



Bike theft on the rise at OSU

► More than \$90,000 in bikes were stolen from Corvallis in 2003, a substantial increase

By JOSHUA PEPPERS
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Those quiet, efficient, two-wheeled machines so many love and depend on for transportation are often the target of thieves.

A college campus like OSU is an especially attractive location for bike theft since there are so many bicycles available in a small area.

Despite efforts to prevent thefts by using locks, many students have become victims of bicycle theft.

Russell Borne, an OSU sophomore, had his bike stolen while it was locked up at home.

"It didn't take them much to cut my lock," he said. Borne said the bike was worth around \$320.

Statistics from Oregon State Police show that local bike theft is on the rise once again after a year of decreased activity.

In 2001, there were 107 reported thefts, while in 2002 there were 84. But in 2003, 184 bikes were stolen.

Values for these figures are \$49,232.16 in 2001, \$35,402 in 2002 and \$92,157 in 2003.

Public safety crime and statistics analyst Julie Barnhart said it's very hard to gauge how much to expect each year.

"We were hit really hard last year," Barnhart said. "We're trying to find a pattern."

So far this year OSP officials have had 12 bicycles stolen, with a value totalling \$3,805.

Outside of OSU, Corvallis Police Department has had 14 bikes reported stolen said Captain Robert Deutsch.

"It's a lot, but not a dramatic number and very comparable to last year," he said.

According to Sergeant Jeff Lewis of OSP, the bike thieves usually steal bikes in the mid-price range and not just the expensive models.

He said bikes in the \$300 to \$400



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY KACY KIZER | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Local bicycle theft is on the rise after a year of decreased activity. In 2003, 184 bikes were stolen, up from 84 in 2002. Frequently stolen bikes are those in the \$300 to \$400 range.

range are the most frequently stolen.

The thieves typically steal the bikes to provide money to support their drug habits or other needs, he added.

Lewis said most of the criminals come onto campus specifically to take bikes.

Thefts usually occur in high traffic areas, and many appear as though the person is "unlocking" the bike while he or she cuts the lock.

While cable locks are easily defeated by bike thieves, a U-lock in conjunction with a cable lock provides a better defense against theft.

Lewis said he hasn't heard of an incident where a bike has been stolen with these two locks used together.

"It's a major deterrent to thieves," he said.

Enrique Semadeni, President of Corvallis Cyclery, also recommended this approach for bicyclists to guard their vehicles.

He said the U-lock should secure the bike frame to an immovable object while the cable should run through both front and back wheels.

He also said bicyclists can park their bikes at different locations

instead of the same spot to thwart any potential thieves trying to track a certain bike.

Finally, both Semadeni and Lewis recommend bicyclists register their bikes with the police department.

This also deters thieves and provides a way for police to track the bike to its correct owner.

Bike registration can be completed at 200 Cascade Hall and is free of charge.

Joshua Peppers is a staff writer at The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at baro.city@studentmedia.orst.edu.

Get 'Lost in Europe'

► Tenth annual European Night tickets go on sale today in the MU Student Lounge

By FREDERIC TEXIER
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Tickets for one of the most glamorous events on campus go on sale today at 11 a.m. in the MU Student Lounge.

The tenth annual European Night will be held this Sunday, Feb. 29 at the MU International Forum (Club Escape) at 5 p.m.

The European Night, created in 1995, is the major event organized by the European Student Association.

"It's an evening where we cook a five-course European dinner and present performances typical of different European cultures," said Shagane Barsegian, a junior in Pre-Apparel and President of the European Student Association.

Only 144 seats are available for guests, who will dine on classy porcelain plates in a setting with restaurant decor.

The theme for the 10th annual event is "Lost in Europe." It presents the adventure of an American traveling through five countries: Italy, Russia, France, Romania and Ireland.

Each country will be represented by a traditional dish and a performance.

"We decided to include both performances by students and professionals," explained Barsegian. "Leonid Nozov will play typical Russian songs with the accordion, and an Irish band from Portland will conclude the event. The other countries will put on stage surprising perform-

| See EUROPE, page 6 |

Science beyond the textbook

► Natural History Discovery Days, featuring interactive activities, hits OSU today

By EDWARD LEW
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Hippo skulls, alligators, lasers, meat-eating plants and pickles.

Sum up the typical science class?

Not even close.

This is the Natural History Discovery Days.

Today and Wednesday, the LaSells Stewart Center will be bustling with students from western Oregon and the Willamette Valley for the two-day science outreach program sponsored by various departments at OSU.

The Natural History Discovery Days has been going on for around ten years and is mostly directed toward elementary and middle school students, said Margie Haak, first year Discovery Days coordinator. Many public schools from around Oregon will be in attendance. However, the event is open to the general public, and everyone is welcome.

"The real reason to come is just to be able to see an aspect of science you don't get in the classroom," Haak said. "And for the public, you don't get to

| See SCIENCE, page 3 |

Student spends time on wild trip 'Down Under'

► Student recalls school and travel in Australia during fall

By JAKE SCRITSMIER
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Life is full of unexpected experiences.

In their wildest dreams, most people don't ever imagine that they will meet a "professional" shark hunter who believes his life mission is to kill as many of the evil predators as possible, and who also happens to charge people \$10 admission to listen to him talk and show pictures of his work.

However, there are the lucky few who do experience these types of things, and Rachel Andersen, a junior in business, is one of them.

"We found out on the cab ride back that this guy was the equivalent of the local nutjob that no one took seriously," she said.

Andersen spent part of her 2003 summer and all of fall term on the outskirts of Sydney, Australia, at Macquarie University for fun and new experiences.

"I had so much fun, but I felt kind of guilty because I only had classes three days a week," she said, giggling.

A normal day consisted of walking to class and spending lots of time writing on the computer.

On her days off she and friends would take the bus to the beach or into downtown Sydney to visit the local markets, tour museums or simply soak up the atmosphere of living in the big city.

Attending school in Corvallis by way of Alaska, Andersen had never lived in a big city before traveling to Australia.

"I absolutely loved the experience," she said. "I love to shop, so all the random markets around Sydney were my favorite."

Another aspect of Sydney life that appealed to Andersen was the nightlife.

"My friends and I went out three or four nights a week. It was awesome," Andersen said.

The legal drinking age in Australia is 18. Partying and socializing are therefore a huge part of university life.

"There was a bar on campus and between classes we would go have a couple of drinks and it was the most normal thing in the world to do," Andersen said.

