

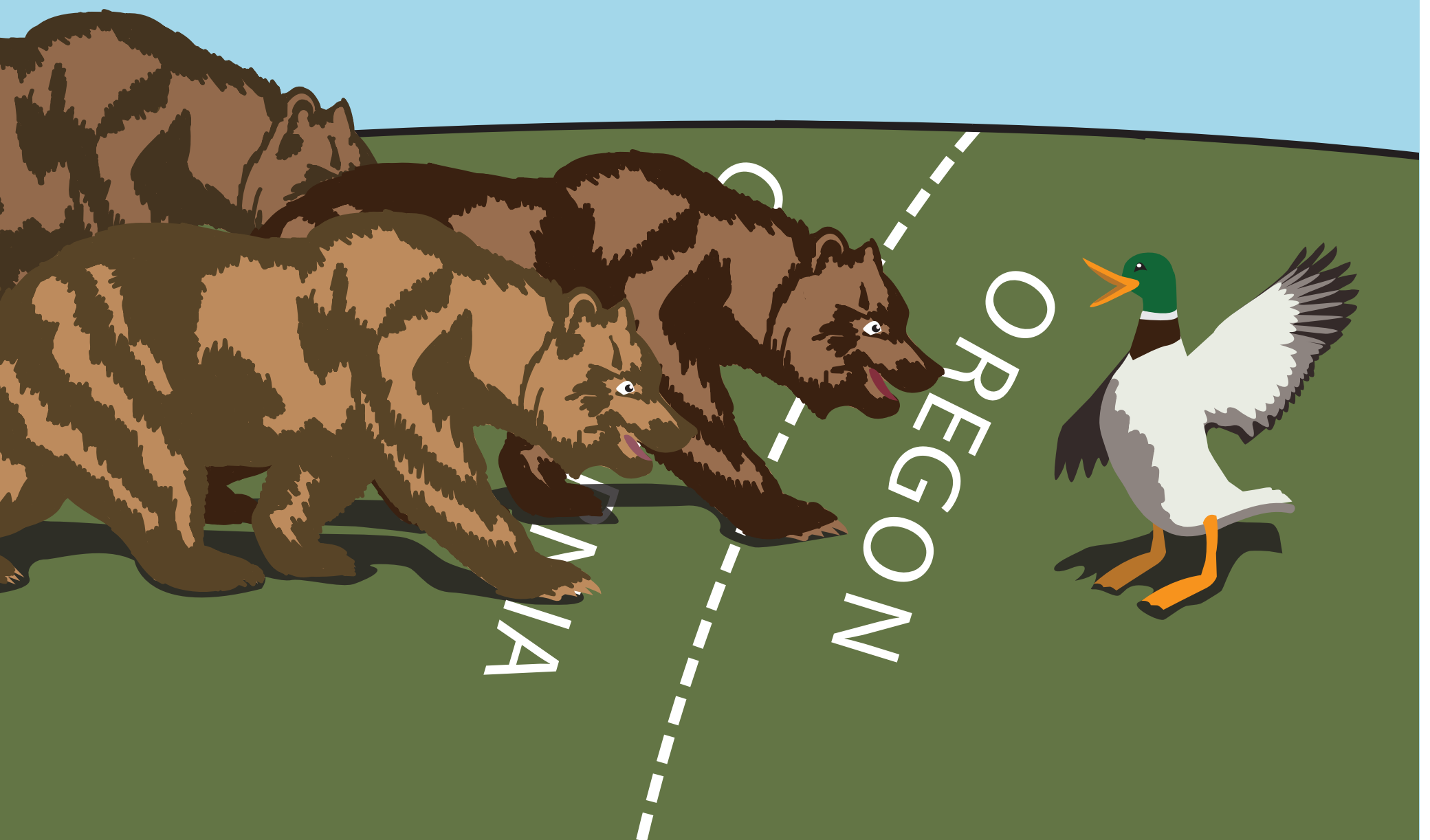


Emerald Media

 MONDAY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA—EUGENE

THE NUMBER OF CALIFORNIAN STUDENTS AT UO HAS DOUBLED IN NINE YEARS.
Policy changes in the UC school system cater to students living outside California. The changes are driving those native to the state up north.



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WEEKLY NEWS WRAP-UP

UO settles with James Cleavenger, mandatory reporting policy remains intact

→ JENNIFER FLECK, @JENNIFERFLECK

University of Oregon settles suit with James Cleavenger for \$1 million

On May 10, the UO agreed to settle the lawsuits brought against it by former UOPD officer James Cleavenger for \$1 million. The university also cancelled its Ninth Circuit appeal in exchange for canceling his own appeal in his state lawsuit.

Cleavenger first sued the university for wrongful termination and retaliation in 2013, which he won in September 2015. The university lost its first appeal in February and refiled in March.

“This case was a victory for every honest police officer in the state of Oregon,” Cleavenger said in a statement.

UOPD begins search for a new chief

Search committee members who are screening candidates for the new UOPD chief met for the first time on May 9.

The committee consists of 13 members – including faculty, students, UOPD staff members, UO administrators and Eugene Police Department Chief Pete Kerns.

“We are accepting applications up until May 18,” said Andre Le Duc, assistant vice president of UO’s Risk Management. “At that time, we will have the committee review those applications and then do a ranking process to determine which candidates will advance.”

The search group will utilize a consulting group to broaden its selection of qualified applicants. Le Duc will make the final hiring decision, but the committee will advise him.

UO senate maintains current mandatory reporting policy

A motion to revise the “Responsible Employee” policy failed at the UO Senate meeting May 18. The vote was 15-16 with 20 absent senators.

Sexual assault survivor Brenda Tracy pushed against the idea that mandatory reporters should be in the majority.

“Mandatory reporting does not support us; it silences us,” Tracy said.

According to UO Senate President Randy Sullivan, university President Michael Schill will need to address questions about mandatory reporting moving forward after the failure of the proposal.



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.

VOL. 117, ISSUE NO. 84

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ON THE COVER

UC school system policy changes are driving college students to seek education elsewhere.

Illustration by Jarred Graham



A protestor of the mandatory reporter expansion observes the May 18 UO Senate meeting. (Christopher Trotchie)

SPLIT OPINIONS FROM CAMPUS COMMUNITY ON THE PROPOSED MANDATORY REPORTING POLICY

➔ **MAX THORNBERRY, @MAX_THORNBERRY**

The UO's mandatory reporting policy will remain the same for at least the immediate future.

A motion to revise the current "Responsible Employee" policy failed at May 18's UO Senate meeting by a vote of 15-16 with 20 absent senators. The proposal would have widely expanded the university's policy to include more employees and situations in which reporting would be required.

Questions about academic freedom and survivors' control pushed buttons as a two-hour discussion about the language and merit of a change to the current policy took place. This followed quick decisions about exam scheduling and course overlap.

The conversation was extended twice as the senate pushed the emergency meeting past the scheduled time of 5:30 p.m. and still failed to complete all agenda items.

The senate did discuss a "cleaner version" of the policy proposed by vice president Bill Harbaugh.

The version, Harbaugh and other members of the senate believe, clarifies the language of the proposal.

Brenda Tracy, a survivor of sexual assault at Oregon State University in 1998, shared her story with those in attendance, pushing against the idea that mandatory reporters should be in the majority.

"Mandatory reporting does not support us," Tracy said. "It silences us."

In addition to pushing back on mandatory reporting in cases of sexual harassment and assault, some raised questions about how the proposed policy would deal with issues of prohibited discrimination, specifically discrimination based on race.

