



Wittenstein remembers his role in revolution

Once a medical student in Munich, doctor recalls his part in White Rose revolutionary group during the Holocaust

By Makenna Bishop
THE DAILY BAROMETER

To help honor the memory of the Holocaust, Dr. George Wittenstein spoke in the LaSells Stewart Center last night as part of the Holocaust Memorial Program at Oregon State.

Wittenstein was actively involved with the White Rose, a small group of mostly medical students from the University of Munich who risked everything to speak out against the Nazi regime during World War II.

Wittenstein said he didn't understand how anyone who grew up with a proper background and the knowledge available to everyone couldn't see what was going on in Germany.

He said Hitler had transformed a democratic country into one of the worst dictatorships in history.

The White Rose denounced the persecution and killing of Jews, whom Wittenstein referred to as the scapegoats of the political organization.

The group, Wittenstein said, was not an organization, and there were no membership cards. It was an informal group of three pairs of friends who had similar interests. He said they agreed on the same philosophy, liked the same music and attended the same concerts and lectures.

At this time, the dictatorship had obtained almost full control — even private organizations were heavily influenced and threatened in order to comply.

Wittenstein said children were told and encouraged to denounce their own parents if they said anything to oppose Hitler, the Nazi regime or the state.



CORY REED | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Dr. George Wittenstein speaks at the LaSells Stewart Center Wednesday evening for OSU Holocaust memorial week. Wittenstein was a part of White Rose, a German resistance group.

Because of this, it was virtually impossible for groups to form and even more difficult to communicate. Phones were tapped, mail was searched and Nazi spies infiltrated daily life.

Today, it is known that there were more than 300 other groups similar to the White Rose, but it was impossible to join forces. While the White Rose spread its views through a series of pamphlets it had printed, some groups fought with weapons.

Wittenstein said it was only 20 years

ago that these other groups were made known, and most of the groups' members were youth. He said he was amazed at the stories he has heard about what they did.

While visiting a Jewish Synagogue in Santa Barbara, where Wittenstein currently resides, he found a map that pinpointed every place in Germany where an anti-Nazi group was.

He said according to the law, a student could not enter a university until serving at least one year in the Nazi services, where they were forced to

take an oath to Hitler.

During World War II, all medical students were drafted into the German army.

As the members of the White Rose watched Germany dissolve, they realized they must take action. They began to print and distribute leaflets, which described and explained their views against the Nazi Regime.

This made them targets to the Nazis when their identities were discovered.

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Veterans' education benefits could be put on hold

New Post 9/11 GI Bill scheduled to become effective Aug. 1, but many are skeptical that it will be complete by then

By Rebecca Johnson
THE DAILY BAROMETER

A new chapter of veteran's education benefits, known as the Post 9/11 GI Bill, is scheduled to become effective Aug. 1.

There has been skepticism as to whether the Department of Veterans Affairs will be able to meet this deadline.

For those who qualify, the benefits, also known as chapter 33, are the most extensive seen by any veteran's education benefit program.

The benefits are good for up to 36 months and will cover the cost of tuition and fees up to the most expensive tuition rate for a public university in the state, according to a letter sent out by the VA.

Students will also receive \$1,000 a year for books and supplies and a housing stipend based on the cost of living for the area. For Corvallis, it is expected to be around \$800 a month.

"This is the best education benefits that the VA has come up with so far," said Mitch Sparks, manager of the claims department at the Salem veteran's office.

The VA announced that veterans can begin applying for chapter 33 benefits on May 1, with payments being made by fall term.

But all the work that is still left to be done leaves some wondering how the VA can ensure that benefits will be available to veterans by

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Far Side Entomology defies norms, thrives as part of Honors College

HC 299 was called the third strangest college course in America by OnlineColleges.net

By Ben Sundberg
THE DAILY BAROMETER

In the core of the University Honors College, there is a class that defies convention and logic. This class, titled "Far Side Entomology," has been taught in the UHC by Dr. Michael Burgett, emeritus professor of horticulture, for more than 20 years.

HC 299 has been featured as the third-strangest college course in America by OnlineColleges.net, and has even been honored as one of the nation's most popular college courses by NPR.

"It's a very, very different format of class... It's very, very interesting," Burgett said.

In the early 1980s, Burgett was invited to teach a course in the Pre-UHC Honors program. Given the option to teach on any topic, Burgett set out to break the barriers between students and entomology, a branch of zoology that focuses on insects.

Noticing that most or all of his colleagues had snippets of Gary Larson's "The Far Side" plastered on their doors, Dr. Burgett decided to use The Far Side comics to teach the principles of entomology.

"[This class is] an exemplar for the Honors approach; an innovative way to teach students," said UHC Dean Daniel Arp.

In the pre-Far Side years, Larson studied biology and "used a lot of those concepts in his wonderful cartoon," former UHC Dean Joe Hendricks said. The class proved to be a great success and ran for around five years until the Honors program was eliminated due to budget constraints in the early '90s.

In 1995, Dr. Hendricks brought the Honors program back as a college rather than a program. Hendricks invited Burgett and his class Insects in Humor back to the UHC. Far Side Entomology had been born.

"At its core, [this course] is about insect systematics and how they interact with humans," Arp said.

Students in HC 299 receive a clipping from The Far Side and then work in teams of two to prepare a presentation the following week on the insect in their cartoon.

"Students grades are based on the quality of their presentations," Burgett said.

Far Side Entomology is currently offered twice a year, in fall and spring term, for two credits as an Honors Colloquium class. Most likely, however, next year will be the last year that HC 299 will be offered fall term.

"The Honors College is privileged to have Dr. Burgett and his class," Hendricks said.

Ben Sundberg, staff writer
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Students journey to Chicago for convention on healthcare

Trip serves as somewhat of a mock interview for grad students nearing professional health sector

By Ryan Gunderson
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Over spring break last month, a group of students attended a prestigious healthcare conference in Chicago.

"It was very overwhelming," said Keith Brannen, a junior in the health management and policy program. "But eventually you get past it," he said, referring to meeting directly with hospital CEOs and other high-ranking public healthcare officials.

Over this past spring break, Brannen, along with six other OSU students from the HHS department, traveled to Chicago for the American College of Healthcare Executives Congress. The congress is held annually in downtown Chicago, and according to the ACHE website, it has an expected turnout of roughly 4,000 students and business professionals each year, making it the largest such gathering of healthcare professionals in the world.

The congress welcomes any student or like-minded business professional to attend and participate in the seminars and presentations that are offered. However, the journey to Chicago can be expensive, and not everyone can afford to go. As Brannen explained, the students from OSU who had the opportunity to go had to be approved for funding first.

The conference was made up of mostly graduate students who are nearing the professional sector, and it gave them an opportunity to meet other graduate students and hospital CEOs, as well as attend seminars and lectures that focus on each individual's primary interests within the public healthcare field. However, six of the seven students from OSU who attended the congress were undergraduates, making OSU the largest undergraduate representative by far.

