

LINN-BENTON  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
**COMMUTER**  
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LETTERS  
FROM  
YEMEN **5**

**9** TRUE  
LOVE

SELMA **7**

**3** SLC RALLY





STORY BY  
MELISSA  
JEFFERS

# VAPE AT YOUR OWN RISK

Vape pens at Linn-Benton are a topic of discussion. The policy states that vape pens are to be used at designated smoke shacks throughout the campus, however students continue to vape elsewhere.

"I don't think vape pens should be treated like cigarettes because they are not the same. No litter, no open flame, and no lingering odor. However it is also habit forming if one vapes nicotine," said student Dennis Hill.

The campus is on a closed system, which means any potentially harmful chemicals released by vape pens could very well be carried throughout the HVAC system vents to other parts of campus. This is the reason vape pen users are being asked to be vape at the smoke shacks located around campus and why smoking is not allowed just anywhere.

"The college must be in accordance with the clean air and workplace act," said Jones.

According to SecondsCount.org, "Second-hand vapor, as shown by a recent study, is a health concern for bystanders. Trace amounts of nicotine, flavoring, glycerine, and propylene glycol are present in the vapor the user exhales. People have reported respiratory irritation, nausea, and headaches from inhaling

second-hand vapor."

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) classifies propylene glycol and glycerine as chemicals that are, "Generally recognized as safe."

"Vape pens will be treated identically to smoking. People who wish to vape need to use the smoke shacks," said Lynne Cox, associate dean of student development.

Renovating a current smoke shack or building a new vape shack around campus could be an option. However, this doesn't solve the issue at hand.

"There are no plans at this point to move forward on any of those ideas," said Dale Stowell, executive director, institutional advancement and foundation.

To build a vape shack it would cost the college approximately \$30,000. For an endeavor such as this, it would require the college to plan and get zoning approval. Building a shack specifically for vape users would eliminate a smoking shack for cigarette smokers.

"We know that roughly 20 percent of our campus population are smokers and make frequent use of our smoking shelters on campus. While vaping on campus has increased to a point where it is noticeable and needs to be addressed, there is a concern that the need for a vape [shack] may not be as high as that of a smoking [shack]," said Mike Jones, SLC legislative affairs.

Another option for vape users would be to renovate a current smoke shack.

"The concern from College Council members however is that by renovating a current smoking [shack] we will effectively be reducing the available place for smokers on campus by 20-25 percent when they have effectively done nothing to warrant such a drastic inconvenience. Because of this, administration has no plans to renovate a smoke [shack] into a vape shelter at this time," said Jones.

There are no signs currently posted on campus regarding vape pen use. College council members consider vape pen use already covered in the pre-existing tobacco and smoking policy already established on campus.

There is not an official plan or proposal made to create any signage stating the policy on vape pens. Administration and faculty have been made aware of the campus policy and have been asked to notify students of this if they are observed using vaping products on campus in a non designated area. 📍

FOLLOW MELISSA @MJEFFER8



STORY BY  
COOPER  
PAWSON

# SLC BOWLING BASH

The local bowling alley, Lake Shore Lanes, was packed Friday afternoon with approximately 60 students

accompanied by their friends and families. Lanes were filled for the Bowling Bash put on by the Student Leadership Council in order to get students to interact, eat pizza, and throw some strikes.

Students took full advantage of the exciting and fun opportunity, filling the lanes from the second it began at 2:30 p.m. to the moment the lanes were shut down two hours later.

This was a great opportunity to earn Hype Points and ultimately an opportunity to get more students involved with the local community and their fellow classmates.

In attendance was the men's basketball team. Coach Randy Falk and his players were there throwing strikes and enjoying the good food and good people. The athletes showed a side not often seen, their involvement in the school and the community that they represent on and off the court.

"For me I really appreciate when our LB students come to our games to support us," said Trever Cooley of the men's basketball team. "So the more myself and others get involved [in school activities] the better it is for us as a team and a school as a whole. Plus, I like meeting new LB students."

There was a high sense of camaraderie and community as groups of students were immersed with each other for genuine reasons; To feel apart of something that goes beyond the classroom and to escape the stresses that come with being a college student.

"It was a really fun experience for everyone involved, I



PHOTO: COOPER PAWSON



PHOTO: NAKUL KATARIA

have had numerous people tell me how much fun they had," said Candalynn Johnson, SLC event planner. "We were successful in getting some of the major groups from our school to get involved, almost the entire basketball team, players from the volleyball team, and members of our choir were there." 📍

FOLLOW COOPER @LBCCSPORTS



PHOTO: MARWAH ALZABIDI

# INSTRUCTOR EVALUATIONS

The Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET) process changed last fall. SET is now done in an online format. This week students were sent emails with URLs, one for each registered course, that allows them to access the URL and fill out the survey.

Your opinion matters.

When someone receives a service for which they pay, it is important to let the provider know how they can improve that service. In this case, the student is the customer and the SET is analogous to a comment card on the product, the instructor and the course. The SET is a way for instructors to improve the

product that they offer and they value thoughtful comments from students.

The questionnaire was shortened to contain succinct questions and there is a focus on the open-ended comments section. Your comments on your courses are completely anonymous and the SET goes back to your instructor after final grades are submitted. Your instructors really do read the SET and make changes to improve your experience as a student here at LBCC.

The primary purpose of the SET is to provide feedback for the instructor. Providing students the opportunity to comment on their courses is a part of

LBCC accreditation requirements, but is also just good business practice - to get feedback for improvement in the product we offer, namely education.

Students have from the beginning of week six, Feb. 8 through week nine, Thursday, March 5 at 11:59 p.m. to complete their online Student Evaluation of Teaching for their courses. Students will receive email reminders every Monday during the open evaluation period, but the reminder emails stop once they complete the survey for a particular course. 📍

LBCC PRESS RELEASE



STORY BY  
CHRISTOPHER  
TROTCHIE

# MARCHING ON CAPITOL STEPS: STUDENTS UNLEASH THEIR VOICES

The topic of freezing tuition rates is once again bringing universities and community colleges from across Oregon together for a student rally at the state capitol Feb. 12.

With a looming tuition increase of up to 2.3 percent, student leadership groups in conjunction with Oregon Student Association have coordinated efforts to make this event possible. LBCC's Student Leadership Council is no stranger to political action.

In 2013 the SLC loaded up three buses and made their way to Salem to put a face to those most affected by rising costs on campus' across Oregon. Managing to rally 180 students, that when combined with other attending schools totaled over 500 students, LBCC brought the bulk of voices to the crowd that gathered on the steps of the state capitol.

"Oregon Student Association is asking for a statewide tuition freeze for all public universities and community colleges. SLC is a part of OSA, so we are going up along with other universities and community colleges to show

support and rally on the capitol steps for the tuition freeze," said Adelaine Carter, SLC president.

SLC leadership unleashed their phone banking team along with SLC representative speakers who, in the run up to Thursday's rally, made contact with over 1,000 different students campus-wide. SLC is expecting a strong show of support from students in the form of brimming-busloads of students. Over 190 students are signed up and ready to march on the capital.

Four buses are scheduled to begin preloading students at 10:30 a.m. this Thursday in front of the Activities Center. Buses will depart at 11 a.m. and will be gone until 2 p.m. Although registering with SLC ahead of time is preferred, students will not be turned away during loading.

"This rally directly helps students exercise their power as a massive social group and tell their representatives what their needs are, and also, if we are successful, will directly save students anywhere between \$50-\$300 per year for the next two years depending on

where they go to school in Oregon," said Mike Jones, SLC legislative affairs.

Along with the student rally, this year's protest will run congruent with lobbying sessions set to include students. The goal of the meetings are to help politicians recognize key issues facing students in Oregon schools.