According to Andersen, on-cam-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rachel Andersen, a junior in business, enjoys the sights in Sydney, Australia, with friends during her fall term abroad.

pus life was much more enjoyable and exciting than at OSU.

"There was always so much to do. Everyone was very open and friendly so you always met a lot of new people, even though they might not necessarily live in your dorm," she said.

One day, upon returning from a tiring trip to the beach, Andersen and her roommates walked up to their duplex and discovered that a huge outdoor party was going on outside of their building.

| See AUSTRALIA, page 3 |



Rain early,
cloudy
High 55, Low 35

NEWSREEL

CALENDAR

TUESDAY, FEB. 24

Meetings
OSU Democracy Matters, 5-6pm, MU 110. Informing students about the effect of money in politics.
OSU Pistol Club, 7-9pm, Indoor shooting range. All first time members are required 1 hour early for training and safety course.
Real Life Ministries, 8:30pm, Arnold Dining Center. Bible study of the gospel of John. All welcome
OSU History Club, 3pm, Milam 311. Weekly club meeting open to all.
Speakers
SFF Discovery Lectures, 12-1:20, Richardson 313. Dr. Amanda Armstrong, "Building Stewardship through Ecotourism: Insights from the Amazon."
SPEDA, 6pm, Mu Learner's Lounge. Suzanne Girard Eberle, "What Exactly is Normal Eating?"
Events
OSU Mountain Club, 7:30-9, MU 208. Meeting & slideshow. All come.
Lutheran Campus Ministry, 11:30am-1:30pm, 211 NW 23rd. Delicious lunch with vegetarian option.
UCPS, 4-5pm, MU 211. How to Have Healthy Relationships.
UCPS, 4-5:30, MU 212. 2-3 series. Focus: Dating (Conflict & Communication). Contact 7-2131 to sign up.
Int'l Students of OSU, 6-8pm, MU Rec Center. Bowling night. Free admission. Everyone is welcome.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25

Meetings
OSU Rifle Club, 6pm, McAlexander Rifle Range. Club/Team practice. Shooting matches this term.
United Campus Ministry, Noon-1pm, 101 NW 23rd St. Brown bag lunch & book discussion, "The Powers That Be: Theology for a New Millennium."
Ed-Act Committee, 5pm, MU Council Room. Educational Activities Committee Meeting.
Speakers
SPEDA, 7pm, Mu Main Lounge. PBS movie "Perfect Illusions: Eating Disorders and the Family." Discussion to follow.
Events
Lutheran Campus Ministry, 5:15pm, 211 NW 23rd. Evening Prayer - casual worship with communion.
Benton County Democrats & OSU Democrats, 7pm, LaSelle Stewart Center. Mock caucus. Political candidate forum.
Team Liberation/Disability Task Force of ASOSU, 4:30-6:30pm, MU 109. Free pizza and movie followed by a discussion looking at disability.

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WORLD

HIV on rise in Central Asia, Western and Eastern Europe

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) — The virus that causes AIDS is spreading again in Western Europe and is rampaging through Eastern Europe and Central Asia, where it infected 250,000 people last year, a United Nations health official said Monday.

Eastern Europe and Central Asia are experiencing the fastest-growing HIV epidemic in the world, said Peter Piot, the executive director of the U.N. AIDS organization.

In 1998, Piot noted, there were only 30,000 people known to be infected with HIV in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. That figure has since risen to 1.5 million, he said.

Piot released the statistics during the opening session of a two-day conference intended to rally financial and political support for the fight against HIV/AIDS.

He chided West European nations for easing prevention campaigns after the introduction in the 1990s of antiretroviral drugs that slow the progression of HIV infection.

Western European AIDS death rates fell to 3,500 last year from more than 20,000 in 1996. But Western Europe registered 30,000 to 40,000 new infections last year, which Piot termed an "unacceptable occurrence for one of the richest regions in the world."

The conference was the first international forum to discuss the effect of the disease on Europe and its eastern neighbors, bringing together representatives of 55 nations as well as Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa and the Irish rock star and rights activist Bob Geldof.

According to a draft of a declaration to be issued Tuesday, the conference will make a commitment that by 2005

"at least 80 percent of injecting drug users" in all of Europe and Central Asia must be in HIV treatment or prevention programs.

NATION

Supreme Court to hear two immigration deportation cases

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said Monday that it would decide if the government can send immigrants back to countries that have not agreed to accept them, something their advocates contend threatens their safety.

The high court is already looking at a related subject, whether illegal foreigners with no country to accept them can be detained indefinitely. That case involves imprisonment. The new appeal deals with the actual deportation.

Lawyers for a refugee who has been ordered returned to Somalia argued that the U.S. government, in recent years, has started shipping immigrants to home countries that are in no position to take them.

A judge ordered Keyse Jama's deportation because of an assault conviction, but the African country of Somalia is unstable and has no central government to agree to his return.

Since 1997, about 200 immigrants have been returned to Somalia, the Supreme Court was told.

"We have deep concerns about what happened to those people and the extreme danger they're in," Jeffrey Keyes of Minneapolis, one of Jama's attorneys, said Monday.

Courts are conflicted over what may be done with the immigrants after they are ordered deported.

Solicitor General Theodore Olson said that a separate class-action lawsuit has led to a ruling in the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that will block the deportations of thousands of Somalis. Olson said that case may also end up at the Supreme Court.

STATE

A Portland-based reserve unit is home after 13 months

PORTLAND (AP) — A Portland-based unit of Army reservists is finally home.

The 150 soldiers in the 671st Engineering Company had been in Iraq or Kuwait for much of the past 13 months, returning first to Washington's Fort Lewis before being allowed to reunite with family in Portland on Sunday. Their return began 60 days of no military responsibilities.

The company spent the past week at Fort Lewis — where it was celebrated in a homecoming ceremony — preparing for return to civilian life.

"It almost seems surreal," said Spc. Aaron Olheiser, 22, of Salem.

To make it real, his mother, Cathy Olheiser, wrapped her son in a hug "I love you," she said.

While the soldiers of the 671st were on edge at their Baghdad International Airport living quarters, so were their loved ones at home.

"Every time you heard a soldier was down, you'd hold your breath," typically waiting 24 hours until the military publicly identified the soldier, Cathy Olheiser said. When she knew her son was safe, she would think about the family that would not be receiving a returning soldier.

