



Running Uphill

The LB basketball teams continue to battle their NWACC opponents but can't seem to climb above .500

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Riding the Rails

Albany's newly remodeled historic train station offers an inviting gateway to West Coast destinations.

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THE Commuter

Wednesday,
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Dragon dances in Lunar New Year

Ellen Purkerson
The Commuter

Ushering in a joyous and prosperous New Year, the Year of the Dog, was the theme of Thursday night's Lunar New Year Celebration at Calapooia Middle School in Albany. Sponsored by the Multicultural Center, the main attraction of the evening was the performance of the traditional dragon dance by LBCC's Dragon Dance Team.

About 100 people attended the evening, enjoying food provided by China Delight Restaurant of Corvallis, a display of Chinese arts and crafts from the University of Oregon Jordan Schnitzer Chinese Art Collection, and activity booths where guests could decorate dragon scales, make paper lanterns,

and practice the art of Chinese calligraphy.

The dragon dance "has always been done by volunteers," said Susan Prock, the Dragon Dance trainer. After spending little more than two hours in practice, the team performed at Central, Takena and Waverly Elementary Schools earlier in the day before the main performance Thursday night. According to Prock the team "did extremely well." Speaking about their performances at the elementary schools, Multicultural Center program assistant Shirley Austin said, "It was so rewarding to see the reaction of the students, to see how it made them think about the dragon and about history. It was awesome!"

Prock explained that the
▶ Turn to "New Year" on Pg. 4

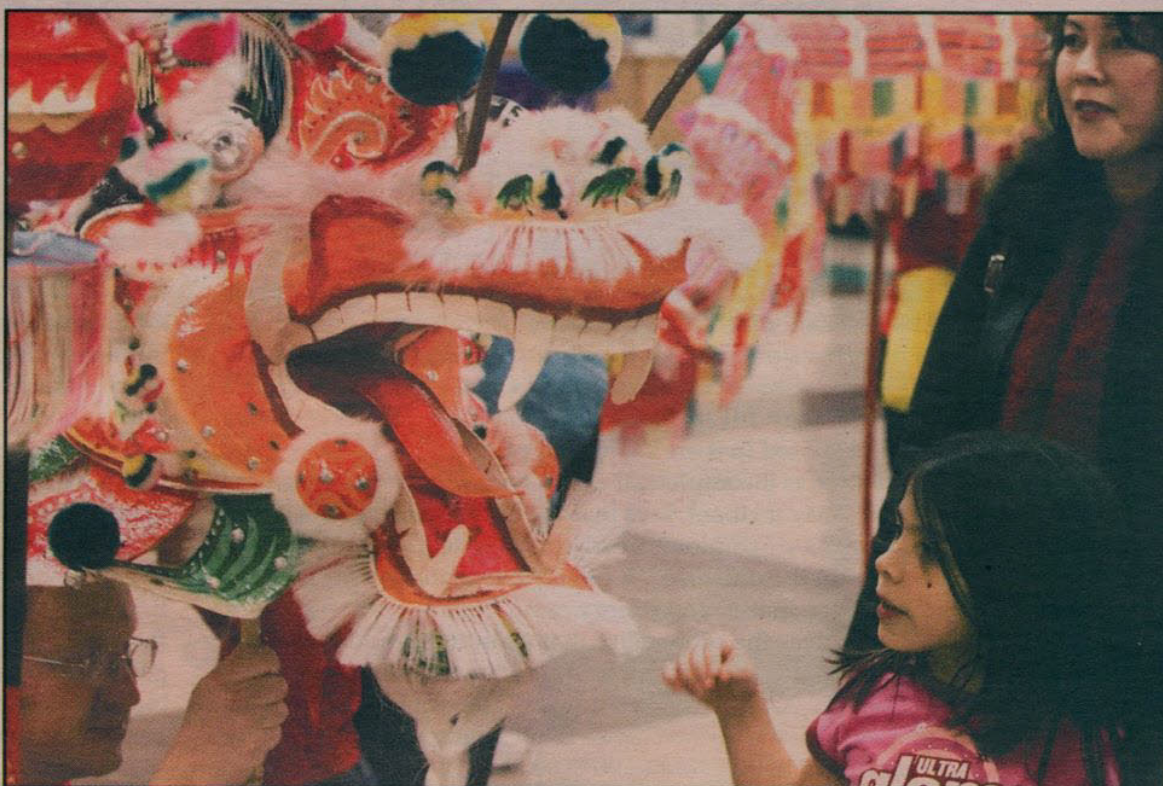


photo by Erik Swanson

Calapooia Middle School students were entertained by LBCC's Dragon Dance Team last Thursday as part of the Chinese Lunar New Year celebration, which was sponsored by LB's Multicultural Center. Both young and old delighted in the wild gyrations of the 36-foot-long dragon, which was made in China and usually resides in the LB Multicultural Center and only comes out once or twice a year. This year's festivities ushered in the Chinese Year of the Dog.

Fines await unsafe drivers

Nathan Batten
The Commuter

Bruce Thompson and the Campus Security staff have issued about 200 pink warning citations to student automobiles in the LBCC lots in the last week.

The warnings were for such infractions as occupying more than one space and for leaking fluids or leaving vehicles unlocked. This has been part of a yearlong process to educate students about unsafe driving practices in the parking areas.

Eventually those pink citations will change to yellow citations with fines ranging from \$20 for parking violations, speeding and erratic driving to the maximum of \$100 for parking in a handicapped area.

The largest complaint from students is cars exceeding the 15 mph speed limit in the lots and

▶ Turn to "Parking" on Pg. 4

4-H club enriches young minds

Nancey West
The Commuter

"To make the best better" is the 4-H motto adopted in 1927. It remains the basis of the organization that was formed to educate youth.

The goal of the 4-H program is not only to teach project-oriented information, but also to develop personal skills in a positive environment.

"4-H teaches the tools of life-skill development, with all the responsibilities and disappointments," said Robin Galloway, Linn County 4-H extension agent.

Two important concepts for a healthy adult life are self-esteem and self-reliance, she said. 4-H emphasizes both.

4-H is the largest out-of-school educational program in America.

According to OSU Extension, its mission is to help young people become self-directing, contributing and productive members of soci-



photo by Dan Wise

Biology instructor Steve Skarda often brings the guide dogs he helps train to his job at LBCC.

ety. Beyond learning practical skills, 4-H projects also develop sound judgment, a sense of responsibility, leadership and citizenship experience.

"I learned responsibility, organization and communications," said Amanda Hilburn, freshman, who had a 4-H horse project. "I met a lot of people, not only with horses, and I learned to experience something and take away what I can."

Hilburn, whose major is in child and family studies, said that working with younger members in 4-H gave her experience she can use.

The concept of bringing the latest scientific information to rural families began in Yamhill County in 1905.

Within ten years the U.S. Congress established the Extension to work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the state land-grant college, which in Oregon is OSU.

▶ Turn to "4-H" on Pg. 4

Memorial to celebrate LB student's life

A celebration of life will be held this Friday for LBCC student Keelan Hoover, who was killed last week while walking along Interstate 5.

The service will begin at 2 p.m. at AASum Funeral Home, 805 S. Ellsworth, in Albany. Following the service, those who knew him are invited to gather at the Senior Citizen Center, 489 Water St. N.W.

On Monday, Jan. 23, Hoover, an 18-year-old from Bend who moved to Albany about one and one half years ago, was struck and killed by a truck and a car while walking on I-5 near the Knox Butte exit about 9:30 p.m.

Hoover, whose mother Cindy Hoover also attended LBCC, planned to further his education in the computer field after completing his studies here.

The Weather Through the Week

Source: National Weather Service

High-50
Showers Likely
Low-40
Wednesday

High-50
Rain Possible
Low-38
Thursday

High-51
Mostly Cloudy
Showers?
Low-37
Friday

High-49
Mostly Cloudy
Showers?
Low-47
Saturday

High-47
Somebody Make it Stop!!!
Low-37
Sunday

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OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter:
 Turn into Forum 222. Please sign them
 and keep them at 300 words or less.

Evolution: Should it be taught in LB courses?

For starters, I have to clarify my understanding of evolution. Evolution is divided into two parts. First, microevolution states that a species can adapt to its environment and change over time (all kinds of dogs probably had one common ancestor: a dog). This much I agree with, because I can see direct evidence that verifies it. The second part, macroevolution, is the hypothesis that life on Earth began by chance and that all of the organisms we see today evolved from a common ancestor, a single-celled organism. I believe this should not be taught in biology classes at this school for three reasons.



JOEL DEVYLDERE

The first reason is the lack of evidence. Because no one who is alive today was in

existence when life began, we have no direct observation of it. Science only deals with measurable and observable processes that can be proved or disproved. Because macroevolution is such a slow process, there's no way of testing it today to see if it's correct. For this reason, macroevolution should be a history subject. The evidence provided by my Biology 101 textbook concerning the subject is mostly speculative, and theories proposed in it are sketchy at best.

The second is that evolution is incomplete. It doesn't answer the real question: "Where did we come from?" My textbook says that the universe began billions of years ago with the big bang, "a stupendous, nearly instantaneous distribution of matter and energy throughout the universe." It offers no explanation for why the big bang occurred or where the matter and energy came from.

Reason number three involves the probability that evolution could have happened. Scientists Fred Hoyle and Wickramasinghe state why, after doing the math, they believe that life could not have begun randomly: "The trouble is that there are about two thousand enzymes, and the chance of obtaining them all in a random trial is only one part in (10 to the 20th) to the 2,000th = 10 to the 40,000th, an outrageously small probability that could not be faced even if the whole universe consisted of organic soup." So even in ideal conditions, the odds that life, in the form of single-celled organisms, could originate randomly are 1 to 10^{40,000} against. Instead of teaching evolution as fact, let's stick to observable and proven facts in biology class. As for the origins of life, ask someone who was there.



My colleague Joel DeVylde raises a question of whether evolution should be taught in biology classes at LBCC. He does not think so and, with very limited exceptions, I disagree.

Let's start off by sidelining the most publicized and highly opposing positions of the religious communities versus those who ascribe to Darwin's philosophy of selective evolution for the moment and take a look at things from a different perspective. A hard and honest look would tell anyone that the Christian faiths can not deliver God or Jesus Christ in person any more than the Darwinians can produce what they call the missing link.



WALT HUGHES

On the other side,

viruses, like the common cold, influenza and bird flu, constantly mutate and evolve into something different as they seek to take up residence in a living host. The influenza virus killed over a million people in the United States before the study of its evolution brought an effective vaccine to counteract its deadly effects on the human body.

