

COMMUNITER

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: ELLIOT POND

From left to right, Safiya Jameel Shariff, Mounir Nassim El Jamal, Trần Nữ Huyền My (My Tran), Kevin Yusif Peña Aceves, Camila Monegatte

LBCC's international, immigrant students share their stories. Pages 4-7

DAY WITHOUT IMMIGRANTS

DAC students and staff organize a sit-out as part of a national protest

To demonstrate the significance immigrants hold to the U.S. economy, on Thursday, Feb. 16, immigrants and allies united in a nationwide boycott focusing on the impact immigrants have on our daily lives. Supporters were asked to stay home from work and school, and withhold from shopping.

"I've organized events before, but not this type of event where I have to sit down like 'these are my beliefs and this is why I'm doing this,' said LBCC Diversity Achievement Center student staff member and organizer of the Albany campus sit-out Melisa Lopez, prior to the event.

In support of A Day Without Immigrants, students Lopez, Jessica Sandoval, Marta Nunez, Sara Contreras H., and Hugo Chavez, together with Latino Outreach & Retention Specialist Maria Solis-Camarena and Department of Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Director Javier Cervantes convened together at a table in front

of the SLC building to educate students on the Day Without Immigrants.

"At the very minimum, it will be a chance for students to engage. If they want to, they can. I think there needs to be some visible representation of who people are," said Cervantes.

Being a documented citizen, Lopez says she hasn't personally been affected, but she knows people whose lives have been and wants to show support.

"There's been cases in Oregon where they're [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement] taking immigrants back to Mexico, we just wanted to do this so people know that we actually contribute a lot to the country, the economy, the school, everything," said Lopez.



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND

After the event, students gathered in the DAC.

stay home, no one's going to notice that you're just home. So what if you just come to school, don't go to class, bring your own lunch, don't buy anything, just get a table and put a sign up that says 'A Day Without Immigration: Ask Me Why I didn't Go To Class,'" said Lopez.

Working at the DAC has been a great advantage for Lopez, who believes LBCC has been doing a great job at making others feel safe, by having a space that contributes to unity and diversity on campus.

"I just want people to know we can stand up for ourselves," said Lopez. "I consider myself an immigrant, even though I'm here legally. I was born in Mexico and immigrated here. We're representing people all over."



Living Undocumented: One LBCC student's story.

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STORY BY
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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. 14: CNN and New York Times report that Trump senior officials were in "constant contact" with Russian officials prior to the 2016 American presidential election.

Feb. 15: Andrew Puzder withdrew his name for consideration for Labor Secretary amid the scrutiny of his business practices.

Feb. 16: President Trump held a press conference in which he announced Alex Acosta, assistant attorney general for the Civil Rights Division under President George W. Bush, as his labor secretary nominee. During the conference he covered a wide range of topics and made an inaccurate statement about his electoral college win, claiming a 306 vote win and "the biggest electoral college win since Ronald Reagan." Neither statements were true; he won with 304 votes and

Bill Clinton, Barack Obama, and George H.W. Bush all won their elections with more electoral votes. He also heavily criticized the media for reporting what he claims is false news during the conference.

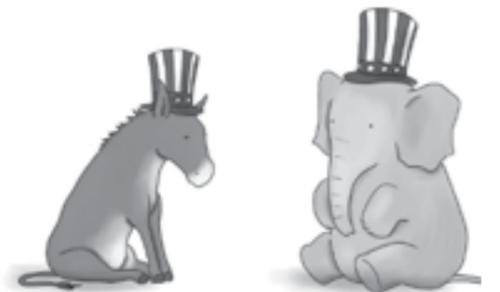
Feb. 17: President Trump tweeted that "The media is the enemy of the American people."

Feb. 18: Holding a campaign rally in Florida just one month after his election, President Trump announced a refugee-related terrorist attack in Sweden "last night" that did not occur.

Feb. 20: President Trump announces Army Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster as his new national security adviser, replacing Michael Flynn, who resigned after being reported to have contact with Russia before President Trump's inauguration.

The appointment does not require Senate confirmation for McMaster to take the position. As the national security adviser and part of the senior White House staff, McMaster will serve as the chief in-house counselor to the president on national security issues.

McMaster has little experience in Washington or at the Pentagon, taking the position in an atmosphere of pervasive security challenges, including rumors of Russian interference with the U.S. election, and missile tests in North Korea.



CAMPUS VOICE

If you could be any animal in the world, what animal would you be, and why?



KRISTEN SCHUCK
BIOLOGY SCIENCES

"I WOULD BE A SNOW LEOPARD BECAUSE THEY ARE A LITTLE BIT ELUSIVE, AND ALSO THEY ARE SUCH AN INTROVERTED CREATURES, AND THAT'S KIND OF WHAT I AM TOO."



KAYLA YARBROUGH
WEB AND DATABASE TECHNOLOGY

"I WOULD BE A DOG, BECAUSE I HAVE TWO DOGS AND I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW THEY THINK, AND WHY THEY DO THE THINGS THEY DO."



DEREK ESPINOZA
AAOT

"I THINK I WOULD BE A GIRAFFE, BECAUSE I WILL BE ABLE TO SEE OVER THINGS, AND THAT'S GREAT, BECAUSE I'M NOT USED TO THAT SINCE I'M SO SHORT, PLUS THEY SEEM LIKE FUNNY ANIMALS THAT ARE CONSTANTLY HAPPY."

DAKOTA CARTER
PSYCHOLOGY

"I WOULD PROBABLY BE SOME TYPE OF BIRD BECAUSE OF THEIR FREEDOM AND THE INDEPENDENCE THAT THEY HAVE."



EMILY ROYSTER
SOCIOLOGY

"I THINK I WOULD BE A CAT, BECAUSE I COULD JUST LAY AROUND ALL DAY AND DO NOTHING."



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SAUL BARAJAS

SLC CANDIDATE VOTING GUIDE

Student Leadership elections are here!



Justen Noll,
candidate for vice president

*Noll is 20 years old and studying practical business management at LBCC

Future career goals:

I hope to open a small business in video & photo services.

“Last year, I was recognized by the Rural Organizing Project for founding and co-leading Polk County Youth for Justice (a human rights advocacy coalition) after a local city councilor made comments against the Transgender and Muslim communities. Also, I am vocal in my community for mental health awareness through sharing my experiences.”

Why are you qualified for this position in the SLC? What is your past experience?

I am qualified for SLC Vice President because I have the initiative and the resolve that the position requires. I have displayed those qualities through a variety of volunteering opportunities, 7 years of collaborative film-making, and advocacy efforts.

What motivates you to apply for the position?

Everyone has a story. I want to utilize my story by helping others through the effort and empathy that I can bring as SLC Vice President.

How do you plan to represent the student body as SLC president/vice president? What are your intentions?

Whether a student is dual-enrolled, commuting or working a job, they should still have a voice.

As SLC Vice President, I want to represent the LBCC student body by giving opportunities for students to be able to communicate their ideas to their student leadership. This includes proposing monthly Student Leadership Q&A's, opportunities for student artists to display works/perform, and more.