"I focused mostly on policy and leadership seminars," said Erick Edtl, a junior in the OSU health management and policy program, and treasurer of the OSU Society of Healthcare Executives. Edtl



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left to right: Erick Edtl, Keith Brannen, Dr. Nancy Seifert, Tab Dansby, Shilena Battan, Katie Pritchett, Brian Cooke, & Rich Blumenauer attend the American College of Healthcare Executives Congress convention in Chicago over spring break.

stressed that there were many different seminars offered, and that students were allowed to choose, individually, which seminars to attend, based on their own interest.

The students that attended the congress were encouraged to talk with as many people as they could in order to gain connections for graduate school, future internships or even future employment down the road.

According to Brannen, "The conference was one big interview," and it also gave the students a chance to grow in their specific field by talking with others who are studying similar situations themselves. It gave them a chance to look at similar problems in healthcare in a different way.

"Everyone needs healthcare coverage," Edtl said. "The question is 'how are we going to get there?'" The conference gave the students a resource of information to bring back to the SHE, of which Brannen and Edtl are both members. The group, which currently has nearly 20 members, is a resourceful tool for stu-

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Meetings

Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, 7pm, Arnold Dining Gold Room. Come worship and fellowship with us! Snacks and hang time to follow. XA: Experience it!

ASOSU Campus Affairs Task Force, 5:30pm, Snell 149. Come work on campaign issues and help better the lives of your fellow students.

ASOSU Non-Traditional Affairs Task Force, Noon-1pm, Snell-149. Come see what ASOSU is doing for non-traditional students, which includes transfer, first generation, older than average and student parents among others.

OSU Jugglers, 6-8pm, McAlexander Fieldhouse. General meeting. Come learn or improve (club juggle night).

Speakers

OSU Women's Center, 3-5pm, Women's Center. "Simple Sustainability" Reduce your impact on the environment and how to live more earth-friendly. Presented by Michaela Hammer and Rachel Brinker.

Events

Lutheran Campus Ministry, 5:30-7:30pm, Luther House, 211 NW 23rd St. QUEST: Simple supper, spiritual discussion.

Centro Cultural César Chávez, 6pm, MU Journey Room. Movie Night. We will be watching the movie Viva La Causa! All are invited!

Corvallis/OSU Bike Co-op, 5pm, MU Quad/5:30-9pm, Student Sustainability Center, 15th & Western. Bike race from Quad to SSC, followed by Open House with food, prizes, and fun people.

Women's Center, 3-5pm, Women's Center. Simple Sustainability: Learn how to reduce your environmental impact by living more simply.

OSU Newman Center (Catholic Campus Ministry), 9pm, OSU Newman Center, 2127 NW Monroe St. Come join us to celebrate the holy, Catholic Mass! All are welcome!

History Department, 7pm, Kelley 1001. Film: Sophie Scholl: The Final Days (German, with English subtitles).

OSU Food Group, 5-9pm, Snell Hall/MU East Kitchen (enter on SW Benton Pl.). Emergency Food Pantry. Emergency food provided to those students and community members who have low-income and are experiencing food insecurity.

Friday, Apr. 24

Meetings

NASA/AISES, 2pm, NAL Planning meeting for the 33rd Annual OSU Pow-wow. All are welcome!

Speakers

OSU Campus Recycling, 3-4:30pm, StAg 109. Synthetic Sea, Synthetic Me: Plastics in the Ocean. Speakers discuss plastics effects on the marine environment.

Events

Student Sustainability Initiative, 7-9:30pm, Student Sustainability Center. Earth Week Party with SSI staff and volunteers. Come meet us and celebrate Earth Week with food, games, and entertainment.

The Student Abolitionists, 7-8pm, MU Quad Steps. Flames for Change vigil and rally against human trafficking.

TOP STORY

Oregon wants to give electric car market a charge

Tim Fought

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORTLAND — Gov. Ted Kulongoski kicks no tires, but he is giving a workout to the offerings of electric car manufacturers in hopes they will help Oregon lead the nation in switching from gasoline to electrons.

For the third time in recent weeks, Kulongoski took a spin Wednesday in an electric vehicle, this time a Mitsubishi, and one with a steering wheel on the right-hand side, at that.

"I kept turning on the windshield wipers," Kulongoski said after his test drive in downtown Portland — where often, though not on this dry Wednesday, the wipers would be useful.

It won't be until 2011 or 2012 that Mitsubishi brings Americans a model with the steering wheel on the familiar

left side, company officials said.

That will be beyond Kulongoski's tenure. His second term will draw to a close next year, and he's limited to two consecutive terms.

It will not be beyond his ambition for Oregon's motorists and economy — he may be the governor most passionate about the vehicles. He hopes for a leading role for a green-leaning Oregon, as a test market, a port-of-entry for the cars, or a location for plants that make vehicles, batteries or chargers.

He went to Japan and China in November to court manufacturers, and take test drives.

He's backing bills in the Legislature to give buyers of all-electrics a \$5,000 state tax credit and to provide business tax credits for charging stations. A few weeks ago, he held press conferences and

drove electric models from Nissan and a Norwegian car named Think, whose maker is considering building a plant in Oregon.

He's signed agreements with Nissan and Mitsubishi and the state's largest utility, Portland General Electric, focusing on his administration's effort to create a network of charging stations.

State Department of Transportation officials say the widespread availability of electrons is a threshold issue among people contemplating plug-ins; they don't want to run out of juice.

Mitsubishi officials said the car Kulongoski drove Wednesday would have a range of 80 to 90 miles, about what a car with good gas mileage could do on two to three gallons.

As officials imagine electric driving, most charging would be done at night,

at home. The secondary source of power would be at job sites — in parking lots or garages.

Beyond that would be a third level of charging stations at, say, rest areas and other public places, "so that people begin to be comfortable that they will be able to get where they're going," said Art James, an Oregon Department of Transportation official managing the project.

The department has asked for proposals to create a standardized network of such stations and expects to complete that work this fall.

James said the stations would feature 240-volt connections, which Mitsubishi officials said would allow their all-electric to recharge fully in six to seven hours. A full recharge at the ordinary household force, 120 volts, would take twice as long, they said.

WORLD NEWS

Pakistan

Taliban advance near Pakistan capital

ISLAMABAD — Taliban militants have extended their grip in northwestern Pakistan, pushing out from a valley where the government has agreed to impose Islamic law and patrolling villages as close as 60 miles from the capital.

Police and officials appear to have fled as armed militants also broadcast radio sermons and spread fear in Buner district, just 60 miles from Islamabad, officials and witnesses said Wednesday.

Pakistan's president signed off on the peace pact last week in hopes of calming Swat, where some two years of clashes between the Taliban and security forces have killed hundreds and displaced up to a third of the one-time tourist haven's 1.5 million residents.

Critics, including in Washington, have warned that the valley could become an officially sanctioned base for allies of al-Qaida — and that it may be just the first domino in nuclear-armed Pakistan to fall to the Taliban.

