



Student kicks off adventure in film-making

By Christopher Johnson
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Kasey McCabe has a deep love for the outdoors, adventure, doing what is right and for film-making. He also happens to be the co-owner and producer of one of Oregon's newest film companies and a student at OSU.

McCabe has been playing around with a camera ever since the third grade. With two of his childhood friends from Portland, McCabe started Exterior Films with the goal of bringing film-making to his hometown and the Pacific Northwest.

A senior in film studies at OSU, McCabe has partnered his talents with those of his long-time friends, Chapin Hemmingway — a production assistant working in Los Angeles, and Tyson Balcomb — a visual arts major at Seattle University.

"We produced these three films with a focus on drama within adventure and man's relationship with nature," Hemmingway said.

"The films have the Northwest and the outdoors as a general theme," McCabe said.

The first two films produced, "Camouflage," and "The Ranch," explore the topic of good and evil and were shot as part of class projects, McCabe said.

The company's newest film, "Last September," is its first professional-grade film, shot in Portland and Orcas Island in the San Juan Islands. The film is a coming-of-age adventure in which the central character is forced to face his past in an attempt to become a better person, McCabe and Balcomb said.

The film premiered at Hollywood Theater in Portland during the Christmas winter break, said Drew Fletcher, the film's lead.

"I enjoyed the three months of shooting with eighteen-hour days and seeing the job finished," McCabe said.

"The highlight of my job is working

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Getting a degree switches servers

Flexibility, accessibility have students looking to gain OSU degrees from websites, not classrooms

By Tara Pistorese
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Online education offers convenience for those with busy lifestyles.

OSU's extended campus (e-campus) is working to develop a wide variety of undergraduate degree options for men and women.

Online education is becoming increasingly popular among students with busy lifestyles at OSU and college campuses across America by offering a level of convenience that traditional site-based education does not.

The majority of students pursuing a degree through online courses are adult learners who are unable to attend traditional courses available on campus. E-campus is working to offer these students degree options and opportunities.

"Flexibility in use of time and inability to travel to physical locations are key," said Scott Reed, vice provost for outreach and engagement.

"Many distance and online courses are designed with place-bound students in mind."

Online education also offers opportunities to adult learners who were previously unable to finish their degree.

"Students who have outside responsibilities but want to continue their education or finish their degree are the primary target," said Dave King, interim associate provost for OSU's extended campus.

Traditional on-campus students are also finding themselves pressed for time and convenience and are turning to distance learning as a flexible option to earn course credit.

"We have seen a large growth in our on-campus students who are opting for online courses," said Lisa Templeton, director of marketing and communications.

In the beginning, professors were cautious of their involvement in online courses for fear of losing the dialogue achieved by face-to-face interaction with students.

"They get into an online classroom and some of them found that there was more dialogue because it's a very safe place to talk. You can think about your response before you enter it," Templeton said.

While some parts of the nation fear that the growing popularity of online courses may hinder the availability of future teaching

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"Everyone needs to be involved in education in a way that serves their purposes."

International Intrigue



ALEX NGUYEN / THE DAILY BAROMETER

At the ISOSU Dance Festival, students share their culture through musical performances and by displaying various items at booths that represent their culture.

OSU strives for diversity among faculty

OSU's campus is reflective of Oregon's diversity as a whole

By Lauren Sigel
THE DAILY BAROMETER

According to a 2000 demographic survey done by the U.S. Census Bureau, 86.6 percent of the Oregon population was listed as Caucasian.

The OSU faculty reflects this trend in the state's population.

"A lot of campuses have international diversity in their faculty, but are not well represented in the domestic diversity department," said Terryl Ross, the director of Community and Diversity office.

"I feel that the OSU campus wants to improve itself in this area, but it's an uphill battle due to the fact that a lot of historically underrepresented groups have preconceived notions of Oregon."

Domestic diversity is the representation of historically underrepresented groups that are found in the U. S., as opposed to international diversity, which is the representation of groups found outside the United States.

"Higher education is one of the most non-diverse professions in America. Student bodies in the last 20 years have become much more diverse than

the faculty. For example, people of color with PhDs have increased over 300 percent, but faculty of color has increased by only 17 percent," Ross said. "If a student doesn't know how to interact with a person from a historically underrepresented group, then they are not going to do well outside of Oregon because one third of people in America are non-white."

Angelo Gomez, director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity, and Anne Giles, the Affirmative Action Associate, are both aware that fighting for diversity in the OSU faculty — and higher education in general — is an uphill battle.

"There is a long history behind what higher education has looked like, especially in Oregon where we have a history of being less diverse due to our legal political history," Giles said.

"If you are a person of a historically underrepresented group and you come to Oregon, there are not a lot of established communities for people who have the same cultural pasts and interests as you do."

"We do analyses to see where we are missing people from historically underrepresented groups compared to the qualified population," Giles said.

"When we find that we are falling

short in reaching a particular pool of qualified applicants, that doesn't mean that we are going to go out and hire a person from that group just because they are a minority."

Instead, OSU tries to re-evaluate the position's job description and the entire hiring, recruiting, and selection process to make sure that no qualified applicant is excluded and that there are no unreasonable qualifications for a job.

Gomez has seen many attempts by different departments at OSU to attract minority groups to faculty positions, but they are not always successful.

"Given a choice between an institution somewhere that is more diverse and OSU, a lot of qualified applicants lean towards the other option," he said.

"This is especially true for those who are considering working towards tenure positions because it's a longer commitment and the applicant has to feel comfortable living in the university community and the local community as well."

Comfortable environment and salary rates also play a role in attracting a more diverse faculty.

"Our salary structure and benefits

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QUOTED

"I'm still blown away by the coincidences. I'm shaking. I can't believe somebody would order from us again and do this."

Eric Thompson, an Internet gun dealer who said he sold a weapon to the Virginia Tech shooter last year and handgun accessories to the gunman in the Northern Illinois University killings.

"Boston has never endorsed a political candidate, and with all due respect, would not start by endorsing a candidate who is the polar opposite of most everything Boston stands for."

Tom Scholz, member of the rock band Boston, complaining that presidential hopeful Mike Huckabee has been playing the band's 1970s smash hit song "More Than a Feeling" without his permission.

BREAKDOWN

WASHINGTON — Ask a dozen die-hard Democrats around the country what Hillary Rodham Clinton can do to beat Barack Obama and win the presidential nomination and they have plenty of ideas — some of them contradictory.

The question generates strong sentiment, though, that Clinton simply can't compete on charisma, that there are forces at play beyond her control. Going negative could backfire, they warn. Laying out nitty-gritty policy details isn't enough, they say.

There's no shortage of advice, but also no shortage of head-scratching. Add it all up, and there doesn't appear to be a secret plan to save her candidacy.

A sampling of Democratic voices from the field:

—**SHOW PASSION:** "The challenge for Hillary Clinton is to be seen as an agent of change, to recapture the passion that the people who support her really have for her," says Kari Chisholm, a political consultant in Oregon who blogs at www.blueoregon.com.

TOP STORY

USDA orders major beef recall from California slaughterhouse

By Greg Risling
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — The U.S. Department of Agriculture on Sunday ordered the recall of 143 million pounds of frozen beef from a California slaughterhouse, the subject of an animal-abuse investigation, that provided meat to school lunch programs.

Officials said it was the largest beef recall in the United States, surpassing a 1999 ban of 35 million pounds of ready-to-eat meats. No illnesses have been linked to the newly recalled meat, and officials said the health threat was likely small.

The recall will affect beef products dating to Feb. 1, 2006, that came from Chino-based Westland/Hallmark Meat Co., the federal agency said.

Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer said his department has evidence that Westland did not routinely contact

its veterinarian when cattle became non-ambulatory after passing inspection, violating health regulations.

"Because the cattle did not receive complete and proper inspection, Food Safety and Inspection Service has determined them to be unfit for human food and the company is conducting a recall," Schafer said in a statement.

A phone message left for Westland president Steve Mendell was not immediately returned.

Federal officials suspended operations at Westland/Hallmark after an undercover video from the Humane Society of the United States surfaced showing crippled and sick animals being shoved with forklifts.

Two former employees were charged Friday. Five felony counts of animal cruelty and three misdemeanors were filed against a pen manager. Three misdemeanor counts

— illegal movement of a non-ambulatory animal — were filed against an employee who worked under that manager. Both were fired.

Authorities said the video showed workers kicking, shocking and otherwise abusing "downer" animals that were apparently too sick or injured to walk into the slaughterhouse. Some animals had water forced down their throats, San Bernardino County prosecutor Michael Ramos said.

No charges have been filed against Westland, but an investigation by federal authorities continues.

Officials estimate that about 37 million pounds of the recalled beef went to school programs, but they believe most of the meat probably has already been eaten.

"We don't know how much product is out there right now. We don't think there is

a health hazard, but we do have to take this action," said Dr. Dick Raymond, USDA Undersecretary for Food Safety.

Most of the beef was sent to distribution centers in bulk packages. The USDA said it will work with distributors to determine how much meat remains.

Federal regulations call for keeping downed cattle out of the food supply because they may pose a higher risk of contamination from E. coli, salmonella or mad cow disease because they typically wallow in feces and their immune systems are often weak.

About 150 school districts around the nation have stopped using ground beef from Hallmark Meat Packing Co., which is associated with Westland. Two fast-food chains, Jack-In-the-Box and In-N-Out, said they would not use beef from Westland/Hallmark.

NEWS IN BRIEF



Toshiba has made no decision on ending HD DVD

TOKYO — Toshiba may pull the plug on its high-definition DVD format but no decision has been made, the Japanese electronics maker said in a statement Monday.

Toshiba Corp. has started a review of its HD DVD business, it said, amid reports by the Wall Street Journal and Kyodo News agency that Toshiba was considering pulling out after losing ground to the competing Blu-ray disc format.

The Journal, citing people familiar with the situation, reported Sunday that the company is likely to pull out early this week.

A Toshiba pullout would signal the almost certain defeat of HD DVD to Blu-ray, which is backed by Sony Corp., five major Hollywood movie studios and others.

Only one format has been expected to emerge as the winner, much like VHS trumped Sony's Betamax in the video format battle of the 1980s.

Recently the Blu-ray disc format has been gaining market share, while

Toshiba has been forced to slash prices to sell its HD DVD machines.

On Friday, Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the largest U.S. retailer, said it will sell only Blu-ray DVDs and hardware and no longer carry HD DVD offerings.



Fifty Republican delegates in Michigan, Louisiana for McCain

LANSING, Mich. — Sen. John McCain, the presumed Republican presidential nominee, picked up a total of 50 GOP national convention delegates from Michigan and Louisiana Saturday.

Republicans met in both states to resolve how to divvy up delegates to the national convention in September.

Thirty-two of Louisiana's 47 delegates told The Associated Press they intend to vote for McCain, and three others also are expected to back him.

