



Letter From Italy

LB's Shirley Austin discovers the charms of the south of France as her Study Abroad experience draws to a close.

Page 7

Beep! Beep!

Both Roadrunner basketball teams have raced out to impressive starts to open their seasons; the women are 5-1 and the men are 4-1.

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THE COMMUTER

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photo by Jesse Skoubo

I'm Dreaming of a White Campus

Nursing major Andrea Mendenhall and transfer student Kayla Kerr walk through the Courtyard Monday amid the wintry conditions on their way to class. Although the white stuff fell more heavily overnight, especially in Benton County, it wasn't enough to cancel classes. Higher temperatures and partial clearing are forecast for the rest of the week.

Remodel breathes life into nursing facility

Loren Newman
The Commuter

LBCB nursing students can now look forward to being in new facilities this winter term and being able to work on a patient who won't talk back.

The facilities include a new skills lab equipped with a robotic patient, as well as new offices, a computer lab and a conference room.

The Health Occupations and Workforce Education Division celebrated the completion of its newly remodeled facilities in Takena Hall on Nov. 16 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The remodel was largely financed by a \$100,000 donation from Samaritan Health Services, which is a regional organization with hospitals in Lincoln City,

Newport, Corvallis, Albany and Lebanon. It is what is referred to as an integrated healthcare delivery network. Samaritan Health Services has been working with the college nursing program for several years.

"Initially we got into the relationship because we knew of the critical shortage of nurses both locally and nationally, and so we sought a proactive solution to address what we could do to help the institution that helps to train nurses," said Larry Mullins, president of Samaritan Health Services. Samaritan asked LBCB about the feasibility of expanding the facility and the number of students they could take with additional funding.

"It's been the best investment over time that we've made be-

► Turn to "Nursing" on Pg. 4

New MC coordinator creates inclusive atmosphere

Joe Hodgson
The Commuter

The Multicultural Center's new coordinator, Victoria Nguyen, is generating quite a stir at the freshly reorganized, open, bright and welcoming space on the second floor of the Forum.

Nguyen is an OSU alumna with an interdisciplinary master's degree in college student services administration, adult education and ethnic studies. She was formerly executive director at the Community Alliance for Diversity in Corvallis and has wasted little time in putting her stamp on the center.

Shortly after taking over from the former coordinator Jason Miller, Nguyen recognized a need to redesign the multicultural space to make it more appealing as a place to gather, study and share experiences and culture.

An atmosphere of inclusiveness and interactivity was created when she opened the space by removing some cubicles, rearranging furniture

and hanging national flags, clothing and other brightly colored decorations representative of different cultures from the walls and ceiling.

She has added a series of lunchtime programs, making food available while cultural topics are presented, and has reorganized the lending library so material can be identified by category and quickly located.

"Intercultural preconceptions are ingrained in people, and communication is necessary to overcome them."

Victoria Nguyen

share, not confined to ethnicity, but inclusive of age, ability or disability, and every facet of what determines culture.

"Intercultural preconceptions are ingrained in people," she said, "and communication is necessary to overcome them." That is where the Multicultural Center comes in, she explained. Its role is to provide a safe place for people to gather and

► Turn to "Nguyen" on Pg. 4



photo by Jesse Skoubo

Victoria Nguyen took over as the new coordinator of LBCB's Multicultural Center at the beginning of fall term.

The Weather Through the Week

Source: Yahoo! Weather Service

High-40
Partly cloudy
Low-33
Wednesday

High-46
Rain
Low-34
Thursday

High-45
Partly cloudy
Low-31
Friday

High-45
Partly cloudy
Low-35
Saturday

High-47
Partly cloudy
Low-39
Sunday

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OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter:
 Turn into Forum 222. Please sign them
 and keep them at 300 words or less.



Christmas bells don't jingle for everyone this time of year

It's "that time of year" again. Say this phrase, and everyone knows what you're talking about. It's kind of like saying, "it's that time of the month." When the holidays come around, I get visions of beautifully decorated homes and businesses, pretty lights, delicious once-a-year foods... and a bank account completely emptied of its already-meager contents.

Apparently to American society, celebrating Christmas means you have to go broke in order to show your loved ones that you do, in fact, care about them. Not only are we made to feel bad if we don't buy someone a gift, but the value of such gifts signifies the value of your relationship with the recipient. I can't go to the dollar store for my Christmas shopping because I fear that the ones I'm shopping for will think, "That's all I'm worth to you, a measly dollar?"

I'm a college student with a 7-year-old daughter; I don't have the money to buy everyone I know a "decent" gift for the holidays, unless I want to forgo the luxury of having heat this winter or electricity. What's even funnier is the fact that I don't even believe in the true meaning of Christmas, and I am not alone.

I think a large portion of people who celebrate this holiday do so only because it's what we've been trained to do. Even if we don't believe in Christianity, we're forced by family and society to partake in the event because if we don't, there must be something wrong with us.



Apparently to American society, celebrating Christmas means you have to go broke in order to show your loved ones that you care about them.

ELIZABETH URIARTE

Having a kid makes it worse. Even if you choose not to celebrate the holiday, everyone else around you is still going to do it and buy your kid things, and eventually the kid is going to wonder why Mommy is so stingy.

My daughter doesn't know the "true" meaning of Christmas at all, she just knows that once a year she gets a bunch of new toys and things from everyone, including a big fat guy in a red suit who flies around in a magical sleigh pulled by eight reindeer. True, the threat of "Santa is always watching you!" is a great help in behavior modification, but it's really not worth the immense price that is paid each winter to enforce it.

What I want most for Christmas is for once to have the choice to not celebrate it at all. I'd like to be a simple onlooker; not forced to go broke to make other people happy; not have to spend everything I have on meaningless material possessions that will be forgotten in a month; not have others buy me random crap that I don't need that's just going to clutter up my house and require me to get rid of some of the previous years' "gifts" that I have accumulated.

I think that people who really believe in the Christian basis of Christmas should continue to celebrate it in whatever manner they see fit. But those of us who don't believe in it, or don't care, should have the option of sitting it out. Showing someone you love them should be a year-round thing, and shouldn't come with a price tag.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pool table was essential to college relaxation

To the Editor:

This is my first year at LBCC and already I feel like I have to be babysat. I'm being told where I can or can't hang out, if I can or can't move furniture. I mean, if my friends are all sitting around one table what am I supposed to do, sit on the floor? Well, that's not a very comfortable way to do your homework, so you move furniture. Right from my beginning term here at LBCC I am getting a bad signal about adults taking away places where students can hang out, especially in the coffee shop. I mean let's face it folks, I'm 20 years old, I don't need a babysitter! And to me it doesn't really make sense as to why the coffee shop is even there to begin with considering you can get coffee in the café lounge.

Before [Hot Shots] was a great place to hang out with the pool table there, but they took that away, so then students went to playing cards; but now it's like we can't even do that because we can't move the furniture. Pretty soon it's going to be not talking or something if they keep approaching it the way they are. So what I want to know as a first-year student is where the hell can students hang out if adults keep taking away activities like the pool table and having the opportunity to talk with friends?

Now this isn't just me talking either, I have talked to a few other students who are getting upset about the deal as well because there is nowhere else to hang out. In the library you have to be quiet, the Learning Center is too crowded, I know my friends won't sit outside, and everywhere else is too small. So far I'm not really getting a very good impression of this school as a first-year student.

