

TERROR AT THE PUMPS

Exploding fuel prices drain driver's tanks while filling OPEC's bank account
▶ Pg. 6-7

EARTH'S KITCHEN

Intaba's Restaurant in Corvallis serves up organic meats and veggies
▶ Pg. 11

The Commuter

a weekly student publication

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter
Volume 35 No. 18

Wednesday, April 7, 2004

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Fair links employers with job hunters

Adam Peoples
The Commuter

Approximately 54 businesses and industries will be discussing their products, services and employment opportunities at the 26th annual Career Fair in the Activities Center Gym on April 8. The event will take place from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm and is open to the public, free of charge.

Fair Coordinator Marcie Johnston hopes to "connect job seekers with employers," she said in an interview. "All students are invited with a personal invitation," announced Johnston. The event is centered on exploring career paths and options by providing a forum for interaction in the community.

Students and local residents can meet with potential employers as well as agencies dedicated to employment assistance. "Be prepared to ask questions, distribute your résumé and complete applications," said Johnston, who is returning for

her second year as coordinator.

The assistance agencies are offered to help students track their progress in a particular field. These organizations are a tool to job seeking individuals who feel they need help entering the job market. Students are provided with sample questions. The goal is to have a prepared work force with a strong idea of goals and abilities that can sell their labor to prospective employers.

Local businesses and industry leaders are scheduled to make presentations relating to their profession and services. Of the 54 companies, Johnston said, 41 would be seeking possible employees via the LBCC-orchestrated event. She added some businesses might set up appointments with applicants for later dates, though in recent years the hiring process was completed on the spot.

LBCC technical and professional training programs will

▶ Turn to 'Career Fair' on Page 4

Spring Colors



photo by Jenny Skoien

Jamie Cruz checks her course supply list as she shops in the LBCC Bookstore last Wednesday during the first week of spring term. As is customary with the opening of every term, students were faced with long waits to get into the Bookstore, as lines snaked out from the front door all week. The Bookstore offers online book purchasing as one way to avoid the hassle, but most students still buy the traditional way.

Students build homes with Habitat for Humanity in Oakland

Erica Hennig
The Commuter

What do low-income housing, two advisers and 13 students add up to? Answer: An alternative spring break experience.

Eleven hours of bus travel shuttled volunteers from LB to Oakland, Calif. during spring break. Their mission? To assist in the finishing work on four

houses, located on a site specifically for low-income, first-time home buyers.

Students and advisers were joined in the volunteer work by six representatives from Whitworth College in Spokane, Wash. The groups arrived on March 21, sharing quarters at Lake Merritt United Methodist Church.

The homes built are all three-bedroom, 1.5 bath and two stories high. Tasks com-

pleted by volunteers included mostly finishing work, such as installing siding, drywall and framing.

"They let me play with power tools!" grinned Jackie Lohner, vice president-elect.

Applying math to a task and learning to cut framing to fit the wall are among the practical skills learned by volunteers, who worked with representatives

of Habitat for Humanity. Established in 1989, it currently has one of the largest alternative spring break programs in the country, according to habitat.org.

"We went there not knowing what kind of work we'd be doing, but it was really fulfilling to build the homes for these people to come live in," explained Lohner.

▶ Turn to 'Spring Break' on Page 4



photo by Bonnie Quinones

Christine Rhea, coordinator for advocacy services at the ABC House, passes out literature on child abuse and prevention Monday afternoon.

Day of Hope promotes child abuse awareness on campus

Michelle Bertalot
The Commuter

Those cut-outs in the quad aren't just there for decoration. Each silhouette represents a child who has lost their life due to abuse in Oregon. Today is the U.S. national Day of Hope, a day that promotes awareness of child abuse.

During 2002 in Oregon there were 10,375 cases of child abuse or neglect reported and on average one report is made every 10 seconds according to ChildHelp

USA.

LB's student government in conjunction with the Linn County Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse and the ABC House have maintained a table in front of the Courtyard Café. Today at noon in the quad, dignitaries will be present for a remembrance ceremony for children who have been victims. Attendees include Albany mayor Chuck McLaren, Benton County District Attorney Scott Heiser, Linn County District Attorney Jason

▶ Turn to 'Hope' on Page 4

WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND

SOURCE: WWW.WEATHER.COM



Opinion.....2-3
Campus/Local News..4-7
In Focus.....8-9
Sports.....10-11
National News.....13
A & E.....14-16

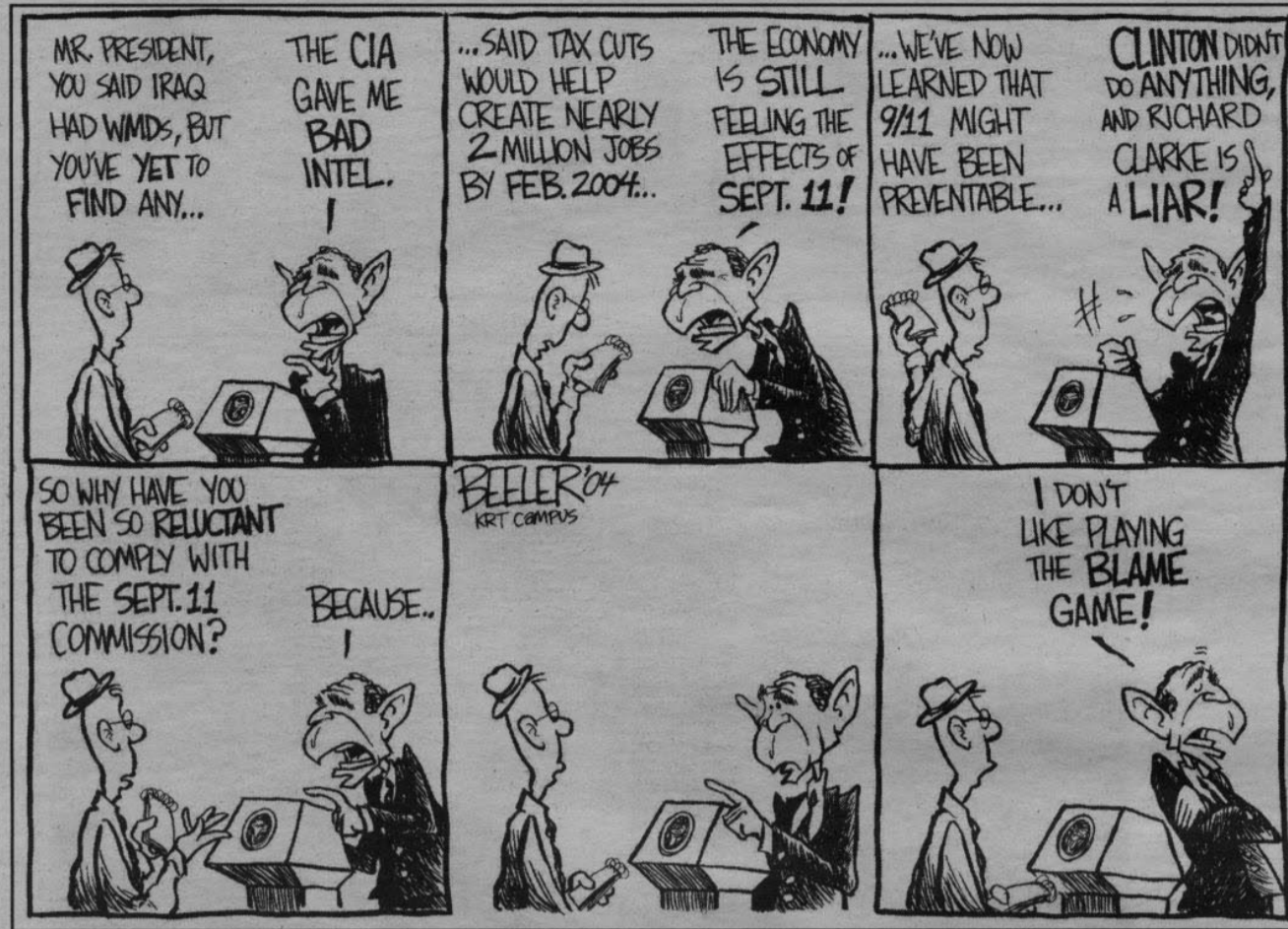
INDEX



Opinion Editor: Erica Hennig
Editor-in-Chief: Michelle Bertalot
Telephone: 917-4452

OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter:
 Turn into Forum 222. Please sign them and
 keep them at 250 words or less



Illinois university has forgotten what it means to live in a democratic society

Laurent L.N. Bonczijk
 The Commuter

As students and citizens we take many things for granted.

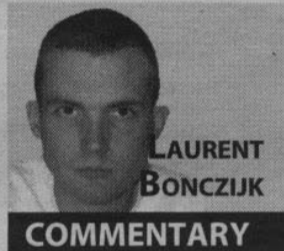
We have the right to not be bothered by the cops for no reason. We have the right to own weapons, if we are a law-abiding citizen. We have the right to print what we want in the newspaper.

Actually, the students at Governors State University in Illinois, do not have that right anymore.

