRECTOR: Zack Snyder
RATED: PG-13 (Blu-Ray Coming Soon Rated R)
OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY STEVEN PRYOR

“Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice” is a gothic and grand superhero movie that officially kicks off the DC Extended Universe even if it never reaches the heights that “The Dark Knight Saga” or the Marvel films it emulates.

While the story may contain many elements from prior films featuring the title characters, director Zack Snyder has managed to craft a unique version of the two heroes that can

stand on its own as well as introduce them to a new generation of fans.

After a prologue that shows the murder of Thomas and Martha Wayne; their son Bruce (Affleck) grows into a man who’s outraged at the Metropolis branch of Wayne Enterprises being caught in the crossfire of the final battle of “Man of Steel.” On the other side of the coin, Clark Kent (Cavill) is doubtful of Batman using less-than-ethical tactics to apprehend criminals in Gotham City. As the two meet; Lex Luthor (Eisenberg) conspires to use stolen Kryptonian technology to bring

Superman to his knees and pit him against the Caped Crusader in a \$200 million clash more than 20 years in the making. The fight choreography and special effects

are indeed worthy of a bout that Lex posits as “the greatest gladiator match in the history of the world.”

While many of the decisions Snyder has made as a storyteller have often been seen as controversial (the film currently has a 31% rating on Rotten Tomatoes); his eye for spectacle is impeccable. When he previously directed “Watchmen,” he made a deconstruction of superhero tropes and characters that many had previously deemed unfilmable. Now, he has given us a 151-minute epic that serves as equal parts origin story, sequel, social commentary and setup for future films (such as “Suicide Squad,” on the docket for August).

The dialogue and visual style features verbatim lines and shots from key comic stories such as “The Death and Return of Superman” and Frank Miller’s “The Dark Knight Returns” even though the film doesn’t outright adapt them. The action scenes and special effects whip up a flurry of

spectacular fight scenes in set pieces that are the dream of anyone that grew up imagining the fight in Batman and Superman pajamas.

The film is also bolstered by a strong supporting cast of both newcomers and returning players from “Man

of Steel.” Amy Adams’ rendition of Lois Lane is every bit a devoted reporter and loving mate to Clark as her namesake. Eisenberg’s Lex Luthor contains a swaggering sense of skulduggery while also maintaining a conniving persona of a billionaire tycoon that wants power and sees others standing in his way, especially Superman. Most of all, Gal Godot finally brings Wonder Woman to the big screen in a manner worthy of one of the most iconic female superheroes ever; as well as setting up her own film for 2017. As a Greek demigoddess in human form; her fighting prowess helps Batman and Superman join forces to help “unite the seven” against the evil warlord Doomsday.

While the film may not be perfect, or even the mind-blowing experience to inhabit a world after the success of “The Dark Knight” or the Marvel Cinematic Universe; “Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice” still provides a compelling superhero film to give Warner Brothers the footing it needs for the DC Extended Universe and is highly recommended.

TV SERIES REVIEW:
Daredevil

CREATOR: Drew Goddard
STARRING: Charlie Cox, Deborah Ann Woll, Elden Henson, Jon Bernthal, and Elodie Yung
PRODUCTION: ABC Studios, DeKnight Productions, Goddard Textiles, Marvel Entertainment, the Walt Disney Company
GENRE: Action, Crime, Drama
RATED: TV-MA
OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY KYLE BRAUN-SHIRLEY



COURTESY: MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT

“Daredevil” first premiered on Netflix on April 10, 2015. The first season of the show was a success and marked the beginning of a partnership between Netflix and Marvel to produce original TV shows. The second season was recently released, and it’s just as excellent as the first and even more badass.

All 13 episodes of the second season of “Daredevil” were released on March 18 on Netflix. It stars Charlie Cox, Deborah Ann Woll, Elden Henson, Jon Bernthal, and Elodie Yung. Similar to the first season of the show, the second season works because of strong, well developed characters and compelling themes that set it apart from the plethora of other superhero shows and movies.

The show follows Matt Murdock (Cox) as he tries to clean up the crime ridden streets of the Hell’s Kitchen neighborhood in New York City. During the day, he’s

a blind lawyer, but at night he becomes the masked vigilante Daredevil. The second season focuses on Murdock as he struggles with two new challenges in the form of Punisher (Bernthal) and Elektra (Yung).

