

# THE COMMUTER

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a weekly student publication

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Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

## OSAC scholarship workshops today

Monique Cohen  
The Commuter

Students struggling to pay for college can take advantage of thousands of dollars in scholarship money available from the Oregon Student Assistance Commission and LBCC.

A representative from OSAC will give a presentation today at LBCC about the numerous scholarships that are available for students. Representatives will be at the Multicultural Center from noon to 1 p.m.

Following the OSAC presentation, an LBCC financial aid

advisor will conduct a workshop on campus-based scholarships from 1 to 2 p.m. Complimentary pizza will be provided.

OSAC has three categories of scholarships available. First, for graduating high school seniors or graduates of specific high schools, for students of varying ages, abilities and goals, and scholarships for employees and members of sponsored businesses or organizations.

The OSAC application has over 370 scholarships available. As an added incentive, those applications received by Feb. 15 are eligible for the \$500 "Early

Bird" award drawing. The final deadline for the OSAC application is March 1.

The deadline for campus-based scholarships is Feb. 1. Campus-based scholarships include foundation and departmental scholarships. The scholarship application is on the LBCC home page, and can be accessed by going to "Getting Started" and then to "Scholarships." Scholarships are available for all age groups.

Campus-based scholarships are comprised of foundation and departmental ones and they change each term, so check

online to see what is available. Students can fill out the application just once at the start of the term, and then reapply for scholarships each term by filling out a supplemental application form, available on the LBCC website. Spring term scholarships are online now. Departmental scholarship applications must be turned into the department not the financial aid office. Some scholarships require an essay. The Writing Desk at the Learning Center can provide assistance with the essay and the application.

Kim Sullivan, LBCC financial

aid advisor, recommends applying for scholarships even if students don't meet the preferred qualifications. If students meet the basic qualifications of the scholarship they are still eligible for selection.

Sullivan said the financial aid office has a scholarship information session each term about one or two weeks prior to the application deadline, and said to watch for posters and announcements near the financial aid office.

"They need to remember that scholarships are free money," Sullivan said.

## John and Phil's give five \$1,000 scholarships

Kelley Farmer  
The Commuter

For students whose pockets are hollow from paying college tuition, they might want to head over to John and Phil's Toyota in Corvallis, which is giving away five \$1,000 scholarships to LBCC students.

Applications will be available through Feb. 29 and the drawing will be on March 3, however where the drawing will take place has not yet been determined. There are no scholarly requirements (such as a high GPA, involvement in extracurricular activities, etc.) that one must meet in order to be eligible, said Victor Eden,

general sales manager at John and Phil's Toyota.

John and Phil's Toyota began giving out scholarships to help LBCC students in 2006 with one \$5,000 scholarship. In 2007 they offered one \$2,500 scholarship and five \$1,000 scholarships.

They have chosen to give away five this year so that more students will get the money they need rather than just one lucky recipient, said Eden.

In the past, representatives from John and Phil's Toyota have been present at LBCC's job fair. They have taught business classes at LBCC and hired people from LBCC's automotive program, said Eden.



Ice, Ice Baby

The courtyard fountain was frosty around the edges Wednesday morning. Early morning chills reached a low of 18 degrees.

photo by Will Parker

## Prevention tips: Stop the spread of Norovirus

Ama Henry  
The Commuter

Gastrointestinal disease is a rapidly spreading illness from the family of Noroviruses, and you could be in danger of catching it in Linn and Benton communities.

Oregon State's University of Housing and Dining Services released a statement last week warning students of the dangers and prevention tactics for Norovirus. University Housing and Dining Services has an obligation to the students due to its ability to spread rapidly in a college environment.

According to the Center for Disease Control, the

symptoms are vomiting, diarrhea, stomach cramping, low-grade fever, chills, headache, and muscle aches. The symptoms last one to two days and are generally not considered dangerous to a healthy person. Norovirus can however be dangerous to the young, elderly, and the already ill.

If you experience these symptoms you should remain at home with no or little contact with other persons during the illness and for 72 hours afterward, officials said. Dean of Health and Human Services for LBCC, Jim Bell, says the most important thing if you get ill is "to drink as much liquid as you can." A much higher risk of Norovirus is severe dehydration, which can lead to a variety of health issues. "If you stay sick for

more than 24 hours call your doctor," Bell also said.

All prevention methods should be taken to avoid getting the illness. According to Bell, simple precautionary measures such as covering your cough and hand washing with alcohol-based soaps are the most effective way to ward off the virus.

LBCC has placed hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes in the North Santiam Hall computer lab and the graphic arts labs. All food prepared by an infected person should be disposed of properly. Be sure to keep all toothbrushes, and drinking glasses away from flushing toilets.

There is currently no antiviral treatment or vaccine against Norovirus.

## Twilight @ LBCC

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# OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter  
commuter@linnbenton.edu (F-)  
Please sign and keep to 300 words or less



## Global warming too local for reader

To the Editor:

I guess you guys are going to repeat the anthropogenic global warming mantra until every last one of us cries "uncle". Then have us weakly submit to whatever truck load of new taxes, fees, regulations and achievement strangling, free-market hobbling measures you all have been dreaming of ever since you were "turned on" to the teachings of Saul Alinsky back in the days when you were in college. Some of who had never really left.

Who am I talking to here? I'm talking to the guys with the ideological remote. The guys who determine what the rest of us get to see. Those of you who feel the day is not done unless you've found somehow, someway to work in the singular socialist political viewpoint into the forefront. The people who feel the academic world is yours, and yours alone, to pass along and reinforce your brand of ideology while acting as though another viewpoint doesn't exist. The guys who think "academic freedom" means freedom from having anyone challenge what you believe in. How nice it must be for you.

So, what do we have here? "Focus The Nation." A global warming "teach-in." A weeklong, multi-level

propaganda-fest that evidently includes its own special musical and a culinary arts presentation. Can't get that at just any sermon, and that's just a sampling of what you get in a political event that spans an entire week.

I'm sorry, did I call it a political event? Did I mention the word propaganda? I must be over exaggerating. The movie narrated by that famous Nobel Prize-winning climate scientist Al Gore will only be shown twice that week and I'm sure Doug Clark, LBCC's own political science and "peace studies" instructor will be happy to present all sides of the scientific discussion on climate change and the value of bristle-cone pines as temperature data proxies because that's his ball of wax, right? Absolutely. That must be why he's involved.

I'm sure glad we got the scientific debate out of the way. Because, I'd hate to feel uncomfortable and embarrassed for those on the faculty who will be expected to work "climate change" into the curriculum as advertised, merely for somebody else's political agenda. I mean, that wouldn't really be right would it?

Harry Mallory  
Medical Assisting

## Iraq veteran opposes ignorance

Dear "Proud Parent,"

For some of you who do not know who I am referring to by saying "Proud Parent," I don't know either. "Proud Parent" is the person responsible for plastering our campus with obscene and unauthorized signs reading, "Proud Parent of a son Smart enough to NOT join the Army and die for Bush's Stupidity and Arrogance!"

First, I am baffled at how this person is representing their pride. Wear a T-shirt, and yell it out loud or at least put your name on these signs; at least then I would respect you a little bit. Instead, you cowardly post signs all over campus, signs that you think are attacking the Bush administration, but instead are attacking the fallen.

This is my second year at LBCC; I have sat in math and science classes that have soon turned to speeches about politics. I have seen the students with their young faces influenced by every word a professor says about the war in Iraq, taking nothing else into consideration. Would I consider these young men and woman smart enough to not join the Army, or too naive make their own objective decisions?

The unfortunate truths about Veterans Day are that people tend to only remember veterans because they were forced to investigate why their mail didn't run, and the fact that this one day a year is spent to honor veterans, whereas the remaining 364 days are set to clobber us, our names, our sacrifice, our existence in this world.

"Proud Parent," I say to you, how smart is your child? Does he make his own decisions? Was he not proud enough for himself, to put his own signs up, or did he have to have his "Proud Parent" do it for him?

I for one am proud too, I am a Proud Veteran of the Iraq War; I am a proud former non-commissioned officer of the United States Army. I am proud of my experiences, I am proud to form my own opinion, I am proud to have known nine courageous men who died for this country, heroes who you pronounce to be stupid. I am proud to tell you my name, Mike Tingue, and I am extremely proud to tear down every one of your dim-witted signs.

Mike Tingue

## PERSPECTIVES

### "What do you think about the new Pussycat strip club?"



"I actually just heard about it today - I don't know?"

• Alisha Chandler •  
Undecided

"I've never been there and I don't intend to go. I don't think."



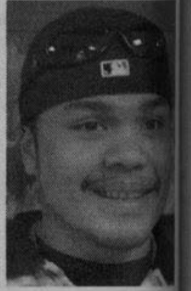
• Jared Gillen •  
Art



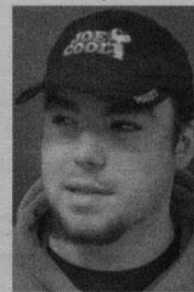
"I didn't know about it?"

• Cassie Thorp •  
Undecided

"It's okay; Albany doesn't have too much to do. I haven't been there."



• Preston Basa •  
Engineering



"I delivered there. It's not a bad place"

• Kyle Watne •  
Psychology

"Oh, it's ridiculous."



• Jamie Martinez •  
Early childhood ed

Compilation and photos by  
Elliot Duke and Monique Cohen

### The Commuter

VISIT THE COMMUTER ONLINE

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www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

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# OPINION

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 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less.

## Mobile phone fun sends mixed messages

Aaron Broich  
 The Commuter

What's the deal with cell phones these days? Some phones are a combination camera/FDA/MP3 player. People are putting all their eggs in one basket, even though they're sunk when the phone falls in the sink—well, some of them dry out after a few days at least.

