

Commuter

Earth Day
pg. 8



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The Commuter
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 Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451
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Campus News

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.

Hamann focuses on moving LBCC forward

Alx George
 Staff Writer

While many students used the April 15 in-service day as an opportunity to sleep in, staff gathered in the Russell Tripp Performance Center to hear new LBCC President Greg Hamann give his first speech to all campus employees.

Hamann shared his enthusiasm for his new role at LBCC, along with his thoughts on the future of the college and his concept of leadership.

Karelia Stetz-Waters, of the English department, is looking forward to Hamann's influence.

"I think he's going to do a good job. I'm getting a good impression from him."

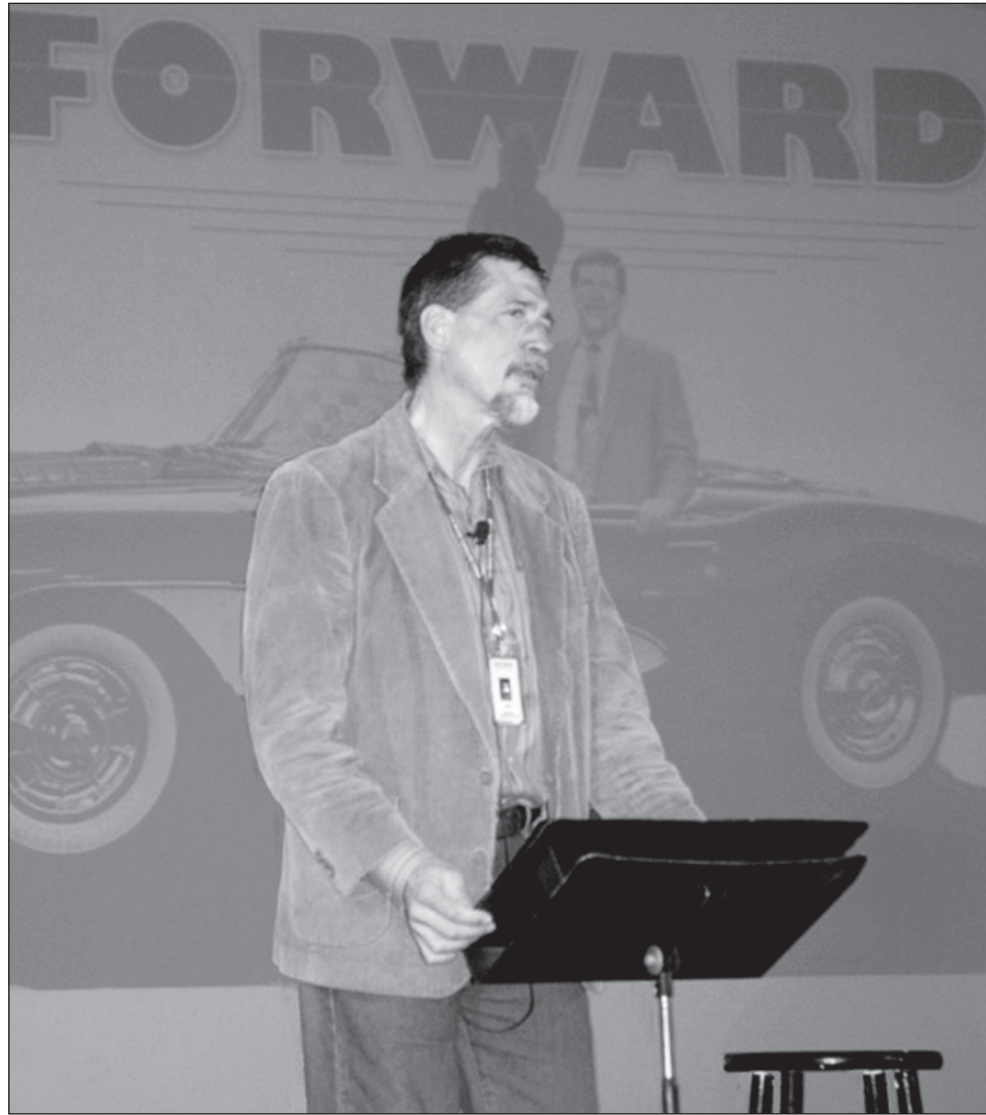
Upon entering the theater, staff were greeted with "I Gotta Feeling" by the Black Eyed Peas blasting from the walls. As soon as everyone was seated, the Roadrunner danced out on stage and stood behind the podium. The room was full of gasps and laughter when it removed its head and President Hamann was revealed.

Still in the costume, he gave a teaser for his address later in the program: "It isn't about me, it's about us."

True to his word, President Hamann spoke to LBCC staff members about what he sees in store for the college.

"I know that we are going to change," Hamann said.

With that in mind, he voiced a fear held by many: there will come



LBCC President Greg Hamann addresses the staff at his first campuswide speech.

Photo by Alx George

a point when the college will need to learn to do less - because enrollment increases are outpacing funding.

One of the staff members asked how they would know when that point came. Hamann answered that everyone would have to decide together what

that point would be. However, he also acknowledged that no matter what the challenge, everyone must be sure not to violate one of LBCC's most noble principles: the students always come first.

Counselor Charles Madriaga

is ready for whatever new innovations President Hamann might make to LBCC.

"There's a strong sense of hope," Madriaga said. "I really appreciate him. And, quite honestly, he's a good man."

President Hamann also has some interesting ideas about leadership. He wants every staff member to understand that leadership is not about power. It's about purpose.

Hamann's definition of leadership contained five parts to leadership: unity, creativity, adaptability, persistence, and sharing. In order for this institution to work, he noted, everyone needs to be united. Sides can't be taken.

Staff members need to share their creativity. "Creativity is not just about one idea. It's about bringing things together," he said.

To illustrate how leadership must be adaptive and involve persistence, Hamann cited changes that needed to be made at his former college, Clatsop Community College, in Astoria. A few of the changes involved constructing new buildings. The only way for that to happen was for everyone involved to be flexible and to persevere.

"Leadership does not just come from the top. It comes from everywhere. Everyone has a role to play."

Hamann said about his role, "I'm most excited about coming to a place where I can be part of this community."

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Wednesday	April 21	Lebanon	LC-153	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	April 21	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20pm

Get Organized

Tuesday	April 27	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	April 28	Albany	IA-207	2:00 – 2:50pm
Wednesday	April 28	Lebanon	LC-153	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	April 28	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20pm

Active Learning Strategies

Tuesday	May 4	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	May 5	Albany	IA-207	2:00 – 2:50pm
Wednesday	May 5	Lebanon	LC-153	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	May 5	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20pm

Tips to Overcome Procrastination

Tuesday	May 11	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	May 12	Albany	IA-207	2:00 – 2:50pm
Wednesday	May 12	Lebanon	LC-153	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	May 12	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20pm

For details and to sign up, visit SIS under Study Skills or call 541-917-4684.

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AVC builds a larger community



Alx George
Staff Writer

Students and faculty are finding new ways to serve our community.

The Associated Veterans Community is a new club on campus that reaches out to veterans and their families. In the words of Toni Klohk, one of the advisors to the AVC and a veteran herself, "The club was started to assist veterans and bring awareness to the college of their needs."

According to AVC Vice President Jeb Oliver, some of those needs include financial aid, being "rehabilitated" back into the community, and looking into the mental effects of serving (like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder).

Jim Bell, another AVC advisor and also a veteran, explained that one of the primary aims of the AVC is to get information to veterans and their families. Another role is to encourage people with a similar set of experiences to feel comfortable talking about themselves and to build a sense of community.

Bell explained, "They're trying to build a

Job Oliver carries a folded flag during a recent flag retirement ceremony.

Photo by Max Brown

place where people feel comfortable, and where they know they have a common experience and they can share experiences, both past, present and their plans for the future."

Right now, the AVC is currently preparing for a group of veterans who will be coming to LBCC after completing their service in the National Guard unit based out of Lebanon.

Also taking place at this time is a bottle/can drive (donations can be made in the orange boxes around campus). The club hopes to raise money for further community activities and a future veteran's center.

The club was started last term by AVC student representative and club President Maria Ballard. The club was originally started when the Dean's office initiated an outreach program directed toward the veteran's community. Ballard felt that a club should also be established.

Michael Mehringer, an Air Force veteran and AVC club member, really appreciates what the club is doing.

"My favorite thing about the club is the sense of community. It's meeting other veterans that I can have things to talk about with, share things, mourn if need be ... knowing that you're not alone," said Mehringer.

Penny Poll gives taxpayers enlightenment

Jessica Kearns
Staff Writer

On the eve of tax day, June Hemmingson and Laura Lafond donned their knitted caps, gathered their jars of pennies and set up shop in the courtyard north of Takena Hall.

From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. these two women, representing the Albany PeaceSeekers and Oregon PeaceWorks organizations, shared insight with 214 students as to where their tax dollars were going.

For those of you that missed it, the Penny Poll was a unique experience, giving participants an opportunity to express where they wanted their tax dollars to go. Each participant was given 10 pennies and asked to put them in the jars that correlated with where they wanted to see their money applied. Students were also asked to give an obligatory two pennies that represented interest in the National Debt. The National Debt was the one category that claimed a mandatory 20 percent.

Accompanying each jar of pennies was a summary showing students what percentage of tax money went



Ana Rios, a Legal Assistance major, participates in the Penny Poll.

Photo by Jessica Kearns

to that area of the national budget. Figures from the "Analytical Perspective Book of Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2009," the book in which the percentages for comparison were gathered from, show that how tax payers want their money spent and how it's really being used are two fairly different things.

According to the figures, the general government receives 11 percent, physical resources receive 5 percent and human resources receive 30 percent. Military spending

received the largest chunk of tax money at 45 to 54 percent, depending on much debt there is at the time.

According to the poll, tax payers are more concerned about human and physical resources, and less concerned about the military. Numbers show that out of those polled, only 8 percent wanted their tax dollars spent on the general government, and only 13.5 percent wanted their money to go towards military spending, a large gap compared to the 45 to 54 percent it currently receives. The poll also showed that tax payers would like to see human resources receive 36 percent of tax dollars and physical resources receive 22.5 percent.

With another tax year coming to an end, it is important for tax payers to know where their money is really going. With the help of the Penny Poll students can now understand where their tax dollars are applied and how taxes aid them in the long run.

