

# Commuter

Here comes the sun

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Financial aid gets a boost pg. 7

LBOC mourns Cowboy Jim pg. 8

Tuvan throat singers pg. 12

**The Commuter**  
Editor-In-Chief: Max Brown  
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Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451  
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# Opinion

**Submissions to The Commuter:**  
E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu  
Drop-in: Forum 222

## A word from your local ASG

The term is halfway over, the sun has been shining (here and there) and all is well... ish. I've got mid-terms, a full-time job, a part-time job, and a home-life to maintain... how about you? Life can be hectic and I often struggle to balance my time. Am I alone in this? I think probably not.



Nic Bowman

In one of the first articles I wrote this year I encouraged fellow students to slow down and take time to actually *be* a student. To take advantage of the opportunities for personal growth, knowledge and fun that college is supposed to offer. (I should try to take my own advice, but I guess being president has been my "opportunity".) However, I am not ignorant. I understand that there are those among us at LBCC who stretch themselves to absolute capacity because they are forced to live as such, but for the majority of us, there's enough time to be found... if we just make the effort.

Oh good, now that we are all making extra time in our schedules to have a good ol' time around the campus, let me tell you how to get in-the-know about what's happening.

One of the easiest ways to find out what's going on around campus is to stop and read the bulletin boards posted all over; although, I think they may be protected by some sort of magical spell cast to discourage passersby from taking notice of them. You could read the Commuter... but if you are already reading this you probably know that so give this copy of the paper to a friend or classmate when you have finished so they can be informed too. The LBCC homepage has lots of great info, and not just about academic stuff, fun stuff too! I know. I was shocked to find this out as well. And if all those sources of information don't provide you with enough to engage yourself with... well... ummm... you could always try talking to a classmate. ☺

Coming this summer, the ASG will be providing yet another tool to dish out the hot gossip to the student body - I mean, totally school related news. This year's team will use our special project funds to purchase and install LCD message boards for several windows around the Student Union and Diversity Achievement Center. It is our hope to increase student engagement while taking another step towards a cleaner, greener campus.

Best wishes for a wonderful week,

*Nic Bowman*  
ASG President

The views of the ASG do not necessarily reflect those of The Commuter. Any questions or comments can be directed to the Student Life & Leadership office.

## Child's play

J.E.B. Oliver  
Staff Writer

Recently on CNN's website there was an article about a 13-year-old Texas girl who was suspended for three days because she "air gunned" with her hand when playing a game of cops and robbers at her school. The teacher had said "she felt threatened for her life," by the child's hand gestures. This is what the school has termed a terroristic threat, which is a Level Four violation at the school, on par with selling drugs or alcohol on school campus. This is not the first time this has happened. An 8-year-old child was suspended a few months ago for bringing a Lego gun onto school grounds, which I'm sure was a "huge threat" to everyone on the campus.

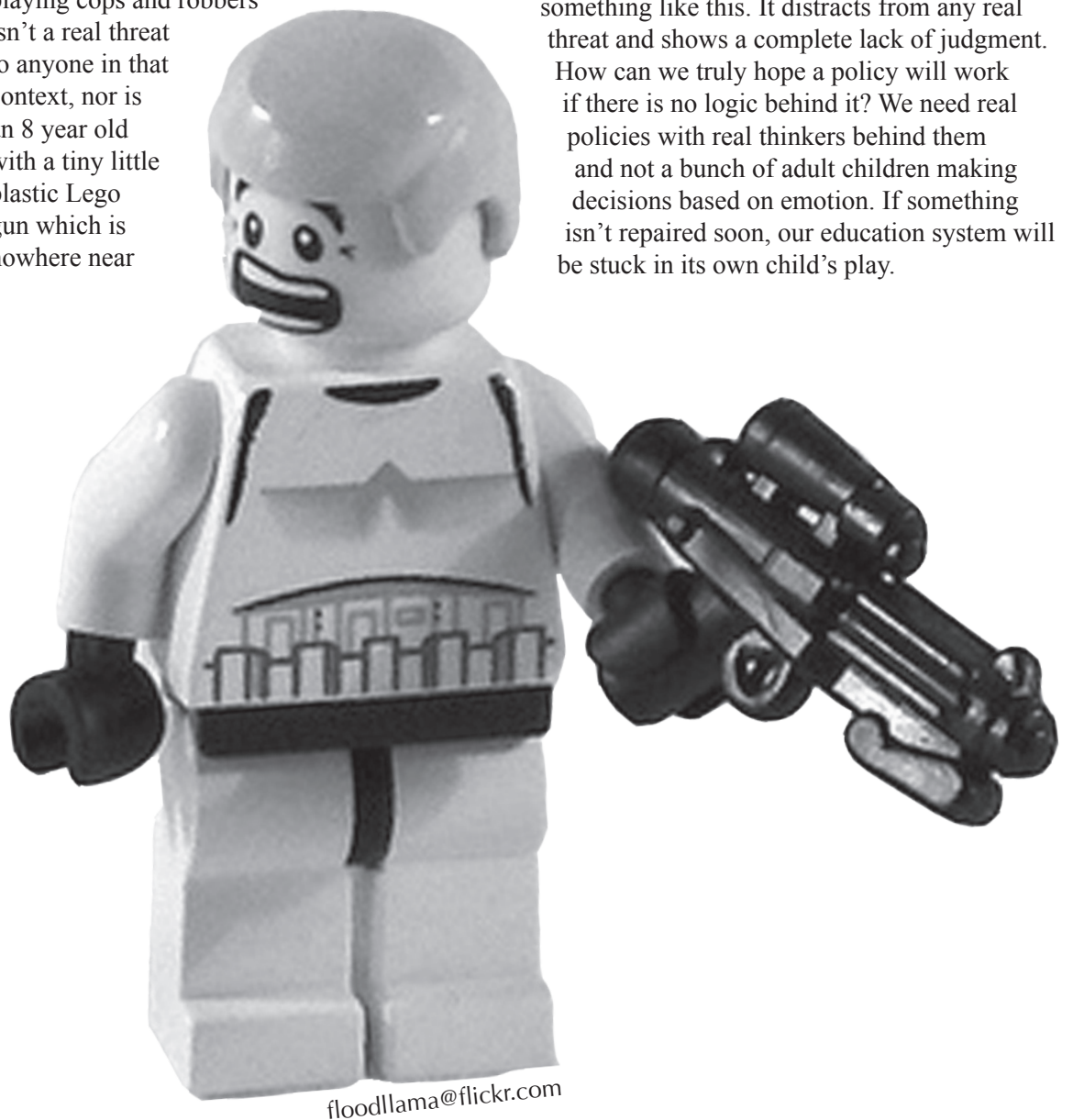
This is over-kill for two very little, harmless acts, and seems to go beyond the common sense test. A young honor role student who air guns when wearing a NYPD t-shirt playing cops and robbers isn't a real threat to anyone in that context, nor is an 8 year old with a tiny little plastic Lego gun which is nowhere near

life size and is commonly found on the shelves of most U.S. superstores and playgrounds. So, why were these kids suspended from school? Are we becoming overly sensitive to firearms? I do understand the reason behind a no-tolerance policy for actual guns, knives, or other weapons, even life-sized replicas.

But a Lego gun?

Come on people, get you heads out of your rear ends and remember that kids are kids - they have plastic toys, and they idolize their heroes (like cops and soldiers who use firearms to protect us). Is it so bad that our children want to play as our finest citizens? Should we punish children for this behavior? I don't think so.

We all need to lighten up and use some damn common sense when it comes to kids in our schools. Yes, we need a policy that prevents violence in schools, but we also need to be smart enough to know the difference between a real threat and something that is simple child's play. We don't need to be wasting energy on something like this. It distracts from any real threat and shows a complete lack of judgment. How can we truly hope a policy will work if there is no logic behind it? We need real policies with real thinkers behind them and not a bunch of adult children making decisions based on emotion. If something isn't repaired soon, our education system will be stuck in its own child's play.



floodllama@flickr.com

## Perspectives:

### Who is your favorite band and why?



Brittney Arthur

Business Administration

"Lady Antebellum is my current favorite because they have good songs that are pretty meaningful."



Eric Sloss

Engineering

"Pink Floyd because every CD sounds different and they changed a lot as a band over time."



Janey Bevill

Art

"Recently I've really liked Laika. I like that style (relaxing). It's music that's fitting for a coffee shop."



Brad Bozder

Machine Tool Technology

"Def Leppard. It's a band I've listened to since I was little."



Kiah Frenock

Theater Arts/Office Specialist

"Survivor. They just f\*cking rock. I think the lyrics are cool and the beat is pretty awesome."

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## Advice from Weiss

**Question:** Why don't you move smoking areas away from the entrance to buildings?



Counselor Mark Weiss

**Answer:** We are! The college has heard extensively from non-smokers about problems with our smoking areas. Recently the Associated Student Government did a survey of smokers on how to make changes that would work for them as well. A plan was made and, over the next several months (or whenever the weather gets better), the smoking areas will be moved. This paper has done more than one article about the change in smoking areas, which you can find by going to [commuter.linnbenton.edu](http://commuter.linnbenton.edu) and doing a search for "smoking."

**Question:** Why do classes not give enough homework time?

**Answer:** Time is always such a relative term. It makes answering a question like this difficult, at best.

I really know that students are more pressed for time than ever before. Costs of school, and of living, have gone up exponentially over the years, and this means that more students are working longer hours than ever before ... and that's just one of the outside pressures that has increased dramatically.

However, the amount of homework

required by college courses has not changed appreciably in the last twenty years. The suggested formula has always been: allow 2-3 a week hours for homework for every hour you are in class. So, for a 3-credit class, you might expect to spend 6 or more hours a week doing homework. This ratio, by the way, is just about the opposite of high school, where you might typically have class every day and do less homework, and this difference (between high school and college) can be a big adjustment.

Oregon is one of just a few states with colleges on a quarter system, which does keep things moving and changing more than a semester system would. I often think the constant changing and shifting of a quarter system contributes to the general stress of students, if not to the actual homework load from classes. Interestingly, in the last session of the legislature, colleges were asked to create cost and work estimates to making the change from quarters to semesters. My guess is that the costs will turn out to be prohibitive, but it is a change that I believe would be helpful to students in a variety of ways.

Please keep the questions coming. Write to me online, or drop off questions at the Hot Shot Café.

*Mark Weiss*

Mark Weiss has been a counselor and adviser at LBCC for 20 years. The purpose of this column is to answer students' questions about the college, academic advising, and how to be successful at LBCC. Please send your questions to [mark.weiss@linnbenton.edu](mailto:mark.weiss@linnbenton.edu) or stop by the Career and Counseling Center in Takena Hall.