Likewise, a majority of Michigan's presidential delegates also say they'll back the Arizona senator now that primary winner Mitt Romney is out of the race, although it's still unclear how many will go to the national convention.

As a result, McCain has 903 total delegates nationally, according to an Associated Press tally. Former Arkansas

Gov. Mike Huckabee has 245, while Romney's total dropped to 253. A total of 1,191 are needed to secure the nomination.



More farms disappear in Oregon, part of growing national trend

SALEM — Oregon has joined some of its Western neighbors in the decline of the number of farms, part of a national trend.

At the start of the year in Oregon, California, Idaho and Washington, there were 170,800 farms, a decline of 2 percent compared to one year ago, according to figures recently released by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

California, Oregon and Washington each lost 1,000 farms since the last report. There are 500 fewer farms in Idaho, according to the USDA's annual report on farm numbers.

The total number of farms nationally is 2.08 million, a 0.6 percent drop from a year ago.

Nationally 930.9 million acres are in farmland, a 1.5 million-acre drop from a year ago. The average U.S. farm stands at 449 acres, an increase of 3 acres from the previous report.

—The Associated Press

Monday, Feb. 18

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.

Tuesday, Feb. 19

Meetings

ASOSU Multicultural Affairs, 4:30pm, SLJ. If you want an opportunity to get involved in ASOSU, this is it! Come join us for lots of fun and participation.
ASOSU Environmental Affairs Task Force, 4-5pm, Snell 149. Come work on environmental campaigns and help plan Earth Week 2008!
ASOSU State Affairs Task Force, 6-7pm, Snell Hall Lounge. Want to make a difference? Join us in the fight to reduce the cost of education and amplify the student voice. Everyone is welcome!
Educational Activities, 6:15pm, MU Board Room. College Republicans, MASA, and A.S.O.S.U. will be presenting their 2008-09 budget proposals.

Events

Lutheran Campus Ministry, 11:30am-1:30pm, Luther House, 211 NW 23rd Street. Lunch! Come and go as you are able. Homemade food (vegetarian option) and stimulating conversation.
Academic Success Center, 5-8pm, Waldo 114. Study night at the ASC. Join the Academic Success Center in a great studying opportunity. Free popcorn, free coaching.
Blood Drive Association, 11am-4pm, MU Ballroom. Winter Term Campus Blood Drive.

Wednesday, Feb. 20

Meetings

ASOSU Non-Traditional Affairs Task Force, 5pm, MU 209 (25+ Lounge). Join non-traditional students in campaigning for positive change on campus!
College Republicans, 7pm, MU Journey Room. Discuss national and local events with like-minded students.
Educational Activities, 5:15pm, MU Board Room. A.S.O.S.U. will be presenting their 2008-09 budget proposal.

Events

United Campus Ministry, Noon-1pm, Westminster House, 101 NW 23rd St. University Learning Community. Join us for conversation. Our book focus is, "Jesus and the Disinherited" by Howard Thurman.
United Campus Ministry, 5:30-7:30pm, Westminster House, 101 NW 23rd St. Student Gatherings. Come for a home-cooked meal, followed by a time of study. We will explore our understanding of the nature & practice of prayer.
Blood Drive Association, 11am-4pm, MU Ballroom. Winter Term Campus Blood Drive.

Light from Heaven: God and the beginnings of Mormonism

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Memorial Union 208
Oregon State University**

Lori Moss, speaker

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FILMS: Hopes to showcase Northwest

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with my friends in a company setting."

The trio decided to form Exterior Films and shoot "Camouflage" during winter of

2005 when they took a trip to New Zealand where they visited "The Lord of the Rings" film set. Balcomb said that it was then that the group decided that they, wanted to showcase the Northwest like "The Lord of the Rings" showcased New Zealand.

"[Hemmingway] was the impetuous in helping us all

become interested in making movies [during this time]," Balcomb said.

"We hope to try something with an urban environment while still keeping characters with a love for the outdoors," Hemmingway said.

Christopher Johnson, news writer
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DIVERSITY: Working with local businesses

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tend to be not as competitive as we'd like it to be, as compared to other relevant comparator schools," Gomez said.

To counterbalance these factors it will be necessary to make OSU and the local community a more attractive and comfortable place to people from a broad range of backgrounds.

"One way we can counterbalance the lack of diversity in our community is by advertising the opportunity for professional growth and development that applicants have at OSU," Gomez said.

"The fact that, other than Cornell, OSU is the only university in America to hold all four Land, Sea, Space, and Sun Grant means, in part, that Oregon State has one of the broadest, most diverse research programs in the nation."

"This correlates with a recent study done on Midwestern colleges and universities, where it was confirmed that there was a correlation between how much money was devoted to professional growth and development and the retention of faculty of color," Giles said.

A number of projects have been planned by OSU to attract a broader pool of faculty to the campus.

"One of our goals is to work with the major employers of

Corvallis. If the employers in the community can reach a critical mass of underrepresented groups, then it becomes easier to attract people of these groups," Giles said.

"Once we actually have attracted a community of people from a historically underrepresented group, it's a simple matter of taking care of the people that we do actually have," Ross said.

"If they feel comfortable and welcomed in their daily life, then they will say good things about their community and open the door for more people of that group to move to that community."

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ONLINE: Faculty can teach from distance

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

positions, this is not an opinion shared by OSU's e-campus administrators.

"Everyone needs to be involved in education in a way that serves their purposes," King said.

"We are always going to have people who want to come to campus, who want to be involved in the maturation process, in the socialization process, in going to football games and things like that."

Online education is developing its own form of student-teacher and student-student interaction through the use of discussion boards and other online tools.

"Students start to interact in a much more robust and easier way," King said, "so sometimes the interaction becomes a very unique and interesting part of the class."

The benefits and advantages of taking online courses are also expanding educational options and accessibility for those who are physically disabled.

"We had a student who was physically disabled and for her to get from building to building in a wheelchair, to get up rickety old stairs and to find a parking spot was nearly impossible," Templeton said, "so for her, it was the anonymity. No one knew that she was in a wheelchair and she was able to earn her degree and feel like every other student."

Some students are finding advantages to online education through the use of resources they would otherwise not have had easy access to. These resources are made readily accessible through direct links posted in their virtual classrooms.

"I think also, a lot of on-campus students are more comfortable in an online environment, so it is a real natural fit for some younger people," Templeton said.

Drawbacks to online learning can develop through lack of motivation and conflict between online education and a student's unique learning style.

Each online course has a corresponding instructor that is chosen individually by department. For example, the instructor for an online history course would be chosen by the department of history, not by the extended campus, Templeton said.

Instructors are available to answer questions or explain difficult concepts similar to traditional courses. The concept of online education allows flex-

ibility for instructors as well as students.

"Also, there are instructors or faculty members whether on sabbatical or whether traveling, doing their research, can still teach online," Templeton said.

Overall classroom goals and course requirements are the same for any online course as they would be for the same course taken traditionally.

"Outcomes from the course will be identical, the way in which students get there, however, will be very different," Templeton said.

"In a site-based course you may be getting up and giving a presentation, whereas in an online course you may be creating a website. So there are different ways to get to the same learning outcome."

Online courses are offered in a time line that mimics OSU's traditional term schedule.

Some instructors design their courses such that more material is taught toward the beginning of the term or the project portion of the term is offered towards the end, but the schedule is similar to that of a site-based course, Templeton said.

"What I like to see is in the course material that is developed for a course like Chemistry 101 for example, there might be one day of instruction provided online (among many days) and that same one day of instruction might be a week of instruction in a high school chemistry course," King said.

Online courses are designed to encourage dialogue, feedback, interaction, mentoring and participation.

While much of the nation refers to the development of online education as the 'reinvention of the school system,' faculty members at OSU believe there will always be a place for traditional learning.

"Not everyone should be in an online class, not everyone should teach an online class, and not all subjects should be taught online, but there are a lot of students who thrive in an online environment and a lot of instructors who are really great in an online classroom and there are a lot of subjects that lend themselves really well to online learning," Templeton said.

Classes that captivate students, highly interest them, allow them to take advantage of their opportunities and multimedia capabilities and create an atmosphere where education offers a new view on things are the ones that make good online courses, King said.

"I think that educational opportunities are constantly being enhanced and customized to best meet learner needs,"

Reed said. "We have observed numerous media advances in education over time — online is a current one."

Hybrid courses offer another option in online learning and are popular among the education department at OSU.

In a hybrid course there is partial site-based learning in the form of a lab as well as an online component that handles much of the education.

"It is up to the department to decide, can this all be taught on line or does a portion of it have to be site-based?" We can design it in whichever way is best for the learner," Templeton said.

OSU currently offers four undergraduate degrees through online education, nine minors and ten graduate degrees through course delivery options such as web, video/DVD, streaming media and on-site instruction.

The undergraduate programs currently offered are environmental sciences, general agriculture, liberal studies, and natural resources.

Also, there are more than sixty individual courses available through online study. OSU is currently in the process of trying to expand their online options due to growing demand.

"It is up to the college and the department to decide if they want to offer the degree online. It takes time to develop new courses and programs and I think faculty members feel pretty stretched right now, and then to add more to the field feels like a lot," Templeton said.

Due to distance education and technology fees, the cost of online education is \$204.00 per credit for an in-state student compared to \$124.00 per credit for a site-based course for the same student.

The e-campus at OSU is a self-support unit; therefore it does not receive state dollars. As a result, the tuition plateau doesn't cover online courses, Templeton said.

when taking an online course is the same for out-of-state students as it is for an in-state student.

"We get a lot of out-of-state interest. Last year we had at least one student from each state and students from at least 14 different countries taking our online courses. You get a real diverse mix of students," Templeton said.

E-campus continues to develop courses and material to provide convenience to learners of all ages and lifestyles.

"If there is one thing that I think is critical it is that we are learner driven," King said.

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OSU Oregon State UNIVERSITY

Editorial

The bad kind of surprise

Registration has begun for spring term and depending on your credit-based status, you will be fighting and calculating your way into the necessary classes leading to graduation.

In the last year OSU has changed their registration process to eliminate the overload on the website by separating days and times based on class standing. There are two phases. Phase One is the main phase that allows you to register for the bulk of your classes, but only up to 16 credits.

Phase Two allows students to register up to 19 credits and also wait-list up to three classes. Students are able to check through Student Online Services for the exact date and time they are able to register a few weeks before registration begins.

Beyond getting the classes you need or the PAC class you want, registration is ultimately a really important time. Your schedule and the classes you take get you that much closer to your graduation date, whether it's four, five or six years.

Most colleges would recommend you visit your adviser each term to make sure you're on the right track. We'd say this is a great idea in theory. In practice, however, many students have found despite what they're told by an adviser, they receive multiple surprises, as graduation looms nearer.

Students trying to graduate have found themselves juggling their schedules to fit in the last-minute requirements with all their other classes.