The current policy is set to expire in August. With the failure of the proposal, UO President Michael Schill will need to address questions about mandatory reporting moving forward, UO Senate President Randy Sullivan said.

UO GRADS TAKE ON THE 10,000 MILE MONGOL RALLY



Participants at the 2007 Mongol Rally. (Creative Commons)

Three University of Oregon graduates will be straying off the beaten path this summer – literally. Jackson Jarman-Miller, Gabe Howden and Cameron Huber are spending two months driving over 10,000 miles from London to Mongolia in the Mongol Rally, an epic adventure designed to raise money for several charities.

“It’s probably the dumbest thing I’ve ever done,” Huber said.

The rules for the rally are simple: each team must complete the journey in a compact car with a 1.2L engine or smaller.

The entry cost for each team requires them to raise €1,000 for charity. Half of that amount is donated to the Mongol Rally’s charity of choice, Cool Earth. The rest goes to a charity of each team’s choosing. The Mama’s Boys, as Jarman-Miller, Howden and Huber have dubbed themselves, have elected to donate their proceeds to the Central Asia Institute, a charity focused on equipping girls in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Tajikistan with an education.

“In the U.S., education is such a norm,” Huber said. “There, education isn’t a thing. Half the population not being educated seriously hinders society.”

The Central Asia Institute has had its share of controversy in recent years. Its founder, Greg Mortenson, came under fire after his book, *Three Cups of Tea*, was criticized for containing accounts that were found to be at least partially fabricated, which cast doubt on the nonfiction label. Mortenson has since stepped down as the director of the organization and CAI is “meeting all of the requirements outlined in the settlement,” according to Charity Watch.

Mama’s Boys are aware of CAI’s controversy, but still believe in the organization’s cause.

“A lot of students in that part of the world – in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Tajikistan – don’t have the same privilege and accessible education that we do,” Howden said. “We thought it would be a great way to raise money

for students, girls in particular, to help them educate their communities, families and friends.”

About a year ago, Jarman-Miller approached Howden and suggested they sign up for the rally. The timeline was too tight to make the journey last summer, so planning began for 2016.

Huber was approached later. He was originally going to hike the Pacific Crest Trail, but changed his plans when the Mama’s Boys approached him.

“I knew I wanted to do something crazy after I graduated,” Huber said. “This sounded way, way better [than the PCT].”

The planned route will take the trio through 20-21 different countries, requiring 6-7 different visas. Obtaining those visas has been the biggest challenge so far.

Russia in particular has been a challenge because, in order to obtain a visa, the government wants specifics such as when and where they will enter and exit the country and where they plan to stay each night, details that are hard to pin down for a team that only has an inkling of what to expect.

Adventure and danger aside, the team is excited about the fundraising opportunity at hand. Using three branches of fundraising, Mama’s Boys have raised approximately \$3,000 for their trip. Howden estimates that besides the allotted sum for charity, each member has to raise that same amount individually.

Lining up a job after the summer has been nearly impossible for Howden and Huber, who have dedicated most of their time to either school or preparation for the rally. They believe the stories they will have after the race will make them more diverse candidates for any position they apply for – if they make it back.

Cameron is telling potential employers, “If I survive this, I’ll figure out what I’m doing afterwards.”

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WHY MANY CALIFORNIANS CHOOSE OREGON AND HOW UO BENEFITS FROM IT

→ TROY SHINN, @TROYDSHINN

(Jarred Graham)

The number of Californians who attend the University of Oregon has more than doubled in the last nine years. To put that into perspective, you only need to look as far as the UO's nicknames: University of California–Eugene or Cal State Oregon.

At the beginning of this year, there were 8,495 out-of-state students at the UO, with Californians making up over half of that at nearly 5,000. In 2007, there were 2,279 Californians attending UO.

These yearly increases are partly because of policies within the UC system that drive college-bound Californians to other states. And Oregon schools are welcoming them out of a need for more tuition dollars.

Oregon State University saw a 77 percent increase in out-of-state students from 6,583 to 11,700 between fall term 2010 and fall term 2015.

“The reality is that when the state legislature votes to defund public universities, we are left with some tough choices to make,” UO assistant vice president and director of enrollment Jim Rawlins said. “This mentality [of enrolling more out-of-state students] is part of the budgetary [balancing] of every public university. We charge out-of-state students more

than it costs to go here so that we can charge in-state students less.”

This may sound like Oregon schools are favoring out-of-state students over Oregon residents, but UO officials say that's not the case.

“Being the flagship university for the state, we have an obligation to admit Oregonians and in-

vest in their futures,” said Rawlins. “So we wouldn't have the kinds of policies that would disadvantage Oregonians.”

But other state schools aren't bound to this obligation, those in California included.

The latest audit of the UC system by the California state auditor stated that certain behaviors and decisions of the UC Board disadvantage residential Californians

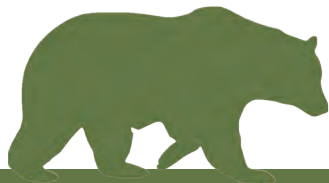
from getting accepted at their campuses.

For Patrick McClellan a native of Palo Alto, California, going to the UO, these findings are nothing new.

“I've always heard the rumors that it's so much easier for out-of-state students to get accepted at UC schools,” McClellan said. “And I've heard that they are accepting fewer and fewer Californians.”

There are a number of ways that California public universities have contributed to this exclusivity.

• OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY SAW A 77 PERCENT INCREASE IN OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS FROM 6,583 TO 11,700 BETWEEN FALL TERM 2010 AND FALL TERM 2015.





“REGARDLESS OF WHAT SCHOOL YOU GO TO, YOU KNOW YOU’RE GOING TO GET ROUGHLY THE SAME EDUCATION ... SO REALLY IT’S ABOUT THE OTHER KINDS OF OPPORTUNITIES YOU CAN GET THERE. I’M VERY HAPPY WITH WHERE I AM.”

RACHEL WEINFELD, accounting major at UO

(Kaylee Domzalski)



“WE CHARGE OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS MORE THAN IT COSTS TO GO HERE SO THAT WE CAN CHARGE IN-STATE STUDENTS LESS.”

JIM RAWLINS, UO assistant vice president and director of enrollment

(Courtesy of Around the O)

- IN 2015, UC SCHOOLS SAW A MORE THAN **400 PERCENT INCREASE** IN NON-RESIDENTIAL ENROLLMENT FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

According to Margarita Fernandéz of the California state auditor’s office, UC schools have been lowering academic standards for non-residential students over the past five years in order to accept more out-of-state applicants.

In 2015, UC schools saw a more than 400 percent increase in non-residential enrollment from the previous year.

“We also saw cases where residential students would receive acceptance letters that referred them to enrollment at other schools, even ones that they hadn’t applied for,” Fernandéz said. “This was not the case for non-residential students.”

Before a policy shift in 2007, UC schools gave tuition revenue to the state governing body, the UC Board of Regents, which then distributed funds among the 10 UC campuses based on size and other factors. After the policy change, UC schools got to keep all of the non-residential tuition rather than give it away, creating an incentive to enroll more out-of-state students.

A junior studying economics, McClellan said the size and exclusivity of UC schools reflect his

own reason for seeking a college outside of his home state.

“At UC schools, it can be hard to get the classes you need on time, leading to more time spent pursuing your degree,” McClellan said, “Since I’m already taking out loans to pay off school, why not go to an out-of-state school where I know I will be able to graduate sooner and for less money in the end?”

