

THE
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Triumph.

orange
media
NETWORK

VICTORY

OSU defeats Oregon to end their eight-year-long Civil War win-less drought, finishing the Beaver's season on a high note and setting the team's future on the right path.

Page 10

Community Calendar

MONDAY, NOV. 28

Biology Seminar

Dr. Lauren Chan will lead an integrative seminar titled: "From Genes to Landscapes: Conversation of the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard." This event takes place in the Agriculture and Life Sciences building room 4001 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOV. 29

Religion and Politics Talk

The OSU Socratic Club presents: "Did the 2016 election save (or destroy) America?" A talk on God, elections and politics. This event takes place in the Milam Auditorium at 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 30

Chemistry Seminar

Michael Bartberger will lead a seminar titled: "Application of Computational Methods to Chemical Reactivity, Structural Elucidation, and Drug Design." This event takes place in the Linus Pauling Science Center in room 402 from 5 to 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 1

President's Winter Celebration

OSU faculty, staff and students are invited to take a break for holiday treats and gourmet beverages. Hosted by OSU President Edward J. Ray. This event takes place in the Memorial Union Lounge from 9 to 11 a.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 2

OSU University Chorale

Music a la Carte presents the OSU University Chorale in the final performance of the fall season. Graduate music education students will conduct an eclectic program of choral favorites. This event takes place in the Memorial Union Main Lounge from noon to 1 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3

Holiday Marketplace

Enjoy handmade crafts, fine art and specialty foods made by Oregon artisans, including live local entertainment. This event takes place in the Memorial Union Ballroom from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

IN THIS ISSUE

Triumph over the Ducks: OSU wins Civil War 34-24



JOSHUA LUCAS | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Senior cornerback Treston Decoud celebrates after beating the Oregon Ducks in the Civil War. The victory is the first the Beavers have had over Oregon since 2007, and puts OSU above OU in the final Pac-12 standings for the season.

3

NEWS: OSU declared a sanctuary campus

4

NEWS: Profile on OSU President Ed Ray

6

NEWS: Researching whale poop to learn about stress

10

COVER: OSU ends season on positive note

12

SPORTS: Ovgard helps community through football

14

OPINION: Dr. Tech, finding strength in change

15

OPINION: Letter to the Editor responding to WGSS faculty



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COVER: Photo by Zbigniew Sikora. Running back Ryan Nall and tight end Ricky Ortiz celebrate after Nall scores.



ZBIGNIEW SIKORA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Oregon State University President Ed Ray discussed the implications of declaring OSU a sanctuary university and protecting information about students' immigration statuses.

OSU declared a sanctuary university

Joining a growing movement across the country and reacting to local pressure, President Ray commits to protecting students

By Lauren Sluss, Managing Editor

On Nov. 21, President Ed Ray joined a nationwide effort by officially declaring Oregon State University as a sanctuary university. Ray and the OSU administration vowed to protect information regarding students' background and immigration status.

"What we made very clear was we have no intention of doing anything that we're not compelled to do, either by warrants or court orders, to help with the enforcement of immigration background checks. We are here first and foremost to protect and students," Ray said.

Since the presidential election, 28 other universities across the U.S. have made similar declarations. This movement is in response to the campaign promise of President-Elect Donald Trump to deport millions

of undocumented immigrants.

OSU's declaration was in response to a walk in protest which took place on campus Wednesday, Nov. 16. Over 100 students marched to Ray's office, demanding he make OSU a sanctuary university.

"It was a day where campuses across the nation were choosing to engage in this activity of doing a peaceful protest where folks walk out of class and walk around campus chanting, but not acting in a violent manner," Rachel Grisham, president of Associated Students of Oregon State University said. "Most of the Pac-12 campuses were doing it at the same time we were. There was some coordination to try to create national rumble or more increased awareness about sanctuary universities."

According to Ray, OSU is already a sanctuary university due to the fact that Oregon is a sanctuary state. In 2007, Oregon passed the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, which provides temporary lawful presence to immigrant youth, typically under the age of 16. With the passing of DACA, the state of Oregon declared itself a sanctuary state, although that status has received little attention until recently.

"There's been a lot of scrambling in the last week to find out what it means to make such a declaration as a sanctuary university and sanctuary state," Ray said. "We're clearer now, and it means that we don't simply cooperate because the immigration service, for example, wants information about people that could determine if people are here legally or not."

According to OSU Vice President for University Relations and Marketing Steve Clark, Ray's email declaration as a sanctuary university worked to establish exactly what roles the university plays in relation to federal law.

"We are saying in light of concerns that individuals who attend the university may have, as far as concerns over their status as a student as an immigrant, that it was important for us to confirm for them what our policies are and what our roles are and how we would comply with federal policies that are laws," Clark said.

Since the declaration Ray has received criticism about the possibility of OSU losing

See **Sanctuary**, Page 8



AARON TRASK | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

OSU President Ed Ray taking in the view from his porch with his dog Gus. Ray enjoys hobbies including running, horse back riding and spending time with Gus.

President for the people

From mischievous student to OSU President, a father and dog lover

By Sierra Koefoed Harlan, News Contributor

The first thing you notice when he walks in the room is the large, dazzling, gold ring proudly displayed on his hand. The words "National Champions" surround a bejewelled number one. While this ring is a token from the Oregon State University baseball team, this man is no baseball player. He is Oregon State University President, Ed Ray.

"This is from the 2006 NCAA Baseball championship team here at Oregon State," said Ray. "We won the national title in baseball in 2006 and 2007 and so it's kind of like carrying the flag. I'll go places and people will say, 'what's that ring?', and then I'll get to talk about the Beavers."

Since Ray began his career at OSU in 2003, he has launched the Marine Studies Initiative, helped OSU gain recognition as a public research university and increased enrollment from 18,979 students in the fall of 2003, to 30,354 in the fall of 2016. In addition to the improvements that he has made at OSU, he has also personally impacted students.

"I absolutely love President Ray," said Rachel Grisham, ASOSU president. "He has a great sense of humor and is always willing to talk with students. I am so incredibly thankful to be able to work so closely with such a nice, empathetic, and passionate university president."

Ray's sense of humor comes out in the stories that he shares and is punctuated by his warm, hearty laugh. He has had a clever sense of humor since his childhood.

"I wasn't the class clown, I was more impish than prankster," Ray said. "I liked to joke and I like to have a good time, and that kind of thing. And I always loved school, so I always chatted and talked a lot."

Ray shared a story about his middle school science teacher, Mr. Mermalstein, whom Ray referred to as a "pickle puss." In class, Ray made a cigar box banjo to learn about harmonics. His teacher asked if anyone would like to show the class their projects, and Ray volunteered.

"I said 'well we want to sing a song that we wrote, and we'll play our cigar box guitars,' and I had written this song," Ray said. "And this is the song, I swear to God."

