



THE COMMUTER

Linn-Benton Community College • Albany, Oregon

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Student Leadership Council Hosts Forum on Tuition Equality

Proposed Bill Will Give Undocumented Students More Access to Education

TeJo Pack
Contributing Writer

On Feb. 5 and 6, the LBCC Student Leadership Council held a forum in the Diversity Achievement Center to discuss the topic of Senate Bill 742, otherwise known as the Tuition Equity Bill.

Though the official name sounds daunting and the topic seems serious, these forums are simply groups of people coming together to discuss an important topic in hopes of enlightenment and forward action.

Eric Noll, legislative affairs director of the Student Leadership Council and keynote speaker for this forum, opened the discussion by guiding those involved through the process of first creating a safe space for everyone to speak. Once quality conversation began, Noll moved into why everyone was there.

"This bill that came forward in 2011 was written to give undocumented students access to in-state tuition rates at Oregon universities if certain criteria are met," said Noll.

The criteria for the bill is as follows: The person, or persons, must have lived in the state of Oregon for five years, gone to an Oregon public school for three years where they gained their diploma or equivalent, have been accepted at a public Oregon post-secondary institution, and must be on the path for citizenship.

If all of these criteria are met, the interested

party would be granted a waiver from an undefined state agency, allowing them to receive tuition prices at the current state rates, a waiver which Noll explained is irreversible. This would significantly impact all those involved.

As of today, those discussed are forced to pay an international or out-of-state tuition rate, which can cost two to three times as much as resident students.

"This can be prohibitive to a student without documentation, especially since they don't have access to financial aid or federal grants," said Noll.

This causes most undocumented persons wanting to attend school to not be able to because of cost. In the long run, this has a negative impact on

In the long run, this has a negative impact on our community - not just socially, but mentally.

our community - not just socially, but mentally. "Many of the people who are undocumented and are living here came with their parents and didn't make the choice to move here themselves," says Grant Garcia, internal event planner at LBCC Student Life and Leadership. For the most part, undocumented persons are young and not directly responsible for how they became undocumented, and are restricted from furthering their education based on another's choices.

Increasing education among undocumented community members should be of standard form.

"We have already made a significant investment as taxpayers into these undocumented students by them attending Oregon public schools," said Noll.

"This bill would affect our community greatly in a positive way," said Amanda Mendell, student outreach coordinator at LBCC. In theory, better education creates a better workforce, not to mention the financial impact that such a bill would have on the amount of money pulled from the state's general fund.

When a similar bill was passed in Utah they immediately saw a dramatic impact of \$2-3 million of increase at the university system level. This is a representation of money that is not being pulled from the state and is being reallocated towards something else.

"Twelve percent of the population just in Albany alone are Latino," said Javier Cervantes, director of diversity and community engagement at LBCC. "That means that roughly 6,000 people, a part of which who are undocumented, would now be able to afford furthering their education."

These new students would not only put money into the Oregon universities pockets, but also allow for a more diverse population of students on campus.

The bill is set to be voted on this year, and if it makes it through the finalizing process of becoming law, it would be signed into effect by the governor who has already pledged to support the bill, thus making it effective in 2014. Though the bill's verbiage is specific to universities, community colleges typically follow suit.

If you would like to learn more, contact the LBCC Student Leadership Council on their Facebook page or stop by their office located on the first floor of the Student Union.

THE COMMUTER STAFF

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"Keep the Job" Series

Effective Workplace Communication Tuesday, February 26th, CC210, (Calapooia Center), 1:00-2:00 pm.
Effective communication skills in the workplace are just as important as mastering the job skills. This workshop covers the basics of how to work through a conflict effectively, rules of a hierarchical workplace, what shouldn't be shared with co-workers, how to avoid workplace drama, importance of creating strong boundaries, and more.

Diversity and Difference in the Workplace Tuesday, March 5th, CC210, (Calapooia Center), 1:00-2:00 pm.
Employers are looking for employees that work well with others. Cultural competence is a critical component of career success. This workshop covers how culture and difference can impact workplace performance. Key differences between individuals and workplace cultures will be explored. Success strategies will be presented.

This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information on linked sites, and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. LBCC was awarded \$1,170,571 in grant funds.

LBCC's Tech Savvy Cindy to Retire

Ted Holliday
Contributing Writer

Whether in a classroom watching a lecture on a smartboard or attending a speech in the Commons, there has been one person behind the scenes for more than 32 years to make sure the media equipment runs smoothly.

That person is Cindy Hogan.

Emerging from behind a bank of equipment in the media room, Hogan was surprised that we were going to discuss her tenure at LBCC. Her timidity was evident when she began talking about herself. She likes being behind the scenes and making sure classroom media stations and equipment are working properly.

Hogan has been the go-to person for media services since 1980, starting out as a part-time night technician who changed light bulbs and helped staff with audio tapes. Eventually, she worked her way into a full-time position.

From making audio tapes back in the day or fixing a classroom problem today, Hogan is always there to help.

In the Dec. 19, 2012 document presented to The Board of Education to approve Hogan's retirement request, it describes her as "an amazing and wonderful team member

in Media Services with her endless energy and just do it attitude that is contagious with the other staff." It also states her vast background of technical achievements. She has mastered the relevant technologies from every decade.

"She knows every nook and cranny of these buildings," said Lori Rowton, a secretary in LBCC's media department. "She is great to work with. If you have a problem, she's there to fix it and is very patient."

Kathy Edmondston, center coordinator in the Albany Community Education office, described Hogan as a very hard working, caring and good person. "There's really not an event that has happened at this college that she hasn't set up," said Edmondston. "She is always in the background."

Hogan's favorite moments while working at the college include the ability to go out and work with the faculty.

When talking about the future of the media services department, Hogan said she would like to see the department grow. "There is such potential out there. We are such a small division, that we need financial support to grow and help the students that are waiting to go to school by computer."

Hogan would also like to see more women enter the technical world of media. "Don't believe somebody saying that you can't do it," she said. "There isn't anything, if you put your mind to it, that you can't pretty much do."

Not only is Hogan tech savvy, she is a gardener. "She is a great gardener and keeps us stacked with tomatoes," Edmondston said. "She has some of the best tomatoes."

As she looks forward to her retirement, she said that she is going "to enjoy life and hanging out in the big town of Tangent." Not only does she plan on spending more time with family locally, she is planning to take a trip to Germany in a couple of years to visit family.

In addition to spending time with her family, Hogan will be working with her husband restoring old cars. This is a hobby that they have enjoyed together over the years. Her pride and joy is the 1956 Ford Thunderbird convertible that her husband purchased for her for their 25th wedding anniversary.

Hogan will continue to work at LBCC part-time until the end of spring term. "If I'm around for graduation, I probably will help with that," said Hogan.



Dale Hummel

Cindy Hogan, of LBCC's Media Services, retires this year after more than 30 years at the school.

Tim Black Talks GSA

Nora Palmtag
News Editor

LBCC's GSA, Gay-Straight Alliance Club, is open for everyone on campus. "The GSA, to my understanding, is a student-run club that brings together gay, bisexual, transgendered, questioning and straight students and staff to support each other and provide a safe place to socialize with a platform for activism to fight phobia towards anyone," said Tim Black, the faculty mentor of the club.

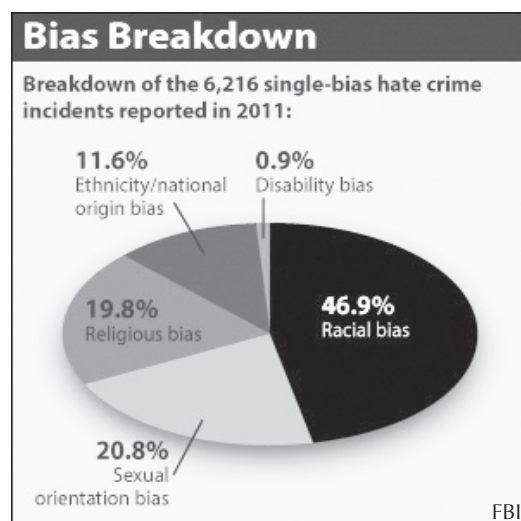
What does he believe are the main challenges for gay, transgendered, bisexual or questioning students and the friends, family and faculty who support them? "Constant, unrelenting bigotry and persecution," said Black.

According to Violence Prevention Works, "As many as 93 percent of teenagers hear derogatory words about sexual orientation at least once in a while, with more than half of teens surveyed hearing such words every day at school and in the community," and over 30 percent of all teen suicides being committed by these students.

Metro Weekly, supplied with hate crime information from the FBI, reported that "20.8 percent resulted because of a person's perceived sexual orientation." However, even the FBI stated that these crimes are reported by local law enforcement voluntarily and the numbers of attacks are more than likely higher.

There is a need for organizations like this because of the continuous harassment and disassociation of people who have the right to live their life like all of us.

"One article I read dealt with a young man, really young, maybe seven or eight, who was so unrelentingly harassed. He took a gun and killed himself. That's ridiculous," said Black while describing his interest in becoming faculty mentor of the GSA. "Now, take that kid who took his own life. Maybe he was told by society, his parents, his friends, his neighbors, his teachers, his congressman, his gardener, his senator and his



Where to find Tim Black

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10 a.m. - Noon

pastor that because of how he was born and how he feels, he is unworthy of participation in a relationship like the most important relationship he knows. Think of him hearing, 'People like you can't get married. People like you don't deserve to get married! You're disgusting! God hates fags!' Well, projecting that sort of hatred onto an innocent child is systemic, societal child abuse."

