

## UNSTOPPABLE

The Lady Beavs are off to their best conference start since the 1995-96 season

SPORTS, PAGE 8



# Arctic front should move out by mid-week

► Snow, freezing rain should give way to rain, warmer temps and potential flooding

By KARRI PASTERIS  
BAROMETER STAFF WRITER

A moisture-saturated arctic front out of northeast Canada moved into Oregon late Sunday, Jan. 4, dropping temperatures to and below the 20s and bringing snow to the valley floor.

"We have had cold temperatures for about a week," said George Taylor, state climatologist for Oregon. "On Sunday, the temperature dropped from 37 to 32 in about 10 minutes" as the front moved south.

The snow that fell early Monday was followed by a day of cloudy, dry weather, but this gave way to the potential of freezing rain overnight, according to Matt Doggett, a research assistant with the Oregon Climate Service.

"Rain in the upper atmosphere falls through the dense cold air layer and can freeze when it hits the cold ground," he said.

Early Tuesday, several inches of new snow could accumulate on the ground before the precipitation turns to freezing and then liquid rain. Temperatures are expected to remain in the low 30s.

"Everything is very cold," Taylor said. "When the rain falls and hits cold cars, power lines or the ground, it will freeze. This turns streets into skating rinks."

However, within the next 24 hours, temperatures will rise, bringing a shift in the weather pattern.

"Warm rain from the south will eventually break up the cold air," Doggett said.

Rain and rising temperatures should bring the freezing level up to 5,000 feet.

The freezing level, the point where



WENDY VOLLMER | BAROMETER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students returned to classes Monday despite snow and icy roads. The freezing level has been below 1,000 feet in the Willamette Valley for about a week. Temperatures should rise within the next 24 hours, bringing a shift in the weather.

precipitation freezes, has been below 1,000 feet in the Willamette Valley for about a week.

"We're about to transfer from arctic to subtropic," Taylor said. "It's going to seem a lot warmer. Our lows will be higher than our highs have been."

"Lots of areas with snow will be subjected to temperatures in the 40s this week," Doggett said. "This will

cause a lot of melting."

The next storm system is expected to move in on Wednesday, bringing approximately one inch of rain.

"This should be a typical winter-time storm for Oregon," Doggett said. "The rest of the week will be more normal."

But the incoming rain, on top of the melting snow, spells a chance for flooding, he said.

"The biggest flood events are rain-on-snow events," Taylor said. "If it rains hard for two or three days, it is likely we'll have some localized flooding."

For more information on local weather, visit the Oregon Climate Service Web site: [www.ocs.orst.edu](http://www.ocs.orst.edu).

Karri Pasteris is a staff writer for The Daily Barometer. She can be reached at 737-2231 or [baro.city@student-media.orst.edu](mailto:baro.city@student-media.orst.edu).

► Students and OSU staff braved the weather Monday, but school may be off today

By BRIAN GJURGEVICH  
BAROMETER CAMPUS EDITOR

Monday morning not only provided OSU students with the fresh start of a new term, but also a fresh layer of snow that cast the campus in a shade of white not often witnessed in Corvallis.

Though hopes of cancellations brought many back memories of high school days, most realized that like any well-orchestrated production, the show that is Oregon State University would indeed go on.

At least it for Monday, although university officials said school could be called off today due to forecasted snowstorms over night.

Cancellation information will be posted at [www.oregonstate.edu](http://www.oregonstate.edu) at 7 a.m., or available by calling the OSU information line at 737-1000.

Most classes began as scheduled Monday, though the weather certainly had an effect on students, faculty and staff alike who decided to brave the elements and make the slippery trek to campus.

"Actually, we made off pretty good," said Loril Chandler, office manager for the Department of Speech Communication. "We had about four classes cancelled, and some people calling in."

"Basically, what we tell our people is you need to make safety be first, so if you feel that the situation is too dangerous, don't come."

"We would rather have you miss a day then have to see you in the hospital or have you miss more work because you're dealing with your wrecked car," Chandler said.

While some students were told

| See SNOW page 3 |

## Oregon State student dies in Iraq

► Oregon National Guardsman honored for service in Iraq

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski joined about 500 people at a memorial service Saturday for Spec. Nathan Nakis, an Oregon National Guardsman who died in Iraq.

Nakis, a student at Oregon State University, had been in school for about one month when his unit, Bravo Company 52nd Engineers Battalion, was activated.

Kulongoski said Nakis went to Iraq trained as a soldier but armed with the "tools of peace" to rebuild the country.

An engineering specialist, Nakis was part of a unit attached to the 101st Airborne Division that builds and repairs Iraqi homes, roads and water systems.

"He put on the uniform to strengthen, not break our common bond," Kulongoski said.

"He did not die in vain, he played the music of hope and his spirit plays on."

Nakis was killed Dec. 16 in Iraq when the truck he was driving rolled over.

Family and community members crowded the Sedro-Woolley High School gym to remember the 19-year-old as a young man who changed everyone he encountered

for the better.

He was praised for his honor, honesty, courage and loyalty — and his irrepressible sense of humor.

"You can know someone so well, it's impossible to believe you won't always know him," said Mike Janicki, a friend of the Nakis family. "His heart was different than other people's hearts."

"Nathan went over there to win the peace," Janicki said.

Nakis is the sixth person who grew up in Washington state to be killed in the conflict. He is believed to be the first Oregon National Guardsman killed in combat since World War II.

Born April 12, 1984, in Sedro-Woolley, Nakis was an honor student and Boy Scout with an infectious smile. Engineering and the military became part of his life at an early age.

In a video played at the memorial service, family members told of his childhood interest in building and driving earth-moving vehicles. Army boots from his uncle were a birthday gift.

Initially, Nakis enlisted in Washington National Guard but transferred to the Oregon National Guard

when he enrolled at OSU with plans to become a civil engineer.

In Iraq, he won over children with his soccer and slingshot skills. They would stand outside his tent and call his name, asking him to play with them, said Joe Mesteth, his company's family support coordinator.

"If there ever was a poster child for what (American painter) Norman Rockwell attempted to capture in his paintings, it was Nathan," Mesteth told the memorial service crowd.

His fellow soldiers considered Nakis a younger brother or son, said Mesteth, who read two e-mails from B Company.

Jim Gross, a family friend who officiated at the memorial service, spoke on behalf of the young man's parents, Arty and Elinor Nakis.

"When a child is born, a space must be made in a parent's soul," said Gross, quoting Arty Nakis.

"His spirit fit into my soul perfectly."

Preceding the public memorial service, a private family service was held at the graveside. Nakis was buried at Sedro-Woolley Union Cemetery.

**"He put on the uniform to strengthen, not break our common bond."**

OREGON GOVERNOR  
TED KULONOSKI



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A memorial service was held Saturday for Nathan Nakis, an OSU student and Oregon National Guardsman who died in Iraq when the truck he was driving rolled over.





Snow,  
freezing rain  
High 40, Low 35

# NEWSREEL

## CALENDAR

TUESDAY, JAN. 6

### Meetings

Lutheran Campus Ministry, 11:30-1:30, 211 NW 23rd. Lunch - open to all. Vegetarian option.

### Events

OSU Mountain Club, 7:30-9, MU 208. Weekly meeting and slideshow. New members welcome.

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## WORLD

### Authorities intercept packages they suspect contain bombs

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Two letter bombs addressed to senior members of the European Parliament went off, bursting into flames when opened, and another was intercepted Monday, the latest in a series of explosives mailed recently to European Union targets.

No one was injured in the two explosions. Authorities in Brussels also intercepted a suspicious package sent to a fourth parliamentarian and were investigating whether it contained a bomb.

With Monday's packages, seven letter bombs have been sent to EU-linked offices in five countries since Dec. 27. Investigators have zeroed in on an Italian anarchist group — the "Informal Anarchic Federation" — as the likely source. Security has been hiked up at European Union institutions.

The letters that went off Monday were sent to the Manchester, England office of British Socialist legislator Gary Titley and the Brussels office of German Hans-Gert Poettering, the head of the conservative European People's Party.

At Titley's office, a staff member opened a parcel that arrived over the Christmas holidays, and it immediately caught fire, enveloping the office in dense, acrid smoke.

"This was a shocking incident," Titley said after he arrived at his office. "There can be no justification for these attacks, which in reality are an attack on democracy."

Similarly, a staffer at Poettering's office opened a padded envelope that appeared to contain a book, and it immediately burst into flame.

"Luckily, she was not injured," said a party spokeswoman Fiona Kearns. Poettering was on his way to Brussels from Germany when the attack happened.

An identical package was discovered addressed to Jose Ignacio Salafranca, a Spanish member of the European People's Party. Bomb experts neutralized the explosive.

The two packages were postmarked Dec. 22 from Bologna, the Italian city from which the earlier attacks over the past two weeks are believed to have

originated. The two packages were "identical in every respect — the same size, posted on the same day and from the same place," said David Harley, a spokesman for European Parliament President Pat Cox.

## NATION

### Stem cell research will move forward with limited funding

WEST ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — New Jersey became the second state to allow stem cell research on Sunday as Gov. James E. McGreevey signed a law he said will "move the frontiers of science forward."

Stem cell research, which has been strongly opposed by anti-abortion groups and the Roman Catholic church because it involves the use of fetal and embryonic tissue, is also permitted in California and bills are pending in Illinois and New York.

McGreevey was joined Sunday by Christopher Reeve, the actor who was paralyzed by a 1995 fall from a horse and has become an advocate for increased funding for medical research.

"Today we celebrate the possible in our state," McGreevey said. "It is our obligation as a people and as a state to move the frontiers of science forward."

Stem cells are produced in the first days of pregnancy and help create the human body. Scientists hope to someday direct stem cells to grow into replacement organs and tissues to treat a wide range of diseases.

President Bush, citing ethical considerations, has limited federal funding for embryonic stem cell research to existing lines of cells. But many stem cell scientists say the policy severely restricts research that ultimately could benefit millions of patients.

The White House declined to comment on the New Jersey law Sunday.

Opponents of the bill said they were disappointed but not surprised that McGreevey signed it.

"We were hopeful that perhaps he would take the expert opinions and concerns into consideration before formulating his final decision, which unfortunately he did not," said Marie Tasy of New Jersey Right to Life.

Reeve said although many people have asked what stem cells could do to

cure his spinal cord injury, "it is not about what stem cells will do for one individual."

"What it's about, this legislation, is about whether or not we have the courage to protect the freedom of ethical and responsible scientific inquiry," Reeve said.

## STATE

### Cutbacks may eliminate cemetery investigators

PORTLAND (AP) — Budget problems have reduced the board that monitors funeral homes and cemeteries in Oregon to one full-time investigator, and the board chairwoman said the second investigator could be lost if funding isn't restored.

Investigators look into complaints ranging from cemetery maintenance and burials in the wrong grave site to disrespect and mishandling of money. They also monitor sanitary and health issues.

The dispute over whether to maintain funding through increased industry license fees or through an increased death certificate filing fee.

The Legislature refused to allow the latter. But the mortuary board and the industry can't agree on how much license fees should be raised.

"Inspections probably will not happen as often," said Judy Waggle, chairwoman of the state Mortuary and Cemetery Board and manager of Willamette Memorial Park in Albany. "We're hoping this is temporary."

At stake, said Waggle and David Koach, executive director of the Portland-based board, is timely monitoring of the industry.

Until recently, the board had a staff of six with two full-time inspectors plus a compliance officer who also can do inspections.

But one investigator position was cut after the Legislature in August passed a \$980,000 budget for the agency for 2003-05, down from \$1,032,000 in 2001-03.

In a two-year budget cycle, the agency's work includes inspection of about 650 funeral homes, crematoriums, cemeteries and other facilities; about 200 investigations concerning compliance with regulations and about

1,400 background checks.

The board, Koach said, is required by law to investigate any consumer complaint about the industry.

## UNIVERSITY

### Three University of Colorado undergrads sue over tuition

BOULDER, Colo. (U-WIRE) — Three University of Colorado at Boulder students lobbied a bombshell at the state of Colorado and CU on Wednesday when they filed a joint lawsuit that says out-of-state tuition for Colorado residents is unconstitutional.

Filed in Denver's U.S. District Court under a law enacted as part of the Civil Rights Act of 1871, three CU-Boulder students want the court to rule Colorado's out-of-state tuition policy unconstitutional.

The plaintiffs' lawyer, Joel Joseph, who is father to one of the student plaintiffs, said CU is "exploiting" out-of-state students by charging almost five times as much in tuition than their in-state peers.

He said because the three undergrad students filing the suit are registered to vote in Colorado, have their vehicles registered in the state and pay taxes along with other Colorado residents, they should not have to pay out-of-state tuition or emancipate themselves to receive in-state rates.

Joseph told the Colorado Daily he wants the out-of-state tuition policy "rolled back" for students registered to vote in Colorado.

Approved by Colorado, CU charges \$3,192 for resident undergraduates in the College of Arts & Sciences and \$4,764 for similar students in the Leeds School of Business.

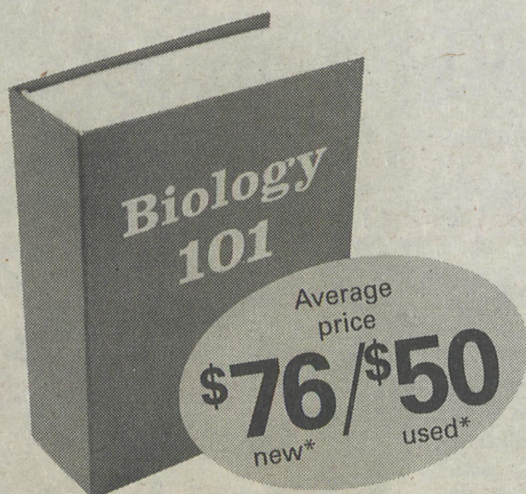
Non-resident A&S tuition is six times as much for non-resident undergraduate students and four and a half times greater for business undergrads.

The suit says there are about 9,620 out-of-state students at CU who pay almost \$175 million in tuition, while Colorado only contributed \$58.6 million to CU for the 2003-04 fiscal year.

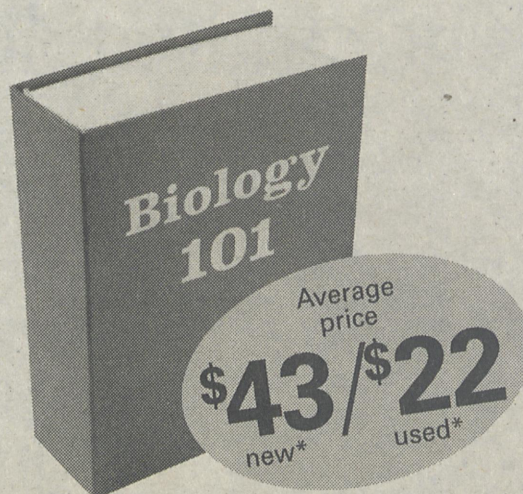
Joseph said Colorado should better fund the university and not make students carry the burden.

—By Adam Ewing  
Colorado Daily (U. Colorado)

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**Arrests**

6:40 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 4 — OSU student Nathan Kowarsky, 21, was arrested for driving under the influence of intoxicants

6:30 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 4 — Andrew Jefferson, 22, was arrested on warrant out of Linn County.

1:34 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 3 — OSU student Joseph Dupray, 43, was arrested for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

12:05 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 3 — Jonathan Murphy, 27, was arrested for second degree theft of a bicycle.

11:15 p.m., Friday, Jan. 2 — Mark Miller, 52, was arrested on warrant for parole violations.

7:16 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 31 — Derek Brown, 18, was cited for minor in possession of alcohol by consumption.

4:11 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 1 — Abel Ramirez-Lopez, 27, was cited with disorderly conduct for throwing things around his girlfriend's house.

4:05 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 1 — Scott Freeman, 26, arrested for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

4 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 1 — Charles Humphreys, 32, was arrested for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

3:39 a.m., Thursday, Jan. 1



— OSU students Timothy Marr, 26, and Elias Goodman, 26, were arrested for attacking a man in a parking lot. Marr was arrested on charges of third degree assault, unlawful use of a weapon, disorderly conduct and littering. Goodman was arrested for menacing, harassment and disorderly conduct.

2:24 p.m., Monday, Jan. 29 — Niall Lewis, 26, was arrested for driving under the influence of intoxicants after he was involved in a single vehicle accident at the intersection of NW Walnut and NW Satinwood.

4:27 a.m., Monday, Dec. 29 — Clint Nelson, 30, was arrested for driving under the influence of intoxicants, driving while suspended-misdemeanor and reckless driving.

3:30 a.m., Monday, Dec. 29 — Robert Smith, 24, was cited and released for driving

while suspended and possession of a controlled substance with less than one ounce of marijuana.

1:40 a.m., Monday, Dec. 29 — Andrew Gibbs, 26, was arrested for disorderly conduct, fourth degree assault and theft for stealing drinks from the Peacock Tavern bar and fighting with the bartender.

