

Friday
March 16, 2007

The Daily Barometer

Going the Distance

Freshman will
travel to Belfast,
Ireland for the
World Junior
Championships

SPORTS, PAGE A8



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Editor's Note

This is the final issue of The Daily Barometer for winter term. Daily print publication will resume on Tuesday, April 3. Meanwhile, visit www.dailybarometer.com for breaking news and blog updates. Have a great spring break.

— Dan Traylor, editor in chief

Class project creating new playground

Teams work on different tasks to
bring new playground to Old Mill

By Aleks Cherednichenko

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Students enrolled in professor Sandra Neubaum's Organizational Behavior class are collaborating with Corvallis' Old Mill Center for Children and Families to help design, organize and raise funds for a new playground.

There are 80 students, divided into 13 teams, who put their textbook knowledge of business and marketing into a practical solution for the center.

Old Mill was established in 1977 to help children with physical disabilities and emotional challenges survive in the world. The center brings together services that address educational, social and emotional needs of children and their families, said the Old Mill Center for Children and Families Web site. Currently Old Mill serves 1,500 children and their families. Old Mill's current playground is outdated and does not comply with newer Americans with Disability Act standards.

Students in one of Neubaum's classes are working on Project Share, which will work on designing a new playground. Students in the other class will raise money for Old Mill Center through Arts from the Heart.

"Students participating in Project Share researched all materials and equipment that would be necessary, got a budget together and designed the new playground," said Rebecca Sario, development coordinator for Old Mill.

Funds supporting scholarships, and various programs at the center, will be raised through an auction, put on by Old Mill annually, where items procured or created by teams participating in Art from the Heart are put up for bid.

"I believe that projects such as the

See **OLD MILL** / page A3

A long journey, an identity discovered

Student sheds her old self
after a long, troubled period
feeling like she didn't fit in

By Nick Ngo
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Looking at herself now, liberal arts senior Dalena Spiritsong, 64, no longer sees who she used to be — an alcoholic, a person who was lost and unsure of who she was. Now, she sees someone who is energetic, who has a purpose and is a trans-woman.

Spiritsong, known to many as Spirit, was born a male, identifying as a heterosexual. In 2003, she decided it was time to come out and tell her friends and family — after a 12-year process — that she wanted to identify as a lesbian woman. It was something she said she had to do.

When Spirit decided to tell her family, she was afraid what would happen. She sent an e-mail to her family and explained to them what was happening.

"I could no longer hide it. It's not like I'm doing this for fun," Spirit said.

Since then, Spirit has not only changed physically but emotionally and mentally, using the fact that she can now express her feelings better as an example.

Spirit said she has always been an emotional person; but being a male, anger was the only thing she could express.

"There were things that happened every once in a while where I'd get teary eyes, but I stopped it because guys don't cry," Spirit said. "Now I can, and that's so refreshing because I don't have to keep it all inside."

Spirit's daughter, who is a professor at OSU, says she remembers Spirit going through different roles as a runner, an artist, a cowboy, a hippie and a weight lifter.

"I remember thinking, 'I'll believe it when I see it,'" said her daughter, who wished to remain anonymous.

Spirit said she tried to live a typical male life before she decided on the change. She tried very hard to fulfill the male role, getting married young in 1964 and then having four children.

"My life revolved around my kids," Spirit said. "It wasn't until my last son graduated (from high school) in 1991 that I realized I never really considered who I might be; all my energy was geared toward the kids."

She also did weight lifting as a masculine activity but could never build up any muscle mass.

Spirit did things that women typically do as well, but she tried to do



ANDREW BURTON / THE DAILY BAROMETER

Dalena Spiritsong, better known on campus as Spirit, has finally found her true self after many years of searching. In 2003, Spirit revealed to others that she identifies as a trans-woman.

them very much as a male.

"I wore a mustache for several years," Spirit said. "I tried very hard to be a societal standard male. Even then I always liked colorful clothes. I liked to wear colors."

Also, to fit in with her friends, she started drinking.

"That's what a lot of people do — peers drank, peers smoked. Pretty much my whole life I never felt like I fit in. That was a way I tried to fit in with my group," Spirit said. "The only problem with me was I was hooked early on."

Spirit quit drinking in summer 2001 and entered rehab in January 2002.

"My alcohol and drug counselor figured that the alcohol was partly coming from my gender issues and it was a way to hide from myself," Spirit said.

Although Spirit tried to live life as a male, she was always curious about being more feminine and found things that related her to feministic qualities, like her preference for female-style dancing over male dancing.

"Male dancing in a lot of cultures is very harsh, very strong and very dominant, whereas a woman's dance is more fluid, and I can really relate to it," Spirit said.

In 1991, Spirit read an article in the October issue of Reader's Digest titled "What sex is your brain?" The article was accompanied by a questionnaire. Spirit took the questionnaire, and the results suggested what Spirit had already known — she was more feminine than masculine.

"I believe things happen for a reason," Spirit said. "And it just so happened this article came out, and I wasn't surprised by the results. Some people call it a coincidence; I don't."

Even before the article, Spirit tried female things in private. She read women's magazines, and the only times she put on female clothes and makeup were when she was alone in her house.

After doing the questionnaire in Reader's Digest, she started looking deeper into her identity, wanting to

figure out what the questionnaire entailed and what she was.

Spirit said this is when she started studying the topic more seriously. She went online and researched different things such as transsexuality and cross-dressing.

"For a long time I just wanted to be a little bit more feminine. I read a couple of books that made me look back over my life, and it had clues," Spirit said.

During her search she came upon informative Web sites, one of which belonged to Dr. Anne Lawrence. Spirit said Lawrence was able to explain some of the procedures of becoming transgender, such as hormones, surgery and voice training.

Looking back, Spirit realizes why she was so intrigued with feminine clothes and women's magazines. "In retrospect I think what I was doing was learning how to be a woman," Spirit said.

Spirit kept her curiosity well hidden because it was frustrating trying to

See **SPIRIT** / page A3

OSU Pistol Team sets sights on new competition



JOHN CASTLE / THE DAILY BAROMETER

The OSU Pistol Club is sending its Pistol Team to the Albany Rifle and Pistol Club for International Practical Shooting Confederation competition.

By Nick Ngo

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Members of the Oregon State University Pistol Team will be cleaning their guns and aiming for a good experience Sunday as they compete in a new league.

The Pistol Team is a competitive team made up of members from the OSU Pistol Club. The team will be attending an International Practical Shooting Confederation competition at the Albany Rifle and Pistol Club. Vice President of the OSU Pistol Club Eric Sundholm said this competition is something new for the team.

"It's something we're exploring, but we're not officially involved in it yet," Sundholm said. "It depends on how things go Sunday, then we'll think about steering the club that direction."

The club mainly focuses on "small boar bull's-eye" competition, in which a shooter stands 50 feet away from the

See **PISTOL** / page A3

The Weekly Download

Hear it online at www.dailybarometer.com

Always Running

"I've grown a tremendous amount from last year at this point in time when I was looking to run. Going through the entire election process develops you as a person, and then actually serving in these positions ... you're going to learn a lot."

— Michael Olson, ASOSU president, discusses his time in office, his plans for the future and the similarities between politics and distance running in an interview with the Barometer.

Hear the full interview at www.dailybarometer.com





Friday, Mar. 16

Events
Department of Music, 7:30pm,
 LaSells Stewart Center. OSU Sym-
 phonic Wind Ensemble: Morning,
 Noon & Night in Vienna.

Saturday, Mar. 17

Events
OSU Faculty & Staff for Peace,
 11am, 1st Street behind Super 8
 Motel. War protest march.

Sunday, Mar. 18

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

Monday, Mar. 19

Events
OSU Faculty & Staff for Peace,
 Noon, starts at 12th & Monroe. Silent
 protest march on 4th Anniversary of
 U.S. invasion of Iraq. Wear black or
 dark clothing.

Tuesday, Mar. 20

Events
Lutheran Campus Ministry, 11:30m-
 1:30pm, Luther House, 211 NW 23rd
 Street. Lunch: Come and go as you are
 able. Homemade, stimulating conver-
 sation, vegetarian option.

TOP STORY

Measures to end war stall in Senate

By David Espo
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Democrats aggressively challenged President Bush's Iraq policy at both ends of the Capitol on Thursday, gaining House committee approval for a troop withdrawal deadline of Sept. 1, 2008, but suffering defeat in the Senate on a less sweeping plan to end U.S. participation in the war.

Anti-war Democrats prevailed on a near-party line vote of 36-28 in the House Appropriations Committee, brushing aside a week-old veto threat from the administration and overcoming unyielding opposition from Republicans.

"I want this war to end. I don't want to go to any more funerals," said New York Rep. Rep. Jose Serrano, one of several liberal Democrats who have pledged their support for the legislation despite preferring a faster end to the war.

"Nobody wants our troops out of Iraq more than I do," countered Rep. C.W. Bill Young of Florida, who sought unsuccessfully to scuttle the timeline for a troop withdrawal. "But we can't afford to turn over Iraq to al-Qaida."

In the Senate, after weeks of skirmishing, Republicans easily turned back Democratic legislation requiring a troop

withdrawal to begin within 120 days. The measure set no fixed deadline for completion of the redeployment, but set a goal of March 31, 2008. The vote was 50-48 against the measure, 12 short of the 60 needed for passage.

Senate Democrats promptly said they would try again to force a change in Bush's policy beginning next week when they begin work on legislation providing money for the war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The developments coincided with the traditional St. Patrick's Day luncheon in the Capitol, an annual social event hosted by the speaker of the House and attended by the president. For an hour or so, while lawmakers were debating the war, Bush and the leader of the political opposition, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, were seated near one another in an ornate hall not far from the Capitol Rotunda.

If they discussed the war, which has so far claimed the lives of more than 3,200 U.S. troops, there was no evidence of it.

The day's votes in Congress underscored the extraordinary, unpredictable wartime clash between commander in chief and lawmakers.

