



# IN MARTIN'S FINAL YEAR, BEAVERS ON VERGE OF NCAA TOURNAMENT

SPORTS, PAGE 5

Corvallis' Kevin Gregg seeks MLB gig  
Sports, page 5

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

CORVALLIS, OREGON 97331

# The Daily Barometer

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## Making access, inclusivity a priority

Recreational sports, special programs work together to provide best physical fitness experience for all students

By **Tori Hittner**

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Not every student may be able to run down a field, see a basketball hoop, or hear a whistle, but thanks to the efforts of campus recreational sports and special programs, every Oregon State University student may soon have the opportunity to stay active in an intramural sports.

"We're open to everybody here, and I think that's one of the cool things about what we do," said Kyle Urban, a graduate assistant within the special programs department. "We're really trying to hit every group on campus, every individual, to get them through the door of Dixon

See **FITNESS** | page 3

# Determining a forest's value

OSU researchers strive to verify Aerial LiDAR findings with extensive manual sampling in Deschutes National Forest

By **Dacotah-Victoria Splichalova**

THE DAILY BAROMETER

You're climbing an eight-meter scaffold. It's shaking. You're scared of heights. Your knees are weak. Looking down, you see a clear view of the volcanic soiled forest floor. It's far away. With a 20-foot pole saw in hand, this is how researcher Adam Burke begins his day — with hopes of validating Aerial Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) of lodgepole pines.

Adam Burke, a master's student in the forest engineering and resource management program at Oregon State University, is analyzing the effectiveness of the measurements of Aerial LiDAR for the lodgepole pines that grow near Mt. Bachelor.

Aerial LiDAR is a big radar machine attached to an airplane, which sends pulses of light below it as it flies over a certain area of forest. Aerial LiDAR measures and picks up the volume of tree canopies. From the data collected, a map of the total volume of trees within a given area is then generated.

Burke seeks to understand how much biomass — aka, stuff — is truly represented within the lodgepole pine forest, due to the odd system in which it is located.

Lacking organic matter and essential nutrients, the volcanic soil on the Pumice Plateau located high above in the Deschutes National Forest offers a unique and difficult system for trees to grow. Surrounded by volcanic ash that has been turned into rock, the lodgepole pine is a species of tree with much resilience that has forced it way into being the climax species in the area.

See **LIDAR** | page 4



Alex Wick (top) and Tyler Spevacek (bottom) conduct lodgepole pine sampling from scaffolding on a rainy day in the Deschutes National Forest.

COURTESY OF ADAM BURKE



COURTESY OF GERDING COMPANIES, INC.

A plan of The Jax apartments, which are set to open on First Street between Monroe Avenue and Jackson Avenue in mid-to-late August.

## Upscale apartments coming to downtown

The Jax apartment complex on First Street to open in August

By **Emma-Kate Schaaqe**

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Gerding Builders is constructing a new mixed-use building in downtown Corvallis, which will be aimed at fine downtown living.

Construction began on The Jax apartments in the fall of 2013 after almost two years of planning. The project is expected to be finished and move-in ready by mid-to-late August.

There will be 27 one-, two- and three-bedroom units spread across three residential floors, with an additional ground floor for commercial space.

"The location was zoned for the mixed-use component, so we wanted to take advantage of that," said Tom

Gerding, owner of Gerding Companies.

The commercial spaces are in negotiations but have yet to be finalized.

"There is nothing in contract yet, but that should be filling up quickly," said Michelle Goodrick, Gerding's business development manager.

The apartments will be located on First Street, between Monroe Avenue and Jackson Avenue. The convenient location near local restaurants and downtown business was a large draw for the company's initial plan.

"There is a definite appeal for it being right there, living in downtown, overlooking the river and in close proximity to wonderful restaurants," Goodrick said.

This style of downtown living, akin to areas in larger cities like Portland, has generated interest from a wide range of people. Gerding has heard from retired

couples, people moving to town and some students hoping to move in when the units are ready.

However, because these apartments will be in a brand-new building, in a prime downtown location, they may not be feasible for a typical student's budget.

"They are considered upscale living apartments," Goodrick said.

In 2007, upscale condos were built by a separate company, located on First Street where it intersects with Washington Avenue. These units aimed to utilize the waterfront view and downtown businesses like The Jax plans to do with its rental apartments.

"I don't believe there are any other apartments comparable in town," Goodrick said.

Emma-Kate Schaaqe  
City reporter  
managing@dailybarometer.com

## HECC to discuss free community college tuition

Degree partnership program remains strong as free community college tuition becomes part of conversation

By **Sean Bassinger**

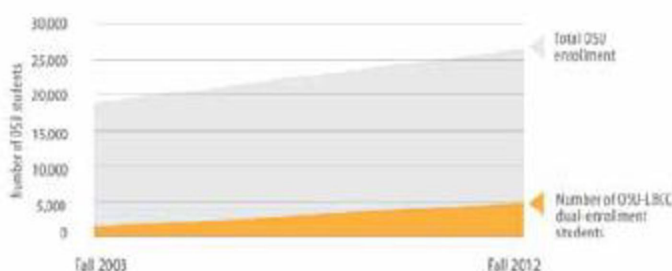
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Future changes in how students pay for community college tuition could affect costs and enrollment rates for students who dual-enroll.

Senate Bill 1524, which passed the Oregon Legislature Tuesday, will allow the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to discuss the possibility of free community college tuition. The

See **HECC** | page 4

### OSU-LBCC dual enrollment



There was a 235 percent statewide increase in dual enrollment over the past nine years, a larger increase ratio than the total student population

Source: OSU Office of Institutional Research

Image by Alex Splichalova, The Daily Barometer

## Football team makes unlikely friend

OSU Mars Rover drives over entire Beaver football team

By **Kaitlyn Kohlenberg**

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Wednesday morning, just after 7 a.m., the Oregon State University football team lay across the floors of the Merritt Truax Indoor Center. They were waiting for the OSU Mars Rover to drive over them.

In preparation, the football team lay side-by-side on their stomachs so the rover would have a clear path down the indoor field. As the rover went over team members, they got up and ran to the end of the line so the rover would have a human path across the entire field.

"Actually, it was pretty comfortable," said Malik Gilmore, a sophomore wide receiver who is studying business and marketing. "The wheels are nice and soft and everything, but it was fun, it was definitely fun."

The event was a break from daily routines.

The curious occurrence brought together two dissimilar teams, pairing the OSU Beavers football team and the OSU Mars Rover team.

"Our goal is just to show that science and football and athletics can work together," said Virginia Tat, a sophomore on the Mars Rover team. "We did this a couple years ago, about three years ago, and we just

See **MARS ROVER** | page 4

# The Daily Barometer

Newsroom:  
541-737-3191

Business:  
541-737-2233

Memorial Union East 106  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, OR 97331-1617

Find Us Here...



NEWS TIPS • 541-737-3383

FAX • 541-737-4999

E-MAIL • NEWS TIPS

news@dailybarometer.com

Contact an editor

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
WARNER STRAUSBAUGH  
541-737-3191  
editor@dailybarometer.com

**MANAGING and NEWS EDITOR**  
MEGAN CAMPBELL  
541-737-3383  
managing@dailybarometer.com

**FORUM and A&E EDITOR**  
IRENE DRAGE  
forum@dailybarometer.com

**SPORTS EDITOR**  
ANDREW KILSTROM  
sports@dailybarometer.com

**ONLINE EDITOR**  
SHELLY LORTS  
webmaster@dailybarometer.com

**GRAPHICS EDITOR**  
ALYSSA JOHNSON

**To place an ad**  
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**KYLEE ESPARZA**  
db4@oregonstate.edu

**BRADLEY FALLON**  
db5@oregonstate.edu

**JESSICA BARZLER**  
db6@oregonstate.edu

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
541-737-6372

**PRODUCTION**  
baro.production@oregonstate.edu

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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.

dailybarometer.com

Monday, February 3

**Take that, you perfect yard**

Someone reported criminal mischief and theft had occurred in their front yard. The previous night, an unknown person had allegedly thrown several trash cans around the yard. The victim also told Corvallis police that the thief took the quick-release seat off his bike and threw the rest of the bike parts around the yard.

