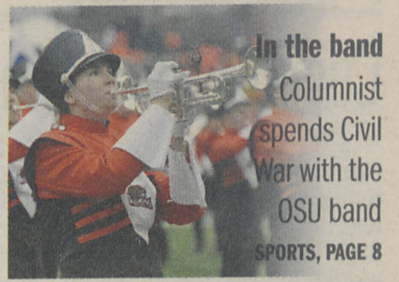




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The Daily Barometer



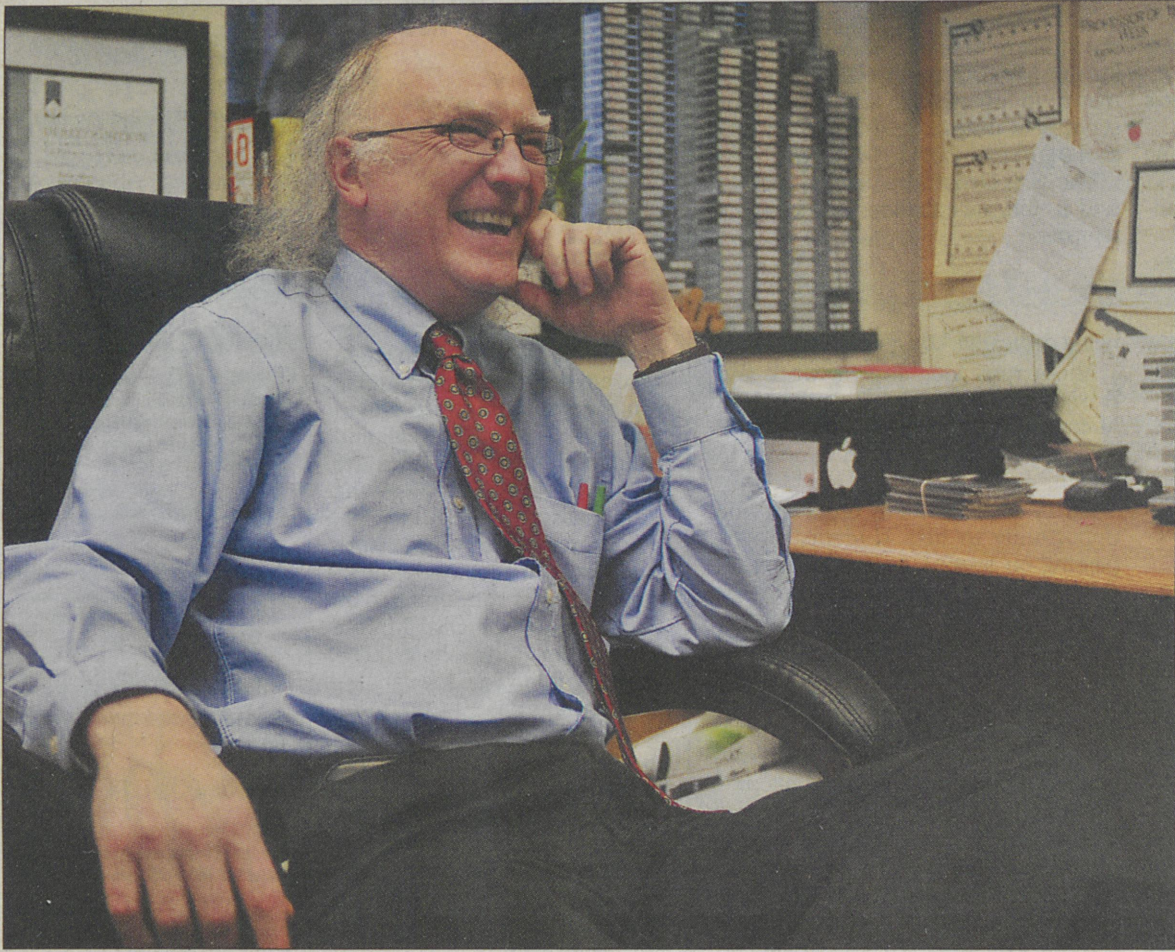
In the band
Columnist
spends Civil
War with the
OSU band
SPORTS, PAGE 8

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Ore.

dailybarometer.com

Vol. CXIII No. 59

Instructor puts a unique spin on biochemistry



EMILY JONES | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Kevin Ahern, a senior instructor of biochemistry, sits in his office on Jan. 4 and talks about teaching biochemistry at OSU for more than 15 years.

Kevin Ahern's creative teaching style includes 'metabolic melodies' for students

By Amy Schneider
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Biochemistry and biophysics — the very words can send shudders down an unwitting student's spine. But at Oregon State University, though, one biochemistry instructor has found a way to lighten the mood, with the help of a little creativity. Kevin Ahern, senior instructor in the department of biochemistry and biophysics, wants nothing more than to help his students excel in a subject that he brings to life by virtue of his animated personality.

Ahern's interest in biochemistry did not take root until after he graduated with a bachelor's degree in zoology at Oklahoma State University. While working in a biochemistry lab, Ahern realized his true calling and went on to attain a doctorate in biochemistry at Oregon State.

"What I learned working in a lab really set me up to become a biochemist, and it was the first job that actually got me interested in research," Ahern said. "I tell students to get involved in research because that was what made such a difference for me."

Doctorate in hand, Ahern was a post-doc in San Diego, Calif., for a few years until his return to Corvallis in 1988, when he took on a series of writing jobs, including writing a column for Genetic Engineering News. He also worked in the biochemistry office at OSU and it wasn't until 1995 that he began teaching classes.

"It was something that I thought I would like and I discovered I loved it," Ahern said. "It was a very good match and it's been wonderful."

Ahern's position as senior instructor in biochemistry has him teaching many hundreds of students each term. Ahern posts his lectures on YouTube to share his teachings, not only with his students, but with anyone who has an interest. His lectures often take on a unique spin, primarily because Ahern's talks about protein and amino acids are sometimes interspersed with singing.

Biochemistry and music may not seem to go hand in hand, but Ahern saw the potential at the end of teaching his first class in 1995, when he wanted to add something memorable before wrapping up for the term.

"I had a friend who had a biochem songbook by a professor in England and I thought that I could do something like that," Ahern said. "I put a couple songs together and sang them

See **AHERN** | page 2

Native American Cultural Center to get new home

Thanks to funding from student fees, private donors, Native American tribes of Oregon, construction is set to begin in March

By Rebecca Johnson
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Native American Cultural Center, which has been a part of the Oregon State University campus for 40 years, will finally be getting a new home this spring, as approval to begin construction on a new center was recently granted.

Members of the center and Intercultural Student Services have been working diligently toward getting funding and approval for a new building.

"The center is a place for Native American students to feel at home and for everyone to come and learn about

Native American culture," said Oliver Tapaha, the graduate teaching assistant who oversees the center. "We want a center that helps students feel comfortable and one that will reflect the culture."

The Native American Cultural Center is under Intercultural Student Services, so a portion of the funding for the new building is coming from students and private donors. However, Native American tribes of Oregon have also given support in the form of grants to help get the project off the ground.

"There are nine recognized tribes in Oregon and they all help out in some way," Tapaha said.

The new center will be located on the south side of the current longhouse at 311 SW 26th St., where a parking lot now sits.

The Native American Longhouse was established in

See **NACC** | page 2



JEFFREY BASINGER | THE DAILY BAROMETER

A wooden statue that was donated to the Native American Longhouse stands outside the entrance to the cultural center.

Scientists track endangered western gray whale's migration patterns

Researchers hope to identify, reduce man-made obstacles in the mammal's path

By Amy Schneider
THE DAILY BAROMETER

A western gray whale, one of only about 130 left of its species, is being monitored via satellite, thanks to the efforts of Oregon State University Marine Mammal Institute Director Bruce Mate and his colleagues from Russia and North America.

Mate was a vital part of the mission, using his whale-tagging experience to help efficiently secure the tag in place. The tag allows scientists to track the movements of the whale using satellite technology.

"Preparation for this project has

taken five years, since we were dealing with the second most endangered whale species in the world," said Mate, who spent five weeks on a vessel off the coast of Russia in order to complete the tagging process. "A lot of parties wanted to make sure we were operating with the highest quality level possible." We even did two advocacy trials on eastern gray whales, just to make sure the tagging process didn't cause any undue stress."

Mate hopes the information obtained from the satellite tag will add to the scant

library of knowledge regarding western gray whales.

"We don't know where they go to breed the calves in the winter," Mate said. "We're also hoping to give them some measure of additional protection. It's important to understand migration routes and how that might put them in peril if they encounter fishing industries."

According to Mate, five western gray whales have been inadvertently killed in the last four years due to man-made implements involved in fishing.

