POLICE BEAT



COMPILED FROM CORVALLIS, COUNTY AND OSU LOGS SEE PAGE A3



DIVERSIONS | B1 THRICE TIMES THE MAGIC





UNIVERSITY THEATRE | Opening night

The Foreigner' calls for social awareness

Students encouraged to take break from studying to see play in Withycombe Hall Main State Theater

By Katie Wolf THE DAILY BAROMETER

Take a break from midterm stress this weekend with a play.

Last night, OSU Theatre presented Larry Shue's comedy, The Foreigner. The performances will run Nov. 14 and Nov. 20 to 22 at 7:30 p.m., as well as Nov. 16 at 2:00 p.m. in the Withycombe Hall Main Stage Theater.

"Be prepared to laugh," said Jeff Nichols, a senior in business administration.

Set in rural Georgia, "The Foreigner" fol-lows the story of Charlie Baker (played by Matt Bradley), a shy and socially awkward character, who arrives at a fishing lodge with his old army buddy, Froggy LeSueur (Nicholus Sheler). Intimidated by social interaction, Charlie passes himself off as a visitor from an exotic foreign country, completely unaware of the language and customs of America, so he doesn't have to speak to anyone.

Through his assumed ignorance, Charlie witnesses the blatant racism, bigotry and hypocrisy unfolding around him.

The play is directed by George Caldwell, associate professor in speech communication at OSU, and is brought to life by a tightly-knit cast.

"We've been having so much fun that we've been cracking up all the way up to the last dress rehearsal," said Sheler a senior in

Although the play is comical and lighthearted, it still carries an important message. Confronting bigotry in its most deliberate form, "The Foreigner" is an urgent call for social awareness.

"The message is still relevant today even though it takes place twenty years ago," said Arianne Jacques, a senior in theater, who plays the role of Betty Meeks, the seventy-two-year-old proprietor of the fishing

Throughout the performances, the winning papers of the Corvallis Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest will be on dis-

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DAN ACEE | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon State Theater performs Larry Shue's "The Foreigner" on Friday and Saturday in the Withycombe Hall Main Theater. Katherine Simms (Vanessa Oberlin) delivers a monologue while Betty Meeks (Arianna Jacques) listens in the background.

'Top of the Cock' set to re-open next Thursday

■ Peacock Bar and Grill finishing renovations after fire marshall closed top section of property

By Chioe Brunell
THE DAILY BAROMETER

After being closed for a little over a year, the top section of the Peacock Bar and Grill - known as the "Top of the Cock" to locals — is set to re-open on Nov. 20 as long as it passes inspection on the 13th of this month. Otherwise, the grand re-opening will be set for Saturday the 29th, which is also Civil War weekend.

In late September of 2007, the current owner of the Peacock, Stephanie Mather, received an unanticipated visit from the fire marshal who noticed that the Peacock was consistently busy. After inspection of the building, Mather was informed that the upstairs portion of the bar and grill was not up to the structural standard for the set capacity.

Although the Peacock has been around since 1929, it did not reside in its current location until 1952.

See PEACOCK | page A3

CUTTING EDGE OF TECHNOLOGY

TECH AFTER HOURS AT OSU

CEO of Hidden City Games invited as keynote speaker to all-day event

By Rebecca Johnson

lompanies from all over the Willamette Valley gathered Thursday as OSU hosted the sixth-annual High Tech After Hours. This is the largest assembly of the high tech industry in the Willamette Valley.

The purpose of the event was for local businesses and entrepreneurs of the technological industry to come together and let people know what they were up to.

The event is also considered a great networking opportunity for those who are looking for ideas or

"This whole thing is about networking," said Christopher Klemm, Director of the Austin Entrepreneurship Program. "It's

about connecting people. It was standing room only as the afternoon started off with a panel leaders of the technology and business world from the Corvallis area.

This included Hene Kleinsorge, Dean of the College of Business and Ron Adams, Dean of the College of Engineering OSU, Skip Rung, Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute, Mysty Rusk, president of the Corvallis-Benton Chamber Coalition, and Brian Weldon, Corvallis chapter president of the Software Association of Oregon.

Each panelist spoke about what their particular organization was doing in the technology and entrepreneurial field. After this they took time to answer questions from the audience.



JEFF WICK | THE DAILY BAROMETER

discussion with some high profile Aruna Kumar (left), of Makarapoint Consulting, and Frank Hall (right), part of the board of the Software Association of Oregon, discusses networking Kumar's company with other digital imaging companies at the High Tech After Hours convention yesterday evening.

City Games, was invited to be the keynote speaker for the event. He is a leader in the gaming industry and Executive Director of Oregon discussed his experience in starting up his companies.

He went from what he referred to as a "five guys in a garage scenario" to launching a company called Wizards of the Coast.

He went on to sell that company for \$500 million. He decided to take a couple of years off, during which he focused on rock climbing and snowboarding, but then decided to get back in the industry with his current company, which is centered

Peter Adkison, CEO of Hidden around a gaming product for girls called Bella Sara.

Next came the Ignite Corvallis segment. This was a presentation where several local businesses had about what their business was recently engaged in.

Many of those who started a company in the area are spin-outs of

One of those was Larry Plotnick, who started up a business that is commercializing OSU technology locally. He is licensing a handheld meter that can read the health of a attracting and retaining entrepreplant.

"I left HP and wanted to work with something aligned with my values," Plotnick said.

After the presentations, businesses set up booths for people to browse five minutes to tell the audience and learn more about what is going on in the world of technology in the Corvallis area. In total, 39 businesses had booths set up, with even more companies in attendance.

Also in attendance was Mayor of Corvallis Charlie Tomlinson, who was promoting a new website called 'Business is Good Here.'

"The point of the website is

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SUSTAINABILITY

Dear President-elect Obama, from Student Sustainability Initiative

■ SSI encourages students to write letters to Obama for Operation Green Beaver

By Cambrie Caldwell

THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Student Sustainability Initiative (SSI) opened their doors to the community and the students of OSU yesterday.

Those who visited the SSI center were given a prime opportunity to pen personalized letters to President-elect Barack Obama concerning many issues regarding the environment.

Attendants were encouraged and prompted to voice their opinions on subjects ranging from green energy to Operation Green Beaver. The event, titled "Letters to Obama," was just one of the many ways SSI is striving to show the nation what OSU is made of on an eco-friendly level.

"We're looking for a commitment from Obama, for him to recognize OSU," SSI program facilitator Jesse Boudart said Thursday. "OSU is one of the most sustainable communities in the country and we would like him to notice that."

Student Sustainability Initiateers, as activist students were dubbed by SSI, were provided with sample letters and a variety of topics they could write about in their letters to Obama.

See SSI page A3

UHDS | Understanding the abroad experience

Students travel to Hong Kong for life-changing experience

Kniss and Linville share how residential programs impact students' experiences at school

By Makenna Bishop

The Department of Residential Education and University Housing and Dining Services recently sent two students — Jason Kniss and Miranda Linville — to the City University of Hong Kong (City U) with the purpose of sharing how residential programs impact each student's experiences at the different institutions.

City U is located in the northern Kowloon region of Hong Kong and has more than 26,000 students enrolled in its academic programs.

Both OSU and City U have residential programs instated, which works to engage students in academics, in service and in the community with each other. Although the goals are the same, the ways in which each university accomplishes these results are vastly different.

Both students worked for UHDS in various capacities for the past three years. They were selected through an application process and through the recommendations of their directors and supervisors.

Jason Kniss, the Academic Programming Coordinator of the Department of Residential Education and a senior in science education, believes that the exchange with City U will increase the potential for making the residence halls at OSU more dynamic communities, which will

national students.

"At OSU, UHDS we strive to provide 'the experience of a lifetime' in our halls, and that isn't just our motto; it's our goal," Kniss said.

"From the friendships we facilitate in our halls to the programming that adds to the academic and educational experience of our residents, we strive not to just house OSU students, but make them successful students.'

Miranda Linville, the senior resident assistant in Wilson Hall and a senior in psychology, said this opportunity gave her more insight into a world that really cares about other people. She says she was delighted by the receptiveness she received from the partner school.

"Within our exchange to City U, we were provided with the opportunity to truly gain a grasp on what life is like for the typical exchange student, an insight which we will hold in high regard when working with exchange students here on campus," Linville said. "You truly don't understand what it feels like to go to a new place, meet new challenges and then exceed them, until you experience them first hand."

Kniss and Linville were able to attend lectures on Chinese culture and psychology. Kniss was surprised to find that City U was not like an American college campus, but was one large academic building with an adjoined amenities building and ten identical hous-

"I was anticipating but was still surprised by the academic mindset of students at City U. The mentality of earning a degree impacts many elements of the connections to their education

meet the needs for the local and inter- Chinese culture and City U's students and opportunities," Linville said. show it," Kniss said. "In the halls, there were signs trying to get students to use their leisure time and to 'take a break from studying' for at least a couple hours a week.

The highlight of the trip, for Kniss, was the collaboration with City U's Education Development Office. He and Linville attended a seminar on the general education requirements.

"This is directly aligned with my work with UHDS: in enhancing our academic programs in our living groups that our residents use to supplement their in-class experience," Kniss said.

"The discussion at the seminar was the implementation of general education requirements, which is comparable to OSU's Bacc Core. Currently, City U does not have these requirements

Linville said she and Kniss were the youngest people to be included in these discussions and seminars. She felt that it was a great opportunity to be apart of something that influenced and impacted City U's outlook on the future programs for their students.

"We sat, dined and discussed with professors of linguistics, law and humanities. We ate with the heads of housing, deans of student learning; all individuals within a room with the same common thing in mind: making a better connection with students,' Linville said.

"This brought tears to [our] eyes. It was really great to see so many people care so much about the students and

Mary Calcagno, a senior in animal sciences, said she was impressed by the reasons that Kniss and Linville went on exchange to City U.