Monday, February 10

**Self-checkout surprise**

Corvallis police responded to the Wal-Mart on Ninth Street for a report of found property. Employees found a plastic bag full of a white powder near a self-checkout stand. Authorities identified it as methamphetamine after a positive field test. A white female was seen dropping the bag at 6:35 p.m. and photos of the suspect are being distributed for

Monday, February 10

**Self-checkout surprise**

identification.

Friday, February 14

**One way to interpret conflict resolution**

A 21-year-old male and 20-year-old female visited the Corvallis Police Department after being involved in a fight. The two explained the male had allegedly taken the female's phone, until she deleted information off the phone. He also threatened to send risqué photos of her to her family back home. According to police logs, the female bit the male on

Friday, February 14

**One way to interpret conflict resolution**

the arm and slapped him in response. The male tried to choke the female and poke her eye in self-defense. At the police station, neither wanted each other arrested, but the phone was returned.

Saturday, February 22

**The Chihuahua conflict**

Benton County sheriffs reported to a disturbance on Granger Avenue. A female said two individuals were allegedly on her property, demanding she hand over her male Chihuahua. The two intruders explained to authorities they were representatives of the rescue organization that placed the dog in the woman's care, but that the proper fencing regulations weren't followed and she needed to give it back. Eventually, the woman calmed down and invited the representatives into her home to talk about the issue.

managing@dailybarometer.com

## 2 jailed for shooting man in Hermiston

By Phil Wright

EAST OREGONIAN

eastoregonian.com

HERMISTON — Two men are in jail in connection to shooting a man in the back late Friday night outside Hermiston, the Umatilla County Sheriff's reported.

"It's a case we're still investigating," Sheriff Terry Rowan said. "They are a number of people we are trying to locate."

David Leon Colbray, 25, showed up shortly before midnight Friday at the Hermiston Police Department with an apparent gunshot wound to the back. He was with Vanessa Dunmeyer, 22, of Hermiston.

Hermiston Fire and Emergency services responded and transported Colbray to Good Shepherd Medical Center for treatment. Sheriff's deputies questioned Dunmeyer, who said the shooting occurred on Northeast 10th Street near Theater Lane, outside the city limits and in the jurisdiction of the sheriff's office.

Rowan said Dunmeyer told investigators she and Colbray left Stockmans Steakhouse, 1530 N. First St., Hermiston, and headed toward Vista Trailer Park, 1800 N.E. 10th St. Hermiston, when she noticed her jacket was missing. Colbray drove past the entrance of Vista to Theater Lane, tried to turn around and found a white four-door car blocking the way.

Jerome Martel Price, 28, Javier Noe Martinez, 23, and Otelia Lucinda Ramirez, 23, all of Hermiston, got out of the car and confronted Colbray and Dunmeyer, Rowan said.

Dunmeyer and Ramirez had "some issues" with each other, Rowan said. Ramirez then tried to get inside Colbray and Dunmeyer's vehicle.

Price took items belonging to Colbray during the confrontation, Rowan said, and Dunmeyer told police she saw Martinez come to the driver's side of the vehicle and brandish a firearm.

Colbray reversed and made an escape, Rowan said, and

Martinez shot at the fleeing car. One bullet struck Colbray in the center of his back, according to the sheriff.

Good Shepherd Medical Center treated and released Colbray. He posted a photo of the wound on his Facebook Page. The bullet broke the skin and left a small hole.

Colbray told the East Oregonian that Dunmeyer was his friend, but she then left for Boise. He claimed he did not know who shot him and said he felt lucky to be alive.

Deputies found Price on Monday and booked him into the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton, on a parole violation, and later found Martinez and arrested him for first-degree assault.

Martinez is a gang member, and others involved have gang affiliations, police sources reported. Rowan said while this has the look of a gang-related case, the spark came from conflict between Dunmeyer and Ramirez.

## Deschutes home price jumps in nation's top 10

By Femi Abebefe and John Hendricks

KTVZ

BEND — New federal numbers out this week show the Bend metro area had the nation's 10th-fastest jump in home prices last year, at nearly 21 percent — close to three times as fast as the rest of the country.

But a look at the five-year figures from the Federal Housing Finance Agency still shows the impacts of the recent recession, as Bend's home prices are still down nearly 8.5 percent from 2008 levels.

Nationally, house prices rose 7.7 percent in 2013 and 1.2 percent in the fourth quarter, the agency said, the 10th straight quarterly rise in the purchase-only, seasonally adjusted House Price Index.

Topping the list for year-to-year home-price growth was Modesto, Calif., at 28.5 percent, followed by three other California communities — Stockton-Lodi (nearly 27 percent), Vallejo-Fairfield (nearly 25 percent) and Merced (also nearly 25 percent).

Las Vegas-Henderson-Paradise, Nevada rounds out the top five, at 24.65 percent home price appreciation in 2013. California has 15 of the top 20 spots.

"Home price appreciation in the fourth quarter was considerable, but more modest than in recent periods," said FHFA Principal Economist Andrew Leventis. "It is too early to know whether the lower quarterly growth rate represents the beginning of more normalized price appreciation patterns or a more significant slowdown."

The HPI is calculated using home sales price information from mortgages sold to, or guaranteed by, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

## Multimillion dollar ballot fight avoided?

By Kristian Foden-Vencil

OREGON PUBLIC BROADCASTING

PORTLAND — Oregon may have just avoided a multimillion dollar health care battle.

Governor John Kitzhaber announced last week that the Service Employees International Union would drop five ballot measures — and instead sit down for talks with the state's biggest health systems: Legacy, Providence, Kaiser and PeaceHealth.

Here's what those ballot measures might have done and what the various parties are now hoping to get from the talks.

For anyone who's wrestled to understand a hospital bill, or find the best local hospital, the ballot measures might have been appealing.

Meg Niemi is the president of SEIU local 49, which has thousands of members working in the health care sector. She says one measure would have made it easier to shop for health care.

"So what would be the difference to get some stitches at a Providence versus a Legacy ER versus a PeaceHealth ER. Actually what's the difference in cost," she said.

Another measure would have dealt with quality.

"So how do you as a patient or consumer be able to evaluate and say which hospital is going to give me the highest quality of care. I'm going to have the best chance of recovery for this surgery, the best outcomes and right now that data is not available to consumers," said Niemi.

There is some information available. But it's difficult to both find and to understand.

Another ballot measure would have pinned down the amount of charity care hospitals have to provide. Most Oregon hospitals are non-profit, so in exchange for not having to pay various taxes they offer care to those who can't afford to pay.

"We think that hospitals should have a base amount of charity care they need

Martinez and Price have criminal histories that go back several years, according to Umatilla County state court records.

Price has convictions in the past 12 months for possession of methamphetamine, first-degree theft and felon in possession of a weapon.

Martinez faced an attempted murder charge in a 2007 case and made a deal to plead guilty to second-degree assault. He also has convictions for vehicle theft and has a case pending for trying to outrun police in a vehicle, recklessly endangering another and related charges.

Court records also show Colbray has a 2010 conviction for misdemeanor assault, which he got in a plea deal, and Dunmeyer has a 2013 conviction for misdemeanor assault and criminal mischief.

State courts records show Ramirez has no criminal convictions in Umatilla County. Deputies are looking for her, Rowan said.

# Calendar

Thursday, Feb. 27

**Meetings**

**Baha'i Campus Association,** 12:30pm, MU Talisman Room. Soul, Spirit and Mind - A discussion.

**Speakers**

**College of Forestry,** 3:30-5pm, Richardson Hall 107. 2014 Starker Lecture Series - Working Forests Across the Landscape. "A Luxuriant Landscape: Oregon's working forest landscapes, an ecological perspective" - Tom Spies, Research Forester, USDA Forest Service, PNW Research Station.

