

Rarometer Rander



Oregon State University, Corvallis, Ore.

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Ray says OSU looking to curb growth in future



President Ray gives his annual State of the University address yesterday. Ray made remarks on

In his annual State of the University speech, Ed Ray announced pay raise for faculty

By Don Her THE DAILY BAROMETER

Yesterday Ed Ray, president of Oregon State University, in his annual state of the university address to the faculty senate, laid out his vision for OSU over the coming years as well as addressing the challenges currently facing the university.

In his address, Ray spoke about OSU's continued financial stability, curbing growth to a more manageable amount and a 4 percent raise for faculty that will take effect January

"Going forward, we plan to moderate enrollment growth on this campus to 2 to 3 percent each year," Ray said. "A toll has been taken on the social fabric of this community from growth."

Last year, enrollment at OSU increased 8 percent for the second year in a row and this year's growth is projected to be close to 5 percent. The ongoing growth of the student body has put strain on the university, resulting in larger class sizes and a 0 percent vacancy rate of rentals in the city of Corvallis.

"I want us to get back on the path of investing in excellence," Ray said. "We need to do a better job of recruiting and retaining high achieving students

here in Oregon and elsewhere."

In spite of the 14.4 percent cut in the state general fund, OSU is on sound financial footing according to Ray. Diversifying funds has been key to maintaining this, such as increasing the enrollment of non-resident and international students, the ongoing success of the campaign for OSU and record amounts of research grant and continuing to reach the goals

and licensing fee

campaign The for OSU, which increased its goal last fall from \$625 million to \$850 million last fall, has raised \$112 million this year. As of October, the campaign total had exceeded \$750 million.

The new contracts the PAC-12 athletic

conference made with ESPN and Fox are expected to also help with OSU's financial situation, with Ray projecting the self-sufficiency of the athletic

'[It] will move athletics to financial self-sufficiency and eliminate debts to the university and the OSU Foundation in the coming years," Ray said. "In fact, media contracts will provide additional funding for central fund initiatives to invest in academic excellence.'

In the next few years, Ray said the university would be looking to increase industry and university collaboration, through sponsored research, new business development and commercialization of research.

Increasing retention and graduation rates for all sub-groups to a much-higher six-year graduation rate

> of the Campaign for OSU were also high priorities.

The university is also looking to make sure various capital projects that were not approved by the legislature during the spring session will be approved in February, such as the Student Experience Center, a new classroom building and a

new residence hall.

While we build upon

the remarkable efforts

of those who came before

us to create this very special

place, I know our very best

efforts will prove exceptional.

Ed Ray,

OSU President

In spite of the bad economic times and the challenges of growth, Ray remained upbeat on the future of Oregon State.

'While we build upon the remarkable efforts of those who came before us to create this very special place," Ray said. "I know our very best efforts will prove exceptional."

Don Her, managing editor

Student activists encourage campus to wear shirts inside-out

Student group seeks to raise awareness about world poverty by devaluing pieces of clothing for a day, an alternative to monetary donation

enrollment growth, the Campaign for OSU and the PAC-12 athletic conference...

By Amanda Antell

According to worldhunger.org, there are over 925 million people living in poverty worldwide.

In solidarity of those living in extreme poverty, a campaign to spread awareness about poverty is encouraging Oregon State University students to turn their shirts inside out Oct.

"Many people are forgetting that poverty exists," said Yones Almandani, an INTO student leader and ambassador.

Led by four students, a campaign to raise awareness for "International Day for the Eradication of Poverty" on campus, proposes participants wear their shirts inside out to symbolize the piece of clothing losing its original value.

The United States and other developed countries have 19 million people in poverty. Asia Pacific has 578 million, followed by Sub-Saharan Africa with 239 million, Latin America and the Caribbean with 53 million, and the Near East and North Africa have 37 million living in poverty, according to

As monetary donations are not an option for many college students, the event will act as a charitable alternative.

Almandani, Mamdouh Almutairi, Jeremiah Wilson and Kevin Gatimu plan to lead the campus through this movement, which they hope will become a tradition at OSU and other universities throughout the country.

"I hope this video will spread around the world, and make everyone become aware," Almandani said in reference to a Youtube video, "Power of YOU," the team produced specifi-

In order for there to be an increase in action toward reducing poverty, Gatimu said in the short film, "There needs to be

See AWARENESS | page 3



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO | COURTESY OF JEREMIAH WILSON

Kevin Gatimu, Yones Almandani, Jeremiah Wilson and Mamdouh Almutairi, pictured above from left to right, will be spreading poverty awareness through their campaign on Monday.

What is your opinion on ASOSU President Hopoi's impeachment?



I saw the headline, but I hold no interest or involvement in student government.

-Linden Rogers, Second year master's student in radiation health fitness



What's ASOSU?

-Wei Yang Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering



First I've heard of it.

-Kyle Stangel, freshman in civil engineering



Rules are rules. If this student body lets this slide, anyone can do what they want.

-Jesse Barnes, senior in speech communications and marketing



We don't know who that is, we're on our way to a Chem midterm.

-Lauren Powell, freshman in animal science

Oregon University System sticks to decision on quarter schedule

Along with other state schools, Oregon State will remain, for now, on quarterly system

By Gwen Shaw

During the second or third week of August, many students around the country start moving into their dorms or apartments in preparation for school at the university or college of their choice. In Oregon, however, students attending any one of the seven Oregon University System schoolslike Oregon State University— don't start school for another month.

OUS operates on a quarter schedule as opposed to a semester schedule. According to Di Saunders, the director of communications for OUS, "Oregon is one of the few states still on a quar-

A few years ago, the idea of converting to semesters was brought up in legislature. They requested that there be an investigation into the conversion tosee if it would be more cost-efficient.

The report to the Oregon Legislature put together by various members from the Joint Boards of Education, Unified Education Enterprise and the Oregon State Board of Higher Education, presented the two main claims of advantages to having a semester schedule.

According to the report, switching to semesters is "one possible move toward greater efficiency as institutions would have only three, including summer term, intensive periods of activity for business functions, academic advising, financial aid processing, grading, and all the myriad activities required with the beginning and

ending of the term."

The report continues, "Equally important discussion suggested that a semester calendar might be preferable for pedagogical reasons as well. The notion that a 16- or 17-week academic term would provide an opportunity for subjects to be examined in greater depth and breadth is an oft-repeated claim of proponents of a semester

Though both of the points investigated in the report are valid, OUS has made the decision to stick with a quarter system.

"OUS has been working for many years to make it easier for community college students to transfer into the OUS," Saunders said. "Switching to semesters would put some barriers into that idea."

Community college alignment is

the main issue according to Saunders. "Community colleges are not supportive of moving to semesters. If they didn't change and we did, I think it would be a hardship for the

If that were the situation, Saunders pointed out that many students would have to take time off before getting into the OUS and life can get in the way. One may get a job and decide against furthering education to keep

"As far as I know, it's not on the plate for a topic of discussion right now. It may come up at a later time down the line," Saunders said. "It would be a major change. Imagine all the shifts in the courses and curriculum that would

Gwen Shaw, staff reporter

California prison officials say hunger strike ends

by some California prison inmates has ended, the Department of Corrections said Thursday.

