

The Daily Barometer

A Student Publication

Inside:

- Public must seek the Politics of Standing.
- Blink 182 nears top with upbeat style.
- Mason claims innocence in rape charges.

Weather:

Rain turning to showers late.
Highs 55, lows 40.

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

TUESDAY

February 10, 1998

Vol. CI No. 75

Fourth hate-related crime targets Corvallis clothing store

By JOHN LOVDOKKEN
of The Daily Barometer

A multi- racially owned clothing store across the street from Oregon State University's campus has become the sight of the fourth hate-related activity in the past 11 days.

The words "rip off nigger store" were applied to the glass door of The Clothing Exchange (2031 Monroe Ave.) with a marking pen between Friday at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

The business owners, Laurie J. O'Neil and Lorenzo Chatman, do not feel the act was in response to any conflict with a customer.

"My partner and I sat down and racked our brains asking why this could happen," Chatman said. "It seemed pretty random."

"Just from the nature of what was said, it had to be somebody pretty angry. But if I did something to make somebody mad, I'd like them to come talk to me personally," Chatman said.

The Corvallis Police Department is investigating the incident and no arrests have been made.

The vandalism against The Clothing Exchange

is the latest in a series of intimidation activities occurring in Corvallis.

On Feb. 4, 17-year old Corvallis High School senior Paul Miller was assaulted by three other teen-aged youths because he is gay.

On Jan. 28, a pamphlet distributed at the OSU Colors Conference was found with numerous racial slurs written on it.

On Jan. 26, the Oregon State Police responded to a racially motivated conflict in the Memorial Union Recreation Center between a group of white high school students and a group of Asian OSU students.

None of the activities appear to be directly related; however, some

members of the university community feel they are symptoms of a larger problem.

"Something somewhere is fostering this attitude [of hate]," said OSU Diversity Development Coordinator Cessa Heard-Johnson.

"It just proves there is a strong need for education out there. That's why I have my job and why we have the different [diversity] education offices around campus."

See CRIME, page 6

"Something, somewhere is fostering this attitude [of hate]."

— OSU DIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR CESSA HEARD-JOHNSON.

New OSU class to educate on sexual assault

By CHRISTINE PETTIT
of The Daily Barometer

Across America, approximately one out of every four women college students is sexually assaulted.

Designed to educate Oregon State University students on sexual assault, a new course will be offered spring term. The class, put together and instructed by Joanne Dodgson, will include general information about sexual assault. Students will learn that in approximately 80 to 90 percent of sexual assault cases, the victim knows the perpetrator. About 80 percent of the cases involve the consumption of alcohol or use of other drugs.

Students will also have the chance to ask questions and look at possible explanations as to why

sexual assault occurs. Questions such as why do only one out of 10 rapes get reported to the police will be discussed.

The course will also focus on the impact of rape on victims and how to advocate for and support survivors, and it will inform students on the prevention of rape.

Another aspect of the course is instructing students on how to be advocates against rape, as well as preparing them to present the issue of sexual assault to others.

Ang Trenga, who will be the class's teaching assistant, said, "The most effective form of peer education is when it comes from other students. Sexual assault is often an uncomfortable subject, a

See ASSAULT, page 7

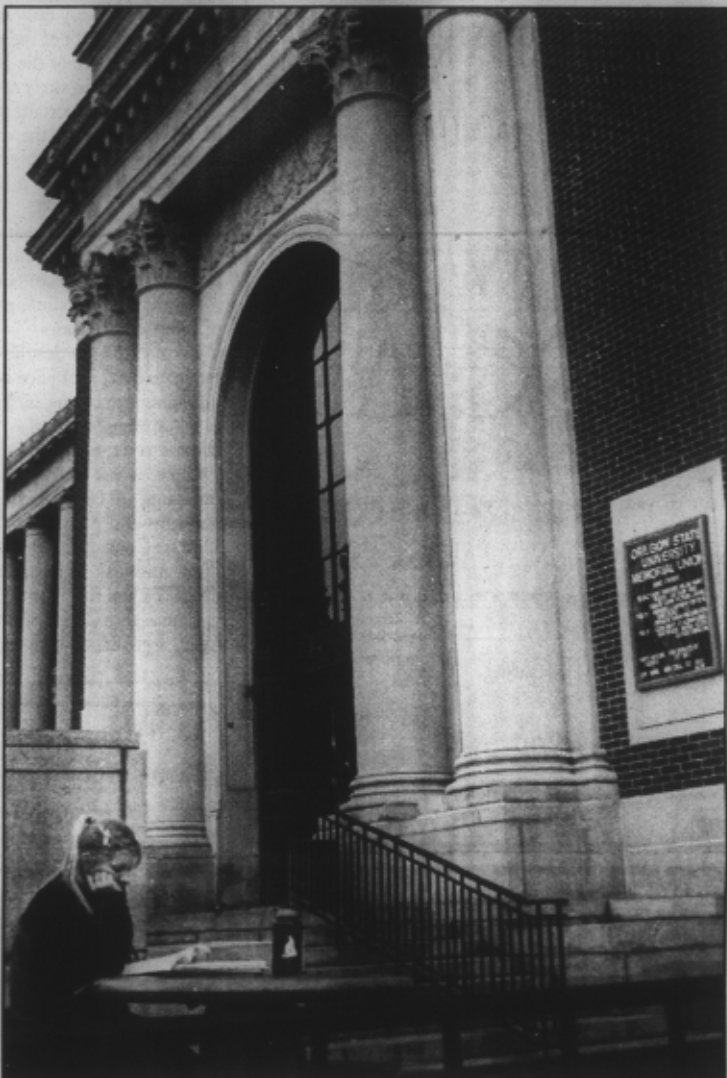
Blood drive begins today



JOE ELLIS/The Daily Barometer

Cheryl Graham, Douglas Tracy and Lisa Hoogesteger (left to right) unload their truck to set up the cantina for the opening day of the Blood Drive. The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the MU Ballroom from Feb. 10-12.

Warming up for midterms



JOE ELLIS/The Daily Barometer

Senior psychology major Erika Sundholm studies outside the MU yesterday evening before her midterms. Many students choose to study outdoors when the weather permits.

U.S. triples ground forces in Kuwait

Canada joins U.S. in support of force against Iraq

Associated Press

AL-JABER AIR BASE, Kuwait —The Pentagon is sending up to 3,000 troops to Kuwait — tripling U.S. ground forces in the country — "to discourage any creative thinking" by Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

At the same time, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright ruled out any massive military invasion of Iraq. "The administration does not agree with those who suggest we should deploy hundreds of thousands of American troops to engage militarily in a ground war in Iraq," Albright said in a speech in Washington.