"Our team's goal is to convince legislators that students matter and that they need to increase funding for higher education. Only after we get more funding for both community colleges and universities can we sit down and try to talk with our administrators to freeze tuition. If we do not get higher funding than is currently proposed, then we WILL see a significant increase in tuition for all colleges," said Candalyann Johnson, SLC event planner and lobbying team member.

For more information visit the SLC office located in the lower level of the Forum building next to the Hot Shot Cafe. 📍

FOLLOW CHRIS @CHRISTOPHER999

## CAMPUS BULLETIN

### Artist Reception - Wednesday, Feb. 11, noon to 1 p.m.

Ekphrasis III artist reception and poetry reading will be held in SSH Gallery. This will be a wonderful event that you won't want to miss!

### Evidence of Evolution - Wednesday, Feb. 11, noon to 2 p.m.

Meet live birds of prey from Chintimini Center in the Forum, Room-104 while learning about the evolution of flight. See a film on evolution by former LBCC student Jon Perry and eat treats in celebration of Darwin's birthday.

### Rally for Higher Education - Thursday, Feb. 12

Join SLC in Salem at the state capitol to rally in support of a tuition freeze for community colleges. Free shuttle buses will leave from the front of Takena Hall at 10:30 a.m. The rally is scheduled from noon to 1 p.m. Buses will return around 2 p.m.

### Student Fee Increase - Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

"Spend \$3, Save \$300" will be the topic of the discussion regarding the looming student fee increase. Free pizza and drinks will be provided in the Diversity Achievement Center, Room-220.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Barack Obama's audio books won him Best Spoken Word Album Grammy in 2008.

### SPORTS BULLETIN

#### LB Basketball

at SWOCC	Wednesday, Feb. 11	6 p.m.
vs. PCC	Saturday, Feb. 14	4 p.m.

#### OSU Basketball

at UCLA	Wednesday, Feb. 11	7 p.m.
at USC	Saturday, Feb. 14	2 p.m.

#### UO Basketball

at USC	Wednesday, Feb. 11	6 p.m.
at UCLA	Saturday, Feb. 14	Noon

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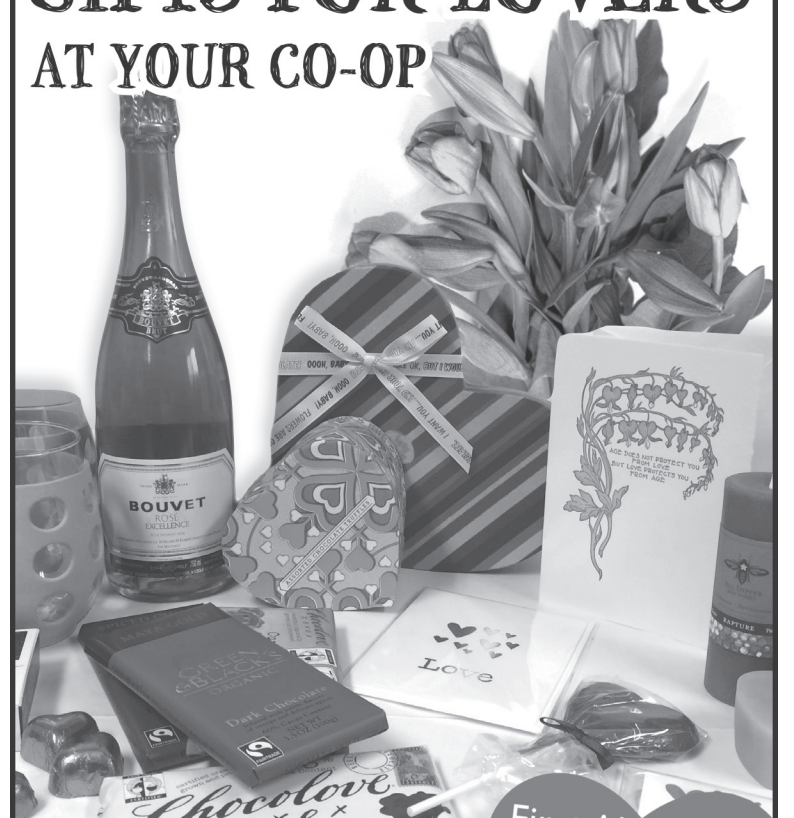
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### DID YOU KNOW?

The hair brush, lawn mower, cellphone, refrigerator, and — thank heavens — the air conditioner were all the fruits of African-American inventors' creative laboring.

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STORY AND  
PHOTO BY  
**PAIGE  
HARKLESS**

# ADDRESSING TRANS\*

Not everyone knows what it's like to be trans\*, but anyone can be an effective ally for the trans\* community. If given the opportunity to talk with someone in the trans\* community, there are some simple guidelines and helpful tips to understand.

**The first step:** Understanding just what it means to be trans\*.

Linn-Benton student Kamran Mirza helped out by answering questions one might be scared to ask, but are important in understanding the transgender community.

"By educating yourself about this, you take the step yourself to be an advocate, and I think that that's one of the most important things that any individual can do," said Mirza.

**Second step:** Proper terminology is a key to respect.

It's not transgendered, but transgender, when referring to trans\* people. However, the best and most inclusive term is trans\*. Trans\* describes a spectrum of people who identify as not only man or woman, but individuals who live outside of the gender binary. In other words, transgender is being inclusive of all non gender conforming individuals.

"My gender identities are semi-fluid. They sometimes express themselves at the same time, sometimes they express themselves individually," said Mirza.

**Third step:** Is it really that important?

When discussing sex, don't describe the person you're talking with as being born a man or born a woman. Instead use identified as, or assigned a male or female at birth. Typically it is not appropriate to ask what someone's assigned sex at birth was.

Among inclusive pronouns: they, them and theirs are the next important. This is one of the easiest ways, next to using their name, to refer to someone when you don't know their preferred pronouns.

**Step four:** Just ask.

Mirza shared that the easiest way to find out a person's preferred pronouns is to ask.

"It's quite literal. I think you should just ask, because in reality it's an attempt to be respectful, and it's an attempt to be inclusive of that individual regardless of the assumptions you make about that person when asking their pronouns."

To avoid offending and attempt to be more inclusive, never assume someone's pronouns. The best way to avoid a misunderstanding is to ask a person's preferred pronouns upon meeting them.

If a mistake is made, the best way to recover is to acknowledge the mistake, simply apologize and move on. It's also okay to ask if a person's preferred pronoun is forgotten.

"It shouldn't be a big deal. If you're making an attempt to correct yourself, then you are making an attempt to be inclusive."

**Step five:** Don't do it.

While on the topic of language, it's equally important to know what words to not use. Tranny, the "T" word, is one of the most derogatory terms to use when referring to trans\* people.

"It is largely just held as a pejorative term for trans\* people. It's not something that's ever really been used to empower or uplift the trans\* community."

Another term that should be avoided when referring to a person who is transgender, or someone who is intersexed, is hermaphrodite. This is another derogatory term that mislabels people of the trans\* community.

For more information, the Diversity and Achievement Center offers many resources, one of them being a list of tips for allies of trans\* and gender nonconforming individuals compiled by Kamran Mirza. ♡



Kamran Mirza

FOLLOW PAIGE @PAIGIEHARKLESS



STORY BY  
**ANDREW  
DONALDSON**

# MAXIMIZE YOUR DEGREE-SEEKING DOLLAR

Though there are many different reasons people attend LBCC, the commonality amongst most is the desire to obtain a degree. Whether you are an 18-year-old freshman looking to take care of your baccalaureate core classes for a fraction of the price, or even a middle-aged corporate type looking into a career change, LBCC has any number of options to help out.

What many students don't realize is that often the classes you take can be used towards more than one degree.

