

Student literacy receives scrutiny

■ Literacy studies show decline in certain types, possibility for new types of literacy

By Katy Weaver
THE DAILY BAROMETER

According to articles in the Washington Post and other media outlets, the literacy of college graduates has been on a steady decline since 1992.

"Only 31 percent of college graduates can read a complex book and extrapolate from it," said Michael Gorman, president of the American Library Association and a librarian at California State University at Fresno in 2005.

Although this information could be interpreted as shocking to universities across the country, most OSU faculty members believe it to be sensationalized and largely inaccurate.

"I've been teaching writing since 1972, and every four to five years some report like this comes out," said Lisa Ede, professor in English and director of the Center for Writing and Learning.

"I haven't seen any significant decline over the time that I've taught. This isn't necessarily to say that students couldn't write better, it's just that these tests tend to focus on lower order basic skills,

when what really matters is higher order critical thinking skills."

The studies tested students' ability to "read prose, do math and find facts in documents." However, according to Ede, many of these scientific studies are taken out of context.

"The more authentic the [testing] situation, the more accurate it is," Ede said.

"I read an article by scholars which compared websites students visit on their own time to textbooks they read in class. They found that the websites students are visiting for their own purposes are more complex in every way — they have more complicated sentence structure, longer text and require more critical thinking than their class textbooks. You have to take student motivations into account."

Vicki Tolar Burton, associate professor of English and director of the Writing Intensive Curriculum Program, agrees with Ede that one must be skeptical of scientific findings claiming that college students are illiterate.

She also believes that literacy is a dynamic concept that encompasses multiple areas, many of which are not included in scientific testing.

"I'd say that in the 21st century, there

are many different types of literacy — online literacy, book literacy, financial literacy, even spiritual literacy," Tolar Burton said.

"As students spend more time online, they are spending less time reading books. I think that there is a definite decline in the actual reading of hard copy books, but that there are new literacies developing that students didn't even think about before."

Students themselves agree that this is true.

"Before the Internet, people used books to look up information," said Paul Cigarruista, a senior in ethnic studies. "Now the Internet is the most used way to find information, especially for college students."

However, just because literacy is changing and can be defined in multiple ways, this doesn't necessarily mean that OSU doesn't suffer from literacy problems at all.

Most people recognize that they are reading a lot less than they used to, but fail to notice that they are writing a lot less too.

"The type of work that college students are doing now is different," said Anne-Marie Deitering, undergraduate

See LITERACY | page 3.

Horticultural Happiness



ALEX NGUYEN / THE DAILY BAROMETER

Brian Smith, junior in Horticulture, sells flowers at the OSU Horticulture Club Valentine's Day plant sale to Jessica Lien, junior in General Science, and Leanna Mah, junior in Pre-Pharmacy.

OSU honors Black History with soul food



ALEX NGUYEN / THE DAILY BAROMETER

Students enjoy the food served during A Journey Through Culture & Cuisine at the McNary Central Dining Center in celebration of Black History Month on Wednesday night.

■ UHDS Diversity Initiative brings classic Southern dishes, live jazz music to 1,000 attendees

By Candice Ruud
THE DAILY BAROMETER

On Wednesday night in McNary Dining Hall, University Housing and Dining Services held the Soul Food Café, its first of many cultural dining opportunities, to help commemorate Black History Month.

This event included a full "soul food" menu, which featured Virginia pit ham, southern fried chicken, fried catfish, shrimp creole, jambalaya and Cajun crayfish, as well as live jazz music, courtesy of Ray Brassfield and the Best of Friends.

"It was pretty good for what it was, being through the university. The shrimp, catfish and jambalaya were good," said Jamilah Cash, a senior in business administration.

UHDS has started a diversity initiative in recent years to develop a broadened dining experience, emphasizing foods from various cultures so that students from different areas of the world will have a form of "comfort food" in the dining halls away from home.

"We felt the need to make housing and dining at Oregon State a home away from home," said Rich Turnbull, associate director of UHDS. Turnbull commented that Soul Food Café is the pilot event, and to expect more dining events in celebration of various cultural landmarks in the

future. "Our next event will be Cinco de Mayo."

The evening was made possible in collaboration with the Ujima Education Office and the Black Cultural Center.

"BCC's role is to help get the word out through Facebook and word-of-mouth," said Amber Calkins, a senior in biology and the internal coordinator for the Black Cultural Center.

"It's great to see UHDS making an effort. It all looks great. It's important to acknowledge their effort."

Cash noted that, if she were here next year, she would probably come back if UHDS was to hold this event again next year.

"I like the concept of the different cultural themes they're going to start

doing," she said. "But it would have been nice if for Black History Month they'd had a black band playing."

Between the publicity and the promise of jazz and authentic cultural cuisine, there was an expected turnout of close to 1,000 people for the evening's festivities, which ran from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Calkins said that minority students, especially foreign students, often feel unrepresented in the UHDS dining experience because they lack their own home comfort food.

"The two major things that you take away from your culture is food and music, and we have both here."

Candice Ruud, staff writer
news@dailybarometer.com, 737-2231

New course tackles health through theater

■ Students will perform CONNECT week monologues about health

By Tara Pistorese
THE DAILY BAROMETER

In the fall of 2000, the Health Promotion Department developed a peer theater program in order to find the correlation between better education and teaching techniques through the use of theater.

The course, originally called H199 or Multicultural Peer Theater, was offered through the health department as a special studies course.

Since then, Malinda Shell, an educator in Student Health Services, has altered the course agenda and qualifications to allow the course to be taken as a Difference, Power and Discrimination course.

The class will be offered in its new form for the first time during the upcoming spring term and will cover material closely related to health dis-

See DPD | page 3

Mission for student values statement finds little support

■ Three upcoming luncheons aim to gather opinions across OSU

By Lauren Sigel
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Students are being asked what values they think should be in OSU's first campus statement.

With over 20,000 students attending OSU, it is inevitable that everyone is going to have different values.

For the past two years, the Student Community Covenant Team has given students an opportunity to speak out

See COVENANT | page 3



Meetings
ASOSU Queer Affairs Task Force, 5pm, SLI Main Lounge (Snell 149). We are dedicated to creating campaigns that increase the awareness of LGBTQIA issues on campus. Please join us. Bring your ideas! Allies welcome!
Educational Activities, 6:20pm, MU Board Room. Chamber Music Corvallis will be presenting their 2008-09 budget proposal.
Rainbow Continuum, 5-6:30pm, MU 208. Pride Planning meetings. Come join other LGBTQIAAP student/faculty & community members in helping plan Pride Week 2008!

Events
Lutheran Campus Ministry, 6pm, Luther House, 211 NW 23rd Street. Quest: Simple supper and discussion.
Music, 3pm, 303 Benton Hall. OSU Faculty Recital: Janet Hackett, soprano.
Music, Noon, MU Lounge. Music à la Carte: OSU Chamber Choir and OSU Meistersingers.
Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center, 11am-5pm, Black Cultural Center. Come for "A Day of Love" and make Valentine cards for your friends and pick up a valogram to give away.
Peer Health Advocates, 11am-2pm, MU Student Lounge/MU 206. Consent and positive message Valentine making.

Events
International Students of Oregon State University, 7-10pm, MU Ballroom. Join ISOSU for an evening of song & dance! Enjoy different cultural music and dance from around the world, learn about the different cultural organizations around campus, and meet students from the international community. Dessert and drinks will be served.

Events
Lutheran Campus Ministry, 7pm, Grace Lutheran Church, 435 NW 21st, corner of Kings & Harrison Streets. Evensong Worship with communion, especially for students.

Meetings
ASOSU, 5pm, ASOSU, Snell 149. Women's Affairs Task Force Meeting.
Rainbow Continuum, 7-8pm, Women's Center. Social group of support for LGBTQIAAP students, faculty & community members. Come hang out meet people & play games! All taking place in a safe space atmosphere.
Events
Native American Longhouse, 4-6pm, MU 109. Native American Intertribal Dance Instruction. Learn how to powwow dance. Powwow dance styles will be taught, as well as some powwow protocol in the oral tradition.
Blood Drive Association, 11am-4pm, MU Ballroom. Winter Term Campus Blood Drive.

TOP STORY

Bush signs economy-rescue bill; rebates coming

By Jeannine Aversa
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The checks aren't in the mail, but they will be soon.

President Bush signed legislation Wednesday to rush rebates ranging from \$300 to \$1,200 to millions of people, the centerpiece of government efforts to brace the wobbly economy. First, though, you must file your 2007 tax return.

More than 130 million people are expected to get the rebates, starting around May. Congress, Bush, the Federal Reserve and Wall Street are hoping the money will burn such a hole in people's pockets that they won't be able to resist spending it. And the spending is supposed to give an energizing jolt to a nation-

al economy that is in danger of toppling into a recession if it hasn't already.

Whether people actually spend the money remains to be seen. A recent Associated Press-Ipsos poll indicates most people have other plans. Forty-five percent said they planned to pay off bills, while 32 percent said they would save or invest it. Only 19 percent said they would spend their rebates.

The measure Bush signed — a \$168 billion rescue package passed with lightning speed by Congress last week — includes not only rebates for individuals but also tax breaks for businesses to spur investment in new plants and equipment. That, too, would help bolster U.S. economic activity. The package also contains provisions aimed at

helping struggling homeowners clobbered by the housing collapse and the credit crunch refinance into more affordable mortgages.

The emergency plan marked a rare moment of cooperation among political rivals fearful that an ailing economy during an election year would invite voter retaliation.

Bush, who called the measure "a booster shot for our economy," praised the bipartisan cooperation. "We have come together on a single mission — and that is to put the people's interests first," he said.

Who gets a rebate? Most people who pay taxes or earn at least \$3,000, including through Social Security or veterans' disability benefits. Singles making more than \$75,000 and

couples with income topping \$150,000, however, will get smaller checks, up to the top limits for any rebate: incomes of \$87,000 for individuals and \$174,000 for couples.

To get any rebate, you must file a 2007 tax return and have a valid Social Security number. If you already filed your 2007 return, the IRS says you don't need to do anything extra.

Most taxpayers will receive a check of up to \$600 for individuals and \$1,200 for couples, with an additional \$300 for each child.

People earning too little to pay taxes but at least \$3,000 — including elderly people whose only income is from Social Security and veterans who live on disability payments — will get \$300 if single, or \$600 if a couple.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Bomb kills militant accused of planning attacks on Americans

DAMASCUS, Syria — One of the world's most wanted and elusive terrorists, Imad Mughniyeh, was killed in a car bombing in Syria nearly 15 years after dropping from sight. The one-time Hezbollah security chief was the suspected mastermind of attacks that killed hundreds of Americans in Lebanon and of the brutal kidnappings of Westerners.

The Lebanese Shiite militant group Hezbollah and its top ally, Iran, blamed Israel on Wednesday for the assassination. Israel denied any involvement, but officials made no effort to conceal their approval of his death.

Mughniyeh was also on the FBI's list of most wanted terrorists, and the U.S. State Department had offered a \$5 million reward for information leading to his arrest or conviction. He was indicted in the U.S. for his role in planning the 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner in which a U.S. Navy diver was killed.



Obama sweeps states in presidential bid; McCain improves lead

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama, already claiming a "new American majority," is focusing more and more on

the likely Republican candidate in the November presidential election as he continues to rack up big victories over Hillary Rodham Clinton in their race for the Democratic nomination.

Obama surged to the fore in the delegate race for the party prize with resounding primary victories Tuesday in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. On the GOP side, John McCain took another step in shoring up his credentials as the runaway Republican front-runner despite lukewarm support from the party's conservative base.