In the House, only one committee Democrat, liberal Rep. Barbara Lee of California, voted against her party's plan,

saying it did not go far enough. "I believe the American people sent a mandate to us to bring home our men and women before the end of the year," she said.

Overall, the committee vote strongly suggested Democrats will be able to push their troop withdrawal timetable through the full House next week. Even so, there is little if any prospect the Senate will agree to anything remotely similar. And even if it does, Bush's threatened veto would force Pelosi and other war critics back to the drafting table.

It took weeks for the Senate to agree to hold a formal debate on Democratic calls for a change in war policy, and by the time it occurred, the result was utterly predictable. So much so that Sen. John McCain, the Arizona Republican who is running for the White House in 2008, skipped the vote to campaign in Iowa.

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky led the opposition to the measure.

"This is a dangerous piece of legislation. It is constitutionally dubious and it would authorize a scattered band of United States senators to tie the hand" of the commander in chief, he said.

McConnell said it would be "absolutely fatal" to the mission of U.S. troops in Iraq.

QUOTED

"As consider George Washington as hero. Muslims many of them are considering Osama bin Laden. He is doing same thing. He is just fighting. He needs his independence."

Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, the confessed masatermind of the 9/11 attacks. (AP)

QUICK TAKES



Tom Farley, the older brother of the late actor and comedian Chris Farley, is seen at the e-Projects in Community Service expo at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in this file photo. Nearly 10 years after Farley's drug overdose, Tom is still trying to use the tragic story to get others to do what the late comic couldn't: avoid alcohol and drugs. (AP PHOTO/STATE JOURNAL, CRAIG SCHREINER)



Passers-by stop to look at animal rights demonstrators, smeared with fake blood, protesting against Canada's annual seal hunt in Madrid on Thursday, International Day of Action Against Seal Hunting.

(AP PHOTO / PAUL WHITE)



In recent confession, terror suspect says he beheaded Pearl

Suspected 9/11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed boasted at a military hearing at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba that he personally beheaded American journalist Daniel Pearl, according to a revised Pentagon transcript released Thursday.

Mohammed has been considered a suspect since shortly after the kidnapping. Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf wrote in a memoir published last year that Mohammed either killed Pearl or took part in the murder.

But Mohammed was not officially linked to Pearl's murder during Pakistani police investigations or the trial that resulted in four Islamic militants being convicted for the killing. One of the men was sentenced to death, and the others to life in prison.

"I decapitated with my blessed right hand the head of the American Jew, Daniel Pearl, in the city of Karachi, Pakistan," Mohammed told a U.S. military panel Saturday. "For those who would like to confirm, there are pictures of me on the Internet holding his head."

The Pentagon released the bulk of the transcript late Wednesday, but held back the section about Pearl to

allow time for his family to be notified, said Defense Department spokesman Bryan Whitman.

The family did not immediately respond to a request for comment relayed by a spokesman for the Daniel Pearl Foundation in Encino, Calif.

In a muddled statement in broken English, Mohammed also claimed that Pearl had been working for Israel's Mossad secret service and had a relationship with the CIA when he was abducted in Pakistan in January 2002 — allegations rejected by terrorism experts and Pearl's Wall Street Journal colleagues.



E-mail indicates Rove involvement in firing prosecutors

WASHINGTON — White House political adviser Karl Rove raised questions in early 2005 about replacing some federal prosecutors but allowing others to stay, an e-mail released Thursday shows.

The one-page document, which spans e-mails between the White House and the Justice Department in January 2005, also indicates Attorney General Alberto Gonzales was considering a range of options in dismissing U.S. attorneys early in President Bush's second term.

But it concludes with Gonzales'

NEWS IN BRIEF

top aide warning that an across-the-board housecleaning "would certainly send ripples through the U.S. attorney community if we told folks they got one term only."

E-mails released by the Justice Department indicated that Gonzales and his then-chief aide, Kyle Sampson, suggested replacing 15 percent to 20 percent of federal prosecutors they identified as underperformers.

Sampson resigned under fire this week over the department's mishandling of the firings of eight U.S. attorneys and misleading Congress about the process.



Smith distances himself from Bush administration

WASHINGTON — Oregon Sen. Gordon Smith, a Republican who has criticized President Bush over the Iraq war, farther distanced himself from Bush on two fronts Thursday: He voted for a Democratic plan to begin a troop withdrawal from Iraq and criticized Attorney General Albert Gonzales.

Smith, who is up for re-election next year, sided with Senate Democrats on legislation requiring a troop withdrawal to begin within 120 days in Iraq. The measure, which was defeated, would have set a March 2008 goal for completion of the troop withdrawal.

Later, Smith made headlines again when he said Gonzales had lost the confidence of Congress.

"The senator believes it would be helpful to have an attorney general that Congress can have more confidence in," said R.C. Hammond, a Smith spokesman.

Smith's comments caused a stir nationally and in Oregon, where Democrats have accused him of grandstanding on Iraq and other issues because of election concerns in a state where President Bush and the war are increasingly unpopular.

Lindsay Jackson, another spokeswoman for Smith, said the senator spoke out against Gonzales because of his "extreme disappointment in the attorney general" over the firing of eight federal prosecutors, including one in Washington state.

While stopping short of calling for Gonzales' resignation, Jackson said Smith believes Gonzales has "a credibility problem," adding: "It will be helpful to this Congress, the administration and the American people to have an attorney general we can have full confidence in."

Asked what Gonzales needed to do to regain Smith's confidence, Jackson said she was "not willing to go into specifics."

— The Associated Press

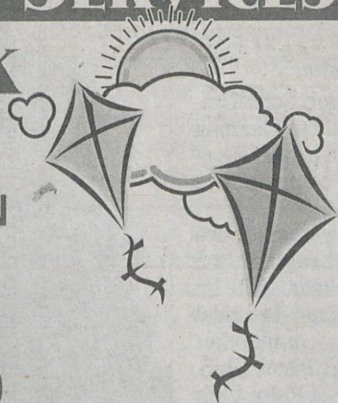
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SPiRiT: In private, children still refer to her as 'Dad'

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

ure out who she was. Spirit knew there was something different, but not to what extent. "It just kept getting stronger and stronger as time went by, and it took from 1991 until 2003 to come out and say 'this is who I am,'" Spirit said. "For the most part, my kids are accepting — or if not accepting, they still love me, because one thing that doesn't change is that I'll always be their dad."

Spirit's daughter said she has accepted Spirit and still refers to her as dad. However, she's still adjusting, and her older brother hasn't really completely accepted it.

Spirit noted that it's not only the person who changes, but also the people closest to them.

"He knows what I'm going through, but he still loves me because I'm his dad," Spirit said of her oldest son. "If he's not accepting of gay-trans lifestyles, he's not accepting of me. I need to accept they are where they're at and doing the best they can."

Spirit's wife of 43 years said she has taken longer to accept the change, but she's grown softer toward the idea.

"Someone they knew their whole life, and all of a sudden they don't know them anymore — it can be difficult to contemplate," Spirit said.

When in public, Spirit prefers that her children refer to her as Spirit, but her daughter said that when they're in private she's referred to as dad.

During fall term, Spirit visited her daughter's class when they covered the subject of cultural constructions of gender.

"The class itself was very accepting. They were very open," her daughter said.

"Nobody thought it was weird."

That wasn't the first time Spirit introduced herself in front of a class. During winter term 2006, she took a class with women studies instructor Amy Leer.

Leer said she is able to know Spirit both inside the classroom, a place where Spirits often speaks out, and outside of the classroom.

"She's really intelligent and bright. She's an exceptional writer as well," said Leer.

During spring term 2006, Spirit was Leer's teaching assistant and gave a presentation on queer studies and theory for one of her classes.

"She's a really good speaker in public, and she developed an excellent rapport with people," Leer said.

Leer said the feedback of her students was excellent. "They were excited, interested and curious," Leer said. "It's nice to see someone who's oppressed in society because they're transgender to come out and talk and show people that we're all here and we're human beings and there's not really a difference."

Since coming out, Spirit has had to go through different procedures in order to change her body to be a woman. For example, she has to take estrogen and anti-androgen in order to suppress the male hormone. The results were changes in body structure — Spirit developed breasts, and her body fat has changed to fit the body of a woman.

Spirit said within six months of taking hormones she became sterile. She also grew out her hair and used Minoxidril to help thicken it. By now she has gotten to the point where the physical changes are slowing down.

"That's OK with me. I'm 64 years old. I got young breasts, and they don't sag, and I don't have to wear a freaking bra," Spirit said.

Spirit's facial hair hasn't changed, so she

still has to shave. Spirit said she has to go through a procedure like laser hair removal to stop it from growing back. Also, there's been a change in her facial structure, and her cheeks have become softer.

"I'm really lucky that I have small bones and small hands," Spirit said. "I've known trans girls who have big hands and big knuckles — honest, hard-working hands. But they don't fit a feminine profile."

She also considers herself lucky to have a small Adam's apple, having a bigger one would mean having to go in and have her trachea shaven in order to make it smaller.

A trans girl's voice doesn't change, so she has to learn how to talk in a different tone.

"[For me] it's a mostly a matter of inflection and the way I talk. If I use some body language with it, then it's more feminine," Spirit said.

However, she said she has a "phone voice" that sounds lower, and sometime people call her sir.

At this point, Spirit is very well-informed about undergoing surgery but is "putting it on the back burners." She said that, for now, she needs to focus on what she can control — her school work, which is something that is very important to her.

Looking at a picture of herself as a male, Spirit sees her former self as someone who was always lost and lonely. She no longer knows that person. Intellectually she knows what happened to him, but on an emotional level he has become a faded memory, a shadow of a person to whom she can no longer relate.

"I'm more together today. I found my strength," Spirit said. "He was looking for something, and he found her — which happens to be me. That's quite a revelation."

