



Emerald Media

ARE YOU NERD *ENOUGH?*



WELCOME TO BELEGARTH, where the greatest warriors in the land come to test their skills. Call them nerds all you want, but these nerds will fight back.

UO STUDENTS OBSERVE BLACK HISTORY MONTH



For Tarik Richardson, co-director of the Black Student Union, the recognition of black history extends well beyond the month of February.

Groups on campus, such as the Black Student Union and Black Women of Achievement, are fostering this recognition by hosting events throughout the month to recognize black history.

Two of these events are the Black Night of Achievement and a women's empowerment luncheon, in which students' academic and extracurricular achievements will be commended. Allies will also be recognized, including professors who have contributed to African American organizations on campus.

The Black Student Union will also be hosting discussions about Black History Month at its weekly meetings, held each Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Mills International Center.

"Black history doesn't follow the same stream that other history does," said Richardson. "We all celebrate the Fourth of July. We have to remember that black folks didn't get their independence on the Fourth of July, even though we're all Americans."

He said during Black History Month, he hopes individuals become familiar with different cultures and their histories.

For Fnan Berhe, vice president of the UO chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Black History Month is about acknowledgement.

"I hope everyone acknowledges Black History Month as a time to pay our respects to activists, artists and authors who've done so many amazing things in American history and acknowledging the way that they've transformed our history into the present," Berhe said. "I think it's about

understanding that we wouldn't be where we are without the historically significant people who have made our present possible."

Beyond historical events and significant figures, members of the African American community on campus will also be addressing current events. One such topic is police brutality.

"I think the goal of Black History Month and different cultures' history months is to make different cultures more normalized and less alien, so that when we do have tragedies or things are going on, we don't fall back into our tropes," Richardson said. "We start to actually think more logically and with more compassion about different groups."

Fevan Siyoom, co-director of Black Women of Achievement, said that it's important to be aware.

"I think the reason we talk about racism isn't to dwell on it, but to recognize that racism still exists so we can move forward," Siyoom said.

Berhe said that this year, groups on campus are ensuring that Black History Month is recognized, with strong organization and a variety of events being put on by groups on campus.

"This is a good way to recognize our significance in the world," Berhe said. "We can recognize that there has been so much progress made because of activists and African Americans who've broken barriers and continued to do so much good in this world."

More information concerning events being held during Black History Month can be found on the Black Student Union Facebook page.

BY ANNA LIEBERMAN

Celebrating 30 years of Love and Diversity

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in
EUGENE

Feb. 6

Clefs of Insanity: Enjoy this a capella concert at the Eugene Public Library. This group performs a diverse selection of classical, jazz, rock and pop music sounds spanning six centuries. *100 W10th Ave, 6 p.m., FREE.*

Feb. 7

Shakespeare's 12th Night: Support the Cottage Theatre by attending Havana 1950 and showcases Shakespeare's comic "Triángulo de Amor." *700 Village Drive, Cottage Grove, 8 p.m., \$19*

Feb. 7- 8

KLCC Microbrew Festival: This 21+ event will host 75 breweries, and serve over 190 beers. Ticket sales will be offered at a discount to those who will be the designated driver for the night.

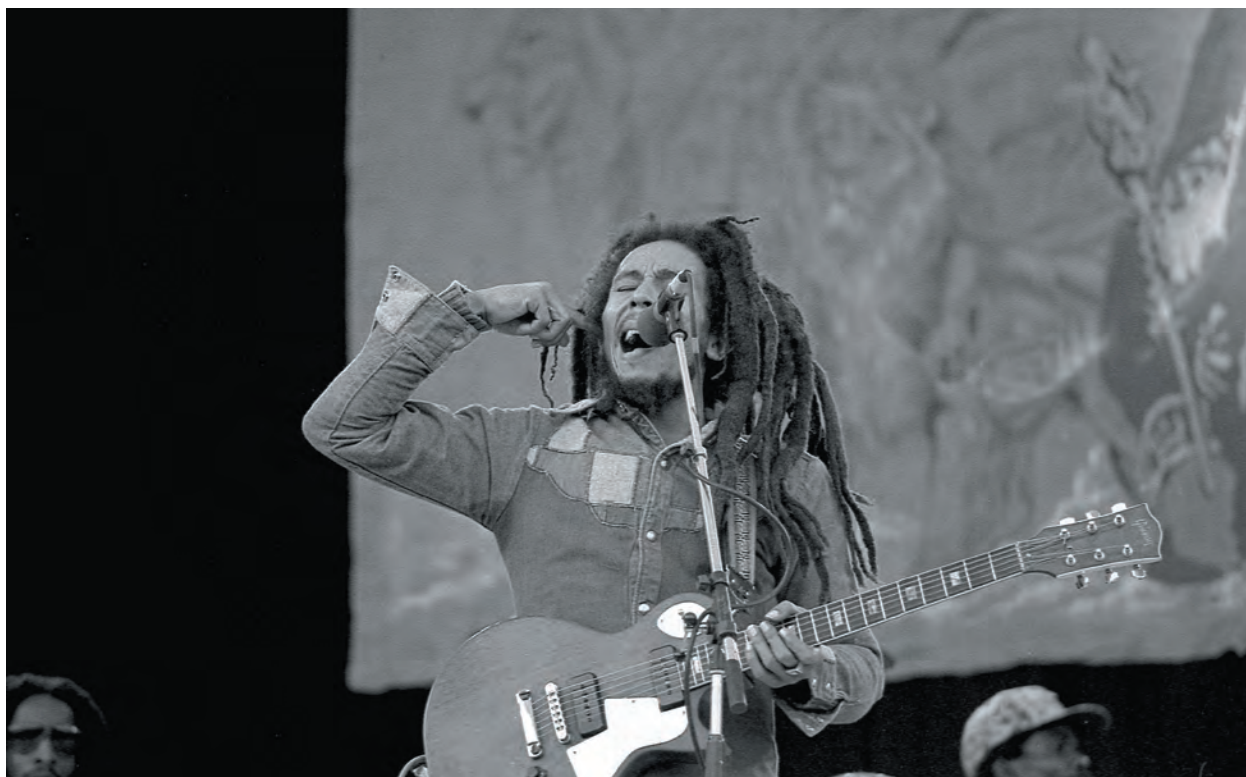
796 W13th Ave, 5-11 p.m. on Fri, 1-11 p.m. on Sat, \$12 in advance \$15 at the door.