"I can't comprehend the pressures young gay people might feel, said Black. "That's why I'm interested."

If you are interested in participating in or supporting The GSA, contact Tim Black at blackt@linnbenton.edu.

Destination Graduation: Ever Evolving

Emily Smucker
Contributing Writer

If you haven't taken Destination Graduation, the new mandatory one-credit class instituted this year, chances are you've heard people talking about it.

Instituted fall term, Destination Graduation has had its fair share of supporters and critics among LBCC students. The class has been updated somewhat this term, however, and LBCC staff plan to continue revising the class to better fit students needs.

According to Kathy Chafin from Campus High School Programs, Destination Graduation exists "to better prepare students to be successful college students." The LBCC website describes the class as one in which "students will learn what to expect in college, study tips for math and other classes, time management, and how to use many of the resources and online tools at LBCC."

Destination Graduation is a class that has been offered as an LBCC elective for a while, but this is the first year it's been required. The problem, according to Susan McNaught, associate dean of Academic Development, Communication Arts and Mathematics at LBCC, is that students sometimes disregard optional courses. They often aren't aware of what they don't know about college life. One student who realized this told McNaught, "I wouldn't have taken this if I wouldn't have had to."

Despite the fact that McNaught and many instructors are extremely enthusiastic about Destination Graduation, some students are not very pleased with the class. "I paid a hundred bucks for info I already know," said LBCC student Steven Ray. "[It's] basic stuff you could learn in elementary school."

Student Shelby Gibson mostly agreed with Ray. She said that some aspects of the class, such as instructions on how to use Moodle, were helpful, but most of the class consisted of basic information she already knew. Gibson thought that the class definitely needs to be modified, and should be made optional.

McNaught realizes that some students feel patronized by Destination Graduation. She feels, however, that LBCC needs to be cautious, making sure that everyone has the information they need even if it means that some people are receiving information they already know. "One person will say 'it's patronizing,' while another will say 'it's wonderful,'" says McNaught, adding that she sees this variety of perspectives as a good thing.

Destination Graduation undergoes modification each term, but it's unlikely that it will become an optional course since that has already been tried with little success. LBCC faculty are closely examining feedback from students enrolled in Destination Graduation, and data from other schools with similar programs, trying to figure out what aspects of the class should stay and what should go.

Future course modifications may include tightening the curriculum to avoid repetitive information, adding information about financial aid to the curriculum, and giving students the option of taking the class for either half a term or a full term. The hope is that with time, Destination Graduation will prove to be a valuable asset to LBCC, and considerably increase the graduation rate among students.

The Heart of Valentine's Traditions

Maria Weinstein
Contributing Writer

Valentine's Day has been traditionally celebrated globally. Although this holiday isn't a day off from work, in most English speaking cultures, the exchange of gifts such as chocolate, flowers, cards, and jewelry are common to give and receive.

Since Valentine's Day has become socially accepted to celebrate, schools have integrated it as part of a school experience. How does this impact a child's development on expressing love?

Liz Pearce, a family studies instructor at LBCC, discussed some of the common classroom rules involving the holiday and how the holiday affected family life overall. "If you're going to bring a Valentine for one child, you've got to bring one for every child," said Pearce, citing the familiar at-school Valentine's Day routine.

This might be an attempt to not have children feel excluded, but it has taken away what the holiday symbolizes. While growing up, we get a better understanding and meaning of this holiday; it can become a pressured time of the year for an individual. Not having a Valentine during your teenage years could come across to a child as being unloved or unlovable. Or it can lead to lust, lying, and being in a "loving" relationship even if it is not love. Other influences for a child, and maybe the most important teacher, is the child's parent or guardian.

"As a parent, they have the opportunity to do something in their home too," said Pearce.

In Pearce's home it is tradition to make a heart-shaped banana chocolate chip cake. While laughing, she shrugs unknowingly why that particular cake, but it has been a fun, loving tradition that has stuck with her family. Establishing a tradition can help structure a child's interpretation and development on the holiday.

Although Valentine's Day has been negatively associated as a commercial holiday, it also is a good reminder to be good to the people we love. Valentine's Day affects all of us from all ages, and it is your choice to interpret and celebrate the holiday with your own perspective.

10 Ways to NOT get a Second Date

Mike Rivera
Sports Editor

Dating is a tough game. It's not like the old days when a guy picked a girl up from her parent's house and had her back at a certain time.

Dating has become more casual than when our parents grew up. First impressions are key to developing intimate relations with someone.

Here are some things to avoid on that first date. This is not a "how to get in the girl's pants" post, so you should stop reading if that's what you think this is. This is for the guy who really wants to leave a good impression, and ten things that are deal breakers.

10. Permeate Offensive Odors

An instant deal breaker is smell. Why do you think companies like Old Spice and Axe make so much money with scents and colognes? Women like the smell of a clean man; it keeps them interested. Girls go out of their way to smell nice, so guys, please shower and deodorize; brushing your teeth is a great move, complemented by some flossing and mouthwash.

9. Be Rude

I've heard this rumor that being negative to a girl works. I strongly disagree. Look, there's a difference between a date and a one-night stand. So this advice is to the guy trying to keep the girl: be nice to her. Being rude won't win you any brownie points. Plus, women will remember every detail, so watch your words.

8. Talk About Your Ex

We've all had the ex-partner that left quite the impression of emotions on us and, yes, it's great to express your feeling about them; just not to your first date. The last thing she wants to hear about is the problems you had with your ex. Unless asked about it, keep away from the one who got away.

7. Avoiding Eye Contact

You'd be surprised how much people respond to eye contact. We all read body language, so lack of eye contact indicates a lack of interest. When she's speaking, look at her.

Avoid staring at curvatures that seem appealing. C'mon, she knows she's looking good, but blatant staring comes off creepy.

6. Don't Listen

It's never good when she says, "Have you heard anything I've said so far?" or "Am I making sense?" and you've got nothing to counter. Think of it like a casual lecture from a college professor that you actually enjoy; so much easier. If you're not interested, at least make an effort to have a good time.

First dates are always hard, especially when getting to know someone. Active listening is a great way to show her you're paying attention. I'm not saying quote her verbatim, but show her that she's not talking to a wall.

5. Dress for Success

Dress for what fits in the environment. You don't want to wear a suit and tie to Applebee's or wear cargo shorts and a cut tee to a place with reservations months in advance. Just look like you gave some effort and I'm sure she'll be pleased.

And at some point, we need to learn how to use an iron. If you are going to put on that nice shirt and slacks, make sure they don't have too many noticeable wrinkles. Personally, I'll throw that shirt in the dryer, and then use the iron to smooth out the stragglers.

4. Dominate the Conversation

Monologues are boring to most people. You know what you're talking about seems interesting, or why else would you be talking about it? Read the body language. Most people are polite enough to not say anything, but if something is uninteresting to them, there are dead giveaways like

loss of eye contact (very important), anxiousness and other signs. Keep it casual. Unless you are explaining something in great detail, keep it open and so that you both have something to relate to.

3. Guy Talk

Most guys I know talk about things very differently when girls are not around (we all know this to be a fact.) I won't elaborate too much because I know every single guy knows what I'm talking about. Let's face it: The girl looking for Mr. Right (or Mr. Right-Now) wants a guy who is respectful in how he addresses her. She's not your "bro," "homie," "dog," or "bitch." Point taken?

2. Hating Her Interests

I have three sisters, all of whom I love, but annoy the crap outta me. When it comes to common interests there are few. I've learned to accept them and deal with it. This has been successful for me in the dating game.

Say you're at the fair and she wants to play one of those stupid games. You have two options: You can deal with it and play, or you can not do it at all and walk away.

Now she'll probably like it if you just play the damn game, so your best bet is to compromise. Find something you want to do and have her do it as well. It's all about finding that happy medium.

1. Bringing a Friend

Number one dealbreaker: You go to get to know some girl intimately with your home boy, and he has just as much of a crush on her as you do. Guys, if she's worth it, leave the dudes away. If she's worth it to you, your buddy will not cease to recognize as well.

Plus, that shows a lot of tackiness and may put a doubt in her mind about your feelings toward her. Plain and simple, you want to be the only one to make the impression.

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True Love, Compatability and Finding Your Missing Piece

Maria Weinstein
Contributing Writer

Love is something we all long for. Whether it's on the receiving or giving end, it's in our nature.

It can be hard holding onto love just to let it go. It also causes feelings most of us don't deal with well. When I think about building a relationship, my first thoughts are about compatibility.

Compatibility refers to the energetic attraction between two people to create a balanced and harmonious agreement. This could be through touch, smell, sight, taste, conversation, holding hands, interest, chemistry, and energy.

I see many people in relationships, married, not married, older couples, young couples with children, without children, once happy-now separate. Sometimes people aren't compatible, the love ends, and they couldn't work problems out together. Did they really love each other with the plan for the long run, or do they know it's just for the moment?

Is that what you want, or do you want "true love," everlasting love for many lifetimes?

If you seek true love, it's hard to come by. Everyone these days is in such a rush to be loved. We are unaware that we could use the time and patience to find someone that could be that true love.

