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Illegally parked bikes cause accessibility problem

With rack shortage, students are chaining their bikes to ADA rampways, could face heavy fines

By Joce DeWitt
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Several community organizations are raising concerns that students are hindering public safety and making wheel chair ramps, established by the Americans with Disabilities Act, inaccessible by parking their bicycles illegally on campus.

Due to higher enrollment, designated bike parking areas are frequently filled to capacity and students have resorted to locking their bikes to any vacant rail or post. As a result, ramps and entrances that make buildings accessible to wheelchairs are no longer available for easy use.

"There are actually many places that students are trying to secure their bikes that are not legal," said Sid Cooper, assistant director of the Memorial Union Building Services.

According to members of the Accessible University Initiative Task Force, parking rules, regulations and fines are increasing as more people park their bikes illegally.

Senior Nate McCormick, a frequent bike rider, claims the university could be doing more to accommodate students.

"The obvious answer would be to provide more bike parking options. It's a little ridiculous for a university to hit students with fines for parking your bike in a wrong area, especially when that's a primary mode of transportation," McCormick said.

The Student Sustainability Initiative has teamed with the Alternative Transportation Advisory Committee to create more areas for parking your bike around campus, along with improving the existing racks in order to provide for the rising number of student bicyclists.

Rainier Farmer, chair of the ATAC, explained the actions the university is taking to accommodate more cyclists.

"There are currently 6,842 spaces for bikes on campus. We do a utilization study every two years," Farmer said. "We did that in fall term and the numbers were just compiled. We're using that to develop additional



EMILY JONES | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Even in winter, bikes fill the rack on the east side of the Valley Library, forcing some students to look elsewhere for ample bicycle parking, which could lead to fines.

racks and we don't know exactly how many will be added, depending on where it's being installed. It will be several hundred or more spaces."

Though bikes take up less room, they are more difficult to accommodate than cars.

"It's also a little bit more challenging since bike parking is a lot more dynamic than car parking; classes change from term to term," Farmer said.

Before Oregon State University's Transit and Parking Services hands out hefty fines, the AUITF thought it essential to educate the student body about the most current regulations and expectations regarding bicycle parking.

The regulations state that bikes cannot be operated on sidewalks or other walkways unless a sign indi-

cates otherwise and may only be parked in areas designated by racks, storage or signs. All bikes that are parked on campus must be "maintained and in working order."

Users can be ticketed if their bike is parked in a way that "creates a hazard including blocking the bicycle or traffic lane, blocking access to any stairway, ramp or doorway, and blocking access to any handrail or other device used to aid entry to a building structure," the regulations state.

Riders can also be fined if their bike is parked in a way that hinders bicycle parking, parked in a building or if parking does not meet state law and city ordinances.

Any bikes left on campus for more than five days will be considered abandoned and can be impounded.

Bicycles can also be impounded by OSU's Department of Public Safety "if they are left in a place that creates a safety hazard or if they appear to be non-functional or abandoned," the regulations state.

A notice of any impoundment will be sent to the registered owner of the bike within 24 hours, and cyclists can claim their impounded property from the DPS by paying the ticket to OSU TAPS and identifying the bike.

Anyone who is ticketed has the right to appeal the citation with a written statement.

For a complete list of bicycle regulations, please visit http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/rules/OARS_500/OAR_576/576_030.html

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CAPS experiences dramatic increase in students seeking help

The counseling program changed their system to accommodate more students

By Kayley Hanacek
THE DAILY BAROMETER

A 44 percent increase in students seeking appointments with Counseling and Psychological Services during fall term has forced the program to revamp their system. Now CAPS is allowing more students to be seen in a more timely manner.

The increase came as a surprise, but it has been well received by the faculty at CAPS, according to Jackie Alvarez, director of CAPS and a licensed psychologist.

"This is a welcomed increase, it was just unexpected," Alvarez explained. "Many other colleagues from various institutions are seeing the same increase."

From the stresses of relationships to financial instability, students face a wide variety of challenges on a daily basis. The CAPS program has become a valuable service for many students seeking advice or someone to talk to by providing counseling services, free with tuition. However, the exact cause of the increase is unknown.

After the drastic influx, CAPS noticed that their previous system had begun to fail and many students encountered long wait times for scheduled appointments.

"We see lots of students using our services," Alvarez said. "Last term, we found that students had to wait up to four weeks for an appointment and this was unacceptable, both to us and them."

CAPS changed their system at the beginning of winter term. Most students are now able to make same-day appointments for their first visit to CAPS by calling the day they wish to be seen.

"We are eager and trying really hard to meet students' needs," Alvarez said.

CAPS has also begun to provide a more organized emergency service to students who are suicidal, homicidal, or who have recently experienced trauma or violence.

The addition of two temporary staff members to assist students also bumped up their faculty team to 25 individuals.

According to Alvarez, CAPS is not the only service on campus that has continued to aid students suffering from stress, depression or declining mental health.

Seventy percent of students who visit the Student Health Center report illnesses in correlation with stress, anxiety or depression. While many students report stress related illnesses, it is still unclear how closely the two are related, according to Dr. Philip C. Hinstead, director of Student Health Services.

"It is hard to say if illness is caused by stress," Hinstead said.

Alvarez and Hinstead both said that the Student Health Center and CAPS have been working closely together, along with other services on campus, to help students. One way to do that is to break the stigmas surrounding mental health.

"I am very thankful for the folks who have been working with us," Alvarez said. "They are really excited to partner with us, too, because they see the results also."

CAPS provides services such as triage, where students can call in to speak with a counselor over the phone. A counselor will assess the

Scientist's study rejects exaggerated size of Pacific "Garbage Patch"

A 2008 study shows that statements about the mass of trash aren't accurate

By Kim Kenny
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon State University scientist Angel White and her fellow researchers have found claims of a Pacific "Garbage Patch" twice the size of Texas to be grossly exaggerated.

Oprah Winfrey described a plastic garbage patch in the Pacific Ocean between Japan and California twice the size of Texas in the opening of her Earth Day show in 2009, saying it was 90-feet deep and "the most shocking thing I've ever seen."

Yet, it is hardly possible to see most of the plastic with the naked eye, said White, an assistant professor of biological oceanography.

Instead, it is greatly diluted throughout the North Pacific gyre, the main area of study in question. A more accurate analogy might be a swirling soup of small plastic particles, as opposed to a massive tower of floating trash. Thinly lined nets were towed through the water in

order to retrieve samples of plastic; there was no one large mass to be scooped up in bulk, White said.

"If 'Texas units' must be used, the 'patch' is approximately .14 (percent) the size of Texas," White said. "Or, if you lined up 1,000 1-liter Nalgene bottles in front of you, three to five of those bottles would have a piece of plastic the size of an eraser in them."

White and her colleagues embarked on a two-week research cruise in the summer of 2008 in the Pacific between Honolulu and Seattle, funded by the National Science Foundation. The main focus of the study was more biological — how plastics affect the microbial community.

White's findings and statements were met with strong and varied reactions from those within and outside the scientific community.

"One person wrote 'I bet she's paid by the plastic company,'" read White, as she skimmed her email.

Another email was from Randy Olson, author of "Don't be SUCH a Scientist," a book discussing the need for scientists to translate their



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO | COURTESY OF TARA CLAMENTE

A sample of small plastic fragments collected from the North Pacific by trawling a net across the surface of the ocean.

data-heavy findings into something more accessible for the layperson. He encouraged White to continue her effort to give the public accurate,

not fanatical, information.

"We're not saying it's not impor-

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North Korea: Long-range missile within 5 years

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates said Tuesday that North Korea is becoming a direct threat to the United States, asserting that the rogue Communist regime is within five years of developing intercontinental ballistic missiles.

"I think that North Korea will have developed an intercontinental ballistic missile within that time frame," Gates told reporters during a visit to China. But he said he has doubts that the North Koreans will be able to field many ICBMs. "I believe they will have a very limited capability," he said.

A spokesman for the Defense Intelligence Agency later supported Gates' remarks, saying, "North Korea's two recent attempts at 'space launches' indicate a continued trend toward development of ICBM capabilities. This trend of development, in addition to North Korea's stated goal of developing a nuclear warhead, supports the Secretary of Defense's recent statement regarding potential threats from North Korea."