What are the top three issues you'd focus on as a student leader?

1. Making on campus engagement more accessible to students.
2. Providing more opportunities for students to be heard.
3. Continuing to push forward LBLive and other connective initiatives.

Is there anything you've noticed or experienced on campus that you'd like to change?

When I walk around campus, the first

thing I notice is how most of the people around me are rushing to and from class because they are limited on time. I understand that the main reason of school is to receive an education, but that shouldn't be the only thing you receive. Establishing community among the LBCC student body would have positive effects on many levels.

What makes you a unique candidate/person?

For several years now, I've been struggling with Depression and OCD. For the past three years, I've been struggling with Conversion Disorder, a condition that converts anxiety and fatigue into physical symptoms (for me: seizure-like panic attacks). Everyday has its challenges, but at the same time I've learned so much, met and continue to meet amazing people, and became a better person.

Areli Zapien,
candidate for president

*Zapien is 21 years old, and studying as a biological science pre-med

Future career goals:

I want to pursue anesthesiology.

Why are you qualified for this position in the SLC? What is your past experience?

I've done leadership for previous community college in Portland. I know the commitment and passion it takes to be a leader

What motivates you to apply for the position?

What motivates me is that I could potentially bring safety and comfort into students that I can be their leader by providing them with the resources and support they need, as well as learning from a new experience myself.

How do you plan to represent the student body as SLC president/vice president? What are your intentions?

I plan to represent student body president by completing all responsibilities it takes. As well as bringing new ideas that will help the students be involved.

What are the top three issues you'd focus on as a student leader?

Student funding, student support, and student participation within the community as well as diversity.

Is there anything you've noticed or experienced on campus that you'd like to change?

There are many things I've experienced and noticed, but some of those are providing a student support group to encourage each other that we are all united.

What makes you a unique candidate/person?

I have experience on being part of the leadership in a community college. I have a great passion and commitment. I am a very creative person that will bring strong ideas to the student council to make success within our student community.



Conner L. Hibbs,
candidate for president

*Hibbs is 23 years old and interested in studying biology.

I am 23 years old.

Future career goals:

My future career goals include helping others.

Why are you qualified for this position in the SLC? What is your past experience?

I am qualified for this position in the SLC because I have the capacity to lead others as I lead

myself. I have several years experience leading and working in a team alongside co-workers in the workforce.

What motivates you to apply for the position?

I feel apt to apply for this position since I focus making good decisions.

How do you plan to represent the student body as SLC president/vice president? What are your intentions?

I believe voicing each of our voices. I intend to stand for uniting the student body.

What are the top three issues you'd focus on as a student leader?

1. Standing up for you
2. Study groups
3. Teamwork

Is there anything you've noticed or experienced on campus that you'd like to change?

I would like to change room for being independent on campus.

What makes you a unique candidate/person?

I am eclectic about the way I express myself. I believe Teamwork Empowers!

Brian Ixtlahuac,
candidate for president

*Ixtlahuac is 19 and studying political science.

Future career goals:

My future career goal is to become a lawyer.

Any relevant background information you'd like to share:

I am an active member in the

community of Corvallis. I work with children at an after school program.

Why are you qualified for this position in the SLC? What is your past experience?

The reason why I believe I am qualified for this position is because I have been a president of my class in the past, I have also been a part of the leadership council, and I have been able to oversee a philanthropy program that works alongside charities.

What motivates you to apply for the position?

The thing that motivated me to apply for this position was my determination; in recent days I have seen and felt the racial slurs that come along with my ethnic background. The reason that I applied for leadership opportunities including this one and countless others in the past was to prove a point to myself and to other younger than me, we are not limited to the amount of positive change we could make in our community.

How do you plan to represent the student body as SLC president/vice president? What are your intentions?

I plan to represent the student body by taking the time to get to know the people that come to LBCC. I would represent the student body by hosting events the not only bring the campus together, but to also take the time to know one another.

What are the top three issues you'd focus on as a student leader?

1. Text books price
2. Student involvement
3. Student safety/acknowledgment

Is there anything you've noticed or experienced on campus that you'd like to change?

One thing that I have experienced that I would like to change is classroom assignments. For instance, one of my classes was doubled booked in a classroom, so the class was canceled, which caused us to lose a class review day for a final, and surprisingly it's happened more than once.

What makes you a unique candidate/person?

I would like to believe that my love for politics is what makes me a unique candidate. I've been involved with school government, philanthropy programs, and have gotten to job shadow with a couple lawyers.

LBCC Chess Club

Gathers weekly in the Commons Cafeteria

Mondays: 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Tuesdays: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Beginners Welcome!



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND

(Left) State Representative Sara Gelsler, (right) Lina Demorais lobbying for community college funding.

FROM GRIEVANCE TO GREATNESS

Veteran's Club Legislative Liaison Lina Demorais pioneers senate bills

At the age of 15, LB student Lina Demorais immigrated to America with her parents and brother, leaving behind her home in Brazil.

Demorais began taking classes at LBCC in 2013 and is majoring in behavioral psychology communications, with a focus in science communications.

"The biggest issues that I had when I moved to the United States was culture shock -- and then being white in appearance and having no accent, nobody really recognizes that's what I was going through. It's a huge shock for a 15-year-old because of the dynamics that people have in high school," said Demorais.

After receiving a diagnosis of Type 1 Bipolar disorder, the 29-year-old made it her objective to be a voice for students in the community fighting mental health issues, and an advocate for LBCC's Veterans Club.

As voice of the campus Veteran's Club, Demorais says one of her biggest goals at the moment is pushing forward with the current momentum of student voices involved in the legislature. She is also partaking in helping to create community partnerships with students and coalition partners around issues that affect the student body.

Not only was she adjusting to a new environment and individualistic society, Demorais was incarcerated in an immigration detention center in Houston, Tx. Being detained led her into working with and assisting the women who also were behind bars.

"It was just heartbreaking to see what they had to go through and how we're treated when we're behind bars," said Demorais. "It made me start to look more intently at the injustices around me and helped me identify with the population of immigrants, that to be perfectly frank, I never would have because of that whole 'model immigrant.'"

A "model immigrant" is perceived to be someone who has immigrated to the U.S but doesn't necessarily look like they are immigrants.

"We're white in appearance, we're from Brazil, and my parents literally got invited into this country by academia. So, I came from a very privileged perspective as an immigrant and this really was that stark awakening that as awful as the experience was," said Demorais. "It was completely transformative for me... and gave me a cause because I think a lot of the time we kind of navigate life very lost..."

Having the privilege of being educated and raised by two professors, Demorais assisted the women in the immigration detention center with things such as navigating through resources and translating.

"I never really had a 'well how can I make a difference, ya know I'm just one person,' and when I was able to work and see the direct impact I was having on these women's lives and the impact that they were having on mine," said Demorais. "I was like this is what I want to do, I want to make a difference, even if I just change one person's life, it's worth it."

Demorais's experiences of injustice and mistreatment have not only inspired her to assist immigrant women behind bars and students in the community, but it has allowed her to become an active member of the LBCC Veterans Club; currently holding the title of Legislative Liaison.

