

Play Day!



Parents and grandparents took full advantage of the beautiful weather, and brought their little ones out to play at LBCC.

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COMMUTER

Cover Credit:
Brian Hausotter

On the cover:
Perry and Jack Nelson from left to right.

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Letters always welcome.

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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL NURSES

LBCC nurses look for help to promote CARDV

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center one in seven women, and one in 71 men will be raped in their lifetime. These are the type of statistics the LBCC nursing department and the Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence (CARDV) are working to combat.

On Saturday May 7, the LBCC nursing program will participate in CARDV's fourteenth annual Mother's Day run/walk for Safe Families.

The nurses have won the event two years running and look to three-peat in the category of "Largest Team," and for raising the most "Friend Raising Funds."

This is the fourth consecutive year the nursing team has participated in the event. Last year the team had over 60 members and are currently looking for prospective team members. Nursing faculty member and team captain Sherrilyn Systma welcomes anyone interested in having some fun and helping out a good cause in the process.

"It would be great to have support from the top down," said Systma.

Systma also stressed the importance of

the event for nursing students.

"If families are healthy, there's less chance of adverse childhood experiences. We're trying to get ahead of the curve," said Systma.

The cost of the event is completely covered by major sponsors and the proceeds support CARDV's shelter programs, advocacy service for victims of domestic violence, and community education services. Last year in Linn and Benton counties alone, CARDV received over 6,600 calls regarding domestic violence, and housed 118 adults, and 87 adults.

"One-hundred percent of all of the proceeds go to support survivors," said CARDV Development Director Jennifer Morris.

The event is family-friendly and features both 5k run/walk and "Fun Walk" course. Walkers can choose a one or two mile loop. Strollers are welcome but only on walking courses. There is also a "Kids Dash," and every child who participates gets a ribbon.

If you would like to join the nurses or participate solo, you can register for the

event at CARDV.org. Look for the team name: LBCC Nursing. Pre-registration is \$25 and the deadline to join the team is April 24, at 11:59 p.m. It is \$30 after the deadline and you can still register online or the day of the event in person. If you don't want to participate, but would still like to make a donation you can do so online by becoming a "Virtual Runner."

Registration on the day of is from 8-8:30 a.m. pre-register check in is from 8-9:30 a.m. All events start at 9 a.m.

"Nurses are a really big part of what we interact with," said Morris. "Having them on our team provides support for our community."



STORY BY
RICHARD STEEVES
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CAMPUS VOICE

Question: Worst teacher or class on campus?



Cody Hickay

"I will play it safe and say physics with calculus, not that nonsense algebra."



Sheryl Carlson

"It was a Russian class. The first teacher was great and spoke English so I got an A, but he was gone and we had a new teacher who was speaking fluent Russian, so I went from A to C."



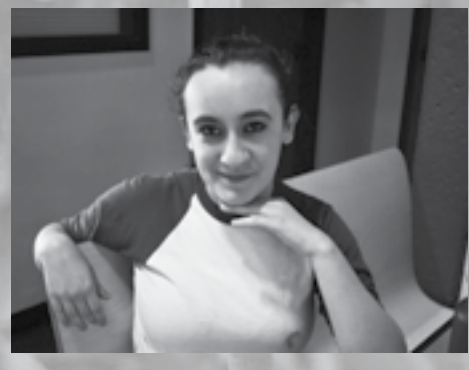
Adam Madison

"My first term at LBCC, Reading 115 class. So much busy work and I completely hated going every day. I never needed that class in the first place."



Ernesto Huerta

"Math 20, and the fact that nobody likes math."



Maggie Pimm

"I like all my instructors, and I have never had a bad class."



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
MARWAH ALZABIDI
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Next Week's Topic: 420.

JUMP START YOUR CAREER

Career Center gears up for the 38th Annual Career Fair

College supposedly provides the higher education you'll need to find your dream job. Why not start your search now with some support from the LBCC Career Center?

More than 90 employers and eight LBCC departments will gather in the activities center April 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., giving students the opportunity to shmooze face-to-face with potential employers and explore their future career possibilities. The list of represented companies includes local businesses, government agencies, health care agencies, manufacturers, welding, farming and staffing agencies.

"The ultimate purpose of the fair is to help students graduating in the spring to find jobs in their field," said Marci Johnston, career and employment specialist and the Annual Career Fair coordinator for the past 15 years. "We try to invite employers who hire from a wide variety of our majors, so there's a variety of industries represented."

After a record turnout last year she expects between 600 to 1,200 people to attend. With so many possible employers and employees located in one place, the Career Fair is convenient for job-searching and employee-hiring alike.

Johnston believes it is crucial for students to do preliminary research on the opportunities and employers that

await them. A list of those attending is provided on the Career Fair website, along with links to their home pages and "10 Tips For Student Success."

"Research and target employers you're interested in pursuing," said Johnston. "Talk to companies even if you think they wouldn't have positions for you. You'll be surprised."

The opportunity to meet with employers face-to-face can be the key to snagging a position, according to Johnston. Her daughter attended LBCC and found employment through a previous Career Fair.

"What stood out in her circumstance was her personality. By getting to meet those hiring face-to-face, she won them over. It helped her pay for college," said Johnston.

Students should dress professionally, bring polished resumes and attend the fair with a mind open to possibilities. "Each organization that participates has a different need," said Emily Dray, career and employment specialist for the LBCC Career Center.

According to Dray, students shouldn't assume what those needs are and are encouraged to approach employers even if they are just curious. It's also a good way to find out any skills or qualities that might benefit their careers they can't obtain in college.

"You can get the insider tips to be more prepared when you graduate," said Johnston.

The Career Center isn't stopping with just the Fair. The Career Center staff are planning two events to help students prep for the Fair, too. A free Career Fair Prep Drop-In Workshop will provide students help polishing their resumes, prepare them for questions that may be asked by potential employers, and equip them to ask questions of their own.

"It's a nice opportunity for students to get their resumes checked before meeting with employers, and to learn how to break the ice," said Dray.

Students can drop in and ask any questions they may have on April 14 from 11:30 to 1 p.m. and April 15 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in Red Cedar Hall 116.

Dray also organized a business-clothing drive for students in need of a professional looking outfit. At the Career Fair Business Clothes Event students will have the chance to browse through and pick out gently-used professional clothing. Both women and men's clothing will be available in as many sizes as possible. The event will take place April 14 from 2 to 4 p.m. and April 15 from 3 to 5 p.m. in Calapooia Center 103.

"Anything we can do to help students be confident and successful in their job search, that's what we want to do," said Dray.

How to make the most of the 2016 Career Fair:

- Attend the Career Fair Preparation Workshop, and bring your resume!
- Visit the Career Fair Business Clothes Event to find appropriate clothing.
- Review participating employers at www.linnbenton.edu/careerfair and research those you would like to speak with.
- Bring copies of your resume to the Career Fair and attend dressed professionally.



STORY BY
EMILY GOODYKOONTZ
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OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT



Jackson Street helps homeless youth

Jackson Street Youth Services, a community outreach group that promotes safety, stability, and well-being for youth, is taking on the task of hosting an Annual Fundraising Reception, benefiting youth eighteen and under.

The event, known as "The Tipping Point", is an annual fundraiser benefiting local youth of Linn County. The event is hosted by Jackson Street Youth Services Board of Directors and event sponsors. "The Tipping Point" will have a cocktail-style reception with drinks & hors d'oeuvres.

