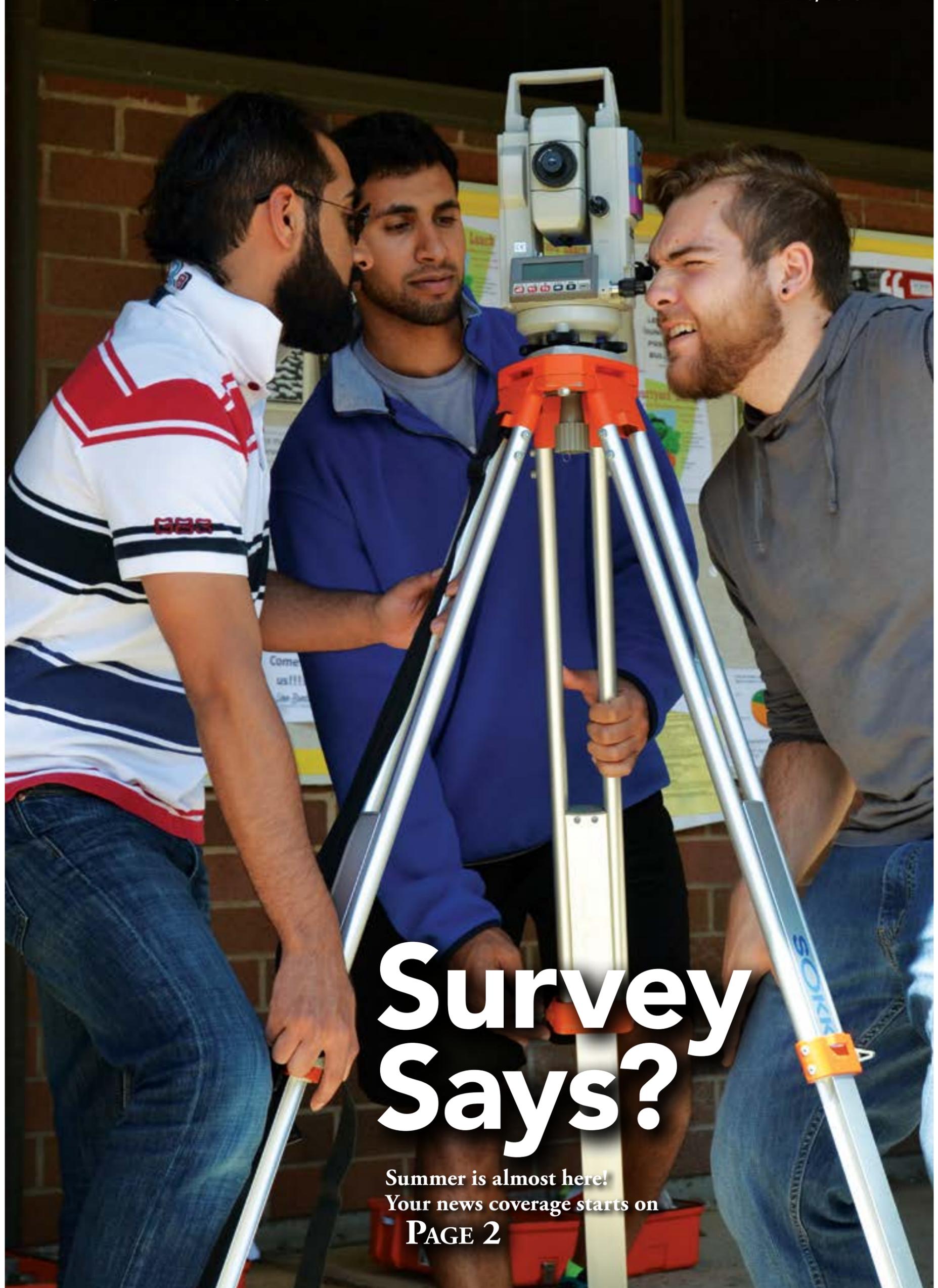


# THE COMMUTER

LINN-BENTON  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

VOLUME 47 • EDITION 31

MAY 25, 2016



## Survey Says?

Summer is almost here!  
Your news coverage starts on

**PAGE 2**

COMMUTER

**Cover Credit:**  
Marwah Alzabidi

**On the cover:**  
Amjad Almousabeli (from left), Dawood Alabadi, and Jack Powers participate in a plane surveying exercise.

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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# CAMPUS UPDATE

Do you have a writing assignment due soon? Want to consult with a writing assistant before you turn it in? Plan ahead. Make an appointment at the Writing Center and avoid the waiting list! Assistance in both research and writing will be available in the Library from 6:00-8:30 PM on Wednesday evenings ending on Wednesday, June 1.

**Wednesday, May 25: Diversity Potluck with Muslim and Middle-Eastern students 2 to 4 p.m. in the DAC (F-220)**  
Celebrate diversity on campus and bridge the gap between Muslim and Middle-eastern students who too often find themselves on the periphery of their own educations.

**Thursday, May 26 and Friday, May 27: French Banquet 2016, "Belle Epoque- A Culinary Exposition"**  
A forty-year tradition of the LBCC Culinary Arts Program, planned by second-year culinary students, this multi-course banquet showcases the work of the outstanding first and second-year students in the program. Tickets are \$38.

**Friday, May 27: Memorial Day Vigil and Veteran's Center Grand Opening Noon to 12:30 in the LBCC courtyard**  
Grand Opening lasts all day in the Veteran's Center, Forum 109. Free event.

**Willamette Theatre Festival: A community theater project from the LBCC Performing Arts Department**  
"Dead Man's Cell Phone" on May 27 and 28 at 7:30 p.m.  
"Eurydice" on May 26 at 7:30 p.m and May 28 at 2:00 p.m.  
Tickets \$12 for adults, \$9 for students and seniors. Buy tickets at [www.linnbenton.edu/tickets](http://www.linnbenton.edu/tickets).