For more information about the Penny Poll, please visit www.warresisters.org.



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Food Not Bombs Co-founder KEITH MCHENRY Speaks About His Life Changing Movement

Wednesday April 21, 2010

3:30 p.m. Diversity Achievement Center F-220

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Speedway drivers: Start your engines!

Tony Brown
 Photo Technician

If you're looking for a great family outing or a fun date night, try a sport that gets down and dirty with the thunder of engines, the smell of high-octane fuel, and the fast action of dirt track racing. Willamette Speedway is just the place for exciting Saturday night racing.

The speedway was built in 1963 by Clair Arnold and is owned and operated by Arnold's wife and son, Evelyn and Bill Arnold. Willamette Speedway is a one-third-mile clay-dirt track located in Lebanon at 36606 Airport Drive.

Willamette Speedway opened for the season on April 10 to a large crowd of spectators, some of which have been dedicated fans of the speedway for years. For example, local resident Ryan Comstock has only missed three races in the past 10 years and always sits in the same place in the grandstand for his viewing pleasure.

Auto racing has grown from its grass roots as a family sport that brings parents and children together as car owners and drivers, like father and son teams Chris and Doug Mott of Salem or the past champion team of Nick and Tory Swayngim.

Doug Mott went to his first race at the age of five months. Chris and Doug Mott are co-drivers of

the number 16 car and have been racing at Willamette Speedway for eight years.

2009 Super Sport Division champion and local businessman Russ Sell is gearing up for another championship. Sell is the owner of Pacific Auto Sales and Left Coast Motorsports and has been in business since 1989 and has been racing since the late '70s. Left Coast Motorsports sells racing parts, racecar and racing gear all over the West Coast.

Willamette Speedway is host to several division race events that are sure to excite even the most novice of race fans. Check out the 2010 race event schedule online at www.trophymotorsports.com and we'll see you at the races.

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Wednesday 4/21

Gender and Communication

Noon – 1 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center

Join Dana Emerson and Valerie Zeigler for "Gender and Communication Part 2, Taking it to the Classroom." They will discuss gender myths that are commonly played out in the classroom as well as examine and identify strategies that will help to create a more equitable classroom.

Food Not Bombs Presentation

3:30 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center

Come listen to the co-founder of "Food Not Bombs," Keith McHenry, present about his life changing movement. "Food Not Bombs" shares free vegan and vegetarian meals with the hungry and homeless in over 1,000 cities around the world every week to promote a sustainable future.

Tuesday 4/27

Dagmar Johnson Retirement Party

4 – 6 p.m. • Lakeshore Lanes

Join in celebrating the 17-year LBCC career of Dagmar Johnson with conversation, laughter, well wishes, light beverages, and snacks. Bowl a game if you want; it's dollar bowling day!

Tue-Thur 4/27-29

Muslim Week

DAC F220

There will be assorted refreshments all week.

Thursday 4/29

Career Fair

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. • Activity Center Gym

10 – 40 students are hired at the fair every year. This is an opportunity to see what jobs are available, practice your aspiring employee skills or to actually be hired. For more information, call 541-917-4782.



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Play time!



Justin Bolger
Managing Editor

The auditions for the comedic student directed one-act play, "Soap Opera" by David Ives were last weekend. The play will be LBCC's second student-directed one-act of the school year.

According to Producer David Gallagher, before this, it hadn't been done for a "very, very long time." It opens up a lot of opportunity for the theatre department.

"By saying we really want to do these shows, it's showing the administration and general campus that we are interested in creating on our own," said Gallagher.

With seven roles to fill, only three people auditioned, but Director Emily Robinson and Gallagher weren't too concerned.

"We may start speaking with some performers that we are familiar with, and see if they will fill in the holes," said Gallagher.

They employed another tactic called "double-casting" as well, which allows one performer to play two different characters. According to Robinson, the cast list could have been cut down to

Soap Opera - by David Ives June 4-5, 7 p.m.

Cast List:

Repairman - Phil Allen
Mabel - Kiah Frenock
Washing Machine - Nikki Funk

Mother - Stacie Slater
Maitre D'/ Madman - Amanda Konstantin
Friend - Mark McIntyre

as few as five actors.

"The hope is you'll have a vibrant cast that will attract an interested audience, and that it will be very successful," said Brian Peterson, theatre advisor.

Peterson believes that learning is best done through experience. When it comes to the student-directed plays, he takes a hands-off approach, but he's constantly gauging whether they'll learn more from falling over the hurdle or being helped. He looks at theatre events as an experiment.

Peterson said, "This is far more hands-on than they'll ever get. That's just the nature of community colleges."

The Director:

Several students were vying for the opportunity to direct the spring one-act. Robinson presented the best case.

"Emily was chosen because she proved that she was

very much able to handle this responsibility," said Gallagher. "She had a very clear vision for what she wanted to do."

Robinson is a fan of playwright David Ives for his "very sharp wit and ironic sensibilities."

At age 19, she has over five years of experience in theatre. Robinson has been a director for two other shows (by Shakespeare and David Ives), the stage manager and assistant director for four, and choreographed in the past, but most of her experience has been in performing and backstage/tech work. Currently, she is active in two other local shows. She's the choreographer for "Dance Club" and is involved in the Corvallis Civic Theatre's presentation of "Guys and Dolls."

"I've been making a transition since my senior year of high school to the big stuff," said Robinson.



Director Emily Robinson, Assistant Mark Ekins and Producer David Gallagher discuss the auditions.

Photo by Justin Bolger

Next year she wants to submit a directing request to Corvallis Civic Theatre and Albany Civic Theatre. Her long-term plans include transferring to Southern Oregon University to get a degree in stage management so she can work in Ashland's Shakespeare Festival. SOU offers excellent internships with New York and Los Angeles.

The Audition Process:

To begin the auditioning process, aspiring entertainers are asked to submit an audition form, which acts like a job application, and are given a script to read from. They are allowed about 10 minutes to rehearse their monologue or scene before presenting onstage to the director, producer and the assistant.

Throughout the performance, an actor's goal is to showcase their best stage qualities such as accents, body language, energy, enunciation and how well they take direction. The director may explore these areas by asking them to read the script again, but as if they have a French accent, are crazy grandpas, are in the middle of a hurricane, or with any number of quirks. Performers may also be asked to switch roles and read with a variety of other actors to test for stage compatibility.

When the students who auditioned leave for the night, the director's team discusses the potential each of them saw in the candidates, and fills in the slots. The cast list is posted within the following week.



Gary Brittsan
Copy Editor

Last week the choirs of LBCC returned from a seven-day trip to New York City, where they performed in a national invitational festival.

The Heritage Festival of Gold was an event for select choirs around the country who earned top markings in

LBCC in NYC

regional events. LBCC sent around 70 students from three choirs to the festival, where they earned two Silver ratings and one Gold.

Choir members spent the rest of the week taking in the city, visiting landmarks such as the Empire State Building, the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. One evening was devoted to

seeing the Tony Award-winning show "In the Heights" on Broadway, while another day was spent visiting The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The Guggenheim.

Overall, the trip was a great experience for all who were able to go, and it provided a fantastic opportunity to bond as a choir which will only make the group stronger in the future.



Above: LB Student Amanda Young looks out over Manhattan at sunset during a dinner cruise taken by the choirs.

Top Left: A street performer shows off his capoeira (a Brazilian martial art) skills for a gathering crowd in Battery Park.

Bottom Left: A mass choir of all Festival of Gold attendees rehearses to perform inside St. Bartholomew's Church.

Photos by Gary Brittsan

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Drop-in: Forum 222

A word from your local ASG

Without a true structure or theme to support and inspire this week's article, I present to you a hodgepodge of information that may be loosely tied together by a relationship to the new ASG officers. Enjoy.

By the time this article is printed, the 2010-2011 ASG will finally be complete. Interviews were scheduled for Tuesday, April 20 and should result in the selection of officers for the remaining vacant positions for next year's team. A complete announcement of new officers will be made next week.



Nic Bowman

On May 5, find members of ASG, new and old, mingling with students in the courtyard for LBCC's annual Spring Fling. With Cinco de Mayo as an inspiration for the theme of the day, departments from across the campus and outside the community will come together to create a fun-filled afternoon of info, music, food, and prizes. Free stuff is usually a good thing, but students beware, you may be required to have fun to earn your items. ☺

Later in the day on May 5, new members of the Student Life & Leadership team from each branch will be officially sworn into office during a reception ceremony, in the cafeteria from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and all are welcome.

Last week's article included a survey about student opinions, wants, and needs in hopes of gaining insight into how the Student Life & Leadership team could better serve their fellow students. That survey is still being conducted in the SL&L office and will continue to offer an entry ticket into a drawing for each survey completed until the winner is drawn and announced on April 28. In relation to this, we are currently working to have the survey distributed to students through email. If you complete this survey electronically, you are still eligible to be entered into our prize drawing; just stop by the office and verify the email address from which you sent the completed survey to claim your entry.

Wishing everyone a wonderful week,

Nic Bowman
ASG President

The views of the ASG do not necessarily reflect those of The Commuter. Any questions or comments can be directed to the Student Life & Leadership office.

Advice from Weiss

Dear students,
This is my first column of the term and I'm going to make it informational, as opposed to answering questions.

First off, a new way for you to get questions to me. Although you can always email me at mark.weiss@linnbenton.edu, I have also put a couple of boxes for questions up around campus. One is in the Hot Shot Cafe and one is in the Career Center in Takena Hall. I hope, one way or another, you will let me know of any questions or concerns you have regarding student success and advising.

Now, on to my main topic. I recently have helped (along with several other LBCC staff members) with benefit concerts for two private/non-profit organizations that have been of great help to our students through the years. They are Community Outreach and The Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence. I'd like to make sure all our students know about these two fine organizations.

Community Outreach is one of the longest-lived private/non-profit organizations in the state. They provide many services for very low cost. These services include: A crisis line, personal counseling, a once-a-month health clinic, housing for the homeless, and a drug and alcohol



Counselor Mark Weiss

Mark Weiss has been a counselor and adviser at LBCC for 20 years. The purpose of this column is to answer students' questions about the college, academic advising, and how to be successful at LBCC. Please send your questions to mark.weiss@linnbenton.edu or stop by the Career and Counseling Center in Takena Hall.

treatment program. Again, all of these services (and others) are done with a sliding scale for payment. A sliding scale that slides very low, so literally everyone can afford them. As a counselor at LBCC I have made more referrals to Community Outreach than any other agency in our two-county area, and I've had good reports back from 100% of the students who have given me feedback on their work. So, I strongly recommend this agency to you, if you're in need of help. They can be reached at 541-758-3000 and, although this is a Corvallis phone number, they do have offices and services in Linn County.

The Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence (CARDV) also serves the two-county area, and their impact on our community has been profound. Women from all walks of life have been able to gain

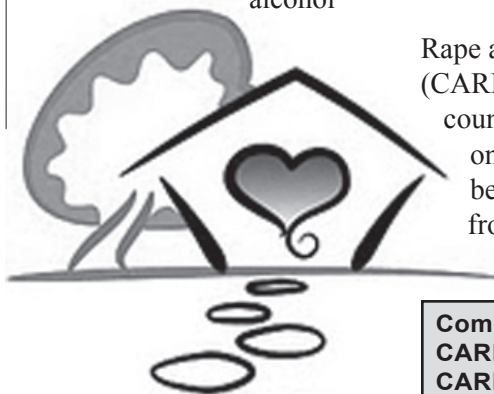
insight and support from their educational programs and support groups. In addition, they have a "safe house" for women and children who feel they are currently under threat.

It's important to know that the definition of "abuse" CARDV uses is very broad. It includes, of course, physical violence and sexual abuse, but also includes emotional and verbal abuse, as well as controlling behavior of one person over another. So no one in pain should hesitate to call and make use of their services. The reason for such a broad definition of abuse is that many times small abuses are merely forerunners for a much larger and dangerous forms of abuse that will follow. Research shows that abusive relationships tend to be of an escalating nature, so it's important to take action and get support early if you are in such a relationship. There is no need to wait until you are beaten or raped to get help.

The CARDV office can be reached at 541-758-0219, and they have two hot line numbers, 541-754-0110 and 1-800-927-0197.

I hope all students will feel free to be in touch with these great community services in our two-county area. If you want more information, or information on other services available to you, please stop by the Career and Counseling Center in Takena Hall, or the career centers in Sweet Home, Lebanon, or Corvallis, and we will give you more information.

Mark Weiss
Counseling
LBCC



Community Outreach: (541)758-3000
CARDV: (541)758-0219
CARDV Hotline: (541)758-0110 and 1-800-927-0197

PERSPECTIVES: If you were a tree what kind would you be and why?



Dave Rector
Pre-Med

"Probably a Bonsai tree because I like to live a peaceful life and the Bonsai tree is a good statement for peace."



Abigail Lundberg
Philosophy

"I would be a Locust tree because I like how the light filters through the branches."



Marc Thompson
Aerospace Engineering

"I would have to go with a Yew tree because they used to make bows out of them especially in medieval Europe."



Emma Barry
Mortuary Science

"One of those big blue pine trees because growing up right we had one next to my house. The branches were so thick that they made a shelter. I could go outside and play under the tree when it was raining."



Tyson Castaneda
Biology

"I'd be a Banyan tree because growing up in Hawaii I saw a lot of Banyan trees and they are just amazing how they spread out and [their branches] touch the ground, kind of like tentacles. And they're really old. I'd like to live a long time."

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Bill O'Reilly: Patriot or pinhead?

Jeb Oliver
 Staff Writer



Mr. O'Reilly is one of the most loved and hated people with a TV show. Whether you think he's a champion of conservatism or a huge ass, he's there and in your face.

Recently, O'Reilly has done some very charitable things. For example, he paid all the court fees for Albert Snyder, a man who sued the Westboro Baptist Church, an anti-gay church for protesting at his son's funeral. His son Matthew was a marine who died in Iraq and the church was very ugly about the way they acted toward the family, as well as people attending the funeral. This included holding signs that read "God hates fags" and "Thank God for dead soldiers." Even worse, a federal court ordered Mr. Snyder to pay all the court fees for the church.

Instead Mr. O'Reilly volunteered to pay the fees. But even after this very kind act of Mr. O'Reilly's, his critics have still said things like, "And on that day his heart grew two sizes bigger" in reference to him being the Grinch.

So why do people see Mr. O'Reilly as such an ass even after he paid a huge amount of court fees for a good cause? Well, because he is one. He says what he feels about an issue, he's a political opinionist and talk show host who's sold millions of books on how he sees the world. He's not meant to be a nice guy. If you don't like his views, don't watch him.

Yes, he's had his follies, such as the sexual harassment case, where he said something to the effect that he would like to eat falafel off of a woman's behind. Sure, he settled the case out of court, which looks a bit sketchy, but does that really make him terrible?

No. I don't agree with that behavior and yes, it became a 'he says/she says' thing, but others have done much worse. Mr. O'Reilly has also been criticized for taking shots at the Obama administration, sometimes to the point of hypocrisy. But come on, it's what he does. It isn't like other talk show hosts during the Bush administration didn't put in their jabs at the president.

It's true. He isn't perfect and he says things to people which aren't always nice and he's salty. But he says what's on his mind and does a great job telling about the direction he feels America needs to take. For that, Mr. O'Reilly, you are a patriot. An imperfect one, but a patriot all the same.

Return to sender

Adam LaMascus
 Opinion Editor

Last Thursday, the Russian Foreign Ministry suspended all adoptions of Russian children by American parents. A report by the Seattle Times quotes the Joint Council on International Children's Services stating that an estimated 3,000 American families are in the adoption process, and more than 250 were ready to pick up their new children. Why did they do all of this? Because Torry Hansen, a 33-year-old nurse in Tennessee, sent back a boy she had adopted.

The whole situation is bad. Hansen says that the Russian adoption agency lied to her about the child's emotional state. Reportedly, while she knew that the seven-year-old boy had problems with domestic violence in his past, he was "psychopathic" and had threatened her and members of her family.

In response, Hansen's mother flew with the boy to Washington, D.C., and then deposited him on a direct flight to Moscow, all by himself. Upon arrival, he was picked up by a random guy Hansen had hired over the Internet for \$200 to take him back to the adoption agency with a note

saying he was unmanageable.

The Russian Foreign Ministry has not said whether or not they will lift the ban and that new laws are being placed regarding adoption. In addition, they have suspended the license of the World Association for Parents and Children (WACAP), the agency through which Hansen adopted the boy eight months earlier. The U.S. government is sending a delegation to Moscow to try to work out an agreement to lift the ban.

This whole situation is a total breakdown in the system. I'm not sure how they could do this, but adoption agencies shouldn't be sending traumatized and potentially violent children to other countries. They should be at least stable enough to handle the transition. Also, they should more heavily and carefully screen the adopting parents. Make sure both parties are capable of emotionally handling such an important act.

Then comes the parents. Yes, the agency may not have told Hansen how many issues the boy had, but her handling of the situation was atrocious and reflects badly on thousands of people. When you are adopting a boy who has grown up in an

abusive environment, then take him and ship him around the globe to a country that speaks a different language, and has radically different customs, you have to expect it will be really hard. In the case of Hansen, she is a nurse and nursing is a high-stress, time-intensive job. Don't adopt somebody like that boy unless you have the time and the patience to deal with him. Then of course, if it doesn't work out, don't put them on an airplane by themselves to be picked up by a stranger! The Seattle Times says numerous people are calling for Hansen to be charged with abandonment and criminal negligence. I agree, it is completely unacceptable to do what she did, and she should face charges for the action.

Lastly, in a comment oddly similar to my complaints about the Russian government last week, Russia is overreacting and treating us like enemies. One woman badly handles dealing with an abused child, so they suspend over 3,000 American adoptions. No other country, just America. I want to gather the Russian government into one person, and then slap them and tell them to grow up. Make reasonable rule changes, and lift the suspension. Jerks.

Back in the day

Adam LaMascus
 Opinion Editor

This day in history ...

April 21, 1918: The Baron goes down ...

The Baron Manfred von Richthofen of Germany, also known as the "Red Baron," is shot through the lungs and heart, dying almost instantly. He is killed near the Somme River in France. Traditionally, a British pilot was given credit for the kill, but recent evidence and forensics suggest it was an Australian machine gunner on the ground. The Red Baron was WWI's highest scoring ace with 80 confirmed kills and over 20 unconfirmed kills. He was so well respected by his enemies that he was given a full military funeral fit for a hero by the British, who captured his body.

April 22, 1500: Land ho!

Pedro Alvares Cabral, a Portugese navigator, becomes the first European to see Brazil. The arrival of the Portugese did not bode well for the natives. Within about 50 years all of the local tribes had been enslaved, assimilated, or exterminated. Many of the locals who were not killed by the Portugese ended up dying from diseases brought from Europe, which was often intentional. One of the most infamous tactics used by Europeans all over the Americas was giving smallpox infected blankets to the natives as "gifts."

April 23, 1985: Oops ...

Coca-Cola replaces Coke with "New Coke." The public response is so terrible that "Old" Coke had completely re-replaced the "New" in less than 3 months. Maybe they can go back to the original Coke recipe, which actually had cocaine in it.

April 24, 1184 BC: Trojans break ...

The city of Troy falls after the gates are opened by Greek soldiers who infiltrated the city by hiding in a giant hollow wooden horse. Note to self: do not let giant wooden horses (or rabbits) into your castle.

April 25, 1915: Ataturk's hour ...

During WWI, British, Australian, French, and New Zealand troops land at "Anzac cove," beginning the Battle of Gallipoli. The Ottoman garrison commanded by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk successfully defends the peninsula for over a year before the Allies retreat. Over 220,000 Allies and 253,000 Turks are killed during this bloodbath that, like so many battles in WWI, proved to be utterly useless. The first World War was a really stupid war.

April 26, 1986: Grab your Geiger counters!

The nuclear power plant at Chernobyl melts down, causing the worst nuclear disaster in history, creating 400 times more fallout than the bombing of Hiroshima. While "only" 56 people died immediately, it is estimated that over 4,000 people later died of cancer caused by the fallout. The Chernobyl plant actually suffered three disasters, the second one was just the worst. I think the AK-47, T-34 and MiG-17 were the only things the Soviets ever built well.

April 27, 1992: Working towards equality, sort of ...

Betty Boothroyd is elected Speaker of the British House of Commons. She is the first and only woman to hold this position in the over 700 years the House has existed. Ms. Boothroyd worked hard to get young people interested in politics and seemed to be pretty successful. She retired in 2000.

