



Women's golf
Prepares for
next week's
Pac-10 meet
in Arizona
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Horticulture professor making a difference across the globe

Ross Penhallegon teaches proper farming techniques to developing countries

By Ana Bienvenida
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Born and raised on an apple farm in Wenatchee, Wash., Ross Penhallegon wanted out of the agriculture business.

His original aspiration as a youth was to become a park ranger, but as fate would have it, Penhallegon found it impossible to stray from his roots.

Now working as an associate professor at Oregon State University and as an extension agent in horticulture, Penhallegon has worked with OSU Extension Services since 1983.

As a horticulturist, Penhallegon works and conducts research in the area of berry production, organic production, nuts, tree fruits, veggies and ornamentals. He strives to improve quality and crop yield while providing maximum nutritional value and resistance to environmental pressures.

With 44 years of personal agricultural experience, Penhallegon has

traveled to 24 countries across the world. He volunteers as an agricultural consultant, helping to train farmers on modern organic crop protection techniques that maximize crop yield and growth.

He first stumbled upon what he now calls an addiction, on a trip to Istanbul and Samsun, Turkey, where he and his wife, Kathryn, attended a wedding. While there, he visited with local growers in the Samsun area. A passion to spread knowledge of modern agricultural and horticultural needs to the developing world inched its way into Penhallegon's life.

In developing countries, many agricultural techniques remain basic at best, with misconceptions and lack of accessibility preventing growth of agricultural and horticultural methods.

Penhallegon, in a recent trip to Belarus with the Center for Ecological Solutions — a local organization that provides extension services — spent hours simply answering questions from local farmers and proceeded to spend another few hours pruning



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO | COURTESY OF ROSS PENHALLEGON

Ross Penhallegon, associate professor of horticulture at OSU Extension Services, shakes hands with the Minister of Agriculture of Kyrgyzstan over some scab resistant scion wood used in research.

See **PENHALLEGON** | page 3

Health insurance is available through university

Up to 20 percent of OSU students are not currently covered by any health insurance

By Kayla Harr
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon State University health insurance plans are available to undergraduate, graduate and international students, as well as graduate student employees. During open enrollment, students can sign up for health insurance for the term at the Plageman Student Health Center.

According to Student Health Services Insurance Coordinator Erin Palmer, the plan available to domestic students enrolled in at least six credits costs \$807 per term, with summer term insurance included with the purchase of spring term insurance.

Students can purchase coverage for themselves, as well as their spouses and children, through OSU health insurance.

The domestic student plan includes coverage with health care providers that accept the insurance provider Aetna. The plan pays a portion of costs related to prescriptions, physical therapy, office visits, lab work, emergency room and hospital visits, among other medical expenses.

George Voss, associate director for administrative services for Student Health Services, said students benefit from the coverage of OSU health insurance because the plan covers medical needs like X-rays, physical therapy and prescriptions. These services are not included in

the access to Student Health Services that OSU students receive through student fees.

"Your health fee that you pay every term, that gets you access to the Health Center, so you can come see a physician any time, as often as you want, and there is no charge for that," Voss said. "If you need lab or physical therapy, pharmacy, there are charges for that, and so that's where the insurance would come into play. So for people that don't have health insurance it's basically a gamble, saying, 'I'm going to stay healthy enough that I don't need any additional coverage.'"

The more thorough international student plan is mandatory for all international students. If students have comparable coverage provided by their country's embassy or another group, the mandatory enrollment can be waived with documented proof provided of their alternate coverage.

According to Voss, 1,100 international students, around 1,600 graduate students and 145 domestic students are enrolled in the university health insurance plan.

At \$349 per term, the premium international plan is substantially lower than the domestic health insurance plan. Voss said this is because the international plan is a requirement, while the domestic plan is optional.

"There is a wide gap between domestic and international, and that's because on the domestic plan, with it being voluntary, we tend to get only those students who need insurance taking it, so that means that the claims

See **INSURANCE** | page 3

Multiple Sclerosis exercise program on OSU campus benefits the community

Students gain valuable experience while volunteering to help those afflicted with MS

By Camille Jacobson-Ingram
THE DAILY BAROMETER

In the basement of the Women's Building, there is a very lively group of people getting their daily exercise. However, this isn't a standard physical education class, this is an exercise program for people with Multiple Sclerosis.

The participants range from the wheelchair-bound to those who appear to be quite mobile, but once they launch into their exercise, every participant seems to be equally motivated to get a great workout.

Founded in 1999 by Dr. Jeff McCubbin, the Multiple Sclerosis Exercise Program is a community-based program that focuses on creating individualized exercise programs for participants.

According to Program Coordinator Alicia Dixon-Ibarra, a Ph.D. student in epidemiology, creating an individualized program requires meetings with coordinators to discuss participants' needs, symptoms and goals.

After this initial meeting, coordinators and assistants create specialized workouts for every individual with a specific focus on what the participant wants to accomplish.

The program is funded through fundraising on campus and through the Individualized Movement and Physical Activity for Children Today program. Participants are also asked to pay \$30 per term, but Dixon-Ibarra insists they "won't turn people away." Activities such as the local MS Walk and the "Beavers Got Talent" talent show raise awareness and money for

the program's continued success.

One crucial element of the program is its volunteers, which are always in demand. One volunteer is Janae Sawicki, a junior in physical therapy, who works one-on-one with John Thune, a participant who has been involved with the program since its inception.

"We like to change exercises every so often to keep it fun and motivating," Sawicki said.

However, the participation of student volunteers, like Sawicki, does more than just benefit the participants; it gives students a glimpse into what work is really like in a post-graduate setting and allows them to explore their academic options.

The exercise program exists to serve its participants. Thune has been a participant since 1999 and credits the exercises for keeping him as mobile as he is today.

"I got MS. That's how you get involved with the program," Thune said with biting wit.

Thune insists the program has not only kept him mobile, but has supplied him with friends and inspiration.

"The people who lead it have always been supportive and tolerant," Thune said.

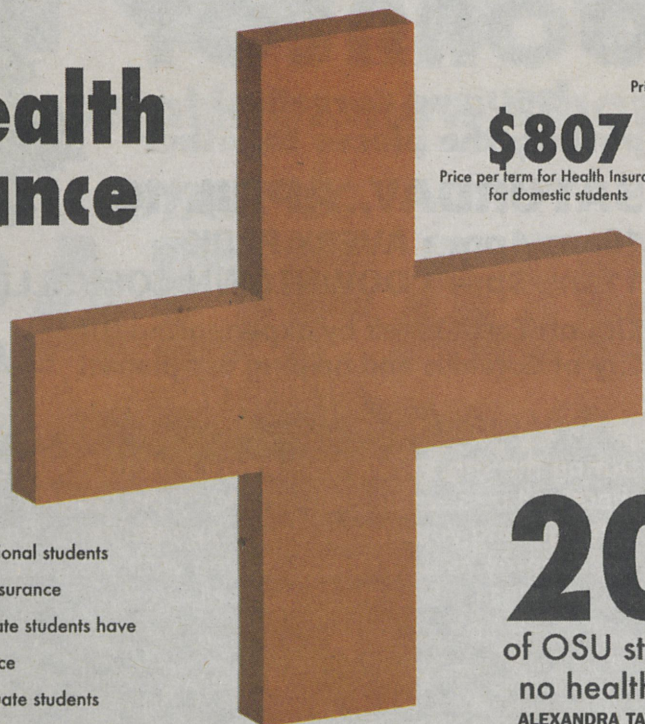
The Multiple Sclerosis program does not aim to treat or research MS, it simply aims to supply its participants with the tools to live a healthy life. For the few hours a week that participants work with their volunteers, they have a strong support system and opportunity to get moving.