Ray sang, "They sing and remember old nelly the cow, she gave ten quarts a day and they never found how, now that she's gone and no longer can give, how then will the old farmer live."

"You never saw such an angry, unhappy teacher in your life," added Ray. "I don't remember, but I'm pretty sure we didn't get extra credit. That was me at my most mischievous."

Being a father has been an important part of Ray's life. His eyes light up when he shares anecdotes about his two daughters, Stephanie and Katie, and his son, Mike. When his children were little, Ray worked a lot, but he tried to find ways to spend time with them. One activity that he enjoyed participating in with his children was the YMCA Indian Guide and Princess Program. This gave him the opportunity to spend time with his children through activities, such as camping. Ray's children are now grown, and he has three grandchildren.

Ray moved to Oregon in 2003 with his wife Beth, who passed away in 2014. They immediately liked Corvallis.

"My wife said 'we found it' and I said, 'well what is it?'" Ray said. "'Where we should be' she replied."

Ray has made a lasting impression on the people that he works with. Steve Clark, OSU vice president for university relations and marketing, works with him seven days a week, and they often speak over holidays.

"President Ray is a remarkable person who has a very true and accurate compass," Clark said. "He is a true north star for Oregon State University and the communities we serve."

Grisham is also in constant contact with Ray, and she has gotten to know him through their time together.



AARON TRASK | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Ray sitting on his porch with his dog Gus, a 12-year-old Standard Poodle.

"He loves to garden and can actually grow some rather large zucchini," Grisham said. "Also, his dog is super cute."

Ray owns a Standard Poodle named Gus who is also a devoted Beavers fan. Gus is about 12 and a half years old.

"He's getting long in the tooth, that's kind of sad because he's a sweetheart," Ray said.

Ray proudly showed a picture of Gus from a few years ago during Homecoming Week. Gus is repping a tee-shirt that the music department gave him and an orange scarf.

"He's a great dog," Ray said. "He likes everybody and lives for the ball, although getting him to chase it now is more of a challenge."

Ray is dedicated to his job and spends most of his time working on OSU affairs.

"He lives, works and breathes Oregon State University every day, and almost every moment every day," Clark said.

Ray made it evident that he is personally committed to OSU, and that he cares about the success of the students.

"I tell people that our graduates are the most important contribution we make to the future," Ray said. "So when I see our students graduating, I don't know that there is a better feeling."

In Ray's office, located on the sixth floor of the Kerr Administration Building, there is a large, built in bookcase filled with old books, many of which are from his time studying economics at Stanford University. A pair of gargoyles reside on the bookshelf, which

Ray has always been fond of. There are also knick-knacks from his world travels as well as gifts from friends.

Ray is not afraid to try new things. He began running marathons at age 50 and has run a total of 13, but no longer has a desire to run long distance.

"I don't run, I thump," Ray joked.

Ray also rides horses on occasion, and has ridden in the Pendleton parade for the past 14 years.

"People there are very proud, obviously, and they always ask 'what's your favorite thing about the Pendleton Round-Up?'" Ray said. "Which you can understand. I mean, they're very proud of the situation. And I tell them that my favorite thing about the Pendleton Round-Up is when I get off my horse at a time and place of my own choosing and under my own powers. That is my absolute favorite moment of the Pendleton Round-Up because I know I may actually live another year."

Ray has a contract with OSU for another three and a half years. Clark pointed out how lucky the OSU community is to have Ray as president.

"He cares about people who are in need or suffering from illness, or who have been harmed by society or an individual," Clark said. "He cares about others and I have personally seen him reach out to others in need, day or night."

Provost's Literary Prize

\$500 AWARD AND PUBLICATION ON CAMPUS

Ron Adams, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, requests submissions to the 29th Annual Provost's Literary Prize for undergraduates at OSU. The prize consists of an award of \$500 and publication for on-campus distribution.

Rules. The literary work may be fiction, poetry, drama, or creative nonfiction written for a general audience. The prize is open to currently enrolled undergraduate students at Oregon State University who may submit their own work or have work nominated by faculty members.

Submissions must be the student's original work, typed, no longer than 14 double-spaced pages for prose or drama, or eight manuscript pages for poetry, and include full name, year in school, current mailing address, phone number, and student I.D. number of the author.

Deadline. Submit work to Prof. Keith Scribner, Chair of the Provost's Literary Prize Committee - School of Writing, Literature, and Film main office, Moreland 238 - by 5 pm, **Thursday, February 16, 2017.**

Announcement. The Provost will announce the winner in May.

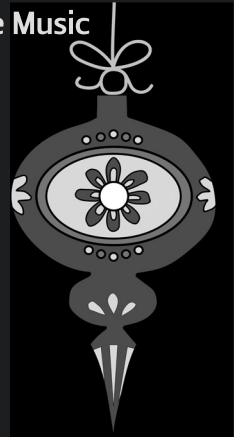
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Researching whale poop

A professor at OSU has been studying whale feces to measure their stress

By Rosie Moorehead, Multimedia Contributor



COURTESY OF JACQUIE GAMELGAARD

A humpback whale breaches the surface of the water in British Columbia, Canada. Researchers at OSU have been examining similar whales poop off the Oregon coast.



The OSU Socratic Club at Oregon State University presents an event free and open to the public

DID THE 2016 ELECTION SAVE (OR DESTROY) AMERICA

Some Americans describe the 2016 election as the greatest political disaster since the invasion of Iraq. Other Americans describe it as a hopeful reprieve from terrible corruption.

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**Milam Auditorium
Tuesday, Nov. 29th
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Speaker:
Gerry Breshears
Professor of Systematic
Theology at Western
Seminary in Portland



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Picking up poop is not just for dogs anymore. However, these piles are much bigger.

Leigh Torres, Oregon State University assistant professor for fishery and wildlife, developed a new idea and way to study whales, by examining their feces.

Over the summer Torres lead a team of researchers and students studying how ocean noise affects whales through their poop.

"Ocean noise has been on the rise in the past decades. There have been long term impacts in increased ocean noise. That led us to this project. We are sampling the whale poop to detect stress hormone levels," Torres said.

Torres said these types of studies can work on all sorts of mammals.

First year OSU environmental engineering and oceanography student Etasha Golden assisted Torres out on the open seas for four days.

"I was looking through a telescope to look for birds and whales and I would keep track of how many I would see," Golden said.

According to Golden, the team would meet at 7 a.m. sharp in Newport at the boat dock and depart at 9 a.m. The boat usually consisted of a couple graduate and undergraduate students, a drone to help search, and a research technician who drove the boat and flies the drone, and of course Torres.

"Finding the whales is relatively easy, they are here a lot. We go out in the little boat and we find them pretty easy," Torres said.

Whale watching is just the beginning of the process of analyzing whale poop. Researchers had to physically grab the poop before it floats away.

"We use a fine mesh net that we drag through the water where the plum is," Torres said.

Torres described a plum as a reddish-purplish color, so when her team spots the giant mark in the ocean they rush towards it.

