

OPINION:

OSU NEEDS TO BE HELD TO A HIGHER STANDARD

SPORTS, PAGE 5



Debating
Obama's college
ratings system
FORUM, PAGE 7

The Daily Barometer

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Rail forum invites controversy

■ Roundtable discussion for Oregon Passenger Rail Line allows attendees to voice project concerns Wednesday

By Emma-Kate Schaaque

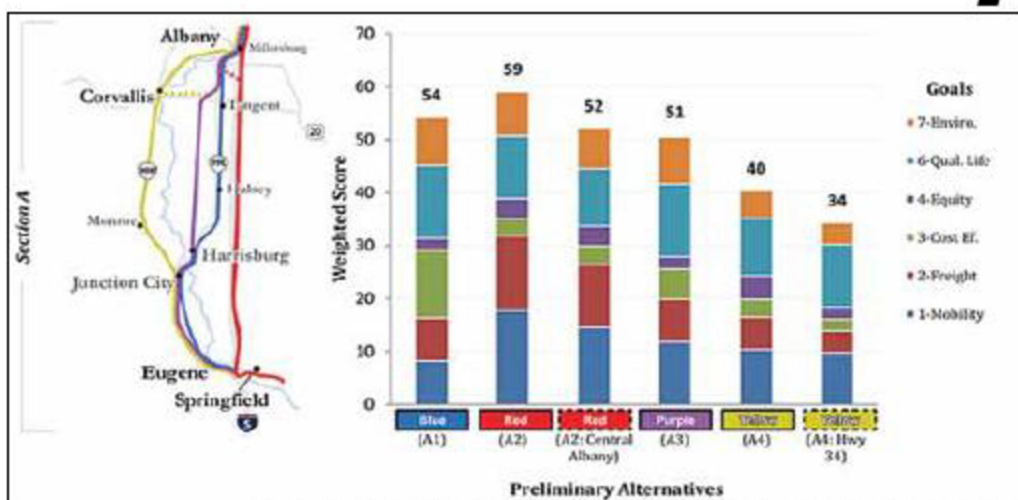
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon Department of Transportation employee Michael Holthoff only made it through the first slide of evaluation results before an onslaught of audience questions derailed his presentation.

It was clear that Corvallis and Oregon State University community members have adamant concerns regarding the potential rail line and the very real possibility that a line through Corvallis will not come to fruition.

The Oregon Passenger Rail Project would create a 125-mile segment between Eugene and Portland as part of the Pacific Northwest Rail Corridor. One of the four alternative routes on the project is the yellow line, which would

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COURTESY OF OREGON PASSENGER RAIL AND THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

This shows the evaluation results in section A of the preliminary alternative routes, including the yellow route through Corvallis. The yellow line scored the lowest in all areas of the project goals and objectives.

Love the ground beneath your feet

■ 'Symphony of Soils' showing Thursday at Oregon State to celebrate World Soils Day

By Megan Campbell and Dacotah-Victoria Splichalova

THE DAILY BAROMETER

If everyone took 20 minutes from the day to stop and smell the soil, our world would be a different place, according to James Cassidy, a professor in the crop and soil science department at Oregon State University.

In honor of World Soils Day, the department of crop and soil science, in collaboration with the OSU Organic Growers Club, celebrates with a free special presentation of the new, internationally acclaimed documentary "Symphony of Soils," in ALS 4001 at 5:30 p.m. Thursday.

The film shows "an intriguing presentation that highlights possibilities of healthy soil," and the dynamic relationships between humans, plants, animals, water and the soil, according to the department's website.

"Symphony of Soils" was filmed on four continents, featuring working farmers, ranchers and esteemed scientists and ardent scientists.

"I challenge people — anyone reading this article — to see this movie," Cassidy said in a phone interview.

Cassidy said this film will change the way people see soil. He dares people to explore the idea of soil and see the importance of soil in their life.

Soil is a finite resource on Earth, and it is a resource that humans could not live without. Even a pinch of soil, which is a four-dimensional habitat, can contain billions of living bacteria essential to the on-going process of life on Earth.

As with his classes, he encourages potential filmgoers to take a second and explore the soil.

"If everyone got out of their cars,

See SOIL | page 3



MEGAN CAMPBELL | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Kyle Fosdick's final project for his sculpture class hangs in the Memorial Union quad. Fosdick removed pages from 10-12 textbooks and sewed them together.

Hanging textbook pages in quad to return to the soil

■ Art student sews textbook pages together to publicly display societal wastefulness

By Megan Campbell

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon State University student Kyle Fosdick removed pages from 10-12 textbooks, sewed the pages together and hung them from a tree in the Memorial Union quad Tuesday morning.

Fosdick, a senior majoring in fine arts, collected these textbooks from previous classes he and his friends have taken at OSU. These textbooks were out-of-date and could not be

sold back to the OSU Beaver Store.

The display, Fosdick's final project for professor Michael Boonstra's sculpture course, was created to bring awareness to the wastefulness of textbook use.

When students must buy the latest version of a book for a course, older versions go unused. Fosdick takes this concept further and concludes that the university or its professors promote that older versions lack the ability to provide the reader with proper information.

"This knowledge is useless," Fosdick said.

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New rating system could change funding

■ OSU officials hesitant about Obama's recently proposed university rating metrics

By Sean Bassinger

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Recent plans involving a potential college rating systems based on affordability and student performance have some individuals concerned for the future of higher education.

The idea of a performance metrics-based rating system was proposed by President Barack Obama during a town hall meeting held at University of Buffalo on Aug. 22. The basic plan would regulate federal funds to schools based on metrics such as overall costs to students, debt accumulation and

graduation rates.

Though these concepts would aim to make colleges more affordable to students, Salvador Castillo, director of the office of institutional research at Oregon State University, said such a system may only benefit private schools and colleges already receiving incentives based on student performance.

"Until we know what the specifics of the rankings are, usually it benefits the ones who are already getting a lot of the resources anyway," Castillo said.

Castillo said OSU first-year retention rates have increased since the college started the first phase of its strategic plan in 2004. However, graduation

See RATING | page 3

Therapy dogs help de-stress at Valley Library

■ Local Welcome Waggers return to campus Wednesday, Thursday bringing cuddles, dog kisses to students during dead week

By Kaitlyn Kohlenberg

THE DAILY BAROMETER

People lined up outside the Autzen classroom to spend time with the furry members of Welcome Waggers as a reprieve from the stresses of dead week. Students have the opportunity to de-stress and relax with therapy dogs Wednesday and Thursday. The dogs are visitors from the Welcome Waggers group and will be in the Autzen classroom in the Valley Library from 3-5 p.m.

This is the third time the Welcome Waggers group has visited Oregon State University and the group plans to continue holding events like this in partner-



KAITLYN KOHLENBERG | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Therapy dog Kobie shows off his antlers with his owner, Debbie Pierce (right), and student Sonia Pedroza (middle).

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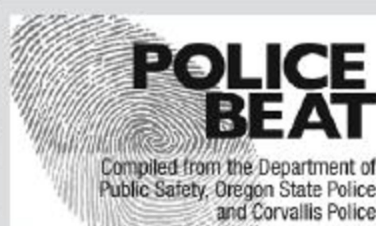
Formal written complaints about The Daily Barometer may be referred to the committee for investigation and disposition. After hearing all elements involved in a complaint, the committee will report its decision to all parties concerned.