## 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

You can sign up at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment) to look at student & graduate jobs. \*For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101).

### LBCC Career & Community

**Resource Fair** is tomorrow, Thursday, April 29! Come 10am-2pm to the AC Gym. YOU can ask questions about your career field and explore job opportunities with the 43 businesses that are recruiting! Go to [www.linnbenton.edu/go/careerfair](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/careerfair), "Job Seeker Links"

to see "Sample Questions," "Career Fair Tips" to prepare for the Fair. "Participating Employers" tells you who is coming.

### Legal Assistant/Receptionist

(#7987, Corvallis) This full-time position requires some experience and solid communication skills. Salary and benefits are DOE.

### Biological Technician-

**plants** (#7984, Fern Ridge Lake) This job is a Student Temporary Employment

Program (STEP) with the government. If you have coursework in botany & field biology, this job is for you! Great way to work in your field and get experience.

### CWE PC Support

(#7957, Albany) If you are in a LBCC computer-related major, this is your perfect job to get on-the-job experience. This is part-time in the school year and full-time in the summer and will continue until you graduate from OSU. \$10/hr to start.

## Back in the day

Adam LaMascus  
 Opinion Editor

### This day in history ...

#### April 28, 1192: Stick to the Creed ...

Conrad I, King of Jerusalem, is assassinated by the Hashshashin. It is believed that Richard the Lionheart hired them to do the deed, since murdering a fellow Christian king would have been unacceptable. The Hashshashin is the organization that inspired the makers of the game "Assassin's Creed." The Hashshashins also kill Conrad II, which is also a level in the game.

#### April 29, 1429: Vive l' France!

17-year-old Joan of Arc arrives at the city of Orleans to help relieve it from a siege by the English. She claims to hear the voice of God, and after a five-minute conversation manages to convince the King of France to give her control of his army. Despite having no military training or experience, and the fact that she never uses a weapon, she manages to rout the English army at Orleans.

#### April 30, 1945: Good riddance to bad rubbish ...

The day after marrying Eva Braun, Adolf Hitler and his bride take cyanide pills, then shoot themselves in the head. Their corpses are dragged out into a ditch and set on fire, because he doesn't want the Russians to get ahold of his body. On the same day, the Soviet army raises a flag over the Reichstag, the German parliament building. This all happens on Hitler's honeymoon. Mmm, how romantic.

#### May 1, 1893: America would never be the same ...

The World's Columbian Exposition opens in Chicago. The fair radically changes America, exposing us to a wide variety of Eastern cultures. In addition, countless inventions are exposed to American society. Despite radically changing America forever, most people never hear of it. Japanophiles begin here.

#### May 2, 1536: Henry VIII sucks ...

Henry VIII, unable to have a male child, blames it on his wife, Anne Boleyn. He has her arrested on charges of witchcraft, adultery (he was having a well-known affair himself), incest, and treason. She is executed a few weeks later. Prick.

#### May 3, 1494: A glorified mass murderer ...

Christopher Columbus sights what will become Jamaica. Hundreds of thousands of natives are enslaved and killed under the system of government Columbus sets up. But hey, he's exploring the world, and does make some contributions to science! Might as well set up a national holiday for Dr. Josef Mengele.

#### May 4, 1814: Vive l' Empereur!

Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte arrives at Elba Island to begin his exile. Elba is a gorgeous little island in the Mediterranean known for great wine and olive oil, and Napoleon is allowed to bring some friends and family. I would be happy on Elba; Napoleon, however, is not, and after a short while he sneaks back to France and attempts to retake his empire. He is defeated at Waterloo.

### Thought for the week:

"There are no enemies after a victory, only men."  
 -Napoleon Bonaparte

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 the Sweet Home, Lebanon,  
 and Benton Centers.

## Discover the truth about Islam

**Max Brown**  
 Editor-in-Chief

Next week is Muslim/Islam Awareness Week at the Diversity Achievement Center.

On May 3 and 4 there will be events centered around raising awareness of the religion. The speaker on May 3, Ghada Barbour Wanly, will focus on women's rights in Islam and discuss topics such as the hijab (Islamic head scarf). The second day will

host Yusuf Wanly as he speaks on misconceptions about the religion. Both events will take place from noon to 1:30 p.m and are free to anyone who wishes to attend. They will also be showing a PBS documentary about Muslims in America at noon on Wednesday, May 5.

Muna Hassan, student coordinator of the event, said she thinks there will be time after the speeches to ask questions about Muslims or Islam. They will have food from Crystal's Cafe, a

Mediterranean restaurant, and traditional Somali food for people to enjoy during the events.

Hassan feels the event is important to help alleviate misconceptions about the religion. She emphasized how diverse Muslims are. She says that culture and religion are two different things, and hopes people can separate them.

"I feel we should examine the false parts and examine the truths. So that way, people can have in their mind what it truly means," Hassan said.

## OSU SUMMER SESSION 2010

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**Thursday 4/29**

#### Career Fair

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. • Activity Center Gym

10 – 40 students are hired at the fair every year. This is an opportunity to see what jobs are available, practice your aspiring employee skills or to actually be hired. For more information, call 541-917-4782.

**Wednesday 5/5**

#### Phi Theta Kappa Orientation

1 p.m. • CC-213

Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for two-year colleges, will be holding an orientation for new members. In two weeks they will have an induction ceremony.

**Wednesday 5/12**

#### U.S. Poet Laureate Kay Ryan

4 p.m. • Russell Tripp

Performance Center

U.S. Poet Laureate Kay Ryan will be on campus for a poetry reading, question and answer session, and book signing. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Robin Havenick at 541-917-4574.

**Fri & Sat 5/7-8**

#### Spring Dance Concert

7:30 p.m. (Fri) & 2 p.m. (Sat)

• Russell Tripp Performance Center

LBCC's Dance Club will be holding a dance concert titled "Inspirations." Tickets cost \$5 for adults, \$2 for children of 5–12 years old, and children under 4 are free. Tickets can be purchased through the box office 541-917-4561 or at the door.



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 Short, please e-mail them to  
 commuter@linnbenton.edu.

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News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.

## Bridging the gender gap

**Lacey Jarrell**  
 Contributing Writer

Men talk more than women: True or false?

Believe it or not, the answer is “true.” If you had attended last week’s workshop in the Diversity Achievement Center, you’d know why.

Last Wednesday, from noon to 1 p.m., the DAC hosted “Gender and Communication, Taking It To The Classroom,” the second workshop in a two-part series. Guided by speech communications instructor Dana Emerson, students dove headfirst into gender-related myths held in our society today.

Keeping with a classroom-like structure, Emerson had audience members taking a quiz five minutes into the workshop.

Ten minutes later, when she began reading off the correct answers to the ten-question quiz, Emerson had the audience laughing.

Emerson opened up a forum for discussion by re-asking quiz questions and encouraging audience members to answer out loud. From the uproar of good-natured “true” and “false” answers issued from the audience, it was apparent that gender communication is a confusing and somewhat elusive topic to many.

“What many students don’t realize,” said Emerson, “is that when they are taking the quiz and get a wrong answer, it means they are participating in the myth.”

Citing results of a gender communication study published by the Mid-Atlantic Center for Sex Equity, Emerson discussed topics such as classroom praise, reprimand and criticism. According to the study, males are more likely to receive praise than females. However, they are also more likely to receive reprimands and criticism than females.

Emerson added oftentimes it is assumed that women work harder on achieving high grades and



Dana Emerson leads a discussion at the “Gender and Communication” workshop last week in the DAC.

Photo by Lacey Jarrell

completing assignments on time, while it is assumed men do not invest themselves as much. It is because of this stereotype, and therefore a gap in standards, that women often get passed over for praise and males receive extra praise when work exceeds expectations.

“When girls do get praise from teachers, it’s usually because it [an assignment] looks nice... But, when boys get praise, it’s usually for the intellectual quality of their work - for how smart they are,” said Emerson.

Topics of the workshop included nonverbal communication between men and women, and gender segregation. Emerson noted that when we think of segregation, we often first think of racial discrimination, but gender segregation is widespread in the United States and can hinder a student’s academic and social growth. Keeping students mixed in a classroom setting is important because a classroom offers a safe place for males and females to learn to interact in a social setting outside the home.

According to the Mid-Atlantic Center for Sex

### True or False?

1. Women use less personal space than men.
2. Women are more likely to answer questions that are not addressed to them.
3. Nonverbal messages carry more weight than verbal messages.
4. Female managers are seen by both male and female subordinates as better communicators than male managers.
5. Men not only control the content of conversations, they also work harder in keeping conversations going.

Answers: 1. True, 2. False, 3. True, 4. True, 5. False

Source:

*The Communication Gender Gap, The Mid-Atlantic Center for Sex Equity, The American University School of Education*

Equity, “When girls and boys work and play together, they are less likely to hold stereotyped attitudes.”

Several audience members shared anecdotal evidence of beliefs they hold or experiences they’ve had that unconsciously reinforce gender myths.

Elementary education major Michael Hassing said, “I don’t approach gender orders the same way most males do. But, a lot stereotypes I had were things I didn’t even realize were gender based until she [Emerson] spoke about them.”

As important as classrooms are, Emerson pointed out, it is necessary to remember a high number of stereotypes start in the home. Many participants also offered evidence of gender bias in the home, based on attribution of authority and family structure.

Emerson asked, “When you think about the voice of God, does it sound like a man or a woman?”

DAC Outreach and Retention Specialist Valerie Zeigler noted, “We all have biases, whether we admit it or not. It’s OK to have those biases, we just have to be aware and learn from them.”

## Club plants the seeds for sustainability at LBCC

**Alx George**  
 Staff Writer

Ready, set, go green!

After a few years of lying dormant, LBCC’s Student Sustainability club is being revived fall term 2010 by staff members Lori Fluge-Brunker, Alice Sperling and student representative Justin Hussey. Their goal in bringing back the club is to make students aware of what they can do to make LBCC a more eco-friendly place.

Fluge-Brunker explained the idea is “to have an outlet to go to and to create educational opportunities for all of the campus community to be involved with what we’re doing here on campus.”

According to Fluge-



Sustainability Club Student Rep Justin Hussey. Photo by Alx George

Brunker, the driving force will be the student members of the club. The students will be able to have a say as to what they want to see at LBCC regarding sustainability. Students will be “bringing ideas out into the open” so other students can learn. Everyone can take these

ideas and practices home to apply them in their daily lives.

Hussey is already making plans for improving green life on campus. One of his first goals is to make recycling more convenient, such as getting a recycling bin next to every trash can. He

feels people should not have to be inconvenienced in order to recycle.

Hussey is also thinking about starting up a student-maintained community garden on campus, looking into solar energy, providing educational events and seminars ... but these visions need people in order to happen.

