The Daily Barometer

CAMPUS

Dam Jam to take different form

"Dam Jam" renamed "Plaza Palooza" will be held on a smaller scale at the SEC plaza this year. 8

Benton County Primary Election

The Benton County Primary Election ballot will feature two education related measures and a race for Commissioner. 17

DAM WORTH IT CELEBRATES FIVE Students report CAPS understaffing issues, high demand OF MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

By ANDRES DE LOS SANTOS & **BENJAMIN RABBINO**

Sports Chief & Assistant Sports Editor

When Dam Worth It was first founded back in 2017, co-founders Taylor Ricci and Nathan Braaten had no idea of the impact it would have on the Oregon State community five years later.

Since the creation of the program, DWI has allowed students to feel safer and more welcomed during their time with OSU, creating an outlet for some students who felt they needed an extra shoulder to lean on.

According to its website, DWI is a mental health campaign whose mission is "to end the stigma around mental health at colleges the organization is and the values it aims to uphold.

"When we started DWI back in 2017, it truly was a response to trauma and loss," Ricci, a former OSU gymnast said. "It was a response to Nathan and I both losing teammates to suicide and needing to find a way to cope with our own mental health struggles. The initial vision of DWI was to be an outlet and a means of trying to end the stigma around mental health, and it is awesome that it has stayed true to this mission but has just expanded to try and be something so much more."

Along with the mission to end the stigma surrounding mental health, Ricci and Braaten have bigger intentions in mind for the program, looking to expand outside of OSU.

try outside of OSU, University of Kentucky, Scappoose High School, Cal Poly Humboldt and San Jose State University, DWI has made progress.

According to Ricci and Braaten, creating this program and expanding it is a lot of responsibility for them as co-founders, but they acknowledge that although they are the founders, they are not health workers by any means.

"We are not mental health professionals, and we will never claim to be, but we started DWI to encourage people to have conversations about mental health and to encourage vulnerability and genuine connections," said Braaten, a former OSU men's soccer player.

By LARA RIVERA News Contributor

Following an increase in demand for individual session services, Oregon State University's Counseling and Psychological Services encourages use of an upcoming MyStudentSupportServices app, therapy groups and single-session clinics.

According to Draken Reeves, OSU student and editor-in-chief of DamChic, he first reached out to CAPS early in the spring of 2021 when he found out he was going to be the editor for DamChic during the next academic school year. DamChic is a fashion magazine under Orange Media Network, which The

CAPS DEMAND INCREASE



DAM WORTH IT Continued from page 1

Since its expansion, DWI has invited members of the OSU community to participate in its events.

Riley LeCocq, a second-year kinesiology major and reporter for The Daily Barometer, has been a member of DWI since her freshman year, but has known about it before she became a student at OSU.

"I heard about DWI at one of their first DWI gymnastics meets I attended in high school," LeCocq said. "I had been following their social media and when I came to Oregon State as a freshman and saw they were taking applications for members of the OSU branch in the spring, [so] I jumped at the chance to be a part of it."

Oregon State senior and Media Marketing Executive Jennifer Ruan said she has also been part of DWI for some time. She said it has changed her outlook on the conversations that should be happening regarding mental health and the overall well-being of a person.

"Mental health, and overall healthcare, should be getting more attention in our society," Ruan said. "If anything, DWI has made me more passionate about making a difference and opening up the conversation about mental health."

Like many other aspects of society, the COVID-19 pandemic put a hold on how DWI was able to operate and what services it was able to offer.

"The pandemic has affected a lot of our growth as we mainly spread mental health awareness through athletics and other events usually," Ruan said.

Once statewide pandemic restrictions started to loosen up, the organization was able to put together events and spread awareness on mental health.

According to the DWI website, one example of these events is the "Dam Worth It Games," which are Oregon State sporting events designated to help raise awareness around mental health and DWI. It is a highlight for many people involved in the organization.

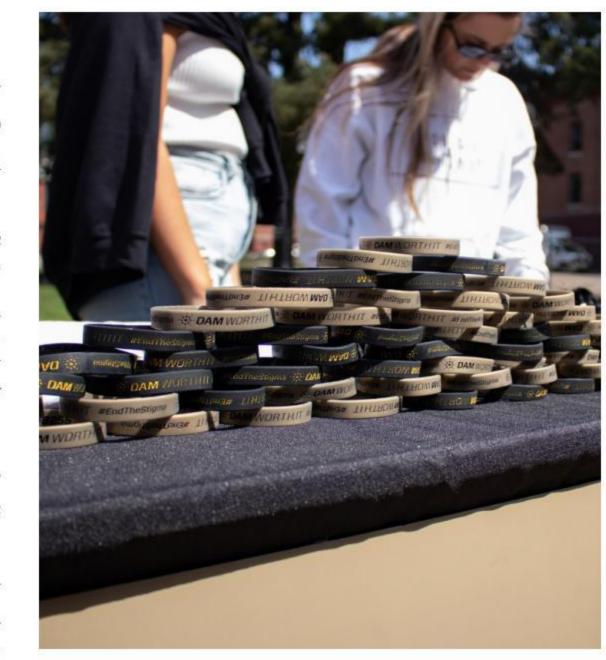
"I love speaking with people at games, whether they share their story or just write why they are worth it," LeCocq said.

With DWI turning five years old, the founders had the chance to reflect on what they created, as well as how it has grown. Braaten said DWI has grown as a community space as well.

"I believe that our commitment to this mission has resonated with people and has made a true impact," Braaten said. "However, I think that the most important aspect of DWI that has made it successful is the people involved with the non-profit and the branches across the country. What DWI does is provide support, guidance and a foundation for students and student-athletes to start their own peer-led mental health campaigns."

Of course, DWI was built with the idea of being a safe space for people to be open and vulnerable with one another, and Braaten said it is these connections that make DWI what it is today.

"I believe that we provide the platform and the space, but it is the people who create the community and create the impact," Braaten said. "Without the passion and dedication of everyone who has been a part of this non-prof-



KAYLA JONES | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK
Dam Worth It bracelets are stacked on a table
outside Goss Stadium promoting Dam Worth It
on April 24. Dam Worth It promotes mental health
awareness during various games during the year.

it, we wouldn't be successful. At the end of the day, DWI is all about people and community."

In terms of what is next for DWI, Braaten said there is more to come from the organization.

"Taylor and I are dreamers and because of that we are always looking ahead to the future and determining how we can continue to grow and expand our impact," Braaten said. "With that being said, there are a ton of things coming up in the future that we are excited about. There are a few things we can't announce publicly yet, but we have a few really exciting partnerships that are in the works, and we are also on track to be in eight universities by the end of 2022, so lots to do!"

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Formal written complaints about The Barometer may be referred to the committee for investigation and disposition. After hearing all elements involved in a complaint, the committee will report its decision to all parties concerned.

COVER: Pictured from left to right, Callan Jackman, Sierra Bishop, Emily Nagel, Caleb Etter, Jennifer Ruan, Christian Porter Lubbers, Sarah Connolly, Kristina Peterson and Benny the Beaver. These members of the Dam Worth It team pose with uplifting signs at the Jan. 20 OSU Men's Basketball game vs. the University of Washington Huskies in Gill Coliseum. *Photo contributed by Dam Worth It Co.*

Reports of alleged weapon threat in Finley Hall found 'unsubstantiated'

By ZEVA ROSENBAUM News Contributor

Students posted rumors of a student who might have a weapon to social media at about 11 p.m. on April 25, but Oregon State University security officials found no threat.

A member of the OSU gaming Discord group sent out a group message late Monday night to warn members of a student who they thought might have a gun in Finley Hall on the OSU campus in Corvallis, Ore.

At I p.m. on April 26, OSU Public Safety and University Housing and Dining Service then sent out an email alert to let OSU community members know they had received and investigated the reports, which included interviews and searches, and found no threat, according to the email.

"We are grateful that this report was made and later found to be unsubstantiated," the OSU email alert said. "We take reports of wrongdoing and threats against members of the university community very seriously, and we immediately investigate them."

Finley Hall is a residence hall open to all OSU students that is located on the south end of OSU's campus near the OSU Beaver Store, Dutch Bros and parking garage.

A member of the OSU gaming Discord group sent out a group message just before II p.m. on April 25 to warn group members of the potential danger and suggest people stay out of crowded areas.

At least one class on the OSU campus was

also canceled on April 26 due to the alleged weapons threat before the email alert from OSU was sent out.

OSU's weapons and destructive devices policy prohibits possession, use, or threatened use of destructive devices, dangerous chemicals or weapons including knives, bows, firearms and other launching devices.

At 3 p.m. on April 27, OSU police chief Shanon Anderson confirmed the police believe there is no immediate threat. According to Anderson the role of campus security during a weapons threat is to immediately investigate the situation and to communicate safety information to those affected. She said they also work to provide information about keeping the community safe and how to be conscious of potential danger as well as resources available to anyone needing information or assistance.

"The decision to evacuate any building is a complex decision and is dependent on the situation, and the risk and danger of the specific situation," Anderson said.

Anderson said it's best to work with family, personal support groups, RA's or RD's to decide what is the best option for individual students and the community at large when this kind of situation occurs.

"I have found that making long-term decisions is best not done during moments of crisis, and I try to find ways to slow things down in order to gather information and make more well-informed decisions," Anderson said.

The most recent update to this story was made on April 28. For the full story, visit our website.

ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK ARCHIVES

Samantha Giaimo, trained peer and Student Resource Staff memebr at the Wellness Nook associated with CAPS, working at the front desk in March of 2020. CAPS is currently experiencing high demand from students and refer students to resources if they are unable to get an appointment.

CAPS DEMAND INCREASE Continued from page 1

Daily Barometer is also a part of.

Reeves said he was being precautious and decided to join the waitlist early since he knew the waitlist for CAPS was long. According to Reeves, he was told to wait until the next academic year, in the fall of 2021, to get an appointment at CAPS.

In the fall, Reeves said he signed up during the first week of school and was waitlisted for 10 weeks before CAPS reached out and asked if he was interested in renewing his waitlist.

"By the time that those 10 weeks were done, a lot of my issues had either gotten worse, or they were just different issues that I had to deal with on my own," Reeves said.

After Reeves was waitlisted by CAPS, he said he started looking for therapists outside of OSU. However, Reeves was told that most therapists were booked for about six months.

"Finding a therapist is hard," Reeves said.
"Finding a therapist that is *good for you* is hard, as well."

According to Ian Kellems, director of CAPS, CAPS has been impacted by the inadequate national mental health treatment system as well as an effort to reduce stigma on campus and encourage students to seek out help for mental health counseling.

Kellems said this has created an increase of demand in services that has resulted in a long waitlist for ongoing counseling appointments.

However, CAPS does offer other services that do not typically have as long of waitlists, such as single-session clinics—which are typically available within a week—workshops around mindfulness and other emotional coping skills, and groups that have openings and

are available for students.

According to Kellems, CAPS was also granted permission to purchase a contract with an app through the MyStudentSupportProgram, so students can access a counselor 24/7. The app would enable all students to chat in real time or video call a counselor, and access educational materials for stress management, mindfulness exercises and information about depression.

Kellems said the advantage of the app, as opposed to hiring more therapists, is that it provides 24/7 coverage to service the volume of students requesting services, as opposed to having 20 therapists for all students waiting for an OSU counselor.

"We have been hearing from students that the wait is a problem, and so this is what we are doing to try and address that," Kellems said.

According to Kellems, CAPS currently operates on a triage system that allows counselors and therapists to assess students and what can best help them, based on who needs assistance most.

"It is really really disheartening to have campus and the university in general to say 'Reach out if you need help,' and then the resources are not given enough support," Reeves said.

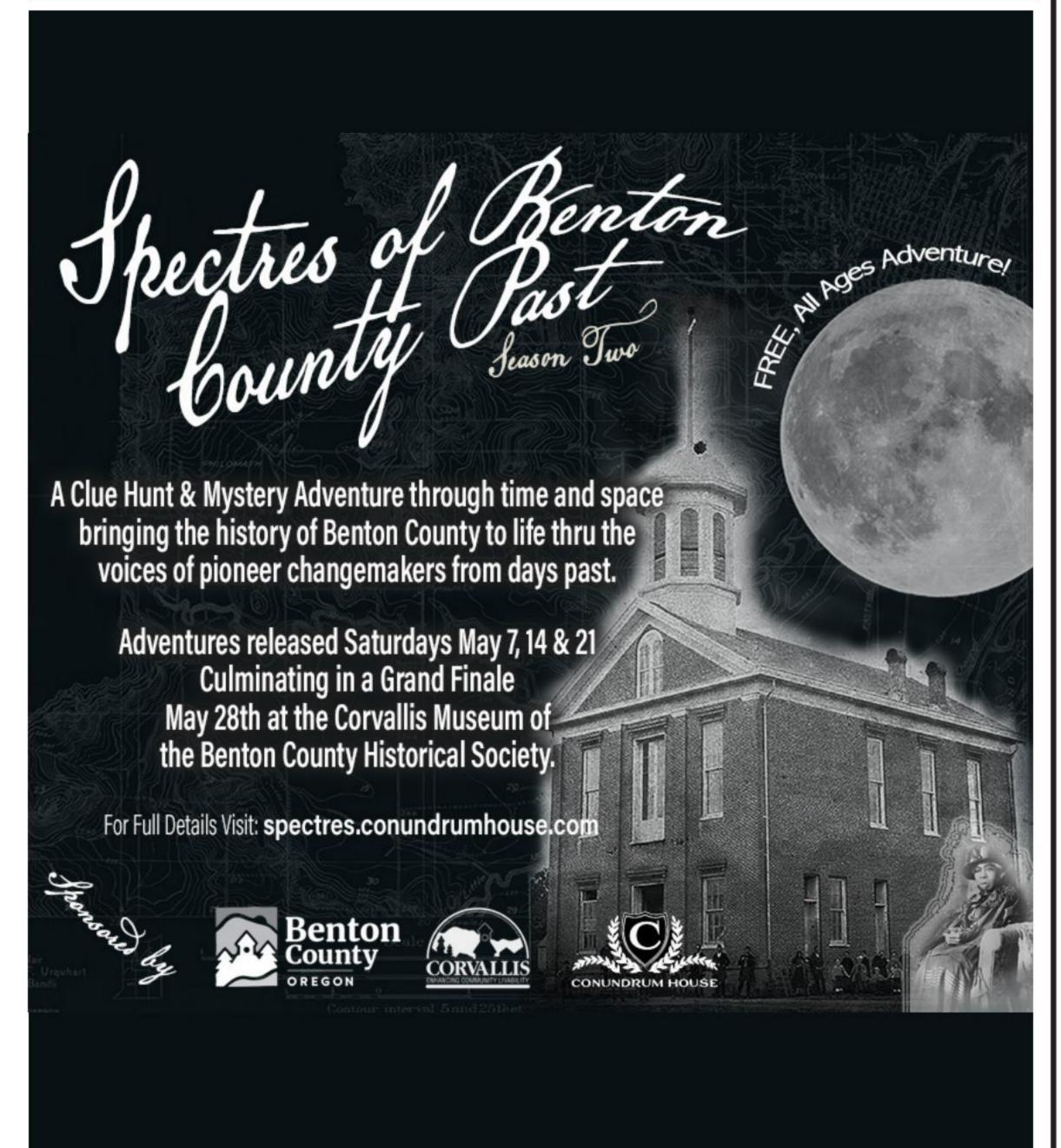
Sydney B., a third-year transfer OSU student, said she heard about CAPS leading up to her first week at OSU during START orientation.