The latest deployment of U.S. ground forces was disclosed by a senior military official traveling in the region with Defense Secretary William Cohen. He said up to 3,000 troops from Fort Hood, Texas, will be sent to Kuwait over the next 10 days or so to help defend Iraq's southern neighbor.

"The purpose is to ensure the security of Kuwait," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "It's to discourage creative thinking on [Saddam Hussein's] part."

Although Cohen had not formally signed the deployment order, a Pentagon official said Monday "the forces have been requested and that request is being considered and processed."

They will join 1,500 Army troops who have been using M1-A1 tanks, armored Bradley troop carriers and other vehicles during a scheduled exercise in the desert emirate. The United States deployed 541,000 ground troops during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

For its part, Iraq appeared to be preparing for a U.S. attack. Troops of Saddam's elite Republican Guard, for instance, were being scattered throughout the country in an effort to ensure that his government remains in power, according to Iraqi travelers arriving in Jordan.

Iraq also dispatched diplomats to several Arab countries that joined the U.S.-led coalition in the Gulf War, seeking their support.

In Ottawa, Prime Minister Jean Chretien said Canada joins with the United States in supporting the use of military force against Iraq if diplomatic efforts fail to end the impasse over U.N. weapons inspections. He spoke at the start of a special session of the House of Commons called to discuss Canada's possible participation in a U.S.-led military operation.


Deployment of additional soldiers to Kuwait had been rumored for weeks at the Pentagon.

A senior official with Cohen stressed that the ground troops would not take part in any ground attack against Iraq.

Should President Clinton decide to take military action against Iraq, Pentagon officials have

See KUWAIT, page 7

Information Meetings:
Short-term study in Europe
 Angers, France Tuesday, Feb. 10
 London, England Wednesday, Feb. 11
 Vienna, Austria Thursday, Feb. 12
 4:00 p.m. 444 Snell Hall
Bring your questions and ask past participants.

ANIMAL SCIENCE
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NEWS

Experimental vaccine protects against E. coli

Associated Press
 WASHINGTON — A vaccine against E. coli, the deadly food poisoning bacteria that forced the recall last year of millions of pounds of beef, has been tested successfully on a small group of volunteers, researchers said Monday.
 Scientists at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, N.C., report that a preliminary study using 87 volunteers showed that the vaccine causes an immune reaction that could protect against infection by E. coli 0157.
 "This is still very early in the research," said Dr. Dwayne F. Alexander, director of the institute on child health and human development, one of the National Institutes of Health. "This is the first human study of this proposed vaccine."
 He said the important finding is that the vaccine produced a level of antibody in the volunteers that could kill E. coli 0157 in the test tube.
 "We don't know yet if it will kill the bacteria in the body," he said.
 Alexander said the next step is tests to determine if the vaccine will prevent E. coli 0157 infection in cattle, which are thought to be the most common source of the infection.
 Results of the preliminary study are published in the Journal of Infectious Diseases.
 E. coli 0157 is a deadly, new strain of bacteria that can contaminate beef, fruit juice and other foods, causing severe food poisoning symptoms, including bloody diarrhea and damaged kidneys. People can also become infected by swimming in lakes or rivers contaminated with the organism.
 Children are most seriously affected by the infection. An estimated 20,000 Americans are poisoned by E. coli 0157 annually and about 250 die, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
 An outbreak in Japan last year infected more than 10,000 people in just two months.
 Last year, millions of pounds of ground beef in the United States were destroyed after tests showed the beef was contam-

inated with E. coli. The organism also has been found in fruit and fruit juices.
 E. coli is spread most frequently from cattle manure that can get into meat during butchering or onto fruits or vegetables in the field. Water runoff from pastures where there are infected cattle can contaminate rivers and lakes.
 E. coli is formally known as Escherichia coli, named for Theodor Escherich, a German bacteriologist who first isolated it 111 years ago. A benign form of the organism lives in the human gut, where it is essential for proper digestion.
 Researchers believe that some genes of a dangerous virus, called shigella, were transferred into E. coli during a shigella epidemic in Central America in the 1970s. This transformed one strain of a usually harmless germ into a pathogen that does not respond well to antibiotics and can cause severe food poisoning.
 In the experiment, three groups of 27 volunteers were inoculated with different formulations of a vaccine made from the combination of parts of the E. coli bacterium and of another bacterium, Pseudomonas aeruginosa.
 Nearly all of the volunteers developed antibodies against E. coli within a week. This suggests that such a vaccine could be useful in quickly controlling an outbreak, said Alexander.
 At the end of 26 weeks, 97 percent of the test subjects had antibody levels 10 times higher than pretest levels.
 Antibody produced in the blood of the volunteers was able to kill the E. coli 0157 bacterium in laboratory cultures.
 Volunteers experienced no serious side effects from the vaccine, with irritation at the injection site being the most common complaint.
 Alexander said a Minnesota firm is now testing the vaccine in cattle. He said it may be possible to prevent infection by E. coli 0157 "if we can control it at the source."
 A test on children would be next, but Alexander said that there are no immediate plans to conduct further human testing.

Read the
Barometer
 to stay informed

Forum to raise awareness held

By CHAK RAMANUJAM
 of The Daily Barometer

The OSU community met last week in a forum that was designed to allow students the opportunity to express their thoughts and concerns to the administration with regard to the most recent racial incident.
 The latest racially-motivated incident occurred last week in the Recreation Center of the Memorial Union. An OSU student of Vietnamese background was verbally attacked by a Caucasian Philomath High School student. The Vietnamese student told the attacker to stop several times, but was ignored.
 "What are you going to do about it?" the high school student replied.
 At this point, another Vietnamese student intervened, merely trying to protect his friend. What resulted was a fight between the three students. There were minor injuries but the main damage done was on the emotional level. Derogatory racial comments were made at the Vietnamese student towards his race and culture.
 To raise awareness of this incident, a forum

sponsored by the Asian Pacific American Student Union (APASU) was held last week. At this meeting, APASU attempted to bring these issues to the administration's attention.
 "The forum was to give students a chance to speak out their feelings and concerns and let the administration know what's going on," said Katy Yen, APASU president. "These violations of students' rights can't be swept aside. We want a more aggressive stance from the administration."
 Yen doesn't feel like any progress is being made in the effort to stop racism. She thinks that the university is shoving the issues under the carpet in an effort to reduce bad publicity.
 "We already know what happens," she said. "We want to know what's going to be done about it."
 Overall, the forum was regarded as a success. The main goals were to increase awareness, provide support, and question administration, all of which Yen felt were satisfactorily accomplished.
 Pamela Leong, APASU event coordinator, agrees. "We hope this forum can bring awareness to the OSU community and for people to realize that APASU stands as a support group."