Although with an improving economy, the Oregon Department of Education reported 19,000 Oregon students lacking a permanent home in 2013. Currently there are roughly 900 homeless youth in Linn County.

Donations from the event go to support the goal of ending youth homelessness in the Willamette Valley. There will be an opportunity to learn more about local youth homelessness and discuss how individuals help make a difference in the lives of vulnerable youth.

According to their website, "Jackson Street Youth Services gives youth a safe place to live and resources that get them on the road to a better life."

Jackson Street Youth Services will be displaying and highlighting stories of local youth who have been impacted positively by the outreach.

The fundraiser will be held April 14 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Albany Golf

and Event Center, located at 155 NW Country Club Ln. Reservations are recommended, visit their website to fill out an RSVP form.

Event sponsors for "The Tipping Point" are the ISC Group from Town and Country Realty, Madison Avenue Collective, Mortgage Express, and Citizens Bank.

For more information on this event and ones like this, check out www.jacksonstreet.org, or call 541-220-2950.

At a Glance:

What: "The Tipping Point" an annual fundraiser

When: April 14 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Where: Albany Golf & Event Center



STORY BY
HANNAH BUFFINGTON
@JOURNALISMBUFF

HAND UP, NOT OUT

SLC provides students with food and professional clothing

For many students, attending college can sometimes mean a serious financial burden, and here at LBCC there are programs designed to help lift some of that burden off and send a little love and encouragement to those who are struggling.

The Student Leadership Counsel offers a multitude of services to both students and staff members ranging from food boxes, through the LBCC Lunchbox program, to personal care items, and even diapers and wipes. Clothing racks with professional style clothing are ready to be picked through and sent home with those who might need a wardrobe boost for job seeking or work.

The only requirement for these complementary services is to show your LBCC ID card at the SLC office located at the west end of the campus courtyard, and the they will be happy to set you up with what you need. These services are designed to cover students and staff and their immediate families, so don't forget to mention the family and pick up a little extra for them as well.

Those who want to get involved in keeping these programs going, are welcome to participate in campus fundraisers, like the current "Can the Dean" food drive, run by SLC Community Outreach Coordinator Kaela Fuller; or the Thanksgiving food drive in October, headed by Chairwoman Tammy Drury, LBCC Transcript Degree

Evaluator. Donations of food, personal care items, or professional style clothing can be dropped off at the SLC office any time the doors are open.

For those who aren't financially able to contribute, volunteers are also much appreciated for helping to gather food, pack boxes, etc. Proceeds from the Coffee House help to fund the LBCC Lunchbox program as well, so students in need of a caffeine boost can get their coffee and spread the love at the same time.

"This kind of support is a wonderful gift to our campus community and their families, but can more be done?" "The SLC wants to hear from the students and the ideas that they have for offering more help", said Horn. If anyone has an idea for a new fundraiser or service that could further help our students and staff, ideas are both welcomed and encouraged. Drop in at SLC anytime and get let your ideas meet with people who truly have a heart for building up their community.

STORY BY
ELISHA EXTON

THE CELEBRATION OF A CAPELLA

A night dedicated to sharing a passion for music

The spotlight shined on center-stage, and a night of hip gyration and funky mouth noises began. The Celebration of A Capella was held in the Russell Tripp Center on LBCC's campus April 7.

This is the second Celebration of A Capella that LB has hosted. The night was established for college a capella groups in Oregon to come together to share their mutual passion for sick beats.

It is not a competition, but an opportunity to showcase what these students love to do.

Alyssa Newman, an LBCC student, coordinated the event. She planned the whole night from the groups who performed to the location. She came up with this idea last year and hopes that the tradition will continue.

"I want to be an event coordinator after college," said Newman. "This is really good experience for me."

Choir instructor Raymund Ocampo helped Newman with budgeting the

event, but she did the majority of it all on her own.

The night's set consisted of OSU's "Powerchord," "Divine," and "Outspoken," UO's "Mind the Gap," and LB's "Blue Light Special" and "Sirens."

The emcee's of the event were Blue Light Special members Brenden Murray and Ian Nyquist. The crowd may have lacked size, but that didn't stop these men from attempting to keep the spirits high.

Each group got up on stage with smiles and the intention of sharing their talent with the audience, and they did just that.

"It was a great opportunity for the groups to showcase their songs, new or old," said Sirens' Jessie Easdale.



STORY AND PHOTO BY
MARINA BRAZEAL
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KOBE NEARS MERCIFUL END

You won't be missed (by me)

Kobe Bryant has done almost everything on a basketball court. At 37, Bryant is doing something he thought he would never do in the NBA; be a punchline to a joke.

That is, of course, unless he is playing somebody he hates or loves. Fans from teams he doesn't care about get to see grandpa Kobe. The guy who went 1-11 against the Jazz and scored five points. If you are from Boston (love) or Houston (hate) you get to see fired up Kobe 34 and 35 points respectively.

Grandpa Kobe is now the old guy at the YMCA who doesn't care that you are wide open for an easy jump shot. His contested jumper is a better shot, in his mind.

He once had game, so much game it hurt my soul as a Blazer fan. Watching this man defy gravity and dash the playoff hopes of the Blazers in 2000. He ripped the hearts out of Blazer fans time after time.

Fast Forward to 2016; the Lakers are unbearable to watch at times. Unless it happens to be one of those nights when the clock rewinds and Kobe's tired legs elevate like they used too. That once perfect jump shot goes in the basket instead of off the front of the rim like it has been doing the past few years.

In a YouTube video from Jimmy Kimmel Live dated Feb. 24, 2015 Kobe was asked about a farewell tour.

"I don't want to play through a year where everybody knows you're retiring and they kind of give you the old swan song," Bryant said. "I hate that. I want to play the way I've been playing over the last 19 years. I want to have the same experiences that I've had. If you want to boo, boo. If you want to heckle, heckle. Those are things I'll never forget."

The Kobe Farewell Tour a.k.a. "get a top three pick in the NBA Draft," has been an abomination to basketball. Kobe is doing exactly what he said he wouldn't.

The only reason that explains Kobe's 180 degree turn around is management got in his ear. Why else would he go from saying he hates this type of tour to parading himself around in the exact same way he said he wouldn't? The obvious answer: money.



"Bryant has brought so much joy to those late-arriving, early-to-leave, front-running Laker fans that maybe this is what they all deserve."

Bryant has brought so much joy to those late-arriving, early-to-leave, front-running Laker fans that maybe this is what they all deserve. It is like watching a punch drunk boxer go out there for 12 rounds. That fighter might have one or two good rounds left. Or even a few good spurts left in him, but everyone can see that he is done except the person with the gloves on.

I take pleasure in the pain of the Lakers. I don't want to say that I hate the Lakers and Bryant, but if I never saw purple and gold again, I would die happy.

As annoying and unbearable as Laker fans are, they don't deserve this. Or do they?

Kobe is averaging 17.1 points on 16.5 shots and making 5.9 at 35 percent. He is a career 44 percent shooter. He is also averaging just three assists to two turnovers per game. If Kobe doesn't jack up a shot, he is almost as likely to pass the ball to the other team as he is to pass to his own teammates.

How do you tell a competitor with the fire of Kobe Bryant he doesn't have it anymore?

His accomplishments read like a Hall-of-Fame Checklist: five time NBA Champion, two Gold Medals,

regular season and Finals MVP, third all-time scorer in NBA history. The list is so long that it would take a book to delve deeply into how great Kobe really is.