**Saturday, May 28: Hackathon 7 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the LBCC Library**  
LBCC Open Source Club and the LBCC Library to bring you this overnight computer programming competition. Register to compete at <http://tinyurl.com/hacklb>

**Wednesday, June 1: Estate Planning Seminar 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Springhill Golf and Event center**  
An event to discuss the importance of wills, trusts, healthcare directives, and the use of IRA tools  
Free event.

**Friday, June 3: Benton Center Pottery Sale 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.**  
Support local art and find unique one-of-kind functional and sculptural pottery at the Benton Center Pottery Sale.

**Saturday, June 4: Study Jam, Part 2 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Learning Center and Library, Albany Campus and Benton Center**  
Get ready for finals!

**Thursday, June 9: Commencement Graduation 7 to 9 p.m. at the Linn County Fair and Expo Center**

# CAMPUS VOICE

**Question: What does Memorial Day mean to you?**

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
ROMINA RODRIGUEZ  
& MELISSA CHANDLER



**Daphne Babine**  
Major: Pre-Pharmacy

"Well I have a lot of family in the service, so it makes me particularly think of my grandfather."



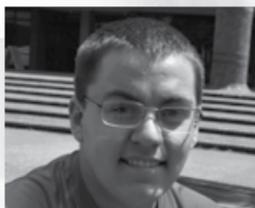
**Kayla Yarbrough**  
Major: Graphic Design

"A day to remember people who served in the Army."



**Mike Hellums**  
Employment: DHS SACU

"Remembering those who are forgotten."



**Alex Simpson**  
Major: History

"Remembering the sacrifices soldiers made. We didn't get here by accident, people worked hard."



**Sam Ullrich**  
Major: Computer Science

"It's remembering soldiers that sacrifice themselves for their country."



**Missy Rutter**  
Major: English

"It means a day of rest and reflection."

**Next Week's Topic: Summer Break.**



# LOCAL HISTORY RELIVED

**Celebrating Oregon's military history at Adair Village**

People of all ages joined in on Saturday, May 21, to celebrate Founder's Day in Adair Village from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The celebration was a reminder of the land that thousands of men and women passed through during World War II.

Visitors to the Founder's Day Celebration were welcome to take a walk through one of the remaining two barracks that are being restored. The open barrack had books, newspapers, fireman helmets, military uniforms, rifles, and photographs on display; some of which dated back to 1946.

"I dressed in a summer dress uniform portraying my grandfather's division and his rank," said Matt Helget, Linn-Benton student.

Helget has been helping with the displays in Adair Village for four years. He became a Living History Board Member and in 2016 was elected president. Helget got involved with Founder's Day because his grandfather trained at Camp Adair before being shipped to the Pacific theater during World War II with the 96th Infantry Division. His division participated in the invasions of Leyte Philippines, and Okinawa. His grandfather was Staff Sergeant Alfred Helget.

To lighten the mood after the barracks, visitors made their way to the petting zoo hosted by Paws and Claws of the Round Table. They brought rabbits, chickens, roosters and lambs.

Just outside the barracks stood Michael Pungercar, a volunteer for South Willamette Valley Oregon Honor Flight. This organization collects donations for veterans to take them to the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. They have taken 381 veterans since starting the organization four and a half-years-ago.

"Volunteers are what make this organization go," said Pungercar. "This is a trip of a lifetime. [We] treat them like royalty."

Face painting was available for the kids, along with a skateboarding ramp, and a fire truck bounce house for the youngsters to bounce out their energy.

Along the way there was a stand set up with homemade soaps on one side and on the other tasers, window breakers, flashlights, and pepper spray available for bypassers for sale from Damsel in Defense.

A fire truck and a sheriff vehicle were parked in the grass with open doors for the public to gaze at the gadgets inside. Those who ventured near received a sticker, a badge, pencil, and a keychain.

There was also a free barbecue for celebration goers serving hot dogs, chips, fruit snacks, and soda or water. The festivities concluded at 3 p.m. and visitors departed the grounds like the many men and women on their way to war, but these men and women who leave full and happy are freer today because of the 16 million who served during World War II.

**Adair Village history:**

The City of Adair Village was incorporated in 1976, on a rich military history site. It is located on two former military bases, one Army, one Air Force.

In early 1941 the War Department was looking for a place to build new training facilities. The site needed to be 50,000 acres, good water supply, decent electrical power, and railroad access. In September 1941, the Adair site was chosen as the ideal location for the new training facilities.

At the time the new construction caused many families to give up their homes. The government purchased farms, rerouted railroad tracks and roads, and completely wiped out the small town of Wells, Ore. Even cemeteries located within the camp boundaries had to be relocated. A total of 414 grave markers, some dating back to the 1850's, were relocated.

Construction began in spring of 1942, and by winter the camp was in use. The Army built 1,700 buildings including barracks, machine shops, stores, dining halls, theaters, a post office, hospitals, and chapels. Camp Adair was officially dedicated in September 1943.

Camp Adair was named for Henry Rodney Adair. He was a native of Astoria, Ore. and a member of a prominent Oregon pioneer family. After graduating from West Point, he became a cavalry lieutenant. He was killed during the Pancho Villa Expedition at the Battle of Carrizal on June 21, 1916.



Matt Helget dressed in a summer dress uniform portraying his grandfather's division and rank.

The main purpose of Camp Adair Military Reservation during World War II was to train Army and Air Force troops who were destined to fight overseas.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
MELISSA CHANDLER  
@MJEFFER8



Dr. Robert Harrison (right) poses with Albany mayor, Sharon Kanopa at the Liberty Tree Faire.

# LIBERTY TREE FAIRE

**Democracy club confronts the political apathy on campus**

The Liberty Tree Faire took over the LBCC courtyard May 17, and was filled with speakers; such as Bert Guptill advisor to the Bernie Sanders Club.