We all agree that the role of the press in a democracy is to be a watchdog of the government. (I know, I know Fox News is guilty of dereliction of duty, but only because some people see them as a news outlet instead of their true role as a right-wing public-relations and commentary corporation.)

Let's transpose that role to a college newspaper. It's function should be to keep the college/university's administration on their toes, right?

That is what student journalists Margaret Hosty, Jeni Porche, and Steven Barba thought in 2001.



LAURENT BONCZIK
COMMENTARY

Boy, were they wrong!

After the student newspaper published several editorials and articles that were critical of the administration, Dean Patricia Carter instructed the local printer to not print the paper without prior approval of the administration. She took this action even though the university has the following policy: "[student newspaper staff] will determine content and format of their respective publications without censorship or advance approval."

The student editors took the dean to court and won at the federal district court level. But the university appealed, and the case has finally made its way to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, where the full court heard oral arguments on Jan. 8. The court is expected to hand down a decision before July 8. So far all the courts have favored the student editors of the Innovator, but the newspaper has been effectively shut down for the past three years.

In an age when civil rights have been pressured and curtailed to help fight terrorism, college newspapers have been one of the last places where people are able to voice their opinions and report freely on events.

Would you really want to live in a society where the government tells the press what it can and cannot write?

Marriage is about partnership, not sexual orientation

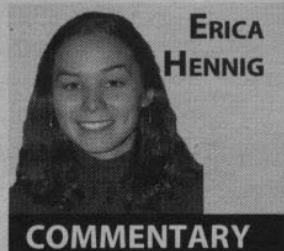
Erica Hennig
 The Commuter

Here's what I think about marriage today.

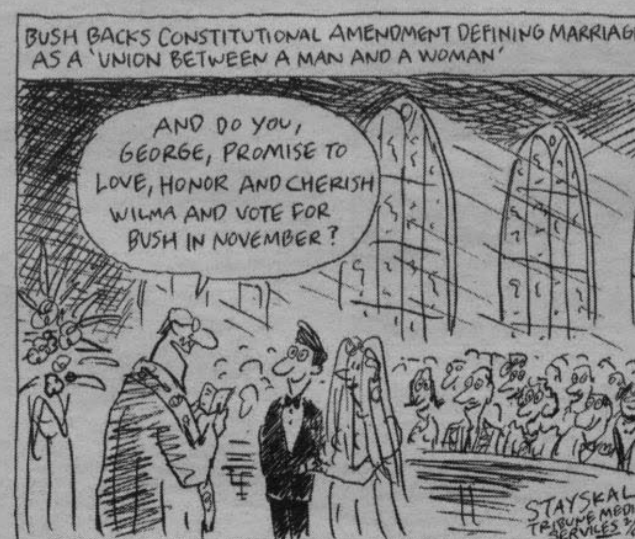
It's a partnership. It's two people working toward a mutual benefit, just getting along from day to day.

A married couple may have similar goals or they may be quite different. But most of the time they care about each other deeply and want to see each other succeed and be happy.

Lately, the argument against people of different sexual orientations becoming married has lost its traditional standing in much of the public eye. It has come under question ever since the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled several months ago that the state's ban on same-sex marriages was unconstitutional. Locally, public officials in two counties, Multnomah and Benton, have decided to offer equal opportunity in marriage (although Benton



ERICA HENNIG
COMMENTARY



County put its decision on hold last month after the state attorney general threatened a lawsuit). Currently, the question of the legality of same-sex marriages in Oregon is awaiting a ruling by the state Supreme Court.

What I find so strange about the argument against

The Commuter STAFF

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

Editor-in-Chief:
 Michelle Bertalot

Managing Editor:
 Adam Peoples

Copy/Opinion Editor:
 Erica Hennig

Arts & Entertainment Editor:
 Peggy Isaacs

Sports Editor:
 Jacob Espinoza

Editorial Assistant:
 Colleen Jacks

Contributing Editor:
 Adam Swackhamer
 Joel Meacham
 Shena Bishop

Photo Editor:
 Jeremy Hennig

Photo Assistants:
 Bonnie Quinones
 Scott McClure
 Lewis Forquer

Advertising Manager:
 Melissa Friend

Advertising Assistant:
 Brent VonCannon

Online Editor:
 Laurent Bonczijk

Production Coordinator:
 Aaron Kiersky

Advisor:
 Rich Bergeman

Phone: (541) 917-4450, 4451, 4452 or 4453

Fax: (541) 917-4454

Address: 6500 S.W. Pacific Blvd., Albany, OR 97321

E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

Want change?

Make change.

Change is good.

**Send a
 letter
 to the
 editor.**

The Commuter
 Forum 222
 commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu
 541-917-4451

equal opportunity marriage is that you don't see it when people who are assumed to be "straight" get married. They are encouraged to marry because their friends and relatives believe them to have what we consider a normal sexual relationship. It's not enough now to look at someone and see that they are in love and want to commit to caring for one another.

In essence, we congratulate a heterosexual couple for their marriage and condemn the bisexual or homosexual couple based solely on what we believe to be their sexual preference; in other words, whether those feelings of love are directed toward someone of the opposite sex.

We aren't saying, "Congratulations on your partnership." We are saying, "Congratulations on your normalcy."

We aren't saying, "Congratulations on your love and happiness." But that is what we should be saying. Everyone should see the hateful message that is being taught by not accepting loving partnerships.

We don't need to examine what kind of sex a person has to accept them as a beneficial part of society. The fact that they are willing to be supportive and caring toward another human being is enough.

Editor-In-Chief: Michelle Bertalot
Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

Members of ASG and SPB wrestle over altering bylaws

Public hearing on changes set for 4:30 p.m. on April 7

Sheena Bishop
 The Commuter

Last spring a goal was set by the Associated Student Body to change their bylaws by the end of this past winter term.

While revisions were made and a proposal was drafted, the scheduled meeting occurred during dead week when few, if any, students and staff are willing or able to care about anything other than final exams.

Having not been posted to the public 24 hours in advance, as is stated in the disputed document, nothing decided was made permanent.

Many of the changes being questioned are small, such as a grammatical error or poor structure. Others are slightly more impacting, like setting in stone certain responsibilities of ASG members that are currently scattered about the bylaws. By doing this, the members will no

longer have to search the text to find all of their specific responsibilities.

What has some in a frizzle is actually a bylaw that, if changed, would have consequences on the Student Programming Board as well as ASG. This bylaw is part of the requirements of being a part of these organizations.

Currently the bylaw states that members are "to participate in three service learning leadership credits per year," which is one credit a term in addition to the classes they already attend.

The proposed change is to add the word "encouraged" to the beginning of the statement, making the three credits optional. It has also been suggested to take the line out completely.

The SPB doesn't want the line changed because it actually makes their work load lighter in regards to participant requirements, whereas it makes those of the ASG heavier. The change will be all or nothing, meaning that if it changes, both groups will have to adhere to it. If it doesn't change, the SPB has nothing to worry about.

The problem with leaving it in place, from the ASG perspective, is that this year the credits were given to them by way of a grant, next year they won't be. ASG is already required to attend a retreat, as well as other leadership building activities.

SPB has the same set-up with required attendance to meetings, office hours and time spent on the building blocks of service.

Another idea is to make it into a Career Work Experience credit, where members are given credits for the office hours and work hours they do on behalf of the ASG or the SPB respectively.

For the most part, changes to the bylaws are for clarity and consistency.

The bylaw meeting is tonight at 4:30 in the Student Union. Two open hearings will be held after the meeting for students and staff to voice their opinions on the changes and suggest changes of their own.

While the changes will not have any direct effect on students, it will affect what their elected government is required to do in order to hold office.