As UC enrollment of California students began to fall, the UO’s went up. In the fall of 2008, one year after the UC policy change, the UO saw Californian enrollment increase by 558 students. In 2012, one year after the academic standards for non-residential students in California were lowered, another sharp increase brought the number up by 554.

“There are 11 Californian high school seniors to [every high school senior] in Oregon,” Rawlins said. “To cover such a big population of students, we run an office out of California that can go out to all the schools there.”

This is the UO’s only out-of-state recruitment office.

It falls to recruiters and the enrollment office to find and take advantage of all the factors that can draw high school students. Besides the economic advantages, Rawlins said one aspect of UO has been a particular draw: its football team.

“We are very fortunate to have a national spotlight on our football program here,” said Rawlins. “And while that may not end up being the reason people ultimately decide to attend here, it is a good way of getting people interested in looking at the other things Oregon has to offer.”

- IN THE FALL OF 2008, ONE YEAR AFTER THE UC POLICY CHANGE, THE UO SAW CALIFORNIAN ENROLLMENT INCREASE BY 558 STUDENTS.

The football team was a big part of why sophomore accounting major Rachel Weinfield decided to come to UO.

“My high school didn’t have a football team,” Weinfield said. “So I really saw an opportunity to see something new and participate in that college culture.”

Regardless of the reasons that bring Californians here, or that cause them to go out of their home state, the UO (and Oregonians attending state schools) clearly benefits from their extra tuition dollars.

With tuition costs at the UO rising steadily in the last decade, out-of-state student tuition costs are triple the amount of in-state tuition (around \$32,000 vs. around \$10,000, respectively). But for McClellan and Weinfield, the payoff appears to be worth it.

“Regardless of what school you go to, you know you’re going to get roughly the same education,” Weinfield said. “So really it’s about the other kinds of opportunities you can get there. I’m very happy with where I am.”





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BASEBALL

Oregon catcher Tim Susanna (6) slides back to second after hitting the ball deep into the outfield. (Kaylee Domzalski)**OREGON ELIMINATED**
FROM PAC-12 TITLE RACE

Oregon uncorked a furious comeback effort Sunday afternoon, but came up just short in a do-or-die situation.

The Ducks needed a win – and a lot of help from other Pac-12 teams – to keep their chances at winning a conference title intact, but suffered a 5-4 loss to the Arizona Wildcats at PK Park on Senior Night. The loss means the Ducks are mathematically eliminated from earning an automatic spot in the NCAA tournament, and now have to hope for an at-large selection that is unlikely to come.

“I haven’t done the math,” Oregon head coach George Horton said. “We were trying to control the controllable and keep our record at 12 losses. I don’t know how expensive this is gonna be, but we’ve got a game tomorrow and we better handle that.”

The Ducks (28-23, 14-13) had to win their final four conference games to have a chance at catching the first place Utah Utes (22-25, 16-9 entering Sunday), and also needed the Utes to lose their final five games. Oregon didn’t hold up its end of the deal, and now the Ducks will have to wait for the NCAA selection committee to decide whether their season will extend past next weekend.

Oregon was 82nd in the NCAA RPI rankings entering the weekend, and despite winning four of its last six games, the Ducks likely won’t move up much between now and the end of the season. Stanford is the Ducks’ only remaining conference opponent. The Cardinal is ranked 85th.

While it is still possible that the Ducks could earn a last-ditch spot in the 64-team NCAA tournament field, the odds are not in their favor.

“After tomorrow we can look forward to the Thursday through Saturday series [at Stanford] and see if we can impress the committee,” Horton said.

Trailing 5-1 in the bottom of the ninth, the Ducks scored three runs

all with two outs to make it 5-4 and put Arizona on the ropes. Oregon sophomore Kyle Kasser stepped to the plate with runners on second and third and a chance to win the game. Kasser hit a sharp ground ball up the middle that could have reached the outfield, but it clipped off the glove of Arizona pitcher Rio Gomez, bounced to second basemen Cody Ramer and resulted in an out at first that ended the game.

“I thought it was going to maybe be a magical finish,” Oregon head coach George Horton said. “We certainly could have pinch-hit for Kasser, but he’s been a magical guy. When the ball left his bat I thought it had a chance ... Anyway, I’m proud of my guys. They didn’t roll over.”

Arizona jumped out to an early lead in the third inning when Ramer roped a one-out double and then advanced to third on a single by Zach Gibbons. Alfonso Rivas followed with an RBI single to score Ramer, and Gibbons scored from first after Jake Bennett fumbled the ball in the outfield. Two batters later, JJ Matijevic singled to drive home Rivas.

The Wildcats tacked on two more runs in the fifth when Oregon pitcher Matt Mercer forced Kyle Lewis to ground out with two outs, but the ball hopped past Oregon third basemen Daniel Patzlaff, and Ramer and Gibbons each came around to score to make it 5-0.

In the first start of his career, freshman Mercer allowed five runs, just two of them earned, and struck out six in five innings of work. Austin Grebeck went 3-for-5 with an RBI, and Jake Bennett went 2-for-4 for the Ducks.

The Ducks will head to Palo Alto for their final regular season series with Stanford beginning on May 26.

BY JARRID DENNEY, @JARRID_DENNEY

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Oregon infielder Nikki Udria (3) tosses the ball to infielder Lauren Lindvall (8) for an out at second. (Kaylee Domzalski)

SOFTBALL

DUCKS PUNCH TICKET to NCAA Super Regionals with win over Baylor

→ JONATHAN HAWTHORNE, @JON_HAWTHORNE

Alyssa Gillespie's 7-for-8 performance at the plate in the NCAA Eugene Regional is just another example of how complete the Oregon softball team is, Baylor's coach Glenn Moore said.

Hitting in the No. 9 spot, she had five runs, four RBIs and two doubles for the Ducks, who outscored their opponents 22-1 in the three games. Oregon held its opponents to 11 hits with Cheridan Hawkins and Megan Kleist in the circle.

The No. 5-seeded Ducks (47-8) won 8-1 in dominant fashion on Sunday, punching their ticket to the NCAA Super Regionals for the seventh consecutive year. The Ducks scored in all but two innings, capping off a weekend sweep.

Gillespie, the Hillsboro, Oregon-native, said she hasn't noticed much of a difference in her approach. Rather, it's a trust in herself on a big stage.

"I think it's more just believing in what I've been doing over the course of the year and just getting a little bit of luck at times," Gillespie said. "There's not much difference, just focusing and committing to what we're doing."

Her stellar weekend bumped her batting average from .371 to .395. She has been hitting .632 in her last seven games. Gillespie, who has also hit atop the Oregon order this season, said she doesn't have a preference in the lineup.

"Just no matter where I am, I'm going to go out there and do my job for the team and work around it," Gillespie said.

Oregon head coach Mike White said Gillespie and Lilley make a potent back-to-back duo. Lilley was 3-for-4 on Sunday.

"It was great to have that 9-1 combination," said White, who is now 21-0 in regional games. "I think it really set everything up."

That pattern helped the Ducks early against Baylor (46-13). Gillespie scored on a double from Lilley in the right field gap in the second inning for a 2-0 Oregon lead.

The Ducks tacked on another run in the fourth inning when Gillespie doubled, scoring Hailey Decker. In the fifth inning, Janelle Lindvall's sac bunt scored Nikki Udria. Lauren Lindvall's single then would score Danica Mercado, who pinch ran for Gerri Ann Glasco. That gave Oregon a 5-0 lead.

Freshman Kleist came on in relief for Hawkins with two on and two out in the fifth inning, striking out Baylor's batter in three pitches.

