

The Daily Barometer

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From the closet to candidate



JACKIE SEUS | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Dan Cushing recently came out as a bisexual and is running for vice president of ASOSU. He is active in his fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon.

■ A vice presidential candidate's journey in coming to terms with himself, his sexuality

By Don Iler

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Dan Cushing said he had an announcement to make.

It was his fraternity's (Sigma Phi Epsilon) weekly chapter meeting, and Cushing walked to the front of the room filled with his fraternity brothers. Even before he opened his mouth, friendly jeers and jokes came from the crowd.

Cushing had a secret and he didn't want to keep it a secret any longer.

The journey to this point had not been easy for Cushing, but he finally felt comfortable enough to share it with the men he lived with and had built relationships with over the last few years.

He knew it was something he had to do — something that he couldn't hold inside.

"I'm coming out of the bisexual closet," Cushing announced.

Later tonight, Dan Cushing will be staying up late waiting for election results. He is a candidate for Associated Students of Oregon State University vice president and it will be the culmination of three weeks of campaigning. But his confidence shows on the campaign trail as he has been trying to get elected.

"He's more confident with himself now that he is out and isn't carrying a big secret around," said Austin Rondema, Cushing's big brother in the fraternity and a past president.

His confidence may come from the fact that he is not keeping his sexuality a secret any longer.

"He looks like he's more relieved but he's always been a really happy guy with a smile on his face," said Billy Eason, a freshman that Cushing recruited to the fraternity over the summer.

Coming out is a difficult journey and is different for everyone. It happens at different ages and in different ways. Sometimes it is a public affair and sometimes it's private, between friends or family.

But it is a challenge for everyone who comes out, even for a man like Cushing.

Cushing is handsome. He stands at 5 feet 11 inches, has short blond hair, blue eyes and an irrepressible smile. He is a leader and a presence around campus. He has served in the ASOSU senate the last two years and as vice president of recruitment of his fraternity. He is a student in the Honors College and is pursuing a double major in philosophy and political science.

But all of these things did not make it any easier for Cushing to embrace his sexuality.

"I acted straight my whole life," Cushing said. "I wasn't sure if it was a phase or if these feelings I was having were real."

But it wasn't a phase, and the feelings didn't go away.

Cushing served as vice president of recruitment for his fraternity last summer. He lived with one of his fraternity brothers, Elliott O'Bryan, who assisted him while they were based in Beaverton.

The two grew close over the summer, traveling around the state to recruit what amounted to 56 men.

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Scholar to speak on women in science

■ Lecture part of president's, provost's series, to be held in the Memorial Union at 3

By Vinay Ramakrishnan

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Sue Rosser, provost and executive vice president of academic affairs at San Francisco State University, will be speaking at Oregon State University on April 30 at 3 p.m. in the Memorial Union Journey room.

Rosser's talk will focus on careers for women in science and engineering and is free and open to the public. Rosser has recently published a book titled "Breaking into the Lab: Engineering Careers for Women in Science."

According to Susan Shaw, transitional director of the school of language, culture and society at OSU, Rosser will focus on "why there are so few women in science, and why so few elite institutions have tenured women in science and engineering on their faculties."

Sue Rosser's books will also be available for purchase at the event. Shaw added that "the event is being sponsored by the Provost's Speakers fund, the President's Commission on the Status of Women and Women's

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Corvallis man dies from rooftop fall

■ Police investigation continues, suggests man intentionally jumped from Covell rooftop

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon State Police identified a man who died Thursday morning after falling from the roof of Covell Hall as Dylan McKinnon, 26, of Corvallis.

Two Oregon State University students reportedly found McKinnon in critical condition lying in the parking lot by Covell Hall, on the north side of campus, shortly after 2:30 a.m. OSP said McKinnon told the two students he fell approximately 50 feet from the roof to the area where he was found.

The Corvallis Fire Department transported McKinnon to Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center, but he died en route.

Police added that the death is not suspicious and appears to be the result of an intentional act. Lt. Steve Mitchell of OSP said the incident will not be labeled a suicide until more details return from the medical examiner.

"We believe he jumped off the building on purpose, intentionally, to sustain injuries," Mitchell said.

Early police investigation suggests McKinnon was not an OSU student, nor was he known to have any affiliation with the university.

Staff

737-2231 news@dailybarometer.com

Letters, pies, it's election time oh my!



MITCH LEA | THE DAILY BAROMETER

General elections for ASOSU end tonight at 10 p.m. Yesterday, Dan Cushing, left, and Amelia Harris spent their afternoon encouraging students to write letters to at-risk elementary school youth. Drew Hatlen, right, got pied in the face during his "pie your favorite candidate" event.

Cloud and Kelly hosting benefit for Parkinson's

■ Proceeds to go to Brian Grant Foundation, which supports individuals with Parkinson's

By Drew Wilson-McGrath
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Cloud & Kelly's Public House, formerly Cloud 9, will be hosting a 007 Benefit for Parkinson's disease on Saturday, April 28 from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Oregon State senior in interior design Julia Payton organized the event as a means of celebrating her 25th birthday and bringing awareness to a life-altering disease.

"It happens to more people than just Michel J. Fox," Payton said.

The event, titled "Shaken, Not Stirred: A Golden Birthday Bash Benefiting Parkinson's Disease Resources," will

feature the talents of Travis Adams and Tyler Sessa, Corvallis locals respectively known by the stage names DJ Travesty and DJ Sessnutz. They will be providing some thumping tunes for the entertainment and informational packets on Parkinson's disease will be handed out throughout the duration of the event.

Proceeds from the event, including the \$2 cover at the door, will go to the Brian Grant Foundation, set up by the former Trailblazer and NBA star. The foundation lends monetary and emotional support to individuals in our country living with Parkinson's disease.

"Brian Grant was a childhood favorite of mine," Payton said. "When I was trying to figure out what I wanted to do for my birthday, I ran across some information saying that when he retired, he announced that he also had

Parkinson's."