Clinton, considered the overwhelming Democratic favorite just a few weeks ago, was left to turn her attention to Texas and Ohio in an attempt to pump new life into her suddenly stumbling campaign.

"There's a great saying in Texas, all hat and no cattle," she told a boisterous crowd of about 12,000 at a college basketball arena in El Paso Tuesday evening as the shape of the latest Obama ballot victories were unfolding. "Well, after seven years of George Bush, we need a lot less hat and lot more cattle."

Before flying into Texas, she told a Cincinnati television station that "Ohio is really going to count in determining who our Democratic nominee is going to be." She also declared herself the "underdog candidate" in the Wisconsin primary next Tuesday, the same day Obama's birthplace Hawaii holds its primary.

In was at the University of Wisconsin

where Obama characterized his surging campaign to a crowd of 17,000. "This is what change looks like when it happens from the bottom up," he said. "This is the new American majority."



Mannix won't back Ore. lawmakers' property crimes measure

SALEM — Republican Kevin Mannix said he's done negotiating with Democratic legislators on a less costly version of his initiative plan to toughen prison sentences for property crime and drug dealing.

Mannix has spent weeks in informal talks with lawmakers and district attorneys to fashion a possible alternative to his ballot measure. On Tuesday, the Salem Republican said the alternative has become unacceptable.

"As far as I'm concerned, sadly, it's over," Mannix said.

Despite Mannix's decision to end talks, lawmakers, district attorneys and Gov. Ted Kulongoski's office continued working on a plan. Late Tuesday, the Senate Judiciary Committee advanced the alternative on a party-line vote, the Statesman Journal newspaper reported.

The proposal is expected to come to a full Senate vote soon, raising the prospect that voters will choose between two competing proposals this fall.

— The Associated Press

QUOTED

"I will continue to serve the people of Idaho"

Idaho Senator Larry Craig, responding to the Senate Ethics Committee review of his conduct during a restroom sex sting last year.

"A monthlong moratorium on mortgage foreclosure is like a Band-Aid when the patient really needs surgery."

AFL-CIO President John Sweeney, critiquing an initiative announced Tuesday to assist homeowners who are behind on mortgage payments.

BREAKDOWN

NAIROBI, Kenya — Looting, arson and murder have become hallmarks of Kenya's conflict over a disputed presidential election. Another, less talked about tactic in the violence that has degenerated into ethnic clashes: rape.

Dr. Joseph Osoo, who runs a two-room clinic in Nairobi's Mathare slum, said he was overwhelmed by the number of women and girls who came for treatment and by the brutality of their ordeals.

"During the days immediately after the election I was treating up to 45 rape victims a day," he said. Usually, he treats one rape victim a week.

PORTLAND — A pair of teacher unions have gone back to court to fight anti-tax activist Bill Sizemore, claiming he is violating a judge's order against using a charitable organization to raise money for political purposes.

The Oregon Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers-Oregon filed a motion Tuesday in Multnomah County Circuit Court claiming that Sizemore is violating a 2003 court injunction following a 2002 jury verdict against him.

PARIS — Henri Salvador, the velvet-voiced French musician credited with inspiring the bossa nova, bringing rock 'n' roll to France and helping create the music video, died Wednesday. He was 90.

Buy Roses for Your Sweetheart!
Valentine's Day Flower Sale in the MU Quad
 February 13th and 14th
 Support the OSU Horticulture Club

BEAVER CAB

- Dependable 24/7 Service All Over Corvallis
- Clean and Safe Vehicles
- Experienced and Courteous Drivers

Need a dependable taxi ride? Leave it to Beaver!

The number to know when you need a ride! **541-738-TAXI**

We have delights for your valentine!

Locally made chocolates, candles, massage oils, bath salts, flowers, wine & lots of tasty, organic food!

First Alternative NATURAL FOODS CO-OP

FRESH • LOCAL • ORGANIC • Good-For-You
 AT TWO LOCATIONS IN CORVALLIS

North Store: 452-3115
 29th & Grant
 Open 7-9 daily

South Store: 753-3115
 1007 SE 3rd St
 Open 9-9 daily

Sweetheart of a Pizza Deal!

Get a **FREE Heart-Shaped Box of Burst's Chocolates** with a **Heart-Shaped Pizza.**

WOODSTOCK'S PIZZA PARLOR

752-5151
WE DELIVER
 (To Most of Corvallis)
1045 NW Kings Blvd.

Thursday, February 14 Only!
 (Only @ Kings Blvd. Store)
 Small box of chocolates, while supplies last.
 Heart shape by request only.
 www.woodstocks.com

MENS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
 February 23, 2008 • 3 to 8pm • Loge Level at Reser Stadium

Featuring keynote speaker **Mike Riley**

For more information, registration, or accommodations for disabilities, contact MU Program Council in MU 103 or by telephone at 737-6872

COVENANT: Votes will decide key OSU values

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

about the content of OSU's first campus values statement.

"DiscoveryThroughDialogue: Bringing Our Values Together" is meant to directly outline what values are important to the students at OSU.

"The creation of our values statement will help to create a more welcoming and safe environment that honors all individuals as well as to create relations across campus," said Angela Baxter, the SCCT coordinator.

"Students can look to this document as guiding principles in their actions while at OSU. The main impact it will have on students is creating a sense of community with the rest of the OSU student body."

The SCCT's purpose is to collect the values of the student body and then to write the covenant which outlines them. The team consists of a wide student base from across campus who are passionate about creating community throughout campus.

"Two years ago there were a number of issues on campus that affected a large community of students. This promoted the creation of P.E.A.C.E. OSU [Pluralistic Encouragement in A Community of Excellence], a student organization created to start discussing difficult topics that were influencing the whole of OSU," Baxter said.

"Out of these discussions with students, faculty and staff, the idea of a covenant was generated. This was the birth of creating a covenant for the OSU student body."

The dialogues, however, have been sparsely attended.

"I think it's a combination of midterms, people being busy and people not really knowing what a values statement is," Baxter said. "We also had fliers, but it's hard to reach everyone."

The dialogues are only part of the process of establishing a values statement. There will be three luncheons to get further student input — one for first year students, one for ISOSU and one for the Greek community.

The next luncheon will be on Wednesday from 12 to 1 p.m.

The opinions gathered from these luncheons will be compounded into survey form and sent out to the student body, where students will have the opportunity to vote on different values that they think are vital to the OSU community.

Lauren Sigel, news writer
news@dailybarometer.com, 737-2231

LITERACY: Students affect literacy rates

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

service librarian at the Valley Library. "I don't think OSU students are getting enough opportunities to write based on complex texts. Then again, demands of curriculum are changing."

All OSU students are required to take several English classes including a Writing Intensive Course (WIC) in their major as part of the Baccalaureate Core graduation requirements. These classes were designed to prepare students to write in their respective fields.

Tolar Burton and Ede think that this might not be enough.

"It's just common sense that writing needs to be reinforced," Ede said. "Large lecture classes where students write little, if at all, are not benefiting them as writers."

This is one of the major problems facing large universities today.

At smaller, liberal arts colleges, faculty can require students to do more writing and give more extensive feedback in small classes. Professors also get to know students better, allowing to coach them in a way that can't happen as easily at OSU, said Ede.

Articles sensationalizing

the decline of literacy also focus on another topic relevant to OSU — diversity.

In 1972, for example, there was a media brouhaha when Newsweek published a title article called "Why Johnny can't write," discussing the decline of SAT scores at the time which showed a "dramatic decline in literacy."

However, the real source of the "decline" was actually an entirely new group of students attending college who had never attended college before.

Less privileged students were taking the SATs and going to college, lowering the average SAT score nationwide.

Colleges face the same problems today. Do they open up their school to more diversity by allowing students with lower SAT scores in, or do they maintain a high-performing student body which may be significantly less diverse?

"From one perspective, people could say this was a literacy crisis," Ede said. "But the other positive perspective is that the so-called decline of literacy is actually an opening up of colleges to more people."

Until recently, the United States was one of the only countries in the world to have a generally required first year writing course.

Many other well-developed countries reserved their higher education for the elite, and their students came very well prepared.

"The U.S. has always emphasized how education should play a democratic roll in society," Ede said.

"It is the responsibility for universities to support students who come less prepared than others. At OSU we have a writing center staffed with 35 to 40 writing assistants and a WIC program that is doing quite a bit. We could probably do more, but we are meeting minimum responsibilities right now."

Katy Weaver, staff writer
news@dailybarometer.com, 737-2231

DPD: Class to use projects for learning

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

parities, health and healing across cultures, the difference in health behaviors amongst different cultures and tied together with the use of acting techniques.

"A lot of what I do is try to create a more inclusive view of health to students," Shell said.

"The way in which we do that is through theater. The theater piece ends up being the entry way into getting students' attention, the facilitation afterwards is where the education part comes in."

According to statistics provided by the American Alliance for Theater and Education, recent studies prove that integrating the arts into education enhances students' development and performance.

Students learning through the arts think at a higher level, collaborate with their peers and score higher on standardized tests.

A variety of roles will be offered through the course in order to cater to each individual interest.

Other topics of discussion will include diversity issues and cultural awareness as a component of health and wellness.

"We are trying to take it a little wider this time and get a little more student input on things. This [course] is one of the avenues through which we are trying to do that," Shell said.

The new course demands a high level of project-based participation. Theater activities will be used as a tool to teach students the material while teaching them the art of acting.

"Hopefully down the road there will be some cross-list-

ings so students can take my course and get credit for their major, but my first order of business was to get it into DPD and that's what I did," Shell said.

During CONNECT week — a series of events that offer incoming freshmen the opportunity to experience first-hand what OSU has to offer — there will be a performance put on by H199.

"As we build a student base, there are obviously opportunities for us to do additional things throughout the year depending on how many student volunteers we have," Shell said.

"Since the class is new this spring, I didn't think that I could get everybody ready to go by START sessions, which are at the end of June."

"The plan is to have the class in the spring and have the students perform in the summer during START," Shell said.

In addition to extending the cap from 10 to 20 students, the course has abandoned the use of purchased scripts and has moved toward student-written scripts.

"The course material is very different from when I've taught in the past. I'm still using a lot of the same acting material and a lot of the same health [material], but I have definitely increased the amount of cultural awareness pieces," Shell said. Other prominent areas of study in the upcoming course will be condom use, body image issues, racism and oppression, and workshops will be available in correspondence to the educational themes.

For additional information on the course, students should contact Malinda Shell at Student Health Services.

Tara Pistorese, news writer
news@dailybarometer.com, 737-2231

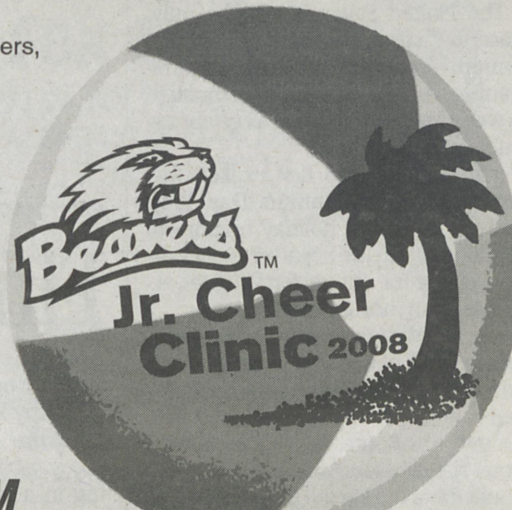
OREGON STATE
CHEERLEADING


Cheer Clinic

Oregon State Women's Basketball vs. USC
Saturday, Feb. 23
Gametime: 7:00 p.m.