The group that stepped off the bus Sunday did not include Pfc. Brandon Tobler, 19, a graduate of Franklin High School in Portland. He died March 22 when the Humvee he was riding in crashed into the back of another vehicle during a blinding sandstorm.

He was remembered at last week's ceremony at Fort Lewis.

UNIVERSITY

Denver federal court rules to uphold the Do-Not-Call list

MADISON, Wis. (U-WIRE) — A Denver federal court of appeals

ruled Tuesday to uphold the national Do-Not-Call list after the list was challenged on First Amendment grounds.

The list is designed to prohibit telemarketers from calling registered homes.

"The Tenth Circuit's ruling represents a major victory for American consumers," said Timothy Muris, chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, in a release. "The court has made it clear that the FTC and FCC can and will continue to protect consumers' privacy at home."

The Do-Not-Call registry, which currently contains more than 50 million numbers, was ruled unconstitutional in a district court last September because it prohibits commercial calls but not charitable or political solicitation.

Plaintiffs argued commercial speech deserves the same protection under the First Amendment as other types. The federal court, however, defended the distinction.

"The regulation directly advances the government's interests," Judge David Ebel said in the ruling, adding that commercial calls serve a more "fraudulent and abusive" purpose than other types of free speech.

According to the court, there is a "reasonable fit" between the objectives of the Do-Not-Call registry and the interests of the government.

Nonetheless, there are possible justifications for protection of commercial speech.

"You could make the argument that this takes away a relatively low cost way of reaching people from a business that may not have the resources to use another medium," said Howard Schweber a UW political science professor

— By Rachel Strauch-Nelson
Badger Herald
(U. Wisconsin)

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Science: Children get chance at hands-on experience

Continued from page 1

see this in life."

Formerly known as Museum Days, Discovery Days has changed its name because it has lost that musty-exhibit museum mystique.

Instead of just reading signs and posters, participants will be able to participate in numerous interactive activities. For instance, there will be microscopes bounding with bacteria to look at and a tide pool to check out.

"Museum has the connotation of just exhibits," said Haak, "There's more to this than that."

One of the program's focuses is to give students the chance to see and experience science outside of the classroom.

And it seems to be working.

According to John Ruben, chair of the Department of Zoology, Discovery Days is almost "too popular." He said in the beginning of the program, a few hundred students came, but now there are more than 1,000 that fill the facility to the brim.

It gives a lot of these kids a firsthand "opportunity to see

the campus," said Ruben.

Ruben's department will be presenting displays in which zoologists will be showing onlookers of the behaviors of salamanders and snakes, and biological aspects of why scorpions hunt so well at night. Also, there will be exotic animals in the building such as alligators.

The Botany and Plant Pathology Department will be showcasing carnivorous plants and an activity with corn while the Chemistry Department will be boasting a collection of crystals and a laser demonstration.

The Chemistry Department will have examples of several elements like calcium and silicon, as well.

The Fisheries and Wildlife Department will have an aquatic habitat display full of newts, frogs, other amphibians and reptiles. There will also be a salmon presentation to add into the mix.

The Hatfield Marine Science Visitors Center will be bringing in a tide pool and the Microbiology Department will have microscopes examining the microorganisms living in

hay. The Microbiology crew will also explain and demonstrate how microorganisms create foods like pickles, yogurt, sour cream, bread and cheese.

"They [students] should just learn about stuff they can see, like larger mammals and amphibians, but also stuff they can't see," said Amanda Ecker, a junior in microbiology who is co-coordinating the department's Discovery Days efforts.

"Elementary school students are most impressionable," Ecker said. "So if we can get them into science, they'll want to go into it later in life."

The outreach program begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. today. It will also be continue at the same times on Wednesday, Feb. 25.

"Outreach is incredibly important to public schools because you need to keep kids excited about science," Haak said. "It's easy to lose them when they think it is just memorizing out of a text book."

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

Australia: An exciting and crazy break from Corvallis

Continued from page 1

"There was a DJ, beverages and a lot of noise," she said. "That kind of stuff never happens at OSU, it was chaos, but so much fun!"

Andersen spent her spring break doing what most of the students from foreign lands did — touring the countryside.

"We basically took a bus up the East Coast of the continent that stopped all the time in different places so the students could go to the beach, surf, sea-kayak, repel, cliff-jump, shop or just check out all of the beautiful scenery," Andersen said.

Repelling was definitely a new experience for Andersen.

"My friends and I were repelling in the Blue Mountains on one of our stops on spring break. The instructor basically told me to turn around and just walk backward off the cliff," she said. "My reply was 'Oh, hell no!'"

Another memorable experience Andersen had during her exciting spring break was culture shock when dealing with other tourists.

"We went to Frasier Island and rented a Jeep that was ours to drive around un-guided and see all the beautiful country of the island," she said.

Andersen didn't know that she and her friends would be sharing the Jeep with some fairly rowdy customers.

"The tour started fairly early in the morning and we were teamed up with five crazy Norwegians that drank all day long," she said.

Due to the terrain of the countryside, drinks were constantly flying everywhere in the jeep. All Andersen could do was soak up the new experience.

While in Australia, Andersen's eyes were opened to the laid back and fun-loving lifestyle of the country.

She witnessed the world record for the largest number of people taking tequila shots in one area, wound up crab-fishing on the wrong boat with 20 or so Korean tourists, and found travelling to be easy due to the abundance of hostels and pubs.

"I had nothing but positive experiences with everyone that I met. All of the people were open and curious about what the 'Americans' had to say," she said.

Andersen said that going abroad for a semester is the perfect amount of time for most students because it gives them enough time to absorb the culture and the change of scenery, but it's not long enough to get homesick or bored.

"It was a good break from Corvallis, but I am definitely glad to be home," she said.

Jake Scritsmier is a staff writer for The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at baro.news@studentmedia.orst.edu or 737-6376.

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EDITORIAL

A little help from your friends

One in five women suffer from an eating disorder, or some kind of disordered eating habits.

One in five. If you are reading this in lecture, look around.

If you sit in a class where 100 girls are taking notes, 20 suffer from some kind of low self esteem, poor body image or other psychological problem that causes them to enter into an unhealthy relationship with food.

There are many women, and men for that matter, on the Oregon State University campus that suffer from eating disorders.

And they are not necessarily anorexic or bulimic — though these individuals certainly exist. Disordered eating extends to such behaviors as bingeing or fasting for short periods of time, constant work outs, obsessively counting calories or buying into fad diets such as Atkin's.