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Saturday, November 23

This car looks nice
Oregon State Police received a call at 9:19 p.m. from a woman who couldn't locate her friend. An hour and a half later, the 28-year-old female was found on the first floor of the parking garage. She allegedly entered a random car and fell asleep; the owner called police. The female was allegedly extremely intoxicated and recorded a blood alcohol content of 0.226 percent. The owner of the vehicle didn't press charges and the woman was returned to her party.

Too much fun
Around 11:49 p.m. employees of the Peacock Bar and Grill contacted Corvallis



police about a confrontation. Police arrested Francis Clark, 24, after he allegedly physically resisted and swung at a security guard who was removing him due to heavy intoxication. He was cited for Disorderly Conduct II.
Just trying to keep warm
Corvallis police responded to a fire

behind Sigma Phi Epsilon around 12:00 a.m. Someone allegedly set the cardboard box dumpster on fire, which led to approximately \$500 in damage to the dumpster. Police found no suspects.

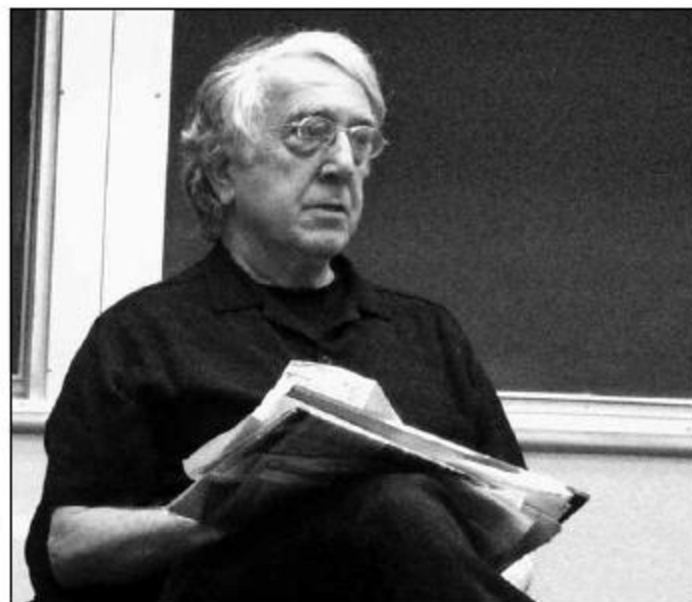
Friday, November 29

Major food coma

Ian Amen, 33, was arrested at the Shari's on Ninth Street after he allegedly refused to leave. According to police logs, after he refused, he fell asleep in the restaurant. When Corvallis police arrived, they arrested him for a Linn County warrant and transported him to the Benton County Jail.

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Leading investigative journalist to talk



DACOTAH-VICTORIA SPLICHALOVA | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Investigative journalist David Barsamian spoke at the "Social Justice Real Justice Conference" held in February at the University of Oregon.

THE DAILY BAROMETER

David Barsamian returns to Corvallis in support of community radio stations, free speech and independent media.

He is to talk on "Capitalism & the Environment" Thursday.

Barsamian is "one of America's most tireless and wide-ranging investigative journalists," according to an Alternative Radio newsletter. Barsamian is the award-winning founder and director of Alternative Radio, the independent weekly audio series based in Boulder, Colo.

His wide-ranging work has dramatically changed the media landscape with his radio programs and books with Noam Chomsky, Tariq Ali, Howard Zinn, Arundhati Roy and many others, according to the newsletter.

"Sure, we have Earth Day, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Environmental Protection Agency, but the threat to our environment is acute and growing," Barsamian wrote, which was published in the newsletter. "The scale of the crisis requires a far deeper and fundamental transformation."

Barsamian will speak at 7 p.m. at the Odd Fellows South Hall, which is located at 223 SW Second St. in downtown Corvallis.

The event is free and open to the public.

managing@dailybarometer.com

Alpha Omicron Pi establishes itself on campus

■ Returning sorority plans to establish a house in 2-3 years for members

By Courtney Gehring
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Oregon State University's newest sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi, implemented a two- to three-year plan to establish a chapter house near campus.

"Getting a house is in the works, and it's going to happen," said Alli Stangel, a senior member of AOII who has been involved in establishing the chapter's presence on campus. "Since there isn't a lot of larger housing available in Corvallis right now, there is a team at headquarters working specifically on housing for the chapter. It will just depend whether they can buy out a current existing house or buy an existing prop-

erty or apartments and build from the ground up."

AOII re-established a chapter at OSU in October through a process called colonization. AOII previously had a chapter at Oregon State University up until the 1900s.

Representatives from AOII's national headquarters came to campus and facilitated a recruitment process to recruit members for the chapter's first class of women.

After several days of recruitment, AOII gained more than 100 members to begin their chapter at Oregon State. They held a ceremony to introduce the new chapter and its members to the community on Oct. 22. The new members range from freshmen to seniors.

Since then, AOII has been exceedingly busy establishing their chapter on campus

and in-house adviser to learn the interworking of the sorority. They also have bonding time where they play ice-breaker games and get to know each other.

"It has its own unique challenges," Stangel said. "We're trying to get a group from all different backgrounds, all different majors, who come from different places and all different ages to actually come together and create something new. It's more challenging, but it's really cool."

AOII plans to participate in other Greek philanthropies winter term and is participating in the annual IFC SING competition with Alpha Gamma Rho spring 2014.

Until then, the chapter meets twice a week in classrooms on campus with a colony adviser

and in-house adviser to learn the interworking of the sorority. They also have bonding time where they play ice-breaker games and get to know each other.

"It has its own unique challenges," Stangel said. "We're trying to get a group from all different backgrounds, all different majors, who come from different places and all different ages to actually come together and create something new. It's more challenging, but it's really cool."

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Courtney Gehring

Greek and clubs reporter
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Calendar

Thursday, Dec. 5

Speakers

Women's Center, Noon, Women's Center Mental Wellness Series. Dr. Judy Neighbours will discuss "Managing depression and anxiety during stressful times."

Events

Pride Center, 1:30-2:30pm, Pride Center. Tea Sampling with Topics. Discuss, make friends. Queer your tea!

Friday, Dec. 6

Meetings

Chess Club, 4-6pm, MU Commons. Join us for games of chess and more. All skill levels are welcome.

Events

Pride Center, Noon-1pm, Pride Center. Stretch it Out. Use this time to de-stress, care for your body and improve your flexibility in both your mind and body, and meet new people.

OSU Music, Noon, First United Methodist Church, 1165 NW Monroe. Special Music à la Carte. Music for the season; University Chorale and the Corvallis Community Choir.

House business in short supply

■ Dixon DREAM project occupies most of meeting

By Tori Hittner

THE DAILY BAROMETER

A presentation from the Dixon DREAM Project filled most of the Associated Students of Oregon State University House of Representatives meeting Wednesday night.

Eleven representatives attended the meeting, which was held at 7 p.m. in Memorial Union 211.

Dixon DREAM Project student leader Christina Birkett provided similar information to that previously given to the ASOSU Senate.

The project deals with the potential expansion and renovation of Dixon Recreation Center to make the facilities better meet diverse student needs. According to Birkett, there has been a 114 percent increase in the number of fitness passes sold and a 42 percent increase in the number of students entering Dixon in the past decade.

Birkett noted that with such high numbers, facilities are continually pushed to overcapacity and consequently fail to meet the specific needs of an increasingly diverse student population.