At the same time you don't sacrifice an entire year for one player, unless you are Mitch Kupchak, the general manager of the Lakers. The man who as of late has done more harm to the roster than good.

This season has been sad to watch. I'd like to go out remembering Kobe as the slayer of dragons. The man that comes through in the clutch more times than not, even if it was against the Blazers. Game seven of the Western Conference Finals in 2000 when Kobe broke my heart; that's the Kobe I choose to remember. Not the player who has been paraded around each arena like a puppy; for a sad swan song. This ending isn't fit for a five time NBA champion, and the first athlete that I ever truly hated.

Farewell Kobe. I will miss loving to hate you.



COLUMN BY
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CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Revamping LB aesthetic through student art; submission deadline April 20

This year, Vicki Idema, a retired graphic design artist, will enter a project into the LBCC Student Art Show. Her project is a synthesis of styles.

Paper, cut into intricate patterns in a distinctly Japanese style, acts as a backdrop for a 3-by-4 self-portrait. This self-portrait is painted onto a map of eastern California. Her entire body is stretched out over the John Muir trail, a popular California backpacking trail crossing the distance from Yosemite National Park to Mr. Whitney.

Along with telling her story, the piece also has sentimental meaning.

The top of the exhibit has Idema's hand reaching to grasp Mr. Whitney and complete the trail. It's not simply art for the sake of art.

"It's about reaching for the top and reaching for your goals," said Idema. "My goal was to hike the John Muir."

It's Idema's hope that this art won't serve as a source of inspiration solely for her, but also for a much larger audience.

If her piece makes it into the show it will be on display in NSH from April 27, until June 2.

Anyone looking to enter has until the deadline on April 20. It's one of the best ways for student artists to have their art shown to a much wider audience, as well as a chance for students to check out all the creative talent we have on campus.

As an incentive for entering, LBCC is offering \$2,000 in awards given to the best pieces.

Last year 27 different works of art were awarded with prize money. On top of that, the school buys one piece to add to their permanent collection each year, and the President's office has been known to buy an exhibit every once in a while.

For aspiring artists, the show offers more than just a chance to be in the public eye; it's what they call a Juried

"Art can start a lot of conversations; it can help us be comfortable with a lot more diverse viewpoints."

Show. This means that not all works will be accepted, it goes through a judging process before show time and a juror selects the best pieces each year. Those are what's displayed in the show.

Juried shows are considered much more significant than open shows and look great on a resume.

The show is part of a larger art movement happening on campus. It's an example of a movement meant to give more exposure to the artists and poets at LBCC. There are plans in the works to up the aesthetic appeal of the courtyard, and starting around the end of the term, progress on a giant mural covering a side of the Athletic Center will begin.

You can already see some of the transformation starting to take place in the poetry birdhouses located around the campus.

This progress is due in no small part to people like M'Liss Runyon, a member of the Art and Aesthetics Resource Team on campus.

According to their website, the AART Team is dedicated to "pursue[ing] the creation of art and the integration of aesthetics on the Albany LBCC campus and satellite campuses."

Their actions stem from a belief that art is more than just pretty pictures or

pleasant words; Runyon says art has holistic and positive effects on campus.

"Art can start a lot of conversations; it can help us be comfortable with a lot more diverse viewpoints," said Runyon.

According to Runyon, art can help "better represent the diverse population we have at LB."

And beyond helping improve relationships in the community, art can have a very tangible and grounded affect.

"Art around campus leads to student safety. The more art there is and the nicer the environment is the more comfortable students are," says Runyon.

The art culture at LBCC goes deeper than just a committee committed to making our campuses a more safe and pleasing place to be. Taylor Johnson, an art major, spoke highly of the art classes at LB in comparison to high school.

"They push you a lot more; it's more of a challenge. You have to learn the ability to get into a creative mindset to meet a deadline, which is very important for the field I want to get into," said Johnson.

He's not the only one impressed with our classes.

Idema, who holds an art degree, has worked with fabric and fibers for 45 years, and is now retired from a 12 year career in graphic design. She is also enthusiastic

about the quality of the art classes here at LB.

She says, "[LBCC] has great graphic design classes, I think they were better than a lot of the instructors at OSU. "One thing about OSU is they're pressured to write or do different things and it's not just about the students, it's about them also."

The LBCC Student Art Show is definitely all about the students, and entering the show gives student artists many benefits.

For many students it is their first time presenting their work publicly. This involves a lot of learning on the job, including things like presentation, how to properly photograph their art, and other skills generally not thought about in the traditional creative process.

Anyone not involved in the arts at LB should make it a priority to come check out the show when it opens on April 27 in NSH. For those looking for the full experience of an art show it's recommended you come on May 4 between 12 to 1:30 p.m. for the reception and awards. If that's not enough, there will also be food and drink.

The push for more art on campus, including the student art show, isn't just about beautifying the place we go to school. It's about embracing a more pluralistic community about opening dialogues about experiences our students go through.

STORY BY
BEN SCHEELE

LIFE ON THE SPECTRUM

How I learned to love my autism

There comes a time when you find out that Santa Claus isn't real, and that it's just your parents slipping gifts under the tree and taking bites out of the cookies. That, for me, was exactly what it felt like when I found out I had autism when I was ten years old.

Don't get me wrong, I'm thankful my mom educated me about autism early on, and I was diagnosed when I was four. I've also gotten plenty of educational help, thanks to my mom's initiative to get me on an Individual Education Program (IEP) plan. I just wasn't prepared for what I was going to experience in my life following my realization.

I've discovered over countless Google searches that autism is a "developmental disorder" that is usually divided into two sections: severe and high-functioning. Severely autistic children may not appear different, but may make odd gestures. High-functioning autism doesn't tend to affect physical appearance, but tend to have social and behavioral problems. And believe me, I've had plenty of them.

Speech therapy was there for all of my elementary years, helping me slowly develop the skills that were needed to be somewhat "normal" that is, somewhat like the other students at school who didn't have autism. I learned how to take part in a conversation, learned how to lose at a

board game, and learned what it was like to function normally.

But my beloved speech therapist wasn't there to help me out with the typical middle school bullying, the anxiety that overcame me in high school, and the thousands of socially awkward situations in between. "It's a learning experience" sounds refreshing when it comes from your dad teaching you how to fix the car, not when you've literally told a stranger everything about yourself for the seventh time in the last year.

So when a friend looking to figure out how her autism works asked how I coped I didn't know what to say. I don't "cope" in the conventional sense. Every week is a learning experience, with some lessons being vital and others being nonessential. I'm way too loud, and I don't know when to shut up. I don't understand boundaries. I'll hug for the sake of hugging people, because I'm a giant hugger. (I apologize right now to everybody who had to be hugged unwillingly. All 5,000 of you. You know who you are.)

But more than my mistakes, I've had support. Support from family and friends who not only tolerate me, but love me. Support from the people who've admired my work and keep on encouraging me to do what I love. Support from the teachers and experts at school who cared for me along the way by helping me to grow up

and be strong.

Even though autism has been a hell of an experience to overcome, I would never wish for a different lifestyle. Autism is just as much a part of me as the glasses I wear for my astigmatism, or the braces that correct my teeth. And unlike the glasses and braces I wish I didn't have, I've embraced my autism despite all the embarrassing memories I recall. I remind myself everyday that, yes, I have autism, and yes, I'm going to be alright.

