

THE COMMUTER

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LBCC Welcomes SafeHaven

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THE COMMUTER
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Wednesday(2/15)	Thursday(2/16)	Friday(2/17)	Saturday(2/18)	Sunday(2/19)	Monday(2/20)	Tuesday(2/21)
Partial Sun 51°/28°	Sun and Clouds 47°/33°	Rain? 54°/36°	Showers 54°/35°	Clouds and Sun 52°/38°	Rain 53°/38°	Falling Water 48°/45°



WEATHER
Source: accuweather.com

THE COMMUTER STAFF

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

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The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. The Commuter attempts to print all submissions received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, privacy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter submitters do not represent the views of the Commuter staff or the College. Deliver letters to The Commuter Office, Forum 222 or at commuter@linnbenton.edu



The Commuter

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LBCC Welcomes Wiggling Tails and Warm Hearts

Above: SafeHaven was hosted by Active Minds to have a special Valentine's adoption event. Student Jozlin Zurawski (right) was considering the adoption of multiple dogs due to the fact that her family has land.

Left: Kaire Downin is one of Active Minds' executives and represented the club at SafeHaven's adoption table. "Even if no one is adopted today, this event makes people more aware."

photos by Ari Nunez

The Commuter Hosts a Valentine's Mixer

Right: The Commuter staff members greet guests as they enter the mixer. The campus mixer event was to encourage students and faculty to get to know each other better. Those who attended earned door prizes and refreshments.

Below: Students Stephanie Dooley and Benjamin Tanner did not know each other before the mixer, but here they share a conversation. At right, editor-in-chief Jill Mahler and opinion editor Jennifer Hartssock enter participants into a raffle.

photos by Ari Nunez



What do you think?

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome.

Submit your thoughts to
commuter@linnbenton.edu



The Commuter attempts to print all letters received, although we reserve the right to edit for grammar and length. Letters that raise libel, poor taste or privacy concerns will not be printed.

Freedom Rider Visits LBCC

Nora Palmtag
Staff Writer

Dr. Robert Singleton, one of the original Civil Rights Freedom Riders, spoke at Linn-Benton Community College on Wednesday, Feb. 8 of his experiences with the Freedom Ride, being arrested and jailed and what it meant to him.

In 1960, Singleton was named president of the NAACP chapter at UCLA. He assisted recruiting for, and ultimately participated in, the Freedom Riders movement in the south, where the riders set out to challenge Mississippi and other southern states to comply with two U.S. Supreme Court decisions ruling racial segregation unconstitutional in interstate travel.

On July 30, 1961, Singleton, along with more than 300 Freedom Riders, was arrested in Jackson, Mississippi, where the riders were tried, fined and incarcerated at Parchman Penitentiary.

The attack on the Freedom Riders only encouraged more riders to come forward to help. Singleton was part of this group and encountered many acts of discrimination, abuse, and threats of violence.

Having been raised in the foster care system in the North and educated in California, Singleton was aware of covert racism in housing and employment.

However, when he went to the South, Singleton was made aware of the overt racism, which affects all aspects of life, from where a person eats, drinks, walks, or uses the rest room.



Justin Bolger

Freedom Rider Robert Singleton speaks about his experiences.

The Freedom Riders, mainly, tried to change public and interstate restrictions on people of color in the United States during the '60s. The group would enter a restaurant and sit at the counter, which had a sign on it that stated "For Whites Only" and would not move until forced to leave.

His group of Freedom Riders was arrested when they would not leave a "White Only" bus terminal, as blacks were made to wait outside and sit at the back

of the bus. They were all arrested, including his wife, Helen, who had to have a cell by herself in Parchman Prison.

Singleton described his experiences with Parchman Prison, where some people were known to disappear. "It was a hellhole. I was 175 pounds going in and 155 pounds when I came out," Singleton said. The food is inedible, except when there are important visitors, which Singleton said could be detected by the change in the smell of the food. Warden "Boss Hog," as he was called by the prisoners, ran the prison with an iron fist and made sure the prisoners were aware of their helplessness and his power.

"The jailers hated us, and they did what they could to show that," said Singleton.

Singleton continues to speak out about his experiences and the need for action. He stated that the Occupy Movement will be a force to be reckoned with when they have a common voice and purpose clearly stated and acted upon.

Singleton paraphrased Martin Luther King Jr., "The arc of history bends toward justice." But Singleton amended it to say, "... if people would just get off their butts and do something about it."

In his current position on the faculty at Loyola Marymount University, he teaches Labor Economics, Urban Economics, Regional Economics and Local Economic Development.

See video of the presentation online at:
commuter.linnbenton.edu

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Eric Noll: Campus Leader

Lacey Smith
Contributing Writer

They say money talks, but when Eric Noll talks money, you listen. Noll is the Legislative Affairs Officer at LBCC. Recently, he mobilized student efforts against the upcoming tuition increase.

At first glance, he's not the type of guy one might picture behind a movement. The Linn-Benton sweatshirt he perpetually wears may seem to swallow him up, but his presence and professionalism reach far beyond his slight build.

Lately, his days have been filled with class raps about the tuition increase and the town hall meeting at the State Capitol Building in Salem that occurred on Feb. 13. Coming into a classroom, he may seem inconspicuous enough, but as soon as he takes the floor and says, "How many of you want to pay more for tuition?" all eyes are on him.

He continues with a quiet confidence. Noll never hesitates on a phrase, never searches for the date or the right word. His mission is clear, and he's set on it. You need to know what's happening to your money and how to stop it.

Noll came across the motion to increase tuition, while sitting on a school board meeting in November. "From there, we decided [to act] based on what students believe is not acceptable."

While he seems perfectly suited for his position in student government, Noll didn't have any intention on running for office until last spring when his Academic Advisor suggested it. He was elected in the fall and now says, "This is what I love doing: helping people."

It's lucky he's taken to the position because it monopolizes most of Noll's day. He has office hours from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. every weekday, and most of that time is filled with class raps, emails, and legwork about new events. This is an improvement over last term, when he was taking 16 credits and working 20 hours a week on top of his government duties. "Since then I've quit my job and taken less credits."

The giant matrix of a calendar in the Student Life and Leadership office gives a hint to just how much work Student Government does. In a mess of red, black, and green dry erase marker, every week has events, meetings, and appointments edging out of the borders.

Noll is also chair on the Oregon Community College Student Association, which strives "to represent, advocate for, and further the interests of students in Oregon's community college system." No small addition to an already full plate, he coordinates activities with other community colleges in the state.

When asked about free time activities, Ricky Zipp, ASLBCC president, laughs from across the cubicle divider - Noll agrees, "This is enough to keep me interested."

When he's done for the day, he simply likes to go home and unwind, listen to some music, and get away from the work overload in the office.

Students Work to Stop Tuition Hikes

Justeen Elliott
News Editor

During the last session, the State Legislation mandated the community colleges, along with other programs, hold back 3.5 percent of their funding and told them that next year they are going to see less revenue than expected.

The Community College and Workforce Development (CCWD) fund was initially supposed to be funded for \$410 million this year. Since the State Legislation has mandated a 3.5 percent holdback, they are now being funded roughly \$395 million. The CCWD propositions funds for Oregon's community colleges.

If the 3.5 percent is not restored back into the legislation, the CCWD will have a \$14.5 million gap and community colleges will be forced to raise tuition.

Along with 3.5 percent being held back from community colleges, the State Legislation has also decided to holdback funds for the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC), which funds the Oregon Opportunity Grant. If funds are cut here also, there is the chance of 1,150 scholarships being reduced. For every 3.5 percent cut from the OSAC, 1,875 awards will not be given to students.

On Feb. 13, students and the Oregon Community College Student Association (OCCSA) traveled to the State Capital for Lobby Day, the first meeting ever held about this situation. Students were there to ask for their 3.5 percent restored.

"Students are the sole purpose of this event," said Eric Noll, OCCSA board chair. "Even though we're all from community colleges, students still have a voice and it needs to be heard."

The meeting started with Noll reading a Letter of Solidarity, which was written by the many students that were not able to attend. The students all signed the letter concerning tuition and concerning the nature of their financial aid not going up with their tuition. There were a total of 1,398 students that signed the letter.

There were four major questions that were asked to the panel and asked to the three out of six representatives that bothered to show up. The three representatives present were Rep. Mark Johnson, House District 52; Rep. Michael Dembrow, House District 45; and Rep. Peter Buckley, House District 5. The representatives not present were Rep. Sherrie Sprenger, House District 17; Rep. Betty Komp, House District 22; and Sen. Michael Devlin, S-District 19.

"Funding will always open up many questions and debates," said Ricky Zipp, LBCC SLC president.

The Commuter: What will you do to help lower taxes and tuition for students?

Buckley: We have an overall problem collecting revenue and creating a rainy day fund. We need to invest education back into America. If we don't create a rainy day fund, we will repeat ourselves again.

Dembrow: Community colleges have been grossly under funded. Students who need community colleges has gone up and help for them has gone down and by raising tuition, cutting classes, and cutting teacher hours isn't helping them one bit. We need to try and turn around



Representatives Michael Dembrow, Mark Johnson, and Peter Buckley answers questions from the audience after the meeting is over.



OCCSA Board Chair Eric Noll prepping representatives Michael Dembrow, Mark Johnson, and Peter Buckley on what the meeting planned to cover.

photos Amanda Hayden

the 3.5 percent holdback as soon as we can.

Johnson: We can correct this problem in two ways. One: By observing and hold certain institutes accountable. And two: Advocate for greater economic growth. We need to regulate spending.

The Commuter: How can we help the economy grow if we're backed up in student loans?

Dembrow: We need a society that invests in the Oregon Opportunity Grant. Community colleges' have the hardest chance of getting this grant and it needs to change.

Johnson: We extend our resources, both traditional and non-traditional. We need to invest in the Oregon Opportunity Grant and tell stories of students that need this grant.

Buckley: We have to choose to invest in the Oregon Opportunity Grant. We need to give every student the same opportunity as everyone else for this grant. The state is out \$300 million and we need to find where to invest. I know that for the next academic year we are putting \$10 million more dollars into the Oregon Opportunity Grant.

The Commuter: How specifically can state representatives close the gap for the 40-40-20 legislator and the levels of funding plan for community colleges?

Johnson: We need to begin to adopt policies that help us improve that area. We need to ask ourselves what can we do to make students better prepared and have a little bit of money when they start school?

