

WYDEN WEIGHS IN COMMUNITY SPEAKS OUT

PHOTO: EMILY GOODYKOONTZ

Sami Al-AbdRabbuh asks Sen. Wyden about impeachment.

Senator Ron Wyden visits LBCC for Albany Town Hall meeting



PHOTO: EMILY GOODYKOONTZ

Wyden recieved both cheers and tough questions.

Hours before the town hall meeting was set to begin, county residents began to trickle in to the Linn-Benton Community College Activity Center. As hours turned to minutes, the clamoring of concerned citizens rose, followed by thunderous applause.

On Feb. 4, Oregon Senator Ron Wyden held his Town Hall meeting at the LBCC Activity Center, in Albany, Ore.

Albany's Mayor Sharon Konopa greeted the crowd and commended Albany for the kind of environment it provided for all people.

"We are a community that is respectful for all mankind," said Konopa.

She also stated that this was the largest Town Hall turn out in the city's history.

Wyden discussed the current political atmosphere with over 1500 LBCC staff, students, and citizens, including a discussion about what he has been doing to represent Oregon on the federal level. Wyden described it as "The Oregon Way," a core set of values that each of Oregon's citizens hold.

Wyden opened his town hall meeting, attacking newly-elected President Donald Trump's travel ban, and using Fatemeh Reshad, the 4-month-old Iranian girl in need of emergency heart surgery, as his example of the country's "moral bankruptcy," that he described as a "thinly disguised religious test on people coming into our country."

"This cruelty runs contrary to American values and runs contrary to Oregon values, and as long as I have the honor to represent you, we will be pushing back against these flawed policies," said Wyden.

**"...Speak up,
push back, and
offer smart
alternatives."**

- Wyden

Wyden spoke about Kellyann Conway and her statement that President Donald Trump had no intention of releasing his tax returns. Wyden stated that there is legislation that every nominee must release their tax returns.

"Releasing those tax returns is the lowest ethical bar," said Wyden.

According to Wyden, Conway had to change her position.

An audience member asked Wyden what he thought of President Donald Trump's "belligerence" when it comes foreign affairs, which Wyden said has been poorly executed. This was in reference to...

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LB Basketball
Team captian profiles.
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Dissonant Beauty
Cory Self's new student art show fills Calapooia Center.
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THE LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUTER

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

Letters Welcome

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

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WEEKLY TRUMP WATCH

A quick review of President Trump's actions over the last week

Feb. 3: President Trump signed an executive order directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report to Trump within 120 days on how to change "laws, treaties, regulations, guidance, reporting and recordkeeping requirements, and other Government policies that inhibit Federal regulation of the United States financial system" in a manner consistent with the administration's "core principles." This will, according to Trump, weaken the Dodd-Frank regulations.

On Feb. 3, U.S. District Senior Judge James Robart of Seattle, Wash. issued a nationwide restraining order, blocking Trump's executive order that bans travel and/or immigration from seven predominantly Muslim countries.

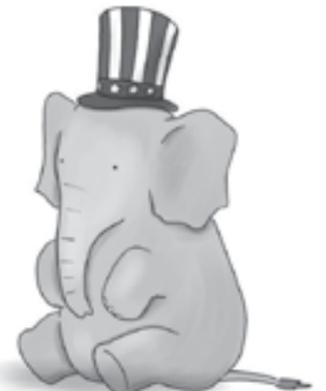
In response, on Feb. 4-6, the Trump administration requested the federal court allow the administration to enforce its executive order banning travel and immigration from seven predominantly Muslim countries.

Feb. 5, While campaigning, Trump promised he would "immediately repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as Obamacare. In a statement on Sunday, Trump stated that it will take some time to replace it, maybe "some time into next year," despite having taken steps to repeal the act on his first day in office.

Feb. 7: The Senate confirmed Betsy DeVos as President Trump's education secretary, 51-50. Vice President Pence cast the tie-breaking vote, marking the first time in American history that this has actually been necessary.



STORY BY
KATELYN BORING
@K8DOESTHINGS



CAMPUS VOICE

If you could date any celebrity for this upcoming Valentine's Day, who would it be and why?



JESSIE JOHNSON
NURSING

"I WOULD DATE CONOR MCGREGOR, BECAUSE I LOVE UFC AND HE'S SUPER LIKE PHYSICALLY ATTRACTIVE, AND HE IS PROBABLY THE BEST IN THE GAME RIGHT NOW."



JOSIE WOODS
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

"I WOULD DATE LUKE BRYAN, BECAUSE HE'S SO PRETTY AND ALSO HE COULD SING TO ME."

RYAN ECCLES
CIVIL ENGINEER

"ANYBODY I WANT? TOUGH CHOICE, I'D TO GO WITH MILA KUNIS, BECAUSE I LIKE HER PERSONALITY IN HER MOVIES, AND I THINK SHE'S SUPER FUNNY. I'M PRETTY JEALOUS OF ASHTON KUTCHER."



AZUCENA LOPEZ
PRE-NURSING

"I WOULD DATE ROBERT DOWNEY JR. BECAUSE HE HAS A GREAT PERSONALITY AND HE IS IRONMAN."



TRUMAN TEMPLETON
ANTHROPOLOGY

"I WOULD DATE TAYLOR SWIFT BECAUSE I WOULD GET A WHOLE ALBUM ABOUT ME."



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SAUL BARAJAS

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President Donald Trump's conversation with Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull on Jan. 28, when Trump objected to an agreement over the U.S. receiving refugees.

Wyden described the responsibility the audience has when it comes to flawed policy, which is to "...speak up, push back, and offer smart alternatives."

The senator then spoke on what he had said to FBI director James Comey regarding connections within Trump's campaign to Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov and how he and his cohorts are going the distance on the issue.

The next person to speak was Pete Boucot of Lebanon, a veteran and a Jewish-American, who is very concerned with the behavior in Washington D.C. He even went as far as to say "Steve Bannon is a white supremacist."

Wyden responded, saying that he, too, understands where Boucot is coming from, as he is a "first-generation Jewish-American" himself. Wyden said that we will see more radical views from the Trump Administration in the next few weeks.

Wyden spoke about Congressman Steve Price, stating that if Price gets sworn in as secretary of health and human services, Price will do everything he can to take away health care choices for women.