Now how many people do you know carry a master list of their phone numbers in writing? This practice is fast going the way of the dodo bird. When the mobile phone breaks, lots of people don't have a master list at all, and have to call up all their friends to re-collect the phone numbers they once had.

People are taking all these shortcuts in a reasonable attempt to simplify their lives—to streamline, if you will. Who needs a written list of phone numbers when they're all neatly collected in alphabetical order on their cell phone? Why memorize numbers when there is speed dial? Why stop during your day to make a call, when you can use a cell phone to talk to people as you go? These supposed simplifications have startling consequences.

Even though scientific evidence shows that driving while under the influence of a cell phone call is nearly as bad as driving drunk, people don't seem to care. It's convenient to take care of business on the run,

even though they are risking the lives of others. How many people are concerned about talking to a friend who's out driving on the highway? It's easy to be accomplice to road distractions while sitting at home. One of the only cases where this is actually safer is when a driver is on the verge of falling asleep and is made more alert by a friendly conversation.

Many people have lost contact with friends due to damaged cell phones containing contact information. This would have been nearly unheard of 10 years ago! Always being on the go, and being in constant communication has taken away from a lot of the introspective moments that we would otherwise be experiencing—time that has historically been important to overall wellbeing.

And then there's text messaging, what the Japanese call skymail (Keitai). For the uninitiated, this mysterious practice is somewhat counterintuitive. Why would anyone spend time exchanging brief messages back and forth, when they could have an ordinary conversation at a fraction of the time?

Although for many years I've been skeptical of cell phones, I finally got one about a month ago, having canceled my last plan about four years ago. Now I understand text messaging. Messages are concise, thoughtful, and extremely intentional.

When you receive one it's totally unobtrusive. While even phone calls from close friends can be a little burdensome from time to time, text messages are exciting! Text messaging is really informal, although some people think it strange when one party ends up calling after a high-volume text exchange is already underway.

Many teachers are annoyed when their students pass notes during class, and text messages are no exception to the rule. Although they are exciting for those who know and love them, text messages are commonly misunderstood. Many people feel that it is rude when one of their friends checks a message while they're talking or hanging out. To text back is even more risky. It's good for friends to reach a common understanding beforehand. Also, many people carelessly send texts to some friends who don't have phone plans that include text messaging. In other words, if you don't have a text messaging plan, every time you receive a text message, whether you wanted it or not, it's going to cost you. It's polite to find out if it's costing your friends for you to send a message to



them.

One of the most amazing things that I've experienced in the skymail community is the seemingly un-coincidentally timing of well-placed text messages. Even for people who don't believe in the supernatural, they are experiencing the phenomena of "intuitively" timed messages. One friend will be all stressed out about something completely unbeknownst to anybody else, and then suddenly their friend writes them to encourage them about that very thing at the same time! I've actually seen people enact

this down to the very second against all odds. In the case of one friend I know, he does this just about every day. The Spirit of Truth gently informs his heart, leading him to text a specific person about a specific thing at a specific time. What faith communities have been experiencing for years in prayer, is now also being experienced by secular communities more frequently through skymail! For some, they will attribute this to coincidence, but others have experienced the all too real reality of supernatural timing.

APPLY NOW

## LBCC SCHOLARSHIPS!



Scholarships Available for Winter Term Application!

Scholarship criteria & application online at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/scholarships](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/scholarships)

### Application Deadline February 1, 2008:

- AAWCC Scholarship • Caterpillar Foundation Scholarship • Collision Repair Advisory Scholarship • Corvallis Morning Rotary - Vocational Scholarship • Craig Conner Memorial Heavy Equipment/Diesel Scholarship • Doyle and Lois Marchbanks Memorial Scholarship Endowment • Due Knots Quilting Scholarship • Enduring A's Fords of 1928-31 Grant • George and Edna McDowell Memorial Scholarship • Georgia-Pacific Halsey Mill Scholarship Endowment • Glenda Sasser Tepper Scholarship • Greg Paulson Turf Management Scholarship • Hilda M. Jones business/Communications Scholarship Endowment • James F. Burnett Sr. Memorial Scholarship Endowment • John & Betty Gray Early Childhood Scholarship • Linn County Vietnam Veterans Memorial Scholarship Endowment • Marsden Chisholm Willingham Memorial Scholarship Endowment • Michael F. Klopping Memorial Scholarship • Paulson Arboriculture Scholarship • PFLAG Supporting Diversity Scholarship • Robert Dean Jones Agricultural and Mechanical/Welding Scholarship Endowment • Rod and Marty Tripp Scholarship Endowment • Susan K. Liljeberg Scholarship Endowment • Tech Scholar Program Scholarship

### John and Phil's Toyota LBCC Scholarship

Five \$1,000 scholarships • Must be eligible to enroll at LBCC, one entry form per person • No purchase necessary • Scholarship will be paid directly to LBCC for student's tuition/fees and books. **Entries will be accepted at John and Phil's Toyota at 800 NW Fifth Street in Corvallis from January 1 to February 29, 2008.** Drawings will be held in March 2008.



LBCC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

## Commons

JANUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> - JANUARY 29<sup>TH</sup>

- Wednesday:**  
 ENTREES: Chicken Fried Steak w/ Country Gravy and Chicken Massaman Curry & Steamed Rice  
 VEGETARIAN: Lasagna Florentine w/ Marinara  
 SIDES: Mashed Potatoes and Barley Pilaf  
 SOUPS: Tortilla and Navy Bean
- Thursday:**  
 ENTREES: BBQ Shredded Pork Sandwich (Death Row BBQ Sauce) and Grilled Chicken w/ Pear and Mango Chutney  
 VEGETARIAN: Spicy Lemongrass and Tofu Rice Bowl  
 SIDES: Steak Fries and Rice Pilaf  
 SOUPS: Beef Barley and Corn Chowder
- Friday:**  
 CHEF'S CHOICE
- Monday:**  
 ENTREES: Swiss Steak and Sweet & Sour Tempura Chicken w/ Steamed Rice  
 VEGETARIAN: Meatless Eggs Benedict  
 SIDES: Mashed Potatoes and Buttered Egg Noodles  
 SOUPS: Creamy Chicken and Mushroom Minestrone
- Tuesday:**  
 ENTREES: Roast Turkey w/ Dressing & Pan Gravy and Poached Salmon over Mushroom Rice Pilaf w/ Bernaise  
 VEGETARIAN: Thai Vegetable Green Curry w/ Steamed Rice  
 SIDES: Roasted Winter Squash and Scalloped Potatoes  
 SOUPS: Shrimp/ Seafood Chowder and Tomato Basil

*Resolve to take your writing to the next level!*

*From invention to revision, drop by and get started today.*

LBCC Writing Center  
 SSH108

Mon, Wed, Fri 10am - 3pm  
 Tues, Thurs 10am - 2:30pm  
[lbcc.writingcenteronline.net](http://lbcc.writingcenteronline.net)

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# CAMPUS NEWS

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

## Campus Shorts

### LBCC Benton Center Acoustic Showcase Hosts The Kindreds

The LBCC Benton Center Acoustic Showcase is hosting the Willamette Valley band The Kindreds on Friday, Jan. 25 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Benton Center student lounge.

Founded in 2002, the band's music is rooted in Americana music with acoustic country-flavored folk and a dash of bluegrass. The Kindreds' musical influences run the gamut from Johnny Cash, Doc Watson, Jimmy Driftwood, James Taylor and beyond.

The band consists of local valley artists Steve Martin on guitar and vocals, Rob Pugliese on mandolin and vocals, Laura South on vocals and Rainier Farmer on standup bass.

The Benton Center Acoustic Showcase is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the LBCC Benton Center at (541) 757-8944.

### LBCC 31st Annual Family Fun Raiser

The 31st annual Family Fun Raiser at LBCC will be held on Saturday, Feb. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Activities Center gym on the main campus.

Children ages 1 to 6 will enjoy

activities provided by LBCC parenting classes, such as play dough, an obstacle course, seed planting, basketball, face painting, clean mud and much more. Activities for parents include the used toy and book sale and silent auction.

Everyone is invited to attend this inexpensive, fun-filled event. Activity tickets are 25 cents each. All proceeds from this event go to support parenting programs and to provide tuition grants for some of the nearly 2,000 parents in Linn and Benton counties who are involved in LBCC parenting education each year.

For more information, contact LBCC Family Resources and Education at (541) 917-4897.

### Math Awareness Week

The annual Math Awareness Week T-shirt design contest is here. LBCC students, staff and faculty members are invited to submit designs for the MAW T-shirt.

This year's theme is "Math in Motion." Designs must include "Math Awareness Week," LBCC or LBC<sup>2</sup>, a design appropriate to the theme, and the year 2008.

Designs are limited to 8.5 inches by 11 inches and three

colors (including grey tones). Prize is \$50 and two free T-shirts. Deadline for submissions is March 4 at 4 p.m. Submit an electronic image to Andrea.Bell@linnbenton.edu; images on diskette or CD may be turned in to the Learning Center desk. An entry form (available at the Learning Center, IA 231) must be signed and turned in with the design.

### Student Survey

LBCC's Institutional Research Department has put together a survey designed to give them information about how students feel about facilities on campus. Facility management is responsible for things like space planning, grounds, heating and cooling, maintenance, custodial services, and other operations of the physical plant. The survey should take no more than five or 10 minutes to complete. It will provide valuable information about student perception and needs. It can show the department where to focus efforts; for example, on parking, availability of public transportation, grounds or landscaping, space concerns, or safety concerns. There is space on the survey for students to write comments about specific concerns, or posi-

tive aspects.