Golden explained that there's a lot more that goes into it than just picking up poop.

"It's not just whale poop it's how you can analyze how these

animals are feeling and if they are stressed or not. There is literally hormones in the poop that you can analyze and that actually allows you to see if the whale population is going to increase," Golden said.

Torres said animals' and humans' emotions can be similar in multiple ways that revolve around stress. This relationship can lead to a better understanding of whales from a human perspective.

"When we are stressed we are more susceptible to disease and colds and that has been shown in other animals in relation to noise. We use hydrophones in the water recording the noise in different areas," Torres said.

Torres and her research team poop hunt in the late summer and early fall because of the whale migration periods.

"There is a certain whale season. We went in fall because that's when they are migrating down the coast line to get to warmer waters and then they will go and breed close by California and then they will come back up the coastline in late spring and summer," Golden said.

Torres has the ability to track the progress of individual whales and can continue to track their progress and how it fluctuates between research periods.

"(It's) easy to resample whales. Hopefully we see the same whales, they like the Oregon coast so we like to see them year to year," Torres said.

Torres said the results from this year's season of whale poop research is promising for upcoming years.

"We did fairly well this season with over 50 samples. We want the project to carry on for hopefully six or seven years, to answer the impact of whales," Torres said.

Seventeen-year-old Newport High School senior Leland Wood, was involved with the research and worked with both Golden and Torres. He thoroughly enjoyed his tasks and experience.

"We had this large machine that held sensors and equipment which we would drop into the water column and see what the water was like. We could see temperature, density, salinity, clarity, light levels, bacteria levels and more. This was really cool since we could drop it 1000 meters into the ocean

and get a readout of what the water was like," Wood said.

Students at OSU can also get involved in future research trips.

"Taking ecology and oceanography courses will introduce you to the topics, try and get internships, I take on undergraduates a lot with my projects," Torres said.

Although still in high school, Wood sees the importance of this research.

"We don't know everything about whales in the open ocean and how we are impacting them. We have to monitor them so we know how our activities are affecting them and to use as a base for future generations," Wood said. "We want to have sustainable practices and keep our whales so we need all the information we can to have healthy populations."

According to Golden, there is a lot of work involved but the amazing moments in between made it all worthwhile.

"Leigh was jumping up and down, screaming her head off because there was literally about 200 humpbacks surrounding us at sunset," Golden said.

Torres's research has become more than just a poop hunt but memorable experiences and results.

"I pretty much like it all, it is pretty exciting. We have acoustic and photo id and drones and new technology and hormone analysis. It basically is a game of patience," Torres said. "It is fun and adds a bit of unpredictability. Fecal samples are great because they are not invasive and not harmful to the animals."

According to Golden, the experience of whale research is a rare opportunity and is extremely interesting.

"It was life-changing, it was amazing and all the adults on there (researchers) were saying, 'this is incredible, this never happens, this is once in a lifetime and you need to appreciate this,'" Golden said.

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NEWS



(Left) Weam Elsheithe, peer facilitator, discusses the declaration with them as international students.



Sanctuary

Continued from page 3

its federal funding due to its sanctuary status. However, Ray said that OSU is in no such danger. "This business about losing federal funding is stupid stuff," Ray said. "There is nothing in law that says we have to comply with requests for information about potentially undocumented people, or our federal funds are at risk."

"Courts have ruled that we can have that kind of sanctuary status," Ray added. "We're not cooperating with the enforcement of immigration actions, and it's within the law. We're not breaking the law, but we are doing the maximum amount we can to protect students, and to help them protect their families."

Clark reiterated OSU's role within federal laws. "The university does not enforce federal laws, we comply with federal laws," Clark said. "Folks don't understand that this is an educational institution that doesn't enforce laws such as immigration, it complies with federal laws."

Although the declaration has already been made, Ray still senses concern and apprehension among students. On Monday, Nov. 21, Ray met with students and community members in a town hall meeting to discuss the declaration. Students voiced their opinions concerning the campus climate.

"Students spoke about the climate, and not just that there are people who are personally concerned about their situations or their families' situations," Ray said.

Weam Elsheithe, communication representative for the Ettihad Cultural Center, was one of the

students who met with Ray during the town hall meeting following the declaration. Elsheithe took comfort in Ray's declaration, but is still looking toward the next steps.

"President Ray declaring OSU is a sanctuary campus, it was a little bit of comfort for me. It was like, okay good, that's something, but that's not all of it," Elsheithe said. "I feel like that's how other students feel, like okay good, then what?"

However, the current state of America concerns Elsheithe.

"The fact that OSU is a sanctuary campus, or even Oregon being a sanctuary state, doesn't hide the fact that three quarters of Americans still wanted that President-Elect," Elsheithe added. "Racism is still rooted very deeply in Oregon's history on its own, and some students are definitely thinking that is not enough. They really want more."

Elsheithe is an international student who is studying on a student visa. Although Elsheithe does not feel directly affected by the results of the presidential election, she feels the negative climate concerning Muslims indirectly impacts her.

"That's how it's indirectly affecting me because of all the hate that's going on around Muslims and islamophobia, and our representation being a threat to ourselves," Elsheithe said. "And that alone is the scary bit because I shouldn't be scared to be who I am. I shouldn't be scared to practice my own religion freely and openly in front of everyone, especially that it does no harm to the people around me."

Another main concern for Elsheithe is the uncertainty of what is possible actions going to be taken in the upcoming months.

"It's not knowing about what is going to happen that is scary," Elsheithe said. "I wish I could answer



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MIRANDA CROWELL | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

heik, communication representative for the Ettihad Cultural Center, and (right) Roa'a Albish, and event ambassador for the ECC met with President Ray during a town hall meeting to celebration of OSU as a sanctuary university. They then discussed how the declaration impacts international students studying at OSU on student visas.

I'm a Muslim and I'm not ashamed of that, but it does affect me somehow—I'm not sure how. It's the unknown, and not being sure about things is what scares us.

Roa'a Albish

Ettihad Cultural Center peer facilitator and event ambassador

that, but I'm not able to unfortunately."

Roa'a Albish, peer facilitator and event ambassador for the Ettihad Cultural Center, shares in Elsheik's concern for the unknown.

"You don't know what aspect of your life, being here as an international student legally and studying in the United States, what it will do," Albish said. "I'm a Muslim and I'm not ashamed of that, but it does affect me somehow—I'm not sure how. It's the unknown, and not being sure about things is what scares us."

Ray understands the uncertainty felt among students, and believes declaring OSU as a sanctuary university is a profound step until more information regarding the new presidential administration comes to light.

"At this point, until we know more about what it is we're dealing with, it's hard to know what else would be productive," Ray said. "We are not looking away from what's being suggested could happen. We're going to stay on top of it. If there are meaningful actions we can take, we will do so as quickly as we possibly can, and try to give people assurances that we need to see what it is that we are ultimately dealing with, not what we are afraid we are dealing with."

