

# COMMUNITER

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SEE PAGE 5

An image from Julia Rydmen's sketchbook is among many in an interactive exhibition titled "Sketchy Show." The exhibition contains installations and sketchbooks from student artists, on display at South Santiam Gallery.

THE LINN-BENTON  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUTER

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# SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS DRIVE

*Phi Theta Kappa holds drive for sexual assault awareness through April*

STORY BY **ELIJAH MANG**

April is sexual assault awareness month. In honor of this, many choose to show support by donating to the victims of sexual assault.

LBCC's honor society Phi Theta Kappa will hold a donation drive to raise awareness for sexual assault throughout April. The donations will go to CARDV (Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence) and Center for Hope and Safety.

Alena Santos, head of events for Phi Theta Kappa, says that

"PTK will hand deliver these donations to CARDV and Center for Hope and Safety at the beginning of May after the donation is over. The items donated to these two organizations go directly to either [the] survivors of domestic violence/abuse/sexual assault or the organizations themselves."

You can donate by going to the Diversity Achievement Center, or the SLC office where there will be the donation box. Accepted items include toiletries, towels, school and office supplies, used cell phones, bus passes, and children and baby items (toys, games, sippy cups and diapers).

## CAMPUS VOICE

*What did you do for spring break?*



**EMILY KILCREASE**  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

"THIS IS MY FIRST TERM HERE FROM SAN DIEGO AND THE RAIN WAS REFRESHING, WE DON'T REALLY HAVE WINTER LIKE THIS AT HOME"



**ONUR SASMAZ**  
TRANSFER STUDENT

"WENT TO NEW YORK AND LAS VEGAS WITH FRIENDS, THE BEST PART WAS HAVING FUN WITH FRIENDS, GETTING OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AND SEEING SOME NEW FACES"

**RUSSELL RUBY**  
GEOLOGY

"I WENT TO FLORIDA, THE BEST PART WAS THE ALLIGATORS OR THE KEY LIME PIE. IT ALSO COULD HAVE BEEN SEEING THE Ocala NATIONAL FOREST OR THE BEACHES"



**KYREEN VERGARA**  
GRAPHIC DESIGN

"I GOT TO RELAX, AND TO MESS AROUND WITH A NEW GRAPHIC ART PROGRAM ON MY COMPUTER"



**SAUL LOPEZ**  
ENGINEERING

"WENT SNOWBOARDING ON MOUNT BACHELOR, STAYED IN BEND AND VISITED A COUPLE OF BREWERIES"



STORY AND PHOTOS: CAPRIAL LONG

# WYDEN VISITS LBCC

Senator Wyden holds town hall at Linn-Benton Community College.

STORY BY JEREMY DURAND

On any other quiet, rainy Saturday at Linn-Benton Community College, the parking lot would be empty, the halls eerily quiet and the only sound in the courtyard would be the sound the fountain makes as it hits the water. However, March 17 was not any other Saturday.

The western parking lot was busy as the Albany Police Department, assisted by LBCC's Public Safety officers, formed a perimeter around the Activity Center, as Albany Residents filtered towards the gym, looking for a chance to ask United States Senator Ron Wyden their questions and fill him in on their concerns.

Before the town hall, LBCC Veterans Club members Steven Olson and Matt Weaver led the pledge of allegiance.

Afterward the questions started.

An audience member who owns a furniture company in Corvallis that has been affected by tariffs on hardwood took the floor. The tariffs led to the prices of the hardwood he needs for his business increasing 30 to 100 percent.

According to him this increase on hardwood, and not furniture, has led to foreign companies flooding the market with cheaper furniture.

Wyden responded by introducing the idea of "Trade done right". According to Wyden, China and Canada are subsidizing their industries, thus threatening Oregon's economy. This, according to Wyden, allows other nations to undercut the market. Wyden expressed concern and expressed his desire to help industry in Oregon.

Susan Heath came to the town hall to express her concerns about the United States government allowing oil drilling off the Oregon Coast.

Wyden, who voted to confirm Interior



Secretary Ryan Zinke, said he was concerned about the potential for an earthquake off the Oregon Coast.

"He told me he was going to be a 'Teddy Roosevelt Republican,'" Wyden said.

Teddy Roosevelt is remembered for his conservationist efforts and the creation of national parks.

