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A DAY TO REMEMBER

LBCC holds Memorial Day Vigil

There have been 1.1 million American lives lost defending freedom.

It has been estimated that roughly 25 towns claim to have started Memorial Day, or as it was originally called "Decoration Day," but it was not until May 5, 1868, that the head of an organization of union veterans made it official. It was declared Memorial Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the fallen with flowers.

Major General John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is believed that date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country. The first large observance was held in 1868 at the Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., according to the U.S. Department of Veterans website.

The Memorial Day Vigil event was held on Wednesday, May 21, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the LBCC Courtyard. The event was sponsored by the LBCC Veterans Club. Robert "Bob" Griffin led the American Legion Post 10 from Albany, Ore., while they posted colors in the courtyard.

The ceremony included a brief performance of the National Anthem and "America the Beautiful" by

the LBCC choir.

Lewis Franklin, the LBCC Veterans Club adviser, opened with a brief history lesson and heartfelt stories about the spirit of Memorial Day that included a reading of the Gettysburg Address and "A Soldier's Prayer."

"I have a coin I carry around in my pocket with four stars on it. There were 110 of us that went to Iraq; four did not come back," said Franklin.

His words remind us that Memorial Day is a remembrance of those who fought so others may live.

Mica Smith, the LBCC Veterans club president, thanked the crowd for coming out and explained the meaning of the POW flags posted around the courtyard. They represented those fallen, from the American Revolutionary War to Operation Enduring Freedom. Smith told students 144 American flags were planted in the grass to signify our lost troops.

There were also 48 POW flags planted in the grass. One flag represented 10,000 service members, totaling 48,000 service members that haven't made it home.

"These service members paid the ultimate price for us to be here today. I am just asking you to remember those we have lost. This is our way to remember those. I want to remind you that this weekend is more than BBQs and beer. Drink a beer or a soda and give a toast to those who never made it home," said Smith. "Never forget about those who served; for when they come home they have scars, both emotional and physical. Support them. Listen to them. PTSD is real."

Franklin asked Dan Stone, the LBCC theater director, to speak. Stone was asked what Memorial Day meant to him.

"It is the most important holiday to me, because I come from a military family spanning back to the civil war to present," said Stone.

In The Commons the staff set up a table for the fallen for all to see. Students and faculty were welcomed with the memorial as they entered on their way to lunch. The table reminded all to recall the spirit of not forgetting the past that molds our future. ♡

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
KENT ELLIOT



Color Gaurd from American Legion Post 10.



Veteran pays respects at Soldier's Cross.



POW display mourns missing soldiers.

UNBREAKABLE BOND

As troops are pulled from Afghanistan, American soldiers have been happily welcomed home. Yet, what happens to those left in the political turmoil of Afghanistan?

Chris Grigsby, 48, spent 17 years in the United States Army Infantry. His last deployment was for 13 months in Afghanistan. In February 2006, during this deployment, he met Lais Khan.

Khan joined the Afghan National Army after the Taliban killed his father. When he learned to speak English he became an interpreter, who is capable of speaking four different languages.

When asked to comment on the relationship between Grigsby himself and Khan, Grigsby said, "He saved my life both directly and indirectly more than once."

After creating an unbreakable bond, when Grigsby's deployment was over he flew home, and the two went their separate ways. Khan continued his work for the U.S. government, and Grigsby returned home to Riverside, Calif. They didn't know it, but they would meet again in a very different place.

Seven years later, Grigsby received a phone call.

"Lais worked for the U.S. government the last 9 years. Now that the U.S. is leaving Afghanistan, the Taliban is trying to kill him and his family," said Grigsby.

When Lais inquired about receiving a special immigrant visa and moving to America with his family of four, Grigsby didn't just offer help to this man who had saved his life: he offered his home. A year later, Lais' family, a family none of the Grigsby's had ever met, moved in, bringing three trunks of their only possessions.

Since moving in, the public outpour has been amazing. From food to a car, the Riverside community has reached out to the family. One donor named Sandra Reiersen passed on her family's car to the Khan family.

"We're so glad it went to a good home. The first time we drove that car was to pick up our granddaughter," said Sandra Reiersen.

The transition for the family has been relatively smooth. The families get along well and the children have entered the local public school.

We would all be lucky to have friends like the Grigsby's. ♡

STORY BY **SKYLAR KUND**

CAUSE FOR CONCERN

Threat reported on campus

Friday morning, there was an Albany Police car parked on the south lawn of Takena Hall.

Unannounced to students, threats regarding their safety as well as faculty members' safety had been made.

An unnamed student made a report with campus Public Safety on Wednesday, May 21, alleging he had overheard a small group of students formulating a plot to cause harm on the Albany campus.

The Threat Assessment Team at LBCC followed its set procedures by working closely with local police departments and administrators regarding the steps necessary to protect the campus from the perceived threat.

On Thursday, May 22, Marcene Olson of the Safety and Loss Prevention Team emailed campus staff regarding the threat made on Wednesday.

"Safety is a top concern, so if you notice the police vehicle that will be on campus all day and a greater security presence tomorrow, please know it is only an effort to take every precaution to ensure a safe campus environment," said Olson.

No instructions were given to inform students.

When asked why students weren't informed of the threat Bruce Clemetsen, vice president of Student Affairs, was unsure.

"I don't know why we only notified staff. We need to look at the procedures in place," Clemetsen said.

Dave Henderson, vice president of Finance and Operations, agreed with Olson as justification for not informing students.

"The threats were deemed of low credibility," said Henderson.

Credibility was deemed low, according to the Albany Police Department, because the location and time indicated by the tipster was not verified by school security cameras. 📍

STORY BY **CHRIS TROTCHIE**

STUDENTS RESPOND TO POTENTIAL THREAT

On Friday, May 23, students were asked about their knowledge regarding the potential threat made on the LBCC campus.

The Commuter asked the students if they had heard about the threat on campus. All four students had the same response.

No they did not.

The students were then asked if they noticed the police car that was parked on the lawn in front of Takena Hall. Their reply was again the same.

Yes they did.

The students interviewed were freshmen Zheng Luo, Jacob Walbert, Jimmy Li, and sophomore Luke Yokoyama.

Combined efforts of the Albany Police Department and LBCC Security Department seemed to pay off. No incident occurred on campus as was reported by a tipster on Wednesday, May 21.

A concerned student, after learning of the threat, came into The Commuter office on Friday afternoon and questioned staff present as to why the student body was not notified of the happenings on campus.

Another student reported to The Commuter that they heard of the incident on the radio station KLOO around 6 a.m. on Friday.

The Barometer, the student newspaper at OSU, reported the tip of the threat on their online site Thursday afternoon before The Commuter or LBCC students were informed.

On Tuesday, May 27, The Commuter asked students if they felt they should have been informed by the administration via the "text alert" system that there was a potential threat. All were aware of the threat from various media coverage over the weekend.

"Yes, it would have been nice to let people know even though it was a false threat," said freshman Mitchell Widharma.

"Yes, it should have been," said freshman Kevin Freeman.

"Yes, that would have be nice," said sophomore Leni Morris.

"Yes, it's probably a good thing to let students know so they can be aware," said freshman Michael Johnson. 📍

STORY BY **ALLISON LAMPLUGH AND JARRED BERGER**



PHOTO: **ALLISON LAMPLUGH**

By 7 a.m., Albany Police had made their presence known on campus.

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NEW EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



Allison Lamplugh will be the next editor-in-chief of The Commuter, LBCC's student newspaper and online site.

Lamplugh, a journalism student at LBCC, will be the top editor for the 2014-15 school year. Her tenure officially begins at the end of Spring Term.

The Student Publications Committee appointed Lamplugh Wednesday afternoon. She will succeed Tejo Pack as Editor-in-Chief.

"The Commuter, as a team of journalists, has an obligation to bring current, accurate, and relevant stories to our readers. During Spring Term we had the opportunity to inspire change on campus via our investigative reporting. It was exciting!" she wrote in her application letter. "In my opinion, that's what journalism is all about. Telling the truth for all to see, form their own opinions, and to get involved."

She continued, "The Commuter should be a reflection of the quality of people we have at LBCC and the quality of talent we have writing and editing such stories. It's my goal to be creative with content."

Lamplugh emphasized building on the creative talents of the current staff, giving returning staffers opportunities to

expand their abilities in the coming year, and continuing to make The Commuter accountable to its readers and the LBCC community.

This year Lamplugh has worked as a reporter, photographer, and news editor for The Commuter.

Her work experience includes project manager for Industrial Pixel VFX as well as writer and co-founder of Bear Witness Magazine, both in Los Angeles. She also has worked for Starbucks, Legends Gifts in Nashville, Tenn., and CASH 1/Checksmart in California. She was born and raised locally, in Philomath.

The duties of The Commuter's editor-in-chief include: Appointing and managing the newspaper's staff of editors, reporters and photographers.