Udria blasted her team-leading 17th home run with nobody out in the sixth, scoring Gillespie and Lilley. Udria's home run – Oregon's lone blast of the regional – set the team's record for most in a season (93).

"I thought our hitters did amazing this weekend," Hawkins said.

Baylor scored an unearned run in the sixth inning when Caitlin Charlton doubled after a Lauren Lindvall error.

After the game, Moore said the Ducks "are on a mission."

"They're hitting on all cylinders," Moore said. "I don't think anybody could have beat them this weekend. If they play like that, they can win a national championship. They're that good."

Hawkins agreed with Baylor's coach.

"I have a lot of faith in us in every aspect," Hawkins said. "I think we have full potential to win a national championship."

The only Big 12 series Baylor lost this season came at the hands of No. 3-seeded Oklahoma in a three-game sweep.

"[Oregon is] the most complete team I think we've played this year," Moore said. "And we've played some good ones."

The Ducks host UCLA next Saturday, May 28 at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 29 at 4 p.m. An if-necessary game three would be 30 minutes after game two.

White emphasized that the two Pac-12 foes will begin with a clean slate. UCLA took 2-of-3 from Oregon in April.

"The game doesn't know that we've played already this year," White said. "It's going to reward the team that plays the best."

THE DANGER OF NEUTRALITY IN MEDIA

“I don't think I'm going to vote. I don't think reporters should vote.” – Anderson Cooper

Anderson Cooper, you are either lying and you actually vote, or you don't even have your own opinion. In any case, Cooper should be the poster child for media neutrality bias because he goes out of his way to remain neutral – even if it means not voting.

A neutrality bias is the idea of favoring near perfect neutrality in every story, even stories where one side is definitely right.

Media neutrality bias can be positive in many ways, but can be extremely damaging at the same time – depending on the issue.

At this moment you might be asking, what's the problem with staying neutral? Because when the media pretends to be neutral even in issues where one side is clearly right, they're misinforming their viewers.

For example, during a climate change debate between Bill Nye “the Science Guy” and climate change denier Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn, the media framed the issue as an even debate so they could remain neutral. The reason this is a terrible idea is that it frames the issue as a 50/50 debate when, in reality, the issue is scientifically undebatable.

Imposing neutrality at all times is extremely damaging because it starts to affect real policies for real problems. For example, there

isn't enough done about climate change because people deny its existence. People deny its existence because the media frames the issue as an even debate as opposed to a scientifically proven fact.

Climate change does in fact exist, yet many Americans do not agree. One reason they're misinformed is because much of mainstream media has never come out and stated the cold hard facts that prove climate change exists, even though it would help the American people. The argument that many in the media are trying to sell is that they are not biased.

Another argument by those in the media is that they do not want to lead the conversations by taking a stand, but rather report on the issues. I believe there is a difference between distributing facts, and being the leading advocate for a particular side.

There are many social issues that warrant honest neutrality, such as abortion, where nothing is a clear and there is no fact-based argument that can prove which side is right. On the other hand, there are times that warrant the media putting its foot down and admitting which side, according to facts, is right.

During this campaign season there have been many opportunities for people in the media to end their neutrality bias and take a stand. Donald Trump has said we should kill the families of the terrorists and we should

approve waterboarding even if it doesn't work. In both cases, the media simply stayed neutral, reported what he said and that was it.

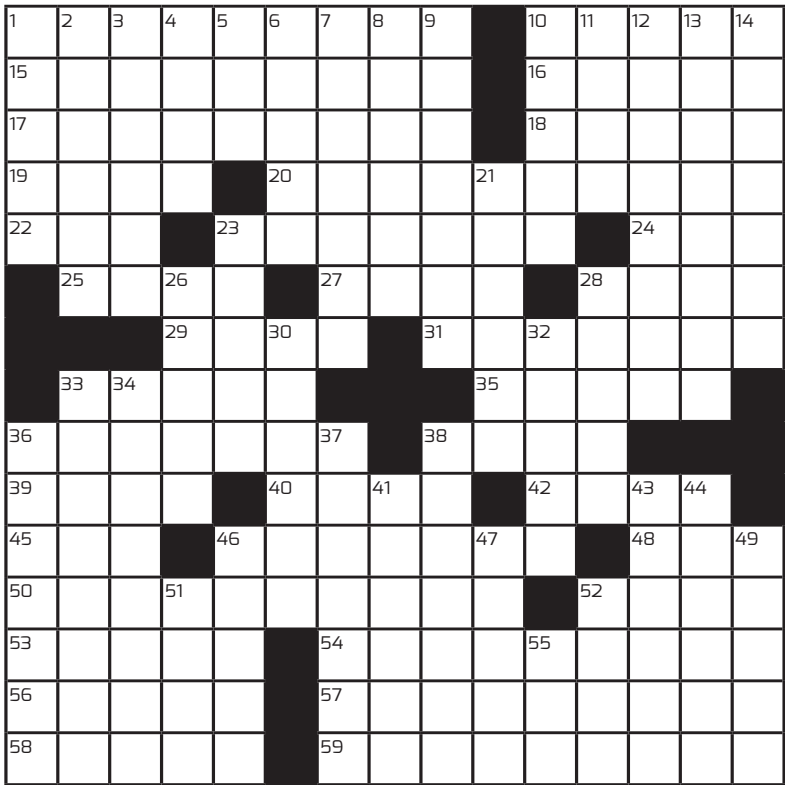
They should have followed up by saying the statements made by Donald Trump were against international and U.S. law – because it's an illegal war and goes against the protection from cruel and unusual punishment. However, because the media stays neutral, people are having a debate on whether we should enact these illegal policies, even though it's an undebatable subject.

My recommendation to solve the problem of media neutrality bias is to be fair to all sides, but deal with the facts after each debate. If one side happens to be right based on facts, then so be it. Unless those in the media take a stand to deliver the facts when it is necessary, then they are failing at their jobs.

Reporting the realities of the issue isn't always about being neutral. True reporting will, at times, mean the media will have to report the blunt facts to accurately inform viewers on the issue.

Zachary Moss is a political columnist at the Emerald. Follow him on Twitter @ZachMoss6.





- Across**

 - 1 Like Blofeld in Ian Fleming's "You Only Live Twice"
 - 10 Some tiltyard paraphernalia
 - 15 "Murder, She Wrote" setting
 - 16 Flip
 - 17 Protest song on Pink Floyd's "The Dark Side of the Moon"
 - 18 Sought, as a price
 - 19 Off one's rocker
 - 20 Bouncer of radio signals
 - 22 Fiver
 - 23 Alley of reality TV
 - 24 Voice against a bill
 - 25 29-day month
 - 27 Ballet supporters
 - 28 Venue
 - 29 Inventor of a mineral hardness scale
 - 31 Covers with a trowel, say
- Down**

 - 33 One whose work hours may involve minutes
 - 35 It's a knockout
 - 36 Small pianos
 - 38 On the dark side
 - 39 Conservatory pursuits
 - 40 Took home
 - 42 Brat Pack name
 - 45 Mens ____ (criminal intent)
 - 46 Night courses?
 - 48 Court org.
 - 50 Chicken or mashed potato
 - 52 It makes granite glint
 - 53 Challenge for an E.S.L. student
 - 54 They're never required
 - 56 Brain study, informally
 - 57 Disciplinarians
 - 58 Show of shows, with "the"
 - 59 Become 49-Down
- Down**