This is an online survey, and will be available from Jan. 23 through Feb. 15. During that time any student can go to the address provided and fill out the survey. The surveys are anonymous, and results are reported only in aggregate, for use in improving campus facilities. This survey is given every three years. The last time it was given was in 2005.

To complete the survey, go to: [www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB2275SHJQHRL](http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB2275SHJQHRL).

### LBCC Offers Two Summer Study Abroad Programs

LBCC's Student Life & Leadership office is offering two study abroad programs open to community members and LBCC students.

Participants can choose to study Spanish in Guanajuato, Mexico, July 13 to 27 or study Spanish and field biology in Costa Rica June 28 to July 29. Both programs are offered in partnership between LBCC and the Oregon International Education Consortium.

An informational meeting for those interested in either study abroad program will be held on Thursday, Jan. 24 from noon to 1 p.m. in the LBCC SL&L office.

Study Spanish in Guanajuato is an intensive two-week session. Participants will study and study with others from over Oregon and can earn credits in Spanish 101, 102, 201, 202, or 203. Program cost is \$1,950 (\$2,000 for private room), which includes airfare, language school fees, room and board with a Mexican family and learning materials. LBCC tuition for four credits is additional. Application deadline is March 13.

Spanish and Field Biology in Costa Rica is a two-week session where participants study Spanish in Alajuela, Costa Rica, and earn four credits of college Spanish. Participants will spend two weeks in four ecosystems on the Pacific Coast, the wetlands, the lowland tropical rainforest and the cloud forest where they will study at field stations with ecology and wildlife research supported by an experienced Oregon biologist, earning other four credits in field biology. Program cost is \$3,200 and includes airfare, lodging, most meals, bus transport, and entrance fees. LBCC tuition for eight credits is additional. Application deadline is Feb. 28.

For more information, contact Tammi Paul at (541) 917-4451.

## Climate change : Focus the Nation at LBCC

Monique Cohen  
 The Commuter

LBCC and the Corvallis Environmental Center are co-sponsoring Focus the Nation on Jan. 28 - Feb. 1 to raise awareness about climate change.

Lewis and Clark College economics professor Eban Goodstein is the Focus the Nation project director. Goodstein's

vision is to educate students about global warming while also engaging local and national government officials.

Many activities are planned on the LBCC campus including movies, performances, and talks by faculty, students and members of the community. The national event culminates on Jan. 31, when LBCC joins colleges, universities, high schools, and middle schools for a nation-wide

teach-in.

LBCC instructors are very involved in the project. One of the events is a talk about "Biofuels in Oregon" by horticulture instructor Stefan Seiter. Culinary arts instructors John Jarschke and Scottie Hurley will have a "Local and Regional Foods" presentation.

Artwork from students of Analee Fuentes will be on display in The Com-

mons.

"The ultimate goal, locally and nationally is to raise consciousness about the importance of making decisions now to stabilize the climate and invest in renewable energy," said Sherry Rosen, CWI Service-Learning coordinator at LBCC.

For more information: [www.focusnation.org](http://www.focusnation.org).

### Focus the Nation

#### List of the week's events:

#### MONDAY, JAN. 28:

10 a.m. and 11 a.m., Forum F-104, movie: "The Power of Community" (53 minutes).

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Greenhouse, Horticulture Club: **Composting** to reduce waste and close the food cycle.

Noon to 12:50 p.m., Greenhouse, Maureen Beezhold, Northwest Earth Institute "Bottled Water: To Use or Not to Use?"

Noon, 1, 2 and 3 p.m., Forum F-104, movie: "The Power of Community" (53 minutes).

#### TUESDAY, JAN. 29:

10 a.m. and 11 a.m., F-104, movie: "The Power of Community" (53 minutes).

Noon to 12:20 p.m., F-104, **Special Musical Performance**, LBCC Chamber Choir & LBCC faculty members Susan Peck, Audrey Perkins, Mark Weiss and James Wilson.

12:20 to 12:30 p.m., F-104, Diana Wheat, LBCC biology instructor, "Climate Change & Preserving Biodiversity."

12:30 to 1:15 p.m., F-104, Michael Unsworth, OSU Professor of Atmospheric & Oceanic Science, "Climate

Change Causes & Effects 101" with Q & A to follow. 2, 3 & 4 p.m., F-104, movie: "Kilowatt Ours" (38 minutes).

#### WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30:

11:30 a.m. to Noon, F-104, **Corvallis Sustainability Coalition Energy Community**: A Partnership with the Energy Trust of Oregon for Incentives for Renewable Energy.

Noon, 1, 2 and 3 p.m., F-104, movie "Kilowatt Ours" (38 minutes).

12:40 to 12:55 p.m., F-104, John Kenneke, **Pacific Power Company Blue Sky program**.

#### THURSDAY, JAN. 31:

10:15 to 11:55 a.m., F-104, movie: "An Inconvenient Truth" (100 minutes).

11:30 to Noon, Multicultural Center, Maureen Beezhold, Northwest Earth Institute Information on the upcoming LBCC course, "Global Warming & Changing CO<sub>2</sub>URSE: Strategies & Actions."

Noon to 12:30 p.m., F-104, Stefan Seiter, LBCC horticulture instructor, "Biofuels in Oregon."

12:30 to 12:40 p.m., F-104, Scottie Hurley & John Jarschke, LBCC culinary arts, "Local & Regional Foods."

12:40 to 12:55 p.m., F-104, Doug Clark, LBCC political

science instructor, "The Politics of Responding to Global Warming."

1 and 3 p.m., F-104, movie: "An Inconvenient Truth" (100 minutes).

3 to 11 p.m., **University of Portland, free bus ride** an event for pre-registered students only. Meet at 3 p.m. at OSU; return at 11 p.m.

#### THROUGHOUT THE WEEK: EXHIBITS & DISPLAYS (LOCATIONS TBA):

**Art Exhibits:** Students of LBCC art instructor Analee Fuentes, in the Commons.

**Information Tables:** Solar Energy, Allied Waste, Blue Sky, First Alternative Co-op, energy-saving tips.

**Improv Guerilla Theater:** Students of LBCC Theater Director Brian Newberg.

**Sign-ups for ongoing activities:** recycling, composting, Northwest Earth Institute classes, etc.

**LBCC Library:** Display of books and other resources about climate change.

**Climate Change:** YouTube clips by Greg Cravin in Takena Hall.

Faculty will be incorporating climate change into curriculum.

Presentation meal with local and regional foods in the Commons.

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# CAMPUS NEWS

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

## Resources available for single parents on campus

Carolyn Quibrera  
 The Commuter

Parenting along with a spouse can be difficult; parenting alone can sometimes feel near impossible. While college students juggle paper work and deadlines, single parents who attend college do that in addition to raising their children.

How can single parents attending college get connected and where can they locate assistance? Family Connections is located on Albany's LBCC campus. Family Connections is a helpful area of expertise when it comes to family. They assist students who are encountering all different challenges.

Louise Hamilton, a parent consultant at Family Connections, called Family Connections "a one

stop shop." She provides assistance to all students, single or not. The service is free to LBCC students. It can be a relief to students because it has connections within the Albany and Corvallis areas. It can help students locate daycare providers, and it offers parenting classes, "We specialize in anything that has to do with children and families," Hamilton said.

Single parents can also take advantage of the Turning Point program directed by Joanne Apter, located in the Luckimute Center, also at the Albany campus. Turning Point offers a wide range of assistance to single parents.

The Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) is another resource. Students may already be aware of this option, but many people don't know about it. It's an organization that offers

grants and student scholarships to qualifying students. Its Web site is [www.getcollegefunds.org](http://www.getcollegefunds.org). On this site there is access to almost every scholarship imaginable.

For example, Shanna Elliott of Eugene, a graduate of Pacific University, was awarded a Ford Opportunity Scholarship. Elliott is a single mother of two children. The Ford Opportunity Scholarship is offered to single parents, in addition to married couples, depending on their need. The foundation requires an essay and ultimately interview every applying candidate. When asked what her experience was like, Elliott said, "It was awesome, I got a full ride, they paid for everything, and helped with my child care costs." She also noted that "working for the Ford Scholarship was worth it."

## LB offers spin on spring break

LBCC News Service

Student Life & Leadership in partnership with the Habitat Club is offering students an Alternative Spring Break Experience, March 23-30. Selected students will travel to Louisiana and help Habitat for Humanity build homes for people in need by participating in Habitat's Collegiate Challenge. The trip will be paid for by participants, Student Life & Leadership, the Habitat Club and Habitat for Humanity.

Collegiate Challenge is Habitat for Humanity's year-round alternative break program that provides opportunities for students from youth groups, high schools and colleges to spend a week of their school break building a house in partnership with a Habitat for Humanity affiliate in the U.S.

The Collegiate Challenge trip offers students the chance to improve carpentry skills, connect

with new people in a new place and make a real difference in Habitat for Humanity's work of eliminating substandard housing.

Students will explore the important social issue of affordable housing and will extrapolate this issue into local, national and global context; learn and/or expand essential leadership skills including planning, presentation, critical thinking, ability to work with diverse groups, and group decision-making utilizing a consensus model; and expand their knowledge base in the field of leadership by exploring the theme of servant leadership in the context of civic engagement.

To apply, students must complete an application, and turn it in along with a letter of recommendation and winter term schedule of classes to Student Life & Leadership by Friday. Selected students must pay the \$400 fee by Feb. 8.



## New e-zine seeks submissions

Cody Cooper  
 The Commuter

Student creativity is being sought in this year's e-zine, "Creative Highway," a student and staff run electronic art magazine that will be published later this year, filled exclusively with students submissions. Submission categories include poetry, prose, video, music and photography.