Feb. 8

Truffle Shuffle: Take part in the 34th annual Truffle Shuffle run. Run for 2-4 miles and receive an award of free chocolate truffles. The event benefits veteran families through the St. Vincent de Paul organization. *Alton Baker Park, 12:45 p.m., \$20*

BOB MARLEY'S BIRTHDAY, RUNNING FOR CHOCOLATE AND VETERANS, AND FILM FESTIVALS

→ **MIKE MENDOZA @MIKEWHEREISIKE**



Bob Marley's 49th birthday is coming up. Celebrate it at WOW Hall with Natural Vibrations.

Week five is supposed to be reserved for midterms. But in reality, midterm week is any week from week four to week eight. If you did have one or more midterms this week, blow off some steam at WOW Hall.

WOW Hall will be celebrating what would be Bob Marley's 49th birthday with One Blood Family and Karlos Paez (of The B Side Players). Headlining the event is Natural Vibrations, who headline some of Hawaii's biggest shows and venues. Natural

Vibrations' unique sound has roots of reggae, rock and pop resulting in a sound that is perfect for a party that has a dance energy.

Karlos Paez was inspired by Bob Marley and Carlos Santana in Tijuana, Mexico. Perez is currently touring and recording with The B Side Players, but has also had side projects that have allowed him venture into different styles.

WOW Hall is located at 291 W 8th Ave. Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door. Show begins at 9 p.m.

in
PORTLAND

Feb. 5-8

Portland International Film Festival: Over 140 international short and feature films will premiere in Oregon's largest film event. Attendance averaged 38,000 people the last few years. *1219 SW Park Ave, \$75*

Portland International Auto Show:

Not only can you see super cool cars, but you can also attend a basketball clinic held by the Portland Trail Blazers, a RC rock climbing exhibit or an art made entirely of steel. *777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., \$12*

Feb. 7

Cascade Festival of African Films:

This month is Black History Month and the films in this festival focus on politics, role of sports and the struggles of civil war.

705 N Killingsworth Street, free.

Feb. 8

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike:

Combining Rudyard Kipling's classic and some "Bollywood," the Anita Menon's Anjali School of Dance and the Northwest Children's Theater and school premieres its unique adaptation of The Jungle Book. *1819 NW Everett St, \$22.*

E The Emerald is published by Emerald Media Group, Inc., the independent nonprofit media company at the University of Oregon. Formerly the Oregon Daily Emerald, the news organization was founded in 1900.

If you have any feedback about work featured in the Emerald, please contact Director of Communications Hannah Taylor at htaylor@dailyemerald.com.

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ON THE COVER

The cover was photographed by Ryan Kang.

In our 1.29.15 issue, "Leaked, Debated, Returned. Records debacle explained" reporter Francesca Fontana's name was not included in the byline. The Emerald apologizes for the error.

GET IN TOUCH

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VOL. 116. ISSUE NO. 56

CULTURAL FORUM

music art film stage culture

FILM

Shark Water (2009)

February 20, Willamette 100, 6:00 pm Info: film@uoregon.edu

Duckumentary Film Series

February 13, Mills International Center, 6:00 pm

Sound City. Info: lmorris@uoregon.edu

MUSIC

Thursday Night Comedy Series

February 5, 12, 19, 26, March 5, 12

Buzz Pub & Coffee House, 7:00 - 9:00pm Info: musicn@uoregon.edu

TODAY!