Through the project, Birkett and the rest of Recreational Sports hope to make Dixon Recreation Center more enjoyable and "accessible for everyone."

Representatives also heard delegate reports from task force directors Matthew Perez, government affairs, and Briana Tanaka, academic affairs.

Both task force directors gave a brief report on their business so far, as well as projected plans for winter term.

The House will reconvene at the beginning of winter term.

Tori Hittner

Student government reporter
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With cold temps, emergency shelters open in Portland

By Amanda Peacher
OREGON PUBLIC BROADCASTING

PORTLAND — With temperatures in the twenties and thirties this week, emergency homeless shelters in Portland have opened their doors.

Union Gospel Mission is not usually an emergency shelter. But when it gets below freezing, the mission invites people in who don't have a place to sleep.

"We really try to help everybody that we can. We don't want anybody stuck outside — that could be a life or death situation with temperatures this" says Stacy Kean, communications director at the mission.

According to a Multnomah County report, 974 regular shelter beds are available in the metro area, but that's for more than 2300 homeless people

"So when it gets cold the majority of homeless people are out there, and there's no resource for them so that's why we open up and I know that's why other places open up as well."

The Red Cross also has opened an emergency shelter at Imago Dei Community Church in Portland.

Silverton man's death is ruled suspicious as marshals investigate

By Joce DeWitt
STATESMAN JOURNAL

SILVERTON — Officers from several jurisdictions, including a U.S. Marshal's Fugitive Task Force, were among the agencies who investigated the suspicious death of a man in Silverton.

According to the Marion County District Attorney's office, Jeffrey Edward Lamoreaux's death was ruled suspicious but how and why remains unclear.

Caution tape surrounded the small yellow house on the 200 block of Olson Road Tuesday morning. Officers looked through the contents of a green vehicle in the driveway, pulling out items like clothes, paper and a flashlight.

The Marion County Homicide Assault Response Team, the Marion County Sheriff's Office, Keizer Police, Oregon State Police and Woodburn Police assisted the Silverton Police Department in the investigation.

Noemi Knutson, a resident in a house by the one that officers investigated, said her husband had shared a few conversations with Lamoreaux in the past. They were caught by surprise Monday evening around 5 p.m. when a man knocked on their door asking to use the phone.

The man said he was Lamoreaux's father, and that he needed to call police because he found his son in the home, Knutson said. Police arrived soon after.

"It was almost like a shock thing," she said. Knutson said she had not known Lamoreaux's name before Tuesday and knew nothing about his personal life.

Andy Bellando, superintendent of the Silver Falls School District, confirmed that Lamoreaux was a 2001 Silverton High School graduate.

Bellando was a principal at Mark Twain Middle School when Lamoreaux was a student there.

"Jeff was a fine young man," Bellando said.

"As a middle school student he was eager to learn and achieved well."

Bellando said it was his understanding that Lamoreaux was from the Silverton area.

Kelly Dougherty Briseno knew Lamoreaux from her workout class at the Courthouse Athletic Club. She said she was shocked by the news.

"Always upbeat and could turn anyone's bad day into a good day," Briseno said of Lamoreaux.

According to court records, Lamoreaux was convicted of three counts of sodomy in 2003 in Marion County.

The U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force was among the agencies involved in the investigation. Eric Wahlstrom, supervisory deputy with U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force, said he could not discuss details of the death investigation. However, he outlined the basic purpose of the task force and the kind of cases they are involved in.

"Primarily our job is to find violent or wanted felons in the state," he said. Those felons include fugitives and sex offenders at the federal, state and local level.

"It would be somebody who doesn't necessarily have to have a warrant but someone who needed to be located."

Wahlstrom said that Lamoreaux was not the target of the fugitive task force's investigation.

"He was not a person of interest as far as us trying to find the deceased," Wahlstrom said. "The victim was not wanted at the time."

Jean Kunkle of the District Attorney's Office said Tuesday she was unable to comment on an autopsy by the medical examiner's office.

Knutson said she and her husband have lived in their home on Olson Road for 20 years and they have never had any problems.

"I don't want to assume anything," she said. "I don't want to live in fear."

statesmanjournal.com

Suits filed over logging near Crater Lake

By Lee Juillerat
HERALD AND NEWS

KLAMATH FALLS — Two conservation groups are challenging a U.S. Forest Service timber sale outside Crater Lake National Park in an area the groups want to see protected as wilderness.

The lawsuit was filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Eugene by the Cascadia Wild and Oregon Wild. The groups are asking a judge to stop the Loafer timber sale in an area east of Diamond Lake on the Umpqua National Forest.

More protection
The lawsuit claims the Forest Service should more fully examine the project's potential harm to protected species like northern spotted owls and red tree voles. It says the logging requires building a road through two areas of virgin forest, which would make them ineligible for future wilderness designation.

A Forest Service spokesman told the Associated Press the agency does not comment on pending litigation.

Contested sale
The Loafer sale, named after the Loafer Creek drainage, is proposed on the Umpqua's Diamond Lake Ranger District and would affect a portion of the 2,000-acre plus Dread and Terror roadless area. The project would result in 30 million board-feet of tree fiber.

According to the Forest Service's environmental assessment, the Loafer sale will restore natural ecosystem function and reduce fire fuels.

The Loafer environmental assessment was issued in March and the final record of decision was filed in May. The decision was appealed, but the appeal was denied by the Forest Service's regional office

in August.

"Since then we have been pursuing the avenue of litigation," said Erik Fernandez, Oregon Wild wilderness coordinator. He said the project would log within the proposed wilderness near the North Umpqua River north and slightly west of the park.

"This area is a key corridor for wildlife species migrating from the high elevations along the crest down to lower elevations," he said. "The North Umpqua also is known as a world class salmon fishery and we're concerned that this project would have a negative impact on water quality and salmon."

Further opposition
Oregon Wild also opposes the Bybee timber sale on the west side of Crater Lake National Park.

The proposed 50,000 acre Crater Lake Wilderness would, according to Fernandez, "protect the park's backcountry and corridors leading in and out of the park, creating a 90-mile habitat conservation corridor along the crest of the Southern Cascades." The proposed wilderness would not affect any of the existing park roads or developed areas, including Rim Village and the Crater Lake Lodge.

As proposed, the Bybee would log 1,300 acres of potential wilderness on Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest lands, also near Crater Lake National Park. The Forest Service has made changes in the proposed sale but, according to Fernandez, "The changes have simply moved the project from terrible to bad" because it would imperil and weaken the park's ecosystems and would be near the headwaters of the Rogue River.

Correction

In the Wednesday article, "President's winter coffee offers chance to mingle," a name was spelled incorrectly in a photo caption. In the photo with President Ed Ray, the name "Josh Glardi" should have been "Gilardi."

SOIL

Continued from page 1

turned off their devices and felt (soil), looked at the coldness of it and smelled it — if everyone did that, it'd be a different world," Cassidy said.

Jay Noller, the associate department head and professor in the crop and soil science department, said the film would

provide "an entertaining and informative evening — especially for students."

This year is the second internationally recognized World Soils Day. The day was created to promote the importance of soil.

Megan Campbell, managing and news editor
Dacotah-Victoria Splichalova,
science reporter
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RATING

Continued from page 1

rates have remained stagnant.

According to data from the office of institutional research, graduation rates have remained stagnant over the past 10 years. The graduation rate for a bachelor's degree within six years at OSU is 60.7 percent, which is nearly 3 percent higher than the national average.