Bryna Crampton

Loyalty means supporting your home sports team

To the Editor:

In response to Jake Rosenberg's Nov. 19 column, "Fan loyalty lies in the team, not uniforms, city": "Location and colors have nothing to do with loyalty." I quote that from the article, so that I can say this. Location and colors have everything to do with loyalty. Saying location and colors don't matter is like saying that just because you were born in the U.S., or now consider yourself an American, you shouldn't have any loyalty to U.S. national teams. In his column, Rosenberg uses the newest incarnation of the Cleveland Browns as his example of "disloyal" fans. Those loyal sons and daughters of Cleveland are doing exactly as they should: supporting the colors and team of their city. The franchise has nothing to do with the civic pride of the fans. Franchises are just business and they leave cities, stripping them of their teams and colors, just so they can make money.

As a native son of the Rose City, I have the honor and the privilege of spending my summer evening congregating in section 107 of PGE Park (the North End, behind the goal, affectionately referred to as "The Woodshed," or more simply as "The Shed") with other loyal sons and daughters of Portland, both native and adopted. From that vantage point, we root, scream and sing, not for Beavers PCL Baseball, but for LLC's (the company who currently owns our beloved Portland Timbers Soccer Club) Boys in Green. My loyalty lies with my city, not some city thousands of miles down the Pacific Coast, in another state.

Even though my studies have brought me south, my heart still lies up north. Yes, I follow the NHL, and the MLS, but my loyalty belongs to no team in either league. When I get up and sing for a soccer team, I sing for the USL-1 Portland Timbers, from my city, and their colors. When I scream for a hockey team, I'm not yelling at the T.V. for some team in some far-flung corner of the U.S., I cheer for the WHL Portland Winterhawks. That is why when you find me cheering for a sports team you can hear me singing "Rose City 'Til I Die" till my voice is hoarse. So, Jake, if you want to see real fan loyalty, I invite you to come up to Portland this spring and observe the madness and passion that is section 107. It'll change your life.

Jerad Klingspom

The Commuter

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STAFF

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

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OPINION

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War on meth is as deadly as ever

It's not the most pleasant subject at times, but one that needs to see the light of day often as a warning against what waits in store for those who make the mistake of getting involved with it.

Recent elections perhaps changed some of the political shenanigans that have abounded in Washington for the past few years and the news channels seem to be completely preoccupied between who might run for president two years from now and the on-going Iraq fiasco. Meanwhile the methamphetamine invasion problem gets little front page notice.

Sad to say, but while politicians preen before the cameras like peacocks and the ungrateful heathens of Iraq continue to maim and murder our military personnel on a daily basis, we are being invaded by an army of illegal immigrants at the rate of something like 3,000 a day, and slowly enslaved and murdered by the hardcore drug peddlers hiding among them.

Lest you think that statement too harsh, here are a few recent headlines from around the country and world:

The Conservative Voice—Kernersville, N.C., U.S.A. by Jim Kouri: "Mexico Produces Most of Methamphetamine Coming into U.S.-As methamphetamine abuse continues its scourge of the country, state and federal elected officials have worked over the last two years to pass..."

Monsters and Critics.com—Guadalajara, Mexico (UPI): "Mexican Meth Production on Rise-Successful U.S. efforts to control the sale of chemicals used to produce methamphetamine has led to a mushrooming production of the..."

Los Angeles Times—Calif.: "Meth Lab Boom Migrates South-GUADALAJARA, Mexico: The methamphetamine laboratories that once plagued California's hinterlands and powered a national explosion of drug abuse have been..."

KEYT—Santa Barbara, Calif.: "More Dui Arrests Involving Methamphetamine-Methamphetamine use has reached epidemic proportions. And, now local law enforcement is finding more and more of those users getting..."

Oneonta Daily Star—Oneonta, N.Y.: "Hearing Set For 5 Accused in Meth Lab: The felony hearing for the five people arrested Saturday in connection with an alleged methamphetamine bust is scheduled for next Wednesday..."

BBC News—U.K.: "Drug Use 'Behind Crumbling Euros' Users of the drug crystal methamphetamine may be causing euro banknotes to disintegrate, German police have told Der Spiegel magazine..."

WIBW—Topeka, Kan.: "Woman Who Owned Home Where Sheriff Killed Sentenced: ... She admitted that she allowed four men, including her husband, to manufacture methamphetamine in her house in Hilltop. Samuels..."

Glens Falls Post-Star—Glens Falls, N.Y.: "Staff Gets

Glimpse into World of Meth: ... photos were the most jarring part of a training session Monday at Granville High School designed to educate school staff on the methamphetamine epidemic that..."

Ravenna Record Courier—Ravenna, Ohio: "Brimfield Loses Drug-Fighting Tool, Worries About Increase in Crime: Crack cocaine, methamphetamine and marijuana are popular drugs in the community... The manufacturing of methamphetamine often is done in a hotel room..."

Herkimer Evening Telegram—Herkimer, N.Y.: "Meth Lab Busted in O.sego County: ... following an early morning raid by state police Saturday at a residence at 115 County Route 25 that uncovered a large active methamphetamine laboratory..."

Balencia County News Bulletin—Belen, N.M.: "Former Teacher Arrested for Drugs, Second Time: ... morning hours of Nov. 2 when Los Lunas police found her with what they believe was methamphetamine and a drug pipe."

Salem-News.Com—Ore.: "Roseburg Man Caught With 30 Grams of Meth: ... south of Wilsonville when an OSP trooper spotted suspected drug activity in the man's pickup and later found nearly 30 grams of methamphetamine concealed inside..."

WIS—Columbia, S.C.: "Meth Lab Found in Newberry Co. (Newberry) Nov. 13, 2006—According to Newberry Sheriff Lee Foster, officers late Friday afternoon uncovered a working methamphetamine lab..."

And the list goes on and on. Set up a Google alert for methamphetamine and you can spend hours reading the latest news of cops vs. drug dealers and stories of rape, robbery, murder and mayhem committed by idiots high on drugs each day.

While there seems to be no surefire cure for addiction, Singapore has a harsh formula for keeping things in check and China is not far behind them. First-time drug dealers in those countries are executed. No second chances there and the fact that their mommies didn't change their diapers or feed them right on time is not really considered an excuse.

As a last thought you might contemplate what the billions of dollars spent on people who believe in the sick practice of decapitating their enemies and commit wholesale slaughter of their own women and children would do toward solving our border problem, and how much safer our military troops might be defending our borders instead of being maimed and murdered by an ungrateful bunch of barbaric heathens who hate our guts just for being there. Sleep well. Your friendly politicians in Washington are really looking out for you of late.

For the few who read this and think meth is a joke, sound advice would be to enjoy it while you can and hope the friends you have will fondly remember you when your life is over in a few years. For the rest we wish you tidings of great cheer, the best of holidays and all the success in life in years to come.



Set up a Google alert for methamphetamine and you can spend hours reading the latest news of cops vs. drug dealers

WALT HUGHES

PERSPECTIVES

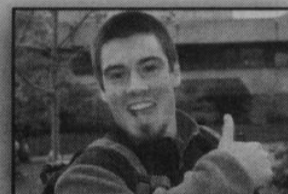
"What does it take to be successful in college?"



• Shaley Atwood •
Criminal Justice

"Choosing your classes well—not overloading yourself."

"Study for long hours while being completely sober (wink, wink)."



• Casey Humphrey •
Secondary Education



• Gary Westford •
Art Instructor

"Hard work and a willingness to be open to new ideas."