**Events**

**Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center,** 5-6:30pm, Snell 427. Come and play a game of Jeopardy based off of Black History.

**Campus Crusade for Christ,** 7pm, MU Lounge. Ask Me Anything: OSU professors and local pastors answer your questions on God, faith and Christianity. All are invited to come and ask questions.

**Women's Center & Etihad Cultural Center,** 8-9pm, Women's Center. International Women's Social. Celebrate the upcoming International Women's Day. We will provide dessert and activities.

Friday, Feb. 28

**Meetings**

**Educational Activities Committee,** 11am-12:30pm, MU 207. Meeting.

**Events**

**Women's Center,** Noon-1pm, Women's Center. Voices is a CAPS sponsored support group for OSU women. This confidential drop-in group is designed to be a safe place to offer and receive support and information surrounding a variety of concerns related to interpersonal/sexual violence and harassment.

Saturday, Mar. 1

**Events**

**Coalition for Community Dialogue,** 10am-4pm, MU 211. Winter Training: Exploring Systems of Oppression. This training will guide participants through an examination of these systems and their impact, as well as provide a space to envision modes of resistance. Free, RSVP required.

Sunday, Mar. 2

**Events**

**Omani Students Association (OSA),** 6-8pm, MU Ballroom. Omani Night (Cultural Night).

Monday, Mar. 3

**Meetings**

**Campus Recycling,** 5:30-6:30pm, Student Sustainability Center. Waste Watchers Weekly Meetings - Come learn about volunteer opportunities and help plan waste reduction events and outreach around campus.

**Events**

**Women's Center,** 3-5pm, MU Lounge. History Reception. Come learn and celebrate how far women have come & how far we want to go. Come enjoy the celebration & activities.

Wednesday, Mar. 5

**Meetings**

**OSU College Republicans,** 7pm, Gilkey 113. Join us for discussion of club and current events. Come have fun with like-minded people.

Thursday, Mar. 6

**Meetings**

**Baha'i Campus Association,** 12:30pm, MU Talisman Room. The Causes of the Difference in the Character of Human Beings - A discussion.

**Events**

**Women's Center,** Noon-1pm, Women's Center. Mental Wellness Series. Join us and learn how to manage depression and anxiety during stressful times.

Friday, Mar. 7

**Events**

**Women's Center,** 1-2pm, Women's Center. SANE Program. Susan Keister and Kelly Kendall from SANE and Judy Neighbors will present in collaboration with the Women's Center on the SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) Services at SHS and other services for sexual assault survivors offered through SASS.

**Women's Center,** Noon-1pm, Women's Center. Voices is a CAPS sponsored support group for OSU women. This confidential drop-in group is designed to be a safe place to offer and receive support and information surrounding a variety of concerns related to interpersonal/sexual violence and harassment.

Monday, Mar. 10

**Events**

**Corvallis Science Pub,** 6-8pm, Old World Deli, 341 SW 2nd St. The Science of Skin. Speaker: Anup Indra, OSU College of Pharmacy.

Wednesday, Mar. 12

**Meetings**

**Campus Recycling,** 5:30-6:30pm, Student Sustainability Center. Waste Watchers Weekly Meetings - Come learn about volunteer opportunities and help plan waste reduction events and outreach around campus.

**OSU College Republicans,** 7pm, Gilkey 113. Join us for discussion of club and current events. Come have fun with like-minded people.

# Proposed 86-mile trail to Oregon Coast has momentum

By Doug Burkhardt  
PAMPLIN MEDIA GROUP

PORTLAND — A proposal to turn 86 miles of a railroad corridor between Banks in Washington County to Tillamook in Tillamook County, crossing the Coast Range on the way.

Rocky Houston, state trails coordinator for Oregon State Parks, said the state hopes to adopt the master plan for the proposed trail in November.

The railroad line, owned by the Port of Tillamook Bay

“Salmonberry Corridor” to understand “opportunities and constraints” involved in developing a trail that would stretch from Banks in Washington County to Tillamook in Tillamook County, crossing the Coast Range on the way.

Rocky Houston, state trails coordinator for Oregon State Parks, said the state hopes to adopt the master plan for the proposed trail in November.

The railroad line, owned by the Port of Tillamook Bay

Railroad, was knocked out of commission in December 2007 when flooding and mudslides hit the area. The price tag to fix the route, which had been in use since 1911, was too much for the railroad’s owners to justify.

“It was \$60 million to rebuild the line,” Houston said. “It was not considered worth the massive investment.”

Bicycle advocacy group Cycle Oregon has provided a \$100,000 grant for the state to study the

trail.

State Sen. Betsy Johnson, who represents parts of Washington County and Tillamook County, said she is supportive of the trail idea but wants to be sure the public is given ample opportunities to give their opinions.

“These kinds of planning exercises take forever, and we’re intentionally trying to be very inclusive in hearing people’s concerns,” Johnson said.

Skeptics at a recent meeting about the proposal in Banks

were not swayed by Houston’s contention the meetings were designed to hear the perspectives of local citizens.

“You’re still wasting time and money on this,” said one trail opponent. “There’s a difference between hearing and listening.” But the Legislature appears to be getting on board with the trail proposal.

Senate Bill 1516, currently under consideration in Salem, specifically requires development of a plan for a trail in the Salmonberry Corridor.

“There is no money in the bill. It’s primarily a planning bill,” said Johnson. “It establishes legislative intent, saying, ‘go forth and plan.’ It’s a legislative statement saying ‘yes, we think this is a good project.’ And yes, I’m very supportive of it.”

Johnson added that she expects SB 1516 to be approved soon.

“I do expect it to move this session,” she said.

Houston said studies show that a trail to the coast would increase tourism, bring in a different clientele to spend money locally, and spawn new businesses.

“Where there is a trail in place, new development occurs,” said Houston.

Further, a trail could increase public safety by removing bicyclists from the highways to the coast.

But some property owners along the corridor said they did not want to lose the privacy and seclusion that brought them to the area.

“I came to Banks to get away from this crap,” said one speaker at the meeting.

Houston said the trail to the coast would be a critical connection to link trails in the Portland metro area with trails along the coast.

“Our goal for the next couple of weeks is to start getting feedback and review concepts and assessments,” Houston said.

## FITNESS

Continued from page 1

(Recreation Center) and get them into an intramural program, if at all possible.”

Urban, a graduate student studying sport and exercise psychology, recently brought the department’s inclusive philosophy to life when he and his team helped create a wheelchair basketball intramural league.

Debuting last fall, the wheelchair basketball league was an immense success, garnering at least 12 teams and more than 100 total participants.

“It’s really neat to see folks out there that we wouldn’t normally see really enjoying themselves and feeling comfortable and at home in our program,” Urban said.

The project stemmed from grants given to the now-inactive campus wheelchair basketball club. As the club began to dissolve, recreational sports maintained jurisdiction over the funding and used it to purchase six new wheelchairs to expand the club into a campus-wide league.

Urban said the positive response pushed him and his team to apply for another grant to expand the league further and maintain proper upkeep of the wheelchairs, which can be expensive.

“There’s cost associated, but it’s totally worth it in the end if we can get individuals that wouldn’t normally participate in our programs out there and having a good time,” Urban said.

Although only one such inclusive intramural program currently exists, Urban and his team remains hopeful that the department will eventually be able to increase its offerings. Among other possible additions are wheelchair soccer and tennis, as well as goalball, a sport specifically designed for blind athletes.

“Participating in a sport designed for individuals with disabilities gives people a better perspective,” Urban said. “It really gives them an appreciation for diversity that you really can’t get in a lot of other sports that we currently offer.”

Bill Callender, associate director of facilities and risk management for recreational sports, agreed that a major departmental goal was to try to get everybody involved across campus. As a facilities director, Callender tries to ensure that campus recreational centers are easily accessible and usable for all students.

Although Callender and his team will not know exactly where improvement is most needed until they’ve seen the results from a campus-wide internal accessibility evaluation, some minor changes to Dixon have already improved the feasibility of the space.