To ban the study of evolution in that context would amount to banning studies of things like flu, cancer, DNA testing and a whole host of other findings that contribute to better health and life for the human race.

Concerning the highly argumentative contemporary positions of religion versus science, there are points that are all but impossible to prove on both sides. Perhaps Eric Von Danaken, (author of *God Drives a UFO*, *Gold of the Gods* and *Return of the Gods*), may have offered a third alternative by suggesting that the DNA and genome structures of a bipedal hominoid were altered to produce what we are today. None of the three choices can be proven beyond doubt, but an interesting question has been raised recently concerning Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon ancestry. If the suspicions are right it could go a long way toward proving Von Danaken's theory.

Setting the points of contention aside one more time, a simple question remains, how do we know where we have been and where we may be destined to go without studying all of the different mutations that evolved into what we are today? Within that answer, evolution should be carefully studied and taught in any biology course. It may help prevent a dreaded pandemic from decimating civilization one day.

When opportunity knocks, answer the door

Steve Farrens
 The Commuter

Four years ago, my father dove beneath my baby sister as she tumbled down a mountain slope in the Nebraska panhandle. They came to a halt, and it became obvious from his screaming that my father's heroism had broken his elbow and bruised two ribs. My sister was thankfully unscathed. The irony of this story is that in saving her life, our family's future has been placed in jeopardy.

In the years following his bravery, an intense pain ran down his right arm to his hand, a pain so intense that his fingers would swell to twice their normal size and turn shades of blue and purple in the process. Baffled,

COMMENTARY

doctors ran tests in search of the source of his agony. Meanwhile, my father continued to work as the head chef for Chartwells Food Service.

In the past decade, my father established a positive reputation for the company in numerous colleges around the state while also running his own restaurant for three years and working toward a future in the greenhouse business. He then took a position managing kitchens around the Midwest while also improving the now family-operated Elyria Gardens greenhouse.

Then the bomb hit: as numbness began to spread over his entire arm, the doctors finally established that his pain was due to a severed nerve. Because the location

of the injury was not identified for four years, doctors could do nothing to fix it. Furthermore, my father was told that if the arm wasn't amputated within the next six weeks, he would never be able to use a prosthetic, as the nerves would be completely useless by then.

Petrified, my father turned to his family and Chartwells for support. Several days after learning of his situation, the company informed him that he'd be terminated at the end of the month because the business was now conveniently overstaffed. With no income, my family's only hope for the future lay in the success of the greenhouse and in unemployment checks. With seven kids, four of whom are still high school age and younger, unemployment will be just enough to cover the insurance policy for his arm. The house payment, food, gas, and our lifestyle is now left in the shadow of his company's misconduct.

In our latest phone call, when my father updated me with all this information, his tone was similar to that of the conversation we had the year before when his parents passed away. But there was something different, an emotion I'd never heard in my father's voice before: not only was he frustrated, bitter and sad, he was most notably scared.

"I'm afraid that we're going to lose everything," he said to me. Somehow refraining from crying, or maybe he was crying, my father fed me the advice that I'm now passing on to you.

"If an opportunity ever emerges, take it. Take corporate for everything they've got, because eventually they'll take you."

It's my duty as the first-born son to look out for my family, despite being 1,500 miles away. I've contacted my father's company numerous times but still haven't received any clear answers. Hopefully, his situation is covered under our nation's disability act, but I will do everything I can to send out a loud and clear message about their actions. No one, no matter their physical condition, should lose their job for saving a life.

The Commuter

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OPINION

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Morality and conscience: Is it ingrained or a learned trait?

Walt Hughes
 The Commuter

Joel DeVyldere raised some interesting points when he touched on conscience in his morality article last week. At the same time, he seemed to assume that the morals, conscience and ethics of a society are the same everywhere, and that everything is absolute black and white.

He seems to single out Jewish religious belief based in the Torah as opposed to Islam based on the teachings of the Koran. While both are valid religious beliefs that contain their own brand of morality and ethics, at some point he seems to ignore values propagated by other religions.

Joel suggests that there seems to be a deeper system at work which tells an individual that some things are inalienably inherent within the mind or conscience of all individuals regardless of the society or civilization within which they reside. To say that killing your fellow man is wrong is to completely ignore and invalidate

biblical stories contained in the Torah, historical references of almost every civilized society on the face of the earth and the history of the human race up to and including all religious beliefs. While it can be pointed out that Maya and Inca civilizations practiced human sacrifice, many of the more contemporary religions like Catholicism and most of the modern Protestant denominations also seem to have allowed the taking of human life in one form or another.

In truth, morality is based on the accepted thoughts and beliefs of a society or civilization, and the entire moral code and ethical practices of that civilization are the result of the beliefs that bind that group of individuals together. If that were not the truth, cannibals would automatically know that it is wrong to eat leg-of-missionary, the Mayans and Incas would never have sacrificed the thousands who died in religious rituals, and things like gas chambers, electric chairs and lethal injection would be unheard of. Unfortunately, those things were incorporated in the moral fabric of their societies and became an integral part of historical civilization.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Media incite fear by overhyping sex crimes

To the Editor:

Sex crimes make sexy headlines and receive the most attention from politicians. Lawmakers freely admit to relying on the media to determine areas of public concern in legislation.

In a study conducted by the Arkansas Crime Information Center, there was a 128 percent increase in the United States on reporting of sexual crimes between the years 1991 and 1998. This gives the public the impression that there is an increasing problem. However, during that period, the number of sexual crimes remained stable, indicating no increases; sex offenders represented only 1.2 percent of the total criminal population. Reporting sex crimes in detail has become fashionable, whether or not the person is guilty.

This type of inflammatory reporting caters to public appetite and needlessly incites public fears. It is the reason why more and more laws are enacted restricting activities and legislating parameters for sex offenders. Politicians are ignoring the real problem. They are using the one-size-fits-all approach, which labels every

person charged with indecent exposure, party thieving and noncustodial child kidnapping the same as rapists and child molesters. The majority of these persons are not predators.

I abhor crime, being a victim of sexual molestation as a child. We need effective legislation to ensure that predators don't have the freedom to find new victims. But let's target the real danger: predatory rapists and child molesters. Predators are the population the public needs to worry about and the ones who should register as sex offenders. Labeling every person who has been charged with a "sex crime" as a dangerous predator is a travesty of justice and blatantly ignores the values on which America is founded.

Kathleen Veritas, Technical Writing

EXPRESS YOURSELF

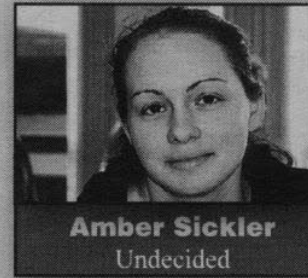
The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues.

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be limited to 300 words.

Drop letters off at the Commuter Office, F-222 or e-mail us at commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu

PERSPECTIVES

What are you doing for the Super Bowl and who are you rooting for?



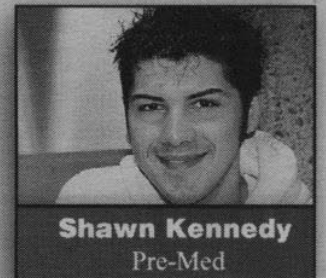
Amber Sickler
 Undecided

"I'm going to be working most likely."

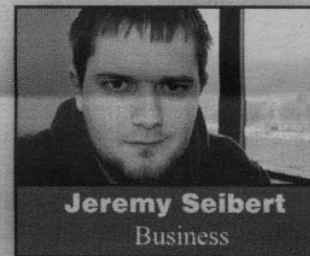
No preference.

"I haven't even thought about it yet."

Seattle Seahawks.



Shawn Kennedy
 Pre-Med



Jeremy Seibert
 Business

"We're having a thing at my church that they're putting the sound through the P.A. system, so it will be like watching it at a movie theater."

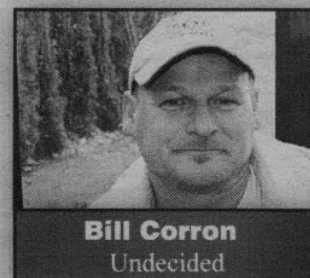
Steelers.

"Every year I have a party for my youngest son and I fix him all his favorite junk food treats and he is a big Seattle fan, so this is going to be pretty special."

Seahawks.



Lorraine Lara
 Business Office



Bill Corron
 Undecided

"I'm not much of a sports fan but I hope the Seahawks win."

"I'm having people over because I just got a new TV."

Steelers.



Becky Lyall
 Nursing

Compiled by Kyla Hoyt

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CAMPUS NEWS

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

LB lobbies for higher ASG election turnout

Harrison White
The Commuter

Every winter the LBCC Associated Student Government elects new officers for the spring term. Last year, according to Josh Gordon, ASG vice president, turnout was low, so this year, promotion and advertising of the election is key.

Students may apply for president, vice president, public relations/secretary or representative and must be formally enrolled in LBCC for at least six credit hours and have a GPA of at least 2.0. Applications, which may be obtained from the Student Life and Leadership office, must be turned in by Feb. 10.

The president's duties include chairing council meetings, and meeting with the College Council. The vice president's duties include coordinating committee assignments, and making suggestions and monitoring the ASLBCC. The public relations/secretary records and distributes the minutes of ASG meetings, and coordinates press coverage, and mascot appearances, among other duties. All three positions require eight hours

of work and five hours in the SL&L office weekly.

There are four division representative positions, each representing an area of education within the school: Science and Industry, Business, Student Services and Education, Humanities, and Liberal Arts. Representatives meet with the deans of their division, as well as the department chairs, and must also serve on at least two committees.

Representatives act as a communication link between the divisions and the ASG, and must work for a minimum of five hours each week and at least three hours in the office.

Full tuition is offered for fall, winter, and spring for president, vice president, and public relations/secretary, with full tuition for the representatives in winter and spring.

"A highlight, for me, was a three-day conference in Moscow, Idaho," said Gordon. While there, he attended seminars on leadership building, made new friends and networked with other student governments.

The ASG is an "important way to keep the school in the system of checks and balances, and gives the students a say in all

issues from tuition increases to information about textbook prices," said Gordon.

The incumbent student government recently changed the election code because of issues arising from campaigning. They also began taking ideas for a project to be funded by a grant of over \$4,000 from the ASG. One year, the project was the courtyard clock, and last year, students' request for a coffee cart led to the creation of the Hot Shot Coffee House.

This year, the ASG received over 120 ideas for a project, and in the next few weeks, the results will be paired down based on what people prefer and what is feasible.