'When I lived in the dorms, I had the opportunity to live near many international students and learn more about their cultures," Calcagno said. "If these students are able to take what they learned in a foreign culture and apply it to OSU, I think it will be really beneficial to all the students living on and off campus.

Both Kniss and Linville said this opportunity for exchange has changed their outlook on their own lives and life on the OSU campus.

Kniss said he hopes he can help students get the most out of their educational experience, and not simply define college by the classes they took or the clubs they joined. Kniss said the importance is in each student's personal growth.

"I took so much away from this experience: a better insight, more professional development, an eager mind to understand and a heart to learn life's lessons, which we found to be 'live life to the fullest, experience all that you can and never look back." Linville said.

"I feel that everyone should travel to a new country, for a new experience and relish in the moment. That's what life is about: learning new things, building connections with the people around you and challenging the mundane.'

Makenna Bishop, staff writer

Friday, Nov. 14 **Events**

Native American Longhouse, 3pm, Native American Longhouse. Native American Flute Circle. Come listen and learn abbut Native American flutes.

CALENDAR

Centro Cultural César Châvez, 7pm-12am. MU Ballroom. Noche Caliente Basic and intermediate salsa lessons followed by a free dance! Free! Live DJ!

Sunday, Nov. 16

Meetings

OSU Amateur Radio Club, 7pm, Snell 229. Enter through KBVR FM entrance.

Lutheran Campus Ministry, 7-7:45pm Grace Lutheran Church, 435 NW 21st, corner of Kings & Harrison, Evensong Worship with communion, especially

Oregon State Flying Club, 11am-3pm, Corvallis Airport. Open House. Plane rides over campus are provided.

Monday, Nov. 17

Meetings

Unitarian Universalist Campus

Ministry, 7pm, Westminster House Great conversation & snacks, while we earch for our own truth in the world.

OSU Juggling Club, 5-7pm, McAlexander Fieldhouse. Learn to juggle or practice juggling. Learn new tricks

ASOSU Non-Traditional Affairs, 3:30-4:30pm, Native American Long-house. Working to win victories for non-traditional students, as well as voice their opinions and concerns.

OSU Music Department, 7pm, LaSells

Tuesday, Nov. 18 Meetings

ASOSU Health & Wellness Task Force, 4pm, SLI Lounge. Plan fall events ASOSU Campus Affairs, 7pm, Snell 149. Open meeting. Come help on campaigns to improve student life!

Events

Lutheran Campus Ministry, 11:30am-1:30pm, Luther House, 211 NW 23rd St. Lunch: Come and go as you are able. Home made food, stimulating conversation, vegetarian option.

Native American Longhouse, 5-7pm, Night. Learn to make Native crafts

United Campus Ministry @ Westminster House, 5:30pm, First Christian Church, 602 SW Madison. Stone Soup: Join with Westminster House to prepare and serve a meal for the hungry in Corvallis. Volunteer: 753-2242.



POLICE BEAT COMPILED FROM

1:00 p.m., Monday Nov. 10 — An OSU staff member reported the theft of three M1 Garand rifles (\$90) from the McAlexander Field House Air Force ROTC weapons storage room. A set of keys are also missing. The weapons are inoperable and have cement in the barrel.

1:10 p.m., Friday Nov. 7 — An OSU student reported a silver and black Hard Rock specialized bike stolen. The bike was locked on the bike rack on the north side of McNary Hall with

neurial, creative business peo-

ple," Tomlinson said. "(They

are) the basis of the Corvallis

ARRESTS

8:34 a.m., Wednesday Nov. 12 — Lorrie L. Fricke, 45, and Nicholas D. Freeman, 23, were stopped for speeding. Fricke was found to have a felony warrant for dangerous drugs. The passenger (Freeman) was also found to have a warrant for FTA — DUII. The warrants were confirmed and both subjects were taken into custody and transported to the Benton County Jail where they were released to jail staff.

5:32 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 9 — Kerry Baldwin, 48, of Lebanon vas arrested for alleged DUII after rolling his vehicle into a ditch near Lewellyn Road and Highway 99. His BAC was 0.12

11:00 p.m., Sunday, Nov. - Jesse Scott Klain, 20, of

out in full force for the event.

The BEC is a local organization

that helps people start up busi-

nesses and is responsible for

the start up of many companies

They say they are interested in

presented at the expo.

a cable lock that was left at the Philomath was arrested for Barometer is to inform readalleged DUII of drugs and care-Dr. and S.W. 45th Pl.

Sunday, Nov. 9 Levi Rariden, 24, of Philomath was reckless driving after driving at high speeds with his date. His date crashed her vehicle and police arrived as he was picking her up from the crash. He refused a breathalyzer but was allegedly highly intoxicated.

1:30 a.m., Friday, Nov. 7 - Nicole Kotara, 21, of Albany was arrested for alleged DUII after being pulled over for failure to drive within her lane near N.W. 71st St. and S.W. Philomath Blvd. Her BAC was not be published online. 0.20 percent.

POLICE BEAT POLICY

The purpose of printing crime reports in The Daily

ers of criminal actions in their less driving after crashing his community and to deter future vehicle near S.W. Country Club criminal acts. Students, faculty, staff members or community members who are arrested for or charged with misdearrested for alleged DUII and meanor or felony crimes by Oregon State Police, Corvallis Police Department or Benton County Sheriff's Office in the Corvallis and Benton County area are subject to having their name published in The Daily Barometer. Editorial staff judgment and space available will determine which incidents are published. The names and addresses of victims of sexual crimes will not be published.

Police Beat information will

Police Beat is compiled by Daily Barometer staff members from the police records of the Benton County Sheriff's Office, Corvallis Police Department, Oregon State Police and OSU Department of Public Safety.

Enterprise Center, which was and helping them get their ideas Benton Chamber Coalition in off the ground.

That is why they attend the High Tech After Hours.

Brian Weldon, President of SAO, was happy with the event. He said he was especially impressed with the collaboration of OSU, SAO and the Corvallis-

putting on this event together.

His hopes for next year are to invite a nationally-recognized keynote speaker and to expand the Ignite Corvallis segment.

> Rebecca Johnson, staff writer news@dailybarometer.com, 737-2231

International **Education Week** November 17-21 schedule of events @ oregonstate.edu/international/iew celebrate international experiences @ OSU







Centro Cultural Cesar Chavez and

Friday, November 14th Memorial Union Ballroom Dance The Night Away 9:00-12:00pm SALSA LESSONS Special accommodations may be made by calling 541,737.379

economy. Tomlinson is also a former member of the Business finding entrepreneurial people

TECH

SSI CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Snacks including muffins, apples and jugs of cider were available to attendees after they finshed writing their letters.

SSI's goal through "Letters to Obama" was basically to get students to come together and promote their diverse ideas for environmental education and restoration.

'[SSI is] a loose structure to help facilitate these ideas, a place for students to come in. [We're] building a coalition with the help of the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition," Boudart said in response to how the organization defines itself.

According to Boudart, the group has its sights set on a future bike co-op program and the construction of a permaculture garden, and is expressing interest in a sustainable endowment. The latter is an economical concept, known as Transparent of Trustees to use money to implement renewable energy within local businesses.

President-elect Obama has called for a revitalization of the economy, which in turn is expected to aid the funding for projects like implementing sustainable energy from coast-to-coast.

On a local scale, renewable energy will blossom and invoke a greater focus from communities like Corvallis. This means that SSI will have the chance to become a nationally-funded effort.

The hope is that these ideas will progress," Boudart said, referring to the sustainable energy plans already in effect that will hopefully profit under Obama's leadership.

The Student Sustainability Initiative may only be a year-old organization, but it's quite obvious that it consists of many dedicated and driven individuals who are

Endowment, which encourages the Board acting as a whole to better the natural state of our planet.

'Our plan is to start small, bring in student interest and provide training for their ideas," Boudart said.

An online site that rates college campuses nationwide, known as The College Sustainability Report Card, gave OSU with an overall B rating, as well as listing the school as a leader in campus sustainability.

Besides receiving perfect scores in several categories, including food and recycling and green building, OSU also merited an A in student involvement.

These scores are greatly accredited to the efforts of SSI and the participation of hundreds of students within the community who are working toward a healthier world.

Cambrie Caldwell, staff writer

PEACOCK

The building the Peacock is located in was built in 1885, and it was used as a livery stable for horse-drawn carriages. When the invention of the automobile arrived, the need for carriages faded away, and the building was converted into a furniture factory.

The current standard for the building requires that there be support beams every 19 feet. Unfortunately, the beams spanned every 21 feet in the top portion of the bar.

Although Mather had already been planning to make the adjustments to the building, the Peacock was shut down immediately without warning and would not re-open until structural integrity changes had been completed.

"I asked him to let me keep it open so that I could get the money to make the changes," Mather said.

As a result of the top floor being shut down, the facility's space was essentially cut in half, and the business suffered.

The first three months were the roughest I've ever had. I had to let go of 12 staff members on the spot," Mather said. "And competing bars put up flyers that read 'The Peacock has shut down, come celebrate!'

This caused former patrons to believe the false rumor that the entire bar and grill had completely shut down, leading to the decrease in business.

The Peacock, after a year-long wait, has turned over a new leaf. With fresh new paint and flooring, as well as new furniture and more floor space, Mather intends to create a similar atmosphere and deliver the same one-of-a-kind service as before.

> Chloe Brunell, staff writer news@dailybarometer.com, 737-2231

FOREIGNER

play in the theater lobby.

On Nov. 21, following the performance, an open forum will be held to discuss issues of intolerance addressed in the play as well as the words of Dr. King. The public is invited to attend the discussion.

