

The Commuter

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A weekly student publication

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Write-ins fill out student government

Monique Cohen
The Commuter

All but one position was filled in the Associated Student Government elections held last week. Sixty-one ballots were cast using the online voting system.

"Technical errors with the Web site prevented us from advertising," said Dani Peters, the ASG science and industry representative.

Four positions were filled by write-in votes, and the one unfilled position is for liberal arts representative. The open position will be filled through an interview process, Peters said.

The new ASG officers will start next term, and there is about a month transition period where the current officers will help the newly elected officers learn their job duties.

The new ASG president is Hannah Gzik, and she is currently the ASG health occupations repre-

sentative. Gzik is in her second year at LBCC and is a pre-pharmacy major. One of her goals next year will be to get students registered to vote.

"I want to be a positive voice and get things done for students," Gzik said.

Stephanie Ware, a pre-pharmacy major, retains her position as ASG vice-president. She intends to follow up on a student request.

"I'd really like to do a food drive at the Benton Center," Ware said.

Muslim Girl: Magazine takes on stereotypes

Chris Negahbani
The Commuter

This January, Muslim Girl magazine, a fashion magazine for Muslim women, celebrated its one-year anniversary. The magazine is scheduled to continue its bimonthly publication of brightly colored pages featuring pictures and stories of young Muslim women, fashion ideas, and editorials.

In every publication, the editors use photographs of real Muslim women, which have generated mixed reviews from the first magazine, launched throughout Canada and North America January 2007.

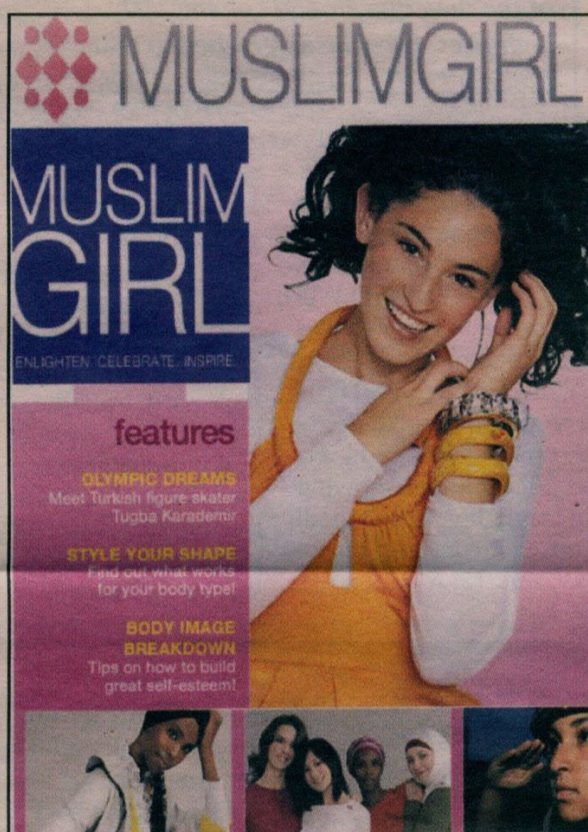
The meat of the negative feedback comes from the fact that the models in every picture portray a variety of different beliefs as far as clothing. The magazine features conservative models in full body robes with veils covering their entire faces or just their hair, but Muslim Girl also features more liberal models wearing makeup and tighter fitting clothing, and sometimes no veil. Many find this offensive and demeaning, not only to the Muslim women modeling in the photographs, but to the religion itself.

Noha ElArief, a current member of the Muslim Student Association at OSU, said, "I think the idea of the magazine itself is good but I didn't like that the girls on the covers don't always wear hijab [head-scarf/veil] or sometimes they wear makeup. I also think they shouldn't take such close pictures of girls because it's not appropriate."

The editor in chief of the magazine, Ausama Khan, said, "We believe in representing the diversity and pluralism of Islamic beliefs. Our editors accept all points of view, both Shiite and Sunni, conservative or liberal. Nothing really phases us at this point, we knew there would be problems from the start because this is the first magazine of its kind."

"In Iran, in any Islamic country, it is law that women cover their faces, they cover their arms and legs. No makeup, nothing like this. Only around their families, in their own houses they leave themselves uncovered," said Mohammad Sorangaban of Iran, age 72. Sorangaban immigrated to the United States 22 years ago, now an American citizen.

"Islam is a very old religion, from old times, when things were more dangerous and in places more dangerous." Continued Sorangaban, "The chador (head-scarf) is suppose to be for safety, to prevent women from sticking out in a crowd, but



submitted photo

Muslim Girl magazine marked its first year of publication in January.

outside of the Middle East, in America, this is not so. In America the chador is rare to see and it makes women stick out in a crowd, not all Muslim women wear them. It makes them more liberal, but it doesn't make them less Muslim."

So far the magazine has been resilient against the negative feedback. It's survived its first year on the press and production is scheduled to continue with a target audience of 400,000 strong.

"Girls want to be noticed, not as 'hot' or 'sexy' but as beautiful, and Muslim Girl magazine gives them wardrobe tips like wearing jeans underneath a miniskirt so these girls can be part of the trends but still feel comfortable as women." Khan continued.

Sosha Massoomi, 22, said, "My dad is from the Middle East, he was raised Muslim, and I grew up with very strict conditions. The thing is, Muslim Girl wouldn't have any effect on me at this point in my life, but I'm glad it's out there."

Massoomi is an OSU graduate and a former member of the Islamic Student Association.

"As for the controversy, there are too many people to please in the world, I don't think they should dwell on who they might offend. People will knit-pick and find something to be angry about no matter what. There are about 400,000 teenage Muslim girls in North America, how many of them do you think have ever felt alienated in the middle of our very liberal American teen culture?" she said.

