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A Student Owned and Operated Newspaper

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Poet Sherwin Bitsui discusses his work, page 9

Photo courtesy of Copper Canyon Press
Cover for Sherwin Bitsui's book “Flood Song.”

Photo courtesy of Centaur Records
Cover for Bill Perconti’s “Women Composers and Their Music for Saxophone releasing January 2013.”
Opinion

From the Editor

Merry Cheesemas!

My favorite holiday started this weekend: Cheesemas. Never heard of Cheesemas? Well you’re about to.

Cheesemas is a three week festival that celebrates cheese. Why? Because cheese is amazing and it’s something that needs to be celebrated and because I need an excuse to justify going out and buying fifty pounds of cheese.

Celebrating is easy, just eat cheese. What counts as cheese? If it has cheese in the title (so yes, cheesecake counts) and if it come from milk (so no processed cheese doesn’t count, it’s a disgrace to the cheese community and Cheesemas celebrates cheese not the degradation of it).

So go out and eat cheese and remember: Cheeses is the reason for the season.

Kaylee Brewster

Fun at home with second family

There is nothing better than spending the weekend at home with your best friend and your second family. They’re a hoot.

I love their house, and it’s only a few miles down the road from where I grew up. They live on about 500 acres and have a nice little farm. A lot of my childhood memories come from there, and it’s so nice to go back and visit. For some reason, time stands still when I’m up there, and I never want to come back to Lewiston.

We went to a place called Green Bluff together, which is pretty much a large harvest festival up by Spokane. They go every year, up there, and I never want to come back to Lewiston.

Watching all of the politics has been overwhelming for me lately; it seems to be what everybody is talking about and there are so many conflicting opinions, so I thought about what I would do if I was in charge.

If I ruled the world, everyone would have the right to a well-rounded education, no matter what country they happen to live in or their economic status. Everyone deserves the same chance to start life off with the right footing. Lack of education is rarely a help in life.

If I ruled the world, there wouldn’t be a two party system, or as I call it, an “I win; you lose” system. The two party systems that America and other countries currently have are complete opposites from each other. Most people aren’t that cut and dry. So when one party wins, a good chunk of the population loses.

If I ruled the world, I would make a flat rate income tax that every person has to pay. So if I made millions of dollars a year, I would have a ten percent tax, and if I made twelve dollars a year, I would have a ten percent tax.

If I ruled the world, I would make insurance companies have to cover everyone, even people with a preexisting condition. Just because you’re born with something doesn’t mean you shouldn’t be able to receive care.

If I ruled the world, I would make it a federal law for every driver over the age of 65 to have to take the driver’s test every year if they want to continue driving. This is important for the safety of everyone on the road. It also saves family conferences that have to do with the official taking away of the driver’s license from a loved one. If it’s a law, then it makes it less difficult to deal with.

If I ruled the world, I would take away all flesh colored Band-Aids. They don’t match anyone’s actual flesh and there are a lot more colors in the color spectrum. If you want to go professional, use a clear Band-Aid, and if you want to have fun, use one of the many cartoon or rainbow ones available.

If I ruled the world, all roads would be self-heating so snow and ice couldn’t build up on the road; hence eliminating all of the black ice collisions during the winter time and fixing many other traffic maladies during the winter months. It will be an expensive undertaking, but I think it will be worth it in the long run.

If I ruled the world, men would be given maternity leave.

See Ready, page 3
Along with women when a baby is born. Dads need to be held responsible for taking care of a new born just like moms do; and it also gives them more time to bond with their new child.

If I ruled the world, all people suffering with addictions would have the ability to check into rehab free of charge. Many addicts don’t overcome their addictions because they don’t have the proper resources. There will always be drugs in the world, but if people really want to get help, they should have the opportunity; even if they don’t have a lot of money.

This list could go on and on. The world is an ever changing place and there are always going to be ways that we think we can improve aspects of it. These are points that are important to me because of life experiences I have had. Everyone is going to have a different list, which is why the world is so fantastic. We have to embrace our differences and similarities and try to find out what makes the other person tick.

Instead, we focus on where they stand politically and say to ourselves, “Well, I can’t understand their point, so they must be wrong.” I have done it, and I know other people have too. This is something I want to work on, and I hope that you do too.

Which is more important politics or people? Please try to think about this during this politically charged season.