Normally, this wouldn't have affected Payton at all. However, recent events in her life have forced her to take a deeper look at herself and her potential vulnerability to an affliction that affects approximately one million American citizens a year.

"Having a familial essential tremor or that, in the future, could develop into Parkinson's disease, made it a no-brainer for me," Payton said. "I picked a foundation that focuses on helping people learn how to live with a new lifestyle with PD, not just research it."

Drew Wilson-McGrath, reporter
news@dailybarometer.com
On Twitter: @dailybarometer

Hundreds killed since start of U.N. mission, opposition says

A Syrian opposition group says it has documented hundreds of deaths since the U.N. peace plan monitors began their work last week.

It has verified the identities of 462 people slain since April 16, when the mission started, the opposition Local Coordination Committees of Syria said Thursday. The number includes 34 children.

"Violent gunfire and bombing on Syrian cities haven't stopped," the LCC said.

The monitors report Syria is in "contravention" of its

government's commitment to withdraw its troops and heavy weapons from population centers, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in a statement released by his office.

The U.N. observers are tasked with monitoring the implementation of Kofi Annan's six-point peace plan, which calls for President Bashar al-Assad's government and the opposition to end the bloodshed, allow humanitarian groups access to the population, release detainees

and start a political dialogue. Annan is the U.N. and Arab League envoy to Syria.

The U.N. Security Council recently authorized sending up to 300 monitors to Syria for 90 days. But as of Wednesday, only 13 were in Syria.

Syria's information minister said "armed terrorist groups" have committed more than 1,300 violations of a cease-fire since April 12, said the state-run Syrian Arab News Agency, known as SANA. It also reported four Russians will be part of an observer advance team,

but that could not be immediately confirmed.

Annan said earlier Syria's foreign minister told him that heavy weapons and troops had been withdrawn from population centers and that military operations had ended, key elements of the peace plan. But reports of shelling and fighting have been dramatic in recent days. Activists say that a military rocket attack Wednesday killed more than 70 people in the city of Hama.

—CNN

CUSHING

Continued from page 3

Eventually Cushing felt comfortable enough one night to let O'Bryan know what none of his other friends knew.

Cushing was scared and started to speak, stumbling over the words.

"He interrupted me and said, 'Dude, I'm sorry to interrupt, but it doesn't really matter to me. I love you no matter what and you've been a great person to me. Whatever kind of person you are, it doesn't matter to me.'"

It was finally out there and there was no taking it back. But Cushing felt relieved.

"It's a real burdensome thing to keep inside. You can't really be honest with someone," Cushing said.

Fraternities, for better or for worse, are associated with stereotypes. Even those who join might have a preconceived notion of how they might appear as a bastion of masculinity to those outside of the community.

Cushing said part of the reason he joined a fraternity is because he thought it might straighten him out.

"Part of the process of coming out is exploring different gender expressions and different identities. I had the stereotypical impression of fraternities as being a place of ultimate masculinity,"

Cushing said. "I was obviously wrong in a lot of ways, but I thought as part of my exploration process that being in contact with that would clarify things for me. Contrary to being a stronghold of chauvinism or traditional masculinity and heterosexism, it was in fact a very warm and welcoming environment for many different identity types."

Cushing feels he is allowed to be free and to be himself. He thinks that comes from the bonds he has built with the others in the fraternity.

"It wasn't being in a fraternity that prevented me from coming out, the world did," Cushing said.

Cushing said it was hard growing up in a hetero-centric world and that hearing derogatory words sometimes forced him into siding with one side of his identity over the other.

"Every time someone hears something like 'that's so gay,' it discourages them from coming out," Cushing said.

On his way up to the front of the room to speak during the chapter meeting, someone shouted, "He's coming out," thinking that it might get a few laughs.

Little did they know he was about to. But after Cushing announced that he was bisexual, his fraternity broth-

ers erupted in applause, and he was greeted with pats on the back and hugs.

"We were proud to see him get up there and say it," Rondema said. "It hasn't changed the dynamics at all."

Cushing is known for being a personable guy who likes to be there for people and for being a real go-getter. His coming out doesn't seem to have changed that.

"It hasn't changed anything at all. We fully support him and his decisions," Eason said. "I support him in whatever he does."

Just because Cushing has come out doesn't mean that his friends are less likely to joke around with him or treat him different.

After making his announcement and being applauded by his brothers, Cushing went to his seat.

One of his fraternity brothers went to slap him on the rear right before he sat down.

"Just because you're out doesn't mean I'm going to treat you any different."

Don Iler, managing editor
news@dailybarometer.com
On Twitter: @doniler

SCIENCE

Continued from page 1

Studies."

Rosser has a bachelor of arts in French and zoology, and a master's and Ph.D. in zoology, all from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

She assumed her current position in August 2009, after serving for 10 years as dean of Ivan Allen College, the liberal arts college at Georgia Institute of

Technology. Prior to being at Georgia Tech, Rosser held senior positions in women's studies at the University of Florida, Gainesville and at the University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Rosser's visit is part of the President and Provost's speaker series.

"The President and Provost's speaker series is a


lecture series that the president and provost's office supports," said Michelle Kutzler, chair and treasurer of the President's Commission on the Status of Women and an associate professor in the department of animal sciences.

"The purpose of the President and Provost's speaker series is to bring to

campus speakers who can speak on topics of concern that have been raised by the community and brought to PCOSW," Kutzler said.

Vinay Ramakrishnan
news@dailybarometer.com
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Editorial

Yeas & Nays

Nay to being an unfortunate couple.

Yea to the NFL Draft, the weekend where everyone thinks their team has a chance to become Super Bowl contenders next year. That's until the season starts, and you realize your team sucks as much as they did before.