ASG Election results at a glance

These students were elected in the Associated Student Government election:

- President: **Hannah Gzik**
- Vice-President: **Stephanie Ware**
- Public Relations Secretary: **Ihadira D. Lopez De Search**
- Science and Industry Representative: **Andrew Barth**
- Business Representative: **Gwen Guerro**
- Student Services Representative: **Kimberly McAloney**
- Health Occupations Representative: **Roxanne Goodwin**
- Liberal Arts Representative: **Open**

U.S. Rep. Wu visits LBCC on Friday

LBCC News service

Congressman David Wu, co-chair of the



U.S. Congressional Caucus on Community Colleges, will be visiting LBCC this Friday, March 7, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in North Santiam Hall Room 106.

Congressman Wu has requested this time to meet

with as many students as possible in a town-hall setting to hear their concerns, including but not limited to: textbook prices, tuition, Pell (and other federal) grants and availability of other federal funds for education.

Faculty and staff are also welcome to attend, and faculty members are urged to share this information with their students.

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Opinion Editor: Gregory Dewar
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OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter
 commuter@linnbenton.edu (F-2)
 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less

Truth and the UN: bums, drugs, and crushed dreams

Greg Dewar
 The Commuter

San Francisco has this image that is pounded into your head through the media, even if you've never been there. I was shocked and dismayed to see a world of destitution around me. On a subtle afternoon walk before dinner I was directed to city hall, where I found a United Nations complex.

As I stood on the symbol or the U.N., looking up at a billowing, faded U.N. flag, I noticed a dilapidated cafe called the "United Nations Cafe" humbly standing in the base of some office building. I couldn't help but think about before the Bush administration and how happy, how pristine, how full of hope the builders of this cement park must have been.

But now, it means little to nothing. I was surrounded by the homeless, sitting on expensive granite slabs, calling out to young goth women, where a few hundred yards away financially secure tourists milled down Market St. looking for places to spend their money. Standing on this symbol a man approached trying to sell me morphine pills for \$1.50. I looked up to a run-down commercial complex that had the word: "TRUTH" painted in giant black letters on a white backdrop visible from blocks away. I

was overwhelmed by the infamy of it all. On my return trip to dinner I was harassed by deranged people, hit up for cash at least 10 times, and for countless more cigarettes.

It was our photo editor, Will Parker, who initially pointed it out: this city has an insanely terrible problem with the homeless. And everywhere they don't exist, you see the poor and the destitute, those barely scraping by and you become aware of an extremely distinct class difference. We, the



"Somewhere beyond the glamour of the drag queens and commercial high-rises, lives the San Francisco that I found."

Greg Dewar

privileged college students staying in a nice hotel, attending the Associated Collegiate Press conference, and they, the suffering to get by. The term Will used was "Corroded." This city was a shining gem, a beacon of hope and progress in a dawning age, and now it stands as an urban sprawl, deftly divided by income brackets and sexuality, with prolific buildings showing the wear and tear of life. Life-like, all things fade into self-confused time.

San Francisco must be commended,

however, that they recognize their homeless problem and attempt to deal with it. They have in place a message center for people who cannot afford a telephone. Because, in essence, imagine for a moment the trap that it is to be homeless. How can you get a job without a telephone for an employer to call you back on? How can you crawl out of your pit, presuming you want to? San Francisco doesn't just give handouts, they give people the tools to succeed and achieve a life they can call their own, I have never seen a city provide this type of hand-up for any of the homeless, but then most cities don't have the problem that San Francisco does. And yet still

so many choose to continue that life on the streets: mean streets. At one time a man came up to me begging for a dollar to feed his kids, I gave him \$0.15 because it

was all I had, he threw it in my face and told me where to shove my chump change, and that is why I no longer donate to bums.

Somewhere beyond the glamour of the drag queens and commercial high-rises, lives the San Francisco that I found, where human beings molt and stagnate, as most folk pass them by in their own little bubble, forcing themselves not to feel just to succeed in their own lives, just like the U.S. sans U.N.

song, but there's no screaming or cursing, and it's not violent, but it's powerful, and it really caught my attention.

When I came back to the U.S., I called a radio station in Eugene and made a request to have that song played, and they told me it was too politically one-sided for them to play on the radio. I hadn't expected that response from a town like Eugene, and it made me frustrated. Not because I couldn't hear the song on the radio, but because of a realization I had. We live in a country that fought for its independence so we could replace repression and tyranny with liberties and freedoms, and after all these years--after fighting to establish freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and after struggling for civil and women's rights--a radio station in a liberal city was hesitant to air a liberal song. I'm still having a hard time trying to figure out how I feel about the situation. It seems like we've worked hard to say what we want to say, but I feel like were still afraid to say it.

Bisexual pirates

Chris Negahbani
 The Commuter

Last summer I took a trip to Germany, and while I was there I noticed that the radio stations played a great deal of music by American artists. I heard songs by Beyonce, Flogging Molly, Play Radio Play, Avril, Mika, even Madonna. It was surprising enough for me to hear American songs sandwiched between the German and French songs, but what was even more bazaar was the fact that even though these songs were by American artists, I had never heard some of them played on American radio stations.

Some of the more memorable lyrics touched on the subjects of pirates, morphine, and bisexual tension, and it was quite obvious that the content probably wouldn't fly on the public radio stations here in the States.

While listening to one of these songs playing away on the radio, one of my host brothers noticed

a shocked look on my face. I told him I had never heard anything like that played on the radio back home before and he just laughed, and told me he figured as much.

"Americans are prude," they told

"It seems like we've worked hard to say what we want to say, but I feel like were still afraid to say it."

Chris Negahbani

me, "they don't show nudity on TV, but they show people shooting each other, and they don't trust anyone under 21 to drink, but you can have a gun when you're 18."