If North Korea acts with urgency, it could have ICBMs in five years, said John Pike, founder of GlobalSecurity.org, a military analysis group.

Part of development is just a matter of trial and error.

"If you test enough times, you will eventually test out whatever fabrication and design flaws there are and you will have a workable missile," Pike told CNN.

North Korea's most recent test of its longest-range ballistic missile, in April 2009, was a failure in that it did not put a satellite into space. But experts point out that it flew over Japan before crashing, farther than any other North

Korean missile. The 2,000-mile flight proved North Korea is getting better at building long-range missiles.

The North Koreans are "pretty aggressive with its ballistic missile program," said one U.S. official. "It poses a 'serious threat.'"

The Gates assessment reflects not new thinking but rather an intelligence estimate put out a decade ago, according to US officials. The 2001 National Intelligence Estimate reads "most Intelligence Community agencies project that before 2015 the United States most likely will face ICBM threats from North Korea."

The five-year estimate is "certainly within the realm of possibility," the U.S. official said Tuesday.

In China, Gates told reporters that North Korea's path, combined with the limited patience of the South Korean public over the North's provocations, has changed the status quo on the peninsula.

Gates cited last March's sinking of the South Korean warship Cheonan, in which 46 sailors died. Seoul and much of the international community blamed the North for the sinking, but Pyongyang denied involvement in the attack.

In November, the South's navy fired into disputed waters near Yeonpyeong Island and, in retaliation, the North shelled the island, killing four South Koreans.

"Clearly if there is another provocation, there will be pressure on the South Korean government to react," Gates said. "We consider this a situation of real concern and we think there is some urgency to proceeding

down the track of negotiations and engagement."

But Gates said that U.S. patience with the North is measured and called for "concrete actions" by Pyongyang.

"We don't want to see the situation that we've seen so many times before, which is the North Koreans engage in a provocation and then everybody scrambles diplomatically to try and put Humpty Dumpty back together again," Gates said.

Gates applauded China — North Korea's biggest trading partner — for its moderating influence on tensions in the Korean peninsula. "They clearly have played a helpful role," he said.

What Gates did not discuss in his comments is if North Korea would be able to put a nuclear warhead on top of an ICBM capable of reaching the United States. The lighter the nuclear warhead, the farther the missile can fly and the greater its accuracy.

Bruce Klingner, a senior fellow at the Heritage Foundation and a former CIA analyst specializing in North Korea, said the North Koreans have talked about making progress in building a nuclear ICBM warhead, but very few details have leaked out of the secretive country.

So what can the United States do to diminish the threat from North Korea? Gates said diplomacy hasn't worked, he wants action from Pyongyang.

"Rhetoric is not enough at this point. I think there need to be concrete actions by the North to demonstrate that they're truly serious about negotiation and engagement at this point," Gates said. "They could have a moratorium on missile testing, a moratorium

on nuclear testing. There are several areas where they could take concrete actions."

The U.S. Missile Defense Agency has nearly two dozen interceptor missiles deployed in Alaska and California to shoot down any missile coming towards the western United States. But even though those missiles are deployed, it's unclear if they would work if needed.

The two most recent tests of the interceptor missiles, one a year ago and one just one month ago, both failed to knock down the incoming target missile. Gen. James Cartwright, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said that he was "not worried" about the test failures.

But Riki Ellison, founder of the Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance, a non-profit group that urges missile defense development, said last month, "If you're the American public, you've paid a lot for this system, you want to make sure that you are going to be protected. This doesn't give the confidence that you need."

The budget for America's missile defense system is about \$10 billion.

Gates made his remarks Tuesday after meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao and spoke on the same day that China made the first test flight of its J-20 stealth fighter.

Asked if he thought the flight may have been timed to coincide with his visit, Gates said Hu had told him "that the test had absolutely nothing to do with my visit and had been a pre-planned test."

Asked if he believed that, Gates said, "Coming from President Hu, yes."

—CNN

CALENDAR

Wednesday, Jan. 12

Meetings

The Pre-Law Society, 6:30pm, Kelley 1003: Weekly meetings followed by Mock Trial team practice.

Speakers

Women's Center, Noon-1pm, Women's Center. Drink coffee, tea and listen to international women student speakers give presentations on their cultures and various other topics, followed by a casual discussion.

Women's Center, 4-5:30pm, Women's Center. The Women's Leadership Initiative Speakers Series. The WLI engages students in conversation & action with women leaders from OSU and around the state.

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.

Women's Center, 6-7:30pm, Clayton's Auto Repair. Come learn how to change your oil and make your vehicle last longer. You'll learn the things car manufacturers won't tell you.

Volunteers

Women's Center, 11am-1pm, Women's Center. Want to make a difference in your community? Come volunteer for the Women's Center!

Thursday, Jan. 13

Meetings

College Republicans, 7pm, MU Council Room. Join in our meeting where we discuss and debate hot topics in the news and grow in friendships.

Events

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

Women's Center, Noon-1:30pm, Women's Center. Graduate Women — Want to polish your CV, resume and cover letters? Attend this writing workshop under the guidance of staff from the Writing Center. Bring samples for a chance to participate in a constructive peer review. Light refreshments will be provided.

OSU Student Sustainability Initiative, 3-7pm, Student Sustainability Center. Use your imagination and creativity to make recycled art that will be displayed in the SSI garden. Snacks provided.

Lutheran Campus Ministry, 5:45-7:30pm, Luther House. Q.U.E.S.T. — Simple supper, spiritual discussion.

Oregon State Sailing Club, 8pm, MU 208. Interest meeting. There will be free pizza and we will be discussing upcoming events and how to get involved.

Friday, Jan. 14

Events

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

OSU Music - Music à la Carte, Noon, MU Lounge. Free lunchtime concert — bring your lunch and enjoy!

Monday, Jan. 17

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY

Review of Haiti vote suggests Celestin should be eliminated

A much-awaited review of Haiti's disputed presidential election made public Tuesday suggests the government-backed candidate should be eliminated from contention.

The review, completed by an Organization of American States monitoring team, has not yet been delivered to Haitian authorities and won't likely be in the hands of President Rene Preval until after Wednesday, the first anniversary of the devastating 2010 earthquake.

But the Washington-based Center for Economic and Policy Research posted a leaked copy of the report on its website, slamming it as a sham.

"This report can't salvage an election that was illegitimate, where nearly three-quarters of the electorate didn't vote, and where the vote count of the minority that did vote was severely compromised," said Mark Weisbrot, co-director of the center.

Colin Granderson, head of the OAS mission in Haiti, said he would not comment on the election report until the Haitian government has been

informed.

"I am still going by the terms of reference which prevent me from speaking publicly about the report and its context," he said. "We don't have a fixed appointment as of yet. That is what we are waiting at this moment."

The center said it analyzed 11,181 tally sheets from the November 28 vote and found the election seriously flawed. It said the OAS report cannot help determine the outcome of the first round of Haiti's election.

Haiti's Provisional Electoral Council released preliminary results in early December that gave former first lady Mirlande Manigat a win with 31.4% of the vote. Jude Celestin, Preval's handpicked successor, came in second with 22.3% while popular musician Michel Martelly was third with 21.8%.

The OAS review said in actuality, Martelly had won 22.2% of the vote to Celestin's 21.9%, affording Martelly a spot in a runoff election with Manigat.

The Center for Economic and Policy Research said the OAS found 12% of the tally sheets

were either not received by the electoral council or were quarantined -- a much larger number of lost votes than either OAS monitors or the council had previously acknowledged.

But the center found the OAS review problematic because it tossed votes from a region that was favorable to Celestin and did not examine all of the 11,181 tally sheets.

Weisbrot said the margin of difference between Martelly and Celestin in the OAS's recount — 0.3% — was too small to statistically distinguish between the two.

"This appears to be a political, and not a professional, decision," he said.

Granderson said the leaking of the report complicated what has already been a difficult electoral process.

The nine-member OAS team included a statistician and an analyst, both from the United States. Despite the "magnitude of problems" and "the irregularities," the election need not be invalidated, Granderson said.

The OAS report is non-bind-

ing but comes at a pivotal moment as Haitians mark the grim first anniversary of the earthquake and the troubled nation's political future hangs in the balance.