Students can vote from 7:30 a.m. on Feb. 21 to 11:30 p.m. on Feb. 22 at the election web site, <http://linnbenton.edu/election>, by clicking on the large 'vote' button in the center.

The site contains information about candidates, the positions, and proposed changes to the constitution, how to apply for office and a section of frequently asked questions. To vote, a student simply needs their school x-number, or 9 number if dual-enrolled at OSU.



photo by Erik Swanson

LBCC counselor Angie Klampe joins the rest of the Dragon Team at the Lunar New Year celebration at Calapooia Middle School Thursday.

New Year: Lunar celebration delights, excites children

◀ From Pg. 1

dragon is very important to the celebration.

According to legend, the dragon scares away bad spirits from the old year, making way for good spirits to enter.

The dragon used by the dance team was made in China and normally hangs on display in the Multicultural Center. It is 36 feet long and fits eight people.

The head and tail are made of paper-mache, and the body is made of a bamboo framework covered with fabric decorated in satin, rabbit fur, bells and shiny bits of brass.

Invited to touch the dragon

after the first dance, the children in the audience waved noisemakers and followed the dragon in a second dance.

At the end of the evening, the Dragon Dance Team led one last dance in which the children joined, dancing in their own dragon made from a cardboard box and fabric decorated with colored paper scales made by the children.

When asked what she liked best about the evening, Kristina Klampe, daughter of LBCC faculty members Rick and Angie Klampe, said, "I liked it when I got to pet the dragon." Her sister Ashley agreed.

4-H: Training guide dogs provides vital service

◀ From Pg. 1

The Extension's youth programs became known as 4-H in 1924.

With over 100 years of being dedicated to education, the program has changed to serve a growing number of lifestyles and interests. Once focused on farm families, only 16 percent of members in today's clubs live on farms.

"Counties are not as ag based as they use to be," explained Galloway. "We have seen an increase in hobby farms and in horses." Horse clubs are the fastest growing group in Linn County, she said.

The traditional clubs such as livestock and home economics have continued while a growing number of interest groups have formed in windowsill gardening, wildlife stewards and Latino-Mexican dance, which uses traditional dance and authentic costumes.

A popular group today is the pocket pet, such as rats and ferrets. Technology interests have added computer, GPS/GIS and robotics, while photography has changed from darkroom developing to digital imaging. There are over 50 different types of clubs in Linn and Benton counties.

"4-H is as relevant today as 100 years

ago," said Tammy Skubinna, Benton County 4-H Extension Agent. "It has adapted to the changes." Volunteers make the program work.

"Without the community, there would be no program," said Melanie McCabe, education program assistant for the Linn County Extension. "They provide the expertise and resources."

The Guide Dog Puppy Raising program is one whose benefits reach beyond the 4-H member. It is a 4-H club that has both youth and adults in it, according to Diana Myers, program leader in Benton County.

"There can be three or four members per dog," Myers said. "There are those who co-raise a puppy."

Biology instructor Steve Skarda and his family have raised guide dogs with the 4-H program. His children, Mike, an eighth grader, and Laura, a senior at Corvallis High School, are the club members, but the work is shared with Skarda and his wife, Lori, who works in the business department at LBCC.

The Skardas received Elgin, a black lab, when he was eight weeks old. Elgin recently turned 14 months and the Skardas, returned him to Guide Dogs for the Blind in Boring,

Oregon. While training Elgin, Laura would take him to school two days a week and Steve would take him to LBCC three days a week.

Elgin had to learn manners for both at home and in public. For example, he had to learn to relieve himself on command, and he could only eat from his bowl and not take food that was left available at home or was on the ground in public places. He also had to remain calm around other dogs and people.

"Other dogs don't follow the same rules, but then you are not relying on them to guide you through the streets either," Skarda said.

The guide dog spends a lot of time with people but when off-duty they run and play. "They know in work or play they act different. They know what is acceptable."

Between dogs, the Skardas puppy-sit for other guide-dog handlers. Last Friday, Skarda was able to bring Gantry, a 4-month-old golden retriever, and Lorinda, a 13-month-old black lab, to LBCC with him.

"People on campus have been great, very supportive, and we appreciate that very much," he said.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

*For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101).

Water Utility Worker 1 (#3966, Dallas, OR). Full-time job needing knowledge of equipment, facilities, materials, methods & procedures used in maintenance, construction & repair activities. Able to perform heavy manual tasks for extended periods of time. \$2407-2927/mo DOE.

Office Manager & Salesperson (#3969, Albany) This job can be full-time or part-time working for a local caterer. You need to know full-cycle bookkeeping. Pay up to \$10/hr.

Office Helper (#3973, Albany) If you are looking for a part-time (7-10 hrs/week) now and full-time in the summer, this makes a great student job. Pay starts at \$7.75/hr and goes up.

Management Opportunity (#3679, Corvallis) Do you want training for a management career in the restaurant industry? This nationally known restaurant is located in our backyard (Corvallis). Competitive salary.

FOR SALE

1986 Nissan Stanza Wagon, 4 Door. This car keeps going and going. \$900 Call for more information 812-0627

Solutions

B	E	A	D	S	L	E	D												
N	E	R	I	N	A	R	E	S											
T	A	L	I	A	R	E	S												
S	H	O	V	E	D	P	O	P											
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Parking: Fines trail warnings

◀ From Pg. 1

connecting roadways, according to Thompson. Other complaints from students are about vehicles hogging parking spaces, drivers who are talking on cell phones and who are driving the wrong way between parking rows. Drivers not paying attention are a major concern to the safety of other drivers and pedestrians.

Even Thompson is not immune. On his way home recently, he said he was almost hit by a driver in the parking lot who was driving in the wrong direction. Thompson said that one student has reported being nearly hit on three separate occasions since the beginning of the term. In an e-mail to Thompson, the student said it won't be long until someone gets hit.

Thompson said he receives on average one complaint a day, either by phone, by e-mail or in person. Often, having a talk with an offender is more productive than issuing a fine, he said, but if that fails and multiple offenses occur, then a fine will be issued. Thompson warns that the security office does have the authority and ability to send citations in the mail to the offender.

"I do everything I can do to reduce the risk of personal injury," he said.

Copy Editor: Melissa Chaney
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CAMPUS NEWS

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

Students to study Spanish south of the border

Maria Gonzalaz
 The Commuter

Tammi Paul, director of Student Life and Leadership Outreach and Retention, recently announced that LBCC students are eligible to sign up for two upcoming trips south of the border this summer.

The first trip will be to Costa Rica and will run from June 17 to July 15. Students will have the opportunity to study Spanish at the Instituto de Lengua Y Cultura Costarricense for two weeks and field biology at the Ecolodge San Luis, for another two weeks.

The cost of the program is \$2,850 plus eight credits of tuition. This program includes airfare, lodging in Costa Rican homes and all meals except lunches.

The second trip is to San Miguel de Allende, from July 22 to Aug. 5. This intensive Spanish course will be at the Academia

Hispano Americano for two weeks. The cost is \$1,470 for a shared room or \$1,530 for a private room, plus four credits of tuition. Airfare and meals are also included.

At a presentation in the Multicultural Center on Jan. 17, art instructor Analee Fuentes and her students asked Paul questions, and Mercedes Gutierrez from the Student Life and Leadership Office showed and explained pictures of San Miguel de Allende.

The pictures portrayed the appearance of the Academia, destination locations, popular recreation spots and the climate. Gutierrez encouraged the students in attendance to join the trip because it will be a great experience.

Paul also stated that anyone interested in either trip should pick up an application from Student Life and Leadership, call 541-917-4457 or e-mail her at paul@linnbenton.edu.

London study abroad deadline extended

LBCC Press Release

The deadline to enroll in the Oregon community college Study Abroad Program in London this spring term has been extended to Feb. 10.

Students who have earned at least 12 college credits are eligible for the program, which plans to send 15 to 20 students to London. The courses offered there will meet the Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer Degree requirements.

Students will be able to choose from courses in history, writing,

photography and British culture, as well as apply for internships with London businesses and agencies. Instructors for the program this spring are Rich Bergeman of LBCC and Michael Baylo of Chemeketa Community College.

This program provides new experiences for students and improves international relations.

Application information is available from Student Activities Director Tammi Paul in the Student Life & Leadership Office at 541-917-4457 and via e-mail at paul@linnbenton.edu.

'Fun Raiser' invites children to events in the Activities Center on Saturday

Amanda Rappe
 The Commuter

If you know someone who likes bubbles, playdough, and playing in the dirt, the 29th annual Fun Raiser at the Activities Center gym on Saturday may be for you.

Many activities are planned, such as bubble blowing, playdough, basketball and a "Drive in the Dirt," which allows children to "get dirty" with play cars and trucks.

Beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at 2 p.m., children ages 1 through 6 and their parents will be able to participate for 25 cents per activity, with about 13 to choose from.

"It's a wonderful day!" said Jerri Wolfe, the Parent Program

coordinator, "It is just so much fun and the kids love it."

She said that a steady flow of kids will be expected throughout the day.

Other events at the Fun Raiser include a used toy and book table, which will offer items for purchase.

A silent auction will also be part of the activities, with items donated by local area businesses, such as Costco gift cards. The funds from this event go toward supporting the tuition grants for parents attending the parenting programs offered through LBCC.

