

# Vice President proposes ideas to increase ASOSU accountability

■ Official State of the Students Address not delivered, joint session hears suggestions from executive cabinet that may benefit ASOSU efficiency, legitimacy

By Kristin Pugmire  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Last night, members of the Associated Students of Oregon State University met in Memorial Union East for the second joint session of the year. The topic of the session was the State of the Students Address, to be delivered by ASOSU President M. Tonga Hopoi.

Speaker of the House Drew Hatlen spoke first. Hatlen focused on the effort to get more students involved with ASOSU, and mentioned the previously proposed Bill 71.01, which, if passed, would have introduced student delegates into the ranks of Congress.

“The bill died in committee, but the dream of it has not,” Hatlen said, adding that ASOSU will work harder in the future to receive student input and make them a priority.

Hatlen stated that despite the drama of President Hopoi’s impeachment this term, the event has provided an opportunity to move forward and concentrate on the needs of the students, giving them “the government they deserve.”

In conclusion, Hatlen announced the formation of a new government affairs team consisting of representatives from both ASOSU and the Oregon Students Association. This winter, the team will host a three-week training process for any members of ASOSU hoping to learn more about and become involved in the lobbying process in Salem.

When President Hopoi took the podium to deliver her address, she announced that she will hold an official State of the Students Address on Jan. 18, when her current suspension has ended and she has officially returned to office.

Hopoi then yielded the floor to Vice President Sokho Eath.

Eath commended members of Congress for the work done so far this year and encouraged them to become involved with the ASOSU/OSA government affairs team.

See **ADDRESS** | page 6



ALEXANDRA TAYLOR | THE DAILY BAROMETER

ASOSU Vice President Sokho Eath gives a speech at last night’s Joint Session meeting as part of the State of the Students Address in the International Forum at Snell Hall. Eath discussed future plans of ASOSU.

# OSU student prepares for Miss America after winning Oregon title

■ Caroline McGowan has taken time off from OSU to pursue the Miss America tiara

By Kyle Hart  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Critics say many young ladies who travel down the pageantry road, with its many emotional highs and lows, are encouraged to develop severe eating disorders to remain a competitor. Critics who vocalize these statements fuel the internal fire of Caroline McGowan, New Media Communications major at Oregon State and current Miss Oregon 2011 winner.

McGowan, a member of Delta Gamma Sorority, began her pageantry success in the local Miss Linn-Benton competition. After stunning the judges and wooing the audience, Caroline wore the crown and earned her chance to compete for the sought-after title of Miss Ore.. On July 2nd in Seaside, Oregon, McGowan competed against 22 local titleholders from around the state. Based on her responses, poise and vocal performance, she became sashed and crowned Miss Oregon 2011.

McGowan is highly informed on the common myths about a world few dare to trek. According to the Miss Oregon website, in the previous year alone they offered more than \$1.5 million in scholarship opportunities to participants around the state. To trump that, Miss America, with the help of state and local organizations, were able to offer over \$45 million in cash and scholarship assistance. These are not restricted to those who compete for state or national pageants; they are also offered to those who compete in local competitions around the nation. As a matter of fact, McGowan has earned over \$12,000 in scholarships.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO | COURTESY OF BEN WOOD

Caroline McGowan from Corvallis won the Miss Oregon competition held in Seaside in July. She is now making plans to compete in the Miss America competition in January.

Statistics and facts aside, these girls have to possess a talent that sticks out to the judges that isn’t obtained overnight. Rather, through hard work, hours of dedication, frustration and practice such a talent mastered. Contestants also need to be quick on their feet and witty with their answers to questions asked by the judges during the interview portion. They need to be poised, calm and balanced in their many walks up and down the runway during the competition. The contestants put in hours of physical and mental preparation in order to set one foot on the stage.

McGowan is currently gearing up

to compete for Miss America in Las Vegas on Jan. 14, 2012. She answered a few questions on how she got to where she is, where she plans to be after the competition and everything in between.

*Q: After winning Miss Oregon, how has your life changed?*

A: I am taking the year off classes, traveling all over the state of Oregon, and preparing for the job of Miss America. It is a roller coaster, so it is a good thing I like roller coasters.

*Q: Do you miss being a “normal” college student?*

A: Oh, sure. There are simple joys

See **TITLE** | page 3

# Research suggests hormone might influence how we comfort others

■ Unique psychological study leads to more research on how oxytocin affects behavior

By Michael Mendes  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

A new research study has identified a gene that influences the way humans respond to each other.

According to the study, people carrying one particular variant of the oxytocin receptor gene, dubbed the “G” variant, not only displayed more empathetic nonverbal behavior than those with the “A” variant, but were also judged to be more empathetic by a selection of observers.

The study was conducted by recruiting 23 participants who would listen to their romantic partner recount a painful experience in their life. These sessions were videotaped, and then 116 observers watched the most emotional 20 seconds of the video without sound, and rated the listening partner’s trustworthiness, compassion and kindness.

To determine the gene variants of the participants, DNA samples were taken from the participants’ saliva. The researchers also tracked the listener’s number of head nods, eye contact with partner, arm posture and facial expression.

“We selected the cues based on past research on the nonverbal signaling of affiliation and kindness,” said Aleksandr Kogan, a post-doc at the University of Toronto.

“Virtually all human personality traits and behaviors are extremely complex, involving many genetic and non-genetic factors,” Kogan said. “It’s critical to note that this study, and the many other genetics-to-behavior studies, are not saying that if you have this version of the gene, you will be one way, and if you have another version, you will be another way.”