Coordinating the work of the staff, including assigning and editing stories and photos.

Leading staff meetings and other newspaper activities.

Representing the newspaper in the college community.

Contact The Commuter staff at commuter@linnbenton.edu or (541) 917-0451.

STORY BY **ROB PRIEWE**

SCHOLARSHIPS UP FOR GRABS

Nearly 100 scholarships are available to students at LBCC.

Nursing, science, welding, environmental technology, foreign language, international student, waste management, pharmacy tech, culinary arts, and automotive are just a few.

Donations for scholarships are made by businesses, organizations, clubs, and individuals. Some are set up by families in memorial of a loved one.

One type of scholarship is a straight cash donation made to be used until the money is gone. A second type of scholarship is called an "endowment" that has a generous minimum of \$15,000 donation. An endowment donation stays in an account and only uses the earnings of the initial donation, ensuring that the money will never run out.

Applications are accepted during the first four weeks of Spring and Fall Term. There may be individual department scholarships offered independently on a case-by-case inquiry, but there are many options for financial assistance if students know where to look. Unfortunately, each year many scholarships go unclaimed.

"Every scholarship cycle there is money not awarded because there aren't enough applicants," said Sharon Wall, financial aid scholarship coordinator.

However, the biggest issue for scholarships not being



rewarded to those that do apply are incomplete applications and failure to provide proof of requirements such as veteran status.

"One great thing students can do is have someone proof and review their application for completeness," said Bev Gerig, director of financial aid.

Financial Aid accepts all the applications and does the initial review of applicants to weed out those that don't meet the criteria or are incomplete. Then applications are put together for Paulette Myers, foundation coordinator at LBCC and for the scholarship committee, which reads all presented applications and decides who will be the awardees.

The committee looks at the financial needs of the applicant and a snapshot of their financial aid picture. Other criteria may be GPA, extracurricular activities, clubs, and volunteer work. Some require sports or SLC leadership involvement. Some require an essay.

Paulette Myers works with high school counselors and the LBCC Financial Aid office to make sure students have as many options as possible and know where to find them.

"I coordinate events and fundraisers like a golf tournament every year. And I sit in on the committee for scholarships," Myers said. "I get to have fun making the money, and I get to have fun giving out the money."

The money is up for grabs, but where can students find it?

The LBCC website has a database of scholarships with detailed information attached to each one. Requirements to apply are named for each, ranging from city or county of residence to age, gender, nationality, or major.

Quick access to the list can be found by searching the word "scholarships" on the LBCC homepage.

The complete list of Fall Term scholarships will be available on September 1.

STORY AND PHOTO BY **ALLISON LAMPLUGH**

JERRY WILLE MEMORIAL



COURTESY: LBCC FOUNDATION

Jerry Wille passed Thursday night at OHSU. He served as dean of LBCC's Business and Computer Systems Division from 2001 to 2009.

He touched lives of many students, faculty, and staff in a positive manner. For those who had the privilege of knowing and working with Jerry, they were truly blessed. For those who did not know Jerry, he helped lay the foundation of family and relationship at LBCC we should all aspire to.

Please keep his wife Carol, his son Rob, and his daughter Kirsten in your thoughts and prayers.

Dr. Wille had a Bachelor of Science in Math Education and a Ph.D. in Statistics from Oregon State University. He joined LBCC as dean of the Business and Computer Systems Division in 2001 after spending 28 years in the industry in various positions at Wah-Chang.

Jerry was a co-captain of the swim team. He was humble enough that if I had not seen a plaque with his name on it, I am not sure I would have known. He was not the type of leader who would vocalize his own accolades - instead it was always others he spoke of highly.

He was the first All-American in Oregon State's swimming history. Jerry Wille, who specialized in the breaststroke, received All-American honors in

1964 and 1965.

Below is a brief synopsis taken from the 2007 Administrator of the Year Award at the Oregon Business and Management Educators that was presented to Jerry.

"Never saying 'no you can't do that' and being understanding when we do something first and ask permission later. Jerry came into our division at a difficult time, when the morale was low and the collegiality among our peers was not at its best. His easy-going attitude, up-front management style, and ability to let us map our own destiny has allowed the Division's productivity and ability to work together as a team. LBCC's faculty have been honored with awards and given the opportunities to provide leadership during his time as our boss--none of which would have been possible if Jerry did not support, applaud, and foster each of us individually and collectively as a department."

A Memorial Service is planned for 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 7, at the First Baptist Church on Monroe Street in Corvallis. It will be a celebration of Jerry's life--Hawaiian apparel and bright colors will be welcomed.

STORY BY **DAVID BECKER**



Black Friday was a huge success. The registration free-for-all that LBCC held on Friday, May 23, led to over 2,000 students registering for 21,212 credits.

Dave Becker, interim dean of Business Administration, Tech, and Industry, said that many faculty noticed that students were showing up for advising to prepare for Black Friday Registration.

The one-day event, which started at 5 a.m. and ran until midnight, allowed students to register for classes, regardless of number of credits completed or financial holds. Though students are able to register if they have financial holds, those holds must be paid off or have a payment plan set up by June 11.

LBCC faculty are pleased with the results of Black Friday and have already begun to put them to use. Leslie Hammond, associate dean of Liberal Arts, Social Systems, and Human Performance, said that she's "really happy with how Black Friday played out."

"It was exciting to have such a great response from students, which tells us that students are ready and wanting to register earlier in the term than we've previously allowed," Hammond said. "I'm hopeful that something like this event demonstrates to students that LBCC cares about them and their future, and if they make the commitment in the Spring, we will make every effort to support their goals."

Katie Winder, dean of Arts, Social Science, and Humanities, is anticipating further results.

"We won't know until the Fall if Black Friday had the impact that we hope it did; we need to see what the retention rate turns out to be," said Winder. "But, we can and have already been able to make some schedule adjustments to accommodate what students want and need. We actually added a few classes." 📍

STORY BY **WILLIAM ALLISON**

Weather

SOURCE: **WEATHER.COM**

WEDNESDAY
SHOWERS
65/47

THURSDAY
PARTLY CLOUDY
71/47

FRIDAY
SUNNY
82/52

SATURDAY
PARTLY CLOUDY
83/52

SUNDAY
PARTLY CLOUDY
75/52

MONDAY
CLOUDY
69/48

TUESDAY
SUNNY
76/51

FITNESS EXPERIENCE REVIEW

Fitness is a must, but where can we find it? Look no further, Fitness Experience is just around the corner.

Fitness Experience is a gym located in Albany. The building has a custom logo "FE" colored in a vivid lime green. It has several tinted windows on the front of the building, definitely hard to miss.

Work up a sweat any day of the week, however hours vary day to day.

Unlike most gyms, Fitness Experience has plenty of workout equipment and multiple rooms. They have many machines for any one particular body part of focus. It's a one-stop exercise shop.

"I joined Fitness Experience because of its location, size, and available equipment," said member Brad Garrett.

Other services offered include group spinning, Zumba,



and Crossfit. Fitness Experience even has a colorful child care center for children at practically no cost: it's \$2 per hour. Where else are you going to find a deal like this for child care? Nowhere, should be your answer.

Fitness Experience prices are far more affordable than most gyms, especially considering all the helpful

and wonderful services provided. They have a three-month special for only \$127.

Brent Riley has been a member for over a year.

"It offers me a place to lift," said Riley. "Exercise makes me happy."

The staff are helpful, and trainers make fitness fun and comfortable.

"I'm a member so I have a place I can go everyday to train," said Garrett. 📍

BUSINESS REVIEW: **Fitness Experience**

WHERE: 1715 SE Hill St in Albany

HOURS: Monday to Thursday 4:45 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday 4:45 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

PHONE: 541-917-3488

EMAIL: FitnessExperience@comcast.net

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY **MELISSA JEFFERS**

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The Commuter Presents

Arts & Entertainment



LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Horror mixed with comedy is one of America's many genres of films and plays. A little jolt of fear with the levity of a chuckle can make any story memorable. However, no play is as anticipated and memorable as one about a certain human eating plant and small shop of unsuspecting victims.

The theater department put on a production of Howard Ashman's "Little Shop of Horrors." The reviews and the turnout for the play were much appreciated by the crew and cast of this "deviously delicious sci-fi musical classic."

The play had a lot of colorful characters and also had a handful of students that were part of the crew.

"I live and breath science fiction and horror films, especially the classics from the '50s and '60s," said Director Dan Stone. "This play has been a labor of love and a pleasure to bring to life."

The year is 1960, and the story begins with the meek floral assistant Seymour Krelborn (Tanner Ausbun). Krelborn, who is an orphan and outcast, is brought up by Mr. Mushnik (James Murray V). Krelborn works in Mushnik's flower shop alongside a battered young woman named Audrey (Kelsea Vierra).

In these hard times Mushnik plans on closing the shop.



Ausbun, Vierra, and the plant wax romantic.