Kevin Morby and Jessica Pratt

February 23, Barn Light, 7:30pm Info: musicr@uoregon.edu

Hustle & Drone

March 1, Barn Light, 7:30pm Info: musicr@uoregon.edu

Tycho

March 15, McDonald Theatre, 8:00pm

Tickets: \$20.00 - \$25.00. Info: musicn@uoregon.edu

ART

Art Ducko Release Event

February 6, 6 - 8pm, Mills International Center

Info: gallery@uoregon.edu

Craft Center Art Show Reception

February 5, Adell McMillan Gallery, 4:30pm Info: art@uoregon.edu

TODAY!

Pacific Northwest Art Annual Open for Submissions

December 8 - February 6 Info: art@uoregon.edu

An Ecuadorian Peek

February 12, 6:00 pm, Aperture Gallery

Photographs from the Galapagos by Mohamed Murad.

Info: gallery@uoregon.edu

Mostly Robots

February 17, Buzz Pub & Coffee House, 6:00pm

Info: gallery@uoregon.edu

FESTIVAL

Eco Fashion Show

February 27, Global Scholars Hall, 8:00pm

Info: culture@uoregon.edu

FILM FESTIVAL

Queer Film Festival

February 6 - 8, Bijou Metro - FREE

This year's line up includes films from France, Canada, UK, Russia, The Netherlands and China!

Visit the festival site qff.uoregon.edu

Info: culture@uoregon.edu

THIS WEEKEND!

The Cultural Forum, a program of the Erb Memorial Union, provides University of Oregon students, and their communities, exposure to and experience with the breadth and depth of human expression through productions focusing on contemporary culture, film, performing arts, music, and visual art. Please visit our organization online at culture.uoregon.edu

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> STUDENT POPULATION

Numbers of non-traditional students on the rise

BY ERIC SCHUCHT, @ERICSCHUCHT

Lorena Cortes wakes up at 5:30 a.m. to study for her classes at the University of Oregon.

By 7 a.m., Cortes gets herself and her 3-year-old daughter ready for the day. She kisses her husband goodbye and heads off to school.

Cortes is a non-traditional student, and is finding it difficult to adjust to life at UO. After taking three years off from school, she returned to her education.

“It was a very hard decision – taking a break and then coming back,” said Cortes.

According to Brian McBeth, co-director of the Non-Traditional Student Union, a non-traditional student is defined as a college student who doesn’t fit in to the traditional concept of a high school graduate immediately seeking higher education.

A non-traditional student can be someone who is a military veteran, is married, has children or has a full-time job.

McBeth said that 12 percent of students receive the UO’s Nontrad newsletter. Justin Carpenter, the director of non-traditional student engagement, explains that this number doesn’t accurately represent how many non-traditional students attend the UO because not all non-traditional students

subscribe to the newsletter and several GTFs are subscriber. Carpenter said that the UO does not have an accurate number to represent non-traditional students attending the UO because it doesn’t track this data.

The number of students attending college is on the rise, especially those above 25 years old, according to the National Center for Educational Statistics.

From 2000 to 2011, students who enrolled in a higher educational program increased by 35 percent for those under the age of 25, and 41 percent for those above the age of 25.

In fact, the number of students above the age of 25 attending college is increasing at a faster rate than those below the age bracket. By 2021, the NCES expects enrollment of students under 25 to rise 13 percent, and increase to 14 percent for those over 25.

Carpenter said that the average age of college students is on the rise nation-wide.

McBeth explained that the reason for the increase is due to individuals having a hard time finding a permanent position without a college degree.

“We’re moving away from the blue-collar industry to white-collar work,” said McBeth.

The UO offers resources

specific to non-traditional students, such as three childcare centers on campus and various scholarships.

According to Cortes, the UO isn’t doing enough to promote these outlets. For Cortes personally, it took seven months to get access to the resources she needed.

After connecting with the woman’s center, Cortes explained that it opened doors for her, such as child care subsidiary.

“As a parent,” Cortes explained, “it’s hard to get access to (child care subsidiaries), even if you know where they are.”

While she has been able to manage her academic life proficiently, Cortes finds it hard to study and socialize with traditional students who have different schedules.

“One of the things that’s challenging for non-traditional students is to socialize and find each other,” Carpenter said.

When having class with a non-traditional student, it is important to reach out to them and make sure they feel included. They are dedicated and here to work hard to get a good education.

“Non-traditional students should never be dismissed as uninterested, or not wanting to be involved or not wanting to participate,” said McBeth. “It’s just we have so many things to take care of.”

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Timmur Mammadov (far left), Jamey Lee (middle) and Jordon Whately (right) display their signature weapons.

DAGGERS. SHIELDS. FOAM: FIGHTING **FOR** BELEGARTH.



Erin Stanton took a hiatus from Belegarth, but the action drew him back for more.

Admit it. You're reading this article because you saw the pictures of live-action role players dressed up in homemade medieval garb, foam swords, shields, spears, armor and helmets and figured you could get a quick laugh at the expense of the nerds who grace these pages.

Here's the catch: Those nerds are immune to the teasing and some even secretly enjoy it.

The Belegarth Medieval Combat Society is a nerdy sport – plain and simple. Anyone who competes in it and everyone who has ever walked past a practice and shaken their head in disapproval is bound to echo that sentiment.