The professors whose work originated the study, Sarina Rodrigues Saturn, a professor of Psychological Science at Oregon State University, cautioned against jumping to conclusions about its implications.

“There’s no such thing as a kindness gene,” Saturn said. “But this is related because it’s the only oxytocin receptor gene.”

That is, the hormone oxytocin interests researchers because there is only one gene that gives rise to the receptors on the cell that detect oxytocin. Most hormone-detectors on cells have multiple variants coded by different genes.

However, the functions of oxytocin are still complicated. According to Saturn, the hormone has been linked to empathy, calm and bonding, but also more negative effects like jealousy and group exclusivity.

“This research will allow us to find tools to learn where everyone is coming from,” Saturn said. “It is not productive or smart to think of these [differences] as good or bad.”

The structural differences in the receptor variants are still unknown.

“As of now, we don’t really know what is structurally going on, but it’s a major area of future research,” Kogan said.

It is important to note that 23 listeners is considered to be a small sample size, so the research may not capture the entire picture. However, the striking results have acted as a catalyst for future research in this direction.

“This study is basically a proof of concept study,” said Laura Saslow, a post-doc at the Osher Center at University of California, San Francisco.

“In the future researchers will have much for genetic information avail-

See **GENES** | page 6



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS FROM CNN

### MIDDLE EAST

#### Britain evacuates Iranian embassy

Britain has closed its embassy in Iran and evacuated all its staff from that country following the attack on the embassy compound in Tehran Tuesday, British Foreign Secretary William Hague said Wednesday.

Iran has also been ordered to close its embassy in London immediately, with its staff given 48 hours to leave, Hague said in a strongly worded statement to the UK Parliament.

Protesters stormed Britain's embassy and a separate compound Tuesday in Iran's capital, sparking outrage in the United Kingdom. The buildings should have been guarded by Iranian security officers.

Some demonstrators proceeded to vandalize and loot the homes of staff and the ambassador's residence, destroy furniture, steal their property and set fire to the main embassy office building, Hague said.

"This is a breach of international responsibilities of which any nation should be ashamed," Hague said.

While relations between Britain and Iran have been strained in recent times, he said, "We should be absolutely clear that no difficulty in relations can ever excuse in any way or under any circumstances the failure to protect diplomatic staff and diplomatic premises.

"Iran is a country where opposition leaders are under house arrest, more than 500 people have been executed so far this year and where genuine protest is ruthlessly stamped on.

### AFRICA

#### Former Ivory Coast president in custody

Former Ivory Coast President Laurent Gbagbo arrived Wednesday at the International Criminal Court in The Hague to stand trial for his role in his country's post-election violence that killed thousands.

"It is exactly a year since the presidential election that led to one of the worst episodes of violence Cote d'Ivoire has ever known," said Luis Moreno-Ocampo, the court's chief prosecutor, using the French name for the country. "In December last year, we put Mr. Gbagbo and the others on notice. Today, we are following up."

The former president's initial appearance is scheduled for Monday, the ICC announced.

Gbagbo, 66, was flown out of the northern Ivoirian city of Khorogo, where he had been under house arrest, on an Ivoirian government airplane Tuesday evening, said his adviser, Toussaint Alain.

Alain called it an illegal transfer. "The international court has taken an illegal action. This is a political decision rather than a decision of justice," Alain said.

The action comes a week before parliamentary elections are scheduled to be held in Ivory Coast. Three political parties in an umbrella coalition (CNRD) with Gbagbo's Front Populaire Ivoirien issued a statement saying they would boycott the elections as a result of Gbagbo's transfer.

### EUROPE

#### UK workers strike over retirement benefits

Mass strikes swept across the United Kingdom Wednesday, with public sector workers walking off jobs in schools, hospitals and police stations to protest proposed pension reforms.

The government said the majority of key public services remained open, however, although more than half of the country's schools were closed, affecting many families.

The unions said up to 2 million public sector workers could go on strike but early indications suggested the total might be fewer.

The proposed pension reforms have prompted wide anger among public sector workers, many of whom say they are bearing the brunt of austerity measures imposed to try to rein in Britain's deficit.

But Cabinet Minister Francis Maude played down the impact of the industrial action Wednesday evening, saying: "Despite the best efforts of union bosses the United Kingdom remains open for business."

Those traveling to Britain had experienced minimal disruption to their journeys as a result of border control staff striking, he said.

Some 146,000 civil servants joined the action, less than a third of the total, Maude said. The number on strike in the National Health Service was also lower than anticipated he said, at about 79,000, or 14.5 percent of the workforce.

### ASIA

#### Sec. of State Clinton visits Myanmar

Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi told a major U.S. think tank she intends to run for parliament and emphasized the importance of political reform in a country where she was under house arrest for most of the past two decades.

Suu Kyi briefed an audience at the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington by video from Myanmar Wednesday, the same day Hillary Clinton arrived in the reclusive state — the first visit by an American secretary of state in 50 years.

"I hope the secretary's visit will open the way to a better relationship," Suu Kyi said. "I think she will be able to discuss some of the very important issues [with the government] and they will be able to come to some kind of understanding to encourage reforms to go further."

The 1991 Nobel Peace Prize winner and one of the world's most famous pro-democracy supporters, Suu Kyi was scheduled to meet Clinton for a private dinner. It will be the first time the U.S. secretary of state has met Suu Kyi, but they have spoken on the phone before, a senior State Department official said.