Nay to Andrew Luck. This is a personal thing with us, but we hate so much of what Andrew Luck chooses to be. The way in which Luck is talked about as the greatest quarterback of all time is just too much for us to handle.

Yea to today being the last day to vote in the ASOSU elections.

Nay to no one caring.

Yea to the NBA playoffs starting this weekend. There are so many exciting matchup possibilities and no clear number one teams.

Nay to dubious distinctions. After this season, Michael Jordan, the greatest player of all time, is now officially the worst NBA executive/owner of all time.

Yea to Kimye. Kimye, you ask? It's the new couple name for Kanye West and Kim Kardashian, who have decided to start dating to create the most egocentric offspring in the history of the world. In a weird way, we're kind of excited for this.

Yea to the good men and women of the Transportation Security Administration for doing everything they can to keep us safe.

Nay to that resulting in the aggressive pat down of a crying 4-year-old girl. It seems TSA agents got a little carried away at a Kansas airport, after the troublemaker had the audacity to hug her mother while the mother was getting a pat down from the TSA agents. TSA, job well done. Well done. This will teach future generations not to be troublemakers.

Yea to drive-thru surprises. A cow named Darcy in Brush, Colo. escaped her pen and made a half mile trek to the local McDonald's. We think Darcy just wanted to visit some friends and family.

Nay to that awkward moment when Darcy was brought a Happy Meal to-go by an unsuspecting McDonald's worker. We don't think it was a happy meal for Darcy to receive at all.

Yea to have a fashionable sense of humor. A Chinese fashion farm has named its new line of sunglasses Helen Keller. Yes, Helen Keller. We don't think we need to explain this further.

Yea to fan devotion.

Nay to taking that devotion to a whole new level. An Idaho man has been charged with assault after he allegedly ordered a man to "moon-walk" at gunpoint.

Yea to the weekend. Enjoy it because midterms and projects are fast approaching and at this same time next week, this campus will be overtaken by thousands of OSU moms. So go to Impulse or Peacock, take a bike ride, play bocce ball, run on a treadmill, find a future spouse — do something with your life this weekend.

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.

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.

The Daily Barometer
c/o Letters to the editor
Memorial Union East 106
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-1617

or e-mail: editor@dailybarometer.com

Cushing, Harris — problems of today, goals for future

Cushing & Harris

Guest Column

These past few weeks have been quite a whirlwind of activity as we have shared our vision for a better Oregon State University. Our slogan, "Growing Together: Leadership with Integrity," captures what we know OSU students deserve, and it is what we are excited to bring if you elect us.

This campaign has been about bridging gaps — between student organizations, between student communities and between students and student leaders. Our commitment to collaborating with students isn't just a way of getting votes. It's part of the ethics that drives us as student leaders and it's what we will continue to do for the next year.

The amount of dedication and passion students contribute to our OSU community is incredible. For the past few years, we have witnessed the time and talents of students from a vast array of student organizations.

Consider, for example, the student leaders of the Native American Students Association who volunteer countless hours preparing for the annual Pow Wow.

Or Greek organizations that come together every year to organize Greek

Week to raise money for charity.

Or the members of the Blood Drive Association who work with the American Red Cross every term to collect blood and the hundreds of students who pour out their hearts to them, literally, to save lives. These are just a few organizations among hundreds.

We have seen so many of your talents and have been amazed by your passion.

We also see that even though life here at OSU is amazing, it is ever in need of improvement.

International and graduate students pay student fees and yet have little representation when ASOSU lobbies at the government. Students, particularly women and LGBT students, do not always feel safe when walking home from their night classes and are told to walk in pairs out of concern for their safety. Students are struggling to pay tuition, textbooks and living expenses as need-based aid is coming up short.

We look forward to addressing these and many other issues in the

upcoming year. We will continuously seek your feedback to make sure that our work represents student voices.

Our dedication to using student fees responsibly goes beyond following the norm or taking the easy way out. You may have read some of the articles that came out recently about Amelia's work in the office of legal advising. The article's message has been profoundly positive and we thank the Barometer for its investigative reporting on this issue.

What it has shown is that as a student leader, Amelia has worked tirelessly to protect student fees from being spent unjustly. Even though it meant standing up to an independent contractor who has been here for 28 years, Amelia did what was right by all students, which is exactly what we will continue to do as president and vice president.

We are committed to representing all students, even when it means doing what's difficult. For example, Dan recently introduced a Senate bill supporting the creation of a cultural center for students who identify as Middle Eastern. Students with cultural roots in nations ranging from northern Africa to Pakistan

are currently underrepresented on this campus, which is an issue that has been avoided by student leaders because of its potential for controversy.

In a recent meeting, the Student Academics and Activities Committee heard from a group of students from a variety of countries who were in support of his bill. The bill creates a task force charged with carrying out the project over the next few years, starting by gathering input from a variety of stakeholder groups. During our administration, we will continue to ensure representation of all students while keeping student fees low.

The support that OSU students have shown to our vision has been incredible. We are so excited to continue sharing our priorities and commitment to student issues in the general election as our campaign facilitates "bridge y ness" to support the entire student body. The journey we have taken connecting with student voters at events in the quad, student organization meetings and campus activities reaffirms our mission to lead ASOSU to a better future.

Amelia Harris and Dan Cushing

Truth behind the reasons, origin and culprits of the lie

When I was six years old, my mother told me, "He who lies, steals also." She wasn't far off, because the following year, I stole 25 cents from her purse. I was on my way to a life of crime.

We are all liars at one time or another. As a word, it seems pretty straightforward, doesn't it? After all, isn't it rather obvious that a lie is an untruth? Yet lying is something that is rather hard to define.

If a lie were that simple to define, then why were we punished as children for saying that we didn't break the vase and not punished for swearing there was a dragon in the laundry room? Since imagination is also a form of untruth, when does it become a lie?

Most psychologists say the average age that we start lying is around the age of four. Some bright and motivated children start precociously at the age of three.