Jordan Whiteley, realm leader of Eugene community Belegarth group Baalbek, admits that he initially discovered the sport of Belegarth after watching the infamous LARP scene in Role Models and set out on a quest to heckle nerds. After talking with the participants, he attempted battle and became hooked.

The battle eventually changed his life.

"It's pretty chill and it's not as nerdy as it seems," Whiteley said.

"There are people who get hurt all the time. I was attracted to how wrong I was about it. I had a lot of presumptions going into it, and I was totally wrong, and I've been super addicted to it for a long time."

Growing up as a half-black child in Shelley, Idaho – an area he described as being filled with prejudice – Whiteley struggled. He says he didn't connect well with people and couldn't make friends. He eventually dropped out of high school. A group of Belegarth fighters accepted him into their group simply due to their shared interest in sword fighting. At the age of 17, he set out in a beat-up Chevy hippie van and toured the country with his newly adopted family who stopped only for Belegarth events.

At one point, the van broke down in Eugene and Whiteley connected with people who convinced him to move to Eugene. He did, and is currently enrolled in classes at Lane Community College, where he majors in sculpting. It's a fitting major for Whiteley, since he crafts the majority of the foam weapons brandished on the Belegarth field. He has remained passionate about the sport through the tight-knit community of likeminded and accepting fighters at the University of Oregon.

"It's like a family reunion, but not with your family, so it's awesome," Whiteley said.

Turnout for the sport has been on the decline this year. Last year, practices

averaged an attendance of about 30 fighters.

At the start of this school year, the number was 10-12. Currently, attendance hovers around six participants. The UO Belegarth system is in a transitional period from the realm of Tir na nOg into the new realm of Baalbek. Generally, the group assembles on the Knight Library lawn, University Park on 24th or elsewhere around campus. As the weather improves, Whiteley hopes for increased attendance beyond the small but dedicated group of combatants willing to brave mud pits and overcast skies on Super Bowl Sunday.

"We've been out here when people can't drive anymore because of how rainy it is, and we're out here beating the crap out of each other," said Jake "Tank" Sanchez. "I think it



Erin Stanton (left) fights with Timmer Mammadov on the battlefields.

kind of immerses you more into the fighting."

Sanchez received his nickname because, well, he's built like a tank. A former high school football lineman, Sanchez has lost roughly 50 pounds since suiting up for battle. The physical nature of the sport produces a very demanding workout and serves as a great cross training sport during roller derby season for Sanchez. After battle, fighters recover in the cold as steam rises off their heads. They wear sweat-drenched, mud-caked clothing and exhale heavy, visible breaths that linger in the cold air.

"When you're in the fight, there's just so much coming at you," Sanchez said. "You gotta worry about your footwork, where your weight is postured, what's coming from the right of you, the left of you, behind you. If you're in a team, if you're working in a wall, it's way more complicated than it looks, than we're just out here just slapping each other with foam sticks. In a sense, it is full contact."

Belegarth's official rules emphasize safety as the number one priority, but it is far from a lackadaisical game. Thuds of successfully

landed foam sword on flesh hits frequently echo into the otherwise silent air. Grappling (bear-hugging), kicks to an opponent's shield and defensive equipment, and melee hits are all legal, as long as there's no malicious intent to injure.

"Paintballing is fun, but being able to kick someone over with a shield and hit them with a sword is a bit more satisfying to me," Sanchez said.

Jayne Lee, a.k.a. Missy Thalion, uses the battlefield as a chance to undertake a different persona. The chance to fully immerse herself in battle is one of the sport's appeals, she says, but the avenue for venting aggression is therapeutic and more important.

"I was raised by three older brothers and my father," Lee said. "(Belegarth) gives you a certain amount of aggression outlet need. You gotta let it out somewhere, and you know, rollin' with the boys kinda lets you do that."

There is no single reason for the people involved in Belegarth to continue practicing weekly, and there is no age limit for players to stop. Each individual finds a personal reason to continue practicing the sport.

Erin Stanton, 30, has been involved in Belegarth for four years, but only recently re-entered battle after watching his friends make fun of LARPer on TV. It aggravated him, and he stood up for the onscreen fighters and said, "You know, that guy is having a lot more fun than you are right now. That's his version of fun, so who are you? We are extracting fun out of nothing."

"It's a crazy adrenaline rush," Whiteley added. "I've almost blacked out from the amount of adrenaline I've gotten on the field and it's awesome."

For Whiteley, Belegarth represents overcoming a preconceived bias toward "nerds" – a demographic he now personally embraces. "This is where I've wanted to be and it's not just because of sword fighting. Belegarth found me a new lifestyle," he said. "I definitely have a completely different view on people and life because of this."

Feel free to call the hard hitting sport "nerdy" if you want, but be prepared for the members of Belegarth to retort and offer a challenge. They have been called nerds so many times that Whiteley likens it to pleasant background music.

"We are totally nerds," Evan "Shovel" Schlesinger said. "We will out-nerd you any day. Take us on. We might be nerds, but we will beat you to a pulp."