While the setup of the show is reminiscent of others in the superhero genre, such as Batman or Spider-Man, what makes “Daredevil” stand out from the others is the themes it presents. The second season juxtaposes Daredevil’s decision to not kill the criminals he fights with Punishers more ruthless philosophy of kill or be killed. The two characters are similar to each other, but their clashing ideologies present scenarios where it’s hard to determine who’s right and who’s wrong. That’s what makes “Daredevil” great. It manages to be complex and thought provoking while at the same time action packed and exciting.

The action scenes are another amazing aspect of

“Daredevil.” Big budget superhero movies are filled with a lot of special effects and explosions, but “Daredevil” is more grounded. It’s all fistfights and shootouts, which complements the brutal nature of the show nicely.

Another area the show excels in are the characters and cast. The writers give each character their own personality and engaging story arcs, and the cast provides authentic performances that make the characters seem real. Cox, Bernthal, and Yung make comic book superheroes feel like living, breathing people, which is not an easy thing to do.

The second season of “Daredevil” is as good if not better than the first season. It takes the same characters, action, and themes that people enjoyed in the first season and improves them. Anyone in search of an excellent show to binge watch should look no further than “Daredevil.”



COURTESY: THE POKÉMON COMPANY

GAME REVIEW:
Pokkén Tournament

PUBLISHER: The Pokémon Company
DEVELOPER: Namco Bandai
PLATFORM: Wii U
ESRB RATING: E10+
OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY STEVEN PRYOR

Anyone wondering how to approach “Pokkén Tournament,” take the following action: prepare to be wowed. Namco Bandai has not only crafted a stellar crossover between the long-running “Pokémon” and “Tekken” series; but also made one of the best fighting games in recent years.

The setting is the fictional Ferrum Region; where a new type of Pokémon battle has arisen. The titular “Pokkén Tournament” eschews the usual turn-based battle style of the RPG series in favor of high-intensity martial arts battles with all your favorite Pokémon.

It’s essentially a Pokémon fighting game based on the platform for the Tekken series. It promises a spectacular fighting game from the word go, and easily delivers.

The control style is easy to pick up and play, but tough to truly master. Opponents can range from old favorites like Gengar and Charizard to newer fighters such as

Lucario and Chandelure. Even series mascot Pikachu has an alternate “Pikachu Libre” form to join the fun; fresh off its appearance in “Pokémon Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire.”

The graphics make full use of the hardware of the Wii U; with a full frame rate of 60 frames per second and colorful attacks just bursting off the screen. Each Pokémon manages to faithfully adapt Ken Sugimori’s designs as well as put its own quasi-realistic spin on each character. Lucario has individually-rendered hairs in his fur; and Pikachu Libre wears a costume which has a glossy shine in battle. The environments range from rustic fighting dojos to neon-lit cityscapes, bustling with intense action and impeccable attention to detail.

A special feature added to the Wii U version is the ability to unlock the new character of Shadow Mewtwo with an included Amiibo card. Containing new abilities

and a powerful fighting style, this will add many hours of fun and replay value to your experience.

The only notable flaw is at times the chatter from your AI support Nia can be distracting during intense fights. Her hints of the gameplay mechanics can be a bit excessive for more experienced players. Still, it’s a small price to pay to enjoy a game which had previously been exclusive to arcades in Japan.

Above all, “Pokkén Tournament” is not only one of the best fighting games on Wii U, but on any system this console generation. With a stunning presentation and rich fighting gameplay, it is well worth your time and money if you’re a fan of “Pokémon” and fighting games. Gotta fight ‘em all!

REPORT HARASSMENT

Public Safety Officer on duty
541.926.6855



COURTESY: CROWN PUBLISHING GROUP

BOOK REVIEW:
The Martian

AUTHOR: Andy Weir
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED: 2011
PAGE COUNT: 369
GENRE: Science Fiction
ADAPTATIONS: The Martian (2015)
AWARDS: Goodreads Choice Awards Best Science Fiction

REVIEW BY APRIL WHEELER

Many readers may have already experienced Andy Weir’s science fiction delight, The Martian, in movie theaters. And I admit the film was masterfully executed; however, by nature, films cannot capture all the details covered and situations envisioned while reading the novel.