Nick Ngo, staff writer
features@dailybarometer.com, 737-2232

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7:30 p.m. LaSells Stewart Center, OSU Campus
Admission: Free

The Oregon State University Department of Music
<http://oregonstate.edu/cla/music>

Oregon State UNIVERSITY | College of Liberal Arts

PISTOL: No requirements to join the competitive team

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

target and shoots. The International Practical Shooting Confederation focuses more on what Sundholm refers to as "practical tactical" in which the shooter runs a course in a certain amount of time and shoots at various targets, which is measured by accuracy and power.

Only three out of the nine members of the Pistol Team are competing: senior Will Hoskins, and sophomores Don Bruss and Andy Bebeau.

Hoskins, president of the Pistol Club, refers to the style in the International Practical Shooting Confederation as a newer, exciting sport of shooting and said this Sunday is about understanding the new sport.

"We're just starting out and the best way to learn stuff like that is to get your feet wet," Hoskins said.

If all goes well and the club decides to move in the direction of practical tactical shooting, Sundholm said it would take a couple of years before the transition would be complete. Sundholm said it would take up to \$3,000 to provide the club with new equipment. Also, they don't have a course or range to practice the new style of shooting. The closest range is in Albany.

Sundholm said the general purpose of the club is still their first priority. That purpose is to provide a safe place to deal with marksmanship along with spreading knowledge and awareness of gun safety.

Bebeau, range officer in the Pistol Club, is one of the many instructors who teach newcomers how to use a pistol.

"Definitely safety first. I don't care how well you shoot, as long as you're being safe about it and having fun," Bebeau said.

The Pistol Team started in the 1940s. It later went on to win the National Rifle Association Intercollegiate Championships in 1948. It wasn't until around the 1970s that the club was formed.

The club is open to any student or faculty member.

Pistol Club Range Officer Don Bruss joined last year as a freshman and has been competing on the team since then. Bruss was looking for opportunities to practice shooting .22-caliber pistols. Bruss said he's still learning and the sport is fun.

"It's a great sport, it's really a lot of fun," Bruss said. "It's really unique that we can do this on campus, not a lot of schools have this kind of opportunity."

The team competes in the Willamette Valley Pistol League. They travel to compete in regional areas like Vancouver and Eugene.

"There's around eight or 10 teams in the league," Sundholm said. "We're the only university or school in that league."

Sundholm said there are no requirements to be on the team. If a member expresses some interest or dedication toward being on the team then they're on it. The club meets Tuesdays and Sundays from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the indoor range south-east corner of the McAlexander Field House. Newcomers have to show up at 6 p.m. for training before they can shoot on the range — training cost \$5. For more information contact Sundholm at sundholm@eecs.oregonstate.edu.

Nick Ngo, staff writer
campus@dailybarometer.com, 737-2231

OLD MILL: Cooperation and coordination lead to success

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

one at Old Mill, provides an opportunity for students to use skills and knowledge in real-life situations," Neubaum said. "In other words students have the opportunity to put classroom theory into practice."

Teams involved with the Art from the Heart project, such as Team X-Treme, procured items from various athletic departments at OSU, which will be auctioned off this Saturday. Other teams, such as team Dearra, worked with children at Old Mill in creating aprons, bath salts and centerpieces. "It was absolutely wonderful to have this new energetic input," Sario said.

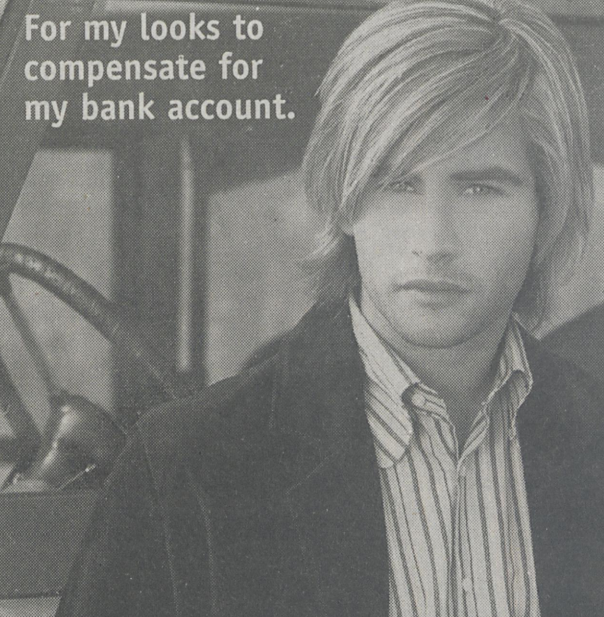
Cooperation and coordination were crucial elements to the success of each team.

"It was definitely a challenge trying to coordinate people and get them to participate at auction day," said Jessi Gebhardt, coordinator of Saturday's A Wee Bit O'green for O'Mill auction.

The design for the new playground will be revealed Saturday night, and those attending will have the opportunity to pledge money toward its construction. The auction will take place at OSU's Alumni Center from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.

"It's important that my students get something out of this," Neubaum said. "And if I'm really lucky, some of my students will gain memories of a rewarding college experience that will extend beyond their college setting and carry over into their business careers and community service will be come a way of life."

Aleks Cherednichenko, senior reporter
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Guest Editorial

Disney embraces black princess

Baton Rouge, Louisiana (U-WIRE) — It's about time. Walt Disney Studios is set to release a new hand-drawn movie in 2009 that will follow its normal story line of a mistreated princess who finds happiness in the end — only this time the princess will be black.

The new movie, titled "The Frog Princess," will be set in the New Orleans French Quarter and will center on the story of a young black girl named Maddy.

Disney executives are willing to release "next to nothing" about what the movie's plot will involve, according to a report in the Belfast Telegraph, an Irish newspaper. But the company's decision to feature a young black girl as the image of royalty is a necessary and important step for our pop culture society.

It's hard to believe Disney has not produced a movie featuring a black princess before, but at least they are making up for it now. In its latest hand-drawn feature, Disney will finally embrace the diversity of our time.

In the past, Disney has not shied away from featuring other minorities as its leading ladies. The company celebrated Middle Eastern culture in its movie "Aladdin" with Princess Jasmine as the movie's heroine. And though they are not included in Disney's princess collections, Pocahontas, a Native American, and Mulan, an Asian warrior, have lent a different ethnicity to past Disney films.

But this feature has a special significance to our area. "The Frog Princess" will take place in New Orleans, a city struggling to get back on its feet after disastrous hurricanes and a worse federal response. The Crescent City has long been known for its inculcating of diverse culture. As the birthplace of jazz and Mardi Gras headquarters, the city has a unique place in America's heart.

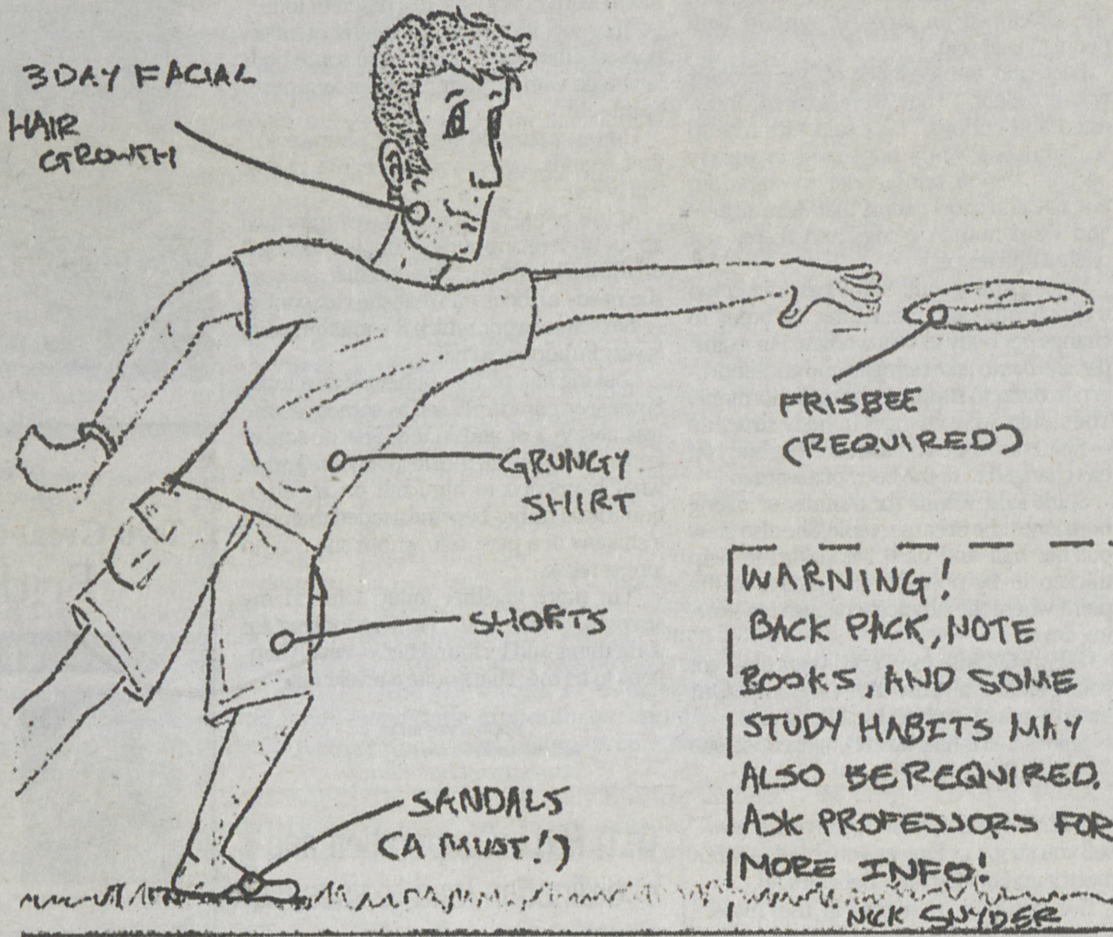
And now that uniqueness will finally be presented in a full-length Disney feature. For too long, Disney and other movie studios have portrayed minorities in stereotypical roles perpetuating the problems of insensitivity toward diversity in America. Disney in particular, a studio whose targets are children, is a prime candidate for making strides in portraying diversity as equally worthy of exaltation.