Jeff Lehn, vice president of the Student Leadership Council, figured out this little trick after deciding that finishing college was a much better option than spending his life as a carpet cleaner for \$12-an-hour. Nearing 30 years of age he realized that his "menial labor job" was not only going to break his body down but it would also never allow him to provide the life he wanted for himself or his family. So the one-time community college drop-out decided to finish what he started.

Three years later, LBCC is "kicking him out the door" with three degrees in hand: an Associates of General Studies, an Associates of Applied Science Accounting Technology, and an Associates of Science Business Administration. Though undecided on what exactly he will be studying, Lehn will be transferring to Oregon State University next fall only needing a year of upper division classes to obtain his bachelor's degree.

For those of you who are thinking that Lehn's story is rare, he has some advice for you.

"Take some time and figure out which classes you need or have to take and find out which will go towards

multiple degrees. Typically it is the transfer degrees."

When asked how he came upon the idea of single classes working towards more than one degree he recalled the moment of inspiration.

"I was bored one day and hopped onto DegreeRunner and just figured, 'I'm working towards this degree, does it apply to something else?'"

So he set up an audit while in the program and started taking notes on which classes he could apply to multiple degrees.

After checking in with his advisor, Jack Stone, to ensure that the apparent loopholes were indeed legitimate, Lehn realized that not only was he "saving a ton of money" by taking his bacc core at LBCC, but he was also going to be able to transfer to OSU with multiple options.

If you are unsure how to accomplish this, start by logging in to WebRunner. Click

"Student," then click "Academic Records," then "Degree Runner" and start to look for classes that overlap. Remember that you always have an advisor waiting to help.

Whether you are still deciding on a degree path, wanting to maximize your dollar, or simply wanting to ensure multiple options like Lehn has, take heed to his advice.

"Put in the little bit of extra effort, it will benefit you so much more." ♡

FOLLOW ANDREW @AWD\_ONE12



PHOTO: MARWAH ALZABIDI

Jeff Lehn

## FREEZE TUITION 2015

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

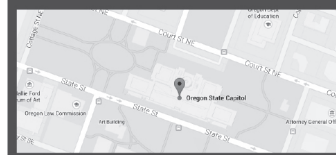
This year the Tuition Freeze that was successfully orchestrated and put into effect in 2013 has thawed. That means that for well over 100,000 Oregon students statewide, tuition will rise exponentially over the next year and beyond.

The good news is that **YOU** can help us do something about it! Join us this February 12th on the steps of the capital in Salem in a unified front to halt the rising costs of tuition and keep college affordable for everyone. Join us and together we will show our representatives that the future of students is the future of Oregon.

### WHERE

#### State Capital Steps

900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301



### WHEN

#### February 12th

11:00p.m. - 3:00p.m.

Transportation and food will be provided free of charge by the Student Leadership Council.

Meet in front of the Activity Center at 10:30a.m. for bus boarding and departure.

### GET INVOLVED!

Stop by the SLC office today and volunteer! Be a part of this monumental change, gain work experience, make new friends, and earn valuable Hype points just for participating!

For more info, visit the Hype page on the LBCC website or just scan with your smartphone on the right.



# Letters from Yemen

## رسائل من اليمن



STORY AND  
PHOTOS BY  
**MARWAH  
ALZABIDI**

On Jan. 22, the Yemeni president and his prime minister resigned from the government citing they can't cooperate with insurgents who have taken over the capital of Sana'a and imposed their demands on the government. Yemen has long been an impoverished, unstable political entity with many competing cultural and religious factions. Last summer when I visited home, the country remained in a state of total darkness after a series of attacks on power lines leaving the country without electricity. In Sana'a a political group attacked and made a mess around the capitol, forcing me to leave the country before they closed the airport so I could get back to school on time. I kept praying for my homeland to be safer, but all I kept hearing from there was bad news, so I wrote to my sister-in-law asking her what is happening. Below is our correspondence. 📍



## أختي العزيزة Dear sister,

How are you and our family doing? As you see the world is a beautiful place to be in. It is a blessing from God that we have experienced all the beauties on this Earth. But, it is only these who don't value their life and other people's lives that are the ones the whole world suffers from and make life hard. Anyways, I've been hearing the bad news, and it breaks my heart that all the Yemenis are going through hard times trying just to make it to the next day. The whole country is not getting any safer. Hopefully after all these catastrophes and bloody people who destroy everything leave, the right people can take over and fix the country under one president and treat everybody equally.

Tell me how life has changed? Do you get to go to school? Are brothers going to work still? How has your daily routine changed? After all, I hope everything is alright with you all. I don't want anything to happen to you. I will be very sad if so. I miss you all very much, and I really want to go back to homeland to see you.

About me, I'm fine and doing well, and my life is going pretty well. InshaAllah, I'll be done with school within two years. I pray for you to be safe and for us to see each other as soon as possible. Life is very short and you've got to enjoy every second of it because you never know what could happen tomorrow.

Love,  
Marwah

## مع خالص حبي



## أختي الحبيبة Dear Lovely sister,

I really appreciate your letter concerning about us. It means a lot. My family and I are doing very well, alhamdulillah. About me personally, I'm doing great and enjoying my life to the max trying not to miss any chance to do so. These days I have exams, so you can imagine the effort I'm making to get high grades. Brothers are still going to work, but we pray for them everyday to come back home safely. Except that, everything is going great. In Yemen for the last two weeks we were going through bad situations and we could not go anywhere. They closed all stores, schools, and universities. Now we are truly going through tough times but we got used to it a long time ago,

and it does not really affect our daily life. It is a big political game that we cannot understand. We just try to adjust, our life depends on it. The most important thing is that for now we are safe and hoping for the best.

Even we are afraid for what is going to happen in the next days because they put us in an unclear situation, and we don't know who is right or wrong. We've reached a level that Yemeni people control themselves. The president lifted the authority by force and there is no government to control the situation.

Finally, I hope you do well in your school and life and looking forward to hear from you again.

Love,  
Hala

## مع خالص حبينا

Sana'a  
صنعاء

Yemen



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



COLUMN BY  
**MATHEW  
BROCK**

## ESPORTS ARE SPORTS?

Esports are being called sports after countries like the U.S.A. and South Korea have started issuing athletic visas to professional gamers competing in foreign events. This gives a precedent for esports to be recognized as legitimate sporting events.

When we think of competitive sports we picture a lot of running, jumping, and other feats of physical prowess. Naturally someone tapping away at a keyboard and shouting into a microphone isn't likely to be identified as an athlete. The lines that define what should be considered a sport and who should be considered an athlete are blurring, and maybe it's time to re-evaluate both terms.

Most people wouldn't make the assumption that playing a videogame could actually be someone's job, much less someone's professional career. However there are many people who have made it so. There are professional gamers that travel worldwide to play, have legions of adoring fans, and are paid a salary so that they can devote the bulk of their time to practicing their game of choice. To do this and to do so efficiently, these people need to be labeled as athletes.

Now this wouldn't be using the word in a traditional sense, as the word athlete implies someone is doing something particularly athletic, which playing video games, no matter how intensely, undoubtedly falls rather short on. Attributing the term sport to gaming competitions seems easier to accept, as sports are mainly defined by their competitive nature. Applying these terms to professional gamers and esports is mostly an act of convenience, despite the obvious misnomer.

Sport and athlete are two powerful terms, and with them come certain perks regarding legitimacy and protection. Saying that you are a professional athlete carries a lot more weight than saying you like to play basketball with your friends. Playing sports also sounds a lot more serious than saying you play games, which is what most sports are at a basic level. Esports have effectively stolen or at the very least borrowed both terms for their own nefarious purposes.

