

In  
the  
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Also:  
LB  
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WTF  
pg. 7

**The Commuter**  
**Editor-In-Chief:** Ryan Henson  
**Managing Editor:** Max Brown  
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# Campus News

News about Linn-Benton  
 Community College, including  
 the Sweet Home, Lebanon,  
 and Benton Centers.

## Office Hours: Q&A with Deron Carter

Justin Bolger  
 The Commuter

### Commuter: Tell me, in your words: Just what is geology?

Deron Carter: Geology is the study of the earth. I think a lot of people have a misconception that it's rocks and minerals and really boring, but it's really looking at how the earth operates as a whole. So, it's not just looking at rocks and minerals, but earthquakes and volcanoes, plate tectonics, rivers and flooding, glaciers and even the history of earth.

### C: What got you interested in geology?

DC: That's a good question, because I went to school thinking that I was going to be a political science major or an English major. That was in high school. That was what I was involved in, and I was also the editor of my high school newspaper. I was involved in journalism, so I can certainly relate to The Commuter staff and what you guys go through on a weekly basis. I remember sitting with my adviser in my freshman year in college. She's like, "Well, you need to take a science class to fulfill the distribution requirements, and we have a really good geology program." She just kind of looked at me, and she's like, "My guess is that you're really going to like geology." So, I took a physical geology class the first term I was in college. It was a really hard class for me, but it was so interesting because I grew up doing a lot of hiking and skiing and spending a lot of time outdoors. It really started providing some context for the landscapes that I grew up in.

### C: How would you describe your teaching style?

DC: I would say that I try to make my classes really active. Research in education has really shown that rote lecturing is pretty much one of the worst ways to reach students. I completely understand that students learn from a variety of different ways. You know, hands-on, from visualizing things; Some people learn great from lectures too, from listening. So, I really try to hit on all of those everyday in class, and I try to bring in humor. I try to bring in personalized geology, my experience and research that I've done.

### C: What are some memorable projects or fieldwork that you've done?

DC: The great thing about geology is that our laboratory is in the field. So, for my Master's work, I got to spend weeks and weeks down in southeastern Oregon in the Alvord Desert in Malheur County, which has the lowest population density of any county in the lower 48 states. It's literally in the middle of nowhere. When I drove to my field site for the first time, I was driving by an old gas station that has gas about twenty percent of the time, and on their sign they said, "Welcome to Burn's Junction, you're officially in the middle of nowhere."

[Laughs]



Instructor Deron Carter

Photo by Max Brown

### C: What other geology-related things or events do you have going on beside your classes?

DC: Well, this weekend I'm headed up to the National Geologic Society of America conference. It happens every year, and this year it happens in Portland, which is nice. I'm giving a talk about how I've integrated Pacific Northwest geology into the first term of geology 101 ... So, that'll be fun because I'll get to see a lot of old friends at the conference. I also have a former student doing some research on abandoned wells in Benton County. He'll be presenting his research at the conference in a poster session.

### C: Besides geology, what do you like to do in your free time?

DC: My free time is largely taken up by my seven-and-a-half-month-old-daughter, Wren ... We like to take Wren out as much as possible. There's a lot of hiking and camping. We took her on her first backpacking trip right before the fall term started. We took her up Mount Jefferson. She really liked it.

### C: If you weren't a geologist, what would you be?

DC: That is a good question. [Laughs] I can remember back to high school when I was more involved in social sciences and humanities. I think that was ultimately a reflection of the teachers that I had. The really good teachers that really inspired me were in those subjects and science teachers – I had some good science teachers, and some not-so-good science teachers too. I still can remember back to high school thinking of wanting to be a teacher, so I think in my heart, in my soul, I would still be a teacher of a whole different subject. I come from a line of teachers. My mom was a teacher, my aunt is a teacher, and my wife is a middle school science teacher as well.

## THE COMMONS FARE

10/21-10/27

### Wednesday

Dishes: Beef Stew, Lavender, Fennel, Garlic & Cracked Pepper Pork Chops, and Kolokopita  
 Soups: Red Lentil and Chicken & Rice

### Thursday

Dishes: Turkey Club, Chili Verde, and Tofu Thai Green Curry  
 Soup: Turkey Vegetable and Split Pea

### Friday

Chef's Choice

### Monday

Dishes: Buttermilk Baked Chicken, Monte Cristo, and Frittata  
 Soups: Pozole, and Puree of Potato and Leek

### Tuesday

Dishes: Fish à la Florentine, and Sweet & Sour Tempeh with Rice  
 Soup: Mullitgatawny and Vegetarian Vegetable

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## International becomes national

**Brittany Reynolds**  
 The Commuter

Mohammad Sharifpoor, a student from Iran, traveled nearly 7,500 miles to attend classes at Linn-Benton Community College.

“I learned about LBCC from my brother who goes to Oregon State University. I also have a friend who is in their second year here. I chose LBCC because I plan on transferring to OSU, but coming here is cheaper to start with,” Sharifpoor said.

There are currently 26 international students attending LBCC, two of which are in the dual-enrollment program with OSU.

The students hail from Japan, South Korea, Ghana, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, Germany, Libya, Egypt, Iran, England, the United Arab Emirates, Brazil, Canada and China.

To be admitted into LBCC, international students need to fill out a detailed application. Proficiency in English is required and the student needs to have taken a TOEFL test with a score of 500 or above, graduated from a U.S. high school, or have taken and passed the IELTS with a minimum score of 6.0 or above.

The number of international students in the United States has dropped due to an increase in security since the tragedy of 9/11. All of the students’ information is sent to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. If a student or their family moves, it must be reported within 10 days.

On the plus side, international students that attend LBCC can get their general education



**International student Mohammad Sharifpoor**

classes completed and then transfer to other universities to earn their degree.

“In some countries, the American degree is prized,” said Christine Baker, LBCC student outreach coordinator.

Even though the United States is no longer the number one country for international students, it has not fallen far behind. It comes in at fourth place, trailing behind Britain, New Zealand and Australia.

Although there are a lot of positive aspects for international students, there are a

few down sides. Tuition is increased, making the price \$200 per credit instead of the \$74 for domestic students. In addition, they are not eligible for financial aid, must prove they have the year’s tuition in a bank, must have insurance and must choose a major.

According to Baker, international students aren’t the only ones who benefit from studying at LBCC.

“Having international students is also good for domestic students. Interacting with them opens their eyes to different cultures. It also changes views and it’s very exciting,” Baker said.

Students are not the only people to visit LBCC. The Vocational Education Leadership Training Program, or VELT, ran by Bill Thallemer, the vice president of student services and government relations, provides workshops that will increase vocational skills for senior leaders and administrators.

The China Experience is one part of the VELT program. Through it, five of the 25 college presidents in China came to learn how to improve their college’s teaching techniques. The program has trained over 100 people per year for the last five years.

**For more information about international students, you may contact Student Outreach Coordinator, Christine Baker at 541-917-4813.**  
**For more information about the China Experience, you may contact Bill Thallemer at 541-917-4211.**



**A free Veterinary Technology program** orientation will be held at LBCC on Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to noon in room CC-212, Albany campus.

**The Diversity Achievement Center** will be showing “Food for the Ancestors,” an hour long video that discusses the Day of the Dead as it is celebrated in Mexico, on Nov. 2. For more information, contact Analee Fuentes at 541-917-4540.

**The Woodburn High School Mariachi band** will be performing at the Russell Tripp Performance center on Oct. 22 at 6:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Analee Fuentes at 541-917-4540.

