

February 16, 2011

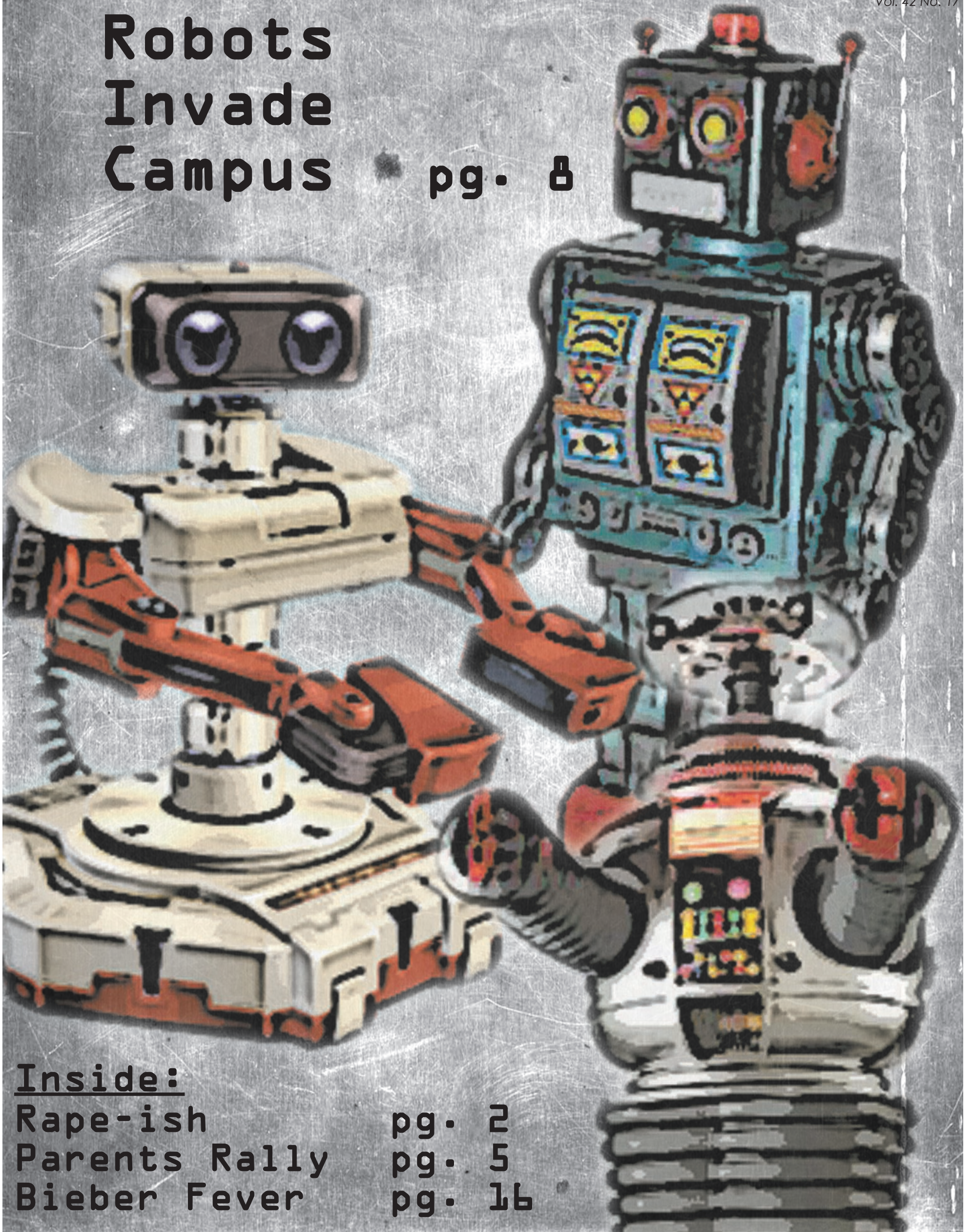
The Commuter

A Weekly Student Publication

Vol. 42 No. 17

**Robots
Invade
Campus**

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OPINION

That's Only Rape-esque

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Obviously, the economy is in a bad place, which is why, upon gaining dominance in Congress after the last elections, the GOP promised to work on creating jobs. Have they done so yet? Nope, not a single job creating bill. What have they done? Well, so far, they've taken a lot of time off. According to the House of Representatives' website, the Republican Congress will be taking about two weeks off on top of days they normally get off in January and February alone. I would joke that maybe they think getting nothing done is a way of reducing "big government" but this isn't the case. According to FOX News, the new Congress has already been proposing a record number of immigration bills (around 600), at least 15 of them trying to implement the controversial Arizona-style immigration laws.



Adam LaMascus
Opinion Editor

Also, the bill that should really be getting your attention right now is the so-called "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act." First, we will ignore the fact that on the scale of costs, abortion isn't high up on the list. A recent report shows that very few low-income women in Washington D.C., actually use their granted rights for federal-aid-covered abortions. The Daily Show with Jon Stewart pointed out that in 2006 only 191 abortions were funded by the government, which totaled less

than a quarter of one penny per taxpayer. Second, we will ignore the fact that there are thousands and thousands of people who don't/didn't support the war in Iraq, the crackdowns on legal medical marijuana growers, or the PATRIOT Act (just to name a few) and yet billions of their tax dollars went to funding those. Those reasons aside, you should still be paying attention due to the fact that the Republican Party is trying to redefine rape.

In early February, they included a section in their bill that would remove the Hyde Amendment, which says the government can help fund abortions under circumstances involving rape, incest, or the health of the mother. The bill proposed that only women who are "forcibly raped" be covered by federal funding. The trouble is, "forcible rape" is not a legally defined term, and as many experts point out, in some states it would be very easy to deny women support for an abortion in case of rape, and in most states, the bill would very likely exclude statutory rape, date rape, friend rape, rape of the mentally

challenged, or rape of women who are unconscious or drugged with alcohol or other substances. Needless to say, there was quite a backlash against this. The Daily Show had a segment where one of their correspondents satirically said "I don't think hard-earned tax dollars should go to women who have only been rape-ished." In light of this backlash, the GOP removed the word "forcible" from the proposed legislation. The trouble is, nearly a week later, all of the other wording remains in the proposal. They have literally changed a single word in the bill in an effort to sneak it by.

They also banned Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton from testifying in opposition to the bill. Congresswoman Norton has served for 20 years and said that until now she has never seen a member of Congress banned from speaking. They also ejected several Washington, D.C., citizens who wore gags and "No Taxation Without Representation" shirts as they silently stood in the back of

The bill proposed that only women who are "forcibly raped" be covered by federal funding.

the room during a hearing. So, GOP, how about this? Stick to your "no big government/job creation" guns and actually work on fixing the economy instead of acting like Big Brother and metaphorically raping women who have already been actually raped? Thanks.




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Oregon State UNIVERSITY

LBCC is considering raising tuition. Again. If they decide to do so, will there be more buses available?

In the beginning of the fall term, all the seats on the bus were taken, so some students had to stand. Yet students were urged to use transportation due to lack of parking spaces. If they want students to ride the bus, why doesn't it run more frequently - at least every half hour? It would even be nicer for students who take night classes if the bus ran until 9 or 10 p.m.

Last term, I had a class that ended at 4:20 p.m. A bus came at 4:15 p.m., and the next bus came at 5:50 p.m. I didn't appreciate having to wait for a bus over an hour and a half after class; I wanted to go home!

Also, to make it to a 10 a.m. class, I needed to take a bus at 8:35 a.m because it usually takes 20 minutes to get to campus from Corvallis. Taking the 9:40 a.m. bus, I'd be late for class.

Worse yet, ever since I started taking

Linn-Benton Loop, the bus never arrived at school on time. At least, not in the early morning. It's always 10 to 20 minutes late.

Once, it was 40 minutes late! Students attending night classes can't ride the bus because the last bus going to Corvallis leaves campus at 5:50 p.m. The last class ends around 9:30 p.m.

If the bus is meant to be a useful and helpful mode of transportation for LBCC students, scheduling should be reviewed so that better service is provided.

Increasing tuition must mean there will be more money to spend. Can part of that money be spent on increasing beneficial transportation?

If there is better transportation scheduling available, there will be more students using it as well.



MOTO MAN RIDES AGAIN

Reevaluating Helmet Laws

Chris Brotherton
Staff Writer

Currently, there is a bill being passed through the House of Representatives, sponsored by Andy Olson, that would relax Oregon's helmet law. House Bill 3141 would amend the law to state that people over the age of 21 be allowed to ride their motorcycles without helmets. This will be a very popular amendment to the law for a lot of people. I am one of them.

I believe that it should be my choice whether or not I wear a helmet while I am on my bike. My choice would be to wear a helmet, of course. A full-face helmet. Yes, although I believe that there shouldn't be helmet laws, I would still choose to wear a helmet. My head may be funny shaped, but it is mine.

As much as I would love to see my beloved Oregon become a state where we can make choices as individuals, I am a little disturbed by the motivation behind it. Olson is sponsoring this bill because friends of his who ride have told him that it is too hard to see or hear out of full-face helmets. I call shenanigans.

This is an argument that I have heard numerous times, and I just can't swallow it. I have spent a few years out on the road, riding from little Corvallis, Ore., to Seattle, San Francisco, Klamath Falls and even around Crater Lake three times. I have never worn anything less than a full-face helmet, and I have had plenty of close calls. However, none of those were caused by my inability to see or hear the traffic around me.

Also, if you don't like full-face helmets, don't buy one. They are actually the most

expensive of the helmet designs. A small DOT-approved "skull cap" helmet can be picked up at a gear shop for around \$30. These helmets do not impede anything, as no part of them is anywhere near your eyes or ears. How is this going to work into the argument of "I can't see or hear anything when I wear a helmet?"

I do believe that the helmet law should be revised. I think that the new bill that is being introduced is a good idea. However, I don't believe that it is being fought for the right reasons. If you start stating that full-face helmets are dangerous on the road, who's to say that the next bill wouldn't outlaw full face helmets?

This is a fight that bikers have been slogging through for a long time. I just want the fight to be for the real reason, a biker's choice.

My choice will still be my full-face helmet.

Dear Conscience,

Question: So ... Justin Bieber?

Ashley Christie
Shoulder Devil

Justin Bieber is the greatest thing to come out of Hell since Lindsay Lohan.

He was crafted with perfect mix of dimples and tousled hair to hypnotize young girls into a tizzy and lure them deeper into the path of evil. First, they declare their love for the teen idol, and before they know it, they're abandoning all morals and ethics to worship at the feet of evil.

Thank Satan for tween girls; they do almost all of my work for me. All you have to do is hook one, and then they'll tell their friends, who will tell their friends, who will tell their friends. With a little help from today's technology, I have a million new followers.

Years ago we discovered that pop stars were the way into corrupting young, impressionable minds. We first tried to use Tiffany in the 80s, but she was countered by the other side's Debbie Gibson. The 90s showed a lot of promise with 'N Sync and Britney and Christina. (Those were the good ol' days.)

But we still weren't turning the numbers we hoped for. Then, we sent up Miley Cyrus. I had such high hopes for that girl! Unfortunately, she was a little *too* evil.

Now we're back on the right track with Bieber. The force is strong with this one.

Stare deep into his puppy-dog eyes, and give yourself over to that squeaky voice. It's no use trying to fight.

Justin Bolger
Shoulder Angel

Have you ever read "Spawn" or seen the movie. That guy is what happens when Hell fails at creating its ultimate general, and it decides to fight for good.

Justin Bieber? He is Hell's greatest success.