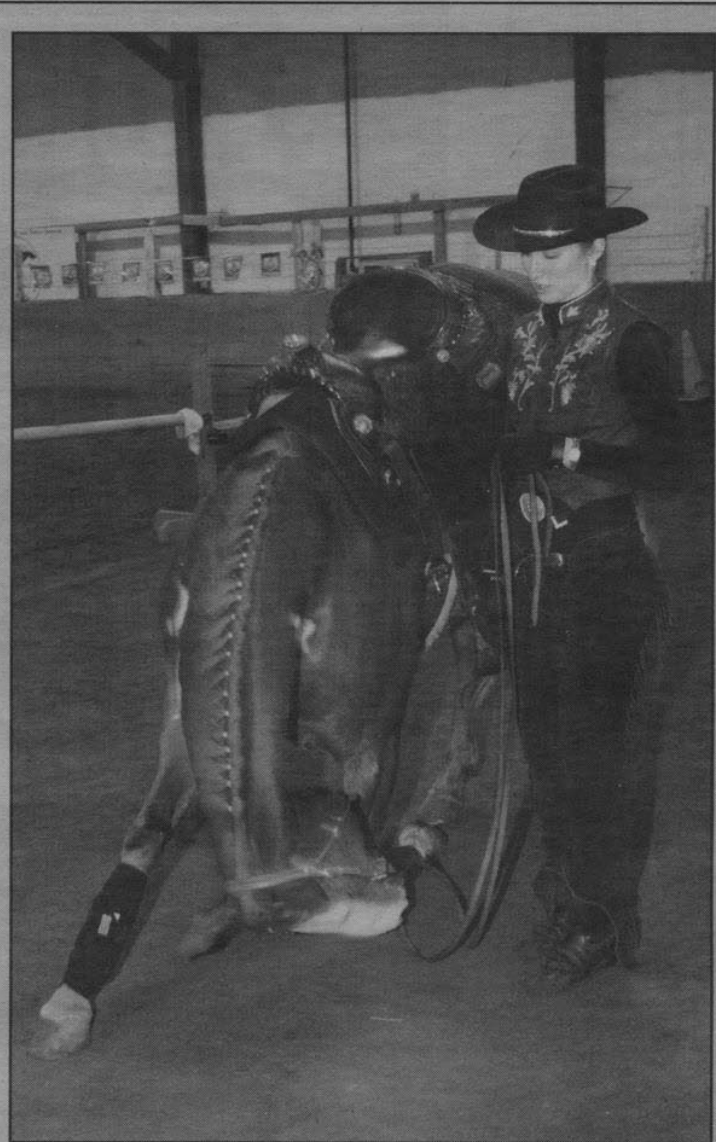


photo by Sherry Majeski

Champion Weekend

LB Student Amy Beeshaw placed second in the Advanced Western Horsemanship class at an intercollegiate competition. Hosted by LB's Equestrian Team at the Benton County Fairgrounds last weekend, the entire team excelled, taking Champion Team on Saturday and Reserve Champion on Sunday.

LB staff thanked with prizes at game tonight

Ian Greer
 The Commuter

Today marks the ninth annual Staff Appreciation Night put on by the LBCC Athletic Department.

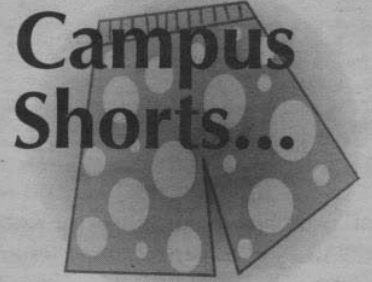
Staff members present are eligible to win prizes in draw-

ings during the halftimes of the men's and women's basketball games in the Activities Center. The prizes include gift certificates to local restaurants, free car washes, t-shirts from different LBCC departments and more.

"We're very appreciative of the support the faculty gives us, and

we just want to give something back," said an athletic department representative Friday.

The event starts at 5:30 p.m. in the LBCC gym with the women taking on Umpqua Community College. The men's game against Umpqua immediately follows.



AAUW Scholarships

The Corvallis branch of the American Association of University Women will award two \$1000 scholarships for the academic year 2006-2007. Applicants must be women over 25 years who reside in Benton County or live in the Corvallis 509J school district. Contact the Financial Aid Office at LBCC or OSU. Deadline is April 3, 2006.

College Transfer Day

LBCC's annual College Transfer Day will be held in Takena Hall on Feb. 2, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The free event is for students interested in transferring to a four-year institution. Over 18 area colleges in Oregon will be represented.

Food Drive

The SPB is launching a community-wide food drive effort in cooperation with local businesses on Feb 1. In exchange for two cans of food for Linn-Benton Food Share, businesses will offer special deals for customers. A list of participating businesses is available at SL&L or on the WSeb at cf.linnbenton.edu/depts/stu-gov.

Taqueria Alonzo



Mexican Restaurant

Located at
Two Rivers Market
 250 SW Broadalbin #107
 Albany, OR 97321
 (541) 812-1311

Also try our other location...

Dos Arbolitos
 590 Main Street
 Lebanon, OR 97355
 (541) 258-5798

Salsa

www.rumbanana.org

Classes
Feb. 6: New York Salsa
 • 6 - 8 p.m. • \$35 • four-week class
Feb. 7: Cuban (Casino) Salsa
 • 6 - 8 p.m. • \$35 • four-week class

Classes are held at the Platinum Club (126 SW 4th St. in Corvallis)
 More info and how to register are available online at www.rumbanana.org

Sports Editor: Jake Rosenberg
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

SPORTS

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

Bryant's game stands tall in hoop history

More than a week old, and we are still talking about it, an unheard of 81 points by Kobe Bryant. We haven't seen the likes of this in 44 years when Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points for the Philadelphia Warriors on March 2, 1962 in Hershey, PA.

While Bryant failed to be the second man to reach triple-digits, his performance on Jan. 22, 2006, will go down as just as remarkable, if not better than Chamberlain's all-time mark. As the Los Angeles Lakers trailed the visiting Toronto Raptors by 18 points early in the third quarter, a motivated Bryant, who had scored 26 points in the first half, put the deficit on his shoulders. He out-scored Toronto by himself in the second half, 55-42, helping to win the game 122-104.



JAKE ROSENBERG

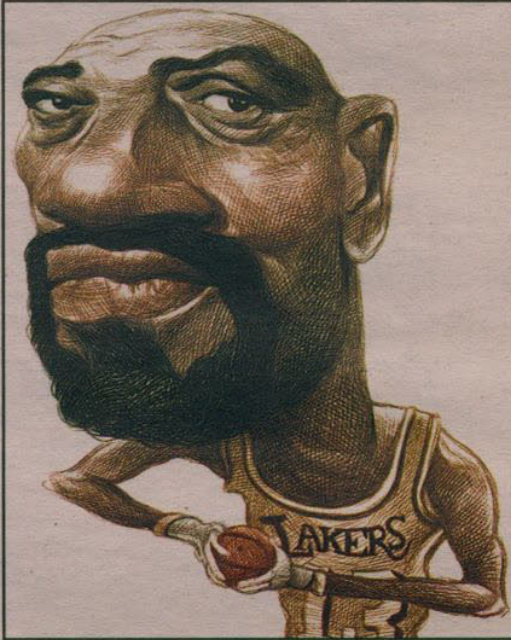
The 6-foot, 6-inch Bryant went 28 for 46 from the field, playing in only 42 of the game's 48 minutes. Comparing Chamberlain's performance, the mammoth 7-foot, 1-inch center played the entire 48 minutes of the 169-147 victory over the New York Knickerbockers. While being defended by nobody taller than 6-foot, 10-inches, Chamberlain was also able to establish himself closer to the hoop in a 12 foot-wide lane. They are 16 feet-wide today.

Chamberlain took full advantage of this as he was guarded a majority of the game by an NBA sophomore center named Darrall Imhoff, whose 5.9 points per game was forced to combat Chamberlain's 50-point average for the 1961-62 season.

By the start of the second half, the game was a forgone conclusion, and the Warriors' only remaining goal was to help Chamberlain hit the century mark. With the game on cruise control, many NBA historians claim that these tactics resorted to cherry picking—force-feeding and fouling for possession in order to get him the ball at all cost. Even Chamberlain himself claims the fourth quarter was a "farce."

"Wilt would just take off like a receiver down the court," Imhoff explained. "The baskets were also very loose and soft, they were what we liked to call garbage hoops." While Bryant has the disadvantage of playing on less-forgiving baskets, he does have the advantage of the modern day three-point shot. His seven makes from beyond the arc have no real significant bearing on his total, though, as he still would have amassed 74 points in the old era.

FACE OFF



KRT photo

Wilt Chamberlain's 100 points scored 44 years ago remains the record, though some say Kobe Bryant's 81 last week was more impressive.

Kobe's 81 wilts next to Chamberlain's 100

About 10 days ago, Kobe Bryant scored 81 points for the Lakers in a victory over the Toronto Raptors. About 44 years ago, Wilt Chamberlain scored 100 points for the Philadelphia Warriors in a victory over the New York Knicks. There has been much debate over which single-game performance is more impressive. Let the debate end here and now.

Let me preface this argument with one understanding: comparing the two eras of professional basketball is very, very hard to do. That being said, Kobe's game is in a different league than Wilt's—A MINOR LEAGUE GAME. First, and foremost, 81 is not 100, period.

Second, fans around the country have cried how the game has changed so much, making Kobe's game that much more impressive. I beg to differ. The advent of the 3-point shot has changed the game, but it only helps to prove my point. Wilt didn't have the luxury of it, nor did he have any defenders or shooters hanging out on the 3-point arc. Wilt had people all around him on every possession. Kobe made seven three-pointers during his game, so we can take away seven points right off the top.

Now, let's compare 100 points to 74. The last time I checked in on the game of basketball, there was more to it than scoring points. It is a team game, and each player is responsible for doing more than one thing. In both cases, the player's respective teams won, true. But, look closer at the box scores. Not only did Wilt score 100, he also had 25 rebounds. Even more impressive is the fact that he had two assists from the center position. Kobe finished with six rebounds and two assists. So, excluding the fact that Wilt outscored Bryant by 19 (or 26 in reality), Wilt also "out hustled" Kobe 27-8.

Lastly, Wilt was a 51 percent free-throw shooter over the course of his Hall-of-Fame career. He shot 28-for-32 for 88 percent in that historic game. Wilt was such a team player, a concept foreign to Kobe. According to Al Attles, the point guard on Wilt's team that night, Chamberlain wanted to come out of that game, but his team egged him on to get the 100. Attles also said that Wilt was more impressed with his 88 percent from the foul line than the 100 points.

What Kobe did against Toronto was magnificent—81 points is a heck of an achievement. However, Wilt clearly had the more statistically sound game, the more rounded game and overall the most impressive game, by any stretch of the imagination.



ADAM LOGHIDES

THE COMMUTER'S SUPERBOWL PREDICTIONS



JAKE ROSENBERG

Pittsburgh 27
 Seattle 17
 Pittsburgh destined to be part of the 49ers'-Cowboys' 5-ring club.



NEAL JONES

Pittsburgh 24
 Seattle 14
 Cowher's well-known physical play leads to grind it out football.



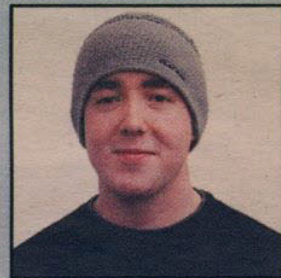
LIZ BECKHAM

Seattle 35,
 Pittsburgh 28
 It will be close but Seattle is the underdog and they want it more.



STEVE FARRENS

Pittsburgh 31
 Seattle 14
 'Big Ben' lights up over-rated Seattle squad with three touchdowns.