More than 4,250 inmates in eight state prisons were involved in the strike on Sept. 29, three days after it began, but only 580 at three prisons were still participating Thursday, the department said in a news release.

On Oct. 6, when the department said 811 were still taking part, Jay Donahue, a spokesman for Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity, questioned that number, though he acknowledged that participation had likely dropped.

Prison officials consider inmates to be on a hunger strike if they have missed nine straight meals.

Corrections The Department said Thursday it had received a letter from inmates two days earlier regarding the strike. The letter was the first contact from the striking inmates or their representatives, it said.

'Officials agreed to meet with inmate representatives

A three-week hunger strike to discuss its ongoing review of and revisions to its Security Housing Unit policies that began in May 2011," the department said in its news release. "Similar to its discussions with inmates during a July hunger strike, all agreed the changes to policies would take several months to finalize. The department agreed to continue on its same course.

Many of the inmates were angry about a practice of keeping them in solitary confinement for too long, some as many as 20 years, Isaac Ontiveros, another spokes-man for Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity, said earlier.

The prisoners made five demands, including a change in the policy that makes inmates go through an interrogation process in which they have to incriminate themselves - and identify other inmates who are involved in breaking rules in order to get out of solitary confinement. They also demanded an end to group lockdowns and wanted more privileges for those in solitary confinement, such as winter clothes and nutritious meals.

CALENDAR

University Events, 1-6pm, Linus Pauling Science Center. Grand Opening featuring self-guided tours of the facility and free food from Ava's Cafe. Main program at 3 p.m., followed by faculty lectures from 4-6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 15

University Events, 9am-1pm, Linus featuring self-guided tours of the facility and free food from Ava's Cafe

Monday, Oct. 17

Speakers

OSU Socratic Club, 7pm, Gilfillan History; Nicole Von Germeten, professor of History; Allen Thompson, profes sor of Philosophy from OSU and Martin Emmrich, a Presbyterian Minister in Corvallis will speak on the topic "Will

Tuesday, Oct. 18

Meetings

ASOSU Senate, 7pm, MU 109A. The ASOSU Senate convenes to discuss student issues. Students and student organization delegates are welcome

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

Wednesday, Oct. 19

Women's Center, 5-7pm, Women's presents a Thesis Writing Support Group. Meet other graduate womer have your thesis edited by friendly peers, brainstorm or just work quietly.

ASOSU House of Representatives, 7pm, MU 211. The ASOSU House of Representatives convenes to discuss student issues and concerns. Students and student organization delegates are welcome to attend.

Thursday, Oct. 20

Meetings

OSU Chess Club, 4pm, MU Commons. Meet for casual games. Free member-ship. All skill levels welcome! OSU Pre-Law Society, 6pm, StAg 111.

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

Monday, Oct. 24

Events

ISOSU, 4:30-6pm, International Resource Center (MU Lounge). Coffee Hour! Come enjoy light refreshments and snacks and meet people from all over the world! Tuesday, Oct. 25

Awareness week draws attention to dangers of odorless radon gas

Radon is the second

leading cause of lung cancer

in the U.S., only cigarette

smoking causes more lung

cancer deaths.

Radon gas one of the leading causes of lung cancer in the United States

By Camille Jacobson-Ingram

During the week of Oct. 17-24, the federal government will sponsor Radon Awareness Week in order to draw attention to the dangers that this invisible and odorless gas poses

"Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Only cigarette smoking causes more lung cancer deaths."

Environmental Protection Agency estimates that radon causes about 21,000 lung cancer deaths per year in the U.S.," said Brett Sherry, program manager for the Healthy Homes and Schools Program.

Radon is not exclusive to one location or type of home.

In fact, radon has been detected in every county of the United States. Every year, millions of Americans are exposed to this deadly gas without even knowing it.

In fact, Radon gas was responsible for more American fatalities last year than carbon monoxide, fires and handguns combined. With these startling statistics, many students will probably be eager to test their home.

'The only way to know if a home, apartment or dorm room has high levels of radon is to test it. Students can contact their land-

lord or facilities manager and ask if their unit has been tested for radon. If it hasn't, students can request that it be tested or they can test it themselves. Radon testing is relatively inexpensive and easy to do. Test kits are available online or at local hardware stores, and typically cost around \$15. Be sure to follow the instructions that come with the test kit as closely as possible. Most test kit manufacturers recommend leaving the test kit out for about three days. The kit is then mailed off to

the laboratory for analysis. Results are typically mailed out in about a week," Sherry

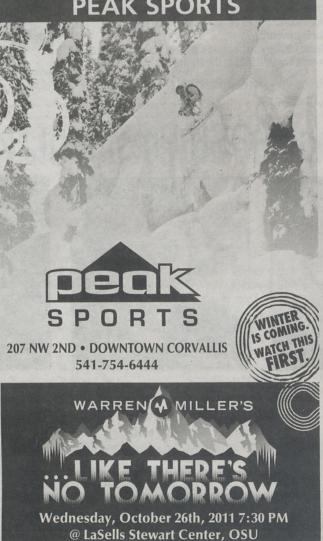
While the cost of being exposed to Radon gas may be high, the cost to check your home still remains relatively low. Radon Awareness Week exists as a way to help people understand how truly harmful the

invisible gas can be.

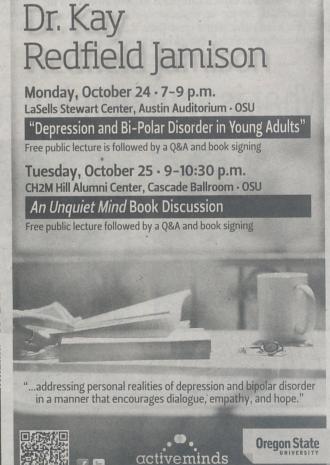
"Radon Awareness Week helps to educate the public about the hazards of Radon gas. Since radon is colorless, odorless and tasteless, it cannot be detected by our senses. It is easy to ignore radon," Sherry said. "National Radon Awareness Week and National Radon Action Month (January) help to get the word out about radon and encourage folks to test

Camille Jacobson-Ingram, staff reporter





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House passes bill on abortion funds

WASHINGTON, D.C. The U.S. House passed a bill Thursday that would amend the health care law to bar federal funding for health plans that provide abortion services.

The vote was 251 in favor and

The bill, the Protect Life Act, was sponsored by Pennsylvania Republican Joe Pitts and gathered overwhelming Republican support. Only two Republicans voted against it, along with all but 15 Democrats.

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi earlier condemned the bill, debated by the House Thursday, arguing that if it passed, "women can die on the floor and health care providers do not have to

Democrats opposed to the bill charged that the GOP majority was ignoring the nation's top priority and instead spending time on a bitterly divisive issue.