Buckley: We have to push students even harder

to pass the 12th grade because 10 percent of a school's budget is spent on remedial classes. We need to make sure we're reaching every goal possible. It's not just the teachers, but the parents that need to help. Parents need to make sure to invest in their kids' future and make sure they're ready for the next grade.

Dembrow: We need more money out of the system. Our spending more money on corrections than education needs to change. We've been ignoring higher education for too long.

The Commuter: What will state legislators specifically use to employ OSAC?

Buckley: The next academic year \$55 million dollars is going into the Oregon Opportunity Grant. In order to do this, we're cutting money by closing the courts nine days this year, taking more police off of the road, cutting money to prisons. It costs more money to incarcerate someone than it does to educate someone. We are going to push more for higher education than other topics.

Dembrow: One of the challenges that we've faced is that people are losing their jobs and are then going back to school. The Oregon Opportunity Grant has a deadline and the people that come in late, aren't eligible. Apart from extending the deadline, we need to make it available to part-time students as well.

Johnson: We've got to advocate for sound policies that puts more money into school budgets. We need to think of more revenue and need to pass bills that create more jobs, which in turn will create more revenue and put people back to work and will put more money back into Oregon.

“Wiley and the Hairy Man”



provided by LBCC

The Play

Nora Palmtag

Staff Writer

“Wiley and the Hairy Man” is an African-American folk tale, which has been passed down by generations of storytellers.

In 1932, Franklin Delano Roosevelt decided to invent jobs to stimulate the economy after the Great Depression. One of his projects was the Federal Writers’ Project, which paid writers to record any folklore they could find. “Wiley and The Hairy Man” was recorded at that time.

The play was finally put in print by Donnell Van de Voort and published in 1972.

LBCC will be presenting a version of “Wiley and the Hairy Man” for its annual children’s play this term. This version, by playwright Susan Zeder, has been adapted by LBCC theater director Dan Stone into a shadow puppet show, along with two songs Dan adapted from the dialogue.

The scenes are a collection of images projected on a very large white screen. The puppets, some live actors in profile, and other paper cutouts with strings or sticks attached to support them, are projected on the big screen. The scenes are of the swampland, with marsh grass, quicksand, and scary trees, and the inside and outside of Mammy’s home.

Wiley is a young boy, living alone with his mammy (slang for mommy) in the swamps in the South. He has lost his pappy to the Hairy Man, an evil conjurer. A continuous theme in the play is “he done got your pappy, and he’s gonna get you.”

Being afraid of everything, Wiley must go into the swamp to cut a tree and build a house for his dog. The Hairy Man, who believes he is the best conjurer in the whole Southwest, lives in the swamp and wants Wiley, but the Hairy Man “cain’t stand no dogs.”

Wiley, played as a puppet by Emily Smith and read by Adrienne Barnes, helps the audience see the little boy battling his fears and the Hairy Man, along with his faithful dog.

Mammy, “the best conjurer woman in the whole southwest county,” is played by Terra Piper and read by Elnora Palmtag. She forces her son to face his fears and the Hairy Man in the swamp, but she is always telling her son, along with the chorus, to “be keerful, Wiley.”

The Hairy Man is portrayed in shadow as a larger-than-life monster by Taylor Hagey and read by Henry Winowiecki, with the perfect tenor voice to inspire fear in the little children in the audience.

The Chorus, played by Kim Willaman, Cassandra Morris, and Alyssa Rimer, not only connect the audience with the action, but help to move the action along in a rhythmic style that is catchy and familiar, performing a song adapted for the production.

The play will be performed for students in the greater Albany area on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout February. The general public is invited to see performances on Saturdays, Feb. 18th and 25th at 2 p.m., cost is \$9 for general admission, \$7 for students and seniors, and \$5 for children.

The Actors

Nora Palmtag

Contributing Writer

Why do people decide to go into acting or theater, working in the background? Who are these people that are so inspired by the theater? Will this continue to be a career, or just a beautiful diversion in life?

Actors and theater personnel are people from all walks of life with different goals, which may not have anything to do with the theater. Acting can be life-altering and enriching, as well as a lot of fun.

Standing on the stage in front of a crowd and giving a performance can be a profound experience. You stand in front of an audience and start to speak, your demeanor changing as you become your character.

While interviewing a few of the people who are performing in “Wiley and the Hairy Man,” it was enlightening to see that they are from different backgrounds with different goals, but all with the same love of the theater.

Katrina DiFonzo is a very colorful and dynamic personality, who has shown with “A Christmas Carol” what a great job she does on productions at the theater with theater director Dan Stone.

DiFonzo took a stage management class when she enrolled here at LBCC and said she “developed a love for the theater.”

Wiley and the Hairy Man

When: Feb. 18 and 25
Time: 2 p.m.
Where: Russell Tripp Theater
Price: \$9 General Admission
\$7 Students/ Seniors
\$5 Children

DiFonzo is a force to be reckoned with

and keeps track of the action and people in “Wiley and the Hairy Man.”

“I just love art of all forms and want to be a part of it in any way. Art is in my blood and bones,” said DiFonzo.

Later, DiFonzo will be transferring to Portland State University to continue her major in theater with a minor in fine arts for tattooing.



Tinamarie Ivey, technical director, says she knew she wanted “to be an artist in grade school, specifically an actress.” Ivey said her parents encouraged extra activities to keep her busy, so she made up plays to be performed by children in her neighborhood.

One of Ivey’s favorite performances is in “South Pacific” in the Riverside Civic Opera at Riverside Community College.

And, let’s not forget Laura Blackwell, a veteran actress, who has a repertoire that makes amateurs blush. Blackwell, a fun-loving, positive woman, helps out whenever she can in any production she is in, no matter what part she plays.

Most recently, Blackwell performed magnificently as female Scrooge in “A Christmas Carol,” to really showed off her talents. Blackwell plays a shadow puppet in “Wiley and the Hairy Man” and has auditioned for parts as far away as San Francisco. She plans to head to Broadway after getting her Bachelor of Fine Arts.

Kassandra Morris, a returning cast member, is not an aspiring actress, but has always viewed “acting as an escape from life.” Morris played Mrs. Cratchit and a chorus member in “A Christmas Carol” last term, and said, “acting and performing allows me to be creative. I love sharing that with people from all different backgrounds.”

As a part of the chorus in “Wiley and the Hairy Man,” Morris stated that the chorus keeps the audience apprised of the action and meter of the play. Although she will be pursuing a degree in law and a minor in Spanish, Morris plans to continue “working in the theater in some form.”

The Director



provided by LBCC

Alex Porter

Contributing Writer

There is never a dull moment for Dan Stone, theater and director at LBCC, whether he is working in his office, lined with masks and posters from wall to wall or on stage. During the day he can be found pacing around his classrooms full of mirrors, lights, chairs and makeup boxes. The work of being a theater teacher is never a bore.

Stone always has something going on. When spotted, Stone can always be talking with students or staff about some upcoming play he’s working on, or explaining his schedule.

Stone can usually be found in one of three locations: his office, the green room checking in on actors and actresses, and then of course on the stage.

Stone grew up in Texas with his mom and dad. His mom was a jockey and his dad trained horses. They moved

from different places all the time to different race tracks. When Stone was in high school, he and his family moved to Southern California and lived there for temporarily.

“I got my undergraduate at CSU (California State University) in San Bernardino, California,” said Stone.

“Then I got my MFA degree at Humboldt State University in Northern California, after that I moved here to Oregon.”

Stone has always loved theater. He loves the fact that you get to create something new everyday. You can use your imagination and not have to be stuck behind a desk.

Q & A with Dan Stone

Why did you decide to teach theater?

Stone: I decided to teach theater because I have a great interest in the preservation of theater. The arts are going to be preserved in the youth, who are

going to be carrying this stuff forward – that’s why I love teaching.

Would you rather act or direct?

Stone: I would rather direct. I am not an actor, although I am a ham, but that doesn’t make me an actor.

Have you ever written your own play?

Stone: Quite a bit, actually. About 80 percent of the plays I direct are all originals. They are either written by me or other people, like friends of mine.

How old were you when you wrote your very first play?

Stone: I was probably about 12 years old at the time.

What was the play about?

Stone: It was about my dog.

Jim Lehrer Speaks in Portland

Nora Palmtag and Nathan Young
Staff and Contributing Writer

Everyone knows Jim Lehrer, the correspondent, who has moderated the presidential debates since 1988 and has been hailed as the dean of moderators.

However, the surprise of Feb. 3, 2012 came from a less known side of Lehrer, a man of humor.

Lehrer has written 21 books, two memoirs, and three plays. His latest novel is entitled "Tension City: Inside the Presidential Debates, from Kennedy-Nixon to Obama-McCain." In this book, Lehrer isolates and illuminates what he calls the 'major moments' and 'killer questions' that defined the debates.

His life experiences are vast, his beginnings were humble, but most importantly, he is one of the most trusted names in journalism.

Lehrer spoke at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on Feb. 3. His principals and guidelines demonstrate Lehrer's desire to treat others the way he would also want to be treated, provide fair, straight news, or report multiple sides to a story to represent multiple views.



Jim Lehrer during his press conference.

Nora Palmtag

Lehrer's lecture's other high point is his belief that the news is separated into three groups: straight news, analysis, and commentary. According to Lehrer, the problems that our news organizations are currently facing stem from these three distinct

groups blending together.

The high points of Lehrer's lecture, 'Politics and Principals,' a focus he has built his career are indicative of his exceptional values and he comes off as a genuinely well-intentioned man.

Lehrer's Guidelines for Macneil/Lehrer Journalism

- Do nothing I cannot defend.
- Cover, write and present every story with the care I would want if the story were about me.
- Assume there is at least one other side or version to every story.
- Assume the viewer is as smart and as caring and as good a person as I am.
- Assume the same about all people on whom I report.
- Assume personal lives are a private matter, until a legitimate turn in the story absolutely mandates otherwise.
- Carefully separate opinion and analysis from straight news stories, and clearly label everything.
- Do not use anonymous sources or blind quotes, except on rare and monumental occasions.
- No one should ever be allowed to attack another anonymously.
- And, finally, I am not in the entertainment business.