However, Seymour shows off his interesting new breed of plant, Audrey II (voice of Jakob Holden), named after his secret crush.

Over time the plant grows to the size of a German shepard and we meet the sadistic dentist, Orin (Travis Bazanele), who is also dating Audrey. In the process of Seymour trying to figure out how to get rid of Orin, we meet the sassy, big-haired trio, Ronnette (Kim Willaman), Crystal (Alyson Stewart) and Chiffon (Zoe Alley).

Orin eventually suffocates himself by wearing a special mask of nitrous-oxide, and Seymour is able to feed the carcass to the plant.

In the end Seymour shares his feelings with Audrey, now that Orin is out of the picture. And after a series of unfortunate events, Seymour feeds Mr. Mushnik to the plant as well in order to cover up his misdeeds.

The foul-mouthed, R&B singing, carnivorous plant promises unending fame and fortune to the down and out Krelborn, just as long as he keeps feeding it blood! Over time though, Seymour discovers Audrey II's out-of-this-world origins, and its intent on complete global domination.

The production had a wide range of help from all areas of the theater and performing arts department, including a 17+ person crew, a full cast and even an orchestra conducted by James Reddan.

"I thought they did a fantastic job on the show. The characters were spot on and the [cast members] did a wonderful job portraying them," said Miriah Fordham, an LBCC student who attended the show. "I've seen the original, and they nailed this. I couldn't have asked for a closer resemblance to it."

The play was shown in the Russell Tripp Performance Center and ran May 15-17 and May 22-24. 📍

STORY BY LEX PORTER



The trio perform in fabulous matching costumes.



The cast and crew pose for a group photo.



COURTESY: LBCC THEATER DEPARTMENT

Vierra, Ausbun, and Murray sing one of the many memorable songs on their beautifully detailed set.



SHERPA

More than just a guide

With the many difficulties Sherpa people already face while living in a third-world country such as Nepal, guiding tourists and climbers on Mt. Everest does not make their life any easier.

On April 18 the Mt. Everest avalanche took 16 Sherpa lives; 13 bodies were found and three are still missing.

The next morning's news included no names, no ages, no backgrounds, no stories. It simply referred to them as the Sherpa people.

Sherpa is an ethnicity. Their ancestors immigrated from eastern Tibet hundreds of years ago. The name Sherpa means "people from the east." They are well-known for their mountaineering skills and tolerance to high altitudes. When Mt. Everest opened up to explorers they took the opportunity to make money as guides.

They make a living with this job, but they do more than that. Not only the physical work, but the trust and family-like relationships they build with climbers.

"They work with us, alongside us, and for us. They are just some of the nicest people I've ever met in my life. I got to know a lot of them pretty well, and they became family members," said Ben Jones, a senior guide from Alpine Ascents, in a documentary called "Everest Avalanche Tragedy" on the Discovery Channel.

Foreign climbers don't often meet their Sherpa guides until they arrive at the base camp. Everest Base camp is 5,364 meters (17,598 feet) above sea level. According to Discovery, this base camp is higher than any mountain in Europe, but the camp is only two-thirds of the way to the peak. Due to the fact that the base camp is built on a glacier the ice constantly shifts. This requires the Sherpa people to rebuild the base camp every year.

On top of rocky glaciers, the Sherpas shovel away pointy rocks to flatten the space needed to set up tents and lay out equipment.

Once building is complete, the base camp looks like a miniature facility. The Sherpa guides continue working their magic, bonding and making people feel like home by brewing hot tea and cooking traditional food. Before climbing the highest mountain on Earth, the Sherpas take time to have the Puja ceremony.

A Puja ceremony is performed to ask the mountain gods for permission and blessings. The Sherpa people believe the mountain gods reside in the mountain and no one should step onto the mountain before pursuing them.

The goal of the expedition on April 18 was to make sure Joby Ogwyn reached Everest's highest peak before flying down in his wingsuit. However, to climb higher, they first have to pass the Khumbu Icefall.

Khumbu Icefall is another glacier-structured area at the bottom of the mountain. Above this area ice is more stable, but at Khumbu ice is constantly moving. The Sherpas who climb up first to this area are called the icefall doctors. Their job is to find the route and set the ladders and ropes. Due to the glacier's instability they have to redo this every year. Other Sherpas who set up and maintain camps along the upper route carry heavy gear on their backs. They climb through the Khumbu Icefall at least 20 times before they notify the foreign climbers the route is ready.

Every year Sherpas die during such expeditions. This year 32 Sherpas from Joby's expedition were on the mountain when the avalanche hit. Only half of them survived. It's unfortunate that the Sherpas have to make their living doing this dangerous job, and even more unfortunate, their stories are neglected in mainstream medias.

Foreign climbers pay more than \$100,000 for expeditions to summit Everest but climbing Sherpas make only \$5,000 a year. Other Sherpas who occupy non-climbing positions make even less.

"Without them, men like me will never be able to get up there," Joby Ogwyn noted in the same Discovery Channel documentary.

History chronicles the exploits of Edmund Hillary, Jim Whittaker, Willi Unsoeld and Tom Hornbein and other mountaineers, but the heroic deeds of the Sherpas and their names are nowhere to be seen. 📍

STORY BY **YULING ZHOU**

TO HELP THE SHERPA COMMUNITY:

Donations site: www.sherpafund.bigcartel.com

Sherpa Education Fund:

www.sherpaedfund.org

For more info: www.facebook.com/pages/2014-Mount-Everest-avalanche/268151980025149#

ACTIVE MINDS HOSTS SUICIDE PREVENTION

LBCC's chapter of the Active Minds Club proudly hosted Lynn Bain and her Suicide Prevention presentation at the Albany LBCC campus on May 22.

Room 206 in North Santiam Hall facilitates learning, and last Thursday was no exception.

Lynn Bain led 35 students and faculty through her presentation that both reassured and informed each person in the room that there is hope when dealing with suicide issues. She stressed that getting involved is the answer.

"My son took his life when he was 19. Even though I had been trained and worked as a counselor for 20 years, I didn't recognize the seriousness of his situation. Since 2002 I actively sought out training in the field, and as a department we started offering workshops on campus. We also formed a Suicide Prevention Coalition on campus comprised of faculty, staff, and students. Our goal was to organize activities to spread information about suicide prevention campus-wide," said Bain.

Mark Weiss initially contacted Bain on behalf of the Active Minds Club to organize a time and place to conduct the suicide prevention presentation.

Weiss is a part of the Career Services department here on campus as well as an active member of the Active Minds Club. He "pitches in from time to time," helping organize events for the club. Weiss shared some words regarding his concern around the issue of suicide.

"First and foremost, that suicide is all too common at colleges and universities throughout the country, accounting for over 1,000 student deaths per year. Second, that most suicides are preventable, if a) someone reaches out to the student who is suffering, and 2) there is awareness of how to get help."

Bain provided the group with a multitude of educational resources, including links to www.halfopus.com, and also referred the assembly of staff and students to the Active Minds website www.activeminds.org, both of which provide information regarding suicide prevention.

Bain has taken tragedy from her life and refocused it into educating students and peers in the complex issues that surround suicide. She emphasized the importance of recognizing warning signs and that offering help can prevent suicide.

"My hope is that we all can be more comfortable discussing the subject of suicide, and mental illness in general," said Bain. "Mental illness is treatable, and suicide is preventable. Where there is help, there is hope."

The Active Minds Club meets once a month on the Albany campus. The next meeting for the group will be at noon, May 30, in room 107 of the North Santiam Hall building. 📍

STORY BY **CHRIS TROTCHIE**



DID YOU KNOW?

Australia's red kangaroo is the world's largest marsupial. Males can grow to over five feet tall and almost 200 pounds. They can reach speeds of 35 miles per hour, cover 25 feet in a single hop, and jump six feet high. However, a baby is born smaller than a cherry and stays in its mother's pouch up to eight months.

THE EYES OF A PHOTOJOURNALIST



PHOTO: KALTLYN FARRELL

Caleb Mitchel competes in the 800 meter.



PHOTO: KALTLYN FARRELL

Chris Bladorn clears his hurdle perfectly.



PHOTO: PAIGE MILTON

Amber Lengele rides her mare.



PHOTO: JANICE RYAN

Jesse Jolson showing off on his motorbike.

THE COMMUTER PRESENTS FICTION, POETRY AND ART....

THE PICTURE WINDOW *A story of fiction*

Amelia lowered herself onto the faded love seat by the picture window. The late afternoon was pale and slanted. The room where she had raised her children and played cribbage with Charley's friends, was reflected in the glass. The olive love seat and gold davenport with a crocheted throw, the fireplace which had remained cold and swept for years, were skewed and transparent. She gazed out, transfixed. The face of an old woman, shrunken, her eyes large and her hair thin and pale, looked back at her.

"My mother is staring at me." She darted a look at her husband. Her voice trembled, "She is standing outside, just staring."