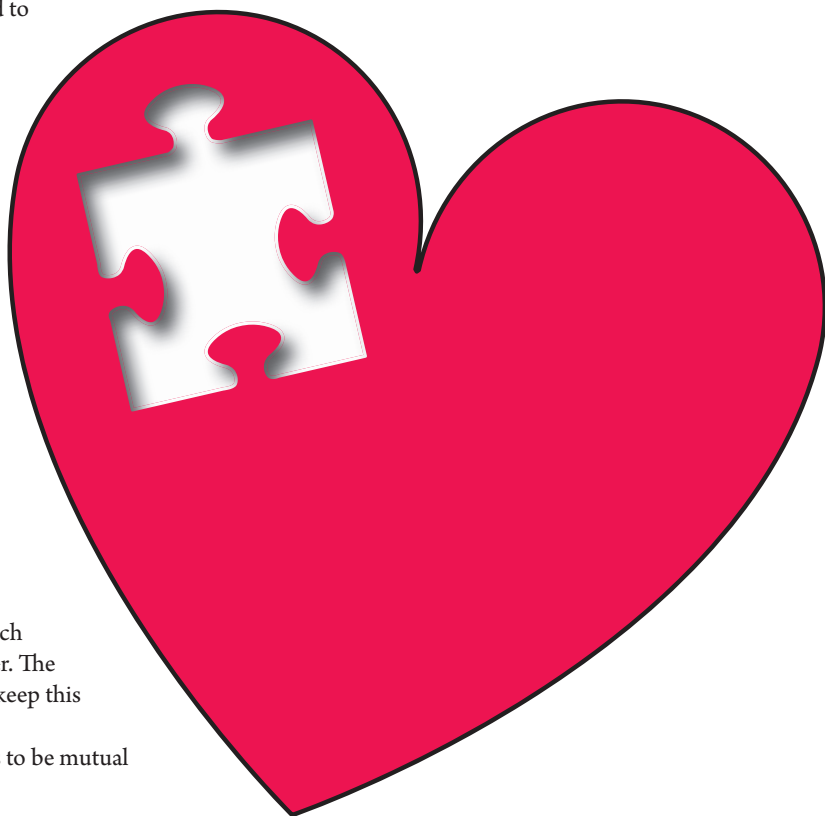
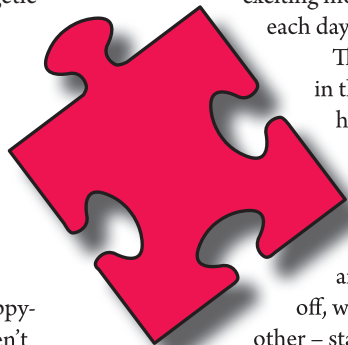
We are looking at compatibility the wrong way. Even if a couple has similar traits, attraction for one another, and common interests, it doesn't mean that it will work out. Compatibility is also something we create with one another. True love is when you both want to make it happen for the long run. Both of you know and want to keep the chemistry going between each other for each other until forever. The age-old question is, how do we keep this chemistry?

First off, there initially needs to be mutual

sparks and attraction toward one another. Knowing that you both have communicated that you love each other and want to be together, sharing with them everything you have is a good first step. Maybe you're scared you might be bored later on in life. Talk about it now. New relationships are fun, usually with a flurry of chemistry that sweeps you off your feet to cloud nine. Though, if you take it too fast, you could become burned out easier, so take your time. What is the rush? You have so much time to share new exciting moments, so appreciate just how amazing each day is.

There are many ways to keep the chemistry in the relationship, so here are some tips: A hug and kiss can go a long way. Keeping the affection shows you are still attracted to each other. Stay curious about each other and ask questions; there is much to learn from one another. After the initial chemistry wears off, we start seeing the negatives about the other – stay positive! Look at all the good your loved one has to offer. Lastly, don't get in too much of a routine; it creates a rut in the relationship, leading to loss of interest. Be spontaneous.

If you think you've found true love, it's like a red wine. It only improves with age.



Dear Conscience,



Why do I always get friend-zoned for Valentine's Day?

Ashley Christie
Shoulder Devil

You don't get put in the friend zone, you put yourself there. If you don't want to be "just" friends then do something about it.

Let them know how you feel. Make a move. Write a song. Paint a picture. Grab 'em and kiss 'em. Sacrifice yourself on the altar of dignity. Or some other romantic piece of crap like that.

Maybe they feel the same way and are just as scared to do anything. One of you needs to man-up; it might as well be you.

"But ... what if they don't like me?"

They already like you, or else they wouldn't be friends with you. Obviously you're not that big an asshole. Get some confidence because this little whiny kid, pining from afar, isn't very attractive.

Maybe they don't like you "like that," but at least you'll know you tried. And it's not like you're going to insult them by saying "I love you," that's always nice to hear ... I'm told.

Honestly, I don't have too many people in my "friend zone" and even fewer trying to get out of it. Devils tend to be loners; people who get too close, end up getting burned.

What I do know is this, if you want something, you have to take it. Inaction gets you nowhere.

Unless you like sitting at home, alone, on Valentine's Day, watching your friend go out with the person that had the balls to go after what they wanted.

That could have been you.

Justin Bolger
Shoulder Angel

As a friend of all and a lover of none, I believe I can offer some insight this time.

People will sometimes find themselves attracted to someone who is both kind and gentle, and sometimes this person just doesn't hold the same kind of affection in return.

There is no cosmic explanation for why this happens. It is simply a part of life.

This person whom you adore does not wish to hurt your feelings, because they truly believe you are a good person and worth spending time with. They want to let you down easy and continue the relationship in its current frame, so you might be told "I don't want to ruin our friendship" or "You're like a brother/sister to me."

Nothing you could have done would have changed this. You are not a victim, so be strong.

You can call it being friend-zoned, but that's not the idea you should focus on. You are simply not the sort of person they are romantically attracted to. This could be due to personal history, individual biology, or even a play by destiny.

Whatever the case, you should celebrate their early insight.

Neither of you will have to go through the awkward distancing that happens toward the end of a mediocre relationship, you're free to set your sights elsewhere, and hey, you might have the best wingperson someone could ever hope for.

You are a catch, but this is not meant to be.



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Sex AND THE Campus

V-Day Traditions

Luis Martinez
Contributing Writer

Since we're celebrating Valentine's Day on Thursday, Feb. 14, let's see how some of the common ways people in and out of relationships go about this day. We all remember V-Day as kids when you got your favorite cartoon or movie's box of cards and scribbled all your classmate's names on them. Then you had a little party in class and handed them all out, eagerly awaiting to receive or give one to that cute girl or boy you had a crush on. Then you smiled and ate little candy hearts, and the day passed like any other.

As you started getting older, things got a little more complicated. There is more expected of you, isn't there? It's not just about love anymore, but about numbers for a lot of people.

You don't just buy the cards anymore. Couples plan romantic evenings full of flowers, dining, movies, or even picnics at the park (if you like that). It adds up, but who cares? Most would say it's worth it for the apple of your eye.

Also, the route of a cozy evening at home is often taken. Cuddling by the fire, watching a favorite movie of yours, or cooking a homemade meal for your girl or guy can be just as romantic. So when you plan on what you will do this

Valentine's Day, don't feel restricted by money or outside factors. Remember that the most important things in love and relationships cost nothing at all. It is the time spent together, moments shared, memories made, and feelings explored.

We also have couples that are against V-Day for a variety of reasons, viewing it as a cheesy parade of phony love and celebration. Why choose a single day to show your affection in bounds and leaps? Try to make everyday as important as Valentine's for each other.

As the holiday winds down, you unwind from the day and settle down to bed. Some end up sleeping and some end up staying up. I mean, it is the day of lovers, and closing the night with intimacy and sex is just another part of any relationship. For some, it might not be as big of thing since everyone's different.

Don't think I forgot about the single community. I have been in both groups during the holiday throughout the years, and it's very interesting to see how you feel towards the day, depending on what sort of relationship you are or are not in.

The single person may just pass it up as another day, nothing out of the ordinary. Then we have the grinch of V-Day who spite everyone else who looks happy because they are not. They are not typically the "Grinch," but the repetition of all the hearts and cupid cutouts throughout the day really ticks them off. Bringing up the rest of the singles are those who look for love on Valentine's Day or before, so they do not feel quite as lonely. This causes some interesting situations, because desperation leads to poor decision making.

These are just some of the the many faces of Valentine's Day, but don't worry or fret. The day passes as any other and life goes on. Be sure to enjoy the time with your wife, husband, girlfriend, etc. If I give you any advice to take away, it will be this little bit from experience: Never put the candles next to the flowers.

letter to the editor

Re: Financial Woes

To the Editor:
I'm writing regarding Will Tatum's article entitled "Financial Woes: LBCC Working to Solve Budget Problems" published in the Feb. 6, 2013 edition of The Commuter.

While reading the article as printed in the paper I found both journalistic as well as factual errors, the most egregious of which I would like to address briefly now.

I'm referring to Mr. Tatum's statement "now common behavior of instructor apathy toward broad student achievement," a phrase which I note appears in the printed version of the article but not in the one found online. Perhaps Mr. Tatum has already recognized the erroneous nature of this statement?

I take umbrage at the assertion that the LBCC faculty are apathetic

to student success. I have never seen a more dedicated and determined group of educators.

There are countless examples of instructors at this institution spending hours of their own time helping students understand material; working with students to extend deadlines when circumstances warrant it; walking students step-by-step not only through course content but also the college bureaucracy; meeting with students to give academic, personal, and spiritual guidance; helping homeless students find food and warm shelter; and donating their own money in the form of books, classroom supplies, and donations to the college and specific scholarships in the sum of many thousands of dollars a year!

If these actions don't demonstrate this faculty's utter commitment to

the student body I honestly cannot fathom what would.

In closing I would like to say that while I found Mr. Tatum's article to have missed the mark on a number of the topics it touched on I applaud his willingness to examine the problems currently facing the college.