 - 1 Do a school visit, maybe?
 - 2 Yellow-skinned fruit
 - 3 Quieted down
 - 4 Cey and Darling of baseball
 - 5 Co. with budding prospects?
 - 6 When Musetta's waltz is heard in "La Bohème"
 - 7 Associates
 - 8 "All the same ..."
 - 9 Sends back down the ladder
 - 10 Looking floored
 - 11 Start of a holy day?
 - 12 Try to placate someone
 - 13 Wheeler-dealer
 - 14 They leave at night
 - 21 Maid of honor, often
 - 23 Scandinavian coin with a hole in it
 - 26 Chorus of approval
 - 28 Dummy
 - 30 Source of some political gaffes
 - 32 Monopoly pair: Abbr.
 - 33 Terse cop order
 - 34 Club metal
 - 36 Rush-hour subway rider, figuratively
 - 37 Italian Riviera city
 - 38 Grumpy old men
 - 41 "CSI" setting
 - 43 Doesn't claim
 - 44 "... and all that jazz"
 - 46 They're not for sale
 - 47 Righthand page
 - 49 Not done anymore
 - 51 Sen. Booker of New Jersey
 - 52 Toddler's assertion
 - 55 To

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

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			4				6	3
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8	1		2			5		

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Alpha of Oregon Chapter • University of Oregon

Alpha of Oregon chapter congratulates the 190 students invited during the May 11 meeting to join the Phi Beta Kappa Society. Members-elect who accept the invitation to join the society will be initiated Sunday, June 12, 2016, in the Lee Barlow Giustina Ballroom at the Ford Alumni Center. Phi Beta Kappa is the nation's oldest, most prestigious academic honorary society. For minimum requirements, visit pbk.uoregon.edu.

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Ethan McCormac
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Kendra Walters

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GRADUATION SCHEDULE

The University Graduation Ceremony will be held on Monday, June 13 at 9 a.m. in Matthew Knight Arena. The following list is the schedule of school, college and department ceremonies.

SUNDAY JUNE 12


Multicultural Graduation: 10 a.m., Gerlinger Hall, Gymnasium
 Cinema Studies: 12 p.m., Straub
 Ethnic Studies: 12 p.m., Science Green, West of Deschutes
 General Sciences: 12 p.m., Willamette Hall, Atrium
 School of Journalism and Communication: 12 p.m., Matthew Knight Arena
 Conflict and Dispute Resolution Master’s Program: 1 p.m., William W. Knight Law Center, Commons
 Non-traditional graduation: 3 p.m., Knight Library, Browsing Room
 Theater Arts: 3 p.m., Robinson Theatre
 Women and Gender Studies: 4 p.m., Science Green, West of Deschutes Hall
 Linguistics: 4 p.m., Straub Hall, Auditorium
 Clark Honors College: 4 p.m., Matthew Knight Arena
 Lavender Graduation: 5:30 p.m., Knight Library, Browsing Room

MONDAY, JUNE 13

College of Business: 12 p.m., Matthew Knight Arena
 English: 12 p.m., Memorial Quadrangle, East of Prince Lucien Campbell Hall
 Environmental Studies: 12 p.m., Women’s Quadrangle, Northeast of Susan Campbell Hall
 Folklore: 12 p.m., Memorial Quad, East of Prince Lucien Campbell Hall
 Geography: 12 p.m., Condon Hall East Lawn, East of Condon Hall
 Geological Sciences: 12 p.m., Willamette Hall, Atrium
 History: 12 p.m., Straub Hall, Auditorium
 Human Physiology: 12 p.m., Knight Law Center East Lawn, East of Knight Law Center
 Humanities Consortium: 12 p.m., Ford Alumni Center, Ballroom
 International Studies: 12 p.m., EMU, Amphitheater
 Latin American Studies: 12 p.m., Gerlinger Hall, Lounge
 Computer and Information Sciences: 12 p.m., Science Green, West of Deschutes
 Physics: 12 p.m., Willamette Hall, Atrium
 Sociology: 12 p.m., Knight Library South Lawn, South of Knight Library
 Anthropology: 3 p.m., Condon Hall East Lawn, East of Condon Hall
 Asian Studies: 3 p.m., Science Green, West of Deschutes
 Biology: 3 p.m., Women’s Quadrangle, Northeast of Susan Campbell Hall
 Chemistry: 3 p.m., Willamette Hall, Atrium
 College of Education: 3 p.m., Matthew Knight Arena
 Comparative Literature: 3 p.m., Ford Alumni Center, Ballroom
 German and Scandinavian Studies: 3 p.m., Ford Alumni Center, Ballroom
 East Asian Languages and Literature: 3 p.m., Science Green, West of Deschutes
 Economics: 3 p.m., Memorial Quadrangle, East of Prince Lucien Campbell Hall
 Mathematics: 3 p.m., Straub Hall, Auditorium
 Political Science: 3 p.m., Knight Law Center East Lawn, East of Knight Law Center
 Romance Languages: 3 p.m., EMU, Amphitheater
 Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies: 3 p.m., Ford Alumni Center, Ballroom
 School of Architecture and Allied Arts: 3 p.m., Knight Library South Lawn, South of Knight Library
 General Social Science: 6 p.m., Knight Law Center East Lawn, East of Knight Law Center
 Psychology: 6 p.m., Knight Library South Lawn, South of Knight Library

OTHER DATES:

Creative Writing MFA: Saturday June 4, 12:30 p.m., Gerlinger Hall, Lounge
 Masters of Accounting: Thursday June 9, 6 p.m., Beall Concert Hall
 MBA/PhD Business Commencement Ceremony: Thursday, June 10, 6:00 p.m., Beall Concert Hall
 Philosophy Commencement Ceremony: Friday, June 11, 11:00 a.m., Beall Concert Hall



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

VOL. 117, ISSUE NO. 84

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ON THE COVER

UO senior Danielle West celebrates a degree well-earned.

Photograph by Polly Irungu.



With graduation right around the corner, it's time to start thinking about what you're going to wear. For those who want to personalize their graduation garb, decorating a cap is the perfect way to go. Here are some ideas to help you stand out in the sea of green.

1. USE A QUOTE OR SAYING

The quote could be anything. It could be a quote from your favorite book or movie, like "May the odds be ever in our favor" or "Mischief Managed." Or it could just be your favorite saying like, "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." If you take this approach, make sure that you plan out the spacing on your cap, and don't choose a quote that is too long. Also, pre-cut letters are great for those that don't have the best handwriting. They are easy to use and will save time.

2. SHOW OFF YOUR SCHOOL PRIDE

If you want your hat to be duck-themed, you could do a variety of cute crafts. You could use a popular University of Oregon saying like "Call me a Duck." You could decorate your cap by gluing rubber ducks to it. If you do this, make sure you use a hot glue gun, so that the ducks stay in place. You could also draw icons like the fighting duck or the "O." There are so many options for making your cap duck-themed, but no matter what, don't forget to use green and yellow.

3. SHOW OFF YOUR FUTURE CAREER

Depending on your career, there are many cool ideas for decorating your cap. For future teachers, you can decorate your cap with images of apples, the alphabet, pencils and other school-related items. You can make images using paint and homemade stencils. You can cut images from printer paper, place it against your cap and fill in the stencil. You could also use felt paper, or draw directly onto the cap. No matter what you do, draw out your design on paper before you try it on the cap.

