

The Daily Barometer

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PAGE 8



PROFILE: Roberto Nelson and Johnathon Hoover's unbreakable bond.

SPORTS

- 8 – Nelson/Hoover
- 8 – Men's basketball preview

NEWS

- 3 – Honey bee research and the Oregon weather

FORUM

- 4 – What goes into Student fees
- 5 – Yes to fluoridated water

No official statement on assault

■ Though much is yet to be uncovered, police verify there is no reason for safety concern

By Joce DeWitt
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Corvallis Police are in an ongoing investigation regarding an assault that took place yesterday afternoon in an apartment complex on the corner of Kings Boulevard and Jackson Street.

Lt. Cord Wood said the police department would not issue an official statement about the incident until they uncover more details.

"We responded to a call there yesterday and over the course of the time we were there, the details of what may or may not have happened changed significantly," Wood said. "So at this point we're not exactly sure what happened, and until we're sure, we're not releasing anything at this time."

Wood is confident there is nothing for students and other residents to be worried about safety-wise. "We're trying to determine what happened before we make any kind of statement."

Despite disinclination to share specifics, Wood clarified that from the point of initial investigation to when "we were done, we were looking at a situation that was totally different. We're verifying what, if anything, happened at that scene."

What Wood was willing to share, however, was that the female victim was not significantly injured, as revealed by Sgt. Jeff Marr at the scene on Tuesday, and was not hospitalized. "They were very minor injuries," Wood said.

When asked, police would neither confirm nor deny whether the suspect was dressed as a plumber to gain entry into the victim's apartment.

Oregon State University student Dean Palermo lives in the apartment directly below that of the victim's, into which he said she moved about a month ago. He came home from a chemistry lab yesterday to find police cars had blocked off Kings Boulevard and 17th Street, and caution tape on the victim's doorway.

"The detective asked a bunch of questions," Palermo said. "They asked

me if I had a leaky faucet, which I just happened to have one."

Palermo said police told him he matched the description of the perpetrator, who had mentioned a leaky faucet. Police then took pictures of him and his faucet.

"They asked me for my ID and placed me against the wall with my hands behind my back so they could search me and my backpack," Palermo said. He said he spoke with the police for 30-40 minutes before they told him he was clear. "They said they couldn't tell me much."

Palermo said the officers were "vague," but informed him the victim was okay. "It was a little scary, nothing like that has happened here before."

Little has been revealed about the suspect's whereabouts, but police said they will release more information when they are sure. "We've got a report that changed very dramatically while we were investigating...we don't know what happened is what it boils down to," Wood said.

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ALEXANDRA TAYLOR | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Sgt. Jeff Marr of the Corvallis Police at the apartment complex on Kings and Jackson Tuesday afternoon.



ALEXANDRA TAYLOR | THE DAILY BAROMETER

ASOSU President Hopoi spoke in front of a Joint Session last night in the MU.

House hears from Hopoi, resolution on accessibility

■ Hopoi expresses hope to "move forward," resolution focuses on Able Student Alliance

By Don Iler
THE DAILY BAROMETER

A contrite M. Tonga Hopoi, president of the Associated Students of Oregon State University appeared last night before a Joint Session of the ASOSU legislature. She addressed the recent issues that have cropped up during her administration as well highlighting the numerous accomplishments of her task force directors.

"There are mistakes I have done... I have violated the statutes of ASOSU and lost the trust of many by my negligence," Hopoi said.

The speech laid out Hopoi's hopes of moving forward beyond recent controversies, such as discovering

recent pay discrepancies and fund requests made improperly.

"I am open to work and move ourselves forward," Hopoi said, "move our campus with understanding and collaboration to move toward restoration."

At the conclusion of her speech, Hopoi received a standing ovation from congress and those assembled.

After Hopoi's speech, the legislature heard a presentation from Student Incidental Fee Committee chairman Josh Makepeace. Makepeace gave instruction about viewpoint neutrality and referenced Southworth v. University of Wisconsin to show how they needed to approve budgets without considering whether they agreed with the group's viewpoints. He summarized the budgeting process and implored students to attend the open hearing today in the Memorial Union ballroom.

Makepeace reported that as it looked now, student fees next year

will be in between \$394 and \$399, about a 5 percent drop from this year's student fees. He said the fee committee was undertaking reviews of Our Little Village and the Memorial Union in order to examine their finances and expenditures, and that recent reviews of Student Health Services had resulted in readjusting the fee assessed.

Joint Resolution 71.03 was also read to the session. The 14-page resolution included 69 "whereas" clauses, which examined the creation of the Accessible University Initiative Taskforce, which is tasked with making accessibility improvements on campus, and the Able Student Alliance, and the apparent breakdown between the two organizations.

According to the resolution, students from the Able Student Alliance are supposed to be voting members of the taskforce according to the taskforce's initial charter but had since been marginalized, with decisions

having been made without consultation of the Able Student Alliance. The resolution demanded that full voting rights be restored to the Able Student Alliance or else ASOSU would take further action.

After the reading, a short discussion emerged and legislators were instructed to read the resolution to better vote on it after a second reading. The resolution will receive a second reading in both houses of congress next week.

Following the reading, nominations were made to the mediation committee that will look at possible solutions and resolutions for any student fee budgets that aren't approved by congress.

The ASOSU House of Representatives will be meeting next Wednesday in the Memorial Union at 7 p.m.

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'Sugar Wife' play calls attention to moral dilemmas

■ Play on ethical issues behind money, race to spark discussion tonight in theater at Withycombe

By Kim Kenny
THE DAILY BAROMETER

What would you do for money?

Tonight a Quaker couple, a British abolitionist, a freed African-American slave and an Irish prostitute will address that question, among other troubling moral issues, in "The Sugar Wife," a historical drama written by Elizabeth Kutli.

The Oregon State University Theatre will show the play at 7:30 p.m. on the main stage in Withycombe Hall this week March 1-3, and next weekend March 9-10, with a 2 p.m. matinee performance on March 11.

A post-show discussion will be held March 10 with director Charlotte Headrick and Robert Thompson, OSU associate professor of ethnic studies. Tickets are available to OSU students for \$5.

In a Dublin brogue, Hannah and Samuel

Tewkley begin the play by reminiscing aloud during a Quaker meeting, wherein the participants would sit in a circle and speak as the spirit moved them. From there, the play is a flashback of the married couple's recent experience of hosting Sarah Worth, a freed slave turned orator, and Alfred, the abolitionist who freed her.

Set in 1850 Dublin, the play reveals the moral dilemmas confronted by its characters and the vices that at first may not be starkly apparent.

As part of a speaking tour, Sarah Worth delivers the hair-raising tale of her grandmother's journey as a slave in the Middle Passage. She is hosted in Dublin by the Tewkleys, at the insistence of Hannah Tewkley, who is constantly occupied with accomplishing charitable deeds. The money she uses to buy socks for a dying prostitute is given to her by her husband Samuel, who owns a successful tea and coffee shop. Ironically, the sugar used for his family's business is acquired through slave labor, one of several secrets the audience soon learns Samuel has hidden from his wife.

George Caldwell, the scenic designer of the play and OSU theatre faculty member, has

helped to coordinate the constant flow of the actors as they move from scene to scene in different sections of the stage with photographs and dates shown on a projector above the stage.

The seven member cast of OSU students includes Nicole Snyder, Rowan Russel, Michael Beaton, Richelle Jean-Bart, Alexandra Schireman, Anthony O'Hare, and Deborah Shapiro.

Four different accents will be used by the actors: American, British Yorkshire and two different types of Irish distinguished by class. OSU student Jordyn Patton is the assistant director and student Abbey Pasquini the costume designer.

"The thing I've most enjoyed so far about directing this play has been working with the actors, seeing these talented people rise to the challenge of their roles, and seeing a piece of art come to life," Headrick said.

The director believes a successful play would leave the audience feeling moved as well as inspired to discuss the issues raised.