Clinton's historic two-day visit comes as the Asian country, known for its repressive policies, is undergoing a period of rapid political change that the Obama administration cautiously says it finds encouraging as well as promising.

### SOUTH AMERICA

#### Chilean judge indicts U.S. military official

A Chilean judge requested the extradition of a retired U.S. military official Tuesday, accusing him of involvement in the 1973 killing of an American journalist that inspired an Oscar-winning movie.

An indictment charges former Navy Capt. Ray E. Davis with the homicides of journalist Charles Horman and student Frank Teruggi.

Former Chilean military official Pedro Octavio Espinoza was also charged in the killings, which occurred shortly after the South American nation's military coup.

At the time, Davis headed an American military group tied to the U.S. embassy in Santiago, according to the Los Angeles Times.

The deaths of Horman and Teruggi occurred in the immediate aftermath of the overthrow of Chilean President Salvador Allende — a move which pleased U.S. authorities at the time. Allende, a socialist with ties to Cuban leader Fidel Castro and other Cold War opponents of the United States, was replaced by a right-wing military dictatorship headed by Gen. Augusto Pinochet.

Pinochet's subsequent 16-year rule was marked by the death and disappearance of thousands of alleged enemies of the regime.

Horman's disappearance and his family's attempts to find him inspired the 1982 movie "Missing," starring Jack Lemmon and Sissy Spacek. The film won an Academy Award for best screenplay.

## CALENDAR

### Thursday, Dec. 1

**Meetings**  
**OSU Pre-Law Society**, 6pm, StAg 111. Regular meeting.  
**OSU Chess Club**, 4pm, MU Commons. Meet for casual games. Free membership. All skill levels welcome!  
**White Privilege Discussion Group**, 6-7:30pm, MU Board Room. The Women's Center is hosting an informal, facilitated conversation for people interested in identifying and subverting white privilege in the feminist movement. All are welcome to attend.  
**Vegans and Vegetarians at OSU**, 6pm, SSC, 738 SW 15th St. We discuss various topics that we face, eat delicious food and welcome everyone even if you aren't vegetarian.  
**Baha'i Campus Association**, 5-5:30pm, MU Talisman Room. Tranquility Zone - Interfaith relaxation and spiritual reflection. Bring your favorite poem, meditation or prayer to share.

### Events

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

### Tuesday, Dec. 6

### Events

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

## Correction

A story published on Wednesday Nov. 23 called, "Pangea offers healthier, more accessible options," contained an inaccuracy.

The story said, "Pangea is just the only restaurant promoting health food options." Pangea is not the only restaurant promoting these options.

The Daily Barometer regrets the error and apologizes for any confusion this article has caused.

# The Daily Barometer

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Editorial

# The season of giving

Considering this past week-end, our economy may not be so lousy after all. If Americans are truly hurting today, at least the majority of the population, then they certainly don't show it.

According to the National Retail Federation, American consumers spent a record \$52 billion last holiday weekend. That's around \$7 billion more than last year.

There were an estimated 226 million shoppers between Internet and retail stores, 14 million more than the previous year.

Over the entire weekend, the average consumer spent around \$398, a \$30 increase from last year.

What happened to the recession?

Some have suggested the holidays simply set a caged beast loose — not in the sense of the fighting over outrageous sales, gaining entry into the stores on midnight openings, but rather the average American has been conservative and frugal in their financial approach over the past several years, and this past weekend illustrates an expression of release, the opportune moment to go all out, considering all of those amazing deals.

But, actions speak louder than words. Fifty-two billion dollars does not match up with the oft-lamented state of our economy.

Clearly, a vast majority of this nation is in desperate times — according to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2010, America's poverty rate was a (near) two-decade high, 15.1 percent. Over 60 percent of households saw their income drop in 2010.

Then where do the records come from? How can Americans — 226 million of them — shell out roughly \$368 per person in one weekend? This is not solely the “1 percent” in these stores.

In fact, this weekend is a microcosm of American capitalism and all the proclaimed ills of it: a materialistic, naïve consumer base directly influencing and supporting the self-centered rich, the greedy corporation and that wicked “1 percent.” Why do we complain about the wealthy, when we're the cause of it?

But worse than the hypocrisy, the rampant spending this weekend — and in the coming month — typically doesn't bode well for the following term. According to Javelin Strategy and Research, a global financial service research firm, 24 percent of American shoppers believe “their credit card balances will rise following the holiday season,” which is up from 19 percent last year.

Twenty-four percent. Not even a quarter of our consumer base feels their balances will rise the following term. It's quite revealing of the fiscal responsibility — even

See **EDITORIAL** | page 5

## At Random by Ryan Mason



RYAN MASON IS A SOPHOMORE IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

# Adidas stepping into India for charity, or just business?

## Alex Danfelt The Daily Barometer

India is home to a range of “world's cheapest” products, including the \$2,500 Tata Nano automobile and the \$35 Aakash tablet computer. While it may not be the cheapest in the world, Adidas recently chose India as the home to launch their \$1 pair of shoes. Adidas believes that what sets this shoe apart from others in the price range, is a claimed superior quality. While these aren't necessarily the flashy high-tech trainers that cost over \$100 for the rest of the world, they are absolutely an upgrade for those in rural areas who are wearing tattered sandals or poorly constructed contraptions made by a do-it-yourself cordwainer.