Several tables were filled with groups that included Linn County Democrats and Republicans, Libertarians of Oregon, Veterans for Peace, and Corvallis Move to Amend. Paige Kosa, the president of the Democracy Club helped to organize the event and introduced each guest speaker.

"The Liberty Tree Faire is to celebrate primary day and to give information [to students] on the last day to turn in their ballot," said Kosa.

The event was held to encourage students to vote, regardless of their political affiliations. Tables lined the courtyard filled with people from different political parties backing everyone from Bernie Sanders to city government leaders. Just across the courtyard there was a Black Friday event with mini golf and hot dogs.

Dr. Robert Harrison, the advisor of the Democracy Club

also helped to organize the event as. "This is to promote student involvement... and combat the apathetic, cynical attitude of some people. Money in the system is a problem, but we can still vote, we can still affect things," said Harrison.

Albany Mayor, Sharon Konopa was also in attendance. "If anyone has questions over city politics, that's what I'm here for!" said Konopa.

The Democracy Club hopes to hold more events like this in the future.

"We've been planning this all year, and we're excited for it to happen for the first time in four years," said Kosa.

STORY AND PHOTO BY  
MORIAH HOSKINS  
@MORIAH\_HOSKINS

# FROM PUNK ROCKER TO DOCTOR

Dr. Steven Ballinger's punk background contributes to a non-conformist mindset

In Dr. Steven Ballinger's favorite room the walls are lined with electric guitars. An amp sits in the corner opposite the door, a couple candles away from a music shrine. Most of the guitars are handmade by Ballinger, and the room is the culmination of hours of hard work.

Guitars aren't his only specialty either; the dining room table is his craftsmanship too. Paintings hang on the wall in the same room, courtesy of Ballinger. And guess who designed the elaborate fence lining the Japanese garden that the Ballinger family calls a backyard?

Standing well above six-feet, with a build of an ex-Stanford football player (which he was), "medical professional" isn't the first label that pops into your head.

Maybe we shouldn't be putting a label on him.

In 1981 you could find Ballinger sporting a gnarly mohawk while touring across America as lead guitarist of the punk band "Whipping Boy." The first song on their debut album was called "America Must Die"; an onstage fist fight with "The Misfits" might be their most infamous moment.

So, not the background of your average M.D.

Today, Ballinger's average work day consists of either performing surgery or consulting with patients. He's an orthopedic surgeon at Good Samaritan Hospital. He's been a surgeon, or at least a surgeon in training since 1985 after leaving Whipping Boy to go to medical school.

There's a guitar in his office. Sometimes, in the couple minutes between seeing patients he'll take it out and play a couple chords, parts of favorite songs.

It's not just the music that's stuck with Ballinger, but the attitude as well, being a part of the radical San Francisco counterculture changed his life outlook profoundly.



Dr. Ballinger (right) poses with former bandmate Eugene Robinson.

"I'd always been very self conscious and very concerned...I wanted to do the right thing, but it was very important to me that I didn't offend anybody, that no one say, 'oh, Ballinger's an asshole or he's a jerk,'" said Ballinger.

Luckily, this wasn't the case for long. "After being in a punk band and looking how I did and doing the things I did, I didn't care very much anymore," said Ballinger.

This new attitude is evident in the life Ballinger now leads, a life he loves.

"I don't think I could just do a job where I just moved a paper from one side of a desk to the other. I need to know that I'm making an impact on the world," said Ballinger.

This philosophy goes wider than just his work; Ballinger is a consummate family man as well. He currently lives with his wife and step-son, with another step-son who recently moved out to Oregon State University. He's made such a huge impact

on their lives that the oldest step-son, formerly Ryan Lynch, recently changed his name to Ryan Ballinger.

"I wanted to honor the man that helped me turn into the great person I've become," said Ryan.

According to Ballinger, one of the biggest perks of the "punk" mindset Ballinger has carried with him from the 80s has been the amount of time freed up by not feeling pressure to conform to the people around him.

He says his decision, the choice to only do things that he wanted to do, was one of the biggest turning points in his life.

"It was life changing for me. And it's not that I don't do unpleasant things, I do them all the time, but I do unpleasant things that I want to do," said Ballinger.

"But if I think 'Okay, this does not do anything for more or my world or the world or anything that I care about then I'm not gonna do it.' And that freed up a lot of time for me."

He uses this time engaging in an incredible amount of hobbies, things like woodworking or painting that he learned from his father. The latest project is building a bed frame; the wood, a very specific mahogany-type, from Africa.

You can count Taylor Johnson, an artist at LBCC, as one of the people Ballinger has influenced.

"[Ballinger is] the most well rounded person I've ever met really. I mean he once made an old style musical instrument out of a gourd. He's a surgeon, he's really smart, his artistic talents with crafting, and painting, his skills are all just really good," said Johnson.

At the end of the day, Ballinger loves his job, loves his family, loves his life, and probably doesn't give a shit about what you think of him. What's more punk than that?

**"I don't think I could just do a job where I just moved a paper from one side of a desk to the other. I need to know that I'm making an impact on the world."**

STORY AND PHOTO BY BEN SCHEELE

# DISSECTING THE WORD "MINORITY"

How bias creeps into everyday language

Increasing diversity, sensitivity training, and examining unconscious biases are all the rage on college campuses across the United States.

Recently I attended seminars, workshops and talks on such topics. As an academic advisor and instructor I am trained to help people based on their individual needs. So I had to ask myself, "Have I been doing the right things? Have unconscious biases gotten in the way?"

Upon reflection, one thing that stood out was my association with the word minority. An issue lies in the misinterpretation of the word. The definition of minority is less than 50 percent. The word minorities describes a group of people that are underrepresented within a larger group. In the United States minorities is predominantly used to describe anyone that is not caucasian.

We need to be careful that in our minds we don't shorten the definition of "minority" to "less than," which can then subconsciously be twisted to mean "inferior."