Much of the infrastructure regarding competitive events is tied into the world of sports and people who are considered athletes receive special treatments so they can compete without being hindered by legal legitimization. The best example is eligibility for an athletic visa, which allows an athlete to visit a country to compete in an event and protects them from sudden deportation during said event.

There was a time when professional gamers looking to compete in an esports event in the U.S. risked being denied entry to the country or were suddenly deported, leaving their team unable to compete and occasionally disrupting entire events. Luckily there just so happened to be an infrastructure in place that solve the obvious problem.

The U.S. has recognized professional gamers as athletes and grants athletic visas to prominent esports competitors for up to five years. This says a lot about the need for esports to be considered a sport for the sake of convenience, rather than simply abiding by the dictionary definition of the word.

Esports competitors are in need of far more than easier travel accommodations. As is the case with

anything that attracts as much attention and money that has been invested in the last few years, some unsavory backdoor dealings have found their way into the esports scene. Reports of rigged tournaments, cheating, and players being abused by sponsors have increased alongside the competitive scene, causing a desperate need for regulation.

One significant incident was when the "Starcraft II" player Ma Jae-yoon was found to have purposely lost a match in order to collect a large bet he had placed on an illegal betting website. He was caught, stripped of all awards, and banned for life from all related events, but the entire ordeal caused some serious problems for his teammates and the event's organizers.

Similar incidents have occurred in more traditional sports, but many countries have strict laws against such misconduct when it comes to sporting events. For example, match fixing in the U.S. is a felony and can result in heavy fines and significant jail time. By identifying esports events there can be some legal deterrents to discourage those who would try and take advantage of the system.

Esports may not line up with many people's definition of a sporting event, but it's similar enough to warrant the same perks. At the end of the day it's far easier to just lump it into the existing machine rather than create its own infrastructure. As far as the authorities like the U.S. government esports can be called sports. It's just easier that way. ♡

FOLLOW MATHEW @MATHEWQBROCK

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## MOVIE REVIEW:

### Selma

**Director:** Ava DuVernay  
**STARRING:** David Oyelowo, Carmen Ejogo, Tim Roth  
**PRODUCTION:** Paramount  
**GENRE:** Historical Drama  
**RATED:** PG-13  
**OVERALL RATING:** ★★★★★

REVIEW BY COOPER PAWSON

Selma, Ala. a place carved into the history books because of what was ignorance, hatred and lack of acceptance, but became a place of empathy and civic duty through courageous actions of many in order to help the few.

Ava DuVernay's "Selma" reenacts Martin Luther King Jr.'s struggle to gain equal voting rights for black Americans even after it was technically legal. The amount of hoops the black population had to jump through in order to get an opportunity to vote seemed to go on forever.

MLK, played by David Oyelowo, precedes to form a plan to march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala. A march that will go down in history as one of MLK's last triumphs.

"Charismatic, commanding, complicated and utterly credible, his portrayal of Dr. King is surely the stuff of which awards are made," said Mark Kermode an observer film critic for The Guardian.

"Selma" features a wide range of actors. Tim Roth plays the role of the Governor of Alabama George Wallace, Tom Wilkinson plays President Lyndon B. Johnson, Cuba Gooding Jr. plays the well known civil rights lawyer from Montgomery Fred Gray, and Oprah Winfrey fills the big shoes of Annie Lee Cooper, considered a civil rights hero.

This movie is based on true events. Even knowing the end result of the story, the journey through the eyes of the people that stood up and made a huge difference for millions of people then, and for future

generations to come, is well worth your time.

Another great element of this movie is the depiction of the relationship between Pres. LBJ and MLK. Their relationship was something skimmed through or even left out of most textbooks but is a vital part of the story, having a huge impact on LBJ's decision to sign and put into law the Voting Rights Act on Aug. 6, 1965.

"Selma" is anchored by David Oyelowo's powerful and lived in performance as Martin Luther King Jr. The actor doesn't mimic King, but settles into a three-dimensional, understated depiction that achieves the rare feat of turning an icon into a human being," said Peniel Joseph of Newsweek. ♡

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STORY BY  
ANDREW  
DONALDSON

## FIND JOE, FIND YOURSELF

On a blustery Friday evening in early February, around 30 individuals of all ages braved the cold, wet rain and locked doors to make their way into the Benton Center. Their goal was Room 244 and a date with a movie that promised to be thought provoking, at least for the people with minds open to the possibility that life is solely about surface level.

After a brief delay to allow for snacks to arrive, the movie began with a simple quote from Joseph Campbell.

"I don't believe people are looking for the meaning of life so much as they are looking for the experience of being alive."

Joseph Campbell is considered to be one of the world's leading mythologists. Author and orator of books and lectures too numerous to mention, Campbell is perhaps best known for the concept of "following your bliss."

Each of the attendees, from the college students searching for life's answers to the 80-year-old retirees who are admittedly "still searching for what they want to be when they grow up," brought a unique perspective and a thirst for knowledge. Even the energetic 13-month-old boy who looked like he came straight from a Gerber ad campaign seemed enraptured by the message of the movie.

The reason that even a small child with limited cognitive reasoning, much less comprehension, could stay entertained was the message. Though not for everyone - there are far too many people

in this world who would watch "Finding Joe" and fear that a round of Kumbaya would burst out around them - it is a movie that anyone willing to dig deeper into themselves would benefit from.

If you have ever thought that the majority of people wander the Earth more as sheep than tigers, or you have heard a small voice deep within yourself but felt it squashed by the "should" and "should not's" ceaselessly crashing in your ear drums, or you have felt that there is more to your life than what you are being told is

possible, do yourself a favor and take a couple hours out of a day to sit down and watch.

Just know that in order to gain anything from the messages you will hear from Tony Hawk, Laird Hamilton, Deepak Chopra, Mick Fleetwood and Rashida Jones, among others, you must be open to concepts like:

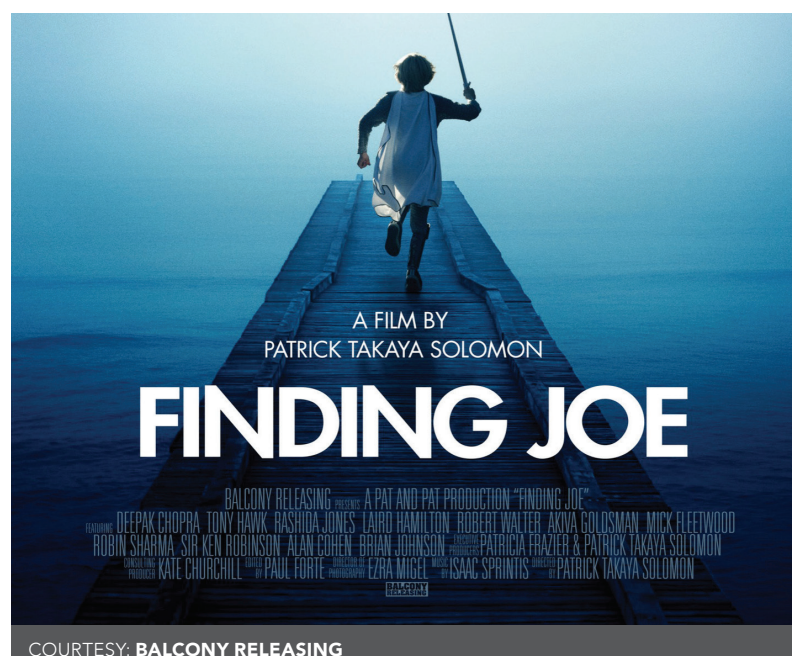
"We are all born golden, it is the process of life that layers the plaster and concrete over us. Once you find and see the gold, the plaster will never be enough."

"Your life is the fruit of your own doing, you have no one to blame but yourself."

