

The Daily Barometer

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Instructor wins Oregon Book Award

■ George Estreich wins award for non-fiction writing for his memoir about Down syndrome

By Vinay Ramakrishnan
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Last month, longtime Corvallis resident and Oregon State University English instructor George Estreich was awarded the Sarah Winnemucca award for Creative Nonfiction as part of the Oregon Book Awards.

Estreich received the award for his book "The Shape of the Eye: Down Syndrome, Family, and the Stories we Inherit." The book was published last year and centers around Estreich's 11-year-old daughter, Laura, who has Down syndrome.

"Much of this book is about me being an at-home dad," Estreich said. "It's about my making sense of Down syndrome and what it means to have a daughter with Down syndrome. It's about the history of Down syndrome, how we talk about Down syndrome today and where our ideas come from."

Besides his personal reasons, Estreich had other motivations for writing the book.

"One of the reasons I wrote this book was that for many people, Down syndrome is a tragedy or a very bad thing, and it's actually not. I wanted to show what our ordinary

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Cabinet selections underway

■ Applications due May 16 for executive cabinet positions

THE DAILY BAROMETER

The president and vice president elect are looking to select next year's executive cabinet.

Job descriptions were posted on the Associated Students of Oregon State University website earlier this week, as well as instructions in applying for the positions.

Applications for executive cabinet members are due no later than May 16 at 5 p.m.

The cabinet positions have been changed by the president and vice president elect to better reflect the needs of ASOSU in the coming year. These changes are within the statutory power of the president.

Executive cabinet positions for next year include the executive directors of finance, chief of staff, secretary, diversity programs, community resources, communications and government relations. Executive cabinet members will be paid \$837.60 a month for fall, winter and spring terms and \$1675.20 a month during summer term.

Applicants must have at least a 2.0 grade point average and must be enrolled in at least six credits.

Descriptions for task force directors are also up online and will be due on May 23. The new president and vice president will be sworn in with their new cabinet on June 1.

The Daily Barometer
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"I'd go down to the meat factory and outfit the high pressure hose. I realized I didn't want to do that work the rest of my life"

Mike O'Malley
professor, College of Education



VINAY BIKKINA | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Mike O'Malley worked his way up from working class Quincy, Mass. to be a professor at the College of Education. In between he worked a variety of jobs, from paper boy to a stint in a meat packing plant.

From paper boy to academia

■ Mike O'Malley, a professor in the College of Education, took an interesting journey to get here

By McKinley Smith
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Mike O'Malley, a professor in the College of Education, was not one of those children who knew exactly what he wanted to be when he grew up. Instead, he found himself in Corvallis after meandering his way across the country in the unconscious search for his passion.

The son of Irish immigrants, O'Malley was born at Saint Elizabeth hospital and later moved to Quincy, Mass. as a boy. Quincy is the only town in the United States where two U.S. presidents were born — John Adams and his son, John Quincy Adams. Boston is a short train ride from Quincy.

"Boston is the Athens of America, a cultural citadel," said O'Malley. "Being the son of immigrants, I was curious about the world, wondering how we ended up here."

While his parents worked on a wealthy employer's house one month out of the year, O'Malley was exposed to the employer's vast library and

"built up foundational knowledge" reading.

O'Malley's first job was as a newspaper delivery boy for The Boston Globe, which O'Malley credits as one of the best papers in the world. He read the paper from cover to cover, learning about the world beyond his "parochial, Irish-Catholic upbringing." He used some of his earnings to pay for tickets to basketball games.

"I'm a big NBA fan. When I was a kid, I saw all the NBA greats play," O'Malley said. "I grew up going to the Boston Garden."

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Accessibility main focus of long house meeting

■ House looks at several resolutions regarding accessibility on campus

By Don Iler
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Accessibility came to the fore in last night's Associated Students of Oregon State University House of Representatives meeting.

The house heard six resolutions having to do with accessibility and Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.

The house first heard HR 03.05, which asked the university to develop a comprehensive assessment and transition plan to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act by Dec. 31, 2012.

However, Angelo Gomez, interim director for the Office of Equity and Inclusion, said that such an assessment was underway and could not be done by that day.

"Having a plan done by December 2012 would be completely impossible," Gomez said.

Gomez said that an assessment began last summer and it was the intent to do it incrementally to address the biggest problem areas on campus first. Gomez also added that the university had already completed a self assessment and transition plan, and this assessment was designed to go beyond that.

Jeffrey Evans, president of the Able Student Alliance, however was upset with what he considered the university's lateness in addressing compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"(The university) has conducted a transition plan that is completely inadequate," Evans said. "It's gotten this bad because of inaction and inattention."

Representative Andrew Struthers then made a motion to change the language of the bill to give the

university until June 1 to provide a time line of when the assessment will be done. This amendment replaced the previous date to provide a comprehensive assessment by Dec. 31. Struthers acknowledged that the December date may be unattainable.

The amendment passed and the resolution went to pass eight to two.

Next the house heard HR 03.06, which would assist students with disabilities to find housing. It instructed University Housing and Dining Services to develop a referral service to help disabled students find suitable and accessible off-campus housing.

Kevin Dunn, speaker pro tempore, read an email from University Housing and Dining Services, that stated it felt it made accommodations in its own lodging for disabled students and that it did not have the money to create such a referral service.

After much discussion, the bill was tabled to re-write the wording of the resolution to make sure that ASOSU worked with housing and dining to come up with a plan to create such a service. The resolution then passed nine to three.

House Resolution 03.08, which resolved to establish an intercollegiate wheelchair basketball team, was tabled until the resolution's authors could speak with the already established wheelchair basketball club team.

House Resolution 03.09, which called for improvements in parking for students with mobility impairments was also tabled until next week.

Evans said that there was not enough handicap accessible parking on campus and he was upset with having to pay the same amount for a parking pass that other students pay.

Gomez said that the univer

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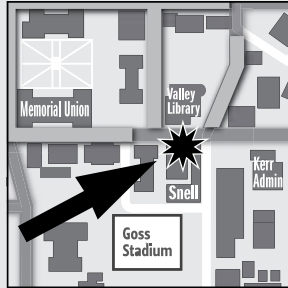
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Obama announces support same-sex marriage

President Barack Obama said Wednesday he supports same-sex marriage, raising the political stakes on an issue over which Americans are evenly split.

The announcement was the first by a sitting president and put Obama squarely at odds with presumptive Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney, who on Wednesday said during an appearance in Oklahoma, "I believe marriage is a relationship between a man and a woman."

Obama said in an interview with ABC News, "At a certain point I've just concluded that for me, personally, it is important for me to go ahead and affirm that I think same-sex couples should be able to get married."

Obama once opposed such marriages. He later indicated his views were "evolving."

"I had hesitated on gay marriage, in part, because I thought civil unions would be sufficient," the president said. "I was sensitive to the fact that — for a lot of people — that the word marriage is something that provokes very powerful traditions and religious beliefs."