Hussey hopes that “Getting that information out to the students and making those changes here on campus will continue to extend outside campus and help the community as a whole.”

Right now, the club has a few core members, but more are needed in order

to make the club an official charter here at LBCC. This is a great opportunity for students who are interested in having their ideas about sustainability heard. It’s also a way for students to learn about what they can do as an individual to influence the quality of the physical environment of their school and their home.

Hussey says, “Generally, people know about sustainability. A lot of people know about going green. But a lot of people don’t know about what they themselves can do on a daily basis that could make a positive change.”

For more information about the Student Sustainability Club or to join the club, contact Lori Fluge-Brunker at (541)917-4411 or Justin Hussey at obvious.ingenuity@gmail.com or (541)974-1855.

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## NASU: Join the tribe

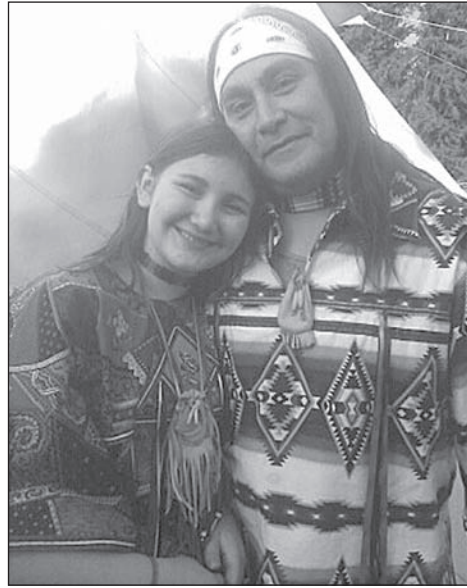
**Lisa A M Bauman**  
 Contributing Writer

Is the Great Spirit calling you? Could be. The Native American Student Union (NASU) is ramping up and looking for new members and position holders. Jay Cavazos, spirit-named "Bear" and President of NASU, invites students to attend the first 2010 meeting at 3 p.m., April 28 at the Diversity Achievement Center in room F-220.

"There are positions open," Cavazos announced. He said the positions open included vice president, secretary, treasurer, and note taker.

NASU is open to all and will meet twice each month.

"This club is open to everybody," Cavazos said. "You don't have to be part of a tribe or be Native American to join." In fact, Cavazos commented that a familial attitude is encouraged in the club. "We encourage members to bring their children if they like," said Cavazos. "They just have to bring themselves and want to learn and be community oriented."



**Jay Cavazos, President of NASU, and his daughter in ceremonial dress.**

Photo by Lisa A M Bauman

The NASU seeks to offer opportunities for sharing the Native American culture with hands-on experiences, historical teachings and cultural crafts.

"We do genealogy studies and learn how to make fry bread. We do moccasin work, beading work and learn to make dream catchers," said

Cavazos.

"A lot of people like to do their genealogy. You can do this activity even if you are not of Native American descent," he added.

The NASU hosts on-campus pow wows. These ceremonies include tribal dancing, music and the passing of the chanupa, a pipe used in tribal ceremonies. "Often there is a misconception about the chanupa that makes people think of pot because the ceremonial tobacco is a green color," said Cavazos. According to Cavazos, the tobacco is created from a unique blend of tobacco, sweet grass, sage, and other herbal medicines that many Native Americans believe hold healing properties.

"It is a ceremonial tradition," Cavazos said.

In addition to the cultural experiences, the NASU highly encourages community involvement. "We do food drives, clothing drives, and we have elder days. We have garbage days where we remove all the garbage on campus. Last year there was over 8-10 garbage bags that were

### At a glance:

**What:** First 2010 Native American Student Union Meeting  
 Learn about the club, become a member, apply for positions: The Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Note Taker

**When:** Today, April 28 at 3 p.m.

**Where:** Multicultural Center, above Student Life and Leadership, in F-220

**Contact:** Jay Cavazos, President: 541-981-3324

collected and removed," said Cavazos.

There are many off-campus opportunities and field trips available to NASU members, including pow wows and other native gatherings. Members are invited to attend field trips where they will meet Chief Bill Stann, spirit-named Blue Eyes, to learn cultural histories, crafts and ceremonies.

This summer some of the members are traveling to North Carolina to attend the Strong Sun Festival Pow Wow. The cultural experiences in this event include Native American traditional dancers, Native American music, tribal chiefs from across the south, storytelling, fire starting and craft demonstrations.

"They're flying me there to make fry bread," Cavazos said.

## Peacefully protesting with produce

**Chris Foster**  
 Staff Writer

A man on the FBI's terrorist watch list stopped by Linn-Benton's campus Thursday. The man was Keith McHenry, one of eight co-founders of Food Not Bombs (FNB), a thirty-year-old group that specializes in feeding those who need it.

Thursday afternoon, Keith gave an hour-long presentation discussing FNB, his background, the purpose of the organization and its history. He told of how his participation in FNB led to multiple arrests and the positive impact that the group has had on those involved.

The whole idea started when he was a produce worker near Boston. When protesters were picketing against a nuclear power plant, Keith and a few of his friends thought it would be a good idea to support them by feeding them. They took good produce that was marked to be thrown out because it was approaching the expiration date, and gave the food to the hungry protesters. Thus an idea was born.

FNB is an all-volunteer organization. It helps around 1,000 cities a week, and chapters are located worldwide. Started in Boston, the movement has reached San Francisco, Washington D.C., and Los Angeles. There were even chapters in local cities, such as Albany and Corvallis; however, those have since been shut down. Eugene still has a very active chapter along with others in Oregon. FNB has even reached international status - Keith McHenry has visited chapters in both Bosnia and Nigeria.

FNB serves only vegan and vegetarian food. Main staples such as rice, bread and even tofu are given out with the produce. While some people may not like the idea of vegan food, plant-based foods make it easier to help others. There is less need



**Food Not Bombs cofounder Keith McHenry visits campus.**

Photo by Nate Woods

**For more information, visit [www.foodnotbombs.net](http://www.foodnotbombs.net) or see Jessica Calhoun in the DAC.**

to cook, freeze or store food and less worry about spoilage.

The event, which was held in the Diversity Achievement Center, had a good turnout. Around twenty visitors showed up and some members of the audience were free to ask questions following the

speech. LBCC's new President Dr. Gregory Hamann, stopped by to watch the presentation. Free fruit, chips and drinks were available to the crowd.

At one point, Keith was arrested as part of California's three strikes law. He faced years in jail for charges such as rioting and felony conspiracy to serve food. The charges didn't stick, but that and other arrests put McHenry on the FBI's terrorist watch list.

In 1988, Keith and FNB started their San Francisco era. While serving food in a park to the homeless, McHenry and others were arrested for serving food without a permit. This didn't deter them, however. The group was later arrested a second time, with the event making news on CNN and the London Times.

When others got wind of the story, they took part in the FNB events. Nuns, priests, teachers' unions and even a lawyers' guild were a part of the crowds. Needless to say, some of them were arrested (with the lawyers being an exception), including those being fed. Eventually, people from chapters in other cities wanted to know how they could get arrested, so a flier titled "Seven Steps to starting a local FNB Group" was made.

Although the group's main goal is to protest war, poverty and environmental destruction, McHenry and the other autonomous chapters help anyone that is in need of food and help. During the cleanup of the 9/11 tragedy, FNB supplied food to the rescue workers. When areas hit by Hurricane Katrina needed help, FNB was the main source of food for the stranded and helpless. The Red Cross even handed out the main phone number to reach FNB whose chapters have helped homeless shelters and daycares, as well. In Michael Moore's documentary "Capitalism: A love story," the FNB group can be seen handing out food to protesters.

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# Campus News

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.

## Student aid reform cashes in

**Selena Gwin**  
 Copy Editor

More financial aid? Lower student loan payments? Debt forgiveness? It's all coming to LBCC (eventually) as the new student aid reform bill takes effect.

As part of his push to make college cheaper and easier, President Obama signed the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act into law on March 30. The new legislation reinforces and increases the Pell Grant scholarship, provides funding for community colleges and lowers the monthly payment amount on student loans. The increase will also ensure students receive the grant all four terms.

Gregory Hayes, a student at LBCC, was excited when he heard the news. "That's sweet! Some classes are only available certain terms, so this means I can take my general education (classes) during the summer."

Oregon colleges are getting \$325 million of the \$36 billion Pell Grant investment over the next ten years. This will raise the yearly grant limit to \$5,550 in 2010, and to \$5,975 by 2017, as well as ensuring the program has enough funding to continue providing scholarships.

"We're finally making our student loan system work for students and all of our families," President Obama said in a White House press release.

According to the U.S. House of Representatives House Committee, the Pell Grant scholarship program was in danger of cutting eight million grants

by at least 60 percent, and 600,000 students could have lost their grant completely. Cost of living will be taken into account beginning in 2013.

The bill also takes federal student loans out of the hands of private banks and lenders, switching colleges to the Direct Loan program. Privately owned companies, such as Sallie Mae, will still service the loans but the money will come from the Department of Education.

Paying back student loans will

passed, and got their financial aid on time.

"It hasn't affected me, but I heard that it means they will pay for summer term," said LBCC student Sheryl Brown. Mark Goodenough, another student at LBCC said, "I got it on the 14th in the mail." Other students are seeing changes, however. "This year I got \$600 (per term), last year I got \$1,700," said La-Dema Taylor.

Additionally, the new legislation will permit students who

affordability and deficit reduction over the next 11 years."

It's not just LBCC students and government programs that are getting a little more cash from this deal. Figures from the House Committee's website show that over the next five years, Oregon community colleges will receive \$7.5 million in funding. Part of the funding will go towards programs like the College Access Challenge Grant, and will improve and develop career training for students looking to change jobs.

But will taking out the middleman in the student loan process hurt America's already struggling economy? In an article in The New York Times, Representative John Kline of Minnesota, a Republican member of the House Committee, said, "This job-killing legislation is rife with hidden costs that will be passed on to future generations."

Senator Lamar Alexander, (R-TN) said in an article published by The Heartland Institute

"The federal government will borrow money at 2.8 percent and then lend it to students at 6.8 percent – spending the difference on health care and new government programs ... students will, on average, pay \$1,700 - \$1,800 more in interest over 10 years."

But the Committee's own website says that since Direct Loans have to be serviced by U.S. workers, SAFRA may also help keep jobs in the country, rather than eliminate them.

"Sallie Mae was forced to bring 2,000 jobs back to U.S. soil to win a direct loan servicing contract."