BY CRAIG WRIGHT, @WGWCRRAIG

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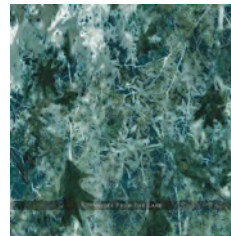
HERE'S A PLAYLIST FOR YOUR DREARY STUDY DAYS



→ DANIEL BROMFIELD,
@BROMF3

It's a classic college student dilemma: You put some music on to make studying for that test slightly more bearable, but you find yourself singing along to every word and end up not getting anything done.

What to do? Luckily, we've put together an arsenal of albums for those dreary study days. And for those who aren't album fans, we've compiled the best tracks into a playlist, available online and ready to shuffle or play back to back.



Voices From The Lake – Voices From The Lake

There are two versions of this ambient techno classic – the “regular” version and a 70-minute mix of the tracks into a single composition. The latter is by far the more satisfying listening experience, taking you from soundworld to soundworld so subtly as for the changes to be practically imperceptible.

See also: Donato Dozzy – Plays Bee Mask, Uomo – Vocalcity



The xx – xx

It's a classic, and you may know all these songs already if you were into alternative music about five years ago. But the spacious pop tunes that populate the great British indie band's debut are perfect for studying. Producer Jamie xx's masterful use of empty space makes for songs that are at once catchy and unobtrusive. I can get a lot done when The xx is on.

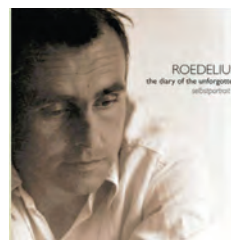
See also: Burial – Street Halo



loscil – Coast / Range / Arc

Coast / Range / Arc is about as ambient as it gets – six sheets of sound that don't really go anywhere but hover around the ears, shifting subtly but imperceptibly. Just about any loscil album is fine study music, but Coast / Range / Arc is the gentlest; at times it acts like a blanket over your ears, at others like a bed of sound you can sink in.

See also: Gas – Pop, Biosphere – Cirque



Roedelius – Selbstportrait VI

With a name like Hans-Joachim Roedelius, it'd be easy to mistake the German musician for an arch composer. But his Selbstportrait albums are devoted to lighthearted sound sketches, and the sixth installment is my personal favorite. It's amazing in how much sonic ground it covers while acting as a little murmur in the corner of the mind.

See also: Jürgen Müller – Science of the Sea, Bing & Ruth – Tomorrow Was The Golden Age



Vashti Bunyan – Lookaftering

Vashti Bunyan is ostensibly a folk singer, but she's less focused on intricate lyricism than on creating a lush, pastoral mood with her simple arrangements and haunting vocals. Put Lookaftering on headphones in the library and you'll feel like you're doing your homework in a sunlit British inn.

See also: John Fahey – The Great Santa Barbara Oil Slick, Nick Drake – Five Leaves Left



The women's Green Team took first place at the Winter Warmup.

CLUB VOLLEYBALL HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR TOURNAMENTS

Oregon women's Green team and the men's club volleyball both took first place at the Pacific Intercollegiate Volleyball Association Winter Warmup tournament held at Oregon State University on Jan. 24-25.

The victories should provide each team with a boost in the rankings come April 9, when they'll be seeded for the National Collegiate Volleyball Federation national tournament in Kansas City based on their body of work in tournament play during the season.

The women's team chemistry has reached new levels this season. The Green (Team A) roster boasts 13 returning players and seven seniors, all of whom have played all four years.

"This is one of the better teams we've ever had," senior Monica Frick said. "Before when we played big teams we didn't do well. But now we're just as big as them."

In its six matches, Oregon Green lost only one set to its stiffest competition, Washington State, but managed to win the decisive third set. Green defeated Western Washington in the first match of pool play as well as in the championship to win the title.

"It's really exciting this year," senior Hannah Carle said. "We've improved a lot. Our expectations are high because of how we're playing right now."

Oregon Yellow (Team B) competed alongside Green, but fell to Washington in the consolation bracket. Two years ago, Green and Yellow played each other in the championship match of The Winter Warmup, and Green took home the trophy. The tournament was snowed out last season.

Both teams will face their toughest tests of the season in the upcoming stretch, in which they will compete in two ranking tournaments in Davis, California and Las Vegas, Nevada before traveling across the country for nationals.

Historically, Green has suffered against the fierce competition from schools in Southern California, a hotbed for competitive volleyball.

This year, however, the team has proven it can hang with the best, finishing third in a big tournament at UC Santa Barbara earlier this year.

Green won the bronze division at nationals last year, but aims for a gold finish this year.

The men's team, which also brought home a bronze victory in nationals, won the championship match of the Winter Warmup against Oregon State, last season's national champion.

Unlike the women, the men's team welcomed a lot of young new players this season, all of whom have managed to keep up with their teammates' high intensity. The men came in first in their pool and ran the table from the third overall seed, taking down the Huskies and Beavers in the process.

"Definitely Oregon State was (our toughest competition)," said Dan Stern, senior and team captain. "But we just had so much momentum going into it, we could have beaten anyone."