The American Cetacean Society's website. <http://www.acsonline.org>, says while

the western gray whale population is already in a fragile balance, the whales continue to be threatened by oil activity near their habi-

tats. Human interference, including fishing and polluting, poses a threat to the livelihood of the whales.

Despite this, Mate said that oil and gas companies, listed as Exxon Neftegas Ltd. and Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd. in an OSU press release, provided funding for the research project, and Mate was impressed by their willingness to contribute.

With increased data accumulation, the team, which consisted of four North Americans and five Russians, will be able to learn more about the whales' migratory patterns. Mate said the satellite has been transmitting for 93 days, with the average transmission time being around 110 days.

"When we tagged eastern gray whales, the longest we had a tag last was 380 days," Mate said. "The average is close to 110 days,

so we're still below the average, but some of them don't stay on nearly that long."

Since the study is dependent on only one whale, the scientists are hoping the tag will last as long as possible. The original idea was to tag 12 whales but, due to challenging weather, the team was only able to tag one.

"We encountered the remnants of two typhoons and two gales, so those four really bad weather storms made it difficult," Mate said. "We had to go late in the season because we wanted to tag as close as we could to the time that they might depart for migration."

Tagging right before migration allowed for the greatest amount of data to be collected, in case the tags stopped working prematurely.

See **WHALE** | page 2



Commission spreads the blame for Gulf oil disaster in report

"Systemic" problems caused the Deepwater Horizon blowout and subsequent oil spill, and only "significant reform" will prevent another, President Barack Obama's commission studying the disaster says in its soon-to-be-released report.

The National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling on Wednesday released a chapter of the report that it says contains the key findings. The report is to be released in full on Tuesday.

"The Macondo blowout was the product of several individual missteps and oversights by BP, Haliburton and Transocean, which government regulators lacked the authority, the necessary resources and the technical expertise to prevent," the report says.

"The blowout was not the product of a series of aberrational decisions made by rogue industry or government officials that could not have been anticipated or expected to occur again. Rather, the root causes are systemic, and absent significant reform in both industry prac-

tices and government policies, might well recur."

An April 20 explosion on the Deepwater Horizon rig in the Gulf of Mexico killed 11 men and injured 17 working on the rig, launching the worst oil spill in U.S. history. The Macondo well spewed crude into the Gulf for three months before the wellhead was successfully capped.

But nearly 5 million barrels of crude oil — more than 200 million gallons — spilled into the salt waters, washing up onto beaches and penetrating fragile marshes. Birds and other animals were coated in an oily sheen.

The report cites numerous problems:

- Inadequate risk management.
- A flawed design for the cement slurry used to seal the bottom of the well.
- A "negative pressure test" that was incorrectly judged a success.
- Flawed procedures for securing the well.
- Inattention to signals of an impending blowout.
- An ineffective response to the blow-

out itself.

"Whether purposeful or not, many of the decisions that BP, Haliburton, and Transocean made that increased the risk of the Macondo blowout clearly saved those companies significant time (and money)," the report says.

The Deepwater Horizon rig was owned by Transocean and leased to BP. Haliburton was installing the cement casing for the drill operations.

BP spokesman Robert Sholars said the oil giant "has cooperated fully with the commission's investigation," stressing "that the accident was the result of multiple causes, involving multiple companies."

"BP is working with regulators and the industry to ensure that the lessons learned from Macondo lead to improvements in operations and contractor services in deepwater drilling," Sholars said.

The U.S. Department of the Interior said it, too, was already implementing reforms.

— CNN

AHERN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

for my class. The class had no idea they were coming, so when I started belting out 'Battle Hymn of Biochemistry,' the looks on their faces were great, and I thought it was really fun."

Since then, Ahern has written a new "metabolic melody" for each term he teaches. He uses songs from previous terms to help illustrate concepts and has compiled CDs with song titles such as "We All Need Just a Little ATP" and "March of the Proteins."

Songwriting isn't Ahern's only creative endeavor. He also contributes a monthly column to the journal BioTechniques and has served as an editor at Science Magazine.

While enjoying all these activities, Ahern maintains a true passion for his students.

"I don't have children, so my students are my kids," Ahern said. "I really love that interaction, I love playing a role in

their lives and I love seeing them grow while they're here. I just love teaching in general."

A number of biochemistry and pre-medical students have Ahern as their advisor. He has a reputation for helping students succeed, according to Caitlin Crimp, a senior double majoring in biochemistry and Spanish.

"Kevin is absolutely amazing," said Crimp, who is president of the Biochemistry and Biophysics Club with Ahern as her advisor. "He's definitely the most hands-on advisor and he finds scholarships and opportunities for students to get involved. He can be tough on students, but in a good way, because he wants them to be successful and responsible."

For Steven Magnuson, a 2010 graduate of OSU and previous student of Ahern's, it was the instructor's athletic endeavors, namely his running, that he found inspirational.

"I was mostly interested in how it was a great example of goal-setting and

being dedicated," Magnuson said.

Ahern runs four times a week and is signed up for the Corvallis Half Marathon April 10, which he encourages anyone interested in running to attend.

As an advisor, Ahern often has the opportunity to help students out by passing on lessons he has learned. In reference to running, he has found that instead of racing, it is much more beneficial to enjoy the run and feel good about it.

On the bigger life matters, Ahern recommends that students have a plan. His own life has led him in many directions, but he eventually found his passion with a goal in mind.

"You can always change your plan, but you have to think about what you're going to do next," Ahern said. "You have to be able to adapt and be flexible, but it's always important to have a plan."

Amy Schneider, staff writer
737-2231, news@dailybarometer.com

NACC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

1971 and the center was opened a year later.

"The center we currently have was donated," Tapaha said. "It doesn't really reflect Native American culture."

The plan for the center was approved unanimously by the Campus Planning Committee, according to an announcement on the Native American Cultural Center blog site from Larry Roper, vice provost of student affairs.

Groundbreaking is set to happen in March, with construction to begin shortly after.

"Everyone at the center ... is really excited about the long-house," Tapaha said. "We are very fortunate ..."

Rebecca Johnson, staff writer
737-2231, news@dailybarometer.com

WHALE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We had to get off the boat into a smaller boat in order to put tags on the whales, so when we were out tagging the animal, sometimes there were waves that were 7- to 10- feet tall and winds on top of that," Mate said. "We really had to go the extra measure."

Fortunately, all the hard work paid off, and the whale, nicknamed Flex, is continuing to be monitored by the OSU Marine Mammal Institute. Those interested in following the whale's progress can visit <http://mmi.oregonstate.edu/sakhalin2010> to see weekly updates of his travels.

Overall, Mate feels that the project is a successful one.

"I feel very blessed that we've been able to do so well and that things are going as well as they are," Mate said.

Amy Schneider, staff writer
737-2231, news@dailybarometer.com

CALENDAR

Thursday, Jan. 6

Events
Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. MUVie — Hereafter.

Friday, Jan. 7

Events
Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. MUVie — Hereafter.

Tuesday, Jan. 11

Events
Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. MUVie — Crossing Over.

Wednesday, Jan. 12

Events
Childcare and Family Resources, Noon-1pm, MU 213. Lunch and Learn: Adoption. Presented by Lisa Hoogesteger, Naomi Hirsch and Gus Martinez-Padilla.
Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. MUVie — Crossing Over.

Thursday, Jan. 13

Events
Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. MUVie — Crossing Over.

Friday, Jan. 14

Events
Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. MUVie — Crossing Over.

Monday, Jan. 17

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY

Tuesday, Jan. 18

Events
Student Events and Activities Center and the Memorial Union, 7:30pm, MU Trysting Tree Lounge. MUVie — Red.

The Daily Barometer

Are you interested in reading a better newspaper?
You can help make that happen — The Daily Barometer is hiring!
We are looking for a few good people to make the Barometer a better paper for the OSU community.



Managing Editor

Responsible for coordinating and managing daily production of the newspaper. Must have previous newspaper experience

News Editor

Duties include managing the newsroom staff and supervising news-gathering activities. Previous experience required.

Forum Editor

Responsible for the content of the Forum pages, managing letters to the editor, and coordinating freelance writers. Previous experience required.

Graphic Designer

Self-motivated, creative person with experience.

Staff Writers

For: Diversion, News, Forum, and Sports.

Cartoonists

Artistic, self-motivated, opinionated social commentators.

The Barometer is always hiring reporters/columnists and photographers. For more information about these positions contact Brandon Southward at 541.737.3191 or e-mail editor@dailybarometer.com.

Applications may be submitted via e-mail, fax (541-737-4999), or in person at 118 MU East.