Hosted by the Oregon State Cheerleaders, clinic is open to kids ages 2-13*. Participants receive a Jr. Cheer Clinic t-shirt, pizza, game ticket and will perform during halftime!

To register, call the Oregon State Marketing office at (541)737.1085. Questions? Email Amber Bezates at Amber.Bezates@oregonstate.edu.




 **OSUBEAVERS.COM**

*Clinic is limited to the first 150 participants to sign up.

COMMAND # 78

MAKE IT A CRIME
TO BE LOUD
IT IS OUR HOUSE

COMMANDS OF THE DAM 

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. WASHINGTON STATE
 THUS., FEB. 14 - 5:30 PM

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. WASHINGTON
 SAT., FEB. 16 - 4:00 PM

BEAVER
DAM

07 BRING THE NOISE 08

TO JOIN BEAVER DAM VISIT GILL RM. 100
MEMBERSHIP ONLY \$20

International
Performing Arts
Celebration




Join ISOSU for an evening of song and dance!

Enjoy different cultural music and dance from around the world, learn about the different cultural organizations around campus, and meet students from the international community!

Desserts and drinks will be served!




Saturday, February 16
• 7-10 pm •
MU Ballroom
Free Admission

For special accommodations, please contact the ISOSU office at Snell Hall 140. Phone: (541)737-6348

ISOSU

International Students of Oregon State University

Editorial

Valentine's Day, what it means

In case you missed it, today is Valentine's Day — so Happy V-day. Some may love this day and others may loathe it. And sometimes people love it one year and not the next.

Why? Because one year you might have a significant other and the next year you may not. However, at this time it is important to look at the history behind Valentine's Day.

Believe it or not, it is not just about pink hearts, chocolate, cards, flowers and gifts. The holiday has a background and it has morphed into what it is now.

The United States is not the only place that celebrates this holiday. The United Kingdom, Canada, Japan, France, China and India all celebrate it as well. But of course, they all celebrate it differently.

It is important to first explain the history behind Valentine's Day. It is said the romantic holiday originated in Rome during the pagan era — it was to celebrate the annual fertility festival, according to morungexpress.com.

The holiday was originally in commemoration of a martyr — a Christian priest named Valentine — who married young lovers at a time when it was outlawed in Rome. It has lost its religious significance. Males and females would mate during the festival in a lottery type system. The story goes many times the young lovers would fall for one another and marry. This is how the legend of Valentine's Day and Saint Valentine began in Rome.

During this time, Rome was controlled by Emperor Claudius II, and apparently he endured several unpopular and bloody attacks.

Claudius needed soldiers, but no males were willing to leave their wives. The solution? Claudius banned marriages in Rome.

Valentine secretly married the young lovers, going against the rule of Claudius. When he was discovered, Valentine was put in jail and later executed on Feb. 14, circa 270 CE. Rumor has it he fell in love with the daughter of an officer, sent her a card and signed it "your Valentine."

So because of all the things he did in the name of love, he was given the title of a Saint, becoming Saint Valentine.

According to morungexpress.com, by 498 CE, Pope Gelasius ended the pagan celebration of the Feast of Lupercalia and declared Feb. 14 as St. Valentine's Day. Now that you know the background story, should you think about how you feel about Valentine's Day once more? After all, a priest sacrificed his life so others could marry.

Of course today it seems Valentine's day has become a superficial holiday, helping companies sell merchandise people won't use. It is important to look past the superficiality of this holiday and really look at the meaning.

So today, even if you don't have a significant other, remember that it is not all that matters — family and friends are just as great.

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.



Finding hope in troubled times

It would be so pleasant to bury my head in the sand, to enjoy the comfort and privilege I enjoy as an American citizen living in a fairly healthy community. I'm basically a positive person, but I sometimes find it hard to stay upbeat when I look outside my bubble of wellbeing. There is some good news.

Availability of and access to education and health care continue to improve in many regions. Political and social freedom, including the dissolution of repressive governments and increasing establishment and enforcement of human rights, are also increasing in many parts of the world.

The bad news, however, often seems to outweigh the good.

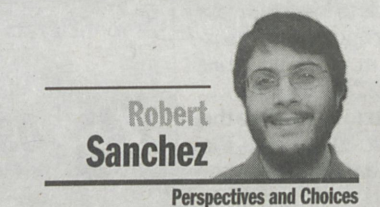
A collaborative work produced by the World Bank, the United Nations and a number of other institutions, the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment paints a grim picture. The quality and quantity of many renewable resources, including fisheries, wood for fuel and timber, forage for grazing livestock and fresh water, all continue to decline.

The ability of the air and water to purify themselves is being steadily degraded. Natural controls on diseases and pest species (healthy ecosystems) are increasingly weakened.

Erosion rates are increasing, reducing the fecundity of the land, while a growing global population asks us to grow more food. Pollinators, essential to both food production and ecosystem stability, continue to decline in number and hundreds of vital species are threatened with extinction.

Regional climate continues to destabilize, and natural hazards like floods and droughts increase in frequency and intensity at the same time, as natural buffers to hazards are degraded.

Along with environmental issues, economic uncertainties are a



Robert Sanchez

Perspectives and Choices

growing concern. The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, an arm of the Department of Commerce, reports disturbing trends. National and personal debts, in absolute terms and as a debt-to-income ratio, are at historic highs, with national debt-to-net income ratio at 4.6:1 in 2006.

The average personal savings rate, measured as the percentage of disposable income saved, has dropped from about 10 percent in the mid 1970's to nearly -2 percent. Negative savings equals increased personal debt.

The Bank of International Settlements, the world's oldest international financial institution which works to create and maintain cooperation and stability among the world's central banks and major international institutions, warns that increasing debt is a significant problem.

In June 2005, the BIS cautioned that "[growing] domestic and international debt has created the conditions for global economic and financial crises." When or if major worldwide economic destabilization will occur is debatable, but our increasingly globalized economy and growing national debt clearly increase the potential for such a crisis.

Based on Gross Domestic Product, our economy continues to grow, but this growth is driven by the acquisition of debt.

Combined data from the Federal Reserve, the U.S. Treasury and the Bureau of Economic Analysis estimate that total American debt (including federal, state and local government debt, and business, personal and other domestic debt) is

more than \$48 trillion. Seventy-three percent of this debt (\$35 trillion) has been created since 1990.

The famous economist and social philosopher Ludwig von Mises advised that "[there] is no means of avoiding the final collapse of a boom brought about by credit [debt] expansion." Our current economic growth is fueled by expansion of debt.

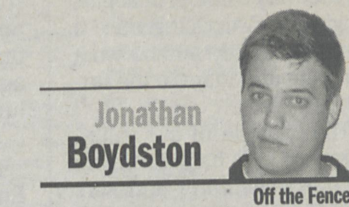
War and organized violence add further to the world's troubles. Although many Americans experience them only peripherally, armed conflicts significantly affect daily life in many countries. The United Nations defines military conflicts that result in at least 1,000 deaths per year as "major wars."

Established in 1976 by the Canadian Council of Churches, Project Ploughshares tracks military issues and creates policy advice. Their annual Armed Conflicts Reports show military violence peaking in the mid 1990's, when 44 separate "major wars" involved 39 countries — over 20 percent of the world's nations. Since that time, major conflicts have decreased by 30 percent.

Rated by "Forbes" magazine as a top Internet resource for security and military information, and cited for the reliability and depth of their reporting, Globalsecurity.org offers a comprehensive catalogue of conflicts occurring in 2008.

Even given the major decline in armed conflicts since 1995, the following nations are involved in "major wars" or smaller conflicts: Algeria, Angola, Burma, China, Colombia, Congo, Djibouti, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Ivory Coast, Korea, Laos, Lebanon, Moldova, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Russia, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, United States, Uzbekistan and Yemen.

See SANCHEZ | page 5



Jonathan Boydston

Off the Fence

A snake in the grass

Over these last seven years the American people — and indeed people in each corner of the globe — have had to endure the countless misjudgments and failures of George W. Bush.

However, the direction our nation has taken cannot be blamed solely on the man we put into the White House. The entire movement that climaxed with Bush's election is what propelled the United States on a course which so many Americans deem to be flawed at best.

It was a movement much different than those we witnessed before George W. Bush and one much different than that which we have seen this time around.

It was a sort of juxtaposition of neo-conservatism and "compassionate conservatism" with a bit of corporatism for good measure that really won over the hearts of millions of Americans in 2000 and again in 2004.

Luckily, for all of us outside of big business and the religious right, the Republican Party will not be preaching atop such a platform during the soon approaching general election.

As the primary season comes to close — at least on the Republican side — it is now understood that John McCain, the one time opponent of George W. Bush, will be the Republican nominee.

It turns out after all of the right wing criticism, after all of the conservative radio attacks, after all of the cries from other candidates that he is a liberal snake masquerading as a true Conservative, John McCain has presumptively won.

I am not going to claim McCain is going to stick by his guns and reject the common ideals of his party; on the contrary I suspect soon enough the senator from Arizona is going to come around and give in to at least some of the right wing's wishes.

The extent to which he will convert to the ranks of the right has still to be determined. One must remember what Rush Limbaugh and the rest of the gang has been announcing over the last few weeks: John McCain supported an immigration policy loathed by the majority of Conservatives, John McCain supported campaign finance reform, John McCain voted against the Bush tax cuts.

To think, he even voted against drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and condemns all torture and "enhanced interrogation." To the far right of the party, such poor decisions are seen as nothing short of liberal blasphemy.

Still, riding on the back of moderate states around the country, McCain pulled it off. He lost the South, he lost the mountain West, he lost the heart of red America and the Conservative base which Republicans have counted on for election after election — but he still won.

See BOYDSTON | page 5

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. Letters are subject to editing for space and clarity. The Daily Barometer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submissions.

The Daily Barometer
c/o Letter to the editor
Memorial Union East 106
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-1617

or e-mail: editor@dailybarometer.com

Barometer

EDITOR IN CHIEF LAUREN L. DILLARD
737-3191 • editor@dailybarometer.com

NEWS EDITOR ALEKS CHEREDNICHENKO
737-2231 • news@dailybarometer.com

The Barometer (USPS 411-460) is published Monday through Friday except holidays and final exam week during the academic school year; weekly during summer term; one issue last full week in August; one issue week prior to fall term in September by the Oregon State University Student Media Committee on behalf of the Associated Students of OSU, at Memorial Union East, OSU, Corvallis, OR 97331-1614. Subscriptions are \$66 per year.

NEWS TIPS • 737-2231
FAX • 737-4999

ASST. NEWS EDITOR MICHELLE SUFFIN
737-2232 • city@dailybarometer.com

SPORTS EDITOR KYE JOHNSON
737-6378 • sports@dailybarometer.com

PHOTO EDITOR LAURA DEVITO
737-6380 • photo@dailybarometer.com

Periodicals postage paid at Corvallis, OR 97333 and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to:

THE DAILY BAROMETER
118 Memorial Union East
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97331-1614

E-MAIL • NEWS TIPS
news@dailybarometer.com

DIVERSIONS EDITOR TIM PFARR
737-6377 • diversions@dailybarometer.com

DESIGN EDITOR REID PARHAM
737-3191 • editor@dailybarometer.com

FORUM PAGE EDITORS
ASHLEY SLOCKI & SUSIE BAFICO
737-6376 • forum@dailybarometer.com

The Daily Barometer, published for use by OSU students, faculty and staff, is private property. A single copy of The Barometer is free from newsstands. Unauthorized removal of multiple copies will be considered theft and is prosecutable.

