

Play!
Senior Rickey Claitt 'sucking the life out of the season'
SPORTS, PAGE 8

40/32
Showers

Ore. stimulus package pays off for OSU

OSU will receive \$13 million in funds from package that includes \$175 million to create 3,000 jobs and improve Oregon's infrastructure

By Rebecca Johnson
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Universities across Oregon are going to benefit from the \$175 million stimulus package signed into law by Governor Ted Kulongoski last Thursday.

The stimulus package hopes to create 3,000 jobs and improve Oregon's infrastructure.

Oregon universities as a whole are receiving almost \$88 million from the package, with over \$60 million of those funds going to Portland State University and Western Oregon University alone.

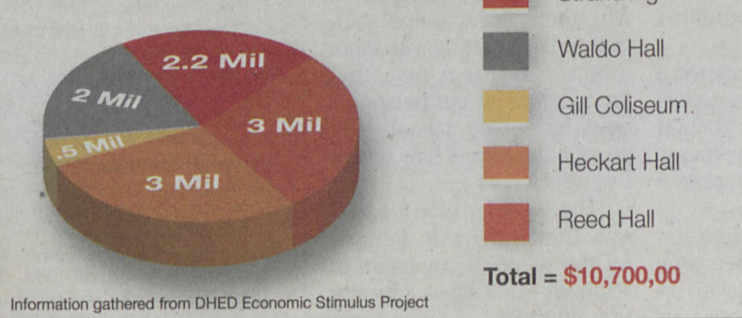
The rest will be allocated to Oregon's five other major universities, with OSU receiving \$13 million of those funds.

The Oregon Senate quickly approved the bill on Jan. 28 and it was then approved by the Oregon House on Feb. 5. Governor Kulongoski signed the bill that same day.

"With less than 30 days into session, the legislature crafted an Oregon economic stimulus plan that invests in needed repairs to our schools, transportation system and

See **STIMULUS** | page 3

Capital Repair Projects



Information gathered from DHED Economic Stimulus Project

GRAPHIC BY ALEX NGUYEN

Corvallis named nation's leader in green power by EPA

Corvallis purchases 100 million kilowatt-hours of green power annually, totaling 13 percent of its total energy purchase

By Makenna Bishop
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Corvallis was recently named the nation's leader in green power use by purchasing more renewable energy than any other city.

Annually, Corvallis purchases more than 100 million kilowatt-hours of green power. This totals about 13 percent of the total energy purchased in the city.

According to the Environment Protection Agency (EPA), the city's green power purchase is equal to avoiding the carbon dioxide emissions from more than 13,000 vehicles per year. It is also enough electricity to power 9,000 American homes each year.

Steve Cook has been a professor in geosciences at Oregon State for the past 12 years. His main focus is sustainability. He said that it's impressive for Corvallis to be leading the nation in green power use, but that 13 percent isn't a high enough number.

"It's really cool that people are beginning to buy into green power," Cook said. "But we have a steep hill ahead of us."

Cook said that for as little as \$12 more a month, the community could purchase 600 kilowatt-hours of renewable energy.

For such a small investment, many high-income citizens aren't participating.

"\$12 is reasonable," Cook said. "That's about three chocolate bars. Not Hershey, but organic and free-range chocolate."

Within Corvallis, Oregon State University makes the largest contribution to green power purchases.

Mayor Charlie Tomlinson said that this indicates the community's commitment to the future of environmental sustainability.

"Students at OSU voted for an additional incidental fee that allows the university to purchase more green power," Tomlinson said. "It really shows their leadership in their future, and that's admirable."

Brandon Trelstad is the sustain-

See **GREEN** | page 6

OSU student, Army National Guard cadet, feels local call to action

Marcum intervened, brandishing his AK-47 when one of his neighbors was being assaulted and beaten by her boyfriend

By Taryn Luna
THE DAILY BAROMETER

As a night owl, Colin Marcum prefers to head to bed when early risers wake up. As a dedicated Army National Guard cadet and an OSU senior studying the history of Eastern Asia, the United States and the United States military, the opportunity to sleep throughout the day is scarce.

"When everything dies down and everyone's quiet, it feels like the universe kind of calms down," the 22-year-old cadet said. "That's when I can do my best thinking."

For Marcum, this month started off picture perfect. In the early hours of Sunday, Feb. 1, he woke up alone in his 2nd street apartment complex after a full day's rest, took a shower and was seated at his computer watching a video of Barack Obama's inauguration in his chosen language of study, Japanese. That's when he heard the noise.

Grunts (and what he described as the sound of someone jumping down the stairs) leading to the second story of the apartment complex seemed to be growing louder. Marcum is accustomed to hearing his neighbor's rambunctious young children, but not after midnight, he said.

A soldier's instincts kicked in as he grabbed a weapon from his arsenal and chambered a round,

just to be cautious. The weapon was an AK-47.

When he heard a woman's voice clearly calling out he knew someone needed his help.

Just as he was reaching for the doorknob, a woman began pounding on the other side. She was a 26-year-old resident of a third floor unit, her clothes were torn and she was upset, according to Marcum.

Marcum invited her into his apartment as the woman explained that her live-in boyfriend was beating her and threatening to rape her, he said. Police records claim the man is William Orner, 38, of Corvallis.

Marcum checked down the hallway as he has been trained to do — expecting the man to be in pursuit — and handed the woman his cell phone to call 911.

"It's at this point that I realize I'm standing in my boxer shorts," Marcum said. After putting on shorts and assuring neighbors to go back inside until everything was safe, he began to assess the situation.

Marcum considered the possibility that Orner was in close pursuit, had seen the woman come up to the door or had a weapon of his own, he said. The student thought if he kept the thin door closed and Orner approached deciding to kick it in, he would undoubtedly

See **CADET** | page 3



CURTIS BARNARD | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Army National Guard cadet Colin Marcum used his AK-47 to protect a 26-year-old Corvallis woman on Feb. 1.

Addressing how mental health issues affect students

"Darkness to Daylight" speaker Ross Szabo emphasized importance of getting enough sleep

By Shanna Woodruff
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The newly formed student group Active Minds along with the Counseling and Psychological Services department held their "Darkness to Daylight" event yesterday for the second year.

The event was a three-part series centered on mental health with the director of the youth outreach program for National Mental Health Awareness Campaign (NMHAC), Ross Szabo, who spoke about alcohol and mental health wellness as well as a discussion on his book "Behind Happy Faces" and a lecture on "what happy faces are hiding."

"We invited him to come based off of some advice from some students that had seen him speak," said Larry Roper, vice provost for Student Affairs.

"One of our major concerns is how we manage the health and wellness of students including physical, mental and spiritual health in order for students to be successful in life."

A member of Active Minds had seen Ross Szabo speak

before at a conference in Philadelphia.

"I think he really connects with students," said Aaron Thompson, a junior in psychology.

Thompson feels that this event is important because "people don't understand what [mental health] is about." With so much stigma involved with mental disorders, there is a lack of understanding from the community.

Szabo, with a bachelor's degree in psychology from American University, explained mental health from his own personal experiences and knowledge on the topic.

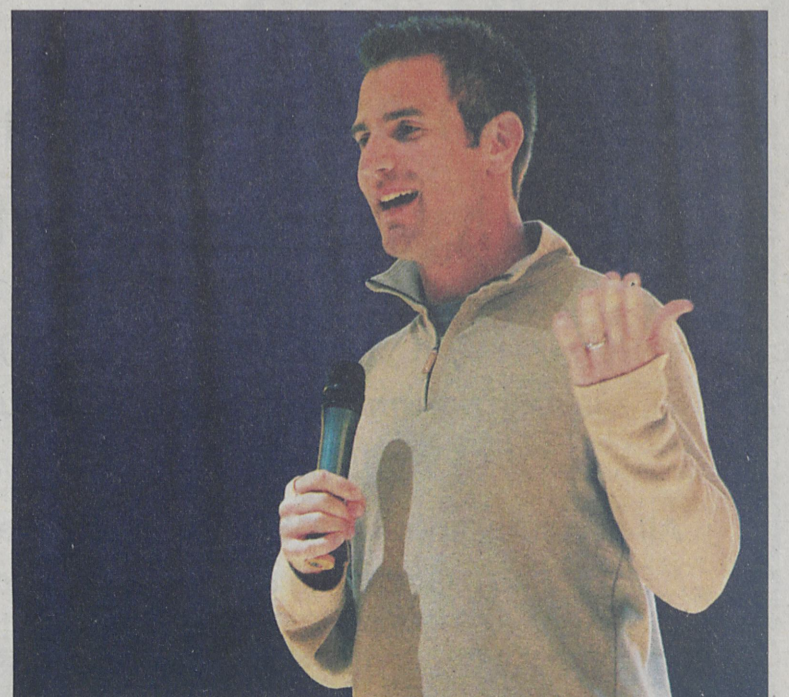
Early in life, Szabo experienced the difficulties of mental disorders. At age 11, he visited his oldest brother that was in a psychiatric ward with bipolar disorder. Later at age 16, he was diagnosed with bipolar disorder.

Szabo dealt with severe hallucinations, desires to kill himself and other deep states of depression. In his senior year of high school, he was hospitalized for attempting to commit suicide.

"I really felt I would be doing everyone a favor, if I took my own life," Szabo said.