But, Obama said, his thinking shifted as he witnessed committed same-sex marriages and thought about U.S. service personnel who were "not able to commit themselves in a marriage."

It was not immediately clear how the development — which same-sex marriage advocates had long sought — might play out at the voting booth.

A Gallup Poll released Tuesday indicated 50 percent of Americans believe same-sex marriages should be recognized by law as valid, with 48 percent saying such marriages should not be legal.

But a CNN/ORC poll, taken in late March, indicated policies towards gays and lesbians were tied for last in the most-important issues facing the country.

Obama was "disappointed" by Tuesday's vote on the issue in North Carolina, which he described as discriminatory against gays and lesbians, a spokesman said earlier Wednesday.

North Carolina voted to implement a state constitutional ban on same-sex marriage, which was already prohibited by state law. Supporters of the measure pushed for the constitutional amendment, arguing that it was needed to ward off future legal challenges.

The president said he supports the concept of states deciding the issue on their own, ABC News reported.

Obama said his daughters, Malia and Sasha, have friends whose parents are same-sex couples. "It wouldn't dawn on them that somehow their friends' parents would be treat-

ed differently. It doesn't make sense to them and frankly, that's the kind of thing that prompts a change in perspective."

Obama spoke Wednesday with ABC's Robin Roberts. The interview will appear on ABC's "Good Morning America" Thursday. Excerpts aired Wednesday evening on "World News With Diane Sawyer."

The president's stance will be among many key differences with Romney, but it is not expected to be a key talking point in his campaign.

In comments Wednesday to CNN Denver affiliate KDVR, Romney reiterated his opposition to same-sex marriage.

"And I do not favor civil unions if they are identical to marriage other than by name," Romney said during a visit to Fort Lupton. "My view is the domestic partnership benefits, hospital visitation rights, and the like are appropriate, but that the others are not."

The Family Research Council criticized Obama, and its president said on CNN's "The Situation Room" that the decision will aid Romney.

"The president, I think, has handed to Mitt Romney the one missing piece in his campaign," said Tony Perkins. "That is the intensity and motivation that Mitt Romney needs among social conservatives to win this election."

An expert on religion and politics said the move will

make "an already close election even closer."

"It cuts both ways — it activates both Democratic and Republican base voters," said John Green of the University of Akron.

Obama told ABC that some opinions on the issue are "generational."

"When I go to college campuses, sometimes I talk to college Republicans who think that I have terrible policies on the economy, on foreign policy, but are very clear that when it comes to same-sex equality or, you know, sexual orientation, that they believe in equality," he said.

First lady Michelle Obama was involved in the president's decision.

"This is something that, you know, we've talked about over the years and she, you know, she feels the same way, she feels the same way that I do," Obama said.

The new president of the Human Rights Campaign lauded the development.

"President Obama's words today will be celebrated by generations to come," Chad Griffin said. "For the millions of young gay and lesbian Americans across this nation, their president's words provide genuine hope that they will be first generation to grow up with the freedom to fully pursue the American dream."

— CNN

Celebrities, politicians weigh in on Obama's same-sex marriage stance

Politicians and celebrities were quick to weigh in, via Twitter and in statements, on news of U.S. President Barack Obama's support for same-sex marriage. Here are some reactions:

Talk show host Ellen DeGeneres (@TheEllenShow)

"Thank you President @BarackObama for your beautiful and brave words. I'm overwhelmed."

"Glee" actress Jane Lynch (@janemarielynch)

"Pretty darn happy today. Thanks Mr President, for supporting the dignity of my family and so many others!"

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg (@MikeBloomberg)

"President @BarackObama's announcement is a major turning point in the history of American civil rights"

Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (@villaraigosa)

"We stand w/Pres. Obama - love doesn't have a color, love doesn't care if you're gay or straight. Love doesn't discriminate."

San Francisco Mayor Edwin M. Lee

"Today's announcement by President Barack Obama moves our country one step closer to marriage equality. With the President's personal support on the issue of same-sex marriage, we celebrate and recommit ourselves to the fight for all families."

Meghan McCain (@McCainBlogette)

"Even though he did it a little late under political pressure - very happy to hear the President come out in support of gay marriage."

Actor Neil Patrick Harris (@ActuallyNPH)

"President Obama announces his support for same-sex marriage. ... Bravo, Mr. President, and thank you."

The Rev. Al Sharpton

"I salute President Obama's statement today supporting same-sex marriage. This is an important and historic development for a sitting President to take such a bold, and I feel correct, position. This is not about mine or anyone's personal or religious views. It is about equal rights for all."

Rosie O'Donnell

"I thank the President for his courage in standing for equality---this is true leadership---this is America."

Kim Kardashian

"It's about time! Wow... I just heard that President Obama has officially announced that he supports gay marriage!! This is such a huge step forward in our country's fight for civil rights and I hope that today this will give hope to so many young people across the country. We've never had a president so supportive of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and today I am proud to be an American!! I'm

so happy that our country is making history and moving forward. No more living in the past!"

Singer Cyndi Lauper

"President Obama continues to be a true leader for equality and I have never been prouder to call him my president than I am today. The president's support of marriage equality gives hope and encouragement to the millions of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender young people who feel ostracized and alone."

Singer Rob Thomas

"I am simultaneously proud to live in a country where our President openly speaks for equality for all and sad that it's even still a question that it's deserved."

Singer Melissa Etheridge

"Every now and then an American gets a chance to be a leader, and change the world. President Obama has taken that chance and has made a choice that signals the tipping point in our culture's definition of love and family. His announcement brings in the new age of acceptance of diversity for which every American will benefit."

Singer Adam Lambert

"It is great that President Obama had the guts to speak out -even in an election year- for the traditional American values of justice and equality for all."

— CNN

Calendar

Thursday, May 10

Meetings

Baha'i Campus Association, 12:30-1pm, MU Talisman Room. "The Nature of Prosperity" is the theme of this interfaith devotion, meditation and sharing time. Share your favorite inspiration.

Speakers

College of Forestry, 3:30-5pm, 107 Richardson Hall. 2012 Starker Lecture Series - Watershed Moments: People, Forests & Water. "Land Use, Climate Change, Water and Other Ecosystem Services: Connecting Science to Users, Policies and Programs" - Dr. Kathleen Farley, Assistant Professor of Geography, San Diego State University.

Events

SOL: LGBT Multicultural Support Network, Pride Center, 6-8pm, MU 206. Full Spectrum Sexuality: An Art Exhibition. Art show focusing on multiculturalism and sexuality. Reception with refreshments.

Friday, May 11

Events

Music Department, Noon, MU Lounge. Music à la Carte. Free noon-time concert featuring Sophia Tagart on flute and David Servias on piano. Bring your lunch, family and friends!

Monday, May 14

Events

Student Sustainability Initiative, 9am-5:30pm, LaSells Stewart Center. Sustainable Textile Symposium.