But why do children start lying? Sometimes not being able to distinguish reality from fantasy, a way to test the waters, some children try to manipulate their world. Sometimes it's about fear of consequences, as lying becomes a means to either get



Angela Cail

A nontraditional view

out of trouble or to procure what the child wants.

As we get older, we learn the moral value of not lying, although "white lies" are still considered necessary, as are lies of omission. Many times, white lies help us navigate tricky waters, soothe a loved one, manage a social situation and sometimes attain prestige. Lies of omission save our pride, save our reputation, save our finances and sometimes save our marriage.

But is may not make lying an acceptable practice.

Although a certain amount of lying is normal, it should still be the exception rather than the rule. If it's the rule, it is compulsive lying — although we all tend to be compulsive liars, to some extent. It's about controlling our own world and that involves trying to control how others see us, and how we see ourselves.

But lying isn't just about deceiving

others, it is also a form of self-deception; we often lie to ourselves. There are many times that we are unaware we are even telling a lie.

A Journal of Basic and Applied Psychology study reports that during a ten-minute conversation, 60 percent of people had lied an average of 2.92 times. Researchers also found that extroverts lie more than introverts, men and women lie equally and everyone tells lies at the workplace. More lies are told to loved ones than acquaintances — it is easier to lie to someone "who matters."

In a sense, we expect some people to lie. We have even stereotyped some people as liars — for instance, used car salesmen, marketing agencies and politicians. Telling the absolute truth could produce some disastrous results in our society, the consequences of which have been portrayed in movies such as "Liar, Liar" and "Crazy People."

While there may be no definite way in spotting a lie, there are certain behaviors that could be indicative of lying.

UCLA professor of psychology R. Edward Geiselman has analyzed body language for many years

and offers these clues that maybe a person could be lying: avoiding eye contact, looking down or away; a change in the tone of voice or even the speed in which the speaker speaks; fidgeting, turning away, covering the mouth and face, folding one's arms close to the body; even excessive blinking has been linked to lying.

The fact of the matter is that no matter how noble we think ourselves to be, we all lie. Unfortunately, we have high expectations from others that they should not lie to us.

When we catch someone in a lie, we feel outraged, hurt and deceived. When we are caught in a lie we feel embarrassed, uncomfortable and sometimes even defensive.

Nietzsche once said, "I'm not upset that you lied to me, I'm upset that from now on, I can't believe you."

The truth is, there is no absolute truth — believe me, I don't lie, at least not all of the time.

Angela Cail is a sophomore in new media communications. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Cail can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

Children know best on how to overcome the negativity

Remember when you were a kid? All of those toys and games, all of that fun you had. You didn't have a worry in the world.

But now, we're adults. We have worries and stresses every day — especially as a student. You have to write that paper but can't figure out how to start. That big physics test is coming up and you still haven't mastered the equations. It's all stress, stress and more stress. Why can't we just go back to being kids again?

What if I told you that you can? No, I'm not about to sell you some pill that will make you have less anxiety, or claim that I have a time machine. Every single one of us has the ability to go back to the fun-loving, stress-free, positive outlook that we had as kids.

It all boils down to one concept: positive-belief. If you're reading this thinking I'm going to go all "Anthony Robbins" on you, don't worry, I'm



Alexander Vervloet

The weekly rant - @R

going to come from a different angle.

We live in a world of negativity. All of us feel so much stress, not because we have a full agenda, but because we approach it in a negative way. Of course the media doesn't help with its stream of negativity and neither does all of the complaining we hear around us.

Just from sitting on a bench outside and listening to people walk by, it often sounds like the world is going to end; everyone has things to complain about. If you sit on a bench near a playground, it sounds like the single best day in the world, as all you hear is laughter and hap-

piness (until little Timmy steals a toy from someone).

Why are these so different? The obvious argument is that children don't have responsibilities; they don't have things to worry about. While the argument may be valid, to be honest, neither do we.

What do we really have to be so worried about, especially as students? The media would have you believe that you need to walk around with constant caution, fearing for your life — there are certainly enough bad stories to support that claim.

But here's where I'm going to come from left field: Out of all of the deaths that you hear about, how many of them are children, particularly 12 and under kids?

If you pay attention, most deaths are teenagers and adults. Does the media just not report the deaths of children? No, they would eat that up. Are adults more reckless than chil-

dren? I'm going to answer this with a question: Have you watched kids? It's a wonder that half of them don't kill themselves with some of the stupid, dangerous stuff we watch them do.

Very few adults can climb a tree more than a few feet high without getting scared, yet youngsters are climbing high into them, often causing parents to practically wet themselves in fear.

With all of these ventures into danger, why are so many children coming out unscathed? Positive-thinking. Children believe they can do it, so they do.

As adults, we have built up so many inhibitions and fears that when we do try something crazy, we often get hurt, not because we can't do it or we're bad at the action, but because we build up so much fear we end up executing a self-fulfilling

At Random by Ryan Mason

It's an adorable little poem and everything, but are you hiding jewelry or something meaningful from me?



Ryan Mason is a sophomore in graphic design

VERVLOET

Continued from page 5

prophecy.

Everyone has heard of "beginner's luck." Many wonder what it is and a lot of people call it a myth. I'm here to tell you that beginner's luck is a lack of inhibition. No mental boxes have been formed telling the newcomer that something does or doesn't work, so they go into it with an open, positive mind and end up outperforming all of the "veterans."

This idea of positive-thinking doesn't just pertain to approaching critical situations, but to everyday tasks as well.

Children love helping mom around the house and going to school. College students often dread these things. When we dread these things, they become stressful, they take longer, we end up doing a worse job and then the criticism we get in return only adds to the stress.

However, we can all remember that one day where we felt great and approached a task with excitement. It flew by, we did a great job and we went on to find something else to do.