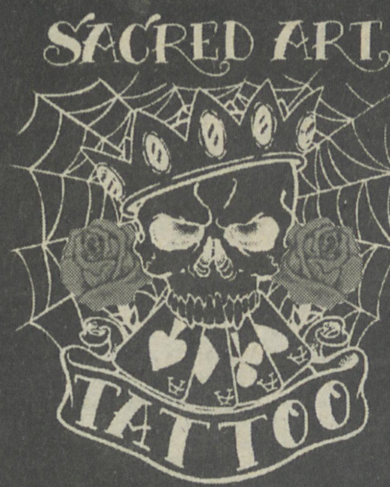
**Thefts**  
7:46 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 31 — An unknown person broke through the glass office doors and stole \$3,844 of computer equipment, power tools and other office equipment from the USDA Agricultural Research building. The Oregon State Police collected a bloody glove print.

5:35 p.m., Monday, Dec. 29 — An unknown male with blond hair around the age of 25 attempted to purchase food at Safeway with a stolen credit card.

**Other**  
12:33 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 31 — An electricity outage was reported in the Brooklane drive neighborhood. Pacific Power responded and restored the power.

Police Beat is compiled by DD Bixby from the crime logs of the Oregon State Police and Corvallis Police Departments. She can be reached at baro.city@studentmedia.orst.edu.

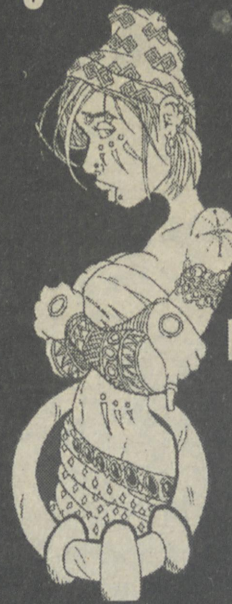
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# Tweaking genes to save plants

OSU researchers work to genetically engineer plants resistant to crown gall disease, could save millions of dollars

By EDWARD LEW  
BAROMETER STAFF WRITER

Oregon State University researchers have developed a new method for generating plants totally resistant to crown gall disease. This genetic engineering technique could help save millions of dollars in the nursery and horticultural industries.

So far, the new method has successfully been tested with tobacco and apple plants. However, according to a recent press release, OSU scientists believe that it is possible for the genetic technology to be applied to an assortment of plants ranging from roses to grapes to chrysanthemums.

The genetic engineering breakthrough could mean the survival of more crops and better plant productivity.

The culprit of crown gall disease is a bacterium known as Agrobacterium tumefaciens.

It is so widespread that a gram of soil could potentially hold a million of the bacteria.

Usually, the bacteria infect the plant through an opening or cut, which results in crown gall disease. After infection, the bacteria then proceed to convert the amino acid tryptophan into the hormone auxin, which promotes rooting and growth. As a result, the growth process is uncontrollable.

Trademark benign tumors grow mostly on plant roots, but some have been found on branches of trees. These tumors are respon-

ble for diminishing plant productivity, affecting structural integrity of the plants, and causing death.

"Crown gall can be a disaster for nursery owners, and people have been trying to develop ways to address this problem for decades," said Walter Ream, an OSU professor of microbiology, in a press release. "The problem is serious enough that it's illegal to sell a plant that has been infected."

OSU researchers' answer to the disease is a "gene-silencing technique" that basically fools plants into believing they are being attacked by a virus. The plants' own defense systems then go into action and destroy the problem.

According to Ream, the gene silencing approach essentially allows the plant to become infected with the tumor-inducing genes into its DNA.

But before uncontrolled growth occurs, the genetically altered plant expresses double stranded RNA instead of single. The plant recognizes the double stranded RNA as a virus and destroys it.

The result is that tumor formation is stopped before damaging effects can occur.

"It appears we can make this system work with most plants, and create varieties that are genetically resistant to the damaging effects of crown gall disease," Ream said.

The commercial use of this new technology has yet to be seen, but Ream said it may be slowed by field trial costs and regulatory hurdles faced by usage of genetically engineered plants.

Edward Lew is a staff writer for The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at baro.campus@studentmedia.orst.edu.

# Snow: Some students made trek to cancelled classes

Continued from page 1

over the phone that one of their classes would not be meeting, others had to find out the hard way about their suddenly-free 50 minute block of break time.

"I don't like coming to classes and seeing the sign out in front of the door," said Ryan Johannes, a 22-year-old senior in political science. "I think they should put it on Blackboard."

Though the issue of informing students of cancellations is certainly one that was being spoken of around campus, most of the buzz around the university Monday was eyewitness accounts of people slipping, sliding and skidding their way to their classes all day.

While some brave souls hopped in their four-wheel drive cars, others figured their trusty bicycle or snow boots would get them to where they needed to be.

Henry Kwan, a 20-year-old junior in industrial manufacturing engineering, was walking his bike to his one o'clock class.

"Most of the day, I've been walking around, so I guess it's been a disadvantage," Kwan said.

### Cancellation Information:

Call: (541) 737-1000  
Web site: www.oregonstate.edu after 7 a.m.

"I've actually had quite a bit of fun on this thing in the snow — I made a couple cookies." However, despite having to walk alongside his two-wheeled mode of transportation, Kwan made the best of his slippery ride to campus.

"I got here a little quicker, because I didn't stop for anything," Kwan said. "I figured the cars were going slow, so I can get past them quicker that way."

No matter the sudden weather surprise, most OSU students, faculty and staff found a way to not only stay warm, but also cope with the driving conditions while putting things in perspective.

"It's inconvenient, and it's dangerous if you don't watch it," said Chandler. "But, we're dealing with it."

Brian Gjurjevich is the campus editor of The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at 737-2232 or at baro.campus@studentmedia.orst.edu.



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### EDITORIAL

## Class cancelling etiquette

OSU students hail from all around the state of Oregon, not to mention from around the globe. But with weather conditions as they currently are, it was difficult for students even from as close as Portland to make it back to Corvallis on time for school in a safe fashion.

Chains were required on I-5 for a while and Highway 34 was even closed part of one day due to fallen trees.

Different arrangements had to be made — people took planes instead of cars while others had their parents drive them — parents with bigger cars and 4-wheel drive.

But what were all OSU students hurrying back for? Cancelled classes!

Sure, a lot of people still attended class today, but quite a few came all the way to campus to promptly turn around and go back to where they had come from, or to the MU to wait for their next class.

There needs to be some sort of organized way to alert people to sporadic class cancellations. Obviously when the entire university is closed, we'll find out either via radio, TV or the OSU Web site.

But when only a few classes are cancelled, how are we to know?

Yes, it's nice to find out that you don't have class, but wouldn't it be just as nice to find out from the comfort of your own home?

It sure beats trudging to campus through snow and ice only to show up at a doorway boasting an 8x10 piece of paper alerting you to the cancellation.

Our recommendation: professors e-mailing students when there will be a cancellation. All of the professors have our e-mail addresses and it wouldn't be too difficult to send out a one sentence bulk e-mail in the morning letting us know that they won't be at class that day — so that we aren't there either.

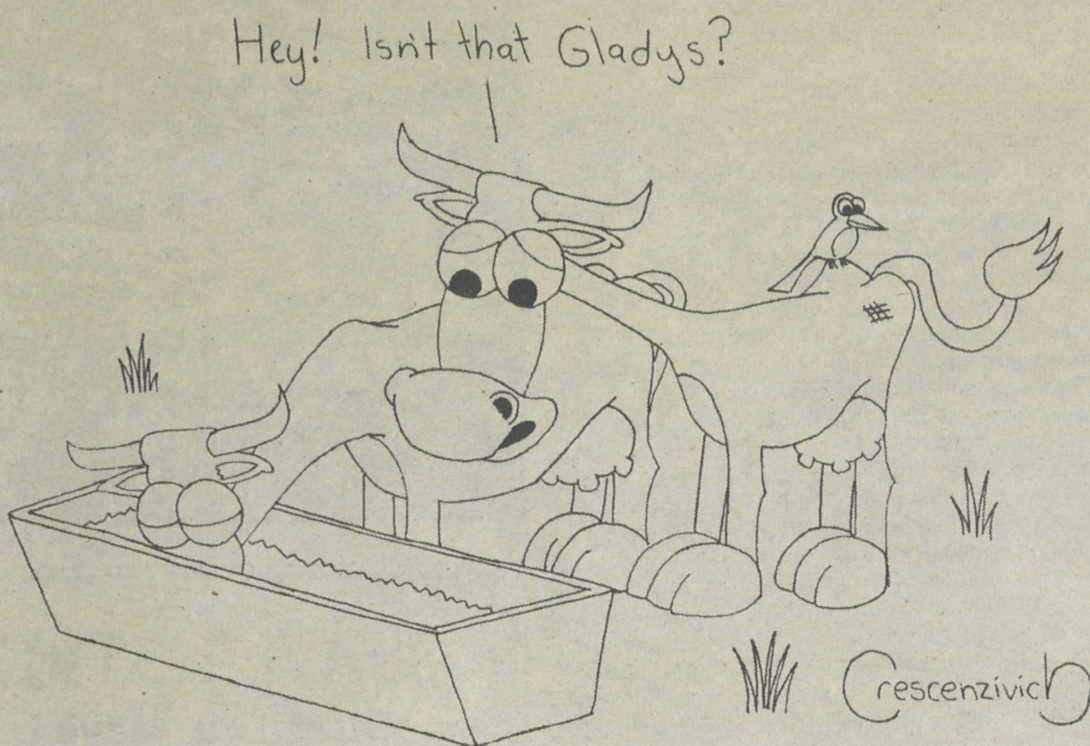
We realize that some teachers practice this courtesy already, and we thank them for that.

We also realize that it would be easier for teachers to just post the announcement on Blackboard, but let's be realistic. Does anyone really check their Blackboard account every morning before school? Probably not.

But plenty of people do check their e-mail, which is why we believe this to be the most effective and beneficial way to keep students informed.

So hopefully, if all of OSU isn't cancelled today, you will be receiving a few e-mails from those professors who couldn't make it in — and respect your time enough to let you know their plan.

Editorials serve as a platform for Barometer editors to offer commentary and opinions on current events, both national and local, grand in scale and diminutive. Opinions here are a reflection of the Editorial Board's majority.



## Can the Pac-10 get a little respect?

Where is our respect? After a postseason like the Pac-10 just had, I should not be able to sit through an entire "Sportscenter" without hearing the words "East Coast bias" or "underrated conference."

The postseason is really the only chance to see how strong our conference is. We get to see how well top teams from each conference stack up against each other.

Aside from Mike Bellotti's mismanagement of the game clock and UCLA, which should not even have been in a bowl game, the Pac-10 overwhelmed their opponents.

Toward the end of the season the media started to jump on USC's back, but they completely ignored the rest of the Pac-10. Only half of the Pac-10 teams in bowl games were favorites. These included Oregon State, USC and UCLA.

The Bruins and Beavers were playing teams from weaker conferences, and USC was the number one team in the country. Nonetheless, Oregon State and UCLA were only favored by two points.

Analysts for ESPN declared the Beavers/Lobos game outcome one of the hardest to predict. New Mexico's running back supposedly would decimate our defense. After a 41-point rout and a record-setting day for Steven Jackson, Oregon State received a few votes in the polls, but barely a mention of Pac-10 teams being underrated.

Most sports commentators felt USC would have a difficult time handling the then fourth-ranked Michigan. Before Oklahoma lost to Kansas State, the analysts did not even take notice of USC except that USC was cursed with a "weak" schedule.

Cal and Washington State went

Mike Nierengarten



into their bowl games as huge underdogs, and yet the teams unrelentingly dominated their opponents.

When confronted by the Cougars' defense, Texas' quarterbacks were consistently face down in the turf and holding back tears as they looked to the sideline for help. It was clear that the Longhorn's offensive line had never seen such a blistering attack.

Texas came into the game ranked fifth in the country. Apparently the team was deserving of the high ranking because of the "tough" schedule Texas had to play in the Big-12.

Even after Texas lost to a mediocre Arkansas and was utterly romped by Oklahoma, the media allowed the team to keep its high rating.

The media consistently rank teams from other conferences higher than Pac-10 teams, even after they lose. Florida remained in the top 25 even after losing four games. Florida can still be seen in both polls even after losing its bowl game and going 8-5 overall.

Realistically, the Gators are garbage. They lost every big game except against LSU. I guess California should be ranked in the top 25 for merely beating USC. At least California can win its bowl game.

Michigan held its spot near the top even after being embarrassed by a disheveled Oregon team and routed by Iowa and USC. Miami, Virginia Tech and West Virginia retained their rankings in the polls after key losses.

The bias against the Pac-10 carries into the awards given out at

the end of the year to college football's best players.

Matt Leinart, Steven Jackson, D.D. Acholonu and Mike Williams were all but ignored in the end of the year awards. In fact, no member of the conference received any of the major awards in football.

In the past 20 years, Carson Palmer is the only Pac-10 football player who has won the Heisman trophy. He is also one of the few winners in recent years that will likely be successful in the NFL.

This year's winner, Jason White, will probably never play a down of professional football. Furthermore, his numbers against LSU in the championship game were pitiful. He and the rest of the Oklahoma football team, touted as possibly the best team in history at one point, arguably never won a big game.

The biggest culprit of bias against the Pac-10 is, of course, the Bowl Championship Series (BCS). In its history, the system has not allowed a Pac-10 team into a national championship. Of the six major conferences, the Pac-10 is the only conference that has not won a BCS national championship. Albeit, it is hard to win a championship if you never get a chance to play in the championship game.

Throughout the country, the general football watching public has absolutely no respect for the Pac-10, but who can really blame them? They are continuously bombarded by analysts harping on the conference.

From football to basketball to baseball, the Pac-10 deserves more respect. Apparently, simply beating other teams is not enough.

Mike Nierengarten is a columnist for The Daily Barometer. The opinions expressed in his columns, which appear every Tuesday, do not necessarily represent those of The Barometer staff. Nierengarten can be reached at [baro.forum@studentmedia.orst.edu](mailto:baro.forum@studentmedia.orst.edu).

Erin Simovic



## How to win at the game that is America

What is the point of extreme fashion statements? Spiky, multicolored hair, chains, studs, piercings, face paint, you name it. It's the scari-fying of America, powered by celebrities like Marilyn Manson.

Okay, I know what you're thinking — sheltered little suburban girl totally out of touch with reality — but you couldn't be more wrong. I'm hip. I read the Sears catalogue. I'm so totally in touch with the kids of today.

Alright, so maybe it's only the elementary school kids, and maybe I still secretly wish I could wear stretch pants — with stirrups. But that is not the point.

Although I only live a few miles from a big city, I rarely venture into downtown. It scares me. Nothing but heckling delinquents and those strange city-dwellers who feel compelled to express themselves with bizarre fashion choices.

I am being polite, mind you. I would have used "freakish," but I figured that wouldn't be politically correct.

Now before anyone jumps all over me about not judging the book by its cover (blah, blah, blah), let's think about this practically and rationally.

And then we'll think about it my way.

Why would anyone, in his right mind that is, choose to alienate themselves from society in such a way? You can't tell me that mohawks look respectable for job interviews. I conclude, then, that these individuals either want to rebel from society or are simply not in their right minds.

I tend to lean toward the latter myself, but feel free to form your own conclusions.

Yes, yes, this is a free country, but my inability to understand these fashion trends is not the problem. Everyone is different and I'm sure, to some overly sensitive person, my "I love nerds" T-shirt is offensive.

Let's assume, then, for the sake of open-mindedness, that these drastic fashions are a result of societal rebellion. If that is the case, how silly to think that these individuals waste so much time trying to make a statement using their nonconforming clothing.

Sure, world peace is one step closer after I paint on my gothic makeup. Why don't we have these folks as Miss America contestants?

Instead, they ought to focus on making real efforts to change what they don't like about society.

By real efforts I am referring to, for instance, volunteering at a nature camp to teach kids about the effects of pollution on our environment.

This is in sharp contrast to, say,

| See SIMOVIC, page 6 |

### Letters

Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be printed on a first-received basis. Letters must be 300 words or fewer and include the author's signature, academic major, class standing or job title, department name and phone number. Authors of e-mailed letters will receive a reply for the purpose of verification. Letters are subject to editing for space and clarity. The Daily Barometer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submissions.

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# Can't a poor guy get a freakin' snow day?

With any luck, nobody is reading this. Maybe no one ever reads this column, but today they have a good excuse — it might be a snow day. The wise people in charge of OSU could cancel classes because of the heavy snow and freezing conditions.

I hope that you are all outside hooky bobbing, having snowball fights and riding in one-horse open sleighs.

The reality is that you are probably sleeping. Playing in the snow is fun, but it is also cold and tiring. Why not curl up in bed with some hot cocoa and watch people slipping on the news?

Because snow days are rare in these parts, we have to take advantage of them. Get out there and build a snowman, whether you want to or not. And nothing obscene, got it? Make snow angels until you can't move your legs, then have your friends use your frozen body as a sled. Live it up now, because it will be gone in a matter of hours.

