

UKRAINE WAR

THE LONG HAUL

The Corvallis Sister Cities Association provides support and sisterhood during a year of war

By ZEVA ROSENBAUM
News Contributor

The war in Ukraine has left the country as a whole in constant worry of attack amidst rolling blackouts that leave residents without electricity, heat or water for hours at a time in the cold of winter.

Thankfully, the Corvallis community continues to support Ukraine to this day via The Corvallis Sister Cities Association. The CSCA, founded in 1989, is connected to one sister city in Uzhhorod, Ukraine and another in Gondar, Ethiopia and has been instrumental in organizing fundraising for Ukrainian refugees in the year since Russia launched their full-scale invasion into Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022.

According to the CSCA's TOUCH (Take One Ukrainian Child's Hand) Project newsletter, the CSCA's Uzhhorod Refugee Fund has raised over \$400,000 to help provide basic needs and assistance to Internally Displaced Persons over the past year. In addition to this, 175+ people renewed TOUCH memberships to be a donor or sponsor, raising close to \$60,000.

TOUCH co-director Alice Rampton said their "boots-on-the-ground" URF team in Uzhhorod works to distribute the majority of the funds where they're most needed. Multiple CSCA members have taken suitcases filled with funds and supplies to Ukraine to help support the Ukrainian army and the refugee population that has been largely based in Uzhhorod.

According to Rampton, she and her husband, Mark, made two trips since May 2022 and took over eight suitcases filled with supplies for IDPs in Uzhhorod, in addition to two suitcases of non-combat related supplies for Ukrainian soldiers. She said some of the supplies were provided by Corvallis residents, including Misha Zyryanov, who has a relative on the front lines in Ukraine.

Rampton said the suitcases included medical supplies, some of which were donated by Samaritan Health, COVID-19 tests, calendars, hygiene supplies, quilts and blankets, arts and crafts supplies, embroidery kits, board games, weaving looms and more.

Former CSCA president and current TOUCH co-director Sabra Killen and her husband, Randy, also made a trip with the Ramptons and treasurer Sean Fleming and took eighteen more suitcases between them all. Rampton said Delta Airlines waived all of the checked luggage fees for them.

Approximately 47 suitcases have been delivered to Uzhhorod from the CSCA in total.

Uzhhorod has provided shelter to around tens of thousands of IDPs and donations to the URF have helped purchase hundreds of necessities including blankets, mattresses, clothes, shoes, food, medications, and many other important household goods and basic needs.

"In addition, \$50,000 was donated last spring to help renovate a building space in Uzhhorod into a medical clinic where health care is provided by physicians and nurses, free of charge," Rampton said.

CSCA board member Pete Bober said, "it's difficult to identify a single most impressive event or moment, but the overall resiliency and willingness to help by regular folks in Uzhhorod is what stands out for me."

According to Bober, a local donor and the Corvallis Girl Scout Troop #20059 came together to donate ten cases of Girl Scout cookies

to IDP students in Uzhhorod. He said two Ukrainian Open World delegations have been awarded to CSCA too in collaboration with OSU's College of Education and Jacobs Engineering.

The Open World program is an exchange program for post-Soviet era countries, including Ukraine.

Bober said the CSCA also worked with a private school in Corvallis to host a school instructor from Uzhhorod for a month-long visit in April.

The URF also helped to purchase 20 generators, helping to maintain power at dorms at Uzhhorod National University in addition to the public library, secondary schools and more. According to Bober, the Zonta Club of Uzhhorod was able to use one of the generators to power a new warming center.

Bober said the CSCA worked with Zonta District Eight and raised over \$27,000 dollars from Zonta Clubs across the U.S. to provide aid to the three Zonta Clubs in Ukraine, including one in Uzhhorod.

TOUCH maintains an educational fund as well, raising financial support for Ukrainian youth, many of whom come from difficult situations, to pursue education in various fields. According to the newsletter, the fund raised just under \$8,000 in 2022, which was given to 16 youths pursuing everything from law degrees to vocational training.

Rampton said things are difficult in Uzhhorod, particularly due to rolling blackouts that leave residents without electricity, heat, or water for hours at a time in this cold winter.

"One of the hardest things right now is learning daily that another Uzhhorod soldier that you taught in school or who was friends with your children or with you has been killed," Rampton said.

One of Rampton's friends in Uzhhorod wrote to her, saying, "I think I have mentioned that it breaks my heart to see the graves of so many young people who gave their lives fighting for our independence against the terrorists Russians."

But even so, Rampton said the Ukrainian people focus on victory and still don't fear losing the war to Russia.

"In my view, Ukrainians are resilient, resourceful, and rely on these traits along with their faith, humor and optimism to get them through these times," Rampton said.

Thanks to connections via the CSCA, news often comes straight from Ukraine in the form of semi-daily email updates from Yurii Kopynets, Ph.D., as well as contributions from CSCA members in Uzhhorod who write in for the TOUCH newsletter.

According to Kopynets, there is an ongoing threat of Russian air and missile strikes across the majority of Ukraine; just on Feb. 17, Russia launched 10 missile strikes, 29 air strikes and 69 MLRS (Multiple Launch Rocket System) attacks.

Rampton said Uzhhorod still has about 100,000 IDPs who have permanently settled there and the size of Uzhhorod has essentially doubled since the start of the war.

"When a city is bombed profusely in the East, more IDPs and refugees still show up in the city, but many in the Eastern part of the country have left (or been killed)," Rampton said. "We see volunteers all over the city of Uzhhorod still feeding IDPs, sharing their resources, and reaching out to them, even nearly one year following the invasion. They seem to be in this for the long haul."

People interested in supporting Ukraine via the CSCA can donate to the URF via the website, where they can also find contact information to donate physical items as well. The CSCA has a few upcoming fundraising and aid opportunities, including a Spring Flower Basket Sale on April 1, and a first-aid-kit assembly event which is still being planned.



SCALE OF SUFFERING AS OF 2/21/23



18 MILLION
People in dire need of humanitarian assistance



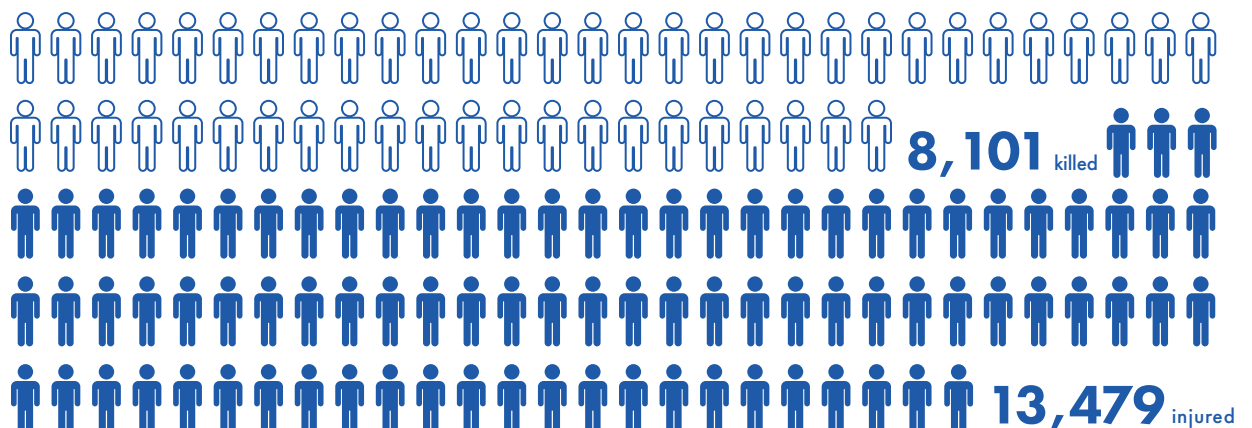
14 MILLION
Displaced from their homes



1.5 MILLION
Children at risk of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental health issues

SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS NEWS

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES IN UKRAINE AS OF 2/27/23



SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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CALENDAR