Some fear more unrest similar to what unfolded in the days that followed the announcement of the preliminary results. Violent protests erupted on the streets of Port-au-Prince and other Haitian cities and threw the nation, already reeling from earthquake devastation and a cholera outbreak, into further chaos.

Many who took to the streets were disgruntled with Preval and the government's perceived lack of response to crises.

Martelly said he believed he had defeated Celestin and accused the electoral council of manipulating votes.

Allegations of fraud prompted the OAS team to take on the review. A runoff, originally scheduled for January 16, has now been postponed.

Journalist and author Amy Wilentz said in a CNN commentary that she met with Preval on Tuesday and that he had

already seen the OAS review. She said Preval seemed to suggest he would abide by a runoff between two candidates.

"There must be a loser," he told her. "And we must offer him proof that he lost. I have no preferred candidate."

Martelly has said he was optimistic the OAS review would reflect what he called the true results of the November 28 vote. He said he would welcome a chance to face Manigat in a two-way race.

"A second round of voting between Michel Martelly and Mirlande Manigat will reflect the voice of the people," he said. "My point is that it doesn't really matter when the second round of voting will take place," he said. "We don't want to rush into something and find out it is not legitimate."

Haiti's constitution mandates a new presidential term starting on February 7. It is unclear whether that will happen.

The European Union appealed for calm Tuesday, the eve of the earthquake anniversary.

—CNN

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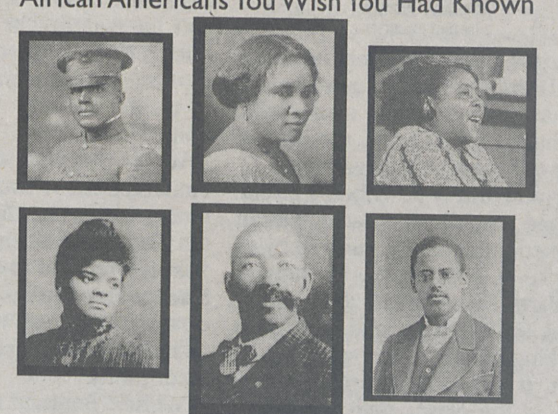
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Brisbane braces for more, 67 reported missing

BRISBANE, Australia — Brisbane awoke Wednesday to sunny, clear skies amid renewed warnings that a wave of water was sweeping through the city's main river system, threatening to exceed the damage done by the record 1974 floods.

The Brisbane River, which cuts through the city center, was expected to rise another 2 meters at high tide Wednesday afternoon before peaking at 4 a.m. Thursday at more than five meters.

"We are preparing for the worst natural disaster in our history," said Queensland Premier Anna Bligh. Models predict that 19,700 homes will be "completely flooded" in Brisbane, which is home to more than 1 million residents and another 4,000 homes are likely to be affected in Ipswich, she said.

The river is expected to rise beyond the records set in 1974 when it broke its banks, flooding more than 6,000 homes and killing 14 people.

The devastating impact has not been limited to flooding. Some places that remain dry have been isolated for more

than two weeks, she said. Medicines and other supplies have been ferried in by helicopter in some cases. "These floods have an effect, whether they're in your backyard and coming through your floorboards or whether you are isolated," she said.

Twelve people have died and 67 were missing, Queensland Premier Anna Bligh told reporters in Brisbane.

Twenty-five helicopters were involved in operations in Toowoomba and Brisbane, she said Wednesday.

Most were missing in and around the city of Toowoomba, which was devastated Monday by what is being described as an "inland tsunami." Toowoomba is about 100 kilometers west of Brisbane.

"I think we've all been shocked by the images of that wall of water just wreaking such devastation and... when we hear the statistics about how many homes are going to be hit in Ipswich and here in Brisbane, the dimensions of it are truly mind-boggling," Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard said.

"It is terribly sad and I do fear that as a nation we have to prepare ourselves for some more bad news and for a rising death toll," she told Sky News. "The nation is going to have some grieving to do and today we've got some work to do as well, to assist people to prepare and to keep with the search and rescue, there are Australians desperately waiting for news."

She told 4BC Brisbane that she has received offers of help from around the world.

Residents spent Tuesday sandbagging their homes and moving valuables to higher ground and, in some cases, evacuating their homes.

Steve Cook, a resident of the Brisbane inner suburb of West End, spent the afternoon loading his family's belongings into vehicles to be driven away from the flood zone.

"It's pretty chaotic on the streets at the moment," he said. "The streets are almost blocked with four-wheel drives and utilities and everyone is desperately packing their belongings into cars to try to get away before the flood peaks."

By late Tuesday, the water was a meter (3 feet) from his doorstep, one street from the banks of the Brisbane River. Like thousands of others here, he was moving his wife and two children to a relative's house on higher ground.

Onlookers gathered Tuesday at the bank of the Brisbane River as the waters rose. Debris could be seen floating in the fast-flowing water.

"We're just watching the river now and we've seen jet-ties come past, all sorts of things just floating down the river," said Desire Gralton, who lives in the ground-floor apartment of a four-story building in the Brisbane suburb of New Farm on the Brisbane River. "It's amazing."

She and her family took their personal belongings, photographs and documents to their car outside after stacking their belongings in order of importance — the most valuable items piled atop furniture they were resigned to losing.

"We're expecting it to come through about one meter through our apartment, so we're trying to move everything higher than that and hope for the best," she said. "If the flood comes into our level, we'll all lose our electricity. So pretty much everyone would have to be evacuated."

Power was being switched off Wednesday to homes in Brisbane and Ipswich, west of the city, as flood water threatened electricity sources. Around 21,000 homes were without power in Ipswich, as well as up to 4,000 homes in Brisbane where water had already breached the banks of the Brisbane River.

—CNN

MySpace slashes staff in half

NEW YORK — MySpace said Tuesday that it is laying off 500 employees, cutting its staff by 47%.

"Today's tough but necessary changes were taken in order to provide the company with a clear path for sustained growth and profitability," CEO Mike Jones said in a written statement. "These changes were purely driven by issues related to our legacy business, and in no way reflect the performance of the new product."

The company announced the long-rumored staff chop at the exact moment most of the tech world's attention was riveted elsewhere, on Verizon's hotly anticipated announcement that it will soon begin selling Apple's iPhone.

MySpace's management kept most of the site's developers but gutted nearly every other job role, according to a staffer who survived the cuts.

Once king of the social networking world, seven-year-old MySpace has fallen behind younger and nimbler rival Facebook. Acquired by News Corp. in 2005 for \$580 million in cash, the site's active user base now hovers around 130 million — far short of Facebook's 500 million.

Trying to reposition itself, the Los Angeles-based network recently rolled out a new interface focusing on music and social entertainment.

It also unveiled a Facebook link that allows MySpace users to integrate their profile data and log in through Facebook — a move some took as a sign that MySpace is waving the white flag.

Jones tried to quash those rumors in his announcement of the company's deep layoffs.

"While it's still early days, the new MySpace is trending positively and the good news is we have already seen an uptick in returning and new users," he wrote.

But in a recent interview with Fortune, Jones acknowledged the sharp challenges the company faces in trying to rebuild.

—CNN

GARBAGE PATCH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tant; we're trying to be realistic," said Ricardo Letelier, a professor of biological oceanography, who was also on the cruise. "The only way you can address a problem is by knowing what the dimensions of that problem are."

Still, current understanding of plastics in the ocean barely skims the surface. A handful of agencies, such as Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the Algalita Marine Research Foundation, have been researching plastics in the ocean since 1999, but answers to questions as basic as "How much plastic is there?" have not been definitive.

"It's difficult when your study site is 70 percent of the planet," White said. "The ocean is definitively under sampled."

Likewise, much about the "patch" itself is unknown, other than the certainty that it is not twice the size of Texas.

"We don't have a good understanding of the full spatial extent [of the patch]," Letelier said. "It's difficult to define the boundaries of a patch, and when you do have your patch, you also have to say how tightly it's packed together."

Some critics of the exaggerated size of the patch question scientific hyperbole.

"I think it was kind of wrong to exaggerate," said OSU student Katie Hoechlin, a freshman majoring in exercise and sport science, who had heard of the "patch," but knew little about it. "Exaggerating won't get the point across any more."

Kim Kenny, staff writer
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CAPS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

students' needs and provide them with recommendations or referrals to other services.

Along with triage, CAPS holds consultations for individuals who are worried about another member of the community or OSU student.