Honestly, when they said this I got a little defensive, but between then and now something happened that changed my opinion. The number one song in Germany last summer was called "Dear Mr. President" by Pink. As you could probably guess from the title it's a very political

Gratitude from a renegade scooter rider

To The Editor:

I wrote a letter during Spring term to the paper to let everyone know that riding the little scooters for sale in town was illegal if your privileges were revoked or suspended. I also let the school know I was probably going back to prison because I had done just that.

I am now pleased to inform all that even though this is still illegal I will not be going to prison for it.

I was rescued by the wonderful people here at L.B. Letters written to the courts, support from staff, and

students alike made all the difference in the world for me. I have thanked many of you personally but this needs to be done to hopefully get the "thank you" to all.

This school has done so much for me it cannot be ignored. The people here are a second family to me.

Thank you all so much, my debt to you all could not be paid off by me if I lived to be 100 years old.

GOD Bless you all.

Sincerely, Doug Mueler

PERSPECTIVES

Q: If someone was making a movie about your life, what famous actor or actress would play your character?



"Marlon Brando or Humphrey Bogart because they both talk funny."

• Sam Cram •
 Undecided

"Probably Samuel Jackson 'cus he could play any movie... or Angelina Jolie just to throw everybody off."

• Matthew Holmes •
 Computer Science



"Christina Ricci I guess, I don't know I don't watch that much TV"

• Chris Hull •
 Pre-law

"Johnny Depp, not just because he has dreads, but because he's the only one who can do my character"

• Darrell Olson •
 Business



"Helen Mirren, because she can do anything! She could be completely naked and still be hilarious!"

• Patricia Chappell •
 English

"No one should be subjected to see my life on the silver screen"

• Curtis Godlevsky •
 Engineering



Compiled by Chris Negahbani

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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College campus events.

A "force" in the classroom

Carolyn Quibrera
 The Commuter

Along with a colorful resume and raw real-life experience, Linda Kay Silva's demeanor reflects a strong and educated woman. Not ever revealing any spark of self-doubt, Silva comes across ever so smoothly.

She speaks in a solid voice, carrying a comfortable tone for all to hear. She is not the type of person you catch mumbling, she is clear in her speech and has a sense of humor to pack a mean punch.

When she shares that she was once a police officer in the state of California, it seems to fit, but in a strange way because she's a writing teacher now. You wonder how someone goes from criminal justice to teaching.

"It wasn't a job; it was a lifestyle that wasn't for me," she said.

Leaving that behind, she went on to teach middle school history and English for 15 years, since originally she earned her degree in English.

"With middle school children, I knew I was making a difference in their lives."

When she says this, a look washes over her face, as if she had found what makes her happy. Teaching now 23 years, it is safe to conclude that it does.

At LBCC for four years, Silva teaches Introduction to Fiction (she says that Intro Fiction is her favorite class), American Minority Literature, and Writing 115. She also teaches online courses such as an American and World Literature course for a Wisconsin community college, and a Composition and Technique Writing course for Darton Community College in Georgia. She teaches for another college also, American Public University, a school with a focus on security and counteracting terrorism.

Silva notes that some of her students from this course are actually in Iraq, and taking her classes online. Silva speaks

of one student in particular who wakes every morning at 2:30 a.m. to get online and take her course, since there is not any other time permitted to apply to his studies.

Silva's eyes begin to mist up as she describes their dedication to earning a degree while in such real-life scenarios.

"It means so much to me to read their work, and it's neat to read about grandmas in their writings, while they're out fighting for our country."

When Lee Czerny, an LBCC writing student of Silva's, was asked what he thought of Silva's teaching style, he said, "I like it, she keeps it fresh."

Ashley Anderson, also a writing student of Silva's, said "She's straight to the point and funny."

Silva is not only a teacher but she is a published author as well. Sitting in a relaxed manner, sipping a steaming 16-ounce coffee, Silva's eyebrows raise in delight when beginning to discuss her books.

Beaming, she says that her first book was published when she was 30. In 17 years she's published eight books.

Describing how it felt to have her first book published, she said, "It was as close to what a woman feels like when she first holds her baby. I cried, I couldn't believe that it was mine."

Currently working on a series, Silva just released a book called "Across Time," the fifth book within the series.

"I'm a teacher, but what students see is a stage show performance. 'Across Time' shows a side of me that is unseen."

The expression on Silva's face is none other than the look on a child's face on Christmas morning, full of excitement and unmistakable joy, when she talks about writing the book.

"I love the character. Jesse is a character people are going to want to know and follow," she said. "I get a lot of my material from history, I love it."

While articulating her writing style she mentions traveling. "I get a lot of my writing done when I'm traveling. I just recently went to Puerto Vallarta. I spent five weeks there relaxing and laying on the beach writing. It was great."

Linda Spain an English instructor at LBCC said, "Silva brings a lot of perspective and energy, and has a great sense of humor."

While Spain is casually speaking, she adds that Silva "seems to have a lively and positive relationship with her students."

Silva's book launch for "Across Time" is set for March 8 at the Corvallis Arts Center on Monroe Avenue in Corvallis. It's an opportunity for readers to meet Silva, and of course book signing will occur throughout the evening.



photo by Carolyn Quibrera
 Linda Silva is a retired police officer, teacher and published author.

Juggling a teaching career, student's needs, and publishing books, is not the job for a weak-willed person.

When asked, "Do you ever sleep?" her head motions backwards with her face pointing toward the ceiling, and she begins to laugh, and then replies, "I'm a little insane."