Adidas had previously attempted to sell a shoe in Bangladesh for around \$1.50, but they ran into issues with import taxes and duties causing them to abandon the project. CEO Herbert Hainer claims that each pair costs the company

around \$3 for both materials and labor, yet getting them into the country required them to pay an additional \$3.50. By setting up factories in India, they are providing new jobs and side stepping the import fees, but are still stuck swallowing a \$2 loss on each sale.

At first, I was proud of Adidas because it appears as if they are setting up an admirable humanitarian effort which would create jobs and provide an affordable product to better the lives of rural Indians. However, after dissecting their plan and a little contemplation, it's clear that this venture is more of a business strategy than charity.

India's economy is poised to explode and Adidas is trying to get an early hold. Brand recognition

and a loyal customer base are integral to the profitability of a company and this is what they are aiming to achieve. If the company can establish themselves as a mainstay in the world of Indian footwear, they may have the opportunity for enormous profit when a greater volume of India's 1.3 billion people can afford Adidas shoes at Adidas prices.

This is the first time my opinion has ever been split about a shoe. It is providing a public aid in offering both jobs and affordable footwear, but the altruism stands out as a byproduct of Adidas' quest for greater reach and profit. India has the world's second largest population and as its economy continues to grow, western companies will undoubtedly try to find every available path to infiltrate its enormous potential for consumption.

I guess if this truly is inevitable, a corporation that is lending their

See **DANFELT** | page 5

Kelly Holcomb

## The Daily Barometer

# An ode to English majors

For most of us, the days when one could major in Classics, wear argyle and smoke pipes in high back chairs like the Masterpiece Theatre man are long gone. As for the rest of us, we need a major a bit more well-rounded and applicable, right? In other words, not English.

For the first two years after graduating with a degree in English, I believed I had wasted four years and numerous opportunities to become something “useful”, like an engineer. However, after a bit of critical thought, some research and a few informational interviews, (all skills my major taught me) I knew all was not lost. The English major is a completely viable option for an interesting, beautiful and full (and employed) life.

I started out as an eighteen-year-old reading-hermit, but thanks to my experiences as an English major, I am the informed, skilled, independent and productive adult (who still happens to read a lot) I am today. Although, I'll admit I was one of “those” English majors: a bibliophilic young woman with glasses who sat in the library all day reading “Pride and Prejudice” for the eighth time.

But Jane Austin is a more relevant author than you'd think. We are living through a transformation comparable to that of the invention of the printing press. It's less and less of what you know (although it can never hurt to have information in your brain rather than at your fingertips), but how you find and process verifiable information. To critically read an extended, complex piece of work is a bit like running a marathon (or, more correctly, what I imagine it's like) — discipline, focus, meditation.

However, if all you read is Saturday Morning Breakfast Cereal (a webcomic), it's comparable to slothling yourself from the TV to the fridge for more snacks. While I love SMBC, Jasper Fforde novels and Grey's Anatomy (everyone has guilty pleasures, I stand behind mine), the rewarding experience of studying “boring” (although, really, sometimes it was boring) literature taught me the skills I have today.

The ability to focus, deeply and efficiently read, interpret and synthesize large amounts of information, and precisely and concisely communicate complex information and ideas are incredibly relevant skills English majors learn that are relevant to life. From the big and the immediate, like jobs, existential ponderings and relationships, to the smaller: What kind of external hard drive should I buy or where should I eat tonight?

I have a set of skills that allow me to learn new sets of information and new modes of thinking. My education fostered in me a keen sense of curiosity (with the research skills to follow through), a greater empathy towards everyone (from discussing controversial topics in diverse classes) and a creative energy (you think those

See **HOLCOMB** | page 5

## Letters

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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The Barometer (USPS 411-460) is published **Monday through Friday except** holidays and final exam week during the academic school year; weekly during summer term; one issue week prior to fall term in September by the Oregon State University Student Media Committee on behalf of the Associated Students of OSU, at Memorial Union East, OSU, Corvallis, OR 97331-1614.

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# The physiological side of stress, and how to curb it

Take a deep breath. Now read this article.

Half eaten bargain-brand cereal, unchecked Facebook notifications, a weekly schedule finally roughed out on scratch paper and a whole lot of caffeine. Sound familiar? If you can feel the adrenaline kicking in just thinking about final exams, your hypothalamus is busy at work. Sitting hunched in the center of the brain, the hypothalamus tips off your kidney-based adrenal glands to produce adrenaline. Adrenaline is the body's chemical response to stress.

What is stress? When you think about it, stress is so multi-faceted that it becomes difficult to pin down and identify, and even harder to address. When being chased by an aggravated bear, you may experience the “fight or flight” conundrum, whereas long-term emotional battles or exam anxiety require entirely different courses of action. Responding to an unfamiliar or intimidating environment will effect you differently than fatigue and over-work.

Biologically, long durations of any kind of severe stress can lead to neurological damage. Cortisol, another chemical dished out to the bloodstream during stress, will calm you down, in small dosages. During periods of ordinary stress the adrenaline and cortisol duo will make cognitive processes and memory recall quick and easy (think, focusing before an exam).

However, the cortisol hormone sheds its harmonious tendencies during periods of intense stress (or over time), and actually begins to attack important memory and problem solving neurons in the brain. Ever had a moment during a test where you know you've learned the answer, but the exact

Sierra Lavery

Be Well. Be Orange.

response just won't come to you? If you're able to remember it later, this annoying anomaly might be due to severe stress inhibiting memory recall.