Recently, a lift and new railings were added to the hot tub to allow easier access in and out of the water. Stretching tables and low-impact cardio machines allow students who are rehabilitating injuries to continue their physical therapy and workout regimen.

Recreational sports teamed with the office of equity and inclusion this past year to install an accessible scale downstairs, easily usable for students in wheelchairs. The scale was part of a campus-wide healthy living initiative.

In addition, Callender noted that several accessible pieces have been added to the weight room with chairs and pins that are easier to maneuver. Unfortunately, frequent use wears down the machines, increasing the need for sturdier and more durable pieces.

“We don’t create separate rooms for accessible space; they’re for everybody,” Callender said. “(The accessible pieces) don’t hold up because anyone can come and use them. They’re not meant for 5,000 people a day so they don’t tend to hold up well so we’ve started looking at commercial pieces to make them more accessible.”

Additional areas for improvement include making water fountains ADA compliant and increasing parking accessibility. Although parking is a campus-wide issue, Callender noted that increased space for vans and closer parking spots would be a boon for some students, particularly during game days.

Any major structural changes, however, will have to wait until the full results of the university’s internal assessment are available.

Tori Hiltner  
Higher education reporter  
managing@dailymeter.com

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## Beers of the Week

**Bombs Away Cafe**  
2527 NW Monroe Ave.  
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			6		2	8	3	
			3	4			9	
6	9	7						
	5	4		9				
		2	6		3			
3	1	8						
4	9	2	5					
		6			4			

**To play:** Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3X3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved, just use logic to solve.

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3	8	4	5	9	6	1	2	7
6	2	5	7	3	1	4	8	9
1	5	8	4	8	7	3	9	2
2	9	8	3	1	5	6	7	4
4	3	7	2	6	9	8	5	1
7	4	9	1	5	8	2	3	6
5	8	2	9	4	3	7	1	8
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**MARS ROVER**  
 ■ Continued from page 1

wanted to do it again.” Hilary O’Byran, assistant director for operations for the football team, said they were excited to be contacted by Tat, who initiated the correspondence.

“We had done it in the past and thought it was a great experience for our players,” O’Byran said. “It’s really cool to see what the Mars Rover team is doing and coach Riley thought it’d be a lot of fun to do it again ... it was a lot of fun for the players.”

The Mars Rover team creates functioning replicas of robots that have actually traveled to Mars and then competes against other universities in national competitions.

Since 2008, the OSU team has consistently placed in

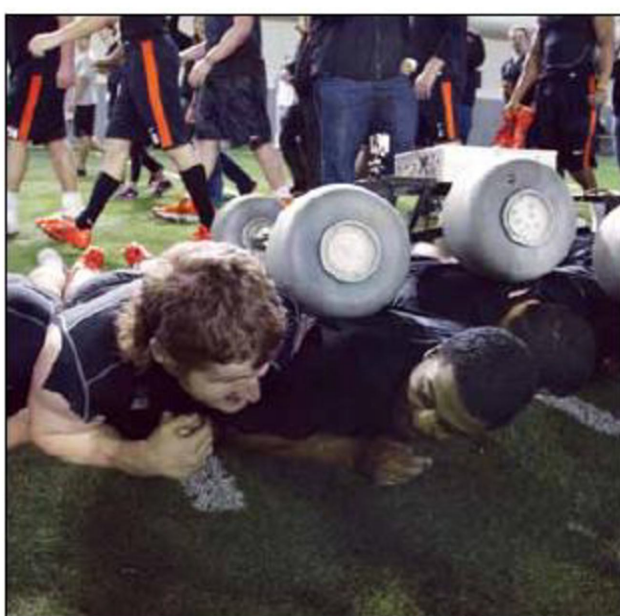
the top five for the University Rover Challenge, hosted by the Mars Society.

This year, the team will participate in the Sample Return Robot Challenge, sponsored by NASA and the Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Jackson Minear, a fifth-year senior and member of the Mars Rover team, said that teaming up with the football team can help shed light on the rover team’s work and accomplishments.

“(It will) help increase our awareness and make everybody see the rover,” Minear said. “When I first got here, five years ago, it was really popular and well-known. ... We really are trying to help increase our awareness so we can increase our sponsorship.”

**Kaitlyn Kohlenberg**  
 Campus reporter  
 managing@dailybarometer.com



**NICKI SILVA** | THE DAILY BAROMETER  
 Oregon State safety Ryan Murphy (center) and his teammates lay on their stomachs as the Mars Rover drives over them.

**HECC**  
 ■ Continued from page 1

approval of the bill comes at a time when the degree partnership program among Oregon State University and other community colleges continues to grow.

The legislation could be described as a “study bill,” according to Dale Stowell, executive director of institutional advancement at Linn-Benton Community College.

“It’s all about looking at what the impacts would be,” Stowell said. “There really isn’t a proposal yet.”

The outcome based on HECC’s decision could affect OSU’s degree partnership program moving forward. Established in 1999 with the help of LBCC, the partnership allows students to take classes at separate institutions

while enrolled primarily as OSU students.

Katie Winder, dean of arts, social sciences and humanities at LBCC, said students primarily take advantage of the program to save money and experience the community college’s smaller class size.

“They are protected from changes to programs at OSU, can go talk to an OSU adviser, and they can even live in a dorm if they want to,” Winder said.

Tuition costs around \$94 per credit at LBCC, opposed to \$191 per credit at OSU.

It’s important to distinguish between free community college tuition and the “Pay it Forward” proposal for university students, which is winding its way through the Legislature, said Kate Peterson, assistant provost of enrollment management at OSU.

Peterson said the “Pay it

Forward” proposal still requires students to repay tuition after a set amount of time.

“It’s a student loan,” she said.

Peterson said OSU and other four-year institutions could see a decrease in initial enrollment if free community college tuition becomes a reality in Oregon.

The ratio of dual-enrolled students increased by 235 percent during a nine-year span.

“That’s quite a significant growth,” said Salvador Castillo, director of the office of institutional research at OSU. “That’s way bigger than our overall growth rate.”

Out of 18,979 students at OSU, 1,456 enrolled in the degree partnership program in fall 2003. The number increased to 4,883 out of 26,393 students in fall 2012.

Though an excellent proposal, Peterson said free community college tuition could be

difficult in a state still struggling to fund other programs such as the Oregon Opportunity Grant.

The state’s neediest students receive the grant, which offers another \$1,950 toward education costs.

“The Oregon Opportunity grant still isn’t fully funded,” Peterson said. “The program can only support a fraction of the students who are eligible.”

Overall, Peterson said any future financial structures should be transparent and predictable to benefit students and their families.

Peterson maintains faith in the HECC’s ability to review free community college tuition.

“They have some really smart people on the HECC,” Peterson said. “I would hope they would try to find ways to make it work.”

**Sean Bassinger**  
 Higher education reporter  
 managing@dailybarometer.com

**LIDAR**  
 ■ Continued from page 1

The U.S. Forest Service conducted an Aerial LiDAR survey of the lodgepole pines in this forest stand (region) in 2011.

“It’s clearly a lot faster to fly an airplane over a forest and generate estimates of how much volume there is,” Burke said. “It’s a different thing to go out as we did this past summer and physically sample each tree.”

Burke’s research aims to provide the forest industry a better knowledge of how much volume of lodgepole pine there is, to better estimate fire risks and to gain a better idea of the value of the forest, according to Burke.

Burke and his research team spent the entire summer sampling 33 lodgepole pine trees, removing 36 branches from each tree.

The researchers are looking at all the living material of the tree — its biomass — not just the branches. They collected the needles, foliage, cones, flowers and the stem of the tree as well.

“Collecting the biomass entailed hauling and setting up a huge scaffolding daily that measures eight meters high, cutting all of the parts off the tree, bagging and tagging them all, taking the scaffolding down and doing it all again for the next tree — it’s a lot of work,” Burke said. “I don’t like heights.”

Burke’s hands-on and laborious research seeks to validate the data estimates of the Aerial LiDAR in 2011.