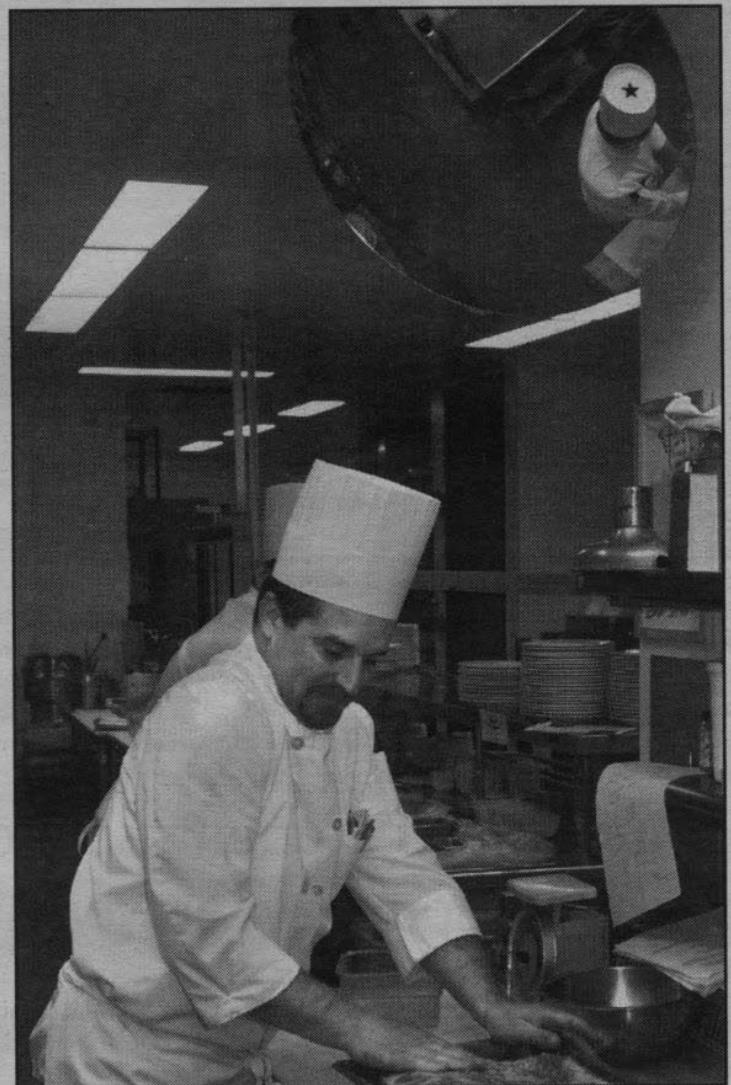


photo by Eric Swanson

Bringing Home the Bacon

Mark Iverson, a second-year culinary arts student, prepares bacon Wednesday in the cafeteria kitchen. Students were busy the first week of the term preparing for the opening of the cafeteria and Santiam Restaurant.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Local Communications Company Accepting Applicants For Both PT/FT Recruiting And Sales Positions Call 503-569-9947 For More Info.

Student Warehouse Worker (#2350-Corvallis) Hey, still looking for a great student job? Here is a part-time, flexible job at OSU and you must be a student (LBCC or OSU) AND it's full-time during breaks and summer. Still have some openings all day on Mon, Tues, Thurs & Wed. mornings. See Carla in Student Employment (T101) for your referral. NW Natural (Albany & Salem) These full-time, summer Engineering Intern, Leakage and Construction jobs pay \$9.50/hr, but the deadline is Fri, April 9! See Carla in Student Employment (T101) for the application materials!

Come Join Us! Large Local Marketing Team Is Looking For Serious Money Motivated Individuals Call 503-851-0069.

2004 Career Fair (10:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m., Activities Center Gym) Over 50 employers (41 say they are hiring) will be here to answer your burning questions about how they hire, what the job outlook is like, what qualifications they look for AND do they have jobs? There will be part-time, full-time and summer jobs. Sun Valley Resort will be hiring for the summer also. Free and open to the public-invite your friends and relatives! See you there!

Sun Valley Resort (Idaho) Will be here at the Career Fair to interview and hire for their summer openings. Well known for their winter skiing, they actually do more business in the summer! All types of jobs are available at this beautiful resort-can't beat that for a summer adventure! Sweet!

Multi-Billion Dollar Communications Company Seeking Individuals PT/FT Positions. Set Your Own Schedule, Perfect For College Students And Staff Call: 1-866-303-0922 To Set Appt.

Abercrombie
 American Eagle
 Old Navy
 Roxy

BUY SELL TRADE

AT

The Clothing Exchange
 1025 NW 9th St, Corvallis
 Call for details: 764-2264

COMMONS

Put it on your plate!

April 7th - April 13th
 Wednesday

Beef Stew
 Chicken Cordon Bleu
 Kolokopita
 Baked Pesto Pasta
 Seasonal Peas & Mushrooms
 Moroccan Lentil

Thursday

Turkey Club w/ Pasta Salad
 Chili Verde w/ Flour Tortilla
 Eggplant Parmesan
 Roasted Red Potatoes
 Stuffed Zucchini
 Turkey Veggie/ Split Pea Soups

Friday

Chef's Choice!

Monday

Buttermilk Baked Chicken
 Pappardelle Bolognese
 Frittata
 Potatoes Gaufrettes
 Green Beans
 Chicken Rice
 Puree of Potato & Leek

Tuesday

Beef Stroganoff
 Sweet & Sour Pork w/ Rice
 Stuffed Portabella Sandwich
 Rice Pilaf Spaetzal
 Roasted Root Veggies
 Mulligatawny
 Vegetarian Vegetable

Linden Wood Apartments

Clean Studio Quads

Starting @ \$285

All Utilities Paid

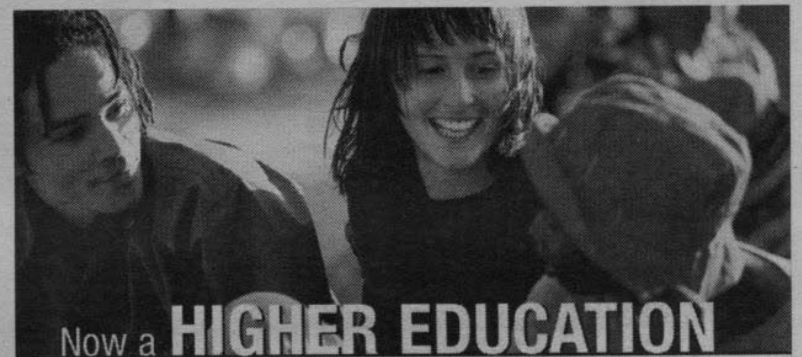
Providing Housing for LBCC Students for over 30 years

1042 Belmont SW Albany
 541-928-1500

Located Next to LBCC

Income Property Management
www.ipmco.com/lindenwood/
 Rec Room, Pool & Year Round Spa

Bring in this ad when you rent and we will donate \$25 to the Student Paper!
 Valid through 3/31/04 An IPM Company



Now a **HIGHER EDUCATION** comes with a **LOWER PRICE TAG.**

You could save \$1,500 every semester while you earn a Bachelor's Degree at DeVry University. If you've earned an Associate Degree and graduated with a final grade point average of at least 3.3, you could qualify for a DeVry University Scholarship.

Our business and technology programs fit your schedule with classes offered days, nights and weekends - onsite and online. With convenient locations near where you live or work, you can take advantage of our year-round programs. Bottom line? Taking your Associate Degree to the next level just got more affordable.

Call now.
 Portland
 866-863-7810

Peterkort Centre II
 9755 SW Barnes Road
 Suite 150
 Portland, OR 97225

Or, e-mail us at
transfer@devry.edu

DeVry University
 YOUR BEST CAREER MOVE™

www.devry.edu

© 2004 DeVry University. Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association (NCA), 30 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60602. ncahighered.com

INDOOR SOCCER
 ROLLER HOCKEY
 FLAG FOOTBALL

Spring Season

Begins April 16th

Register by April 12th

Season ends before graduation!!!

Leagues for all skill levels!



1-541-757-0776 ☎ 175 SW Twin Oaks Circle www.corvallis-sportspark.com

Editor-In-Chief: Michelle Bertalot
Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus



contributed photo by Michael Clair

Thirteen LBCC students helped build homes in the Bay Area for Habitat for Humanity during spring break. Staff advisers Virgil Agnew and Carol Wenzel accompanied the LBCC students, who are shown here along with six students from Whitworth College in Spokane, Wash., and some Americorps volunteers and Habitat workers. LB students spent four days working on the homes.

Spring Break: Students spend four eight-hour days at work

▲ From Page 1

"I came back with a positive feeling for the volunteer groups, such as Americorps, Job Corps and East Bay Habitat," she reflected.

Asked what she disliked about the trip, Lohner replied, "It was early mornings. I'm not a morning person. We had to get up and make breakfast and the same people would make

lunch."

The group spent a total of four eight-hour days working on the homes, after a day of sight-seeing in San Francisco. A tour of Alcatraz, Chinatown, Union Square, riding on a cable car and a visit to Pier 39 were among events on the agenda.

The student volunteers returned to the campus on Saturday March 27.

Career Fair: Gender Equity joins annual Career Fair Thursday

▲ From Page 1

be representing their various departments at the event.

Students can see an up-close view of the spectrum of programs through demonstrations and informational presentations. Members of these departments will be on hand to answer questions for students interested in pursuing careers in those fields.

The LBCC Gender Equity program is expected to attend the fair with a focus on nontraditional careers.

By venturing into job markets that tend to be gender-dominated, the unconventional employees may find more advantageous situations, said Johnston.

A memorandum sent across the LBCC e-mail

Hope: Nearly 350 kids helped yearly

▲ From Page 1

Carlisle, Albany Police Chief Joe Simon and Rev. Barbara Nixon.

The ABC House is a private, non-profit aide that is an "assessment center for children who have been victims of crime," stated Karen Scheler, executive director. A child may be referred to the center from law enforcement. ABC House is a center where children can meet with law enforcement, child protective services and an on-staff physician that may do physical

examinations. "We just try and connect families with the services that are needed," said Scheler.

"The goal is not to have the child victimized by having to retell their story over and to make the disclosure of exams less traumatizing," said Scheler.

Scheler realizes that people are instinctively apprehensive about calling services. "There's a fear when you call DHS your child will automatically be taken away, but that's not anyone's goal. It's to remove the abuser from the child," she said.

network explained, "Women, for example, may receive better pay, benefits and advancement opportunities while men may find improved working conditions, less physical stress on the job and increased job stability."