And these individuals are definitely not limited to the Greek system or athletic teams, as popular assumption would have us believe.

Eating disorders affect and afflict people of every race, ethnicity, gender and background. Those who suffer from them are often unaware — or in denial — that their relationship with food, and their body, is unhealthy.

In this respect, OSU's Eating Disorder Awareness Week might be one of the most important of the numerous awareness campaigns this campus puts on each year.

This week provides the opportunity for in-depth education about eating disorders.

It is more than cliché brochures outlining signs and symptoms of bulimia or anorexia.

Resources are available that instruct how to help a friend in need and for counseling on the Oregon State campus and in the surrounding community of Corvallis.

In addition, individuals who have recovered from eating disorders will be available for support during the various events sponsored throughout the week.

The week is sponsored by a new campus organization, Students Promoting Eating Disorder Awareness, or SPEDA.

The group's president has recovered from her own eating disorder, and knows just how hard it is to admit to needing help.

SPEDA should be commended for its efforts — the goal for the week is to help people understand that no one is immune to eating disorders.

There is no shame in admitting to a problem and asking for help — especially if help is right there waiting for you.

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.



Blessing of oil will also bring burden

The country of Gambia recently discovered oil. For all of you who have no idea where Gambia is located, I invite you to find a map and look at the upper-west corner of Africa.

Gambia is the thin worm-shaped country surrounded by the neighboring country Senegal. It looks like Gambia is the remnants of a ghost being devoured by a Pac Man-shaped Senegal. At first glance, it may look like a river or lake, but Gambia is, in fact, a country.

Well, actually Gambia is not much of a country. The country's 1.4 million people are some of the world's poorest, having a per capita annual income of \$280, as indicated by World Bank. The coast of Gambia, where the oil was discovered, is a mere 50 miles long.

The Gambian president has proclaimed the oil the savior of his country. "We have planted the seeds of what we believe ... will be prosperity for our people. This harvest will change the future of our country," stated President Yahya Jammeh.

The president went on to declare the find "The Alhamdulillah Prospect," or "thanks to Allah" in Arabic. The oil is seen as an escape from the nation's hunger and severe poverty.

A writer for The Daily Observer, a newspaper located in Banjul, Gambia, held a slightly different perspective. He recognized "the oil offers a recipe for success and greatness," but he also considered the devastating impact the discovery of oil could have on his country.

He questioned how to protect Gambia against outsiders, i.e. us, from raping the newfound oil. Furthermore, he questioned how to guard his country from "the ills and vices that inhere in such new found wealth such as political instability and machination, profiteering, armed robbery and prostitution."

Mike Nierengarten



To have such clarity and vision while living in a country that is in such a state of despair is remarkable. Despite being surrounded by starvation and death, this columnist still had the foresight to see the dangers of wealth.

With our nation and many other western countries attempting to end their reliance on Middle Eastern oil, Gambia will almost certainly see increased prosperity, that is, unless big oil companies move in first.

Gambia had help from other countries in searching for the oil. They will almost certainly need help pumping out the oil. How much this aid will cost them is yet to be seen, but it probably will not come cheap.

Even though more prosperous countries may siphon much of the profits of the newfound oil, citizens of Gambia remain optimistic. Actually, describing them as optimistic downplays their excitement. The discovery has been hailed as the greatest day in Gambian history since the country declared their independence, but residents should be wary.

A certain level of content is maintained in being poor. It can be seen on children's faces playing in landfills in Tijuana or in villages of Nepal. These people are happy because they have never been told they should not be.

They are not told every 12 minutes their life would be better off if only they had a prescription for Cialis or John Basedow's abs. They are not

bombarded with images and messages of a perfect life.

The same holds true for the people of Gambia. They have been suffering, but up to this point, they have not been told their lives will soon be better. Now, their president has assured them of a grand future.

This guarantee brings greed and voracity for satisfaction and throws out contentment. No longer will Gambians be fulfilled with constant hard work and family. They will have an entirely different definition of

"Perched from our nest atop multiple cars and 3,000-square foot houses, we will tell Gambians what they are missing. Americans will tell them they need food and medical supplies and Levi's and Starbucks."

happiness, one filled with free time and a surplus of food.

Perched from our nest atop multiple cars and 3,000-square foot houses, we will tell Gambians what they are missing. Americans will tell them they need food and medical supplies and Levi's

and Starbucks. The idea of contentment will be replaced by a yearning for more. That is the American mantra being spread throughout the world: happiness can only be found by getting more.

Unfortunately, the chances of all of Gambia's residents being able to secure this new understanding of happiness are nil. Most Gambians will remain poor and starving.

For those that gain a little wealth and can feed themselves, their hollow stomachs will be replaced by empty desires. All the oil in the world will not be able to buy the past content and naiveté of a simple, hard-working life.

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.

Erin Simovic



Land of the free, home of the brats

In American society, cannot is a four-letter word. Alright, so obviously we're not successful as a result of our addition skills. However our biggest problem lies in our inability to distinguish need from want.

For example, does anyone really need to be as wealthy as Bill Gates? Is there a true demand for off-road vehicles in industrialized cities? Would we be any worse off without Botox?

I suppose one could argue that the fate of Kobe Bryant's marriage really did rest upon that four-carat diamond ring he gave his wife after admitting to his affair, but I doubt it would hold up in court.

Lara Flynn-Boyle's collagen lip injections, on the other hand, now that's hard to say.

Not that enjoying our own success makes us bad people. After working hard and giving up a good portion of our income to taxes, I'm sure many of us feel that we deserve to spend our money as we please. I know I do.

Let's not fool ourselves, people — money makes the world go round. If it were not for the promise of wealth, many of our inventors and entrepreneurs who make cutting-edge America possible would not have the incentive to bring their ideas and services to market.

In the pharmaceutical industry alone, the development of a new drug can take years and millions of dollars. Perhaps it seems greedy to look at the payoff in the end as opposed to the medical benefits, but without the promise of profit, America's technologically advanced medical industry would not exist.

Of course if we wanted to get philosophical about the situation we could explore the possibility that we are all slaves to our own greed and if it weren't for the value that we ourselves put on meaningless currency, perhaps we would just do things out of the goodness of our own hearts. Yada, yada, yada.

But since I like to write about reality, we'll just ignore that whole ideology for the time being.