WINTER DAMCHIC LAUNCH PARTY

March 9, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Memorial Union Ballroom

Celebrate with fashion and food as DamChic's winter magazine is released! Student vendors and a fashion show will also be present

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

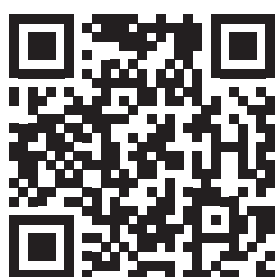
March 8, 5:00-6:30 p.m.
Memorial Union Lounge

OSU president and provost co host a reception recognizing the achievements of women within OSU and beyond

EMPTY BOWLS ANNUAL BENEFIT EVENT

March 11, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
McNary Dining center

Meal and ceramic bowl given with admission. Money raised at the event will go to the Basic Needs Center and Fresh & Local First! A nonprofit matching SNAP funds at farmers markets in local counties.



Use a QR code scanner or Snapchat to view Oregon State University's Events Calendar in full

NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

'Earthquakes can happen anytime, anywhere:' What can OSU do to prepare?

By **WES FLOW**
News Reporter

While an earthquake would shake up life on campus and in Corvallis, OSU experts said the risks posed to both people and structures can be mitigated with effective preparations.

THE DANGER

According to Andrew Meigs, a professor of geology in OSU's college of earth, oceanic and atmospheric sciences, two faults, the Cascadia Subduction Zone and the Corvallis Fault, are potential earthquake risks for Corvallis.

The Cascadia Subduction Zone and Corvallis Fault are capable of producing a magnitude 9 and magnitude 7 earthquake, respectively.

The odds of an earthquake occurring in the next

50 years along the Cascadia Subduction Zone between Vancouver Island and southern Oregon is somewhere between 10 and 17 percent, Meigs said.

It's been 323 years since the last earthquake along the fault, where earthquakes occur on average once every 500 to 600 years, although Meigs noted the time between earthquakes on the fault has been as short as 150 years and as long as 1000 years.

"The one thing that you can say is that it is an inevitability," said Meigs. "That earthquake will occur; when it will occur is anyone's guess right now."

The risk posed by the Corvallis Fault, meanwhile, is far harder to predict, since there is no consensus as to whether or not the fault is active.

"We have almost no information at all about its activity in the last tens of thousands of years, which is the normal window on which we would like to have information about past earthquakes," Meigs said.

THE DAMAGE

The risks earthquakes can pose was tragically illustrated on Feb. 6, when a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck Turkey and Syria, with over

45,000 people killed, according to an AP report.

While buildings built to Oregon's building code are safer in the event of an earthquake than those in Turkey, according to OSU Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Bamberger, this doesn't mean they wouldn't suffer damage that could render them unusable.

Erica Fischer, an assistant professor of civil and construction engineering in OSU's college of engineering, describes modern buildings as being designed to handle earthquakes the same way cars are designed to handle crashes; the building suffers damage in an earthquake, but dissipates energy in order to protect those inside.

"We design buildings to be damaged in a systematic fashion such that the damaged portions of the building can be replaced and we can maintain life safety," said Fischer. "This means that the building may not collapse, but it could be heavily damaged and the goal is to limit or prevent

loss of life."

While new buildings constructed in Oregon have to be designed with seismic concerns in mind, this hasn't always been the case.

"Oregon was considered to have low seismic risk for a long time in our building code history," Fischer said. "It is really only in the last 30 years that we have considered that most of Western Oregon has moderate to high seismicity."

For older, more seismically vulnerable buildings, there are ways to retrofit them with seismic protections. According to Fischer, this can range from reinforcing old concrete and masonry structures—which can fail suddenly in an earthquake—to ensuring floors and walls are securely fastened together.

According to Bamberger, OSU Capital Planning and Development maintains a list of buildings identified as needing seismic renovation as part of their ten-year financial forecast.

OSU's 2022-2032 forecast, available through the University Facilities, Infrastructure and Operations website, lists Gilkey Hall, Milam Hall, Kerr Administration Building and McAlexander Fieldhouse, as well as Hatfield Marine Science Center Building 900 in Newport, as slated for seismic renovations, while the CPD website also lists seismic improvements as part of the Cordley Hall Renewal Plan.

According to Bamberger, not every building is a suitable candidate for seismic renovation.

In the case of Weniger Hall, the cost of demolishing the building and replacing it with a new one was found to be more cost effective than retrofitting it to better withstand an earthquake.

The current site of Weniger Hall will then be used for the to-be-constructed Collaborative Innovation Center, according to the CPD forecast.

BE PREPARED

If you're inside a building when an earthquake begins, according to Bamberger, the three things you need to do are drop, cover and hold on.

"We encourage people to get low to the ground or to the floor, so they don't get thrown around, that's the drop, get under



something solid, that's the cover... and then hold on, because you're going to be violently shaken," Bamberger said.

One preparation that can be made for an earthquake is putting together a go bag, a kit containing enough essential supplies to last for 72 hours after a disaster.

According to Bamberger, priority items for a go bag would be a first aid kit, a supply of water and food and extra warm clothing such as a jacket.

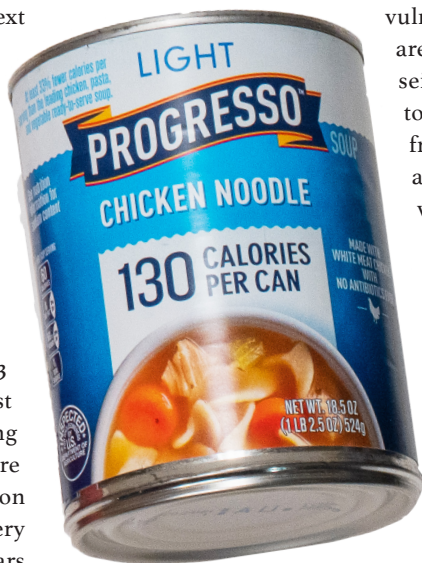
Those living in a dorm or apartment may not have a lot of room to store supplies for an emergency, so Bamberger suggests finding multiple places to stash extra food and water, such as the back of closets or drawers. In particular, having access to clean water after an earthquake—or any other natural disaster—is important.