"It has been going really well this past week," Alvarez said. "I am keeping my fingers crossed for the upcoming term."

Kayley Hanacek, staff writer
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Jackson doctor will face trial

LOS ANGELES — Michael Jackson's doctor will face trial on an involuntary manslaughter charge in the death of the pop superstar, a Los Angeles judge ruled Tuesday.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Michael Pastor also prohibited Dr. Conrad Murray from using his California medical license until the trial is completed. The state medical board requested that be made a provision of his bail.

While Jackson was Murray's only and last California patient, Murray's lawyer argued a suspension in one state would prompt Texas and Nevada, where he sees patients, to also take action.

Pastor denied the prosecution's request to increase Murray's bail, which is now set at \$75,000.

"Michael is not with us today because of an utterly inept, incompetent, reckless doctor, the defendant Conrad Murray," Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney David Walgren said in his final

arguments.

Several Jackson's family members sat through the six-day preliminary hearing for Murray, but they would not talk about the ruling as they left court Tuesday.

The lawyer for Michael Jackson's estate issued a statement on behalf of the co-executors.

"The judge's ruling ordering Dr. Murray to stand trial for the death of Michael Jackson is perfectly appropriate given the testimony in this case," Howard Weitzman said.

Murray's lawyers appeared satisfied with the results of the preliminary hearing because of testimony they got from prosecution witnesses that might help raise reasonable doubt about Murray's guilt at trial.

"I think the prosecution is going to change their tactics in this case," defense lawyer J. Michael Flanagan said after court. "It's not the same as what they gave in opening statements."

—CNN

Correction

In a story printed Jan. 6 titled "Native American Cultural Center to get new home," The Daily Barometer incorrectly printed that the groundbreaking for the new cultural center would begin in March. The actual groundbreaking for the cultural center is set to begin May 11.

In a story printed yesterday titled "Students plan 10 days of MLK events on OSU campus," it was incorrectly stated that the 29th Annual Peace Brunch would be held Jan. 15. The article should have said the Peace Brunch will be held Jan. 17.

The Daily Barometer regrets these errors.

The Daily Barometer

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Editorial

iPhone hits Verizon, Android competition

OK, you tech-happy smartphone lovers, the time is here. After four years of mindless speculation and empty promises on all platforms, Apple and Verizon Wireless have finally come to an agreement: The iPhone will be part of America's most popular network starting Feb. 11, 2011.

First of all, AT&T has just died. You can hear people's desk belongings being packed into boxes. Somewhere a stockholder or CEO is having a heart attack.

Two years ago, if this had happened, it would have been game over for every phone in existence. People drooled over the iPhone back then and the only thing that held back the phone's total world domination was AT&T's spotty coverage, as they say "the worst thing about iPhone is AT&T."

But now there's something bigger about to happen, a clash of titans, if you will. For the first time, Android and the iPhone's operating system, iOS, will both be on the most powerful carrier: Verizon.

In the last day or so, there has been much to talk about: Will people dump AT&T to follow the iPhone to Verizon? Will the iPhone take over Android-powered phones? Will it be the other way around? Will Apple be as successful with Verizon as they were with AT&T?

The answer to all, and especially the latter, is no. Up until a few months ago, the iPhone was the only respectable smartphone on the AT&T network — without competition. Now, it meets its counter in Android, which has made a household name for itself with its rapid rise in sales with Verizon — sales that have taken over those of Apple's device. The iPhone will hold its own, but it won't affect the sales of Android phones, something that some see happening.

However, Verizon has just announced it will be launching four new Android phones in the next two months. This is *no bueno* for the iPhone and its users, and here's why.

First, the new Android phones will have dual-core processors in them. Yes, they will run as fast as your computer, with all the same capabilities. The iPhone does not have such a processor.

Second, Android is an incredibly open-sourced phone. This means it is nearly 100 percent customizable. From widgets to themes to home screen layouts, you can do whatever you want with it. The iPhone has basically locked the user into a general operating system, limiting people who want the freedom to make their phone look how they like.

Lastly, and most importantly, the new Android phones will run on a 4G LTE network, the fastest data transferring, and phone speed network. The iPhone 4 doesn't have that capability, and will not until the release of the iPhone 5 in the summer (maybe).

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

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

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Surviving phoneless in a world of technology

Sarah Creedican
The Daily Barometer

According to ABC news, "A recent study showed that 40 percent of people surveyed can't cope without a cell phone, 35 percent of people used cell phones to escape their problems and 7 percent blamed the cell phone for a lost relationship or job."

This week, my cell phone broke. Needless to say, the coping process has been rather interesting.

At this point in life nearly everyone has experienced cell phone loss for some period of time, whether due to broken parts, dropping it in some sort of liquid or simply losing track of it.

Like most college students, and Americans in general, my cell phone serves as an inflatable yellow raft that keeps me afloat on the rough white-water rapids of life. Not only does it give access to connect with people conveniently, at any time, but also to other useful applications.

So much of daily life has become tied to our cellular devices, and I found myself feeling rather lost in the choppy waters, wishing for my figurative new life raft to come in the mail ASAP.

However, as I sit here writing this, still phoneless at the mercy of the postal service, I begin to realize that, 1.) I

am not alone in the ridiculous attachment to my cellular device. And 2.) so far, I have learned several important lessons concerning surviving in 2011 with no phone.

To most people, phones are so much more than just phones now.

On the average weekday, the first sound many people hear is the alarm on their cell phone. This serves as a catalyst for the following daytime onslaught of texting, calling, checking Facebook, taking pictures, watching YouTube, using the bottomless supply of apps, etc.

For college students, this process often doesn't stop until late at night or early the next morning, and just like clockwork, the following day the process starts over again.

Besides these obvious uses of the device, cell phones also serve more specific needs of the college population.

For instance, many people don't own watches and instead use their phone to check the time, while others no longer have planners and are instead putting

appointments into their phones with reminder alarms beforehand. Once in a while, it is even handy to use the simple calculator that is included on even the most basic phones.

I was feeling lost without my figurative life raft as the weekend approached, and was curious to see how well I would survive it. Throughout the course of the weekend, I learned several interesting things.

Firstly, whenever awkward silences fall upon a group of people (which they inevitably always do) everyone quickly whips out their phone and starts to text (or at least pretends to). This is done so that the awkward silence hanging in the air doesn't manifest into a suffocating blanket of awkward that makes it difficult to breathe at ease.

Instead of retreating into texting, I was forced to sit there and either slowly gasp under the blanket or come up with something to say. Basically, I had to be completely present wherever I was, without having the ability to talk to someone who wasn't in the room.

Which is another thing — being completely present and living in the moment is something that is easily forgotten with the phone keyboard at one's fingertips. While people hunch

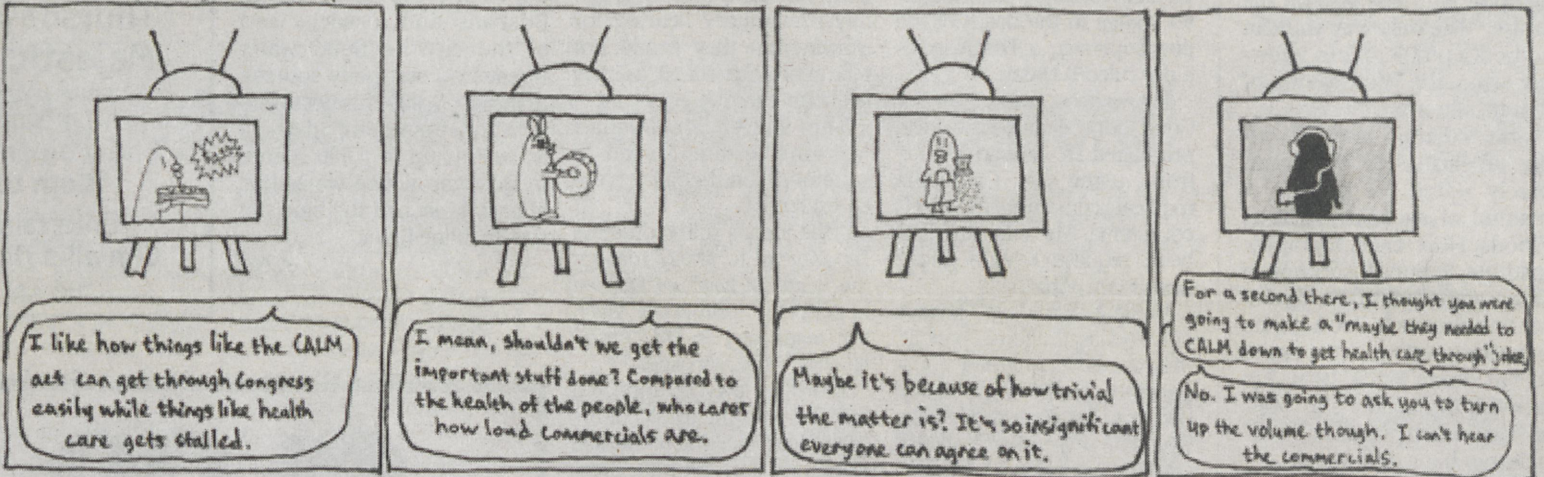
over their devices, texting people elsewhere, they have become completely oblivious to events happening around them. Rather than enjoying where they were and meeting people around them, they were preoccupied with somewhere they probably shouldn't have been.