"If they learn exercises they can do at home," Dixon-Ibarra said, "that's always a plus."

The people who lead it have always been supportive and tolerant.

John Thune, participant

OSU Health Insurance



\$349
Price per term for Health Insurance for international students

\$807
Price per term for Health Insurance for domestic students

20%
of OSU students have no health insurance

ALEXANDRA TAYLOR | THE DAILY BAROMETER

1,100 international students have OSU health insurance
1,600 graduate students have OSU health insurance
145 undergraduate students have OSU health insurance

More states restrict abortions; group says trend 'unparalleled'

As two states imposed the latest rounds of laws against abortion or its providers this week, a new study contends "hostility" toward abortion rights is on the rise in legislatures across the country, according to the Guttmacher Institute.

The trend has been buoyed by GOP victories in last year's elections, as well as how federal health care reform encouraged states to adopt their own laws regarding abortion coverage under plans offered by health exchanges, said Elizabeth Nash, public policy associate at the Guttmacher Institute, an advocacy group for abortion rights.

"It's pretty much an all-out, anti-abortion, free-for-all out there," Nash told CNN. "I've been doing this for almost 12 years now, so I feel like I have some historical sense. This year is just unlike any other year we've seen before."

Add the success of states' anti-abortion laws passed in the last couple of years with the Republican sweep of statehouses last fall, "and you end up with a year that is unparalleled in what we have been seeing in regard to abortion restrictions," Nash said.

Just this week, Kansas became the second state in the nation, following Nebraska, to sign a "fetal pain" law that bans abortions after 21 weeks based on the viewpoint that "fetuses can feel pain beginning after the 21st week of pregnancy," according to a statement by Republican Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback's office.

Brownback also signed into law Tuesday a bill requiring minors who seek abortions to obtain consent from both parents. The law also places certain prohibitions on late-term and partial birth abortions.

Meanwhile, in Arizona, Gov. Jan Brewer, a Republican, also signed into law Tuesday a ban on state tax credits for donations to Planned Parenthood

or other abortion providers. The law also prohibits public funding for abortion training at universities and hospitals for physicians, said state Rep. Debbie Lesko, a Republican who was the prime sponsor of the new laws.

Lesko disputed Guttmacher's characterization that a trend of "hostility" against abortion is running through state legislatures.

"I certainly wouldn't say there's hostility," Lesko told CNN. "I think it's a severe word. I think it's passionate. Pro-life people are passionate about what they believe in. They believe that the fetus is a human, and they do not believe it should be killed."

Lesko called the ban on tax credits for Planned Parenthood—which is also being considered in Kansas—also being considered in Kansas—as closing "a loophole" in state laws.

"Planned Parenthood was opposed to this bill," Lesko said. "If they truly want the money to be used for other services besides abortions, they could set up a whole other business entity that wouldn't have anything to do with abortion."

A Planned Parenthood Arizona leader said the law discriminates against his organization. The tax credit allowed for donations to fundamental safety-net health care, such as annual gynecological exams, breast cancer screenings and Pap smears, the group said.

"This bill discourages generous, community-minded Arizonans from giving to Planned Parenthood, where their money is being used to provide low-income women, men and teens with essential health care," Bryan Howard, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood Arizona, said in a statement. "Abortion services are not funded by these donations. There are other funds provided by donors specifically for abortion care."

Planned Parenthood suggests the measure won't stand legally, saying

the Arizona and U.S. Supreme Courts have ruled that tax credits are private contributions not owed to the state and aren't public funds because they pass directly from taxpayer to private organization.

Because the new Arizona law also prohibits tax credits to any organization that even provides referrals to abortion providers, it will "gag" other charitable organizations such as domestic violence agencies from referring their clients to Planned Parenthood Arizona, the group said.

"Ninety percent of the services Planned Parenthood Arizona provides are prevention health care and education," Howard said. "Women and families of Arizona should not have their access to this life-saving care overlooked because of a politically motivated bill."

Arizona's ban against state taxpayers taking a credit for donations to Planned Parenthood and other groups serving the working poor comes after a congressional Republican effort failed this month to strip \$317 million in federal funding from Planned Parenthood.

At the same time, congressional Democrats turned back Republican attempts to get federal dollars currently set aside for family planning and women's health turned into block grants for states—which would give states more ability to cut services opposed by conservatives.

Now, states are taking up anti-abortion measures on their own initiative—and enjoying success, according to Guttmacher's Nash.

Brownback called his signing of this week's two abortion restrictions "an historic day."

"So many determined people have worked long and hard to get these bills passed and I am happy to sign them into law," Brownback said in a statement. "These bills are a reflec-

tion of the culture of life that is being embraced all across Kansas. They represent a mainstream, bipartisan and common-sense approach to a divisive issue."

Sixteen other states are now considering a law patterned after Nebraska's law, one of the most stringent abortion restrictions in recent years, according to a Guttmacher report this week.

In those 16 states plus Kansas, a total of 35 proposals were introduced, and 27 of them paralleled Nebraska's abortion ban beginning at 20 weeks. Two would ban abortion beginning at 18 weeks, and the other six would restrict abortion after 22 weeks, according to the Guttmacher report.

Twenty-nine of the bills allow "the extremely narrow health exception included in the Nebraska law," according to the Guttmacher report. The other six measures would permit "a slightly broader exception," typically permitting abortion where the woman's mental health is threatened.

The states seeking laws mirroring Nebraska's are Idaho, Indiana, Iowa and Oklahoma, where at least one legislative chamber in those states has already passed a similar measure, Nash said.

"They want to ban abortion in any way they can: if they can do it at 20 weeks, they will do it at 20 weeks," Nash said. "There are other scientific reports that say fetuses cannot feel pain at 20 weeks."

"It flies in the face of Supreme Court holdings," Nash added. "What the Supreme Court has said is you cannot ban abortion beyond viability. What's different about these bans is that they are much earlier than viability, which tends to be between 24 and 28 weeks."

Every fetus develops differently, Nash said, "so using a specific cutoff doesn't make sense."

—CNN

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 14

Events

Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. *MUvie – Country Strong.*

Lutheran Campus Ministry, 5:45-7:30pm, Luther House, 211 NW 23rd St. Q.U.E.S.T. – Simple supper and spiritual discussion.

Women's Center, 4-5:30pm, Women's Center. Graduate Women's Network Social. Kick off the term with a social that will give you the opportunity to network and meet other graduate women on campus. Cookies and hot beverages will be served. Families are welcome!

Friday, April 15

Speakers

ASOSU Office of Advocacy, 5-7pm, MU Council Room. Know Your Rights Forum. Learn about your rights as a student from an expert panel. Bring any and all questions for these experts.

Events

Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. *MUvie – Country Strong.*

Sunday, April 17

Events

Campus Recycling, 11am-11pm, Greek houses, 26th St. and Van Buren. Greek Row Clean Up. We will be cleaning up the surrounding area.

Monday, April 18

Events

Women's Center, 6-8pm, Native American Longhouse. The Greatest Silence: A Documentary on Women's Experiences in the Congo.

Campus Recycling, 3-4pm, Native American Longhouse. Water Around the World. Engineers Without Borders will tell stories of their projects in El Salvador and two international students will describe how their access to water is so different from ours. Snacks provided.

Tuesday, April 19

Meetings

ASOSU, 7pm, MU 109. Senate meets to discuss students' issues and concerns. Students are welcome.

OSU Pre-Law Society, 6-7pm, MU 110. Regular meeting.

Events

Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. *MUvie – True Grit (2010).*

Lutheran Campus Ministry, 11:30am-1:30pm, Luther House, 211 NW 23rd St. "Come and Go" lunch. Good food and informal table talk.

Women's Center, 7-9pm, LaSells Stewart Center Austin Auditorium. Jean Kilbourne Lecture: Deadly Persuasion: Advertising and the Corruption of Relationships.