"It takes a gallon of water per person per day in a disaster, that's the minimum you'll need to cook, bathe, drink, clean cuts, all that kind of stuff," Bamberger said.

In the aftermath of an earthquake, according to Bamberger, electricity and water service will take time to be restored, potentially up to two weeks. In the long term, classes would not resume for weeks afterwards, and would be virtual when they did.

Bamberger said those interested in learning more about emergency preparedness should visit the OSU Emergency Management website.

"Earthquakes can happen anytime, anywhere, so everybody has to invest in their preparedness, know what to do and have supplies to be able to survive afterwards," -Bamberger said.



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A photo illustration depicting supplies and food for an earthquake taken on Feb. 19. Preparation for an earthquake is important for limiting injuries as well as reducing the chances of hazardous situations.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lending a helping hand: OSU alternative spring breaks offer service opportunities

By **GINNIE SANDOVAL**
News Contributor

Oregon State University offers an alternative to spring break that gives students the opportunity to travel to one of three Pacific Northwest communities to experience a week-long immersive program where they engage and learn directly from the community.

According to OSU's student experiences and engagement site, groups of 10-12 students participating in the program will have the choice between communities in Washington, California and Southern Oregon to immerse themselves in and learn

from their communities.

Dating back to 2010, the program allows students to engage with the communities through direct service projects, educational conversations and presentations and reflective dialogue with community leaders. This offers an opportunity to explore the complexity of social issues, then reflect on and develop their ability to lead for social change.

Olivia Hulbert, program leader and specialist for OSU's Community Engagement and Leadership said her most transformative leadership experience was co-leading an alternative spring break to Yakima, Washington for a week last spring.

"My co-leader and I led ten OSU students to Yakima where we spent the week engaging with the various communities that exist there and learning about how these communities co-exist and share land and history."

Hulbert said this year students will be given a chance to learn from three separate communities. In San Francisco, California, students will stay for a week and participate in community projects surrounding homelessness.

They will explore the complex factors impacting food and housing security in San Francisco and will be completing hands-on

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TECHNOLOGY AND CLUBS

Oregon State drone racing team looks forward in preparation for national competition in Atlanta

OSU will be the only college representing the Pacific Northwest in the 2023 Collegiate Drone Racing Championship. **6**

FUNDING AND EDUCATION

OSU Ecampus classes, more expensive for Oregon residents, but at what cost?

Ecampus courses cost a flat rate, making online class options more expensive for resident students but cheaper for out-of-state students. The difference causes some students to weigh benefits of cost and flexibility in choosing modality. **5**

ASOSU

Paola and Young reflect on term, offering advice for successor



By **JACE JETT**
News Contributor

As winter term comes to a close, the former president and vice president of Oregon State University's Associated Students of OSU reflects on their experiences and offers advice for their successors.

ASOSU President Matteo Paola and Vice President Sierra Young reflect on their term as the university's student-run government association president and vice president.

"I'm really proud of how strong our (executive) team has been this year and am glad we were able to contribute to past year's successes by seeing through wage increases for every fee funded unit," Paola said.

Paola mentions being proud of being able to push the reforms for the Survivor Advocacy and Resource Center, now Center for Advocacy Prevention and Education during his time as an ASOSU representative and working with others from last year's executive administration.

SARC and the Interpersonal Violence Prevention Team have joined together to form the CAPE. CAPE will operate through a multi-disciplinary and collaborative approach to provide a continuum of programs and services designed to prevent interpersonal and gender-based violence and to support survivors.

"This job is so insanely varied, it's kind of hard to pick a single aspect. But the ability to hire and manage a staff of over 14 incredibly dedicated students has definitely been a challenge but one of the aspects I'm most grateful I had the opportunity to experience," Paola said.

A favorite project during his term was the World Heart Rhythms event which was primarily planned by their international and cultural coordinator Jojo Namuddu and

public director Angela Westcott. WRH was a gathering of people from all different backgrounds with different organizations and in Paola's one of the most ASOSU has years. Paola ASOSU this event early ASOSU tradition.

Paola hopes he next ASOSU president is as committed as him to student workers and student basic needs as the past ASOSU administrators have been. He also hopes to see a continued push for higher student worker wages and increased worker benefits.

According to Paola, he wishes he had the capacity this year to unionize student workers — just like University of Oregon's student government has been doing — but hopes to see ASOSU work towards that in the future. UO's student government is working to support a unionization movement on their campus.

For the next president, Paola advises to lean on other leaders for support and collaborate with other student body presidents.

According to Paola, the position can be incredibly rewarding but can also be very isolating due to having back-to-back meetings from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

On top of managing a full course load, Paola said the position can be very daunting. But there are very few other positions on campus that come with the privileges and challenges associated with the work. So for Paola, it has been really helpful to build relationships with presidents at other Oregon universities and PAC-12 schools.

resource time earlier in the year. I learned that real change can come from individuals on campus, in my opinion, Paola Young ASOSU is hoping to build into a tradition.

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CULTURE

The Revival of the Muslim Student Association

By **SYDNI ZIDAREVICH**
Justice, Equity, and Diversity Beat Reporter

After two years, the Muslim Student Association is now back in full swing at Oregon State University.

Like many clubs and organizations, the MSA pushed to work through the trials and tribulations that COVID-19 presented by doing periodic Zoom meetings, which consisted of five to six members, typically officers of the MSA. Eventually, due to the inability to gather and organize events as frequently, as well as the president at the time graduating, the MSA dissolved.

"I was interested in getting that community again," said junior, and now President of MSA, Fatima Yassir Rashid.

Rashid began the process of reviving the club during spring of 2022 by reaching out to the former MSA President, Sadia Hasan for guidance on how to begin the club again.

"She gave me some tips and some information to the social media, the Muslim Student Association account on Ideologic," Rashid said. "And she was like, 'Okay, the club is yours. Do what you gotta do.'"

From here, Rashid posted on her Instagram, asking if anyone was interested in starting the MSA with her. She received a few responses, which then allowed for them to begin initial planning.

"I talked to our now Vice President, his name is Abdula. We had our first meeting and said, 'What are we going to do?'" Rashid said. "We just outlined our plan and we didn't really get events starting until, I believe week six of fall term."

Rashid, who is originally from Illinois, said that finding a Muslim community when she first moved to Oregon was difficult, not even knowing if there was a Muslim community to join.

"Coming to OSU, trying to find that community was very crucial to me," Rashid said. "Especially because these are people we can connect with, these are people with shared beliefs and we can definitely make more connections and friends that way."

Rashid and members of the MSA are excited to be back and operating at the university and hope to see communities outside of OSU, and throughout the state of Oregon, incorporate their own MSA and create resources for those who might be interested in Islam or want to be better educated about Islam.

"I think, especially being a Muslim in America, that's already a difficult place for some people to connect to," Rashid said. "Having people that you know and are with you that understand you, especially in Oregon, which...I didn't find super diverse when I first came here."

Community is an important aspect of the club, especially as Ramadan approaches in March.