In addition, the Nov. 21 performance will be interpreted in sign language. The performances have been partially sponsored by The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commission of the City of Corvallis.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.oregonstate.edu/dept/theater, or at the Withycombe Hall Box Office. Admission for OSU students is \$

> Katie Wolf, staff writer ews@dailybarometer.com, 737-2231

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Editorial

Yeas & Nays

Tea for not running the Yeas and Nays on Wednesday. We've got to keep you on your toes. Sometimes that means confusing you.

Nay to being confused. That's what we feel every time we log onto our Facebook accounts to find our friends have been transformed into post-Halloween sluts. Spanking your hot vampire friend with your police stick may have been fun two weeks ago while you were drunk, but we don't want to see it anymore.

Yea to vampires. Don't try to hide, we know you skipped all your classes on Wednesday to finish the book "Twilight." How are your professors going to be mad if you tell them you were "reading?

Nay to going to class. What do we even do in week seven anyways? Midterms? Evaluations? Yes, time to make your professors cry. Not that we would condone such tear-jerking, or any other kind of jerking for that matter ...

Yea to Kathy Greaves' self-pleasure workshop this week. We retract our previous statement; touch yourselves!

Nay to Junior Benny Beaver. Don't you think we have enough mascots already? First a happy beaver, then an angry beaver, now a baby beaver? Folks, this is yet another reason why you should wear a condom. Benny Senior, we are disappointed.

Yeatomacaroni.Little"Generation Beavs" love it. So do we as college students. Unfortunately, a man in Nebraska didn't; the unemployed man assaulted his girlfriend when she made macaroni for dinner.

What happened to Happy Meals? Nay to the closure of North Shore Smoothies recently. If you think the economy doesn't affect you, you're wrong. We will miss you and your awesome surfing décor.

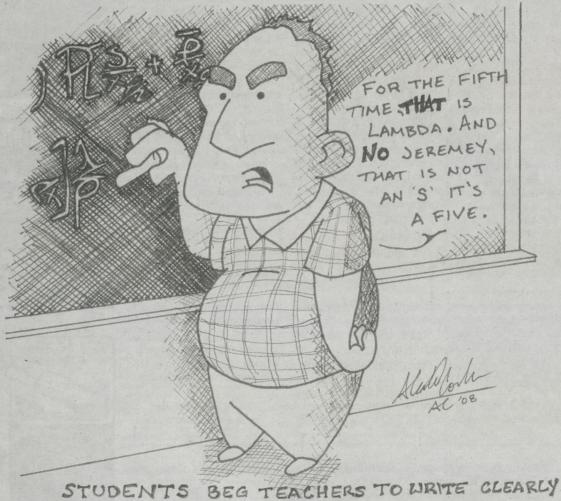
Yea to the election season being over. The economy may still be in the toilet, but at least Sarah Palin has gone back to Alaska, and the pesky people telling you to vote have vanished as quickly as the drugs in your apartment will vanish when your dad comes down this weekend.

Nay to the post-election Obamamania. In just one week, every possible angle has been covered on his election as the next president. Yes, he is young. Yes, he is black. Yes, he is Christian. Yes, he has young daughters. Yes, please stop this insanity. There are other people in the world to talk about too. What about our current president? We only have a few more months left with the man. Let's pay some attention to him and his funny talking.

Yea to funny talking, and walking and even biking for that matter. We're just waiting for one of those people texting and biking at the same time to run into a tree. Hopefully they don't run into you.

Nay to accidents. Junior Benny anvone?

Editorials serve as a means for Barometer editors to offer commentary and opinions on issues both global and local, grand in scale or diminutive. The views expressed here are a reflection of the editorial board's majority.



STUDENTS ALEXANDRIA CONDON IS AN EDITORIAL CARTOONIST FOR THE DAILY BAROMETER AND A STUDENT AT OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Reflections on the Socratic Club debate

n Monday night, Nov. 10th, attended the Socratic Club debate between Rev. Martin Emmrich and Tom Walmsley. The debate essentially consisted of a philosophical standoff between Emmrich and Walmsley, in which Emmrich stated that truth was objective and real, and that Walmsley said it was not. Although an interesting debate, I felt, and stated offhandedly after asking a question to the two gentlemen, that it was all "philosophical pie in the sky to me.'

The reason that I feel this is the case is due to the simple fact that both of them used very few facts and relied largely on presuppositions, especially Mr. Walmsley. Not to pick on Mr. Walmsley, but Dr. Emmrich actually admitted that their viewpoints came from presuppositions. Mr. Walmsley, although charismatic and charming, unfortunately made me feel like we were talking in circles and engaging in self-referent discussions of causeeffect relations

Mr. Emmrich argued that truth was objective and transcendent. His presupposition is essentially based on the concept that God bestows truth unto us through His will. Now, I would tend to argue that as a Christian, it is built into the framework of the universe itself and into the basic integral unit of mankind (a person), and thus does not require His direct interference, thus preserving freewill and also making the universe a happy place to live. However, in order to accept this, you have to believe in God, so unless you are a Christian (or some sort of similar theist), this is a thoroughly unsatisfying explanation either way.

Mr. Walmsley, unfortunately, did not fare better from my perspective. He spoke of tolerance, and how its lack thereof in the world was the cause of great disharmony and con-



People: Politics, Law and Perspectives

one needed to be tolerant in order to promote peace and understanding in the world. In fact, this is his primary critique of religion — he feels it's too intolerant. It needs to have more dialogue and discuss things more together and with disparate groups.

Somehow I doubt that Joseph Stalin and Adolf Hitler fall into the category of church-going religious people. I doubt that organized religion with presuppositions relating to the supernatural is to blame for the world's problems. Rationally speaking, people do evil to others from all walks of life, and blaming it on religion is old and silly. Much like burning non-conformists at the stake, it is evident that it accomplishes nothing and distracts from real world problems.

Accepting Mr. Walmsley's argument requires same level of acceptance in terms of presuppositions as Mr. Emmrich's argument, but it is more annoying because while Mr. Emmrich admitted his viewpoint depended on presuppositions, Mr. Walmsley argued about the meaning of words. He stated so many times that he was unsure of the meaning of certain words that I began to think that Mr. Walmsley possessed a poor command of the English language.

To clarify, the problem to me is that both perspectives rely on presuppositions. There are certain important points to consider when evaluating these topics. First, only strict implementation of the scientific method yields relatively robust results. Science, by virtue of its methodology, excludes flict in the world. He felt that every- metaphysics. Only logic combined

with rational conclusions, such as provable and repeatable examples, like democracy and capitalism in terms of free market economies and their impact on the creation of wealth, can provide evidence in discussions that rely on anecdotal or experiential frameworks for validity.

Philosophical evidence is just as valid as religious evidence, because they both rely on presuppositions. All in all, if evidence is not introduced, or if it is not factually persuasive, then any discussion on those grounds is basically a wash, or "pie in the sky."

The most interesting part of the debate was that the audience could ask questions that challenged the speakers. When I asked the two gentlemen what the real difference was between the two viewpoints, since science excludes metaphysics, there was an awkward silence followed by a jocular moment to break the

This told me two things: first, l was correct in my observation that from an evidence perspective, they both relied on presuppositions that lacked external evidence as they presented their topics, and second, that the real winner here was the audience, because they got the chance to watch two very different people argue between themselves on stage.

It's not often you get a chance to watch academics get subjected to rigorous questioning, and even less common in a way that can not only be illuminating, but clarifying as well. Thus, despite the flaws of presupposition that both sides depended upon, if you like philosophy, religion or just the chance to be inquisitive with an academic figure, then perhaps the Socratic Club is worth your while.

Scott Conover is a senior in business administration and history. The opinions expressed in his column do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Scott Conover can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com

Scott **Dennis**



Trivial holiday songs and more

ince the day after Halloween, a steady stream of Christmas music has been pouring from my speakers. When questioned about the appropriateness of the music given the current time of year, I tell people to blame the lack of good Thanksgiving

Come to think of it, how many holidays really have songs associated with them? We play scary music for Halloween and patriotic music for Independence Day, but what about the other holidays - what of Thanksgiving and Valentine's Day? When was the last time you heard someone strolling through campus singing "Five Little Turkeys" or "Valentine Valentine?"

When most people think of "Holiday Music," they think of Christmas songs and the like, which is rather unfair to the other major holidays. Where are their classic ballads and Bing Crosby

Since Thanksgiving is coming up soon, let's use it as an example. There must be plenty of song-worthy things about this classic November holiday. It brings people together, for one, so it's a lot like Christmas in that regard. But instead of bringing families together to exchange gifts and discuss the year in review, Thanksgiving lures them together with promises of overeating and watching football while the kids hop around and ask when it'll be Christmas.

This beloved holiday tradition should provide plenty of material for today's crooners. With any luck, soon a cavalcade of new Thanksgiving classics will resonate in dorm rooms all across the country. I'm sure it will be magical.

With the conclusion of the presidential election, we should prepare a new slate of traditional jingles for our next big holiday. It's only a couple months away, so we'll have to be quick about it - Inauguration Day doesn't come every year, you know.

Though it's only officially observed by government employees in and around Washington D.C., everyone should be able to celebrate this glorious day by tuning in to their favorite Inauguration Day ballads or folk songs - we just have to write them first.

Of course we could just play some patriotic tunes for this holiday, but that wouldn't be very clever now would it?

If you're thinking "Wait, what about April Fools' Day?" then have I got a solution for you: All "Weird" Al, all the day. Students could relax to the cool sounds of polka and parody as residents of Weatherford drop water balloons on those foolish enough to walk though the great arch.

