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CAMPUS

UO to raise GPA for automatic admittance in 2010

Minimum GPA requirement will be raised from a 3.25 to a 3.4 in a controversial move officials say will increase diversity on campus

HANNAH HOFFMAN | NEWS REPORTER

Students entering the University in 2010 will be automatically admitted if they have a 3.4 grade point average, up from the current 3.25. Admissions officials said the change, which was approved by the Oregon State Board of Higher Education on Friday, is intended to allow factors beyond grades and test scores to be considered in the admissions process.

The change allows any high school student applying for admission with 3.4 GPA or higher to automatically earn a place at the University without submitting an essay or additional materials. Brian Henley, director of admissions, stressed that the change only applies for automatic admission; the minimum requirement for admission remains a 3.0 GPA.

Henley said that in the freshman class entering the University in fall 2008, nearly 70 percent of students were admitted automatically. Had the requirement been 3.4, only 56 percent would have been.

Henley said the switch could bring greater diversity to the University. When more than 2/3 of an incoming class is admitted on grades alone, he said, it leaves very little room for "comprehensive review," in which admissions officials also consider such factors as a student's essay, ethnicity and socioeconomic background.

When this process is used, the University can bring in more diverse students, Henley said.

But members of the student program MEChA had doubts about the policy increasing diversity.

University senior Maya Esparza said raising the GPA requirement to increase diversity is "completely counterintuitive." She said even if the University doesn't intend it, becoming more selective inherently excludes minority groups, which statistically perform below more privileged groups.

Eugene School District assessment specialist Jim Conaghan said Henley's rationale for the change might be hard to execute.

"By raising it, if it allows for them to put more of a focus on kids from different backgrounds, I think that's great," he said. But he said many high school students don't report their free-and-reduced-lunch statuses, the primary standard by which economic status is judged.

Socioeconomic information is more private than ethnic identity, Conaghan said. "It's not a publicly

TURN TO GPA | PAGE 4

Transition to the digital age

Local television broadcasters to
switch to digital signal on Feb. 17;
estimated 1,400 affected

EMILY E. SMITH | NEWS REPORTER

Eugene-area broadcasters will switch to digital Feb. 17, despite Congress's delay of the deadline to June 12.

Although broadcasters and cable companies have warned television viewers of the Feb. 17 deadline for the past year, the Obama administration saw need to delay the deadline to give TV owners more time to prepare for digital and successfully legislated the delay last week. The stimulus package before Congress includes \$650 million for additional DTV converter box coupons.

Communication studies professor Carl Bybee said that in the giant effort by the FCC and broadcasters to implement new technology, the reasons behind the digital switch have been left out of news coverage, leaving the public unaware and spending money they may not have on expensive televisions and scrambling over coupons.

The transition will free up broadcast spectrums for use by police, fire and rescue squads, but the greatest use of these spectrums will be auctioned off to businesses interested in providing wireless service to customers like AT&T and Verizon. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 initiated the national switch to DTV, but Bybee said the public had no voice in the decision to sell publicly owned broadcast spectrums.

Sophomore Zoe Bardsley said that while announcements thoroughly informed viewers on how to prepare for the switch, there was no explanation of why DTV was necessary.

"I don't really know why, I just figured it was something they had to do," she said. "There hasn't been any confusion about what you have to do, but there's been confusion on why."

Freshman Bryan Clement is ready for DTV, but he's also unclear on broadcasters' analog abandonment.

"I wasn't really interested in why, so I didn't look into it," he said. "My guess would be it's just a business move, but I haven't seen any whys."

KARYN FIEBICH | GRAPHIC DESIGNER

TURN TO DIGITAL | PAGE 4

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Few students show up for ASUO elections informational meeting

Various senators and execs detail the requirements, expectations of their jobs

ALEX TOMCHAK SCOTT | NEWS REPORTER

ASUO presenters far outnumbered interested students at the first ASUO elections meeting of the year Tuesday, but organizers said they are still optimistic about their ability to raise participation in time for the April elections.

The elections committee reserved the high-ceilinged EMU Gumwood Room and set out 96 chairs in front of the projection screen. Pizzas were stacked on a table in the back corner alongside one-liter bottles of soda and paper cups and plates. Despite the preparations, only six students showed up to receive campaign information.

"It's good to see people interested. We just need to keep reaching out to other groups," elections coordinator Aaron Tuttle said.

Students are first allowed to formally declare their candidacies on Feb. 25. Though the elections packet Tuttle passed around indicated there are 28 open positions, he said that figure is subject to change if candidates leave office. It included 14 Senate seats, following ASUO Sen. Michael Latteri's announcement Monday that he would resign his position at the end of this school year.

Tuttle said those who are already involved in campus politics would not need to attend the meeting because they already know most of the information he presented, and they are likely to file their papers close to the

TURN TO ASUO | PAGE 4



DAVE MARTINEZ | PHOTO EDITOR

Potential candidates met in the Gumwood Room in the Erb Memorial Union for an ASUO elections informational meeting Tuesday.

TALK TO US • Limit submissions to 600 words • Submissions should include name, phone number and address • The Emerald reserves the right to edit all submissions • One submission per person per calendar month

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IN MY OPINION | TRUMAN CAPPS

BREAKING FREE FROM 'HELICOPTER PARENTS'

Let's get to the facts: I'm not paying for my education.

Several years ago, my grandparents started a trust fund to cover my college education and living expenses so that I would never have to worry about not being able to pay for school. At the start of every term, I call my parents and tell them how much money I think I'll need to pay for rent, tuition and my uncontrollable hummus addiction and, within a few days, that much money magically appears in my bank account.

Sure, it sounds nice, but my life is not without hardship — for example, there wasn't enough room in my apartment for the tanning bed I got on Amazon.com, so I still have to walk to the salon like everyone else.

So yes, I am, in one sense or another, spoiled. I'm going to come out of college with no debt to speak of and I've never had to live off of Top Ramen for weeks at a time until my next paycheck came in (although to be honest, I really couldn't buy very much Ramen with the paychecks I get here at the Emerald). I don't take any of this for granted, of course, and I am living proof that an abundance of money doesn't make a person wise, cultured, or even tolerable. If you still think I'm coasting through life on the good graces of my family, though, consider this.

If I were in danger of failing a class or in some trouble with the administration, I might think calling my parents would be an option. However, if I were to do so, and ask them to badger a professor on my behalf, I can guarantee you they'd both take a few days off work and drive down to Eugene just to laugh in my face and tell me "no." This is because, while my parents are willing to fund my escapades in higher education, they've always made it clear to me that said escapades are mine and mine alone, and I've got to deal with the choices I make.