He was president of his class, varsity basketball player and had a 3.6 GPA, but later explained that many times people have emotions and thoughts that don't match up

See **MENTAL HEALTH** | page 3



JEFF WICK | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Ross Szabo, author of "Behind Happy Faces," talks to students and faculty members about mental health issues Monday night in the MU Ballroom.

Meetings
ASOSU Health & Wellness Task Force, 4pm, Snell 149 (SLI Lounge). Meet to actively plan the events for the term.
Student Health Services, Noon-1pm, MU 207. Budget hearing for students to ask questions regarding proposed Student Health Center budget.
Educational Activities, 6-8:30pm, MU Council Room. Budget hearing.
APASU, 6pm, MU 206. Craft Night at APASU's general meeting. Come and show your creativity with the group.

Speakers
OSU Students Taking Action Now: Darfur, 6pm, Plageman 322A. Congo Teach In: Presentation of V-Week spotlight issue — violence against women and girls in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Events
Lutheran Campus Ministry, 11:30am-1:30pm, Luther House, 211 NW 23rd St. "Come-and-go" lunch, good food and informal table talk.
Peer Health Advocates, 1-3pm, Women's Center. Vagigami. Celebrate V-Week and learn to make vagina origami.
Peer Health Advocates, 10am-2pm, MU Quad. These Hands Don't Hurt: Renew your commitment to stand up against violence by signing our wall.
Student Sustainability Initiative (SSI), 5pm, Student Sustainability Center. Open hearing for the 2009-10. Please come in to see what it is about!

QUOTED

"It is an appalling tragedy for the nation."

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, as the death toll from wildfires in that country topped 120.

"Americans across this country are struggling, and they are watching to see if we're equal to the task before us. Let's show them that we are."

President Barack Obama, in his weekly radio and Internet address.

"This is hardly the time to award KBR a new contract for work they've already failed to perform adequately, and which put U.S. soldiers at even greater risk. Ultimately, contractors must be held accountable, and so should those who continue to award these contracts."

Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., in a statement after the Pentagon awarded KBR Inc. a \$35 million contract involving major electrical work in Iraq. KBR is under criminal investigation in the electrocution deaths of at least two U.S. soldiers.

TOP STORY

Officials say Oregon schools face early closure

By Brad Cain and Ryan Kost
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALEM— Many Oregon schools could close early this year unless they receive help soon from a federal stimulus package or an infusion of cash from state reserves, school administrators are warning.

The Confederation of Oregon School Administrators called Monday for quick action to avoid a repeat of early school closures in the 2003 recession that hurt the state's image and deprived students of a full school year.

Part of the school chiefs' worry is that, at the congressional level, the Senate's version of a federal stimulus package contains far less money than

the House approved to help financially strapped states preserve programs and pay for schools.

Just a week ago, state leaders were hoping to get more flexibility as to when they could use nearly \$750 million in stimulus relief.

Now there are no promises they'll get that much relief at all.

Where the House put \$54 billion into state budget aide, the Senate bill puts \$39 billion. It's a problem, lawmakers say, because Oregon could use every penny it can get to offset a projected shortfall of \$800 million for the current biennium.

"Oregon is like the rest of the

nation in that there are schools that need this assistance," said Anna Richter Taylor, a spokeswoman for Gov. Ted Kulongoski. "The state needs this assistance."

The uncertainty, however, seems to be the most challenging aspect for the governor and legislators as they try to balance the current biennium's budget before March.

"We haven't ever outlined a specific plan for those dollars for this very reason," Richter Taylor said. "Without certainty of what's coming, it makes it very difficult to plan."

For that reason, education backers are hoping to persuade state lawmakers in Salem to tap into a \$400 million edu-

cation reserve fund to help schools get through the rest of the year. Legislative leaders and the governor are reluctant to do that, saying the recession could grow even worse in the next two years and the cash reserves must be used cautiously.

The financial uncertainty is why many local school officials are negotiating with labor unions and making other preparations to cut personnel costs by ending school early, possibly by as much as one or two weeks.

"They've got to plan for this," said Chuck Bennett, lobbyist for the school administrators. "Nobody is sitting in a money tree out there."

FDA seeks plans to reduce misuse of painkillers

By Matthew Perrone
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON D.C. — Federal health regulators are requiring more than a dozen drugmakers to develop plans to reduce the misuse of their painkillers, which cause hundreds of deaths each year.

The Food and Drug Administration said Monday it has issued letters to companies that make 24 opioid drugs, including morphine, oxycodone and methadone. Opioids are drugs that simulate the effects of natural opiates, such as opium poppy.

The products targeted by FDA, which come in both pill and patch forms, generally feature extended-release formulas designed to give long-lasting

effects. But regulators warned that potency carries serious risks.

"We're focusing on these products because they generally contain very high doses of the drugs and need to be used very carefully," said Dr. John Jenkins, FDA's chief of new drugs.

The drugs are typically used by people already taking narcotics, such as cancer patients, to treat severe flare-ups of pain. Despite their ability to relieve chronic pain the drugs can be highly addictive and are often abused for their euphoric effects.

The FDA has issued a number of warnings on prescription pain relievers in recent years and some companies already have plans to manage the

drugs' risks.

"Despite these efforts, the rates of misuse and abuse, and of accidental overdose of opioids, have risen over the past decade," Jenkins said. According to FDA, about 3.7 million patients were taking the drugs under scrutiny in 2007. A federal survey conducted that year found 5.2 million people in the U.S. reported using prescription pain drugs inappropriately.

"This is an ongoing problem that's getting worse," said Bob Rappaport, head of FDA's anesthesia drugs division.

FDA said it will meet with 16 drugmakers March 3 to discuss risk-management plans for the medications. Such plans can include bolstered warn-

ing labeling, restrictions on patients who can receive the drugs and cautionary letters to physicians.

Companies asked to attend include makers of generic pills as well as brand-name products, like Johnson & Johnson's Duragesic patch, King Pharmaceuticals' extended-release Avinza pills and Purdue Pharma's extended-release OxyContin.

The risk-managing plans are unlikely to appear until later this year, as FDA said it hopes to hold a public meeting to gather opinions on the issue in the late spring or summer. Until then, regulators said physicians should be diligent about prescribing the drugs only where appropriate.



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MENTAL HEALTH

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with their "exterior" life that they portray.

After leaving the hospital, he felt that everyone had turned against him. About two months after being discharged from the hospital, a teacher had a psychologist speak in his class, but they really only covered the stereotypical ideas of mental illnesses such as patients that thought they were "Winnie the Pooh" or other extreme cases.

"When the students were laughing, I felt like they were laughing at me," Szabo said, and told his teacher that it wasn't funny. His teacher asked him what he wanted

to do and Szabo replied "Let me speak."

At age 17, Szabo began speaking about mental health and has continued doing so for the past 13 years.

He described that the truth about mental health is not explained in public education, and at age 23 was asked to take over the youth outreach program at NMHAC.

"My job is more of a sociological experiment," Szabo said. "People were asking me the same questions everywhere I went."

This led to the beginnings of the book "Behind Happy Faces" released in August 2007, where Szabo addresses some of the most common questions and concerns

with mental health.

Several parents of children with mental health illnesses or issues were in the audience hoping to hear more about Szabo's book and his experiences. "I really like the way [the book] is set up," said Lori Forbis, a worker in the Oregon University System.

Forbis has two daughters with bipolar disorder and has struggled with helping her family. "It's really stressful, and I liked what [Szabo] said about how you have to take care of yourself [as parents]," Forbis said. "I think the book will be really useful for young adults."

Szabo stressed in his last lecture that mental health is something everyone deals with, especially in

college. "Over 66 percent of college students do not seek help for mental issues," Szabo said.

According to Szabo, the first step to addressing mental health is talking about how people feel about getting treatment, and why people don't get help. "The goal is to get people to find what works best for them," Szabo said.

Sleep deprivation is one example of the issues that college students face regarding mental health. "The most effective way to break a human's mind down is to sleep from two to five hours a day," Szabo said, "and average college students sleep from four to six hours a day."

Szabo explained that sleep deprivation is a common form of torture

used in the army to interrogate people and asked, "Why are you torturing yourselves?"

"No matter who you are, you have a mental health issue of some sort," Szabo said.

"I decided to come because I kind of feel like I sometimes hide behind a happy face," said Alina Haberstroh, a senior in pre-pharmacy. "I didn't realize everyone has a mental health issue."

For all college students dealing with problems and who make excuses to not get help, Szabo said, "It's important to make time for your mental health."

Shanna Woodruff, staff writer
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CADET

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

succeed.

Military training had taught Marcum that if someone kicks in a door, they're coming in full force. Marcum thought one of the "only ways to stop Orner might be a bullet. He said he knew if that bullet missed its mark and went through a wall, the result could be fatal for an innocent neighbor.

"My two concerns were to protect the girl and the neighbors," he said.

Marcum decided to leave the door open and stood halfway through the doorway to be able to see down the hallway and duck inside if he needed to, he said.

Critics have questioned why he chose the AK-47 for protection. Marcum says he stuck with the AK-47 as opposed to a smaller gun because it is more intimidating, which he thought would reduce the likelihood of him actually having to fire it.

After several minutes, Marcum and the woman heard footsteps coming up the stairs, which at that point he thought probably belonged to the police.

