

The Commuter

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Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

Economic woe brings money for tax filers

Minda Trulove
The Commuter

Free Money!!!! That's right. The government is giving free money starting as early as May 2.

Thanks to the Economic Stimulus Act that President Bush signed earlier this year in February, thanks to the bipartisan growth, \$152 billion will be given out between May and July.

What do you have to do to get this free money? File your 2007 tax return.

To stimulate the economy, the federal government is giving anywhere from \$300 to \$1,200 away, and more, depending on if you have children, if you are married and if you earned at least \$3,000 in 2007. You must also have a valid Social Security number.

What's the catch? According to the IRS, it's not taxable, and it won't reduce your 2007 or 2008 refund or increase the amount you owe when you file your 2008 return. What it is designed to do is put more money into your hands, if you qualify.

If you filed as single with

no dependents and made at least \$3,000 and owed at least \$600 in federal income tax, you could see \$600 in your bank account or sent to you in a check. If you have a child that is dependent on you and under 17, tack on an additional \$300. You could see \$900 dollars coming to you.

If you filed jointly married, \$1,200 would be headed your way. If you have children, \$300 for every child under the age of 17 that is dependent on you. One child and you'd see \$1500 coming to you.

A Web site that you can go to is www.irs.gov/app/esp/. Thanks to the IRS, this website will give you tools to see how much money you could receive from the stimulus package.

The way the money will be dispersed is according to the ending of your last two social security numbers. If you filed your tax return and elected to have the money deposited into your bank account that is how you'll receive your additional monies. If you received a paper check, then you will receive an additional paper check.

IRS Timetable for Rebate Payments

Here's the government's plan for making the economic stimulus payments for taxpayers whose 2007 returns are filed and processed by April 15:

DIRECT DEPOSIT PAYMENTS

If the last two digits of your Social Security number are:
Your rebate should be sent to your bank account by:

00 - 20 May 2	21 - 75 May 9
76 - 99 May 16	

PAPER CHECK

If the last two digits of your Social Security number are:
Your check should be in the mail by:

00 - 09 May 16	10 - 18 May 23
19 - 25 May 30	26 - 38 June 6
39 - 51 June 13	52 - 63 June 20
64 - 75 June 27	76 - 87 July 4
88 - 99 July 11	



photo by Will Parker

Students and members of the community take advantage of the opportunity to meet with over 60 different local employers at the 30th annual LBCC Career Fair on Thursday.

Students ponder ethics and events

Lydia Elliott
The Commuter

"You don't change the Hulk's powers!" exclaimed LBCC student Scott Catchpole as he shook the Arts and Entertainment section of last Thursday's New York Times.

The topics of discussion were as broad and open as the room in which the student's gathered was sparse and dull. In a little under two hours the conversation went from cuisine, musicals, and the border, to bio-fuel, sports, and even comic books.

Tom Walmsley, who many students have had as their philosophy teacher, decided to offer a one or two-credit course in reading the New York Times after an interest in the news, ethics, and issues portrayed in the paper arose within his classroom. Some students already read the well-known newspaper, others skeptically picked one up for the first time.

After a couple of lively weekend get-togethers at the end of winter term, one thing was decided: There was a lot to talk about.

"The idea is to push back the boundaries of our parochial-

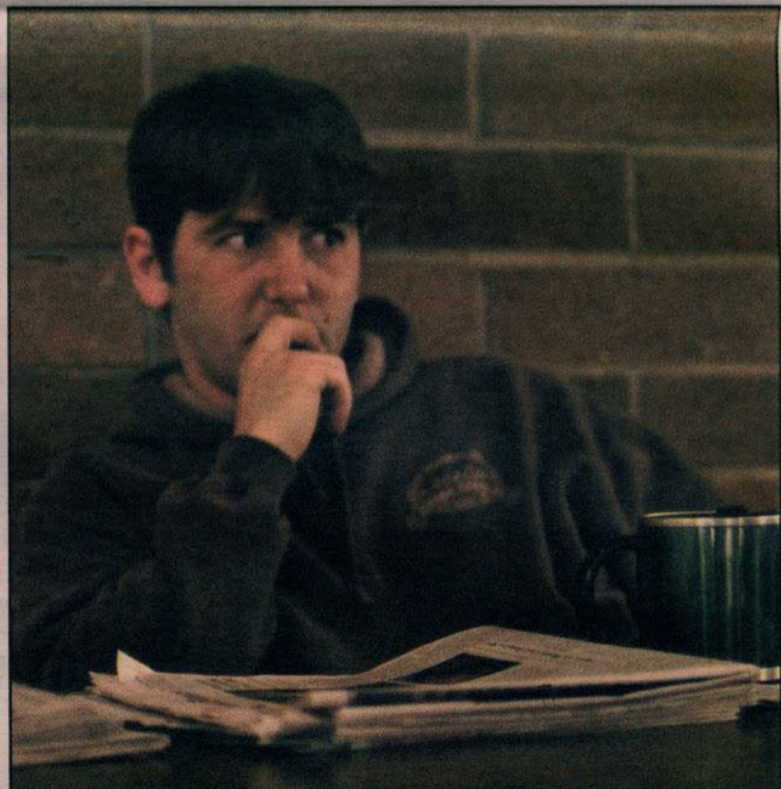


Photo by Lydia Elliott

Richard Pratt considers the issues at last week's meeting of New York Times readers.

ism," Walmsley said of his new group.

Students are encouraged to discover issues facing the world today, and to look at the political and ethical overtones in each section of the paper. Some might ask why the New York Times is the chosen paper for this course,

and not another widely circulated newspaper. Walmsley wanted a newspaper that was widely accessible, consistently addressed issues found around the globe, and helped readers

► Turn to "NY Times" on Pg. 9

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Imported talent graces LBCC from The Land Down Under, complete story on Pg. 12

Contents

Opinion Pg. 2, 3
Campus News Pg. 4, 5, 9
Local News Pg. 6
Sports Pg. 12
Arts & Entertainment Pg. 7, 8
Funny Bones Pg. 11

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OPINION

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

Web 2.0 Music sites revolutionize listening

Gregory Dewar
The Commuter

The future of music distribution is... back to the internet? There was once a time (and this was very long ago!) when you could open up a P2P client and grab every song you want as fast as your early version of DSL/Cable would allow without fear of retribution. Because you were one of those intrepid early adopters of broadband, weren't you? You wanted to have the best ping on your "Counterstrike" server.

But then Metallica came out of the woodwork and suddenly, there is an insane fear of retribution, that has engendered "BitTorrent" usage that is hitherto unheard of, as it is infinitesimally more secure and safe than P2P clients. In fact, the RIAA seems to crack down harder every year; the number of people using P2P filesharing networks has been cut in half.

But it seems like there's a better way. There has to be one, right? And thus Web 2.0 (My personal favorite buzzword! When someone asks "What's the Capital of Denmark?" I calmly reply: "WEB 2.0 IS REVOLUTIONIZING THE WORLD AS WE SPEAK!" and walk away briskly) hits the forefront, with an entirely new way to share, appreciate and socialize music.

It's far, far from uniform, however, the new generation of "music-what-ever" sites are as disparate and distant as fresh peanut butter and a monkey wrench. After all, evolution is what humans do, right? So why shouldn't the rhythmic expression of their souls evolve beyond the constraints of human boundary currently accepted by transmogrifying into an entirely new aural and sensory experience for the ages?

Pandora (<http://www.pandora.com>), the Music Genome project, is a website that allows you to log in, create an account, and then start exploring stations. The way it works is thus: you type in an artist or song you like. It then plays a song by them

and asks if you like it. Depending on your answer it starts shifting your tastes and experiments by showing you music and letting you "thumbs up" or "thumbs down" it, but it still intersperses songs and bands it knows you like while things are rocking and rolling along. Eventually, you create entire stations you can just let play and groove to, with little to no need to skip or feel annoyed by music you don't like. Of course, being the curious monkey that I am, I decided to see if I could break it. I trained it



"Web 2.0? More like Web 2. Awesome! But, I digress, down this merry lane of disembodied auditory nerves."

Gregory Dewar

from Iron Maiden to Aqua's "Barbie Girl" and it was at this juncture in the space-time continuum that I realized my life was complete.

Music on Pandora is analyzed by real-live experts and filed according to its "genetic" attributes, of which Pandora claims there are hundreds. These consist of specific locuses as well as individual traits, such as: melody, harmony, rhythm, instrumentation, orchestration, arrangement, lyrics, and vocal harmony. Pandora lets you maintain a profile, share your station with your others, cruise around others's stations and generally turn the normally solitary activity of music listening to a sleek, extradimensional online experience. Best part of all? It's 100% legal, as artists are payed a pittance whenever a song is played. Web 2.0? More like Web 2. Awesome! But, I digress, down this merry lane of disembodied auditory nerves.