Tuesday, May 15

Meetings

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

Events

Disc Golf Club, 8:30-10pm, Reser Stadium. Hosting a Ladies Night Clinic. Free, no experience necessary and equipment will be provided. At the end will be a raffle with great prizes!

The Pride Center, 4-6pm, MU 208. Our Experience, Our Stories. A multicultural panel who identify in the LGBTQ community. Come hear their personal stories and ask questions to learn more of intersecting identities.

The Pride Center, 7pm, The Pride Center. Gaym Night. Come enjoy a night of games, food and fun! A one-hour game night before the Glee event. Everyone is welcome.

Center for Leadership Development, 3:30-4pm, MU Council Room. Officer Transition Series: Join student leaders at OSU for workshops on officer transitions.

Wednesday, May 16

Meetings

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

Graduate Women's Network, Noon-1:30pm, Women's Center. Come celebrate a wonderful year. Sweets provided.

Thursday, May 17

Meetings

Baha'i Campus Association, 12:30-1pm, MU Talisman Room. "Building a Spiritual Democracy" is the topic for this interfaith devotion, meditation and quiet time. Please share your favorite inspirational material.

Events

Center for Leadership Development, 5:30-6pm, MU Council Room. Officer Transition Series: Join student leaders at OSU for workshops on officer transitions.

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Victim's son: Killer still 'wandering around' Churchill Downs

Wilson Perez believes his father's killer is one of the hundreds of stable workers who live and care for horses in an area known as the "backside" of the Churchill Downs horse racing grounds.

"I imagine he's wandering around here," Wilson Perez told CNN during an exclusive interview near the barn where his father's body was found. "It has to be someone who lives here because no one else can come in."

Louisville Police investigators have released few details about the death of 48-year-old Adan Perez. Police say Perez's body was discovered around 5 a.m. Sunday morning by barn workers, just several hours after the final races of Kentucky Derby Day.

The body was left in Barn No. 8, which backs up to the backstretch of the famed Churchill Downs horse racing track.

The "backside" of Churchill Downs is made up of dozens of barns that house more than a thousand horses. It's also where some 600 stable hands live.

It's a secluded and often overlooked world. It's home to the transient workers of the horse racing industry. Most workers are Central American immigrants who move around the country looking for work with stables and trainers.

"The outside world doesn't see this world. They don't know what the backside of the racetrack is like," Churchill Downs chaplain Ken Boehm said. "It does concern us that there's someone back here or there could be someone back here still that could commit such an act."

Police say there are no suspects in the slaying of Adan Perez but are looking into several altercations that occurred at the track.

Wilson Perez said he last heard from his father around 11:30 p.m. Saturday night. Both men talked on the phone for several minutes at the end of a hard day's work during the Kentucky Derby.

"He called me to see how I was doing and where I was," Wilson Perez said.

This was almost a daily routine for both

men. Father and son worked in different barns on the Churchill Downs grounds and could go most of the day without seeing each other.

"He told me he was outside (the racing grounds) at a restaurant with friends," Wilson Perez added. "Everything was normal, like every time he called me. He never told me there were any problems."

Wilson Perez said he hasn't heard any stories of his father getting into any altercations the night of the murder. He also said he never heard his father talk of having enemies or having any problems with anyone around the grounds.

Wilson Perez first walked through the gates of Churchill Downs two years ago. He had convinced his father to let him leave home in Guatemala and find work in the barns caring for horses.

Adan Perez worked for horse trainer Cecil Borel, the brother of three-time Kentucky Derby-winning jockey Calvin Borel.

— CNN



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Obama, Romney tied in Florida, even with Rubio and Bush on ticket

A poll released Wednesday showed President Barack Obama and his GOP rival Mitt Romney neck and neck in Florida, a battleground state Obama narrowly won in 2008.

When two of the state's most popular Republican politicians are added to the ticket - Sen. Marco Rubio and former Gov. Jeb Bush - Romney sees a slight bump, but the results remain within the poll's sampling error.

The Suffolk University survey showed 46 percent of likely Florida voters backing Obama, and 45 percent backing Romney; 7 percent of respondents said they hadn't yet decided who to back in the general election.

With Rubio on the GOP ticket, Romney edged Obama 47 percent-44 percent. A Romney-Bush ticket showed a similar bump, besting Obama-Biden by 2 percentage points. Both results were within the poll's sampling error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Both Rubio and Bush have down-

played any talk of appearing on the 2012 GOP ticket, though each has mentioned the other's name as a strong choice for Romney.

The poll's results reflect a jump for Obama, who stood at 42 percent in a Suffolk Florida poll taken in January. Back then Romney had the support of 47 percent of Florida voters.

"Despite locking up the Republican nomination and a strong showing in the Florida Republican primary in January, Romney still has a lot of work to do to win over Florida voters," David Paleologos, director of the Suffolk University Political Research Center, said in a statement. "He would need to repair the fallout of negativity from the Republican primaries by being more likable and offering general-election voters a positive alternative to President Obama."

That negativity was reflected in Wednesday's poll: Romney's unfavorability rating has jumped 8 points since

January. Before Florida's January 31 primary, 37 percent of voters viewed the candidate unfavorably, compared with 45 percent who view him that way now.

Florida's primary was particularly scathing — 92 percent of political ads running the week ahead of the contest were negative. Romney's main rival at that point was former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who waged a particularly ruthless battle against Romney. Of the 1,012 spots Newt Gingrich's campaign ran, 95 percent were negative. Mitt Romney's campaign ran 3,276 ads and 99 percent were negative.

A majority of the likely voters surveyed in Wednesday's poll - 60 percent — said they felt the country was on the wrong track.

The Suffolk University poll was taken by telephone from May 6-8, and surveyed 600 registered voters in Florida. The sampling error was plus or minus 4 percentage points.

— CNN



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O'MALLEY

Continued from page 3

When he was 16 years old, O'Malley quit his job working for the paper and began work at a meat factory.

"I'd go down to the meat factory and outfit the high pressure hose," O'Malley said. "I realized that I didn't want to do that work for the rest of my life."

The working class neighborhood O'Malley grew up in had a two-track mind about higher education: either you were a doctor or a lawyer. He decided that he didn't want to be a doctor, so that left law. O'Malley was practically "paid to go" to school by the University of Texas in Austin.

"I hated it from the get-go," O'Malley said. "I went to law school five times, never finished. I'm really proud of it, by the way."

After that, O'Malley became certified to teach at Harvard University. One of the history professors told him that in order to understand America, he must spend some time living in the Deep South.

"I went to the cockpit of the Confederacy where it all started. I taught in South Carolina for a year. It really helped me understand the racial dynamics of America that I wouldn't have understood if I'd stayed up north," O'Malley said.

South Carolina was also the place where he met his wife, Nell.

After teaching in South Carolina, O'Malley and his wife moved to Oregon, where he got a position as a substitute teacher and moved into part-time at both Oregon State University and West Albany High School. When he was offered a full-time posi-

tion at OSU, O'Malley ultimately accepted in order to spend more time with his two children.