For instance, more often

than not, we don't dread starting a term paper because we are unfamiliar with the topic. We simply have worked ourselves up to the point where we are no longer able to organize our thoughts clearly.

Once you get a paper started, it often starts to write itself. This is because the intro gives us the confidence we need to change our thoughts into a positive, "OK, I can do this" mentality.

Approaching life with a positive outlook is difficult for many of us. We're in a time of rampant negative existentialism and nihilism. But when we try to remember the good parts of life, and the fun we can have, the mindset often causes us to perform multitudes better than before.

If you're having difficulty looking at life positively, try this: Every night, either before bed or while falling asleep, think of everything you're thankful for (it's not just reserved for Thanksgiving). Try to come up with every part of your life that you appreciate. It doesn't matter that this will remain consistent from night to night — just the simple act

of doing this will help your mind be more apt to approach life positively.

Life is a playground. We often forget this, but almost every invention and innovation came about because the creator enjoyed what they were doing. There are a lot of articles coming out about how certain majors in college have a low "payout" upon graduating, but I'd argue doing something you don't enjoy has an even lower one.

Before I leave you to go to your next class, or actually start listening to that person talking in the front of the classroom, I want everyone to do one last thing. As corny as this sounds, make the effort to give someone a compliment. And not on something superficial, give them a genuine compliment.

Our life is full of criticism these days, and compliments have become few and far between. Let's all be the positive-thinking children we remember.

Alexander Vervloet is a junior in communication. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Vervloet can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

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Former aide questioned in Edwards case

John Edwards' defense team hammered away at a former campaign aide on Thursday after he was quizzed about his motives and asked whether he made up stories about how Edwards allegedly concealed contributions from campaign donors.

On day four of the trial, Andrew Young, the former aide, said "we lost our perspective" during cross examinations, acknowledging using donations for personal expenses at a California home. Young, testifying in U.S. District Court in Greensboro, North Carolina, said he used the funds in constructing a pool and a theater.

Young is considered the government's star witness against Edwards, a former Democratic senator and presidential candidate from North Carolina who is accused of using hundreds of thousands of dollars of donations to conceal his affair with a campaign videographer without reporting the money to federal authorities.

The money was allegedly used to hide his pregnant mistress from the public so he could continue his 2008 presidential bid.

Wednesday was the first day the defense cross-examined

Young, and they focused mostly on apparent inconsistencies between Young's public statements and things he wrote in a book about the case.

For example, Young has described a time when Edwards returned home from a trip overseas with a phone purportedly given to him by his mistress, Rielle Hunter, the videographer. Young said Edwards was asleep when the phone rang, and Edwards' wife, Elizabeth, answered.

Hunter began talking, assuming John Edwards was on the other end of the line.

Under cross-examination, Young admitted he had no firsthand knowledge of the story.

Defense attorney Abbe Lowell also questioned Young's assertion that Edwards refused to take a call from Hunter as she left for the hospital to have Edwards' baby, something Young described as "bone-chilling" in its disregard. Lowell pointed out Hunter later said Edwards had, in fact, called her.

Prosecutors say Edwards broke federal law by accepting about \$725,000 from 101-year-old heiress Rachel "Bunny" Mellon and more

than \$200,000 from another donor, Fred Baron, a now-deceased Texas lawyer who was his finance chairman.

The money was used to pay for Hunter's living and medical expenses, travel and accommodations to keep her out of sight while Edwards made his White House run, prosecutors say.

Edwards is accused of concealing the money from the public and the Federal Election Commission, which polices political contributions, by filing false and misleading campaign disclosure reports.

Young is testifying for the prosecution under a cooperation agreement with the hope that he won't be prosecuted.

He testified Tuesday that he let Hunter move in with him and his wife at Edwards' request, after newspapers began looking into a possible affair within the Edwards campaign.

Wednesday, Young testified that the two donors, Mellon and Baron, were not only aware of the living arrangements but also funded Hunter's expenses while she lived there.

Mellon was already funding Hunter's expenses when

Young called Baron and complained about the situation, according to testimony Wednesday. Baron offered to help out, telling Young to write up Hunter's expenses so Baron could reimburse them.

Neither Baron nor Mellon appeared to know that the other was reimbursing Young for the same expenses, raising questions about whether and how much Young may have profited from the situation.

Hunter eventually moved to a gated community and the money continued to be used to pay her expenses.

Invoices for those alleged expenses, shown in court Wednesday, reveal a lifestyle many would consider expensive: \$37,700 for a rental house for the year, more than \$28,000 for a car, \$40,000 for cash expenses and nearly \$25,000 in other expenses.

The defense argues the money Edwards received from Mellon and Baron was for personal reasons: to protect Edwards' wife, Elizabeth, who was dying of cancer, and his family from public humiliation. Edwards has said his actions were wrong but insisted they were not illegal.

— CNN

Fresh report, of past Secret Service misconduct

The Secret Service continued to be rocked Thursday by allegations of its agents' transgressions, though one U.S. government official cautioned against assuming there are systemic problems or that they are not properly investigated.

The new claims include an account stemming from El Salvador described by CNN affiliate Seattle TV station KIRO as very similar to the Colombia prostitution scandal purportedly involving members of the Secret Service and other government agencies.

The U.S. government official acknowledged there had been missteps among Secret Service members, while adding that such problems are to be expected given the agency's 147-year history.

Amid calls by some Republicans for a broader congressional-led investigation, the official was also quick to defend the government's internal review

process and the role of the Secret Service's Office of Professional Responsibility in dealing with that agency.

"We have had employees that have engaged in misconduct," the official said. "People make mistakes."

Reports of other incidents involving members of the agency, which is charged with protecting the president and other top officials, as well as investigating criminal activity, have been brought to Congress, a congressional source said Thursday.

That includes the incident in El Salvador, which the congressional source said the Secret Service has told Congress it is looking into as well.

The KIRO report cited an unnamed U.S. government contractor who worked extensively with the Secret Service advance team in San Salvador before President Barack Obama's trip there in March 2011.