Anyways, while there are many exceptions to the rule, i.e. if Botox was a miracle cure for someone's debilitating wrinkle-disorder, the average American citizen does not need many of the things available on today's market. Our needs, in fact, are limited — food, shelter, clothing, water, etc.

Wants, on the other hand, are limitless, but we'll definitely try to blur that line.

Take me, for example. No matter how many times I walk into Nordstrom, I can always find something else that I absolutely have to have. Curses to Steve Madden and his

| See SIMOVIC, page 5 |

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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Those quick to slander Bush not quick to take it back

The Democrats have set the tone of their election campaign against President Bush: utter nonsense.

The National Chairman of the Democratic Party, Terry McAuliffe, recently claimed that Bush was AWOL for a year during his Air National Guard service. The substance of the charge is easy to understand, though the delivery reveals the tenuous hold Democrats have upon the truth. Perhaps McAuliffe is unaware that a reservist or Guard member on drill status cannot be charged as AWOL.

It must have seemed a perfect opportunity to McAuliffe when he broached the subject a couple weeks ago. Bush will run as a war president, touting his record in the war on terror, and the Democrats desperately need something to counter this advantage.

Despite the fact the terms used revealed their ignorance of the military, the charge that Bush shirked his duty is potent.

And so the assault began. McAuliffe led off with the assertion that Bush was AWOL from May 1972 to May 1973. The media went into a frenzy, plastering the Democrats' broadside across the headlines.

Presumptive Democrat nominee John Kerry was somewhat miffed at the timing, having planned to save this attack for later in the campaign. Still, he weighed in, likening service in the Guard during Vietnam to draft dodging. Liberal politicians and pundits joined into the lambasting of Bush.

The White House responded slowly, but it eventually released all of Bush's service records. Then, the story disappeared, vanishing into the dim



Nathanael Blake

morass of the media's subconscious. The accusations were trumpeted by the media, their refutation wasn't.

Some would see this as a sign of liberal bias among journalists, and there may be some truth to that. But the more likely culprit is the demand for spectacle.

McAuliffe's lambasting of Bush was entertaining, as was the Republican counter that the Democrats were engaging in "gutter politics." Heated name-calling makes for good television, the meticulous sifting of documents doesn't.

Thus, the public is left with impressions that are false, that is, that Bush hid from Vietnam service in the Guard and failed to even meet his obligations while in it. But the record shows that Bush not only fulfilled his requirements in the Guard, he exceeded them.

Bush joined the Air National Guard in May of 1968. He then served more than two years of full time active duty in training, including 53 weeks of flight training and 21 weeks of fighter interceptor training. Shortly after completing training and entering the 111th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Bush tried to enter "Palace Alert," a program which moved pilots to service in Vietnam.

He failed to get in for two reasons. The first was that more experienced pilots had also applied. The other was that the plane he flew, the F-102, was deemed unsuited for the mis-

sions Vietnam required.

Bush therefore remained in the Texas Guard, flying regularly and logging vastly more time than was required of him. Evaluations from that time laud his service and skills.

A 1970 evaluation stated that Bush, "clearly stands out as a top notch fighter interceptor pilot... a natural leader whom his contemporaries look to for leadership." An evaluation from the next year said that Bush was, "an exceptionally fine young officer and pilot" who "continually flies intercept missions with the unit to increase his proficiency even further."

In 1972, with the war in Vietnam (or at least American involvement in it) winding down, Bush requested leave to put in equivalent service in Alabama, where he was working on a Senate campaign.

Given a guardsman's status as a civilian-soldier, such requests were (and are) entirely normal. His evaluating officer wrote in 1972 that, "Lt. Bush is very active in civic affairs in the community and manifests a deep interest in the operation of our government. He has recently accepted the position as campaign manager for a candidate for United States Senate. He is a good representative of the military and Air National Guard in the business world."

The time Bush served in Alabama is the source of the AWOL charges, which have relied mainly on a comment by Brig. Gen. William Turnipseed in which he stated that he didn't remember Bush serving on his Alabama base.

But the base had more than 900 men serving at it, and the general is irate at what he sees

as the press' misconstruction of his remarks. "They don't understand the Guard, they don't want to understand the Guard, and they hate Bush. So when I say, 'There's a good possibility that Bush showed up,' why would they put that in their articles?"

Multiple witnesses have confirmed that Bush served in Alabama, and his records also testify to this. His service was sporadic and limited, but it met the requirements.

The cause of this drop in activity was simple, to quote Turnipseed again, "We didn't have enough airplanes or sorties to handle our own pilots, so we wouldn't have done it for some guy passing through." As there was little for a non-flying pilot to do, it is not surprising Bush only met requirements in Alabama, rather than exceed them as he did in Texas.

In 1974, having entered his last year of Guard service, Bush quickly met the minimum service requirements for that year and then requested an early discharge.

With Vietnam over (and a resultant glut of pilots), there was little reason to retain him, and he was granted the honorable discharge he had earned.

It is sad that with so many serious issues at stake in this election, the Democrats have resorted to incoherent misinformation on the president's actions 30 years ago. And it is even more distressing that the media readily reported such slander, but not its debunking.

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

Simovic: We all need a spanking to snap us out of our brats existence

Continued from page 4

adorable pink shoes.

Ask me and I would probably make a valiant attempt at justifying my purchase as a need, but when I really thought about it, pondered it, gritted my teeth and faced the bitter truth, you may get my concession as to its necessity.

If you consider that Jennifer Aniston wears \$900 flip-flops, though, my occasional splurges don't seem quite so frivolous, all else considered. It's all a matter of perspective, I guess.

As a culture, too, we suffer from a difficulty in telling ourselves no. We eat too much, work too much, spend too much and drink too much without so much as a second thought. Yeah, we know that french fries are bad for us, but they're just too good to resist. We're like spoiled children.

Spoiled children, that is, who don't like to be told no by anyone else, either. For

one, I could argue that the American Medical Association ought to ban all unhealthy food, but then we get into that whole freedom issue. It doesn't matter how bad something is for us, if we enjoy it, God save the person who tries to take it away.

Alright, so we spend too much money on things we don't need, so what? And who really cares if we eat ourselves into obesity? At least we're giving the medical communities job security.

While most days I like to believe just that, it doesn't take much to consider the consequences of our exorbitant actions.

How many homeless children, for instance, could a small percentage of Bill Gates' income house? If all the overweight people in America cleaned out their cupboards, would anyone go hungry? Would we be less dependent on foreign oil if we all drove fuel-efficient vehicles?