Thought for the week:

"Crabbed age and youth cannot live together: Youth is full of pleasure, age is full of care."

-William Shakespeare

The Commuter
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Feature Editor: Maya Lazaro
Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451
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Feature

Something a little different.

Office Hours: Q&A with Stefan Seiter

Selena Gwin
 Copy Editor

Stefan Seiter teaches agriculture and horticulture classes at LBCC and OSU, and has been an advisor for the LBCC Horticulture Club for the last seven years. He is also the head of the Sustainability Team at LBCC.

Commuter: How did you get into teaching?

Stefan Seiter: I got into teaching as a grad student first and I was part of an interdisciplinary team. We got a grant for innovative teaching approaches, where professors from multiple disciplines would be in the room with the students. This was a graduate level class. I was at that time a graduate student, so I took the class, but at the same time I was a teaching assistant for the class. That was really exciting, because we would have instructors or professors from English, from forestry, from horticulture and from sociology who would all teach together in the class. So that was my first formal teaching experience. From then on, I taught at different institutions.

C: What is your favorite class to teach?

SS: Horticulture 260, organic farming and gardening. It's also my academic background, and in that class, there is so much that I dealt with, and that I've researched. I can just use a lot of material, and I could teach a whole year, instead of just

10 weeks. I want to expand that, actually, to a whole full year series of organic farming and maybe getting into food processing as well. But having a whole year-round series in that would be perfect.

C: What would you suggest to students that want to start an organic garden?

SS: Take the class! There are just a lot of resources right now. There is so much talk about food production and local food production on a small scale. With all of that interest, there is also a lot of support now. With master gardeners, they are much more into food production now than they used to be; they used to be more into ornamental-type horticulture. There are all these school groups and neighborhood groups that try to bring food into the neighborhood. I know about Corvallis South Town and Albany Helping Hands – there are all these various groups now that try to teach people how to garden.

C: What is your favorite local plant?

SS: I really like trees and I love the native oak, savannah-type landscape. Actually, the white oaks. We have a grove out here in front of the college. Those are native white oaks. I love those majestic old oaks.

C: What is your favorite book?

SS: I enjoy reading the Michael Pollan books, "The Omnivore's Dilemma," and those books that deal with food and our

agricultural system. So I enjoy that as a casual read. I haven't been able to read a whole lot. I read mostly during the summer break, because there is just so much I read every day, for the classes I teach. I like short poems. I just started a poem book. That's a great way for me to calm down in the morning. I take the bus every morning, and then I read a few poems or short chapters of books.

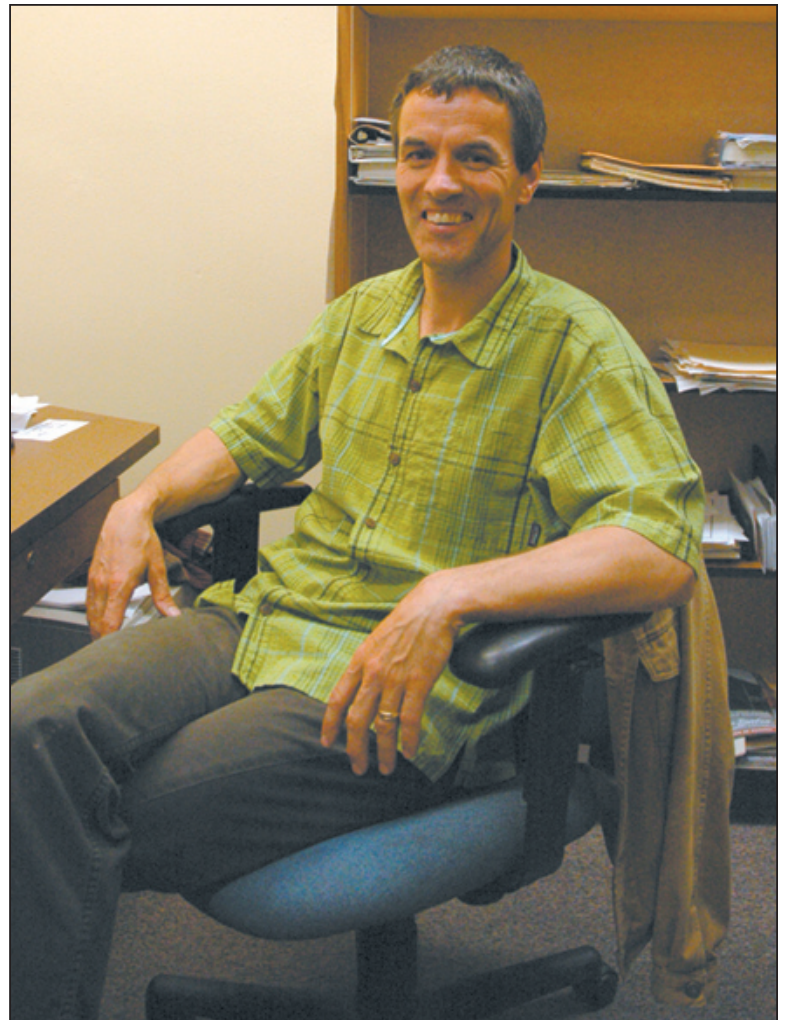
C: What else do you do for fun, besides teach?

SS: I do a lot outdoors. I'm pretty active. I rock climb a lot, sport climbing. I do mountain biking. I ski. I have skied since I was 3 years old. And I have climbed for 20 years. We go on climbing trips with the whole family ... My wife and I met sport climbing. I do a lot of that, just being outside. ... I have a garden at home, but not a very big one, because I garden all day at school. There is a teaching farm at OSU that I manage in part as well. But basic maintenance is a nice way to relax on weekends, if I'm not out in the woods or on a mountain bike. I started a new sport, or leisure activity, called boule, or petanque. It's a game with metal balls that the French play. Every French village has a petanque court, where people play, similar to bocci ball. It's a similar kind of game. My dad came last year and built a court for me. So now I do that quite a bit.

C: What's going on with the Horticulture Club?

SS: We are having the Mother's Day plant sale on May 7. The staff, they are all waiting for that, and a lot of students know about it. It's 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the greenhouse. We started getting ready for this in November, trying to get the plants started. Hopefully, if we got the timing right, then they all bloom in two weeks. That's a big event. The club this year is really, really active. It's a pleasure to work with them. They are a fantastic group of people with really broad interests and a lot of community interest. They do planting at wildlife refuges and last Saturday they planted the native garden in front of the president's office. They invite speakers, and they want to have a plot at my farm out there that they take care of.

C: Would you like to tell us about your family?



Stefan Seiter

Photo by Selena Gwin

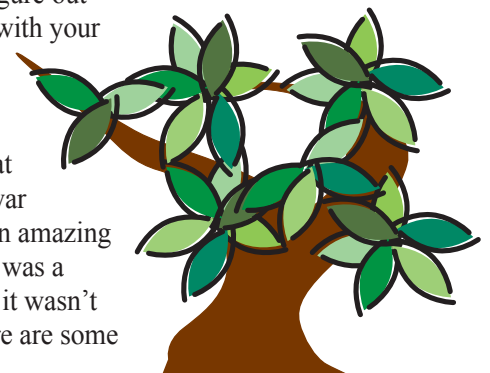
SS: I have two kids, an eight-year-old girl and an 11-year-old boy. They go to a Waldorf school. My wife is an educational writer, but also just recently finished her MFA in creative writing. We do a lot together, you know, we are a pretty active family, being outside a lot. We've done that since the kids were born, we never really stopped. My wife and I did that before we had kids, and we took the little ones to the climbing crag.

C: Is there an interesting story you have from your travels?

SS: In Germany (where he grew up), and in many European countries, the time after high school is when a lot of people travel. There is no pressure to go to college right away. You don't have to justify it, it's more the way you do it, right after high school, that's when you travel and then figure out what you want to do with your life. I really enjoyed being in Sri Lanka for three months, and in southern India. That was before the civil war in Sri Lanka. It was an amazing place to travel. There was a lot of hospitality, and it wasn't fake in any way. There are some countries in Asia where as a Caucasian you are sort of looked down on, which was an interesting

experience, but that didn't really happen in Sri Lanka at all. That was one of the things that left a lot of impressions on me and that was also just right out of high school, 18, traveling with a friend, sleeping in the jungle. We didn't have much money, so we slept wherever we were - the beach or in the jungle and when we had money we went to a guesthouse. We also did a lot of stupid stuff. We were in a tiger national park in India and we decided to stay over night there in the trees at a watering hole because we saw the prints and thought we wanted to see tigers. At 18, you're totally there. We couldn't afford to watch the tigers from the boat, which the other tourists did, so we walked into the reserve. It wasn't very smart.

C: Did you see a tiger?
SS: [Laughs] We didn't.



Where to find Stefan Seiter

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Phone: 541-917-4765
E-mail: stefan.seiter@linnbenton.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday 9 - 9:50 a.m.

THE COMMONS FARE

4/21 - 4/27

Wednesday

Dishes: Beef Pot Roast, Hazelnut-Arugula Pesto Penne w/ Grilled Chicken and Grilled Vegetable Sandwich
 Soup: French Onion and Corn Chowder

Thursday

Dishes: Liver/ Bacon & Onions, Chicken Cordon Bleu and Spicy Lemongrass Tofu Bowl
 Soup: Ginger Chicken & Coconut milk and Wild Rice

Friday

Chef's Choice

Monday

Dishes: Glazed Ham, Beef Goulash w/ Spaetzel and Vegetable Calzone
 Soups: Split Pea and Manhattan Clam Chowder

Tuesday

Dishes: Chicken & a Bisquit, Fettuccine Vongloe and Vegetable Strudel
 Soups: Cheddar Cheese and Chicken Soup w/ Matzo Balls

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Feature

Something a little different.

New native plant garden at LBCC

Lacey Jarrell
 Staff Writer

Students and staff looking out into the oak grove east of LBCC's commons may see some new plants nestled with the rich camas undergrowth on campus this spring.

On Saturday, in an effort to raise awareness about the importance of Oregon's native plant species, a handful of students from LBCC's Horticulture Club gathered to move the school's native plant garden to a new, more accessible site east of the Calapooia Center.

The new location is along the north edge of the oak grove and aside from being a prime native location, it's highly visible. The new 15 by 30 foot plot can be seen from the cafeteria as well as the staff offices situated under the cafeteria, the fitness trail and the northeast parking lot.