Kim Kenny, staff reporter
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NEIL ABREW | THE DAILY BAROMETER

A rehearsal for "The Sugar Wife" was held yesterday. The play opens tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Withycombe.

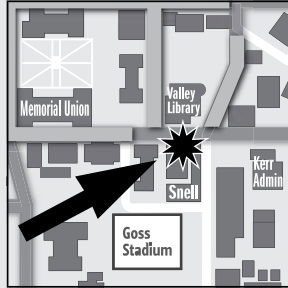
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International News From CNN

MIDDLE EAST

Egypt lifts travel ban on Americans detained

Egyptian authorities have lifted the travel ban on 16 Americans accused of fraud and stirring up unrest after a series of raids that strained ties with a leading ally, an appeals court judge said Wednesday.

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called the announcement encouraging but unconfirmed. And another U.S. official warned that "the deal isn't done."

Judge Abdel Moez Ibrahim, the head of Egypt's Court of Appeal, announced the lifting of the travel ban and said the Americans still face charges and fines of 2 million Egyptian pounds (about \$332,000).

"They must respect the Egyptian law and the outcome of the final verdict," he said.

Ibrahim said Wednesday's move applies only to the Americans and not to other activists rounded up in the late-December crackdown, which targeted international non-governmental organizations that promoted democracy. Egyptian authorities called their work part of a pattern of international interference that was stoking continued protests against the current military-led government in Cairo.

Wednesday's announcement could ease a tense patch between Egypt and the United States, its leading ally. Washington provides more than \$1 billion in military aid to Egypt every year and had lobbied heavily for the detainees' release.

Only seven of the Americans are believed to remain in Egypt, all of them at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo. One of those charged is Sam LaHood, director of Egypt operations for the International Republican Institute and the son of U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood.

ASIA

N. Korea agrees to halt nuke program

North Korea has agreed to halt nuclear tests, long-range missile launches and enrichment activities at its Yongbyon nuclear complex in exchange for food aid from the United States, the State Department said Wednesday.

The state-run North Korean news agency, KCNA, announced the agreement separately.

"Today's announcement represents a modest first step in the right direction. We, of course, will be watching closely and judging North Korea's new leaders by their actions," U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said Wednesday before the House Appropriations Committee.

In return for the moratorium on nuclear activities at this key site, the United States has agreed to a package of 240,000 metric tons of nutritional assistance to North Korea.

According to State Department officials who briefed reporters on condition of not being identified, the nutritional assistance will include corn-soy blend, beans, vegetable oils and ready-to-eat therapeutic food.

There will be intensive monitoring to assure that the delivery is made to those in need and not diverted to the military or government elites, State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said in a statement.

"The DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) has also agreed to the return of IAEA inspectors to verify and monitor the moratorium on uranium enrichment activities at Yongbyon and confirm the disablement of the 5-MW reactor and associated facilities," Nuland said.

ASIA

Police roundup follows riot in China

Chinese authorities have made dozens of arrests following a deadly clash between Han Chinese and ethnic Uighurs in the country's remote northwest, a U.S.-based Uighur leader said Wednesday.

China's state news agency Xinhua said 12 people were killed in rioting near the northwestern city of Kashgar, including two shot and killed by police during Tuesday's melee. Xinhua said the trouble began when a group of knife-wielding assailants attacked people in a market.

But Omer Kanat, vice president of the World Uighur Congress, put the toll at 16, including seven members of China's security forces.

"We have heard different accounts. We don't know exactly what happened," Kanat said. But local residents have told the group that the rioting began with a dispute between Uighur youth and Han Chinese settlers in a market, he said.

"The Chinese authorities already launched a crackdown and an arrest campaign after this, and according to our information, 80 people are arrested," he said. "They are now looking for the people involved in this incident."

Neither account could be independently verified.

Uighurs are predominantly Muslim ethnic Turks who are linguistically, culturally and religiously distinct from China's majority Han population. Chinese authorities have blamed Islamic militants of Uighur descent for previous outbreaks of violence in Xinjiang province, where Uighur-Han Chinese rioting in July 2009 left nearly 200 people dead and 1,700 injured.

MIDDLE EAST

Iran braces for first election since 2009

Campaign workers distributed campaign leaflets and plastered candidate posters along the Iranian capital's tree-lined streets in the final days before Friday's parliamentary elections.

Iranian cell phones also lit up with text messages advertising names of candidates.

Meanwhile, Iranian state television broadcast wall-to-wall programming encouraging voters to cast their ballots.

With slogans like "Our progress in science and economics depends on your vote," the publicity campaign included an oft-repeated quote from the late founder of the Islamic Republic, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, saying, "The measure of a nation is its vote."

But out on the traffic-clogged streets of Tehran, some Iranians appeared less than enthusiastic about the election.

At the Al Javad Mosque where young men were handing out campaign leaflets, an elderly man confronted a passing turbaned cleric, yelling "Why should we vote?"

When a CNN reporter asked another man about the election, he hurried away, saying "I'm not going to vote, so I'm afraid to talk."

"I don't want to take part in this election," said another young man, who asked not to be named. Asked why he was boycotting the vote, he answered, "Everyone has his own viewpoint. For example, someone says 'I like the system.' Or someone says 'I don't. I'm the opposite of the system.' And that's why."

In Iran, elections are traditionally heralded by the revolutionary regime as a popular demonstration that it enjoys the overwhelming support of the population.

But this Friday's contest will also mark the first time Iranians go to the polls since allegations of vote-rigging during presidential elections in 2009.

Calendar

Thursday, Mar. 1

Meetings

OSU Pre-Law Society, 6pm, StAg 111. Regular meeting.
College Republicans, 7pm, StAg 132. All are welcome no matter what beliefs or political party.

Events

Asian Pacific Cultural Center (APCC), 6-8pm, MU Board Room. Learn about the art of Henna and tattoos in Asian and Polynesian cultures. Stop by and get Henna tattoos of your own!

Friday, Mar. 2

Events

Diversity Development: NAL, 3-5pm, Asian Pacific Cultural Center. I Scream for Identity: In collaboration with all the centers, we will make sundaes to explore your identity.

Monday, Mar. 5

Meetings

College Democrats, 5pm, MU Board Room. Come talk about current events, local campaigns and international news with like-minded people!

Events

Diversity Development: NAL, 5:30-7:30pm, MU 206. Native Hawaiians: Revealing the Misconceptions.

Tuesday, Mar. 6

Meetings

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

Wednesday, Mar. 7

Meetings

Baha'i Campus Association, 12:30-1pm, MU Talisman Room. Interfaith readings to share on "Building a Spiritual Democracy."

Events

Graduate Women's Network, 2-4pm, Women's Center. GWN is a great place to connect with other grads and learn from guest speakers. This month, Mariah Moore from the Career Center will host a CV workshop.

ASOSU Congress, 7pm, MU Lounge. The House of Representatives and Senate convene to hear the SIFC Budget for the 2012-2013 student fee levels. hursday,

Mar. 8

Meetings

OSU Pre-Law Society, 6pm, StAg 111. Regular meeting.
College Republicans, 7pm, StAg 132. All are welcome no matter what beliefs or political party.

Monday, Mar. 12

Meetings

College Democrats, 5pm, MU Board Room. Come talk about current events, local campaigns and international news with like-minded people!

Tuesday, Mar. 13

Meetings

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

Wednesday, Mar. 14

Meetings

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

Baha'i Campus Association, 12:30-1pm, MU Talisman Room. Tranquility Zone - Interfaith devotions on "Mind, Spirit and Soul." Bring your favorite inspirational reading to share.

Thursday, Mar. 15

Meetings

OSU Pre-Law Society, 6pm, StAg 111. Regular meeting.
College Republicans, 7pm, StAg 132. All are welcome no matter what beliefs or political party.

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LOCK IT OR LOSE IT!