Responsibility — The University Student Media Committee is charged with the general supervision of all student publications and broadcast media

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR AMY RINKLE
737-3191 • editor@dailybarometer.com

CHIEF COPY EDITOR SARA CAIN
737-2232 • editor@dailybarometer.com

COPY EDITOR KELLY McDONALD
737-6380 • editor@dailybarometer.com

operated under its authority for the students and staff of Oregon State University on behalf of the Associated Students of OSU.

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

BUSINESS MANAGER
JASON HIRKO • 737-6373

AD SALES REPRESENTATIVES • 737-2233
CORY EISELE
YULI LIN

LISA WELLS
COURTNEY VAN DOORNICK
SKYLAR REYNOLDS
ELIZABETH ROMANAGGI
DYLAN LONG
CAMPUS AD SALES
YESSSENIA ALARCON

CLASSIFIEDS MANAGER
KEVIN POSCH • 737-6372
ASSISTANT
CLASSIFIEDS MANAGER
CORBY RAY • 737-6372

PLAY

WORK

LEARN

...for the health of it.

February 18 - 22, 2008

CAMPUS

WELLNESS

WEEK

LIVE

REFLECT

LOVE

CARE

Wii CARE ABOUT
HEALTH & WELLNESS
(Enter to win a Wii!)

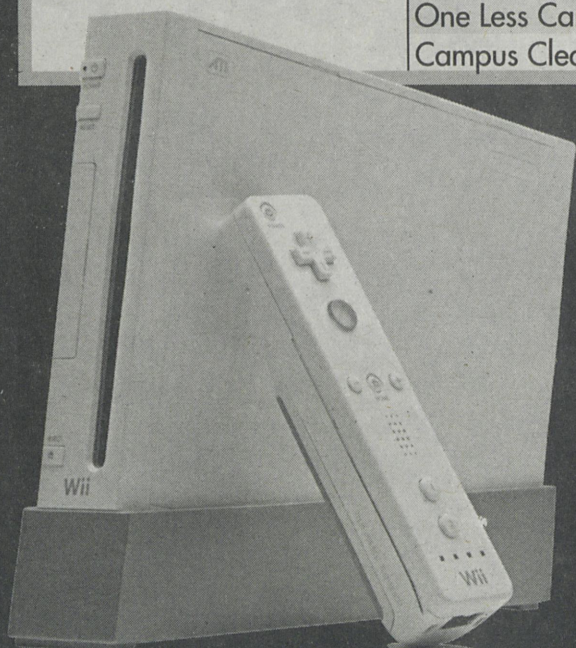
...for the health of it.

CAMPUS WELLNESS WEEK | FEBRUARY 18- 22, 2008

Schedule of Events

Day	Event	Time	Location
Saturday, Feb. 16th	3 on 3 Basketball Tournament*	10:00am	Dixon Recreation Center
Monday, Feb. 18th	"Wheel of Wellness"	11:00 - 2:00pm	Memorial Union
	Red Cross Blood Drive <i>(Not a Passport eligible activity)</i>	11:00 - 4:00pm	MU Ballroom
	Walk to Work Day	12:00 - 12:45pm	MU Steps
	Blue Cross Blue Shield Workshop <i>FREE lunch to the first 45 individuals!</i>	12:00 - 1:00pm	MU 208
	Voices Video Project	12:00 - 1:30pm	MU Journey Room
	Playdough Fun!	1:00 - 2:00pm	Snell Hall - 5th floor
	"Spice it Up" Cooking Class <i>Sign-up in Dixon Recreation Center</i>	4:00 - 5:00pm	Dixon - Lower Classroom
	Cycle Marathon	5:15 - 6:15pm 6:15 - 7:15pm 7:15 - 8:15pm	Dixon - MP #3
Tuesday, Feb. 19th	"Saving for Retirement" & "Retirement Choices" Workshops	10 - 11:30AM (OPSRP) 12 - 1:00PM (TIAA-CREF) 1 - 2:00PM (Fidelity)	MU 109
	"Wheel of Wellness"	11:00 - 2:00pm	Memorial Union
	Red Cross Blood Drive	11:00 - 4:00pm	MU Ballroom
	Career Fair	11:00 - 4:00pm	Alumni Center
	Playdough Fun!	5:00 - 6:00pm	Snell Hall - 5th floor
	Take a Bite out of Wellness	5:00 - 7:00pm	Arnold Dining Hall
	Dance Marathon	7:30 - 8:30pm 8:30 - 9:30pm 9:30 - 10:30pm	Dixon - MP #1
	Wednesday, Feb. 20th	Climb the Stairs Day!	On Your Own
Red Cross Blood Drive		11:00 - 4:00pm	MU Ballroom
Career Fair		11:00 - 4:00pm	Alumni Center
"Conquering The Winter Blues" <i>by Cascade EAP (FREE lunch to first 45 individuals)</i>		11:30 - 12:30pm	MU 206
"Self Managing Your Prescription Drugs" <i>by Samaritan Health (FREE lunches to first 45 individuals)</i>		12:00 - 1:00pm	MU 208
"Balancing Work & Family" <i>by Cascade EAP (FREE lunch to first 45 individuals)</i>		12:45 - 1:45pm	MU 206
Fun Fit Races!		4:00 - 7:00pm	Dixon - Wellness Center
Take a Bite out of Wellness		5:00 - 7:00pm	West Dining Hall
Thursday, Feb. 21st	Red Cross Blood Drive	11:00 - 4:00pm	MU Ballroom
	Playdough Fun!	12:00 - 1:00pm	Snell Hall - 5th floor
	Stress Free Yoga	3:00 - 4:00pm	MU 109
	"Fresh Fever" Cooking Class <i>Sign up in Dixon Recreation Center</i>	4:00 - 5:00pm	Dixon - Lower Classroom
	Take a Bite out of Wellness	5:00 - 7:00pm	McNary Dining Hall
Friday, Feb. 22nd	Car Pool Day	On Your Own	All day, anywhere you need to go!
	"Soup for the Soul"	12:30 - 3:00pm	MU Lounge
	IM Poker Tournament	6:00pm	Dixon - MP #1
Saturday, Feb. 23rd	Outdoor Used Equipment Sale	9:00 - 12:00pm	Dixon - Lower Gym
	Vert Fest- Climbing Competition*	9:00 - 3:00pm	Dixon - Climbing Center
	One Less Car*	11:00am	Dixon - Wellness Center (Start)
	Campus Cleanup	12:00 - 2:00pm	MU Quad (Start)

* = Must register prior to event.



Win a Nintendo Wii!

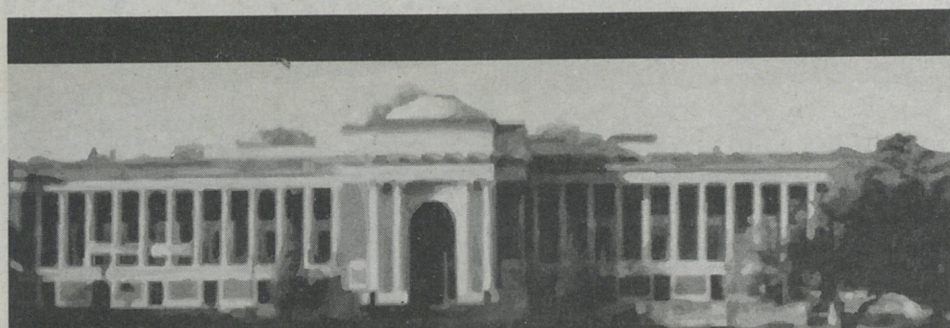
Participate in and earn Passport Stamps at four different events through-out the week. Complete the survey on the back of the Passport, and return to Dixon Recreation Center by February 26, 2008 at 8:00am to be entered in the drawing to win the Wii or another fabulous prize!

Pick up your passport at an event or in Dixon Recreation Center.

oregonstate.edu/recsports

25 Things To Do Before You Graduate

1. Visit Mary's Peak to snowshoe, sled, hike, or stargaze
2. Ride a bike, walk or run to the covered bridge
3. Experience a play at the OSU Theatres in Withycombe Hall or at the Majestic Theatre downtown
4. Buy something fresh at the Corvallis Farmers' Market
5. Grab dinner on the waterfront in downtown Corvallis
6. Take a hike in one of OSU's forests
7. Check out the work of visiting artists at Fairbanks Hall
8. Float down the Willamette River with a group of friends
9. Go buck wild at a rodeo at the Benton County Fairgrounds
10. Knock some pins down at the MU Basement Billiards & Bowling
11. Volunteer through OSU's Community Service Center located in Snell Hall
12. Cheer on the Beavs at an OSU sporting event
13. Give blood
14. Serve on an ASOSU task force or committee
15. Present yourself at a career fair
16. Attend a philosophy debate, lecture, or discussion
17. Thank someone who has made a difference in your life while at college
18. Take a course that is in no way related to your degree.
19. Visit the OSU greenhouses
20. Try out a new sport or activity through RecSports
21. Expand your horizons by going on exchange to another state or country
22. Get creative and take a class at the MU Craft Center
23. Attend a cultural night
24. Camp out in front of Gill Coliseum for football tickets
25. Join the O-Stater Club



CAMPUS CLEAN UP


Participants meet in the MU Quad at 12:00pm. We will divide into groups and canvas the campus looking for garbage and recycling to dispose of.

The event will culminate in the MU Quad with food and prizes!

Sponsored by the University Honors College
For more information, contact 541-737-6403

Oregon State UNIVERSITY

First Alternative Natural Foods Co-op COOKING CLASSES



"Spice it up!"
We're making spice blends for your everyday meals, making healthy foods taste good!
February 18th, 4 - 5:00pm

"Fresh Fever"
Have the winter blues got you down? Come explore exciting vegetable options available in the colder, winter months.
February 21st, 4 - 5:00pm

FREE! *Sign-up prior to the event in Dixon Recreation Center

Oregon State UNIVERSITY

TAKE A BITE OUT OF WELLNESS

Free massage, blood pressure screening, nutrition advice, and more!

February 19 - 21
5 - 7:00pm
(See schedule for specific dates & dining center locations)

Come and "take a bite out of wellness" at your nearest dining center!

Oregon State UNIVERSITY



One Less Car

Saturday, February 23
11:00am - 12:00am

\$5 registration fee

Come walk, run, bike, skateboard (or by any means you wish) our 5K or 10K route around campus. Spice things up by wearing a costume! Let's benefit our health while encouraging emissions reductions.

Enter to win a bike & other great prizes!

Sign up at the Health & Fitness Connection in Dixon Recreation Center!

Oregon State UNIVERSITY



VERT FEST 08

16th annual climbing competition

FEB 23rd

Sign up TODAY!

Youth/Students, RecSports Members	\$20
Non-Members	\$25
General Public	\$30

*Price includes T-Shirt

For more information on registration and prices visit Deixon Recreation Center or go online to oregonstate.edu/recsports

Oregon State UNIVERSITY



ORC USED EQUIPMENT SALE

GEAR PREVIEW
Friday, Feb. 22

USED GEAR SALE
Saturday, Feb. 23

QUESTIONS?
Outdoor Recreation Center
541-737-3630

Oregon State UNIVERSITY

Name: Benjamin Church

Major: Electrical computer engineering

Hobbies: Camping, rock climbing, video games, computers

What do you do to stay healthy/ find balance?

Stay physically active. Eat as little cafeteria food as possible and eat a well balanced diet.

The most exciting sport you've tried. What was the experience like?

