OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

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The Daily Barometer of GBAROM

WEDNESDAY

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SEAN BASSINGER | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Scott Ashford, who assumed the role of College of Engineering dean in February, holds a vial of ash from Mount St. Helens he acquired on a trip to Houston.

Ashford dedicated to research, progress

New dean brings experience of research, education, leadership to College of Engineering

By Sean Bassinger

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Scott Ashford has contributed to groundbreaking earthquake research, civil engineering work at CH2M Hill and a children's television show in Thailand.

But above and beyond anything else, Ashford finds it most rewarding to serve students at Oregon State University.

"It's all about the students," Ashford said. "As faculty at the university, we can have a tremendous impact on the students' lives."

Ashford, who earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from OSU in 1983, became dean of the College of Engineering following the departure of former Dean Sandra Woods in February. His previous experience in administration includes serving as interim dean of the college and as head of the School of Civil and

See ASHFORD page 4

Corvallis' first medical marijuana shop lights up

 The Agrestic dispensary opens in south Corvallis for Oregon Medical Marijuana Program cardholders

By Emma-Kate Schaake

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Corvallis Oregon Medical Marijuana Program patients now have a place to legally buy marijuana.

The Agrestic on Third Street in Southtown opened Tuesday morning and is the first of its kind in Corvallis.

Of the five Corvallis businesses that applied to the state, only one other dispensary, High Quality Compassion, has been approved.

"It's a lot of work and details and it should be," said The Agrestic owner Kayla Dunham. "You don't want just anyone having a license."

Patients must present their photo identification and their OMMP card before being led into the room where they can choose what to purchase. They carry more than a dozen different types of marijuana on the menu, with names like Cotton Candy and NYC Diesel. Each strand has varying levels of THC, the chemical responsible for most of the physiological responses to marijuana.

Patients are encouraged to ask questions and try the different products available.

"We wanted everyone to feel comfortable here," said receptionist Meggan May, who is Dunham's sister. Behind the secured door, there are atten-

dants to offer the various types and weigh out the product for purchase.

"You can open it, touch it, smell it and see if you like it," Dunham said.

According to law, each cardholder can buy up to one pound at a time, but every patient's dosage requirement and needs are different based on their ailments.

"We don't anticipate too many people getting that much when they come in,"

said business partner and assistant in the product room Erik Winn.

The shop is working on developing edibles, and more infused products, but for now, they only have infused caramels because of the strict rules about childproof containers.

"If they are worried about kids being attracted to foods, then we don't want to have that," Dunham said. "We are trying to stay on the happy, nice side of the law."

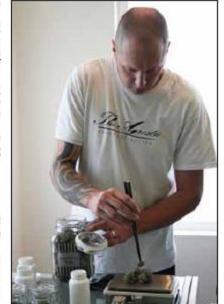
They do, however, have baked goods like cookies and cupcakes for purchase along with the cannabis.

See MARIJUANA | page 4

PHOTOS BY EMMA-KATE SCHAAKE

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Right: Michael May weighs out cannabis for a patient Tuesday morning. Below: A sampling of some of the types of medical marijuana offered on the menu at The Agrestic.





First 2014 total lunar eclipse



JUSTIN QUINN | THE DAILY BAROMETER

When the full moon passes through the Earth's shadow, it produces a lunar eclipse, which was visible across North America. It began around 11 p.m. Monday. This is the first in a serious of lunar eclipses, which will occur regularly, roughly every six months. The tetrad will be visible from most of the United States. The next eclipse is Oct. 8, then April 4, 2015 and finally Sept. 28, 2015.

The bad, the good: Building momentum with natural gas

 OSU researcher talks about the use of natural gas for transportation at Science Pub

By Dacotah-Victoria Splichalova

With less than 2 percent of natural gas currently being used for transportation purposes in the U.S., Oregon State University assistant professor Chris Hagen discussed the potential benefits of his research on the role of natural gas in the trans-

portation industry.

With more than 25 in the audience, Hagen, from the energy systems engineering program at the OSU-Cascades campus in Bend,

spoke at Monday's Science Pub

talk at the Old World Deli.

Hagen provided a background history of energy in the U.S. by scanning through the energy ages

of wood in the 1800s, to coal, then onto oil and its downturn beginning in the 1950s. This was followed by an uptick of green energy, including natural gas, renewable energies and nuclear power in the present.

In the U.S., natural gas comes from pipelines of fossil origins formed when layers of buried plants and animals are exposed to intense heat and pressure over thousands of years, Hagen said.

Hagen listed hydroelectric power plants, wind and biomass energy sources as reasons why Oregon is fortunate. He also highlighted the few pipelines or transmission lines Oregon has for natural gas.

"We're 29th in natural gas production and prices for natural gas are pretty fair, costing about a dollar a gallon," Hagen said. "There's really an opportunity there for us to grow our natural gas industry." Hagen explained how other countries have more going on in the realm of exploiting a natural resource infrastructure, which the U.S. can learn from.

As an example, by way of a governmental mandate, 100 percent of Iran's transportation is powered by natural gas.

"With natural gas, you have a fuel that has more energy per unit mass, that produces significantly less CO2," Hagen said. "So what we're thinking is that this is great transition from a purely liquid hydrocarbon basis, and we're stepping towards a lower greenhouse gas situation."

Hagen examined the bad and the good regarding momentum building around the use of natural gas for transportation in the U.S.

"When I look at the energy situa-

See SCIENCE page 4

Calendar

Wednesday, April 16

events in the state and nation

Radio Club meeting.

show from the Quad.

Meetings College Republicans, 7pm, Gilkey 113.

Come join us for discussion on current

W70SU, 5pm, Snell 229. OSU Amateur

OSU College Republicans, Noon-Epm, MU Quad. Lars Larson will do his live radio

International Students of OSU, 4pm

International Resource Center in the MU.

Cultural Heritage. An informative educa-tional event led by a panel of students and teachers who will answer questions

having a cultural background and cultural

knowledge. This is a great opportunity to gain knowledge about customs around the world and to meet international students.

Baha'i Campus Association, 12:30pm, MU Talisman Room, A discussion - Sane

Recreational Sports, 11am-Noon, Dixon Recreation Center Conference Room. Rec-

reational Sports Board meeting.

Centro Cultural César Châvez, 5:30-6:30pm, Old World Deli. Great Stories

about Lating/a Leaders: Professor Kayla García will tell some surprising and

inspirational stories based on her new book Latino and Latina Leaders of the 21st. Century: Ordinary Beginnings, Extraordinary

OSU Chess Club, 4-6cm, MU Commons.