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America Online raises price to \$21.95
Associated Press
 NEWYORK — America Online is raising its monthly fee for unlimited access by \$2, to \$21.95, saying it needs to upgrade its network to handle the onslaught of people taking advantage of its flat price.
 AOL members are spending an average of 23 hours a month online, three times more than they did before the flat \$19.95-a-month price went into effect in December 1996, Steve Case, chairman and chief executive of the nation's biggest online service, said Monday.
 The increase goes into effect in April.
 Case said the increase will pay for more upgrades of its network, which collapsed under an onslaught of new members early last year, forcing AOL to refund some customers' money.
 The Dulles, Va., company grew to more than 11 million members in 1997 after it initiated the flat rate for unlimited access. Half of all American households that connect to the Internet now do so through AOL.
 About 75 percent of AOL's members use the monthly rate. The rest pay \$4.95 for three hours a month, plus \$2.50 for each additional hour, and Case said those rates will not change.
 Some customers were not impressed with AOL's explanation for the price increase.
 "It's just not worth it," said Dave Kornbluth, a telephone technician in New York. "There are so many other companies that are \$4 to \$5 cheaper. This \$2 more is just not worth it."
 Kornbluth said he is tired of "spam," or unsolicited e-mail usually offering pornography, get-rich-quick schemes or ways to lose weight. He also said the service is too slow and he sometimes has trouble accessing Web pages.
 AOL investors apparently were not concerned about any customer defections. They bid up its stock a sharp \$11.93 3/4 a share to \$110.43 3/4 on the New York Stock Exchange.

STATE & REGIONAL NEWS

Judge resentencing criminals to longer terms

Associated Press

KLAMATH FALLS — Saying the law leaves no choice, Klamath County judges are tacking years onto sentences of people sentenced earlier for crimes.

A drunken driver who hit and killed a runner was resentenced Friday to 75 months in prison after the Oregon Supreme Court ruled the original sentence of 18 months did not comply with Measure 11, a voter-approved law setting minimum sentences for violent crimes.

Wilson Lee Pate, 47, was taken into custody after the sentencing. He had been out of prison for five months and living on a ranch in Red Bluff, Calif.

"It's hard for me to comprehend," he said of the resentencing. "I went to prison and did my time. How many more times are you going to sentence me? I'm trying to start a new life."

Deanna Adrienna Soloman, 23, also was resentenced Friday to 90 months. She has served half of her original five-year sentence for attempted murder and assault.

Klamath County Circuit Court Judge Richard Beesley previously sentenced both to more lenient prison terms, ruling that Measure 11 was unconstitutional.

The Oregon Supreme Court last year reversed a ruling by Jackson County Circuit Court Judge L.L. Sawyer that also said Measure 11 was unconstitutional.

The court then ordered resentencing in cases where the sentence didn't comply with

the measure.

Attorney Phil Studenberg asked for leniency based on Pate's lack of a criminal record, his expression of remorse, the lack of intent of the crime, and his good conduct.

He also asked Judge Richard Rambo to let Pate stay free pending an appeal, citing flooding problems near Pate's California ranch.

Klamath County District Attorney Ed Caleb argued against more time, telling the judge that Pate had agreed to put his affairs in order by today.

Rambo said he was mandated to carry out the sentencing order.

"This is a very difficult task," Rambo said. "I have a duty to do and that is to impose a sentence ... There is no discretion with Measure 11. The voters said 75 months is the penalty for this particular act and I must follow it."

Soloman was resentenced by Klamath County Circuit Court Judge Roxanne Osborne to serve, concurrently, 90 months on an attempted murder count, 90 months on a first-degree assault count and 70 months on a second-degree assault count.

Another Klamath Falls man, Marcos X. Ramirez, will also be resentenced, the district attorney's said.

Ramirez was sentenced by Beesley to five years in prison on counts of attempted murder and first-degree assault that stemmed from a Nov. 20, 1995, shooting.

His sentence, under Measure 11, will be lengthened to seven years and six months.

Suspect in fires agrees to plea

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — A Washington man suspected in connection with suspicious fires at seven western abortion clinics between 1992 and 1995 has agreed to a plea bargain, the Justice Department said Monday.

Richard T. Andrews, 59, of Wenatchee, Wash., was expected to enter a guilty plea Tuesday morning before U.S. District Judge Lawrence Karlton.

Andrews is charged with eight counts of arson. If convicted, he could be sentenced to 10 years in prison on each count; under the terms of the proposed agreement, the government is expected to ask for a seven-year prison term.

Seattle attorney Thomas Olmstead, who is representing Anderson, did not return a telephone call seeking comment Monday.

Andrews is charged in three fires in Montana, three in California (including two at the same facility) and one each in Idaho and Wyoming.

Prosecutors had planned to use evidence seized from Andrews' car, as well as traffic tickets, mileage records and canceled checks, to show that he was responsible for the fires.

Andrews was stopped for speeding early on Jan. 18, 1992, in northern Idaho. Several hours later, an arsonist set fire to the Planned

Parenthood clinic in Helena, Mont.

Prosecutors say the Helena fire marked the beginning of a campaign to destroy abortion clinics in the West.

Five months after the Helena fire, a clinic in Redding, Calif., was set afire. Nine months later, a clinic in Missoula, Mont., burned to the ground. A clinic in Boise, Idaho, followed in May 1993.

The fires stopped for more than a year, but in October 1994, prosecutors say Andrews set three clinic fires in as many days. The same Redding clinic targeted in 1992 was torched again on Oct. 9, as was a clinic in nearby Chico, Calif. That was followed by a fire Oct. 11 at a clinic in Kalispell, Mont.

The last fire was in September 1995, at a clinic in Jackson, Wyo.

At all those fires, red plastic gasoline containers were found wrapped in dark garbage sacks. Gasoline was used as an accelerant in all the blazes.

When Andrews was stopped in Vancouver, Wash., on June 26, 1996, state troopers found a butane torch, a road flare, plastic pipe, a respirator and a bible. In the car's trunk, they found red plastic gasoline containers wrapped in dark plastic garbage bags.

Prosecutors believe Andrews was on his way to set fire to a clinic in Portland, Ore.