Honestly, I haven't seen an evil so powerful since ... well, ever. Lindsay Lohan came close, but we were fortunate enough to have Hilary Duff fighting on our side back then. It's a shame she's since retired to office work. She was one of our best agents. We sure could use her help about now.

For millennia, the forces of Heaven have had the upper hand, but ever since Bieber's first YouTube video, we've been losing ground.

Spawn, that poor soul, was among the first to fall. Trapped in a theatre guarded by hordes of giggling fangirls, Spawn was forced to watch "Never Say Never" over and over again until he, himself, became a member of the "tween" forces of evil. In the end, I was the only one who could put him to rest.

He was a hero. He was my friend.

It's all beginning to seem so hopeless, this struggle of good and evil. He's just too strong. Our only hope is that his voice will change soon. That could go one of two ways: He could gain the power of a sultry man-voice or become a squeaking, tooly has-been.

Hear my plea! We want you to join the good fight!

BACK *in the* DAY

Adam LaMascus
Opinion Editor

This day in history ...

Feb. 16, 1804: Semper Fi ...

During the First Barbary Wars, fought against the pirate nation of Tripoli, Lieutenant Stephen Decatur of the US Navy leads a detachment of Marines in a nighttime raid against the captured ship USS Philadelphia. The men successfully board the ship, overpower the pirates guarding it, then burn the ship to prevent its use by the enemy. Admiral Horatio Nelson, the famous British war hero, declares the raid "the most bold and daring act of the age." The excellent conduct shown by the fledgling US Marine Corps is immortalized in the Marines' Hymn with the line "...To the shores of Tripoli."

Feb. 17, 1500: Fortune favors the bold ...

After invading the "peasant republic" of Dithmarschen (in modern Germany), King Johann of Denmark and his brother (and future king) Duke Friedrich attack the "peasant army" near the town of Hemmingstedt. The defenders are massively outnumbered and outclassed, but manage to lure the Danish army into a trap, open a dike, and drown most of them. A monument now stands at the site which reads "Wahr Di Garr De Burr De Kumt." ("Watch out peasants, here comes the Guard.")

Feb. 18, 1943: Need more people like these ...

The six core members of the group "The White Rose," a group of German students who campaigned for resistance to the Nazis, are arrested by the Gestapo and executed four days later by guillotine. They are heroes today, and a monument to them sits in Munich. The last words of member Hans Scholl were: "Long live freedom!"

Feb. 19, 1861: Free at last ...

The Russian Empire abolishes serfdom, a form of "modified slavery." Russia is one of the last countries to abolish serfdom, the last being Bhutan, which ended the practice in 1959.

Feb. 20, 1909: Visionary for sure ...

The Futurist Manifesto is published in France. The Futurists are a socio-political/art movement that celebrates the future, youth, machinery, speed, nationalism, and warfare while decrying the past. In many ways the Futurists are precursors to the Fascist movement. As LBCC Art History instructor Gary Westford points out, the Futurists thought that war is purifying, and appropriately enough, most of them were killed in WWI.

Feb. 21, 1848: Better red than dead ...

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels publish the Communist Manifesto. To date, Marx's prediction that the middle class ("proletariat") would globally rise up, overthrow the rich ("bourgeoisie"), and establish a worker's paradise, has not happened.

Feb. 22, 1980: USA! USA! USA!

The amateur US Olympic hockey team defeats the Soviet hockey team 4-3 in the Winter Olympics. The Soviet team is at the time believed to be the best hockey team in the world. The victory is referred to as "The Miracle on Ice" and is commonly acknowledged as being one of the greatest surprises in sports history.

Thought for the week:

"Nationalism is an infantile disease. It is the measles of mankind."

-Albert Einstein

Have questions? We have answers.

We offer advice on ANY topic from two different points of view. Send questions to: commuter@linnbenton.edu

Halemeier Leads LB to Weekend Split

Kiger Plews

Contributing Writer

The Linn-Benton Women's basketball team went 1-1 over the weekend to Mt. Hood and Portland CC.

The Roadrunner's first game was at Mt. Hood on Friday where they lost a close battle, 62-60. The following night, LB picked up its fourth division win of the season by defeating PCC 86-64 at home, thanks in part to a huge night from Heidi Halemeier.

In the loss to Mt. Hood, the Roadrunners were led by sophomore Whitney Hughes, who scored 17 points to go with 6 rebounds off the bench. Freshman Lacey Wood tallied 14 points and 9 rebounds. The Roadrunners led 32-21 at the half before being outscored 41-28 in the second to lose by two.

The game was back and forth all the way until the end, and the statistics show just how close it really was. LB shot 40 percent from the field and 69 percent from the line, while Mt. Hood finished at 34 percent from the field and 71 percent from the line.

Both teams had 13 assists and were separated by just four in rebound totals. Bench points were also even as Mt. Hood got 25 and LB countered with 22 of their own. Jacki Cannon paced Mt. Hood with 19 points and 12 rebounds leading the Saints to the win.

Coach Teresa Guerra said, "We had a good lead at halftime but just came out flat in the second half. We still had a chance with 3 seconds left in the game but missed the shot."

On Friday LB got back on the winning track by beating PCC, ending a two-game losing streak and moving just two games out of fourth place in the division.

Although the Roadrunners suited up just seven players, they were able to dominate just about every aspect of the game. Heidi Halemeier had a monster of a game, scoring 38 points and 14 rebounds. The freshman from Santiam High School put together probably the best individual performances of the year for LB.

"Heidi had a height advantage so we just kept feeding her," Guerra said.

Sophomore Sam Saunders added 14 points, and freshman Dorian Perkey filled the stat sheet with 14 points to go with 9 rebounds and 5 assists. The Roadrunners had a 52-42 edge in rebounds, a 46 percent - 23 percent edge in three-point shooting, and shot 50 percent from the floor. Portland was able to get an upper hand in bench scoring, 12-7, but LB was still able to grab a 40-26 halftime lead and never looked back.

Midway through the second half, LB grabbed its largest lead of the game at 68-33. Portland was led by Arquaezia Jackson who scored 20 points for the Panthers who shot just 30 percent from the field.

The Roadrunners are back home to play Umpqua CC at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday and follow that with a road trip to Coos Bay to face Southwestern Oregon CC at 4 p.m. on Saturday.



Tony Brown
Carrie Garrison makes a free-throw shot from the line.

Drew Wilson-McGrath

Staff Writer

Now that the 2011 college football season is over, a quantum shift has occurred in Oregon.

For the next nine months, all college-football-oriented animosities may as well be set aside, and the platypus of the Pacific Northwest may be at rest for the spring and summer months.

When I speak of the honorable Platypus, I am not referring to the fresh water mammal native to eastern Australia. I am talking about Oregonians who find themselves in dire straights because they are a Duck fan in Corvallis, or a Beaver fan in Eugene. Many of us have a friend or family member in this predicament that is a side effect of sports fandom in Oregon.

So what is the root of this ridicule-heavy title "Platypus?" For some, it is an inherited trait; in other words, mom and dad are fans of either U of O or OSU respectively, and they had a child that by some mistake of nature developed a liking for the rival team.

Others find themselves caught in a scholastic bind.

U of O tends to emphasize Liberal Arts as their educational focus, whereas OSU breeds more engineering- and agriculture-oriented individuals.

So what happens when one attends OSU, but their allegiance in the college football world lies with the Ducks? Even more problematic: what happens when that one individual lives with three avid Beaver Believers?

Wyatt Faulkner is a 20-year-old Oregon State student. Since age five, Faulkner has been a Duck fan.



When asked what spawned his support of the infamous green and yellow of U of O, he said it was due to constant exposure to the Ducks.

"I saw the Ducks on TV pretty often and went to a couple of games. They were televised a lot in Oregon when I was growing up and starting to play sports. It kind of just stuck with me after awhile," said Faulkner.

But there comes a special time of year for Oregon college football fans when personalities and the lust for nine months worth of bragging rights pits student against student, boss against coworkers, and sometimes even husband against wife.

I am talking, of course, about one of the oldest football rivalries in the history of the sport, college or professional; the 117-year-old strong contest known fondly as "The Civil War."

This event is the culmination of both U of O and OSU football seasons (playoff pending of course) and more often than not, it determines whether or not one of the teams gets to play in a bowl game.

After the game, Beaver and Duck fans have one night to relish in victory or wallow in loss.

When football season is over, all is well and the lonely Platypi retreats into hibernation, not to be provoked again until the start of the next football season, a time during which it must bravely defend its territory, keeping an Oregon sports tradition alive in the hearts of college students and grandparents alike.

Faulkner said it best, "I embrace it; I'm not going to be any quieter about my support just because I'm surrounded by Beaver fans. I will represent my team whenever, wherever. Otherwise I'm not really a fan, right?"

Roadrunner Men Hit Snag

Scott Landgren

Sports Editor

This past weekend was another tough one for the LBCC Men's basketball team. On Friday night LB lost 72-43 at Mt. Hood Community College. On Saturday night LB returned home and lost to Portland Community College by a score of 71-59.

Friday night was a tough shooting night all around for LB. For the night the Roadrunners shot 30.7 percent overall and finished 0-17 from three-point land. Freshman Josh Garlington had a team high of 13 points and was the only player for LB who was in double figure scoring.

The next night LB returned home and fell in a tough game. PCC came into the game with only eight players, but that did not stop them from running the ball every chance they got. LBCC came out strong and took an early 5-0 lead, but then PCC went on a big 22-5 run and they took control of the first half. PCC hit five three-pointers in the first half and jumped out to a 36-21 halftime lead.

PCC came out strong in the



Tony Brown
Michael Kirkwood on the tip off.

second half and built as much as a 23 point lead over LB. The comeback was on a few times, but LB could get no closer than 12 points. In the second half, LBCC did shoot 50 percent, which was better than the 31 percent in the first half, but PCC shot 56 percent in the second half and held on for the victory.

"I really liked our second half. We had better three-point defense and shot the ball better," said Head Coach Randy Falk.

After being shut out on Friday night, sophomore Taylor Roos scored 15 points to lead the way for LB, while freshman Josh Yundt had 11 points and a team high of 12 rebounds. On the night both teams finished with 10 assists, LB had 14 turnovers while PCC only had 13. The big stat on the night was rebounds, PCC finished with 42 rebounds while LB only had 29.

"We played hard but we just got down too much too early tonight," said Roos.

With the two losses on the weekend, LBCC now has a record of 8-12 overall and a 5-5 mark in the Southern Division. LB will look to end a five game losing streak this week when they play a home game against Umpqua CC on Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. The team will be on the road Saturday at SWOCC at 6 p.m. LB beat Umpqua in the first meeting 72-51 and beat SWOCC 88-80 on January 19.

"We have to start making adjustments now during the second half of the conference season," said freshmen Chase Bansemer.

Lisa Bauman: Parent, Student, Cave Explorer

Marci Sischo
Webmaster

Lisa Bauman takes the world by storm. Whether it's selling advertising for LBCC's own Commuter, caving, quilting, or blogging, Bauman throws herself into it 100 percent, with consummate professionalism and an infectious, vivacious smile that you can't help but respond to.

She brought those qualities to bear on the Oregon state capital recently, organizing a rally to save the Employment Related Day Care program. Thanks to her efforts, a crowd of some 50 people turned up at the state capitol to protest cuts to the ERDC.

"Funny story how I got started," Bauman said. "I have a friend that I would speak to often about my feelings on the issue. She could tell my blood was boiling when I talked about it. One day she told me 'Why don't you do something about it?' I took on the challenge, but didn't think much would come of it. I expected to get around ten people interested."