"This is why I am fighting this nomination so hard," said Wyden "I am in this fight every step of the way."

Another audience member asked Senator Wyden about where the U.S. is going when it comes to the topic of climate change and why it has become a "partisan" issue. Wyden joked: "You're being way too logical for Washington D.C."

"People in the business community will be the first to start paying attention to the oceanic changes," said Wyden "It's not there in congress right now, but I think it's going to be moving that way..."

The senator spoke about the supreme court nominee attempting to take away a unique law of Oregon's, the Death with Dignity Act, which gives patients in hospice the right to end their life when they see fit, as opposed to being forced to live out the rest of their lives. Wyden reflected back when the House of Representatives tried to throw out the Death with Dignity Act, stating that he was willing to shut down the senate if they didn't let Oregon keep this law.

"It's not too early to talk about impeachment, could you comment?" asked Joseph Postman, a citizen of Philomath.

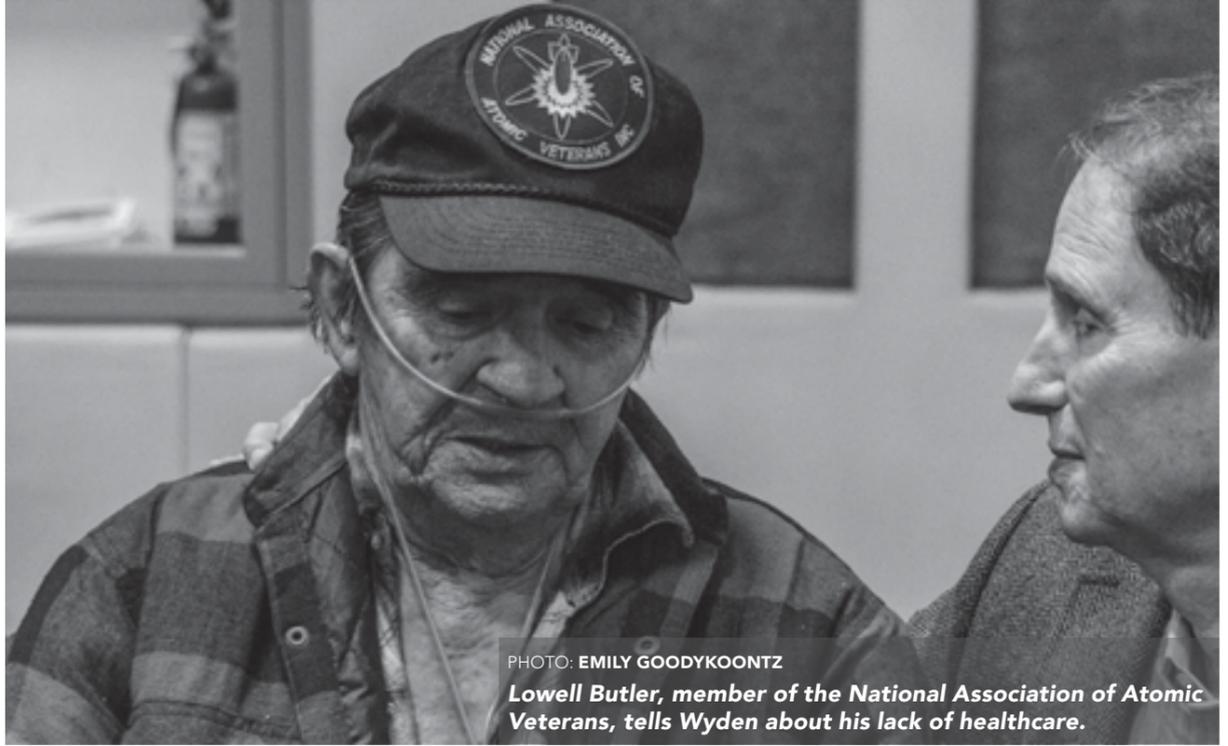


PHOTO: EMILY GOODYKOONTZ
Lowell Butler, member of the National Association of Atomic Veterans, tells Wyden about his lack of healthcare.

"My job is to use all the tools that I have within the United States Senate to protect the Oregon way and to protect our values," Wyden responded.

The audience continued their questions and concerns about whether or not Wyden was going to make the effort to get President Trump impeached.

"Two weeks ago, I sworn office to represent a school board, and I swore to protect the constitution of the United States," said Sami Al-AbdRabbuh, wielding a copy of the constitution, "When are you going to support impeachment?"

Wyden did not give a clear "yes" or "no" answer, but instead talked about the opposition he had to the nominee for CIA director, Mike Pompeo. Wyden said that the Trump administration tried to "short-circuit" the debate process in favor of Pompeo.

"How ill-advised it is to single out seven countries like that?" said Wyden, in response to the travel ban put in motion by the Trump administration. "It is wrong, and it is not what this country is about."

Nachi Del Sol, an audience member originally from Buenos Aires, thanked Wyden for coming out and speaking with the community. Del Sol talked about how different it was to come to the U.S., to

Corvallis, and that during the first 10 years of her life, it was a dictatorship.

"For me, the fact that we are here, that we have the freedom to be here, and go, that we have the freedom to be able to speak," said Del Sol, holding back tears. "is the most amazing thing."

She asked the audience to think about ways they could help facilitate, and welcome those that may be considered "different" with open arms, and asked Senator Wyden "What are you going to do to facilitate togetherness and openness?"

Senator Wyden took a second to talk about his father's experience coming to the United States. His father spoke no English, and felt very alone at first, understanding where Del Sol was coming from.

"We are a nation of immigrants, what is so flawed about these executive orders is that it defies common sense and defies American values," proclaimed Wyden. "You don't stand alone."



STORY BY
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VAUGHN PRISON REBELLION

Standoff Ends in Death of Correctional Officer

Shortly after 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 1, an unknown number of inmates at James T. Vaughn Correctional Center in Smyrna, Del. took over a building within the prison and took four correctional officers hostage.

A standoff ensued between the inmates and police, lasting nearly 20 hours and leaving one correctional officer dead. Officials said the building held 120 inmates, who were incrementally released from the building with the three surviving officers.

Lt. Steven Floyd, a 47-year-old veteran of 16 years with the Delaware Department of Corrections was the only fatality,

although there were minor injuries for other prison staff and inmates.