Once we're done writing new classics for every major holiday, what's next? It wouldn't be fair to ignore the lesserknown-but-still-totally-a-holiday holidays like Absurdity Day and National Cashew Day. I hope you're all prepared to celebrate Button Day on the 16th. If

See **DENNIS** | page A5

Letters

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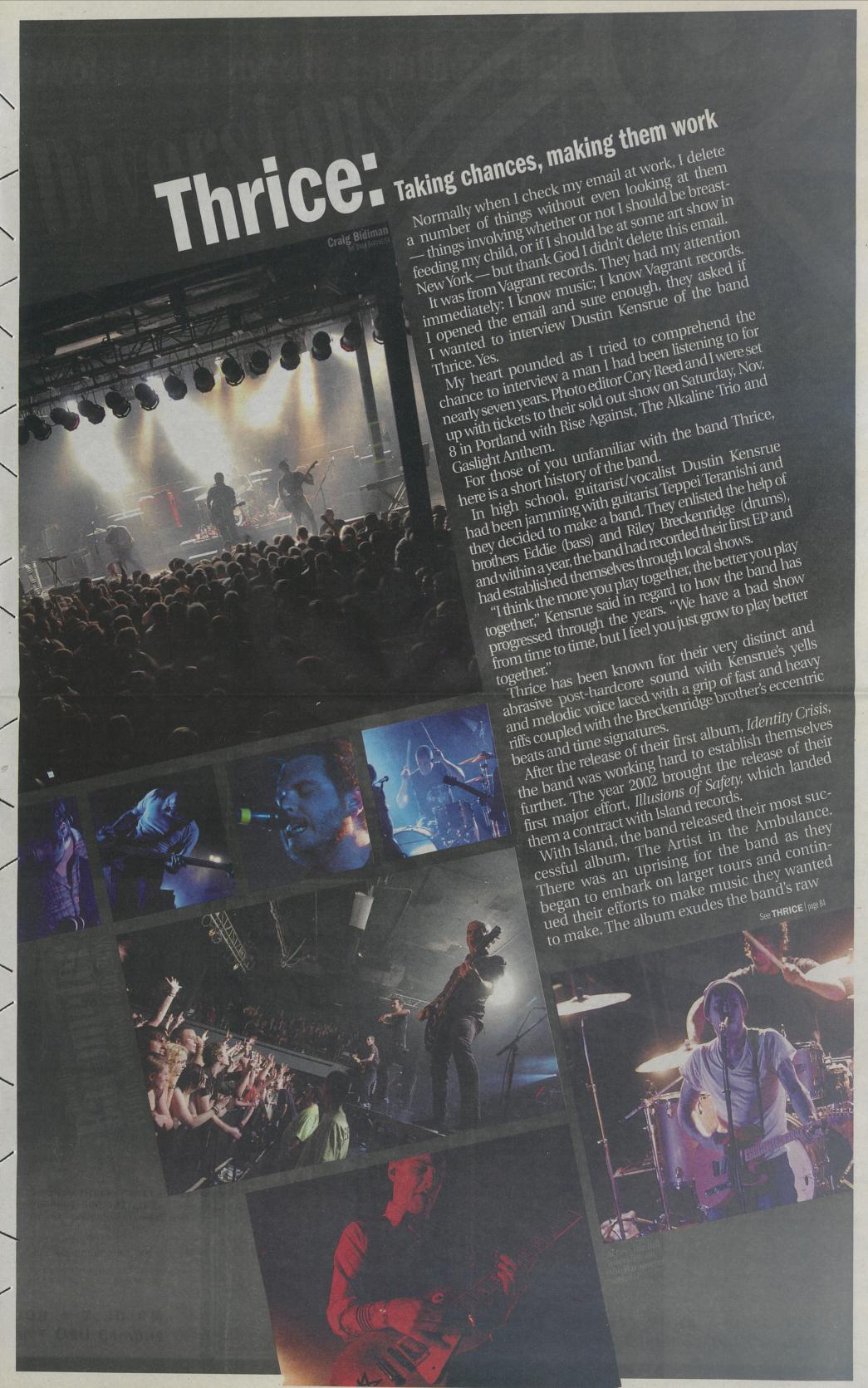
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'Role Models' worth looking up to

By Evan Connet

The movie market of late has seen a resurgence of the R-rated comedy ever since the success of Wedding Crashers and The 40 Year-Old Virgin proved that you don't need to dumb down comedy with poop and fart jokes to get a PG-13 rating and sell tickets. Role Models fits soundly into this raunchy category and, while it doesn't blaze any new trails, it certainly entertained and had me laughing hard the whole time.

Featuring something of an amalgamation of comic thespians, the two leading men are Judd Apatow's go-to supporting man Paul Rudd (as Danny), and American Pie alumnus Seann William Scott (as Danny's wild co-worker Wheeler.) Danny and Wheeler are representatives of Minotaur, an energy drink marketed to schools as a safe alternative to drugs

During a particularly bad day featuring a rejected proposal and subsequent breakup with his girlfriend Beth (Elizabeth Banks, another Apatow regular), Danny snaps during a presentation and further jumps the shark as their trademark Minotaur truck is being towed. He ends up accidentally destroying the truck and a statue by the school. After some intervention by the now ex-girlfriend and lawyer Beth, the two men narrowly dodge thirty days in jail and are sent to serve 150



organization, Sturdy Wings.

It is at this point that the movie really takes off. The guys meet with the creator and organizer of Sturdy Wings, ex-felon and former coke addict Gayle Sweeney. Gayle is played perfectly by Jane Lynch, who many will remember as the manager from 40 Year-Old Virgin. The two men are then introduced to their "littles."

Danny is paired with hopelessly-nerdy Augie Farks (Christopher "McLovin" Mintz-Plasse, not just rehashing his Superbad performance), an 18 year-old who spends most of his time in the live action role playing game LAIRE, fighting fantasy battles in the park with foam weapons. Wheeler, on the other hand, is paired with Ronnie (Bobb'e J. Thompson), a foul mouthed 10-year-old who hours of community service repeatedly tries to get Wheeler at rock band KISS the same way

being a pedophile, stealing his car and otherwise making his life miserable.

While initially put off by their littles, Danny and Wheeler find over the course of their 150 hours that the kids are more normal than they first thought. After finding ways to connect with them, the group begins to make progress, interspersed with an absolutely hilarious camping trip. Interestingly enough, much of the latter half of the movie becomes focused on Augie's obsession with LAIRE and the build up toward a climactic battle royale against Augie's nemesis, King Argtron (Ken Jeong).

Your typical conflict emerges when both men mess up and learn to right their wrongs, but the resolution is extremely well done. You will never quite look

at the local "Big Brother"-type to quit by accusing him of again, and Kiss-My-Anthea will become everyone's favorite fantasy realm, trust me.

This movie does just about everything right: The actors fit effortlessly into their characters as each brings a unique type of humor to the table. Go see this one, I highly recommend it. And remember, when someone offers you drugs, just say "no thanks, I'll have a Minotaur!"

Evan Connet diversions@dailybarometer.com

Role Models

Universal Studios

★★★★ Runtime: 99 minutes

Rated: R

Starring:Paul Rudd, Seann William Scott, Christopher Mintz-Plasse

Plot: Two co-workers find themselves in tight spot when they are sentenced to 150 hours of community service by taking place in a Big Brother program

Diversions Calendar

DAD's WEEKEND!

2008 Student Symposium, 9am - 6pm in Memorial Union Powell Learning Center Journey Room Oregon NASA Space Grant will host the 2008 Student Symposium, featuring NASA sponsored student research projects. The symposium will feature both oral and poster presentations from NASA student interns.

- Adam Scramstad (Blues Guitar & Vocals), 8pm at Fireworks Bar & Grill, FREE!
- Comedian Kevin Nealon, 7pm in La Sells Stewart Center, SOLD OUT!
- Dad's Weekend Golf Tournament, 1pm at Trysting Tree Golf Course, \$55 per team
- Poitin and Stout with Sid and Fancy (Eugene Bluegrass), 9:30pm at Fox N Firkin, \$3, 21+
- Salsa Lesson/Dance, 7pm in the MU Ballroom, FREE!
- Storyhill (RedHouse Recording Artist), 9pm at Bombs Away Cafe, \$12, 21+

- Billy Sunrise, 8pm at Calapooia Brewing Co.,
- Fate 55, 9pm at Peacock Bar & Grill, FREE!
- Football: OSU VS. Cal (Berkley), 12pm in Reser Stadium, get there early for tailgating action!
- The Sven's, 9pm at Bombs Away Cafe, FREE!, 21+
- The Bad Mitten Orchestre (Folk Cabaret Bluegrass Jug Band), 7pm at Fireworks Bar

- **OSU Wind Ensemble Fall** Concert: Sun Chasing, 3pm in La Sells Stewart Center, \$10 general admission, FREE
- for OSU students. Rusty Hinges, Olde Time Acoustic String Band, 8:30pm at Club Platinum — \$21

- Brothers, Sing On! The OSU Men's Chorus Festival, 7pm in La Sells Stewart Center, \$5. Featuring OSU Meistersingers and men's choirs from Crescent Valley, Tualatin, and South Salem high schools.
- Common Pulse African Rhythm Circle, 7:30pm in West Dining Center. A Rhythm Event is an empowering group experience which uses a dynamic combination of percussion instruments, voice, clapping and movement to experience the joy of group music making.

The World in OSU, Part One, 12pm in MU Journey Room, Free! This documentary is being show as part of International Education Week activities. OSU students from around the globe share their stories of living in Corvallis and how it has challenged their perceptions of themselves, their homes and America.

- Get Your Groove On! 5pm in the MU, chat with Dr. Sex at this Beaver Safer Sex
- Ralph Bassinger (Blues and Boogie Piano), 6:30pm at



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Alex re-evaluates religion: Useful Parables

I tried to juggle a pair of tennis balls one summer night, but I failed attempt after attempt, the balls slipping through my grasp to my toes, where I'd try, in vain, to kick them back to my hands.