April marks Autism Awareness Month, April 2 was International Autism Awareness Day. While you may not know anyone personally with the disorder, you probably know quite a few famous people with it: Albert Einstein, Mozart, Tim Burton, Andy Warhol, Dan Aykroyd, to mention a few.

I will never know what normalcy looks like, and that's the point. But more than that, I just feel like we ought to do a better job of properly educating people, myself included, on what it's like to have disorders, disabilities, or differences.

Or, as one person put it, "Be kind. it's hard to be a person."



COLUMN BY
MORGAN CONNELLY
@MADEINOREGON97

WE WANT YOU!

The Commuter wants to hire an Advertising/Marketing Coordinator Right Now!

We're seeking just the right person to lead the business and marketing functions of LBCC's award-winning newspaper and online site.

This is a perfect part-time job for a student or others with some advertising, marketing and sales experience who are looking to build their resume!

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NSH-114.





UO's student poetry slam addresses sexual assault awareness month

Julius Alecsandre receives support after sharing his experience.

Sticks and stones can break your bones, but words are also weapons. When saying "no" is not enough, how do you cope with the trauma of being violated?

On April 5, the Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Team at the University of Oregon held round three of their Anti-Sexual Violence Poetry Slam. The first round took place fall 2014, followed by the second round fall 2015.

It started as a release party, a way to get people in the same space to pick up the newest issue of "The Siren Magazine," a feminist magazine on the UO campus.

Students and guests showed sincere respect and expressions of deep compassion. It was a safe zone.

"If I lose my voice I lose everything," said poet and member of UO's Organization Against Sexual Assault Sofia Mackey. "You cannot protect yourself from isolation."

This year the slam was geared towards SAAM (Sexual Assault Awareness Month).

"There's a lot of talking at people and informing them. Getting the word out and not a lot of survivors getting to stand up and say 'This is my experience and I'm gonna talk about it the way I want to talk about it,'" said Sophie Albanis. "This is valuable in that sense, it lets people define themselves and their experiences."

Albanis is the organizer of the slam event, a member of Associated Students of UO and an advocate for the UO student government.

"This is definitely the biggest turnout we've had for this event," said Albanis.



Emma Sharp lightens the mood with rhythm and poetry.

"This is the most overwhelmingly positive feedback we've gotten. I really feel motivated to do more poetry slams."

These poetry slams have helped her become comfortable identifying as a survivor.

Albanis' experience is one that she has no memory of. Someone had to tell her about what happened the next day and although she doesn't remember, she knows it happened.

"A lot of people feel because I didn't remember it or because I didn't feel the pain after it happened, I'm not a real survivor," said Albanis. "This event is what enabled me to say 'Fuck you, I am a survivor.'"

Through poetry, readers shared experiences of rape trauma, repressed anger, new love and generational trauma.

"I was suffering a lot, for me what really helped me figure some things out was writing," said poet Vienna Soule. "I didn't have to keep that inside of me anymore. I could write it out on paper and that's where it stayed."

Vice President for the UO student government Claire Johnson works as a member of the Organization Against Sexual Assault.

"I strongly believe too often our society puts these ideas into survivors heads that it's their fault or they deserve it," said Johnson. "All of your stories really make a difference."

It was her first time sharing a piece she wrote since becoming a survivor a month ago.

"Art expression is a super valuable way for people to release feelings and thoughts they may not be able to get out otherwise," said Johnson. "Expressing myself definitely helps me one way or another."

Working at past poetry slams and speak-outs inspired her to let her voice be heard.

"I really learned how important it is to have a safe space for people to feel comfortable to express themselves and their experiences," said Johnson. "Without these safe spaces, it's hard for someone to heal. I definitely resonate with that."

The support she's gotten from her coworkers, friends and other survivors she knows has given her the courage to share her story.

"I looked to them for strength and found courage within myself from the courage they had," said Johnson.

Emma Sharp and Charlie Landeros, members of UO's Sexual Wellness Awareness Team switched the mood up with rhythm and poetry.

The crowd responded back with praise as the duo rapped lyrics like "It's my body and you're not God motherfucker."



Photos by Emily Goodykoontz

Claire Johnson recites her poetry to the crowd.

Concluding the slam a man named Julius Alecsandre shared his story about being sexually assaulted and his family not supporting him.

"I'm very openly gay," said Alecsandre. "Pertaining to sexual awareness, this is my story."

The crowd covered their mouths and put their heads down as Alecsandre shared vivid details about his horrific experience.

"Even though I was fighting back his fists felt like bricks to my face. I felt him tearing me open," said Alecsandre. "I remember waking up in the hospital surrounded by my family. They were embarrassed and angry."

Dealing with the trauma of being sexually assaulted isn't something that is easy to overcome, the scars never heal. But there are ways to help, you don't have to suffer and isolate yourself. You don't have to live feeling alone. There are people who care and you do matter.

"I want to challenge people to educate themselves on sexual assault. Go to events like this. There's very real humans behind the stories, get to know them," said Landeros. "Art is one of the last forms of magic we have in this world, especially poetry, it's just raw emotion."

STORY BY ALYSSA CAMPBELL @ALYSSAFAYEC

AT A GLANCE

- According to the Bureau of Justice, "Sexual assault is a wide range of victimizations, separate from rape or attempted rape. These crimes include attacks or attempted attacks generally involving unwanted sexual contact between victim and offender. Sexual assaults may or may not involve force and include such things as grabbing or fondling. It also includes verbal threats."
- Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network has reported that every year there's an average of 293,000 cases of sexual assault.
- Every 107 seconds another American is sexually assaulted, 44 percent of victims are under the age of 30.
- Four out of five assaults are from someone known by the victim and 47 percent are a friend or acquaintance.
- Sixty-eight percent of assaults are not reported to police, meaning 98 percent of rapists will never face jail time.

PLAY DAY FOR ALL

In service day provides opportunity for kids

Parents and grandparents took full advantage of the beautiful weather, and brought their little ones out to play.

Linn-Benton Community College welcomes the community with its second annual Play Day, on April 8.

Angela Hallas brought her daughter McKaya, a Central Elementary student to the event.

"I felt it was important to get her away from the television, do something fun, and yet still interact with other kids," Informed Hallas.

As the children arrived they were greeted by "Rocky," and also given a punch card that they could get filled out at different stations in order to receive LBCC swag.

"This event is a chance for the community to bring their young students to meet our student athletes, see the school, but mostly to have some fun," said Athletic Director Randy Falk.

Many of the LBCC student athletes made themselves available to spend a little time encouraging our future leaders. Brodie Marchant from the men's basketball team worked with a couple of the kids on their shooting.

"This is really fun to interact with the kids, and the community," said Marchant. "Hopefully we can inspire, and help them to keep pushing forward."

LBCC's basketball, volleyball, baseball and soccer club were represented at Play Day by attending athletes. There were even opportunities for children to play croquet, corn-hole and quidditch.

There was joy on the faces of the youth as they went from one location to the next, trying to complete their cards, and

playing with the student athletes.

Perry Nelson brought his son Jack from Lebanon to the event.

"Jack loves soccer and basketball so he really wanted to come," said Nelson. "He saw it on the internet and since there was no school, we took the opportunity to come on down."

"This is really fun to interact with the kids, and the community. Hopefully we can inspire, and help them to keep pushing forward."

STORY AND PHOTO BY BRIAN HAUSOTTER @BHAUSOTTER



Paige Kosa (left) joins in the fun.