Steve Clark, vice president of university and marketing relations, said continuing programs such as the recently implemented First-Year Experience could improve graduation rates.

"What we're attempting to do is foster greater success for first-year students," Clark said. "We'll work equally hard and even harder to support their success in school."

Doug Severs, director at the office of financial aid and scholarships, said such a rating system could pose problems for institutions struggling with retention rates or students who frequently default on their loans after college.

"If they establish a rating system, schools could lose their financial aid funding," Severs said.

Severs said OSU would rank well among other colleges within the nation.

"We're sitting in a good position as an institution," Severs said.

Currently, OSU ranks number 41 among "Best Buy Schools" when compared to others in the 2014 "Fiske Guide to Colleges."

Sean Bassinger
Higher education reporter
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Oregon State UNIVERSITY

TEXTBOOKS

Continued from page 1

However, these particular textbook pages will not be part of the flippant wastefulness that most textbooks end up contributing to, Fosdick said.

James Cassidy, a professor in the crop and soil science department, saw Fosdick's display Tuesday and reached out to the art student. Cassidy and Fosdick plan to compost the art in the composting area behind Withycombe Hall.

"It's an interesting completion for the project," Cassidy said. "Everything returns to the soil."

When Cassidy saw the art, he was taken aback.

"It was sort of disarming," Cassidy said. "I walked across the soil to it, because I wanted to experience it. I could just see how fragile it was."

Cassidy plans to show his soil class the stages of decomposing pages winter and spring terms.

Like Cassidy, passers-by in the quad were also intrigued by the display.

Jill Irvine, a freshman in merchandising management, saw the display Tuesday, but didn't know what it was. After finding out more about the piece Wednesday, Irvine liked the concept of bringing awareness to the wasted textbooks.

Another passer-by, Logan Taylor, a junior double majoring in business and sustainability, agreed with composting the art and its message.

"I think it's really cool," Taylor



Senior Kyle Fosdick stands next to textbook pages he sewed together, which is on display in the Memorial Union quad.

said. "The university should pay attention to it."

Connecting with Fosdick's message, Taylor said that he, too, has a pile of unused textbooks in his house. He said the display made a "bold statement."

The OSU Beaver Store academic materials manager, James Howard, said the project is "very interesting."

Howard appreciated the message and said the OSU Beaver Store supports public art.

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RAIL

Continued from page 1

span from Albany to Junction City, and travel through Corvallis.

According to the evaluation results, which tested the preliminary alternative routes against the goals and objectives of the project, the yellow Corvallis line scored the lowest. The scores were particularly low in the areas of cost effectiveness, preservation of freight rail capacity and equity of travel alternatives.

"The yellow line doesn't look good," Holthoff said.

Tom Johnson, a faculty member at the Valley Library, was one of many who found the goals on which the lines were weighted were an inadequate measure of the impact of the yellow line.

"This doesn't seem to factor in the number of people that would be served by that line," Johnson said.

Others voiced concerns that the criteria for determining the weighted scores were not clearly disclosed, and therefore the Corvallis line seems unfairly disadvantaged. The goals were derived from the initial stages of the project, called the scoping process, in which information was gathered about the community needs.

"It's just a tool," Holthoff said about the study. "There are a lot of other factors that aren't in here."

Attendees wanted to make sure that such

factors included were the community apprehensions and desires expressed at these public forums that have been held around the state. Corvallis has been particularly vocal about keeping the yellow line possibility as part of the equation. There are currently 2,153 signatures on an online petition to bring the passenger rail line to Corvallis.

During this stage of the project, ODOT has been seeking input from the public and from the project teams in order to determine how and when to move forward.

"We are at a critical milestone right now," Holthoff said. "We are narrowing down to a reasonable range for study."

On Dec. 17, the information gathered thus far will be presented to the Oregon Passenger Rail Leadership Council, a group composed of elected officials and experts.

The council will then move to the next stage of the study the tier one environmental impact study, which, Holthoff said, is a "very high level view of what routes could be and their environmental impacts."

A draft of the results from the Environmental Impact Study will address whether or not specific routes meet the purpose and need of the project and the communities impacted. Those that clearly did not meet these needs were dropped early on.

Once the council approves the preliminary alternatives and clears the way for the study to begin, it will be at least a year-long process. After that, the draft will be open to public

comment, and the council will then reconvene to assess the most favorable alignment.

If that choice does not align with Corvallis residents' pick for the passenger rail, many hope that other improvements to alternative modes of transportation will be considered.

Nathan Hinkle, a senior in chemical engineering, hopes to see a significant improvement in the bus system from Corvallis to Albany. He said he was once stranded at the Albany train station and, having missed the bus, had no way to return to Corvallis.

"The Linn Benton loop is completely inadequate," Hinkle said. "It needs to be given priority."

ODOT has been working with the Eugene, Corvallis and Albany Metropolitan Planning Organizations to improve transit from U of O to OSU and from Corvallis to the Albany train station.

"We have been trying to improve transit way ahead of this study," Holthoff said.

There are many contested questions still surrounding the project, and it will still be years, and billions of dollars, before this rail line is implemented.

"I'm just hopeful that the end result is that people can get out of Corvallis, to Eugene or Portland, in a timely, reliable way," Johnson said.

Emma-Kate Schaahe City reporter managing@dailybarometer.com

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DOGS

Continued from page 1

ship with the library.

"People want us back," said Joel Hackett, a member of Welcome Waggers. "Students want us to come back, staff wants us to come back, and it's great. My group of teams, they want to come back. That's the best part."

Each "team" is made up of a person and his or her dog. The Welcome Waggers are all volunteers and each dog is registered and certified under the national organization Therapy Dogs Inc.

Although head coordinator Andrea Wirth cited publicizing as a difficulty for the event, students arrived in groups and a line formed down the library hallway outside the classroom.

Most students heard about the event through friends or the posters located in dining halls around campus.

Sonia Pedroza, a junior in public health, attended the event in spring and returned for more.

"It really helps," Pedroza said. "It just kind of brightens my day



Freshmen Erin Keating and Brandon Day snuggle up to the Dutch Shepherd named Cairo Wednesday in the Valley Library.

when I think about all my finals. I leave super happy with a big smile on my face and then back to studying."

Other students just come for the chance to cuddle up to a sweet pup.

"I came because I missed my dog," said Paige Westoby, a fresh-

man in pre-mechanical engineering. "I'm not really stressed out; I just missed my dog."

The students are not the only ones who enjoy the visits. The dog owners agreed they would not be in the Welcome Waggers group if the dogs didn't love the job.

Debbie Pierce has trained guide dogs for nearly 20 years and brought her dog, Kobie, to visit students Wednesday.

"He loves it because he thinks he's showing off," Pierce said. "He likes people way more than other dogs, so if someone has a dog he'll go around the dog to visit the person. So this is his chance to just visit, meet new people. He would sit here as long as people would pet him."

Wendy McCoy, the coordinator for Welcome Waggers, said the same of her dog, Cairo.

"They have to be tested to make sure that they're safe for this type of job, and this is what they like," McCoy said. "This is as much for them as it is for everybody else."

Therapy dogs can be of any breed or mix, with the primary requirement being that the dog is "friendly, patient, confident, gentle and at ease in all situations" according to the Welcome Waggers website.