According to Wyden, he voted to confirm Zinke to "extend an olive branch"

"Other than the President, the Interior Secretary most affects Oregon," Wyden said.

However, after being confirmed, Zinke proceeded to plan to sell off government land in Oregon and eliminate the land and water conservation fund.

"If you sell off your public land, you don't get it back," Wyden said.

Eventually, Wyden went to a hearing on the subject, where he asked Zinke a very pointed question.

"If Teddy Roosevelt was sitting in your seat, would he be in favor of eliminating the Land and Water Conservation Fund?"

Wyden proclaimed his vote for Zinke

to be the "biggest mistake of his career."

Another audience member asked Wyden "Do you plan to put laws in place regarding bump stocks and military grade weapons?"

Wyden then responded a simple "yes," leading to an applause.

"This almost seems normal," Wyden said, "We can't let this be normal...We are better than this."

Wyden said that he was in favor of "Universal, loophole free, background checks," and lifting of the "Dickey Amendment" which prevents the CDC from conducting research into gun violence.

Wyden was also concerned about the possibility the National Rifle Association was receiving money from the Russian Government.

"We cannot find a straight answer of if the NRA got money from the Russians," Wyden said.

SLC Vice President Justin Noll, who is also the President of Active Minds, a club that raises awareness of mental health issues, had a question for Wyden.

"All we hear in the media is that 'people with mental problems cause mass shootings'. What will you do to advocate for those with mental health issues?" Noll asked.

Wyden responded, mentioning that his brother had schizophrenia, and that mental health issues were personally close to him.

Eventually, Wyden said he supported a way for mental health issues to be paid for, however, the Graham Cassidy bill undermines Medicaid, making it harder to have a support system in place for those with mental health issues.

A member of the group "Moms Demand Action," asked the Senator about HR 3668, also known as the "SHARE Act", a bill that deregulates silencers for

handguns.

Wyden, in his response, said he opposed this law, as well as a "Federally Mandated Concealed Carry" law. According to Wyden, this law would force states to respect the concealed carry permits issued by other states.

In response to another question, Wyden declared his support for Net Neutrality.

"It's hard to imagine something more revolutionary than the internet," Wyden said.

Wyden said he was concerned about the recent plans of the FCC, saying that a repeal in Net Neutrality rules could lead down a "road to digital serfdom."

Wyden was also worried about Russian meddling in the 2016 election, and concerns about the president, referring to his administration as "government by merry-go-round."

Wyden also gave a statement regarding the dismissal of former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe.

"He was fired because they were trying to send a message of their opposition to the Muller Investigation," Wyden said. "Every single member of congress needs to stand up for the independence of the special council. If the President fires Muller, there will be a full scale constitutional crisis in America."

Wyden, citing concerns that remote access software was being installed by voting machines, said that it was his goal to have the 2020 elections be conducted on paper ballots.

After an hour-and-a-half of answering the questions of community members, Wyden ended the town hall saying that he was an optimist, and finished with a quote by Abba Eban.

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# LB STUDENT RELEASED FROM STATE CUSTODY

Christopher Strahan moved to federal custody after threats against OSU

STORY BY JEREMY DURAND

Former LBCC Student Christopher Strahan is now in federal custody a month after he made threats against Oregon State University.

An email sent by Linn-Benton Community College Students from Marcene Olson, director of safety & loss prevention confirmed that that Strahan was out of custody.

"Christopher Strahan has been served with a No Trespass Order for campus and is thus excluded from all premises and events/activities until permission to return has been granted through the appropriate authorities at LBCC," an email sent to all LBCC Students read.

The email also spoke about LBCC's commitment to be a place free of "fear and anxiety of harm."

"Individuals who are disruptive in the learning environment or create an

environment of fear and intimidation must meet specific requirements before being allowed to be on campus or at LBCC events," the email continued.

In a follow-up email, Olson confirmed he was currently in federal custody.

"The OR VINE alert we received stating that Christopher Strahan (the student that issued social media threats to fellow students last term) had been released from custody, applied only to state custody. The student was remanded to the custody of federal authorities and is currently held pending arraignment toward the end of this month," the follow up email read.

Strahan was arrested in February for making threats towards OSU on Twitter, where he compared himself to Nikolas Cruz, who killed 17 people in Parkland, Florida, as well as said that he was "going to kill every person at this facility."