"Ramadan is a month of the Islamic calendar where Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset for 30 days," said MSA Officer and Media Liaison, Anisa Ali. "The purpose

| continued on **PAGE 5** |



Community Service

Continued from **PAGE 2**

projects such as preparing and serving meals and assembling wellness kits.

Another opportunity will be for students to travel to Ashland, Oregon to learn about the pressing environmental conservation and restoration issues in the area. For a week, students will enjoy a hands-on experience working on service projects that may include creek restoration, planting native species, mulching, invasive species removal and other environmental restoration and conservation projects.

Students will be learning from local environmental leaders about impacting threats and factors on natural habitats and ecosystems. There will also be a focus on sustainability, renewable energy and waste reduction.

A third alternative spring break opportunity for students will be the immersion into the communities of Yakima Valley, Washington. There they will stay for a week learning about the impact of land acquisition, settler colonization

and immigration.

The focus will be on the experiences of the Yakama Nation, Filipino-Americans, the Latino/a/x community and undocumented migrant workers and their families.

Students will also work with individuals and families experiencing housing insecurity, economic disparities, food insecurity, influences of agriculture and environmental justice.

Hulbert, who led the Yakima trip last year, said some activities were particularly powerful.

"We sat on a hillside examining the Treaty that was written when much of the land was forcibly removed from different Indigenous communities. We also shared meals with community partners who told us parts of their stories, and we went and did projects with them to better understand what led to their work on social causes," Hulbert said.

Hulbert also said that one of the ways they were able to help and give back to the community was by building a wheelchair ramp onto the home of a member of the Yakama Nation so she could be approved to come home from the hospital.

To participate in the Alternative Break program, there is a \$200 program fee that includes transportation from the OSU campus to the program location and back, lodging in shared and communal housing, 7 dinners—6 prepared by the team and 1 dinner out together—as well as 2 dinners provided at send off, food staples for preparing breakfast, lunch and travel meals.

However, OSU believes no student should be excluded from participation due to financial barriers, and is offering program fee waivers.

Students can go to <https://cel.oregonstate.edu/students/altbreaks> for additional details. The deadline to apply is March 3rd and students can find Olivia Hulbert under the contact information if they have any questions about the program.

According to Hulbert, the Alternative Break program is one where students can gain personal growth while expanding their understanding of both history and the realities of today.

"It is an experience that is beautiful and challenging and really worth it," Hulbert said.

FUNDING AND EDUCATION

OSU Ecampus classes more expensive for Oregon residents, but at what cost?

By **NINO PAOLI**
News Reporter

Carisa Womack-Hakala is no stranger to online classes — COVID-19 broke out during her junior year of high school, causing her school to go fully online — but now she feels as though she is “missing some aspects of education” as she pursues a degree in business administration through Oregon State University’s Ecampus program.

Womack-Hakala is just one of many Oregon-resident Ecampus students paying a higher per credit tuition than her in-person counterparts; the undergraduate base tuition matriculated at OSU during the 2022-23 academic year is \$338 per credit, while Ecampus’ base tuition is \$346, according to OSU’s finance and administration website.

Even so, Womack-Hakala said she enjoys online classes because they allow more flexibility in her work schedule.

Conversely, Ecampus courses do not vary in price between Oregon-residents and out-of-state students, like Charlie Thompson, a California native, which caused him to remain fully-online even after OSU resumed in-person classes.

“I moved to Corvallis freshman year, and that was all in person... but then COVID-19 happened,” Thompson, a fourth-year marketing major, said. “I went back home, and I did online classes... and then the bill came, and I realized that it was extremely cheaper to do online classes as an out-of-state student.”

Whether the pull of Ecampus courses is cheaper tuition for out-of-state students such as Thompson — or the opportunity for a more flexible schedule, in Womack-Hakala’s case — they share similar frustrations in regards to online education.

“I don’t think I’m getting my money’s worth while at OSU Ecampus, since I feel like I’m teaching myself the materials,” Womack-Hakala said.

Thompson noted that even though he continues to take online courses currently, he had to withdraw from an online course last term and is now attending in-person.

“The structure wasn’t right for me online... I was confused out of my mind,” Thompson said. “I decided to withdraw from that class and retake it again this term in person.”

How effective Ecampus classes are depends on the student, Kristin Griffin, a senior instructor in the OSU School of Writing, Literature and Film said.

“There are some folks who wouldn’t be able to take a class at all if not for the flexi-

bility of our Ecampus offerings...others really need in-person interaction to learn,” Griffin said. “I’m just grateful both modes exist so we can support our students, whatever their circumstances might be.”

Griffin has taught in-person classes at OSU for 11 years, and has been teaching Ecampus courses for roughly nine years. She attributes a difference in expectations of online classes and their in-person versions mostly because the former is synchronous, while the latter is asynchronous.

“Evaluating participation and engagement is different, but equally as important in either mode,” Griffin added.

Despite paying more per credit, second-year Womack-Hakala plans to complete her bachelor’s degree online.

“I do prefer online classes because I get to go at my own pace and not have to worry about getting all the reading done before I go to class again,” Womack-Hakala said. “I don’t think I can complain because I chose this route and I’m content.”

Ecampus classes are charged a flat rate per credit and with no mandatory fees, while on-campus classes are charged both tuition and mandatory fees, Student Accounts Receivable Manager Gregory Balck said.

“For Oregon residents, Ecampus classes could be more expensive if they are taking both on-campus and Ecampus classes,” Balck said. “For non-residents, Ecampus classes will be less expensive regardless.”

Steve Clark, the vice president of University Relations and Marketing, said in-person tuition includes mandatory fees that help fund resources all in-person students can use.

