



LB's Week That Was

The Commuter's Photo Gallery shows a wide variety of activities, from pizza to poker, taking place on campus over the past week.

Page 7

Opening Soon

The Corvallis Community Theater presents their spring musical "Ragtime," opening tomorrow and running through Memorial Day weekend.

Page 9



THE

COMMUTER

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a weekly student publication

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Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

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Dinner recognizes student leadership

Will Parker
The Commuter

LBCC honored its student leaders at the 2007 Student Leadership Recognition Dinner last Wednesday and swore in the incoming members of the 2007-2008 Associated Student Government and Programming Board.

Speakers included Counselor and Phi Theta Kappa Advisor Rosemary Bennett; Dean of Students Dr. Diana Watson; Multi-cultural Center Director Victoria Nguyen; Outreach & Retention Specialist Valerie Zeigler; and Student Activities Coordinator Ann Marie Yacobucci.

The outgoing Associated Student Government President, Joey Markgraf, was honored with the College Employee of

the Year award at the end of the dinner.

The Student Programming Board featured one returning student, Naomi Anderson, who will serve as the Team Coordinator. She replaced Brittaini Hawthorne who was the previous Team Coordinator.

By contrast, almost half of the Associated Student Government is comprised of returning students, including J.J. Quinlivan, who was sworn in as the new ASG president after serving last year as an ASG representative.

Only seven of the available student government positions are currently filled for '07-'08, the same as for '06-'07, though the business representative was swapped for a social science representative.

▶ Turn to "Dinner" on Pg. 5



photo by Gary Brittsan

ASG President Joey Markgraf passes the gavel to his replacement J.J. Quinlivan last Wednesday at the 2007 Student Leadership Recognition Dinner in The Commons. Quinlivan went on to acknowledge outstanding participation in campus clubs and activities.



photo by Matt Hamel

Spice Up The Night

ASG Student Ambassador and Business and Supervisory Management major Heather Boldt enjoys a Salsa dance with her partner Caleb Leonard during a salsa dance workshop held Monday evening in the Activities Center.

Students question tuition increase at hearing

Joe Hodgson
The Commuter

Free food and the chance to be a part of the budget process attracted between 15 to 20 students to the first of the scheduled hearings about the proposed \$1 fee increase to subsidize the Loop and Linn shuttle buses and to create safer parking lots at all LBCC centers.

LBCC President Rita Cavin, Associate Dean of Academic Development and Library Services Kristen Jones, Director of Business Services Jan Konzack and Bruce Thompson of the security department comprised the panel answering questions and providing information at the hearing Monday in the Alsea/Calapooia Room.

Also present to answer questions and provide specialized

information were Associated Student Government President J.J. Quinlivan and Vice President for Academic Affairs Carol Schaafsma.

Jones introduced the panel and Quinlivan had opening remarks followed by President Cavin, who explained the existing needs that make the increase a desirable step.

"The largest student complaint regarding the parking lots—Albany Campus, Benton Center and Lebanon—is lighting, sight lines and accessibility," Cavin said. "The other issue is our partnership with the Loop system and the fact we have not participated the last year because of budget cuts. We have to pay our share as we did not pay last year and our ridership has increased."

▶ Turn to "Tuition" on Pg. 6

The Weather Through the Week

Source: Yahoo! Weather Service

High 69
Partly Cloudy
Low 42

Wednesday

High 71
Sunny
Low 43

Thursday

High 70
Partly Cloudy
Low 42

Friday

High 70
Partly Cloudy
Low 45

Saturday

High 74
Partly Cloudy
Low 44

Sunday

Index

Opinion.....2,3
Campus News.....4,5,6
Photo Gallery.....7
Arts & Entertainment.....8,9
Sports.....11,12

Opinion Editor: Elizabeth Uriarte
Editor-In-Chief: Adam Loghides
commuter@linnbenton.edu

OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter:
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Please sign and keep to 300 words or less.

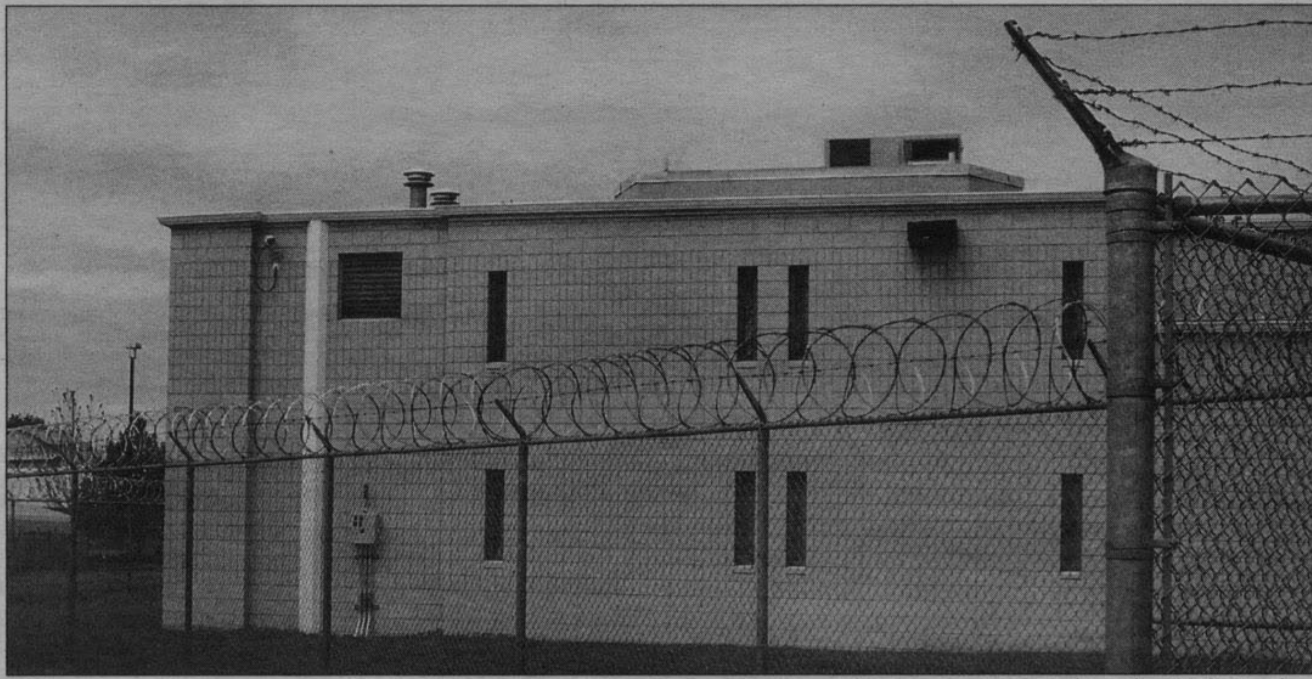


photo by Walt Hughes

The decision to drive under the influence could land you in a cell like this one at the Linn County Jail.

Blowing a .08 can result in a sobering experience at Linn Jail

Walt Hughes, Sr.
The Commuter

Two weeks ago we began to explore the modern day twilight zone that can be entered by driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. I haven't seen it around or heard it referred to for a long time, but the movie "Signal 30" provided a highly graphic example of what can result when a person fails to be alert and in control of an automobile.

It conveyed the chilling and sober message of what could result from a lack of proper caution and control when driving, and was required viewing for first time DUII offenders at one time.

So you had a few beers, enjoyed time with friends and decided to drive home without giving much thought to the amount of alcohol you consumed. Now you have the dubious pleasure of experiencing steel bracelets around your wrists while you sit in a backseat cage. You watch the tow truck load your car and then you are driven to jail.

The police car pulls into the prisoner-loading bay. You watch the doors close behind you. Enjoy the view; it may be your last look at the outside world for a while.

Once those big doors are closed the officer will open the car's door and assist you out into the bay with your hands still cuffed behind your back. An outer door to the jail slides open and you walk inside the first room. The outer door has to close again before the inner door will open. It is usually there that your handcuffs are removed and you are thoroughly searched for contraband and weapons. Once that is done, you are escorted into the intake area.

Once inside you are asked to remove everything from your pockets. It will be inventoried and placed in a storage container for return to you when you leave. Now you're ready to finish processing into the jail and you get the chance to make use of some of the latest modern technology.

In the case of a DUII, you start off facing a very sophisticated Breathalyzer machine that is roughly the size of a home computer.

Hopefully, you are not bashful, because the next step in the process will be quite embarrassing if you are. You are handed a cotton jumpsuit in the jail's favorite colors (usually bright red or orange) and escorted to the changing area where you are told to strip naked, and every orifice in your body will be searched to make sure you don't have anything hidden. While some still do not, most city, county and state incarceration facilities have gone to the full body search since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

You will get the chance to be introduced to another of the modern day technological wonders as you step up to be fingerprinted. Where once your fingers were depressed onto an inkpad and then carefully rolled to leave an impression on the fingerprint card, the new technology lets you place your finger against a screen where it is electronically scanned and entered into the system for referencing and comparison against the millions that are already on file.

Where once your so-called "mug shot" would have been rough quality black-and-white, today's high quality digital cameras will record you in full living color for future reference. Also, under new laws, a simple mouth swab will collect a DNA sample for recording and comparison against a national database.