"I remember, several times, being told that the spaces fill up really fast," Sydney said.

According to Sydney, she went in person to the CAPS facility with a high level of distress and was seen by a counselor right away.

Kellems said what constitutes a crisis is the student's level of functioning. A student is considered to be in crisis, according to Kellems, if they are having suicidal thoughts and/or their level of distress.

ADVERTISEMENTS



OSU community voices diverse opinions on tuition increase for 2022-23 academic year

By KIMBERLY CLAIRMONT
News Contributor

Oregon State University officials announced another tuition increase for the upcoming academic year, which may impact student finances. According to Becky Johnson, OSU's interim president, most students will see an increase in tuition during the next academic year, but individual impacts on students will vary.

"For currently enrolled Oregon resident students, tuition will increase by \$360 per year," Johnson said. "Tuition for new Oregon resident students will increase \$450 per year. While that increase is proportional to the inflationary increases we're facing at the university, I do recognize that such an increase is still a lot of money for most students."

Johnson explained the cost of attending OSU increases every year in order to fund state-required employee health care and retirement benefits, payroll costs for fac-

> ulty and staff and general inflation on goods and services.

> "The revenue to cover those costs comes from tuition and state government funding," Johnson said. "The state only covered a portion of inflationary increases, so tuition has to cover the remainder. The only other option is to cut services or programs at the university that directly impact students, faculty and staff."

According to Johnson, the university budget committee—which includes OSU students, faculty and staff—reviews proposals for increasing tuition fees or costs each year.

"A number of listening sessions were conducted across the university to gather further feedback," Johnson said. "The committee makes a recommendation to the president for approval, and then the president makes a recommendation to the Board of Trustees for final approval."

Eleven million dollars will go towards tuition assistance for the 2022-23 academic year, making the total tuition assistance funds double what OSU had to offer in 2018-19.

"Students with financial need should contact the Financial Aid office to see if they can access Pell grants, Oregon Opportunity Grant assistance and other scholarships," Johnson said.

Zach Glowinski, a

"For currently enrolled students, tuition will increase by \$360 per year. Tuition for new Oregon resident students will increase \$450 per year...

I do recognize that such an increase is still a lot of money for most students."

- Becky Johnson, OSU interim president

third-year OSU finance and business administration major, said he is against the tuition increase.

"I understand that inflation has been at a record high for the past 40 years, but in the grand scheme of things... Tuition costs have increased dramatically compared to other goods and services," Glowinski said.

According to Glowinski, even though tuition prices increase, students do not see new or improved university services.

"Classes can be hard to get into and fill fast—Dixon is usually overcrowded and students still see themselves paying for high textbook costs, parking fees [and] meals on campus," Glowinski said.

The increase won't keep him from attending college, Glowinski said, but it will definitely tighten his wallet.

"In turn, with this increase, I will further question what I am spending my money on," Glowinski said. "Do I really need to buy that apple that costs a dollar at the grocery store? Should I really be going out and socializing with my friends this weekend? And the worst feared [question], looking into even more loans that could take years and years to pay off after graduating."

Steve Clark, OSU's vice president of university relations and marketing, said he understand paying for college is challenging for many students and their families but encourages students with financial needs to explore the financial resources that they may qualify for by contacting the OSU Office of Financial Aid.

"The financial aid office can also suggest possible state and federal funds that students may qualify for, and suggest how students may seek donor-supported scholarships provided by the OSU Foundation," Clark said.



TERESA AGUILERA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Tuition for OSU is set to increase for next academic year and many students are against that decision. Paying for college is already challenging for many families and the increase could add more stress to students and their financial situation, as depicted in this illustration.

Campus dispatch center prioritizes OSU community

By SHAE WILLIAMS
News Contributor

Since Oregon State University created its own police department in January 2021, the university now has now created its own Level 2 dispatch center that takes 911 calls.

According to Teresa Parker, dispatch manager, OSU's dispatch center was a unique opportunity to focus strictly on OSU's safety.

The dispatch calls received at Public Safety are strictly for the OSU community, Parker said, although the university also works together with other resources in Corvallis Ore., such as hospitals and fire departments.

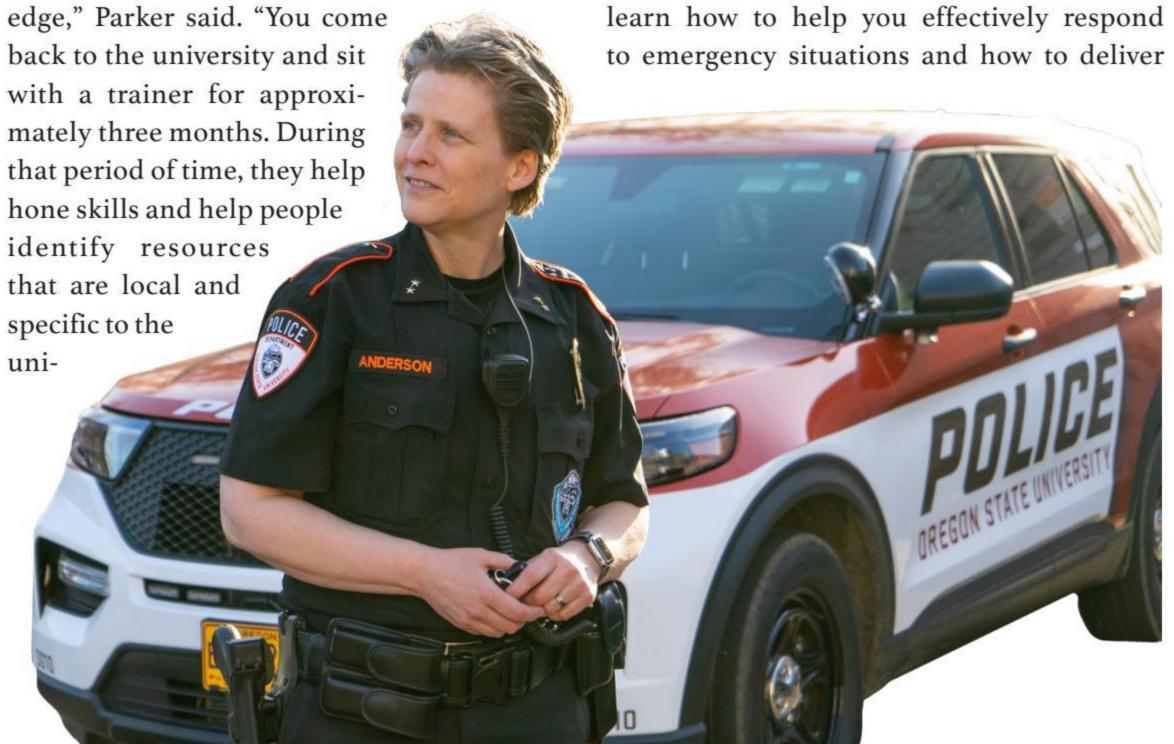
"Our response times are generally very quick because we are able to deploy resources and focus on our campus," Parker said. "We are able to give a higher level of customer service because our only focus is the campus."

Shanon Anderson, chief of police and associate vice president for Public Safety, said the dispatch center monitors the blue emergency light alarms across campus and notifies the responsible party if one is triggered.

"We also provide assistance for medical calls and have the training and equipment to start to stabilize many medical emergencies prior to our partners with the Corvallis Fire Department arriving," Anderson said. "We also receive calls from concerned family and friends to check on individuals, here on the Corvallis campus, that they have concerns for."

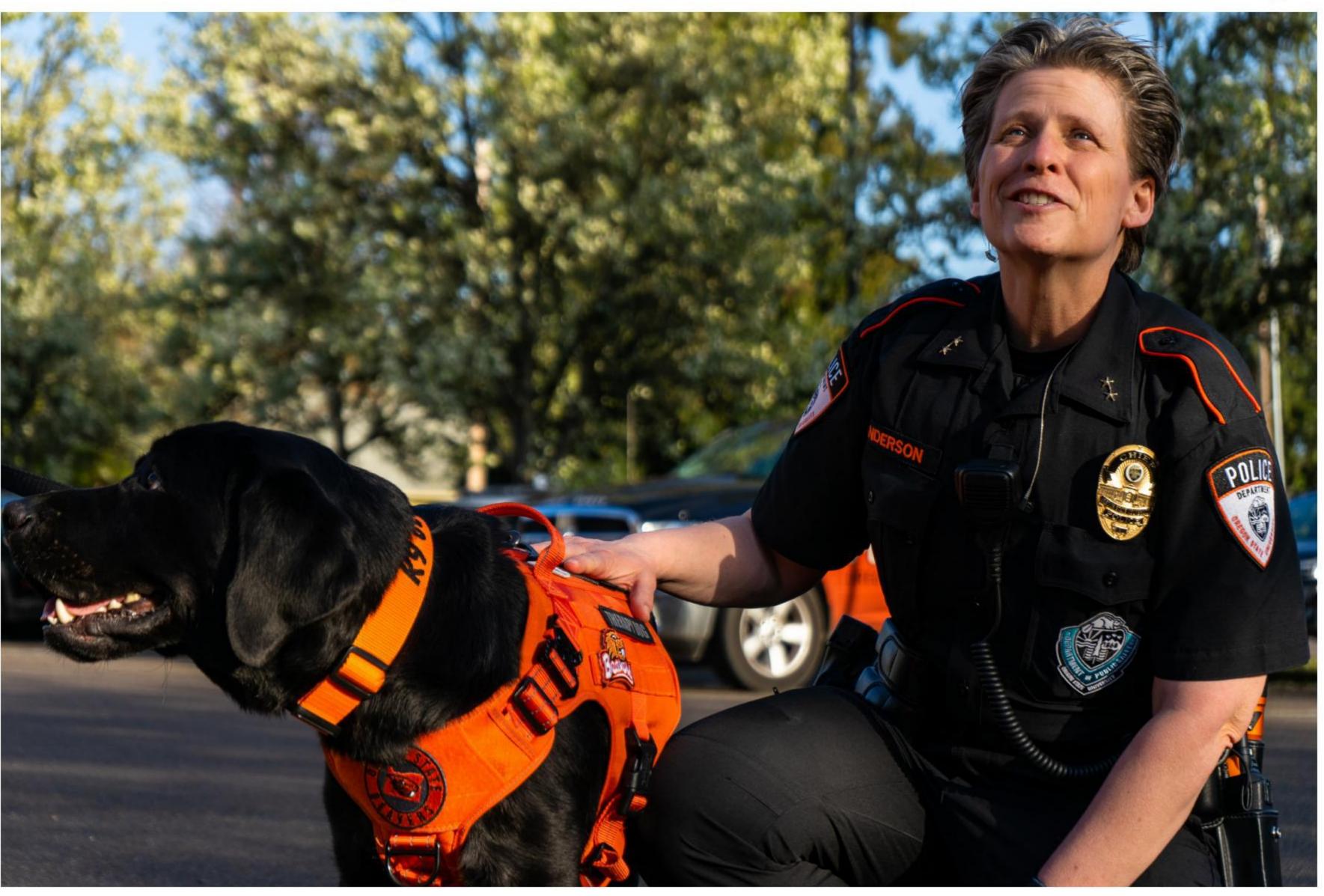
According to Parker, someone wanting to become a dispatcher needs to be 18-years-old and either be a high school graduate or in possession of a GED.

"You go through the two-week experience at the Police Academy in Salem, Ore. and that's where you get basic call-taking knowl-



SHANE LYNETTE | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Shanon Anderson, the chief of police and associate vice president for Public Safety, stands in font of a OSU police car outside the campus dispatch center on April 6. The dispatch center on the OSU campus focuses strictly on the safety of the OSU community.



SHANE LYNETTE | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Shanon Anderson, the chief of police and associate vice president for Public Safety, and Cedar, the wellness dog for the Oregon State University Corvallis, Ore. campus, pose together outside the campus dispatch center on April 6. According to Anderson, the OSU police department can provide medical assistance until their partners from the Corvallis Fire Department arrive.

versity. Probation or trial period is six months."

During this training, Parker said employees also get trained on the emotional aspects of handling dispatch calls.

"We learn how to listen, we're taught how to help you communicate valuable information in a timely manner," Parker said. "We learn how to help you effectively respond to emergency situations and how to deliver essential aid to others."

Both campus safety and the dispatch center work closely with the community, to ensure safety, security and a positive experience.

"A big part of building a relationship and partnership within our community is having people understand who we are and that we're people too," Parker said.

According to Parker, being a dispatcher is a highly rewarding job and their main goal is to help people.

"When somebody calls in and they're having a difficult day or they're experiencing an emergency, mental health, stolen bike... The dispatchers here are the first person who talks to them, and get to help them through the process and get them the resources that they need," Parker said. "It's rewarding for us."

Being a dispatcher can be emotionally draining on both ends, according to Parker. Although the dispatchers are trained, it can be hard to let go of a call.

"We feel, we cry and we rejoice right along with you but you'd never know we carry those emotions around with us," Parker said. "Our callers don't see us face-to-face so it is easy to forget we go through the same trauma our caller goes through. We only get to hear the first part of the story so it's like watching a movie and then the TV turns off before the ending."

Stephanie Howard, dispatch supervisor and communications officer, said the OSU police department is different from others.

"I feel like it used to be more punishmentbased," Howard said. "I think we've done a really good job of having it be growth-based and education-based. I think that's a really important shift that I've seen in my time here."

Although being a dispatch worker is rewarding, according to Howard, she's learned how to not take home things that are difficult.

"I'll ask for a debrief to help with the emotional piece of it," Howard said.

Howard said she wants people to focus on the positive and rewarding aspects of the work they're doing.

"I feel like we focus a lot on how it can be emotionally draining, but I take a lot of calls where I get to help people, and there's a successful, positive end to it," Howard said. "It's not always a bad end."

According to Anderson, the OSU and Corvallis communities are both interested in public safety.