From Ready, page 2

Student Spotlight

By Aaron Waits
of The Pathfinder

What is your major?
How many credits are you taking this semester?
Major: Dental Hygiene, Credits: 16

What year are you?
Junior (1st year dental hygiene)

Why did you choose LCSC?
“LCSC is a great school and close to my native homeland of Kooskia, Idaho. They offered my major and kept things straightforward on how to pursue my goal. The tuition isn’t bad either, and the classes were small enough to not scare the wits out of me, having been home schooled since 1st grade.”

Why did you choose your major?
“I wanted a career that could be used to help people directly with their needs. Dental hygienists are well-educated professionals who not only help their communities with their oral health, but can educate them on preventing future problems. I feel that I could also use my skills in underprivileged areas, making it a universal profession.”

What can you tell me about the dental hygiene program?
“We’re small, with only six students per year, creating an almost familial environment that fosters one-on-one learning. We have two years to survive, and I’m usually reprimanded when I announce the amount of months remaining till graduation (20 and 19)!”

Jolene Stottlemyer

See Spotlight, page 4

Dear Students and Faculty of Lewis-Clark State College:

You know the value of higher education or you wouldn’t be at LCSC. In the last 4 years, the legislature has cut higher education funding by 26%. As funds get scarcer; student fees and tuitions rise to meet costs; student loans sky-rocket; education becomes less affordable to those who need it most.

Public education is not truly public unless the public can afford it. My dad was a logger and I was raised in a small logging town. Yet I was able to pay my way through college and law school by working in the woods during the summer and waiting tables during the school year. Today Idahoans have to pay up to $20,000 a year for a college education. Add to that the fact that a starting teacher in Idaho earns $30,000 a year. Try paying off student loans and supporting a family on that pay.

I not only support higher education; I also know it from the inside. I was an adjunct instructor at LCSC for five years where I taught International Business, Money and Banking and Business and Society. I attended public universities and I know from my personal experience as a teacher and student the vital and often transforming roles that colleges play in the lives of their students. I am one.

We desperately need someone who will actually fight for higher education. As a district judge I successfully fought to bring to bring a full time and active judiciary to rural Idaho. I would like the same opportunity to fight for higher education in the Idaho Senate. So I ask for your support and your vote so that together we can get Idaho back on track to providing a first rate college education that all Idahoans can afford.

Sincerely,
John Bradbury

BradburyForSenate.com
From Spotlight, page 3

counting down). During these two years, we'll be in need of some patients who would donate their time to come down and visit us for an appointment (prices are super reasonable!). If you have time to donate and a mouth with teeth, we'd love to see your smile in our clinic!

What do you plan on doing with your major after you graduate? Any big plans?

"I would love to go to some third-world country and provide oral care. I've always loved traveling and other cultures intrigue me. I wouldn't mind maybe visiting some country in South America, since I know a little español. If all goes well, I have plans to visit Africa upon graduation and clean teeth."

Where is the coolest place you've traveled? What did you do there?

"India for sure is the coolest place I've been to. I visited some friends who were teachers at a school there, and I taught English and massage therapy and cleaned teeth. It was a great experience, and I hope to also visit there someday again (maybe on the same trip as South America and Africa)."

What was the coolest part about traveling to this place?

"Probably cleaning teeth. Having never done it before, I was a nervous wreck the first time I was handed an unknown instrument with a sharp end. I ended up enjoying it immensely and couldn't wait to begin my career. Also, I was able to taste real Indian food, which made the whole trip worthwhile."

What is your favorite class this semester?

"Oral biology could fit in the category of a favorite class, but all the classes are about the mouth, teeth, and surrounding structures, so they all kind of melt together."

What do you like to do in your spare time?

"I want to keep myself in good health even while in school, so I like to work out with a friend at the gym or take the dogs on a walk. My boyfriend is teaching me the Rubik's cube right now, and that's been keeping my hands busy between studying. I also play the harp and try to practice every now and then."

You play the harp? Can you tell me a little about that? How long have you played, and why did you decide you wanted to play the harp? Do you ever play in front of large groups of people?

"I started playing the harp about 6 years ago. I've always dreamt of playing the harp. It was my dream instrument since I was a child. I do play in front of large groups of people. I play for church functions, fairs, banquets, farmer's markets, and recently am planning for one, possibly two, weddings. It keeps me busy, to be sure."