4. STAND OUT

Decorating your cap is supposed to make you look original in a crowd where everyone is dressed the same. The best way to shine is by literally shining, meaning glitter and rhinestones. Rhinestones are perfect for making whatever pattern you want. Love Pokémon? Make a sequined pokeball. Crazy about reading? Make a glitterized stack of books. Use a hot glue gun to glue the rhinestones to the hat, and don't forget to let it dry.

5. MAKE A PATTERN

Patterns could be made by using rhinestones, of course, but if you're looking for fun prints, like cheetah print, rhinestones would be the messy way to go. Instead, head over to your local craft store and buy scrapbook paper. Scrapbook paper comes in a 12-inch square that is pretty much the perfect size for graduation caps. The paper comes in fun prints that can be abstract doodles or animal print. It's quick and easy but you're guaranteed to look fabulous.

6. BE SENTIMENTAL

Graduation can be a sentimental time, so why not embrace it? A cute way to commemorate your last four years is to use pictures. You can take a blank scrapbook page and glue pictures to it in a creative fashion. You can display pictures of your friends, family, pet, whatever you want. This is an easy way to show off your life at school. Another way you can be sentimental is by making a collage of various things you have kept over your college years, like movie or concert tickets.

If you're not crafty, but you still want your cap to be decorated, you can purchase cap toppers online at websites such as tasseltoppers.com or zazzle.com.

Graduation is one of the most important events in your life. Decorating caps is a fun way to commemorate the day and to show off your creativity. So have fun and get decorating!

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THE CHARACTERS BEHIND UO'S HISTORIC CAMPUS BUILDINGS

→ **NEGINA PIRZAD, @NEGINA_PEPINA**

The University of Oregon campus consists of over 70 buildings on campus, which house over 270 science and liberal arts majors.

Every building is unique from another, with distinct elements of architecture and ambiance that all contribute to their individual characters.

So, if a few campus buildings were real people, these are what their stories would be.

Lillis comes from an old-school family in which female names are acceptable for men because of the traditional weight they carry (think Whitney and Leslie). He got into the Lundquist College of Business without any effort, since he inherited his father and grandfather's skills in commerce, obviously.

This business major with a double-minor in economics and Spanish (for his junior-year study abroad in Europe) would never be caught on campus without his perfectly pleated trousers that he should be endorsed on LinkedIn for. Lillis switches between a dry-fit Nike polo and crisp button-down throughout the week, neatly tucked in to show off the iPhone clip on his belt loop. He updated his no-sock Sperrys look to dress-socks-only and penny loafers. He maintains his clean-cut appearance at the top of every hour with every coiffe to his comb-over and flick of his white gold Fossil watch.

But, from Wednesday through Saturday after 9 p.m., Lillis carves out some leisure time with his esteemed fraternity colleagues in which they start at their lettered house and move their way from one end of East 13th Street to the next. The first round is always on Lillis and his introductory handshake with strangers is never a letdown.

While Lillis builds his career towards "anywhere on Wall Street, really," McKenzie looks forward to getting her masters in library and information science to become, well, a librarian. She specializes in English Renaissance history during the week and looks forward to the BBC's marathons of period pieces on the weekends.

When you open McKenzie's closet, 50 shades of brown meet the eye and a spectrum of Dansko clogs to match. Her Portland upbringing is evident in the expert way she layers her clothes, serving

her well in any type of weather from morning until evening.

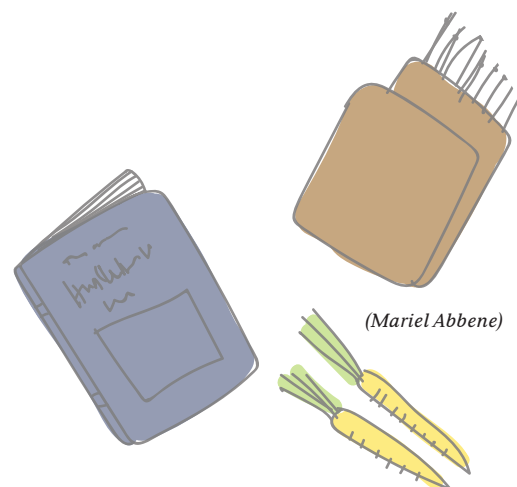
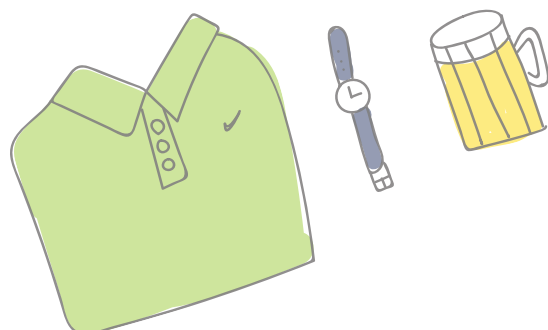
McKenzie spends long hours on campus as she lives past East 20th Street, but she sees her daily 10-minute bike ride to a Bon Iver soundtrack as a treat. Her backpack is always fully loaded with granola and carrots to last her from sunrise to sunset, and of course, a good book.

Another avid biker and someone who likes to live away from the ruckus of campus is Lawrence, who shares a house with his buddies near Hendricks Park. This product design major sees art in everything and the forested scene outside of Lawrence's bedroom window serves as his muse. He didn't always belong to the AA&A department, but after being a creative within the journalism school for a bit, Lawrence decided he wanted to do art for marketing, but without the Allen Hall competitiveness.

Unlike McKenzie, Lawrence likes to stay up-to-date with trends and is well versed in everything Apple. Technology is his "thing" as he uses platforms like Instagram, Tumblr, Twitter and Pinterest to express his creativity. Minimal is the aesthetic he goes for with his images, which has gained him a large fan base and the reason why he doesn't need to hashtag his pictures anymore.

This minimalism has carried into Lawrence's aesthetic IRL as well, as art so often does, causing his clothing collection to only consist of whites, blacks, grays and plaids. He was wearing "groutfits" before Drake and the "Hotline Bling" craze even surfaced. But once you get past Lawrence's visual self-marketing, past his clear-framed Warby Parker glasses and his long-on-top, shaved-on-bottom hair, you see an outgoing guy who just wants to bond over a beer at The Pint Pot Public House.

Now that you know some more about a few people you often see in passing on campus, maybe try and uncover the lives of others like Erb, who only strangers call the EMU; or Robert of the Clark family who really is as intense as people say; and then, there's Onyx and Willamette, notorious for the cadavers and other secrets kept in their depths.



(Mariel Abbene)



NEGINA'S YEARLY PONDER

..... the "fix-it" year

➔ **NEGINA PIRZAD, @NEGINA_PEPINA**

As a graduating senior, my four years at University of Oregon have been full of both the good and the bad, but this last year especially has given me an inspirational push I never expected. *cries happy tears across graduation stage*

The end of the 2015-16 school year is upon us, but by the look of things, who would even know? The weather has yet to commit to springtime sunshine, construction on campus is as disruptive as ever and full-length exams are still being handed out as "mid-terms" even though the halfway-point was three weeks ago.

I am a person who is very much in need of closure, especially when it comes to finishing something as major as college, so how do I cope with my undergraduate career coming to an end when it doesn't actually feel like it is? One thing that helps is reflecting over what has happened in my community over the last year.

Campus activism made some significant strides this year, more so than I've seen in any of my four years at UO. During fall term, when the nation was abuzz about the Black Lives Matter movement, college campuses around the country marched in solidarity with the various young men who died at the hands of U.S. law enforcement throughout the year, and East 13th Street in Eugene was not left empty.