Project Playlist (<http://www.projectplaylist.com>) is in a similar vein to Pandora, except that it scours the internet for legally hosted songs and indexes them with a simple, yet powerful search feature. You can then build yourself a playlist from the index of whatever songs that you crave in the bowels of your humanity. It's very much more social than Pandora, in that the quality of it's

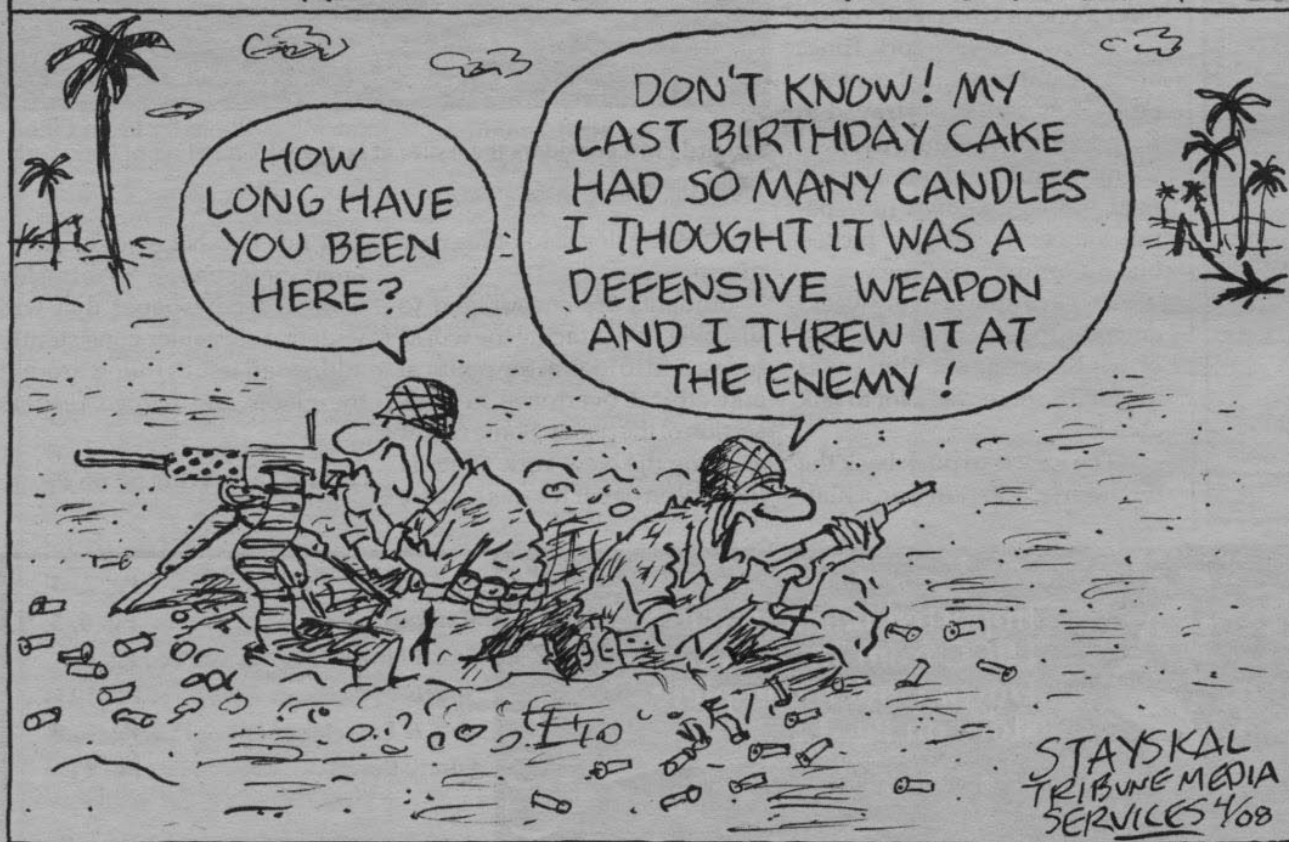
profile site is on par with something like <http://www.myspace.com> and sharing your playlists, blogs, and comments is an expected action for users. It really stresses that music is about sharing, and gives the internet a "concert-like" feeling in that you can always be surrounded by fans of similar music to yours to discuss and schmooze with. It's gone so far, that having your playlist listen on the front page is a sort of badge of honor and bragging rights.

Last.fm (<http://www.last.fm>) is similar to the other two already listed, but with a twist. Upon loading the site you are able to type in an artist or song: it brings up demo clips of the music, videos, radio stations, similar artists, journals of users, other listeners, band information, pictures, concert information, and it shows the top tracks by their number of plays for the week by the artist you referenced. On their main page they say: "Last.fm connects you with your favorite music, and uses your unique taste to find new music, people, and concerts you'll like."

Wondering just what this web 2.0 business is, anyway? It's basically the idea, that you can use computers and internet technology to enhance the human experience and better understand the human condition. It isn't a set of technological standards, or anything tangible. That'd be too easy. It's the transcendental idea that we can be more than the sum our parts, that we can find divinity in the expansion of our own minds and ways of thought by raising the bar on the quality of our experiences.

In the end, life (the internet; / same thing) is a race, between people trying to build bigger and better idiot-proof technology and the universe trying to build bigger and better idiots. You can get your music in an entirely new way and have an entirely new experience without the fear of the law, but I'm sure the next band with nothing better to do than harass filesharers will find some way to ruin it for the rest of us.

PENTAGON HAS NO TIME LIMIT ON TROOPS IN IRAQ



PERSPECTIVES

Q: If you could be any superhero or cartoon character, who would you be?



"The Bat Computer because it has all the info. in the world."

• Aaron Allen •
Civil Engineer

"The Flash."

• Josh Souza •
Medical Office Specialist



"V" from 'V For Vendetta'

• Justin Hussey •
Physics

"Ghandi. For how he changed the world."

• Karen Chambers •
Instructor



"Bugs Bunny."

• Katrina Looney •
History

"Spongebob"

• Lacey Reed •
Education



Compiled by MaryAnne Turner and Monique Cohen

Intrepid London trip lacks loneliness

Jenna Conrad
 The Commuter

Everybody wants to be a loner. Sometimes that fear of being a loner is the way of doing the things as individuals, want to do? At times, I think that people get so comfortable as a part of a group of friends, we forget what it's like to be comfortable and confident on our own. It's always nice to have friends around, if for no other reason, to laugh at your jokes and to keep you safe and safe in your comfort zone. But what happens when our comfort zone leaves us? For me, I've lost it. In the past I have been one of those people who would not go to a movie by themselves. If I couldn't find someone to go with, I would wait until I was able to go. But something happened this year that changed this. After high school graduation pres-

ent, my Aunt and Uncle gave me a plane ticket to London, wanting me to get a little bit of worldly experience in me before I left for college. But every time I tried to plan a trip, something always stood in the way. For instance, I couldn't find anyone to go with me, or I didn't have enough money at the time.



Jenna Conrad

Finally, the time came where I had to use it or I would lose it. But I still couldn't find a travel companion and I knew I did not want to go by myself. But when it came down to it, I had to make the choice to travel to a different country on my own, or stay in this one. When I got to Heathrow airport in London, it finally hit me how alone I actually was. I had about \$400 to my name,

a reservation to an Elephant and Castle Hostel, a phone number of a friend of a friend of a friend, and a large blue backpack that would cause me to tip over if the wind blew it right. I was terrified.

The hostel experience was an experience. I slept in a room with nine other wanderers just like myself and became friends with the staff. I met a tall, lanky Russian named Anton who taught me the proper Russian drinking etiquette. I met a soft-spoken man, Atilla, from Hungary who was in London for work. I experienced real, authentic Italian spaghetti sauce, made by two gentlemen from Italy traveling on their winter holiday. I met the overzealous hostel manager, who offered me a job, and after a couple of drinks at the bar, I actually considered!

After two nights at the Elephant and Castle, I decided to call the only number I knew in London. The friend of a friend of a friend

turned into my new friend, Danny, and I stayed at his house for the rest of the trip. He and his roommates did everything they could to make me feel at home. They asked me about American culture, and I experienced theirs. They showed me around their university, took me out to their clubs and made sure there was never a dull moment. They fed me a traditional English fry up for breakfast, and I could feel the grease dripping down my face as I took a bite out of the deep fried piece of toast.

England gave me the chance to reinvent myself. The only way I felt that I was going to be able to change myself was to analyze the person I was outside of my comfort zone. I was able to see what I look like through the eyes of complete strangers, and that was what showed me the kind of person I really am. One thing I have learned is that confidence (but not arrogance) is extremely attractive.

If a person carries themselves in a way that portrays confidence and shows that they are comfortable in their own skin, people will be attracted to that and want to be a part of it. The people I met in England told me countless times how impressed they were that I could travel to a different country where I didn't know anybody, and make friends so easily.

Deciding to go to England was a decision that changed my point of view (eternally). Through my travels in London I learned how to be happy and comfortable on my own. I realized that, although it's a good thing to have strong and healthy relationships around me, I need to be able to be happy on my own first. So go see that movie that you have been dying to see. Go traveling by yourself and meet new people who will change your life.

Reinvent yourself and have fun being a loner!

Letter from the write-in ASG presidential candidate

My name is Hannah Gzik. I am the current Health Occupations Representative for the Associated Student Government. Recently an article was published about me and I felt that I should respect the commuter out and correct some of the statements that were incorrectly made. I would like to take this time and apologize to everyone for the commuter not receiving all the correct information to write an accurate article. With all Elections Candidates there are a few requirements then just the heavier requirements that were expressed in last week's article. You must be enrolled in six credits, have a GPA of 2.0 both term and cumulative, be available for the weekly meeting, and also be in a completed application within 5 days of winning the election if accepting the position as a write-in. I would not call these meager requirements and I would personally like to apologize to anyone that thinks they cannot be involved because they didn't attend for the six credits

per term because of things like family, work, couldn't afford it, or had that one really bad term and didn't meet the 2.0 GPA requirements. To all of these people I would like to say you can still be very much involved! As for the letter from the ASG apologizing to the student body that was posted around campus; I was and still am eligible to sign my name as the Health Occupations Representative and that is what I did and nothing more. To all of those who were wondering about my GPA after last week's article I would like to tell you my GPA meets and exceeds the 2.0 requirements; thanks for your concerns. At this time I would like to encourage ALL students that would like to get more involved to stop by Student Life and Leadership office which is next door to the Hot Shot Coffee House. It's a great office to work in and the people are extremely fun and friendly. Hope to see you all soon!