More often than not, you or someone you know will be faced with that 'one last class' you didn't see coming for whatever reason, and have to stay an extra term to finish school. Maybe even longer. If advisers are supposed to keep us on track and make sure we aren't missing requirements, how does this keep happening? Why do so many students have to go back to an adviser and say, "you told me this would be okay — why can't I graduate?"

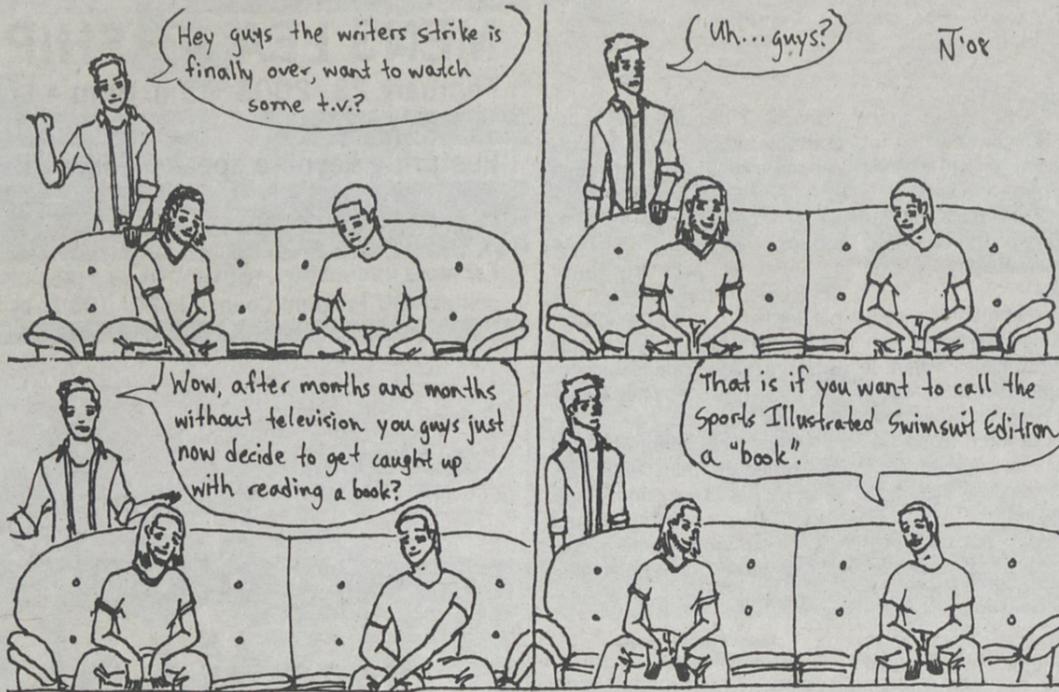
Despite the obvious inconvenience of staying in school longer — even though some might find it a blessing — there are the extra costs associated. If you planned your college career and loans for four years and you get hit with extra classes, that extra term costs you time as well as living and class expenses.

Of course, this can't all be placed on the university. Responsibility, especially in a college setting, goes both ways. Students should be tracking their classes and majors and ask questions when they foresee a roadblock.

However, some majors are confusing and sometimes problems get glossed over. Students and advisers should work together to make sure there aren't any slip-ups, and either party needs to take responsibility when something goes wrong.

Don't forget to register on time, because there is a lot more importance in it than most people realize.

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.



John Tavares

Notes From the Underground

Selfish holidays are where it's at

Valentine's Day has come and passed. The season of candied sweethearts, grand gestures of love and diapered cherubs packing heat has passed. The red and pink Valentines have flown from the stores' shelves and our streets are now littered with these little autumnal gestures of love. But like the analogized leaves, the disappearances of Valentine's Day cards and red and pink candies marks the beginning of a new season. The season of self love. No not that self love! Kathy Greaves was right about you. Tsk tsk.

For those of you who have significant others, you've already done something sweet for them. You've paid your dues. For the bitter rest, you've finished drowning your sorrows and wishing terrible things upon passing strangers — I heard what you did, and I'm pretty sure that's illegal — and are finally ready to reemerge from those spiteful caverns of misery. Too much? Well at least we've been given a beautiful weekend to recover in. And now it's our turn to do something for ourselves, to show how much you love you. Self hug!

...Er, weird. Anyway my point is that too much emphasis is placed upon others during the pre-Valentine's Day period as people desperately try to find something special for their loved one, or a loved one in general. Not that there is anything wrong with such a giving season — Christmas is another season where it is encouraged to put your loved ones before yourself in the spirit of giving. It's good for our society. And yet, not terribly healthy for ourselves. For those out there with loved ones, the stress of finding the perfect gifts and making the day particularly memorable can wear you down. And people who are single, well, the societal preoccupation with the couple in this holiday is enough of a psychological drain.

So kick back, relax, and do something special for yourself this week. Think of it as a Valentine to yourself. Buy something that you've been putting off because you don't think you deserve it. Or celebrate a night in, with that movie that you've been too embarrassed to suggest watching with your friends. Or even just break that diet of yours once. Why? Because you deserve it? Well, probably not, but it would be good for your well-being to take an inward glance every now and then.

You could argue that "giving holidays" such as Christmas, Valentine's Day and Hanukkah — among others — are really breaks from humans' perpetual conceited selfishness. And if you are right then I will argue that we might as well break back into this apathetic selfishness with a bit of enthusiasm.

But I believe that, with the exception of a certain percentage of parsimonious egoists, we humans spend a lot of time working for the concerns of others. Be that actual work or benefaction, our actions are often swayed by others.

The Hollywood addiction: influence of media

I am one of those people who often has trouble sleeping, especially when I know I have a lot to do and my brain is on overload.

You know, when you have that paper due in two days you just can't seem to start, or you have two mid-terms in one day coming up and you have no clue which one you need to dedicate the most time on — or if you need to dedicate equal time and just can't find a way.

I assume we have all been there — and if not I am jealous, and you are one lucky person.

So last week I was up late, once again, and decided to do some channel surfing and came across the show "Dirt" with Courtney Cox.

I had heard a lot about the show, but didn't think I could get out of seeing her as anything else but Monica on "Friends." I knew the show dealt with events in Hollywood, but never actually cared to figure out what the plot was.

But, hey nothing else was on at 2:30 a.m. so I decided to watch it, and maybe, just maybe, it will put me to sleep.

Boy was I wrong. It actually kept me up even later. This show is amazing, I was immediately drawn into it, and of course kept me up until 5 a.m. I couldn't go back to sleep because I went online to find out what I missed on the episodes before the ones I had watched.

Courtney Cox, who plays Lucy in the show, is the editor-in-chief of this tabloid magazine and does whatever it takes to get the story — even if it means screwing up someone's life.

I am addicted to what is going on in Hollywood. However, I want to make it clear it is not solely because I want to know all the celebrities' business.

As I have stated before, I am a women studies major and am obsessed with how anything and everything affects society. No one can escape the fact that our lives are shaped by the outside world: be it school, family, Hollywood or much more.

And if anyone knows anything about society and Hollywood it is obvious society is greatly shaped by what is going on in Tinseltown



Ashley Slocki

This is What I Do

because it is so over exposed.

I won't say this is true for everyone, because some people simply ignore it, but there is something else shaping those people. I do believe younger generations are the ones being most harmed by what they see in magazines, on television or on the internet pertaining to Hollywood.

Eating disorders are running rampant with celebrities like Mary Kate Olsen. Young, underage starlets are partying like crazy, having nude pictures leaked online, and many are being exposed for abusing prescription drugs, alcohol and worst of all illegal, addicting, drugs. It seems like every day another video pops up on YouTube and other Web sites showing these things.

This does not mean everyone who follows the media frenzy will get mixed up in these types of issues, but I think it is clearly a bad influence.

I have always heard the argument parents should be more responsible and censor what their children are watching on television, doing on the internet, reading or listening to on the radio. However, there is no possible way parents can control their child every second of every day. And some teens are old enough where they do not have to be protected from the world by their parents.

Look at Heath Ledger's death. It was even hard for me, even though I didn't know him. It was hard for one of my favorite Hollywood heartthrobs to pass away, and with Brad Renfro passing away mere weeks before from an overdose of heroin and morphine.

I have read many stars have started to realize how serious drug and alcohol abuse is after the death of Heath Ledger. I would never say that this is a blessing in disguise, but it is something that brought attention to the issue. There are so many stars taking part in risky behavior. These are people children look up too — Lindsay

Lohan, who has been in many Disney movies, just got out of rehab. And just last week Kirsten Dunst entered rehab. Jamie Lynne Spears, 16 years old, is pregnant. Even celebrities parents consider "safe" can turn out to be the exact opposite.

In the tabloids it seems that stars only seem to make the tabloid covers if they get into trouble or are in the middle of a scandal, and the "good" celebrities are ignored and their stardom fades.

This is where my problem with the media comes in, and "Dirt" really shows how intrusive the media can be.

Anyone can look at the crazy situations of Britney Spears simply trying to get out of her car, and then she is criticized if she accidentally runs over one of their feet.

Fame is accompanied by constant criticism, scrutiny, and the party scene to fit in — and of course, the paparazzi.

This is what the media loves. They get ecstatic about people entering rehab, getting caught driving drunk or doing drugs, having affairs, new relationships or getting a divorce.

These are things "normal people" also go through, except they do not have to go through it with the eyes of the world on them. It can be a personal issue that your friends and family can help with.

I do sometimes feel sorry for celebrities, but of course everyone says fame comes with this stuff. So sometimes I don't feel sorry for them because the things they do are still their choice. They need to realize how much influence they have on culture, and of course the media needs to take a step back.

Think about the magazine covers you see with celebrities doing what everyone else does, like vacationing on the beach, but pictures are taken and published. How often do they have the headline "best and worst beach bodies"?

How do you think this helps the self image of young girls when they see an already thin actress made fun of for gaining five pounds?

See SLOCKI | 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.

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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.

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

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American voters should be better educated, not more youthful

A column in The New York Times opinion section last week caught my eye.

According to Anya Kamenetz's column, "You're 16, You're Beautiful and You're a Voter," lowering the voting age to 16 would "hasten the enfranchisement of this generation."

Kamenetz said that 16-year-olds should be allowed to obtain an "early voting permit" by passing a civics course in high school.

In my high school, civics class is now a requirement to graduate, and I'm not sure I want all the students who take that class having the option to vote.

I mean, come on. While some 16-year-olds are wise beyond their years, many do not think politically for themselves yet.

Most are worried about scoring with the girl who sits next to them in biology, those jeans at Forever 21 that fit amazingly, or figuring out ways to con the parents into buying their 40th pair.

With this being the mind set of many of the country's 16-year-olds, they would most likely be voting the way their parents want them to.

By lowering the voting age to a youthful 16, the parents would be getting another vote for their favored party.

The article begs to differ, saying that by "increasing voter registration, it would reinforce the notion of voting as a privilege and duty as well as a right."

However, I could see it spinning completely the other way and making it a fad

Brianna Swisher
The Daily Athenaeum

and taken too lightly.