Additional information and tips can be found at the Career Fair Web site located at www.linnbenton.edu/careerfair/. Planning tools and information on participating businesses are found on the site.

Johnston reminds students of the importance of professionalism during the search for employment.

"Keep in mind that (you) are making a first impression with potential employers," Johnson remarked. "Be prepared to say what (you) have to offer."

According to Scheler, last year the ABC House had 346 children use the facility. Of those 346 children, 77 percent were from Linn County, 21 percent from Benton and 2 percent from outside Linn and Benton counties.

Tonight the ABC House is holding a fundraiser at Ciddici's Pizza in Albany at 5 p.m. The cost is \$8 per person for all the pizza, salad and jo-jos you can eat.

For more information on child abuse, contact your local police department or the ABC House at (541) 926-2203.

Complete your degree in Salem

with PSU's evening and weekend programs.

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate degrees

- Social Science
- Child and Family Studies

Minors

- History
- Sociology
- Business Administration
- Administration of Justice
- Community Development

Certificates of completion and other programs

- Chicano / Latino Studies
- Training and Development
- Initial School Administrator Licensure
- Continuing School Administrator / Initial Superintendent
- Human Resource Management
- Project Management

Graduate Degrees

- eMBA
- Master of Public Administration
- Master of Curriculum and Instruction



Starts Summer 2004

Coun 410: Intro to Disabilities Studies

Psy 350: Intro to Counseling

Spanish 301

Spanish 302

SW 410/510: Indian Child Welfare

Online Course

Soc 410 Sociology of Poverty: 4 Credits
 Completely online through WebCT

PSU Salem Center

4061 Winema Place NE, Bldg#49

Salem, OR 97305

Contact: 503-315-4587
www.pdx.edu/statewide
reppb@pdx.edu

Editor-In-Chief: Michelle Bertalot
Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

Quigley excited to start duties as next year's ASG president

Sarina Smuland
 The Commuter



Stephanie Quigley

May 5 at 5 p.m., President-Elect Stephanie Quigley will be sworn into her new position at a ceremony to be held in the Commons. Quigley said she believes she will be a good president because "I'm trustworthy, confident in myself and very hardworking."

From all accounts, Quigley is a go-getter. Her father, Steven Quigley called her "a very special lady." He said, "We are very excited for her."

Vice-President-Elect Jackie Lohner described Quigley as "positive, motivated and really dedicated."

Quigley said she and running mate Lohner have become good friends. "We connect and communicate very well, she said. It's a very good team."

Quigley is a 21-year-old graphic arts major, currently holding the position of liberal arts and human performance representative. When she told her adviser she planned to run this year for the same position, her adviser told her to "look into running for a position with more authority."

Quigley said she already knows which problems she plans to tackle first when she

takes over the office of president. "There's quite a few things we have to finish from last year," she said.

First on Quigley's list is LBCC's parking. "There are serious mixed feelings about parking," she said. She said some people think the amount of parking spaces is fine, others think there are too few and still others do not see it as much of an issue.

"Parking here is free," Quigley said. "At OSU, students have to pay for a parking pass and they still do not have a lot of places to park."

Quigley said the student government is working up a survey on parking to generate greater and more accurate feedback from the student body.

"Another thing I really want to work on is to make sure the new elected officials know their duties," she said. Quigley said last year there were a lot of new representatives surprised by the amount of work required to hold an ASG position and she does not want that to happen again.

Also near the top of Quigley's list is increasing student partici-

pation. "I'd like to see a lot more school involvement in student government," she said. "If we can get people involved, that will help with the motivation," she said.

Quigley said the hardest part about making the transition to her new office will be adjusting to the new crew of people in student government. However, she said she was excited to get to work.

She grew up in Lebanon with her parents and older brother, Ryan. "I have a lot of support from my family, which is awesome," she said.

Quigley described her family as her greatest inspiration. "Without them, there's no way I would be where I am right now," she said.

Art takes up much of her time, both in and out of the classroom. She works in many mediums, but is really getting into the digital aspect.

In between art, schoolwork and her duties in student government, Quigley likes to snowboard. "I get up to the mountain as often as I can," she said.

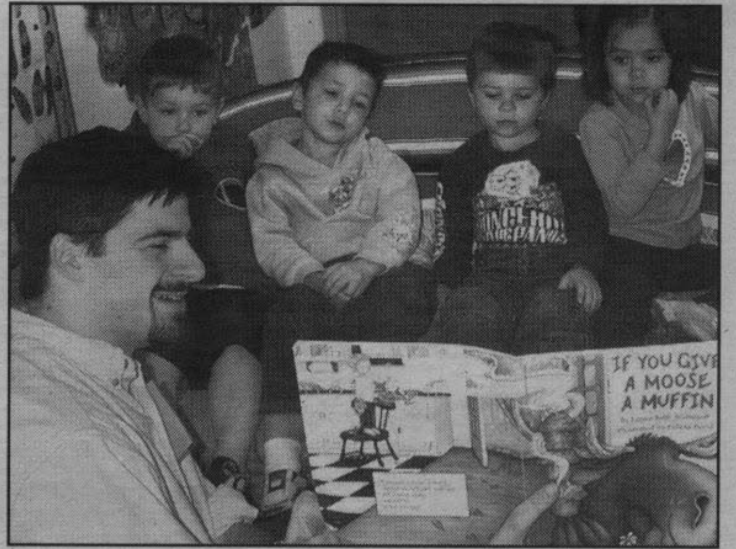


photo by Mary Stone

Story Time

Eric Nepon, a student in the Extended Education Practicum, reads to children in the Family Resource Center's child care program during the first week of the term. Instructor Kathy Rutledge says she's happy to have Nepon back for spring term. "It's not his major," she said. "He just loves kids."

Sign a lease for a 2 BD/2BA Apt now and pay no rent until May and receive a \$500 shopping spree at Fred Meyer!

- 2 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath Townhouses
- 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath
- 3 Bedroom Apartments
- Washer/Dryer Hook-ups
- 2 State-Of-The-Art Fitness Rooms (One Featuring Freeweights!)
- Covered Parking
- Extra Storage
- Minutes to OSU/Downtown Corvallis

1 (541) 738-0303

Ken & Kitty Lane, Managers

MOUNTAIN VIEW APARTMENTS
 AT RIVERGREEN

900 SE Centerpointe Drive
 Corvallis, Oregon 97333-3142



Getting Married?

Casual Photography Studio

Engagement
 Rehearsals
 Wedding & Reception
 Student Discounts

Hurry! Dates are quickly filling!

Scott & Melissa McClure
 (541) 981-9091
 (541) 981-9487

A Student Owned Business

www.casual-photography.com



Liberal Arts Position Open for Associated Student Government

2 Terms Free Tuition Grant

Applications available
 Friday April 9th at 12:00 p.m.

Application Deadline
 Friday April 23rd at 12:00 p.m.

Pick-up an application in the Student Life & Leadership Office
 In the lower level of the Student Union

For more info call Sarah @ 917-4464

LARGE

ANY WAY YOU WANT IT!!!

\$ 7.99

MONDAY ONLY

Corvallis
 758-3030

2455 NW Monroe

Albany
 917-3344

1901 Pacific Blvd. SE

Managing Editor: Adam Peoples
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4453
 commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu

IN FO

Oregon drivers empty their wallets

Laurent L.N. Bonczijk
 The Commuter

Gas prices are going up and it's not looking as if they will go back down anytime soon. According to the Lundberg Survey, a bi-monthly average of prices at 8,000 gas station across the United States, average price was \$1.80, or a 1.7 percent increase over the survey taken two weeks prior. AAA, on the other hand, reported that the average price for regular gas was \$1.75. (The Lundberg Survey is for all grades of gasoline.)

What's driving the prices up?

First and foremost is the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries' belief that American consumers would rather pay more for gas than change their driving habits or trade their SUVs for more fuel-efficient vehicles. Even if prices are high, demand is still growing, which prompted Tribly Lundberg, to say, "If prices were really high, we would not see demand growth, therefore prices aren't very high."

OPEC's assumption of American consumers' reluctance to change their habits also prompted them to plan on cutting production by 1 million barrels a day. The New-York Times wrote on Thursday that OPEC produces about 24.5 million barrels a day. The driving force behind this decision is Saudi Arabia. The combination of a strong demand and this decision to lower output is bound to raise prices, but not so significantly as to deter people from buying petroleum

products. Saudi Arabia will probably make most of the cuts in its production fields since it is believed most experts to be the only country capable of rapidly varying its production capacity. Saudis produce about a third of the oil sold by OPEC members.

