

The Commuter

Wednesday,
May 21, 2008

A weekly student publication

Volume 39 No. 22

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

Silver Falls: Hiker's Dream

Minda Trulove
The Commuter

As summer and graduation are approaching, people may be planning what they're going to do during the summer. One idea may be to head out into the outdoors and pitch a tent.

Located off of Highway 22 and to the east, about an hour from the many / Corvallis area, you'll find Silver Falls State Park. The park is recognized as a Recreational Demonstration Area by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1935, which was the precursor of the national park.

The park offers a bit of everything for everyone, bird watching, horse ranches and many hiking trails.

The park boasts 10 waterfalls ranging from 27 feet to 178 feet. Four out of the 10 falls have trails that allow hikers to walk behind the waterfalls. Included in these trails are 700 acres of land, 24 miles of hiking trails, four miles of bike trails.

The overnight facilities at the park range from tent campsites to rustic cabins. The tent area is abundant with large trees, which provides shade for campers. Part of the tent area runs alongside a creek that flows towards the waterfalls. My partner and I, plus a friend and our dogs, headed out and did



photo by Minda Trulove

Hikers walk underneath and behind one of 10 waterfalls at Silver Falls State Park near Highway 22, about an hour's drive from LBCC.

just that. We loved every minute of it.

Setting up our tents around 11 in the morning gave us plenty of time to enjoy the park for the rest of the day. We hiked in some of the trails with our dogs and the dogs loved it, except for our 7-month-old mastiff puppy. She wasn't tready for the heat or the length of the "short" hike.

We took advantage of the day-use area that is right across from the overnight facilities. In this day-use area there is a large area for picnics and general frivolity. There is also a large, albeit shallow, wading area that maybe reached a foot and some change; enough to get our feet wet and it allowed the dogs to cool down.

Each camp area has a fire-pit,

allowing for a relaxing campfire after a long day. Looking up and seeing the bright stars is a treat since they are concealed while in the city. The cool of the mountain air and sounds of crickets in the background lull us to a peaceful sleep.

Throughout the overnight facilities there are restrooms with all the comforts of home, flushing toilets and hot showers.

During peak season, which is May 1 through Sept. 30, overnight tent and RV rates range from \$16 to \$20. Off-season rates are a bit lower. Cabins and other facilities are more per night.

For more information you can go to the Oregon State Parks Website at http://www.oregonstateparks.org/park_211.php.

New Editor-in-Chief announced

Chris LaMuerta
The Commuter

As the term nears the end, the announcement is just beginning for the Commuter's new editor-in-chief, Gregory Dewar, who will be taking the reigns as leader for the 2008/09 school year.

Dewar is an English major at LBCC but said he is planning to do a dual major, adding journalism to the mix. He plans to continue with journalism after graduation, which time he wants to transfer

to UofO.

"I'd really like to be an editor," Dewar said, but acknowledged that he may have to start out as a news reporter.

Dewar was selected as editor-in-chief last Wednesday after a meeting with the Student Publications Committee. The committee oversees issues with both The Commuter and the student e-zine, this year's "Creative Highway." The main purpose of the committee, however, is to select the editor for The Commuter each spring. Three individuals applied for the

position, and Dewar ultimately got the job.

"I've been pretty elated all week," Dewar said, "I feel like I worked pretty hard, and I earned it."

His motivations for seeking the position are that he loves writing and editing, and loves working in The Commuter office.

"I have a lot of fun working here, and had fun being the opinion editor," he said.

▶ Turn to "Editor" on Pg. 9

Forum addresses sensitive issues

Colin Walsh
The Commuter

Some Commuter readers picked up last week's edition and discovered a photo on the bottom of the front page that they found disturbing, and which has touched off a campus-wide discussion of diversity, politics and civil discourse.

Readers who picked up the paper noticed the woman in the photo holding a sign above her head reading "Bro's Before Hoe's" and "OBAMA 2008." A caption on the photo urged readers to look for more details inside.

However, further coverage included only a photo of former President Bill Clinton, who was in Corvallis for a rally in support of Sen. Hillary Clinton. There was no mention of the woman with the sign, and the other protesters who gathered across the street from the rally at Lincoln Elementary School.

This sparked confusion among both faculty and students.

By Thursday morning The Commuter e-mailbox was filled with nearly a dozen messages from faculty and staff denouncing the photo, which they described as distasteful and misogynistic.

Among the first to comment were members of the Native American Student Union and their adviser, Michele Wilson:

"On behalf of the Native American Student Union, we publicly denounce the May 14 edition of The Commuter. The photo and caption at the bottom of the front page are inherently offensive to all women and people of color."

In response to the e-mail string, the Diversity and Civic Engagement Council organized a "dialogue on discourse," which began at 3 p.m. Monday in the Fireside Room. All the seats were soon filled.

Thirty-five people showed up, including students, faculty, staff and members of The Commuter staff. The event was coordinated by Tammi Paul and facilitated by Dana Emerson,

faculty members at LBCC.

Emerson opened up by introducing herself and thanking the Commuter staff and everyone else for attending. She began the discussion by describing her confusion and concern over how and why the front-page picture and its caption got published.

When the newspaper told readers to go to page nine, she noted, there was just a picture of Bill Clinton and a caption explaining that he was in Corvallis on May 12. There was no explanation on who or what the girl was doing on the front page.

Emerson was not the only one to feel this way.

The dialogue continued back and forth with people reiterating the same point. Some accused The Commuter of racism and bias, even suggesting the paper could be in serious trouble for printing "hate speech."

Several speakers offered ideas on how the newspaper should have handled the photo, including simply not publishing it. Much of the concern came from the lack of context for the picture, its caption, and only a picture of Clinton on page nine.

Both students and faculty supported different sides on the issue, some calling it foolish to get upset and suggesting the only one doing harm is the woman in the photo who can't spell correctly, calling herself a "hoe" instead of a "ho," short for whore.

One faculty member shared that a student in one of her classes believed that it was just the "old" people getting upset. On the other hand there were points brought up about racism, bigotry, poor photo choice and suggestions that the picture reflects The Commuter's opinion.

Many people that attended described their discomfort with how the photo and caption were presented in the paper.

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Editor 917-4451
E-mail commuter@linnbenton.edu
Web www.linnbenton.edu/commuter
Advertising 917-4452
Address Forum Room 222
6500 Pacific Highway SW
Albany, OR 97321
Fax 917-4454

Contact



"Prince Caspian"
reviewed on
page 6

Opinion Editor: Gregory Dewar
Editor-In-Chief: Davis LaMuerta
commuter@linnbenton.edu

OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter
commuter@linnbenton.edu (F-222)
Please sign and keep to 300 words or less

Playing the veteran's card

Will Parker
The Commuter

My first reaction to the news that the staff at LB was up in arms about the latest edition of The Commuter was a real rush of joy. That sort of instant validation is almost beyond compare. That joy, however, was shortly replaced by despair. My heart more than just fell from the clouds; it cratered into the earth as my preconceptions shattered. LB was run by a bunch of humans. Reading all the staff e-mails was akin to reading the comments on a blog, complete with flames and a spelling Nazi with bad grammar. But these were the learned scholars of academia! Yet despite their scholarly credentials, they were still emotional people.

Trailing at the end of this string of e-mails was an announcement of a "dialogue on discourse" (possibly the most redundant title ever) of which the topic would be the recent edition of the newspaper. Specifically, the picture I took, edited, captioned, placed and admired sadly from its menial spot on the bottom of the front page inside what we call a "ground-box." Incidentally, had it appeared at the top of the page, it would have been in the "sky-box!"

I organized my thoughts. But I held back. I would wait and listen to these people face to face. I would give them the benefit of the doubt that they were not all mindless drones given to fits of outrage over perceived slights. On some deep personal level, I am an optimist. On the surface, my "MTV Generation" cynicism is obvious, but deep down, I always seem to give people the chance to sink or swim.

And sink they did. Turns out, not only was the forum comprised of so many self-righteous "crusaders" as to really foster a good sense of "Us" versus "Them" (and I was most definitely "Them"), most of these people did not appreciate what free speech means. I had thought violent ignorance about basic constitutional rights to be more or less contained to the Student Life & Leadership office. In reality this ignorance is a psycho-sociological cancer that has spread all over the campus.

The thing that really got me, though, was that it was a little picture of a young woman holding up a sign with a ~~pride patch~~ all pissed off. Not the tragedy in Darfur, Myanmar, China or anywhere else in the world.

Or an unpopular war.

As I listened to people suggest misguided idea after misguided idea, I realized that in a week, it will be Memorial Day. And once again I'll grab a beer (probably a Rolling Rock) and find someplace to sit and think about what I've done since the last Memorial Day- Just like I've done every Memorial Day since 2002.

I drifted in and out of the conversation, listening to the various people talk about lifelong discrimination, about everyday waking up black or a woman or both, and it got me thinking.