Although OSU will not take more action until further presidential administration information is revealed, Ray has received positive feedback from the community since the declaration. Marta Maldonado, associate professor of Latino and ethnic studies, believes the declaration is a step in the right direction.

"I am really glad that President Ray has joined basically the nationwide voices of so many institutions across the country who have declared sanctuary status," Maldonado said. "I think it's really important for students in our community

and for the community overall to have a sense of safety, that the university is basically supporting them, supporting their inclusion. That they feel safe doing everyday work."

Along with Maldonado, Vice Provost of International Programs Mark Hoffman felt the declaration is working to unify the community.

"It was an important step for our campus to send a message to the rest of our community that we are supportive of them," Hoffman said. "It was nice that we were able to come along with other institutions in our state to share a common message and a common goal."

Although the declaration has already been made, Ray encouraged students to stay vigilant by reaching out toward one another.

"I hope in this time of uncertainty people will make an extra effort to be supportive of each other—take the time to listen if that's what needed, give someone a hug who needs a hug, let them know that you understand what their concerns are and you want to be as supportive as you can." Albish shares in Ray's call for solidarity in the upcoming months.

"Just unite," Albish said. "Unite, treat each other equally and don't discriminate. We're all here for a short period of time; you never know when your time on earth is ending, so why are we discriminating against one another; why are we making it hard for one another? It just doesn't make sense."

According to Ray, trials and hardships will not break the community.

"We are a community, and we get tested all the time," Ray said. "We need to constantly be willing to come back, to have difficult conversation and dialogue and try to demonstrate that at the end of the day we care about each other and we support each other."

Yikes!
I don't have anything to eat back at the dam!

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Sunday 12 - 6 pm



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Offensive lineman Gavin Andrews celebrates after the OSU Beavers beat the Oregon Ducks 34-24 in the 120th Civil War, hosted this year in Corvallis at Reser Stadium.



ZBIGNIEW SIKORA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

(Left) Senior cornerback Treston Decoud appeared in his last game for the Beavers Saturday. (Right) Sophomore cornerback Julian Brentley surfs the crowd of students that rushed onto the field after the game. The Civil War victory marks the first time since 2007 that OSU will finish with a better conference record than the Ducks. (Below) Students cheer on the Beavers.



OPINION

Andersen is cooking in Corvallis

The vision of Beaver's head coach led to successful season

By Josh Worden, Senior Beat Reporter

The 2016 Oregon State football team had one of the best 4-8 seasons you'll ever see.

OK sure, winning four games overall and going 3-6 in the Pac-12 is not where the Beavers want to be long term.

Beating the Ducks in the Civil War, though? Yeah, Beaver fans are happy with that.

How about that Duck bandwagon, by the way? Looks like it lost a wheel. If this season was a journey on the Oregon trail, the Ducks got stuck in Kansas and everyone on board contracted cholera.

But as for OSU, the Beavers had some disappointing losses this season and still is in the bottom half of the conference in terms of their record and yes, probably talent, too.

Except for Ryan Nall. That dude is absurd.

OSU had a relatively mediocre season in head coach Gary Andersen's second year, but in one sense, OSU should have been far worse this season.

Consider this: OSU is one of only five teams in the nation to have different offensive and defensive coordinators in each of the last three seasons. Defensively, OSU has filtered through Mark Banker (2014), Kalani Sitake (2015) and now Kevin Clune (2016), while the offense has actually had five different coordinators in four seasons: Danny Langsdorf (2013), John Garrett (2014), Dave Baldwin (2015) and co-coordinators TJ Woods and Kevin McGiven this season.

OSU spent most of the year ranking in the top-10 in strength of schedule. Not to mention the players lost from last year's squad, and I don't just mean to graduation like Larry Scott and Kyle Peko. Remember Rommel Mageo and Justin Strong? They could have made a big impact for OSU this year if they hadn't transferred.

Those four names were arguably OSU's four best defenders a year ago and they all left.

How the heck did OSU even win four games this year? Give a lot of credit to the defense, which somehow improved despite itself to allow 30.5 points per game compared to 37.0 last season.

Even in OSU's losses, there was progress. Andersen's squad went 8-3-1 against the spread per ESPN, meaning the Beavers consistently did slightly better than expected. Did they win? No, not usually. But they lost by less than anticipated. And isn't that what it's all about?

I'm slightly joking, but my point about OSU being competitive in games is valid. Andersen agrees with me: "Nobody flat walked in here, threw us around on the carpet and then said, 'go home,'" Andersen said. And he's right; OSU went 3-2 in its Pac-12 home games, losing those two by a combined nine points.

Here's the biggest thing, though. The most

important attribute in a rebuilding program's success is whether or not players buy into the coaching staff's vision. It takes commitment from the entire program and a lot of trust in the head coach to get the ball rolling.

Don't just take it from me. Let's look at the 1998 team. Coming off a 3-8 season in Mike Riley's first year as head coach, OSU preceded its 2016 season by similarly adding two wins in Riley's second year. It set the stage for a 7-5 season the next year and an 11-1 record in 2000.

Brandon Reynolds, an OSU wide receiver from 1996-1998, noticed a change in the Beavers' program when Riley entered.

"I think everyone was buying into Riley and his coaching staff," Reynolds said. "He had a winning perspective: 'This is what we're going to do. We're going to do it well, we're going to work, and we're going to win.' And he was right."

Here's the thing: players now say the same thing about Andersen that Reynolds said about Riley in 1998.

"You can see the fire in [Andersen's] eyes and that he wants us to win more than anything," said starting quarterback Marcus McMaryion.

"He says we deserve to win," added junior safety Kendall Hill. "When you hear stuff like that from your head coach, it makes you want to go to anything for him."

So are players buying into Andersen's vision? Andersen says so.