There is nothing wrong with this, and I probably would've done something similar if I had a phone with me. However, seeing it from the outside-in made it seem a little different. It almost made me a little sad that people couldn't be content wherever they were without worrying about what everyone else was up to.

While I am still looking forward to receiving my phone in the mail sometime this week, not having it has taught me a few valuable lessons. My goal for the future is to become less dependent on my phone and to make it less of a figurative life raft in the rough waters of life to help keep me afloat.

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.

Political Penguins by Frank Chiou



FRANK CHIOU IS A SENIOR IN COMPUTER AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Supporting a life change; Clarification on "virginity"

Dear Dr. Sex,
Recently I had a friend come to me and tell me that she wanted to have a sex change into a man. You were the first name that came to my mind when I was thinking about how to be supportive for her during this very difficult time. I just wanted some advice on how to do that and make sure she is making the right choice. It is in the very early stages right now, where she is only beginning to consider it, and I'm not really sure what questions, if any, I should be asking or to just be a support system for her.

Signed,
Concerned Friend

Dear Concerned Friend,

The fact that your first response seems to be positive and supportive is a very good thing. Most people just don't understand why someone would want to do something so drastic and therefore have a tendency to react negatively, suspiciously and with doubt and judgment.

Most individuals who identify as

transsexual (in your friend's case, she would be considered a preoperative transsexual) feel trapped in the body of the wrong sex. They feel in every fiber of their being — in their mind, their heart and soul — that they are the other sex, just with the wrong "parts." Thus, the only solution for them is to change their physical body to match the rest of them.

My advice to you is to simply be supportive. The medical community is there to help her determine if she's making the right choice. In most instances, preoperative transsexuals go through extensive psychological counseling and hormone therapy. Additionally, they usually have to live an entire year as the opposite sex "passing" in society to ensure it's the

right decision.

If you have any questions for your friend — questions that would help you to better understand her decision — I'm sure she'd be happy to answer them. Just be sure to be kind and non judgmental in the way that you phrase them — which I'm sure you would have done anyway.

Dear readers,

This question came from a student in my class last term who also saw my KBVR television show in December and thought he discovered a discrepancy.

Dear Dr. Sex:

Tonight on KBVR, you said that oral sex is a form of losing your virginity. Although in my class notes I have oral sex under abstinence as a form of contraception. So my question is, does Oral Sex count as a form of abstinence? Also, do you consider oral sex as a form of losing your virginity, or is it more of an opinion for each individual, and what they think?

Signed, Confused

Dear Confused,

I can see why you are confused. During the contraception lecture, I was talking about abstaining from the kinds of sexual behaviors that could get a woman pregnant, specifically any and all genital-to-genital contact. Typically, a woman can't get pregnant from performing or being the recipient of oral sex, which is why I mentioned it when talking about abstinence.

Given that, participating in oral sex is still a way to lose your virginity. The concept of virginity is sexual innocence or sexual purity. Thus, if you've had a penis in your mouth or someone else's mouth on your clitoris, I definitely would NOT say that you are still sexually innocent. I think many women think that if they haven't had a penis in their vagina, they are still a virgin. This is what is called "technical virginity."

Another way to look at this is to consider the idea that you lose your virginity (your sexual innocence) if you participate in any form of sexual

See GREAVES | page 5



Kathy Greaves Ph.D

Dr. Sex

Lowering childhood obesity begins with educating

Obesity is avoidable for nearly everyone, yet is a rising epidemic in the U.S. An estimated 33 percent of US adults are overweight (their body mass index, or BMI, is 25-29) and 34 percent are obese (BMI greater than 30). One of the main reasons so many adults are obese is because they were inactive as children. In order to prevent this obesity epidemic from becoming even more of a problem, it is necessary to start with parents and the communities we live in. If parents and communities would stress how important physical activity is, obesity would be less widespread in the United States.

Zimmerman-Sloutskis, Wanner, Zimmerman and Martin looked at youth predictors of adult physical activity level. If parents knew that the strongest predictors from their youth included high levels of physical activity, frequent participation in sports, membership in a sports club, good cardio-respiratory fitness and high marks in physical education

Megan Alexander
The Daily Barometer

at school, then more children would be active. Zimmerman-Sloutskis concluded that people who grew up active were more likely to stay active.

There are many determinants that can influence physical activity behavior. Some of which are non-modifiable — age, gender and social class — while some determinants are modifiable.

According to Zimmerman-Sloutskis, the behaviors that can be modified are the ones we need to stress. These behaviors include personal factors like smoking or diet along with attitude and motivation towards physical activity. Other modifiable behaviors include social influence — family or peers — and physical environment including how much green space you have or your access to a gym.

Why should someone worry about becoming obese? Obesity can lead to

two serious diseases: congestive heart failure, or CHF, and type II diabetes, both of which can be prevented. The three health behaviors that are most associated with these diseases are physical activity, smoking (as an adult) and diet.

Zimmerman-Sloutskis stated that children are becoming gradually more obese, and are growing up to stay that way. It is because of all the unhealthy sedentary activities that they participate in. The time these children spend playing video games and watching T.V. takes away from the time they could be spending outside being physically active. If parents were more educated on how important physical activity is, then perhaps they wouldn't allow their children to remain sedentary so often.

So what should we do about it? Kettle-Kahn developed 24 different strategies to prevent obesity in the community. These strategies include, but are not limited to, promoting the availability of affordable healthy food and beverages, supporting

healthy food and beverage choices and encouraging physical activity or limiting sedentary activity among children and youth. However, the biggest promoter of these strategies should be the government.

With combined help from parents and the community, something can be done about obesity. Parents need to implement the concepts of high levels of physical activity, frequent participation in sports, membership to a sports club, good cardio-respiratory fitness and working hard in physical education at school.

The strategies developed by Kettle-Kahn need to be more well-known throughout the community. Once the education of parents and communities on obesity is accomplished, it will be a great start toward beating this obesity epidemic.

Megan Alexander is a junior in exss. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Alexander can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

GREAVES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

activity. Oral sex has to be considered a form of sexual activity for two reasons. First, if it wasn't sexual activity, it wouldn't be called oral "sex," it would be called oral "bowling" or some other random activity. Second, it also has to be sexual activity because numerous sexually transmitted diseases can be contracted while participating in it.

My suggestion to all readers is to be more flexible when considering what sex is and realize that even if someone hasn't had penile-vaginal intercourse, they still may be sexually active.

Kathy Greaves, Ph.D. is an instructor in Oregon State University's department of human development and family sciences. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Greaves can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

Social media can make a huge difference; just ask Ted Williams

It's hard to believe Ted Williams used to beg on the Hudson Street exit of Interstate 71, just seconds down the street from my apartment. Thousands of people drove past him every day, disregarding the man with the sign. Now, after a short video posted by the Columbus Dispatch, Williams will never feel ignored again.

Williams' example just goes to show how quickly social media can spread something around the world. In a matter of seconds, Williams went from standing jobless on the curb to receiving employment offers from Kraft Macaroni & Cheese and the Cleveland Cavaliers. If you would have asked about Williams just eight days ago, everyone would have thought you were talking about the Red Sox baseball great. Now, Williams' name means something quite different.