Oregon weather poses obstacle for honey bee researcher

■ Entomologist, honey bee specialist enjoys OSU support, not Oregon weather limitations

By Tony Santilli
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Ramesh Sagili is an entomologist and has a Ph.D. in entomology specializing in honey bee research.

Q: Do you have any research you're currently working on?

A: Yes I do have research. I'm [researching] Honey bee health, pollination and nutrition. These are three important areas that we are looking at at OSU. As you know bee colonies have been collapsing since six-seven years ago and since then we have been losing 30 percent of honey bee colonies every year—that is the national average.

We are doing a little bit better here in Oregon, but the colony losses are a big concern because honey bees are such important pollinators; they contribute \$20 billion worth of pollination to our economy.

Q: How do you study honey bee health, pollination and

nutrition?

A: Honey bee help has been a very prime area to look at. Here at OSU, we are looking at honey bee health so there are several projects related to it. We are looking and sampling honey bee colonies across the state to look at various problems of pests and diseases that honey bees have. We are looking at honey bee nutrition because since the past 10-15 years our agriculture system has changed a lot. There is more mono-cropping and destruction of habitat.

The bees aren't getting the balanced diet that they need to survive. So we are trying to do different sources of pollen; how they can change the physiology and colony growth of honey bees. We are trying to find out a balance of diet. With the nutrition, bees are pollinating; some are good quality and some aren't.

Basically, we are looking at the effects of pollen and the quality of nutrition so that bee keepers can get some good information and then they can use those for maintaining good nutritional regulation for the bees.

The last one is honey bee pollination. As I said before, honey bees are very important pollinators. [For] some crops honey bee pollination is very critical because without honey bees there is no [yield] that the crop can give you. There are some crops honey bees aren't really attracted to and they're not producing enough nectar, or the weather is very cold. Honey bees will only fly if the temperature is 55 degrees Fahrenheit or more.

When you have that situation, the pollination might get down, so we are using brood pheromone which can basically stimulate honey bees, and you put the pheromone into the hives.

You can mimic that there is more larva or babies to feed. You're basically fooling the bees to feed more larvae so they are going out foraging and they will be getting more nectar and traveling in larger numbers. This brood pheromone is used to enhance pollination efficiently to increase pollination and cropping.

Q: How has it been working at OSU with Oregon's weather?

A: It's been a great experi-

ence since I came to OSU in 2009. I think I have great support from the department, from my colleagues from the College of Agriculture and OSU as a whole.

It's been a fascinating experience to be here in Oregon. I teach honey bee biology and it is an increasing enrollment course. Students are really excited about honey bees, learning more about biology and bee keeping aspects.

Q: Are OSU facilities adequate for your honey bee research?

A: Yes, OSU's facilities have been helpful to my studies. I have three locations where I put my bees and we do experiments.

With the aspect of weather, my time has been cut shorter than what I'm used to because of the Oregon weather. I'm from Texas where you can do experiments for about ten months of the year, but here there are limitations and I roughly have four or five months of solid research I can do.

Tony Santilli, staff reporter
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NY Times' claim that business is 'default' major not applicable to OSU

■ Labeled 'default' by New York Times, business accounts for 14 percent of OSU undergrad degrees

By Vinay Ramakrishnan
THE DAILY BAROMETER

A New York Times article dated April 14, 2011 labeled business the "default major."

The New York Times claimed in the article that "the family of majors under the business umbrella — including finance, accounting, marketing, management, and 'general business' — accounts for just over 20 percent, or more than 325,000 of all bachelor's degrees awarded annually in the United States, making it the most popular field of study."

This begs the questions: is this the case at Oregon State University?

Not according to Sabah Randhawa, Provost and Executive Vice President of Oregon State University who previously served as interim dean of the College of Business.

"At OSU, the distribution is different. In

the last graduation class, Business undergraduate degrees accounted for about 14 percent of total undergraduate degrees, and business undergraduate and graduate degrees accounted for about 12 percent of total degrees awarded by OSU."

Randhawa also said that he would not refer to business as a "default major."

According to the Office of Institutional Research's Winter Term 2012 Enrollment summary report, 2,277 undergraduate students are enrolled in the College of Business, compared to 4,216 undergraduates in the College of Engineering and 3,523 undergraduates in the College of Liberal Arts.

Clearly, business is not the most common major at Oregon State.

Ilene Kleinsorge, Dean of the College of Business at OSU concurred with Dr. Randhawa about business not being the default major.

"I don't think it's a default major. Students come to identify their passion," she said.

As to why business is such a popular

major at Oregon State, Kleinsorge said, "there is a business side to every occupation. It is an excellent degree to allow students to work within the industry where they were interested, but it allows them to achieve management positions in that industry."

Lidia Kusnadi, a finance major and rush/marketing chair for Alpha Kappa Psi, a business fraternity, said that she believes the reason so many OSU students choose business is because "business is a major that covers a broad spectrum of skills, including communication, creative and technical skills. Therefore, it is appealing to a broad spectrum of students as well."

In terms of why Kusnadi chose to major in business, she said, "I am a firm believer that every industry in the world needs smart business people to be successful and I would love to be that business person."

Vinay Ramakrishnan, staff reporter
737-2231 news@dailybarometer.com

Diplomatic efforts renewed as Syrian army continues Homs assault

Fresh diplomatic efforts to resolve the nearly year-old crisis in Syria got under way Wednesday as the situation inside Syria reached a new level of concern.

"I think the message is clear: that the killing and the violence must stop," said Kofi Annan, the joint special envoy on Syria, to reporters here. "Humanitarian agencies must be given access to do their work, and it is regrettable that that doesn't seem to be happening. That is not happening."

Annan, who served as U.N. secretary-general from 1997 to 2006, announced he was departing for the region "to talk to all concerned."

He did not specify with whom he would meet or when the meetings would take place. "As you can imagine," he said, "in this type of situation, every move is sensitive and highly political, even the itinerary. But we are working it out, and I would expect to get to Syria fairly soon."

He said that if his mission is to succeed, "it is extremely important that we all accept that there should be one process of mediation -- the one both the United Nations and the Arab League have asked me to lead. When you have

more than one, and people take their own initiatives, the parties play with the mediators."

He added, "It is when the international community speaks with one voice that that voice is powerful."

Annan's remarks were preceded by comments from Ban Ki-moon, the current secretary-general of the world body.

"The situation in Syria has grown increasingly desperate," he said. "There is no more urgent task for the international community than to end the killing immediately. The government must cease using force against the civilians."

After meetings in New York, Annan will travel to Cairo to meet with the secretary-general of the Arab League, and from there, he will travel "as soon as possible" to the Middle East, including to Damascus, Ban said.

He urged Syrian officials to cooperate, and expressed disappointment to have learned Wednesday that they did not permit U.N. humanitarian chief Valerie Amos to visit Syria "despite the clear need and the repeated commitment by the government that she would be welcomed."

Annan said he had not been in contact with Syrian

President Bashar al-Assad "for a couple of years," but said he would "plead with him that he should engage -- not only with me but with the process we are launching today."

The diplomatic activity came as helicopter gunships fired Wednesday on civilians in the Baba Amr neighborhood of Homs, a move that marked a new level of violence in the country, activists said.

They credited snowfall over Homs with causing the helicopter pilots to land, thereby ending the threat.

The snow began falling in the evening, after the opposition stronghold of Baba Amr had endured an intense, day-long campaign of shelling and gunfire that triggered fears among the approximately 20,000 residents that a full-fledged ground invasion could be imminent, the opposition activists said.

They said Baba Amr was under its heaviest shelling yet and that ground troops had advanced in al Hakura, an old part of that neighborhood. Free Syrian Army fighters repelled the incursion, which lasted for hours, the activists said.

At least 29 people were killed Wednesday, including 16 in Homs, according to the

opposition Local Coordination Committees of Syria. The toll included three people in Damascus suburbs, three in Daraa, two in Deir Ezzor, two in Idlib, one in Hama and one in Latakia.