The author also proposes a question that I myself had: Why stop at voting? "Sixteen is a good starting point for phasing in adult rights and responsibilities, from voting to drinking to marriage."

However, the point I was making is that at 16, you're not quite ready to be an adult.

So, if those children are going to be considered mature enough to vote and those that are 18 and are old enough to die for their country, one would wonder why these "adults" aren't ready to consume alcohol at an age younger than 21?

This concept baffles me because I feel that it's just too young to be given all those responsibilities — at 16, they're still kids. I still feel like a kid sometimes, and I'm beyond that age.

Eighteen is a sound age to be allowed to vote. If you're allowed to go to war you should be old enough to vote for or against the president who's sending you.

However, instead of lowering the voting age, how about we lower the legal drinking age to 18 so we can celebrate "adulthood" with an alcoholic beverage?

The column continues, saying, "the more we treat teenagers as adults, the more they rise to our expectations."

It seems to me that the adults in today's

society are more concerned with voting for their favorite "American Idol" contestant than presidential candidates.

With speculation in mind, I would beg to argue that those 16-year-olds would be even more concerned with other things besides the election.

Though they might rise to the challenge of voting if given that responsibility, I think we should worry more about educating the voters who are already eligible to vote.

I'm allowed to vote, but I'm not even registered because I feel that being an uneducated voter is worse than not voting at all.

Around election time, every high school teacher should have to spend one hour a week talking about the election and the candidates.

Furthermore, college students should be more educated. I'd like to be taught what to look for in a candidate instead of blindly listening to the rhetoric and messages they feed us during debates.

High school students need to know how to choose a political party instead of just choosing to follow what their parents believe.

So, before jumping the gun and allowing children to vote, the country needs to amp up its game in making sure Americans are well-educated voters, especially those freshly out of high school or in college.

Brianna Swisher
The Daily Athenaeum (West Virginia University)

The \$212 question

Allison Jenness
Op-Ed

As students analyze their lofty OSU bills, the incidental fee line may look awfully suspicious. The title is vague and costs each fee-paying student \$212.06 per term this year. Some students may notice that this fee increases yearly.

Incidentally, this fee is set yearly by a student committee. This committee comprises five elected students, two of whom serve two-year terms, the ASOSU president and the MU president. Elections for these positions occur in the spring and are voted on by the entire student body.

Beginning fall term, the committee meets weekly for two hours. During this time the committee is educated about student fees and the process required to set fees.

Starting winter term, the committee issues fee guidelines to each of the budgets that fall in the incidental fee category. These budgets include athletics, Student Sustainability Initiative, recreational sports, Student Leadership and Involvement, Corvallis Transit, Student Involvement, music ensembles, Student Parents Board and Educational Activities. The Counseling and Psychological Services budget and the Student Health budget fees are also set by this committee. Each of these budgets has a student board that reads the guidelines and sets the operating budget for the next year. Often the budget guidelines issued by the fees committee call for a 0 percent increase in the budget. If increases must occur, they are addressed separately and are labeled a decision package. All decision packages are viewed as optional increases by the committee and often they fund new programs or positions.

Once the individual budgeting boards have set the budget, the budget is presented to the Student Fees Committee in a structured format. The committee listens for 30 minutes to the presentation and then asks 30 minutes

of questions to the student board. At the end of the presentation the board issues a tentative decision. Following the tentative decision, students are able to comment on this decision at the budget open hearing; these hearings are advertised in the Barometer. At the open hearing students are given the opportunity to give feedback to the committee, both written and verbally, regarding the tentative decision. After listening to the students, the fees committee issues a final decision. This decision is then taken to the student senate. The senate then approves the decision and President Ray signs off on the fee. If the senate does not approve the decision then mediation between senate and the fees committee occurs.

Student involvement in the fees process is crucial. If a student has a particular interest in a specific budget they are encouraged to join that budgeting board. However, if the time commitment of serving on a budget board is too hefty, it is advised that the student come to the open hearing of that budget and give feedback. Each budget provides a unique service to the students, which enriches the student experience on campus. If ever there is question regarding one of these services, students may approach the fees board and list grievances. All fees committee budget presentations, open hearings and meetings are open to the public, and students are encouraged to attend.

For information regarding the current meeting time and location, please contact Allison Jenness, SIFC Chairperson at student.fees@mu.orst.edu or 541-737-6351

Allison Jenness is the Student/Incidental Fees Committee chair 06-07. The opinions expressed in her column do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Jenness can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com

SLOCKI: How watching a few episodes of "Dirt" inspired all these thoughts on society

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

According to the National Institute of Mental Health 13 percent of females in the U.S. will struggle with an eating disorder every year. In one year, more individuals will be diagnosed with an eating disorder than Alzheimer's disease or breast cancer. And eating disorders have the highest mortality rate of any other mental illness.

What surprises me more is that children, as early as kindergarten, can develop unhealthy dieting and exercise habits.

No, we cannot just blame Hollywood, but our society seems to have this constant need to fit in and do whatever it takes.

It is time for more positive role models, celebrities or otherwise — because there are plenty of people to look up to out

there.

You might be wondering how watching three episodes of "Dirt" made me think about all of this.

It was not just this show. It is what I have learned in classes since being at OSU — and not just my women studies classes.

It is seeing girls wearing short skirts when it is 30 degrees outside. (And, no, I am not trying to say anything negative about these girls.) The beauty ideal is so embedded in us we can't escape it — even if we think we don't conform to it.

I can't say enough how much things need to change with the media, Hollywood and Western culture. This is the only way to help save the future generations, as well as help the current ones. No, not everyone will fall into the trap, but some will — and that is a problem.

Ashley Slocki is a senior in women studies. The opinions expressed in her columns, which appear every Monday, do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Slocki can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

a community forum:

-ISMS IN MEDIA

Join The Daily Barometer staff and local experts to discuss, debate and critique media contributions to issues affecting our community.

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alcoholism	Feb. 26
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Trend of establishing campuses abroad hurts U.S. schools

When reflecting on the phenomenon of globalization, many images come to mind, such as McDonalds' golden arches or the Starbucks logo. What does not come to mind is the United States' higher education system.

Recently, many universities in the United States have clamored to establish branches of their schools in foreign countries, especially in the Middle East and China. The University of Michigan has a business school in India, Georgetown and Virginia Commonwealth University have schools in Qatar and New York University plans to open a school in Singapore, among many others.

They claim that students admitted in these branches are held to the same standards as students in the United States branch, and that the educational programs are equivalent. In a Feb. 10 New York Times article regarding such satellite programs, university officials cited such goals as competing globally, earning international recognition, spreading knowledge and reducing cultural friction. Meanwhile, a proportion of all profit made in such ventures is sent back to the home university. However, the goal of profit-making should never be allowed to overshadow the overall aims of higher education.

If universities were to send existing faculty to teach in their satellites, our country would be losing resources as well as experts in their fields. The home universities cannot afford to lose great numbers of talented professors to extended commitments overseas. If they instead choose to hire local faculty, I question whether the education would be the same. This is not to say that international scholars are not equally qualified for the job, but having an American perspective is vital to getting an American experience. American professors are not necessarily quali-

tatively better, but their presence is a key part of the unique character of a university.

I value the presence and perspective of international students at the University; having the brightest international students in the United States can only benefit us as a nation. When these students choose to attend universities in the States, they make friends and form attachments to our country and our culture. This phenomenon can truly combat anti-Americanism abroad, and we would be disadvantaged to discourage such experiences.

Getting an international or American education is already a possibility when we welcome international students to attend our universities. We also host study abroad programs and faculty exchanges, other great ways to foster cultural acceptance. Marina Markot, associate director for Study Abroad at the University noted, "The ultimate goal of study abroad is to prepare the future generation ... to be able to communicate with people across cultures, build bridges across differences, while respecting different approaches and opinions, and understand our common humanity." If students believe they can get the same education in their own country, they may be discouraged from traveling thousands of miles from home to study in the United States. This reduces the chances that all parties involved will benefit from the increased cultural awareness that results from such international travel and studies.

Proponents claim that this would spread American-style education as if they are doing the world a tremendous favor. Considering that

only the most privileged students from these wealthy nations would likely be able to afford the tuition at these for-profit universities, it hardly seems like a grand altruistic gesture. Perhaps the time and energy being put into these programs would be better spent making higher education affordable to our own students, or even funding educational programs in the most impoverished nations. The New York Times article previously cited asserts that these satellite programs will "provide a new pool of tuition-paying students, just as the number of college-age Americans is about to decline." Although there will be fewer college-age Americans due to the declining birth rate, there are certainly more qualified and able students in our country than ever who want to attend college. As a college education becomes more essential in the workplace, more young adults are making the decision to attend col-

lege. Meanwhile, tuition costs are skyrocketing and admissions are becoming more demanding, keeping many of our own citizens from getting college degrees.

These satellite universities are nothing more than a business venture as universities rush to make money off of these booming economies, particularly in China and the Middle East. In fact, Catherine Armitage, from The Australian, wrote in detail about the many satellite university ventures that have failed because of a lack of profit and fear of damaged reputations. Although certainly there is much to gain from such an enterprise, the inherent problems are too great to make these satellites worthwhile. Our education system is not the proper place for imperialist expansion and capitalist enterprise.

Arin Smith

Cavalier Daily (University of Virginia)

Letters to the Editor

Campus statement

Flaws in the creation

Once again, Student Community Covenant Team has asked us to help create a common values statement. I will probably support the majority of what is written. However, I will not help create it. Publicity has never linked this document to a strategic plan for the university. It is a values statement without the support of a clear initiative or series of actions. In short, we have been asked to create a document that recognizes our values without asking us to honor them. This is the difference between a statement and a covenant. At best, this process is shortsighted. At worst, it becomes a divisive, navel-gazing battle of ideologues. Midterms aside, I see no reason to become involved.

JESSICA VARIN

student, pre-environmental engineering

Response to Hageman letter

Just don't pick up the paper

This letter is in response to the letter to the editor posted on Feb. 8 by Jared Hageman. My only question to Hageman is, if you did not like what you were seeing why continue to look at and read the signs and articles? No one told you to read the Barometer, no one forced you to look at the advertisements. So before you start pitching a fit about reading or seeing things you do not like, remember that you can always turn your head the other direction.

TARA SORENSEN

student, health promotion and health behavior

Response to Peterson letter

Ineffective analogy

In Friday's issue, Mr. Peterson answers Roman-Nose's question about caricatures and

states that he doesn't care that parts of his heritage are portrayed as historically inaccurate "bloodthirsty warriors" by some mascots. He attempted to portray mascots of Vikings as an analogy for Native American mascots. He ends by asking, "Is this an important issue?" He states that, for him, it is not.

However, an argument by analogy only works if the objects under consideration do not differ in significant ways. For example, I could show how a volleyball is superficially similar to a coconut, but until I acknowledge the very serious differences, it's a poor analogy.