Hannah Gzik

Happiness is a kind stranger and a can of gasoline

Aubrey Chambers
 The Commuter

From where she stood in front of the old Chevy Lumina in her red patent leather pumps, the teenage girl looked out of place. Her black dress was more suited for an interview rather than trying to figure out how she would get her car back to town. She'd run out of gas on a country back road. Cars skirted around cautiously, and continued on their way. Everyone was in a hurry to get somewhere.

The situation seemed to call for a random act of human kindness. Fat chance. Many believe such a thing to be dead in the digital age. Heroes don't exist anymore. Dog eat dog, right?

A rusty old Ford pickup finally rolled to a halt behind her, tools in the back rumbling around and clanging against each other; obviously a hard-worked vehicle. The man who climbed out was equally hard-worked. Time had cracked and tanned his broad face, which smiled easily as he held out a calloused hand in greeting. In contrast, his well-worn clothing was all nearly one color-dirt brown. The two talked a minute as the girl explained her situation.

The man turned and grabbed a dented five-gallon gas can from the back of his pickup. The girl's face lit up with gratitude. Within five minutes, the gas can was

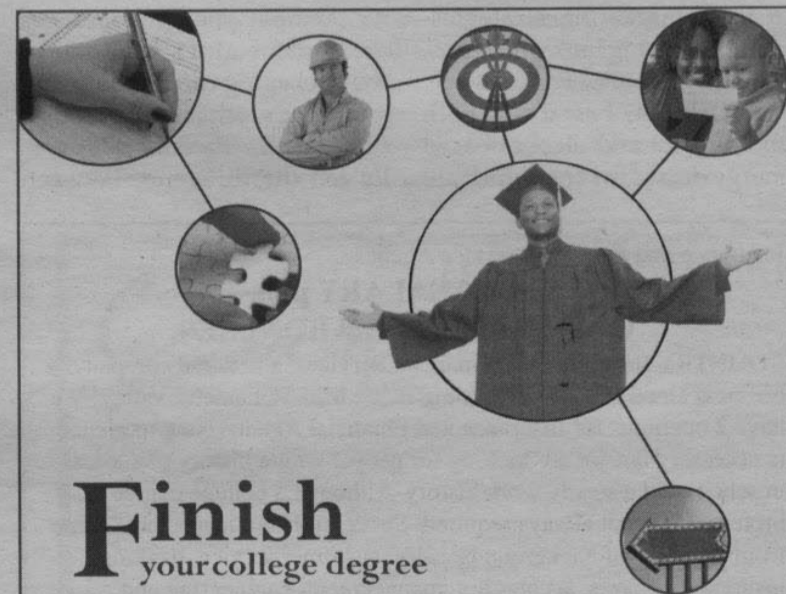
empty, all the contents now inside the Lumina that roared back to life. She pulled out a \$20 and tried to repay the stranger. He refused with a grin and a nonchalant wave. Before he left, she asked whom he was, like the damsel in distress often asks her rescuer.

"From up the road-from Nugent Drilling," the man

said. His voice was jovial and kind. "Sort of an unsung policy of ours to carry a gas can with us at all times."

The rusty truck rumbled away, and she realized she still didn't know his first name.

I still don't, in fact. But now I do know that heroes are still alive and well, and are often a lot closer than you think.



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EXPRESS YOURSELF

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues.

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome. Letters should be limited to 300 words, but columns can be longer. Contributors who wish to submit columns are asked to first contact the editor to arrange for space in the next issues. The Commuter attempts to print all letters received, although we reserve the right to edit for grammar and length. Letters that raise libel, poor taste or privacy concerns will not be printed.

Opinions expressed by columnists and letter writers do not necessarily represent the views of the Commuter Staff or Linn-Benton Community College.

Drop letters off at The Commuter Office, Forum 222 or email us at commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu.

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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Commuter
 College campus events

Author's win starts career

Tyler Farmer
 The Commuter

"Ideas can come from anywhere. I just always have my antenna out, trying to tune in to possible story ideas," said Molly Gloss, award-winning author of "The Hearts of Horses," "The Jump-Off Creek," "Wild Life" and other short stories and novels, when asked where she gets the ideas for her stories.

Her most recent novel, "The Hearts of Horses," which tells of a 19-year-old girl breaking horses in Eastern Oregon in the winter of 1917, has received praise in the national press.

"('The Hearts of Horses' is) very realistic. The characters are well-rounded, but human," said David Scott, who attended LBCC's Valley Writers Series meeting on Feb. 19 where Gloss

read from "The Hearts of Horses" and spoke about the heroic cowboy myth.

She has received the Whiting Writers Award and her novels entitled "The Jump-Off Creek" and "Wild Life" have won the Oregon Book Award and the James Tiptree Award, respectively.

Gloss was born in Portland and raised in Gresham where, according to her Web site, www.mollygloss.com, "girls who wanted to go to college were encouraged and expected to grow up to be teachers or nurses while they waited to marry and have children."

To a certain degree she followed this path, but when she discovered that she hated teaching she decided to take a correspondence clerk's job at a freight company. She worked there until she had her first child. She was

writing all of this time, but she had not finished any of her stories or told anyone about them.

In August of 1980 she read about a competition for best Western novel by an unpublished writer. The deadline for entry was March 31. She decided to contribute a novel for the competition.

In the first five months she wrote for four hours per day, but in March she rented an electric typewriter and began spending up to 12 hours per day writing. She mailed the novel on the deadline day.

After writing her first completed story she, from then on, considered herself a writer. She continued writing stories that sold regularly and her first novel, "Outside the Gates," was published in 1986. Her second and third novels, "The Jump-Off Creek" (which, according to

Gloss, was handwritten) and "The Dazzle of Day," were published in 1989 and 1997.

"I also [in addition to 'The Hearts of Horses'] love her [third] novel, 'The Dazzle of Day,' a science-fiction epic about multi-generational starships leaving a future Earth whose environment is failing," said Peter Jensen, English instructor at LBCC.

Gloss still lives in Portland (on the west side) and writes for a few hours every day. She is doing research and taking notes for a new novel.

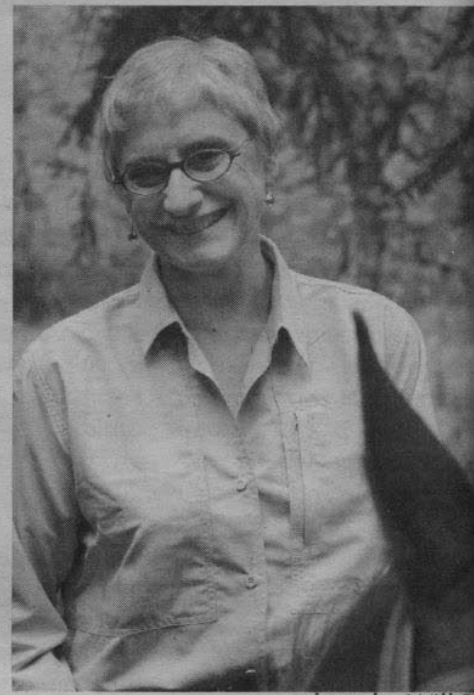


photo by Will P.
 Molly Gloss, award-winning northwest author, has received national press for her latest novel, "The Hearts of Horses."

The Valley Writers' Series continues today at noon in the Fireside Room.

Alcoholic energy?

For The Commuter

Caffeine-based energy drinks such as Rock Star, Sparks and Tilt have been a hit with young people for several years, but a new wrinkle has officials, prevention groups and parents worried—alcohol-based energy drinks in similar-looking containers that may become the latest alcohol craze for minors.

According to the Marin Institute, 31 percent of 12- to 17-year-olds and 34 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds regularly consume energy beverages. Producers of alcohol energy drinks are capitalizing on this popularity in their marketing strategies—including using look-alike cans, says the Institute. For instance, the Rock Star brand has both non-alcohol and alcohol-based energy drinks in cans, which are

very similar in appearance.

With guidance from Executive Director Steve Pharo and Enforcement and Field Operations Director Linda Ignowski, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission is approaching this problem on several levels. They will be alerting licensees and parents through a public information campaign to help ensure that these alcohol energy drinks aren't winding up in the wrong hands. Also, minor decoys will be taking these alcohol energy drinks to the counter during routine compliance checks to see if clerks are checking ID on these products.

"Alcohol energy beverages are legal for adults, but some of the packaging can be confusing and that's what bothers us," Pharo said. "Parents can't easily tell the difference between

regular and alcohol energy drinks, and some store clerks have even placed the products alongside their non-alcoholic counterparts."

This was demonstrated recently when an OLCC inspector counted nine different energy drinks in the beer cooler of a Portland-area convenience store,

with alcohol content ranging from six to eight percent.

"The cans closely resemble the typical energy drink cans," he said. "An employee told me he had mistakenly inventoried the drinks as (non-alcohol) energy drinks. This means they didn't ring up as alcohol at the cash register. Consequently,

the age verification equipment software didn't ask the cashier to input a date of birth at the time of purchase."

There are also health concerns about young people and high doses of caffeine bringing on anxiety and panic attacks, increasing blood pressure and masking the intoxicating effects

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Commuter seeks to fill positions for next year

Minda Trulove
The Commuter

The Commuter will be losing eight out of its 10 positions with the end of the spring term from the current staff moving on to other schools and work. The current staff of The Commuter has been with the paper for about two years.