And for goodness sake, would our coun-

try be so fat if we could just say no to the Whopper?

As the most powerful and wealthy nation in the world, we can certainly afford to live lavishly. For many, our luxurious lifestyles are the epitome of the American dream, creating a society that strives for bigger and better, ultimately affording ourselves a land of limitless opportunities and endless possibilities.

We seem to have forgotten to consider, however, when enough is enough. Although it shouldn't take much to realize that just because we can, doesn't mean we should (i.e. smoking), maybe we all need a good spanking to snap us out of our spoiled little brat existence.

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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Personals

KIM/KINGSTON. SAW YOU AT THE Kingston last April. You looked terrific. Last saw you during Christmas vacation. Call me. David. 503-516-4216.

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Europe: Dinner

Continued from page 1

ances by students, such as cabaret dances or theatre pieces."

Cooked by students from Europe, the cuisine will be of high level with a post-Oscar party-worthy menu of Italian salad, Russian soup, French fish, Romanian cake and Irish coffee.

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The sale will be on a first come first serve basis.

For more information on the ESA, visit <http://oregonstate.edu/groups/european/>

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

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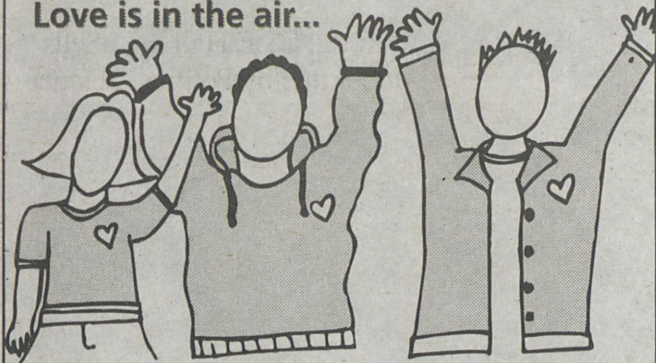
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If you have any questions, or cannot attend this session, feel free to call the yearbook office at 737-3501.

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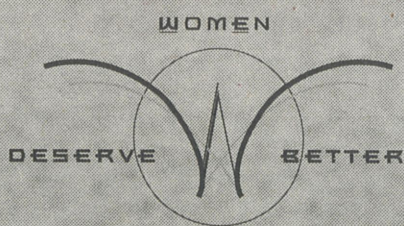
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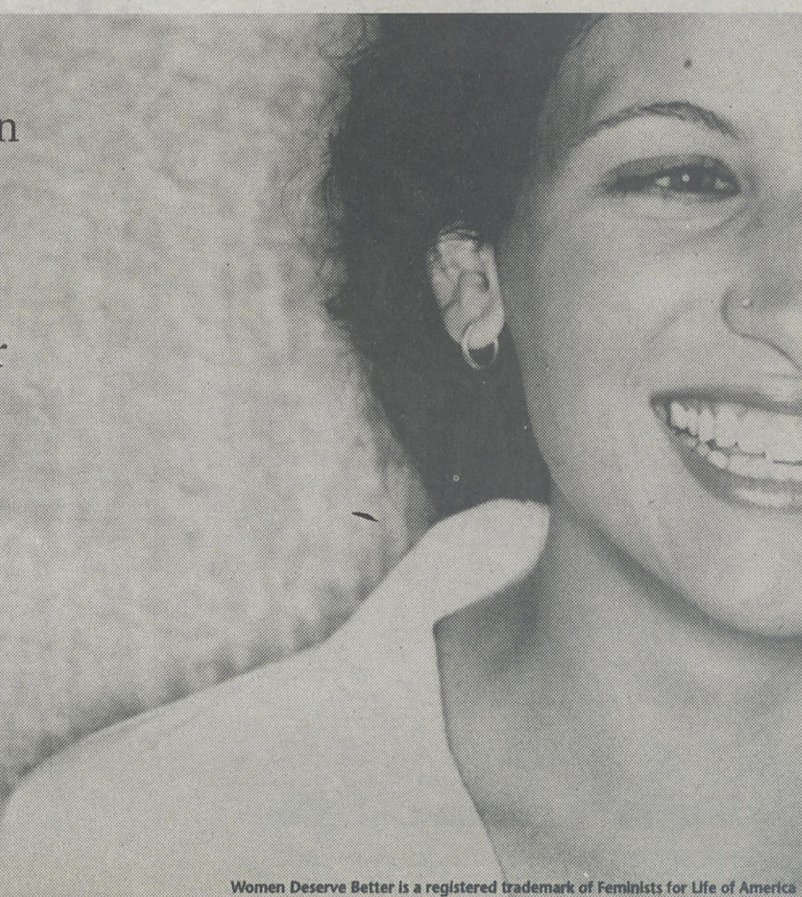
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Stanford and Saint Joseph's still on top

► Gonzaga reaches its highest ranking at No. 4 in Associated Press poll

By JIM O'CONNELL
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gonzaga has made some deep runs in the NCAA tournament and now has its highest AP Top 25 ranking: No. 4.

The Bulldogs, whose only losses this season are to Stanford and Saint Joseph's, moved up two spots in The Associated Press men's basketball poll Monday.

Stanford and Saint Joseph's each won two games last week to remain the nation's only unbeaten teams. The Cardinal (23-0) beat USC and UCLA, while Saint Joseph's (24-0) had wins over Fordham and Temple.

Pittsburgh (24-2) moved up two spots to third, the Panthers' highest ranking since they were No. 2 for two weeks last season.

Duke, which snapped a two-game losing streak with a win over Maryland on Sunday, dropped from third to fifth and was followed by Oklahoma State, Mississippi State, Connecticut, Kentucky and Texas.

Wake Forest, which beat Duke and Georgia Tech last week, jumped four spots to No. 11. The Demon Deacons were followed by North Carolina, Providence, North Carolina State, Cincinnati, Southern Illinois, Arizona, Georgia Tech, Memphis and Kansas.

The last five ranked teams were Louisville, Wisconsin, Illinois, Utah State and Texas Tech. Illinois and Utah State returned to the Top 25 this week, replacing LSU and South Carolina, who fell out from 24th and 25th.

Steven: Plans on being college professor

Continued from page 8

satisfaction that I'd never seen." Rick Guenther, head coach of Corvallis Aquatics, where Steven trains during the summer, has challenged her with hard trainings.

