

The Daily Barometer

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'AN EVER-EVOLVING MISSION': PRIDE CENTER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS ON CAMPUS

By RILEY LECOQC
News Contributor

Engagement at OSU.

LGBTQIA2S+ students and allies rallied together in 1999 to create the first foundations of what would become the Pride Center, housed within the Hattie Redmond Women and Gender Center, then named the Queer Resource Center.

LGBTQIA2S+ is an

PRIDE CENTER

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The Oregon State University Pride Center celebrates 20 years as an on-campus home for queer-identifying students thanks to continuous student-driven work.

"Twenty years of being a cultural resource center means that generations of students, long before the center itself existed, right up to the present, organized and advocated and petitioned," said Cindy Konrad, the Pride Center director.

The need for a Pride Center became apparent in 1998 as homophobia and transphobia ran rampant throughout campus, according to Ellen Dishman, a student at the time who was key in starting the center.

Even prior to the center's creation, queer spaces and support were solely student run.

These initiatives are in great connection with the Rainbow Continuum, an active club on campus that makes safe spaces for queer people and works to educate allies.

Dishman was involved with the Rainbow Continuum in 1999.

"We were a very, very active organization... We also had an office in Student Involvement; we were the only student group who had an office because we were basically running a mini cultural center out of the office," Dishman said.

Student Involvement was a department now known as Student Experiences and



CSD implements series of new 'motivating' institutional changes

By ADIA WOLTERS
News Contributor

The Corvallis School District commenced the 2021-22 school year with a series of new institutional changes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and community movements for social reforms.

Some of these changes include the school district's COVID-19 protocols, school renamings and the implementation of gender-neutral bathrooms.

In spring of 2021, the CSD returned to in-person learning on a modified schedule after conducting online learning via Zoom for over six months of the 2020-21 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CSD is continuing to enforce COVID-19 protocols, including new health safety measures such as daily health screenings prior to attending school through the app Safe2SpeakUp, mask mandates and social distancing, in accordance with the Oregon Department of Education's mandates.

"[The feedback is] positive at large," said Sami Al-Abdrabbuh, chairman of the Corvallis School Board and president of Oregon School Board Members of Color Caucus.

"The majority of the parents and students are very grateful that we can have an environment for every student to

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PRIDE CENTER
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acronym that generally stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, asexual and two-spirit identities, with the plus sign signifying the acronym is incomplete.

Dishman's time as an undergraduate on campus was spent bringing awareness, advocating and fundraising for the community. Her work continued past her own time at the university thanks to the continuous efforts of students to bring the center to life.

According to Konrad, the Student Fee Committee voted unanimously in 2001 to approve a budget for the Queer Resource Fair. The fair raised awareness and funds for the center to open as its own independent space in 2004 and be renamed the Pride Center as we know it today.

"They struggled and fought to create a more affirming and celebratory experience on campus, for the ability to be their authentic selves," Konrad said. "Student leaders have provided care for each other, created programs and accepting spaces. The center, and so many of the positive changes on campus, are these students' legacy."

Dishman and Konrad credit not only the center's creation, but the continuous success and evolution of the center to the fact that programming and initiatives are student run.

"One of the most amazing things about having a student-initiated and student-run center like the Pride Center is that students are the ones that are pursuing what matters to

them," Dishman said.

Marin Monty, a third-year student leader in the Pride Center, said they are extremely grateful for the ways the center has expanded to reach more groups in need of support and a home on campus.

SOL, a multicultural queer support resource housed in the Pride Center, is one example of expansions born out of student need and interest.

"I am eternally grateful for SOL, which acts everyday to carve out a space for [Queer, Transgender, Black, Indigenous, and People of color] that has not existed—and, in many places, still does not exist—but is so incredibly important," Monty said. "The staff at Pride and SOL helped me find my way through the world of advocacy as well as navigating being Queer in STEM, which is still an incredibly cisnormative place."

The center's work has extended beyond

"They struggled and fought to create a more affirming and celebratory experience on campus, for the ability to be their authentic selves."

- Cindy Konrad, Pride Center director

just providing spaces for students already on campus. For first-year math student Ana Bacon, just knowing there was a supported resource on campus is a part of the reason she came to OSU as a whole.

"It's really meaningful they offer a vision and make sure everybody feels seen and heard, even if you don't go to the Pride Center just being able to know that the resource is there for people is a really big deal," Bacon said.

As the center looks back at celebrating 20 years, the community also looks forward to the future of the Pride Center.

In addition to a new building in the works, Konrad said the center's future has unlimited potential to support those vulnerable members of the community to ensure they feel safe and welcomed.

"It is never irrelevant; it never works through its purpose; it never becomes outdated or obsolete because the students are working on what needs to be worked on next," Dishman said. "It's sort of an ever-evolving mission, and I think that is beautiful."

The center hopes to gather together past and present community members to celebrate the anniversary later in the school year, likely in the spring, as the center reflects on its legacy.

Konrad also said the future will find the Pride Center in a renovated building that will better fit the community's size and needs.

"We're currently working with Campus Planning and an architectural firm on plans for a renovation that is scheduled to begin in summer 2022 and will provide campus with a Pride Center that is homey, comfortable, welcoming and much more accessible," Konrad said.

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Formal written complaints about The Barometer may be referred to the committee for investigation and disposition. After hearing all elements involved in a complaint, the committee will report its decision to all parties concerned.

COVER: First-year mathematics student Ana Bacon (she/her) waves the Pride flag in front of the Memorial Union on Nov. 14. The Pride Center on Oregon State University's Corvallis, Ore. campus is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year and was first established in May 2001. Photo by Ashton Bisner, OMN Photographer.

'Focus on bringing people together' earned Román Hernández an Alumni Legacy Award

By LUKE BROCKMAN
News Contributor

To overcome demographic barriers and adversities is one thing—it's another thing to devote your life to advocating for other people's ability to do the same.

"I'm a lawyer. I get paid to litigate matters for my clients," said Román Hernández, Oregon State University alumni and office managing partner at Troutman Pepper. "But I do things within the Latino community to support other Latino lawyers, law students—in fact, any attorney or student of color... I'm trying to open the doors for them so they don't have the same challenges I had when I was first starting law school."

In January 2021, on Martin Luther King Jr. day, Hernández was awarded the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Alumni Legacy Award from the OSU Alumni Association.

Other 2021 legacy awards were the Phyllis S. Lee Award given to Allison Davis-White Eyes and Marilyn Stewart; the Oscar Humberto Montemayor Award given to James Duncan II and Lara Jacobs; and the Frances Dancy Hooks award given to Tenisha Tevis.

According to the OSUAA, these four legacy awards are given annually to alumni who demonstrate "a deep and abiding commitment to causes of social justice, diversity, equity and inclusion and who exemplify and enrich OSU's values of community, diversity, respect and social responsibility in their broader community or organization."

The youngest of eight siblings, born to parents who immigrated to the United States from Mexico and worked as agricultural laborers, Hernández planned on joining the military after graduating from high school. But upon receiving a financial aid award letter from Treasure Valley Community College, he had the funds to pursue a college education instead—a route Hernández said would ultimately change his life.

"Two weeks before I started college, I was working in the fields harvesting onions," Hernández said.

Hernández transferred to OSU as an undergraduate student on an ROTC scholarship with the Air Force, where he studied general science and biology with a co-major in aerospace studies.