By now, it's way past your bedtime and you've probably figured out that you're not going home anytime soon as you're put into a holding cell to wait while they make arrangements to provide you with more permanent accommodations. Forget school in the morning. While the academic world continues, you will either be sitting in a cell or talking to a judge as you enter a plea and ask for bail.

As you sit staring out into the booking area, you notice an odd looking black chair with straps and handcuffs attached to it. The chair and the holding cell next to yours, with only a mattress on the floor, are for people who want to be rowdy; both look as if they can accomplish the job.

The night grows later. You feel as if you've stepped into the surreal atmosphere of the twilight zone as you sit contemplating why you're there instead of being snug in your bed at home. Your car has disappeared into the black hole known as the impound lot, and you are about to embark on a new adventure as a deputy arrives to escort you down a brightly lit hallway. Heavy steel doors slide open and then close behind you as you follow him ever deeper into the bowels of the county jail. A few turns and you arrive at your new accommodations, a brightly lit and sterile looking room containing a bed and a toilet, and find one of the jailers courteously holding the door open for you to enter.

Somewhere along the line it hits you that taking a cab home would have been a far better choice. The \$6 cab fare that you saved is a drop in the bucket compared to what this new adventure will eventually end up costing.

Thanks to the courtesy of Sheriff Tim Mueller, Sgt. Craig Vogt, and the staff who gave us a tour of the Linn County Jail. Next week, we'll take an in-depth look at the court system, which is the next step in the process.



Somewhere along the line it hits you that taking a cab home would have been a far better choice.

WALT HUGHES

PERSPECTIVES

"What is the best thing you've done for your mom on Mother's Day?"



• Troy Krajewski •
Mechanical Engineering

"This year I got her tickets to see her favorite band—Gypsy Kings."



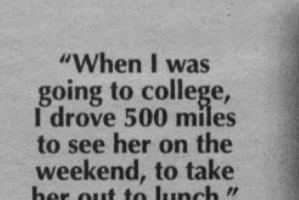
• Allenie Downing •
Journalism

"I took her to the Japanese Garden, and bought her a ring with all of my sister's and brother's birthstones wrapped around hers."



• Sam Watkins •
Education

"Me and my siblings make her dinner and do the dishes and try to give her a day of relaxation."



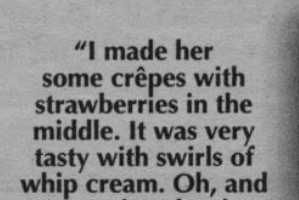
• Jeff Crabill •
Math Instructor

"When I was going to college, I drove 500 miles to see her on the weekend, to take her out to lunch."



• Alina Nicholas •
Animal Science

"It's not fair, because my mother's birthday is on the second, so I just throw everything together."



• Derick Smith •
Exercise & Sports Science

"I made her some crêpes with strawberries in the middle. It was very tasty with swirls of whip cream. Oh, and I gave it to her in bed."

Compiled By Aaron Broich
Pictures By Gary Brittsan

Opinion Editor: Elizabeth Uriarte
 Editor-in-Chief: Adam Loghides
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

OPINION

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College community must be embraced

Jan Fraser-Hevlin
 The Commuter

In light of the recent Virginia Tech tragedy and speaking from the perspective of a college counselor, it is apparent that there are many issues educational institutions must continue to confront. In addition to providing emergency plans and ensuring the physical safety of our students and staff, there is much more to consider. We face, for instance, the devastating impact of mental illness on our students, the ongoing need for a secure and reliable referral process for mental health treatment and limited financial access to prescription medication for the mentally ill.

Overriding all of this is the complex issue of isolation and loneliness, sometimes compounded by minimal language skills, physical differences, socio-economic disparity, and a multiplicity of other cultural factors that are an inherent part of what diversity is all about.

As a counselor, I am sensitive to the fact that some of our minority students are feeling particularly vulnerable at this time. For me, it is a tragedy in itself that these citizens, permanent residents and visitors might fear being singled out and stigmatized because an Asian man was the perpetrator at Virginia Tech. During times like this, painful memories may surface for members of minority groups. These are memories of past mistreatment, isolation, rude comments and a general recognition that they have not always felt welcome in their communities.

Dee Curwen, from the LBCC ESOL department shared a story about an immigrant student who once said to her: "I come to class every day, I speak with no one and no one speaks with me, and I go home to my apartment and talk out loud just to hear myself."

What happened at Virginia Tech is a profound reminder that now is the time for students and staff on our campus to reach out to those who feel alone (regardless of their ethnicity, language, socio-economic status, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, and so on). Can we each step forward and ask ourselves how to be more consciously inclusive in the community we live? Can we model inclusive behavior to others and begin to extend ourselves in creative and caring ways, to individuals who are unfamiliar or different in some way from the majority culture? By doing so, people who feel isolated and separate may benefit in ways unknown to us and begin to experience a sense of belonging.

We can only hope that small daily gestures of inclusion and acceptance will take us on a different path to a place where pain, anger and rejection may gradually be transformed into hope and a feeling of connectedness within our own community.

Call of duty should be heeded by all

Elizabeth Uriarte
 The Commuter

Most (possibly all) of the females on my dad's side of the family have experienced sexual abuse.

It's something of a norm in my family; almost a perverted rite of passage, similar to the female genital mutilation that still prevails in some parts of the world.

The molestation was so common that few of us ever

felt the need to try to stop it. My sister and I are that "few." A couple of years ago she and I decided to tell the police about our experiences of abuse by our paternal grandfather. As a result, most of our dad's family disowned us; our grandfather died before making it to trial.

We thought that was the end of it. Though we didn't get true justice, at least we got it out in the open and put a stop to it happening to any other Uriarte girl.

We were wrong.

I recently received a message on MySpace from an aunt informing me of another case of sexual abuse in the family that involved one of my cousins. Honestly, this wasn't surprising, as I had heard similar informa-

tion from another aunt.

I sighed, closed the message without replying, and then e-mailed my sister to tell her what I'd just read. As expected, she reacted with the urge to once again

head into battle against the sickness of our paternal side. She saw it as our duty to intervene. Apparently she and I are the only two Uriartes with the balls to fight for what is right. As tired as I am with dealing with this, I know it is once again time to step in and prevent future generations

of Uriarte girls from being abused.

It's exceedingly difficult to face depravity head on. Even when people know that it is the right thing to do, they more often than not choose not to do it, because it is simply too much effort to attempt to affect change. It's easy to sit back and allow things to continue the way they are.

Where does an individual's sense of duty and social responsibility come into play? I think that if more people took the initiative to speak up for those who can't, the whole world could begin to move in the right direction. Doing what's right is rarely easy, but I couldn't live with myself if I just sat back and watched without intervening. Could you?



Doing what's right is rarely easy, but I couldn't live with myself if I just sat back and watched without intervening.

ELIZABETH URIARTE

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Controlling guns will not stop violent crimes

To the Editor:

In light of Ms Uriarte's article on the Second Amendment, I would like to mention a few statistics that need to be added. First of all, this is not a personal attack against Ms. Uriarte, but an addition of facts that I feel needs to be represented.

Now, people may or may not know this, but the District of Columbia happens to have a restriction of guns in place. Since the restriction was put in place in 1976, the crime rate has jumped 134 percent.

Now when I say crime, I'm not just saying "gun crime," I'm talking about thefts, assaults, domestic violence, etc.

Let's look at some European countries which have similar gun bans. In Scotland, there's an average of 2,000 Scotts attacked per week. I don't see how taking away the right to own and bear guns could possibly reduce

violent crime. It may just impact gun related crime, but we should look at the big picture and include all crime.

Here's one more thing I would like to add: How many times have you heard on the news about instances where guns were used to protect someone or in any other good law abiding manner? Personally, I haven't heard about it very often, if at all. Annually, there are about 2,000 cases in the U.S. where a person or persons used a gun to protect oneself, another or property from a criminal.

Yes, I do believe that there should be compromises that we as law abiding citizens should accept in order to keep guns and weapons out of the hands of criminals who would use them to harm others.

In conclusion, I don't see how removing the Second Amendment will significantly reduce crime rate in the long run based on the things I mentioned and more that I did not. On a lighter note, Larry the Cable Guy said, "If guns kill people, then I can blame bad spelling on my pencil."

Matthew Severance

The Commuter

STAFF

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

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Editor-in-Chief:

Adam Loghides

Opinion Editor:

Elizabeth Uriarte

Copy Editors:

Michelle Turner, Michele Ulriksen, Colleen Franzoia

Photo Editor:

Jesse Skoubo

Photographers:

Will Parker, Gary Brittsan

A & E Editor:

Aaron Broich

Paginator:

Melissa Chaney

Contributing Editors:

Walt Hughes, Loren Newman, Joe Hodgson, Kristina Bennett

Sports Editor:

Jake Rosenberg

Sports Writers:

Joe Bryan, Chris Kelley, Caleb Hawley

Ad Manager:

Maggie Busto

Ad Assistant:

Maria Gonzalez

Advisor: Rich Bergeman

Phone: (541) 917-4451, 4452 or 4453

Fax: (541) 917-4454

Address: 6500 SW Pacific Blvd., Albany, OR 97321

Advertising Department: commuterads@linnbenton.edu

Editor: Adam Loghides
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus.