Almost every day, I wake up wishing I were dead. Terrible thing, that. My fiancée has long noticed my sour morning disposition, but it's hard to put into real words. You see, I've got far too many friends buried under plain white gravestones. It's a special sort of hell that I would wish on no one: a nagging doubt in the back of your head that you don't deserve to be alive- to want more than anything to take the place of a friend, to exchange your life for theirs. It was my fate, though, to always be the one in the white gloves- to have known well the smell of gunpowder and flowers; the deafening silence following each salvo of a 21-gun salute.

While the world will continue to turn, this Memorial Day, I'll stop to think about if I've done right by these giants- common men and women who died unloved by the country that sent them half a world away to fight an unpopular war predicated on lies.

Discrimination is bad, no doubt about it. And it will continue for a good long while, I suspect. Be it based on race, ethnicity, gender or occupation. And I'm sure people will continue to hold onto their ignorant ideas about the media and journalism. And free speech too. But there is one person I know who has never discriminated: Death. Death never cared about who your parents were, how rich or poor you are, or where you were born. Nah- Death welcomes everyone equally, young and old.

This Memorial Day, rather than think about this farce of an issue, I'll be thinking about the great company Death keeps. I'll remember my friends, my buddies, my bros. And I'll remember the others too- those who came before us. Those who fought and died for the life we have today. And when my time comes, I hope I can look back and know there was a reason I was given this gift of opportunity, paid for in the blood of my brothers.

Want to end racism? Choose to rise above it

Lydia Elliott
The Commuter

Never before have I seen such uproar about a picture that takes up barely two inches. While reading the May 14 issue of The Commuter, I hardly noticed the picture of the Obama supporter holding up a sign that read "bro's before hoe's," let alone took issue over it. That's why it was a complete surprise to me that there was such uproar over the image.

Over the past week I have heard The Commuter staff called a litany of things, including: misogynistic, bigoted, naïve, hateful, and even more biased than Fox News. I thought it would take something a lot more controversial than the paper running a photo of a politically active young citizen boldly expressing her viewpoint to be compared to Fox News. Was her choice of words bold and controversial? Yes. Is this what got this woman noticed and her picture taken? Yes. Does this mean that the Commuter shares her viewpoint? No, it doesn't. This girl was at a rally we were documenting and we chose to document her and the Obama supporters with her. She used her right to free speech to hold up a provocative sign, and The Commuter used its free speech to report it.

The big issue seems to be the words that she used: "bro's before hoes" and the word "colors" in our caption. According to some, "bro's" refers to "black people," "ho's" is an insult to women, and "colors" again refers to race. For many young people, we no longer associate "bro" with black people. Now it's a word that is used everywhere, as in, "hey bro, how's it going?" Just like "hey buddy" or "hey dude." Heck, haven't many of us played Super Smash Bros? I don't think any of the Nintendo characters are black, are they?

"Colors" might be blue or red, depending on your political affiliation, or it could just mean different ideas. It doesn't have to be a race thing. If you still want to be concerned with race, try looking beyond the surface of that photo: You'll see a black man amongst the Obama supporters.

As I sat in the Fireside Room Monday afternoon, one

thing became clear to me: those who were offended chose to be. They let the words bother them. They let themselves associate it with outdated ideas from years ago. And they chose to be angry. How do they want to solve the issue? Demand apologies from those who don't feel the same way? Enforce their own outdated way of thinking on others who have progressed past racial generalizations? The same people who are offended are perpetuating the sexism and racism they take offense to.

If you want racism and sexism to end in America, STOP BEING OFFENDED. The more people take issue with words like "bro" and "colors" the more it perpetuates their ties to racial meanings. Be true to your convictions, understand why you don't agree, and move on.

Being offended is a choice you make. You can choose to read a word and interpret its meaning a variety of ways, but that doesn't make the author, or in this case the photographer, responsible for how you interpret it. Perception is in the mind, and we all have a mind of our own.

If you enjoyed reading The Commuter before this uproar, then why not just skip over this issue or anything else that might offend you? You can't please all the people, all the time, but I guarantee there was a lot of good journalism beyond the first page. Demanding apologies from those you perceive to have wronged you, your race, or your gender doesn't further your cause. It just adds to the racial disparity that has been slowly fizzling out over the past few generations. The word "bro" was indicative of black people in the '60s, but this is 2008. Forty years of social progression have passed, resulting in a generation with a much more accepting and open society.

Just like this editorial, the girl was only expressing her opinion. Her message represents her. It is no more representative of The Commuter and its staff than it is of you. Just because the newspaper chose to run a photo that in other peoples' opinions was offensive, does not call for the onslaught of intolerant terms directed at The Commuter. We all have the right to practice free speech, newspapers included, no matter what that might be.

PERSPECTIVES

Q: What do you think of the "Bro's Before Hoe's" photo that ran in last week's Commuter?



"Oh, my God! I'm speechless. It's immature."

• Greg Menefee •
Music transfer

"I go with Obama, too. It's about time to try a black president."



• Naomi Ramos •
Child family studies



"Kinda funny!"

• Kristina Buerke •
General studies

"It's pretty funny. It's someone voicing their opinion."



• Nic Wolfer •
Forestry mgmt.



"It's pretty bad ass."

• Alicia Beresford •
Criminal justice

"Extremely disrespectful! That was not the right place for that. Very controversial."



• Aaron Ballard •
Biological science

Compiled by Elliott Duke

Opinion Editor: Gregory Dewar
 Editor-in-Chief: Davis LaMuerta
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter:
 commuter@linnbenton.edu (F-222)
 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less.

'Bros' and gardening tools in the 'roaring 2000s'

Gregory Dewar
 The Commuter

So, we ran this picture last week in which a young woman is holding up a sign that says "Bro's before hoe's." In and of itself, I think that it's newsworthy because of how ironic it was, and it shows the other side of the democratic campaign; we've got pro-Clinton and pro-Obama sentiment in the same newspaper. It's not really our fault that these people who are



"Sex and Race just don't matter that much to us. We're the first generation to stand up and let it go."
 Gregory Dewar

representing Obama are choosing to do so in such a questionable manner, but it is what happened, and it was the news. Granted, we did it wrong by not having much of an explanation. I'm sure most people can disagree wholeheartedly with the sign and think of a few choice words for the entire ordeal. But I can't help wondering how less controversial it would've been, if it had been a young African-American woman holding the same sign. This point got brought up a few times at the meetings we've had with faculty on campus. My question is, why should it matter what color person was holding the sign? The fact of the matter is that it's an idiotic sign.

It seems to be the result of the blending of youth culture, and it seems to be something that's incredibly less offensive to the youth of America than it is to older generations. The consensus seems to be that "bros" refers to young African-American males and is therefore offensive. Yet, it's a term that permeates the rest of American culture. But why should it be "the rest of American culture"? I think it can safely just be a part of all American culture. "Brother" is used frequently in various religious denominations to illustrate that the members are all the children of God and is familial; not offensive at all.

"Super Mario Bros. 3" is the greatest selling console game of all time and isn't offensive at all. Most of my generation has grown up at least playing that game a little. Frequently in and around this area, with my male friends, we call one another "Bro" and it means something

similar to "buddy." From my experiences with Hawaiian culture, skate culture and surf culture, it's also frequently used, though with slightly different pronunciations to similar meanings. So why then is it so offensive to call someone your brother? Frequently the term "sisters" is used in political organizations, and certainly the organization "Big Brothers Big Sisters of America" can't be any fault for helping troubled youths.

It's a fact of the English language that words change and shift along with their meaning. "Queer" used to mean odd, then it referred primarily to homosexuals, and now a great many of these homosexuals use it to describe themselves with no derogatory sense whatsoever.

My real question is, why cling so hard to the old ways? In the '60s, a great many people fought very hard for equality. This generation is the direct result of all that hard work. Sex and Race just don't matter that much to us. We're the first generation

to stand up and let it go. After all, why should it matter? Anyone with a little bit of education knows it's just some skin pigmentation and different genes, and if we decried everyone with different genes, we'd live very lonely lives.

In my personal circle of friends, in a pretty even distribution of sex, we run the gamut from Muslims, to Jamaicans, to cowfolks, to Christians, to transgenders and homosexuals and it's a non-issue. Whenever someone new is inducted into our group, there's always a learning phase, they're curious about the other people, their heritages, their views, their religion, their lives, what makes them unique, but it's never derogatory, we never butt heads or disrespect one another. And I honestly never think about it, I don't treat them any differently than I would a member of my own family, which is with respect and dignity, and I have it returned.

Why can't the word "bro" refer to a male that I consider to be a good friend and be it in a positive light? It seems to me, that all these civil rights advocates would be happy to see once tarnished words that had negative connotations, be reapplied with positive connotations and be used to describe something happy, which is what having friends is all about.