Charley ignored her, or perhaps he was sulking. Lately he was angry with the world, startling Amelia with his uncharacteristic cursing. He had, only an hour before, tried to walk away, out of his life, past the dandelions who had won the forty year war, down the street on which he longer knew a living soul, but the nurse had caught him before he reached the sidewalk.

"Why won't she come in?"

Mary sighed. She slipped her phone into the pocket of her scrubs and drew the blinds. "She's planning on coming back later, Amelia."

"She could at least have said, 'Hello.'"

Amelia's bird hands tangled together in her lap. Tears pooled in her gray eyes and rolled down the channels in her cheeks.

Mary plumped up the cushions and tucked in the throw around Amelia's lap. "Rest your eyes, Amelia, it's been a long day."

"It's been a long day." Mary spoke quietly into the phone, cradling it in the crook of her neck while she hunted in her bag for her cigarettes.

"Are you with the hilarious couple? Did Charley find his pants today?"

Every morning Charley stumbled from his bedroom, his underwear sagging, his legs white and naked but for the rippled drapes of skin. "I don't know which end is up!" He would declare and then demand to know who had moved his pants. This had become a joke for Mary and Janet. They had a lot of jokes about the hard things in life.

"They really should be in a home." Mary was tired and she had three hours left on her shift. She described Charley's attempted escape to her best friend. Thank God she answered the phone. I'm going as crazy as Charley and Amelia. "He keeps chanting obscenities. 'I fucking hate this. I can't think. Something is drastically wrong! If I had

a gun, I'd blow my head off."

"Are you worried that he will become violent?"

"No, he doesn't have the strength; he's as frail as a kitten."

"Poor darling. How is Amelia doing with that?"

"Not well. She doesn't understand." Mary described little Amelia, fading from sight, missing her mother. "Could you just, please, play a couple of games?" Online Scrabble was one of Mary's standby escape mechanisms. "I have to go. Charley and Amelia are talking about me."

"What are they saying?" Janet chuckled.

"They are looking at me suspiciously and saying, 'What is she doing here?' Oh no, Amelia has just opened the blinds and she's looking out again."

Mary crushed out her cigarette on the concrete porch and went back inside. The shadows were lengthening. She drew the blinds against the approaching evening, and settled the hilarious couple in front of the television. It was a nature show. She went to the mantel and straightened the pictures of their life. The men and women in the frames held their children and smiled at her. She checked her phone: three games. ♡

STORY BY DARI LAWRIE

STORMCLOUDS *A story of fiction*

Gregory sat on a bench atop the hill overlooking his town. That town was his community, he thought. Community. Communism. Commune. Communion. From high up it looked small and faraway. The three o'clock family "dinner" he ate was faraway and small. Mother had prepared it in Grandma's old home. Her old home. An old home. The old home in the old folk's home. Home. Holm. Holm was somewhere in faraway Europe. Or it was a kind of oak. Uncle Roth reminded him of an oak. He was taller than anyone in Grandma's house except his brother, who wasn't there. At the table Mother had spoken to Uncle.

—I sent him a text, so I'm hoping he'll call Mom sometime today.

Grandma hadn't looked up from sawing her slice of steak. Her posture was so studious; he imagined that was how he looked writing essays. He couldn't write clean or quick. Grandma couldn't eat steak quick. Maybe she was too concentrated or maybe she couldn't hear what Mother said. Maybe Uncle didn't hear her either, because neither of them said a thing. Neither did the other brother who wasn't there. He didn't say much of anything anymore. He didn't have any dark hairs anymore either, as if the colour in his hair was ink that spelled out his words. No more words anymore. Anymore. More. Moor. More moorland. More mooring. Like his family. Moored. Mired. Mired silence. Mired silence and the sound of steak being sawed.

STORY BY DENZEL BARRIE

This story continues on the Commuter Website. Visit us at LBCommuter.com/2014/05/27/stormclouds/



Digital Imaging & Prepress Technology



1



2

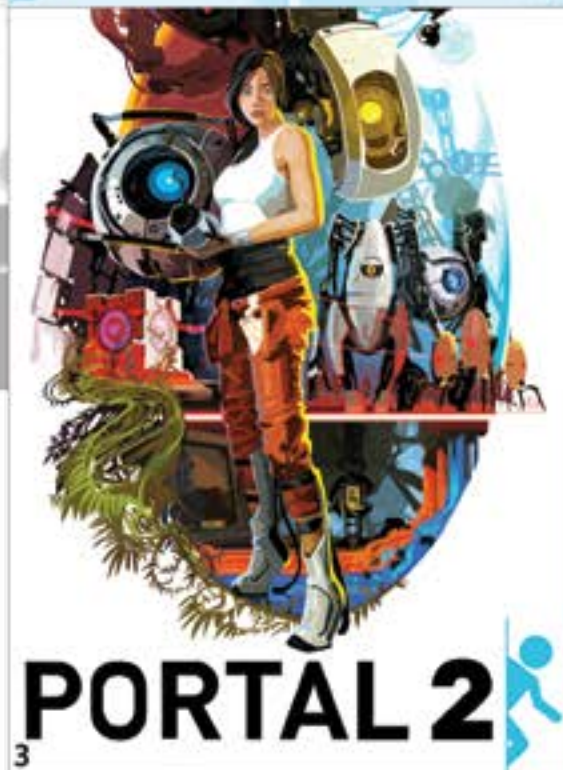
graphic arts

Students in the Digital Imaging & Prepress Technology program here at Linn-Benton spend three terms learning the Adobe Design Suite®.

The certificate is the first year of the Graphic Arts program. In the second year students will do course work on packaging design, corporate identity and advanced typography.

Students often work with real world clients during their second year with past clients including the ABC house and The Corvallis Arts center.

Are program is located in South Santiam Hall off the gallery that is currently showing the work of the graduating class.



3

1 A simplified travel poster in Illustrator® by Yara Kim.

2 A radial symmetry project created in Illustrator® by Julia Lont.

3 A simplified travel poster in Illustrator® by Jessica King.

4 A surreal image created using Photoshop® by an instructor.

5 A simplified travel poster in Illustrator® by Julia Lont



5



4

STUDENT ART

PHOTOS BY: KENT ELLIOTT



Erica Heath's "Victorian Doe".



Rosalie Lingo's "Stardust".



Tristan Anthony's metal sculpture.



Ginny Gibson's "Relaxing".



Cheri Shones' "Circles".



Gundega Snepste's "Leaf Pitcher".



Matt Chaney's "Symbiont".

Poetry Page

“Excellence”

To take our hot air
loose sand
brambles – flopping canvas
drifting off
too often working
against ourselves
you—knit our canvas build
baskets of bramble
capture
hot air
tether flailing parts
hand us brushes and rollers
buckets of paints
to craft
our own designs
yellow polka dots on
solid blues
magenta stripes across
oranges – tartans of gold
maroon evergreen
red black and brown—
trace delicate portraits
with the finest strokes
of brush
or splatter the wildest nothings
filling the clear sky with color
riding gondolas past every sunset
in hot air balloons
teachers help build
with ideas words and support
filling the sky with excellence
flamboyant mad excellence

By. EAMPH the first

“Field of Seeds”

The mound overgrown
weeds sprouting where players belong
in this field of dreams
a spirit lies in wait for spring
to bring life to the park
and the darkness to fade
into the glory of cheers and jeers
it waits for dreamers to make reality
in this soil
blood, sweat and tears will fall again
and the fruit of glory will bloom
in this field of dreams

By. Kent Elliott

“Vivian”

She keeps her convictions tucked away
In the bottom of her green velveteen bag
Like a grandmothers flask for benedictions
Tentative from all the lives she spent in a haze
A sign placed onto her by prior generations
So many others went under and assimilated
When bleached splashed onto their hives
So she stands in the wake of a riotous “you go girl!”
The hollow chant a cacophony of all the ways that
Life took a bend and brought her back
Reverb throbs through her body at the latest show
Lights strobe in circles around all the unknown faces
She stands in the crowd smiling shyly
While playing her thoughts down
Taking everything that surrounds like a drug
Feeling textures in a new way like smelling
An old lover’s flannel shirt: coffee, high grade and dog air
What a lethal combination for the memory banks
to withdraw from
Girl child sways and reflects in the darkened crowd
suddenly stepping out
Across the threshold covered with thousands of dried
flowers, gnarled vines
A threat to the industrial world in their organic tenacity
Stepping through the archway with a little red
Cloud floating just above her mind’s eye
She is viewing the flora for the very first time
She is going to burst through the daze like a
fucking crescendo pane
And shatter the pretenses of life in the modern age