The deaths in Homs included a family of five, the group said.

The intense shelling made it difficult for the citizen journalists among Syria's opposition to take videos and post them on YouTube documenting the day's events, they said. With electricity to the city cut, activists said they were using generators to power the computers they were using to upload the few videos they were able to shoot.

The opposition Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the family was killed at a roundabout in the neighborhood of Karm al Zaytoun.

A man was killed by a rocket-propelled grenade in the Homs neighborhood of Bab Aldreeb, and another civilian was shot dead in the Inshaat neighborhood, the observatory said.

Numerous neighborhoods in Homs were under attack. Explosions shook al Khalidiya, al Bayada, Karm al Zaytoun, Bab Sbaa and others, an opposition activist said.

—CNN

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Students should consider who and what receives their fees

With exorbitant book prices, tuition that goes up year after year and rental rates that are far too high, the \$412.47 students pay in incidental fees each term might just feel like a drop in the bucket of what is already an expensive endeavor. What is really absurd is that our student incidental fees are among the highest in the Northwest.

The Student and Incidental Fees Committee seems like a great idea; why not allow students to have a say in how fees are spent and charged? But the opaque system, with budget hearings attended by no one, and committee members' questions being evaded by the professional staff and students presenting, doesn't feel like the most ideal system. Especially when there is so much money at stake.

In fact, OSU students are charged far more than other students in the Oregon University System. Students at the University of Oregon are charged \$375 per term, and students at Portland State University are charged \$349 a term. Are the services provided by our fees any better than those provided at the other universities?

Editorial

Probably not, so why are we paying so much more?

The reason is that a lot of our student fees are spent on subsidies, and student-employee and professional staff pay; In a way, we have created a bureaucratized mini-welfare state for OSU students.

You currently pay \$3.95 a term to pay for drop-off childcare in the library called Our Little Village and to provide childcare subsidies for student parents. While these subsidies amount to, at most, a subsidy of \$383 per term, they only help about 60 to 70 students per term. Is it the responsibility of majority of the student body to pay childcare for a small sliver of the student body, especially when these services can't be used by the 91 percent of students who do not have children?

But that isn't the only subsidy your fees pay for; student fees also go towards Mealbox, a program that awards on average \$40 to \$60 per term, per student for meals. It also

goes toward health care subsidies and funding Student Health Services. College is an expensive prospect for most, but is it our responsibility to charge ourselves — including those who receive the subsidies — to help pay for things many of us don't use.

We also subsidize athletics, with fee dollars going to support 3.85 percent of the total athletics budget. Of course, students are eligible for free tickets to sit in the student section, but many students could care less about football or basketball, and many other sporting events on campus. Is it our responsibility to subsidize what are essentially entertainment and luxuries?

The list goes on. Your fee dollars pay for attorneys available to use free of charge, they subsidize the Beaver Yearbook (which has difficulties selling any), they provide free mental health care for students through Counseling and Psychological Services and money to help support the cultural centers on campus. They prop up the Memorial Union and go toward funding many of its activities. Fee dollars also fund ASOSU; that money funds all sort of things,

including employee salaries and trips for students to Washington D.C.

Your fee dollars next year will also go toward funding raises for student employees, from the Memorial Union to ASOSU, and even The Daily Barometer staff. While many students are having a hard time finding employment, student leaders are sitting here in Snell Hall or the MU, patting themselves on the back for a job well done.

While we may believe we deserve a raise, student voices have not been raised questioning whether we actually do deserve them. They should be raised, as well as questions about all the new staff many departments want to hire, from a web and media person for Recreation Sports, to an additional clerical position to help run Our Little Village.

The problem is, most likely, these fees will be approved with little questioning, and will be duly paid by a student body that doesn't think twice when looking at their bills once a term. This may be out of apathy, a feeling that whatever students say would be ignored and that

we are too small to make effective change. But the great thing about having a student-controlled fee process, is that we do have a say about how our money is spent, and we as a student body need to make our voices heard.

But to make this happen, students need to get involved, get informed and make their voices heard. Tonight, the Student and Incidental Fees Committee is holding an open forum in the MU Ballroom at 6 p.m. and would like to hear from students on how they want their fees to be spent. If you have ever complained about fees being too damn high, or about how you hate subsidizing this fish wrapper of a newspaper or childcare subsidies, you should go to this meeting. Or, if you feel the many services provided by student fees are valuable, you need to make your voice heard as well.

Otherwise, you can keep mum the rest of the year and continue to go into debt helping to fund our little student welfare state.

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.

Weathering the winter blues

Oregon is a beautiful place to live. However, as we know, it can turn quite dark, cold and wet here in the winter.

You may find that your mood and well-being also change with the seasons. Specifically, you may feel more sad, irritable or just "blah." Your sleep patterns, energy, concentration, appetite and weight may change, and it may be harder to find activities you enjoy. You also might have dark and gloomy thoughts like, "I'm a loser," "school sucks" and "things are never going to change."

For some people, these experiences stick around for too long and can start to interfere with their daily life, such as socializing, studying and working. In such cases, these problems may be part of a mental health problem, such as a major depressive disorder. A pattern of depression that becomes serious during a particular time of year (usually fall/winter) and goes away in another time of year (usually spring/summer) for several years is called Seasonal Affective Disorder.

Studies of the prevalence of SAD are limited, but suggest 1 to 10 percent of people have the illness. Other research shows that 27 percent of people experience "problematic" — if not clinically impairing — seasonal changes in mood and behavior. Thus, having the winter blues may be quite common, and may be very unpleasant and disruptive, even if it is not a clinical disorder.

The dominant theory of SAD suggests that a seasonal decrease in sunlight has an adverse effect on our brain. Specifically, sunlight is used by primitive parts of the brain that regulate sleep/wake cycles (circadian rhythms) and perhaps areas of the brain known to regulate hibernation in other mammals. Disruption in these cycles may create a kind of hibernation syndrome where the brain tells the body to stock up on food, limit energy expenditure and hunker down for the winter. Deficiencies in Vitamin D have also been theorized to play a role in the winter blues (our skin produces Vitamin D in response to sunlight exposure, which is reduced in winter).

While these explanations are appealing, studies have not made an absolute connection between changes in sunlight, as opposed to seasonal changes in social and psychological

David Kerr

Guest Column

factors, and SAD. Given this, it may be wise to consider several lifestyle changes rather than focusing exclusively on light exposure.

1. Get active. Don't let the weather stop you from being active and going outside. Exercise can be social or meditative and can improve sleep. Find new routines, such as indoor exercise, or taking walks in your rain gear.

2. When it comes to sleep, be boring. Make your sleep schedule as regular and predictable as possible, and get plenty of it.

3. Do it anyway. Depression tells you to stay home and pass up social stimulation. Being alone and inactive can feed a cycle of negative thoughts and a depressed mood. So even when you don't feel like it, try to "do it anyway."

4. Be with people. The support you get from friends and family helps you handle stress and avoid depression. Make an extra effort to call or spend time with people when you need a lift.

5. Moderate your substance use. Alcohol is a depressant, so it is not a great antidote for depression. Substance usage can impact your mood, sleep, appetite, weight and social relationships.

Other options are available for individuals with more serious symptoms of SAD or winter blues.

First, effective treatments for non-seasonal depression, such as cognitive-behavioral therapy and antidepressant medication, are also effective in treating SAD. Second, controlled trials support theories that symptoms of SAD, as well as of the winter blues and non-seasonal depression — respond positively to full-spectrum light therapy. Light boxes can be purchased online or loaned through Student Health Services.

However, intermittent and irregular use would not be expected to be effective (e.g., a 2005 study reviewed treatment trials that gave individuals at least 3,000 lux-hours of exposure, at least four days per week, and in most trials, individuals were told to use light boxes as soon after waking as possible). We recommend that those interested in using light boxes consider a period of regular and repeated use, read manufacturer's instructions carefully, and consider consulting with a counselor or therapist about how to maximize benefits. Counselors at Counseling and Psychological Services encourage students to use light therapy in coordination with counseling and/or medication for the best results.