Audio obtained from the negotiations suggests that the prisoners were operating on a consensus system and had drafted a list of grievances and demands they wished to have aired on TV. They also wanted the Governor to personally apologize for what they felt was inhumane treatment.

"We want a full apology from the governor for decades of oppression unchecked. It won't go on here, no more," said an unidentified inmate in negotiations with police. "We want transparency, we want everyone to know

what's going on at James T. Vaughn."

The inmates also wanted the governor to sign a letter of intent promising increased access to health care, better food, and rehabilitation and education for reintegration. The police refused to commission such a letter, or publicly broadcast the inmate's demands.

J.T. Vaughn has a history of being accused of abuse, including not allowing inmates to practice their religions, not allowing inmates access to vital medical care, beating inmates, and prolonged solitary isolation with no legal oversight. J.T. Vaughn is also one of a select number of prisons that still serves inmates

"Nutraloaf," an unspecified mixture of meat by-product, vegetables, and often rice or breadcrumbs that is baked into a loaf.

The J.T. Vaughn uprising is the latest in a string of inmate actions to oppose alleged inhumane treatment in the prison system. Last summer inmates all over the country engaged in hunger and labor strikes in opposition of low wages for forced prison labor, including the Oregon State Penitentiary.

STORY BY
K. RAMBO
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STEVE BANNON, FASCIST?

Steve Bannon is frequently being labeled as a fascist and/or white supremacist, but why?

Steve Bannon, Chief Strategist for President Trump, is described by some as a “masterful political operative.” The former Breitbart News CEO and Goldman Sachs investment banker has controversially been given a seat on the National Security Council, which drafts proposals for national security and foreign policy.

Reactions ranged from delight on the far right, including KKK leader David Duke, to shock and terror on the left, with House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi referring to him as a “white supremacist.”

Bannon has a long history of advocating for a “Judeo-Christian America” in speeches and on Breitbart News Daily, which he hosted from its inception in November 2015.

“It’s a huge issue they have in Europe, it’s a huge issue that they have in Western Europe, it’s a huge issue they have in London with the non-assimilation of different cultures, societies, particularly Islam,” said Bannon in November 2015.

Bannon has also minimized the importance of confronting religious discrimination towards Muslims and made unsupported claims about ISIS recruiting Muslim immigrants in cities with large immigrant populations.

“Do I have this correct? A U.S. Attorney is after people about Islamophobia when they’re the hotbed—Isn’t Minneapolis the hotbed of recruiting for ISIS in America?” said Bannon, in response to U.S. Attorney Andrew Luger writing an opinion piece addressing a wave of violent attacks on Muslims in Minnesota, in November 2015.

Bannon has repeatedly claimed that Muslims are trying to take over the world.

“You have expansionist Islam, expansionist China. Right? They are motivated, they’re arrogant, they’re on the march and they think the Judeo-Christian West is on the retreat,” said Bannon in February 2016.

Bannon has also openly stated his belief that the existence of Islam is more threatening than Nazism.

“You could look in 1938 and say, ‘Look, it’s pretty dark here in Europe right now,’ but there’s something actually much darker. And that is Islam,” said Bannon in January 2016.

Bannon has also publicly described feminists as “dykes,” in a pejorative manner.

While one can point to statements he’s made as being quite frightening, he has refrained from the classical vitriol of the far-right employed by Milo Yiannopoulos and Richard Spencer, whom he associates with.

Bannon makes no bones about his participation in the “alt-right,” even bragging about creating a platform for the “alt-right” in Breitbart News. Breitbart is famous for provocative headlines and articles decrying women for using birth control, accusing Muslims of trying to take over America, insisting LGBTQ+ people should “go back in the closet,” and claiming the confederate flag represents a “glorious heritage” after neo-nazi Dylann Roof committed a terrorist attack on a church in South Carolina that left nine black people dead.

“Alt-right” is often accompanied by quotations because it is viewed as a euphemism utilized by crypto-fascists to disguise their ideology as anything other than neo-fascist.

Both Spencer and Yiannopoulos openly advocate for an authoritarian white ethnostate in the United States, which is an undeniably fascist ideal. Bannon co-authored a sort of “alt-right” manifesto with Yiannopoulos which referenced Richard Spencer. Spencer is considered to be the founder of the movement and is openly anti-semitic and racist, recently landing in hot water for leading his supporters in a Sieg Heil to President Trump.

Bannon made his rise to power not through inflammatory statements but through effective propagandizing and media-legitimization of hateful ideologies. His trajectory and rhetoric is similar to Sir Oswald Mosley. Mosely is known in Britain as the founder of British fascism. He founded the “New Party,” which later merged with the British Union of Fascists (BUF).

Active in the late 1920s and 30s, Mosley was a veteran who insisted a promise was made to preserve traditions of



PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA CREATIVE COMMONS

past generations, as Bannon did in a speech in January, 2016 at the Tea Party Convention in Myrtle Beach.

Mosley advocated increased isolationism and Keynesian nationalism, a form of economic nationalism, as does Bannon (who is self-described as an Economic Nationalist). Mosley claimed immigrants, notably Muslims, were a prominent source of political upheaval, violence and unemployment, as does Bannon.

Mosley acknowledged the presence of anti-semitism and racism in his party, but claimed it was not the party line, as does Bannon with the “alt-right.” Mosley pointed to a handful of Jewish and black supporters as proof that his philosophies were not racist, or anti-semitic, as does Bannon.

Mosley claimed the media was being paid to slander his group, as does Bannon.

Mosley claimed that anti-fascist protesters who opposed his party were paid by prominent Jewish people, as does Steve Bannon, and attempted to distinguish his party from the perception of fascists as being uneducated and brutish by declaring the leaders and supporters as intellectuals, as does Bannon.

The biggest difference between Mosley and Bannon, is that Mosley didn’t hold one of the highest national security posts for the largest military superpower in the world as his first job in politics, aside from campaign management, as Bannon does.

There’s more reasons that many feel Bannon’s newfound power is extremely alarming.

Steve Bannon recently said in an interview with Time that he is a big fan of a generational book called “The Fourth Turning,” written by William Strauss and Neil Howe.

Strauss-Howe generational theory alleges that history occurs in cycles of four stages lasting from 80 to 100 years called “saecula.” When a “saecula” ends after the fourth turning, society experiences an “ekpyrosis,” which is an extreme disruption of systems and social structures brought by massive disaster.