**LBCC’s ROV club** currently has their Remotely Operated Vehicle on display in the library. The display will be up until mid-November.

**Two actors, John Pribyl and Eddie Lopez,** from the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland will be at the Russell Tripp Performance Center on Friday, Nov. 13. At 10 a.m., they will perform Shakespeare’s “Fools and Clowns,” and from 2 to 4 p.m they will offer an actors’ workshop. For more information, contact Peter Jensen at 541-917-4283.

**There will an exhibit of Day of the Dead** student artwork in the South Santiam Hall Gallery on Oct. 30. For more information, contact Analee Fuentes at 541-917-4540.

**The fall term annual exhibit** in the South Santiam Hall Gallery on LBCC’s Albany campus. The exhibit runs through Oct. 29. Gallery hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, contact the gallery at 541-917-4247.

**Music groups Cooper Hollow and Three Fingered Jack** will play on Oct. 23 at the Best Cellar at 7:30 p.m. The Best Cellar is located in the cellar of the Methodist Church, at 11th and Monroe in Corvallis.

**The LBCC Soccer Club** would like to invite everyone to a courtyard lunch today,

Oct. 21, starting at 11:30 a.m. Kielbasa or vegetarian sausage will be served with sauerkraut, pretzels, cookies and soda. Cost is \$3.50 for students and \$ 4.50 for college employees.

**In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month,** LBCC will exhibit the artwork of Humberto Gonzalez and Yolanda Valdés in the LBCC North Santiam Hall Gallery through Nov. 23.

**The graduation deadline has been changed** to the 4th week of the term prior to a student’s last term. Deadlines for each term can be found online at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/graduation](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/graduation).

**Phi Theta Kappa will have a general membership meeting** on Oct. 23 at 3 p.m. in the forum, room F-104.

**Phagans’ Cosmetology Colleges will be having one of their Marathon Service Days** for Passionately Pink for the Cure, an awareness and fundraising program benefiting the Susan G. Komen Foundation, on Friday, Oct. 30, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please join them at 1565 S.W. 53rd St. in Corvallis.

**Would you like to study in London?** Kim Sullivan, LBCC’s study abroad coordinator, will hold a presentation in the Diversity Achievement Center (F220) Today, Oct. 21, from noon to 1 p.m.

**If you have a Campus Short, please e-mail them to [commuter@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@linnbenton.edu).**



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# Opinion

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**Drop-in:** Forum 222

## A word from your local ASG

Coffee - a staple in many college students' diets. Offered in countless varieties of roast, flavoring and concentration, coffee can be even more than a staple - it can be a lifeline. Typically, though, the modern-day coffee house is much more than a destination for a hot cup of joe. It is very common to find a wide variety of drinks and refreshments on coffee house menus.



Nic Bowman

In addition to diversified drink selections, successful coffee houses often provide a soothing atmospheric experience for their patrons. The Hot Shot coffee house is LBCC's very own stop on that blissful java-junket. The Hot Shot coffee house is a student owned, operated and managed business on campus. Working at the Hot Shot can be a great opportunity for students to gain the valuable work experience needed to gain an edge within a competitive workforce. Current coffee house manager Andrew Bowder has had several open offers for employment over the course of his tenure. Andrew has been very dedicated to his position, and it shows. His success as a manager has driven the coffee house to a positive first few weeks of term. Students, staff and faculty have been swarming into the Hot Shot in great numbers already this term, and Andrew predicts that it's only going to get busier as colder weather moves in on the campus. Just as any other business, though, the Hot Shot is not immune to its own fair share of challenges.

One problem with this particular business structure is that funding for staffing is paid almost entirely through federal work-study (FWS) dollars. The only exception to this is a management position paid through a talent grant. Both of these funds are fixed amounts. What this means is that, as minimum wage goes up, the fewer working-hours there are available to each FWS position. And as tuition goes up, some talent grants may be reviewed for "necessity" during budgetary cuts. This is applicable to all FWS's or talent grants across campus. Additionally, these fixed amounts also mean that there isn't a working mechanism to allow for growth within the business. In short, the coffee house is facing the challenge of keeping up with the growth of the demand. With a shortage of staff, the Hot Shot is forced to close at noon every day. These limited hours of operation fall short of the customer traffic flow. On Wednesday, Oct. 21, I will be presenting the ASG with a request for funding for an additional talent grant position. I mention this proposal because a portion of ASG's budget is generated from student activity fees - fees that are attached to every credit at LBCC. Students should know where their money is going; they should also have a say in the matter if they disagree.

Lastly, I would like to mention that there is still one FWS position available at the Hot Shot. Too many FWS positions go unclaimed each term. If you qualify for FWS, please stop by and check it out.

Nic Bowman  
 ASG President

The views of the ASG do not necessarily reflect those of The Commuter. Any questions or comments can be directed to the Student Life & Leadership office.

## Spread the love

Adam LaMascus  
 The Commuter

One of my teachers read a letter to the class that he had received from the Linn-Benton Community College administration. It said that due to the risk of H1N1, we should all stay home if we felt even the slightest bit sick.

Moments later, he read us a second letter from the administration saying that all teachers needed to be ruthless about attendance due to increased enrollment.

Similarly, my boss says that since we deal with sick and old people regularly, and by being sick we endanger their lives, we should stay home. However, when I called in with a horrible cold, he told me that he "needs reliable people," and that being sick for a third time in three months didn't make me look good. He casually tossed out the phrase "grounds for termination" a couple of times, and I pointed out I had only gotten sick twice within the past few weeks, a time where we've been swamped with sick people clamoring for cold and flu medication.

He had nothing to say to that except that he'd keep my absence in mind in the future.

In the end, I went to work and dealt with lots of elderly people, feeling like a hot coal had been dropped down my throat, unable to breathe, my nose running like a fire hydrant, slightly nauseous, and coughing and sneezing every few seconds.

God bless America.

According to the Washington Post, the United States falls drastically

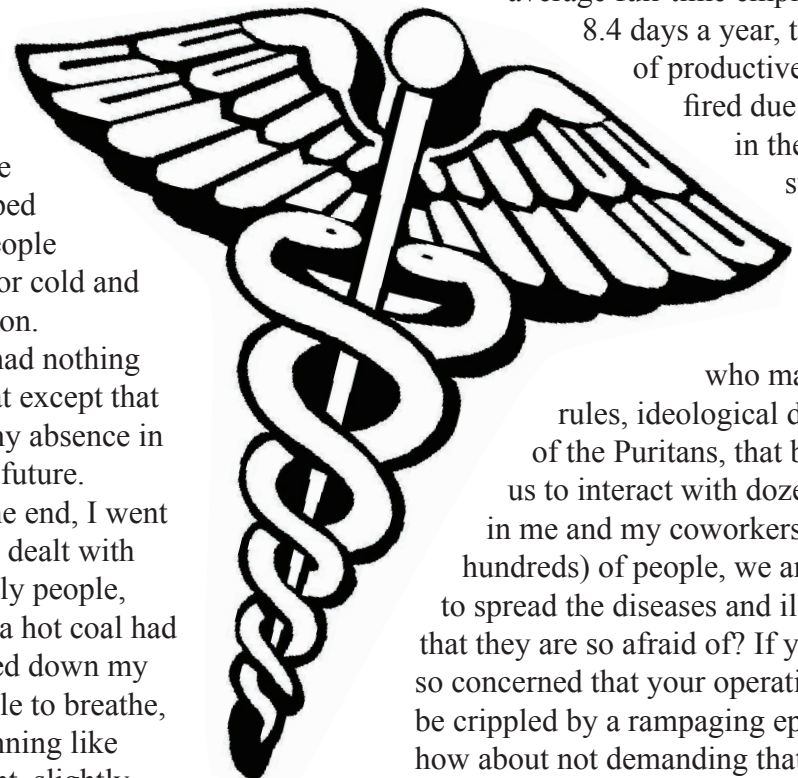
behind the rest of the developed world in terms of giving people sick days. The article said that almost half of privately owned companies don't offer any paid sick days. The United States and Australia are the only industrialized countries that do not guarantee new mothers paid maternity leave, and at least Australia guarantees a few months of sick leave. We don't offer either, putting us on par with Papua New Guinea and Swaziland.