Supporters of the deal say it will allow the government

to gradually reassert control by taking away the militants' rallying cry for Islamic law. Many residents are grateful that a semblance of peace has returned. A handful of officials are back in Swat.

The agreement covers Swat and other districts in the Malakand Division, an area of about 10,000 square miles near the Afghan border and the tribal areas where al-Qaida and the Taliban have strongholds.

South Africa

President's dilemma: 2 wives, 1 first lady

KWANXAMALALA — As Jacob Zuma, South Africa's next president, voted in his rural Zulu homeland Wednesday, one of his two current wives stood to the side watching patiently as he was mobbed by crowds and reporters.

But Nompumelelo Ntuli, 34, Zuma's newest and youngest wife, was soon attracting her own crowd of admirers.

Zuma, 67, a Zulu traditionalist and an unabashed polygamist, has married at least four women over the years. Only two are still with him: Sizakele Khumalo, whom he married in 1973, and Ntuli,

who he wed last year.

Of the other two, Kate Mantsho Zuma, committed suicide in 2000. He divorced the other, Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, in 1998, although she remains a trusted aide and as the country's foreign affairs minister is expected to join his cabinet. He is said to have more than 10 children.

South African law recognizes such traditional marriages, though fewer and fewer younger South Africans are entering into them because they are seen as expensive and old-fashioned. It remains common among several tribes, though, including the Zulus and Swazis.

To this point, neither of his wives has played much of a public role in his life or politics.

Zuma, of course, would not be the first leader in the world with more than one wife. In the Gulf, the number of a ruler's wives and who among them is paramount are a constant source of rumors. Publicly known first ladies in Bahrain, Abu Dhabi and even Saudi Arabia do charity work and some are outspoken women's rights' activists — though their pictures never appear in the newspapers.

—The Associated Press

More Oregon jails charging inmates for their time

Jeff Barnard

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GRANTS PASS, Ore. — Anyone thinking that spending time in jail, with three squares and a bed, might be a good way to wait out the recession, think again.

More Oregon jails are charging inmates — up to \$60 a night.

Douglas and Klamath County jails have been doing it for several years, and this week the Springfield City Council voted to join them — immediately charging Springfield inmates held at the Lane County Jail in Eugene, and later this year charging inmates in the new Springfield municipal jail, expected to open in October.

City Council President Dave Ralston said the city doesn't expect to make much money by charging \$60 per night, perhaps \$18,000 a year. But with revenue down because of the recession, every dollar helps.

"City budgets are very tight," Ralston said. "Every jurisdiction is looking for ways to cut costs and increase revenue.

"It's really a drop in the bucket in comparison with the total cost of operating the jail," he added. "But anything is better than nothing. We wanted to show our constituents we are trying to be responsible."

The city decided to build its own jail and start charging inmates because it was frustrated that when police arrested suspects, and took them to the overcrowded Lane County Jail, they were back on the streets in a matter of hours.

"We're hoping that if they are going to commit crimes, they are going to do it somewhere else," Ralston said.

When Klamath County started charging back in 2003, the money it was able to collect barely covered the cost of the clerk doing the collecting, Sheriff Tim Evinger said. Even at \$60 a day, the charges don't cover the \$70 a day it typically costs to house an inmate.

But over the years the amount collected has increased, to where this year Klamath County expects to take in \$40,000 to help offset its costs, Evinger said.

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Kappa Delta, 305 NW 25th

5:00-5:30

Chi Omega, 2240 NW Van Buren
Alpha Gamma Delta, 360 NW 26th

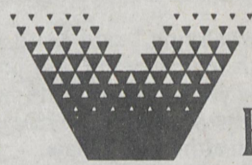
5:30-6:00

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HOLOCAUST

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Two key members of the group, Sophie Scholl and her brother Hans Scholl, were caught distributing pamphlets at a university when a janitor arrested them.

Wittenstein said Hans Scholl was bigger and stronger than the janitor and could have knocked him over, allowing he and his sister to escape. Wittenstein said they did try to fight their fate and it ended extremely tragically.

Six members of the group were arrested and beheaded.

Wittenstein doesn't know why or how he was able to escape from a similar fate.

"There are many things I will never understand, and there is no answer to that," he said.

Gestapo, the German state secret police, interrogated Wittenstein and when he expected to be arrested, he volunteered for the front lines of the war, where Gestapo couldn't touch him.

At the front, Wittenstein collected weapons from fallen and injured soldiers and sent them on a secret courier to Freedom Action Bavaria, which was a group of rebel soldiers.

The group helped save Munich from total destruction.

"If I wasn't out front, I would have fought with them," Wittenstein said of Freedom Action Bavaria.

He said he took off with other men for Germany when the front collapsed. Along the way, he was shot in the hand by an American fighter jet, despite the red crosses that labeled the men as medics, and he was forced to operate on himself. His scars remain today.

Wittenstein said that even after the war, Germany and Europe were like a prison. He was able to escape in 1948 and

he came to the United States. Here he became a professor and a cardiovascular surgeon.

Wittenstein will be 90 years old this Sunday. He has four children and 11 grandchildren, and he has been married to his wife, Christel Bejenke, for more than 40 years.

Bejenke said it was extremely difficult for Wittenstein to speak about the resistance and his experience for 50 years. She said when they recently visited her husband's close friends from before they were married, the friends were shocked to hear about his experience because he was such a nice and quiet man.

Paul Kopperman, professor of history and chair of the Holocaust Memorial committee, said Wittenstein is one of the last survivors of the legendary White Rose group.

He said Wittenstein's visit might represent the last opportunity for the campus community to hear from the inside about what actually happened during the war.

Bejenke also said that Wittenstein is very modest and never speaks of himself, but of the White Rose as a whole.

Wittenstein said he only started speaking about his experience after reading numerous publications that had incorrect information about the White Rose. He added that there were many books published about the group, none of which he felt were good accounts of the truth.

Wittenstein spoke last night to a crowd of students and community members to share the story he remembered, the way he knew it best.

"He felt like he owed it to his dead friends to tell what he knew," Bejenke said.

Makenna Bishop, senior reporter
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BILL

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next school year.

Keith Wilson, Veteran's Affairs education service director, went before the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs on March 25 to comment on the progress being made.

He told the committee that there is still a lot to be done, but insisted that the VA will be ready to start receiving applications in May and processing and sending out checks in August.

What has made the process so problematic is the VA's current method for distributing and calculating benefits.

Called the Benefits Delivery Network, it is the system responsible for delivering funds to intended recipients.

In the past, payments from the VA would be distributed in one lump sum directly to the student to cover educational costs.

Under the new program, three separate payments will be made. The funds for housing and books will go directly to students, while a separate payment for tuition and fees will be given directly to the university.

The IT department of the Veterans Affairs has been given 13 months to revamp the current payment system to make it compatible with the new method.

For the first year, claims are going to be manually entered until a fully automated claims system can be put in place.