What is the opposite of minority? Majority. But I fear in our mind the

meaning becomes "superiority."

Upon further reflection, I noticed that I was feeling bad for the minorities as if they were helpless, meek and pitiful. This sudden awareness scared me. I would never consciously think this. I remain vigilant to stopping stereotypes from affecting the way I see people, yet this one slipped in unnoticed.

I recently attended a talk delivered by Dr. Robin DiAngelo, racial and social justice educator and author of "What Does it Mean to be White?"

"It is common for white people to say - no we don't have any bias, conscious or unconscious," said DiAngelo. "That is what we want to believe. That is what we are striving for and thought we had achieved in post-civil rights America."

To avoid unnecessary prejudices we should use the term "underrepresented" in place of "minority." This accurately describes what we intend: To bring people from underrepresented groups into the places racism has sought to keep them from. It all circles back to who has the power and opportunities to contribute and benefit.

We are using minority as if it is an identity -- that if we leave the United States's borders these people can still be considered a minority. Not so! "Minority" as an identifier does not transcend borders. It becomes a sticky label instead of an accurate description.

I was surprised when I saw this labeling in action in an announcement for a natural resource fellowship with Oregon Sea Grant that said, "Women and underrepresented minorities are encouraged to apply."

Why doesn't it say all people are encouraged to apply?

An additional problem with lumping everyone under the minority-umbrella is that every racial and ethnic group has different needs.

Four writers from the United Kingdom were asked what they thought of using the labels of black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME). Three of the four believed that discussing and categorizing people by labels is a distraction from addressing the issues of racial and ethnic groups.

Minority is one of those confusing labels. Underrepresented still generalizes,

but at least it is clear -- we are talking about anyone that is not a caucasian male.

Alan E. Waite, CEO of Praxis Corp. recently wrote a column "Three Reasons Why P. C. Must Go." In it he states that we must protect our First Amendment right to say politically incorrect things.

I agree, but we wouldn't have to worry about political incorrectness if we could have civil discourse. Saying "underrepresented" goes beyond politically correct.

It is semantically accurate.

I don't expect the word "underrepresented" to widely replace "minority" anytime soon. It is a clunky word and people will say it means the same thing - it's semantics. But the next time you hear the word minority, replace it in your mind with underrepresented.

STORY BY DANIELLE JARKOWSKY

# LIFE HACKS: MEMORIAL DAY

What to do with the long weekend ahead

It's week nine at Linn-Benton Community College, and many students have long since left behind the days of peppy put-together outfits and color-coded binders. With finals week and graduations looming around the corner, an open Monday is just what the college student needs; a mental break. While statistics show that over 35 million Americans will be traveling at least 50 miles from home this Memorial Day, there are plenty of ways to fill up the long weekend with some much-deserved rest.

Here are seven low key activities to keep your Memorial Day weekend stress-free but fun.

### Start an herb garden

Whether you're looking for a peaceful afternoon of zen or a simple distraction for the kids, planting an herb garden is a great Memorial Day project that will help you prepare for the summer barbecues and leisurely breakfasts to come.

### Go shopping

It may seem like everyone and their mother is out shopping on Memorial Day, but there is a reason for the incessant flocking. Not only is Memorial Day a great time to take advantage of some great sales and stock up on summer essentials, but there are also other fun things going on at most shopping centers. Grab the kids and head to the Columbia Gorge Premium Outlets for their annual sidewalk sale featuring a free bounce house, face-painting, and more.

### Stay shopping

Long lines and chaos not your thing? Online stores have Memorial Day sales too! Cabella's, for example, are offering up to 60 percent off of select items online with great shipping deals (free shipping until May 27 via coupon code "56MEM") until May 30.

### Plan a vacation

Traveling on Memorial Day can be a nightmare. Airports and freeways are packed with families

trying to squeeze the most out of the long weekend, and expenses are heightened. While the holiday weekend may not be the best time to travel (especially with finals coming up), it is a great time to book a vacation. Sites such as Hotels.com are offering up to 40 percent off traveling accommodations and bundles. Not to mention all the camping equipment sales that abound.

### Fix a faucet

A long weekend is great and all, but maybe a day at home is what you need to recharge. Memorial Day is a great time for those little projects that need attention. Leaky sink? Dysfunctional door knob? Home improvement stores such as Home Depot and Lowes are on the discount bandwagon too, making no time like the present prime-time to fix that faucet.

### Wine and dine (and funk)

Join Tyee Wine Cellar for their 31 years as Corvallis' Local Estate Winery. Enjoy original funk, disco, and groove by the Space Neighbors and food from Magenta Restaurant and Alley Gyros.

Admission: \$7 online at tyeevine.com \$10 (cash) at the gate. All ages welcome, kids under 12 free. Noon to 5 p.m. Monday, May 30.

### Take a moment to remember

While many Americans celebrate Memorial Day as just another day off, it's important to acknowledge where the roots lay. Take a moment to appreciate all that has been sacrificed to bring the United States where it is today. Celebrate Memorial Day at the historic Crystal Lake Cemetery in Corvallis, where community members gather every year to honor courageous heroes who served and sacrificed for our freedom.



COLUMN BY KATHERINE MILES @KATEMARIEMILES



**Memorial Day Vigil & Veteran's Center Grand Opening**

Friday, May 27th 12:00 - 12:30; Grand opening is all day.  
Linn-Benton Community College Courtyard (Albany) & F-109

LBOC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the center for accessibility. Resources at Linn-Benton Community College, 900 SW 6000 Pacific Mall, Salem, OR 97301. Phone 503-975-1111, 503-975-4700, 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.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Memorial Day was in response to the Civil War, in which over 620,000 people died.