Come play with us and learn more about

this classic game. All skill levels welcome

Career Services, 11am-Noon, Valley Library: Willamette East & West. So You Think You Can Interview? Doug Rice from

Career Services, 1-2pm, Valley Library:

Willamette East & West, How You Can

Use Social Media to Get a Job. Karlina

Christensen from the Statesman Journal

Career Services, 2-3pm, Valley Library: Willamette East & Weste. Job Search

Strategies. Learn productive search strate-

Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority Inc., 8pm-Midnight, MU Basement. "I'm Differ-ent." High School Event. Tabling, bowling

Campus Recycling, Student Sustain ability Initiative, ASOSU, times and

locations vary. OSU Earth Week Celebra-tion. Fun and educational activities geared

toward raising environmental awareness and engagement, including the community fair, HooHaa and more. Runs April 20-26.

International Students of OSU, 4:30-6pm, MU Lounge. Coffee Hour. Come enjoy international food, mingle with other OSU

and international students and become

Career Services, 2-4pm, MU 206. Speed Mock Interviews. Practice interviewing with Employers & Career Specialists! Bring

School of History, Philosophy and Reli-gion, Vegans and Vegetarians at OSU, 7pm, Miam Auditorium. Free screening of the film Speciesism - The Movie. Everyone who attends gets a free raffle ticket and

chance to win prizes. Student Health Services, Women's Cen-

ter, CAPS, 1-3pm, MU Quad. Becoming Part of the Solution: Men as Active Bystanders.

An interactive photo activism project that

will encourage men (and all people in gen-

eral) to think about practical ways that they can work toward ending sexual violence.

resume. Sign up on Beaver JobNet.

EAN Holdings will present.

Media will present.

Sunday, April 20

Monday, April 21

Tuesday, April 22

Friday, April 18

Thursday, April 17

Barometer

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Responsibility — The University Student Media Committee is charged with the general supervision of all student publications and broadcast media operated under its authority for the students and staff of Oregon State University on behalf of the Associated Students of OSU.

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

dailybarometer.com

An unexpected traveler

Corvallis police responded to Walnut Place for the report of a found African Grey parrot. The caller reported the bird was found sitting on his front porch, but it couldn't fly due to clipped wings. The parrot was taken to the Heartland Humane Society.

A cold-hearted move

Someone called Corvallis police to report a theft from their backyard. A thief stole a wheelbarrow from the yard between 10 and 10:30 a.m. It was also noted the thief stole a bunch of recently chopped wood.



The Corvallis rumor mill

An employee of the Corvallis school district called Corvallis police about a suspicious student. They heard a 17-yearold male allegedly had a sawed-off shotgun and was shooting mailboxes, trees and other things. There was also a

and Corvallis Police

rumor he had brought the gun to school, but no one could confirm any of the accusations.

This one is just right

A male and female were reported committing suspicious acts near the 400 block of 23rd Street. The report included the two trying to open car doors and then sitting on four different car trunks. When Corvallis police got to the scene, they didn't find any damage to the cars. However, the female was underage and was cited for minor-in-possession of

managing@dailybarometer.com



SAEROM YOO | STATESMAN JOURNAL

Dr. Scott Stice is an ophthalmologist at Eye Care Physicians & Surgeons. His specialty is among the higher paid by the federal Medicare program.

Salem doctor is state's top Medicare earner

By Saerom Yoo STATESMAN JOURNAL

statesmaniournal.com

SALEM — A Salem rheumatologist received more money from Medicare in 2012, \$2.7 million, than any other doctor

Dr. Rebecca Callis practices at Salem Rheumatology, having treated 547 Medicare patients. The next highest earning rheumatologist in Oregon was Dr. Gregory Borstad in Bend, with \$1.2 million. The data show that he had 684 beneficiaries

The national data was released by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services last week, revealing for the first time how much individual physicians received from the federal health insurance program for people 65 years and older.

The new data set has information for more than 880,000 health care providers who collectively received \$77 billion in Medicare Part B payments in 2012. The data include physicians' professional services, but not fees charged by hospitals associated with those services

Callis declined to be interviewed, but wrote in an email that the data does not indicate a doctor's profits. The money also goes toward overhead, employee wages and medications practices must pay for up front to treat their patients.

"I am fortunate to treat a number of patients in the Salem area, many of whom benefit from IV infusions used to treat

and control an often otherwise debilitating autoimmune disease," Callis wrote. "A significant portion of Medicare reimbursement is related to the purchase and administration of these necessary, albeit expensive, therapies."

However, she did not provide specifics on how her practice is different from other rheumatology practices in the state. The data show she billed for 114,575 services, while her colleagues' numbers range from 3,000 to 29,000 services.

Callis said she simply didn't know why her numbers were so much higher than that of other rheumatologists — the other physicians at her practice bill under their own names.

In Salem, ophthalmology was a well-represented specialty in the Medicare data. Three doctors who specialize in retina care were among the highest paid, all from Retina Consultants LLC. Their payments ranged from \$499,087 to \$766,757

One of the practice partners, Dr. Andrew Westfall, said there are certain conditions in his specialty — macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, retinal vein occlusion that require injections of drugs that cost about \$2,000.

Because they have to be administered at the practice, the doctors pay for the drugs up front then bill Medicare for reimbursements. Those could hike up their payment figures, even though they may just be breaking even on the drugs.

SAUL

BOULANGER

ASOSU

SPEAKER OF THE

HOUSE



THE DAILY BAROMETER

Fountains of danger

Beware the newfangled fountain pen. Pharmacy school seniors gathered for the Waterman Pen Company "gave some suggestions for the care of fountain pens" made. The future pharmacy professioncarried upright in a pocket or handbag because it will leak and cause trouble.

- April 13, 1932

Honey Do

Think you could be the next Oregon State Beekeepers Association Honey Queen? Female students between the

ages of 17 and 22 were encouraged to apply for the state title, which entailed series of local, regional and state competitions. Eligible ladies were required



to "be single, be available for public appearances, demonstrate the use of honey, and write a 300-word essay on the subject." The winner would go on to compete in a national contest; because after all, "it seems only logical that a group of beekeepers would need a queen.