A mother of a college freshman in California, on the other hand,



PATRICK FINNEY | ILLUSTRATOR

recently traveled to Cal Poly on her own to register her son for classes, buy his textbooks and meet with his academic adviser. In Texas, one girl's mother lobbied university housing officials to change her daughter's roommate, chose her classes and maintained a constant e-mail dialogue with her professors. And all across the country, colleges have begun to create entire administrative departments devoted simply to dealing with mothers and fathers who are unable to let go of their offspring. They call them "helicopter parents" for their tendency to

hover around their children and, if current trends continue, college campuses everywhere will soon turn into a veritable "Apocalypse Now" of concerned guardians.

It's sometimes embarrassing being a member of the "Millennial" generation (people born between 1982 and 1995), because we seem to have gained a reputation for being whiny, immature, and self-serving — perhaps rightfully so. Parents who 20 years ago were hanging yellow "Baby On Board" signs in their Volvos to announce to the world they had successfully reproduced are now taking

a greater interest in college than their children are. While some parents claim they're merely protecting the money they've invested in their children's education, the National Survey of Student Engagement found last year that the higher the level of parental involvement, the lower the student's grades turned out to be.

What these parents don't understand is that their investment is only worthwhile if their child knows he or she has to fend for his or herself. The most important thing college offers is independence — for the first time, many

Parents who 20 years ago were hanging yellow "Baby On Board" signs in their Volvos to announce to the world they had successfully reproduced are now taking a greater interest in college than their children are.

students have the opportunity to decide for themselves between studying and beer, and while beer usually wins, sooner or later the student in question will pick beer one too many times and learn a valuable lesson, all on his own. If parents are constantly involved — meddling, visiting, parenting — then the whole independence aspect of college is lost, and it's just a bunch of classes leading up to a cap and gown and a cheaply printed piece of paper.

This is why your counselors always told you it didn't really matter what you majored in, so long as you just went to college. What the experience primarily teaches you is how to manage time and take care of yourself; the educational aspect of it comes second. For example, our own Phil Knight majored in journalism — funny, I know, that a journalism major could find some measure of success or happiness in life — and went on to start a business, rather than work for a newspaper. I'll bet you when he was in college, his mother wasn't calling him every 15 minutes to inquire after his experiments with making shoes in a waffle iron.

So take it from me, the one with the trust fund: It's fine to have your parents in your life. But what's most important is that you're the one living that life, not them. Because at some point, you'll enter the "real world," and it's a lot easier to live there if you've had a little practice in college.

Of course, Hewlett-Packard recently reported that an increasing number of parents have started calling the company to negotiate their children's pay, so maybe you can just ride the gravy train until they die.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OSPIRG acts as sole voice for issues chosen by students

Oh, the short collective memory of an undergraduate population!

Reading about the defunding brouhaha regarding OSPIRG, I was reminded of my own time spent with the group, during 2003-04. That year, I came to OSPIRG asking to start a Renter's Rights campaign. The group assented, and the campaign gained speed through dialogues with then-Councilor David Kelly, the West University Neighborhood Association and eventually the ASUO. A search through the ODE's archives will detail these events. During that time, I was aided in my research directly by the Portland office, which did research for me on Corvallis' and Portland's housing codes. This is how OSPIRG works; these advocates are hired by the state's student PIRGs as a whole, and they work on the issues that students choose.

In July 2005, the city enacted its housing code, making dealing with landlords much easier. How this directly benefits students is easy enough to see, as the majority of students are renters.

The crucial point here is that how OSPIRG works is through individuals deciding what the issues are, and being given the resources and power to make real change happen. What other group on campus can boast that? That the ASUO wants to take away students' most powerful voice in the outside world is ludicrous at best, criminal at worst. I urge you to contact the members of the ACFC and ask them to continue to fund OSPIRG.

C. ERIC DEVIN
UNIVERSITY GRADUATE STUDENT

New dorm will impact students' ability to park near campus

The University announced recently that

a new residence hall will be built on the Bean Complex parking lot. The problem is that the Bean parking lot is practically the only one where students can find parking during the day, and is one of the only to allow parking overnight. Where are students going to park? Not all of us live on a bus route with frequent service, so LTD is not always a viable option. I don't think Matthew Knight Arena will have enough spaces for students, staff, and visitors, if its lot is even open for students to use. The University needs to think through the impact of the new dorm on student parking and the neighbors surrounding the campus. Or maybe the University does not want local students attending; after all, we pay lower resident tuition and most of us do not pay the thousands of dollars extra to live in the dorms. A new dorm would earn more money than student parking permits.

STEVEN ANDERSON
UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE

CORRECTIONS

Because of a reporter's error, an article in Tuesday's Emerald ("Craft Center exhibits student, staff art", ODE, Feb. 10) mis-identified an artist. Tim Jarvis is the glass technician who created the parody of a University call box, not Jeff Ballard.

Because of a reporter's error, an article in Monday's Emerald ("Night-owl transport", ODE, Feb. 9) incorrectly states that the Oregon State Board of Higher Education rejected a proposal for a new transportation fee. The state board has not yet heard the proposal. The Emerald regrets the errors.

STATE

House Bill 2556 aims to keep National Guard troops home

Bill would give Gov. Kulongoski power to withhold guards

LAUREN FOX
NEWS REPORTER

More than 3,500 Oregon National Guard troops will be deployed by the end of the year, unless supporters of House Bill 2556 can convince Gov. Ted Kulongoski to take action.

HB 2556 would give the governor authority to withhold National Guard troops from federal deployment in situations where there is no legally valid authorization to use troops in a national conflict.

Supporters of House Resolution 4 and Senate Resolution 1 urge the governor to withhold the state's National Guard deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan under the pretense that National Guard troops are intended for state use, unless otherwise authorized by Congress. However, Leah Bolger, Veterans for Peace Chapter 132 spokeswoman, said Congress's Authorization for Use of Military Force from 2001 and 2002 is no longer valid.

Congress authorized the use of National Guard troops in 2001 during the "War on Terror" and again in 2002 before the United States' invasion of Iraq.

"This is not a bunch of peace activists trying to pull out of Iraq. There were no weapons of mass destruction and the imminent threat of Saddam Hussein

no longer exists," Bolger said. "Therefore, the terms of Congress's 2002 authorization have expired. Also, the War on Terror authorization inappropriately delegates war-making powers to the president, resulting in a continual call-up of the Guard."

Bolger said the resolutions have been drafted to create pressure on Kulongoski to withhold sending guard troops, and the legislation shows some state legislators would support the governor.