Although having never served in the military, many of her close friends have been of great influence and are still currently active. Demorais has bore witness to some of the struggles and hardships that student veterans have had to deal with and decided that she too wanted to assist in their activism.

Her proactiveness is fueled by "how much, quite frankly, they[veterans] go through on a daily basis just like many

other communities, like communities of color and LGBT[Q], where there's a lot of disenfranchisement," said Demorais.

After getting involved with the Veterans Club, Demorais assisted in spearheading more than one Oregon Senate Bill into effect.

With a mindset of taking things to the next level, Demorais feels "that it was very important to start making [student veterans] voice heard at the capital," eventually leading her into taking an officer position with the LBCC club. One of the first things as an active club member Demorais assisted with was helping lead Senate Bill 143 which will be effective July 1, 2017.

Senate Bill 143 states directly that, "The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall develop and implement one or more programs statewide to establish or expand campus veteran resource centers and campus veteran resource coordinators on the campuses of community colleges and public universities. The purpose of the programs is to help veterans successfully transition from military service to college life, succeed in college, complete educational goals and transition from college to the workforce and the community."

After her part in assisting the proposal and achievement of Senate Bill 143, Demorais took another leap to single-handedly create and currently pioneer her next proposal, Senate Bill 231; a bill which will enact the study of mental health and how it affects students, and also implement mandatory staff and faculty awareness of mental health.

"The task force shall investigate the extent to which mental health issues have an impact on the educational mission set forth in ORS 350.014, with a specific emphasis on the impact that mental health issues have on college recruitment, retention in college, and program

At A Glance

Learn more about how you can support your veteran community, how to create and spearhead Senate Bills, and any other questions you may have by contacting Demorais at linademorais@gmail.com

The Veterans Club will be giving back to the community on Feb. 24th by partaking in a soup kitchen to serve food to those in need, and welcome any assistance from new volunteers

Veterans Club President: Steven Olson (SGT Ret.)
Email: steven.d.olson1@gmail.com

LBCC Veterans Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/lbccvetclub/>

completion or graduation. The task force shall give particular attention to how mental

health issues differ across different communities in this state," as stated directly on the bill.

The Veterans Club will be meeting on Feb. 23rd, Mar. 8th, and Mar. 23rd at noon in the Fireside Hall Rm. 109. If you have an inquiry or would like to know more, you can stop by the Veterans window in Takena Hall, visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/lbccvetclub/>, or email the club president Steven Olson (SGT Ret.) at steven.d.olson1@gmail.com. They are always welcoming to any new veteran and civilian students who wish to partake.



STORY BY
SAMANTHA GUY
@SAMGZWRITE

SPINNING THE 'WHEEL OF TRUTH'

Young Democrats speak out against President Trump's universe of alternative facts

Two members of the Young Democrats Club exercised their first amendment rights and took to the halls of LBCC in the name of free speech.

Jeremy Durand and Jeff Pierce had their two-part table set up in Tadena Hall, near the advisory center, from 9 a.m. to noon. Anyone walking by could spin the "Wheel of Truth," and, depending on the correlating number on which the dial landed, be asked a question regarding President Trump's campaign. If answered correctly, the spinner was able to win a candy, pen, or a button with a clever saying.

As one of the members of the Young Democrats Club, Durand said this table was his "form of protest against Donald Trump and his [Trump's] interpretation of reality."

Informative flyers sat next to the Wheel of Truth on top of the table for anyone to grab. On the left side of the table, a banner titled "The Truth," showed charts with sourced facts on climate change, the crime rate in the U.S., and information about the travel ban, while the right side displayed a sign titled, "The Alternative Truth."

The right side was a display of altered photos such as a "Remembering the Bowling Green Massacre" tribute, a side-by-side of the Obama and Trump inaugurations, and an Ivanka Trump flyer with KellyAnne Conway's alleged quote "Buy Ivanka's stuff for America."

According to Pierce, the goal of the right side of the table was to "show the double speak that's been going on within the trump administration and how dangerous that can be to policy," while the main goal of their set-up was "getting people more aware of what is happening [and] try[ing] to inform people about what is actually going on, what the truth is, and to put aside the double speak that we've been seeing."

Pierce says that he's attempting to talk specifically with Republicans, get their perspective on things, and explain to them why, as young Democrats, they are concerned about these issues.

"I believe if we disagree, we should talk," said Pierce. The Young Democrats are going to have a similar table in the near future and will be developing its presentation.

They always welcome new faces at club meetings, which meet every Wednesday at 2 p.m. in Mckenzie Hall Rm. 118.



STORY BY
SAMANTHA GUY
@SAMGZWRITE



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND
Jeremy Durand, Jeff Pierce (right) hosting the Young Democrat table where people can spin the "Wheel Of Truth," answer a question and win a prize.

AFTERSHOCK: EFFECTS OF A TRAVEL BAN

LBCC community members react to President Trump's recent travel ban of seven Muslim countries

The recent news of the travel ban garnered international attention and in general, shocked the international community. Seven countries, including Iran, Sudan, and Yemen were banned from having their people travel into the USA, including green card holders.

According to the Diversity Achievement Center, LBCC has several students from these countries, especially Yemen. Just recently, the ban has been revised to let green card holders be exempt but ban the rest of the people from these countries from entering the U.S.

Much about the ban has been written, but what about the voices of those affected locally?

Esther Chapman, a math teacher at LBCC is married to a man from Iran.

"We were shocked and appalled. I could not believe that this is what America has come to," said Chapman. "I remember being in my kitchen when I heard a live stream of the airport protests coming from my husband's computer. I broke down crying. How it is possible that this type of hatred is not only allowed but even encouraged by our leadership? I have felt that I might some day have to make a choice between my country with my family and my husband. This is a devastating thought to entertain."

Her husband was frightened as well.

"My husband told me when he heard the travel ban was for specifically Muslim nations (not even all of them) his first thought was that would lead to a war. Being from Iran, he is astonished how little research has been done about the groups being banned," said Chapman.

"We are of course relieved and we rejoiced to hear of the suspension, but uncertainty has been the theme in our lives. My husband has a green card, but it it up for renewal this year and we have no idea what the current administration will do to vet this group of people.

The first thought in his head was at least we have lawyers here to protect the constitution, but the same lawyers allowed US to go to war with Iran's neighbors. This breeds uncertainty in our lives. As long as the ban is suspended but looming, our lives are suspended too," said Chapman.

A first generation student from Jordan, Kase Allouzi, said he hasn't experienced anything personally, but "it's the fear [of] not knowing..."

Sharece Bunn, the International Student Advisor provided insight into what this ban means for students.

"We're expecting fewer applicants after this," said Bunn. "That's going to affect the local economy because the students bring money with them to spend on cars and housing."

"There's a feeling of not knowing if you could come back if you went home to visit," continued Bunn. "I'm not saying any students are in this situation, but imagine if you were a student, and your father back home died. Do you stay here to honor his wishes that you study, or do you go home to honor him? It's decisions like that that we are facing."