I watched the video the morning it was posted on the The Dispatch's

Guest Column
The Lantern

website, but had no idea how big it was going to get until later that night, when friends from across the country were talking about the homeless man with a "golden voice" on Facebook and Twitter. I noticed most were linking a video on YouTube, which was stolen from Dispatch.com. I didn't think anything of it, as this happens to most viral videos today. It seems like you can always find multiples of the same video when you're searching on YouTube.

The Dispatch reported the video got more than 12 million views before YouTube acknowledged the media outlet's copyright complaint and removed the video. It's simply wrong for other people to steal a website's content, but at the same time, would the video have

received as much attention if it wasn't posted on YouTube?

People are criticizing The Dispatch for requesting the video to be removed from YouTube, but wouldn't you be upset if someone posted your video? For some reason, it seems as if many people don't consider this stealing. And it just doesn't happen with news videos — music artists continually have their music and music videos put online without their permission. Internet users have come to feel as though online content should just be free.

Though I don't believe stealing videos and putting them up on YouTube is right, it did help spread Williams' story more quickly. From now on, I can imagine The Dispatch will surely put all of its videos on a YouTube channel as well as their website. At the very least, they will watermark all of their videos, putting a logo on the video that can't be cut as easily as credits that run at

the end.

In all fairness, I don't believe the YouTube user who posted the video had bad intentions. After all, the stolen video was accompanied with this message, according to The Dispatch: "Throwing this video from The Columbus Dispatch out there, hoping we can find this talent a place to call home."

Did The Dispatch go too far in removing its stolen video from YouTube when that video was responsible for launching Williams' story across the world? Would the story had ever been as big if it had never been put on YouTube? Who knows? These are hard questions to answer and can be argued either way.

In a statement made by The Dispatch explaining the removal of the video, it was said that the YouTube video was posted "in violation of The Dispatch Printing Co.'s copyright" and the person

who uploaded the video was "unauthorized" to do so. The Dispatch probably pulled the video off of YouTube because people were viewing its content there, which doesn't earn The Dispatch money. A media outlet makes money on the page views of the content it creates, and when people are directed to content on anything other than the website, it doesn't get recognized for those views.

A lot of people are attacking The Dispatch's decision, calling it behind the times. But the newspaper is dealing with a new problem presented by social media.

Perhaps The Dispatch could have approached the problem in a different way, but who could have predicted the attention that "golden voice" would attract?

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WikiLeaks' Assange could end up at Guantanamo Bay

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange could end up at Guantanamo Bay if he is extradited to Sweden, his lawyers will argue next month, according to legal papers they released Tuesday.

He would be at risk of mistreatment or even execution, they will argue, saying that means Britain cannot extradite him without violating his human rights.

"There is a real risk he could be made subject to the death penalty," Assange lawyers say in documents they released Tuesday, citing British media reports that Republican politicians Sarah Palin and Mike Huckabee have called for him to be executed.

The lawyers released a preliminary outline of their planned arguments Tuesday, ahead of an extradition hearing for Assange next month.

Prosecutors in Sweden want him for questioning in connection with sexual misconduct allegations unrelated to WikiLeaks.

Assange has denied the allegations, and is free on 200,000 pounds (\$310,000) bail while he fights extradition.

Assange and his lawyers appeared briefly in court in London on Tuesday for a procedural hearing.

The judge in the case agreed to a change in Assange's bail conditions for two days next month so he can get to the main extradition hearing on time on Feb. 7 and 8.

Assange is currently required by the courts to stay at the mansion of a supporter outside London every night. He'll be allowed to stay at the Frontline Club, a journalists' club in central

London, on Feb. 6 and 7 if the people who put up bail for him agree.

His lawyer Mark Stephens said that would not be a problem.

The Swedish prosecutor who issued an arrest warrant for Assange did not have the power to do so, Assange's lawyers will also argue next month.

Additionally, his lawyers will say, it's improper to issue an arrest warrant when a suspect is wanted only for questioning, not prosecution.

Prosecutor Marianne Ny "went from informal discussions about arranging an interview of Mr. Assange straight to the issuance of" a European arrest warrant without "formally summoning him for an interview or formally requesting his interrogation," they will argue.

In court Tuesday, Assange spoke only to con-

firm his name, date of birth and current residence in a hearing that lasted about 10 minutes.

Celebrity supporters including activist Bianca Jagger and socialite Jemima Khan were in court, and a small crowd of pro-Assange demonstrators outside held signs with slogans including "This is not 1984."

Neither Jagger nor Khan spoke to reporters before they went inside.

Assange's website, which facilitates the leaking of secret information, has released hundreds of thousands of pages of U.S. military and diplomatic documents over the past eight months.

In addition to staying at the mansion outside London, he must report to police between 2 and 5 p.m. daily, and wear an electronic tag.

—CNN



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Badly wounded Arizona lawmaker is 'holding her own'

TUCSON, Ariz. — U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords remained in critical condition Tuesday, three days after she was shot in the head during a gunman's rampage, but she was breathing on her own and doctors backed off on some sedation.

"I'm happy to say she's holding her own," said Dr. Michael Lemole Jr., chief of neurosurgery at University Medical Center. "Her status is the same as it was yesterday. She's still following simple commands."

Lemole said Giffords was generating her own breaths.

"The only reason we keep that breathing tube in is to protect her airway so that she doesn't have complications like pneumonia," he told reporters.

Lemole said he's encouraged by the fact that she's "done so well" with an injury where survival and recovery are "abysmal."

"We're hopeful, but I do want

to underscore the seriousness of this injury and the fact that we all have to be extremely patient," Lemole said.

Six of the victims in the Saturday shooting remained at University Medical Center, Chief of Emergency Medicine Peter Rhee said. Along with Giffords, three people were in serious condition and two were in fair condition.

Jared Lee Loughner, 22, who authorities say shot up a gathering held by Giffords for constituents outside a supermarket, has been anecdotally regarded as very troubled and perhaps mentally unbalanced because of his ramblings spotted on the internet and the way he has been described by acquaintances.

A law enforcement official familiar with the investigation said authorities are still on the scene of the shooting with a piece of equipment called a total station. It is a piece of surveying equipment that takes precise measurements

that can be used to reconstruct a crime scene.

Loughner allegedly carried a knapsack to the shopping center, the official said. He had the Glock semi-automatic handgun, two 30-round magazines, two 15-round magazines and a knife, according to the official.

The shooting has sparked horror across the United States and generated much partisan talk about vitriolic political discourse in American life and what Loughner's motivations were.

Meanwhile, U.S. District Judge Raner C. Collins has ruled that all magistrate and district judges in the District of Arizona's Tucson Division must recuse themselves from hearing any cases connected with the shooting.

The ruling, dated Monday, cited the need to "avoid the appearance of impropriety, and because a judge has a duty to disqualify him or herself if his or her impartiality could

be reasonably questioned, whether or not such impartiality exists."

Experts said Tuesday the alleged shooter in the massacre may have difficulty making the case for a successful insanity plea.

Paul Callan, a criminal defense attorney and a former prosecutor, and Jeff Gardere, a clinical and forensic psychologist, said on CNN's "American Morning" on Tuesday they have doubts that an insanity plea would stand.

With the "amount of planning that went into this assassination," Callan said he believes "it's highly unlikely he will meet the legal insanity defense threshold."

"It's very hard to prove insanity at trial," he said. "You really have to prove that your mental illness is so severe that you don't even understand that you're committing a criminal act. And it's almost impossible to prove that."

—CNN

Classifieds

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<p>PLAN AND COORDINATE DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES including Outdoor School and Workshops. Develop educational materials, promote programs, and assist in fundraising events. Coordinator will research and write grants for all District programs. Start salary \$2,500-2,916.67 per month. B.S. in Natural Resources, Agriculture, Science, or related field and at least one year of experience in natural resources or education and grant writing. Call (503) 623-9680 for position description and application or visit polkswcd.org. Closes: January 25, 2011 at 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>APA Welcome Reception Thursday, Jan. 13 • 5:30-8 p.m. (Doors open at 5 p.m.) @ MU Ballroom Everyone is welcome. Food and entertainment provided. Tickets are FREE and available Monday, January 10 at the Student Involvement Center in Snell Hall, and at International Student Services in Kerr Admin. For accommodations related to ability, please contact ADA at 541-737-9033.</p>	<p>The Daily Barometer CLASSIFIED ADS are now ON-LINE! To place an online and/or print classified ad, go to dailybarometer.campusave.com Online Rates: FREE to students, staff & faculty with onid.orst.edu email \$25 per ad per month No refunds will be issued. Print Rates: 15 words or less, per day - \$3.75 Each additional word, per day - 25¢ 10 Days - 25% off • 20 Days - 50% off</p>	<p>WANTED EVENT MANAGER FOR WINTER 2011 Pick-up an Application at: Snell Hall 210 Applications due FRIDAY, JANUARY 14 @ 5:00 P.M.</p>

WANTED

EVENT MANAGER FOR WINTER 2011

Pick-up an Application at: Snell Hall 210
Applications due FRIDAY, JANUARY 14 @ 5:00 P.M.