'Instead of focusing on jobs, Republicans are continuing to wage their war on women," California Democrat Barbara Lee said on the House floor.

the House spent the bulk of the week on proposals like the three free trade agreementsthat passed Wednesday aimed at boosting job creation. They explained Thursday's vote was simply following through on a campaign promise that House Republicans made when they outlined their agenda in the run-up to the 2010 elections.

'We've done four or five solid job-creation bills this week and this bill was part of our Pledge to America. We are keeping our word to the American people and we are going to do it," said House Speaker John Boehner.

Supporters of the measure argued that the health care law contains a loophole that allows those receiving federal subsidies to use the money to enroll in health care plans that allow abortion services.

Abortion rights advocates maintain the bill is unnecessary because existing laws already bar any taxpayer money from underwriting abortion procedures. During the health care debate, President Barack

But GOP leaders emphasized Obama signed an executive order stating no federal funds could be used in the new health care exchanges created in the

> Pro-abortion-rights groups like Planned Parenthood also maintain the bill adds a new restriction. Currently, hospitals that receive federal funds but don't have facilities to treat women who may need emergency abortion serves are directed to transfer those patients to a health care facility that can treat them. The Pitts bill removes that requirement.

> A day after the House passed the three trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea with sizable bipartisan votes, debate in the House chamber on the abortion bill Thursday was heated and at times became personal.

> Rep. Jackie Speier, D-Calif., who revealed last year that she suffered a miscarriage and required a procedure to end her pregnancy, accused Republicans of being "absolutely misogynist" for bringing

N.C., responded, "The misogyny comes from those who promote the killing of unborn babies.

Foxx said the bill was not about taking away any existing rights, but restricting the use of federal money. She cited opinion polls showing that more than three-quarters of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortions.

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fl., disputed Democrats who repeatedly argued that Obama's 2010 executive order made it clear women would have to use private funds to pay for any abortion services.

"It is flawed because executive orders can disappear as quickly as they are issued. But the Protect Life Act will create a solid framework that will safeguard taxpayer dollars," Ros-Lehtinen said.

The Senate is not expected to take up the bill and the White House issued a veto threat on the Protect Life Act on

— CNN

October 21st & 22nd

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Obama, South Korean leader toast close ties at state dinner

counterpart hailed a new trade deal and close ties between the two countries at a state dinner Thursday night at the White

While Obama spoke of the strong bonds, President Lee Myung-bak said he will win over American critics of the pact, which was approved by Congress Wednesday.

The agreement is "going to create a lot of good, decent jobs for the people of America," said Lee.

The two leaders exchanged toasts in the East Room, which was adorned with apples and other fall decorations.

Obama praised the Senate's confirmation Thursday of Sung Y. Kim as the first Korean-American ambassador to South

Lee spoke of his personal friendship with Obama and the debt his country has to the United States for its sacrifices in the Korean War.

Obama and Lee earlier Thursday said the trade agreement is promising for both economies.

Obama said he will sign it in the com-

"In short, this agreement will boost

Barack Obama and his South Korean has ground-breaking protections for labor rights, the environment and intellectual property, so the trade is free and fair. It will promote green jobs and clean energy, another area where we're deepening our cooperation," Obama said.

"And it keeps us on track to achieve my goals of doubling American exports."

Lee said he is "confident that the Korean National Assembly will soon ratify this very important agreement in the near future.'

It is "an historic achievement that will become a significant milestone in our 130-year relationship," Lee said.

This agreement will create more jobs, generate more trade and stimulate our economies. This free trade agreement will bring numerous benefits to our workers, our companies, our small businesses, and our consumers alike."

Congress voted Wednesday on a bipartisan basis to approve free-trade agreements with Colombia, Panama and South

Obama and Lee also said they will continue to cooperate on efforts with respect to North Korea.

"We agree that North Korea's continued American exports by up to \$11 billion and pursuit of nuclear weapons poses a seri-

WASHINGTON, D.C. - President support some 70,000 American jobs. It ous threat to peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula and the world. We will continue to work towards denuclearization in the peninsula," Lee said.

Earlier, at a welcoming ceremony, Obama hailed Lee as a "good friend and

"Our two nations have stood together for more than 60 years," Obama said. "Over the past two years, we've deepened our cooperation. Today, I'm proud to say the alliance between the United States and the Republic of Korea is stronger than

Lee said he had paid respects at the Korean War Memorial shortly before the ceremony, remembering the 37,000 U.S. service members killed during the Korean

"The Korean people have never forgotten what these fallen soldiers and their families gave up," Lee said.

Lee's visit includes several bilateral meetings with Obama, the state dinner, and an address to Congress, which Obama described as "a high honor reserved for America's closest friends."

Lee is a reliable ally for Obama, especially when it comes to U.S. policy on North Korea.

Senate Republicans unveil alternative jobs bill

A group of Republican sena- dent saying that we don't have tors unveiled job creation legis- a proposal," said Sen. John lation Thursday that is designed to be a policy and political of proposals and we've had lots counterpoint to the Democratic measures President Obama has pressured Republicans to pass.

Built around well-known GOP principles to shrink the footprint of Washington on the economy by cutting taxes, spending, and federal regulations, Republicans believe having actual legislation they can point to will weaken the president's charge that Republicans aren't doing enough to create jobs.

"I'll freely admit to you, part of this is a response to the presi-

McCain, R-Ariz. "We have lots of proposals. We've put them together now and they're out there and that's our plan."

"This is the alternative," said Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas.

McCain said the bill will "act as a blueprint to bring our country back economically" and explained that while Democrats rely on government spending to revive the economy, "we believe we can create jobs through (economic) growth."

- CNN

an increase in awareness."

"When Yones asked me to

help, I was very excited to do this," said Wilson, director and producer of the YouTube video.

Though a seemingly simple and small action, the team is hopeful that students turning their shirts inside out will spark a lot of questions and thereby expose the facts.

We talked about how college students have no money to donate, so we came up with the idea for the shirts," said Almutairi, INTO-OSU student and one of the project directors of the Poverty Day campaign.

Gatimu encourages students to "turn [their] shirt or jacket inside out" for the event, which is not exclusive to OSU.

"We want word to spread about poverty everywhere," Almandani said. "Everyone should have enough to

By reaching beyond the horders of the United States and getting countries all over the world to participate in this momentous occasion, the team hopes that all countries will remember their people in poverty.

Almandani expressed a personal desire for people in Somalia to receive help, as well as those in the United States who are struggling.

More information is available on the "Inside-out Shirt Day" Facebook page.

> Amanda Antell, staff reporter 737-2231 news@dailybarometer.com

Eugene COMPANY



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4 • Friday, October 14, 2011

Editorial

Yeas & Nays

Tea to more people reading the Barometer. Nay to that not helping

them understand, nor care about the student government of this university,

Yea to the Beavers notching their first win this last weekend.