Let's go to recess

The Memorial Union games and recreation committee "sponsor(ed) a cam-pus recess" to the beach for all inter-"whenever a likely spot present(ed) itself." The trip touted copious amounts of sunbathing and swimming, topped off with a "picnic lunch complete with wiener

-April 17, 1951

All information taken from previous issues of the Barometer, found in the Valley Library Archives

a presentation about the proper use of "Fountain Pens." A representative from and demonstrated how the products are als learned that pens that are not to be

- April 16, 1968

ested students. Participants traveled from Oceanlake to Waldport, with stops roast." Students paid \$2.75 for all-day transportation and food.

CUE Coming!

The Office of Undergraduate Research is happy to announce this year's Celebrating Undergraduate Excellence (CUE) event will be held on May 15 from 11:00 to 4:00 in the MU Quad. At CUE, undergraduate students who have been involved in scholarly and/or creative efforts under the guidance of OSU faculty members will present the results of their work in poster presentations.

Registration is required to display work in the event and can be completed at the CUE Web page (http://oregonstate.edu/ua/events/cue-0). Registration closes April 25. For more information, contact Kevin Ahern at

ahernk@onid.orst.edu

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Eugene seeks special tax credit for tech companies

By Edward Russo THE REGISTER-GUARD

EUGENE - Hoping that new commerce will take place in the empty Hynix semiconductor plant, the Eugene City Council on Monday unanimously endorsed the idea of another tax break designation for west Eugene.

Councilors voted 8-0 to approve a resolution asking state officials to approve a new "electronic commerce" designation in the west Eugene enterprise zone, which covers areas in southwest and northwest

In enterprise zones, companies can get property tax breaks if they meet investment and job creation requirements. In zones. Ten of those have

an e-commerce zone, qualify-ing tech companies that locate in the areas could receive an annual state income tax credit of up to \$2 million.

The council approved the designation with no debate.

City Councilor Alan Zelenka was the only councilor to speak to the issue, asking a question to clarify that the tax break applies to state income taxes, not local property taxes.

Economic development officials are eager to get the e-commerce designation to help attract a buyer and developer for the Hynix plant, off Willow Creek Road in southwest Eugene.

Öregon has 59 enterprise

e-commerce zones, including Portland, Hillsboro, Salem. Bend and the Redmond area.

The Legislature in February authorized the creation of another five e-commerce zones. Eugene plans to apply for one of those later this year.

Potential buyers are interested in acquiring the Hynix plant, including Simon Tusha, a Maryland-based developer of large data centers in other parts of the country.

The 1-million-square-foot plant closed in 2008. It once employed 1,100 people.

Tusha on Friday said that the e-commerce designation would make the Hynix site more competitive with other areas that already have the designation.

'At the very minimum, it will provide parity and that is very important to us," he said. There are other areas around the state with this e-commerce designation, which makes Eugene not as attractive as Hillsboro and Prineville."

Also, Tusha said his plans to buy the Hynix plant will be influenced by his ability to negotiate a favorable price to buy electricity from the Eugene Water & Electric Board.

EWEB spokesman Joe Harwood on Monday said the utility's general manager, Roger Gray, spoke to Tusha earlier in the day about the price of power.

'We are continuing to explore options, and we think our proposal is very competitive," Harwood said.

Lane County Economic Developer Manager Glenda Poling said Tusha has an option until mid-May to buy the Hynix plant. However, if he does not proceed, others may step for-

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ward, she said.

'There is a lot of interest" in

the property, Poling said. With the council's approval, the request goes to the county Board of Commissioners on April 29. Poling said she expects the county board to endorse the

On another topic, the council said it wants to hear from neighborhood leaders as it moves toward a major rewrite of the rules that govern the controversial program that grants property tax breaks to apartment developers in certain areas of the city.

Called Multi-Unit Property Tax Exemption, or MUPTE, the state-sanctioned waivers are supported by developers who say they are needed to encourage apartments and condos.

City Manager Jon Ruiz and Mayor Kitty Piercy and some councilors back the use of the waivers as a way of fulfilling a city goal to create higher-density housing along major transit corridors. Critics, however, say the waivers are unnecessary tax giveaways.

The council last year suspended the program until the end of this July to give it time to

develop new guidelines. In their applications, developers must submit figures that show the waivers are needed and that without them they would not build their projects. Developers almost always claim they need the tax subsidy to proceed.

Councilors heard about several proposed changes meant to require more of developers before they could receive the annual tax waivers for new apartment and condominium developments.

Upcoming Shows

Oakshire Tasting 6pm

FRI -4/18 -10pm -\$8

Hillstomp CD Release

SAT -4/19 -10pm -\$5

COORDINATORS

EVENTS SUCH AS:

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Comedy Shows ISU Has Talent

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THUR -4/17 -8:30pm - Free

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The Department of Student Leadership & Involvement (SLI)

52 PAID STUDENT STAFF POSITIONS on the following teams for 2014-2015:

- Center for Civic Engagement (CCE)
- Center for Leadership Development (CLD)
- International Students of OSU (ISOSU)
- Memorial Union Program Council (MUPC)
- SLI Information Desk

NORTHWEST

- Student Events & Activities Center (SEAC)
- Student Sustainability Initiative (SSI)

Information, applications and alternative format: www.oregonstate.edu/sli/employment-opportunities

or Memorial Union room 103 Deadline is Friday, April 18th at 5pm (students may apply for multiple positions)

Oregon State UNIVERSITY

Student Leadership & Involvement



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Today's Su • do • ku



Hard

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tp://oregonstate.edu/dept/azozu-advocacy

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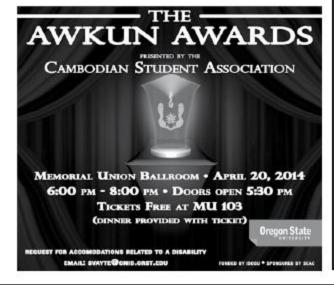
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Reckless. LaSells Stewart Center-OSU Campus April 17, 18, & 19 - 7pm RecklessDrama.com

doors open at 6:30pm-come early, a full house is expected presented by Real Life Ministries & Calvary Corvallis



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DEADLINE APRIL 18th, 2014

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Be a campus representative for The Daily Barometer.