GYMNASTICS

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

"The bar routine was definitely a highlight — a career highlight, even," Vivian said. "But I owe it to the team. They set me up."

Leslie Mak finished fifth in all-around with a score of 39.100. She also finished second on balance beam (9.875) and tied for fourth on uneven bars (9.900). Her all-around performance was the second of her OSU career and second of the weekend.

"She did a great job," Chaplin said. "She did all-around back-to-back and handled it really well. Awesome job. Olivia did a really nice job, especially on bars. Really, we had some stellar performances across the board by some of these women."

OSU began Sunday's competition on the balance beam, an area where they struggled against LSU. For the second consecutive meet, Makayla Stambaugh, one of OSU's top beam performers, fell off during her routine. It was her worst event that day by almost seven-tenths of a point, and she finished all-around with a 38.450.

"I think it's definitely just nerves," Stambaugh said. "I've been a little inconsistent on it (the beam), in the gym. Everybody else, we did awesome as a team. It was hard doing competitions."

The gymnasts' fatigue from competing twice in three days started to show during the floor exercises — it was the team's worst event of the day. Three women received out-of-bounds deductions — each worth one-tenth of a point.

Kelsi Blalock scored the highest individual floor performance with a personal-record-tying 9.775.

"I think it was just the travel," Chaplin said. "They can do it. Had it been later in the season, and they trained a little bit more, something like this type of thing you probably wouldn't have seen it quite as much."

After two less-than-ideal scores, the team regrouped for vault and uneven bars. Blalock, Becky Colvin, and Stambaugh tied for 10th overall on vault (9.825). On the bars, the Beavers couldn't be beat. Stephanie McGregor opened the bars lineup with a 9.825, setting the stage for a dominant performance by her teammates.

The only bars score to dip below 9.850 was a 9.725 by freshman Brittany Harris. Mak and Vivian sealed the lineup with their near-perfect routines.

Tuesday was the gymnasts' first day of practice since competition, and now it's time for them to flatten the kinks.

"They scored pretty much the same both nights," Chaplin said. "We can do that the first weekend; hopefully we can improve on that this next week. And that's our goal, to get back up into the 196s, and get back to trying to push 197, but we have a lot of cleanup work to do."

Competition resumes at 7 p.m. Friday at Gill Coliseum when the Beavers face the No. 15 Ohio State Buckeyes.

FSN NW will air the replay of the Pac-10 Showcase at noon on Thursday.

Anthony Casson, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

GARRETT

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was like there.

With that, I threw on my orange "I hate your Ducks" T-shirt, followed by my gray "Auburn" T-shirt on top (let me tell you: I had been planning my Jan. 10, 2011 outfit for quite some time), and set out to determine what it's like to be in hell when heaven is just 45 miles away.

As I was walking to class, I got my first update.

Paraphrasing it, he said: "I'm so pumped. But the University of Oregon sucks."

His reasoning? He had class.

Important side note that would be way more relevant if it was OSU playing in the title game: Oregon did not cancel class on Monday. Auburn did. So did Alabama when they played in the game last year (they cancelled THREE DAYS of class), as did Texas. And — I don't know the exact statistic — but I heard Oregon was the only (or one of the only) participating school(s) to hold class on the day of the BCS national title game, dating back to its inaugural game in 1998.

People wonder why Pac-10 football or football in the state of Oregon doesn't get much respect? Because of stunts like this. Football is a way of life in many parts of this country. And when we can't fill 45,000 seat stadiums, or when we (when I say "we," I'm referring to the state) don't cancel class on the day of the title game even though that's clearly the precedent that has been set in the past, it shows that we, as a state, don't care about college football as much as the rest of the nation — as much as SEC schools. It reflects badly on us. If OSU somehow ends up playing in the BCS title game and we still have school, I will write a 1,500 word column that will probably lead to my expulsion.

When I got to class, I expected to see a lot of people sporting football-related apparel.

I counted a handful people wearing the orange and black (but no more than a typical day), four people in Duck gear, and one person representing the Tigers — myself.

I sat there mystified. "How could Oregon fans outnumber Auburn fans 4-to-1? Didn't anybody read Colin Huber's column in today's Barometer?"

At that point, I decided that the next person I encountered in an Oregon T-shirt was going to get bombarded with questions as to why on earth they had chosen to wear what they were wearing.

My best guess as to where I would find the most students in one place? Dixon. So when I left class, that's where I headed.

It didn't take long to find a Duck. I spotted a guy in the weight room wearing a green, cut-off Oregon shirt. I strolled over and popped the question.

"My sixth grade football coach played

football at Oregon, so I grew up liking both," he told me.

That sixth grade football coach must have given my new friend a lot of playing time.

I approached a second Oregon fan. He had "grown up a Duck fan," but wasn't accepted when he applied to go there.

I approached a third, this one a woman. The first thing out of her mouth: "I knew I was going to get (expletive)."

What else would you expect?

The sad thing was, for the duration of my stay at Dixon, I did not see or hear one other student question anyone wearing Oregon gear. Not a word. I thought Oregon fans would get boo'ed out of the place. Or that someone would stick a foot out and trip them as they walked by. Or offer to spot them, then let the weight drop. Nope; nothing. In fact, I didn't hear a word about the national championship game itself. It's like no one cared.

Just a normal day in Corvallis, I guess. In the sauna, I decided to break the awkward silence you experience every time you're in the sauna by striking up a conversation with a trio of guys. Naturally, I asked who they wanted to win the game.

"Uh, the Beavers," said the first one. I couldn't tell if he was joking or if he seriously didn't know what I was talking about.

"The Ducks; Pac-10 pride," said the second.

"You've got to go with the Ducks," said the third.

I shook my head and got out and headed to my next, and final, class of the day.

This class wasn't as bad. I only spotted one Duck fan. I was debating whether I should say I'm from the Barometer and interview him, like I'd been doing with the others, or if I should be a normal kid and heckle the heck out of him; you know, set an example, seeing how no other Beaver fan I had seen all day had risen to the occasion. I was leaning toward the latter, but luckily for the kid, he got saved.

He got saved because I got a text. "Did you hear about Rodgers?" the text said.

"What?" I responded, feeling my heart race pick up.

"He declared for the draft. He's holding a teleconference at 2:00."

You. Have. Got. To. Be. Kidding. Me.

My heart dropped. I didn't know how to react. It — the "it" being the fact that our best player just announced that his career in a Beaver uniform was over just hours before the Ducks were to play for the national title — was just, so, surreal.

I texted my friend: "Five years ago, if you had told me to write a script about the worst sports day imaginable, this is the script I would have written."

But really, why did Rodgers have to make the announcement Monday? Couldn't he have waited until, say,

Wednesday?

Meanwhile, one of my Eugene friends text me the following: "We just spent an entire psych class talking about football and talking about how dumb it is that we have school today."

Great for him.

I wasn't even sure what my geology teacher was talking about — I was too busy trying to come to terms with the fact that Oregon State was going to be lucky to win five games next year. Oh, and the fact that Oregon vs. Auburn was just four hours away.

I was in utter shock.

As I exited class, I wondered what was going through the heads of the other students exiting class with me. I wondered how their day was going. I wondered if they had heard about Rodgers and if they had realized that a cloud would forever hang over them if Oregon was to win a few hours later. If they were feeling the same pain I felt, they did a good job of hiding it.

It may have looked like a normal day in Corvallis, but for me and every other diehard Beaver out there, it was far from such.