In addition to a rally put on by the UO Black Women of Achievement, the Black Student Task Force came up with a list of 12 demands on Nov. 17 for university administration in an effort to counter a number of racial issues on campus. Items on the list included changing certain building names that are KKK-related and integrating several historically Black fraternity and sorority organizations into UO Greek life.

The list has rightfully been acknowledged by administration, and in a letter by President Schill and VP for Equity and Inclusion, Yvette M. Alex-Assensoh, it is clear that UO will (finally) be working towards a more inclusive university beginning in the fall of 2016.

Maybe one day, UO will be where it is with racial diversity awareness and implementation as it is with LGBTQ rights and

recognition. On a list by College Choice, UO was ranked among the 50 "Best LGBT Friendly Colleges and Universities" in 2016. This is the result of all the groups and individuals involved in the university's various LGBT-centered organizations and services. The school has also created over 75 gender inclusive bathrooms on campus since last summer.

Undoubtedly, there are a lot of faults in society, many of which are amplified when on a university campus, and UO students continued to fight against these ills in a big way this year. Some students even pulled themselves out of the crowds to be a part of these campus-wide changes and ran for ASUO leadership positions during this past term.

Elections on campus are always entertaining for me to witness just because of the drama that surrounds them, and this year was no different. The three campaign slates fighting for seats in the student-governing body were *I'm with UO*, *Duck Squad* and *One Oregon*. *I'm with UO* overwhelmingly won positions in the school-wide elections.

With it being a national election year as well, political drama was not limited to ASUO. The game of the American throne brought both Trump and Sanders to Eugene this spring, and the two rallies couldn't have been more different. Eugene's liberalism is no secret, but I was surprised to see just how many fans of "The Donald" are among us. They came loud and proud in their monster trucks, trucker hats and other truck-things - I'm generalizing, of course - and wanted their pride for Trump (the racist) to be known. But I guess there wasn't as much UO love for Trump as there was for Bernie, since the former did not tour the city or enjoy a Glenwood breakfast.

Politics can be polarizing, as can the spread of Norovirus on campus *brb, washing hands*, but I am both sad and happy to be leaving a place where there is cohesiveness in many aspects. So many students have been working to fix the problems on our campus, and the last year has given me motivation to live an active life in terms of righteousness, which in turn, gives me an opportunity in lieu of closure.



(Mariel Abbene)



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PLACES TO VISIT NEAR EUGENE

➔ **CONNOR HENZEL**

Before leaving Eugene for good, everyone should make sure they hit these nearby destinations. Below is a list of places visited in our “Day Trip!” video series, organized by region.

EUGENE

Alton Baker Park

This park is a great place to see the river for which Willamette Valley is named and the wildlife that inhabits it.

Mount Pisgah

A labyrinth of paths on this butte open the way for exploration. It's a great place to see some of the oak savanna that once covered the valley.

Spencer Butte

Ascend through a forest of Douglas firs for a stunning view that includes the valley, the coast range, the Cascades and the Klamath Mountains.

Saturday Market

The market downtown is a great way to get connected with local vendors and check out some of Eugene's natural food.

Sweetcheeks Winery

Sweet Cheeks is one of a handful of Eugene wineries, but has a view that can't be beat. Although no food is served, outside food is allowed, so pack a picnic.

Agrarian Ales

Agrarian is a hop farm and brewery, serving locally sourced food – some being from the farm itself.

Thistledown Farm

Along River Road towards Junction City are three farms open to the public featuring local produce, meats, flowers and animals, with corn mazes and pumpkins in the fall.

COAST

Oregon Dunes

These dunes are the largest coastal dune field in North America. Trekking through the sand is pretty unique, but these places are being threatened by encroaching beach grasses that were brought in decades ago to safeguard developed areas.

Sweet Creek Falls

The trail follows Sweet Creek, with several rapids and smaller falls along the way, culminating at the larger waterfall for which the trail is named.

C&M Stables

This business north of Florence offers horseback riding through the dunes with stunning ocean views.

Oregon Dunes National Recreation Areas

The forest service administers a large swath of the dunes with many trails and access points throughout that are perfect for hiking, camping and viewing wildlife.

Rugged Coast

Stop by this section of the Oregon Coast to go fishing or take pictures of the stunning sea cliffs that are hundreds of feet high.

Heceta Head Lighthouse

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, this scenic lighthouse sits above a cobble beach surrounded by trails through the hills and cliffs that are high above the sea.

Newport

The coastal town of Newport, and the surrounding area, is excellent for tide pooling and whale watching. Many grey whales spend their summer feeding here.

Yaquina Head Lighthouse

Standing at 93 feet, this is the tallest lighthouse on the Oregon coast. It is perched on a volcanic promontory, and is believed to be the oldest structure in Newport.





CASCADES

Marine Discovery Tours

This company takes you out into the bay for guided nature tours, including watching whales and viewing other wildlife such as sea lions, sea birds and crabs.

Delta Old Growth Trail

Only a tiny portion of our old growth forests remain – trek through this one and see what makes them so special. The .5 mile trail is easily accessible and features many different streams full of trout and salmon.

McKenzie River Trail

This trail is over 20 miles long and goes all the way to the source of the river. There are hot springs, waterfalls, forests and rapids along the path. The McKenzie River Mountain Resort offers cabins and lodge rooms with rentals for recreation including mountain bike tours and river rafting.

Terwilliger Hot Springs

Take a quick 1/4 mile hike in the Willamette National Forest to these five soaking pools, which are separated by rock walls. Clothing is optional.

Salt Creek Falls

Near Willamette Pass, the second highest waterfall in Oregon falls over a cliff of igneous rock formed by lava flow. There are trails to the bottom of the falls and beyond.

Odel Lake

The lake sits in the Deschutes National Forest and the resort offers activities year round. There are rentals available for fishing, kayaking and rafting as well as skiing and snowmobiling.

Clear Lake

The “lake born of fire” is the source of the McKenzie River and is an incredibly clear lake located deep in the mountains. The temperature of the lake is not suitable for swimming, but the area is great for picnicking and bird watching.

Koosah & Sahalie Falls

Koosah and Sahalie are off the McKenzie River Trail, just downstream of Clear Lake. Stop by the viewing platform at Sahalie Falls for scenic views of the plunging water.

Deer Creek Hot Springs

Downstream from the falls is a small rock pool, a hot spring on the river itself. This spring is inaccessible when the water level is high, so make sure to go during the summer or fall.

CENTRAL OREGON

High Desert

The lava plains of the High Desert are home to juniper and sagebrush steppe. Check out this stunning landscape with volcanic origins and be sure to head over to the High Desert Museum to catch up on some history.

Peter Skene Ogden State Scenic Viewpoint

This viewpoint features a trail on the edge of a steep sided 300-foot gorge, with three bridges stretching across it. It is great for views of the Cascade volcanoes and birds of prey such as osprey, hawks and bald eagles.

Richardson's Rock Ranch

This business features a good-sized rock shop, which hasn't been closed for a single day since its opening 42 years ago. You can also get some tools and hunt for your own jasper and agate on their thunderegg beds.

Lava Lands

See some of the most recent lava flows in the state and the ponderosa forests surrounding them. A trip to the visitor center will help refresh your geology knowledge.

Lava Butte

Walk along the surface of a lava flow from Newberry National Volcanic Monument and learn about its formation along the way. With views of the Cascade Mountains, this destination is a great spot for hiking and picnicking.

Lava River Cave

Go underground into the longest known continuous lava tube in Oregon. The cave is a mile long and takes about an hour and a half to tour the entire thing, so make sure to wear closed-toe shoes and warm clothing.