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2016 SUMMER CLASSES



"POKÉMON" TURNS 20

Train on, you crazy masters

On February 27, 1996, "Pokémon Red and Green" were first released in Japan. As time went on, the Game Boy games slowly took the country and the world by storm. Twenty years later, the "Pokémon" series has built a legacy that rivals the likes of other Nintendo series such as Mario, "Metroid" and "The Legend of Zelda."

While the overall concept has undergone much change since the games first came to the

United States as "Pokémon Red and Blue" in 1998, it has remained a consistently entertaining Role Playing Game (RPG) that is simple enough that anyone can pick up and play, young or old.

At the same time, the series also offers a fun and engaging experience that has benefited from socializing with friends and family; especially since the integration of the "Global Link" in newer games. The advent of online gaming has easily allowed trading and battling from

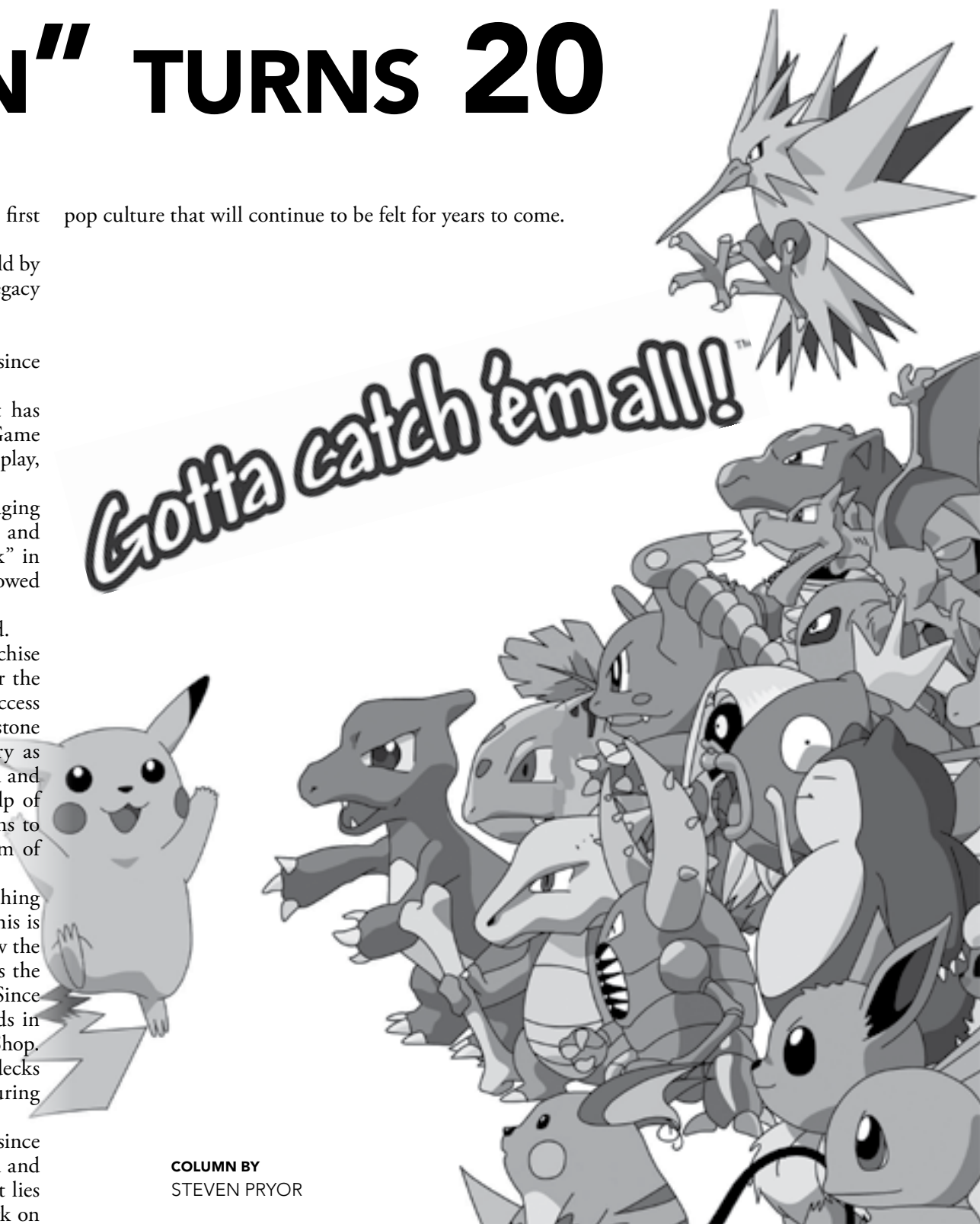
not only across the table, but across the country and world.

Even so, the games are just one arm of a multimedia franchise that has a fandom on par with the likes of "Star Wars" or the Marvel Cinematic Universe. A large contribution to the success of the series has been the anime series, which entered its milestone nineteenth season on Cartoon Network this past February as "Pokémon the Series XYZ." This latest incarnation sees Ash and Pikachu clash with the malicious Team Flare with the help of friends Bonnie, Clemont and Serena; as his Greninja begins to exhibit new abilities and they cross paths with a new form of the mysterious Zygarde.

There is a considerable amount of merchandise, everything from t-shirts to fast food premiums, and a milestone like this is no exception. The twentieth anniversary on February 27, saw the release of a commemorative New Nintendo 3DS, as well as the Virtual Console release of "Pokémon Red, Blue and Yellow." Since then, the amount of downloads continues to shatter records in multiple languages since Nintendo first launched the 3DS eShop. The trading card game features several commemorative decks to mark the occasion as well as a "Generations" line featuring reissues of older cards.

With more than 200 million copies sold across the board since inception, speculation and hype are high for "Pokémon Sun and Moon," on track to launch this holiday season. While what lies ahead is uncertain; it's clear that "Pokémon" has left a mark on

pop culture that will continue to be felt for years to come.



COLUMN BY
STEVEN PRYOR



COURTESY: NINTENDO

GAME REVIEW: **Splatoon**

PUBLISHER: Nintendo
DEVELOPER: Nintendo
PLATFORM: Wii U
ESRB RATING: E10+



EDITORIAL BY STEVEN PRYOR

At this point in video game history, the shooting game has been one of the most prominent genres in the industry. While the idea of shooting up your virtual friends for fun is nothing new, the past decade has seen the shooting game grow into a multi-billion dollar cash cow in and of itself.

While many titles have been vying for dominance in the market, one in particular has stood out as a gamble that paid off for longtime giant Nintendo. That game is known as "Splatoon."

Released last year on the Wii U, "Splatoon" is Nintendo throwing their hat in the ring of competitive team-based shooters. However, rather than the usual themes of bleak worldviews and muted color palettes; "Splatoon" takes a different approach by favoring silly competitions and splattering everything with neon colors. In a market

crowded with gritty shooters; the model of "Splatoon" stands out for encouraging joy and fun. As a result, the game has gained a considerable fandom of not only Nintendo's target audience of children and families; but also with older gamers looking for a change of pace from the excessive amount of "edgy" shooters on the market.

The concept is as follows: the fictional city of Inkopolis is home to a race of squid people known as "Inklings" or "Squid Kids." These inhabitants take part in 4-on-4 battles that consist of trying to coat environments with as much of their ink as they can. Whichever team covers the most area wins the match.