"Most people in the world live in a mass hypnosis as the goal of those in charge is to keep us comfortable and teach us to never stick out as our reliance on our 80 inch TVs and video games keeps the enterprise rolling."

"It is not what happens to us, it is what we do with it that matters."

After "Finding Joe" was over, LBCC counselor Mark Weiss and his wife Terry led a discussion about the concepts it presented. While only a five of the 30 chose to speak, the overall message of the group was that the movie spoke to the paths their own lives followed. They too had felt that life is often more about stopping and listening than bulldozing on in search of something. Often the bulldozer is too loud for us to hear anything but it's ceaseless engine. ♡



COURTESY: BALCONY RELEASING

FOLLOW ANDREW @AWD\_ONE12

# CREATIVE CORNER

**“What I Wish I’d Learned Sooner”**

There’s a voice inside your head  
That tells you lies and makes you dread  
The vivid thought comes fast as lightning  
Tells you which things are good and which are frightening.

Just after perception, before you can blink  
The voice flashes through, the first thing you think  
Born from reflex without time for logic  
Emotion’s aroused by a voice demagogic.

No allegory this, the voice I speak of is real  
It’s there in your head telling you what to feel  
But being so fleeting, to most it just isn’t apparent  
That the emotions it evokes aren’t simply inherent.

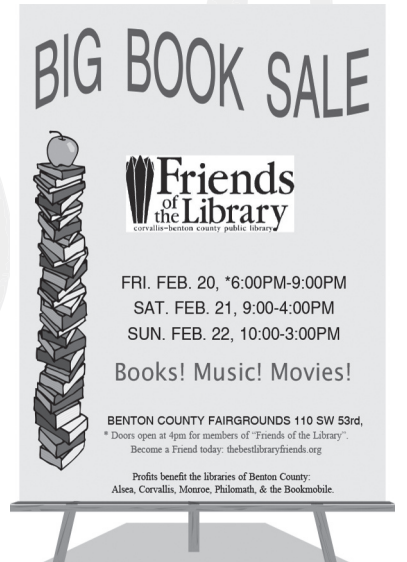
The voice isn’t evil, it’s part of how our minds work  
But in its speed and obscurity there are dangers that lurk  
It can wax hyperbolic on perils that are in reality mild  
And in so doing foment fear and send anxieties wild.

The first lesson then is to know, to know that it’s there  
To know how it works, the effect it has, to just be aware  
The voice isn’t perfect, it can be right, it can be wrong  
And it can be CHANGED, you don’t have to just play along.

To catch that lightning voice and make it submit  
Is no trivial task, it takes work I’ll admit  
But the power to take charge of your emotions is yours, in  
your hand

That is my message, what I want you to understand.

By. *Nathan Tav Knight*



**SUBMIT YOUR WORK**

Submit your poetry to The Commuter by email at [commuter@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@linnbenton.edu) or drop by the office in Forum 222.  
Join the Poetry Club Tuesdays in the DAC, 3-4pm.

**“I’m Scared but I Love You”**

What does he expect me to do forget all that he  
has done?  
When he kills my heart in a rampage of unjust  
anger and frustration.  
Then again what is life without him by my side?  
He hurts me from the inside out.  
His frustration is my pain.  
When he stares at me like I’m not there it kills me  
to my very core.  
When he leaves I will worry.  
When he comes home I will cringe in dread.

By. *Michelle Soutar*

**“JK”**



CREATED BY:  
**CAMERON  
REED**

## If you can be honest on a resume

**Jimmy John**  
Resume

**Qualification:**

1. Can move my arms and legs
2. I breathe
3. I can think.. Kind of.
4. Honestly not really qualified, but will learn for money.

**Work experience:**

For the majority of my past work history I just did what I needed to not get fired and when there was a rush of people I went on a smoke break. When ever I had to clean the bathroom I.. got some one else to do it for me. I never turn down a task to hard unless someone offers to help then I let them do it.

I like to work hard Monday-Tuesday then the rest of the week I feel like I need to let the bones breathe and chill so I can have a stronger week next week. Most important I am great at customer services and I have 34 customer complaints to show my outstanding work.

**Work History:**

**Store:** Johns Fish Tacos  
**Manager:** Dick-who knows his last name  
**Address:** I have no idea somewhere in Oregon  
**Start date:** Sometime in May      **End date:** when I never went back

**References:**

**James-** Cool guy probably my best friend. He live mostly on my couch so his address is the same as mine. Want to contact him call me.  
**Tony-** Total bro, good with the ladies, he lives somewhere in this state too. (541) 419-2434 you can contact him.  
**Elizabeth-** ex-girlfriend please don’t contact.

Linn-Benton Community College Performing Arts Department presents the  
**40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHILDREN’S SHOW!**

## Follow Coyote

Written by **Dari Lawrie** • Directed by **Tinamarie Ivey**

**\*February 6 • 7 p.m.**  
**February 7 & 14 • 2 p.m.**

*Though eleven year old William Armstrong dreams of being a hero, his rash behavior separates his bossy sister, Sarah, and himself from the wagon train. With the help of the trickster Coyote, a one-eyed trapper, Sarah and William struggle to rejoin their family.*  
**Set in 1842 on the Oregon Trail.**



**\*February 6, ASL performance**

**TICKETS: \$5 • All LBCC students and staff are FREE with ID**  
**Box office open 1-4 p.m. week of performances**

**Russell Tripp**  
Performance Center

**Linn-Benton**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

[www.linnbenton.edu/russelltripptheater](http://www.linnbenton.edu/russelltripptheater) • 541-917-4531

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





STORY BY  
RONALD  
BORST

# LIES FROM BRIAN & JOHN

In America, it is in fact a positive vote to vote mostly with the liberal Democrats. But that is only because they are the lesser of two evils.

America's government is generally corrupt.

The latest ego fiasco from the left wing features popular Oregon Democrat Governor John Kitzhaber and NBC Nightly News Anchor Brian Williams.

They both should step down.

Williams has been the managing editor and anchor at NBC since 2004. In the past week he has "temporarily" taken a leave of absence over a story he told, portraying himself as a survivor of a helicopter attack during the Iraq conflict in 2003.

Williams has recanted that story.

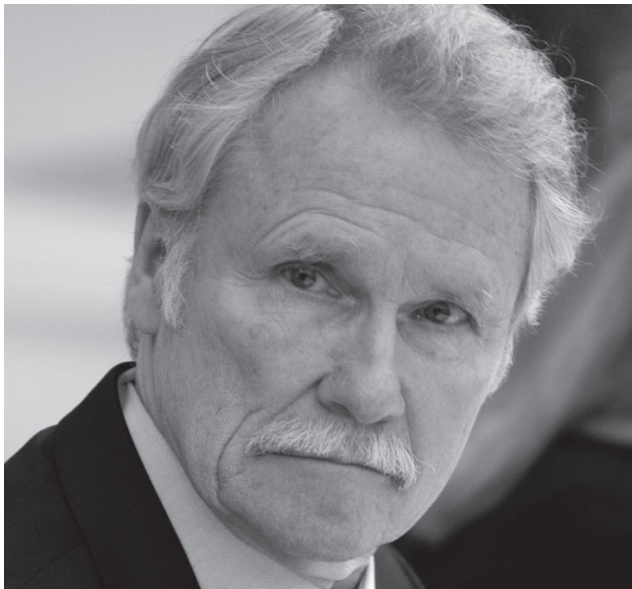
With all due respect, Williams' only fault is an egotistical story that is commonplace in human behavior. We tell fish stories, plain and simple.

The reason that Williams must resign is that while we all tell glory stories from time to time, Williams is relied upon by the NBC nightly audience to tell the truth in a precise and accurate manner. He simply has brought his credibility to question, and in journalism the public must trust that the nightly news is telling the truth.