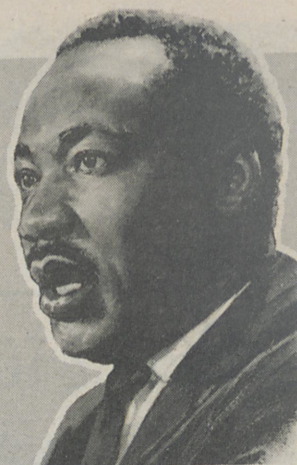
Martin Luther

KING Jr. Celebration

His Dream. Our Responsibility.

January 10-20, 2011

Oregon State UNIVERSITY



WED., JAN. 5 – FRI. JAN. 14

Ticket Sales for MLK, Jr. Peace Brunch MU BUSINESS OFFICE

Tickets: Non-students \$10; Students \$6, Children age 5 and under free.
On sale at the MU Business Office or at the Brunch (Jan. 17). Students can charge to their account.

MONDAY, JANUARY 10

Making the Grade: The Connection Between Race, Class and Education

4-5 p.m. • MU 206, Asian/Pacific-American Room
Come and explore how the connection between race and class play a role in an individual's access to education. Facilitators: Padraic McGraw and Melissa Rico –UHDS Community Relations Facilitators
Sponsored by: University Housing and Dining Services

"This is What Democracy Looks Like"

5-7 p.m. • César Chávez Cultural Center
Movie, discussion, and background of why people marched in the 1999 World Trade Organization protests in Seattle.
Sponsored by: César Chávez Cultural Center

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11

Open Forum: "Where's My 40 Acres? And Other Broken Promises..."

Noon - 2 p.m. • MU 206, Asian/Pacific-American Room
Discussion of historical and current perspectives of relationships between major racial/ethnic groups and the U.S. Government.
Facilitator: Earlean Wilson Huey
Panel: Sandy Tsuneyoshi
Sponsored by: Intercultural Student Services (ISS)

Culturally Appropriate Curriculum and Textbooks?

4-6 p.m. • Native American Longhouse Cultural Center
Discussion on the issues of equity, validation and empowerment in K-12 education by examining what students do not learn, stereotypes, and what we should have learned. This workshop will discuss the steps that participants can take as change agents to transform our schools to honor diversity.
Facilitator: Dr. Padma Akkaraju
Sponsored by: Native American Longhouse Cultural Center

Global Perspectives on Activism

5-7 p.m. • MU International Resource Center
This program looks at the lives of global activist Mahatma Gandhi, Mother Teresa and Nelson Mandela, as well as hearing an international student panel of how their activism has impacted their life. Following the panel, there will be time to answer questions. Refreshments will be served
Co-Sponsors: ISOSU, Pride Center

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

Creating Change within Education

7-9 p.m. • MU Main Lounge
Panel of professionals and students who have experienced or observed inequalities within the educational system. Looking at how we can improve education for the future.
Co-sponsors: Team Liberation and Education Students for Peace & Justice

"Doing Time, Doing Vipassana"

Noon - 1 p.m. • MU Journey Room
MLK, Jr's message of non-violence through film. Film viewing will be followed by a brief process on meditation's impact for building compassion.
Sponsored by: CAPS

"Little Town of Bethlehem"

3-5 p.m. • MU 208, La Raza Room
Discover how a courageous commitment to nonviolence is uniting Palestinians and Israelis in their quest for peace in the middle east. This documentary looks at the conflict through the eyes of three men whose lives have been marked by the violence: a Palestinian Muslim, a Palestinian Christian, and an Israeli Jew who dare to dream that a just peace is possible.
Co-sponsors: NCBI / Campus Coalition Builders, Religious Advisors Association at OSU, Lutheran Campus Ministry at OSU, United Campus Ministry at Westminster House, Baha'i Campus Association
This event is shown again: Thursday, Jan. 20, 7-9 pm • MU 213, Pan-Afrikan Sankofa Room

WED., JAN. 12 – WED., JAN. 19

"Sign the Pledge" MLK, Jr. Pledge Wall

Daily 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. • MU Trysting Tree Lounge
Reaffirm your support for nonviolent social change, equality and justice, freedom and peace.
Sponsored by: Panhellenic Council

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

Interfaith Prayer Service

2-3 p.m. • MU 208, La Raza Room
A time for celebrating Dr. King's vision for a peaceful, global community as shared through prayer and reflection by members of the OSU community speaking from their own varied spiritual / religious backgrounds.
Co-Sponsors: NCBI / Campus Coalition Builders, United Campus Ministry at Westminster House, Baha'i Campus Association

Dialogues on Race

5:30-7:30 p.m. • MU East International Forum
Join in on the opportunity to learn about difficult dialogues by observing a group discuss issues on race.
Co-sponsors: CAPS, UHDS Diversity Initiative, ISS

Institutional Racism

7-9 p.m. • Corvallis Majestic Theatre
Keynote speaker: Shelley Moon
Entertainment: Corvallis High School Choir
Immediately following there will be a reception
Sponsored by: Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission, City of Corvallis

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Montessori School Celebration

3-4 p.m. • Majestic Theater, Downtown
Corvallis Montessori elementary students will perform skits, readings and songs drawing attention to King's message.
Sponsored by: Corvallis Montessori School

All-University Dance

9 p.m - 1:30 a.m. • International Forum at Snell Hall • FREE to all OSU Students
Co-sponsors: Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc., Omega Delta Phi Fraternity

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

MLK, Jr. Day of Observance

29th Annual Peace Brunch
9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. • MU Ballroom
Award Presentations: Phyllis S. Lee & Frances Dancy Hooks Coalition Builders Awards
Music: OUTSPOKEN, Men's A Cappella Group
Keynote Speaker: Ruth Koenig, Human Rights Volunteer
Co-sponsors: OSU Community and Diversity, President's Office

Birthday Party for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

5-6 p.m. • Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center, 2325 NW Monroe
Co-sponsors: Black Student Union, Black Cultural Center

Candlelight Vigil

6-7:30 p.m. • MU Steps
You are invited to meet at the Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center, 2325 NW Monroe, for the candlelight walk to the MU Steps
Co-sponsors: Black Cultural Center, Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Round-Table Discussion (following the Vigil)

7:30-8:30 p.m. • MU 213, Pan African Sankofa Room (Refreshments served)
Co-sponsors: Black Cultural Center, Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Portraits of Courage; African-Americans You Wish You Had Known

8:30-10 p.m. • MU Ballroom
Surprised at the absence of African-American figures in history books, playwright Colin Cox created a theatrical piece to bring recognition to a few who have helped shape our country. One woman and one man portray the characters in this live presentation.
Co-sponsors: ASOSU and MUPC

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

MLK, Jr.: Our Youth, His Legacy

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. • Women's Building 112
Elementary school children will learn about and celebrate the legacy of Dr. King. This is a closed event to OSU.
Co-sponsors: Community Service Center, Asian and Pacific Cultural Center

The Shared Vision: Working for Civil Rights in Our Time

6-7:30 p.m. • MU Ballroom
Spend an evening with Ruth Koenig, a volunteer in the Mississippi Summer Project of 1964, an effort to improve life and rights for Blacks in Mississippi. While Ruth will share her experiences from the past, this program will provide an opportunity to start conversations of how to continue gaining civil rights for all marginalized communities on campus, in our community, and in the larger society.
Sponsor: University Housing & Dining Services

Expression Through Art

6-8 p.m. • MU Lounge
An art gallery showcasing artwork related to civil rights and social justice. Dr. Joseph Orozco will conduct a "Last Lecture" related to civil rights. Attendees will have the opportunity to create their own artwork.
Sponsored by: Student Leadership and Involvement

An Evening of Song and Poetry

7-9 p.m. • MU 213, Pan African Sankofa Room
The evening will be devoted to poetry and song contributed by whomever signs up to do a piece (or two pieces as time permits). Participants are invited to present poetry or songs that follow the theme of Celebration 2011 or that pertain to social issues such as injustice, discrimination, racism, peace, freedom, equality, and justice. You can contact us, or arrive early to sign up at the door to do a poem or song (or two?).
Co-sponsors: The Corvallis Folklore Society and the College of Science

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

"Taking Flight: The Promise and Potential of Latino/a Children's Literature"

7-8:30 p.m. • Multicultural Literacy Center, 128 SW 9th St.
Author Monica Brown will discuss the challenges of writing books for children about the Latino/a - American experiences. She will read selections from her work.
Co-sponsors: Education Students for Peace & Justice, College of Education, OSU Women's Center, Corvallis School District 509J, Mid Valley Council of the Oregon Reading Association

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

Nonprofit and Volunteering Expo

1-4 p.m. • MU Ballroom
Meet representatives from local and national nonprofit organizations seeking volunteers, interns and employees. Network with people who share your interests and passions.
Co-sponsors: Career Services, Community Service Center

"Little Town of Bethlehem"

7-9 p.m. • MU 213, Pan-Afrikan Sankofa Room
Discover how a courageous commitment to nonviolence is uniting Palestinians and Israelis in their quest for peace in the middle east. This documentary looks at the conflict through the eyes of three men whose lives have been marked by the violence: a Palestinian Muslim, a Palestinian Christian, and an Israeli Jew who dare to dream that a just peace is possible.
Co-sponsors: NCBI / Campus Coalition Builders, Religious Advisors Association at OSU, Lutheran Campus Ministry at OSU, United Campus Ministry at Westminster House, Baha'i Campus Association

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration 2011 events are coordinated and sponsored by the Office of Community and Diversity and the Office of the President. Please direct your questions to 541-737-4381.