Any big plans this year?

"I want to finish this school year then hike Mt. Whitney next summer. I have a goal to backpack 100 collective miles next summer. Besides that, I'm content with life right now."
Perconti releases saxophone album

By Kaleena Chamberlin
of The Pathfinder

A recording by LCSC's own Bill Perconti, made a CD entitled: “Women Composers and Their Music for Saxophone” and will be released January 2013. “No classical CD had been done entirely of women composers for saxophone, it seemed a good idea to include these works on one disc,” Perconti said. “Hence, the CD is a little slice of history.”

The CD itself is an exploration into contemporary fine-art (Classical) music, featuring seven recordings of pieces by six composers. Released on Centaur Records, the CD comprises music for saxophone, piano, guitar, electronics and solo saxophone. University of Idaho pianist, Kay Zavislak and Gonzaga University guitarist, Paul Grove assist on the CD.

“Most of the pieces on the CD are modern, but some are more traditional,” said Perconti. “The pieces that were picked were done so primarily out of merit. They are great pieces from talented composers that are worthy of exploration and dissemination to students, the profession and the public, and together they offer a variety of styles and instrumentation.”

Judith Shatin’s “Grito del Corazon” is a programmatic piece, which depicts a scene in this case the personal torment and the paintings of Goya, dark & disturbing. Libby Larsen’s “Song Without Words” is an elegy.

Lera Auerbach’s “The Prayer” has been done for several instruments over the years. Nancy van de Vate’s “Suite” is charming, as is the two other works by Larsen; both are lighter in nature. Elena Ruehr’s “Recurrences” employs three traditional movements, and Joan Tower’s “Fantasy” shows her love of, and the influence of, Beethoven.

“Tower’s piece runs an incredible gamut of expressions, techniques, and technical challenges,” said Perconti. “In music, this work is respectfully referred to as ‘a monster.’”

“I’ve recorded works by Tower, Van de Vate, Barbara Kolb, Margaret Garwood, and Maria von Paradis, all world-premiers,” said Perconti. “In fact, I published an arrangement of Sicillienne by Paradis, originally for violin and piano, and recorded the sax and piano version on an earlier CD.” Paradis was a blind composer from the time of Mozart and helped develop the braille system.

“A favorite composer of mine, Tower, has been called one of the greatest composers of the last 20 years, and my recording of her piece ‘Wings’ was submitted by the record company to consider for nomination to the 42nd Grammy Awards,” said Perconti.

“Women Composers” is his fourth solo/ensemble CD, dating back to 1994. He also contributed to seven compilation CDs.

“Since the saxophone is a relative new comer in classical music, there is a wealth of repertoire to explore,” said Perconti.

The Washington Artist Trust, the Idaho Commission on the Arts, the Bossak-Heilbron Foundation, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the National Endowment for the Arts have supported the recordings.

“Equally as important, and much appreciated, is the support from LCSC, Steiner Electronics, and many individual private donors,” said Perconti. “The support from the valley was terrific.”

The LCSC Jazz Band, which Perconti directs, is a nine-time winner at the Hampton Jazz Festival. “I’ve managed a couple of Outstanding Soloist Awards there as well,” Perconti said. The most recent was 2009, but in 2010 the Hampton went non-competitive.

“Had the festival not gone soft, I’m confident we would have added to that tally. Between the LCSC Jazz Band and LCSC Baseball, we could have nicknamed LC ‘Titletown,’” Perconti said.

And when asked if he had any future recordings in mind, he said, “Always. The quartet recorded some great music last summer, and I’ve been working on a solo piece that combines the styles of Gershwin, Super Mario Bros., and Lady Gaga. Can’t wait.”
“Revolution” is a horrible show

By Kaylee Brewster of The Pathfinder

I have a policy when it comes to television. Before I judge a show, I have to watch at least five episodes.

So, after watching five episodes of “Revolution,” I can now (without damaging my conscience) give a full report, and the news ain’t good.

The basic premises of “Revolution” is a world where there is no electricity. Somehow, (which the characters are trying to figure out) all the lights went out. Ben Matheson (Tim Guiney) seems to have an idea of what happened, but he moves himself and his family out of the city.