"Doors opened. Do we make decisions or do we make up ex post facto rationalizations?" said O'Malley, referring to his journey through careers. "Unfortunately as the domains of knowledge become narrower and narrower, I think it may be more difficult to move across disciplines to find out what they want to do."

O'Malley considers two things to be important to him: family and awareness.

"I think it all starts with the family. When you go to the psychotherapist, they don't ask you about who your Purpose, Structure and Function of Education in a Democracy teacher was," O'Malley said, referring to one of his classes.

To O'Malley, it's impor-

tant that he not only devote everything he can to his wife and children, but also introduce his students to multiple perspectives.

"The other thing is making people aware so they can make informed decisions; a desire to bring myself and students to critical awareness so they can see the world with empathetic eyes, to minimize harm," O'Malley said.

O'Malley hopes to be an intellectual role model to his students, presenting them to multiple perspectives with an entertaining spin to help them recognize injustice. O'Malley wants students to "become who they are," a line from the philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche.

McKinley Smith, reporter
news@dailybarometer.com
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ESTREICH

Continued from page 3

lives were."
"It's not simply about conveying a message. What I wanted to write was a narrative permeated with ideas. I wanted the story to raise questions and get people thinking," Estreich said.

Estreich was an instructor during winter term 2012 and has lived in Corvallis since 1998. His wife, Theresa Filtz, is a professor in the College of Pharmacy.

Estreich also stressed the different cultural perspectives of people with Down syndrome.

"There is a split in the culture where people with Down syndrome are seen on the one hand as angelic and friendly, and on the other hand, they are seen as defective. What I wanted to do in my book was bear witness to everything that was neither, everything that was just ordinary life."

Estreich spent nine years writing "The Shape of the Eye". Larry Rodgers, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, was very pleased about Estreich receiving the award.

"I'm pleased that Oregon's best writers continue to be on OSU's creative writing faculty," Rodgers said. "The Shape of the Eye' is a beautifully written memoir about a sensitive, complex, socially relevant subject, and in George's hands, the story of his daughter with Down syndrome receives the treatment it deserves."

The Oregon Book Awards are a program of Literary Arts, a Portland, Ore. based non-profit

"The Oregon Book Awards raise awareness of Oregon's literature throughout Oregon," said Susan Denning, director of programs and events and the program director for the Oregon Book Awards of Literary Arts. In terms of how people are nominated, Denning said, "Anyone can submit a book. The only requirement is that they are a resident of Oregon."

Selection of winners is done by an individual judge, rather than by a committee.

"One judge is assigned per award," Denning said. "Winners receive \$500, and their book is promoted statewide."

Vinay Ramakrishnan, reporter
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HOUSE

Continued from page 3

sity could look at parking problems immediately and work on it as quickly as possible.

House Resolution 03.10, which resolved to improve the ASOSU website for those with vision related disabilities, was tabled until next week to be rewritten.

The final three resolutions and bill heard — HR 03.12, HB 03.03, HR 03.13 — were all tabled for two weeks for further work on their wording and language.

The house of representatives meets again next Wednesday in the Memorial Union at 7 p.m.

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



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Editorial

The Shasta situation

In the back corner of the newsroom we call home, you can find every issue of The Daily Barometer from the last 50 years.

If you want to read about everything that happened on this campus in any given year, all you have to do is sit down and crack open one of those dusty, thick books.

Because we have no social lives, or because we're always striving to get better (depends on who you ask), we often spend nights doing just this.

Read through enough books and you begin to notice trends.

Like each winter, you'll find a lot of stuff about budget proposals. And each spring, you'll read about ASOSU elections — and notice that seniors like to use the forum section as a place to reminisce on their four years at OSU.

There's one trend in particular we've noticed that we'd like to alert OSU students of.

Each Mother's Day weekend, Oregon State students travel by the masses to Shasta Lake in Northern California. And in too many cases, the Barometer has been forced to cover the kind of story no one wants to cover the following Monday.

In 2001, OSU student Sean Matsuda drowned after he tried to leap from one houseboat to another at Shasta.

In 2005, OSU student Gina Zalunardo was reported missing. Several days later, her body was found on Slaughterhouse Island. It was determined that she hanged herself.

And these aren't the only instances of tragedy at Shasta — they're just two of the most recent.

In both of the aforementioned cases, the OSU community did not spend the days after Shasta bragging about how many beers they drank or how many girls/guys they slept with over the weekend — they spent it grieving, second-guessing their decision to go in the first place.

We know, because we read about it.

Shortly after Zalunardo's death, the Barometer ran an article titled, "Greek leaders to discourage annual Shasta trip." If you've been on Facebook or Twitter at all this week, you know that attempts, such as the 2005 one, to prevent OSU students (primarily, but not exclusively, students in fraternities and sororities) from going to Shasta each Mother's Day weekend have failed.

We know that Sigma Phi Epsilon, the fraternity that Matsuda was in, prohibits its members from going to Shasta, but beyond that, not much has changed in the wake of these tragedies.

Since we clearly can't stop people from going, we'd at least like to offer this fair warning: please be safe.

We don't want to report a death or missing person Monday, and you don't want to read about it. We just hope the students who are going pick this up before they set south sometime this morning or afternoon.

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.

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Down goes gas, a running diary on prices

So much for pointing fingers and biting nails — again, we're shown one American can't control gas prices.

Over the past six days, U.S. crude oil prices have decreased by 9 percent. Over the past year, the prices have dropped 3.5 percent.

Not exactly the results you'd expect to see considering what the media was complaining about earlier in the year.

Certainly, gas prices are not as



Armand Resto

Considering the Horizon

cheap as Americans think they should be — and they never will — but \$3.75 a gallon, the nationwide average as of Wednesday, is around 5 percent cheaper than a month

ago.

The key here: things change — gas prices fluctuate. Still, the same debate comes year after year, month after month.

Any educated individual that keeps an ear open, reads their news, knows their current affairs is not shocked by the recent drop, just as they were not shocked during the uptick a few months ago.

But it's still discouraging having to hear the exact same argument

over whether high gas prices are the president's fault, or even dictated by some wealthy oil-exec in a suit here in America. No issue is so cut and dry as to put blame on a single individual, especially concerning energy, which has been discussed and contended for the past four decades. This is hardly a domestic, short-term problem.

According to the Energy

See RESTO|page 5

In defense of texting, appreciating this new method

Every few months it seems like a student complaining about texting pops up in the forum section of the Barometer. They all seem to say the same thing: texting is destroying our standard of communication, replacing face-to-face conversation, promoting horrible standards of grammar and syntax, and various other trivial points.

I despise this mode of thinking.

First, there is this arrogance that any person or group of people can deem any form of communication or language as bad, or as worse than any other. No person, no matter how schooled, is custodian of how words should be used — how they are defined, sure, but never on how they are used. I'm not saying we should throw out our dictionaries here; the style of communicating written and spoken word has been established, and the introduction of new and slang terms has a mechanism by which to be accepted.