The company's decision to feature both a city with a unique and celebrated diversity and a member of a community long neglected in American pop culture can only be considered a positive step for Disney and an example of how far we have come as a society.

Well done, Disney. It's just too bad it took so long.

This editorial represents the views of The Daily Reveille (Louisiana State University). The opinions expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of The Daily Barometer.

Mandatory Spring Equipment



Could I have a moment of your time?

As the sun begins to tease us and the temperature is cranked up a notch, Frisbee players are not the only ones competing for a spot in the quad. Those who hand out surveys have arisen from a long winter of planning and organizing. Tis' the season when action is to be taken and signatures to be had; which makes walking through the quad a whole new experience. A normally uneventful jaunt from Milam to the Memorial Union turns into a maze of booths, strangers with clipboards and an array of colored pamphlets. We start avoiding the highly surveyed and zoned booth areas in the MU Quad, the library, and in between the two, taking back entrances and side doors for more unobstructed access to class. It's not like we don't care about whatever they are trying to sell, or use our signatures for, it's just that we can't care about all of them, and we don't have time. When you have a class all the way across campus, you don't have time to chat about environmental issues, or how much we are screwing up the world, no matter how right the petitioners are. Most times the message of the cause is not heard, sinking in only after I have passed, and said no, that we realize what was asked of us.

"Sir, can you take a minute to support eliminating poverty in Africa?"

"No, I'm sorry I can't"... Crap. Now they think I hate starving children in Africa. I don't hate starving



children in Africa; I'm just late for physics class. After I have time to think of helping, the moment is gone and all the kind people with fliers have retired for the day.

When approaching the central survey sector of the quad I would follow closely behind someone as a decoy, in hopes that the surveyors nab that person and leave me able to skim past. There is always the newspaper trick, or making myself look occupied while walking.

It makes me nervous, thinking of something intelligent, yet sympathetic to say when I am turning down this advocate for social change. I tell them "maybe later" or "I already filled it out," but I feel their pain as I was once a surveyor too, hated the rejection, and swore I would never do it again and searched for other ways to support a good cause.

Running the gauntlet of surveys and brochures used to get to me, leaving me with a desire for peace when I walked to the library for the fifth time that day, wishing they would recognize me so I wouldn't have to reject them. Not only was I annoyed at the inevitable questions, but I hated myself for seeming like I didn't care.

This changed after my sojourn

in Senegal when I learned the true meaning of standing out, whether I wanted to or not. Because I was obviously not from around there, I had my own surveyors to confront, only they were children asking for donations, vendors trying to sell me things I didn't need, or suitors hoping to win my heart or at least a trip to the U.S. Every day was a struggle to get anywhere without being asked to help someone out, or buy something just for the sake of generating some much needed income for a woman with several children. This was unnerving because I was unable to slip by unnoticed and I never had a good excuse for why I could not produce an immediate change in their situation; leaving me helplessly annoyed with them and myself. I did, however, take to the men and women who captivated my attention through creative means, such as singing, or whimsical comments about my gender. This pulled me in to see what they were about while distracting me from both our agendas.

Although appealing to my gender might not fly here, imploring my emotions and practicality may.

I would almost be more inclined to stop and talk to a surveyor if they were in a place I was not expecting, taking me off guard. They may not get as much traffic but among that small circulation of people, more would be interested in chatting. Plus how much diversity is there even in a highly trafficked setting anyway? Are the same types of

See RILEY/ page A5

The Observer Guest Editorial

Spare undies to spring break

South Bend, Indiana (U-WIRE) — In kindergarten, you brought your teacher a plastic baggie containing an extra pair of underwear — you know, just in case you had an "accident."

Back then, you could "read" "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak before you could actually read, because your mom had read it to you as so many times as a bedtime story that you memorized every word. You even knew exactly when to turn the pages.

You also knew exactly what to call your stuffed animals. Your incalculable creativity inspired you to name them in accordance with their animal nomenclature — "Bear," "Pup" and "Puppy" were among your special friends.

But even "Puppy" couldn't console you when you realized that Santa Claus did not, in fact, lug your K'nex set down the chimney and that Rudolph was not the one who nibbled on the carrots in the kitchen; your dad was.

A few years later, you voraciously read the "Boxcar Children" books, and afterward, you no longer wanted your comfortable red brick house on Maple Street; after all, you'd rather have been best friends with Benny Alden in an abandoned train car any day.

In those days, you ate your ham and cheese sandwich out of your Power Rangers lunchbox while you sat at your school desk that you covered with a checkered red oil cloth. And your mom wore the lunch-mom badge every other Thursday. You blamed the public school religious education kids who used your classroom on Saturday mornings every time a Hello Kitty pencil went missing from the inside of your desk.

In D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education, of course) class, you learned to "just say no" to drugs. And in social studies class, you memorized the 50 states in alphabetical order, with the aid of one of those ever-annoying, couldn't-get-it-out-of-your-head-if-you-beat-yourself-with-a-bat songs.

You also loved the song "MMMBop" when it first hit the airwaves, but once you discovered that the Hansons were in fact three boys, you pretended to detest it; after all, hating the song had become the cool thing to do. You could never admit that whenever "MMMBop, ba duba dop / ba du bop, ba du dop" radiated from the radio on your way to school in your mom's minivan, you fancied singing right along with Isaac, Taylor and Zac.

One time after your mom dropped you off, you realized that you forgot to ask her to sign the permission slip for the class field trip to Washington, D.C. You then forced your trembling hand to forge her signature.

A few years later, your hand trembled again, this time as you spun one of your parents' old bottles of Cabernet on your basement floor — your first game of Spin the Bottle. Your first kiss followed.

See BREAK / page A5

Letters

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

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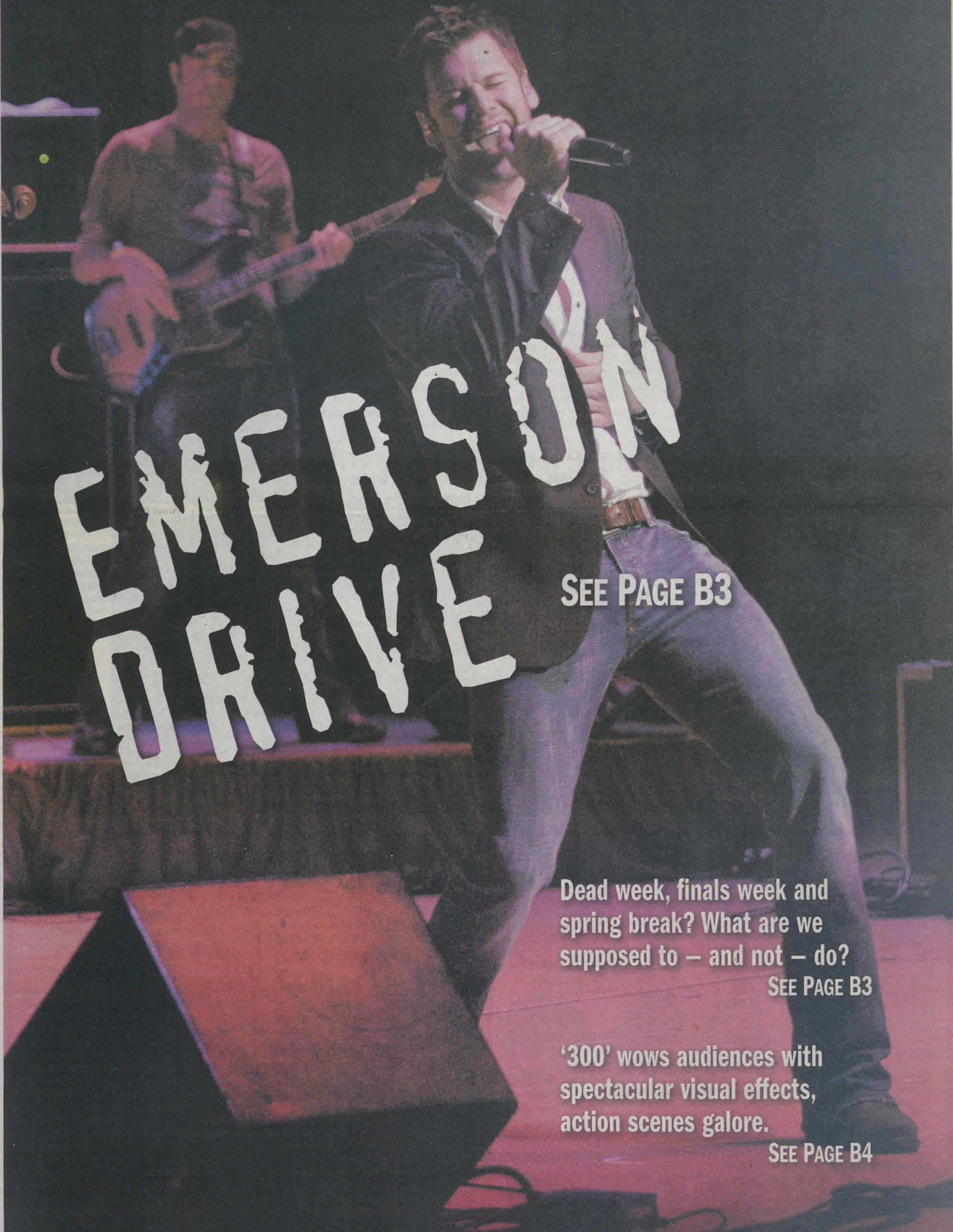
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Diversions

Friday, March 16, 2007



EMERARSON DRIVE

SEE PAGE B3

Dead week, finals week and spring break? What are we supposed to – and not – do?

SEE PAGE B3

'300' wows audiences with spectacular visual effects, action scenes galore.

SEE PAGE B4

Emerson Drive engages LaSells audience

By Jenna Santelli
The Daily Barometer

From fiddles to cahons to yodels and even beat boxing, the Emerson Drive concert brought excitement into the LaSells Stewart Center on Wednesday night.