Then again, the snow might not have fallen last night. One of those big blue things the weather men point at might have pushed the storm to the south of us, or, God forbid, we get another visit from the Pineapple Express.

Ever since the first El Niño, I have been a connoisseur of local news weather coverage.

I am particularly fond of Storm Team 12, because it treats each storm like it's the apocalypse. The news helicopters that patrol the skies, led by the mighty Jet Ranger, do a good job of reporting the weather, but couldn't I just look out the



Alex McNall

window and get the same information?

As much as I trust local meteorologists, they sometimes disappoint. Even Matt Zappano and the Doppler 8000 radar system did not predict the snowfall we had on New Year's Day. Nobody saw that huge winter storm coming, which makes you question the whole system.

Being so wrong kind of freaked them out, so maybe they are overcompensating this time. Maybe this storm will disperse in the upper atmosphere after it runs into a warm air mass.

Maybe we will all be in class today, looking out the windows with longing while the higher-ups breathe a sigh of relief that the nightmare is over.

The hysteria gripping the community is a natural reaction considering it hasn't really snowed here in 20 years. Corvallis doesn't know how to deal with snow.

Yesterday we had a few inches and there were no snowplows or sand trucks making the streets safe for drivers. People had to just hop into their two-wheel drive sedans and go for it. Consequently there was a six-car pile up on Witham Hill. Last I heard they shut the hill down.

The city will close an entire hill, but not cancel school?

Students who realized it was too dangerous to drive got to school by riding their bikes.

Now Student Health Services is overcrowded with ice-related injuries, mostly from cyclists.

Many pedestrians also slipped to their doom. There is not a trace of salt spread on the walkways so, it doesn't matter how slow you walk, Converse shoes on ice equal a sprained wrist and a sore butt.

Even if today isn't a snow day, I bet I lot of you will pretend it is. It may only be the second day of the term, but we need a day off.

Monday was very stressful. It was cold, snowy and we had to go to class for the first time in over three weeks.

I think I speak for everyone when I say I could use some time to get over the shock of being back in school. A day or two or three to readjust to college life would be a nice way to start winter term, the longest and most depressing term of all.

The vacationless grind from winter break to spring break is enough to wear down even the most enthusiastic student. The excitement of fall is over and the thrill of spring is three months away.

Martin Luther King Day is the sole oasis in the upcoming drought, but don't expect that one day off to recharge your batteries.

If it snowed last night and school is not cancelled, I say a boycott is in order. Better yet, slip on the ice on your way to class (it won't take much effort) so we can launch a massive lawsuit against the university.

All we want is one snow day, and we are willing to fight for it, unless of course today is a snow day. Then forget everything I said.

Alex McNall is a humor columnist for The Daily Barometer. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent those of the Barometer staff. McNall can be reached at baro.forum@studentmedia.orst.edu.

# It's time to re-examine our morals, thanks to Jacko

He asked us to heal the world, he told us to beat it, he expressed frustration about social pressures, he recalled for us his thrilling evening, and now Michael Jackson is saying "Before I would hurt a child, I would slit my wrists."

This whole fiasco exploded during the release period of his latest CD and before a network special, when he was arrested under suspicion of child molestation.

Okay, maybe he did it. And maybe he didn't. I am not ready to start the "Free Michael" campaign, but I'm not in line to condemn him, either. If there is reasonable proof either way, I'll go along with it.

More important than the outcome, or whether or not he received money for an interview, or if he still has his classic moves, is what his actions have done for the moral battle of America.

What is and isn't moral? I believe that Jackson's alleged actions are immoral because the alleged children involved did not (and almost all kids of those ages cannot, in modern society) fully understand what they were getting themselves into.

To tie this together with other current events, after the Supreme Court overturned the Texas ruling and banned any laws against sodomy last year, many jumped to the issue of same-sex marriage. While that is a logical step, there is another battle that anti-LGBT fanatics brought up that was largely ignored by the media, and thus society.

The Sexual Rights Movement (aka The Sexual Revolution) scored a big victory in the ruling. This movement is tied solely to the actions of sexuality. Weaving in and out



Clinton Downs

of many movements even before Gay Rights, it seeks to remove barriers that society places around sexual activities. It fights the moral judgments and stigmas of sexual behavior.

Opponents to LGBT Rights bring up a camel argument in relation to the Sexual Rights Movement. Relating back to the story about the travelling person who was convinced by their camel to allow just its nose into the human's tent rather than the entire camel. As the night continued, the camel moved more and more of its body into the tent. If you give a camel an inch, it'll take a mile.

Opponents argued that if we allow homosexual sex, soon the discussion will move to interspecies sexual acts. And others say that the next step will be allowance for greater age disparities, especially relationships involving people under 18.

The Sexual Rights Movement has had its interactions with the LGBT Rights Movement, but they are not the same.

Homosexuality, pedophilia, heterosexuality, bestiality and bisexuality are simply different sexual orientations, just as apples and oranges are different fruits (some, like a tomato, are more contested).

From my perspective, these situations boil down to one condition, stipulation or judgment: consent.

While I don't promote those actions, I would not pass legislation outright banning all interspecies or age-disparate rela-

tionships. In my opinion, what matters is clear, non-coerced, educated consent.

Currently, regardless of consent, sexual activity with someone under 18 is illegal (with the exception of the two year rule). Is that reasonable? Or can educated and non-coerced consent be given by someone under 18, and where should that line be drawn?

This is the question that Michael Jackson is slapping in our face with his sequined glove.

What Michael Jackson has done for society is invaluable because he has brought up the issue of consent, morality and indecency. Let's look at ourselves, our morals and really ask why we feel that way? Because our parents told us so? Because religious doctrine says so? Because some old dead white guy scribbled it on a piece of mashed wood?

Policies and decisions have been made on less than this, and they have liberated us, and at the same time imprisoned us in socially constructed moral boxes.

If the allegations are proven true, I believe Jackson should be charged and punished accordingly. This would send a statement that what he is said to have done is wrong.

And, more importantly, it would encourage society to understand what morals apply to all members of society (and thus should be legislated) and what moral judgments lie at the individual level (and should be left alone by the legal/governmental system).

Clinton Downs is a columnist for The Daily Barometer. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent those of The Barometer staff. Downs can be reached at baro.forum@studentmedia.orst.edu.

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Telephone Number (541) 737-7568**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR****Energy Bill****Demand better**

I am writing to express my disappointment in the Energy Bill. At a time when we are killing people over oil, I find it deeply disturbing and morally offensive seeing the Energy Bill before Congress.

Tell me, why do we not have higher fuel standards for America? Why such gross subsidies, tax escapes, loan guarantees and weaker law enforcement for our nation's polluters? I have a hard time understanding why the House passed this bill.

I have enjoyed visiting our local hybrid dealers (Toyota and Honda) and experiencing first hand this new gas-saving technology. I was told our local Toyota dealership sold more gas hybrid Prius last month than the best selling car in America, the Camry.

Why are there no American companies offering similar technology? Why are we not encouraging more fuel efficient technologies for our country?

The consumer will look to overseas products while our auto industry produces more and more fuel-wasting vehicles. Think about what will happen when fuel hits \$4 per gallon; all of the gas hogs will become extinct.

Before the Senate is an Energy Bill that we all should be ashamed of; an Energy Bill that greases the pork that has made our country so reliant on foreign imports of oil.

Maybe we should all buy a diesel from Volkswagen and convert it to biodiesel, so we can drive off the grease from this pork barrel bill? (Volkswagen has a great TDI diesel engine — 50 plus miles per gallon — any American products to compete?)

I have only one question. Does this bill lead us into a more secure energy future or does it favor big business? Call your Senators and demand something better.

RAY CHESBROUGH,  
Corvallis resident**David Williams column****No thanks for Bush**

David Williams in his Dec. 4, 2003 article, 'Giving thanks to el Prez' lauds Bush for his compassion shown toward American troops by serving them turkey dinner on Thanksgiving in Iraq.

I do consider this act to be a good gesture, however, it is also necessary to consider other actions taken by Bush toward soldiers serving America.

The Bush administration has sought to cut our troops' pay for those in battle. As of my writing, Bush has not attended a single funeral for the 441 soldiers who have died in Iraq. Where is the compassion there, or does he not want to let the people see his acknowledgment of what the real cost of war is?

It's not only our active troops that are getting the short end of this stick. George W. cut the Veteran Affairs hospitals budget by \$3 billion.

Most disturbing is the fact that 40,000 of the 130,000 troops in Iraq have been told by Bush they need to buy their own Kevlar vests for combat. Way to support our troops! I think any active soldier would take a life-saving Kevlar vest over all the turkey Bush is serving up.

Williams stated, 'One thing you cannot say is that he [Bush] lacks concern [for US soldiers].' Well I just did, and backed it up with plenty of evidence to support it.

So what was the reason for Bush's visit, if not compassion? Well, Williams even said it himself, 'Bush's visit to our troops [was] an amazingly smart move to make, considering his approval ratings.' You summed it up nicely Dave; Americans lack confidence in this war and its administration, so Bush needs to show

just how much he really cares.

Well, to that I say 'Mission Accomplished.'

ADAM CAMPBELL,  
Researcher in oceanography**David Williams column****Look at the Cold War**

I can't give thanks to 'el Prez' (David Williams, Dec. 4, 2003). How can I give thanks to a man who, thanks to his sub-average IQ of 98, uses words like "misperceived" and thinks it's okay to bomb countries back to the stone age with fabricated evidence as a pretense for war.

Williams thinks Bush is heroic for 'going into the lion's den.' That was a publicity stunt. There was nothing dangerous about it. HE'S THE MOST PROTECTED MAN ON THE PLANET. I don't think flying aboard a luxury plane that has more technology, armor and military sophistication than most cities, into a secured airport to have dinner for two hours under guard by HUNDREDS of troops and secret service agents even begins to qualify as 'the lions den.'

Also in response to Williams, no I haven't forgotten 9-11, but I also haven't forgotten that Donald Rumsfeld sold weapons of mass destruction to Saddam, and there's actually a photo of them shaking hands. What was it again they were used for ... oh yeah — all of Saddams crimes against humanity. Hmm ... isn't that funny.

Who trained Osama bin Laden to fight off the Russians during the Cold War ... oh yeah — the United States government. Who stabbed him in the back? Bingo! Us again!

Bush is not solving terrorism by overthrowing countries left and right. If you want the real cause and solution to a problem that is wicked (students of Professor King will understand the real meaning of wicked) and systemic in nature, look back 20 or 30 years to what we were doing during the Cold War.

NICK RUTLEDGE,  
Senior in accounting**Elizabeth Meyer column****Police have reason**

Elizabeth Meyer spent her last column (Dec. 4, 2003) deploring the FBI (and the Bush administration) for circulating a memo that advised local police forces to keep an eye out for illegal activity during anti-war protests.

Apparently, she believes that law enforcement ought not take precautions against the eventuality that large protests might provide cover for purveyors of violence.

Perhaps her involvement in politics is too recent for her to remember the debacle that was made of the Seattle WTO conference.

However, history is not the only reason why police have cause to fear violence from these protests. The identity of the leaders and organizers of these protests provides reason for great caution.

International ANSWER, the group that has organized almost all of the American rallies, is a subsidiary of the communist Worker's World Party. Their Web site endorses (among many other atrocities) the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the regime of North Korea's Kim Jong-Il.

Those directing the recent London protests are no more exemplary. The chairman of the "Stop the War Coalition" is Andrew Murray, the leader of the British Communist party. The guiding council members are a nauseating mixture of Communists and radical Muslims.

One prominent member, George Galloway, called the day the Soviet Union fell, "the saddest day" of his life.

Those who willingly ally themselves with Stalinists ought not be surprised to find themselves under scrutiny.

NATHANAEL BLAKE,  
Sophomore in microbiology**Simovic: Isn't there some better way to spend time?**

Continued from page 4

wearing a studded dog collar and pants held together by safety pins.

I'm not really sure which approach is more effective in combating damage to our environment. I suppose it's a toss-up, really.

Of course, I am making the assumption that these people actually have a real statement to make and are not, as many would state, merely menaces to society.

Personally, I have a hard time believing that these individuals would want to make their appearances so, at times, shocking and not have some underlying reason for doing so.

Their choices certainly help to alienate them from other members of society unlike themselves, making me want

to believe that they have some reason for doing so.

Or maybe this is just something else we can blame on the Internet.

Unfortunately, we live in a very judgmental society. Our clothes, makeup, hair and possessions communicate to others who we are and what we value. Even if we don't agree with it, this is nothing new. For some, dressing up to look like circus members from the underworld is one way to protest this. I guess you could say that the rest of us choose to play the game.

Regardless, isn't there some better way that these people can spend their time? Can't they find more productive outlets of expression?

I don't want the nonconformists to go away, I just want

them, in one way or another, to make some positive contribution to society, rather than generate negative attention.

While that may go against their desires to destroy society as we know it, if they truly want to get any sort of message to the rest of us, I would recommend they consider losing the spikes.

We are, as most of us are aware, all part of the same society. Like it or not, we all have to be here and make our own individual contributions. Maybe America isn't ideal to everyone, but unless you play the game, it never will be for you.

Erin Simovic is a columnist for The Daily Barometer. The opinions expressed in her columns, which appear every Tuesday, do not necessarily represent those of The Barometer staff. Simovic can be reached at baro.forum@studentmedia.orst.edu.



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# NASA returns to Mars

► NASA releases 3-D panoramic picture, awaits color images from Mars rover Spirit begins exploration

By ANDREW BRIDGES  
AP SCIENCE WRITER

PASADENA, Calif. — NASA on Monday released a sweeping, 3-D panorama of the surface of Mars snapped by the newly landed rover Spirit, as scientists awaited the first detailed color images of the robot's surroundings.

Scientists marveled at the crisp black-and-white photograph and picked the likely first target the six-wheeled rover would visit: a dust-filled depression that tired members of the mission quickly dubbed "Sleepy Hollow."

"It's a hole in the ground, it's a window in the interior of Mars," said Steve Squyres, the mission's main scientist.

Reporters were given 3-D glasses to look at the image.

Later Monday, NASA expected to receive the first high-resolution color pictures from Spirit. The resolution was expected to be far higher than photos from any previous lander. The space agency issued a single color "thumbnail" image of a much larger Martian postcard it expected around midnight Monday.

"It's a postcard. You go somewhere, you buy a postcard and you send it home," said Jim Bell, of Cornell University, and a member of the mission science team.

The latest images show further details of what scientists believe is the rocky bed of an ancient lake that may have once harbored life.

The golf cart-sized Spirit landed on Mars late Saturday, safely returning the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to the planet's surface for the first time since the 1997 Pathfinder mission.

Just three hours after the unmanned robot landed, it began zipping the first black-and-white images of its surroundings to Earth, 106 million miles distant at the time.

"It was so gorgeous to see the horizon in the pictures. It's what we'd been imagining for so long," said Julie Townsend, a mission avionics engineer.

The first images from Spirit show a flat, wind-scoured plain peppered with small rocks, none more than a foot high. The scene enthused scientists, eager to send the rover prospecting among the rocks for evidence that the landing site once was awash in water.

"It's all stunning, it's all new and it's all different," said Wendy Calvin, of the University of Nevada, a scientist on the mission.

Calvin added the terrain appeared flatter and featured fewer and smaller rocks than the sites that Pathfinder and, in 1976, the twin Viking landers visited.

"I see a race track where we can drive for meters and meters and meters," Calvin said.

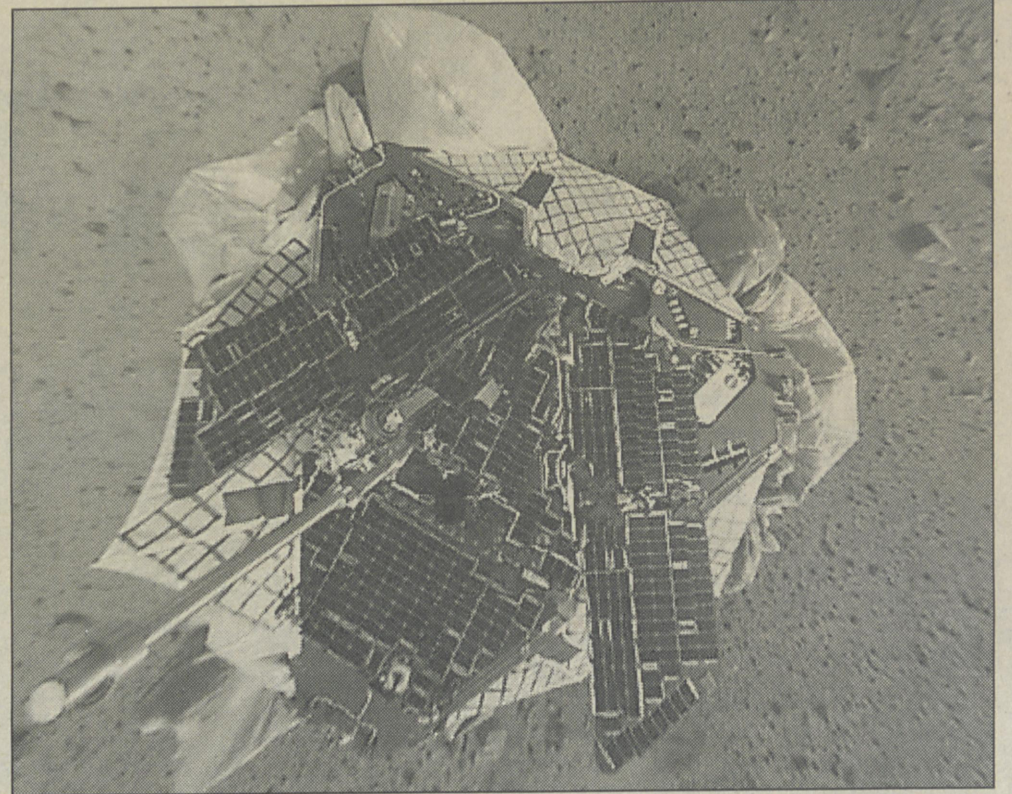
Late Sunday, NASA successfully established a link from Earth with Spirit's high-gain antenna. That link allows NASA to shuttle data directly between Spirit and Earth at transmission rates greater than 11,000 bits per second — about one-fifth the rate of a 56K dial-up connection to the Internet on Earth.