### The dollars and cents of it all: (Or, where is all of that taxpayer money going to go?)

#### Pell Grant

Nationwide: \$36 billion  
 (\$13.5 to replace shortage)  
 Oregon: \$325,205,579 with over \$79 million in the 4th congressional district (Albany and Corvallis)

#### Community Colleges

Nationwide: \$750 billion  
 Oregon: \$7.5 million

#### Competitive Grant Program for Community Colleges:

\$2 billion

#### Income-Based Repayment Program:

\$1.5 billion

#### Increased Support for Minority-Serving Institutions:

\$2.55 billion

soon be easier for LBCC students, as well. The federal Income-Based Repayment program is receiving \$1.5 billion dollars, which means after 2014, new borrowers will have the option of capping their monthly loan payments at 10 percent of their income, rather than the current 15 percent.

LBCC doesn't seem to be having too many problems with the new financial aid program. Many of the students interviewed were unaware that the legislation was even

still owe money after 20 years to have their debt forgiven. Teachers, nurses and other public service workers will have their remaining debt forgiven after only 10 years

Funding for SAFRA will come from the billions in taxpayer money that will no longer be going toward the Federal Family Education Loan Program. A White House fact sheet from the House Committee states, "Ending these wasteful subsidies will free up nearly \$68 billion for college

## Get some book smarts

**Chris Foster**  
 Staff Writer

Need a few tips on getting that elusive A in class? Then check out Linn-Benton's Academic Success Seminars.

Sponsored by the Learning Center, six seminars are being presented to students who want extra help in doing well in college. Linn-Benton's main campus in Albany and the satellite campuses in Corvallis, Lebanon and Sweet Home are holding the same seminars. The remaining classes focus on getting organized, active learning strategies and overcoming that ever-popular habit: procrastination.

Each campus has different times when the seminars start, so there are plenty of chances to make at least one. The Benton Center in Corvallis will hold their remaining seminars on Tuesday evenings while Albany, Lebanon and Sweet Home times are on Wednesdays.

The seminars are only 50 minutes long and free. That's right: FREE! So head on down to the Learning Center, get online to the SIS under study skills or call 541-917-4684 to reserve your spot. Don't forget to check where the meetings are being held and we'll see you there.

## Academic Success Seminars

**Boost Your COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE!**

**Sign up on SIS under Study Skills – or just drop in!**

### Get Organized

Wednesday	April 28	Albany	IA-207	2:00 – 2:50pm
Wednesday	April 28	Lebanon	LC-153	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	April 28	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20pm

### Active Learning Strategies

Tuesday	May 4	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	May 5	Albany	IA-207	2:00 – 2:50pm
Wednesday	May 5	Lebanon	LC-153	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	May 5	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20pm

### Tips to Overcome Procrastination

Tuesday	May 11	Benton Center	BC-232	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	May 12	Albany	IA-207	2:00 – 2:50pm
Wednesday	May 12	Lebanon	LC-153	5:00 – 5:50pm
Wednesday	May 12	Sweet Home	SHC-102	4:30 – 5:20pm

For details and to sign up, visit SIS under Study Skills or call 541-917-4684.

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. For disability accommodations, call 541-917-4789. Submit requests 4 – 6 weeks before the event where possible. To call by TDD, call the Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900 and give them the number you wish to reach.

Always 50 minutes!

**ALWAYS FREE!**

Always helpful!



**Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**The Commuter**  
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# Campus News

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.

## Happy trails, Cowboy Jim

**Alx George**  
 Staff Writer

Like a true gentleman, LBCC instructor James Byrne was always ready to offer his assistance wherever it was needed.

With his cowboy attire and a cheerful smile, Byrne taught full-time at LBCC for five years before he became ill winter term 2010 at the age of 65. He passed away due to natural causes on April 20. Wendy Krislen and Ginger Peterson of the Business Department shared some insights into Byrne's life at LBCC:

According to Krislen, Byrne was happy to step up and do whatever was asked of him. "Jim was always willing to volunteer to do things for the student or the college or the department."

Peterson added, "His door was always open to students and staff. They could go in with a problem or just to say 'Hi.'"

Byrne mostly taught accounting classes but also instructed other business classes if he was asked to. He taught classes at all the campus locations, including Lebanon and the Benton Center, at any hour of the day.

Byrne also did advising, participated



"Cowboy" James Byrne. Photo courtesy Albany Democrat-Herald

in department planning and all the other duties asked of contracted faculty.

Peterson said, "He was a gem."

Peterson further commented that Byrne was fun to work with. He was always upbeat and positive. "His little phrase that he always said was 'Can't complain.'"

Byrne was a valuable instructor. He was organized and flexible. Krislen explains that these traits allowed him to be relaxed and social. Peterson said he was a family-oriented man. He came in and talked about his two boys, Ryan and Peter.

Byrne even taught outside of LBCC. Amie Russell, a friend of Byrne and his family, said that Byrne sometimes edited her papers if she needed it. Russell describes him as being like a father to her.

Whenever Byrne saw her, he gave her a hug and asked how her day was going. If she was unhappy Byrne asked what was wrong.

Russell said, "He was very caring ... a very go-to guy."

A funeral mass for Byrne will be held on Wednesday, April 28, at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Albany.



Rogue Valley Youth Chorus performs at the State Choral Director's Association Small Ensemble Festival.

Photo by Justin Bolger

## Music fills LBCC

**Justin Bolger**  
 Managing Editor

LBCC flexes those golden pipes once again, but this time it's at their own event.

Last Saturday, LBCC hosted the State Choral Director's Association Small Ensemble Festival for the second year in a row. Choirs from across the state showed up for a chance to earn a gold award, and for a chance to be critiqued on how they might improve in the long run.

LBCC's Chamber Choir received three scores over 90. A group only needs two scores over 81 to qualify, and 75 is a superior rating. This is already a very high standard, according to James Reddan, LBCC choir director.

The festival involves choirs performing three songs on stage before three adjudicators. After the performance, one of the adjudicators offers on-stage critique.

They work with the choir in an effort to help them understand how to improve, but some of the advice seems vague and riddle-like. Advice such as, "It has to come from within you" or "east-west breath, north-south mouth" seems very obscure, but the choirs got it over time. The advice ranges from general techniques to playing with accents and other nit-picky details.

"You know you did really well when their critiques are just picking out the little details, or are actually just style choices," said Reddan.

LBCC was the original home for the Small Ensemble Festival almost 30 years ago with Hal Eastburn as LBCC's

choir director. When he left for OSU, the festival moved to southern Oregon. That is, until Reddan was asked to begin hosting it last year.

The festival is open to all choirs from kindergarten age to college. Adjudication difficulty is based on the division the choir falls under, which is determined both by age and by school size.

What's unique about this festival is that it allows groups that wouldn't normally be able to compete on a state level an opportunity to qualify. The Oregon School Athletics Association normally has a requirement based on choir size, but this festival allows for smaller groups. Also, there is no required piece to perform. The choirs get to perform whatever songs they would like.

"It's a no-holds-barred, very free, relaxed type of setting," said Reddan, "but a chance for choirs to get feedback, get adjudicated and to be able to grow throughout the year."

Several other groups qualified with a gold rating at the event as well. Regardless of whether or not they qualify, every group gets a certificate with their average rating on it as a token of achievement.

"It's a great opportunity for these kids," said Lisa Adams, director at West Linn High School and a number of other choirs at the event.

There was a low turnout this year, but that is probably due to the economy, according to Reddan. They have started pre-registering for next year's festival, and already have almost as many as performed this year.

## Cougars beat down Roadrunners

**Erik Bender**  
 Sports Editor

The Roadrunners (3-9) took on the Clackamas Cougars (9-5) Saturday and came up just short in their doubleheader, losing the first game by just one run with the final score 4-3. The second game was not as close, as the Cougars dominated the Roadrunners 8-2.

Roadrunner's freshman pitcher Mackie Unruh pitched the entire game striking out four, which was one more than Clackamas' Marshall Crawford. The Cougars brought out relief pitcher Eddie Crowe in the final inning to seal the deal.

In the second game, Roadrunner pitcher Greg Wakefield failed to strike out any, while Cougar pitcher Taylor Hill pitched the entire game and accumulated seven strikeouts, eventually beating Linn-Benton 8-2.

Last Tuesday the Roadrunners went to Clackamas, splitting wins during the doubleheader, losing 5-4 in the first game but stealing the win, 6-5, in the second.

Linn-Benton's next game will be a doubleheader against Chemeketa (8-6) on April 28 at 1 p.m.



Centerfielder Sheldon Austria takes a big swing.

Photo by Erik Bender



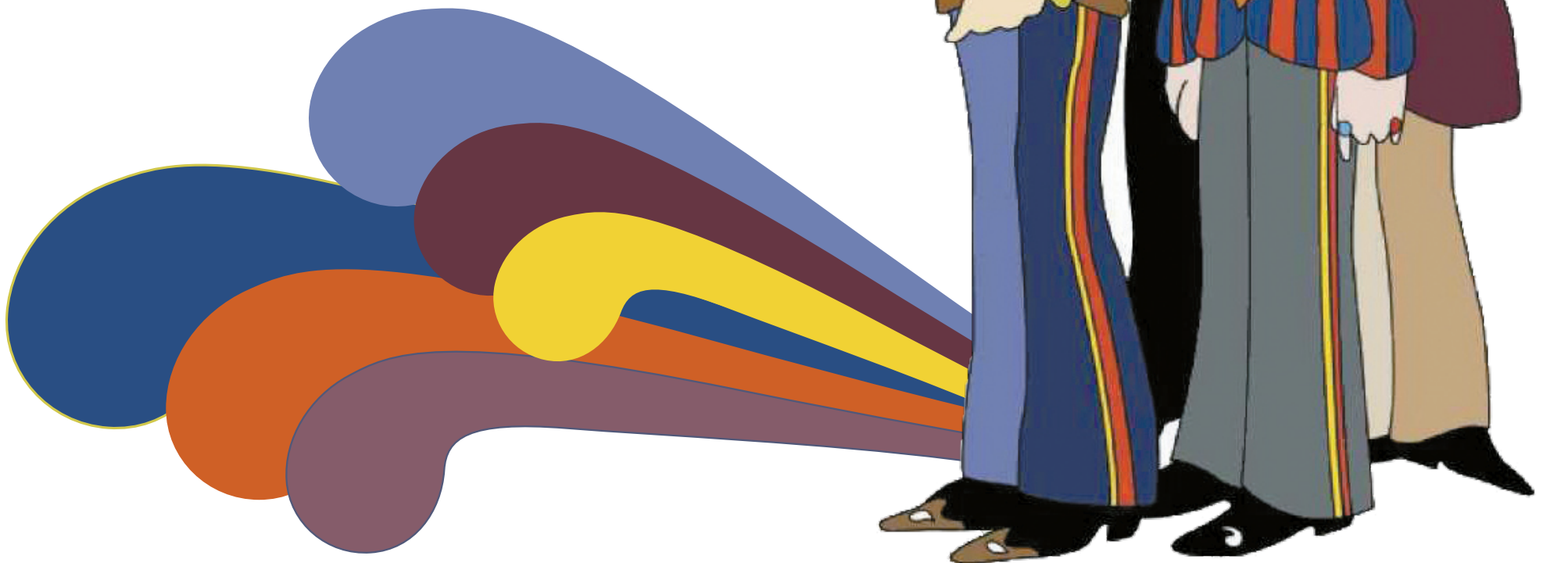
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# Feature

We all live in a yellow submarine.