Campus Recycling, 11am-3pm, MU Quad. Community Fair: An annual fair of 40 or more on- and off-campus groups who work on environmental issues. Learn what's going on in our community.

Obama calls for \$4 trillion in deficit reduction, trims defense budget

President Barack Obama unveiled his long-awaited deficit reduction plan Wednesday, calling for a mix of spending reductions and tax hikes that the White House claims would cut federal deficits by \$4 trillion over the next 12 years without gutting popular programs such as Medicare and Medicaid.

Obama's plan includes a repeal of the Bush-era tax cuts on families making more than \$250,000 annually—something sought by Democrats but strongly opposed by Republicans. The president also called for the creation of a "debt fail-safe" trigger that would impose automatic across-the-board spending cuts and tax changes in coming years if annual deficits are on track to exceed 2.8 percent of the nation's gross domestic product.

The president claimed that by building on or adjusting the health care reform bill passed last year, \$480 billion would be saved by 2023, followed by an additional \$1 trillion in the following decade. For example, he proposed tightly constraining the growth in Medicare costs starting in 2018.

"Doing nothing on the deficit is just not an option," Obama said in the speech at George Washington University, adding that "our debt has grown so large that we could do real damage to the economy if we don't begin a process now to get our fiscal house in order."

Obama's approach seeks to carve out a political middle ground between conservatives—who are pushing for deficit reduction based solely on spending cuts and expected economic growth—and

liberals, who are generally resisting entitlement reform and seeking higher corporate and personal taxes.

He called for political leaders to put aside orthodox party ideology and work together for the good of the country, saying "we can solve this problem" while noting that "any serious plan to tackle our deficit will require us to put everything on the table, and take on excess spending wherever it exists in the budget."

At the same time, Obama blasted the House Republican 2012 budget proposal unveiled last week, saying it would "lead to a fundamentally different America than the one we've known throughout most of our history."

"These are the kind of cuts that tell us we can't afford the America that I believe in and that I think you believe

in," Obama said of the plan by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wisconsin, who sat in the audience Wednesday. "I believe it paints a vision of our future that's deeply pessimistic."

The administration's package stands in sharp contrast to Ryan's blueprint, which calls for cutting the debt by \$4.4 trillion over the next decade while radically overhauling Medicare and Medicaid and dropping the top personal and corporate tax rate to 25 percent.

GOP leaders, who were briefed by Obama at the White House before the speech,

harshly criticized the president's call for higher taxes on wealthier Americans.

"Any plan that starts with job-destroying tax hikes is a non-starter," said House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio. "Republicans are fighting for meaningful spending cuts and fighting against any tax increases on American small businesses."

Ryan said he was "very disappointed" in the president. "What we heard today was a political broadside from our campaigner-in-chief," he said. "Rather than building bridges, he's poisoning wells."

—CNN

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11:00 AM - 3:00 PM, MU QUAD

WEDNESDAY:

Zumba Party
5:00 PM - 8:30 PM, MCALEXANDER FIELDHOUSE

THURSDAY:

Green Career Day
11 AM - 3:30 PM, MU BALLROOM

FRIDAY:

Hoo HA! Earth Day Celebration
3:00 PM - 7:00 PM, THE STUDENT FARM
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For any questions or concerns, please contact Nate Bodie at csc_environmental@oregonstate.edu

US continues strikes after NATO takeover

U.S. fighter jets have been flying bombing and strike missions against Libyan air defenses even after control of the operation was handed over to NATO, Pentagon spokesman Col. David Lapan said Wednesday.

Public comments by U.S. officials since the handover had previously indicated that the U.S. mission had largely been limited to support roles, such as refueling and electronic jamming.

The U.S. aircraft assigned to NATO for these roles include six F-16 fighter jets and five EA-18 jets, which are equipped to jam electronic signals but also are capable of firing missiles. They have flown 97 sorties since April 4, and on three occasions ordnance was fired by U.S. aircraft, according to data provided by the Pentagon.

The revelation comes as divisions have arisen within NATO over the mission. British Foreign Secretary William Hague and French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe both called Tuesday for NATO to get more aggressive in Libya, and Abdel Hafiz Ghoga, deputy chairman of the Libyan National

Transitional Council, urged the international community to implement a U.N. Security Council resolution that calls for "all necessary measures to protect civilians under threat of attack."

At the time of the mission handover to NATO control, U.S. officials, including President Barack Obama, said the American input would be more support than kinetic.

"The United States will play a supporting role -- including intelligence, logistical support, search-and-rescue assistance, and capabilities to jam regime communications. Because of this transition to a broader, NATO-based coalition, the risk and cost of this operation -- to our military and to American taxpayers -- will be reduced significantly," the president said when he spoke about the changing Libya mission on March 28.

Also in March, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates told the House Armed Services Committee, "We will not be taking an active part in the strike activities, and we believe that our allies can sustain this for some period of time."

The U.S. fighter jets have

been assigned to NATO, Lapan told reporters at the Pentagon on Wednesday, and NATO does not have to ask the United States for permission to use the aircraft. Lapan indicated he was disclosing the missions for the first time, and said he simply had not been asked about them before.

NATO, however, does have to ask for permission to use aircraft such as A-10s and AC-130s to strike targets like Libyan armor and troops on the ground in an effort to protect civilians from attack. Those planes, capable of firing machine guns with great accuracy, stopped flying last week, despite criticism from some, including influential senators, who said the United States was taking key offensive capabilities away even though the allies do not have the ability to fill the void.

A U.S. military official with direct knowledge of the air defense strikes insisted they are "defensive missions" and part of the support efforts the United States is still flying.

"It's a defensive mission pure and simple," the official said.

—CNN

PENHALLEGON

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tree fruits with farmers in the snow in -2 degree weather.

"The passion to learn is unbelievable; that's the most exciting part," Penhallegon said.

He emphasized that routine methods, such as pruning, when ingrained in developed countries has the ability to create a tremendous impact on the lives of families.

"It's the glint in the eyes after farmers have understood the benefits of new techniques, teaching growing," Penhallegon said.

Due to poverty in Kyrgyzstan and the inability to provide the basic necessities of life, many families are forced to resort to extreme means to make ends meet, such as human trafficking.

"By simply teaching people how to prune, to efficiently manage small farms and providing them with the tools necessary, families have the potential to double production and in turn double their family's income," Penhallegon said. "Three hundred and fifty sets of pruners have been distributed worldwide to farmers eager to produce their foods and become self-sustainable. All you need is \$20."

When describing his travels, Penhallegon emphasizes the humility and the generosity of the people he has encountered.

From bug grafting in 106-degree weather in Armenia and corn production in Macedonia, Penhallegon has made it his mission to provide expert knowledge about agriculture and share it with developing communities.

Penhallegon, through the OSU Extension Service, covers three counties- Lane, Lynn

and Benton, teaching more than 600 pruning classes and reaching 6,000 people.

"He is like an Energizer bunny," said Linda Renslow, Lane County Master Gardener and Penhallegon's agent. "No matter how busy he gets, he is always ready and willing to answer questions. With him it's an open-door policy."

He also helps train volunteers in the Master Gardener Volunteer Program, which teaches Oregonians about the art and science of growing and caring for plants. The program is home to approximately 330 master gardeners.

"We call him the pruning wackadoo," said Patty Driscoll, a Master Gardener for Lane County Extension Services. "He is a great teacher and cares that you know the skills."

When working with growers, Penhallegon said, "Once they know your fingers are dirty and your fingernails are broken, you're accepted. It's book talk through an experience. Knowledge is critical."