Spirit's fastest connection, at 128K, is expected to be through its UHF antenna. The antenna transmits data to the Mars Global Surveyor and 2001 Mars Odyssey spacecraft for later relay to Earth. The two satellites are in orbit around Mars.

The \$820 million NASA Mars Exploration Rover project also includes a second golf cart-sized rover, Opportunity. That robot is set to reach the opposite side of Mars from its sibling on Jan. 24.

Spirit made an apparently flawless landing in Gusev Crater, a Connecticut-sized basin scientists believe once contained a brimming lake.

There were a few minor concerns about the mission. Scientists were trying to determine whether a dark object lodged against one corner of the lander was a rock that might block the rover once it's ready to roll onto the ground. On Sunday, mission members said the object



AP PHOTO/NASA/JPL

This mosaic image taken by the navigation camera on the Mars Exploration Rover Spirit shows a clear overhead view of the rover on the surface of Mars after its successful landing on Jan. 3, 2004. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration began receiving the first of an estimated 60 to 80 images from Spirit's cameras late Saturday, three hours after the robot made an apparently flawless landing on Mars.

could be a dirty piece of one of the air bags that cushioned the rover's landing.

Over the next three months, the robot geologist should look for geologic evidence of past water activity in the rocks and soil it was designed to analyze with its suite of instruments. If water once filled Gusev Crater, it may have been a place suitable for life.

It was a little warmer than expected — about 98 below zero Fahrenheit — possibly because of airborne dust trapping heat.

That meant Spirit's solar arrays were generating only 83 percent of the power expected, said Jennifer Trosper, Spirit's mission manager for surface operations.

That was plenty to conduct the mission, but could force mission managers to conserve power.

As early as Monday, Spirit could be told to raise itself up — a two-day process — and extend its front legs. It will take nine to 10 days before the six-wheeled robot is ready to roll off its lander and begin roaming Mars.

Spirit's successful landing bucked a trend of failed missions to Mars. Just one in three past attempts to land on the planet has succeeded. British scientists said Sunday they would keep trying to contact their probe, the Beagle 2, which was supposed to land on Mars on Christmas.

## Bombs target European Union officials

► Letter bombs sent to three European lawmakers, two explode, no injuries reported

By RAF CASERT  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Two more letter bombs addressed to senior members of the European Parliament burst into flames and another was intercepted Monday — the seventh since Dec. 27 — leading to a review of security at the European Union.

The latest bombings scorched furniture, leaving the letter-openers frightened but unharmed. Investigators suspect an Italian anarchist group — the "Informal Anarchic Federation" — as the likely source for the string of bombs, which have caused no injuries.

"This has to be taken very, very seriously because we don't know whether there is a terrorist background to this or some kind of warning, in whatever form — or whether it is just a bad joke," said Hans-Gert Poettering, the head of the conservative faction in the European Parliament who was one of those targeted Monday.

Some questioned why EU personnel were allowed to handle the packages in the wake of the earlier bombs.

"That such a device has been able to be delivered to the office of a senior politician is a matter of great concern," said Nelly Maes, a Belgian member of the EU assembly.

In Rome, anti-terrorism officials from

around Europe set up a joint task force Monday to look into the spate of letter bombs.

The letters that went off Monday were sent to Poettering's Brussels office as well as the office of British Socialist legislator Gary Titeley in Manchester, England.

At Titeley's office, a staff member opened a parcel that arrived over the Christmas holidays, and it immediately caught fire, enveloping the office in dense, acrid smoke.

"This was a shocking incident," Titeley said. "There can be no justification for these attacks, which in reality are an attack on democracy."

A staffer at Poettering's office opened a padded envelope that appeared to contain a book, and it burst into flames. Poettering was on his way to Brussels from Germany at the time.

Also in Brussels, an identical package was discovered addressed to Jose Ignacio Salafranca, a Spanish member of the European People's Party. Bomb experts neutralized the explosive.

The two packages found in Brussels were postmarked Dec. 22 from Bologna, the Italian city from which the earlier attacks are believed to have originated. The two packages were "identical in every respect — the same size, posted on the same day and from the same place," said David Harley, a spokesman for European Parliament President Pat Cox.

In Antwerp, near Brussels, police were looking into two other suspicious packages found, although it was unclear whether there was a link with the EU let-

ter bombs.

Beyond the three letter bombs against the EU legislators found Monday, there were no other suspicious packages under review at EU headquarters late Monday, officials said.

European Parliament President Pat Cox said the legislature would intensify security and scanning measures at its vast offices in the heart of Brussels, and told everybody to be on the lookout.

"We are asking members of the European Parliament, together with their families and staff, to be alert in their homes, their offices in the European Parliament and in their constituencies," he said.

Three firefighter trucks and bomb disposal squads were parked outside the Parliament's buildings in central Brussels, and plainclothes policemen were seen moving inside carrying metal boxes.

After the packages were found, parliament staff was told to handle mail with care. Over the Christmas holidays, the EU institution received about 100,000 letters and parcels.

European officials first focused suspicion on the anarchist group after it claimed responsibility for two time bombs that exploded outside European Commission President Romano Prodi's house in Bologna on Dec. 21, causing a small fire.

In a letter to Italian daily newspaper La Repubblica on Dec. 23, the anarchist group said it planted the bombs to "hit at the apparatus of control that is repressive and leading the democratic show that is the new European order."

## New SARS case confirmed

► China plans mass killing of wildlife as new SARS case is uncovered

By TED ANTHONY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

BEIJING — On Monday, faced with the return of SARS, China ordered wild animals slaughtered by the thousands in the disease's suspected region of origin, a striking response that elicited calls for caution from international doctors concerned about safety and destroying medical evidence.

The decision to kill up to 10,000 civet cats and related specialty-food creatures in the wildlife markets of the southern province of Guangdong — animals suspected of being SARS carriers — was confirmed after more than two weeks of intricate tests.

Adding to Asia's SARS unease, a husband and wife in the Philippines who fell ill after returning from Hong Kong were placed in isolation to await test results. And Hong Kong stepped up health surveillance at border checkpoints with mainland China.

The World Health Organization, upgrading the case of an

ailing 32-year-old Guangdong television producer from suspected severe acute respiratory syndrome to a definite diagnosis, urged calm. It said China, which became a travel pariah during the first outbreak last year, was safe.

"We have to be very clear about it: It does not mean that one case can lead to a public health threat," said Dr. Henk Bakedam, the WHO representative for China. But the national government warned its citizens: "Be vigilant."

China's leadership, criticized for a sluggish response to the debut of SARS last year, lurched in the other direction with an extraordinary aggressive decision to eradicate civets from Guangdong's wildlife markets, where they are sold as delicacies and are a strong part of the local economy.

"We will take resolute measures to close all the wildlife markets in Guangdong and to kill the civet cats," said Feng Liuxiang, vice director of the Guangdong Health Department.

Zhong Nanshan, director of the Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Diseases, said species related to civets also

| See SARS, page 9 |

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# Mad cow one of many medical mystifiers

► Family of brain diseases, including mad cow, mystify scientists

By LAURAN NEERGAARD  
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — For all the worry mad cow disease is generating, it's just one in a family of 10 diseases discovered so far — five in animals, five in humans — that are arguably medicine's most mystifying maladies.

Most so-called prion diseases are incredibly rare in this country, although one has spread into deer and elk herds in at least 12 states, sparking concern about contaminated game meat.

Yet scientists can't answer the most basic questions about prions, even though learning how the rogue proteins cause sponge-like holes in brains could improve understanding of more common neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's.

Because they're not considered a big threat here, few U.S. scientists study prions. The National Institutes of Health spent \$29.4 million on prion research last year; most goes to just two laboratories.

Europe, where mad cow disease devastated the beef

industry in the 1990s, spends almost 10 times as much, said Dr. Richard T. Johnson of Johns Hopkins University, who led an exhaustive review of prion research for the Institute of Medicine.

Then there's tracking. The United States spends about a penny per person on surveillance for human versions, including the classic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease that hits 250 Americans a year and the "variant CJD" linked to mad cow-tainted beef, so far not found here.

Britain, where variant CJD first appeared, spends about a nickel per person on surveillance.

As for testing, Congress did designate a National Prion Research Project in 2002 to develop ways to diagnose prion diseases before the person or animal dies. But funding wasn't renewed for the Defense Department-run project last year. For now, 35 scientists are sharing \$37 million in the hunt — even as the Institute of Medicine predicts it will take a major leap in innovation to find a better test.

Still, research grants aren't the chief obstacle to researching these "transmissible spongiform encephalopathies," or TSEs. Double the money today and scientists

couldn't use it all, Johnson said, because too few laboratories can spend years waiting for the slow-growing diseases to sicken test animals — or safely handle highly infectious prions.

How infectious? Burning tainted animal tissue into ash doesn't destroy them. Chemical disinfectants don't work well, either. And prions cling to the glass and steel in operating rooms and labs where diseased brains must be cut for diagnosis and study.

Adding to the complexity, each TSE is somewhat different. Mad cows aren't considered contagious, for instance. But the nation's most common TSE, chronic wasting disease in deer and elk, is. Nobody's sure exactly how CWD spreads from animal to animal, but urine and saliva are top suspects.

"To be perfectly honest, I'm more worried about chronic wasting disease as a potential public health problem than mad cow," said Johnson. European scientists "shake their heads and say, 'Why aren't you Americans working on this, you're sitting on a powder keg.'"

TSEs arise when a protein the body normally harbors folds into an abnormal shape, setting off a chain reaction of

misfolds that eventually leaves clumps of dead brain cells. There's no foreign invader for the immune system to catch and prions contain no genetic material, so standard ways to diagnose, treat and prevent disease so far don't work.

The TSE family includes:

— Scrapie, the sheep version, first described in the 18th century.

— Mad cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy, believed spread when cows ate feed contaminated initially with scrapie and then with BSE-tainted cow tissue. Such feed was outlawed here in 1997; the mad cow discovered last month in Washington state was born shortly before that ban.

— Classic CJD, a quickly fatal human dementia known for 80 years. Most cases are sporadic, their cause unknown; some are inherited; some are spread through infected surgical equipment, tissue transplants or hormones.

— Variant CJD, the different version linked to tainted beef.

— Other human forms include kuru, discovered in cannibals in Papua New Guinea; and fatal familial insomnia and Gerstmann-Straussler-Scheinker disease,



NATACHA PISARENKO | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sergio Veliz handles meat at a butchery in Buenos Aires, Argentina on Monday, Jan. 5. Argentine farmers hope to export more beef to global markets after a case of Mad Cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy, was detected in Washington state.

both genetic.

— In animals, chronic wasting disease isn't known to spread to people but health experts advise against eating infected deer or elk.

— Mink and cats also get TSEs linked to infected feed.

The Institute of Medicine, at the Defense Department's request, recently recommended a range of prion research priorities—from intense study of chronic wasting disease's true threat to better surveil-

lance in case completely new TSEs arise.

A major focus should be simply how prions work, the report stresses — because more common neurodegeneration, like Alzheimer's, occurs when other proteins run amok, too.

"What's interesting is the traffic of proteins," Johnson said. "It's a great biological question, and answering those questions may give us insights into big important diseases."

## Project Vote Smart takes no sides

► Citizen's organization offers scholarships to OSU students

By DANNY FERNANDEZ  
BAROMETER STAFF WRITER

Now that it is 2004, the United States is about to undergo a symbolic facelift that it has not seen for some time, or at least four years. The reason for this change? Elections.

And for those who are worried that the upcoming array of television ads, debates and smear campaigns will be too much to handle, an organization has formed that is dedicated to easing the burden of the common voter.

Project Vote Smart (PVS) is a citizen's organization dedicated to serving all Americans with accurate and unbiased information for electoral decision-making, according to the group's Web site.

Visitors to the site can check the list of current political officials and candidates and can find all of the information that is important in making their election decisions.

The group's founding members include Senator John McCain, D-Ariz., former U.S. representative Newt Gingrich and Senator Bill Frist, R-Tenn., among many others with interests in the organization's goals.

Internships are available to students and the group has recently announced that it will be awarding scholarships to Oregon State students.

Interns are expected to set aside personal and political beliefs, be objective and non-partisan while working, and be in good standing with their school.

Located on the Great Divide Ranch Retreat and Research Facility near Phillipsburg, Mont. in the Rocky Mountains, interns will spend 10 weeks working as full time staff members on various election related issues.

Students receive free room and board at the ranch, and the scholarships will help with any other expenses.

"Working at the project during the presidential election is an extraordinary experience," Richard Kimball, the project's president, said in a recent press release.

"You not only get an insider's view of hard ball politics and an opportunity to add your input to a project that is being honored throughout the nation, but you get to do it in a place that is as close to paradise as any place on earth."

According to the press release, when PVS was independently tested against the NY Times, CNN and other national news media, it proved to be the most trusted and useful source of information.

For information on the project or to obtain an internship application, go to [www.vote-smart.org](http://www.vote-smart.org), or call 1-888-VOTE-SMART and ask for the internship department.

Danny Fernandez is a staff writer for The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at [baro.campus@studentmedia.orst.edu](mailto:baro.campus@studentmedia.orst.edu).

## SARS: Confirmed was the first China SARS case since July

Continued from page 8

will be killed, including raccoon dogs, ferret badgers, hog badgers and Eurasian badgers.

The slaughter will be completed by Saturday, the government said. It wasn't clear when the cull would begin, or who would carry it out and under what circumstances.

Guangdong's wildlife markets were ordered closed Monday, and the provincial Forestry Department put 2,030 presumably doomed civet cats in quarantine. The official Xinhua News Agency called the civet a "major SARS virus carrier."

WHO is less definitive about civet-SARS links. One of its animal experts, Dr. Jeffrey Gilbert, emphasized that while the weasel-like mammals have been "implicated" in the disease's possible transfer from animals to humans, definitive proof is elusive.

He said the "radical step" of mass slaughter must be conducted under controlled conditions to avoid contamination of places or people that could spread SARS. What's more, he said, any reckless cull could eliminate clues to the illness' "animal reservoir."

"We would recommend that the authorities do undertake extreme caution. There is a potential hazard there," Gilbert said at a news

conference. WHO had expressed unease in August when China, after outlawing the trade of civets for four months, rescinded the ban.

The disease eventually christened SARS, which first broke out in Guangdong in November 2002, had infected more than 8,000 people and killed 774 worldwide — mostly in Asia — before it was brought under control in June. In China, 349 died.

China's newest SARS patient tested positive in one sample of many, WHO said. But SARS team leader Dr. Julie Hall, in Beijing, said examinations of that sample convinced doctors that the man was infected.

The confirmation represented the first known case of SARS contracted in China since July — and the first this season to come from the general population. Two other cases — in Singapore and Taiwan — were linked to researchers, apparently exposed in labs.

The patient's condition was stable Monday, and those who came into contact with him have shown no symptoms. Both WHO and the government said they didn't yet know how the man contracted the virus, though he reported neither eating nor coming into contact with wild game.

Researchers at Hong Kong University said they found similarities between a virus found in civets and in the suspected SARS patient, suggesting the disease might have recently jumped from animals. Those findings, not independently verified, apparently prompted the plans for the civet eradication.

The quick announcement of the confirmed case — the government reported it before WHO could — was a sharp departure from China's initial responses to the virus last year. International observers complained of stonewalling, bad information and a reluctance to acknowledge the problem.

In late April, China fired its health minister and promised a more open and aggressive approach, something even many of its critics abroad say it has moved toward. At home, citizens didn't seem especially alarmed, even after learning of the new case Monday.