Linn-Benton Community College Presents:

*The Language of Song*

**Thursday, June 2**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**Concert Choir**  
**Chamber Choir**  
**A Cappella Groups:**  
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**The Sirens**  
**Remixed**

**Raymund Ocampo, Conductor**  
**Kristin Rorrer, Accompanist**

**Russell Tripp**  
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# THE SILENCED

The realities of children ignored by DHS in Oregon

On Sept. 4, 2009, I called 911 at 1:50 a.m. for someone to come save my mother, who I believed was being beaten. My call is only a number in the system, and report 09-17840 did nothing. It only mentions that my father was advised not to drive, as he was drunk. He was allowed to drive anyway.

The report does not mention the door torn angrily from the hinges, nor the china shattered across the house.

The report does end the way I remember it, though. An officer explained to me it was better safe than sorry; so thank you very much for calling.

The case was never opened, an investigation never launched. I was a child completely lost and overlooked by the system, joining thousands of others. I was just a trace along the edge of the shadow of the nightmare that haunts every overworked social worker at night. We are the children they might have saved.

I am not the only child to fall through the cracks like this. Susan Goldsmith, an Oregonian reporter, wrote "Oregon DHS repeatedly failed to help abused girl, report finds" on January 27, 2010. DHS ignored four out of five calls made to them about Jeanette Maples over a four-year period, they ignored that California's office had taken her from her mother, because her mother was determined to be dangerous. They responded to one call, and concluded that Maples was okay because she was 15, and therefore old enough to report it herself.

Jeanette Maples was murdered December 9, 2009 by her mother and stepfather. The article was later updated to say, "Jeanette Maples was starved, and beaten to the point where her bedroom



Photo By: Truman Templeton | Illustration By: Moriah Hoskins

was described as "bloodspattered." Her step-grandmother was urged not to view the body, as it was too horrific.

Another girl, mentioned in The Oregonian's Steve Mayes' article on May 9, 2015, was four when she was raped on three occasions while in foster care in 2015.

The Statesman Journal on December 21, 2015, reported that nine medically fragile children from ages 2 days to 3 years old were repeatedly sexually abused by their foster parents for years. The foster parent who did most of the abusing, James Mooney, was given permission to foster despite his heavily questionable background.

Governor Kate Brown called out DHS in December.

"I want you to hear it from me. In no way do I see this level of services as being acceptable," said Brown.

Brown went on to state that despite funding being an issue, too many children were being abused by the system. Brown is advocating for more funds for the system, but overall sees that, "...there is no excuse, there is no policy, there is nothing in the state of Oregon that justifies what happened to these kids."

There is nothing in this world that justifies what's happening to children in the state of Oregon. Children can't publish articles, they can't call up their representative and ask for change; they are silenced. We must lend them our voices.

My story wasn't woven from just

one bad night, or one missed call to DHS. It was a lifetime of misses. Calls were made, teachers and doctors told, and nothing happened, the abuse and neglect continued.

While not as severe as what happened to Jeanette Maples and so many others, the system had left us behind after far more than just one chance to make a difference. Yet so many children are met with silence, until they age out of the system, or die early, whether through murder or by their own hands.

This is not acceptable and letting the system fail us for so long while we turn a blind eye will be a blight on our history.

Brown got the ball rolling in 2015 by starting to audit DHS and trying to figure out where the problems lie, and how we can fix them. The investigation is ongoing, and in The Statesman Journal's article from April 2016, Gordon Friedman wrote that DHS in Oregon fails all of the federal child care standards.

Without public advocacy for change, kids will keep slipping through the cracks for decades to come.

One can write directly to their representative or governor, but even in day to day life, you can make a difference. If you see a child who is obviously being abused, or a child says they are being abused, call. Do not pause, do not wait and sleep on it. Call DHS, call the police, notify someone. With enough calls, that child won't be ignored.

Will you stay silent?



COLUMN BY MORIAH HOSKINS @MORIAH\_HOSKINS

## RE: AM I ADULTING?

It's spring term, and I'm not enrolled in classes, because I am having to pay for my classes. I also get to play catch up for not finding a job and getting my license in high school.

But we cannot compare ourselves to the societal norm for our age range. People don't know what you're personally going through, and it's a matter of comparing apples to oranges.

Look, I know you're scenario is different than mine because you feel like you're falling behind schedule, but perhaps you weren't supposed to graduate college at 22. I mean, for me, I've been a student for thirteen years, including preschool and kindergarten. Me taking a break to get the job I should have got in high school is actually working in my favor. I need to experience life outside of a classroom, and finding a job is just the distraction I need.

Mom asked me oh-so-counselor-like (but with honest intentions) what my one-year, five-year, and ten-year plans are. To be honest, my plans are very minimal: attend school (1 year), having a job (5 years), and finding a point of stability within a job and lifestyle (10 years).

For me the goal is independence. Other than seeking solidarity and a healthy life, I could care less right now about what the future holds so long as I am happy. Deeply, truly happy.

If you feel guilty for just now going to college, don't. It's honestly very encouraging to me. I mean, hypothetically assuming we die at a natural

age of eighty-something, our lives are so young and tender, right?

Maybe that's why we're going to community college and not OSU or U of O. Universities bring this invisible assumption that a pupil knows exactly what career they're interested in. Here at LBCC, it's all about trial and error, not about writing our goals into wet concrete to be later set in stone.

And while not passing a class was the dumbest thing I could have ever done at this point, not learning from the mistake would be even dumber. I am now forced to work, and to be able to say "I paid for my school" is something I may take pride in someday.

So to all fellow students who don't know what the F they're doing right now, you're doing it right. By figuring out what it is you want to do with your life, you are fulfilling the point of community college. Seriously!

Right now, our greater purpose is not to fulfill a generic standard of where we should be according to society. Our purpose is to do what is ultimately beneficial to us right now. For you, that could mean finishing community college at 23; for me, that means seeking employment and a sense of independence.