As for the selection of material to be published, "It's a completely collaborative process," said instructor Natalie Daley.

Students from the graphic design program put together the e-zine and review the submissions.

"Every submission is reviewed by everyone. This gives them the experience of reviewing lots of material," said Daley.

Last year's edition of the e-zine, named "Muses' Handprints," showcased the many talents of students on campus.

The e-zine is scheduled for release in late May.

The deadline for written submissions is Jan. 27, but the e-zine is still accepting media submissions (video, photos, etc.) throughout the next couple weeks.

For more information, including submission guidelines, go to [www.linnbenton.edu/e-zine](http://www.linnbenton.edu/e-zine).

*Time's Running Out!*

---

**Creative Highway**

LBCC'S 2008-2009 e-zine  
wants your great work!

Send your original:

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- Art
- Photography
- Music
- Films

To:

[ezine@linnbenton.edu](mailto:ezine@linnbenton.edu)

Follow the easy directions at the website.

**January 27th is the deadline!**

Questions?  
 Natalie Daley  
[daleyn@linnbenton.edu](mailto:daley@linnbenton.edu)  
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## Cloverfield: Dude, where's the Dramamine?

Aaron Broich  
 The Commuter

"Cloverfield" consists of a dizzying array of shaky hand-held camerawork that follows terrified twenty-somethings as they run a horrific gauntlet through Manhattan amidst an attack by a giant arthropod beast and its insectoid underlings.

The film begins with an early morning love encounter filmed by the hand-held camera of Rob (Michael Stahl-David). He's just gotten together with his long time friend Beth (Odette Yustman), but then the film skips ahead a month to a going away party for Rob as he prepares to leave for Japan. They had a fall-out some time during the month, so the new footage is being taped over the 'perfect day' that Beth and Rob once shared. These nostalgic interludes are triggered throughout the movie as the camera is bashed from all sides.

The going away party, as well as most of the movie, is set up to look as though it were being filmed by Rob's best friend, Hud (T. J. Miller) who ogles over the laconic Marlena (Lizzy Caplan) with Rob's hand-held camera in an attempt to force a farewell message for Rob, whom she barely knows. The party sets the stage for the main characters, which also include Rob's brother Jason and Jason's girlfriend Lily (Jessica Lucas). Although the acting is top-notch, and the characters seem realistic, this whole sequence quickly bores. Hud pressures Lily to reveal what happened between Rob and Beth, and spreads the fresh gossip to the others like an airborne virus.

Beth goes home early, leaving Rob feeling heart-wrenched for letting her go (Oh, he's still in love), and then the beast at-

tacks! The building is shaken. Terrorism intimations flood the news, and the fearsome fivesome bust out onto the streets, scrambling for their lives. A nearby skyscraper is suddenly felled, sending dust and debris spilling into the streets.

The hand-held video camera captures only brief tantalizing images of the giant beast. Some TV news images show army men battling dog-sized insectoids that surge around them like rabid kangaroos.

"Cloverfield" is like a classic alien horror movie meets your

*"Cloverfield" is better than average, and relies on one man's soulful quest to save the girl that he loves, to direct the story."*

cheesy reality TV romance. It's a fitting feat of creativity for J.J. Abrams ("Lost") and Director Matt Reeves ("The Pallbearer" and Abrams' "Felicity"). However, even though writer Drew Goddard ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer") achieves believable ster attack, the dialogue falls flat in several scenes. Thankfully, there are a few brief moments of comedy relief—Hud's crush debacle—and he can't help but speculate about the possible origins of the beast.

The camerawork captures the gritty interplay between the bewildered characters, while cleverly playing off of cinematic tricks to give the audience a fuller scope of varying events, for example, the shots of the news broadcasts and the intermittent glimpses of the video footage being taped over. At times, however, scenes are a little too jumbled. The raw footage becomes confusing as our heroes stumble through the dark on their way to save Beth from a teetering skyscraper. There could have been more shots with reflective surfaces giving audiences fuller views.

The script avoids any deep

dialogue to probe beneath the surface of the characters, but instead, relies on fight or flight responses to flesh them out. When nearly everyone else is clamoring to flee the city, Rob is dashing through an electronics store, feverishly hunting down a cell phone battery so that he can contact his sweet one. The others are baffled by his crazed behavior, but the audience will probably recognize the classic symptoms of being in love. It's an archetypal moment—a raw depiction of the human condition.

Avoiding deep dialogue may have been a safe approach that is perhaps more palatable to general audiences, but a few scenes depicting a more intimate take on the characters would have done well to enhance the overarching blandness of the dialogue. Even so, "Cloverfield" is better than average, and relies on one man's soulful quest to save the girl that he loves, to direct the story. Meaningful dialogue wouldn't be fitting for many of the scenes, but then again, this is dependent on the director's choice of style, which doesn't lend itself to deep stuff the way the film plays out.

"Cloverfield" has its notable comparisons ("Blair Witch Project", "Godzilla", and "Alien") but it is definitely unique in its own right. It's better to view the movie in light of its fresh approach than to claim that it simply combined the original visions of past notables.

"Cloverfield" has jostling camerawork that may agitate some viewers, and though some scenes are overly cryptic, both of these are worth tolerating to experience the hands-on feel of the film, if you like horror movies. The film is a unique addition to the horror genre, but may have little appeal for those who have no interest in horror flicks.



Michael Stahl-David, left, as Rob, and Jessica Lucas, as Lily, try to escape a deadly parasitic creature that is chasing them in Paramount Pictures' "Cloverfield."

## 'American Gladiator' a throwdown hit on NBC

Lief VanAtta  
 The Commuter

The people have spoken, and they like muscles and spandex.

NBC's remake of "American Gladiators" burst through the ratings during its Jan. 6 premiere. The New York Times reports that the show scored the highest ratings among the 18-to-49-year-old demographic among the new shows this season on any network.

The show's online blog reports that an average of 10.9 million viewers tuned in, and it was the No. 1 non-sports TV program of the night. These ratings matched NBC's debut of "Heroes" in Sept. 2006, according to Nielson reports.

The new "American Gladiators" ratings were so promising that NBC has ordered a second season, according to the Hollywood Reporter. NBC reality executive Craig Plestis told the Reporter, "American Gladiators" has delivered everything we were hoping for and has come out of the gate as a top contender." It is unspecified how many episodes the second season would feature or when it would premiere.

In the wake of the show's breakout success, MGM, the show's co-producer, is beginning to expand the show onto different platforms, such as a Web site dedicated to the original series, a national tour, and an animated series.

"The new series and multimedia promotional campaign fulfills my dream and vision for 'American Gladiators,'" John Ferraro, executive producer and creator of the original series, told the Reporter.

MGM TV co-president Jim Parker added, "American Gladiators" is another example of how MGM franchises can be revitalized for today's audiences."

The original "American Gladiators" aired from 1989 to 1995. The show pits average people against physically impressive "Gladiators" in a "David Goliath"-style competition. The remake contains many of the same elements as the original series, but boasts re-imagined events and the inclusion of a few new ones, as well as updated themes.

It is hosted by Hulk Hogan and Laila Ali, and airs Mondays at 8 p.m. on NBC.

## Heigl shimmers in "27 Dresses"

Will Parker  
 The Commuter

Opening nationally Friday, "27 Dresses" is the newest romantic comedy starring Katherine Heigl ("Knocked Up," "Grey's Anatomy") cast as the always-a-bridesmaid never-a-bride. The supporting cast works well enough, the romantic interest is believable and overall I think the premise works well. And there are no unbelievable plot devices. In fact, the most dramatic, over-the-top scene occurs at the end and involves jumping onto a boat from a pier. "Die Hard," it's not.

Critically however, this movie has generally received bad reviews. And the reason for that, I

think, is that for most reviews it's black-and-white. Either the movie is good, really good, or it's not. There never seems to be any room in reviews for "pleasant." Maybe it's not a great word for advertisers, but that's what this movie is.

"27 Dresses" is the natural byproduct of a 20-something America that grew up on "Friends" and "Cheers" reruns. And it fits the sort of romantic script we've come to expect. Is it the most hard-hitting, sidesplitting, laugh a second romp through crazy insane romantic situations? No.

However, at the end of the day, it's a nice friendly movie that's got genuine laughs and doesn't seem to run too long, even if you know the ending is going to be happy.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## 'American Idol' is the epitome of all evil

Aaron Sagers  
Merge of The Morning Call (Allentown, Pa.) (MCT)

If idle hands are the devil's workshop, then I'm pretty certain "American Idol" is the devil's whole dang Home Depot.

As I'm writing this, the reality show's seventh season premiered not 24 hours ago, and I'm already on a rageaholic bender. Few other entries in pop culture cause my intestines to coil around a little nauseous ball of hatred quite like the aspiring-pop star show. In fact, the word "evil" is thrown around a lot, but according to the good folks at Merriam Webster, it's meant to describe something "morally reprehensible" that causes harm.

Yup, it completely applies to "American Idol."

Now, I must acknowledge that I am in the minority here. Even though it was the lowest-rated "Idol" premiere since 2004, the show still drew an estimated 33.2 million viewers on the first night of the show. Clearly people are watching, but I cannot. It is not because I'm too cool (my coolant levels are at acceptable levels, thank you) or because I'm just a contrarian columnist that wants to stomp on something popular. I'm a blockbuster-and-popcorn kind of guy, and "Idol" is good theater.

The opportunity to see a hodgepodge of personalities (a veritable musical cast of "The Real World" that includes rich kids, country bumpkins, gals next door, rebel rockers and hard-luck cases) with various talent levels, competing, bonding, receiving validation and criticism from judges and the public—all for the chance to be famous—is compelling.