It would've been easy for me to give up on the skill I had no prior muscle memory with; no one would've blamed me. But what would I have proved if I gave up on something so trivial? I knew if I started quitting during such mundane points of my life it would only become easier to quit when moments became

I still don't know how to juggle, but every time I find a couple of aerodynamic spheres, I toss them through the air, awkward from struggling to keep them afloat simultaneously. But that

because I look stupid, because m not a trained performer who knows how to execute the switch flawlessly. In fact, that's what keeps me going: the idea that I may someday be able throw one ball into the air while flipping the other to the launching hand. I'm well aware this may never happen, and that keeps me going; not belief that I may accomplish something extraordinary — I don't plan on taking my show on the road — but faith in the idea I'm a little bit better at one aspect of my life because of the work I've put into in.

I make funny faces when I lift weights. Many people in the weight room distort lips, cheeks reddening, when they engage in physical activity; but I'd be lying if I said I puffed out my cheeks or reached my tongue

doesn't mean I give up just toward my nose by accident. I minutes in the gym sternget the feeling that most of the people in there don't care for my antics. They'd rather grunt at their reflections, focusing on the veins slithering beneath painted on Under Armor, than have to deal with an awkward facial contortionist peering over their shoulder to see what a toothy smile looks like in the Dixon

I'd love to see these people take themselves less seriously, for them to join me in the act of pursing lips to breathe through nonexistent straws, but I know they never will. Exercise is their humorless endeavor. It doesn't matter to them that it's truly nothing more than a controlled way to better their body; they refuse to see it as anything other than strategic movement. For those who spend their 60-90

faced, the workout is worship. I've tried to infuse life into their morose demeanors, but I think it may be useless. Those who treat their hour strictly as worship will never be able to see it as what it should be: a fun, lighthearted celebration of the betterment of themselves.

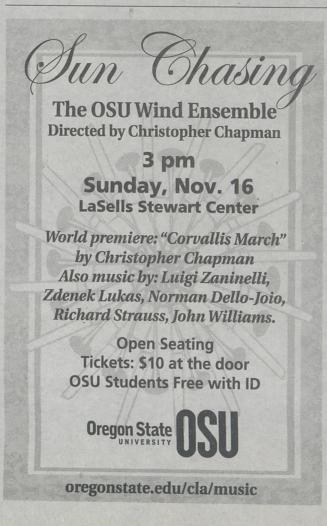
One of my roommates is a firefighter, while the other is training to become a police officer. The firefighter often chastises the officer-in-training for his future choice of profession. He calls him a donut-eater and other various kennings (thanks, Tara Williams). The officer can't respond to the accusations — he is yet to engulf himself in the learned practices of a police officer, the taunts they create about firefighters while dunking biscotti into tea (cliché

See PARABLES | page B4



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Election over, politicians take a leap of faith

By Rick Crawford

The election is over!

Okay, I know this is kind of old news, and this article technically should have been published last week. However, after the election, and the drunken debauchery that followed, I kind of blacked out for a few days. Now Barack Obama and Joe Biden are ready to enter the white house, and Oregon-elected Jeff Merkeley is ready to go to the Senate. But what about

After over a year of campaigning, what are John McCain, Sarah Palin and Gordon Smith

what career moves these politicians should take next.

First, we should take a look at what ex-Sen. Gordon Smith is going to do. The right career move for Gordon Smith would be to become a spokesman for a hair styling company. I mean, have you seen that thing?! It's beautiful. Even though I am pretty sure it's a living organism, I am astounded by it. I had no clue what he was talking about every time I saw one his of commercials, and I don't even really know what makes up the rest of Gordon Smith. All I know is that hair made me feel alive inside,

going to do? Let's take a look at and it is time to unleash it on all between a pit-bull and a hockey of America.

For a fallback, I would want Gordon Smith to continue his work with the Special Committee on Aging, just so his hair stays perfect, but it would look good in a metallic gray. It always comes back to the hair.

Sure, some might say that Sarah Palin is still the Governor of Alaska, but for the sake of this column, she should still make a new career choice: Palin should become a stylist, but for dogs.

If she did this job (which would include putting lipstick on the dogs before their competitions) then the difference

mom would be ... absolutely nothing! Ha get it? Isn't that joke just hilarious?!

A nice fallback for her would be to move to Eastern Russia. She would still be able to see her old house and friends in Alaska, and she could help in the fight against those damn commies.

But what about John McCain? He is still a national hero and has spent decades working in American politics. Actually the answer is quite obvious: he should retire.

He has ran for president on

See JOBS | page B4

No shave November: Manliness of epic proportions

By Evan Connet

November is a magical month, one of feasting and merriment. The days grow shorter as the holiday season edges ever closer and we take stock of the year that lies behind us and the one that ies ahead. However, there is something else that sets November apart from every other month.

For eleven months of the year, the average man is shackled to the inescapable pull of the shave. Daily upkeep of facial hair, a process that begins as a rite of passage into manhood, becomes nothing more than a nuisance as men around the world take time out of their day to rid their faces of this societal pariahmaker. So what better way to spend a month than growing out a large, bushy, rustic manbeard? No-Shave November

As such, November is a time

when a man can be a man and, can be ... um, French. As per the rules of a true believer, neither blade nor shaving cream may touch the body from midnight November 1st to midnight December 1st. As a first time practitioner of this time-honored tradition myself, it has indeed been an interesting journey, even a mere week and a half into the month at the time I write this.

Forgoing the typical shave at first seems strange, foreign, like stepping back into the 70s when growing a thick, full mustache was all the rage. (Okay, I don't have a thick, full mustache, but you catch my drift.) The first few days of itchy scruff and sandpaper face are the hardest, as many men realize just how unkempt and patchy they really look. But fear not, once you clear the hurdles of the beginning, it is smooth sailing all the way to Beardsville.

if she so chooses, a woman research into this month-long phenomena I have uncovered many different motives for denying the razor for a whole month. For some it is a personal test of endurance, just to prove they can. For others it is a fundraiser, done for a cause. Some, such as myself, take the opportunity just to see what it will look like, since it's never been attempted before. Of course, along those same lines, many bets may be placed as to the endurance and fortitude of the participant. Some naysayers will bet against them, assuming they will not last the month. In these cases I say be strong, stay the course and victory will be yours. In fact I have a bet with my roommate, who shall remained unnamed, because as soon as the month is up, his shame will alert everyone anyway.

> No-Shave November is not for the weak-willed or flaky,

Now in doing a little and some employers do not see eye-to-eye on the whole "unkempt" look. While I would advise that you be a man and walk out on said employer for their affront, I understand the need for income, and thus a job. In this case I am sorry for you — we can't all be perfect specimens of manliness

Also be warned, No-Shave November carries the possibility of side effects that create the urge to partake in epic mantivities such as: chopping down trees, blowing stuff up, playing sick guitar solos with epic power stances, jumping through the air while firing two pistols, surviving in the woods with nothing but a hatchet and a bottle of vodka, and BBQ.

I wish the best of luck to everyone partaking in this month of literal and figurative growth.

Evan Connet diversions@dailybarometer.com

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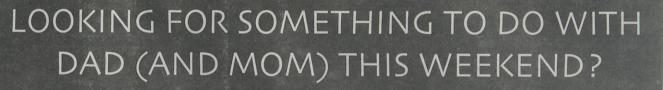
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Check it out: Vol. 5, God loves the spotlight too

By Ruben Casas

While you and I might be limited to only 15 minutes of fame, the Almighty has been basking in the celebrity spotlight for (arguably) thousands of years now. And if you think that just because less and less people are (reportedly) going to church these days and Our Father up in Heaven's ratings have been falling, think again: our prolific and rich contemporary moment has given Him an almost inexhaustible realm of possibilities to live out the modern and culturally relevant life many of us have been trying to keep Him from.

Someone might ask where I get the nerve to suggest that you (and I) have been trying to suppress the Lord's rampage through our collective consciousness. You who go to church regularly, you who defends His church/ temple/house/building from the sacrilege of a sassy collegeaged scribbler whose weekly reevaluations of religion have yet to validate the selfless, righteous work you and your fellow believfootball game is scheduled in that time slot) on Sundays?

The answer is simple: I get the nerve (or the idea, rather) from hearing about and reading some of the responses fellow writer Alex McElroy has received in response to his weekly "Alex Re-evaluates Religion," which appears alongside Check It Out every Friday. The unassailable message or theme that these missives betray is that the faithful do not like to see their deity walking about outside the safety and comfort of the place of worship they've erected for Him to dwell in.

It's probable that those who have written in defense of their house of worship or of the way their brand of belief was portrayed in any of Alex's Reevaluations think they've done it because 1) Alex got the wrong impression on his visit to their place of worship — this was a one-time exception (please come back), or 2) Alex simply got it wrong and he should be reprimanded for writing about it. But how many other Alexes do you suppose have walked ers do once a week (unless a into your house of worship who



COURTESY OF MIRAMAX FILMS

have also experienced what Alex a defense of Alex's critical writhas, except that you never knew about it because they didn't write about it, or if they did they didn't have the weekly column forum to publish in?

Alex is probably not the only person in Corvallis who's been re-evaluating (your) religion; he's simply the one you found out about.

But this is neither a condemnation of your (possibly) well-intended but rather obvious observations; neither is it

ings. Rather, it's an exploration of what this conversation you've all been having means in the grand scheme of things. And the first thing it means is that God's been sneaking out at night — through some window quite possibly and that he's been keeping himself quite busy.

But don't worry (stop shaking) — he's not that interested in what you do on non-Sunday mornings. Actually (and despite your best attempts) and much

stepping out of his Sunday role and making appearances on all sorts of TV and film, and pop songs too (gasp!).

While you were busy not at church and thinking God was, He was busy getting the attention he deserves: there's God a la Alanis in Dogma (1999), which then assured Him roles in Bruce Almighty (2003) and Evan Almighty (2007). Those roles gave him semi-regular appearances in The Simpsons ("Homer the Heretic" to be specific, in which Homer makes a compelling argument, asking God, "I'm not a bad guy, I work hard, and I love my kids ... so why should I spend half my Sunday hearing about how I'm going to hell?"), and — if you're still "old school" and think God and Jesus are the same person South Park, in which the Son of God makes appearances in a number of episodes.