COLUMN BY MORGAN CONNELLY @MADEINOREGON97

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PHOTO BY: MORIAH HOSKINS

## FLUSH HOUSE BILL No.2

North Carolina stirs the pot with new LGBT laws

North Carolina is known for its East Coast beauty and barbecue, but most recently it is gaining fame for the passing of House Bill 2 on March 23; the anti-LGBT law, or "the bathroom law."

It is not just a bathroom law. It affects pay rate, work, safety, and everyday life.

The uproar from this new law is spreading from North Carolina across the nation. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community members are appalled with the discriminatory bill.

Rallies and petitions sparked across North Carolina in an effort urging Capitol Hill to repeal this bill with chants and slogans such as "We are better than this," and, "That is what hypocrisy looks like."

A North Carolina bartender, Michelle Busiek, who identifies as a non-binary, transgender lesbian, says that it would be a shorter response to only mention how House Bill 2 does not affect her compared to all the ways that it does.

House Bill 2 provides zero protection to the LGBT community against any kind of discrimination. The bill strips away the rights of cities and counties to implement or uphold their own nondiscrimination policies. This includes job security. The bill also states that individuals must use the bathroom assigned to their sex given at birth rather than their gender identity.

A man filed a complaint at the bar where Busiek bartends, stating that, "She makes me and my bro uncomfortable. We haven't been able to come back to your restaurant because of her."

Luckily, Busiek's manager is an ally and did not allow this kind of discrimination in his business, but unfortunately, House Bill 2 makes it perfectly legal for Busiek to be fired based on this shallow complaint.

"No one deserves to be judged just for being

**"We fear the unknown, we fear what we do not understand."**

themselves," said Busiek.

Busiek is only one of many who suffer from the repercussions of House Bill 2.

Rick Scot, the vice president and assessment program manager of Bank of America in Charlotte, North Carolina, moved from Los Angeles with his husband in 2015 to take on this new job title, completely unaware of what he was getting himself into. Scot was used to individuals protesting his community, but he had never felt as alone as he did walking into the chamber the day that House Bill 2 was presented.

"We fear the unknown," said Scot. "We fear what we do not understand."

Considering that there is a federal law, Title VII, that prohibits discrimination on sexual orientation and gender identity, North Carolina has done a big no-no.

On May 9, Attorney General, Loretta Lynch, spoke out on CNN, expressing concerns about the bill. The Department of Justice asked the government of North Carolina to consider revising and removing the bill, the

state replied by asking for an extension of time.

Lynch then reported that the state of North Carolina is suing the Department of Justice. In return, the Department of Justice is filing a Federal Civil Rights Lawsuit against the state of North Carolina.

"While the lawsuit currently seeks declaratory relief, I want to note that we retain the option of curtailing federal funding to the North Carolina Department of Public Safety and the University of North Carolina," said Lynch.

Lynch declared herself, along with the Department of Justice, as allies to those affected by the bill.

In the wake of the triumph for gay and lesbians obtaining the right to marry, Lynch points out that several states are retaliating, aiming at LGBT communities.

"This is not a time to act out of fear," said Lynch.

Despite the chaos and heartache that House Bill 2 is causing, members of the community are standing together in hope for a better tomorrow.

"I will continue to fight. This only gave me the energy and desire to see change happen," said Scot.



COLUMN BY MARINA BRAZEAL @MARINABRAZEAL

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## VIDEO GAME PREVIEW: POKÉMON SUN AND MOON

The 20th anniversary of the “Pokémon” series continues to be a huge success, with the next highly anticipated video game launching worldwide this November: “Pokémon Sun and Moon.”

Set in the tropical island paradise of the Alola region, you are once again tasked with traveling the land to collect and battle with Pokémon, including a large combination of old favorites and new friends to add to the ever-growing array of monsters.

The new starter Pokémon were revealed along with the first gameplay footage on Pokémon’s official YouTube channel. They consist of Rowlet, a grass-type that resembles environmentalist icon Woodsey Owl; Litten, a fire-type that resembles a cat; and Popplio, a water-type that performs seal tricks normally reserved for water shows at SeaWorld. All of these have unique designs that are welcome company to the likes of series mascot Pikachu and his more than 700 kin.

The gameplay may have undergone much change since the original “Pokémon Red, Blue and Yellow,” but anticipation is incredibly high for the latest entries in one of Nintendo’s most beloved and successful video game series. Many are hoping the seventh generation of the mainline role playing games will improve on the successes of 2013’s “Pokémon X and Y” and 2014’s “Pokémon Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire.”

The graphics also look to improve on the already impressive transition to 3D in Generation VI. The leaked footage shows off vibrant colors and expansive environments, with a host of flashy special moves in battle. The characters also have designs that not only suit the tropical climate of the Alola region (which is based off the real life Hawaiian islands), but also look to build on the quasi-1990s aesthetic that has been a fixture of recent generations.

While many competitors to Game Freak’s long-

running series have come and gone, the fact that hype is so high means the concept of “Pokémon” has easily stood the test of time over the past 20 years. That said, be sure to keep an eye out when “Pokémon Sun and Moon” launches on Nov. 18 for the Nintendo 3DS.

COLUMN BY  
STEVEN PRYOR  
@STEVENPRRZPRYOR



COURTESY: PARAMOUNT PICTURES

### MOVIE REVIEW:

#### Everybody Wants Some!!

**DIRECTOR:** Richard Linklater  
**STARRING:** Blake Jenner, Zoey Deutch, Ryan Guzman, Tyler Hoechlin, Glen Powell, Wyatt Russell, Will Brittain, J. Quinton Johnson, Temple Baker, Justin Street  
**PRODUCTION:** Annapurna Pictures, De-tour Filmproduction, Paramount Pictures  
**GENRE:** Comedy  
**RATED:** R  
**OVERALL RATING:** ★★★★★

REVIEW BY NOLAN GOLD

During the release of “Boyhood,” many critics assumed the film’s main character (a bratty, teenage, aspiring photographer with a surprisingly punchable face) was a surrogate for the film’s writer and director, Richard Linklater.