Another issue that was addressed was whether or not the VA is adequately staffed to handle the large influx of claims anticipated to come in at the beginning of May.

The VA is anticipating a

20 percent increase in claims this year due to the new benefits. Wilson stated that he believes the VA is prepared for the amount of claims and told the committee that he has increased staff by 530 employees.

The VA's record is in their favor when it comes to making the necessary payments. Wilson has said the VA currently has a 96 percent accuracy rating when it comes to processing claims.

"We will go to the ends of the Earth to make sure we are not making erroneous payments," Wilson said.

Senator Richard Burr, R-N.C., confronted Wilson with a hypothetical situation in which a student shows up on the first day of classes and finds out that tuition hasn't been paid. What would that student do?

Wilson was hard pressed to find an answer, citing reasons why that wouldn't happen and finally said that if it did the student would need to call the GI Bill hotline.

Burr said he would expect a system in place that would take care of the problem that

same day.

The new bill has several improvements over past chapters of benefits, but also some stricter requirements.

To qualify, the veteran must have served on active duty anytime after Sept. 10, 2001. The amount of benefits a person receives is then based on how much time was spent on active duty.

The range is a minimum of three to six months of active duty service in order to receive 40 percent of benefits. A student can receive full benefits for 36 months or more of service.

"The new benefits are meant to include all soldiers in all branches to receive the same benefits," said Cadet Nathan Christensen, GI Bill manager for the Oregon Army National Guard.

Ben Price, a major in economics and veteran of the U.S. Army, has said that a delay in benefits has the potential to cause a lot of problems for students who depend on those benefits.

"If you close off the student loan option, there's a lot of guys who wouldn't be

able to go to school if they were relying on the GI Bill," Price said.

Price has five years of service in the army with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. His service of 32 months on active duty has included one deployment in Iraq and two in Afghanistan.

He plans on applying for these new benefits, but was told that he may have a long wait until he starts seeing any money.

"Sounds like it's going to be over six months to get it, and that's from the federal [office]," Price said.

Price said he spoke with the Portland Regional Office and called the GI Bill hotline and was given the same response. He still plans on applying as soon as possible and is hoping any problems within the system can be worked out.

In order to apply, students can either go online to the Veterans Online Application website or contact the VA certifying officer in the registrar's office.

Rebecca Johnson, senior reporter
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HHS

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dents who are interested in public healthcare to network with other aspiring public healthcare professionals.

"It gave them a chance to hear it from someone other than their teachers," said Dr. Nancy Seifert, a professor at OSU in the public healthcare department who traveled with the students to Chicago. Seifert believes that the meeting with the hospital's "C-Suite" people (CEO, CFO and COO) is good

reinforcement for the students. The hospital professionals are able to take a seemingly trivial idea that is learned in the classroom and turn it into a life-threatening risk in a real-life experience.

As a result of the conference, Ettl and Brannen are hoping to be able to share some of their acquired wisdom with the rest of the OSU Society of Healthcare Executives and continue to help the program grow.

Ryan Gunderson, staff writer
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Editorial

Obama's first 100 days in office

President Barack Obama's first 100 days in office began on January 20 and will end on April 29.

This important day, much publicized in the media recently, seems to be slightly uneventful. Why would anyone care about the first 100 days of a four year — or possibly eight year — run in office?

The first 100 days are a measuring point and the term was first used in reference to FDR's administration. The term is not just used in just presidential politics; Nancy Pelosi notably spoke about the changes the new Democratic Congress would make after sweeping the nation away from Republicans in the 2006 midterm elections.

However, this is different from Congress. Obama's ability to capture the youth vote was undeniable — MSNBC.com said 18- to 24-year-old voters preferred Obama to McCain by 68 to 30 percent.

The 2008 election was the first presidential election many OSU students could vote in, and many of us put him into office.

With this support from the youth, he asked for "change" during the campaign, a call that resonated with young people and was palpable even on the OSU campus before the November election.

However, it's easy to have asked after the historic election, well, what does "change" actually mean?

But Obama has done several noteworthy things in his first one hundred days:

Three days after taking office, Obama repealed the Global Gag Rule, an order that kept international organizations from receiving U.S. foreign aid if the organization used its funds or donated funds to perform, advocate for or provide education on abortion services.

Also within days of the inauguration, Obama ordered to close Guantanamo Bay — though no plans as to what to do with the prisoners — and overseas C.I.A. prisons while also banning the use of torture by U.S. intelligence personnel.

He set up a plan to withdraw all combat forces from Iraq by August 2010 — although approximately 50,000 are to remain in the country — but is continuing to support soldiers currently in Iraq and Afghanistan by asking for \$83.4 billion for war funding earlier this month.

In a stroke of authority, he denied General Motors and Chrysler a bailout in late March after the companies submitted what he deemed as unacceptable plans that would restructure their financially-failing companies.

Though controversial, as many questioned the need to "bail out" Wall Street executives, he spent approximately \$700 billion to assist the financial industry, which possibly helped prevent a financial meltdown. Many questioned his decision.

Craig Robinson, his brother-in-law, took the Beavers men's basketball team to the CBI championship —

See EDITORIAL | page 5



LEAH KOERNER IS A CARTOONIST FOR THE DAILY BAROMETER AND A FRESHMAN AT OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

ASOSU general elections: to vote or not to vote?

I've been in college more years than any human should, and I've seen a lot of ASOSU elections come and go.

The common thread is in the candidates' promises. They always give vague pledges to give every student a voice and fight on his or her behalf. They usually back that up with very specific policy proposals for programs involving "diversity" or being more "green," which are invariably politically correct but almost always inconsequential to the lives of most students.

For sure, some of the programs coming out of ASOSU provide some value, and ASOSU executives do have a role in overseeing those programs, I presume. So in some small way, your vote in ASOSU elections does have an effect.

So by all means, if you are concerned about which flowers and balloons we will have at the prom or some random student involvement activity, vote for the team you think will arrange those well.

If you are like me though, you will withhold your vote, out of protest for the general ineffectiveness of the whole endeavor.

Because besides general housekeeping around campus, ASOSU executives have a more important job: to lobby state government on our behalf. In that job, they haven't succeeded.

Sure, they go out there and perform an activity that they call lobbying.

But as John Wooden said: "never confuse activity with accomplishment."

Our elected "leaders," as they like to be called, are very good at holding meetings with members of state government, which is effective networking for them to advance their careers later in life.

On the matter of affecting change for students however, they fail.

Over those many years of college, I've seen the state steadily cut support for universities. Nearly every year, tuition goes up faster than inflation and the proportion of in-state tuition actually paid for by the state declines.

Higher education is perhaps the government program most directly tied to creating jobs and lifting wages, which every politician loves. One would think that it would be easy to sell them on the idea of supporting it, but somehow our student leaders have managed to not accomplish that.

The reason is simple: the politicians know ASOSU doesn't have much power. An effective lobbyist first mobilizes a powerful voting interest group, then goes to the politicians to make the demands.