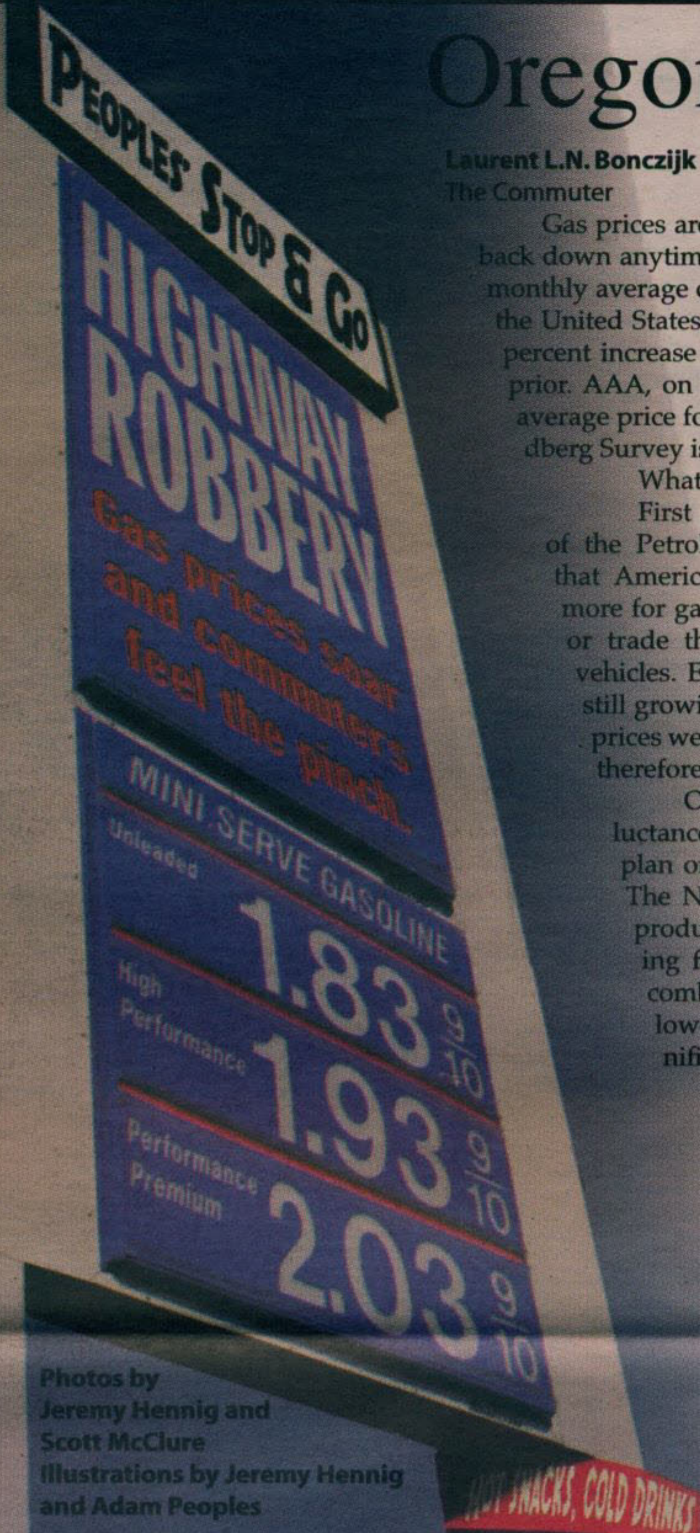
One thing to consider is that OPEC members do not always closely follow the recommendation of the cartel. The daily production of 24.5 million barrels is, in truth, closer to 26 million barrels. Member countries publish lower than real output numbers. Still, according to The New-York Times, some experts in the field don't expect OPEC members to reduce their output by more than 700,000 to 900,000 barrels a day if so-

countries don't actually raise their production in order to benefit from the currently high prices for barrel of crude. Algeria's oil minister, Chakib Khelil, did acknowledge this lack of discipline during the OPEC meeting in Vienna.

According to msn.com another reason for current record highs is that experts in the oil industry expected Iraqi production to reach its full potential this time of the year, which hasn't happened because of the ongoing chaos in the country.

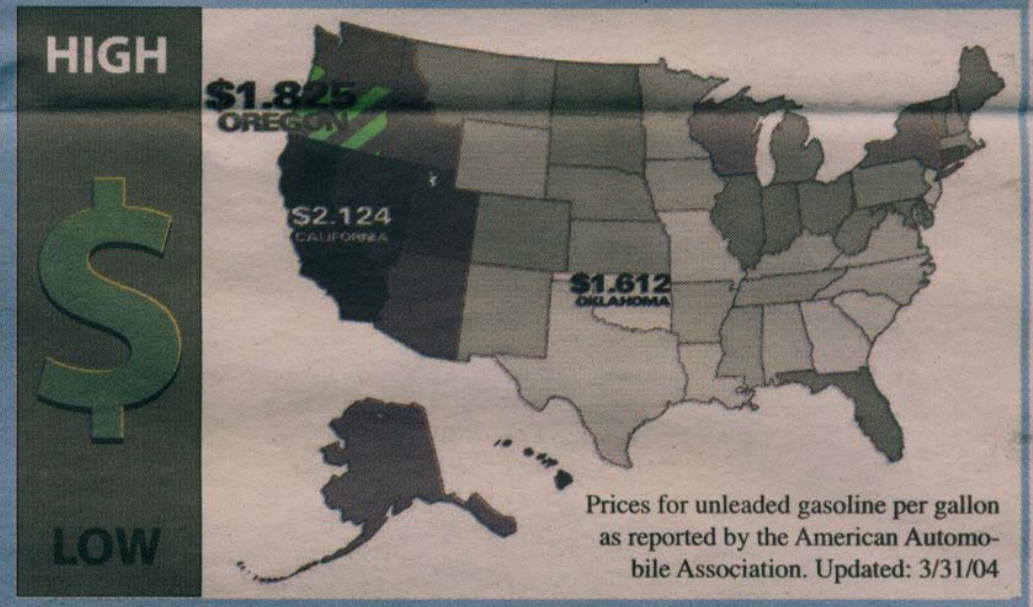
Part of the recent increase is only seasonal though, winter and summer blends are different a-

Consumers would rather pay more for gas than change their driving habits or trade their SUVs for more fuel-efficient vehicles.



Photos by
 Jeremy Hennig and
 Scott McClure
 Illustrations by Jeremy Hennig
 and Adam Peoples

Fuel costs vary by region



Understanding OPEC

Adam Swackhamer
 The Commuter

If you have been to the pumps lately, you will have noticed that you are paying considerably more for gas than you were a year ago.

The cost of gas in Oregon is steadily rising. Oregon's gas prices are about 9 cents higher than the national average, quickly nearing \$2 a gallon for regular unleaded.

Oregon, along with the rest of the nation, is experiencing a sharp increase in gas prices. According to the Energy Information Administration, in 2002 the federal gas tax was about 18.4 cents a gallon. Currently, Oregon's gas tax is about 24 cents a gallon.

That extra 24 cents you spend at the pump doesn't just disappear somewhere in Salem. According to Oregon's Constitution, "the revenue from highway use taxes is to be used exclusively for the construction, reconstruction, improvements, repair, maintenance, operation and use of public highways, roads, streets and roadside rest areas in the state of Oregon."

The taxes placed on fuels by both the state and federal governments are not the only things being blamed for the rise in gasoline prices.

Some politicians are blaming Bush's dedication to the Strategic Petroleum Reserves in Texas and Louisiana. The SPR is an emergency

reserve in case a situation arises in which the United States is cut off from outside sources of fuel.

According to Mark Baxter, Director of the McGuire Energy Institute, if the United States stopped pumping oil into the reserves Americans would only see a 3.5 cent decrease in prices at the pump.

Other analysts place the blame on the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, claiming they are able to use their massive oil supply to control gasoline prices around the world.

Founded in September of 1960, OPEC originally had only five members. Since then it has grown to 11, including Iran, Iraq, Ku-

wait and Saudi Arabia.

OPEC's member countries hold two meetings a year, more if there are extraordinary circumstances, such as a natural disaster or war. In these meetings the member countries decide their daily oil production ceilings. Many claim these ceilings are how OPEC manipulate's the world's crude-oil-product prices.

By producing less oil, when the demand is great, OPEC is able to command a higher price per barrel.

The price per barrel is calculated using the average price of seven selected crude oils, six from member countries and one from Mexico.

As of March 31, the price per barrel was \$31.49. This increased barrel price can lead to higher prices on products such as perfumes, insecticides and most notably

gasoline.

OPEC refutes these claims on their Web site where they state that, "High crude oil prices could be due to a shortage of oil supplies. High prices for oil products—as purchased by end consumers such as motorists—are more likely to reflect other factors, such as taxation." OPEC cites, "accidents, bad weather, labor disputes and other disruptions, including war or natural disasters," as more prominent causes for price increases, at the pumps.

OPEC currently produces 24.5 million barrels, or about 1 billion gallons a day, nearly 40 percent of the oil produced daily.

The largest producer of OPEC's member countries is Saudi Arabia which generates about 33 percent of OPEC's daily output.

The world's reliance on OPEC comes from its member countries control of 77.8 percent of the world's proven crude oil supplies.

According to OPEC, these reserves are significant enough to supply 24.5 million barrels a day for the next 80 years. OPEC's Web site claims that the reserves in the United States, Mexico and Russia are insufficient to maintain production at this level for 20 years.