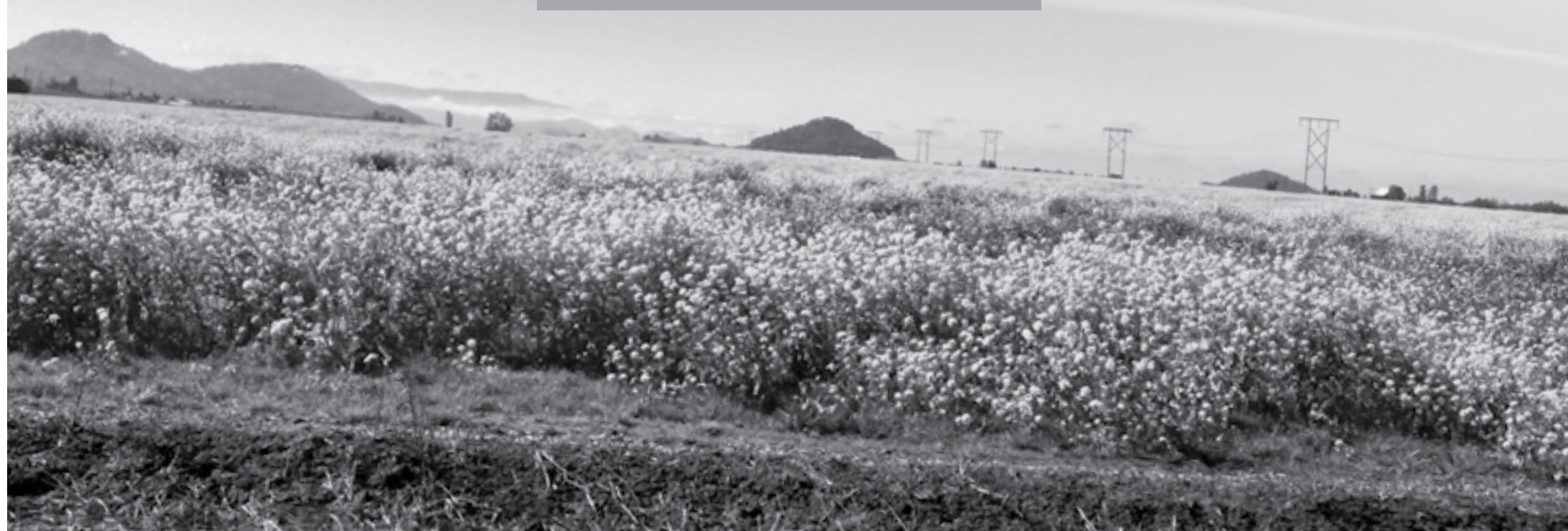
By. Megan Mitchell

“Learning”

this is how it starts:
you are young, vulnerable,
homogeneous metamorphic rock
tabula rasa
“blank slate”
and the earth with her
Infinite tendrils
must impress upon you
her chalky-white lessons,
once-were oceans
and the foraminifera.
and so this is how you change:
weather erodes and chips away,
sediments crumble
and conglomerate
and suddenly, pieces of you
everywhere
strewn about this Lady.
you may try to compensate:
take fractures of fish,
bone and flesh,
press them into yourself
attempt to redress
the metamorphosis-
but you are sand now,
symbol of time.
the Knowledge comes with Time.
this is how it ends:
it never really does.
your pebbles press
under heat and pressure
you become measured,
something of your former self,
before melting completely,
insidious magma,
your reflection not a glow,
but a slow burn.
but the earth still turns.
it turns,
and you topple,
and finally relinquish yourself
to the eventual frost
that comes with a new identity.
this is how it starts:
you are older, volcanic tuff
igneous stuff,
and the earth in her
Infinite familiarity
holds to you
turning you over, again
and again
and again
because the rock cycle
never stops.

By. Kiera Lynn

For even more Poetry
Corner visit us at
[LBCommuter.com/
category/
entertainment-2/
poetry/](http://LBCommuter.com/category/entertainment-2/poetry/)



MORE STUDENT ART



Jeenie Balkins' "There Was an Old Shoe".



Shad Worden's metal sculpture.

LOVE CONQUERS ALL *Oregon approves marriage for everyone*

On May 19 a federal judge threw out Oregon's same-sex marriage ban, making Oregon the eighteenth consecutive state of legal victory for gay marriage advocates since last year's U.S. Supreme Court ruling that overturned part of a federal ban.

Equality is on the rise all over the country as state after state lifts the ban of same-sex marriage.

In Oregon same-sex couples were able to marry, however they would not have the same rights as a heterosexual marriage nor would they be recognized in the state as legally married.

State officials earlier last week refused to defend Oregon's constitutional ban and said they'd be prepared to carry out same-sex marriages almost immediately if it was struck down.

U.S. District Judge Michael McShane in Eugene ruled that the voter-approved ban was unconstitutional and discriminated against same-sex couples, and he ordered the state to stop enforcing it.

In Portland, couples lined up outside the Multnomah County clerk's office in anticipation of Monday's ruling.

The National Organization for Marriage wanted to interject on the cases that had been brought forth by four gay and lesbian couples and defend the ban on behalf of its Oregon members. But McShane rejected its request.

The group appealed, and on Monday a three-judge panel

of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals denied its bid for an emergency stay.

"I believe that if we can look for a moment past gender and sexuality, we can see in these plaintiffs nothing more or less than our own families," wrote McShane, "families who we would expect our constitution to protect, if not exalt, in equal measure."

McShane has joined judges in seven other states who have struck down same-sex marriage bans, though appeals are underway. Oregon's ruling is not expected to be challenged.

In most debatable events and situations opposition towards the matter always arises and is expected, especially when discussing the idea of a same-sex marriage.

Some critics pointed out that most states still prohibit gay marriage. They also note that in most states that do allow gay marriage it was the work of courts or legislatures, not the people.

However, Oregon backed up its ruling with the Oregon Family Council by releasing a strongly worded statement.

"The state colluded with gay-rights groups to sidestep the will of voters, and a judge allowed it," they wrote.

A little closer to home, according to Benton County spokesman Rick Osborn, within the hour of Judge McShane's ruling that same-sex marriage was legal, county officials had worked out the systemic details

with the state and were ready to begin processing marriage licenses immediately.

Unfortunately, the marriage license process for filing has a two to three day wait, therefore same-sex marriages were not immediately issued.

"We are going to apply the same standard for the waiting period that we have always applied for marriage licenses," said James Morale, county clerk.

Local clergy lost no time in preparing to perform wedding ceremonies for same-sex couples.

Rev. Liz Oettinger of the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Corvallis had local ministers and secular officiants ready to wed same-sex couples starting Thursday, May 22.

As of May 19 she has lined up 14 clergy in five churches who participated in weddings last Thursday and Friday.

"We had weddings at First Congregational (4515 SW West Hills Road) from noon to 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and from 10 [a.m.] to 2 p.m. on Saturday. We had officiants ready to perform both religious and secular," said Rev. Oettinger.