"The government has reacted quickly because it learned about SARS from the last time," newsstand worker Zhou Bao said as he unbundled stacks of magazines.

"Don't worry," added Beijing fruit-stall vendor Xiu Yuling. "And even if you catch it, being worried won't help."

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# North Korean nuclear crisis proving hard to address

► China and Russia plan compromise on Korea's nuclear standoff, new talks are unlikely to take place this month

By HANS GREIMEL  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SEOUL, South Korea — Talks on ending the North Korean nuclear crisis hung in limbo Monday: North Korea blamed the impasse on Washington's demand for disarmament, and South Korea and Russia said it was unlikely a new round of six-nation negotiations could open this month.

Amid the standoff, Russian and Chinese diplomats met in Moscow on Monday to discuss a compromise solution that first freezes North Korea's atomic programs, then rolls them back.

The developments come as a delegation of U.S. congressional aides headed to North Korea to possibly tour the communist country's disputed nuclear plant at Yongbyon. The two staffers will then visit the South Korean capital of Seoul over the weekend, U.S. Embassy Spokeswoman Maureen Cormack said.

The Yongbyon complex is at the heart of the

standoff, and there has been no outside access to the facility since North Korea expelled U.N. nuclear inspectors at the end of 2002.

The two Koreas, the United States, Russia, China and Japan have been trying to resume a second round of talks for months, aimed at persuading North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons programs. A first round of talks in Beijing in August ended with little progress.

There were hopes a new round could open early this year, after differences between the United States and North Korea prevented more negotiations before the close of 2003. But in Moscow, a leading Russian diplomat said talks would probably not happen this month — again, because of Washington and Pyongyang.

Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Losyukov blamed the delay on disagreements over the wording of a final document for the talks. He said efforts to set up more talks were "very difficult" and that a final document could not be forged because of "mistrust and increased demands on each other" by the United States and North Korea, according to Russia's Interfax news agency.

South Korea's National Security Adviser Ra Jong-il also said Monday that a new round was

unlikely to happen this month — but he blamed scheduling conflicts with the Russian Christmas holiday and the Chinese Lunar New Year, both celebrated in January.

A first round of nuclear talks, held in Beijing in August, ended without much progress.

North Korea says it will dismantle its nuclear programs in exchange for a U.S. security guarantee and aid. But before making any concessions, Washington wants North Korea to give up its nuclear ambitions.

North Korea on Monday blamed Washington's stance for the delay in scheduling a new round of talks and rejected as unfair U.S. demands that it first irreversibly and verifiably disarm.

"It is a brigandish true purpose sought by the U.S. to completely disarm the DPRK and destroy it by the tactics of throttling it to the last," said a commentary carried by North Korea's official KCNA news agency.

DPRK stands for Democratic People's Republic of Korea, North Korea's official name.

As a first step, North Korea again offered to freeze, not reverse, its nuclear programs.

"The actions to be taken at the first phase are for the U.S. and the neighboring countries to

take measures in return for the DPRK's complete freeze of its nuclear activities. This is a starting point and a core issue of furthering the process of talks," KCNA reported, adding that the "ball is in the U.S. court."

In Moscow, Chinese diplomats were to meet Monday with Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Losyukov and Director of the First Asian Department Yevgeni Afanasyev, according to Russia's ITAR-Tass news agency.

Russia and China are working on a compromise that assumes the liquidation of the North Korean nuclear program may take more than one year. Agreement to a "freeze" of nuclear work by Pyongyang would be the first step toward dismantlement, according to ITAR-Tass.

Moscow wants talks resumed as soon as possible, it said citing an unnamed, high-ranking Russian official.

The North Korean nuclear crisis flared in October 2002 when U.S. officials accused North Korea of running a secret nuclear weapons program in violation of a 1994 deal in which North Korea is obliged to freeze its nuclear facilities. Washington and its allies cut off free oil shipments, also part of the 1994 accord.

## Family gift shuts down airport concourses

By RUKMINI CALLIMACHI  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

PORTLAND — A metal device used to christen babies prompted authorities to shut down three concourses at Portland International Airport on Monday, causing multiple flight delays.

The cylindrical object looked similar to a pipe bomb when viewed under an X-ray screening machine, officials said.

The man carrying the instrument alarmed airport screeners when he failed to identify the device, which is used in baptism ceremonies, said Jennifer Marty, a spokeswoman for the Transportation Security Administration, the federal agency which oversees airport safety.

"He didn't know what it was. His wife had put the package in his carry-on," Marty said. "It's for christening a baby. It's hollow, like a pipe. It has ends that remove on both ends."

"There was some sort of electric music box in the package, too. Wires, that kind of thing."

*The music box and the christening instrument*

were intended as a gift for another family, Marty said.

Under the glare of X-rays, the combination of hollow metal and wires looked fatal.

"The object met the characteristics of an explosive device," said Elisa Dozono, a Port of Portland spokeswoman.

The man, who was traveling on a Southwest Airlines flight to Los Angeles via Oakland, was eventually allowed to board. He was cooperative throughout, Marty said.

The security checkpoint serving concourses A, B and C was closed for over an hour on Monday afternoon as a bomb squad checked the package, Dozono said.

"People were moved back from the security checkpoint, but the concourses were never fully evacuated," she said.

The bomb scare follows the raising of the national terrorism alert to orange, its second-highest level.

U.S. intelligence has led to the recent cancellations of international flights, including several to Los Angeles.

## Voters' Pamphlet going in mail

By CHARLES E. BEGGS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SALEM — If you're looking for answers about the tax increase on the Feb. 3 ballot, you'll be able to read all about it — including 75 arguments for and against the measure — in the state Voters' Pamphlet that was sent to post offices on Tuesday.

The pamphlets contain the official text of Measure 30 and as well as 55 arguments for the tax increase and 20 against.

Officials say the pamphlet should reach most Oregon households by Friday afternoon.

The measure would raise \$800 million, mostly by temporarily boosting income taxes, to balance the current two-year state budget.

After the Legislature passed the tax measure in August, foes gathered enough referendum petition signatures to block

the increases and force a special election on the issue.

Ballots for the election will be mailed starting Jan. 16.

The state Libertarian Party, which opposes the tax increase, contends there's plenty of fat that can be cut out of state spending without raising taxes.

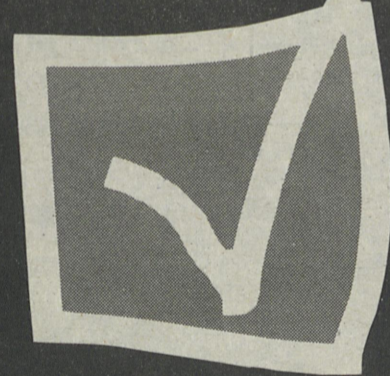
"Despite what you hear, waste is everywhere," says an argument filed by the Libertarian Party.

Citizens for a Sound Economy, a national organization that opposes higher taxes, helped get Measure 30 on the ballot.

That group along with the Libertarians argue that a tax increase would be bad for business.

In addition to being sent in the mail, the Voters' Pamphlet for the Feb. 3 referendum also will be available online at [www.sos.state.or.us](http://www.sos.state.or.us).

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# Oops — Britney Spears marriage annulled

► She woke up Saturday a 'little stunned' that she tied the knot to childhood friend

BY ADAM GOLDMAN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LAS VEGAS — After 55 hours of marital madness and publicity gone wild, Britney Spears and temporary husband Jason Allan Alexander decided Monday to scrap "I do" for "I wish I hadn't."

She didn't get a ring or a fairy-tale wedding. He didn't get any of her fortune. But the 22-year-olds did forever etch themselves in the annals of ill-advised Las Vegas marriages.

Talk about whirlwind. The two might have performed the quickest marriage-to-annulment escapade in the history of Sin City.

"That was fast," said attorney Brian J. Steinberg, who practices family law in Las Vegas. "I'm not even sure they had time to have sex."

Clark County Family Court Judge Lisa M. Brown signed the annul-

ment order at 12:24 p.m. at the behest of prominent Las Vegas attorney David Chesnoff.

"There is no marriage now," Chesnoff told The Associated Press. "Jason agreed to this completely."

They've made a wise decision. I know they care about each other. They are friends."

It took the judge about two hours to act on the "complaint for annulment" filed in Family Court shortly after 10 a.m.

"Plaintiff Spears lacked understanding of her actions to the extent that she was incapable of agreeing to the marriage," the annulment petition said.

The pop superstar married Alexander — who hails from Spears' hometown of Kentwood, La. — about 5:30 a.m. Saturday at a Las

Vegas wedding chapel. She was not intoxicated during the ceremony, according to a friend who spoke to her several hours afterward.

She woke up that morning a "little stunned" that she tied the knot, according to the friend, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Alexander said he and Spears hatched the idea to get hitched early Saturday morning.

"It was just crazy, man," he told "Access Hollywood" in an interview at his home Monday morning. "And we were just looking at each other and said, 'Let's do something wild, crazy. Let's go get married, just for

the hell of it.'" According to the petition, "Before entering into the marriage the plaintiff and defendant did not know each other's likes and dis-

likes, each other's desires to have or not have children, and each other's desires as to state of residency. Upon learning of each other's desires, they are so incompatible that there was a want of understanding of each other's actions in entering into this marriage."

Marriage is a legal contract. An annulment acknowledges that there was some inherent problem with the contract or how it was executed, said Steinberg, the lawyer. An annulment makes a marriage go away as if it never happened, while a divorce recognizes that it did occur.

Steinberg said the longer the two waited, the harder it would have been to get an annulment.

"The only reason they are getting it done so quickly is that both parties agree," he said. "I can imagine there are reasons to getting this thing done lickety-split. If you don't, the longer you let this thing sit there more it could turn contested."

Spears' record label, Jive, released a statement saying that Spears and Alexander "took a joke too far." Calls

**On the Web:**

Web site: [www.britneyspears.com](http://www.britneyspears.com)

to Spears' representatives were not returned.

Spears and Alexander, a junior at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, La., traveled by limousine to the Little White Wedding Chapel on the Strip after a stop at the Ghostbar, a club in the Palms Casino Hotel. The chapel staff told the couple they couldn't get married without a license, so they were taken to get a license and driven back to the chapel, where they were married.

The bride wore a baseball cap and torn jeans down the aisle and was escorted by a Palms limousine driver.

Employees at the chapel declined comment.

Spears snuck out of the Palms hotel early Monday morning.

The singer released her fourth album, "In the Zone," in November. It debuted at the top of the album charts. She begins a concert tour March 2 in San Diego.

**"The only reason they are getting it done so quickly is that both parties agree. I can imagine there are reasons to getting this thing done lickety-split. If you don't, the longer you let this thing sit there more it could turn contested."**

BRIAN J. STEINBERG  
Attorney

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# Suns' Marbury, Hardaway traded to New York Knicks

► Cezary Trybanski also headed to Big Apple in Monday's blockbuster trade for Antonio McDyess and three others

By CHRIS SHERIDAN  
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Stephon Marbury is returning to his hometown to play for the team he grew up watching.

In a blockbuster eight-player trade between New York and the Phoenix Suns on Monday, Marbury, Penny Hardaway and Cezary Trybanski were dealt to the Knicks for Antonio McDyess, Howard Eisley, Charlie Ward, Maciej Lampe, the rights to Milos Vujanic and two first-round draft picks.

"Our goal is to win an NBA championship, and our goal is to put together a team that can do that," Knicks president Isiah Thomas said after making his first major move in his new job.

The trade is the fourth of Marbury's career. The Brooklyn native was drafted by Milwaukee and immediately dealt to Minnesota, where he subsequently forced a trade to New Jersey. The Nets sent him to Phoenix for Jason Kidd, and he's now headed to the Knicks.

"I think we got the best deal," Knicks center Dikembe Mutombo said. "He's among the best point guards in the league, he's an All-Star player."

The trade represents a major shakeup for both teams and an additional long-term financial commitment for a Knicks team that already has the league's highest payroll.

In exchange for giving up its best player, Phoenix will be under the salary cap next summer and will have at least \$8 million to offer to a free agent class that includes Kobe Bryant.

Colangelo said the Suns will save \$20 million to \$25 million in salary and luxury tax costs through the 2004-05 season while Phoenix rebuilds a team that was eliminated in the first round of the playoffs last season after missing the postseason the year before.

"This is a big picture kind of move, and a bold move," Colangelo said. "We didn't have flexibility under the cap, and we were hamstrung by some contracts. This allows us to be a player in free agency if we choose to. This is

not a talent-for-talent deal."

The contracts of McDyess and Ward expire at the end of this season, and Ward has a buy-out clause that can be exercised before Jan. 10. Eisley is under contract for three more seasons. Vujanic, the starting point guard on the Yugoslav team that won the 2002 World Championship, is playing in Europe.

Marbury, one of the league's best point guards, was averaging a team-high 20.8 points for the Suns, who are in last place in the Pacific Division.

Hardaway, a former All-Star, has been a reserve in Phoenix and will have the same role in New York. He will earn \$14 million next season and \$16 million in 2005-06.

"If you're going to win a championship, you need talent, you need players," Thomas said. "You're not going to beat the best teams with just one or two players."

McDyess, who played for the Suns in 1997-98, returned to action last month after missing more than a year because of knee surgery. McDyess took over a spot in the Knicks' starting lineup from Kurt Thomas, then lost it — thereby becoming expendable.

"We've got a scoring point guard coming in, and a two-guard who's been getting it done for a number of years. So it's going to be a different look for us out there, but it definitely should be an improvement," Kurt Thomas said.

The Knicks will give Phoenix their first-round pick in the 2004 draft and an additional first-round pick.

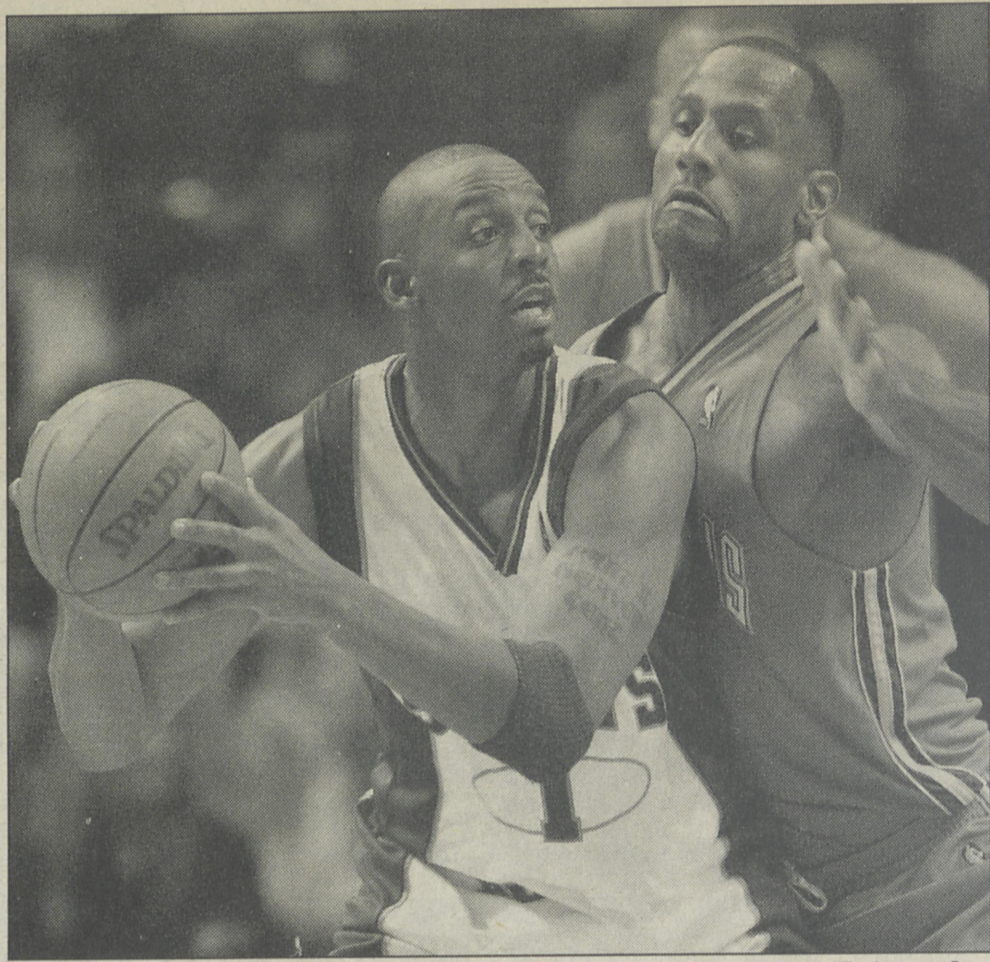
Eisley, who recently lost his starting job to Frank Williams, did not play in the Knicks' 95-85 loss to New Jersey on Sunday night.

Ward has been with the Knicks for 10 seasons, the second-longest current tenure of any player who spent his career with one NBA team. The Suns are expected to waive him before the end of the week.

Isiah Thomas has already turned over about half the Knicks' roster in the two weeks since he replaced team president Scott Layden.