Requests for a sign language interpreter and other accommodations related to a disability must be made 72 hours before the event to the Office of Community and Diversity, 330 Snell Hall, 541-737-4381.



Editorial

Here's to the new year

The person-to-person feelings toward the new year is an interesting concept. But there's a common attitude: a fresh start.

As the end of December draws nearer, people think about their previous year, in this case, 2010. They think about the good things they did: made new friends, got good grades or got a raise at work. More commonly, they think about the struggles they had — always the same tune. Our human nature tends to dwell on the negatives rather than the positives.

So naturally, we think about the things we regret. Side note: If somebody tells you they have no regrets, they're lying. Everybody has regrets, small and large. Those who say they don't are psychologically masking themselves from the fact that they tripped along the way. Our defense mechanisms against ourselves are programmed this way: Reality isn't reality if we can make ourselves think otherwise.

We aren't perfect and we all make mistakes. Mistakes make us stronger, but if we had the choice, we'd rewind time, to go back and redo that point in our life we would like to do over. You left the cat out in the cold too long? Redo. You burned a bridge with a loved one? Redo. You missed that game winning shot? Redo. You got caught not paying attention and drifted into a car accident? You didn't stick to your workout routine? You kissed the wrong girl/guy? Redo. And on and on and on.

Enter the "fresh start" idea. People say, "You know what? 2010 sucked for me. I can't wait for 2011 and another chance."

And that's great. Hey, people have bad years, no doubt, but there's a negative stigma surrounding the new year.

Instead of throwing up your arms and promising yourself a new start, a whole different year, take the new year and remember everything that was great in your life. From events, to relationships, to family and everything else that went well in 2010; make it your goal to dwell on those things and improve on what you've already got going for you.

Avoid putting yourself in a mental hole by attempting to throw away every negative thing that happened in the previous year. Happiness is a choice, and if you try to convince yourself that you can just "forget" the tough times, and fail to "remember" the good ones, you will only enable your subconscious to dwell, which isn't the healthiest thing in the world.

Feel like toasting something? Then here's to the new year, and here's to everything that's great in our lives.

Editorials serve as a means for Barometer editors to offer commentary and opinions on issues both global and local, grand in scale or diminutive. The views expressed here are a reflection of the editorial board's majority. Disagree? E-mail a letter to the editor or guest column to forum@dailybarometer.com

Letters

Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be printed on a first-received basis. Letters must be 300 words or fewer and include the author's signature, academic major, class standing or job title, department name and phone number. Authors of e-mailed letters will receive a reply for the purpose of verification. Letters are subject to editing for space and clarity. The Daily Barometer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submissions.

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The importance of reading a contract and never trusting a businessman

In the world of business today, there are many who believe that honest dealings, effective management and personal integrity are key to a good business. According to this school of thought, only through productivity and innovation is new value achieved for the customer and the world at large. It's enough to make any evil businessman cry himself all the way to the strip club.

Fortunately, there are a select few who set new trends and activities for the world of business, and not in the traditional sense either. Such individuals ensure that contracts are lengthy, buyers seek multiple vendors and all major agreements are in writing. These individuals are not just skilled in business; they are skilled in a highly dedicated and technical skill: the art of screwing other people over.

Screwing other people over is a highly difficult and work-intensive craft. It takes great effort to focus one's energy toward shifting the wealth of one person to another, usually to the individual driving the personal wealth transfer. While there are many normal business tools which can be (mis-)

used for one's ends, such as marketing, sales, operations, legal actions and various other practices, one consistent toolset for such individuals is dissemblance.

According to dictionary.com, to dissemble is to "conceal one's true motives, thoughts, etc., by some pretense; speak or act hypocritically." Thus, dissembling involves acting in one way, while actually having motivations to some other end. This should be distinguished from lying, which is to intentionally convey a falsity or falsehood. In this case, the deceiver is actually misleading the individual or individuals, being deceived through verbal "sleight of hand" and through obfuscation.

An example of dissembling is equivocation. An equivocation is a vague, or contradictory, statement intended to

obfuscate one's true motives or activities. This can be done to further conversation without contributing to it, to hide ignorance or to encourage the sharing of information without giving any by oneself.

For instance, during a highly scientific or otherwise jargon-laden conversation, one can use equivocations to avoid being put on the spot. For instance, a typical conversation could go like this:

"You know, I noticed that the comparison tests that we utilize seem to provide validity to the central limit theorem, so long as we have fairly decent sample sizes." Possible equivocations include: "Hmmm, yes, I noticed that as well. Anyway..." "So... how about them Beavers?" and so on. Of course, if a statement is especially tautological in nature, then an equivocation may be the only way to escape a very tedious and pointless conversation.

Of course, it is possible to engage in the concealment of relevant information or the minimization of information through tautological statements. According to dictionary.com, tautological can be defined as the "need-

less repetition of an idea, especially in words other than those of the immediate context, without imparting additional force or clearness, as in 'widow woman.'"

Thus, it is possible to imply value or direct attention to the syntax of a statement, even if it does not mean anything. Examples include the discussion of obvious, added platitudes and misleading descriptions.

For instance, during a discussion, one may note, "It is a true fact that people get into car accidents." This is redundant because a fact, if it is indeed a "factual" piece of information, it is very likely true. This is often used in pairing with another statement to give it additional strength, e.g., "It is a true fact that people get into car accidents, so perhaps you should consider the extended warranty for your vehicle. Considering the fact that the car warranty will not function as insurance, the previous statement is misleading at best, and utterly deceptive at worst."

Of course, sometimes one may simply omit relevant information, rather than conceal or minimize it.

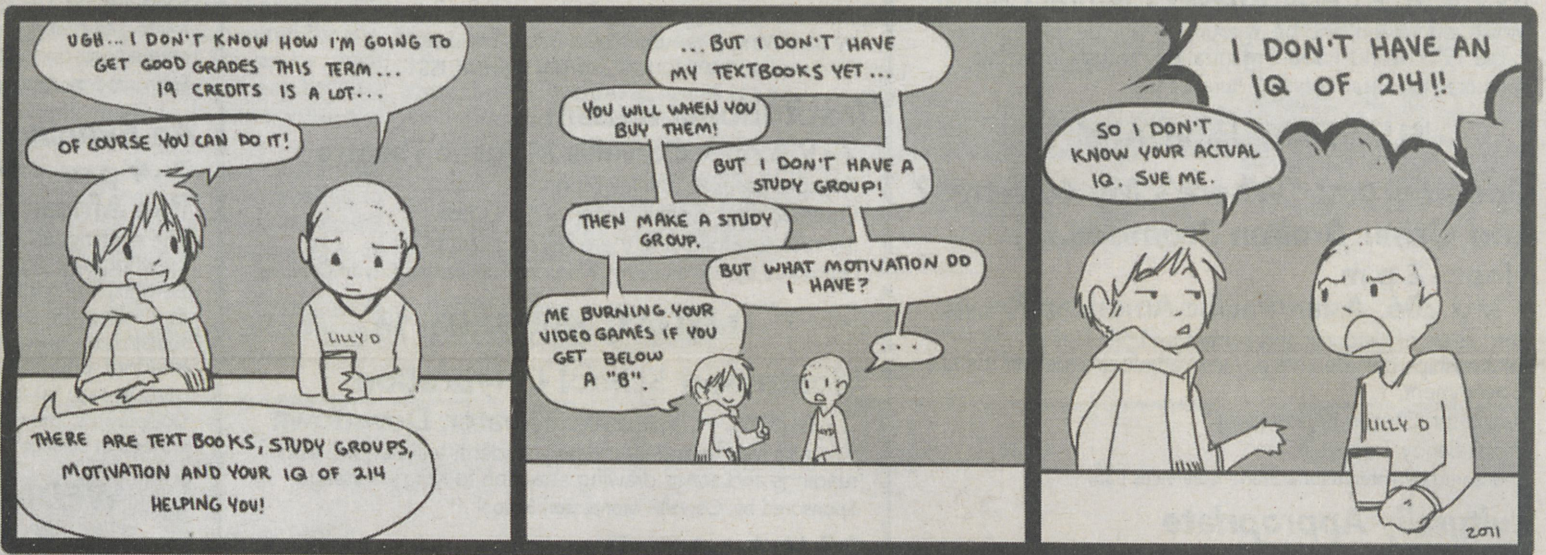
See CONOVER | page 5

Scott Conover



People: Politics, Law and Perspectives

LIFE IS WEIRD



LILLY DOHERTY IS A SOPHOMORE IN APPLIED VISUAL ARTS

Does an organization's image depend on it's founder?