Kaitlyn Kohlenberg Campus reporter managing@dailybarometer.com



Beaver Tweet of the Day
 "I'm doing this thing where I see how many months I can go without working out since season ended. It's going well so far!"
 @m_kovac Marissa Kovac

Barton's father sees son in action

■ Barton's father, Charles, saw son play in collegiate game for first time; family roots in basketball influences Challe

By Josh Worden
 THE DAILY BAROMETER

It was a familiar face for Challe Barton, just not in a familiar environment.

The junior guard is in his third year on the Oregon State basketball team, but he had to wait all three before his father was able to see him play.

Charles Barton still lives in Sweden — Challe was born in the Swedish city of Goteborg — but was able to travel to OSU this fall to see his son play collegiate basketball for the first time.

Charles is a basketball coach himself, primarily in Sweden, but he has also coached in several different European countries.

"It was great; it was the first time he was here," Challe Barton said. "My mom and brother have been able to come, but it was the first time for my dad."

Charles was born in Columbus, Ohio, and played Division I basketball at Kent State. He went on to play professionally in Sweden, where he eventually married.

His coaching responsibilities held him down until this year, the first time he hasn't been working since Challe arrived at OSU.

"I always feel more comfortable when my dad is around," Barton said.

See **BARTON** | page 6



VINAY BIKKINA | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Junior point guard Challe Barton (4) huddles up with teammates against Southern Illinois Edwardsville on Nov. 26. Barton traveled to Oregon State from his hometown of Goteborg, Sweden.



COURTESY OF DAVE NISHITANI

Senior Crystal Kibby competes in the 200-yard breaststroke against Stanford on Nov. 26. Kibby hopes to qualify for the NCAA Championships this season.

Kibby making lasting impact at OSU

■ Senior Crystal Kibby has had much success at OSU, looks to provide leadership this season

By Scott McReynolds
 THE DAILY BAROMETER

Despite growing up in 34 miles away from Corvallis in Turner, senior Crystal Kibby never considered a swimming career at Oregon State.

Not until she visited the school and swim team, that is. She liked the Oregon State community and the family-like atmosphere the swim team had, ultimately deciding to become a Beaver.

Kibby's four years at OSU have been full of success. She sits among the top five on Oregon State's all-time list for four events: 200-yard individual medley, 400-yard individual medley, 100-yard breaststroke and 200-yard breaststroke.

Kibby also swam at the 2012 Olympic trials for the 200 breaststroke, finishing 62nd out of 104 competitors, an accomplishment that she said she'll "never forget."

Despite her success, one achievement has eluded her grasp during her first three years: making the NCAA Championships.

The past two seasons — her sophomore and junior campaigns — her times have been a few seconds shy of qualifying to swim at the NCAA Championships.

Her most recent time of 2:15 in the 200 breaststroke Nov. 22 at the UNLV Fall Invite has given her hope of finally qualifying. Her times are close enough that she could make the cut with a little more improvement.

"She's worked really hard this year," said head coach Larry Liebowitz. "I'm really excited for where she's at."

Liebowitz believes Kibby has a good chance of breaking her 200 breaststroke personal record of 2:13.66 this year, a mark she hasn't topped since her sophomore year. Doing so would increase her chances of making the NCAA Championships.

Regardless of what happens the rest of the

See **KIBBY** | page 6

Overachieving no longer enough

THE DAILY BAROMETER

While reactions after Oregon State's one-point Civil War loss on Friday were mixed, many thought the Beavers overachieved and should be satisfied with the result.

For years the word "overachieve" has been synonymous with OSU head coach Mike Riley. Coaches and experts all around college football have said no one does more with the talent they're given.

That's a big reason people were satisfied with Friday's narrow defeat. Oregon was clearly the more talented team, and the Beavers showed resiliency after an embarrassing blowout the



Andrew Kilstrom

Started From The Bottom

week prior against Washington.

That individual game was justifiably worth being proud of.

While I don't dispute that reaction after Friday's game, I do question whether or not Beaver Nation should be satisfied with the current state of the program.

It's no secret there's a part of this fan base that is unhappy with the coach-

ing staff and overall direction of the program.

For years, Oregon State fans have largely been content with OSU's performance on a year-to-year basis, but that sentiment is changing. Fans have always accepted that Riley's working with limited resources. But at some point that excuse isn't enough.

At some point, you're no longer overachieving. If you're consistently doing better than expected, expectations change.

Consider the past eight seasons. From 2006-09 OSU finished with nine wins three times and eight wins in the other.

See **KILSTROM** | page 6



VINAY BIKKINA | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Head coach Mike Riley signals his offense to go for a two-point conversion against Oregon in Friday's Civil War loss.

Eggers: Mike Riley's second-day view of Civil War

By Kerry Eggers

PORTLAND TRIBUNE

CORVALLIS — Reflections after a Saturday morning conversation with Oregon State coach Mike Riley following the Beavers' 36-35 loss to Oregon Friday night ...

• Like me, Riley doesn't necessarily buy the theory that players bouncing or dancing on the sidelines means they are ready to play a football game. But the 22-point-underdog Beavers were dancing before and during the Civil War game, and they also played as if they were emotionally and physically prepared to win—more so, I would offer, than the 13th-ranked Ducks.

The comments Riley made to his players about their performance in the Washington game during practice last week are chronicled in my Civil War column. In addition, Riley told the players he wanted every one of them up and standing and into the game on the

sidelines.

"I told them, 'We're going to be in a stadium that is all pro-Oregon. We have to bring our own energy,'" Riley said. "And they did. I was proud of them for that."

Even so, Riley didn't know if the Beavers would show up after the Washington debacle.

"I wasn't sure," he said. "That game put some doubt in everybody's mind about, 'Who are we?'"

• Oregon State's normal protocol is to defer if it wins the pregame coin toss. The Beavers won and took the ball. When was the last time they did that?

"It was a long time ago," Riley said. "I just kind of finalized it in my mind that morning. I thought, 'What the heck, we've got to go for this. Let's take the ball and see what we can do with it right away.'"

The Beavers marched from their 26 to the Oregon 27, when on fourth-and-1, Sean Mannion's

pass for Brandin Cooks into double coverage was intercepted in the end zone.

Even so, it wasn't a three-and-out, and "it built some confidence that we were going to be able to move the ball OK," Riley said.

• Oregon's defense entered the game ranked fifth in the Pac-12 in rushing defense at 158.3 yards per game. The Beavers' 231 yards against the Ducks were the most they've had since rushing for 266 against Sacramento State in the 2011 opener.

OSU's season high was 120 yards versus Colorado.

Stanford and Arizona used a ball-control, run-oriented offense to beat Oregon, leading pundits to theorize the Ducks' run defense has gone sour the second half of the season.

"They are not a poor run defense team," Riley said. "Stats mean something this time of year, and they've been good. Our kids just executed. The interior five had an outstanding game

and the tight ends did a good job, too, which is something we'd been missing."

• Oregon State's defense had an odd stat. The Beavers had no sacks on UO quarterback Marcus Mariota but piled up nine tackles for loss, their most since getting 13 at San Diego State.

"That was big," Riley said. "(The Ducks) are so good offensively, as everyone knows. We made a lot of good plays behind the line of scrimmage that put them in tougher positions. It was

good to see."

• My view was that Mannion had his best game since OSU's last win — against California on Oct. 19. The junior quarterback was 29-for-47 passing for 314 yards and two touchdowns with one interception — the one in the end zone on the game's first possession. He was sacked twice but moved effectively in the pocket and did a solid job with decision-making.