When we live in a world where the general public uses a media outlet like NBC Nightly News to the extent that Americans do, the work has to be highly respected, ethical, and uncompromisingly truthful.

The same goes for the people that perform that work. When I tell a fish story, it really is no big deal. When Brian Williams, anchor of a broadcast television program tells a fib, then his credibility and trust is shot.

It does not matter that Williams did not lie about news. He puffed himself up during a story about working, and journalists have to be held at a higher standard than



COURTESY: HUFFINGTON POST

Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber

the general public in regard to ethics and truths.

The 10-year news anchor veteran is the winner of numerous journalism awards, including the Peabody Award. Williams although a likable guy, has to go.



COURTESY: NBC NEWS

NBC Nightly News Anchor Brian Williams

In Oregon, fourth term Governor John Kitzhaber is facing ethics complaints so substantial that his closest allies are fleeing for their political lives.

Kitzhaber's leadership of Oregon had high approval ratings through most of his first three terms. The success of the Oregon Health Plan, removal of dams for salmon restoration, and Willamette Valley business initiatives led Oregonians to elect Kitzhaber for a historic fourth term in November 2014.

In late 2014, the approval rating for Kitzhaber began to shrink after reports surfaced about the governor's fiancée and her illegal activities. A "green-card marriage" and an illegal marijuana grow operation were Cylvia Hayes doing, but the governor's office was starting to feel the heat.

In 2015, news media reported of Hayes' use of Kitzhaber's office for personal financial gain, and Hayes' failure to report income on her tax returns. That in turn has prompted newspapers to editorially condemn Kitzhaber, asking for his resignation. And two legal petitions have been filed, asking for a recall of Kitzhaber.

On the surface, it is apparent that Hayes used the state office for financial gain. It is almost as apparent that Hayes lied on tax filings.

Most damaging, is that it appears Kitzhaber was aware of at least some of the improprieties of business trips and money flow in the direction of Hayes. In government, no matter how much one has done for the public, maintaining and practicing ethics should be held in the highest regard and to the highest standard.

Kitzhaber has done neither. His callous and aloof approach to these complaints has raised questions about his leadership. Accomplishment means little when public trust disintegrates.

Under shadows of F.B.I. investigations and ethics evaluations, Kitzhaber fundamentally is not the man to lead Oregon in the future. Kitzhaber must realize that his mistakes have unraveled the threads of truth in government, and for Oregonians, they need to trust their government.

John Kitzhaber cannot effectively lead Oregon anymore. He must resign. 📍

FOLLOW RONALD @RLBJOURNALISM

# THE DAY I WAS CONVINCED OF TRUE LOVE



STORY BY  
ALLISON  
LAMPLUGH

A year ago I would have told you that true love, love at first sight, and Hollywood happy endings were for storybooks. That storybook endings are for a perfect world, and such a world doesn't exist. But it's beautiful to imagine. That's the stuff movies are made of. That's what makes them so dreamy, enticing, intoxicating; we can hope for a happily-ever-after.

Don't get me wrong, I believed in love. But, I believed in the time when it was over. We all must move on eventually, right?

I knew that having a best friend, confidant, and lover wrapped in one was a gift in life not to be swept under the rug. Love is a beautiful thing. It can't be explained. It's a word with no single definition. It's a feeling. It just is. But it isn't forever.

I would have told you that a year ago.

I wasn't convinced people were meant to be with only one person their whole life, that we are under constant evolution as beings. That a portion of our lives may make sense at the moment with a particular person, but not at another. That the time we are with one person is the moment they're supposed to be there, for you, with you, and then to move on. The evolution of self.

Is being open to evolving into the new you and entering a new chapter in the book of your life so bad? Surely it's not.

I have memories from all stages of my life that are filled with laughter, smiles, and good times with those I loved. But, in all of those times I was never convinced I had met my forever-man, my prince charming, my

soulmate. I didn't believe he existed.

Life is unpredictable, and one summer day, everything I thought I knew turned upside down.

I was living in Hollywood and came home to Oregon for vacation. I thought of a childhood friend from school, and when I threw a party for friends still in the area, I invited him. The first time we met we were 11.

He arrived at the party and I hugged him. He was wearing a blue shirt that said, "HI." I squeezed him, not wanting to let go. "Hello." He was so warm. That hug was so comforting to me. So soft, so safe. I felt I belonged in his arms. Like he was supposed to be, like we were supposed to be.

If I've ever felt perfect, perfect was in that moment. The moment I was convinced of true love.

That day changed my life.

I had a great life. One that many would say was surreal. Some go their whole lives wanting what they see on TV as their reality; palm trees, beaches, blue waters, sunshine, socializing, excess, extravagance. That was my life.

But one thing was missing. Love. True love. Like, don't-know-how-to-breathe-without-you love.

After that party, I realized my heart was beating in a way I didn't understand. All this time I was confused. It hit me. I didn't really know love. I loved my life. I loved what I had, where I was, who I was. But I wasn't in love. Not like this.

He reminded me of what it meant to be me. Just me. No pretense, no heels and no dress needed. With all my quirkiness and all my goofiness, he laughed at my

shortcomings. I didn't have to hide my imperfections, they were my attraction.

I packed up my life, and my tan, and traded it in for my destiny.

From a small town to a big city and back again. All my years of living and I'm finally alive. Nothing in my past compares to what I have now. It's not about where I am, but who I'm with.

Love changes everything when it's the right kind of love. It changes everything for the better. It isn't to be forced into your life; it will come when you're ready. And when it comes, you will know.

I found my heart's true counterpart. One beat in unison with the other. A connection that when I think of texting him, he texts me at that very same moment. Or the sentence he speaks that I already finished. Or when his favorite thing is my favorite thing before we knew we shared that favorite thing. Everything is easy with him. I look forward to each day we have together, no matter what it is we do. Being with him makes me feel like the luckiest girl in the world.

I have won the lottery of love. I'm now convinced true love is real and that it can last forever. I found my happy ending.

May you enjoy this weekend with your Valentine. And if you haven't found your Valentine, never give up hope that he's out there, waiting to take your breath away. 📍

FOLLOW ALLISON @LUCYLAFLOURE





STORY AND  
PHOTO BY  
**RICHARD  
STEEVES**

# BENTON COUNTY'S BACKYARD

The weather this time of year in and around the Willamette Valley can be described as dismal, wet and grey, even on a good day. February is filled with the type of weather that makes it almost impossible to brave the elements and go outside. A month that often lacks any sunshine leaves residents stir-crazy, stuck indoors yearning for the relief of summer weather.

If you find yourself suffering from any of these winter blues, relief can be found with a short drive to the winding roads and panoramic views of Marys Peak Recreation Area. Marys Peak Road, located in Benton County's backyard 10 miles west of Philomath on Hwy 34, is a gateway to winter recreational opportunities. I encourage all residents and transplants to take advantage of the highest peak in Benton County and the Oregon Coast Range, standing tall at 4,097 ft.

For those of you unafraid to brave the elements of a less than desirable, dreary February day in the rain, Marys Peak has plenty to offer besides a curvaceous car ride. It includes hiking, biking, camping, hunting, photography, 4-wheeling, sport shooting, nature viewing, picnicking, and the great Oregon outdoors. When winter snow is present there is snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and other non-motorized winter activities available.

Brave winter warriors who are willing to get out in the elements this time of year, make sure to be properly prepared for whatever adventure you are going to embark upon.

Those of you who are still unnerved about the thought

of leaving the warmth and comfort of your living room this time of year have no fear, you can experience the serenity of nature and the scenic drive all the way to the summit parking lot from the comfort and warmth of a small passenger car.