These are challenging times and only by facing the problems together will we emerge a stronger, healthier college. However, his claim that we the LBCC faculty don't care about our students or their success was wholly and entirely wrong.

Sincerely,

Joe Paris

President-Elect
Linn-Benton Community College
Faculty Association

What do you think?

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome.

Submit your thoughts to commuter@linnbenton.edu





Shuo Xu

Senior center Joe Burton, who reached two double-doubles against Utah and Colorado, has been a key to the Oregon State team.

Oregon State Men Show Signs of Improvement

Michael Rivera
Sports Editor

Even though it's late in the season, the Oregon State Men's basketball team look to be getting better. With a win against Utah and a loss to Colorado, Oregon State showed their ability to compete is rising. You can see it even from their coach's attitude.

"Well, I don't know who is happier, me or those guys in the locker room," said coach Craig Robinson after a 82-64 win against Utah. "But I can't tell you how happy I am for them."

Against Utah, the Beavers showed their how capable they are when they continued to run up the score. They scored 34 points in first quarter and an impressive 48 in the second half, with an 18 point lead with 13:21 on the clock.

"We communicated more on defense than we have all-season long, let alone the conference season, that's first and foremost," said Robinson. "Secondly, this is the second half of the conference, so we are now one full year and a half into playing man-to-man, so that is just more experience doing it."

The Beavers capitalized on possessions and productivity off the bench. Guard Roberto Nelson led the charge with 26 points and five rebounds. Joe Burton recorded a double-double, scoring 17 points, 10 assists and 7 rebounds.

"We really wanted to focus on the X's and O's tonight," said Nelson. "If we were desperate, we might have lost focus on the little things that helps us go on runs. I think tonight we came out with a lot of fire."

Against Colorado, the Beavers played tough, but were outmatched statistically: They were outscored in the paint 30-28, points off turnovers 21-4, and second-chance scores 13-7. There were a total of 10 lead changes; Oregon State showed a tenacity they have struggled without since conference play began. Even so, the costly turnovers plagued the Beavers' play.

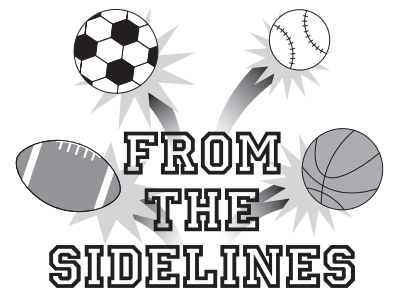
"We were just a little too careless with the basketball. [Colorado] stepped it up big time defensively, they stayed in the same thing," said Starks.

Nelson was able to score 21 points and Ahmad Starks, who was relatively quiet against Utah, contributed 20 points. Burton got another double-double, with 15 points and 12 rebounds. Burton has become a vital player for the Beavers lately with his strong presence on the court.

Oregon State will go on the road this week to visit the Washington Huskies (13-11 overall, 5-6 in PAC-12) and Washington State Cougars (11-13 overall, 2-9 in PAC-12). Oregon State is now in a three-way tie with Washington State and Utah for last place in the PAC-12. A win or two this week could prove very beneficial for the Beavers.

The Commuter

Advertising Department



Upcoming Games

LBCC

- Women's Basketball
Feb. 13 @ Umpqua C.C.
5:30 p.m.
Feb. 16 vs. Chemeketa C.C.
2 p.m.
- Men's Basketball
Feb. 13 @ Umpqua C.C.
7:30 p.m.
Feb. 16 vs. Chemeketa C.C.
4 p.m.

Oregon State

- Women's Basketball - Home
Feb. 15 vs. Washington State
7 p.m.
Feb. 18 vs. Washington
6 p.m.
- Men's Basketball - Away
Feb. 13 @ Washington State
7 p.m.
Feb. 16 @ Washington
8 p.m.

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LBCC Basketball Roadrunners Lose to Clackamas

Mike DeChellis

Staff Photographer

Women

It was an unfortunate day for the Roadrunners, losing against the Clackamas Cougars, 78-35. With Clackamas 9-0 in the NWAACC South Division standings, statistically LBCC would have had a big uphill battle to win this game.

LBCC started off with the first point and the first foul. About four minutes into the game, Clackamas took the lead 7 to 6. Clackamas used up the clock almost every time they had the ball. With 10 minutes to go in the first half, the gap increased 16-10.

The Clackamas defense seemed very aggressive, but managed to avoid excessive fouling. With five minutes left in the first half, LBCC was trailing behind, 30-14. By the time the first half was completed, the gap widened even more, 42-20.

Halfway through the second half, LBCC still could make up the ground they lost in the first half. LBCC gradually fell further behind despite their efforts. It wasn't that LBCC didn't play a good game, it was that Clackamas played a very good game. Forward Alya Rodriguez played well, scoring nearly 50 percent of LBCC's total game points. Next home game will be on Saturday, Feb. 16 against Chemeketa.

Men

It was another extremely close home game, only this time LBCC didn't get the win with a score of 76-77.

LBCC got the first point of the game on a free throw by Forward Adam Hastings, and followed up with a two pointer from Forward Brandon Young. Five minutes into the game, LBCC lost the lead, but regained it quickly. With almost ten minutes left in the first half, LBCC was struggling to keep up, behind by nine points.

The Roadrunners worked vigorously to close that gap before the end of the first half, and almost succeeded with a score of 38-41.

Seven minutes into the second half, Hastings got two slam dunks back to back. With nine minutes to go, Forward Mitch Tohlen slam dunked to get the lead back. At this point, the crowd was going wild



Above: Janelle Young dribbles the ball down court.



Right: Adam Hastings takes a shot.

See more photos from the games online at:
commuter.linnbenton.edu

photos by Michael DeChellis

as the suspense was building.

From here, the lead changed back and forth many times. With less than a minute to go, LBCC led by two points. Clackamas made a shot with 20 seconds to go and was fouled at the same time, allowing Clackamas to score a free throw and take the lead. LBCC missed the win just by seconds, not able to get down the court in time. The next home game is Saturday, Feb. 16 against Chemeketa.

Get *summerized*

- ✓ Plan a bike ride up Bald Hill
- ✓ Get a sweet pair of sunglasses
- ✓ Graduate on schedule

Few things are as great as summertime, especially when you spend it at Oregon State University. OSU Summer Session offers more than 1,200 courses in a variety of formats to fit your needs. That makes it easier for you to register for those hard-to-get classes and complete your degree as quickly as possible while also enjoying the Corvallis sunshine. And let's be honest - that combination is pretty hard to beat.

Registration for summer classes starts April 14.

SUMMER SESSION

summer.oregonstate.edu

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ecampus.oregonstate.edu.

Oregon State
UNIVERSITY



Volleyball Team Serves Community

Dale Hummel

Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Feb. 6, the LBCC Women's Volleyball Team traveled to Oak Creek Correctional Facility in Albany to give a "training day" for volleyball to the residents.

Oak Creek is for young female offenders ages 15 to 25 and can hold about 75 girls.

The idea is the brain child of Volleyball Coach Jayme Frazier and Mike Hill who is the group life coordinator at Oak Creek. Hill was attending a drug and alcohol class last fall that Frazier was giving, and the idea for providing a volleyball class for the girls at Oak Creek came up. They worked out the details and made it happen.

Terra is a resident of Oak Creek and very happy to be in the class. "I don't know the right way [to play volleyball]," Terra said, "but I'm excited to know."

"We call this 'training camp,'" said resident Hanna. "We can't go to them, so they came to us." Hanna explained that some of the girls had played the game before in high school, but nothing like this.

Emma Richards is a middle block and a sophomore on the LBCC team. She enjoys the chance to help teach the girls how to play. "It's a pretty good opportunity," said Richards. "I'm looking forward to helping out."

Carly Philpott is a criminal justice major involved with the LBCC team. She was just as excited to be there to work with the girls as she was to play the game. Philpott is recovering from an injury, but helps out in team management.

Lindsey Verboort is the captain of the LBCC team. She is very excited with the idea of helping teach the girls at Oak Creek how to play and hopes they will continue to practice on their own.

Frazier was very excited with the idea of working with the troubled girls. "It was a great community outreach for my team,"



she said. Frazier hinted that there may be more training camps in the future.

The event worked out well and everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly. There were three to five Oak Creek Staff a members

Above: LBCC Head Volleyball Coach Jayme Frazier (far right) gives some instruction to her players while visiting the Oak Creek Correctional Facility.

Left and Below: LBCC players scrimmage with girls from Oak Creek during their training camp.

See more photos online at commuter.linnbenton.edu

photos by Dale Hummel



there at all times to secure everyone's safety. The staff at Oak Creek was wonderful and professional. They seem to enjoy helping out the young people.

Kurt Norlin Photos on Display



provided photo

Kurt Norlin's digital image "Voodoo." It's one of many that will be on display in the South Santiam Gallery through March 22.

LBCC News Service

Albany photographer Kurt Norlin will be exhibiting a series of recent black and white photographs from Feb. 11 to March 22 in the South Santiam Gallery at Linn-Benton Community College, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany.

In "Alternate Vision," Norlin shares his close observations of his immediate surroundings, usually gleaned from long walks through neighborhoods, down back alleys and along riverfront paths. His photographs, made in the "toy camera" aesthetic, become a series of visual bookmarks for the often-overlooked glimpses hidden all around us.

"Over the years, I have become more and more interested in the essence of a place, rather than the pure descriptive fact," Norlin says. "To that end, I started shooting with toy and

pinhole cameras in the early 1990s in order to capture that essence."