"At the same time I see the shadow I hear a noise and she said, 'That's him.' I know I have one second to decide and one second to act."

He held his stance in the doorway and pointed the AK-47 toward Orner, who put his hands up in a non-aggressive stance and said he wouldn't do anything, Marcum said.

Still brandishing the weapon, he demanded that Orner leave. The man stand-

ing at 6'1" and 220 pounds didn't back up. According to Marcum, Orner said something that led him to believe he may have been under the influence of intoxicants and not thinking clearly.

As Orner inched closer, Marcum warned him that he was going to initiate a count down from three, and to be gone by one, or he would be shot.

"I knew at one, I was pulling the trigger," he said.

Before Marcum could start the countdown, Orner rushed him and pushed the weapon to the side. Both men fell to the bed behind the door and began wrestling for control of the weapon, which ended up underneath Marcum, who was "in a very losing position" in a near headlock with his back on the bed and Orner on top of him, he said.

"You know how people have flashbacks?" he said. "I had a flash-forward of all the things I'd be missing if I died in an apartment in Corvallis that day."

Marcum thought of never being able to travel the world and all the money the military would have wasted on him if he died before even getting to serve, he said.

"I'm gonna break your neck," Orner said. The threat brought Marcum back to reality and he managed to use his feet to get better positioning, he said. The men then struggled to choke each other out.

But Marcum had the home court advantage, and began reaching for a pistol he keeps on the side of his bed. As his fingertips brushed the pistol, Orner got up in a hurry and

unexpectedly fled.

According to police records, the Corvallis Police Department arrived on the scene to find the female victim, who ran during the fight, hysterical and visibly shaken on the street. Orner was discovered by a police dog several blocks away and is being held at the Benton County Correctional Facility on charges of kidnapping, strangulation, assault, domestic assault, menacing, coercion and burglary.

"The individual did what he thought was necessary and there was a safe resolution to the situation," Lieutenant Dave Henslee of the Corvallis Police Department said of the incident. "There was no further harm to the woman and the firearm wasn't used."

The self-proclaimed "servant" didn't even tell his mother, Farris Beatty, about what happened.

"He didn't tell me, a friend told me," Beatty said of her son.

"My jaw dropped as my friend was reading the newspaper article to me," she said. "First, as a mother, I was thinking 'Oh my gosh. My son was involved in that,' and then I felt the utmost pride in him for helping that woman."

Marcum doesn't want to be considered a hero.

"Sergeant Zedwick is a hero," he said, referring to the National Guard member and OSU student who received a Purple Heart and Silver Star for his actions in Iraq. "I was just there and did what came natural."

Taryn Luna, senior reporter
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STIMULUS

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

aging infrastructure, while at the same time providing jobs to help families and get our economy moving," Kulongoski said in a press release from the Governor's office.

The bill was far from a bipartisan endeavor with many House Republicans cutting down the bill as not being sufficient enough to stave off a recession.

"This package is being sold as economic stimulus, but it hurts our schools, our State Police and services that Oregonians need to survive this recession," said House Republican Leader Bruce Hanna in a press release.

"It will cost the state \$19 million per year to service these bonds. We are increasing debt and locking up our budget, all in the hope that it might generate some short-term jobs and reduce Oregon's unemployment rate by 9/100 of one percent."

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Oregon unemployment has reached nine percent as of December 2008, the highest it has been in decades.

Even if the bill has passed with some controversy, leaders of Oregon University System institutions, including OSU President Ed Ray, feel the stimulus package could not have come at a better time, as was expressed in a letter to Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney.

"During times of economic downturn, colleges and universities often experience significant growth in enrollment, while simultaneously experiencing deep budget cuts that cause both immediate and long term

harm for students and public postsecondary institutions."

These leaders feel the stimulus package will benefit not only students and university infrastructures but the entire state of Oregon.

"Senate Bill 338 will provide needed funding to create jobs, protect and improve facilities and infrastructure, and expand student's access through rehabilitation of existing facilities."

According to the Oregon University System, campuses across Oregon have a back log of deferred maintenance totaling around \$670 million. OSU is the worst off with their deferred maintenance tab reaching around \$253 million.

The OSU Budget Office is working quickly to budget the money. Work around campus is set to start as early as this month.

Projects around OSU include system upgrades and renovations at Reed and Heckart Halls, as well as upgrading the plumbing in the Strand Agricultural building.

The largest projects will be painting the outside of Gill Coliseum and renovating the fourth floor of Waldo Hall.

Most projects should be finished within a few months, but the larger projects are expected to take up to nine months to complete.

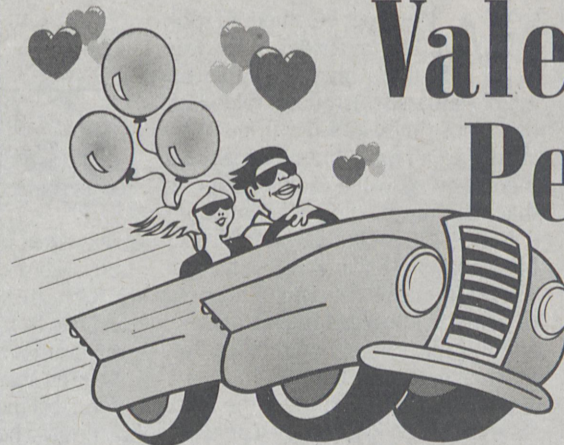
Most of the \$13 million will be going to projects around the Corvallis campus, but some of it has been set aside for maintenance at the OSU Hatfield Marine Science Center and the OSU Agricultural Experiment Center.

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

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The Daily Barometer

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Editorial

Local restaurants best fix when hungry

Everyone gets hungry, but sometimes we get hungry when we are busy and not able to go home to fix a delicious, steaming, home-cooked meal from scratch.

So when we need something to eat at the last minute, many of us are forced to grab food that is more convenient than tasty. Usually we pick up some fast food, and of course, it doesn't end up tasting that great. The experience is more out of desperation than pleasure. We don't think twice.

Should we?

Sure, spending every other night at your favorite fast food joint might seem like a quick delicious fix, but maybe there's more at stake here than just your stomach.

Perhaps you should branch out a bit and find a new locally owned restaurant or coffee shop to satisfy your panicky hunger. You'll be supporting our local economy and adding some variety to the food in your life.

If you know for a fact that you are going to have to eat out on a particular day or night, give your buying habits a little more consideration than you have been.

Anyone who lives in Corvallis can't help but notice the plethora of shops closing down, reducing their hours, and trying desperately to stay afloat in these hard economic times.

We were sad to see the OSU Alumni-owned North Shore Smoothies disappear from Kings Boulevard earlier this year. We've also noticed that Slices is no longer on Monroe. These hotspots helped employ more students while providing us all with food that was made locally, not by a national chain.

Locally owned and operated businesses seem like they are always the first to go. A few more customers a week could probably really help that cute little place on the corner that you have always wanted to try.

Branching out from mainstream coffee shops or fast food places could open your eyes (and taste buds) to interesting new flavors and atmospheres — not to mention prices that are competitive to those found at chains.

And of course, while you're gobbling up something new and delicious, you'll be helping our local economy.

So perhaps the next time you think of grabbing some mindless fast food after an exhausting day, you could try something different. We don't want to spend money in the first place, but when we have to, at least it's going somewhere you want to help stay in business.

By first thinking about our local economy, even when we're hungry, we can all work together to slide through this recession a little easier.

Editorials serve as a platform for Barometer editors to offer commentary and opinions on issues both global and local, grand in scale and diminutive. The views expressed here are a reflection of the editorial board majority. Disagree? E-mail a letter to the editor or guest column to editor@dailybarometer.com.

Professor-student relationships not always ethical

With spring registration hovering over our heads, it's time to start thinking about next term's classes. I pick my courses according to necessity, but also consider insight from my friends — avoid anything before 11:00 a.m. if possible, and sometimes check out RateMyProfessors.com.

RateMyProfessors.com features student evaluations of professor performances at universities across the country. The comments are completely subjective and range from the bad — “Dude acts like he will help you, but will SCREW you,” — to the good “I love him like the sun loves the mystery of the night.”

Next to photographs and comments, this Web site also has the “chili pepper” option, which lets students evaluate the “hotness” of a teacher. Of the 919 Oregon State professors listed on the site, over 200 have been awarded a chili pepper award.

If we were sophomores in high school and considering the sexual appeal of our teachers (and vice versa), this would cause an uproar. But in college, things are a little different. Legally, we're adults and so are our professors, which should mean they're fair game.

Oregon State University already acknowledges that relations between



Rose Hansen

Sex Advice We All Need

professors and students are a messy affair. According to the Consensual Relationships Policy, these interactions can compromise the integrity of institutional responsibility towards the student. The Office of Affirmative Action lists likely conflicts on their Web site, including the unfair evaluation of work and the professor's vulnerability to sexual harassment charges.

Relationships between professors and students aren't banned by the University, but they must be reported to superiors who can monitor the situation.

In many cases, the crushes are generally harmless. When classes are lead by a professor you're into, you are probably more inclined to actually attend class, participate in discussions and complete assignments. At the end of the term, you might write them an anonymous “you're hot” on the evaluation sheet, but nothing beyond this type of innocent ego boost.

But what if you come hither sig-

nals are being reciprocated?