"I agree," Riley said. "Sean was good. He hung in there against

pressure, and more often than not, he had some time to move around and make some plays. I was happy with the way he played."

• Terron Ward rambled for 145 yards on just 17 carries, one yard shy of his career high set against Arizona State last season. The 5-7, 200-pound junior — offered a scholarship by only Oregon State out of De La Salle High in Concord, Calif. — had 322 yards rushing this season going into the Civil War.

Ellsbury now a New York Yankee

THE MADRAS PIONEER

MADRAS — Madras' Jacoby Ellsbury is no longer a member of the Boston Red Sox.

Ellsbury, who won two World Series with the Sox, signed a seven-year, \$153 million contract Tuesday night with the New York Yankees.

All \$153 million is guaranteed in the contract, and the Yankees could exercise a team option for an eighth year, which would pay an additional \$16 million to Ellsbury.

The deal will become official once Ellsbury

passes a physical.

Yahoo! baseball writer Jeff Passan said that if the contract makes it to its eighth year, it will be the ninth-largest contract in American professional sports history.

After being called up in 2007, Ellsbury played with the Red Sox for seven seasons. He's nearly a .300 career hitter (.297/.350/.439) and he led the Majors in stolen bases three times, including this season with 52. He stole 70 bases in 2009.

KILSTROM

Continued from page 5

It looked like Oregon State had become a permanent fixture among the top of the conference.

Instead, OSU won just five games in 2010 and only three in 2009, missing a bowl game both years. Oregon State rebounded with nine wins last season, but won just six this year and might not be invited to a bowl game.

That four-year run from '06-'09 should have become the standard and what was expected. Instead, the program took a major step backwards while fans were largely patient.

Following nine wins in 2012, expectations were high once again before Oregon State disappointingly lost its last five contests.

It seems as though some fans are finally fed up, and they should be.

Riley has proven this program can compete for a conference championship. What he needs to do now is prove that he can do it consistently.

It's not unrealistic to think this program can play in a BCS game every few years. It's probably too much to ask Oregon State to ever reach the elite level the Ducks have, but an occasional conference championship or top-10 national finish isn't.

If the Beavers are good enough to consistently win eight to nine games, they'll inevitably break through for a conference championship at some point, which is enough for the majority of this fan base.

That's what this program should expect: consistently good seasons with occasional great ones.

A lot of those fans who have become fed up have questioned whether or not Riley is in fact the right man for the job.

While it's overstated and not enough of an excuse to justify mediocrity, Oregon State's limited resources in the recruiting department are a legitimate obstacle.

But with the amount of NFL players Riley has produced, he's proven he can get quality players to Corvallis, and his four seasons with nine wins show he can coach in the Pac-12.

He's undeniably capable.

And even if he isn't the perfect candidate, he's here to stay at Oregon State. His contract is guaranteed through 2019, and the \$1.4 million he makes annually is far less than worse coaches in college football. OSU won't sign a better coach for that same amount of money.

But that doesn't mean this program can't make changes to induce consistency.

One obvious change would be Riley's coaching staff.

Many have questioned defensive coordinator Mark Banker the past three seasons, specifically against spread offenses, and the lack of a run game this season has raised some eyebrows about the job offensive coordinator Danny Langsdorf has done.

Regardless of the problem, whether it's Riley's staff or something else entirely, there needs to be change. Oregon State can't continue to sputter and regress every time it takes a step forward.

Fans shouldn't feel pleased losing to their rival just because it was a close game. A loss is a loss, and a disappointing season is still disappointing even if the team tried hard and came close.

With the talent this Beaver squad returned from last season's team, there's no good reason for their poor performance down the stretch. If Riley rebounds with another eight-win season in 2014, I won't be surprised.

But that should be the standard and expectation at this point. Nine wins should no longer be considered "over-achieving" at Oregon State.

It should be considered the norm.

Andrew Kilstrom, sports editor

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KIBBY

Continued from page 5

way, Liebowitz said Kibby has made a lasting impact on the program.

"She's a constant source of leadership," he said. "She brings intensity not only to meets, but practice too. She's a perfect example of someone who leads by example."

Being one of Oregon State's primary leaders, Kibby knows she is a role model for the younger members of the team.

"I keep that in the back of my mind everyday," Kibby said. "I

know (the underclassmen) are watching."

Kibby picked up many of her habits from her coaching staff in high school.

At Cascade High School, she learned to always push to be better and to never be satisfied. It's something she's instilled in the rest of the team, Liebowitz said. As Kibby ends her career at Oregon State, she said she hopes that she will be able to leave the team with the same mentality that has promised her success at OSU.

She wants the team to remember to have fun, but to

always understand that swimming is what they have always been working for and appreciate each moment they have as swimmers.

While Kibby's personal accomplishments will forever be in OSU's record books, her main concern is that she helped improve the program as a whole.

"I hope that other girls come in and contribute more," Kibby said. "I hope they do better than I have done."

Scott McReynolds, sports reporter

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VINAY BIKKINA | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Junior point guard Challe Barton dribbles up the court against Southern Illinois Edwardsville on Nov. 26.

BARTON

Continued from page 5

"He's like my personal coach."

Just seeing his father was more important to the 21-year-old than having his father offer any coaching.

"I always talk (with him) about basketball over the phone anyways," Barton said. "It was just great to have my dad around. I'm not used to seeing him a lot; that was the most important thing for me."

The elder Barton was in Gill Coliseum for games against Concordia, Coppin State and Portland, taking a break from his coaching jobs that have included stops in Greece, Israel, Poland, Germany and Denmark.

His son has brought some Swedish flair to an OSU team that already has five other players from outside the U.S. Barton admits to cursing in Swedish during games.

"All the time," he said. "The team knows half of the words."

As for his playing talents, Barton is known as a distributor more than a scorer.

Though he plays 23.4 minutes per game, Barton has only attempted 14 field goals through the first five contests. He has connected on seven of those shots, including his 3-for-7 total on 3-pointers.

Head coach Craig Robinson is doing his best to establish Barton as a consistent scoring threat.

"He can do more out there," Robinson said. "He's been playing to not make mistakes ... we need him to take more risks."

Still, it has not been an easy task for Robinson

to change Barton's state of mind.

"He's playing to win the game solely; he doesn't care about the stats," Robinson said. "When the coaching staff says, 'Hey Challe, get up a couple of shots,' he's not going to do it unless he feels it's the right play to make."

At times, Robinson has even tried to force Barton to take more shots by making threats, albeit jokingly.

"(If he doesn't shoot more) I'm going to send him back to Goteborg," Robinson said.

Fellow guard Malcolm Duvivier knows Barton can be an effective scorer.

"He can shoot the ball," the freshman said. "He's just trying to set up his teammates, but that makes him more tentative."

While Barton's primary objectives are getting others involved and making the right play, even he admits he needs to shoot more at times.

"I've been coming out a little passive," Barton said. "I've been looking at my teammates too much and not myself, which could be good in some cases, but they'll be needing me to score."

Duvivier noted a change in Barton's play during practice on Tuesday.

"He came out on fire," he said.

"I probably took more shots than I have all year," Barton added. "That's a good start."

He won't have his father in attendance Saturday, but Barton and the rest of the team will attempt to bounce back from Sunday's loss to DePaul in a home matchup against Arkansas Pine Bluff.