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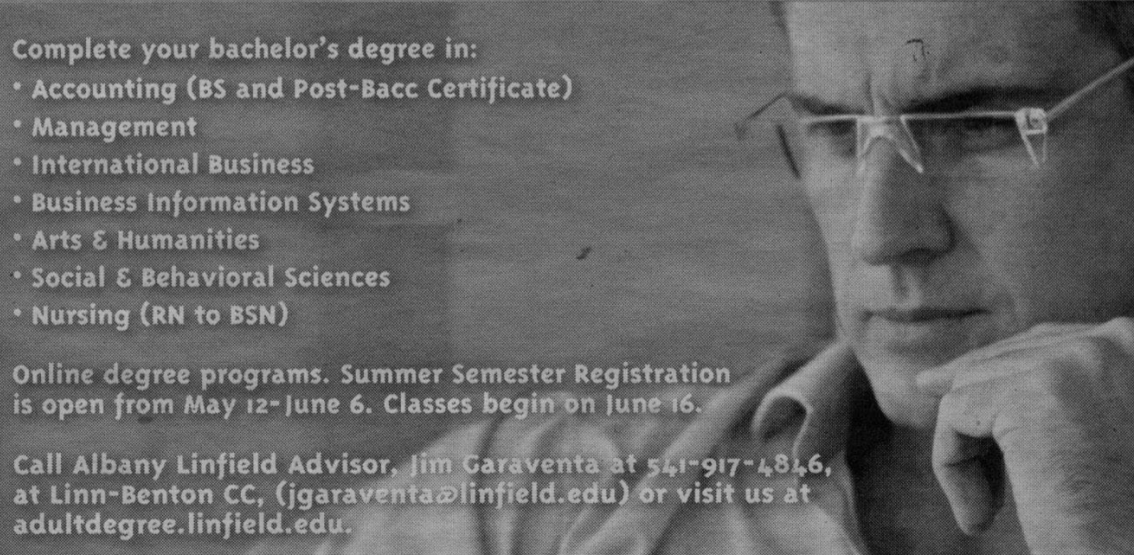
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NATIONAL NEWS

News about issues and events from around the nation and the world of interest to Commuter readers



Dateline: San Francisco



photos by Will Parker

The Commuter attends national journalism conference

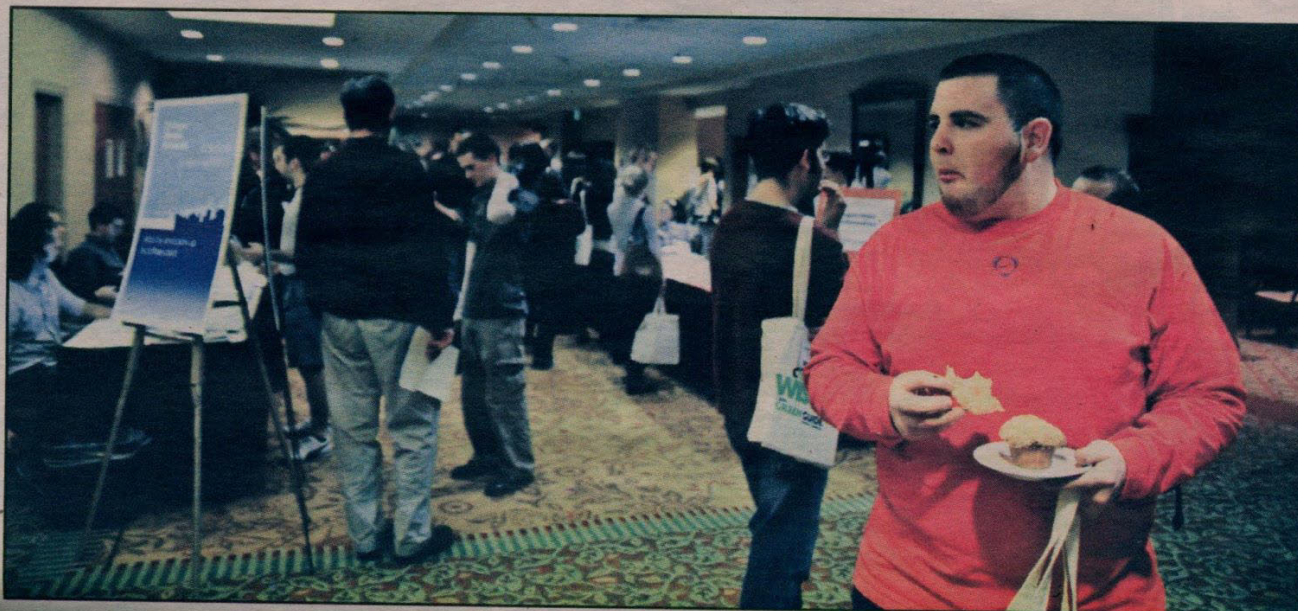
Clockwise from top left: Protestors rally for Kurdish rights in front of the San Francisco City Hall on Friday.

Top Right: Taxis and Trolleys traverse the hills that characterize the bay area.

Bottom Right: Tables set up for newspaper displays became disheveled immediately at the Associated Collegiate Press National Journalism Conference on Thursday.

Bottom Left: The lower lobby of the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway Hotel held convention goers; vendors Thursday.

Center: The San Francisco City Hall as seen from the United Nations Plaza on Market Street on Friday.



CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College campus events.

Editor: Davis LaMuerta
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CAMPUS SHORTS

NSH Gallery hosts political art show

"The Political Show: Art About Politics and Social Change" will be on exhibit in the North Santiam Hall Gallery at LBCC through April 18.

The show features original works from more than 45 local and national artists covering 16 states, including several LBCC students. The artists' work depicts political issues inspired by or referring to political and social reform or change.

Nationally recognized political artist Kabu MBII will give an artist lecture on Thursday, March 13 at noon in the LBCC Forum building, room 104. A reception and award ceremony will be held on Friday, March 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the

Gallery.

NSH Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The gallery is located on the LBCC Albany campus. For more information, contact the gallery at 917-4247.

CARDV Fundraiser

Tuesday, March 11 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. is the annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraising event for the Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence (CARDV).

The dinner is held at the Church of the Good Samaritan at 333 N.W. 35th St. in Corvallis. Tickets are for sale at CARDV, 4786 S.W. Philomath Blvd., Corvallis and at the door. The price ranges from \$10 to \$20, sliding scale. For more information contact CARDV at 758-0219.