In the News:

Local:

Pendleton, OR: A fire that killed two toddlers is the subject of a Umatilla County lawsuit that alleges negligence on the parts of the Seattle-based management company and the trailer park manager. The fire killed 16-month-old Olivia Wilson and 4-month-old Eva Wilson in February 2011. A state fire marshal determined the fire was caused by combustibles too close to a space heater. In the suit, the children's parents claim the trailer park manager and ownership company failed to install working smoke alarms or provide heat, forcing the family to by space heaters and use a stove for heat.

source: Oregon Live

Portland, OR: The two Libyan Americans who were blocked from flying home to Oregon last month by the FBI are now being told only one can return with their attorney on Tuesday, a family member said. Jamal Tarhuni of Tigard and Mustafa Elogbi of Portland had planned to fly home together with their attorney and would have arrived in Oregon on Tuesday. After Tarhuni leaves Tunisia first, Elogbi must instead buy a new ticket for a new flight that leaves at least 24 hours after Tarhuni leaves. No reason was given for the requirement that the two men travel separately. The two men had been visiting family after the ouster of Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi, and Tarhuni was also doing work for Tigard relief organization Medical Teams International.

source: Oregon Live

Portland, OR: Grant High School has come under intense public scrutiny in

the wake of a Jan. 12 incident in which four boys allegedly assaulted two of their teammates in a school locker room. A Portland police investigation has expanded to two other incidents at Grant last year. Other Oregon high schools have dealt with similar circumstances over the years. Portland Public Schools has reviewed its policies since the Jan. 12 incident.

source: Oregon Live

Nation:

Tacoma, WA: More than a thousand people mourned the deaths of Charlie and Braden Powell at a public funeral Saturday, nearly a week after the young boys' father killed them and himself in a gas-fueled blaze. The boys' grandfather Chuck Cox thanked police, social workers, teachers and everyone who cared for Charlie, 7, and Braden, 5, as well as people who had prayed for the boys after they died. Cox gained custody of the children more than five months ago after police arrested Josh Powell's father, Steve, on voyeurism and child pornography charges. The kids were arriving for a supervised visit when Josh Powell blocked a social worker from entering the home. He then attacked the boys with a hatchet and torched the house.

source: Fox News

US: Paul Schroeder, a military veteran, claimed he shot and killed a machete-wielding child during a secret mission in Rwanda, and said he earned a Silver Star, Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman's Badge, among other decorations. Last week, Schroeder confessed to the paper that he had embellished his record. Schroeder served 10 years

as a military policeman in New York, Texas and Panama before leaving the military in 2001. Schroeder said that at the time that he served three combat tours in Afghanistan and one in Iraq, as well as secret missions in Africa and Central and South America, when first questioned by the Chronicle. The newspaper asked to see his discharge papers, but he never produced them. When pressed again this month, he said they were top secret.

source: Fox News

U.S.: NASA is pressing forward on assessing the value of a "human-tended waypoint" near the far side of the moon — one that would embrace international partnerships, as well as commercial and academic participation. According to a Feb. 3 memo from William Gerstenmaier, NASA's associate administrator for human exploration and operations, a team is being formed to develop a cohesive plan for exploring a spot in space known as the Earth-moon libration point 2 (EML-2).

source: MSNBC

World:

Greece: A number of people were injured and at least 10 buildings were set on fire, some protesters threw stones and petrol bombs, and police fired tear gas, during the Greek MPs Debate. Protesters hurled flares and chunks of marble torn up from the square. Some tried to break through a cordon of riot police around the parliament. Several historic buildings, including cafes and cinemas, were in flames.

source: BBC News

Russia: Lt-Col Vladimir Nesterets,

a senior test engineer at the station, was convicted of treason, Russia's FSB secret police announced. He admitted passing on information about tests involving Russia's latest strategic missiles. The announcement of the Nesterets sentence comes days after President Dmitry Medvedev said the FSB had uncovered 199 foreign spies and agents last year. Russia's missile programme has recently been hit by apparent design faults.

source: BBC News

Iran: Iran's President, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, says "great" nuclear achievements will be announced in the next few days. He did not give any details, but insisted that Iran would never halt its program to enrich uranium, which can be used to make a nuclear warhead. Last week, President Barack Obama said the United States would work in "lockstep" with Israel to prevent Iran developing nuclear weapons. He said Israel's government were "rightly" concerned about Iran's nuclear programme, but added that he did not believe they had decided whether to launch a military strike. Tehran insists its programme is entirely peaceful.

source: BBC News

Weird:

New York City, NY: A New York City sewage plant was offering tours for lovers on Valentine's Day. The tour host and superintendent of the Newtown Creek Wastewater treatment plant in Brooklyn tells the Daily News it'll be a unique date, and one that special someone will never forget. Jim Pynn says the highlight of the tour will be

the plant's giant egg-shaped digesters, which break down the noxious waste into harmless sludge and gas. Pynn says each Valentine's Day visitor was given a Hershey kiss.

source: AP

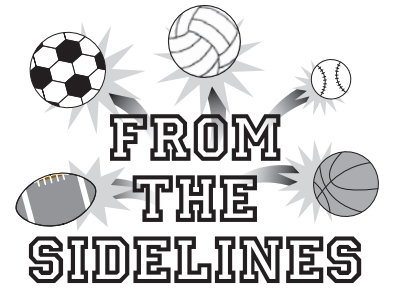
Denver, CO: Peter Smith, a 20-year-old college student, tried to throw glitter on republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney, as he greeted supporters in Denver, following Colorado's caucuses. Smith has been charged with causing a disturbance, throwing a missile and unlawful acts. Smith is a student at the University of Colorado Denver. "Glitter bombing" has been used by some activists to protest a politician's opposition to same-sex marriage.

source: AP

Los Angeles, Calif.: Larry Guidi, the former mayor of a Los Angeles suburb, has pleaded guilty to stealing a commercial food mixer from the local school district, so he could make dough for his home pizza oven. Guidi entered the plea Wednesday to a felony count of grand theft. He was sentenced to 100 hours of community service and one year's probation. A commercial burglary charge was dismissed. Guidi was a warehouse operations manager for the Hawthorne School District until he was fired last year. Prosecutors say a security camera recorded him loading the giant mixer and a cart into his pickup truck in 2010. The \$1,300 mixer was later returned. Guidi was the mayor of Hawthorne for nearly 20 years, but didn't run for re-election last year.

source: AP

Crunch Time for Men's Basketball



Kyle Holland
Sports Editor

It is now do or die time for the Linn-Benton men's basketball team, as the season now comes down to the final four games.

The team is currently tied for third with Chemeketa in the South division of the NWAAC. Both teams are 6-4 in the division, holding a slim one game lead over SW Oregon at 5-5.

Only the top four teams from each division get invited to play in the championship tournament, March 3-6, at the Toyota Center in Kennewick, Wash. The team was off to a hot start in the beginning of league play, getting as high as a first-place tie with Mt. Hood. But after losing three of the last four, the men are going to have to play their best basketball of the season to clinch a berth.

The next three games are all opponents that LB has already defeated this year, including Umpqua, Chemeketa (in OT), and SW Oregon with the final game against the first place Mt. Hood team that beat LB by 19 the last time they played.

The men's team has made the play-offs for three straight years, but if they can't come together in the next few games, it might be a shorter season than this year's team expected.



Kyle Kruesi Shoots to score.

Marcea Palmer

OSU
Men's Basketball
Feb. 9

73 | 83
OSU | **Washington State**

Feb. 12

72 | 75
OSU | **Washington**

Since beating the Ducks the Beavers have now lost three of four and are 5-8 in PAC-12 play.

*Next: Feb. 16 at Stanford
Feb. 18 at California*

Women's Basketball

Feb. 9

51 | 39
OSU | **Washington State**

Feb. 11

78 | 73
OSU | **Washington**

After two big wins up in the apple state the team now rides a six game win streak. Don't look now, but after a slow start in PAC-12 play, the Lady Beavers are in third place at 8-5 in the conference and 17-7 overall.

*Next: Feb. 16 vs. Stanford
Feb. 18 vs. California*

Upcoming Games:
Feb. 15 - Home vs. Umpqua 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 18 - Away vs. Chemeketa 6 p.m.

Lady RoadRunners Hold Their Heads High

Feb. 8

54 | 77
LBCC | **Lane**

Feb. 11

60 | 71
LBCC | **Clackamas**

The two losses last week have the Lady Roadrunners looking up at the rest of the pack in the South Division. At 3-7 in league play, the team still has an outside shot at the playoffs, but they will need some big games from their key players in order to do so. Heidi Halemeier had two big games last week, collecting 34 points and 31 rebounds in the two games.

*Next: Feb. 15 vs. Umpqua at 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 18 at Chemeketa at 4 p.m.*



Kelly Christensen dribbles past the opposing team.

Marcea Palmer

SOPA Man Strikes Again

Sean Bassinger
Staff Writer

Texas representative Lamar Smith really hates the idea of freedom on the internet – at least that’s the impression he excels at leaving. Once again, and just weeks after the whole SOPA/PIPA/fill-in-the-blank crisis, we have another attempt from the same man who – after seeing the overwhelming amount of support from both everyday internet users and innovative entrepreneurs – decided to drop voting on SOPA until a general consensus was met. Now it’s not surprising to see such an adamant politician revive another one of his forgotten nightmares of a bill so soon, but it’s still quite appalling. This obviously shows how Smith views average internet users: misguided copyright delinquents, who are undeserving of their first amendment rights.

The man behind SOPA and its highly unethical drive, Smith’s desires to regulate internet traffic didn’t start with the infamous “Internet Blacklist Bill,” but instead with a piece of legislation known as the “Protecting Children from Internet Pornographers Act of 2011.”



lamarsmith.house.gov

Texas representative Lamar Smith

Dubbed the “Internet Snooping Bill” by internet users, this previous law of Smith’s – and once again a current focus after SOPA’s defeat – aims to retain valuable consumer information. Phone numbers, home addresses, and even credit card

information could be stored over a period of 18 months, all in the name of “protecting children.”

Let’s start with an obvious hole in this bill. According to techdirt.com, the bill will actually exempt Wi-Fi providers, and target only major providers housing individual customers. Now one would think that open Wi-Fi networks would be an excellent outlet for anonymously transferring files, so why leave them out? All this would do is – whether or not they were on these Wi-Fi networks to begin with – provide an affirmed safe haven for pornographers, who want a way to not get caught, all while presumably innocent consumers have personal data sent from their ISP to Uncle Sam.

Unfortunately, it doesn’t look like supporters of this bill will settle for anything less. Reports from CNET in July indicated that an amendment to only include IP addresses (and not the vital information we’re all so picky about) was rejected, with seven votes to approve and 16 to keep the bill where it’s at in the land of intrusive garbage. In other words, it looks like freedom lovers are in for a vigorous battle in the name of free speech – again.