Penhallegon remains optimistic about the future development of the Perpetual Farm Programs in developing countries where a small group of farmers would be given tree fruits and five hectares to grow their own food and be responsible to sell the crops. Ninety percent of crops would be used to start the next farms and eventually become completely self-sufficient.

Penhallegon talked about the glint in the eyes of farmers he has taught. One can only imagine that "glint," although it's probably identical to the one Penhallegon sports as he talks about his volunteer experiences abroad and locally.

Ana Bienvenida

737-2231 news@dailybarometer.com

INSURANCE

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

processed and paid are higher, and so then it ends up costing more to have the insurance," Voss said.

Health insurance is not mandatory for domestic OSU students. Voss said surveys taken in recent years indicated that at least 20 percent of OSU students were without health insurance.

"It's a big number," Voss said. "Us being in health care, we do worry about those students because if they have a surgery, broken bone or bad illness, that may be the difference between continuing their education or not."

Voss said some university systems, such as that of California, require students to have health insurance. The mix of healthy and unhealthy individuals across a campus enrolling in university health insurance, Voss said, would result in a lower standard premium.

Voss said he believes the cost of health insurance may be discouraging students from obtaining coverage.

"One (reason) is they think they'll be OK without it, and the other is the cost; they just can't afford it," Voss said. "It's already costing them everything they've got to go to school; I mean for a domestic student to come up with \$800

a term is, I'm sure, not easy for most of them."

An insurance plan is also available through OSU for graduate students who are considered employees of the university, such as graduate teaching and research assistants.

Those graduate employees are required to either enroll in OSU health insurance or show they have comparable coverage.

OSU covers 85 percent of the insurance premium for employees, so the employee is responsible for around \$43 a month, Palmer said.

Open enrollment happens during the first three weeks of every term for undergraduate

and international students. Graduate student employees are required to submit paperwork to be enrolled in OSU insurance by the 15th of the month after each term begins.

Palmer said students who utilize OSU's health insurance plans include a majority of older students taking advantage of the fact that OSU does not typically screen for pre-existing conditions.

Palmer believes many younger students who choose

to go without insurance likely think they are healthy enough to be without coverage, but said that logic does not account for the unexpected.

"You just never know, it could cripple them," Palmer said. "I mean, my daughter is in college and I can't imagine if she didn't have insurance. I mean, one car accident would be \$25,000 just in damages, and adding that debt to their student loans, that would be catastrophic. It's like car insur-

ance, you just have to have it; it's protection."

Students wishing to enroll in OSU health insurance should obtain the necessary paperwork and speak with insurance coordinators in Plageman Student Health Center Room 110.

Open enrollment with Oregon State University health insurance is ongoing for students until Friday, April 15.

Kayla Harr, senior reporter

737-2231 news@dailybarometer.com

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Donald Trump: Nutty genius

Donald Trump is a brilliant man. Anybody who doubts that only needs to watch one of the several interviews he has given over the past week. However, he is only brilliant at maneuvering public opinion and communicating an effective message, not at putting forth the policies this country needs.

For the past few weeks, Trump has become obsessed with one issue: the birther issue. Yes, one of the nation's foremost business executives has not been talking about the economic crisis or the recent budget fiasco, but has instead stuck to focusing on whether President Barack Obama was born in Kenya or not. In every interview, he brings this meaningless issue back to the forefront, demanding to see the president's birth certificate. While this seems like a terrible waste of time (the president has a certificate of live birth and the hospital published news of his birth in a Hawaii newspaper), it seems to resonate with a certain noisy fringe element of the Republican Party.

In fact, according to a recent poll, he is now in second place among possible Republican candidates and there's no question that playing to the birther conspiracy theorists had something to do with it. To independent voters (voters the Republican nominee will ultimately have to pander to), this issue is a distraction, but according to a poll released by Public Policy Polling in February, 51 percent of Republicans believe Obama wasn't born in this country. While the birther debate is annoying to most Americans, Trump will need the support of the Republican base if he wants to win the nomination.

Thankfully, Trump has chosen to speak about other issues, aside from the president's birthplace, but has continued with the same

Andrew Shepherd
Daily Wildcat

pandering to the far right. One of his favorite talking points is how the United States is being screwed by China. With a massive trade deficit and artificially deflated Chinese currency allowing for cheap exports, he has a point. But Trump's solution is to vilify China.

On more than one occasion, he has referred to the Chinese as our enemies. While this might sit well with people who know nothing about foreign policy, taking such a hardline approach can only be counterproductive. Does he honestly think he can convince the Chinese to relax their strict restrictions on business or inflate their currency just by sitting down and talking tough? Does he want to start a trade war?

There is a lot of work that needs to be done between the United States and China, but such rhetoric will only make things worse. He should keep in mind that international relations is not exactly the same as fighting over zoning laws for a new high-rise hotel or casino.

It's still unclear as to whether or not Trump will actually run for president. We won't know until June, and there's still a very good chance this is nothing more than a publicity stunt. Nonetheless, he has been playing his cards beautifully and his message seems to be resonating with a significant portion of the Republican base.

I still think he has little chance of winning the nomination (my money's on Mitt Romney), but who knows what's up his sleeve. He's clearly gifted at garnering much-needed media attention, so it's impossible to say what the future holds.

Arizona Daily Wildcat
University of Arizona

Letter to the Editor

New IM fields aren't exclusive
Student feels he didn't get what he paid for

Dear Editor,
I want to discuss the new intermural fields which have been built across from Dixon Recreation Center. As an Oregon State University student, I feel used and unappreciated in this deal. The new IM fields are a great addition to our university's recreational system, but are poorly managed and have taken advantage of OSU students.

Within the first three months of students being able to use the fields, my peers and I have noticed evidence of low-quality craftsmanship. Some of the soccer goals already have holes, wire holding the fence to the posts are popping off, the turf is shedding a considerable amount (although this may be normal) and our decent tennis courts have been replaced with blacktop covered with the remnants of paint and dirt.

This has not been caused by student abuses; everyone I have seen has respected the fields. With that being said, there are non-OSU students on the fields nearly every day. I constantly find what appears to be elementary, middle-school and high-school students taking whole fields for practice. Normally this wouldn't be a large problem, but OSU students paid for these fields and there's not even enough room for them!

No OSU student I know has been in support of the fields being used by these other players. Even if they are paying fees to use the field, this is wrong and I should get my money back.

Since OSU students paid for the fields, why not take a poll of OSU students to see if they would like to share? All of these remarks would not be such a big deal if this project didn't take \$7.7 million to build and was over three terms past its completion date!

Seven million dollars is a ridiculous amount to pay for fields which are clearly not made with high standards and are unavailable for your own use because people who didn't pay \$7 million get priority to use it.

I am infuriated with the result of a project which had great potential to improve student living and does not meet par. OSU students, if you aren't upset, you haven't been paying attention. It's your money; do something about it!

GARRETT DUYCK,

Student in natural resources management

The rise and fall of Glenn Beck

Dylan Hoff

The Daily Evergreen

Glenn Beck will be missed. The vitriolic conservative confirmed reports last week that Fox News will cancel his daily show "later this year." Questions remain regarding when exactly his show will go off the air, but the sad fact is Beck's current contract is ending.

Beck was a godsend to columnists like me. On a semi-daily basis, I could rely upon Beck to insert his foot in his mouth and spout some new conspiracy theory about how America is turning into the new Nazi Germany or Soviet Union. Beck was comedy gold. He was a bottomless well of unintentional humor — and the well never ran dry until now.

The ride is over for Beck. It is a ride that, honestly, should never have gotten off the ground. His "contributions" to American political discourse will be greatly missed, but their end is long overdue.

Beck's departure announcement comes at a time where his once manic popularity seems to be falling apart. According to reports from Media Matters for America and The Daily Beast, Beck has lost 50 percent of his TV viewership and radio stations across the country are dropping his radio program. An advertiser boycott of his TV show has further hurt the King of the Right Wing and his standing with Fox News.