A point of pride for the team, and an important element of the sport is the ability to rattle the opponent. This tactic proved particularly successful in their pool play match against Walla Walla.

"(Walla Walla's) best hitter was getting frustrated and it was game over for him," Stern said. "A lot of young guys bring a lot of energy and our older guys joke around. We're the loudest team out there for sure."

The men also have high hopes for nationals this season. Their next NCVF Ranking Tournament is Feb. 15-16 at UC Davis.

The women play in the same tournament on Feb. 22-23.

BY KENNY JACOBY, @KENNYJACOBY

Launch Your Global Career With the Peace Corps

Information Session:
"Make a Difference Abroad"
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Sophomore Brandon McIver hits his chip shot from the rough on the seventeenth hole in the final round of the 2014 NCAA West Regionals at the Eugene Country Club.

Expectations have changed for the Oregon men's golf team since the beginning of the fall season.

The Ducks emerged as the only undefeated team in the country after four tournament wins, set an NCAA record for the lowest team score in a single round and garnered the No. 1 ranking from the Golf Coaches Association of America Poll.

"After you look back, you kind of want to shoot for the stars," head coach Casey Martin said. "I just told the guys, just get in contention. Get in there down the wire and be willing to fail down the stretch. As long as we're willing to put ourselves mentally in a position to have a shot, that's all I care about right now."

Oregon will have a chance to preview a high-pressure situation this weekend when it competes in the Amer Ari Invitational on the Kings' Course in Waikoloa, Hawaii from Feb. 5-7.

The 18-team event will have 13 of the top-50 teams, four of the top-10 teams and four top-20 individual golfers according to Golfweek's individual and team rankings.

Martin called the tournament one of the

major events for amateur golf in 2015.

So the Ducks, who haven't competed since November, will be thrust right into one of the biggest events of the calendar year.

"We haven't been cooped up at all," Martin said. "We've had incredible weather over here, we don't have any excuses. It's a bit out of the blue after two months being down, being thrown into a big event, but it gets the guys jacked up. They're stoked to go play."

After a competitive week of qualifying play, Brandon McIver, Thomas Lim, Aaron Wise – who won the Ka'anapali Collegiate Classic in Maui – Zach Foushee and Jonathan Woo each earned spots in the team's lineup.

Freshman Hurly Long and redshirt junior Noah Sheikh didn't make the team cut, but will compete as individuals at the tournament.

Sheikh, who has suffered multiple injuries throughout his career, will be participating in his first major event outside the Pacific Northwest.

"I've just been waiting to get into a rhythm, kind of waiting to wake up from the bad spell," Sheikh said. "Once I strung one good round together, the second happened, the third

happened, the fourth happened. I just kind of got into a rhythm and restored some of my self-confidence."

Long, on the other hand, has already been a major part of Oregon's success this season.

After traveling back home to Germany over break, Long had to shake off a bit of rust and struggled early in the qualifying rounds. After showing consistent improvement this past week, Long isn't concerned about the level of competition headed into the tournament.

"It does not change my approach, it changes the excitement for it," Long said. "It's definitely the biggest event we've played so far and there's a lot of guys there that are really the top ranked college golfers."

With such a broad spectrum of top-notch teams from both inside and outside of the Pac-12 competing in the Amer Ari Invitational, Oregon's performance should serve as a barometer for the rest of the season.

BY JOSH SCHLICHTER, @JOSHSCHLICHTER



Ethan Mentzer discovered his love of climbing in his sophomore year.

HOW ETHAN MENTZER CLIMBED THE ALPS

It's August 2014 in Chamonix, France. The weather is nice and the air is fresh, so he decides to sleep on the balcony. He watches the countless paragliders fly off the snow-top mountains through the lit sky, he wants to give it a try someday. He can't help but notice the loose dogs running around the town and the faint smell of cigarette smoke.

This was a daily experience for University of Oregon senior Ethan Mentzer in his three-week climbing adventure in Chamonix.

Mentzer grew up in the small, conservative town of Clayton, Georgia near Lake Burton.

Surrounded by the outdoors, Ethan spent most of his childhood outside – he grew up enjoying motocross, bicycling, skateboarding, fly fishing and camping.

"I've never been big on team sports, I've always been independent and into action sports – just because that's my kind of thing," Ethan said.

His mother, Libbi, let Ethan deal with the consequences.

"If you break your wrist, that's your fault and you can put up with it," Libbi said.

When Ethan was 14, his family moved to Spokane, Washington.

While in high school, Ethan became a

nanny for Mike Powers and Dr. Carla Smith. At the time, the couple had only one son, Sameer, a 5-year-old orphan from Nepal, whom they adopted in 2006.

Soon, Ethan became an older brother figure to Sameer.

"He just seemed like a good mentor for my son," Powers said. "Sameer seeing (Ethan's) actions in person, instead of just being lectured on how to act all the time, was pretty beneficial."

Sameer trusted Ethan, but had trouble getting comfortable with others, even when Ethan was around.

"I'll kind of have to push him, 'come on dude it's alright, they're people just like me,'" Ethan said. "It's cool because I look up to my older brother immensely, so it's cool to be that figure."