However, Linklater was quick to deny this in interviews.

“I was an ex-jock. I had to make a choice which side of me to show, and I bet on the ethereal, arty guy as a more interesting kid,” Linklater said in Rolling Stone Magazine.

In hindsight, accusations of creator stand-ins should have been reserved for his newest film, “Everybody Wants Some!,” as its central character seems to fit the ethereal jock role quite nicely.

In the fall of 1980, Jake (Blake Jenner) is an up-and-coming baseball star moving to Southeast Texas for his freshman year of college, bringing with him only a knapsack of tawdry clothing, and an impossibly diverse vinyl record collection.

He rooms in a small house on campus with teammates, a ragtag group of college prospects. They spend their nights embarking on testosterone-driven quests for sex and alcohol.

Billed as a spiritual successor to Linklater’s 1993 film “Dazed and Confused,” “Everybody Wants Some!” shares that film’s inescapable sense of nostalgia, attempting to capture the early 80’s through the thickest pair of rose-colored glasses.

Still early in the decade, many of the more persistent trends of the 70’s seep through. Disco isn’t dead yet. It’s dying, and relegated to on-campus dance clubs, apparent

magical wonderlands where 18-year-olds are offered free beer, and people unironically wear some of the most kitsch shit ever manufactured by sentient life.

Yes, 70’s fashion is still in full swing, as we haven’t yet stocked every Goodwill from coast to coast with discarded bellbottoms.

The decade to come is only hinted at, as the boys partake in a “Wayne’s World”-esque car ride singalong to The Sugarhill Gang’s “Rapper’s Delight,” and perform some cathartic moshing at a punk-rock concert.

As the team’s slack-jawed catcher puts it, “I don’t know man, I kinda like Van Halen.”

Like any place filled with unchecked alpha males, the team’s house immediately descends into an environment of competition and machismo pride. Be it “Whose ping-pong skills reign supreme?” or “Who can achieve the most biblical bong rip?” every facile interaction is taken as an opportunity to assert male dominance.

Their banter of back-and-forth bullshitting is brilliant, and it makes “Everybody Wants Some!!” Linklater’s most consistent comedy since “School of Rock.” Though the director receives much of his props from Sundance kids who won’t shut up about his career-long meditation on human perception of time, he’s also the man who gave us the funniest Jack Black performance, “High Fidelity” notwithstanding.

Even when dialogue between teammates is incredibly crass, peppered with antiquated misogyny and homophobia, it rarely feels forced or inauthentic.

The opposing voice to Jake’s macho surroundings is Beverly (Zoey Deutch), a theatre major with strawberry auburn hair who reciprocates his appreciation for

poetry, music, and essentially anything not involving a jock strap. On the surface, she checks every box of the manic-pixie-dream-girl archetype, but Deutch’s on-screen affability and Linklater’s deft script both assist in circumventing the trope. She ends up feeling like an actual person, rather than a crutch devised to move the story forward.

Linklater has proven to have a knack for writing animated dialogue between two equally well-educated souls. Neither Jake or Beverly are experts in the heady topics they attempt to explore, but they both have an aptitude and awareness that captures the “I’m a college freshman and I have ideas dammit” mindset.

Jake’s “jock or artist” dichotomy becomes the crux of the entire picture. This inner conflict isn’t exactly original, but what differentiates “Everybody Wants Some!!” from other such coming-of-age films is that Jake’s transition from youth to adulthood feels almost ancillary.

Unlike “Dazed and Confused” or “American Graffiti” that emphasize the importance of character choices, “Everybody Wants Some!!” is about the discovery that choices exist in the first place. We only witness the three days leading up to Jake’s fall term, closing out just shy of his first classroom lecture. As a result, his revelations are unobtrusive. He’s someone cautiously approaching a crossroads, and we view him just before his crucial pivot.

But what direction will he turn? Here’s hoping Linklater gets around to answering that someday.

Maybe in another 23 years.



COURTESY: THIRD WORLDS

### MUSIC REVIEW:

#### Death Grips: “Bottomless Pit”

**RELEASED:** May 6  
**LABEL:** Third Worlds, Harvest  
**LENGTH:** 39:20  
**GENRE:** Experimental Hip-Hop  
**FAVORITE TRACKS:** “Giving Bad People Good Ideas,” “Hot Head,” “Bubbles Buried in this Jungle,” “80808,” “Bottomless Pit”  
**LEAST FAVORITE TRACK:** “Trash”  
**OVERALL RATING:** ★★★★★

REVIEW BY KYLE BRAUN-SHIRLEY

Bands that push the envelope in music tend to be the ones that experiment with different genres, like Radiohead and The Beatles. Death Grips is one such band, and their latest release, “Bottomless Pit,” is as equally imaginative and hard to pin down as any other album in their discography.

Death Grips is a three-piece experimental band from Sacramento, Calif. The band formed in 2010 and is comprised of rapper/vocalist MC Ride (Stefan Burnett), drummer and producer Zach Hill, and co-producer Andy Morin. The group released their debut mixtape, “Exmilitary,” in 2011 and have maintained a steady flow of new music.

The band released their fifth album, “Bottomless Pit,” on May 6. Musically, “Bottomless Pit” is reminiscent of the first two releases by Death Grips, “Exmilitary” and “The Money Store.” Overall, this new album is another excellent release from one of the best bands around.

The album begins with the track “Giving Bad People Good Ideas.” Previous songs that Death Grips have released, like “Takyon (Death Yon)” and “I’ve Seen Footage,” are often regarded as some of the best music released in recent memory. If there is one song off “Bottomless Pit” that will earn a spot in the pantheon of Death Grips it’s “Giving Bad People Good Ideas.”