However, Kulongoski spokesman Rem Nivens said no resolution will convince the governor he has the power to defy the federal government.

"The reality is, the legislature can come up with resolution after resolution, but the governor still won't have the ability to stop the deployment of National Guard troops," he said.

Nivens also said all the legal analyses and advice Kulongoski has received on the topic has led to the same conclusion: He is powerless to do anything because Congress authorized the use of state National Guard troops.

Captain Stephen Bowman, Oregon National Guard spokesman, suggests the current language of the U.S. Constitution allows for Congress's 2001 and 2002 Authorization for Use of Military Force to stand, and the only way to prevent National Guard troops from being deployed is to amend



TRISTAN COOLEN | PHOTOGRAPHER

An Oregon Army National Guard (C/7-158 Aviation) Blackhawk helicopter picks up UO ROTC cadets conducting a field exercise at Camp Rilea, near Astoria, Ore. The medevac unit, headquartered in Salem, was mobilized Jan. 31 and sent to Ft. Sill, Okla. for two months of readiness training and then deployment to Iraq.

the Constitution.

"This isn't something the governor has a say in," he said. "It is in the Constitution."

Despite the disagreement over what Kulongoski's rights are, there are still campaigns spreading awareness about the issue.

The "Bring the Guard Home" campaign is a national effort to raise awareness about a state governor's power over National Guard troops. The campaign began in Vermont in January 2008. So far five other states, Vermont, Pennsylvania, New

Jersey, Rhode Island and New Mexico, have drafted similar legislation in response to the group's efforts.

State Sen. Bill Morrisette is committed to keeping Guard troops home.

"Repeatedly calling up Na-

tional Guard troops is stretching it too far," he said. "There has to be some new negotiation with the governor. He should start a draft if they need more people to fight overseas."

CITY & STATE POLITICS
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TECHNOLOGY

MySpace revamps digital safeguards against sexual offenders

As Internet technologies advance, security issues become increasingly difficult to properly address

ELISABETH KRAMER
NEWS REPORTER

Last year, both MySpace and Facebook pledged to increase security on their respective sites in response to public criticism that online social networking sites don't do enough to protect their users.

MySpace took its first major step Feb. 3, announcing it would boot 90,000 convicted sexual offenders from its site.

Even with MySpace's move, legal authority over a sexual offender's Internet use is limited, said Andrea Schlesinger, Lane County's parole and

probation supervisor.

"Just because we can monitor convicted offenders who are on parole or probation doesn't mean we have the legal authority to watch everything they do," Schlesinger said. "Unfortunately, our authority is based on what the court order says, and that varies greatly depending on the offender."

Sometimes, Schlesinger said, law enforcement officers will install software that tracks the Internet sites an offender views on his or her computer. Other times, the entire computer will be confiscated. Such measures, however, depend on the amount

of evidence suggesting offenders are violating the guidelines of their specific court orders.

"It depends on the background of the offender in question," Schlesinger said. "If this is an offender who has a history of using the Internet to practice their deviant behavior, then it's more likely their court order sets restrictions on Internet use."

Vi Beaty, Oregon State Police sexual offender registry manager said that unless they're classified as a predator, once offenders are off parole the degree to which their activity is monitored depends on the resources available to the local law enforcement agency.

"Technology is so much further advanced than the ways

law enforcement can manage it," Beaty said. "For example, I'm not sure if there's any way to track an offender who is using multiple names to access various sites."

University media law professor Kyuho Youm said MySpace's recent decision to expel offenders was most likely based on public image. If the company had rejected the request to increase security, Youm said users would have been more likely to question what exactly the network has to hide.

"The revolution of cyber technology is almost mind-boggling," Youm said. "The question of leeway with anonymity online is balanced with the reality that some people are

exploiting their anonymity. This fact makes people more willing to allow the government to step in for protection."

Students should also take personal steps concerning safety online, Schlesinger said. Although the majority of sexual offenders are not classified as "predatory," Schlesinger said the most dangerous offenders prowl the Internet looking for someone to victimize. The more information a student provides, the higher the probability that such a person can find you, Schlesinger said.

"People who commit sexual crimes are very good at making things appear rosy," she said. "If any situation seems too good to be true, you really need to

be careful."

To protect herself online, University sophomore Kristin Rossman said she makes her Internet profile private and never posts information such as a phone number. However, University freshman Brad Nelson said the nature of the Internet makes it difficult to track people who might misuse such information.

"I definitely think MySpace and Facebook should do as much as they can to monitor who is on their sites," Nelson said. "At the same time, however, they can't control everything that happens online."

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GPA | Increase designed to allow for more leeway in the application review process

FROM PAGE 1

identifiable thing.”

Henley said the University has several criteria for evaluating applicants' economic backgrounds. The application asks students if they are the first in their family to attend college, and the committee also looks at the essay, a statement of special circumstances and whether the student needed an application fee deferral.

Junior Jill Torres, another member of MEChA, said if the University wants to increase diversity, it ought to focus on retention of minority groups instead of admissions. Latino students who are admitted don't necessarily stay, she said. Many drop out by the end of their first term, she said, noting that if the University can't keep students of color on campus, admitting more will make no difference.

Torres and Esparza said

they were speaking for themselves and not on behalf of MEChA.

The new automatic admissions threshold is decidedly higher than any other in the Oregon University System. The threshold at Eastern Oregon University, Oregon State University and Portland State University is a 3.00 GPA.

Senior Nick Dahlen entered college with a 3.3 GPA, which guaranteed him automatic enrollment but wouldn't if he applied next year. Dahlen said he had worked hard in high school and felt prepared for classwork at the University, with the possible exception of writing class. He said he could understand the change, given the University's recent over-enrollment of its freshman class and the need to weed out more applicants to avoid a similar situation next year.

Graduate teaching fellow

Sara Keilholtz, who teaches Writing 121, said she sees a wide range of abilities in freshman students, even though the majority were automatically admitted. In fact, students who did well in high school often struggle more in her class because they are accustomed to succeeding and are not as open to criticism as are students who graduated high school with lower GPAs, she said.

Henley said the ultimate goal of the threshold change is to provide more flexibility in the application review process, rather than cause administrators to be tied to GPAs alone.

The University wants to enroll the best class possible, and that may not stop at grades, Henley said. "Ultimately, we want to enroll a class that brings diverse perspectives."

HIGHER EDUCATION
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DIGITAL | Media coverage of transition to digital television underreported, Bybee says

FROM PAGE 1

Greg Raschio, general manager of KVAL, said viewers have had plenty of notice and time to make the necessary changes to receive a digital TV signal.