Hate flier posted at community college

Associated Press

EVERETT, Wash. — Officials at Everett Community College have denounced a threatening, racist flier that was posted on several bulletin boards last week.

The flier, which claimed to be from "The white studies Dept.," included a drawing of a Confederate flag and slurs against blacks, Asians, Jews, Hispanics and gays. It promoted "Aryan power."

"Sub-human animals, this isn't a joke!" the flier read. "Since we aren't without mercy, We will give all the inferiors one month to cleanse the campus before we do!!!"

Under state law, combining a racial slur with

a threat constitutes malicious harassment, a felony.

College President Susan Carroll said hate literature will not be tolerated on the campus.

"It just made me so angry that anyone would do that," she said. "In the six years I've been here, I haven't seen anything like this. I was just incensed. I am still furious."

Carroll speculated the flier was posted by someone passing through campus rather than a student. The school filed a report with the Everett Police Department, and Carroll wrote a memo asking people to help campus security identify anyone who may have posted the flier.

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The Daily Barometer

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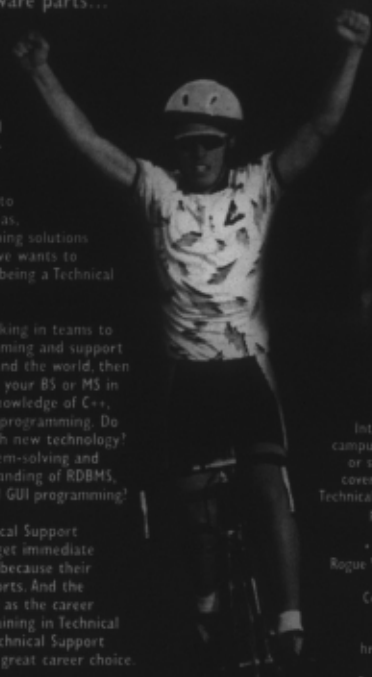
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OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

The Daily Barometer Forum

EDITORIALS • LETTERS • OPINIONS

A PLACE FOR DISCUSSION

Public must become involved, demand a new standard of leadership

As a nation, we are currently reserving judgement. The polls suggest a rally but all involved know that the end of this spectacle is far from near. Meanwhile, most of us in our own way (and for our own reasons) want to believe that the president of the United States — our president — has told us the whole truth. We want to believe, even though we know we do so at our own risk.

PAUL L. EVANS

The unfortunate truth is that in reality it matters little whether Mr. Clinton lied or not. We have allowed a culture of unethical association and irresponsible behavior to become the norm, instead of the exception. Many if not most people believe that politicians are psychologically predisposed to lie, cheat, or steal — sometimes all three.

A common belief among many Americans is that most politicians will do what they must to win (whatever that "win" means). While this may or may not be true, the fact is that "they" are merely following the rules (and tolerances) which "we" have allowed.

We have conveniently forgotten that "We the People" are the "adult supervision" charged with the sacred obligation of ensuring that the best people, not the most appealing, are chosen during elections. "We the People" are the responsible officers in our form of government because we choose our leadership from among our own communities.

For too long we have been fixated upon the appearance of leadership, instead of the qualities of leadership itself. For too long we have allowed ourselves to be lulled into apathy by an acceptance and toleration of things we know just aren't right. And for too long, "We the People" have simply disengaged from the fight. The time has come for change.

We must demand nothing less than a new standard of leadership. We as a nation cannot afford the appearance of leadership any longer; we need real leaders to help us find real solutions to real

problems. The Politics of Image must give way to the Politics of Standing — we simply have too much to accomplish and too much at risk to continue on with "business as usual."

We need leaders with a broad base of experiences; leaders that have lived and worked both inside and outside the Beltway. We need people that have lived life on its terms and have something to add. We need people more concerned with being right than with being elected. And we need people committed to making significant change through principled behaviors — each in their own way, in their own time.

Our democracy is not guaranteed. While our Constitution provides certain freedoms, it can only continue to do so as long as an interested, involved public protects it against the agents of tyranny. Our system of government has but one weakness, and that is an uninvolved citizenry.

America stands today as an international superpower. Our economy is relatively strong, our workforce is able, and our shores are safe. This will continue only as long as we remain vigilant. The enemy, at least the enemy that can destroy us, is not the hordes from "over there" — the enemy is apathy and disengagement.

As Americans, each of us is obligated from birth to become actively engaged in our communities. This has been the great secret of our success. Here, power (real power) is not derived from a specific resource, it is not found locked away in any vault; it is the spirit of individuality that strengthens the congregation — a melody of single notes producing the power and resonance of the whole.

We have a job to do and we have the tools to do it. We need to begin by finding leaders that meet our standards of behavior. We must develop functional criteria which emphasize those values we

hold most sacred. We must be forthright and detailed about what we need and what we want of our leaders. And we must be willing to reward honesty — instead of dishonesty — with success.

The time has come for a renewal of the faith. Healing our nation depends upon our faith in the institutions of our government and our faith in those that govern through them. A democracy more than any other form of government simply cannot last unless the governed trust the governors.

Whatever the eventual legal and political outcomes of the current myriad of crises, "We the People" must affix ourselves to the cause of re-inventing standards and values of conduct commensurate with our national ethos.

We must embrace the Politics of Standing and discard the Politics of Image, Deception, and Treachery. We should examine the processes by which we choose our leaders and take a long look at whether we are getting the product we want or the product the process merely defaults to.

Long ago the United States of America was the shining example of a people daring enough to tell the world they could govern themselves. More than any other nation, we Americans have insisted that people can and will choose wisely. For 200 years, generation after generation of Americans understood and fulfilled their obligations and labored to make their own contributions.

Reflect upon what is and compare it to what could be — imagine the possibilities. Isn't it time we had leaders that we could respect as well as accept? Change is not only possible but also necessary. Together we can change our nation, one community at a time. The decision is yours.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of Paul L. Evans, columnist for *The Daily Barometer*.

“Our system of government has but one weakness and that is an uninvolved citizenry.”

LETTERS

ASOSU election candidates

To The Editor:

We are writing to announce our candidacy and ask for your support in the upcoming ASOSU presidential and vice presidential elections.

We are both proven leaders on this campus, and we are committed to achieving a great deal over the next year for the students at OSU. Our goals for the next year are based in three areas: *Savings, Accountability, and Representation*.

ASOSU must commit itself to saving students' money. We have devised a plan to keep more money in your wallets. First, we will expand the ASOSU book exchange providing an accessible low cost alternative to the OSU Bookstore. Second, we will work to institute a tuition freeze guaranteeing that there will not be a tuition increase for the next two years. We have enough experience lobbying in the state capital to make the tuition freeze a reality. Third, we will maintain ASOSU health insurance, providing low cost health care to those students in need.