For his recent work, Norlin has turned to digital cameras with plastic optics to create the softly focused, dreamlike quality characteristic of his work.

Norlin has lived in Albany and Corvallis since the 1970s, and has been a photographer for nearly half a century. He holds a BFA from Central Washington University and an MFA in photography from the University of Oregon.

His work has been exhibited around the Northwest, most recently at the Oregon Artist's Showcase in Newberg, PhotoWorks NW in Roseburg, and the Around Oregon Annual Juried Exhibit at the Corvallis Arts Center.

LBCC's South Santiam Hall Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Free Phlebotomy Info Sessions

LBCC News Service

Several free Phlebotomy Program information sessions will be offered through Linn-Benton Community College for those interested in training to become a phlebotomist.

Session times and dates are Tuesday, Feb. 19 from 10 a.m. to noon, and Monday, March 4, from 1 to 3 p.m.

All sessions will be held at the LBCC Lebanon Center, 44 Industrial Way. No preregistration is required to attend. Attendance at one of the information sessions is mandatory to register for the program.

The 16-week Phlebotomy Program training starts July 29 and runs through Nov. 15 at the Lebanon Community Hospital Health Careers Training Center and the LBCC Lebanon Center.

Skill areas covered in the training include medical terminology, basic anatomy and physiology, customer service, medical law and ethics and phlebotomy.

Cost for the program is \$5,000. The program is eligible for financial aid. Check the LBCC web site for course prerequisites at www.linnbenton.edu/go/forms. For more information, contact LBCC Business, Healthcare and Workforce Division at 541-917-4923.

Culinary Arts Winter Banquet Offers "Taste of Aloha"

LBCC News Service

Tickets are on sale for the annual LBCC Culinary Arts Winter Banquet held Friday, March 8 with two seatings at 6:30 and 7 p.m., in the LBCC Commons dining room, second floor College Center building, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany.

All dishes are prepared and served by LBCC culinary arts students. This year's theme for the buffet-style banquet is "A Taste of Aloha," highlighting the foods Hawaiian influences including Polynesian, Japanese, Portuguese, Chinese, Filipino and Korean.

A sampling from the menu includes sushi, lomi lomi salmon, potato-macaroni salad, crab cole slaw, huli huli chicken, kalua pork, poi, chicken long rice, pancit, macadamia nut crusted mahi mahi, pineapple upside-down cake, haupia and malasada.

Tickets are \$22 per person and include the complete buffet and beverages. Tickets must be purchased in advance through the LBCC Culinary Arts Department located in the Calapooia Center, second floor room CC-214, or by phone at 541-917-4385.

All proceeds go to support the LBCC Culinary Arts program. For more information, contact LBCC Culinary Arts at 541-917-4385.

Winter Banquet

What: "Taste of Aloha" Buffet
When: March 8
Time: two seatings at 6:30 and 7 p.m.
Where: Commons dining room
Cost: \$22, available in CC-214 or by phone, (541) 917-4385



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Do you:

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No journalism experience required.

Stop by The Commuter office (F-222) anytime!
Email submissions to commuter@linnbenton.edu.
Call (541) 917-4451 for more info.

Campus Events

Wednesday 2/13

Veterans Club Meeting
Noon · SSH-108

Chinese New Year

11 a.m. · DAC
Celebrate Chinese New Year and Chinese historical customs. Enjoy food and music. See the Chinese dragon.

Thursday 2/14

Relay for Life Cookie Sale

10 a.m. · Courtyard
Get a cookie and help a good cause. Lots of varieties, only \$2 each. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

Oregon Anniversary of Statehood (1859)

1:30 p.m.

Friday 2/15

Benton Center Acoustic Showcase

Noon · Benton Center Student Lounge
JOIN US! Free to the public. Acoustic music by local musicians. Bring lunch and a friend. Enjoy the music!

Old Time Appalachian & Blue Grass Jam Circle

Noon - 2 p.m. · Hot Shot Cafe
Bring your guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, dulcimer, whatever you got and let's play! Email Rosalie Bienek at bienekr@linnbenton.edu for more info.

WTF - Wild Thinkers Forum

3 p.m. · Fireside Room

Saturday 2/16

Women's Basketball

2 p.m. · Gym
LBCC vs. Chemeketa CC

Men's Basketball

4 p.m. · Gym
LBCC vs. Chemeketa CC

The Crane Wife

2 p.m. · Russell Tripp Theater

Monday 2/18

LBCC Closed (Holiday)

Tuesday 2/19

Movie: Unforgivable Blackness

DAC
The story of Jack Johnson parts one and two. The first African-American Heavyweight Champion of the World.

Wednesday 2/20

Movie: Unforgivable Blackness

DAC
The story of Jack Johnson parts one and two. The first African-American Heavyweight Champion of the World.

Basketball Tailgater

80's night. Join us to boost team spirit. (No alcohol involved.)

TED Talk

Noon · Fireside Room

Veterans Club Meeting

Noon · SSH-108

Coffee Talks

2 p.m. · Hot Shot Coffee House
HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD! Free coffee and discounts on speciality drinks.

Women's Basketball

5:30 p.m. · Gym
LBCC vs. Southwestern Oregon

Men's Basketball

7:30 p.m. · Gym
LBCC vs. Southwestern Oregon

Thursday 2/21

Segregation in the South

1 p.m. · DAC
LBCC student Nora Palmtag will discuss her personal experience growing up as an African-American woman in 1960's Mississippi.

Phi Theta Kappa Winter Induction

6:30 p.m. · Forum Building
New Honor Society members' formal induction ceremony.

Friday 2/22

Old Time Appalachian & Blue Grass Jam Circle

Noon - 2 p.m. · Hot Shot Cafe
Bring your guitar, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, dulcimer, whatever you got and let's play! Email Rosalie Bienek at bienekr@linnbenton.edu for more info.

Saturday 2/23

The Crane Wife

2 p.m. · Russell Tripp Theater

Tuesday 2/26

History of Hip Hop

Noon · DAC
Walk through Hip-Hop music history from inception until today.

Wednesday 2/27

Veterans Club Meeting

11 a.m. · SSH-108

Thursday 2/28

Student Summit

2 p.m. · Fireside Room
Come share ideas on how to boost student interactions on campus and improve student experiences beyond the classroom. Hope to see you there!

If you have a Campus Event, please e-mail them to commuter@linnbenton.edu.

Classifieds

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

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

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

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

Help Wanted

Sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. After completing a simple Student Employment Profile form, you will have access to job postings, many of them are self-referrals. If you have questions, please email jobs@linnbenton.edu or call 541.917.4803.

Three Dental Assistant Jobs! (#10149, Albany) (#10131, Salem 2 positions) Dental group providing high quality dentistry for more than 40 years is seeking a F/T Dental Assistants. OREGON X-RAY AND EFDA CERTIFICATES REQUIRED. Sealant and CDA certificates preferred. Must be comfortable enjoy a fast paced, team oriented environment. (Closes 3/7/13)

Diesel Mechanic (#10156, Sweet Home) Perform repairs, preventive maintenance, inspections, diagnosis and repair of electrical, hydraulic, suspension, brake and air systems on vehicles and equipment. 1+ years exp or completion of training program. Possess CDL or ability to

obtain preferred. Exceptional benefits. Apply soon!

Residential Program Specialist (#10148, Corvallis) Work with individuals with developmental disabilities and challenging behaviors. We need energetic, outgoing people to support adults in a home setting. Pass drug screen & background check. \$9 - \$9.50 DOE. Closes 2/15/13

Janitorial & Building Maintenance Worker (#10154, Albany) The primary function of this position is janitorial, office cleaning, office maintenance, maintaining the exterior grounds and washing company vehicles. Duties vary from day to day. \$9.50 - \$11.50 or DOE. Closes 3/31/13.

Start thinking about employment during breaks & summer term! **Line & Prep Cooks needed in Pacific City** (#10152). Work at the beach! 3-5 days / week. \$10-\$13 or DOE. Closes 3/31/13. Go to Alaska during the summer and work at seafood processing plant. Employer will be on campus to interview on 2/26/13. Please mark your calendars.

Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone (541)-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232.

Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.

A word from your local



Beep, beep Roadrunners!

Things are happening a mile a minute down in the SLC office! We teamed up with the DAC to bring you a Chinese Dragon Parade on Wednesday, Feb. 13 at 11 a.m. It bears repeating, so please indulge me. Chinese. Dragon. Parade. I got a sneak peak at the dragon, and I must say that it looks freakin' awesome!

Also coming up quick is our Basketball Tailgate. It will be the tail of Rocky vs. Rocky as our Men's and Women's teams square off against the SOCC teams on Feb. 20. Festivities start at 4 p.m. in the Hot Shot Café, where we will have free food and awesome prizes. Come be a part of the Roadrunner Riot and support our Basketball teams.

We're working on the next Student Summit. Mark your calendars for Feb. 28 from 2-3 p.m. in the Fireside Room, where we will be presenting a revolutionary new plan to reform our student fee. We'll be able to see what that money is actually used for. We have many of our school's administrators as well as members of the board of education signed up to come, in addition to yours truly, and we're all excited to hear your comments and questions.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

Amanda Mendell

Student Outreach Coordinator

Call for Distinguished Alumni

LBCC News Service

Nominations for the annual Distinguished Alumnus Award at Linn-Benton Community College are being accepted through April 1.

The award honors alumni who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in their profession or through service to their community,

and who have completed at least 36 credits at LBCC.