Then, one day, the militia commanded by Capt. Tom Neville (Giancarlo Esposito) comes to bring him to Gen. Monroe (David Lyons). Through a series of events that I’m still trying to figure out, Daddy ends up dead, and his son Danny (Graham Rogers) is taken instead. His daughter Charlie (Tracy Spiridakos), returns (from where? Doing what? Good question, still figuring that one out as well) just in time to watch her father die.

Charlie resolves to go after Danny, asking help from her reluctant uncle Miles (Billy Burke) and she reluctantly receives help from Maggie (Anna Lise Phillips) and Aaron (Zack Orth). The sad news is that in five episodes not much happens from this basic plot.

The idea of the plot is interesting and, if anything, has kept me watching. It’s the promise of potential awesome, but that promise has yet to be fulfilled. At times, it plays with the idea well, the inconveniences of not having electricity but more importantly of having it, then, all of a sudden, going without.

However, there are so many inconsistencies that makes watching “Revolution” completely intolerable (for a good list go to the FAQ on the show’s page at imdb.com). There are times where Charlie and her crew come so close to rescuing Danny but then the evil writers snatch him away at the last second. Obviously, they can’t let her rescue Danny just yet because then the show would be over, and that’s fine, but they keep cruelly teasing her (and us) by making it almost possible then taking the possibility away.

The other problem with this method of plot is that it drags on and it makes the characters seem incompetent. It drags on and on and you just sit there thinking, “Really guys? Is it that hard?” And the plot isn’t the only problem; the characters need more reconstruction than the Fine Arts Building.

Let’s start with Charlie. If you’ve been paying attention to the preview, then you’ve probably seen her with a bow and arrow looking all B.A. like a Katniss wanna-be. That’s just the problem; she wants to be a “Katniss” character. She wants to be the strong, independent, what-are-you-talking-about-prince-I-can-rescue-myself girl, but she’s not.

Every time she gets close to that, the writers write her off as weak. She gets into a fight and can’t handle it, so some boy has to come rescue her. She gets attacked and Miles rescues her. She wants to lead but Miles says, “No that’s a dumb idea” (which it is). It seems as if the writers don’t know what to do with her and neither do we. She’s so wishy-washy, and she can’t go one episode without crying or saying, “Uncle

See Revolution, page 7

Gift giving shouldn’t have to cost

By Lindsey Keatts of The Pathfinder

We all know giving gifts can be expensive, but it doesn’t have to be that way.

I heard this ad on the radio for a new gift store in town, where everything is under $30. Yeah, right. So I decided to go check out this Mystical Gifts and Memories place, and I will just say that I was pleasantly surprised.

I walked in fearing what I would find. I usually have a lot of problems with these little knick-knack type stores. The first thing I noticed was that the smell of incense, which usually bowls you over as soon as you open the door, was not terrible in here. Also they were playing music, but not the normal popular radio stations. It was some kind of soothing water sound.

The lady behind the counter greeted me when I walked in, but did not follow me around the store showing me every single thing the way salespeople sometimes do. She just stayed behind the counter until I had questions or needed help. I perused for quite a while, and she didn’t seem to be in a hurry for me to leave.

With a couple of picky relatives’ Christmas presents on my mind, I began to look around. There was a wide variety of items to look through. Everything from wine holders and incense to figurines and salad tongs, candy bouquets and Japanese knives lined the shelves. And, as advertised, everything was under $30, and most of the things were way below.

They had a wide selection of garden décor, from wind chimes to rain measurers, and so I checked my grandma’s gift off my list. A variety of religious merchandise was the perfect choice for my aunt, and some lovely wolf themed coasters for my step-dad. I got my mom a little something extra and
Food for Thought

Beef stroganoff: it’s time to think outside the box

By Alex Ready
of The Pathfinder

Wait, beef stroganoff doesn’t just come in a box?

Growing up, I ate a lot of beef stroganoff; it was my favorite food at one point. Little did I know that I had been missing out on the true stroganoff experience for years. Real stroganoff doesn’t come from a box. I’ve had this dish since I discovered this fact, but I have never attempted to make it until now.

Brown the beef strips in a frying pan over medium-high heat. Drain the excess fat.

Add the onion and saute for 5 minutes, or until tender (After you have drained the fat, you are just going to burn the onions; unless you add some olive oil or something to the pan. Please, do this.)