I don't agree with the use of the word "hoes", there's no way I can think of to turn that into something positive. And yet so many of our society's young women use that word and "bitch" to describe themselves, almost like it makes them cool. Who's to blame? Record companies that sell rap CDs? MTV?

I have about 95 percent Scottish ancestry, and my people have a long and storied history of oppression by the English. At one point, English nobles that took land in Scotland, were allowed to rape any women that got married, and in the 18th century, bagpipes and bagpipe music were outlawed. I couldn't tell you the numbers of Scottish peasants that were raped and killed in the English domination of Scotland, or in the defensive battles that ensued. A lot goes wrong when a country is occupied for 600 or so years. To this day, they're still fighting for devolution and their sovereignty as a nation in the world, which they will most likely never get. But I don't hold it against English people, I've never had an English person treat me differently; I've never done the same. Granted, it's not as recent as the Civil Rights Movement, but history is history.

In the end, I think we need to move on. History is important and we should never forget, but we can't cling to it. I'm sorry that things were the way they were in the first half of the 20th century. But I'm glad that our society is moving on. And if you want the bigotry to end on the side of the bigots, you have to let it go on the other side, too. It's something that we as a culture have to let go of together. And I think we can find a sense of unity in that. So many have worked so hard up until now. I'm sure there'll always be holdouts who love to hate, but there's nothing you can really do about stupid people; they don't want to be educated. And from where I stand that's what racism and sexism are, just plain stupid. It boggles my mind that people can think like that, I just don't have that capability and I can't degrade myself by going down to that level of thinking.

What "bro" means to you is not what "bro" means to me, and I'm sorry for that, but I'm not going to stop using it in everyday speech with my "brothers."

What saddens me, is that on this primary election day, when a woman and an African-American man are competing for office space, this is what we're worried about. It was Captain James Tiberius Kirk who wisely said: "Damn it, Bones, you're a doctor. You know that pain and guilt can't be taken away with a wave of a magic wand. They're the things we carry with us, the things that make us who we are. If we lose them, we lose ourselves. I don't want my pain taken away! I need my pain!" You can keep your pain, but don't let it consume you, that's my only advice. Roads are rarely short and with so much going on in the world, why worry about this?

Staff e-mails about The Commuter's front page

On behalf of the Native American Student Union, we publically denounce the May 14th edition of the Commuter. The photo and caption at the bottom of the front page are inherently offensive to all women and people of color. We find it hard to believe that the LB community would support a message that is overtly misogynistic and bigoted. It is our hope that others in our community will join in denouncing this action and those responsible will be held accountable and issue multiple public apologies.

Michele Wilson, Faculty Advisor
Robert "Rocky" Gavin, President and Founder
Deanna Trask, Treasurer and Secretary, and all of our other members

As a woman of color I am also deeply offended by the picture and the caption. Is the Commuter suggesting that "Bro's Before Hoe's" is a welcoming for anyone? I would hope that the entire campus stands with the Native American Student Union and denounce this edition of the Commuter. In addition, the Commuter should be more responsible in the choices made that represent journalistic integrity.

Dana Emerson
Faculty, Speech Communications

Tasteless, offensive and unsympathetic, this small picture is demeaning to Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama alike. Someone is exercising poor or no judgement

running this picture--and if it doesn't strike anyone at the Commuter as "offensive" or even perhaps "significant," then that speaks volumes. . .

Mike Houghlum, Chair
Performing Arts Department

I agree. Editorial judgment needs to be looked at. There is a difference between news reporting and tabloid level sensationalism. I'm willing to guess there were photos of this even that come a whole lot closer to representing the word "newsworthy."

Mark Weiss

...The inclusion of the photo, inadvertent or otherwise, speaks to the complicity of these unfortunate dynamics surfaced by the commuter, dynamics that background one candidate and foreground the other in an unbalanced coverage of the campaign. Volumes about this. Not at all odd that a trend so clearly evidenced in the national media would be incubating in a college paper. But then, all this and more is beautifully explained by McLuhan. As are the reactions to such things. As are such things as reactive chains of consensual correspondence--more media, more message.

As Bilbo Baggins once sang: "The road goes ever on and on..."

But diversity, hard thing! And subtle are the pitfalls along the way. This morning in class a student informed me that one can

never say a thing is bad because one never knows in what ways the world would have been worse had it not happened. He used the example of the eradication of Native Americans by the Europeans. His claim was without the foundation of the U.S., worse things may have happened--for example, the Germans would have won WWII. Oh, be still, my tongue!

Yet I am thankful for such moments. I listen with amazement. My ancestry is Native American: Anishinabe/Iroquois, but I say nothing and nod enigmatically. Teaching moments spring like ghosts from the dust at our feet.

Sometimes the best reaction is ironic tenderness and silence.

Onward!

Terrance Millet, Faculty English

Not being an avid reader of the Commuter, I decided to take a look. As I was going to find a Commuter, and then looking for the article, I ran into about four other people doing the same thing. Upon seeing the photo, I would agree that the slang used in the poster is "inherently offensive", but then again, most slang is. You said that the caption is offensive to ALL women, apparently not, the woman holding the poster does not appear to be offended.

One could argue that with holding the photo is a form of censorship and/or restricting one's right to free speech, not that I am. The Commuters job is to report

the news, not censor it. If the photo was never published, then we would not be having this discussion. The only person to be held accountable, and thus issue multiple apologies, is the woman in the picture holding the poster.

One could also argue that some of the political posters and war displays over at the gallery are controversial, tasteless, unsympathetic and offensive. But there is it called art, and if it provokes someone to speak out about it, then good, that is what it is suppose to do.

I to believe that this has gotten bigger than it deserves. The statement does not bother me, not that I am insensitive, but I believe that if it did bother me, then I would be less than the statement.

Frank Lister
Information Support Specialist

I'm glad to see emerging the kind of discussion and debate that can add to our understanding and perhaps help advance us toward greater grace in our relations, certainly greater grace than whatever was expressed in that young woman's disgraceful and pitiful sign. And I certainly do not mind this kind of matter showing up in my e-mail--those highlight/delete keys are really easy to operate when I want to opt out of any incoming message(s).

Lance Sparks

Opinion Editor: Gregory Dewar
 Editor-In-Chief: Davis LaMuerta
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

OPINION

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Hillary: Desist!

Brandon Goldner
 The Commuter

Barack Obama will be the Democratic nominee for President of the United States.

With 1,900 earned and pledged delegates to Hillary

"That person to rally around, support, and vote for is Barack Obama. Hillary, it's time to give up."

Brandon Goldner

Clinton's 1,718, Obama has a mathematically insurmountable lead in the race to capture the 2,025 needed to run in the general election this fall. There are only a handful of states and few delegates left, with the oft-wooded 'Superdelegates' either jumping off the fence in favor of Obama or switching their support from Hillary to him.

So why is Clinton still in it?

In her own words, "I'm in this race to fight for you, to fight for everyone who has ever been counted out..." While on the surface it may seem noble, it strikes a deeper, more resonant tone of self-pity, as if the only reason to stay in the race is because she knows she won't be able to win. The remaining states and territories only provide 212 delegates to the candidates, meaning it's equally likely that Obama will come away the winner through a near 50-50 split, or he will be just short of the nomination.

But let's stop and consider what this means for Clinton if she wins half the delegates from the remaining states.

Even if the superdelegates who have expressed their support of Hillary vote for her during the convention (unlikely), AND all of the remaining 191

undecided superdelegates evenly split their support between her and Obama (less likely), Clinton would find herself 105 delegates short of the nomination.

Obama, in this same scenario, would find himself with 75 more delegates than are needed.

More plausibly, there will be a steady migration of superdelegates from Clinton to Obama, and as the outcome of the race becomes clearer, the overwhelming majority of undecided superdelegates will support the latter.

This isn't to say that Clinton's "stick-to-it-ive-ness" hasn't been good for the Democratic Party: It has. Oregon in particular has seen a resurgence, with an increase of over 60,000 new Democrats between March and April. Meanwhile, the number of registered Republicans has dropped by about 9,000 during that same time, and the margin between the two parties has widened considerably, with Democrats now enjoying a lead of more than 192,643 voters.

But for Democrats, on this issue, it all comes back to winning the White House.

With popularity for the current President at historic lows, a defeat in November at the hands of a Republican would be both unforgivable and beyond the party's ability to explain. The best way for the Democrats to avoid this is to rally around a single candidate, and have that person choose a Vice President and begin campaigning for the general election. That person to rally around, support, and vote for is Barack Obama.

"Don't taze me, bro!"

Daniel Elliott
 For The Commuter

The Commuter recently printed a two-inch photo depicting a young white woman, wearing a pink bandana, boldly displaying a sign which stated, "Bro's before Hoe's." In the context of where the photo was taken, it's safe to say she was saying, "Obama(Bro's) before Clinton(Hoe's)," and this is where the firestorm began. Many people took offense to this, including faculty members. They claimed it was "hate speech" against the black community and women, which I strongly disagree. Before something is considered hate speech, there must be intent to commit hate speech, and the context needs to be reviewed.