With the travel ban being recently suspended with more news about a slightly revised ban coming through soon, communities around the country await news, including the international community at LBCC.

"I cried when I heard "America the Beautiful" on a Coke commercial, longing for the time when I could say with any pride that I love this land. What will we as a nation do on the Fourth of July? Will we really be able to sing the lyrics "I'm proud to be an American where at least I know I'm free... And I'll gladly stand up next to you and defend her still today, 'Cuz there ain't no doubt I love this land. God bless the USA!"

"Now this will be a prayer and not a statement of pride," said Chapman.



STORY BY
MORIAH HOSKINS
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UNITY. EQUITY. JUSTICE.

Help us acknowledge individuals and organizations who work to establish unity, inclusion, and promote diversity and social justice at LBCC and in the community.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2017
4:30 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.
LBCC Albany Campus: Fireside Room, CC 211

Co-sponsored by:
Deborah A. Davis, Director of Inclusion
Linn-Benton
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENT
CENTER

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Almalee Fuentes Unity Award:
recognizes students, staff and faculty who have demonstrated a commitment to bringing awareness to and advancing diversity and social justice at LBCC

Gary Westford Community Connection Award:
recognizes individuals or community organizations whose work has demonstrated a connection with LBCC and helps the college and surrounding community advance diversity and social justice.



PHOTO: ELLIOT POND

LBCC student leader Kevin Peña spent his childhood as an undocumented immigrant in Albany.

UNDOCUMENTED DREAMS, ACHIEVABLE REALITY

An international student's six-year journey to LBCC

Kevin Yusif Peña Aceves thought he belonged in his hometown of Albany, Ore. Growing up, he enjoyed life as an American, playing high school sports, teasing his three younger brothers, and hanging out with his friends. He expected to earn a driver's license, find a job, graduate high school and head to college with the rest of his classmates.

But when Peña turned 16, his once-planned future dissolved.

Peña discovered he'd been living in the United States as an undocumented immigrant. Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, he'd flown to the United States with his parents when he was just 4 years old. His three younger brothers had been born on U.S. soil, but he'd grown up sheltered from his own status.

Peña couldn't participate in any of the teenage milestones his friends were about to reach. Dreams of college turned to an uncertain past, hope diminishing into the fog of a murky future.

"For me it was the biggest blow to know that even though I look like I'm from here and even though I feel like I'm from here and all my friends are from here, I'm not from here," said Peña. "The country that I thought I belonged to or that I grew up in, all of a sudden I find out that laws are saying I shouldn't be here and I can't do what everyone around me is doing. My friends are going to college and I don't even have the option to go to college or to get a job."

In present day, Peña, 26 years old, is LBCC's student vice president, an integral part of the Student Leadership Council and an international student ambassador studying computer science and business. His six-year journey from undocumented high school student to documented international college student illustrates an underrepresented narrative in illegal immigration.

What if it was never a choice?

From Albany, Ore., to Denmark, Europe

With Mexican parents in an all-American hometown, Peña straddled two cultures, struggling with some of his

parents' perspectives as a teenager.

"I was very, very sheltered and so I think I started to rebel a little bit and go out and hang out with friends, even if my parents were telling me not to. They were probably just trying to keep me safe; it's their culture to do so," said Peña.

Distraught after the revelation of his documentation status, he left home to live with a friend, attending high school in Scio, Ore.

"At that moment, [because] I think I blamed my parents for it and I blamed my family for it, because it wasn't a choice I made, and I didn't see exactly what they were trying to accomplish," said Peña. "Maybe you see it and you hear it; you know they want a better life for you, but when you hear these things and then you see the reality of it, it's like, man, how is this better than what I could have had in Mexico?"

Peña dedicated himself to school with newfound motivation.

"I think from day one I thought that [education] was the path to being able to overcome all of these things, gather knowledge and understand why these things were happening and be able to look for an option out," he said.

Though he sought help from trusted faculty at his new high school, little came of it.

"I didn't know what to expect -- what reactions to expect -- and every time I told the teacher, every time I told somebody I felt like I could confide in, I would get the same response, which is 'I'm so sorry, I wish I could do something,'" said Peña.

He took matters into his own hands, with two options available: return to Mexico, or head to Denmark to stay with his aunt and uncle and seek an education there.

"I didn't want to stay here in the U.S. as an undocumented immigrant and I didn't want to experience having to be limited or having to always be running from the law or government and finding out a way to be sneaky... I felt like I had a lot more potential," said Peña.

He flew to Denmark, his first travel experience outside

the United States. After spending three months living with relatives he applied to the Copenhagen Business School and was accepted.

"Europe is beautiful and amazing and everyone wants to go there... I loved it and my aunt and uncle live super well," said Peña.

The school required a student visa, and in the visa



Kevin Peña (left) and Samy Cardenas Peña (right) on family vacation in Seattle, Wash. after Peña's return to the United States.

interview he was asked for proof of ability to support himself, needing \$25,000 to obtain the visa. It wasn't an option. Peña had one choice left: Return to Mexico.

Changes At Home

Meanwhile, Peña's younger siblings struggled at home during his six-year absence.

Samy Cardenas Peña, the second-eldest of the four brothers, lost his role model and life-guide when his brother left. As a first generation child, the only person in Cardenas Peña's family who could navigate the American school system had vanished. His father soon left too, leaving Cardenas Peña as the eldest.

He began caring for his two younger brothers in the ways Peña had helped him.

"I had to basically be a dad at like 13 years old or 14 years old," said Cardenas Peña. "I focused on their sports, tried to make them smart, encouraged them to read... What I didn't have growing up was someone who went through the school system, and that's what I try to do for my brothers."

Though Cardenas Peña missed his brother, the six-year absence forced him to mature.

"I think a lot of the pain that came was knowing that my mom couldn't see him. I think that hurt me more than me not seeing him," said Cardenas Peña, who is also currently a student at LBCC.

Culture Crash: Mexico

Peña landed in Mexico, crashing into a vivid culture shock.

"I was scared and I had a really bad perspective of what Mexico was going to bring," said Peña.

He saw little reason to return to a place from which his mother had fled. Staying with his maternal grandparents, Peña began to understand a fuller scope of his heritage.

"It's very, very humble. I was sharing a room with another family member," said Peña.

The neighborhood was poor, and the home was infested with cockroaches. Via social media he watched his friends living out his dreams of the college experience back home, thinking, "Why don't I get to have that? Why is it that my life has to be this way?"

Now, on the other side of the culture shock, Peña rejects this self-victimization.

"I value a lot of what I went through. Every single thing that I went through I can look back honestly and say you know, I won't make that same mistake again," said Peña. "I catch myself now whenever I'm feeling in this victim mindset; I hate it and it happens because I think it's human to kind of just put yourself there. It's almost like an easy route."

But Peña was young, and struggling with confidence. "For me at the time it was a drastic change and like nothing I had ever experienced. It was really, really like the bottom; I hit bottom and it was hard and it was depressing," said Peña.

He had no idea what to do next. "I already had my mindset that everything was going to be a closed door again, another thing that just

was going to go wrong at this point, and that's when I got super lucky."