"We look forward to working with, and supporting all community members, and to being great partners," Anderson said. "If you feel like you need us, or if you feel like someone else is in need, please call us. We may not be the solution, but we will work hard to help you find a solution and to find a way to feel safe."



SHANE LYNETTE | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Autumn Simmons, a fourth-year student and lead event coordinator of OSUPC (left), and Kenna Reid, a third-year student and Dam Jam lead planner at OSUPC, display Plaza Palooza posters during an event planning meeting in the Student Experience Center on April 27. Plaza Palooza is the new name for what used to be Dam Jam, but Plaza Palooza will also look very different from how Dam Jam has in the past.

Dam Jam takes new shape as 'Plaza Palooza'

By RILEY LECOCQ News Reporter

The Oregon State University Program Council has reworked the annual event known as Dam Jam to a new festival-like event due to concerns within administration.

Major concerns that will prevent Dam Jam from happening as it has in previous years include staffing capacity, a lower budget and concerns over community impact. These were, in part, fueled by difficulties coming back from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Instead of the ticketed Reser Stadium Dam Jam, Plaza Palooza will take place on May 21 at 4 p.m. in the Student Experience Center Plaza on OSU's Corvallis, Ore. campus.

"We have been planning like crazy, we have been making this new event and honestly, I am more excited for it and I think it will be amazing," said Kenna Reid, the Dam Jam lead planner at OSUPC.

The concert portion of the event will run from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., where there will be five student performers—including solos and groups—with the winner of Battle of the DJs, Rob Altman, going on directly before the headliner.

Battle of the DJs was an event hosted by OSUPC earlier in the year, which Plaza Palooza

will mirror in its set up of a full concert stage and lights in the SEC plaza.

"I am really excited, I've never done something quite this large before so it's definitely a challenge I am looking to approach," Altman said. "Everytime I do something like this, it helps me build a little more character, helps



ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK CREATIVE TEAM

Pictured is the logo for Plaza Palooza, made by OMN creative team. The OMN Creative Team is working with OSU Program Council to plan this year's version of what was once Dam Jam.

me work on myself—like self-esteem—and also practicing the skill in general."

Autumn Simmons, a fourth-year student who has worked at OSUPC for four years as lead event coordinator, said they hope this event will be more open to all students as the music element will showcase a variety of styles and be free of charge.

"It's a celebration, we're almost done with the school year and it's really exciting, so it's more of a festival-feel than Dam Jam," Simmons said.

There will also be games and food trucks in the Memorial Union quad throughout the event. After the concert portion, there will also be a movie and Kahoot trivia with prizes and free food in the quad.

"We had Dam Jam and that was really fun, but now we are coming out of a pandemic and things have changed a lot and we cannot stick to the same events we have been doing," Simmons said.

According to Reid, the headlining artist will be announced publicly only a few days before the event.

"Since it is an ungated and unticketed event, we want to limit the amount of the performers' outside fans that don't go to OSU and people from Portland, Ore. or Eugene, Ore. from traveling—making sure it doesn't get too out of control, we are really trying to gear it towards

OSU students," Reid said.

The shift has been very difficult for the student coordinators, causing them to consider canceling the event altogether.

"We felt really defeated in that moment," Reid said. "After talking a little bit more, we were like, 'Okay, we have a budget to do something really cool here and we don't want to just give up.' We bounced back and have been able to work as a team and make this really cool event."

The biggest struggle the team still faces, according to Reid, is attracting older students who have experienced Dam Jam and might compare it to Plaza Palooza, as well as advertising the new event and name.

"The name does not hold the value of the event, it is the event itself that students can connect to," Simmons said.

"As bummed as we were at first to find out Dam Jam wasn't going to be happening as we planned it to, I think this is a new event we have been able to put our creativity into," Reid said. "I think it will honestly target a lot more students and be a fun springtime event and a fun way to end the school year."

Plaza Palooza is not confirmed to be an annual replacement for Dam Jam but Simmons hopes there will always be an event that has the element of music continuing on after her time at OSUPC.

Corvallis Pet Day with the Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine returns after two year hiatus

By HAYDEN LOHR
News Reporter

Corvallis Pet Day at Oregon State University will return this May after a two-year pause, and the celebration will bring local pets, residents and the Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine together.

Pet Day is going to return this year at Magruder Hall on May 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

"Pet Day is a community event where the veterinary college opens up doors and lets community members in to see," said Katrina Coalwell, the co-chair for the class of 2024. "Community is at the center of this, and any proceeds are given to veterinary students to pay for graduation expenses."

Pet Day is the only day of the year when the entire veterinary hospital is open to the community. Typically, tours only show certain parts, and entry is allowed only to those over 16. On Pet Day, however, the age limit will be lowered.

According to Coalwell, Pet Day is a good time to see where your pet may undergo medical procedures in the hospital and offers a more relaxing time to meet a veterinarian rather than right before the procedure or an operation.

In addition, according to Patrick Callagy, the co-chair for the class of 2025, Pet Day is not just for pet owners.

"We have many activities on Pet Day," said Callagy. "We have activities geared towards kids... We also have more scientific events happening, we have a hands-on science booth, and we have an anatomy booth to look at specimens. We have stuff for every age range to get you interested in veterinary medicine."

Pet Day is an opportunity for the com-



CONTRIBUTED BY SARA SMITH

Two graduates from the College of Veterinary Medicine wash a dog at the Pet Day event in May 2018 at Magruder Hall on the Oregon State University Corvallis, Ore. campus. The Pet Day event will return this year after being put on hiatus for two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

munity to learn more about exotic animals as well. On display are reptiles, llamas and more. Furthermore, community members are allowed to bring their leashed pets and more exotic animals such as lizards and birds.

"It is extremely family-friendly, there's a little bit of something for everyone," said Sara Smith, the events and alumni relations coordinator for CCVM. "You can just stroll through and see some reptiles, see some dogs doing really cool agility stuff. Also just let your kids know about veterinary medicine and that you can work with animals, there's so many things you can do."

Pet Day also includes many third-party vendors such as Heartland Humane Society, local veterinary practices and various vendors with food and activities for everyone. There are also opportunities for dog grooming and nail trimming—for a small fee—and animals are invited to participate in a 5K being held in the morning on the day of the festival.

The college has high hopes for the event, and, according to Kayla Ashland, co-chair of the class of 2024, the pandemic led to a large increase in the number of pets in the community.

According to Callagy, during the event there will be students clearly identified that can help direct people to where they'd like to go and to help people at the event.

"You don't need to stay for the whole day, and it isn't demanding to come for this," Callagy said. "You can ask questions about what is happening the day of the event."



CONTRIBUTED BY SARA SMITH

Two participants pet a pig at a past Pet Day on the Oregon State University Corvallis, Ore. campus. Pet Day includes more animals than just pets such as llamas, reptiles and other exotic animals such as lizards and birds.



CONTRIBUTED BY SARA SMITH

A golden retriever runs through the agility course at a past Pet Day on the Oregon State University Corvallis, Ore. campus. The Pet Day includes many opportunities and events for animals including dog grooming and a 5k being held on the morning of May 7.

Senior Art Exhibit to feature work from OSU students

By STELLA HARKNESS
News Contributor

As they conclude their time at Oregon State University, Marta Nunez, Robin Weis and other graduating seniors at OSU will display their work at the Senior Exhibit as they begin their professional art careers.

For the first time in two years, the OSU Senior Exhibit will be shown in person at the Benton County Historical Museum on Second Street. This exhibit will show the work of seniors who are graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the OSU Arts Program.

Kerry Skarbakka, associate professor of photography, is helping put together the art show, which will happen from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and noon



CHRIS KEIPER | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

A sign in Snell Hall on April 13 introduces the work of Oregon State University graduate students in the Bachelor of Fine Arts program. Starting May 19, the Senior Art Exhibit will open at the Benton County Historical Museum on Second Street. to 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. The exhibition will open on May 19.

"The senior exhibit is the end of the year celebration of our graduating BFA students," Skarbakka said.

According to Weis, an artist whose work will be featured in the exhibit, it also helps prepare the students for life after graduation.

"It gives you practical skills," Weis said. "Not only will you be released into the art world, but you'll have to know how to communicate with each other. And also the logistics of hanging the show and thinking about what each piece of artwork needs for installation."

According to Nunez, another artist whose work will be featured, the exhibit is a way to increase representation of her identity through art.

"I'm one of the few Brown students in the class, so for me to put my artwork and take up space, it's important for me to represent being Latina, Mexican American," Nunez said.

This exhibit will show different types of art, from sculptures to photography and many mediums in between, to the general public.

"I think it's a good way for people to see what students are thinking about in this program, and then also other students to think about how their backgrounds might be able to be useful to help build more of a structure for what OSU is known for in the arts, at least for the visual arts," Skarbakka said.

Strengthening the community around art, Weis said, is important for the student artist.

"We have a lot of pride in the sense of community that we get from doing our practice at college because the thing about artists is, it's



CHRIS KEIPER | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Lee Niemi, a studio art major, presents his work and artist statement in the Senior Art Exhibit on April 13 in Snell Hall. He aims to share his experiences being trans through themes of transition and memory as a sculptor and photographer.

shared space and you're so close to each other that you develop a special type of kinship with the practice and the art that your other folks are doing around you," Weis said.

Nunez said students should attend the exhibit to also see the student artists' potential. According to Nunez, she believes people will be intrigued by what the students can do.

"It lets them know that the things that we feel and think and deal with, we're not alone in, and that there are people out there that are actively trying to create works of art that address very important things out there as well," Skarbakka said.

According to Skarbakka, students are showing their ability to marry the aesthetics of works while creating powerful art pieces that prove that they are the next makers and movers of the art world. This, Skarbakka said, along with the collective consciousness of the student artist at this time, are what the event is going to present to the public.

Nunez said she believes students will leave the exhibit with an open spirit and mind. Weis said they hope people will leave the exhibit knowing the BFA program at OSU has prepared artists to go on their own.

The Joan Truckenbrod Gallery opened May I and is hosting an open invitational for all art majors, including BFA graduates. Another event, Outpost 1000, is open to core studio students, new or continuing students in the art program. The Corvallis Arts Walk will also be taking place on May 19, from 4-8 p.m.

Program to reduce disposable cup use has been 'well received'

By EMMA COKE News Contributor

More Oregon State University community members have reportedly been bringing reusable mugs to coffee shops after the start of a new program that charges for the use of disposable cups.

In February, Waste Watchers, a club run by Campus Recycling, brought back the use of reusable mugs at on-campus coffee shops and has been rewarding customers with a 35-cent discount every time they use their own mugs.

The program then expanded in March to include a 15-cent charge with the purchase of disposable cups at e.Cafe, located in Kelly Engineering, and Cascadia Cafe, located in the International Living Learning Center.

At these two locations, customers who bring in their own cups also receive a 20-cent discount, totaling to a 35-cent discount on their drink purchase.

"The program has seemingly been received well by cafe customers so far," said Andrea

Norris, marketing and development coordinator of Campus Recycling Surplus Property. "We have not received much in the way of complaints, just a few customers at each location asking questions that have been cleared up with more explanation about how the pricing structure works."

In order to further encourage the use of reusable mugs, all drink prices at e.Cafe and Cascadia Cafe were lowered at the start of the term to account for the extra charge for using disposable cups.

According to Norris, a month into the program, cafe managers have seen an increase in customers bringing their own mugs; however, specific data is not yet available.

When sufficient data is collected, Norris stated that data and customer surveys will be used in order to determine how effective the program is, and in turn, determine if it will continue, be changed or both. The sales data analyzes the percentage of customers who bring in their own mugs and the surveys will be conducted to gauge customers' attitudes towards the program as well as if it impacted

their use of reusables.

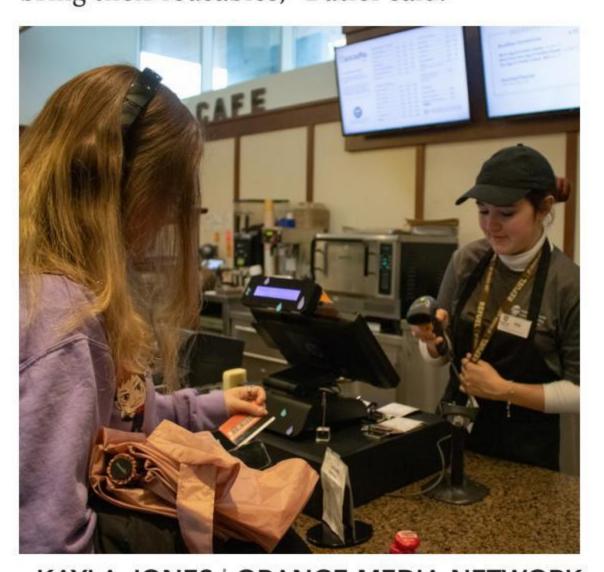
Emily Gulledge, University Housing and Dining Services retail manager at e.Cafe and Cascadia Cafe, stressed that verbally reminding customers of their choice to either bring their own mug or purchase a disposable is key to the success of the program.

"At e.Cafe, I have recently reminded our cashiers to ask each guest, 'Did you bring your reusable cup or would you like to purchase a disposable?" Gulledge said. "It was a bit of a hurdle to get over the awkwardness of the request until we were reminded that such language has become normal in our everyday lives. We are asked whether we would like a bag for 5 cents, a straw or utensils. Now, in our cafés, you get a similar question in an effort to reduce waste."

According to Lily Butler, recycling program assistant and Waste Watchers coordinator for materials management at Campus Recycling and Surplus Property, the main goal for Waste Watchers right now is getting the message out about the price changes at e.Cafe and Cascadia Cafe in order to accurately test the program's

success at encouraging reusable mugs over disposables.

"If customers don't know about the 15-cent charge for single-cups, we won't be able to test if paying for cups can motivate customers to bring their reusables," Butler said.



KAYLA JONES | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK
Sophia Ospina, a first-year student at Oregon State
University, orders hot chocolate from Cascadia
Cafe student worker Izzy Waggoner in the
International Living-Learning Center on April 19.

Oregon State softball confident in this year's roster

By BEN PAHL
Sports Contributor

The Oregon State softball team has been a prime example of how hard work and dedication in the offseason can flip a program on its axis.

In the spring of 2021, the Beavers finished with an unfulfilling season. Going 20-26 overall, they finished at 7-17 in conference.

In context, their PAC-12 performance might not be as bad as the numbers indicate. As part of their conference slate, the Beavers had to play four different top-10 opponents and were able to come away with a few impressive victories over elite opposition, despite never winning any of those series.

"We lost a lot of people from last year that weren't bought in," said Oregon State Head Softball Coach Laura Berg. "You talk about a culture change and yes, there definitely has been a culture change. A lot of negativity, a lot of negative people are gone, and these guys want to show the world that we can compete."