Stir in the flour, salt, paprika (which I didn’t have) and ground black pepper

Add the soup, reduce heat to medium-low and let simmer for 15 minutes

Add the sour cream, stirring well

Prepare egg noodles according to package directions. Serve beef mixture over the egg noodles. (Thank goodness I looked ahead in the recipe to find out I needed the egg noodles cooked separately for this. I started getting the water to a boil when I started cooking. I suggest you do the same.)

This recipe turned out rather well, although I think it is important to get a more authentic recipe next time. This, however, was really easy to make and was very flavorful. I could easily see making this on a cold winter night and having a nice cup of tea. This is a seasonal dish, and it wouldn’t have the same power in the spring or summer. Cozy up with your version on the next cold night.

This recipe was found at allrecipes.com.

Ingredients:

- 1 pound sirloin steak, cut into strips (I had some steak in my freezer. I’m not quite sure if it was a pound or not, but I decided to use that instead.)
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 ½ tablespoons all-purpose flour (I didn’t measure this.)
- ¼ teaspoon salt (I eyeballed this.)
- ¼ teaspoon paprika (Little did I know, I didn’t have this ingredient, so I skipped it.)
- ⅛ teaspoon ground black pepper (For such a small quantity, I didn’t bother getting my measuring spoons dirty.)
- 1 (10.75 ounce) can, condensed cream of mushroom soup (This “ounce” information just means a single serving soup can, just to save you looking at the grocery store.)
- 1 ¼ cups fat free sour cream (At the grocery store I shop at, they sell sour cream in 8 ounce packages or 16 ounce packages; since I don’t use sour cream all that often, I used an 8 ounce package and fudged the rest. That much extra sour cream was too much of a responsibility for me to deal with.)
- 1 (8 ounce) package egg noodles (I just used what was left over in a bigger bag of egg noodles.)

From Gifts, page 6

something for myself then headed to the register.

My total for all these gifts was $24.66. That is a good price for gifts for four people and myself.

As I was checking out, I asked her if she had a catalog or anything to be able to order a few more things from. She said she did not, but that if I told her what I was looking for she would see if she could find it and order it for me. I told her what I was looking for (we love geckos in my family) and she told me she would call me when more came in, and that her stock was always changing.

Overall, a great experience.

The price was right, many of the items at $2.99, the service was friendly and at the end she wrapped everything up for me so nothing got broken. I would definitely recommend anyone who doesn’t want to spend a fortune on gifts this holiday season to check out Mystical Gifts and Memories, located at 450 Thain Road, near the intersection of Thain and Burrell. It is worth the drive.

They are open from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 12 p.m. through 4 p.m. Saturdays.

From Revolution, page 6

Miles... or having some sort of drama with her uncle. If I want drama like that, I’ll just watch “Days of Our Lives.”

Charlie is supposed to be the active character, she’s the main character after all but she always comes off as passive. Her brother in captivity is actually more active than she is. He makes an effort every episode to escape and he’s always fighting back every way he can.

But Miles is the real active character. He’s the leader, not Charlie. He’s the one who fixes the problems, comes up with the genius plan, and fights the bad guys (without getting caught). He’s also a loner, I-stick-my-neck-out-for-nobody type, which means there’s always conflict between him and everyone else who has a pulse. All that character conflict (and the same kind every episode) gets so tiring.

The other problem with the characters on “Revolution” is that they are far too simple, with the exception of Miles. What I mean by that is the good guys are always good, they never do anything that could be slightly construed as bad. The bad guys are maybe a little less that way, but the interesting thing about the bad guys is that it seems like they have more motivation and reason for what they are doing, which makes the bad guys at times more interesting than the good guys.

“Revolution” is a nice idea, a good “what if?” But, unfortunately, that’s all it is. The writers sat around and said, “What if...” then forget to develop the plot and characters. The plot is boring and it drags. The characters are whiny and unbearable. Charlie fails miserably at being a strong character, much less a strong female character.

I could go on for much longer on the awfulness of this show, but I have better things to do with my time than gripe about this show, and you have better things to do at 10 p.m. Mondays than to watch “Revolution” on NBC.
KLCZ celebrates seven years

By Lindsey Keatts of The Pathfinder

KLCZ took over the sub Thursday in celebration of their seventh birthday.

Their spread included free coffee, cookies, pens, highlighters and magnets, as well as a history of the station.

KLCZ is the student run radio station at LCSC and can be listened to at 88.9fm or live at www.KLCZ.com. Operated by five volunteer student DJs, their shows include all types of music, as well as sports and news coverage and runs 24 hours a day.