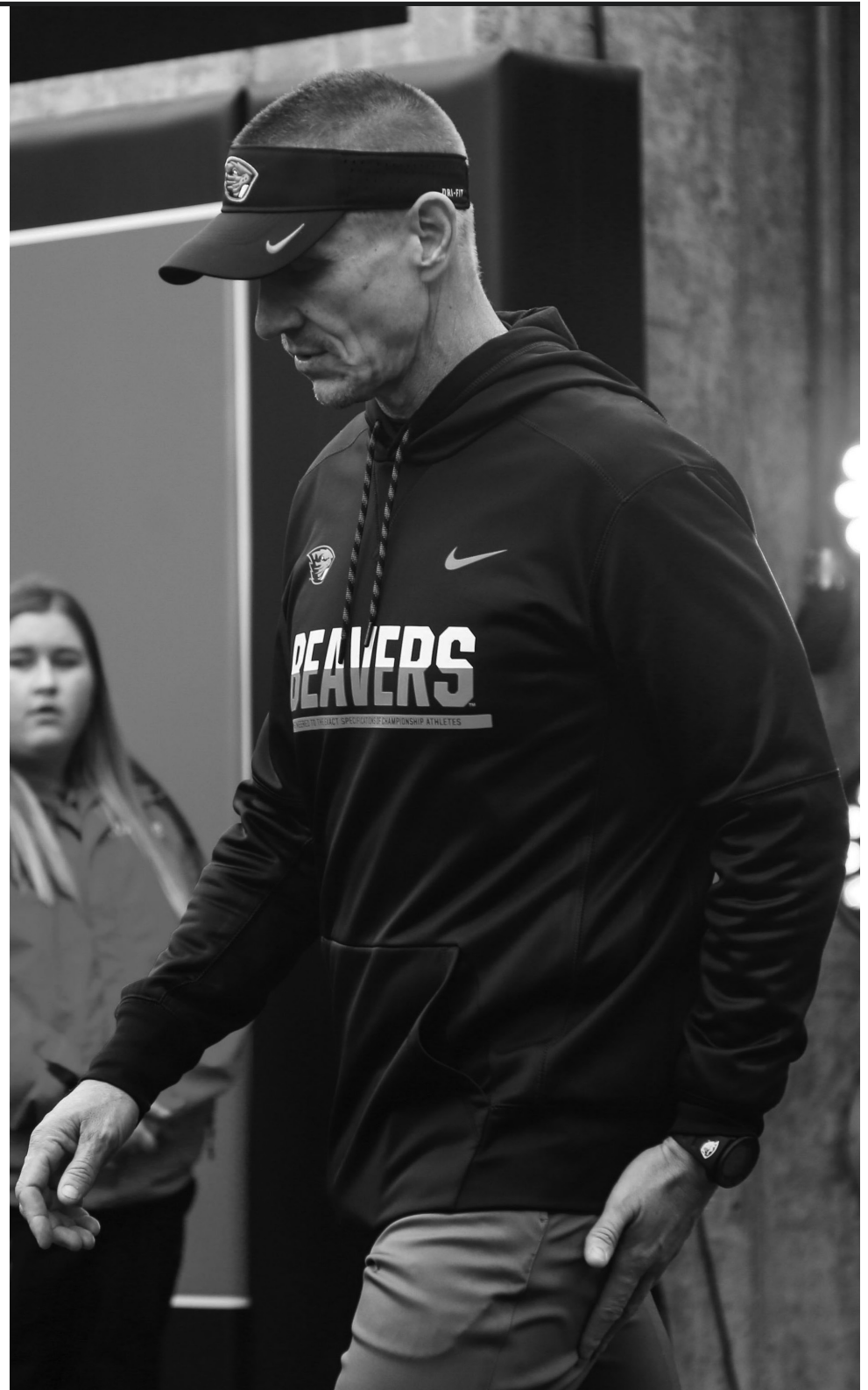
"These kids have fought like crazy," he said. "They know they're in a big boy fight. They're not where they want to be. None of us are. But I think they're very bought into the direction we're going. I think we all believe in each other, and that's not just what they believe, that's what we believe in as a group. But if you really want the answer to that, you should probably ask them."

Good point, Gary. Luckily, I did ask them. "Guys are buying into him," McMaryion said. "He's definitely a players first coach. He gives us everything we ask for, so the least we can do is play our tails off and try to get wins for him."

"We're more of a family now," added junior wideout Jordan Villamin. "I'm not saying last year we weren't, but it's more of a family atmosphere. The offense talks to the defense all the time, instead of keeping cliques. Everybody vibes with each other all the time, so it really helps. If someone makes a mistake, we're like 'Okay, you got it. We understand.' It's not like everybody's getting mad at each other. Everybody's in tune. It's really nice."

Need more?

"It's definitely different [this year]: different team, different mindset, different work ethic,



ZBIGNIEW SIKORA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Head football coach Gary Andersen walks onto the field before the Civil War game on Saturday. Despite offensive and defensive coordinators staffing changes the past three years, Andersen has been working towards rebuilding the program.

different everything," said senior cornerback Treston Decoud. "We're going to keep fighting and working, and I promise it's going to turn around. Everybody's going to want to get on the ship, but it's going to be too late. We expect to win, and that's what we're going to keep expecting."

OK, one more, this time from an assistant coach.

"I think he's an incredible leader," said wide receivers coach Brent Brennan. "The fact that you continue to see our team compete and fight the way they do even though they haven't gotten the results they want, is a testimony to how much they believe in coach Andersen, the staff and what he's

doing with this process here. That's been incredibly positive."

Most players echoed the same sentiments. Before the California win, though, sophomore defensive lineman Sumner Houston acknowledged that some players are still "working on" putting full trust into the process.

"There's some people that are still hesitant about buying into the system, doing things right and trusting teammates," he said.

The positive sign for OSU: that seemed to improve as the season went along. Last year, OSU started to get blown out week after week as the season closed—losing by 41 to

See Andersen, Page 16



COURTESY OF KAYLA GOSS | BEYOND FOOTBALL

Gabe Ovgard and a member of the Dream Come True program on the field after the Boise State game on Sept. 24. After being forced to retire from football because of injury, Ovgard now spends his time with the Dream Come True program, giving children with illnesses tours of Reser Stadium and introducing them to Beaver football players.

After suffering a career-ending concussion, former Beaver football player Gabe Ovgard spends game days with children facing serious illnesses

By Brain Rathbone, News/Sports Chief

A year ago, Gabe Ovgard was set to start in the biggest football game in the state of Oregon—the Civil War.

On a typical game day, Ovgard will be spending his time with a child from the Dream Come True program who is facing a serious illness. It's the same routine Ovgard's had all season. He takes the kids on tours of the locker rooms, giving out jerseys and signed footballs, introduces them to the team and takes them onto the field at Reser Stadium as the team warms up for their upcoming game. However, at this year's Civil War, Gabe Ovgard was at his Klamath Falls home with the flu.

As much joy as he gets out his new game day ritual, it's difficult to compare to what he was doing a season ago when he was taking the field.

"Game days are tough," Ovgard said. "That's been the hardest part for me by far."

On the Beavers' first defense series in what turned into a 52-42 loss to their rival at Autzen Stadium in 2015, Ovgard went to push Oregon wide out Darren Carrington II out of bounds at about the 10-yard line. But what was supposed to be a push, turned into a helmet-to-helmet collision between Carrington II and Ovgard.

After the Ducks scored on the next play, Ovgard trotted off the field and did not return for the remainder of the game.

It would also be end up being the last time Ovgard would play the game of football for Oregon State.

At the time, no one knew it. The small-town kid turned walk-on was one of the few bright spots in Oregon State's 2-10, zero Pac-12 win season. It wasn't until the latter half of that season when a slew of injuries to the secondary

forced Ovgard into action. When he got his opportunity, he took full advantage.

Praised by head coach Gary Andersen for the effort he exuded during the final two games of the season when he finished with 17 tackles and an interception, Ovgard was surprised with a scholarship at the end of offseason conditioning.