As usual (It’s like this happens every week now), an online organization known as Demand

Progress is asking citizens to speak up for their rights and contact their local congress representatives regarding H.R. 1981. On the organization’s official website (more specifically, act.demandprogress.org/letter/snooping_bill), an excerpt reads “The American Civil Liberties Union, the American Library Association, the Electronic Frontier Foundation, Demand Progress, and 25 other civil liberties and privacy groups have expressed our opposition to this legislation. Will you join us, by emailing your lawmakers today?”

Like other past causes (including SOPA), a form to automatically e-mail congress was posted on the same page. Demand Progress also promoted a post on Reddit this week in order to spread awareness on the topic (and get more internet users fumed by just hearing “Lamar Smith” and “regulate internet” for the umpteenth time this season).

If Smith continues his path of censorship and anti-freedom on the internet, there’s a good chance he’ll be voted out of Washington sooner or later. Fool us once, shame on you – fool us twice, we reevaluate your qualifications to serve as one of our representatives.

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Sex AND THE Campus

Romance for the Other 364 Days

Jill Mahler
Editor-in-Chief

February 14 has come and gone, passing quickly. For some, Valentine’s Day is a day of stress, struggling to create a perfect day for their significant other; followed by a romantic ending. Every year, we attempt to outdo the year before or at the very least, not forget the day.

Valentine’s Day may be difficult for some, but there are several events built in to provide ample opportunities to impress and romance, such as flower sales, theater events and swanky dinners. However, once the day passes, you are left with the remaining 364 days.

Then what happens? How do you keep your romance from becoming limited to certain events and days of the year? Most relationships struggle in one-way or the other. The disputes and turmoil usually occurs when our own selfish tendencies become more important than our partners. For some, they may have weakness in their communication or feeling more invested than the other. Others meet their pitfalls, when it comes to keeping their relationships fresh and interesting.

All long-term relationships run into this issue eventually. First experiences are gone by the wayside

and couples settle into a comfort, only monogamy provides. After all, there are only so many times you can do the same old sing and dance together and not feel a little bored.

This boredom and loss of intrigue can lead some astray, but those who value the investment they have in their relationship are able to work through dry and trying times. The keys to keeping anything interesting is remembering what you enjoy about your partner and finding ways to make new memories with them.

If nothing else, take some time to remember some of the fun ideas you came up with when you were first dating. That creativity didn’t disappear for good. Like most things, it just needs a little reminding.

There are several ways to show that special someone how you feel. Here are just a few, courtesy of thegloss.com:

- Wait for them at their car when they get off work.
- Mail a love note to their office or home address.
- Place sweet sentiments inside their coat pockets.
- Dedicate songs to them on the radio.
- Call just to say I love you and nothing else.
- Go dancing together.



Steven Pryor
Contributing Writer

Here's something that's been on my mind for a while. Last year, this newspaper ran an editorial article on Warner Bros.' planned remake of the anime film "Akira."

As the film is regarded as a classic, this angered the editor and millions of other folks on the internet. The changes to the story and the casting decisions led to a campaign by Racebending.com (a website formed in the fallout of the casting of "The Last Airbender") against the changing of the setting from Tokyo to Manhattan, the predominately white casting in a film based on Japanese source material, and the story edit to attain that the cataclysm that kicked off the plot of the film was tied to 9/11, not the Cold War as in the manga the film was based on.

Now, one year later, the new Japanese investors of the movie (note: since the remake started development in 1992, the project has changed hands and run out of money multiple

times) have taken direct control of the project. One would hope this would lead to more accurate scriptwriting and more diverse casting.

Sadly, this is not the case. An excerpt of the new script was leaked onto Anime News Network this past December. It described Kaneda as bartender in Neo Tokyo; which is actually New York City after having been purchased by the Japanese. Tetsuo has been renamed to Travis; something not to dissimilar to changing Japanese names in some TV anime such as "Pokémon."

First of all, with all the talk about Japan's "lost decade" as a result of a huge economic downturn, this would immediately have their ability to buy a bankrupt New York make no sense and expose a poor rewrite to reveal the damage control that was done after fans of the original film rebelled against their plans. Second, their new plans for Kaneda are a drastic change from both the film and the manga, as Kaneda leading a motorcycle gang is one of the most memorable parts of those materials. Third, this sort of Americanization regarding Tetsuo is

passable when done properly, but as it stands, it is an insult to the source material.

Needless to say, once news of the rewrite broke out, every person on the Anime News Network forums and Facebook page was opposed to this movement. Views on the YouTube video "American Akira" by Harry Partridge spiked.

With all this in mind, why is Warner so intent on changing a classic so as to alienate its many fans and lock out new ones? There have been claims floating around that no one would see a movie with an Asian cast and story, but the fact that "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" is currently the most successful foreign subtitled film ever, effectively disproves that claim.

There is a good market for a remake of "Akira." If it can be done with a love for the source material and a willingness to cast Asian-American leads, then I will support it. Otherwise, it will be one that becomes an enormous flop to the surprise of almost no one, but the meddling executives at Warner Bros.

STRAIGHT FROM THE

Hartsock

Brain stuffing from the frumpy sock monkey



Your Lyin', Cheatin' Heart

Jennifer M. Hartsock

Opinion Editor

Does everything happen for a reason? Some say no because they believe "reason" pertains to "fate," but in actuality, everything does happen for a reason. The choices we make, the thoughts we have, and the way we feel all theoretically have a cause or motive — even when we make the choice to cheat on someone we love.

We've all known a person who's been in a committed relationship. We've also heard the story of the boyfriend or girlfriend who went too far with their ex, their accidental kiss, or even getting into their bed. Some people eventually realize they have commitment issues, and decide what they thought to be love in fact isn't.

Other times, the person guilty of cheating truly believes they're in a committed and secure relationship, and yet without a concrete reason as to how or why, unfaithfulness is still in the cards. This can be confusing for both partners, especially if there isn't a history or an initial intention of cheating. So what happened? Is there always a choice? Is there always a reason?

Some believe alcohol has a major influence on our decision to cheat. There is no doubt that alcohol impairs motor functioning, memory retention, and cognitive

judgment. Therefore, the influence of alcohol is a convenient excuse for cheating on a loved one.

Nonetheless, there is always a choice.

Our subconscious has a powerful grasp over our feelings and reactions, among other things; we alter its direct influence with conscious thoughts and decisions. Where does our choice fit in? Perhaps when our conscious mind is impaired, our subconscious is still at work, and we act accordingly to our inner most wants and needs, even when it comes to cheating.

Consequently, there is always a reason.

Does it seem plausible that underneath what you think is a committed relationship with complete trust and true love — the person who cheats (even if it's just once) must have some hidden doubts? This could be a number of things: temptation, loneliness, insecurities, a lack of this or that from your partner.

Maybe you're bored or dislike what you have. Maybe there's a downright uncertainty in the relationship that you refuse to acknowledge, especially if you deeply care about this person.

Not all cheaters cheat because they're heartless. I believe that some committed people cheat because they don't realize or accept their true feelings, insecurities, or second thoughts until they're put in the wake of temptation.

Whether you fantasize, consider, or engage in an unfaithful act are all red flags that something isn't right — and if these red flags cause you to second guess the relationship you're in, you may deny the truth and come up with excuses like "it was the influence of alcohol," "it was a mistake," or "it didn't mean anything." Any one of these can be used to comfort the real issue at hand: we may not be as happy or secure as we thought.

When it comes down to it, mistakes can and do happen — but to what degree do we control those mistakes? What are the real motivators behind our choices?

The line between true reason and comforting justification may not be as hazy as we'd like to think.

Dear Conscience,



My girlfriend told me not to get her something for Valentine's and I didn't, Now what should I do?

Jill Mahler

Shoulder Devil

Watching the struggling balance between men and women heighten around Valentine's is almost as entertaining as watching "big boned" people struggle past Krispy Kreme on their way to Weight Watchers.

Women issue the standard of "you don't have to get me anything," and men believe them! What they don't see coming is the freight train when long and behold, Valentine's comes and they have nothing to give to their lady.

I realize I am no stranger to false perception and a few stretches of the truth occasionally, but come on - does no one have a clue? Manipulation and coded messages are a woman's specialty - my favorite creatures. All's well that ends in demise, I suppose.

So what is a man to do when his woman begins her crazy Valentine's ritual dance?

The answer is simple, either leave her for a nice and simple Amish girl or ... lie.

Tell her she should be ashamed of herself for doubting your love and devotion. You wanted her to be surprised by giving her the present on a day she wouldn't expect.

Maybe tell her you wanted to extend the Valentine's feeling to last more than once a year. Then fly to the nearest mall and get her something nice, and it better be shiny.

Delusion and mutual dishonesty are what relationships are all about. For example, you pretend to like her mother and ignore her cellulite, and she pretends you are the best she has ever had.

Trust me on this. I would never steer you wrong.

Jennifer M. Hartsock

Shoulder Angel

The awkward struggle between men and women anytime of the year dampens my spirit. The two most important aspects of a good relationship are love and respect, but honesty and consideration are two necessities, as well.

When a woman claims that she doesn't want anything for Valentine's Day, what is expected of the boyfriend, fiancée, or husband? On the surface, she really doesn't want anything, but is this truly what she wants? If they're two different things, then perhaps she's testing your thoughtfulness to do something nice for her without expectations. It's easier when you have some guidelines or insight into what she'd like, but it means more when you come up with the idea on your own. It's Valentine's Day after all, a holiday that's almost as important as your anniversary — it is always thoughtful to do a little something special.

Okay, so we now know that most people (not just women) enjoy consideration, but the problem is that people cannot read your mind. If you have expectations for him (like doing something thoughtful for you despite telling him you don't want anything), then just tell the poor guy. The whole, "If you truly love me you'd know what I actually want," is unfair. Sure, you've known each other for years, and you expect him to know how to read between your lines — but this is a load of crap.

Confrontation, disappointment, and a slew of other unfortunate emotions, often arise from a miscommunication of some sort. It would be wise to try to eliminate them as much as possible. It tends to lead to a happier and healthier relationship.

Have questions? We have answers.

We offer advice on ANY topic from two different points of view. Send your questions to: commuter@linnbenton.edu

"Dear Conscience" does not necessarily reflect the views of any of The Commuter staff.

Advice from Weiss

Question: I'm a 30-something student. Lost my job. Got qualified for some training money, so here I am at LBCC, where I came straight out of high school almost twenty years ago. What I need is a job. What I'd like is to do, and didn't do the first time around, is to get something special out of school.