To cite an example from another study by USA Today: Mercy Medical Center in Baltimore apparently has no mercy for the sick on its own payroll. You only get nine sick days a year before you are fired. These are people who work in hugely stressful situations, which lower your immune system, and are around sick and contagious people all day. Starmark International in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., only offers four sick days a year before you get canned.

Considering that JobBank USA says the average full-time employee is sick 8.4 days a year, that's a lot of productive workers fired due to a fault in their immune system.

Did it ever occur to the people

who make the rules, ideological descendants of the Puritans, that by forcing us to interact with dozens (or in me and my coworkers' cases, hundreds) of people, we are working to spread the diseases and illnesses that they are so afraid of? If you are so concerned that your operation may be crippled by a rampaging epidemic, how about not demanding that everyone shows up unless they're dying? Say, maybe if you don't force sick people to congregate, there will be fewer epidemics to worry about? Just a thought.



### Associated Student Government Meeting Schedule

3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

**October 21** - Lebanon Center, Room LC-218; Public welcome

**October 28** - Siletz Room, Room CC-213; Public welcome

**November 18** - Benton Center, Room BC-104; Public welcome

**December 2** - Board Room, Room CC-103; Public welcome

**December 9** - Siletz Room, Room CC-213; Public welcome



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# Opinion

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**Drop-in:** Forum 222

## Back in the day

Adam LaMascus  
 The Commuter

### This week in history...

**October 21, 1895: God save the Queen.**

During the Napoleonic Wars, Lord Horatio Nelson, admiral of the British Royal Navy, crushes a combined French/Spanish fleet off the coast of Spain, just west of Cape Trafalgar. The French navy lost 22 out of 33 ships, while the British didn't even lose one, although Lord Nelson was killed. This marks Britain's rise as the world's unrivaled naval power until the 20th century.

**October 22, 1836: Don't mess with Texas.**

Sam Houston is inaugurated, becoming the first president of the Republic of Texas.

**October 23, 2001: The world will never be the same.**

The iPod is released.

**October 24, 1947: Is your washroom breeding Bolsheviks?**

Walt Disney testifies for the House Un-American Activities Committee, giving a large list of his own employees he believes to be communists.

**October 25, 1415: A knight's tale ends.**

The English devastate a French army at the battle of Agincourt. Peasants armed with longbows massacre charging French knights, the elite of the military and nobility. This battle gave definitive proof that knights were becoming obsolete.

**October 26, 1689: Epic fail.**

Austrian general Piccolomini burns down the entire city of Skopje and kills most of its inhabitants to prevent the spread of cholera. He died shortly after of cholera he contracted while in Skopje.

**October 27, 1838: A little harsh, anyone?**

Missouri governor Lilburn Boggs issues "Executive Order 44," declaring that "the mormons must be treated as enemies, and must be exterminated or driven from the state" for "the public peace."

**Thought for the Week:**

"Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."

-Abraham Lincoln

## Advice from Weiss

Mark Weiss  
 for The Commuter

**Question:** I want to major in Business Administration, but I don't know everything I need to take. How can I get my required classes set out for me so that I can graduate on time?

**Answer:** All faculty, both teachers and counselors, do advising. Undecided students need to see a counselor for advising. However, if you know what you want to major in, pick a teacher from that area to see for advising. They will help you make a long-range plan, including which courses you need to graduate and when to take them. You will find a list of faculty advisors in every catalog (with the program descriptions) and in every schedule of classes (page A 40 in this fall's schedule). Business Administration majors may choose from among Ian Priestman, Myrna Gusdorf, Sally Andrews and Wendy Krislen-Adams. They all have offices on the ground floor of McKenzie Hall (formerly known as the Business Building).



Counselor Mark Weiss

**Question:** How do you choose a career?

**Answer:** LBCC has a few ways that we try to help undecided students decide what they want to do:

- 1) We offer free career testing in our career center. Career tests will match you to 10, 20, even 30 kinds of work. On the same computer that you take the test, you can ask questions and get immediate feedback on things like starting pay, job availability, training needed, etc.
- 2) You can take courses in a few areas you think you might be interested in. Any class that has the word "Intro" or the word "Survey" in its title, will give you some information about the field. So "Intro To Health and Physical Education," and "Survey of Criminal Justice" are two examples.
- 3) You can take a career planning class (HD 208). This is an in-depth, three-credit course that includes career testing, values exercises and career search information.
- 4) You can take a college planning course (HD 110). This is a one-credit mini-course that covers basic career discovery skills, as well the knowledge and skills needed to function well at college.
- 5) You can meet with a career counselor. Counselors are trained to help folks focus their goals, needs, interests and skills in order to make strong decisions about the world of work.

**Question:** How often should I actually meet with an adviser or counselor?

**Answer:** I would get some advising every term, before registering for the next term. Students who are just beginning at LBCC can't possibly know enough to register well without some advising. Students who have been here awhile may understand how to get registered, but they are getting close to graduation and need to make sure their class choices are precise. So, I think every student should get some kind of advising every term whether that's with a teacher, a counselor, or an academic planning assistant.

**Question:** How did you choose your career?

**Answer:** I often say, if I had ever seen a career counselor, I probably wouldn't have become one. Most people end up doing work because it's just what they fell into, or what was available, or because other people suggested it and they couldn't think of anything better. The

latter is what happened to me. When I went to college I participated in some group therapy sessions. The other folks in the group suggested I was being helpful to them and should become some kind of counselor. I had no clue of my own, so I just did that... Now in my case, this has not worked out badly. Although I would also get great pleasure from teaching, music, and writing, I really like working with students, and being a counselor gives me a chance to make a difference in the lives of students, which is very satisfying. However, I have done career counseling with many, many people for whom "random selection" has been a disaster. This week I met a woman who said, "I was a student here for a year, a long time ago. Then I got a summer job and I've been doing that for the last 14 years. But I don't like it." She's coming back now, to find something she likes, but 14 years is a long time to be doing something that doesn't make you happy. So, my two cents worth, do whatever career testing, career counseling and class exploration you need, until you find something that makes you feel good. We spend a lot of time at our jobs, better to be happy than unhappy while we're there.

**Question:** What's your favorite color?

**Answer:** Like the song says, "Deep greens and blues are the colors I choose."

Mark Weiss has been a counselor and adviser at LBCC for 20 years. The purpose of this column is to answer students' questions about the college, academic advising, and how to be successful at LBCC. Please send your questions to mark.weiss@linnbenton.edu or stop by the Career and Counseling Center in Takena Hall.

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## Scholarship deadline approaches

**Max Brown**  
The Commuter

Scholarship deadline for winter and spring awards are quickly approaching. That deadline is Friday, Oct. 23.

Sharon Wall, scholarship coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, says it's much easier than most students think to apply for scholarships.

The process requires students to fill out an application, get two letters of recommendation, fill out a budget sheet and search through the databases for scholarships that apply to them.