“When the LiDAR from their airplane transects, they can say, ‘this stand has X volume in it,’” Burke said. “I’m coming into the forest with my team, and we’re actually measuring the trees in a stand where the LiDAR collected its data. ... For this we can say, yes, the volume that the LiDAR is saying is correct, based off of the researchers recent measurements. Or, based off of our measurements — the LiDAR data is not correct.”

Researchers care about the effectiveness of LiDAR and the lodgepole pines with regard to the potential of cultivating a market for lodgepole pines, which does not exist yet, according to Burke.

“There isn’t a market now, but potentially in five or 10 years, there could be a good industry for the biomass market of the lodgepole pine,” Burke said. “This is why validating LiDAR is so important — using Aerial LiDAR to measure the forest is more efficient.”

According to Burke, the demand for biomass is going up.

“In this industry, they take a tree, run it through a chipper, and then the chips are sold in order for people to make steam energy or to burn,” Burke said. “The problem is that there is not enough value in lodgepole pine right now in order to justify going in and removing the trees, then selling them for biomass,” Burke said.

Ultimately, researchers hope the validation of LiDAR will inform land owners on how to best manage their lodgepole pine forests in eastern Oregon.

Burke aims to reach his findings within this research later in the year.

**Dacotah-Victoria Splichalova**  
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@brandincooks Brandin Cooks

# Martin, Rueck have built upon early connection

Senior Alyssa Martin, head coach Scott Rueck have gone through OSU's ups, downs in 4 years together with program

By Mitch Mahoney  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Four years ago, the Beavers' women's basketball team barely had a pulse.

Oregon State ushered in a new era of basketball, hiring Scott Rueck as head coach. When Rueck inherited the program, he was tasked with breathing life back into Oregon State women's basketball.

That same year, a freshman guard by the name of Alyssa Martin signed onto the team with the same goal in mind.

Flash-forward four years.

The Beavers' remarkably good season has them tied for third place in the conference with a chance to clinch a berth in the NCAA Tournament for the first time in 18 years.

Rueck has made his mark, and Martin has become a steady senior about to play in her final two home games.

"If you think about the journey that we've had together, it's significant,"

Rueck said. "There's been incredible highs and really low lows over the last four years, and so it's always emotional when you're getting toward the end of an era."

The pair has gone through the ringer. When Rueck and Martin debuted in the 2010 season, the team went 9-21 (2-16 in the conference). It took 10 consecutive losses to conference teams before the Beavers finally had a win in the Pac-10. That first conference victory, Martin said, was one of the highlights of her Oregon State career.

Despite the ugly record, Rueck admired Martin's perseverance from the beginning, rewarding her with ample playing time to develop her game. In Martin's freshman year, she averaged a team-high 12.4 points per game while playing a team-high 38.1 minutes.

"She came in when the program was decimated — when the expectations were below zero — and brought a love of not only basketball and the Pac-12, but Oregon State," Rueck said. "The fact that she's a legacy, has been a Beaver fan her entire life and her dad played here was so important to the pride that we've played with from day one."

As a matter of fact, when Rueck attended OSU before graduating in

1991, he roomed with a few people who played for the men's basketball team. Through those players, he met Alyssa's father, Earl Martin (OSU's 17th all-time leading scorer), before she was even born.

"(Years later) I went and worked a clinic that Alyssa was a student at, back when she was a sixth-grader," Rueck said. "Her dad was one of the coaches there as well. I got reconnected with him, and so I got to follow her through high school."

Martin ended up at OSU without being recruited by Rueck. The Portland native graduated from Jesuit High School and signed with the Beavers before Rueck had been offered the head coaching position. Rueck said he would have recruited her if given the chance.

"I remember, I called her as soon as I got the job and said that I'm (her) new coach," Rueck said.

So Martin stepped in and set the standard for the team with her 12.4 points per game. However, the team's success didn't come until a year later, when the Cinderella-story Beavers shocked everyone en route to a 20-win season.

In fact, this season is much the same story. The Beavers are sitting

See **MARTIN** | page 6



NICKI SILVA | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Senior guard Alyssa Martin smiles during Feb. 16's action against USC in Gill Coliseum.



JUSTIN QUINN | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Senior guard Roberto Nelson gets to his feet after falling down Sunday against Washington.

# Beavers refocus for road trip

Coming off losing 4 of their last 5, OSU takes on LA schools in last 2 regular season games

By Josh Worden  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Having lost four of the last five games, the Oregon State men's basketball team can look forward to one thing this week — playing two teams that the Beavers defeated in the first round of Pac-12 play.

USC won't be an easy matchup, especially in Los Angeles, but the conference cellar dwellers will provide an opportunity for OSU to face UCLA coming off a win.

On Thursday, the Beavers (14-12, 6-8 Pac-12) will attempt to bounce back from their worst loss of the year when they fight the Trojans (10-17, 1-13) at 8 p.m., in the second-to-last road game of the regular season.

It will be the first game for OSU since a 24-point defeat against Washington. Head coach Craig Robinson said during Tuesday's press conference that

watching film of that game led him to believe the short turnaround from playing Washington State two days prior was to blame.

"I attribute it more to being fatigued," Robinson said. "We looked a step slow getting loose balls and we didn't rebound like we've been rebounding this season. Defensively, we could obviously have played better but I'm willing to chalk it up to fatigue."

The Beavers got outrebounded 43-23 in the blowout loss.

"Everyone has put it behind them," said senior center Angus Brandt. "We'll use it as motivation in our next game."

Now, OSU heads south for Thursday's matchup with USC, a team the Beavers outrebounded by 11 on Jan. 30.

Despite being the team on the bottom of the Pac-12 standings, USC was one missed free throw away from sending the first OSU game into double overtime.

"I would be confident if I was them,"

See **MEN'S BASKETBALL** | page 6

# Corvallis' Gregg waiting for MLB opportunity

Corvallis resident Kevin Gregg is still a free agent after a 33-save campaign with the Cubs in 2013

By Warner Strausbaugh  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

Kevin Gregg is an MLB free agent. He has six seasons with more than 20 saves as the team's closer — including a 33-save campaign last year with the Chicago Cubs in his age-35 season — but he has not been able to land a job two weeks after pitchers and catchers reported to Spring Training.

"I'm coming off a pretty good year, so I didn't think I'd be at the start of Spring Training without a job," Gregg said. "It's kind of an interesting spot for me to be in. I've got to play it out and see."

In the meantime, Gregg is working out at Corvallis High School.

He was born in Corvallis and played Little League, high school and American Legion baseball in the mid-sized Benton County city before the Oakland A's drafted him out of high school in 1996.

He has played for six organizations in his 17-year pro career, played in packed stadiums in New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago and Boston, but Corvallis is the only place he's ever wanted to call his home.

"I've been all over the country and no place really resonated with me like Corvallis," he said. "I raise my own kids here now and I really enjoy it."

Gregg plans on continuing to raise his children here and stay in Corvallis after his playing career is finished.

He isn't ready for that day just yet.

"I don't think I'm ready to retire," Gregg said. "I still have a lot of innings left in me. I feel like the job opportunity will come, it's just a matter of time."

Gregg made at least 60 appearances per season as the closer for the Florida Marlins, Toronto Blue Jays, Baltimore Orioles and the Cubs in six of the past seven seasons.

Life as a relief pitcher isn't glamorous.

See **GREGG** | page 6

## EXTRAS FROM THE KEVIN GREGG INTERVIEW:

On the bench-clearing brawl he initiated with David Ortiz on July 8, 2011:

"I told (Orioles manager) Buck (Showalter) ... 'I want to pitch him in, kind of send a message.' It was a respect issue. There was a lack of respect on his part and their team — they had kind of beat up on us all year. They weren't being respectful to us and they weren't being respectful to the game of baseball, which is how I do things. He took offense to it, that's his right. I've got nothing against him for it, but I was proving a point: 'Hey, treat us with respect. Treat the game with respect.'"