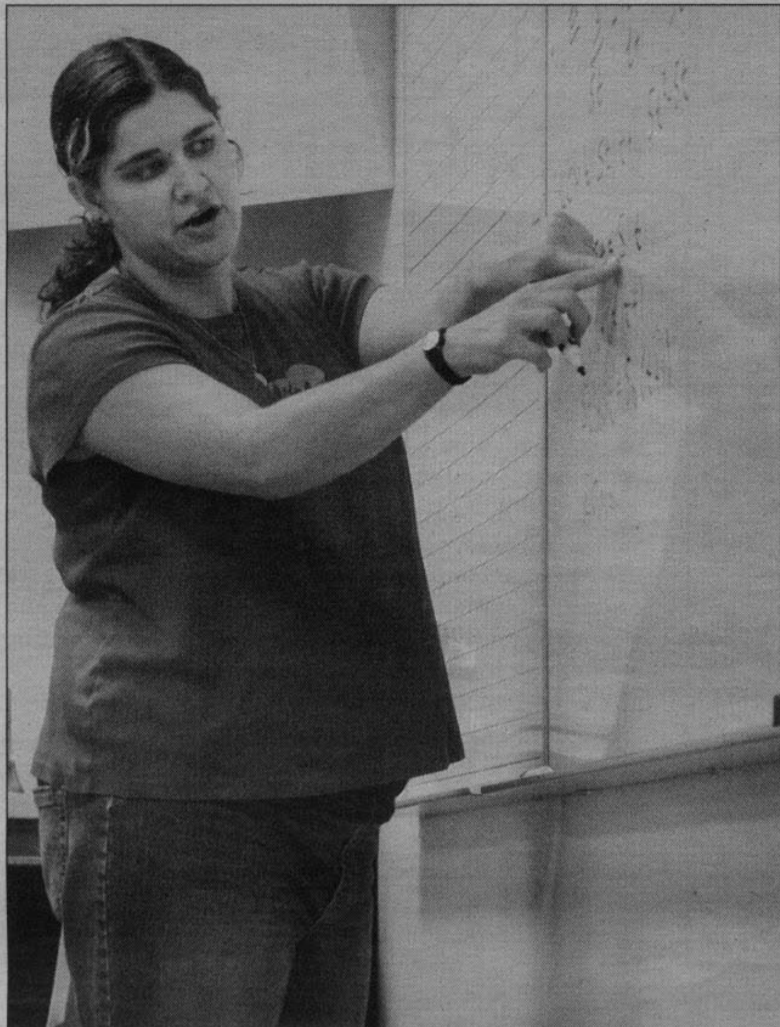


photo by Adam Loghides

Math instructor Nicole Francis demonstrates the ins and outs of algebra to her Math 95 class on Monday.

Teaching math beats desk job

Kristina Bennett
 The Commuter

Attending math class is often something that most students would rather not have to do. Math instructor Nicole Francis has found a way of bringing excitement to what most believe to be a mundane subject.

How long have you been teaching at Linn-Benton?

This is actually my first year teaching, and my first year at Linn-Benton. My family and I used to live in Maryland due to my last job. I was an analyst for the Department of Defense.

I just got tired of sitting at a desk in front of a computer all day. I have always loved math and always thought that I would be a scientist or mathematician.

Where did you go to college?

I grew up in McMinnville, but went to graduate school at Arizona State. After leaving Maryland, we moved back into the area. My husband is a graphic designer and it is nice that we

OFFICE HOURS

both work close to home.

What are some of your and your family's hobbies?

Though we have another one on the way, my son Isaac is almost 2, and so we go to the playground and play in the backyard. It is hard to make time for much else. We actually went to the Gilbert Museum last weekend in Salem. It was pretty fun.

This week is Math Awareness Week. What do you hope students gain from it?

So far we have just been playing games and things in the courtyard. I have been helping out with the logic puzzles, which are pretty fun, but there are lots of different things going on. It is just nice to get to know students outside the classroom, and being able to show them that you can have fun with math is neat, too.

Have you found it hard to teach and be pregnant at the same

time?

This time around it has been pretty hard, but the Math Department has been very flexible with me. During this pregnancy I have really craved Taco Bell, which is strange because I'm not a big fast food fan. I am having another boy, maybe that has something to do with it.

You always have a good sense of humor during class. Who is your favorite comedian?

Amy Sedaris. She is on this show called, "Strangers with Candy," that is on Comedy Central. It's hilarious.

What are your plans for the summer?

Well, we will have a newborn baby by then, and I am not teaching, so I'm pretty sure that we will have our hands full with plenty to do.

What is something that most students would be surprised to know about you?

I really like to read. Lately I have been into 18th century literature such as Jane Austin, but I just really like literature.

Hawaii trip on tap for summer

Adam Loghides
 The Commuter

LB students who would like to examine everything from the tiniest particles yet discovered, to the universe as a whole, will have the opportunity to do so this summer thanks to the Physical Science Summer Experience in Oregon and Hawaii.

The adventure will encompass lab and in-class activities at LBCC, OSU and the Big Island of Hawaii. Participants will become more acquainted with the universe in which we live and will journey from the very small to the very big, learning about four main topics: Atomic and Nuclear Physics, Geology, Climate and Weather, and Astronomy and Cosmology.

The experience will take place from Aug. 6-27. The base cost, including text material, airfare, basic lodging, entry fees, lectures and field trips is \$1,290, plus any applicable tuition. Due to the special features of this class, enrollment is limited to 12 students. However, if the minimum enrollment is not met by June 1 the experience will be cancelled and all fees will be returned.

Instructors Greg Mulder and Deron Carter will team up as primary guides and facilitators. Mulder expects the class to be exciting because students will have the opportunity to see places they normally only can read about in textbooks. "What makes this class exciting to us is that we'll actually get to go to the places that our textbooks describe and actually get to see where cutting edge science is happening."

Special presentations from staff members at various field research stations in Oregon and Hawaii will enhance the learning experience.

Field trips and hands-on experiences will include the nuclear reactor at OSU as well as various areas of geologic interest throughout Oregon. While based on the Kilauea Volcano on the Big Island of Hawaii, students will visit Volcanoes National Park, the National Atmospheric Observatory, and one or more of our planet's Great Observatories.

Participants in the Physical Science Summer Experience must be capable of rigorous physical activities such as:

- Hiking several kilometers on rugged, steep terrain and loose rock while carrying a backpack

with at least 2 liters of water, some snack foods, flashlight and 2 kilograms of scientific equipment.

- Functioning in a high altitude environment that may have a reduced amount of oxygen and cause difficulty breathing.

- Tolerating inclement weather including extreme heat and cold. (Cold weather clothing and gear will be required.)

Students are encouraged to have a complete physical exam prior to participating, especially if they have health problems or considerations due to injury, illness or age.

Registrants are expected to participate in all activities and must be 18 year of age or older.

For more information, contact Mulder at ext. 4744 or e-mail him at mulderg@linnbenton.edu.

Commuter staff honored at ONPA Collegiate Day

The Commuter won nine awards, including three first place awards at the annual Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA) Collegiate Day.

Western Oregon University hosted the event last Friday, which included 15 Oregon universities competing for awards in 25 categories.

"We are remarkably proud of our staff and everyone who contributes to make this publication the best it can be day in and day out," said Editor-in-Chief Adam

Loghides.

Individual awards included: First Place Awards: Design, Commuter Staff; Headline Writing, Michelle Turner; Best Columnist, Erin Mallon

Second Place Awards: Best Writing, Elizabeth Uriarte; Best Photography, Chris Campbell; Best Feature Photo, Jesse Skoubo; Best Feature Story, Nancey West.

Honorable Mention Awards: Best Feature Story, Elizabeth Uriarte; Best Spot News Photo, Skyler Edwards.

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Commons

LBCC MAIN CAMPUS

MAY 9TH - MAY 15TH

Wednesday:

ENTREES: Baked Stuffed Snapper and Braised Lamb
 VEGETARIAN: Rommali Roti (flat bread) with Curried Vegetables
 SOUPS: Gazpacho (Chilled tomato/cucumber) and Cream of Broccoli

Thursday:

ENTREES: Lemon Chicken with Steamed Rice and Pork
 Lyonnaise - Stuffed Pork Chop on a bed of Carmelized Onions
 VEGETARIAN: Huevos Rancheros
 SOUPS: Grilled Vegetable Beef and Beer Cheese

Friday:

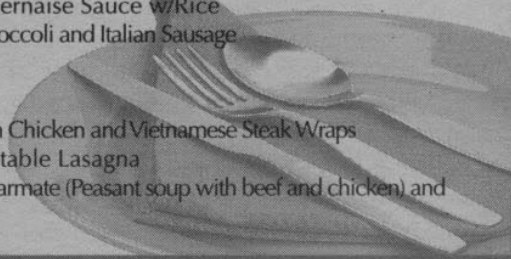
CHEF'S CHOICE

Monday:

ENTREES: Turkey Saltimbocca and Phad Thai
 VEGETARIAN: Portabella Mushrooms topped with spinach, a
 Poached Egg, and Bernaise Sauce w/Rice
 SOUPS: Cream of Broccoli and Italian Sausage

Tuesday:

ENTREES: Hungarian Chicken and Vietnamese Steak Wraps
 VEGETARIAN: Vegetable Lasagna
 SOUPS: Paysanne Marmate (Peasant soup with beef and chicken) and
 Vegetarian Tomato



Editor: Adam Loghides
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus.