"We have been trying to get a lot more campus involvement," said station manager Sandra Kelly. "We do a segment called 'Warrior of the Week' where we interview one student or faculty member, and we also feature a lot of the groups and clubs on campus."

KLCZ is always looking for more DJs. DJs are volunteers and can be students, staff or faculty members.

"It's a really good way to get real world experience. Next semester, you will also be able to get credit for it," said Tate Smith, KLCZ's advisor.

DJ and music manager Jason Snyder works at the KLCZ station Thursday during the birthday party.
Native American poet visits LCSC

By Kelly-Rae Meyer of The Pathfinder

Sherwin Bitsui is a Native American poet who has published two books of poetry, “Shapeshift” (2003) and “Flood Song” (2009). He read from both works Friday as part of LCSC’s Visiting Writers Series.

Bitsui also read some new pieces. His poetry is deeply connected with the ancient and modern world and in his poems he ties them together to create a beautiful picture of one world.

When did you realize that you wanted to write poetry seriously?

“I guess several times I decided. There were several moments in my life where poetry came natural to me. It wasn’t easy, but it was something that came easier to me than most things. The fact that I could read poems and felt what was going on in poetry. It wasn’t until my first poem in ‘Shapeshift,’ called the ‘Northern Sun’ that I felt like I was a poet. That poem was written during a period of grieving for my late grandfather. When I wrote that poem, that was really the moment when I felt that language was mine. After my first book, I still was struggling to understand poetry; I still wanted to take language somewhere. It wasn’t until completing my second book [‘Flood Song’] a few years ago. More recently, I’ve accepted it.”

How was it like to have your poetry published? To be in a tangible form?

“My first book was really frightening because I felt so exposed, more so than any other media I used to express myself. I’ve done photography, I’ve painted, but poetry itself seems so interior and when ‘Shapeshift’ came out in 2003, I really felt like calling the press saying ‘don’t publish this’ because I was just really, really frightened. The beauty of it is that it goes out into the world and it ceases belonging to you. It’s of you, but it belongs to the world at that point. You’ve shaped something and given form and beauty to something and it lives on its own, and that’s the beauty of it. The beauty of it also is to have people respond to it, the work becomes meaningful to them.”

How has your childhood played a part in your work?

“I think I was very fortunate to grow up in the land where I grew up. There was such a vastness and such depth in the landscape and so much corridors for the imagination to enter. All I had was my imagination. My childhood and the way I grew up and the time I grew up informs all of my work to this day, and I touch upon it in many of my poems, though it’s not explicit. That time itself is also disappearing because, when I was growing up back in the late 70s and mid-80s, my family didn’t have electricity and television was very scarce. Now everyone has satellite TV. I felt like I grew up in a different time than even my siblings grew up. I feel like we paid attention to story more. It just felt different. I see that as something that I go back to periodically. I grew up as a shepherd, too. I was out in the land every summer of my life - when I was probably nine-years-old till I was about 22. I still go out there. That was where I got the other half of my education – watching, playing, hiking trails. Reading books.”

In “Flood Song”, there’s a merging between the modern world and the ancient world. How did you go about bringing different worlds and ideas together?

“It’s very natural. It’s just my world. I am of those two worlds, those two places. It’s one world for me. It’s very natural to have this sense of connection to a time before and a time of now. I kind of move in between them constantly.”

How has Arthur Sze influenced your poetry?

“He was my teacher; he taught me how to see with poetry. He taught me how to pay attention to language and time within a poem and as my teacher I also followed his work. He taught me how to look at my work spatially. His mentorship and his teachings, I still carry today. There’s a lot of influence there, but also a gentleness and an approach that he had with me was that of a teacher and a good mentor.”

When you write a poem, do you have a basic idea of what you want or do you give in to the poem?

“I think I give in to the poem. I’m always entering spaces and sights and intersections between places. History is always a presence. I’m a carrier of that. I’m the carrier of a story. I certainly allow the poem to surface on its own terms and I’m not a vessel of the poem, but I’m tuned into it, and I think that is how I work in the world. The concepts and the constructions come later, and then through the writing of it I begin to find what the poem is doing. That’s another layer of sculpting.”

What is your writing process like?