"I knew right after we got a new sheriff in town that we were in for a shakeup. One of the reasons he was brought here was to shake up the team and get us to the playoffs," Mutombo said.

Marbury will be reunited with Keith Van Horn, his teammate in New Jersey.



MATT YORK | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Phoenix Suns' Penny Hardaway, left, was part of a multiplayer deal that sends him and guard Stephon Marbury to New York for Antonio McDyess and three other players.

Last summer, Marbury said the Nets didn't win when he was there because he was surrounded with untalented players, lumping Van Horn in with Gheorghe Muresan and Jim McIlvaine.

"Personally we never had any problems. On the court we didn't win, and I think that was the biggest problem that Stephon and I had," Van Horn said.

At 14-21, the Knicks are fifth in a weak Atlantic Division. But with a starting lineup of Marbury, Allan Houston, Van Horn, Thomas and Mutombo, they should have enough talent to snap their two-year streak of missing the playoffs.

"On paper, talent-wise, this puts us right up there at the top," Van Horn said. "But that's just paper."

It was unclear whether Marbury and Hardaway would join the Knicks in Cleveland and play Tuesday night against the Cavaliers. All the players in the deal must pass physicals before the trade is official.

Thomas, who already traded Clarence Weatherspoon to Houston for Moochie Norris and John Amaechi (who was waived Monday), indicated he'll continue to pursue trades.

"I still think need to get a little more athletic and a little better," Thomas said.

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6:20 am		Cycling		Cycling	
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12:00 - 12:40 pm		Cycle 1		Cycle 1	
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Cycling		Cycling		Cycling
1:10 - 1:40 pm	Hard "Core" Abs	Hard "Core" Abs	Hard "Core" Abs	Hard "Core" Abs	
3:00 pm	Total Body Cond.	Body Sculpt	Total Body Cond.	Body Sculpt	
4:00 - 5:00 pm		Total Aqua Exp.		Total Aqua Exp.	
4:10 - 5:10 pm	Step I/II	Kickboxing	Step I/II	Kickboxing	
4:15 - 5:15 pm		Cycling		Cycling	Cycling (5:15)
5:15 - 6:15 pm	Cycling		Cycling		Happy Hour
5:20 - 6:20 pm	Kickboxing	Power Step	Kickboxing	Power Step	
6:30 - 7:30 pm	Hip Hop	Total Body Cond.	Hip Hop	Total Body Cond.	
7:40 - 8:10 pm		Hard "Core" Abs		Hard "Core" Abs	

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# Carroll wants Trojans humble — and hungry

► Southern Cal hopes that next year it can bring both titles home

By **KEN PETERS**  
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Coach Pete Carroll promised the USC Trojans will remain humble in their reign as The Associated Press' national champion — humble and hungry.

"How do you top this? How about doing it again a couple times?" a jubilant Carroll said Monday morning after he was presented The AP's championship trophy.

"It's so great to be standing in front of you representing what this university has always been about: winning championships, national championships," Carroll said during a brief ceremony in front of Heritage Hall on campus.

Several hundred students and fans interrupted the coach's remarks by chanting, "Pete! Pete! Pete!" Some players gleefully chimed in, including quarterback Matt Leinart and defensive end Kenenchi Udeze.

"This is awesome, being national champs," said Leinart, the redshirt sophomore quarterback who was MVP of the Trojans' 28-14 Rose Bowl victory over Michigan.

USC received 48 of the 65 first-place votes in The AP poll to win its first national title in football in 25 years.

The title was split, same as when the Trojans won the championship in the coaches' poll in 1978 while the media voters crowned Alabama. There was controversy at that time, too, because USC beat Alabama 24-14 early in the season.

This time, USC (12-1) topped USA Today/ESPN

coaches' poll champion LSU, which beat Oklahoma 21-14 in the BCS title game Sunday night in the Sugar Bowl.

The coaches were obligated to vote for LSU (13-1), even though USC held the top spot in their poll going into the bowls. Three of the 63 coaches broke the agreement by voting the Trojans No. 1.

USC cornerback Marcell Allmond said the BCS controversy didn't seem all that important any more after the Trojans got their trophy.

"That's real, that's tangible," Allmond said, nodding toward the 3-foot tall trophy featuring a silver football. "That's what counts. It's a great feeling for me and all of us."

Carroll and several USC players still felt the season seemed to end one game short for the Trojans and the LSU Tigers.

"Another game would have been sweet. We would have loved it, but it didn't happen. I think there would be an awful lot of people that would have loved that matchup," Carroll said.

Leinart said: "It would have been fun to have a playoff game. I really don't see college football getting to that. I think the BCS is going to change. This can't happen, to have a split. You don't know who is the best team."

The quarterback watched the first half of the Sugar Bowl on TV.

"It was sloppy. Both teams are very, very good teams. When the defenses are that good, it's going to be tough to move the ball," Leinart said.

The Trojans have been involved in three of the 11 split titles in college football history. Besides 1978, the coaches picked USC in 1974 while the media voted Oklahoma No. 1.

The Trojans hadn't won the



RIC FRANCIS | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clay Haswell, the Associated Press' chief of bureau for California and Nevada, left, presents USC football coach Pete Carroll The Associate Press national college football trophy Monday on the steps of Heritage Hall on campus.

AP poll since 1972, when they were the undisputed national champions. That was also the last time a Pac-10 team won the AP title.

USC has four AP titles overall, tied with Minnesota, Nebraska and Ohio State for the fifth-most.

In the final AP poll, USC received 1,608 points to beat out LSU by 32 points. Oklahoma was third, followed by Ohio State and Miami.

It's the first split national championship since 1997, when Michigan won the AP poll and Nebraska was the

coaches' choice. The Bowl Championship Series started the following season with the goal of determining an undisputed champion.

Clay Haswell, the AP's chief of bureau for California and Nevada, presented the trophy to Carroll, who has returned

the Trojans to national prominence after years of mediocrity.

The Trojans were 31-29 in the five years before he arrived in Los Angeles. After losing five of his first seven games, Carroll is 27-4 and USC has won 20 of its last 21 games.

## The AP Top 25

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football final poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, 2003 records, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. S. Cal (48)	12-1	1,608	1
2. LSU (17)	13-1	1,576	2
3. Oklahoma	12-2	1,476	3
4. Ohio St.	11-2	1,411	7

5. Miami	11-2	1,329	10	19. Nebraska	10-3	520	22
6. Michigan	10-3	1,281	4	20. Minnesota	10-3	368	24
7. Georgia	11-3	1,255	11	21. Utah	10-2	308	25
8. Iowa	10-3	1,107	13	22. Clemson	9-4	230	—
9. Wash. St.	10-3	1,060	15	23. Bowl. Grn.	11-3	189	—
10. Miami	13-1	932	14	24. Florida	8-5	165	17
11. Florida St.	10-3	905	9	25. TCU	11-2	126	19
12. Texas	10-3	887	5				
13. Mississippi	10-3	845	16	Others receiving votes: Okla-			
14. Kansas St.	11-4	833	8	homa St. 109, Arkansas 73, Vir-			
15. Tennessee	10-3	695	6	ginia 36, N. Illinois 30, Auburn 8,			
16. Boise St.	13-1	645	18	Oregon St. 8, N.C. State 7, Pitts-			
17. Maryland	10-3	564	23	burgh 7, West Virginia 4, Con-			
18. Purdue	9-4	526	12	necticut 2.			

## Oregon Ducks in Nebraska?

MARTELL, Neb. — What Dean Wittstruck found in his field looked to be the leftovers of one very happy New Year's Eve party. What it turned out to be were balloons from a college football game — some 900 miles away.

Wittstruck came across the mysterious deflated balloons Thursday mid-morning. Two yellow balloons were still floating, their strings caught on soybean stubble.

"Go Team" was emblazoned on one balloon. Another said "Go Ducks!" in green writing and was stamped by the University of Oregon's alumni association.

Yellow and green are the colors of the Oregon Ducks, which played Minnesota in the Sun Bowl in El Paso, Texas.

National Weather Service meteorologist Brian Smith said that the trip was possible. He says the helium-filled balloons could have been carried by the jet stream, 6 miles high, at speeds between 90 and 120 mph.

The Sun Bowl started at noon Wednesday. Wittstruck found them 22 hours later, which was more than enough time for the journey.

Oregon, by the way, lost to Minnesota in a squeaker — 31 to 30.

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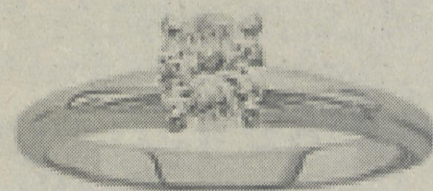
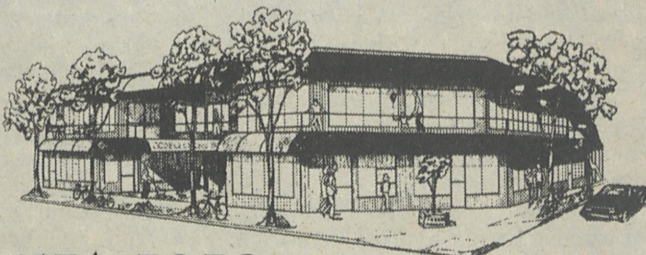
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# Wrestlers find success during winter break

► OSU competed in a series of tournaments during the three week period

By JUSTIN WISE  
BAROMETER SPORTS WRITER

While most students were enjoying the winter break, Oregon State's wrestling team was hard at work. The Beavers hosted the first installment of the annual Civil War, then the next day hosted No. 1 Oklahoma State at Gill Coliseum.

OSU flew out two days later to wrestle at the Reno Tournament of Champions before leaving for the Midlands Open.

In matching up the Ducks, Oregon State neglected to really get going until after intermission.

Initially down 12-6, the Beavers came back with a new attitude and proceeded to beat Oregon 23-18. A lot of close matches highlighted the early action before 165 pounder Matt Ellis and 174 pounder Jed Pennell put the dual out of reach.

The Beavers extended their all-time lead to 98-24-4 over the Ducks in a series that dates back to 1915.

Ellis continued his dominance over Oregon's Luke Lar-

win with a 3-1 victory. Pennell then proceeded to pin Chet McBee early in the third period for his team-leading third pin.

With the big win over the Ducks came some bad news for the Beavers, when heavyweight Ty Watterson broke his arm in the last match of the evening.

On Dec. 14, the most storied program in collegiate wrestling came to Corvallis.

Oklahoma State is still heavily favored to repeat as National Champions this season even after some early setbacks, and the Cowboys proved it with a 38-6 win over the Beavers.

Oklahoma State boasts eight nationally ranked wrestlers, five whom are ranked in the top five of their respective weight classes.

The Beavers were blanked until the last match of the evening, when heavyweight Jamie Rakevich pinned No. 9 Will Gruenwald early in the first period.

Oregon State continued its break by flying to Reno for the Tournament of Champions. Ellis and Pennell both placed second.

Ellis matched up again against former teammate Tyrone Lewis of Oklahoma

State. Lewis, a three-time All-American, easily won the match by a score of 17-6.

Pennell met up with Chris Pendelton of Oklahoma State in the finals. Pendelton is currently ranked No. 1, and justified his ranking with a third period technical fall for his second consecutive tournament title.

Dan Pitsch, a 184 pounder, also placed fifth to help the Beavers to a sixth place team finish.

After the Christmas holiday, Oregon State flew to Chicago for the Midlands Open. At 165 pounds, Matt Ellis continued to wrestle well and placed fifth to help the Beavers to a 16th place finish out of 61 teams.

Ellis knocked off three nationally ranked wrestlers on his way to the highest

placing of an Oregon State wrestler since the 2001-2002 Midlands.

The Midlands not only brings the best nationally ranked collegiate wrestlers together, it also attracts post-collegians that are now wrestling in national and international competition.

Illinois won its first ever Midlands team title, and at 174 pounds Joe Williams, the assistant coach at the University of Iowa, won his 10th straight Midlands title.

Oregon State returns to action Jan. 9 in Redmond at the Oregon Wrestling Classic Duals before returning to Gill Coliseum for a non-conference dual against Northern Colorado.

Justin Wise is a sports writer for The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at baro.sports@studentmedia.orst.edu.

## Dominos encourages students to attend Civil War

The first 50 Oregon State University students in attendance at Saturday's men's basketball Civil War game will receive coupons for a free medium-sized pizza from Dominos.

The game will tip at 7:37 p.m. on Ralph Miller Court in Gill Coliseum.

Students with current OSU identification may pick up their free tickets at the Gill Coliseum ticket window. The ticket office is open from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays.

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# Rose admits he bet on baseball; next step is up to Selig

► The former MLB manager admits to gambling, just before Thursday release of autobiography

By RONALD BLUM  
AP SPORTS WRITER

Now the wait begins. Pete Rose hopes baseball will end his lifetime ban after his first public acknowledgment that he bet on games while managing the Cincinnati Reds.

The admission in "My Prison Without Bars," his autobiography due out Thursday, will be part of the evidence in Rose's case for reinstatement, commissioner Bud Selig's chief deputy, Bob DuPuy, said Monday.

"The application remains pending, and the commissioner will take all of this into account," DuPuy said.

Whether or when baseball makes a decision is anyone's guess. Selig has refused to rule for more than six years on Rose's bid for reinstatement, which is necessary for the career hits leader to reach the Hall of Fame.

Rose agreed to the lifetime ban in August 1989, and he applied for reinstatement in 1997.

For 14 years, Rose denied publicly he bet on baseball. He fesses up in the book, saying he regrets gambling on the game he loves and then lying about it.

Rose says he started betting regularly on baseball in 1987, the year after he stopped playing, according to excerpts from the book released to Sports Illustrated for this week's issue, which hits newsstands Thursday. He says he only ever bet on the Reds to win.

Selig's immediate predecessor, Fay Vincent, read the excerpts and was outraged, concluding that Rose did not deserve reinstatement.

"There's no sense of regret, no sense of shame, no sense of the damage he did to baseball," Vincent said. "I guess I'm really disgusted. I think the whole thing is a sordid, miserable story. It's

sort of like turning over a stone — you see a lot of maggots, and it's not very pretty."

Rose chronicles two meetings with baseball commissioners more than 13 years apart. In the first, with Peter Ueberroth in February 1989, the Reds' manager denied ever betting on baseball. In the second, with Selig in November 2002, Rose decided to confess.

"Yes, sir, I did bet on baseball," Rose told Selig during the private meeting.

"How often?" Selig asked. "Four or five times a week," Rose replied. "But I never bet against my own team, and I never made any bets from the clubhouse."

"Why?" Selig asked. "I didn't think I'd get caught."

After the meeting, Rose came away thinking he would be reinstated "within a reasonable period."

"I've consistently heard the statement: 'If Pete Rose came clean, all would be forgiven,'" he writes. "Well, I've done what you've asked. The rest is up to the commissioner and the big umpire in the sky."

If reinstated, Rose's last chance to appear on the writers' ballot for the Hall of Fame is December 2005. After that, he could be voted in by the veterans' committee.

But even if he appears on the ballot, he needs 75 percent of the voters to select him, and Hall rules state "voting shall be based upon the player's record, playing ability, integrity, sportsmanship, character and contributions to the team(s) on which the player played."

Rose repeated his admission in an interview on ABC News' "Primetime Thursday," parts of which aired Monday on "Good Morning, America."

"It's time to clean the slate, it's time to take responsibility," Rose says in the interview. "I'm 14 years late."

"I just never had the opportunity to tell anybody that was going to help me. ... I couldn't get a response from base-

ball for 12 years. It's like I died and, and they knew I died and they didn't want to bring me back. They were just going to let me rot."

Rose wrote that if he "had been an alcoholic or a drug addict, baseball would have suspended me for six weeks and paid for my rehabilitation."

"I should have had the opportunity to get help, but baseball had no fancy rehab for gamblers like they do for drug addicts," Rose wrote. "If I had admitted my guilt, it would have been the same as putting my head on the chopping block — lifetime ban. Death penalty. I spent my entire life on the baseball fields of America, and I was not going to give up my profession without first seeing some hard evidence. ... Right or wrong, the punishment didn't fit the crime — so I denied the crime."

Rose admitted placing bets with Ronald Peters through Thomas Gioiosa and Paul Janszen; they were the primary witnesses in the 1989 investigation by baseball lawyer John Dowd that led to the agreement in which Rose accepted a lifetime ban.

Dowd concluded Rose bet on baseball from 1985-87 and detailed 412 baseball wagers between April 8-July 5, 1987, including 52 on Cincinnati to win.

"During the times I gambled as a manager, I never took an unfair advantage," Rose wrote. "I never bet more or less based on injuries or inside information. I never allowed my wagers to influence my baseball decisions. So in my mind, I wasn't corrupt."

Dowd was traveling Monday and could not be contacted.

In his first autobiography, published in 1989, Rose denied gambling. That book, "Pete Rose: My Story," was written with Roger Kahn.