Similarly, comparing Viking and Native American mascots only works if they share similar historical and contemporary contexts. Mr. Peterson conveniently omits the history of Norwegian and Native American identity in the US, representation of Native Americans in our contemporary society, and how power is distributed among both groups.

His failure to successfully use an argument by analogy compounds his next mistake. He appeals for readers to believe that since he doesn't care, neither should we. What Mr. Peterson fails to realize is that the strength of the arguments against Native American caricatures in mascots do not rely on how many people care. As with all issues of justice, it is not necessarily what the majority believes or wants that makes an idea or action just, and to believe otherwise is to succumb to a sad case of egocentrism and ethnocentrism. US history is full of examples leading credence to this idea.

Finally, if Mr. Peterson doesn't care that his 'culture' is being misrepresented by mascots, perhaps he should step out of the way of people who do care when mascots use caricatures of their culture, and who wish for change.

ML SUGIE

graduate student, applied ethics

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TAVARES: Create a new week based in some kind of selfishness

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Though usually this brings good things such as money or a better society, it is easy to lose one's self completely.

And that is why I declare that this week should be known as national self love week, or national selfishness week — whichever has a better ring. Don't completely ignore others, but make sure what you are doing springs from your own

desires as well. And find one small thing in which to reward yourself with. Trust me, it'll be worth it.

And who knows, this might just catch on. I can see the stores' shelves now, lined with green and black candies and cards that read "F*** you! Today is my day." Of course the candied hearts that read "all mine" might be more popular. Either way, it is the logical holiday to follow Valentine's Day. Actually, come to think of it, isn't St. Patrick's Day next?

John Tavares is a senior in English. The opinions expressed in his columns do not necessarily represent those of the Daily Barometer staff. Tavares can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

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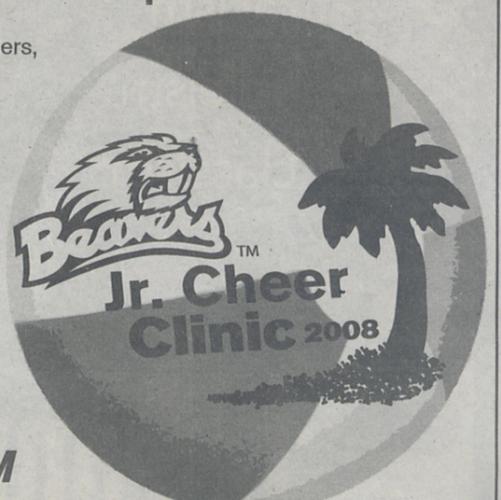
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SHOOTING AT NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Hometowns grieve NIU victims, cope with attack

By Lindsey Tanner and
Caryn Rousseau
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CICERO, Ill. — The sprawling Chicago suburbs that send their sons and daughters to Northern Illinois University struggled Sunday with the closeness of the country's latest massacre — this time the gunman grew up among them.

The tragedy hung over church services throughout the region, from the university's home in DeKalb on Chicago's western exurban edge, to Elk Grove Village, where the gunman grew up in what one resident called "Mayberry," to blue-collar Cicero bordering Chicago.

Parishioners at Our Lady of the Mount Catholic Church in Cicero prepared for the funeral of Catalina Garcia, the youngest of four children of parents originally from Guadalajara, Mexico. They're longtime parishioners at Our Lady of the Mount, a tight-knit group of low- and middle-income families, many of them young, with some older Czech and other immigrants.

"Their parents are making all sorts of sacrifices to make sure the kids get into colleges. They're selling things, they're taking out second mortgages on their homes," the Rev. Lawrence Collins said at the church.

Garcia, 20, followed a brother, Jaime, to NIU, choice of many working-class Chicago-area families. She was studying to be a teacher and had talked about returning to Cicero to teach first grade.

"It hits really close to home," Collins said.

The Garcias were the "typical Mexican-American family," working low-wage jobs to help put their children through school, Jaime Garcia said Sunday on the porch of the family's two-story red brick home.

"My parents came here to better their lives," he said. They worried more about their children getting caught in gang crossfire at home than away at college "in the cornfields" of DeKalb.

"It's like the all-American dream cut short," he said.

Investigators still haven't determined what set off 27-year-old shooter Steven Kazmierczak, who killed five students and injured more than a dozen other people with a shotgun and pistols during a science lecture, then committed suicide.

Kazmierczak grew up northwest of Chicago, in Elk Grove Village, and played saxophone in the school band. He spent time in a mental health center in his late teens, and police have said without elaboration that he had stopped taking some kind of medication in the days or weeks before the shooting.

His girlfriend, Jessica Baty, told CNN on Sunday that he had stopped taking an anti-depressant about three weeks ago because "it made him feel like a zombie."

Kazmierczak's family has moved away, but the shooting still echoed in the Elk Grove Village, near O'Hare International Airport. Resident Pat Egan, a heating and cooling repair man whose son goes to NIU, described the suburb as "Mayberry."

People there seemed to feel a sense of disbelief and confusion over the attack that thrust their community into the news, said the Rev. Hwa Young Chong at the Prince of Peace United Methodist Church.

"I couldn't believe coming from a place like Elk Grove he could do that," said Judy Glomski, who has lived in Elk Grove Village for 39 years. "It's just a friendly town. I guess there are sick people everywhere."

Kazmierczak attended NIU, studying sociology. Three semesters back, he transferred across state to the more prestigious University of Illinois in Champaign. Most students and professors on both campuses remembered him as a promising student.

Yet he began assembling an arsenal in August, buying a shotgun and three menacing handguns from a small Champaign gun shop. He added oversized ammunition clips in an Internet purchase from the same dealer that sold the Virginia Tech gunman a weapon.

Kazmierczak had also begun the long process of having his arms blanketed with disturbing tattoos, including a skull pierced by a knife, a pentagram and a macabre character from the "Saw" horror movies, superimposed on images of bleeding slashes across his forearm.

Baty, 28, told CNN that she didn't know Kazmierczak was planning anything, but that he called her early on the day of the massacre to say goodbye.

Some NIU parents took the shootings as a call to action, speaking out for stricter gun control in hopes the tragedy would propel the issue into the presidential campaign. Connie Catellani, a Skokie physician whose 22-year-old son is an NIU senior, helped organize a weekend news conference with other NIU parents.

"It's sickening. What are we supposed to do, surround college campuses with barbed wire and metal detectors?" Catellani said Sunday.

"If somebody had walked into that classroom with a hand grenade, there would be outrage, yet when someone walked in with a handgun that's capable of firing off 30 or 50 rounds in a minute, there's not the same sense of urgency," she said.

Gunman called before shooting to say goodbye, his girlfriend says

WONDER LAKE, Ill. — The girlfriend of the man who killed five people and himself at Northern Illinois University said Sunday that he called her early on Valentine's Day, the day of the shooting, to say goodbye.

Steven Kazmierczak "called me at midnight and told me not to forget about him," Jessica Baty, 28, told CNN from her home. She said she had no indication he was planning anything.

Investigators still haven't determined why Kazmierczak, 27, opened fire in a lecture hall at his and Baty's alma mater, and she shed no light on a motive Sunday.

"The person I knew was not the one who went into Cole Hall and did that," Baty told CNN. "He was anything but a monster. He was probably the... nicest, (most) caring person ever."

The day of the shooting or the day after, Baty received a package from Kazmierczak containing two textbooks, a cell phone and what she characterized as a "goodbye note."

"You've done so much for me," the note said, according to Baty. "You will make an excellent psychologist and social worker someday."

Another package contained a gun holster and ammunition. She confirmed that he had stopped taking an antidepressant about three weeks ago because "it made him feel like a zombie," but she denied that his recent behavior was unusual.

"He wasn't erratic. He wasn't delusional. He was Steve; he was normal," said Baty, who had turned down Associated Press requests by phone and in person for an interview.

Authorities have speculated that the couple might have split up just before the shooting. Baty did not discuss the status of her relationship with Kazmierczak during Sunday's televised interview, telling CNN only, "I still love him."

An NIU professor who befriended Kazmierczak and Baty during their years on campus told The Associated Press earlier Sunday that Baty was upset by media reports of their relationship as rocky and abusive.

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Online gun dealer that sold Va. Tech gun unnerved to learn he also sold to NIU shooter

MADISON, Wis. — The online gun dealer who sold a weapon to the Virginia Tech shooter said it was an unnerving coincidence that he also sold handgun accessories to the man who killed five students at Northern Illinois University.

Eric Thompson said his Web site, www.topglock.com, sold two empty 9 mm Glock magazines and a Glock holster to Steven Kazmierczak on Feb. 4, just 10 days before the 27-year-old opened fire in a class-

room and killed five before committing suicide.

Another Web site run by Thompson's company, www.thegunstore.com, also sold a Walther .22-caliber handgun to Seung-Hui Cho, who killed 32 people in April on the Virginia Tech campus before killing himself.

"I'm still blown away by the coincidences," Thompson said Friday. "I'm shaking. I can't believe somebody would order from us again and do this."

His company, TGSCOM Inc., based in Green Bay, shipped the order Monday, and records of the sale provided to The Associated Press by Thompson show Kazmierczak received the order Tuesday.

Kazmierczak carried a rifle

and three handguns into the classroom Thursday. Thompson said he had no idea whether the shooter used the holster or magazines purchased on the Web site.

Each magazine can hold 33 bullets, Thompson said. He said his site did not sell Kazmierczak any bullets or guns.

Kazmierczak bought two of the weapons used in the shooting — the pump-action Remington shotgun and a Glock 9mm handgun — legally on Feb. 9 in Champaign, Ill., where he was a student, authorities said.

Thompson said he checked his sales records after the name of the shooter was made public Friday.

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 - OR
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Email: Immunizations@oregonstate.edu

Oregon State UNIVERSITY

Student Health Services
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Government Notice:

Student Loan Alert

PURSUANT TO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., DOING BUSINESS AS UNIVERSITY FINANCIAL SERVICES, IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT IT HAS ADOPTED THE NEW YORK ATTORNEY GENERAL'S NEW CODE OF CONDUCT FOR DIRECT MARKETING OF STUDENT LOANS.

THE CODE OF CONDUCT GIVES STUDENTS IMPORTANT PROTECTIONS WHEN THEY SHOP FOR STUDENT LOANS DIRECTLY FROM MARKETERS AND LENDERS. HERE ARE SOME WAYS THAT YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF WHEN SHOPPING FOR STUDENT LOANS:

1. Make sure to consider all of your federal loan borrowing options before turning to more expensive private loans.
2. Don't be fooled by mailings from marketers or lenders that are designed to look like they come from the federal government.
3. Don't be enticed to take out loans from marketers and lenders who offer you prizes or sweepstakes. These incentives could distract you from learning the key terms of the loans these marketers and lenders are offering.
4. Beware of "teaser" or introductory interest rates; find out the actual interest rate and whether that rate will change.
5. Make sure a lender answers the following questions before you take out a loan:
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Oregon couple sentenced in death of autistic son

The Associated Press
ALBANY — An Albany couple described as involved parents caring for their severely autistic son have been sentenced to six months in jail after they were convicted of criminally negligent homicide in the 19-year-old man's death.