After researching the issue, Bauman discovered plenty of like-minded groups and individuals who were outraged that the ERDC was being cut. She also found that a rally last year in Salem helped get the ERDC extended for a year and began her own campaign for another rally this year.

"A big majority of the work I did was contacting supporters. I knew that if I could rally the people who were already interested, it would turn out a success," Bauman said.

Fighting the system isn't all this mother of two does, though. Besides taking care of her two adorable kids, Rebekah and Isaac, Bauman is also an avid caver.

"I actually got started caving because I lived in a tiny town with nothing to do," she said. She and a friend started out at the Lava Beds National Forest because it was easy to get to, with paved access roads and handy bathrooms right outside the caves. Bauman tackled the new hobby with her customary zeal, but without much by way of safety knowledge or gear.

"Unwittingly, I did the activity in a very unsafe way. Luckily no one was ever hurt." She suggests that anyone who wants to take up caving contact their local grotto for help and advice. "Caving is awesome, and if done correctly, it can be safe."

She's also the advertising assistant at The Commuter. "[Rob Priewe, advisor] seemed to really encourage creativity, and the staff was so supportive. I immediately knew I had to find a way become part of the paper." Since business marketing was Bauman's major, and she'd been doing that kind of work for ten years, she and Priewe agreed she'd make a good fit in advertising.

And they were right. One of her newest innovations was contacting people advertising on Craigslist, and selling them advertising at The Commuter. "She came up with idea and ran it by me," said Frank Warren, the Commuter's Advertising Manager. "I said go for it."

This is Warren's third term working with Bauman. "She's just a really great person all around," he said. "She's helped me change my perspectives on selling a great deal, really helped me think outside the box. There's just an energy between us, like a team. We're the dynamic duo."

Bauman likes to write, too, and brings her writing talent to work at The Commuter. "[Max Brown, former Editor in Chief] introduced me to writing articles. I loved it!"

"She's very passionate about everything," said Justin Bolger, The Commuter's Editor-in-Chief. "Very intense about getting things done that need done."

Bauman also likes to make her own videos. She has a video on YouTube with over 13,000 views, and at one point, was running 13 different blogs. She cut back on her blogging recently, but still has her personal blog, where she chronicles her life as a college student.



LB student Lisa Bauman with her children Isaac and Rebekah.

Audrey Gomez
Copy Editor

Over 50 people joined the Rally to Save Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) last Wednesday afternoon at Oregon's state capitol.

When LBCC student Lisa Bauman set the date of the Rally to Save ERDC last month, she thought she might end up on the steps of the state capitol alone.

But Bauman's many phone calls, e-mails and presentations paid off. Individuals and organizations signed up and on Feb. 9, the rally participants included those who benefit the most from ERDC - children in day care.

Autumn David runs Salem's Island Adventure Day Care. About half of the families she serves use the assistance program. If ERDC is cut, the day care she has operated for 14 years will not be able to stay open. She and Yuchin Johnny, who also works at Island Adventure Day Care, brought nine of the 16 children they care for.

Sue Mackey is a child care provider who currently does not have any clients on ERDC, but came to the rally because she is concerned about the children who will be effected if ERDC funding is cut. "It affects me right here," Mackey said as she patted her heart. "I'm worried we're going to get kids left at home alone or in cars."

If ERDC is cut, many of the families currently receiving it will not be able to afford day care, and thus, will not be able to work. For the day care facilities losing clients and income, that means



Families and day care providers gathered at the Oregon Capitol in Salem Feb. 9 to save Employment Related Day Care.

they will have to lay-off employees or close their doors altogether.

Rebekah Whittaker of SEIU 503, brought her young son Jackson with her to hand out information about the rally to state representatives. "The main focus of our child care workers has been ERDC," Whittaker said. "ERDC saves the state economy."

One of the first organizations to respond to Bauman, Children First For Oregon (CFFO), was key in spreading the word because of the many supporters they have acquired through their long time commitment to child advocacy.

Regan Gray of CFFO said, "Probably the biggest thing that is helping us out right now is that the governor announced his recommended budget. He wishes to expand the Employment Related Day Care to 11,000 families. We're very supportive of that, so the timing of this rally couldn't be better. The fact that we can say 'thank you governor.'"

TNT at the DAC

Carli Gibson
Contributing Writer

"It's a reality that we're different," said David Ward, student representative for Think Non-Traditional Careers (TNT), while talking about people going into non-traditional careers.

The TNT meeting happened in the Diversity Achievement Center (DAC) Wednesday, Feb. 9. The meeting was to encourage those who want to join a non-traditional career to do so.

A non-traditional career is defined as a field of work that consists of 75 percent or more of only one gender, such as a woman entering the welding field.

During the meeting, a group of eight men and women talked about what it's like to work in a non-traditional career.

Among these eight was Sandy March. March is the drafting and engineering graphics lab manager. She explained how being in a male dominated career can be harsh. March feels incredibly blessed to be working with engineers; she likes how

straight forward they are.

March offered the advice (when talking about a male dominated career), "Fit into their world because it's their playpen. Once they realize you don't have thin skin, they treat you the same."

Charles Madriaga had the opposite experience. Everyone around him felt he wouldn't have thin enough skin to be a school counselor. He even had a fellow female student ask him every day of college if he was still working on becoming an athletic counselor - he never had such an ambition.

He faced hardships, especially when working at an elementary school. Most of the time, female students would be sent to the female counselor because they didn't think Madriaga would be as sincere.

Rick Durling lived under assumptions as well, being a medical assistant. Durling offers the idea that there are advantages to both genders because each gender has a different way of doing things and thinking things through. Durling pointed out the fact that out of the approximate

250 that graduate to be a medical assistant only ten of them are males.

Durling said it's "great for us to identify these [stereotypes], but don't let them diminish you."

One girl took a twist on stereotypes and decided to enjoy them. Jordan Glass, who is an automotive technology student at LBCC likes the stereotype because, "If I were a guy and I asked what I ask, I'd get laughed at," but says that as a girl, she gets the help she needs.

Mandy Buckner has worked hard to fit her way into the male dominated career doing maintenance at Wah-Chang. Once she had a man tell her she should be barefoot and pregnant at home. "I had to be one of the guys," Buckner said. Despite any of her gender bias co-workers, Buckner has been working at Wah-Chang for the past 16 years.

Anwynd Alexander ignored any gender biases as well. Alexander got into criminology when her best friend was murdered. Besides any hardships Alexander says, "It's very fulfilling helping people."

Noemi Corona: Stepping Into Life

Alethea Skinner
News Editor

Unless a child has someone with whom to connect, someone who will provide an anchor, a sense of security and belonging, the odds are against that child succeeding in life.

For Noemi Corona, a young woman whose mother left her at the age of nine, that person was her father, David Rodriguez.

"Even though he was old, disabled and often unable to work consistently," she said, Rodriguez was determined to provide the one stability he could - education. Although his family was unable to live in the most comfortable of places, had to move frequently or had no home at all, he did his best to keep his children in the same school district. He did not want them to lose that connection, and he insisted they stay in school.

For Noemi, that is still one of the most important things her father gave her. Education.

"He is my biggest hero," she said. "He made sure we were happy with school, no matter what. There was no pressure. He just said, 'Do your best.'"

School also gave Noemi security and another anchor - Carolyn Hinds, a homeless liaison for the Corvallis School District, in Corvallis. She was an advocate and someone Noemi could go to for help and encouragement. Hinds' involvement with the family before Noemi's mother left

provided a sense of continuity and helped keep them going.

In an interview in the Corvallis Gazette-Times, Hinds said her main responsibility is to ensure homeless students are able to attend the same school even if they move often, as Noemi's family did. Noemi said

"He made sure we were happy with school ... There was no pressure. He just said, 'Do your best.'"

Hinds helped her father obtain gas vouchers so he could afford to drive them to school. As a result, Noemi spent all but three years of her education in Corvallis schools.

Hinds encouraged her to finish high school and then go to college.

Noemi did just that. "I never let anything get in my way. No matter what, I went to school."

After Noemi's high school graduation in 2009, it was Hinds who helped with registering to take the SAT exam, as well as filling out college applications and financial-aid forms.

After six years of struggling with illness, joblessness (although he worked two jobs when he could), homelessness, and raising two children alone, Noemi's father passed away.

"It was a shock," she said, "but not a surprise. It was his time."

Since her father had asked his sister to finish raising his children, they moved to Salem.

In that time of transition, Noemi could have lost her way, but she remained focused. While she says she had an "awesome aunt," she craved what many teenagers do - independence. She

wanted her driver's permit, then her license, a job and to be on her own.

When she got them, however, and moved in with friends at 18, Noemi said, "It was not as good as I thought it would be."

With a minimum-wage job, she discovered it was not easy to pay for a cell phone, car insurance, gas, food and a place to stay, and everything else a young woman needs.

Fortunately, she had older siblings from her father's previous marriage, and when she considered moving to Texas to be with her mother, an older brother advised against it.

"Go to school," he encouraged. "You can do better; Dad would want you to."

Deciding to take her brother's advice, Noemi moved back to Corvallis. It was a familiar environment with siblings who wanted to take care of their little sister, and where she could enjoy that close bond

- something she said she still needed.

However, Noemi also contributed something to her siblings that they needed. Inspiration. As a result of her decision to return to Corvallis, live with her brothers and go to college, one older sister returned to school and is currently working toward obtaining her GED.

That is what Noemi does for others; she motivates them to do better.

But what motivates her? What are her goals? How does she keep going?

Noemi says she was always "Daddy's little girl."

"We watched his favorite forensic and criminal justice shows together, and that gave me the desire to go into criminal justice or social work. I am a problem-solver. I want to help kids who are like my younger brother and I were. I want to show them how to do it like I did, without a mom or a dad."

But she is not truly without her dad.

Mentally, her father is still with her, still guiding her.

He was so protective! I couldn't go anywhere

without him or my brother - not the movies, bowling or even the store. I'd say, 'Dad, I am 15 - no dances?' But, now I understand. When I see young girls having

babies, dropping out of school and struggling, I am so thankful he was so strict. Because of him, I have chosen a different life.

"(After losing him) I reminded myself, if I have an accident, I can't graduate on time, I can't go to college. School is important."

As she nears the end of her first term at LBCC, Noemi still faces her educational and life goals with determination. When she restricts dating and a party life, people ask why she has such high standards.

"I think you have to have a plan for your life," she said. "I don't care if I don't get married until I am 30! Right now, I don't need dating, a boyfriend, or a social life - distractions. I have to finish school, get a job - get a life."

With a smile she adds softly, "You want to be somebody before you meet somebody."

Because David Rodriguez taught his young daughter the value of education, to stand up for herself and ask for help when she needs it, Noemi

has become her own advocate and fiercely defends her choices.

After obtaining an associate of applied sciences degree in criminology at

LBCC, Noemi plans to continue her education to the level she believes she needs to and then build the rest of her life.

She is on her way.

"I never let anything get in my way. No matter what, I went to school."

Arts and Crafts Workshop

Spend three hours with LBCC Fine Arts Instructor Ken Herrin to recycle non-toxic computer parts into beautiful works of art to take home!

Wednesday, February 16, 2011, 5-8 p.m.
South Santiam Hall, Room NSH-209
LBCC, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany

Free!

We provide: A limited amount of non-toxic computer parts such as wire, mother boards, keyboard keys, etc. We will also have magnets, glue guns, pin backs, earring wires, and other findings. Pliers, gloves, and wire cutters will be available but in limited supply so bring your own if you have some.