# CALAPOOIA GALLERY FEATURES VINYL ARTIST

Albany gallery features layered vinyl art images by Bill Thompson

STORY BY **BECKY HOWELL**

Vinyl Artist Bill Thompson was the featured artist for the month of March at Gallery Calapooia, 222 First Ave. W., Albany. The title of the show was “Experimentation and Evolution - 5 Years of Vinyl.”

Thompson, an Albany resident and accomplished artist in many types of media, uses layers of thin sheet vinyl paper to create fine art images in a four step process. Scenes of boats, trees, birds, rivers, animals, and coasts are just some of the intricately detailed images on display.

Thompson discovered the process several years ago while attempting to cut a stencil for a multicolor screen print.

“I’ve been addicted to it ever since,” said Thompson, as he bent over his small work table next to the entrance at Friday’s gallery opening. Several people gathered around Thompson as he demonstrated swift, precise cuts on a square of vinyl with an x-acto knife. Two minutes later

he transferred the geometric image using contact paper onto a coaster-sized tile, and handed the finished art piece to an onlooker. “For you,” he said with a smile.

Thompson makes it look easy. He follows a four step process which he wrote out on a board beside his work table. However, a closer look at the beautiful and intricate layered images on display in the gallery reveals meticulous planning and handling, not to mention great patience for “all the little bits” that make up key shadows and outlines.

Retired for eight years, Thompson said the skills he used in his career as an electrical engineer influenced his desire to pursue and develop his work in layered vinyl.

Eighteen other mid-valley artists have works on display in addition to Thompson’s, and all art can be viewed from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. For more information contact gallerycalapooia.com or call 541-971-5701.



Art: Examples of Thompson's vinyl art.



## Blood Drive Linn Benton Community College

Calapooia Center, Fireside Room  
Next to Commons Cafeteria

**Wed 4/4 & Th 4/5  
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

Please sign up for the 4/4 or 4/5 LBCC blood drive online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) using sponsor code: LBCC, or call 1-800-733-2767.

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# SKETCHY SHOW

Four LBCC student artists, Julia Rydmen, Sophia Elizabeth Mertzler Stephens, Cory Self and Emma Spaulding exhibited their sketchbooks and installations in the South Santiam Art Gallery. The exhibition titled “Sketchy Show” provided a chance for the audience to reach through display cases and thumb through

sketchbooks to look at the process of an artist. The closing reception for “Sketchy Show” took place on April 3. At 11 a.m. students poured into the Gallery, with an opportunity to listen to two of the artists speak about their work. Sketchbooks will be available for viewing until April 6.

ART: CORY SELF  
PHOTOS AND STORY: ANGELA SCOTT



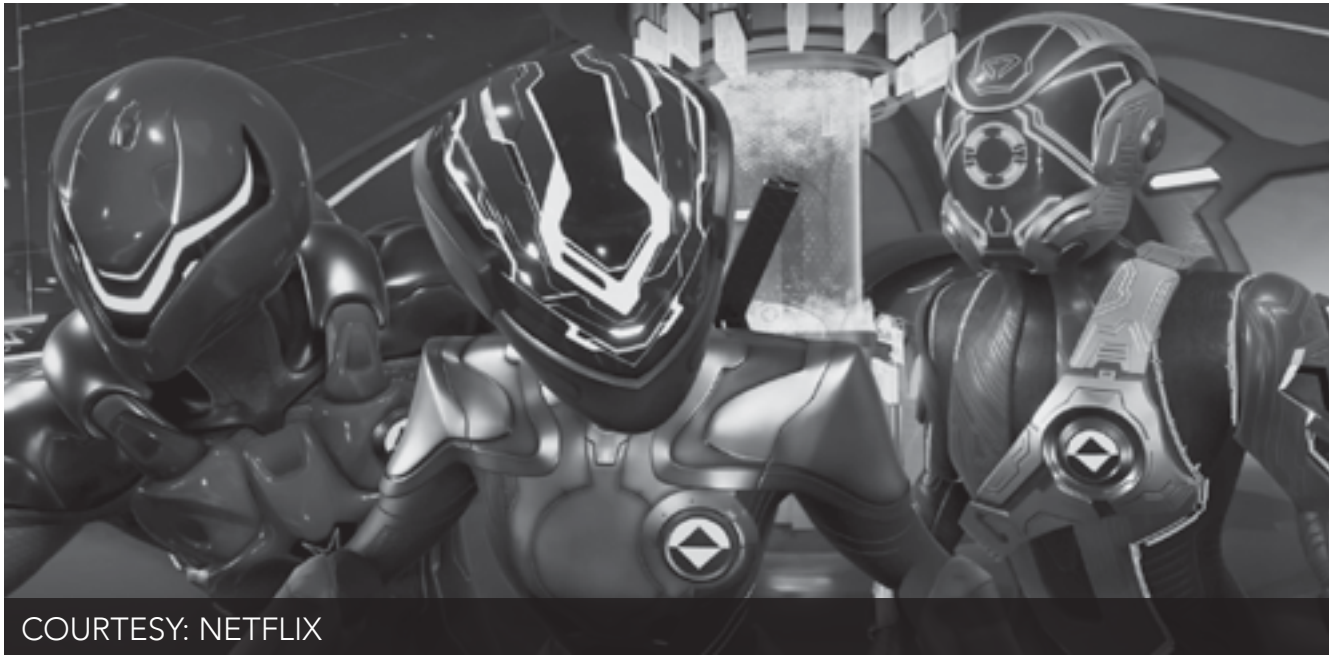
*Emma Spaulding talks about her work as a 3-D artist and how her sketches exemplify her process.*