Bannon firmly believes that we are in the fourth turning, nearing an ekpyrosis.

The book, and the Strauss-Howe theory itself has been criticised for ethnocentrism in its view of American history and what have been the most important moments within it. The Trail of Tears and other forms of removal of indigenous people created one of the largest and most prolonged acts of genocide in human history, however, this is not considered an “ekpyrosis.”

The Civil Rights movement that ended legal segregation and restored marriage and voting rights to black people in the United States, as well as the violent persecution of people of color within the movement is not considered an “ekpyrosis.”

In “The Fourth Turning,” Strauss and Howe predict that the fourth turning in the early 21st century will give rise to an authoritarian “Gray Warrior” who seizes control in times of uncertainty and forcefully unites the country.

Despite Bannon’s extreme worldview and involvement with open white-supremacists, he has never declared

himself as a fascist or racist. Bannon, however, openly admitted the presence of racism and anti-semitism involved with the “alt-right” in an interview with Sarah Posner of Mother Jones at the Republican National Convention in July 2016.

“Are there anti-Semitic people involved in the alt-right? Absolutely. Are there racist people involved in the alt-right? Absolutely. But I don’t believe that the movement overall is anti-Semitic,” said Bannon.

“You could look in 1938 and say ‘Look, it’s pretty dark here in Europe right now,’ but there’s something actually much darker. And that is Islam.”

- Bannon

COLUMN BY
K. RAMBO
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LBCC Chess Club

Gathers weekly in the Commons
Cafeteria

Mondays: 12pm-3pm

Tuesdays: 10am-1pm

**Beginners
Welcome!**



THE DPP ADVANTAGE

Partnership between OSU and LBCC saves student dollars

In 1998, Oregon State University and Linn-Benton Community College developed the Degree Partnership Program (DPP) after recognizing the need for a more practical way for students to enroll in classes at both institutions while receiving adequate financial aid. The program allows for students to be dual-enrolled at OSU and an eligible community college and take classes at one or both locations.

There are a wide variety of benefits to participating in the program including, but not limited to: lower tuition costs and smaller class sizes at LBCC, a wider selection of classes, access to scholarships, financial aid and other resources from both institutions, and eligibility to live on the OSU campus. As expressed on OSU's DPP website, new first-year students, current OSU students, transfer students, and international students are all able to take advantage of this program. The application process is different depending on your current enrollment status, so be sure to check out the website for more information on how to get started.

The Linn-Benton Loop offers students without a vehicle free transportation between OSU and LBCC's campuses. This makes it especially convenient for residents of Corvallis or Albany to take advantage of the Degree Partnership Program.

When asked how the program benefited her, bus-rider Maddy Ladue said that because she is an out-of-

state student, it is much more affordable for her to take some of her classes at LBCC. She also said that she appreciates the smaller class sizes. LaDue is a freshman student studying merchandising management, and if she chooses, she will be able to continue to take advantage of this program until she completes all lower-division courses for her degree.

"If a student knows they want to continue their education at OSU, they should enroll in DPP as soon as they are eligible! Students save money while staying on track with their OSU goals," said Christine Acker, LBCC's coordinator for the DPP.

Acker also suggests that if you want to learn more about the program, the best place to start is at the DPP website. Here you will find further information in the FAQ's, a brief video about financial aid, and a link to the application.

OSU also has a webpage providing information on the Degree Partnership Program. If you have further questions, you can visit the Partnership Office in McKenzie Hall, room 111 on LBCC's campus.

STORY BY
ISABELLE MORIN

RESOURCE FAIR

Local resources available to students

Everyone can use an extra hand from time to time, and the LBCC Resource Fair is here to help.

Booths were lining the LBCC Commons cafeteria walls Tuesday, Feb. 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the annual Linn-Benton Community College resource fair.

The resource fair is geared towards newer students who are looking for help while attending college. It helps students in a multitude of areas, such as financial aid, food stamps, child care, advising, and much more.

The fair was being sponsored by the LBCC Student Leadership Council (SLC), and featured multiple booths representing different organizations that have made it clear they are here to assist students in any way they can.

"Definitely gives you a lot of local resources that are available to you as a student," said SLC officer and Resource Fair organizer Patrick Duffy, when asked about what the resource fair can do for the students of LBCC.

There were some resources on display directly associated with LBCC. These included the LBCC Advising Center in Takena Hall, whose goal is to not only advise undecided, transfer, and freshman students about the next step in their education process, but also to assist students by providing information on career services and help students out with their general well being if they need it.

The LBCC Financial Aid Office also had a booth, containing information on how to get started on registering for financial aid.

The LBCC SLC had an area set up as well. As always, they strive to represent the LBCC students to the best of their ability. They are encouraging any students that may be interested to either run or vote in the upcoming presidential and vice presidential elections for the SLC later this year.

The majority of booths, however, were local organizations wanting to help students here at LBCC in any way they can. Some of these organizations are:

The Family Tree Relief Nursery, trained professionals and volunteers who are committed to keeping children safe and families together by building healthy relationships.

ABC House, a non-profit organization focused on working with children, youth, and their families to overcome the crisis of child abuse and neglect.

Hand in Hand farm aims to help people of all ages and abilities to rebuild and enrich

their lives through agricultural experiences.

Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence (CARDV) is a free 24-hour crisis and support line dedicated to helping adult, teen, and child survivors of abuse stay safe. They also offer advocacy support groups, crisis intervention, emergency shelter, and assistance with navigating the legal system.

The Oregon Department of Human Services had a booth dedicated to talking about their SNAP program. This program is there to help provide nutritious and healthy foods to low-income households.

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society provides a multitude of helpful resources for hard working students such as formal recognition, scholarships, and honors and leadership development programs.

211 info, a nonprofit organization that helps connect people to health and community services in their area. Simply dial 211 toll-free to speak with a resource specialist or visit 211info.org to search for services available in your area.

Duffy would love to see the resource fair occur more than once during the school year saying,

"Even twice a year would be great, because we usually only hold the resource fair in the winter term, but we obviously don't just have students enrolling in winter term, they enroll year round," said Duffy. "So providing more opportunities for students to get in touch with these programs would be even more helpful to them."