Until Saturday, the garden had been on the western-most side of campus, placed near a small oak grove and sandwiched between two soccer fields, where it was unknown to most students. Because the location of the garden was not readily accessible and was regularly getting mowed and disturbed by field activities, students decided to move it.

"It just wasn't in a place where it could be appreciated," said horticulture club member Juliana Agon.

The oak grove on east campus is a great example of the natural oak savannas that once dotted the valley floor. The thick canopy

of the trees ensures plenty of cover for native shade-loving plants such as sword ferns, pacific bleeding hearts and Oregon geranium, which will be featured in the garden.

As the term progresses, horticulture club members plan to install an informational sign post and a bench near the garden where students can "come, sit and enjoy" the area.

"It's important that people just pause sometimes ... to just stop and take a look at what's around you," said club member Peggy Straube. "If you see a flower somewhere, it's more than just a flower - it has a name."

Many of the planted species have specialized characteristics that benefit the local habitat by attracting birds and insects.

Sidalcea virgata (rosy checker mallow) is a natural host of Fender's blue butterfly. Fender's blue is a native butterfly that has been protected under Oregon's Endangered Species Act since 2000. According to

U.S. Department of Fish & Wildlife, "During the past century and a half, almost 99 percent of the butterfly's habitat had been converted to farmland, residential development, and other uses."

All the plants bedded in the garden will be accompanied with name tags, which students are encouraged to inspect.

Horticulture club member Wes Julsrud pointed out that because we are surrounded by so many unnatural things so often, our culture is starting to suffer from "plant blindness."

"Plant blindness is when you are standing in the shade of a tree and don't even recognize the tree is there."



Peggy Straube (left) and Juliane Agon share a laugh while working in the new native plant garden.

Photo by Lacey Jarrell

Get dirty with the Horticulture Club

Selena Gwin
 Copy Editor

In celebration of the upcoming Earth Day, why not find a way to learn about organic gardening while having fun?

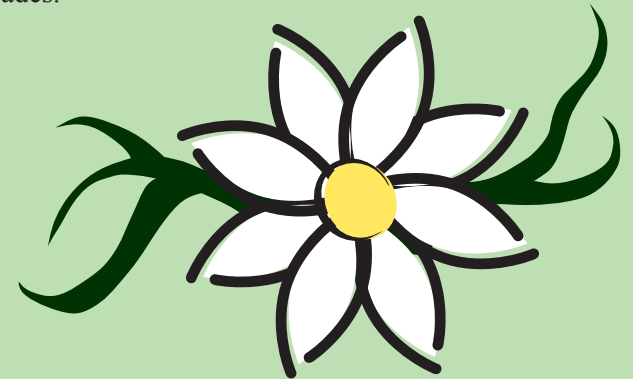
LBCC's Horticulture Club does just that every Tuesday from noon to 1 p.m. in the campus greenhouse. All students are welcome to join. During meetings, club members spend time planning projects, such as native gardens in the community, and learn methods of organic farming.

One of the club's biggest projects, the Mother's Day Plant Sale, will be held in the LBCC greenhouse on May 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proceeds from the sale benefit not only the club, but the entire horticulture program. This means the club not only has more flexibility in their activities, but they are able to contribute to their program and the school.

LBCC instructor Stefan Seiter has been advising the club for seven years. He said both students and staff look forward to this sale, and the club has been working hard since November to have the plants ready.

"If we have the time right, they bloom in two weeks," said Seiter.

Even though it can be hard to find spare time for a club, being a member now may have perks for students later. Seiter said employers look for people who have been involved in their communities. "You get evaluated based on what you do on top of your regular activities ... not just your grades."



Madrone Hall: Earthy architecture on the LB campus

Colleen Hamilton
 Contributing Writer

There is much more to our new 28,000-square-foot science building, Madrone Hall, than extra staff offices and classrooms.

The south-facing windows allow light to travel through, as the translucent solar cells within the windows collect energy. The building's excess energy will go onto the city's energy grid, providing power to the rest of the city.

The brick and metal siding on the building has a system that allows hot and cool air to move around in the walls, lessening the chance of mold and increasing the integrity of the building. Don Johnson, lead architect of the

building, says it is called a "curtain wall system and this is the first time it has been introduced to the United States." The new science building is made from 100 percent recycled materials at a cost of \$8.9 million.

The new garden next to Madrone Hall houses an indigenous habitat made up of native plants. Under the garden is a bioswale that collects rainwater in storage tanks and sterilizes the water. All of the water collected is reused and there is no impact on the city's water system, saving the school money. When phase two of construction is done there will be a gazebo that will generate power using its own roof.

LBCC's prior science building

will also soon have a 5,000-square-foot rooftop greenhouse that will provide a natural habitat for birds and plant life. The habitat will also serve as a cooling system for the entire building.

Wondering what the significance of the pendulum is? "The original concept of the pendulum was to give an artistic view of math and science," says Daniel Lara, dean of the math and science departments.

There is a magnetic current that is pulsed into the ceiling from which the pendulum hangs, giving it the back and forth motion. The pendulum represents a swinging time circle of the Earth's rotation, and as the Earth rotates, the pendulum rotates, giving it a circular motion.

Madrone Hall was designed for diverse student gatherings while also providing a chance to learn from the building and gardens. Key representatives of LBCC's staff, including Dan Lara, Bridgid Backus, Warren Coffeen, Stefan Seiter, and Roger Maurer, communicated ideas from their departments to the lead architect. Administration was 100 percent supportive of the ideas coming from the faculty to make space for students to come together. They wanted the opportunity to create a building in hope that all the diversities within our college may join together and blend ideas.

Lara calls the project, "A labor of love."

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SPORTS

News about local and national sports and activities.

Loss concludes LBCC soccer season



Cesar Pablo Reyes is first to the ball against Western Oregon University's Jeff Van Houten. The Roadrunners lost 3-1 in their season finale.

Photo by Erik Bender

Alx George
Staff Writer

The Roadrunners met their match April 17 against Western Oregon University, falling 3-1 in the soccer club's final match of the season.

Even with LBCC's aggressive offense and even fiercer defense, WOU managed to defeat the Roadrunners. Matches will resume in the fall.

The drama took place in the second half of the game, when a foul was called against LBCC due to shoving one of Western's players in the goal area. WOU's Mike Keuler sailed the penalty kick past LBCC goalie TJ Comini, tying the score at 1-1.

The game went downhill from there. According to Head Coach Art Mota, "We kind of relaxed, lost our focus," which then allowed two further goals to be scored by Western's Matt Bakken.

Following a scoreless first half, LBCC had the lead part way through the second half

after Amedee Ngarukiye scored the first goal of the game with an assist from Cesar Pablo Reyes.

Coach Mota said, "For the first 65 minutes they were awesome."

Along with Reyes and Ngarukiye, Max Sampson and Mohammad Sharifpoor led LBCC's offense. The offense was complemented by defensive pairs Drew Hastings and Andrew Conniff and Ian Chapman and Sean Stasiak.

Conniff comments that, "We tried hard. We just didn't have the endurance to pull through."

Ngarukiye added, "We out-played them. I think we let our guard down toward the end. That was our problem right there. I thought it was a good game."

The players and coach agreed it was a disappointing ending to the season.

"We just can't recover when we get scored on. We relax, lose our focus, then the other team jumps on us. It's been a struggle to keep the guys focused for a full 90 minutes," Mota said.



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Megan Sharp '09
Elementary Education

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SPORTS

News about local and national sports and activities.



AJ Burke pitches Thursday during his shutout against Southwestern Oregon Community College.

Photo by Erik Bender

Roadrunners sweep Lakers 7-0 and 6-4

Erik Bender
 Sports Editor

It was sunny and more than 60 spectators came to watch the Roadrunners (2-4) step up with a pair of wins Thursday when they demolished the Southwestern Oregon CC Lakers by final scores of 7-0 and 6-4.

LBCC's AJ Burke pitched a complete game, shutting down the Lakers (2-6), holding Southwestern without a hit for six consecutive innings and striking out seven batters.

"My catcher called a great game," said Burke. "And we finally got some productive at-bats from our guys at the plate and everything came together."

In game one, LBCC outfielder John Grill, who struck out in the second, came back to hit the only home run of the game in the bottom of the fourth. That was followed by Carl Beckert's double. Beckert scored a run on Jimmy Mastroinni's sacrifice fly to the outfield. That was all the offense Burke needed.

The Lakers were only able to get off three hits and failed to score a run.

Game two looked as if winning would be easier than the first game when the Roadrunners' first four hitters scored runs thanks to Lakers pitcher Brendan Brown, who hit and walked two batters, allowing Jordan Keeker and Jake Likewise to cruise home for easy runs.

The Roadrunners' next scheduled home date is a doubleheader Saturday against Clackamas. Game time is 1 p.m.

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 will not knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner. Any advertisement judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

Help Wanted

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. *For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101).

LBCC Career & Community Resource Fair (LBCC)

Employers want to talk to YOU about your career field and 43 are even recruiting! Go to www.linnbenton.edu/go/careerfair, "Job Seeker Links" to see "Sample Questions", "Career Fair Tips" to prepare for this wonderful opportunity to visit with them. "Participating Employers" tells you who is coming.

Cashier(#7964, Albany) This part-time position requires

that you be available from 10:30am-5pm, Mon-Fri. They will provide training. Must be enthusiastic & have positive attitude!

Forestry Technician (#7963, Westfir, OR) This full-time position will opening soon. Right now they are seeing who might be interested. Work is with the Willamette Nat'l Forest.

CWE PC Support (#7957, Albany) If you are in a LBCC computer-related major, this is your perfect job to get on-the-job experience. This is part-time in the school year and full-time in the summer and will continue until you graduate from OSU.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events, and the cure for weekend boredom.