Two days before the Beavers would open their fall camp in Bend, Ovgard fielded questions about his rise in the program. Questions about his interception of eventual No. 1 pick Jared Goff, to him having a bigger role in the upcoming season as the team's primary backup at safety.

As he answered the questions, he looked like a player itching to get back on the field.

But what appeared to be excitement and giddiness on the exterior was actually a mask covering up his anxiety and panic. Ovgard had a history of concussions. It had become such an issue that if he got his bell rung one more time he would be forced sit out the entire season, and the possibility of him ever returning to the game was in jeopardy.

"Coming in to fall camp, something had changed in me just kind of a sense of worry and fear," Ovgard said. "I hate to say it, but it was there."

Those close with Ovgard notice the alteration in his demeanor as fall camp approached.

"I could kind of see it in him, even just by talking to him you could tell he was worried about it," said fellow safety Drew Kell, who has roomed with Ovgard since the two came to Oregon State together in 2013. "It was on his mind the whole time, you could definitely see some hesitation.

"Anything that showed little symptoms he was really

overcautious."

On the team's second day of full contact, Ovgard made a routine play on a running back, got back up and continued practicing. It wasn't until he woke up the next morning, the day the team was set to return to Corvallis, that the familiar concussion symptoms resurfaced.

"I had woken up with symptoms and the symptoms are exactly how they feel the day after a concussion," Ovgard said. "By this time I knew that feeling pretty well."

Sensitivity to light, headaches, fogginess and an overall feeling that not everything is clear were the symptoms Ovgard would feel when he was concussed.

Knowing the consequences of another concussion, Ovgard went to the training staff to go through the protocol for concussions, which included a battery test. The test revealed a concussion. So when the team returned to Corvallis to continue fall camp, Ovgard returned to his home in Klamath Falls to make a decision that no athlete wants to make.

The decision on whether or not to walk away from the game he loves before he wants to.

"My assumption was that he was just taking time to figure things out," Kell said. "That's what you are hoping for."

"I didn't know much about them"

When Ovgard was in Jr. High he was riding a scooter with his friends, when his scooter shot out from under him and hit his head on the curb. That was when he suffered his first concussion. It wasn't until he was playing high school football at the Triad School and Klamath Union that concussions became a reoccurring issue.



ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK ARCHIVES

Former OSU safety Gabe Ovgard retired in August of 2016 after suffering a concussion in the 2015 Civil War. Ovgard now interns with Beyond Football, allowing him to still stay connected to football while building his resume.

The landscape of football has changed even in the four years since his high school playing days. Back then, Ovgard was able to continue to play despite suffering six concussions by claiming he was having migraines. With the escalating emphasis put on brain injuries in football, using migraines as an

excuse wouldn't in today's game.

"At the time I wasn't really worried because I didn't know much about them," Ovgard said. "I thought it was something that just happens."

The concussions didn't stop Ovgard, who would eventually walk on at Oregon State

as a wide receiver following his high school career, from playing football. The concussion problem that he had faced throughout his high school career had stopped. He went his entire redshirt season without a concussion.

That all changed in the second week of the ensuing spring camp.

"I went up for a ball, tipped it once and on my way down caught it and slammed my head against the ground -- that was probably my worst one," Ovgard said. "I was pretty much out of it for a couple of weeks there."

When Oregon State went through a coaching change from Mike Riley to Gary Andersen, Ovgard made the switch from receiver to safety. The move brought on more inadvertent head-to-head collisions similar to what he suffered in his final game against Oregon.

"I fell down, tried to get back up, I blacked out then got back up," Ovgard said of the hit that forced him to miss the majority of his second straight spring practice. "I recovered really well from that one, and at that point it was up in the air whether they would let me return, but I recovered well so they did."

Even though getting concussions were starting to happen more frequently, Ovgard still believed that all would be fine and that he could continue to play.

"I'm pretty optimistic," Ovgard said. "Maybe sometimes to a point where I'm not realistic, but going into the season I was like 'I'm not going to have another concussion.'"

"More than a football player"

While the team began their second week of fall camp in Corvallis, Ovgard was at his Klamath Falls home contemplating with his family, mentors and pastor on whether it was time to walk away from the game that he had been playing since the first grade when he started playing flag football.

The decision was by no means an easy one.

"That stretch of days was the hardest stretch of days of my life so far," Ovgard said. "Which I guess I'm grateful for because there could be a lot worse things."

Each conversation that Ovgard had ended in similar fashion, despite how much he loved the game, the consequences of getting more concussions was not worth sacrificing his brain in the future. When all was said and done, Ovgard decided to step away from the game.

"I can't tell you how many times that weekend I heard people tell me you are more than a football player," Ovgard said. "Which is comforting, but also at the same time it's hard to believe because that's all I've ever been, so that was the topic of everything, 'you are more than a football player.'"

Even Kell, his teammate, friend and roommate, recited the same message. As difficult as a message it may have been to give.

"It was rough for me to tell him that," Kell said. "Football brought us together, we have that friendship and even more than a friendship, we shared some tears over it, and it's hard to take in, because you'll never understand why."

Once his decision was made, Ovgard had to break the news.

He first talked to the team doctor, who was in full support of his decision, then he went to talk with Andersen, a conversation that he was dreading.

"That was one of the most anxious things I've been through," Ovgard said. "Going into it, I was honestly terrified, I go in and he was extremely comforting, he wasn't mad, but you could tell he was more frustrated but more at

my situation than with me."

Andersen shared with Ovgard that his own playing career was cut short due to injuries.

The news hit the team pretty hard. It was a difficult time for someone like Kell to see of the most revered players on the team have his career cut short.

"It hit me quite hard, I couldn't voice it to him face-to-face just because of how emotional it was," Kell said. "We came here together, and that was the story, that we were going to finish this together."

Ovgard went to Twitter to let everyone else who cared to know, that he was retiring. Tweeting out a four-image screenshot of note explaining why he needed to retire. In the note, he thanked his teammates and coaches -- both high school and college -- his Klamath Falls community, and God for giving him the opportunity to play the game. It was a message that took several hours, and several rounds of editing with his family, for him to finally hit send.

It didn't take long before his twitter feed blew up with messages of support from teammates and Beaver fans.

"It was awesome," Ovgard said. "I was holding back tears reading through all of those."

"Things could be a lot worse for me"

Game days are especially tough for Ovgard, the hardest part of the transition from being a player to being a retired player.

"When it comes to game day," Kell said, "you can see a little hesitation just because how hard it is to face that."

Now Ovgard has a new role. He's no longer chasing down running backs or dropping back into coverage to cover wide receivers. Instead he is interning for Beyond Football, a program that aims to assist student athletes in personal and professional development.

But it wasn't as easy transition, he still missed the game -- but mostly being around his teammates.

"You have a special bond with teammates," Ovgard said. "Some of them you don't really hang out with outside of football, so not having those guys around has been tough."