The paper will have to bring mostly new blood into the paper to fill the open positions. Positions coming available include:

- * Editor-in-Chief
- * Photo Editor
- * Copy Editor
- * Sports Editor
- * Arts and Entertainment Editor
- * Paginator
- * Distribution Manager

The current editor-in-chief Davis LaMuerta will be leaving for Portland State University to study criminal psychology. LaMuerta came to the position with a background of completing all of the offered journalism classes with the exception of photojournalism.

He describes his job as managing all that comes with the paper. His advice to anyone thinking about applying to the position, "I'd suggest news writing (class)...being able to edit and being anal to detail."

Will Parker has been the photo

"Editing skills are helpful, but not necessary. Deadlines need to be adhered to."

**Davis LaMuerta,
Editor-in-Chief**

editor for The Commuter this year. Parker will be leaving for the Vanguard, PSU's student-run paper.

A photo editor needs to be prepared for everything, according to Parker. His background includes being the lead photographer for The Commuter the previous year.

"You have to eat, sleep and

breathe photography. It is not a 9-5 job."

A copy editor's biggest requirement is to have a strong editing eye. Monique Cohen has been the copy editor for the paper. Cohen is moving on for a paid position as a copy editor in either Oregon or Washington. What helps her in the position? "Experience with writing helps...be familiar with AP style."

The sports editor needs to have a knowledge and interest in sports.

"Editing skills are helpful, but not necessary. Deadlines need to be adhered to. This is helpful to the rest of the paper staff," suggested LaMuerta.

The hope for next year's staff? "It lives up to the quality standards put forth by this year's staff," LaMuerta said.

For more information on the positions that will be available next fall stop by The Commuter's office located on the second floor of the Forum or contact adviser Rob Priewe at rob.priewe@linnbenton.edu.



Kristen Jones



Jim Huckestein



Bruce Clemetsen

LB announces promotions

For The Commuter

Linn-Benton Community College recently announced the promotions of Bruce Clemetsen to dean of student services, Kristen Jones to dean of academic development and library services, and Jim Huckestein to vice president of finance and operations.

Clemetsen, an Albany resident, has been with the college since 1999. He previously served as associate dean of enrollment management and as director of enrollment management. Clemetsen also teaches administration and organization of student services at OSU. He is a member of the Albany Rotary Club, serves on a number of statewide technical task forces for community colleges and is involved in various youth organizations.

Clemetsen holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Willamette University, a master's in administration from Michigan State University, and a Ph.D. from Bowling Green State University.

Jones, a Corvallis resident, has been with the college since 1992. She previously served as associate dean of developmental studies and basic skills development and director of basic skills development. She also served the college as director of career services, cooperative work experience and service learning

coordinator, and testing specialist.

Jones holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Oregon and master's in counseling from Oregon State University. She is currently working on an Ed.D. in community college leadership through OSU, and recently received one of two \$500 grants awarded from the Region V NASPA-WISA for her research proposal "Spiritual Leadership: Voices of Women in Community College Presidents."

Huckestein has been with the college since 1992. He previously served as director of fiscal and auxiliary services at the college. He has also served as accountant, lead accountant, and as director of financial information systems and planning, and currently serves as chief financial officer for the LBCC Foundation.

Huckestein was instrumental in LBCC's business office receiving a certificate of achievement for excellence for its comprehensive annual financial report. The certificate is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

An Albany resident, Huckestein holds a Bachelor of Science degree from OSU and master's in business administration from Portland State University.

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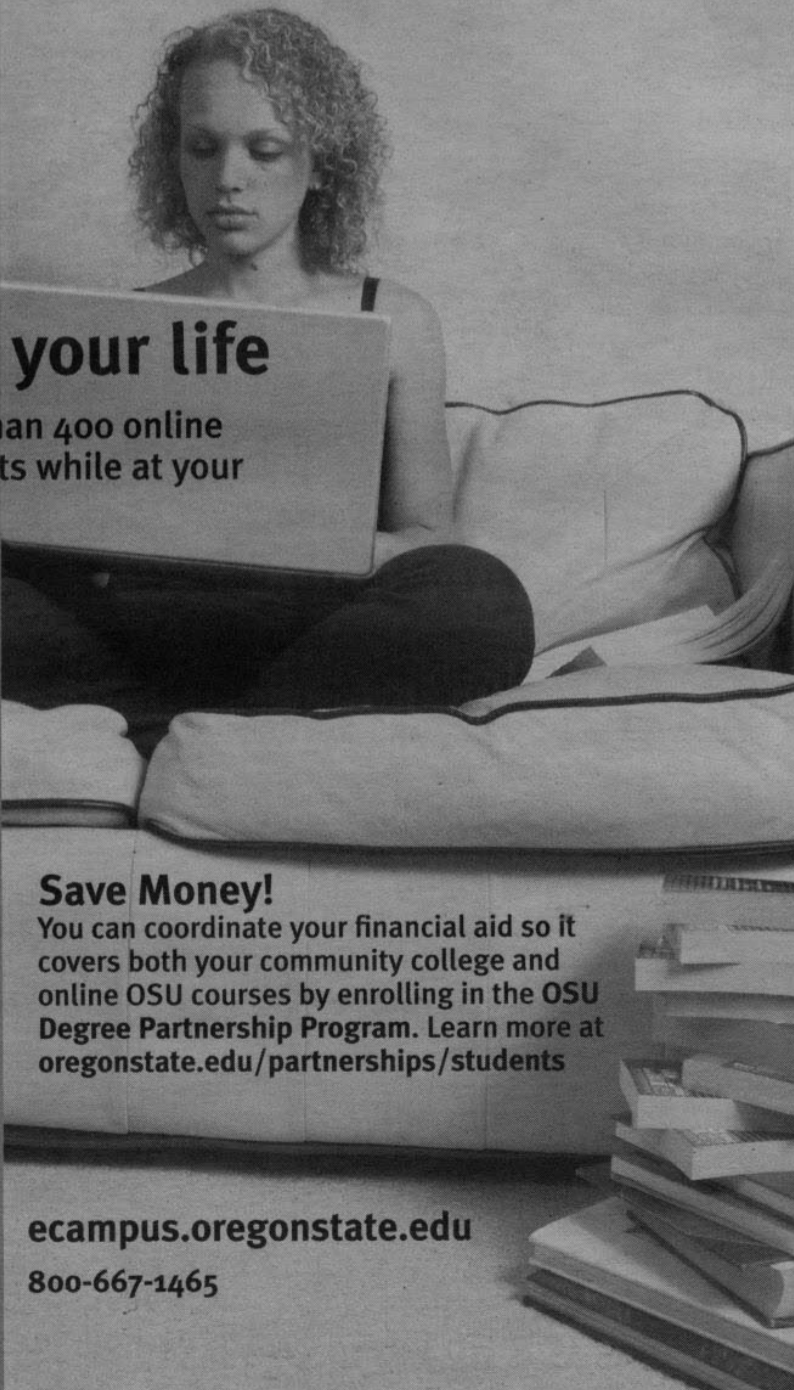
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Commons

APRIL 16TH - APRIL 22ND

Wednesday:
ENTREES: Roasted Beer Brined Chicken w/ Pan Gravy and Pork Enchiladas
VEGETARIAN: Gnocchi Bar
SIDES: Mashed Potatoes and Mexican Rice
SOUPS: Cream of Broccoli and Won Ton

Thursday:
ENTREES: French Dip with Fries and Hazel-Arugula Pesto pasta w/ Grilled Chicken
VEGETARIAN: Thai Vegetable Stir Fry
SIDES: Steak Fries and Creamy Pesto Pasta
SOUPS: Creamy Roasted Chicken and Garlic Soup with Tomato

Friday:
CHEF'S CHOICE

Monday:
ENTREES: Grilled Pork Chop w/ Sauce and Chicken Gumbo w/ Rice
VEGETARIAN: Sweet and Sour Tempeh with Rice
SIDES: Cheese & Potato Croquettes and Rice Pilaf
SOUPS: Chicken Noodle and Cream of Tomato

Tuesday:
ENTREES: Rye Sandwich w/ Coleslaw and Irish Lamb Stew
VEGETARIAN: Grilled Vegetable Pizza w/ Pesto & Goat Cheese
SIDES: Twice Baked Potato and Creamy Pesto Shells
SOUPS: Shrimp Bisque and Tomato Rice



Managing Editor: Monique Cohen
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LOCAL NEWS

News about our local community including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Sweet Home and Philomath

Block 15: An eco-friendly restaurant for everybody

Colin Walsh
 The Commuter

Conveniently situated in the heart of downtown Corvallis on 3rd and Jefferson sits a new restaurant and brewery, Block 15. Amongst the avid shopping areas, historic buildings, and the waterfront, Block 15 is located in one of the most popular areas in Corvallis.

Just six weeks ago, Block 15 opened their doors to a very relaxing and comfortable atmosphere. As you enter, there is a nice long bar lined with beer drinking sports enthusiasts glaring at the screen and cheering with laughter. One cool feature

about their booths is that they are chalk friendly surfaces and each table has a glass filled with chalk to doodle with. It's a unique idea that makes you forget your even waiting for food or drinks.

If the bar scene and sports isn't for you then head upstairs for mellow music and a more relaxed atmosphere. Not a fan of chalk? No problem, head downstairs past the bar and there will be a game room tucked away next to the brewery, filled with a couple dartboards and a shuffle board table to enjoy.

When I first pushed the door through I was rushed with the smell of fresh pasta and bread, it almost smelled like mom's

kitchen back home right before a monstrous pasta dinner. My friend and I walked upstairs and were greeted by a very friendly ear to ear smiling waitress letting us know we could sit wherever we liked. We chose a booth that hung over the bar and we still got a good view of downtown and even a better view of the paintings surrounding the upper walls above the huge downstairs windows.