The song opens with guest vocals from Clementine

Creevy as she sings over and over, “I keep giving bad people good ideas.” It’s backed by a relentless guitar riff, Hill’s drumming, and MC Ride’s fast, nearly unintelligible rapping. Lyrically, this song examines the relationship between art and audience and the negative ideas art can potentially inspire. Some people don’t consider rap to be a valid form of music. MC Ride’s words constantly remind listeners that rap can be as equally thought provoking as any other artistic outlet, and “Giving Bad People Good Ideas” is a testament to that.

The second song on the album, “Hot Head,” is also the first single off “Bottomless Pit.” The synths on this song are similar to the ones used on “The Money Store,” but that’s the only element of this song that sounds familiar. It’s enticing synths combined with chaotic, technical musicianship and the unique voice of MC Ride. These dynamic elements are what make Death Grips one of the most interesting bands in music.

The drums and heavy industrial music-esque synths on the track “Bubbles Buried in this Jungle” sounds like the song “Takyon (Death Yon)” off of “Exmilitary.” Both songs are overbearing and instantly quotable. Specifically on “Bubbles Buried in this Jungle,” MC Ride’s flow seems effortless. “Petty formula never amuses me/Fuck if I ever let a bitch get used to me.” Lyrics like

these are the kind that linger in the brain for days after you first hear it.

The only track on the album that is a little underwhelming is “Trash.” It’s not a bad song, it just doesn’t have the same impact that the rest of the songs on this album do. “Trash” is a slight blemish on an excellent record.

The album comes to a close with the title track, “Bottomless Pit.” It’s more aggressive, unpredictable music complemented with equally aggressive and direct lyrics as MC Ride says, “I fucked you in half” over and over again. Music and lyrics like those found on this song, and on the album as a whole, typically turn the average listener away. For fans of Death Grips, it’s what makes them a unique band.

It’s refreshing to hear a band comprised of talented musicians who aren’t afraid to do and say the twisted shit that comes into their heads. A band with no restrictions like that has the potential to make amazing music, and that’s what Death Grips does with every new release, “Bottomless Pit” included.



COURTESY: CHANCE THE RAPPER

### MUSIC REVIEW:

#### Chance the Rapper: “Coloring Book”

**RELEASED:** May 12, 2016  
**LENGTH:** 57:20  
**GENRE:** Hip-Hop, Electronica, Gospel, Soul  
**OVERALL RATING:** ★★★★★

REVIEW BY BEN SCHEELE

Despite never signing to a label, Chance the Rapper has been a household name in rap since dropping the mixtape “Acid Rap” in 2013. The upbeat tape was a musical interpretation of what it means to be young in Chicago. It is one of the most memorable, well-written, and wholly unique mixtapes released in recent memory.

In the time since “Acidrap” Chance has gone on multiple tours, had a child, married, given back to his hometown via initiatives to give needy Chicago youth coats in the winter, and hosted open mic nights in the summer.

The strides he’s made as a human are apparent in “Coloring Book,” an album full of nostalgic reflection on a childhood spent in Chicago, and an affirmation of his growth as a man through fatherhood and an ever strengthening belief in God.

The song “How Great” starts off with a minute and a half of pure gospel music with the refrain, “How great is our God” and when Chance’s verse finally starts he keeps with the theme, rapping about his religion with his signature tongue twisting clever bars.

Chace’s spiritual maturation isn’t the only theme of the album. He talks about his faith growing parallel

with his personal development as a family man, and it’s evident on the stand-out track “Blessings”

“Jesus’ black life ain’t matter, I know I talked to his daddy/Said you the man of the house now, look out for your family/He has ordered my steps, gave me a sword with a crest/And gave Donnie a trumpet in case I get shortness of breath.”

“Donnie” refers to Nico Segal, aka Donnie Trumpet, Chance’s childhood friend and trumpet virtuoso whose fingerprints are all over this album, a limber trumpet dancing in and out of Chance’s ephemeral sing-song flow.

Actually, Chance’s whole childhood is all over this album.

Songs like “Summer Friends”, “Juke Jam”, and “Same Drugs” are drenched in nostalgia, a meditation on the innocence of youth, and what it means to grow up young, black, and in Chicago. Chance is a father and husband at 23. He’s not upset at growing up, just shocked by it.

While quiet moments pervade throughout the album, the songs that most people will remember are those with the highly charged, positive, braggadocio lyrics like “Angels.” He boasts, “I’m the blueprint for a real man.”

The song itself is a victory lap around Chicago; those ever-present gospel samples meshing with Donnie Trumpet’s melodic blasts of energy, and Chance’s exuberant inflection making this the most infectious song on the album. Seriously, try listening to this without tapping your foot, bobbing your head, or just smiling.

A lack of cohesiveness between tracks keeps this project from reaching the levels of awesome that “Acidrap” did. Chance tries a lot of things; every song on it is good standing alone, but put in succession they are disorienting.

The production switches from 808 machines and synths to organic sounds of gospel, trumpet, and piano randomly. The best example of this is “All Night,” but does its summer evening electro vibe fit into the album?

Luckily this is a minor complaint. All-in-all, “Coloring Book” is the best rap release of the year, and a promise that Chance will be around for a long time to come.





PHOTO: SAUL VASQUEZ  
The American Association for Woman in Community College gives away flowers at the Earth Day celebration on the Albany Campus of LBCC.



PHOTO: CASEY FAULCONER  
Paul Faulconer tees off at the Trysting Tree driving range in Corvallis.



PHOTO: MARINA BRAZEAL  
Coffee Culture employees show off their coffee making skills in Corvallis.



PHOTO: KENDALL LAVAQUE  
Turbo Tyler Sherman scored a record time of 17.66 seconds at Tricycle Races in the Courtyard.



PHOTO: JOSH KNIGHT  
Juan Medina, Tyler Miller, James Rossiter prepare for an upcoming track meet.



PHOTO: DYLAN CONNER  
Iraq Veteran Doug Fetz shows his support for presidential candidate Bernie Sanders. Fetz supports Sanders' plan to better the medical treatment for combat vets.



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