LBCC Winter Term Concert and Chamber Choir Performance

LBCC Concert Choir and Chamber Choir will perform I Hear America Singing; I Hear America Speaking on Thursday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Russell Tripp Performance Center at LBCC.

The concert, conducted by LBCC Music Instructor Susan Peck with monologues by LBCC drama students, is a prequel to the Festival of 20th Century American Pop Culture coming in April.

Concert Choir will present music from the Sixties, including Bob Dylan's "The Times They Are A-Changin'" and a medley of songs in tribute to the Beatles, who led the British Invasion that changed

American rock music forever.

Chamber Choir explores American song from the Civil War to the present. Students from the LBCC Acting I class will share monologues that tie in with the themes of the music and the upcoming Festival of American Pop Culture.

Tickets for the choir concert are \$6 for non-reserved seating, and can be purchased at the Russell Tripp Performance Center Box Office or by phone at 917-4531 or online at www.linnbenton.edu/go/performing-arts. Box office business hours are Tuesday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 2 p.m. Tickets can also be purchased one hour prior to performance.

For more information, contact the theater box office at 917-4531. For disability accommodations, contact the LBCC Office of Disability Services at 917-4789.

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

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

Door Knockers (#6117, Albany) Do you like to exercise and work outside? This outside door knocking opportunity operates Mon-Thurs 5:30-8:30pm and Sat 9:30am-12:30pm. Pay is \$9/hr.

CWE On-Line Testing (#6071, Albany) Do you have a high degree of technical competence and an electrical-type major? Get on-the-job experience, have a job that lasts through your bachelor degree and the starting pay is \$10.45/hour! Can't beat that!

Laborer 1 (Fire Fighter) (#6109, Sweet Home) These are full-time, summer jobs fighting forest fires and maintaining fire trails. Do something exciting this summer and get paid \$10.20-13.77/hr DOE.

Summer help at Clear Lake (#6105, 6 & 8) Work full-time at a beautiful lake resort as a cook, Wait Person/Cashier, or Boat and Cabin Cleaner this summer. Housing provided along with the fresh air.

Misc. Info.

Need writing help? Have a major essay due? Need to discuss some of your ideas before you start writing? Need help brainstorming topics? Focusing? Organizing? The Writing Center invites you to stop by for help with these and any other writing questions. The Writing Center is in SSH-108. Drop in Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 2:30p.m. Can't stop by? Then visit our online service: lbcc.writingcenter-online.net.

Classes for families of people diagnosed with a serious mental illness will be offered, free of charge, by NAMI Mid-Valley (National Alliance on Mental Illness) starting March 10. Thereafter meets Thursdays, 7 - 9:30 pm, for 11 weeks at Good Samaritan Hospital. For more information and to register, call John Watson at 541-602-1360 before 7 pm.

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SPORTS

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

Ladies' success ends in early round of playoffs

Tyler Dahlgren
 The Commuter

Kennewick, Wash.- The Lady Runners' season came to an abrupt end last Friday, Feb. 29, as they dropped their second game of the NWAACC double-elimination tournament, losing 70-83 to Bellevue.

The previous night, the Ladies struggled against a

"I've learned that the fear of failure is no excuse for not giving 100 percent."

Emily Irwin

difficult, first place in the West, Lower Columbia which capitalized on 37 Runner turnovers and a 15-point halftime lead in route to an 81-59 victory.

"I will walk away knowing I gave everything I could in that last game against Bellevue," said Destiny Neuenschwander. "No one was boxing out, I immediately told myself no matter how much I tell people to, it's going to take someone to change that. I ended up with eight rebounds," she laughed. "I never do that."

"It was tough towards the last couple of minutes in the game because I knew our season was coming to an end, and I didn't want it to be over. I learned a lot from the series and a lot from this year in general with everything that happened to our team and me."

"Much heartbreak happened this year, from my best coach having to resign, family differences, and teammate differences. It might sound silly but the first thing next year's team needs to work on is 'how to be a team' and understand that not everyone is going to get their way. Sometimes you have to compromise."

"We lost back-to-back games so of course I feel I should have done more for my team," said sophomore guard



photo by Chris Kelley

Sophomore guard Emily Irwin is one of the four sophomores that helped lead the Lady Roadrunners to back-to-back NWAACC tournament appearances.

Emily Irwin. "Offensively I was a little more tentative than I have been in the past and I think that hurt us. If I could rewind and start this weekend over, I would be much more aggressive on both ends of the court. This tournament is anybody's game and the teams that show up and play the cleanest ball with the least mistakes are

going to win games no matter the rankings."

"I'm already at the point where I can look back and say we did some great things. I think we could have responded better to the bumps in the road we encountered this season rather than using them as excuses," said Lindsey Duval.

"Next year I believe the team needs to work on defense. There were several times this year when our offense had to carry our team because our defense just didn't show up.

"The biggest thing that I'll take away from basketball is that you only get one chance. If you take that chance for granted you will look back and say 'man I wish I would of did this differently, or tried harder.'"

"Despite the results of this years' playoffs I am extremely proud to have had the opportunity to play to the NWAACC's both years I played at LBCC. I learned that the fear of failure is no excuse for not giving a hundred percent. After a seventeen-year dry spell, these back-to-back appearances mean a great deal not only for the '06-07 and '07-08 team but also for the women's basketball program as a whole at LBCC."

Despite a distracting start, resulting in the loss of their head coach during the first half of the season, assistant coach Chuck Gibeaut and the Lady Runners once again made a visit to the NWAACC tournament; their second appearance in the league in two decades.

Next year's team is starting from scratch, including an all-star group of sophomores that includes Destiny Neuenschwander, Lindsey Duval, Emily Irwin and Katelyn White.

However, with six freshmen from the team returning, the Lady Runners look to once again make an appearance in the NWAACC tournament.