Up to this point, the Beavers certainly have proven they're hungry to earn respect. Currently ranked #19 in the country, Oregon State holds a 31-10 overall record and is 7-6 in the grueling PAC-12 conference.

Despite only having three seniors on last

season's roster, this year's squad certainly looks different. In order to weed out the negativity described by Berg, the Beavers have a whopping 12 newcomers on this year's team. These roster changes seem to be paying off.

"I think the difference here is that the new people came in hungry," said Oregon State junior infielder Frankie Hammoude. "We aren't just expecting to lose to ranked opponents, we want to prove something and I think as a group we're trying to make some noise."

From early in the season, Oregon State certainly has been making some noise. After a 2-1 extra-innings loss to South Dakota State University, the Beavers responded by going on a 12-game win streak. Despite being swept by #10 ASU in their first conference series, the Beavers rebounded by winning their next two series against Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley.

Without a doubt, one of the biggest factors in this season's turn-around has been pitching. As a team, the Beavers hold a remarkable 1.99 ERA. Prior to a loss to the University of Arizona Wildcats, Oregon State had surrendered just four runs in their previous nine contests, eight of those games being against PAC-12 opposition.

In particular, Oregon State senior pitcher Mariah Mazon and Oregon State freshman-



KAYLA JONES | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

The Beaver softball team chant the Oregon State fight song to the crowd after winning their first game of the series against the Arizona Wildcats inside Kelly Field, April 8.

pitcher Sarah Haendiges have been the two standouts on the hill for Oregon State this season. Over 103.2 innings pitched, Mazon holds a phenomenal 1.13 ERA with 133 strikeouts to

just 18 walks.

"I think that's where the game starts, is in the circle," Berg said. "I know we've been without Tarni for a couple of weeks now, but the three of them together have been quite the force, and it's probably the most depth we've had in the circle since I've been here."

On the offensive side of things the Beavers haven't been as effective, however they certainly have producers in that area as well. Oregon State junior infielder Frankie Hammoude is batting a phenomenal .426 with II home runs and a .524 on base percentage. Oregon State freshman infielder Kiki Escobar is second on the team in batting average hitting .382, and Mazon is batting .370 with five home runs.

When asked if her approach would change going into the tough last stretch of the schedule, Hammoude didn't reveal much.

"No, I try to just be patient," Hammoude said. "I know that I'm not going to see a lot of great pitches, as per usual. I just gotta stay within myself, not try to make something happen, just let it happen and hit when I need to hit."

Despite the success the Beavers have had to this point, Berg and her players are well aware that they have yet to face the toughest part of their conference schedule. Over the next few weeks, Oregon State will take on three ranked opponents, consisting of #15 University of Washington, #5 UCLA and #20 University of Oregon.

"Going through a schedule like this is nothing new to these guys, it's the PAC-12 conference," Berg said. "We're just about to go through the gauntlet again, with UW, UCLA, then UO. The game doesn't care who's across the field from you in the other dugout, you still gotta go out and still gotta pitch it, still gotta hit it, still gotta field it and throw it."

Despite the Beavers' current ranking, these last four series will be a huge determining factor as to where they stand in regards to the NCAA tournament.

"I think we can make it to the world series," said Hammoude. "This team has a lot of fight, and we're not just gonna roll over and give up, we're gonna scratch, punch and do whatever we can till the very last pitch."

A postseason berth is looking probable for the Beavers at this point, depending on the outcome of these remaining four series. The NCAA college softball tournament will begin with regionals on May 21.

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OSU Inked: A look at the tattoo series with a focus on Oregon State Football players

By RYAN HARLAN Sports Contributor

Tattoos are beautiful, intricate designs on the surface, but beneath those designs lie a deeper meaning to those that have them.

The tattoos of Beaver Football are on full display in their social media series called "Inked," which started in late March and features football players redshirt-junior defensive back OSU Alton Julian, redshirt-sophomore wide receiver Makiya Tongue, redshirt-junior wide receiver Rweha Munyagi Jr., redshirt-senior inside linebacker Kyrei Fisher-Morris, senior defensive back Rejzohn Wright and redshirtjunior outside linebacker John McCarten.

The goal of the series is to provide the fans with more opportunities to know more about the player's stories through highlighting their tattoos.

"I feel like it's good for people to know us outside of wearing a helmet, just to know where we come from and what we stand for and how we want to express ourselves to other people, rather than just seeing us on the field," said Julian.

The idea for the series came from Hallie Utter of Beaver Athletics, who pitched the idea of the Inked Series in a meeting to Nicklos Bristol, director of Football Digital and Brand Strategy.

"We're trying to do a little more on telling their stories off the field, while keeping in mind that the goal of this was to have a larger showcase of interests in our football players," Bristol said. "Our lead intern, Hallie Utter, brought up the idea to me. She's the one that has taken the lead creative role on the project in telling the stories of the tattoos that players have."

The overall response of the players, according to Bristol, has been positive about the Inked Series. This series has allowed players that are featured to promote their stories through different styles of photos that are provided to them from their designated photoshoot.

"Since this was a different style of feature than we had done in the past, we needed to take more time developing the series and explaining its goals to our student-athletes," Bristol said. "Once we talked through it and got them involved, they were excited at how unique the feature was and how it showed a side of them that fans don't normally get to see. In turn, we have shared these photos with them so they can use them to promote their stories and personal brands as well."

Julian was one of the first players featured when the Inked Series debuted.

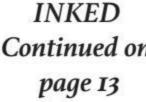
"To be honest, I've always wanted someone to ask me like why I got my tattoos or 'What does it mean to you,' because I know some people just get tattoos because it looks good," Julian said. "My mom and my dad always told me to get something meaningful to me. I feel like I've always wanted somebody to ask me about that and once they ask me, I feel like it's a good time to express myself and express why I got the tattoos that I have."

Julian, like many of his other teammates, has an interest in tattoos, and recently got a new one marking his recovery after a season-ending injury last season when the Beavers faced off against the University of Utah Utes on Oct. 23 in Corvallis, Ore.

"I got a new tattoo when I was back home for spring break, it says "The marathon continues," it has flags on it... It's from the rapper Nipsey Hussle," Julian said. "I put the word Marathon in red because the marathon continues and your life is going to continue no matter what you go through. I

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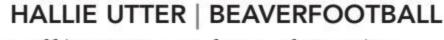






HALLIE UTTER | BEAVERFOOTBALL

Oregon State redshirt-junior defensive back Alton Julian shows off his tattoo in front of Weatherford Hall on March 24. Julian, along with several other OSU football players, has been featured in the Inked series, which allows them to tell the stories behind their tattoos.



Oregon State redshirt-junior defensive back Alton Julian shows off his tattoo in front of Weatherford Hall on March 24. Julian, along with several other OSU football players, has been featured in the Inked series, which allows them to tell the stories behind their tattoos.

INKED Continued from page 12

recently went through knee surgery, so I feel life's going to continue with or without me, and always got to push through whatever you want to happen, and then just wish and pray for the best."

For Julian, the most significant tattoo is the one that honors his late grandmother, who he spent a lot of time with.

"I feel like that they all represent me, and they all represent where I come from, what I've gone through," Julian said. "So I feel like they're all not the same but they all mean the same to me. The only one that would stand out the most to me is my grandma's and that's because she was a person that I lived with a lot. I feel that one would be the most important to me, but all of them are up there and mean the same."

Other players like Julian have similar tributes to family members who have been impactful in their lives, such as Fisher-Morris and Munyagi Jr. Tattoos allow those players to keep their family members close to them even if they're no longer here anymore to honor their memories.

Although Inked will end soon, that hasn't stopped Bristol and his team from thinking

about revisiting or doing a similar feature series in the future.

"Inked will end in about a month, but we're thinking about doing a similar series in the future, whether that be focusing on guys with interests in cars or fishing. We might revisit the Inked series with our next freshman class, but right now no current plans to continue the series."

Julian also expressed interest in seeing the Inked series continue in the future.

"I like tattoos, so I like to see what ideas people have or what new designs people are going with, so yeah, I for sure would like to see it continue in the future," Julian said.

"I feel like I've always wanted somebody to ask me about that and once they ask me, I feel like it's a good time to express myself and express why I got the tattoos that I have.'

- Alton Julian, Oregon State football player



HALLIE UTTER | BEAVER FOOTBALL

Oregon State redshirt-junior defensive back Alton Julian shows off his tattoo in front of the Memorial Union on March 24. Julian, along with several other OSU football players, has been featured in the Inked series, which allows them to tell the stories behind their tattoos.

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NAMI Mid-Valley notes surge in demand for mental health services

By SAM ALBERT News Contributor

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and members of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Mid-Valley have observed an increase in community outreach as COVID-19 regulations continue to lift.

NAMI serves as the largest national grassroots organization for mental health education, awareness and advocacy efforts, led by family members of people diagnosed with mental illness.

Mental health services across Corvallis, Ore. are experiencing high demand, resulting in prolonged wait times for people of all age demographics, according to Marilyn Marker, president of NAMI's Mid-Valley branch.

The National Institute on Mental Health reports one in five adults experience mental health disorders in a given year, and one in five teenagers aged 13-18 experience a severe mental health condition at some point in their life.

The pandemic has exacerbated some people's mental health issues, with younger generations being one demographic currently experiencing higher rates of stress than other groups, as reported by the American Psychological Association.

"Statistically, the largest increase in mental health needs are among children and young adults," said Rob Wilson, a representative on the NAMI Mental Health Citizen Advisory Board.

According to Marker, it can take around six months for an adult on a waiting list to be seen by a mental health provider and up to 18 months for children.

"Because there's really high turnover for mental health workers, they can't fill the positions [in Linn and Benton Counties]," Marker said. "Job searches are going unanswered for mental health services."

Wilson attributes the lack of mental health services available in Corvallis to the earnings made by professional health providers.

"Part of the issue is that it's very poorly paid," Wilson said. "To be a mental health professional, you have to have at least a master's, and you can make more money driving a truck."

Marker did note that every police officer in Benton County is trained in Crisis Intervention Training, and the responses to their approach to mental health intervention have been quite positive.

"I really feel like it's made a big difference," Marker said. "I've gotten a couple of phone calls from family members whose loved one has had an experience with the police prior to this training and another one later... [Their response] was like night and day."

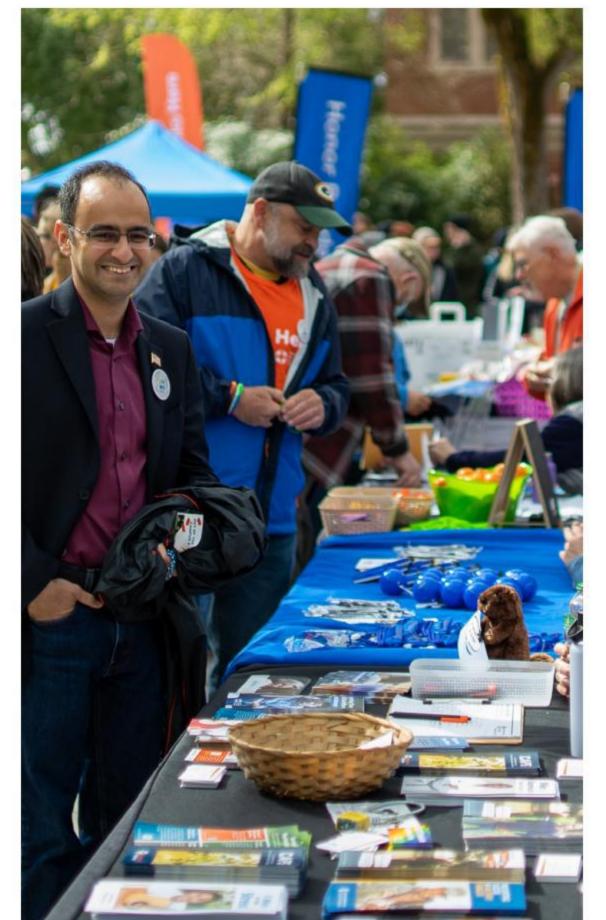
According to Michelle Schatz, a member on the NAMI Education Advisory Committee, many individuals tend to experience adverse mental health conditions during the spring and fall, with the majority of received calls being from parents asking for services on the behalf of younger family members.

Schatz said she expects this is due to the disproportionate stigma younger demographics face when reaching out for professional help, especially regarding anxiety and panic attacks as a result of stressors from media and the news. Schatz also said she hears more from family members asking for services on behalf of young adults.

"There's this [stigma] that we keep trying to break through—it's still there, it's still prevalent, which is why I feel like I hear more from family members trying to help their person than the people themselves," Schatz said. "I'm hopeful that they'll be able to reach out for help, whether it's us or another organization."

Marker also said mental health awareness should be focused on all the time, not just during the month of May.

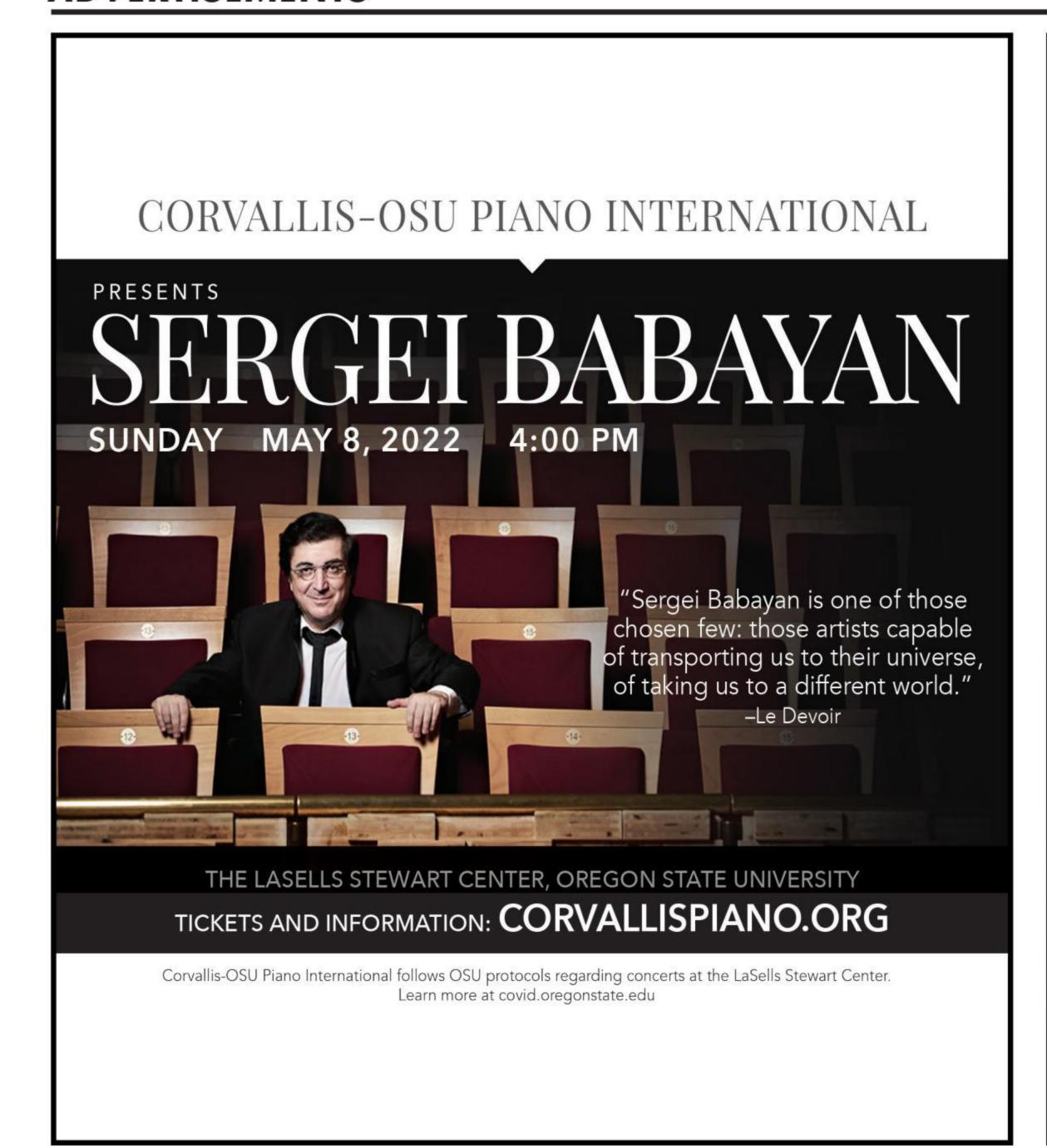
"The mental health crisis knows no months," Marker said.