If you or someone you know missed out on the resource fair but would like to know more about some of the resources that were mentioned in this article, students are encouraged to get in touch with the LBCC SLC office, located at the northeastern corner of the courtyard at the LBCC Albany campus. Or be sure to contact 211 info to receive additional information on resources near you.

STORY BY
JOSH STICKROD
@STICKRODJOSH



UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 8

Culture Tables

- ELCI (English Language & Culture Institute)

Unpacking the Model Minority Myth

- Workshops focusing on African American and Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) historic relationships, free; 3 to 5 p.m.

SLC budget forums

- Cascade View room CC203 at noon

Feb. 9

Learn carousel carving and painting

- Albany Historic Carousel and Museum; 250 SW Broadalbin St., Albany, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more info, visit www.albanycarousel.com

Feb. 10

SafeHaven Pawscar Awards

- Linn County Fairgrounds, 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$30 each

Applications for SLC President and Vice-president due

- Applications can be dropped off at Forum Room 120, due by 4 p.m.

We Don't Need Planned Parenthood campus tour 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., front of LBCC Library

Feb. 11

2017 Sweet Home Sweetheart Run 10 a.m., 877 14th Ave, Sweet Home, 97386

Feb. 12

Oregon's 158th Birthday Party 12 p.m. 518 SW 2nd Ave, Albany, 97321

Valentine's Day Couple's Goat Yoga & Wine Tasting

- Emerson Vineyards, 11665 Airlie Rd, Monmouth, 97361. \$75 each.

Feb. 13

Valentine Basket Drawing

- Phi Theta Kappa Honor Students are hosting the drawing in Takena Hall. The basket is filled with over \$200 worth of items. Tickets are \$1 each



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND

From left to right Elana Crone riding Lola, head coach Cindy Gooch, Katrina Dogette riding Hazel, assistant coach Rachel Quesnel and Elizabeth Cheyne riding Esther.

A PLACE TO BELONG

Clubs and co-curricular groups at LBCC

Welcome Day at LBCC: filled with excitement, nerves, and clubs trying to recruit new members.

LBCC, there is a rich tradition of building clubs that are inclusive, and help build positive experiences and friendships for all students.

These clubs and co-curricular groups are a way for students to meet outside of class and spend time discussing common activities or events.

LBCC has created over 30 diverse clubs and co-curricular groups. These clubs are designed for every student at LBCC to find a place where they belong. There is everything from chess and drama club, to an equestrian and livestock judging team that competes in national contests throughout the country.

Heather Morijah, Program Assistant of the clubs and co-curricular groups at LBCC believes these organizations are extremely beneficial to the environment at the school. As the individual who oversees the regulations, budgets, training, and the overall smoothness of all the clubs she has had a lot of interaction with those who help run the clubs.

"I love these clubs and co-curricular groups because it really helps our students. Clubs give everyone a place where they can belong. If students feel as though they belong, they are more likely to enjoy and finish school," said Morijah.

If students wish to start a club, they will need a faculty adviser and at least 8 members who are willing to begin their club.

According to Jenny Strooband, faculty adviser and team coach, the LBCC Equestrian Team has had a lot of participants over the years. This co-curricular team has been at LBCC since 1998, with Strooband being the adviser since 2002. Currently, there are 12 members on the team. However, there have been up to 30 at a time.

The team competes in numerous contests throughout Oregon, Washington, and some into Western Canada. The contests consist of students riding horses and being judged on their performance. They compete in challenging competitions under the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association.

What makes these contests challenging is that the students have never ridden these horses before. Their true handling skills are put to the test when they are given horses that do not know them and are asked to ride and perform in front of quality judges.

Another challenge the Equestrian Team faces is that they compete against many university teams. The contests are not divided between junior colleges and universities. Instead, they all compete against each other.

However, this has not stopped the success of several of the team members over the years at LBCC, with

members ranking at the top of their competitions.

This success is not handed to them, however. The team practices a couple times a week to master their skills on the back of a horse. Team members are pushed to work hard and to achieve their best in competitions. With all the time spent together, the team can get to know each other and create strong friendships.

"These students are not just competitors, they become friends and we really enjoy spending time with each other and travelling," said Strooband.

LBCC Equestrian Team member, Dana Sanders, said she "Absolutely loves the equestrian team," and explained how her coaches do a fantastic job when it comes to pushing her to be her best.

Sanders explained that even though the team and competitions are fun, it can be challenging.

"Sometimes the competition horses are just done wanting to work with you," said Sanders.

She believes this team has been a successful investment to her knowledge of horses and riding, as well as creating a fun and memorable time in college with people who share a common love.

STORY BY
JUAN GAVETTE



LBCC CIVIL RIGHTS CLUB IS BACK!

After a hiatus, the Civil Rights Club is getting back to work

If you want to build community rooted in equality and social justice, I ask you to consider joining the Civil Rights Club.

We are a non-partisan student organization and refrain from endorsing any political candidates or parties. All who want to promote equality in and around LBCC are welcome to attend.

The intersectionality of our struggles cannot be understated; to challenge systematic oppression, we must organize ourselves. The Civil Rights Club will be reaching out to other student organizations as well as organizers at OSU.

If interested, please email lbcc.civilrightsclub@gmail.com to be added to the email list and be added to the initial student roster so we can start having meetings!

PROVIDED BY
LBCC CIVIL RIGHTS CLUB



From left to right, Cory Self and Anne Magratten.

DISSONANT BEAUTY

Calapooia Center Gallery hosts first student art show

Five dissonant photographs meticulously hung alongside one another, overlaid on the wood walls of the Calapooia Center Gallery. For student artist Cory Self, this was the first time he was able to see his artwork portrayed on the LBCC campus walls.

On Thursday, Feb. 2, from 12 to 1 p.m., Self's eerie yet substantially beautiful photographs headlined the previously unused gallery. Brownies and sparkling cider sat untouched on a corner table among other refreshments, while about 20 students gathered to admire Self's display of dissonant beauty.

Initially inspired by black and white photography, Self, who has worked with and for the school galleries for over a year now, used a mixture of creativity and skill to intensify the Calapooia Center Gallery walls with his perfectly framed photographs. Self's work is a triumphant display of LBCC's first student art show in over a year.

At first glance, Self's artwork might seem rather off-putting to some. Dark-colored gas masks and silhouettes of creatures hidden among trees could leave the viewer with a feeling of dissonance. However, the five photographs flooded with character and artistry could leave you wanting more.