How can we stop stress from consuming our capabilities when we're forced into straining situations? The savior is an essential protein called Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor, which is dealt out to the brain during aerobic exercise. John Medina, developmental molecular biologist and author of 'Brain Rules,' describes BDNF as a “standing military armed with bags of Miracle grow,” which it uses to rejuvenate neurons under siege of other chemicals like cortisol.

Hopefully you haven't been holding your breath in until reading this (if you have, please breathe!). Most likely, you've completely forgotten about the command at the beginning of this article, and have been exhaling and inhaling without much thought at all.

Yet, without that happy electron-acceptor we thoughtlessly intake sixteen times a minute, we'd die. With a bunch of oxygen (aerobic activity, anyone?) our bodies are able to take in nutrients and remove toxic waste at an even faster rate. This makes our brains and bodies more productive and capable, regardless of the type of stress we encounter.

So, the secret recipe to keeping harmful stress away? A little anxiety may be helpful to focus, but if you feel yourself becoming overwhelmed take a deep breath, make a trip to Dixon and work it out.

Sierra Lavery

## EDITORIAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

knowledge — of our country. This upcoming year is going to be one hell of a surprise for many...

Maybe the extent of the recession was all words, all media hype about our fiscal demise. Or, maybe people honestly are hurting, and simply save up their money

to go all out this time of year? Either way, no matter how tough our economy is, our society has a serious addiction; we can't get enough “stuff.” More and more stuff.

Yet, we still wonder why the “1 percent” holds all the power. We still complain about economic inequality. We all deserve a fair share — a job, education, healthcare — a clean, transparent system

anyone can succeed in.

It's too bad this weekend threw a wrench in that plan. It looks like the rich will get a little bit richer. But you know, it's the thought that counts. Or, in this case, the complaints.

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.

## DANFELT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

hand before holding it out might as well spearhead it. I'm not sure if Adidas' apparent generosity is just a greed-fueled ruse to get an early start over their competition, but if it is, at least they set up a charitable ruse.

Realizing this project is a long-term investment does lend some legitimacy to the philanthropic aspects. It will be quite some time before sales of computer chip laden, com-

posite constructed, and over-priced shoes become a reality for the majority of Indian consumers and I'm sure Adidas realizes this. Framing the \$1 kicks in this way does make it appear a commendable endeavor. You have to spend money to make money, so you might as well invest in your consumers before they invest in you.

Alex Danfelt is a senior in new media communications. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Danfelt can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

## HOLCOMB

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

ideas write themselves?).

The benefits? An employee can be trained in menial, everyday tasks, but little can shift that employee to take initiative, be curious and ask the right questions. A spouse or significant other can easily sympathize, but empathizing requires more work. A citizen can be taught to vote and pick up dog poop, but not to re-imagine the very structure of our society. You can see how we stand out in the world.

When I first opened my diploma and read that I earned a degree, it did not


come with a summary of what I learned and the skills I acquired. And in my classes, it was never discussed how learning Middle English would help me in the “real world”. When I first graduated, I wandered and wondered what to do with myself. I questioned, researched, pondered: What was this all for!? Only after tons of research, much meditation and a few jobs I didn't like, I slowly learned what I had learned in college.

We are the chameleons of majors. We can fit in many kinds of nooks and crannies. But I am not going to lie; it's difficult to find that place that you belong, and then present

yourself as a good fit in a professional and precise manner. It might take us longer to carve our niche in the world, and I have to say, when you find a place, all the wandering becomes small, insignificant and worth it. I would not trade my degree for any other.

And if you're curious, I am employed full-time at a place I love, earning enough and have health insurance. English majors, it is possible.

Kelly Holcomb is a non-degree seeking graduate student with a BA in English. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Holcomb can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.



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# Stress-Free Zone opens this morning at Dixon

■ Health Promotion Department encourages students to join

By Gwen Shaw  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

In the midst of dead week and finals week around the corner, the Health Promotion Department at Oregon State University offers students a chance to escape from the end-of-term stresses and see what relaxing resources are available to them.

Today, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Dixon Rec Center, there will be a Stress-Free Zone. Various organizations will hold booths promoting the service they offer to help stressed-out students. The event will have food by OSU Catering and snacks like bagels, fruit and pretzels "to expand on the healthy feel of the event," said Health Promotion Assistant Jillian Harrison.

Along with food, there will be free massages, various de-stressing activities, including coloring sheets, and a raffle. Prizes include OSU Beaver Store gift cards and possible Beaver strides gear, like water bottles, and whistles.

"Food, raffle and coloring: sounds like the trifecta," said freshman Anna Stewart.

Stress-Free Zone is held dead week of every term. "We get a lot of students that come in and don't know these services are offered," Harrison said.

Harrison feels students come away from the stress-free zones more educated about what's available to them, which is the ultimate goal.

"It's a place to take a break," Harrison said. "Whether it's for 15 minutes or an hour; it's a place for students to relax."

Gwen Shaw, staff reporter  
737-2231 news@dailybarometer.com

## ADDRESS

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The heart of Eath's speech, however, focused on the proposal of student government reform—specifically, the suggestion that ASOSU review its statutes and constitution.

"It is clear that our system is flawed, hard to navigate and extremely slow," Eath said.

He went on to quote a statement from an editorial published in the Daily Barometer on Nov. 2. The editorial commented on the nature of Hopoi's impeachment trial, labeling it "a farce." The quoted excerpt stated: "When a group of people has an enormous amount of authority over a relatively large sum of money, and yet none of them seem to know what they are doing, it scares us deeply."