Beaver wrestlers finish third in Pac-10 with two champions

Chris Kelley
 The Commuter

EUGENE-Oregon State came up short of defending its Pac-10 wrestling title Monday, taking third with 106 points behind second-place Stanford with 106.5 points and Pac-10 champion Boise State with 152.5.

Junior 197-pounder Kyle Bressler and senior heavyweight Travis Gardner won individual championship honors with their wins, joining senior 149-pounder Kyle Larson, who took third, as the only three OSU wrestlers qualifying for the NCAA Tournament.

The 149-pound third-place match was the first one for OSU in the finals. Larson met Stanford's No. 6 Lucus Espericueta. The two met Sunday in the first round, where Espericueta won 9-5. But the outcome was different Monday and Larson won 8-3. The win secured third place for the Beavers.

Redshirt freshman Tim Patrick lost 14-3 to No. 2 Josh Zupancic from Stanford in the 157-pound third-place match.

Bressler, a No. 3 seed, was next up for the Beavers in the 197 finals against No. 1 Jason Trulson from Arizona State. Scoreless through the first period, Bressler fell behind 1-0 when Trulson escaped early in the second. In the third, Bressler had the choice of starting position and chose bottom. He then tied the match 1-1 20 seconds later on an escape, and despite a last-second takedown try at the end that was ruled out of bounds, the match headed into overtime.

Bressler's quick attack in the overtime match gave him the winning takedown and the 3-1 decision for the Pac-10 197-pound title.

"I took my shot and committed to it," said Bressler. "I almost had it at the end of the third [period] and wanted to keep him inbounds this time for the win."

The last match of the tournament was No. 2 Gardner and No. 5 Mitchell Monteiro from Cal-State Bakersfield in the heavyweight division.

Monteiro had a reversal in the second period for the 2-0 lead, which Gardner cut in half with an

escape before the end of the period. Down 2-1 at the start of the third, Gardner chose the bottom position and scored the final points of the match with a reversal for two points to give him the 3-2 decision and the heavyweight title.

"I had great workout partners all year," said Gardner. "Ty Watterson (2007 Pac-10 heavyweight champion and fourth-place national finisher) came in a couple times and helped me out.

Other OSU placers were: No. 7 Jake Gonzalez, fifth place at 125 pounds; No. 5 Heinrich Barnes, seventh place at 141 pounds; No. 6 Keegan Davis, fifth place at 165 pounds; No. 4 Chris Platt, seventh place at 174 pounds; Ben Harris, seventh place at 184.

The final team scores were: 1. Boise State-152.5, 2. Stanford-106.5, 3. Oregon State-106.0, 4. Arizona State-103.0, 5. Cal State Fullerton-101.5, 6. Cal Poly-99.5, 7. Cal-State Bakersfield-94.5, 8. UC Davis-79.5, 9. Oregon-59.0, 10. Portland State-16.0.

The 2008 NCAA Wrestling Championships will be held in St. Louis, Mo. March 20-24.

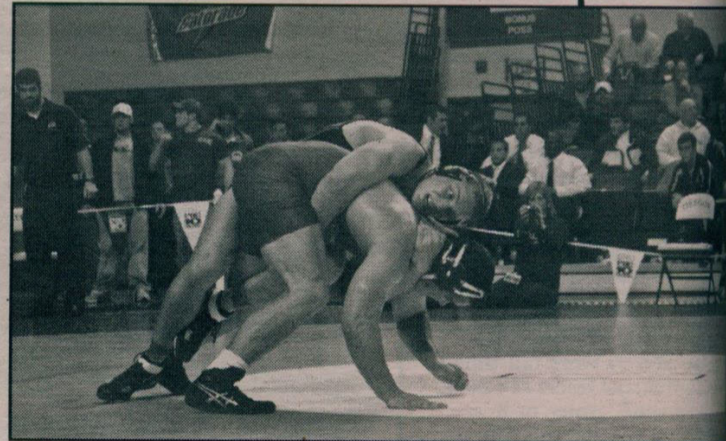


photo by Chris Kelley

Heavyweight Travis Gardner holds down Mitchell Monteiro from Cal State Bakersfield for the win 3-2 and the Pac-10 title.

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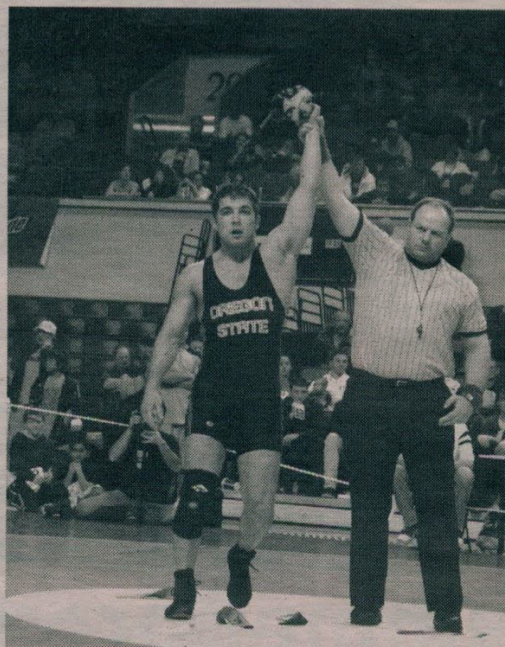


photo by Chris Kelley

197 pound Pac-10 Champion Kyle Bressler won 3-1 in overtime against Stanford's Lucus Espericueta.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

'Vantage' supplies adrenaline and perspective

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

"Vantage Point" recounts various perspectives of an assassination attempt on the president of the United States as he prepares to speak at an anti-terror summit in Spain calling together 150 nations from the West and East (including Arab nations).