Gambling for a Future: A Lucky Stint

Peña landed a job with a developing casino company, Grupo Win.

It was 2011 and the Mexican federal government just opened permits and licensing for casino table games.

"I got in at the very beginning. We built this huge team, and I started as a casino dealer," said Peña.

The business moved fast, and Peña traveled Mexico with Las Vegas-based owner Patrick Differ training teams and opening tables at casinos. Peña's perfect English gave him an edge with the boss.

"It was from ground zero. I took advantage of that and I really, really tried my hardest. I was training and I'd go home and practice everything and I'd come back and I was above and beyond what every other one of the dealers was doing," said Peña.

He stayed after 12-hour shifts, learning cold-counting and administrative work as he shadowed his boss, taking notes, eventually opening a casino on his own while his boss was away, opening a larger casino.

At 20 years old he was making good money and promoted to rotating pit boss, a type of casino manager. He'd found a return of hope and confidence.

Just before a federal shutdown of casinos took place after exposed government corruption, Peña met a congressman at his blackjack table, Daniel Ochoa Casillas. After several conversations, Casillas invited Peña to meet political candidate Aristoteles Sandoval Diaz, a candidate for governor in the state of Jalisco.

From Dealer to Dreamer: A Political Process

Casinos shut down and out of work, Peña decided to take a chance on Casillas' offer. He had little to lose on a meeting.

"I'd never worked in politics; I'd never even really had an interest in politics before this. The only thing I remembered [was that] in Scio I'd taken a couple photography classes," said Peña.

The classes were his golden ticket; Diaz hired Peña as a campaign photographer. Yet this was another gamble for Peña; campaign workers weren't paid, just given food and phone cards on the trail. The payoff only happens with a campaign win.

"I ended up spending all of my savings because it was almost three or four months of campaigning without any income," said Peña. "I was just hoping that I'd get an opportunity to work and land a job in government."

Peña's gamble did pay off. On March 1, 2012, Diaz was inaugurated as governor of Jalisco, and he'd hired Peña to continue as a photographer and social media consultant.

"That [inauguration] was the first day I got to be at the state government palace. I was suited up, red tie, white shirt, black suit, and this is not very common for me, but I felt just like 'How the hell did I get here? How did I do this?'" said Peña.

He continued working for Diaz for four years, from 2012 to February 2016, promoted to second assistant after two years.

Despite career success, Peña still dreamed of college and a reunion with family. His two previous tourist visa applications were denied, so he built up the courage to ask the governor to send a letter of recommendation to the U.S. Consulate in Guadalajara.

A Rose-Colored Reunion

"Honestly, that room [U.S. Consulate] is the worst room to ever sit in. It's just this open space and it has just chairs, lines of chairs," said Peña.

After two previous visa denials, Peña sat in the room, anxiety festering. He watched families ahead being questioned, some turning away with tears in their eyes, some smiling.

"What you hear is that they can detect everything, they can smell fear from like a mile away, these immigration officials. So you go up there and you try to act like, you know, I don't even want to go to your country. That's the way you have to act, so it's kind of scary," said Peña.

But with the recommendation, the process was smooth, and the immigration official led him through the questioning, telling Peña how to respond so they could accept his visa.

Visa approved, he called his younger brother and planned a surprise visit to Albany to see his mother.

In August 2016, Peña walked into his mother's workplace with six dozen roses filling his arms, a dozen



The moment Kevin Peña reunites with his mother, Elizabeth Peña.

for each year he'd been absent.

"My mom sees me and I'm standing there with six dozen roses, expecting her to grab the roses, but instead of grabbing the roses -- she didn't even look at them -- she just grabs me and starts crying," said Peña. "It was one of the most amazing moments I think I've ever had, connecting with my mom again."

Eyes on the Horizon: What's in Store?

Peña returned to Mexico, but with another recommendation from Diaz, and a bank account with \$23,000 saved, he acquired a student visa. Applying to LBCC, he connected with Sharece Bunn, international student coordinator, and began his career as a Linn-Benton student in the spring of 2016.

"I think by getting involved in the social issues of our time and sharing his story, Kevin is challenging the dominant paradigms that continue to perpetuate the injustices our immigration system and borders provide for folks around the globe," said Bunn.

While Peña's exact future is still unclear, he intends to pursue college in the United States at a four-year institution.

With Trump-era immigration policies now at play, he may face future adversity. But for now, his hard-won student visa grants him the right to pursue his education in the United States.

"Everyone around us is just kind of scared. Even if they are here legally, they know someone who's here illegally," said Cardenas Peña. "Everyone knows someone who's illegal, even if they know they're illegal or not. Sometimes you're not in charge of that, like my brother's situation. He had no control. I think people need to understand that it's more than just one scenario. It's not black and white. There are so many in-betweens. Some people can't get their citizenship. It not only takes connections, it takes money, and some people just don't have that."

After such a long journey home, Peña remains undaunted.

"When something seems unachievable, you can either decide it's because of what my life situation is, or, regardless of my life situation, I'm going to do it. I'm going to prove everyone wrong," said Peña. "I think along the way what I've learned is that you always have a choice... one might be a lot harder and take a lot longer, but you always have a choice."



STORY BY
EMILY GOODYKOONTZ
@SHARKASAURUSX

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COURTESY: WARNER BROS.

After the surprise critical and commercial success of “The Lego Movie” in 2014, Warner Bros. has released the first of many planned spinoffs in the form of “The Lego Batman Movie.” Adapting both the beloved toy and the DC comic book character, this spinoff provides a fun and family-friendly sendup of the Caped Crusader and his lineage.

The film opens with none other than Batman himself poking fun at the genre conventions of the big-budget comic book movie before a daring fight against the Joker. Yet, he seems reluctant to acknowledge the Joker as his greatest adversary or take Alfred’s advice to open up to others. As the Joker plans to assemble a rogue’s gallery to bring Gotham City to its knees, Bruce ultimately decides to team with Richard Grayson and Barbara Gordon to combat this threat, taking them under his wings with the personae of Robin and Batgirl.

As one of many adaptations of DC’s biggest moneymaker, this film is one of the most self-aware takes on the Batman mythos that WB has produced. Will Arnett’s performance as the Dark Knight wonderfully spoofs the bizarre nature of the concept as well as makes great

use of his talent in other films and the cult sitcom “Arrested Development.” Michael Cera’s portrayal of Robin captures a level of childlike glee that can resonate with moviegoers of all generations. Zach Galifianakis based his performance of the Joker on Jack Nicholson in Tim Burton’s 1989 blockbuster, complete with a desire to cause chaos and panic simply because he finds it funny. Rosario Dawson’s Barbara Gordon establishes herself as a powerful fighter and skilled policewoman before she becomes Batgirl. Ralph Fiennes’ rendition of Alfred Pennyworth provides a snarky sense of humor and pokes fun at every prior film version from the 1966 Adam West film to last year’s “Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice.”