"It's an easy process, it's just a matter of sitting down and taking the time to do it," Wall said.

According to Wall, the student needs to only fill out one application and list all the scholarships they think they are eligible for. Students should also make sure that if any of the scholarships ask for an extra essay, or anything else, they should be aware of that and attach it to their application packet.

The most common mistake Wall sees is when students don't sort the databases for the correct term. She says that students should make sure to sort it for whichever term the school will be processing for.

In addition, Wall strongly urges students to check their spelling and make sure they sign everything they need to. The sooner the applications are received, the more chances a student has to be alerted to any problems.

"Neatness counts," Wall said.

She feels it's like an interview and you're presenting yourself to a committee. She said you should do everything you can to make that application look great, and be accurate, because that is effectively all they will see of you.

If you don't have time to hit these deadlines, start gearing up for the next deadline. During winter term, they will be processing awards for spring. The deadline is always the fourth week of the term. During spring term they will be processing awards for all of the next year.

All of the information about scholarships, the application, and links to the scholarship databases can be found at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/scholarships](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/scholarships)



Joseph DeWilde helps Andrea Tedrow with her math homework

Photo by Eve Bruntlett

## LB wins two

**Maya Lazaro**  
The Commuter

After a disappointing first match this season, the Linn-Benton Community College Road Runners made a comeback over the weekend with two consecutive wins against rival colleges.

On Saturday, LBCC dominated the game against Western Oregon University, finishing with four goals and a 4-0 win, despite being one player down due to a red card.

During the Sunday game against Central Oregon Community College, LBCC took the lead in the first half and remained ahead throughout the match. Wondi Ali made two goals during the first quarter while Travis Comini jumped, dove, and made his body vulnerable to the cruel wrath of soccer cleats in order to defend their net. Although the other team did manage to score one goal in the second half, the score was a favorable 3-1 by halftime and remained that way until the final whistle blew.

Coach Art Mota credited practice and dedication to the turnaround after the team's devastating 4-0 loss against the University of Oregon.

"What we worked on last week showed up in today's game. Our goal was to score at least six points this weekend, and we did that," he said.

The players felt they had improved as well.

"We had a lot of ball control and better communication on the field," said LBCC player Ian Chapman.

Although the team came out victorious, the wins were not easy. One of the difficulties was posed by the referees. Three of COCC's players were ejected



Photo courtesy of Democrat-Herald

COCC's Mike Hutchinson passes the ball past LBCC's Mark Huff Sunday afternoon during their game at LBCC

ultimately from Sunday's match for inappropriate language, and yellow cards were being flashed right and left, leaving less time for game play and creating more drama on the field.

"I was a little disappointed to see so many red cards. The officials weren't very forgiving. They were too harsh," said Mota.

Still, the team looks forward to continued improvement for next week's game against Oregon State University. Mota hopes the team will "maintain the level of play that we showed over the weekend."



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# Feature

Something a little different.

## WTF... a few strange things we found on the Internet.

**Ryan Henson**  
 The Commuter

1. Deep-fried pancakes, bologna fries, bacon-infused onion rings and cheese-steak sushi rolls are just a few of the gut-bombing delicacies you will find at the blog [www.thisiswhyourefat.com](http://www.thisiswhyourefat.com), a site dedicated to displaying the worst in foods. The site has a Twitter, a Facebook and is selling a cookbook. Remember folks, deep-fried bacon double cheeseburgers are heart-stoppingly delicious.



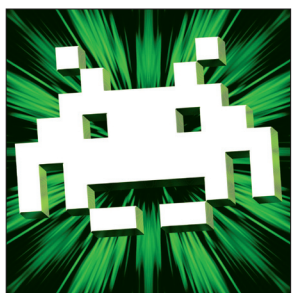
**Nasty burger** Ryanshultz@Flickr

3. Have you ever wanted to dance? Have you ever wanted to make someone else dance? Now is your chance. At [www.DancingPaul.com](http://www.DancingPaul.com), you have the control. Make Paul dance to "Baby got Back" by Sir Mix-a-lot or to "Beat It" by the late, great Michael Jackson. Make him do the cabbage patch. Make him do the cabbage patch in front of the Eiffel Tower. It is all up to you.



**Break dancer** MCT

4. So, you are standing in the express lane and you see a guy with a rocking mullet wearing full-body camouflage and roller skates. Do you do the polite thing and accept him for who he is or do you take a picture and post it to a blog for millions to see? See the latter at [www.peopleofwalmart.com](http://www.peopleofwalmart.com).



**Alien** cpsutcliffe@Flickr

2. Most of us enjoy blasting away at things on video games, but what if we suffered actual consequences for our actions? In the online game Lose/Lose, players do just that. A player's spaceship shoots down alien craft, however each alien represents a random file on that player's computer. When an alien is killed, a file is deleted. If the player's spaceship is destroyed, the game itself is deleted. Who in the @#%\$ would play this game you ask? Someone is. There is a high score of 412. It's safe to say that person's PC is a paperweight right about now.



**Brain scan** Ripper93@Flickr my head.

5. Are you tired of mind readers? Are you afraid of brain scanners? At [www.Zapatopi.net](http://www.Zapatopi.net), viewers are offered stylish "practical mind control protection" with the aluminum foil deflective beanie or AFDB. An AFDB is a piece of self-constructed headwear that can "block most psychotronic mind control carriers." Whew, now if there was only some thing that could stop those pesky voices in

## Periwinkle offers Co-op Model

**Alethea Skinner**  
 The Commuter

Linn-Benton Community College students, who are also parents, are excited that the Periwinkle Child Development Center co-op model is available and more affordable this term.

Funding childcare for LBCC students was a high priority at the LBCC president's budget retreat, and it was identified as one way to help parents come to school.

According to Periwinkle coordinator Susan Knapp, there were grants and additional funds available to parents during the years the co-op was unavailable. However, "the cost was prohibitive for those who were not eligible."

"The fees were \$400/\$500 per month," said Knapp.

Knapp also stated that the PCDC primarily met the needs of working parents in those years.

By returning to a parent co-op, which includes a mandatory three-credit class with a lab, more parents are able to afford childcare and kindergarten for their children.

The parent obligation is three hours per week in the classroom plus a co-op job, which is a task that aids the center and eliminates the need to hire others to sanitize toys, prepare snacks and assist children.

The lab fee covers the cost of kindergarten, for \$400, or pre-

school, for \$500, per term. Pell grant-eligible parents can also qualify for an additional grant that will cover all but \$100 of the lab fee – which equals \$10 a week.

Rochelle Garrette and Marty Johnston are two parents who say they appreciate this savings in hard times.

"My family saves around \$3500 per year," Johnston said.

Like other parents, Johnston and Garrette also say they enjoy the other benefits they receive from participating in the co-op program.

"At PCDC you are with your peers; you share common goals," said Johnston.

Parents develop bonds with the center and learn from each other in peer-to-peer and peer-



**Florita Alley plays at the PCDC with staff Isabella and Benjamin Alley**

Photo by Max Brown

relationships. PCDC provides them a haven, a safe place to learn parenting skills, observe normal child-development processes and meet parents in similar situations.

"With the co-op program at PCDC, our kids get the best care and education we can give them while we are getting ours," Garrette said.