Time passed, and I was assigned to write a column reflecting on Rodgers' decision. If you read it, realize that my mind was in a thousand different places when I wrote it. I kept checking Facebook and Twitter to make myself feel better — to let myself know that I wasn't the only one freaking out. The title of one Oregonian blog post was, "Worst day in Oregon State football history?"

As I was sorting through Twitter and attempting to write a column, my Eugene friends kept texting me. They were at the Mac Court viewing party.

"This is insane. Too much emotion. So many people here. So pumped."

"So nervous and excited. I'm going to break down."

Then, they sent me a picture. I swear every student who attends the University of Oregon was packed in that place, bursting with energy.

Meanwhile, the Oregon State students I saw were walking to and from class, or enjoying a nice, relaxing coffee at Dutch Bros.

I mentioned at the start of this column that I was jealous, right?

Then, it was game time. And you all know what happened. Auburn saved my day, and saved the day for many Oregon State students, by beating Oregon 22-19 on a last-second field goal. Well, I shouldn't say "saved the day." Watching Oregon play for a title, and losing Rodgers in the same day? That's pretty bad as it is.

I text my Oregon friend for one final update after the game.

No response. For the first time all day, I was probably having more fun than him.

I certainly felt like I deserved it.

Grady Garrett, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

VIVIAN

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fans to death. We get an average of 4,000-5,000 spectators every home meet, making it the third-highest attended sport behind football and men's basketball. I can honestly say we have the best fans in the nation. Beaver fans are so amazing and we appreciate your support beyond words.

But we want and need more student spectators. In addition to the reasons I've already mentioned, students get in free, so hopefully we get to see more of your faces in the crowd. Our next home meet is this Friday against Ohio State. I hope to see you all there. It will be the most popular thing going on this Friday night and I promise we won't fail to entertain you.

Olivia Vivian, gymnastics team
sports@dailybarometer.com



WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12

TODAY!

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, Bahá'í Campus Association

This event is shown again:

Thursday, Jan. 20, 7-9 pm • MU 213, Pan-African Sankofa Room

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Grady
Garrett



Hug it Out

Monday's inhale, Tuesday's exhale

I woke up in a cold sweat. I hadn't slept much — spent most of the night tossing and turning, mind adrift.

And I don't even go to the University of Oregon.

At first, I didn't know if I was excited, nervous or upset. I couldn't place a finger on the emotion I was feeling that Monday morning. Then, it hit me: jealousy. I was jealous.

It wasn't that I wanted to be a Duck. No, no, NO. I just wished it was my team playing that night, not that team from down south that has 4,000 different uniform combinations. I kept imagining what it would be like to be on a college campus of a team that is playing for the right to call themselves national champions.

The buzz. The adrenaline. The camaraderie. The "Wait, today is supposed to be a school day? It's more like a school-wide holiday" feeling.

But all I could do was lie in bed and imagine such an atmosphere. While my green-and-yellow (and black-and-silver-and-white-and-whatever else) friends and acquaintances were living in such an atmosphere, I had to get out of bed and go to class.

Raw deal, huh?

That's when I decided that Monday was going to be an awful day. And that's when I decided I was going to walk around campus, and observe and report. I also told a couple of my Eugene-based friends to send me updates throughout the day, so I could get a feel for what it

See **GARRETT** | page 7

Beavers are happy with start



BENNY KANG | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Junior gymnast Olivia Vivian performs her bar routine last weekend against LSU, Sunday in Los Angeles at the Pac-10 Showcase. Vivian scored a career-best 9.950 on the uneven bars to help the Beavers to a third place finish.

■ OSU finishes third as Vivian careers on bars, credits teammates for setup

By Anthony Casson
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Competing twice in one weekend against the top teams in the nation isn't something Oregon State's gymnasts are accustomed to. The women on the 2011 team have never done it. But sore muscles and wonky states of mind didn't fully impede their success at the Pac-10 Showcase in Los Angeles.

The Beavers finished third overall with a score of 195.375. Only No. 1 UCLA (195.925) and No. 6 Stanford (196.625) finished ahead of OSU. Stanford was one of only two teams nationally to break 196 points this past weekend, according to GymInfo.

After a win Friday night against No. 12 Louisiana State and traveling early on Saturday, it seemed like the Beavers were in for an interesting afternoon — whatever energy they had regained in 36 was about to be removed. However, the women stepped up and embraced the challenge and finished with their second 195-point total of the weekend.

"I was thrilled with how they did," head coach Tanya Chaplin said. "Having to travel that early the next day (Saturday) and compete really early, in a post-season type of competition, they did a really good job."

Olivia Vivian scored a career-best 9.950 on the uneven bars, which was the best score in the nation last weekend (GymInfo); she walked away with the individual title at the showcase.

See **GYMNASTICS** | page 7

Oregon State baseball season tickets on sale now

SPORTS INFORMATION

CORVALLIS, Ore. — Season tickets for the 2011 Oregon State baseball season are now available and are on sale through the Oregon State ticket office.

To purchase season tickets for the 2011 season, go to osubeavers.com, call 1-800-GOBEAVS or visit the ticket office at legendary Gill Coliseum (Room 107).

Season tickets cost \$400 and are good for the entire home schedule this season. The home slate for the Beavers opens March 4 when Oregon State takes Hartford at Goss Stadium.

Other opponents at Goss Stadium this season include UC Santa Barbara, Oregon, in-state rival Portland and

VMI as well as Pacific-10 Conference foes Arizona State, Washington State, USC and California.

Also available are a limited amount of season tickets in the Omaha Room, costing \$1,000 apiece. The Omaha Room is a luxurious suite-type area overlooking first base that includes a great view of the action.

Single-game tickets for the 2011 season are slated to go on sale Monday, Jan. 31.

The Beavers will open the 2011 season on Feb. 19 when starting a four-game weekend at Fresno State against Gonzaga. Make sure to visit osubeavers.com for more information on the Beavers as the season draws closer.



JEFFREY BASINGER | THE DAILY BAROMETER

An Oregon State player slides into the bag just in time against UCLA last year at Goss Stadium in Corvallis. Season tickets for the 2011 season are on sale now.

Let's get Gill rockin' for gymnasts

Hello again! It's been a while since I've written for the Barometer, but I'm back. My writing skills haven't improved, but I'm back!

For those who don't know me, my name's Olivia Vivian. I'm from Australia, and I'm a junior on the Oregon State gymnastics team. It's weird watching myself type that — "Junior." It's scary thinking this is my third year in school already. It's even worse thinking that if the world really does end in 2012, then I've spent my whole life in school.

But I won't complain. I've loved every day at OSU, mainly because of the amazing gymnastics program they have here. When I tell people I'm on the gymnastics team, I get one of three feedback statements: One, "I didn't know we had a gymnastics team." Two, "Oh wow, I hear you guys are really good." And if it's a male, 90% of the time the third response is "Cool, so you're flexible then, huh?"

The third response doesn't frustrate me, though. You can only expect so much out of college males. The part that frustrates me comes after I ask them the following question: "Have you ever seen a college gymnastics meet?" Most of the time the answer is, "No." Not because they don't want to, but because they don't know when or where they are.

From my experience here in America, I've noticed that nearly every student knows when the next football game is and what team we're playing. And don't worry, I'm not comparing it to gymnastics, because I think we all understand that no women's sport will ever be as popular as a sport like football.

Olivia
Vivian



Oregon State Gymnastics

All I'm saying is it would be nice if students at least knew when our home meets were. We only have five home meets a year, and I normally have to set up a Facebook event explaining when and where. They're always at 7 p.m. Friday nights at Gill Coliseum.

Yes, I understand that it's a Friday night and all any college student wants to do is start drinking, but gymnastics meets normally end at 9 p.m. and we all know Corvallis parties never get good until 10:30 or 11 p.m. anyway, so you still have time for all that.

The biggest reason to come is to support this fresh new gymnastics team. Last year, we finished eighth in the nation. This year we are going for it all. We want to be national champions, and with the fresh new talent on this team, we are very capable of doing so. Our last home meet was a success and we plan on being undefeated all year in Gill Coliseum.

We take on some highly ranked teams at home this year, including the 2010 National Champions UCLA, and we would appreciate your help in defeating these challenging teams. There's nothing that gets us more rallied up than the cheering from our Beaver fans.

The gymnastics team loves our

See **VIVIAN** | page 7