The animation is also a delight to behold. While the previous Lego movie reportedly used 15 million bricks in its production, this film has far exceeded that amount. Even though CGI is used for effects such as fire, smoke and water, the attention to detail in this Lego version of Gotham City is astounding. Every brick contributes to a massive landscape, and the little touches shine everywhere. The scuff marks on the canopy of the Batwing are

MOVIE REVIEW:

Lego Batman

STARRING: Voices of Will Arnett, Michael Cera, Ralph Fiennes, Rosario Dawson and Zach Galifianakis

DIRECTED BY: Chris McKay

GENRE: Animation, Action, Adventure

RATED: PG

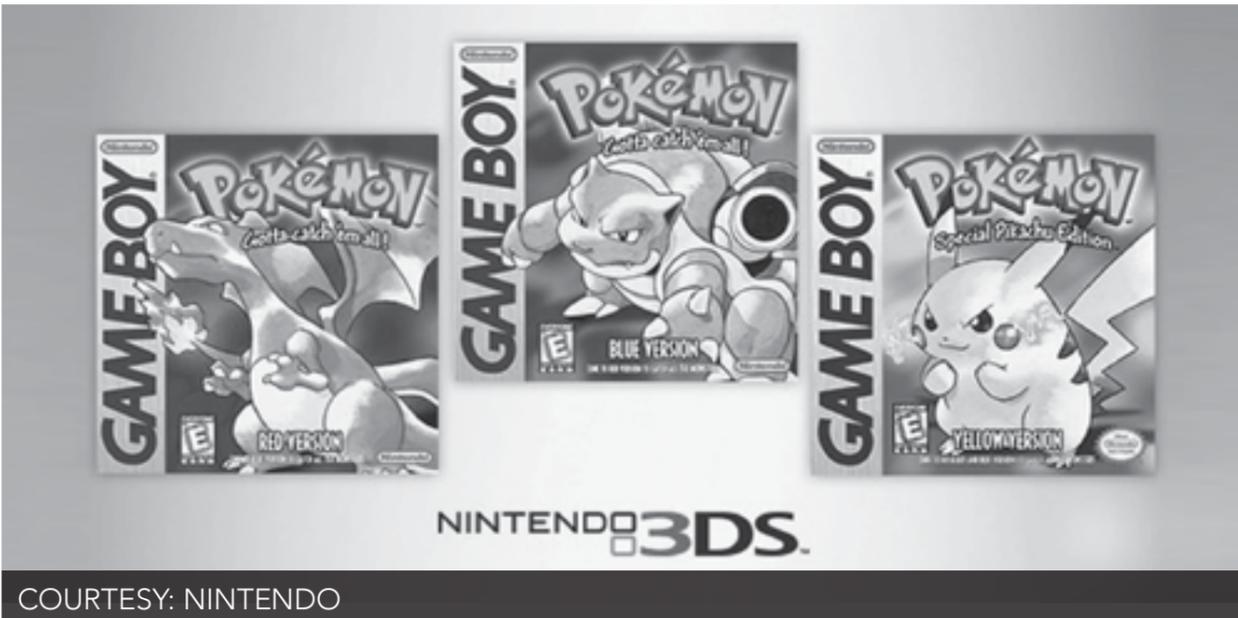
OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY **STEVEN PRYOR**

exactly where they would be on the actual model.

One flaw is that the film does have an aura of familiarity for those who have seen previous takes on Batman lore. If you have seen other versions of this story, you will definitely have a solid idea of how the plot unfolds. Still, the film is a major labor of love towards not just Batman, but to Lego and DC comics as a whole. The film is not only rife with cameos from villains such as the Riddler (voice of Conan O’Brien) and Two-Face (voice of Billy Dee Williams), but fellow DC characters like Superman (uproariously voiced by Channing Tatum).

With a host of snazzy action scenes and nifty vehicles, such as the Batmobile and the new Scuttler, “The Lego Batman Movie” is the ideal alternate reality for this day and age. The film’s massive critical and box office success easily paints a promising picture for more spinoff films (“The Lego Ninjago Movie” is on track for September) and continues to prove that even after all the passing years since the big hits of The Dark Knight Trilogy that it’s great to be Batman!



COURTESY: NINTENDO

VIRTUAL CONSOLE REVIEW:

Pokémon Red, Blue and Yellow

PUBLISHER: Nintendo

DEVELOPER: Game Freak/Creatures, Inc.

PLATFORM: 3DS eShop

RATED: E

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY **STEVEN PRYOR**

After many years of fan demand, “Pokémon Red, Blue, and Yellow” were given a re-release on the 3DS Virtual Console for the 20th anniversary of the series in 2016. While the games have aged since their original releases, they still provide an ideal way for longtime fans to relive their favorite experiences as Pokémon trainers and also appeal to a new generation of fans.

The premise of the series has been firmly established with these three initial titles: as a young man from Pallet Town, you are given the task of capturing Pokémon for Professor Oak in order to complete the Pokédex. These games started gameplay conventions that would be the standard for all future installments.

Notably, all three games are presented in their original forms. While “Pokémon Yellow” represents when the series began transitioning to full color for those who owned a Gameboy Color, “Pokémon Red and Blue” are rendered in their native black and white (or black and yellowish-green for those who use a filter on the 3DS to simulate the effect of the original Game Boy’s screen). While the games’ once state-of-the-art graphics may be a product of their time, they provided the foundation for all subsequent incarnations of the franchise.

Despite the fact that much has changed since the games were initially released on the Gameboy and Gameboy Color, the success of the Virtual Console releases of the

games has proven that many people still love the original “Pokémon Red, Blue, and Yellow” video games. Since they were put on Nintendo 3DS eShop, the games have been downloaded over 1.5 million times. They were also included in a limited-edition model of the New Nintendo 3DS to commemorate the 20th anniversary.

Even with the core graphics and gameplay having seen much change since the “Pokémon” series was first released in Japan in 1996, the success of the Virtual Console releases of “Pokémon Red, Blue, and Yellow” proves that the games still hold considerable appeal to both longtime fans and new ones. Much like fellow Nintendo series, such as “Super Mario Bros.,” “The Legend of Zelda,” and “Metroid,” they define the idea of being easy to pick up and play, but remain tough to truly master. With the possibility of other “Pokémon” titles being included on the eShop for the upcoming Nintendo Switch, there has never been a better time to pick up the series or get into it for the first time. Gotta catch ‘em all over again!

INCREASE TO STUDENT ASSESSMENT’S HOURS

Student Assessment has testing available on Saturdays to better accommodate student’s busy schedules. The office is open on Saturdays 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Students taking tests on Saturdays need to begin their tests before 3:00 pm. Student Assessment offers a place and an opportunity for students to take their tests if they need to make up exams and for students wishing to utilize their testing accommodations. Students needing to make up an exam need to have a conversation with their instructor prior to taking their test.

No appointment is necessary for make-up exams. Placement testing and other proctored exams may require an appointment. For more information call 541-917-4781 or visit the Student Assessment website for a complete listing of tests offered, <https://www.linnbenton.edu/student-assessment>.