"Rick pushed me further than I thought I could," Steven said. "He made me a better person and athlete by the person who he is, just being kind and caring."

Added Guenther: "She seemed to be afraid of challenge when I first coached her in 2002, but now, she welcomes the challenge and believes in herself so much more. I found that she was becoming comfortable with the level of breaststroke sets that gave her new visual and perspective."

Oregon State head coach Larry Liebowitz has gained the most important thing from his star athlete this season.

Her trust.

"Her technique is spectacular," Liebowitz said. "At the same time, I haven't seen many people who have the same work ethic as hers."

Steven respects Liebowitz just as much as he does to her.

"What I like about Larry is that he displays all the confidence in me," Steven said. "Since he has worked with many world-class swimmers, he knows what it takes to be where I want to be. I just know that I'm going to improve swimming with him."

Steven will be known as one of

Oregon State's most decorated swimmers in school history. It's not unusual to hear about her being the first person to accomplish something that hasn't been done.

But has she ever failed?

"I struggled a lot my freshman year," Steven said. "I wasn't ready to train 10 times a week in addition to adjusting to a new culture."

With her standards are always set high, it was difficult for Steven to meet them during her first year at OSU.

"All the professors inspired me to go to classes and learn more," Steven said. "All the classes have been really interesting to me."

Steven has passed the first round of the review process for one of the International Neuroscience Graduate Schools.

Both graduate schools only accept 15 students annually, and Steven is hoping to further her education in relation to brain and human psychology in hopes of being a college professor one day.

She will be taking a written exam next week while preparing for her last NCAA's.

At German Olympic Trials in June, she will be standing on the block with Beaver pride wearing a Beaver cap, which she feels most comfortable with.

Is Athens ready for this?

Naya Higashijima is a sports writer for The Daily Barometer. She can be reached at baro.sports@studentmedia.orst.edu.

Baseball makes showing in national polls this week

► Oregon State is off to its best start since 1962 season with 6-0 overall record

BAROMETER STAFF REPORT

Oregon State, off to its best baseball start in 42 years, picked up votes in this week's Sports Weekly/ESPN Coaches Poll for the first time this season.

The Beavers (6-0 overall) earned 27 points, the equivalent of 33rd place in the poll of 40 Division I baseball coaches from across the country.

This season's start is OSU's best since the school's 1962 team won its first 18 games.

This weekend Oregon State travels to the Riverside Baseball Invitational, where the Beavers will play California-Riverside on Friday at 3 p.m., Sacramento State on Saturday at 12 noon and Washington on Sunday at 11 a.m.

The games on Friday and Sunday can be heard on www.osubeavers.com.

Last weekend, the Beavers were at the Texas-Arlington Invitational and beat host UTA 7-0, Arkansas-Little Rock 8-3 and 2003 College World Series participant Southwest Missouri State 5-4.

OSU had started the season at the Coca-Cola Classic in Surprise, Ariz., by topping Utah 8-6, Gonzaga 8-6 and Cal State-Northridge 3-2.

OSU opens its home schedule March 12-14 against Gonzaga. Full-season tickets, a Family Plan and a Pacific-10 package are all now available for the Beavers' 21 games at Goss Stadium at Coleman Field.

Mathews: Next season looks solid

Continued from page 8

have to end here. From here on out, the Beavers have a clear chance to begin building a swagger going into next season.

With the win against Arizona, Oregon State can go out and play completely loose on Thursday against No. 1 Stanford.

It would take an absolute torrid shooting night to beat the Cardinal and though I am pretty confident we will be massacred, I wouldn't bet my life savings on it.

After a probable loss at Stanford, the Beavers will play three games that are winnable.

A road victory against a solid team like California is one major thing missing from the resume.

The most positive thing about the Beavers defeating Arizona is the fact that excitement has come back to Gill.

You could say that the first civil war game did this, but that could be passed off as a fluke.

The win against Arizona was a truly exciting and thrilling

ride that shockingly ended in a Beaver victory.

With this newfound love of Beaver basketball, fans will certainly be showing up in the regular season series finale against the Los Angeles schools.

A solid ending to the season will result in a trip to the Pacific-10 tournament and though it will probably be as a seventh or eighth seed, making some sort of postseason play is a big step.

This would send a clear message for next year that the Beavers are a true force in the Pac-10.

With three highly touted newcomers for next year, the Beavers have a chance to set the foundation for an unlikely run at a real postseason appearance.

This win over Arizona was no fluke and anyone who saw the game knows this.

Whether the Beavers can keep up their inspired play remains to be seen, but for one night, it was a thing of beauty.

Chris Mathews is a sports columnist for The Daily Barometer. He can be reached at baro.sports@studentmedia.orst.edu.

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Student/ Incidental Fees Committee OPEN HEARING

The 2003-2004 Student/Incidental Fees Committee will receive community feedback regarding the 2004-2005 budgets of OSU Sustainability, Memorial Union, CTS, University Counseling and Psychological Services, Recreational Sports, Intercollegiate Athletics, and Student Involvement on:

**Thursday, February 26th
6:00-8:00pm • Memorial Union 213**

Students are Strongly Encouraged to Attend

The theology of the cross...is... first of all a statement about God, and what it says about God is not that God thinks humankind so wretched that it deserves death and hell, but that God thinks humankind and the whole creation so good, so beautiful, so precious in its intention and its potentiality, that its actualization, its fulfillment, its redemption is worth dying for.

Douglas John Hall, "The Cross in Our Context," p. 24

Because of the hope that is in us, we invite you to join us for the observance of

Ash Wednesday

February 25, 5:15 PM

**Newman Center Chapel
2127 NW Monroe**



**The students of:
Canterbury House
Luther House
Newman Center
Westminster House**

OSU College Democrats upcoming events

Feb. 25 — Mock Caucus

Wonder how the caucuses work? Participate in a mock caucus sponsored by the OSU Democrats and the Benton County Democrats at 7pm in the C&E Hall at LaSells Stewart Center. Moderated by Political Science Professor Bill Lunch.

Feb. 26 — Los Angeles Democratic Debate

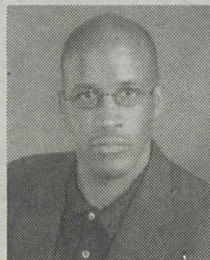
Join the OSU College Democrats in the Memorial Union Lounge at 6 pm to watch the Democratic presidential candidates debate. Free popcorn!

www.osudemocrats.org
Meetings each Thursday • 7pm • MU212

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Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough
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"It's a treat for anybody to go down and play a No. 1 team, but I'm not going to think about it tonight."