The term "Bro," meaning brother, is widely used today. Even the American Heritage dictionary refers to the term "bro" as a form of familiar address for a man or boy. I was informed by a faculty member that it was used as a form of slander toward black men in the '60s, half a century ago, and therefore should not be used today. By that logic, any time a word has been used negatively, we should stop using it. Forget the fact that as

a society we reclaim words and give them new positive meanings much like "queer." Queer can mean different things that are no longer negative. Don't forget that even the word "fag" is used to describe a cigarette.

I could argue the young woman didn't intend to use the word "Ho," that's why she spelled it "Hoe", as in the garden tool. We are adults and can look past the play on words or the misspelling. We must look at the context of the person who wrote this. She is a young woman, holding a sign that is calling other women prostitutes. We freely allow the usage of derogatory words against females, including in basic conversation, television, music, and the media. The last time I checked it was widely accepted to use "ho" and similar terms such as "bitch." How many times has a car passed blasting "You's a Ho" by rapper Ludacris, and other similar songs by popular artists for all to hear? While I do not agree and wish people spoke more kindly, it is now part of our society. If people want change they need to start educating children on the real meanings of these words and not to use them.

The two-inch picture stirred such a hornet's nest that a meeting was held in the Fireside

Room at LB. During this meeting the only thing discussed was how everyone was disappointed in the choice to print the picture in the paper. It was agreed upon that the sign stemmed from lack of education and upbringing. At one point I brought up the opinion piece, "What's behind all the dropouts?" by Greg Dewar. In it he talks about the deplorable dropout rate and statistics of college success of LB students, but it was ignored by the faculty. Instead the older faculty members decided to spread their fear and hate onto the students. One person even claimed that The Commuter was more biased than Fox News. Some of the students were arguing that they didn't see the hate and bigotry that the older generation insisted was there. It saddens me that some of the faculty seemed to be more concerned about a picture of a sign that is very open ended, instead of the wellbeing and success of the students attending this school. I just wish that people would put as much effort into helping change society that created this controversy, as they put into "bitching" at the people who take pictures of it. While some may be angered by this statement, in the words of the great Andrew Meyer, "Don't taze me, bro!"

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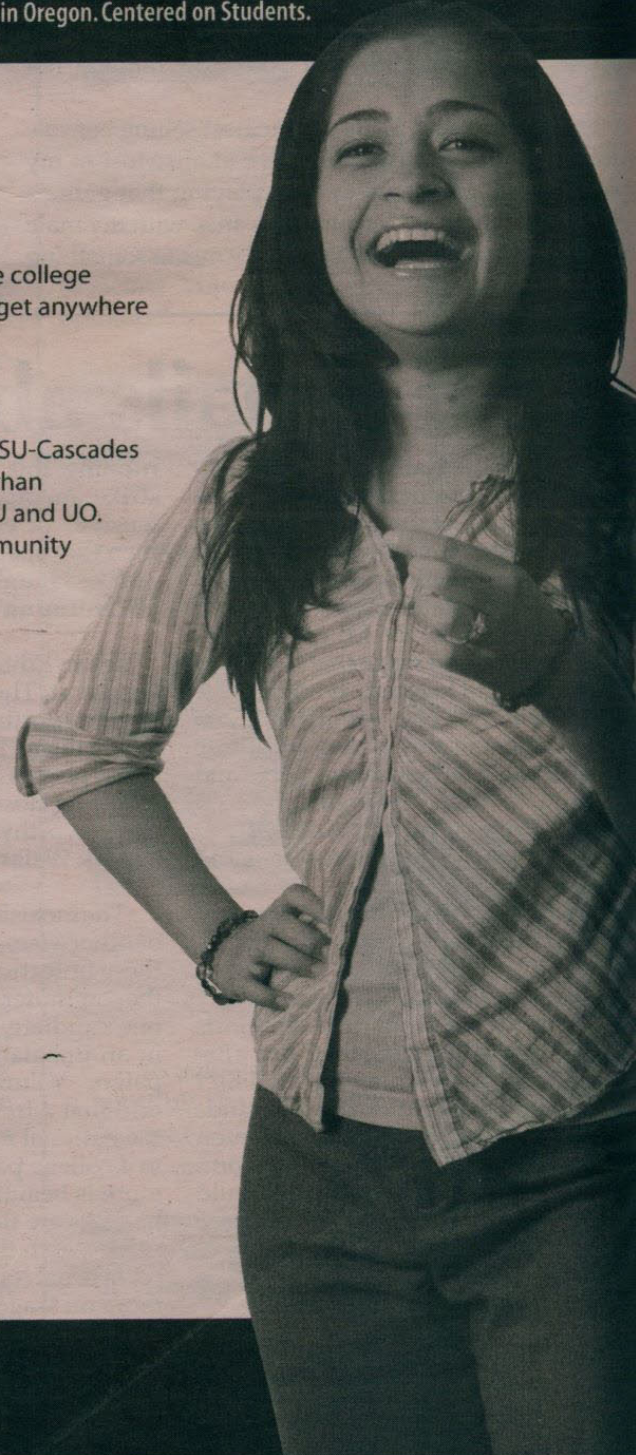
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Editor: Davis LaMuerta
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College campus events.

"Creative Highway" paved for 2008

Brandon Goldner
 The Commuter

This year's version of Linn-Benton's online magazine, "Creative Highway," will be launched this Thursday, May 22, following a reception in the Fireside Room at noon. The online publication, directed and created by LBCC instructor Natalie Daley, is a collection of short stories, music and art submitted by community members as well as students and faculty of LB. Artistic expression is married seamlessly with page layout and design, providing LB students the opportunity to be involved with all aspects of producing a full-color magazine.

"A lot of blood, sweat and tears went into producing this," says Daley,

referring to the hours of work put in by herself, instructors and students from the English, art, and graphic arts departments. Painstakingly put together over a number of months, the e-zine provides experience not only for those who submit, but for those who were involved with designing and deciding upon the final layout. On any given page, an artist, writer, and graphic designer are all given credit for their respective contributions.

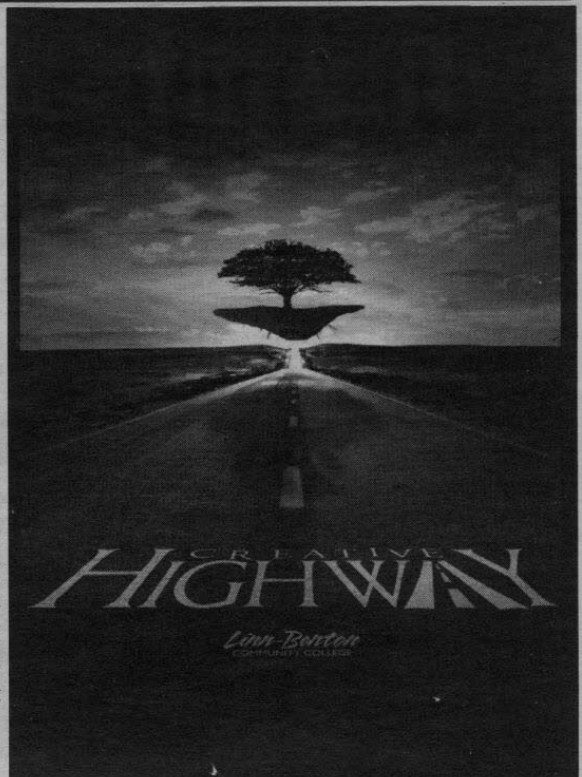
Encompassing many different aspects of life from multiple perspective and mediums, this year's effort is a unique and impressive accomplishment for the school.

Even more ambitious than last year's "Pilot" volume, the 2008 e-zine received more than 100 submissions, all of which were evaluated both by professionals

in their respective fields (photography, prose, etc.) and students of two of Daley's classes. The evolution of the magazine, which starts from scratch and is renamed yearly, is impressive.

"Last year's edition was beautiful," says Daley. "This year's will be breathtaking."

Students interested in contributing to next year's version can do so between October of this year and January of 2009, and the naming contest for the magazine will be open from Sept. 2008 to Oct. 20. Students can become involved with the evaluation of submissions by taking WR-247 in the winter of 2009, and can contribute to the magazine's layout by taking WR-246 in the spring. This year's edition will be online this Thursday at linnbenton.edu/ezine



Campus Shorts

Lebanon Center tuition reduction for summer term

The Lebanon Center is offering a tuition reduction of \$40 per credit hour, reduced from \$66 per credit hour. Only classes held at LBCC's Lebanon Center qualify for reduced tuition.

The Lebanon Center offers numerous general education and transfer classes to help students get a jump on college credits such as psychology, writing, lifetime health and fitness, religions of the world, and fiction literature.