As a sophomore, Ethan gave climbing a try. It quickly became a passion.

This past summer, Powers, the director of staff development and guide at the American Alpine Institute, was working in Chamonix. But he wanted Sameer to visit while he had a three week break between clients.

After their connecting flights to Geneva and a shuttle ride through the Alps, Sameer and Ethan landed in Chamonix.

"Out in France, it was huge, so much bigger," Ethan said. "The Alps are nuts. It was crazy."

Immediately, Ethan fit in.

"Anything you want to do that's dangerous and that could potentially kill yourself, is totally legal and okay there," Ethan said.

Every day for three weeks Ethan, Powers and Sameer climbed.

"It was such a cool learning experience for me," Ethan said. "The biggest one we did was a nine-pitch climb. We were on the rock for like six and a half hours, that's something I've never done before."

Powers enjoyed Ethan's presence, especially with Sameer around.

"(Ethan) didn't think he knew everything and was willing to listen to what I said and progress at a fairly conservative rate, especially when he's modeling for my son," Powers said.

Ethan hopes to get back to Chamonix, and perhaps give paragliding a try.

"I could see myself living there, I want to find a way to make that work," Ethan said.

BY ANDREW BANTLY, @ANDREWBANTLY

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Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

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

Rating: **BRONZE**

Solution to 2/4/15

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

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2/5/15

Eat the End of the Earth

THE FISHBOWL
SUBWAY

Open During Construction

A Bite of Mexico
Union Market

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No.0101

- ACROSS**
- Person close to 100?
 - Kind of game or line
 - Belt and hose
 - Poker declaration
 - Neil Armstrong declaration
 - Film critic Jeffrey
 - Part of a dovetail joint
 - Sub
 - Seizure sensors, for short
 - What a parent might warn a child to watch out for
 - Deviate from one's path
 - Bash with a splash
 - "... inglés?"
 - Noir alternative
 - Part of a Spanish explorer's name
 - "Funny Girl" composer
 - Chutes and ladders locale
 - Ho Chi Minh City festival
 - 1961 Tony winner for Best Musical
 - Sistine Chapel painting setting
 - Antennae, so to speak
 - Charged
 - Butterfly, but not a caterpillar
 - Average ... or a literal hint to 17-, 26- and 42-Across
 - Cave
 - Trump
 - Duke's transportation?
 - Game for which it's helpful to have hands-on experience?

- DOWN**
- House work?
 - Comedian Mort
 - Deuce follower
 - Until
 - Beginning
 - "Now ___ shakes my soul": Sappho
 - Highest power?
 - Traveler's checks, for short?
 - Not let up in criticism
 - Site of a 1953 C.I.A.-directed coup
 - Organlike legume
 - Paddle around
 - Function
 - Taxi eschewer, for short
 - Animal shelter animal
 - 2013 Joaquin Phoenix film
 - Chest compressor, for short
 - In abundance
 - Ritzy
 - Promoted
 - Real imp
 - Brio
 - Big name in morning radio
 - "The Confessions of ___ Turner" (1967 Pulitzer winner)
 - Wallop
 - "___, boy!"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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- PUZZLE BY JILL DENNY AND JEFF CHEN
- Canned food made by Nestlé
 - "L.A. Law" actress
 - Peter Fonda's role in "Easy Rider"
 - ___ Lingus
 - TV channel with the slogan "Very Funny"
 - Concern
 - Clinton-backed pact
 - "Don't blame me!"
 - Brain-freezing treat
 - Sitcom character who curses by shouting "Shazbot!"
 - Special quality
 - Eats
 - "Hedda Gabler" setting
 - Org. that's most likely to appreciate this puzzle?
 - Sketches, e.g.
 - Short flight
 - New Year's ___
 - Job ad abbr.
- For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S	T	I	C	K	H	E	L	L	O	R	A	T				
A	I	O	L	I	A	T	E	I	N	O	R	O				
D	E	N	I	M	T	H	E	M	E	P	A	R	K			
				O	M	I	T	R	A	C	E	D	A	Y		
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D	O	U	B	L	E	R	E	V	E	R	S	E				
O	N	C	E	R	M	I	R	A								
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American Sniper (R) 11:05AM 12:25PM 2:15PM 3:45PM 5:25PM 7:00PM 8:35PM 10:10PM	Paddington (PG) 11:15AM 1:40PM 4:05PM 6:30PM 9:15PM
Big Hero 6 (PG) 12:25PM 3:55PM	Project Almanac (PG-13) 11:00AM 1:45PM 4:35PM 7:20PM 10:05PM
Black or White (PG-13) 12:30PM 3:30PM 7:15PM 10:10PM	Selma (PG-13) 6:55PM 9:55PM
The Boy Next Door (R) 11:40AM 2:30PM 5:10PM 7:55PM 10:20PM	Seventh Son (PG-13) 8:10PM 10:45PM
Hobbit: The Battle Of The Five Armies (PG-13) 12:05PM	Seventh Son (PG-13) 8:10PM 10:45PM
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The Imitation Game (PG-13) 11:05AM 1:50PM 4:40PM 7:30PM 10:15PM	Taken 3 (PG-13) 11:25AM 2:20PM
Into The Woods (PG) 12:15PM 3:40PM 7:05PM 10:00PM	The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (PG) 7:30PM 9:30PM 10:00PM
Jupiter Ascending (PG-13) 7:00PM 10:15PM 12:01AM	The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (PG) 8:00PM 10:40PM
Jupiter Ascending (PG-13) 7:50PM 10:50PM	Unbroken (PG-13) 12:20PM
The Loft (R) 11:30AM 2:10PM 4:50PM	The Wedding Ringer (R) 11:20AM 1:55PM 4:35PM 7:10PM