THE CASE FOR PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Reasons why Planned Parenthood is a necessary healthcare institution

On Feb. 10, the LBCC Students for Life club stood in the courtyard to state why they felt like the healthcare center Planned Parenthood is unnecessary. Planned Parenthood is the key healthcare source for millions of people within the United States and around the world, but despite its importance, lobbying is underway at the Senate level to defund it.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that pregnancy rates amongst teenagers are at a record low (24.2 births for every 1,000 female teens). The government organization then goes on to state that this could be because more and more teens are choosing abstinence or using birth control. There are several forms of contraception for women to use rather than the traditional condoms and the pill. Even better, we live in something of a women's healthcare state as women in Oregon can now get the day after pill through their pharmacy, and pharmacists can even prescribe birth control.

Women's healthcare has made great strides in emphasizing the need for funding and availability to all women. A big part of Planned Parenthood's services is providing affordable healthcare to lower-income individuals.

"As of 2012, 79 percent of people receiving services from Planned Parenthood lived at 150 percent of the federal poverty level or lower (that comes out to around \$18,500 for a single adult), according to a March Government Accountability Office report," reported the National Public Radio's website.

Yet, despite all the work that's been done in the name of women wanting to take care of their bodies, avoiding unwanted pregnancy, and observing their right to live freely, there's been a series of people who reject this ideology with their belief that Planned Parenthood offers nothing outside of abortion services and is a waste of taxpayer money.

Additionally, Planned Parenthood acknowledges the basic reality that, as human beings, we have sex. Their facilities are often seen as a discrete way for teens to get birth control, should they want to be sexually active, or have other health problems they want to address. More access to birth control means less pregnancy; it's that simple! Teaching kids about proper sexual health care means that there's an even greater chance of people being wise about their approach to sex.

"More access to birth control means less pregnancy; it's that simple!"

The Guttmacher Institute reports that "leading public health and medical professional organizations... support a comprehensive approach to educating young people about sex" and that,

"research suggests strategies that promote abstinence-only outside of marriage while withholding information about contraceptives do not stop or even delay sex. Moreover, abstinence-only programs can actually place young people at increased risk of pregnancy and STIs."

Another thing that is overlooked by Planned Parenthood abolishers is the fact that their services are vast. The card that was handed out to students on the main campus and provided by the national Students for Life organization said that "Planned Parenthood facilities offer 7 services at most." A quick Google search brought me to the Planned Parenthood website, and told me that this was far from the truth. Assuming we define "service" as "the action of helping or doing work for someone; a system supplying a public need," PP provides at least 20 services that aren't abortion.

As Bill Nye (the science guy) put in a famous viral video, "nobody likes abortions." The more we seek birth

control to avoid unwanted pregnancies, the more we can avoid this really touchy subject. (One that I personally wish would stay out of the hands of lawmakers.)

Planned Parenthood's motto is "Care. No matter what." This is an organization that doesn't discriminate, treating everyone who walks through their doors equally. Planned Parenthood also employs people of different ethnicities, which one Latino volunteer in a Planned Parenthood video stated allows visitors of all walks of life feel more comfortable at the clinics. Some employees are even bilingual or trilingual.

The Pro Life Club passed out cards to students walking by, and on one side they had websites where people could go to for help. Listed in tiny sans serif, they read: FindaHealthCenter.hrsa.gov, PregnantOnCampus.org, and OptionLine.org.

Find A Health Center was an excellent source for quickly locating centers by giving the website the name of the city and state, or by providing your zip code. Additionally, they also showed me centers that were within a five mile distance from the location that I provided.

Pregnant On Campus is a website ran through the Students For Life group, so it sort of felt like self-promotion. Although this organization serves all the major universities like Oregon State, University of Oregon, Portland State, Western Oregon, etc., it was concerning that they only offered the program at five community colleges, including Linn-Benton Community College. (Oregon has a total of 17 community colleges.)

But what really left a sour taste in my mouth was the Option Line. I curiously used their live chat service, and the resulting conversation was one that felt humiliating. My talking point (which I made up based on my real-life relationship) was that "I was looking to get birth control for me and my boyfriend of two years." When she asked what my plans were for life, I told her my major and explained that my parents completely approved of our relationship and desires. When the lady I was talking with said that "no birth control is ever completely foolproof" and that "I have a great future ahead of me," it felt insulting.

She didn't help me with birth control, but shunned me for wanting to be a basic human being. I'm 19 years old, a legal adult. I reserve the right to take care of my body, and with that comes doctor's appointments and getting prescriptions for birth control.

Not only did I feel humiliated, but I felt like their advice was blatantly wrong. My gynecologist, who has decades of experience to her name, explicitly told me the safest way to have sex is doubling up on protection. In other words, myself and my partner should use a condom along with the birth control pill.

So what gives? I can't stress enough that sex should be a natural part of life. The human body is beautiful, and it's your choice if you want to show a little skin or save it for your partner.

And in treating sex as normality, we then are opened up to the opportunity to properly educate. Sex in my school, under the teachers that taught my wellness classes, was never shunned; instead, we were simply taught that abstinence is the only way to not get pregnant or receive an STD.

So I implore that instead of these harsh statements of "we don't need Planned Parenthood," we counteract them with love. With care. Have they ever been inside a Planned Parenthood before? I personally have not, but it's been on my agenda for quite sometime, so I can thank the caregivers. And for those who haven't used a Planned Parenthood facility, I am very thankful to hear that you have had the privilege to never need the use of their facilities.

But for those who have for any reason, I stand with you. Your wellness and rights are far more important than any law that tries to ban them from you. And while it's perfectly okay to be against abortion, being against such a prominent provider of women's healthcare, whose goal is to seek out alternatives to abortions in the first place, isn't.



COLUMN BY
MORGAN CONNELLY
@MADEINOREGON97

OVERVIEW: SERVICES BY THE NUMBERS

- 930,000 emergency contraception kits
- 360,000 lifesaving breast exams
- 1.2 million pregnancy tests
- 2 million family planning and contraception services
- 324,000 abortions performed
- 4.2 million tests and treatments for STDs, including 650,000 HIV tests
- 72,000 screenings for women whose cancer was detected early or whose abnormalities were identified and addressed
- 1 million individuals served by local partners in 12 countries worldwide
- 10 million activists, supporters, and donors working for women's health and safety and fundamental reproductive rights
- 72 million visits to the Planned Parenthood website, including Planned Parenthood en Español
- 1.5 million young people and adults reached through educational programs and outreach

THE COMMONS
Cafeteria

... MENU ...
2/22 - 2/28

Wednesday: 2/22 Chicken Massaman Curry with Steamed Rice, Grilled Pork chop with Beurre Blanc, Pan Fried Polenta with Roasted Red Pepper coulis, Soups - chicken Noodle. Vegetarian Vegetable

Thursday: 2/23 Tomato and Balsamic Braised Pork Shanks, Roasted Turkey Breast with Sage, Cranberry Demi Glace, Portobello Mushroom with Rice Pilaf, Poached Egg and Hollandaise, Soups - Beef Barley. Potato Leek

Monday: 2/27 Coq Au Vin, Shrimp Tacos, Eggplant Parmesan, Soups - Chili Mac. Coconut Curried Carrot.