"Is this the ASOSU that we want, and that OSU needs?" Eath asked.

Eath proposed moving ASOSU in a new direction, taking steps to create accountability and legitimacy. In the short term, Eath stated he would like to see Congress set up "districts" within the university, assigning individual

members of Congress to various schools and departments to better work with and represent students.

In addition, Eath asked that ASOSU consider a budgetary plan to create compensation for senators and representatives, stating that a stipend would give members of Congress the reward and thanks they deserve for their work.

Finally, Eath proposed that the ASOSU House of Representatives and the Senate be combined into one body.

"Are we effective, having two separate houses poorly imitating the U.S. Congress?" Eath asked. "The houses should be combined into one, for efficiency, for time and true democracy on a university level."

The floor was opened for comments from representatives and senators. Representative Van Bossuyt expressed that he did not agree ASOSU needed reform.

"We are operating in changes and in flux, as always," Van Bossuyt said. "We are on the right course and will remain as such."

Fellow Representative Alfonc

Rakaj stated, however, that he was happy to hear Eath's proposals. He shared that he had experienced his own troubles with the inefficiency of ASOSU's decision-making last year, when trying to establish a task force for international students.

"ASOSU has a lot of room to improve," Rakaj said. "This may not be the perfect plan, but I do see some positive proposals that could be materialized and actually improve the effectiveness of ASOSU as a whole."

Kristin Pugmire, staff reporter  
737-2231 news@dailybarometer.com

## Correction

In the Nov. 17 article "Joint session of congress listens to quick remarks from Hopoi," Nicole Perez was misquoted in regards to her statements about the OSCC.

The Daily Barometer regrets the error.

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## GENES

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

able, which will lead to quite complicated and nuanced future research. For now, though, this research suggests that oxytocin may play a role in how we comfort others during their distress, and that this behavior can be detected by outside observers."

According to Saslow, follow-up studies with larger test groups are already in progress.

"We are examining how this genetic variability alters other kinds of emotional reactions," Saslow said.

Michael Mendes, staff reporter  
737-2231 news@dailybarometer.com



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

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

Yesterday's Solution

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To apply, applicant must: (1) complete an application form obtained from the Student Media Office, MU East, room 118, (2) submit a transcript, (3) submit a letter of application, and (4) a resume. Deadline to apply is Monday, January 9 at 5:00 p.m. Positions open until filled.

Applicants will be interviewed by the University Student Media Committee Friday, January 13 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

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BEAVER

TRIVIA

**Sports Editor's Note:** We here at the Barometer were curious how knowledgeable OSU athletes were about OSU athletics, so we decided to find out. Each week this term (with the exception of two), we asked ask two athletes from the five OSU fall sports five questions each. We revealed their answers in each Thursday's edition of The Daily Barometer and kept track of how many questions each team got right. Check out "Beaver Trivia Awards."

Yo, winter athletes: hit the books (err, media guides), we'll be back next term.

Participant (sport)	FB: In the 2007 Civil War, what OSU running back ran for 142 yards?  A. Matt Sieverson B. Clinton Polk C. Yvenson Bernard D. Dwight Wright	WS: Who scored OSU's last goal of the season? (PKs don't count) A. Chelsea Buckland B. Jenna Richardson C. Justyne Freud D. Melinda Ingalls	VB: Who did OSU upset two weekends ago? (They were ranked No. 3 at the time) A. Stanford B. UCLA C. USC D. Cal	XC: How far is a typical collegiate cross country race?  A. 4K B. 5K C. 5.5K D. 6K	MS: Emery Welshman earned All-Pac-12 First Team honors. What Beaver earned Second Team honors?  A. Roberto Farfan B. Colin Mitchell C. Chris Harms D. Steve Spangler	Total Correct
Cameron Collins (FB)	A (Matt Sieverson)	B (Jenna Richardson)	A (Stanford)	D (6K)	C (Chris Harms)	2
Jordan Poyer (FB)	C (Yvenson Bernard)	B (Jenna Richardson)	A (Stanford)	A (4K)	D (Steve Spangler)	0
Erin Uchacz (WS)	C (Yvenson Bernard)	C (Justyne Freud)	D (Cal)	B (5K)	A (Roberto Farfan)	3
Brittney Oljar (WS)	C (Yvenson Bernard)	C (Justyne Freud)	D (Cal)	B (5K)	A (Roberto Farfan)	3
Megan McBride (VB)	C (Yvenson Bernard)	A (Chelsea Buckland)	D (Cal)	B (5K)	C (Chris Harms)	1
Second volleyball player could not be reached	No answer	No answer	No answer	No answer	No answer	0
Laura Carlyle (XC)	C (Yvenson Bernard)	C (Justyne Freud)	D (Cal)	D (6K)	C (Chris Harms)	3
Sabrah de Voir (XC)	D (Dwight Wright)	C (Justyne Freud)	D (Cal)	D (6K)	A (Roberto Farfan)	4
Chris Harms (MS)	A (Matt Sieverson)	C (Justyne Freud)	D (Cal)	B (5K)	A (Roberto Farfan)	4
Colin Mitchell (MS)	C (Yvenson Bernard)	C (Justyne Freud)	D (Cal)	B (5K)	A (Roberto Farfan)	3
Correct Answer	A (Matt Sieverson)	C (Justyne Freud)	D (Cal)	D (6K)	A (Roberto Farfan)	—
FINAL STANDINGS						
1. Women's soccer (63/80)		2. Cross country (55/80)		3. Men's soccer (51/80)		4. Volleyball (41/80)
						5. Football (35/80)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

ference play at home against Saint Mary's University on Dec. 19.