"For me, I'm getting people to look at them and acknowledge that they're beautiful and well done even though they're not standard concepts of what's supposed to be beautiful," said Self.

Theoretically adding more dimensions to the word beautiful, the goal of this art show was to utilize the space and use it for students and other artists in the community, mainly focusing on first-timers who want to expose their art to the world.

"Just as itself, dissonant sounds are absolutely atrocious but they are necessary so that you notice how pretty the other notes are," he said.

Self works side-by-side with Anne Magratten, the visual communications/art teacher and faculty mentor for the student gallery coordinators, to coordinate and bring forth other student artists at LBCC.

"I think it's a wonderful success and it has changed the way that the space feels to have art in here again, and I think it's really special that it's art from one of our own students," said Magratten. "In a way, I think it's a little bit controversial because some of Cory's images are a bit dark, but I love the fact that they make me ask questions and they make me think. So that, to me is really beautiful."

LBCC's student gallery coordinators are always looking for new art submissions as well as coordinators.

"Anybody who considers themselves an emerging artist can submit three to five images of the work they'd like to show," said Self.

Students who are interested in working behind the scenes can also submit an application for consideration.

Not only are there going to be more student art shows at LBCC, but there will also be matting and framing workshops available for students as well. The benefits of getting involved include displaying and showcasing your own artwork in a solo gallery as well as being able to receive partial scholarships.

If you're interested in learning more, Magratten will be sending out a campus wide email informing students and faculty of the next Calapooia Center Gallery art show, as well as any openings for near future art submissions. You can also send an email to artgallery@linnbenton.edu.

STORY AND PHOTO BY
SAMANTHA GUY
@SAMGZWRITE

CAMPUS ELECTIONS

Available positions in student leadership



LBCC's student government, the Student Leadership Council, presides over a portion of the schools budget and act as liaisons between students and administration, advocating for policies that benefit students, including lowered tuition and book prices.

"It's a great opportunity to be involved in student life and to represent the students," said Barb Horn, adviser to the SLC.

There are 16 available positions in the leadership office, including the elected positions of president and vice president. Deadline to apply for an elected position is Friday, Feb. 10 at 4 p.m. Applications are accepted at the Student Life and Leadership office on the northeast corner of the courtyard.

"We are looking for students who would really believe in representing the voice of the students," said Horn.

Other positions include a student wellness coordinator, a new addition to the staff that will work as a liaison with LBCC's Health and Wellness Center in Takena Hall. Applications for hired positions are due on Feb. 24.

Friday, Feb. 24 is also election day. Students will receive an electronic ballot via email earlier in the week, and can participate via drop-in vote at the Student Life and Leadership office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Presidential and vice presidential candidates will be featured in upcoming debates on Feb. 21 and 23 in the Hot Shots Cafe.



STORY BY
EMILY GOODYKOONTZ
@SHARKASAURUSX



COURTESY: CAPCOM

GAME REVIEW:

Resident Evil 7: Biohazard

PLATFORMS: PS4, Xbox One, Microsoft Windows

DEVELOPER: Capcom

PUBLISHER: Capcom

GENRE:

RATED:

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY TRUMAN TEMPLETON

Ever since it first debuted with PlayStation in 1996, the “Resident Evil” series has enjoyed widespread success, spawning films, books, comics, and countless volumes of merchandise. However, none can deny the huge impact that the series has had on the horror genre of video games, combining action and suspense in a way that no other series has done.

Fans and critics agree, however, that recent installments in the series have been bland and underwhelming, choosing to repeat tired action sequences rather than bringing something new. This has all changed with the newest installment, “Resident Evil 7.” It seeks to return the series to its horror roots, steering away from action and focusing on survival, much like the earlier titles.

Though this new game takes place after the events of “Resident Evil 6,” it follows a brand new story that really doesn’t require any knowledge of past “Resident Evil”

games to jump into. The new story follows everyman Ethan Winters, who receives a mysterious email from his wife, Mia, who’s been missing for three years, telling him to come find her at a rural property nestled deep in the bayous of Louisiana.

What follows is a Texas Chainsaw Massacre-esque tale of killer hillbillies and a bit of the supernatural, all trying to prevent Ethan from escaping. To say any more would spoil the fun that comes with exploring the story, but needless to say the game manages to balance action and horror relatively well.

The biggest change made in this installment is that of a first-person camera, rather than the traditional fixed camera or third-person view seen in previous games. “Resident Evil 7” still keeps some classic staples of the series, such as the use of herbs for healing, inventory management, and in-depth puzzle solving to advance to

new areas and find new items.

The only real flaw the game presents is the lack of depth that begins to present itself in the second half of the game. The action gets ramped up in a way that conflicts with the tense, helpless atmosphere the game maintains in the first half. In some ways, it feels like the game is leading you on, only to steer you in another direction. Despite this, none of the players’ questions will remain unanswered, and depending on choices made in the game, multiple endings are available.

“Resident Evil 7” is a fresh change of pace for the series, one that is sure to provide scares and thrills to both new players and series veterans. Though it’s one of the first releases of 2017, and a horror experience you won’t want to miss.



NINTENDO SWITCH UPDATE

Big Game Spot Keeps Hype Train Rolling

During Super Bowl LI, many advertisers used the game as a platform to position their goods and services in one of the biggest TV events of the year. The game had many firsts, including a spot for the highly-anticipated new video game console from Nintendo, the Switch.

Airing during the fourth quarter, the 30-second spot showed off more footage of both the console and the highly-anticipated title of “The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild,” both of which will launch on March 3.

Additionally, an extended version of the advertisement was released on Nintendo’s official YouTube channel. This version, which also contains footage of games such as “Splatoon 2,” “Ultra Street Fighter II,” and fellow launch title “1-2 Switch” has been viewed over 3.6 million times since it was uploaded ahead of the game as well as made available on the 3DS and Wii U eShop.

The commercial further demonstrated how much potential the concept of the Switch has. As both a portable and home console, there are many scenarios where the system can be used for gaming. From playing an updated port of “Mario Kart 8” in your living room to “Super Bomberman R” while doing your laundry, the possibilities for new gaming experiences are endless.