The concert was opened up with an up-and-coming acoustic guitarist Andy Grammar from Los Angeles, whose good looks and charming personality not only wowed the crowd but brought the girls screaming as well.

He had inspiring lyrics and wrote songs that were influenced by moments in his life like "Touch" and "The World is yours." While the girls were screaming, many guys were bored and text messages were sent bouncing in between cell phone towers while Grammar's women-inspired lyrics were entertaining the rest of the crowd.

Grammar and his friend are talented guitarists but tended to bore the crowd with every song sounding the same and half hour stories in between each song.

The next act, Tyrone Wells was extremely long but one of the more creative acts that I have ever witnessed at a show. Tyrone and his band engaged the crowd with breath-taking stories, doing remix covers of other songs like Laurynn Hill's "Watch out."

His voice is beautiful and he used it to sing every song so well. Wells showed the crowd his yodeling ability, that was taught to him by his father at the age of three. He also introduced us to a new instrument called the Cahon and again busted out the beat boxing skills.

After two opening acts, we finally got to see the six-piece band who is nominated for the American Country Music award group of the year and is up for a Canadian Grammy as well.

Emerson Drive put on a fun, entertaining show that the fans thoroughly enjoyed. Fiddle player David Pichette is extremely talented and his solo play hyped up the crowd.

Some of the less interesting parts of the evening included the acoustic set because there was less energy on stage. In that set they covered Lifehouse's "You and Me" and added a twist to the song with the fiddle presence.

Bassist Patrick Bourque showed his talent through numerous solos. Singer, Brad Mates' voice was upbeat and nice, however he lacked dancing skills. The band was good at harmonizing sounds thanks to the help from the country group Alabama.

My favorite part to this show was hearing the fiddle player who was the crowd favorite. He kept the crowd rocking and standing.

The stories that were told by Brad and the rest of the Emerson Drive crew helped to engage and relate to the crowd. Brad told the story of how Keyboardis Dale Wallace broke one of the guitars at Tailgaters when they went out for a drink.

Jenna Santelli
diversions@dailybarometer.com

Check out www.dailybarometer.com for an interview with the men from Emerson Drive.



The men of Emerson Drive perform for a lively crowd at the LaSells Stewart Center on Wednesday.

PHOTOS BY PETER STRONG THE DAILY BAROMETER



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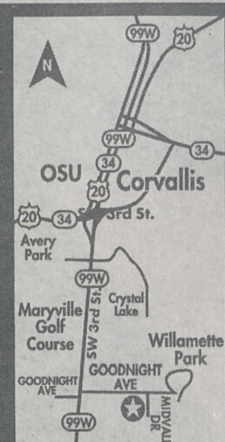
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Much ado about finals

By Jonathan Boydston
The Daily Barometer

As we make the final stretch into spring break, I have come to a certain realization about this time of the year: I hate it. That's right, there is no point for us to be coy about the situation, the end of winter term at Oregon State is one of, if not the worst time of the year. You may be asking yourself why I feel this way, and you may be wondering whether or not I have lost it. Well take my word for it, I have. Yet, for now, that is beyond the point. As I surely hope you have noticed, the title of our weekly section is Diversions, a fitting label for a section that announces the arrival of the weekend and all the joy and debauchery that comes with it. Yet, diversions are exactly the things that ruin the two-week period we currently find ourselves in at the end of this hellish 10-week period. Instead of a wet dreary setting to accompany the melancholy mood of dead and finals weeks, we have, in fact hit that brilliant time of the year when the sun actually-for once shows itself, the clouds move aside and the

temperature turns refreshingly pleasant. Indeed, it is almost spring term, that joyous time of the year when procrastination is not an occasional occurrence but a rule, when grades seem to matter that much less, and most importantly, when seeing bare skin on mini-skirt clad student bodies is possible once again. Yet, for now, these thoughts are simply teases of the mind, and the utter reality is that we have projects to be completed, essays to be written and tests to fail. On top of all of this we have to deal with St. Patrick's Day, a holiday that is only meant to be spent consuming copious amounts of alcohol for as long as possible. Not only is it in the general vicinity of finals week this year, it is the Saturday night before our tests, a fact that should deter students from the usual behavior, but hence, this is college after all. So as I leave you, dear friends, I wish all of you good luck and hope that each one of you has greater will power than I. As for me, I'm going to go attempt to lock myself in my room until this whole thing blows over.

Jonathan Boydston
diversions@dailybarometer.com

THE TOP 4: Worst Spring Break Experiences ... EVER

Death by Boredom

Last year, I made the mistake of not making any plans for that one week of unadulterated freedom we have every year. So, I ended up working in the Student Orientation office. And while it's generally a good place to work, it only means something if there are students to orient. I sat in the office for a week and watched the tumbleweeds roll through campus. Seriously. I think there were seven people who stayed in Corvallis over break. And I worked with three of them. Did I mention my entire family was in Vegas at the time?

Matt Lewis
Diversions editor

Love at First Sight

After a bout of saving, I made plans to visit that ever-popular and beloved destination — Whistler. It was to be five days of boarding and boozing. I would be living the fantasy of my 19-year-old dreams. And what better way to begin this than by picking

up a local snow-bunny? As convenience provided, Domino's was just across the street of our hotel. I had noticed an attractive employee working there, and figured she would be an easy pick-up (ahh ... the joys of being totally oblivious to my own douche-baggery). After three days kneeling over the crapper I learned that the delivery girl demands a bit more than the flick of a brow and a cheesy smile.

Thomas De Vica
Forum editor

Drink! Somewhere else!

Ah, spring break, the one time each year when college kids fly to Mexico or possibly Canada with a singular goal of getting trashed and possibly high while searching for some hot ladies or possibly hot men, as the case may be. Yes, for a few days in March we college kids can finally let loose and get wasted in an exotic location, as opposed to, say, our living rooms, which are boring after getting wasted there so many times

during the actual term. Yes, what hard times we live in, where we are forced to get wasted in the same location for so many days in a row. No more, I say! Go south! Or possibly north! Wait ... what was the topic?

Dan Traylor
Editor in Chief

Ice Skating Gold

When I was in fifth grade, I'd gotten a new pair of sweet, purple roller blades as a reward for making good grades. I was really into ice-skating at the time and my new blades were just as good as the real ones. I pretended that the neighbor's driveway was my skating rink, pretending I was Kristi Yamaguchi. I had been practicing a cherry move and finally decided to go for it. I went for the triple spin and ended up falling and breaking my wrist. I also spent the next four weeks with stitches because I forgot the protective padding.

Leah Brakebill
Barometer Business Manager

COLOR: What one wears signifies moods, habits and maturity

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE B4
reason for this is blue food can rarely be found in nature and millions of years ago it denoted poison to our foraging ancestors. Our primal nature still views blue as unappetizing. Never a smoker myself, I can't help but wonder if smoking Blue Sage, Kentucky Blue, or Blue De Hue will prevent you from getting the munchies...

Opal gray is the color of hair we can look forward to acquiring after having life draining, color sucking children ... for those of us lucky enough to still have hair, it's a cool color and represents a sleek, mature, modern look.

Tarragon is a flower leaf tint of green. Green is seen as nature's color. With the issue

of environmentalism at the forefront in our society today, it plays an extremely big role this coming season. It represents balance, harmony and stability but can have military overtones and of course is representative of our own greenback. It is also associated with Ireland and a certain holiday coming up this weekend. How is it that so many saints' holidays are celebrated with binge drinking?

If you consider neutrals like Golden Apricot to be boring, I beige to differ. Although it can be seen as a dull color, when paired with brighter colors it takes on their vibrancy. Beige is traditionally seen as calm, conservative and dependable which might make it a good choice to wear on a job interview or to meet your significant other's family for the first time. I say color me bland.

Krisja Lorenson
diversions@dailybarometer.com



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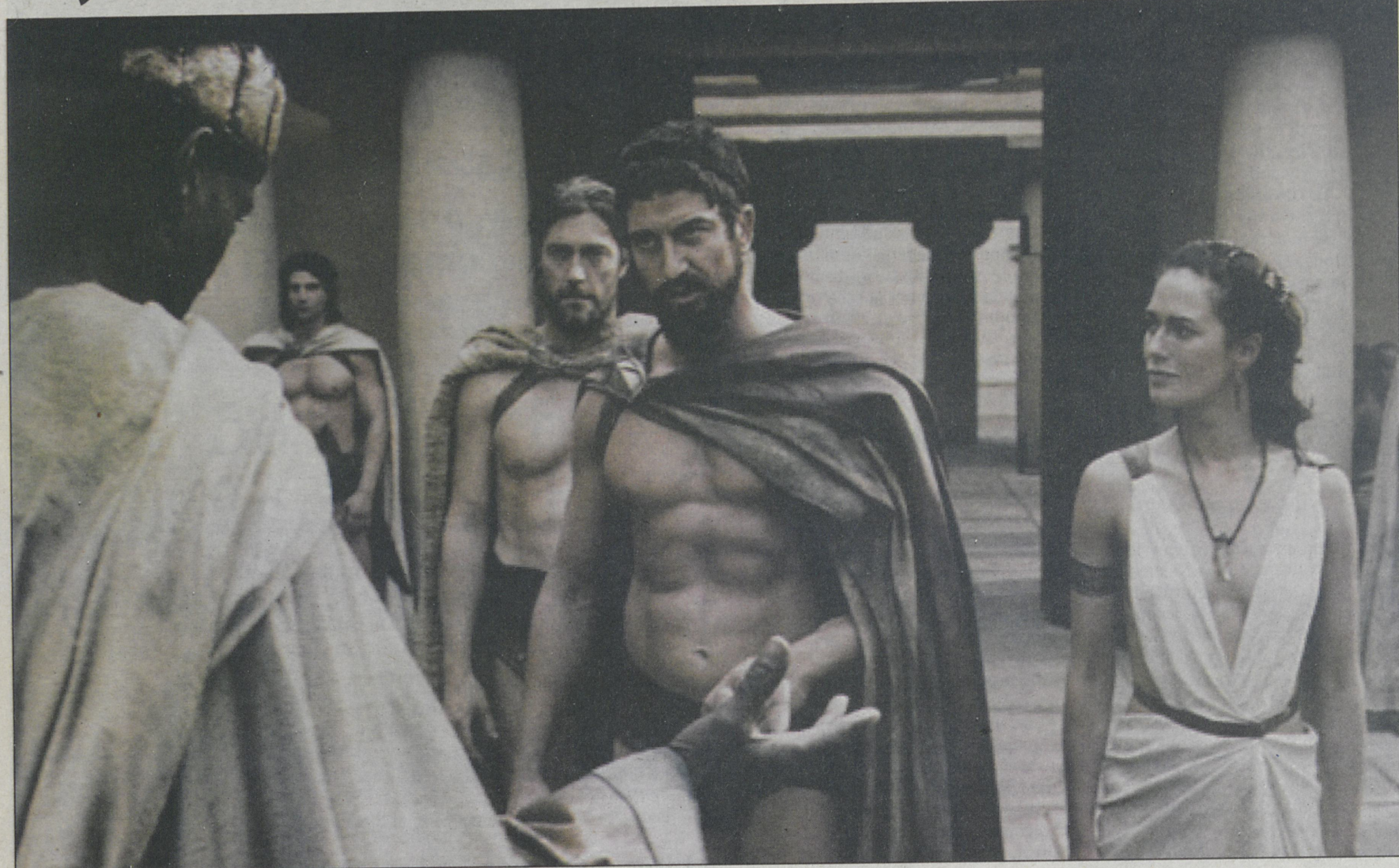
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Based on a graphic novel interpretation of an historic battle, '300' breathes new life into ancient past