Josh Worden, sports reporter

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Editorial

School rating system divides newsroom

President Barack Obama proposed a possible rating system for tertiary education institutions during a speech at the University of Buffalo in August. In this system, funding for public universities would be dependent on the rating they earn from the government.

The newsroom is divided. We all have many strong feelings on this topic, and haven't managed to come to a consensus.

The plan is radical, confusing, intricate and won't even begin to come into effect until 2015, if Congress passes the bill. The plan won't begin to affect funding until 2018.

The side of the newsroom who's pro this plan say it sounds like a good idea, because it would make schools earn their money and make funding dispersal from the government a meritocracy rather than a free-for-all. Federal funding would be based on affordability, accessibility to low-income students and the school's completion rates — how many students graduate with a degree.

The national average completion rate for universities right now is 58 percent.

The pro half of the newsroom believes that the meritocracy would reward good schools and good students. Earning their funding with more than just enrollment rates, which is what federal funding is mostly based on now, would also encourage the crappy schools to get better so they could earn higher ratings and better funding.

The other half of the newsroom is pretty cynical when it comes to the government's grand plans.

The cynical half argues that "No child left behind" also sounded good at the time.

The skeptics believe basing funding on completion rates will result in lower standards for graduation as schools grant more diplomas and make requirements easier to meet and diplomas worth less in the quest for more funding.

And finally, the cynics argue that the lesser schools won't get better if they're granted less money, because that's not how it works. Punishing the schools by taking away their funding will force them to cut back programs, departments and staff, as well as increase tuition and student fees to replace the withdrawn fees, making the burden fall on the student body.

The topic concerns us as students, but it's not going to affect us. Partly because we'll be official grown-ups by the time it comes into effect, but also because as a land-, sea-, space- and sun-grant university, OSU already gets a lot federal funding that this new rating system likely won't affect.

The great divide over this topic is pretty much what we expected from our newsroom.

Either way, both sides of our debate know our school is worth the grants and federal funding we already have, and we don't want to lose them.

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People too different for universal study method

I remember when I was living in the dorms and "Quiet Hours" came into effect during dead week and finals week. I liked the idea initially — an allotted amount of time in which everyone respected that everyone else was going to be busy and needed to focus.

But after the first few days, a few other floor members and I started to lose our minds.

People have different studying styles. One is no better than the rest, and there is no one-size-fits-all deal.

Substantiating the idea that folks study differently, the Advising and Learning Assistance Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute of New York says that students need

to find the study environment most conducive and complementary to them.

Conversely, Chadron State College in Nebraska sticks to a solid list of old-school study techniques on its website, filled with suggestions for success.

These include studying only at your desk and keeping a steady schedule in a quiet, distraction-free environment.

It also disregards the concept of waiting for inspiration to strike and

makes a comparison that if athletes were to use the same logic before a game and "not practice," they would not succeed.

This is where I disagree with Chadron. Although academics and athletics do have some things in common, to say that the successful strategies in athletics will do the same thing in academics every time and for everyone is a very broad generalization.

I won't deny that the list of suggestions is a good starting place.

But it won't work for everyone.

Being an active procrastinator, waiting for those moments of inspiration or last-minute panic to strike are what I live for.

In Chadron's book, that makes my study sessions unhealthy and

unhelpful. According to them, I should force myself to sit down and study for 30 minutes a day every day like a good plebe.

But it wouldn't work for me.

You have to pick the options you know are going to work for you. At this point in the college game, I bet you have some ideas about what those are.

So if you have to lock yourself alone in a room, talk to yourself, sing along to your Pandora Christmas station, watch TV or have it pin-drop silent, do what works for you and respect others who might differ in study habits.

Cassie Ruud is a junior in English. The opinions expressed in Ruud's columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Ruud can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

Cassie Ruud



Unhealthy study habits spell success during dead week

During this special time — dead week — students are turning to anything that will give them a jolt of energy or more time to get through the next week and a half: coffee, energy drinks, caffeinated soda, dreaded all-nighters.

At this point, selling our souls to buy a few extra hours to study doesn't seem crazy.

Some people bemoan energy drink consumption, prophesying that a slow, unhealthy death will befall anyone who relies on such beverages for

energy. This fear stems primarily from the canned drinks with bright promises like, "jump higher, run faster," with ingredients we can't pronounce but are advertised like they and their effects are common knowledge.

"Caffeine is a safe ingredient and is consumed every day in a wide variety of foods and beverages," according to a press release from the American Beverage Association.

Caffeine stimulates the nerve cells in the brain, making you feel awake

and ready to study.

But as with anything, excess is where we take a good thing and make it harmful.

A healthy amount of caffeine for young adults is 100 milligrams,

according to a report by HealthDaily News.

So it makes sense to be cautious of drinks such as Monster and Red Bull, which have an average of 160 milligrams of caffeine in them, especially since energy drinks have been tied to a risk of increased heart contraction rate, according to a study by German researchers reported on WebMD.

The amount of caffeine in energy drinks isn't shocking — not until you consider how many caffeinated beverages you consume on an average day, let alone during a stressful week when the large quantity of tasks is not proportionate to the number of waking hours you have to accomplish them.

But if you think caffeine is going to solve your pesky need for sleep in the event of an all-nighter, you're going to be disappointed.

It doesn't matter how many cups of coffee you sip on or how many Five Hour Energy shots you shoot, the all-nighter will still suck the life out of you — and it will do it in the most emotionally draining way possible.

I cannot express to you enough how important sleep is for your body.

Sleep helps you fight diseases, bacteria and viruses by strengthening your immune system. It aids your creative and cognitive thinking, and it improves your attitude. Students are more likely to feel stressed out when losing sleep, according to the University of Georgia's Health Center website.

The killer is that an all-nighter might be your only option to get things done.

If you're like me, you have jobs and other commitments that demand your time, which mean sometimes night time and the wee hours of the morning are all you have.

College doesn't teach us how to create extra time out of thin air — this isn't Hogwarts.

So, we have to borrow time from other commitments.

The thing is, caffeine isn't bad. Neither is losing a little sleep from time to time. What we have to be careful about is doing things in excess.

If you can, push through and get your stuff done in the time you have — which sometimes has to be at night when your brain is slower and your propensity for strangling interrupting interrupters is heightened.

After all, this is a time where pushing through becomes not only an accepted mindset, but a necessity in reaching the shiny prize: graduation.

Gabi Scottaline is a senior in English. The opinions expressed in Scottaline's columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Scottaline can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

Gabi Scottaline



At Random by Ryan Mason



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RYAN MASON IS A JUNIOR IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

Sandy Hook massacre computer game sparks outrage

By Christine Pitawanich
KOB1-TV

MEDFORD — Shocking, disgusting and outrageous. Those are words many people are using to describe a new controversial computer game that allows people to reenact the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre in Newtown, Conn. Some people are even calling for it to be taken down because of its offensive and insensitive nature.

"The slaying of Sandy Hook Elementary"
The game is available free online but has reportedly been taken down off various websites due to complaints.

It starts off like this: instructing the player to grab a gun, walk into the next room then shoot and kill their sleeping mother.

"I'm appalled by that," said Medford resident, Curtis Lewis.

"That's horrible! Why would anyone glorify that sort of behavior?" asked Paula Baca who lives in Ashland.