You provide: Your Idea

Have fun
Make art
Meet new people

*This workshop is free and open to the public. A donation of non-perishable breakfast food for the LBCC Student Lunch Box (LBB) is suggested. Sponsored by the Diversity Achievement Center and JOBS/CRWS Program. If you have any questions, please call the DAC at 541-917-4461 or stop by Forum Bldg., Room F-220.

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Persons having questions about or requests for special needs & accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at LBCC, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.



Corvallis-OSU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

105th SEASON 2010-2011

DEC 5, 7:00 PM
HOLIDAY FAVORITES

FEB 23, 7:30 PM
TWILIGHT OF THE GODS
Wagner: Ride of the Valkyries
Prokofiev: Piano Concerto No. 2
Wagner: Götterdämmerung

MAY 24, 8:00 PM
SCALING THE HEIGHTS
Richard Strauss: Alpine Symphony
Schwandtner: Concerto for Percussion and Orchestra

Visit COSUSymphony.org
 Tickets available at TicketsOregon.com

Corvallis-OSU Symphony welcomes students of all majors to audition.
 Scholarships available for advanced players. Call (541) 737-5591 for information.



What's Your Label?

Sarah McClanahan
Editorial Assistant

When you think about labels, what comes to mind?

Without thinking about it, we define individuals in our society by our personal perspectives. How we view people can either help or hinder them when it comes to labels. But what if there was a way to change your perspective and open up your mind to better understand the truth about people? Facilitators Dana Emerson and Mark Urista did just that with their two-day discussion, titled "Labels & Stereotypes can be a good thing ... Right?"

I attended this event on Wednesday, Feb. 9 in the Diversity Achievement Center, and found it informative, especially in the sense that I learned labels aren't always bad. We need to have some labels to help define aspects about our world. But it's the stereotypes behind the label that creates the false perceptions. The difference between these two ideas is that labels categorize and define people, where stereotypes are the behaviors or characteristics people associate with groups of individuals.

One example Urista talked about was his own experience of recently moving up to Oregon from California. He said he immediately got Oregon license plates, because he knew that people put labels on Californians. "We have been told that Californians are bad drivers, right?" Urista said. "So, we create this stereotype that we're constantly trying to hold on to in order to confirm our conclusions."

To further explore these thoughts, the participants were grouped together and labeled. We were then instructed to come up with stereotypes for the labels we were given. The four groups were identified as homeless, fraternity members, smokers and senior citizens. Stereotypes that came up were really common ideas. Homeless folks are drug users, alcoholics, mostly male, and lazy. Fraternity members are good-looking jocks that always party and drink. Smokers are smelly, careless, and think smoking is cool. The last group was the one I was a part of, the senior citizens. Some of our stereotypes were seniors are slow drivers, are grumpy and they only garden, bake and play bingo.

After creating our lists, we went around the room reading them aloud. This was the point at which the event went from a discussion into a lesson. The participants in the room ranged from 18 to 63. It was amazing how the different stereotypes we all created hit hearts in that room, especially the list about seniors.

Janette Emerson, Dana Emerson's mother, talked about how she felt particularly with our list of stereotypes. She told me later, "It was interesting to hear within the groups how the labels we place on each other haven't changed over the generations. I heard the same things when I was coming up."

When asked why she and Urista wanted to hold this event, Emerson said, "I wanted to de-mystify stereotypes. We did an exercise where we could talk about them and begin to expand our perceptions."

Student Kati Siefker said, "I am glad that I was a part of this. We need to be careful about how we view people and not just see them from the outside and judge them." She also said she was there for extra credit in a class.

I learned that if you really keep an open mind and an open heart, you begin to find more common bonds with everyone.

Rented Shoes and Tiny Windmills

Jordan Tunstill
A&E Editor

If you are a student at LBCC, you are eligible to do some free bowling!

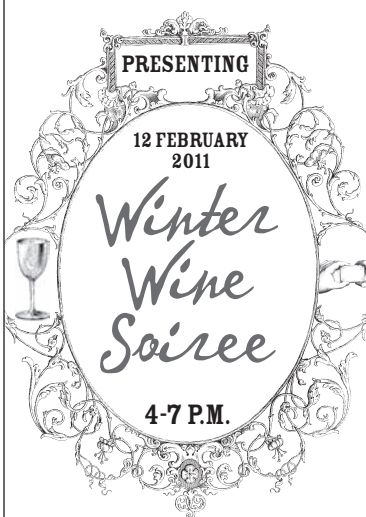
On February 17, the Student Life and Leadership team is hosting a free bowling day from 3 to 6 p.m. at Lakeshore Lanes. There will also be mini-golf, weather permitting. The first 100 students to register in the Student Life and Leadership office, located next to the

Hot Shot Café, will be able to participate in the festivities.

There will be prizes as well. The grand prize for the event is a Wii, and the additional prizes are gift cards to the student bookstore. LBCC has rented out the bowling alley for the day, so don't worry about being too crowded. Just make sure to have your student I.D. on you, or you won't be allowed inside.

So go register, and enjoy some well-deserved fun, courtesy of LBCC's Student Life and Leadership!

STOP WONDERING
WHAT TO DO FOR
YOUR VALENTINE!



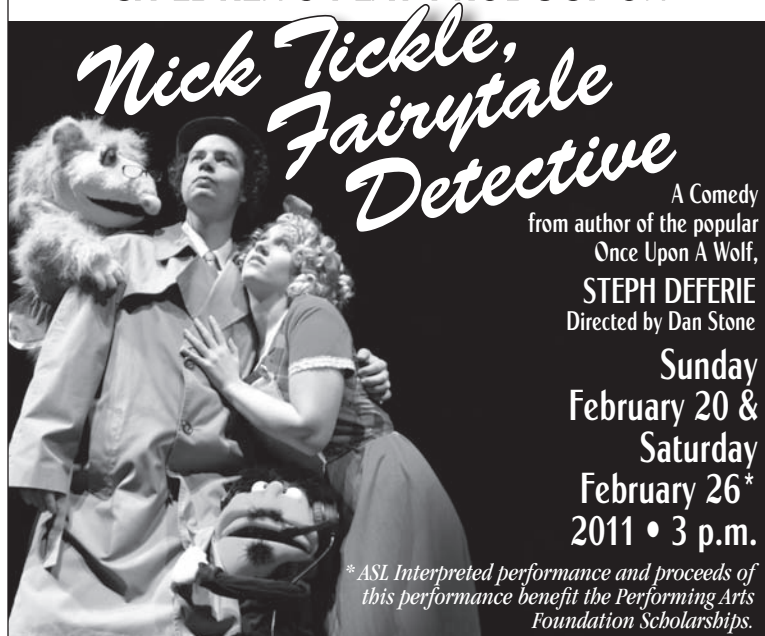
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LBCC Performing Arts Department Presents its
36TH ANNUAL
CHILDREN'S PLAY PRODUCTION



A Comedy
from author of the popular
Once Upon A Wolf,
STEPH DEFERIE
Directed by Dan Stone

Sunday
February 20 &
Saturday
February 26*
2011 • 3 p.m.

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

6500 Pacific Blvd. SW., Albany
The Russell Tripp Performance Center in Takena Hall
\$9 Adults, \$7 Children under 18
541-917-4531

www.linnbenton.edu/go/tickets

Linn-Benton
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

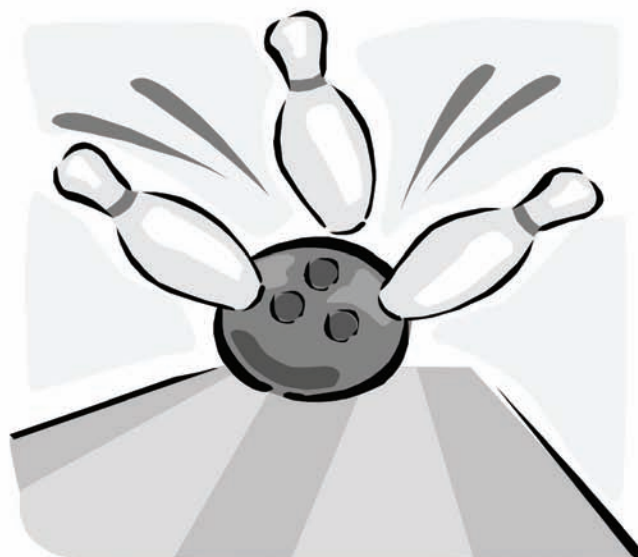
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LBCC's Student Programming Board Presents:

BOWLING BASH & MINI GOLF TOURNAMENT

(weather permitting)

Lakeshore Lanes
5432 Pacific Blvd SW • Albany



FEB. 17, 2011

3 to 6 p.m.

**FREE to the
first 100 students**

**Must be an LBCC student.
Sign up at the Student Life & Leadership Office.**



Linn-Benton
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Aquatic Robot Submerges Students in Real-World Problems

Justin Bolger
Editor-in-Chief

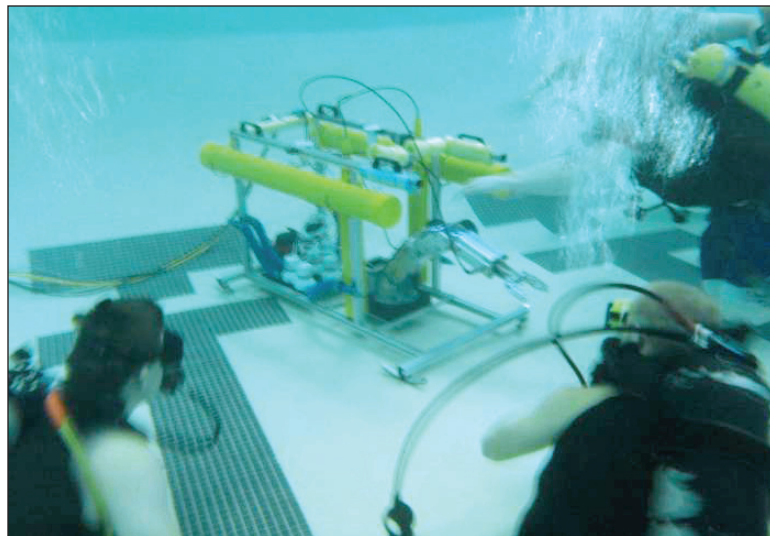
LBCC is set to defend last year's first place title – in underwater robot science.

On Thursday, Feb. 10, the LBCC Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) Club tried out this year's robot at the Osborn Aquatic Center in Corvallis. This was the first time they put every function to the test.

This year's Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) competition, to be held in Houston this June, will simulate the BP oil spill.

The club had to design a robot to accomplish four missions: remove the damaged pipe riser, cap the oil well, collect water samples at specific depths, and collect biological samples.

The ROV Club started building their robot in December as soon as they got the rules for the competition, putting in 1,200 man-hours of work over winter break. Of those hours, 600 were done by only four members according to Ivan Merlin, CEO of the team and physics major.



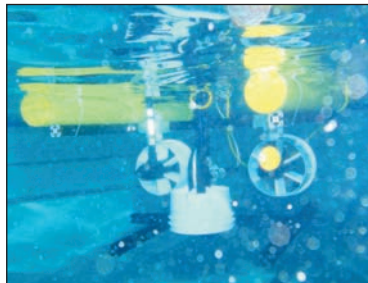
Above: The club tests out last year's model.

Right: Last year's robot gets up close and personal.

provided by LBCC ROV Club

At this time last year, they were testing their robot for the first time. This year, they already have a solid product and have performed its first real trial run, testing all three aspects of the competition.