I feel like I have to get trained in something (anything) as fast as I can, so I can get back to paying the bills and taking care of business. But I also think, maybe this is actually my one chance to do something special, learn something special, and that makes me want to take the time to try all kinds of classes and really find "what I want to be when I grow up." But, is it wrong to want to take that special time?



Mark Weiss
Counselor

Answer: Anatole France once said, "To accomplish great things, we must dream as well as act."

What I would say is sometimes we need to spend time in order to save time. Sometimes we need to spend money in order to make money. Sometimes we need to pause in order to advance.

There is nothing wrong with viewing an adverse circumstance (losing a job and being forced to seek training in a new field) as an opportunity to take your life to a better place. But, as you are realizing, to really move your life to a better place may take some time to figure out. You may have to take some classes in different areas. May have to speak to advisors from different departments. May need career testing or career counseling. And you may need to give yourself the luxury of pausing and reflecting (dreaming) about what really will be right for you in the next phase of your life.

It is important, for all of us, to have a job and be able to "pay the bills and take care of business." And, there is something more to the world of work than that. There is, for most of us, a wish that our work will reflect who we are, what we value, and what we feel good about doing in the world.

If you have reached the point in your life where you are ready for this different kind of challenge (the challenge exploring, finding, and developing new parts of yourself), there is nothing wrong with going for it. It may bring you some struggle and may cause you to spend a little more time at school than you had hoped, but if it gets you to a better place for the rest of your life, will it not have been time well spent?

Mark

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

Local News Fails

Matt Chatham

Contributing Writer

Serving much of Oregon with weather, sports, and crime reports, Know Oregon's Independent Newspaper (KOIN) is a CBS-affiliated station owned by LA-based New Vision TV that broadcasts regular evening news programs out of Portland. Complete with plain-folks interviews, aerial views of featured sites, and meaningless "expert" sound bites, its half-hour news show "KOIN 6 at 6" is fully representative of the trite garbage that is regularly spewed out of studios across the nation.

Among other topics, the evening's programming for Feb. 6 touched on the weather, two homicides, and the story of a "mystery urn" of unidentified cremated remains. None of the features lasted more than three minutes, and the longest was the weather; of the seven reports measured, in fact, the average length was a mere minute. A full third of the half-hour was filled by advertisements - themselves dominated by food, health care, and vehicles. The prim-perfect male-female anchor team tried to exchange lighthearted banter with the all-white crew and the meteorologist repeatedly spoke in the first person in order to make himself out to be the expert, while delivering his extremely technical weather descriptions and predictions. Analysis was nonexistent and fear-mongering



constant: people should beware neighborhood con-men or an apocalyptic eruption of Mount Hood, not to mention ubiquitous crime (except that violent crime rates have been decreasing for decades). The only reports with a shred of significance were those on a proposal for gay marriage and the Occupy Movement.

The shallowness of this program makes one question its real purpose: What is the point of even airing a show that doesn't touch on anything of greater importance than the usual weather? I mean, the weather was the cornerstone of the news, people. When one includes ads, teasers, and banter (i.e., not news-related) they undoubtedly equal at least half of the total running time. Looking at the content, the only conclusion that can be made is that it was created to fill the usual slot with fear and silliness in order to serve us 10 minutes of commercials and boost ratings for the CBS Evening News. And this is no special case; across the United States local news sources

open with the same music, the same narrative style, the same anchors, the same subjects. If you've heard of one murder you've heard of them all, and you'll be kept updated on every one.

What can we do in order to expose ourselves to worthy content and promote a public discourse with some semblance of depth? For one thing, don't watch the local news. Actually, don't watch the news at all; reading the news in a newspaper or, preferably, online gives one significantly more opportunity to digest and interact with it. Don't accept sub-par "news" that ignores relevant governmental, economic, or social trends in favor of the "mystery urn." You might even try getting into news yourself by sending articles or letters to your local newspaper or posting on a blog. As a democratic and principled nation we should demand that the media serve us, not themselves, as forums for public discourse and channels for important social issues.



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James Phelps to Discuss Mental Health

Amanda Hayden
Copy Editor

Dr. James Phelps will be in LBCC's Russell Tripp Performance Center, in Takena Hall today from noon to 1 p.m., to give a brief presentation on the topic of mental health. Phelps has written over a dozen publications regarding his expertise in bipolar disorder and other mental health topics.

Not only is he published and highly respected nationwide, but he also hosts his own informational website. It is a subject of great pride for the greater Corvallis area that he has a thriving practice here as one of the foremost experts in his field nationwide.

After his 45-minute lecture, there will be a 15-minute Q&A session. Any interested parties within the community are invited to attend, using the presentation as a resource to find information as needed. After discussing treatment



options and guidance on how to proceed with treatment, business cards will also be available.

The club meets every other Friday at noon in Mackenzie Hall room 118, with the next meeting planned to be held on Feb. 24.

For additional information, please email activemindslbcc@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

Thursday 2/16

8 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts
Sazon Booya performs electronica!
Tickets are \$5 before 10 p.m. and \$8 after 10 p.m.

Friday 2/17

8 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts
Vagabond Opera, Mood Area 52, Aeon Now perform cabaret.
Tickets \$12 in advance, \$15 at door, and \$20 for reserved.

8 p.m. Calapooia Brewing Company
Brooks Robertson performs!

9 p.m. MU Basement Corvallis
Summer Soundtrack performs!

Saturday 2/18

2 p.m. Russell Tripp Performance Center
The performance of "Wiley and the Hairy Man," an American-Southern

folktale originated among African slaves. Wiley must go into the swamp, but is afraid the hairy-man is lurking nearby.

Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$7 for students/seniors, and \$5 for children under 18 (family packages are also available).

8 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts
March Fourth Marching Band with Samba Ja! Come join the marching band/ circus fun!

Tickets are \$12 in advance; \$15 at door.

8 p.m. Calapooia Brewing Company
Robert Richter performs!

Sunday 2/19

6:30 p.m. Community Center for Performing Arts
Andy Mckee with Antoine Dufour perform acoustic guitar!
Tickets are \$15 in advance; \$15 at

Monday 2/20

7 p.m. Community Center for the Performing Arts
Rock out with Cursive and Ume!
Tickets are \$15 in advance; \$18 at door.

Tuesday 2/21

10 a.m. Calapooia Center 210
Free information sessions for those interested in becoming a Polysomnographic Technologist, or sleep technician.

Wednesday 2/22

6-8:50 p.m. Mckenzie Hall 209
Camera workshop. Improve your skills and get creative with photoshop! This five week course is \$54 plus a \$3 lab fee.

If you have an Upcoming Event, please e-mail them to commuter@linnbenton.edu.

Classifieds

Deadline: Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.

Cost: Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

Personals: Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one ad per advertiser per week; no more than 50 words per ad.

Libel/Taste: The Commuter won't knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in unfairly. Any ad judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

Help Wanted

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

Human Resources Coach (#9508, Lebanon) This full-time job wants a minimum of 3 years HR experience in a generalist role and proficient skills in MS Office.

Comcast Openings (#9507, Salem, Eugene, Portland...) There are multiple openings including a Producer-Temporary in Corvallis, Local Sales Manager in Salem and

CommTech 1 in Eugene. Several openings in the Portland area also. See www.comcast.com/careers.

Set up Associate (9506, Albany) They are looking for people to help with unloading trucks, cleaning, stocking shelves, general duties. Dayshift: 10am-7pm & Graveyard is 10pm-7am. \$9/hr. Who said there were no jobs in Albany?

CWE On-Line Testing Technician (#9499, Albany) Are you in a related field such as electronics or engineering and completed 2 terms? Work for a big name employer, get experience and credit and have a job until graduation at OSU. Pays \$10.85-11.70/hr DOQ

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, Oregon 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 Performing Arts Department presents
The 37th Annual Children's Show

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THE COMMONS FARE

MENU FOR THE WEEK OF:
2/15 - 2/21

Wednesday: Baked Stuffed Snapper, *Tamale Beef Pie, Curried Vegetables with Rommali Roti. Soups: *Albondigas, Cream of Broccoli.

Thursday: Beer-Battered Fish Sandwich, *Cider-Brined Pork Chop w/ Caramelized Onions, *Huevos Rancheros. Soups: *Grilled Vegetable and Beef, Dilled Potato Chowder.

Friday: Chef's Choice

Monday: Holiday

Tuesday: *Jamaican Jerk Chicken w/ Mango Chutney, Meatloaf w/ Mushroom Gravy, Hurley's Grilled Vegetable Sandwich. Soups: Creamy Chicken and Mushroom, *Vegetarian Vegetable.

Items denoted with a * are gluten free

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Give me books, fruit, French wine and fine weather and a little music out of doors by somebody I do not know - John Keats



Healthy World

Artificial Sweeteners

Amanda Hayden

Copy Editor

Heart-shaped candies, cookies, and boxes of chocolate are piled up everywhere this week. All diet rules are thrown out the window after a holiday, such as Valentine's Day. The goal is to eat it all just to get rid of it fast and get back to the New Year's resolutions, right?

The question remains as to whether the caloric reduction of artificial sweeteners, or any undiscovered health risks of said sweeteners, means one option is better than the other.

Diabetes patients are told to seek out artificial sweeteners (in moderation, of course), rather than sugar products, which blast their insulin counts. Many of us are just trying to stay healthy, whether that means regulating weight or avoiding chemicals. Others don't mind buying a two-layer cake from the grocery store and downing it in one sitting.

The average American consumes about 146 pounds of sugar annually (this includes sugar, corn sweeteners, honey, and various syrups), according to a 2002 study from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Studies have shown that since then, Americans have doubled their consumption of artificial sweeteners, likely in an effort to reduce caloric intake or blood sugar.

Some preliminary studies have shown that using aspartame (one heavily-researched example of a sweetener) leads to better weight maintenance, and the resulting caloric reduction does cause weight loss.

On the other hand, there are risks associated with some excessive artificial sweetener consumption, including abdominal pain, diarrhea, possible carcinogens, and extreme headaches. Ouch. Some of the more "natural" artificial sweeteners (such as fruit sweetener or agave nectar) are proven unlikely to have these side effects, but have similar sweetening qualities.

This may be a case of which is the lesser of two evils, and that decision could depend on the existing health of the consumer, including recommendations from their physician.



Bukowsky18/ flickr.com

"Safe House" is a Safe Bet

Jill Mahler

Editor-in-Chief

Cliffnotes version: "Safe House" is a must-watch!