Former TV actor and screenwriter Michael J. Nelson once said, "I enjoy watching people's mental illness." This is the human element I attribute to Beck's popularity. It is the same reason people are fascinated with the collapses of Charlie Sheen and Lindsay Lohan — it makes for great entertainment. We cannot tear our eyes away from a train wreck when we see one.

The difference with Beck is that some people actually believe he speaks with insight and value. Therein lies the danger of Beck and why it is also a good thing he will be off the air. His dire predictions of a secular- and socialist-fueled apocalypse have raised the bar for incendiary comments.

Howard Kurtz of The Daily Beast argues, "our society ... rewards inflammatory talk" and "that's how you build an audience." Beck became a character loved by many

and hated by more. Even fellow conservatives such as Bill Kristol and Bill O'Reilly rejected his fringe tactics. But one way or another, people were talking and tuning in to see what he would do next. It relates back to my theory on watching human train wrecks — we cannot look away.

No other person on TV has the courage — and by courage, I mean insanity — to claim President Barack Obama hates white people, urge Catholics to leave the church, trash Egypt's democratic revolution, compare reform Judaism to radical Islam and allege that only hookers use Planned Parenthood. That makes for exciting TV. Beck is either a certified acting genius or is legitimately sick in the head.

Beck's emotional, nonsensical appeals to the far right helped to excite the Republican base, create an ever more divisive political atmosphere and inspired the Tea Party. But now that America is getting a firsthand look at what hardline conservatives like the Tea Party bring to the table, Americans are realizing we have created a monster. This monster has become "the party of no" while almost leading to the first government shutdown in 15 years.

Beck does not deserve sole credit for birthing this monster that would be giving him more credit than he deserves. But he has played his part and he has played it well. Now the time has come to drop the stage curtain and bring the show to an end.

Beck will continue to have his radio show, but that is not the same. Beck's chalkboard of doom will not carry over as well to radio as it did on TV. Radio is a dying medium, and as already mentioned, Beck's radio program is losing ground. Beck will not have nearly the same influence without a TV show to broadcast his conspiracies and spew his hate.

So long, Glenn. You will be missed. But please don't ever come back.

The Daily Evergreen
Washington State University

CREEDICAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

There are several ways to take action and make a change.

Obviously, purchasing a pair of TOMS shoes is an option. I don't personally own a pair, and don't plan to in the future for two reasons. One, I was stuck with the end of the gene pool that included "extremely narrow feet," so they don't fit. Two, I have more than enough pairs of shoes already — which brings me to the next option.

Soles4Souls is an international shoe distributor that accepts new or used shoes and distributes them to those in need. Many warehouses are scattered throughout the country, and shoes can either be dropped off at or shipped to a warehouse for distribution. After participating in "One Day Without Shoes," I sorted through my closet, picking out pairs to donate.

A much-needed tool throughout the world, shoes can help eradicate numerous problems. Whether you choose to buy a pair of TOMS or donate shoes by visiting Soles4Shoes.com, you can make a difference.

Those who participated in "One Day Without Shoes" went barefoot by choice. By taking action now, we can provide shoes for those who don't have a choice.

Sarah Creedican is a sophomore in new media communications. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Creedican can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

DEWEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

and butch. I must use an alternative dictionary and use words such as herstory and womyn. But you know what? I'm not all of these things! It's awful how the entire feminist movement is stereotyped. These images, created to make people fear feminism and shun this movement, continue to dominate the media and people's perceptions.

Even our campus falls prey to these falsehoods. Think of the center of feminism on our campus: The Women's Center. I've heard many say only women are allowed (though people of all genders are welcome) and the only thing that happens at The Women's Center is angry activism. Most days, what happens at The Women's Center is studying, using the computers, making lunch, having some program in the evening — nothing sinister

or scary.

But these misconceptions of feminism have kept people away from the free tea, coffee and hot chocolate of The Women's Center. What the history or herstory of feminism should show you is that it doesn't matter what label you choose if you're working toward equality — that is what matters. So if you call yourself a womanist or a feminist, someone for women's liberation, women's rights or women's equality, join me in coming out to your friends and asking them to join you in a fight for rights. It's the right fight. It doesn't matter what you call yourself, it's all about what actions you take. Me? I'm a feminist and I'm finally proud to say that out loud.

Anna Dewey is a junior in environmental and social activism, and is the Outreach and Activism Coordinator at the OSU Women's Center. The opinions expressed in her column do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Dewey can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.



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Gbagbo could face international charges, Ouattara says

The former leader of Ivory Coast may have to face international charges for alleged crimes committed during his time in office, President Alassane Ouattara announced Wednesday, as he outlined his plans to bring peace and security to his nation.

Ouattara told reporters that he was setting up a Truth and Reconciliation Commission, similar to those created after civil wars or conflicts in other countries, in order to bring to justice anyone who committed atrocities during the most recent strife or even before that.

"Reconciliation can't be done without justice," Ouattara said in a news conference at the Golf Hotel, where he was holed up for months in the violent aftermath of the disputed presidential election.

"All Ivorians are equal in the eyes of the law, no matter their politics, their origin, their religion or their race," he said.

Former President Laurent Gbagbo has been moved out of the Golf Hotel, where he was held after his arrest Monday, and is now under guard in a villa elsewhere in the country, Ouattara said.

"He is safe, and we will treat him with consideration," the president said. "He is under house arrest in a villa."

The president of the U.N. Security Council, Colombian Ambassador Nestor Osorio, said Wednesday that Gbagbo was taken to a presidential residence in the northern part of the country.

"We must respect his rights

as a former leader, and make sure that the consideration he deserves due to his former title is truly respected, and of course that his physical safety and health is also preserved," Ouattara said.

As for charges against Gbagbo, that will be up to the Ivorian justice minister, Ouattara said, adding that international counts would be determined by an international prosecutor.

The president also vowed that even members of the Republican Forces — the troops loyal to him — who were found to have committed crimes would be brought to justice.

"All the soldiers — even those in the Republican Forces — identified as being pillagers will be dealt with," the president said, in response to a journalist's question about reports of Republican Forces troops participating in raids and pillaging in Abidjan.

Human Rights Watch published a scathing report Saturday about abuses perpetrated by pro-Ouattara forces on their offensive to Abidjan.

People interviewed by the monitoring agency "described how, in village after village, pro-Ouattara forces summarily executed and raped perceived Gbagbo supporters in their homes, as they worked in the fields, as they fled or as they tried to hide in the bush."

"Ouattara should fulfill his public pledge to investigate and prosecute abuses by both sides if Ivory Coast is to emerge from this horrific period," said Daniel

Bekele, Africa director at Human Rights Watch.

Also under investigation is the massacre in the western Ivorian town of Duekoue, where the International Committee of the Red Cross said 800 people were slaughtered. The United Nations blamed many of the deaths on Ouattara's forces.

Ouattara said the minister of justice has already begun a probe into those killings, the Human Rights Commission would be sending representatives in the next few days to look into the matter as well, and he has scheduled a meeting with the chief prosecutor for the International Criminal Court.

"I condemn this massacre," Ouattara said Wednesday. "The people responsible for these killings, whoever they are, will be judged."

"I am revolted, indignant at the number of dead," he added.

As many as 27,500 people took refuge after the massacre in a Catholic mission in Duekoue, according to Amnesty International, and humanitarian conditions there are deteriorating rapidly.

"They are trapped in overcrowded and appalling conditions, having fled their homes after atrocious abuses were carried out by both parties to the conflict," said Véronique Aubert, Amnesty International's deputy director for Africa.

The human rights group also warned that supporters of Gbagbo in Abidjan and elsewhere were at risk of violent reprisals following the former president's capture.