Unfortunately, there is not a perfect recipe when it comes to making a successful organization.

Perhaps even more difficult than elevating an organization to success is maintaining that success along with a positive public image.

In order to do this, one must take into account the manner in which the organization is founded.

Organizations can typically be divided into two categories. Either they function based upon a fundamental principle or constitution, or upon a vision established by a founder.

Both methods of founding, and later governing, may be advantageous in certain situations. However, in the interest of creating a thriving organization, a solid foundation must be present. This necessary, unshakable, bedrock foundation is created when centered on a stable and adhered to principle or constitution.

When an organization is founded upon this, the people who work within it and support it are able to compre-

Sarah Creedican The Daily Barometer

hend exactly what they stand for when backing the organization. Simply put: They are able to examine what they are getting themselves into.

In general, people are more likely to come on board with an organization when they are secure in the principles that are held and projected. In addition, when an organization is under attack, I would argue that it is more difficult for opponents to discredit and slander an underlying principle or constitution, as opposed to questioning a leader's personal character.

Organizations that are founded and centered on a (typically) charismatic founder's vision are more prone to weakness because of this.

The organization may be viewed as less credible in the public eye if the founder is accused (rightly or not) of certain actions. This may cause some people to think twice before affiliating themselves with the organization.

Take for example Julian Assange, editor-and-chief and spokesman for WikiLeaks.

Assange has written two essays in the past expressing his underlying philosophy for the site.

However, he also holds the power to determine what information is leaked, and perhaps almost just as importantly, when it is released. This gives him a position of enormous power in the organization.

Recently, he has faced alleged charges in Sweden of sexual assault. As the investigation continues, so does the damage.

Regardless of the fact that he has not yet been proven innocent or guilty, some of the public has jumped to conclusions. Namely that he, and in turn WikiLeaks, is less credible.

Essentially, the case puts Assange's judgment under fire. This proves dangerous because the final, most powerful decisions in WikiLeaks rest primarily on his judgment.

Though it is unfortunate and unfair that the public often alters their regard

of famous figures (and in addition, the organizations they are affiliated with) based on evidence that has not been legally proven, it happens.

Politicians know this, and have exploited it in hopes of crushing their opponent's credibility for years.

The fact of the matter is, people are less likely to place their complete trust and confidence in an organization that is largely controlled by a man under investigation for sexual assault.

Perhaps if Assange had composed a form of constitution, backed by an active and engaged board of directors, it would be more of a struggle for others to bring credibility into question. Instead, he would simply be one small part in question of a larger, more stable organization.

Though a nine-member board of directors exists, when interviewed, several of them admitted they knew very little about the organization itself. This further attests that WikiLeaks is mainly in the hands of Julian Assange.

However, this is just one example of

See CREEDICAN | page 5

Feeling finality on a wizardly chapter in one's life

To my fellow readers, I have reached a point in my life where I feel I must make an announcement: I, Sarah Paeth, am coming out of the closet.

Well, coming out of the cupboard, that is.

Other devout Harry Potter fans may already be familiar with the term, "coming out of the cupboard," an expression used when a major Harry Potter fan admits that they maintain an undying love for the books. If you aren't a Harry Potter fan and don't understand the reference, you probably just think I'm weird — or gay. In case you're wondering, I'm still as straight as a Nimbus 2000.

The need to declare my Harry Potter fanaticism occurred over winter break while visiting Seattle, Wash. I made the voyage north to attend a traveling display called, "Harry Potter: The Exhibition," currently housed at the Pacific Science Center. The exhibit was any Harry Potter fan's dream: 15,000 square feet of costumes, props and memorabilia featured throughout the seven Harry Potter films.

As you could probably guess, I acted like a young Hogwarts student released in Honeydukes for the first time. Surrounded by wizarding robes and magical wands, I was in Harry Potter heaven.

I was one of three volunteers that got to try on the real Sorting Hat used in the movies, and I nearly jumped off the stool when it declared me a Gryffindor. I walked through the Forbidden Forest and came face to face with a few centaurs that were used in the films.

I meandered through the Herbology greenhouse and was delighted to yank up one of Professor Sprout's mandrakes. I even got to see Harry Potter's famous glasses and Ron's Spello-taped wand. Though I may have been one of the eldest patrons at the exhibit, my age seemed to be a trivial factor when immersed in such a plethora of Harry Potter relics.

My 13-year friendship with the Harry Potter books began when I read "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" at the tender age of eight. Right off the bat, I was hooked. The whimsical world of Hogwarts entranced me with its charm and mystique, and before I knew it I was left spellbound in its wake. Since that fateful day in third grade when I first turned the cover, I've remained a die-hard fan.

Though I would classify myself as "passionate" about the books,



Sarah Paeth

On the Bright Side

others would accuse me of obsession — or even, dare I say it, addiction. To give you an idea of my affinity for the books, let's just say I have read them over 100 times. Not that I'm bragging or anything.

I have attended every midnight premiere — always dressed up — for each book and movie. When the first installment of the last Harry Potter movie came out last November, I was the only 6-foot Hermione at the midnight showing. I have all of the books, audiotapes and movies in my collection — both the American and British versions.

When I was 11, I secretly waited for my owl to arrive with my letter to Hogwarts, but it never did. When I was 12, I slept in my mom's sewing closet because it felt like the "cupboard under the stairs." I wrote endless letters to J.K. Rowling with ideas for her later books (she didn't use any, much to my dismay). I was a daily visitor on mugglenet.com during middle school, and yes, I will admit, I dabbled in fan fiction.

My love for Harry Potter didn't diminish as I grew older, much to the concern of my parents. My room was decked in Harry Potter garb up until I moved out for college. When I turned 21 this past summer, my first real drink wasn't rum or tequila, it was Butterbeer.

Though I claim to be one of the biggest Harry Potter fans out there, I know I'm not alone. Our generation grew up reading Harry Potter, pretending to brew potions in the kitchen sink and running around in the backyard on an old broomstick. Not that I ever did that, of course.

Nevertheless, the Harry Potter phenomenon continues to captivate the masses, regardless of background or age. The books turned anti-readers into avid bookworms and brightened the lives of many people.

Though the books are great, I often wonder what part of the story kept me — and millions of others — attached. After lots of thought, I think it boils down to one thing: Harry Potter isn't your typical hero; he doesn't really fit in or doesn't boast any amazing talent.

He lives with the same insecurities as the rest of us, and

doesn't claim to be perfect. We love Harry because we can relate to him. Deep down, we can all see a little bit of Harry in us, and that makes us feel like we're right there with him.

I may have been thrilled to see "Harry Potter: The Exhibition," but I couldn't deny a sneaking sense of sadness as I stood in line. Glancing around at the people around me, I saw lots of little Harry Potters holding the hands of their mothers and stifling a yawn. I adjusted my Harry Potter t-shirt and eavesdropped on the group of pre-teen girls behind me as they giggled about how cute Daniel Radcliffe was. A feeling of panic surged throughout my body as I realized that I may not have many opportunities left to go to a midnight premiere or indulge in Harry Potter events. For the first time in my life, I felt old.

Harry Potter has been a stable part of my adolescence. When kids made fun of my buck teeth in elementary school, I'd remember that Hermione had buck teeth, too. When I had a rough day in middle school, I immersed myself in Harry's world and forgot everything about school. When my first crush broke my heart, I read a chapter of Harry Potter and eventually moved on.

The Harry Potter books have been there for me throughout all of my ups and downs. Without any more Harry Potter movies or books to anticipate, I would have to come to terms with the fact that a chapter in my life is closing.

While admiring the Golden Snitch featured in the Quidditch exhibit, I accidentally bumped into a small boy dressed up as Harry Potter. I grinned at his fake scar and oversized glasses, and he smiled at the Harry Potter shirt I was wearing.

For a moment I felt like we'd reached an understanding of each other. I'd like to think that he appreciated my devotion to the books despite my age, and I felt relieved that the tradition of Harry Potter was continuing with the new generation.

As I walked out of the museum, I felt an odd sense of finality. Perhaps this chapter of my life is drawing to a close, but I take comfort in the fact that Harry will always be just a page away if I ever need him.