But more importantly, the idea that language needs protection from the assailing forces of text/chat/"leet" speak is absurd — as if language was a beautiful bird that needs to be caged in order to be viewed and appreciated. Let us address the claims of these anti-texters, however.

The first is that texting is somehow lowering our standard of communication. It is reducing our conversations to simply 160

Harrison Pride
The Daily Barometer

characters going back-and-forth. Texting would somehow deny us from having grand and sweeping discussions that are the nursery for equally grand and sweeping ideas.

News flash, most of what we say is not great; most of it is simple, concise and of virtually no importance. Texting does not lower the standard of communication we have between humans, it just showed us where most of it was in the first place.

A second claim of anti-texters is that texting either lowers or would replace face-to-face conversation. To me, this is such a strawman logical fallacy it almost doesn't deserve to be addressed. Such a claim is equivalent to saying letter writing would have reduced face-to-face conversations. Face-to-face talking is a rich way to communicate with someone; the conversation is quick, fast, with tone and body language to add additional flavors to the words. But it does have the needed requirement of having to be right next to the person you are talking to, something that is less likely to occur in our increasingly globalized world and economy.

Additionally, anti-texters bemoan the loss of spelling and grammar in texts. I will be the first to admit that all the acronyms and emoti-

cons in some text messages are quite odd, but language does what it needs to do in the conditions it is presented with. If we all suddenly developed a genetic disorder where all future spoken words had to be done in haikus, you bet your bum the grammar and syntax of spoken word would drastically change. The new is odd and strange, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't like it.

That seems to be the heart of the matter when it comes to anti-texters; it is new, ergo I do not like it. It's as if no great thing in language or words have come forth from the new or strange.

Humanity has entered into a new communication paradigm, one where we have the ability to have multiple conversations at once with people all around the globe. It is time our values and manners should be upgraded to reflect this new shift.

Get a text in the middle of a conversation, check to see if it's important, respond accordingly. See two people sitting at a table not looking at each other, heads buried in their phones, don't head over to the table and bemoan their actions, mind your own damn business.

Language is a constantly shifting, morphing creature. Given a new realm to communicate, it will adopt accordingly so ideas and words can be exchanged. Instead of gnashing our teeth and pulling our hair out, we should be celebrating this new field of human communication and expression. Instead we see anti-texters clinging to the very idea that tells them to be free and experiment.

Why aren't anti-texters giggling with girlish and ghoulish delight at the devious and frankly fascinating way we humans have put pneumatic noises nicely together? Instead they look at texting or chat speak and go, "Shakespeare would have never done this; Thoreau would never lower himself to this level of talk."

Instead of gnashing our teeth and pulling our hair out, we should be celebrating this new field of human communication and expression.

First off, how would you know?

And second, I'm going to cross something off my bucket list and quote my favorite Pixar movie, Ratatouille, in saying, "Not everyone can be a great artist, but a great artist can come from anywhere."

Of course, this is all just IMHO.

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.

Aspirations for an accessible and inclusive university

Imagine an Oregon State University that works well for everyone. This is Oregon State's vision — universally accessible environments that enable the success of people of all backgrounds and abilities. Realizing this vision requires sustained community effort — the kind that is under way at OSU.

Many dedicated students, staff, faculty and community members, including those with and without disabilities, have been collaborating and working together for some time to realize this vision. They include those who have volunteered on the Accessible University Initiative Task Force, the Commission on the Status of Individuals with Disabilities, and in groups and offices that are working to address accessibility and increase our campus community's knowledge base. This progress around campus will not only make things better for people with disabilities, but for all of the campus community.

We are all well aware there are barriers to full access on-campus. These barriers exist not only on sidewalks in buildings and in parking lots, but also in attitudes.

Creating inclusive environments, addressing societal culture change

Merrell & Gomez
Guest Column

and working toward equality must be infused through the work and commitment of the entire OSU campus community and not just the university as an institution. When we, all of us, every community member, work together, we can appropriately and effectively address not just the needs of people with disabilities, but of everyone, by improving our own cultural competencies.

Achieving these aspirations requires a rich range of perspectives. One important perspective is that of student MarkliAnn Johnston, someone who identifies as having a mobility disability. Johnston has participated in AUIITF because she "wanted to see if people were walking the walk, not just talking the talk. And as a disabled student, I have a vested interest."

Sharon Krueger, research assistant professor for the Linus Pauling Institute, is another member of AUIITF, and as a wheelchair user, said she participates in the committee because, "I want to have a voice in how things are done, seeing things and wanting to see changes

to the campus environment." When asked if she has seen any progress on campus, she said, "With the paths of travel efforts, there are more places I can directly follow a path, rather than having to plan out a route ahead of time." She says that her favorite campus improvements are the elevated crosswalks: "[They] have made a safer and easier way to navigate."

While there is still much work to be done, we have achieved many things recently, and are planning more.

Over the past two years, Facilities Services engineers Mike Blair and Zack Golik, have added or reconstructed more than 8,000 linear feet of sidewalk, reconstructed 19 street crossings, and added or improved 50 ADA parking spaces. This work represents an investment of almost \$2 million. Through the project management of John Gremmels and Sheri Mishler, OSU Facilities Services has renovated more than 30 classrooms and lecture halls and built five ramps — an investment in accessibility of almost \$9 million.

Meanwhile, Jennifer Gossett in Disability Access Services and Lisa Nemes in Facilities Services recently spearheaded the Accessible

Furniture Project. This is why there are new blue chairs and tables in many classrooms, as well as locked chairs in the front of many rooms. An investment of \$300,000 provided almost all general-purpose classrooms with this dedicated furniture. Much of this work greatly improved accessibility at Oregon State.

Undoubtedly, you have come across some of this work traversing campus and using university facilities. Johnston has seen progress.

"I am far more comfortable now than when I got here in fall 2010," said Johnston. "I'm seeing a genuine effort being made by able-bodied people to put themselves in not just the place of someone in a wheelchair, but all mobility access issues. This is what I have been proudest about. There has been a shift, a willing shift — nobody had been beaten over the head to achieve it."

Because this is a partnership, many people are involved in this commitment to diversity and accessibility at Oregon State. A prime example is Mark McCambridge, OSU's vice president for Finance and Administration, who because of his commitment to progress in enhancing accessibility, has made funding

See ACCESSIBILITY|page 5

At Random by Ryan Mason



Arthur's wife could have been more specific.

RYAN MASON IS A SOPHOMORE IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

ACCESSIBILITY

Continued from page 4

of this work a priority.

The individuals mentioned in this article, as well as many others who will unfortunately go unnamed, have been working on upcoming projects as well. These include a major renovation of Strand Ag Hall where access will be a focus, renovations of restrooms near many large lecture halls to provide improved accessibility, continued sidewalk and parking replacement, captioning at many athletic events and the construction of new buildings that will be much more accessible than our older buildings.