"For us, the date has been set for over three years, and we've been telling people for over a year pretty adamantly," Raschio said. "We don't think those who aren't ready now will be ready by June 12."

While broadcasters in the Portland area and in cities across the country are adopting the June 12 transition date, Raschio said KVAL and local broadcasters are ready to make the switch now. KVAL has been broadcasting on "temporary authority" on channel 25 in anticipation of the switch, Raschio said, and will move to channel 13 in the early morning hours of Feb. 17.

Al Stavitsky, associate dean of the School of Journalism and Communication, said the DTV conversion has become an issue for civil rights activists who are concerned about the loss of me-

dia access unprepared viewers will experience.

"The people who are least prepared are at-risk communities, low-income communities, the elderly, people of color, the most vulnerable in society," he said. "This is fairly unprecedented, taking technology that seemed to be working fine and telling people you're going to need this new technology."

Raschio estimated that more than 1,400 viewers in the Eugene area who currently only pick up signals over the air will be affected by the Feb. 17 switch to digital.

While the DTV switch raises questions of equity for social activists, Bybee said the failure of this transition is in the media's coverage of the legislation that pushed the new technology on an uninformed public.

"The real question is, do we have a media system serving the interests of the public in the U.S.?" Bybee said.

BUSINESS, HEALTH, SCIENCE
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PREPARING FOR DTV

- TVs connected to Comcast or another cable provider do not require a DTV converter
- Digital tuner TVs do not require a DTV converter, but may require a digital antenna
- Analog TVs not connected to cable will require a DTV converter box
- Analog TVs with a DTV converter may also require a new antenna
- To be put on the waiting list for a \$40 DTV converter box coupon, go to www.dtv2009.gov
- DTV converter coupons can be redeemed at any retailer

IMPORTANT DATES

- Feb. 25: Filing for candidates begins
- March 11: Filing deadline for candidates
- April 6-9: Primary elections
- April 14-16: General elections

OPEN POSITIONS

- ASUO president and vice president
- 14 Senate seats
- 6 at-large seats on finance committees
- Three seats on SRC Advisory board, two on ASPAC, and one on Student Building Fee Allocation Committee

ASUO | More than 25 positions open for 2009-10

FROM PAGE 1

March 11 deadline.

Most of the current ASUO officeholders who did show up did so to speak about the opportunities presented by the ASUO. Sens. Emma Kallaway and Nick Schultz and Department Finance Committee

member Brendan Good explained the role of finance committees, while ASUO President Sam Dotters-Katz and Vice-President Johnny Delashaw spoke about their jobs.

"You're pretty much your own boss," Dotters-Katz said of his position. "Sometimes it's hard. I mean, as most of

you probably know, there was a 15- to 20-percent turnout in the last election."

ASUO intern Robert Greene was the only student heavily involved in the ASUO who appeared at the meeting for the express purpose of gaining information about the election. Greene said he hadn't decided

whether he intended to run for the Senate or involve himself in a presidential campaign in hopes of gaining a staff position in next year's ASUO Executive.

"I'm just hoping to get involved somehow," Greene said.

CAMPUS AND FEDERAL POLITICS
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health center

wellness wednesday

Hooking up?

Safety First.



by: Charlotte Boesel

"Hooking up" describes many students' sexual relationships. A loose definition of hooking up is a sexual encounter, including everything from kissing to sexual intercourse, with no strings attached. This has created a culture where students can have casual sex with partners they barely know.

Hooking up, though pleasant at the time, can have negative effects on both partners. Some of these include the following:

- Spread of STIs or STDs
- Pregnancies
- Individuals may feel used
- Can develop bad habits making it more difficult later on to sustain a healthy long-term relationship

Statistics from the American Social Health Association:

- Many people with STI/STDs do not have symptoms
- Many people do not recognize their symptoms
- Each year 9 million new cases of STI/STDs occur among young people ages 15-24
- Each year 1 in 4 teens contracts an STI/STD
- Young people are at greatest risk for STI/STDs because, as a group, they are more likely to have unprotected sex and more than one sex partner

We all know sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or diseases (STDs) exist, but we don't think that we could ever get them. The truth is; it CAN happen to you. More than half of all people will have an STI/STD at some point in their lifetime.

To protect yourself and your partner from contracting a sexually transmitted infection or disease you must be proactive. That means planning ahead before sexual encounters. Below are some tips for you to follow.

Sexual Health Tips:

- Talk to your partner about your sexual history
- Learn how to communicate, develop trust and share feelings
- Do not have sex when intoxicated (impairs judgment, decision making)
- Get tested between each new partner
- Have monogamous relationships
- Use a condom correctly every time, even if on other birth control

It can be difficult to talk about sex and STI/Ds with your partner but communication is important in preventing unintended pregnancies and the spread of STI/Ds. Here are some good communication tips to keep in mind.

- Maintain eye contact
- Don't interrupt
- Ask for clarification when needed
- Talk when both you and your partner are not distracted, busy or intoxicated
- Practice on friends first and get feedback



The Health, Counseling and Testing Center is available to answer questions about birth control options, safer sex practices and counseling for relationship issues. These resources are listed below:

- FPEP-Free birth control, if you qualify
- STI/STD and HIV testing
- Practitioner visit to discuss birth control options
- Peer Health Promotion- Information, pamphlets and books
- Free condoms, dental dams, finger cots and lube
- Counseling Center- free counseling and workshops
- Pregnancy testing
- Plan B (available over the counter for \$25)

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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

PAC-10 MEN'S BASKETBALL PROGRESS REPORT

The men's basketball season is a weekend into its second round of Pacific-10 Conference play, and Emerald beat reporters Kevin Hudson and Andrew Greif graded the performance of the teams up to this point.