OK, so as The Boston Globe reported last week, most of the "Idol" winners and frontrunners don't really achieve lasting fame. Winners Ruben Studdard and Taylor Hicks were recently dropped from their record labels and Kelly Clarkson's latest album flopped.

Still, "Idol" is like a sporting event with a lot more makeup and mousse involved (if you don't count drag queen wrestling as a sporting event, that is). But a competition needs losers, right? And it's the audition process where losers are put on parade that makes my inner Hulk want to smash.

Even as producers are sending through more sob-

story contestants in the first handful of audition episodes, with Simon Cowell & Co. seemingly doling out more hugs than golden tickets, the practice of crafting a gonzo oddball each episode is nothing short of villainous.

Which brings me to Alexis Cohen. As you've no doubt seen (thanks to YouTube), Cohen is the glitter-faced 24-year-old contestant from Allentown, Pa., who was rejected by the judges and subsequently launched into a sometimes-incomprehensible rant that lasted around seven minutes.

Admittedly, Cohen did come off as a bit gonzo in her audition and following tirade. And any casual "Idol" viewer would accurately observe that the judges weren't even that caustic with her. Plus, you might rightly argue that "American Idol" and its other voting-off-the-island reality-TV ilk is nothing new, and she should have been aware of the risk involved with appearing on the show.

I agree to an extent, but even with a healthy skepticism gained from regular reality-TV viewing, what is a potential contestant to think when a show's producers approach them with an offer of a spotlight? As reported in Allentown's Morning Call newspaper last week by reporter Wendy Solomon, that's what Cohen's mother, Mindy Cohen, said happened. Culled from the 17,000 aspiring contestants in Philadelphia, Cohen was one of 300 people selected to perform for the celebrity judges after her initial audition for the show's screeners. If that wasn't enough to make a gal feel special, a camera crew traveled more than an hour away to film footage of the studio home Cohen shared with her mom before she ever returned to Philly to channel Grace Slick and Janis Joplin for Simon, Randy and Paula.

No doubt the producers warned Cohen that the footage could be edited any way they chose, and that there were no guarantees of making it to the next round in Hollywood, dawg. But while Cohen's breakdown was bizarre, and according to her mother it was egged on by the producers with leading questions, it was also



caption caption caption caption caption caption caption caption caption caption caption caption

understandable to a point.

I'm not a Mrs. Lovejoy, "think of the children" reactionary type. For better or worse, we live in a "fame for fame's sake"-obsessed culture. Whether it was exploitation or not, "American Idol" got their use out of Alexis Cohen. They needed some color to fill in the two-hour auditions and they got it in a big, glittery way—but she's gotten her 15 minutes. A lot of ink has already been spent on her, and Alexis has made the rounds on the talk shows, received a makeover on "Extra" and she might even be able to turn her "freak of the week" status into some much-needed cash.

That still doesn't make it right. Even once the show moves beyond the audition process, pretties up the finalists and focuses, barely, on musicianship and craft, it's still guilty of launching each season with a lot of ugliness.

The show begins with quite the manipulative, devilish ploy to capitalize on a person's low self esteem, inflate it momentarily and then yank it away—and I can't help but feel it diminishes each of those 33.2 million viewers when we tune in to worship such a false "Idol."

## Oscars move through strike

Bruce Newman  
San Jose Mercury News (MCT)

Like one of those NASA probes sending a signal into deep space, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences beamed its list of Oscar nominees into the blackness of Tuesday morning with no assurance a reply will ever come from the stars.

During Hollywood's annual sunrise serenade of itself, "No Country For Old Men" and "There Will Be Blood" each picked up eight nominations to lead a field almost evenly divided between those two and "Atonement" and "Michael Clayton" with seven apiece. That means that in a year in which no clear frontrunner for Oscars supremacy had previously emerged, none did Tuesday either.

"No Country," an adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's fierce novel about the truth and consequences of crime by the Coen brothers, received nominations for best picture, supporting actor (Javier Bardem), for the writing and direction of Joel and Ethan Coen, as well as several technical awards.

"There Will Be Blood" had a

slightly gaudier haul, earning nominations for best picture, actor (Daniel Day-Lewis) and for Paul Thomas Anderson's direction and adapted screenplay of the Sinclair Lewis novel "Oil!" That is nominally what the film is about, although, like "No Country," it's really a story of avarice, greed and sin without redemption—all subjects Hollywood knows something about.

The nominees for best picture are "Atonement," "Juno," "Michael Clayton," "No Country For Old Men" and "There Will Be Blood."

With the Hollywood writers strike against the studios now entering its third month, and the 80th Academy Awards just 33 days away, there remains a very real chance that no stars will ever come twirling up the red carpet to claim their gold statues. The Oscar ceremony is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. EST on Feb. 24. If it happens.

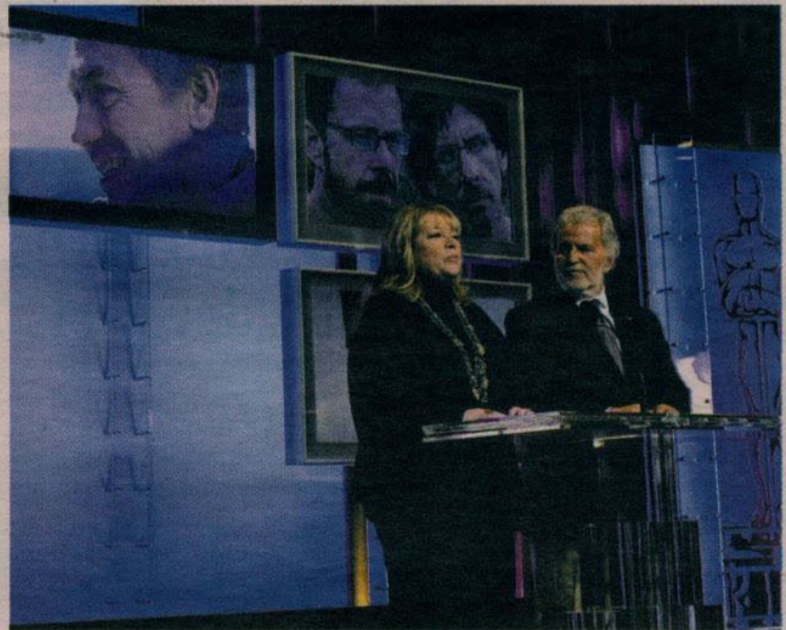
If it doesn't, if the awards end up being mailed out following a press conference, which is what happened to the Golden Globes, it will reveal an uncomfortable truth about the Oscars: That without the glamour of the stars in their Vera Wang gowns and Valentino tuxes, the awards

themselves might as well not exist. Hollywood's biggest event has become a reality TV show.

But for the time being, there is hope. And where there's hope, there is Oscar campaigning, which means a very real chance of sin without redemption.

"Michael Clayton" did a little better than anticipated, adding to the expected nominations for best picture and for George Clooney as best actor, along with Tony Gilroy's surprise nod in the directors race. Gilroy also got a nomination for best original screenplay. Tom Wilkinson was among the supporting actor nominees for his electric performance as a lawyer losing his mind.

It was a good year for that. Julie Christie cemented her frontrunner status in the best actress race, picking up a nomination for her performance as a woman losing her mind to Alzheimers disease in "Away From Her." There was one mild surprise in that category (Laura Linney of "The Savages") and another very big one: Cate Blanchett received a best actress nomination for "Elizabeth: The Golden Age," a movie very few people saw, or liked, and Angelina Jolie was not nominated for her role in "A



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Mighty Heart," another movie very few people saw, although at least some of them liked it.

Academy voters, who can never quite get enough of Blanchett, gave us more than our fill of her this year, also nominating her for her wonderfully funky imitation of Bob Dylan in "I'm Not There." Her main competition in that category will come from Amy Ryan, who plays a mother behaving badly in "Gone Baby Gone," and Ruby Dee, who plays a mother behaving sadly in "American Gangster." Dee is only onscreen for the blink of an eye, but she gets to slap Denzel

Washington, which is one of those things that tends to get people's attention.

Another supporting actress contender is Saoirse Ronin, the young Irish actress who steals "Atonement"; she also stole the only acting nomination for that picture, leaving leads Keira Knightley and James McAvoy ditched in a sad embrace. Other snubs considered memorable—if only to the people who received them—were the absence of any major award love for "Into the Wild," and only Johnny Depp's nomination as best actor for "Sweeney Todd."

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# LOCAL NEWS

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

## Upromise announces video contest, scholarships

News Release

NEWTON, Mass.—(BUSINESS WIRE)—Upromise Inc. announces two new ways it is helping make a college education more affordable for American families. Launching today, the Upromise Scholarship will provide \$250,000 in financial assistance to eligible students seeking aid for their higher education. In addition to the scholarship, which is based on merit and need, Upromise has created Tuition Tales, an online video contest, which will award the most compelling entry—an explanation of why the applicant or someone they know needs help financing college—with \$25,000. Both programs extend Upromise's goal of making higher education more attainable to families across the country.

"Lack of adequate financial preparation for college is an epidemic in this country and Upromise is a beneficial service that gives families an easy way to jumpstart their savings," says Kevin McKinley, author of "Make Your Kid a Millionaire: 11 Easy Ways Anyone Can Secure a Child's Financial Future" and a Tuition Tales judge. "Both opportunities will help deserving students, providing them with the peace of mind of knowing a portion of their college tuition costs will be secured."

The Upromise Scholarship was created with lead sponsor Bed Bath &

Beyond and support from Canon eStore, MasterCard, Rewards Network and 1-800-FLOWERS.COM. The now annual \$250,000 scholarship program will provide \$2,500 grants for the 2008-09 academic year to up to 100 eligible students in need, and help hard-working,

deserving students and their families earn funds toward college expenses.