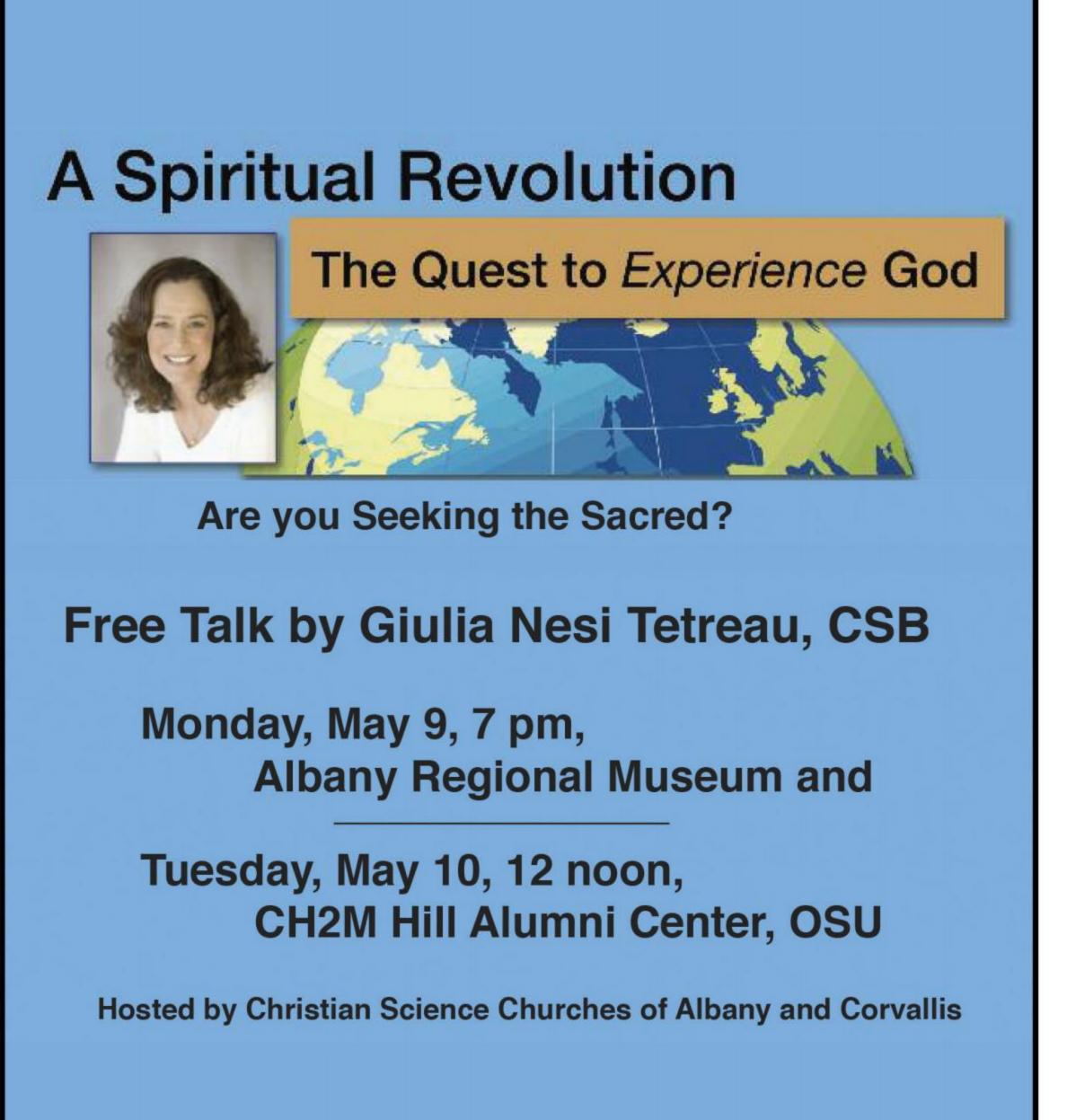


SHANE LYNETTE | ORANGE MEDIA NET-WORK

Community members gather at the annual Out of the Darkness walk at the Student Experience Center Plaza on the OSU Corvallis, Ore. campus on April 9.

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Jewish American Heritage Month: local Corvallis Jewish residents speak on experiences, antisemitism

By ZEVA ROSENBAUM News Contributor

One in four Jewish people in the United States experienced antisemitic incidents in 2021, according to a report from the American Jewish Committee.

Forty percent of Jewish Americans in the survey said antisemitism was a very serious problem in the U.S. From 2021-2022, the Anti-Defamation League received five reports of antisemitic incidents in Oregon, ranging from graffitied swastikas in Lake Oswego, Ore. to targeted fliers directed at Oregon House Rep. Rachel Prusak in Portland, Ore.

Even small towns like Corvallis, Ore. aren't free of antisemitic incidents.

Corvallis resident and Beit Am member Eliezer "Daniel" Froehlich said he was on the recieving end of antisemitic comments shouted at him from Oregon State University students who lived across the street from him at the time in May 2021.

Froehlich said he reached out to OSU about the incident and recieved a message from the office of the university president condemning antisemitism, but explaining they could not censor students. Froehlich said after he wrote to OSU, he believes each person was later confirmed to be an OSU student either by neighbors or roommates.

Froehlich said another OSU student from the same housing complex came to offer support and protection, if needed, even providing Froehlich with his phone number and apologizing on behalf of the students behaving inappropriately. He said a ROTC student also approached him to offer protection and support after the incident.

Froehlich also experienced antisemitism while a student at OSU. When he was a sophomore, he said there were twin sisters from Eastern Oregon who'd been taught by their parents that Jewish people have horns and tails and they really believed it. But Froehlich said the girls didn't care and were still his friends.

"But it was so flabbergasting to me that even in the '70s somebody could believe such a thing," Froehlich said. "I couldn't think they were serious."

Froehlich said he played along for a while, telling the girls Jewish men wore Kippahs because the horns were too big to keep down. They were so unsure that he said he eventually took his Kippah off and let them feel his head to prove there were no horns.

Froehlich said his experiences with the community in Corvallis have otherwise been mainly positive, aside from a woman who spat in his yard and once returned with two men. He said it's easy to tell he's Jewish as he always wears his kippah, or yarmulke—a Jewish head

covering for men—and sometimes it's too warm to wear a hat over it.

According to Froehlich, Congregation Beth Israel in Portland, Ore. is the original Jewish reform congregation in Oregon. Froehlich said it made a big difference that Jewish people came to Oregon earlier than many other groups, eliminating much of the potential for bias incidents. He said instances of intstitutional antisemitism that did take place didn't happen until around the 1920s, when one of the big country clubs in Portland, which had Jewish founders, stopped allowing Jewish people to become members.

An Oregon Encyclopedia article by Ellen Eisenburg explains that Beth Israel was founded in 1858 and erected its first synagogue in 1861 with enough seating for 200.

"Several factors fostered the acceptance of Jews [...] The timing and composition of Jewish migration was key," Eisenburg wrote. "Jews first arrived in Oregon in 1849, just years after the first Overland immigrants brought resettlers to the region."

Eisenburg continued to say that no longlasting Jewish congregations were established outside of Portland for the remainder of the 19th century, save for a burial service in Albany, Ore. and Jewish people living in the Willamette Valley often had to find their way to Portland to attend events and religious holidays.

Froehlich said early Jewish settlers intermarried with Indigenous people in the 1830s, and he has quite a few relatives from the Native American Chinook tribe who came down for his son's Bar Mitzvah in Corvallis—a coming of age ceremony for boys—and did a drum ceremony in the field where Seventh Street Station was eventually built.

Comments like "Jew them down," according to Froehlich, are often used by people who don't even think about what they're saying, particularly in other parts of the country. He said he'll often throw the comment back at them with something like "Jesus me down" to illustrate how inappropriate such comments are.

"It usually works without being confrontational," Froehlich said. "But at the same time it points out to them that it's not nice and it's obnoxious. It seems to work without making a fight about it."

Benjamin Rabbino, OSU third-year finance student and Assistant Sports Editor for The Daily Barometer, said he hasn't found a Jewish community on campus and his experience as a Jewish man at OSU has been pretty "bland," though he said this could be due, in part, to his lack of effort to seek out community.

Though he hasn't been singled out for being Jewish or heard antisemitic comments on campus, Rabbino said he does occasionally hear negative jokes about Jewish culture off campus. Rabbino gave the example of "getting Jewed out of something," which implies that Jewish



SOLOMON MYERS | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Oregon State University third-year student and Orange Media Network Assistant Sports Editor Benjamin Rabbino stands in front of Beit Am located in Corvallis, Ore. Rabbino was raised Jewish, and though he says he hasn't experienced antisemitism at OSU specifically, he notes he has seen antisemitism off campus.

people tend to cheat others out of their fair share or that they're overly focused on money.

"Growing up, I was raised in a Jewish household and even went to a Montessori school at the same place where my family went to temple," Rabbino said. "I had a Bar Mitzvah when I was 13 and that was one of the major moments of my life. Prior to the ceremony, I had to rehearse and prepare a lot, more than I ever had before at 13, to memorize and be able to read portions from the Torah."

However, after his Bar Mitzvah, Rabbino explained his schedule became busier and he started losing interest in attending services in favor of spending more time with friends.

"From then, I have held the pride of being a Jewish male, learning and understanding the vast history behind the Jewish race and religion, while protecting that image with the way I live my life and how I hold myself," Rabbino said. "Now, I check in on my parents any time a major Jewish holiday comes up and I say a small prayer with them, and I am hoping that as I get older, the more comfortable I feel connecting with religion again."

According to Rabbino, antisemitic remarks and jokes are sometimes made with less caution than other racial slurs.

"People have obviously been told through their time growing up and gaining more experiences that any form of bigotry isn't tolerated, but personally I have found many jokes becoming too personal," Rabbino said. "There are stereotypes that come along with every race or religion, and someone is always going to have an opinion or something to say, and at times it feels as if there is nothing that I can do in the moment to stop someone from making those remarks again."

Jewish students on other campuses have experienced casual and even aggressive antisemitism as well, even to the point of receiving death threats and being afraid to leave home or wear the Jewish symbol of the Star of David and traditional clothing like the yarmulke.

OSU holds an annual Holocaust Memorial Week, which had events that took place from April 25 through May 2 this year and featured speakers like Joe Hess, a Holocaust survivor,

"From then, I have held the pride of being a Jewish male, learning and understanding the vast history behind the Jewish race and religion, while protecting that image with the way I live my life and hold myself."

- Benjamin Rabbino OSU third-year student, OMN assistant sports editor

and Edward B. Westermann, a professor of history at Texas A&M University.

OSU also has a branch of Hillel, a club for Jewish students which is involved with the Alpha Epsilon Pi Jewish Fraternity and a Jewish LGBTQ+ club.

Andy Gitelson, executive director of Oregon Hillel, said Hillel provides opportunities for Jewish students including delivering matzo ball soup to students who may not be feeling well, hosting Shabbat gatherings, Monday meetups with the director of Jewish student life at JavaStop in the Memorial Union, Passover Seders and more. Gitelson added that a great way to connect with Hillel and stay up to date is via their Instagram, @oregonstatehillel.

Heartland Woofstock event showcases animals as adoption rates fall after pandemic peak

By RILEY LECOCQ
News Reporter

Our furry friends have supported us through the pandemic—now it's time to don tie dye and bell bottoms to support them at the Heartland Humane Society's '60s-themed Woofstock fundraiser.

After adoption rates have leveled off since the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Heartland's premier fundraising event will take place on May 21 at 6 p.m. The \$85 ticketed event will start off with showcasing and engagement activities with adoptable pets before moving into the auction and dinner portion of the event.

According to Emily James, Heartland's resource development director, this is the 19th annual spring fundraising event. The event has evolved over the years from an art auction in the CH2M Hill Alumni Center on the Oregon State University Corvallis, Ore. campus, to an interactive auction, dinner and engagement event being held at the Benton County Fairgrounds for the first time this year.

In 2020, 7,204 animals were adopted from the Oregon Humane Society. This number stayed at a consistent rise throughout the pandemic, but these rates are starting to fall again.

"We've seen the rapid peak of adoptions at the peak of the pandemic," James said.

As the pandemic has gone on, however, James said the number of animals Heartland cares for has gone down to pre-pandemic levels, with the adoption rate lowering as well.

"I think people's priorities are changing right now and maybe they are not looking to bring a pet to their home, but there are still animals who are looking for homes," James said.

Second-year Oregon State University political science student Arnez Madison was one of the people who adopted during the pandemic but then was unable to keep the pet as time progressed.

"I decided to adopt a pet because I didn't want to go buy one, that was the main reason," Madison said. "Also, I just felt like having a dog, it's cool."

The boredom of the pandemic was one motivator to get an animal, according to Madison, and the cost of a shelter pet made more sense for a college student's budget. As life returned to a more normal pace, however, Madison had to give his dog up to adjust, because it was too time-consuming.