After graduating, Hernández served in the military for five years. It was during this time that he met the first Latino lawyer he'd ever come across, showing Hernández that it was possible to become a lawyer even as a marginalized person with the odds stacked

against him.

"He has had great support on his journey, and he's very humble about it," said Suzanne Flores Phillips, director of the alumni diversity and affinity groups at OSU and one of the board members who awarded Hernández earlier this year. "Whenever I interact with him, I always leave with a sense of the support that he's willing to give."

Hernández has earned national recognition for his work in commercial litigation, labor and employment law and for his work as an advocate for Hispanic and Latinx lawyers and students.

Throughout his career, Hernández has managed to merge his professional pursuits with an undying commitment to service and advocacy—a combination that, according to him, dovetails perfectly.

Beginning advocacy work early in his career has allowed Hernández to make meaningful connections and impact the lives of marginalized youth, lawyers and students from both the OSU community and across the nation.

"I started [law school] in 1997, and there were just so few Latinx, African Americans, Asians, Native Americans—just so few that we congregated and supported each other," Hernández said. "I then got hired after law school by a law firm called Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, it's the state's second largest law firm... I was the firm's second Latino lawyer in 2000 when I started there."

"I started [law school] in 1997, and there were just so few Latinx, African Americans, Asians, Native Americans—just so few that we congregated and supported each other."

- Román Hernández, OSU alumni and office managing partner at Troutman Pepper

Hernández's understanding of the isolating nature of being a marginalized person in a competitive field and his decision to support other marginalized people in the legal community have earned Hernández a reputation of honor and many accolades like OSU's DEI

Legacy Alumni Award.

During his second year as a lawyer, Hernández and two other colleagues created the Oregon Hispanic Bar, a bar association that aims to increase awareness and diversify the legal profession. In 2009 and 2010, he served as president of the Hispanic National Bar Association, and was recently appointed to serve on the OSU Board of Trustees.

"He has always used his firm's resources to help bring people together," said Melina Martínez, a friend and colleague of Hernández's, an attorney at Richardson Wright law firm and a fellow OSU alumni. "His focus has been specifically to get people together who have a lot in common; whether it's a person who is first-generation American, or the first person in their family to go to college."

What makes Hernández so special, according to Martínez, is how his life story, his work and his demeanor are the embodiment of a relentlessly positive leader—Hernández's advocacy for students and marginalized people comes from a place of truth and personal experience.



COURTESY OF ROMÁN HERNÁNDEZ | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Román Hernández, Oregon State University alumni and office managing partner at Troutman Pepper, won a legacy award in January 2021. He has now been appointed to serve on OSU's Board of Trustees.

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<p>3 FRIDAY</p>	<p>4 SATURDAY College of Education De-Stress ■ Event Virtual Event 2:30 p.m.</p>	<p>5 SUNDAY Men's Basketball vs. Arizona ● Gill Coliseum TBD</p>	<p>6 MONDAY Free Group Fitness Classes Fall Finals Week ■ Dixon Rec 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</p>
<p>7 TUESDAY Free Group Fitness Classes Fall Finals Week ■ Dixon Rec 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</p>	<p>8 WEDNESDAY Free Group Fitness Classes Fall Finals Week ■ Dixon Rec 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</p>	<p>9 THURSDAY Free Group Fitness Classes Fall Finals Week ■ Dixon Rec 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</p>	<p>10 FRIDAY Free Group Fitness Classes Fall Finals Week ■ Dixon Rec 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.</p>
<p>11 SATURDAY</p>	<p>12 SUNDAY</p>	<p>ADVERTISEMENTS</p>	

EVENTS INFORMATION

Most Oregon State University virtual and in-person events require registration in order to attend or participate. All October events and event descriptions, as well as registration information can be found on the OSU Events Calendar website or on the Oregon State University Alumni Association website.

LEGEND

- OSU EVENTS
- ▲ OMN EVENTS
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Use a QR code scanner or Snapchat to view Oregon State University's Events Calendar in full



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MATTHEW MCKENNA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Two players from opposing teams race to grab a ball to start a game of dodgeball during the Dodgeball Club's practice on Nov. 18. The Dodgeball Club has been meeting sporadically throughout the pandemic, able to have only 20 people on the courts over the past two years.

Students enjoy in-person social events at Oregon State University, express mask concerns

By KIMBERLY CLAIRMONT
News Contributor

After the pandemic negatively affected the social lives of many Oregon State University students throughout 2021, the return to in-person social events has helped extracurriculars and clubs to have better turn out.

Some students also hope that masking at in-person events will soon no longer be needed now that more of the population has been vaccinated.

Extracurricular activities since March 2020 have been both remote and in-person, but Zoom meetings, face masks and capacity limitations due to social distancing have led to low levels of event attendance and high levels of burn out, according to some students.

Nathan Clarke, a new Lambda Chi Alpha member and third-year accounting student at OSU, said the socializing events he would have

been able to participate in were canceled due to the pandemic over the last year.

"I hope that social gathering norms and protocols allow for an increased level of involvement, as long as it is deemed safe by the university and state," Clarke said. "It would be great to see people's faces again in class, too."

Jeremiah Wilson, a third-year biology student at OSU and OSU Pre-Medical Society member, said a lot more people attend Pre-Med Society meetings now that they are back in person.

"Last year it was all online so... nobody showed up to any meetings," Wilson said. "It was maybe 10 people tops."

Wilson said his fraternity Sigma Chi has been able to host a lot more social events and allow students to rush, or get recruited, in person this year. According to Wilson, organizing rush events online was frustrating.

In addition, Wilson said he likes that his

fraternity's philanthropy events are now in person. He said his fraternity was able to raise money for a charity by hosting an in-person car wash instead of doing Zoom meetings.

Wilson said he hopes students next year won't have to wear masks again as he thinks they were a lot more social and able to meet new people before the pandemic.

Third-year OSU student and Dodgeball Club member Luke Tasker said the pandemic made him more appreciative of friendships and encouraged him to make more friends.

Tasker said it would be nice if people didn't have to wear masks anymore, especially if they are involved in extracurriculars that require physical activity.

"Obviously it's a bit hard to hear people sometimes, especially if they already have quiet voices and also mask themselves are a bit of a pain when doing exercise," Tasker said. "Like obviously dodgeball is not super fun

[with masks] but what can you do."

Tasker said he knows the pandemic has impacted many people's mental health but hopes it doesn't continue to negatively affect students and their overall feelings of safety and happiness.

Amy Boeshans, a third-year business management student at OSU, is involved in OSU's MECOP internship program and Supply Chain club. MECOP is a Pacific Northwest program that offers university students real-world experience through internships in the engineering industry.

Boeshans said he wants there were more opportunities for vaccinated students to not wear their masks at the gym and at club meetings.

"It doesn't necessarily need to be in class because that is kind of hard to manage, but [there could be] some opportunities where you could meet people without the mask in your way," Boeshans said.

ASOSU pushes for student wage increase to 'fairly compensate' student employees

By RILEY LECOCQ
News Contributor

Oregon State University's student government has made strides to increase the minimum wage of student employment on campus to \$15 per hour, which isn't expected to affect student fees.

The work to create a \$15 minimum wage began this academic year under the student administration of Dhru Patel and Dylan Perfect, the Associated Students of Oregon State University president and vice president, respectively.

The minimum wage is a part of a budget package that if passed, would increase pay for students, but only those employed in student fee funded units. Orange Media Network is a student fee funded unit that would be affected by this wage increase.