The Upromise Tuition Tales contest gives Upromise members an opportunity to tell their unique story for a chance to win \$25,000 toward college costs or students loans. To enter, contest participants will submit a short video clip (30 seconds or less) online through Upromise.com. Whether it's a grandmother explaining how her 3-year-old granddaughter could one day become president or a high school senior rapping about his dream to attend the school of his choice—Upromise wants to see it. The more creative, entertaining, and deserving, the better! At the conclusion of the submission process, a panel of judges will select 10 finalists and America will vote online for the winner. All 10 finalists will receive a \$500 Bed Bath & Beyond gift card and one grand prize winner will walk away with \$25,000 for college expenses.

"This is the time of year when current and future college students are filing for aid, setting budgets and facing the challenge of paying the coming year's tuition," says David Rochon, president, Upromise. "Recognizing the barriers people face, we're thrilled to launch these programs and help Upromise members get even closer to achieving their goal of higher education."

Details on Upromise Scholarship:

Upromise is accepting applications at [www.Upromise.com/scholarship](http://www.Upromise.com/scholarship).

Online application must be completed and all support materials postmarked by Feb. 25, 2008

Applicants must:

Be a Upromise member or child of a Upromise member (joining is free at Upromise.com)

Have a household income of \$65,000 or less

Have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or the equivalent)

Be a high school senior or graduate who plans to enroll during the 2008-09 academic year, or a student already enrolled in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two-year or four-year college or university or vocational-technical school

Be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident

In addition to required online application, students must provide supplemental materials including:

Complete transcript(s) from high school (if currently enrolled as HS senior) or from all colleges/postsecondary schools attended

Calendar year 2006 IRS FORM 1040 tax return(s)

Details on the Upromise Tuition Tales Contest:

Video submissions can be uploaded online at [www.upromise.com/tuitiontales](http://www.upromise.com/tuitiontales) until March 23, 2008

The contest is open to Upromise members

Following judging, the 10 finalist videos will be posted online at [www.upromise.com/tuitiontales](http://www.upromise.com/tuitiontales) on April 2008 and site visitors can vote for their favorite until April 16, 2008

Complete guidelines, eligibility information and rules for the Upromise Scholarship and Tuition Tales can be found at Upromise.com.

## Valley Writers Series invites local writers to LBCC for workshops

Valley Writers Series  
 News Release

Each term the Valley Writers Series invites two visiting writers to campus to give a reading or workshop. The series exists to bring professional writers of regional/national prominence to give presentations to enrich students, staff, and the community.

On Monday, Feb. 11, from noon to 1:50 p.m., writing coach Jessica Page

Morrell will lead a workshop on how to craft a unified and layered novel or short story by mastering subtle storytelling techniques.

Morrell works as a developmental editor where she has learned how to quickly size up a story's merits, as a writing coach, freelance editor, corporate trainer, and columnist. She teaches thousands of writers each year through a series of workshops throughout the Pacific Northwest and

is currently teaching at Evergreen College in Olympia, Washington.

Join Morrell as she reads from her most recent book, "Between the Lines"; master the subtle elements of fiction, and takes us on a journey through the story to reveal techniques to elevate writing. The workshop will take place in the Siletz Room on the main Albany campus.

Tuesday, Feb. 19, at 9:30 a.m., novelist Molly Gloss will read from her acclaimed new novel "The Hearts of Horses." Gloss is a fourth-generation Oregonian who lives in Portland. In 1996 she was the recipient of a prestigious Whiting Writers Award.

Her novel "The Jump-Off Creek" is a Pacific Northwest classic, winner of the Oregon Book Award and the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award, and a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award. Her newest novel is set in Eastern Oregon. This reading will take place in the Alsea Calapooia Room on the main Albany campus.

For more information about these events, follow this link to the Valley Writers homepage: [www.linnbenton.edu/go/arts-and-communication-division/english/literary-arts/valley-writers-series](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/arts-and-communication-division/english/literary-arts/valley-writers-series). All Valley Writers events are free and open to the public.

## Willamette Valley Vineyards holds Crab & Chowder Fest

Minda Trulove  
 The Commuter

This past weekend held the Mo's Crab and Chowder Fest at Willamette Valley Vineyards, which can be found along I-5 just south of Salem. Guests paid a \$5 admission and received a free stemless Riedel wine glass. For those that were over the drinking age of 21, the price of admission included free wine tasting in the tasting room. A select group of wines were offered for tasting that included the new 2007 Pinot Noir, one of the vineyards highlighted wines.

In the main room, Mo's brought their world-famous chowder and fresh Oregon crabs for purchase. Attendees moved along a buffet style line and were able to choose their seafood of choice. Glasses of Willamette Valley Vineyard wines were offered for sale to go along with the seafood. Staff

walked throughout the main room clearing plates as groups of people mingled over the seafood and wine. Along with seafood and wine, entertainment was provided by JT & the Tourists, who played a mix of everything that brought the young and old to their feet on the impromptu dance floor just in front of the band's stage.

Willamette Valley Vineyards regularly offers weekend on-site events ranging from a \$5 admission and upwards depending on the event. Coming up Feb. 9 and 10, the vineyard will have a Pinot Noir and Chocolate Celebration. Admission will be \$5, which includes a free Riedel wine glass. They will offer their Pinot Noir Port along with acclaimed "chocolatiers," including Dagoba, Godiva, Extreme Chocolates and more. The event hours will be from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## Spring classes are fast approaching.

You're halfway there. Keep a bright future in your sights by enrolling for the spring semester at the Linfield College Adult Degree Program and finish your bachelor's degree on your schedule and within your budget. Gain the necessary skills for advancing in your chosen career. Spring classes are just around the corner, so don't wait — contact us today.

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- Business Information Systems
- Arts & Humanities
- Social & Behavioral Sciences
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Online degree programs. Spring Semester Registration is open from Jan. 14-Feb. 8. Classes begin on Feb. 16.

Call Albany Linfield Advisor, Jim Garaventa at 541-917-4846, at Linn-Benton CC, ([jgaraventa@linfield.edu](mailto:jgaraventa@linfield.edu)) or visit us at [adultdegree.linfield.edu](http://adultdegree.linfield.edu).

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# NATIONAL NEWS

News about issues and events from around the nation and the world of interest to Commuter readers.

## Volcanoes: source of chaos...and of power

Les Blumenthal  
McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

WASHINGTON—Deep beneath the Cascades Mountains in the Northwest, where molten magma heats the Earth's crust and occasionally bursts through cracks and fractures in violent volcanic eruptions, lurks an energy source that scientists think could be tamed to help power the region.

Though there's been little exploration, and no deep test holes have been drilled, the geothermal potential of the Cascades—which run from Washington state south through Oregon into Northern California—is starting to attract a buzz. In the next 10 or 15 years, some predict, commercial-sized power plants could start generating electricity.

"As this area is predicted to contain vast geothermal resources, development plans for the Cascades are becoming an increasingly frequent topic of conversation," said a report late last year for the Department of Energy.

Behind Iceland, which gets more than 26 percent of its electricity from geothermal plants, the United States is a world leader in geothermal development, with plants producing more than 3,000 megawatts of electricity. California is No. 1, and resources in such other

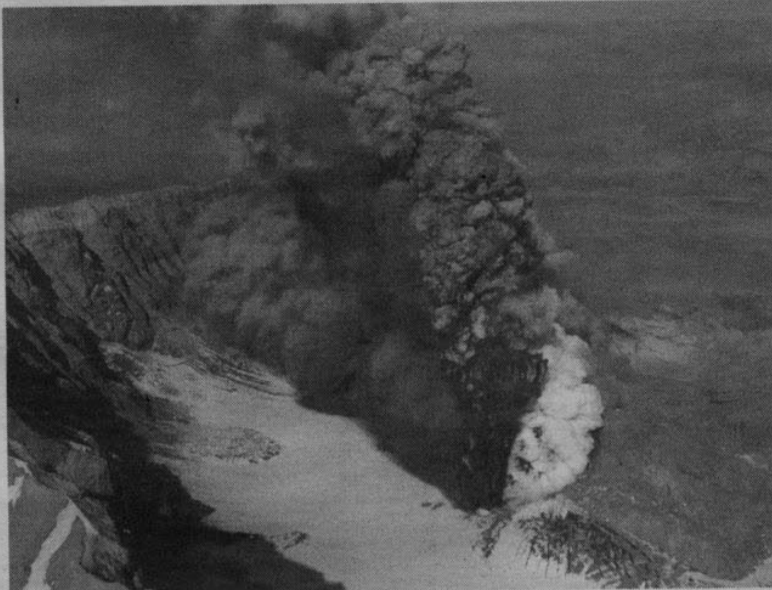
Western states as Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Oregon are being developed. Nevada has been dubbed the "Saudi Arabia of geothermal."

A recent Massachusetts Institute of Technology study found that the amount of geothermal power that could be recovered from deep drilling would represent almost 3,000 times the amount of energy currently consumed in the United States.

Last year's Energy Department report said the Cascades contained "potentially significant" geothermal resources, but it cautioned that the effort to tap these resources—including drilling miles into volcanoes to tap "supercritical fluids"—won't be easy.

Even so, the hunt is under way, and some energy companies have zeroed in on areas that they think could be developed.

Near Baker Lake, north of Seattle, an Oregon company is waiting for leases from the Forest Service and considering a 100-megawatt geothermal plant that could provide enough electricity for 100,000 people. Steven Munson, the chief executive of Vulcan Power Co., said there was more than an 80 percent chance that the plant would be built. It would be designed to blend into the landscape, and the power it would produce would be cheaper than the electricity from a new natural gas-fired



generating plant, Munson said. "We are very serious about this," he said.