Haven't you heard the saying, “Don't dip your pen in the company ink.” Logically, the same should apply here. But when sex, hormones and taboo fuel your rational decision-making process — logic becomes obsolete.

In high school, one person in your circle of friends probably had a thing for someone else's parent. Why else would we have popularized phrases like M.I.L.F., D.I.L.F., and Cougar? Like rollover minutes, this phenomenon lapsed into college, which is a candy shop for sex.

In books and media, romanticized, secret affairs between stately professors and 20-something nymphs aren't unheard of (consider the Grey's Anatomy episode where Christina's relationship with her college professor is revealed), but it's still a bit of a taboo.

The appeal isn't hard to understand — especially if your professor happens to be, well, hot. But what seems sexy in the classroom might disappear, become boring, mediocre or simply awkward in front of your friends and family.

A professor's ability to intellectually stimulate is also an overwhelming part of the attraction. Passion is everything, and educated passion isn't just impressive, it's an aphro-

disiac. What 20-something guy can move me to tears about land use reciprocity the way my 40-something professor of Native American studies can? Someone like that becomes a stark contrast to the sex-charged, emotionally-unaccountable college guys who populate my love life.

But a sexual relationship between a professor and student simply doesn't seem ethical. I say “seem” because there are, of course, exceptions to every relationship standard (including sex) we've established. Someone out there probably has happily married parents who met in a professor/student setting. But overall, there's a major conflict of interest here.

The professor has a professional reputation to uphold and an ethical responsibility to the University to be a credible role model and educator. And as students, there's an emotional responsibility to accept that timing is everything.

When it comes to throwing your professor an apple, you'll score extra credit points for waiting until college is over. Until then, it's probably smarter to award them a chili pepper and profess anonymous love to them on a Web site.

Rose Hansen is a junior in recreation resource management. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Daily Barometer staff. Hansen can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

Whiteboard



BOBBY SUTTON IS A CARTOONIST FOR THE DAILY BAROMETER AND A JUNIOR IN LIBERAL STUDIES WITH AN OPTION IN NEW MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS AT OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Nonsense should become a necessary part of life

Why does Weatherford look like a castle? Why was there once a cupola on top of Fairbanks? Why does Waldo Hall have those nifty-looking turrets? The answer to all these questions is, well, there is no answer — at least not one that makes any sort of sense, anyway.

None of these buildings needed to be fancied up for any logical reason. The aesthetically pleasing elements of these buildings are utter nonsense, and it is this element of irrational fun that makes life exciting.

Sometime last year, I saw the Marx Brothers film “A Night at the Opera” for the first time. It was hilarious, bizarre, and utterly ludicrous. The type of



Scott Dennis

Fantasyland Logic

quick witted humor used in the Marx Brothers films is often funny because the jokes are so unexpected. Take this exchange from “A Night at the Opera” as an example:

“You live here all alone?”

“Yes. Just me and my memories. I'm practically a hermit.”

“Oh. A hermit. I notice the table's set for four.”

“That's nothing — my alarm clock is set for eight. That doesn't prove a thing.”

As you can see, Groucho and the rest were experts at baffling one's expectations. When you think they're going to say one thing — they do something completely different. It is nonsense at its best.

A lot of things about the Marx Brothers' era seem a tad peculiar in retrospect (consider the popular outdoor entertainment of the period — say 1955 or so). The recreation sensation of the day was the newly opened Disneyland Park in Anaheim, Calif. The mere fact that such a nonsensical place was built at this time and found

success speaks volumes.

By the 1950s, amusement parks across the nation were going out of business, disregarded by a public fed up with the unclean facilities and cheap tricks that characterized the industry. When Walt proposed the idea of his theme park to carnival owners, they scoffed; his plan didn't make sense. Why spend a bunch of money on fancy landscaping or building a castle, if it wasn't going to generate revenue?

Yet, like the Marx Brothers comedies, Walt's park subverted guests' ideas of what an amusement park was.

See DENNIS | page 5

Letters

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Students, instructors alike face difficulties of grading

Gradings is tough, on both students and instructors.

At first blush, the whole procedure purports to give a measure of how much (or how well) a student has absorbed a given set of material. But for many, it has become a sort of competitive marker, a measure of how well a student is doing in relation to others. This includes not only students and teachers, but also — importantly — potential employers, who use GPAs as hiring criteria.

First of all, grading is somewhat subjective, even if a totally objective test or instrument is used. Part of this subjectivity is due to the fact that no test is perfect. There are the usual mechanical problems, such as vague sentences, incomplete information and so on. Additionally, each professor will select topics and write questions around them that tend to reflect his or her own opinions, perspectives and viewpoints.

Next, consider the test taker. Some students are absolutely terrified of tests. Others do very well on tests, even though they may have only a superficial understanding of the material. What to do?

I've often daydreamed of giving students the option of an oral recitation in my office — a sort of one-on-one oral exam.

Phil Shurrer
The BG News

There are many problems with this, not the least of which are the logistics of trying to process all the students opting for this alternative and still meeting the deadline for turning in grades. Other problems include ensuring that the oral exam is identical in content with the written exam, as well as objectively evaluating the content of a conversation.

I teach classes in Introductory Accounting and in Individual Taxation. At that level, there are right and wrong answers and objective tests can be effectively used. However, a vastly different set of testing criteria might apply to an English class whose exam includes questions on the explication of "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" or iambic pentameter.

I also attempt to bring some of the real world into class. The student/soon-to-be employee is expected to know, retain and effectively use a body of knowledge. And in the real world, there are supposedly objective standards. You either meet your sales targets, make your budget numbers, meet the client deadlines or you don't.

And there are consequences for failure. In today's work

world, things are tough. This is best exemplified by an ad I've recently seen in several business publications. Over an image of Charles Darwin are the words, "Meet the new boss."

I make no claim that these goals or the supervisors who enforce them are fair, objective or even realistic. I try and make it so in the classroom, but I caution my students that they can't always expect the same from employers. For better or for worse, some of this environment will find its way into my exams and grading.

More and more, I'm incorporating written essays and papers into my courses. Churchill once said we need engineers in the world, but we don't need a world of engineers. My students will soon find themselves in a world filled with non-accountants and will find their communication skills are as crucial as their technical prowess. But, even with the best of rubrics, grading essays is inherently more subjective.

Evaluating a thing as intangible as the absorption of knowledge is difficult at best. And yet, the world beyond the walls of academe demands it. As one of my colleagues points out, every day on the job is a sort of comprehensive final exam.

Phil Schurrer
The BG News (Bowling Green State U.)

Success more difficult without an Ivy veneer

Fenan Solomon
The Diamondback

Last spring, American University professor Karen O'Connor guest lectured for my American Government class. Besides her engaging style of lecturing and down-to-earth attitude, one simple fact had everyone in my class listening to her every word: She wrote the textbook.

After 20 minutes of describing her career history, she gave us an inside look into the lives of the U.S. Supreme Court justices — from their daily routines to their relationships with one another. When mentioning their academic records, she made a point to emphasize that all but one hold a degree from an Ivy League university. O'Connor, a graduate of SUNY Buffalo, then went on to say neither she nor any of us would probably go on to hold the position of a Supreme Court justice because we attend a public college.

Finally, someone with credibility had given voice to a thought that I for years had felt to be true. Somewhere between soaring immigration rates and Barack Obama becoming the first black president, we lost sight of reality, general trends and how our

personal goals fit into them. Where racism once divided a country so strongly, classism has taken its place. Wayne McIntosh, my professor at the time and current associate chair and director of undergraduate studies in the government and politics department recently shed light on the issue.

"People who can afford to go there start with every advantage anyway," he said. "So even if they are mediocre, they start with all the advantages of being a member in a well-networked family and that doesn't change. It's just a matter of birth."

Politicians with degrees from Ivy League institutions have flooded the upper echelons of every branch of the U.S. government. By comparison, American University (which opened in 1856) has only graduated three senators and no Supreme Court justices.

Thankfully, the trend has begun to die out in other fields — like journalism. In a recent editing class of mine, professor Sharon O'Malley

called The Washington Post an elitist newspaper. During her speech about news organizations, she mentioned that they historically hire Ivy League graduates regardless of degree but seek specific journalism degrees from public university graduates like ours.

Peter Perl assistant managing editor/personnel at The Post called that form of thinking "outdated" at the paper and said, "In the past, we have had a disproportionate number of Ivy Leaguers and have worked hard to correct that."

An excellent demonstration of journalistic work at other papers, as well as internships at The Post itself, are among some of the qualities the paper looks for when hiring journalists, he said.

So where does that leave aspiring senators, presidents and Supreme Court justices from public schools? Not in as bad a bind as this column has probably led you to believe. McIntosh probably hit the disparity spot-on when he said, "It doesn't mean that you can't, it just means that the odds are against you."

Fenan Solomon
The Diamondback (U. Maryland)

Letter to the Editor

Inauguration

OSU more important than a scarf

I am disappointed with you, The Daily Barometer. The ridiculous article on Coach Robinson's scarf that you published should be condemned for the image it gives of OSU. The article asserts ridiculous and obscenely hyperbolic ideas, such as the scarf "put [OSU] on the map" and that the discussion of it was a "media frenzy."