Hand out newspapers to people on campus, interact with people about the newspaper and relay feedback received back to the department. Approximately five hours per week,

Applications available at 118 MU East/Snell Hall. Deadline to apply is Friday, April 18. Questions? Contact Kami Hammerschmith, kami.hammerschmith@oregonstate.edu or 541-737-6379

ISOSU INTERNATIONAL SPRING FESTIVAL Stories our Mama told us when we were young

Sunday, May 4 • 12pm-4pm • Memorial Union Quad

Come join us in celebration and learn about the different Spensored by International Students of OSU

Composite Composition Students of OSU

Oregon State

and Student Events & Activities Center



Corvallis + Crystal Lake Park

Eugene + Tugman Park

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Oregon State



For more information and registration, visit

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Kickball leagues start mid-May

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Chris Hagen, professor in the energy engineering program at Oregon State University-Cascades campus in Bend, explains the history of natural gas use in the U.S.

DACOTAH-VICTORIA SPLICHALOVA THE DAILY BAROMETER

SCIENCE

Continued from page 1

tion in this country, I really think about energy security, the environment and the economics of all of it," Hagen said. "You have to look at all three of these factors in order to be successful.

The bad

Hagen touched on the controversy surrounding environmental impacts of hydraulic fracturing, the method of drilling applied to extract natural gas by pumping hundreds of gallons of water deep underground.

Hagen cited people's differing opinions of the potential impacts on water resourc-es "causing people's water to light one fire or potential water contamination" from the chemical cocktails used to loosen up the earth in order to break free pockets of natural gas to seep out.

fracturing has to do with this cocktail of chemicals," Hagen said. "I don't really closely follow the legal situation, but for drilling companies, they want to keep

1940s. There's nothing new about it -

researchers and industry are exploring its uses for society more today, Hagen said.

Another downside to using natural gas for transportation is that the methane contained within the natural gas has a global warming potential 23 times higher han CO2.

When asked about environmental concerns with an increase in the use fossil fuels, Hagen said he did not have an answer.

Instead, Hagen said that he was too focused on his research and the industry side of things to learn where the natural gas comes from, which he uses in his research.

The good

According to Hagen, exploring natural gas use for transportation is an unprec-

source in a similar way that homes and kitchen stoves are powered by natural gas.

There are vehicles on the market with the technologies to run on natural gas, Hagen said. "It's actually not that difficult to convert a vehicle from gasoline to natural gas or from diesel."

Despite having the technology of natural gas powered engines readily available, market infrastructure is a big issue that researchers and industry partners alike are currently trying to map out, according to Hagen.

There are 600 natural gas fueling stations for vehicles in the United States versus 150,000 gasoline stations, and there's something like tens of millions of homes that use the energy of natural gas," Hagen said.

Hagen hopes that building this technology further will push the development and enhancement of infrastructure for consumers to have natural gas transportation options more readily available in the near future.

Dacotah-Victoria Splichalova

Science reports managing@dailybarometer.com

Continued from page 1

"It's pretty well known that when people medicate, they get hungry," Dunham said.

munchies," have created opposition to the new law that allows dispensaries to operate as a legal and legitimate business.

"There is some negative talk that people don't really need it or use it correctly, but there are really sick people who get relief, and that's enough for me.

One of many Oregon Medical Marijuana Patients who visited The Agrestic Tuesday was Craig Patten. He had been sending inquiries to The Agrestic for weeks and was ready for the first day of business

Patten, who is in a wheelchair and suffers from multiple sclerosis, has found cannabis as the best medication to relieve his pain, with the least amount of side effects.

"I can have my wits about me and live a pleasant life," Patten said. "I'm glad they are here."

After months of watching the legislation and going through the application process, Dunham and her team were eager to launch and provide for the dozens of phone calls and messages for patients in need, like Patten.

"It feels like a big relief," Dunham said. "It's really wonderful that people are really happy."

Ashford said. "It was really fabulous."

Following this, Ashford served as a professor at the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand and the University of California, San Diego after earning his doctorate from University of California, Berkeley.

During his time as a professor in Thailand, Ashford had a secondary job to help with income: He starred in a nationally aired educational television show.

"It was kind of a cross between Mr. Rogers and Sesame Street," Ashford said. According to Ashford, the program's general tagline was "learn English the American way with Dr. Scott."

"I used to get fan mail," Ashford said. "I had a lot of kids who were fans."

After his time teaching, Ashford knew he was ready to lead when he returned to OSO as a department head in 2007.

"I had always wanted to move back here," Ashford said. "I'm a native Oregonian."

motivating leader.

"He's not a micromanager, which I really appreciate," Ideker said. "He sets clear expectations and lets you kind of thrive with that.'

Ideker, who's worked in CCE for more than five years, said Ashford was one of the main reasons he came to OSU.

In addition, Ideker mentioned Ashford's work as director of the Cascadia Lifelines Program, a \$1.5 million disaster preparedness initiative designed to help West Coast citizens prepare in the event of a catastrophic earthquake.

"He's really working to implement and bring that to the Pacific Northwest," Ideker said.

The search for permanent department heads continue in the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, the School of Chemical, Biological and Environmental Engineering and CCE.

Professor Joseph McGuire currently serves as interim department head for CBEE. Michael Scott, associate professor, was appointed as interim head for CCE

According to Ashford, the College of Engineering wants to request the assistance of a search firm to find the best candidate for EECS department head.

"I think we're moving ahead," he said. "Everyone I've talked to from the industry is excited about moving forward."



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Baseball Pac-12 power rankings

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Youth powers up-and-coming track program

Redshirt freshman Morgan Anderson competes in the Oregon Preview March 22 in Eugene.

> COURTESY OF STODDARD REYNOLDS



Oregon State's abundance of freshmen, sophomores has Oregon State excited for future

By Scott McReynolds

THE DAILY BAROMETER

Ask random students at Oregon State and there's a decent chance they don't know there is a track and field team on campus. It's understandable as it's a young program and the actual track has been around for only two years.

Despite this, the Beavers are here. They are young and they are competing with some of the best.

Only six athletes on the roster are seniors, and the majority of athletes you will see at the top of results sheets are freshmen and sophomores, with a few juniors mixed in. Their youth has the Beavers eager for the future of the

'I'm so excited to see what we can do," said freshman Holly Cavalluzzo. "We have some great freshmen coming in next year and it's just exciting to see where every-one is going to be at, and this program in general. We're coming up.

Before this year, most of the track athletes were women from the cross-country team. Last season, they fielded about 11 athletes who weren't switching over from cross-country — this year they have almost double that.

Next year, they expect to have even more, according to assistant coach Travis Floeck. Oregon State really only has one sprinter on this year's team, but next year, it hopes to field a whole sprint group, a records, it's just awesome." few hurdlers and a heptathlete.