These units, funded by student fees, include Student Experience and Engagement—includ-

ing diversity and cultural engagement—the Memorial Union, ASOSU, Recreational Sports, Intercollegiate Athletics, Family Resource Center, Human Services Resource Center and performing arts.

According to Uwe Keist, the ASOSU public relations coordinator, a hope of the increased wage is to encourage more students to be employed on campus and fill the many and much-needed positions available.

"We believe that a \$15 minimum wage would fairly compensate the work demanded on students while simultaneously assisting students [to] cover basic needs such as rent, food [and] bills," Keist said. "We hope to see that our efforts to \$15 will extend to other non-fee funded student workers and departments."

ASOSU STUDENT WAGES
Continued on page 7



SAM MISA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Andres De Los Santos, sports chief for *The Daily Barometer*, and Ryan Harlan, a *Daily Barometer* sports contributor, work on a podcast at the Student Experience Center on Nov. 18. Orange Media Network, which *The Daily Barometer* is a part of, is funded by student fees and would be affected by a wage increase.

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**AFTER HOURS:
THE NIGHT LIFE ISSUE**
OUT NOW ONLINE!

Provost's Literary Prize

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Edward Feser, Provost and Executive Vice President, requests submissions to the 34th Annual Provost's Literary Prize for undergraduates at OSU.

The prize consists of an award of \$500 and publication for on-campus distribution.

RULES

The literary work may be fiction, poetry, or creative nonfiction written for a general audience. The prize is open to currently enrolled undergraduate students at Oregon State University who may submit their own work or have work nominated by faculty members.

Submissions must be the student's original work, typed, no longer than 14 double-spaced pages for prose, or eight manuscript pages for poetry, and include full name, year in school, current mailing address, phone number, and student I.D. number of the author.

DEADLINE

Email your submission as an attachment (Word or PDF) to the Provost's Literary Prize Screening Committee via Professor Scribner at

keith.scribner@oregonstate.edu

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Your subject line should be either "Provost's Literary Prize—Poetry" or "Provost's Literary Prize—Prose."

The Provost will announce the winner in May.

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SAM MISA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Kelsey King, a junior at Oregon State University, works part-time at the info desk in the Memorial Union on Nov. 18. The Memorial Union is one of the eight student fee funded units managed by the Associated Students of OSU so student employees who work there might soon make a minimum of \$15 an hour if the proposed wage increase is accepted.

ASOSU STUDENT WAGES
Continued from page 6

Fernanda Torres, a student employee with the Office of Admissions and the Memorial Union, said she loves the idea and supports ASOSU's push for better wages.

"It [would be] a great opportunity for students not having to worry about finding a second job," Torres said. "It would be nice to not have to have two jobs and to know I would be financially secure during my time as a student employee."

Perfect, Patel and ASOSU's Student Fee Committee have already endorsed this plan as a high priority during this budget cycle.

The main issues Patel and Perfect planned to address in their positions were student employment, basic needs and sustainability. Perfect said this increased wage passage would make progress in all three aspects.

"Especially coming out of a pandemic, basic needs are critically important and I think having good-paying job opportunities on campus that students can apply for is a good way to address needs," Perfect said.

So far the proposal has been adopted into a decision package by the Student Fee Committee and is up for a vote as the committee convenes throughout the upcoming weeks. The final vote is expected to take place on Dec. 3.

Once deliberations have been settled, the package will move to the ASOSU Congress for further negotiations and a final vote.

Perfect assumes there will be minimal issues getting the package through student lead levels ending with a signature from Patel before moving on to the university president and Board of Trustees to make a final vote.

Keist and Perfect both acknowledge there are some remaining university administration hurdles to jump.

If the new wage were to be implemented, the range of pay for student-fee funded positions, which is currently listed as \$12 to \$18 for many jobs, would need to be changed so the adjusted pay range is comparable to the current university-wide pay range.

"As long as our ask is reasonable, I think that [passing the wage package] should proceed without issue," Perfect said.

According to Keist, the Student Fee

Committee has enacted a zero percent impact column, meaning the fees are only increased to serve student needs; just the minimum amount. While student fees normally increase in line with national inflation, the proposed \$15 pay rate for students is not expected or intended to directly affect term fees for students.

"It is student fees at the end of the day and we are especially cognizant of how to make sure students are getting their return on investment and not paying fees that are just going to go to 'nothing' or will increase unnecessarily in future budgeting cycles," Perfect said.



SAM MISA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

A sign marks the Associated Students of Oregon State University's office on the second floor of the Student Experience Center on Nov. 18. ASOSU has proposed a wage increase to \$15 an hour for all student employees working in student fee funded units.

Student on the Street: What was your favorite Oregon State sport moment within the past year?

By Hannah Lull
Sports Reporter

SAM GLASSMAN

SOPHOMORE BIOCHEMISTRY AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY MAJOR

"[It was] definitely [football] beating [the University of Washington]. Yeah, mostly the energy in the crowd, everyone was just so hyped. I expected it to happen, to be honest. It was chaos but in a good, exciting way. People were helping each other jump the wall and my

NATE LOVINGS

FRESHMAN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING MAJOR

"Watching boys' soccer win the PAC-12 championship. [I was] excited; pumped that we could take home the win and call our school 2021 PAC-12 champions."

NEZ MBUSOYA

JUNIOR BIOHEALTH SCIENCES MAJOR WITH A PRE-MED OPTION

"I'd say [my favorite sports moment is] whenever we win any game for any sport—the sense of pride students carry about being a Beav! Also, sports games are a great way to meet new people or break the ice. There isn't really a specific win that stuck with me, but I would say the joy I saw from everyone when the men's soccer team won the PAC-12 championship is one of the best moments to see everyone that excited and happy."

STANLEY LUU

SOPHOMORE MARKETING MAJOR

"Probably when the men's basketball team beat Loyola University of Chicago. I felt proud and connected to my school considering that I've never really been a part of a winning team in my life. [Another moment was] definitely attending the Washington football game this season, excitement of the crowds when we won."



KAYLA JONES | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

The Oregon State women's soccer team driving the ball up the pitch against the Arizona State University Sun Devils at Paul Lorenz field on Oct. 7. The Beavers won the game by a score of 2-1 giving them their 10th win of the season.



JAKOB JONES | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

The Oregon State Beavers lining up to potentially block a field goal attempt from the University of Washington Huskies at Reser Stadium on Oct. 2. The Beavers won the game on a game-winning field goal attempt by a score of 27-24, beating Washington for the first time in nine years.



KAYLA JONES | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Oregon State junior midfielder, Sofiane Djeflal, attempts a free kick against the San Diego State University Aztecs at Paul Lorenz field on Oct. 3. The Beavers won the game by a score of 2-0, giving them their sixth win of the season.



LILY MIDDLETON | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Oregon State senior forward, Rodrigue Andela, fights through the defense of the Portland State Vikings and attempts a hook shot with his right hand in Gill Coliseum. The Beavers won the game by a score of 73-64 in the come-from-behind effort, winning the season's home opener.

SOPHIA MATTHEWS

SOPHOMORE ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING MAJOR

"My favorite sports moment was beating Reed College 12-0 at home for my [Oregon State University] Women's Club Soccer Team. Even though I didn't score one of the 12 goals, the team came together and played some of the best soccer I've been a part of. I felt very proud and excited for me, my teammates and families watching. We showed great sportsmanship throughout the game and played really well, too."