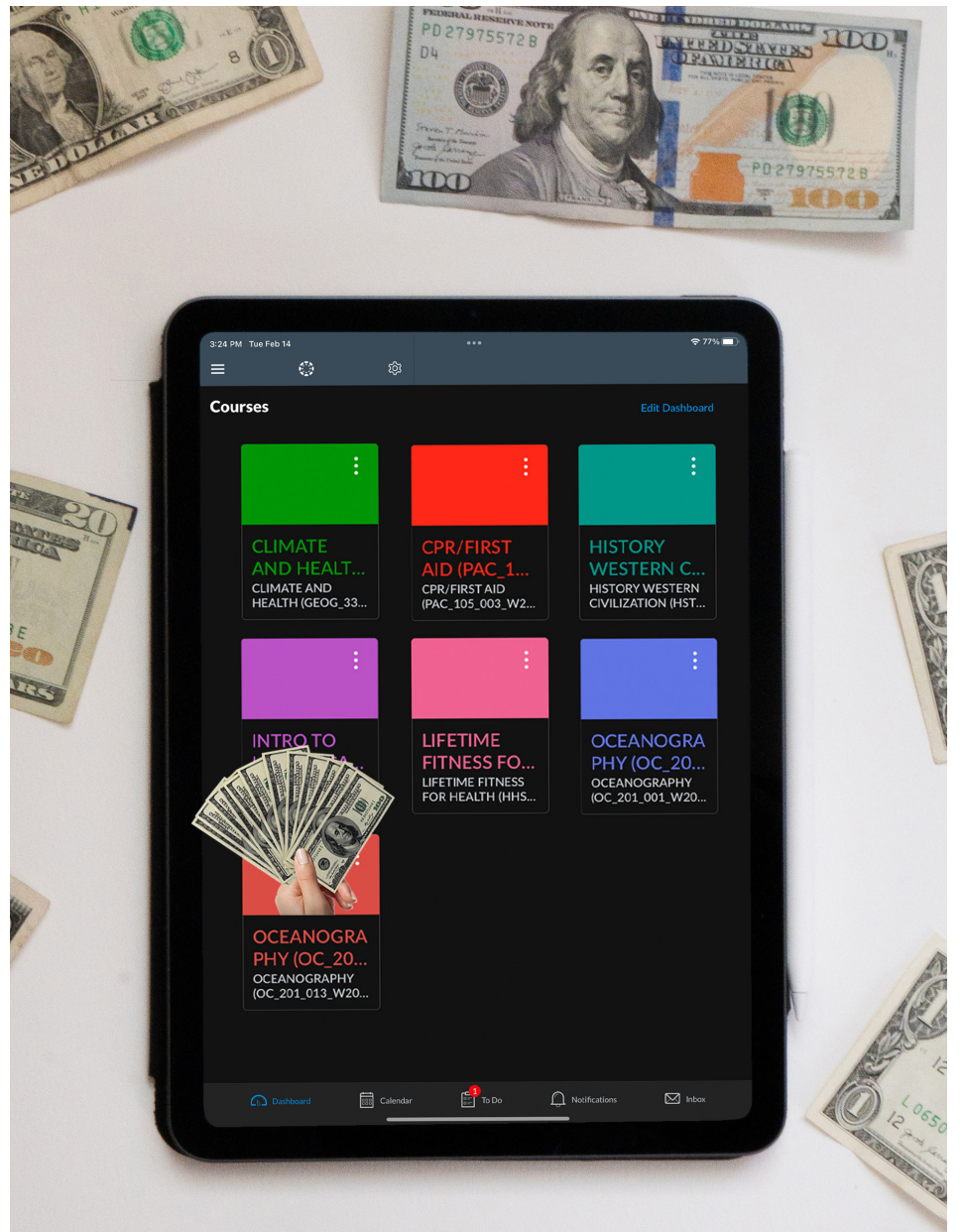
“On-campus tuition includes the costs of maintaining, operating and using the physical campus in Corvallis,” Clark said.

On the other hand, Clark said Ecampus courses are priced the way they are because the majority of students enrolled in Ecampus courses aren’t Oregon residents.

“Ecampus courses and tuition are developed largely for students who are truly taking OSU courses at a distance from campus,” Clark said. “Approximately 75% of Ecampus students reside outside (of) Oregon.”

Additionally, Clark said online tuition is decided in comparison to other universities across the nation.

“The online education space is very competitive and OSU’s tuition rates are informed by what other universities and colleges are charging for similar quality programs in the



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A photo illustration depicts an iPad with money surrounding it taken on Feb. 14. Ecampus classes are typically more expensive per credit than in-person classes for students who are Oregon residents, however, ecampus courses are cheaper per credit than in person classes for out of state students.

same academic areas,” Clark said.

Womack-Hakala has only ever taken online courses during her higher-education; on the other hand, Thompson said, in regards to online and in-person classes, he “can tell the difference right away,” and he is more engaged during in-person classes.

“You don’t have to teach yourself as much,” Thompson said. “But, you lose the convenience, and you lose that kind of time management aspect... you have a set schedule, and you have to work around that.”

As tuition across campus continues to increase at OSU, Sherm Bloomer, associate vice provost and university budget officer, said this is largely to inflationary cost increases in critical expense areas of the university’s operations, such as faculty or other employee salaries, benefit costs set by the state of Oregon or the cost of insurance paid by OSU.

“Tuition is the largest source of funding for supporting the academic mission of the

university,” Bloomer said. “Tuition pays for approximately 63% of the Corvallis’ campus academic budget, while legislative funding pays about 24% and other sources about 13%.”

Whether due to convenience, money or a general shift towards online education, Clark said that OSU Ecampus has seen dramatic growth in recent years.

“Ecampus enrollment... saw significant increases during the pandemic; meanwhile, the number of high school students graduating in Oregon has grown only slightly in recent years and is predicted to begin to decline in 2025,” Clark said.

According to Clark, these trends have caused enrollment at OSU’s Corvallis campus to stay relatively the same in the recent past.

“In fall of 2012, Ecampus had 3,175 students, while the Corvallis campus had 23,218 students,” Clark said. “In fall 2022, Ecampus had 10,679 students (and) the Corvallis campus had 23,613 students.”

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Volunteer opportunities abound for OSU students looking to get involved in the community this spring

By **WES FLOW**
News Reporter

Whether volunteering is a new year’s resolution you haven’t gotten around to yet, or you’re just looking to get outside this spring, several Corvallis organizations are currently looking for volunteers.

CORVALLIS SUSTAINABILITY COALITION

The Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, a group working to promote sustainability in the Corvallis area, offers several opportunities for those interested in volunteering.

The group has a dozen action teams, which focus on specific sustainability-related issues from water to education, and work on projects designed by the group’s volunteers, according to the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition website.

HEARTLAND HUMANE SHELTER AND CARE

Corvallis’s Heartland Humane Shelter and Care relies on volunteers for much of its activities, and the shelter welcomes

those interested in volunteering to register on the shelter’s website.

According to the website, volunteers at the shelter do everything from caring for and socializing animals, to maintaining the shelter’s grounds and buildings and aiding in fundraising efforts.

CORVALLIS PARKS AND RECREATION

Between maintaining 2,000 acres of parks, and organizing community events, Corvallis Parks and Recreation has opportunities for volunteering all year round.

According to the Parks and Recreation website, opportunities range from helping maintain parks around the city, to taking part in performances held at The Majestic Theatre. Prospective volunteers can apply online, and paper applications are also available at Corvallis Parks and Recreation facilities.

BEAVS VOLUNTEER

Oregon State University students can also volunteer in several local organizations, including both the shelter and Parks and Recreation, through the university it-

self via OSU’s Beavs Volunteer program. Volunteers in the program can register through the Beavs Volunteer website.

The program partners with five local organizations, and beside the Heartland Humane Shelter and Parks and Recreation, students can also volunteer with Benton Habitat for Humanity, the Room at the Inn emergency women’s shelter and the Starker Arts Garden for Education, which grows and donates food to local soup kitchens and food banks, according to the Beavs Volunteer Website.

GREENBELT LAND TRUST

The Greenbelt Land Trust, a nonprofit organization focused on conserving lands in the mid-Willamette Valley, maintains several programs for volunteers. The organization holds half-day work events, which range from maintaining trails to removing old fences, according to the Greenbelt Land Trust website.

The organization also has regular land stewardship opportunities at Bald Hill Farm, and all are welcome to apply to join the Greenbelt Land Trust Volunteer Naturalist Program.