## Corvallis musicians just can't let it be

*Community steps up to continue benefit concert*



**Max Brown**  
 Editor-in-Chief

**O**b-la-di, ob-la-da, The Beatles at OSU goes on, brah!

The Beatles at OSU is continuing into its fifth year. This is a benefit concert which has one more showing at the Milam Auditorium on Saturday, May 1, and already had one show on April 24 at the LaSells Stewart Center. Tickets cost \$5 and proceeds go to benefit the non-profit organization CARDV (Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence).

The band, which is a collection of local musicians that goes by the name Imaginary Friends, will be playing two full albums. This year's concert features: "Animals" by Pink Floyd and "Let it Be" by The Beatles. This is the first year with a drastically different band.

Last year was thought to be the final performance of The Beatles at OSU. This was due to the large number of band members graduating and leaving Corvallis. Nancy O'Mara, director of CARDV, made the announcement on stage last year, while thanking the group for all their hard work.

Soon after Bill Cowell, group member for the past three years and now the coordinator, was flooded with interest from local musicians who did not want to see the event end. He said that many musicians had been waiting for a spot to open up. It did not take much to convince Cowell to come back. Six out of the 19

members are returning musicians from previous years.

"He approached me in November of last year, and I said 'Oh my gosh, again? Yay!'" O'Mara said.

O'Mara loves the event because it helps CARDV so much. She said that the second year with Charlie Parker, founder of the event, they raised around \$8,000 for the two performances. Last year and the year before they raised around \$6,000, "Which is still extraordinary," according to O'Mara.

"Everyone is happy to do this. It's not like effort, it's more like 'Oh! When's it going to happen?'" O'Mara said.

She emphasized that the musicians really do a lot of work for this event, and CARDV would be losing a great opportunity without them. She said it's not only a monetary benefit, but it also raises a lot of awareness about what they do and gets their name out there.

"Thank' you is inadequate, because there is no way this would happen without their hard work," O'Mara said of last year's event.

Even though it is a lot of work, the musicians enjoy playing the event.

"The sheer joy of playing the music for a good cause, that's a no-brainer," Cowell said about why he plays at the event.

Cowell said this year is going to be good. He feels all the musicians are talented and very devoted to bringing a great concert. He also said they have done

a lot more prep work with the sound guys.

Originally they were thinking of playing "Magical Mystery Tour," but, upon listening, they realized it had a lack of guitar parts. He said "Let it Be" was pretty close in the voting for the last few years, so they decided to go with that.

"Animals" was "purely selfish" according to Cowell. He said he was disappointed that he would only get to play it these last few times. Pink Floyd is his favorite of the two bands, but he really enjoys playing The Beatles, as well.

This year they decided to try playing at LaSells Stewart Center, which is a larger venue, because Milam Auditorium is scheduled for remodeling, and they won't be able to use it in the future.

CARDV is a non-profit organization that supplies a number of services for people in abusive situations 24 hours a day. All their services are free to those in need. They offer safe shelter, over-the-phone information and assistance, community education events, and much more. For more information on CARDV visit <http://cardvservices.org/>

"Far too often we can go about our lives and forget this is happening," said O'Mara.

Tickets for The Beatles at OSU can be purchased at the Women's Center on OSU campus, Grass Roots bookstore, or online through [ticketsoregon.com](http://ticketsoregon.com). For more information visit [www.beatlesatosu.org](http://www.beatlesatosu.org)

Most musicians in the Imaginary Friends group are members of local bands. Support local music - go see them perform!

**Honest To Empire**

Justin Gibson  
 Roland Ashton

**Project 431**

Jeff Carey

**Target For Tomorrow**

Jason Lusk

**pseudoboss**

Noah Stroup

**Stairway Denied**

Noah Stroup

**Appetite for Deception**

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Tanks

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LBCC Bookstore

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events, and the cure for weekend boredom.

## “Man in Black” plays on

**Joel DeVylidere**  
 A&E Editor

Johnny Cash, the model for American contradictions, died of respiratory failure Sept. 12, 2003. He left behind him a legacy of courage and cowardice, victory and defeat, joy and pain, loss and redemption. He also left an unfinished collection of songs that he had been working on with producer Rick Rubin – these became the American V and American VI recordings.

Born in 1932 to poor parents in Arkansas, J.R. Cash adopted Johnny Cash as a stage name. His success as a country star in the 1950s and 1960s is unmatched by almost any other artist of the era. He also went through a series of widely publicized career and personal struggles. The tortuous death of Cash’s brother as a child, his trouble with amphetamines, his divorce and remarriage to country singer June Carter and his end-of-the-line conversion to Christianity add up to a hard and bumpy life for a public figure. However, many would argue, and I would agree, that each stage of Cash’s life, every mistake and misstep, were as much his making as his undoing.

Johnny Cash did something extraordinary with his music – he changed with it. He succeeded time after time at reinventing himself, which is something that most artists aren’t able to do. In the early ’90s, when his career was stalling, and the millionaire/celebrity Cash couldn’t even find a record deal, he didn’t give up. What came of that persistence was the “American” series, a collection of records featuring covers (or more accurately re-definitions) of existing songs by stand-out artists.

It was this series that earned Cash

five Grammy Awards and a reputation as an incredible folk artist. “American VI: Ain’t No Grave,” released Feb. 23 (six years after his death), is a luminous contribution to the canon of American folk. Featuring songs by Sheryl Crow and Tom Paxton, this record has an unconventional feel to it.

“American VI” is not as eerie as you might expect a last album to be, though. Cash seems to be at peace with his imminent passing, as made evident on the title track (“Ain’t No Grave” by Pentecostal preacher Claude Ely) when he proclaims, “When I hear that trumpet sound/ Gonna get up outta the ground/ ‘Cause there ain’t no grave that can hold this body down.”

Also notable are Cash’s renditions of Kristofferson’s “For the Good Times,” and Tom Paxton’s “Can’t Help But Wonder Where I’m Bound,” and Bob Nolan’s “Cool Water,” which is a folk tune from the ’30s about walking through a desert.

Carrying the weight of almost 50 years as a moral failure and a commercial success with his voice, Cash fights his way through these lyrical representations of his past, present and future. Cash emotes tenaciously, interacting with these 10 songs like a penny interacts with an oncoming train. Strung out and flattened down, he comes back and nails the vocal performance on track after track.

The only real problem I see with “American VI” is that it doesn’t behave like an album should. Cash died while the work was in progress, so the tracks are more of a compilation than a finished project. That being said, this album still shines as a brilliant reflection of the life and death of Johnny Cash. RIP.



## Beer corner: All about stout

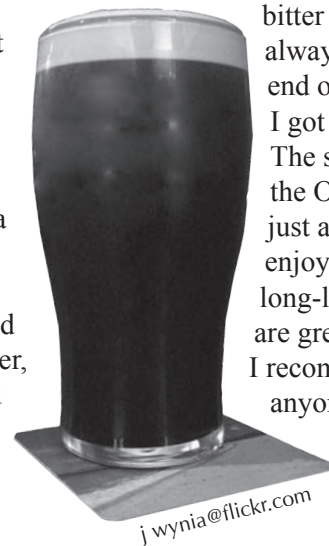
**J.E.B. Oliver**  
 Staff Writer

I had the opportunity to try two great stouts in the town of Corvallis recently. One was the Nebula Stout at Block 15 Restaurant and Brewery, the other was the Oakshire Espresso Stout at Downward Dog on the waterfront. Both were very delectable, with the dark bitter notes stout lovers all hope for in a stout and that slight taste of coffee and chocolate which just makes it that much sweeter.

The Nebula had a slightly more caramel and bitter taste than one would expect from this beer, but it definitely had that coffee taste you look for in a quality stout. The

Oakshire was pure magic, in my opinion, and was very smooth tasting, more like a cup of coffee from Starbucks than a stout. Even after three or four, you still feel the great taste and texture of the awesome brew.

Now, I personally had more of a taste for the Oakshire. It was a great way to celebrate the end of a long workweek, but it lacked the bitter crisp taste I always hope for at the end of every sip, which I got from the Nebula. The smoothness of the Oakshire was just a perfect way to enjoy a great beer with long-lost friends. Both are great brews and I recommend both to anyone who has the love of a good, hearty stout like I do.



## THE COMMONS FARE

4/28-5/04

### Wednesday

Dishes: Meatloaf, Fish & Chips and Vegetarian Chili  
 Soup: Dill Potato Chowder and Chicken & Wild Rice

### Thursday

Dishes: Pork Picatta, Chicken Mornay Gratinée and Tempeh Enchiladas  
 Soup: Potage de Boeuf and Cream of Garlic

### Friday

Chef’s Choice

### Monday

Dishes: Turkey Cutlet w/ Brown Butter Sauce, Texas Chili con Carne y Frijoles and Spinach Lasagna  
 Soups: Roasted Vegetable Chowder and Albondigas

### Tuesday

Dishes: Shrimp Etouffée, Swedish Meatballs, Huevos Rancheros  
 Soups: Egg Flower and French Lentil

## THE COMMUTER’S 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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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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## LIVE & LOCAL

### Thursday 4/29

**Kurt Smith (Folk)**  
 Sunnyside Up Cafe  
 116 NW 3rd St, Corvallis  
 7 p.m. • All ages • Free  
 sunnyside-up-cafe.com

**Wild Hog in the Woods (Swing)**  
 Calapooia Brewing Co.  
 140 Southeast Hill St, Albany  
 7:30 p.m. • 21 & over • Free  
 calapooiabrewing.com

**Charlotte Thistle (Folk)**  
 Bombs Away Cafe  
 2527 NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis  
 7:30 p.m. • 21 & over • Free  
 bombsawaycafe.com

### Friday 4/30

**HolliePollock, Norman (Indie Rock)**  
 Ike Box  
 299 Cottage St NE, Salem  
 7 p.m. • All ages • \$5  
 ikebox.com

**Alameda, The Nautics, Javier (Indie)**  
 The Space  
 1132 NE Broadway, Salem  
 7 p.m. • 21 & over • Free  
 thespaceistheplace.com