"I feel he has embarrassed me," Kahn said Monday. "I must have asked Pete 20 times, 'Did you bet on baseball?' He would look at me, blink his eyes and say, 'I didn't bet baseball. I have too much respect for the game.'"

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# Southern Cal rallies to defeat Oregon State 91-82

► Lodrick Stewart ties a season-high 19 points to lead Trojans past Beavers

BAROMETER WIRE REPORTS

An early 13-point deficit proved to be no problem for USC — not with Lodrick Stewart and Rory O'Neil.

Stewart tied a season-high 19 points and O'Neil scored all of his 18 points in the second half as the Trojans rallied for a 91-82 victory over Oregon State in Pacific-10 Conference play on Sunday in front of 2,746 at the Sports Arena.

Desmon Farmer added 14 points and Jeff McMillan had 10 points, 11 rebounds, five assists and three blocks for the Trojans (6-5, 1-1).

Chris Stephens scored 19 points and Jim Hanchett had 16 points and seven rebounds for the Beavers (6-6, 0-2), who relinquished a double-digit lead for the second game in a row.

Oregon State held a 10-point lead early in the second half Friday night against UCLA before losing by 11. Against USC, the Beavers built a 13-0 lead in the first 4:16.

"Being down 13 points early is not a lot," USC coach Henry Bibby said. "We knew we were going to get back into the game. It was a matter of time."

The Trojans rallied behind Lodrick Stewart's 15 first-half points to move ahead 42-39 with 30 seconds left in the half.

O'Neil came alive in the second half after missing his only shot in the first half and failing to block a shot.

"I saw no reason to play him, and I told him that," Bibby said. "I told him, 'You're 7-feet; you

have to block some shots."

Bibby did put him back in, and the junior center responded.

O'Neil blocked three shots in the second half and made seven of nine shots from the floor, including three of four from 3-point range.

"He became more aggressive," Bibby said. "He can shoot the basketball and a lot of big people can't guard him. It gives us a big advantage."

Oregon State, which led twice in the second half, forced a 66-66 tie with 9:09 to play. USC then used a 6-0 surge to retake the lead, 72-66 with 7:08 left.

Hanchett's layup with 2:09 to play narrowed the Beavers' deficit to 79-76. But after USC's Stewart scored a layup with 1:28 left, O'Neil made a critical defensive play to solidify the Trojans' lead.

O'Neil blocked Stephens' shot; Erick Craven recovered the loose ball and fed Farmer for a layup that expanded USC's advantage to 83-76 with 1:02 remaining.

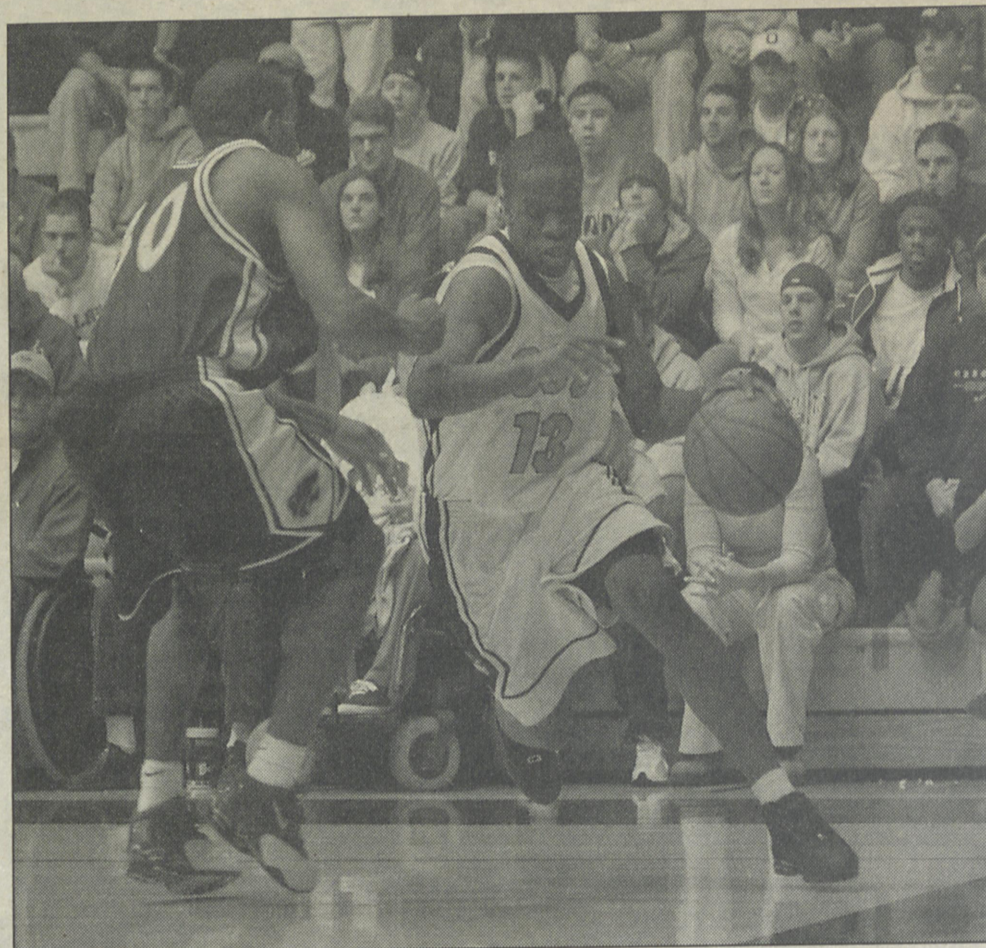
"They continually scored on us," Hanchett said. "UCLA made a run at us and we didn't get any stops. In the second half, we need to get some defensive stops. We can't swap buckets with anybody."

The Trojans shot 59.3 percent from the floor in the second half.

The Beavers will be back in action this Saturday when they host Oregon at Gill Coliseum.

Oregon is coming off of a 81-74 loss to UCLA. It was the Ducks' first loss to the Bruins in five games.

Game time is set for 7:30 Saturday.



WENDY VOLLMER | BAROMETER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sophomore guard Chris Stephens led Oregon State with 19 points as the Beavers fell to USC 91-82 at the Sports Arena. OSU will be back in action Saturday against Oregon.

## Judge in Kobe Bryant case schedules pre-trial hearings into late March

► The Laker star will likely go to trial after the season ends

By JON SARCHÉ  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

The judge in Kobe Bryant's sexual assault case scheduled a series of pre-trial hearings that will last until nearly April, making it unlikely the NBA star would go to trial before the season ends.

Judge Terry Ruckriegle on Monday set hearing dates for Feb. 2-3, March 1-2 and March 24-25 to settle disputes over what evidence can be used at trial.

"I doubt if the Lakers' schedule will have any impact in the judge's mind, but it certainly will in Kobe Bryant's mind," said attorney Dan Recht, past president of the Colorado Criminal Defense Bar. "I don't see a trial happening in this case until summer at the earliest."

The NBA Finals begin in early June and will wrap up by June 20.

Bryant, 25, is charged with sexually assaulting an employee of a mountain resort west of Vail last June. Bryant has said the sex was consensual. If convicted, he faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation.

In a Jan. 2 court filing released Monday, defense attorney Hal Haddon asked the judge to close the February hearing, saying evidence expected to be discussed could taint the jury pool and may not even be allowed at the trial.

The hearing was scheduled to deal with a defense request to throw out statements the Los Angeles Lakers guard made to police early on July 2. The defense says the statements were obtained illegally because a sheriff's investigator used a hidden tape recorder and never read

Bryant his rights.

"If the statements attributed to the defendant are disseminated to the public and then suppressed, the intense media coverage of this case will insure that the jury pool will be exposed to these statements," Haddon wrote.

Prosecution spokeswoman Krista Flannigan said prosecutors will likely file a formal response to the request to close the hearing.

Attorney Tom Kelley, who represents media organizations including The Associated Press, said the hearing can be conducted without disclosing the content of Bryant's statements. He said his clients had not yet determined whether to oppose the request.

A Jan. 23 hearing has also been scheduled to discuss other issues, including a defense request to use the accuser's medical records as evidence. For now, that hearing is open to the public.

## Mathews: Fans should be impressed by Beaver team

Continued from page 16

whole lot of the players, but is that really a bad thing?

Start over with a bunch of guys who haven't given you any reason to hate them yet.

Though this team is not as talented as last year's Beavers, they are much more worth your time because of their effort, intensity and com-

mitment to hard work, despite the fact that they play for a program that nobody cares about anymore.

One day people will again, and it is up to this year's Beavers to get things started before people really give up on them.

Chris Mathews is a sports columnist for The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at [baro.sports@studentmedia.orst.edu](mailto:baro.sports@studentmedia.orst.edu).

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"It's good to know that we can come back from large deficits. We didn't panic and that showed maturity. We want to show people that we can answer any run."

— OSU women's basketball coach Judy Spoelstra on the Beavers' 72-67 win over USC

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## Beavers' Howell named Player of the Week

► Honor is the 50th all-time selection for Oregon State, and a first for Howell

BAROMETER WIRE REPORTS

Oregon State University junior guard Shannon Howell was named Pacific-10 Conference women's basketball Player of the Week for Dec. 29-Jan. 4, commissioner Tom Hansen announced on Monday.

Howell, a Los Angeles native, averaged 19.3 points, 5.0 rebounds, 3.0 assists and 2.0 steals in a trio of Oregon State Pac-10 victories as the Beavers topped California (Dec. 29), UCLA (Jan. 2) and USC (Jan. 4).

In the three games, she hit 27-of-35 free throws (.771) and shot a combined .359 from the field

(14-of-39).

In the 70-67 road win over the Golden Bears on Dec. 29, Howell reached double figures in scoring for the second straight game with 12 points, and she also pulled down seven rebounds, helping OSU break a seven-game Pac-10 road losing skid.

In her Corvallis debut, Howell scored a team-high 22 points and dished out four assists to lead the Beavers past UCLA, 82-68, on Jan. 2. She led the Beavers in scoring again on Jan. 4 with 24 points — breaking the Oregon State record for free



**Howell:** Broke OSU record for free throws

throws made in a game (15) — as OSU knocked off USC, 72-67.

Howell, a transfer from the University of Nebraska, became eligible due to NCAA Division I transfer rules on Dec. 27, 2003, and is averaging 22.5 points and four rebounds per game since.

Oregon State is riding a three-game winning streak and is off to its best start in conference play since the 1995-96 season.

The Player of the Week honor is the first of Howell's career and the 50th all-time selection for Oregon State.

The Beavers captured back-to-back Player of the Week honorees, as senior guard Leilani Estavan was recognized for her efforts from Dec. 15-21.

Chris Mathews



## Rebuilding yet again

Since it has been so long since the Oregon State men's basketball team has had any real success, the winter has turned into a time to focus on football recruiting for Beaver fans rather than Pac-10 basketball.

After suffering through so many dreadful years of Beaver football and finally having success, Beaver fans have become soft and unsatisfied with any team that does not win consistently.

It is now to the point where the Beaver basketball program should not be allowed to say rebuilding.

They should just say, "The other teams have better players than we do."

Though most people believe that Jay John is the right man to turn around the program — including myself — it is still not a realistic goal any time soon.

This is just not good enough for many Beaver fans, and the poor non-conference crowds at Gill have proved this.

Despite the continued bashing the team receives in Beaver Nation from its own fans, something is different this year.

Several things, actually.

First, the Beavers run. They play up-tempo, and though the two Pac-10 losses to UCLA and USC were disappointing, the Beavers scored an impressive point total of 82 points against the Trojans.

The days of methodical basketball at OSU are gone, much to the delight of people who actually still attend games.

Second, this Beaver team cares.

If you go to a game at Gill this season, you will most likely be disappointed by some of the results, but you will never question the effort of the team.

Jim Hanchett will dive on the floor for a loose ball, and you can bet that J.S. Nash will be somewhere in the vicinity when the Beavers force a turnover.

Playing inspired basketball is the first step to turning around a program, and John clearly is aware of this.

Bringing the crowds back to Gill is crucial, and though it may take landing a major recruit to do this, playing hard every night is a good start.

Third, the Beavers' shooting is completely unpredictable.

So, maybe this isn't different from any other year in this regard.

Though Chris Stephens and newcomer Angelo Tzagarakis are capable of lighting it up from downtown, the Beavers do not feature many other long distance threats, and neither Stephens nor Tzagarakis have shown consistency shooting 3-pointers, though both have shown great promise.

There are many reasons to like this version of Beaver basketball, from the sweet post-up game of David Lucas, to the passing of Lamar Hurd, to the overall hustle of the Beaver defense.

I could be like every Barometer sports writer over the past four years and say that the Beavers are one year away, but it's clear that is not the case.

Who knows how long it will take, given the state of Beaver hoops over the last 10 years?

As hard as it is, Beaver fans should not get ahead of themselves.

The bottom line is that this Oregon State basketball team is worth the price of admission.

If you go to a game for the first time this year, you will not recognize a

| See MATHEWS, page 15 |

## Beavers knock Trojans off horse

► The Beavers are off to their best start in conference play since the 1995-96 season

By RAYMOND WICKS  
BAROMETER SPORTS WRITER

Led by junior guard Shannon Howell's 24 points, Oregon State women's basketball (9-4 overall, 3-1 Pac-10) picked up its third conference win by overcoming a nine-point halftime deficit to defeat USC 72-67.

"USC is a great team, one that can make a lot of mini runs on you," OSU coach Judy Spoelstra said. "We were scoreless for the last few minutes of the half and we knew that we needed to sharpen up on defense."

The Trojans (5-6, 2-1) came out aggressive in the opening minutes, using a 13-0 run to close out the first half.

Easy shots weren't falling for the Beavers, resulting in just 2 of 12 shooting in the first five minutes of the game.

Oregon State did not score in the last four minutes of the first half, and went into the locker room down 38-27.

"We shot only 29 percent in the first half," Spoelstra said. "And we knew that we could do a lot better than that in the second half."

OSU came out in the second half looking for a spark, finding it in senior post Brina Chaney.

With just under 18 minutes left, Chaney ripped down an offensive rebound and scored to light a fire in the once quiet Gill crowd of 1,025.

With a little over 13 minutes to go, Mandy Close put the Beavers up 47-46 with her fast-break lay-in. The sophomore later added a 3-point play to push OSU's lead to 63-56.

The Beavers were solid in the second half, outscoring the women of Troy 44-30.

"Our players really responded," Spoelstra said. "They have been playing great basketball and when that happens, it makes other players on the team step up."

Spoelstra could not have been more correct, as Krystal Turner and Leilani Estavan, along with Close, Chaney and Howell all scored in double figures. Chaney recorded her 10th career double-double with 11 points and a season-best 12 rebounds.

Senior post Ebony Hoffman pulled down 16 rebounds and racked up 14 points on only 7-of-20 shooting for the Trojans.

As a team, the women of Troy shot only 35 percent from the field.

Howell had another big game, ending with 15 of her game-high 24 points coming from the free-throw line, to help send USC back to California with its first conference loss.

"They (USC) are fierce competitors and it really took a lot of effort on our part to come back and win this game," Spoelstra said.

The Beavers will take their three-



WENDY VOLLMER | BAROMETER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Above:** Junior guard Shannon Howell drives the ball against UCLA, in the Beavers 82-68 win over the Bruins, on Jan. 4. **Against USC, Howell led Oregon State in scoring, picking up 24 points.** **Right:** Junior guard Jessica Jones dribbles past a bruins player in the Beavers win. **Against, UCLA, Jones was perfect from the free throw line, nailing both opportunities at the charity stripe.**

game winning streak to Eugene on Saturday against Oregon, which is coming off of a disappointing loss to UCLA.

Raymond Wicks is a sports writer for The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at baro.sports@student-media.orst.edu.