Sarah Paeth is a sophomore in pre-nursing. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Paeth can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

olence (or selfishness) personified. So let the seller beware as well. Buwahaha.

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contract. After that, it becomes cash out time, and the problem goes away — assuming that your customer does not find you in a dark alleyway.

The best part is, if you have a witness for the contract, you can always point out that someone else was there, and they were ready and able to sign that contract. In such a case, a "buwahaha" and a celebration are in order. So what if the customer is upset? It's a tough world — get tough. Get smart.

As for the customer, it is always wise to be wary of any binding agreements, and to read and understand them thoroughly. Most importantly, it is wise to know when to walk away. Otherwise, you might not have the resources to do so later on.

Of course, for a seller, it is possible for a customer to be malev-

CONOVER

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

For instance, one can promote a product or service, provide a contract for it and simply omit in conversation that the price can be changed at any time, the product itself is inferior to every other product available, and one makes serious commission selling such goods and services to fools who do not read contracts. This is a great tool if your witness to the contract is also a fool or "in on it," which means that they benefit from the contract as well.

Once the contract is signed, it is binding, and if the person who accepts the terms cries foul, one can simply point to the contract and point out that they agreed to read the contract in full, understood what it meant, and would fulfill the

CREEDICAN

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

many organizations that have left themselves vulnerable as a result of being based upon one founder's vision.

In general, a foundation based upon a fundamental constitution or principle often provides a more durable and credible organization.

Sarah Creedican is a sophomore in exploratory studies. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Creedican can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

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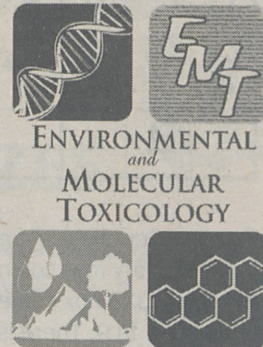
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Retracted autism study an 'elaborate fraud,' British journal finds

A now-retracted British study that linked autism to childhood vaccines was an "elaborate fraud" that has done long-lasting damage to public health, a leading medical publication reported Wednesday.

An investigation published by the British medical journal BMJ concludes the study's author, Dr. Andrew Wakefield, misrepresented or altered the medical histories of all 12 of the patients whose cases formed the basis of the 1998 study — and that there was "no doubt" Wakefield was responsible.

"It's one thing to have a bad study, a study full of error, and for the authors then to admit that they made errors," Fiona Godlee, BMJ's editor-in-chief, told CNN. "But in this case, we have a very different picture of what seems to be a deliberate attempt to create an impression that there was a link by falsifying the data."

Britain stripped Wakefield of his medical license in May. "Meanwhile, the damage to public health continues, fueled by unbalanced media reporting and an ineffective response from government, researchers, journals and the medical profession," BMJ states in an editorial accompanying the work. Speaking to CNN's "Ander-

son Cooper 360," Wakefield said his work has been "grossly distorted" and that he was the target of "a ruthless, pragmatic attempt to crush any attempt to investigate valid vaccine safety concerns."

The now-discredited paper panicked many parents and led to a sharp drop in the number of children getting the vaccine that prevents measles, mumps and rubella. Vaccination rates dropped sharply in Britain after its publication, falling as low as 80 percent by 2004. Measles cases have gone up sharply in the ensuing years.

In the United States, more cases of measles were reported in 2008 than in any other year since 1997, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More than 90 percent of those infected had not been vaccinated or their vaccination status was unknown, the CDC reported.

"But perhaps as important as the scare's effect on infectious disease is the energy, emotion and money that have been diverted away from efforts to understand the real causes of autism and how to help children and families who live with it," the BMJ editorial states.

— CNN

Official: Warning signs missed ahead of governor's assassination

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — A security guard accused of assassinating the governor of Pakistan's Punjab province was banned five months ago by a provincial police official from providing security to VIP personnel, authorities said Wednesday.

The director inspector general of Punjab Police said the guard had extremist views and it had been determined it was unsafe for him to guard important officials, the Pakistani president's special political adviser, Faisal Raza Abidi, told CNN.

Despite the assessment, the Punjab Police employed Muhammad Mumtaz Qadri for security this week.

He is accused of killing Gov. Salman Taseer Tuesday, allegedly because the governor had spoken out against the country's controversial blasphemy law.

Taseer was buried Wednesday. He had been governor of Punjab province since May 2008.

The warning signs about Qadri go back even further, said Rana Shahid Pervez, senior police official in Rawalpindi.

Pakistani intelligence agencies had warned officials in 2004 not to use Qadri after they uncovered connections

between him and the religious group Dawat-e-Islami — a Sunni group that claims it has a closer connection to the Prophet Mohammed than other Muslims.

Pervez said Qadri came from an area of Rawalpindi called Sadiq Abad, adjacent to the capital of Islamabad. He came from a poor family and his father is a laborer who built homes.

Qadri joined the police force in 2002, and was selected for the elite force course in 2008, four years after the warning from intelligence agencies, Pervez said.

Qadri was one of 468 elite force guards in the Rawalpindi Police, which randomly assigns them as escorts to VIPs and officials like Taseer.

Qadri was assigned to the governor Tuesday. He had been his security guard many times before the shooting, according to Pervez, who disputed the reported link to Dawat-e-Islami.

Qadri "killed the governor totally from his own beliefs regarding Mohammed, and no group was behind him," Pervez said.

The shooting occurred at a market in Islamabad.

Qadri confessed to assassinating Taseer because "he did blasphemy of the Prophet

Mohammed," Naeem Iqbal, spokesman for Islamabad police, said Tuesday. Qadri told police Taseer had described the blasphemy law as "the black laws."

The blasphemy law makes it a crime punishable by death to insult Islam, the Quran or the Prophet Mohammed.

After the shooting, Qadri immediately surrendered to authorities, the Associated Press of Pakistan reported, citing Malik.

Taseer was leaving the market when he was shot. The APP said he had lunch with a friend at a cafe in the market. Earlier, Iqbal had said Taseer had gone into the market to make some purchases. He was taken to a hospital after the shooting, but died, apparently from blood loss, officials said.

Dr. Sharif Astori, spokesman for Poly Clinic Hospital, told CNN Taseer was "already dead when he was brought into the hospital."

Astori said doctors accounted for 26 bullets in his body. Most of the fatal wounds were to his chest, face, neck and legs, he said. Some bullets passed completely through his body.

A spotlight was put on Pakistan's controversial law in November when a Christian woman, Asia Bibi of Punjab

province, was sentenced to death for blasphemy. A court found the 45-year-old woman guilty of defiling the name of the Prophet Mohammed during a 2009 argument with fellow Muslim field workers.

An investigation by a Pakistani government ministry found the charges against Bibi stemmed from "religious and personal enmity" and recommended she be released. The government also said it would review the law.

Taseer said he would like to see the law "changed in such a way that it just basically says, if you insult any prophet, no matter who he is, that's a criminal offense, but certainly not punishable by death."

Reaction to Taseer's death was swift.

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani said in a statement he "strongly condemned" the incident. The Pakistan People's Party, the nation's ruling party, said it would observe two weeks of mourning over Taseer's death, according to GEO TV Pakistan.

"I am shocked to hear of the assassination of Salman Taseer," British Foreign Secretary William Hague said in a statement. "His death will be a loss to the leadership of Pakistan."

— CNN

Is China closer than thought to matching US fighter jet prowess?

Images believed to be China's next generation of military air power have been buzzing around the internet, but Pentagon officials are insisting their appearance does not mean China has matched American air capabilities.

The new stealth fighter jet, known as the J-20, isn't supposed to be operational until at least 2017, but a Chinese air force commander told Chinese TV in 2009 that flight testing would begin much sooner. Stealth jets, such as the United States' F-22, are designed to evade detection by radar and anti-aircraft defenses.

Now unknown sources have posted photos of what appears to be the plane on an airfield runway in southwestern China.

"We are aware of their plans to develop this fifth-generation fighter," Pentagon spokesman Col. Dave Lapan said Wednesday. "The photos that were released recently are presumably of some taxi testing."

The emergence of the photos come as Defense Secretary Robert Gates heads to China this weekend to discuss the military relationship between the U.S. and China. And later this month, President Hu Jintao is headed to Washington for a summit with President Barack Obama.

One China watcher says China's failure to

sensor the grainy images on the web prove the photos are of the new jet and the country wants them to circulate.

"The Chinese military and the police could have swept the area around the airfield very easily, but what they've done is they've controlled this. They've allowed Chinese to only take photos with cell phones, meaning that the photos that we have are low-resolution, do not give us a great deal of detail about the aircraft and they're put on the web with a low-resolution format," said China military scholar and author Richard Fisher. "The response within China has been overwhelmingly positive and has spurred national pride to an enormous degree."