Dinner: LBCC voting record below average

From Pg. 1

The lack of a full staff of student government positions finds its roots in the election held last term, in which only two of eight seats drew candidates. Other seats were filled by write-in votes or by appointment.

Even though the contested race for president helped draw a record 250 votes, nearly double the number from the previous year, it still represented only a small percentage of eligible voters. LBCC has over 18,000 students eligible to vote.

While the state and national voting averages for elections hover around 55 percent of potential voters, the LBCC student government elections have historically averaged less than 2 percent.

ASG officers, representatives sworn in

J.J. Quinlivan
 For The Commuter

The new members of the Associated Student Government were sworn into office last Wednesday evening during the Student Life & Leadership Recognition Dinner. We have a great team this year. The new ASG officers and representatives are:

•President: I'm a computer science major and hope to return to LBCC one day as an instructor.

•Vice President: Stephanie Ware was the ASG PR secretary in 2001 and has returned to school for a pre-pharmacy degree.

•PR Secretary: Christin Easton is a business major and a "blonde burst of energy!"

•Business Representative: Our business representative

resigned.

•Health Occupations Representative: Hannah Gzik was last year's Vice President and is a pre-pharmacy major from Eastern Oregon.

•Humanities Representative: Jamie Wilson is a biology major and she graduated from high school at the age of 15.

•Science & Industry Representative: Dani Peters is majoring in agricultural business management and raises her own registered Black Angus cattle.

•Student Services & Education Representative: Louann

Van Beek is majoring in computer science and hopes to one day fly helicopters in Search and Rescue.

We spent this past weekend at a retreat learning about our responsibilities and setting goals for this coming year.



I'm excited about the great things we will be accomplishing over the next year!

ASG PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Some of the areas we will be focusing on include:

•Publicity: Finding new ways to publicize events and let students know what the ASG is and how we represent students of LBCC.

•Politics: Register students to vote before next year's primary election and lobby for the new

science building.

•Team Development: Develop a team manual that describes what ASG does and how to do it and to restructure ASG to be more effective.

I'm very excited about the great things we will be accomplishing over the next year!

Our meetings are open to all students and held on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Student Life & Leadership conference room next to the Hot Shot coffee house. We represent the students to the LBCC administration and the state and federal governments.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can attend one of our meetings or stop by the Student Life & Leadership office to speak to a member of our team. ASG officers and representatives hold regular office hours each week.

Financial Aid 101: Knowing the facts eases the frustration

Editor's Note: This is the first of a three part series on how students can better handle their finances.

Marisa Silver
 For The Commuter

College is challenging and navigating financial aid is no exception. "People get frustrated," notes Karen Nelson, assistant director of financial aid. But getting the details is crucial for making sense of it all. As Nelson notes, "Students need to know, 'where are my funds coming from and how will I make it last?'"

The biggest challenge, according to Nelson, is "learning how to budget and live by a budget. There's not enough planning. You need to think about how to make [school] work for you, on top of regular expenses like rent and car payments."

Student loans help many people achieve their educational goals. These loans, whether they come from the federal government or a private lender, can have very different terms, repayment periods and interest. The term is the schedule of time to pay back the loan (typically ten years). The repayment period is the grace period before you must pay back the loan, usually

within six months of graduating or any time you fall below full enrollment. Interest rates are typically between 6.8 percent (for most federal loans) and 8.2 percent and above (for private loans).

Interest accrues at different rates according to the type of loan. Federal Stafford loans come in two types: subsidized and unsubsidized. The government pays accruing interest on a subsidized loan as long as you're in school. Interest accrues immediately on unsubsidized loans, as is the case with private loans.

It pays to shop around for the best rates when looking for a student loan, using a site like Bankrate.com for a side-by-side comparison. Some loans have origination fees and hidden charges. Still others offer cash-back incentives for a certain number of on-time payments, while some loans have pre-pay penalties, charging extra for early repayment.

As recent scandals have revealed, some schools maintain a list of preferred lenders in exchange for perks. These "preferred lenders" may not always offer the best terms on the market. Nelson stated that LBCC's preferred lenders are chosen for their "compatibility

with the electronic system to save students time and how they respond to customer issues. We don't receive any incentives from our preferred lenders."

You can reduce your loan burden in a variety of ways. If you plan on working in fields such as nursing or teaching, you can qualify for various loan forgiveness programs.

If you live in Corvallis, you may qualify for a Valley Individual Development Account (VIDA), administered through Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services (www.corvallisnhs.org).

Designed to augment the savings of low-income residents for goals such as education and home buying, a VIDA matches every \$1 you put in with another \$3. You can put in a maximum of \$1,334 to qualify for a total

of \$4,000 in matching funds, increasing your \$1,334 investment to \$5,334.

You can also save money in the long-term by paying off interest while you are still in school, reducing the amount you owe over the term of the loan.

Once graduated, you can save money by increasing the monthly payment of the loan. According to a calculator at Finaid.org, a \$10,000 loan at 6.8 percent interest has a minimum payment of \$115 per month. You would end up paying \$3,809 in interest above the \$10,000. However, by increasing your payment by \$35 to \$150 a month, you will shorten the loan by three years. Instead of paying \$3,809 in interest, you end up paying just \$2,594, a savings of \$1,215.

The financial aid office disburses federal funds, adminis-

ters grants and scholarships, and advises students. Advisors are available on a walk-in or by-appointment basis at Takena Hall from 10-11 a.m. and 1:30-2:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 10-11 a.m. on Friday. With their help, you can take some of the challenge out of financial aid.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. For more information about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101) x4788

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Part-time Admin/Office (#5244, Albany) Need someone 15-25 hrs/week during possible hours of 12pm-4pm or 2pm-5pm schedule. You need knowledge of Word and Excel. This could be a great CWE job.

HELP AVAILABLE

Call Valley AIDS Information Network for information, support and referrals on AIDS/HIV, STD's and Hepatitis. 752-6322 or 800-588-AIDS.

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Editor: Adam Loghides
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4453
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CAMPUS NEWS

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

Purity event says yes to abstinence

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

The purity conference, Pure Choice, returns to Corvallis this May for a radical presentation on sex and relationships at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, May 15, 16, and 17.

The conference will feature testimonies, a drama skit, hip-hop dance performances, and a medical doctor speaking about the dangers of an active sex life.

Pure Choice was originally inspired by a dream. In 2002, Pastor Rob Verdeyen said that he dreamt that God showed him a girl whose life was going to be destroyed by adolescent sexual activity if he didn't plan a purity conference in exactly 259 days. When Verdeyen began planning for the first Pure Choice the following spring at Corvallis High School, the only day that it could be held fell in line with what he said God had told him.

Lional Wilson, a local entrepreneur who is helping with the planning said, "It's interesting that every time we've done it, it falls on the same Tuesday—not planned that way, but that was the open week, including this time. Now we're doing it three days, but it's the exact same Tuesday."

A pre-show music performance begins at 6:15 p.m. with the local indie-rock group, The Relevance, playing all three days. Amanda Westfall and Ian Nelson will be MC-ing Pure Choice and sharing their testimonies about taking a stand for sexual purity.

"I am sick and tired of being ripped off by a culture and media that teaches sex without consequences, that sells sex that does not have the consequences of pregnancy and STDs and that serve emotional damage," Nelson said.

Wilson is excited about the healing that has taken place in past years. "I see a lot of people who've done things they wish they'd never done—people who've made decisions that have caused them to be living in guilt. They're living in shame and condemnation. They're living in this pain, and we believe that they need to be set free and that God is going to turn these people and set them free."

This year Pure Choice will not just be focused on reaching the youth, but also adults, single and married. The audience will be able to, "see and hear from real life people that have lived in this life, that have made poor decisions and of how they've been resorted and how there's this fresh joy that has come back to their lives."

◀ From Pg. 1

The money is specifically earmarked for the projects and cannot be used in any other way, she explained.

Upgrades, modifications and repairs of the parking lots will cost in excess of \$300,000 and can be accomplished over time in small increments, bite-size chunks that will be manageable and affordable with the ongoing fee.

A parking permit system has effectively been taken from consideration because the cost of administration of the process leaves no monies for improvements, she explained.

The floor was then opened for questions. Michael Brown, a forestry operations management major, asked what type of lights were currently in use and the panel had no one present with technical knowledge of the type of lighting and had to defer the question.

The panel also could not provide specific figures for subsidizing the bus because previous years' budget issues precluded participation in the program by LBCC and there are too many unknown factors to express a percentage value on how the fee money will be distributed between subsidy and safety.

They also said it would be an ongoing process.