Marys Peak Road is a narrow paved two lane road that, depending on winter weather conditions, will take you within a half mile hike of the peak's summit. As of Feb. 8, the road and gates were opened all the way to the top. Drivers beware: This time of year debris on the road is common and the road isn't always open, so it's wise to check with the Forest Service @usda.gov search word: Marys Peak.

As you begin the 10 mile ascent to the summit parking lot, you are surrounded by the Siuslaw National Forest and all of its wonderment. As you pass the first elevation sign marked 1,500 feet, you can't help but wonder what waits around the next bend in the road. Further and further you climb, twisting and turning around each curve of the 30 MPH road, and suddenly there it is. The reason you left the warmth and comfort of your home: A view to die for.

Surrounded by nature's true beauty you can't help but keep driving, view after view, until you come across the smallest of two waterfalls along the roadside. The first is Alder Creek Falls and the second more demanding presence, especially when raging with February's recent rainfall, is Parker Creek Falls.

A few twists and turns past Parker Creek Falls and the Douglas firs, Western Hemlocks, and Sitka spruce

of the Siuslaw National Forest begin to thin out as you approach the first meadow along the road. Part of the Marys Peak Botanical Special Interest Area, the meadow opens up to breathtaking panoramic views of Oregon's lush multilayered topography as far as the eye can see.

"On a clear day, from the top of the peak, you can see both the Pacific Ocean to the west and many of the Cascade peaks to the east across the Willamette Valley," as stated by the United States Forest Service website.

After passing the first meadow you drive through the last stand of Douglas fir trees. Giants still standing broken in half by the high winds that scream through the coast range. The trees look like something out of a war scene as if a battle had been fought over Marys Peak.

Past the cemetery of broken trees suddenly another meadow appears and you've reached the summit. From there you can take a short hike to the top or stay in the warmth and comfort of your vehicle. Either choice will reward you with undeniably beautiful views in every direction.

Parking areas require a recreation pass, but you can purchase a day use pass at designated parking lots for \$5. For additional information check the Forest Service website or contact the Siuslaw National Forest at 541-750-7000. 📍

FOLLOW RICHARD @RSTEEVES84



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

As an Animal Science instructor I felt compelled to ask a few questions about the ad relating to livestock and antibiotic use in the Jan. 28 edition of The Commuter. Many of the facts quoted in the ad are suspect at best, but that is not the point of this letter to the editor.

The randomness of the ad seemed very strange to me. There was no article or editorial on the subject. I emailed Commuter adviser Rob Priewe last Tuesday with questions and he suggested I visit the office and ask those questions to the staff, so I did.

There were three staff members there putting the final touches on the next edition. My first question was who paid for the ad. Their response was, "No one did." It was a house ad designed by one of the staff members. I asked if that meant all members were in support of the ad and they responded, "No." The ad stated "The Commuter Cares" implying that at least the majority of the staff would lend support. They said that there were reservations by numerous members of the staff about running the ad.

It appears to me that one member of the staff with a self-serving agenda abused some power and an extreme opinion some might view it as a misuse of student funds. The space could have been used for an ad with a value of \$250, yet it ended up being for free. I called Priewe and asked him to confirm these facts and he did. He said they used it as filler. Maybe the staff could have used the space for promotion of one of our outstanding co-curricular programs or staff members instead of what some could view as a politically motivated statement. Better yet, the staff could have actually sold the ad and generated some money for the paper. I believe that's how it works in the real world.

*Rick Klampe*  
LBCC Ag Sciences Instructor



COLUMN BY  
**MARK  
WEISS**

## ADVICE FROM WEISS

**Question:** Hi. There's a class I want to audit next term. My friend says there are only certain classes that can be audited, and you need teacher's permission to do so. But which classes? How will I know?

**Answer:** Your friend is partly right, but not entirely.

Any class at LBCC can be audited, you just need to sign up for it at the registration counter, with an add/drop slip. There's a spot on an add/drop slip to circle "au" for audit. Then you will be allowed to do the whole class, but will not receive a grade, and, most importantly, you will not receive credit for the course! Not toward graduation, and not for financial aid purposes. So be careful how you use an audit.

After the first six days of the term, however, you are no longer able to sign up for an audit, unless the teacher calls registration and creates an audit for you. I imagine this is what your friend was thinking of.

**Q: How do I get into Dual Enrollment with OSU and LBCC?**

**A:** "Dual Enrollment" is a nick-name. The real name of the program is "Degree Partnership," and there's more than one way in.

You can be admitted based on your high school grade point average and SAT scores. Or you can be admitted by taking 24 transfer credits at a community college, and having a 2.25 grade point average at the college. Also, the 24 credits need to include Writing 121.

Go to either OSU's website or LBCC's website, click on "Admissions, Forms and Applications," and then look for "Degree Partnership." Both schools have more than one partnership, so be careful to select the correct form.

If you have questions, you can stop by the Admissions office at either school.

We occasionally have events to answer student questions about the Degree Partnership Program. One such event is Thursday, Feb. 12 at the Benton Center. We'll have folks in the main lobby answering questions from 4 to 6 p.m. Stop by. 📍

THE COMMUTER

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

Letters Welcome

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

Address:

The Commuter Office  
Forum 222  
6500 SW Pacific Blvd.  
Albany, Oregon 97321

Web Address:

commuter.linnbenton.edu

Phone:

541-917-4451, 4452 or 4449

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Adviser

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Allison Lamplugh

Managing Editor

Christopher Trotchie

Photography

Marwah Alzabidi

Cat Regan

Nakul Kataria

Trever Cooley

News Editors

Denzel Barrie

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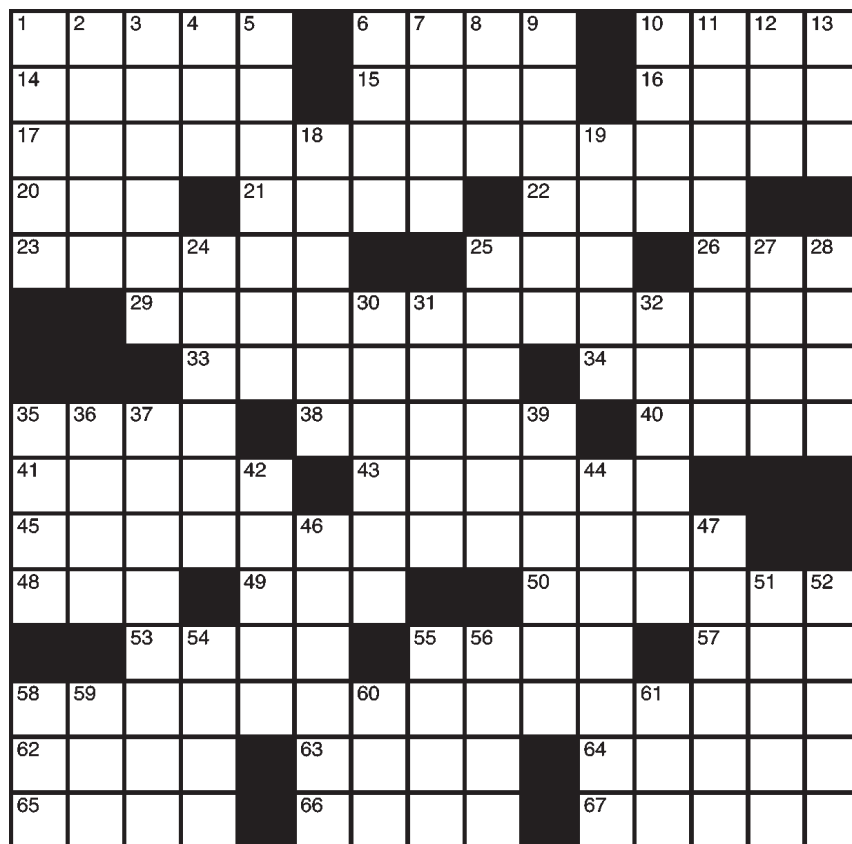
Jarred Berger