"Killing procrastination. Defeat this enemy and you defeat all other enemies."



• Josh Asher •
Computer Engineering



• Michele Wilson •
Anthropology Instructor

"Lots of up-market chocolate to bribe your teachers with, and a solid sense of humor."

"It takes responsibility and desire to have fun—optimism."



• Heather Bolt •
Business Management

Compiled By Aaron Broich
 Pictures By Jesse Skoubo

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CAMPUS NEWS

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

Campus Shorts...

Submit art for LBCC arts magazine

The deadline to submit work to the LBCC Student Electronic Arts magazine "The Muses' Handprints" has been extended to Jan. 5, 2007. To submit your works for inclusion into the magazine go to www.linnbenton.edu/ezine.

Learning Center expands hours

The Learning Center will be open extra hours on Saturday Dec. 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. During finals week, the hours are: Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 4 and 5 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tests will not be issued less than one hour before closing. The center is closed Thursday and Friday, Dec. 7 and 8. For more info call 917-4691.

National anthem singers needed

The LBCC Athletics Department is seeking a few good men and women who would like to volunteer to perform the National Anthem at LBCC basketball games. Volunteers will be required to submit a demo tape or perform a verse for the staff in person. Interested students can contact Gayle Rushing in the Athletics Department at 917-4266.

Nyguen: MC facelift makes students feel welcome

◀ From Pg. 1

share their cultures and learn of other cultures, she continued, and people will come if they are made to feel welcome.

"I really like the changes, especially the clothing and the colors," said Savath Vann, a family development student from Cambodia. She added that the number of students using the center has doubled over last year.

Hiu Tung Yip of Hong Kong, China, who is pursuing an associate of applied science in nursing, also likes the changes, and the fact that more people are using the facility. "The new decorations; more programs with



photo by Loren Newman

LB President Rita Cavin and Samaritan Health Services President Larry Mullins (center) cut the ribbon opening the newly remodeled nursing facilities on the second floor of Takena Hall on Nov. 15.

Nursing: Sim Man tests skills

◀ From Pg. 1

cause it returns a direct benefit back to the community and to our organization," said Mullins. When Samaritan heard of a need to renovate the nursing program's facilities, it decided to donate the money to further the program.

The new facilities in Takena Hall do not include any additional square footage than the old facilities, but they have been remodeled to allow for more usable space.

"Our skills lab staff had no office space, and in the old room there was little storage and the students didn't have a place to sit down to talk and study," said nursing instructor Faye Mellius. "It's busy in here now, it wasn't like this in the past."

The newly remodeled skills lab includes a simulated patient called Sim Man, a life-sized robotic patient that the nursing instructors can operate from a room next door via a computer. Instructors can see everything that the student does on the Sim Man with cameras and a one-way mirror. Sim Man can simulate nearly any condition that the instructors can think of to test students. Sim

Man has a pulse, simulated breathing, and can reproduce the symptoms of numerous ailments that the student nurse might face in a real hospital setting. The student can even give him an IV or check his blood pressure.

"You can do things wrong and it doesn't hurt anybody," said Mellius. "The cameras will transmit to the conference room so a group of students can observe what their fellow student is doing on the Sim Man and critique the care given, and later we can talk about what went right and what went wrong; what could have been done better."

Sen. Ron Wyden had prepared a written statement that was read during the ceremony in which he praised the relationship between LBCC and Samaritan and the desire of LBCC to expand its ability to train more students to become nurses.

"We are lucky to have a community college that is so committed to train more Oregonians in health careers in getting the training and education needed for our local providers," said Wyden. "Together Samaritan and LBCC are helping to meet the health care needs of this region and in turn helping all of Oregon."

more food, and more publicity have all made the atmosphere and appearance more welcoming," she said.

Nyguen said it is important to introduce change slowly and with specific goals. She wants to connect and collaborate with faculty and staff to increase diversity awareness. While LBCC is progressing in the multicultural environment, she said there is always room for growth. Her priorities include sensitivity to cultural histories, identifying

cultural issues, determining the cultural demographics of the community and creating programs to align LBCC with Albany.

Nyguen said she sees herself as an educator in an administrative role, and the crucial part of her job is interaction with students. The Multicultural Center is a place where students can develop interpersonal skills among others of diverse background.

"The ability to network and handle his or her own issues

makes the transition into a four-year school environment, or the workforce, smoother and more successful," she said.

Solutions

S	E	L	N	D	E	K	S	A	V	A	S	S	O
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A	S	I	S										

Music: 9:30 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Latin Xplosion

www.latinXnight.com

Friday, December 8

End-of-the-Term Bash!

* Salsa * Reggaeton * Merengue * Latin Hip-Hop * Cumbia * Tropical Drinks * Tons of Fun

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CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

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

CWE Stockroom Clerk

(#4785, Albany) Wonderful CWE job for business/engineering students. Part-time during school & full-time in the summer. Pay \$9/hr with raises.

Sales/Marketing Office Staff

(#4816, Corvallis) Great full-time opportunity to work for an insurance agency assisting the agent selling and marketing insurance products. You will be completing an insurance license.

Electronics Technician

(#4818, Bend) Want to work where it's close to skiing? If you have a 2-year electronics degree or equivalent work experience, here is your opportunity! This full-time job pays \$25-35,000/year DOE with benefit package after 90 days.

Full-time Air Staff (#4819, Eugene)

This DJ position is for a POP culture radio station in Eugene that has been a market leader in a college market for 14 years.



The Corvallis Clinic

Physicians & Surgeons
 We will work with your schedule! On-call/part-time positions for days, evenings and weekends. We need Medical Assistants, EMT's, and Corpsman. The Corvallis Clinic is looking for you! Please visit www.corvallis-clinic.com or call 754-1277.

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CAMPUS NEWS

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



photo by Chris Campbell

Acting Up

John J. O'Hagan and Rafad Untalan perform a scene from Mel Brooks' "Thousand Year Old Man" during their performance and workshop in the Russell Tripp Performance Center on Nov. 17. The pair of actors from The Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland conducted a two-part program focusing on Shakespeare and contemporary works.

Novak resigns from LB board after 25 years

From LBCC News Service

Joseph Novak, a board member at LBCC for 25 years, has announced his resignation effective Dec. 31 for health reasons.

Novak has served four different LBCC college presidents and has participated in the hiring of three of the four. He has served three terms as board chair and four terms as vice-chair.

"The 35 years I have been associated with the college, including the 25 years I have served on the board, have been the proudest years of my life," said Novak. "It has been an honor to serve and I step down now only because of uncertain health."

Novak operates Novak's Hungarian Restaurant in Albany, which the family opened in 1984, and which is known for its annual free Thanksgiving dinners offered to local families.

Novak's interest and skill in his LBCC board service has been legislative. Through his years of service, he consistently pushed legislators for more state support for Oregon community colleges.

Novak also received an honorary membership in Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society of Two Year Colleges after being nominated by LBCC Student Life and Leadership. He has been a guest speaker at LBCC's commencement ceremony and at staff inservice. He also serves as chaplain for the American Veterans Association and is active in the community.

After arriving in the U.S. from Hungary in 1959, Novak worked for a short time as an engineer in the space program for NASA. He went on to work for Wah Chang of Albany in metallurgy research and development.

Weiss presents more than sound advice

Anthony Lagoy
 The Commuter

Although many people at LBCC know Mark Weiss as an academic advisor to many students, he is also known outside the school for his musical talents.