Each game, in one way or another, will help prepare Oregon State for its Pac-12 opener versus the University of Washington on Dec. 29.

"Rice and Saint Mary's are postseason opponents, Pepperdine is a team that made it to the [Women's National Invitational Tournament] last year, and we play all those teams on road," Rueck said.

"All of nonconference prepares you for conference, each team exposes a weakness, and the next week going into that, you're learning from the last game and moving forward," Indendi said. "Absolutely, you get something out of every single game."

▼  
Jacob Shannon, sports writer  
sports@dailybarometer.com

WRESTLING

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

going to be a lot better. We had a better week of practice and everyone looks really good."

Because the event is different from a normal dual meet in that many teams participate and competition is more about individuals than teams, Oregon State will look to have strong individual success as well as team success.

When asked where he wants to finish in the tournament, Sakaguchi spoke for the whole team.

"First place," he said. "We definitely have a good shot with solid guys that should go far in the tournament. Every one of us wants to win it. That's our goal. All first places."

Although the tournament is primarily about individual success, there's still opportunity to learn and improve as a team.

"This invitational is kind of a good thing, just to let you see a lot of your competition in your weight class," Zalesky said. "There's a lot of ranked guys that let you see where you're at individually at this early point in the season."

The Beavers will also use this invitational as preparation for their next dual meet. After the Cliff Keen Invitational, Oregon State gets a short break before traveling to Cal State, Bakersfield Friday, Dec. 10, and then taking on Cal Poly the following day.

▼  
Andrew Kilstrom, sports writer  
sports@dailybarometer.com

Fall Term Beaver Trivia Awards

THE DAILY BAROMETER

First place

The women's soccer team. And it wasn't even close. We thought about buying them a trophy, then we realized that would probably be some sort of NCAA violation. Considering they're the best fall sports team on campus (and apparently the smartest), we'd hate to get them in trouble.

Last place

Football. Look on the bright side: they correctly answered 43.75 percent of the questions they were asked. In comparison, they won only 25 percent of the games they played this year.

Top individuals

Chelsea Buckland was the lone participant not to miss a question (10-for-10). Chris Harms (9-for-10) and Justyne Freud (13-for-15) are also worthy of mentioning.

Worst individual performance

Jordan Poyer was the lone contestant to go 0-for-5 in a week. All 79 other contestants answered at least one question correctly. But hey, Poyer was also the lone football player to be named to an All-Pac-12 team. We guess it evens out.

Most embarrassing wrong answer

Nine contestants answered a question about their own sport incorrectly. The worst of the bunch? Melinda Ingalls didn't know what the women's soccer team's Pac-10 record was in 2010. Melinda Ingalls scored seven goals for the Beavers in 2010.

The sport athletes know the most about

Either we suck at coming up with volleyball questions, or ath-

letes know a lot about volleyball, because athletes answered volleyball questions at almost a 75 percent clip.

The sport athletes know the least about

Either we're really good at coming up with men's soccer questions, or athletes don't know much about men's soccer, because athletes answered men's soccer questions correctly less than 50 percent of the time.

Biggest disappointment

Only three of 10 athletes we surveyed could name the starting forward on the U.S. Men's National Team who went to Oregon State (Robbie Findley). Findley started against England in the 2010 World Cup, a game that averaged nearly 13 million viewers in the United States.

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# Women's basketball schedule about to get tougher

■ Beavers are 5-0 but haven't played the toughest schedule, though they should get more of a test from here on, beginning this weekend in Houston

By Jacob Shannon  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State University women's basketball team has feasted on each of its opponents this year, averaging a 37-point margin per victory thus far.

Is this utter domination a sign of good things to come, or have the Beavers simply not played anyone?

Last year's nonconference schedule wasn't too daunting either, but the Beavers did face perennial power Rutgers University and played seven of their 11 nonconference contests outside of Corvallis.

This year, there is less of an intimidating presence on the nonconference schedule, as the Beavers do not face a single team from a traditional power six conference.

The combined record of the five teams that Oregon State has beaten so far is 13-17.

Will the Beavers build enough confidence to carry them through conference play, or will the lack of close game experience end up being the trade-off?

"I hope for a blend of both, you need to play against teams that you know you can have some success against to build confidence, we have done some of that," head coach Scott Rueck said.

Those players familiar to the demands of the Pac-12 do not want their teammates to get caught in cruise control.

"I've been telling the younger players this. We can't just settle for beating these teams, we need to be blowing them out," senior guard Earlysia Marchbanks said. "It's really boosting our confidence up, which is what we need after losing last year and with new girls."

Those questioning the legitimacy of Oregon State's schedule thus far, and those wondering if it will have

the Beavers ready for Pac-12 play, may want to look at the Beavers' next few opponents, as Rueck said the road is about to get tougher.

"This year we don't have a Rutgers on our schedule, but that doesn't mean we aren't going to be challenged," Rueck said. "Overall as a whole, it's really going to prepare us for Pac-12 play."

The team will travel to Houston, Texas this upcoming weekend as one of four teams invited to the Gene Hackerman Invitational hosted by Rice University. The Beavers will face the University of North Texas Friday, and then either Rice or Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi on Saturday.