GRADE	COMMENTS	GRADE	COMMENTS
A	<p>No. 11 UCLA Bruins 19-4, 8-2 Pac-10 (1st)</p> <p>They may play in Los Angeles, but there's a certain workmanlike efficiency about this year's Bruins team. Without an instantly recognizable player on the roster besides point guard Darren Collison, the Bruins are on the brink of 20 wins because of their defense, the specialty of hard-nosed coach Ben Howland. Not one player on the roster is in the Pac-10's top 10 in scoring or rebounding. The Bruins are only fifth in the league in rebounding, but their skill comes in keeping the other team off the boards. The Bruins are the best in the league when it comes to fewest allowed rebounds, second-best in three-point percentage allowed (only 32 percent). They do have their weaknesses but post Alfred Aboya, the current Pac-10 Player of the Week, who is shooting 59 percent this season, and Collison, who is maybe the fastest player in America with the ball in his hands give them the edge.</p>	C+	<p>USC Trojans 15-7, 6-4 Pac-10 (5th)</p> <p>The potential is very much there for coach Tim Floyd's team, but it hasn't capitalized when it should have, namely in losses to OSU and Washington, whose athletes aren't as good as USC's. It does have a dominating inside presence in junior forward Taj Gibson, who was named to the mid-season's top 30 list for the Wooden Award, given to the top player in the country. The forward's length makes him a force at each end, blocking 2.9 shots per game, tied for the seventh-best average in the nation, let alone the tops in the Pac-10. He has 11 double-doubles this season, averaging 10 rebounds per game, but was out for most of the game against UCLA this week, and showed the team's Achilles Heel inside when he is gone.</p>
A	<p>Washington Huskies 17-6, 8-3 Pac-10 (2nd)</p> <p>The Huskies have far outpaced their rodent counterparts to the south in terms of compelling resurgence stories, as they are off to their best conference start "since Gerald Ford was President," according to their Web site. Last weekend they won 75-68 at Stanford to snap a 15-game losing streak to the Cardinal at Pauley Pavilion and maintain sole possession of second in the conference standings.</p> <p>Senior center John Brockman is, again, the driving force of the Huskies in the paint and on the glass. He notched his 11th double-double of the season and ranks in the conference top 10 in scoring (15.0 points per game, 9th Pac-10), rebounding (11.1 rebounds per game, 2nd Pac-10) and field goal percentage (.525, 9th Pac-10). The difference for the Huskies this season has been the improved perimeter play around Brockman, as Washington boasts two more of the conference's top-10 scorers in freshman guard Isaiah Thomas (16.5 points per game, T-5th Pac-10) and senior guard Justin Dentmon (15.1 points per game, 8th Pac-10).</p>	C+	<p>Washington State Cougars 12-11, 4-7 Pac-10 (Tied for 7th)</p> <p>Though tied with the Beavers for seventh place in the conference, the Cougars get a slightly better grade because of their particularly stifling brand of defense. Washington State boasts conference-best marks in scoring defense (54.5 points per game) and field goal percentage defense (.384), while shooting a higher free throw percentage than anyone else in the Pac-10 (.775).</p> <p>The Cougars are led in scoring by senior guard Taylor Rochestie (12.6 points per game), but rely heavily on sophomore shooting guard Klay Thompson (12.5 points per game) and senior center Aaron Baynes (12.4 points per game) to shoulder the offensive load.</p> <p>Baynes is the Cougars best bet on the glass at 7.5 rebounds per game (5th Pac-10) followed by Thompson at 4.5 rebounds per game.</p>
B	<p>Arizona Wildcats 16-8, 6-5 Pac-10 (6th)</p> <p>Arizona this high? Absolutely. How else to judge the Wildcats' recent resurgence, winning five games in a row, including its first road sweep of the Pac-10 season. The team has picked the right time to start a run, with seven games left in the Pac-10 regular season.</p> <p>During that five game stretch, the 'Cats have averaged 11 points more per game, and its three best offensive outputs have been during that period, as well, scoring 106, 96 and 87 points. Not surprisingly, the team thrives on a fast-paced game that encourages scoring, racking up a 6-0 record this year when they score 80 or more points. The team's spark plug has been Chase Budinger, whose per-game averages in points (20.2 vs. 17.7), rebounds (9 vs. 6.6) and assists (4.2 vs. 3.3) have all increased. Even more impressive, during the last five games, Budinger has committed just six turnovers in 199 minutes.</p>	C	<p>Stanford Cardinal 14-7, 4-7 Pac-10 (Tied for 7th)</p> <p>New head coach Johnny Dawkins brought his Duke pedigree west to Palo Alto, Calif., but we haven't seen the mental toughness the Blue Devils are famous for rub off onto his Cardinal. The team has four seniors who contribute, yet have lost games to Washington State and Oregon State this season, both games it should have won. Stanford went a perfect 10-0 to start the year in non-conference play, although none were marquee victories. The Cardinal were exposed come Pac-10 play, losing to ASU by 30 to open the schedule, only to beat Arizona by 16 in their next game.</p> <p>Senior guard Anthony Goods is the team's best offensive threat, scoring 16.5 points per game. The Cardinal protect the ball well, averaging 3.19 fewer turnovers per game than their opponent, yet they are out-rebounded on average each game. And like the Ducks, the Cardinal can't shoot (eighth-best in the league) but allow a conference-worst 48 percent shooting by other teams.</p>
B-	<p>No. 18 Arizona State Sun Devils 18-5, 7-4 Pac-10 (Tied for 3rd)</p> <p>The Sun Devils got healthy last week against the Oregon schools with a road sweep to offset their pair of road losses in Washington the week before. They were unbeaten in a soft December schedule and have a road win over UCLA under their belts, but with arguably the Pac-10's best player in sophomore guard James Harden, it could be said Arizona State has under-achieved thus far in conference play.</p> <p>Harden has certainly not underachieved this season, as his conference-best 21.9 points per game scoring average is more than three points clear of his closest competition in the category, and hung 36 points on UO, the most in a conference game.</p>	C	<p>Oregon State Beavers 10-12, 4-7 Pac-10 (Tied for 7th)</p> <p>Oregon State's grade cannot be based purely on performance, but considered against the backdrop of the horrid play of recent years in contrast with the optimism of this season's success, albeit limited.</p> <p>First-year head coach Craig Robinson can be largely credited with the turnaround, as he has his Beaver team playing some of the best scoring defense in the league (62.0 points per game, 4th Pac-10) with his rendition of the 1-3-1 trap zone. Beaver guard Seth Tarver embodies this new defensive scheme as one of the conference's top thieves (1.5 steals per game, T-5 Pac-10).</p> <p>This resurgence may be more from within the program than without at this point, or more perception than reality, as empty seats still plague Gill Coliseum, which ranks ninth in the conference in attendance at 6,174 per game.</p>
B-	<p>California Golden Bears 18-6, 7-4 Pac-10 (Tied for 3rd)</p> <p>Cal was once 4-0 and on top of the league before hitting a rough patch and losing four of their next five games. That stretch might be a sign that the team isn't really made for a Pac-10 title run, and it might be true. But for the Bears, it doesn't really matter considering they've already won more Pac-10 games than the last two seasons, and have played far above expectations.</p> <p>Point guard Jerome Randle has been one of the biggest beneficiaries of the switch, ranking second in the league in scoring with 18.5 points per game, and tied for first in assists, with 5.0. They're part of why Cal is the best shooting three-point team in the league, shooting nearly 46 percent from deep. It has had trouble on the boards, barely outrebounding its opponents by three per game, and ranks near the bottom of the league in blocks and steals.</p>	F	<p>Oregon Ducks 6-17, 0-11 Pac-10 (10th)</p> <p>While some recent development on this young team may warrant a higher grade from those watching closely, the historic nature of the Ducks' futile first 11 games of Pac-10 play leaves no alternative to a failing grade. Think of it this way: they were getting about a C with their 6-6 non-conference record (the equivalent to showing up to get the syllabus and introduce yourself to the professor) and since then have bombed the midterm, the research project and every weekly quiz.</p> <p>The Ducks are the conference's worst team this season in scoring defense (76.0 points per game), field goal percentage (.413), three-point percentage defense (.393), rebounding defense (35.8), rebounding margin (-3.3) and assist-to-turnover ratio (290/354, 0.8).</p> <p>The only categories in which the Ducks have been competitive are three point field goals made (7.7, 2nd Pac-10), thanks largely to junior guard Tajuan Porter, the conference leader in threes-per-game (2.8), and offensive rebounds (12.0, 2nd-Pac-10) due to the efforts of two of the conference's top overall rebounders in junior forward Joewan Catron (7.1 rebounds per game, 6th Pac-10) and freshman center Michael Dunigan (5.1 rebounds per game, 16th Pac-10).</p>