Nay to it taking four games to get there. Bright side though, at least we won't go winless.

Nay to the sad situation when you realize you have no rhythm and your moves consist of pumping your fist (Jersey Shore style) and jumping around a lot.

Yea to realizing as you look around, no one else knows what the hell they're

Yea to Georgetown offering a threecredit class called "Sociology of Hip-Hop: Jay-Z" this fall semester. The class according to the professor "will focus on Jay-Z's body of work, understanding of his own work and asking the students to engage in critical analysis of Jay-Z himself." Can you imagine a class that will pose such thoughtprovoking questions like: What's the meaning behind "Big Pimpin"? What are the 99 problems we believe Jay-Z has? The final paper will consist of asking students to write about a time that had to get some dirt off their shoulder. Well done, Georgetown. Well done.

Nay to Oregon State University not having this course.

Yea to bikers, in bike lanes.

Nay to those who choose sidewalks. Or the opposite direction.

Nay to missing game night at your house because you have to work late every Wednesday.

Yea to finding out that the game you have been missing out on is "Dungeons & Dragons." Working late = missing game night. Walking home = five minutes. Coming home to find your roommates and their co-workers slightly inebriated, focusing intensely on the next attack move of their level

five character = priceless. Yea to keeping in touch.

Nay to reverting to leaving awkward Facebook comments on a friend's page (though you know the girl won't respond, but your mother told you to never give up on "the one" so you keep

Yea to the OSU marketing team for rolling out those impressive banners all around campus. We're not talking about the ones with people's faces on them. No, we're talking about the ones that have phrases like "Going green, been there, doing that," or "The buck starts here" banner in front of the library. Those are some of the most ingenious slogans ever written.

Nay to the "going green" banner on an orange background with white letters, or that the phrase itself sounds somewhat cheesy, or the banner in front of the library doesn't make a lot of sense either; it just looks colorful and hip. And that's really what matters.

Yea to it being the weekend. We advise you to do something naturey, something wild yet down to earth, like going for a hike or visiting the Humane Society. Or go to Impulse.

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

There's a reason

the death penalty

has remained in effect:

It's legal revenge -

an institutionalized

'eye for an eye.'

t's not an easy task defending the death penalty, and it shouldn't be. The ultimate crime in society, the morally instinctive no-no; murder is not something to be passed on without serious consideration. But to effectively defend capital punishment, a few clarifications must be made.

First, the interpretation of murder; is it a legal or illegal killing of another human that constitutes murder? Or is there even a distinction to be made? Theoretically, legal-by a set of laws-killing of an individual is no different than a crime of passion, revenge or undeserving action. It still ends a life, only with a legislative reasoning and defense behind it.

However, there is a significant divide between free crime and civilized, legalized justification. There's a reason the death penalty has

remained in effect: It's legal revengean institutionalized "eye for an eye." This is not murder without purpose.

Whether you see an individual's life as sacred doesn't matter to the widow or the family without one of its members. Capital punishment has put the power in

damental basis for the death penalty. This is a legalized killing, an execution and it will not be referred to as murder here, as that applies to the crime in question.

And the death penalty must be stressed as a "penalty," not a "deterrent," as many abolitionists would label it as. Deeming the death penalty a deterrent takes away from the aforementioned reasoning behind the policy, it undermines the ultimate

Where has the assumption been made that the federal government sees the death penalty as a deterrent? Fines, prison sentences, community service—these are deterrents, consequences of crimes society has deemed less significant, or dangerous, if you will.

If the death penalty were to be abolished, would murder go up? Would those considering murder, realizing they won't be executed if convicted, rather sentenced to life, feel more comfortable going through with their crime? That's the effect of a deterrent. If abolished, people are more likely to commit the crime with no consequences. There is no logic in this; only the naïve would assume those who consider murder weigh their decision upon the future, legal penalty.

Nevertheless, many opponents of the death penalty will use statistics of crime in specific states or of specific nature to illustrate the persistency of crime rates; this is not true.

According to the FBI 2010 crime report, there was an estimated 1.25 million violent crimes in the country. These include murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assaultmost of which place individuals in capital punishment consideration. has held that the appointed legal This was a "decrease of 6 percent counsel, which many capital defen-



from the 2009 estimate." In fact, over the five-year trend, the number has decreased from 1.5 million in 2006, 1.23 in 2007, 1.4 in 2008 to 1.32 in 2009. The trend is down and the death penalty should not be attributed as correlation; rather the decrease in violent crime diminishes any opposition arguments that the death penalty does not work as a deterrent.

It is not meant to curb crime. This is legal vengeance, the ultimate remedy for a wrongdoing. Painting capital punishment as another deterrent for crime in society creates an other-

wise irrelevant argument that if a judicial penalty doesn't curb crime, then it is useless. And as seen, opponents can't even make that case if they wish.

beyond But assumptions and generalizations, abolitionists rely upon government hypocrisy, cost-effectiveness and racial disparities

the victims' hands. This is the fun- to degrade the death penalty. None of which tie directly to the ineffectiveness of the death penalty itself, but rather inadequacies and inefficiencies in the government systemsjudicial, legislative and bureaucratic.

Abolitionists are quick to point out that the death penalty reveals hypocrisy within a Judeo-Christian government, one that would advocate against murder. However, defending the death penalty must not involve any religious pretext. It's irrelevant to how the government promotes itself in contrast to how it conducts itself; such is the way of the our federal

Advocating for the elimination of the death penalty with this contradiction in morality and action implies that our government acts solely on theological morals, having no pragmatic basis for policies. This hypocrisy has no application in a rebuttal or defense of the reasoning behind the death penalty. It accomplishes nothing, it merely draws away from the true argument: the effectiveness, or reason behind capital punishment.

However, while the death penalty should not be considered a deterrent—effectiveness cannot be weighed on murder rates—the cost effectiveness of the death penalty is a fair discussion, as it serves as a defense for both sides of the debate.

According to the Office of Legislative Research, capital cases "tend to last several years" and move through a number of phases. One involves two initial trials—determine guilt and sentence—and a state Supreme Court ruling. Another phase involves state habeas corpus and appeal, and a final phase would involve the federal habeas corpus, typically involving multiple appeal cases.

In addition, the Supreme Court

dants are forced to use, must provide effective representation. Strickland v. Washington (1984) established the Strickland test, which held that the defendant would need to show that counsel performed below an "objective standard of reasonableness" and that there's a reasonable probability with an even adequate performance, the final ruling would have been different. It only adds to the prolonged, complicated legal process—a bureaucratic delay, while the taxpayers maintain another prisoner in the

According to California's Legislative Analyst's Office—a fiscal advisor, much like the federal Congressional Budget Office—calculated that a single prisoner in California, costs roughly \$47,000 per year. Once 55 years old, the prisoner's cost moves up to nearly \$150,000, with health care expenses increasing. Yes, prisoners do receive health care, no matter how inadequate, and we pay for it.