For some people, making lifestyle changes and improving self-care will help them weather the winter blues. But if you think you are experiencing a more significant depression or are having thoughts of suicide, it is time to get help from a counselor or therapist.

David Kerr, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Psychology Department

Public perception of "freethinkers," how to break the stigma

On a campaign stop in November, Newt Gingrich said, "I don't think a woman could be president. The belief that any woman could run the whole country by herself is just arrogant and un-American!"

Got your attention? Good, cause Gingrich didn't say that. He wasn't talking about a woman being president, nor was he talking about an African American, Asian, Hispanic, gay, lesbian, transgendered, Native American or any other identifying remark based on color, race, creed or social economic status.

Instead, he was talking about belief. The full remark was "If you said to me we were electing somebody who believed that they by themselves were strong enough to be president of the United States, I would tell you that person terrifies me..." Aside from the silent claim Gingrich just made in stating he thinks he can't run the country unless a little voice is whispering inside his head, he also illustrated one of the more silent discriminations in the United States today: discrimination against freethinkers.

Atheists, agnostics and secular humanists — they all fall under the umbrella term of freethinkers, and the public doesn't like those groups. A public Religion Research poll found an atheist candidate for president to be least electable, with 67 percent of individuals saying they were uncomfortable voting for such a person.

A study done by the National Post found that people rank atheists alongside rapists in levels of trust. Not that surprising when 50 percent of the American public believes that you need to believe in a god in order to have any morality, right or wrong. With such a stigma surrounding nonbelief, it's not hard to imagine that many freethinkers keep their thoughts to themselves, for fear of losing friends, families and jobs.

To be clear, I'm not writing this to say "Oh boo hoo, poor little atheists." Our society is rife with prejudice and discrimination of all sorts; this is just another item to add to the picture. I'm saying freethinkers have morals and ideas as well; we're just far more honest about the fact that humans are the creators of these things, not some divine figure in the sky.

Morality, in its operating definition we use every day, cannot come from an arbitrary authority figure. A parent can chastise a child for doing something wrong (i.e., hitting other children is wrong), and the child may realize what he/she did was wrong, but only with thought, critical thinking and discussion, can that child state why something is wrong. To say that something is wrong because the big "G" says so is not morality, it is childish, and

Harrison Pride

The Daily Barometer

a baseless appeal to authority.

Philosophy 101 aside, this article has a larger point. As Einstein said, the tools for fighting racism and prejudice are "enlightenment and education. This is a slow and painstaking process..." Since I believe that the discrimination freethinkers face is based in ignorance and the unknown, rather than outright hatred, I present the following simple guidelines for what to do when you find yourself sitting with a freethinker.

1. If one says they are atheist, they are atheist. Don't call them agnostic. Yes, one can never know with 100 percent certainty that a god does or does not exist; the same could be said for fairies, dragons, ogres and other mythical creatures, but I doubt one would be considered skeptic about those.

2. Freethinkers are not close-minded, nor do they need to "look for God." Most freethinkers have considered numerous beliefs and ideas when it comes to the big question, and are willing to listen to thoughts on the matter. But life is precious, and some have better things to do than hear the same arguments over and over.

3. Don't label one a Satanist. Seriously, just don't. It doesn't make any sense in the first place.

4. Don't try to prove anything or try to save another from their beliefs. You respect their choices, they'll respect yours.

5. Freethinkers prefer to have a discussion, an exchange of ideas, rather than a debate or an argument. Life is short — better to have a friendship of mutual respect than a victor and loser.

The difference between an atheist and a theist is small — just one thought. But that one thought can have massive consequences.

It leads me to believe that religion is one of the most monstrous institutions in the word today and that faith is a useless, miserable way to live out your human existence. However, I still care for any one person of faith as another human being. There are hundreds of billions of galaxies in the universe, trillions of stars and only one "you." You are more precious than diamonds or gold, and worthy of respect and compassion. To me, that means even if I disagree with you, I still think you're awesome.

How's that for a commandment?

Harrison Pride is a senior in microbiology. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Pride can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

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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Benefits of fluoridated water, Philomath should support proposition

Philomath residents will be voting next month on if they should restore fluoride to the public water supply. I know, I know — why should you care about the water that our neighbors to the west drink? Though you may not have a clue about what is in your water, the decision to add or remove fluoride from municipal waters is one that will indefinitely affect us all — it's a public health issue.

The much-debated topic of adding fluoride to the municipal water supply isn't an old argument. While many feel the addition of fluoride increases dental health by preventing cavities and tooth decay, others feel that adding fluoride seems unnecessary — even harmful. According to the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, fluoride — a naturally occurring mineral found in rocks — was discovered as a means to prevent tooth decay in the late 1940s.

Since this revelation, further research from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has proven fluoride can prevent cavities, lessen the severity of existing cavities, prevent the need for expensive fillings and painful tooth extractions, and can also lessen the pain and suffering associated with tooth decay.

According to the CDC, fluoride prevents tooth decay by keeping tooth enamel strong and solid, helping to minimize bacteria that erode a tooth's outer surface. By adding an appropriate amount of fluoride to municipal water, citizens drinking city water will have an extra layer of protection against cavities.

This idea especially benefits young children; though fluoride can be administered via toothpaste or dental rinses, not all children have access to routine dental care. Children living in poverty may not have access



Sarah Paeth

On the Bright Side

to toothbrushes or toothpaste, and even those who do often don't brush their teeth properly to receive the benefits of fluoride. Adding fluoride to the city drinking water is an easy way to prevent dental problems in all kids, regardless of their access to a dentist.

Of course, not everyone is pro-fluoride. One of the main concerns with the addition of fluoride to drinking water is over-exposure to the substance, also known as "fluorosis." According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, fluorosis causes discoloration of the teeth — usually small white streaks — and in extreme cases, may require expensive treatment to restore.

Fluorosis in children under eight years of age is caused by over-consumption of fluoride, which often occurs from ingesting too much fluoridated toothpaste in conjunction with drinking fluoridated water and taking a fluoride supplement. According to the CDC, only 10 percent of fluorosis cases are severe enough to require treatment.

Another anti-fluoridated water argument claims that ingesting mild to moderate amounts of fluoride can cause damage to the kidneys, brain and bones. According to the Fluoride Action Network, several studies showed a correlation between a low IQ and high fluoride ingestion.

Early last year, a Journal of Dentistry and Oral Hygiene study compared childhood intellectual development between kids that received .41 parts

per million of fluoride in their water versus kids that received 2.38 ppm in their water. Normal fluoridated water should contain .7 ppm, according to the CDC. If there is in fact a sound correlation between lowered IQ and increased fluoride consumption, 2.38 ppm of fluoride is three times the recommended amount of fluoride. This doesn't seem like a fair comparison.

Some anti-fluoride activists argue that consuming fluoride can cause cancer. This heavily-debated argument surfaced after a 1990 National Toxicology Program study that showed an increase of bone tumors in male rats after given water high in fluoride for two years. However, other studies have shown no such correlation regarding increased fluoridation causing cancer in animals or humans.

In February of 1991, the Public Health Service compiled over 50 epidemiological studies conducted over the span of 40 years and found that the optimal level of fluoridation in water supplies does not pose any detectable cancer risks to humans. According to The National Cancer Institute, substantial evidence linking cancer to fluoride does not exist.

Fluoridated water provides a continuous, low-level exposure to fluoride. When paired with "high concentration" fluoridated sources — like toothpaste or mouth rinse — fluoridated water can drastically improve dental health. According to the CDC, tooth decay affects over a quarter of 2- to 5-year-olds and over half of 12- to 15-year-olds in the country today.