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Clark Chesshir (they/he) talks about their experience as the program coordinator at the Community Engagement & Leadership office (CEL) in the Student Experience Center (SEC) at Oregon State University on Feb. 13. Student staff assists in organizing events and each member of the staff plays an important role, Chesshir explained.

Muslim Student

Continued from **PAGE 4**

of it is, it is one of the pillars of Islam. It is one of the ways to worship and look within yourself and take time to reflect, be one with yourself and connect with God and those around you. That’s why it’s very family based and people come together very often during this month.”

“We really want to have people know that at OSU there are still places that Ramadan can be celebrated together, especially because a lot of people aren’t with their fam-

ilies during school,” Rashid said.

The first three weeks of spring term, the MSA will be hosting weekly iftar, which is the dinner after breaking the fast, as well as speakers and Tahajjud, a late night prayer that OSU students are welcome to participate in, giving accessibility to those who may be unable to go to the Mosque.

Outside of Ramadan, MSA also holds weekly Friday prayers at the Asian and Pacific Cultural Center, for those who would like to attend Friday prayer but are unable to get to the Mosque due to their class schedule.

“I think it’s really impactful to have that

resource available to Muslims and also to OSU students because this is an opportunity for other people who aren’t involved in Islam or don’t know that much about Islam, they can come to these events and enjoy and learn,” Rashid said.

The first weekly iftar will be held in the MU Ballroom. During the second week of Ramadan, iftar will be hosted in collaboration with the Ettihad Cultural Center.

“I think having Muslims, especially within their age group is super important to have that community,” Rashid said.

The third will be in collaboration with the

Black Cultural Center, as Rashid hopes to revive the annual Malcolm X Solidarity.

Malcolm X Solidarity will have a keynote speaker who will talk about the impacts that Malcolm X had on the Muslim community, as well as the Black community.

“Islam and Muslims, sometimes, they’re really misunderstood. Sometimes I walk on campus and some people could be staring at me and I’m wondering, ‘What are they thinking? Are they curious?’” Rashid said. “I think having this is not only impactful to Muslim students to have that community, but for others to learn why we’re here and what we believe.”

TECHNOLOGY AND CLUBS

Oregon State drone racing team looks forward in preparation for national competition in Atlanta

By NINO PAOLLI
News Reporter

The drone racing team from Oregon State University is set to travel to Atlanta, Georgia to compete in a national competition that begins on April 1.

Four OSU pilots from the drone racing team qualified for the 2023 Collegiate Drone Racing Championship, and will be the only competition there representing a college in the Pacific Northwest.

Though a team of drone pilots at OSU competed in the 2022 CDRC in North Dakota, Adam Krivoshein, the drone racing lead, anticipates a better showing at this year's championship which will be held at Georgia Institute of Technology.

"Last year, we only had a couple of pilots who were able to be competitive, but this year, we have some people who are really putting in the time, putting in the effort," said Adam Krivoshein, a third-year computer science major.

The CDRC national competition is a two-day competition, where select pilots bring their fastest drones to maneuver through a racetrack. In preparation for the competition, the OSU pilots spend hours first building and perfecting their carbon fiber drones, and then race them through practice courses, which consist of spaced-out five-by-five-foot hooplike gates in open grass areas.

Krivoshein and the other pilots — Felix Klein, Josh Lizee and Logan Snell — submitted their fastest times to the Collegiate Drone Racing Association to qualify for the competition, and are now working to break their own personal records in practice before they compete.

The type of drone racing OSU will compete in at CDRC is First Person View,

where cameras on the front of each drone project real time video feed to the goggles of its pilot.

"It's like having a big TV two feet in front of you," said Lizee, a first-year that has been flying drones for years prior to joining the OSU team.

As a self-proclaimed "big aviation nerd," Klein, a second-year mechanical engineer, enjoys racing drones because the goggles create the illusion of piloting a plane.

"It's really immersive," Klein said. "It's

also super safe for myself, because I'm not actually flying, but I feel like I'm flying."

The drone racing team is a subdivision of the OSU robotics club, which will pay for the four pilots' room, board and transportation to Atlanta. The pilots, though, had to make an investment to reach the point of qualification.

"The cost of entry (into drone racing) can be like \$1000 plus...for things like your radio, the goggles, your batteries and all that,"

Klein said. "The drones, individually, are usually between \$250 to \$400, depending on how high-end you want to go."

Klein explained how even an experienced pilot runs the risk of crashing their drones, causing them to invest even more to replace them.

"Once you get real good (at flying) though, you start destroying (drones) in different ways, like overloading electronics and stuff like that, because you're pushing them really hard," Klein said. "You have to find that sweet middle ground between getting really fast, but not just absolutely destroying your motors, your speed control regulators and stuff like that."

According to Lizee, drones can suffer collisions into practice gates at speeds of 100 to 120 miles per hour, too, which is why many hours are spent by the pilots using a drone racing simulator on their computers as well.

But, for Krivoshein, being a part of the OSU drone racing team is much more than the money and the competition.

"I really value how the club (makes) a community for people to come together," Krivoshein said. "I'd never been able to fly with other people or share my hobby."

JIRATANA TUNGKAWACHARA |
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Drone pilots Logan Snell (left), Josh Lizee (middle), and Felix Klein pose for a photo with their drones on Feb. 12 in the Peavy Fields at Oregon State University in Corvallis. The drone pilots will be competing in the annual Collegiate Drone Racing Association at Georgia Tech on April 1.

ENVIRONMENT

Sustainability Conference ignites conversations about environmentalism in Northwest universities

By HALEY STARK
News Reporter

Bringing awareness to environmental efforts across Pacific Northwest universities, the Washington Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference will be hosted by the Oregon State University Sustainability Office this year for the first time since 2011.

Taking place from March 6-8, the three day conference features many activities around campus, including self-guided tours, keynote addresses from sustainability experts and OSU President Jayathi Murthy, and the Student Sustainability Action Challenge, where groups of students pitch environmental solutions to compete for a grand prize of \$500.

OSU Sustainability Officer Brandon Trelstad, who helped found WOHESC in 2008 and has attended every subsequent event, explains why this year's speakers

make the conference especially exciting for him.

"Kathleen Dean Moore is an OSU author who talks about the moral obligations of climate change, or in addressing it, because it's a moral and ethical issue," Trelstad said. "And then the other plenary on Wednesday will include David Harrelson from the Grand Ronde Tribes, and he'll be talking about indigenous placekeeping."

As Trelstad mentioned, Kathleen Moore is a renowned writer and distinguished professor of philosophy at OSU who, in her own words, studies "the moral urgency of climate action."

In her debut WOHESC keynote talk titled "Change Like a River," she plans to address how people must learn to react as "civilization is barreling toward geophysical tipping points that will change the planet forever."

Moore aims for her audience of over 500

people to take a different look at our current climate situation after the speech.

"My hope is that my listeners will think, hey, I never thought of it quite this way," Moore said. "We are living in a rip-roaring choose-your-own-adventure story. It's a page turner, for sure, but the plot line depends on us. The Earth is our great teacher. It is crying out in the languages of storm and flood, offering us the tools and strategies for rapid change."