Weiss has been an academic advisor at LBCC for 17 years. Before coming to Oregon in 1976 Weiss lived in California. Although music has been a big part of Weiss' life, he never gave much thought to making it a career. "Maybe in my 20s I had moments [where I thought about being a professional musician], but ultimately I wanted to work with people," he said.

Weiss started playing music at the age of 7 by learning the classical violin. Both of his parents were musicians; his mother was a pianist from UCLA and his father was a classical violinist who studied at the Julliard School of Music. At 13 Weiss started playing the bluegrass fiddle, mandolin and the guitar. "By 14 I had dropped classical music and played bluegrass, folk and blues, which is pretty much the way it is now," said Weiss. His main influences are Doc Watson and Clarence White. "They are both 'flat pickers' who introduced solo work to the guitar world," said Weiss.

Although he plays many instruments, Weiss prefers to focus on one instrument these days. "My main instrument is the



Courtesy photo

Counselor and musician Mark Weiss

guitar. I also play a little mandolin and a little bass. I stopped playing the fiddle many years ago because I'm more of an instrumentalist than a singer. I much prefer playing in a group, you just can't take off, instrumentally, without some folks to play off of," said Weiss.

Fellow faculty member Tom Chase has played with Weiss on many occasions, and agrees that Weiss' talents are far reaching. "I call him 'Cool-as-Ice' [Weiss] on the lead guitar. With the other blues bands I play with, I usually play lead guitar, but I gladly submit to play rhythm when I play with Mark. He has a special knack for coming up with just the right, tasteful touch when we arrange our songs," said Chase.

Weiss keeps himself busy by playing in

three separate bands that play folk, bluegrass and blues music respectively. Weiss and his 27 String Band recently played the Best Cellular Coffeehouse as a part of a benefit for the Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence. He also plays in a blues band with Tom Chase called JP Burns and the Afterburners. Weiss plays with many local musicians, including Alex Hargreaves (who plays in the 27 String Band) and Neal Gladstone. Both Hargreaves and Gladstone appear on Weiss' latest CD "Truth, Love and Confidence."

"Truth, Love and Confidence" is Weiss' first release to feature more adult contemporary music. His last album, a children's disc, was released about 20 years ago. Weiss' CD not only showcases his musical talents, but it gives some insights as to who might have inspired him to play the music he has chosen. Weiss' runs takes from the varied catalog of folk music, covering songs by Gershwin, Woody Guthrie and Jean Ritchie, among others. These songs are built on the strength of Weiss' playing ability, and the choices of talented performers he enlisted for this album. While many of the songs have guest appearances, Weiss finds time to showcase his solo talent. On the song "Cool of the Day" Weiss displays that he is able to be just as commanding alone with his guitar as he is within a group.

His latest album is available now at Grass Roots Book Store, in Corvallis.

Bay Area needs help for spring break

Cori Lee
 The Commuter

Students who spend their spring break loafing, partying, or watching hours upon hours of TV have a chance to benefit a few homeless families instead by joining LBCC's "Alternative Spring Break" Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge 2007.

From March 25-April 1, students will be working Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. assisting Habitat for Humanity in building low-income housing in an area known as Mount Diablo in Pacheco, Calif., a suburb of San Francisco.

Only eight students who are 18 or over can participate, so Student Activities Coordinator Ann-Marie Yacobucci is encouraging students to sign up in the Student Life & Leadership Office as soon as possible, preferably before the end of the term.

"It's on a first-come, first-serve basis," she said. All students must be registered by Jan. 12. There is a \$100 fee to help cover the costs, which must be received within 10 days of registering. LBCC's student activities funds is paying the rest of the cost for food, lodging and transportation.

Yacobucci will hold a meeting the first week of the

new term to speak with those who are interested in joining the trip. She will be the only staff member accompanying the students.

The students will be asked to work on anywhere from one to four houses, depending on the stage of the building process, she said. Students will be sleeping in a nearby church that has provided its space for this service project. "Everyone will need to bring sleeping bags. We will be sleeping on the floor," Yacobucci added.

LBCC is one of several colleges participating in this project. "Different colleges sign up for different weeks," said Yacobucci. "I just signed us up for the week we happen to have spring break. You don't need any experience, they will tell us what to do when we get there."

The trip is not all work and no play. The Saturday that the eight students will be in California will be their day off, when they will take a "cultural excursion" to enjoy the sights of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Yacobucci recommended the experience for students interested in community service. "Not only do you get to work for a good cause," she said, "but it also looks great on a resumé."

This will be the second time in the past three years that LBCC has taken a delegation to the Bay Area on the Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge.

College to host the 36th Annual Children's Winter Festival this weekend

From LBCC News Service

The 36th Annual Children's Winter Festival will be held at Linn-Benton Community College on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 1 to 4 p.m. on the second floor of the College Center.

The festival is free to all Linn and Benton county children ages 12 and under.

This year's theme is "An International Winter" and will feature a Kwanzaa room, Hanukkah room, Chinese Winter room, cookie decorating, face-painting and craft-making activities.

Every child will receive a free gift, and photos with Santa or Father Claus will be available for \$1.

All children must be accompanied by an adult. An optional donation of two cans of food that will be donated to local needy families would be greatly appreciated.

For more information, contact LBCC Student Life and Leadership at 917-4457.

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

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

'Stars I Shall Find' takes stage Thursday

MaryAnne Turner
 The Commuter

On Thursday, Nov. 30, LBCC's Concert and Chamber Choirs will perform a concert series called "Stars I Shall Find," at the Russell Tripp Performance Center, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets went on sale for \$6 on Nov. 14, for non-reserved seating.

Both choirs are singing two different arrangements of "There Will be Rest," a poem by Sara Teasdale. The other is called "Stars I Shall Find," which will be sung by the Concert Choir, while the other will be sung by the Chamber Choir. The music pieces chosen for this concert were based around the late fall and the advent. Choral director Susan Peck said, "this concert is about the transition from the harvest season to the preparation for the coming winter."

"Dawning of Our Dreams" is sung partly in Latin, and is aimed at the early winter and advent. Two songs done by the Chamber Choir are "McKay," and "Webster," which are themed for Thanksgiving. There are eight parts. It is the typical SATB, but each part is divided into firsts and seconds. The "Shaker" songs are all about the harvest, which will be sung by the Concert Choir.

The concert will run about two hours. The diversity of the music ranges from African drumming music to religious and poetic songs and hymns. The concert will only show once.

MOVIE REVIEW 'Fountain' full of poetic symbolism

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

Beginning with a jumble of poetic storybook sequences, "The Fountain" challenges the viewers to confront the subject of human demise. Tomas, a medical researcher, (played by Hugh Jackman) rushes to come up with a cure for brain cancer so that he can save Izzi, his dying wife (played by Rachel Weisz). Izzi is working on a story that parallels her real-life situation in many ways. In the story, the queen, whose life and reign are being threatened by a religious extremist, known simply as the Inquisitor, gives a Spanish conquistador a promise ring and sends him on a quest. The conquistador's mission is to find the Tree of Life written in the book of Genesis, so that he can find the secret to eternal life and live together with the queen. She believes that the tree is hidden atop a hidden pyramid constructed by the Mayan people in the jungles of Guatemala.