The center also offers courses to help prepare individuals for college such as college writing fundamentals, math 95, developing reading skills, and college learning and study skills. Summer classes also include computer and business technology classes and practical accounting classes that are popular with individuals currently in or returning to the workforce.

"The summer credit tuition reduction in Lebanon is a college-wide effort to introduce more individuals to LBCC and the Lebanon Center," said Dawn McNannay, director of the Linn Centers. "It is our hope that students taking credit courses this summer will continue with us in the fall."

LBCC's open registration begins May 27. For class listings, visit LBCC's web site at www.linnbenton.edu or check out the

printed summer schedule. The one-time tuition reduction is in effect for classes taken summer term at the Lebanon Center only. Tuition will revert back to normal college rates effective fall term. For more information contact the Lebanon Center at 259-5801.

LBCC fall schedule available online

The LBCC fall schedule of classes is now available online at <http://sis.linnbenton.edu>, and click on Schedule of Classes.

Registration for continuing education classes begins June 2. Open registration for all others begins Sept. 8. For more information, contact LBCC Admissions at 917-4811 or access the LBCC Web site at www.linnbenton.edu.

United Way Donates to LBCC Dental Program

United Way of Linn County recently donated \$1,000 to LBCC's dental program to help purchase supplies used during the free United Way Children's Dental Clinic held at the college.

LBCC and United Way started the clinic in the spring of 2007, which provides dental care to low-income children in Linn and Benton counties. The clinic has served more than 80 local children.

LBCC dental assistant students work with local dentists at the clinic to gain practical experience. Sheri Billetter, LBCC dental assisting instructor, accepted the donation from Greg

Roe, executive director of United Way of Linn County.

"I believe service learning is an important component of student learning," said Billetter. "It reinforces the students' knowledge and skills and allows them to fulfill a valuable service to the community."

For more information on the United Way Children's Dental Clinic, contact United Way of Linn County at (541) 926-5432.

Civil Discourse and Sensitive Issues

LBCC is holding a forum on Civil Discourse and Sensitive Issues this Friday at noon, in NSH-206. There are two primary questions to ask of ourselves and the entire LBCC community: 1) Where do conversations around sensitive issues happen, and 2) How do we have them in civil and respectful ways?

Students and staff are welcome to join Sally Moore (communications faculty), Mark Weiss (counselor), and Gary Ruppert for an hour of open discussion about the ways we interact with each other around topics, which may leave us feeling vulnerable.

"I do believe we may be a new tipping point for the college in how we discover fresh learning opportunities about ourselves and help others to see various viewpoints around those," said Ruppert. "We should be a college that prides itself not only in the learning that takes place in the classroom, but in the learning

that happens throughout the institution. That learning however, doesn't happen without open dialogue within a safe and respectful climate."

This forum is cosponsored by the Diversity and Civic Engagement Council.

Benton Center Pottery Sale and Show

Join LBCC's Benton Center for the annual Studio Sale and Show on Friday, June 6 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on the north patio outside

of the Benton Center ceramics studio, Corvallis.

Beautiful and functional pieces made by LBCC instructors and students will be offered for sale. Pieces are made using techniques such as high fire, raku, salt glaze and wood fire pottery. Choose from affordable functional art including vases, teapots, mugs, bowls, plates, platters and more.

A portion of all sales goes to support the ceramics studio. For more information, contact LBCC's Benton Center at 757-8944

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 VEGETARIAN: Carey Pocket
 SOUPS: Beef Consomme and Corn Chowder

Thursday:
 ENTREES: Corned Beef Hash w/ Eggs and Monte Cristo Sandwich
 VEGETARIAN: Tempura Vegetables
 SOUPS: Spanish Chicken and Split Pea

Friday:
 Chef's Choice

Monday:
 ENTREES: Mushroom Beef Stew and Buttermilk Baked Chicken
 VEGETARIAN: 3 Cheese Shells
 SOUPS: Tortellini en Brodo and Cheddar Cauliflower

Tuesday:
 ENTREES: Yucatan Pork and Ka'u Orange-ginger Chicken
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

"Narnia: Prince Caspian" lacks real relationships

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

The newest "Narnia" installment is a mixed bag. Its pervasive battle scenes are slightly better than the first film, but still deficient. Its Christian allegory is thoughtful, but cryptic and deluded from the book. The acting is fine and dandy, but the characters don't have real relationships. Adult audiences will likely be somewhat disappointed.

"Prince Caspian" takes place one year after the adventures in "The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe," but when the Pevensie kids are suddenly transported from a busy subway station to the mystical land of Narnia, 1300 years have passed. Caspian (Ben Barnes) is a prince on the run, who uses a special horn to summon the past kings and queens of Narnia to aid him in battle, hence the sudden teleportation of the Pevensies: Peter (William Moseley), Susan (Anna Popplewell), Edmund (Skander Keynes), and the ever-precocious Lucy (Georgie Henley).

Caspian is fleeing from his wicked uncle Miraz (Sergio Castellitto), who apparently killed his father, and now seeks

to murder him, because he is the rightful heir to the throne. During his upbringing, Caspian's tutor, told him about the legendary Narnians: dwarves, minotaurs, centaurs, and talking animals, who were once in the land, but now thought to be extinct. As it turns out, Caspian's ancestors, self-serving humans called Telmarines, pushed the Narnians into hiding, and there's a prophecy (but of course), that a prince will lead the Narnians to take back their land and initiate peaceful relations between the societies. Caspian somehow gets roped into the role, and is encouraged by the arrival of the former kings and queens of Narnia, the Pevensies.

In a movie like this one, the outcome is pretty much obvious from the beginning, so the elegance of the story rests on the characters, their relationships, and the content of the themes. In this department, "Prince Caspian" is lacking. The dialogue is good, with many moments of witty comic relief, but it's what's missing that really sinks this movie.

Virtually all the dialogue is what you would expect of a fantasy movie, helpfully moving the story along, but the charac-



Caspian (center) has enlisted the help of the Pevensies to take on the Telmarines, but where's Aslan?

ters don't interact in a way that reflects real relationships. What do these people stand for, and where are they going in life? Yes, it is a fantasy movie, but it's so far removed from reality that it has little relevance to the human condition. The exception to this is found in the allegorical aspects of the film. Lucy has seen the mighty lion, Aslan (Liam Neeson), but her siblings are doubtful. Aslan is representative of Jesus the Christ, and is majestic in the film. However, the mysticism of the book is downplayed, and his presence in the story is diminished. He carried the story in the first film, but has little screentime in the second. The filmmakers had plenty of opportunity to add some depth to the movie with

Aslan, but did a marginal job.

Lucy recognizes that victory over the Telmarines is impossible without Aslan, but Peter and Caspian insist on aggressive strike-first tactics (an entire castle siege battle scene was added to the film version). They don't have faith in what they cannot see. Susan was the 'doubting-Thomas' in the book, but in the film, it's Peter, and he's a big jerk, with little character growth by the film's end. Susan gets a lot more battle action than in the book, but Edmund is sort of a non-character who doesn't do much of anything. Lucy takes the spotlight, and has the most meaningful interactions of the movie. She has an interesting friendship with the ever-grumpy dwarf, Trumpkin

(Peter Dinklage), who wrestles with the problem of evil—why has the supposedly good and mighty protector, Aslan, allowed the Narnians to be brutally oppressed?

"Prince Caspian" has resonant themes that faith communities will appreciate, but the overall delivery of these metaphors is lacking. The cinematography is awesome, expect for the battles, which suffer from numerous cut-aways that prevent you from really seeing what's going on. The pacing of the film is slow, and although this allows for the mood to be preserved, the movie focuses on the wrong things. In almost every area of production, we find some good, but a little more mediocrity.

Poetry Corner

i find my joy is growing quick by kaedence e.

I find my joy is growing quick, and fat, in the light.
 I've found many a dream worth living, as of late
 (once dimly fading, now resplendent, bright).
 I find I've found a strong call to sharing
 this budding growing.
 I want to know it's face,
 within another breast.
 To see the quickened pulse,
 taste
 the irrepressible smiling sigh of chest-swellingly exuberant gladness.
 I want-I want-I want
 to live
 More fully. More freely.
 -Permitting
 myself freedom from the stranglehold of strong stabbing savagely
 satiating pseudo-strangeness
 that is
 society's celebration of consummately consuming
 hours.
 Woe to the known wild whittling of hours! as they go
 by and by
 and by and down.
 'til...nothing. Not a damn thing.
 Save, sawdust. Piled on the floor.
 Temptingly, bittersweet
 the simultaneously violent and gentle
 way our feet clap through their midst,
 creating sudden bursts and puffs of clouds
 that slowly,
 settle,
 syncopated,
 down.
 Like bittersweet maybes when living in yesterdays is
 all you have left
 However, there is always More
 and I
 Will Not
 cede defeat.