Joelle Spencer, in the pre-nursing program, was curious about additional buses. Quinlivan said there is a commission working to determine needs and changes in the transportation partnership.

"LBCC has a very safe campus," Thompson said, "but the resources are stretched very thin and the escort service offered by security means that each time an officer escorts a staff or student to their car in the parking lot it makes another area of that officer's responsibility vulnerable."

More and better lighting, capable of showing true color, cameras and berm removal to improve line-of-sight between buildings and parking lot would make the lots easier to patrol and help the current level of staffing to hold, added Thompson.

The elected Board members will make the final decision regarding the increase and information gathered at various hearings such as this will put the students' voice in the process. "It is important to be seen and heard," she said, "so the legislators have a better sense of what is needed and are more likely to make the greater allocation."



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Newsroom Desk: 917-4453
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PHOTO GALLERY

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

Campus Springs to Life



photo by Gary Brittsan

Classes Without Borders

Beautiful spring weather over the last few days brought instructors and their students outdoors. Lin Silva (above) teaches her Technical Writing class in the Courtyard Monday, while earth science instructor Deron Carter (right) leads a Saturday field trip up Marys Peak with geology instructor Greg Mulder to observe the geological history of the area.

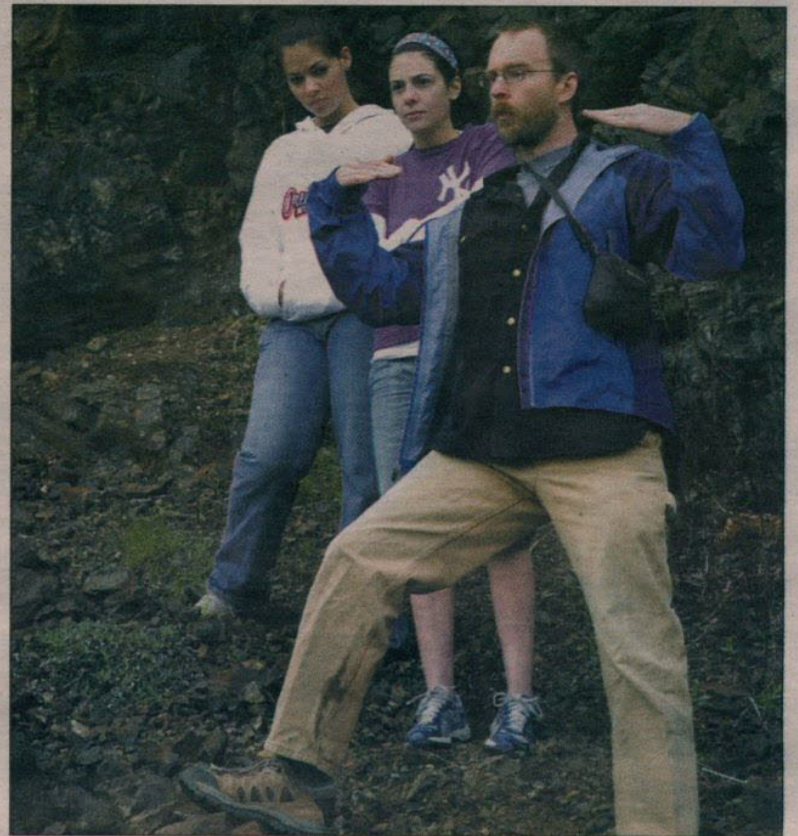


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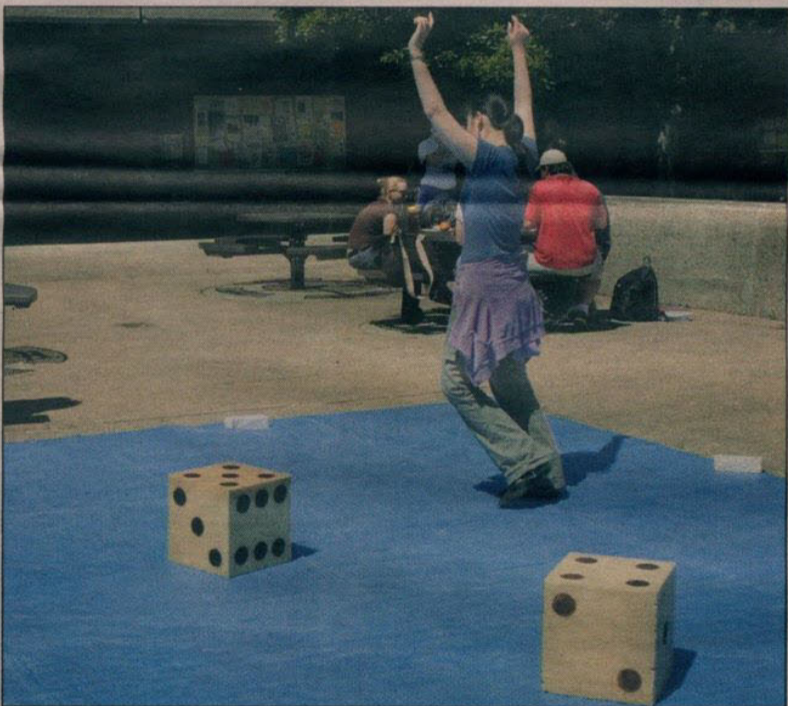


photo by Gary Brittsan

As Math Awareness Week rolls on, students and staff enjoy activities such as rolling foam dice for a high score on a mat, logic puzzles and games of set and in the Courtyard. Activities continue through Friday.



photo by Gary Brittsan

One hundred LB students take over Albany's Lakeshore Lanes on Pacific Boulevard just north of campus, which hosted a one-day social tournament last week. Facilities and food were provided to participating students at no cost. The event was sponsored by Student Life & Leadership.



photo by Will Parker

Keith Binder has his poker face on during final round play at last Friday's Texas Hold'em Tournament in The Fireside Room. Binder eventually won the event, which drew 23 players. Charles Bowman took second place and Phillip Jones was third.



photo by Adam Loghides

More than 50 Latino and Latina students from Albany's Calapooia and Memorial Middle Schools enjoy pizza in the Courtyard Tuesday as part of a program to introduce them to ways of reaching higher education and learning about non-traditional careers. The event included a tour of campus and a talk by Javier Cervantes, who shared his personal story about living in the United States and Mexico.

A&E Editor: Aaron Broich
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4453
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

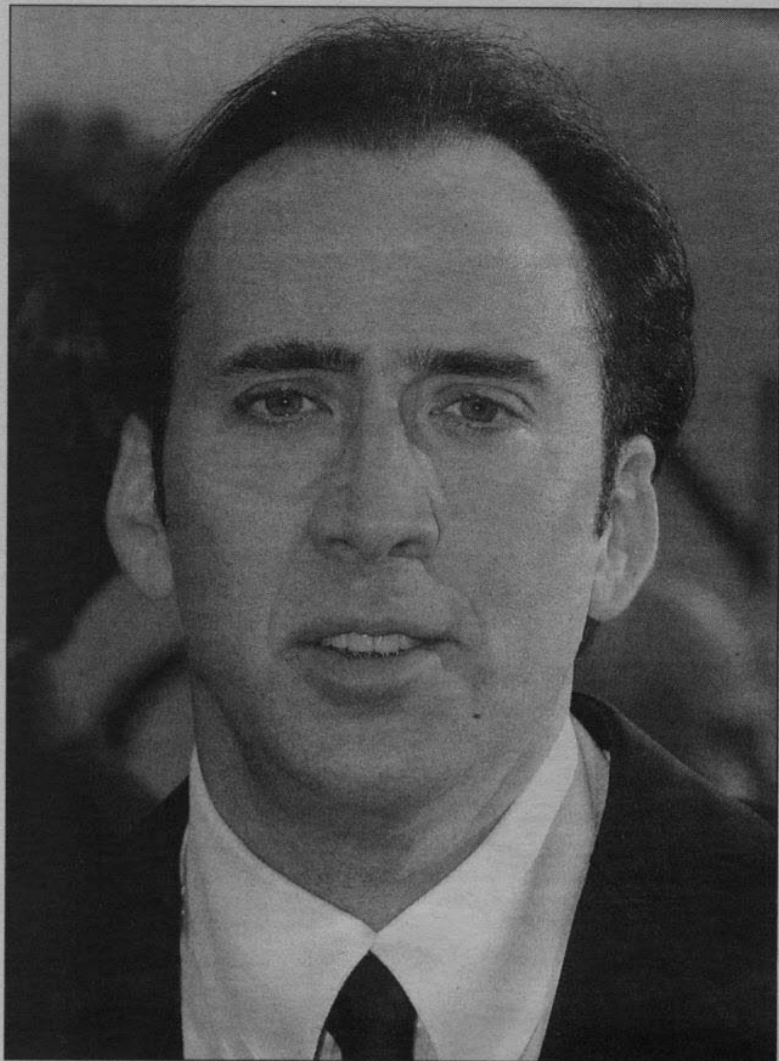


photo by MCT Campus

Nicholas Cage stars in "Next" as a musician with foresight.