The team has grown each season, bringing in more and better talent, which includes not just athletes but also coaches. The changes have meant better coaching and more appeal for high school athletes looking for a place to compete. The team has recently brought in

volunteer assistant coaches Geena Lara, Dave Johnson and John Parks, who have all either competed or coached at the Olympic level.

Many of the current sophomores are leading the team this year: Kelsi Schaer at distance, Rachel Picknell a thrower and Michele Turney a jumper — Turney holds the school record for the triple jump.

The team also boasts an exciting group of freshmen. Cavalluzzo has helped the Beavers' scoring in distance, while Helen Ann Haun and Melissa Ausman have also performed well.

Haun is one of the first women ever to compete in the pole vault for OSU, and Ausman is close to breaking the record

Oregon State also has valuable postseason experience. Junior Kinsey Gomez and sophomore Sara Almen both qualified for

the NCAA Championships last season. Gomez competed in the 5,000-meter and Almen in the high jump.

"The older girls have definitely helped us so much with training," Cavalluzzo said. "They are always so helpful in being positive. Just watching everyone progress and get so much better, even the throwers and jumpers, getting all those school

Floeck says that the older girls bring a lot of leadership to the team, leading by cample with the work ethic that they

The leadership the veterans bring is an important aspect for a team, especially for a program building from the ground up.

A lot of people might have shied away from the weight that comes from establishing a new program, but these athletes have embraced that role.

"They all understand where we're at and how we're building a program," Floeck said. "I feel like they're competing for something bigger, to be a part of a program that's building. I think it's a cool experience for them. They all know they are the foundation of what's to come.

The athletes have been getting outward acknowledgment, something that has brought excitement for them. They received a \$2 million anonymous donation to help complete the construction of the track.

Cavalluzzo said the donation and even-tual completion of the Whyte Track and Field Center is just another thing that will help Oregon State going forward.

The Beavers might not send multitudes of athletes to the postseason this year, but with a young team, a young program and potential, they could be on their way in the near future.

Scott McReynolds, sports reporter

On Twitter @scottyknows81 sports@dailybarometer.com

Oregon State football should be better in 2014



Started From the Bottom

regon State's success has been nearly impossible to predict the past two seasons.

This year is no different.

Two years ago, the Beavers were coming off a 3-9 season and the optimistic prediction was six or seven wins. They won nine and finished the season ranked in the top 25, nearly capturing the third 10-win season in program history.

With the majority of their players returning, most myself included - predicted a similar, if not greater win total in 2013. Oregon State won six of its first seven, but lost five straight before its bowl victory at the end of the year.

With the number of returning players, logic says OSU should be the same if not better in 2014, but things get harder to predict when you consider the quality of players that Oregon State lost.

Because of that, I could see Oregon State winning just five games and missing out on a bowl. But I could also see it winning 10 and challenging in the Pac-12.

As of now, I'm leaning closer to the latter.

Offensively, the Beavers return seven starters. They get back both running backs in Storm Woods and Terron Ward, as well as fullback Tyler Anderson. OSU will also benefit from its tight end corps, which includes all four players who saw playing time a year ago.

Isaac Seumalo is one of the best centers in the country and Richard Mullaney was solid at

Not to mention, Oregon State returns Sean Mannion, a proven, record-breaking quarterback playing the most important position in football.

Defensively, OSU returns nine starters, only having to replace a defensive end and cornerback.

On paper, all that looks like a recipe for improvement and optimism. The problem isn't in the number of players OSU has to replace, however, it's who exactly needs replacing.

On the offensive side of the ball, Oregon State lost the best receiver in the nation and 34.1 percent of its offense. No matter who OSU runs out there at wide receiver next year, there's no chance he'll be able to replace 128 catches and 1,730 yards.

The Beavers also lost three starting offensive linemen from a unit that produced the 114th ranked rushing offense in the

If only nine teams in college

football were worse at running the football than you were, and you lost more than half the players that block for the guy that runs the ball, you might have a

That being said, there's no reason to think Oregon State couldn't cope with the losses

and potentially even improve. Addressing the Brandin Cooks dilemma is the toughest.

Victor Bolden is the expected replacement. He had just six catches last year and is still raw as a route runner and pass catcher, but has elite speed and athleticism for the position. There will undoubtedly be growing pains, but he, combined with a promising Malik Gilmore, at least provides optimism.

You also can't forget that Mannion has now been in Mike Riley's system for four years this year being his fourth as starter and fifth with the program - and that he has NFLcaliber talent while coming off

the second-most passing yards in the nation (4,662) and 37 touchdowns

He has other weapons and should be trusted to adjust to the personnel OSU does have.

On the other side of the ball, Oregon State has to replace arguably its two best defensive players from a year ago — defen-sive end Scott Crichton and cornerback Rashaad Reynolds.

Reynolds was a team captain and racked up six interceptions a year ago. He'll be missed, but Steven Nelson is back on the other side of the field and Larry Scott has looked promising in spring practice. In the grand scheme of things, I don't expect much of a drop-off.

Crichton is a much different story. He had 19 tackles for loss and 7.5 sacks while facing double teams most of the year. No one at the position has experience coming back besides the other starter, Dylan Wynn. This

See KILSTROM page 6



JUSTIN QUINN | THE DAILY BAROMETER

Senior auarterback Sean Mannion calls out the cadence at spring practice April 9. Mannion threw for 4,662 yards and 37 touchdowns last season.

OSU nabs 4th place

Women's golf shoots its 2nd-lowest 3-round score in school history Tuesday

THE DAILY BAROMETER

The Oregon State women's golf team probably couldn't have picked a better time to start playing

The Beavers finished Tuesday with the secondlowest three-round score in school history, posting a 19-over 883 at the Silverado Showdown in Napa, Calif. The Beavers finished Monday's two rounds at 7-over before shooting a 12-over

OSU's score was good for fourth place overall in the 15-team tournament, which featured nine teams currently ranked in Golfstat's Top 50.

Senior Anica Yoo led the way for the Beavers, firing an even 72 Tuesday to finish the tournament in a tie for sixth place at 1-under. Junior Seshia Telles shot a 3-over 75 Tuesday to finish 2-over for the tournament, while sophomore Chelsea Saelee and senior Lauren Sewell each shot 9-over. Freshman Krissy Peterson, who finished at 28-over, rounded out the list of OSU competitors.

The Beavers have a little more than a week to prepare for the Pac-12 Championships, which OSU will host in Corvallis beginning April 25.