You eat where? adventures in exploratory dining

Loren Newman
 The Commuter

They come in many different forms with many different names; the greasy spoon, the roach coach, bar food. I like to refer to them as a four-star dive. The places that most would never think of even stepping in the door, let alone get a plate of food. So what if the fluorescent light is buzzing and half of the menu items are spelled wrong? So the floor is stained linoleum and the seating is mismatched pieces from former fast food restaurants.

But the food is stellar!
 I'm talking about trying new things and being adventurous about where you eat. Fast food is boring. Wherever you go, the food at a chain is always the same. I say be more spontaneous about where you eat. A true four-star dive is not normally easy to find; it's tucked away in either a shady location or their sign is non-existent or all of the light bulbs are burned out. And the first time you see it, you might just write it off with the common "I'm never eating there."

These restaurants are generally overlooked and thought of as being potential sources of gut wrenching food poisoning, and some are indeed that, but a true four-star dive is crappy on the outside and maybe not the fanciest place around,

but the food makes up for it. These guys are proud of the "C" they get from the health department.

I'm talking about taco shops with outdoor furniture, Chinese places with no English on the menu except for the poorly translated text saying that they don't take checks, the bad '50s diner with the video poker machines in the back. These are the small mom-and-pop restaurants that are having a hard time competing with the larger chains so they do it by cutting all costs necessary and serving the best food they can.

The things to look for when trying to find a true four-star dive are pretty simple. Anything with the word "delight" in the name

is normally worth checking out. Most places with first-generation Americans that speak either no or very little English tend to have the best ethnic food; places with only outdoor seating and places that you can smell before you see them.

That's pretty much it; all you have to do is look and you will find one. You will rarely hear about them from most food snobs or critics but the locals in the area know what is going on so just ask and when you find one let your friend know. Good food is supposed to be shared and the proprietors will thank you.

"I'm talking about trying new things and being adventurous about where you eat."

Loren Newman

Sports Editor: Chris Kelley
 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.

FACE OFF

Will instant replay cause or heal headaches for the MLB?



TYLER DAHLGREN

Tyler Dahlgren: What do you think about

removing baseball umpires from using Instant Replay?

Chris "Cheese" Kelley: Baseball is the only major sport that doesn't go to an IR. With the technology advances we have today, a change must be made to prevent missed calls from being made like in the Yankees-Mets game on Sunday where a home run was taken away and called a foul ball.

Dahlgren: Baseball is not and will not ever be ready for. Umpires are part of the games tradition and undermining their ability with the newest video technology only modernizes yet another sport.

Cheese: Replay shouldn't be used to call strikes and balls on a close play at second, rather in a case where it involves a call for home runs or fan interference. A standard major league baseball game has 4 umpires, only one of which sits out of the infield on any given play. That isn't enough to make close calls at the wall.

Dahlgren: Yeah I agree that replay would benefit a fair/foul or fan interference situation. However baseball is already a three-hour game on average with middle innings, the seventh-inning stretch and pitching changes. Lets not forget that the NFL started with two challenges in 1999 and then added a third challenge option if the first two were awarded correct. I think if IR is added to baseball we'll see a ripple effect. What starts out as fair/foul challenges then turns into out/safe calls and ultimately balls/strikes. Now we have a game that was previously three hours becoming four.

Cheese: The game we have isn't being called as efficiently as it can be through the technology we have, and change needs to be made. With as much time as the umpires spent gathering and the coaches spent arguing that foul call on Sunday could've been spent on a quick call upstairs from the plate umpire to make the call correct, and then no one

can argue it-which would keep coaches from being ejected. I agree that games are long enough as they are, but I strongly feel the addition of IR on close calls determining home run/foul calls would be extremely beneficial to the game of baseball. Hell, if they would've called up Joe Morgan in the booth, he could've said it was a home run.

Dahlgren: Carlos Delgado's home run on Sunday was



probably the strongest case I have seen this season regarding the use of replay. You are right in regards to your Joe Morgan statement; he could have made the call, but that's just it, anyone watching the game on television could make the call. If we are going to implement IR in baseball why not use the pitch tracker to find where the ball lands in the strike zone? In such a precise game as baseball implement IR would be replacing the umpires entirely. Lets not eliminate the base and plate umpires and review every play from the booth: no way. Baseball needs traditional umpiring and replay provides what will be the first step in eliminating this important position in Major League



CHRIS KELLEY

baseball.

Cheese: IR for basketball and football are used for different things. Baseball would have it's own rules for using it that would keep the game moving quickly and more effectively. The umpires in the MLB make the right call 99% of the time anyway, but when a call they can't see because it is 200+ feet away on a two-inch space of the foul pole or top of the wall, the umpires can only guess on those. The use of video to grade the umpire's strikes zones was implemented to help keep the plate ump on top of their calls and isn't released to the public for scrutiny. You are taking the subject out of context by saying this will lead to the game being solely called by video review. Think of how it can help the game now and you will see IR is in need maybe one time a series, if that. It needs to be used to make calls where umpires aren't close by to see.

Dahlgren: Taking it out of context is not what I'm doing. I am simply explaining what could and ultimately will happen to the game of baseball. The replay will more than likely start with the fair/foul call and fan interference reviews I agree with you on that. But I am saying that in time these technological advances will lead to a completely different type of baseball. NFL football has already changed dramatically and like I said earlier replay isn't always correct.

Cheese: This will be the 10th year of IR in the NFL and not one official has been replaced nor is there any talk of removing any. Baseball will not eliminate them either. With expansions of baseball parks, which is making them bigger, how are umpires supposed to accurately cover the foul pole and top of the wall which can be 300 feet away from the infield? The problem is less occurring in the playoffs because two umpires are used in the middle of the outfield. To hire extra umpires for every game, a toll free call upstairs to the video crew can be used. We are going to witness historic changes to the game of baseball that will make it more accurate.

Baseball to face Edmonds in first round Thursday

Chris Kelley
 The Commuter

The Roadrunners concluded their regular season last Thursday May 15 with two much needed wins. They hosted Chemeketa, which would decide whether Linn-Benton would represent the first or second seed in the NWAACC tournament this weekend.

Liam Baron improved to 10-3 on the year after pitching seven innings allowing five runs in the 13-8 win in game one. Baron still holds a 1.53 ERA through 91 1/3 innings pitched.

Blain Goodwin and Kyle Kanaeholo led all offense, each going 4-5 with a home run. Their home runs came in the 6th inning while up 7-2 and were separated by Tucker Whitten's blast to give back-to-back-to-back home runs.

Trevor "Sandman" Smith pitched two innings of shut-out relief, earning the save and dropping his ERA to 0.29.

In game two, LBCC rallied in the 10th inning scoring eight runs off 10 hits to lead them to the 11-1 victory and guaranteed at least second seed in the South.

Craig Dolmage went 3-4 with two RBIs and scored two runs. Kanaeholo was 2-4 with two RBIs and Whitten was 2-3. AJ Allen went 2-2 off the bench, coming in the 5th inning and Dylan Durrel went 2-2.

Scott Allred pitched a complete game six-hit, six strike out gem allowing only one run to score, which was un-earned. Allred advances to 8-3 with a 1.31 ERA through 74 2/3 innings.

Mt. Hood swept Lane on the road to force a tie for first, which was decided based on head-to-head games. Mt. Hood took the top seed after beating LBCC four out of the six meetings. They will face the number two seed in the North, Skagit Valley, in the first round.

LBCC faces off against the number one seed in the North, Edmonds, at 12:35 p.m. Thursday May 22. Edmonds is ranked number two overall in the Horizon Air/Coaches Poll. They won 17 straight games starting in late March, but have since lost six of their eight total losses.

"We know that we have to beat Edmonds sometime to win it all," said Coach Greg Hawk. "Might as well be the first game."

A win will have them play May 23 at 7:35 p.m. and a loss will have them play at 12:35 p.m.

The double elimination tournament, located at Lower Columbia Comm. College in Longview, Wash. concludes Monday May 26 at noon for the championship game.

You can watch and listen to every game online at www.nwaacc.org.



photo by Chris Kelley

Editor: Davis LaMuerta
Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College campus events.

Tackling stereotypes

Josiah Stephens
The Commuter

Think you know a lot about stereotypes? That's what Michelle Wilson's anthropology 103 students thought as they began their project on stereotypical misconceptions.

Every year, Wilson's Anthropology 103 class tackles a current issue. This year it was cultural stereotypes. The students were assigned a topic related to the issue. Their posters included definitions and how to combat culture-specific stereotypes, then students created a poster on that certain people group. Their posters were displayed in Tadena Hall as part of a month-long presentation.

"It was stressful to be in front of the whole LB campus," said Rob Freel, a student in Wilson's class. "It motivated me to do better, knowing that hundreds, maybe thousands of people would see my project, not just

my teacher."

"Every time I went by, I saw people wandering around the posters and reading," observed Katie Jensen, another student in Wilson's class.