'Next' has plenty up its sleeve

Gary Brittsan
 The Commuter

MOVIE REVIEW

★★★★☆
 Now playing at
 Carmike Cinemas
 in Corvallis

Loosely based on a book by Philip K. Dick (author of movie-inspiring "Total Recall," "Minority Report," and "A Scanner Darkly"), "Next" is a story about Cris Johnson, a third-rate Las Vegas showroom magician with one trick all of his own: he can see two minutes into his future. When a nuclear warhead is stolen by terrorists and hidden somewhere in Los Angeles, FBI agent Callie Ferris (Julianne Moore) sets off to track down Johnson, holding him to be their only chance of finding the bomb.

The opening act of "Next" features a bored Johnson (Nicolas Cage) performing cheap tricks for an apathetic audience, and then making his real money gambling. Casino security catches on that he's up to something, and thus begins an elaborate cat-and-mouse chase scene with Johnson narrowly avoiding capture time and again.

Enter Liz (Jessica Biel), the woman who proves to be the exception to Johnson's rule; for some reason, he can see more than two minutes into her future. Obsessed with finding out who she is, he habitually visits the coffee shop he knows she will eventually enter. Their first meeting is another of this movie's great scenes, showing Johnson's ability more from his point of view as he struggles to determine how to approach Liz,

failing repeatedly and trying again until he discovers the best way to proceed.

Being an action movie, "Next" has the obligatory chase scenes, fights, shootouts and explosions. The movie takes an interesting twist on these elements however,

since Johnson's ability makes him virtually invincible. This provides the best excuse for perfectly choreographed fight scenes to date, which are fun to watch despite their one-sidedness. Another of the more interesting scenes has Johnson searching through a building, which is presented as a drove of Johnson heading off in several directions at once, splitting into more people at every fork in the path until he finds what he's looking for, then returning us to where he started to wait for backup and head straight there.

The one major shortcoming of this film is the inconsistency of how exactly Johnson's powers work. As the movie progresses they become more ambiguous and all-encompassing, which is a disappointment after giving them such a strong setup. Overall, though, "Next" is a very enjoyable movie. It's well paced, and manages to keep you guessing despite the apparent omniscience of the protagonist. It won't make you ponder the meaning of life or delve into the failings of modern society, but it doesn't try to. It's an action movie through and through, and one worth seeing.

Singer brings brilliance to bossanova

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

Bebel Gilberto shines again on her third album, "Memento," a blend of Brazilian folk, bossanova, and pop with a tinge of electronic influences. Gilberto is the daughter of two legendary Brazilian musicians, Anton Carlos Jobim and Astrud Gilberto. Her parents have endowed her with much musical talent and she carries the torch with new innovations on "Memento."

Gilberto often sings with a breathy, soft voice. With intermittent moments of clarity she brings alive her native Portuguese language. On "Memento," one song is in English and three others have English sections. The rest is in Portuguese. Gilberto's voice has an atmospheric ring that gives the album a sensual tone, along with her romantic lyrics.

"Memento" opens with the song "Memento," a mid-paced ballad that sets the stage for the rest of the album. It's pop but it lacks the tacky drum-machine laden, glitzy, glamour trash that plagues the songs of many mainstream American pop artists. Despite programmed effects the song maintains that raw traditional Brazilian feel, as does the rest of the album.

Gilberto incorporates many different kinds of instruments in her songs but avoids making them too busy. "Os Novos Yorkinos" is a good example. The percussion is simple and driving; with drums, clapping and samba guitar riffs. Like many other songs on the album, the varying sparseness of



the music allows Gilberto's lovely voice to take center stage. The lyrics speak of being in touch with a lively New York community—"He always knows some place to go/Someone's house or someone's show." And, "The sun comes up/Over the high rooftops/Of lower Manhattan/Give me another cup/Before the music stops/Until we go home or somewhere else."

The highlight of the album is perhaps "Cade Voce?" It is layered with Gilberto's usual choice of elegant percussion and excellent acoustic guitar. Producer Guy Sigsworth worked his skills in programming a sliding fretless bass side that fits the parts of the song together seamlessly.

The album closes with the acoustic song "Words." Gilberto ponders silent reflections and the nature of love. "Words, I need some words/Just to explain my pain/And describe my misbehavior... Why we always have so much/Held inside?/Why does love never end?/Why we always go so far on the way?/When there's nothing to say?" It's a delightful ending.

"Memento" features pictures of the ocean on its front and back covers, and maintains this oceanic theme in the music through use of computer effects, tasteful cello and islander rhythms. The flute playing is amazing. Overall, Gilberto has created another brilliant piece of art. Brazil has a tradition of being home to Latin music's greatest artists, and Gilberto is fast become a staple of the genre, to which she incorporates a great diversity of styles and rhythms.

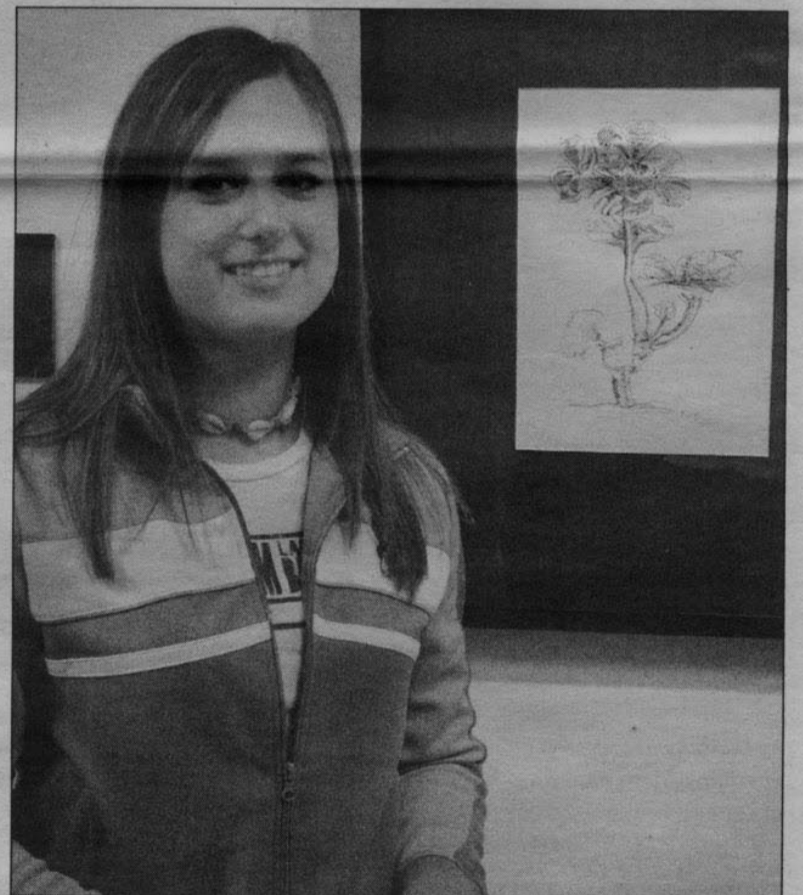


photo by Gary Brittsan

Art student Renee Crawford's drawing "Greenhouse Flowers" won the Fall Festival Award at the annual Juried Student Art Show now hanging in North Santiam Hall Gallery. The exhibit continues through June 7.

Voting continues for People's Choice Award in Juried Student Art Exhibit in NSH Gallery

LBCC Art Department

More than 50 paintings, drawings, photographs, sculptures and ceramics by student artists are on display on both floors of the North Santiam Hall Gallery through June 7.

Students and staff are invited to view the exhibit and cast their vote for the "People's Choice

Award."

A box with ballots is located on the ground floor lobby. The voting closes May 18, when the winner will be announced.

About 10 juror's awards were handed out at the reception last month in the form of cash and prizes. Juror for the exhibit was Bill Schumway, owner of Pegasus Gallery in Corvallis.

Tickets on sale for LBCC's 'Tenor' comedy

LBCC News Service

Tickets for LBCC's production of "Lend Me A Tenor" are now on sale in the Takena Box Office. The play opens May 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Russell Tripp Performance Center.

Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors age 62 and older.

The comedy by Ken Ludwig

is directed by LBCC theater instructor George Lauris, who describes it as a fast-paced hilarious farce; a three-ringed circus of slamming doors, misunderstandings, mistaken identities and sexual innuendo.

"Lend Me A Tenor" has been a comedy sensation ever since its arrival on Broadway in 1986. The play was the winner of two Tony Awards and has proved to be one

of the most popular comedies of the past two decades and has been produced in over thirty countries in sixteen languages.

Additional performances are May 26, 31, June 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, June 3 at 3 p.m. The June 3 performance is American Sign Language interpreted and is a benefit performance for the Performing Arts Foundation Scholarships.

A&E Editor: Aaron Broich
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4453
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

'Ragtime' opens at Majestic

Colleen Franzoia
 The Commuter

Corvallis Community Theater presents their spring musical, "Ragtime," directed by long-time CCT supporter, Mary Jeanne Reynales, at the Majestic Theater, in Corvallis. The show opens on Thursday, May 10 and runs through May 27.

"Ragtime" was written by Terence McNally (book), Stephen Flaherty (music) and Lynn Ahrens (lyrics). The show is based on a novel, of the same name, written by E.L. Doctorow.