From start to finish, "Safe House" gives you to something to savor every minute till the bitter end.

Ryan Reynolds plays Matt Weston, a young CIA agent looking to prove himself. He is assigned to look after notorious fugitive Tobin Frost (Denzel Washington) in a safe house. When the safe house is attacked, he learns not everything is as it appears and has to go on the run with his new guest. Although Washington never gives a dull performance, I enjoyed watching Reynolds' character unfold more.

Some believe Reynolds tends to play the same roles, but in this performance, he proves he can shine in more serious, deeper roles. There were several times the audience was treated to real talent. He adapted when stressors were placed on him, and you really felt like you were growing with him.



Ryan Reynolds takes control of the "Safe House." Rated: R

Despite more focus on Reynolds, Washington is a true veteran. He is calm, confident, and puts every ounce he has into his role. Although you feel less connected to Washington's character, his mysteriousness and Reynolds' openness is a great combination. "Safe House" was a tad predictable at times with a familiar taste lingering from the "Bourne" trilogy.

However, the non-stop and fast-paced action sets the momentum, whereas plot twists are left behind.

No one likes a slow action movie, and "Safe House" doesn't disappoint.

Most action movies provide more eye candy and less character dimension. "Safe House" gives a nice balance of character insight and suspense to keep the film moving and you on the edge of your seat.

There wasn't a dull moment to be had. "Safe House" is a nice choice to break up the flux of romantic comedies and tediousness of February - definitely worth the ticket.

Tatum Wows in "The Vow"

Ari Nunez

Staff Photographer

We knew it would be a tear-jerker by watching the trailer alone, and did we watch it anyways? Heck yes, we did.

"The Vow," set in the artistic city of Chicago, weaves the heart-wrenching - but worthwhile - story of Leo (Channing Tatum) and Paige (Rachel McAdams). After Paige wakes up from a car accident, she no longer recognizes anyone or anything from the past five years: her friends, her artwork ... or her husband.

Thus ensues the tale of an understandably desperate man, who tries to help his wife remember the love they once shared.

Not only did "The Vow" deliver the oh-so-wonderfully-promised eye candy of Tatum, but it also served a power punch to the gut that made the movie great. No matter its flaws, if a movie can cause me tears and physical pain in my heart, then it's a winner in my book.

While without the old-time feel that made "The Notebook" a hit, "The Vow" succeeded in portraying a modern love story more about true love than carnal love - a rarity if you ask me. To quote the movie, "Life's all about moments of impact and how they change our lives forever."



Channing Tatum and Rachel McAdams star in "The Vow." Rated: PG-13

I may be biased when it comes to chick flicks, but I loved "The Vow." Tatum and McAdams light up the screen in this movie that is sure to be another staple on the chick flick shelf.

Beautiful story, eye-capturing visuals, the scenery - get your mind out of the gutter - and wonderful actors that bring the story to life. A solid 4 out of 5 rating. I'm sure some would say I'm being a little liberal with that score, but hey, I'm a sucker for love stories.

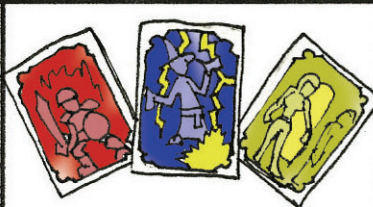
If you're looking for a movie with depth that will move you, "The Vow" is a good choice for you.

Gamer's Log: KoA Reckoning

Mason Le Britton © 2012
Groovysweet.wordpress.com

Kingdoms of Amalur
RECKONING

Kingdoms of Amalur is an action combat RPG created by R.A. Salvatore, Todd McFarlane, and Ken Rolston.



The cards of destiny grant you buffs based on any combination of might, sorcery, and finesse, with a total of 36 cards.



The combat is immersive and fluid. Whether with a sword, staff, daggers, or the magical chakrams, this game delivers with its dynamic combat system.



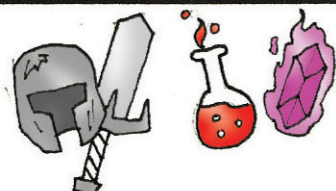
As you place points into one of the three skill trees, you unlock new skills. One such skill is the harpoon, which pulls in creatures - or pulls you in.



Collect fate as you kill enemies, then unleash reckoning mode, where you can easily destroy all that stands in your way.



The Fateweavers can see a person's fate, but you are special. Your fate is constantly changing, and for a fee, he can respect your skills.



The game offers blacksmithing, alchemy, and sagecrafting. Sagecrafting can create gems that provide bonuses if you have the gem slots.



As with many RPGs, you'll come across a lot of worthless loot. But the pain of sorting has been eased by introducing the junk bag!



Be careful not to explore too far and run in to an enemy you're not able to handle. Those Ettins know how to pack a punch.



While the protagonist may control the threads of fate, this game is controlling my free time. So wizard!

Give me books, fruit, French wine and fine weather and a little music out of doors by somebody I do not know - John Keats

What Have You Been Watching?



“Smash” Shows Promise

Ashley Christie
Page Designer

February sweeps has hit the airways, which means two things: big-name guest stars on all your favorites and mid-season replacements. NBC's newest musical drama “Smash,” produced by Steven Spielberg, is a mid-season replacement filled with big-name stars. But that doesn't make it good.

Set in New York City, a new Broadway musical about Marilyn Monroe is in production. The show follows those involved with the project, including: the writers (Debra Messing, Christian Borle), director (Jack Davenport), producer (Anjelica Huston), and potential stars (Kathrine McPhee, Megan Hilty).

Attempting to cash-in on the success of Fox's similar “Glee” and the renewed interest in Marilyn Monroe, “Smash” stacks the deck by filling the cast with familiar faces to entice audience members.

Emmy award winner Messing leads a cast of extraordinary talent. Huston, besides always being Morticia Adams in my eyes, has won an Academy Award. Hilty is an actual Broadway star and McPhee was runner-up on “American Idol,” and that's ... impressive.

The premise of “Smash” and the cast was enough to pique my interest. The pilot, though well acted, suffered some performance anxiety and was underwhelming. The problem I have with it is that there are too many storylines crammed into an hour timeslot.

There is lots of backstory and behind-the-scenes drama the pilot sets-up for the rest of the season. The writers don't like the director, the director is a sleaze offering “private acting sessions,” the producer's ex-husband is trying to take her money, unsupportive families, and blah, blah, blah. With so much going on, what or who should you care about?

Haphazard stoytelling aside, “Smash” shows some promise.

The writing is good, the characters show potential, and there's the promise of some fun songs about the life of America's favorite old-school Hollywood sex symbol, including a baseball themed number about her brief marriage to Joe DiMaggio.

“Smash” may not be a runaway hit, but I'm willing to give it a callback. Everyone deserves a chance to shine.

Smash airs Monday nights at 10 p.m. on NBC

Fears Float on “The River”

Carli Gibson
A&L Editor

“The River” is by far the most addictive, thrilling new series this season. The previews for the show made it look okay, but c'mon it's a TV series, how thrilling could it really be?

I hadn't expected to be so scared from a show. I mean, you go to the movie theatres to see a scary movie, and you know either you're going to be terrified or it's going to suck, but when you watch a show at home, you don't really think it's going to be that scary (or am I the only one?). After watching the two-hour premiere, I couldn't sleep that night.

The show follows a group of people, mainly Lincoln Cole (Joe Anderson) and Tess Cole (Leslie Hope), son and wife of Dr. Emmet Cole (Bruce Greenwood). Dr. Cole went missing on his latest expedition to the Amazon, and while everyone gives up their search and believes him to be dead, his wife refuses to give up. Mrs. Cole recruits her son (who believes his father's dead) and a camera crew to go hunt for her husband.

But trying to find the doctor proves to be much more than a search for a missing person; it brings up a very haunting situation.

Michael R. Perry and Oren Peli created this show, they also wrote for the “Paranormal Activity” series, which explains how the show is filmed. We watch the show through the cameras held by the camera men and from surveillance cameras on the boat. However, in this show there's no feeling that you're missing something that could be happening from another camera view; everyone is usually grouped together. The filming really makes this more realistic and makes it even more scary.

Possibly my favorite thing that drew me to the show was that it made sense. There's a good storyline to it with realistic characters, but most of all, there weren't any “cheap thrills” - there was no bat flying out of a tree just to make you jump, no rabbit making noises in the bushes, etc. This show had actual frightening, make-you-jump-a-foot-in-the-air moments. The scares weren't there just to startle you either - it's all part of the storyline.

So if you're looking for a new series to get hooked on, I highly recommend “The River.”

The River airs Tuesday nights at 9 p.m. on ABC



Never Too Late for “Revenge”

Amanda Hayden
Copy Editor

As Emily confidently walked into the Grayson manor with her signature, politely pursed smile, Victoria Grayson was all but comfortable to welcome her to sit down. Just because Emily had caught her son's romantic interest and won his trust, did not mean she had fooled Victoria.

Wednesday night at 10 p.m. is the much-coveted time slot ABC has given to “Revenge,” winning out against long-standing contenders, such as “CSI: Crime Scene Investigation” and “Law and Order: Special Victims Unit.”

Released as a new television series in Sept. 2011, it took less than a month for ABC to realize they had a hit and to give it a full season.

Emily VanCamp stars as Emily Thorne. The viewer quickly learns that Emily is truly Amanda Clarke, a girl with a tragic family history and a troubled youth.

She returned to her home in the Hamptons with a secret identity, some serious resources, and plans to make things right.

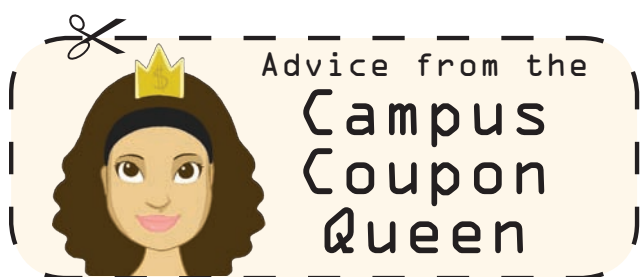
It was convenient that her beach house had a direct view of the luxury home in which her enemies resided. Emily had learned that the cause of her father's traumatic death was related to many hidden secrets, and Victoria Grayson (Madeleine Stowe) was at the center of it all.

As with “The Count of Monte Cristo” (which has been given credit as inspiration for “Revenge”), Emily's passion to right wrongs against her family has proven to be one of the strongest motivators a person could have.