One eyewitness reported to the group that a policeman belonging to Gbagbo's ethnic group was taken from his home and shot dead at point blank range, an Amnesty International statement said.

"Dozens of young people are going into hiding in Abidjan out of fear for their lives," Aubert said. "In the western part of the country, people suspected of

being pro-Gbagbo are also terrified. Many are hiding in the bush after their villages were burned down. They need to be protected."

On Wednesday, the International Rescue Committee said in a statement that rapes, sexual assaults, beatings and harassment of Ivorian women and girls by armed men had increased by "alarming numbers."

"Women and girls are being brutally raped by armed men, often in front of their family members," said Liz Pender, an IRC women's protection expert, who has been meeting with groups of Ivorian women and girls who fled to Liberia in recent weeks to escape the violence in their homeland. "One woman told me she was forced to watch as several men took turns raping her sister, sometimes with a stick, and that she didn't survive the attack."

The refugee women who took part in Pender's group discussions said fear of rape or sexual slavery were the primary reasons they fled to Liberia, according to the IRC statement. It provided no details on the identities or political ties of the armed men carrying out the assaults.

Ouattara has blamed much of the bloodshed in the aftermath of the election on forces loyal to Gbagbo, and said his government has begun a two-month program to root out weapons across the country.

He's also demanded that the militia members and mercenaries who worked for the former leader surrender their arms immediately.

But he faces a daunting task in forging a peaceful and stable path forward.

Chief among his challenges, said longtime observers, will be to unite the severely divided nation and ensure justice for those who committed grave human rights violations in the nation's political vacuum — including those in his own camp who stand accused of heinous acts.

Most of the blame for the bloodshed rests squarely on the shoulders of Gbagbo, whose refusal to cede power plunged Ivory Coast into crisis, said Jendayi Frazer of the Council on Foreign Relations and a former U.S. assistant secretary of state for African Affairs under former President George W. Bush.

The International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands, is now poised to investigate alleged war crimes instigated by Gbagbo.

Ouattara will have to delicately balance such a probe with reconciliation. After all, said expert Alex Vines, Ouattara did not win in a landslide.

Gbagbo won 45.9 percent of the vote and as such, Ouattara will have to reach out to his rival's supporters, perhaps even welcome them into his government without jeopardizing justice, said Vines, head of the Africa program at the British think tank Chatham House.

But even more significant may be the way Ouattara handles his own dirt.

Though he emerged in the Western media as the good versus Gbagbo's evil, Ouattara, too, has been accused of having blood on his hands.

In the United States, Ouattara's critics questioned his right to rule.

"It is now clear, based on U.N. reports coming from Cote d'Ivoire, that mass killings have occurred at the hands of Alassane Ouattara," Sen. Jim Inhofe, R-Okla., said earlier this month.

"This calls into question his legitimacy to lead that country," said Inhofe, who has visited Ivory Coast nine times and made no secret of his support for Gbagbo. "Ouattara is on a rampage, killing innocent civilians, and he must be stopped before this becomes another Rwanda."

Human rights lawyer Geoffrey Robertson said Ouattara's moment in the spotlight could

quickly dim without adequate investigations into the abuse allegations against forces loyal to him.

"Mr. Ouattara should also be investigated because of the evidence that his troops did commit rapes and abuse en route to Abidjan," said Robertson, a former president of the U.N. special court for Sierra Leone.

Such a probe could answer questions about what amount of control Ouattara exerted over the forces fighting under his name and whether he deliberately failed to stop them, Robertson said.

In his favor, Ouattara has been viewed for some time as a hard-working man, an honest politician who favors transparency.

He hailed from northern lands dominated by Muslim immigrants who came to work in Ivory Coast and eventually grew into influential businessmen and traders.

The U.S.-educated Ouattara quit his International Monetary Fund job to run for president in 2000 and might have met Gbagbo on the ballot then, except that he was marked as an outsider — his mother was from Burkina Faso — and barred from participating in the election.

The pro-Gbagbo newspaper Notre Voie accused Ouattara of backing a failed 2002 coup against Gbagbo's government, which triggered the 2002 civil war.

Ouattara's critics blame him for the deep split that Ivory Coast has yet to mend.

Vines said the rebels who fought in the 2002 civil war, the Force Nouvelles, formed a large part of the pro-Ouattara forces fighting Gbagbo's troops in the latest crisis.

The United Nations has repeatedly cited the armed group for breaking the arms embargo imposed on Ivory Coast, and human rights groups have sounded alarms about its abuses.

— CNN

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6			2	3	4	1	
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		6		5			
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To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved, just use logic to solve.

Hard

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

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HUBER

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

body would sing, "Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there," then ask for something and it would just appear. The men's team did the same thing — wished for various things, which involved a new pair of Jordan's and a sandwich in Angus Brandt's mouth, among other things. The final shot had Kevin McShane sitting down. "Can I get a scholarship?" he said. And with a swift video cut, Craig Robinson is in the screen handing McShane a scholarship. Funny, I know. Indeed, this was fitting, because McShane did, in fact, receive an actual scholarship just before the event.

Overall, men's basketball was good, but it wasn't like they were on stage doing it live and out of their comfort zones. That's why they can't have the top spot today. It's a live talent show, emphasis on the "live."

Second place: women's cross-country.

When the LaSells staff rolled out a piano, a couple microphones and a music stand, I thought, "No way." Then Ashley Berry and Emily Olson came out and performed a violin and piano duet. And I'm not talking some garage-shed, grade-school side show. I'm

talking some darn good music with classy style. And when I finally figured out part of their two-or-more song medley included Taylor Swift's "Love Story," I about jumped out of my seat.

Everything aside, the act was awesome even with the judges, who crowned them winners of the show. If it wasn't the most entertaining act, it was definitely the most talented.

First place: men's crew
They stomped the yard. They got up there dressed up in matching attire, and stomped the freaking yard.

Two women carried the entire routine. I wish I knew their names, shame on me, but they sizzled. Their claps were in sync. Their stomps were in sync. They had swagger and they had FUN. And then the rest of the team came on. Everything was choreographed — was on point. It looked like a lot of work went into it to make it look good. That deserves No. 1 in my heart — besides Taylor.

Honorable mention:

1) **The judges:** Mark Barnard (volleyball), Gabe Winkler (men's crew), Brendon Ziegler (strength and conditioning). With lines like, "I don't know if that was a dance or a Thirsty Thursday at Impulse," or "For endurance athletes, they really

didn't use their lungs," or even, "You're awarded no points, God have mercy on your soul," they were easily one of the highlights of the show.

2) **Men's golf:** With Jeff Petroff on a silky acoustic guitar and teammate David Fink on vocals, the duo busted out a medley of a bunch of songs I didn't know. But it sounded good, so it's cool, right?

3) **Lambda Chi Alpha:** Somehow, the greek philanthropy Mock Rock winners got a chance to close the show with their hip-hop routine. For a bunch of amateurs, it looked pretty professional. And it was good entertainment. If the crowd hadn't been burned out by the long show, there would have been a lot more electricity in the building. One of the hosts said it: "Best performance of the night." Agreed.

The "Oh, good God" category.

1) **Men's soccer:** You know, I'm all about people getting up on stage doing something they're frightened out of their minds to do in front of people, but Steve Spangler and Travis Sanchez, that was tough to watch. My thought process: "I think they are trying to seriously sing and play the guitar. Or, are they kidding? Yeah, they're serious. Wait, is that a Native American flute? What's happening!?"

2) **Women's basketball:** I had been taking decently extensive notes on each group, just for my record. For the women's basketball team, I wrote "What." That's it. Just, "What." In all shows, there are bad performances, right? But this — I can't call something bad when I don't know what's going on!