### At a Glance:

**Where:** Beside the Activity Center on LBCC campus

**Who is it for:** Children who are 2.5 - 5 years old (need not be potty trained)

**Hours:** 7:15 AM to 5:15 PM -- Monday - Friday (unless LBCC is closed) Kindergarten follows GAPS schedule

**Cost:** \$400/term for kindergarten; \$500/term for pre-school (ask about grants/financial aid)

**Contact:** Family Connections at 541-917-4899 or connect@linnbenton.edu



**The Commuter**  
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# Opinion

**Submissions to The Commuter:**  
**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu  
**Drop-in:** Forum 222

## In the game

**Justin Bolger**  
 The Commuter

I call it “the gamer’s edge.” It represents all positive qualities that video games bestow upon the players. Lowered stress, enhanced learning capabilities, better sight, heightened reflexes, smoother coordination and muscular rehabilitation – these are just a few of the ways video games make us better.

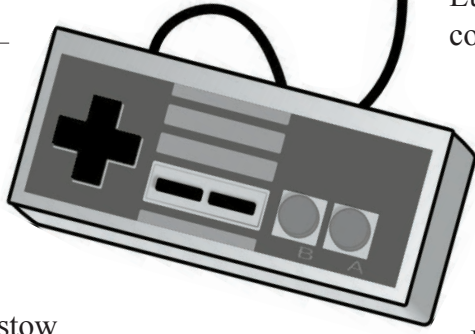
Gaming has a reputation of evil that is simply uncalled for. According to the European parliament, there is no firm proof that playing them has an automatic negative impact on one’s behavior. In fact, video games are fancied as more of an outlet for feelings of aggression, even in spiritual communities.

Trinley Dorje, the Karmapa Llama, a leader of Tibetan Buddhism, says, “If I’m having some negative thoughts or negative feelings, video games are one way in which I can release that energy in the context of the illusion of the game.”

A gamer can cleanse their spirit while simultaneously expanding the mind by building logic skills that are used in critical thinking and learning.

Puzzle games such as Tetris or Bejeweled are an easy pull for this cause, but further thought tells us that any game involving obstacles, tactics or strategy help teach players how to solve both realistic and fantastical problems with reason. I couldn’t name a single game that doesn’t involve some measure of these.

“Video games can stimulate learning of facts and skills such as strategic thinking, creativity, cooperation and innovative thinking, which are important skills in the information society,” says the



European committee of consumer protection.

Beyond these obvious forms of learning, research by Daphne Bavelier, a professor of brain and cognitive sciences at the University of Rochester, shows that

action games like Halo or Call of Duty can radically improve visual processing. Glasses, contacts and eye surgery were previously the only methods known that could help with problems in this area. Video games are heroes in the world of contrast sensitivity.

Where would quick eyes be without hands that were equally swift and sure? This is possibly the most widely known and accepted aspect of gaming’s bettering prowess.

Surgeons are the poster-boys of dexterity. According to studies by Douglas Gentile, a psychologist at Iowa State University, surgeons who play video games are 27 percent faster at advanced surgical procedures, and make 37 percent fewer mistakes than their non-gaming colleagues.

When the time comes that I need major surgery, I’ll keep my fingers crossed for the surgeon who rocks the Nintendo DS.

Speaking of Nintendo and hospitals, “Wii-therapy” is becoming a craze in the world of physical therapy. Traditional rehab exercises can be boring and painful. Motions required to play the Nintendo Wii, while similar, also keep patients’ minds focused and entertained – more importantly off of the pain. Lars Oddsson, director of the Sister Kenny Research Center, vouches for the evidence that Wii games help in rehab.

Gaming saves lives. Maybe someday Nintendo will help deliver babies too. Who knows, right?

## Obsolete ideas

**Adam LaMascus**  
 The Commuter

For my entire life, my elders always told me to respect my elders. Being that my job now regularly requires me to deal with these same individuals, I can’t help but wonder: Does the ancient belief that being old inherently grants you extra respect, prestige and wisdom still apply? Many of the elderly I deal with on a daily basis cause me to doubt this custom.

I can understand how for thousands of years, the elderly were considered pinnacles of wisdom and figures of infinite respect. It makes sense; to live to be old in a society with no modern medicine was quite the feat. You had to be strong enough to survive life’s knocks, intelligent enough to avoid the knocks you couldn’t survive, and lucky enough for the ones you couldn’t foresee or muscle through. But in the age of penicillin, organ transplants, defibrillators, refrigeration and other miracles of the modern world, does what being old really mean? That you were lucky enough to be born in a time and country that has excess? That you were intelligent enough to not do something so stupid that it would have killed you outright? Living to be old is no longer the challenge it once.

I deal with some old people who are most certainly worthy of every respect and acknowledgment, people who have truly learned from their life experience and pass it on to the younger generations. Then there are the people like the woman who screamed and threw something at one of my coworkers because she didn’t understand the technology behind the way we scan checks now. While she was certainly an exception and not the rule, the fact is that most of the elderly people I deal with are increasingly agitated and rude over changes in our store, and in their lives. It makes sense; with technology and social changes happening so fast, that the elderly I speak with feel they are often left behind, powerless and in many ways like a child again. Many cannot understand the changes, and believe they are too old to learn. That, coupled with the fact that many old people become more calcified and rigid in their beliefs as they age, results in a lot of bitter people clinging to outdated ideas, most of whom it seems wind up at my register chewing me out over some decision that a guy at corporate made because they seem to think it is my fault. Their behavior is certainly understandable, but that doesn’t make it acceptable. You’d think that being the wise ones they claim to be, they would be wise enough to realize they are acting less mature than my 14-year-old sister.

While you should be respectful to everybody, I feel that being old no longer entitles people. True, everybody picks up some wisdom as they age, but, for example, I highly doubt that “kicking out all the fags and Mexicans” will solve America’s problems as one old man likes to remind me almost every time he sees me. While you cannot assume that the odd individuals are a representation of the whole, I’ve personally had enough old folks being completely immature and asinine to me in work, school, and life; it gives me reason to pause and think. In the end, what I do think is that people need to earn their additional respect, and this applies to everybody, whether young or old. Nobody is entitled.

## Perspectives: What do you do inside when the weather’s crappy?



**Verna Raymundo**  
 Pre-Nursing

“Sleep, Facebook, Internet, Eat.”



**Aaron Cunningham**  
 AAS Mechatronics

“These days, homework.”



**Mothana Al-Zabidi**  
 Chemical Engineering

“Play indoor soccer.”



**Joel Perry**  
 Pre-Nursing

“Play hopscotch with kids.”



**Michelle Smail**  
 English

“I’d grab my favorite book, get a cup of hot chocolate, curl up with my favorite blanket, and read in my favorite chair.”



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# Opinion

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**E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu  
**Drop-in:** Forum 222

## Re: Hypocrisy now

Joel DeVyldere  
 The Commuter

Two weeks ago in The Commuter, Opinion Editor Adam LaMascus wrote a piece called "Hypocrisy Now" about the individuals he saw on television comparing President Obama to the Nazi war criminal Adolf Hitler. He said they were "largely the same people who often and actively persecute homosexuals, liberals and non-Christians..."

There seemed to some buzz about the article in the Hot Shot, where I spend my spare time between classes and newspaper work. I noticed that no one who I talked about the article with actually agreed with its premise, so I decided to write something in reply to this article.

First, let me say that when I started hearing friends and relatives compare President Obama with Adolf Hitler, I was taken aback. Logically, they are two very different people with separate agendas and political leanings. In an election year, they would've been at each other's throats, competing ruthlessly for the opportunity of bringing a nation out of economic crisis.

There truly is very little basis for comparing Obama's socialist reform ideals with Hitler's fascist strategies. The accusation is extreme and over the top, and characteristic of political activists who entertain the masses on the evening news with blatant over-generalizations of negatively perceived political leaders. So I would agree with a lot of what Adam LaMascus is trying to say in his article. However, I found the article incredibly ridiculous, due to a couple of errors made by Mr. LaMascus.