The movie jumps around chronologically, incorporating the storybook scenes, with the life of the couple, along with an in-between section, that may represent the entangled imagination of Tomas (in the graphic novel of "The Fountain" this section takes place in the 25th Century). Scenes from this part of the movie are characterized by a monk-like version of Tomas' character living alone (it would seem) on a hunk of land, surrounded by a transparent bubble, floating in what appears to be space. Tomas talks to the tree growing

there that represents his wife and during some scenes she can be seen in the background asleep on a bed, but Tomas is never at her side.

Tomas is conducting research on apes to find a cure for brain tumors and finds a breakthrough by mixing the sap on an old growth tree from Guatemala with his current medicinal blend. Although the cancerous ape experiences extreme rejuvenation that could mean incredible benefits for humankind, the brain tumor is unaffected, so Tomas is sorely disappointed. He is consumed by the quest to save his wife.

Although Izzi is making peace in life, in preparation for death, the mere mention of her possible demise around her husband agitates him. Much of the movie deals with the tension in this contrast.

Darren Aronofsky does a good job of directing and the cinematography is impressive in the film. It leaves lasting impressions, although this is also achieved through repeating scenes. The costumes are amazing and the themes that are wrestled with are part of the human experience, yet they are presented in a fresh light. The blend of poetic dialogue and transcendental settings may confuse many viewers, but piecing together the mystery is part of the experience.

The movie is ambitious in scope and is open-ended enough to allow for much rumination regarding its intricate symbolism. "The Fountain" is one of the best movies of the season, but may not appeal to mainstream viewers.



Happy Holidays!



Whether it be Christmas, Kwanza, or Hanukkah, presents are a part of the holiday season. On campus, the President's Office is organizing its annual LBCC Giving Tree, which benefits local children in need. The advertisers below have joined The Commuter in supporting this effort by providing gifts to five children.

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Happy holidays from LBCC's award-winning newspaper, The Commuter.

ON THE ROAD

A look at travel and overseas study opportunities across the globe and locally.

Managing Editor: Michelle Turner
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu

Shirley Austin
 For The Commuter

Ciao from Italy!

My time in Florence, Italy is almost over, and it has been an amazing experience. I have loved most of it and I think I would want to come back someday. Although I think Italy is pretty cool, I have discovered that the south of France is the place now that I definitely want to return to. I recently spent a weekend there, and one weekend is not enough!

I, along with Kim Dasso, Katie Avery and Rachel Schubert, all PCC students, took a train to Rome and caught a flight to Marseille, France. Ryanair is a small economy airline here in Europe and you can get flights for 1 cent! Of course, they add taxes and other fees, but we ended up paying only 21 euros each for a round trip ticket. We students can be very resourceful.

We rented a car in Marseille (split between the four of us, it was really inexpensive) and took off down the A8 toward Nice. The car had a navigation system so we couldn't possibly get lost, or so that is the theory.

Actually, when we did take a wrong turn, the lovely British voice took us back toward our destination, although it could be a long way around. We did see some very pretty winding, narrow roads that we would have missed otherwise, while the voice guided us left turn, next left turn, next left turn, etc.

Cannes, the beautiful seaside town which is famous for the Cannes Film Festival, was on our way so we wandered around there for awhile. We stopped and had some delicious decadent crepes in a small corner café, very yummy!

We sat and watched the sailboats coming into the harbor. We figured the biggest one was Johnny Depp's (well, it could have been). Cannes was lovely, even if it was touristy. (We liked it so much that we stopped again on the way back to Marseille).

Nice is huge and we got caught in a torrential downpour



photo by Shirley Austin

Shirley Austin (center) pauses in front of the casino in Monte Carlo with two fellow study abroad students from Portland Community College.

the night we stayed there, as we walked to and from the restaurant that was recommended to us by the front desk guy at the hotel.

We splurged on an expensive French dinner, but it was so worth it! The French food is wonderful. Also nice has the Archeological Museum, well worth seeing.

The next morning the sun was shining and we headed up the Cote d'Azur to Monaco-Monte Carlo. It was gorgeous; everything was as beautiful as we expected it to be. We peeked in the casino at Monte Carlo and felt like the rich and famous—as much as four students traveling in a Toyota can. We didn't see the Prince, but there sure were a lot of Mercedes', Jaguars and Astin-Martins.

When we left Monaco, we asked Ms. Navigator to direct us to Antibes; we listened to her telling us to "proceed to the roundabout, take the second exit," and so on. They have these

"roundabouts" everywhere, which is a circle drive with exit roads in all directions. It really is quite simple when you get the hang of it. If you miss your turn off, just go "roundabout" until you come to your exit again. Makes sense.

Antibes is a wonderful small city on the French Riviera. The citizens are charming and this quaint town is full of children and dogs—even in restaurants! The chic shopping center in Monaco, the ritzy restaurants of Antibes, they all let in dogs. The French canines are for sure lucky dogs.

But I loved Antibes, in fact all of the Riviera is beautiful, the people are warm and friendly and my high school French finally came in handy.

We tried to see a perfume museum in Grasse, a small town

famous for making perfume, but it was Sunday and everything was all closed up. That was disappointing.

As much as we love living in Florence, Italy, we hated to say au revoir to France. There is so much opportunity to see other parts of Europe while in this program, you just have to take advantage of it.

Learning the "Italian" way has been a fun and certainly interesting ride. I will never again make fun of my friends who eat their pizza with a fork and knife, I will definitely be thankful of every coffee stand in America (as there is no such thing as a 16 ounce, to go, sugar-free-vanilla-non-fat-latte here) and I look forward to getting my dinner on one plate (here it is primo piatti, secondo piatti, insalata—and then dessert if you can—each

"... I have discovered that the south of France is the place that I definitely want to return to."

Shirley Austin

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LBCC Bookstore

Editor: Adam Loghides
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NATIONAL NEWS

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

FBI outreach struggles to win Muslim trust

Marisa Taylor
 McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

RICHMOND, Va. — When a local FBI agent wanted to make contacts in this city's tight-knit Muslim community, he started knocking on doors.

The agent didn't look, much less act, like a typical investigator. He spoke Arabic and he wore street clothes, not the suit and tie favored by many in the bureau.

"He seemed really friendly," said Muhammad Sahli, a U.S. citizen approached at his home last month by the agent. "So I invited him in."

But the agent's questions about international terrorist organizations unnerved Sahli. The agent wanted to know if Sahli knew anyone with ties to extremist groups. Sahli, a Muslim married to a Christian woman, said he didn't.

"You ask yourself, 'Why me?'" said Sahli, a 71-year-old retired chemist. "When you've never had a visit from the FBI before in your life, you feel a certain amount of anxiety, even though you've done nothing wrong."

For many Muslim and Arab-Americans these days, meeting an FBI agent can be an unsettling, even terrifying experience.

Beginning almost immediately after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, the FBI began to root out suspected terrorists, and Arab and Muslim communities became the bureau's top targets. Agents rounded up hundreds of people for questioning. They raided Muslim charities, monitored mosques for radiation and held refugees for months because of security checks.

To regain the trust of Muslim and Arab-Americans, the FBI has embarked on an aggressive national outreach program. The bureau's efforts, which include mosque visits and one-on-one meetings, have become so pervasive in certain cities that some young Muslim-Americans refer to the agency as the "Friendly Brotherhood of Islam."

Yet across the country, many participants wonder what the interactions achieve when mistrust remains the biggest obstacle. Some community activists compare the tone of the current encounters to those during the Red Scare of the 1950s, when U.S. citizens were singled out as suspected communists and expected to prove their loyalty to the United States.