ASOSU must hold the university accountable for its actions. In the face of Informational Services and the athletic department, ASOSU must insure that services provided to students are not diminished. The modern pool that allows students to access e-mail from off-campus must receive adequate funding. The library must purchase an adequate amount of textbooks. This will require working with OSU administrators. We have the connections on this campus to work effectively with administration to hold OSU accountable for its decisions.

ASOSU must commit itself to providing proactive representation for the students on this campus. OSU needs to be a diverse campus accepting of people from all different backgrounds. *Attacks to all minority groups on this campus will not be tolerated.* ASOSU also needs to continue a proactive approach to solving the parking problem on this campus. We are committed to these specific proactive goals as well as accurate proactive representation of the students on this campus.

Mike Caudle

Candidate for president

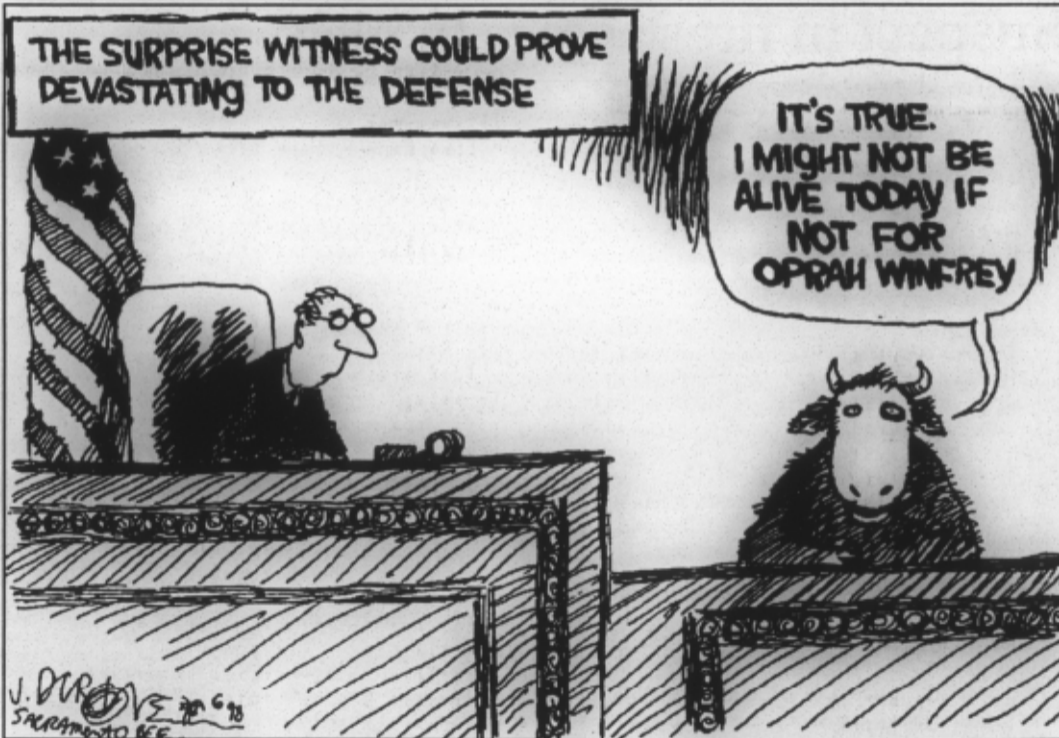
Melanie Spraggins

Candidate for vice president

RESPONSIBILITY

"The University Student Media Committee is charged with the general supervision of all student publications and broadcast media operated under its authority for the students and staff of Oregon State University on behalf of the Associated Students of OSU.

"Formal written complaints about *The Daily Barometer*, Beaver yearbook, *PRISM* magazine, the OSU Student Directory, KBVR-TV or KBVR-FM may be referred to the committee for investigation and disposition. After hearing all the elements involved in a complaint, the committee will report its decision to all parties concerned."



LETTERS POLICY

The Daily Barometer welcomes letters to the editor.

Letters will be edited only for spelling and will be permitted on a first-received, first-printed basis. Letters that do not adhere to *Barometer* policy will not be printed. There is a limit of three letters per person per month.

Letters MUST be typed, double-spaced, and be 250 words or fewer.

All letters will be considered for *Barometer* publication. However, because of limited available space, brevity is encouraged.

Letters from students must include the author's signature, telephone number, academic major and class standing. Letters from faculty members, administrators and classified employees must include author's signature, job title, department name and telephone number. Letters submitted by members of the community must include the author's signature, address and telephone number. A telephone number where the author can be reached for verification must appear on the letter.

The Daily Barometer reserves the right to refuse publication of letters.

The Daily Barometer

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Rock band Blink 182 climbs toward the top

By ERIC MURK
of The Daily Barometer

Powered by youth and eager to please, Blink 182 is working toward the top with a punchy beat and an in-your-face sound that drops perfectly into today's pop/alternative groove.

Guitar player and vocalist Tom Delonge, bass player Mark Hoppus and drummer Scott Raynor (ages 21, 25 and 18, respectively), are enjoying the success they've earned over the last three years.

What is the pay-off? For Blink 182, playing with groups like NOFX, Pennywise, and Reel Big Fish (and making their fans happy) are just a few of the rewards.

Delonge, Hoppus and Raynor met in San Diego while the two youngest members of the group, Delonge and Raynor, were still in high school. But that didn't stop the band from releasing their first album, *Cheshire Cat*, in '94.

Blink 182 just finished their leg of the Vans Warped Tour in Australia and will soon embark on a second tour with Primus. They've played La Luna in Portland three times, but they say that their bigger shows are in Denver, Los Angeles and San Diego.

A *Daily Barometer* interview with Delonge

revealed some insight into where Blink 182 came from and where they are going.

Blink 182's major influences include The Descendants, Bad Religion and Screeching Weasel, "to name a few." Among other favorites are NOFX and Pennywise.

Do the band members' young ages figure into their success? Delonge says that they do. "[Being young] gives us the advantages," Delonge said. "We had been touring and playing for a long time before a single was playing on the radio, so people related to us — not our single."

As far as where their music is going, Delonge likes to be a little pessimistic to keep things in perspective.

But will the music change? "We try to work in some variation, ... but it still sounds like us."

Blink 182 does have a new single coming out, but we'll all have to wait to hear it.

Blink 182's newest album, *Dude Ranch*, has been out since '97 and includes their radio single, "Dammit."