"I think this robot would have taken over Tokyo by now if I didn't have school to compete with," says machining major Nick



Cantrell in regards to school being the priority.

According to Cantrell, the average school has a budget of \$12,000 to work with, while LBCC had only about \$2,000 to start. The budget has remained under \$3,000 so far. Schools like

MIT, which LB has overcome in the past, have about \$50,000 each year.

"I work best under a shoestring budget. We can't slack off."

LBCC Departments who have assisted in the project include: Physical Sciences, Computer Science, Engineering, Health and Human Performance, English, Speech, and the LBCC Foundation.

Working under MATE's "simultaneous parallel" school of thought (building all pieces at once rather than one at a time), the club divided into teams, including one for each of the competition goals and numerous other subteams. Greg Mulder, the club adviser, emphasized the importance of communication between all of the teams.

"Every system impacts every other system."

While their situation isn't as severe, Mulder cited a space shuttle malfunction that took seven astronauts' lives because of a failure in a single \$0.99 O-ring.

Just before the test, the

ROV club had to pull out the soldering tools to make last-minute fixes.

"We could have lost everything," says Coquille Rex, a technical writer for the club.

According to Mulder, a good team is pressured to prove something will work, not to just accomplish tasks. It's the job of the CEO to see that this happens.

"Ivan won't let [the robot] in the water until we're sure everything is in working order," says Mulder.

According to Cantrell, Merlin has taken to the role of CEO "like a duck to water."

The whole process is very multidisciplinary. Team members have a great variety of talent and expertise because they come from many different majors, according to Merlin.

"There are no barriers to entry. Everyone has something to contribute," says Cantrell. "By the end, you're an expert."

"This has been one of the single most positive experiences of my life. It's been my reason for getting out of bed for a while."

Office Hours: Q&A with Chelsea Newton

Sarah McClanahan
Editorial Assistant

Commuter: How long have you been at LBCC?

Chelsea Newton: I have been teaching introductory courses in religion at LBCC for a little over a year now.

Commuter: What brought you here to teach at LBCC?

CN: I grew up in Albany, and after graduate school in England I moved home to begin "real life." I took a position managing a coffee shop in Albany and shortly after was given an opportunity to teach a class at LBCC in the afternoons. I was thrilled! I really grew up in and around the college – my mother, Janet Lodge, had always worked for LBCC, and I had taken a number of courses through the Dual Enrollment program here at LBCC while doing my undergraduate work at Oregon State. So it's a treat to be teaching here now.

Commuter: Are you planning on teaching in the future here at LB or another college?

CN: I am still quite young, and have a long and hopefully exciting road ahead of me. I am interested in a number of careers in the non-profit sector, but I am also feeling out the idea of entering into a doctoral program in the area of sociology



Chelsea Newton

provided by Chelsea Newton

of religion. In that case, I would most likely end up teaching at a university. I guess I will know more in 10 years!

Commuter: What are some reasons you enjoy teaching?

CN: I really enjoy seeing a student have an "a-ha!" moment. This is what I call that flash of realization that is so clear in a student's eyes. I am deeply humbled to think that I am able to affect how a student questions, wrestles with, or understands their world. I remember having those inspiring and thought-provoking moments as a college student, being completely enthralled by a theory or an idea, and that is what I hope I can give to my students.

Where to find Chelsea Newton

Office: SSH-108
Phone: 541-917-4837
Email: newtonc@linnbenton.edu
Office Hours: Wed. and Thu. 2-3 p.m.

I also love to see a student succeed in the class who was at first anxious and unsure about their abilities. It is these small moments that make teaching incredibly rewarding. To me, college is not only about learning content. It is also about developing personal strength and cultivating a flexible and independent mind.

Commuter: What are some favorite hobbies you enjoy doing outside of being here on campus?

CN: I live in downtown Corvallis and really enjoy strolling along the river and in the shops. I am always up for a good, thought-provoking lecture at the local bookstore or college. I grew up with a passion for dance, so I do try to take a class here and there when I have time. I have recently enjoyed taking ballet and yoga at the Benton Center here in Corvallis. Although I did not grow up in the country or own a horse, I have recently been looking into taking riding lessons. And of course I absolutely love to travel. I have been very lucky and my schooling has allowed me to study and

travel to places like Australia, Bulgaria, and England. If you are in college now, look into study abroad programs! College is the best time to travel ... you can live in a different country for an extended period of time, have something legitimate to do (studying), and meet lifelong friends.

Commuter: Where would be your dream vacation?

CN: I watch a lot of "Rick Steves' Europe" on OPB, and I have to say that I would like to rent a yacht and just jaunt around the Mediterranean. I would have a stopover in Italy, Greece, and Turkey. It really is the best of all possible trips: sun, water, history/culture, and really good food.

Commuter: If you could have dinner with your favorite author, singer, or actor/actress, who would it be and why?

CN: I would like to have dinner with Jeff Tweedy from Wilco. After that, the whole band would play "A Ghost is Born" from front to back.

Commuter: Is there anything else you would want students at LBCC to know about you?

CN: Although I teach at LBCC in the afternoons, I continue to manage a coffee shop called Java Network (in the Lakeshore Lanes complex) right next to LBCC. So I expect to see all of you for a coffee sometime in the near future!

Student Restores Creative Outlet

Maya Sharuma
Contributing Writer

LBCC student Tony Farley has spent time traveling far and wide, gaining new perspective. Now he's taking that experience and making a difference close to home.

Farley has been working on recreating a graffiti wall in Eric Scott Mckinley Park, known as Corvallis Skate Park, since last September.

After the previous graffiti was taken down six years ago, many artists lost a creative outlet. Brandon Cyrus Peery was one of the artists who wished to construct a new wall. When Peery and Farley discussed the idea with Benton County Arts Coalition, it was gratefully accepted.

"They liked the idea," said Peery.

Fortunately, they received \$1500 start-up funding for the project from Benton County Cultural Commission,



Tony Farley works on creating graffiti in Brandon Cyrus Peery's backyard.

which made their dream possible. "I'm very excited!" said Farley.

Ten members are working on the project whose occupations range from local artists, to college students, to teachers.

"It's going to be a great place for artists to get together. I think that graffiti is a wonderful

idea that should be embraced, rather than shunned because of the stigma which some people may have over graffiti," said Paul Kephshire, a contributor to the wall.

The wall will be installed by Sept. 18. It is a public wall, so anyone can display a painting once it's established.

For fundraising, there

will be an art auction featuring Benton County Skateboarding Alliance on March 26, in Corvallis.

Like other project members, Farley strives to bring people together.

"I'd like to see a sense of community."

Farley also wants the expression of that community to be visible and to light up its people.

Though he may seem like an ordinary young man, his aspiration to create a bright community is noteworthy.

He is an active, caring person, whose travel across America got him involved in making a difference in society.

Farley has a great passion for education and wanted to be more educated, so he studied at Oregon State University and the University of Oregon, taking classes in psychology, anthropology, and sociology.

"It was awesome and

rewarding. I learned a lot," said Farley, about taking classes at both schools.

At 19, before he went to college, with only \$1000 in his pocket he traveled across the country with his friends.

"We ate lots of ramen and peanut butter," said Farley in laughter.

As they traveled from Montana to California, to New York, and to Georgia, the poverty he saw filled him with anger.

"People weren't homeless. They were just poor," said Farley, recalling his trip.

In any state he traveled, there were people filled with anger, fear and violence. Seeing people that were so suspicious gave him an impression that nobody trusted others.

"I got to understand current America by traveling. I would do it again," said Farley.

The situation that he saw with his own eyes drove him to promote positive social change within his community.

Authors Return from the Grave

Audrey Gomez
Copy Editor

The Valley Writers Series hosted a Valentine's Day Dead Author Reading on Monday in the LBCC Library Reading Room.

Passersby occasionally peaked through the partition separating the group of thirteen as they ate lunch and enjoyed performances in the back of the library.

Instructor and Writers Series' coordinator Lucette Wood opened the event by reading an excerpt of Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper."

Next, writing and English instructor Chris Riseley read "The History of One Tough Motherfucker," a poem by Charles Bukowski. Riseley said, "Without Bukowski, I wouldn't have gone into writing myself."

In the most elaborate presentation, instructor Jed Wyman had four helpers with props as he read from Sir Thomas Malory's "Le Morte D'Arthur." Yesenia Espailat, who held a cloaked hobby horse and "caparison" sign said, "I had been wanting to come and read but got nervous. Jed said, I need a sign held."

As promised there was a prize, a box of chocolate, for the best costume which went to writing instructor Alison Ruch who read an excerpt from "Mrs. Dalloway" by Virginia Woolf.

The Valley Writers Series has events scheduled for the rest of the year. Each year they invite visiting writers. Wood said this year, they are hoping increase the invitation to include two



Lucette Wood came to the Valentine's Day Dead Author Reading as "The Yellow Wallpaper" author Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

writers per term.

Wood has coordinated the Valley Writers with Jane White since funding was cut two years ago. Wood said, "It's just a lot of volunteer effort, so we're trying to get student activity funds back."

In an effort to help raise funds, the Valley Writers Series is holding a silent auction this spring. Look for more details later this month.

Donations to the auction can be made at NSH-101 through March 25. The Writers Series is looking for a wide range of items: original artwork, books, crafts, jewelry. "That would keep the Series alive," said Wood.

LBCC employees can also donate a portion of their paycheck to the Valley Writers Fund through the LBCC Foundation office.

Making Art "PC"

Jill Mahler
Staff Writer

What happens when you combine discarded computer parts and creativity? You get recycled art. On Wednesday, Feb. 16, LBCC Fine Arts Instructor Ken Herrin is hosting an arts and crafts workshop where participants will be able to create recycled non-toxic computer parts into works of art.

Rinee Merritt is an LBCC graphic arts student and a staff member at the Diversity Achievement Center. She also works as a substitute teacher for JOBS, a federal program to train individuals who support their families through public assistance.

According to Merritt, the recycled art workshop will serve as "a new way to bring community and students together." Recently, while working for JOBS, Merritt noticed there were several bins of used computer parts at the Lebanon Computer Recycling Work Site (CRWS). She realized there was an opportunity to repurpose those parts.

CRWS is a branch of JOBS, where members transform recycled parts from LBCC and Garten Services in Salem. With assistance from CRWS, Merritt partnered with the JOBS Program and Fine Arts Instructor Ken Herrin to create a workshop to provide an outlet for people to participate.

Although supplies are provided, pliers, gloves and cutters are in limited supply, so feel free to bring your own. The only cost to participants is a nonperishable breakfast item, which will be donated to the LBCC Food Bank.

During the three hour workshop, the sky is the limit. "You can make jewelry or sculptures, if you can create a robot in three hours go for it," said Merritt.

Recycled Arts & Crafts Workshop

Where: SSH - 209
When: Feb. 16
Time: 5-8 p.m.
Cost: A nonperishable breakfast item



Upcoming Valley Writer's Series Events	
What: Reading by Author and LB Instructor Alison Ruch	What: Presentation by Oregon's Poet Laureate, Paulann Petersen
When: Wednesday Feb. 16 at 10 a.m.	When: Wednesday, April 6 at noon
Where: F-104	Where: Library Reading Room

Commedia dell'Arte: Improvised Farce on the LB Stage

Lisa Singleton
Contributing Writer

Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Gather 'round, the art of Commedia has come to town! Come to your markets, parks and stages; we offer laughter and fun for all ages!

This invitation might be like the kind you would have heard in mid-15th-century Italy when the Commedia dell'Arte was created. Entire families would make a living by entertaining people while traveling from town to town. There are those who even called it "Theatre of Survival," because making people laugh evolved into a profession.