PEYTON YEOMAN

JUNIOR BIOCHEMISTRY MAJOR WITH PRE-MED OPTION

"I went to a lot of the men's OSU soccer games. The first one was the game against UCLA on Sept. 30. The amount of goals and them being back to back was incredibly insane and had the crowd jumping and chanting. The amount of support with the students and families that attended and supported the Beavers was amazing."

ARMAN ASKARI

SENIOR COMPUTER SCIENCE MAJOR

When I think about sports, I definitely think about our PAC-12 championship and our Elite Eight run with our amazing basketball team. There was so much joy and happiness brought to our homes. I loved seeing our team working so hard with much confidence to win the PAC-12, and it was funny that we were predicted to finish last in the conference.. We [made it to the] Elite Eight and PAC-12 champs forever, and I'm just so happy to be part of this school and be able to celebrate this amazing accomplishment with our students and student athletes. Go Beavs!"

CURT JONES

JUNIOR SOCIOLOGY MAJOR

"Rushing the [football] field [after the Washington football game] for sure. Definitely a hyped moment. Chills and the energy from the student section made it absolutely incredible, and rushing the field with everyone felt really symbolic with my Beaver family."

Oregon State Wrestler Devan Turner looks to win third PAC-12 wrestling championship

By Alejandro Paniagua
Sports Reporter

Oregon State University redshirt senior wrestler Devan Turner enters his final wrestling season as a Beaver and has accomplished almost everything there is as a collegiate wrestler.

Turner, who wrestles in the 133 lb. weight class for the Beavers, is a three-time NCAA qualifier. And while he has been to the big stage three times in his career, his ultimate goal has yet to come; being named an All-American.

He entered the sport of wrestling at the age of five and owes it to his father, Fred Turner. Turner said watching his older brother wrestle inspired him to get into the sport.

"When I was a youngin, I went and watched my older brother wrestle and I walked right out there on the mat; after that my dad signed me up and the rest was history," Turner said.

Turner's love for the sport would only start to grow from there. He eventually went on to wrestle for Dixon High School in Dixon, Calif., a little town roughly over 20 miles west of Sacramento, Calif. Dixon High School is in the Sac-Joaquin Section, and Turner wrestled under the guidance of his high school coach, Chris McCoy.

His accolades racked up at a young age, ultimately leading to winning titles at the Peninsula Invite, Clovis West Shootout, National Championships, then being named the Outstanding Wrestler at the Sierra Nevada Classic in Reno, Nev. and more. At Dixon High School, Turner was also a four-time all-Golden Empire League selection, team MVP, team captain and wrestled for the California all-star team.

Turner qualified for state during his sophomore, junior and senior years of high school. However, he would only place fifth in the state his senior year of high school. Despite this, Turner was still offered a scholarship to wrestle for the Beavers, and was eager for a fresh start in a new place in a different state.

He began his career at Oregon State as a redshirt freshman in the 2015-16 season, and went 2-2 in varsity competition before his season was shut down with injuries.

In the 2017-18 season, Turner finished with a 10-16 record, and finished fourth in the PAC-12 wrestling championships. In the 2018-19 season, Turner ended the season with a 21-9 record, placed third at the PAC-12 wrestling tournament, and finished 1-2 at his first NCAA championships in Pittsburg, Pa.

"The losses at the PAC-12 championships



KAYLA JONES | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Oregon State redshirt-senior 133 lb. wrestler, Devan Turner, wrestling an opponent from Campbell University in Gil Coliseum on Nov. 6. Turner looks to win his third PAC-12 championship and become an All-American at the NCAA Wrestling Championships this season.

kept me humble and hungry to win," Turner said. It was that hunger that drove him to where he is today.

Turner is coming off of back-to-back PAC-12 championships and three straight years of qualifying for the NCAA tournament.

The most recent PAC-12 championship victory has meant more to Turner after the last year of living in a pandemic.

Turner had come out of a sixteen-day quarantine a week before the PAC-12 tournament came to Corvallis, Ore., which limited him to having no practices with the team. He still battled through that adversity and went 2-0 to become a two-time PAC-12 champion.

Turner said he has his eyes set on yet another PAC-12 championship, as he knows another victory could place him one step closer to achieving a national title or All-American status.

"I believe in the work I put in, and this is my final ride; my last year being able to wear that OSU singlet, I know what I can achieve—now is my opportunity to do it," Turner said.

Turner is currently a redshirt senior and team captain for the Beavers.

"I pride myself in being a leader of the team, someone my teammates can look up to on and off the mat and feel that they can depend on if

they need anything," Turner said.

Turner said that confidence stems from his hometown, Dixon. He said it was Dixon and the people in it that gave him the confidence that he has today.

"It takes a village to raise a man and growing up in Dixon was that village for me; the support system that I had there was unmatched," Turner said. "My friends, family, even people I barely knew held me accountable and kept my head on straight. The city believed in me more than I believed in myself at times, and for that I am forever grateful and will always remember my roots."

It's no secret that Turner has a love for the sport of wrestling. But to him, it's much bigger than that.

"It's not only because I enjoy it and can see how great I can be, but also because of all the hours that my family, coaches and friends put into me to help get me to where I am at, working to repay them for all of their hard work—I owe it to them just as much as I owe it to myself," Turner said.

Oregon State has been a home away from home for Turner, as he has built so many relationships and gained so much experience as a college student and as an athlete.

"I have built hundreds of relationships at

Oregon State that will provide me with a great future," Turner said. "The support system is great, the friendships I've built will be lifelong. All the opportunities I've been provided through OSU has impacted me in ways I can't even grasp until I'm out in the real world, and for that I feel extremely blessed to be a Beav. Corvallis is truly the best college town in the PAC-12."

Turner encourages Corvallis and the Oregon State community to embrace wrestling and bring their support to the wrestling mats at Gill.

"I would like them to understand that they make us compete better, when the fans are rowdy and bring the energy it makes wrestling so much more fun," Turner said. "It plays a role in our advantage like any other sport—when the energy of the fans is high, the energy of the athletes are high."

With the final season of his college career kicking off, Turner's road to achieving his dream of being an All-American has begun. Currently ranked No.17 in the country, Turner knows that he is capable of winning his third PAC-12 championship in Tempe, Ariz. on March 6, and becoming an All-American at the NCAA Wrestling Championships in Detroit, Mich. on March 19.

CORVALLIS SCHOOL DISTRICT
Continued from page 1

really succeed and learn.”

Al-Abdrabbuh said though having to abide by COVID-19 protocol can be an inconvenience, it is important in order to help limit the spread of disease.

“[COVID-19 protocol has] been working very well,” Al-Abdrabbuh said. “It’s something I think the students appreciate and they’re following very effectively.”

Additional changes to the CSD are the elementary school renamings. On Aug. 6, 2020, the Corvallis School Board passed a resolution regarding the renaming of elementary schools Hoover, Jefferson and Wilson with a 6-1 vote.

The resolution was a response to a community push to replace the names, which are named after historical leaders “that intentionally perpetuated white dominance,” according to the “Review and Removal of Racist School Names” resolution.

On Sept. 9, 2021, the Corvallis School Board

passed a resolution to rename the schools with a unanimous vote in favor of the names of influential women of color. Hoover has become Bessie Coleman Elementary; Jefferson has become Kathryn Jones Harrison Elementary; and Wilson has become Letitia Carson Elementary.