“I write when I have to. I collect for months and I listen and I wait out a poem. When it’s there, it’s there. It’s terrible. I really have to ponder and sit with a poem or book. Then it comes and starts trickling in. Flood Song is written like that – it’s very abstract process. There’s no linearity to it, it was like entering this cloud and then it became this flood. Then it became a song. I followed that piece. I don’t think about the poem before I write it. It feels disingenuous if I do that.”

What was the difference between writing “Flood Song” and writing “Shapeshift”?

“I think circumstances. Some of my poems were written in Shapeshift when I was a student at the Native American Institutes in Santa Fe. They were written in a workshop-centric environment and hence you have poems, single poems, in the book. Language was still mysterious to me. There was a lot more movement and a lot more dimensions, as far as scale is concerned in Shapeshift. There is this vast, or very small, feeling of going between the two, but they are the same space. In ‘Flood Song’, I felt like I gained some tools to begin this poem, and knowledge and foundation to attempt to write this long piece. I still didn’t know what was going on when I was writing ‘Flood Song’. The difference is that I think that ‘Flood Song’ really feels like my book.”

What other things influence your work?

“I also paint. Visual artists. They influence my work. I like to see what they are doing in a space. I like to respond to some of those actions. Land is certainly influential, landscape. History. Language is also a major influence for me. I speak Navajo. I’m able to find spaces between both languages that are areas that just don’t cross, they don’t meet. I feel like that area, that trigger, is an influence for a lot of my work. And poetry allows me to give voice to that in-between space and speak to it.”

Is there anything that you are working on now?

“I’ve got a new manuscript. It’s probably my third book. I’ve got another one, probably my fourth book. I’m barely mapping them out now, and they’re doing two different things. They might merge and become one big blob of poetry.”

How do you think they’ll be different to and similar to “Flood Song” and “Shapeshift”?

“I think they will be part of one long piece that I write in my life. I think there will be one center, and they will be in conversation with each other. My new work feels connected to ‘Flood Song’ and ‘Shapeshift’, but it’s also entering new territory. The language is shifting a little bit, and the actions in the work are expressing new things, contemporary things. At the end of it, it will be one big body of work.”

How did you go about the publishing process?

“With ‘Shapeshift’, I got a phone call from the editor. I was writing, and I was giving readings before my first book came out and somebody mentioned my name to the editor at University of Arizona Press and heard that I had a manuscript and they said they would like to see it. That’s how it worked out. ‘Flood Song’, it was a similar story.”
I adore fall. It is by far the best season of the year. I love the crispness of the air, the color of the leaves, and the feeling of hope and contentment it brings me. I love feeling like it is time to get busy and get everything in order before hunkering down for winter.

I also love just how many sports there are to revel in. Fall is fabulous for sports fans. You have indoor sports like basketball just getting started, football has hit its midway point and soccer, volleyball, and cross country teams are gearing up for their final push to a championship.

Hockey has begun, baseball is in playoff-mode, and the fishing season is about to collide head-first into the ski season.

It’s just a plethora of fun. It’s not quite that busy here at LCSC, but it is plenty busy. This past weekend, the cross country teams were off, opting to train hard rather than race as they ready themselves Frontier Conference Championships that will be held in Helena Nov. 2.

The teams have been outstanding, and as they head into their final prep time, the men are ranked No. 9 in the NAIA and the women are ranked No. 13. Unless something truly crazy happens at the conference meet, both teams should find themselves racing at the national meet in Vancouver, Wash., Nov. 17.

The Warrior volleyball team hit a major roadblock over the weekend when they lost to Montana Tech. in five sets in Butte.

The Warriors were ranked No. 24 in the NAIA, and will likely drop out of the top 25 after the loss.

LCSC only has four matches left in the regular season, and at 8-3 in the Frontier, the Warriors are facing the possibility of not qualifying for the national tournament. In recent years, because of their record and high national ranking, as long as the Warriors advanced to the title match of the Frontier Conference tourney, they were guaranteed a spot at the national tournament. Now, things get a little sketchy.

One would like to think that tradition and being ranked most of the year, coupled with a strong showing at the conference tourney would be enough to get in, but it is hard to say.

The Warriors may just have to win the conference tournament to get into the NAIA tourney, but really, that’s okay. It’s a safe bet that nearly every player on the team would say they plan to win the conference title and that they’ve been playing with a target on their backs all year, so what’s one more?