What responses to critical approaches to church and religion such as Alex's "Re-evaluates" represent is an unrecognized suppression of the idea of God in modern culture. They

to your chagrin, the Almighty's betray a forced compartmentalization of the idea of God, or at least ownership of an idea which really belongs to all of western culture, from those that tout themselves as "true believers." What's coming across is that you hate to think of God as part of someone else's experience, whether it be in the movies, on TV or in a weekly column - of any medium or mention that doesn't keep God in church (His

You don't want to see or hear about God outside of Sunday, not when you're perusing for porn while your roommate's in class, not when you're forcing the girl at the party to have another drink so that she won't resist you later, not when you're reading reviews for W.

But, we are told, God is a God exacting exclusive devotion, and if He isn't going to get it from you (but on Sunday mornings), he's going to get it somewhere.

And you thought He'd play nice and stay in church 'til

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two different occasions, and

THRICE:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

sound while making a number of commentaries on everyday life. Vheissu was released in 2005 and it marked a major shift in the band's musical progression.

More of an atmospheric and experimental aspect was thrown into the mix as Thrice expanded their horizons, utilizing more electronics and more abstract song structure.

Speaking of major changes musically, Thrice most recently released The Alchemy Index. The album, which was released in two separate installments, is divided into four volumes: Fire, Water, Air and Earth. Each album's tone corresponds to the element it represents, transitioning through the very familiar alternative style of Fire, to the electronic beat-driven Water, to the atmospheric Air, finishing with the stripped-down, folksy style of Earth.

Kensrue doesn't attribute this lofty change to any one significant influence.

"The idea wasn't prompted by any influence. It was kind of like an idea that this could be something cool," he said. "A cool way to stretch and challenge ourselves and then from there you start pull little bits from here and there."

"More so, I feel we started looking at the elements and while writing, we tried to be influenced by the mood of that element and that vibe.

Kensrue explained that the recording process of the album was nothing like anything they had ever done. Thrice had just recently signed to Vagrant records shortly before the release of the first installment of the album, and this move led to a more personal release.

"Almost everything was different [with this album]," Kensrue said. "We did it all ourselves. Teppei was engineering it as we did it at home in a small recording studio we had built in our garage."

He also explained that they were writing as they were recording to save time, even limiting themselves to certain goals to make sure they weren't brooding on something too long.

"It was a lot bigger task than I thought it would be," Kensrue said.

Something very unique with the Index is the fact that the last song on each of the volumes contains a Shakespearian sonnet from the perspective of the element commenting on man's treatment of it.

"I like the sonnet form, the brevity, the couplet at the end that is used as a dramatic wrap up," he said. Each of the couplets are structured very similarly as

the only difference is the key in which

Working within such a confined structure is an interesting challenge," he said. 'You only have so much space and the whole time you are wondering 'How am I going to say what I want to say here?"

"It makes you make every line count and it was one of the cooler things with the process."

Kensrue and I were even able to discuss the release of his upcoming solo Christmas release, This Good Night is Still Everywhere, which he recorded and produced himself.

"I recorded the vocals and the acoustic guitars in three hotel rooms on the road, so it was crazy recording it so quickly and

Thrice has plans to head back into the studio early 2009, writing a bit now and the majority during the recording process again. They are preparing to release their newest DVD, Live at the House of Blues, which was recorded on the last stop of their last headlining tour. It contains a full 25-song live show and a number of extras from the band.

I have been to a lot of concerts in my day, and this show by far had the highest number of inebriated fans as well as the longest line for balcony access I have

The Gaslight Anthem started out strong, and having never heard them I was pleased. Thrice took the stage next with the familiar energy they always exude. A minor tuning problem postponed their set for a few minutes, but they still finished out their set strong with "The Earth Will Shake," as they have become more accustom to doing.

I will not lie, I have listened to The Alkaline Trio in the past and have never been a huge fan, but was excited for their set. Ultimately, I have seen better. Then the headliners, Rise Against, took the stage and left me in shambles. They performed a completely tight set, playing a number of old songs while still tapping into their newest release, Appeal to Reason.

Rise Against's lead singer, Tim McIlrath made the quote of the night:

This is our first Saturday night in eight years where we have a glimmer of hope for the future," a direct reference to Obama's victory earlier in the week.

To have the opportunity to attend and be a part of this concert was a blast. thank those from Vagrant records, Roseland Theater and Thrice for their willingness to help and provide us with an awesome experience.

> Craig Bidiman diversions@daily barometer.com

JOBS:

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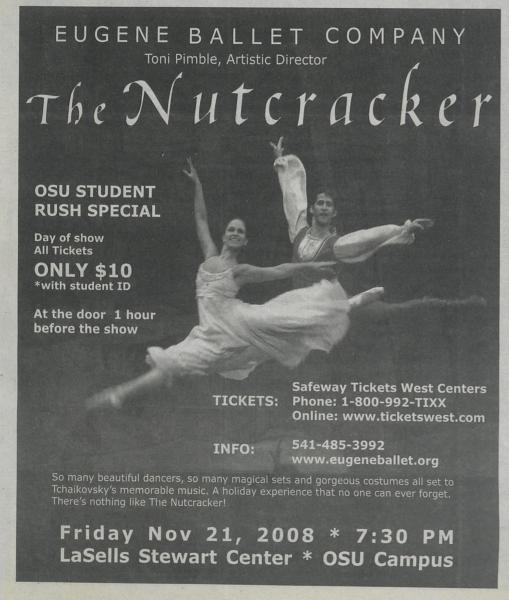
lost. He is probably all mavericked-out, and he is already in the best state for people to retire in. Which reminds me: Why are all the retirement hotspots in Arizona and Florida? I know they're nice, but the old people make me not want to go there ... ever. If he doesn't want to retire, a great fallback for McCain would be setting up new retirement places in different "hotspots" around the country. Wisconsin is nice. Right?

Finally, now that the campaign season is over, what should Joe the Plumber do? Oh yeah, he's a plumber! Joe was able to go out on the campaign trail for a couple weeks while talking about his struggling small business. If he was actually struggling, he would not have been able to leave his plumbing business, right? I call shenanigans!

Rick Crawford diversions@dailybarometer.com

But once the officer gains the

PARABLES:





proper knowledge of his own self-worth, the confidence one only gains through dehumanization of parallel professions, their arguments will grow in weight. Once their opinions collide, the house's foundation may crumble, creating a crack of Gaza Strip proportions. Discordance like this happens daily, but we pass by it because we take our own ideas to be right no matter what, without understanding that in the grand scheme of things, both arguments are

other of nature; it's Granny Smith to Red Delicious. But once you strip away what or when they fight, or the danger of either one, it becomes the same thing: they protect life. It's almost like the hundreds of different systems of beliefs offered by the numerous religious texts available. Once you strip out who — Jesus, Allah, Buddha — said what, you realize they're all relaying the same message: Be a better person.

Alex McElroy diversions@dailybarometer.com

The importance of leadership and accountability

o you ever have those days when you feel like the boat left and you weren't on it?

One of the hardest things to do in life is admit when you're wrong. However, following closely in second is changing somebody else's opinion of you if you are right but are perceived to be wrong.

There are few things that are more despised in the military than a comrade who jumps ship when the going gets rough or someone who rushes to call in sick right before some type of ,rigorous training. These are tell-tale signs of a soldier who won't have your back in a firefight. Unfortunately, there are times when luck runs out and a good soldier falls to these circumstances just by chance, and it is times like these that the true character of that dodgy individual comes into play.

Any leader worth their salt will not take a sick individual and thrust upon them the full force of his or her job. Be it in the military, sports or even in the medical field, the job to be



performed is usually designed to take the full ability of a welltrained, able-bodied professional to handle the tasks assigned.

You would never trust a teacher with the flu to grade 100 midterms correctly, much as you would never ask a firefighter with a broken hand to be the first person into a burning building. Yet there are those individuals who "fake the funk" to get out of something they really do not want to do. These people give every other legitimate person with an ailment a bad name.

I write this because we are a society of labels, and once we are assigned one we find it hard to shake it. No matter who we are or where we go, we will find this to be true. Everybody knows the "teacher's pet" when they see it, much as nobody misses the hard worker. Labels are not they take away from the actual reality surrounding the individual. The point of the matter is that nobody is ever how we imagine them to be, or how we are told they are, when all of our knowledge is based on labels and generalizations. Facts differ from opinions and beliefs so greatly that I have sometimes wondered how many times they can be mixed up. However, sometimes an opinion could be so close to a fact that they seem identical except for one small detail somewhere.

Sometimes I find myself really wondering what the hell I'm writing about, and right now is no exception. But I think I've stumbled onto a good point here, so bear with me.

When the day is over and the last candle has burned itself out, the only thing left to a person is just the reflection in the mirror or inner truth that lies buried inside you as you toss and turn in your sleep. Indeed, some of those individuals who we think have slighted us in some way may deserve our

always harmful, but sometimes negative opinions and condescending remarks, but at the end of the day, what kind of person does that really leave us as? And for that matter, is being right about one person worth being wrong about who knows how many others? I mean, is that really what you woke up this morning and decided to

> Sometimes the ebb and flow of whatever crap life has in store for us seems to do more flow than we are deserving of, but part of what makes a person is how they deal with everything when the cards are down. The key to happiness is not found at the bottom of a bottle, or in some bombshell that sweeps you off your feet or even in the fountain of youth, but rather in being able to really look deep down at who you are and to know you are not living for the wrong reasons. Live to be ... happy.

> **Chris Topham** is a senior in communication. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Daily Barometer staff. Topham can be reached at forum@

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Lohan, lesbians and love; gay celebrity dillema

weeks, our country has agreeD on a handful of things. We believe in change. We're not sure if "Heroes" is going to impress this season. And, oh right, we apparently hate gays in love.