An upbeat album that never slows down for a second, the arrangements are good and their sound is solid. However, this is not the kind of music you can sit still to.

"We had been touring and playing for a long time before a single was playing on the radio, so people related to us — not our single."

— VOCALIST TOM DELONGE



STEVE SHEA © 1997 MCA Records

Having recently come off the Warped Tour in Australia, up-and-coming rock band Blink 182 took time for an interview with *The Daily Barometer*. The Warped Tour featured bands like the Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Sugar Ray and the Descendants.

Clinton story shows a news landscape irrevocably changed

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Like addicts surveying wreckage after an all-night binge, many television executives are already looking back in horror at the frenzied coverage of President Clinton's alleged affair with an intern.

Sheepish self-analysis is coming even before most of the major questions about the Clinton story have even been answered.

They shouldn't bother.

The way major news bursts across TV screens in cacophonous overload may have been surprising during the O.J. Simpson and Princess Diana stories, but it isn't anymore. And it shouldn't be ever again.

Seemingly every time a viewer clicked the remote in the story's initial stages, there was someone with something to say about the president and his presumed paramour, Monica Lewinsky. Three all-news cable channels, three broadcast news divisions, ever-expanding local news programs and a menu of newsmagazines made it hard to avoid.

Small wonder it leaves anchors like NBC's Tom Brokaw nostalgic for the days when he and ABC and CBS colleagues lorded over the big stories.

"I have felt for some time that the public feels that it's in a drowning pool, that this is information overload, constantly," he said. "The chain reaction goes to critical mass in about 30 seconds, and there's this huge explosion. And the fallout affects everyone."

During the past two weeks, polls showed that about two-thirds of viewers thought there was too much coverage. A backlash against this may also have contributed to Clinton's stunning popularity ratings.

The wonderful contradiction, of course, is that many of the naysayers are glued to the tube. MSNBC's average number of

daily viewers more than doubled to 165,000 households in the two weeks after the story broke, typical for the all-news channels.

Guess which set of numbers are considered more important in TV boardrooms?

"I think there's no turning back the clock on what some may have thought was a more genteel time, although I'm not sure that's really true," said Frank Sesno, CNN's Washington bureau chief.

"We're just living in a world now where the information is free-flowing and sometimes free-form," he said. "You have 24-hour news."

The public is quick to blame the messengers when the news is difficult to digest, and that's certainly true of the Clinton story, CBS News President Andrew Heyward said.

"I don't think you can say that anybody was wrong to give extensive coverage to the story," he said. "What I do think you're seeing now is a lot of second-guessing, because there was a bit of a rush to judgment while there are still many, many more details that have to be learned."

Sam Donaldson may wish to take back his discussion about the imminent Gore presidency. Many reporters were also quick to feed off others' reports, leaving a blur of shadowy charges from unnamed sources about those people who may or may not have witnessed romantic liaisons.

Then there's the unfortunate story of the semen-stained dress. Widely alleged and then widely debunked, it will stand as a lesson on the dangers of rushing in dubious directions.

Pressure not to be caught short on a big story contributes to the atmosphere of excess.

When either ABC, CBS or NBC interrupts programming for a special news report, you can be fairly sure its rivals will do the same. CBS took heat for being a mere 20 minutes behind in airing one of Clinton's denials.

CBS's Dan Rather has said he didn't want to leave Cuba, where he was covering the pope's visit, to race to Washington to monitor the Clinton story. But when Brokaw and ABC's Peter Jennings left, he knew to head to the airport.

"If one had made the decision to stay ... I think he would have gotten killed in the press," Rather said on a CNN special about media coverage of the scandal. "He'd have gotten killed by his bosses internally. I just don't think it was practical to say no."

News executives can preach restraint all they want when it's quiet. It's different when news is breaking. And the factors that lead to overload in the public's mind are far beyond the ability of one person or network to control.

So get used to it. If you don't like it, find your own tuning mechanism.

"We dig for a living, and sometimes what we dig up is not very nice," Sesno said. "But that's what we do, and that's what we are supposed to do. That's what we will continue to do."

"That being said, we need to do it responsibly and not breathlessly, or we lose credibility with our viewers, readers and listeners. We also have to be mindful of the sheer volume of material and the fact that the public does not always distinguish one [news source] from the other."

"All we can do," he said, "is look at our own news organizations."

Elsewhere in television ...

BAD HISTORY: People don't seem to tune in to The History Channel to reminisce about the good ol' days. Its documentary that premiered last week, "The Ku Klux Klan: A Secret History," posted the highest ratings in the network's history. So this week the networks are going back into the archives of evil. Its miniseries, "The Nazis: A Warning from History," is airing this week from 9-10 p.m. ET through Thursday.

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SPORTS

The racing sausage wins again

NAGANO, Japan — "Bootygate" ended Monday pretty much the way it began: with more alibis about why Americans still can't win for luge and with Georg Hackl, the legendary "racing sausage," cementing his place in the sport as the greatest slider ever.

JIM LITKE

Hackl's win may not be a big deal where you live. But it is where he grew up, in the shadow of Germany's storied Koenigssee track.

And when he goes home, the stocky, 31-year-old soldier, now a three-Olympics-in-a-row gold medalist, will undoubtedly hear shouts of "You da weiswurst!" outside every beer hall where he, his medals and his now-famous booties stop off to quaff a cold one. Which, given Hackl's reputation, will probably be quite a few.

The best finish by an American, meanwhile, was a sixth place by Wendell Suckow. That result was especially disappointing since the Spiral track here was the same one where Suckow won a World Cup gold medal last year. He broke the track record with his first run on the opening day of competition Sunday. But after seeing Hackl, wearing new, bright yellow booties, lower it by another three-quarters of a second, Suckow never recovered.

Even so, it probably had nothing to do with a sequence of events that saw Suckow make several major life changes in the span of a few minutes Monday: He hit the finish line, retired from the sport, turned to his girlfriend of the past few years and proposed.

"I am finished," Suckow said, presuming he meant only his athletic career. "What role I'll be taking [with the U.S. program] in the future is yet to be seen."

And just like that, Americans lost their most accomplished luger ever, forced to console themselves for four more years with the idea that it's not just a cult sport, but one that only the truly demented ever master. There is just no other way to explain the desire to go 80 mph feet-first, without a clue about what's in front of you.

More than anything else, luge is about gravity and aerodynamics. It's about lying on a sled and quivering from head to toe in unison with the subtle shifts in centrifugal force. It's about not offering any turned-up edges to the wind — and doing all those things while

hurtling blind down a slope with a drop from top to bottom equal to a 30-story building.