By John Holthus

The Daily Barometer

"300" was possibly the most-hyped movie of the year, and to most viewers, it is going to earn that title tenfold. "300" was epic, impressive, stylish, and artistic throughout its entirety, which really brings a kind of continuous level of amazement from the audience.

"300" is the graphic novel interpretation of the Battle of Thermopylae that took place between the Greeks and Persian Empire that took place back in 480 B.C.

The Battle of Thermopylae was a sacrifice by a Spartan army-led resistance to allow time to prepare for a decisive naval battle that would come to determine the outcome of the war. During the movie, viewers may

notice a slight modification to history to make the Spartans look even more heroic.

Beginning with the unique style of Frank Miller's latest masterpiece, it is obvious that Miller brought the same cutting visual animation that he introduced with the movie "Sin City." Visually, "300" is ridiculous.

300

★★★★★

Runtime: 96 minutes

Starring: Gerard Butler, Vincent Rigan, Lena Headey

Plot: The movie revolves around the Battle of Thermopylae, set in 480 B.C.

The movie is so impressive with the use of green screening and computer generated effects that it takes no time at all to become totally immersed in the atmosphere of the movie-going experience. The obvious commitment by the cast also

makes the movie that much better as each member for the Spartan army makes even an Olympic athlete look like they need to spend some time in the weight room.

Director Zach Snyder was up to the task of completing such a highly anticipated film. Snyder often times slows the scene down to bring out the true intensity of the moment and perhaps to catch the artistic surrealism that is laden throughout the film. "300" is seemingly made up of shots from the movie that by themselves would make epic posters. Snyder films in this way so that at any moment if the movie was paused it would not cease to look stunning.

Gerald Butler is perfect for the role of King Leonidas, and he plays his role with endless enthusiasm. Almost more impressive was acting by Lena Headey, who finds her character struggling to have her country thus sending the rest of the army to assist in the war on Persian.

Rodrigo Santoro aces the part of Xerxes with the help of a computer enhanced voice and height. While Xerxes is the one

leading his vast army to destroy Greece, the real villain throughout the tale is played by Dominic West, a traitor to his people and the main opposition to sending the army to war.

Between the cinematography, acting, directing and story line, "300" was easily the most impressive movie in quite a while. If epic war movies, Greek mythology or just really good movies are your thing, then you won't be let down.

"300" brings back the memory of why people partake in the movie going experience, it is truly entertaining and most will see it more than once. Anyone with a couple of hours to spare and six bucks in their pocket should find their way to see "300." It is easily worth the price of admission.

John Holthus

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Off the Rack

with Krisja Lorenson



What's in a color?

Most colors in our society are known to evoke various feelings and have come to represent different symbols within our culture. According to PANTONE, one of the leading color authorities in the world, this spring's 10 hottest colors include Silver Peony, Green Sheen, Tarragon, Grapemist, Opal Gray, Café Crème, Golden Apricot, Strawberry Ice, Hollyhock and Sky Blue.

To prevent being oblivious to what your outfit is saying to the rest of the country, like a non-English speaking Japanese man sporting a "Hotter than your baby's mamma" shirt, I thought you should know the meanings behind spring's top hues. At www.desktoppub.about.com, Jaci Howard Bear gave information about various colors and their significance.

PANTONE'S color, Hollyhock, is also known as "purple," the favorite color of my four-year-old cousin who has yet to master the art of saying her 'R's. This spring's most popular purple is a vibrant pastel. Jaci says that "lavender has long been a favorite flower and color of genteel ladies," something I'm sure our campus is overflowing with. It denotes poise, refine-

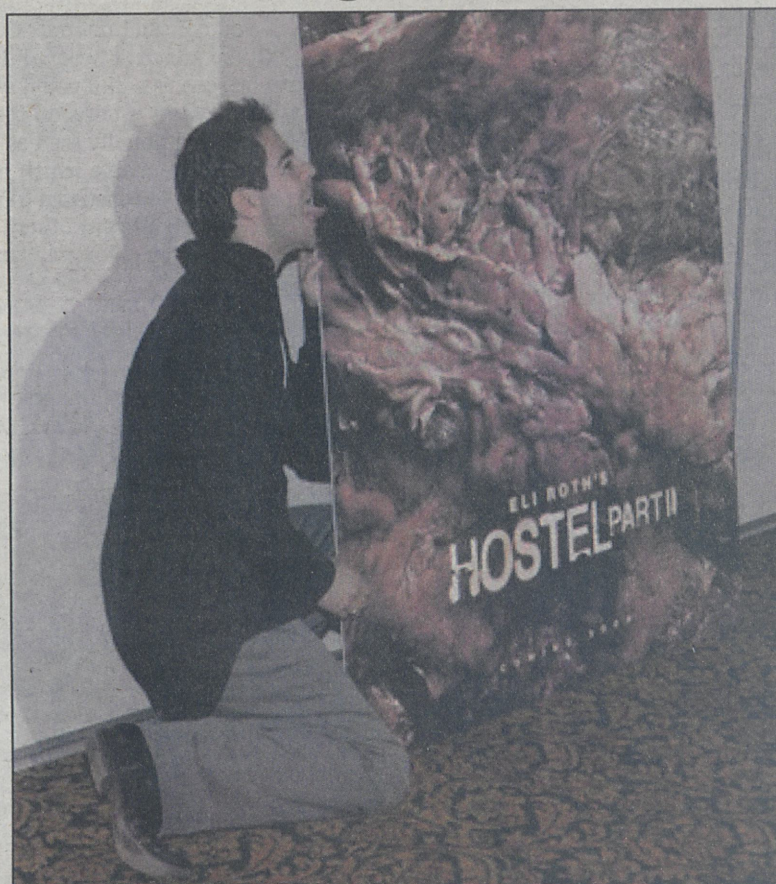
ment, a grown up femininity and something unique and special. Hmmm, pass the "purple" please.

Strawberry Ice is a cotton candy shade of pink, Café Crème is a mauve shade and Silver Peony is a tickled pink version of gray. Pink is not just for baby girls and frat boys in ultra-tight muscle shirts looking to prove they are manly enough to handle a "little girl's" color. It denotes the sweeter side of love and is delicate, feminine, healthy and happy. Studies have shown that pink can actually create physical weakness in people. If this is the reason for the whole "weaker sex" frame of mind, I'll be damned if I swaddle my future daughter in a fuzzy pink blanket and matching booties.

Blue is the color of depth, the sky and water. It is also the color of faithfulness. This might be where the "something blue" comes from in American weddings. It leads to introspection and has a calming effect. Believe it or not, blue is seen as an appetite suppressant. Adding a Grapemist colored light to your refrigerator or eating off a Sky Blue plate is actually supposed to help eliminate your need to feed. The

See COLOR / page B3

Going for Gore



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Just in case you didn't have enough flesh-searing fun last time, director Eli Roth plans to give you even more when Hostel Part II is released.

SALAD DAYS



by JASON BACH

BREAK: Accidents still happen, don't make a boo-boo over break

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE A4

So did your first heartbreak. Your heart sank through that same basement floor not long after, when the object of your affection dropped the one line that has been known to turn perfectly sane people into potential bridge-jumpers — "I just want to be friends."

A couple years down the road, you became the envy of your friends when you acquired your ever-coveted driver's license; you carted around more kids than you had seatbelts. And you owed it all to the man who conducted your road test — thank goodness he didn't ask you to parallel park; then you never would've passed.

Two years later, you still couldn't parallel park, but you could buy cigarettes. You bought some at the local Shell gas station on your 18th birthday, even though you didn't smoke (clearly, D.A.R.E. taught you well). You oozed with coolness when the sign that said, "You can't purchase tobacco products unless you were born on or before (insert date)" read your birthday.

You bought your first issue of Playboy on that excursion, too. You hid it under your mattress, but your mom found it anyway. Suffice to say, she was not pleased.

Not long after, you left your red brick house on Maple Street and moved in to a dingy dorm with non-modular furniture. You began to live on your own much like the boxcar children did before they were rescued by their rumored-to-be-evil, but actually-not-that-bad grandfather. And your parents couldn't confiscate your porn.

My point? You've come a long way since your kindergarten days of hanging your Starter jacket in a cubby hole and sitting Indian-style on the "magic carpet" during storytime.