With a platform such as Super Bowl LI to advertise the console, Nintendo has furthered their aim to make the Switch their next big hit. As a company that has a massive legacy at their disposal since the North American launch of the Nintendo Entertainment System in 1985 and the Game Boy in 1989, this kind of promotion aims to not only appeal to longtime fans of the company, but take advantage of a new generation of fans as well.

As the launch date of March 3 draws

closer than ever, the big game spot for the Switch ended up being one of the biggest surprises of the evening. Along with a pull-from-behind victory from the Patriots over the Falcons, Nintendo’s advert was one of many firsts this year’s Super Bowl brought us.

The success of the ad is furthered by the first wave of preorders for the console, which sold out within moments of going live on January 13. Let’s hope the Switch can start the ninth generation of video games in a way that lives up to all the hype. For now, this commercial has landed with a major touchdown in a sea of many standout ads the big game had. Now let’s Switch to more anticipation for the console’s launch on March 3!



PREVIEW BY
STEVEN PRYOR
@TWITTER





DAMNATIO MEMORIAE

One journalist's perspective in the face of recent events in Oregon

In the New York Times article, "Erasing the Face of History," Sarah Bond discusses the Roman and Egyptian practice of blotting out the names of horrible rulers, scraping their faces off of coins, defacing artwork of that person until it was unintelligible, and generally wiping them from the face of history like wiping off a squished bug from your wall. This idea is called 'damnatio memoriae', or 'condemnation of memory' to those who wisely have not suffered through learning Latin.

Damnatio memoriae is a strange idea to us, especially us who write the paper you're holding. In a world of Facebook and Twitter, content full of the cute, the funny, and the horrifying fly by us in an ever swelling tide that says: "Dear God, the world is ending, but here, have a cat playing a keyboard to ease your pain." Whether you are a conservative, a liberal, or the ever elusive moderate, many of you will agree that in this past election, the world has gone a bit nuts because of someone with a bad haircut and a power trip. We, the media, have been churning out articles as fast as the world will eat them up. Trust me, the White House doesn't leave us without something to scrape off Twitter for too long.

I really wanted to write a column about how, as a Jew, I am deeply frightened by the similarities in the treatment of the Muslim community to how my people were treated not so long ago. I really wanted to write about how sad it is that a man with the disposition of a toddler that takes to Twitter to tangle with other countries became a president we voted for. I really, really wanted to delve into how bad things are getting for the LGBTQIA+ community, and don't get me started on the fury that boils in my Hispanic blood at the mention of that wall. Yet, as I tried to start to write those articles,

"I am deeply frightened by the similarities in the treatment of the Muslim community.."

I found that giving that man more press, more fuel, more hits on Google when one types his name, was a disgrace. I do not want my name to float under a title that features that man's name.

There is power in a name. I would like mine to appear beneath some of the good that is coming of these past few weeks. I would like to offer the power of the press to those who are fighting for equality, for justice, for peace, for love, for education and understanding. For those who aim to stitch closed the mark on history that has been left by what has happened here.

So, here's to Kate Brown, who is fostering hope here in Oregon and beyond with her defense of the value of women's healthcare, her executive order banning federal officials from tracking down undocumented immigrants in Oregon starting February 3rd, and her bold defiance.

Here's to the Women's March, an estimated 3 to 5 million strong and growing. Here's to all of you scientists working to prove climate change over and over, and here's to you scientists affected by the travel ban. Here's

to you, Judge James Robart for lifting that ban.

Most of all here's to you, dear reader. Whether this article warmed your heart, or made you write an angry email to my editor (this is a column, it in no way reflects the views of LBCC, The Commuter as a whole, or the individual writers besides myself), you're thinking about the issues, and that's what really matters in the end. Whether we agree on who is or is not ignorant, I think we can all come together and push forth our own positivity and vitality into this whirlwind of information we exist in. Perhaps, if we all aim to do this, we can begin to bridge an invisible wall that has already been built between us.

All in all, blot out the negative, and push forth the positive, and if, to you, that means blotting out this article, I'll support your freedom to do so with a free Sharpie.



COLUMN BY
MORIAH HOSKINS
@MORIAH_HOSKINS

\$\$ WORK STUDY POSITIONS AVAILABLE \$\$

The Advising Center: Exciting opportunity for professional development working with the Advising Team! Improve your skills and learn new ones. You will help our team with projects using computer programs and helping the staff create and maintain a virtual organized space. Hours are flexible based on your schedule. Maintaining confidentiality is important. Ability to multi-task and work independently as well as in groups. Typing skills and familiarity with Windows programs are a plus. Position viewable on the work study database, if you have been awarded work study. Please email Rob Camp with any questions: camp@linnbenton.edu

Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR): Assist CFAR staff with operations and greet guests while maintaining a welcoming environment. Encouraging students to be self-directed learners, while assisting them with accommodations. May help with training students to use assistive technologies as well as help them strategize toward academic success. Basic office skills; answering phones, computer research, copying, faxing, scanning and data entry. May assist with on-campus events. Must be available for a structured weekly work schedule. Requirements: Patience, good listening skills, team player with ability to work in groups or independently. Multi-tasking skills and staying focused to task completion. Need ability to maintain confidentiality.

Preference:

- Computer experience.
- Word processing.
- Accurate typing and spelling.

Position viewable on the work study database, if you have been awarded work study. Please email Carol Raymundo with any questions: raymundo@linnbenton.edu

THE COMMONS
Cafeteria

... MENU ...
2/8 - 2/14

Wednesday: 2/8 Seafood Risotto*, Grilled Steak with Mushroom and Red Wine Demi-glace, Eggs in Purgatory with Garlic Toast. Soups: Tom Kha Gai*, and Minestrone.

Thursday: 2/9 Kalua Pork with Steamed Rice* and Mac Salad, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Vegetable Lasagna. Soups: Shrimp and Corn Chowder, and African Sweet Potato*

Monday: 2/13 Smoked Salmon Quiche, Grilled Chicken Breast with Mango Chutney*, Italian White Bean Stew with Crostini. Soups: French Onion*, and Cream of Broccoli.

Tuesday: 2/14 Shrimp en Papillote*, Chicken Fried Steak with Country Gravy, Parmesan Baked Polenta with Sauce Nostrana and Basil Oil. Soups: Spanish Chorizo and Chickpea*, and Potato Cheddar*.