A simple Google of "OSU scarf" or "Oregon State scarf" will reveal that the most recent "news" article on the subject (actually a blog post by a writer for The Oregonian) was on January 20th, Inauguration Day. In reality, no one outside of the OSU community cared about the scarf or its misidentification.

Publishing an article on the scarf was inane enough, but hyperbolizing its significance to the point where it is implied that it is the sole reason for OSU's national recognition is disrespectful to our institution. I found this to only be exacerbated — when I noticed that a small, front-page article was devoted to a "prestigious award" OSU had helped to win.

Our school has many fantastic programs that are recognized both nationally and internationally, and we also have a number of staff members and alumni who are both famous and closely associated with OSU. None of these programs or staff members are scarves. It was just a scarf, and the issue should have been laid to rest the day that it happened.

NICHOLAS SCHRAM,
Senior in Zoology.

DENNIS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Prior to its unveiling, people expected the typical collection of high-thrill roller coasters and run-of-the-mill midway games. But upon delivery, the park gave guests something entirely different.

Everyone needs a good dose of nonsense in their lives, whether it be deliberately sought out (i.e. a vacation to a theme park) or something unexpected (you see a bird fly out of a window of the Memorial Union, a sack of colorful jellybeans clasped in its claws). Nonsense has always been popular with those bored by routine. Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" proved this, as did the "Merry Melodies" and "Ren and Stimpy" cartoons.

Like a bolt out of the blue,

a bit of nonsense cuts through our preconceptions. It's also healthy for refreshing creativity. Watching a Marx Brothers film for example, you'll notice that even though the jokes seem off the wall and random. However, there is some logic to them, twisted as it may be. By simply thinking of things in unconventional ways, they're able to surprise the audience with seemingly non-sequitur lines.

Nonsense can also spring from spontaneity. Say you're walking down Jefferson and you see Snell Hall up ahead. Without any sensible reason you decide to explore said building, and maybe check out the Barometer offices (we've got free newspapers). You can learn a lot from these kinds of senseless random diversions. It's often the best way to learn things you never knew.

Translated into architecture, nonsense is responsible for giving us some very cool looking buildings. Sure it doesn't make any sense for the ocean administration building to have a Southwestern theme, but it does nonetheless and for that — it is awesome. We need more buildings like that. Fancied up in strange and unique ways... simply because we can.

When you get down to it, nonsense is refreshing. It proves that things don't have to be as we've always known them to be, that there's possibility for change. And, as proven by the Marx Brothers and Disney, it can also be hilarious and enthralling.

Scott Dennis is a sophomore 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.

Refreshments will be provided.

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As sales skid, shoppers hold on to day at the mall

By Ashley M. Heher
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCHAUMBURG, Ill. — Something's amiss at the mall.

The parking lots at the biggest shopping centers are still filling up on weekends, the food courts bustle with hungry customers and walkways are crowded with gangly teenagers and stroller-wielding moms.

Look closely, though, and you'll see there aren't many bags. That's because shoppers at some of the country's busiest retail centers aren't buying. Not much, anyway.

If that sounds like grim news for retailers, consider what their landlords are facing. Unless shoppers begin spending again — soon — some experts worry the great American hangout may be in jeopardy.

Already one mall in Florida has been foreclosed on, and experts predict that others will be forced to close as their tenants shut their doors in the recession.

The weekend crowds remain steady at Woodfield Mall, a 2.3 million-square foot behemoth in the middle-class community of Schaumburg, despite thousands job cuts by hometown cell phone maker Motorola Inc. But the waves of shoppers filling the mall aren't spending much.

"You're just hanging," said Belinda Turner, a 47-year-old who came to Woodfield Mall in Chicago's suburbs with her husband John, their 11-year-old daughter and a strict \$150 budget. "You can come and you can look and you can have food. But you don't buy. Or you buy small things."

On a recent Saturday, mall walkers start doing laps at 7 a.m. along the two miles of corridors. Shoppers start trickling in when the 300 stores opened

three hours later, and crowds filled the marbled floors in the afternoon. In the evening, the mall became a date destination and teenage paradise.

Nationwide, mall traffic has slipped about 5 percent in the past year, but not nearly as much as traffic inside stores, which is down as much as 20 percent, according to data from ShopperTrak RTC.

"Foot traffic is OK," Morningstar real estate analyst Todd Lukasik said. "But that's not what makes a mall profitable or worthwhile from an economic perspective. People need to take their wallets out of their pockets and actually spend money."

Mihai Dumitriu, who sells Proactiv face wash and cleansers at a mall kiosk, said he is working harder than ever to make a sale. Shoppers once welcomed his offers to package together products at a slightly more expensive bundle, but he now has to launch into a hard sell just to get them to buy a single product.

"It seems like customers aren't as interested in spending money as they used to be," he said during a lunch break. "They ask more questions. They're on a budget and before it wasn't an issue."

Unless shoppers begin spending again, more stores could close, starting a domino effect that could ultimately cause some of the nation's favorite hangouts to go dark.

Some mall owners are cutting rents to try to help keep their struggling clientele, while others have fallen into foreclosure. BayWalk, a mall at the center of a revitalization effort in downtown St. Petersburg, Fla., has been foreclosed upon and will go up for sale this month because of competition and slowing sales. It remains open.



Envoy: Sudan to seek peace even if warrant issued

UNITED NATIONS — Sudan's U.N. ambassador said Monday his government will pursue peace in Darfur even if the International Criminal Court issues an arrest warrant for President Omar al-Bashir for his alleged role in atrocities in the war-ravaged western province.

The world's first permanent war crimes tribunal is expected to announce its decision soon on the warrant requested last year by the court's chief prosecutor. The decision comes as talks between the Sudanese government and one of the two main rebel groups in Darfur begin Tuesday.

"Our priority is for peace in Sudan," Ambassador Abdalmahmood Abdalhaleem Mohamed said in an interview with The Associated Press. "We will definitely pursue with vigor our national attempts and endeavors to achieve national reconciliation in Sudan and also lasting peace in Darfur."

Mohamed said an arrest warrant for the president would be "an insult to justice" because it would be politically motivated, aimed at changing the government in Sudan.

"We consider if it ever comes, it will be a dead and smelling rat," he said. "It will never shake our resolve in resisting this injustice inflicted on us. We are deeply hurt by trying to indict the symbol of our authority, our serving president. It's too much. It's crazy. That's why for us, it will mean nothing."

Al-Bashir's government has been accused of encouraging Muslim militias to commit atrocities against ethnic Africans in Darfur since a rebellion broke out there early in 2003. U.N. officials say up to 300,000 people have died in the conflict and 2.7 million have fled their homes.

Mohamed said the African Union is already starting talks at the United Nations to get Security Council support for a resolution that would delay action on a warrant for a year.

The statute that set up the International Criminal Court allows the council to pass a resolution to defer or suspend for a year the investigation or prosecution of a case. The council can renew such a resolution.



Obama orders review of federal agency cyber security

WASHINGTON D.C. — President Barack Obama on Monday ordered a 60-day review of the nation's cybersecurity to examine how federal agencies use technology to protect secrets and data.

Obama said former Bush administration aide Melissa Hathaway will head the effort to examine all the government plans, programs and activities under way to manage massive amounts of data — everything from passport application to tax records, personal tax returns to national security documents. A failure or attack on that infrastructure could harm the country by, for example, shutting down the nation's airlines or crashing the stock market.

"The national security and economic health of the United States depend on the security, stability and integrity of our nation's cyberspace, both in the public and private sectors," said John Brennan, Obama's top adviser for counterterrorism and homeland security. "The president is confident that we can protect our nation's critical cyber infrastructure while at the same time adhering to the rule of law and safeguarding privacy rights and civil liberties."

Obama — as a candidate — was critical of President George W. Bush's efforts to protect this information. He compared cyber threats to nuclear or biological attacks on the country and pledged a cybersecurity adviser who would report directly to him.

Between his election and inauguration, Obama tasked aides with looking at the proposal. Some advised him to keep his pledge for a czar, while others advocated it go to the Homeland Security Department.

A senior administration official said the president remains committed to cybersecurity, but the official could not say if the cyber czar would be a permanent position after the 60-day review. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

Hathaway will carry the title of acting senior director for cyberspace in both the national security and homeland security councils. She led Bush's Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative, which cost the government about \$6 billion this budget year, and has a reputation as a leading expert on cybersecurity issues.



RV maker's owner files bankruptcy petition

EUGENE — The majority owner of Country Coach has gone to bankruptcy court to keep the RV maker intact, perhaps for a sale.

Los Angeles investment banker Bryant Riley led a group of investors that bought Country Coach in 2007.

Acting as a creditor, he filed the petition for involuntary bankruptcy under Chapter 11 of the bankruptcy code last week, the Eugene Register-Guard reported. Under Chapter 11, a company can stay in business while it reorganizes its debts.

The action is intended to fend off Wells Fargo Bank, which sued in January to repossess and liquidate collateral pledged by Country Coach against a 2007 loan.

That loan now has a balance of about \$8 million and is in default.

"What ended up happening is that Wells Fargo decided they were ready to move on," Riley told the Register-Guard. "They were the senior lender, so they wanted to get the collateral back."

Riley said he filed under involuntary bankruptcy procedures because the company wasn't yet prepared to file for a conventional Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

Under bankruptcy law, if a company has more than 12 creditors, at least three creditors are needed to file for involuntary bankruptcy. Riley's filing lists two of his companies and a Portland parts supplier as creditors, owed in total nearly \$1 million.