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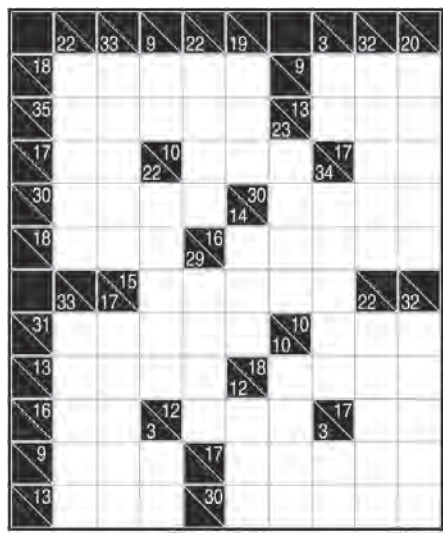
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K
C
R
O



Fill all blank squares in the grid with numbers 1-9 so that the numbers add up to the corresponding clues. Clue squares have an **across** clue and/or a **down** clue. The example below has an across clue square with 4 blank squares to the right of it, which make up the **across** clue square. The numbers in the run should add up to the clue (13). The squares that form the **down** run are positioned below the down clues. No number can be in the same run more than once.

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

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

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (FEBRUARY 11). Relationships inspire you this year. You are able to solve problems, create beauty and overcome the odds, all in the name of love. The next 10 weeks you will be surrounded by people who keep you on your toes and striving. In April you'll have the sense that you've arrived. June and August pad your bank account. Libra and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 20, 1, 44 and 18.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When you're ready for a change you want it to happen sooner rather than later. The others involved in the transition may need more closure. Let others take the time they need and all goes gracefully.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Plan your next soiree. Once you make a few arrangements you will be inspired to elaborate. You won't be satisfied until you have created the kind of fun that people line up to be a part of.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll be among supportive people, some of them too supportive for your taste. When a friend behaves more like a bossy sibling, the best way to deal is to smile and agree, then do whatever you want.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). When you're doing it right, whoop it up. When you're doing it wrong, shrug and try again. Keep wracking up the good feeling throughout the day and tonight you'll have abundant energy to share with your nearest and dearest.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be asked to put in a more intense effort than you have in a long while and you'll probably be more than willing. The potential rewards are simply too juicy to pass on! Afterward, give yourself the time you need to recover.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The order of the day is so tall, you're not sure if you can fill it.

The truth is that you can, but only with great disruption to your usual life. It will save you a great deal of trouble if you just say "no."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Weaknesses are strengths, and strengths are weaknesses. So there's no reason to feel embarrassed and nothing to boast about either. Instead, march on toward your golden destination.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Things you do for love will also be favorable for your finances. It's as though the universe feels the sincerity of your devotion and rewards you in many ways at once. Tonight brings stellar social opportunity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Everyone wants more contact with you. You'll hear your name called so many times this morning that you'll tire of answering. Spend your extra minutes with those who will benefit most from your attention.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's like you're suddenly new in town. People want to take you under their wing because they want to show you what they think is fun. You'll notice for the first time bits of beauty and novelty that were there all along.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If you wait for someone to give you the green light you'll be waiting a long time -- possibly forever. Act without permission. Chances are no one will question your authority since you are so comfortable in every situation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). What you are doing now is so of the moment it couldn't have happened at any other time in history. You may get an amazed reaction from an older generation. You have opportunities that your parents only dreamed about.

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0107

Across

- Garden bloom, informally
- Removes, in a way
- "Down with," at the Bastille
- White coat
- Husband of Bathsheba
- Pioneer Boone, familiarly
- Genesis victim
- Host city of golf's Memorial Tournament
- Stumped solver's desire
- Headline in a circular
- Apt. ad abbr.
- Write, as a P.S.
- Component of bronze
- Scand. land
- Sound from a masseur's client
- Hometown to college football's Vandals
- Project conclusion?
- O'Connor's successor on the Supreme Court
- Geraint's lady
- Where rock's R.E.M. was formed
- Think ahead
- Clearance rack abbr.
- ...rock (music genre)
- Paul Revere founded a brass and copper works here
- Raise a stink?
- St. Louis-to-Indianapolis dir.
- Language suffix
- Rough position?
- It has two values in blackjack
- Blow off some hot air
- Do a soccer mom's chore
- Birthplace of Vice President Hannibal Hamlin
- Place to use Easy-Off
- Summers on the Seine
- Back 40 units
- Boggy stuff
- Turner and Williams
- Food and water, for two
- Host who said "I kid you not"

Down

- Made of whole-wheat flour
- Sexual instinct
- Compensation for loss
- Shoulder muscle, briefly
- Turkey
- Tulsa schr.
- Bits of baloney
- Lola of "Golden Boy"
- 1882 battle site
- Hoo-ha
- Native of one of the Gulf States
- Lion's kingdom
- Pie-eyed
- "Quo Vadis" role
- Fancy wrap
- "Heads ___ tails ..."
- Things to pick
- "High Hopes" lyricist