A Commedia play is mostly unscripted and improvisational. The players follow a type of "scenario" and take their skills to the stage for the audience to enjoy firsthand.

Actors generally adopt one of four stock character types, and make their living from performing them. Those types are simply called the Lovers, the Old Men, the Servants (or Zanni), and the Captain. They typically always wear the



Tony Brown

Commedia dell'Arte costumes by Dan Stone

same costumes, follow the guidelines of that character, and embody the art of the Commedia in their actions.

You may be familiar with this type of theatre through the madcap mayhem of such greats as Charlie Chaplin, The Marx Brothers, and The Three Stooges. They all took their art form from the Commedia; believing that the Lazzi, improvised

Love, Lies, and Lunacy adapted from *Les Fourberies de Scapin* by Moliere

When: May 13, 14, 19, 20 & 21
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Russell Tripp Theater
Cost: \$12 Adults
\$9 Students and Seniors
Tickets on sale April 26

Auditions

When: Feb. 23 & 24
Time: 6 p.m.
Where: Russell Tripp Theater

comic dialogue or action, was what kept audiences coming back for more.

February 25 marks the second annual celebration of International Commedia dell'Arte Day. Commedia troupes worldwide are planning performances, and the central event will be held in Turin, Italy. In honor of the event, the LBCC Performing Arts Department will be holding a reception with refreshments in the South Santiam Gallery on February 16 at 2 p.m. An

introduction to the Commedia dell'Arte will be presented by Theater Director Dan Stone. There is a great collection of masks, costumes and artwork in the gallery to look at as well.

A class in the Commedia dell'Arte will be offered this spring, listed as TA 190. According to Stone, this is a highly rewarding and physical form of acting, with the purpose being pure entertainment.

The troupe will be performing its own brand of Commedia this spring in a play loosely adapted from Moliere and Flaminio Scala. Utilizing aspects of these and other traditional scenarios, director Dan Stone will be producing Love, Lies, and Lunacy.

Commedia was invented to make people laugh, and we could all use some of that.

Besides, it is just flat-out funny to see people fall down, and then jump right back up to do it all over again.

So come one, come all, and enjoy the crazy antics of Commedia dell'Arte. A form of slapstick silliness that will tickle your funny bone before you part.



Associated Student Government

Pizza Social



Wednesday, February 16, 2011, Noon - 1 p.m.

- Commons cafeteria
- Takena Hall
- Outside the Student Life & Leadership office

ASG needs your student stories to help stop budget cuts at LBCC!

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Persons having questions about or requests for special needs & accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at LBCC, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321, Phone 541-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.



Write. Snap. Edit. Print.

The Commuter is looking for reporters, photographers, cartoonists, columnists, and copy editors to join the staff.

Applications available in The Commuter office (F-222).
Call (541) 917-4451 for more info.

We the People
MAKE YOURSELF HEARD!

EVERY THURSDAY

**1630
IN THE
FIRESIDE ROOM**

**LINN-BENTON
ASSOCIATED VETERAN COMMUNITY**





Ongoing

Gallery Features Northwest Artists

North Santiam Hall Gallery
Salem artists Carol Hausser and Cynthia Herron, two painters whose abstract styles offer an engaging contrast, share the walls with Eugene artist Beverly Soasey, who works in mixed-media sculpture and assemblages. They will be on display until Feb. 25.

Gallery Features Theatre Art

South Santiam Gallery
Instructors Dan Stone and Leslie Hammond present hand-molded masks, hand-sewn costumes, and photographs of past set designs used in past theatre productions. They will be on display through Mar. 4.

Help LBCC Punch-Out Hunger!

Hot Shot Café
For each food item a customer brings in until the end of the term, they will be eligible for

extra stamps towards free coffee and a chance to win \$20 in gift certificates for the Hot Shot Café! The café is located next door to Student Life and Leadership.

Wednesday 2/16

Reading by Covallis Author and Instructor of Creative Writing, Alison Ruch

10 a.m. • F-104
Alison Ruch writes short fiction and teaches composition and creative writing classes at LBCC. At the reading, she will introduce her fiction collection project, talk about themes she likes to explore, and reveal where she finds inspiration. She'll read one of her short stories, answer questions, and, if there's time, coordinate a short fiction writing activity.

Theatre Art Gallery Reception

Noon - 1 p.m. • South Santiam Gallery
Join instructors Dan Stone and Leslie Hammond in opening their art gallery featuring art from past theatre productions.

How to Accomplish Your Academic Goals: Lebanon

1:30 - 2:20 p.m. • LC-202 Free.
I can't lose my Financial Aid! Please help me plan!
2 - 3:30 p.m.
Learn how to plan your classes for success and avoid losing your

Financial Aid money. Please sign up to reserve your seat, as there is limited space. You can email barstaw@linnbenton.edu or call 541-917-4782 to reserve your seat.

How to Accomplish Your Academic Goals

3 - 3:50 p.m. • WH-225 Free.

Mixed Media Arts and Crafts Workshop

5 - 8 p.m. • SSH-209
The DAC will host the workshop featuring Ken Herrin, LBCC Fine Art Faculty, as the instructor. Non-toxic computer parts from the JOBS/CRWS program along with wire, findings, glue guns, etc. will be available for folks to use to create a work of art to take home at the end of the workshop. We only ask that each participant bring a donation of a non-perishable breakfast food item to be donated to the LBCC Student Food Bank.

Thursday 2/17

Bowling Bash!
3 - 6 p.m. • Lakeshore Lanes
Bring you and your family for our annual Bowling Bash. Bowling is free and this year mini golf will be added as well (weather permitting). There will be prizes, pizza, and pop. Sponsored by the Student Programming Board.

Eyes on the Prize Film Series

4 - 6 p.m. • DAC
Sponsored by the DAC Student Leaders.
Free.

Friday 2/18

Benton Center Acoustic Showcase

12 - 1 p.m. • BC
Free.

Sunday 2/20

Children's Play "Nick Tickle Fairy Tale Detective"

3-4 p.m. • Russell Trip Performance Center
Granny can't tell her favorite fairy tales because someone really cruel and evil is stealing all the props! Bread crumbs, magic beans, a basket of goodies, a glass slipper - all missing! The future of fairy tales is at stake and it's up to the title character to set things right. With detective reasoning, his connections to the fairy tale underworld, plus some dumb luck, Nick Tickle is out to locate the Mysterious Figure who's been pilfering these props! He may require some help from clever audience participation, but Nick Tickle is out to solve his toughest case ever! \$9 for adults and \$7 for children under 18.

Monday 2/21

President's Day
College closed.

Tuesday 2/22

Illumination Project

11 a.m. and 1 p.m. • F-104
This is an interactive theater that focuses on social justice topics and this performance will focus on racism. The interactive format of the play allows the audience to step in and intervene. Audience members can dynamically change the performance outcome. The Illumination Project challenges the viewpoints of both the audience and the actors.

Wednesday 2/23

Recycled Art Show

TBD • TBD
Garbage is garbage, and recycling is recycling, right? Wrong! In this recycled art show, you will find a mix of the two as students put their creative minds, and love for the earth into these more than just interesting pieces of artwork. So either come and get involved in this amazing show of creative perspective and ecologically conscientious art, or come to enjoy and browse the R3 Art gallery in Madrone Hall instead, either way let us all support the reduction, reuse and recycling of "garbage" by attending our ecologically aesthetic display this Winter Term at the R3 Art Show! We hope to see you there!

If you have a Campus Short, please e-mail them to commuter@linnbenton.edu.

What do you think?

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome.

Submit your thoughts to
commuter@linnbenton.edu



The Commuter attempts to print all letters received, although we reserve the right to edit for grammar and length. Letters that raise libel, poor taste or privacy concerns will not be printed.

Academic Success Seminars

Boost Your COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE!

Just drop in, or sign up in WebRunner (formerly SIS) under "Study Skills."
www.linnbenton.edu/go/webrunner

Accomplish Your Academic Goals

Wednesday February 16 Albany WH-225 3:00 - 3:50 p.m.
Wednesday February 16 Lebanon LC-202 1:30 - 2:20 p.m.

Academic Success Seminars are organized by the Learning Center. For more information and to sign up, visit SIS under "Study Skills" or call 541-917-4684.

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Classifieds

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

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

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

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

Help Wanted

See Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101) or see our website at www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment. LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.

Accounts Payable (#8740, Albany) Here's a part-time job (36-40 hrs/week) that is looking for fast and accurate data entry and skills in telephone, Excel, Outlook and Word.

Relief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator (#8751, Dallas, OR) If you have the skills to work in a waste water plant and can work full-time, here you go!

Administrative Assistant

(#8741, Albany) Company is looking for team player who pays attention to detail and competent in MS Office, Facebook, Linked In and web in general.

CWE Wastewater Tech (#8632, Albany) Are you a science major and want to work at night? Work days right now, but has potential for becoming a graveyard position. Get experience and credits while working and getting paid \$10.45/hr to start.

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Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.

A Good Roommate is Hard to Find

Carli Gibson
Contributing Writer

What's the good thing about going to a community college and living at home? Not having a roommate and not going through what Sara Matthews (Minka Kelly) went through in "The Roommate."

Sara and Rebecca (Leighton Meester), the psychotic roommate, work together to create an okay movie about an obsessive roommate who seeks to be Sara's only friend.

The movie seemed to stay at a pretty slow pace. However, I had high hopes for this movie, so I tried to ignore the slow start and waited for the intensity I'd hoped for.

Throughout the beginning and middle of the movie, we slowly start to realize that there's something odd about the roommate. (Go figure, right?) The movie

continued to stay slow, never really picking up the pace.

It isn't until Sara goes home with Rebecca for Thanksgiving that Sara realizes something is wrong.

There wasn't as much action as I would have expected - not until the end anyway (which actually seemed to be the only good part of the movie).

However, the big problem with this movie was its predictability. It was obvious what Rebecca was going to do; either she was going to threaten someone, seduce someone, or kill someone. Believe me it won't come as a surprise in any case.

The next problem is that the movie didn't keep its promise. It was displayed as a "Mystery and Suspense/Horror," but none of that was there. The predictability ruined the suspense and the mystery. There wasn't any horror to it.

I mean sure, a few people die, but it was nothing special.

In fact, according to Rottentomatoes.com, "Devoid of chills, thrills, or even cheap titillation, The Roommate isn't even bad enough to be good." Ouch!

Overall, I believe that Meester and Kelly gave a good performance. The director of this movie was Christian E. Christiansen. The movies he's directed are recent, but somehow I've never even heard of them. Movies like: "Zoomers" (2009) and "Crying for Love" (2008); needless to say, neither of them got very good reviews.

After looking into this director's background (and seeing this movie), I was surprised he got known actors into this movie. I'm also surprised it wasn't a straight to DVD movie.

I suppose if anything is to be learned from this

movie, it's this: Make sure your roommate is taking their medication.



THE ROOMMATE

Countdown to Summer!

07 weeks until Summer Session registration begins.

Jump ahead in your degree program!

Choose from one, three, four, eight or 11-week on-campus classes.

Depending on the subject, you could complete a full science or language series (that's three terms worth) of courses in just one term.

Schedule of classes available online!

Registration begins April 10. Classes start June 20.