Relatives, friends and other witnesses spoke on behalf of Agnes and Nicolaas "Nico" DeGroot during a daylong sentencing hearing earlier this month before Linn County Circuit Judge John McCormick.

Christopher DeGroot died at a Portland hospital in May 2006 after suffering burns over 80 percent of his body during a fire at the family's apartment. His parents had been locking him in the apartment when they went out together to prevent him from wandering off.

Judging by the pattern of burns Christopher sustained, police said the teenager was asleep on a couch at the time the fire broke out.

Christopher was found in the corner of the living room, slumped over a rocking chair near the front window. The first pane of a double-pane

window had been broken, and there was skin, blood and hair nearby.

A neighbor reported hearing Christopher pounding on the wall from inside the apartment. The cause of the fire was never determined.

Firefighters were surprised to find him still moaning, still alive, according to Albany police Detective Dawn Hietala.

She said his parents were still at their horses' boarding facility in Tangent when Albany police reached them by phone. The DeGroots said they had already heard the news.

Hietala testified that when the DeGroots arrived at their apartment she was "shocked" by their inquiries about their cats when they still had not seen their critically injured son.

"There was more emotion from people who didn't even know Christopher than I saw from the parents," Hietala said.

Dr. Daniel W. Close, a defense witness who is an expert in developmental disabilities and autism, suggested the parents reacted in a way consistent with his more than

30 years experience with the parents of autistic children.

He said both parents had learned to manage Christopher without escalating emotions as a coping mechanism.

"It was this emotional detachment ... that the Albany police encountered during their investigation into the events surrounding the fire and Christopher's subsequent death," Close wrote in his evaluation of the couple and repeated at the sentencing.

Dr. Clara Bozievich, a psychiatrist, noted in her evaluation of Agnes DeGroot that she is partially deaf, affecting the way she answers questions, possibly accounting for the way she responded to police.

Family friend Jill Mejia testified that Agnes DeGroot was a strong advocate for Christopher, and Nico enjoyed teaching Christopher new skills.

Nico DeGroot was on disability for a back injury and collected a small payment from the state for Christopher's care.

Mejia said Christopher had "no sense of danger" and recalled a terrifying incident when the family was living in

Washingtonstate. Christopher ran away and made it all the way to Interstate 5 before his father and police could reach him. Police eventually had to stop traffic to get Christopher to safety.

"Unfortunately, the efforts to manage Christopher's running away and behavioral challenges never reached the point where the DeGroots could feel comfortable that he was safe," Close wrote.

Christopher's sister, Vicki Douglas, testified that her mother and stepfather agonized over whether or not to start using locks for Christopher's safety. After much consideration, she said they concluded the risk of fire was very remote and the potential for death or injury was much higher if Christopher were able to run into the street.

They would lock the doors then watch him from the window to make sure he was safe. Later, they began leaving him for longer periods of time.

The DeGroots had faced a murder charge in the death but reached a plea agreement last November for the lesser charge of criminally negligent homicide.

Energy policy is costly for Oregon dairy farmers

By Cassandra Proffita
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BROWNSMEAD, Ore. — North Coast dairy farmers are feeling the effects of a U.S. energy policy push toward corn-based ethanol.

The upside to corn-based ethanol production is U.S. independence from foreign oil. But one of the downsides is a higher corn price for dairy farmers and others who raise livestock.

Brownsmead dairy farmer Dirk Rohne said the skyrocketing price of corn last year nearly put him out of business. Now, to guard against the price of feed, he's looking to switch his farm over to a pasture-based system that would free him from his dependence on corn.

When Rohne started farming eight years ago, a ton of corn cost him \$165. Now it costs about twice as much, and he still needs 30 tons per month to produce milk. The price of corn has driven prices for other feed crops up, too. Rohne said 50 percent of his gross income now goes to feed.

"We almost went broke last year," he said.

Jerry Hagstrom, a writer for the National Journal of Washington, D.C., noted in a Columbia Forum presentation on the 2007 Farm Bill that subsidies funneled into ethanol from energy bills are, in a way, "more important than the farm bill subsidies," especially when it comes to the price of corn and other crops such as wheat, soybeans, hay, alfalfa and even cotton.

The new Energy Independence and Security Act, passed in December, installed a renewable fuels mandate that calls for "more ethanol and more biofuels," said Hagstrom. "And of course a lot of this comes from corn."

The total ethanol mandate for fuel producers is increasing from 7 billion gallons to 36 billion gallons by 2022. Of that total, 15 billion gallons are expected to come from corn-based fuel.

"You can imagine what this will do to the price of feed," he said. "Corn has two uses now, food and fuel, and that's

causing a shift in acreage all over the country."

Though the 2007 Farm Bill allocates funding to start shifting ethanol production away from corn and toward other crops such as straw and biomass, the technology for that kind of ethanol, called cellulosic ethanol, has yet to be commercialized.

Brent Searle, policy analyst for the Oregon Department of Agriculture, said the push toward corn-based ethanol combined with rising fuel prices, a devalued dollar and demand for corn overseas are changing agriculture to the point where dairies should be looking into other feed options.

"People got addicted to corn just like we got addicted to cheap oil," he said. "There are other options out there, and I think people will start exploring that ... If milk prices weren't as high as they are, dairies would just be sunk."

With corn prices not likely to sink anytime soon, Rohne is testing out a new strategy, switching to a more sustainable pasture-based feeding system.

"The people making money in the industry right now utilize grass," he said. "If we can make it work with the grass, we've got an advantage."

To make a grass-based system work, Rohne will divide his 170 acres of pasture into small fields, and rotate a lot of cows through each field in sequence.

"It sounds pretty simple but it takes a lot of work to get it just right," he said. "I have to be very careful, and it takes a different set of skills to manage grass."

Agricultural education still teaches dairy farmers to rely on corn, he said.

"Working with nutritionists, they can't tell me how I can make a living without corn, and I'm afraid to change because if the cows don't produce milk, all the dominoes start falling down," he said. "But I'm at a point where there's enough economic pressure, I can't afford not to."

Other dairy farmers who have switched to grass feed

say the more natural pasture-based system provides a cushion against the dramatic swings in feed prices and downturns in the U.S. economy.

Brad Cowan, who runs a 1,200-acre dairy farm in Lewis and Clark, has been increasing his use of grass and reducing other feed inputs since 1990.

Though he lost some production volume when he cut back on corn feed, his profitability is higher now that he has fewer feed costs.

"Our dairy economy is based on cheap energy, and now cheap energy is gone, and the cheap energy to grow corn is gone, and when you use a lot of ground and you grow grass, to me that's just like a solar panel," Cowan said. "If you're feeding your cows on your own property it's more sustainable. I've set myself up ... to survive this kind of economy."

Right now, Rohne produces milk all year round, but on the grass-based system dairy farmers try to synchronize the cow's natural milk-production cycle with seasonal weather cycles, and cutting production over the winter months.

"That way a cow is producing 70 pounds of milk in April or May, when there's lots and lots of grass," said Rohne. "Cows are designed to eat grass. So I would say it's more natural."

Moving cows out of confinement and into the pastures creates a symbiotic system where the cows fertilize their own feed.

"If you're really good you can use the cows as a tractor," said Rohne. "If you do it really well, you're running a sustainable system, and that's far more important than anything else."

As the price of running a traditional dairy farm rises, Rohne said he sees a positive shift in the works toward local, low-input farming.

"A lot of the ways they used to farm pre-World War II — we're having to relearn," he said. "Back then everything was local. I don't know where our grain comes from now."

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CURTIS BARNARD / THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon State's Kyle Larson defeated Oregon's Elliot Tracy in the 149 pound competition during Sunday's Civil War. Oregon State beat the Ducks for the second time this year.

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Oregon State UNIVERSITY

Beavers win Civil War

■ Oregon State won the final meeting of a historically lopsided rivalry with Oregon Sunday afternoon at Gill Coliseum

THE SPORTS INFORMATION

"It was a great finish," Oregon State head coach Jim Zalesky said. "It could have gone any way. Emotions play a big part in a meet like this."

Oregon's Ron Lee controlled most of the match, scoring a takedown early, but with nearly a full second period to go, Platt gained control pinning Lee in 4:16, giving Oregon State the nine-point win at 174 pounds.

Prior to the beginning of the meet, Oregon State seniors Neal Beaudry (Newberg, Ore.), Louie Camarillo (Salem, Ore.), Andy Hall (Hermiston, Ore.), Travis Gardner (Portland, Ore.) and Kyle Larson (Hermiston, Ore.) were all honored.

Beaudry recorded his second win at 184 pounds on the season, first bonus point win, over Marcus Meyers to start things off for Oregon State, earning a 16-5 major decision and a quick 4-0 lead for the team.

After falling to red-shirt freshman Charlie Alexander at McArthur Court earlier in the season, Gardner rebounded with a 5-2 decision, including a two-point near fall in the second period, at heavyweight to put the Beavers up 10-0 after three matches.

Larson controlled the entire first period of the match at 149 pounds, racking up over two minutes of riding time and taking a quick 2-0 lead on a takedown. Larson built on his lead in the second period with an immediate escape and another takedown. With riding time, Larson earned the 12-6 decision to complete the senior sweep.

Also earning wins for the Beavers, junior Kyle Bressler (Federal Way, Wash.) wrestled a close match against Shaun Dee at 197 pounds with things tied up at three points through most of the match. But with 33 seconds left, Bressler tallied the takedown to earn the 5-3 decision.

After the 133 pound match, a special intermission took place honoring the third longest rivalry in NCAA Division I wrestling

history, recognizing former Oregon and Oregon State alumni and other individuals who had an impact on both programs.

Junior Heinrich Barnes (Pretoria, South Africa) continued to build on Oregon State's lead after the intermission at 141 pounds, putting the Beavers back up by six with a 9-5 decision over Cody Moulton.

Oregon State improves its record to 10-8, and 7-3 in Pac-10 play, while Oregon falls to 10-13, and just 1-9 Pac-10. The final all-time series record between the team stands at 107-24-4 in favor of the Beavers.

Oregon State will take a week off from competition before heading to the Pac-10 Championships looking to defend its 2007 title. The two-day tournament begins on Sunday, Mar. 2, in Eugene, Ore., at McArthur Court.