Climbing was the most exciting sport. It is amazing, but it scared the crap out of me.

What class would you recommend? Why?

My favorite class was electrical and computer engineering 112 because the teacher was awesome and the lab was really fun. We got to make a robot!

What is your most bizarre favorite food combination?

I love top ramen with ketchup and soy sauce!

Give a thanks or shout out to someone who has made a difference in your life on or off campus.

Thanks to my girlfriend Jessica for keeping me sane!



We asked you...

Name: Clark Lawrence

Major: Undecided

Year: Freshman

Hobbies: Halo, Frisbee, chillin with the peeps, golf

What do you do to stay healthy / find balance?

Swim, play Frisbee and soccer, eat healthy

Do you have any good relaxation tips?

Get a good massage and lots of rest

What's your favorite healthy snack or recipe?

Frozen Grapes

What is your most bizarre favorite food combination?

White rice and mustard

What is the scariest thing you've ever done?

Once when I was rafting I got pulled out of the raft on a class IV rapid and had to swim down a part of the rapid called "the meat grinder."

Name: Kaitlin Alexander

Major: HDFS - Early Childhood Education

Year: Sophomore

Hobbies: running, dancing, singing, volunteering. Kappa Alpha Theta, working, eating, and playing

What do you do to stay healthy/ find balance? Make sure to work out at least 6 times a week, but switch up the routine everyday, especially cardio activities. I also keep a color coordinated planner of ALL activities to organize my hectic life and prevent stress.

What class would you recommend to most other students? Why? Any US history class. Because history is always fascinating and because you should know about the past in order to problem solve for the future.

What is the funniest or most embarrassing thing that has happened to you or that you have witnessed on campus? I once got dared to snowboard off the main course in my underwear... but as I started down the slope my board caught ice and I fell the entire way down scraping up my hands and backside. Needless to say it was a bloody mess and even though it hurt a lot it was one of the funniest things my friends had ever seen.



Name: Peter Pham

Major: Biology

Year: Junior

Hobbies: Basketball, running, and grocery shopping.

What do you do to stay healthy / find balance?

I work out at night or sometimes between classes. I also try to avoid eating too many fried foods.

What class would you recommend most to other students? Why? I recommend taking any PAC

classes. I am actually in one right now, competitive basketball. If you have time in your schedule, it's a great way to relax and take a break from school work.

Do you have any good relaxation tips?

Listen to music or do some casual reading like reading the Barometer.

What's your favorite healthy snack or recipe?

Flat bread and hummus.

What's the thing that you look forward to most about spring?

The sun and wearing flip flops without getting my feet wet

Tips for Staying Healthy

from SHS, CAPS, & RecSports

1. Get active. Exercise can help improve your mood by helping you to relax, increasing your stamina, releasing natural "tranquilizers" (endorphins), and improving your sleep.

2. Fuel your body. Good nutrition will fortify your body, while over-eating, skipping meals, or eating "junk" food may deplete your body of essential nutrients that keep you healthy.

3. Avoid harmful substances, such as alcohol, nicotine, caffeine, and other drugs. While they may initially cause a brief break from your symptoms, they will soon make them worse.

4. Raise your spirits by doing at least one activity you enjoy each day and by talking with people who make you feel special.

5. Think positively by arguing against negative thoughts with more rational or helpful thoughts.

6. Seek out positive people who will listen without judging or giving advice.

7. Reduce stress through relaxation exercises. Try ten minutes of slow, deep breathing.

8. Engage in activities that renew or inspire your heart and mind. Find ways to accept yourself or forgive your mistakes in life.

9. Give your mind and body a break and sleep at least 6-8 hours each night.

10. Prioritize and organize your time so that you do not take on too much.

11. Listen to others, not for your turn to speak, but to really hear what they have to say.

12. Lighten up and laugh, it is a wonderful stress reliever and mood enhancer.

13. Set goals and break them into small manageable steps. Reward yourself along the way.

14. Drink about 8 glasses of water per day; try carrying a water bottle to help you out

15. Accept what you cannot control, it is not worth stressing over.

16. Live in the present. Learn from the past and move on.

17. Avoid quick, dramatic diet changes; they usually do not last long. Changing your diet should be a slow, ongoing process.

Campus Wellness Week 2008 Brought to you by:

Career Services
OSU Honors College
Student Health Services
Human Resources

Counseling & Psychological Services
Recreational Sports
University Housing and Dining

Heteronormativity and you: a guide

"Man, that's gay!" Since middle school, this phrase has dominated vocabularies as a representation of negative emotion. The exclamation can represent disappointment, annoyance and dislike. More often than not, we consider the direction of this sentiment at another person an insult. But why?

Well, the enmity inherent in the utterance is more than enough to hurt someone's feelings. That it attacks the subject's personal identity could also easily explain why we find it offensive. But beyond even that, the complex mortification it invokes stems from some last, tiny vestige of homophobia ingrained deeply within our cultural consciousness.

To better illustrate the steadfastness of this homophobic reflex, let me briefly relate my personal struggle with it. I transferred to Champaign from the University's Springfield campus that has struggled with issues of inclusivity regarding its lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community. I, along with other students, faculty and staff, focused a great deal of energy toward the establishment of an open and accepting on-campus environment. My personal efforts included a term on our Queer-Straight Alliance's executive board, a position as a student representative to our Safe Zone program steering committee and general promotion of my stance as an active ally.

But when we encounter a subculture whose members cannot be outwardly recognized, we assume that anyone associated with said group must demonstrate qualifying criteria in order to find acceptance into that culture (let alone feel concern for its goings-on). In less words, if you participate

Cheelsea Fiddymont
Daily Illini

or express interest in the LGBTQ community, people instantly assume you bat for the other team. Because after all, why would a straight person care about the issues and conflicts faced by people who don't identify as straight?

Needless to say, my engagement in this particular community (not to mention my personal appearance — have you seen that photo of me yet? I look like the troll under the bridge from "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" ... but I digress) has often elicited opinions regarding my sexual interest. Over the course of my life, I've had to adjust to people's assumptions. My freshman year of college, in the midst of my activist efforts, I encountered that troublesome speck of heteronormative feelings. When people called me a lesbian, or obviously had presumed such about me, I felt two things — a need to correct their misinterpretations and a slight bruising of my ego. This became a point of genuine concern for me.

As a person who takes satisfaction in striving for equality, did it reflect poorly on me to feel hurt that someone thought I wasn't straight? Why would it bother me, when I worked so hard to foster open-mindedness in others? I reviled myself for being such a hypocrite and long contemplated the root of the problem with the desire of eliminating it.

This defensive attitude to others' suppositions serves as one of the last hide-outs of homophobia, and a variety of causes contribute to its existence. Sadly, socializa-

tion into American culture still includes, in some form, the categorization of sexual interests other than "straight" as "other": different, abnormal, excluded from the majority. When others accuse us of being the "other," the implication is that we are strange, that we don't fit in as our socialization process has conveyed we should.

We are afraid to be labeled as gay or lesbian because, at the very least, we believe it isn't socially acceptable (though others still may have been taught to view it not only as socially but morally unacceptable). Even for people who identify themselves as accepting and affirming individuals, the stamp of cultural heteronormativity can be difficult to erase.

Speaking from my own conclusions, people faced with this internal dilemma must ask themselves what difference it makes if someone else maintains a morbid obsession with their sexual interest. If the quality of interaction with someone hinges on whether you have a certain inclination, his or her attentions are a waste of your time.

The establishment of equality rests on treating others as equals, not reducing them to meat by defining them according to their sex lives. My advice for discouraging the nosy from your business? Keep a lid on it. To validate their inquiries with answers makes it seem as though it's acceptable that they asked in the first place. Scrubbing away that little homophobic blot may prove hard, but acknowledging that it's there is a crucial step toward respecting others — and understanding and respecting yourself.

Cheelsea Fiddymont
Daily Illini (U. Illinois)

BOYDSTON: To win, politicians need to be sensible, remain steadfast in their views

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

So the question John McCain must ask himself now, and the question all Republicans should be asking themselves, is how they are going to win back the presidency: with the help of moderates or with the help of Conservatives?

It would seem to most that a sensible politician should remain steadfast in their views and thus steadfast in their support; if McCain won with moderates, stick with the moderates.

During this day and age we are so used to decisiveness on both sides of the aisle that alien-

ating your base is thought to be one of the most foolish things you can do.

This is especially true on the Republican side of the equation where members have been more attuned to the role of their party and where core support has not changed much demographically.

Republicans know they need to win evangelicals, they know they need to win the far right, they know they need to win the rural vote and yet they just elected someone as their nominee who has not been able to win

any of those groups.

In reality, if Conservatives are looking to blame someone for their woes, they need only look at themselves.

Romney, Huckabee, Thompson, Tancredo, Hunter: all of these candidates were thought to be more conservative than McCain and thus more aligned with their own party and yet no one from Rush Limbaugh to Ann Coulter to James Dobson could make up their mind in time to have any effect on the voters.

It appears for once in a long while that the conservative machine has shut down and simply does not know what to do with itself.

Everyone is screaming foul and asking for a do-over, but

the game is over and McCain is the victor.

Granted, John McCain is sure to try and work something out — a sort of peace accord with the right-wingers in the GOP.

He will probably select a staunch Conservative as his running mate, he will reconcile with some of the more respected conservatives and he will most likely change his message.

For the sake of his party, he better, or else when November comes around a lot of those red states are going to be turning a shade of blue.

Jonathan Boydston is a senior in fisheries and wildlife sciences and English. The opinions expressed in his columns, which appear every Thursday, do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Boydston can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

SANCHEZ: Acknowledging responsibility for our world

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Most of these conflicts are protracted civil wars or disputes over border regions or natural resources and are motivated by political, ethnic, religious and economic factors. Seventy-five percent of those wounded or killed in these conflicts are non-combatants, mainly women, children and the elderly. Many of the countries listed above have suffered decades of violence.

It would be so pleasant to bury my head in the sand, to imagine that ongo-

ing environmental degradation, armed conflicts and economic troubles will just go away. My privilege gives me the power to largely ignore them if I choose to. And I often do choose to by abstracting these troubles, making them intellectual and distant from my daily life.

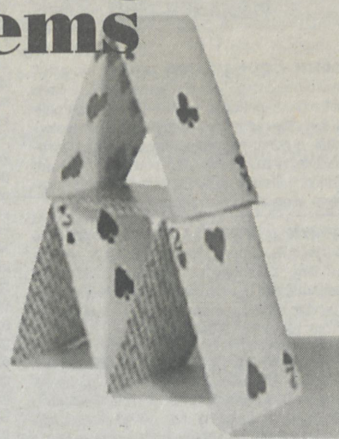
To truly appreciate the state of the world, and the implications of this state, is overwhelming. Author Philip K. Dick reminds us that "[sometimes] the appropriate response to reality is to go insane." Perhaps we are living during one of those times. Perhaps we are all a bit mad, and we need to be, just to keep going.

Can we acknowledge our shared responsibility for the state of the world

and find hope in the face of fear, suffering and uncertainty? Can we face the challenges of our times without despairing? The current Dalai Lama's "Instructions for life" offer some comfort. "Take into account that great love and great accomplishments involve great risk," he says, and "when you lose, don't lose the lesson." "When you realize you've made a mistake, take immediate steps to resolve it," and "judge your success by what you had to give up to get it."

Robert Sanchez is a junior in natural resources. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Daily Barometer staff. Sanchez can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

Gambling problems can stack up fast...



www.1877mylimit.org

Treatment is free, confidential and it works!