In the rough triangle from Mount St. Helens and Mount Adams in southern Washington state to Mount Hood, east of Portland, Ore., there's enough geothermal potential to develop 1,000 megawatts of electricity, the equivalent of three or four gas-fired generating plants or a large nuclear plant, said Susan Petty, the president of AltaRock Energy in Seattle and a geologist.

The Cascades are part of the so-called "Ring of Fire" of active volcanoes and earthquake faults that surround the Pacific Ocean. Geothermal development also is under way in such countries as Japan and Indonesia.

Southeastern Washington, eastern Oregon, southern Idaho, eastern California, Utah and Nevada are in a zone—known as the Basin and Range—where the North American continent tried to pull apart 30 million years ago. The area is marked by deep fractures in the Earth's crust that tend to be pathways to the deep circulation of hot water.

Though that water is hot enough to run steam turbines, Petty and others said the temperatures of the geothermal water and hot rocks underlying the Cascades might be even better for producing power. And because magma is closer to the surface in the Cascades, the drilling holes there might not have to be as deep.

## Beer makeovers, postcards make a difference

By Melissa Allison  
The Seattle Times (MCT)

SEATTLE—Shortly after Charles and Rose Ann Finkel bought back Pike Brewing, they took some of their beer to a party, threw the bottles in a tub of ice and watched in horror as the wet labels slid off.

"We held them up and said, 'I think this one is this and this one is that,'" Rose Ann said.

Finding a new labeler became a top priority, right after redesigning labels for about a dozen beers, including the popular Pike Kilt Lifter and Pike Pale.

The Finkels founded Pike Brewing in 1989 and sold it in eight years later. Since buying it back from a private family company in Tukwila, Wash., in May 2006, the Finkels have updated its equipment, its look and the menu for its pub. Executive chef Gary Marx, there since the 1990s, remains.

The pub, near Pike Place Market, has a vast collection of beer-industry memorabilia on its brightly repainted walls.

Charles said he's particularly pleased with photographs, postcards and other items depicting Washington state's hops craze from the 1880s.

There are also period tap handles, old matchbooks and beer labels, and a replica of the hatchet used by temperance leader Carrie Nation to hack up taverns in the early 1900s.

The price of hops and other materials has risen so much that Pike raised its prices last fall by about \$1 a six-pack.

Pike Brewing is one of the state's 10 largest breweries, producing 6,330 barrels through November, according to the Washington State Liquor Control Board.

About half of its sales are bottles and half are draft, largely to other pubs and restaurants. The company sells beer in Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Utah and British Columbia.

The Finkels want to boost beer production but have no plans to open another pub. They are renting about 10,000 square feet of warehouse space in Seattle's South Lake Union neighborhood for raw materials and packaging.

The couple has worked as entrepreneurs in the wine, specialty

food and beer industries. They sold Pike Brewing and a beer-importing business called Merchant du Vin in 1997 after they were approached by the buyers, whom they decline to name.

The Finkels did not buy back the importing business and do not disclose the sale price for any of the transactions.

During their years away from Pike Brewing, the couple traveled and volunteered for the slow-food movement, then started looking for another business opportunity. Importing beer to Asia was one possibility before they learned the brewery and pub were for sale.

"When we sold it, we were doing a couple thousand barrels," Charles said. "Now our overall goal is to make it a world-class brewery."

### CLASSIFIEDS

#### HELP WANTED

You can sign up at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/Student-Employment](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/Student-Employment) 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).

**Summer jobs are coming in now!** (#5999 & 5993) Forest Lookout in Sweet Home, deadline to apply is February. Restoration Ecology & Conservation Biology Paid Internships in Oregon, Washington & British Columbia, deadline to apply Feb. 11! Get that summer job now!

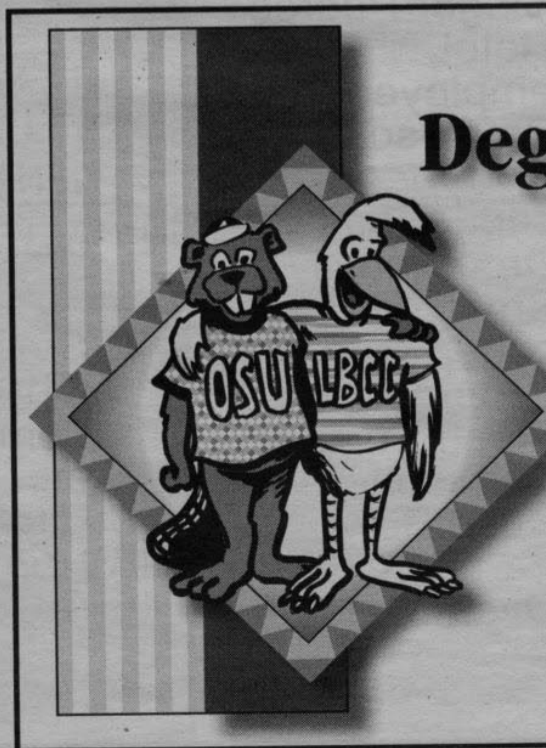
**OSU Nonprofit Career Day** (Jan. 24, 2-5 pm, MU Ballroom, OSU) Meet local, state & national nonprofit organizations looking for interns, volunteers & employees in fields including: healthcare, social sciences, environmental science, engineering, vet medicine, public relations, education, design and business.

**Yard Customer Service** (#6006, Lebanon) This part-time (20-30 hrs/week) job pays \$10.50-14.50/hr DOE. Clean driving record. Able to lift up to 80 lbs & operate a forklift.

**Human Resources Internship Opportunity** (#6007, by LBCC) Get experience if you are junior/senior-level pursuing Bachelor's degree in HR, Business, etc. Pays \$10-12/hr DOE. 20+ hrs/week, flexible.

#### MISC.

**Need writing help?** Have a major essay due? Need to discuss some of your ideas before you start writing? Need help brainstorming topics? Focusing? Organizing? The **Writing Center** invites you to stop by for help with these and any other writing questions. The Writing Center is in SSH-108. Drop in Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Can't stop by? Then visit our online service: [lbcc.writingcenter-online.net](http://lbcc.writingcenter-online.net).



## LBCC / OSU Degree Partnership Program Day

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

**Wednesday, January 30**  
**11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**  
**LBCC Commons Cafeteria**

**Also at the Benton Center**  
**Wednesday Feb. 6, 4 - 6 p.m.**

Managing Editor: Jamie Wilson  
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# FUNNY BONES

Crossword, cartoons, LBCC Commuter menu and some fun facts to brighten your day

## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Actor Kilmer
  - 4 Trivial amount
  - 7 "The Waste Land" poet
  - 14 \_\_\_ been had!
  - 15 Ill temper
  - 16 Site of Dante's tomb
  - 17 Southeast Asian nation
  - 19 Manual of Tennis
  - 20 Asian country
  - 22 Begley and Wynn
  - 23 Asian sea
  - 24 Ultimate degree
  - 25 Impulse
  - 26 San \_\_\_
  - 27 Has permission
  - 28 Clam's cousin
  - 30 Dancer Miller
  - 31 Light touch
  - 32 Have supper
  - 33 Singer Maines
  - 35 Lures into danger

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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47						48				49				
50				51	52				53					54
55			56					57						
58								59				60		
61								62				63		

- 39 Whale groups
- 40 Pigeon sound
- 41 Besmirch
- 42 Arm bulge
- 45 Make a blunder
- 46 Chihuahua money
- 47 Arab leader
- 48 Saute
- 49 Halo
- 50 To the point
- 51 Spicy stew
- 55 "Carmen" writer
- 57 Male hawk used in falconry
- 58 Send to school
- 59 Building wing
- 60 Hill builder
- 61 Wastelands
- 62 Anil or woad
- 63 \_\_\_ Paulo, Brazil

- DOWN**
- 1 "\_\_\_ Zapata!"
  - 2 Local birds
  - 3 "Shampoo" co-star
  - 4 Last
  - 5 Persia, today
  - 6 Arranges in pairs

- 7 Something to plight?
- 8 Poet Teasdale
- 9 "Mrs. Bridge" author Connell
- 10 Writer Deighton
- 11 Buries
- 12 Skittish
- 13 Dangling frill
- 18 Comparison conjunction
- 21 Hog housing
- 25 Exploiter
- 26 Singer Pearce
- 27 Hotel employees
- 28 Small-scale
- 29 Do-others separator
- 31 Drop heavily
- 32 Broke, as a code
- 34 Impersonator
- 36 Western Hemisphere
- 37 Rose Bowl Parade city
- 38 Overflow letters

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1/26/08

## Solutions

O	V	S		E	Y	D		S	T	R	E	S	E	D
T	N	A		L	L	E		E	A	T	E	C	U	E
E	L	C		R	E	T		E	E	M	E	R	I	M
A	D	I		D	O	P		A	L	L	O		T	A
	A	R		A		Y		F	R	Y		R	I	E
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A	N	N		A	V	E		R	A	I		R	E	I
T	O	I		L	S	E		T	S	E		L	F	V

- 42 Smiled broadly
- 43 Obstruct
- 44 Lemon, orange, etc.
- 45 Pitcher's stat
- 46 Run smoothly
- 48 Absconds
- 49 Fred's first partner
- 51 Bradley or Sharif
- 52 Riga resident
- 53 Greasy
- 54 Singing voice
- 56 Cool down

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# SPORTS

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

## LBCC Men's

## LBCC Women's

# BASKETBALL



Chris Kelley  
The Commuter

LBCC men's team (6-10, 2-3) splits week, losing at SWOCC 94-76 Wednesday and beating Portland 74-66 Saturday.