CALEB HAWLEY

Pittsburgh 24
 Seattle 18
 Roethlisberger efficient, with The Bus rumbling for the game winner.



ADAM LOGHIDES

Seattle 27
 Pittsburgh 13
 Shaun Alexander scores at least two touchdowns and wins the MVP.

Beavers struggle to halfway point in PAC-10

Adam Loghides
 The Commuter

The Beaver Men's Basketball team completed the first half of Pac-10 conference play with a 3-6 record and a 10-10 mark overall.

Last Thursday, the Beavers lost an overtime battle to USC, 72-70. After the game, Beaver forward Nick DeWitz stated, "We are going to be ready for UCLA Saturday." But Beavers then lost to UCLA, 63-54, despite trailing by only one at halftime.

The Beavers host Cal and Stanford this week, making this four-game home stand huge for the Beavers, as they continue to play without injured starting point guard Lamar Hurd, who is expected to be out with an injured

groin at least one more week. Though the loss of Hurd may have helped contribute to the team's 1-4 record since his injury, the emergence of Wesley Washington in Hurd's place has been a silver lining, according to Assistant Coach Jeff Reinert.

Coach Jay John said after Washington's six-point, seven-rebound effort against USC: "He is not a true point guard, and we have been very satisfied with his effort." After the UCLA loss, Coach John reiterated Hurd's importance to this Beaver team: "Anyone who underestimates the value of Lamar Hurd should have a little slap on the wrist, but you deal with injuries and play the games."

DeWitz blamed the Beaver's up-and-down season on a lack of consistency. "Our focus isn't there when we're

not playing UCLA, Arizona or Cal," DeWitz said after the USC loss. "We play harder when a better team is out there, I guess." Though Coach John later disagreed with that statement, the crowds at Gill Coliseum seem to agree. In a 10-point victory over then-ranked Arizona on Jan. 12, attendance was over 8,500. Last Thursday night, attendance was below 6,500 against USC, but jumped back up to 8,250 on Saturday against UCLA.

However, UCLA's stifling defense held the Beavers to 31 percent shooting in the second half and, for all intents and purposes took the crowd, out of the game midway through the second half. "In this game, we got humbled," John said, but added, "Is this loss the end of the world? No, but we are going to keep coaching, keep playing and keep working."

Sports Editor: Jake Rosenberg
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

SPORTS

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



photo by Erik Swanson

Despite heavy defense, LB's Whitney Bryant finds room against Clackamas on Saturday. Bryant had 19 points, 10 rebounds and six assists in the 84-52 loss.

Lady Runners crucify Saints, fall to Cougars

Steve Farrens
 The Commuter

The Lady Runners basketball squad faced teams headed in opposite directions this week. They started with the weak Mt. Hood team before challenging league-leading Clackamas on Saturday.

For better and for worse, both games ended in routs.

Whitney Bryant led the women's basketball team into battle against the 2-15 Mt. Hood squad, scoring 22 points and snatching 14 rebounds in the 65-48 trouncing, last Wednesday. The Roadrunners improved to 3-2 in league with the victory. Guard Molly Fillion also had a big night, scoring 17 points while picking up eight rebounds.

The most notable statistic in the game was the quantity of LBCC rebounds. Between Bryant's 14, Molly Fillion's eight, Sarah Long's 10 and Jenny Fillion's eight, the Roadrunner's

maintained total ball control and followed up their shots to a 17-point victory.

LBCC hoped to add a major upset and another league victory at home on Saturday against Clackamas, who was 5-0 in league and 16-3 overall. Unfortunately, the Roadrunners couldn't keep up with Clackamas's offense in the 84-52 loss.

Bryant had another equally impressive performance, scoring 19 points, with 10 rebounds and six assists. Simrin Cummins scored 16 points, while Sarah Long brought down eight rebounds and had three blocks. Despite the loss, LBCC remains in the middle of the pack in the South Division of the NWAACC, which includes two top-10 squads—Clackamas and Umpqua.

LBCC hosts Umpqua today at 5:30 p.m. on the annual Staff Appreciation Day. The Roadrunners play again on Saturday at Chemeketa.

First-half woes cost Runners

Caleb Hawley
 The Commuter

First-half woes are continuing for the Linn-Benton Road Runners (9-11, 2-4). The Runners were outscored by a combined score of 86-49 in the first half of last week's games.

LB first visited the Mt. Hood Saints (17-3, 6-0) in Gresham on Wednesday. A poor first half proved costly for the Runners as the Saints took an early first half lead of 44-22. The deficit was too much to overcome and LB was defeated 66-44. Leading scorer for the Runner's was Ryon Pool with 14 points.

Saturday night's game at home didn't work out much better for the Runners as they faced the Clackamas Cougars (14-7, 3-3). Another poor first half performance left LB down 42-27 at the break. LB came out strong in the second half cutting the lead all the way down to just seven with about seven minutes to go. Any thought of a come back was snuffed out by a scoring drought that lasted nearly five minutes. With the lack of offensive production in the drought, the Cougars took the game back into their hands for a 69-56 victory.

Kyle Masten had a team high 15 points and Pool collected 8 rebounds to lead the Runners. "The trend seems to be that we are a great second half team, but that doesn't win ballgames,"

said Coach Falk. "We have to do a better job of coming out stronger and playing stronger in the first half. We need to be more competitive on the defensive end and do a better job of offensive execution."

"The trend seems to be that we are a great second-half team but that doesn't win ballgames."

Coach Randy Falk

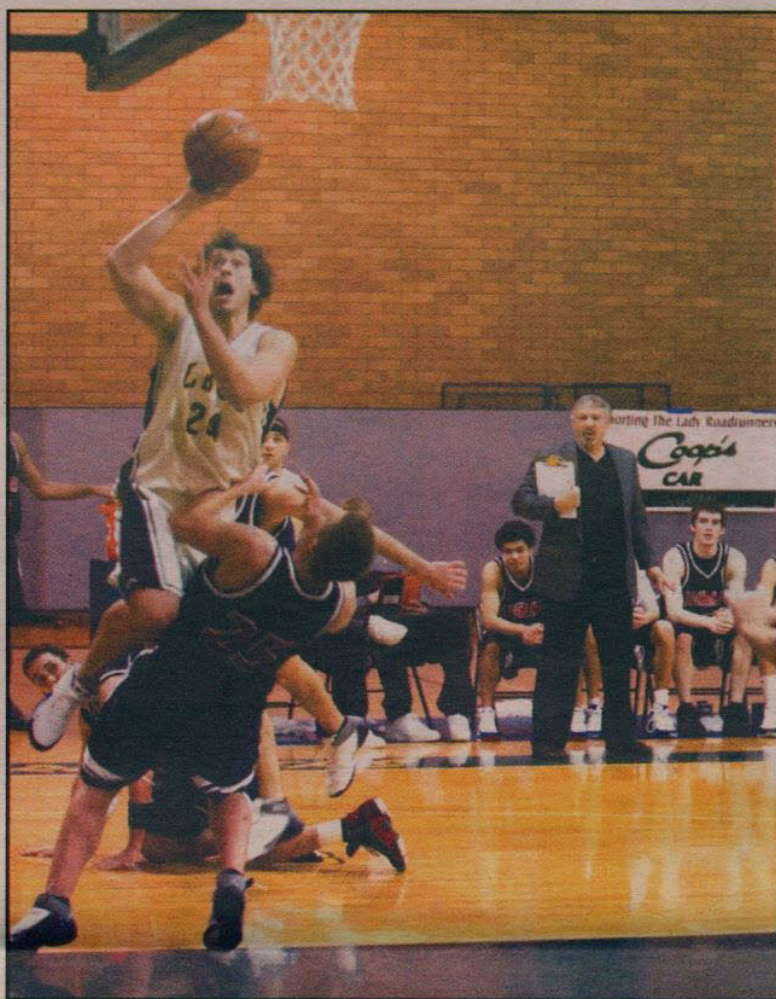


photo by Erik Swanson

Center Ryon Pool attacks the basket against Clackamas Saturday. Pool collected eight rebounds in the game, which LBCC lost 69-56.

scoreboard

Men		STANDINGS		Women	
	League	Overall		League	Overall
Mt. Hood	6-0	17-3	Clackamas	6-0	16-3
Chemeketa	5-1	13-6	Lane	5-1	21-1
Clackamas	3-3	14-7	Umpqua	4-2	15-5
Lane	3-3	9-11	Chemeketa	3-3	6-11
Portland	3-3	11-10	Linn-Benton	3-3	7-13
Linn-Benton	2-4	9-11	SWOCC	2-4	9-9
SWOCC	1-5	7-12	Portland	1-5	7-12
Umpqua	1-5	4-15	Mt. Hood	0-6	2-15

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Feb. 1	Umpqua	Linn-Benton	W-5:30 M-7:30
Feb. 4	Chemeketa	Salem	W-4:00 M-6:00
Feb. 11	Portland	Linn-Benton	W-4:00 M-6:00
Feb. 15	SWOCC	Coos Bay	W-5:30 M-7:30

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Spring term begins Saturday, February 11. Get started today!

VISIT US AT LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

be. do. have. more.




LINFIELD
 Adult Degree Program

Design Editor: Elizabeth Beckham
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

FUNNY BONES

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



**Got Questions?
Need Answers?**

Ask Isabelle
Send your questions to
ask_isabelle@hotmail.com

Hey Isabelle,

I am really starting to go crazy. Homework is overwhelming, work is crazy and I feel like my whole life is just one big whirlwind! I still live at home and I still have one more year before I graduate so I am stuck here. I never have time to go out or do anything fun. It's ALWAYS work, work, work. Do you have any suggestions to take off some of the pressure without dropping out of school?

Signed, All Worked Out...

Dear Worked Out,

If you're not stressed out, then you are not working very hard in school. To succeed, sacrifices have to be made. My teacher has a sign on his door that says "What Do You Really Want?" That pretty much says it all. You can go out and party and skate by on a mediocre grade at best or you can really buckle down, cut out the stuff that takes away from school and really make the most of your education. That's what you're here for, right? To take the edge off, try studying in groups with friends and make sure you take breaks for lunch and talk about non-school stuff to relax. Take advantage of down time and really take a break and you won't feel like you're burning the candle at both ends.

Dear Isabelle,

This may seem like a really silly question but here goes. The other night, I went to a bar with some friends and met this guy while we were playing pool. We really hit it off and I felt like I was with someone that totally knew me and understood me plus he is super funny and really cute. The thing is, he is like really punk, heavy metal (piercings and everything) and I am not. It's not that it bothers me but our friends are totally different, our environments are totally different. I don't really dig the hard rock thing and he doesn't really want to be seen anywhere near the mall. How do we spend time together so that both of us are comfortable?