Live & Local

Thursday 4/22

Wild Hog in the Woods (Swing)

Calapooia Brewing Co.
 140 Southeast Hill, Albany
 7:30 p.m. • 21 & over • Free
 calapooiabrewing.com

Sam Holmes (Folk)

Sunnyside Up Cafe
 116 NW 3rd St, Corvallis
 7 p.m. • All ages • Free
 sunnyside-up-cafe.com

Friday 4/23

Sig Paulson

(Americana/ Hippiebill)
 Hotel Oregon
 310 NE Evans St, McMinnville
 7 p.m. • 21 & over • Free
 mcmenamins.com

1776 and The Blacklights (Surf-Psych)

The Space
 1132 NE Broadway, Salem
 8 p.m. • 21 & over • \$3
 thespaceistheplace.com

David Rogers

The Downtown Beanery
 500 SW 2nd St, Corvallis
 8 p.m. • All ages • Free
 allannbroscOFFEE.com

Saturday 4/24

Frontier Ruckus (Folk Rock)

Hotel Oregon
 310 NE Evans St, McMinnville
 7 p.m. • All ages • Free
 mcmenamins.com

Rishloo and Opus Dai

(Progressive Rock)
 Ike Box
 299 Cottage St NE, Salem
 7 p.m. • All ages • \$5
 Myspace.com/ikeboxmusic

Stevie B.

The Downtown Beanery
 500 SW 2nd St, Corvallis
 8 p.m. • All ages • Free
 allannbroscOFFEE.com

Brook Adams (Soul)

Bombs Away Cafe
 2527 NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis
 8 p.m. • All ages • Free
 bombsawaycafe.com

Pondosa (Country)

Boon's Treasury
 (McMenamins)
 888 Liberty St. NE, Salem
 9 p.m. • 21 & over • Free
 mcmenamins.com

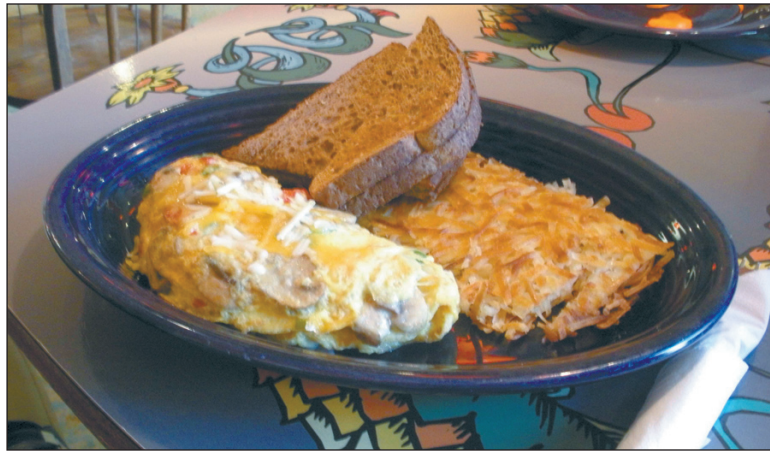
It's yolk-ay!

Krista Goeke
 Contributing Writer

The Broken Yolk Cafe offers more than just eggs for breakfast. This restaurant serves up home-style breakfast with hash browns, bacon, French toast and more, drawing college students and community alike.

I've heard so much hype about this place that I thought I'd try it out for myself. The room looked almost antique and a little Norwegian to me. The dining area gave off a Northwest vibe with its tones of dark orange, red and yellow on brown walls. A carved beaver hung on the back wall, proudly showing off his Oregon State University shirt. Farmhouse touches combined with some hip artwork on the walls - a college town thing, I think, at least for Oregon. Curly of color and painted flowers decorated the tabletop in front of my booth seat.

The menu gave several



Mmm ... Cisco Kid omelet with crispy hash browns and toast.

Photo by Krista Goeke

breakfast combinations, omelets and "skillets." These came with toast and a choice of hash browns, fruit or cottage cheese. The "Cisco Kid" was my choice. I grew up with brothers who were into computer programming, so the name "Cisco" sounded more like a technological term than a breakfast.

Despite this worry, I trusted that "The Broken Yolk" would bring me some actual food. My omelet came with crispy, buttery hash

browns, and toast with jam.

The hash browns were crispy on the outside and nice and soft on the inside. My omelet also had a good texture. Avocado, mushroom, bell pepper and onion, along with some melted cheese, filled the softly cooked eggs. I was a little concerned that the mushrooms might be slimy (I can't stand slimy mushrooms), but thankfully, these were not. They seemed to be cooked well, but not too much.

The food was

good, but it also tasted like something I could make at home.

I must admit that after hearing the huge hype over this restaurant, I was kind of expecting more pizzazz. Maybe some sparklers on the plate would do the trick? I don't think I could do sparklers at home. If I had the choice to go again, I would, but for now I'm happy making breakfast at home - minus the sparklers.

Broken Yolk Cafe

119 SW 3rd St.; Corvallis
 (541)738-9655
 broken-yolk.com



Hours: daily 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Pricing: Meals start at about \$8.50 and go up to \$14.95

Extra: Offers a kid's play area and Andes mints on the way out the door

redbox review

District 9 (Rated R, Runtime 112 min.)

Adam LaMascio
 Opinion Editor

"You are not welcome here" reads the tagline for "District 9." Well, the aliens may not be welcome on Earth, and humans may not be welcome in the District, but the movie is definitely welcome in my world.

The movie starts out in documentary format explaining how 20 years previously, an alien mothership appeared over Johannesburg, South Africa, how humanity responded to first contact, and how the aliens wound up in the militarized ghetto known as District 9. Then the movie introduces the main character, a nerdy, socially awkward, kind of creepy Wikus Van De Merwe (Sharlto Copley) and his promotion to head of the Department of Alien Affairs at Multi-National United (MNU). It is his task to run the forced eviction of the aliens from District 9 to the relocation and resettlement camp at District 10, 240 kilometers away from Johannesburg. This is where the movie "starts." As



the MNU forces move through District 9, it is immediately apparent that this eviction is questionable in both legality and morality.

The movie is knee-deep in social commentary and references, most of them fairly obvious. The fact that the aliens are segregated in South Africa is an obvious reference to apartheid. Xenophobia and intolerance are major themes in the movie. The

aliens are given the derogatory nickname "prawns," in reference to the so-called "Parktown Prawn," a species of cricket that plagued South Africa. It isn't a bad thing to blatantly say "Xenophobia, racism and apartheid is wrong."

In addition to the social commentary, we have political commentary. MNU makes extensive use of an absolutely ruthless and bloodthirsty private military contracting company (PMC), a not-so-subtle jab at Executive Outcomes (a now defunct South African PMC) and Xe Services (formerly Blackwater Worldwide). Also, MNU is itself a government-funded corporation, and serves as a warning about the

dangers of outsourcing government military and bureaucratic duties to private companies.

One thing I liked about this movie is that even though there are "good guys," there is no real "good side." The three major factions are MNU, Nigerian gangs, and the prawns. MNU and the gangs are both power-hungry and ruthless; MNU just puts on a more politically correct face and actually has some good people working for them. The prawns are definitely victims here, but they are not without blame either. Numerous murders, riots, and other such things perpetrated by the prawns prevent this movie from having a case of "Avatar" syndrome where the peace-loving aliens are being crushed by the evil military. By the way, I am aware that D9 came before "Avatar."

"District 9" is not for everybody. I loved it, but admit that it is not perfect. The dialogue was good, and the characters were believable, as was the story, even though it wasn't terribly original. There was humor, action, intrigue, social commentary, and conspiracy. There were a few slightly clichéd moments, too; fortunately, those were few and far between. The special effects were really good, which is particularly impressive considering the fairly limited budget they had. Go see it

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events, and the cure for weekend boredom.

Coffeehouse concert for a cause

Max Brown
 Editor-in-Chief

An LBCC instructor will be playing a concert to benefit children who are victims of abuse.

The Best Cellar Coffeehouse will be hosting two performers on Friday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m. This show will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 1165 NW Monroe in Corvallis. The cost is on a sliding scale of \$2 - \$10, and there will be coffee, tea and cookies for a small price.

Ian Priestman, a business instructor at LBCC, will be playing a number of his original works. This will be one of the first shows where Priestman plays a majority of his own creations. In the past, he has either played with other people doing their songs, or has done covers. In December, he played with a number of instructors and staff from LBCC to benefit CARDV.

The other performer will be Mitch "The Whistler" Hider. According to the Best Cellar Coffeehouse website, he is "An Oregon icon. Must be seen to be believed. From swing to folk to classical to, well, God only knows, with true style and musicianship."

In light of April being Child Abuse Prevention Month, Priestman will be donating his proceeds from the concert to 401-kids, an organization devoted to helping children who are victims of abuse.

Mark Weiss, a counselor at LBCC, is currently in charge of booking acts for the Best Cellar Coffeehouse. He said that over the years many people have taken turns leading the group, and that this is not the first time he has been the leader.

Weiss says that he does at least one benefit concert a year. Sometimes the performers decide to donate their money, which is the case with Priestman.

Weiss also commented that he has seen Priestman do some interesting things while performing his music, and is looking forward to seeing what Priestman will do at this show. He added that Priestman brings a slightly different perspective with his music, as he is from England.



Ian Priestman

Photo provided by Ian Priestman

"He had a lot of humor in his music, which I very much enjoyed," Weiss said about a benefit show in December.

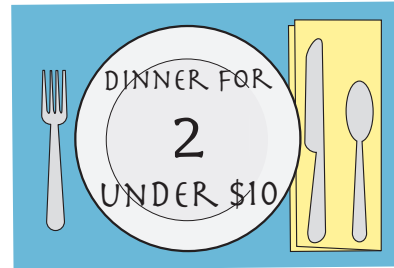
Priestman enjoys playing at the Best Cellar Coffeehouse for a number of reasons. He feels that they draw a large crowd, which is encouraging because sometimes gigs in the Corvallis area get a low turnout. He also said it was easy to set up his equipment and it sounded nice at the venue when he played.

He also enjoys that the people who attend these concerts really listen and are interested in what the performer is playing.

Weiss says the coffeehouse is aimed at providing a fun low-cost evening out. He emphasized that the shows have a sliding scale for payment, and also noted that no one gets turned away.

"I do think it's important to do something that recognizes that not everybody has the money to show up to a concert," Weiss said.

For more information about the show or the Best Cellar Coffeehouse visit cfs.peak.org/bestcellar



Jana West
 Staff Writer

Quick and easy quiche

This recipe is a great time saver and cooks up great when my friend, who is a vegetarian, comes over for dinner. The cottage cheese keeps this dish a little lighter. I often make my own crust, but for time's sake and because they were on sale, I used a frozen crust.