His first mistake is writing about this subject in the first place. It's a non-issue; something that is on the television and Internet news not because it's newsworthy or relevant, but because it's dramatic and will get a rise out of people. Reporting on that kind of extremism only makes the nation more divided, and the waters of debate even more muddled. It only intensifies the ignorance of those would like to believe that the political landscape in this country is intrinsically black and white.

His second mistake is the way in which he formats his argument. Instead of adding something constructive to the debate over

Barack Obama and the future of the United States, he opts to take the easier route of making forceful assumptions and accusations about the people who were making these ridiculous claims.

"These same people," he asserts, "also preach what they think are the messages of Jesus, a man who was a radical liberal in his time, and a man who preached love, peace, and understanding... They often immediately follow this up with comments about how Jesus hates homosexuals, non-Christians, and other people."

It's ridiculous to assume that those who are hating on Obama are all the same people who are hating on homosexuals and non-Christians, etc. Writing and printing an article which relies on a premise like "these are all the same people!" is ridiculous too. There are a lot of different opinions in this world, and a lot of people who are committed to them. To oversimplify that is ludicrous and, in my opinion, not worthy of being in this paper.

Over the last couple of years, we've had enough blatantly extreme stories from uninformed writers to make every conscientious reader nauseated at least once. Now is our chance to change that. This is our opportunity as a newspaper staff and a student body to talk about something that we've thoroughly researched in an intelligent manner, and not just slam people because we disagree with them.

I'm posing a challenge to the opinion staff at The Commuter, and to any student who has the determination to set aside their homework for a few hours and type something out for these pages: Write something intelligent! Make an insightful argument about a relevant issue without delving into ignorant ranting or unfounded name-calling.

Don't get me wrong. I like exciting opinion pieces. It's always great to hear from someone who is passionate about what they believe, even if they have obviously gone off the deep end (I love talking to homeless drug abusers). But the opinion space in this newspaper is not just for entertainment, it's also a space for intelligent debate. The unresearched and unmitigated extremism that currently fills our Opinion section is little more than intensely angering. We can do better than that.

## Classifieds

**Deadline:** Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.

**Cost:** Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

**Personals:** Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one ad per advertiser per week; no more than 50 words per ad.

**Libel/Taste:** The Commuter will not knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner. Any advertisement judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

### Help Wanted

You can sign up at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment) to look at student & graduate jobs. \*For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101).

**Wastewater & Lab positions in Wash.** (#7610 & 7611, Federal Way) If you have training in wastewater or coursework in chemistry, biology or environmental science, one of these might be for you! Both are full-time and pay ranges between \$19.34-31.60/hr DOE.

**Customer Service Representative** (#7591, Salem) You have customer service skills in a call center environment? Then you might be interested in a call center full-time position. 50 openings. \$12.50-13.50/hr DOE.

**Volunteer positions** (#7614, Albany) Do you like to work with kids or want to get experience & maybe a reference? Or is your major related to one of these jobs and you need CWE credits: tutor & read to kids, help in the art room, play board games, PE games, help in the computer room, etc.

**Recreation Special Program Coordinator Senior Programs** (#7617, Corvallis) This part-time (12-15 hrs/week) office job works with seniors. Mon-Fri, flexible schedule and pay is \$9.57-11.63/hr DOE.

### For Rent

**Self-Care Horse Stall:** Indoor riding arena and round pen. A mile and half from LBCC. 541-619-4437.

### For Sale

**2 Adorable English Bulldog puppies** needs (Rehoming) adoption. They are AKC and friendly .If interested contact me on [rexboll55@gmail.com](mailto:rexboll55@gmail.com)

## THE COMMUTER'S STAFF

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

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Starr, Tanya Dolan, Lacey  
Jarrell, Brittany Reynolds,  
Alethea Skinner, Alx George

### Letters Welcome

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. The Commuter attempts to print all submissions received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, privacy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter submitters do not represent the views of the Commuter staff or the College. Deliver letters to The Commuter Office, Forum 222 or at [commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu)

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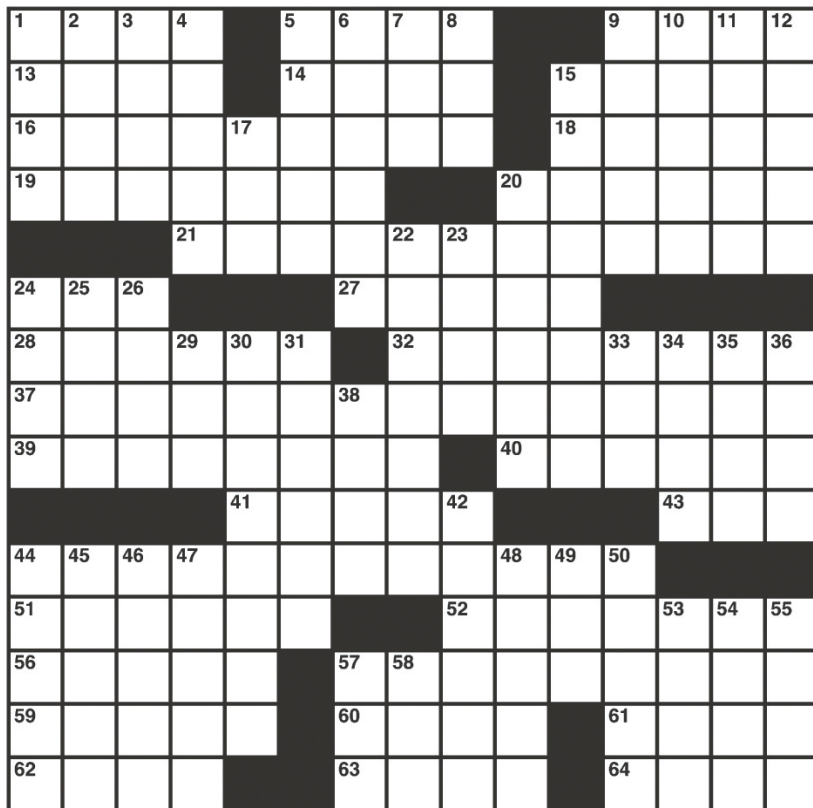
# Surreal Living

Crosswords, cartoons and some fun facts to brighten your day.

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Heartless
  - 5 Run in a traffic jam?
  - 9 “\_\_ fan tutte”: Mozart opera
  - 13 Hodgepodge
  - 14 Aquarium clapper
  - 15 Be silent, in music
  - 16 Tropical fruit that grows underground?
  - 18 Autobahn autos
  - 19 Exceeded, as a budget
  - 20 Ankle-swelling cause
  - 21 Church game played with cans and bottles?
  - 24 Workout unit
  - 27 More cunning
  - 28 Not away
  - 32 Michigan college town
  - 37 Italian cheese from the Florida Keys?