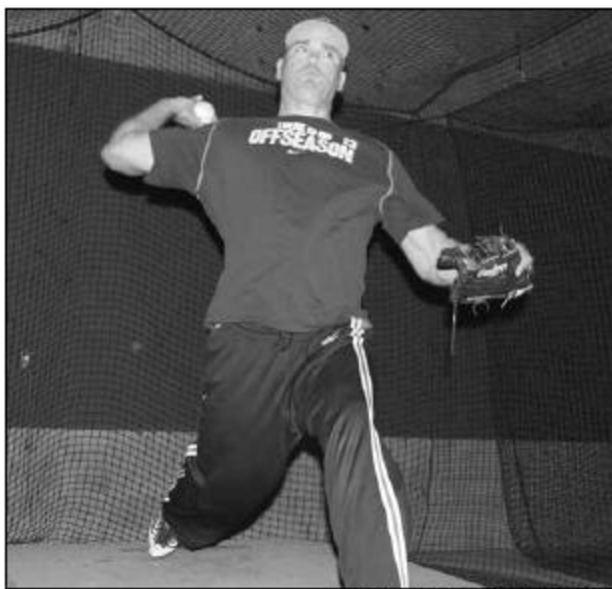
On his favorite MLB venue:

"Probably the old Yankee Stadium, the original. It was something about that place. It was legendary. It just had such a feel, you could smell the whole baseball world. It was a true baseball atmosphere, environment, from everything — the fans, the stadium."



JUSTIN QUINN | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Kevin Gregg smiles prior to a bullpen session Feb. 14 at Corvallis High School.



JUSTIN QUINN | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Kevin Gregg throws a bullpen session at Corvallis High School Feb. 14.

## GREGG

Continued from page 5

Major league clubs often won't dole out the big bucks for relievers, and rarely sign them to long-term contracts. Only four relievers have ever signed for more than three years. Of the 76 pitchers who signed a free agent contract this offseason, just 14 were for more than one year.

"We're like the offensive line of the baseball world," Gregg said. "We're the last to get any credit and the first to get all the blame. It comes with the territory. It doesn't bother me. It's part of the game and it's the way it's always been."

Gregg says he is waiting for the right offer for himself and his family. He would be willing to take on a seventh- or eighth-inning role for a team that has postseason aspirations, but wouldn't do the same for a team that may lose 100 games.

His experience last year is one that sticks with him as motivation for finding the right fit for the upcoming season.

Gregg signed a contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers in February, but they let him go prior to the start of the season.

"Things happen," Gregg said. "I pitched great in Spring Training last year — still got released. The baseball world is very fickle in that sense."

Two weeks into the season, the Cubs gave him a call. Six months later, he finished tied for seventh in the National League in saves.

He's willing to be a setup man if an opportunity to join a contender arises, but he still views himself as a closer. It's a role he lives for.

"All the pressure is on you," Gregg said. "They hand you the ball. We're winning or losing with you, so let's go." The work that 24 other guys plus the coaching staff has put together to win the game is all on your

back. So it's a lot of pressure. Some people really like that. Some people don't. I love it."

Corvallis High senior catcher Tyger Liner has been the catcher for a few of Gregg's bullpen sessions last year and this year. Liner says Gregg's stuff is better this year.

"He throws really hard just playing catch," Liner said. "Then once you get down there, he's such a big guy throwing the ball at you, it was definitely nerve-wracking at first."

Gregg has worked with the Spartans baseball team in previous years before he headed to Arizona or Florida for Spring Training. Their schedules haven't lined up as well this year, but he still hangs around, works out at the facilities and chats with the players from time to time.

"It's definitely a really nice presence to have in our program, especially early in the year," Liner said. "Just seeing what he does is really impressive. Getting to catch him is definitely a privilege to have — a high school player getting to catch an MLB player is not something you get to do everyday."

Gregg said he'd love to be involved with the program after he retires, but retirement is something he doesn't even want to contemplate right now.

The veteran right-hander has appeared in 571 games in his career, with a lifetime 4.07 earned run average and 177 saves.

Despite being away for eight to nine months out of the year, his wife and children travel with him as often as possible.

Even when he's traveling around the country, Corvallis is the place he began, and the place he'll always end up.

"I love this place and everything about it," he said. "The true sense of community that comes out of Corvallis is what really sticks with you."

Warner Strausbaugh, editor-in-chief

On Twitter @WStrausbaugh  
sports@dailybarometer.com

# Softball moving on despite losing Langlois for year

Sophomore Christie Langlois tore her ACL in the Texas A&M Invite, Ameer Aarhus has filled in at third

By Josh Worden  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

There has been some good news and bad news for the Oregon State softball team recently.

The bad news: sophomore third baseman Christie Langlois has been ruled out for the year after a torn ACL suffered in the Texas A&M Invite two weekends ago.

Langlois' absence is going to be significant for the Beavers, though freshman infielder Ameer Aarhus has stepped in at third base to start the last three games.

The good news for Oregon State, in addition to Aarhus' fill-in efforts, is an improved performance over the weekend in the Mary Nutter Collegiate Classic in Cathedral City, Calif.

The Beavers, now 5-11 after picking up a pair of wins in the tournament, took No. 2 Tennessee down to the wire in an eventual 5-1 loss.

"The score doesn't show how we really played," said senior first baseman Hannah Bouska. "We had them on their toes the entire game."

"It was a different atmosphere out on that field," added head coach Laura Berg. "We had them. A few mistakes here and there, but we can play with them and it shows these guys we can play with anyone."

With the 2014 season now 16 games old,

the Beavers have been playing without Langlois for the past eight contests.

She led the Beavers with a .435 batting average before a collision in the field against Texas A&M ended her season.

"I'm just happy that it happened when it did so she didn't lose the year," Berg said.

Langlois will be able to use her redshirt option this year, giving her an extra year of eligibility while Aarhus takes over at third base.

"Christie is a player we'll always miss," Bouska said. "She's really working with Ameer and getting her up to speed at third base. I think we're going to be OK but it's going to be something we'll really miss."

While Aarhus gets some playing time under her belt, senior pitcher Amanda Najdek has been pacing the Beavers on the mound.

She pitched into the sixth inning against Tennessee — a team that has reached double-digit runs three times this season — allowing only one earned run that didn't even come across the plate until after she was replaced.

"The plan was to pitch by committee — everyone was going to pitch one to two innings," Berg said. "Amanda just kept doing very well and so we couldn't take her out until they started coming through the third time on her."

Junior outfielder Dani Gilmore even compared Najdek with Tennessee's senior pitcher Ellen Renfro, who was a 2013 finalist for the USA Softball Player of the Year award.

"Amanda has been in her zone and I think she's surprising a lot of teams

because she's not someone who is known (nationally) as a pitcher," Gilmore said. "She's definitely competing and playing like a pitcher of high caliber like an Ellen Renfro."

With Najdek holding down opposing offenses, Gilmore has provided a spark at the plate this year despite moving down in the lineup from the leadoff position, which sophomore outfielder Kori Nishitomi has filled.

Gilmore and Nishitomi have the top batting averages on the team behind Langlois at .360 and .391, respectively. Gilmore has also belted five home runs this season.

"I honestly think she's going to beat her home run record this year," Bouska said. "I just don't want to jinx her, but she's really locked in this year and ready to compete."

Gilmore had nine homers her freshman year and eight last season.

"I feel really relaxed right now and I'm in a good mindset," she said.

Gilmore and her teammates will face Cal State Fullerton Thursday in the first of six games in the Long Beach State Invite.

With the Tennessee game being the only loss in the last three matchups, the Beavers will bring some momentum to California.

"I'm expecting it to carry over into next weekend and they know that," Berg said. "We've already had that conversation. I'm expecting them to be consistent now, they know they can hang with the top teams."

Josh Worden, sports reporter  
On Twitter @WordenJosh  
sports@dailybarometer.com

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

Continued from page 5

Brandt said. "And I would be leery if I was us. We are also two different teams from that game."

The Beavers took a 71-67 win over UCLA three days later before dropping four of their next five, the last three losses by an average of 18.7 points.