Nomination forms are available online at www.linnbenton.edu/go/alumni/distinguished-alumni. Nominees will be honored at LBCC's Alumni-Student reception held May 8.

For more information, contact Dale Stowell, LBCC College Advancement Office, at 541-917-4784.

THE COMMONS FARE

MENU FOR THE WEEK OF:
2/13-2/19

Wednesday: Char Sui Pork over Steamed Rice, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Portabella topped with Spinach, Poached Eggs and Bearnaise*. Soups: Beef Barley, and Beer Cheese


Thursday: Huli Huli Chicken, Prime Rib* with Popovers, Chile Rellenos. Soups: Chili Mac and Potato/Leek

Friday: Chef's Choice

Monday: Holiday

Tuesday: Roast Turkey with Dressing and Pan Gravy, Chile Verde, Winter Vegetable Tarte Tartin. Soups: Shrimp Bisque and Loaded Potato Chowder

Items denoted with a * are gluten free



Ambassador Valentines Day Flower Sale
Carnations
at the Student Life and Leadership Office

Valentines Day	
Single Carnation	2.00
Three Unwrapped	4.50

All money raised will go to support the LBLB

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, RCH - 105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance for the event.

Luke Warm Zombie Love

Ashley Christie
Page Designer

Typically, I like my undead men to crave blood, not brains. But the trailer was cute, so I decided to give zombies another chance with "Warm Bodies."

Based on the novel by Isaac Marion, "Warm Bodies" is about a zombie named R (Nicholas Hoult) who falls in love with a human named Julie (Teresa Palmer). The more time R spends with Julie, the more human he becomes. Slowly, their relationship starts off a chain reaction in the other zombies and they start "curing" themselves.

Julie has no problem convincing her best friend Nora (Analeigh Tipton) that her new boyfriend doesn't want to eat her brains, but her dad (John Malkovich) is a bit more difficult. He's the head of the militia fighting against the undead. He tends to shoot first, ask ... never, but something tells me these crazy kids can work it out.

It's an age-old tale, boy meets girl, boy eats girl's boyfriend's brain, boy kidnaps girl, girl falls in love with boy. This film is about as romantic as "Twilight."

I enjoyed the style of the movie, and it was a fun twist on the zombie mythos. But it couldn't seem to commit to one genre and ended up just feeling kinda jumbled. Is it a comedy? Rom-com? Action? Drama? I'm not sure; I'm not sure it knew either.

The plot is predictable, and if you've seen the trailer, there are no surprises. It's "Romeo and Juliet" meets "Night of the Living Dead."

Hoult's performance was pretty good. The entire film hinges on the audience liking him and caring about whether or not he becomes human. He is likable and you do care. Palmer, on the other hand, is underwhelming, so I'm not



sure why he falls in love with her, but to each his own.

Zombies can't talk, so a lot of his performance is reaction based, along with a voice-over inner monologue. This leads to some funny moments and a chance to see that a mindless zombie does have a heart.

Rob Corrdry, as R's best friend M, gives an adequate supporting performance. Malkovich is underused. Besides Hoult, "America's Next Top Model" alum Tipton gives the only other enjoyable performance. She has good timing and steals every scene she's in.

So, did I like "Warm Bodies?" [Insert a non-committal shrug.]

It was cute, but not fantastic. While it has some good points, it's fairly forgettable. It could have been an undead John Hughes classic, but fell way short. At the end of the day, it was just another zombie flick.

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Video Games and Relationships

Sean Bassinger
Editor-in-Chief

So you love video games. Sure, your partner kind of likes "Pac-Man," and occasionally enjoys Wii games with friends.

Regardless, you often hear about how your hobby kills the relationship. Everytime you pick up your remote, it's "Call of Duty" is why we can't be happy" this and "you're having an affair with 'Everquest'" that. Sure, maybe eight hours a day is a tad excessive, but you can't help but wonder if there's some other reason you're doing this. After all, things in the relationship don't seem like what they used to.

Video games have a notorious reputation of messing with previously happy couples. Sometimes one partner spends more time on games than they do acknowledging their significant other. One survey highlighted by The Daily Mail in 2010 even mentions specific games that were more likely to spoil relationships. "Call of Duty" was listed as the number one offender, and "World of Warcraft" (surprisingly) came in at number 14.

In an article from the Chicago Tribune, San Diego therapist Barbara Cunningham states how video game addiction could reflect greater problems in the relationship. Although it's normal for couples to have their own individual activities, constantly withdrawing to other activities could be part of an overall reluctance to communicate. Perhaps you're even afraid of what could result from said engagements, whether it involve additional ground rules or an end to the partnership.

So what can you do at this point? For starters, maybe take more breaks from gaming. Make sure you're still spending plenty of time with your partner, and that everything's out in the open. If you're not effectively talking or listening, everything could fall apart. You might also consider playing more single-player games they're interested in, or possibly even a cooperative experience where you can play together. Regardless, anything's better than simply ignoring them.

And remember, it's important to communicate. Video games and other hobbies often take the blame for these problems when there's something else going on. Make sure you talk and never lose sight of what's really important.

Gamer's Log:



& Attempting to stay in buisness

Mason Le Britton © 2013
Groovysweet.wordpress.com



With the January update, many refugees are in need of help. As my adventurer's duty, I went out to lend aid.



I did my rounds, and quickly earned the volunteer title. Just before I left, I helped out a few more wounded refugees.

Imma keep this forever!



Once I returned to Lion's Arch, I received a message including a child's drawing, as thanks for helping.



I then learned of a new currency called Luarels. These are gained by doing daily and monthly achievements, and are used to purchase some nice items, including the mini Chauncey von Snuffles III.

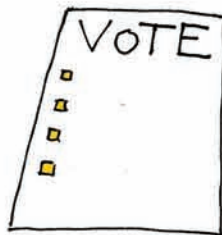
Hold the phone!



Alright, perpare to shift gears! Gamer's Log is in need of a little help...



So here I am, asking to help keep Gamer's Log afloat. There are a few ways to make this happen.



You can go to the new Facebook page and like it, vote for upcoming content, or post suggestions.



The most helpful thing you can do is donate, which there is a link to on the Facebook page. Donations will be used to maintain my materials, acquire games to play through, and maybe keep me alive.



If there are any spectacular people out there, I am not against the idea of gifting full games to me on Steam. Last of all, just show your support!
(steam account: GroovySweet)
(www.facebook.com/GamersLogComic)
(website: www.groovysweet.wordpress.com)
(twitter: @groovysweet)

SURREAL LIVING

HOROSCOPES



ARIES
 3/21 - 4/19

When your enthusiasm is awakened, you become one of the most powerful characters by far. The shortcomings of others can be a terrible disruption.



TAURUS
 4/20 - 5/20

Your friends of recent past need you. There's a great trial approaching, and you're the only one with the knowledge and ability to cover their weaknesses.



GEMINI
 5/21 - 6/21

For being such a quality individual, you show little to no talent for being a leader in the workplace. It's probably best for everyone if you stick to your niche.



CANCER
 6/22 - 7/22

Think of others. There's a whole world of opportunity out there. All the people near you wish you would pursue the ones that are much farther away.



LEO
 7/23 - 8/22

Your age-old wisdom is valued by every fortunate individual whose path has crossed with your own. You are a gift, and your legacy is eternal.



VIRGO
 8/23 - 9/22

Do not fear controversy. While thoughtless actions are often the cause, taking a well articulated stand is sometimes the catalyst instead. Embrace it.



LIBRA
 9/23 - 10/23

You are having one heck of a time. It isn't that the world is catering to you either. You've learned the power of desire and initiative. Go get 'em, team!



SCORPIO
 10/24 - 11/21

A long and trying battle is coming to a close. You've fought well, and you've fought hard. Neither friend nor foe will think your rest is ill deserved.



SAGITTARIUS
 11/22 - 12/21

Decide what your values are. If money is your goal, you are lost. If power is your goal, you are lost. If helping others is your goal, all will be yours.



CAPRICORN
 12/22 - 1/19

This is a great time to reflect upon your past triumphs and glory. Such times aren't out of reach these days. It's up to you to create opportunities.



AQUARIUS
 1/20 - 2/18

You create by day; you create by night. It's no wonder why what you do is so beautiful. You're robbing the world if you choose not to share your art.

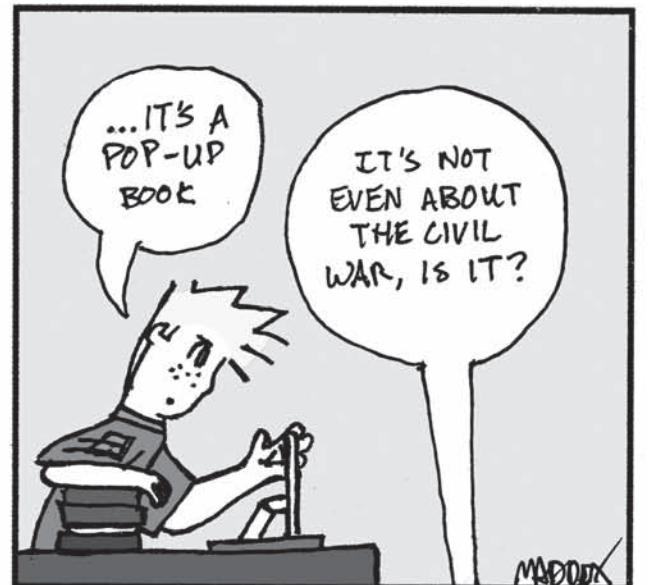


PISCES
 2/19 - 3/20

Gifted with a strong will and fierce focus, you will always accomplish what you put your mind to. Your actions inspire greatness in those around you.