Sliders call the ability to quiver "gelling out," and that's what Hackl does better than anybody else. He flattens out on the sled and lets the fast air wash over him. The rest of the lugers try to beat one another by slicing hundredths of a second off their start times. Hackl has the uncanny ability to find speed much farther down the course.

His best start in four runs placed him sixth among the 33 racers. But by the 10th turn of each of those runs, somehow he was the leader.

"To drive well," Hackl explained in purposely cryptic English, "is to lie flat on the sled."

That was not explanation enough for the Americans and Canadians, who settled on this unique theory: It must be the booties.

Never mind that only Germans, Austrians, Italians and Soviets have won a medal of any color since luge first became an Olympic sport at the Innsbruck Games in 1964. Or that Hackl has been beating the rest of the world silly at the Olympics for at least a decade,

beginning with a silver in his debut at the Calgary Games in 1988.

All lugers wear soft-soled shoes that could easily be mistaken for slippers. The resemblance might even be intentional, since the racers spend the entire competition flat on their backs. In any case, Hackl showed up on the first day wearing spiffy yellow booties. And when he blew the

doors off Suckow's upset dreams, and everybody else's, with his opening two runs, he sent the American and Canadian teams scrambling after their rulebooks.

Both teams filed a protest late Sunday, alleging that Hackl's shoes violated luge rules because they were not made available to all the competitors. They also contended that the angle of the shoes at the heel, which can't be less than 50 degrees, was only 45 degrees.

The three-man jury that heard the protest rejected it pretty much out of hand — probably after they quit laughing.

"The truth," U.S. luge federation spokesman Sandy Caligiore conceded, "is that Hackl could be wearing flip-flops and still beat everybody's brains out."

The opinions expressed in this column are those of Jim Litke, columnist for the *Associated Press*.

“And just like that, Americans lost their most accomplished luger ever, forced to console themselves for four more years with the idea that it's not just a cult sport, but one that only the truly demented ever master.”

KUWAIT, from page 1

said it would be a substantial airstrike involving combat aircraft based in Kuwait, Bahrain and the Indian Ocean island of Diego Garcia. There also would be strikes from cruise missiles launched from the Navy ships in the Persian Gulf region.

Cohen has been seeking support for Washington's hard-line stance against Iraq during several days of talks with Persian Gulf leaders.

In Washington, Senate Republican leader Trent Lott said the United States should consider steps in addition to military force, such as support for democratic opposition to Saddam.

In her speech, Albright said: "We do agree fully with the bipartisan leadership of Congress that Iraq cannot be allowed to get away with its flagrant violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions."

Blaming the crisis on Saddam, she said the Iraqi president had pursued a fantasy in thinking he could get economic sanctions lift-

ed without opening suspected weapons sites to U.N. inspections. "Saddam's dream is the world's nightmare," she said.

ASSAULT, from page 1

touchy subject that is easier for students to hear about when it comes from their peers."

Dodgson hopes to bring others from the community into the classroom to focus on the many different aspects of sexual assault.

"We really encourage a lot of men and women to take this," Trenga said. "The more students that are educated, the greater the level of outreach."

The class is open to any student on campus, especially those interested in giving presentations during the next summer and fall. Those interested in the class should contact Dodgson at 737-7604.

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The Daily Barometer Sports

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CAMPUS & NATIONAL

Charlotte Hornets basketball player denies rape charges

Anthony Mason: 'I'm innocent'

Associated Press

NEW YORK — An embarrassed Anthony Mason apologized to his family and teammates Monday and denied charges that he had sex with 14- and 15-year-old sisters.

"Did I do this? No, definitely not," the Charlotte Hornets forward said following the team's practice at an Upper West Side fitness club. "I'm innocent."

Mason was charged Sunday with statutory rape, sexual abuse and endangering the welfare of a child following accusations by the girls that he and a cousin had sex with them. Mason, who was released on \$20,000 bail, faces up to four years in prison if convicted.

"He did nothing wrong, nothing illegal. Nothing, nothing, nothing."

— DON CRONSON, ANTHONY MASON'S AGENT

"I'd like to say I'm sorry to my family and for the embarrassment of this situation," Mason said. "Once again, it's a silly situation. I'd like to say sorry for the embarrassment to the team."

After making his short statement, Mason hurried out of the Reebok Sports Club and boarded a chartered bus with his teammates for the short trip back to the Plaza Hotel. The Hornets play the Knicks Tuesday night.

Before joining Mason on the bus, his agent, Don Cronson, reiterated his client's stance.

"He did nothing wrong, nothing illegal," Cronson said. "Nothing, nothing, nothing."

Cronson was asked if Mason had an alibi.

"Alibi? I don't know if that's the correct term," he said. "He's innocent of the charges, that's his alibi. He didn't do it."

Many of the Hornets looked surprised when the team arrived for Monday practice to find TV crews and reporters staked out. The players and coach Dave Cowens refused to comment.

In their complaint, the girls said Mason and his cousin, William

Duggins, an unemployed construction worker who was also charged, met them during a benefit basketball game and then drove to Duggins' home.

Mason, who was in town visiting family over the weekend during the All-Star break, is accused of having sex with the girls in a basement bedroom at the house. The sexual abuse charge stemmed from events in a limousine on the way there, according to the complaint.

Cronson said Mason was in the car with the girls but that all they were doing was "driving around."

Meanwhile, the Queens district attorney's office has asked

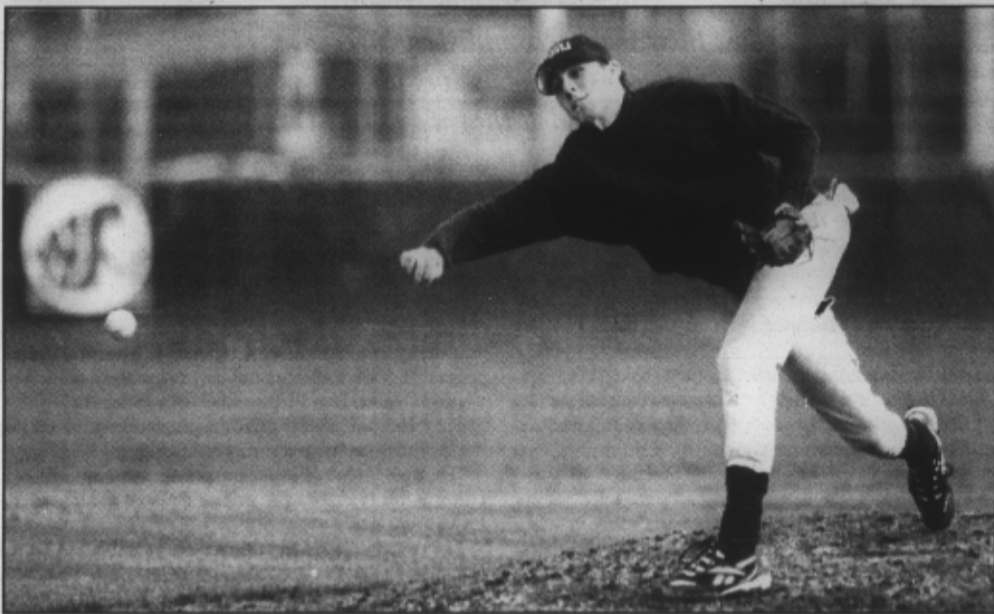
Mason for a blood sample, which the basketball player will provide on March 9 when he next appears in court.