Weir mixes the unknown of living on Mars with known science. How could one survive on Mars—alone after an accident—until the next available ship arrives? While never knowing if a ship will come in time, but ever hoping and, most importantly, planning. A melding of the human response to this situation and hard data in botany, engineering, astronomy, and chemistry allows the reader to peek into a situation few of us would even consider, much less have the opportunity to experience.

While there are glimpses back to Earth, most of the

novel revolves around astronaut Mark Watney and his reality on Mars, with valid and vital concerns around food, air, communication, and transportation. All of Watney’s experiences are relayed through his log recordings (or from a satellite viewed by people millions of miles away), which is a unique and challenging conveyance of details.

The lead character of Watney is believable—he even starts with a bang (warning: the character uses curse words to convey certain strong thoughts). In his situation, I could imagine being somewhat hysterical and needing to make the best of what there is in such a limited environment, which Watney does calmly and amusingly, at least by the time he records the log entry: “I decided it was time for a very special occasion. I ate the meal pack labeled ‘Survived Something That Should

Have Killed Me.” When he accesses his co-astronauts’ personal entertainment, good-natured jesting happens, even though it’s through a one-sided personal log. When he’s taking inventory of what he has packed, his last entry is “Disco: Lifetime supply.”

His sense of humor certainly infects the reader, and I found myself giggling and laughing out loud frequently, all the while worried about Watney’s well-being and mental stability. I would highly recommend this book to anyone, but especially to people interested in astronomy or science, or with a love of sci-fi or humor—and especially to those who enjoyed the movie, because the novel is a very different experience of looking at Watney’s time on Mars from the character’s perspective.

SO MUCH, AND STILL, SO MANY

by Mark J. Weiss

I will remember this,
Whenever tragedy happens
Thousands rise.
Every time someone commits a terrible act,
And tears at us, makes us shriek
Like torn flowers and burning stones,
So many come forward.
Like a warm wave from a sea of compassion,
To wash us, soothe us, and lift us.

We must remember,
Even as we tend to tragedy,
To also attend to the thousands
Who immediately bring goodness.

To reach out to one another.
This may be the best we have within us.

TO THE ANGEL WHO CANNOT SING

by The Boy with Green Hair

You don't have to be perfect— to be someone's Angel.
Your wings may be crooked, and your halo askew—
But, you only see your reflection.

You may not sing, but someone may love your voice.
However crooked the wings— they will carry others,
And they only see themselves in mirrors.

So what are they to do without you?
You're still their Angel—

For the boy afraid of razors,
For the girl who lives in grey,
For the child who cannot sing.

For fear is alive, and well.

And an Angel is, As an Angel does—
Sing

3.22.16

By Alyssa Campbell

Body
Tossing,
sun glaring,
rain blaring,
pouring,
filling,
overflowing,
exploring—
the cracked
concrete.
I kissed you
Goodbye,
Unaware
we were
being
robbed
of our
Ever After.
Ticket, check.
Bags checked,
The cryptic ticking
of the time bomb—
moments
Collapsing
decayed cement—
crippled bridges
deteriorating,
rusting
away.

PHOTO BY VALENTINA CALÁ | FLICKR



NETFLIX
RECOMMENDATION

"Ferris Bueller's Day Off"

"Ferris Bueller's Day Off" is one of the best movies of the '80s. No film captures the feeling of skipping school better than this John Hughes classic.



DID YOU KNOW?

The best defense is a good offense.

THE COMMONS Cafeteria

*** MENU ***

3/30 - 4/5

Wednesday (3/30): Pulled Pork Sandwich, Turkey Cutlet with Gravy, Squash Enchiladas*.

Thursday (3/31): Swiss Steak, Grilled Chicken with Pesto and Roasted Cherry Tomatoes*, Macaroni and Cheese Gratinée.

Monday (4/4): Beer Braised Chicken with Bacon and Hazelnuts, Grilled Steak with Beurre Rouge*, Thai Tofu Yellow Curry with Steamed Rice*

Tuesday (4/5): Poached Chicken with Mushroom Cream Sauce*, Cumin Crusted Pork Loin with Chimichurri*, Falafel. Soups: Beef Vegetable*, and African Sweet Potato*.