By Jason Maddox
 An LBCC student-generated comic



Save the Date!

You are invited to the
 9th Annual
Bridal Show
 Sunday, February 17th, 2013
 Show Hours: Noon to 5 PM

Santiam Place LLC
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 139 Main Street, Lebanon

Visit your local wedding professionals at Lebanon's Great Little Bridal Show to help make your special day perfect!
Free Admission
 Door Prizes
 Website: www.santiamplace.com
 541-259-4255
 E-mail: santiamplace@centurytel.net

LBCC/OSU DEGREE PARTNERSHIP DAY

- Academic Advising
- Admissions & General Information
- Financial Aid Information
- LBCC & OSU Program Advisors
- Free Pizza

Wednesday, Feb. 13 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
 Fireside Room,
 LBCC Albany Campus

Monday, Feb. 25 4 – 6 p.m.
 Benton Center

Linn-Benton OSU
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE Oregon State
 DEGREE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

We Want Your Art!

William Allison

See your work in The Commuter!

Have you taken any spectacular pictures, written any poetry, or created any type of artwork you'd like to share?

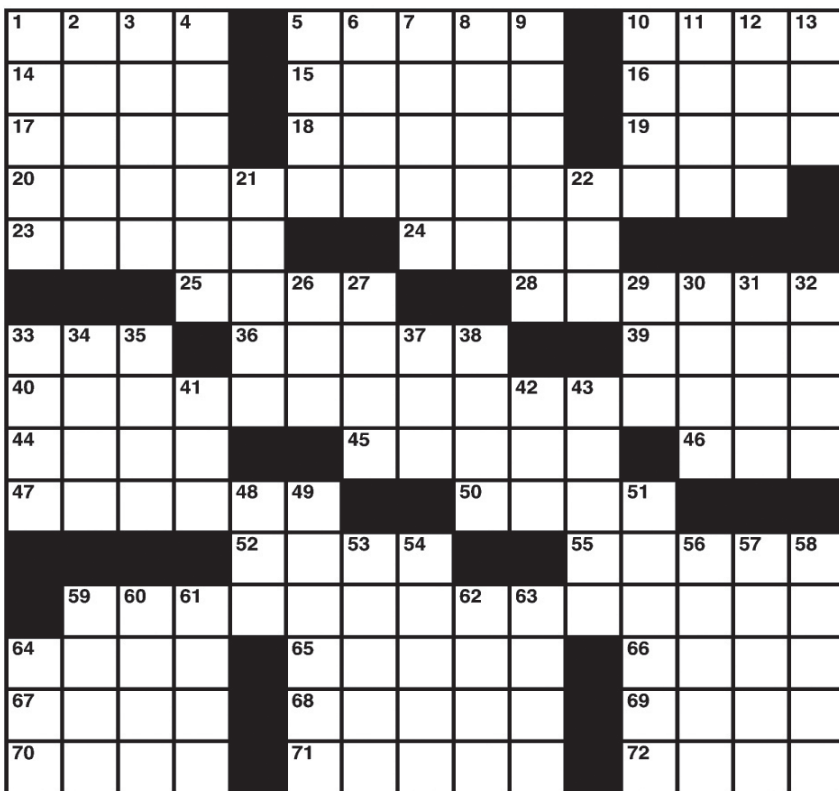
Send us your best with a little info to commuter@linnbenton.edu and it could be published in an upcoming issue.

Please note: Photos must be taken by you and cannot be someone else's work.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 A little batty
 - 5 Fills completely
 - 10 Skips, as ads on a taped show
 - 14 "Garfield" dog
 - 15 What an ump's protector protects
 - 16 Approximately
 - 17 Former Italian coins
 - 18 Main blood line
 - 19 Loch with a legend
 - 20 Corporate-sponsored vacation
 - 23 Ruhr valley city
 - 24 Largest continent
 - 25 Sicilian volcano
 - 28 Mediterranean island republic
 - 33 Place to retire to?
 - 36 Tournament matches before finals, briefly
 - 39 Matador's foe
 - 40 Retirement account transaction that may incur a penalty
 - 44 "Iliad" setting
 - 45 Big name in tractors
 - 46 ___-mo replay
 - 47 Challenge a verdict in a higher court
 - 50 Money you owe
 - 52 Follow, as a suspect
 - 55 Love poetry Muse
 - 59 Local airline trip
 - 64 "A guy walks into a bar ..." may start one
 - 65 Christener
 - 66 Go-___: small racer
 - 67 Gets it wrong
 - 68 Dolly the sheep, for one
 - 69 Fencing blade
 - 70 Herbal brews
 - 71 Sharpened
 - 72 Crystal gazer



By David W. Cromer

- 3 Law corporations, e.g.
- 4 Conical abode
- 5 CAT procedure
- 6 Greeting at sea
- 7 ___ cotta
- 8 Colorado's ___ Park
- 9 Unwanted radio noise
- 10 No-fly ___
- 11 Locale
- 12 Sibilant attention getter
- 13 Brillo rival
- 21 Unable to sit still
- 22 Jamie Foxx biopic about singer Charles
- 26 Previously unseen
- 27 In the thick of
- 29 School org.
- 30 Lines of seats
- 31 River through southern Russia
- 32 Unaccompanied performance
- 33 Alpha, ___, gamma
- 34 Wyatt of the Old West
- 35 Bit of medicine for the eye or ear

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

S	U	B	T	O	T	A	L	S		E	L	C	I	D			
U	R	I	A	H	H	E	E	P		L	E	O	N	I			
M	A	S	S	M	E	D	I	A		P	A	C	T	S			
A	N	O	S		B	E	A	R	M	A	R	K	E	T			
C	O	N		E	L	S		T	A	S		E	R	A			
			J	L	O		W	A	C	O		D	M	S			
			S	Q	U	I	B	K	I	C	K		C	H	E	T	
			S	E	U	S		E	M	U		T	E	A	S	E	
			O	M	I	T		G	Y	P	S	Y	M	O	T	H	
			H	I	C		G	A	B	S		O	A	S			
			E	C	K		I	P	O		G	U	N		B	F	F
			L	O	S	S	L	E	A	D	E	R		B	A	A	L
			P	L	A	I	D		R	E	S	O	N	A	N	C	E
			M	O	N	T	E		D	E	S	C	A	R	T	E	S
			E	N	D	E	D		S	M	O	K	E	B	U	S	H

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- 37 Suffix with meteor
- 38 Tool house
- 41 Caustic potash
- 42 Dr. of rap
- 43 Insurrectionist
- 48 24-hr. cash dispenser
- 49 Cape Canaveral event
- 51 Tots' rides
- 53 "Boot" country prefix
- 54 Iced tea flavor
- 56 Wide open
- 57 Crowd quota?
- 58 Playful river critter
- 59 Planetary center
- 60 Cajun vegetable
- 61 Army meal
- 62 Actress Russo
- 63 Barney's Bedrock pal
- 64 "Jumbo" flier

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4

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

Last Issue's Puzzle Solved

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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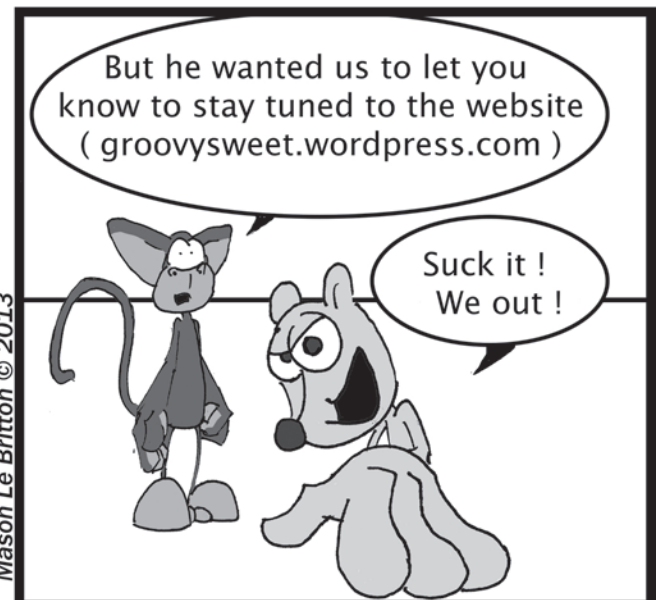
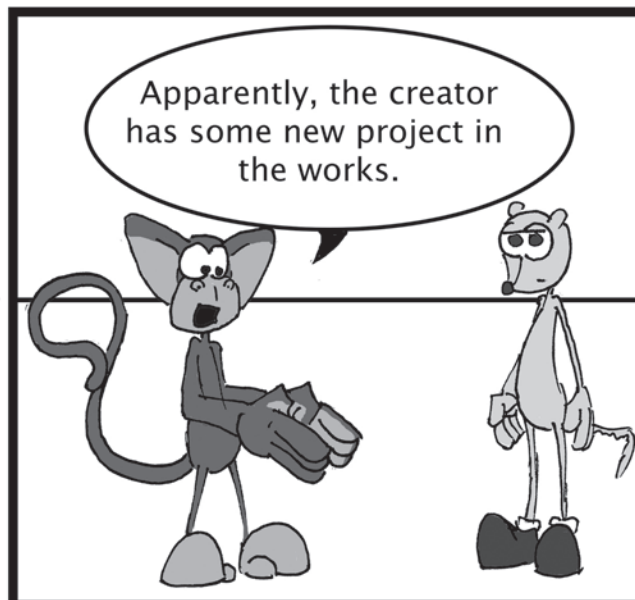
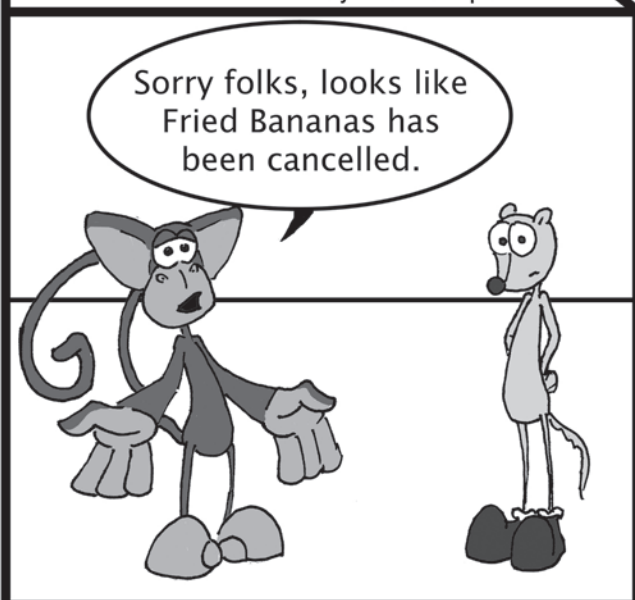
options
Pregnancy Resource Centers