The Trojans have lost eight straight, their victory over California earlier in the Pac-12 season being their only win since Dec. 29 of last year.

Still, USC went down to the wire with the Beavers on the back of 23 points from junior guard Byron Wesley, who returns Thursday to face OSU after a two-game suspension for an unspecified violation of team rules.

Though Wesley has not played in 11 days, Robinson said watching film of Wesley won't be an issue.

"We know what he can do," he said. "We'll watch their recent games plus we'll watch the game we played them, so we'll get a real good feel for what he can do, but we know. He's their leading scorer and he's going to shoot better at home than he did on the road."

Wesley finished 7-for-17 from the field with two 3-pointers in the first contest to complement senior center Omar Oraby's eight rebounds and four blocks.

Despite getting ejected with 8:31 left, Oraby chipped in 13 points.

"You always have to be concerned about a guy that big because he can get big in the post," Robinson said. "You absolutely cannot block his shot and if he gets anywhere near the basket, he's got a really nice touch."

Oraby has a tendency to get in foul trouble — he has fouled out five times this season and has recorded at least four fouls on 12 different occasions — but he and 7-foot senior center D.J. Haley pose as a formidable frontline.

"We've got to make sure to curtail the front court guys, those guys hurt us last game," Robinson said.

The Beavers made some offensive strides against USC that they are looking to replicate.

"We had some success going down low and running pick-and-roll, bringing the bigs out high and trying to keep them away from the basket so (Oraby) can't alter our shots," said senior guard Roberto Nelson. "We're going to have a somewhat similar gameplan going into it."

With postseason invitations still up in the air for OSU, the last four games will be the last addition to the Beavers' resume before the Pac-12 Tournament.

"We have four more games to go; the more we win, the more we can be in the conversation (of the NCAA



JUSTIN QUINN | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Junior forward Eric Moreland communicates with a teammate against Washington Sunday in Gill Coliseum.

Tournament)," Robinson said. "There's no need to ring any alarm bells. I want to make sure we're refocused because we are on the road and it's hard to win on the road, but we can do it."

Josh Worden, sports reporter  
On Twitter @WordenJosh  
sports@dailybarometer.com

## MARTIN

Continued from page 5

on a 19-9 overall record (12-5 in conference) with two games left to play. Unsurprisingly, Martin detailed a few similarities between the 20- and 19-win seasons.

"We got those 20 wins and it was just great team chemistry and great leadership," Martin said. "I think it's the same with this year. We have that awesome chemistry where we are all friends on and off the court, and we have that leadership from multiple areas."

In Martin's final season, the Beavers have a rare opportunity to qualify for the NCAA Tournament. As her remaining games wind down, she still puts the team's agenda ahead of her own.

"If we make it to the NCAA Tournament, it would just be a great way to go out your senior year," she said. "From where we started and where we're ending, I couldn't ask for anything more."

Mitch Mahoney, sports reporter

On Twitter @MitchMahoney  
sports@dailybarometer.com



Senior Alyssa Martin gets ready to take a free throw.

JUSTIN QUINN  
THE DAILY BAROMETER

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Editorial

## Eating disorders still a problem

It's eating disorder awareness week. What's there to be aware of? We know eating disorders aren't good. The thing is, eating disorders aren't a fad, they're mental illness.

There are all those ads and Public Service Announcements now in which women are encouraged to love themselves for themselves and not stress about body types.

Most people nowadays know that Adobe Photoshop can do some amazing things, and don't think people in magazines look like that in real life.

Fun fact: The body type advertised as the ideal is only naturally possessed by 5 percent of American women, according to "Eating Disorders 101 Guide" from The Renfrew Center Foundation for Eating Disorders, and the National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders (ANAD).

It doesn't change the fact that eating disorders are the mental illness with the highest mortality rate. It's "12 times higher than the death rate associated with all causes of death for females 15-24 years old," according to American Journal of Psychiatry.

The Public Health Service's Office in Women's Health says "Anorexia is the third most common chronic illness among adolescents."

But this all sounds like it's focusing on women.

Eating disorders aren't restricted by gender.

Somewhere between 10 and 15 percent of people afflicted with bulimia nervosa or anorexia are male, according to "Review of Bulimia Nervosa in Males" in the American Journal of Psychiatry. Keep in mind that the American Psychological Association reports that most men won't seek treatment for a "women's disease" like an eating disorder.

ANAD reports that more than half of all teenage girls, and almost one-third of all teenage boys, use unhealthy weight control behaviors. Some of these include smoking, vomiting, taking laxatives, fasting and skipping meals, writes Dianne Neumark-Sztainer in "I'm, Like, SO Fat!"

A healthy diet isn't the same as dieting healthily. For most people, weight lost while dieting will return within five years, and 35 percent of people who classify themselves as "normal dieters" will eventually "progress to pathological dieting." Of that 35 percent, "20-25 percent progress to partial or full-syndrome eating disorders," according to "The Spectrum of Eating Disturbances" in the International Journal of Eating Disorders.

So don't let anyone pressure you into thinking you're not perfectly fine how you are. You don't need to diet to be attractive. Just keep on eating healthy, and healthily, and take care of yourself like the highly evolved biological machine you are.

But keep an eye out for the jerks, male or female, who will want you to change who you are before they'll condescend to talk to you. They're not worth your time.

Editorials serve as means for Barometer editors to offer commentary and opinions on issues both global and local, grand in scale or diminutive. The views expressed here are a reflection of the editorial board's majority.

### 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.

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

or e-mail: editor@dailybarometer.com

# Anti-femininity causes gender equality to backslide

There's a lot of worry about what today's children play with, choose to wear and what it may or may not mean for their concepts of sexuality. The concern is whether old tropes and gender roles will brainwash them.

When I was growing up, my folks let me know that it was perfectly fine when I wanted to play with Tonka trucks or pretend to be a dinosaur on the playground.

I was happily encouraged to pick from a wide range of toys gendered and marketed toward girls and boys, so I could be 100 percent certain that I deserved equal opportunity.

With my younger brother, it was a slightly different story. One day my mom was painting my nails, and my little brother wanted in on the action.

My father started twitching, and he looked plaintively at my mom. It was obvious he wanted to say something that would reinforce the traditional male gender role, but that he also knew that desire wasn't exactly kosher.

"Son," he said, "guys don't really wear nail polish."

Mom gave him a look and the compromise ended up being a clear top coat on my little brother's fingernails.

My little brother eventually lost

interest in nail polish and moved on to video games.

What's genuinely sad about this story isn't just the unequal opportunity provided to my brother—I could play with Tonka trucks but he couldn't play with nail polish—but also how these things became coded as either feminine or masculine to us.

What was coded as feminine was not for my brother.

Conversely, what was coded as masculine was as much for me as the things that were coded feminine.

Society is very interested in letting little girls know that they can and should shoot for the stars. Little girls shouldn't be afraid to pursue non-traditional gender activities. Society shouldn't be limited to girls wearing pink and boys wearing blue.

This leads to lovely events, like mother Sharon Choksi creating her own clothing line called "Girls Will Be," which provides options not slathered in sparkles and butterflies.

The name of the clothing line was a Choksi's brainchild, exemplifying how girls can be anything—doctors, scientists and astronauts.

This is a great concept. I will never doubt that. Girls can and should be able to be whatever they want to be in life.

But what about the little boys who want to play with Easy Bake Ovens?

What about children, or adults, who don't identify with either binary? Where are their moms, making clothing lines saying that it's OK for a boy

See RUUD/page 8



Cassie Ruud

# Public Employee Choice Act will hurt unions, not help non-members

In the Nov. 4, 2013, election this year in Oregon, we expect to see a ballot initiative for something called the "Public Employee Choice Act," hereafter referred to as IP 9. You may have heard bills like this referred to as "right to work," a term you will undoubtedly hear used in the upcoming months in order to skew your perspective on the goals of the bill.