The Beavers will enter the conference championships knowing that they can compete with anybody in the conference, given this week's results in Napa. Eight of the teams in the 15-team field hailed from the Pac-12, and the Beavers finished higher in the final standings than all but two of those teams (No. 11 Washington, which won the tournament at 3-under and No. l Southern California, which came in second at 10-over.) Included in the Pac-12 teams that OSU beat were three teams ranked in the nation's top 50: No. 35 Oregon (T-5th at 22-over), No. 9 Arizona (T-5th at 22-over) and No. 33 California (13th at 57-over). Colorado came in at eighth with a score of 32-over, while Washington State rounded out the group of Pac-12 teams by finishing second-to-last, ahead of only San Diego State.

The only time OSU has had a better threeround score in program history came earlier this season, when the Beavers shot 10-over at the Westbrook Spring Invitational in Peoria, Ariz. Before this season, OSU's best three-round score was set in the fall of 1998, when the Beavers shot 20-over at the Rainbow Wahine Classic in Kauai, Hawaii.

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KILSTROM

III Continued from page 5

might be OSU's biggest positional question

So what's that all come out to?

There's no reason Oregon State shouldn't be better than its 7-6 record from a year ago, especially considering the schedule is fairly

OSU has to play at USC in its conference opener Sept. 27, at Stanford Oct. 25 and at Washington in the second-to-last regular season game. But the only other conference road game is against Colorado.

Obviously it's only the spring, but right now you would probably say that Oregon State should be favored in eight of its scheduled

The Beavers play Portland State, San Diego State, Utah, Cal, Washington State, Arizona State and Oregon at home. They could easily win all those games, minus Oregon.

They also play at Hawaii in week two and at Colorado Oct. 4. None of those contests are by any means guarantees, but Oregon and Stanford are the only two games that you'd consider the Beavers heavy underdogs.

There's no predicting how next season will ultimately end up, the last two years are proof of that.

But there's also no reason Oregon State can't challenge for a Pac-12 title once again.

Andrew Kilstrom, sports editor

On Twitter @AndrewKilstrom sports@dailybarometer.com



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Baseball Pac-12 power rankings



By Andrew Kilstrom

1. No. 7 Washington (25-7-1, 12-3 Pac-12)

The Huskies continue to play like a team looking to be crowned Pac-12 champions, getting another series win against Stanford over the weekend. Snagging a 14-3 victory Monday over Northern Colorado,

Washington is now 15-2 in its last 17 games. Oregon State maintains a higher national ranking, but the Huskies remain in first place in the Pac-12 standings.

UW has benefited from well-rounded play in all aspects this season, but has been highlighted by Brian Wolfe's .404 batting average and 27 runs batted in and Tyler Davis' 7-1 record and 1.38 earned run average

No. 5 Oregon State (26-7, 10-4)

While Washington State is much improved from recent years, the No. 5 Beavers would have liked to get a series sweep over the weekend. Instead, the Cougars were able to knock the Pac-12 Pitcher of the



Year favorite, Ben Wetzler, out of the game early, earning an eventual 4-1 win in the series opener. OSU

bounced back in a big way, outscoring WSU 20-6 in the following two games en route to a series victory. Wetzler has been a force at 6-1 and 0.69 ERA, and Michael Conforto could repeat as Pac-12 Player of the Year thanks to a .395 batting average, 38 RBIs and an astound-ing .538 on-base percentage. The showdown between Oregon State and Washington, which takes place May 16-18, the second-to-last conference series for both teams, is looking more and more like it could decide the conference champion.

3. No. 23 Oregon (28-10, 7-5)

Just when it looked like the Ducks might fall out of the conference championship picture, they bounced back, winning their last six games. Oregon struggled in its previous 10 contests, going 5-5 during the span, but looks poised to make a run



with Washington State next on the schedule. The Ducks don't have quite the same level of dominant pitching

they've had in years' past, but have been led by the somewhat surprising play of Mitchell Tolman, who's hitting .351 with 35 RBIs on the season. At fifth place in the Pac-12 standings Oregon is only one game back from OSU in the loss column. Don't count UO out just yet.

4. Arizona State (19-14, 9-6)

ASU continues to play good but not great baseball, taking two of three from the struggling Golden Bears this past weekend. The Sun Devils would have had a series sweep, but fell in extra innings in



the weekend finale. They've been winning games the same way they used to in their glory days: hitting .294 as a team, including

a conference-best 14 home runs. Factor in ASU's 81 combined extra base hits and 191 runs scored and the result is a dangerous Sun Devils team at the plate.

5. Washington State (16-16, 7-4) The Cougars have only won seven Pac-12

games, but are currently in third in the conference standings because of their overall winning percentage. Despite losing two of three to the Beavers, WSU remains tied with OSU in the



loss column with a chance to make some noise the next two Oregon this weekend followed average of .218. by a road series with rival

Washington. The Cougars will be underdogs in both matchups, but would find themselves

near the top of the standings and in line for postseason consideration with a few victories.

6. Arizona (17-20, 6-9)

Despite a terrible stretch in the middle of the Wildcats' season, Arizona has gotten at least partially back on track, winning five



of its last six games. UA took two of three from the defending national champs over the weekend and continue to provide a threat because of the

most potent offense in the conference. While it's their rival ASU that is historically known for its bats, the Wildcats have proved to be scary at the plate this year, hitting .299 as a team, including 216 runs in just 37 games.

7. UCLA (19-15, 7-5)

The Bruins are still tied for fifth in the Pac-12 and have time to turn things around, but haven't played good baseball since dropping



out of the national top 25. UCLA is a disappointing 9-11 at home this season and is coming off a series loss to Arizona. The Bruins continue to pitch well -

UCLA has a team ERA of 2.38 - but haven't been as good at the plate, hitting .256 with just five home runs and 136 total runs.

8. USC (17-17, 6-9)

The Trojans have leveled out since their hot start and are playing the mediocre rand of baseball most expected they would entering the season. USC



is 4-6 in the last 10 and failed to sweep the conference doormats, Utah, this past weekend. USC hosts Arizona this weekend in a series that has some real

implications. Both schools could still make the postseason and are currently tied for seventh in the conference standings. A series win would go a long way.

9. Stanford (12-16, 4-8)

Stanford finally gets a break from a brutal stretch of separate three-game series with

No. 23 Oregon, No. 5 Oregon State and finally No. 7 Washington, all of which were away from home. The Cardinal were a respectable 4-5 over that span, but find themselves tied for ninth in the conference

standings with little hope of qualifying for the postseason. Their offense is mostly to blame, hitting .246 with 111 runs scored this season.