WOHESC is open for all to attend, but prices vary based on

conference modality and affiliation with OSU. A full list of registration prices is available on the organization's website at: <https://socialenterprisesinc.swoogo.com/wohesc2023/begin>.



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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Men's Basketball's Sports provide a common language for international students at Oregon State

By BENJAMIN RABBINO
Sports Chief

Many international student-athletes have to leave their home country and acclimate to the norms and standards of the area they move to. Of course, this can present many challenges.

For Felipe Palazzo, a 6'4" 21-year-old guard on the men's basketball team at Oregon State, his immigration journey from Argentina led him to his new family, and in doing so, marked him as the first Argentinian player to play for the Beaver program.

Oregon State in 2021," Palazzo said of the commitment and loyalty he felt from the Beaver staff.

Approximately 6,135 miles separate Corvallis, Ore. from San Miguel de Tucuman, Argentina. While the Willamette Valley is home to a relatively mild climate with warm, dry

record, and following the conclusion of the season, many Beaver athletes either graduated from the team or elected to transfer elsewhere.

Following one of the worst seasons of the men's basketball program, the

me in America. It was probably one of the best moments of my life," Palazzo said.

There was much to learn on Tinkle's offensive and defensive sets during his year as a team manager last season, but Palazzo also learned an important lesson about collegiate basketball and the standards of Oregon State's men's basketball program.

"I made some really good friends last year

LILY MIDDLETON |
ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Argentinian guard Felipe Palazzo dunks the ball during warmups before the second half of the Beavers' game against UCLA on Feb. 9 in Gill Coliseum. His journey with the team is shown through photos of games and warm-ups through this 2022-23 season, as well as an interview with Benjamin Rabbino.

Born in San Miguel de Tucuman, Argentina, and raised by his parents Felipe and Maria, Palazzo found that the country's national game of soccer was not made for him.

"Well, my country, Argentina, is a really big soccer country. Especially now, everybody's talking about it at home because we won the World Cup," Palazzo said. "When I was little, I started playing soccer and I was not good at it."

Not letting his lack of soccer talent halt his aspirations of becoming a professional athlete, Palazzo knew there were other options and became aware of local basketball opportunities around him.

"It was just a hobby when I was a kid. But then it started getting more serious, especially when I joined the pre-national team. I started getting into it when I was like 14 or 15 years old when I went to play for the pro team and thought, 'You know, I can get a contract.'"

Starting at a young age helped Palazzo progress both physically and mentally around tough competition.

Traveling to the neighboring countries around Argentina to play with his pro team, Palazzo started to gain experience of what it was like to not just play for a team but to work as a team.

"I was on a good pro team and that's when I started growing and learning what being around older people was like," Palazzo said.

Being the captain of his state team for seven straight years, Regional Champion in 2014, 2016, and 2018, being named MVP of the Regional Club Championships in 2016, and helping Estudiantes de Tucuman to 18 total championships, Palazzo experienced much success playing at a pro-level before getting scouting to play collegiate basketball in Fort Lauderdale.

"I first went to Florida, to a little school called Nova Southeastern University in 2020. In Argentina, we start our classes in March and finish in December, because our summer is right now, so I came to Florida with no notes or anything," Palazzo said.

His first experience coming to America was not what he was expecting, as the COVID-19 pandemic struck in March of 2020 and all basketball activities were cut short at Nova Southeastern University as well as all other campuses across the nation.

During the downtime he had, Palazzo was able to get in contact with the associate head coach of the Beaver's program Kerry Rupp, who reached out to him, along with head coach Wayne Tinkle and assistant coach Stephen Thompson.

"That's why I decided to come to

summers and cool, wet winters, Argentina's climate differs slightly.

In San Miguel de Tucuman, the wet season is warm and humid, the dry season is comfortable, and it is mostly clear year round. Over the year, the temperature typically varies from 47 to 88 degrees Fahrenheit and is rarely below 38 degrees Fahrenheit or above 97 degrees Fahrenheit.

"It was a complete change to my life. I was coming to a place that I didn't know," Palazzo said.

"The difference between Corvallis and Miami is that in Miami there are a lot of Latino people. A lot of my friends go to Miami for vacations. Nobody comes to Oregon on vacation from Argentina."

Dealing with isolation and uncertainty over his first few days with Oregon State, Palazzo knew he had to take matters into his own hands.

"Building my person from zero to what I am today was a long journey, but I'm happy for all the people that I met, all the things that I did," Palazzo said.

While acknowledging a variety of differences between OSU and his hometown, certain aspects of Corvallis stood out to Palazzo while he got used to how this college town operates weekly.

"We're a PAC-12 school and I feel that this is a whole community, a family, it's like everybody's engaged. You walk around campus, you walk around Monroe [St.], for example, and you have people just interacting with you all the time," Palazzo said. "When you're missing home or you're homesick, that's what keeps you in touch with everybody."

There are a total number of 59 international student-athletes currently playing sports at Oregon State, six of whom are on the Beavers' men's basketball active roster.

"I have a lot of Spanish friends that play soccer here. I love them, you know. I can't be more grateful for them," Palazzo said. "There are two Argentinian athletes here at Oregon State also."

During the 2021 season, Palazzo was not on the active roster but was at every practice, game, and event with the team helping out and being engaged in any way possible.

That year, the Beavers put up a 3-28 overall

Beavers only had four returning players from their roster, which opened up space for players such as Palazzo to get another chance at making the active roster.

"This is my first year on the active roster," said Palazzo. "I think everything happens for a reason. I liked the way things were going, and I feel like if you want something and you don't have it at first, it makes you appreciate things more."

Looking back on what the experience of being on the active roster has done for him, Palazzo reflected internally.

"(It made me) a stronger person and also more aware of the things that I have. I used to not appreciate that my mom would wait for me after practice to have dinner with her every night. Until like 11 p.m. and midnight. Now that I don't have her here with me, I can appreciate her more," Palazzo said. "That's what I like about being away from home. In Argentina, I have everything on hand. And here, I had to work for almost everything."

This sentiment continued into Palazzo's life as he attempted to start relationships with people he met.

"I created my person from zero. It's crazy because I needed to start telling my story from zero. Like, who are you? Like hey, 'My name is Felipe,'" Palazzo said. "Back home, I would never have to do that. My family is well-known back home. It's a little town."

He continues to have communication back home, speaking with friends and family frequently.

"Well, (I talk) with my family, especially with my mom, every day. With my friends, it's kind of hard because everybody keeps living their lives," Palazzo said. "In the beginning, in 2020, there were like 30 to 40 people checking on me. Now it's just five people, and I love that. It was hard to understand, but I love it because those are my real friends," Palazzo said.

Spending the majority of his day dedicated to basketball and school, Palazzo remains busy daily. Although, his hectic schedule hasn't stopped him from returning home to see his family and friends.

"I have traveled back three times since I've been here (Oregon State)," Palazzo said.

It hasn't always been him making the trip back to Argentina from Oregon, having one night set a memory on his birthday that he won't soon forget.

"We had a game and my parents and my sister came. It was the first time they visited

and it was fun, but we just didn't have results. Basketball is all about winning," Palazzo said.