Mason was one of the Knicks' most popular players before being traded to Charlotte in 1996. But while he was with the club, he had other scrapes with the law.

In late 1995 and early 1996, the 6-foot-8, 250-pound Mason was involved in two fights at Manhattan nightclubs. In one, he was accused of hitting a woman; in the other, he said he was trying to break up a fight.

Later in 1996, Mason was charged with felony assault during a scuffle with police over a Times Square parking ticket.

Heavy rain keeps Beavers home



CHRISSE RAGULSKY/The Daily Barometer

Mike Watts pitches during practice Monday afternoon. The Beavers' three game series in San Jose was canceled last weekend due to the forecast for heavy rain.

Is it true? Is Jordan almost finished?

Associated Press

NEW YORK — This might have been Michael Jordan's final All-Star game, and it will be followed by what might be a farewell tour and what might be a last championship push.

Through it all, there will be believers and nonbelievers. Some think it's the end of the Jordan Era, some think it's all a big charade.

"How many times do you want me to say it?" Jordan asked Sunday after winning his third All-Star MVP award. "I'll say it once more. If Phil [Jackson] is not in Chicago, I'm not playing."

Jordan did not change his stance during All-Star weekend. He simply reiterated what he has been saying for weeks: If the Bulls change coaches, as management maintains it will, he will retire.

Neither side figures to blink until the playoffs are over and it's clear whether the Bulls have added to their dynasty with a sixth title in eight years.

If they win, the pressure to capitulate will be on owner Jerry Reinsdorf and general manager Jerry Krause.

If someone knocks the Bulls off, management will have an excuse to rebuild the team.

"He's such a great person, a great player, that it will really hurt if we lose him," Eastern Conference All-Star coach Larry Bird said.

Bird, like nearly everyone at All-Star weekend, heard the Jordan question over and over.

And like everyone, he didn't know whether to believe it.

"Michael will be here again next year and will win the MVP again," Jayson Williams said. "I don't know why Mike needs so much drama in his life."

"I think this was his last [All-Star] game," Penny Hardaway said.

"We hope he won't retire," Gary Payton said. "We hope he comes back because he makes it more competitive."

Added West coach George Karl: "The league will learn how to function without Michael, but I'll go on record right now that I

personally think Michael should continue to play.

"I think we all want to try to beat him. He has set the standard at such a height that anybody who has the opportunity wants to go after the best. And he has proven to be the best many, many times."

Jordan won the MVP award after leading all scorers with 23 points as the East beat the West 135-114. Jordan shot 10-for-18 with eight assists, six rebounds and three steals.

"If that was his last, it was a great way to go out," Jason Kidd said. "If he does decide to retire, he's going out at the right time — out on top."

There is skepticism regarding Jordan's pronouncements because he has gone back on his word before.

When he retired in 1993 to become a baseball player, he said he was finished playing basketball.

"We hope he won't retire. We hope he comes back because he makes it more competitive."

— GARY PAYTON

Cuban exile Hernandez pitches for scouts

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica — With five dozen scouts watching, Cuban-exile Orlando Hernandez pitched three shutout innings Monday in his first public game in more than a year.

Hernandez, older brother of Florida Marlins right-hander Livan Hernandez, played on a team of Cuban exiles against an amateur Costa Rican club. More than 1,000 fans attended the game, Hernandez's first in public since the Cuban government banned him from baseball in October, 1996.

Hernandez struck out seven and allowed only one baserunner. He was ahead 1-0 when he came out of the game, but his team ended up losing 9-5.

"I am very satisfied," Hernandez said. "I'm still not 100 percent, but I've had only 22 days train-

ing. I think the way is open for the big leagues. I think I can pitch there."

Baseball has granted Hernandez free-agent status, and Monday was the first day teams could negotiate with him.

"He has the tools," said Jorge Posadas, a scout for the Colorado Rockies. "Of course you can't tell that soon, since he hasn't pitched for a long time."

"It's just a beginning. He needs conditioning," said San Diego Padres scout Jose Garcia.

Hernandez, 28, a star pitcher on Cuba's national team, was banned after his younger brother defected while on a team trip in Mexico in 1995. Livan Hernandez was the MVP of the Marlins' World Series victory last season.

The elder Hernandez, who had resisted defecting for years, escaped Cuba on Dec. 26 with seven others on a small boat.

Medical tests kept Leaf from Colts

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Washington State All-American Ryan Leaf wants the Indianapolis Colts to know he was having tests on his shoulder when he failed to meet with the team during last weekend's NFL scouting combine in Indianapolis.

"He'd have rather been meeting with the Colts than doing what he was doing," Leaf's agent, Leigh Steinberg, said Monday from New York, where he and Leaf were attending the ESPY Awards.

Steinberg said Leaf spent three hours having an MRI on his right shoulder, a test requested by the Chicago Bears. Steinberg said that when Leaf told combine officials he was supposed to meet with the Colts, he was told "physicals take precedence over meetings."

The Colts hold the first pick in April's NFL draft. They had met earlier with quarterback Peyton Manning of Tennessee.

"Sometimes the agent is involved in that kind of decision," Colts coach Jim Mora said when Leaf failed to appear. "Perhaps he had something to do that extended into our meeting time."

"When you set up an appointment with him, and he's got a chance to be the No. 1 pick, and he just doesn't show, it's a little disappointing. More than a little disappointing, to be honest with you."

Steinberg said Leaf was bothered about missing the meeting but there was nothing he could do.

"Jim Mora owes Ryan Leaf a public apology," Steinberg said. "Ryan went to the combine looking forward to meeting with the Colts."