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

OPTIC	SCALA	ORB
ALULA	PALES	NIL
TALLSTORIES	UFO	ENS
PETS	ONSET	SEAAIR
DARE	DARKVICTORY	ANNAN
REST	NEAT	LOAM
BONUS	LAKE	PAPA
ANOS	FALSE	HANDSOMESUM
TIER	ALPHAS	PRESS
FELL	ABE	LOU
MATINEE	JDOL	COAR
AVIAN	STOVE	PRO
YENTA	TONES	

Puzzle by William Frank Macroby

32	Herd orphan	41	Protective wall	56	Pit stop changes
35	Like a fish	44	Tech figure, informally	58	49-0 game, e.g.
36	Sef aside	45	Words before band or army	60	Magazine output: Abbr.
37	In shreds	46	Growl at, say	61	Homer's neighbor
38	Fish-eating raptor	47	"Twelfth Night" countless	62	Start of summer?
39	Assayers' samples	48	Muralist Diego		
40	Exchange new vows	49	More astute		

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Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

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

Rating: GOLD

Solution to 2/10/09

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

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BATTLESHIP

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ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

1 1 2 1 2 2 1 4 0 6

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Thanks for reading.

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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

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OUTDOOR MAKEOVERS Solution: 6 letters

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

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Yesterday's Answer: Windhandel

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IN MY OPINION | ANDREW GREIF

USATF format change not reasonable

Suggested changes do not address real problems, such as rest

USA Track and Field announced its findings from Project 30 yesterday, its main fact-finding investigation into what USATF can do to change what happened in Beijing last summer, when the track and field team won seven medals in Beijing, considered a low tally even though the teams in 2000 and 2004 won only one more.



WIND SPRINTS

Changes may very well be needed when it comes to the management of time between the U.S. Olympic Trials and the Olympics every summer, which is usually a month or so.

Its suggestion that the Olympic Trials be shortened from 10 days to five, though, isn't warranted at all.

Eugene hosted the 2008 Trials' eight days of competition over 10 days, with two rest days in the middle that gave the athletes and the media — trust me, I was there the entire time — a much-needed break. But in its first host of the Trials since 1980, Eugene's

performance earned reviews that were better than the event organizers could have imagined.

Unlike Beijing, when two dropped relay batons during the competition gave the USATF officials a bad taste in their mouth during the event, there was nothing that sparked controversy about how Eugene scheduled the Trials, nor how the athletes performed.

And isn't the Olympic Trials meant to mimic as close as possible the actual Olympics? I and everyone else was under that impression last summer, seeing as how the summer Olympics track portion took place Aug. 15-24, and the event scheduling was even the same in both meets.

One complaint of Project 30 is that a 10-day meet was draining for the athletes emotionally, physically, financially or otherwise. That doesn't answer the question of how an eight-day schedule crammed into five would be any less stressful for an athlete. Nor does it answer why an athlete couldn't just arrive before and leave right after their event is finished. Alan Webb didn't qualify in the 1,500 meters last summer, but he was a heavy favorite going in, and he didn't arrive until a few days before his first preliminary.

Some of USATF's most

marketable athletes are those who compete in several events. Hyleas Fountain won the heptathlon over the meet's first two days, then competed in long jump preliminaries two days later after a rest day. Why can't USATF see that athletes given more chance to rest will likely perform better?

A better idea would be to invest time and ideas into how to prepare athletes in the pre-Olympic period, such as when they arrive in the host country. Talking with Olympians and a trainer who worked with several Oregon Track Club Elite athletes at the U.S. Training Center in Dalian, said he couldn't coach his athletes in Beijing because security didn't want thousands of coaches at the Bird's Nest at track level. Give him and trainers and coaches like him better access to facilities and their athletes. Several athletes also came down with food poisoning, including Eugene resident and 800-meter qualifier Nicole Teter. Working on ways to keep the athletes in a better training environment in the host country would be beneficial.

The proposal of Project 30, among several others, isn't complete or final. The 2012 Trials that Eugene will host haven't officially been shortened to five days. But

Ultimately, if USATF decides to stay this course, it will lose television money from shortening its biggest meet in the Olympic cycle, and will likely get negative feedback from hurried athletes.

the idea will likely get a big response from the large contingent of track and field fans in the Pacific Northwest, in articles like this and from fan letters, which it should. It's because when you agree to have Eugene host the meet, you do so knowing it won't be just a track meet; the organizers were right to treat it like a 10-day festival last summer.

Ultimately, if USATF decides to stay this course, it will lose television money from shortening its biggest meet in the Olympic cycle, and will likely get negative feedback from its hurried athletes. In the embattled sport of track and field, which has faced several high-profile scandals in the past eight years, taking a step forward means not turning one of its best fan bases against it for a decision like this.

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FOOTBALL

Blount, Pritchett suspended indefinitely

Oregon football head coach Mike Bellotti has suspended junior running back LeGarrette Blount and sophomore linebacker Terrance Pritchett in a release late Tuesday afternoon for what the coach called "a failure to fulfill team obligations" in a media release.

Both players' suspensions

are indefinite, as Bellotti said they will be barred from anything football-related "until further notice."

Although Pritchett withdrew from school in the fall after playing in three games in the early season, Blount was an impact player at running back, rushing for 1,002 yards and 17 touchdowns.

— ANDREW GREIF

CLUB HOCKEY

Host Oregon favored in Pacific-8 championships this weekend

KENNY OCKER | FREELANCE REPORTER

The University club hockey team, fresh off of a 9-3 victory against non-conference foe Portland State, is preparing for the Pacific-8 Conference championship tournament, which is this weekend at the Lane County Ice Arena. This is the first time the University has hosted the tournament since 2006, when the Ducks lost 3-4 in a shootout to USC.

The Trojans and Ducks have met up in the last four championship matches and alternated wins, with Oregon winning last year. Jeff Gibb, senior defenseman and team captain, and Sam Cehula, junior center and alternate captain, have thought about the chance of facing USC for the fifth time.

Gibb said it is "very likely" they'll meet again in the finals. "We are a better team across the board, and as long as we play to our strengths and control the game, we will be just fine."

Cehula's take was no different: "If we play up to our potential, we can beat everyone in the Pac-8." But he prefaced that by warning, "First we need to make it there. If we can get the first win, it won't be a problem."

Gibb and Cehula believe having the Pac-8 Tournament on home ice gives them an advantage. "We have the advantage of sleeping in our own beds, using our own locker room, and playing in front of a home crowd," said Gibb.

"(Playing at home) will be a huge advantage," Cehula said. "It's awesome to have good turnout, and having the tournament at home is a great way to build fan support."