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

Dysphoria

*This flesh
Clings to my bones,
Nightmare,
Of a life that is not my own.
Distort,
Who I am, so others can be sure,
That I fit,
Predetermined perceptions of the world.*

*Let maggots and bot flies wash over me,
Consuming my flesh, setting me free,
Crawling in skin, is all that i do,
Waking from dreams where it's simply not true,*

*Freeing myself
From the ramifications
Of classifications
Of the skin upon bone,
Would leave me nowhere
But entrenched in the horror
Of living
And dying
Alone.*

*I want to feel my fingers-
Pierce through my epidermis,
Peeling from me-
Like bark on a tree,
Revealing nothing,
But muscle and bone,
So I'm allowed to be
That of my own.*

*I look in the mirror and I clearly see,
Just who I am, but God, how can this be--*

By J.H. Boldcrow

This Poem isn't About the Ocean

*I miss the ocean.
It's far from view, and they say "absence makes
the heart grow fonder",
I thought that rule was just about people,
But if that were true, this wouldn't hurt so much,
I wouldn't miss the corrupting smell of salt filling
the air, that plays with my heartstrings and floods
my veins with a longing for something,
I've yet to know quite what.
Perhaps I feel this way, because the soul of the
Ocean, isn't as I thought,
It isn't intangible,
Maybe its soul is in the foam, rising up from
seemingly nothing, and in the lulling waves,
And in the song, transcended from the Moon to
the depths, all working in perfect unison to cause
a force beyond reasonable comprehension.
Maybe its soul is in it's strength.
What if its heart lies in each grain of sand,
molding around my steps.
Those grains of sand, I find tucked in between the
stitches in the seams of my pockets, although I
haven't been there in months.
Months? Is it years?
The corroding soils beneath my feet when I walk
along the line of marine and mundane, send a
dear message that time is irrelevant here.
Months and years have a weight of their own in
this place.
The mystical body of the unknown, I just.
Miss it.
I miss being there. Being present in soul, in body,
the smell, the sand, the life that beats alongside
my heartbeat with every wave beating against the
shore.
I miss it.
To be blunt...To wrap this up...
Please. I beg of you.
Take me back.*

By Floyce Virtue

BIG DREAMS, BIG IMPACT

Meet Brodie Marchant, captain of the men's basketball team

When it comes to sports, there's something about consistency that just can't be measured by stats. Brodie Marchant has been a model of consistency this year, and is one of the captains on Linn-Benton's men's basketball team. He's one of four returning players, and plays center due to his 6'7" frame. He graduated in 2015 from Philomath High School where, on top of playing basketball, he also played baseball and football.

"What drew me to playing for Linn-Benton was that it was close to home," said Marchant. "I had a job and a house from home lined up which made it appealing to stay close for two years."

Another factor that drew Marchant in was the opportunity to play with his older brother, Jesse.

"Playing with my brother has easily been the best part of my basketball career so far," said Marchant. "I've always wanted to be able to be teammates with him. It's been very special, to not just me but also my mom who has been striving to see us play together since we were little."

Marchant believes his personal role as a captain on the team is to be a vocal leader.

"I try to have everyone level-headed at practice to get things accomplished. The biggest thing is just for me to set a good example of how things should and need to be done for the younger guys," said Marchant.

Marchant's current major at Linn-Benton is an

Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer degree with a focus in Criminal Justice. He says his bachelor's degree is still undecided, but he does have a goal for his next few basketball years.

"I'm trying to fulfill the dream of moving south to the warm beaches and playing for a smaller college somewhere in California," said Marchant. "I hope my profession afterwards leads me in a path to stay involved with kids, hopefully counseling and getting into coaching."

Marchant said his goal as being a part of the team is to be able to make it to the Northwest Athletic Conference playoffs, since the team hasn't made it there in some years. There's been some ups and downs this season, but there's still time to turn things around.

"The team and I could improve on coming with a better mind set and chip on our shoulder to every practice and game," said Marchant. "Be able to get things accomplished and start winning more games like we did in the beginning of the year."



At a Glance:

Team Record: 3-6
 Next Opponent: Feb. 8 @ Umpqua 7:30 pm
 Season Averages: 12.1 points, 2.5 assists, 4.9 rebounds
 Year: Sophomore



STORY BY
 NICK FIELDS
 @NICKYY_ROZAYY

CHALLENGING HEIGHTS

Captain Courtney Landis keeps fighting



Overcoming adversity is often easier said than done. In a sport that often requires being tall, freshman Courtney Landis is typically the shortest player on the court, standing at 5'3.

Landis is the starting point guard, and is the team captain on Linn-Benton's women's basketball team. Landis played hoops throughout her years at West Linn, and is a long-time athlete, beginning sports when she was four-years-old. She is a tri-sport athlete: playing basketball, gymnastics, and soccer.

In her sports career, Landis believes her biggest accomplishment is making it to the college level here at LBCC, because when she was in high school she went through a lot of injuries. Her role on the team isn't just the point guard or captain, but she is always there for everyone.

"I am always giving 110 percent on the court," said Landis.

Hannah Creswick, a sophomore and a member of the team, describes Landis as the team's motivator.

"She is the glue of our team," said Creswick.

A skilled player, Landis doesn't face a lot of challenges, but she has one in particular:

"I am too much of a perfectionist, doing too many jobs and not minimizing it down to what I need to do," said Landis.

Her ultimate goal, she says, is for the team to eventually make it to the championship game of the Northwest Athletic Conference Playoffs.

"You are your only limit," said Landis. Through all the adversity of her previous injuries, family has taught her that her mind can always overcome whatever anyone states about her.

"Every day I want to get better and exceed what my purpose is," said Landis.

Landis takes inspiration from her father T.J, mother Jill, and Uncle Mike who have been supporting her throughout her life. She also takes inspiration from people saying she can't when she wants to prove that she can.

"Effort is everything," said Landis.

STORY BY
 JOSHUA KNIGHT
 @JBKNIGHT5

"Every day I want to get better and exceed what my purpose is."

LBCC Basketball Schedule		
Date & Location	Women	Mens
Wednesday, Feb. 8 @ Umpqua	5:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 11 vs. Portland	2 p.m.	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 15 vs. SW Oregon	5:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.
Saturday Feb. 18 @ Chemeketa	2 p.m.	4 p.m.
Saturday, Feb 25 vs. Mt. Hood	2 p.m.	4 p.m.