All of this work is part of a larger comprehensive plan. SZS Consulting Group, a firm with significant expertise in accessibility, is currently completing an accessibility assessment of the OSU campus. Their exterior environment report has been finalized and is available on the accessibility website (oregonstate.edu/accessibility). The outcomes and recommendations will help us decide how best to prioritize additional improvements, as well as

influence our standards and processes related to access in new and renovated buildings.

Only talking about our facilities neglects all of the work the campus has done to improve in other areas, such as organizational, policy, practice, assessment and planning. "My greatest joy has been the evolution of the members [of AUITF], more so than any parking space improvement. They will go forward from a more present, engaged point of view," said Johnston.

Accessibility is not just about access for those with mobility disabilities. It is also about such things as Braille signage, web pages readable by screen readers for those with no or limited vision and captioning of audio information for those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

We invite the entire Oregon State community to become involved and be fully informed about accessibility matters. Visit the Office of Equity and Inclusion's website for more detailed information about the work toward universal accessibility and periodic updates about improvements.

Gabriel Merrell and Angelo Gomez
Office of Equity and Inclusion

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RESTO

Continued from page 4

Information Administration, in 2011, America imported roughly 47 percent of its crude oil from OPEC. Another 21 percent came from the Persian Gulf. But overall, America's crude oil imports dropped by roughly 16 percent in the past five years.

Of course, this is only the percentage of imports, not taking into account what domestic production we have. A Congressional Research Service report states that in 2010, American imports of oil accounted for 49 percent of total United States oil consumption — the lowest since 1997.

According to the EIA, in 2011, America produced around 5,660 thousand barrels of oil per day, an increase from 5,480 thousand barrels per day from last year and an overall 11 percent increase from 2006 levels.

Even with this sort of progress — the sort of progress critics and advocates of domestic energy production have been both pushing for and presenting over the past few years on the energy front — has the price of a gallon of gas been any lower, any more stable, any more consistent since 1997?

Hardly. Those who blame the administration for the fluctuation in prices, and how the new "green" agenda has destroyed what price accommodations Americans had in energy usage, have successfully created their own version of energy in America, one based on perception and political bias.

And those defending the administration by citing the drop in imports would be correct merely on the substance. A decrease in imports may very well suggest a president — or his predecessor — worked to increase domestic production, but this does not imply the president actively addressed the rising gas prices.

Both of these parties are wrong in assuming domestic production leads to cheaper oil here at home — this belief that fewer imports leads to lower prices exists only in theory, not in practice.

The recent rise in gas prices, like many in the past, was and can be properly attributed

to Middle Eastern protests and civil strife — e.g., Libya, Syria, Iran. It's not the sole factor, but a significant one in the least. Speculators don't trust unrest and dictators don't want to lose control of their major market — it means Americans pay more.

And just as any rise in price can be linked to international disputes, so too can any drop. Analysts believe this current dip is due to the European economic crisis, where a number of countries' political futures are precarious at best, which may be reason why the American dollar has risen over the past few months — also at play in prices.

Often the debate is over which administration should be credited with this increase in production, but the matter is irrelevant. We have an increase in domestic production and because of that, the debate should be whether this increase can continue, even grow larger, and how it will directly affect gas prices — the one thing citizens respond to.

But these small five-year periods of evaluation don't deserve an absolute link. We can't automatically reject this notion that domestic production means cheaper fuel, but we can't pronounce it either. We need a much larger sample size — decades of domestic increase and import decrease — before anyone can point to a solution.

Yet this patience does not mean we should idly sit by and provoke some sort of action by accusation. Unfounded and premature assertions keep the public unsettled on the issue — the reason why people get upset over every brief moment there's an additional dollar on the gallon.

America's a pushy bunch, and a contentious one at that, so it's no surprise this debate comes up every six months. However, we should have some (slight) recollection of the fickle nature of the oil market. Something must resonate every time this predicament comes around.

But that may be too much to ask for. After all, no one cares why gas is cheap, only that it is.

Seems simple enough.

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



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Twitter politicking causes major stir in Latin America

Twitter has been adopted by politicians and supporters alike, but recent controversies in Argentina and Mexico question whether some groups have crossed a line.

The most recent dust-up happened in Mexico, where a video was released that revealed the tactics of one group supporting presidential candidate Enrique Peña Nieto, the current front-runner.

The video captures a roomful of activists who support Peña Nieto and the instructions that a speaker is giving the laptop-equipped crowd.

"It's time to start working," the speaker says, instructing those gathered to begin tweeting what they are instructed to tweet and at the same time so as to create favorable popular,

or "trending" topics about a presidential debate.

There were some negative "hashtags," or keywords, out on Twitter "that we have to turn around immediately," the speaker says.

This level of organization to sway social media topics has been dubbed "Twittergate" in Mexico.

In Argentina, an investigation on the program "Journalism for Everyone" revealed at least 400 apparently fake Twitter accounts it said comprised a network designed to tilt public opinion in favor of the policies of President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner.

The show's host, Jorge Lanata, showed how several Twitter accounts purportedly

owned by rank-and-file supporters of Fernandez, tweeted and retweeted about the same issue at the same time.

"They all write the same things, as if they were robots," Lanata said.

It was a system designed to create trending topics and give the impression that there was broad support for the policies of the current government, he said.

When people think about politicians interacting with Twitter, the general perception is of them reaching out directly to the public, said Anthony Rotolo, a professor at the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University. But as politicians and their followers become more sophisticated social media users, the tactics can change, he said.

"We're seeing a lot of ideas on how to use the data beyond the two-way interaction,"

Rotolo said.

There's a sense among social media users that trending topics on Twitter have credibility of being what people are really talking about, and influencing them can add heft to a campaign, he said.

When the traditional media see that certain topics are trending, "they are more likely to assume there is a story there, or something to pay attention to," he said.

In Argentina, the network of alleged false Twitter accounts dates back one year, and creates 6,000 messages a month, or about 200 a day, all with a political bent.

When active, the system injects six to 10 messages on Twitter per second, the investigation found.

The journalists don't know who is behind the scheme, but they argue it is an attempt to sway public opinion at a time

of controversial government decisions.

The investigation started with a tip about four suspicious pro-Fernandez followers, which led to the discovery of hundreds of puppet accounts, said Julio Ernesto Lopez, a technology expert and columnist who worked on the task.

Using Google searches the journalists found a number of patterns. First, many of the photos on the Twitter accounts of the Fernandez supporters were actually stolen from other places on the Internet.

One account, for example, had a profile photo of a young, smiling man named "Juna Cruz Geler," who describes himself as a student of politics and a dancer. The photo actually belongs to Mario Alvarez, a Spanish singer who won a reality show and had no idea his image was being used for politicking an ocean away.

Lanata interviewed Alvarez and several others who confirmed that their photos were being used without their knowledge.

By Wednesday, the Cruz Geler account had replaced the photo of Alvarez.

A spokeswoman for the president's office declined to comment on the report.

Opposition politicians in Argentina are known to have used Twitter tactics to influence the agenda, but nothing of this scale or organization has been seen before, Lopez said.