As recently as this past Friday, Oregon state prison officials announced the need for two "mothballed prisons and one new one," in order to hold the "2,000 new inmates expected to join the current population over the next decade." Construction and operating expenses estimated at a cool \$608 million by 2021, for just our state alone.

As reported by the Oregonian, "a dime of every general fund dollar" goes to prison costs. Even worse, Oregon has faced recent pressure to release inmates incarcerated under less significant crimes—such as property and drug crimes—as the propositions have shown up on a number of measures in recent elections.

In fact, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled earlier this year that the California prison system has "serious Constitutional violations," specifically inadequate or lacking medical and mental care for inmates, as Justice Anthony Kennedy stated. The Court affirmed the State court's mandate to reduce the prison population, as "is necessary to remedy the violation of his conviction and execution, a prisoners' constitu-

tional rights.' Certainly, California serves as the exaggerated example of America's woeseconomy, education-and the prison system is no different. California's issues are already upon Oregon, and federal money gets

spread out throughout the country anyway—taxpayers end up paying would be executed though innofor incarcerations as a whole, not in a specific region.

Abolitionists often harp on the expenses of holding prisoners on death row, compared to keeping prisoners on life imprisonment, always ignoring the aforementioned legal process and bureaucratic loop the prisoners flow through. These costs aren't the fault of the death penalty itself; it is not the finale that brings the extra costs. The costs come from this antiquated, bogged-down sentencing process-moving from initial trial, conviction, federal approval,

appeals—that allows convicts to busy themselves between appeals in a prison system—one that feeds them, shelters them, cares for them, all on the public doll.

Society maintains these complexes, yet don't receive anything in return. This is the true cost of a system without capital punishment. Is execution a way to free up the facility and to reduce costs? Of course. Is this playing with human life, valuing money above people? No, it is not. The value is placed on society as a whole, above the individual that is on death row, sentenced to life, serving no other purpose in society.

Abolitionists will then seek to muddy the debate and imply that any prisoner is up for lethal injection. But executions do not occur just to open up a room, they occur because that was the initial sentence. The legal delay serves no purpose, only extending the date and federal paycheck.

Clearly, the system needs reform in the process, in the delays between courts and judicial reviews. According to the U.S. Bureau of Justice's 2009 Capital Punishment Statistical report, inmates spent an average of 169 months in prison between initial sentencing and execution-14 years. This is not efficiency; this is not cost-effective.

If America could wipe out the bureaucratic steps, such as more than one appeal-since evidence not available at the first trial is effectively ignored anyway-and follow through swiftly on a death sentence conviction, there would be no cost issues. The disparity between housing a prisoner for life and immediate execution would be night and day.

Then, on this note, some would argue that these prisoners might not truly be guilty, wrongful sentencing; they will point to Troy Davis, the smoking gun that the death penalty is far too dramatic of a punishment.

But the reality is: Davis was executed by the legal system, not the punishment. For the 20 years between

... compassion only

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ignorance of reality.

number of appeals were turned down. Sylvester Coles, the supposed killer, confessed to the killing, but the evidence was ignored, as it had not been introduced in the initial hearing. Much of the other recantations of the initial testimonies fell under the same legality.

Moreover, the argument that he cent—thereby violating the Eighth Amendment—could not hold as all of the new defense came after initial testimony-largely "smoke and mirrors," as Federal District Court Judge William Moore stated.

The story is absolutely disheartening. But it should not be construed as a failure of the death penalty itself; this is a failure of the justice system and precedent laid down upon it.

Finally, opponents often cite the disparity in race of those exe-

See **RESTO** page 6

Letters

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or e-mail: editor@dailybarometer.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF BRANDON SOUTHWARD

NEWS EDITOR JOCE DEWITT 541-737-2231 • news@ MANAGING EDITOR DON ILER

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FORUM EDITOR ARMAND RESTO SPORTS EDITOR GRADY GARRETT PHOTO EDITOR ALEXANDRA TAYLOR

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SENIOR EDITOR JENNA BISSINGER

COPY EDITORS GRACE ZETTERBERG, ALEXANDRA KASPRICK, KAYLI PATERSON, LORI PUGACH, KAITY 541-737-2232 • news@dailybarometer.com

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Opposing the institutionalized form of murder, ineffective and racist

Ibert Camus, the great French philosopher and prolific writer on ethics once wrote, "Capital punishment is the most premeditated of murders." While this may be a bit of an exaggeration, I agree with the principle Camus was trying to get across. There seems to be a dichotomy in our society regarding which people should or shouldn't be killed, and who has the legal authority to kill others. Camus was trying to get across the idea that regardless of the party doing the killing, murder is murder.

To be clear and consistent, I will define my use of the word murder. Murder is the intentional and premeditated killing of another individual. Many definitions (but not all) include "unlawful" as an important trait in defining murder, but I do not accept that. Laws are simply the rules of a government, but that does not mean those laws have to be just or moral. The holocaust was lawful under the government of Nazi Germany, but I don't think many would argue those were not murders. Just because a government is doing something legally, does not mean what they are doing is moral. This is a very important distinction for the purposes of this discussion.

Many people seem to think because capital punishment is the killing of a person by the government, it is impossible for that killing to be a murder because it is lawful. By defining murder as the intentional, premeditated killing of a human being, it is absolutely possible for the government to murder its citizens. Also, please note I have not invented this definition of murder for



the purposes of this argument. There are multiple definitions, and I have simply chosen one of the many accepted uses of

The goal of the death penalty is to make our society safer. If we take the most heinous of criminals, the most violent offenders of the law and execute them, they will be able to do no more harm and we will be safer because of it. It is a very utilitarian idea in that the sacrifice of one life is justified by the protection of the many. This argument, however, is an abstraction from the reality of the death penalty and its many consequences.

Capital punishment is ineffective in reducing homicide, financially irresponsible, racist, inaccurate and immoral. There is no possible way to logically and morally justify the use of the death penalty with all of its very real and negative consequences. At its very core, the death penalty is murder and we have been letting our government get away with it for a long time.

Generally, if something doesn't work, we try and fix it, or at least make it better. Unfortunately, we as a society don't seem to take that approach to the issue of capital punishment.

In a study by the University of Colorado at Boulder, it was shown that 88 percent of criminologists assert that the death penalty has absolutely no effect on reducing homicide.

of professional criminologists, however; we can look at cold hard facts.

In the 2010 FBI Uniform Crime Report, it was found that the South had the highest murder rates, despite being responsible for over 80 percent of national executions. The findings of the 2010 report were consistent with the reports of previous years. If the death penalty was effective in deterring homicide, after all these years, shouldn't the South have made some progress in curbing their high murder rates? These numbers show that capital punishment is not an effective crime deterrent. If the death penalty is completely ineffective, why do we keep pursuing it?