The weather was decent enough to have both religious and outdoor settings. 📍

STORY BY **LEX PORTER**



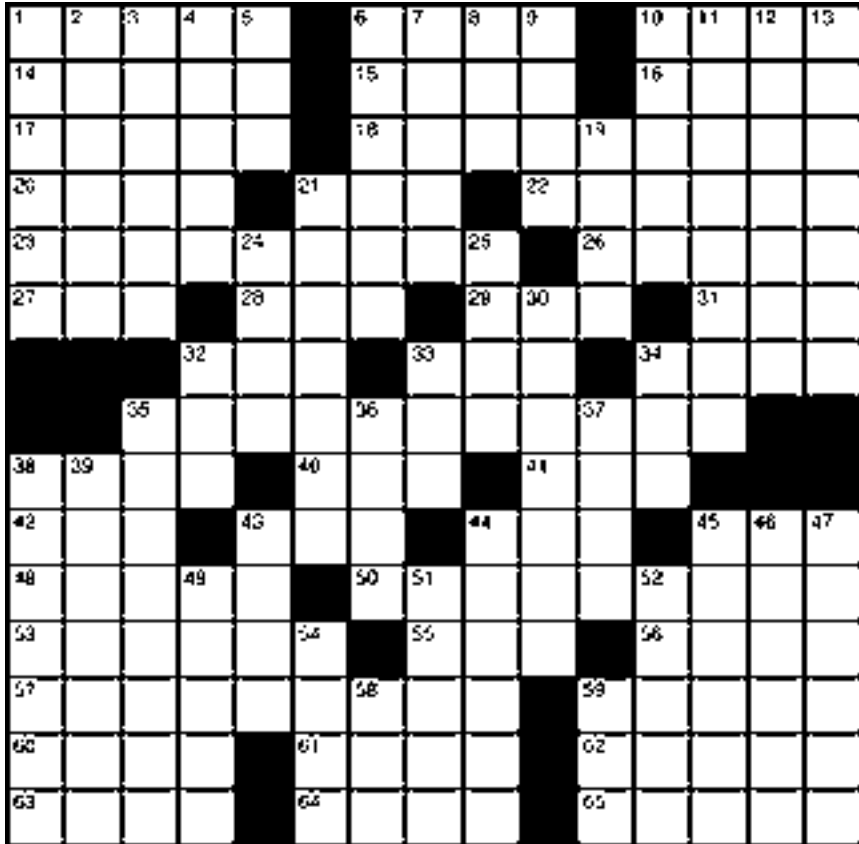
COURTESY: **BETH OLSON CREATIVE**



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Hardly hardy
 - 6 Wind instrument
 - 10 Minute Rice instruction
 - 14 Caused
 - 15 Title lover in a 1920s Broadway hit
 - 16 Cartoonist Peter
 - 17 Camp Granada chronicler Sherman
 - 18 Hipsters who prefer old-school programming languages?
 - 20 Minute Rice instruction
 - 21 "Knots Landing" actress ___ Park Lincoln
 - 22 Mythical transport
 - 23 Tiny Timex?
 - 26 Challenger, for one
 - 27 NFL gains
 - 28 One was written to Billie Joe
 - 29 Bolted, say
 - 31 Not 'neath
 - 32 Shot
 - 33 It's inspired
 - 34 British bombshell Diana
 - 35 Golf club used as a dance pole?
 - 38 Literary ___
 - 40 Hikes
 - 41 Scam
 - 42 Pack animal
 - 43 Friday is one: Abbr.
 - 44 Boxers' org.?
 - 45 Memphis-to-Mobile dir.
 - 48 Register button
 - 50 Furrier's assessment?
 - 53 Latin catchall
 - 55 Garden tool
 - 56 ___ bene
 - 57 R2D2's bar order?
 - 59 Kind of acid
 - 60 Mime
 - 61 Part of Q.E.D.
 - 62 "A Horrible Experience of Unbearable Length" author
 - 63 "We should!"
 - 64 Mates
 - 65 Two-part curves



By Jack McInturff

05/28/14

- DOWN**
- 1 Carrying extra weight
 - 2 Another round, perhaps
 - 3 Goes off script
 - 4 2006 World Cup champion
 - 5 Colleague of Boris
 - 6 Get out
 - 7 Options above "none of the above"
 - 8 Pointed end
 - 9 Org. created by the 1964 Civil Rights Act
 - 10 Iliac lead-in
 - 11 Magician's way out, maybe
 - 12 Whole number
 - 13 Team lists
 - 19 Fill the hold
 - 21 Aphid predator
 - 24 Type of malware
 - 25 Bristle
 - 30 Slow flow
 - 32 Western star makeup
 - 33 Pop-ups, e.g.
 - 34 Cozy retreat
 - 35 Had to wear the winning team's jersey, say

Last Edition's Puzzle Solved

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

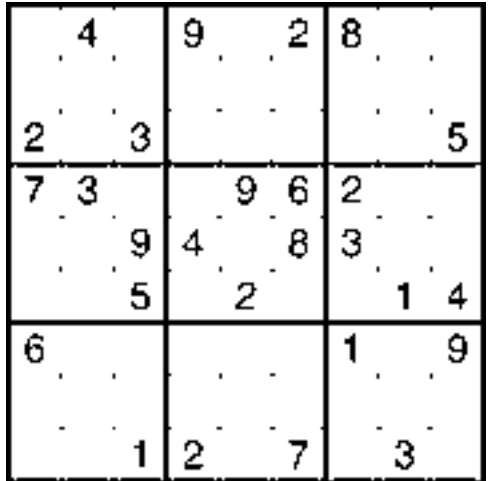
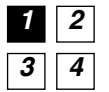
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- 36 Decides
- 37 Viva ___
- 38 Like some files
- 39 Carbon-14, e.g.
- 43 Narrow cut
- 44 Scrubs
- 45 Puts away
- 46 Ricky Gervais' forte
- 47 Demands, as payment
- 49 "Zut ___!": French exclamation
- 51 In front
- 52 Hoity-toity types
- 54 "Great Expectations" convict Magwitch
- 58 Stat for Clayton Kershaw
- 59 Busy one that has made its mark in this puzzle's five longest answers

SUDOKU

THE SANUKAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:



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 LAST EDITION'S PUZZLE

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

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ADVENTURES OF R.J. AND JAMES



CREATED BY: **JAKE VAUGHAN & CAMERON REED**

THE COMMONS Cafeteria

... MENU ...
May 28 - June 3

Wednesday: Theme Day! Tour the World through the Wonderful Movies of Disney, Champagneskinke* (Denmark/ The Little Mermaid) - Ham cooked in Champagne, Crawfish and Shrimp Etouffee (Louisiana/ The Princess and the Frog) - Cajun Stew over Rice, Falafel Pita with Tabouli (Middle East/ Aladdin) - fried chickpea patties in pita bread with yogurt sauce, Spam, Eggs and Rice (Hawaii/Lilo and Stitch) Soups: Selskapssei Gryte (Creamy Fish Soup) & Spinatsuppe (Spinach Soup) (Norway/Frozen)

Thursday: Chicken Crepes, Grilled Steak with Beurre Rouge*, Spring Vegetable Phyllo Pie, Soups: Shrimp Bisque* & Vegetable and Wild Rice*

Friday: Chef's Choice

Monday: Braised Chicken, Omelet Bar*, Sweet Potato Empanadas, Soups: Chicken Tortilla*, Dilled Potato Chowder

Tuesday: Pork Vindaloo, Chicken Breast - Chef's Choice, Vegetable Lasagna, Soups: Borscht* & Cream of Broccoli

Items denoted with a * are gluten-free

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

CAMPUS BULLETIN

- June 4 noon to 2 p.m.** - Speaker Loren Chavarria will be in the Diversity Achievement Center talking to students about women in agricultural work and the dangers that they face.
- June 5 at 7:30 p.m.** - The LBCC Choir will be performing "Journey in Song" at Russell Tripp Performance Center. Tickets are available in Takena Hall. General Admission is \$10, Students \$7 and people under 18 are \$5.
- June 17 at 7 p.m.** - Master Sculptor, Adrian Arleo will present a free slide lecture of her work at Lane Community College in the Indoor Amphitheater in Building 10. Lane Community College is located at 4000 E. 30th Ave. in Eugene.
- June 22, 23 at 6:30 p.m.** - The Cottage Theatre will be holding auditions for the musical "Assassins." They are looking for 10 men, 3 women, and 1 boy (between age 8-10). The Cottage Theatre is in Cottage Grove at 700 Village Drive.

THE COMMUTER

The Commuter is the weekly student-run newspaper for LBCC, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty and students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters, and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

Letters Welcome

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. The Commuter attempts to print all submissions received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, privacy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter submitters do not represent the views of the Commuter staff or the College. Deliver letters to:

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ADVICE FROM WEISS



COLUMN BY MARK WEISS

Question: I'm graduating and I'm not sure what to do next. I know my degree should help me get a job, but I haven't done any job hunting while in school and all of a sudden I need one. Is there anyone at the college who can help me.

Answer: Yes. Come into the Career Center in Takena Hall (or at Benton Center or Lebanon Center) and there are folks to help. You can get help putting together a resume (to reflect your new level of education and new skills), help with interview skills, you can get career counseling, and then there's a job listing system that you can take a look at.

Question: I am about to graduate and, fortunately, have a job offer from one of the larger, local companies. I want to rise to the top. I want to really go for it and climb that ladder. But what kind of person makes it to the top?

Answer: In my experience there are two kinds of people who make it to the top of organizations and businesses. 1) People who are passionate about their careers and will sacrifice just about anything to succeed. 2) People who are passionate about doing a certain kind of work in the world and will make every effort to see that work come to fruition.

So, on the surface, anyway, my answer is that you have to be passionate about something, either yourself or something you want to create and make happen for the community and the world. But my advice, like with the last question, is to come into the career center and talk with someone. There's so much more to career success than just having the passion; and to a large extent success is really a function of who you are as a person, to your personal values and beliefs. ♡

THREE'S A CROWD

CREATED BY: JASON MADDOX



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- Bilingual Assistant**, Job ID 384, Albany
- Cook**, Job ID 383, Corvallis
- Financial Rep.**, Job ID 381, Various Locations in OR
- Mechanic Tech 1**, Job ID 385, Corvallis
- Yard Work**, Job ID 376, Corvallis
- Farm Mechanic**, Job ID 197, Junction City

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LIBERALLY LENIENT

Where's My Free ID Card?



COLUMN BY
TEJO PACK

Voter fraud is a sad, terrible part of any balloting system. There will always be that one person or group of people that think, "If we could just find some way to cheat the system, then maybe we could win." Sometimes they get away with it, and sometimes they don't.

For those looking to rid the system of such corruption a familiar topic of conversation is floated, "identification verification." If voters were only required to show an ID when they voted, then it would eliminate the cheating of the system.

Though this seems like a reasonable correction to an ongoing problem, the first question I asked myself is, how much of a problem is voter fraud?