While simple on the surface, the competitive circuit has quickly gained an audience rivaling that of more "serious" shooters such as "Halo" or "Call of Duty." The in-game shops feature not only a wide range of

weapons, but a host of colorful clothes and running shoes to customize your character. There are periodical "Splafests" to compete with players from all over the world. The graphics and style bear many similarities to media from the 90s with the design of the city of Inkopolis and the Inklings being aesthetically similar to TV series from the heyday of Nickelodeon.

As the game has sold over 4 million copies worldwide, "Splatoon" is the ideal antidote to the usual brand of "darker and edgier" competitive shooter that dominates the market. In a world that has a surplus of drab environments being shot up by dismal heroes in dingy fatigues, splattering apartment buildings in color in your favorite pair of running shoes is a welcome change of pace. You're a kid now! You're a squid now!



"THE DUDE" ABIDES 4:20

The cult classic film, "The Big Lebowski," will be playing at the historic Whiteside Theatre in Corvallis

Kick back and relax on 4:20 this year with a White Russian and some words of wisdom from the Dude.

The Whiteside Theatre in Corvallis will be playing "The Big Lebowski" on Wednesday, April 20 at 7 p.m. Advanced tickets are on sale for \$5, and tickets at the door are \$7. Enjoy one of the greatest counterculture holidays ever with one of the greatest counterculture movies ever.

For those that don't know, "The Big Lebowski" was released in 1998. It was written and directed by Joel and

Ethan Coen, and it stars Jeff Bridges, John Goodman, Julianne Moore, Steve Buscemi, David Huddleston, and John Turturro. Despite it not being a big budget, blockbuster movie that grossed hundreds of millions of dollars, "The Big Lebowski" has become a favorite of critics and movie lovers alike.

In his review of "The Big Lebowski" for Empire, Ian Nathan wrote, "In a perfect world all movies would be made by the Coen brothers."

The Whiteside is showing the film

as part of the Wednesday nights at the Whiteside Theatre. It's a series where they show a different classic movie every Wednesday night. Past movies have included "The Princess Bride" and "Psycho." On April 27, one week after "The Big Lebowski," the Whiteside will be screening "Monty Python and the Holy Grail."

Many people might not know that the Whiteside Theatre was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. On the side of the building there's

a plaque that reads, "This property has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of the Interior."

Celebrate 4:20 in historic fashion this year at the Whiteside Theatre with "The Big Lebowski."

STORY BY
KYLE BRAUN-SHIRLEY
@KYLE_WPHP

"THE THING WITH FEATHERS"

Gallery reception held in SSH brings art and poetry together

Like birds of a feather, students, staff, and community members flocked together for "The Thing With Feathers" gallery reception that was held in the South Santiam Hall Gallery on Wednesday, April 6 at noon.

This is the sixth annual Ekphrasis Exhibition celebrating Poetry month, and it continues until April 28.

In the SSH gallery there are 10 featured local artists and 14 poems from students on campus and from the LBCC Poetry Club.

Before stimulating the minds of attendees, the artists and poets were asked to stand near their work. It made for a brief impactful moment watching each person flutter to their positions in the gallery.

Ceph Poklemba started the poetry reading off with his poem titled "Cresting." He wrote "Cresting" because ospreys are one of his favorite birds. He strayed from his norms of poetry and explored something different with this poem and was inspired with the imagery around the Willamette River.

"It was something simple that I wanted to write as I don't write structured or classically styled poetry often, and had a lot of fun playing around with that and off-rhyme schemes as well," said Poklemba.

One poet, Emily Joliff got creative with her presentation for her poem titled "Birds For Thought." She fell in love with birds during her time in Robin Havenicks class; this is where she decided to make poems into birds.

"There's a meditation technique when you're trying to clear your mind, but are struggling with still thinking about a lot of things, you can make your mind a blue sky, and then every thought you have into

a bird flying slowly across your sky, and out of the picture, so that you can finally have a peaceful and rested mind," said Joliff.

Joliff created a bird nest and origami birds from poems and put them on display. She likes to think of words as birds, because they are free and inspiring.

"My reflections cut into folding strips of paper, so that they could be read, but still look like individual little pieces of sticks or draw like a real nest; it was sort of the idea that the finished poems were sitting on their original ideas and thoughts, that the poems sort of "hatched" out of my mind and grew into beautiful things," said Joliff.

Local artist Kerry Bliss has two photographs on display in the SSH gallery. The story she shared behind the photographs was remarkable and heartbreaking at the same time. The two photographs are called "Crow Funeral I" and "Crow Funeral II." She described seeing a crow funeral and her experience that day and in that moment. Bliss left the room speechless.

The gallery reception concluded and attendees dispersed. Each artist and poet put together a wonderful collaboration that manifested, "The Thing With Feathers."

STORY AND PHOTO BY
MELISSA CHANDLER
@MJEFFERS



Alyssa Campbell reads her poem, "Silken Black Dress."

WHAT IT IS TO TRAVEL

by Paige Kosa

We took a drive the other day, the kind that makes the lower half of your body numb. As we drove farther and further, I couldn't help but notice all the things I wouldn't usually see.

Like the reflection of the sun in the raindrops, the freckle on the fourth finger of my right hand, the tabby brown cat dead in the street, and the new words that linked together in my head.

Driving makes me think of poetry, and that really isn't so bad.

One day I'll drive on my own to work or play, but hopefully both, and I won't have to play the music so loud just to shut out the thoughts in my head.

DUPLICITY

By Matt Hoffman

Chick flicks. Yuck. Who watches these ridiculous films? What kind of woman enjoys this dumbed-down suckage? When would a real life relationship look like this? Where do they believe this would happen? Why would women create such unrealistic expectations for themselves? How irrational and unreasonable and hysterical they must be to think these movies reflect what it's like in a relationship. Now excuse me, I'm going to go watch Pornography

IT'S BURNING, OUT

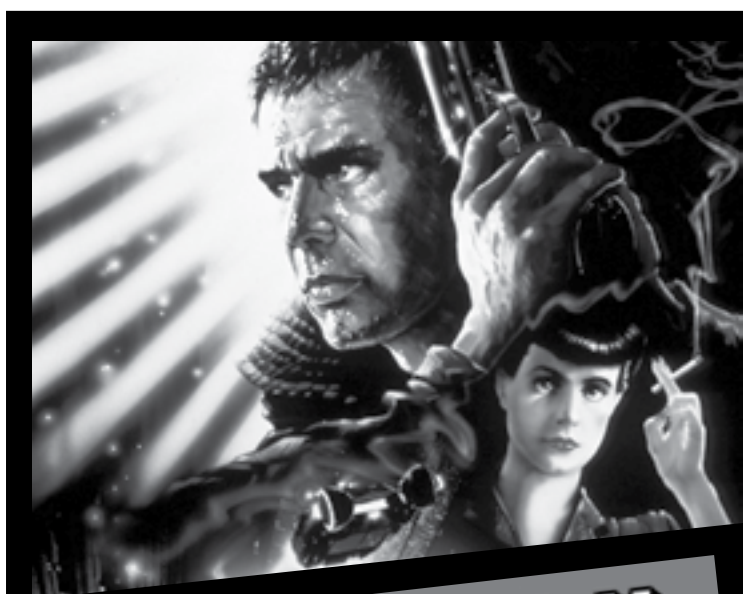
by Christopher Mark Mikkelson

The fire looks warmer in the window. Beyond, raven's urban cousin dips its toes in a funeral lawn, Alights upon a fir older than I, Then cackles its way across the briefly silenced boulevard. But shimmering, superimposed, a breeze-buffed ephemeral fern (all orange leaves of fervor) licks the feet that tread the other side of the street - Lashes the wheels of unrelenting automobiles. It grants a pleasant glow. Looks warmer in the window.