The source said he was

with about a dozen Secret Service agents and a few U.S. military specialists at a strip club in the city a few days before Obama arrived.

The men drank heavily at the club, and most of them paid extra for access to a VIP section where they were provided sexual favors in return for cash, the source told the station.

The station reported that the strip club's owner corroborated the allegations. The owner confirmed that a large number of agents, and some military escorts, "descended on his club" that week and were there at least three nights in a row, KIRO reported.

The owner said his club routinely takes care of high-ranking employees of the U.S. Embassy in San Salvador as well as visiting agents from the FBI and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, KIRO said. The owner said his reputation for "security" and "privacy" makes his strip club popular with "those who want to be discreet."

The government contractor source said he told the agents it was a "really bad idea" to take the strippers back to their hotel rooms, but

several agents bragged that they "did this all the time" and "not to worry about it," KIRO reported.

KIRO investigative reporter Chris Halsne told the CBS show "This Morning" on Thursday that he considers his source very credible, and he later told CNN that he had checked billing records, receipts, credentials and other information to confirm the contractor was with the Secret Service in Central America at the time of the incident.

The source told him about the alleged scandal last year, while Halsne was in El Salvador on a different story. Halsne said he pressed for details at that time, but the man didn't want any information from him to be used then in a news story. After the allegations involving Secret Service agents in Colombia surfaced, Halsne again pressed his source, who this time assented to the use of his account in the KIRO report.

CNN cannot independently confirm the allegations.

— CNN

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3	5	4	1	6	2	8	9	7
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CRAWFORD

Continued from page 7

dent athletes before they even think about marijuana.

The Centers for Disease Control reports that more than 37,000 deaths annually in the United States can be attributed to the use and abuse of alcohol. On the contrary, there has never been a death attributed to the use of marijuana.

Coach Mike Riley said after practice on Saturday that marijuana use "can't be a part of your program."

I can see where Riley is coming from because, typically, after one consumes cannabis they don't want to do anything and are decidedly lethargic. Lethargy and laziness are not exactly key components to making a bowl game or winning a national championship.

But the truth is, how successful a player is depends on his attitude much more than whether he likes to get high on the weekends.

If a player wants to be a lazy stoner then they will and they probably won't succeed, but there have been plenty of successful athletes who like to toké up on the ganja.

What a player does on their downtime is their business. Unless they are injecting themselves with anabolic steroids or taking HGH, the old men that run the NCAA need to leave them alone.

Ricky Williams, Michael Vick, Randy Moss and Michael Phelps are among some of the most well known pot smokers in athletics. These players succeed because of their hard work and self-discipline. They smoke pot, but still do what it takes to compete at the highest levels (no pun intended) in the world.

In addition to those big names, I have no doubt that there are plenty of OSU athletes who like to smoke and are still killing it in their respective sports.

It is time that college football coaches and the NCAA wake up

and smell the coffee. Marijuana use is probably the highest it has ever been — say what you want, flower children of the early 1970s, but a lot of people blaze these days.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 41 percent of the U.S. population has toked up in their lifetime, and I would bet that 100 percent know someone who has tried pot or smokes it regularly.

In addition, according to an article on athleticbusiness.com, positive marijuana tests at NCAA championship events increased from 28 during the 2008-09 season to 71 in 2009-10.

Obviously, no college coach wants their players abusing any substance. The fact of the matter is that college students drink, college students smoke pot and college students like to have a good time. Coaches shouldn't be harping on their players to abstain from drinking or smoking pot. Instead, they should be preaching the age-old motto, "everything in moderation."

Just as most of America has realized that abstinence failed as the primary doctrine of sex education in America, so will they soon realize that abstinence in terms of pot and alcohol will fail as well.

College football players are still college students, and college students like to party. Riley and the rest of the coaches in the NCAA, give our athletes a break and worry more about their performance on the field than their actions off it.

Alex Crawford, sports writer

Twitter: @dr_crawf

sports@dailybarometer.com

STRAUSBAUGH

Continued from page 7

this is still a deep group of wideouts. Markus Wheaton is known, but the rest all have a chance to secure bigger roles with this offense. I want to see how many times Mannion looks to Brandin Cooks, Kevin Cummings, and Micah Hatfield — who he feels comfortable with. It'll all dictate the report they have when games start. But there's one guy I'm especially excited to see play Saturday...

5. Obum Gwacham

"Boom" as he's known to the team, is probably the most captivating player on the Beavers right now. He's 6-foot-5 and has good speed and great hops for a tall guy. This is a receiver Mannion should be able to take a three-step drop in the red zone, toss it to the corner and feel totally safe that Gwacham will bring it down. But sometimes he is more lost than Matthew Fox and it makes you wonder how much more learning he needs to do.

4. Seeing how many INTs the secondary gets

MEN'S GOLF

Continued from page 7

in the Pac-10 Championship — three shots ahead of Arizona State, 11 shots ahead of Washington State and 38 shots behind champion USC.

But the story for the Beavers last year was Alex Moore's performance. The senior (then junior) finished second individually, losing a seven-hole playoff to USC's Martin Trainer.

Moore, who's senior season hasn't gone quite as well as his junior season did, is hoping he can repeat his fantastic 2011 performance.

"My expectation is to win," Moore said.

Moore will be joined by Motomochi, junior Nick Chianello, junior Nick Sherwood, junior Matt Rawitzer and sophomore David Fink in the Beavers' six-man lineup.

"Going into the tournament, we are

I've covered spring football practice all this month, and one thing that stands out more than anything is that the corners and safeties are ball hawkers. Jordan Poyer is ranked second-highest for senior cornerbacks according to ESPN. And then there's safety Ryan Murphy, who seriously gets one pick per practice. The corners all can take away the ball, too — Rashaad Reynolds, Sean Martin and Malcolm Marable all have good hands and have made Mannion and Vaz look silly at times.