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Oregon State
UNIVERSITY



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THE COMMONS FARE

2/16 - 2/22

Wednesday

Dishes: Prime Rib with Popovers • Turkey Saltimocca • Tofu Stir-fry with Broccoli
Soup: Billy-Bi • Split Pea

Thursday

Dishes: Hungarian Chicken • Sushi • Chile Rellenos
Soup: Loaded Potato Chowder • Chili Mac

Friday

Chef's Choice

Monday

No School

Tuesday

Dishes: Spice Rubbed Beef • Moroccan Chicken • Portabella Polenta w/ Mascarpone & Sun dried Tomato Pesto
Soups: Chicken Consommé • Corn Chowder

Mobius K Strikes a Chord in Corvallis

Magdalen O'Reilly
Cartoonist

Local band Mobius K has established itself in the Corvallis community. In past years, they have had many incarnations, cycled through different band members, styles, and names. But now they seem to have found their rhythm, and music lovers in Corvallis are responding.

They have a unique sound that to the passerby sounds like a combination of funk and rock. Lead singer Cliff Rost calls it "riff rock."

"Riff rock is something very common in classic rock," he explained. "Songs like 'Satisfaction' by the Rolling Stones or 'Carry On My Wayward Son' by Kansas are prime examples. Usually the song is based on a riff or hook rather than the composition as a whole. We try and capture that classic rock sound. Most of our songs were written to keep the riff in the foreground."

Although Mobius K is not yet as well known as their classic rock predecessors, they do have a strong local fan base.

In addition to their riffs, they keep their performances fresh by mixing up the instruments.



Tony Brown

Local band Mobius K plays a show at the 2nd Street Beanery in Corvallis. (from left: Nick Lower, Mik McGrath, Cliff Rost, and Jimi Rost)

During set changes, band members will trade off and start the new set, playing crowd favorites like "Fable" and "Southern Comfort."

Currently, Mobius K is planning a new album and testing out some of their newest material at their live shows. At past performances, free CDs have been given out to promote the band.

Information can be found on their Facebook fan page. They play the last Saturday of every month at the downtown Beanery on 2nd Street in Corvallis, and there will be a special performance at the Wandering Goat Coffee Company in Eugene, Feb. 19.

"The Fighter" Brings Blood, Sweat, and Tears

Shayne Morgan
Contributing Writer

I know what you're thinking as you begin reading this, another boxing movie. This one, though, is worth seeing.

"The Fighter" has received a lot of press attention lately, with the recent

nominations for seven Academy Awards. "The Fighter" is based on the true story of welterweight underdog Micky Ward (Mark Wahlberg), documenting the fighter's life and his dysfunctional family. Micky has to make a choice: family or fame.

"The Fighter" takes place in working class Lowell, Mass., the streets littered with white-trash and crack whores. The one place where Micky can get away from it

is the boxing gym. He is trained by his crack

addicted half brother Dicky Eklund (Christian Bale), who was a known fighter until he succumbed to crack addiction. His alcoholic mom, Alice Ward, doubles as his manager and promoter played by Melissa Leo, who was a regular in the "Law & Order" TV series.

Micky meets his love interest, Charlene (Amy Adams), after taking a beating from an over-match put together at the last minute by his mom. Charlene, full of piss and vinegar, tries to help Micky get back on track to take his life and fight game to the next level.

The fight scenes in this movie are brilliant, as real as they come. Micky is faced with some tough choices to make. Does he take a new trainer and dump his delusional crack-addicted half brother Dicky? He has other offers, but can he break away from his dysfunctional family?

"The Fighter" has it all, love, laughter and sheer madness. It's funny and fun. You'll leave this movie with a lesson in life.



redbox review

A-Team (Rated PG-13, Runtime 119 min.)

Ashley Christie
Page Designer

After seeing "Never Say Never," the Justin Bieber documentary, I had the inexplicable urge to watch someone get punched in the face.

Lucky for me, my local redbox had just what I needed, last summer's blockbuster "The A-Team."

For those unfamiliar with the 1980's TV series, "The A-Team" is a testosterone driven action flick about a Military Special Forces team who is framed for stealing US Treasury printing plates and over a billion dollars cash. They are dishonorably discharged and sentenced to ten years in separate prisons.

The four men, Face (Bradley Cooper), Murdock (Sharlto Copley), B.A. (Quinton "Rampage" Jackson), and Hannibal (Liam Neeson), have to break out, catch the real crooks, and clear their names.

I'm not old enough to remember the original TV show. All I knew about the series was that Mr. T was on it and he pitied the fool. (Which, as it turns out, is a quote from "Rocky III" and has nothing to do with the show.) But none of that really matters.

Mick LaSalle of the San Francisco Chronicle describes the film as "an experiment in propulsion and personality over substance and story." Things like a coherent plot are irrelevant in this kind of movie. I rented it for two reasons: one, to see things get blown up and two, Bradley Cooper is really pretty.

The action in this movie is great because it has to be. It's not like they spent a whole lot of time on character development. There's gun-play, car chases, aerial acrobatics, and



my personal favorite, a flying tank. As preposterous as it sounds, they actually fly a tank.

"The A-Team" has one other thing going for it, the casting. Dialog is always an afterthought in these kinds of action movies. But, as unimportant as those sarcastic quips and witty retorts are, you still need the right personality to say them.

Neeson brings a certain credibility to the role of Hannibal no matter how outlandish the rest of the movie is. Cooper has made a career of being a smart-ass-pretty boy, and he doesn't break the mold here. Jackson is a UFC Light-Heavyweight champion who, after one look, you know is someone you don't want to mess with. And Copley, a relative newcomer, delivers some of the film's funniest one-liners with charisma and charm.

As you can imagine, critics didn't give "The A-Team" glowing reviews. But most agreed that it was fun. Michael Phillips of the Chicago Tribune went so far as to call it "reasonably entertaining."

Nobody involved in the making of this movie took it, or themselves, too seriously. The writers, director, and actors all seem to know that what they're doing isn't great, but enjoyable. As long as you aren't expecting too much more than big explosions and mediocre jokes you'll have a good time too.

PERSPECTIVES

So ... Justin Bieber?



"I hate him. He is so ugly!"

Kate Ness,
Engineering



"I pay no attention to him."

Rysasa Harris,
Computer Science



"I just can't see why he is so idolized."

Chris Barksdale,
Natural Resources



"I don't really like his music."

Cesar Reyes,
Computer Science

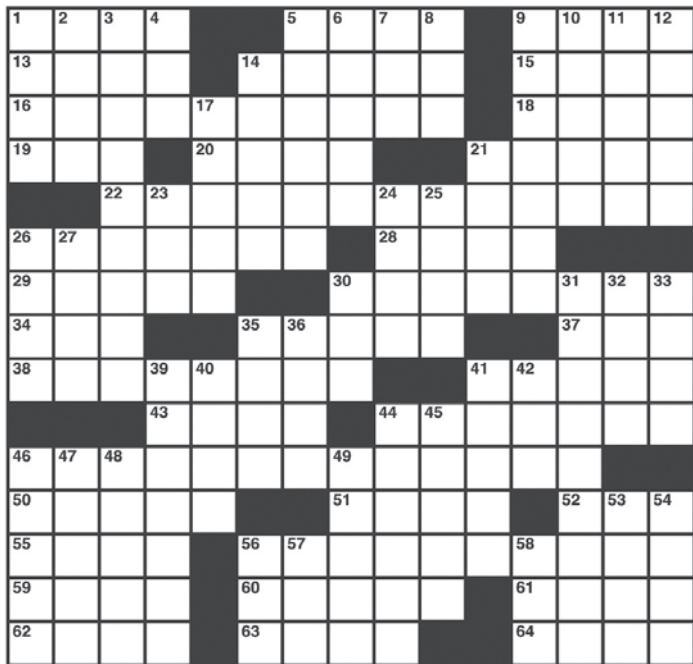


"He needs a haircut."

Kelsay Fery,
Administrative Professional

HOROSCOPES

- ACROSS**
- Magic amulet
 - With 13-Across, "Lonely Boy" singer
 - UPS deliveries requiring payment
 - See 5-Across
 - Ship to remember
 - Related
 - Window treatment support
 - Christmas trio
 - "__ Beso (That Kiss)": 5- & 13-Across hit
 - Prefix with China
 - Lukewarm
 - Proceed cautiously
 - The flu, for one
 - Dynamic start?
 - God
 - Most intelligent
 - Loooooong time
 - Blocker of offensive TV material
 - Penn & Teller, e.g.
 - "Put your John Hancock on this line"
 - Desert rest stops
 - Chaplin's fourth wife
 - Weepy people
 - Sports show staple
 - Orderly display
 - Has a meal
 - Repair
 - Reddish horse
 - No longer in trouble
 - Oklahoma city
 - Numerical relationship
 - One-named Deco artist
 - Personnel dept. IDs
 - Greenish-yellow pear
 - Trees and iPhones, briefly
- DOWN**
- Riot squad spray
 - Weighty obligation
 - Harry Potter's creator
 - Bit of granola
 - Bamboo-eating critters
 - __ superiority: obvious confidence
 - Juan's "one"
 - Was in first place
 - King Arthur's realm
 - Giraffe relative
 - "Let's eat!"
 - Like a catty remark
 - Expensive furs
 - Dance company founder Alvin
 - La., on old U.S. maps
 - Bug in a colony
 - "__ Said": Neil Diamond hit
 - Minimum-range tide
 - March 15th, e.g.
 - First of 13 popes
 - "__ Believes in Me": Kenny Rogers hit
 - His name wound up on a lemon
 - Plaintiff
 - Partner of turn
 - Rabbit look-alikes
 - Smooths, as hair
 - Smidgen of sand
 - Tests by lifting
 - Greek "π"
 - Vintage Jaguars
 - Planet
 - Toy magnate __ Schwarz
 - Like cool cats



By Fred Jackson III

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

D	A	F	T	S	A	T	E	S	Z	A	P	S					
O	D	I	E	C	H	E	S	T	O	R	S	O					
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T	E	A	S	H	O	N	E	D	S	E	E	R					

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- "__, vidi, vici": Caesar's boast
- Mountain goat's perch
- Words after "Look, Ma"
- Sanctified
- Way beyond pleasingly plump
- Prez on a penny
- Kind of electricity
- Big name in garden care
- Rabbit look-alikes
- Smooths, as hair
- Smidgen of sand
- Tests by lifting
- Greek "π"
- Vintage Jaguars
- Planet
- Toy magnate __ Schwarz
- Like cool cats



ARIES
3/21-4/19

Everyone thinks you're so nice and friendly. But I'm not fooled. You're a mean, sadistic bastard who finds joy in torturing others. I think that's why I like you so much.



TAURUS
4/20-5/20

Big things are happening for you and that's great. But you're forgetting to make time for the little people who were there in the beginning. They miss you, though I can't fathom why.



GEMINI
5/21-6/21

You are crazy! I'm not talking the "tee-hee - you cwazy" kind of crazy either. You're straight insane. Try not chewing people out this week - even just an hour would make the world better.



CANCER
6/22-7/22

You've been waiting and planning for this for what seems like an eternity. Now it's over, so what are you going to do with your free time? Get a hobby and stop bothering me.



LEO
7/23-8/22

It seems like everyone around you has been more annoying than normal. Don't worry about it. Remember, you're better than they are.



VIRGO
8/23-9/22

You know how you're always gossiping and talking behind people's backs? People find that really annoying. But I'm not one of them, so keep it up. Good work!



LIBRA
9/23-10/23

Life feels like it's spiraling out of control. You have a lot of questions and are looking for a definitive answer. Don't panic. The answer is 42.



SCORPIO
10/24-11/21

Is there love in your future? There is if you have anything to say about it. Just don't be too disappointed when they ... I mean ... if they turn you down.