Student Health Services
Health Promotion Department • 737-2775

VALENTINE'S EVENING

AT THE

FOX & FIRKIN

INVITES YOU TO OUR SPECIAL
VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER
THURS., FEB. 14

FEATURING ROMANTIC PIANO
MUSIC BY Wally Clark from 6-9pm

Appetizers:

Crab Stuffed Mushrooms Or
Chef Carlos' Oyster Bake.....\$8.95

Entrees: All entrees include soup or salad

Fox's Famous Prime Rib
8 oz. \$10.95, 12 oz. \$13.95, 16 oz. \$15.95

**Chef Annette's Bowtie Pasta with
Jumbo Prawns....\$10.95**

Desserts:

**Chef Annette's Homemade
Crème Brûlée or Chocolate Cheesecake with
Raspberry Sauce...\$5.50**

Regular menu also available
Reservations not required but accepted

"Great Firkin Fun"

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

202 SW FIR ST. ST.
CORVALLIS 753-8533



COBBLESTONE SQUARE

14th St. & Monroe Ave. • 754-3032

Sancho's

Tea Break Inc.

The New Tailgaters

South East hot asian

LOCAL BOYZ HAWAIIAN

Bento Oriental Express

Sacred Art

Pita Pit FRESH THINKING HEALTHY EATING

CRYSTALS CUISINE

Tattoo

peak SPORTS

Winter Tune-Up Special!

40% Off

ALL MAINTENANCE PACKAGES

THROUGH FEBRUARY

135 NW 2nd, Downtown Corvallis • 754-6444

Classifieds

Help Wanted

CAMP COUNSELORS needed for great overnight camps in NE Pennsylvania. Gain valuable experience while working with children in the outdoors. Teach/assist with water-front, outdoor recreation, ropes course, gymnastics, A&C, athletics, and much more. Office & Nanny positions also available. Apply on-line at www.pineforestcamp.com.

WHITE WATER RIVER GUIDE SCHOOL. Spring Break: guide & rescue training, adventure of a lifetime. Summer employment opportunities. For details www.HighCountryExpeditions.com 1-888-461-7238 (541) 822-8288

FOR THE BEST SUMMER OF YOUR LIFE... Are you enthusiastic, responsible and ready for the summer of your life? Camp Starlight, an amazing, fun, co-ed sleep-away camp in Pennsylvania (2 1/2 hours from NYC) is looking for you! We are hiring individuals to help in: Athletics, Waterfront, Outdoor Adventure/Ropes Course, and The Arts. Join our camp family from all over the world, meet incredible people and make a difference to a child! Great salary, travel allowance and room and board included. We will be on our campus Tues. Feb 26th and would love to meet you! For more info www.campstarlight.com and to schedule a meeting: call toll-free at 877-875-3971 or e-mail us at info@campstarlight.com.

EARN \$1000+ SPRING TERM! Umpire School FP-Softball and/or Baseball. More info: mvsog1@yahoo.com

BEAVERSNEEDJOBS.COM Paid survey takers needed in Corvallis. 100% Free to join. Click on Surveys.

BARTENDERS WANTED. Up to \$250/day. No experience necessary. Training provided. Call 800-965-6520 ext. 151.

Summer Employment

CAMP COUNSELORS WANTED for private Michigan boys/girls summer sleep-away camps. Teach swimming, canoeing, lacrosse, skiing, sailing, sports, computers, tennis, archery, riding, crafts, gymnastics, climbing, windsurfing & more! Office, maintenance, web designer jobs too. Salary \$1900 on up. Find out more about our camps and apply online at www.Lwcgwc.com, or call 888-459-2492

A GREAT JOB! Spend your summer in a lakefront cabin in Maine. If you're looking to spend this summer outdoors, have fun while you work, and make lifelong friends, then look no further. **Camp Mataponi**, a residential girls camp in Maine, has female summertime openings for Land Sports, Waterfront (small crafts, skiing, life guarding, WSI, boat drivers), Ropes Course, Tennis, H.B. Riding, Arts & Crafts, Theater, Cooking, Gymnastics, Dance, Videography, Group Leaders & more. Top salaries plus room/board & travel provided. Call us today toll free at 1-888-684-2267 or apply online at www.campmataponi.com.

Child Care

PHYSICIAN IN ALBANY NEEDS NANNY for 2 year old May through September. Approx. 100 hours a month, over nights and weekends. E-mail carrollmonique@gmail.com.

Business Opportunities

UNDERCOVER SHOPPERS. Earn up to \$70 per day. Undercover Shoppers needed to judge retail and dining establishments. Exp. Not Required. CALL 800-722-4791

WORK SMARTER NOT HARDER! Start a career in real estate. Flexible, great pay, rewarding career. **Silver Ridge Realty.** 541-231-3118

Wanted

WANTED 2 ROOMMATES FOR SPRING TERM. Male or Female. Convenient location, walking distance from campus. Brand new town house. 541-207-7473

Services

PHOTOGRAPHER FOR HIRE. Graduation portraits, modeling, fashion, bands, events, weddings. Visit www.petercheephography.com, email peter@petercheephography.com

PREGNANT? Free pregnancy test. Information on options. Non-pressured. Confidential. Pregnancy Resource Center. Corvallis 757-9645. Albany 924-0166. www.possibly-pregnant.org

For Sale

1995 FORD ESCORT, manual, 31 miles/gal. Excellent condition—owner moving overseas. 143,000 miles. \$1,100. 752-0068.

Entertainment

Carmike Cinemas DLP CINEMA TEXAS INCENTIVES

CARMIKE 12
750 NE CIRCLE BLVD. • K-MART /SAFEWAY SHOPPING CENTER • 541-753-3812

PLEASE CALL THEATRE OR VISIT US ONLINE FOR MOVIES AND SHOWTIMES

ALL FEATURES INCLUDE PRE-FEATURE CONTENT www.carmike.com

Special Notices

WOMEN 18-25! Refer males to M.A.R.S. to learn about sexual health — earn up to \$30! M.A.R.S. Female Referral Program packets available at Student Health Services (Rm. 310), the Women's Center or by calling 766-6033. askmars.org

Buyer Beware

The Oregon State University Daily Barometer assumes no liability for ad content or response. Ads that appear too good to be true, probably are. **Respond at your own risk.**

For Rent

SPRING BREAK AT SEASIDE, three bedroom beach front condo, sleeps eight, 7 nights, March 24-31, \$1200. 541-905-3080.

DISCIPLES HOUSE is currently accepting applications. One room available. Contact Paul at 541-753-2671 or www.fcc-corvallis.org.

3 PLUS BEDROOM HOUSE with den on 3 & 1/2 acres, North Corvallis. Hardwood floors, 2 story vaulted ceiling, oversized fireplace, front and back deck overlooking park-like setting. Pets OK with references. \$1200/month. 541-753-0819

\$299. STUDIOS. Close to OSU and shopping. Furnished or unfurnished. Clean, quiet, ideal for students. 760 NW 21st. Fillmore Inn Apartments, 754-0040

ROOM FOR RENT, ADAIR VILLAGE. 3 bedroom house, furnished, utilities included. No smokers/pets. \$450+\$300 dep. 541-223-8753.

Valentines

HEY SISSY, Your biggest fan says Happy V-day and I'll love you always. Ree.

HEY SWEETIE, I love you with my whole heart. Always and forever, your Baby Girl.

MAGGIE AND BENNERS, you are the best roommates ever! I love you and happy V-Day!

HEY SWEETHEART, The last 5 years has been amazing. Here's to 100 more. I love you with all my heart. Love Mase.

TOOTS, You're the best roommate ever! I love you to death! Friends forever! Love, Tootsy

MAGGIE, I wish all your dreams come true on your Birthday. Love Nghiep.

NATHAN KNAPP, Roses are Red, Violets are Blue, my favorite place to run, is right to you! Love, Alyssa

TO PATRICK McCARTY, I love you forever and ever babel Love - Your girl.

CARL POO, You're always telling me I need to read the paper more; hopefully you're reading it today! You're my best friend and I love you with all my heart! Happy Valentine's Day sweetie! Love always, Molly

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY MEGAN! You are my favorite archaeologist. Love you!

RYOSUKE NAITO I LOVE YOU! Happy Valentines Day! Watashi no saru des.

ELLA, I LOVE YOU SO MUCH. Will you be my Valentine? Love, Evan. A chil! A chil! A chil! A chil! A chil!

Valentines

MALEEK - I love you more than life, Be my Valentine? — Boyfriend

ERIN, I love you and am so thankful we are married! Happy Valentines Day, Daniel

OUR DEAREST JAMI, We love the way you drive a tractor, we love the way you smell like hay, we love the way you cha cha cha and of course the way you can hold a tune. There are so many things we love about you! To our Princess Gangsta Cowgirl. Love always, Aleece and Kevin.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY RYAN! I love you! Love your girl, Elfy.

JORDAN & PINK, because you guys are there for me even when I'm not. Love you!

FADHILI, YOU ARE... Fantastic. Adorable. Darn cute. Hilarious. Interesting. Lovely. In love. Nakupenda, small peach.

MUFFY-

I love you to the moon and back. Happy Valentine's Day to the one who makes me happy.

Love, Your Hunny Bunny

DEAR TOOTS, I always want to be your poots. Eg elskar deg, Globe

BABY CAKES, here's to you, here's to cheese. I will love you forever if you please! -Mandy

LLOYD — HEY SEXIE, I love you more than you love me! Happy Valentine's Day! ~ Colleen.

I AM SO PROUD TO BE YOURS. Thank you for everything Bebes. You are amazing! Love, your Mexican.

BE MY VALENTINE PLEASE. I love you Becca, Love, Moo.

OUR DEAREST MADISON, Happy effing Valentines Day! Your lovers, Kerri, Nicole & Amanda. P.S. Happy Birthday.

DAIN CASON, I'm really excited to spend our first Valentine's Day together as a married couple. Love, Wiffy.

SIR WILLIAM OF CHOCOLATE: Much love from Baroness von und zu Sueszahn

LINDSAY, Wish I could spend the night with you. Have a good weekend in Portland.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Deadline: 2 p.m. day before ad starts; pre-payment required. (Cash, check, MC/VISA)

Rates: 15 words or less, per day (days 1 – 5): \$3.75
Each additional word, per day: \$0.25

Days 6 – 19 consecutively: ½ price

20 or more consecutive days: ½ price entire run

No changes allowed on discounted ads

The Daily Barometer

117A Memorial Union East
OSU • 737-6372

DUTCH BROS. CANS FOR COFFEE



BRING 3 CANS OF FOOD AND GET ANY DRINK FOR \$1



FEBRUARY 14

Food will be donated to Linn Benton Food Share

Your International Student Travel Specialists!

- Student Airfares
- Eurail Passes (Printed In-House)
- Contiki Youth Tours
- International Student ID Cards (ISIC)
- Youth Hostel Memberships



Call Wendy for more information
TRAVEL PLANNERS

728 NW Kings Blvd.
Across from Fred Meyer
758-0808

Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:30pm • Saturday 9am-1pm

THESE ARE YOUR WHEELS...



Mar. 3 & 4: Select your own room/co-op

Mar. 5 & 6: Select housing with your group*

Mar. 7: Select any available space on campus

KEEP LIFE SIMPLE. STAY ON CAMPUS.