3. Free Food

A part of Fanfest is that there's a whole bunch of food vendors that will be out there prior to the scrimmage. Jimmy John's, Roxy Dawgs, Café Yumm and Qdoba (probably not as good as when you were there at 2 a.m. the night before) will all be there handing out samples. If that's not enough to get you to Reser, I don't know what is.

2. Sean Mannion

This is the guy now. Obviously, it doesn't all fall on the quarterback, but the spotlight is on him nonetheless. He's still really young, at a difficult position, and I want to see how much better he can be.

1. The running backs

In last year's Spring Game, Ryan McCants and Malcolm Marable got the most carries. Uhhhhh, what? Well this year, there will be four tailbacks out there (Malcolm Agnew, Terron Ward, Jordan Jenkins, Storm Woods). Obviously there's still a lot of time until September, but seeing how Riley divides up the carries will be interesting. All four have gotten first- and second-team reps throughout spring camp and there's yet to be one who emerges.

Well that's it. Go, eat, have fun. And don't blame me if you're bored.

Warner Strausbaugh, sports writer

Twitter: @WStrausbaugh

sports@dailybarometer.com

just trying to stay calm," Sherwood said. "We obviously want to play well on our home course, so it's a bit of added pressure."

Head coach Jon Reehorn said the home course does provide the Beavers with a bit of an advantage.

"I think when people first come here and look at the course, they think it's pretty easy since it's so open and there isn't much trouble off the tee," Reehorn said. "But with the hole locations we are going to have and the rough as it's growing right now and the speed of the greens, there is going to be a lot of home course knowledge, especially on the greens."

The home crowd will also give them an advantage.

"It means a lot to us that we get to play in front of Beaver Nation,"

Motomochi said. "It would be great if a lot of support comes out."

Reehorn said people should take advantage of the opportunity to watch some of the nation's elite collegiate golfers for free.

"The quality of golf that is going to be here is something that, if people have the chance to come out and watch, then they should," Reehorn said.

The Beavers can only hope they'll be a part of that quality golf.

"Hopefully, we can make a run and get the first Pac-12 Championship in Corvallis," Sherwood said.

Grady Garrett, sports editor

Twitter: @gradygarett

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Note: Caitie Karcher contributed to this report.

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Alex Crawford



Cut me Mick

Worry about the points, not the joints

Last week, Oregon State University defensive end Scott Crichton said that, “Nowadays, everybody is smoking weed. It’s the thing to do nowadays I guess. I don’t know what else to say.”

Crichton later backtracked by saying he doesn’t smoke and that’s all he knows, but that is beside the point.

Between Crichton’s comments and ESPN the Magazine’s article on pot smoking at the University of Oregon, cannabis has been a hot topic in both OSU and Oregon’s athletic programs during the last week.

Personally, I don’t think athletes smoking pot in their down time is that big of a deal.

Unfortunately, for those who like to indulge in the consumption of cannabis, the NCAA does think it’s a big deal.

A player who tests positive for THC — the principal psychoactive constituent of the cannabis plant — is suspended or sometimes even gets kicked off of the team.

College athletic programs treat a positive test like a major issue when, in my opinion, it really isn’t.

Now, if a player gets pulled over by the police while smoking weed out of a pop can — a la Rasheed Wallace and Damon Stoudamire in 2002 — they should face the appropriate consequences.

While I disagree with its status as a Schedule I Narcotic, cannabis is technically illegal in this country and college coaches must deal with it accordingly.

But, unless athletes get caught in the act, leave them alone.

I am not advocating rolling a blunt then lining up under center. That seems to be illogical.

The consumption of marijuana causes the user to feel paranoid, slow, inattentive and it reduces reaction time. Not exactly the state of mind a player would want to be in while playing a fast-paced Division I football game.

The NCAA created its drug testing program “so that no one participant might have an artificially induced advantage, so that no one participant might be pressured to use chemical substances in order to remain competitive, and to safeguard the health and safety of participants.”

Basically, the program was created to stop student athletes from using performance enhancing drugs — something that still goes on.

Marijuana should not be a drug that the NCAA even tests for or is concerned about.

First of all, marijuana would never give its user an artificial advantage. In fact, it would give them the complete opposite.

Anyone who has ever gotten high knows that this is true.

When a person gets stoned, they typically want to watch “Hey Arnold,” listen to Dr. Dre or try to find a ride to Taco Bell. They do not become bigger and stronger. They do not play the game better. In fact, they play the game worse.

Can you imagine playing in the Civil War football game after taking a couple bong rips? That would not be a chill situation.

As for safeguarding the health and safety of participants, the NCAA should step up and take on the use and abuse of alcohol amongst stu-

See **CRAWFORD** | page 7



HANNAH O’LEARY | THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State baseball team, pictured here before Tuesday’s game against Oregon in Eugene, will begin a three-game series with USC today.

Baseball team set to face Trojans

■ The Beavers have won nine of their last 10, while USC has lost six of its last seven

By Andrew Kilstrom
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Having won nine of its last 10 games and coming off of a big win over No. 10 Oregon, the Oregon State baseball team will seek another conference series win when they travel to Los Angeles, Calif., to square off against the University of Southern California today.

It’s a series consisting of two teams that are currently headed in opposite directions. The surging Beavers (27-12, 8-7) are the clear favorites, considering the Trojans (20-16, 5-9) have struggled mightily as of late, losing six of their last seven games.

It’s an important series for both teams in a conference where anything is likely to happen in any given week. Oregon State, currently fifth in the conference, is only 2.5 games back of first place and could climb considerably in the standings with a series sweep.

USC, on the other hand, needs a series win for the opposite reason. The Trojans are currently holding the tenth spot in the standings and need wins fast if they want to advance to postseason play.