Set at the turn of the 20th century, it's a story of the struggles immigrants faced during the rise of industrialization, labor unions, women's rights and black Americans struggling for equal rights.

"The first time I saw 'Ragtime,'" Reynales said, "the show ended and I sat there wishing for a Third Act." There are some shows that touch a cord in the heart, she added. Without the positive support she received from music conductor, Rob Birdwell, the assistance of Richard Wagner, her production assistants and the guidance from her long-time

love, David Grucza, completion of this dream would have been difficult, added Reynales.

This is a powerful, moving show highlighting the struggles of Coalhouse Walker, a black musician played by LBCC student Michael Mouzong. Through the show his son, Coalhouse Walker III, ages and is performed by different actors including Mouzong's son, Nathan Mouzong, Nathaniel McCullough and Kobe Nettles-Pledger. Included in the cast is LBCC instructor Charlene Wimbley-Gouveia who is in the Harlem Chorus.

Coalhouse becomes involved with a family led by the talented Jeff Martin (Father) and the beautiful voice of Emily Tyler (Mother). "Ragtime" is the first show for Martin in 14 years when he starred in Albany Civic Theater's "The King and I" in which also starred his wife, Susan Breckenridge, who is also in this cast (Emma Goldman.)

When an unthinkable tragedy occurs, the plans Coalhouse made for the future are destroyed.

Reynales also thanks her production staff, musicians, designers and assistants who helped complete her dream of bringing "Ragtime" to Corvallis.



photo by Colleen Franzoia

Emily Tyler plays Mother in the Corvallis Community Theater presentation of "Ragtime," which opens tomorrow.

'Hot Fuzz' leaves viewers with warm, fuzzy feeling

Theodore Mintesnot
 For The Commuter

As unfair as it is, a filmmaker's sophomore effort must inevitably be compared to his first.

For Edgar Wright, Simon Pegg and Nick Frost, who previously worked together on the BBC comedy "Spaced," the notion of a follow-up to their nearly flawless 2004 hit "Shaun of the Dead" must have been daunting. The filmmakers take the familiar troupes of the zombie movie and use them to make an insightful, hilarious, and occasionally even touching comedy "Hot Fuzz," about no-longer-20-somethings who are suddenly forced to grow up.

Made with a lot of love and care by people who are obviously fans of the genre, "Shaun" managed to work as more than just a parody. Though also made with

a great deal of devotion, "Hot Fuzz" is unlike its predecessor in that it is a buddy cop movie in its own right, and while there is still a measure of self-awareness to the proceedings, it is done in service to the film.

It is a testament to the filmmakers that it also happens to be the best film to come out of the genre in many years, and perhaps the only one to ever be so distinctly British.

Police officer Nick Angel (Pegg, who also co-wrote) is a one-man wrecking crew. He's the absolute best at what he does but his aggressive competence begins to embarrass the rest of his precinct, predicating his transfer to a sleepy village.

All of this is related to the viewer in one masterful opening montage, complete with a couple of unexpected cameos (I won't spoil the surprise but be sure to check the IMDB after you leave

MOVIE REVIEW

★★★★★

Now playing at
 Regal Ninth Street Cinemas
 in Corvallis

the theater). Angel finds the transition, from high-octane city policing to a small town where the biggest problem seems to be a renegade swan, difficult to say the least.

But then a number of surprisingly grisly "accidents" lead our hero to discover that in the village of Sandford, nothing is what it seems.

The biggest comparison to be made with "Shaun" is that both

it and "Fuzz" live and breathe on the chemistry between the leads, Pegg and Frost. Just as in their earlier movie, some of the best, funniest, and even most heartfelt scenes come out of their interactions on screen.

If you've ever seen a buddy cop movie you can guess their relationships are almost immediately. In addition to the previously noted cameos, there are almost as many guest stars (albeit nearly all of them being veteran British actors) as an episode of "The Simpsons." Actually that's a fine way of describing the film's overall sense of humor as well: like a two-hour long episode of "The Simpsons," back

when it used to be truly great, which sadly, is likely far more than we'll get out of the actual "Simpsons" movie due out this summer.

While comparisons between a filmmaker's debut and follow-up pictures are always going to happen, here it can perhaps be of some use. "Hot Fuzz" is very different from "Shaun of the Dead" in small but vital ways, and if a viewer is expecting the same sort of story, they will be sorely disappointed.

That said, if you are at all a fan of any American action cinema of the past two decades, then "Hot Fuzz" is easily the best comedy you will see all year.

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A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

THE COMMUTER

WANTED!

The Commuter needs creative students to fill positions on the 2007-08 staff

Editor

Individuals interested in journalism and communication careers are encouraged to apply. Appointment carries a full annual tuition grant and provides practical experience for aspiring writers and editors. Students with coursework and/or experience in journalism are preferred. Applicants must be enrolled as students throughout the 2007-08 academic year. Appointment made by the LBCC Publications Committee.

DEADLINE IS MAY 18
(for this position only)

Photo Editor

Students with interest and skills in photography are sought for this position, which offers valuable experience for anyone planning to pursue a career in photography—several past Commuter photo editors have gone on to work at professional newspapers in Oregon and elsewhere. Familiarity with digital imaging is a plus, but training in Photoshop is provided. The appointment carries a 9-credit quarterly tuition grant.

Sports Editor

An energetic writer with an interest in athletics and outdoors is sought for this position. Students with some journalism or writing experience preferred, but anyone with a flair for writing and a passion for sports is encouraged to apply. Appointment carries a 6-credit quarterly tuition grant and provides valuable on-the-job training and experience covering a variety of intercollegiate athletics.

Graphics Editor

An individual with experience in graphics and/or journalism to coordinate the graphic design and production aspects of the weekly newspaper. This position involves helping develop the overall design of the paper, creating illustration and info graphics for publication, and coordinating production. Macintosh experience preferred. The appointment carries a 6-credit quarterly tuition grant.

Assistant Editors

Applicants sought for several assistant editor positions, including Managing Editor, Copy Editor, A&E Editor, Opinion Editor, Online Editor and Contributing Editor. Some journalism or writing experience preferred, but all interested applicants are encouraged to apply. Appointments carry quarterly tuition grants that vary with position, typically from four to six credits per term.

Work Study Jobs

Editorial Assistant
Production Assistant
Advertising Assistant
Photography Assistant

These positions open to work-study eligible students only. Information on work study eligibility is available from the Financial Aid Office.

Digital Page Designer

This part-time position pays \$9+/hour for up to 12 hrs/wk on Mon.-Tues. Involves using Macintosh and InDesign to paginate tabloid pages under direction of the graphics editor. Mac experience and good English skills required; familiarity with InDesign, PageMaker or Quark desired. Provides valuable experience for majors in graphics and pre-press technology.

Deadline for Editor is May 18.

Other applications remain open until positions are filled.

Applications available in The Commuter Office (F-222)

For additional information call ext. 4451

Sports Editor: Jake Rosenberg
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

SPORTS

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

FACE OFF

Should the NHL ban brawls?



Joe Bryan
The Commuter



Jake Rosenberg
The Commuter

For those of you who forgot, there is still a professional hockey league in the United States. The NHL is in the middle of the Stanley Cup playoffs, and the play has been opened up thanks to a number of rule changes.

The league has eliminated two line passes and widened the goals to increase scoring in an attempt to attract more sponsors and fans. The NHL now wants to eliminate fighting from the game to create a more family friendly atmosphere.

What the NHL is forgetting is that the Todd Bertuzzis of the world would then have free reign to perpetrate cheap shots, like the one he carried out against former Avalanche defenseman Steve Moore. Some may remember this as the most gratuitous cheap shot in professional sports since Oakland Raiders safety Jack Tatum paralyzed New England Patriots receiver Darryl Stingley.

While Moore received three cracked vertebrae and nerve damage that will keep him from ever regaining full mobility of his body, let alone playing professional hockey following his suspension,

Bertuzzi has been back in the league since 2005. The only deterrent to the thugs in hockey, a game that puts players in unusually vulnerable situations, is the fact that the other team will retaliate. If the NHL were to take away the threat of violence for players that will do anything to win, it will only increase the number of cheap shots and dirty stick work we see each week.

Critics of fighting will say that the risk of injury is reason enough to outlaw it, but in reality, hockey players take the etiquette of fighting very seriously and adhere to a strict code of conduct that includes always removing all equipment that could be used as a weapon, never fighting a man at the end of his shift due to the fact he will be tired, always challenging a player first verbally, whom must then accept the challenge and never challenging a man playing with an injury.

Fighting is the only way to ensure the safety of the players, and banning it will only lead to more serious injuries than the ones incurred in hockey fights.

In a society like today's where you can get sued for looking at somebody cross-eyed, it is amazing how tolerable fighting is on a 85x200 foot sheet of indoor ice. How has fighting remained a part of professional hockey for so long? The answer is simple: MONEY.

Fighting only draws spectators with limited attention spans to sporting events. These fans I speak of are the same fans that attend NASCAR races only to watch the 200 mile-per-hour wrecks.

These fans simply spend too much money on Pabst Blue Ribbon and Goodyear's for their double-wides to attend more than a game a year. These non-loyal inbreds shouldn't be catered to while sacrificing the integrity and future of the game.