10. Cal (15-17, 4-8)

Cal has been more or less average this season, but average isn't near good enough in the Pac-12. At 4-8 in con-



ference play, the Golden Bears are pretty much out of contention and have to play Washington this weekend. Their 3.57 team ERA

is solid but nothing special in a conference full of good pitching. A .232 team batting average probably isn't going to consistently get it done.

11. Utah (11-21, 2-13)

The good news for the Utes is that they got their second Pac-12 victory of the season over the



weekend. The bad news is they're in dead last and are clearly the worst team in the Pac-12 once again. Utah doesn't have a single

weeks. Washington State is at player hitting north of .300 and has a team

Andrew Kilstrom, sports editor sports@dailybarameter.com

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Editorial

Grad Fairs on campus lure seniors into procrastination

f it seems like we're concentrating on the graduating seniors unfairly much so far this term, it's probably because most of our editors are graduating seniors.

Suffice to say, it's something that's looming large in our minds.

Freedom.

No more classes.

Our introduction - or reintroduction - to the real world starts in only seven short weeks.

We might - not that we're admitting to anything — be panicking, and maybe even obsessing a little. We're pretty sure we're not the only ones.

In swoops the Grad Fair to save

In the OSU Beaver Store from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, and in the Memorial Union Ballroom from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday, you can get information about commencement, buy (or rent) your cap and gown, peruse the class rings and diploma frames and talk to the alumni association.

These are all, obviously, extremely crucial things you need to do - especially if you've got an early midterm or two you should be studying for this

Procrastinate in style, and blow money you don't have on things you don't need, but things that your possibly overly sentimental - parents might agree are crucial memen-tos of their baby's last milestone of childhood.

If you're not walking at commencement, you still might really need a diploma frame or a class ring. You'll never know if you don't go look. And if you don't go, you might actually have to do something productive like study for exams, write papers or do homework.

We kid, but don't discount the graduation fairs entirely.

Just like with career fairs, wading through the nonsense can be really rewarding if you find that gem of a contact or career opportunity.

OSU's alumni association is pretty active and close-knit, and may provide networking opportunities that will help you in your first job out of school - or it might not be until 15 years down the line that the connection comes through for you, but just because something doesn't have an immediate effect doesn't mean it's ineffectual.

As long as Josten's impulse-buy traps don't snag you, the graduation fair will probably be an interesting, informative and sneaky way for graduating seniors to productively procrastinate for a few hours this

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

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

or e-mail: editor@dailybarometer.com

Loss of faculty work in bookstore separates community

he new OSU Beaver Store has all the frills and thrills that anyone could ever ask for. It's got new lights, a huge sign, fancy displays inside and even more room to stand in line in the massive rush at the beginning of

But what it still doesn't carry - as of about a year ago — is work writ-ten by our faculty.

This elimination was brought to my attention this year. I couldn't believe that we didn't carry the books that our very own professors

The main reason why the OSU Beaver Store does not carry faculty work is because it wasn't generating enough sales, according to Steve Eckrich, CEO and president of the OSU Beaver Store. Eckrich says that this change was made to maintain



and fund the student textbook dis-

I completely understand the need to keep up with the times and make sure businesses are doing what they can to make a profit, but this a scholastic institution.

We should be supporting our scholars rather than allowing our bookstore to be overrun by sports paraphernalia and useless Beaver

Knowing that OSU is doing its best to support faculty and students is my main concern. If OSU faculty

books are doing well online, then I guess I'm OK with them not being in the bookstore. But there's also the physical aspect of shopping at a bookstore, plus the immediate gratification of buying something and being able to put it to use right

Majorie Sandor, an English and writing professor at OSU, says that the pleasure in visiting the bookstore was browsing the General Fiction section and perusing, with pride, the "new books by OSU staff faculty" display.

The serendipity of finding the right book at just the right moment is something that can only happen in a bookstore," Sandor said.

But not so much anymore.

For now I guess we'll have to consult online sources to find our faculty's literature. I hope faculty work is not being too negatively affected by this change. It may seem like professors and students are from completely different worlds, but it's important that these worlds come together. The more we separate them, the more our community is

If by eliminating the general and OSU Press section in the OSU Beaver Store aids in funding student textbook discounts, so be it. I hope it's truly the case. But it's not just about the OSU Beaver Store's new book policy. It's about being proud of the university we're part of and maintaining the attitude of com-

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

Being 'bad in bed' is entirely subjective

My ex said I was "bad at sex." How do I get better at it without cheating on the girlfriend who's not ready to take that step yet? Signed, Bad to the Bone

Dear Bad to the Bone,

There are so many thoughts racing through my mind right now. Let's start with the basic idea of being "bad at sex" or "bad in bed." That is so subjective. What one person thinks is a good skill at sex or in bed. another person might think is a bad



Ask Dr. Sex

skill — or more appropriately, an undesired skill. So much of what people like in bed or at sex is subjective, not objective.

It's not like being good or bad at, say, singing or playing a sport. There are certain criteria that make singing Email questions for the column to forum@dailybarometer.com, with the subject "Ask Dr. Sex. Your name will not be published.

or playing a sport universally good or bad. If you are good at singing, you can carry a tune and it sounds pleasing to the ear — to everyone's ears. You may not like the genre of music, but that's different than the actual singing being bad. If you

See GREAVES | page 8

AFF Remelom by Ryan Mason



RYAN MASON IS A JUNIOR IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

Brooklyn Di Raffaele

The Daily Barometer

Stay true to yourself to retain creativity

The creative process is different for everyone. It's also stressful for everyone.

Especially when someone loses the ability to find his or her creativity.

I think of myself as a creative person. This comes in handy when I write, or take on a new class project. All I usually need is a starting idea for a project, and then 1,000 sparks go off at once.

This is reassuring, because I'm able to think differently and approach my project from different perspectives and voices than the majority of the students in my classes. Generally, the most frustrating part of class projects is discovering or deciding which idea will be the one that has the followthrough to make it to the end of an article or assignment.

But sometimes it's possible, all of a sudden, to lose your mojo.

I can sit and stare, trying with every fiber of my being to come up with an idea, or even some semblance of an idea, but nothing comes. Just tumbleweeds rolling around in

my imagination.

This happened to me recently. I was devastated.

I couldn't figure out why I was having so much trouble with a simple writing prompt for class. The assignment was to write a paragraph about where we grew up — but I had no idea what to put on the paper.