Items denoted with a * are gluten-free

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

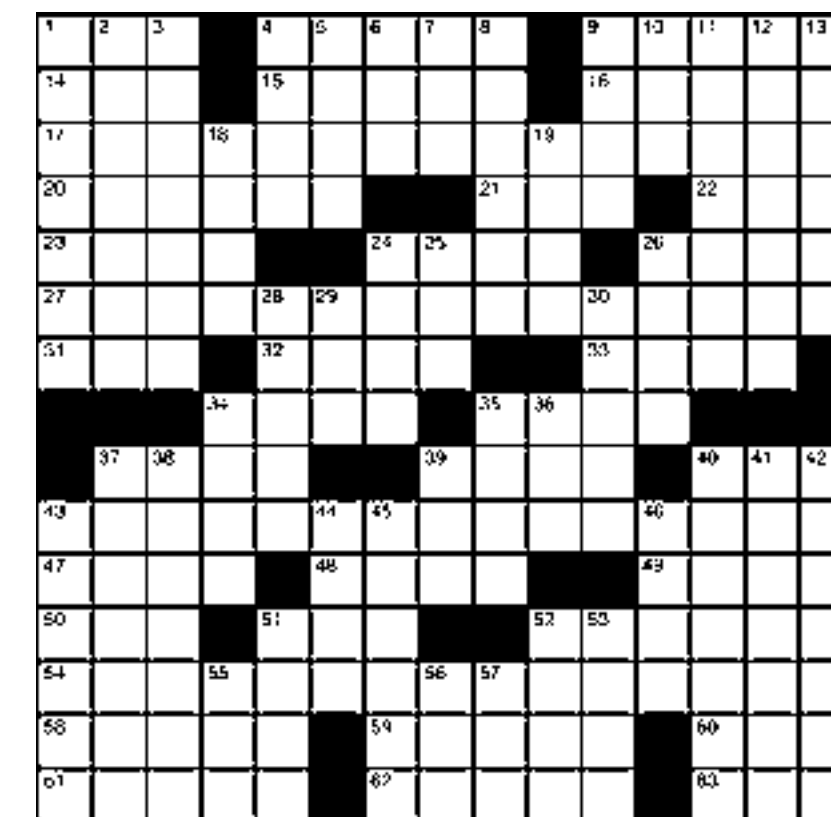
FOR RELEASE MARCH 30, 2016

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Vanna's cohort
- 4 Smidgens
- 9 Thicket
- 14 Boston Marathon mo.
- 15 Meat and greet patio party?
- 16 Skylit courtyards
- 17 Yes, to a cowboy?
- 20 Sunday service providers
- 21 Switz. neighbor
- 22 Pollen carrier
- 23 "M*A*S*H" Emmy winner for acting, writing and directing
- 24 German autos
- 26 Women's undergarment, briefly
- 27 Yes, to an architect?
- 31 joint
- 32 Cracker with a scalloped edge
- 33 [uh-oh]
- 34 Provides with a soundtrack
- 35 Components of many tips
- 37 Give in to wanderlust
- 39 Shakespeare's river
- 40 Stockholm carrier
- 43 Yes, to a traffic court judge?
- 47 Author Rice
- 48 Final, e.g.
- 49 Medicine Hat's prov.
- 50 Shoot the breeze
- 51 Org. for docs
- 52 Exited quickly, in slang
- 54 Yes, to the Magic 8 Ball
- 58 "Divine Comedy" poet
- 59 "Fun, Fun, Fun" car in 1960s hit
- 60 Make faces for the camera
- 61 Labor day doc
- 62 Church chorus
- 63 Mini-albums, briefly