Attention NHL Commissioner Colin Campbell: this is not your niche market.

Fighting is virtually non-existent in games like basketball and baseball yet they are thriving in America. The only reason ESPN makes such a big deal when batters charge the mound or Car-

melo Anthony throws a pansy-punch is because fights happen so rarely. They, however, are not the purpose of attending games. Just ask the fearful Indiana Pacers fans.

Some skeptics feel that eliminating hockey brawls will only create more illegal use of the stick, when it really would only promote a safer sport.

Such penalties as high-sticking and cross-checking would be magnified in the eyes of NHL referees, resulting in fewer incidents like Marty McSorley's cheap-shot on Donald Brasheer.

Future thugs mirroring former and current Red Wings', Bob Probert and Todd Bertuzzi, will never be heard of or have glorified reputations in the eyes of so many impressionable youths, thus leaving roster spots open for the smaller, more skilled players that normally lose out to make room for big bruisers.

Watch the NHL playoffs. You'll see that there is more scoring than ever and virtually no fighting. Why? Because one is necessary to play and win while the other isn't.

A WORD WITH "CHEESE"

Spring needs the ping

Chris Kelley
The Commuter

The repetitive "ping" sound in the spring is the welcoming tune of baseballs being hit. That tune might be, however, a non-existent sound in the New York City high school leagues.

Most levels lower than professional use metal bats (except for Junior College conferences, like Linn Benton's, that require wood bats).

The concern in high school, more so for baseball, is the speed at which the baseball comes off the bat making sure it doesn't come off too fast for pitchers to react, because they stand closer than anyone else on the field.

BESR ratings (Ball Exit Speed Ratio) are provided on every metal bat, putting them in categories based on the difference of the length and ounces. The addition of the BESR was added in June 2001 for high school.

The National Federation of State High School Associations has adopted standards for metal bats that limit the diameter of a bat to 2 5/8 inches. Also, the weight-length differential can be no greater than three (e.g., a 32-inch bat must weigh at least 29 ounces).

The minus three rating has been proven to give pitchers enough reaction time to catch or defend a straight shot back at them.

The rating itself is a great idea, but the idea for the New York City athletic counsel to ban metal bats is absurd. What knowledge do they have to suggest a change? If enough problems were arising the rating would be adjusted.

Due to the vibration created, a wood bat breaks if hit on the handle or the top. How can an infielder complain about a 90 mph fastball being hit back at them with an aluminum bat as opposed to a 90 mph broken wood bat?

This rule would splinter athletic program's funding, causing them to buy more bats and spend more money. The typical metal bat is \$300, and about 15 are needed to fulfill freshman-varsity baseball team. That is a one time fee of \$1500, and bats last anywhere from 3-5 years.

Wood bats break, depending on the person swinging, and they break often. A team would need to replace each metal bat with at least five wood bats to last a year. The average bottom line wood bat costs \$50, making the total for wood bats \$3750 per year.

Teams already do whatever they can to fundraise, and having a team potentially pay double-just for one year's use--would make the high school level too concerned about raising money and will not allow enough time building their program.

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SPORTS

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

Runners racing toward NWAACC playoff berth

Jake Rosenberg
 The Commuter

Linn-Benton has won 12 of their last 16 games after last weekend's sweep of Lane to help their NWAACC playoff chances.

Thursday's games with visiting Mt. Hood were rescheduled due to the weather but the Roadrunners more than made up for it on Saturday when they traveled to Eugene to face Lane in a 17-inning marathon.

Matt Alexander took to the hill for LB and pitched seven strong innings, leaving in the eighth where the game was tied at 2-2.

Relievers Darryl Swearingen and Matt Wasson combined for six frames of scoreless baseball before LB got on the board with a solo homerun by right fielder Bryant Kraus in the top of the 15th.

Lane tied the game at 3-3 in the bottom half and pushed it to the 17th when LB's Mitchell Nelson belted a two-run shot with the

wind blowing in to cap a three run inning and clinch the game 6-3.

"That was the longest game that I've ever coached," said LB coach Greg Hawk.

The Runners rode the momentum into the nightcap where they took a 4-1 lead going into the final inning. They quickly turned the three-run lead into eight as LB crossed the plate five more times to take the 9-1 win.

Shortstop Kyle Kanaeholo went 4 for 5 with two runs scored and knocked in while Kraus added two doubles in Game 2 for a total of five hits on the day, four of them going for extra bases. Casey Humphrey also had five hits in the twinbill.

After catching all 17 innings in Game 1, Brent Trask finished the final two in the late game, crouching behind the plate for a total of 19 innings.

Only six games remain for the Runners who currently sit in second place in the NWAACC South.

LB (18-18, 12-10) played at



photo by Will Parker

LB shortstop Kyle Kanaeholo tags a Chemeketa baserunner out at second base on April 28. The Roadrunners have won 12 of their last 16 games with only six games remaining in the regular season.

first place Mt. Hood (27-7, 19-3) on Tuesday. Results were not available as of press time. The Runners face Mt. Hood again on Thursday and then host third

place Clackamas (10-12, 18-16) on Saturday in their final home series of the season.

"We hope everybody can come on out this week to cheer

us on. Hopefully the fans can give us some motivation to go out there and get that second and final playoff spot. It's going to be good weather too."

SCOREBOARD

NWACC South Standings			Remaining Schedule	
	League Overall		May 10	May 19
1. Mt. Hood	19-3 27-7		Mt. Hood @ LBCC	Southern Region
2. LBCC	12-10 18-18		May 12	Tie-Breaker
3. Clackamas	10-12 18-16		Clackamas @ LBCC	May 24-28
4. Chemeketa	9-13 18-23		May 17	NWAACC Championships
5. Lane	8-14 11-29		LBCC @ Chemeketa	in Longview, Wash.
6. SWOCC	8-14 19-22			

Reyes earns Beavers lone win vs. UW

Caleb Hawley
 OSU baseball

Freshman right-hander Jorge Reyes improved to 4-0 on the season as he led the No. 11 ranked Oregon State Beavers (35-11, 7-8 Pac-10) to their lone win in a three game Pac-10 baseball series at the University of Washington (23-21, 8-7 Pac-10) last weekend in Seattle, Wash.

Reyes pitched seven strong innings giving up one earned run on five hits while striking out seven in the 8-2 win. Reyes gave the Beavers a much needed boost on the mound after rocky outings from starters Mike Stutes and Joe Paterson in the first two games.

Second basemen Jason Ogata led the Beavers in the victory going 3-for-5 knocking in four RBI, three of which came on a double as part of the pivotal six-run fourth inning rally. Jordan Lennerton, Chris Hopkins and Mike Lissman each had RBI singles in the inning to account for the other three runs.

Darwin Barney went 3-for-5 with two doubles. Hopkins, Drew George and Joey Wong each got a pair of hits going 2-for-4 for OSU.

"You can do a lot of things when your starting pitcher puts zeroes on the board," OSU head coach Pat Casey said. "For a freshman to come out here and give us a quality Pac-10 start, that's where it all happens. I thought we swung the bats well, but it all starts on the mound."

In a losing effort Stutes gave up five earned runs through

only five and a third innings to take his season record to 9-2 and Paterson gave up a gaudy seven earned runs in just four and one third innings of play to drop his record to 6-5.

Bats were moving for the Beavers in game one, but at the wrong times in a 6-2 loss. OSU left 14 runners on base, nine in scoring position.

Lissman got the first run across for the Beavers on a groundout that scored Mitch Canham in the top of the fifth inning. Canham again would score the second and final run for OSU in the eighth inning on a pinch-hit single by John Wallace.

The opener was held at the Seattle Mariner's Safeco Field in front of the largest crowd Pac-10 baseball has ever seen with 10,421 coming out for the contest.

The Beavers would strand 12 more runners in a 9-6 loss in game two including leaving the bases loaded in the final two innings with the tying run at the plate in each circumstance.

Ogata led the Beavers with an inside-the-park homerun, two runs and two RBI in a 1-for-3 effort. George and Wallace each went 2-for-4, each with an RBI.

UCLA sits atop the Pac-10 standings at 12-3 with Arizona State in second at 11-4. The Beavers have fallen to sixth after the weekend series.

OSU will host Washington State this weekend, ending a seven-game road stretch. OSU and WSU will play a three-game series May 11-13.



photo by MCT Campus

Baron Down on Big D

Baron Davis and the Golden State Warriors took out defending Western Conference champion and No. 1 seed Dallas Mavericks in six games. The Warriors trail Utah, who took out Houston in the first round's only seven game series, 1-0 in their second round series. San Antonio took out Denver in five games and are up 1-0 in their semifinals match-up with Phoenix, who beat Los Angeles in five games. New Jersey upset Toronto 4-2 in one Eastern Conference series. Chicago swept defending NBA Champion Miami while Cleveland and No. 1 Detroit brought out the brooms for Washington and Orlando, respectively. The Pistons lead the Bulls 2-0 while the Cavaliers have a 1-0 edge on the Nets.

'07 NBA playoff grid

Games begin April 21.



Source: NBA

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