The Pentagon is taking a low-key approach to the surge in publicity about the Chinese fighter, saying their existing top-of-the-line warplane has engine problems and that their next plane is years away. But Fisher says that timeline could be sped up if the Chinese buy an engine from Russia as opposed to developing it themselves.

"It's something that is in some form of development, as a fifth-generation fighter. As I noted, the Chinese are still having difficulties with their fourth-generation fighter," Lapan said in an off-camera question session with journalists in his office.

And he said that while the new jet was not mentioned in the Pentagon's report on China that was sent to Congress in August as an annual update on China's defense capabilities, the Defense Department has talked about it.

"We as a department have publicly spoken about it in the past. It is not as if we have not acknowledged that they are pursuing a fifth-generation fighter," Lapan said. "So we are aware of it. But it is not of concern that they are working on a fifth-generation fighter."

Fisher, however, says it should be a concern, citing the Chinese jet's potential ability to overtake that of America's F-22 in thrust and "supercruise" speed, which is the ability to fly supersonically without using fuel-guzzling afterburners.

"We can't say precisely what the capabilities are, but we have a good idea. Right now, we should be reviving production of the F-22 and not just reviving production, we should be developing an advance version of the F-22," Fisher said. "And sadly even though it is a troubled program, already the F-35 needs another rework. It needs to be made competitive with this fighter."

— CNN

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6			1	9			3
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	3		8	7			6
9		8	5	7			2
2	7					1	
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To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved, just use logic to solve.

Medium

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

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

know?" Townsend said.

After 3 1/2 of playing on the steps of the MU — and two 5-hour Energy shots for myself — we all headed back down 26th Street toward Reser Stadium. People walked alongside, fans turned and smiled as the band passed and some students watched from Weatherford Hall. Like a tornado, the OSU band is impossible to ignore when they come storming your way. "It's great to see the energy of the crowd," said Adam Mah, a sophomore snare drum player.

They ate breakfast inside Reser and made their way through the field and up to Ralph Miller Drive, where they played another 15 songs for an onlooking crowd. Their pregame routine was only halfway over and I was already exhausted.

At 10:05 a.m., the football players and coaches walked their way down the street while the band — once again — played the school fight song.

"They never get sick of playing the fight song," Townsend said.

From there, they marched their way to Truax Indoor Center and played another set before having lunch and (finally) getting to rest. After a pulled pork sandwich or two, they lined up in the grass practice football field outside of Truax.

It was time for Battle of the Bands.

"Are there any bands in the Pac-10 that you guys don't like?" I asked them.

"The Ducks, obviously," Wilson said.

An hour before the Ducks and Beavers tried to kill each other on the football field, the two schools' bands went back and forth, each trying to one-up the other. Again, a crowd of people circled the bands and it didn't take long to realize they enjoyed the free music.

I stood behind a man in his mid-30s who, with beer in hand, sang along as the band played "Livin' On a Prayer" by Bon Jovi.

"Ooooh ... we're haaaalfway theereere!"

After years of having to meet the demands that they play that in every concert, it'd only be natural if Bon Jovi was sick of playing that song night after night. The OSU marching band is no different — they too have songs they have grown tired of.

"Poker Face," McCloud said.

Others, however, were systematically hesitant to answer.

"I'm going to plead the Fifth on that one," fifth-year senior and drum major Sean Hunter said with a smile.

"I try as hard as I can to try and mix it up and not play the same thing every time," Townsend said.

As the sun started to shine, they marched their way past Reser en route to the Alumni Center. Fans, young and old alike, reached their hands out for high-fives, while tailgaters, drunk and sober alike, cheered wildly as the band made its way past. Were these trombone players or Jacquizz Rodgers walking down the streets on game day? At the Alumni Center per-

formance, I positioned myself in the middle of the drum sections. Bad idea. I couldn't even hear myself think. "Can you guys play a little louder, I don't think China can hear you," I wanted to say.

After one more pit stop, we made our way into Reser Stadium. As kickoff got closer and closer, that meant the band's time to shine was coming too. They slowly walked down onto the field and got lined up ready to do their routine.

"Are you guys nervous?" I asked.

"Nope."

"Nah."

"No, not really."

I thought, "Are you kidding me? There are over 46,000 excited people staring down at you and you don't even have a few jitters?"

The some 250 members marched out and played in front of a stadium that was easily the loudest I've ever been in. It seemed every Beaver section, from the students to the nosebleeds, was right there with the band as they played.

"B-E-A-V-E-R-S!" screamed out every mouth in orange. Reser Stadium seemed very close to collapsing.

"How did that feel?" I asked when the band returned after senior introductions.

"Awesome!"

"Loudest I've ever experienced!"

"Amazing!"

Looks like they aren't completely immune to emotion.

During the game, it was clear the band was having fun. They laughed, they danced and on opponents' third downs, they mimed their trombones like chainsaws. Whenever the Oregon band played "School's Out" by Alice Cooper — which was often — the OSU band sang along with some special lyrics:

"Plaaaaay soooomethng different."

A little marching band trash talk, I like it.

At the start of the second quarter, I decided to sit right in the heart of the band — which also meant I was next to the drums and cymbals.

"You're going to need these," someone called out as they handed me earplugs.

Boy, were they right. Without them, I would have started to bleed out my ears.

It seemed like after every play Townsend was calling out a different number for the band to play. They didn't have time to enjoy touchdowns, fumble recoveries or big tackles; there was work to be done.

Unfortunately, the game turned out the way it did, eventually the Ducks pulled away. Late in the fourth, with the Beavers driving down 37-13, Townsend had to remind

some of the band members when they made a first down. No matter how depressed every Beaver fan was, the band still had a job to do.

"It's difficult, everybody wanted to win and go to the bowl game, but they did it," Townsend said. "They were still there ready to play."

When I told friends about my plan for this piece, most of the time I got the same response: "Oh, the band, huh?" they would say with a sarcastic smile.

"I think when people see us in our uniforms, people either respect and appreciate us or think 'Okay, the band are nerds,'" said Anna Clink, a junior piccolo player. "There are people from all different majors here, you wouldn't expect it."

"I think most people think that we're all just band geeks," Johnson said.

That's not the case.

I had to wake up two hours before the sun got up. Working on three hours of sleep, I spent 3 1/2 hours walking all over campus just to keep up with where the band had to play. When I finally got home, I was so tired I felt like I had played in the game.

So how would I describe my day with the band?

A blast. No, really, it was legitimately fun.

There was one thing that drove me crazy about the experience, though.

It took me about a week to get "Livin' on a Prayer" out of my head.

Jesse Severson, sports writer
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WRESTLING

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

in the Scuffle and had eight individuals place.

Garrett Drucker led the charge with a third place finish in his weight class and Brice Arand placed fifth in his. Arand also racked up three falls all under 3 1/2 minutes, earning himself the Gorriaran Award — an award for the most falls in the shortest amount of time.

"We had some guys that lost early and made a comeback, which was good," Scott Sakaguchi said.

Those comebacks helped give the team the bonus points they needed to place as high as they did in the tournament, Sakaguchi said.

Sakaguchi placed fourth in his weight class and won four matches in a row with two falls, one major decision and the fourth by decision prior to losing his last match in a 6-4 decision.

Lara also placed fourth in his weight class, while Jack took fifth in the heavy-weight division and Mike Mangrum, Chad Hanke and Kelly Kubec all finished sixth in their weight classes.

"December was a good month of competition," Zalesky said. "We had good matches and we had guys step up and had some good wins."

Anna Willard, sports writer
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WOMEN'S HOOPS

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

led the Beavers offensively, scoring double digits in 10 of 11 games.

Defensively, Oregon State is at the top of the Pac-10, averaging an allowance of only 52 points per game. Leading the defense is senior forward El Sara Greer who averages 3.1 blocks per game. The Beavers as a whole average 5.2 blocks per game, ranked first in the Pac-10 for shots blocked. Oregon State's team is also ranked 20th nationally in scoring defense. Contributing to the defensive front, freshman guard Alexis Bostick is ranked 42nd nationally in number of steals, averaging 2.8 steals per game.

With the best scoring defense in the conference meeting the second-best scoring defense in the conference, it's going to be a battle on the offensive front.

With conference play now in full swing, the margin for error will be relatively slim for both the Beavers and the Huskies.

"If we're open, we need to put the ball in the air," Rueck said. "We're not looking to slow it down and control temp. But we're not careless with our possessions."

Recognizing every opportunity and taking advantage offensively as well as defensively will be a major key to success for Oregon State. The Huskies will be sure to arrive hungry and ready to go Thursday night, both teams looking for their first win of the 2011 Pac-10 season.