FOCUS

Expanded feature on selected topics, relating to student life and local issues.

Students to fill up their tanks at high-priced pumps

Most of the early weeks of spring are when refineries switch from one to the other resulting in a yearly raise of cost, then passed down on the consumer.

Msn.com stated experts expect prices to rise well above their current level and over \$2 a gallon by the time summer rolls around.

Oregon prices are in the top part of the scale, but are still well below such states as California, Hawaii and Nevada, where the price of regular gasoline has already broken the psychological \$2 barrier. Some gas stations in Southern California urban areas were selling gas at almost \$2.60 a gallon last week.

Even if prices are at a record high, it is still important to note that in inflation adjusted dollars we haven't surpassed the prices of the early 1980s. In 1981 a gallon of gas was worth \$2.90 of today's dollars.

According to Mike Holmes, 40, who works for a Union 76 gas station in Corvallis, people are constantly complaining about the rise in prices.

"I tell them that we have no control over it," he says and "that I just work here." "Some people will go where it's cheaper," he says but "all our regular customers keep coming back . . . they like the service." When asked if he thought whether the prices would

keep on rising he said that they already knew they would. Their competitors down the street had raised by several cents the day before and he said, "We will probably increase by two cents this afternoon."

Oregon prices are in the top part of the scale, but are still well below such states as California, Hawaii and Nevada.

Brian Maxwell, 55, is a Laidlaw manager in Corvallis. The company has a contract with the Corvallis School District 509J for the busing of students to and from school, as well as with the City of Corvallis, for the Corvallis City Transit buses. The increase of gas prices hasn't affected his budget much. "I budgeted at \$1 (the cost of diesel), Corvallis, School District pays if it goes over and I credit them if it goes under."

With 17 years as a manager in the bus industry, Maxwell is used to gas prices fluctuating a lot. He explained that several years ago he had tried to enter a deal with a local oil company to sell him gas at a fixed price for a year and that the company had refused because they were certain to lose money.

Are there any solutions to those high prices? A common sense solution would be to minimize the number of trips you take to go grocery shopping or to school. Car pooling with a neighbor or a classmate would help also. If you are more athletically inclined, using a bike or your feet for small distances would greatly reduce your gas bill, since cars get the worst

mileage in town. My three-door hatchback, for example, averages a hair over 40 miles per gallon on the highways, but it drops to about 27 mpg in town. A more expensive solution is to invest in a new, more fuel efficient vehicle, which hardly seems possible for a college student. A Toyota Prius with its 55 mpg rating for combined driving would set you back almost \$21,000. The Toyota Web site indicates that new buyers may be eligible for federal tax deductions. A hybrid Honda Civic, rated at 51 mpg, will cost you \$19,650. A Honda Insight will go 65 miles for the same gallon if you enjoy what the Web site calls "distinctive style."

Flag-waving SUV drivers should remember that terrorist groups, like Al Qaeda, collect most of their funding from OPEC countries, such as Saudi Arabia, although Toyota's Web site mentions a Hybrid Highlander for 2005 which could force competitors to offer customers the best of both worlds: Large, fuel efficient cars.

Student Feedback

Matthew Spratt



From: Corvallis
Drives: Honda CRX
How have gas prices affected your driving?
 They haven't.
Average price per gallon: \$1.80

Brady Simpkins



From: Sweet Home
Drives: Toyota SR5 Pickup
How have gas prices affected your driving?
 I only drive to school and back during the week. I live in Sweet Home, so its a long drive each way.
Average price per gallon: \$1.77

Matt Toews



From: Corvallis
Drives: Compact
How have gas prices affected your driving? I try to drive less than usual.
Average price per gallon: \$1.77

Jennifer Galic



From: Corvallis
Drives: Geo Prizm
How have gas prices affected your driving?
 I still drive like normal.
Average price per gallon: \$1.80



Sports Editor: Jacob Espinoza
Newsroom Desk: 917-4453
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation

Tough test awaits Roadrunner hitters this week

Jacob Espinoza
 The Commuter

The Linn-Benton Community College men's baseball team, currently 2-2 in league play and 5-6 overall, will play Chemeketa and Mt. Hood at home this upcoming week.

Chemeketa and Mt. Hood split games when they faced each other in a doubleheader earlier this season.

"Both teams have all-league pitchers," said Head Coach Greg Hawk. "We are really going to have to play a good solid offensive game. I'm curious to see how the guys play against all-league pitchers."

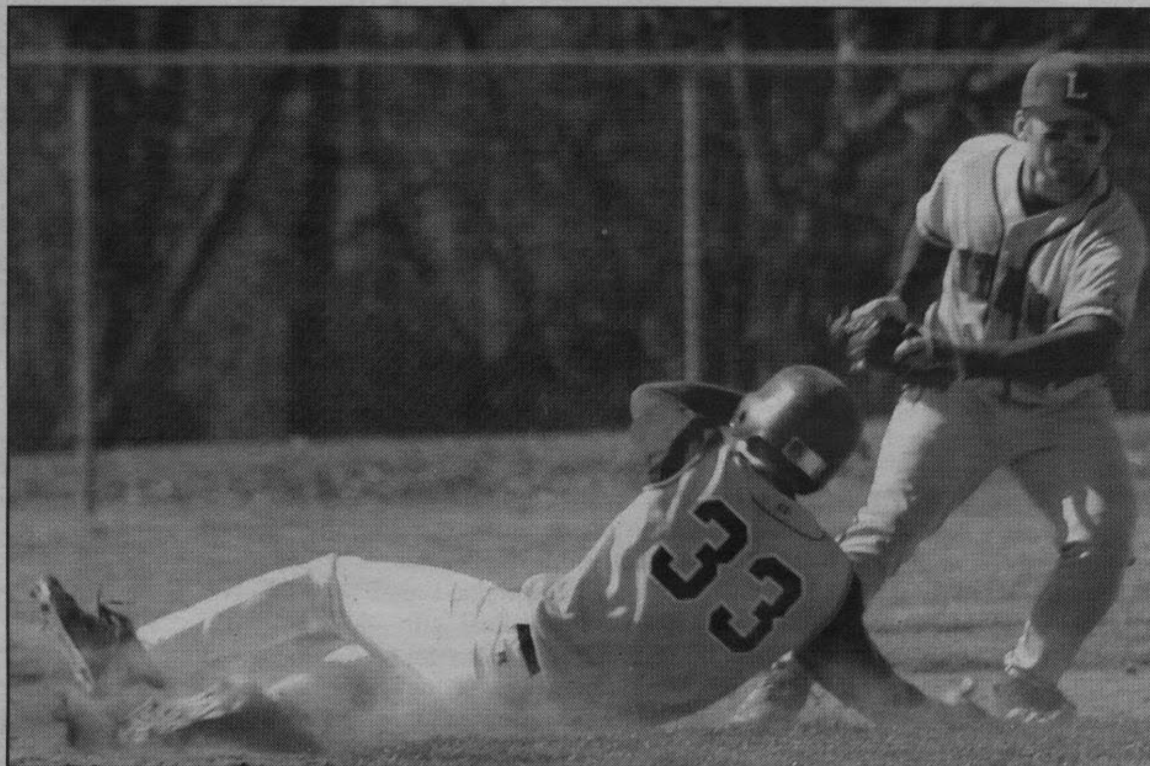
Linn-Benton will play Mt. Hood at home this Saturday, April 10, and Chemeketa on the following Tuesday.

Mt. Hood enters this season as the Southern Division defending champions. "(Mt. Hood) has a really good personnel," says Hawk. "They have a really good opportunity to recruit kids from the area... but if we play a good solid game I think we can beat anyone."

Their game against Chemeketa will be a rematch of last Saturday's double-header, in which the teams split games.

Linn-Benton struggled hitting players home in the early innings of their first game against Chemeketa and allowed Chemeketa to gain a 11-0 lead in the sixth inning.

In the seventh inning the Roadrunners managed to fill



Sean Barton slides into second base in last week's game against Lane Community College. The Roadrunners split the doubleheader, getting shut out in the first game 5-0 before coming back for a 3-0 shutout of their own in the nightcap behind the two-hit pitching of Jeremy Robinson. LB first baseman Sky Manon hit a homerun in that game and shortstop Michael Myhre knocked in the other two with a single.

photo by Scott McClure

the bases and got their first run off a sacrifice fly by freshman outfielder Eric Kessler, beginning a six-run inning.

But the Roadrunners didn't play well enough to compete with Chemeketa's early and late inning runs, losing the game 15-9.

"In the first game we didn't score early when we had a chance," Hawk commented. "We mounted a comeback when they made a pitching change, but

we weren't in that game after the fifth inning." Linn-Benton committed eight errors during the ball game.

"We played really sloppy baseball," said sophomore shortstop Michael Myhre. "In the second game we came out really intense and we played solid."

The Roadrunners opened the second game with a solo home run by third baseman Ryan Savage. The Roadrunners managed big defensive plays to close off innings and took a 5-2 lead after scoring four runs in the fifth inning.

They finished with a 6-2 victory and only two errors. Chemeketa had seven errors

for the game.