By Bruce Haight

3/30/16

DOWN

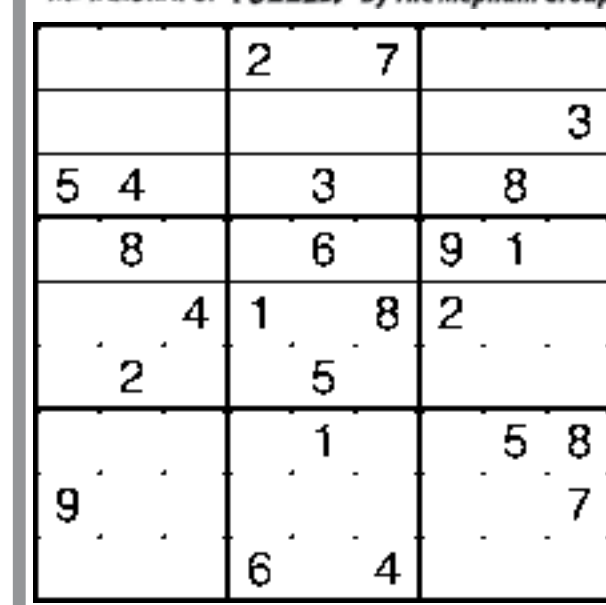
- 1 Choose paper over plastic?
- 2 Ill-fated 1967 moon mission
- 3 Made even, to a carpenter
- 4 " your pardon"
- 5 Cheerios descriptor
- 6 "Give it a go"
- 7 Blood-typing letters
- 8 Kick up a fuss
- 9 Uber competitors
- 10 Platte River tribe
- 11 The majors
- 12 Online guide
- 13 Enter gradually
- 18 Muffin mix additive
- 19 Con job
- 24 Orders with mayo
- 25 "Les _": musical nickname
- 26 PCs' "brains"
- 28 Karen Carpenter's instrument
- 29 Member of the fam
- 30 One who helps you find a part?
- 34 Prom partner
- 35 Fallopian tube traveler
- 36 Rejections
- 37 Drink on credit
- 38 Noise from a 55-Down
- 39 Multi-platinum Steely Dan album
- 40 "I was so foolish!"
- 41 Pays for cards
- 42 Old salts
- 43 Get hitched
- 44 Viral Internet phenomenon
- 45 Two-horse wager
- 46 Go up in smoke
- 51 Yemeni port
- 52 Capital near Zurich
- 53 Supplements, with "to"
- 55 Type of pen
- 56 Tech giant
- 57 Cube that rolls

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:



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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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PHOTOS BY: BRIAN HAUSOTTER

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

OSU Women's Basketball reaches Final Four

JAMIE WEISNER DRIVES TO THE BASKET.



DEVEN HUNTER GOES IN FOR A LAY-UP.

Oregon State's women's basketball is in the Final Four for the first time in school history.

The Beaver's face Connecticut and their 73-game winning streak. The Huskies are 120-1 in their last 121 games.

Being the team to stop the Huskies three year reign of dominance in the women's game would be huge for an Oregon State program that is trying to cement itself in the upper tier of women's basketball.

Ruth Hamblin, Sydney Wiese, and Jamie Weisner and the group of seniors have grown from young freshman to battle tested seniors that are two games away from winning a national championship.

Slowing down Breanna Stewart will be the key to beating UConn. The three time All-American is a force on the court. She's averaging 19.3 ppg and is the three-time national player of the year.

Hamblin might not be guarding Stewart the entire game, but she is a beast in the post. She is third in the nation in blocked shots with 124 blocks. If the Beavers are going to slow down Stewart it will be because Hamblin helped slow down the Huskies high powered offense.

To get to the Final Four the Beaves dispatched Troy, Saint Bonaventure, DePaul, and Baylor University.

The game will take place on Sunday, April 3.



RUTH HAMLIN BLOCKS A SHOT.



STORY BY
JASON CASEY
@REALJASONCAEY



NOLAN BASTENDORFF
THROWS A SPLIT-FINGER PITCH DURING PRE-SEASON PLAY.

LEAGUE PLAY BEGINS

RoadRunners are gelling and ready to roll

RoadRunners look to improve on last year's success with league play beginning April 1, and a doubleheader scheduled for the home opener April 2 against Lane.

Preseason leaves the RoadRunners with a record of 10-6. As league play approaches the RoadRunners are second in their division and 15 overall. Head Coach, Ryan Gipson has been working hard at improving the team through recruitment and improvement of the facility.

"We have been dealing with some nagging injuries," said Gipson. "We are still learning to play catch with each other, but overall feel like we are gelling well."

As we approach the season, the RoadRunners have been batting well with the team average at .339 and an on base percentage of .424, over the last seven games.

Luke Rappe returned for another season and likes the way the team has started.

"We are not quite where we want to be," said Rappe. "Our attitudes are good, and we have been working really hard."

Pitching overall for the RoadRunners has the team's ERA at 4.83 and 35 strikeouts through the last seven games.

The RoadRunners clinched a spot in the playoffs last year, and are looking to do it again.

"The difference from last year and this year," said second year player Andy Arruda. "We have grown as a family and continue to build chemistry."



STORY AND PHOTO BY
BRIAN HAUSOTTER
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