Some may argue that killing alleged murderers is cheaper than keeping them in prison for life. However, this is completely untrue. Studies done in California, Kansas, Maryland, North Carolina, Florida and Texas found that millions of taxpayer dollars are wasted on an ineffective death penalty policy every year. For example, in a Duke University study done in 1993, it was shown that the death penalty cost North Carolina taxpayers \$2.16 million more per execution than it would cost to sentence those individuals to life in prison, and this hasn't changed with time. In 2005, the L.A. Times reported that taxpayers pay \$114 million per year more due to the California capital punishment system than it would cost to sentence individuals to life in prison.

Eurthermore, the death penalty and the prison system in general is an extremely racist institution. Multiple studies

in our criminal justice system. Forty-one percent of people executed are of either black or Latino ethnicity even though combined they only make up roughly 28.9 percent of the general population, according to the latest U.S. Census. It should also be noted that 58 percent of the prison population in general is made up of people who identify as either black or Latino.

There are many possible explanations for why there are so many black and Latino persons in the prison system and on death row. There is a lot of evidence that shows a very strong correlation between poverty and crime, and when 27.4 percent of black people and 26.6 percent of Latinos are poor (sub-

stantially higher than the national average of 15.1 percent) it would logically follow that if there are more poor people of color, they will make up a larger percentage criminals. It

must be understood: This is not to say people of color are inherently more likely to be poor and criminal. I am arguing that due to institutional racism, people of color are at a societal and economic disadvantage, making them particularly vulnerable to poverty and therefore more likely to commit crime—both violent and non-violent.

The ethnicity of the victim also has a huge effect on sentencing. A 2001 University of

that an individual is three and a half times more likely to receive a death sentence if the victim was white. Similarly, per Death Penalty Information Center, a 2005 study conducted by the Santa Clara Law Review found in California, individuals convicted of killing whites were "three times more likely to be sentenced to death than those who killed blacks and over four times more likely than those who killed Latinos.

All of this can be summed up by the fact that in execution cases, more than 75 percent of the victims were white. This is particularly unsettling when it is considered that only about 50 percent of victims in general are white. These statistics seem to show that our criminal justicesystem

is much more vengeful and At its very core, vindictive if a white perthe death penalty son is killed. is murder and we have Our justice system does been letting our not judge all government get away equally. There are with it for a long time. also a lot

of mistakes

that lead to

convictions and death penalty sentences. Since 2000, there have been 206 exonerations due to DNA evidence. Credit for many of these exonerations is due to the Innocence Project, a New York-based organization that works to free wrongfully convicted prisoners on death row, as well as end the death penalty generally. The Innocence Project has released statistics

that show what factors caused

the convictions in these cases.

Eyewitness misidentification

We don't have to take the word have showed racist sentiment North Carolina study showed testimony was the leading cause of wrongful convictions and was a factor in 75 percent of these convictions. Improper forensic science was a factor in 50 percent of cases and false confessions and incriminating statements were factors in about 25 percent of wrongful convictions.

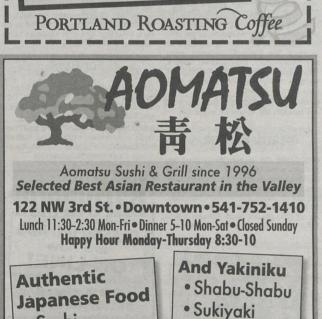
The Innocence Project describes what they have found to be improper forensic science as, "... forensic techniques—such as hair microscopy, bite mark comparisons, firearm tool mark analysis and shoe print comparisons—have never been subjected to rigorous scientific evaluation." It is important to remember this is not speculation on behalf of the Innocence Project; they have been the organization to help exonerate many prisoners, and these are numbers based off of what they have experienced firsthand.

It is very disturbing that over 200 people in the last 11 years have spent years on death row despite their innocence and that our criminal justice system had the intent of executing them. Unfortunately, it is impossible to know how many innocent people have been executed by way of the death penalty because once somebody is executed, their case is usually closed.

After considering all of these statistics and facts, it is reasonable to come to the conclusion that the death penalty is profoundly ineffective and immoral. It would be much more effective to solve the social factors that create violent crime, such as poverty. Countries with more wealth distribution (and therefore

See TIPTON | page 6





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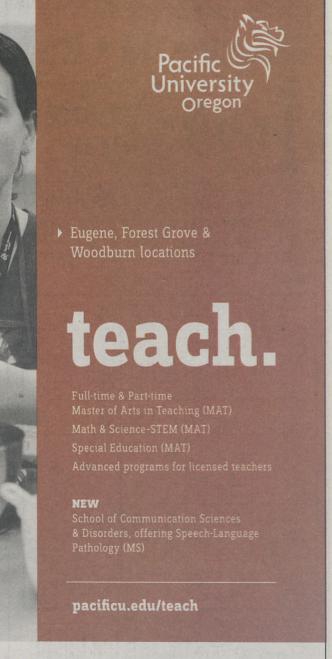
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Letter to the Editor

Some connection between religion and politics Mormon faith brings hesitation

After reading the editorial today about how religion has no place in our government, I became very alarmed. I agree someone's religious affiliation should have no bearing on their ability to hold public office. We have gone through this a few times with candidates in the past, like the fear that Kennedy would take his cues from the Pope and more recently with a fear that Obama might be Muslim.

I hate to go here, but most people know the pilgrims came to the new land to escape religious persecution. We

have a freedom of religion here, which is one of the things that draws people to the United States

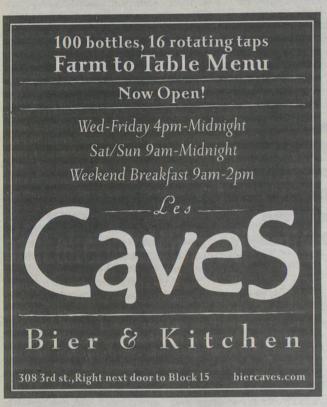
Recently, during the Republican primary race, supporters of specific candidates have begun attacking Mitt Romney because he is Mormon. I am not Mormon, but I do have many close friends who are. It has been through these relationships that I have come to learn a lot about the faith.

Many people don't like the beginning of the Mormon religion and the fact that it began in 1823. I don't have a problem with gold plates or an angel speaking to a man in upstate New York. I-don't see how that is any different from

all of the stories in the Bible. What I have an issue with is the belief that women are inferior to men. They are so unequal that women cannot get into heaven without a man.

Gov. Romney refuses to speak about his faith which in general is a good idea. Religion does not have a place in government and should not be included in the decisions that are made for the country, but when someone's faith marginalizes over half the people in the country and they are seeking the highest office in the land, it becomes a part of government.