Through passing propositions 2 in Florida, 102 in Arizona and most notably 8 in California, Americans used their voting power to decide that gays should not and cannot marry in these three states. With the latter being approved by only a 2.5 percent margin, almost half of the voters in California — a liberal state bizarre enough to contain both Hollywood, the inferable highest amount of roller skaters per square inch and a governor who is famous for playing a cyborg murderer -chose to deny gay couples the right to marry under state law.

Clearly, we aren't okay with considering homosexuals equals. But instead of completely denouncing those with sexual preferences that differ from ours, we unfairly and hypocritically pick our gay battles. America, in general, isn't homophobic — it's homopreferential.

While Prop. 8 is discussed on the covers of newsprint publications, the headlines of glossies next to them scream about Jennifer Aniston's womb, the vampy goodness of "Twilight" and how seriously in love America's former man-eater Lindsay Lohan is with girl friendturned-girlfriend Samantha

Daily Illini

In general, it mind-bogglingly doesn't make sense. Even as "Lindsay in Love!" headlines blurt from US Weekly's web site, right below it is a story describing Brooke Smith's recent firing from "Grey's Anatomy." Though refuted by higher-ups and the show's creators, it's suspicious and newsworthy because the successful actress was most likely canned so quickly because her character's lesbian relationship began heating up and executives wanted to squash it.

While the issue has been met with mild outrage from fans, Isaiah Washington, of all people the same actor who was written out of the series when a backlash surrounded his usage of a gay slur towards a cast member spoke out in her defense, calling the choice "disgusting." On a show where public outrage from name-calling resulted in a lead actor being fired, the same program hypocritically flip-flopped their policy and fired its own lead actress, assumingly for the homosexual storyline.

Take into account other hyperpopular media-friendly gays such as Ellen DeGeneres and her successful show, Rachel Maddow and her rapidly increasing ratings and blogger Perez Hilton's obsessive adolescent following, we seem to be more than tolerant. dedicated and loving fans, even. But in California, Perez's home state and where DeGenres's

statewide gay marriage opportunities has been squashed.

Plainly hating on gay people just isn't cool and taboo anymore; calling someone a hateful word is more idiotic and ignorant than impressive among a group of mature people. But still, our society will generally cherrypick the homoerotic happenings we rally behind, instead of opening the floodgates to allow homosexuals of all shapes and sizes to formally commit themselves to each other.

If you religiously believe marriage is a sacred union between only a man and woman, take a look at the high standards we hold for men and women marrying in our society. Proposals are prizes on season finale episodes of television shows, Hugh Hefner's trampy girlfriend getting hitched is front-page news and "Engaged and Underage," an MTV program highlighting the drug addictions, unplanned

pregnancies and "love"-driven pre-marital non-bliss between teens, is repeatedly rerun. But as high-held a belief of heterosexual marriage, relationships and love are, Katy Perry's "I Kissed A Girl" hit the top of the charts this summer, proving that if lesbianism is both attractive and paired with a good drum beat, it's even more socially acceptable.

On an individual basis, it's alarmingly true: Hot girls making out at parties while being cheered on by guys around them is widely considered all right, but two lesbians kissing as newlyweds isn't. Stunning or attractive bisexuals like Lindsay or Tila Tequila are near-titillating to the public, but a loving relationship between two 40year-old men is not.

We've incorrectly picked and chosen which gays we support, and in turn, wrongfully picked poor legislation to enforce.

> Carlye Wisel Daily Illini (U. Illinois)

DENNIS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A4

you have trouble finding an appropriate song to warble throughout the dorm, try improvising your own - like so!

"Button Day, Button Day, Break out the cheese and mutton day, Made of glass, Made of bone, Don the traditional button

And that's why I will continue to play Christmas music until Dec. 25. Because until yesteryear's song birds rise from their graves to bring us some new Thanksgiving classics, we're pretty much stuck with the same songs we've always heard.

Oh, and Happy Button day.

Scott Dennis is a junior in fine arts. The opinions expressed in his column do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Dennis can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.



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FRIDAY 11/14 - Come watch the Dark Knight at 8 or 10:30 p.m. in the MU Commons, also enjoy Wii and board games all night. Dixon Rec will show Talladega Nights at 8:30 p.m. and at 10:30 p.m. comedian Ryan Hamilton will perform for free. Free food and

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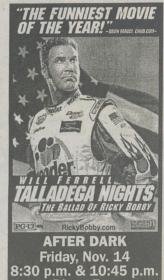
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Obama resigning Senate seat -

CHICAGO—President-elect Barack Obama said Thursday that he will resign from the Senate effective Sunday.

In a statement, the junior Illinois senator called his fouryear term "one of the highest honors and privileges" of his life and said the people of Illinois will stay with him as he leaves the Senate to begin "the hard task of fulfilling the simple hopes and common dreams of all Americans as our nation's next president."

Obama won the presidency last week over Republican John McCain.

Under state law, Democratic Gov. Rod Blagojevich will name Obama's replacement for the remaining two years of his term. Blagojevich has said he expects to make a decision by year's end, and has ruled out appointing himself. Obama, elected in 2004, is the only black senator.

His resignation reduces the Democratic majority to a bare minimum for the postelection session that begins next week. The party retains control as long as Independent Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut sides with them.

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SIGNINGS

Baseball

Jeff Ames, RHP

Skyview High Vancouver, Wash.

Ryan Barnes, IF West Linn High West Linn, Ore. PGCrossChecker.com, No. 1 player in Oregon. Parker Berberet, C

Cypress College Yorba Linda, Calif.

Matt Boyd, 1B/P Eastside Catholic High Mercer Island, Wash

Tony Bryant, RHP Kennewick High Kennewick, Wash.

Danny Hayes, SS Jesuit High Roseville, Calif.

Tyler Smith, IF Thousand Oaks High Thousand Oaks, Calif.

Andrew-Susac, C Jesuit High

Roseville, Calif. 2008 Aflac All-American

J.J. Turbin, OF Coeur d'Alene High Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Volleyball

Megan McBride, S/OH Auburn, Wash Roberts, Jessica MB/OH Lynden, Wash.

Alyssa O'Neil, DS/OH West Linn, Ore.

Setting up the potent Washington offensive attack is sophomore setter Jenna Hagglund, who

has 998 assists on the season. Hagglund ranks at number three in the nation in assists per set,

Scoring points on the serve has also been a

strong point for Washington with five players in

double digits for service aces. Collymore leads

the Huskies with 34 service aces while Salvo has

libero Tamari Miyashiro, who has dug 410 balls

in the backcourt and is averaging five digs per

set. At the net senior middle blocker Jessica Swarbick has 92 total blocks to lead the squad on

the block. Swarbick is also leading Washington,

"We have addressed this in our scouting,"

Knitter said. "Don't serve the ball to the libero

and focus on the weaker blocker at the net.

After Washington, the Beavers look to not let

history repeat itself. Last season a winless WSU

squad battled back from a 2-1 deficit to earn

their only win of the Pac-10 season over Oregon

ning and not give them any life," junior middle blocker Lexie Rathgeber said. "Last year they

were in this same position and they did get that

win against us. We learned that we have to stop

This season, Washington State remains win-

30+ Microbrews and Pizza...

"We need to start strong from the begin-

State in the final game of the year.

them at the beginning.

The defense for Washington is led by junior

VOLLEYBALL

averaging 12.17.

hitting .403 on the attack.

Attack the line."

FOOTBALL

foot-2 redshirt sophomore is currently 5-1. While sharing the quarterback role, Riley is responsible for ten of the Golden Bears' touchdowns this year, completing 91-178 bring to town, the Beavers for 1124 yards, with a completion rating of 51 percent.

This is as talented of a team as we have seen," head coach Mike Riley said. "They're athletic and fast and have very balanced defense. If you look statistically in the conference stats we are kind of neck and neck in all the categories. It appears to be quite a match-up.

In the Bears backfield will be the conference's third best rusher by numbers, Jahvid Best, averaging 6.3 yards per carry and 95.8 per game. Best has been able to produce four games this season eclipsing the 100-yard mark, a task not easy considering ably means 70 or 60. He is his continued battle with injuries. Needing only 13 more yards to hit the 1,000 plateau in his career, and still only a sophomore, Best is a name that will become more common in the Pac-10.

Rounding out the offensive presence for Cal is wide receiver Nyan Boateng. The Bears' leading wide receiver has totaled 367 yards of offense, averaging 16 yards per catch. The junior out of Brooklyn, New York has caught four touchdowns failing relationship, week in in his last six games and is one behind Best for most have proven to their opporeceptions on the team with nents that stopping only one

23. A transfer student from standout is not enough. the University of Florida, Boateng, in his second year with the Bears, was forced to sit out last season in regards to NCAA transfer requirements.

No matter who the Bears always have their own game plan. Currently undefeated in front of their home crowd this year, Oregon State has won 12 of their last 13 while in Reser Stadium, dating back to September 29, 2007.

Still uncertain as to who the starting quarterback will be this weekend, a gametime decision from head coach Mike Riley is something Beaver fans anxiously anticipate.

"Our situation isn't clear yet," Riley said. "Sean of course will be ready and Lyle is getting closer. He felt yesterday he was at 80 percent, but knowing Lyle that probvery optimistic. I do think he is getting closer and we will see how much practice he gets in.'