Grocery list:

1 frozen pie crust	\$1.00
8 eggs	\$1.30
1 cup cottage cheese	\$.99
2 bunches green onions	\$1.58
1 1/2 cups broccoli	\$.89
1 cup grated cheese	\$.75
GRAND TOTAL:	\$6.51

1. Pre-bake the crust for about seven minutes so the crust is nice and flaky, then set it aside to cool before filling.
2. Beat the eggs with the cottage cheese. Add chopped green onions, broccoli, and half of the grated cheese.
3. Pour into the pie pan and sprinkle with the remaining cheese.
4. Bake at 350 for 40 minutes or until eggs have set.

Options: This is a very basic recipe that can easily be adapted to incorporate your favorite ingredients. Asparagus, spinach and roasted red peppers are a great addition. Gruyere or Fontina cheese is great in quiches too; don't be afraid to try your favorite cheese and mix up the ingredients.



Eggs and cheese ... can't go wrong.

Photo by Jana West

String ensemble delights center



Sarah McFee and Amy Isted play a musical arrangement for the harp.

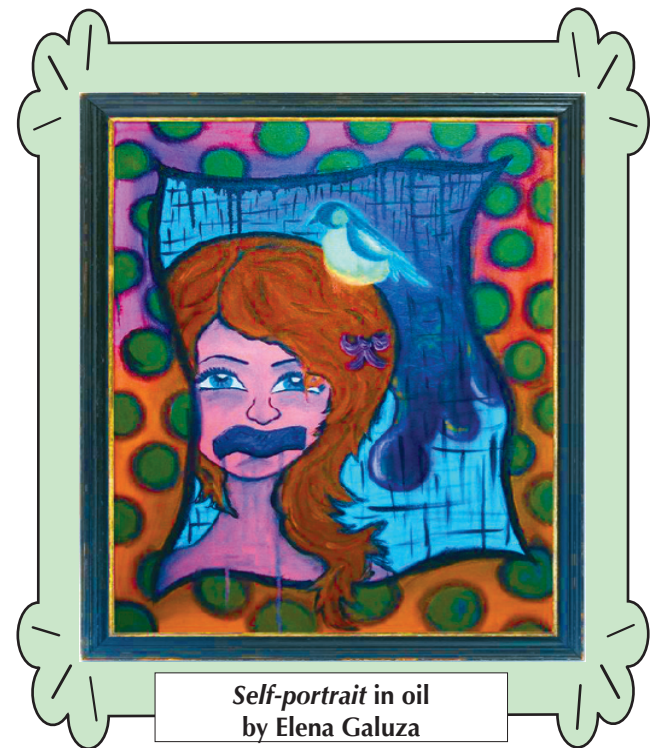
Photo by Tony Brown

Tony Brown
 Photo Technician

The five-member ensemble of Strings of Delight played at the Benton Center student lounge in Corvallis last Friday, April 16. Strings of Delight performs twice a term to the joy of students and members of the community.

Listeners enjoyed relaxing to classical and Celtic arrangements played by the quintet consisting of Rich Isted on dulcimer and bongos, Amy Isted on harp, Katie Isted on dulcimer, Amy Griffith on keyboard and Sarah McFee on harp and flute.

Student-submitted art
 e-mail your own artwork to commuter.submissions@gmail.com



Self-portrait in oil
 by Elena Galuza

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Surreal Living

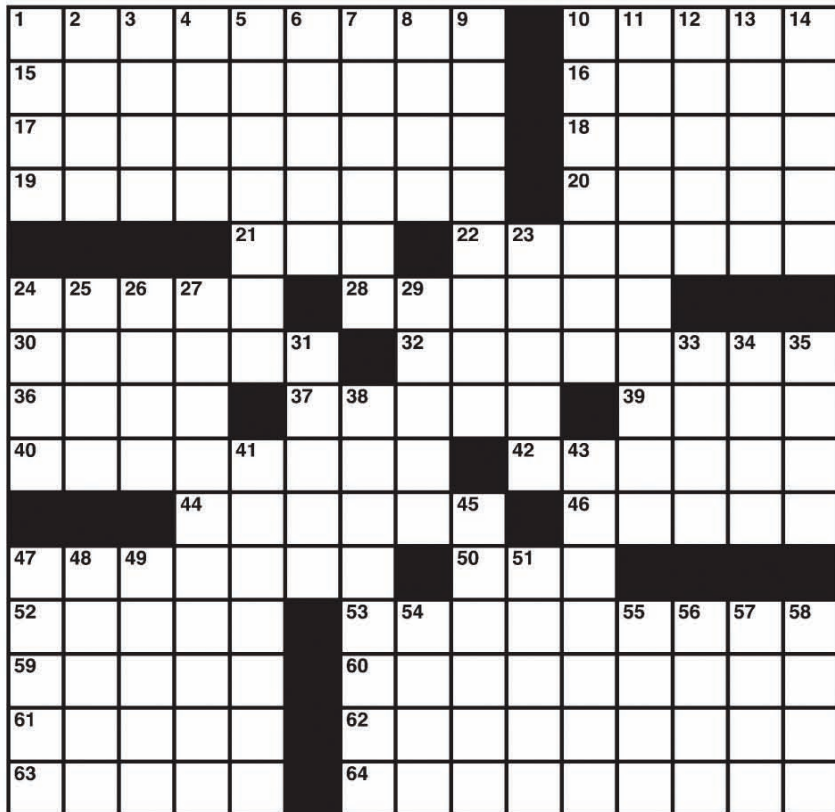
Crosswords, cartoons and some fun facts to brighten your day.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 War and more
- 10 R.E.M. vocalist Michael
- 15 Strain
- 16 Turkic inhabitant of Russia
- 17 Place with trays
- 18 Director Kurosawa
- 19 Aide's job
- 20 Doctor's orders
- 21 Rolls on the lawn
- 22 Hard to nail down
- 24 Social blunder
- 28 Eritrea's capital
- 30 Ness et al.
- 32 Cosmetic surgeries
- 36 Vegan entrée
- 37 Imported cheeses
- 39 Cajun pod
- 40 Sherry, often
- 42 Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show costar
- 44 Grab before someone else does
- 46 It merged with Kmart in 2005
- 47 Film that's out of order?
- 50 PC panic button
- 52 Mammal of Madagascar
- 53 Seeking advancement at any cost
- 59 Take out ___: borrow money
- 60 Eastern Canadian province grouping, with "the"
- 61 Saltpeter, to a Brit
- 62 Smithsonian collection
- 63 Spirited horse
- 64 Nielsen ratings subjects



By Samuel A. Donaldson

- 2 Actress Gardner et al.
- 3 Court call makers
- 4 Cologne crowd?
- 5 Prepares
- 6 Has an ___ grind
- 7 Yucatán's capital
- 8 "___ Brockovich"
- 9 Child actor's chauffeur?
- 10 Height
- 11 Tolerates teasing gracefully
- 12 Formal answer to "Who's there?"
- 13 End of a pentamerous serial
- 14 TiVo option
- 23 Will Rogers prop
- 24 "___ grip!"
- 25 Crooked
- 26 High wind
- 27 Unwavering
- 29 Messy situation
- 31 Hairlike parts, such as those that help geckos cling to walls
- 33 St. with counties named Comanche and Choctaw
- 34 Uncle Remus's ___ Fox
- 35 Speaks
- 38 One with immunity
- 41 Buried
- 43 One leading a spartan lifestyle
- 45 Marine bird
- 47 Blueprints
- 48 Ignited again
- 49 Cry on cue, say
- 51 U.S.: county :: U.K. : ___
- 54 Moniker
- 55 Flaky mineral
- 56 Latin 101 verb
- 57 Colleague of Lane and Olsen
- 58 Those, to Teresa

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

H	O	H	O		A	R	C	A	N	E		C	A	P	
A	B	E	T		T	I	A	R	A	S		A	B	E	
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K	E	L		R	I	G	A				I	R	O	C	
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W	Y	A	T	T	O	N	T	H	E	S	E	T			
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G	T	O		W	I	T	T	S	M	O	K	I	N	G	
G	E	N		A	V	I	A	T	E		I	K	E	A	
Y	R	S		N	E	A	R	E	D		D	E	A	N	

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DOWN

- 1 Caesar's partner Imogene

Student-submitted art

e-mail your own artwork to commuter.submissions@gmail.com



Ugly Duckling
 by Naoko Machida
 Cut paper

We sleep in different worlds

by Joel DeVyldere

night has fallen,
 keeps on falling, taking
 light and reason,
 ground is freezing, aching.
 i fall asleep and you awaken.
 'night calls are free,' the network beckons,
 but we fail to make communication,
 and now both our cities slumber, making
 our eyelids sag while gas-and-braking.

our solitary dreams forsaken,
 let's get together, eat some bacon.

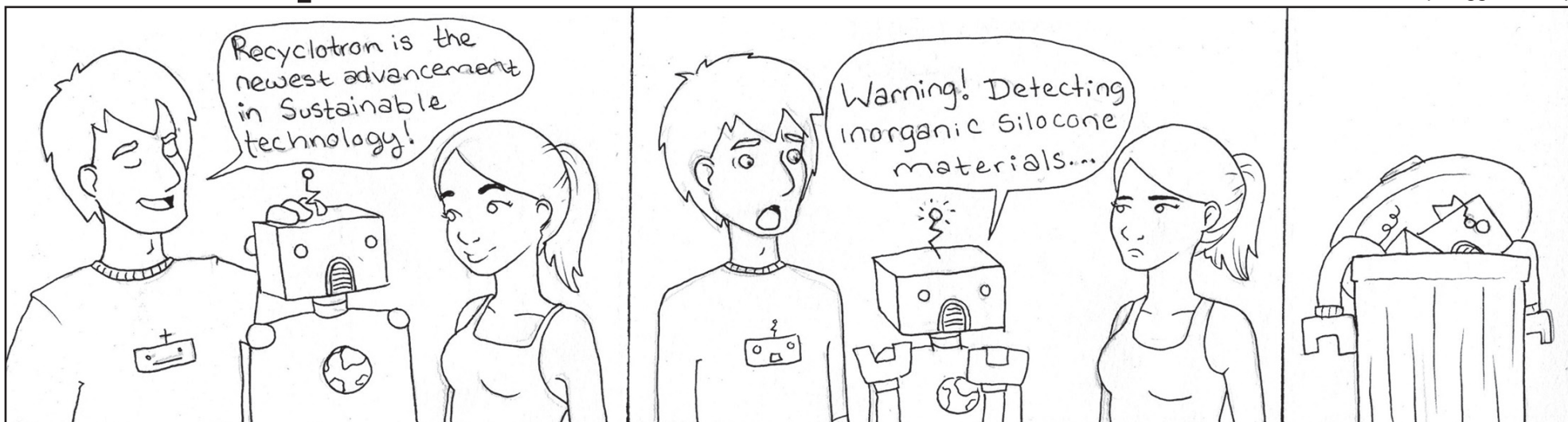


Poetry spotlight

Add/Drop

An LBCC student generated comic.