Priority Housing Selection begins **March 3.**

* More online at: oregonstate.edu/uhs/reapply

University Housing & Dining Services

Valentines

ERIN DORSEY, Lets move our Facebook status to "Married." You complete me! Love Shloohah Angle

SAMLEECIOUS - The only thing on my Valentine Day to do list. -Pie

MY BELLE, You're the spam to my musubi. Lets get some la conga - Oregon! Love, Bentos

JON RILEY, Guess what: You make me happy, Happy Valentines Day! 143, Ammo

ASHLEY PIEREN, Your chocolate drop eyes illuminate the room. I can only wait and admire until the day I can uncover the mystery and enjoy the sweetness. Love, Your admirer on top

www.latinXnight.com

SALSA Licious PARTY

Learn BACHATA! Lesson at 9:30 p.m.

SALSA MERENGUE REGGAETON BACHATA CUMBIA

\$4 WIN MONEY Special raffle at midnight.

February 15

126 SW 4th Street
PLATINUM CLUB
Music till 2 a.m.!

HELD OVER!

WALT DISNEY
HANNAH MONTANA Miley Cyrus
IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3-D
BEST OF BOTH WORLDS CONCERT
With Special Guest JONAS BROTHERS

Carmike Cinemas has made the BIG switch to DLP Cinema Technology DLP = Digital Projection

Carmike Cinemas

Super Bargain Matinees \$6.00

SHOWTIMES IN PARENTHESES ()

CARMIKE 12

750 NE CIRCLE BLVD. • K-MART /SAFEWAY SHOPPING CENTER • 541-753-3812

ALL STADIUM SEATING

B.Y.O.B. EVERY TUESDAY - SEE THEATRE FOR DETAILS

U2 IN 3D ADVANCE TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

FOOL'S GOLD PG13-DLP • 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50

VINCE VAUGHN'S WILD WEST R-DLP

1:45 4:30 7:10 9:35

ROSCOE JENKINS PG13-DLP

1:30 4:15 7:00 9:45

ONE PIECE: DESERT PRINCESS PG13-DLP

(1:00 SAT&SUN) (10:00 FRI ONLY)

NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN R-DLP

7:00 (10:00 EXCEPT FRI)

HANNAH MONTANA 3D BEST OF BOTH

WORLDS CONCERT G-DLP

1:00 1:30 3:00 3:30 5:00 5:30 7:00 7:30 9:00 9:30 •

no disc. tickets/passes

OVER HER DEAD BODY PG13-DLP

(1:00 except Sat & Sun) 3:10 5:35

STRANGE WILDERNESS R-DLP

1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

THE EYE PG13-DLP • 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

THERE WILL BE BLOOD R-DLP

1:30 4:00 7:00 10:00

JOHN RAMBO R-DLP • 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

27 DRESSES PG13-DLP • 1:15 4:10 7:00 9:35

BUCKET LIST PG13-DLP

1:30 4:00 7:00 9:30

ALL SHOWTIMES INCLUDE PRE-FEATURE CONTENT • www.carmike.com

SPOT

AUTHENTIC APPAREL STORE

CORVALLIS

Deb's Mixers

"FOR ALL YOUR MIXING NEEDS!"

GO BEAVERS!

Happy Valentines Day!



* Daiquiri * Margarita

* Tonic Water * Olives

* Soda * Ice

* Selection

Cigarettes & Glassware Too!



575 SW Washington * Corvallis * 753-7998 * Mon-Sat 10-7

MEN'S HOOPS: Beavers led Huskies late in Seattle, get chance this weekend at Gill

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

The big men cannot be ignored either, as the Beavers found out in the two teams' previous meeting in Pullman.

Junior center Aron Baynes had a game high 17 points on 6-of-8 shooting in the Cougars' 69-46 dismantling of OSU a few weeks ago in Pullman. The Cougars shot nearly 52 percent from the field and heavily out-rebounded the Beavers.

Although the odds are heavily stacked in Washington State's favor, this game is by no means an automatic win for the Cougars. They have gone through a few struggles of their own lately, losing three of their last four games, all at home, and they have played more than their fair share of close games on the

road.

This game could go down to the wire, and if it does, fans will see how this young Beaver squad responds in the clutch. A loud and enthusiastic home crowd could be the difference if the Beavers are going to pull off the upset.

Saturday's game against Washington (13-11, 4-7) will be perhaps one of the team's best chances of getting a win and it might come at the best possible time. The school record for consecutive losses is 14, and depending on the outcome of the WSU game, the Beavers could be looking at breaking the record with a loss to the Huskies.

If that wasn't enough motivation, the two teams finished the previous game this sea-

son with a flurry of technical fouls, along with some shoving and choice words mixed in as well.

During that game in mid-January, Jay John's last game as head coach, the Beavers played one of their best games of the season. Oregon State led 64-63 with less than four minutes to go, but eventually lost the game 83-74.

Getting a win will be difficult as the Huskies are coming in with a lot of confidence after their upset win at home this past weekend against UCLA. If the Beavers are going to get a win they will have to find a way to slow down Husky forward Jon Brockman.

The six-foot, seven-inch junior is fourth in the Pac-10 at 18.1 points a game and he leads the conference in rebounding at 11.6 rebounds per game. In the first game against the Beavers, Brockman scored 26 points

and shot 11-of-19 from the field and had 14 rebounds. OSU had no answer for him inside. If Oregon State is going to get a win on Saturday, they will undoubtedly have to find a way to slow him down.

Although the Beavers have no conference wins to show for it, the team has been playing better as of late. This past weekend on the road, they took Cal to the wire before eventually falling and they also played well against No. 9 Stanford.

It may take their best game of the season to get a win this weekend, but based on current progress, it is possible — particularly if Beaver nation gets out to support them. Thursday's game against WSU starts at 5:30 p.m., and Saturday's game with UW starts at 4 p.m.

Kacy Hochstatter, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com



PLATT: Enter Platt against CSB, he hasn't looked back

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Tournament back on Nov. 17, where OSU wrestlers got to wrestle unattached to the team and compete on their own. It was a chance for those not on the varsity squad to show the coaches what they could do.

Platt responded by being one of four Beavers to win his weight class after racking up five wins to zero losses, including two pins.

After rotating starters at 174, the coaches decided to give Platt a try on Jan. 18 against Cal-State Bakersfield. Platt, who was finally eligible, didn't disappoint.

Platt battled his way to a 10-5 decision that got the Beavers back to with-

in striking distance 16-18 in the team scores. Although the team eventually lost, Zalesky was pleased with what he had seen.

"He's given us a spark at 174 and shown improvement there. He accepted responsibility for his side of things and responded to the challenge."

In fact, according to Zalesky, "Chris' progression from last year has been like night and day. I mean last year he wasn't even on our radar because we weren't even sure if he was going to be here. Sometimes though it's just an orientation thing, freshman year is often the toughest for people, especially for student athletes," he said.

Platt followed his performance up with a pin against Cory Nelson of Arizona State that helped secure Oregon State's 27-14 win.

After close losses against Boise State

and UC Davis, Platt got himself back into victory's corner with an impressive 9-3 decision against Luke Feist of Stanford that gave the Beavers back the lead 14-12 in a match that went down to the final contest before OSU pulled away for the 24-15 triumph.

Yet no matter how impressive his physical skills may be, Platt knows it is his mind that must be his strongest part — not only to achieve success on the mat but also in life.

"When I step on the mat I have the mind set that no one can beat me and that's just a mental approach thing. Really, the only person that can beat me is myself."

Brain over brawn indeed.

Noah Tinker, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

SANTELLI: OSU must control the boards against WSU, failed at doing so last meeting

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

season is sophomore Seth Tarver. I decided that I wanted to change his name from Seth Tarver to Seth "Consistent" Tarver because he has been the only consistent player on both sides of the floor. He has averaged 11.5 points per game this season.

This sophomore's attitude is positive and hopeful. He is a team player and should be portrayed as a great role model. Tarver's hard work on and off the court has really shown and has helped this team's improvement throughout the season.

I give most improved player thus far to Omari Johnson. Not only is this freshman fun to watch on the court, but his play has improved so much over the course of the season. While he is averaging 8.7 points per game in conference play, it is energy that brings excitement to the floor. He is an aggressive player who fights for rebounds and drives to the hoop. I love players that drive to the hoop — the team, as a whole needs to do more of that. We should never settle for outside jump shots unless a player is wide open or has a good three point shooting percentage.

Why will we beat Washington State this weekend? WSU has been struggling lately. In the Cougars' last three games, they are 1-3, including a two point overtime loss to Stanford. Overall their conference record is 6-5. WSU's ranking has dropped like the stock market has. Both have soared downwards and lost a lot of value. WSU was ranked No. 14 in the country when they played Stanford at home on Feb. 2, and now the Cougars are ranked seven spots lower at No. 21 in the country. The month of February has not been too good for the Cougars.

The key to this upset is to

contain senior guards Kyle Weaver and Derrick Low. Weaver dominated USC's defense in their last game. He had 17 points and added to his total career points of 1,015. Low is always dangerous, especially behind the three-point line. He can beat any defender to the basket, or he can step back and take the three. We must contain both players in order for this upset to happen. The Beavers need to make the other Cougar players step up in order for them to win.

The Beavers must also be careful of Cougar post player Aron Baynes. He is their best post player. Last time these two teams met, he attacked like a Cougar would, on the boards by racking in rebounds and scoring 17 points. One advantage the Beavers have is that Baynes tends to get handicapped in many games,

by picking up quick and frequent fouls, which force him to sit on the bench. UCLA and Stanford figured this out in the last two games they played against WSU; now it is our turn to use this knowledge. On the offensive side for us, Jones, Tarver and Johnson need to keep up the improved shooting. Perhaps they all could get to double figures, which is a rarity for this team this year.

On the defensive side, we need to win the rebound battle. In the earlier game against WSU, the Beavers were out-rebounded 17-33.

Seventeen is a pretty ugly number when talking about rebounds as a team. Kevin Love from UCLA gets almost 17 rebounds on his own every game. We need to be aggressive on the boards and fight for every rebound in order to have a chance. Put Roeland in and he will rack up the rebounds!

I think that we are going to be aggressive and play our best two games of the season this weekend. It is Valentine's

Day after all, so the Beavers are going to spread some love to Beaver Nation and come away with a huge upset against WSU. If that doesn't happen, then there is always the Huskies whom we battle on Saturday. But spread the love, and then get the win.

Jenna Santelli, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

For Valentine's Day...
Heart-Shaped Pizza for Your Sweetie!

AMERICAN DREAM PIZZA

We Deliver 757-1713
2525 NW Monroe Corvallis

SNOW GEAR

Huge Selection Top Brands
Berg's Will Match The Lowest Prices GUARANTEED!

Shop online with free shipping at www.bergsskishop.com
or Call toll free 1-800-800-1953

Berg's
Ski & Snowboard Shop
13th & Lawrence • Eugene • 1-800-800-1953 • www.bergsskishop.com

It's our 28th Anniversary!

NEARLY NORMAL'S
gonzo cuisine

Valentine Dinner Special, or any of Normal's Favorites that you Love!

753-0791 • NEARLYNORMALS.COM
109 NW 15TH ST. CORVALLIS

garden dining • organic • farm fresh

Valley Eye Care P.C.

Largest Frame Selection in Corvallis.

15th & Harrison, Corvallis • 754-6222 • www.valleyeyecare.com

Roth IRA

Set it up, live life retire later

Grab hold of a real retirement, one perfect for you and unlike anyone else's, thanks to OSU Federal's Roth IRA account. Considering you're going to live longer than your parents and Social Security just won't float your boat, you're going to like the benefits:

- Add up to \$4,000 for 2007, up to \$5,000 for 2008
- Withdrawals are tax free
- Supplement your company 401k
- Transition between employers

Start today and beat the April 15 deadline
Stop by any branch, call 800-732-0173 or go to osufederal.com

OSU Federal
Your Community Credit Union

NCUA Not intended as tax advice. Please consult a tax professional before making decisions regarding your IRA. Federally insured by NCUA.