The school board wants students to be able to look up to their school names as people they can relate to and see themselves in, as well as be inspired by, according to Al-Abdrabbuh.

He said the renaming of the schools better represents the community, as well as the Corvallis School Board’s policies on equity as a whole.

“Since the school district was a district, there was no girl that went to school and saw someone who shares her gender identity; and no person of color who went to school and saw someone who shares their racial or cultural background, and said, ‘My school namesake is someone I can be like,’” Al-Abdrabbuh said. “And that’s a really important factor—to inspire our students, all our students.”

Bianca Curtin, president of the Political Activist Club at Crescent Valley High School, said she has heard various responses to

the school renamings.

“While I have not specifically been subject to complaints regarding the renaming, I’m aware that there has been an enormous backlash among many parents in the school district, especially over social media,” Curtin said.

She added she has noticed younger students have been the most receptive to the changes.

“The key takeaway for me has been that of the impressive adaptability of our youngest students,” Curtin said. “As a long-time childcare employee, I’ve noticed that the 4 to 10-year-olds I watch over have been immeasurably better at referring to their schools by their new names in comparison to my own peers and teachers.”

Finally, CSD has implemented gender-neutral bathrooms for any new infrastructure projects, after receiving a nearly \$2 million grant for school renovations in 2018 from the capital construction bond. These bathrooms are currently located in Lincoln and Garfield Elementary Schools and Cheldelin Middle School.

CORVALLIS SCHOOL DISTRICT
Full story online



ASHTON BISNER | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Chairman of the CSB, Sami Al-Abdrabbuh, poses for the camera before a school board meeting on Nov. 18. Videos of the school board meetings can be found on the CSD website.

There is ‘light at the end of the tunnel’ for local businesses amidst budget cuts, worker shortage

By **SAM MISA**
News Contributor

Suffering from a lack of customers and a lack of workers, many Corvallis, Ore. businesses are still adjusting to a new normal two years after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Simon Date is the president and CEO of the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce, an organization which seeks to help local businesses.

“We do a lot of networking within the city: linking different businesses up with different folks,” Date explained. “We have a strong affinity program, which is business-to-business connections. We do a lot of advocacy here. For example, we disseminate information and get

it out to our businesses, the stuff that might affect them—you know, different tax laws, different grants that are available, those sorts of things.”

Date’s first major task as president—since he joined the Chamber in July 2019 a few months before COVID-19 began—was to do his best to keep those connections and networks afloat as the pandemic struck across the country. For Corvallis, it meant keeping businesses alive while losing out on the almost 33,000 potential customers who attend Oregon State University as students in the area each school year.

“The biggest effect is going to be the restrictions in place,” Date said. “And I think that would be for literally anybody... Obviously, the restaurant food industry was going to be hit the hardest.”

Another demographic people tend to forget

when thinking about businesses affected by the pandemic are landlords, according to Date.

“What would have been room rentals or house rentals, or whatever it may be now, suddenly, you don’t have that income,” Date said. “So that industry got hit pretty hard too.”

The results of the pandemic continuing throughout this past year were varied, according to Date.

“In Corvallis there’s a lot of small businesses, mom and pops, single family ownership and stuff,” Date said. “They don’t have a lot of corporate backing, for lack of a better word, to support them in hard times. So when mandates and things like that and closures happen, it hurts them big time.”

Date said Corvallis businesses are bouncing back pretty well.

“I think in a weird way, [COVID-19] has been a big point of education for a lot of businesses, whether it be the basic running of a business in terms of what’s important, what’s not, right, what am I spending money on that I don’t need to?” Date said.

For some restaurants, such as Beaver Hut, a predominantly take-out fast food restaurant located at 1603 NW Monroe Ave., business wasn’t affected as badly as other restaurants because they were already inadvertently practicing COVID-19 safe policies.

“It affected us just like most businesses,” said Kenny Ross, the owner of Beaver Hut. “We were shut down for a month and when we reopened, there were considerably fewer potential customers with OSU closed. Along with staff shortages, it was a challenge to continue to serve our customers in the manner they have been accustomed [to]. Our customers have been very understanding and appreciative.”

One category of business that felt the effects of COVID-19 similarly to landlords and res-

taurants were thrift stores. Runway Fashion Exchange, located at 264 SW Madison Ave., was one of those thrift stores that felt the pressure the most.

“Initially, we had to shut down because of everything that was going on,” said Rachel Stocks, the assistant store manager at Runway. “Trying to get back our business was really hard because where we sell used clothing, we had to make sure that everything was sanitary, and it was still under good clean regulations.”

Like many businesses during this time, Stocks said, at one point, there was discussion of closing down Runway because they didn’t know if it would continue to thrive.

“I would say we probably took a fairly big budget cut, and we’re still trying to deal with that going into this year, with a lot of our inventory,” Stocks said. “We’ve been trying to manage a lot more to keep our budget a little bit tighter just until we start to regain that income.”

Though Stocks said the past almost two years of COVID-19 negatively affected Runway, the influx of students in the fall improved business.

“We did have to change a lot of our policies going into COVID-19,” Stocks said. “That did affect us pretty badly initially, because a lot of people didn’t really want to go into this clothing store just because of everything that was going on... As soon as the students start coming back, that’s where our influx of inventory comes in...having the students come back has really helped us.”

Regardless of whether or not you’re in the thrift shop business or serving takeout, according to Date there is hope for a new normal.

“You know, I think people can start to see the light at the end of the tunnel,” Date said, “[COVID-19] has taught us a lot.”



SAM MISA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

The Runway Fashion Exchange located in downtown Corvallis, Ore. at 264 SW Madison Ave. The business has had to close down its basement where it housed its men’s clothing department due to both an employee shortage as well as a lack of business this past year; however, as a result of the return of students to campus, they have a revived workforce and the customers to support it.



ASHTON BISNER | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

A student bikes down SW 26th Street on Nov. 16. The City of Corvallis has plans to make the OSU campus more bikeable and safer for cyclists to commute.

Corvallis leaders, community representatives discuss progress toward Imagine Corvallis 2040

By ASHTON MCCRACKEN
News Contributor

The Imagine Corvallis 2040 vision is “off to a good start” according to Mayor Biff Traber, despite obstacles like the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Imagine Corvallis 2040 vision was announced in 2016 by the City of Corvallis in collaboration with other community organizations as a collection of guiding principles for future decision-making in Corvallis’ community development.

The City of Corvallis Strategic Operational Plan for the vision revolves around six focus areas established by the Imagine Corvallis Action Network—a board made up of city and community representatives—including “Engage and Support,” “Steward and Sustain,” “Learn and Thrive,” “Innovate and Prosper,” “Create and Celebrate” and “Plan and Change.”

“[Imagine Corvallis 2040 is] a description of what the community would like to see itself as in 2040,” Traber said. “This vision is intended to help guide various groups in town as they develop their own plans over the next 20 years.”

Traber highlighted several ways in which the city and community have collaborated to fulfill the vision since it was established.

The Community Involvement and Diversity Board has granted money for neighborhood projects and events, including a mural painting. Also, the city and county have pioneered a “more responsive” joint emergency operation center and the city has collaborated with OSU on sustainability initiatives.

Furthermore, Traber said the Corvallis

Sustainability Coalition Food Action Team has worked on the It’s On Us Corvallis project, using community funds and donations to purchase food from local restaurants and distribute it to community members in need during the pandemic.