A right angle to the right is without abstraction a naked light.

Bloodless. Yellow. Paler. Bright. Hurriedly turning back to behold branches crooked, withered, old - I've never been so bold that I would seek too long to hold onto a flame that burns so cold, and the fire looks warmer cast upon the window.

PHOTO BY: MORGAN CONNELLY



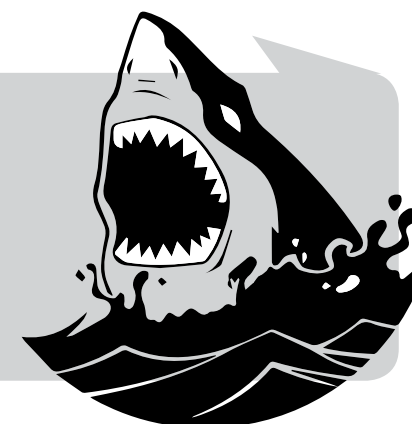
NETFLIX RECOMMENDATION

"Blade Runner"

"Blade Runner" is one of the greatest movies ever made. It's visceral, engaging, and it will remind you why you love movies.

DID YOU KNOW?

Commuter shark week is coming! :D



THE COMMONS Cafeteria

*** MENU ***
4/13 - 4/19

Wednesday (4/13): Kalua Pork with Steamed Rice* and Macaroni Salad, Grilled Chicken with Berry Beurre Rouge and Hazelnuts* Soups: Pozole Rojo*, and Grilled Vegetable Chowder.

Thursday (4/14): Moroccan Chicken*, Roast Beef with Bleu Cheese and Shallot Compound Butter, Mushroom Strudel with Spinach Cream Sauce. Soups: Mulligatawny, and Potato Cheddar*.

Monday (4/18): Pork Ragu over Cavatappi, Marinated Shrimp Tacos*, Tempura Vegetables with Steamed Rice. Soups: Tortilla Chicken*, and Loaded Potato Chowder.

Tuesday (4/19): Poached Salmon with Tomato-Tarragon Browned Butter*, Herb Crusted Chicken with Mushroom and Dijon Bechamel, Saag Paneer*. Soups: Beef and Wild Rice*, and Cream of Cauliflower.

Items denoted with a * are gluten free

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

FOR RELEASE APRIL 13, 2016

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- Like many knock-knock jokes
- Fit together, as some Russian dolls
- Commando ploy
- Square measures
- Pledge
- Magazine with annual Style Awards
- Impressionist who was frequently a guest of Johnny Carson
- Ink stain
- Quite a while
- Org. with Wizards and Magic
- Hard-to-hit pitch
- __ tai
- Greek gatherings?
- Cleared (out)
- Clearasil shelfmate
- Be in session
- Less-filling brews
- Phoenix-to-Albuquerque dir.
- Movie backdrops
- Statute that protects source confidentiality in journalism
- Column on a decision maker's list
- Govt. stipend
- Gem weight
- Copy
- Health club
- Golfer's booking
- Marilyn Monroe and Grace Kelly
- "Holy cow!"
- On edge
- Jackie's second
- Founded: Abbr.
- City near Tahoe
- Menu listing literally represented by this puzzle's circles
- "Dancing With the Stars" co-host Andrews
- Tan shade
- Teapot part

DOWN

- Snickers ingredient
- Paper work?
- Exchange need
- Slangy turn-downs
- Paris fashion monogram
- "Pretty good!"
- Frequent, as a diner
- Mo. town
- With 25-Down, what America is across, to Brits
- Contradict in court
- Court order?
- "This is awesome!"
- Loathes
- Memo starter
- Show sorrow or joy
- Bass, e.g.
- See 9-Down
- Jump on ice
- Hardy title
- Drummer's joke punctuation
- Hobbyist

By C.C. Burnikel

4/13/16

64 Viewpoint
65 Show sorrow or joy
66 "101" class, briefly



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35 Road trip guessing game
36 Morales of "NYPD Blue"
37 Air Force heroes
38 Musical with nightclub scenes
39 1968 to now, in pro tennis
40 Fastidious sort
43 Drummer's joke punctuation
44 Hobbyist

45 Sees after
47 Muddy digs
48 Ripped to shreds
49 Author Blyton
51 Me.-to-Fla. route
52 Core group
56 Channel with numerous sister channels
58 Patch, perhaps
59 Diamonds, slangily
60 "Woe ___": 1996 grammar book

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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PHOTO: MARINA BRAZEAL

Blue Light Special pumps up the crowd with their a capella arrangements.

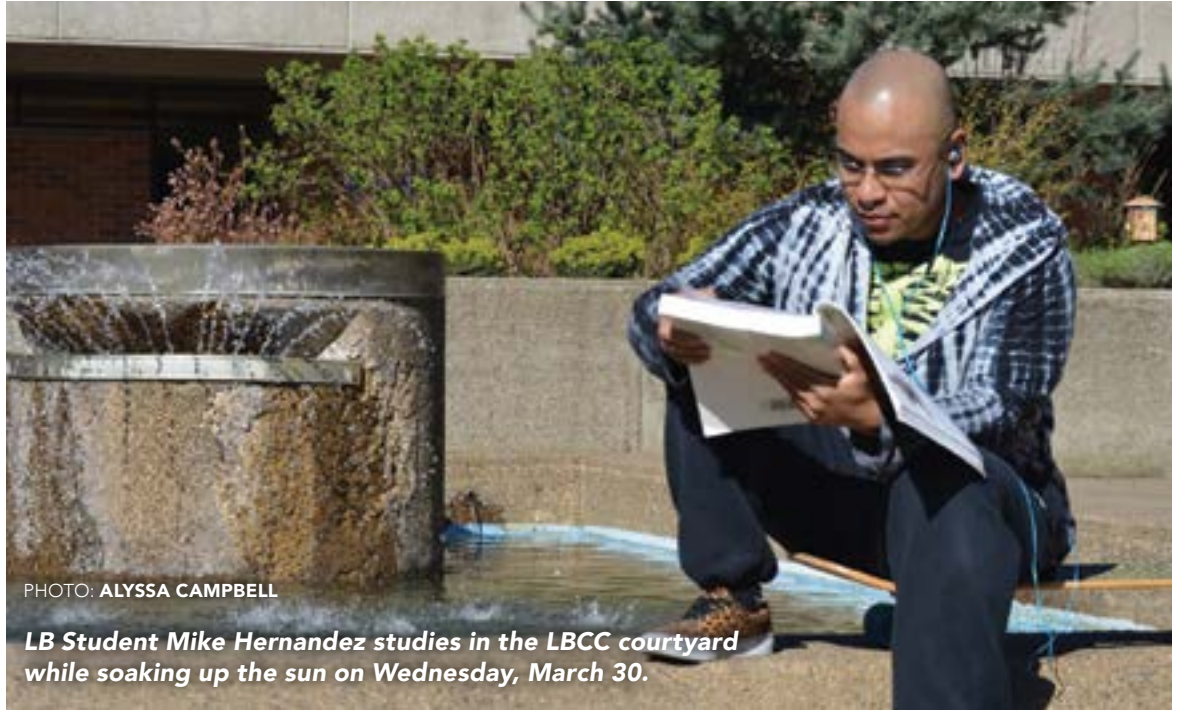


PHOTO: ALYSSA CAMPBELL

LB Student Mike Hernandez studies in the LBCC courtyard while soaking up the sun on Wednesday, March 30.