Kids from lower-income households are at an even greater risk of tooth decay. In fact, about half of all adolescents and two thirds of 12- to 19-year-olds from low-income households have experienced tooth

decay. More than a quarter of Americans aged 65 and older have lost all of their teeth due to untreated tooth decay.

Tooth decay isn't just a painful and expensive problem; it also poses huge social hindrances. Coming from a rural Oregon community that does not provide fluoridated water, I have witnessed the effects of tooth decay in my community firsthand.

Kids that have rotting teeth not only look different, but they also can't eat the same food as other kids. Children who have lost all of their baby teeth due to decay may have to wait until their adult teeth come in to actually be able to eat and smile normally. Students that don't have teeth, or have rotting teeth, may be socially isolated or made fun of, which can drastically lower self-esteem and school performance. After all, how would you feel if you were too afraid to smile because you had rotting teeth?

Americans spent an estimated \$108 billion on trips to the dentist in 2010, according to the CDC. Not everyone can afford toothpaste and toothbrushes, let alone a trip to the dentist. Not providing municipal fluoridated water is a huge disservice to the children in our communities and to the oral health of millions of Americans.

Come next month, voters in Philomath would be wise to advocate for the addition of fluoride to their community water supply. Providing fluoridated drinking water is the most cost effective measure in preventing oral health issues that affect entire populations. Community water fluoridation was named one of the greatest public health achievements of the 20th century for a reason — it works.

Sarah Paeth is a senior in public health. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Paeth can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

Drew Hatlen

ASOSU House

To ASOSU and allies

This past year has presented many difficult challenges. Our organization has been brought into the spotlight of the student body, faculty, staff, administrators and community. It is unfortunate the circumstances under which this light has come about. Rather than filling headlines with accomplishments or championing victories for students, the focus of attention has surrounded our shortcomings and lack of collaboration.

Our internal struggles reflect the growing pains that follow the institution of our relatively young system of governance. It has been only three short years since the overhaul of our governing documents. In this short time, we have experienced the growth and expansion of our very different branches of government. Each branch has and will continue to develop in order to better represent and serve the students of Oregon State University.

Through times of success and through times of struggle, our system of governance will be further defined with each challenge we face. Each one of us as student leaders put forth every effort to make this university — our university — a place where students can enjoy their time here while pursuing their education.

Some may still have questions that deserve answers, but these answers will come in time. These questions will be answered through active communication, through listening and through the accountability to our fellow students that each of us agreed upon.

In an effort to heal, reflect and learn, we must move forward as an ASOSU united. We must move forward in a collaborative effort to effectively work towards the betterment of our organization and our student body.

Our actions this year will live on in OSU's history. Luckily, we are presented with an opportunity to make a positive impact on the remainder of the academic year. Let's grab hold of this golden opportunity to repair ASOSU's tarnished image, heal from the contentious nature of recent events, reflect on ways in which we can improve our practices for students, and learn from our mistakes with full recognition and ownership.

Let's get back to work for the students; They deserve the best from us and we should give them our absolute best as elected representatives of the student body — together, united and accountable for the students whom we have sworn "to be constantly faithful."

Faithfully yours,
Drew Hatlen, Speaker of the House
ASOSU Congress, Oregon State University



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The Daily Barometer

HOOVER/NELSON

Continued from page 7

and stuff like that, and we wanted to get him out of there," Burton said.

The next day, Nelson and Burton helped Hoover move into their three-bedroom Corvallis home.

"They had everything set up for me," Hoover said. "They even made my bed. Except they used Laker blankets, because I hate the Lakers."

NBA preference aside, the entire chain of events speaks volumes. "Some people don't understand Roberto Nelson," Craig Robinson said. "That kid has the biggest, warmest heart of anybody I've ever met."

It didn't take long for Robinson to fully understand Hoover and Nelson's unbreakable bond.

Hoover followed Nelson and Burton everywhere they went in Corvallis, so Robinson welcomed Hoover into the basketball family. "I told him, 'Don't feel like you have to be a stranger, come around, come to practice and things like that,'" Robinson said.

Hoover, a self-described basketball addict, took full advantage of the coach's offer.

He hung out with the team every chance he got, went to every practice he could (even the 5:30 a.m. ones), and joined the team in the locker room before and after each home game.

Before he knew it, it was like he was part of the team.

"He's just one of us," Burton said.

"If I could, I'd try to play college ball," Hoover said. "So it's nice to be around it and see what it's like."

Not only is Hoover somebody that everyone loves to be around, Robinson said, he's also someone the team can draw inspiration from.

"The hard work and diligence that it takes for him to get through life every day is what we're trying to teach our players," Robinson said.

Hoover, who is studying business and one day hopes to start his own business revolving around sports and music, is a student at Linn-Benton Community College.

Next year, he plans to dual-enroll at OSU and LBCC. Once that happens, he'll be eligible to become a team manager — meaning he'd be allowed to sit on the bench with the team and travel to away games.

Robinson said he doesn't know what specific responsibilities Hoover will have, but they'll "find a role for him."

Burton can't fathom a scenario that doesn't involve Nelson and Hoover sticking together.

"I can't see them growing apart," Burton said. "They're family. They're brothers. They have a strong bond you can't break."

After this year, Nelson will still have two more years of collegiate eligibility.

He said he doesn't know where life will take him from there, but he does know who will be along for the ride.

"[Hoover] has to finish his school first, but right when he finishes school, he'll be right there with me," Nelson said.

Even if Nelson is playing somewhere professionally?

"He'll be my agent," Nelson said.

That would just be another happy chapter to a story that could have gone in so many wrong directions.

"It could have turned out any way, all the stuff I've been through. I'm surprised I'm not born mentally challenged on some heavy type stuff," Hoover said. "I thank God for all my blessings."

"It's one of those stories..." Robinson said. "If it wasn't so inspiring, it would be heartbreaking."

Grady Garrett, sports editor

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Favorite memories

If you have been best friends for over a decade, you've probably created a few lifelong memories. Johnathon Hoover and Roberto Nelson shared some of their favorites:

1. The Oop

At a high school pep rally their junior year, Nelson asked Hoover to throw him an alley-oop.

Hoover had just returned from physical therapy, where he had been working with a medicine ball.

"I was like 'man, it's going to be off... I'm telling you,'" Hoover remembers saying.

But Nelson insisted. Sure enough, Hoover's lob attempt sailed over Nelson's head.

Hoover's second attempt was even more off.

"Vince Carter wouldn't have got it," Nelson said.

2. Dangerous waters

Nelson's favorite memory came when the two went kayaking with a few friends a few summers ago.

Nelson said Hoover, who "hates water," was scared stiff most of the trip, but started to paddle more toward the end.

"The water is calm as can be, he's like, 'Oh, Bert, I got it, I'm starting to get the hang of it,' but he starts going a little bit faster and he puts his paddle all the way under water and he starts going 'uh oh...'" and he tipped over so slow," Nelson said.

Hoover fell in and immediately started panicking, so Nelson jumped in after him.

"I'm holding him up, and he's like thank you, you saved me' and I'm like 'I didn't save you, you had a life vest on,' and he's like 'no, I was drowning,'" Nelson recalls.

"To this day, he still thinks I saved him even though he had a life vest on."

3. 43

On the bus on the way to a high school basketball game, Nelson and his coach got into it.

"I could hear (the coach) yelling at Berto, then I heard him tell Berto he sucked," Hoover recalls. "Berto looked up at him, put his headphones in, and then before the game he told me he was going off."

Nelson went out and scored a career-high 43 points that night, and according to Hoover, "looked at his coach after every point."

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

© Puzzles provided by sudokusolver.com

To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved, just use logic to solve.

Easy

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

Yesterday's Solution

A Special Thank You to Our Volunteers and Colleagues!

Career Services would like to express our utmost appreciation for all of those who volunteered and helped with the Tuesday, February 22 and Wednesday, February 23 Career Fairs.