"The problem is that in Latin America, (Twitter) is ideal for governments of this era," he said.

Twitter allows for declarations or opinions, without the space for the reasoning or the arguments behind it.

"We talk like animals on Twitter," he concluded.

— CNN

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

Yesterday's Solution

U.N. leader condemns Syrian bomb blast

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon condemned a bomb blast Wednesday near a convoy of U.N. observers that was entering the southern Syrian city of Daraa.

"This attack is unacceptable," Ban told reporters at the United Nations. "Today's incident is an example of what the Syrian people have endured for the past 15 months. It is a testament to the difficulty and the danger of the task entrusted to our U.N. observers and it is a blunt reminder of the risks of violence escalating even further.

"There is no escaping the reality that we see every day: innocent civilians dying, government troops and heavy armor in city streets, growing numbers of arrests and allegations of brutal torture, an alarming surge in the use of IEDs and other explosive devices."

The bomb exploded near the convoy carrying U.N. observers and the head of the monitoring team in southern Syria.

There were no casualties among the observers, but the Syrian government said 10 Syrian soldiers were wounded, according to a statement released on behalf of Ban. The observers were heading from Damascus to Daraa under Syrian army escort.

Ban called on government forces "and all elements of the opposition" to stop the violence. "If this opportunity is not seized, I fear that what joint special envoy Kofi Annan has warned about will come to pass: a full-scale civil war with catastrophic effects within Syria and across the region."

Annan is working on behalf of the United Nations and the Arab League to end the fighting.

Ban said it is imperative for the international community to support Annan's efforts.

"This was a graphic example of what the Syrian people are suffering on a

daily basis and underlines the imperative for all forms of violence to stop," Maj. Gen. Robert Mood, head of the U.N. Supervision Mission in Syria and chief military observer, said in a written statement.

A "recent increase" in bombings and persistent violence "call into question the commitment of the parties to the cessation of violence and may have a direct impact on the future of the mission," the statement said.

The purpose of the observer mission is to monitor the status of the cease-fire and Annan's six-point peace plan.

Pro-government news agency Addounia TV, which had a crew in the convoy, said the blast damaged cars and a state-run Syrian TV photographer was "lightly injured."

"The explosion directly targeted the guards," Addounia TV said.

— CNN

Classifieds

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SOFTBALL

Continued from page 7

The Wildcats outscored OSU 37-2 over three games that year.

"The fans are brutal," Hall said. "It's tough to play there, but it's also a fun environment. The night games are more intense."

But the Beavers' familiarity with the location and the momentum of a winning season has changed their expectations this time around.

"This year is a lot different," Demore said. "We are both different pitchers and we know the atmosphere now."

"Their hitters are fast, so we want to keep them off the bases, keeping the ball down and my changeup on will be key," Hall said.

Arizona is the only team in the conference to have walked more batters than the Beavers. Which team capitalizes on those free baserun-

ners could be the difference.

OSU is eager for a payout after battling hard all last weekend against No. 1 Cal and not having a win to show for it.

"We are confident. After last weekend all of us want to come out and take it out on Arizona," junior shortstop Elizabeth Santana said. "Our goal is to sweep or win the series. We are focused and ready to go. It's the next opponent."

After facing the conference's best pitcher last weekend and outhitting the No. 1 team in the country over the last two games of the series, the Beavers have no reason to be shy at the plate this series.

"We are focused on two of their pitchers. They have a drop ball pitcher [Shelby Babcock] and [Kenzie] Fowler is more of a side-to-side pitcher," Santana said. "We are going into this weekend being disciplined but attacking the right pitches."

Having played 52 games in the past three months, fatigue is not an issue after all the hard work put in this season.

"We are a well-conditioned team," Demore said. "We aren't stopping with our conditioning either, so we are going in strong. We are all so excited, and going into the postseason fatigue isn't really a factor."

Arizona is 3-6 in its last nine Pac-12 games, having lost consecutive series to UCLA, Oregon and Cal.

"They are a great team, and it's always a tough place to play, and they always have kids that can swing the bat," Walker said. "Hopefully we can get in there and play well, and try to take a game or two from them."

This weekend will serve as the Beavers last chance to better their postseason positioning. OSU, which is virtually a lock to make the 64-team tournament, will learn its postseason fate Sunday at 7 p.m.



HANNAH O'LEARY | THE DAILY BAROMETER

First baseman Erin Guzy prepares to field a ground ball in a game against No. 1 Cal last weekend. The Beavers were swept, but actually outhit the Golden Bears over the final two games.

CRAWFORD

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courts are almost always crowded after 2 p.m. If you show up to play at noon, you are golden. But if you show up at 6 p.m., have fun waiting 30 minutes while you watch basketball that is even less exciting than the WNBA. Second, the courts are over-populated with super-competitive jerks that think they're playing in game seven of the NBA Finals when really it's shirts vs. skins and half the people shouldn't have their shirts off in the first place. Dixon is by far the most competitive place to play on campus; there is no denying that. Dixon is where the finest ballers on campus go to showcase their skills (besides Gill Coliseum of course). I just think McAlexander and the outdoor court bring more to the table.

4. Langton Hall

Langton Hall is Dixon circa 1921. Walking in, you expect to see men with handlebar moustaches wearing short-shorts shooting into peach baskets. You would never go to Langton Hall by yourself to find a pick-up basketball

game. The place is a little eerie and reminds me of an episode of *Are You Afraid of the Dark* that's haunted me since I was a little kid. Still, Langton has history and the courts are always open as long as a PAC class isn't using them. If you can get a group together to ball at Langton, you will find it's actually quite nice.

5. The court by the Riverfront

I have a nickname for this court that has something to do with the fact that it is surrounded by an encampment of homeless people. I will refrain from revealing it, because it is not politically correct. Every time I have gone to play there I have had multiple conversations with an interesting character who calls himself Skip aka The Dude Who Knows How to Get Things. Although this court isn't located on campus, I had to put it on the list for its uniqueness. Located under an overpass down by the skate park and the Willamette River, playing there might be the most urban experience one can get in Corvallis.

Alex Crawford, sports writer

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GOLF

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because it's my senior year and we haven't gone," French said. "It's been six years since we've gone. We're all really excited to go. We're just hoping that we play our game and we'll see how it goes from there."

Alexander was there for the Beavers' lone nationals appearance, which came in 1998. Things hadn't been as promising, though, during the recent six-year postseason drought, but now Alexander is excited for the regionals berth.

"We're just excited to have the opportunity," Alexander said. "We feel like we've prepared well. We've worked hard all year. We're ready to go."

Advancing past regionals will not come easily, though. As the No. 18 seed, the competition in front of Oregon State is going to be stiff. UCLA leads the field as the top seed, and conference rivals Cal and Stanford also join Oregon State in the West Regional.

However, Alexander says this probably won't even be the Beavers' toughest tournament of the year.

"We've played such a strong schedule all year, so we've been in tournaments where we've seen these teams," Alexander said. "We know what we're up against. We've played in even probably stronger events than this event."