Instead of running the scenes backward as in "Memento" or having a different storyteller recount their own unique perspective of the same events as in "Hero" and "Rashomon", "Vantage Point" actually rewinds time, repeating the same half an hour over and over. Each time lapse focuses on a different character and crescendos with an ominous cliffhanger. As the stories interweave together the tension builds and the movie delivers intensified action.

The film is the debut effort of director Pete Travis and screenwriter Barry Levy. The premise of the story is timely and culturally relevant, but it fails to make full use of the manifold possibilities for story direction. It is a good action movie and an admirable debut project for Travis and Levy, but only slightly better than average overall.

The movie focuses so much on action

sequences and cliffhangers, that it skips over the development of any Islamic characters, who you would think would be crucial to the plot. In fact, the only character who is really developed is the camera-toting tourist, Howard Lewis (Forest Whitaker).

After the U.S. president Ashton (William Hurt) is seemingly gunned down as he prepares to make his speech, Lewis marvels at footage he's getting—he may have even videotaped the gunman. His camera is suddenly seized by the aging secret service agent Thomas Barnes (a perpetually grimacing Dennis Quaid) who suffers from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Briefly searching over the footage, Barnes notices a suspicious bag thrown underneath the stage by a beautiful woman, who, as it turns out, has tricked the Spanish cop Enrique (Eduardo Noriega) into bringing the package into the event. Barnes realizes that a bomb is about to go off right before it actually does.

Barnes is an interesting character, but it's Lewis who is really developed. He calls his family back home in the U.S. to let them know that he's okay and this builds a lot of sentiment for his character which pays off as he looks after the little Spanish girl, Anna, who can't find her mother

after the bomb goes off.

Is the movie carefully removing itself from the controversy of painting Islam in a bad light? In one scene, a Spanish looking hotel attendant takes his last look at a picture of his son and wife, whose head is covered in the traditional Islamic manner, before he straps a bomb to his waist and blows himself up. The elaborate plot to entrap the president seems without rhyme or reason.

In fact, there are a few loopholes in the plot—a perfectly respectable Spanish cop is tricked into bringing a backpack with a bomb into the high security assembly by a would-be seductress? Wouldn't he at least take a look inside the backpack? And after he knows that a bomb is going to explode, why doesn't he tell anyone. In his paranoia Barnes concludes that

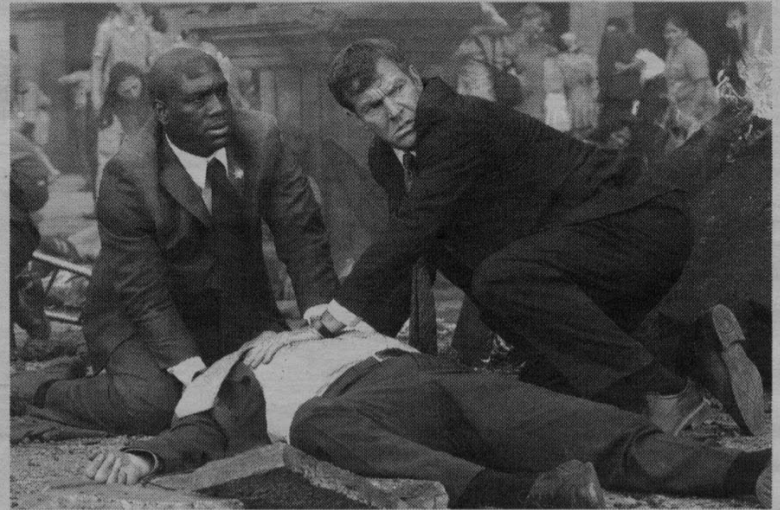


photo by MCT

he's a terrorist and clothes-lines him to the ground.

The movie depicts the horrors of terrorism with startling clarity. With an exciting storyline so prevalent to current violence connected with militant Islamists, so much more was possible in this movie. Much more could have been explored. The makers decided to play it safe and stick to the action formula.

'Jumper' leaps into numerous plot black-holes

Cliff VanAtta
 The Commuter

"Jumper" delivers some fast paced, sci-fi action, but does so through one-dimensional characters, large lapses in plot, and a confusing story.

This adaptation of a Steven Gould novel is about a young man who discovers he has the ability to "jump" through time and space. This power allows him to travel to anywhere in the world in an instant.

The main character, David Rice (Hayden Christensen), learns of his abilities as a teen, where he fell through a frozen pond, and rather than succumb to drowning, David's powers are triggered and he "jumps" to the local library.

With everyone else believing he is dead, David escapes from his troubled teenage life to New York, where he learns to control his powers and makes a living by ripping off banks.

Eight years later, David is living large. He lives in an expensive apartment with all kinds of cool gadgets, while also "jumping" to go clubbing in London, surfing in Fiji, and picnicking atop the Sphinx.

However, a bad guy called Roland (Samuel L. Jackson) suddenly shows up to ruin the party.

David returns to his hometown of Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he catches up with his old teenage crush, Millie (Rachel Bilson). Their romance becomes pretty heavy, and as quickly as they meet they head off to a romantic vacation in Rome.

In Rome, David discovers that his powers are not unique and that another "jumper," Griffin (Jamie Bell) has been stalking him for the better part of 10 years. He learns that there is a war going on between "Jumpers" and a mysterious organization that call themselves, "Paladins."

That is as interesting as the story gets when it comes to this movie.

"Jumper" is set up for a trilogy, which means they could leave a lot of questions unanswered in this movie and feel comfortable with answering them in the sequels. They seemed to do exactly this. Unfortunately, this doesn't work if the franchise hasn't really been established,

and the studios might opt out of continuing the series.

The exposition for everything that was going on was generalized when it wasn't brushed aside. Looking for more insight into who those bad guys were and why they dislike "Jumpers" so much? Apparently, the "Paladins" were part of a religious group, but you'll just have to wait for the sequel for a full explanation. The movie barely attempted to explain the phenomenon behind the superpowers, only referring to a "genetic anomaly" being responsible.