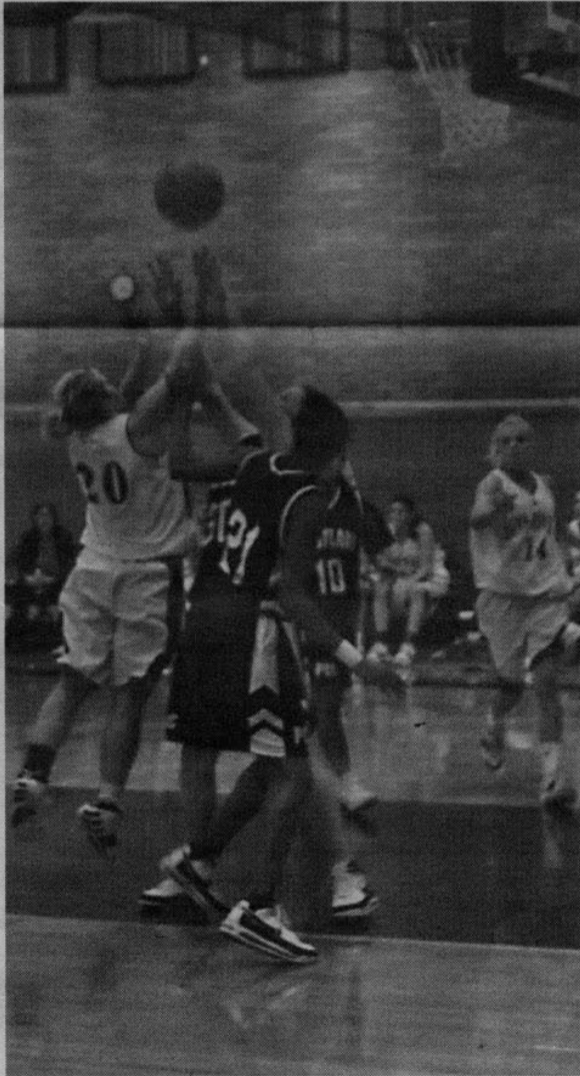
In Wednesday's loss, Eddie Leeson had 20 points and Tyson Christie had 16 points and seven rebounds to lead the Runners.

"They are a very athletic team," said Coach Boutin. "They had size and speed that we had trouble keeping up with."

Saturday, Trevor Siefken had 12 points and 8 rebounds, Christie had nine points and 12 rebounds. Daniel Meyers had 10 points and 10 rebounds recording LBCC's only double-double.

"Meyers is a really hard worker," said Boutin. "He has long arms and is a good scorer."

The men host Umpqua Community College today at 7 p.m., who is No. 1 in the South and Mt. Hood Saturday at 6 p.m.



Chris Kelley  
The Commuter

LBCC women's basketball coach AJ Dionne officially informed her basketball team Tuesday of her resignation from teaching and coaching from the school due to "personal reasons".

A day before their game Wednesday at SWOCC, assistant coach Chuck Gibaut was named head coach of the 2008 Lady Roadrunners (12-7, 2-1) while in third place of the NWAACC South region.

"She told me Monday that it was happening and I was shocked," said sophomore guard and co/captain Destiny Neuenschwander. "We have to treat it just like a speed bump in our road because we can't wait around for something better to happen."

"These girls love AJ," said Gibaut. "It has gone over smooth, for the situation. I have been coaching with her for five years and we have a very similar coaching strategy. I helped recruit all these players so there won't be very many adjustments."

"It hit me pretty hard," said Katelyn White. "Not having her coaching gives us something to fight for. How people handle change shows character."

photos by Elliot Duke



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# SPORTS

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

## OSU Gymnastics come home in fashion

Chris Kelley  
 The Commuter

For the first time since Christmas break, Oregon State gymnastics was back in action Friday in their 195.625-191.425 win over Washington at Gill Coliseum.

Jami Lanz, Tasha Smith and Mandi Rodriguez, who were All Americans last year, led OSU to the win by sweeping the all-around competition with Smith being the leader scoring a 39.275, and marked the highest score of the competition with a 9.900 on the floor routine.

"I worked hard over break on not taking extra steps," said Smith on keys to her top score.

"Finishing with a 195 this early in the season was what we struggled to aim for last season," said Lanz. "One tenth of a point better from everyone is our goal for the season."

Rodriguez started off the night by tying for the win in the vault with Smith scoring 9.850 and OSU's Yuki Lamb was third with 9.825.

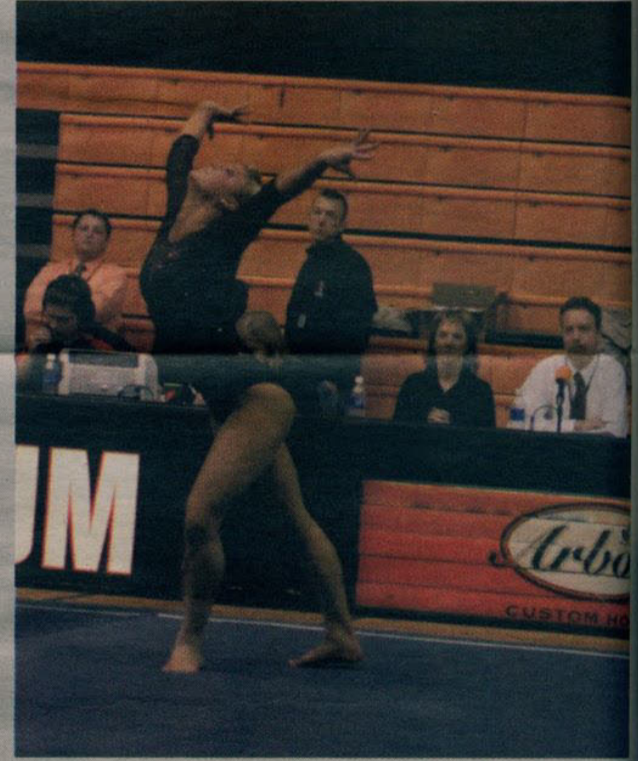
The Beavs' Jen Kesler scored the top performance of the night in the uneven bars with a 9.850.

"I focused hard on visualization," said uneven bar's winner Kesler about what Christmas break allowed her to do. "[Assistant Coach] Dick [Foxall] helped me a lot on my confidence."

Laura-Ann Chong tied for second in the beam with a 9.775, behind Washington's Haley Bogart who scored 9.825.

"The highlight tonight was being back in Gill," said Lanz. "Being here, we own it! We love being in front of our fans."

The Beavers host Arizona in the third annual "Pink Out" competition Friday at 7 p.m. OSU wants fans to trade in their orange and black for pink to raise money and awareness for breast and cervical cancer.



photos by Chris Kelley

## OSU women sweep home with two victories against Washington schools

Tyler Dahlgren  
 The Commuter

Brittney Davis scored 23 points, 16 in the second half, shooting 9-15 from the floor and 3-8 from the three-point line, while freshman Talisa Rhea added 18 points as the Beavers defeated the Washington Huskies 68-64 Thursday night at Gill Coliseum. The win improved the Beavers record to 7-11 overall and 2-4 in the Pac-10.

Alex Mitchell's 10 rebounds led the Beavers as they outrebounded the Huskies 34-31, a statistic that may have helped the women overcome their first half 12-point deficit and Washington's 35-29 half time lead.

Down by three with just under a minute to play, the Huskies had a chance to get back in the lead but a three-point attempt hit off the front of the rim and was rebounded by OSU, which drove the length of the court for the lay-in.

On the Huskies' next possession the Beavers intercepted a baseline pass resulting in a foul by Washington before the Beavers had a chance to do anything with the ball. OSU made both free throws to gain a seven-point lead (65-58) with less than 30 seconds on the clock.

More fouls occurred with the Beavers hitting the second of four straight free throws to lead by nine (66-58) with 14 seconds. Washington hit two three pointers with 0.8 seconds to go but it was too late as the Huskies fell to the Beavers.

According to the Beaver athletic website, guard Talisa Rhea had this to say about the team's confidence.

"We have been talking for the past few weeks about really executing our stuff and learning where we are supposed to go, getting to our spots and making reads. We came together tonight and we were able to do that better. I thought that we executed our plays, and doing what we said we were going to do, we did a good job at doing that."

Sophomore guard Sami Whitcomb equaled her career high 19 points to lead the Huskies and contributed 6 rebounds, 3 assists, and 2 steals. Senior guard Emily Florence had an impressive 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 steals, and 8 assists. However it was not enough as Washington drops to 7-11, 2-4 in the Pac-10.

Saturday, the Beavers hosted Washington State in what would become a blow out victory for the women as they defeated the Cougars 60-35.

Rhea set an Oregon State single-game record with eight three-pointers, one shy of the Pac-10 record of scoring 24 points leading all scorers. Guards Ashley Allen and Brittney Davis combined for eight of the team's 18 assists contributing 4 apiece.

Davis scored 12 points and the 6 foot 4 freshman Alex Mitchell added 13, making three Oregon State players who scored in double-figures.

On a bright note for WSU, Katie Appleton, the Cougar leading scorer, had 9 points connecting on a three-pointer that moved her into eighth place all time at Washington State with 95. Washington State also outrebounded the Beavers 28-19 but it wasn't enough to keep them from falling behind 14-0 to start the game. They would never take the lead in the game.

The win improved the Beaver's record to 10-8 overall with a 3-4 record in Pac-10 play. The Cougars dropped to 3-15 overall record with an 0-7 record in the Pac-10.

Oregon State now hits the road for four straight games, the first being on Thursday against USC at 7pm. The game won't be broadcast on television but it can be heard on KLOO 1340-AM.