By Maggie O'Reilly



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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

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

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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Did you know?

- There are five dwarf planets in the Solar System.
- The movie "Apocalypse Now" is based off of Joseph Conrad's novel "Heart of Darkness."
- During the Christianization of Scandinavia, it became a popular show of defiance to wear a pendant depicting Mjollnir, the hammer of the Norse god Thor.
- The word "dolphin" comes from a Greek word meaning "womb." It is thought that their name indicates they were believed to be fish with wombs.
- The Sun, also known as Sol, weighs about 1.9891 x 10³⁴ kilograms.

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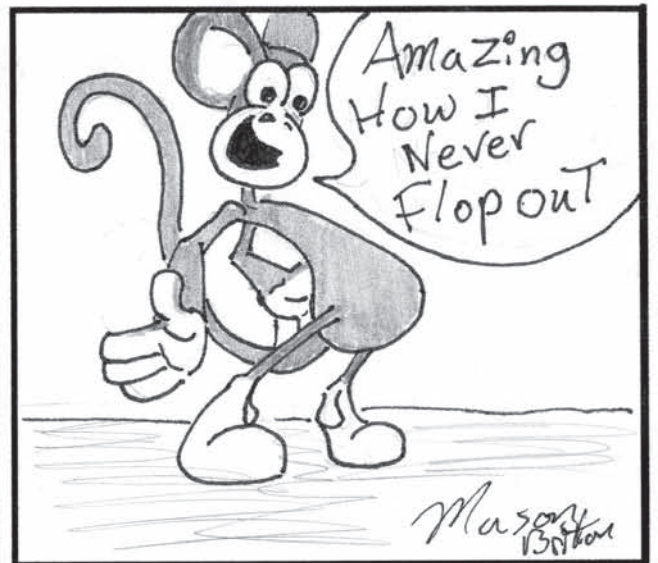
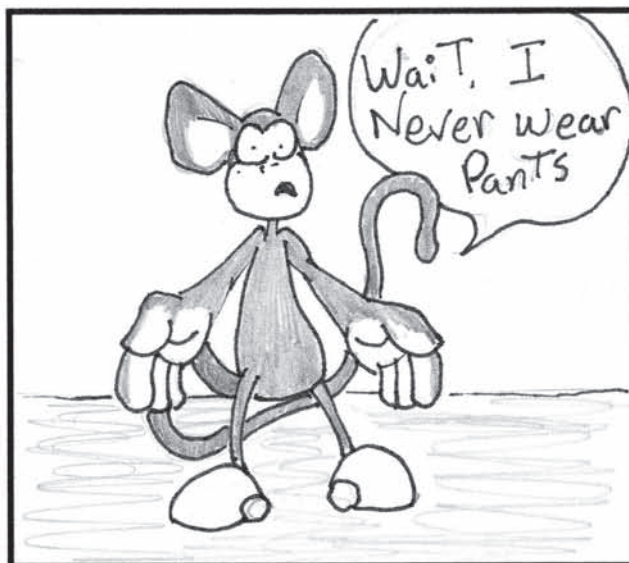


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Fried Bananas

An LBCC student generated comic.

By Mason Britton



Mason Britton

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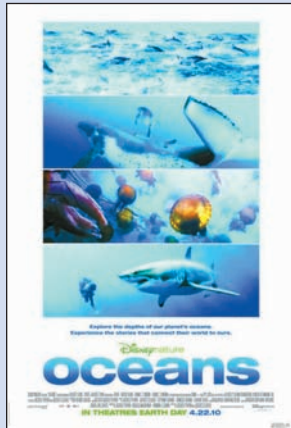
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events, and the cure for weekend boredom.

Coming attractions

Oceans

Disneynature distribution and French directors Jacques Perrin and Jacques Cluzaud employ the use of the latest underwater recording equipment to take us under the sea in this timely exposé of the world beneath the surface in the vein of 2007's "Earth." Prepare to be taken under the sea for a close-up of the creatures below and their unique environments. Narrated by Pierce Brosnan.



Runtime: 100 minutes • Rating: G

The Losers

Jeffrey Dean Morgan and Chris Evans head up a cast of CIA operatives who have been ambushed in the center of the Bolivian jungle, and abandoned. Presumed dead by the agency, they are convinced that their demise was an inside job. Armed with determination, and aided by an attractive female operative (Zoe Saldana), these soldiers commit to a mission of their own - to take down the man who betrayed them.



Runtime: 98 minutes • Rating: PG-13

The Back-Up Plan

Zoe (Jennifer Lopez) can't wait to find the man of her dreams and start a family in this comedy from director Alan Poul. Her impatience and frustration leads her to conceive a child by artificial insemination, and try to accomplish the family part on her own. The day that she goes through with it, she meets the perfect guy for her. Stan (Alex O'Loughlin) is fine with her plan, and the two set out to fall in love, get married and have a baby - backwards.



Runtime: 98 minutes • Rating: PG-13

Sources: [Imdb](#), [Yahoo! Movies](#), [Fandango.com](#)

KFC: Kentucky fried cholesterol

Max Brown
Editor-in-Chief

The "Double Down" = double regret. Recently KFC released their new creation: the Double Down sandwich. Their theory is that their chicken is so good, buns aren't necessary. In place of buns, the sandwich has two chicken breasts (grilled or fried), with a slice of Monterey Jack, a slice of pepper jack and two slices of bacon wedged between them. All of this comes with a special sauce.

Sound disgusting? Well it kind of is. Let's not think about how terrible this thing is in a nutritional sense. Instead, let's focus on flavor and the eating experience.

First of all, freshly-fried chicken breasts as buns is a terrible handling idea. KFC wraps the sandwich in a thin sheet of paper, which does nothing to protect your hands from the burning hot oil. Needless to say, this was a very awkward meal to eat.

With my first bite I lucked out, missed the sauce and only got some chicken. This is standard KFC chicken, so it was ... well, I am not going to say "good," because KFC chicken is mediocre at best, but at least the chicken was up to their normal standards.

Then, unfortunately, I kept eating. The cheese had a very plastic-y texture that hung off the sandwich in strange ways. I ended up just pulling off bits of cheese so I would not have to deal with it. The sauce was probably the part of this sandwich I hated most. While the sauce wasn't pungent, it was unpleasant.

The problem with the sauce was this: If I'm eating something that I know is attacking my internal organs, it better be really super tasty. This sauce only detracted from the flavor of the sandwich (not that it had much "tasty" to lose in the first place).

The bacon was bacon, so it could do no harm. This may have been the only redeeming quality of the experience.

After eating this sandwich, I made my way home and proceeded to go into light hangover mode. No, this is not because KFC

was serving shots of liquor, but because the amount of sodium in this little monster was insane. I ended up feeling bloated and dehydrated for the rest of the day.

Now is an appropriate time to take a gander at the nutritional facts. The fried version ends up at 540 calories with 32 grams of fat, 1380 milligrams of sodium, and 145 milligrams of cholesterol. The grilled is only 460 calories with 23 grams of fat, but has more sodium at 1430 milligrams.

From my viewpoint the fat calories are unhealthy, but they're hardly something to freak out over compared to other fast food sandwiches. For example Wendy's Triple Baconator clocks in at 1350 calories. The



problem with the double down lies with the sodium and cholesterol.

A very detailed review by Nate Silver of [fivethirtyeight.com](#) really highlights all the horrible that this thing is for you. He focuses mostly on how this sandwich compares with other fast food items.

"So, for getting only about one-quarter of the calories that you need in a day, you're exhausting about half your budget of 'bad stuff,'" Silver wrote.

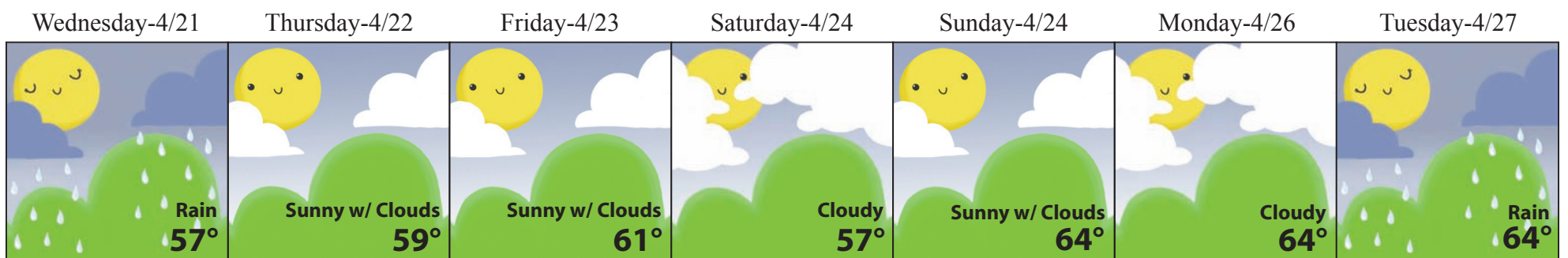
He has some amazing charts that confirm what we all know: fast food is horrendous for you. In my opinion this sandwich is far from the worst fast food you could eat, but it is also far from being good for you.

I love tasty food and hardly ever care if it is terrible for me. One of my favorite blogs is [Thisiswhyyourefat.com](#). Check it out and be amazed at these culinary monsters. So the poor nutritional value of this sandwich is not the reason I dislike it, although it doesn't help.

The fact is, the sandwich sucks. It doesn't make you want to gag, but it is still unpleasant to eat. This, coupled with the fact that I knew every bite was bringing me a little closer to triple bypass surgery, will probably keep me from ever getting this monstrosity again.

There are far too many other delicious things out there to justify eating the "Double Down".

Weekly Weather Predictions



Warning: These are only predictions. For up-to-date forecasts, please look out your window. Source: [weather.com](#)