The factory has been shut down and 500 workers idled since December.

Country Coach CEO Jay Howard said the action was intended "to get time to salvage the company as an ongoing operation ..."

Howard said Sunday that three different companies interested in investing or buying the company filed proposals by Friday's deadline, but he said it would take time to sort through them. "They all take due diligence," he said.

"The business, the brand, the group of owners they have is a valuable commodity to a buyer or to us," Riley said.

Like other RV makers, Country Coach has been battered by the recession, tight credit and poor consumer confidence.

—The Associated Press

GREEN

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ability coordinator at Oregon State. He said that Corvallis is a place that cares about the environment, its citizens and the long-term outlook.

"It also shows how the OSU community is an integral part of the Corvallis community," Trelstad said. "We share the same 'living room.' In many ways, the university and the city depend on each other."

According to Trelstad, because Corvallis has agreed to pay a price premium to purchase electricity from renewable sources, the demand of non-renewable sources is reduced.

"It clearly brings a lot of great national attention to a relatively small corner of the world," Trelstad said.

Cook said that it will be challenging to convince everyone to continue or to start purchasing energy from renewable sources.

"There's no lack of scientific evidence that

this is a necessary move; it's not a debate," Cook said. "Getting people to realize it's an issue — and not a matter of opinion — is tough."

Though the percentages seem small, cities in Oregon make up half the list of top 10 green power purchasers. The other four cities include Beaverton, Bend, Gresham and Salem.

Students interested in sustainable energy are encouraged to attend an open forum on drafting OSU's climate action plan. The

forum will take place Tuesday at 2 p.m. in room MU 208.

"The community at Oregon State has shown me, as a non-student, that young people really do care about what the planet is going to look like throughout their lifetime," Tomlinson said. "They're willing to spend a little extra money for the good of their community."

Makenna Bishop, senior reporter
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Lindsey Vonn wins downhill at world championships

By Andrew Dampf
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VAL D'ISERE, France — Lindsey Vonn was so nervous she was out of control.

A snowstorm in the French Alps forced the postponement of the one race she wanted to win more than any other — the downhill at the world championships — and she needed someone to calm her. Thomas Vonn, her husband and former U.S. ski racer, did just that.

She won the downhill for her second gold at these championships, giving her four victories in her last five races. Vonn became the second American woman to win two golds at a worlds. Andrea Mead Lawrence won the slalom and giant slalom at the 1952 Oslo Olympics, which doubled as the worlds.

In the men's race, Norway's Aksel Lund Svindal won the super-combi. Julien Lizeroux of France was second, 0.90 behind, and Natko Zrnčić-Dim of Croatia was third, 1.58 back.

Bode Miller squandered a chance at a medal, and Olympic champion Ted Ligety was disqualified because his bindings were slightly too high above his skis.

Vonn travels the circuit with his wife. For the first time, Lindsey asked him to join her in the start area before a race. His presence helped her top the blazing run put down by carefree Swiss teenager Lara Gut and match childhood idol Picabo Street as downhill world champion.

"Yesterday, when we had a cancellation, I was waiting at the top and my nerves were out of control," Lindsey Vonn recalled. "I was so nervous I didn't know what to do. I realized there was going to be a problem, so I talked to my husband, and he talked to me last night and this morning. And then I said, 'I need you. I need you at the start. You need to help me.'

"And he was there for me and said all the right things," she added. "It really got me in the right frame of mind. He

was making jokes and trying to relax me. And then when I was in the start, he was telling me to take it, to do it. He believed in me, and that made me believe more in myself."

Vonn won in 1 minute, 30.31 seconds. Gut was 0.52 behind to match her silver in super-combi. Nadia Fanchini of Italy was third, 0.57 back.

Miller made a great recovery in the downhill and needed only to coast to the finish in the evening slalom leg under the lights. Instead, Miller nearly lost control at the top before straddling a gate, hiking back up, then going out again for good.

Miller hasn't won a medal since sweeping the downhill and super-G at the 2005 worlds in Bormio, Italy. He and Hermann Maier are the only men to accomplish the speed sweep at a worlds.

Vonn joined Anja Paerson and Maria Walliser as the only women to do it. Paerson's sweep came at her home championships in Are, Sweden, two years ago; Walliser did it at home in Crans Montana in Switzerland

in 1987. Vonn's feat was watched by few Americans.

"I really hope that this makes skiing more of a known sport in the United States," she said. "Going into the Olympics next year, I think a lot of people are going to be more excited about the sport. That's what I'm really hoping to do. The more success that I have, hopefully the more Americans will pay attention."

Vonn married Thomas before last season and went on to become the first American woman to win the overall World Cup title in 25 years — since Tamara McKinney in 1983. She leads the overall standings again this season.

"He's the reason why I'm so successful in my sport," she said. "I couldn't ask for anyone as great as him."

Thomas wasn't sure he could help in the start, an area usually reserved only for team staff and coaches.

"It was mostly just relaxing her, taking the hype away from the race," he said. "If you build something up to be so great

that you think you can't get it, then you're not going to get it. It was really cool that she actually stepped up and did it."

Vonn opened the championships by winning the super-G Tuesday for her first career gold medal at a worlds or Olympics. In the super-G, she was the only contender to make a clean run in fading light.

"I was proud of myself for being able to accomplish that," she said. "But downhill has always been my favorite discipline and I've always wanted to win a gold in downhill."

Vonn won two World Cup races in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, the weekend before the worlds. She was disqualified in the slalom portion of Friday's super-combined.

Adding to her two silvers

at the last worlds, Vonn also tied McKinney for the U.S. women's record of four career medals at the worlds. Street won the downhill at the 1996 worlds in Sierra Nevada, Spain, and another American, Hilary Lindh, won in 1997 in Sestriere, Italy.

"Picabo has always been my huge idol," Vonn said. "I don't know all the records. People are telling me randomly the records that I'm breaking. But, for me, today it's just about the win, the gold medal."

Vonn could win more medals in her remaining two individual events, giant slalom and slalom.

"She skis just fine when the pressure is off," Thomas Vonn said. "She skis well in slalom and GS now. Anything can happen."

CLAITT

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

cent of the time," Coach Robinson said. "To get us into what we want to do. When we're getting fouled, we want him at the line. He's the leader in field goal percentage, so we want the ball in his hands a lot."

Claitt has started in all 22 games for the Beavers this season and is shooting at an astounding 59.2-percent from the field — making him yet another candidate on the long list for Oregon State's most improved player award. The award Claitt most likely would say belongs to the whole team.

"We're playing way better than what we did last year and we're making strides," Claitt said. "To be able to be where we're at... to put ourselves in the position to win games is absolutely happening."

In large part, this is happening because of Rickey Claitt, but unless the Beavers go on an unbelievable run, win the Pac-10 tournament and take care of business in March, Claitt won't be here when Oregon State basketball fully returns to where it belongs. However, there's no denying the importance Rickey Claitt has played in the evolution of Oregon State basketball.

"He knows he's a big part of the foundation here," Coach Robinson said. "He knows the groundwork he's laying with his work ethic, discipline and with his teamwork. He's making it so that the next person to be in at his position will be better at it, and that helps Oregon State basketball."

Terry Horstman, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

Steelers don't know about Big Ben's rib injury

By Alan Robinson
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — The Pittsburgh Steelers have no knowledge that Ben Roethlisberger played the Super Bowl with two broken ribs, as the quarterback told a Web site.

According to SI.com, Roethlisberger said his fractured ribs did not show up on X-rays taken before he led the Steelers to a 27-23 win over Arizona on Feb. 1, but were revealed only during a MRI test he had last week.

"Luckily, in the game, I didn't take any big hits to make 'em hurt," Roethlisberger told SI.com. "But I knew all along there was something wrong. There wouldn't

have been anything that could have been done about fractured ribs anyway. It was just suck it up and play."

Roethlisberger did not miss any practices before the Super Bowl, although a pool report from the Wednesday practice said he attempted during the middle of the workout to stretch his torso. He missed one practice during the off week before the Super Bowl because of what the team said was a back injury.

"There's not a whole lot to say," Steelers spokesman Dave Lockett said Monday. "Ben was fine to go. He was cleared to play. He didn't miss any (practice) time. There was no doubt he was going to play."

The Steelers said it would have been dif-

ficult for Roethlisberger to play any better than he did in leading the decisive 78-yard drive that ended with a precisely thrown 6-yard touchdown pass to Santonio Holmes with 35 seconds remaining. Several plays before, Roethlisberger — leading his sixth game-winning drive of the season — hit Holmes on a 40-yard completion.

Roethlisberger did not mention any possible injury during post-game interviews.

It is uncertain if the validity of Roethlisberger's claim will be proven.

NFL teams do not routinely require players to undergo MRI or other medical tests during the offseason, and Roethlisberger isn't due back in Pittsburgh until offseason workouts begin in April.

CHAINSAW

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

saw being started. This has been used as a form of amusement for the fans at Reser as well as a way to create support for the players on the field. All the crowd is expected to do is cheer loud during that play, but no form of synchronized cheering or chanting had ever been established — until now.

"It's not everywhere that you can hear something like the chainsaw," George said. "It just seems like people would have already started doing something like this."