"We had a great pitching performance by Brit Boydston," Hawk said.

Boydston gave up only four hits and one earned run in his debut performance with the Roadrunners.

"I know we are better then we played in the double header, but we were fortunate to get the split," said Hawk.

Linn-Benton split games with Lane last Thursday in the first game of their regular season. The games were originally scheduled to be played on the previous Tuesday, but were rained out and rescheduled. Linn-Benton lost the first game 5-0.

"We threw a very good game," said Hawk, "but couldn't get runners home when we had them in scoring position. We didn't play sharp." The Roadrunners finished the game with three errors.

Jeremy Robinson threw a two hitter in the second game, earning the 3-0 victory.

"Robinson is throwing magnificent," said Hawk, "He was the key to the victory." Robinson has given up only 13 hits in over 16 innings, including a 1.43 ERA.

The Roadrunners scored on a home run by sophomore first baseman Sky Manon, currently batting with a .461 average, and a two-run RBI single by Myhre.

The Roadrunners entered league play with a 3-4 pre-season record, including a third place finish in an eight team tournament at Columbia Basin and a win over defending NWAACC Champions Edmonds Community College.

"We beat good people if we come to play, but consistency is a major issue for us," Hawk said.

Linn-Benton placed third in the Southern Division last year.

"Through the preseason, if we show up to play early in the game and execute we (play) good," said sophomore Jesse Thorpe. "We're really starting to come together as a team."

With two home games coming up this week, the team is encouraging fans to come out and support their home team.

"The energy level of our team is definitely increased when more people come to the games," said Manon. "The fans help motivate us."

"I know we are better then we played in the double header, but we were fortunate to get the split."

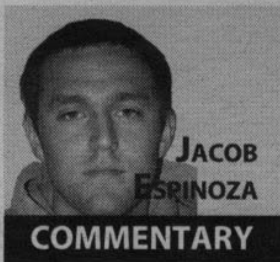
▶ Greg Hawk

Young stars shine through in NCAA tournament

Jacob Espinoza
 The Commuter

March Madness concluded on Monday as the University of Connecticut Huskies defeated Georgia Tech in what turned out to be a lopsided match up. Connecticut entered the game as a heavy favorite, but Georgia Tech managed tough victories in their five previous tournament games to advance to the championship. Including a victory of the Kansas Jayhawks, led by Portland's own Aaron Miles who led the tournament with 34 assists, though he played only four games in the Elite 8 to advance to the final four.

UConn breezed by fairly easily to the final four and won a tight game over the Duke Blue Devils to advance to the championship game. Led by the "best inside outside tandem in college basketball" Ben Gordon and Emeka Okafor, the UConn Huskies were considered a question mark by many entering the tournament because of a late season injury to Okafor. The shot blocking sensation played limited minutes through the opening rounds of the tournament, nursing the injury, but proved to be the power house he was during the season in the tournament's final games. Okafor led the tournament with 53 rebounds and 11 blocks, and Gordon led the tournament with 106 points.



JACOB ESPINOZA
COMMENTARY

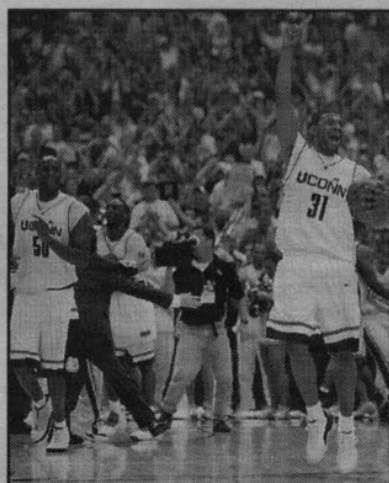


photo by Brant Sanderelin

Connecticut players celebrate their victory over Georgia Sunday.

shoot-second mentality, but he hit some clutch shots down the lane late in the game as Georgia Tech tried to put together a comeback in the games closing minutes. Everyone expected UConn to win and they did, the game was not nearly as exciting as last year's Syracuse's win over Kansas by a block shot, but Saturday's semifinal games were nothing below awesome.

The night started out with Georgia Tech facing Oklahoma State. The two teams that weren't supposed to be playing in March. It came down to a lay-up by Arizona transfer Will Bynum with one second left to break the

tie, and advance Georgia Tech into the playoffs.

The main event of the night was Duke vs. UConn. It's cliché to call a game "the championship" before the actual championship game, but the game turned out to be just that.

Duke had control of the game throughout, in large part because Connecticut's Okafor had to sit out much of the first half due to foul trouble and had an eight point lead with under four minutes left. But Duke was unable to make a field goal in the remaining minutes, not counting Chris Duhon's three pointer at the buzzer and Okafor made his presence known on both ends of the floor and gave his team the lead with a tip in over the entire Duke roster.

With players leaving for the draft so early, critics often begin to doubt the "star power" of the NCAA Tournament. But the tournament isn't a blockbuster movie release, it doesn't thrive on big names to give it attention.

It is exactly the opposite; the tournament is a big name that give the players an opportunity to get attention. Every year players from the tournament put themselves on a higher level of competition, and raise their stock in the NBA Draft. Last year Carmello Anthony showed the world his potential as he led his Orangemen to the championship. This year Okafor and Gordon ran through the gauntlet. For every player that leaves early, there are three still in school working out, waiting for their day with destiny.

The NCAA Tournament doesn't thrive on stars. Stars thrive on the NCAA Tournament.

Sports Editor: Jacob Espinoza
Newsroom Desk: 917-4453
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation

Fun Run/Walk offers prizes in event at LB track today

For The Commuter

The Independent Association of Classified Employees and the Seaside Wellness Team are co-sponsoring the Spring Fun Run/Walk, to be held today at noon on the LBCC track or courtyard, weather depending.

Individuals can participate by walking or running; no need to form a team. Door prize raffle tickets will be handed out for every five laps completed.

Staff holding a winning ticket will receive a door prize, each participant can win only once. All staff, faculty and students are invited to participate.

The Spring Fun Run/Walk was originally sponsored by Student Life & Leadership, but SL&L discontinued its participation in the event to allow the Independent Association of Classified Employees and the Seaside Wellness Team to co-sponsor the event.

MENS BASEBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Sat Apr 10	Mt. Hood	LBCC	1 p.m.
Tue Apr 13	Chemeketa	LBCC	1 p.m.
Sat Apr 17	Lane	Eugene	1 p.m.
Tue Apr 20	Clackamas	Oregon City	1 p.m.
Wed Apr 21	Linfield JV's	McMinnville	4 p.m.
Sat Apr 24	Lane	LBCC	1 p.m.
Tue Apr 27	SWOCC	Coos Bay	1 p.m.
Sat May 1	Chemeketa	Salem	1 p.m.
Tue May 4	SWOCC	LBCC	1 p.m.
Sat May 8	Mt. Hood	Gresham	1 p.m.
Tue May 11	Clackamas	LBCC	1 p.m.
Sat May 15	Clackamas	Oregon City	1 p.m.
Tue May 18	Mt. Hood	LBCC	1 p.m.



Go Speed Racer, Go!

A full moon attracted 50 stock car drivers to the opening night at Willamette Speedway in Lebanon on April 3. The race was a non-points event, in which all races were based solely on qualifying times. The action was fast and furious, as cars slid on the last turn of the track (above). Car 16, driven by Geary Smith, attempted to regain control during the warm-up laps of the race. Keith Marson from Molalla, Ore., and his team won the "C-Main event." Bill Arnold presented an ecstatic Marson with a trophy and checkered flag (left). The next race will be held this Saturday, with timed trials starting at 4 p.m. and racing at 6:30 p.m.

photos by Scott McClure

Planning on a Career in Education?



Plan on Pacific University

Two Years at Your Community College Plus Two Years at Pacific University/Eugene Equals a Bachelor's Degree and an ECE/Elementary Teaching License

With your AAOT degree, you can transfer to Pacific to complete your Bachelor's degree and Initial Oregon Teaching License for ECE/Elementary. Now you're ready to start teaching!

Courses are offered on Pacific's campus in Eugene in the evenings and on the occasional Saturday.

We'll arrange for you to student teach in your home area.

Our campus and our classes are small - you'll receive lots of personal attention from our faculty and staff.

Enjoy the benefits of Pacific's excellent reputation and affordable financial aid packages.

Master's Degree? Upon completing our Undergraduate Teacher Education Program and receiving your Initial Oregon Teaching License, you are automatically admitted to our Master of Arts in Teaching/Continuing License Program.

Apply Now for Fall 2004!

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
 1849
 EUGENE CAMPUS

Congratulations!

To the Winners of the

Bookstore's **BIG** Giveaway **CONTEST**



\$65 WINNER!

Patricia Jones



\$127 WINNER!

Jessica Leeper



\$166 WINNER!

SueAnna Goblirsch



\$126 WINNER!