“[The IOU project is] one of those [collaborations] where the community as a whole has come together to support a part of the community—two different parts of the community: the restaurants who needed to survive and the people who needed food to survive—and so, putting both of those together, you begin to have a synergy, and it’s part of the community as a whole coming together to make this work,” Traber said.

Ward 4 City Councilor Gabe Shepherd explained the relationship and collaboration between the city and OSU in working toward the 2040 vision.

“I think there are a lot of good ways where OSU is partnering with the city on bikeability, green infrastructure, those kinds of things,” Shepherd said. “[However,] there are neighborhoods nearby [campus] who want OSU to listen to their concerns more around parking and housing.”

Traber said ICAN’s Strategic Operating Plan includes various mechanisms to combat Corvallis’ housing shortage as the city grows.

The city has worked on rezoning land for denser, mixed-use residential buildings to improve land use and reduce transportation carbon emissions, simplifying the land development code and improving the predictability and transparency of housing mechanisms.

Traber explained the city didn’t build enough housing during the rapid growth of the OSU population, leading to residential conver-

sions and upset neighborhoods near campus.

“My goal is to have more housing around [to] help keep the cost down, and [it] will also make it more available for students, as well as workers, at multiple levels of income,” Traber said.

Shepherd said the city approved the Marys Annexation to provide land for approximately 1,100 housing units in Southwest Corvallis at West Hills Road and 53rd Street.

Though Shepherd said he believes the city’s plan to create housing is effective, he thinks it may take quite a bit of housing to make an impact on affordability.

Traber explained the City of Corvallis has a less direct impact on the education aspect of the Strategic Operational Plan for the Imagine Corvallis 2040 vision.

“This vision of what we want to be in 2040 is put together so that the bodies that can work with education are primarily education-oriented—the CSD and university—[and] can begin to look at their planning in the light of these various areas,” Traber said.

CSD Superintendent Ryan Noss said the CSD Board has aligned their goals with the Imagine Corvallis 2040 vision.

“The 2040 vision had so much community engagement that, in a lot of ways, it buttressed what we were trying to accomplish,” Noss said.

Noss explained programs such as Career and Technical Education are used by the CSD Board to track graduation rates and are necessary for analyzing progress toward their goals.

Traber described the challenges and benefits of community involvement with council meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“[The COVID-19 pandemic] actually had an interesting mixed impact and, in many cases, it has slowed some things down... [ICAN] was

one of the boards that went on hiatus March of 2020, and it’s just now getting restarted again,” Traber said. “In that case, engagement with the community was put on hold because of [COVID-19]... However, on the other side with things like community involvement with council meetings, it’s more this mixed story.”

Traber said the city government has received greater community engagement with the implementation of remote tools, including the International Association for Public Participation. The city has used the IAP2 system to discuss issues with the community through videos and surveys.

“So, as we go forward,” Traber said, “we’re now trying to understand how to build on [remote engagement] when we start getting back in person in the next six months, or whenever that occurs.”

Noss explained the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the CSD’s goals.

“It was good going into the pandemic to have a clear vision of where we wanted to go because there are still decisions that have to happen in the midst of the pandemic, and sometimes, when there are greater challenges, that’s really where your priorities show up,” Noss said. “So being clear on what our goals, vision and priorities were has been helpful in us moving toward working on our goals while navigating a pandemic.”

Traber said the city and community are progressing toward the Imagine Corvallis 2040 vision while continuing to improve their proactive approach in achieving community goals.

“We’re making progress,” Traber said. “We could make more, and we will make more progress as we move forward.”

Vineyards work with OSU researchers to disentangle impacts of wildfire smoke

Extension of OSU, Oregon Wine Research Institute, receives \$7.65 million to uncover effects of smoke on wine

By KIRSTEN STEINKE
Science Beat Reporter

As wildfires rampaged through Oregon in 2020, the air quality index soared into hazardous territory and smoke flooded the Oregon Coast and Willamette Valley where numerous vineyards reside.

According to a survey conducted by the California Wine Institute, over 1 billion gallons of wine were consumed by U.S. citizens in 2020. With an increasingly high demand for wine, vineyards throughout Oregon are worried the wildfire smoke negatively affects the flavors of their wines.

Wine having an off-taste discourages consumers from buying it. Even without tasting it, consumers are likely to avoid buying wine if there is the perception that it is poor quality, explained Vincent Vidrine, a winemaker at Benton Lane Winery located in Monroe, Ore.

"We don't have a great understanding of what the market is going to do with wines that have any kind of impact from wildfire smoke," Vidrine said. That, he posits, is the biggest threat to the industry as wildfires are projected to become more frequent and of greater magnitude.

Elizabeth Clark, a winemaker at Airlie Winery located in Monmouth, Ore., said that while Airlie was removed from the effects of smoke during the 2020 wildfire season due to its geographic location, it still felt the repercussions.

"Even when something impacts most people, even if I am not specifically impacted, it impacts the industry as a whole," Clark said. "The consumer already knows there's a problem with the 2020 vintage, so there's already a strike against it coming out of the Willamette Valley."

Last month, researchers at the Oregon Wine Research Institute, an extension of Oregon State University, received a \$7.65 million grant to continue research on the impacts of smoke exposure on wine grapes.

Dr. Patricia Skinkis, professor and viticulture extension specialist at OSU, serves as the liaison between industry professionals and OWRI. After the wildfire season in 2020, Skinkis formed the Smoke Exposure Team in response to requests from the industry.

The team is led by Dr. Elizabeth Tomasino, an associate professor and sensory analyst at OSU. Other members of the team include Skinkis, Dr. James Osborne, Dr. Michael Qian and Dr. Alec Levin. All members specialize in viticulture, the study of grape cultivation, and enology, the study of wines.

When wine grapes are exposed to smoke at high concentrations, or for a prolonged period of time, they risk developing what researchers

call smoke taint.

According to Tomasino, wines that have been tainted by smoke can develop an off-putting flavor.

"It's sort of like licking an old ashtray," Tomasino said.

Sensory tasting trials conducted by OSU Master of Science student Jenna Fryer have confirmed that consumers can taste the difference in wine that has been affected by smoke. According to Fryer, the majority of participants in the trials had an aversion to wines exposed to smoke.

Discovering the concentration of smoke compounds that is needed to alter the flavor of wine will enable industry professionals to decide whether they should put time and energy into harvesting their grapes. If they suspect that their grapevines have smoke taint, industries can save a lot of money by deciding not to harvest that crop.

Levin, an OSU associate professor and viticulturist, is working to find different threshold levels for smoke tolerance in wine grapes by conducting dose-response smoke exposure experiments.

"Typically, when there's a smoke event, it's

not going to be like you're smoking meat in a smoker, it's always pretty mild to moderate levels of smoke over longer periods of time rather than an intense shot," Levin said. Putting grapes under a specific concentration of smoke over allotted periods of time will give the researchers a better idea of what conditions lead to smoke taint in wine.

Levin also said variability in smoke taint can be different depending on the grape variety.

Smoke taint occurs when molecules from the smoke leech into the fruit, primarily through their skin. When they attach themselves to the grape, they get bound as sugars and cannot be smelled or tasted. It isn't until fermentation, when the bound molecules separate into free compounds, that they release their characteristic smoky flavors. According to Tomasino, this makes it difficult to tell when a crop has been affected by smoke prior to fermentation.