The ultimate winner: Beavers Without Borders

The night ended with an astounding video produced by Taylor Kavanaugh, directed by Matt Wilcox, that highlighted the Beavers Without Borders program where 14 athletes traveled to Guatemala to do their part in relieving some stress on habitants' lives. The content it shows of Beaver athletes manually changing lives is so moving, it literally pulls the emotion right out of you. Search YouTube for "beavers without borders Guatemala '11."

Ultimately, that's what the night was about — about doing their part, about having an impact. All funds went to providing activity for disabled children through the Individualized Movement and Physical Activity for Children Today program. With a cause like that, any performance is worth an admission fee.

Colin Huber, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

GOLF

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

than before."

The second day Telles speaks of was the best shooting day Oregon State has had all year as a team. They shot a 4-over-292 as a team for the round. Sewell was excellent, shooting a 3-under-69, and Telles shot a 1-over-73.

"I think our team has the potential to play really well, if we can play like we did the second day at ASU," Sewell said.

While the second day was great, the other two days of the tournament were a different story. Inconsistency has plagued the Beavers all year; they shot a 307 and 312 in the other two days. If the team can find the rhythm they had on that magical 292 round, they can keep their scores close with the upper echelon of

the Pac-10.

"Being a young team and having played that golf course before, it really helped us gain a lot of valuable experience," Alexander said. "It should pay off with lower scores."

Lower scores is the hope for Oregon State at the Pac-10 Championships. In fact, the lowest scores are what they will need. The most likely scenario for the team to advance to NCAA Regionals is for them to win Pac-10s. Just like basketball, winning your conference championship gives you an automatic berth; after that, it's up to a selection committee. Oregon State's body of work this spring, combined with the depth of talented teams in the Pac-10, means they more than likely will not be able to get in as an at-large.

The word echoed most frequently by Alexander was 'improvement.' Improving

and growing together as a young team seem to be the realistic goals for this team in what could possibly be the team's last event of the spring.

"They have continued to get better with each event this spring," Alexander said. "They have also continued to improve their ability to score and their ability to manage the golf course."

This appears to be a transition year for Oregon State women's golf. Once the young players make strides in the mental and physical aspects of the game, they will start to climb up the standings.

But to win the Pac-10 Championships this year?

Alexander says, "We've got to come out of the gate firing."

Warner Strausbaugh, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

SOFTBALL

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Cardinal took two of three from then-No. 6 UCLA.

Besides taking the series from the Bruins, Stanford's Ashley Hansen and Teegan Gerhart were named the Pac-10 Player of the Week and Pac-10 Pitcher of the Week, respectively. Hansen tallied eight hits over the three games and drove in a run in each game. Gerhart posted a 1.97 earned run average in 21 1/3 innings over the weekend, allowing six runs and striking out 20 Bruin

hitters.

Oregon State will have its hands full. However, as they showed last weekend with Arizona, they have the ability to hang in with the best of them.

All three games over the weekend were within three runs.

Sometimes erratic, the pitching trio of Hall and sophomores Tina Andreana and Marina Demore has been a force at times this year.

"I think our confidence level is really up there," Beltran said. "To hang in with (Arizona) is huge. Our confidence with our pitchers and

our hitters has really jumped up."

If the pitching is there again and the offense can capitalize on every opportunity, it could be a competitive series.

But it could be a very long weekend if the offense comes up short again.

Warner Strausbaugh, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

Pac-10 softball standings

1. UA (34-7, 5-1 Pac-10)
2. ASU (37-4, 4-2)
3. UW (29-4, 4-2)
4. UCLA (28-7, 4-2)
5. Oregon (30-8, 2-4)
6. Stanford (26-8, 2-4)
7. California (24-8, 2-4)
8. OSU (17-13, 1-5)

MEDIA POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

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To apply, applicant must: (1) complete an application form obtained from the Student Media Office, MU East, room 118, (2) submit a transcript, (3) submit a letter of application, and (4) submit a resume. Deadline to apply is Monday, April 18 at 5 p.m. Position open until filled.

Applicants will be interviewed by the University Student Media Committee on Friday, April 22 at 4 p.m.

Rowing heads to California

Men take on highly ranked field; women feel more prepared than race two weeks ago

By Anna Willard
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State University men's and women's rowing teams will head to California for a weekend of competition.

The No. 17 men's team will be competing at the Stanford Invitational in Redwood Shores, Calif., against No. 2 Stanford, No. 6 Wisconsin and No. 7 California.

"This weekend is going to be challenging, we went up against number one last week and this week we're against numbers two, six and seven," said head coach Steve Todd. "After last week the guys are eager to have another race where they're more rested and prepared."

The team competed in their only home event of the year last weekend against No. 1 Washington and dropped all five races.

"We were not ready to perform that day," he said. "Washington was very eager and very dialed in."

The team will take Varsity 8, Junior Varsity 8 and Freshman 8 crews to compete this weekend.

The women's crew will compete in the Lake Natoma Invitational in Sacramento, Calif., against nine other crews. The team last competed at the San Diego Crew Classic two weeks ago and head coach Emily Ford says the team is more prepared for Lake Natoma than they were for San Diego.

"We had a tough couple weeks of practice, but I like how the team has dealt with the adversity," Ford said. "They've handled it really well."

The team is taking four crews to Sacramento: the First Varsity, Second Varsity, Varsity 4 and the Novice 8.

"This regatta is also a little different because each boat competes individually to accumulate team points," Ford said.

The team points determine which final the entire team advances to after the first round of competition. There are three levels of finals at the regatta.

"Advancing to the first-level final is probably a stretch, but if we make to the second-level final, that will be an accomplishment," Ford said.

The novice crew will have the highest seed in their event among the Oregon State crews, but she said the novice crew does not score team points.

Anna Willard, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

TRACK

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

when you're traveling."

Representing OSU in the 5K are seniors Macias, Abby Chesimet and Krista Stangel, as well as junior Marsha Lampi.

Macias will be looking to improve on her performance in the 5,000m at last year's Mt. SAC Relays.

"This one should be better than last year for sure," Macias said. "I don't feel like I knew what I was doing racing wise. I didn't have a strategy. Now I know I can do it."

Sophomore Olivia Poblacion will be the team's only entrant in the 3,000m.

The Beavers will be traveling without its football student athletes, leaving the team without entrants in the men's events. With spring football starting this month, they will be busy training in Corvallis. The men will be competing with the track team again later this month.

The meet will be a tough test for Oregon State as they continue to prepare for the Pac-10 Championships in May, but the women aren't shying away from anything.

Particularly the weather. Oveson said, "It doesn't hurt that it's 80 degrees and sunny in Southern California right now."

Sam Nicholas, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

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What I said last night should not be taken literally. My actions were out of frustration during the heat of the game, period.

— Kobe Bryant,
Los Angeles Lakers

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Women's golf: Pac-10 Championships

■ The Pac-10 field is loaded, but OSU hopes to catch fire and get in the thick of things

By Warner Strausbaugh
THE DAILY BAROMETER

With the bar set high in the conference, the Oregon State University women's golf team needs to build off their improvements in order to have a decent showing at the Pac-10 Championships.

With five teams ranked in the top 10 nationally, the Pac-10 will be displaying its best at Karsten Golf Course in Tempe, Ariz., for the three-day 54-hole tournament, which begins Sunday and runs through Tuesday. Top-ranked University of Southern California leads the competitive field, along with No. 3 University of California, Los Angeles, No. 7 California, No. 9 Arizona and No. 10 Arizona State University.

For Oregon State, this event means the culmination of a season full of trials and learning experiences. They're still a very young team with two freshman, two sophomores and a junior in their starting five. They have made a lot of big leaps as a team compared to where they were last year.