"I give him so much respect passion for the game and for this team," said Kayla Gross, director of Beyond Football. "He did struggle, as I think anyone would ... and he was honest about that."

Gross approached Ovgard with the opportunity to intern with Beyond Football, giving him the flexibility to be as involved as he wanted to be as he eased into no longer playing.

But much like the way he played the game, Ovgard didn't go at this at half-speed. He went head-on with Beyond Football, where his compassion and easy-going attitude proved to be a natural fit with the work he would be doing.

"He's just a humble, considerate, incredible genuine human being," Gross said. "It's really a testament to the person that he is: a caring, considerate person, and that is apparent in everything he does."

Not only has Beyond Football given him a chance to remain connected with the team while building his resume, the experience has given him a new perspective in his life.

"It's kind of opened my eyes that things could be worse for me," Ovgard said. "Relatively, I have it pretty great, those kids are pretty strong and inspiring."



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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 Baro reserves the right to refuse publication of any submissions. Each reader will be allowed one published letter per month.

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The Baro

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OPINION



Finding strength in times of change

By Dr. Jon Dorbolo, Ask Dr. Tech

Dr. Tech can be reached at Jon.Dorbolo@oregonstate.edu

As Fall terms go this 2016 term has been one of the most eventful that I have experienced. The Federal election takes us all into unknown territory as President-Elect Trump continues to break the mold of American political tradition.

I do not know what Trump will do as President, but he has invariably expressed his intention to remake America from the ground up and rejects our political traditions as irrelevant to his notion of power.

Conservatives have long argued that government should be run like a business and now that appears to be the modus operandi—we have not so much elected a President as hired a national CEO.

This vision of America as a corporation invokes more the power of a king than a president, and anyone with that self-perceived role will have constant clashes with a political system that was deliberately founded on the checks and balances of competing interests and authorities.

I believe that as a business leader Trump is used to having his way just by ordering it to be so; deliberation, debate, and dissent need have no place in that form of power.

Politics is the process of negotiating outcomes between people with irreconcilable differences. To complain that politics involves conflict is like being dismayed that conflict-resolution involves conflict. If we had no conflicts to work out there would be no need for political systems.

Those irreducible conflicts sometimes leave we the citizens in difficulty times without durable principles and clear alternatives, such that we may lose trust in the process altogether.

Lack of trust in the American political system appears to be the motive force that inspired half of the voters to elect a candidate who promises to scrap much of our traditional system and give us some other America as yet undisclosed; i.e., "I'll keep you in suspense."

I am particularly concerned about how the dramatics, polemics, and uncertainty of this election and Presidency impact young Americans. If your first direct experience with our political system is a constitutional crisis, it is possible to lose faith in the long-term strengths of our system.

My undergraduate years were during the Vietnam war and Civil Rights struggle. I had a draft card and fully expected to be swept into armed battle at any moment. Violent clashes, riots, as well as non-violent civil disobedience were daily occurrences. Our President was intent on consolidating total power by ordering dirty tricks and burglaries against his list of political enemies. The economy was faltering. Many Americans feared that our system was collapsing around us.

We made it through.

We have made it through other moments of national crisis because we the people are not weak.

I have discerned three key elements of our national strength.

1. Education. We know how to learn and train our minds to see truth behind the fog of distraction. For coping with political stress I recommend the humanities. History, philosophy, communication, psychology, languages, literature, art, sociology, music, theater, anthropology, and ethnic studies are all doorways to the collective record of our species, wherein lies our strength as a people. If you worry about the current state of your country, study its history.

2. Participation. Take an active role in your community. Work with others to achieve purposeful goals that improve the immediate world that you live in. Being a positive part of change is a powerful way to withstand change that you cannot control.

3. Conversation. Learn to talk with people about hard topics. Listening and dialog are learned skills. If you make a commitment

to learn and practice effective conversation skills, then you will become a force that the chaos cannot undermine. Most important is to converse effectively with people whose beliefs are different from your own. I promise to work with my colleagues to increase opportunities for you to practice productive conversation within the OSU community.

A powerful topic to address right now is President Ray's Nov. 21 statement that OSU is a sanctuary university; <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/ncs/lifeatosu/2016/oregon-state-is-a-sanctuary-university/>

His decision was prompted by a student petition; democracy in action.

Being a sanctuary university means potentially resisting federal laws that would single out members of our community based on race, religion, or national origin.

This action is likely to have repercussions from the federal government and it is important to deliberate together as a community to consider which values we share and are willing to stand for.

Informed and skilled conversation is the way to engage that deliberation.

Try to meet someone new at OSU every day. Practice kindness to others and to yourself everyday. Let people know that you are willing to listen to them even if what they say differs from your own beliefs.

Most of all, don't give into fear. I have discovered for myself that enduring the hard times offers the opportunity to discover your sources of strength.

Whatever stresses challenge the unity of our nation in the coming years, the center will hold so long as we find and support the integrity of our local communities.

As an American I have found that recognizing the sources of strength in our national integrity transformed dread into pride for a system that has and will long endured.

Letters to the Editor

Response to WGSS faculty's letter on Nov. 21

As a former student of OSU, I wish to express my disappointment with the faculty of the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies department. At a time when the country should be coming together for healing and unity, you have instead chosen to continue to beat the drum of fear and division by parroting the usual tired and discredited accusations against our new president and his supporters. Such inappropriate comments only legitimize the further marginalization of conservative leaning members of the OSU community who have been demonized, had their views called hate speech and have even received death threats. The fearmongering and ideological grandstanding must stop.

Honestly, if I were you, I would take this as an opportunity for reflection, for it may be argued that Trump's presidency is a product of your creation. On Nov. 8th, Americans, including 53 percent of white women who you are supposedly experts on, utterly rejected your politics, and it's not hard to see why. Your advocacy has produced a generation of students infantilized by safe spaces

and political correctness. We are sick of the protests and the thuggish pressure tactics employed by students seeking concessions from weak-willed school administrators. There are consequences to this. Mizzou suffered declining enrollment following their protests, but I fear the WGSS's new pet project will be even more costly.

The concept of a sanctuary campus is an extremely bad idea considering the incoming administration's intention to cut funding to cities that choose to ignore immigration law. WGSS's encouragement of criminality is also selfish in that they are jeopardizing the work and future of law abiding students for the sake of a small number of offenders too lazy to go through the proper channels.

Here's an idea. Let's follow the law, debate honestly without insults and buzzwords, and give our President-Elect a chance.