According to votingrights.news21.com, of the 146 million registered voters in 2008 only 10 cases of voter impersonation turned up. That equates to about one case per 15 million registered voters, or less than 1 percent of the total registered.

If these figures are accurate, then even having the conversation of correction is a minute point.

"Voter fraud at the polls is an insignificant aspect of American elections," said elections expert David Schultz, professor of public policy at Hamline University School of Business in St. Paul, Minn. "There is absolutely no evidence that [voter impersonation fraud] has affected the outcome of any election in the United States, at least any recent election in the United States," Schultz said.

Even if fraud was a big part of the election process, the most important point to examine would be whether requiring ID is constitutional at all. The Fourteenth Amendment requires equal rights for residents of a state, especially when it comes to voting.

"If anything is wrong with our current voting system, it is the fact that states continue to ignore laws and bylaws set by our government for the entire union . Amendments and Supreme Court rulings aren't guidelines, that if you morally agree with, you then follow. They are creeds commonly discovered when we as a people realize where we have gone wrong."

In the case of *Harper v. Virginia State Board of Elections*, it was determined that imposing any fee associated to voting is in direct violation of this amendment. In fact, the court speaking on their ruling said, "To introduce wealth or a fee as a measure of a voter's qualifications is to introduce a capricious or irrelevant factor."

Saying that only those who can afford to own or obtain a valid ID card should be able to vote is discrimination, plain and simple. If you are going to require that everyone have an ID, then you'd better start giving those things out free of charge or figure out a way to completely rewrite the Fourteenth Amendment.

At this present time more than 30 states require a valid ID when voting. In states like Texas (starting this year) if you cannot provide a valid ID, then you will have to fill out a provisional ballot and return within six days with an ID. The only people exempt from this scrutiny are those who have suffered from a natural disaster or have a signed affidavit stating religious reasons.

If anything is wrong with our current voting system, it is the fact that states continue to ignore laws and bylaws set by our government for the entire union . Amendments and Supreme Court rulings aren't guidelines, that if you morally agree with, you then follow. They are creeds commonly discovered when we as a people realize where we have gone wrong.

It is the right of every American citizen, poor or rich, to be able to vote. It should never be the right of a state to say any different. Especially when their reasons for setting those guidelines represent less than one percent of the voting process.

Voter fraud is a very horrible thing, but convincing voters that it plays a major role in the election process is another evil altogether. ♡

CONSERVATIVE CORNER

One Person, One Vote



COLUMN BY
DALE HUMMEL

Well, the primaries are over in Oregon, and very soon there will be, once again, politicians and political volunteers pounding the pavement and knocking on doors to get your vote.

No matter what your political affiliation or even whether you vote, voting is very serious.

We are indeed blessed to be living in a country where we can change things that we, as citizens, do not approve of. We do not need to worry about a king, dictator, or some tyrannical power telling us what we can or can't do.

If we do not like a politician, we can vote them out; if we do not like a law, we can change it. If we feel we need a special person in congress or the White House to help us with the kind of change that is needed, we vote for the person.

Unfortunately, some groups and people feel so strongly about helping out their favorite candidates during a political campaign that they will do anything to get that person elected, even if it means committing voter fraud.

Voter fraud took place during both the 2008 and the 2012 presidential elections. One of the ways that voter fraud took place was through intimidation. According to www.washingtontimes.com a "uniformed member of the New Black Panther Party" posted himself at the entrance to a polling place in the 1200 block of Fairmount Avenue in Philadelphia during the 2008 presidential elections. The very same thing happened during the 2012 elections when www.wnd.com reported that Malik Zulu Shabazz, national chairman of the New Black Panther Party, said in a radio interview that his racist group may deploy at voting booths in the November presidential elections, claiming such a move is needed to ensure there is no "intimidation against our people."

"Using the dead to win elections, I'm sure, isn't just a Democratic thing. It's just the finger seems to be pointing their way."

Another kind of voter fraud that is now coming out into the open is voter registration of the dead. Even www.nrp.org states that "more than 1.8 million dead people are currently registered to vote. And 24 million registrations are either invalid or inaccurate." Voter fraud gets narrowed down even more when www.whitehousedossier.com says, "Dead people have long been a major Democratic constituency, given that Democrats mostly control the big cities where such voter fraud — and other types — tends to occur." Using the dead to win elections, I'm sure, isn't just a Democratic thing. It's just the finger seems to be pointing their way.

A case of fraud that gained some national coverage was that of Melowese Richardson, a poll worker who used her position to vote for Obama multiple times, according to www.breitbart.com. Richardson pleaded no contest to four counts of illegal voting in 2009, 2011, and 2012 and was charged with voting for her sister, who is in a coma. Four other counts were dropped in exchange for Richardson's plea. She has had past charges, from witness harassment to theft to assault, and told Judge Robert P. Ruehlman during her hearing, "I take the law into my own hands. I do what I want." How can we stop voter fraud and people like this from putting the wrong person into power? One way is using voter identification.

If everyone could prove who they were with a passport, driver's license, or even a basic ID card, that would most likely keep illegals, the dead, and fraudulent people from voting multiple times. Apparently www.motherjones.com thinks that the idea of needing ID for voting is a form of suppression and even hints that needing ID is racist. Does that mean that it is also racist to need an ID for cashing a check, buying alcohol, renting a DVD, or driving a vehicle? Obtaining an ID is actually quite simple.

From what www.oregon.gov tells us, all we need is proof of your legal name, proof of your legal residence in the United States, your social security number, and \$44.50. Granted, that much money is hard to get some times, but in today's world having an ID is a necessity.

Elections are an extremely important event. If the wrong people fraudulently get the wrong people into an elected office, the effects can be disastrous. Let's ensure that everyone gets one vote. Until we find a better system, voter ID is the best way to ensure there is no voter fraud and that each person gets only one vote for a fair election. ♡

Please send opinions and responses to:

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Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the administration, faculty and students of LBCC. Editorials reflect the opinions of the authors.

The Commuter encourages all students, staff, faculty and administration to be engaged in conversations and discussions on current topics.

ELLEN GIVES BACK

Comedian and Talk Show Host Ellen DeGeneres created a lot of ruckus in the Corvallis area on the afternoon of Saturday, May 17, after sending out a tweet that lit up Twitter and eventually made its way to Facebook.

"I hear Oregon is beautiful this time of year. I also hear something fun is gonna happen at @OregonStateUniv on Wed. Now you heard it too."

There was speculation all weekend and into Monday that she was going to be in Corvallis promoting Coldplay's new album. She confirmed late Monday that she would not be at OSU but would be in her studio interacting with OSU students via satellite.



through the crowd looking for five people that were the worst dressed. Once she selected them she brought them inside the barricades and spoke to them.

There were two segments of the show that included OSU. In the first segment the five selected people were told by Ellen to search for the J.C. Penney boxes which had cash inside. There were five boxes total. The five chosen people had seven minutes to find the boxes.

In the second segment the lucky five who each got a box opened them to see how much money they won. Ellen DeGeneres, with the help of J.C. Penney, gave away \$17,000 total. One box had \$10,000, one had \$5,000, one had \$1,000, and the two others each had \$500.

Last week's recording of the Ellen DeGeneres Show was the first time in over three years that a national T.V. show has come to Corvallis. The last time was in

December 2010 when ESPN College Gameday set up shop in the same location to broadcast their three-hour college football pre-game show live from OSU's campus.

The OSU episode of the Ellen DeGeneres show will air on Wednesday, May 28 on NBC. If you receive Portland stations the show runs at 3 p.m. on KGW. If you are in the Eugene viewing area then the show will run at 4 p.m. on KMTR. ♡

STORY BY JARRED BERGER

On Wednesday, May 21, all was revealed.

It turned out that she sent her correspondent, Jeannie Klisiewicz, to Oregon State University in Corvallis to give away money to five lucky people in the crowd. The theme for the show was "Worst Dressed Dad" in honor of Father's Day which is on June 15.

By 2 p.m. Wednesday nearly 2,000 people, mostly students, flocked to the show's set which was located on the Memorial Union Quad on campus. Before recording started at about 3:30 p.m. Ellen's correspondent went



PHOTOS: WILLIAM ALLISON

Caption.

SOPHOMORES MOVE ON

Volleyball players and family celebrated departing sophomores Thursday, May 22.

Eight players are leaving the team along with the team's manager.

Three players signed letters of intent to continue playing volleyball after leaving LBCC, and all departing members will complete a degree or transfer by fall.

Sarah Rudzik graduated with her AAOT in December and is currently attending OIT in pursuit of her bachelor's in radiologic sciences.

Karissa Mobley is graduating in June with an AAOT.

Kaci Nonnenmacher is also graduating with an AAOT in June and will attend George Fox University fall term with a focus in exercise science.

Samantha Kelsey achieved Senior status at Oregon State University in the interior design bachelor's program.