ART: SOPHIA ELIZABETH MERTZLER STEPHENS



ART: EMMA SPAULDING



COURTESY: NETFLIX

## TV SERIES REVIEW:

**Reboot: The Guardian Code****AVAILABLE ON:** Netflix**STARRING:** Ty Wood, Sydney Scotia, Ajay Parikh-Friese, Gabriel Darku, Hannah Vandenberg, and Timothy E. Brummond with Shirley Miller and Octavian Kaul**CREATED BY:** Michael Hefferon (Based on Characters created by Gavin Blair, Ian Pearson, Phil Mitchell and John Grace)**RATED:** TV-Y7-FV**OVERALL RATING:** 

REVIEW BY  
STEVEN PRYOR  
@STEVENPRR2PRYOR

“Reboot: The Guardian Code” is a follow-up to the original “Reboot” TV series that ran from 1994 to 2001. Even though there is ample room to expand on the ending from the groundbreaking CGI cartoon’s cliffhanger, the series squanders the potential at hand and ends up being one of the worst attempts at updating a beloved animated TV series in recent memory.

The original series was notably the first all-CGI animated TV series, and over the course of its run, set the standard for the many series that followed. Though the once state-of-the-art technology may now be a product of its time, the world of television animation would arguably not be the same without it. While word of a continuation had been around ever since the series ended its initial run, enthusiasm was significantly reduced after the initial reveals on YouTube debuted to roundly negative reception, with downvotes outnumbering likes by a considerable margin.

Now that the series has streamed its first 10 episodes, it seems the backlash from fans of the original series is justified. While the series does attempt to address the cliffhanger from the original series and put a new spin on its premise at the same time, the execution has

unfortunately resulted in one of the most ill-conceived updates to an animated show ever. Not only do the liberties taken with the source material make little to no sense, the series is rife with terrible acting, a derivative plot and special effects that somehow look worse than the original series despite numerous advances in CGI over the past 24 years.

The setting, rather than the world of Mainframe, is primarily the fictional Alan Turing High School. Despite being named for a prominent figure in computer science, the series is rife with mistakes in every episode about how modern technology functions. The source material took great care to handle its world-building, and even used real computer programming terms in everything from the backgrounds to the character names. Here, the series makes numerous errors within the course of a single episode to anyone that’s used a computer; let alone tried coding. The cunning villain of the original, Megabyte (voice of Timothy E. Brummond, replacing the late Tony Jay) has been given an awful redesign and has become the plaything of the decidedly less impressive Sourcerer (Bob Frazer); who comes off like a mixture of a member of Anonymous and Emperor Palpatine from the “Star Wars” saga.