Dual Meet Results:

- Oregon State 22, Oregon 16**
- 184 Pounds - Neal Beaudry, OSU, major decision over Marcus Meyers, ORE, 16-5; OSU 4, ORE 0
- 197 Pounds - Kyle Bressler, OSU, decision over Shaun Dee, ORE, 5-3; OSU 7, ORE 0
- Heavyweight - Travis Gardner, OSU, decision over Charlie Alexander, ORE, 5-2; OSU 10, ORE 0
- 125 Pounds - Joey Lucas, ORE, decision over Jake Gonzales, OSU, 6-1; OSU 10, ORE 3
- 133 Pounds - Ryan Dunn, ORE, major decision over Clifton Ivanoff, OSU, 18-8; OSU 10, ORE 7
- 141 Pounds - Heinrich Barnes, OSU, decision over Cody Moulton, ORE, 9-5; OSU 13, ORE 7
- 149 Pounds - Kyle Larson, OSU, decision over Elliott Tracy, ORE, 12-6; OSU 16, ORE 7
- 157 Pounds - Kyle Bounds, ORE, decision over Dan Brascetta, OSU, 12-5; OSU 16, ORE 10
- 165 Pounds - Zack Frazier, ORE, decision over Keegan Davis, OSU, 7-4; OSU 16, ORE 13
- 174 Pounds - Chris Platt, OSU, fall over Ron Lee, ORE, 4:16; OSU 22, ORE 13

SOFTBALL: Freshman Lowe has big weekend for Oregon State

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

base and scored a run.

Leadoff batter, Chisholm chalked up her first RBI of the season on an RBI double, going 1-for-2 in the game and drawing a walk.

Sophomore pitcher Kelly Dyer was charged with the loss after pitching 6.2 innings, dropping her record to 0-5, while Brianna Dairy picked her first win of the season.

On Sunday, Lowe extended her hitting streak to nine games as OSU defeated Utah 3-2 in the final game of the Kajikawa Invitational.

The Beavers (4-6) scored all three of their runs in the opening inning with four total hits in the game, while the Utes (6-4) tallied seven hits but also counted three errors.

Utah scored a single run in both the top of the fourth and fifth.

Miranda went 1-for-2 on the day with a single, a walk and two stolen bases. Young and Guzy earned the other two hits for Oregon State, both singles with Young scoring one of the team's runs.

In the circle, Draper the complete game win, boosting her overall record to 4-1, while Utah's Ashley Smuda was charged with the loss.

Utah's Kristie Keller and Diana Phillips both had two hits to lead the Utes with Phillips also scoring a run.

Oregon State will host Portland State on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 1 p.m. before it heads back to Palm Springs for the Palm Springs Softball Classic next weekend. The four-day tournament begins on Thursday, Feb. 21, with Oregon State facing Fordham at 1 p.m. and Georgia at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 22.

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Beavers win final game of tournament

■ Oregon State defeats Utah on Sunday to improve record to 4-6 overall on 2008 season

SPORTS INFORMATION

Senior Cambria Miranda and freshman Audrey Roderfeld hit home runs to lead the No. 25 Oregon State softball team to a 7-6 win over Virginia on day two of the Kajikawa Invitational, hosted by Arizona State on Saturday.

Miranda takes sole possession of the second best career mark for home runs with 36 at Oregon State, as she now has four on the season.

Roderfeld recorded her first career home run for the Beavers and Miranda went 3-for-4 against Virginia, tallying a pair of singles.

"[Stefanie] Draper threw well and finished the game well," Oregon State head coach Kirk Walker said. "It was really nice to see the team offensively bust out and swing the bats like they're capable. Dani Chisholm, Audrey Roderfeld and Cambria Miranda all had good games at the plate."

Virginia took a quick 6-0 lead after scoring a run in the first and five in the third off of a single, three walks and a grand slam. But Oregon State quickly battled back earning a run in the bottom of the fourth, doubling that in the fifth and then chalking up four in the sixth to take control of the game for good.

Beavers freshman McKenna Lowe extended her hitting streak to eight games



CORY REED / THE DAILY BAROMETER

Junior Paige Lowe from Tustin, Calif. has started all ten games for the Beavers this year and is currently fifth on the team in hits.

after picking up a single.

Pinch-hitting for the Beavers, freshman Erin Guzy hit an RBI single to help the team continue on its offensive streak.

Sophomore Dani Chisholm had a pair of hits against the Cavaliers going 3-for-6 on the day, while junior DeAnn Young also chalked up a single, run and walk for Oregon

State, and sophomore Alana Ford also recorded a hit and a run.

Sophomore pitcher Stefanie Draper improved her record to 3-1 on the season after throwing the complete game.

Back-to-back home runs late in the sixth inning caused Oregon State to fall to Temple earlier in the day,

4-2. "Offensively, we didn't swing the bat aggressively and put all the pressure on the circle," Walker said. "Dyer pitched a good ball game Lowe earned one of Oregon State's four hits against Temple on Saturday morning. Lowe also stole a

See **SOFTBALL** | page 10

WOMEN'S HOOPS: Rhea, Beavers cut into huge UW lead, still come away empty-handed

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

an open layup at 5:42. After Washington connected on two free throws, Futch knocked down her first 3-pointer of the game to get the Beavers back to within eight at the 4:11 mark.

Washington took a 17-point lead into halftime, 37-20, on the strength of shooting 55.2 percent from the field. The

Beavers were led by Talisa Rhea, who had five points, including three on the team's only 3-pointer of the half.

OSU shot 33.3 percent in the half, and forced nine Washington turnovers, five of which came off steals.

Tiffany Ducker led OSU with four of the team's 13 rebounds. The Huskies man-

aged to out-rebound the Beavers, 22-13, and were led by Florence's nine. She had four points and six assists during the half. Plouffe led UW with 10 points.

The game marked the fourth and final Think Pink event for the Beavers this season, who hosted theirs Feb. 9 against Stanford and had a season-high 3,477 fans attend the game. Oregon State has also participated in Arizona and Washington State's Think Pink games, which are being held

nationwide with more than 900 schools participating.

The Think Pink events are run in conjunction the Women's Basketball Coaches Association and benefit the Kay Yow Cancer Fund to bring awareness to the need to find the cure for breast cancer.

Oregon State returns home Thursday night to begin its final regular season home stand of the season. The Beavers host UCLA that night in a game that is scheduled to start at 7 p.m.

MEN'S HOOPS: Five Huskies score in double figures at Gill

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

schedule and now the team finds itself in a school record 15-game losing streak and well on its way to becoming the first team in Pac-10 history to go 0-18.

As for the game, Washington guard Ryan Appleby scored a career high 32 points on 10-of-16 shooting, and 9-of-15 from three point range.

Five Huskies scored in double figures with Justin Dentmon scoring 17 off the bench, and Jon Brockman adding 15 points and 10 rebounds as well. The Huskies shot 54 percent from the floor and made 13 three pointers. Washington also dominated the Beavers on the boards out-rebounding the Beavers 47 to 34.

"You got to give credit to Washington. Defensively they played well, offensively they were on today," Mouton said. "Appleby was on a different planet today. He was shooting the ball really well."

The same could not be said for Oregon State.

After jumping out to an early 5-3 lead on a Lathen Wallace 3-pointer, but would never lead again. Washington stormed back and after the dust settled from a 15-2 Husky run midway through the half to make the score 23-10, the Beavers could never recover.

Washington led 48-24 at halftime and the score never got any closer than 23 in the second half. The Huskies did their talking during the game and gave the young Beavers a lesson on how to deliver a beating on the court.

Freshman Omari Johnson and Lathen

Wallace were the only two players available for comment and were not involved in the pre-game fiasco, but they both acknowledged the ridiculous actions of their teammates and learned a lesson from their teammates stupidity.

"I guess the lesson learned is how not to act before a game," Johnson said. "We should keep our focus."

"They were down about the Oregon game and I felt like we gave them life," Wallace said. "We shouldn't have done that. We've got a lot to learn, we're young."

The Beavers once again could not get the ball in the basket.

OSU shot 32 percent for the game on 19-of-59 shooting and 15-of-26 from the free-throw line. Oregon State is near the bottom of the nation in field goal percentage out of over 300 division 1-a schools.

One player who shot well, however, was Wallace. He led the team with 16 points on 6-of-13 from the field. Another step in the right direction for the young guard as he has become one of the more solid contributors in the last few weeks.

Omari Johnson was the only other Beaver player in double figures with 11. Calvin Hampton led the team with eight rebounds and added six points along with two steals.

The road for the Beavers continues on with a trip to the Southern California schools where Oregon State will be huge underdogs at USC and UCLA. After that the team will finish the season off with three home games against the Arizona schools, Oregon, and finally the Pac-10 tournament.

Kacy Hochstatter, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com

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Starck also has two collections out including *Journeyman's Wages*, for which he was the Winner of the Oregon Book Award for Poetry and the William Stafford Memorial Poetry Award. His other collections include *Traveling Incognito*, and *China Basin*.



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WASHINGTON 97, OREGON ST. 59
WASHINGTON (14-12) Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Overton 0-2 2-4 2, Morris 1-6 0-0 2, Dentmon 7-11 0-0 17, Bryan-Amaning 6-9 0-0 12, Appleby 10-16 3-4 32, Wallace 1-2 0-0 2, Holiday 0-1 0-0 0, Pondexter 5-7 2-2 12, Wolfinger 1-3 0-0 3, Brockman 7- 12 1-5 15. Totals 38-70 8-15 97.
OREGON ST. (6-19) Hampton 3-7 0-0 6, Jones 1-5 0-0 3, J.Tarver 1-7 4-4 6, Schaftenaar 1-2 3-5 5, Claitt 1-5 1-2 4, S.Tarver 2-7 1-3 6, Haynes 1-1 0-0 2, Johnson 3-10 3-5 11, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, Wallace 6-13 3-7 16. Totals 19-59 15-26 59.
Halftime — Washington 48, Oregon State 24. Fouled Out — None. Rebounds — Washington 47 (Brockman, Bryan-Amaning 10), Oregon St. 34 (Hampton 8). Assists — Washington 21 (Dentmon, Overton 6), Oregon St. 8 (Claitt 6).
Total Fouls — Washington 23, Oregon St. 13. Technicals — Carter, Oregon St. A — 5,539

OSU Gymnastics wins fifth straight

■ Oregon State got past Stanford, Seattle Pacific Friday night to win with team score of 196.7

By Sami Redmond
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon State was forced to test its depth again last Friday in a triangular meet against Stanford and Seattle Pacific.

Despite three falls, an injury in warm-ups, and a missing judge, the Beavers pulled off a win with a team score of 196.7. Stanford and Seattle Pacific earned 196.375 and 188.35 respectively.

"It was definitely another time where they went with the flow," head coach Tanya Chaplin said. "We told our alternates that they were going in and they didn't bat an eye."

Freshman Becky Colvin suffered an injury to her lower leg during warm-ups and was pulled from the vault and floor lineups.

"Jen Kesler was the one that went in for Becky on floor and did a great job," Chaplin said. "Whitney [Watson] was the layout that we put at the end of vault and she did her job as well. Brooke [Barclay] was able to warm up with a thirty second touch and she did a really nice vault so we are pleased to see her getting back."