Rylee Hickman is transferring to Lewis & Clark College where she will pursue a bachelor's in biology and education. Hickman signed a letter of intent to play volleyball for the Warriors in the fall.

"[I] thought the team was like a second family," said Hickman when asked what she enjoyed most about being a part of the program.

Abby Hardie is transferring to Concordia University where she plans to get a bachelor's in marketing and advertising. Hardie signed her letter of intent to play for the Cavaliers in the fall.

Carly Roderick is completing her AGS degree in summer. Roderick is planning to attend a college in California in the fall.

Emily Kozlowski is graduating in June with her AAOT. She was accepted at Portland State and George Fox University, and is still deciding where she will attend in the fall. Kozlowski wants to pursue a degree in graphic design or visual design and communications.

Team manager Carly Philpott is completing her AAOT degree in the fall. Philpott plans to pursue a bachelor's in human development and family sciences in the winter.

Although the team is saying goodbye to these players, recruiting and returning freshmen show promise for next year's squad. Those interested in attending games in Fall Term should check the LBCC calendar and show support for next year's team. ♡

STORY BY ANDREW GILLETTE



COURTESY: NWACC

GIPSON TO COACH BASEBALL RESTART



After the announcement of the return of the baseball team, we now know that we will never have to experience another spring without baseball for a long time. We just needed to fill in one more piece of the puzzle: a good coach to lead this team to victory as Coach Hawk did for so many years.

LBCC has found that piece. His name is Ryan Gipson.

For the past two years, Gipson has served as assistant baseball coach at Dixie State University in St. George, Utah. Previously, he worked as an evaluator and instructor at Baseball Northwest, as undergraduate assistant coach at Oregon State University, and as the head coach of the Eastern Hills Hornets, Western Australian Provincial League in Perth.

Gipson played professionally for the Eastern Hills Hornets, the Yuma Scorpions of the Golden Baseball League in Arizona, and the Rockford River Hawks of Frontier Baseball League in Illinois. Gipson graduated from Oregon State, and played for OSU's College World Series Championship team in 2006.

Commuter: What are your expectations for the baseball program?

Gipson: My expectations for the program are to field a competitive NWAACC South Region team, and a team that takes pride in succeeding in the classroom.

Commuter: What three aspects of coaching do you intend to implement as the new head coach?

Gipson: 1) We will strive to achieve competitive greatness. I have to give credit to Coach Pat Casey of OSU for that way of teaching. Competing is not a sometimes thing. It happens on and off the field.

2) We will bring a high energy approach to every aspect of coaching and teaching our guys on and off the field.

3) We will stress the importance of "accountability." I want our guys to be able to count on each other, again, on and off the field.

Commuter: How will your previous playing/coaching career help you as a head coach?

Gipson: I coach the way I do because of who I played for, where I played, and who I have coached alongside. I played at the junior college level before I transferred to OSU, and because of that I'm a huge advocate of the JC/CC route for a student athlete.

Commuter: What do you want students and future players to know about you?

Gipson: This opportunity is a huge honor for myself and my family. Getting my 10-month-old son and wife back to the Northwest near our family means the world to me. I plan on seeing LBCC baseball be successful on the field and hopefully creating a buzz on campus. Go RoadRunners! ♡

PHOTO COURTESY LBCC

STORY BY COOPER PAWSON

Commuter Correction



This photo was run with an incorrect photo credit. This photo was taken and provided by LBCC student Sarah Melcher. Our apologies to Melcher for our mistake.

VOLLEYBALL GOES BEHIND BARS

L BCC's volleyball squad organized a volleyball clinic for girls at the Oak Creek Youth Corrections Facility in Albany on Wednesday, May 21.

When the women arrived at the facility, coach Jayme Frazier took a moment to express the goal of holding the event for the second consecutive year.

"Volleyball is not the main thing here. It's about making a connection," said Frazier.

The team was not sure of the participation that they would get from the girls that might not have attended last year's event or the level of interest that the participants would show.

The event started with Frazier showing warm-up drills that involved getting the girls comfortable hitting the floor, simulating contact that is expected from normal volleyball plays in a game.

Frazier blew the whistle, and volleyball players and girls attending the event starting playing cat and mouse, a variation of tag where girls have to avoid contact and join a pair of girls laying on the ground.

"People that were standing on the sides opened up

towards the end," said Sarah Brown.

Although the girls were in the facility for committing a crime, the players seemed to put that aside and enjoy playing a game for the day.

"(We) did not realize how much of a difference we are making for them," said Emily Kozlowski when asked what stood out most about the event.

Kristen Epps said, "Talking to them and hearing their story" was the best part of the event.

One of the facility employees said the girls had been looking forward to it for over a month and had signed up early.

The event continued with the girls learning techniques and even enjoying a scrimmage between two teams comprised of volleyball players and the girls.

An event that is a community outreach for troubled girls turned out to be a great experience for both parties involved. ♡



Volleyball team visits Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility.

STORY BY **ANDREW GILLETTE**

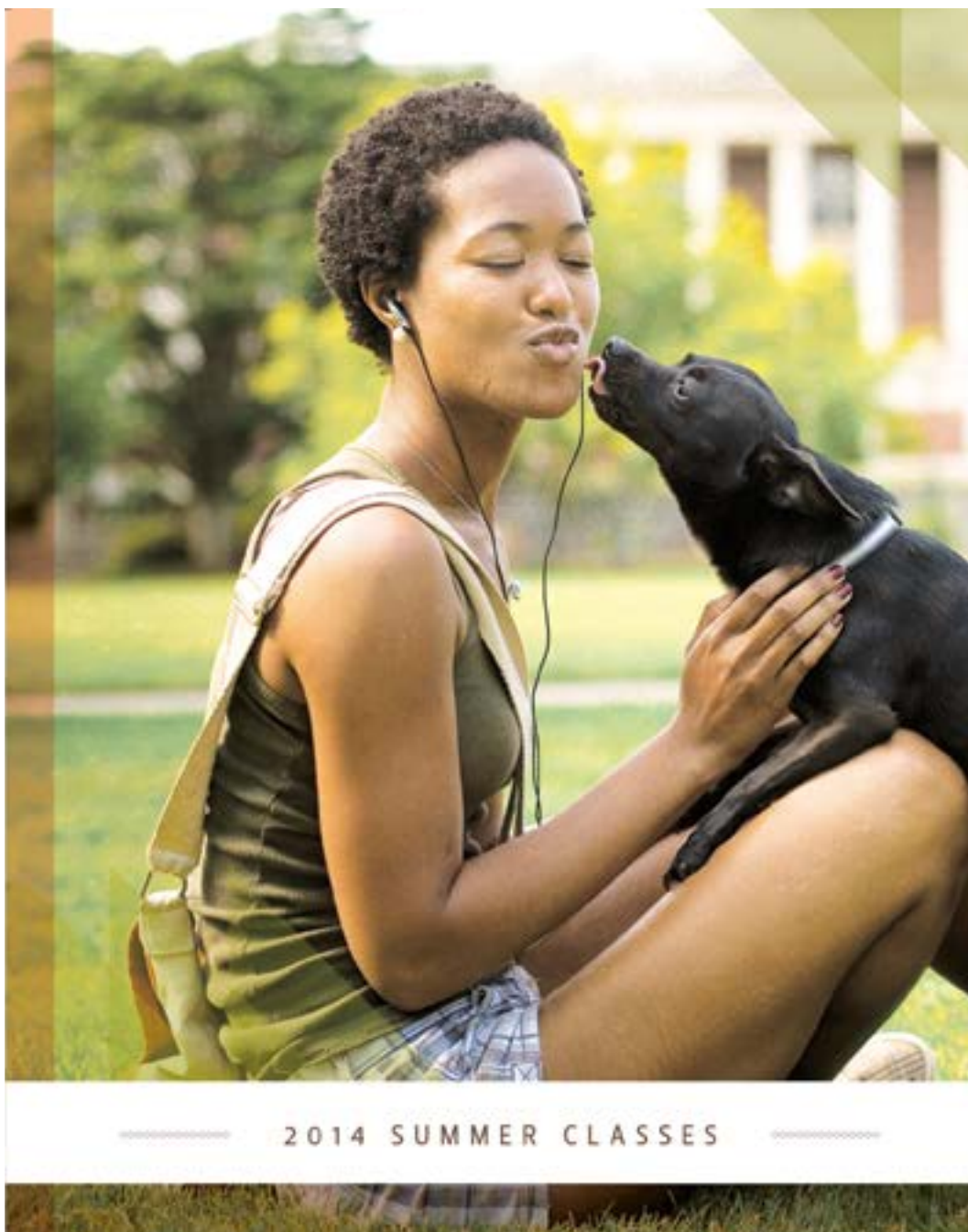


Volleyball players pose with clinic participants.



PHOTOS: **TREVER COOLEY**

Volleyball player talks with a clinic participant.



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