Freel, who was assigned Mexican stereotypes, learned a lot about the issues that Mexican immigrants must face every day.

Jensen, who was assigned Iraqi stereotypes, said, "At first I was skeptical of the assignment, but that quickly changed, it was cool to learn about the Iraqi people because they are a very relevant culture right now."

Wilson began yearly projects, such as this one, about four years ago. She got involved by working in collaboration with the Multicultural Center at first, but after a while the MCC stopped putting on the informative exhibits. Although they were ending, Wilson felt the need to continue the informative displays by giving students something they

could learn beyond reading a newspaper.

"It applies everywhere, so we are all responsible for these issues," Wilson said. "We need to make people aware of their roles in stereotypes, whether they realize they have one or not."

She realized the projects would be great for her classes and has assigned many previous exhibits including immigration, human rights, and the cultures of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Wilson has no plans to end these assignments, and already has plans for next year's students. The next display we will see is on beauty, where Wilson hopes that the exhibit will help expose some of the misconceptions that plague our country and media.

"I know the students struggle with this assignment and have to dig to get what they need to know because the answers aren't just a 'Google click' away."

When asked about how her

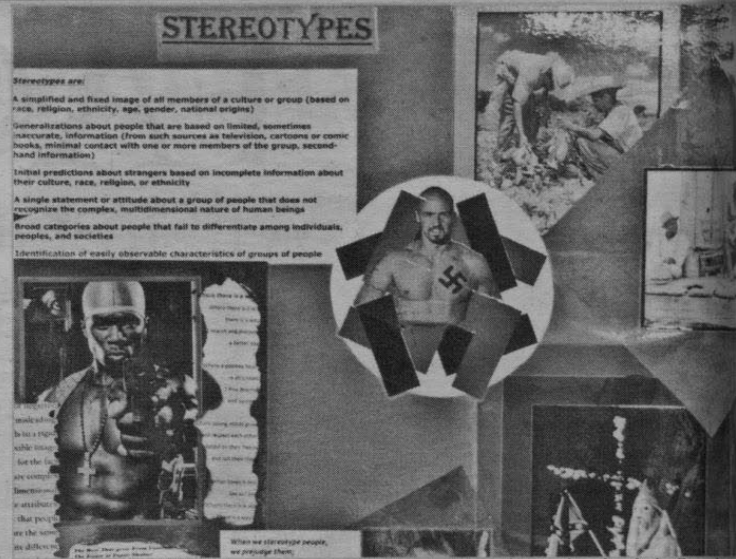


photo by Josiah Stephens

Michelle Wilson's anthropology 103 students raise stereotype awareness with poster display.

students felt about her annual assignment, Wilson responded, "I know they always find that in the end, how rewarding the experience has been."

For Jensen, this project helped her to realize and change her beliefs of the Iraqi people, "I hope that this project opens peoples' eyes to the stereotypes that the

Iraqi people face." And as for Freel, this project really opened his eyes to how people view immigrants and how much hardship they face when it comes to living here in America, "They just want to help their family live the 'American Dream,' just like everyone else," he said.

Racism: photo sparks discussion among students, faculty

from Pg. 1

took direct offense to the picture.

Both the photo of the girl holding the sign and the Bill Clinton picture on page nine were taken by Commuter Photo Editor Will Parker.

When Parker was asked why he chose to run the shot, he responded, "It's the strongest picture I had." A few people laughed, others wanted to know more about the choice of photo and the purpose of running the photo on the front page.

Parker talked about the use of stand-alone photos such as this

one to draw attention to related stories and photos inside the newspaper.

Parker was not the only one called out. Commuter Editor-in-Chief

Davis LaMuerta was asked if he was surprised by the reactions to the photo.

"I honestly did not expect this much turmoil," he said. "I personally don't really get offended by much. ... I am as diverse as you can get for one person."

The dialogue wrapped up a little after 4 p.m. with Paul and Emerson both thanking the

Commuter staff and the others that attended.

Paul also announced a follow up campus conversation on civil discourse and sensitive issues. It will be held at 11:00 a.m. on May 23, in North Santiam Hall, Room 206.

Organizers noted that the conversation will address two questions to ask ourselves and the entire LBCC community: Where do conversations around sensitive issues happen, and how do we have them in civil and respectful ways?

MAY 22
12-1PM

LUNCH & OPENING
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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College campus events.

Bill Clinton stumps for Hillary

By Tyler Dahlgren
 The Commuter

campaign.

Clinton was scheduled to arrive around 6 p.m. but a stop in Newport delayed his speech for an hour, making his trip to Eugene later that night delayed as well.

Fifteen minutes prior to Clinton's arrival, the speech was moved from the gymnasium to the playground, angering local news stations that had been set up inside for over an hour. A pickup truck was used as the stage and over 500 residents surrounded it in anticipation for the former president's speech.

State Representative Sarah

Gelser introduced the former president, rallying the crowd by chanting, "Who are you going to vote for?" The crowd responded with a loud "Hillary!" though a few "Obamas" could be heard.

Clinton hopped onto the bed of the 4X4 truck and delivered a well received campaign-aiding-speech.

"Hillary has been outspent in several states," said Clinton. "Thanks to thousands of donations from states around the country, she's now able to continue her campaign. She's been put back in the race and I swear she's been left for dead more times than a cat has lives."

The aid Hillary has received from donations made using her online campaign website www.hillaryclinton.com, allowed her to make this trip to Oregon, a state where Sen. Barack Obama is expected to win.

"Women can relate to Hillary," said Bessie Johnson, a councilor for the city of Albany. "A president like Hillary won't jump into situations [Iraq] without thinking about the consequences of their actions. Women are coming into these types of positions more and more. A victory for Hillary is a victory for women and is something that would change society forever."

Former President Clinton touched on several "hot topics"

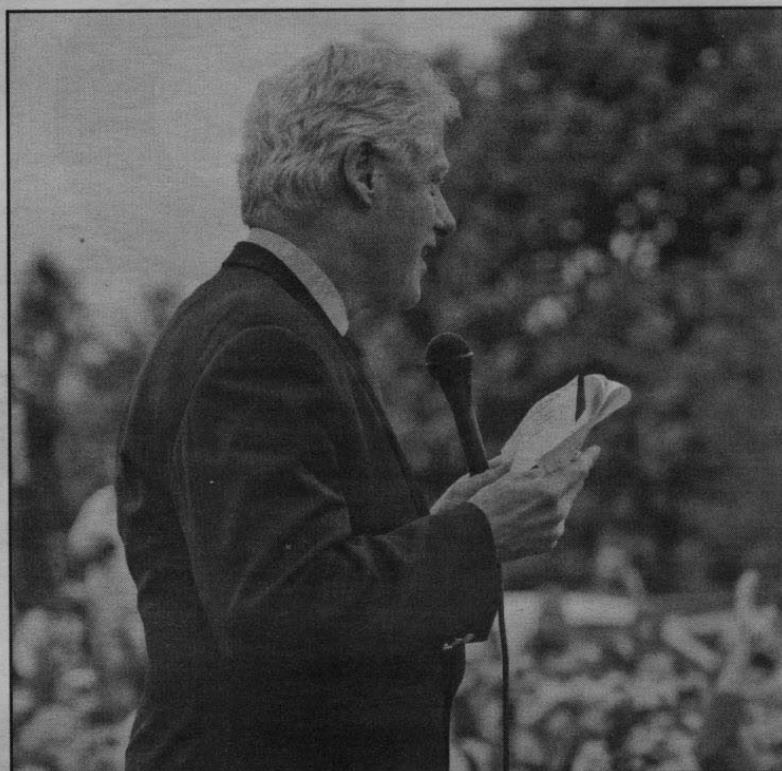


photo by Will Parker

that included the war in Iraq, alternative power resolutions, gas crisis, college loan interest rates, and Hillary's health care plan; known to be her most ambitious plan for change.

As the sun began to set and Clinton's speech reached its expected hour length, the former president hopped down from the truck and left the building, taking no questions but leaving few that could be asked.

The quest for Oregon's 52

delegate votes has been a subject of high volume as the Democratic race comes down the final stretch. To win the Democratic primary, a candidate needs 2,024 delegates. Clinton is currently chasing Sen. Obama with 1,718 delegates to his 1,884. A win in Oregon doesn't necessarily mean a victory in the primary but will give the candidate a comfortable lead when voting wraps up in the state Tuesday May 20.

The LBCC Student Programming Board Presents:

Springadelic

LBCC's version of Woodstock!
May 21, 2008
 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. • LBCC Courtyard

Make a hemp necklace!
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Burger lunch:
 Students \$3.50
 Staff \$4.50

Questions? Call Matt Watkins,
 Student Life & Leadership, at 917-4472.
 LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.
 For disability accommodations, call 917-4789 4 to 6 weeks in advance.