While this initiative may not directly disband labor unions altogether, the impacts it will have are expected to significantly undermine the ability of unions to function in their intended capacity. What this initiative does is "allow non-union member public

employees receiving required union representation to refuse to share representation costs."

First, some background. In Oregon, IP 9 is being sponsored by Jill Odell, a Washington County attorney, and Libby Braeda, a former legislative director for the Oregon House Republican office. The Cascade Policy Institute, an Oregon-based think-tank with a demonstrable bias against unionization, argues that legislation like this makes the state more attractive for companies with jobs to bring.

However, this act only impacts public employees. There is no out-of-state replacement to Oregon State

Sneha Gantla  
Guest Columnist

University. The fundamental argument that serves as their basis is that public sector employees should have the freedom of choice to decide whether they want to be a member of the union.

Please note, it is currently already against the law to require employees to become members of a union.

What the proposed ballot initiative aims to accomplish is to make it illegal for unions and employers to agree to implement fair share pay-

ments. Fair share dues are less than member dues but help to pay for union services that benefit all represented employees, members and nonmembers alike.

If you're thinking, "well that seems reasonable. If I don't want the service, I shouldn't have to pay for it," just hold on a second.

The way that unions work is that when an entire class of employees is represented by a union, even those employees who choose to not be "members" will benefit from things like employment contracts and health insurance benefits.

More importantly, unions are legally required to represent these same employees in resolving workplace grievances like unfair dismissal and chronic overwork. Membership status in a union is not a condition of union representation.

For example, at OSU: our graduate employee union, the Coalition of Graduate Employees, represents 1,800 graduate employees. Only approximately 1,000 graduate employees are members of CGE.

However, all 1,800 receive the same contract benefits.

Because of this, employees who choose to not be members of the union can opt to pay a smaller amount to help the union achieve its basic functions of negotiating fair contracts, ensuring fair and safe workplace conditions, representing employees in grievances, etc.

The language used in this bill is contrived, but let me try an analogy: The fire and police departments are supported through public funds that come from taxes that we pay. Let's imagine that some residents want to pass a law saying that we should have the choice to pay or not pay for fire and police services. But should a resident choose not to pay taxes, fire and police departments cannot refuse to rescue them from a burning building or save them from an attacker.

The problem that arises in this scenario is that given this choice, more people may forego this optional payment because they live in a really safe neighborhood, and they have a fire extinguisher in the house.

This situation of optional payment to fund a shared and required service leads to free riders who don't pay but still benefit from the services.

It's the same thing with unions.

When non-members don't have to pay their fair share to help the union run, the union can't simply choose to exclude them from the benefits of the contract.

## At Random by Ryan Mason



www.AtRandomComics.com

RYAN MASON IS A JUNIOR IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

Sneha Gantla is a guest columnist for the Barometer. The opinions expressed in Gantla's column does not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barometer staff. Gantla can be reached at forum@dailybarometer.com.

# Oregon second state to pass bill against 'patent trolling'

By **Ilene Aleshire**  
THE REGISTER-GUARD

EUGENE — The Oregon Legislature has passed a bill that makes "patent trolling" illegal, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum said, the second state in the country to do so.

"Patent trolls are companies that purchase patents and intimidate thousands of individuals and small businesses with the threat of a lawsuit," said Sen. Jackie Winters, R-Salem, who sponsored the bill, which was introduced this session. "The aim is to extort cash from companies or individuals in order to make the threat of litigation go away."

For example, Winters said, "A patent troll (recently) sent letters to construction businesses across Oregon demanding a \$150 licensing fee for the normal process of using fans to reduce moisture at a construction site."

"Although some businesses ignore such shakedowns, others choose to pay up because it is cheaper than hiring an attorney to evaluate the claim," she said. "This burden on our

small businesses creates an unnecessary drag on Oregon's economy and discourages job creation." Winters is a retired small-business owner.

Senate Bill 1540, which was unanimously passed by both the Senate and House, makes patent trolling an unlawful trade practice, which means the state Department of Justice can take action against companies doing this.

The bill would also allow those who have been targeted by a patent troll to sue for attorneys' fees, Winters said.

The bill includes a lengthy list of conditions that may be used to determine if patent trolling has occurred, including a demand that the recipient pay a license or other fee in an unreasonably short period of time, failure to include the patent number for the patent the recipient allegedly infringed and failure to compare the claims in the patent to the features or specifications of the recipient's product, service or technology.

Vermont enacted a similar provision in 2013.



Jo Rae Perkins, a Albany Republican, announced her candidacy for Senate at the Capitol on Friday, Aug. 16, 2013.

TIMOTHY J. GONZALEZ  
STATESMAN JOURNAL

# 4 excluded from GOP senatorial debate

By **Hannah Hoffman**  
STATESMAN JOURNAL  
statesmanjournal.com

SALEM — U.S. Senate candidate Jo Rae Perkins and three other candidates will be excluded from the senatorial debate scheduled for March 7 at Dorchester, the annual Republican retreat in Seaside.

Only Rep. Jason Conger, R-Bend, and Dr. Monica Wehby, a Portland pediatric neurosurgeon, have been invited to participate in the debate. Perkins, Mark Callahan, Samuel Carpenter and Timothy Crawley have been excluded.

The candidates were required to submit polling data and financial statements, and Dorchester board member Rep. Jim Thompson, R-Dallas, said Conger and Wehby were the clear frontrunners.

Conger has \$174,379 cash on

hand, according to the Federal Elections Commission and Wehby has \$390,289.

Perkins has \$1,188. Thompson said only two candidates were selected to debate because the conference allotted just one hour for the event, and it was impossible to fit six people into an hour-long debate.

Perkins said in a press release that Wehby's staff had told her Wehby would not participate in the event if all six candidates were not included.

Wehby spokesman Charlie Pearce said, "It has always been Monica's opinion that all candidates who have qualified for the ballot should be allowed to participate in GOP forums across Oregon."

However, he said that did not mean she wouldn't attend Dorchester, and he said she

would decide on that in the next couple of days.

Thompson said the board would not include all six candidates in the debate if Wehby were to bow out; instead Conger likely would be allowed an hour to speak by himself.

Perkins said in her statement that money was not an accurate measure of a viable candidacy.

"When one becomes a U.S. Senator, their job is not to raise money," she said. "Their job is to do the work of the people as per the U.S. Constitution. It is the voters who will decide who they feel will help return the United States back to its foundational Constitutional ideals."

Thompson said all candidates were welcome to attend the conference and set up campaign booths, which Perkins said she intends to do.



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Dr. Richard Carlson, Carnegie Institution of Washington



Carlson is a geochemist who conducts research on the history and evolution of the crust and interior of Earth, Mars, the moon and asteroids. Elected in 2012 to the National Academy of Sciences, he is best known for his studies of how planets form and develop habitable surfaces.

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## RUUD

Continued from page 7

to like the color pink or for all children to focus on individual happiness?

With the great push toward achieving equal opportunity, there's also been a sort of murdering of the old. Right now, the general idea is that living in a traditional gender role is idiotic. Besides, who would want to be a full-time homemaker, or breadwinner, with all the other opportunities available?

This turns up an older and uglier trope of coding femininity as "bad."

Take "The Hunger Games," for example: The heroine is capable, hardy and assertive, whereas the villains are preening, interested in fashion and effeminate. I'm not bashing "The Hunger Games," or Katniss — who is awesome — but the way the extreme reaction to traditional stereotypes has further marked femininity, and traditional feminine interests, as less than mas-

culinity and traditional masculine interests.

This sends a message, as does a piece from the Huffington Post on how three-quarters of women interviewed with the option between housewifery and divorce selected divorce.

The concept is that being feminine somehow means women lose ground they gained when fighting for the right to vote, and the ongoing fight for equal pay.

No. To vilify it as such is just as bad as leaving traditional gender roles the way they were in the 1950s — it doesn't leave room for critical thinking and open-mindedness.

The only reasonable solution is to be who you want to be. To hell with coding things as feminine or masculine. All this traditional coding does is hurt the incredible and amazing person you are.

**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.

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