It’s just another challenge, and while the Warriors have faced a variety of challenges this year, having to win a conference title seems like a problem they would love to conquer.

The basketball teams are also getting started, and that’s been fun to see.

The men opened their season this past weekend with exclamation point wins over Alberta-Augustana Friday and Saturday (see next page).

The Warriors will be back home at 7 p.m. Nov. 6 when they host Walla Walla.

And if things weren’t busy enough, the women begin play in Boise on Halloween and the fishing season is spectacular.

In a nutshell, that’s a lot of sports.

Yep, fall is fabulous.
Men’s basketball rolls to pair of wins

By Sandra Kelly of The Pathfinder

The sweet sounds of slam dunks and the swish of the net is in full swing now that basketball is officially on.

This past weekend the LCSC men’s basketball team opened the 2012-13 season in a commanding fashion by hammering Alberta-Augustana 99-33 Saturday and 98-33 Friday.

“It was good to get out here and get some of those first-game jitters out,” LCSC coach Brandon Rinta said in a press release. “It took us a little bit to get settled, but I liked the effort and energy our guys brought for the whole game.”

Every player that suited up Friday saw playing time, and in addition to racking up the points, the Warriors defense was equally spectacular as it held Alberta-Augustana to 13 field goals while it forced 29 turnovers.

Senior P.J. Bolte played a total of 17 minutes, and he averaged a point a minute, and ended the game as the high scorer with 17 points. Nick Fromm and Tommy Sperry each added 13.

Saturday the Warriors shot 50 percent from the floor and 60 of their 99 points came in the inside paint.

Jacob Champoux led LCSC with 18 points, going 7 of 9 from the floor. Joseph Moquino added 14 points and led the team in rebounds with 12. Derrick Wofford added 13.

It was a dynamic start for the Warriors, a team picked to finish fourth in the Frontier Conference. Westminster is picked to finish first followed by MSU-Northern, Western, LCSC, Carroll, Great Falls, Rocky Mountain, Montana Tech and newcomer, Dickinson State.

“The league was so senior-heavy last year that every team is an unknown except for Westminster,” Rinta said. “We can’t put too much emphasis on the preseason polls, but I think how close the voting was shows that there’s not going to be much difference between the top and bottom teams.”

This week the Warriors hit the road in an exhibition game and will face a completely different squad in Montana.

The Griz are a Division I team, and traditionally compete for the Big Sky crown.

“It’s going to be a completely different environment,” Rinta said. “Montana is one of the powerhouse programs in the Big Sky and they have a really good basketball team back. We’re going to find out a lot about ourselves.”

The Warriors return home Nov. 6 when they host Walla Walla University at 7 p.m.

Volleyball has final matches this week

By Sandra Kelly of The Pathfinder

After dropping an excruciating five-setter to Montana Tech Saturday, the Warriors return home this week for their final home matches.

The Warriors will host Dickinson State Thursday and Rocky Mountain Saturday.

The Warriors will honor seniors Brianne Brown and Kaylee Rector Thursday.

What’s happening?

Staff Report

• LCSC will host the Safety Fest of the Great Northwest.

The Safety fest is a three-day safety training event today and Thursday in the Williams Conference Center.

The event is for contractors, construction, professional technical educators and business people who want to improve the safety of their workplace. Training sessions include courses on reducing hazards that cause fatalities, injuries and illnesses on the job.

There is also a vendor trade show.

• The LCSC community warrior volunteer center and ASLCSC are hosting a “Make a Difference Day Bowl Painting” for the YWCA.

The event is from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday at the SUB.

Bowls, glazes and brushes will be provided. The bowls painted will be sold at the SOUPport Our Shelters fundraiser. The event is available to students, faculty and staff.

“Alcohol is not a cause of sexual assault: it is just one of the many tools that assailants use.”

Rochester University Study

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Chelsea Shears
Major: Kinesiology
Year: Junior
“The food in the SUB is really gross.”

Laura Lian
Major: Business administration
Year: Junior
“The cafeteria and the SUB needs to be open longer and have better quality and variety available at dinner time.”

Randy Cavanaugh
Major: Physical therapist assistant
Year: Sophomore
“Advisors should be more knowledgeable and forthcoming with information.”

Cullen Butler
Major: Information systems analysis
Year: Sophomore
“I’d like to see Japanese as a language offered.”