**Vicki Stevens Band (R&B)**  
 Calapooia Brewing Co.  
 140 Southeast Hill St, Albany  
 9 p.m. • 21 & over • \$3  
 calapooiabrewing.com

**Larry Wilder and the Stumptown Stars (Bluegrass)**  
 Boon's Treasury  
 (McMenamin's)  
 888 Liberty St. NE, Salem  
 9 p.m. • 21 & over • Free  
 mcmenamins.com

**MC Matty, Kev Brown, & LMNO (Hip Hop)**  
 Cloud 9  
 126 SW 1st St, Corvallis  
 10 p.m. • 21 & over • Free  
 dinecloud9.com

### Saturday 5/1

**A Flawless Escape (Progressive Hardcore)**  
 Ike Box  
 299 Cottage St NE, Salem  
 7 p.m. • All ages • \$5  
 ikebox.com

**Alison Losik (Jazz/ Pop)**  
 Sunnyside Up Cafe  
 116 NW 3rd St, Corvallis  
 8 p.m. • All ages • \$2  
 sunnyside-up-cafe.com

**Miriam's Well (Rock)**  
 Calapooia Brewing Co.  
 140 Southeast Hill St, Albany  
 8 p.m. • 21 & over • \$3  
 calapooiabrewing.com

**John Shumway**  
 Downtown Beanery  
 500 SW 2nd St, Corvallis  
 8 p.m. • All ages • Free  
 allannbroscOFFEE.com

# Tuva rocks Corvallis

**Adam LaMascus**  
 Opinion Editor

Have you seen the documentary "Genghis Blues?" If not, you should. It tells the story of the late and great Paul Pena, a blind Bluegrass musician, who developed a love for a bizarre style of singing: Tuvan throat singing. I was fortunate enough to go see a concert of four Tuvan throat singers last Saturday, and it was incredible.

For those of you who don't know, Tuva is a small republic sandwiched between Northwestern Mongolia and Southern Siberia. Winters are long and really cold, and summers are long and really hot. It is a pastoral society, and extremely isolated, as it is surrounded by three mountain chains.

As for their singing, I've never heard anything quite like it. Throat singers can simultaneously sing in two or more notes. Kongar-ool Ondar (his name means "Loud boy" in Tuvan), possibly the greatest throat singer alive (and co-star in "Genghis Blues"), can sing in four notes at once. Most people can only sing in one note at a time. This centuries-old form of singing produces a mesmerizing and

often haunting sound that is almost impossible to describe. It sounds like a didgeridoo, continuous, warbling, buzzing background noise and at the same time there is a high-pitched whistling sound overlaying it. The best thing to do is just search Kongar-ool Ondar's name (it is also often spelled "Kongar-ool Ondar") on Youtube. I found a pretty good video of him on the David Letterman show.

Saturday night, the Universalist Unitarian Church in Corvallis hosted the Tuvan band Chirgilchin, who unfortunately will have finished the Oregon circuit of their tour by the time this edition of the Commuter is printed. You can check their website chirgilchin.com for details on their schedule. The band is made up of four members, three men and a woman. (Women have only recently begun

practicing throat singing.) Igor Koshkendey, Aidysmaa Koshkendey, Aldar Tamdyn, and Mongoun-ool Ondar; I was unable to find out if he is related to Kongar-ool Ondar. The music was amazing, and somewhat bizarre. Traditional Tuvan music sounds like a weird combination of old Western and Asian music, overlaid by this incredible throat

singing. As corny as it sounds in my head, the band and the music seemed to give a connection with the heart of the Tuvan people. They and their music were optimistic, soulful, humorous, and at the same time somewhat melancholy. Their subject matter was also indicative of their pastoral culture, as many of the songs were about sheep, goats, herding, small villages, love, and singing. Mongoun-ool seemed to be the only one who spoke English, so

before every song he explained what they were about. It was pretty funny when he said, with a heavy accent and slow, measured voice: "this next song is... where we sing about singing."

Another amusing point was when he described a song a being a "Fiancé song." Their instruments were also really cool, a bunch of traditionally made string instruments (and one modern accordion) that made a sound somewhere between a violin and a fiddle. They were made out of wood, horsehair, bone, and sinew, with a single piece of plastic foam, temporarily holding up a string, looking amusingly out of place. The tops of the instruments were all carved to resemble horse heads.

I could rant for an even longer time about how the concert, or about how fascinating Tuvan music and culture is, but instead, I will just reiterate: The entire experience was incredible, and the music was really good. Look Chirgilchin up (there is a good Youtube video of them at the Rubin Museum of Art in New York singing "Khoomeige Yoreel"), look up Kongar-ool Ondar, and go watch "Genghis Blues."



# You'll like the Ike

**Joel DeVoldere**  
 A&E Editor

"Welcome to the funeral home." A chilled-out crowd of 30 twenty-somethings glance up at the stage in amusement and, as the chatter dies down, a couple of them reach for their coffees. Smiling back at them from the stage is 27-year-old Emily Wells, a hip hop/soul/classical performer who's touring the Western U.S. with neo-folk luminary Timmy Straw. This is her concert, and the "funeral home" she speaks of is the Ike Box, one of Salem's most prominent concert venues.

The Ike Box, which used to be a funeral home, is now a very artsy-looking coffee shop and concert hall. Photography and paintings by local artists hang from the walls and classy and comfortable furniture adorns every room. Music drifts through the cavernous hallways and bonus rooms, reverberating off the high ceilings and coming out crisp in the chill atmosphere. This is a great place for a concert.

While the Ike Box doesn't usually

attract big names or huge crowds, what they do have is ambience. You can walk in and feel at home while enjoying the sounds of bands that you've probably never heard of before, while having a chat with a friend or stranger. There's also coffee, which is almost always a plus for a concert venue.

Some local bands that do make regular appearances at the Ike Box are the acoustic act "For Charles," the Corvallis rock group "Norman," and the indie rock band Symmetry/Symmetry. Each time that I've gone out I've been pleasantly surprised with the quality and/or diversity of the music being performed. Ike Box really contributes to the great scene that we have here in the Willamette Valley.

So, if you're bored this weekend, and you want to head out and hear some exciting music for cheap, go ahead and check out who's playing the Ike at mspace.com/ikeboxmusic. For affordable entertainment only 30 minutes away from campus, don't miss a chance to spend a night out at the Ike Box.



**Ike Box**  
 299 Cottage St SE, Salem  
 ikebox.com

		Center St		
		Chemeketa St		
Liberty St	High St	Church St		Cottage St
		Court St		

Next Up: HolliePollock & Norman  
 Friday, April 30 at 7 p.m.  
 All ages always welcome  
 Cost: \$5

**The Commuter**  
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events, and the cure for weekend boredom.

## Moebius makes mark

Selena Gwin  
 Copy Editor

Moebius K, a local band out of Corvallis, has got a good thing going. Their sound skirts the edges of both folk and acid rock while flirting with the epic vocals of arena rock and the rhythmic guitar of '70s punk. It sounds like a lot, but actually, their music is pleasantly spare, compared to the over-produced, multi-layered products that most mainstream musicians put out.

Klyph Rost, lead singer of Moebius K, cited Jethro Tull, The Moody Blues and even classic arena-rockers Queen as being influential to their sound. "I think that's where I got a lot of my vocal styles from," Rost said, in reference to the late Freddie Mercury.

The songs on the album range in style from jazzy to heavy, with some arena-rock flavor on the second track, "Fable," but my favorite track on their EP is the last song, "Boulevard." The guitars and bass punch out a

### Moebius K



**Find them at:**  
[myspace.com/moebiusk](http://myspace.com/moebiusk)

**Upcoming concert:**  
 Downtown Beanery  
 500 SW 2nd St, Corvallis  
 Friday, April 30 at 8 p.m.

**Influences:** Jethro Tull, Queen, Classic Rock

**CD Song list:**  
 1. Southern Comfort  
 2. Fable  
 3. Jazzilla  
 4. Boulevard

catchy, distorted backup for some deep, raspy, Sisters Of Mercy-like vocals. I'll admit, the production on the album isn't the best, and there are times when the singing could be more melodic, but the sound is solid. They seem like one of those bands that would be way better to see live, where they can pull you into their musical vision.

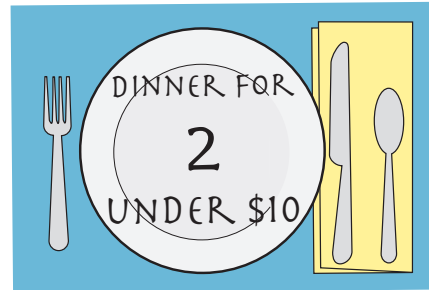
And you can. Moebius

K, which consists of Rost, along with bandmates Jim Rost (guitar, bass and drums), Nick Lower (bass, guitar), and Mike McGrath, plays often in Corvallis. Rost said in a phone interview that the band is working on putting an album together, and it should be out this summer. Active and outspoken about getting the local music scene together, Rost encourages students to attend more live shows.

"You get a much more intimate experience that way," singer Rost said, comparing it to attending a performance of live theater versus watching a movie. It's part of the reason they're giving their album away for free (that's right, free). Rost added that he doesn't want to sell CDs, he wants people to come see a show, but he has a hard time getting the word out.

"Most people around here just want to go out and drink," he said.

Overall, Moebius K has a few rough edges to smooth out, but if you get the chance to go see them, do it.



Jana West  
 Staff Writer

## Gyro burger

I'm a big fan of gyros; I got hooked on them when I moved to Eugene. In the wee hours of the morning I would stop by the downtown Pita Pit on my walk home after a few libations at what the locals refer to as the "BARmuda Triangle." These delightful handheld pockets of Greek-inspired yumminess have helped me many times, conquering my need for a late night munchie (they stay open until 4 a.m.). I was craving that flavor and, as I was not planning on going downtown, decided to do a burger inspired by the gyro. I used lamb, but if you don't like lamb, you can easily substitute ground beef.

### Grocery list:

2 Tbs. yogurt	\$ .30
2 Tbs. feta cheese	\$ .80
5-6 mint leaves	\$ .30
1/2 lb. lamb	\$3.50
1 green onion	\$ .20
1 1/2 Tbs. bread crumbs	\$ .30
2 leaves of lettuce	\$ .30
1 Roma tomato	\$ .77
1 cucumber	\$ .89
3-4 peperoncinis (pickled yellow peppers)	\$ .50
2 pocket-less pita breads	\$1.50
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$9.36</b>

### Directions:

1. Mix the yogurt and feta together to form a chunky paste and add the thinly sliced mint leaves.
2. Mix the breadcrumbs and thinly sliced green onions with the lamb, season with salt and pepper and form into half circles so the patties will match the shape of the pita cut in half. Grill until meat is cooked through but do not overcook - the meat will be dry and grainy if too well done.
3. As soon as you pull the burgers off the grill top each with a generous portion of the feta-mint mixture and assemble the pita.
4. I grill my pita for a few seconds on each side before I top with sliced tomatoes, lettuce, sliced cucumbers and peperoncinis.
5. Served with a side of grilled eggplant or other vegetable makes for a perfect dinner on the patio as the weather starts to warm up.