The food is average price, not too expensive, but not too cheap. However there are two ways around spending standard price, you can either come to happy hour from 3 to 6 p.m. daily or come at 10 p.m. to closing for late

night menu specials. I got pub nachos and a fresh brew for only \$7.25 during happy hour, but I do warn you the Nebula Stout is a meal in itself, so watch out.

The staff at "Block 15 take our foot print on this earth seriously" and have been altering the ways they brew, cook, serve and dispose of food. For example, water is only brought upon request, as many ingredients as possible are purchased from local growers, used grains from brewing are made into cattle feed and all table scraps are composted.

Block 15 is trying to strive away from the standard brewing and restaurant practices where they use many resources and cre-

ate large amounts of waste.

Block 15 is constantly searching for unique and effective ways to bring you the best beer and food in a more sustainable manner. So head to Block 15 on April 20 to support Earth day and good times. They will also have five local performers playing live throughout the day with a special EPA organic brew.

I believe this place is a great spot to bring everyone, kids, adults, friends, sports enthusiasts, vegetarians, and of course beer lovers!

Block 15, 300SW Jefferson St. - Corvallis, OR ~ (541) 758-2077

OSU summer session '08

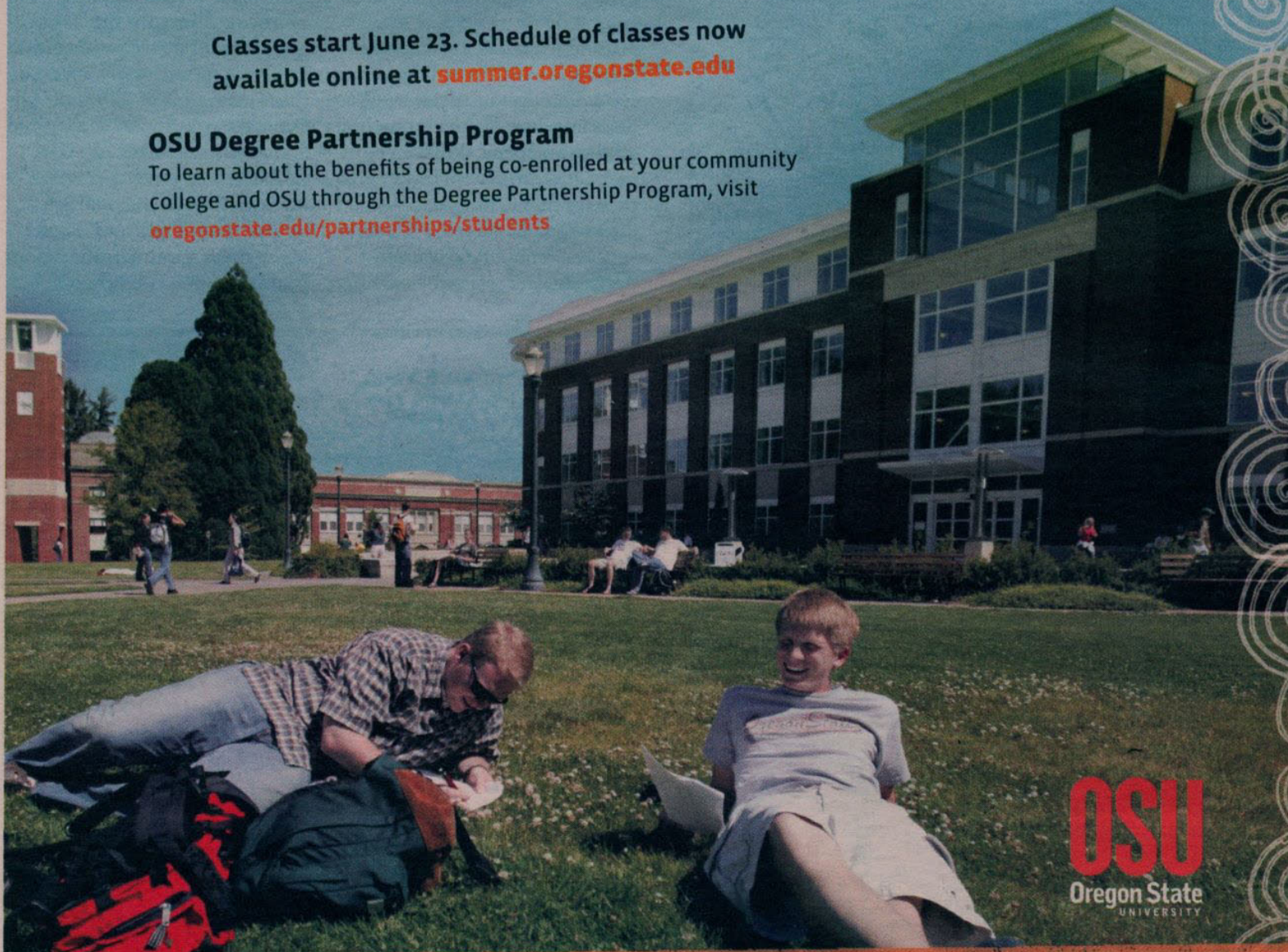
this summer...

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CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

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

Member Service Specialist (#6260, Albany) If you have 2 years experience working in a bank or credit union and customer service skills, here is the position for you! Pay is \$11.81-17.72/hr DOE. Part-time: 30 hrs/week

Seasonal Maintenance Workers: (#6263, Corvallis) These full-time, summer jobs pay \$9-14.28/hr DOE include Street Maintenance, Paint & Sign, Drainageway Maintenance, Water Distribution Maintenance, Tech Services Maintenance, and Wastewater Reclamation Plant.

Engineering & Surveying Student Interns (#6251, Corvallis) This part-time (12-24 hrs/week) during school and full-time in the summer jobs are wonderful experience for Civil Engr or Construction Engr Management students.

Part-time Parole & Probation Officer Intern Aides (#6253, Corvallis) Work part-time in the evenings with Benton County Corrections. You need some knowledge of behavior & adjustment problems in adult offenders & some knowledge of criminal law.

Education, Travel & Culture, a HS non-profit exchange student organization, needs Community Coordinators to contact public high schools and place students in quality homes. Stipends and travel opportunity available. If you enjoy people and detailed work, please visit www.edutrav.org and e-mail ssmith@edutrav.org for more info.

Misc. Info.

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

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Editor: Aaron Broich
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Bombs Away Cafe: More than a restaurant

Music, artwork
Dance menu

by Anne Turner
The Commuter

On a busy block on Monroe Street in Corvallis, between the bakery and American Dream Pizza, there's a small restaurant. The sign out front reads "Bomb's Away Café." Just through the unpolished glass doors is a warm, cozy glow and a flavor you can breathe through your nose. You can smell the fresh organic ingredients of the Mexican-American

walls are well aged with their thick yellowing paint and show their years of holding up the old ceiling. Artwork of the abstract embellishes the walls everywhere you look, and holds

up the essence of the café's love of music. Most artwork has something suggesting music—the old guitar hanging in a glass case is more than obvious. Rock music—new, old, local, and classic, laughter, and a good time floods the air.

Just past the kitchen and down a long corridor lit by a string of small, dull white Christmas lights is the bar. Here the laughter is even louder, and the cheer is contagious. More artwork scatters the old brick walls, such as the metallic acrylic painting with music notes and staves swirling around each other, and there are more white and green light strings above.

On a weekend, and sometimes during the week, you'll be lucky to see one of Corvallis talented local bands. On a non-show night half of the people in

the bar are musicians taking the night off, such as Curtis Monette of The Badfish Band and Stairway Denied. They take advantage of the Wednesday night \$2 well drinks, and the happy hour \$2.50 pints, provided by Full Sail Brewing Company. Then, what's a good golden ale without free chips and salsa that gives you a sweaty upper lip?

Musicians, students and teachers alike come and go, and each one is looking to get away from the pressures of work and school. The likelihood of running into an artist of the lyrical or musical sense is very great.

Bomb's Away provides an atmosphere that encourages this, and in turn they provide flavorful entertainment and a wholesome variety of great food.



photo by MaryAnne Turner

Bombs Away features funk. You can find it on Monroe avenue by American Dream Pizza.

Foreman mood music for 4 seasons

Loren Newman
The Commuter

One year, four seasons, and four six-song EPs filled with mellow melodic tones. This is the formula behind Jon Foreman's latest project "Seasons."

The premise is simple, to make an EP for every season, six songs that are very much related to that time of year and the moods and feelings that arise with each change of season.

By no means new to the music scene, Foreman has been the front man for the Grammy nominated band Switchfoot for the past 11 years. Far from the rock roots of Switchfoot, the "Seasons" project takes on a whole new life of its own as mellow acoustic variation of the style of songs and lyrics that have become a staple of what listeners expect from Foreman.

As each season has its own definite feel and mood about it so does each of the EPs. "Fall," the first EP is a mellow and soothing collection of songs

that bring the listener to feel a sense of things slowing down and looking to what's ahead.

The songs on "Fall" are hopeful and light, culminating with the track "Southbound Train," a song about home and the simple desire to return there.

"Winter," the second EP released is along the same styling as the first except that it slows down and is much more based in the minor key. This gives the listener much more of the slightly melancholy and depressed moods of winter.

The second installment of the "Seasons" project is much more heavily influenced by the ideals of the humanitarian and social awareness organization Lowercase People, an organization that is producing the seasons project founded by Foreman and his band mate and brother Tim. This is made very clear by the song "Somebody's Baby," a sad and telling song about the life and death of a homeless woman. The track uses the lines in the chorus "she's somebody's baby, she's somebody's baby girl." The

song tries to put a face to this growing problem in America by humanizing and putting it in a way that the listener can relate to.