Smith Rock

Smith Rock State Park is one of the seven wonders of Oregon and the birthplace of modern rock climbing.

Misery Ridge Trail

This trail scales Smith Rock over a series of stairs and switchbacks. During the 3.8 mile hike, you'll be rewarded with bird's eye views of the Cascade volcanoes and the Crooked River.



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EUGENE BEERS YOU CAN'T MISS

→ **TANNER OWENS**, @T_OWENS21

With the Pacific Northwest being full of breweries and gastropubs, there is always an interesting craft beer to try. Here's a list of the best microbrews that are currently on tap here in Eugene.

Ninkasi Brewing Company - Take a tour of the brewery to see the work that goes into every bottle of beer or grab a bite to eat from one of the locally owned food carts on the patio.

Total Domination IPA 6.7 percent ABV
Tricerhaops Double IPA 8 percent ABV
Dawn of the Red IRA 7 percent ABV
Easy Way IPA 4.7 percent ABV
Helles Belles Helles Lager 5.3 percent ABV
Oatis Oatmeal Stout 7 percent ABV
Vanilla Oatis Oatmeal Stout with Vanilla 7.0 ABV
Quantum Pale Ale 5.6 ABV

Hop Valley - Stop by the tasting room to catch a game on the brewery's 12 foot projection screen or fill up a growler for home.

Alpha Centauri Imperial IPA 9 percent ABV
Alphadelic IPA 6.7 percent ABV
Citrus Mistress IPA 6.5 percent ABV
Blonde Ale 5 percent ABV
Festeroo Winter Ale 6.8 percent ABV
Light Me Up Lager 4 percent ABV

Neon Prince Session IPA 4.5 percent ABV
Operation Vacation Extra Pale Ale 5.5 percent ABV
Pale Ale 5.4 ABV
Proxima IPA 6.3 percent ABV
Red Ale 6 percent ABV
Sir Orange Lot Pale Ale 5.5 percent ABV
Vanilla Infused Porter (VIP) 5.9 percent ABV

Oakshire - Visit the Public House for a taster flight or board Buster. The brewery is always updating its beer list, and it releases a new beer every Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Watershed IPA 6.7 percent ABV
Overcast Espresso Stout 5.8 percent ABV
Amber Ale 5.4 percent ABV
Reclamation Lager 5.5 percent ABV
Line Dry Rye IPA 6.3 percent ABV
The Perfect Storm Double IPA 9 percent ABV
Northwest IPA 7.0 percent ABV
Ride Your Bike double Red Ale 8.6 percent ABV

Viking Braggot Co. - Check out Eugene's only Braggot Brewery, which was opened by two University of Oregon graduates in 2012.

Freyja Blonde Ale 6 percent ABV
Reverence Dry Hopped Red Ale 6.3 percent ABV
Battle Axe Dry Hopped IPA 7.2 percent ABV
Fenrir American Stout 6.6 percent ABV

Pineapple IPA 6.6 percent ABV
Heather Flower Pale Ale 5.6 percent ABV
Gypsy Tears Session IPA 5.6 percent ABV
Valhalla Belgian Style Pale Ale 5 percent ABV
Valkyrie Belgian Style Amber Ale 5.5 percent ABV
Beowulf Fresh-hop Cascade Brown Ale 5.8 percent ABV
Winter Squash Porter Imperial Porter 8.4 percent ABV

Elk Horn - Head to this family-owned brewery on the corner of Hilyard Street and Broadway, which serves an array of southern dishes with local influences.

Ducks Blue Ribbon Kolsch 5.5 percent ABV
The Flying Hawaiian IPA 6.2 percent ABV
The Perfect 10 Imperial IPA 10 percent ABV
Imperial March Imperial Red Ale 8.5 percent ABV
Sasquatch's Shadow Stout 6 percent ABV
Chocolate Porter 4 percent ABV
Nutella Stout 6 percent ABV
Baywatch Hefeweizen 4.8 percent ABV
Royally Ducked Double IPA 9.8 percent ABV
American Amber Lager 5 percent ABV
Velvet Antler Red Ale 6 percent ABV
Edinburgh Amber Scotch Ale 5.7 percent ABV
Pucker Up Amber Sour Ale 6.5 percent ABV
Wapiti German-style Pilsner 5.5 percent ABV



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Guest Viewpoint: GRADUATE, THEN CHANGE THE WORLD

The following was contributed by Rebecca Brennan, a University of Oregon senior studying family and human services and ethnic studies. She is also the Panhellenic Council president. This piece reflects the view of the author and not those of Emerald Media Group. Send your columns or submissions about our content or campus issues to letters@dailyemerald.com.

If you'd asked me three years ago where I was headed after graduation, I would've said "wherever I could help people." From the moment I arrived on campus, I was searching for a degree that could give me purpose. I tried on a whole slew of majors: human physiology; planning, public policy and management; and psychology. Then, last fall, sitting in a lecture on Pacific Islander studies, I started to wonder. Maybe all the skills I've been honing in family and human services and ethnic studies – critical analysis, effective communication and looking at the world through an intersectional perspective – were actually preparing me for something perfect. Maybe I could make an impact, develop my skills and even hold on to some of the things I've loved most about University of Oregon: a sense of community, school spirit, opportunities for impact and relationships that matter.

All of these maybes led me to Teach For America and the career I'll begin in education this fall. Everything about it makes me anxious. Will I be good enough for my kids? Will I feel at home at my new city? But I'm sustained by what I know. Education isn't serving all kids in this country. We've got to change this – and fast.

Nothing about doing so will be easy. That's because the problems in our schools didn't start there – they reflect deep, systemic, overlapping injustice across race, class and geography. A family who can't access health services and struggles to keep both parents employed. Those working multiple jobs who need after school care, but don't live in communities with the resources to provide it. Each inequity makes the next one worse – with students bearing the brunt.

Easy? No. Impactful? Absolutely. When we choose to teach, we choose to disrupt this repressive cycle. Outside of my studies and work with Panhellenic Executive Board, I'm fortunate to spend a few hours every week working with students at the Martin Luther Education Center. My time mentoring is a sharp contrast to the bubble of life on campus. The students I work with are at the highest risk for dropping out, substance abuse and incarceration. They all have active cases with the Department of Youth Services and need additional behavioral or classroom management.

And yet, our conversations are as full of hope and possibility as any here on campus. Every week we engage in critical discussions regarding the arts, current events, obtaining a GED and the relevance of job training. Despite all the challenges these students face, both inside and outside of the classroom, they have visions for their futures, all of which involve education. The hours I spend with them have quickly become some of my favorite of each week.

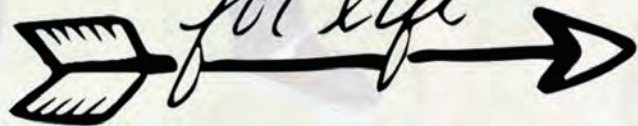
When we come together to help kids change the way they think about their own abilities and futures, we create classrooms full of students who are dreaming big. When we equip them with the skills and tools to thrive in and out of the classroom, we cultivate boundless potential – the future scientists, politicians, writers, artists, doctors and attorneys who shape the world we are all going to share. It won't happen overnight. It will take sustained, thoughtful effort, and I want to be a part of it.

I don't know exactly where this next step will take me. If I love teaching as much as I think I might, I'll keep at it. Or maybe I'll become a principal or launch a start-up to address some of challenges my students face. Wherever I go, I'll empower my students to break the cycle and strive to become part of a better one.

I can't wait for school to start.

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