Our ASOSU leaders, on the other hand, leave out the first step. They are not able to mobilize the student vote in their own elections, let alone the real ones in Mays and Novembers. The politicians notice this and realize they can safely ignore the leaderless student bloc.

And no, that isn't a reason to vote in these ASOSU elections. Without having the leadership in place to swing students' votes in real elections, it wouldn't be fooling anyone.

That's why I won't vote. In things that matter most, it won't make a difference, and I wouldn't want to contribute to the farcical notion that it would.

Sanjai Tripathi is a graduate student in business administration. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Daily Barometer staff. Tripathi can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

Sanjai
Tripathi



Old School

They typically have low turnout, little student interest, and are surrounded by cynical feelings, but it is important that we vote in the ASOSU general elections.

The students running for various positions aren't politicians in Salem and Washington, D.C., who are so far removed you will never meet them. These people are your peers. You can have classes with them, stand behind them in line at Java Stop and run into them on the bustling streets of Corvegas on a weekend night.

Though the ASOSU presidential and vice presidential candidates have gotten the most attention — you've probably seen the fliers for the ASOSU president and vice president around campus — there are also elections for ASOSU Speaker of the House, senators, representatives, Student Incidental Fee committee, and MU president and vice president.

I'm sure you're sick of hearing about our crappy economy, but those elected are in contact with our administration and our elected representatives in Salem and Washington, D.C., and they are in a position to influence what is important for students.

Directly regarding what we are paying, the Student Incidental Fee committee members have control over how our student fee money is spent. If you feel like your money isn't going toward something important — or shouldn't be going toward anything at all besides the bare necessities — then you need to have a say, and this is your chance to do so.

Like people tend to ask themselves during election season, "If you don't vote, what's the worst that could happen?" Well, you simply have no room to talk. That seems like a cop-out explanation, but a person's credibility is nonexistent when he or she is complaining about this-and-that on campus next year — assuming, of course, there will be something worth complaining about — but admitting, "Uh, I didn't vote."

And assuming you've read the April 15 issue of The Daily Barometer, you already know there has been quite a commotion in our student government lately, to put things nicely. People may argue that these actions are reason to not vote, but it's time for a change and it is irresponsible to not vote in the next round after learning of the alleged indiscretions of our officials.

In Oregon, we have the luxury of voting by ballot, but this paperwork can be easily lost and forgotten about. However, the voting system for this election is set up on Blackboard, and we have two entire days to cast our

vote. If you forgot to vote yesterday, then you have all of today. With everything happening on campus, in Oregon and in our nation today, I want to have people to represent me well and I want to have a say in the election. There's no way I could throw away my vote by not caring.

So, I'm going to roll out of bed, reach for my computer and vote with only a few clicks.

Gail Cole is a sophomore in English. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Daily Barometer staff. Cole can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

VS.

Gail
Cole



Read me!

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Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be printed on a first-received basis. Letters must be 300 words or fewer and include the author's signature, academic major, class standing or job title, department name and phone number. Authors of e-mailed letters will receive a reply for the purpose of verification. Letters are subject to editing for space and clarity. The Daily Barometer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submissions.

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Need masculinity? Look no further than 'manly' food

While rummaging through my closet the other day, I came across a pile of outdated, unread "Men's Health" magazines. With little interest in the "300 Workout" or discovering the truth behind Ryan Reynolds' scrawny transformation, my shelf was left emaciated and my trash can filled with glossy never-reads.

But with my final reach, grab and toss, I came across a headline of the utmost importance.

Apparently I've spent my entire life eating like a woman or some similar variety of non-man, because inside the pages of the June 2008 issue were the complete instructions for eating like a man. Who knew there were instructions? Neither you, dear reader, nor I can in good conscience claim knowledge of such a list.

So with a pocket full of ignorance and my brain needing nourishment, I fanned through the pages until I came upon a mosaic of cheese steaks, onion rings and nostalgia-inducing neon signs. It was spectacular; the food was arranged neatly into single lessons that supplied information through witty rhymes: "[A meal] that's dressed to kill, not just fill."

Alex
McElroy



The Same Old Perspective

I quickly read steps one, two and three, but still felt slightly inadequate. Recipes for laymen can only get one so far, but what of the hidden reason behind every man's desire to cook: impressing a lady-friend?

The magazine had me covered there, also. Beneath a full-page spread of a sexy, apparently very cold woman, was my secret weapon — a dessert she'll remember! I would reveal the recipe to you if it weren't my own secret weapon.

But with three lessons down and the guide to spoon-feeding a woman into bed, I found myself wanting more. They'd told me how to make the food, but what should I buy?

I was lost, a grilled chicken breast with its head cut off if you will, and felt as if I'd never learn how to shop as a man. That was until flipping the page to find The 125 Best Foods for Men.

I detached this newfound list from the spine — the editors were nice enough to supply perforations — and began comparing what I had with what I must buy. It quickly became apparent that I had been eating like a fool, an emasculated fool!

Sure, I had milk, but it wasn't Organic Valley Reduced Fat Milk. (You idiot, Alex.) But what of breakfast bars, you ask. Personally, I prefer oatmeal, but if the editors went to great lengths informing me of the South Beach Living High Protein Peanut Butter Cereal Bar, then shouldn't I return the favor and add them to my shopping list? Yes.

The "Best Frozen Snack" crown obviously falls upon the head of the Lean Pocket. Burrito fans were presumably livid to see their frozen cylinder-of-choice shunned for a light version of a classic, but curb your anger — for the burrito has its own category: "Best Frozen Burrito." I found no sign of fresh burritos; they must be for wimps and eunuchs.

In fact, there are plenty of obscure categories to make sure one will always have a stocked pantry complementing his lean tummy. "Best Cooking Broth" — really — check.

"Best Ready-to-Eat Tuna" is there,

but careful you don't assume the owner of that distinction also holds the title of "Best Ready-to-Eat Tuna . . . Period." On my first Safeway excursion, I made that very mistake and immediately gained 20 pounds, developed heart disease and failed to convince a Brazilian Model to sleep with me.

But after studying the list, spending a paycheck and a half on everything from hot dogs to bottled coffee drinks, I've earned my right to masculinity.

Yes, there were times that the "Best Nut Alternative" seemed slightly unnecessary, but it matters not whether I actually eat my Hapi Hot Wasabi Peas; the effect they've had on my libido and abdominals is enough to keep me tossing 'em in my cart.

Mind you, there are a few holes that have made themselves very clear to me after nearly 10 months of purchasing only the 125 available items. So, as an avid follower of the list, one who only feels it needs tweaking out of love, I offer you "Alex's Other Seven: The Essential Additions to the Epitome of Masculinity."

1. Best Edible Muscle Builder: Dumbbells.

Tired of wasting all that time lifting

them? Try eating them! (Results may vary.)

2. Best Homemade Cookie: Your Grandmother's.

I do mean yours; mine never sends any, so feel free to mail a box care of Alex McElroy to The Daily Barometer.