The third EP "Spring" was released just two weeks ago and very much like the season that it is named after, picks up the tempo and has a much more light and airy feel to it, not only in the arrangement but also in the lyrics. It gives the listener that feeling of hope and of better times that tend to come with the coming on of the leaves.

The "Seasons" project was not a total break from Switchfoot. All of the band members helped collaborate on the EPs as well as guitarist Sean Watkins of Nickel Creek and many others.

The "Seasons" project is not yet finished with the release of "Summer" expected in late June. If Foreman sticks to the formula used for the last three EPs, it should be a collection of songs closely tied to the feel and moods of the time of year and round off the "Seasons" project to truly make it an amazing collection of music.

"Street Kings" is the ruler of cop dramas

Aaron Broich
The Commuter

The rough-and-tumble L.A. scene is full of scoundrels, big shots, and gunslingers. "Street Kings," the newest cop thriller based on the novel by James Ellroy ("L.A. Confidential"). Instead of dishing viewers and tailored morals and cliché caricatures, "Kings" delivers ethical conundrums and compelling characters, who are full of life and tragically flawed. It's packed with intense action and wrought with brutal violence.

Protagonist, detective Tom Ludlow (Jeanu Reeves) is a sort of Dirty Harry, a vigilante rogue. He takes a beating, and his sweet car get jacked by human

traffickers so that he can home in on their lair and dispense vengeance like a heat-seeking missile. His shenanigans are summarily overlooked by his good friend, and boss, Captain Jack Wander (Forest Whitaker). So, these guys are the crooked cops? Who will come against them at the L.A. Police Department—more crooked cops?

Ludlow's ex-partner, Terrence Washington (Terry Crews), accuses him of racism and supposedly rats on him to Captain James Briggs (Hugh Laurie), who has a Ph.D. in busting crooked cops, according to Wander. As Ludlow closes in on Washington, intent on breaking his jaw, Washington is gunned down by gang-bangers in a convenience store. The

videotape shows a brief struggle between the two cops and sort of implicates Ludlow in the killing, and although Wander does his usual hand waving to erase the problem, he also hinders Ludlow from seeking vendetta on the killers, because Briggs is hot on his crooked trail. Was Washington coming clean or getting even dirtier?

Throw in a justice seeking, psychopathic cop lacking the "fear gene" with a young aspiring gunslinger, Detective Diskant (Chris Evans) and you get a heck of lot of mayhem. It's compelling.

Director David Ayer wrote the script for "Training Day"—also about crooked cops. In "Street Kings" he's assembled a lively lineup of richly layered characters.

Ludlow is notably phased by alcoholism, no doubt triggered by the death of his wife some three years ago. He finds unmerited favor in the character of nurse Grace Garcia (Martha Higareda), who tends to his wounds and questions his moral resolve. Even Washington's widowed wife (Naomie Harris), who has a small role, significantly deepens the storyline.

The acting is top-notch, and the action holds strong through to the end. Although some seasoned moviegoers will say the outcome is predictable, "Street Kings" offers much more than the usual good guys versus bad guys, and doesn't promote a moral prerogative, so much as depict the visceral clash of macho alpha-males.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

Leviathan's new album fortells dark future

Tyler Farmer
The Commuter

Leviathan's new album, "Massive Conspiracy Against All Life," thunders with pure rage toward all existence. The title is indeed appropriate. This is not just mere misanthropy.

Wrest (the only man behind Leviathan) has created a more forceful sound with this recent release. Unlike a portion of his vast amount of demo material that is available in a two-disc set entitled "Verräter," which has a, dare I say, quieter sound due to the guitars being lower in the mix, the riffs in "Massive Conspiracy Against All Life" pummel the listener with distorted notes that give the guitar a more "fuzzy" sound. This is a refreshing deviation from the typical sound of the guitars on most metal albums. However, the distortion does make it more difficult to discern one note from the other. You won't miss the best riff on the

album, though, as the notes in it are easier to make out. It's one minute and 45 seconds into "Receive the World." Bang your nappy-haired head to this one!

Before I go any further I should mention this: Long songs! Those of you who have a short attention span need not (and probably should not) listen to this album. The lengthiest songs, "Merging With Sword, Onto Them" and "Noisome Ash Crown" are 11 and 13 minutes long, respectively. Also, five of the seven tracks blend together in Pink Floyd fashion. "Merging With Sword, Onto Them" runs into "Made as the Stale Wine of Wrath" (dammit, these are great titles) making for one gargantuan 19-minute epic. "VI-XI-VI," "Receive the World" and "Vulgar Asceticism" all run together creating a 24-minute monolithic opus.

And speaking of "Receive the World," it not only contains the best riff on the album, but is also

its highlight. The last few minutes of the song are taken up by the best ambient passage (that's right, Wrest incorporates creepy, dark ambient into his style of black metal. Good stuff, trust me) on this CD. Distant, sorrowful notes accompany equally sorrowful keyboards and a slow, powerful heartbeat as Wrest whispers his lyrics. However, the only bad part of the album is also ambient. Or pseudo-ambient at least. The last three minutes of "Noisome Ash Crown" are all unnecessary static and other indescribable sounds. It wouldn't be so bad if it wasn't the album's closer and it wasn't so damn long! Oh well. But what about the vocals? Well, Wrest utilizes the usual black metal vocals a portion of the time (higher-pitched roars to those not in the know; higher than the standard death metal roar, at least), but one way you can tell that you are listening to a Leviathan album is that you hear some odd synthesized and

non-synthesized vocals. Many of the voices on this CD were used in old Leviathan songs, but there is a new (to my knowledge) Darth Vader-when-he-is-exhaling-esque voice in "VI-XI-VI." They might put you off a bit at first, but these voices make for a more interesting and unpredictable album. It's too bad that Wrest doesn't reach that admirable pitch with his black metal vocals like he does on "Verräter," though. Even I can't emulate that roar.

Wrest might not think himself a poet (he said as much in an interview with metal-only.com in Feb. 2004), but these lyrics are his best yet. It's been nearly four years since his last LP, "Tentacles of Whorror," which had better lyrics than "The Tenth Sub Level of Suicide." In other words, Wrest's lyrics continue to improve. They have become more intelligent as well. I had to consult a dictionary after I began encountering words I had never even heard of before.

Subject matter? The destruction of all life on Earth, of course. As I said before, the title of this album fits the material.

Finally, we come to the artwork. Brown and a bit of black are the only colors used in the four drawings inside the booklet. The last drawing depicts an emaciated, headless human creature sitting with crossed ankles and holding a glowing orb. The other drawings are of more bizarre creatures. There are liner notes in the booklet, so the artist is unknown. Perhaps it's Wrest himself. After all, according to that same interview on metal-only.com, he does tattoos.

In summation, this is a fantastic album with few shortcomings. My advice: Shell out a few dollars, presidents to some record store clerk, place this beast into your stereo or CD player, turn up the volume and promptly abandon all hope for the future presence of sentient beings.

Nine Inch Nails cashes in with instrumental monotony

Aaron Broich
The Commuter

The new "bad trip" ambience of Trent Reznor sounds like an industrial accident and the product of several depressive rainy-day meanderings on a piano. Reznor will go down in history as the first man to brilliantly release substandard re-hashings and make millions by circumventing the big name record label. It sounds like Aphex Twin, and Autechre.

The new Nine Inch Nails album is a two-disc instrumental set called "Ghosts I-IV." Reznor's offering part of the album online for free—he's offering packaged online deals, a deluxe CD edition, and even a \$300 limited edition release! He's really cashing in — \$1.6 million in the first week.

Regarding the music, Reznor said, "This music arrived unexpectedly as

a result of an experiment. The rules were as follows: 10 weeks, no clear agenda, no overthinking, everything driven by impulse. Whatever happens during that time gets released as...something."

It's a really cool idea, but I'm glad Reznor thought to give some of the music away for free, because it's not very good. The music is dark and minimalist. It definitely feels compulsive and has the usual grungy fuzz effects. Is it a creative breakthrough? No, but it's an interesting experiment in music making. If anything, it shows that Reznor is not a musical genius, but has slightly above average skills. If he were a prodigy, even his instinctive melodies would be somewhat profound; here, however, we find cerebral backwash. The most profound guitar parts are not played by Reznor, but his buddy from King Crimson, Adrian Below.

The melodies are monotonous

and annoying half of the time. Several songs are layered with creepy breathing-on-life-support sound effects—Darth Vader, go back to the "Star Wars" universe! The chord progressions are dissonant and very typical of NIN, and will be familiar to longtime listeners.

The music will be called deep by the fans, perhaps because Reznor is a deep man with profound lyrics, albeit jaded and cynical. The creative expression will be paired with the man,

just as in the case of Picasso whose degenerate simplicity saturated his later years. This album would get no attention whatsoever if it were being released by new artist. Reznor's public clash with his previous label, Universal, led to his breakaway and success with "Ghosts I-IV." Reznor has asked for fans to "create what you feel should accompany" the songs visually. "It's meant to be an experiment and collaboration and a chance for us to interact beyond the

typical one-way artist-to-fan relationship." Reznor said. The results will appear on YouTube. "Ghosts" fails to achieve the sublime ambience of "Warm Place" from "The Downward Spiral" album, and doesn't rock like "Just Like You Imagined" from "The Fragile." It reflects creative freedom and is well produced, but lacks effort, having been the product of impulse and had potential to sound good but doesn't hit the mark this time.