Gyro burger is mmm, mmm good.

Photo by Jana West

## redbox review

### I Love You, Man (Rated R, Runtime 110 min.)

Ashley Christie  
 Page Designer

"I Love You, Man" is a bro-mantic comedy starring Paul Rudd and Jason Segal. Rudd stars as Peter Klaven, a newly engaged L.A. realtor. When he and his fiancé Zoey (Rashida Jones) start planning the wedding, Peter quickly realizes that he doesn't have a best man - in fact, he doesn't have any guy friends.

His family tries to help him out by setting him up on some ill-advised "mandates" with their friends that couldn't go more wrong. Peter has all but given up when he meets Sydney Fife (Segal).

Sydney shows up at one of Peter's open houses to eat his food and meet attractive, vulnerable divorcees. The two strike up a conversation and become fast friends. Is Sydney best man material? Or will Sydney's alpha male personality be too much for Peter and the engagement?

"I Love You, Man" is from writer/director John Hamburg ("Along Came Polly," "Meet the Fockers") and it is hilarious. The film hinges on the friendship between Rudd



and Segal, which is flawless. Peter's geeky awkwardness is matched by Sydney's self-assured bravado to form this kind of yin-yang pairing that is funny and heartfelt.

Rudd and Segal have great comedic timing; Segal especially does a great job of keeping his character grounded when he could have easily become an over-the-top caricature. Every part of this movie works, including a sub-plot involving Lou "The Incredible Hulk" Ferrigno as one of Peter's clients.

My one criticism is that it goes back to vomit and poop jokes one too many times. I love toilet humor; it's reliable for a good chuckle or two. But this script is better than that. Hamburg should have trusted his leading men to deliver the funny without resorting to the cheap and easy laugh.

An all-star supporting cast, including Jane Curtin, J.K. Simmons, Andy Samberg, Jaime Pressly, and Jon Favreau, along with the main leads, work together to make this fantastic bromance come to life. It is raunchy and vulgar and completely enduring. "I Love You, Man" is a must-see.

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Surreal Living

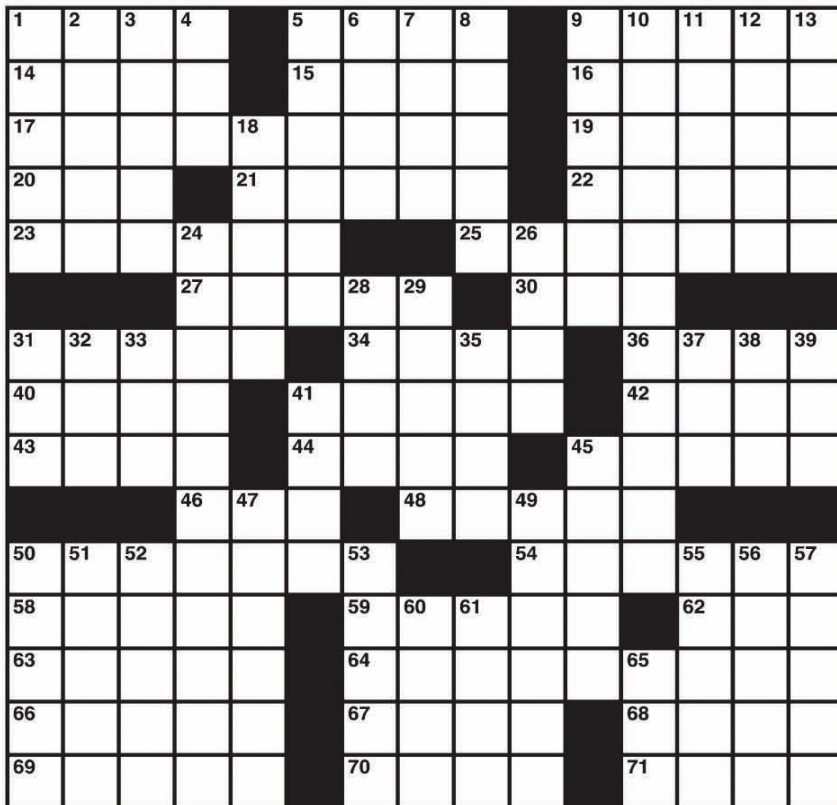
Crosswords, cartoons and some fun facts to brighten your day.

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Shapely legs, slangily
5 Peak
9 Makeup maven
14 Actor McGregor
15 Flightless South American bird
16 Not cloudy
17 \*Like secret military facilities, to civilians
19 "Lucy, you got a 'splainin' to do!"
20 High on the hwy.
21 Scatterbrained
22 Gillette razors
23 Slip by
25 Give life to
27 Artist's support
30 401(k) cousin, briefly
31 Like horror films
34 Not worth debating
36 Chowder ingredient
40 Actress Spelling
41 Moisten the bird
42 One who saves the day
43 Screwy
44 Golden \_\_: senior citizen
45 Part of VCR
46 Souse's affliction, for short
48 Red-breasted bird
50 "The Avengers" heroine, to Steed
54 Log-on need
58 Old photo tint
59 Muscat resident
62 Suffix in enzyme names
63 Towels (off)
64 \*Furniture with folding legs, usually
66 1/16 of a pound
67 Cancel, as a newspaper story
68 Ski slope lift
69 Villainous look
70 \_\_ gin fizz
71 Given moment, which can begin both parts of the answers to starred clues



By Pancho Harrison

DOWN

- 1 Crystalline stone
2 Beyond bad
3 Cosa Nostra
4 NBC show with Baba Wawa skits
5 Military forces
6 IOU
7 Queens ball team
8 Unchallenging college course
9 Oblong cream puff
10 \*One-armed bandit
11 Prefix with -cycline
12 Trouble greatly
13 Clear, as a tape
18 "My guess is ..."
24 \*Movie that evokes prior times
26 TV's Nick at \_\_
28 'Zine on the Net
29 Runner-up
31 Initials on a Cardinal's cap
32 Dove sound
33 Golf ball path
35 Other, in Mexico
37 Had followers

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved



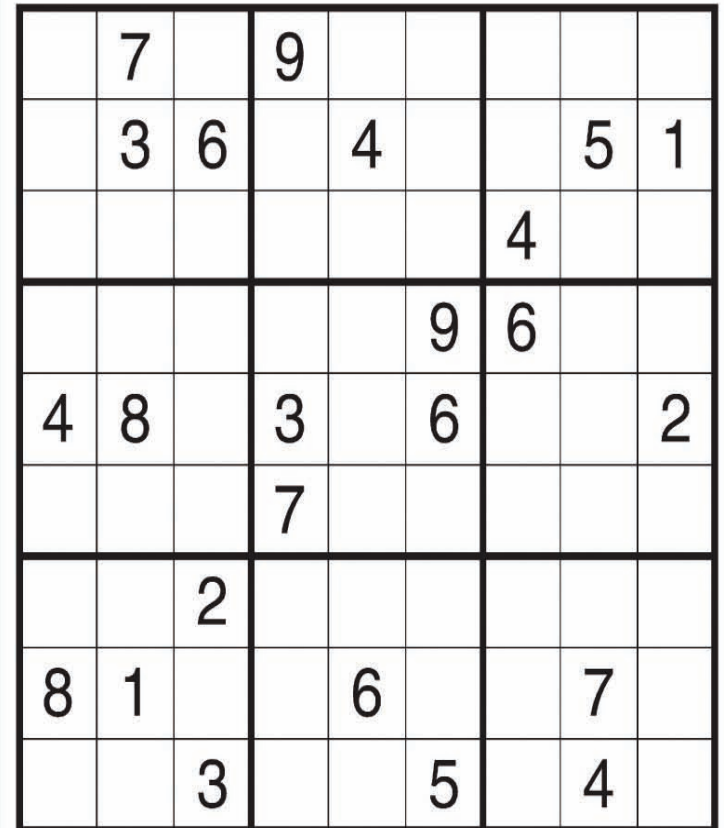
(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 38 "\_\_ you kidding?"
39 Cow sound
41 Military command center
45 Stop in on
47 Ad to lure you in
49 \_\_ of joy: new baby
50 Popular PC interface before Windows
51 Second showing
52 Chiropractor's target
53 Secures using a key
55 Synagogue leader
56 Muslim's faith
57 Tractor maker John
60 Letters in a box
61 Singer Guthrie
65 Lawyer: Abbr.

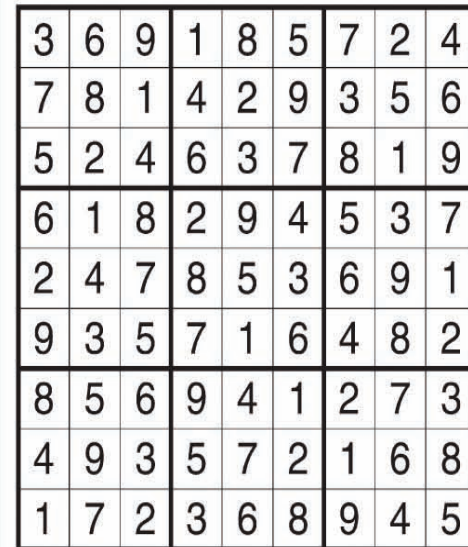
SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4



SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



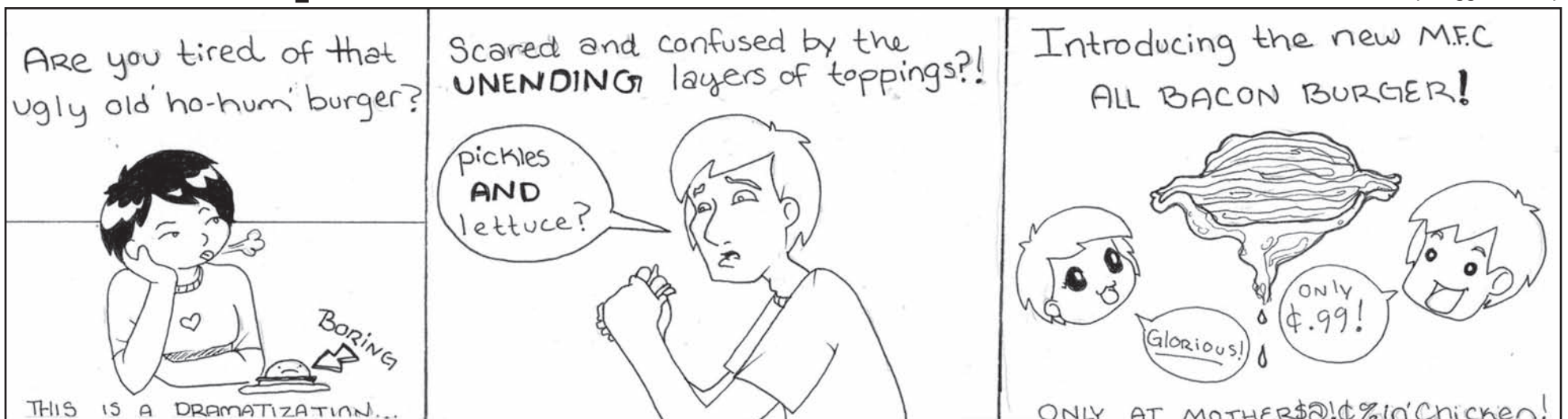
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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Add/Drop

An LBCC student generated comic.