Tuesday: 2/28 Poached salmon with Saffron Hollandaise, over cous cous. Meatloaf with Shallot Cream Sauce. Layered Ratatouille
Soups - Egg Flower. Split Pea

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

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Have a story for us?

Write a letter to the editor or come talk to us about writing for The Computer

Contact Us at 541-917-4451 ext. 4449
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Directions to Some Home

From where the hills do not recognize you:
Go North.
Continue North until the cold brings sharply to
your attention
the bones under your fingernails.
Stop, and ask a moose for the next turn.

OR

From where the cars honk too often:
Go North.
Continue North until the skyscrapers part to
permit
the rising sun.
Stop, and ask your nose for the nearest Best
coffee.

OR

From where every dish is sparingly seasoned with
good intentions:
Go North.
Continue North until spices are dashed
desperately across
anything in season.
Stop, and ask the pot if it contains a recipe or an
afterthought.

OR

From where your skin cracks under the chalky
wind:
Go North.
Continue North until silver mists kiss your neck
and lips
and shoulders and hips.
Stop, and ask your backpack for your raincoat
and dry(er) socks.

OR

From the first sight of an unfamiliar face:
Go North.
Continue North until the eyes, nose, ears become
something dear,
conversation rolling with the lull of
dreamers convincing each other not to wake.
Stop, and ask yourself
why you ever tried to go anywhere else.

By Christopher Mikkelson

The Divide

The man on the train who
has no teeth has
said to the man with dog,

“it’s a good place to rest”
gesturing across the wide
river to the face of the city

I love. Beyond the river now
snowy fields stretch out to a
distant horizon. I’m not

far from every word they
share. Man with no teeth
says noodles are the worst

to digest without chewing.
Man with dog is listening
with a kindness I’m trying

to learn. It will be below
zero when they set up camp
tonight, these strangers now

friends. Something about the
romance of a train has me
believing I could be their friend

too, till man with no teeth draws
the divide that was there all along:
“At least we’ll be safe with the Wall.”

And now I know there are things
I won’t have to learn:
how quickly cold and fear

shut out light and make even
swallowing
hard.

By Robin Havenick

The Strength of Words

What if the mightiest word is love?
Mightier than bubble of bauble.
Mightier than dance or dice,
Virtue or vice?
Cleave, or pitch, or top, or ontology.

What if each word had a strength we could
measure?
And some were stronger than others?
And love was the mightiest?
Would love conquer all?
Or would some of the other words gang up on it,
And overpower it with their combined strength?

We encounter each other in words.
Conversation is all we have.
Conversation or violence or avoidance.

All about us is noise.
Horatio tells us, with the occurments
More and less, which have solicited.

All about us is noise,
And the rest is silence.

By Nathan Tav Knight



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 22
Culture Tables
• ELCI (English Language & Culture Institute)

Feb. 24
Tom Demarest and Mark Weiss to perform at The Best Cellar Coffee House
• The Best Cellar Coffee House, at 7:30 p.m.
Women's basketball game (HOME)
• 2 p.m. Albany LBCC campus
Men's basketball game (HOME)
• 4 p.m. Albany LBCC campus
Last day to withdraw from classes
In person, at your nearest admissions office.

Feb. 26
Baseball game (HOME)
• 12 p.m. Albany LBCC campus

Feb. 28
Baseball Game (HOME)
• 3 p.m. Albany LBCC campus

March 1
Unity Celebration
• 4:30 p.m. Fireside Room (CC-211)

March 4
Women's basketball game (HOME)
• 4 p.m. Albany LBCC campus
Men's basketball game (HOME)
• 4 p.m. Albany LBCC campus

March 17
Baseball Game (HOME)
• 12 p.m. at the Baseball Field

March 18
Baseball Game (HOME)
• 12 p.m. at the Baseball Field

March 23
LBCC scholarship workshop
• 5:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room, CC 211, Albany Campus

SUDOKU

THE SAHURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:
1 2
3 4

SOLUTION TO LAST EDITION'S PUZZLE

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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

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STATEMENT VICTORY

LB women's basketball handle Lakers at home

Linn-Benton's Activity Center was the site of a game for both basketball teams on a run towards playoff contention in the Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAC) on Wednesday, Feb.15.

Linn-Benton's Roadrunners played the Southwestern Oregon Lakers in a game that proved both teams are deserving of a playoff spot. The score heavily favored Linn-Benton at the end of the first quarter, leading 28-18, but in the second quarter they got outscored 16-12 by the Lakers, resulting in a 40-34 lead at halftime.

Starting the third quarter, the Roadrunners came out hitting their first five shots, three of which were three-pointers, giving way to a 15 point lead halfway through the third quarter. However, the Lakers were able to go on a run of eight straight points, trimming the lead down to seven, but Linn-Benton ended the quarter leading 65-50.

LBCC got all-around great production from freshman Jade Bevandich, which lead the team in scoring with 17 points, while also tallying eight rebounds, five assists, and four steals.

"Defense was key in this game for us on the push for the playoffs," said Bevandich.

They also got a healthy amount of point-production from Sophomore Hannah Creswick, who had eight points, seven rebounds, and three assists. As they entered the fourth quarter, the Roadrunners continued to play aggressively, getting multiple defensive stops to extend their lead all the way up 23 with about six minutes left in the game. The Roadrunners were playing lights out as a team from the three-point line, shooting 40 percent and making 12 three-pointers in the game.



Coach Debbie Herrold talks strategy.

"This game was a statement game for us as we draw closer to the end of the season pushing for the playoffs, and try to get back to winning again," said Creswick.

With three minutes left in the game, LBCC was up 20, in reach of ending their four-game skid, but Southwestern wouldn't give up, and went on a 8-0 run to trim the lead to 12 with 1:30 left in the game. After a time-out, the Lakers sent Jade Bevandich to the free throw line with a foul, where she hit both shot attempts, giving her 5-6 free throws on the night. With one minute left, Linn-Benton hit all six of their free throws, leading to an 18 point win against the Southwestern Lakers with the dominating final score of 82-64.

"We played well on all ends of the court tonight and our defense lead to offense," said Creswick.

The team is trending upward towards the playoff

with an important game on the road Feb. 18 against Chemeketa, and then a home game against Mt. Hood on Feb. 25.



STORY AND PHOTO BY JOSHUA KNIGHT @JBKNIGHT5



#20 Kasey Anderson making a pass over defenders to teammate Molly Aranda.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CLASS

This Spring term LBCC will be offering a Women's Advanced Basketball class on Monday's and Wednesday's from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. Head Coach Debbie Herrold wants to invite female students who have any high school experience and want to play in an open-gym type environment. If you have any questions feel free to email Coach Herrold at herrold@linnbenton.edu or stop by her office in the Activity Center.

LBCC Basketball Schedule

Date & Location	Women	Mens
Saturday, Feb. 25 vs. Mt. Hood	2 p.m.	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Mar. 1 @ Lane	5:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Mar. 4 vs. Clark	2 p.m.	4 p.m.