Hard Rock Juliet

Dear Juliet,

It really is simple my dear...If your friends and his friends are really your friends, they will be happy you two found each other and are happy being with each other. They might take a little time to adjust but if you just act like yourself and welcome them then they will welcome you back. As far as the mall and heavy metal concerts, a little sacrifice must be made. If you go see the band play until your ears bleed, he can hold your purse while you shop at Abercrombie. It's only fair. Before you know it, your environment and friends will start mingling together and you won't know who's environment you are in or who's friends you are with because it will be both of yours.

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Touch down
 - 5 Worn out
 - 9 Tel Aviv
 - 14 African lily
 - 15 Olin or Horne
 - 16 Manmade fabric
 - 17 Laura or Bruce
 - 18 Like mother-of-pearl
 - 20 Sprinkle with powder
 - 21 In addition
 - 22 Changes, as a timer
 - 23 Much inclined
 - 25 Old Peruvian
 - 27 June honorees
 - 29 Lends a hand
 - 35 Slalom
 - 38 Edge
 - 39 Nationalist
 - 40 Zodiac sign
 - 42 Actor Marlon
 - 43 Olympics site of 1996
 - 45 Pub serving
 - 46 Rep. letters
 - 47 Make a second appearance
 - 48 Malevolent stare
 - 50 Scottish loch
 - 52 "___ Delicate Condition"
 - 56 Jostled
 - 61 ___ the question
 - 63 Encounter
 - 64 "Rocky" co-star
 - 66 Gilbert or Teasdale
 - 67 City on the Rhone River delta
 - 68 Persian Gulf country
 - 69 Land of Blarney and Killarney
 - 70 Like some eyes
 - 71 E-mailed
 - 72 Snow coaster

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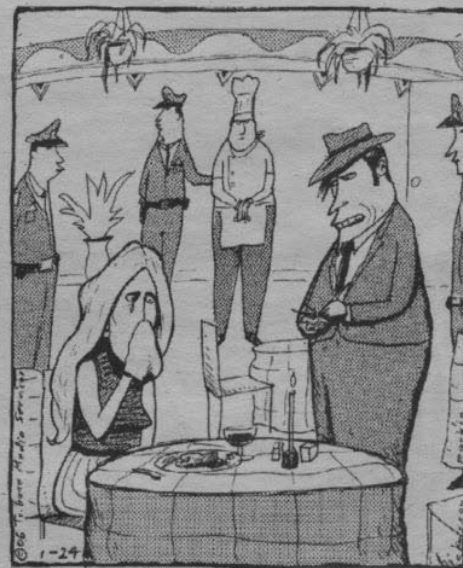
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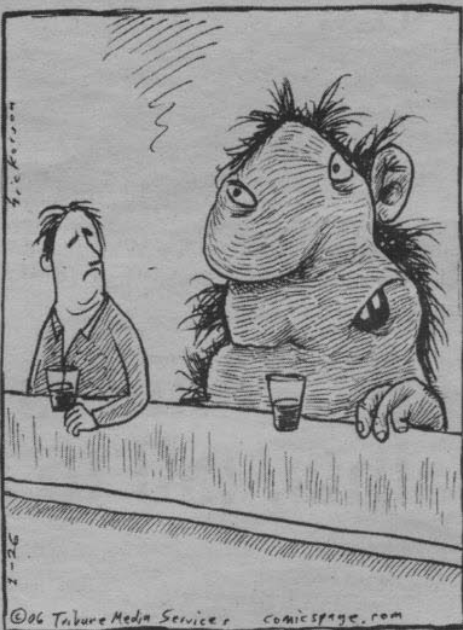
- 8 Abe's boy
- 9 San __, CA
- 10 Parabolas
- 11 Make tracks
- 12 Typeface
- 13 Porch raiders
- 19 Like pencil marks
- 24 Allowance provider
- 26 Lid
- 28 Swells out
- 30 "Silkwood" star
- 31 Levin or Gershwin
- 32 Belt out
- 33 Busy person's list
- 34 Come to a standstill
- 35 Ship's pole
- 36 Flying toy
- 37 Capri or Man
- 41 Fire
- 44 Exist
- 45 Losing competitor

**ANSWERS
PROVIDED
ON PAGE
FOUR**

- 49 Exodus pharaoh
- 51 Steeple top
- 53 Oyster yield
- 54 Eagle's home
- 55 Put up with
- 56 Piercing pain
- 57 Tortoise's competitor
- 58 ___ podrida
- 59 Competed (for)
- 60 "___ Rider"
- 62 House opening?
- 65 Howdy-dos



"Try to calm down, ma'am. Now just exactly how was the steak smothered?"



"What they don't tell you is between Skull Island and the Empire State Building, experiments were done. Basically, I'm the love child of King Kong and a guinea pig."



"I hate to disagree with you, Thag, but I think it's more logical to pillage BEFORE we burn."



"People! We're sorry but we've overbooked! We've got vouchers here for reincarnation, all expenses paid! Anyone? Anyone?"

...Fun Facts...

- Walt Disney, the creator of Mickey Mouse, was afraid of mice.
- 68 percent of a Hostess Twinkie is air!
- The cigarette lighter was invented before the match.
- In Mexico, the Tooth Fairy is known as the 'Tooth Mouse.'
- Dragonflies can travel up to 60 mph.

FOR ADVICE...

E-mail Isabelle for anonymous, fair and unbiased advice anytime at ask_isabelle@hotmail.com or drop letters off at the Commuter Office, Forum 222, addressed to Ask Isabelle.

All names will be kept confidential and private. Isabelle will answer all letters as space allows so please be patient if we don't get to your letter right away.

LBCC MAIN CAMPUS
Commons
FEB. 1 - FEB. 7

Wednesday:
ENTREES: Pot Roast; Chicken Burrito w/Pinto Beans; Tofu Satay w/Spicy Peanut Sauce & Steamed Jasmine Rice
SIDES: Potato Pancakes; Mexican Rice; Carrots & Turnips Etuvee
SOUPS: Tomatq Rice; Corn Chowder

Thursday:
ENTREES: Liver w/Bacon & Onions; Spicy Korean Beef; Vegetable Grilled Pizza w/Pesto & Goat Cheese
SIDES: O'Brien Potatoes; Creamy Polenta; Broccoli & Cauliflower
SOUPS: Ginger Chicken & Coconut (Tom Kha Gai); Split Pea

Friday: Chef's Choice

Monday:
ENTREES: Glazed Ham (Carved on Display); Beef Goulash w/Spaetzle; Thai Vegetarian Stir-Fry
SIDES: Lyonnaise Potatoes; Broccoli Hollandaise
SOUPS: Wild Rice; Manhattan Clam Chowder

Tuesday:
ENTREES: Chicken & Dumplings; Brazilian Seafood Stew; Vegetable Strudel
SIDES: Couscous; Bouquetiere of Vegetables
SOUPS: Cheddar Cheese; Chicken Soup w/Matzo Balls

Weekly Menu

Managing Editor: Jennifer Overholser
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

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

LB honors life of civil rights 'mother' Parks

Melissa Chaney
 The Commuter

"The mother of the civil rights movement" was born on Feb. 4, 1913. Although there were many other activists in the movement, Rosa Louise (McCauley) Parks is the woman the nation remembers as a catalyst that helped spark the elimination of segregation in our country.

On Dec. 1, 1955, Rosa Parks defied the Jim Crow laws of the time and refused to

give up her bus seat to a white passenger. Because of her defiance she was arrested. Parks had been a long-time member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and had been prepared for that moment. She had also been thrown off the bus before. In fact, the same bus driver had thrown her off years earlier.

In her autobiography, "My Story," Parks says that it wasn't physical weariness that made her keep her seat. "The

only tired I was, was tired of giving in."

After her case went to trial, and she was found guilty, with a fine of \$10 plus \$4 in court costs, the black community instigated a 381-day boycott of the Montgomery bus system.

Because of her decisions Parks lost her job and subsequently moved to Detroit with her husband, Raymond Parks. In Detroit she remained a staunch advocate of civil rights and became an aide for

Congressman John Conyers.

She received many awards, one of the most prestigious being the Congressional Gold Medal, which was presented by Bill Clinton in 1999. She died Oct. 24, 2005.

LBCC Multicultural Center is holding a party to celebrate the birth and life of Rosa Parks. It will be held today from 12-1p.m. in the Multicultural Center. Cake and refreshments will be offered and "Mighty Times," a movie about her life will be shown.

Survival seminars aid Lebanon area students

Hannah Cowart
 The Commuter

Students in the Lebanon area who are having trouble balancing their busy schedules or mastering tests can get help at two free Survival Seminars held at the Lebanon Center this term.

"Time Management" will be held Thursday, Feb. 2 from 4-4:50 p.m. in LC-203.

The seminar will cover things such as balancing work, homework and school and still having a life.

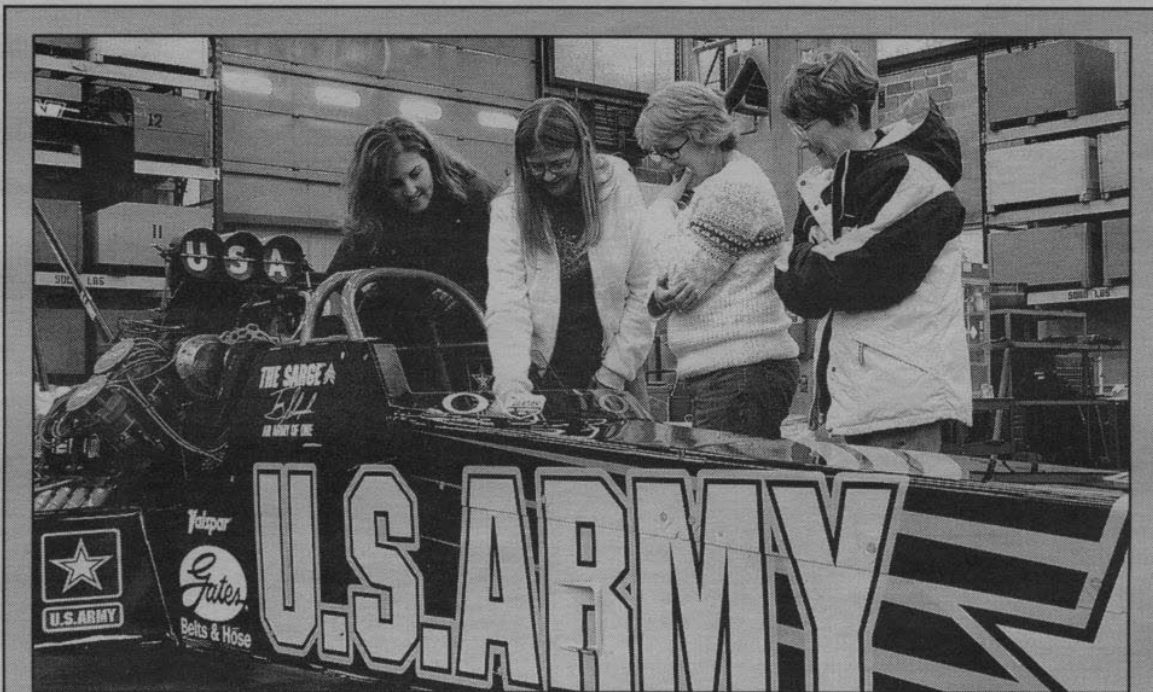
The second seminar, "Test Taking Strategies," will be held

Thursday, Feb. 23 from 4-4:50 p.m. in LC-203.