The tournament begins at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, when No. 3 seed UCLA takes on No. 6 seed Washington State. The other Friday matchup is between No. 4 seed Washington and No. 5 seed Stanford, at 9 p.m.

Saturday is the only day all six teams will be in action. The first game is at 12:30 p.m., between the highest seed remaining from the Friday games and No. 2 seed USC. Top-seeded Oregon, the defending champion, faces the lowest remaining seed at 6 p.m. Lastly, at 9 p.m., the two teams who lost Friday night will play for fifth place and bragging rights.

Sunday's action starts off with another bragging rights game, this one between the losers of the early games on Saturday. The third-place game begins at 12:30 p.m. The championship match will start at 3 p.m.

Tickets for the games are \$4 for students, \$7 for adults, and \$20 for an All-Tournament Pass. The annual Pac-8 Awards Banquet is immediately following the game.

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WANTS YOU TO ENJOY FREE PIZZA AND WIN OREGON GEAR!

Join the Veterans & Family Student Association on Thursday night for free refreshments & fun at Track Town Pizza!

The VFSA will host its general meeting at Track Town Pizza, across from the university on Franklin Blvd. Show up between 5:30-7:30pm on Feb. 12th for free pizza & your chance to win raffled prizes.

This is a good opportunity to have fun and discover more about the VFSA's upcoming events. Everything is free, and you don't even have to be a veteran to attend, just Veteran friendly.

★★★★★

If you have any questions, please contact us
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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Fifth consecutive Pac-10 loss has Ducks grasping for answers

Kollo expected back soon; Lilley probable for weekend games

BEN SCHORZMAN
SPORTS REPORTER

Moving on is the theme of the week for the Oregon women's basketball team. Head coach Bev Smith and her players want to learn from — then completely forget — everything that transpired down in the desert. They have now lost five of their last six games, including five straight Pacific-10 Conference games.

"There isn't a lot to be said about the games (against Arizona State and Arizona)," junior guard Micaela Cocks said. "It was disappointing and there wasn't that 110 percent effort there should have been. You can never have a game back, but I really wish we could get the Arizona one again, because it was a really ugly performance on our part, and we can't afford to do that. All you can do is forget about it."

Disappointing, ugly and lackluster are words everyone has thrown out there, but senior guard Rita Kollo inserted her optimistic view to spin a positive side to the weekend.

"We can definitely take the experiences from the games," she said. "We can learn so much. We get all the DVDs and every single one of us went home and watched them, and we came in today ready to fix them. We're ready to get back on the right track."

Kollo's attitude is exactly what Smith is looking for. Smith says the team has just hit a rough patch, and is tired. That's why she gave the team Sunday and Monday off.

"Since we started the Pac-10 season we haven't had that many days off," she said. "We're a little bit tired and a bit dinged up, and two days will not hurt us. In fact, it might help us. We have a young team that is struggling in the middle of the season. We have to understand that we are in control of how we play, and we are better than we played at Arizona. The thing is you can't just say that, you have to do it."

But it might not be the team's physical skills that are the problem. Cocks and Kollo say that the mental issues are stopping them now.

"All the games we have lost are because of us," Kollo said. "We have to control our preparation and our execution. It's definitely a mental thing. You have to push



TRISTAN COOLEN | PHOTOGRAPHER

Oregon hopes to redeem itself this weekend against Washington and Washington State. The Ducks beat both schools on the road earlier this year.

yourself over the limit every day. We have to treat every offensive and defensive set as the last one, and we haven't exactly been doing that."

"It's about effort and playing as competitive as we can," Cocks said. "Things like being physical, diving on loose balls and playing hard on defense. If we can be really aggressive on defense and get stops, then our offense will come and we won't have as much pressure on us."

One stat that has been a consistent reminder of the team's struggles is turnovers. Thursday the Ducks had 26 turnovers, then another 24 against Arizona on Sunday.

"There isn't a quick fix to it," Smith said. "We have to coach up both the passer and the receiver. Then it's just being smart and taking care of the ball."

Cocks agrees.

"We aren't as focused and sharp as we need to be," she said. "It's about being competitive and aggressive, and making better decisions with the ball. But I think having the two days off helped in clearing our heads and refocused us. We still have seven

games left, and we just need to get back to doing the little things like we did against UCLA. If we can get back to playing like that I think we will play well."

Something that might help lift the spirits of the team is the imminent return of Kollo, who for the second week wasn't wearing a protective boot. She's looking to play in the next week or two.

"I've been saying I'm gonna be back this week or that week, and it just hasn't happened yet," she said. "I'm just trying to really, really get back as soon as possible. We have the Washington schools, then Cal and Stanford, and I want to play in one of those games."

Junior guard Taylor Lilley, who received a severe concussion in the first half against Arizona State Thursday and didn't play against Arizona, is also probable for this week's games.

That's good news, because the Ducks want to be at full-strength if they want to shake their losing streak against Washington State on Thursday.

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MLB

Tejada charged with lying to Congress

WASHINGTON — All-Star shortstop Miguel Tejada has been charged with lying to Congress about an ex-teammate's use of steroids, the latest baseball player to get caught up in a web of cheating and juicing that has stained the sport.

Tejada is expected to plead guilty in court Wednesday. The charges against him were outlined in documents filed Tuesday in federal court in Washington.

The teammate is not identified in court documents, but he is referred to as having played with Tejada on the Oakland Athletics. Tejada won the 2002 American League Most Valuable Player award while playing for the

Athletics and is a five-time All-Star. He now plays for the Houston Astros.

Tejada faces as much as a year in jail if convicted on the misdemeanor charge of making misrepresentations to Congress. Under federal guidelines, he would probably receive a lighter sentence.

The charge came in a legal document called a "criminal information," which only can be filed with the defendant's consent and typically signals a plea deal. A hearing is scheduled for 11 a.m. EST Wednesday in Washington, and Tejada and his lawyer plan to hold a news conference later in the day in Houston.

Messages left for his attorney, Mark Tuohey, were not immediately returned.

In the documents filed Tuesday, Tejada is charged

with lying to investigators for the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in 2005. Congressional staffers did not place Tejada under oath when they questioned him, but they advised him "of the importance of providing truthful answers," according to the court papers.

During the interview, Tejada denied knowledge of an ex-teammate's use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Tejada "unlawfully withheld pertinent information from the committee because defendant Tejada, before and during his interview with the committee staff, then and there well knew that player ... one of his teammates on the Oakland Athletics, had used steroids and HGH," the papers state.

— THE ASSOCIATED PRESS