"You never hear the FBI say that part of the reason there has not been another terrorist attack in this country is because radical extremists have not found a home in American mosques," said Rebecca Abou-Chedid, the director of government relations for the Arab American Institute in Washington, D.C. "It's as if they believe that we know about

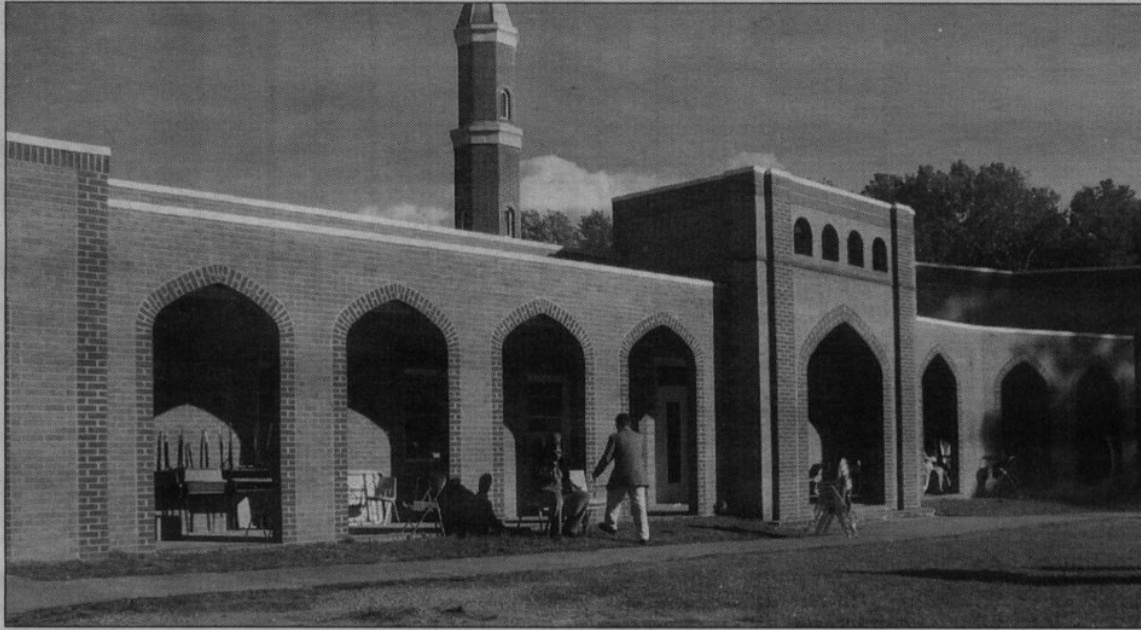


photo by MCT Campus News Service

To foster community relations, the FBI meets with leaders at the Islamic Center of Virginia in Richmond.

terrorist cells and we're not telling them."

In Detroit, the home of an estimated 200,000 Arab-Americans and immigrants, agents and activists sometimes argue for hours over terrorism-related investigations. Many Muslim leaders think the bureau has targeted the wrong people in its effort to root out extremists.

"It is very difficult," said Daniel Roberts, the special agent in charge of the FBI's Detroit field office. "To be honest, I sometimes wonder why we do this when we so often are beaten up in a verbal sense."

Agents aren't apologizing for their tactics and respond that they have a duty to pursue any possible U.S. ties to terrorists. More than 260 defendants have been convicted of terrorism-related charges in the United States and trials are pending for 150 more, according to the Justice Department's latest estimates released in June.

But agents also recognize that the alienation that Muslims and Arabs feel could undermine the bureau's hunt for domestic terrorists. If the fear subsided, more citizens might come forward with tips, agents believe, at a time when the bureau is under

mounting pressure to collect better intelligence.

Muslim and Arab-American leaders said they, too, are eager to improve their relations with the FBI. If that happened, many of them said, they would urge their children to join a federal law enforcement agency that's eager to recruit them. Now, most don't.

Muslims and Arabs also hold out a small but persistent hope that if FBI agents trusted them more, other Americans would, too.

But experts said the bureau's mission is made more difficult because of outreach techniques that often differ by region.

In Richmond, Muslim leaders have met with FBI agents several times over the years. So far, federal authorities haven't pursued any terrorism investigations against local Muslims.

When they heard an agent was knocking on doors during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, though, many community leaders couldn't help but feel alarmed.

FBI officials later confirmed that the agent wasn't investigating any of the men who were visited. Instead, he was assigned to make contacts with the Muslim

as law-abiding citizens," said Malik Khan, a board member of the Islamic Center of Virginia in Richmond.

Cliff Holly, assistant special agent in charge of the FBI in Richmond, said he didn't want to have to "ask permission" from community leaders to talk to people.

"I appreciate their perspective," he said. "But when you meet with large groups, it's difficult to develop any long-term relationships." To improve relations with local Muslims, his office paid for the agent's Arabic classes and brought in an activist to talk to other agents about Muslim culture, Holly said.

"Nobody's picking on anybody," he said. "We're just going out and saying hello to people in the community."

FBI officials in other cities, however, said they inform local Muslim leaders first, to avoid alienating the entire community.

community as part of the FBI's local outreach. Community leaders said they wouldn't have objected to the interviews if they'd been warned about them.

"We need to be respected

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The Albany Learning Center has expanded its hours for the end of the term.

Extra hours!

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Wednesday, Dec. 6 — Open 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thursday and Friday, Dec. 7 & 8 — CLOSED

Note: No test will be issued less than one hour before closing.

For service availability call 917-4691 or visit our webpage: www.linnbenton.edu. The Learning Center is located in Willamette Hall, Room 212.

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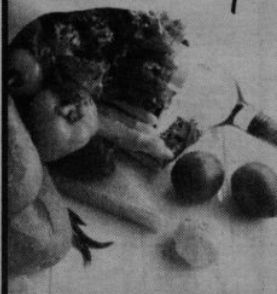
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Crossword

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 - 10 Closeout caveat
 - 14 "Jane _"
 - 15 Mister in Toledo
 - 16 Stride
 - 17 Soft-toy stuff
 - 18 Kill, old-style
 - 19 Tooted
 - 20 Mr. T's outfit
 - 22 Harrow blade
 - 24 French friend
 - 25 Ford SUV
 - 28 Signaler
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 - 31 Host of "The Twilight Zone"
 - 32 Social follower?
 - 33 Austrian range
 - 35 Crossword solver?
 - 36 In the future
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 - 40 Astronomical shadow
 - 44 Keyboard key
 - 46 Taxis
 - 48 Long period
 - 49 Capital river
 - 53 Build supplies back up
 - 55 One of O.J.'s lawyers
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 - 57 Shrill bark
 - 58 Dear advice columnist
 - 60 Hayward of Hollywood
 - 62 Yachting team
 - 64 Antilles island
 - 67 "___ Lisa"
 - 68 Heavenly instrument
 - 69 Sped
 - 70 Family member
 - 71 Greek mount
 - 72 Inquired
 - 73 Colorado tribe members

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11/30/06

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**Answers
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"I gotta warn you ... in areas of romance, I'm kind of like a Dirt Devil ... no attachments, baby."