A large part in the team's

improvement from last year has been the addition of freshman Anica Yoo. Yoo is leading the team in season stroke average at 76.03.

"Our team is more competitive this year which gives us an advantage," French said. "Especially with Anica coming in, she's been such a great help to our team and is consistently always in our scoring and contributing every tournament."

Yoo herself didn't realize the magnitude of importance the rest of the team held for regionals until they found out they were going.

"I didn't know how big postseason meant to the team," Yoo said. "So after knowing that we were going and how excited everyone else was, that just made me more excited."

Oregon State goes into its first postseason tournament as underdogs, but the team feels there's nothing wrong with being in that position.

"I just think it's kind of a positive to go in it in this situation because we're excited to get to this point, and it's just a win-win from here," said assistant coach Kailin Downs. "We're in regionals and it's anybody's game for the eight spots."

"We know what we're up against, so it's going to take three days of great play to get this done," Alexander said.

Warner Strausbaugh, sports writer

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“If you're a fan, go ahead and use “we”. Last time I checked we're competing with UofO for a fan base...”

— @Lopez (Joe Lopez)
Beaver Tweet of the Day

Alex Crawford

Cut me Mick

Top 5 places to hoop on campus

Growing up in Southern California for the first 18 years of my life, sunny days were as common as facelifts on middle-aged women and smog-clouded sunsets.

When the weather was good, it was never a chore to go inside and do homework or go to class. There was a certain level of confidence that the sunshine was not going away.

Now I live in Corvallis, where there is no confidence in the sun sticking around. When the weather starts getting better, students rejoice like the Pilgrims surviving a long harsh winter.

In Corvallis, a bright, balmy day is equivalent to a holiday. A sunny day in Corvallis guarantees a few things: schoolwork will not get done, the lawn of the Brew Station will be a mass of humanity in tank tops and sundresses and there will be a plethora of outdoor activities taking place.

In my humble opinion, the most fun way to pass the time on a sunny day (besides day drinking) is playing pick-up basketball with your friends.

(Disclaimer: I am not very good at basketball. I just really enjoy playing it. I'd compare myself to an under-sized Reggie Evans).

There are plenty of good places to shoot hoops around Corvallis, but after much thought and many games of one-on-one, I've come up with my top five. Not all are outdoors, but then again, there aren't many days around here where one can go shoot around outdoors.

1. Outdoor Court at Student Heritage Park

One of the most frustrating parts of pick-up basketball is when your team loses and you are forced to sit around and wait to get on the court again. At this court, having to sit out a game or two may actually be a blessing in disguise. The Student Heritage Park court is in a prime location. Surrounded on both sides by the turf IM fields, there is plenty to do when not playing, not to mention lots of pretty girls in the area. Playing ball at this court can be as much of a social activity as an athletic one. When the weather is good, there is no better place to play basketball on the OSU campus than Student Heritage Park. I think Will Smith summed it up best in his sunny day jam Summertime when he said,

“It's late in the day and I ain't been on the court yet

Hustle to the mall to get me a short set

Yeah I got on sneaks but I need a new pair

Cause basketball courts in the summer got girls there.”

2. McAlexander Fieldhouse

With a name that sounds like a storied basketball arena somewhere in Indiana, McAlexander is easily the most underrated place to play basketball on campus. While Dixon gets more publicity, McAlexander is just as nice in terms of quality of courts and hoops. There is hardly ever a crowd at any time of day, and if one shows up with a solid crew they easily have a full court to themselves for hours. One knock on McAlexander is that the competition level is not as good as Dixon or the outdoor court. Still, you cannot beat having a brand new indoor court all to yourself for hours on end.

3. Dixon Rec Center

Many reading this will probably be outraged to see Dixon this far down on the list, but two things must be kept in mind. First, the Dixon



JOHN ZHANG | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Anica Yoo (center right) has been a big reason why the Beavers were able to end their six-year postseason drought. The freshman from British Columbia leads OSU with a season stroke average of 76.03.

Postseason a long time coming

Women's golf regionals begin today, OSU is in the field for the first time since '06

By Warner Strausbaugh
THE DAILY BAROMETER

For the first time in six years, the Oregon State women's golf team will be heading to NCAA Regionals.

The Beavers found out a week and a half ago that they will be the No. 18 seed in the 24-team West Regional.

Regionals kick off today and run through Saturday. It is a 54-hole event, and the top eight teams will move on to the NCAA Championships, which OSU has been to just once in its history.

It's been a long time coming for head coach Rise Alexander and senior Whitney French, who have been eager to reach the postseason for the last couple years.

“I'm super excited, especially

See **GOLF** | page 7

West Regional (Erie, Colo.)

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. UCLA | 13. Iowa State |
| 2. LSU | 14. Stanford |
| 3. North Carolina | 15. Denver |
| 4. Colorado | 16. UNLV |
| 5. California | 17. New Mexico |
| 6. Baylor | 18. Oregon State |
| 7. Pepperdine | 19. Illinois |
| 8. UC Davis | 20. Kennesaw State |
| 9. Oklahoma | 21. San Jose State |
| 10. Texas Tech | 22. Missouri State |
| 11. Tulsa | 23. Northern Colorado |
| 12. TCU | 24. Jackson State |

Big, hostile crowd awaits OSU softball in Tucson



HANNAH O'LEARY | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Freshman Ya Garcia and the rest of the Oregon State softball team has been having a lot of fun this season. The Beavers are ranked 24th nationally and likely bound for the postseason.

The Beavers, who will learn their postseason destination Sunday, will end the regular season on the road at No. 16 Arizona

By Jacob Shannon
THE DAILY BAROMETER

At home, the Oregon State softball team hasn't played in front of more than 697 fans this year.

Around 3,000 fans are expected to show up and root against the Beavers in Tucson in their final series of the regular season.

No. 24 Oregon State (33-19, 8-12 Pac-12) will play No. 16 Arizona (33-16, 10-11 Pac-12) three times over the next three days.

First pitch is scheduled for tonight at 7 p.m. Games two and three are Friday night and Saturday, at 7 p.m. and noon, respectively.

The fan turnout is only one variable to be considered when playing in Arizona. Hillenbrand Stadium will redefine the road experience for the half of the Beaver roster unfamiliar with the location.

“Their home field advantage in the conference is pretty pronounced, its environment, its intensity, its lights, its crowds. They'll probably have 2,500 to 3,000 people there,” head coach Kirk Walker said. “We are playing under the lights, which we don't normally do, the air is different, the infield is different — it's hard. And there are a lot of other factors we are going to have to get used to. It's been two years since we have been there.”

Senior pitcher Paige Hall and junior pitcher Marina Demore had a rough go around from the circle the last time OSU played in Tucson in 2010.

No. 24 OSU @ No. 16 UA
Hillenbrand Stadium
(Tucson, Ariz.)

Today: 7 p.m.
Friday: 7 p.m.
Saturday: Noon

See **SOFTBALL** | page 7