This seminar will focus on various strategies for taking tests and overcoming anxiety of test taking.

The free seminars were created about four years ago on the Albany main campus to provide students with support and give tips for success in a variety of areas, said Karyn Chambers, who will be presenting the seminars.

Last year, the seminars began being offered in Lebanon, with different dates and times to make them more accessible to students in the area.



Hot-Rod Mamas

LeAnn Schamp, Jan Modin, Debby Zeller and Roxie Putnam check the Army demonstration fuel dragster on display in the IA Building last Friday.

photo by Dan Wise

Library adds literature reference to online database

Stephen Whitener
 The Commuter

With its new online database, the LBCC Library is taking another step into the digital future and freeing valuable shelf space in the process.

The Literature Resource Center, accessible from the LBCC Library Web page anywhere on campus and at LBCC satellite centers, will replace the hardbound series' Contemporary Authors, Contemporary Literary Criticism and Twentieth Century Literary Criticism.

"They take up a lot of space," said reference assistant

Candice Watkins of the many volumes. "They're great resources, but when you have a database like this, which covers those in addition to other sources, it makes sense to go the electronic way."

The Literature Resource Center offers many other biographical, bibliographical and critical resources, including a Dictionary of Literary Biography, Merriam-Webster's Encyclopedia of Literature, which is a guide to writing research papers, and links to over 260 literary journals and 5,100 literary websites.

One of its key assets is convenience. Using the search function, information on authors, even obscure ones,

fairly bursts from the computer screen. Researching little-known author Hans Fallada, for example, yields much more data in less time than using the traditional hardbound counterpart on the shelf.

"It takes you right there," said Watkins of the database.

For the present, those hardbound volumes are still available for perusal. Eventually, said Watkins, they will be moved to a storage area, but she hastened to add that this did not signal an irreversible end to The Library as we know it.

"Reference will never go away," said Watkins.

'Help' is the key word at the LC

Melissa Chaney
 The Commuter

LBCC provides many services for students in order to make their education experience more complete and valuable.

The Learning Center, located above the Library in WH-212, gives students another place to study, in addition to study support and staff to help answer questions. The LC offers help desks for math, writing, reading, study skills, and a science desk for chemistry and physics. Each is open for drop-in one-on-one assistance.

The LC also offers a testing center, computer lab, free individual tutoring and TASS, Tutor Assisted Study Support for group tutoring.

If you are enrolled in a course for credit at LBCC you are eligible for free tutoring. Tutoring sessions are about 50 minutes long and need to be set up by appointment at least 24 hours in advance. Tutors will help to clarify information from class or the textbook and suggest ways to develop study skills. Students, however, need to attend class regularly and keep their appointments.

LC hours for winter term are 7:30 a.m.-7 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

on Tuesday and Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. The testing center is open all hours that the LC is open; however, any tests taken need to be started at least one hour prior to closing time.

Taking a test in the LC must be arranged with your instructor and students must present their student ID card or another form of picture ID. The tests are also timed—however, if they have a time-limit students must keep track for themselves.

In addition to the LC, computer labs can also be found in F-204, ST-217 and the new computer/writing lab in the recently built NSH-215. Hours when the labs are available are posted outside the door.

According to Linda Spain, the English department chair, this new computer lab offers both the use of computers and the help of instructors manning the lab for help with research, grammar, citing sources, etc.

"I would like students to start using it," she said, "It's a use or lose it type of thing." The help desks in the LC are open various hours according to staff availability. Information can be found at the LBCC website linnbenton.edu; just click on Learning Center under Student Resources.

Valentine's Day Flower Sale

\$2 each or \$10 for six.



Ordering begins Jan. 31.

Have a carnation delivered to a special person on campus! Place your order in the Student Life & Leadership Office or at our table in Takena Hall. Flowers will be delivered between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on February 14. (We'll deliver to the centers between noon and 1 p.m.)

Sponsored by the LBCC Student Ambassadors and the Student Programs Board.

Assistance for tuxedos provided by Mr. Formal.

Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE
 LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.

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CAMPUS NEWS

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

Survivor confronts cancer: 'I choose to live'

Sherry Majeski
 The Commuter

Breast Cancer Awareness is an annual national health campaign designed to educate women about early breast cancer detection, diagnosis and treatment.

Petr Horak, student ambassador, has taken the lead on organizing the event, co-sponsored by the Student Programming Board. Last week, Linda Hummer, a teacher, storyteller and artist who is fighting for her own life against the unforgiving forces of breast cancer, spoke to women with her poignant story and the importance of early detection.

After graduating from her masters program at 32 years old Hummer learned that she had breast cancer. Within six months of her diagnosis she had undergone a double mastectomy. Three years later her cancer returned and spread to her bones.

Now, she chooses to "live strong," de-

scribing her battle by saying, "My goal is to heal, and I may still die of cancer, but I choose to live while I am here. Every moment I can [get] will be one more moment that cancer didn't get. The next moment is not a guarantee."

Her childhood was poverty-stricken, and she stated that health is directly impacted by class standing. "That doesn't mean that if someone is wealthy, they won't get cancer. It means that some people have access to health insurance for preventive care and can buy organic food," she said.

One of the greatest challenges that

Breast Cancer Awareness Events
Breast Self-Exam Workshop
 Feb. 1, 4:45-8 p.m.
 Alesa-Calapooia Rooms
Project H.E.R. Health Enlightenment Resources
 Feb. 3, 12-1 p.m.
 Takena Hall

she faces is fear. "I am afraid every day. I do not want to die. People say, 'You are so courageous.' What other choice do I have? Lie down and die? No, I choose to live."

She said that the first thing that her surgeon told her was to, "Never put a piece of meat or dairy in your

mouth that isn't organic, because they use hormones and antibiotics. They have a direct connection with cancer."

This goes back to class because organic food is more expensive. "If you are wealthy enough to afford these things, you are lucky," said Hummer.

When the cancer spread to her bones

and ate away one third of her pelvis it disabled her ability to walk and confined her to a wheelchair. She stated that it was devastating to go from a walking person to a non-walking person and that she lost her hair, eyebrows and now her eyelashes are falling out, but suddenly things were put into perspective. Not being able to walk became unimportant when compared to having one more moment with her child.

"I don't spend time worrying about not being able to walk anymore. What good will that do? If I do chemo regularly for the rest of my life, cancer will still probably take me, but it is being slowly contained. It is possible to make choices for what really matters to you. It is important to know your own strengths. We underestimate our ability to cope with what will happen. 'Oh I couldn't do that.' But I want to tell you that you can. If everything gets taken away from you, you will survive. It is possible."

SL&L encourages students to use carpool services

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

Only one person showed up recently for a meeting to discuss carpooling. The event was organized to help connect students looking to rideshare. Student Body President Bill Hand was there to help answer questions about carpools and how to find information on the LBCC Web site. Click on "Carpools and rideshare classifieds" and then click on 'add item' to enter your information. Ridesharing may be of interest to students who have late classes that end after the buses stop running.

"We go through a lot to try and attract students. Food, soda and prizes," said Hand. The one person who showed up left before the photographer returned with a camera five minutes later.

Another item of interest is the book buyback

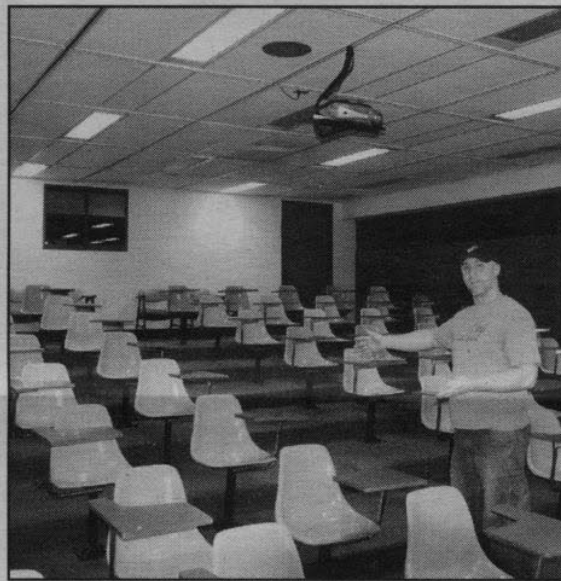
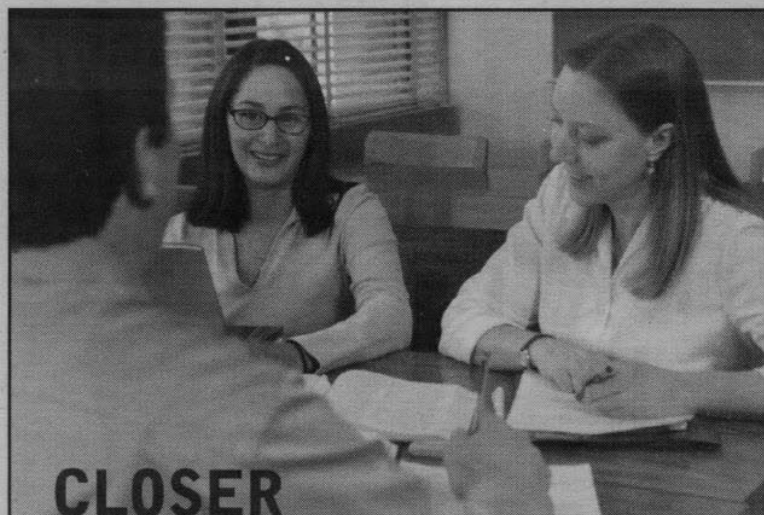


photo by Zack Wait

ASG President Bill Hand finds lots of empty seats at a recent carpool forum.

list, which enables students to sell their books to other students for more than they would receive from the school, and the students buying the books also pay less for the used copy. There is also a student exchange list, where things like cars are up for sale.