By Dan Naddor

- 39 Snobs
- 40 Fictional author of “The World According to Bensenhaver”
- 41 Spot to get off
- 43 Grant opponent
- 44 Fled what was once Zaire?
- 51 Body shop offering
- 52 SWAT team supply
- 56 Jet trail
- 57 Jargon of ancient Yucatán?
- 59 Nanos and minis
- 60 Drive the getaway car for, say
- 61 Prefix with dollar
- 62 Last word sung with champagne in hand
- 63 Presidential power
- 64 Future J.D.’s hurdle

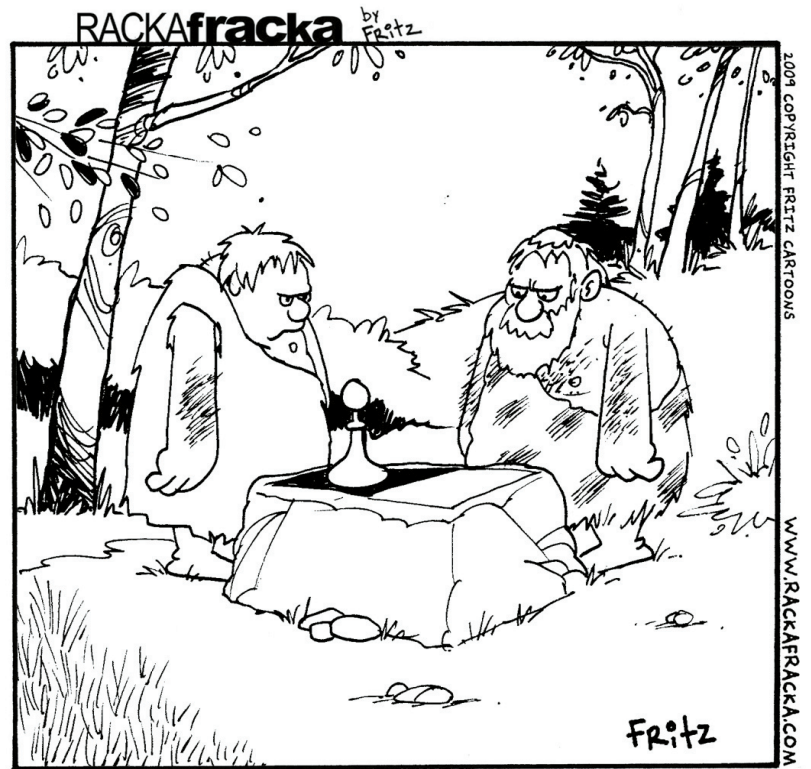
- 4 Hall of Fame second baseman Bobby
- 5 Stern with a bow
- 6 Chain that serves the Grand Slam breakfast
- 7 Fall behind
- 8 “Strange Magic” band
- 9 Bay of Naples isle
- 10 Continental divide?
- 11 Baseball commissioner since the ’90s
- 12 “\_\_ big deal”
- 15 Military higher-ups
- 17 G.I. ration
- 20 Witnessed visiting
- 22 Enduring opus
- 23 Navel buildup
- 24 Bailiff’s request
- 25 Compound containing a hydroxyl group

**Wednesday’s Puzzle Solved**

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

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- 31 Avian homemaker
- 33 Hook (up)
- 34 False god
- 35 Brute
- 36 Weapon in Clue
- 38 Hardly at all
- 42 “When I’m ready”
- 44 The King
- 45 Lathered up
- 46 Food fowl
- 47 Battery terminal
- 48 “Peachy keen!”
- 49 “For Me and My \_\_”
- 50 Bay window
- 53 Wildebeests
- 54 Indian mausoleum city
- 55 Flue coat
- 57 Dallas cager, briefly
- 58 He’s next to Teddy on Mount Rushmore



EARLY FORMS OF CHESS.

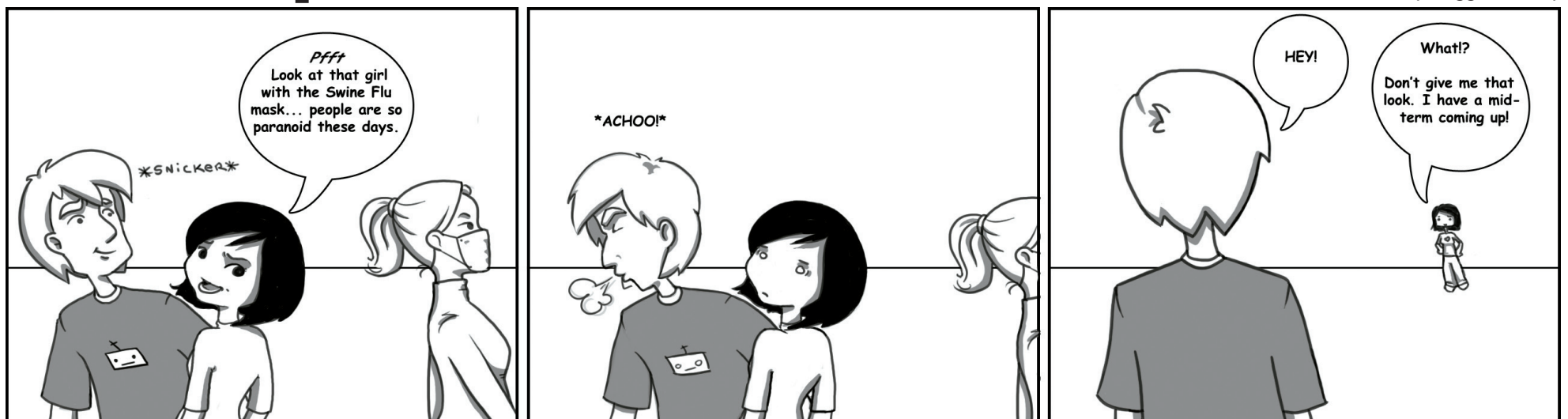


YOUR HONOR? I BELIEVE A MEMBER OF THIS JURY MIGHT HAVE A BIAS TOWARDS MY CLIENT.

## Add/Drop

An LBCC student generated comic.

By Maggie O'Reilly





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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events, and the cure for weekend boredom.

## redbox review

### Bolt

Bonnie Starr  
 The Commuter

This week we're going to indulge our inner child with the hit kids' movie "Bolt." Another family friendly vision from Walt Disney Studios brings us a lovable white dog with a black lightning bolt marking on his side to save the day! Bolt is a fuzzy, slobbering, lovable hero with fantastic super powers! Laser-vision, super-strength, and a sonic-bark make this mutt a problem for any bad-guy that tries to take his owner, Penny, away from him or who tries to take over the world.



"Bolt" was a lot of fun to watch. We're taken on an adventure with Bolt, Mittens the alley-cat, and Rhino the ball-bound hamster as they bicker, fight, and eventually learn that super powers are not all they're cracked up to be when dealing with real world problems. Without the help of his new friends, Bolt might not have ever been reunited with his owner Penny.

Our posturing pooch is voiced by John Travolta, but don't worry! There are no aliens or scientologists to be found in this movie. His owner is voiced by the ever-popular Miley Cyrus... I promise she doesn't burst into any musical number during the show (though you may want to avoid the credits).

I really enjoyed this movie, and I think you will too so long as you still watch things like Bugs Bunny, Spongebob, and Scooby Doo. This movie is recommended.

## Baguette

Justin Bolger  
 The Commuter

Downtown Corvallis has more than its fair share of tasty eateries. The sparkling diamond of these may very well be Baguette.

"It's their unique menu and unusually friendly service that keep me coming back," says Amanda Tasker, an OSU student and avid customer.

Located right at the edge of the riverfront, Baguette offers a selection of authentic Vietnamese sandwiches that will soothe the appetites of carnivores and vegetarians alike. Throw in a tasty flavored sweet bun with a freshly mixed Thai iced tea and you can have an outstanding, healthy meal for less than 10 dollars.

To further the menu options, Baguette also offers appetizers such as pork buns as well as a wide array of imported beverages that are somewhat difficult to come by in the Corvallis area.

At times the line keeps you outside for a minute or two, but it's worth the wait. As soon as you make it through the door, you're greeted with an enthusiastic, friendly smile.