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IN FRANK, THE TITULAR CHARACTER wears a mask that represents his social anxiety.

Frank is a step toward accepting social anxiety

To critical acclaim, *Frank* premiered at the Sundance Film Festival last year. The film stars Michael Fassbender as the title character, the phenomenally talented and charming singer for a band with an unpronounceable name.

Frank wears a paper-mache mask, and hasn't taken it off as long as anyone can remember, representative of a crippling social anxiety that becomes more and more apparent as the film goes on. These sorts of depictions of the mentally ill in popular culture are important, and are something to be taken seriously.

I spoke with Jess Hettich, a skills trainer at ShelterCare, about her work in order to get a better idea of the value of their accuracy.

Hettich works to help those struggling with these issues to meet their specific needs so they feel comfortable interacting with others in their day to day lives. I spoke with her about the way she perceives our society's interaction with the mentally ill.

"It's so embedded in our society that if you stand out at all, it's not a good thing," Hettich said about how strong the stigma is toward

the people she works with, that it's something that they can feel while trying to work through these issues. "(They're) trying to get through daily life and struggling with symptoms that other people don't understand and can't understand because society doesn't teach them how it actually works."

Cinema often depicts characters with mental illnesses. But most frequently in Hollywood, the depiction of mental illness is a violent one. Insanity leading to violence has been a prominent plot point for a long time. Movies like *Psycho* paint a harsh picture of the affected, and more often it is those with the disorder who are suffering the most.

"It's not a matter of their comfort so much as the rest of society's," Hettich said about this balance in working to meet goals for her patients. It's difficult to hear, but it's clear that the issue isn't with the individual alone, but is with the community. "(In Africa), they treat it as a community issue, it isn't a shameful thing, it's like, 'we need to work together to manage these symptoms, you're still a part of

our family.'"

Recently, another common theme has developed, which is a tendency to glorify antisocial disorders among adolescents in particular. Films like *Donnie Darko* can make introversion and depression seem almost appealing or attractive. This encourages an idea that these disorders are trivial or unsubstantiated.

"People don't treat mental illness like they treat things like cancer," Hettich said. "But they're just as legitimate and they affect your life just as much. You don't romanticize cancer."

The idea that if it isn't tangible it isn't worth treating has been difficult to overcome, and the portrayal of the mentally ill in pop culture is a huge part of that.

"It's like a novelty, people don't know too much about it," Hettich said. "They know the stereotypes that you read in books or see in movies."

These conditioned stereotypes really do change perception.

But *Frank* is different. *Frank* depicts a man, someone with strengths and faults like anyone else. We watch this character grow and learn to live with what had

been a crippling social anxiety. A film depicting the mentally ill as people beyond psychopaths and superheroes is uncommon, *Frank* goes a step further. It shows not just a real man behind the mask, but a real way to take it off. The mentally ill have been brushed aside in their representation in film, and this affects the way we see these people outside of the theater. But we made these characters, and we can do something different.

"People have to take the initiative to change that, it isn't going to change on its own," Hettich said. We need to eliminate the idea that it isn't our problem, because it is. We as a community can work on broadening our ability to accept, rather than expecting everyone else to meet a standard. *Frank* is a strong step towards this. Representation is important, and films like this are exactly what we need.

Cooper Green is a columnist for the Emerald. Follow him on Twitter @clygreen

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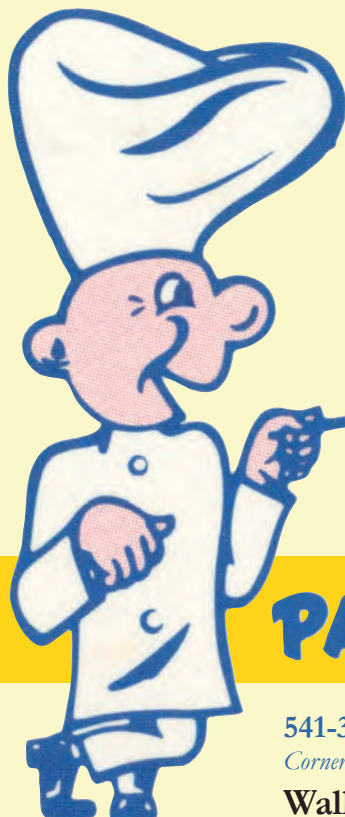
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