"This time last year, our scoring average was close to 313 as far as a

team score, and right now it's 306.7," head coach Risè Alexander said. "That's a considerable improvement in itself, just from this time last year to this year."

Part of the reason for the improved play has been the infusion of the two freshmen on the team. Seshia Telles and Lauren Sewell have proven to be valuable pieces for a young team with potential.

"We're all still in the learning process as a team since we are so young," Sewell said. "Each time we are getting more experience. Every tournament we play we can just take and learn from and take it to next year since we are all coming back."

One advantage for the Beavers is that they have played this golf course before. Two weeks ago at the PING/ASU Invitational at Karsten Golf Course, Oregon State finished 13th out of 18 teams. The experience of playing the course, and playing it recently, could prove to be advantageous for the team.

"I feel like we can do really well at the course because we were the most improved (team) on the second day," Telles said. "Knowing that we can shoot four-over-par on that course as a team, we kind of go into that tournament with more confidence

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CURTIS BARNARD | THE DAILY BAROMETER

The women's golf team previously shot a four-over 292 on the course they'll play at next week. They'll need a few performances like that if to compete.

Colin Huber



Beneath the ink

Beavers got talent

Tuesday evening, the student athletes a lot of us know, and most of us love, stepped out of their comfort bubbles and put themselves on another center stage for the eighth annual "Beavers Got Talent," a show put on to raise funds for an on-campus organization called IMPACT.

A talent show? Maybe. But more like a comedy show.

It's weird to think about student athletes outside of sports, especially the names we know; like James Rodgers, Ryan Katz, Jared Cunningham or Olivia Vivian. They are like mini-celebrities in Corvallis, and we're all used to seeing them in just their sport elements.

But not this night. In front of a La Sells Stewart crowd of mostly student athletes, coaches, regular students and some parents, with members of the Beaver community scattered around, all sports were out and raw talent was in.

Instead of trying to describe all 17 acts without forcing "you had to be there" feelings on you, I'll just rank a few and dish out some honorable mentions. Let's get into it.

Third place: men's basketball

On the entertainment scale, these guys killed it. They basically made videos that spoofed popular commercials.

You know the Geico commercial where the guy's all, "Could switching to Geico really save you 15 percent or more on car insurance? Did the little piggy cry 'wee, wee, wee' all the way home?" and then they cut to a little pig with his head out of the back window of a car actually crying "wee, wee, wee" all the way home?

Well, the Beavers did the same thing, but had 5-foot-8 guard Ahmad Starks riding with his head out the window, going "wee, wee, wee" all the way home. Funny, right?

Crap, you had to be there.

Another video spoofed the State Farm commercials. You know, some-

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Racquetball continues national dominance

■ The racquetball team, one of OSU's most successful club teams, brought home several national titles last weekend

By Anna Willard
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State University racquetball team recently won the women's national title and overall national title (men's and women's combined).

In addition, OSU won one individual national title and had 11 members recognized as All-Americans.

The championships were held April 5-9 in Tempe, Ariz., at Arizona State University. There were about 45 universities and approximately 350 people competing at the tournament according

to the racquetball club president, Megan Mathes.

"The collegiate season really only consisted of the national tournament at Arizona State University, but as a team we have been practicing and playing together since October," Mathes said.

Here on the west coast, a racquetball conference is nonexistent, so individuals on the team played in tournaments around Oregon and around the country. Some even went outside the country for competitions, Mathes said.

Sophomore Taylor Knoth gained All-American honors as well as the men's national title at the tournament. The title also earned him a spot on the USA adult national team.

Other Oregon State athletes recognized as All-Americans were Micah Hoffman, Michael

Carrington, Jonathon Edwards, Dale Fonken, Alyssa Asay, Teresa Wright, Kelly Powell, Stevanie Medearis, Maradith Durbin and Mathes.

"Individually we all improved our skills as competitors and we really became a strong group of friends," Mathes said. "Last season we lost five seniors who were mentors and close friends. So, maintaining that tight-knit team friendship was also a major accomplishment this season."

The women's team beat out Baldwin Wallace College for their third consecutive national title, while the men finished third behind Colorado State University, Pueblo and the University of Alabama. The Beavers also took the overall team title for the fifth time in the last six years.

Anna Willard, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

Women's track back in sunshine state

■ OSU sends nine runners to Walnut, Calif., to highly-competitive track meet

By Samuel Nicholas
THE DAILY BAROMETER

It's been less than a month since their last big meet at Stanford, but the Oregon State University women's track team is packing up again and flying down to California.

Forecast for the weekend: high 70s and sunny.

Apparently, Oregon just can't compete with that weather.

The team will travel to Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, Calif., for the Mt. SAC Relays. The three-day meet attracts some of the best programs on the west coast, including Pac-10 opponents University of Oregon, University of California—Los Angeles, University of Southern California and Washington State University.

"Every race is a good race," said senior Jennifer Macias. "This is a high-caliber meet."

Space is limited with so many schools being represented, meaning that Oregon State is only able to take a small contingent of nine runners. Those nine won't take the opportunity for granted.

"Everyone is excited to go there," Macias said. "Only a certain amount

of people get to go, so we will be taking advantage of it."

The team, which sent a couple of runners to the lower-profile John Knight Invitational in Monmouth last weekend, performed well in Palo Alto, Calif., three weeks ago. Multiple runners set personal records in their events and the school record for the 5,000m was broken not once, but twice — first by senior Hayley Oveson and then by junior Laura Carlyle — in the span of half an hour.

Oveson and Carlyle will try to build on that success, this time running in the 1,500m along with junior Natasha Buruse and redshirt freshman Audrey Botti.

"Our workout [Tuesday] went really well," Oveson said. "Everyone looks really sharp. It feels good when you're coming around a corner and coach is yelling 'slow down.' Having a workout like that definitely sets a good tone

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JEFF BASINGER | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Junior Laura Carlyle set the 5,000 meter school at the Stanford Invitational three weeks ago. The team is back in California looking to set more records.

Softball's tough road never ends

■ Facing their third consecutive top-15 conference opponent, OSU will play three at Stanford

By Warner Strausbaugh
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State University softball team left much to be desired last weekend, but they will have to have a short-term memory if they want any chance at beating red-hot Stanford this weekend.

Before heading to Palo Alto, Calif., to face the No. 11 Cardinal (26-8, 2-4 Pac-10), the Beavers play a single game against a nonconference opponent — the 6-13 Santa Clara Broncos — at noon Thursday. The game with Santa Clara will serve as a starting point for the Beavers' hope to be a big weekend.

In last weekend's series with No. 8 Arizona, Oregon State (17-13, 1-5) failed to come through at the plate in big situations. The first game of Saturday's doubleheader saw the Beavers leave 13 runners on base. Time and time again, the offense failed to get runners home when given the opportunity. To make matters worse, many of those situations came with less than two outs in the inning.

The second game of the doubleheader was an improvement,

Weekend softball schedule

4/14 at Santa Clara 12 p.m. PST
4/15 at Stanford 7 p.m.
4/16 at Stanford 1 p.m.
4/17 at Stanford 12 p.m.

stranding only five runners. But the three runs and six hits was not enough to cut it in the 6-3 loss.

"What we're working on now is hitting the ball hard, and not second guessing ourselves when we're up at the plate," said sophomore starting third baseman Desiree Beltran.

There were some positives to come out of the Arizona series for the offense. Junior pitcher Paige Hall went 3-for-6 with a home run and three walks over the three games.

The Beavers are now 1-5 in conference action. While it's not a desirable start, it's not as bad as it may seem given their opponents have been last year's national champion (University of California, Los Angeles) and runner-up (Arizona). Still, though, the offensive production must improve if the team wants to see more tallies in the win column.

Stanford is coming off possibly their best weekend of the year. The

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