LAURA JONES, Graduate Student, Forest Resources







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Yesterday's Solution

RESTO

cuted-implying that capital punishment is a racist policy. Yet again, the line is blurred between race and execution. According to the aforementioned BoJ Statistical report, in 2009, 56 percent of prisoners under sentence of death were white, 41 percent were black and almost 3 percent were "all other races." Of those removed from death row: 54 percent were white, 45 percent were black and almost 1 percent "all other races." Of those executed: 46 percent white, 40 percent black and 13 percent "all other

If one wishes to find a racial disparity in those numbers, one must then argue why the white population should have more death sentences? Or why black people aren't as susceptible to capital crimes than another race? Or why the policy would be only racist against the black population, but not "all other races"? The numbers don't provide much wiggle room for allegations of racial disparity.

Simply, the debate deserves a matter of perspective; think realistically:

Consider the position of the affected family: Would medical rehabilitation of your brother, child or spouse's murderer appease? Would you support the funding of a prison system overloaded with in-limbo, death row inmates?

Would Timothy McVeigh, sentenced to death in 1997 after the Oklahoma City bombing, have deserved a socially funded rehabilitation program?

Should David Pedersen, recently arrested for murder of a 19-year-old, leaving his body

in the local Mary's Peak area, be given the opportunity for rehabilitation? Consider that Pederson "spent the ages of 16 to 31 in one form of incarceration or another," according to the Gazette Times, and had "major disciplinary infractions includ[ing] assault...harassment and destruction of property" in prison; would death penalty opponents then suggest this is the sort of individual to serve a life sentence? Is paying for this criminal's health care, food, shelter, his life, an apt, compassionate form of punishment?

When abolitionists speak of hypocrisy in a government allowing legalized "murder"as some have put it-they seem to look pass the absurdity in allowing their tax dollarsalbeit a miniscule amount, though all spending decisions are per person—keeping such a criminal in prison.

The compassion in rehabilitating some prisoners and keeping others locked up doesn't better society, it merely punishes the public for illegal actions of a few individuals. This compassion only soothes the conscious, sacrificing social and legal wellbeing for humanity. It's ignorance of reality.

Life imprisonment, life without parole, execution—isn't the convicted in the same position either way?

Look past compassion and the moral compass; it has only blurred reality. Not all human life is precious, and if some are still reserved to believe so, then a change of perspective is in

Armand Resto is a senior in environmental science. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Resto can be reached at forum@

TIPTON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

lower poverty) consistently have lower rates of violent crime (such as Norway, Denmark, Canada, etc.) Instead of spending millions of wasted dollars on an ineffective, racist and inaccurate capital punishment system, it would be much more effective to spend money on solving the social ills that give rise to, not just all crime, but specifically violent crime.

It is also my belief that it is manifestly immoral to take the life of another person with exception to very extreme cases of self defense. I value all human life, and I find it extraordinarily hypocritical to solve the problem of murder through the use of murder. Ends do not justify the means, and the execution of criminals is not justice and certainly not a reasonable way of dealing with crime.

A common argument for the death penalty I introduced earlier is that the death penalty keeps us safer. I don't recall Troy Davis or Mumia Abu-Jamal harming anybody while serving time on death row. We seem to have been perfectly protected from them then, and with regards to the recent case of Davis, his guilt was doubtful in the first place. His conviction was based primarily on eyewitness testimony (which

has been shown to be quite inaccurate), and seven of the nine witnesses that explicitly identified him as the shooter have changed or recanted their statements.

In closing, it is important to understand the death penalty is a very real issue and has profound effects on real people. The death penalty is not a hypothetical utilitarian thought experiment that has no consequence on real human beings. The death penalty is a very real policy that is not effective and extremely inaccurate. The lives of hundreds of innocent Americans have been gambled for a system that does not even do anything to stop

We need to abolish the death penalty and stop our government from murdering—yes, murdering its own citizens for a cause it doesn't accomplish in the first place. The death penalty is irresponsible, racist, hypocritical, unjust, ineffective and sacrifices our most basic human right: the right to live. I would like to leave you with one final quote (this one by novelist Victor Hugo) that exposes the hypocrisy of capital punishment: "What says the law? You will not kill. How does it say it? By killing!"

Sean Tipton is a junior in philosophy. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessar ily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Tipton can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.

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From the Pac-10 to the Pac-12

Part one of a series examining how the Pac-12 expansion affects each sport.

This week: women's soccer

Next: football (10/26)

Beavers want to show Utah and Colorado they're "in for a long transition period"

By Caitie Karcher

When the Oregon State University women's soccer team played the University of Colorado almost a month ago, Beaver senior Colleen Boyd said the goal was to show the Buffalos that the "Pac-12 doesn't mess around.'

This weekend, it'll be more of the same, as OSU will try new conference member in as many tries

Head coach Linus Rhode is in favor of the new alignment.

The expansion brings a lot of good things to the whole ing the conference to 16 teams spectrum of the conference," Rhode said.

Utah left the Mountain West conference, while Colorado left the Big 12

"Personally, I think change is good," said senior Brittany Galindo. "It has been Pac-10 for a while, and our school is going to benefit from this.'

After the conference composed of 10 members for 32 years, change eventually became inevitable.

Most sports have been affect-

ed by the expansion.

"For women's soccer, it definitely makes it more challenging because each school has a women's soccer program," Rhode added.

Some of the girls, however, think for now, the teams aren't going to make a huge impact in the conference.

"I think that these two teams aren't necessarily the strongest teams in the conference, so it is just a matter of who in the Pac-12 can take care of business," Galindo said.

Utah has gone 7-6-1 overall and 3-2-0 in the Pac-12 this

The Beavers beat Colorado 2-0 back on Sep. 23. It was the first meeting between the two programs. Colorado (3-8-2, 0-4-1) has had a rough go this year.

"They are in a new conference, and even though we want them to feel welcome, we want them to regret their decision," Galindo said.

'We will come out hard, to notch its second win over a come out fighting, and have the same mentality that we always have," said Boyd, who's posted a shutout in four of five Pac-12 games this year.

There was talk about expandjust a month ago. Big 12 members Texas Tech University, the University of Texas, Oklahoma University and Oklahoma State University have discussed a switch from the Big 12 to the Pac-12, but Pac-12 commissioner Larry Scott announced several weeks ago the Pac-12 was staying put. The Big 12 has since added Texas Christian University.

Galindo was glad the conference didn't expand further.

"With 16 teams, for any sport

Women's soccer

Oregon State (10-3-1, 4-1-0) vs. Utah (7-6-1,

Friday, Oct. 14 at 7:00 p.m. MT Salt Lake City, Utah

Scouting report on the

Pac-12 Ranking: fifth National Ranking: N/A Last year's record: 5-15-1, 3-3-1

Returning Starters: six Key Players: Erin Dalley

(Second-most goals last season, leading team with four goals this season), Lauren Dudley (has two goals this season with one

Too bad it's not on the road: Utah is off to a shaky start on the road, losing five of seven away games.

apart from football, that gives you no preseason time and you go right into conference play," she said.

The women's soccer team plays 20 games per season, including conference and nonconference games. With 16 conference games, they wouldn't have nearly as much preparation time.

As for the two new schools, they have a lot to prove in a conference as tough as this

'We need to show them that our conference doesn't joke around," Galindo said. "And that they are in for a long transition period.'