The show was nominated at the 2012 People's Choice Awards for Favorite New TV Drama, and Madeleine Stowe received a nomination for a Golden Globe as the primary series antagonist. Also, in its short time, it has already been given a regular time slot in 25 countries other than the U.S. That is impressive, considering most shows require years to achieve such a following.

Metacritic.com, seems to have a relatively mixed review of the series. For some, it's the same old rehashed plotline, but for others, it has become a permanent fixture in their Wednesday night plans.

Revenge airs Wednesday nights at 10 p.m. on ABC



Your Guide to Clipping Costs Online Coupon Forums

Yesenia Espallat
Contributing Writer

Coupon forums serve as a central hub for all things couponing and deal sharing. They offer resources that are valuable to both beginning couponers and coupon mavens alike. The key points of these websites include:

- Forums: These are where online users can report deals they've found, ask questions about couponing, and get support from other couponers. You'll find these online communities to be knowledgeable, helpful, and friendly.
- Coupon Databases: Have you ever wondered if there's a coupon out there for your favorite product? Coupon databases make

it easy. Just input the category or product name (i.e. “frozen pizza” or “Digiorno”), and you'll get a list of coupons available for the particular brand or type of product.

- Trading: If you're interested in trading, buying, or selling coupons, coupon forums can connect you to other couponers locally or worldwide.

Although coupon forums may seem overwhelming, I encourage you to give them a try. These websites have taught me helpful couponing techniques and have allowed me to take advantage of deals I wouldn't have known about otherwise. Here are the coupon forums I personally enjoy and recommend:

- A Full Cup: www.afullcup.com
- Hot Coupon World: www.hotcouponworld.com

Tip: Sign up for Hot Coupon World's immensely helpful weekly newsletter to learn about grocery store trends, sales cycles, and hot deals.

- Organic Grocery Deals (focus on organic and natural products) www.organicgrocerydeals.com
- We Use Coupons: www.weusecoupons.com

*Is there anything you'd like to know about coupons? I'd love your feedback.
Email me at yesi@campuscouponqueen.com.*


How to get Coupons for Free and Products Directly from your Favorite Companies


Companies value your feedback, and will often show you their appreciation by sending coupons in return. For example, I once emailed the company Johanna Foods telling them how much I enjoyed their main brand, Tree Ripe Orange Juice. The following week, I received two coupons in the mail for a carton of FREE orange juice! If you need ideas for companies to contact, here are some resources to get you started:


A Full Cup: Company Contact Information:
www.afullcup.com/forums/company-contact-information/


Living Rich With Coupons: Got Coupons?: www.livingrichwithcoupons.com/got-coupons-master-list


HOROSCOPES Poetry Spotlight


ARIES
3/21-4/19
 Time to reach out and grasp what is in front of you. Just do it graciously.


TAURUS
4/20-5/20
 Things are starting to speed up around you. Not that it concerns you.


GEMINI
5/21-6/21
 There are people talking about you behind your back, but they only have good things to say.


CANCER
6/22-7/22
 Adventure lies behind every corner, but be warned: not all adventure is good.


LEO
7/23-8/22
 You may be willing to risk everything for a cheap thrill, and why shouldn't you?


VIRGO
8/23-9/22
 It is time to try something new and exciting, like yodeling.


LIBRA
9/23-10/23
 You're supposed to be good at this whole balance thing, so get things in order.

SCORPIO
10/24-11/21
 You can handle anything that life throws at you, unless you don't see it coming.

SAGITTARIUS
11/22-12/21
 It may be a time of adventure, but perhaps you should sit this one out.

CAPRICORN
12/22-1/19
 When things get out of hand, it will be your time to shine. Just don't wimp out.

AQUARIUS
1/20-2/18
 Nothing could beat a trip to a far-off and mysterious place, like dry land.

PISCES
2/19-3/20
 You will be faced with a repetitive task, but that's fine, you'll get used to it.

Cigar

by Neil Davidson

The husky root taste remains,
deep into the night,
long after the clouded tobacco haze,
has lifted off my mind.
And one thought leads to another,
like FBI questioning,
"Who are you, young man?"
I don't know how to respond.
"A writer? I guess."
They wouldn't like my answer,
of that, I am sure,
but the question remains,
like your taste,
still thick on my lips,
and gums,
deep into the night.



BACK in the DAY

This day in history ...

February 15, 1903 - Bears and bears
The first teddy bear goes on sale. Somewhere a Pooh Bear gets his wings.

February 16, 1923 - The mummy returns
Archaeologists open the tomb of King Tutankhamun. At least Brendan Fraiser has the forethought to get out while he was ahead.

February 17, 1801 - Timely
Thomas Jefferson is elected president. And if it were November, that would mean something.

February 18, 1929 - And the winner is
The first Academy Awards are announced. Maybe that year they wouldn't have snubbed "Drive".

February 19, 1847 - The faint taste of pork
The Donner Party survivors are rescued in the Sierra Nevada mountains. The conversation became awkward when the rescuers asked what happened to the others.

February 20, 1986 - Let's take a train
The plans for the construction of the Chunnel are announced. Somewhere Tom Cruise is looking into the cost of helicopter rentals.

February 21, 1948 - And sadness falls upon the land
NASCAR is founded. Rednecks everywhere rejoice with shotgun blasts to the sky and trips to your local Wal-Mart before the big game.

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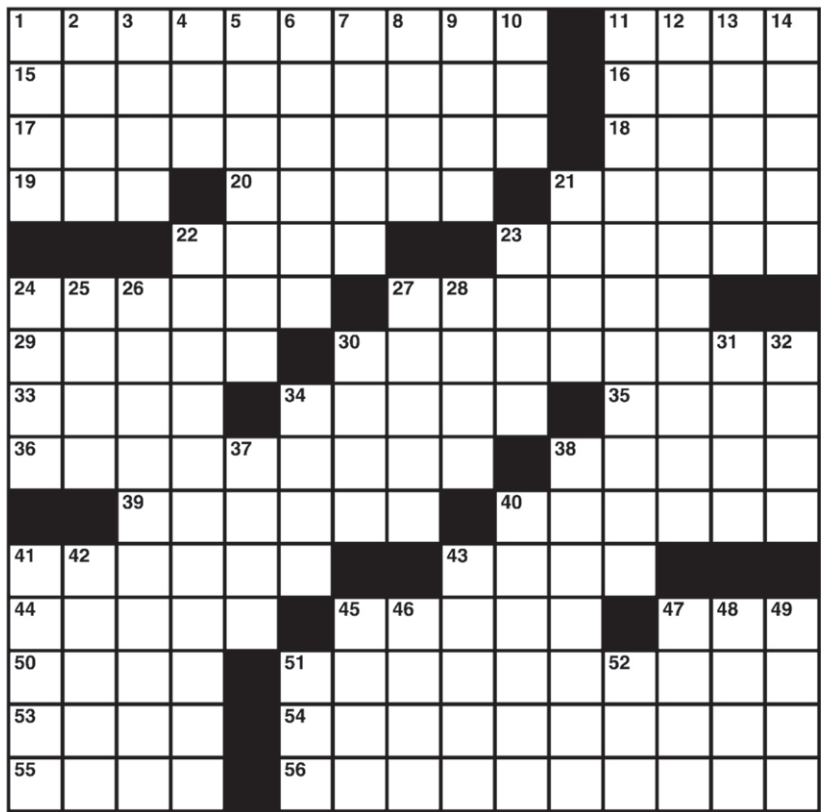
Buy a sweet heart mocha
and get second one free

Expires February 29, 2012

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Hide
 - 11 Video CD file format
 - 15 "Land sakes alive!"
 - 16 Hipbone prefix
 - 17 Overdid it
 - 18 Woodworking groove
 - 19 Helpful contacts
 - 20 Hares' tails
 - 21 Brickell and Falco
 - 22 "___ no idea!"
 - 23 Cooperative after-dinner offer
 - 24 One in a hole
 - 27 Does over, as an ascot
 - 29 Player's lament
 - 30 Voice of Mr. Magoo
 - 33 Island off the Tuscany coast
 - 34 Artificial movie background
 - 35 Old Italian capital
 - 36 French capital?
 - 38 Jeep in the movie "Cars"
 - 39 Department store section
 - 40 Fit one within another
 - 41 Rapid river thaw
 - 43 Lukas of "Witness"
 - 44 Score settlers?
 - 45 Like a cool fall morning
 - 47 Rx amt.
 - 50 "High Voltage" rock band
 - 51 West Coast racing venue
 - 53 Carolers' offering
 - 54 Shaq, 15 times
 - 55 Shipping deduction
 - 56 Like Hail Mary passes



By Frederick J. Healy

- DOWN**
- 1 Flightless bird
 - 2 Steinbeck title site
 - 3 Hundreds of centuries
 - 4 Nevada summer hrs.
 - 5 Basketball two-hander
 - 6 Green vehicle
 - 7 Sun screen?
 - 8 Pond floater
 - 9 Diamond stats
 - 10 Rx specification
 - 11 Large group with upper and lower segments
 - 12 Many a kilt, essentially
 - 13 Down source
 - 14 Foolish
 - 21 "Popular Fallacies" essayist
 - 22 Revival meeting shout
 - 23 "Never let ___ said ..."
 - 24 Stopped running
 - 25 That femme
 - 26 Winter Olympics competitor
 - 27 Church practices
 - 28 9-1-1 respondents, briefly
 - 30 Rolling Stone co-founder
 - 31 Push for
 - 32 Nutmeg or sesame

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Last Week's Puzzle Solved



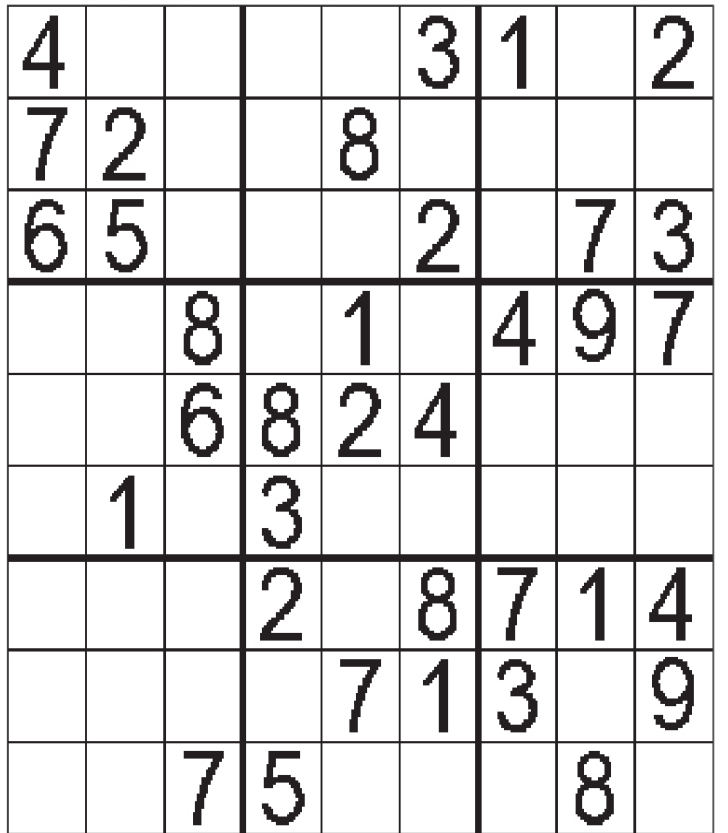
(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 34 Bearing
- 37 Unpleasant duty
- 38 Coastal plant with collard-like leaves
- 40 French "gn" sounds, e.g.
- 41 "Out of the question"
- 42 Warming drink
- 43 Try to strike
- 45 Cake with a kick
- 46 Protein-building polymers
- 47 Longtime Yugoslav president
- 48 Laurel in films
- 49 Ranch chum
- 51 NBC show that began its 35th season in Sep. 2009
- 52 Defense advisory gp.