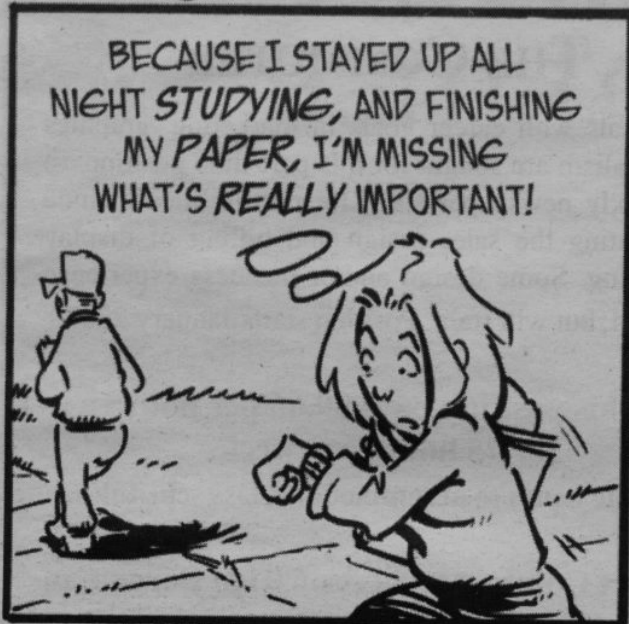
Arvin had always been handy with the ladies.



"No doubt about it, Bob. You're infected with tiny fighter planes. What's worse...you're a carrier."

by Aaron Warner

A College Girl Named Joe



cartoonstudios@msn.com

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SPORTS

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



photo by MCT Campus News Service

Heisman front-runner Troy Smith of Ohio State will lead his Buckeyes into the BCS title game on Jan. 8 in Glendale, Ariz.

National championship within Buckeyes' sight

Jake Rosenberg
 The Commuter

Although it is still a month away and a bit undecided Bowl season is getting closer with only one week until the completion of the college football regular season. With the crystal ball clearing up, here are some projections for the Bowl Championship Series games and where the Pac-10 teams could possibly be playing come the holiday season.

There is no doubt that No. 1 Ohio State (12-0) will be playing in the BCS Championship Game so the only question is who their opponent will be. After a 44-24 win over Notre Dame, Southern California (10-1) stands firmly in the No. 2 position but if they struggle ever so slightly versus UCLA (6-5) then voters may slide Michigan (11-1) past the Trojans for a rematch between the Buckeyes and Wolverines.

If Michigan doesn't take over the No. 2 slot they will automatically play in the Rose Bowl where they will most likely face Louisiana State (10-2), Notre Dame (10-2) or even Florida (11-1).

The Irish have a shot at the All-state Sugar Bowl where Florida and Louisville (10-1) also have legitimate chances to oppose them. The FedEx Orange Bowl could pit surprising Arkansas (10-2) and Wake Forest (10-2) but Georgia Tech (9-3) may claim a spot there as well.

This weekend's Big 12 Championship Game winner between Oklahoma (10-2) and Nebraska (8-3) travels to Arizona for the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl to take on undefeated Boise State (12-0).

With the BCS games out of the way, here is a brief look at the Pac-10 bowl landscape.

After Oregon State (8-4) beat Oregon (7-5) in the Civil War, the Beavers look to be headed to the Brut Sun Bowl in El Paso, Texas to play Texas A&M (9-3), West Virginia (9-2) or Missouri (8-4). The Ducks are now rumored

to be headed to the Pioneer Pure Vision Las Vegas Bowl to play Brigham Young (10-2) but could also wind up in San Francisco playing Florida State (6-6) in the Emerald Bowl at AT&T Park.

If Oregon gets the Vegas bid, Arizona State (7-5) will take the trip to AT&T Park while UCLA could wind up playing Hawaii (10-2), in the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl.

California (8-3) will play either Nebraska or Texas A&M in the Pacific Life Holiday Bowl.

Arizona and Washington State still remain alive for a postseason bid at 6-6 while Washington (5-7) and Stanford (1-10) have been long eliminated from contention.

Adam Loghides
 The Commuter

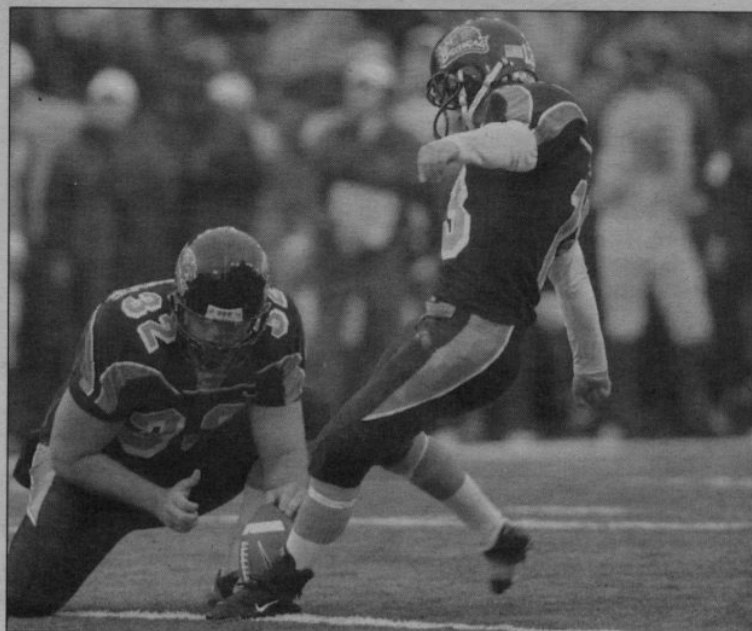
In 1983 the Oregon State Beavers and Oregon Ducks played a civil war for the ages—a 0-0 tie between two teams that combined to fumble 11 times and throw five interceptions.

The 110th installment of the rivalry was played last Friday, and again it was a game for the ages. This time, it was for a far better reason, however.

Alexis Serna kicked a 40-yard field goal with just over a minute to play and the Beavers blocked the Ducks' attempt to kick a game winner less than a minute later as Oregon State (8-4 overall, 6-3 Pac-10) beat then 24th-ranked Oregon (7-5 overall, 4-5 Pac-10) 30-28 at Reser Stadium.

In a game that saw two lead changes in the final three minutes and had a handful of big-time performances by running backs, quarterbacks and wide receivers, the biggest player on the field was the littlest guy, Serna. When it came down to it, the kicking game was the difference.

Serna connected on field goals of 49, 50 and 40 yards. Meanwhile, Oregon kickers missed field goals of 34 and 36 yards and an extra point as well. Oregon head coach Mike Belotti's confidence in his kicking game wavered so much he decided to go for the two-point conversion after the Ducks scored a touchdown to cut the Beavers' lead to 27-26 with less than three minutes left in regulation. The conversion was good and the Ducks took their first lead



Courtesy of OSU Sports Information Department

Oregon State kicker Alexis Serna kicks a field goal to help lead the Beavers to a 30-28 win in the 110th Civil War last Friday at Reser Stadium in Corvallis. The win clinched a third-place finish in the Pac-10 and will send OSU to El Paso to play in the Sun Bowl on Dec. 29.

of the game 28-27. That's when the fireworks began.

Beaver quarterback Matt Moore, playing in his last home game—but first Civil War—drove Oregon State to the Ducks 23-yard line with 1:12 to go. Moore knew getting that close was a sure field goal for Serna. "We knew if we could get it close he would knock it through and he did," Moore added, "He's a stud."