During the Beaver's football victory over Southern California last fall, members of the crew squad (who were in the stands) decided to put more enthusiasm into the chainsaw tradition by adding their chant along with it. From that day forward, they made an effort at every game to bring as many fans into the chant as they could.

Not long after the original plan of just chanting "chainsaw," senior Campbell Woods and his friends noticed something peculiar across the stadium during the Civil War at Corvallis.

"There was a Duck fan who was flaunting a piece of card-

board that was shaped as a chainsaw," Woods said.

Although they realize the prop was meant to mock OSU's "chainsaw" revving tradition, they found a brighter side to the situation.

"That gave us the idea that we could make it into something much bigger," Woods said.

After the Civil War football game some of the rowers, including George and Woods, decided to create their own cardboard props.

They started out with simple designs cut out of used boxes. The original chainsaw designs were simple and looked like plain silhouettes resembling the handy tool. To show off their inventions in public, they began taking the chainsaws to athletic events such as gymnastics meets and volleyball games.

"It's what the crew squad brings to other games. In a funny way, I think it represents how we're going to tear the opponent apart," freshman Ali Al-Dossary said.

As excitement about the idea grew, the crew team began to change the appearance of their new toys in a variety of ways. Some of them changed the looks by adding duct tape and color, others even decided

to bring oversized look-alikes. Each of them put a personal touch into a creation of their own.

Woods and George both have the ultimate goal of seeing all of Reser Stadium participating in their new cheer at games, while everyone is using chainsaw shaped foam fingers.

"It would be cool if people recognized us more often, and this is one way to make that happen," George said.

George wants to inform OSU's sports marketing personnel with the idea of the "chainsaw" chant. He thinks that getting their help would be a promising way to inform fans about the new idea.

"We want to be athletes who represent school spirit as well," George said.

Woods plans to present the idea of the foam chainsaw to

the OSU Beaver Shop, in hopes of convincing the bookstore to sell the invention as Beaver Gear paraphernalia. He would like to see orange and black foam chainsaws at all sporting events in the future.

"Eventually, we want to start seeing people with manufactured replicas of our chainsaws around campus on gamedays," Woods said.

The men's crew team has attended many athletic competitions with their school spirit ideas, and there are still more to come.

"We make an effort to come out for all of the school's games, so we can show support for the university's teams," Woods said. "It started with football, and we could end up anywhere at this point."

Patrick Chabreck, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

HORSTMAN

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

as planned since there will be no repercussions from the league. However, A-Rod's image has been publicly harmed. He still plans on attending a ceremony at the University of Miami this Friday to rename it's new baseball stadium in his honor.

A-Rod has been a huge financial supporter of the program, so there's no doubt that the Miami community will still welcome him with open arms. Although, the media at the event will probably have a few other questions regarding something other than University of Miami baseball.

Terry Horstman, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

MEDIA POSITIONS ANNOUNCEMENT

- KBVR-FM Station Manager
SPRING TERM 2009 – WINTER TERM 2010
- KBVR-TV Station Manager
SPRING TERM 2009 – WINTER TERM 2010

The above positions are open to any bonafide student at Oregon State University. The terms run as specified above. To be considered, an applicant must: (1) have earned a g.p.a. of at least 2.0 from Oregon State University, (2) be enrolled for at least 6 academic credits, (3) not be on disciplinary probation, and (4) be making normal degree progress.

To apply, applicant must: (1) complete an application form obtained from the Student Media Office, MU East, room 118, (2) submit an official transcript, (3) submit a letter of application, and (4) a resume. Deadline to apply is Friday, February 20 at 5:00 p.m. Positions open until filled.

Applicants will be interviewed by the University Student Media Committee Friday, Feb. 27 or Friday, March 6 at 3 p.m.

The Oregon State University Socratic Club presents a debate that is free and open to the public:

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Monday, Feb. 16 • 7 p.m.
Gilfillan Auditorium

Speakers are:

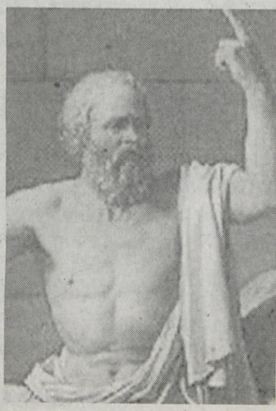
Kenneth H. Funk II
Associate Professor of Mechanical, Industrial, and Manufacturing Engineering at OSU.
BA degree in Biology from Taylor University and MS and PhD degrees in Industrial and Systems Engineering from The Ohio State University.

and
Richard Daniels

Associate Professor Emeritus at OSU.
BA, MA, and PhD degrees from The Ohio State University.

For more information:
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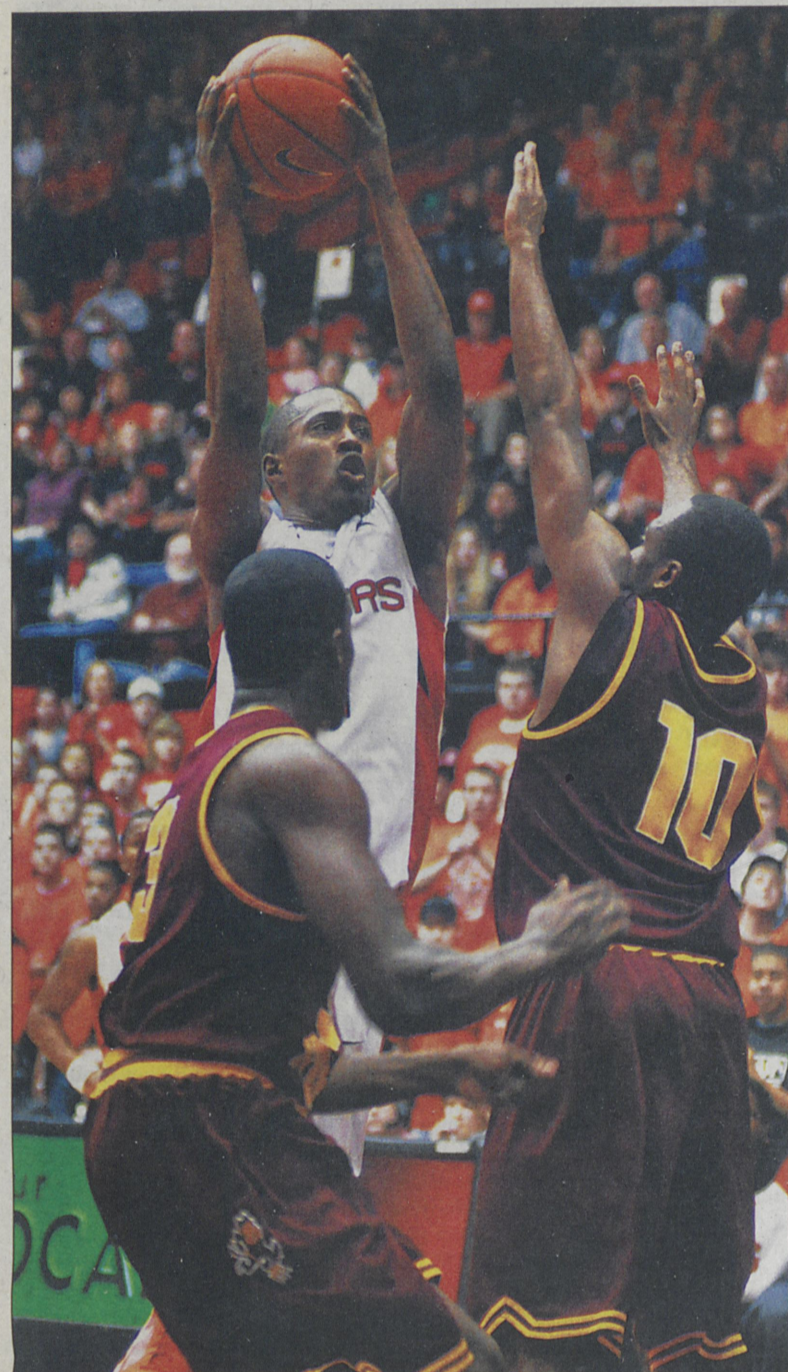
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CURTIS BARNARD | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Senior guard Rickey Claitt drives without fear against two Arizona State defenders. Claitt showed his leadership when injured against USC, remaining on bench to cheer on his teammates.

Getting most out of final season

Senior guard Rickey Claitt leads Oregon State in games, practice through his actions

By Terry Horstman
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State men's basketball team has overcome many obstacles that most people anticipated this season. This is surprising because of multiple things: the main obstacle was Oregon State didn't win a single Pac-10 game last season, but also the Beavers are one of the youngest teams in the country with only one senior that gets meaningful playing time — senior, Rickey Claitt.

This season has sparked a lot of talk about how good the Beavers could become in the future, but what Beaver Nation needs to do is slow down and savor the remaining games they have with Rickey Claitt.

"When I first got here, he was a very quiet player, and I asked him to be more of a leader in practice and in games," Oregon State head coach Craig Robinson said. "He has embraced that role and has really helped this team."

In the statbook, this season Claitt has put up decent numbers with 7.3 points and 3 assists as well as averaging upwards of 35 minutes per game. He has become the Beavers floor general for this comeback season. Instilling the right attitude for Oregon State basketball to take yet another step when his playing days in Corvallis are complete.