James said the ability to predict adoption trends has also become more difficult with the pandemic.

"It is kind of unprecedented, I would say

before the pandemic we were able to predict trends and say 'We'll have this many animals at this time of year and this many adoptions,' but these past couple of years have been unchartable," James said.

This appearance of low adoptions but increased shelter needs is a trend across the state of Oregon according to Laura Klink, the Oregon Humane Society's public information manager.

OHS works with many shelters across the state, though each shelter is run independently, they typically partner with those around them for shared resources or animal transfers—when animals are not being adopted in one place, they can be moved to another with the hope of having a better shot there.

"Some shelters were really just being flooded with puppies, pregnant dogs, pregnant cats and kittens," Klink said.

In 2021 and 2022, adoption rates remained strong in some areas but the help shelters need to support the animals in their care has significantly decreased, according to Klink.

"Similar to healthcare workers, veterinarians, vet techs and veterinary assistants experienced high burnout [in the pandemic]," Klink said.

The lack of animal welfare professionals has been a long-coming struggle, according to Klink, but like many other problems, came to a head during the pandemic. As a result of limiting COVID-19 exposure, many humane societies put spay and neuter surgeries on hold, creating more barriers for pet owners to keep animals without the support of these clinical services.

"I think we are playing a little catch up now," Klink said. "I think once access to spay and neuter is brought back to some communities, [that will help]."

OHS is looking to open a new community veterinary clinic in Oregon later this year to help provide services on a need-based scale to help fill in some of these care gaps for both shelters and already homed animals.

Klink and James said that there is a big movement in animal welfare to keep the animals in their homes, in part by making care for the animals easier.

Part of that, Klink noted, is through making pet-friendly housing available in Corvallis. Madison said he experienced issues with housing that informed his decision to give up his adopted dog earlier this year.

According to James, here in the Corvallis area, there is a large population of stray animals not being picked up by their owners. In response, she urges people to check with shelters if a pet goes missing.

The best advice, according to James, is to

look for a pet that fits the qualities you are looking for and consider shelters as a resource.

"Really think about what you are looking for

and what you can provide and try to find a pet that aligns with those qualities and priorities," James said.



HAYDEN LOHR | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Starlight the dog is pictured in a field near the Heartland Humane Society in Corvallis, Ore. on April 8. Starlight is in a cone because she was recently spayed, one of the many services the Woofstock event raises money for Heartland to do.



HAYDEN LOHR | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

A rabbit up for adoption at Heartland Humane Society in Corvallis, Ore. on April 8. The annual Woofstock event raises money for the rabbits, dogs and more at Heartland.

Benton County primary election opens for County Commissioner 1, two measures on May 17

By SAM MISA News Contributor

On May 17, Benton County will hold its primary election with a race for the County Commissioner 1 position as well as two education-related measures.

Alongside the County Commissioner I position, votes for federal-level positions, such as Governor and Senator, are to be counted on May 17 as well.

One measure on the ballot is a local option levy for the Corvallis School District that, if not extended, would lead to a loss of budget for about 90 teaching positions, according to a fact sheet provided by the school board.

The second measure involves Linn-Benton Community College asking for bonds for an agricultural job training center, facility and safety improvements.

The Benton County Sheriff position is uncontested and will not appear on the Primary Election ballot, but rather the General Election ballot. The position of County Commissioner I, which is a four-year term, has three candidates running for the position with two being Democrats and the other a Republican.

Ballots for the May 17 election can be dropped off at any County Elections Office or official dropsite in the state of Oregon, or can



SAM MISA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK
A ballot box in Corvallis, Ore. The Benton
County primary election begins on May 17,
and voters can drop off ballots at local county
and city boxes.

be mailed in to the county clerk.

"I think that the role of the commissioner is completely nonpartisan," said Bill Currier, the Republican candidate for commissioner. "In that sense, it's kind of odd to label people when those ideological differences between Republicans and Democrats don't apply to the decisions you make as a commissioner."

Currier has served on various committees at both the city and county level. According to Currier, that work included transportation, public safety, roads, utilities and water issues.

Helen Higgins, who is running for County Commissioner I as a Democrat, worked at Hewlett-Packard for 18 years and has been working for the Boys and Girls Club for 16 years, and wants to see more collaboration between nonprofits and the county.

"I've noticed that over time, it's just gotten more and more disconnected," Higgins said. "When I started 16 years ago, there was a group sponsored at the state level called the Commission on Children and Families... Years ago, they actually closed [it] down."

One thing that Currier and Higgins both want to focus on is housing in Benton County and, more specifically, Corvallis, Ore.

"Corvallis is in an especially tight housing market," Higgins said. "We're very behind on developing the type of housing that's needed. It's everything from low-income housing to workforce housing."

Careful planning of the urban growth boundary around cities with housing in mind is one way Higgins says the housing market can be improved.

For Currier, the solution to the housing

problem lies within finding and fixing underlying root issues with the houseless community as well as construction of affordable housing.

Alongside Currier and Higgins is Democrat and incumbent Pat Malone who is seeking to hold onto his seat this term. One thing that all three of the candidates have in common is a desire to follow through with current efforts to expand the Benton County Justice Center to include a rehabilitation center alongside the already in-place jail.

According to Malone, alongside the other objectives his two competitors have, he wants the county to be more focused on climate change. This includes added focuses on alternatives to car-based transport.

"I want people to be able to get around our region without a car," Malone said. "I'm thinking of students. Hopefully not every student has a car on campus [and] that you manage to get your work done, and get around."

Malone hopes to scale up the current models of non-car transportation for students to the wider community, because alternative transportation options can help alleviate the issues of getting to and from work.

"I had a good background before I started," Malone said. "Now I've got over three years on the job and in that time [I was] dealing with COVID-19."

'It takes a village:' CARDV 5K for Safe Families returns in-person after two years

By SAM ALBERT News Contributor

Content warning: This story contains mention of sexual and domestic violence.

CARDV's Run/Walk 5K for Safe Families is set for May 14, back with an in-person option after a two-year hiatus for its 20th anniversary race.

CARDV, the Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence, works to provide services and support for those who have been affected by sexual and domestic violence, as well as "education and leadership within the community to change the societal conditions that cultivate these forms of violence." CARDV was named Nonprofit of the Year at the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce's Celebrate Corvallis event on March 18.

The 5K starts at 9 a.m. at Austin Hall on the Oregon State University Corvallis, Ore. campus. Pre-registration for both the virtual and live options is available online through May 13 for a fee of \$35 for adults, those at least 13 years old, and \$10 for kids. The packet pick-up for pre-registered runners can be obtained from 3

to 6:30 p.m. on May 13 at the OSU Foundation building at the corner of 35th Street and Western Boulevard.

Day-of registration is available at 8 a.m. for a fee of \$40 for adults and \$10 for kids. In addition to the 5K, a Kids Dash event will start at 10:30 a.m.

"The purpose of the event is to continue to raise awareness about sexual and domestic violence," said Kate Caldwell, executive director at CARDV. "We help financially support the work that we do and support survivors in their quest to find a way to create a new life for themselves."

According to Caldwell, the sponsorship money for the race is going directly to helping survivors get access to or remain in safe housing. The registration funds will be used for CARDV's general work: covering gas and relocation costs, helping sustain shelters and providing support groups for sexual and domestic violence survivors.

"We continue to provide services and support for anyone in the community—literally, anyone in Linn and Benton County," Caldwell said. "We are the only emergency shelter for survivors of domestic or sexual violence, and we are the only crisis support or hotline for anyone in Linn-Benton County."

Caldwell said the event will feature many special guests, including the Corvallis Knights, Lil Mac, McGruff the Crime Dog and the Corvallis Police Department. Snacks and water will be available at the start of the race as well, thanks to local volunteers.

"Finding enough volunteers to help with the CARDV 5K Run/Walk definitely takes a village," said Candy Pierson-Charlton, a board member at CARDV, on April 18. "We had 103 volunteer spots to fill and 98 volunteers signed up to help with the race, so we are looking for five more people to help."

Pierson-Charlton contacted local organizations such as the Center for Fraternity and Sorority Life, the Associated Students of OSU and the Linn-Benton NAACP branch in her search for volunteers—and positions are still open.

"All of the [Survivor Advocacy and Resource Center] staff are signed up and will be working as volunteers that day to support our sister program," said Allison Wilson, director at OSU SARC. "We are thrilled that this event is back in person this year."

If you or anyone you know needs assistance, contact the CARDV crisis & support hotline: (541) 754-0110.



A file photo of the CARDV building from February 2018, located at 2208 SW 3rd St. in Corvallis, Ore. CARDV, which seeks to help those affected by sexual and domestic violence, is having a 5K to raise awareness about sexual and doemstic violence and to raise funds to continue providing services.

Corvallis childcare facilities still feeling negative effects of COVID-19 pandemic

By SHAE WILLIAMS
News Contributor

Corvallis, Ore. is already a childcare desert—meaning there is a lack of access to quality and affordable childcare—and local non-profit daycares are still feeling the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to a 2019 study from Oregon State University's College of Public Health and Human Sciences, childcare deserts can be defined as communities with more than three children for every regulated child care slot.

Benton County, at the time of the study, had 1,354 total slots, 8% of which were publicly funded. Thirty-one percent of the total 0-5 year olds in the county had access to a regulated spot; communities with fewer than 33% of the county's children having access to a spot are considered childcare deserts.

Evan Baden, Oregon State University photography instructor and parent of a 2-year-old girl, shared his troubles of living in a childcare desert.

"We've been really lucky with it, but I think everywhere is a childcare desert," Baden said. Baden has had trouble finding childcare in

both Eugene, Ore. and Corvallis.

"When you are in emergency need, you just don't get those options," Baden said. "You have to take any place that will have you."

When COVID-19 hit, Baden had to have his daughter, who was eight months old at the time, on Zoom calls with him when he was at work.

"She needed naps so that meant stopping my classes to put her down for naps, that meant trying to feed her in a highchair while teaching," Baden said. "It's very hard to maintain concentration when that's happening, both for me and the students."

The pandemic was challenging for everyone's mental health, but was especially difficult for parents. "I think many parents had pretty difficult mental health stuff," Baden said. "It's absolutely exhausting. You're left with no energy to do anything else."

Brenda Daigle, executive director of the Corvallis Community Children's Center, spoke of the challenges of balancing tuition, affordability and wages for staff.

"We want to be able to pay our staff a living wage, but we want to keep our tuition down so that it's affordable to parents," Daigle said.

The cost of childcare at the CCCC is \$1,400 per month, but in order to pay the staff a living wage, Daigle said tuition would need to be \$1,800 per month.

"[Having access to childcare] is critical," Daigle said. "It's mandatory. Everybody should have access to quality childcare and that's not happening right now."

During the pandemic, Daigle said things only got harder.

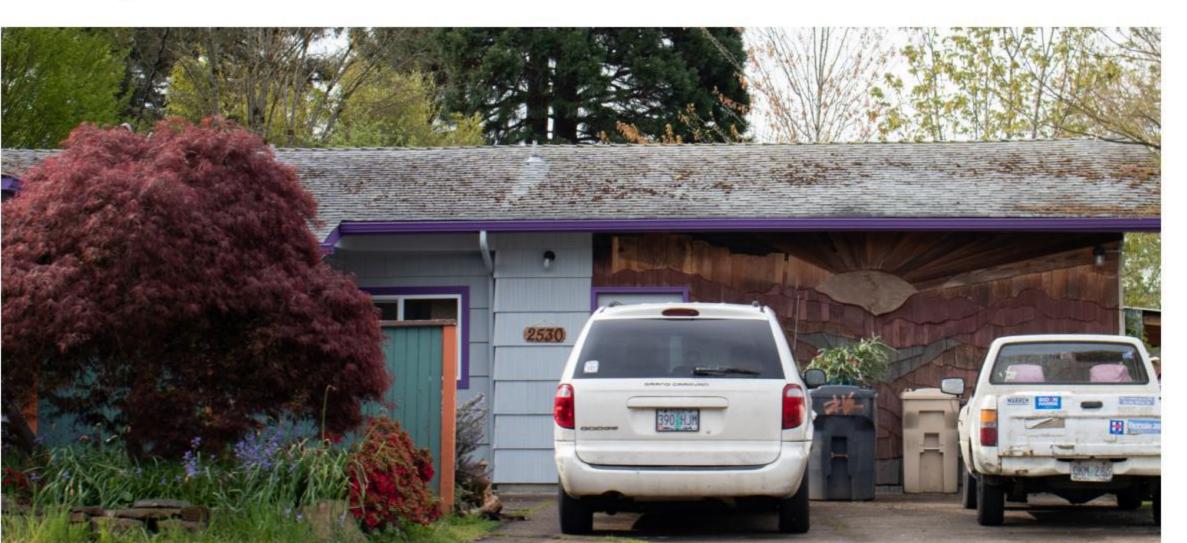
"Before the pandemic, we had two fully staffed and fully enrolled childcare facilities," Daigle said. "In May of 2020, one of our facilities fully shut down and is no longer operational. Now we're down to one facility that is only half staffed and half enrolled because of the labor shortage. It has severely affected us."

At one point, the CCCC even had to shut down its last facility for five months. When it was ready to reopen, Daigle reached out to staff to see who wanted to begin work again and many did not want to, because they were getting more money from their unemployment benefits.

Many people are affected by living in a childcare desert, but one of the most impacted are the children, according to Daigle.

"It really does affect children when they have to stay at home," Daigle said. "They don't have a routine anymore, they're not emotionally engaged, they're not socially engaged, so it really messes up their world."

When it comes time for children to re-enter



KAYLA JONES | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Josie Silver runs her daycare, Peaceful Earth, from a house conveniently located in Corvallis, Oregon. The daycare is open during the weekdays with drop off at 7:30 a.m. and pick up at 5:30 p.m.



KAYLA JONES | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Cassady and mom Jenna leave Josie Silver's day care in Corvallis, Oregon Tuesday, April 5, 2022. Josie Silver's is a home-run day care in Corvallis, which is considered a childcare desert.

the classroom setting, it's a big adjustment that can be confusing and emotionally challenging.

"Nobody can win in this type of situation," Daigle said.

Daigle said she would like to see a change in how people view early care and education.

"I would like it to become a public issue, not a private issue," Daigle said. "If this was part of the public school system, number one, we would get more attention, and number two, the teachers would be treated more fairly. I think it would be more equitable all around."

Josephine Silver is the director of Peaceful Earth Preschool and Childcare. She and her wife have been working without any other staff to run their business since the pandemic, making it incredibly stressful and exhausting. Being so understaffed makes meeting state requirements difficult to maintain.

"The state has ratios for children two to five: you have a 10-1 ratio," Silver said. "It's not legal for us to go to the bathroom. When one of us leaves to go make lunch we're actually above ratio. It makes for a very long day."