The Beavers will tip off against the University of Washington in Gill Coliseum at 7 p.m. Oregon State will be back in action at 2 p.m. Saturday when they host Washington State at Gill Coliseum.

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RUGBY

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

"Instead of running around the opposition, most of the time we had to run through them. Our speed on the wings (wide receivers for a comparison) was pretty much negated because as you can imagine its pretty hard to sprint in mud."

The Beavers were still able to outrun the Ducks and went into halftime ahead, not allowing the Ducks to score.

"Overall, our team performed excellent," Newbold said. "To keep it short and simple, the score at the half was 22-0 and coach John Queen told the team to match that score. Ending with two points less than that says volumes about our consistency and hard work throughout the entire match."

After the impressive 42-0 shut out, the B-side team took the field riding off the energy of the A-side win. Naturally, the Ducks couldn't keep up

and fell to the Beavers 35-0.

"Our coaches were very proud of us and they did a great job of preparing us for the match," Newbold said. "In the practices leading up the match, our team was rolling around in the mud and doing all sorts of things to prepare us for what was to come and it certainly paid off."

The two teams will face each other once more this season, but in Eugene. Even though the Beavers walked away with both victories this time, they will travel to Eugene expecting a fight and will be ready for anything that is thrown their way.

The rugby team will travel to Canada next to compete against the University of Victoria Jan. 29. Their next home game is Feb. 12 against Simon Fraser University at Peavy Field at the corner of 30th Street and Jefferson Street.

Stephany Tornincasa, sports writer
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UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Severson: My day with the band

It was 5:23 a.m. on a Saturday and I was covered in goosebumps.

No, it wasn't from the freezing cold waiting in the Memorial Union Quad for ESPN's "College GameDay." It was because I was with the Oregon State University marching band.

They came down 26th Street, from Reser toward the Quad, playing the OSU fight song, giving the crowd a gradually escalating taste of what was marching their way. We turned the corner after passing the Memorial Union and the crowd went wild when the band finally came into the Quad.

All in black and orange joined in perfect unison.

"Ooooooh! Eesssss! Yooooou!" the whole crowd screamed out now that the band had arrived. "Oregon State! Fight! Fight! Fight!"

Like they were 250 people bursting through a paper banner, the OSU band made one heck of an entrance.

"I got chills down my spine," said Mitchell McCloud, a freshman tuba player. "To have people cheering you on as you're walking down, it's really cool."

"It certainly wakes you up. It's electrifying," said fellow freshman tuba player Ken Wilson.

In the bedlam of the popular college football show making their first trip to Corvallis, the band provided an even bigger boost for those work-



Jesse Severson

We're Gonna Run the Picket Fence at 'Em

ing on little to no sleep — which included the band members, most of whom got no more than four hours.

They may have also set an unofficial record in the process.

"That's probably the earliest the fight song has ever been played," said band director Brad Townsend, the band director.

At 8:17 a.m., passerby Emanuel Vierra took out his phone and recorded the band playing Lady Gaga's "Poker Face."

"That's school spirit," Vierra about the band. "It really gets you hyped up."

Vierra was not alone. Every time the band played, people would take out cameras or video recorders to get a shot of the oldest marching band in the Pac-10.

"I'm probably in so many people's Facebook pictures," said Chelsey Johnson, a sophomore sousaphone player.

"It really makes me feel that people appreciate what we're doing, you

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HANNAH GUSTIN | THE DAILY BAROMETER



OSU wrestlers have solid holiday break

After a rough December start, Oregon State scored impressive victories, propelling them to No. 11

By Anna Willard
THE DAILY BAROMETER

As fall term came to a close and Oregon State students left campus, the OSU wrestling team hit the road for a series of winter wrestling matches.

Going into the month of December, the team was No. 13 according to the NWCA/USA Today Coaches Poll. Two tournaments and three matches later, the Beavers now have a 5-1-2 record and are ranked No. 11 in the nation — their highest ranking this season.

The team kicked off their December tour at the Las Vegas Invitational where the team finished 10th in the tournament.

"We had a bunch of guys lose the match (they needed) to place and it hurt us," said Oregon State head coach Jim Zalesky. "We did a much better job of that at the (Southern) Scuffle."

Jason Lara and Colby Covington both placed in Las Vegas with Lara taking fourth and Covington third in their respective weight classes. Clayton Jack finished sixth at the tournament.

Next on the schedule were three matches, with the first against No. 15 Nebraska. During the dual there were four lead changes and eight decisions, but Nebraska's Jordan Burroughs defeated OSU's Jon Brascetta with a technical fall and gave Nebraska the upper hand they needed to win 16-17, handing the Beavers their first loss of the season.

A 20-15 victory against Wyoming and then another 42-3 win over the Air Force Academy gave OSU some momentum before they headed to the Southern Scuffle in Greensboro, N.C.

As a team, the Beavers took third

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Women to host Washington schools

After multiple close games, Rueck sets it straight: OSU will not be happy with a loss

By Tori Hill
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State women's basketball program (7-6, 0-2) is set to play host to the University of Washington Huskies (5-6, 0-2) at 7 p.m. tonight in Gill Coliseum. After losing to both Arizona schools in tight contests, the Beavers are looking to get back on track and prove that they can compete in the Pac-10.

The Huskies are coming off a losing weekend as well, falling to UCLA and USC in their Pac-10 opener last weekend. The last time the two schools met was the opening round of last year's Pac-10 tournament where the Beavers overcame the University of Washington 52-42 to advance to the next round, and in turn eliminated the Huskies from the tournament.

Leading the offense for Washington is junior guard Kristi Kingma, who has scored double digits in 10 of the Huskies' last 11 games. Kingma currently averages 16.8 points per game and scored 18 points while adding eight rebounds when Washington played USC last weekend. Right now, Kingma is ranked the third leading scorer in the Pac-10 and will pose a significant threat to Oregon State's defense.

Defensively, Washington is ranked second in the Pac-10 and has allowed an average of 55 points per game this season. Having already lost two games thus far, it is questionable whether the Huskies will drop a third game. In the history of the program, Washington has never started conference play with three straight defeats.

As for the Beavers, head coach Scott Rueck hopes to get one for the win column Thursday. Last week against Arizona, four Oregon State players scored in double digits in their comeback from 15 points down, but it wasn't enough to boost the Beavers to pass the Wildcats, losing 65-67. The loss to Arizona was Oregon State's second Pac-10 loss, leaving the Beavers hungry and desperate to prove their worth in the conference.

"I don't care what stage your program is in, you don't want to be happy with a loss, ever," Rueck said. "I've never experienced that, where it was the norm, and it certainly is not going to be the case here."

So far in Pac-10 play sophomore guard Sage Indendi has led the Beavers, scoring 20 points against Arizona State and 17 against Arizona. Freshman guard Alyssa Martin hasn't been far behind, recording 16 points against the Sun Devils and 14 against the Wildcats. This season, Martin has

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OSU rugby earns double shutouts

Players and coaches relive the perfect execution and performance by the Beavers

By Stephany Tornincasa
THE DAILY BAROMETER

While everyone else was preparing for their upcoming finals, the Oregon State men's rugby team was preparing for the Civil War. The Beavers came out strong, which was unfortunate for the Oregon Ducks, who were no match for the aggressive Beavers and were shut out by both A- and B-side teams.

"Our team performed the best we have all year and although we have won most (of) our games this year, I'd say this is the game where we clicked and knew how to play efficiently with each other," said senior A-side player Carl Pitzer. "Our forward pack had some excellent mauls driving the ball forward as much as 15 yards. The back line had an amazing defensive game allowing little or no penetration by the ducks."

The A-side (varsity) score was 42-0 and the B-side (JV) score was 35-0.

"Winning was beyond describable," said senior president Anthony Newbold. "Given the fact that they beat us at home last year, we were out for blood and I tell you what, we got it. I'm not sure if I've ever seen

our team so pumped and that carried right into the B-side game and we shut them out again. It was an amazing feeling."

The A-side team started it off for the Beavers, attacking hard and dominating the Ducks with their speed. Oregon State has placed a large emphasis on physical fitness this year, meeting at 6 a.m. twice a week for conditioning as well as conducting numerous fitness drills during their regular practice times.

"We played a very tough defensive game and everyone made their

tackles and kept the Ducks behind the gain line (sort of like the line of scrimmage in football) and we also took away any chance the Ducks had of scoring with some impressive goal line defense," Pitzer said.

The rugby team plays on Peavy Field, which is made up of grass and makes the field conditions very slick and difficult to play on.

"Playing on the muddy field made it a very physical game and it slowed things down a lot," Pitzer said.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO | COURTESY OF LORI CUTRELL

In the A-side match, the Beavers (in black) scrummed through the mud and cold weather to successfully shut out their rival Ducks.