"We always come back," Claitt said. "We fight down the stretch

every game. Coach always says we will fight till the end, till the last minute is up and that is what we do. We're down in some games and come back to win. We have confidence to beat any team in the Pac-10."

Claitt made a statement for the Beavers in what was their first conference win of the new year for Oregon State basketball. Against USC, Claitt had his usual solid game and was a key contributor to the 15-point comeback in the second half. However, an injury forced Claitt out for the remainder of the game with the result still in doubt.

Claitt didn't go to the locker room; he didn't even sit down. He stood there held up by crutches supporting his team through every waking moment of the thrilling four-point victory. An image that will not be forgotten by anyone associated with Beaver basketball any time soon.

"He's sucking the life out of this season," Coach Robinson said. "He doesn't want to come out of games, he doesn't want to come out of practices and he understands that this is the last go round."

It has become visually obvious on the court as Claitt has become the vocal leader of the group — especially in the most recent victories. Coach Robinson has made it perfectly clear that for Oregon State to have success Rickey Claitt needs to be in command.

"He's the guy who we want to have the ball in his hands 80-per-

See **CLAITT** | page 7

Terry
Horstman



A-Roid comes clean

A shock went through the baseball world this weekend as yet another player was named as a steroid user in modern day Major League Baseball. That name was none other than Alex Rodriguez, one of the biggest names in the sport.

On Monday, A-Rod admitted that he indeed used banned substances while playing for the Texas Rangers from 2001-03, after signing the most expensive contract in the history of professional sports.

He signed for 10-years at \$52 million making him the highest paid professional athlete ever and also putting more pressure (that he possibly couldn't have been ready for) on himself.

"When I arrived in Texas in 2001, I felt like I had all the weight in the world on top of me and I needed to perform, and perform at a very high level everyday," Rodriguez said in an interview with ESPN.

The pressure no doubt got to A-Rod, as he was already thought of as one of the best ever without steroids. Yet when you pay someone that much money, sometimes you get a bit more than you bargained for.

In his three seasons with the Rangers A-Rod hit 52, 57 and 47 home runs and won the MVP award in 2003. However, the Rangers (as a team) accomplished far less than anticipated. Signing A-Rod was supposed to make the team champions of the AL West, but they never achieved anything close to contender status — until they traded Rodriguez for a pile of young talent from the Yankees.

A-Rod's numbers in the three seasons he used steroids are much higher than the rest of his years in baseball by a long shot. He averaged 13 more home runs and 12 more RBIs per season when he was on steroids versus seasons in which he was not.

The numbers make it pretty obvious (in case there was any doubt left) that A-Rod was juicing. But since this was 2003, when the league was not suspending players for steroids, A-Rod will not be in any type of trouble with the MLB, especially since there's no proof that he's gone back to the stuff since his 2003 season.

A-Rod is just one of 104 names on a list of players using steroids (based on a survey of drug testing by MLB) in 2003, solidifying just how out of hand things got during baseball's so-called "steroid era."

"It was such a loosey-goosey era," Rodriguez told ESPN. "I'm guilty for a lot of things. I'm guilty for being negligent, naive, not asking all the right questions. And to be completely honest I don't know exactly what substance I was guilty of using."

The exposure of A-Rod will hopefully be the last image of what wasn't exactly baseball's golden age. The age where there was no discipline and no rules against any players who felt the need to use performance-enhancing drugs, causing the integrity of baseball to be called into serious question.

This will hopefully once again be the "sad end to a sorry saga" and lead players into the future with absolutely no thoughts of steroids in baseball.

With spring training just around the corner, A-Rod will attempt to go about his pre-season routine

See **HORSTMAN** | page 7

DAM NEWS

SOFTBALL

OSU stopped by No. 13 UH

CATHEDRAL CITY, Calif. — The Oregon State softball team had four extra base hits of the five total, but came up short against the No. 13 Houston Cougars, 12-4, on Sunday morning in the team's final game of the Cathedral City Kickoff.

Oregon State (2-2) had three doubles and a home run with junior Dani Chisholm going 2-for-3, but the team struggled on the defensive end.

— Sports Information

SWIMMING

Beavers Top Broncos

BOISE, Idaho — Kate Hagan earned two of the eight event wins for the Oregon State women's swim team as they defeated Boise State 177-111 on Saturday.

Hagan won the 1,000-yard freestyle for the second time this season with a time of 10:32.09 to help put the Beavers on top. She also won the 500-yard freestyle in 5:10.87.

— Sports Information

WOMEN'S HOOPS

Sun Devils defeat OSU

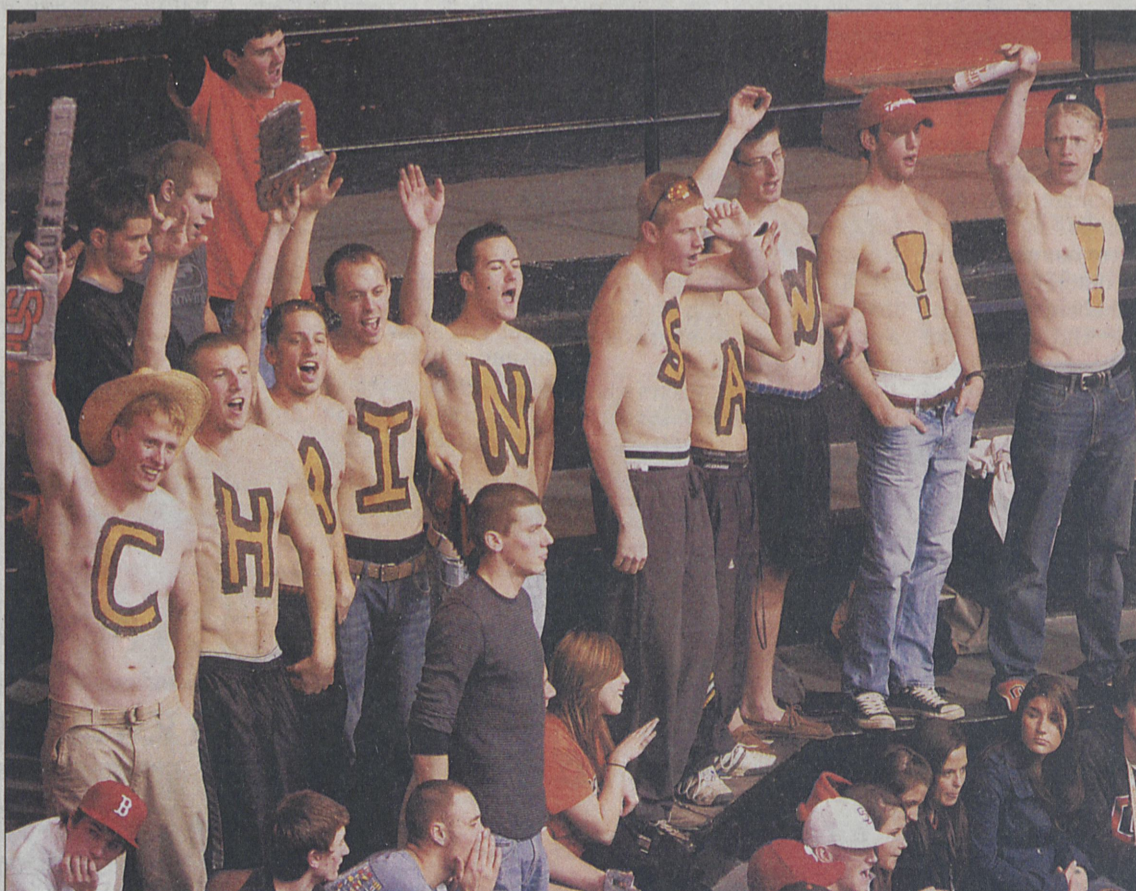
TEMPE, Ariz. — Brittney Davis led the Oregon State women's basketball team with 17 points, but the Beavers lost to Arizona State, 65-54, Saturday afternoon at Wells Fargo Arena.

For Davis, it was her sixth straight game in double figures, who now leads the team in scoring in the last three games and five of the last six. During the last six games, Davis is averaging 19.1 points per game.

Davis ended the game shooting 4-for-12 from the field, knocking down the team's only 3-pointer.

— Sports Information

Chainsaw invades OSU sports



CORY REED | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Members of the Oregon State men's crew team cheer for the No. 10 gymnastics team in their meet against Arkansas and California. The crew team paints letters across their chests at each meet and support all of Oregon State's teams.

Men's crew adopts Reser Stadium's chainsaw sound effect as a rallying cry at sporting events including gymnastics, complete with props

By Patrick Chabreck
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The men's crew team at Oregon State has developed their own special way of combining recyclables and fan enthusiasm at other school sporting events.

Men's rowing team captain, Ian George, was coming in from fall practice with his squad during last football season when the topic of upcoming home football

games came up.

That was the day he coined the idea of a "chainsaw" chant for the football games. He had hopes that it would become a stadium-wide activity to go along with the classic Reser Stadium sound effects.

Reser is the only Division I football facility in the country where fans hear the roaring of a chainsaw at every home game. Before the Beavers take the snap on critical downs, the sound is played throughout the stadium, while chainsaw graphics flash across the "Dam Cam." The crowd pumping noise resembles a chain-

See **CHAINSAW** | page 7