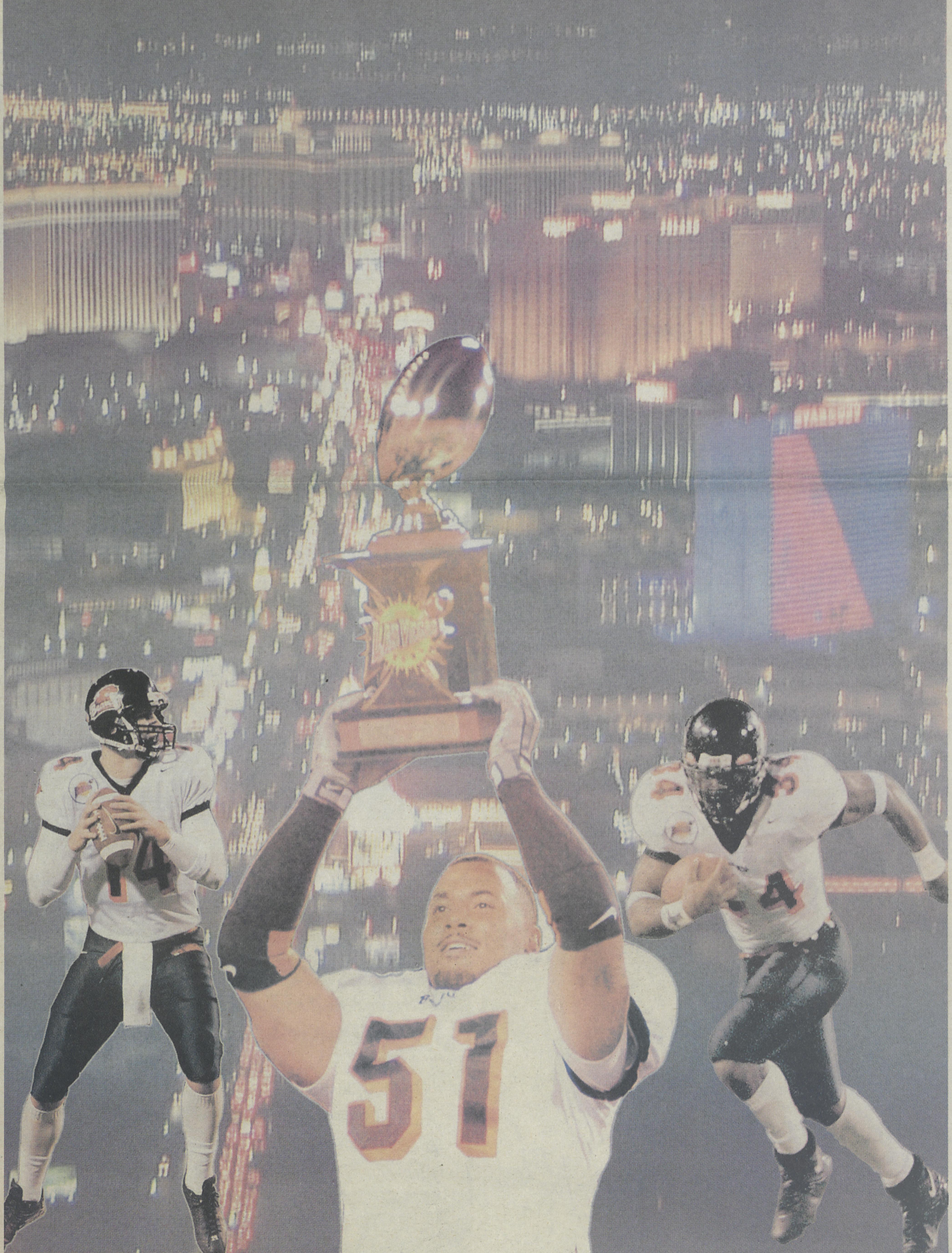




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OREGON STATE 55, NEW MEXICO 14





# Oregon State lights up New Mexico 55-14, Vegas-style

► Beavers outplay the Lobos from start to finish

By TASHA RASSULI  
BAROMETER SPORTS EDITOR

LAS VEGAS — Going out with a bang is an understatement regarding the way Steven Jackson wanted to end his collegiate career.

Oregon State's most prized possession of the 2003 football season was unstoppable. The junior tailback ran for 149 yards and four touchdowns on 28 carriers while tacking on 51 receiving yards and a touchdown on five catches, as the Beavers stomped over New Mexico 55-14 at the Las Vegas Bowl, held at Sam Boyd Stadium.

"It was a great way for the seniors to go out, and a great way for the team to go out in general and get momentum started for next year," OSU tight end Tim Euhus said. "Going into it we knew they were a good ball club and we knew we could get momentum going and stop them. In the end it worked well."

Jackson tied an NCAA bowl record with five touchdowns — something only achieved twice before — proving he is more than ready to go pro. The only other players to achieve what Jackson did are former NFL star Barry Sanders, who scored five touchdowns for Oklahoma State against Wyoming in the 1988 Holiday Bowl, and San Jose State's Sheldon Canley, who did the same against Central Michigan in the 1990 California Bowl.

OSU quarterback Derek Anderson ended his season with one of his best performances, completing 21 of 32 passes for 322 yards, two touchdowns and one interception.

"All the ingredients happened tonight," OSU coach Mike Riley said. "Steven ran the ball big time against a team that was very good against the rush, Derek really handled the blitz and I think really put them on their heels early in the game. Those kind of things happened and then defensively we were all over the place, very fast and a very good plan

by all the defensive coaches," Riley said. "We came out of the box to play tonight and our guys played real well."

Oregon State (8-5) made things look easy from the beginning, as the Beavers got on top early with over nine minutes left in the first quarter when Anderson hooked up with Jackson on a 34-yard pass.

Anderson then wooed the crowd with an unfamiliar play, hitting up Mike Hass with a flea-flicker to end the quarter 17-7.

The Lobos were looking for their first bowl victory since 1961, but came up empty-handed in suffering their second straight Las Vegas Bowl defeat. They lost to UCLA 27-13 last season.

Oregon State's defense was so on target that New Mexico was unable to make anything happen. The Lobos had just one first down by halftime.

New Mexico's DonTrell Moore, who entered the Christmas Eve game ranked No. 11 in the nation rushing an average of 119 yards per game, couldn't even reach double digits. He was limited to 11 carries on five yards for the game.

"We looked awfully fast all the way over," Riley said. "I thought our linebackers were all over the place and making plays, but I thought our overall speed was impressive on defense."

New Mexico's first score came with just under five minutes left in the first quarter, when Lobos quarterback Casey Kelly found Hank Baskett for a 27-yard pass. Their next first down didn't come until the fourth quarter.

Along with Jackson's NCAA setting record, Anderson earned one for himself as he raised his season passing yards total to 4,058, making him only the second player in Pac-10 history to pass for more than 4,000 yards in a season. Cody Pickett of Washington achieved it last year when he threw for 4,458 yards.

The Beavers went into the half with a solid cushion, leading 31-7.

Jackson's best moves came in the third quarter. After rushing for 34- and eight-yard runs,



KACY KIZER | BAROMETER PHOTO EDITOR

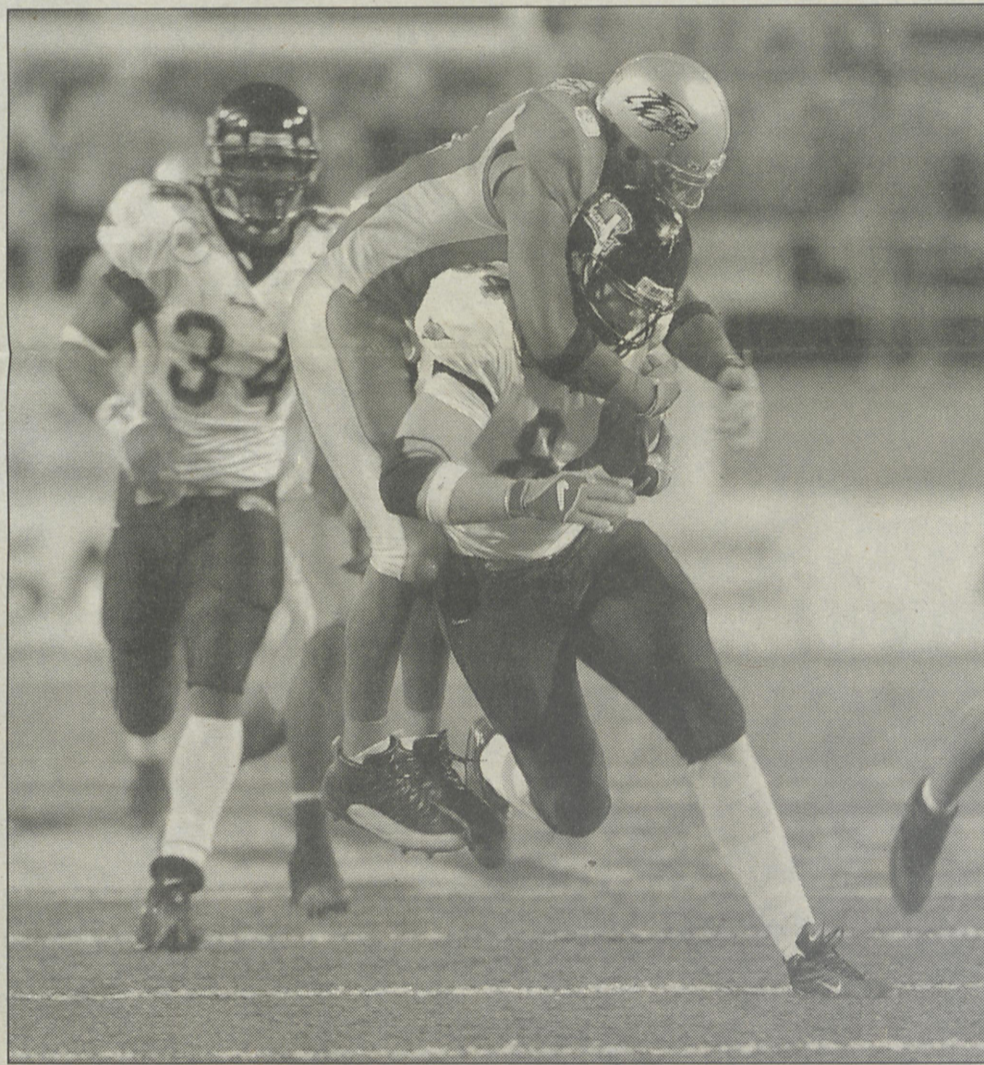
Senior wide receiver James Newson skirts past New Mexico defenders Gabriel Fulbright and Brandon Payne. Newson finished the night with three catches for 57 yards in his final game as a Beaver.

Jackson extended the Beaver lead to 31 on a six-yard run touchdown.

He ended the third quarter with his fourth touchdown of the game, and then tied the NCAA record for scoring in the beginning of the fourth quarter, flying over the Lobos' defense to make the score 48-7, and putting on a show for his hometown.

"It was something I dreamed about to put on a big performance in front of a home crowd," Jackson said. "For a lot of the guys in the area who didn't have a chance to see me play in Corvallis or other places in the Pac-10, I wanted to put on a big show for those guys who go to my old high school."

The Lobos' final score came on a Kole McCarney 17-yard pass to Dwight Counter, giving the crowd of 18,031 a final score of 55-14.



JUSTIN RUNQUIST | BAROMETER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior tight end Tim Euhus runs the ball down the field as he is tackled by a New Mexico player in the third quarter of the Las Vegas Bowl.

## Rewriting the record books

OSU was all over the books during 2003, with players shattering records left and right. Listed are several ones of significance.

- The Beavers scored 433 points in 2003, topping the old record of 414 in 2002.
- OSU passed for 4,265 yards, exceeding the old mark of 3,429 set in 1999.
- OSU accounted for 6,019 yards of total

offense, surpassing the 2002 record of 5,347.

- For the first time in OSU football history, the Beavers had two receivers break the 1,000-yard barrier in receiving yards. James Newson caught 81 passes for 1,306 yards and Mike Hass caught 44 passes for 1,013 yards.
- Kirk Yliniemi booted two field goals against the Lobos to break the OSU season record (19) and the career record (37).

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# OSU bids farewell to Jackson as he answers the NFL's call

► The Beavers most prolific tailback forgoes his final year to turn pro

By TASHA RASSULI  
BAROMETER SPORTS EDITOR

With his parents behind him, both literally and figuratively, OSU tailback Steven Jackson answered the questions that had plagued Beaver Nation since the season opener, just minutes after the Las Vegas Bowl trophy was presented to the Beavers.

It just occurred a little sooner than everyone expected.

Jackson, the Beavers' powerhouse of the 2003 season, declared he will forgo his senior season at Oregon State to enter the NFL draft. He has until Jan. 15 to officially enter by sending a letter of intention to the NFL.

"I really felt like I've accomplished a lot in the university and on this level," Jackson said. "I am passing the torch on to the other running backs and I am announcing that I'm entering the NFL draft."

Jackson has left a huge mark on the Beaver record books. He will leave OSU as the school's single-season rushing leader, rushing for 1,690 yards in the 2002 season.

Former running back Ken Simonton still holds the career-rushing record at 5,044 yards.

Had Jackson stayed for the 2004 season, he might have been able to break Simonton's record.

"Ken Simonton still has the

record there (Reser Stadium)," Jackson said. "But I'll leave him that one."

After the Beavers' 55-14 win over New Mexico, the junior tailback smashed one more record in true Jackson fashion, as his five touchdowns against the Lobos broke Oregon State's single-season scoring record. He finished the season with 132 points.

Jackson felt that seeing Simonton's stats dramatically drop in his senior season did have an influence on his decision to turn pro.

"Just looking back on the Ken Simonton situation, he really had a tremendous junior year and his senior year didn't go as good as you guys wanted to," Jackson said. "It's really hard doing that week in and week out, year in and year out, because once you're the big man, and once you're the top dog in the conference, everyone is gunning for you."

"Everyone knows that running backs only have so many carries left in your body," Jackson said. "So I want to take full advantage of that."

One person who will see a change in his playing time due to Jackson's decision is backup running back Dwight Wright. If Wright has a successful spring training and fall camp, he will most likely be the suitable replacement for Jackson.

"We're both juniors," Jackson said, acknowledging Wright. "I want to give him at least the best opportunity to play and see if he can carry the torch."



JUSTIN RUNQUIST | BAROMETER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Steven Jackson announces that he will be entering the NFL draft come April, after being awarded the Las Vegas Bowl MVP award. Next to Jackson are his parents Brenda and Steven with coach Mike Riley and Derek Anderson looking on.

Wright played in all 13 games this season, racking up a total of 350 yards on 89 carries with two touchdowns.

Also, freshman Yvenson Bernard, who used up his red-shirt this season, brings similar Jackson traits to the team,

and is expected to see a lot of playing time next season.

But closing Jackson's chapter in the Beaver book of football isn't necessarily something to look forward to, as Jackson is expected to be an early first round pick come the

NFL draft in April.

"Steven is a great, great, great team player," OSU coach Mike Riley said. "We won't replace him, you can't really replace Steven Jackson."

"We will always cherish his time with us and what a great

year he had with us in this transition.

"So we'll think of him every Sunday and watch him," Riley said. "And when they say 'Steven Jackson from Oregon State on the carry,' we'll be proud of that."

# Don't expect Jackson to be the only Beaver in the NFL next year

► A few of this year's 16 departing seniors see football in their future

By TASHA RASSULI  
BAROMETER SPORTS EDITOR

Not to be left out of the crowd of great football players to leave Oregon State, this year finds a group of 16 seniors who played their final collegiate game at Las Vegas' Sam Boyd Stadium. Nine starters were among the talented bunch.

The group has been through it all. They helped earn Oregon State back a winning program that included four bowl games in the last five years, worked through a dramatic coaching change and left more than a few dents in the record books.

One of the hardest gaps to fill next season will be the departure of middle linebacker Richard Seigler.

Seigler holds the OSU career record for most consecutive starts at 49, and now holds the school record of 1,344 defensive points.

Receiver James Newson leaves Oregon State as the owner of school records in pass receptions (213) and receiving yards (3,572). Newson is fourth in all-purpose yards with 3,659.

Newson also ended the season ranked No. 10 on the all-time Pac-10 list for individual season bests, with 1,306 yards receiving.

Former walk-on Kirk Yliniemi will leave OSU as the most solid kicker in school history, another senior who will be difficult to replace.

Yliniemi holds four individual records at Oregon State: most field goals kicked in a season (19), most points scored by kicking (103), most consecutive field goals made in a career (17), and most field goals kicked (37).

These three seniors are expected to be picked up in April's draft, but a few other seniors will likely be added to the mix of what is now a familiar trend in seeing OSU football players turn professional.

Tight end Tim Euhus ranks in the top 15 in the Beavers' books in career receptions, receiving yards and touchdowns.

Defensive tackle Dwan Edwards was a second all-Pac-10 team selection this season and finished the season fifth on the OSU defensive chart with 51 tackles, including 29 that were solo.

Strong safety Lawrence Turner, who was one of eight Las Vegas natives who returned to their hometown for the bowl game, could also find a home in the NFL come April.

Turner finished the 2003 season third in the Beavers' defensive stats with a total of 69 tackles, including 50 that were solo.

Overall, this group of talented seniors gave Oregon State one of its most memorable seasons in 2003. They will be missed.



JUSTIN RUNQUIST | BAROMETER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Back row: Seniors Richard Seigler, James Newson and junior Steven Jackson. Front row: Seniors Dwan Edwards, Lawrence Turner and freshman Brandon Browner all pose for a photo following the Beavers 55-14 victory over New Mexico in the Las Vegas Bowl.

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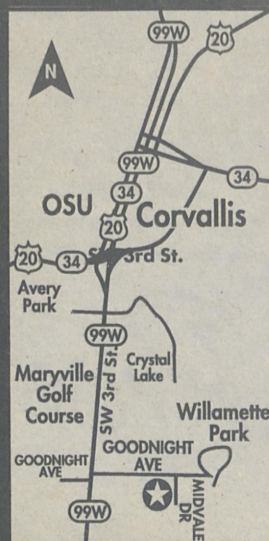
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