3. Best Frozen Water: Ice.

Argue if you must, but it's here to stay.

4. Best Free Coffee: Your roommate's.

Why pay \$1.75 at Starbucks when you can steal that rent-splitter's mug while they shower?

5. Best Junk Food: Deep Breaths.

Don't eat chips when you should be running, you fatty.

6. Best Sno-Cone: The Free Ones Given Out by the ASOSU Presidential Candidates.

If McCain had given out Sno-Cones, I probably would have voted.

7. Best Pint-Sized Ice Cream: Ben 'n Jerry's.

"What's that, your boyfriend just dumped you? There's nothing two sticky spoons in one little tub can't solve."

Alex McElroy is a junior in English. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Daily Barometer staff. McElroy can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

EDITORIAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

and won! They finished with an 19-18 record, much better than last season. We're sure that Obama had something to do with this.

And on top of all these remarkable feats, of which there are many others, Obama bought a cute, hypoallergenic Portuguese water dog named Bo for his family. Altogether ... "Aww!"

You may disagree with the decisions of the Obama administration, but we feel these movements are monumental, and if we were to venture a grade, we would give Obama an A- for his first 100 days for his ambition and good will.

No matter his achievements, Obama does have several more 100-day increments in this four-year term. He is not omnipotent and will inevitably make mistakes.

His first 100 days have changed history, and whether the rest of the term is better or worse, he will continue to change the world.

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As Bush adviser, Rice delivered OK to waterboard

By Pamela Hess
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — As national security adviser to former President George W. Bush, Condoleezza Rice verbally approved the CIA's request to subject alleged al-Qaida terrorist Abu Zubaydah to waterboarding in July 2002, the earliest known decision by a Bush administration official to OK use of the simulated drowning technique.

Rice's role was detailed in a narrative released Wednesday by the Senate Intelligence Committee. It provides the most detailed timeline

yet for how the CIA's harsh interrogation program was conceived and approved at the highest levels in the Bush White House.

The new timeline shows that Rice played a greater role than she admitted last fall in written testimony to the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The narrative also shows that dissenting legal views about the severe interrogation methods were brushed aside repeatedly.

The Intelligence Committee's timeline comes a day after the Senate Armed Services Committee released

an exhaustive report detailing direct links between the CIA's harsh interrogation program and abuses of prisoners at the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in Afghanistan and at Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison.

Both revelations follow President Barack Obama's release of internal Bush administration legal memos that justified the use of severe methods by the CIA, a move that kicked up a firestorm from opposing sides of the ideological spectrum.

According to the new narrative, which compiles legal advice provided by the Bush administration to the

CIA, Rice personally conveyed the administration's approval for waterboarding of Zubaydah, a so-called high-value detainee, to then-CIA Director George Tenet in July 2002.

Last fall, Rice acknowledged to the Senate Armed Services Committee only that she had attended meetings where the CIA interrogation request was discussed and asked for the attorney general to conduct a legal review. She said she did not recall details. Rice omitted her direct role in approving the program in her written statement to the committee.

A spokesman for Rice declined

comment when reached Wednesday. Days after Rice gave Tenet the nod, the Justice Department approved the use of waterboarding in a top secret Aug. 1 memo. Zubaydah underwent waterboarding at least 83 times in August 2002.

In the years that followed, according to the narrative issued Wednesday, there were numerous internal legal reviews of the program, suggesting government attorneys raised concerns that the harsh methods, particularly waterboarding, might violate federal laws against torture and the U.S. Constitution.

GM employees may get shutdown details this week

By Tom Krisher
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DETROIT — Thousands of GM workers could learn as early as Thursday that they will be idle for up to nine weeks this summer as the automaker's plants stop making all but its most popular cars and trucks.

The move is a result of slumping sales and growing inventories of unsold vehicles, but some analysts and dealers fear the plant closings could further scare car buyers already made nervous by talk of a GM bankruptcy.

General Motors Corp. is

planning to temporarily close most of its U.S. factories for up to nine weeks, three people briefed on the plan said Wednesday. The exact dates of the closures are not known, but the people said they will occur around the normal two-week shutdown in July when changes are made from one model year to the next. None of the people wanted to be identified because workers have not yet been told of the shutdowns.

GM spokesman Chris Lee would not comment other

than to say the company notifies employees before making any production cuts public. But United Auto Workers officials will likely raise questions about the move during meetings they have scheduled at several factories Thursday and Friday with plant managers and GM human resource officials to discuss production changes.

Thousands of workers could be laid off but would still get most of their pay because their UAW union contract requires the company to make

up much of the difference between state unemployment benefits and their wages.

One of the people briefed on the plan said details are still being worked out. Some of the closings could be staggered between mid-May and the end of July, but the exact number of plants to be idled has not yet been determined. Another person said a few plants that make more popular models could remain open for part of the shutdown period, but at reduced assembly

line speeds.

But the shutdown could be catastrophic to many auto parts suppliers that already are near bankruptcy due to previous production cuts. During the shutdown, suppliers couldn't ship parts to GM and would lose critical revenue.

"It's one of those things we've been dreading for a long time," said Jim Gillette, director of financial services at auto-industry consultant CSM Worldwide in Grand Rapids. "It's as bad as it's ever been."

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HORSTMAN
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worse for Smith's stock one day at a time heading into draft season. First of all, he was suspended from playing in the Sugar Bowl after a "violation of team rules." The mighty Crimson Tide ended up losing to Utah of all teams in the Sugar Bowl.

Then Smith showed up at the NFL scouting combine and openly said he wasn't in shape and hadn't been working out at all to prepare. I guess you could say his honesty is a strength, but then he left the combine in Indianapolis without saying a word to anyone.

A bust in the top 10 can destroy a team's morale for years to come, and while Smith's talent might be worth it, the risk he brings with him certainly isn't. There's just too much baggage before he's ever even played an NFL game, so unless your coaching staff has some of the best guidance counselors in the world, I wouldn't gamble on the "boom or bust" potential of Smith, because right now, it's looking a little one-sided.

Let's end things with one more boom, and coming in at that spot is the 5-foot-9-inch cornerback out of Wake Forest: Alphonso Smith. A true play-maker, Smith picked off 21 passes in his college career and was named an All-American as a senior. Smith is extremely athletic, and his football IQ is through the roof. The only knock against the former Demon Deacon is his size — it may scare away a few teams in the first round.

However, Smith has upside for days and has steal-of-the-draft potential if for some reason he falls out of the first round. Whoever ends up taking Smith will have an awesome play-maker in their defensive backfield for years to come.

Stopping this at only five players feels like leaving a party at 10:30 — I haven't even got on the beer pong table yet! But I can tell I've written a few of you to sleep already, so I won't torture you ordinary people who for some reason are still reading this any further.

Just make sure to spread your holiday cheer — the NFL Draft is here!

Terry McClain, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

RACQUETBALL
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Team doubles were a big help as well, with many players matching up and coming up big together. Four of the doubles teams finished either first or second. This extra effort in the doubles matches helped make OSU victorious.