In spite of many advances in CGI since the original “Reboot” first aired, the special effects are absolutely atrocious. The action scenes resemble a low-grade Playstation 2 game, the CGI characters move like action figures and the backgrounds would not be out of place in

old computer screensavers. The scenes in the real world aren’t much better, full of editing and cinematography that often resembles a Syfy Originals TV movie.

Yet, the biggest sins the show commits as an adaptation are grave ones any adaptation can have: the presentation not only shows an active contempt for its target audience, but also has a finale that seems to insult the fans of the original while also trying to cater to them. Cameos from the original cast also seem superficial at best when the show is a more of a mish-mash of many other similar works that have come out over the past 24 years. They include, but are not limited to: the film “Tron Legacy,” the “Power Rangers” sister series “VR Troopers,” and fellow cult favorite animated series “Code Lyoko” (which was not lost on the creators of that series as part of a Twitter backlash against this one).

Although the series has streamed ten episodes of at least 20 planned ones, it’s hard to imagine the series lasting past its first season with critical and fan reception being almost universally-negative, and for good reason. “Reboot: The Guardian Code,” is arguably one of the worst re-imaginings of a beloved animated series since “Dragonball Evolution.” If you’re looking for an animated Netflix relaunch that respects its lineage while also welcoming new audiences, go watch “Voltron: Legendary Defenders.” Far from the “alphanumeric” heights of its groundbreaking namesake, this relaunch is stuck with a “blue screen of death” on arrival.

## Claustrophobia

I almost broke the surface today  
As my fingers curled, I felt the moss  
The sunshine warmed the topsoil slightly  
I was almost free again  
Before he grabbed my ankle and pulled me back  
Clawing, digging, pleading, screaming  
The silt filling my lungs as I protested  
The journey down grew colder fast  
Harsher, bleaker, emptier  
His manner was deceptively calm  
As though I was merely an unruly toddler  
Who had toddled off a little too far  
With no malice sequestered in her heart  
Or thirst for vengeance in her soul  
But I knew better  
The steps he took were too calm, too precise  
The silence was maddening  
Not even a small breath noise broke the silence  
As we approached the wooden box,  
My own personal hell,  
A smile broke his swollen, purple face  
If he had eyes anymore, they might have glowed with glee  
I protested, begged to be left behind  
Filling my words with promises even I knew were empty  
And yet, he locked me in  
Whispering sweet nothings into my decrepit crate  
Telling me that what is dead should stay dead

By: KATELYN BORING

## Untitled

The sultry of your smile is seared into my soul  
It’s stuck there sitting where my failures left a hole  
I’m trying to accept your heart  
But my own can be so cold  
And I would never blame you  
If you decided you had to go  
I’m not the type of person that is likely to grow old.  
Help me, hurt me, please just be near  
Being alone with my thoughts is the only thing I fear  
Come here  
Rest my racing mind  
Let me hold your hand  
Lace your fingers between mine  
And, I know, while I’m with you  
Everything is fine

By: RAVENSHIRE



COURTESY: NETFLIX

NETFLIX EDITORIAL:

**Mute (2018)**

**AVAILABLE ON:** Netflix

**STARRING:** Alexander Skarsgard, Paul Rudd, Justin Theroux, Seyneb Saleh, Robert Sheehan, Mia-Sophie and Lea-Marie Bastin with Dominic Monaghan and Sam Rockwell

**DIRECTED BY:** Duncan Jones

**RATED:** TV-MA-DLSV



REVIEW BY  
STEVEN PRYOR  
@STEVENPRR2PRYOR

“Mute” is the latest film from director Duncan Jones. While the film sports a unique premise and a host of impressive visuals; the film ultimately wastes the potential of its format and ends up being a huge missed opportunity that’s a hot mess of a cyberpunk mystery.

The film’s setup is as follows: a man named Leo (Alexander Skarsgard) resides in a near-future setting of Berlin. He was rendered unable to speak after he was injured in a childhood boating accident, though is still able to have a relationship with a young woman named Nadirah (Seyneb Saleh). One day, Nadirah disappears while Leo is tending the bar, and Leo must face the challenges of his infirmity and his disconnect to a futuristic world to venture into the seedy depths of Berlin to find her. Despite the potential of its premise and the use of Netflix as a distribution platform, the film is ultimately in the shadow of films such as last year’s “Blade Runner 2049” and has very little substance to its admittedly stylish world.