2 Big Shows

April 23
Benton Center Student Lounge
8C-120
5 to 8 PM

April 30
Albany Campus
SSN-213
3:30 to 5:30 PM

Performances By:
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- Various majors qualify

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 Email: clmutter@linnbenton.edu

Campus Shorts

LBCC Travel Film Series "Cruising Russia"

The Travel at the Tripp film series concludes the 2007-08 season with the film "Cruising Russia" with Clint Denn on Sunday, April 20 at 2 p.m. at LBCC's Russell Tripp Performance Center in Takena Hall.

Experience a spectacular voyage through the heart of Russia and the scenic and historic Russian waterways along the Neva and across Lake Ladoga and Lake Onega. Travel down the Volga-Baltic Waterway and on the Volga.

LBCC Performing Arts and Azumano Travel of Corvallis produce the Travel at the Tripp film series. Experts from Azumano will be on hand along with the filmmaker to answer your travel questions.

Tickets are \$7 and \$6 for students and seniors. Season tickets for the 2008-09 Travel at the Tripp film series at LBCC go on sale Sunday, April 20. The 2008-09 season includes travel films on Costa Rica, Italy, Mexico and Morocco. Season tickets purchased on April 20 will include two complimentary single tickets to next year's films.

Season Passports for all four films is \$20. Films will be shown on Sundays at 2 p.m. in the Russell Tripp Performance Center. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the box office at 917-4531. Online tickets sales available at www.linnbenton.edu, click on the "Travel at the Tripp" quick link under News & Events; go to Buy Tickets. For disability accommodations, call (541) 917-4789.

LBCC Institute for Peace & Justice Nicaraguan Presentation

The Institute for Peace and Justice at LBCC along with the LBCC Spanish language program will host a presentation by Nicaraguan community leader and health worker Yamileth Perez today from 1 to 3 p.m. in the College Center Board Rooms.

The second most impoverished country in the Western Hemisphere, Nicaragua has struggled for years under the burden of internal and external debt. Hear the story of Perez, who, as a community health promoter, works to develop solutions to problems in health, education and unemployment, problems that have resulted in one-fifth of the population living and working outside of Nicaragua.

This program is a part of the

Witness for Peace Northwest "Roots of Migration" tour in Oregon and Washington throughout April.

For more information, contact the Institute at doug.clark@linnbenton.edu.

LBCC Choirs Call for Singers

Singers from the community, especially tenors and basses, are invited to join the LBCC Concert Choir and Chamber Choir in their spring concert featuring the Missa Gaia: Earth Mass by the Paul Winter Consort.

The concert will be directed by LBCC music instructor Susan Peck and accompanied by Joy Byers with local guest musicians.

The Missa Gaia was commissioned by the Dean of the Cathedral as a contemporary ecumenical Mass. The Mass for the Earth features the voices of wolf, whale, eagle, harp seal, wren, loon, instrumental and vocal soloists, and chorus.

Rehearsals will be from 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in April and May at LBCC in South Santiam Hall, room 213.

The concert will be held on Thursday, June 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Russell Tripp Performance Center.

For more information, contact Susan Peck at (541) 207-2889 or by email at Susan.Peck@linnbenton.edu.

Half-a-Million Pots

The Benton Center and The Arts Center are offering three free events and showcasing the talents of over 40 artists in honor of 30 years of ceramics classes at the Benton Center.

Schedule of Events:

Artists' reception: Thursday, May 1 from 5:30-7 p.m. at The Arts Center, 700 S.W. Madison Ave., Corvallis.

Featuring the work of Jay

Widmer, Cynthia Spencer, Cheryl Crownover and Gene Tobey, the reception kicks off a month-long celebration.

Slide show and panel discussion: Friday, May 2 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Benton Center, 757 Polk Ave., Room 204.

Widmer, Spencer and Crownover share their passion and experience of clay.

Studio workshop: Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Benton Center Ceramics Studio.

Crownover will demonstrate her hand-building techniques in this free workshop. For registration information, contact the Benton Center at (541) 757-8944 or drop by the registration desk.

Find works in clay by past and present ceramics students at the following venues:

OSU Memorial Union Concourse

Foot wise, The Birkenstock Store

The Book Bin

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Benton Center

Student Art Show, Albany Campus

OPERATION: Clothing Explosion

On Wednesday, April 30 the LBCC student ambassadors are hosting "OPERATION: Clothing Explosion," an event to provide students, staff and family members the chance to find unique, like-new and vintage clothing free of charge. The "Clothing Explosion" takes place from noon to 4 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

Clothing donations are being accepted beforehand at the Career Center in Takena Hall, the campus library, and the Student Life & Leadership Office. To volunteer or for more information, contact Jamie at (541) 917-4457.

NY Times: campus group

From Page 1

understand these issues.

According to Walmsley, "There are very few papers that are arguably world-class, but the New York Times is one of them."

Students say they have enjoyed the opportunity to expand their world-view in a way that has become less common in today's era of sound-bytes and news flashes.

John Luman, a social science major at LBCC who joined the group as it began forming over winter term, said he likes reading the New York Times because "it gives a different perspective than our biased local media." Luman said local papers only report part of the issues, and are too favorable toward big business.

The purpose of this group's meetings isn't to promote a particular way of thinking, or political philosophy. In fact, friendly disagreements can often

arise. Within this group everyone's opinion is valuable, and the only thing being promoted is good conversation. The ebb and flow of discussion is open, candid, and thoughtful.

This opportunity is not just for philosophy students, but anyone interested in current events, ethics, politics, and culture.

You can find the New York Times discussion group every Thursday at 1 p.m. in South Santiam Hall room 103. Credits are available under Philosophy 198. Those who don't need the credits are welcome to attend and join the conversation anyway.

Requirements are straightforward: Read the New York Times five days a week, and preferably a local paper (for comparison), and come prepared for an open, informative discussion.



Learn what it's like to be an Army Aviator

Date: April 30, 2008 from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Location: In front of the Activities Center Building on the Linn-Benton Community College Campus

Bring your resume and transcripts to see if you qualify for Warrant Officer Flight Training or to become an Operator in United States Army Special Forces

Interviews will be conducted in Takena Hall (main building)

QUESTIONS

1-877-372-4891

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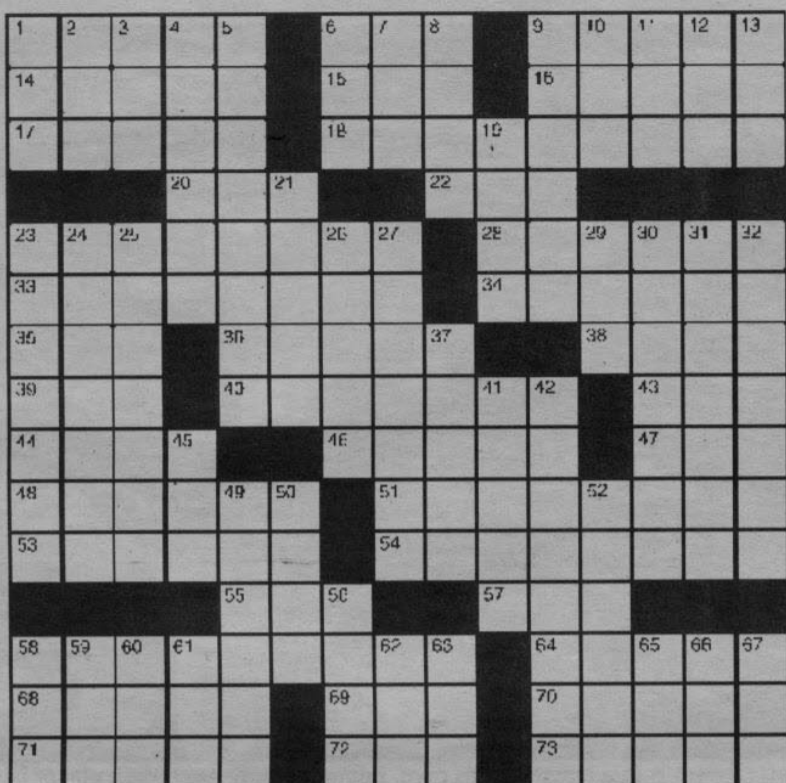
FUNNY BONES

Crossword, cartoons, LBCC Commons menu and some fun facts to brighten your day.

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Entire
- 6 Alphabet start
- 9 Test, as ore
- 14 Part of a spur
- 15 McCartney title
- 16 Physics unit
- 17 Streisand film
- 18 Formality
- 20 Big success
- 22 Scary word?
- 23 Chicago gangster
- 28 Selenite
- 33 Steep spiral uncontrolled descent
- 34 " by Starlight"
- 35 _ Gatos, CA
- 36 Alps peak
- 38 _ de force
- 39 Part of a play
- 40 Astronaut Harrison
- 43 QB Manning
- 44 December retrain
- 46 Crownlet
- 47 Guy's honey
- 48 Matador
- 51 Forever and a day
- 53 Temper, as metal
- 54 Finnish-American architect
- 55 One heart, e.g.
- 57 Part of a wd.
- 58 Thoroughbred registry
- 64 Arctic shelter
- 68 Marisa of "My Cousin Vinny"
- 69 Victory gesture
- 70 Manicurist's concern
- 71 Bakery supply
- 72 Hurricane heart
- 73 Matches up



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- 7 Bridle part
- 8 Baby's bed
- 9 Noted auto racer
- 10 Abel to Adam
- 11 Author Grafton
- 12 Molinaro and Michaels
- 13 Affirmative
- 19 Obscuring hazes
- 21 Something to talk about
- 23 Southern metropolis
- 24 Trojan Horse whistle-blower
- 25 Tank
- 26 Dusk to dawn
- 27 Foes
- 29 Touch tenderly
- 30 Sweet liqueur
- 31 Cry like a mourner
- 32 Monroe of Hollywood
- 37 Calf catcher
- 41 S dept.
- 42 Hanging back
- 45 Spike or Peggy