In Oregon, certified child care centers can have up to 10 children per classroom, and the ratio of caregiver to child varies across age ranges. Children six weeks to 23 months have a 1-4 ratio; children 24 months to 34 months have a 1-5 ratio; and children 36 months to

kindergarten age and kindergarten age and up have 1-10 ratios.

When Silver and her partner got COVID-19, there were no other people to keep the business going, and so they had to shut down until their health improved.

Not only is it hard to find staff in general, finding people who have the needed qualifications for the job is almost impossible, according to Silver. All staff must go through the Central Background Registry, a process that can take up to four months. Niether staff nor employers have the time to wait that long, Silver said.

Silver said she has at least two families in desperate need of childcare, but she doesn't have enough staff to take them in.

"I consider myself a highly qualified childcare worker, and yet I can't help those who need my skills the most because I'm too tired," Silver said.

To have quality childcare, Silver believes teachers need to be trained in child development and have a personality suited to dealing with children.

"[We strive for] a challenging environment where the teachers understand how to balance safety and risk-taking," Silver said. "The other part is just love. You gotta love the children and they have to feel safe and secure."

Record low unemployment rates in Benton County doesn't have to be a such an important headline



Christine Castles Social Addendum

t 2.6% in February, Benton County has the lowest unemployment rate in Oregon. That's a good sign, but it's essen-

tial to realize the unemployment rate is a single metric that only tells a portion of the whole story.

According to Jeff Reimer, professor of applied economics at Oregon State University, the number we commonly hear termed as "unemployment" is just one type of unemployment—U-3.

The U-3 unemployment number is made up of the portion of the labor force that does not have a job and is actively looking for employment.

According to Reimer, this leaves out the underemployed-people who want more hours but are unable to get them, people who have been discouraged from looking for work, or were not able to look for work in the past month, for any reason.

For instance, if you became sick for a while and because of this were unable to look for work, you are not considered unemployed.

The U-3 unemployment rate also says noth-

ing about how much those people are making, though Reimer said that a low unemployment rate—such as what we have now—can indicate that wages may go up since employers become more competitive for workers.

There are, however, other ways to measure unemployment, like U-6 unemployment, which focuses more on full-time and part-time employment with consideration given to how many hours people want to work.

"These improved measures are not always reported in the media because they take a bit of time to explain," Reimer said. "However, they are considered by specialists who closely track the economy."

So why does Benton County currently have such low unemployment compared to the rest of Oregon? Or even the rest of the **United States?**

In theory it has to do with the big employers in the area: agriculture, OSU, medical services, Hewlett-Packard, etc.

"These industries may be relatively stable compared to industries such as leisure and hospitality—such as restaurants and hotels that fluctuate more with peoples' spending power," Reimer said. "The unemployment rate for Oregon and the nation is low by historical records, indicating strength in our economy at the present time.

Low unemployment rates seem to be a good

sign, but not everyone's experience reflects the numbers.

Jamie Stephenson-Noble, third-year OSU Spanish student, said she is not sure that she would be able to find another job very easily if she lost her current job.

Though the news and media mentions unemployment frequently, Stephenson-Noble said, "I don't really think about unemployment that often."

And why should she? We make a big deal out of obscure numbers that actually say very little.

Reimer mentioned many times that unemployment can be a signifier of a healthy or strong economy. This language may be useful for economists, but it is pretty irrelevant how great the economy is if you are struggling to be a full-time student, work a part-time job and still have time to go to the grocery store.

This is where the emphasis of inadequate hours, pay or benefits for those hours is especially impactful for students.

At OSU, finding any on-campus job may be simple, but finding the right job can be much more difficult. Earning enough money to pay for rent, bills and food, as well as any other necessities is practically impossible to do on minimum wage (which is pretty standard for on-campus jobs), while also being able to keep up as a full-time student.

Barriers to employment are especially



MATTHEW MCKENNA | ORANGE MEDIA **NETWORK**

Third-year student Nicholas Dominic (back) and third-year student Juan Diego make sandwiches on April 19 at Arnold Dining Hall. OSU is one of the biggest employers of students in Corvallis, Ore.

impactful to those who already have too much on their plate. Cover letters, for instance, eat up time, and if we're being honest, they say more about how well someone can write a cover letter than how good someone will be at that job.

So when you hear about the health and strength of the economy, just remember, the economy is an inanimate social construct used to describe ways that money and capital move around.

How healthy or strong the economy is does not matter. What matters is if people are happy and healthy (to name a few things). We can use the economy to understand parts of society, but ultimately numbers do not tell the whole story.

Scheduling tips, hacks to make registration less stressful



Riley LeCocq On Our Minds

The clock strikes 6 ↓ p.m.—it's registration time. But CRNs are lost in notebooks, back up courses are unplanned and enrollment is filling

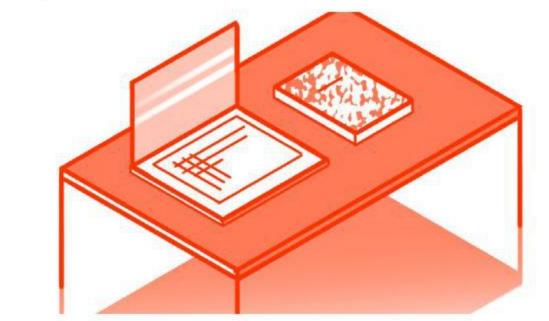
by the second.

Almost every student has experienced this frantic search for courses and run into an autogenerated error code preventing scheduling from being a three-click max process. However, there are some tips and tricks that students can use to ensure this process is smoother.

According to fourth-year molecular biology and biochemistry student Abby Hughes, one recommendation is to pay attention to the professors teaching the courses, specifically when looking at the baccalaureate core, which are classes every student at Oregon State University is required to take.

"I highly recommend checking Rate My Professor or if you know anyone who's taken that course before," Hughes said.

Hughes said the professor of a class can



ALEX KOETJE | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK This illustration depicts a laptop and notebook

on a table. Advisor Kerry Kincanon recommends students talk to advisors for help with registration.

really set the tone of the course.

I had often thought of bacc core classes as an easy A, but I have found that some come with particularly heavy workloads. This is largely dependent on the professor, though, which is where Hughes' suggestion of reviewing past student experiences through Rate My Professor is a lifesaver. I've even asked about certain courses on Reddit.

As far as the choice of course overall, there is wide variability in the way students fill their schedule. However, advisors can be helpful in double dipping courses or, as Hughes said, "Hitting two birds with one stone," to fulfill multiple requirements and save yourself some cash.

I have found OSU's degree partnership program to be an amazing asset where I can find many required courses for a fraction of the cost. The process was as simple as sending an email to the DPP department and signing up with the partnered community college of my choice. There is even a course equivalency table that lists which courses are transferable between OSU and a partner school.

Aside from taking classes outside the university, Head Advisor in the University Exploratory Studies program at OSU Kerry Kincanon credits the class scheduling tool Scheduler and MyDegrees as a huge asset to students.

"One of the things I like about [Scheduler] is it has filters in its menu," Kincanon said.

These filters are a lesser known feature of Scheduler, found at the bottom of the left side menu, that helps students select the specific requirement they need to fulfill. The program will then show which courses are offered in that selected term.

"When it comes to the bacc core, students should be attentive to what works but also what they are interested in," Kincanon said. "It is always very helpful if you can find something engaging."

The other tip that could save students a headache from registration errors is looking at the section numbers.

According to Kingcanon, there are multiple codes, such as 090 or 091, which are restricted to some students because they are specifically for students in the Educational Opportunities Program, or any section in the 600s, which are restricted to international students.

"Even just knowing the numbers is kind of a hack," Kingcanon said.

While meeting with your advisor should be the easy solution to eliminating difficulties, they can still come up.

The other issue is deciding when to meet with your advisor, especially when appointments quickly fill up, as they do for science majors like myself. Hughes said she has found good luck making her appointment around week five of the term and setting a reminder for her registration time.

"Talk with your advisor for sure," Hughes said. "I recommend starting to schedule really early, especially if you are a freshman. Before you register, have all of your CRNs in a separate Word document or something and have your back up courses ready if those fill up too."

Never mind the pitching, Beaver Baseball is still winning



Ryan Harlan Here's my two cents

It's that time of year again—the flowers are blooming, the sun is shining and Beaver Baseball is back in full swing—otherwise known as spring in Corvallis.

I, for one, am excited for the return of college baseball, especially Beaver Baseball. For those that don't know, baseball is one of the strongest athletic programs at Oregon State, having earned three national championships with the most recent one being in 2018.

The way to have a successful team like those championship teams is to have a wellrounded team in the bullpen and the batting lineup, also Adley Rutschman. I digress;

the baseball team right now has one of those two things and it's pitching issues in the bullpen.

I want to preface by saying this issue is currently fixable and I understand from a fan's perspective that it's a concern, especially if it covers a deficiency that the team might have. I do share some of your concerns, but I want to ease your worry by letting you know that the issue can be fixed. Take a breath and relax. It's not as bad as it might seem.

I agree that it's concerning that the talent in the batting lineup can't always bail out the team in games when they go cold, which has happened a few times so far this season. The team has lost a series to Stanford University, which was their first, but besides that series they can't seem to close out most games against opponents when they can hang double-digit runs on them at any given point.

Right now, the team's record is 5-4 in series closing games, which is okay, but there are things to consider as to why the team is struggling in those games.

First, the team was down two starters in the pitching lineup, Jacob Pfennigs and Will Frisch. Pfennigs is back after the series win over the University of Southern California, but Frisch will be out due to season-ending Tommy John surgery, which means the ulnar collateral ligament in his elbow is being fixed.

Second, the depth behind Frisch and

Pfennigs in the bullpen are largely untested and inexperienced, except for Cooper Hjerpe, Brock Townsend, Mitchell Verburg, Reid Sebby and Ian Lawson. As a result, the team has had to rely on a combination of different starters for each series and it's gotten the job done so far with those absences in the pitching lineup.

The depth of pitchers that have been used so far are Jacob Kmatz, Ryan Brown, Bren Ferrer, DJ Carpenter and Jayson Hibbard.

To be quite honest, each performance from the group has been a mixed bag so far. Kmatz and Brown have been solid in their starts, but Carpenter, Hibbard and Ferrer have had some not great performances, which has cost the Beavers opportunities to close out series games.

However, the lineup has faltered at times against opponents. Some notable games this season have been against the University of

Nevada, Reno, University of California, Berkeley, and Arizona State University. The main issues in these games have been

ing games and inexperience, the latter of which has been remediated somewhat this sea-

son as each pitcher gets more experience being on the mound during a game.

The games that I am referencing against Nevada, California and Arizona State were games that most fans would like to forget, but I am only going to focus on two of them.

The game with Nevada was one where inexperi-

ence and poor management decisions played into a nine-run rally by Nevada, forcing the team to win close in extra innings.

The second game against California was a result of inexperience and an uncharacteristic number of errors that had Oregon State down early and losing the game, despite a rally in the ninth.

Although the team has struggled in closing games, it has won close more times than fans want from the team. The team is still winning series against opponents, and they've shown that they can win close, if need be—a need that may arise once postseason play starts.

I'd be concerned if the pitching issues aren't fixed when the season ends, but with the return of Pfennigs it could go in a positive direction.

Until then, the pitching depth will only continue to improve with each game.

MATTHEW MCKENNA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Pictured above is Oregon State junior pitcher Brock Townsend pitching against the California State University Long Beach Sharks at Goss Stadium on April 14. The Oregon State baseball has a total of 21 pitchers on the current roster, and constantly rotates pitchers throughout games.

Dating apps (probably) aren't good for your mental health



Hayden Lohr F*ck it, real talk

Dating apps can lead to feelings of self doubt and loneliness, and, for many people, it is probably best to steer clear of such apps due to their addictive nature.

Dating apps such as Tinder, Bumble, Grindr and Hinge are very popular nowadays. According to a 2020 Pew Research Center report, over 30% of adults reported using dating apps.

Dating apps can certainly be helpful to some people, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic when meeting people in person was difficult. However, they also increase feelings of loneliness, worthlessness and self doubt, and social media is designed to be addictive. This has real harmful effects on individuals.

These apps, like social media to an extent, play on a desire that I would argue almost everyone has: To be wanted. Everyone wants to be special and everyone wants to be important to someone. Dating apps have found a way to exploit these basic human needs for profit in much of the same way that social media does. Because at the root, almost all of us are afraid of being alone and we are afraid that we won't find that special person. These fears are founded because the hard truth is that some people don't.

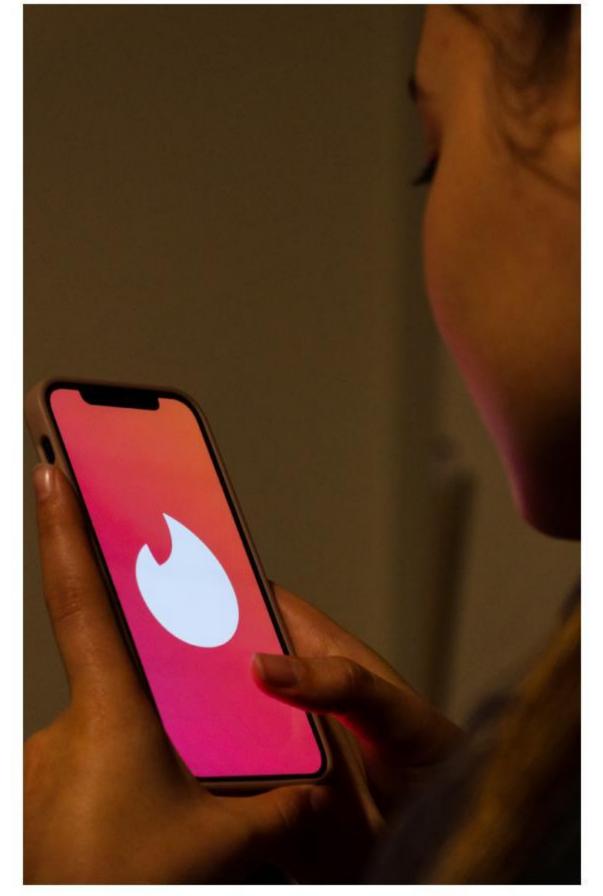
"I remember early on, [dating apps] amplified the feeling of being alone," said Quinn Slatter, a history student at OSU. "Swiping right on hundreds of girls, getting a handful of matches and maybe one date."

I would argue that whether you get a lot of matches or just a few is not the point. It is factual to say that women get more matches than men. It is also factual that conventionally attractive people get more matches than people who aren't conventionally attractive. However, I would argue getting too few or too many matches is still an issue.

If you get too few matches, you might feel bad because you don't feel like you are attractive or desirable. If you get too many matches, then you might feel overwhelmed and it could inflate your ego.