SAGITTARIUS
11/22-12/21



The other day I saw a unicorn running through the woods. I don't have any real reason for telling you this, just wanted to share 'cause hey, it was a frickin' unicorn!



CAPRICORN
12/22-1/19

You run yourself ragged tackling everyone else's problems. I know that you could do it better, but sometimes you just have to sit back and let others fend for themselves.



AQUARIUS
1/20-2/18

Pull out your trident and nets! There are some jerks in the world, and it's up to you to take 'em down for the rest of us - no mercy.



PISCES
2/19-3/20

Polar ice caps are melting and sea levels are rising. One day the fish people will inherit the earth and rule over us all. You'll be ready, won't you?

Add/Drop

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Maggie O'Reilly

Feeling anxious about midterms? Depressed by the amount of studying you need to do?

Try C-Dol! We guarantee a letter grade of C or better!

Side effects may include:
Coughing, sneezing, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, insomnia, dizziness, hives, cerebral hemorrhaging, blindness, polyps, twitching, bladder incontinence, seizures, bloating, oozing lesions, leprosy and/or slow death.

THE COMMUTER STAFF

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

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Wilson-McGrath

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

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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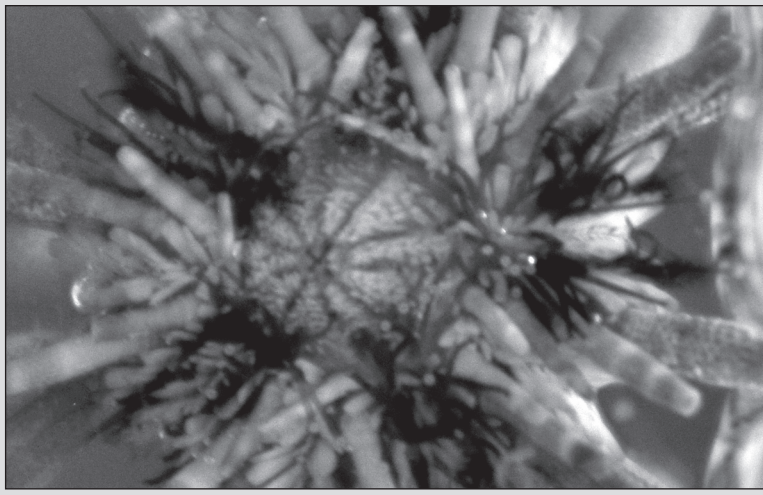
Last Issue's Puzzle Solved

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

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

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Where on Campus?



Do you know where this picture was taken?

Answers must be e-mailed to commuter@linnbenton.edu by 8 a.m. the following Monday. One winner will be drawn from correct entries each week and will win a prize donated by the campus bookstore.



Last Week's Answer: The rope divider in front of the theater next to the ticket office in Takena Hall.

Last Week's Winner: Sean North Sr.! Please stop by The Commuter office (F-222) and see Tony to claim your prize.

Poetry Spotlight

Things I've learned from a waterfall painting...

By Teagan R. Lochner

Thoughts are flowing all around
Up and down and every which way.
I'm astounded by your beauty
And I cannot look away.

A river never fears a fall,
Never hesitates, takes all
Leaps without question,
Faithing for something,
New in each moment.

A river seeks a point of peace,
A placid mirror where I can see the truth.
How do I rush like a river and not trickle like a tear?
How do I run without guilt or live without fear?

Questions flowing all around
Up and down and every which way.
I'm astounded by your beauty and I cannot look away.



The LBCC Poetry Club meets Tuesdays to share poems they've written about a given prompt.

MINUS GRAVITY

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Ben Carson

Prised Bananas

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Mason Britton

COMING ATTRACTIONS

I Am Number Four

Nine aliens land on Earth and try to blend in with the humans. Three have already been killed and not-so-typical teen John Smith (Alex Pettyfer) must choose to fight or flee, because he is number four.



Rated: PG-13 • **Runtime:** 110 min. • **Genre:** Alien

Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son

Ten years ago, Martin Lawrence first starred as an FBI agent who put on a fat suit and wig to protect a beautiful woman. Now, after his stepson (Brandon T. Jackson) witnesses a murder, both have to don the latex padding at an all-girls school.



Rated: PG-13 • **Runtime:** 107 min.
Genre: Unnecessary Sequel

Unknown

Liam Neeson is in a car accident while on a business trip and when he wakes up, he can remember who he is but no one else, except his cabbie (Diane Kruger), can. It's a little like "The Bourne Identity," but the complete opposite.



Rated: PG-13 • **Runtime:** 113 min.
Genre: Amnesiac Action

Sources: [Imdb](http://imdb.com), [Yahoo! Movies](http://Yahoo!Movies.com), Fandango.com

Bieber: Never, Just Never

Ashley Christie
 Page Designer

"What's a Bieber?" -Ozzy Osbourne
 Because my editor hates me, I was assigned to review the documentary "Justin Bieber: Never Say Never." Because I hate myself, I agreed to it.

Now, like Jane Goodall and the chimps, I had to fully immerse myself in Bieber fandomonium in order to better understand the appeal of the 16-year-old Canadian pop sensation and write a fair and unbiased review. I went opening night and saw it in 3-D, surrounded by giggly tween girls and their moms (and one middle-aged man sitting by himself in the front row).

Even when I begged and pleaded with my so-called "friends" to go with me, not one of them agreed; I couldn't even bribe them by offering to buy their ticket and a \$10 tub of crappy popcorn. So I went all by my lonesies, bought my ticket, settled into my seat near the back, hoped no one recognized me, and waited for the screaming to begin.

I didn't have to wait long.

Once the lights dimmed, there was a palpable excitement that filled the theater as the girls waited for their first glimpse of the social networking sensation. I also overheard one of their moms let it slip, "Oh goody, it's starting," without even trying to hide her sarcasm.

The film opened on a computer screen with someone checking their email and watching YouTube videos. First, "Sneezing Panda," then "Twin Babies Laughing," "Surprised Kitty," and a couple others before we finally got to a 12-year-old Bieber singing a cover of Chris Brown's "With You."

At the mere sight of him, high-pitched squeals rang throughout the theater. Next came a montage of baby photos and home movies which lead to a round of "awwwwws" all around the room. After that were clips of fan interviews.

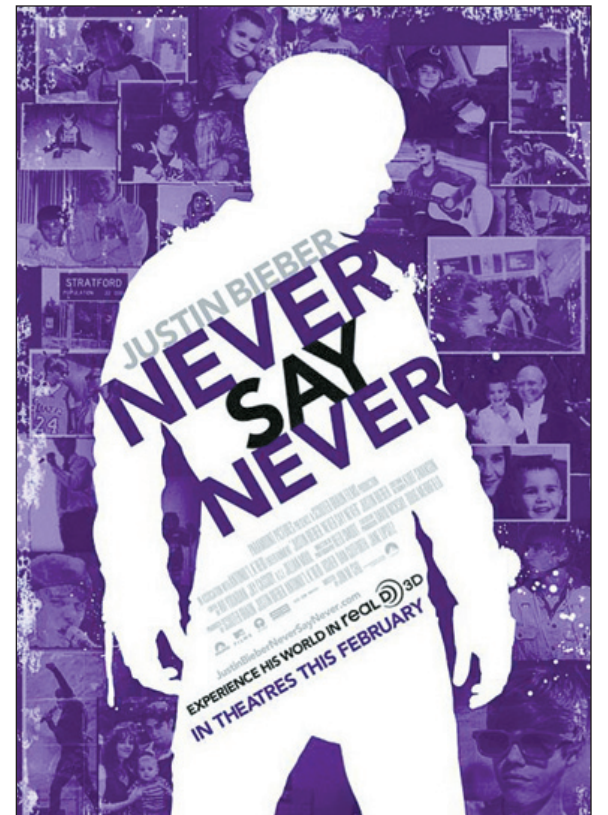
One fan proudly announced that she knows everything about Bieber, including his birthday, March 1, 1994 at 12:56 in the morning, which caused a girl in my audience, who sounded like she was already fighting back sobs, to announce, "Ohmigod, she's crazy!"

Oh, now a shot of him topless. More screaming commenced.

The movie cut back and forth between interviews with his family and management team, concert performances, and backstage footage. It's all aimed at painting a portrait of a young boy, from humble beginnings, with an exceptional talent, just following his dream.

Genevieve Koski, of A.V. Club, described the documentary as, "essentially a propaganda film, indoctrinating teens and skeptical parents into the Bieber Army one adorable baby photo and pandering fan montage at a time."

Everything was all a little bit too polished, too perfect. And I don't feel as though I got to know anything more about Bieber than I did before -



except that he's Canadian, and he's not above eating a doughnut he pulled out of the garbage.

A large portion of the film is interviews with his management team, and Koski critiques, "Although he's in nearly every frame, Bieber is an elusive figure in the movie. He never engages with it, leaving his various handlers to craft his legend."

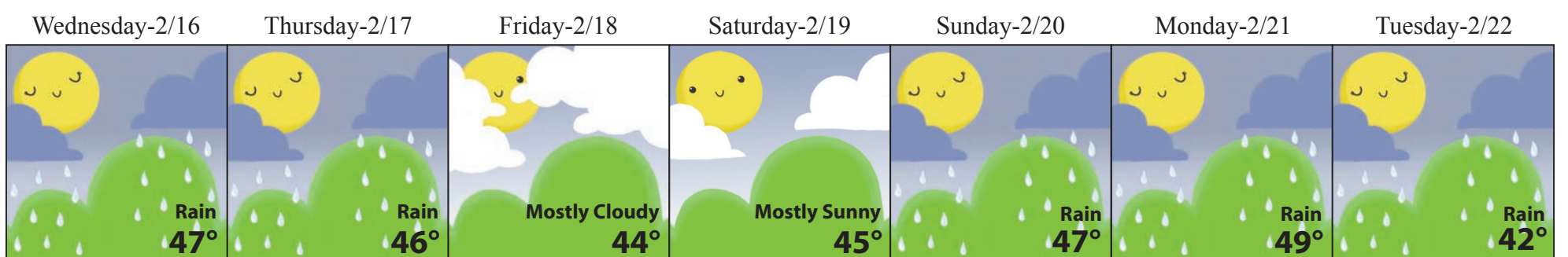
When we weren't listening to praise from the people whose bills Bieber pays, we got shots of crying admirers who swore they're going to be Mrs. Bieber one day. Mike Hale, of the New York Times, writes that "the most compelling visual in this story is all those screaming girls."

I guess I can't judge those girls on screen, or the ones in my audience too harshly. It was just over a decade ago that I pledged my undying devotion to another Justin. (But I never cried or had ludicrous delusions about our wedded bliss, calling myself "Mrs. Timberlake.") Do you think this is how New Kids on the Block fans felt when 'N Sync first arrived? I do know that I've never felt so old as when a concert promoter compared Bieber to the Backstreet Boys in one scene and the girl next to me asked her mom who the Backstreet Boys were.

Maybe if I liked Justin Bieber's music, or thought he was even a little bit cute, or was a 13-year-old girl, I would have liked "Never Say Never." But I don't, and I'm not, so I didn't. Even as a movie it didn't hold my attention. I was much more entertained by the singing and dancing of the girls in the row ahead of me than the singing (if that's what you want to call it) and dancing on screen.

If you do know a Belieber (a.k.a. a Bieber fan) and get dragged to see this, I'm sorry. But hey, it could always be worse, you could be watching Hannah - oops, I forgot, Miley Cyrus does have a cameo. You're doomed.

Weekly Weather Predictions



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