"The cashier might be the friendliest person ever," says Tasker, "I tipped for more than what my whole meal cost once."

Overall, Baguette has proven itself to be a noteworthy restaurant in terms of both quality and service. The location and atmosphere don't hurt either. If it were lacking in any area, it would be the limited options for a main course, but what they do have might as well be made of gold.

Baguette is located at 501 SW 2nd St. in Corvallis. Contact them at 541-752-9960.



Mmm... sandwich

PSD@Flickr.com

## Academic Success Seminars

**Boost Your COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE!**

**Sign up on SIS under Study Skills – or just drop in!**

Always 50 minutes!  
**ALWAYS FREE!**  
 Always helpful!

### Prepare for Tests

Wednesday	Oct. 21	Albany	WH-225	12:00 – 12:50
Wednesday	Oct. 21	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20

### Get Organized

Monday	Oct. 26	Lebanon	LC-205	4:00 – 4:50
Tuesday	Oct. 27	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50
Wednesday	Oct. 28	Albany	WH-225	12:00 – 12:50
Wednesday	Oct. 28	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20

### Active Learning Strategies

Monday	Nov. 2	Lebanon	LC-205	4:00 – 4:50
Tuesday	Nov. 3	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50
Wednesday	Nov. 4	Albany	WH-225	12:00 – 12:50
Wednesday	Nov. 4	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20

### Accomplish Your Academic Goals

Monday	Nov. 9	Lebanon	LC-205	4:00 – 4:50
Tuesday	Nov. 10	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50

### Am I Depressed, or Just Stressed?

Monday	Nov. 16	Lebanon	LC-205	4:00 – 4:50
Wednesday	Nov. 18	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20

Academic Success Seminars are organized by the Learning Center. For more information and to sign up, visit SIS under Study Skills or call 917-4684.

LBCC is an equal opportunity institution. For disability accommodations, call 917-4789. Submit requests 4 to 6 weeks before the event where possible. To call by TDD, call the Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 1 (800) 735-2900 & provide them with the number you wish to reach.



**Linn-Benton**  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Have a competitive spirit?

Show it by donating blood.

**November 18-19, give blood** on behalf of the Ducks or Beavers and help save a life at LBCC. (Fans of any team are welcome.)

Schedule an appointment now by calling 1-800-GIVE LIFE.

Participants enter drawing for two tickets to Civil War football.

**Blood Drive 2009**

**WHAT:** Linn Benton Community College Blood Drive  
**WHEN:** Wednesday, Nov. 18 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
 Thursday, Nov. 19 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
**WHERE:** Commons Cafeteria - Alesa Calapooia Room  
**HOW:** Sign up one week in advance in Takena Hall or online at [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org) Sponsor code: LBCC

**Rivals for Life CIVIL WAR BLOOD DRIVE 2009**  
 EIGHTH ANNUAL - NOVEMBER 5-21

American Red Cross  
 LANE MEMORIAL bloodbank  
 OSU Alumni Association  
 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

[www.CivilWarBloodDrive.com](http://www.CivilWarBloodDrive.com) [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org)

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The Commuter  
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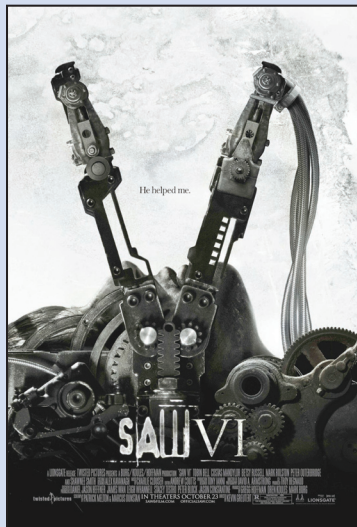
# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events, and the cure for weekend boredom.

## Coming attractions

### Saw VI

The bone-twistingly gruesome saga continues, as the FBI begins to close in on the sick-minded Jigsaw (Tobin Bell). Hoffman (Costas Mandylor) has emerged as the heir to Jigsaw's legacy. There are also rumors of the return of Lawrence Gordon (Cary Elwes) from Saw I. Directed by Kevin Greutert. Rating: R  
Runtime: 90 Minutes



### Amelia

Hillary Swank stars in this exposé of the groundbreaking American pilot Amelia Earhart. When her flight across the Atlantic gains her incredible fame, Amelia (Swank) is shoved into the spotlight. She becomes an inspiration to everyone from her husband (Richard Gere) to first lady Eleanor Roosevelt (Cherry Jones). Rating: PG  
Runtime: 111 Minutes



### Cirque du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant

Paul Weitz directs and co-writes the latest trendy vampire flick, which stars Chris Massoglia as Darren, a kid who meets an undercover vampire (John C. Reilly) at a freak show and ends up leaving his normal life to follow in his ice-cold footsteps. Rating: PG13  
Runtime: 108 Minutes



Sources: Fandango, Imdb.com

## There's one in all of us

Max Brown  
The Commuter

The beloved children's book "Where the Wild Things Are" came to the big screen last Friday, and it was wildly awesome.

The story follows a boy named Max (Max Records) who has troubles at school, problems with his sister, and general issues that seem so large to children. After one particularly horrendous fight with his mother, he runs away from home. Max ends up on an island populated with wild creatures and manages to convince them that he is a powerful king, and that they should not eat him.

I could not help but fear this movie would somehow be butchered, but it was actually really good. Somehow writers Spike Jonze and Dave Eggers managed to expand on a story we all loved as children and make it a full-length feature film without changing the true feeling of the book.

One of the things this movie did really well was to portray the feelings of a child. The movie did an amazing job of bringing up your memories of childhood, and most people will identify with the feelings Max is experiencing.

The major theme through the movie is abandonment; this is repeated through Max and his sister and also with the wild things and their struggles. At points this

movie almost seemed a little too sad or intense, but usually it would quickly rectify that with some witty banter between Max and the wild things.

The wild things looked so realistic and fascinating. Their facial expressions and interactions with Max were amazing. They could not have been presented in a better fashion.

On that same note, Max Records is the perfect child for this role, not only because of his name. He is a kid, so I guess it should be no surprise he plays one so well. During the intense scenes with the wild things you can see true reactions on his face; he sells the idea that Max is truly there experiencing this wild adventure.

Not only are the wild things amazing looking, but the landscapes and building design are also stellar. From the lush forest to the sandy dunes of the desert, it all was breathtaking. Considering

the buildings were mainly just twigs and branches, they managed to make them quite fascinating.

Probably the most annoying aspect of this movie was the shaky camera. I honestly don't know who thought of the shaky camera idea, but I hate them. Really this does not ruin the movie, not in the least, but it's something that was noticeable.

If you enjoyed the book as a child you should go give this movie a chance. Not only will it bring up fond memories of the book, but also of your childhood.



## Poetry spotlight

Poem #325  
by Joel DeVylde



atop the dill and stonebrook line,  
the sun set syllables of mine  
to rest below the natural curve  
and gave my gaze a failing grade.  
and so without a careless word,  
I grasped your hand and night was made.

## Weekly Weather Predictions

Wednesday-10/21	Thursday-10/22	Friday-10/23	Saturday-10/24	Sunday-10/25	Monday-10/26	Tuesday-10/27
 Few Showers 62°	 Cloudy w/ Sun 66°	 Cloudy 64°	 Cloudy w/ Sun 63°	 Cloudy 58°	 Rain 59°	 Rain 50°

Warning: These are only predictions. For up-to-date forecasts, please look out your window. source: accuweather.com