While the concept of a dating app is not necessarily harmful, the execution is the problem. Dating apps today use intermittent reinforcement. Essentially this means that dating apps are designed to give you likes on a regular but not predictable cycle and that everyone will get a match, but you might not know when.

"As an outsider, I view it as unnecessary almost," said Nathan Yeh, a history major at OSU. "I don't know if this is a charisma thing,



MATTHEW MCKENNA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

First-year biochemistry student Mya Kuzmin opens the Tinder app in her dorm room on April 20. Many college students use Tinder as a way to pass the time between classes which, if done too often, can lead to a negative effect on their mental health.

or some people are more socially aware than others, but I never had a problem meeting people or making friends. Taking steps towards a relationship has never seemed that big of a jump. For some people, online dating is a resource, but an inferior resource to meeting people through school or work."

It is important to note, too, that women and people of other gender identities have reported very different experiences on dating apps than men.

Most dating apps have a limited number of likes, which can be increased for money. When the likes run out, there is a set time until they refill. There is also no rule on dating apps that your profile will be shown to the people you like and vice versa. This means that many of your likes may not serve a purpose.

"Through this, it became an obsession," Slatter said. "As soon as that happened, it would be constant swiping. First and last thing I did every day. And I would feel dogsh*t about myself all the time. You put in this work to be interesting, to look good conventionally... You put in this work, which I did anyway. I wanted to see a benefit."

The unfortunate truth is that dating apps are not designed to get you a partner or even to get you laid. They are designed to turn a profit. The system of likes running out and advanced features for people who pay, seeks to profit on loneliness. For this reason, I think it is best if we all swipe left on dating apps.

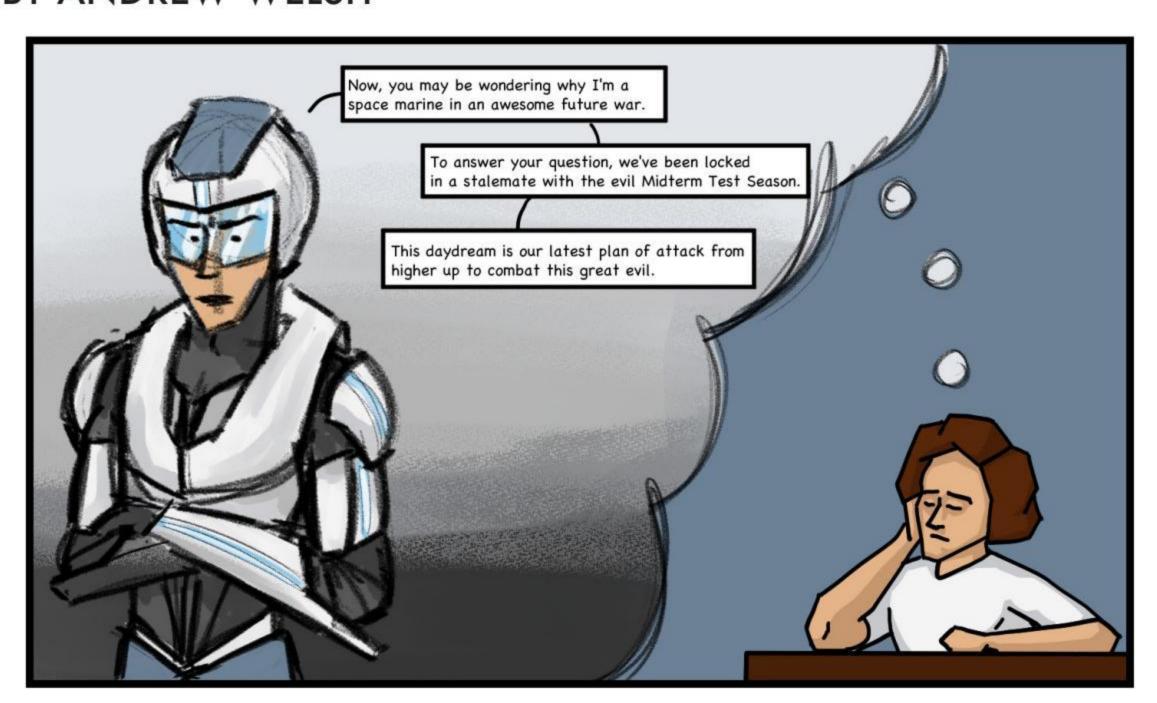
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HOROSCOPE

MONDAY MAY 2ND, 2022

Aries (March 21 - April **19)** Today is a 9 — Your luck in love improves, with Venus in your sign for the next month. Beautify your surroundings, wardrobe and style. You're irresistible and charming.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

Today is an 8 — Your efforts get profitable. Over four weeks, with Venus in Aries, fantasies abound. Enjoy quiet time. Keep confidences. Discover hidden beauty from the past.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

Today is a 9 — You're especially popular; take advantage. Get out public this month, Venus in Aries. Social activities benefit wealth is possible, with collaborations thrive.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Today is an 8 — Consider plans. It's easier to advance your professional agenda. Take on greater leadership this month, with Venus in Aries. Develop intriguing possibilities opportunities.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Today is a 9 — Explore and discover new beauty this month, with Venus in Aries. Make travel plans and venture forth. Investigate a matter of personal passion.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

TToday is a 9 — Take care of business. Increasing income, assets and your career. Group Venus in Aries this month. Conserve resources. It's all for love.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

Today is an 8 — Explore possibilities. Listen to intuition. Collaboration your partner flourishes over month, with Venus in Aries. Things could get deliciously spicy. Connect and share.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Today is a 9 — Collaborate for balanced accounts. Your work and physical efforts seem energized. Find your rhythm and move your body this month, with Venus in Aries.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Today is a 9 — A powerful attraction draws you to someone beautiful. You're especially lucky in love, with Venus in Aries. Creativity flowers and sparkles this month.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Today is a 7 — Let things unfold naturally. Clean up and set the stage. Misunderstandings abound. Take time to smell the roses. Relax and enjoy the ride.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

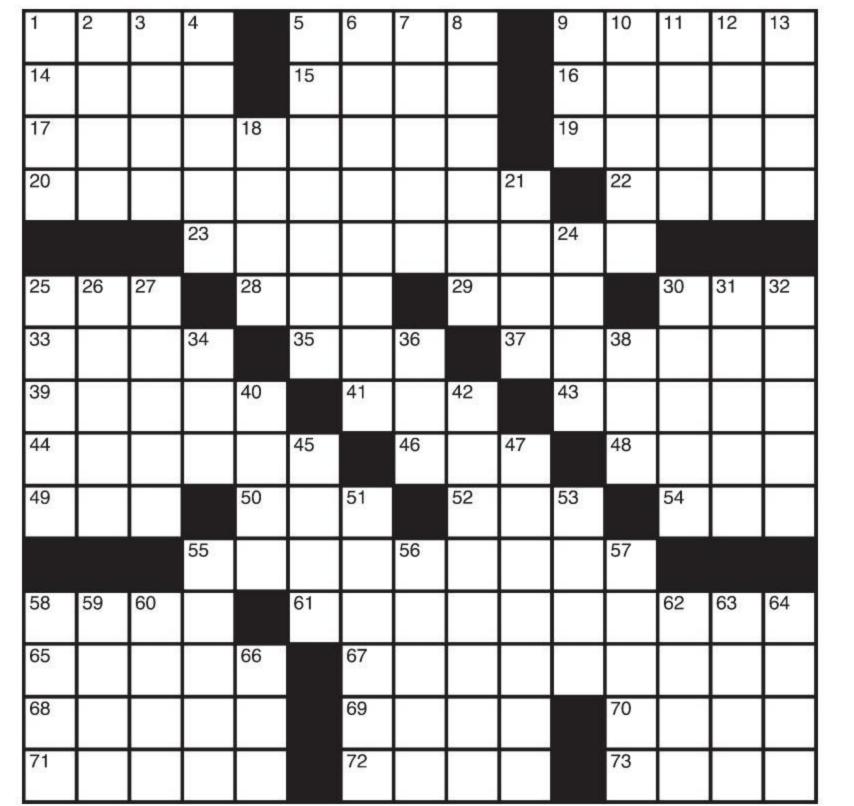
Today is an 8 — Have fun. Creative arts and intellectual puzzles satisfy a craving, with Venus in Aries. Connect the dots. Write, publish and broadcast your message with love.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)

Today is a 9 — Home centers you. This month gets especially lucrative, with Venus in Aries. Put your heart into your work and demand rises. Push







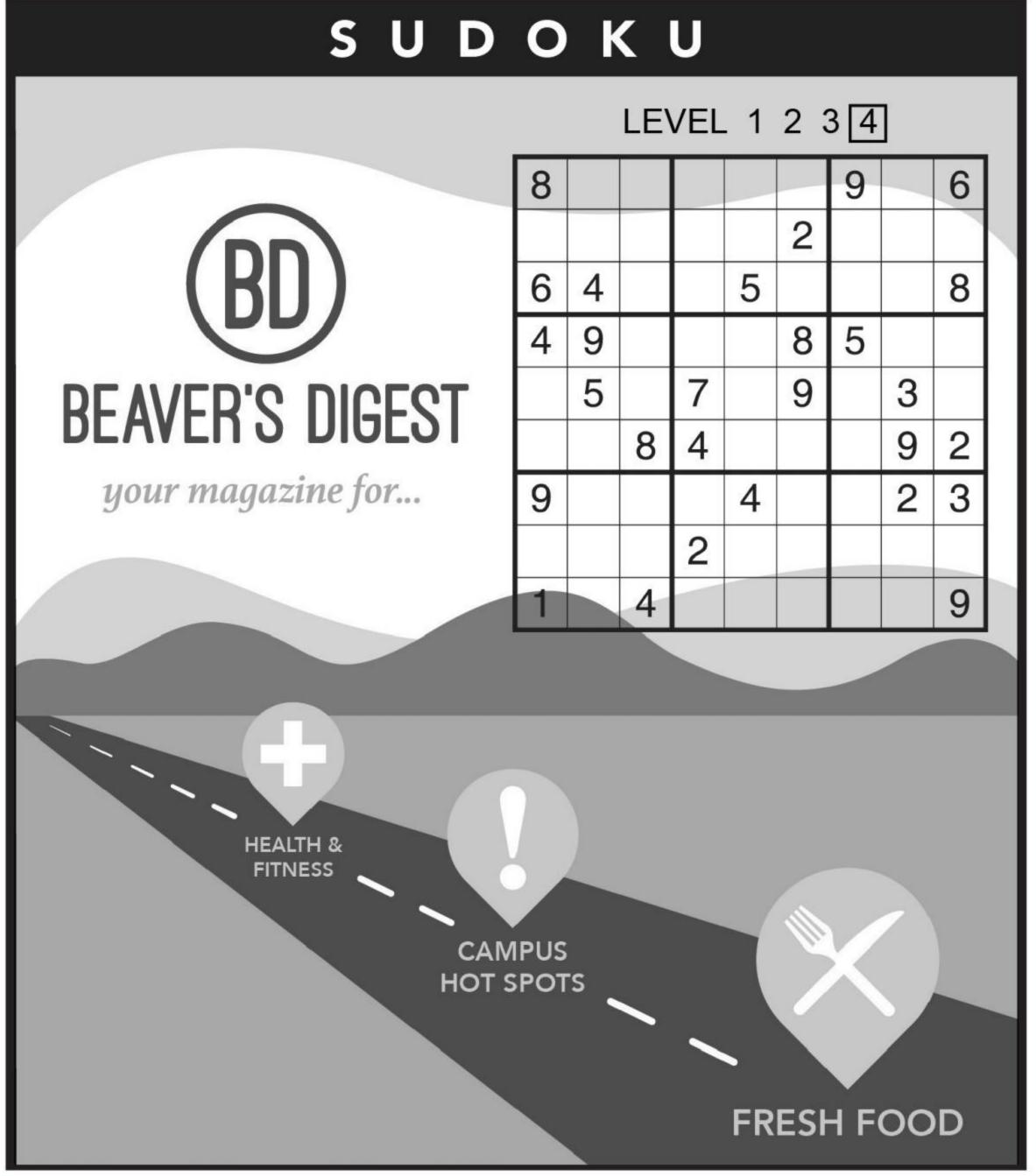
Across

- 1 Ewes' guys
- 5 Jazz great James 9 Term illustrated by the
- starts of 39- and 44-Across
- 14 Director Kazan 15 Some skinny jeans
- 16 See 11-Down 17 __ paper: baking layer
- 19 DuVernay film set in
- Alabama 20 Diamond gems
- 22 Way, way off 23 Mood-stabilizing
- hormone
- 25 Ante-
- 28 Solidify
- 29 California's Big ___
- 30 Place for a stay
- 33 Souvlaki meat 35 Put away the groceries?
- 37 Term illustrated by the starts of 17- and 20-Across 39 Outwit
- 41 Cybergiggle

- 43 Dirties
- 44 Package
- 46 Director Anderson 48 Symbol on the Flash's chest
- 49 Farm pen
- 50 Siete menos cinco 52 Cable channel with a "superstar" wine club
- 54 Univ. aides 55 Initiates legal action
- 58 Red outside, maybe
- 61 Complex units 65 Watchdog breed
- 67 Cheaters
- 68 Kidney-related
- 69 "__ cost you!" 70 Bog fuel
- 71 Term illustrated by parts of 61- and 67-Across
- 72 Kenneth of fashion
- 73 Dessert brand

- Down
 - 1 Default action, briefly 2 "Einstein's Dreams" novelist Lightman 3 Swampy land
- 4 Goldman _ 5 Target of some bark peeties
- 6 Stay dry? 7 Core belief
- 8 Team that lost the 2019 World Series to the
- Nationals 9 Some coll. degrees 10 "Channel Orange"
- Grammy winner Frank 11 With 16-Across, 9-, 37-, or 56 Took care of 71-Across, for any given hole 57 ASU's home
- 12 Writer Bombeck 13 2022, e.g. 18 Goes quickly
- 21 Slight 24 Mystery writer Johansen
- 25 Falls heavily 26 Charged
- 27 __ board 30 "Canadian __": "Weird

- Al" parody of a Green Day
- 31 Nabisco wafer brand 32 Mouse pads?
- 34 Tampa NFLer 36 Haul
- 38 Corddry of HBO's
- "Ballers" 40 Mani-__
- 42 "Time to bounce" 45 1970 Kinks hit 47 Sink on purpose
- 51 __ tank 53 "The Emancipation of _": Mariah Carey album
- 55 Prenatal
- 58 Red inside, maybe 59 SUNDVIK baby furniture retailer
- 60 __-pong 62 Requirement 63 Highchair surface
- 64 Retired jets 66 Flagon fill



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