But it doesn't end there. The rest of the game directs players in the footsteps of Adam Lanza. He's the man police say massacred 26 people at Sandy Hook Elementary last year...20 of them, children. Then Lanza turned the gun on himself.

"That's horrifying, there's not way they should allow that game," said Baca.

"I think it's a sin and a shame," said Lewis.

"It shows how far we've fallen as a culture. I think it's definitely sad," said Medford resident Jared Foy.

Game creator attempts gun control message

However, in what some would call an odd twist, the creator of the game — in an audio recording on the game's website — encourages players to contact representatives in order to enact stricter gun control laws.

"Here we are nearly a year after the Sandy Hook shootings ... and absolutely nothing positive has come out of it," said the game's creator Ryan Jake Lambourn.

Lambourn says he grew up in Houston, Texas. In 2001 he moved to Sydney, Australia where he said there's an emphasis on gun control after a 1996 mass shooting.

"Back in America though, all these massacres don't seem to have any similar effects on regulation," he said.

"If you're a middle-of-the-road person who believes firearms should at least have the same amount of safety regulations as a car, then it's really on you because your absolute apathy is why the news is unbearable to watch," continued Lambourn.

A message lost in translation?
However, to get to the information where Lambourn encourages people to contact their representatives, players must first click a button in the top right corner of the screen. It's something players may not do.

"I would say it would be highly problematic because if the message is lost and these individuals don't even get to the point of seeing the message," began Dr. Eric Morrell who works as a forensic psychologist.

"What they will take home is the experience of going up, shooting one's mother, seeing blood and then going and killing children. That's almost so outrageous that it's hardly worth commentary."

He said a big concern is the idea of modeling. When a child or adolescent sees violence and start taking on similar behaviors. Another potential problem society's constant consumption of violence.

"I think the big problem is if we don't develop a sense of

conscience that when you strip away things that ... allow us to have natural shock reactions and they're not there anymore, then we really don't have too much more to rely upon in terms of developing a sense of conscience or having brakes put on destructive and killing behavior," said Morrell.

Meanwhile, many people are skeptical about Lambourn's message that seems to have been lost in translation.

"How can you be for gun control when you're glorifying killing people?" asked Baca.

Other people we spoke with said they don't think the people who decide to play the game care about a message promoting gun control.

It's been reported that Adam Lanza was known to have played a similar computer game called "School Shooting."

How can you be for gun control when you're glorifying killing people?

Paula Baca
Ashland resident



E.J. HARRIS | EAST OREGONIAN

Mary Kligel holds a photograph of her son, Rodney Halladay, who committed suicide in 1992.

A mother's memory

By Kathy Aney
EAST OREGONIAN

PENDLETON — Shortly after her son's suicide, Mary Kligel pushed her grief aside and created Pendleton's memory tree. Now, 20 years later, Kligel says this year is the tree's last.

In 1992, Rodney Halladay, 24, shocked family and friends to the core by taking his own life. The young man — a joker who loved to hunt and fish — seemed happy. His funny stories often brought his mom to tears of mirth.

"He was just Rodney," Kligel said. "His great big smile was warming and he had a big heart."

One August morning, Kligel found Rodney dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound at their home. Blindsided and grief-stricken, Kligel couldn't find the energy or motivation for Christmas shopping that year. She and her daughter drove to Walla Walla to try and jumpstart their holiday spirit by looking at lights and displays. As they strolled along a street, they noticed a memory tree, lit with lights honoring people who had died. They purchased two in honor of Rodney, the proceeds supporting Walla Walla's hospice organization.

"It made me feel I wasn't forgetting him," Kligel said. "He was still part of our lives."

Kligel found herself dreaming about starting a memory tree in Pendleton. She created the Light Up A Light Community Memory Tree in honor of Rodney. The idea is fairly simple — people remember those they have lost by purchasing symbolic lights to hang on a tree (in early years at the Pendleton Public Library). The person's name goes into a memory book. Participants honor their loved ones by saying their name aloud during a candle lighting ceremony that

includes music and a short speech.

Kligel funnels all proceeds directly into a local cause. For the first 10 years, St. Anthony Hospital's hospice program received more than \$32,000 from the project. In the last decade, about \$16,000 went to parents of terminally ill children, families of soldiers who died in combat, as well as a National Guard support group and other recipients. This year, proceeds go to Hannah and Vito Crivellone, parents of a premature baby who weighed one pound at birth.

Kligel is tired now, though, and her volunteer help is waning. It all takes energy, she said, selling the lights, approaching merchants for donations, hauling out and packing up the tree, finding entertainment and a speaker for the candlelight ceremony.

"It's time," she said. "I can feel it in my body."

Dean Muilenburg, of Pilot Rock, has attended the ceremony all 20 years of its existence. That first year, he and his wife Geraldine had just lost their son Tom. Saying Tom's name aloud and symbolizing him with a light was a comfort. Muilenburg's wife died in 1999 and his girlfriend Dena Buckley in 2011. "I just kept going back," he said of Kligel's event.

Muilenburg said he finds the ceremony cathartic and said Kligel keeps a box of tissue handy.

"If you start to cry," he said, "nobody laughs at you."

Kligel understands this monster called grief. She ran a grief support group and visited families stunned by suicide until she couldn't do it anymore.

"It was dredging up too much of my pain," she said. "I couldn't move forward."

The memory tree was different, though, giving people a way to honor, remember and

say their loved ones' names aloud.

"It's almost a hunger to hear the names," Kligel said. "You feel like they're not forgotten."

The memory tree project hit a few bumps in the two decades of its existence. In 2004, a library patron complained about four angels (all carved by Eastern Oregon Correctional Institution inmates) that stood guard around the tree. The angelic quartet was evicted, though the angels could still attend the after-hours candlelight ceremony.

In 2008, Kligel's display moved from the library to a small alcove on the second floor by the mayor's office. In 2009, the angels were banned from even a cameo appearance when then-City Manager Larry Lehman said the city had to be cautious about mixing religion and government. "We're trying to walk a fine line," he said at the time.

Participants are finding it hard to watch the tree's lights fade away. People have contacted Kligel to beg her to continue. Kligel, though occasionally emotional, holds fast, expressing gratitude to the community whenever she can. "I would like to thank everyone for their support and help for these 20 years," she said.

Todd Kligel was 10 when he lost Rodney, the "older brother who watched over me." The Memory Tree became a family tradition after his mother came up with the idea and nurtured it for 20 years.

He dares to hope that an individual or group will adopt the project. "The community support has been awesome," he said.

Volunteer and friend Becky Robinson praised Kligel's successful two-decade run. "She was very dedicated to the program all these years," Robinson said. "She saw a need."

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Oregon adopts new rules to slow rise of health care costs

By Kristian Foden-Vencil
OREGON PUBLIC BROADCASTING

PORTLAND — The state of Oregon has adopted new rules aimed at slowing the rise of health care costs.

New Oregon Health Policy Board rules require that insurance companies better justify increases in their premiums.

Particularly, the companies will be required to show how they're boosting preventive care, that keep customers healthy, and quantify their progress towards holding down costs.

Jesse O'Brien, with the consumer group OSPIRG, says he's excited to learn how successful insurance company prevention efforts really are.

"The idea is that they'll be required to provide some hard data about the results of what they're doing," she said.

The Oregon Insurance Division began holding public hearings in 2011 on significant rate increase requests.

OSPIRG estimates those efforts have saved consumers about \$155 million.