The success of these events would not be possible without the generous donations of time by groups and individuals. Volunteers contributed the equivalent of 106 staffing hours for the fairs, in addition to providing an excellent experience for employers and OSU students.

Employers attending OSU career fairs compliment us on our customer service, organization and preparedness of our students. In doing so, they also tell us that our fairs are one of the best of the many they attend throughout the country. A great deal of credit for our reputation with employers goes to our excellent volunteers.

Volunteers included many individual students, OSU staff and the following groups:

- Alpha Kappa Psi
- Air Force ROTC
- ASOSU
- OSU Ultimate Frisbee Club Team
- Oregon State University Retiree's Association
- Student Affairs Division Staff
- Student Leadership & Involvement

Thank you from all of us at Career Services!

Oregon State UNIVERSITY **OSU** Career Services

Community Outreach

in partnership with the Corvallis community presents



Sunday, March 4
5:00 to 7:00 pm

First Congregational Church of Christ
4515 SW West Hills Road • Corvallis

Tickets \$9 each or \$23 for a Family
For more information or to purchase tickets please call 541.758.3000

HOOVER/NELSON

Continued from page 8

Santa Barbara. They told him about a program for foster children — a program that would help him find a job, help him buy a car.

“They tried to throw everything at me to get me to stay, but I was like ‘No, I want to go with Roberto,’ and they’d keep telling me it wasn’t going to work,” Hoover said. “They had their mind set that Berto was a bad guy, and I don’t know why they thought that, because he really is a great guy and he never comes off as a bad guy.”

“But I went with my mind, because I know Berto better than anybody.”

When Nelson departed for Corvallis in 2009, Hoover initially stayed behind.

The separation was tough on the both of them.

“I literally called him every day, I would bug him all the time,” Nelson said. “I would call him three or four times a day, walking to class. I would always tell him, ‘You need to come up, you need to come up.’”

But Hoover couldn’t come up.

Because he wasn’t far along enough academi-

cally to enroll at OSU, Hoover couldn’t live with Nelson in the dorms.

“I asked my RA and talked to all the people there to see if he could come stay with me in the dorms, and they said he couldn’t,” Nelson said. “So I was just waiting for a time that I was gonna be able to move out of the dorms. I talked to [OSU] Coach [Craig Robinson], and he told me I had to get good grades to be able to move out.”

Hoover, meanwhile, played the waiting game. He even quit his job at Albertsons so he’d be able to leave Santa Barbara at a moment’s notice.

“I knew it was coming, but with Roberto you don’t know when it’s gonna happen,” Hoover said. “If he says it’s gonna happen, it’s gonna happen. But you don’t know when. I was ready to get outta Santa Barbara and live a new life.”

In July 2010, the moment Hoover had been waiting for arrived.

“Roberto called me and was like, ‘Pack your bags, I’m going to be there in 30 minutes. You’re coming back [to Corvallis] with me and Joe [Burton] on the plane,’” Hoover said.

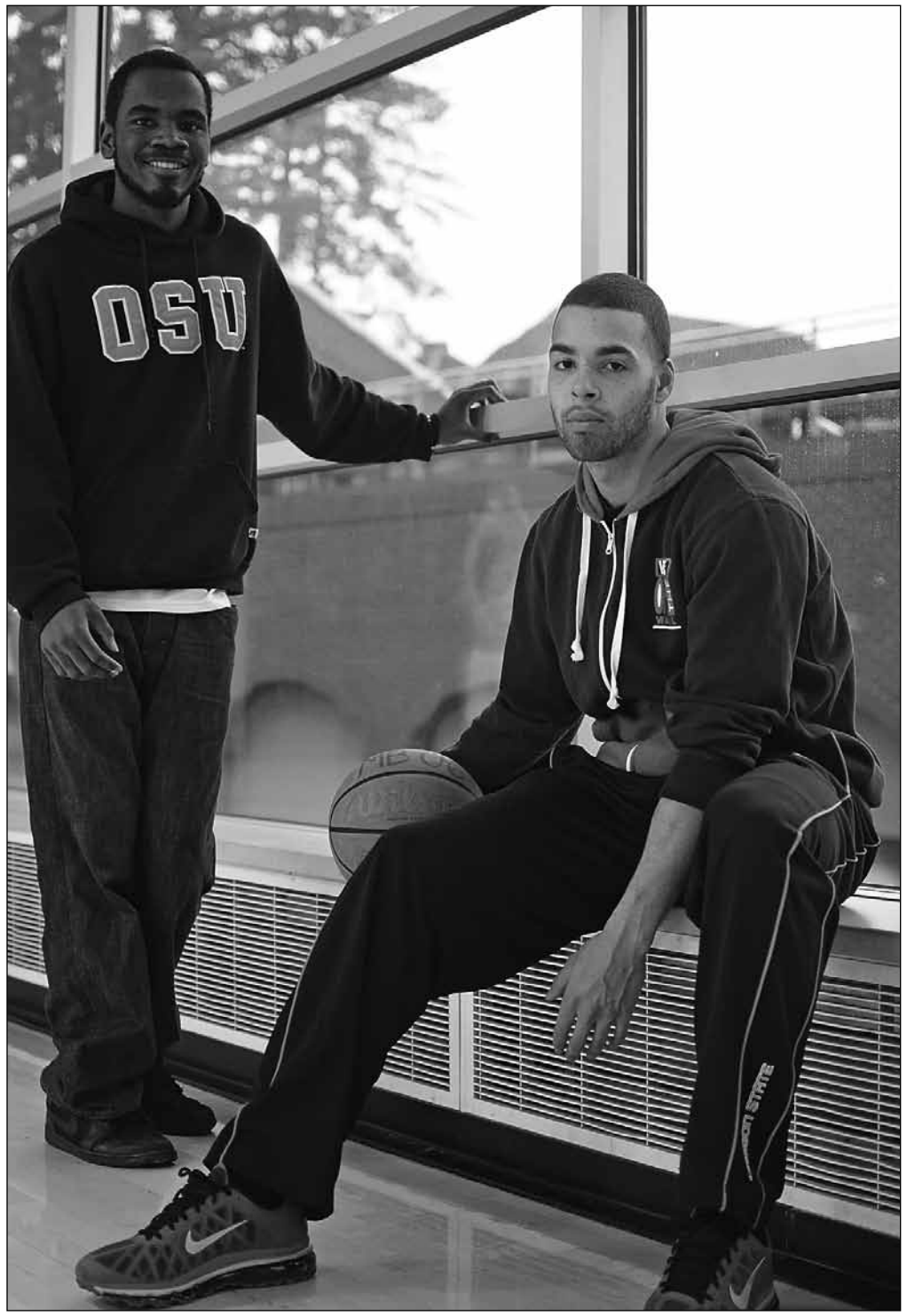
“We saw how he was living in Santa Barbara

See **HOOVER/NELSON** | page 6



JOHN ZHANG | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Johnathon Hoover has watched Roberto Nelson play basketball since they were in elementary school. Now, he watches him at Gill.



ALEXANDRA TAYLOR | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Nelson and Hoover used to spend hours shooting together in their high school gym or at a hoop outside one of their houses.

Student Incidental Fee Open Hearing

FEE LEVELS 2011-2012

FEES ARE PER STUDENT, PER TERM

Budget Board	Fall / Winter/ Spring Fee Level	Summer Fee Level
ASOSU	\$20.44	\$12.50
Athletics	\$42.18	None
Counseling and Psychological Services	\$35.23	\$35.23
Diversity Development	\$12.81	\$8.30
Educational Activities	\$12.12	\$8.50
Memorial Union	\$65.78	\$59.80
Music Ensembles	\$4.71	None
Our Little Village	\$3.95	None
Recreational Sports	\$66.20	\$56.93
Student Health Services	\$100.53	\$100.53
Student Sustainability Initiative	\$11.86	None
SIFC Administration	\$18.41	None
Bad Debt Expense	\$0.25	\$0.25
Contingency	\$1.00	\$1.00
Student Facilities Improvements*	\$17.00	\$12.50
Total	\$412.47	\$295.54

*Includes [Student Legacy Park/McAlexander Fieldhouse Renovation](#) and [Student Experience Center](#).