Bart Degeneffe

Corvallis Resident and Trump Supporter

HOROSCOPE

Today's Birthday (11/28/16). Social networks bring benefits this year. Strengthen bonds and support each other. Raise your leadership steadily. Change focus with studies and travels this spring, before new domestic beginnings light you up. Untangle crossed cables next autumn, before dashing off on an exciting exploration. Share it.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Today is an 8 — Enjoy a two-day expansion phase. New opportunities present themselves. Put on your traveling shoes, or stay home and make your discoveries through book and film.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Today is a 9 — Discuss shared finances over the next two

days. Changes necessitate budget revisions. Figure it out, and reward yourselves with something tasty. Save for the future.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Today is a 9 — Work with your partner today and tomorrow. Take care of each other. Together you get farther, faster. Keep on budget to really impress.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Today is a 9 — Work demands more attention today and tomorrow. Include love and creativity in the mix. Prioritize good food, exercise and rest, to keep your fire burning bright.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Today is an 8 — The odds are in your favor now. Take more time for play over the next two days. Flex your artistic muscles. Share your heart with someone attractive.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today is an 8 — Family comes first, especially over the next few days. Make household decisions and changes. Cooking projects feed spirits as well as bodies. Share a simple feast.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today is an 8 — You're exceptionally charming and witty over the next two days. Share stories and something delectable. Learning new skills leads to new friends. Socialize.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Today is a 9 — Bring in the money for the next two days. Maybe you can get something from your wish list; spending also seems easier. Keep the budget balanced.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Today is a 9 — You can get whatever you apply yourself to over the next two days. Your confident energy inspires

others. Take leadership to contribute for an inspiring cause.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Today is a 6 — Slow down to contemplate your next move. Relax in hot water. Consider different options and potential consequences. Rest and recuperate over the next two days.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — Today is an 8 — Get into a two-day party phase. Good things come through your network of friends. Support each other through changes. Collaborate on a creative project.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today is an 8 — Consider new professional opportunities over the next few days. Crazy dreams seem possible. Prepare for inspection, and smile for the cameras. Assume new responsibility.



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S U D O K U

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C R O S S W O R D

Across

- 1 "Get lost!"
- 6 Google ___: geographical app
- 10 Ruth with bats
- 14 Egypt's capital
- 15 They may clash on a movie set
- 16 Environmental sci.
- 17 "Power source that plugs into a computer port"
- 19 Physics particle
- 20 Andes, e.g.: Abbr.
- 21 Against
- 22 Make amends (for)
- 23 "Airplane!" flight number, to the control tower
- 26 Boats with double-bladed paddles
- 29 Forget to include
- 30 Mosque leader
- 31 Address for Bovary
- 33 Having one flat, musically
- 36 *Carl Icahn or Michael Milken
- 40 Billy the ___

- 41 Father or son New York governor
- 42 Head, to Henri
- 43 Suffix with joke or pun
- 44 Gratify
- 46 *Castle gate-busting weapon
- 51 Going on, to Sherlock
- 52 Lily pad squatter
- 53 Sock hop site
- 56 "The Mod Squad" cop
- 57 Home of the player at the ends of the answers to starred clues
- 60 Actor Estrada
- 61 Be complicit in, as a caper
- 62 Giraffe kin
- 63 Exec's asst.
- 64 TiVo predecessors
- 65 Jotted down

Down

- 1 Film on stagnant water
- 2 Film credits list
- 3 Barbecue fare
- 4 Smile shape
- 5 Iroquoian people, or a hair style named for them
- 6 Fred or Ethel of old TV
- 7 Texas A&M athlete
- 8 19th-century master of the macabre
- 9 Old Rus. state
- 10 "Get lost!"
- 11 Follow, as a tip
- 12 Trailblazing Daniel
- 13 Roundheaded Fudd
- 18 Yucatán years
- 22 Jungian inner self
- 23 Pack (down)
- 24 Calif-roping event
- 25 Poet Khayyam
- 26 Punt or field goal
- 27 Mine, to Marcel
- 28 One of 100 between end zones
- 31 Native New Zealander
- 32 Source of quick cash, briefly
- 33 Brainstorm
- 34 Butterfly catchers
- 35 For nothing
- 37 Eight-musical group
- 38 Regretful sort
- 39 Bulleted list entry
- 43 Heavyset
- 44 Plum's title in Clue, briefly
- 45 Blue or black water of film/dom
- 46 Hay bundles
- 47 Burning
- 48 Mixer with gin
- 49 Player referenced in 57-Across' clue, briefly
- 50 Southern side dish
- 53 Tiny biting insect
- 54 "Eek!"
- 55 Hotel room cleaner
- 57 Cleveland cager, for short
- 58 "Easy as" letters
- 59 Old studio letters

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SPORTS

Andersen

Continued from page 11

UCLA, 30 to Cal and 45 to Washington late in the year—but this year, OSU outscored its opponents in the final five games.

One more thing about 1998: OSU had a heck of a young running back in freshman Ken Simonton and got some big plays from quarterback Jonathan Smith. Same goes for 2016 with Nall and McMaryion, both sophomores.

"It was fun because we had Jonathan Smith, the walk-on, who just goes off. And then we had Ken Simonton, the running back who went crazy, too," Reynolds said of his 1998 team. "It was fun to watch the dynamic to go from two unlikely heroes to winning a bunch of games and being competitive. In the Pac-10, we snuck up on a lot of teams and punched them in the mouth."

Sound familiar? I mean, did we expect McMaryion to rip off a key 33-yard run in the Civil War's fourth quarter in OSU's go-ahead drive? Well, it happened, and so did OSU's 10-point defeat of Oregon despite being three-point underdogs.

So, we've heard about Andersen's thoughts on OSU heading in the right direction, and we've heard from the players. What do former Beavers think of Andersen? Greg Laybourn, a safety for OSU from 2006-2008, played on three bowl teams for the Beavers.

"Everything I've heard about coach Andersen and the brief interactions I've had with him at some events, it sounds like he's really doing the right things," Laybourn said. "He's getting the recruits in. Only time

will tell how things go on the field. We've got a tough league that we play in. I just hope we can continue to improve and get back to the top of the league."

As a team, OSU has its vision cast upwards. Specifically, though, let's pinpoint one big area of need. The Beavers realistically could be contending for the Pac-12 Championship if they develop an elite passing game. OSU was competitive in just about every contest this year, and that was with a passing offense that ranked last in the conference in efficiency for the second straight season. Imagine how good OSU could be once it figures out how to consistently move the ball downfield through the air. And if Ryan Nall is still dragging defenders for touchdowns every other play? Say goodnight.

Partway through the 2016 season, Andersen started talking about OSU's struggle to consistently win games. He admitted OSU's losing record, but didn't stop there.

"I wake up each morning with a smile on my face," he said. "I truly love my job and I love these kids. This place is special to me."

Well, Gary, it'll only feel more special when OSU becomes a regular bowl attendee. I think that will start next year. I thought OSU would win four games this year, and the Beavers leaned at the finish line to get there. In 2017, OSU will need 13 uniform combinations instead of 12 with a bowl game to account for.

Maybe the Ducks can help with some guidance on uniform ideas. Just don't ask them about how to win the Civil War. OSU's got that figured out now.

Matter of fact, don't bother with the uniform advice, either.

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