"I'm really excited about it, play some different competition, play a lot faster teams; that's really going to get us ready for Pac-12 play," Marchbanks said. "They [North Texas] are extremely fast and athletic, we haven't faced a team this athletic, so it will be a good challenge."

The Beavers go into the tourney with a significant height advantage over every team, but their opponents should bring challenges to the table that the Beavers haven't seen so far this year.

"We are going to see some really scrappy teams, and that is going to really prepare us for conference because every one of the teams in the Pac-12 is really scrappy, so we are going to have to do a really good job boxing out," junior guard Sage Indendi said.

If Oregon State wins, they'll play in the championship — likely against host Rice University.

"We are really hoping to get to the championship game in this tournament and have the opportunity to play Rice, a good team on their home court," Rueck said.

After playing in Houston, the Beavers will face Pepperdine University and Cal State University, Bakersfield on the road before closing out noncon-

See **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** | page 7



VINAY BIKKINA | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Defenders didn't challenge senior Earlysia Marchbanks much on this layup attempt. In fact, the Beavers opponents haven't provided much of a challenge in general so far this year.



VINAY BIKKINA | THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Beavers defeated Boise State in a dual meet for the first time in school history two weeks ago, but lost to Missouri last week.

## Wrestling heads to Vegas for tournament

■ Beavers are hoping to bounce back strongly from first loss of season, which came to Missouri

By Andrew Kilstrom  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State University wrestling team will look to bounce back from its first loss of the season with a strong showing at the Cliff Keen Invitational in Las Vegas this coming Friday.

Thirty-three teams will participate in the Cliff Keen Invitational, including four teams from the Pac-12. The meet is set to take place over two days. The first and second rounds will be held on Friday, and the semi-final and final rounds will take place on Saturday.

Oregon State competed in the same invitational last year and experienced moderate success. Sophomore Scott Sakaguchi, currently ranked eighth, won his first four matches before losing last year in the 149 pound weight class. Senior Clayton Jack, also currently ranked eighth, had even more success, finishing seventh overall in

the heavyweight division.

Head coach Jim Zalesky expects an even better showing from his steadily improving team, and hopes for individual championships at the tournament.

"We want guys winning championships down there individually," Zalesky said. "The best thing you can do for your team is win the championship."

Even after their loss to the University of Missouri last Friday, team morale is high in light of the strong finish and determination the No. 18 Beavers showed against No. 9 Missouri. Oregon State will look to build on impressive individual performances from junior Mike Mangrum, redshirt freshman Taylor Meeks, Sakaguchi and Jack.

"Just little things. That's what it came down to in the loss against Missouri," Sakaguchi said when asked about the previous loss. "There were a lot of little things that added up. Mentally, I don't think all of our guys were there yet, but this week is

See **WRESTLING** | page 7

## OSU swim team is working hard

■ Head coach says this is his hardest working team, hopes for more NCAA qualifiers

By Natasha Raines  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State University women's swim team has competed in four dual meets and the Arena Invitational in Long Beach, Calif. so far this season.

The Beavers have lost to the University of California, Berkeley twice and the University of California, Santa Barbara once.

Oregon State's lone dual meet victory came against Seattle University on Oct. 29.

Head coach Larry Liebowitz feels good about what he's seen so far this year.

"I think this is the hardest working group that I've had since I have been here, and this is my ninth year," Liebowitz said. "I think that they are more willing to do the work, so I am really pleased with the effort that these guys are putting in on a daily basis and I think it's really going to pay off."

Senior Jenni Dole, who was one of two OSU swimmers to qualify for the NCAA Championships last year, agreed with Liebowitz's assessment of this year.

"I think we are doing pretty good as a team so far," Dole said. "I think we have a really good freshman class."

Junior Rachel O'Brien was the other Oregon State swimmer to qualify for nationals last year.

This year, Liebowitz is hoping that number will at least double.

"I want to have more than four people at the NCAA Championships, which will mean that we will have qualified our relays," he said. "That's always a big challenge, to qualify your relays."

"I think our goal this year is to get more people in the NCAAs, and we want to have a relay go to the NCAAs," O'Brien said.



TAYLOR HAND | THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State swim team has competed in four dual meets so far this year, winning one of them.

Liebowitz is hoping the hard work the team has shown thus far will pay off down the road.

"Swimming is a very individual sport," he said. "The main goal is for these swimmers to swim their lifetime best times, so that when they finish at the Pac-12 Championship and look at the scoreboard, they will see times that make them smile. That's the biggest goal."

This weekend, three Oregon State swimmers are competing at USA Nationals in Atlanta, Ga.

The event allows swimmers the opportunity to qualify for Olympic trials.

Sophomore Crystal Kibby qualified for the USA Nationals in the 200 IM, 400 IM, 100 breaststroke and 200 breaststroke.

Kibby is hoping her performance at the Arena Invite two weeks ago transfers over to this meet.

"I got my best times on all my

races there, and I'm hoping to take that into this meet. My goal is to do my best, to have fun and to get my Olympic trial cut," Kibby said.

Shelby Webber, a freshman and strong addition to the women's swim team, is competing this weekend as well.

"In the summer I swam in a meet and qualified for it, and then I also qualified at Arena for it," Webber said. Webber qualified for the USA Nationals in the 100 free, 200 free, 200 IM and 100 backstroke.

Aya Fujimura is a sophomore competing in the 100 and 200 butterfly; if she qualifies for the Olympic trials, she will be competing for the Japanese swim team.

Dole and O'Brien have already qualified for Olympic trials.

▼  
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