Sarah Garner

**Anna Bonnette
&
Kari Cornelius
Were also
WINNERS!**

Next Term It Could Be **YOU!**



LBCC Bookstore

A & E Editor: Peggy Isaacs
Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
commuter@linnbenton.edu

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Information about plays, movies, books, artwork, and other entertaining or artistic endeavors

Intaba's Kitchen: High-quality organic goodies

Laurent L.N. Bonczijk
The Commuter

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Intaba's Kitchen is situated at 1115 S. Third St., a stone's throw from the Co-Op, in Corvallis. The restaurant will celebrate its second anniversary on April 17 with the bluegrass band "Roundhouse" wood-fired oven cooking demonstrations by Intaba, slide shows and some organic beers.

The restaurant founders and co-propriators are Chef Intaba Liff-Anderson and manager-do-it-all Ocean Liff-Anderson. They picked their names later in life to represent their characters.

"Intaba means mountain in Zulu, and I have always been connected to the ocean," said Ocean.

The restaurant's heart is an outdoor earth oven where many of their succulent dishes are cooked. A hand-built adobe wall encircles most of the restaurant and shields diners from traffic noise coming from highway 99. It took the eight months for the founders to renovate the house and

transform it into a fine dining restaurant. They did most of the work themselves with the help of "over a hundred volunteers," says Ocean.

My date and I went there for brunch on the last Sunday of spring break.

Even though the weather was sunny we elected to sit inside. Service from Ocean

was quick and friendly. Atalia chose

"The Grand-Slam Plate," a thick buckwheatblue-

berry pancake, strawberry maple syrup, tofu

scrambler, chili roasted oven potatoes and

chipotle ketchup. I settled for a fine-herb

omelet filled



with sauteed red onions, and tempeh chorizo, served with chili roasted potatoes and fresh fruits.

We both ordered "Simply Carrot," a freshly made organic carrot juice. The food

was promptly brought to us even though there

were three other tables already waiting when

we arrived. A school-

trained cook myself, with professional

experience, I thought that the plates

looked very good.

The first bite told us

that it was more than mere looks. The food was perfectly cooked and seasoned. I would like to add that the plates' garnishing was not only pleasant to the eye, but also tasted great, which is not often the case.

The menu, which started as purely vegan, has now expanded to include organic meats and poultry, as well as freshly harvested wild fish. A dozen local farmers supply the restaurant's fresh produce.

"They come and fill our coolers every other night," said Ocean.

Their menu is seasonal and offers salads, soups, lunch wraps, starters, diner entrees and homemade pizzas. They even make their own noodles! Prices are very reasonable with most entrees and pizzas under \$15. They provide take out and catering services as well as an interesting "call ahead" option. If you call at least 30 minutes ahead of time, your table and meal will be ready when you arrive.

As Ocean says, "it's a great place for a date."

the folks at the bookstore think school should be fun!

Don't Forget!

the folks at the bookstore think school should be fun!

Last Day to Return Your Books for a Full Refund is

Monday, April 12th

LBCB Bookstore
www.bookstore.linnbenton.edu

A & E Editor: Peggy Isaacs
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Information about plays, movies,
 books, artwork, and other
 entertaining or artistic endeavors

CALENDAR

AFTER DARK

Chinook Winds Casino

1777 NW 44th St.
 Lincoln City
 541-996-5776

April 10
Comedy on the Coast
Michael Pace, Bob Kubota, Shayma Tash
 7 & 10 p.m.
 \$12

Corvallis Arts Center

700 SW Madison Ave
 Corvallis
 754-1551

April 7 - May 2
Photographers Inspired: "Sharing a Legacy"
 Works by LBCC instructors
 12 - 5p.m. Tues.-Sat.
 Free

Multicultural Center

LBCC Campus
 6500 Pacific Blvd.
 Albany
 917-4461

April 9
"Long Night's Journey into Day"
 First in a series of films
 Four stories from the
 Truth and Reconciliation
 Commission
 12 - 1 p.m.
 Free

W.O.W. Hall

291 W. 8th St.
 Eugene
 541-687-2746

April 7
Dahlia, Lilli Haydn, Halou
 Rock
 8 pm
 \$10 advance
 \$12 door

Real McKenzies bring kilts, bagpipes to punk

Peggy Isaacs
 The Commuter

What does punk music, bagpipes and Vancouver, B.C., have in common?

It's the Real McKenzies, the modern-day Celtic punk band deeply rooted in their Scottish heritage from Vancouver.

According to the McKenzies, the Scottish term Ceildh (pronounced Kee-lee), is the main reason why the Real McKenzies formed, and their inspiration.

Ceildh is a Gaelic word meaning "a wicked party which carries on for days."

In 1992, front man Paul McKenzie founded the group.

"As a lad, my parents and grandparents would dress me up in a kilt and make me sing and dance to traditional Scottish music. Starting a Scottish punk band is my way of getting revenge!" McKenzie said.

Along with McKenzie on lead vocals, Dirty Kurt Robertson and The Bone play guitar and are on vocals, Jamie Fawkes, bass guitar, Brad Attitude on drums, and the magnificent Matt MacNasty on bagpipes.

A true credit to their ancestors, the Real McKenzies always

perform in full highland regalia. For their live show they don kilts, high stockings, and sporrans (belts). Their show is not entirely traditional, but it is the rowdiest punk show this side of Glasgow.

Always touring, drinking, and rockin', this haggis-fueled hearty bunch desires only to bring their brand of Celtic punk rock to every remote corner of the globe.

They have been through "tons of members, tons of broken bones and tons of beer," according to Robertson.

They just finished recording their latest full length CD, "Oot & Aboot," at San Francisco's esteemed Motor Studios with Ryan Greene.

"Oot & Aboot" is the follow-up to their breakthrough recording "Loch'd & Loaded." This was the first time the McKenzies have recorded at a proper studio.

The Real McKenzies bring their Scottish-Celtic punk mayhem, along with The Briefs and Amadan, to Platinum in Corvallis on Monday, April 12 at 7 p.m., \$8 presale, \$10 door. For more information call 738-6996, or check out the Web site: www.realmckenzie.com.



photo courtesy of Columbia Tri Star Pictures

After halting another one of Rasputin's attempts to bring the dark side to power, Hellboy (Ron Perlman) visits Liz Sherman (Selma Blair), who shows him how she has learned to control her pyrotechnic powers. They join with other members of the Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense in the final battle.

Action-packed adventure halts the evil power of raspat

Peggy Isaacs
 The Commuter

When things go bump in the night, who's there to bump back? This is the premise to Columbia Tri Star Pictures' production of Hellboy that's sure to be a favorite for all fans of comic book super heroes.

A supernatural action adventure, directed by Guillermo del Toro, Hellboy is based on Mike Mignola's, Dark Horse comic series of the same name.

The movie Hellboy starts off in the year 1944 on a small Scottish island. The Ragnarok group performs an occult ritual in an attempt to bring hell to the earth's surface.

An allied Navy force, under Professor Trevor "Broom" Buttenholm (Ron Perlman) intervenes and stops Rasputin's ritual. Although Rasputin (Karel Roden) is stopped, a small red devil child is born in the flames of hell when a rift is opened up in the earth before Rasputin was stopped.

Hellboy was rescued by Broom who founded the B.P.R.D. (Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense), raised him as a son and developed his paranormal gift. He became an advocate of good, despite his dark origins and protected the world, battling evil forces growing up.

Through the years, Hellboy has had to overpower Rasputin's attempts to bring the dark side to power.

One such attempt was halted in the 50s when Hellboy, acting as an agent for B.P.R.D. now, beat a Cybernetic Hitler with his own mechanical leg.

In 1965 Hellboy became a field agent for the B. P. R. D. and used his strength and enormous

size, along with his "right hand of doom" and his gun in battle against various threats from the occult.

This ends in the year 2004 when Hellboy teams us with the bureau's telepathic "Mer-Man," Abe Sapien (Doug Jones), and Liz Sherman (Selma Blair) who manifests pyrotechnic powers to stand as a key line of defense against Rasputin, who seeks to bring about armageddon by reclaiming Hellboy to the dark side.

This almost happens in the final battle, but in the end John Myers (Rupert Evans), Hellboy's new father figure reminds him of who he is and throws a crucifix from his first father figure to him and this helps Hellboy to overcome the devil and close up the portal to Earth from hell forever.

Hellboy is an action-packed adventure with humorous and satirical undertones about life from Hellboy.

During the movie a love affair between Hellboy and Sherman develops and Hellboy receives advice, on a rooftop, from a 9-year-old boy. This comical encounter is a sample of how humble and compassionate Hellboy has become growing up with Broom.

The graphics are fast and sharp, although fighting the multi-tentacle monster at the end could of been more original. Looking like any ending monster on a video game, I would have liked to see more creativity.

The plot got boring, at one point, and I almost fell asleep. The movie was summed up perfectly by Harold Thompson, Hellboy comic book reader, who said, "The graphics are great, but the movie was about 30 minutes too long. They could of wrapped it up sooner."



Like a Hawk

Artist and Warm Springs native Lillian Pitt gave a slide lecture on her work last Thursday. Pitt's powerful work was the last in a series of guest exhibits at LBCC. Pitt specializes in Native American art, such as the mask shown here. Her work is currently on display in Seattle.

photo by Scott McClure