The fermentation process varies by grape variety, and red wines are more susceptible to altered flavors than white wines, according to Skinkis.

Many Oregon vineyards that specialize in red wine varieties altered their

processing techniques to cope with the 2020 wildfire season.

"Instead of making red table wine out of pinot noir, they basically would do other processing techniques to not expose the juice to the skins—because that's where we believe most of the taint is—so they made rosé or just didn't produce any wines," Skinkis said.

While this is still an open area of research, industry professionals throughout Oregon are confident in the wine that they are producing and selling. According to Vidrine, if a crop has been significantly altered by smoke exposure, then they won't sell it to ensure consumers receive high-quality products.

According to Skinkis, industry members will benefit from this research as the detection and prevention technologies associated with smoke taint will increase the quality of their products, leading to commercial profitability and an increase in the perceived status of the winery.

The researchers at OWRI are working towards a more sustainable industry.

"You're going to be able to go to the store and get whatever wine you want irrespective of what's going on with the weather," Tomasino said.



TERESA AGUILERA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Illustration showing a fire encased in a wine glass; clouds of smoke can be seen in the background. Researchers at the Oregon Wine Research Institute are currently testing how wildfire smoke can affect the taste of wine.

Vaccine, natural immunity should end masking



SAM MISA
Modern Issues Scrutinized Accordingly

Masking may be on its way out on campus because those with natural and vaccine-based immunity to COVID-19 are protected from the virus and should no longer need to wear masks.

According to Oregon Health and Science University's COVID-19 modeling, "given the amount of people already vaccinated and infected," there are fewer people susceptible to infection, so it's less likely cases will surge and cause a holiday spike this year.

Herd immunity is the point at which viral infections are naturally contained because the statistical probability of encountering another person who is susceptible to the infection is so low.

A combination of both naturally-gained immunity and vaccine-based immunity creates herd immunity.

According to the Mayo Clinic, immunity is important because it protects the individual and also people around them—especially those who cannot be vaccinated, like newborns or immunocompromised people.

Trying to achieve herd immunity through natural infection means that enough people



MATTHEW MCKENNA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Student Phlebotomist Barbara Miller prepares a COVID-19 Rapid PCR test in the testing tent behind Student Health Services on Nov. 8, 2021. SHS conducts COVID-19 testing for both vaccinated and non-vaccinated students.

would need to recover from COVID-19 and develop protective antibodies against future infection, according to the Mayo Clinic.

Herd immunity could make the spread of COVID-19 more unlikely, though the Mayo Clinic notes reinfection is still possible for people who have had COVID-19.

An article in *The Lancet Microbe*, a journal that publishes microbiology-focused clinical research, found that immunity after recovering from a natural infection lasts anywhere from three months to five years, similar to vaccine immunity.

Thus, I believe there is no COVID-19-based

reason for those who have natural or vaccine-based immunity to wear masks.

The Mayo Clinic estimates 94% of the population must be vaccinated to achieve herd immunity. Currently, Oregon State University is at the exact point we need for herd immunity: 94% for students and 96% for staff members, according to OSU's COVID-19 Safety & Success site.

Director of the OSU Center for Global Health Chunhuei Chi said masking at this time is a necessary measure.

"At the same time, [OSU] should be responsive to the pandemic conditions,"

Chi said. "When the pandemic conditions improve... some of these measures can be relaxed."

Improved pandemic conditions, among other things, could mean a low number of weekly confirmed cases or a higher proportion of the population being fully vaccinated.

"The university also strongly believes that the use of face coverings and being vaccinated remain to be highly important and effective tools to help prevent the risk and spread of COVID-19," said Steve Clark, vice president of University Relations and Marketing. "OSU will consider its face covering and vaccination requirements as health conditions improve and as local, state and federal requirements are altered."

After spending the past year getting vaccines distributed across the country and reopening schools in Oregon, we should leave the COVID-19 pandemic behind in 2021. 2022 is a time for a fresh start and hopefully natural and vaccine immunity can put us in position to do just that.

Until herd immunity is reached—either through natural infection or vaccination—we will need to continue to abide by mask mandates both on and off campus.

"Until further notice, we plan to maintain OSU's current practices to contribute to COVID-19 wellness in the university and surrounding communities," Clark said.

Decking the halls must wait until after Thanksgiving



RILEY LECOCQ
On Our Minds

The age-old debate between Mariah Carey songs before the turkey and waiting until Dec. 1 to hang light displays has begun; it's time to settle when the holidays truly begin.

Winter holidays like Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa all have their own official times of festivities, but the time for celebration is often long before the days on which these holidays actually begin.

I am a personal believer that Christmas begins with Black Friday, arguably a holiday in and of itself. The day after Thanksgiving is the first acceptable appearance of trees, candles and sleigh bells, but I can find myself happy to appreciate the joy of the season from those around me.

Ashli Quintela, a fifth-year student majoring in human development and family sciences at Oregon State University, experiences the commercial build up to Christmas firsthand in her

work as a shift lead at Starbucks.

"As soon as October hits is when our radios start to change a little bit," Quintela said.

The same is true at home for Quintela as her partner rushes to hang lights as early as the morning after Halloween to declare the beginning of 'miss Mariah Carey season.'

"The holiday season starts as soon as Halloween is over, so Nov. 1," said Maria Doung, a third-year biohealth science major at OSU. "Maybe I'm just leaning into the marketing of consumerism, but I think anyone can do what they want to."

While consumerism's influence is strong, the real cause for arguably premature celebration comes from the feeling of togetherness and traditions.

For me, the seasonal flavors and ambiance of a festively decorated coffee shop always kick-starts my mood to begin celebrating any holiday but Christmas in particular.

"My family always loves decorating for Christmas early. The decorations are up when we have Thanksgiving dinner... that's what I like about it: just the overall seasonal environment," Doung said.

Though Quintela and Doung are happy to

deck the halls as soon as pumpkins go away, many feel it is essential to acknowledge a period of time between the two holidays.

A self-proclaimed strong believer in this is Cameron Fletcher, a first-year mechanical engineering student at OSU.

"The holiday season starts after Thanksgiving, at the very latest Dec. 1, at the earliest Nov. 26," Fletcher said. "I think it is ridiculous to celebrate Christmas before Thanksgiving in any facet."

While I personally side with Fletcher, Quintela brings up a good point, which has shifted my own idea of when to begin celebrating the holidays.

"[If you wait to celebrate], the holidays are already over and you've missed so much, and for what?" Quintela asked.

Fletcher notes that his signifiers of the holidays are decorating the house with lights, getting a Christmas tree set up and drinking hot chocolate, which are all strictly post-Thanksgiving activities in his family.

"I know a lot of people think that [celebrating Christmas so early] is dissing Thanksgiving," Doung said. "I don't think that is actually true... It is really dependent on the family. I



ALEX KOETJE | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK
Illustration showing several Christmas trees with one in front decorated with red garlands, white snow a star. There is much debate over when the right time to celebrate Christmas is.

personally like doing it because I think it creates a nice environment whenever you have family over."

While there is no way to fight the early commercial start or make everyone replace their jack-o-lanterns with snowmen right away, the novelty of the season is what creates such a debate and makes the holidays so personal and special to each individual.

Contented Content: Oh Yeah Totally!