Caitie Karcher, sports writer

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Scouting report: Volleyball in L.A.

Oregon State (11-7, 3-5 Pac-12) vs. UCLA (14-3, 7-2 Pac-12)

Friday, 7 p.m. PST Los Angeles, Calif.

The scouting report on the Bruins: Pac-12 ranking: tied for third

National ranking: sixth Last year's result vs. OSU: W, 3-0 in Corvallis; W, 3-1 in Los Angeles.

Last year's overall record: 22-9 (reached second round of NCAA Tournament)

Returning starters from last year: four Key players: junior Bojana Todorovic, junior Rachel Kidder (Honorable mention All-Pac-10), senior Lainey Gera (Honorable mention Oregon State (11-7, 3-5 Pac-12) vs. USC (13-

Saturday, 7 p.m. PST Los Angeles, Calif.

The scouting report on the Trojans: Pac-12 ranking: first

National ranking: third Last year's result vs. OSU: W, 3-0 in Corvallis;

W, 3-0 in Los Angeles. Last year's overall record: 29-5 (reached Final Four of NCAA Tournament)

Returning starters from last year: four

Key players: senior Alex Jupiter (All-American), senior Lauren Williams (All-American), senior Kendall Bateman (All-American).

She found a key to creating positive social change.



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2011 Season

2011 Season

sports@dailybarometer.com • 737-6378

8 • Friday, October 14, 2011

Riley Nelson

13

Vital Statistics (QB)

Starts 2011 Season

TD/INT Yards 5/2 401



10 JJ Di Luigi

Vital Statistics (RB)

2011 Season

Yards TD 230



Vital Statistics (WR)

Cody Hoffman

Games Rec/Yards TD 19/258 2011 Season



Kyle Van Noy

Vital Statistics (LB)

Games Tackles

Reser Stadium, Corvallis, OR - October 15, 2011 1:00 p.m.

Beavers



Three things you should know:

The Beavers have scored four TDs in their last seven trips to the redzone, compared to just three in their previous 12.

2. OSU is first in the Pac-12 and fifth in the nation in punt returns. 3. After forcing just two turnovers combined in their first three games, the have Beavers forced eight turnovers the last two weeks.

> James Rodgers caught just four passes for 30 yards in Oregon State's 44-20 loss to BYU in the 2009 Las Vegas Bowl.





James Rodgers

Sean Mannion

Yards TD/INT

Vital Statistics (QB)

1282

Markus Wheaton

38/444

Vital Statistics (WR) Games Rec/Yards

Starts

14/149



Feti Unga

Vital Statistics (LB) Games

2011 Season

45

OSU (1-4)

1. Keep momentum rolling (three straight wins)

BYU (4-2)

- 2. Prevent second half woes
- 3. Find a feature back

Three

things you

should know:

spots behind OSU.

the Pac-12.

1. Nelson's 401 yards passing have

basically came in a

game and a half; oh, and he's rushed for 135 yards.

2. BYU ranks 101st nationally in scoring offense, four

3. BYU lost to Utah 54-10 ear-

KEYS TO THE GAME

lier this year. The Utes are 0-3 in

- 1. Continue to excel on special teams
- 2. Maintain health at running
- 3. Contain Riley Nelson

Tackles Sacks

Coming off a win, Oregon State looks to continue momentum Saturday

Riley said, "You can't gloss it over just because you won one game" as Beavers prepare to face BYU

By Warner Strausbaugh

Oregon State University finally got over the

Now they must carry that momentum gained from their first win, while staying level-headed in a non-conference matchup with Brigham Young

The rare non-conference game in the middle of the season (latest non-conference game for OSU since Dec. 2, 2006 at Hawaii) always presents a challenge because of being in the midst of conference games that may appear to matter more.

"I hope this team would never think that, because we've got just so much work to do to keep working to get better," said head coach Mike Riley at Tuesday's press conference. "The thing is, frankly, the non-conference games for the bowl picture are as important as the conference games.

True, if Oregon State has any bowl aspirations, they will have to finish their season with at least a 5-2 record from this point on. They cannot afford of the season Sept. 3.

to lose to BYU if they want to achieve that.

Arguably the biggest area of improvement for Oregon State last Saturday was establishing a run-

After freshman Malcolin Agnew's 223-yard performance, the Beavers looked completely lost trying to get the ball moving on the ground. Saturday, it was sophomore Jovan Stevenson who stepped up. Stevenson ran for 99 yards on 17 carries.

"We always pride ourselves as running backs to set the tone — get the team going," Stevenson

Stevenson left Saturday's game in the fourth quarter with a concussion. His status was originally up in the air for the upcoming game, but after passing his concussion tests and practicing fully Wednesday, he should be good to go.

Another positive on the injury front: Agnew may finally return to the field Saturday. He practiced and ran hard Tuesday and Wednesday, and is itching to get back.

"I finished both of those two practices strong and I'm going to go in and get some ice and rest, Agnew said at Wednesday's practice.

Agnew has been out with a hamstring injury since his standout performance in the first game

At practice, Riley indicated that the BYU game will dictate Agnew's future. There is a possibility of applying for a medical hardship to get this year back for the freshman. If he doesn't play Saturday, that will probably be the route OSU travels with

'It's whatever coach says, but I wouldn't want to," Agnew said of the medical hardship possibility.

Looking at BYU, a change at quarterback has been the biggest development. Head coach Bronco Mendenhall opted for junior Riley Nelson last Saturday against San Jose State, instead of sophomore Jake Heaps, who had started the first

"Their latest quarterback — Riley Nelson — is a really good athlete," Riley said. You've got to contend with obviously his passing, and their passing game in general is very good, but also he is a terrific runner.'

Scrambling quarterbacks are right up freshman defensive end Scott Crichton's alley.

"I actually kind of like running quarterbacks, so it will be better for me," Crichton said.

Crichton currently leads the Pac-12 in tackles for loss, and has been a key cog in their eight turnovers over the last two games. The defense as a whole has seen drastic improvement. Those eight turnovers have led to 33 points, and the run defense has allowed an average of only 81 yards in the last two games.

'We continue to keep believing in each other and ourselves," said senior linebacker Cameron Collins. "Our attention to detail and execution has been better. Those combinations of things are going to help this team be successful and help the defense do what we have to do."

"Confidence" is the word that is most often attributed to the progress seen by this defense.

"We're just a lot more confident in our schemes," said junior cornerback Jordan Poyer. "Guys are starting to play with a lot more swagger.

While the pieces seem to be falling into place for a turnaround, this team still has to be realistic and look at their 1-4 record. Not getting too excited about the win over Arizona and taking each game one at a time is the mindset they have

'There's an old saying that a coach once told me: 'You can't accept in a victory what you would never accept in a defeat," Riley said. "You can't just gloss it over because you won the game.'

> Warner Strausbaugh, sports writer sports@dailybarometer.comB