Whether Moevao or Canfield starts, the difference separating this team from those in the past is depth. For the first time in many years Oregon State has the comfort of knowing that players are going to get hurt and their team is going to

With more threats than a and week out the Beavers

less in Pac-10 play, having won only two sets

during conference play, one against OSU and

close," Liskevych said. "They are going to compete and think they have a chance against us

They've lost but their scores have been

Junior outside hitter Jackie Albright leads the

Cougar attack with 187 kills while senior middle

blocker Emily Rooney has terminated 181 balls

on the season. Junior setter Renee Bordelon

Brittany Tillman has a team high 73 total blocks

while junior libero Kelly Hyder leads the back-

Oregon State is fresh off losing in a three-set sweep to No. 8 Oregon and needs three wins in

the next six matches to make a solid case for a

On offense, junior outside hitter Rachel

Rourke leads the team with 401 kills while

sophomore Jill Sawatzky has terminated 270 balls. Junior setter Camilla Ah-Hoy has set out

The defense is led by senior libero Ashley

Evans, who has 316 digs in the backcourt. Up

front the net is protected by middle blocking

pair senior Lauren Rinderknecht and Rathgeber.

Rinderknecht and Rathgeber have 85 and 82 total

Casey Grogan, sports editor

The Beavers and Huskies meet tonight at 7 p.m. before Oregon State welcomes Washington State

On defense, sophomore middle blocker

one against then-No. 4 Cal.

leads WSU with 593 assists.

court with 593 digs.

tournament berth.

920 assists on the year.

blocks, respectively.

on Sunday at 1 p.m.

Returning to the field this week after his own injury woes is senior Shane Morales, who is ursing a hip injury after a mishap in practice, Beaver fans look forward to their new go-to guy making his miraculous third down catches. Third on the team with receptions, Morales has contributed six touchdowns and 529 yards of offense.

Not to be outdone, Sammie Stroughter, doing what he does best, is leading the Oregon State receiving corps with 50 catches on the vear and is tied with Morales with six touchdowns. One of Week" three times this year, the nation's top wide-outs, including his last two starts.

vear against Stanford and is always one game away from doing it again.

The Oregon State passing offense currently sits atop the Pac-10 with 2,301 yards. If ever the day comes and this unit finds itself being shut down, a 5-foot-6-inch kid in the backfield has his own plan.

Jacquizz continues to lead the conference with 1089 yards on 228 attempts. The only freshman to ever lead the Pac-10 in rushing has been a conference "Player of the

Stroughter made a career- In what will be his ninth start high 12 catches earlier in the of both the season and his career, Jacquizz looks to continue his success against a Bears defense allowing 116.6yards per game, placing them fourth in the conference.

With what may be the most talented Oregon State football team in school history, the Beavers will leave it all on the field Saturday, proving to themselves that they belong among the top. A team who started 0-2 is now in search of a conference championship and bowl game they may have only dreamt of.

> Matt Wilhelmsen, sports writer sports@dailybarometer.com





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Oregon State senior wide receiver Sammie Stroughter leads the Beavers with 50 catches for 659 yards. Morales has six touchdowns so far this season.

OSU running for roses

Beavers hope to beat California, Bears (6-3, 4-2).

A game that has become more keep Rose Bowl dreams a possibility, Saturday at Reser

By Matt Wilhelmsen

Do you ever wonder why the Pac-10 Conference refuses to play a championship game? It's the same reason the BCS avoids the idea of a play-off system.

In college football, especially on the West Coast, second chances are non-existent. Opportunities are endless, but you'd better capitalize while the window is open; you either do it or you don't.

'Whatever the start is, we try to get better every week, play your best ball at the end," head coach Mike Riley said. "It's coming down the stretch in the fourth quarter and that's where we have to be at our best. We play the best teams com-

A sport comprised of only the toughest, football has never been described as easy. A 60-minute battle including the likes of blood, sweat and tears, football is the only sport that requires a week between match-ups, a time when ice baths and heat compressions become second nature.

With nine battles down and just three to go, No. 23 Oregon State (6-3, 5-1) will prepare for war against one of the conference's toughest opponents, the California Golden

attractive over the recent years with the success of both teams, Oregon State's dethroning of the then-No. 2 Cal Bears last season in Berkeley added more fuel to this already blazing fire.

"That game was somewhat of a turning point game for the Beavers," coach Riley said. "It was a sign of things that could follow, it was a good win and a hard win. We've had some really good games with these guys. We have won our share but lost some bad ones here."

Traveling to Corvallis in search of revenge, the Golden Bears will be greeted by a sold out crowd, cameras broadcasting to more than 30 percent of the nation and a Beaver team with their own incentives. Cal has walked into Reser stadium in each of its last two visits, humiliating Oregon State on their own turf, outscoring the Beavers 90-20.

With a victory this weekend, the Beavers would net their sixth conference win of the year, matching their totals for the previous two

Returning home with hopes of spoiling Oregon State's annual Dad's will be the Bears starting quarterback, Kevin Riley, a native to the Portland area and Beaverton High School graduate. In what will be the his sixth start of the season, the 6-

See **FOOTBALL** | page A7



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6.3 AVG 766 YDS

RUSHING JACQUIZZ RODGERS 228 ATT 4.8 AVG 1089 YDS

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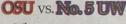
Beaver volleyball looking to land three more wins

Oregon State meets No. 5 Washington and Washington State this weekend with hopes of increasing their chances for a NCAA Tournament at-large bid

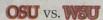
Oregon State's volleyball team still needs three wins to increase the chance of an NCAA Tournament bid, and the way they see it

"We are definitely going into the weekend knowing we can do it," junior outside hitter Bree Knitter said. "There is potential for a sweep, and we'd like to see that happen. It would make our road easier along the way."

This weekend features a match ripe for an upset and one where



When: 7 p.m., Friday Where: Legendary Gill Coliseum



When: 1 p.m., Sunday Where: Legendary Gill Coliseum



OSU hopes not to be upset as the Beavers (14-11, 3-9 Pac-10) welcome No. 5 Washington (19-4, 10-3) and Washington State (7-17, 0-13) into Legendary Gill Coliseum.

Oregon State and Washington met earlier in the season when

the Huskies took a three-set victory over then-No. 25 OSU. The Huskies enter Corvallis fresh off a historical weekend against the Los Angeles-area schools. For the first time in school history, UW won all four matches against both USC and UCLA.

'Washington's played really well," head coach Taras Liskevych said. "They are a team that minimizes errors and spreads the ball

Washington holds a 46-22 edge all time over the Beavers, who have not beat the Huskies in Corvallis since Sept. 27, 2001.

Sophomore outside hitter Kindra Carlson, who leads the Huskies with 234 kills, leads the UW attack. Spreading the ball around on offense, Washington has four players above 200 kills. Joining Carlson on the attack are junior outside hitters Jill Collymore (222) and Airial Salvo (217) and sophomore outside hitter Becky Perry (213).

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Soccer looks to end season with win

OSU vs. UW

When: 7 p.m., Friday

Where: Seattle, Wash.

Men's soccer visits Seattle tonight in last post-season. game of the senior classes careers as Oregon State Beavers meet Huskies

By Terry Horstman

The Oregon State Beavers men's soccer team will wrap up their 2008 season tonight as they head north to take on the Washington Huskies in Seattle at 7 p.m. The last time these two teams met, the Huskies beat the Beavers by a score of 2-1 in Corvallis, making tonight not only a chance to salvage the season for the Beavers, but also a chance to get revenge on their biggest rival and spoil the Huskies' NCAA tournament hopes.

"It's always a pretty intense game between the two teams. It's a really heated rivalry," senior forward Josh Cameron said. "Getting beat by them at home last time was a pretty disappointing sit-

uation, so we'd enjoy nothing better than taking it to them at their place."

The task will anything but easy for Beavers

with their best soccer, as it is their senior night. However, the Huskies are winless in their last

"They're definitely on the bubble right now," Cameron said. "A loss to us would have a pretty big influence on whether they get into the tournament or not.'

Mix the major tournament implications in with the rivalry and this game has all the ingredients to be a classic.

"If we can't go they might as well not go," senior forward Robby Christner said of the possibility of knocking the Huskies out of tournament

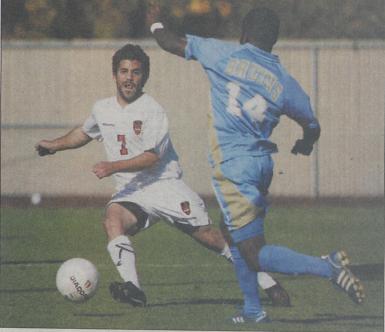
Unfortunately, beating the Huskies is all the Beavers are playing for at this point; with their standing in the Pac-10, there will be no trip to the post-season for Oregon State. But that doesn't mean the season's already over.

"We didn't have the year we were looking for, but we would enjoy nothing more than knocking U-Dub out of the tournament," Cameron said.

"So the morale is definitely where it needs to be to come away with a W."

It would be a great ending note for the Beavers to

since it is certain that the Huskies will come out come away with an upset win over their biggest rival. However the Huskies are playing for significantly more than the Beavers are, and have also four games with a record of 0-3-1 and are on a won three out of the last five meetings in Seattle. downward spiral with slim hopes of making the The Huskies will be honoring their three seniors



in Seattle. Hasson has started in 12 of OSU's 16 matches this year. Hasson and the Beavers look to end Washington's hopes of reaching the NCAA tournament this weekend. **ETHAN ERICKSON**

Senior Tracy Hasson is one of eight Oregon State seniors who will be playing their

last game for the

Beavers this weekend

Raphael Cox, George John and Josh Swett prior especially because we're not moving on." to the match.

Cox had an assist in the Huskies' victory over $the\,Beavers\,earlier\,this\,year\,and\,leads\,Washington$ in total points with 20. He has truly been a thorn in Oregon State's side during his Husky career, which sets the game up to be emotional on both sides of the pitch.

"It's for sure going to be an emotional game," Christner said. "It's going to be the last time I ever get to play on the same pitch with the same crew so we just need to go out and have fun with it,

With the season ending for Oregon State regardless of the game's result, the eight seniors along with the rest of the roster will have had one more chance to play together and win together, making this the biggest game they've played all year.

"It's just going to be whoever wants it more," Christner said. "Especially on their senior night we're going to have to bring a lot of emotion with us."

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