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 or 2 Breakfast Sandwiches
 Plus a 12 oz. Coffee or Cappuccino
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Linn-Benton Community College provides this electronic space for students to post classified ads.

Sponsored by your Associated Student Government
 For information, call 917-4462 or come into the Student Life and Leadership office at LBCC Main Campus

A&E Editor: Colleen Franzoia
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4453
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

Check it Out

'Seussical the Musical'

Feb. 2, 3, 4
 8 p.m.
 \$11 Adults
 \$8 Seniors and students under 18
 Students half-price on Thursdays
 Albany Civic Theater
 111 First Ave. S.W.
 www.albanycivic.org

'Winterfest' Concert

Benefit for Albany Public Schools
 music programs
 Feb. 3
 6:30 p.m.
 \$30 in advance
 \$35 at the door includes
 Hors d'oeuvres
 First Assembly of God
 2817 Santiam Hwy.
 www.albanywinterfest.com

49 Fingers

Feb. 4
 7 p.m.
 No Cover
 Oregon Trader
 140 Hill St. S.E.
 Albany
 www.49fingers.com

Neal Gladstone and Co.

Feb. 10 & 11
 7:30 p.m.
 Majestic Theatre
 115 S.W. Second St.
 Corvallis
 Tickets \$18 in advance at
 Grass Roots Bookstore
 227 S.W. Second St.
 Corvallis

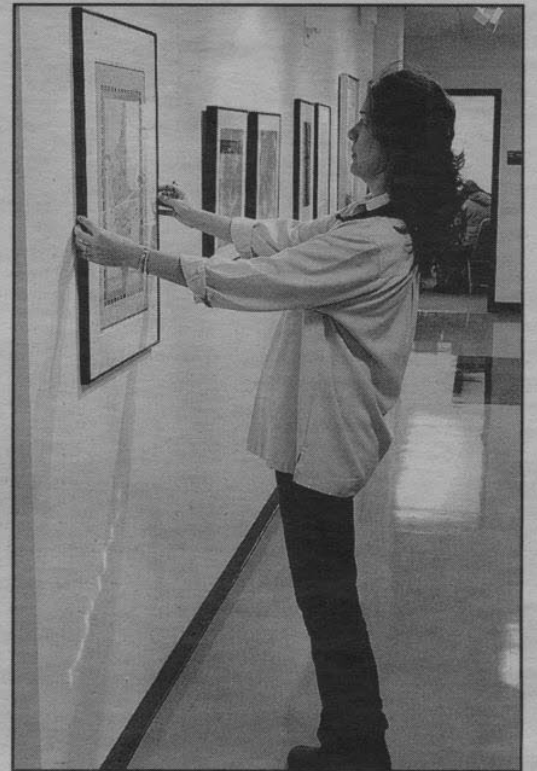
Tcha Tee Man Wi Storytelling Festival Fundraiser

Bawdy Tales
 (Adults only)
 Feb. 4
 10 p.m.
 \$10
 Big River Restaurant
 101 N.W. Jackson St.
 Corvallis
 www.thebestlibrary.net



photo by Dan Wise

Analee Fuentes, chair of the Art Department, adjusts pictures for the current faculty invitational exhibit in the new North Santiam Hall. Oregon community college instructors will have their work displayed until the show closes on March 3.



North Santiam Hall exhibit showcases instructors' work

Neal Jones
 The Commuter

Starting on Jan. 31 LBCC will play host to the Community College Invitational Exhibition at the new North Santiam Hall Gallery.

The exhibit will feature work from regional community college instructors that are full or part time, explains Suzanne Campbell from the art department. The instructors will get one to two pieces that best characterize their current body of work.

Schools participating include Portland C.C., Lane C.C., Rogue C.C., COCC, Chemeketa C.C. and other mid-Willamette Val-

ley schools. The exhibition will launch the opening of the fresh, new gallery. The new space, along with the South Santiam Hall Gallery, gives LBCC another location to introduce the community to local and regional artists as well as showcase their work.

The gallery is delighted to showcase these brilliant artists that are teaching in our community colleges. There will be ceramic and two-dimensional paintings and prints. Unlike most galleries there won't be a reception but there may be time to introduce it at the grand opening of the building on Feb. 24. The art department received a lot of support and it should be a

really good show, said Campbell. They received good wishes via e-mail for the gallery space. In the future, they would like to have avant-garde work and possibly next year have a tattoo and zine show.

The Community College Invitational Exhibition is located in North Santiam Hall, 6500 Pacific Blvd. S.W. in Albany. The show will open Jan. 31 and closes March 3. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The public is invited to the Grand Opening of the North Santiam Hall building on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 4 p.m. For more information contact LBCC Arts and Communications at (541) 917-4530.

Cast of 'Reluctant Dragon' prepares to fire up thousands of school kids

Arlen Proctor
 The Commuter

There are many challenges a director and his cast must face during the run of any theatre production. A particularly young audience, four times the normal number of performances, and a costume that is more than a little unusual are just a few that Director George Lauris and his cast have conquered in their production of "The Reluctant Dragon."

Continuing the 31-year tradition of an annual winter children's show in Takena Theatre, "The Reluctant Dragon" is a stage adaptation of a famous Kenneth Grahame short story by Mary Hall Surface.

Scheduled to run in 60 minutes or less, "Dragon" will be shown to elementary school children twice a day every Tuesday and Thursday between Feb. 14 and March 9. Two 3 p.m. Sunday matinee performances will be open to the public on Feb. 26 and March 5 at the Russell Tripp Performance Center in Takena Hall.

Lauris describes the play as a humorous and clever story about misunderstanding and prejudice that will appeal to all ages. "It's for the children, but I would classify it much more as family entertainment," Lauris says.

Having directed many children's shows in the past, Lauris is familiar with the audience and the special care that needs to be taken toward them. "The key is to make it entertaining without being condescending," Lauris expects more than 7,000 elementary school children to have seen the play by the end of the performance schedule, with more than 80 schools traveling to see the production.

His most recent children's production, 2004's "Alice In Wonderland," required him to rewrite the entire script from scratch in order to make it more suitable for children. Although no major changes to the script were needed for "The Reluctant Dragon," the cast had to face another obstacle—winter vacation.

Rehearsal began in November and the cast was forced to take an extended break from the show during their winter break. When rehearsal resumed on Jan. 9, most cast members were rusty and had forgotten many of their lines. Lauris commented that the break had a very beneficial aspect as well, allowing the cast to stay more focused during their long performance schedule.

With four performances per week for the elementary school children alone, making every showing as dramatic as the first will be difficult. "Keeping it fresh will be very important," commented Lauris.

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DISCOVERY

Community festivals, trips, treks
 and tours that readers might enjoy
 in their free time.

Trains still late, but new station worth the wait

Walt Hughes
 The Commuter

The recent renovation of Albany's train station and addition of landscaped parking lots with their covered taxi and bus benches easily attracts the eye of the beholder. At first glance the building sitting beside the tracks bordering the rail yard will either take you back a half century or cause you to marvel at its clean lines and fresh look. On a clear day, sunlight bouncing off the new copper-clad roof resembles the mythical pot of gold at the end of a rainbow.

Originally constructed in 1908, that bygone era when labor and stone were reasonably cheap and passenger trains with their luxurious Pullman sleeping cars were the only way to travel long distances, the building's rough granite exterior resembles the huge Union Pacific passenger terminals of major cities like New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City and Portland.

On first entering the station travelers and visitors alike will notice the rich luster of hand-rubbed wood benches and walls, polished brass drinking fountains and waste receptacles adorning the interior. In the 19th century, railroad stations in the major cities were the size of religious cathedrals, and their interior woodwork and exterior decor reflected an almost reverent theme dedicated to those contemporary gods of steam power and speedy mass transportation.

Though constructed on a smaller scale, Albany Union Station's design used large windows, high ceilings and a spacious and unobstructed interior to maintain the image. A glass display case contains many small, original black-



and-white photographs and a dozen larger ones depicting Albany in the early 20th century decorate the station's walls.

A bridge was built over the main line in the 1950s so that the growing automobile traffic on U.S. 99, Albany's Pacific Boulevard, could flow smoothly without being held up by passing trains. As part of the modernization project, the Albany Parks Department revamped and landscaped both exits at the south end of the overpass, and the new shrubs and flowerbeds enhance the project even more.

While it has nothing to do with the renovation, structure or beautiful landscaping, one great drawback now is the Amtrak line. The original idea of the Multimodal Station Project was to restore the Union Station and enhance it as a facility for vari-

ous modes of transportation, and statistics show that since Amtrak added a third train to the schedule passenger traffic has increased by 40 percent. The problem at the moment stems from consistent delays that end up with passengers who need to catch the Empire Builder, which runs east out of Portland, or the Coast Starlight, which runs south from Eugene, having to be bussed from Albany to meet their departure schedules.

Where once freight trains were sidetracked to give the faster passenger liners the right-of-way, the reverse happens almost constantly today. Driving to Portland or Eugene will take about an hour on Interstate 5, while Amtrak may run anywhere from an hour to five and six hours late making the same trip. The day of preferential treatment for the rail traveling public passed into



photos by Sherry Majeski

Passengers board an Amtrak train at the recently renovated Albany train station (above). The new design offers large windows, high ceilings and vintage photographs from the early 20th century as interior decoration. New shrubs and flowerbeds also visually enhanced the new-look station. A third train has been added to the schedule, resulting in a 40 percent increase in passenger traffic.

history around the time Boeing came along with the 707 jetliner. The big steam locomotives, sleek diesel streamliners and Pullman cars with their spiffy white-jacketed porters are slowly fading to-

ward misty storybook memories as huge lumbering freight cars and nationwide commerce dominate and rule the rails.

In the late 1800s the Oregon and California ran north and south while the Oregon Pacific ran east to connect with the Chicago & North Western Railroad. The Southern Pacific around the time the station was built replaced these, and today the Portland & Western Railroad runs the rail yard.

Located on the main rail corridor between Seattle and San Diego, Albany still serves as a crew change point for the Southern Pacific and a switch point for the Willamette & Pacific Railroad that connects to Corvallis and the Oregon Coast. The renovation and enhancements to the station seem to be a viable first step in bringing a time honored and economical mode of transportation back to Albany.



photos by Dan Wise