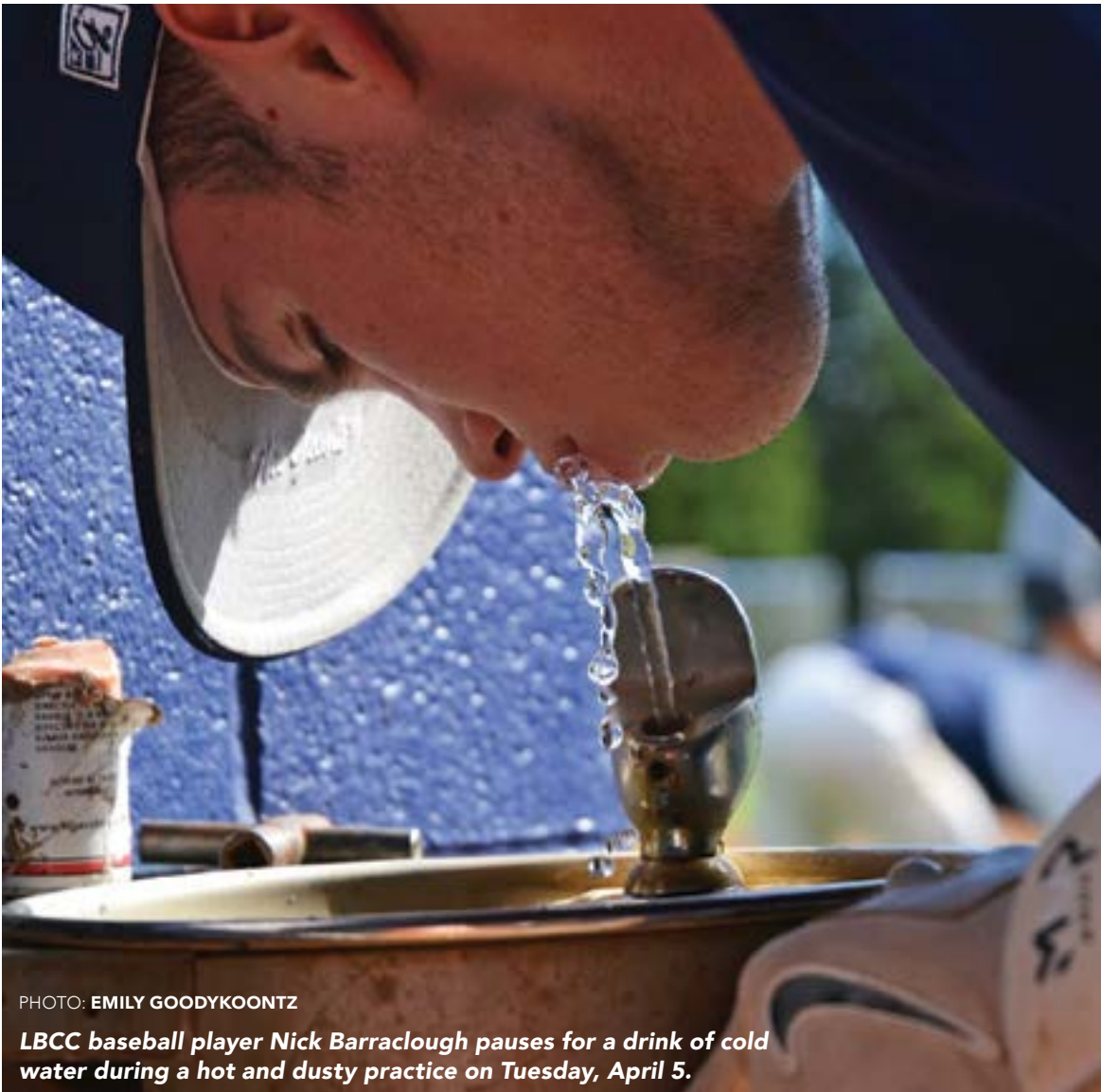


PHOTO: EMILY GOODYKOONTZ

LBCC baseball player Nick Barraclough pauses for a drink of cold water during a hot and dusty practice on Tuesday, April 5.

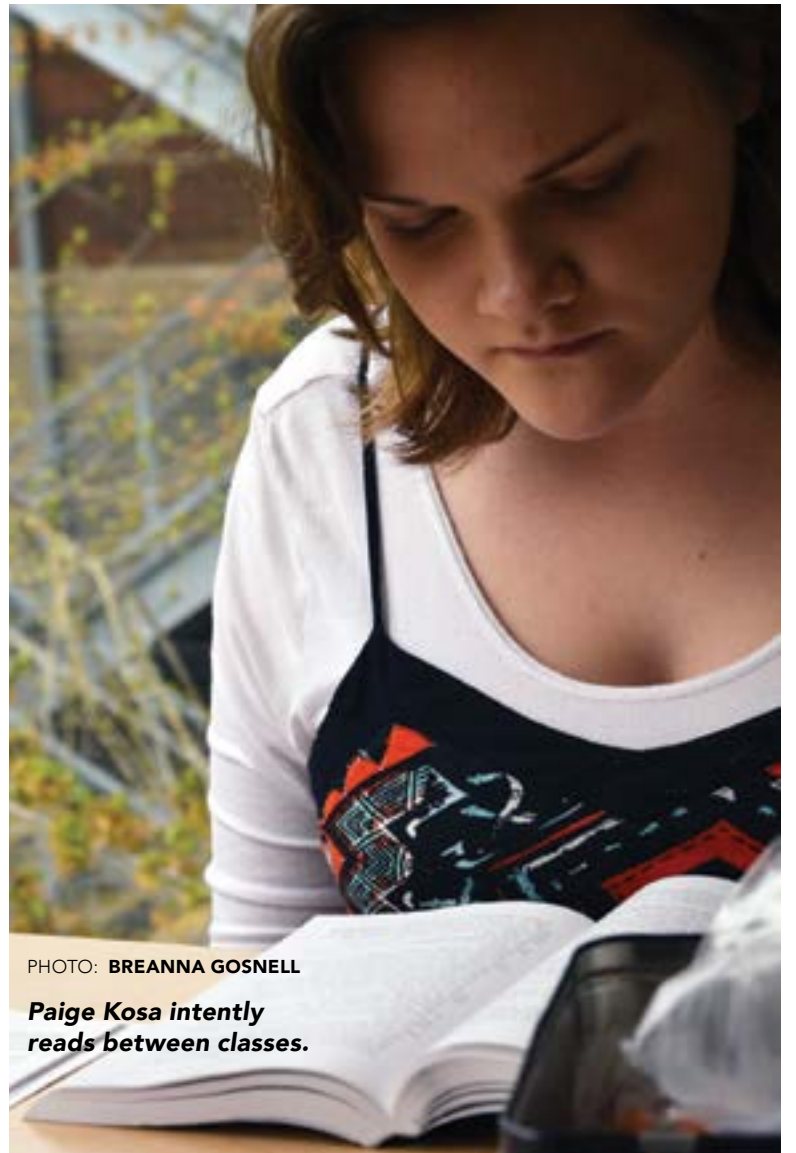


PHOTO: BREANNA GOSNELL

Paige Kosa intently reads between classes.

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PHOTO: TERRI KELLY

Nicki Sinfield gives her horse Marshmallow a cool rinse at the LBCC Horse Center barn.