The outcome was far from certain, however. The Duck "stud," Jonathan Stewart, who ran for three touchdowns in defeat, returned the ensuing kickoff to the Beaver's 43-yard line, and the Ducks were able to move to the Beavers 27-yard line before lining up for a game-winning

field goal attempt. But Beaver defender Ben Seigert blocked the attempt, and OSU had won against the Ducks for the 45th time in their history.

Moore was flawless again, completing 16 of 27 passes for 255 yards and a touchdown. Wide receiver Sammy Stroughter caught eight passes for 114 yards, and of course, there was Serna.

"We're certainly proud of our kicker, I can't say enough about him," Beavers coach Mike Riley said afterward. "He's a great part of our story here."

The Beavers' story of 2006 continues with a game at Hawaii this Saturday and will finish at the Sun Bowl in El Paso against their next opponent.

"It's great to participate in courses where the material you learn is applied, then discussed by the whole group. There are many times people share perspectives that I've never considered."

Garrett Beck
 Management and Organizational Leadership, 2006 graduate

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SPORTS

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



photo by Chris Campbell

Women break out to 5-1 season start

Lady Runner guards Lindsey Duval and Whitney Bryant (top) scramble for a loose ball last Saturday during their dominating 70-46 win over Lower Columbia at the Activities Center. Freshman point guard Destiny Neuenschwander (left) has helped to lead the Lady Runners to five straight wins after a season-opening loss on Nov. 17. Coach AJ Dionne is delivering on her promise to put an up-tempo and energetic team on the court. They will try to extend their winning streak against Shoreline at 6 p.m. at home on Nov. 30. They travel to Everett, Wash. on Dec. 1 for a weekend tournament before returning home for a Dec. 9 game against Centralia at 5 p.m.

LB finishes in top 12

Caleb Hawley
 The Commuter

The Lady Runners volleyball team concluded the 2006 season by going 1-2 at the NWAACC playoff tournament on Nov. 16 and 17.

The fourth-seeded Runners opened against top-seeded Columbia Basin on Thursday and didn't go quietly, but a very powerful Columbia Basin team defeated LB in four games 13-30; 17-30; 33-31; 19-30.

"Overall we missed too many serves in that match and we didn't have the hitting efficiency that we needed offensively to win that match," said Coach Jayme Frazier.

Moving to the elimination bracket just a few hours later, LB faced Tacoma in a must-win match and got back on the right foot by upending Tacoma in two games (32-30; 30-23) to stay alive.

"After we had played the first match we went in there and started out just a little bit flat and came back from a deficit in the first game and won, and then won the second game," said Frazier.

The Runners met their demise on Friday, however, when they took on Green River. The teams exchanged games with Green River winning the first 28-30 and LB taking the second 31-29. Green River then sent the Runners home with a comeback 16-18 victory in the third game.

"We didn't miss any serves. We played intense the entire match," said Frazier. "It really came down to us playing just a little timid at the end. We were up 14-11 and we started to play timid. We had probably eight ball-handling errors on one or two people. It really hurt our momentum."

The Southern Division, made an outstanding showing in the tournament, with the two championship teams hailing from the south—Mt. Hood defeated Clackamas 30-28; 30-21; 30-27. Linn-Benton finished in the top 12.

"We went into the tournament with the goal of playing each match as a team, and continuing to improve throughout the tournament. I truly feel that we did that," said Frazier.

Snowfall calls winter sport fans to ski resorts

Teran Nash
 The Commuter

With four major ski resort mountains in Oregon, there is no end to the winter sports for you and your family.

Open as of Nov. 18, Mount Bachelor boasts a 67-inch snowpack and is one of the largest ski resorts in North America. Skiers and snowboarders will find lots to do with 3,700 acres of varied terrain and 71 trails. It also has a snowblast tubing park, snowshoeing and sled dog rides. A day pass to Mount Bachelor is \$52 to \$58, but students can catch a ride at Peak's Sports Shop in downtown Corvallis for only \$50. That includes the ride there and back and the lift ticket from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, contact Peaks Sports at (541) 754-6444.

If you're looking for more of a laid back, easier time on a mountain, nearby Hoodoo, which opens this weekend, is only

\$35 to \$39 for the day, or \$42 for a marathon lift ticket (marathon is from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.). While at Hoodoo you can also enjoy rides on the Autobahn which offers 16 lanes of tube racing and is \$25 all day or \$12 for 10 runs. Hoodoo offers great discounts for students. For information of \$50, you can get all daily tickets for \$24 regardless of when you start or when you leave the mountain. For information call (541) 822-3799.

If you're in the Eugene area, Willamette Pass offers 29 skiing trails. It currently has 40 inches of snow, and is opening this weekend. Lift tickets are \$38 to \$40. They also offer night skiing on Fridays and Saturdays from December to March.

Mount Hood offers three ski resorts: Mount Hood Meadows, which is not yet open due to a flood on Highway 35; Timberline, which is open; and Ski Bowl, open for night skiing on Saturdays and Sundays. To find out more about the resorts on Mount Hood, call 1-800-ski-hood.

Men win two straight tournaments

Curtis Tillery
 The Commuter

The Roadrunner men kicked their season off right Nov. 17-18, defending their home turf by winning the Southern Region Classic, and then followed that up by winning the Thanksgiving Invitational in Edmonds, Wash., last weekend.

In their opening game of the season Nov. 17, the Runners encountered some adversity when they met the stingy zone defense of Umpqua. Coach Randy Falk said that the zone caused the Runners to take some ill-advised shots, and they went into the half trailing the Riverhawks 40-36. In the second half, however, the Runners looked more energized, pressuring the opposition into multiple turnovers.

"We showed a lot of offensive improvement," Falk said. They exploited the zone defense and out-scored Umpqua by 20 points in the second half.

The Runners had an excellent performance from their two post players:

Ryon Pool, who had 14 points and eight rebounds, and Scott Teutsch, who led the Runners with 22 points and added six rebounds. Guard Eddie Lesson also had a great game, shooting seven for eight from the field and scoring 19 points.

In Saturday's championship game, the Runners were out to prove that their 86-70 win over Umpqua was no fluke. The coaches from Edmonds must have only scouted the first half of the Umpqua game, as they also attempted to stall the Runners with a zone defense.

But this time the Runners were prepared to attack and abuse the zone, shooting 60 percent from three-point territory. The Runners lead the Tritons 43-37 at the half. Falk said he told his team at halftime to be prepared for Edmonds to make at least two runs at a comeback, and that is exactly what the Tritons attempted.

By switching their defense to pressure man-to-man, the Tritons sped up the game and shot their way back, making nine of 21 three-pointers and tying the game up at

91. With 39 seconds left the Tritons made a tactical error when they fouled Pool, who had missed only one free throw that game. Pool sank two more of his game high 32 points to give LB a two-point advantage. After a missed Triton three-pointer, Alex Stockner made one of two free throws, putting the Runners up by three with 11 seconds to go, clinching the home-opening tournament for LBCC.

"I was very proud of how we showed mental toughness to hold them (Edmonds CC) off when they made their run," Falk said after the game.

Pool was named tournament MVP, averaging 23 points a game and 8.5 rebounds. Lesson posted 13.5 points and three assists per game and was also named to the All-Tournament team.

Last weekend LB came through the losers bracket to win the tournament in Edmonds, Wash., giving them a 4-1 record as they head into their next game at home this Saturday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m. against Clark Community College.



photo by Chris Campbell

Cody Henricksen battles for a rebound in LB's season opening win against Umpqua.