**Due to delays in legislative approval for the SEC, the fee (48.00) for the project was NOT collected, and has temporarily been removed from the total. The same will apply to fee collection for Winter Term 2012.

You, a student at OSU, currently pay

\$412.47 EVERY TERM

in student fees! Don't you wish you could prevent increases to that fee? Or even help decide what you want *your* money to pay for?

Come to the SIFC Open Hearing this Thursday, 6pm in the MU ballroom. This is the **ONLY** time of year the committee actively seeks input and opinions from OSU students at large, but we need you to come and **give us your input!** The incidental fee is set by your student peers, but you need to tell them what you want to fund!

View the budgets and more information at oregonstate.edu/SIFC

6PM, MU Ballroom

THURSDAY, MARCH 1ST

Tell us how you want *your* money spent

An unbreakable bond



ALEXANDRA TAYLOR | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Roberto Nelson and Johnathon Hoover have always had each other's backs during tough times. Now, they're fulfilling a pact they made together years ago by sticking together in college.

Through life's ups and downs, Roberto Nelson, Johnathon Hoover have always been there for each other

By Grady Garrett
THE DAILY BAROMETER

He'd talked about his mom's drug addiction. He'd talked about his biological dad's lack of presence in his life. He'd talked about the tragic death of his father figure.

Johnathon Hoover rehashed it all without the slightest quiver in his voice.

He was confident, unshaken, like a man who'd come to terms with the fact that life dealt him a bad hand; a man who held no grudges.

But as soon as he recalled the people who once questioned his best friend Roberto Nelson's loyalty, his tone began to change drastically.

Tonight, Roberto Nelson will take the floor of Gill Coliseum looking to help the Oregon State men's basketball team snap a five-game losing streak.

Johnathon Hoover will watch from his row eight seat in section K, the same spot he takes in each Beaver home game.

Because he was born with cerebral palsy and without Achilles tendons, Hoover has never been able to play sports competitively.

So he's reduced to watching.

But that's just a footnote in this 20-year-old's remarkable journey — a journey he's shared with Nelson.

Johnathon Hoover spent the first four years of his life living under his grandma's roof.

That was because his mom was a drug addict. The only time he'd see her, he says, was when she'd come around to take his urine for her drug test.

"Then she'd leave," he said.

His biological dad was never a part of his life — Hoover has only seen him three times.

After his grandma's passing in 1995, Hoover (then Johnathon Green) moved in with James Hoover, his mom's friend, who he refers to as his

dad.

Johnathon has called half a dozen households in Santa Barbara, Calif. home, but James Hoover's was the only one he truly felt comfortable in.

"He was my best friend, in addition to being my dad," Hoover said.

Two days after Johnathon started seventh grade, James Hoover was diagnosed with lung cancer.

A month later, he passed away. Johnathon was devastated.

"I was on the verge of giving everything up," he said. "I felt like I had nothing else to live for."

Enter: Roberto Nelson.

The two had been friends since elementary school. In junior high, they grew closer. After James Hoover's death, they became inseparable.

"I didn't really want to be at home after my dad died," Hoover said. "So I started going to Roberto's more. He made sure I kept my mind off things. When I needed someone to talk to, he'd be the one who would listen to me."

"He opened up to me a lot, and I respected him for that," Nelson said. "And I respected him for making it through all the things he'd been through and not ever complaining."

Johnathon was in and out of several homes after the passing of James Hoover, but no situation felt right.

Naturally, he started spending nights at Nelson's.

Hoover estimates that by his sophomore year of high school, he was staying at Nelson's three weeks out of a month.

"We became closer and closer each day," Nelson said. "I didn't really see him as a friend anymore, I saw him as a brother. He became an instant family member to me and my family."

Home was technically the house of James Hoover's cousin, but the only time Johnathon would go home was if he worked the late shift at

the local Albertsons. That was because he didn't want Nelson to have to stay up late to pick him up from work.

On the surface, it may have seemed as though their friendship revolved around Hoover's dependence on Nelson.

But it worked both ways.

When Nelson's dad was sent to prison in 2008, it was Hoover who helped him cope.

"Him having such a positive attitude and such a positive outlook on life, it just made it a lot easier for me to realize that life didn't stop there," Nelson said.

...

Freshman year was when the pact was made.

College was still four years down the road, but Nelson didn't care.

"I was like, 'Man, I want you to follow me wherever I go,'" Nelson said.

"At first I thought he was joking," Hoover said.

Apparently, everyone thought it was a really bad joke.

"Everyone was like, 'He's not going to look out for you like he says he is, he is gonna have you

come up there and he's gonna leave you, he's not gonna let you stay with him,'" Hoover said. "Any excuse in the book."

As Hoover recalled the conversations he had with countless people at Santa Barbara High, he began to spit his words out quicker and his voice began to rise.

"I would tell them, 'What is he getting out of taking me to Oregon, what is he getting out of it?'" Hoover said. "He has everything he wants, he's playing basketball, doing what he wants to do ... what is he getting out of it? What is he getting out of it?"

It got so bad, Hoover said, that one day four school administrators pulled him out of class, locked him in a room and begged him to stay in

"We became closer and closer each day. I didn't really see him as a friend anymore, I saw him as a brother. He became an instant family member."

Roberto Nelson
Sophomore guard

Men's basketball hosts Utah

■ The Beavers have lost 5 straight since defeating Utah in Salt Lake in February

By Alex Crawford
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The last time the Beavers beat Utah was the last time they beat anybody.

Since their Feb. 4 win in Salt Lake City, Oregon State has lost five in a row and lost pretty much all chances of making a tournament other than the CBI.

Some Oregon State fans would consider this season to be a let down after the 10-2 non-conference start, while others would simply say that this team needs time to become the team they have the potential to be.

Either way, if the Beavers could have chosen any team to play right now, while stuck in the tar pit of losing, it would be the Utes.

Utah comes in with one win following an eight-game losing streak. No matter how down-and-out the Utes might seem, no matter how handily the Beavers beat them last time (18 points), coach Craig Robinson warns that they are still capable of beating the Beavers tonight.

"I think they're a different team than when we played them. They've got confidence, they're playing well, they've seen us, so we've got to be prepared and what I've tried to remind our guys is that we were in their position when I first came into this league," Robinson said. "They're going to be playing loose and confident and we've got to make sure that we take care of our business."

The Beavers have lost a lot of close games this season and Beaver fans are anxious for their team to finally get it together. The talent is there, but it seems that at key times in the game, little slip-ups lead to close losses. The Beavers' team leader, albeit a non-vocal one, Jared Cunningham echoed this.

"We're gonna have to execute, play as a team and play the whole 40 minutes," Cunningham said. "We're gonna have to build some momentum going into this tournament and to do that we're gonna have to win these last two games."

Utah is led by its center, Jason Washburn, who comes in averaging 10.8 points and 6.3 rebounds per game. When the two teams last met, Washburn had a career day with 15 points and eight blocks.

Even though their leading scorer is their center, the Utes are reminiscent of a poor man's Mike D'Antoni Suns in the way that they like to run and shoot.

"They play up and down the floor. They like to run plays to get their shooters open," Cunningham said. "They have shooters and once they have momentum they can be dangerous."

As easy as this win might look on paper, no win has come easily for the Beavers since Pac-12 play started. Beaver Nation and Robinson are doing everything short of black magic to try and exorcise this team's losing demons right now. Despite the adversity, Robinson remains optimistic.

"I think everybody understands on this team that our record doesn't necessarily show our talent level," Robinson said. "We've got six or seven games that we lost by five points or less and they've all been against teams that are higher than us, so we know we've got the ability to play with these guys, we just have to have some finishing touches."

Alex Crawford, sports writer
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