New editor: Paper prepares for next year

from Pg. 1

Some of Dewar's goals for next year are to see more use of photos in the paper, including larger photos on the front page. He also wants to cover more issues dealing with business and technology. He told the Publications Committee that he thinks more coverage should be given to LB programs such as nursing, which deals with evolving technology.

Other positions are still open for hire at The Commuter. To apply, stop by the office in Room F-222 and pick up an application. Available positions include: paginator, managing editor, copy editor, opinion editor, photo editor, sports editor, A&E editor, ad manager, and graphics editor.

Each editor job comes with a tuition grant of four to nine credits,

depending on the position. The paginator and the ad manager are paid by the hour at a rate of \$10.50/hour, for about 12 hours a week.

There are also work-study positions available: editorial assistant, photo assistant, production assistant, and ad assistant.

LBCC Department of Performing Arts Presents:

THE RAINMAKER

Written by
 N. Richard Nash
 Directed by Brian Newberg

May 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 • 7:30 p.m.
 * Sunday June 1 • 3 p.m.

The Russell Tripp Performance Center
 in Takena Hall, LBCC, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SE, Albany

* ASL Interpreted performance and proceeds of this performance benefit the Performing Arts Foundation Scholarships

\$9 Adults, \$7 students/seniors; Tickets available at the LBCC Box Office, www.linnbenton.edu/go/performing-arts, or by phone at 917-4531.

MAY 23 - Student Night Special: Opening night, May 23, any student who presents a student ID card (from any school) gets in for \$2.

MAY 24 - Bring a friend for 2 for 1 night.

For disability accommodations, call 917-4789. **Linn-Benton**
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Help Wanted

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. For more information about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center in Takena Hall. (541) 917-4788

CWE positions (Wah Chang, Albany) If you have 2 terms in your major which is related to computers for the CWE PC Support job or related to science for the CWE Student Lab Tech position, these jobs are for you! You'll get CWE (Cooperative Work Experience) and have a job through graduation at OSU-usually part-time flexible during school and full-time in the summer. They pay better than most local employers!

Special Events Coordinator (#6394, Corvallis) If you want to develop marketing and carry out special events designed for older adults, this could be for you! You develop program flyers, news releases & promotion of events. Only 10 hrs/week and pay is \$11.75/hr. Could be CWE position?

Animal Care Technician (#6396, Albany) Full-time and part-time positions at Safehaven working with animals and people.

Bilingual HR Assistant (#6391, Corvallis) If you are bilingual Spanish/English and in a major such as Spanish, business or HR, please apply. Flexible part-time/full-time.

Misc. Info.

CLINICAL HYPNOTHERAPY TRAINING PROGRAM. Become a Certified Hypnotherapist. The Howard L. Hamilton School of Hypnotism will take you from basic through advanced in 20 lessons in a time frame that is convenient for you. Upon completion, you are qualified for membership or certification with The National Guild of Hypnotheists and The Oregon Hypnotherapy Association. Pay as you go at \$75.00 per lesson. 541-327-3513.

Need writing help? The Writing Center invites you to stop by for help with these and any other writing questions. The Writing Center is in the Learning Center. Drop in Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 2:30p.m. Can't stop by? Visit our online service: lbcc.writingcenteronline.net.

Ad Policy

Deadline: Ads are accepted by 5 p.m. Friday. Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All other ads are charged at 10 cents per word. The Commuter will not knowingly publish material that is illegal or treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner.

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You could win a HP Photosmart Printer and Digital Camera, but you gotta be present to win.



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noon
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THE BACK PAGE

OUR FATE WAS SEALED



Will Parker
The Commuter

Jet powered boats can operate in up to four inches of water.

But not three.

This weekend was quite the adventure for my family and I as we went down to Winchester Bay on the southern Oregon coast. Winchester Bay is located about 30 minutes south of Florence along Highway 101. The city's big claim to fame is the annual 'DuneFest' which happens in the middle of summer and its otherwise relatively unknown nature.

When the weatherman said the weekend was going to be hot, we packed up our boat and our crab traps and headed down south.

After a lazy Saturday morning and breakfast in nearby

population, seeing a large group of seals is less common.

As we traveled up the channel, we spotted a group of seals that were sunning themselves on a sand bar. I have to wonder how common boats were as they all looked up at us as we got closer. Eventually, we got close enough to them to be in fish throwing distance. It was really striking to me, as I was standing in the bow of the boat with my camera, snapping pictures wildly. Truly seals are much cuter than the grumpy sea lions that squat on the low-lying docks in Newport.

As we jetted up the bay, we came across some markers in the water. They were old, and we thought they were channel markers. That was, until our boat came to a sudden and complete stop.

This was the one tragedy of the day.

All four of us were launched forward, my fiancée and my dad sustaining mild bruises to their legs and back. I was thrown to the ground and got a nasty bruise on my elbow. My mom however, was sitting on the engine in the back and was thrown pretty far forward. She ended up bruising her wrist and her shoulder really bad. Her whole right shoulder and upper arm would slowly turn into a kaleidoscope of purples and blues over the next couple of days.

After we collected ourselves, we assessed our

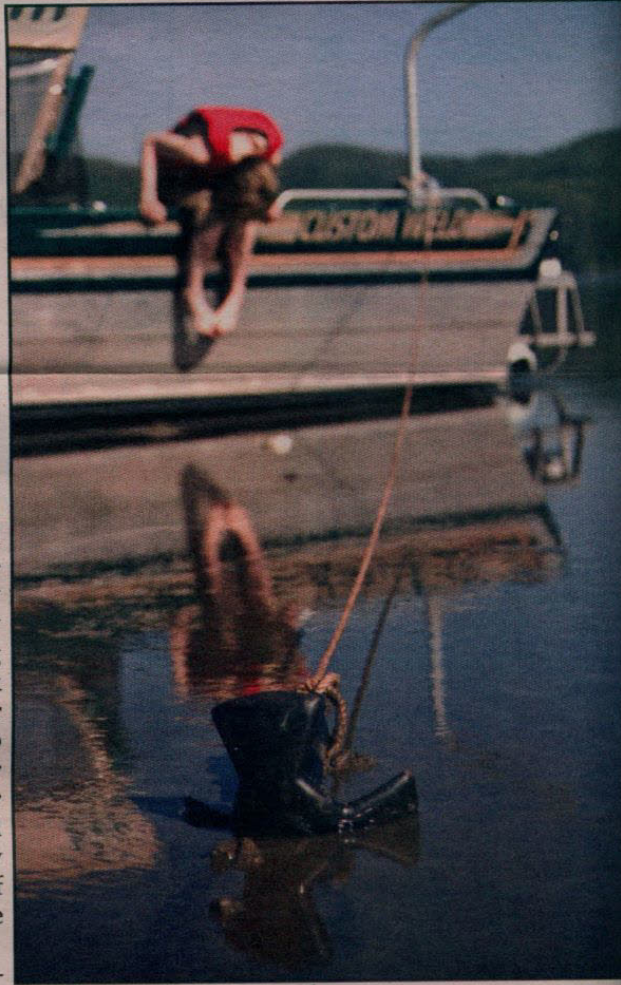
situation. The boat, due to its jet drive, was able to keep going, even in a scant few inches of water. So when we finally stopped, the boat was only in about 2 inches of water.

And the tide was going out.

We contacted the Coast Guard, but they had no way of reaching us. Luckily no one was hurt so bad as to warrant a helicopter flight out, so we hunkered down to wait for the tide to go out and then come back in.

The sand bar we were stuck on was pretty big. The nearest channel was about 200 feet away from where we beached the boat.

As we sat and waited for the tides, we found ways to amuse ourselves. Gilligan's Island references abounded. It was a surreal feeling to be walking around on what



an hour before was under water.

Ironically, I hadn't started drinking the Coronas brought until after we got ourselves into trouble.

After a long nap in the shade of the boat, the water finally started to come in enough for us to move. We couldn't quite get the boat to move under its own power, though. Finally, I grabbed a rope and towed the boat out until I was about waist deep. At that point the boat could get us home.

We recovered our crab traps, but no crabs. And Coast Guard met us at the dock, but no ticket.

If you go, make sure you get proper licenses for crabbing or fishing. A \$5 fee is a lot cheaper than a \$100 fine. And be sure to get a map of the bay. I heard they list water depths and high and low tides.

photos by Will Parker



Reedsport, we headed to the bay and launched the boat. The boat was new to us all, as my dad had just purchased it the week prior.

Our first adventure was baiting and dropping off our crab traps in the bay. We used a combination of squid and small fish for the traps and dropped them across the ramp we launched from.

Next my dad took us up north up into the bay. Along the way we saw all sorts of wildlife, specifically birds. I'm no bird watcher, but I'm pretty sure I saw a couple of ducks, a flock of seagulls, a heron of some sort, and an assortment of other birds both large and small. As we continued up, we attracted the attention of a different sort of wildlife.

While the Oregon coast is renowned for its sea lion