Although much has changed about the world since

Jones initially conceived the screenplay alongside Michael Robert Johnson in 2002; there is ample opportunity to use the genre to examine a rapidly-changing society. Unfortunately, the execution has the side effect of the script having a surprisingly retrograde worldview. It’s a pity, given how Jones ended up providing unique science fiction with his previous work on the acclaimed films “Moon” and “Source Code.” Even his 2016 adaptation of the popular video game series “Warcraft” ended up being a decent entry in the oft-derided field of video game movies. Yet, despite Jones’ passion as a filmmaker; this project never really gets off the ground to reach the lofty heights it aims for.

The film’s strongest element is easily the visual effects. Netflix reportedly spent \$120 million on the production; and it definitely shows. There is a blend of CGI, practical special effects and an overall unique depiction of a near-future Berlin that works to Jones’ strengths as a filmmaker. As the son of late musician David Bowie (who the film is partially-dedicated to the memory of), he has a talent for making even the most common film genres his own.

Still, the film has considerably less strength in its narrative. As the film goes on, it becomes increasingly

clear that it lacks an internal logic to its mystery that makes similar films such as the original “Blade Runner” so endearing. The film’s character motivations and the way scenes are structured make it so you never really have any clear idea on what attitude to adopt for each scene. This isn’t helped any further by an admittedly talented cast having inconsistent performances. While Skarsgard puts on an impressive performance despite going the lion’s share of the film’s two-hour runtime without any lines, comedic secondary characters played by Paul Rudd and Justin Theroux feel out of place and tend to further muddle the mood of the scenes they’re in. It doesn’t help they play roles fitting admittedly cartoonish names such as “Cactus Bill” or “Duck Donald.” Their exaggerated performances seem more at home in a Looney Tunes cartoon than a dark cyberpunk mystery.

Yet, it’s often hard to feel too disappointed with the film. Jones clearly is passionate about his story, even if it never truly reaches the same level as his previous work. Clint Mansell’s score, which blends classical music and more modern electronic sounds also helps track Leo’s journey into the seedy underbelly of Berlin. Even so, the story and characters suffer from an identity crisis that the film is ultimately unable to overcome. Much like Leo being torn between honoring his ancestors traditions and embracing the modern world around him, Jones never really finds a balance between following the conventions of its genre or trying to shake up expectations.

On the whole, “Mute” is a film that has ambition and impressive special effects; but ends up being one of the most underwhelming science fiction films of the decade. Despite its lead’s injuries, the story never seems to grasp a simple concept of communication: just because someone cannot speak, it doesn’t mean they don’t have anything to say.



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\* Gluten Free



PHOTOS: TRACY SWISHER

Cooper Getsfrid elevates for a layup.

# FINAL FOUR FINISH

## Roadrunners fall to Pirates in NWAC final four



STORY BY  
JOSHUA STICKROD  
@STICKRODJOSH

Roadrunner men's basketball finished their historic season with a 89-75 loss to the Peninsula Pirates in the NWAC final four on Saturday, March 17.

After beating the Edmonds Tritons and the defending champion Walla Walla Warriors on March 10 and 11, the Roadrunners traveled back to Everett, Washington to make the program's final four debut.

The first half was a back-and-forth affair with both teams matching one another throughout. Despite LB losing the rebounding battle and the turnover battle the Roadrunners were able to head into the half only down 43-40.

Peninsula was able to get to the free throw line frequently in the second half. The Pirates earned 20 free throws in the second half alone and shot 27-32 from the line throughout the game, while the Roadrunners only shot 4-6 from the free throw line in the game. Free throws down the stretch and winning the rebounding battle 47-29 ultimately made the difference for the

Pirates as they held off LB to close out the game 89-75.

Taylor Jensen lead the Roadrunners in scoring with 17, Trey Ecker finished with 10 points, and Trent Van Cleave dished out 6 assists.

Despite the disappointing end to the season, the Roadrunners still had a historic run. They were the first team in LB program history to reach the NWAC final four, the first team in the program to be a part of back-to-back winning seasons since the 1970s, and the first Roadrunner squad to have a 20 win season.

# EARTH DAY

LBCC **April 19**  
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Taylor Jensen (Right) shoots over Peninsula's Trent Warren on Saturday March 17.



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