By Maggie O'Reilly



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# Surreal Living

Crosswords, cartoons and some fun facts to brighten your day.

Student-submitted art  
e-mail your own artwork to commuter.submissions@gmail.com



Koi  
by Donna Beckstead  
cut-paper

DRAW for  
The  
**COMMUTER**  
YOU KNOW YOU WANT TO, BABY! :)

We're looking for student-generated art for the Surreal Living section. Come to the Commuter office to pick up a sketch card,  
Or submit a photo, poetry, etc.



- Commuter.Submissions@gmail.com -  
OR come see us at F217.

### Did you know?

- Correction: The Sun "only" weighs about  $1.9891 \times 10^{30}$  kilograms, not  $10^{34}$ .
- Of the 50 countries with the shortest life expectancies on Earth, African countries make up 44 of them.
- According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, as of 2008, the United States makes up about 41.5% of global military expenditures. China is second highest at 5.8%.
- Corvallis has two sister cities: Uzhhorod in the Ukraine, and Gondar in Ethiopia.



## LBCC HORTICULTURE CLUB Spring Plant Sale

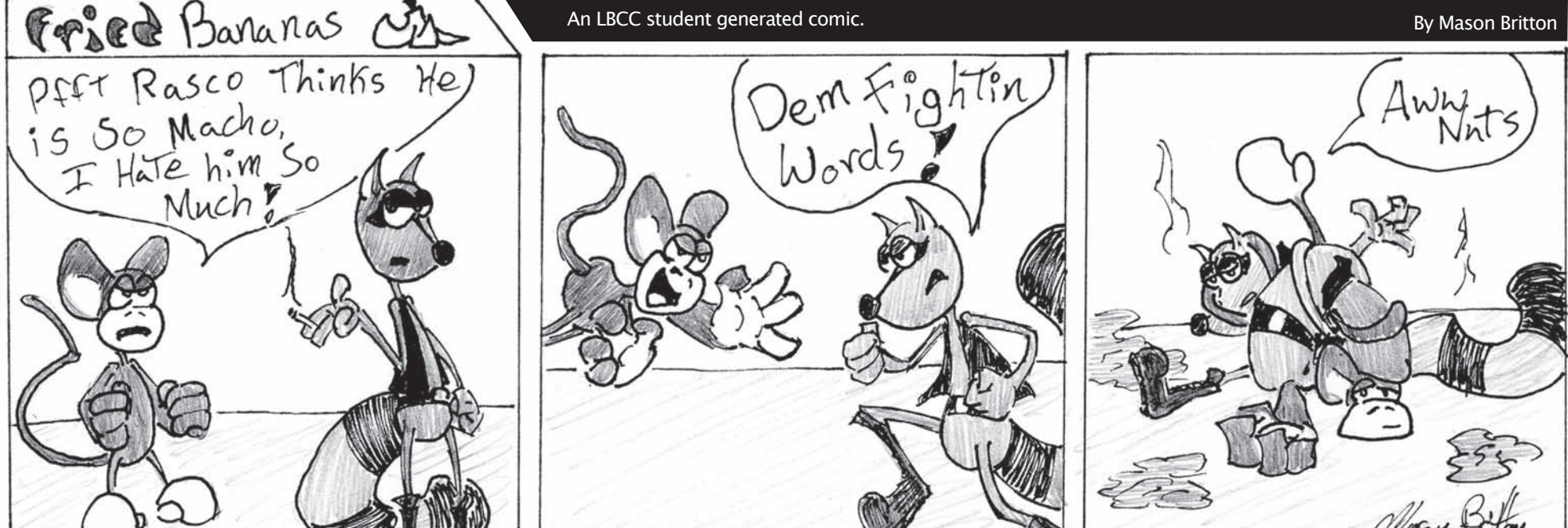
May 7th  
11 AM - 2 PM  
in the Greenhouse

Beautiful fuchsia baskets, Bare root fruit trees  
Herbs, flowers, and organic vegetable starts for your garden

CASH and CHECKS only please!

Fried Bananas

An LBCC student generated comic. By Mason Britton



Panel 1: pfft Rasco thinks he is so macho, I hate him so much!

Panel 2: Dem Fightin Words!

Panel 3: Aw Nnts

Mason Britton

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## Coming attractions

### Furry Vengeance

A realtor (Brendan Fraser) takes a trip to Oregon from his native Chicago to manage the construction of a housing development. His plans for a peaceful success, however, are constantly thwarted by a group of resilient woodland creatures whose home he is destroying in order to build the houses. Roger Kumble directs this environmentally charged slapstick comedy.



Runtime: 91 minutes • Rating: PG

### A Nightmare on Elm Street



A modern re-make of the classic 1984 horror flick about the exploits of Freddy Krueger (Jackie Earle Haley), a screwed-up and facially disfigured killer with four blades attached to one of his gloves. Four teenagers are being stalked by Krueger in their dreams, and they fear that if he kills them there, they'll be dead in real life.

Runtime: 102 minutes • Rating: R

### Please Give

Kate (Catherine Keener) is at once a struggling wife and a furniture salesperson who is starting to have doubts about her marriage. On top of all that, she is having a really hard time dealing with the old lady she rents to in the apartment next door and the woman's impossible granddaughters.



Runtime: 90 minutes • Rating: R

Sources: [Imdb](#), [Yahoo! Movies](#), [Fandango.com](#)



## “Kick-Ass”: 'Nuff said

Justin Bolger  
Managing Editor

It's like the “Zombieland” of superhero flicks, but with a body count that rivals “Commando.”

This is the story of a comic book nerd, Dave Lizewski (Aaron Johnson), who decides to live the dream. Donning a brightly colored wetsuit, he takes it to the streets after a Peter Parker-style montage. His early endeavors are completely full of fail as we see this poor, altruistic kid get the snot kicked out of him. Eventually, he gets the hang of it. Too bad it earns him the attention of the local crime boss, Frank D'Amico (Mark Strong). On the bright side, it also attracts the father-daughter hero duo, Big Daddy and Hit-Girl (Nicholas Cage and Chloe Moretz).

“Kick-Ass” seems to be perfectly divided into two parts. The first half is a hilarious, quirky tribute to the world of superheroes. Witty one-liners and clever twists on cliches fuel this portion of the movie. The laugh-out-loud moments were relentless. Every character reaches toward perfection, which is quite the feat considering the predominantly young cast.

“You won't find many 11-year-olds who can upstage Nicolas Cage,” said Peter Keough of The Boston Phoenix.

The second half of the film takes an obvious turn toward the dark. Hit-Girl drives this point more than any other character. Here's an 11-year-old girl running around with spears and guns racking up a larger kill count than everyone else in the movie combined. I thought it was awesome, but it also merits warning to those with a low violence tolerance. She somehow maintains an overwhelming feeling of

innocence despite her bloody vigilante ways.

Chris Tilly of IGN said, “As played by Moretz, she is probably the most believable -- a testament to the talents of this promising young star.”

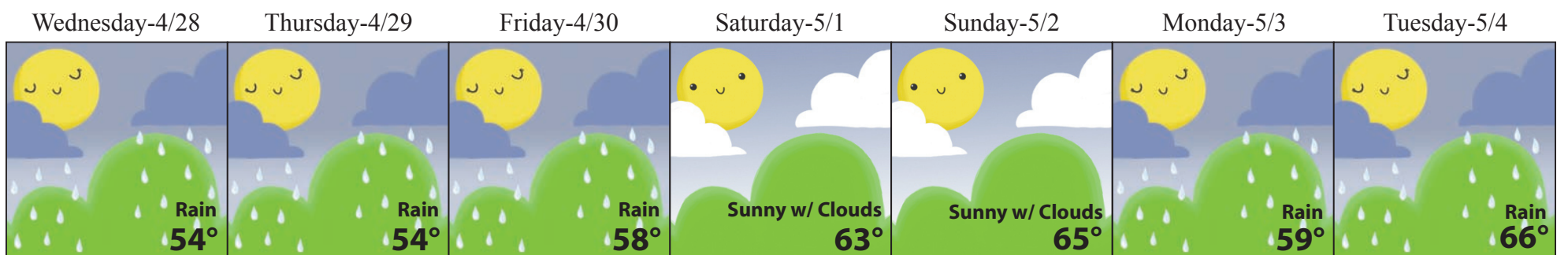
The script was incredible, both in humor and its ability to tug at your heart-strings. Great dialogue is enhanced even further by the actors. It's strange how such fantastic characters can be so easy to relate to. This is certainly thanks to the writer and director's attention to character development throughout the film. The audience gets to see Dave Lizewski evolve into Kick-Ass so naturally.

One of the earlier shots, the one introducing Cage and Moretz's characters, looks exactly like a panel from a comic book without having to resort to a black, white and red theme (a la “Sin City”). The scope was so dynamic. It was a wide-open area shot from a distance. All you know at that point is that there's a man with a gun on one side and young girl on the other, standing eerily still. There are a number of these moments in “Kick-Ass” that literally made me lean to the edge of my seat.

This is an excellent movie, especially for the hero wannabe crowd. I haven't laughed so much at a movie since “Kiss Kiss Bang Bang.” Prepare yourself for the second half though. It's still not without merit, but the darker tones caught me off guard. Get your pals together and have a good time at “Kick-Ass.”

**Rated:** R  
**Runtime:** 117 minutes  
**Showing at:** Regal Cinemas, Albany and 9th St. Cinemas, Corvallis

## Weekly Weather Predictions



Warning: These are only predictions. For up-to-date forecasts, please look out your window. Source: [weather.com](#)