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Gp. co-founded by Victor Herbert
- 6 Bonkers
- 10 Harbinger
- 14 Cheri of "Scary Movie"
- 15 "... the dreadful thunder / Doth rend the region": "Hamlet"
- 16 Gossipy Barrett
- 17 Specific gravity
- 20 Vietnamese observance
- 21 Hitch
- 22 Vintage cars
- 23 Onetime Kenny G label
- 25 Play with robots
- 26 Linebacker Manti \_\_\_\_\_, 2012 Heisman Trophy finalist
- 29 Publicly traded investment company with a limited number of shares
- 33 Wagner works
- 34 Do a hitch in the military
- 35 Put away
- 38 Dove competitor
- 40 Slangy turnarounds
- 41 Settings for Manet
- 43 Finished a flight-training requirement
- 45 Mad man?
- 48 Agnus \_\_\_\_\_
- 49 Auction ending?
- 50 Take out
- 53 1977 medical novel
- 55 Time of jour
- 57 Baa maid?
- 58 Classic children's novel, and what to look for in this puzzle's three other longest answers
- 62 \_\_\_ of Sandwich
- 63 "This can't be happening!"
- 64 Script parts
- 65 Additionally
- 66 E or G, e.g.
- 67 A bit daft



By Pancho Harrison

2/11/14

DOWN

- 1 Angiogram image
- 2 Take the helm
- 3 Irish musical ensemble \_\_\_\_\_ Woman
- 4 Altar constellation
- 5 Road trip refresher
- 6 \_\_\_ lamp
- 7 Universal donor's type, briefly
- 8 Food fish
- 9 Successful squeeze play result
- 10 "... they say"
- 11 What humidity measures
- 12 Forest friend of Frodo
- 13 Dissenting vote
- 18 "Hold your horses, I'm coming"
- 19 Unhip types
- 24 Like right-lane traffic, usually
- 25 Goodwill store transaction
- 27 Green condition?
- 28 Laudatory verses
- 30 Helpful tip for a puzzle solver?

Last Edition's Puzzle Solved

B	E	A	T		L	I	B	Y	A		S	W	A	P		
I	T	B	E		O	R	L	O	N		P	A	P	A		
S	H	O	E		C	O	U	R	T	O	R	D	E	R		
H	E	R	T	Z		B	R	E	E	Z	E					
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P	E	S		B	U	T		S	K	Y	D	I	V	E		
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J	O	I	N	T	S	T	O	C	K		T	E	A	S		
A	I	D	E		L	E	V	E	E		O	D	I	E		
G	L	A	D		E	M	E	R	Y		F	O	N	D		

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3/27/14

- 31 "Behind the Candelabra" co-star
- 32 Like the Middle Ages
- 35 Large quantity
- 36 Account
- 37 Company bigwigs
- 39 "Get it, daddy-o?"
- 42 Note next to a red F, maybe
- 44 Green shade
- 46 Church VIP
- 47 "You \_\_\_ worry"
- 51 "Rockin' Robin" chorus word
- 52 Itty
- 54 Peace Prize city
- 55 On its way
- 56 Platte River tribe
- 58 Leaves in a bag
- 59 Kubrick's out-of-control computer
- 60 Sigma preceder
- 61 2016 Olympics host

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:

- 1 2
- 3 4

SOLUTION TO LAST EDITION'S PUZZLE

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

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

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

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STORY BY  
CALEB  
CLEARMAN

# BASKETBALL DEMORALIZED

Saturday, Jan. 7 Linn-Benton hosted first place Chemeketa in a game that LB was never in. Chemeketa entered the game as the top team in the South Region of the NWAC. Linn-Benton is on the other end of the standings with a 1-6 record in division play, and were hoping to knock off the clear favorite to win the region in Chemeketa.

From the opening tip Linn-Benton was outmatched by Chemeketa. Chemeketa used their size advantage and pounded away, getting easy baskets in the paint on their way to a 88-64 victory. The RoadRunners were out rebounded in the game by a total of 47-26. The biggest advantage for Chemeketa was their 20 offensive rebounds, which led to 18 second-chance points.

Linn-Benton dug themselves into an early hole and

was never able to recover. Chemeketa enjoyed a big lead at the half and was able to hold the RoadRunners to just 29 points, while putting up 47 first half points.

A big part of the deficit came from Chemeketa scoring easy points. While Chemeketa was able to shoot 9-11 from the free throw line in the first half, LB did not attempt a single free throw.

“We weren’t able to get our offense going at all and couldn’t get stops on defense,” said redshirt freshman guard Jake Bates. “It just wasn’t a good game.”

LB did play better in the second half and was able to keep the score respectable, but a 24 point loss at home is a deflating defeat for a team looking to get back on track in the second half of the season.

“Were frustrated,” said sophomore Caleb Wilson. “We aren’t playing to our potential. But we are still motivated to finish the season strong and prove that we

can win games in this league.”

The biggest problem for Linn-Benton this year has been scoring. The RoadRunners have not reached the 70-point mark in five out of eight division games this year. With most of the scoring burden being placed on sophomore Adam Moore, LB needs to find a consistent second option. Moore scored 19 points in the loss to Chemeketa and is averaging 17.88 points for the season. Moore is the only healthy RoadRunner averaging in double figures this season.

Linn-Benton still has six remaining games to try and save their season.

“It’s been tough this year, but we are going to keep our heads high,” said Bates. 📍

FOLLOW CALEB @CLEAR\_MAN10



STORY BY  
ANDREW  
GILLETTE

# DONORS AID BASEBALL FIELD IMPROVEMENTS

Baseball’s return to LBCC has been a long journey, but with the approach of spring ball, the effort to bring the field back up to playing condition can be seen from across campus. Construction of the new batting cage connected to the field is in full effect.

“The support from the community for our ongoing renovations and facility upgrades has been excellent,” said Coach Ryan Gipson.

First on the agenda in repairing the facilities is getting the grass back to the condition it once was in. The process took time and effort, starting as far back as last spring when the repair began by bringing in dirt to level the field that had received little to no attention since baseball was canceled in 2013.

After the field was leveled Coach Gipson started to spread seed throughout the summer to get a start on the infield areas that needed the most attention before

preparing for fall ball. Following LBCC’s fall games, Gipson and staff worked on the outfield grass repair.

The seed was donated by Lewis Seed Farm. Starting out as just a few hundred pounds for the infield, it would soon grow to more than a thousand pounds to cover the outfield before spring ball would start.

“I am thankful to have the opportunity to support the return of baseball at LBCC. Sports played an important role in shaping who I am today, so I know firsthand the positive impact athletics have in building character of our young people,” said Brad Dozler of Lewis Seed Farm. “This is something I want to be a part of.”

Continued donations from Lewis Seed Farm will give Gipson all the grass seed he will need to maintain the field throughout the season and years to come.

The staff is currently working on building an outdoor batting cage that can be seen from the parking lot towering beside the field. This is a combined effort of

the baseball coaching staff and LBCC alumni Steve Carothers of Relco Truss, who donated the frame for the batting cage.

Expected to be completed soon, the batting cage won’t be the last addition to the baseball field. Wind screens are going to be added to the fence and new capping will be placed on the fence to make it safer for the players and more aesthetically pleasing.

Within the next year there are plans to construct bleachers for both the home and away sides behind the dugout. The baseball program also plan to construct and position the press box away from the fencing, which will give a better view of the plate for press and spectators.

For those interested in supporting the baseball team, games start at the end of the month. The first home game will be March 4 at 1 p.m. 📍

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