Well, not exactly. Over spring break, you might find yourself on a beach in the Bahamas, and after you've had a little too much Sex on the Beach (the cocktail, of course), you might feel that warm sensation otherwise known as an "accident" dribbling down your leg. Whoops.

But regardless, you're older now. "Accidents" — although they have been known to afflict college-aged folks — are no longer acceptable. And your "Migration, Education and Assimilation: Three Forces that Built America" professor surely didn't list a spare pair of underwear as a requirement in the syllabus.

But she does want you to finish the semester, i.e. make it back to school alive.

While cable news feasted on the story of Natalee Holloway when she disappeared in Aruba in 2005, those who knew her were devastated. After all, perhaps she had once been an uber-lovable Santa Claus-believing, Boxcar Children enthusiast, too.

You work hard, calculating derivatives and filling up blue books. You undoubtedly deserve a break. But don't forget that you've lived through a lot. And that you have a lot left to live through — more books to read and more heartbreaks to endure. And maybe one of these days you'll even learn how to parallel park.

So be safe next week — in whatever cesspool of sin you happen to be swimming.

This editorial represents the views of The Observer (Notre Dame). The opinions expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of The Daily Barometer.

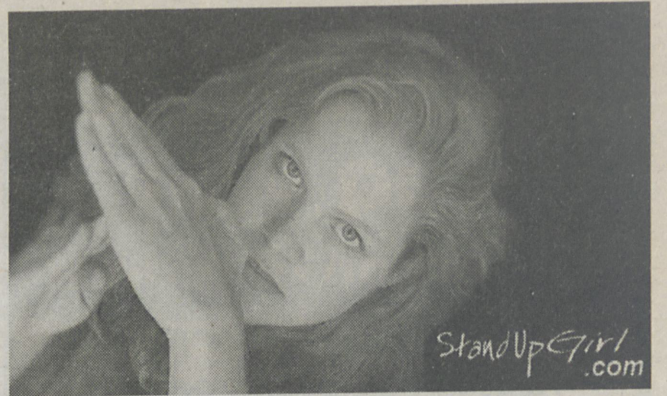
RILEY: New surveyor tactics a good idea

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE A4

people more likely to stop and fill out a survey than others? Why not branch out and get creative?

There would be even more of an incentive for me to talk to you if the survey was sung to me, or enacted in a one man show, and maybe the one doing the survey would have more fun as well. Be proud of what you are promoting, sing it out! There was a guy the other day who started asking me questions, and as I turned to tell him I was in a hurry, he said he would walk with me. Now that is smart surveying tactic. It is innovative, lavishing gestures that we, the public appreciate. If you assume the position of a surveyor at some time in your life, you must comprehend that we cannot be won by simply passing through, we can however go around.

Emily Riley is a senior in French and the international degree in anthropology. The opinions expressed in her columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Riley can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.



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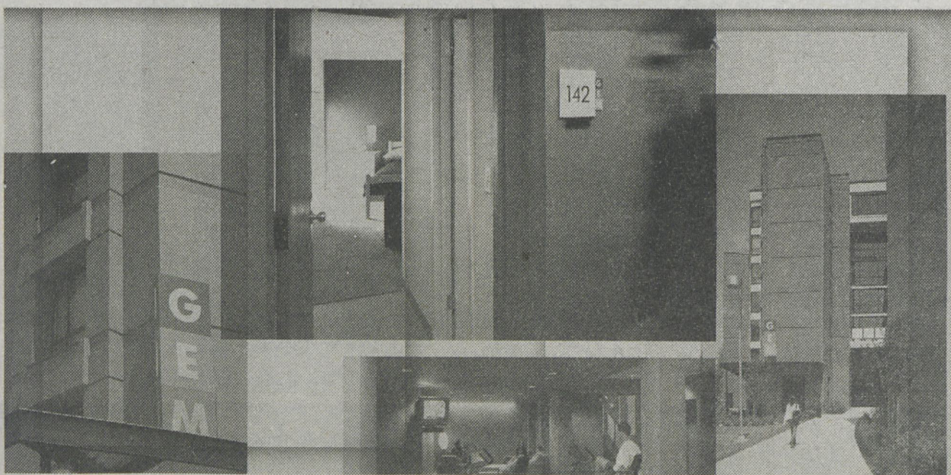
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WRESTLING: Larson, Gardner, and Watterson get individual wins in the preliminary round of the NCAA Tournament

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE A8

Oregon State will also need to have some wrestlers place in the top eight to give them a shot at a good team finish. They haven't had a wrestler achieve All-American status since Nathan Coy finished fourth at 174 pounds in 2002.

With seven wrestlers, two Pac-10 champions and two wrestlers ranked nationally, their chances at a high finish is in reach. Larson and Watterson are entering their third national meet in their collegiate careers.

While the last few years at the nationals haven't been the best of times for the Beavers from a success standpoint, it's a trend that Zalesky wants to reverse.

"We have some guys that are really wrestling well right now," Zalesky said. "Hopefully we can keep the momentum going."

Larson is currently ranked 14th by the National Wrestling Coaches Association poll and 11th by the Amateur Wrestling News poll. Watterson is also ranked heading into the meet, holding the number five spot in both the NWCA and AWWN polls.

Larson, Gardner, and Watterson all recorded individual wins in the opening preliminary round Thursday at the NCAA Championships. Larson defeated Nick Kozar of Drexel in a 3-2 decision at 174 pounds while Watterson cruised to a 5-2 decision over eighth ranked Janior Palma of North Carolina State. Gardner proved that he belonged in the tournament by pinning Jeremie Cook of Lock Haven in the second period.

Eric Stevenson (125 pounds), Bobby Pfennings (133 pounds), Derek Kipperberg (149 pounds), and Kyle Bressler (184 pounds) all dropped their first match of the tournament and will wrestle today to stay alive.

The tournament will continue today and into Saturday with the finals beginning at 7 a.m.

Sean McLean, sports writer
sports@dailybarometer.com, 737-6378

RUGBY: One drawback to being on national team is missing time with the Beaver team

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE A8

attitude about it and his entire approach to the game, he's a coach's dream."

One drawback, however, has been his time spent away from the Beavers squad.

"I've missed a lot things with the team because of the national team, but they've been good about it," Heath said.

According to Kinhnaruth, Heath "has been at every practice, and for us that's a big deal because it reinforces that he's still a part of the team and everyone respects the fact that he can't be here because he's doing something that's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Everyone realizes that Zach is going to contribute his part when he can and the coaches realize that too."

Heath's commitment to the national squad takes him away on an average of once or twice a month. "We go and we play high-caliber teams from around the country, whether it be college or pro teams," Heath said.

This weekend they will travel to New York to take on No. 2 Army at West Point March 17.

On March 28, Team USA will travel to Belfast and start preparing for the tournament by

playing the Munster U-19 team in Limerick.

Although not traditionally one of the best teams in the world, Heath is optimistic about Team USA's chances this year.

"I think our coach knows this is the best team he's ever assembled," Heath said. "We practice more than any other team, and I feel confident with our team and I think we can do well in our pool."

As evidence the team beat Canada for the first time ever last year, and Heath attributes that to the ability of the entire team being able to meet and practice together on a regular basis, which is also a first.

"We're on our way up. In the past three years we've made incredible strides," Heath said.

While Heath wasn't a member of the team during that time he finally got to don the red, white and blue for the first time in a rematch with Canada three weeks ago.

"Probably the best feeling I've ever had," Heath said. "It's the only time we've ever worn our real National Team jerseys."

Heath is looking forward to the trip. "I can't wait to go, and

I get excited just talking about it," he said.

While the team has no formal practices, the players all learn to play together in the camps they attend and through the trial and error of pick-up games against state side opponents.

"We all learn what the USA wants us to do and how they want us to play the game," Heath said. "So when they select us to travel with them we already know the style of play they like."

Heath is quick to credit his OSU teammates and coaches for their guidance.

"They got me ready for the national team. They've helped me deal with the speed of the college game and with guys that are so much bigger than in high school, they've helped me with my on-field confidence to tackle bigger opponents," he said.

Heath admits he would be the same player if not for his OSU teammates. "There are guys on the OSU team that I look up to that have taught me things that the national team couldn't have taught me, like my captain about leadership," he said.

Looking to the future of his sport Heath said, "I, personally, think it would be great if we could get some younger youth leagues, even younger than high school. Getting people out to our games is the hardest thing,

but once people see it, they really like it, it's fast and exciting."

According to McShane, small strides are already being made. Over past six years around 23 high schools have added rugby as a varsity sport. The Super League, a semi-pro league, was started in 1997.

Kinhnaruth believes that Heath's selection to the National Team will help raise awareness of the sport, at least in Corvallis.

"Zach shows that you can represent your country in a sport that may not be as popular as others but it shows that anything is possible," he said.

"I'm extremely proud of him," McShane said.

As for himself, Heath hasn't contemplated where his abilities might take him.

"I'm still kind of in shock that I made the U-19 team," he said. "It's been surreal this year, getting to play with them."

Noah Tinker, sports writer
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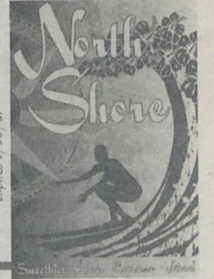
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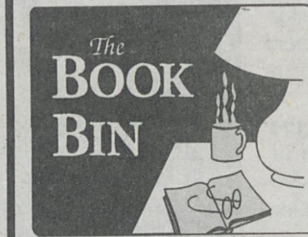
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BASEBALL: San Francisco has 26 stolen bases this season

■ CONTINUED FROM PAGE A8

two in a row including a Tuesday loss to San Jose 10-6. The Beavers who are 3-0 at home are looking to build on that against a Dons team that is 6-6 on the road.

"We're not going to underestimate them at all," pitcher Eddie Kunz said. "USF has a real good squad with a good pitching staff. A couple guys on their team can hit the ball pretty well. We can not underestimate them."