"We did work," said Joey Lakowske, No. 1 Men's Singles.

The pride in their game is apparent and the accolades continue to follow. These are some tenacious Beavers who deserve a rousing applause for bringing Oregon State one more title to hold up high.

Mark Pedersen, sports writer
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SOFTBALL
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

"I think our pitchers feel a lot more comfortable and they've relaxed a little bit," Ewing said. "They've seen all the teams and they know what everyone has. I think Kelly Dyer is trusting her stuff again."

Oregon State faced the Aggies earlier this season during the UNLV Louisville Slugger Invitational. The all-time record between the two schools is 2-0, which will give the Beavers confidence going into Thursday's games. The leading hitter for the Aggies is senior outfielder Belinda Paine, who holds a .321 batting average heading into the weekend. Paine also has the team-high 42 hits and 10 stolen bases. Senior pitcher Jessica Hancock posts a 13-9 record on the season with 148 strikeouts.

"Hopefully we get a win against Davis and that will set us up for the rest of the weekend," junior infielder Alana Ford said. "We've been working on our hitting a lot more this week. We look pretty good on defense, but we haven't been getting the clutch hits we've needed in games. If we can get hits at the right time with runners on and move them home, that will set us up for some good wins."

No. 4 Stanford and No. 15 Cal seem to be the least of the worries for the Beavers going into the weekend, but they are nonetheless still important games against nationally-ranked teams.

"You get jacked up when you play ranked teams because they have a target on their back," Ewing said.

The Beavers beat Cal (29-15, 5-7 Pac-10) at home earlier in the season but have yet to clinch a win against the Cardinal (37-6, 7-5 Pac-10). The all-time record between the Golden Bears and the Beavers

is 34-64. The two teams have split the first two games of the series, which were played in Corvallis. Cal fell to Arizona twice last weekend and once to Arizona State, which dropped them in the national rankings.

"I think our team has more confidence against Cal, but Stanford had a rough weekend last weekend," Ewing said. "Whenever you play a team twice, I think it makes it easier to beat them. I don't think we are scared of either team. With Cal, we've already beat them once, so we know we can beat them."

Sophomore pitcher Valerie Arioto leads Cal in batting as well as in the circle. Arioto's batting average stands at .349 with 37 runs on 45 hits and eight home runs. Pitching, she holds a 2.12 ERA and a 13-5 record with 148 strikeouts.

The Beavers will finish up the weekend Saturday and Sunday against the Cardinal. The all-time record between the two is 24-34. Stanford took the first game of the series against the Beavers April 3. Last weekend, the Cardinal went 1-2 in Arizona.

Despite its loss, Stanford's highest batting average belongs to junior Alissa Haber, who is batting .426. Haber has 48 runs, 63 hits, 17 RBI and 13 stolen bases. Freshman Ashley Hansen holds a .414 batting average and 40 RBI. Senior pitcher Missy Penna has the third-best ERA in the conference (1.45) and has a 26-4 record.

"It's time for us to break out and play well. Cal and Stanford have really strong pitching," junior outfielder Tarah Black said. "We just have to be patient in the box and work the pitches and try and get walks and hits and it's the little things that will add up and hopefully count for some runs."

Maria Bruggere, sports writer
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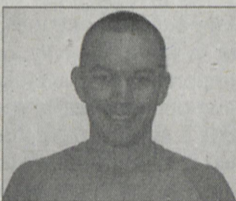
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OSU Bookstore Board of Directors Election!

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James Condon

Year: Sophomore **Major:** Pre-Business

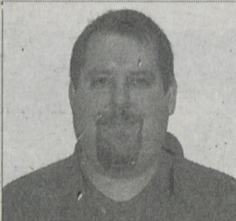
I am majoring in Business with options in accounting and finance. I have worked the past two summers as an intern for the Oregon Department of Transportation. Working for a government nonprofit organization, I got to see the inner workings of its operations & functions.



Tiffany Gota

Year: Junior **Major:** Exercise & Sports Fitness

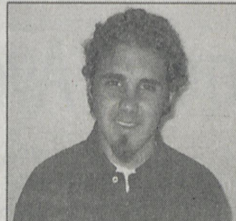
I'm a very organized person, hard working, & I like to contribute when help is needed. I am the intramural chair for my sorority as well as a part of other committees within my house. I work well in team settings and I am a part of the National Society of Leadership & Success on campus.



Dann Cutter

Year: Junior **Major:** Finance

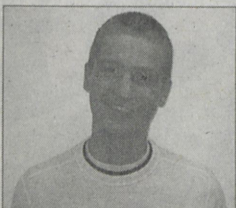
As an elected official, I regularly deal with conflicting issues and budgetary choices which effect a great deal of my constituency and myself. Too often we are told one thing, but financial realities force a more conservative course at the expense of those entitled to a proactive board. Finding alternatives is a necessary part of my service and would be so on the OSU Bookstore Board.



Chase Smith

Year: Sophomore **Major:** Entrepreneurship

I have previously held two forms of leadership experience that I feel will be beneficial for the Bookstore's continued success. I have been a chapter officer in my high school's Future Business Leaders of America chapter holding the title of Director of Technology. I have also held the role of Master of Rituals when I was a part of Alpha Kappa Psi business fraternity.



Nathan DeKrey

Year: Freshman **Major:** Business Administration

Having held a Student Leader position since 8th grade, I have plenty of experience holding meetings, fighting for a cause, and lending a helping hand. I've planned fund-raisers, dances, meetings and more throughout my over 5 years of student leadership activities.

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Five-game weekend for Beavers

■ Oregon State softball plays must win non-conference double header against Aggies

By Maria Bruggere
THE DAILY BAROMETER

A critical weekend lies ahead for the Oregon State women's softball team as it travels to the Bay Area for a five-game weekend against UC Davis, Cal and Stanford.

The Beavers must win their double-header against Davis (21-21) Thursday to hold their hopes of post-season play.

"For us, we can't even look at the Cal and Stanford games because our season depends on the games against UC Davis," senior catcher Stefanie Ewing said. "If we lose either one of those games, we have no shot at going into post season."

Sophomore catcher Audrey Roderfeld leads Beavers. She has a batting average of .328 and 31 RBI, and she added another home run against UCLA, which marks her 10th this season. Senior infielders Paige Lowe and DeAnn Young added to the double play running total (26) last weekend. Lowe now has 18 on the season and Young has 11.

Junior pitcher Kelly Dyer was in a pitching duel last Saturday against Washington and threw nine innings, only giving up four hits despite the 1-0 loss. Dyer's season record is 10-13.

See **SOFTBALL** | page 7



CASEY GROGAN | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Junior outfielder Dani Chisolm lays down a sacrifice bunt in Oregon State's 1-0 loss to the University of Washington on April 18. Oregon State dropped a single game to UCLA before falling in two straight to the Huskies.