"We found conflicts and inconsistencies in Mr. Clemens' accounts, during his deposition, he made statements we know are untrue."

— Committee Chairman Henry Waxman on Roger Clemens

sports@dailybarometer.com • 737-6378



JEFF WICK / THE DAILY BAROMETER

OSU guard Ricky Clatt (Right), has been a solid bench player for OSU this year, averaging over two assists per game as a reserve.

Beavers try to avoid history book

■ Beavers welcome Washington schools to Gill this weekend, seek elusive first conference win

By Kacy Hochstatter
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State men's basketball team looks to end its 13 game losing streak as OSU hosts the Washington schools this Thursday and Saturday at Gill Coliseum. The Beavers have struggled through conference play this season and are looking to avoid becoming the first team in Pac-10 history to go 0-18 on the season.

Ending the streak and getting that elusive first win will be a tough task however, as Thursday's game features one of the better teams in the nation — No. 20 Washington State (18-5, 6-5).

The Cougars are difficult for any team to match up with, as they play an unorthodox style of basketball. With a starting lineup featuring two centers and three guards, WSU creates mismatches on both ends of the

floor.

All three of the starting guards shoot better than 39 percent from three point range and both starting centers are shooting better than 55 percent from the floor. This is a tough matchup on paper for an Oregon State squad that shoots only 39 percent from the field.

The Cougars are led by their guards and possess a lot of experience and talent. Senior guards Derrick Lowe and Kyle Weaver are the go-to players for second year coach Tony Bennett.

Lowe is the leading scorer on the team averaging 13.4 points per game and Weaver is second on the team averaging 12.1 per game. Weaver is also the most versatile player on the team as he averages 5.1 rebounds, 4.4 assists and two steals.

Junior guard Taylor Rochestie is also a threat, leading the Cougars with five assists per game along with 9.3 points.

See **MEN'S HOOPS** | page 7

Commitment: adjusting to college life

■ From dominant high school wrestler to one-time struggling OSU student, Chris Platt has learned it's mind over matter

By Noah Tinker
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Old sayings and adages serve to distill simple truths in easy to understand ways. Take the quip "the pen is mightier than the sword," which is another reminder that when it comes to brain versus brawn, a strong mind trumps a strong body.

For Chris Platt though, no such reminder is necessary.

The sophomore standout for the Oregon State University wrestling team already understands from personal experience after having suffered through academic hardships that declared him ineligible to compete and put his scholarship in danger of being revoked.

"School was really hard at first because I underestimated it a lot," said Platt who chose to red-shirt his freshman year. "I've got it figured out now though."

Coach Jim Zalesky was there to help his beleaguered wrestler but was also honest about his expectations too.

"He got a little buried and behind in school to begin with but I told him 'hey, I'm not going to put you on scholarship if you're not going to be here, you have to prove yourself.'"

Schooling had never been a problem for Platt who graduated from Eagle Point High School after having spent his first three years attending North Medford High School.

Platt made the switch to follow his coach, Kacey McNulty, whom Platt credits with having a great deal of influence on him.

"Kacey definitely had a lot of influence on me. He really stressed having mental toughness and that's also something the coaches here have talked a lot about too, the need

to believe in yourself."

While attending North Medford High School, Platt compiled an overall record of 106 wins to 15 losses including two league championships. As a sophomore, he finished third at the state tournament and improved that to a second place showing at state during his junior campaign.

After his coach switched schools, Platt decided to follow suit and the change in venue certainly didn't change the results. As a senior, Platt garnered his third league title and finished with an overall record of 60-5 and another second place finish at the state tournament.

Not surprisingly, Oregon State was ready and waiting to offer Platt a chance to be a Beaver and showcase his skills to a much larger audience.

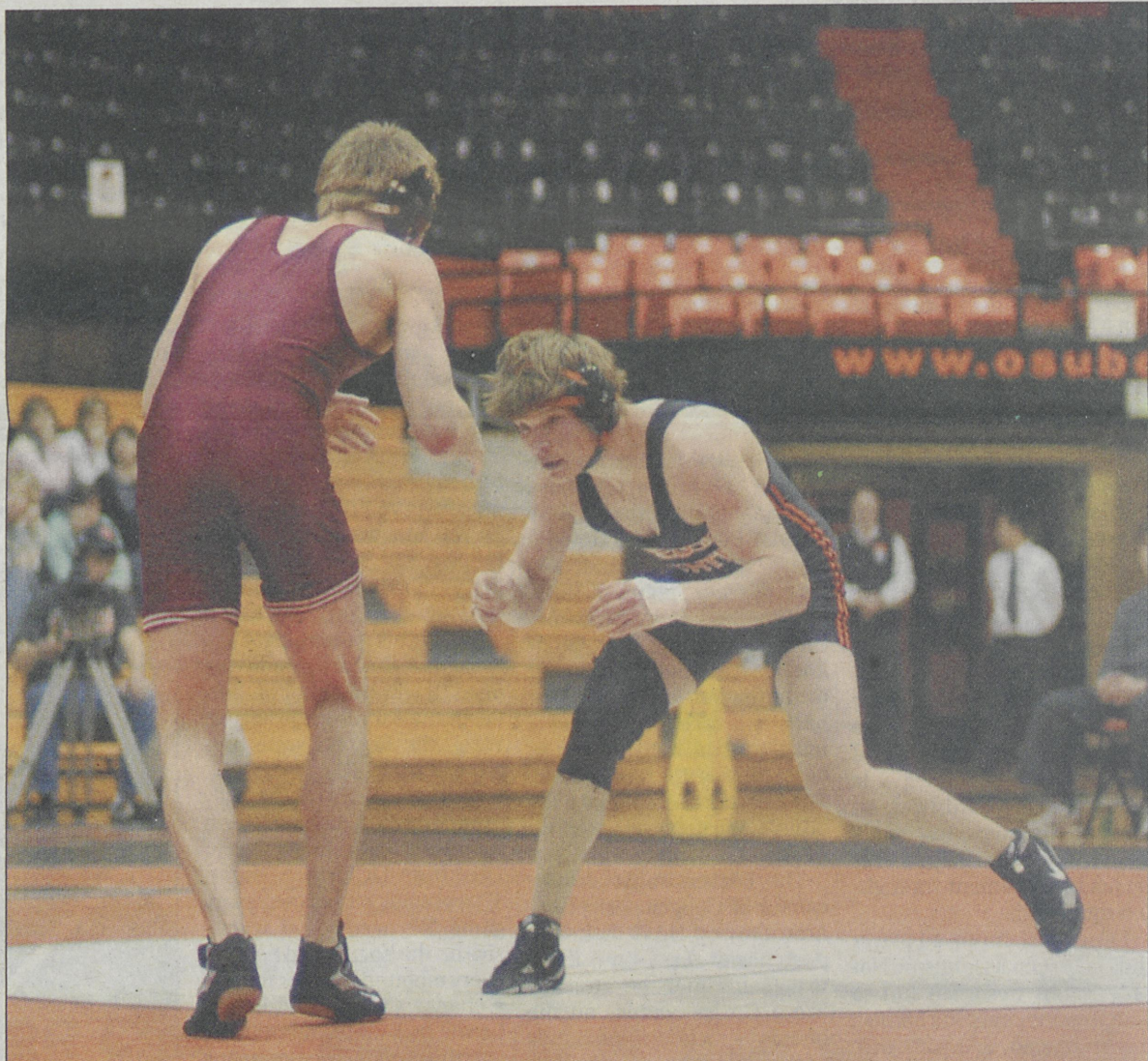
Platt readily accepted the offer, but college proved to be a different beast altogether from what Platt was prepared for.

"It was a completely different level. Like junior high to high school multiplied by twenty," said Platt. "The pace of everything is just so much faster and you have to be in really good shape. I mean some kids in high school are pretty good but every match in college is like a state championship because they've all done something to earn a spot on a college roster."

Off the mat distractions didn't help either.

"My roommate situation has improved a lot since last year too," said Platt. "It wasn't a good situation and there weren't very good influences around me, so now I'm out of the dorm and living more on my own in an apartment."

Finding himself at turning point, Platt rededicated himself to school and worked hard to right his ship, taking courses over the summer to make for those he had trouble with during the previous year. Helping him throughout were his team-



CURTIS BARNARD / THE DAILY BAROMETER

Chris Platt has found his niche this season as a division one wrestler. After struggling through academic hardships early on in his career at OSU, Platt switched his focus and is now benefiting from change.

mates and friends who say they've seen a dramatic change in Platt's effort and focus.

"He's made a huge progression to get his GPA up to be able to compete and as a person off the mat, his progression is what we want from a young man," said Alex Clemens, who runs the study hall sessions for

the team. "He's got his nose in the books during study sessions and his focus is vastly improved, he's done what he's needed to do in order to succeed."

According to Platt, "everyone was really supportive and helpful. They pointed me in the right direction and told me what I needed to do to

get back on track."

His rededication to the classroom was echoed in the practice room as well and Platt came on in mid-season to offer the Beavers a boost in the upper weight class of 174.

Platt first displayed his capabilities during the Best of the West

See **PLATT** | page 7

Beaver nation to expect Valentine's day love

The men's basketball team is playing its best basketball of the season right now. I know that we still haven't won a Pac-10 game yet, but we will. I see constant improvement in team play as the season progresses. We won't have a "perfect" winless season in the Pac-10 as some people are expecting. You can quote me, "The men's basketball team will win at least one Pac-10 game this year." I believe, and you all should too.

If I was looking into a crystal ball right now, I would predict an upset against No. 21 Washington State this Valentine's Day when the Cougars

Jenna Santelli



play at Gill. I say "upset" because WSU has been struggling lately and we have finally started to have some offensive spark in the lineup, thanks to three players in particular.

Senior Marcel Jones is finally starting to show why the OSU coaching staff recruited him four years ago out of Mater Dei High School in Southern California. I like Marcel,

but he was playing selfishly and taking ridiculous shots throughout the season. It is nice to see him start playing team ball and being more conscious of his shots. He led the Beavers in scoring with 13 points against No. 7 Stanford. With that 13-point showing against an NCAA tournament hopeful team, it puts him No. 24 on the Oregon State career scoring chart. I would love to see more 13-point games from Jones for the rest of the season.

Another player that has played extremely well for the Beavers all

See **SANTELLI** | page 7

OSU to celebrate rowing program

SPORTS INFORMATION

The Oregon State men's and women's rowing programs are pleased to announce a Celebration of Rowing: Past, Present and Future to take place Saturday, March 8.

The day will begin at 9 a.m. with the Beavers' season opening regatta against the University of Victoria at Dexter Lake. Upon completion of the races, fans, alumni and supporters are invited to the OSU Boathouse for an alumni row and open house at 2 p.m. The celebration then moves to the Reser Stadium Loge at 5 p.m. for dinner where Oregon State Director of Athletics Bob DeCarolis will make

a special announcement about the future of the men's and women's programs. There will also be three boat dedications at dinner, including one in honor of former women's head coach Charlie Owen. The men's team will dedicate two boats to its alumni and the parents of the current team.

Admission for dinner is complimentary for all OSU rowing alumni. Guest dinners can be purchased for \$20 each. To RSVP for this event, contact Darin Paine in the Beaver Athletic Student Fund office at darin.paine@oregonstate.edu or by calling 541-737-9693.