An LBCC student-generated comic

By Mason Britton

See more GroovySweet comics online at: groovysweet.wordpress.com



Mason Le Britton © 2013

“The Crane Wife” Performs at Russell Tripp

Emily Smucker
Contributing Writer

The ancient Japanese folktale, “The Crane Wife,” begins with a man finding an injured crane and nursing it back to health. This winter, LBCC will feature a play of this story, as well as a giant origami paper crane playing the role of the injured bird.

Intrigued by the origami crane being used in the play, Cory Warren, one of the cast members, went online to try to find instructions on how to fold one himself. Instead, he uncovered some fascinating information on the history of origami cranes, and the legend of the Senbazuru.

“Senbazuru” is a Japanese word which means “1,000 cranes.” According to ancient Japanese legend, anyone who makes a Senbazuru will be granted one wish.

The Senbazuru was popularized by Sadako Sasaki, a Japanese girl suffering from leukemia due to radiation poisoning from the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Sasaki heard about the Senbazuru and decided to



Dale Hummel

A scene from “The Crane Wife,” a Japanese folktale, being performed at the Russell Tripp Theater.

make the 1,000 paper cranes, so that her wish of being cured would come true.

Unfortunately, Sasaki died after only making 644 cranes. In memory

of her, Sasaki’s classmates folded the remaining 354 cranes, completing the Senbazuru in her honor. Because of Sasaki, the Senbazuru has come to represent a hope for international peace

The Crane Wife

When Feb. 16 and 23
2 p.m.
Where: Russell Tripp Theater
Cost: \$9 Adults
\$7 Seniors/ Students
\$5 Children
More Info: linnbenton.edu/russelltripptheater

and diplomacy. A peace park in Japan holds a statue of Sasaki, surrounded by a supply of donated Senbazurus that are continuously being replenished. For every Senbazuru donated, a Japanese corporation donates \$1,000 to charities that promotes peace between nations.

Warren was fascinated by what he had learned about the Senbazuru and told Dan Stone, director of “The Crane Wife” and performing arts instructor at LBCC, about the tradition. Stone also found this information fascinating and wanted the cast to make a Senbazuru to decorate the lobby with the intention of sending it to the peace

park after the show ended.

Warren took on the task of making the Senbazuru. He put together crane-making kits, handing them out to cast members and students. He organized crane-making parties and folded hundreds of origami cranes himself.

A few people, mostly cast members, helped with the origami. Besides Warren, Emma Barry, who has one of the lead roles in “The Crane Wife,” made the most cranes. “[I] didn’t do a quarter of the work [Warren] did,” said Barry.

“The Crane Wife” opened last week, and the children attending the show were able to see the evolving Senbazuru, now up to 800 cranes, decorating the lobby of the Russell Tripp Performance Center. Warren is hoping to finish the last 200 cranes before the show closes.

The show opens to the public this Saturday and the next one, Feb. 16 and Feb. 23, at 2 p.m. You are invited to attend, enjoy the beautiful dramatization of the Japanese folktale, “The Crane Wife,” and admire the Senbazuru decorating the lobby.

A Series of Tubes

Your Guide to the Interwebs

Doonesbury: What happens to comics if newspapers go away?

Marci Sischo
Webmaster

On Feb. 2, one of my favorite old school comics, Doonesbury, asked, “What happens to comics if newspapers go away?” The answer – two panels of blank white space, signifying that there would be no comics without print newspapers – kicked off a bit of controversy. Several webcomics artists filled the blank spot with their own art in protest of the idea that without print newspapers, there would be no comics at all.

In an interview with Slate.com last year, the writer/artist of the strip, Gary Trudeau, said,

Slate: As the 40-year supreme veteran of the daily political comic strip, do you think the form is alive and well in 2012 or dying off, as some people worry?

Trudeau: People are right to worry. Everyone knows where print is headed, and most Web comics are struggling. With adroit merchandising, a couple of them have been profitable, but they don’t connect with readers in the same visceral way that traditional comics once did. Comics used to be central to popular culture, enormously influential. They were a daily habit we all had in common.

See, here’s the thing, though: We all had the comics page in common because there weren’t any other choices.

Newspaper comics – and a lot of old media – held our collective attention because there wasn’t anything else to watch/read/listen to/etc. If you wanted to read comics, you read the funnies in the paper. If you wanted to see some TV, you watched one of the – grand total – three channels available. You listened to what the radio played and what the record stores sold. You watched the movies that made it to your local theater. That was it, folks. You didn’t have any other options.

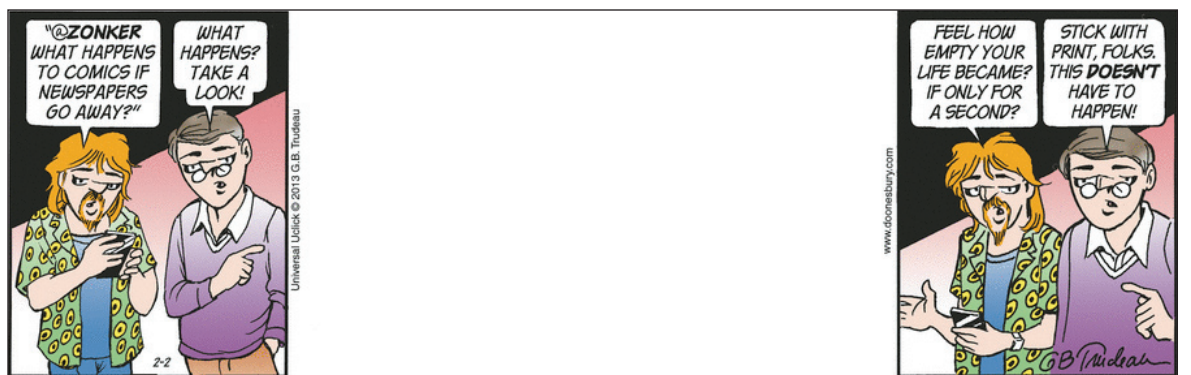
Today, we’re drowning in choices. Cartoonists, writers,

filmmakers and musicians are unleashing fresh tsunamis of content daily upon the Internet, and a lot of it is really good – particularly in the realm of webcomics.

Now, Trudeau’s got something of a point when it comes to making a living as a webcomic artist. Very few people have managed that. But it’s worth pointing out that the same thing is true of print comics. It’s not like just anybody can snap up a print syndication and be rolling in the dough in no time drawing two-tone, four-panel comics for the newspapers. I mean, when was the last time you saw a brand new comic in the funny pages?

And yeah, the print comic pages were a cultural touchstone, and it’ll be a little sad when that goes away. A bit of nostalgia is not unwarranted. But it’s not exactly the end of the world. There’s a veritable sea of hungry webcomic artists turning out thoughtful, insightful, funny and well-drawn content out there on the Internet, and it’s not hard to find. Not only that, but you’ll still be able to find your cherished favorite newspaper comic strips online, too.

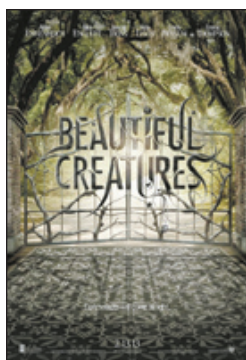
Visit this article online <http://wp.me/p14GZu-rPAG> for links to great webcomics, print comics online, and more resources.



THIS WEEKEND AT THE MOVIES



Escape from Planet Earth
Rated: PG
Genre: Not Die Hard



Beautiful Creatures
Rated: PG-13
Genre: Not Die Hard



Safe Haven
Rated: PG-13
Genre: Not Die Hard



Good Day to Die Hard
Rated: R
Genre: Die Hard

Sources: IMDb, Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com

WEATHER

Wednesday (2/13)	Some Rain	52°/41°	
Thursday (2/14)	Some Sun	54°/47°	
Friday (2/15)	Some More Sun	56°/48°	
Saturday (2/16)	Some Clouds	55°/43°	
Sunday (2/17)	Some More Clouds	50°/38°	
Monday (2/18)	Some More Rain	51°/38°	
Tuesday (2/19)	Some Clouds Again	45°/46°	

Source: accuweather.com