— Oregon State men's basketball coach Jay John asked after defeating Arizona on his team's game with Stanford this Thursday

Lucas named Pac-10 Player of the Week

► First weekly honor for the junior and 35th recognition all-time for Oregon State

BAROMETER STAFF REPORT

Junior forward David Lucas has been named the Pacific-10 Conference Men's Basketball Player of the Week for Feb. 16-22, Commissioner Tom Hansen announced Monday.

Other players named this season have include Matt Lottic (Stanford), Hassan Adams (Arizona) and Nate Robinson (Washington).

Lucas, from Tigard, Ore., led the Beavers to a home sweep of the Arizona schools for the first time since 1999.

He started the week by recording

his third double-double of the season with 20 points and 12 rebounds in a 68-61 win over Arizona State.

In the 90-84 upset victory over then-No. 14 Arizona, Lucas paced the Beavers as he scored 22 points on 10-of-14 (.714) shooting and added nine rebounds and three steals.

For the week, Lucas averaged 21.0 points and 10.5 rebounds.

He was 17 of 30 (.567) from the field and 8 of 11 (.727) from the free throw line.

This is the first weekly honor for Lucas, and the 35th all-time for the Beavers.

Oregon State has won three of its last four games and travels to the Bay Area this week to play California and No. 1 Stanford.



WENDY VOLLMER | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Junior forward David Lucas was named Pacific-10 Player of the Week for Feb. 16-22.

Chris Mathews



Sweet smell of an upset

Were all waiting for Arizona to break our collective hearts.

It never happened and when all the dust had settled, Jay John was celebrating a win over his mentor Lute Olson.

When I called my friend in Seattle after the game he simply asked, "How the hell did we win?"

First, the Beavers shot a scorching 55 percent from the field.

For a team with streaky outside scoring, this number is phenomenal.

The Beavers also enjoyed some impressive individual performances beginning with David Lucas, who scored seven of the first nine Beaver points and finished with 22.

Lucas set the tone early with an array of shots and shot an impressive 10 for 14 for the game.

Then there was Chris Stephens, who quietly scored his usual 20-plus points per game by chipping in 22.

His steady hand from deep kept Arizona from getting comfortable in the first half.

How about crowd favorite Angelo Tsagarakis?

He chipped in 13 points and took smart, under-control shots.

One of them was from the MU Quad, but he made it and Gill Coliseum reached a fevered pitch.

J.S. Nash added 14 to all this and the upset was on.

When you look at the stat sheet, every Beaver contributed in a meaningful way.

The all-out effort of Nash was inspiring, Lamar Hurd ran the team to perfection, Jim Hanchett contributed his usual array of hustle plays and defensive intensity and nearly every other player contributed a play or two that ended up being indispensable in the Beaver victory.

As a Beaver fan, it is easy to sit here and wonder what this season could have been with a couple wins against Washington and a win in Tempe, but in the end it really makes no sense to consider the past.

In some ways, this win was the product of a long list of previous frustrations.

If we had won those other games, who is to say that we would have come out on Saturday with the intensity needed to defeat Arizona?

It is the nature of Oregon State fans to think what if.

The bottom line is that the Beavers have improved with each game and the culmination was a hard fought victory in rabid Gill, but it doesn't

| See **MATHEWS**, page 7 |



ALAN PERRY | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Senior Birte Steven, a five time All-American, will make her run at the Pacific-10 championships beginning Wednesday in hopes of qualifying for the NCAA Championships. Steven will also be trying out for the 2004 Olympic Games in Greece this summer.

Gold medalist in the making

► Birte Steven will wrap up her collegiate swimming career in the next few months, but has intentions of pursuing the sport after graduation

By **NAYA HIGASHIJIMA**
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Athens might not know what is in store for them this summer.

It's a small glimpse of what Corvallis has to offer.

Birte Steven, a senior on Oregon State's swimming team just might make a showing in the 2004 Olympic games, and she's ready for it.

Organization is just the beginning, but Steven knows what is coming ahead of her and what it takes to be successful. She is optimistic and goal-oriented and someone you can always depend on.

And if you have been one of the lucky people to have had a chance to meet the five-time All-American, then it's likely that you've been impacted by her presence.

Her determination has brought high standards and expectations to not only herself but also peo-

ple around her.

"I've enjoyed dual meets having teammates behind me and having the pressure to perform well for the team," Steven said.

Being ranked first in the nation in the 200-yard breaststroke and having a cumulative GPA of 3.89 in psychology, Steven is writing the last chapter of her successful journey as a Beaver.

The journey started four years ago when Steven, who was making the decision of coming to Oregon State, was training for the Olympic trials.

She placed fourth in the 200-meter breaststroke and sixth in the 100-meter breaststroke at the German Olympic Trials in 2000.

Coming to Oregon and not knowing where Corvallis was, Steven was shocked with the friendly atmosphere when she first stepped in to the Mid-Valley community.

"I like being in a small town," Steven said. "It is very convenient commuting to school and practice."

Steven has also noticed the growing support for the swimming program from the community. Although her career as a Beaver is about to end, her black-and-orange pride will always stay with her.

"I've improved a lot in the last four years, so I'm not intimidated by any other swimmers anymore," Steven said.

With a new found confidence, Steven is again trying to make the German National Olympic team, but on a different level.

This year she made the German National A team, which only includes 13 female swimmers in the country.

Among the 13 swimmers that represent Germany, five of them are breaststrokers, who have been Steven's rivals in the past.

"I don't have to be scared of them because they are afraid of me," Steven said. "This is the best shape I've ever been, and I don't know if I would have the opportunity to be in a better shape."

Behind Steven's success, she has worked with three great coaches in Corvallis. Former OSU coach and current Miami coach Mariusz Podkoscilny has helped Steven with bigger goals and confidence.

"The most fun part of coaching Birte was being able to come up with challenges and being able to see the challenges being done in the water," Podkoscilny said. "It really opened up creativity and

| See **STEVEN**, page 7 |

TV LISTINGS

Basketball
College men
Michigan St. @ Michigan
ESPN, 4 p.m.
UConn @ St. John's
ESPN2, 4 p.m.
Alabama @ Auburn
ESPN, 6 p.m.
Golf
Jacob's Creek Open
GOLE, 8 a.m.
Soccer
English League
FSN, 12 p.m.