Terry Horstman

Sports Nerds of the World Unite

Football nerd Christmas

It's the most wonderful time of the year. It's finally here; it's Christmas in April, or otherwise known as the NFL Draft.

Saturday at 1:00 p.m., the NFL draft starts on its two-day marathon filled with every criterion of a sports geek's paradise.

I could speculate for days on end about who's going to do what this weekend and who I think the best picks are going to be, but only myself and a few other football losers out there would be the only ones who find that interesting. So I've decided to keep it simple and hence not boring for the 98 percent of you that probably don't care about what happens this Saturday. So without further ado, let's take a look at the potential booms and busts of the draft's first round.

The first name you have to look at is Matthew Stafford, the talented quarterback out of the University of Georgia. Stafford has everything you look for in a quarterback and would normally be one of my big "booms" of this year's draft class. Unfortunately for Stafford, he in all likelihood will be drafted by the career-killing Detroit Lions. Although Stafford is a much better prospect than Joey Harrington was when he got called the grim reaper of pro football some years ago, don't expect anything better than mediocrity from Stafford for as long as he's in Detroit.

My favorite player of this year's draft is the great receiver out of Texas Tech: Michael Crabtree. Crabtree is coming into the draft with some health issues due to his fractured left foot. For any normal receiver, this would be a major concern, but Crabtree has proven that he's better on one foot than most other receivers are on both feet. Crabtree is the first ever two-time Biletnikoff Award winner, and as a freshman, Crabtree led the nation in receptions, receiving yards and touchdowns. Despite his foot, Crabtree is a certified boom, and picking him up at anything lower than fifth overall is the steal of the century.

If you want to win in the NFL, one of the most important and overlooked positions is the offensive tackle spot. Offensive tackle is always one of those highly invested positions on draft day, and in 2009, no single player scares me more than the offensive tackle out of Alabama: Andre Smith.

Smith is a projected top-10 pick and certainly has the talent to justify that. However, things kept getting worse and

See **HORSTMAN** | page 7

OSU dominates in racquetball national championships

■ Beavers score 600 points more than second place Alabama, win third USAR National Intercollegiate Championship

By Mark Pedersen
THE DAILY BAROMETER

"We win, you lose," echoed an enlightened Oregon State co-ed after James Rodgers and the Beavers handed Oregon their devastating 2008 Civil War loss. These words were appropriate then and remain appropriate now. Only now, the Oregon State Racquetball team can be heard murmuring these words to every other university in the nation.

From a pool of 46 schools, including University of Oregon, our Beavers emerged victorious at the 2009 37th USAR National Intercollegiate Championships.

"We've won three national titles and deserve more recognition," said David LaForest.

OSU posted a combined score of 2849 points, a 600 point edge over its nearest competitor, University of Alabama. Not only did Oregon State win the title, the girls overall title was taken by OSU with a margin of victory of more than 100 points.

It's become somewhat of a tradition. Oregon State has taken home the national championship three of the last four years. With stunning play and a great team vibe, the Beavers battled through and claimed their rightful crown.

"We did what we went there to do, that was win a national championship," said captain Dan Arnold.

Arnold is the co-captain and leader of this cohort of Beavers. Fourteen members made the pilgrimage to compete in the desert. The play was ferocious and OSU fit right in. They delivered fore strokes and backstrokes with such tenacity that some schools grew weary of entering the box with members of Oregon State's squad.

Oregon State Racquetball had the opportunity to enjoy its change of scenery for close to a week as the preliminary rounds were played throughout the week. The weekend brought the tournament to a whole new level as the many competing schools played semifinal and final matches. The Beavers entered the weekend with almost every eligible player or doubles group vying for a shot at winning their bracket.

"We're such a close group," Arnold said. "We're always hanging out together."

It was rubbing off on everyone because team domination became a staple of Oregon State's ferocious attitude toward the tournament. So many individuals played so well that any opportunity for another school to step up was drowned.

Throughout the weekend, three first place awards were given to Oregon State competitors.

Tyler and Dale Fonken, playing in the No. 3 Men's Doubles position, were the lone men to take a first place finish. Another pair of doubles, Megan Mathes and Teresa Wright, took the gold in the No. 2 Women's Doubles. In the end, Stevanie Medearis stole the show with the sole individual first place finish, playing in the No. 6 Women's Singles.

There was also a slew of podium finishes by individual members Grant Stalley (third), Michael Carrington (second) and Dan Arnold (third). Ashley Willhite (third), Alyssa Asay (third) and Teresa Wright (third) helped give Oregon State points in almost every event.

"We were so consistent all week," Arnold said about his team appearing in so many semifinal matches.

See **RACQUETBALL** | page 7

Old Irish sport growing roots in Avery Park

■ Hurling was brought to Canada before being converted into hockey, sport now played in U.S.

By Stuart Ashenbrenner
THE DAILY BAROMETER

When we hear hurling, most of us think of a late Saturday night after a long week of class and one drink too many, but not for the guys of the Corvallis Hurling Club. They take the field every Sunday to brush up on their hurling skills as well as have an excellent time doing something enjoyable.

Hurling is a sport that started in Ireland about 3,000 years ago. It combines skill, athleticism and a little of your weekend time. This sport that is a cross between lacrosse, hockey, football and baseball is a hard hitting sport that will leave you wanting more.

"[Hurling] is the grandfather to hockey," midfielder Austin Strickler said. "When the Irish came into Canada, they had to adapt hurling

to the frozen ponds. It started in the United States many years ago, but just started teams in Oregon in 2001."

Using a wooden stick called a hurley, which takes on the appearance of a long axe, this group of 13 team members sprint the field trying to score points. The field has a goal net like soccer, but also a set of goal posts, like football. You then try to hit the small ball, or sliotar, either into the net or between the posts. The net scores teams three points, while between the posts score them one.

During the game, the team members pass, shoot and run with the ball. They catch the ball and will hit it again with the end of their hurling stick.

Hurling team midfielder Dustin Herron, 29, started the club in July 2008. The Corvallis Hurling Club, or the Benton Brigade, would like to get a club started at Oregon State so they can play teams from across the Pac-10.

Both Stanford and Cal have com-

petitive teams, and USC is trying to get a team started.

"We hope to get a team started at OSU so we can go against the other teams from the Pac-10," Strickler said.

The Corvallis Hurling Club meets every Sunday at Avery Park in Corvallis. If you are a beginner, come at 2 p.m., and you can get hands-on lessons from Dustin as well as the other talented players. Stick around after though, for the scrimmage that will follow the practice.

"When people show up, we are there," Herron said. "We will show them the basics, and if they want to practice with us or do the drills, they're more than welcome to. It's just a good way to get out and do something."

Those interested in the Corvallis Hurling Club, visit myspace.com/corvallahurling or e-mail them at corvallahurling@gmail.com.

Stuart Ashenbrenner, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com



CORY REED | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Austin Strickler (right) battles club member "John" for the sliotar with his hurley in a Sunday practice for the Corvallis Hurling Club.