BY ALLY ESKELIN



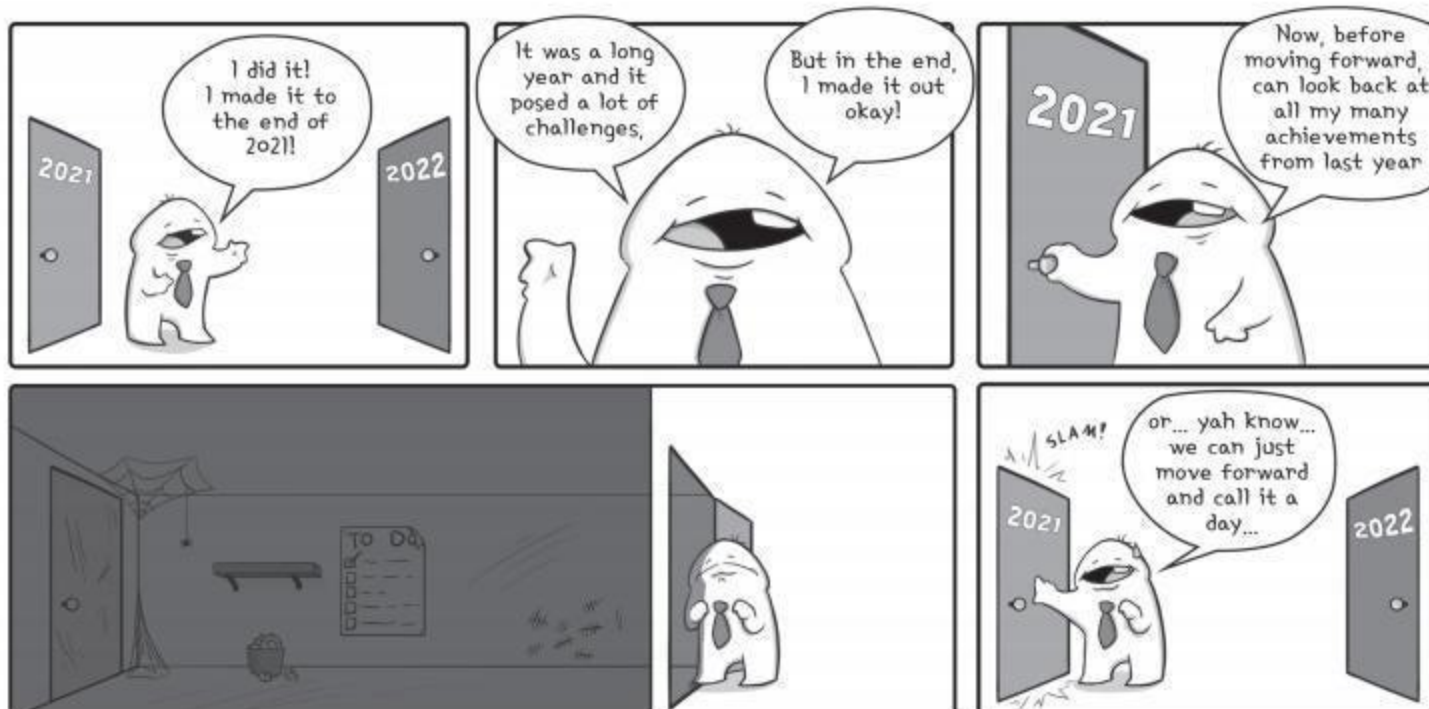
Lost in a Warehouse: Rope Bridge

BY ALICIA ROBERSON



Gumbo: Looking Back

BY JACOB RAMIREZ



THE Baro

YAYS & NAYS



The Barometer lists OSU's favorite and least favorite things this month.

YAYS

- Yay for Beavs going bowling.
- Yay to winter break.
- Yay to holiday music.
- Yay to seeing family and friends.
- Yay to colorful light displays.
- Yay to All To Well (10 Minute Version) (Taylor's Version).

NAYS

- Nay to final exams, papers and projects.
- Nay to studying too much at the library.
- Nay to leaving college friends over the break.
- Nay to stressing over which gifts to buy.
- Nay to football season ending.

SUDOKU

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MONDAY NOVEMBER 29TH, 2021

- Aries (March 21– April 19)**
Today is a 9 — Advance to the next level with your partner. Doors previously closed are now open. Discuss wishes, dreams and visions. Luck favors bold initiatives.
- Taurus (April 20 – May 20)**
Today is a 9 — Your work is energized. Luck favors consistent, disciplined efforts. Reach new levels of health and strength with regular practice. Reach for a dream.
- Gemini (May 21 – June 20)**
Today is an 8 — Keep your objective in mind. Others get inspired by your efforts. Imagine winning. Creativity, communication and dedicated action can deliver a lovely prize.
- Cancer (June 21 – July 22)**
Today is an 8 — Discuss the potential. Make long-desired home upgrades. Align logic with emotion for functional beauty. Take action for dreamy results. Your domestic creativity flowers.
- Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)**
Today is a 9 — Push a creative project to the next level. You're especially brilliant, articulate and creative. Words and actions go farther than expected. Dreams come to life.
- Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)**
Today is a 9 — Lucrative doors open anew. Dedicate words and action to generate positive cash flow. Invest in success and share the results far and wide.
- Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)**
Today is a 9 — Leap ahead with a positive personal development. Talk about your dreams, wishes and plans. Luck follows bold initiative. Follow discussion with action to win.
- Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)**
Today is an 8 — Find a cozy spot for private productivity. Consider past, future and present opportunities. Gain strength from tradition and ritual. Weave solid plans to realize dreams.
- Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)**
Today is an 8 — Your team faces an enticing opportunity. Keep communication channels flowing. Luck shines on dedication, courage and committed action. Win a dreamy prize with talented friends.
- Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)**
Today is an 8 — A professional push can earn satisfying results. Focus words and actions for outsized impact. Set solid foundations for growth. Things can really take off.
- Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)**
Today is an 8 — Expand frontiers. Make important, long-distance connections. Communication channels are wide open. New friends open new possibilities. Stretch boundaries for exciting discoveries. Explore the potential.
- Pisces (Feb. 19– March. 20)**
Today is a 9 — Act quickly for maximum benefits. Catch a lucrative windfall with coordination and communication. Rake in a bundle with help from your partner.

CROSSWORD

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- Across**
- 1 Wagner's "The Flying Dutchman," e.g.
 - 6 Bumbling
 - 11 Frisk, as a suspect, with "down"
 - 14 Sharpen the image in the viewfinder
 - 15 Give a recap
 - 16 Grow older
 - 17 How books are usually read
 - 19 Tide competitor
 - 20 Gaming novice, in slang
 - 21 Snuggles
 - 23 Quite
 - 26 Female rodent, to Fernando
 - 28 Out of the wind
 - 29 Fútbol cheer
 - 30 How chapters in books are read
 - 33 Frisbee company
 - 35 New Hampshire college town that sounds peachy
 - 36 Akin
 - 39 Sign-lettering aid
 - 43 ___ Says: imitation game
 - 45 Arcade pioneer
 - 46 How pages in chapters in books are read
 - 51 Western omelet meat
 - 52 Mayberry boy
 - 53 "___ she blows!"
 - 54 The "A" in A.D.
 - 55 Numbs
 - 58 Old fast fliers: Abbr.
 - 60 ___ Arbor, Michigan
 - 61 How words on pages in chapters in books are usually read
 - 66 Uruguay uncle
 - 67 Actress Demi
 - 68 "Farewell, mon ami"
 - 69 UFO pilots
 - 70 No right ___: road sign
 - 71 Intended
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