San Francisco is a threat in all aspects of the game. The Dons are dangerous on the base paths having stolen 26 bases on 33 attempts this season. Leading hitter Joey Railey is hitting .387 and has stolen 5-6 bases. Behind the plate Canham must also pay attention to outfielder Jonnie Knoble 6-6, shortstop Tavo Hall 7-8 and outfielder Luke Sommer 4-4 on stolen base attempts.

"I get excited when guys do that [stealing bases]," Canham said. "That's what keeps me interested. When guys run I am not just catching it and throwing it back to the pitcher. I wouldn't mind getting a few outs myself."

The rest of the USF offense is led by first baseman Mitchell Bialosky who is hitting .360 with two

homeruns. Sommer is a threat as well on offense and defense for San Francisco. The former Canby Cougar was one of the top prospects in the Cape Cod League over the summer with his exceptional speed and strong bat.

"Sommer is a real good player," Stutes said. "He is actually one of the nicest guys I've had a chance to play against. It's kind of hard to hate a guy who is such a nice guy off the field. I've known him since about eighth grade so it's nice to play against guys like that."

On the mound the Dons are led by left-handed starter Aaron Poreda. Poreda sports a fast ball that touches 94-96 miles per hour, 27 strikeouts and a 2.41 ERA. OSU will most likely see Jason Dufloth starting during a weekend game; Dufloth is 3-2 with a 2.82 ERA.

"They've got one of the best pitchers in the country," OSU head coach Pat Casey said. "A left-handed kid [Poreda] going 92-95. I think the game will dictate how we play."

The Beavers and the Dons meet up today at 4 p.m. and Saturday at 1 p.m. There has been a change to Sunday's game. The Beavers and the Dons will meet at noon rather than at 1 p.m., in order to accommodate the Dons travel plans.

Casey Grogan, sports writer
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“It felt like it was good. And for it to go in, I said to myself, ‘Man, I just hit the game-winner on Duke University.’”

— Virginia Commonwealth guard Eric Maynor on hitting a 15-foot jumper with 1.8 seconds left to upset Duke 79-77 on Thursday in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Heath hooks up with national rugby team

■ The OSU freshman who took up rugby four years ago is suiting up for the under 19 National Team

By Noah Tinker
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Zach Heath, a freshman in forest management, will get to experience an opportunity few people his age ever get to have. Heath is a member of the United States Under 19 (U-19) National Rugby Team and will travel to Belfast, Ireland to participate in the World Junior Championships featuring 24 teams from around the world April 4-21.

Heath is one of 26 players for the No. 13 Americas who will open in pool B and face off against Canada, Romania, Russia and Zimbabwe, each ranked 14th, 16th, 19th and 53rd, respectively.

Heath's position on the team is known as a hooker. A position he also occupies when he plays for Oregon State.

“I guess it's hard to explain unless you know rugby,” Heath said about his position. “I hook the ball back in the scrum and I'm also responsible for throwing the ball in on line outs, when the ball is put back into play after it goes out of bounds.”

Heath first got enveloped by the world of rugby as a sophomore in high school thanks to a friend who had already been playing since junior high.

“He told me, ‘hey, you should come out for rugby, it's a lot more fun than track.’”

Heath, who also played football in high school, saw “another opportunity to be running and tackling like football, so I thought I'd give it a try.”

When comparing the two sports Heath doesn't hold back. “I like rugby a lot more,” Heath explained. “It's a lot nicer for the player I think. Mainly because you can make your own decisions as you go along, whereas with football the coach just gives you the play and you go do it.”

This is only Heath's fourth year playing the sport.

Yet in that time the sport has taken a hold on him. “It's fast, it's hard-hitting and it's exciting, there's not a lot of stoppage.”

However, the rough and tumble nature of the sport has yet to take a toll on Heath. “I've never had a concussion, I've never really had anything other than just small little injuries.”

Heath's journey to a spot on the U-19 National Team started when he began playing for a local team in Tualatin Valley while attending Jesuit High School.

“I started out with them and then moved onto the Northwest All-Stars,



PETER STRONG / THE DAILY BAROMETER

Zach Heath, who plays hooker for the OSU rugby team, played his first game for the United States Under 19 National Team in a win over Canada. Soon he'll travel to Ireland for the World Junior Championships

a mix of players from Washington and Oregon,” he said.

It was with this team that Heath traveled to Colorado to compete in a national tournament in front of the coaches of the national team.

From those assembled, the coaches selected 150 players and invited them to summer camps. From these they winnowed it down to 40 players who were invited back to winter camps. After that, a final roster of 26 players was picked for the team.

Heath received the call March 5 from the national team coach William “Salty” Thompson that he had made the final roster.

“He called me and I knew what it was about and it was the most excited I've ever been. I've just been ecstatic for three weeks now and I just can't

stop smiling,” Heath said.

His selection came as no surprise to his coaches and teammates. “They already knew that I had a possibility of making it, but they've all been really, really supportive all year and they all congratulated me when they heard about it, they thought it was awesome,” Heath said.

“I wasn't surprised about his selection, he is a great player,” said Amjad “AJ” Kinhnaruth, the president of the Rugby Club. “I knew when he came that he was going to be a great player because I knew he was in the running for the All-American Squad, but he still surprised me with his ability.”

Heath chuckled as he clarified, “actually it's the ‘National Team,’ but all the guys on the squad call it the ‘All-American team.’”

Kinhnaruth, who's been with OSU for his entire collegiate career, also plays the same position as Heath.

“If he wasn't with the National Team we'd be competing for the same spot,” Kinhnaruth said. “With his ability I'm sure he would have gotten a great look from the coaches.”

Second year coach Duffin McShane is also quick to praise Heath. “He's very dedicated and has a great work ethic. A lot of his success comes from putting in the work outside of practice working on his skills and spending time in the weight room,” McShane said.

Reflecting on Heath's selection to the National Team, McShane said, “as a freshman, to make the national squad is incredible, he's got a great

See HEATH / page A7

Wrestlers head to NCAAs

■ Beavers eye national title after winning Pac-10 championship

By Sean McLean
THE DAILY BAROMETER

After winning its first Pac-10 title since 1994, the No. 19 Oregon State wrestling team enters the NCAA Championships looking for its first top 10 finish since 1998.

With team depth on their side, the Beavers sent seven wrestlers to Detroit, Mich., on Thursday to end the first season of the Zalesky era on a strong note.

Oregon State had three weeks to prepare and get healthy for the tournament. Six Beavers qualified for the meet at the Pac-10 Championships by placing top three or higher.

Exciting news came March 9 when 197-pounder Travis Gardner, who was named first alternate for the Pac-10 after not being awarded a wild card spot, was invited to the meet.

Another wrestler from another Pac-10 school could not wrestle due to injury, so Gardner, who finished fourth in the conference in his weight class, gives the Beavers a better chance at a higher finish.

“When we found out we didn't have a wild card, we told him that you have to train like you're going and he's been doing that,” coach Jim Zalesky said. “So he should be prepared.”

The key to the Beavers going far in the tournament will be the conference and NCAA experience they bring to the table. Four wrestlers have championship experience from the previous year.

In the conference meet three weeks ago, Jeremy Larson (174 pounds) and heavyweight Ty Watterson claimed individual titles, while Derek Kipperberg (149 pounds), Bobby Pfennigs (133 pounds) and Eric Stevenson (125 pounds) finished as runners-up.

Pfennigs forfeited his finals match at the Pac-10 meet due to a hamstring injury but is healthy enough to wrestle at nationals. Kyle Bressler (184 pounds) finished third in his weight class to qualify for the tournament as well.

“Pfennigs battled through that hamstring injury in the second half of the season,” Zalesky said. “Hopefully we can get him ready and healthy enough to have a strong showing down the road.”

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Beavers continue home stand with San Francisco

■ OSU will face the Dons of San Francisco who beat the Beavers 8-2 in their only meeting last season

By Casey Grogan
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Having played 17 straight on the road, the OSU baseball team gets to stay at home for one more week as they welcome San Francisco to Goss Stadium at Coleman Field.

After a series sweep of Evansville, No. 5 OSU (17-3 overall) looks to get some wins against a team that beat them last year, USF (9-8). Last season in their only meeting of the year the Dons pulled off an 8-2 victory over then-No. 15 Oregon State.

“I expect them to be really good,” said starting pitcher Mike Stutes. “I've played against them the last couple years. We played them last year, and I played them before when I was at Santa Clara. They have always been good; they are a really well coached team. You have to beat them because they are not going to beat themselves.”

This season the Beavers are on a hot streak having won six straight thanks to strong pitching and hot bats.

The OSU pitching staff is led by their trio of starters Stutes, Joe Paterson and Daniel Turpen. Stutes enters the weekend 4-0 with a 2.86 ERA and 30 strikeouts. Paterson who will throw Saturday is 3-1 and 2.78 ERA. Sunday's starter Daniel

Turpen has been outstanding thus far on the season. Turpen is 5-0 and sports a 2.48 ERA and 29 strike outs.

“I've started against them two years in a row,” Stutes said. “This will be my third year starting against them. It makes you comfortable seeing the same team over and over again. But, there is probably only two guys that are the same as when I pitched against them freshman year.”

Against Evansville the OSU offense did just about everything a ball club could do. Oregon State hit two home runs including a grand slam by catcher Mitch Canham. The Beavers received timely hits helping them grab a win in game two. Game three was won with bunts and a big RBI double by outfielder Mike Lissman.

The Beavers look for hot hitting to continue against a tough Dons pitching staff. Third baseman Drew George leads the Beavers with a .391 average and is looking to build on his six game hitting streak. Canham is hitting .386 with 19 RBI and two homeruns.

“Guys bats are starting to come alive,” Canham said. “George is swinging real well, Lissman's swinging well and Darwin [Barney] is starting to swing it again.”

Unlike the Beavers the Dons are struggling early this season. San Francisco, a returning tournament team, has lost

See BASEBALL / page A7



CORY REED / THE DAILY BAROMETER

Freshman second baseman Joey Wong, with a batting average of .333, is shaping up to be a valuable addition to the Beavers Baseball team.