The competition rotation was chaotic when a judge, who had transportation issues, missed their flight. Stanford started on the bars while Seattle Pacific began on the uneven bars. Oregon State was forced to wait until a meet referee could judge vault before they were allowed to compete.

Oregon State saw five scores above the 9.9 range, including a

9.9 on the vault and a 9.925 on the floor by Mandi Rodriguez.

"We had things going on in warm-ups, Becky going out, and changes in the lineups at the last minute," Rodriguez said. "We just built on every event and it was just more than we expected."

The Beavers' highlight of the night came on the floor when Tasha Smith produced a nearly flawless routine. She earned a score of 9.975, and ran into the center of the floor for a victory dance when she saw that one of the judges had given her a 10.0.

"I was like I have to do this because it's for the team," Smith said. "And I went out there, and before I went everybody was just like have fun, so I was like okay."

Rodriguez and Smith performed throughout the night as a tag team.

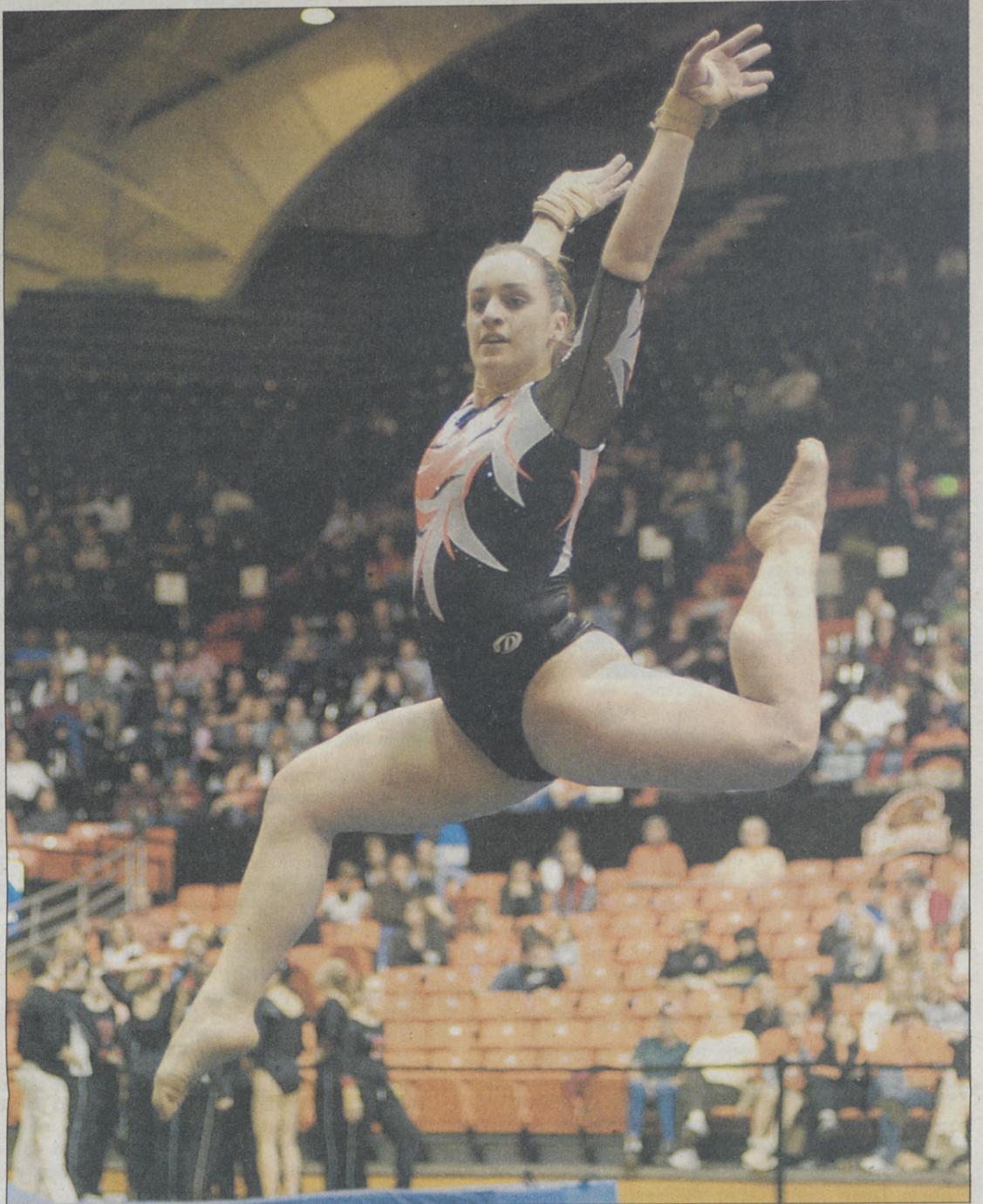
"On floor I told Tasha one two punch. I'm going to go and then you're going to and build on it. And that is exactly what we did. She is incredible, she really knows how to bring the crowd to its feet and it was just amazing."

Stanford competed well, but small mistakes, falls and steps out of bounds, left them trailing the Beavers throughout the entire meet. Their most consistent performer was Tabitha Yim who produced an all around score of 39.375.

Seattle Pacific, although improving on their previous team score, could not keep up with the Cardinals and Beavers and failed to break an event score of 47.5 on every event.

The Beavers are at home again this Friday to take on BYU.

Sami Redmond, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com



CURTIS BARNARD / THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon State landed a huge upset over No. 8 Stanford on Friday night in a triangular meet with Stanford and Seattle Pacific. The Beavers have now won their last five events.

This Week In Sports

Baseball

Friday, February 22-2
Arizona State Tournament
Tempe, Ariz., 12 p.m.

Men's Basketball

Thursday, February 21
UCLA
Los Angeles, Calif.
7:30 p.m.

Women's Basketball

Thursday, February 21
UCLA
Corvallis (Gill Coliseum)
7:30 p.m.

Men's Golf

Sunday, February 24 - Monday,
February 25
NW Winter Shootout
Aurora (Langdon Farms Golf
Club)
TBA

Gymnastics

Friday, February 22
BYU
Corvallis (Gill Coliseum)
7 p.m.

Softball

Friday, February 22 - Sunday,
February 24
Palm Springs Classic
Palm Springs, Calif.
TBA

Women's basketball falls just short at UW

■ A second-half comeback nearly allowed Oregon State to steal a win in Seattle on Sunday against the University of Washington

SPORTS INFORMATION

Sophomore guard Julie Futch scored a career-high 13 points and the Oregon State women's basketball team nearly came back from a 20-point second-half deficit, losing to Washington, 58-53, Sunday afternoon at Bank of America Arena.

The Beavers held Washington to just one point in the final four minutes to make the game close after being down by 20 at the 14:24 mark. A methodical comeback saw the Beavers break down the Huskies defense, and pull to within four with as much as two minutes remaining. But

Oregon State could not score from that point on. Mercedes Fox-Griffin scored 11 points to go along with 10 from Talisa Rhea to back up Futch, who was 5-for-9 from the field and 2-for-2 from the free-throw line.

Fox-Griffin also had seven rebounds for the Beavers (10-16 overall, 3-12 Pacific-10 Conference), who finished with 32 on the game. The Huskies, meanwhile, had 36 with Emily Florence leading the team with 10.

Katelan Redmon led Washington (11-15, 6-8) with 13 points while Andrea Plouffe had 10. The Huskies shot 41.8 percent from the field and made just three of their 17 shots from beyond the three-point line.

Oregon State pulled to within nine, 49-40, at the 9:01 mark after a long jumper by Rhea. The

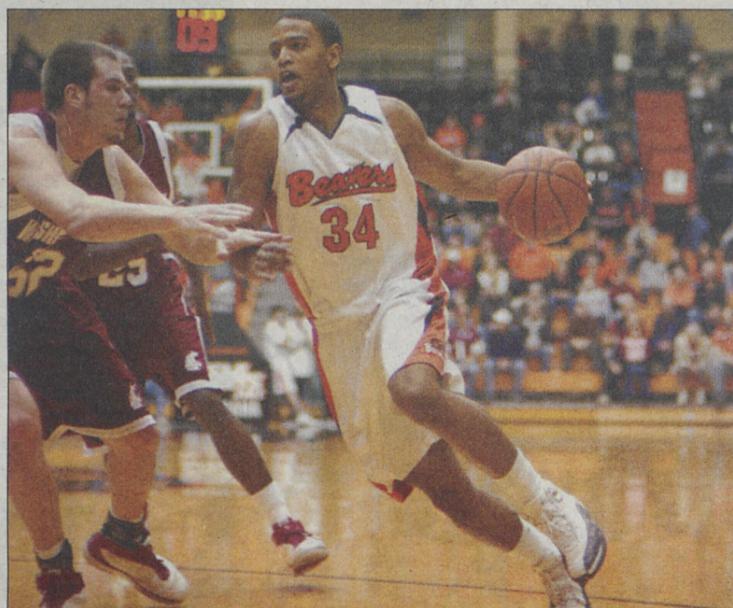
shot capped off a 10-2 run through two minutes that forced a Washington 30-second timeout. Futch had four points on two baskets through the run.

Fox-Griffin made it a 12-2 run 90 seconds later on a layup to make the score 49-42 in favor of the Huskies.

Washington, however, was able to make it an 11-point lead again after Redmon made two consecutive jumpers that brought the score to 53-42 when the officials took a scheduled media timeout at 6:29.

The seemingly seesaw battle continued from that point on, with the Beavers again pulling to within nine, 55-46, when Futch scored on

See WOMEN'S HOOPS | page 11



CURTIS BARNARD / THE DAILY BAROMETER

OSU freshman Lathen Wallace (Right) had a team-high 16 points against Washington on Sunday shooting 6-of-13 from the floor.

Beavers drop 15th straight

■ Washington handed the lowly Beavers their largest loss of the season on Saturday at Gill

By Kacy Hochstatter
THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State men's basketball team has seemingly hit rock bottom. On Saturday afternoon at Gill Coliseum, the Pac-10's ninth place team Washington (14-12, 5-8) dominated the Beavers (6-19, 0-13) in what was the most lopsided loss of Oregon State's miserable season. Washington led by 24 at halftime and was up by as many as 41 en route to a 97-59 Husky win in front of 5,539 fans at Gill Coliseum.

The Huskies did not need much motivation for this one as the Beavers provided all the motivation for them. During the Huskies' team shoot

around on Friday, a couple of Oregon State players got into a confrontation with some of the Washington players. Later in the night, the situation allegedly continued through smack talk near the hotel that the Husky players were staying in.

Coach Kevin Mouton dismissed the claim and said that none of his players were in the parking lot.

"It was just what 19 year-old-guys with huge egos who think they are God's gift to basketball, women and everything else," Mouton said. "It is what it is. It's what they do. I did it (talked trash), we all did it."

For the Beavers, this was maybe not the best time to stir up a team that they desperately needed to beat. Washington was perhaps the most winnable game on Oregon State's

See MEN'S HOOPS | page 11