“At this point in the season, it’s important to win every conference game you can,” said head coach Pat Casey. “Going on the road to play USC, we have to win games. Every game counts, but you have to take them one at a time. A series win would be huge for us and it’s what we expect.”

Some good news for the Beavers is that USC has struggled a great deal generating runs. Considering OSU’s starting pitching has been lights out essentially all season long, the club likes its chances.

Sophomore left-hander Ben Wetzler — who will get the start in the series opener today — is 4-2 on the year with a 3.23 ERA.

OSU’s other two main starters have been even bet-

ter this year. Freshman southpaw Jace Fry has an ERA of 2.23 and is coming off of what he described as, “the best game I’ve ever pitched,” in which he threw a complete game shutout against No. 12 UCLA.

Sophomore right-hander Dan Child has the best numbers of the three, posting an ERA of 2.13. Child is also coming off of a solid outing against the Bruins that included only two runs allowed.

“I think our pitching staff is good, I really do,” Casey said. “We’ve had good pitching all year long and I think we’ve done a good job of picking those guys up as well.”

Despite good starting pitching, OSU has had some issues in the bullpen at times this year. The unit almost cost the Beavers game three of the UCLA series, but was much better Tuesday against Oregon, allowing no runs.

“It’s tough right now because [Taylor] Starr has been forced into the starting rotation at times with [Adam] Duke still being out,” Casey said. “We have good arms in the pen, we just need to throw strikes and keep the ball down a little more consistently. Tony [Bryant] has been great, and [Cole] Brouck and [Matt] Boyd have had success, too.”

In addition to the superb pitching, the bats have come alive recently for the Beavers. USC has solid pitching across the board, so keeping hot bats will be another key for Oregon State.

Freshman left-fielder Michael Conforto has been on a tear and junior right-fielder Joey Matthews has also come on as of late. In the Oregon victory, the two combined for four of OSU’s eight hits.

Their continued production at the plate could be the key to a series win, and if the Beavers play how they think they’re capable, a series sweep. The first game is set for 6 p.m. today at Dedeaux Field.

Andrew Kilstrom, sports writer
Twitter: @andrewkilstrom
sports@dailybarometer.com

Men’s golf Pac-12 Tourney comes to Corvallis

■ The Beavers will take on a field that includes six of the nation’s top 12 teams

By Grady Garrett
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The site of the Pac-12 Men’s Golf Championship rotates between each of the member schools on a yearly basis.

A Pac-12 school gets to host the Pac-12 Men’s Golf Championship once every 12 years.

This year, it’s Oregon State’s turn to host.

The Beavers will welcome the 11 other conference members to Trysting Tree Golf Club this weekend for a three-day, 72-hole tournament beginning this morning.

“It means everything,” said senior Jonnie Motomochi on the fact that the Beavers will host. “We never get to play out here, and it’s been several years since we’ve hosted a tournament, and nothing like this.”

While the Beavers will get an

obvious advantage being the host team, the competition they’ll face will be stiff, to say the least.

Six Pac-12 teams are currently ranked in the nation’s top 12, according to the Golfweek/Sagarin rankings: No. 3 UCLA, No. 5 USC, No. 6 Stanford, No. 7 Oregon, No. 8 Cal and No. 12 Washington.

OSU enters the tournament ranked 53rd in the nation — eighth highest among Pac-12 teams.

Last year, OSU finished eighth

See **MEN’S GOLF** | page 7

Warner Strausbaugh



My name is my name

10 reasons to go to the spring ‘game’

Ask 10 of your friends if they’re going to the Oregon State spring game this Saturday.

“Huh?” will probably be the response most of them give you.

Most Oregon State students probably don’t even know the game — or Fanfest, as the university is calling it — is this Saturday.

I’ll be honest, I never really cared too much for spring games. It’s still April, I just got into the swing of OSU baseball and am gearing up for the NBA Playoffs. Who would want to watch football right now?

Well this season, I am going to the spring game and am actually excited about doing so.

Why this year?

Because this could very well be the breaking point for the Beavers. A 5-7 season followed by 3-9 doesn’t fly around too many college campuses, except for the Florida Atlantic Owls, who would rejoice to have those records.

The year 2012 will be the year when either things start to turn around, and more wins start pouring in, or it will be the third straight year of bad performance, and from there, it only gets harder to dig yourself out of that hole.

College football is cutthroat, and selling high-school recruits on your program after three dismal seasons in a row is about as difficult as selling a chill pill to Metta World Peace (or the Artist Formerly Known as Ron-Ron, as I like to call him).

With the importance of this year in mind for the Beavers, here are the top 10 things I’m looking forward to in this year’s Oregon State spring game (or Fanfest):

10. Caleb Smith

The freshman tight end would be in high school right now if he hadn’t enrolled early to take spring classes at OSU and participate in spring football practice. Smith is a big guy (6-6, 255) and could be a target for Beavers quarterbacks for years to come.

9. How much can the O-line do?

The offensive front has a lot of injuries to worry about right now. They have only had eight active players for spring ball, and this is going to limit the spring “game” to more of a casual scrimmage. These eight that have the opportunity to play in spring practice have to show they belong, because a whole fleet of freshmen are coming in the fall, and they’re good.

8. Cody Vaz

It seems like Vaz is always the practice hero. Riley always talks about his sharpness with his throws and the improvement he’s seen from him. But the fact is, Vaz was Katz’s backup, but they went to Mannion instead — and Mannion’s younger. Vaz’s performance Saturday will be fun to watch, to see if he would be ready to come in if anything were to happen to Mannion.

7. Big hits

If we’re talking about real football, I think we can agree that seeing one big hit Saturday is a must. Fullback Tyler Anderson treated anyone who was at their scrimmage last Saturday with a crushing block on safety Peter Ashton that got the entire offense howling. Let’s get a repeat of that and then some, because it won’t be until Sept. 1 that we get to see another.

6. The receiving corps

Even though James Rodgers is gone,

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