Solutions



- 49 Cottontail
- 50 Spicy stew
- 52 Indian antelope
- 56 Bird of peace
- 58 Porker's pad
- 59 Sock end
- 60 Ms. Thurman
- 61 _ Moines, IA
- 62 Vocal pitch
- 63 Bishop's purview
- 65 Women's _
- 66 Bullring call
- 67 Forerunner of the CIA



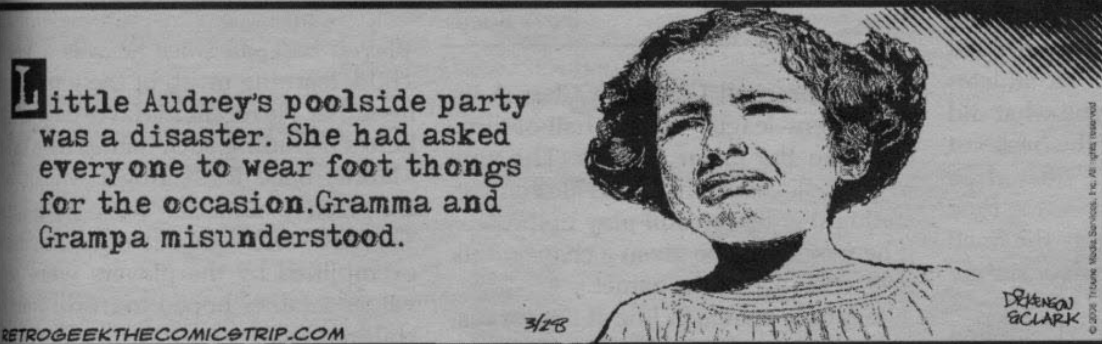
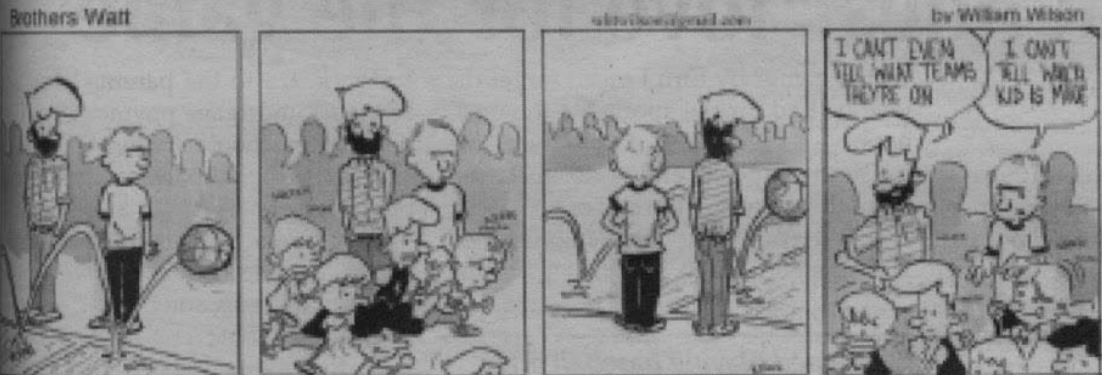
"Mr. Cheney is sporting vibrantly bold terror alert colors ... in ascending order of national panic."



"Get ready to lose weight! I'm Susie and this is my assistant, Terry the Tapeworm!"



"Honey! Where are my lucky Incredible Hulk board meeting socks?!"



Little Audrey's poolside party was a disaster. She had asked everyone to wear foot thongs for the occasion. Gramma and Grampa misunderstood.

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SPORTS

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

The pitching wonder from down under

Chris Kelley
 The Commuter

Being on a different continent over 9,200 miles from home hasn't kept Liam Baron from pitching with dominance. This Australian native chose to pick up his glove and move to Albany and go to Linn-Benton Community College in pursuit of his lifelong dream: to be a Division I baseball player.

Traveling is something Baron is used to since each baseball game outside of his hometown of Perth in Western Australia is a minimum four-hour plane flight.

"Baseball is still played the same way between the lines," he said with his Australian English twang. "I have found stepping in here has been easy since the first day because the guys on the team have been really accepting."

His coach back home, Gary Boyer, first gave him the idea of coming to LBCC where Boyer won the NWAACC championship back in 1988. Boyer went on to George Fox University and played for Pat Casey, now the head coach of the Beavers. Baron now stays with Boyer's parents, Ron and Becky, in Albany.

Growing up, Baron watched his local pro team, the Perth Heat, and one player in particular helped him realize baseball was his dream. His cousin Duane Rochford pitched for the



Liam Baron (above) is in a league of his own, being the only Australian player in the NWAACC doesn't make Baron homesick, despite the fact he's 9,000 miles away from his native land. (Below) Baron shows off one of his secret weapons, his curve ball grip. photo by Chris Kelley



Australian National Team in the early '90s and Baron found joy in watching him play. Rochford taught Baron at an early age all about pitching and helped form his mentality of "being a bulldog and not letting anyone push you around."

Through 48 and 1/3 innings at LBCC, this "bulldog" is 6-0 and has only allowed three earned runs, making his earned run average a paper-thin 0.72-best in the league.

How has the lefty curveballer stayed so consistent? Before every game he pitches his mind is on anything but the task at hand. The 6-foot-1 inch Aussie looks as if he is there to watch the game rather than pitch it.

With a relaxed walk through the grass and music playing just loud enough to hear with his headphones off, passing other players busy stretching, it isn't his time to get ready yet. It takes him exactly 23 minutes of running and stretching to warm up and after throwing each of his pitches perfectly from the wind-up he is ready for the game.

You could say Baron's pitching success has been pure talent, since players in Australia aren't allowed to pitch in a game until they are 12, having the ball be on a tee through age 11. Even at age 12, they are limited to very few pitches per game,

which gives them less time to develop their arm strength. In North America, it isn't uncommon for players to pitch in games from age 7 or 8.

"I found that having those pitch limits put less stress on my arm," he said. "Not throwing so much when I was younger has probably helped me to have a fairly fresh arm."

Baron followed in his cousin's footsteps, joining the Perth Heat and being selected to play for the Australian National Team, where he won his first two games.

At the age of 15, he chose to play in the 18-and-up open league.

"One thing you learn when you play against fully grown men is if you miss your spot [with the pitch] and make a mistake the ball will be hit out of the ballpark," he said. "I try and take every hitter as if they are the best hitter in the league. Playing against older guys has helped me develop my pitching mentality better."

He has used that "bulldog" mindset in North America from the start, throwing two complete game shutouts in his first two games and went 4-0 in his first three games. One thing that is clear when you watch Liam Baron pitch is this Australian is no pup anymore.

Sideline

Carmel Anthony of the Denver Nuggets arrested on DUI charges....Kansas State star Michael Beasley will enter the NBA draft....Construction workers attempt to curse the Yankees was ruined when a buried Red Sox jersey was discovered, then removed from their new stadium....The last Barry Bonds home run ball, possibly the last home run of his career, was purchased at auction for a little over 376K dollars.... Boston Red Sox get best of Yankees, take series 2-3....Beaver Baseball falls to No. 10 Stanford 6-4....Trevor Immelman wins Masters, upsets Tiger.... Herschel Walker releases book, speaks of playing with multiple personality disorder....Chad Johnson wants out of Cincinnati....Cow milking and pillow fighting have people wondering how far minor league baseball will go for publicity....UFC welterweight champion Matt Serra and Georges St. Pierre fight this Sat. April 18th....Alex Rodriguez hits 521st homerun....

What defines "love for the game"?

Tyler Dahlgren
 The Commuter

Ask most professional athletes the reason they chose their profession and they will simply tell you they play because they love the game.

Ask anyone what makes a professional baseball team and they will say nine players.

But what about the other pieces? What about the relief pitcher or the manager? What about the fan? Not just the people screaming for their team in the stands, but everything that makes up the game. What about the "things" that made the athletes play in the first place? Maybe what did it for them was the smell of the fresh-cut grass on a warm night or the small child dressed in a replica jersey cheering for a home run. It could be the lights, the smell of leather, the crack of the bat, or simply the craving of victory.

Barry Bonds once said, "I stopped playing baseball after high school. Now baseball's my job and I get paid for it."

Upon reading this statement I couldn't help but wonder what had made him turn

on the game? By turn I mean forget the love he had for the sport, not the business.

On the opposite end of the spectrum is another player at the end of his career, Rickey Henderson. Henderson signed with the San Diego Surf Dawgs of the

"I stopped playing baseball after high school. Now baseball's my job and I get paid for it."

Barry Bonds

Golden Baseball League, a Class-A independent league after a hall-of-fame career in the major leagues. The now 49-year-old announced his retirement, stating that he can still play in the pros if he would just be given a chance. Talk about the love of the game!

A family stands in line at the concession stand purchasing the ideal ballpark food consisting of hot dogs, sunflower seeds, and sodas. They climb a long set of stairs arriving at the third level of the

ballpark. Do to the parents busy work schedule, mortgage payments and children's after school activities, they find this rare visit to the ballpark hardly affordable but necessary.

The family takes their seats and the father begins to explain his favorite game to his two young sons.

"You see that? The batter keeps his back foot planted and pivots as brings the bat through the strike zone. That's called squashing the bug," their father explains.

Like his two sons, the father has played baseball since he was a young child, learning much of the game from his father. He recalls his favorite baseball hero's including such names as Mickey Mantle, Babe Ruth, Roger Maris, and the positive mark they left on the game. The hard working, charismatic attributes exemplified by the players were solid values a father hoped to instill into his children.

Baseball makes a father and son play catch and provides our country with America's greatest pastime.