Creative assignments like these are ormally fun for me, because they get me more engaged with my work and ideas. However, with this assignment, I kept highlighting everything I'd written and deleting it, because it

was garbage. It's not like I had nothing to go off of for this assignment: I'm from Las Vegas. I had plenty of material. Plenty.

After an hour of frustration and no ideas to go off of, I realized that I hadn't daydreamed in four days.

This usually isn't cause for concern for most people. Yay, productivity! But

to me, it was huge. I always daydream.

Through it, I find my ideas.

It keeps my creative mind active. But I was having a serious dry spell

of creativity, and I was getting worried. I had to retrace the last few steps I'd taken in my life. I wanted to figure out

See DI RAFFAELE page 8

Second-century Christians summarized their faith in the Apostles' Creed, and today hundreds of millions celebrate it at Easter.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord:

Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He arose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

As 21st-century faculty and staff at OSU we join with Christians of all ages in proclaiming this ancient faith.

Ken Funk, Mech. Ind. & Mfg. Engineering
Grant Thompson, Fisheries & Wildlife
David Wright, Health Sciences Bus. Ctr.
George Voss, Student Health Services
Roger Traylor, Elec. Engr. & Comp. Sci.
James Roberts, Speech Communication
Andy Karplus, Biochemistry & Biophysics
Pat Cordova, Forestry-Oceanic Bus. Ctr.
Alex Yokochi, Chem. Bio. & Env. Engr.
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Jack Higginbotham, College of Science

Gary Ferngren, History, Phil. & Religion
Tammie McQuistan, Linus Pauling Institute
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Clara Neill, Ag. & Marine Sciences Bus. Ctr.

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GREAVES

Continued from page

are good at a sport, then you have the skills to achieve the desired outcome — make a touchdown, a basket, a home run or whatever.

Second, that's a really mean-spirited and selfish thing for someone to say. The only possible goal or motivation to telling someone they are bad at sex is to hurt them.

I don't know about you, but I was always taught that it's never OK to hurt someone or to hurt their feelings. Remember the golden rule: Do unto others. If your ex wouldn't want someone to be that mean to her (I am assuming that if you have a girlfriend now that your ex was also a girlfriend — thus the pronoun "her"), then she should have stopped to think about what it would be like to be on the receiving end of that statement before she said it.

Third, if your ex did think you were "bad at sex," the burden was on her to tell you what she liked, thus leading you to be good at sex. The takeaway message here is that communication is crucial to getting what you want in bed. Because there aren't any specific universal skills associated with being "good at sex," it is up to each individual to communicate to their partner what they like.

If she never told you what she liked, then the burden of you being bad at sex actually falls partially on her. If, however, she did tell you what she liked and you ignored her, then that is your fault.

Fourth, let's say, for example, that there is such a thing as being good or bad at sex — like singing or a sport. Didn't our parents always tell us that practice makes perfect? Well, then if you actually are bad at sex, isn't that your ex's fault for not allowing you enough practice time?

For the sake of argument, I am going to say that you aren't bad at sex — maybe inexperienced, but not just bad at sex. It sounds like your ultimate concern is that you don't want to be "bad" with your current girlfriend. If she's inexperienced as well (I'm guessing that because you said she isn't ready to take that step yet), then why can't you both become experienced (thus "good at sex") together? It can take time for two people to get in sync so that their sexual experiences are mutually satisfying.

Trust me, if you open the lines of communication now in terms of what you both like — or what you think you'd like — and what feels good, then when the time comes, I'm sure you'll both be in a place to satisfy the other sexually.

I know it's hard for most people to imagine, but a half century ago, most people were sexually inexperienced when they married. They figured it out as they went. The expectation that someone will be "good at sex" when they've never had sex is illogical. It takes time. Give yourself some time.

Clearly cheating on her to get better at sex isn't the answer. I'd like to see you explain that one to her:

Her: "Oh honey, you're great at sex!"

You: "Why, thank you. I've been tapping everything that moves since we started dating so I'd be good at sex when we finally did it. You're welcome."

Dr. Kathy Greaves is a senior instructor and faculty member in the college of public health and human sciences. Greaves hosts sexuality and relationship Q&A sessions in the residence halls and the co-ops, in scranites and fraternities, in the cultural centers and for community groups. The opinions expressed in Greaves' columns do not necessarily represent those of The Daily Barameter staff. Greaves can be reached at forum@dailybarameter.com.

DI RAFFAELE

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what could possibly cause this sudden lack of inspiration, and fix it. Fast.

After going through my life with a fine-toothed comb, I figured out that my lack of creativity was stemming from stress, stress from a business-oriented group I belong to.

I don't blame my group for my lack of creativity.

However, it was the stepping stone that led to my imagination's roadblocks.

Because I was so stressed and focused on businesslike projects and situations, I wasn't dipping into my creative side.

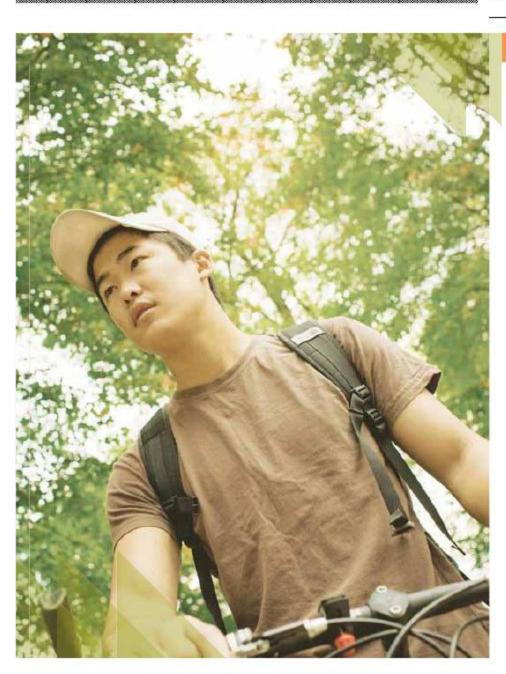
After my revelation, I decided to stay with my business group but to stop letting "traditional" business methods and thoughts override my own style of thinking and creating.

It was a moment that will likely repeat itself throughout my life. It's hard to remember and focus on who you are as a person, no matter what, but it's vital.

Sure, it's not exactly a "Eureka!" moment, and may be an obvious thing to most people. However, when you're the one experiencing it, it can be hard to see what's right in front of you, or to recognize the validity in it.

No matter what group you join or job you take, you need to be true to yourself. Stop trying to fit into someone else's definition of what's right.

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



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