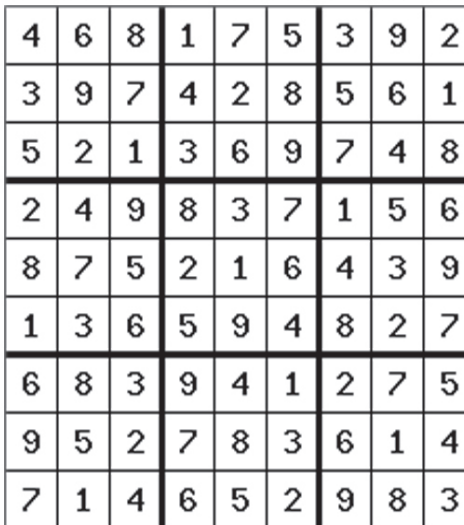
SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4



Last Issue's Puzzle Solved



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

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An LBCC student-generated comic

By Mason Britton



Mason Le Britton © 2012



“Chronicle” of Human Heroes

Ian Butcher

Staff Writer

Ever wonder what it would feel like if you and your friends got super powers? Ever wonder what your first time flying would feel like? What about playing football in the clouds? Then look no further than the breathtaking “Chronicle.”

The found-footage-film follows three teenagers, who stumble across what looks to be some sort of crashed spacecraft that gives them telekinetic powers. The three friends proceed to document the following weeks as their powers grow. They begin to develop super strength, flight, and must learn to deal with the consequences and responsibilities that come with having superpowers.

First time director Josh Trank takes two genres that seem tired and played out at this point (Found Footage and Superhero films) and melds them together into such an amazing alloy that it shocks you that no one has thought to make a film like this before. Trank proves that even with a small \$12 million budget, he can make a film with a grand spectacle and not forget to have a real human core at the center of it all. From beginning to end the film never bores you and is always wowing you.

This film truly gives you that feeling of awe and wonder that superheroes should. Trank is able to balance of the large action and special effects of the film with a truly amazing emotional core. You see how overtime, superpowers would have both positive and negative effects on the real world.

The film uses the found footage conceit to great effect, as you feel like you really are there with the characters. An added level of believability is added as our main characters experiment with their new found powers. This feeling of being in the middle of the action helps you buy into everything that is going on. This, combined with the fact that the cast is made of mostly unknowns, who give great performances, helps enhance the realism that the film is going for.

As the film progresses, we see the three friends practice with their powers and become more and more powerful. This leads to some really hilarious and heartwarming stuff. However, as the film goes on, we see the struggle when the characters have to control their powers and themselves as they become more powerful. As this tension builds and builds throughout the film, we are treated to one of the most impressive and satisfying climaxes I’ve seen in a while. Let’s just say that if you’re a superhero fan, you won’t be disappointed.

But aside from the fantastic effects and jaw-dropping action that takes place in the film, “Chronicle” is at its core: a drama. This is a subtle and masterfully made film about power coming to those who least expect it and how it can either lift them up or tear them apart. The characters all come off as real people and are completely fleshed out. This really helps when the film reaches its highly emotional conclusion.

I simply can’t say enough about this amazing film. I went in thinking it would be alright, but nothing special, but walked out thoroughly blown away and a little choked up. “Chronicle” is an absolute must see, especially for superhero fans. Director Josh Trank has proven that he is someone to look out for in the future. All in all, I would have to give this highly original and inventive film a 5 out of 5.

Chronicle

Starring: Dane DeHaan
Alex Russell
Michael B. Jordan
Rated: R
Runtime: 84 min.

Past and Present Collide in “A Dark and Lonely Place”

Kay M Roth

Staff Writer

Edna Buchanan brings the past and present, as well as nonfiction and fiction, together in her latest novel, “A Dark and Lonely Place.” Buchanan was a crime reporter in Miami for 18 years before writing her memoirs “The Corpse had a Familiar Face.”

In 1986, Buchanan won a Pulitzer Prize for general reporting. She has written several novels, with “A Dark and Lonely Place” being her latest.

Having read her memoirs for a journalism class at LBCC last year, and one of her earlier novels for pleasure, I was excited to read Buchanan’s latest endeavor. I was not disappointed in the least.

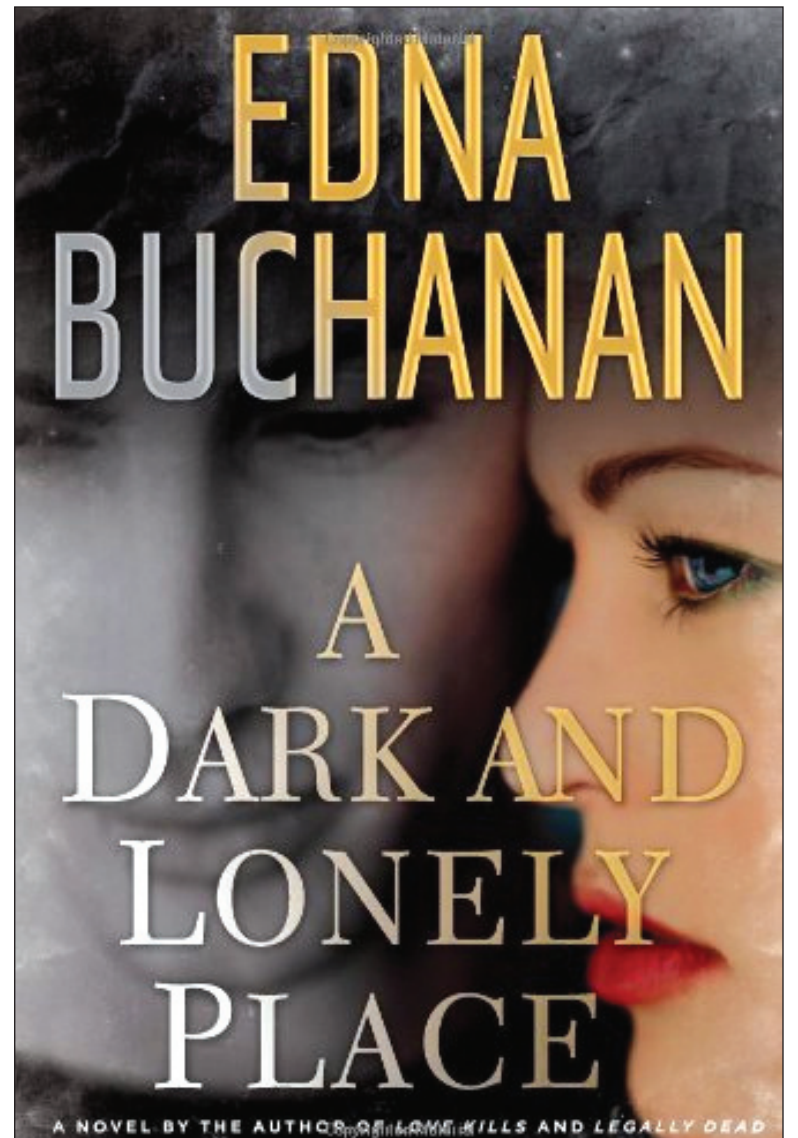
While filled from start to finish with action, action and more action, this book also asks a lot of questions. Can cycles be broken? Does DNA define who we are? Can we change our future by remembering our past?

The answers are in this fast-paced book filled with believable characters, some great plot twists and a glimpse of Miami only someone such as Buchanan can give readers.

Set in both the early 1900s - this is the nonfiction part - and a fictional present day Miami, Buchanan traces family connections, circumstances and confrontations in both centuries. John Ashley in the early 1900s was an outlaw, a moonshiner and a firm family man.

Laura, his first and only love, leaves her husband and young children to be with John, the one true love of her life. Circumstances lead John Ashley to live a life he never wanted to live, running from the law and leaving a trail of supposed transgressions in his wake. And, with him, Laura and the rest of his close-knit family become pawns the game a mean-spirited sheriff insists on playing.

Flash forward to Miami today and meet John Ashley, a descendent of the other John Ashley, who followed a different path from his notorious ancestor. A cop, the modern John Ashley



is thrust into a murder investigation gone wrong.

He meets up with Laura - yes, there’s a reason her name matches that of the other John Ashley’s love - and together, circumstances force them into hiding. Like his ancestor, this John Ashley’s family is also forced to decide between family ties and upholding the law.

The book flips back and forth between the two stories without the blink of an eye. Buchanan does a wonderful job in weaving the two stories separate from one another until a little old lady puts it all together miles away from

Miami and the horrors of the past and present become one. Without giving away the ending - trust me, it’s worth the wait in this page turner - these two stories run parallel to one another before colliding in an unexpected way.

Buchanan’s storytelling abilities are strong and will leave readers with a great sense of Miami history, and the strength of family connections. Her writing style makes this book very easy to read and even easier to get caught up in. In my opinion, this is a must read, especially if you are an Edna Buchanan fan or just love a good mystery.

COMING ATTRACTIONS



The Secret World of Arrietty
Rated: G
Genre: Animated Little People



This Means War
Rated: R
Genre: Spy vs. Spy



Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance
Rated: PG-13
Genre: Just Say No Nic