David's estranged mother popped up at one point. She left David and his father when he was 5-years-old, but randomly appears for a few minutes with virtually no explanation.

Samuel L. Jackson's motivation for his character seemed to be little more than jealousy over the "Jumpers'" powers, at least at a glance. He is fanatic in hunting the "Jumpers," but his reasons could be summed up as, "Only God should have that power."

In fact, none of the characters really developed during the course of the movie. Millie was bland and unsympathetic, and was about as useful as a prop. Griffin's role in the movie was barely explained beyond the stalking of David.

The main character, which uses his powers for personal gain in the beginning, doesn't develop any other purpose for his actions beyond his own selfishness.

The movie attempts to show that David's still the good guy. Every time he "jumps" into a bank vault and takes some money, he leaves little I.O.U.s suggesting his intention of paying them back.

How he would actually do this was never explained, but the character didn't seem to think that one through.

Despite the glaring holes in the plot and the blandness of the characters, the action and special effects in the movie were exciting. The "Jumpers" can pull material objects through

their "jump points," and a few vehicles were materialized and tossed through the air. The teleportation powers of the "Jumpers," as well as the "Paladins" sometimes, switches up the settings where the action takes place.

As a whole, "Jumper" takes the superpower elements from X-Men and Heroes, and the stigma they suffer from ordinary citizens, but only focuses on one particular power and the stigma of a fanatical organization. The movie is packed with plenty of sci-fi action, but at the expense of everything else. For a movie of its genre, it's not the worst you can watch.

LBCC MAIN CAMPUS

Commons

MARCH 5TH - MARCH 11TH

Wednesday:
 ENTREES: Roasted Lamb with Chickpea Mash and Moroccan Chicken Kebab with Cilantro Garlic Yogurt Sauce
 VEGETARIAN: Weven Vegetable Tagine with Golden Couscous
 SOUPS: Chicken Harira with Golden Couscous and Moroccan Spiced Tomato Soup

Thursday:
 ENTREES: Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich and Cabbage Rolls
 VEGETARIAN: Evil Jungle Prince with Mixed Vegetables
 SOUPS: Creamy Chicken Mushrooms and Tomato Florentine

Friday:
 CHEF'S CHOICE

Monday:
 ENTREES: Pork Country Ribs and Spanish Turkey Meatballs
 VEGETARIAN: Spinach Red Pepper and Feta Quiche
 SOUPS: Chicken Noodle and Corn Chowder

Tuesday:
 ENTREES: Chicken Satay and Hazelnut Crusted Salmon
 VEGETARIAN: Macaroni and Cheese
 SOUPS: Senate Bean and Tomato

THE BACK PAGE

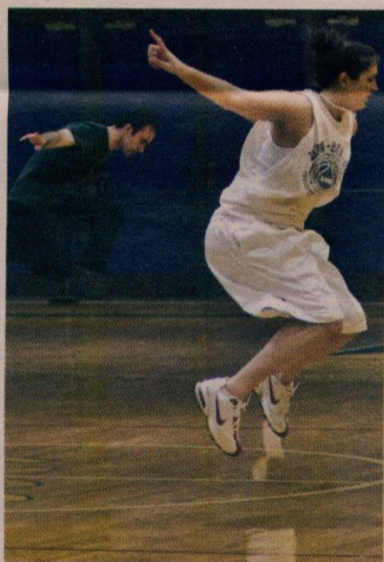


photos by Elliot Duke

Students from Katherine Sanders' beginning hip hop dance and modern dance classes in action last Thursday and Friday. These are two of three dance classes available for credit this term at LB.

DANCE, DANCE!

Hip hop and modern dance step up at LB



Davis LaMuerta
The Commuter

"If you can talk you can sing, and if you can walk you can dance," is one of Katherine Sanders' favorite African proverbs. Sanders is a dance instructor on campus, and she is enthusiastic to share her love of dance with students.

Three new dance classes: hip hop, jazz, and modern dance, are just the beginning of a new branch of physical education courses now available to students. These classes are each one credit and the hip hop dance class has both a beginning and an intermediate level.

"I would love to see more," said Sanders, "As long as there are students coming to take the classes, I'll try to keep offering more."

Sanders said she loves dance, and feels that it is an integral part of human existence. "I think dance is such a basic, almost instinctual thing that our culture has lost a bit.



When you look back, next to walking, it's the very next thing we'd do as primal beings," she said.

The students who take the classes indeed move their bodies in a number of new ways. While the 50-minute full-body workout can be exhausting and difficult, it can also be fun.

"I love dance," said Kiah Frenock, theater major. She is currently taking the beginning hip-hop dance class. "It's fun, and it's a good way to make friends," she said.

Sanders said that while the beginning hip hop class has the largest enrollment, each of her dance classes are growing term by term.

"We always end up with a good core. I'll keep focusing on the ones who keep coming back," said Sanders.

Offering various levels of dance is one of the goals of Sanders in the dance program. She said she likes having different tiers of dance levels, and hopes to see more options for students in the future.

"It really gives a good place for people who don't have as much experience and who don't

feel as comfortable because things are going to go slower; and people who have more experience are going to get challenged more because things will go faster," said Sanders.

Her advice to anyone interested in trying dance for the first time is "to just try it." She added that having a sense of humor is also helpful when learning something new. "I think that our culture has done a disservice to us in the arts because we're left with this sense that if we're not Picasso we shouldn't paint, and if we're not Baryshnikov we shouldn't dance, and it's really not true," she said.

For students who are interested in dance, but aren't quite sure about taking the class, there is an open show available to watch. Students in the current dance classes will perform as their final for anyone wishing to see them in action.

The intermediate hip-hop dance class will perform Thursday, March 13 at 10:30 a.m. in AC-130, the modern dance class performs the same day at 1:30 p.m., and the beginning hip-hop dance class performs Friday, March 14 at 9:30 a.m. in the gym.