Oregon State's men's basketball roster consists of two seniors, forward Rodrigue Andela and forward Dzmitry Ryuno, and two juniors, guard Dexter Akanno and center Chol Marial, with the remaining 11 players on the roster being either freshmen or sophomores. Out of the four upperclassmen, only Andela, Akanno, and Marial returned from last year.

"I feel like this team, because it's younger, is willing to learn more," Palazzo said. "When you have an older team, you have a lot of big personalities, and this is all about just putting the pieces together."

Many friends and memories helped make up his two years with the team, and a selection of them now make up his family of brothers.

"I'm cool with everybody here, but maybe Cho (Marial) is my oldest friend because he was from last year. Nick (Krass) is a good friend of mine, Donovan (Grant) is a good friend of mine, Dexter (Akanno) and Glenn (Taylor Jr.) we all have a group," Palazzo said.

Palazzo may be the only Argentinian on the men's basketball team, but he shares a common similarity with two of his teammates that came to mind.

"It's the biggest part of everybody's life. He's (Andela) from Cameroon, he's (Krass) from Mississippi. I'm from Argentina. We left everything to be here," Palazzo said. "I feel like we have a great number of international players. We're always able to get international players to come here, and I think it's a great thing. It spreads the sport."

There were many benefits that Palazzo mentioned about the increase of international student-athletes across the nation that could ultimately better those around them.

"I think that one of the most important things in life is to understand that (you need to) open your eyes. In America, it's a little bit complicated and I feel like Americans are close-minded to things," said Palazzo. "That's why I loved it when we traveled to Italy (as a team) because it opens your mind, it makes you understand that they do the same things, but do it a different way and that we have international players because we bring our culture to this city."

International players in the collegiate

| continued on PAGE 8 |

PROFILE

Rhoden reminisces about his first year at OSU

By SYDNI ZIDAREVICH
Sports Contributor

With NCAA and PAC-12 Championships just around the corner, new assistant coach Josh Rhoden reflects on his first year with the Oregon State wrestling team.

"It's been a good change," Rhoden said. "Chris put together a dynamic group... Change is always hard, it's not been easy, necessarily, but it's been fun, it really has."



Rhoden spent nearly 20 years with Clackamas Community College, 16 of those years as the head coach of the wrestling team.

Rhoden began his professional career at CCC in 2006, won the NJCAA National Championship five times, and was named National Coach of the Year four times.

"Coach Pendleton had a proach me a year before this about this opportunity and to work with these guys and I sort of stalled and delayed and messed around a little bit on the idea, just because it is a

big step and a big change for my family," Rhoden said.

At the time of Pendleton's first offer, Rhoden and the CCC wrestling team were pursuing their fourth national title, which would have tied the National record for that level. Rhoden decided to maintain his professional status as head coach and lead CCC to the National Championship this past year. It was after this success that Rhoden turned his attention back to Pendleton's offer.

"It was very hard [to decide] because it [CCC] was the place I knew for my entire professional career," Rhoden said. "I think professionally, it's certainly what I needed to continually be challenged. I don't say it boastfully, I sort of hit the ceiling of where I was at that level. To chase myself and try to continue to grow as a professional, Chris gave me the opportunity to do that."

Acclimating into his new role, Rhoden

describes his first year as a passive participant in the process.

"I told somebody this year, like, I haven't really gotten to coach wrestling tactics and participate in wrestling practice as I have this year, ever," Rhoden said. "Maybe since my first year [as a head coach] when I didn't know what I was doing, still just faking it till I made it, right? But once you get it, it's like, fundraising, alumni, donations, and scheduling. All these other things: periodization of my athletes, what it looks like for Johnny's grades and study halls, and all these other hats that I wore, like 16 different hats. Where now it's, here are the hats you're going to wear: recruiting, alumni engagement, you know, things that I'm really good at cause I'm outgoing and have the gift of gab...That's been pretty freeing too."

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH RHODEN | CONTRIBUTED

Felipe Palazzo

Continued from PAGE 7

game are not an uncommon occurrence, as many top nationally ranked teams find themselves with a star international player.

"If you see the No. 7 ranked (University of) Arizona team, they have a lot of European and African players," said Palazzo. "In the NBA, most of the succeeding players are European and African players, except for LeBron James, of course."

Of course, the conversation led to Palazzo's favorite international basketball players making it to the NBA and succeeding at that level.

"I mean, Manu (Ginobili) is my favorite, but I understand that Dirk (Nowitzki) was the best one," said Palazzo. "Besides basketball, I love (Lionel) Messi. What he has done for Argentina's soccer team I can't put into words."

Reflecting on the difference between last year as a team manager and this year as an active roster player, Palazzo has seen the team at its bottom and now as it is beginning to climb in the right direction again.

"Well, first of all, it was awesome. Being able to be a part of an almost professional team. It's amazing. What I liked the most was being able to see how the team started growing from zero to what we are today. We have a team culture," Palazzo said. "It was an amazing year and I can't be more grateful for this year."

This year especially wasn't just about solidifying his spot on the team, Palazzo knew that he had to get up to speed with the people around him.

"I had to start my path here from zero to a hundred. I didn't know anything about America, my English was not like this, but if you hang out with everybody that's speaking English at all times, you need to start picking up on the slang," Palazzo said.

There is debate and discussion outside of the Oregon State locker room and within the media recently over what the new standard for this Beaver basketball team should be moving forward. While not listening to much of the noise from the outside, Palazzo remains optimistic about the team that Tinkle has assembled.

"For this team, I think we're on the right path. I think coach Tinkle is great, our coaching staff is great, and we're just building our culture back. When all the pieces are working out together is when you will start getting results," Palazzo said.

Palazzo understands that being a part of any Beaver program brings responsibilities that come with their own set of consequences.

"Athletes, especially Division-I athletes, in a big school like this (Oregon State), we have a lot of repercussions in society, so we have to be responsible for that and we need to be responsible in every way," Palazzo said.

As for the goals that he has for himself and the team moving forward into next season and those to come, Palazzo has his head pointed in the right direction.

"It's not just about basketball, you know. You can be a great basketball player, but what about you personally? It doesn't matter if you're a bad person. I'm just trying to be better every day at basketball, school-wise, community service, interacting with people, and trying to help everybody," Palazzo said. "That's what I am trying to do to make this team better."

GOLF

Students' local golf options in 'Fore-vallis'

By NOAH EVANS
Sports Contributor

When the overcast skies clear up and the rain subsides, the brilliant sunshine and blue skies appear, as if nature is urging you to indulge in all of its marvels. Golf gives you the chance to take advantage of the beauty Corvallis has to offer, while also providing great opportunities to spend quality time with friends while enjoying the beautiful outdoors.

Courses in the area offer discounted student rates, making the game accessible to everyone. Whether you're a seasoned player or just starting, there's nothing quite like the feeling of hitting a perfect shot and watching your ball soar through the crisp spring air. So next time the sun comes out, grab your clubs, gather your friends, and head to one of Corvallis' exceptional golf courses for a day of fun.

As the days get longer and the weather gets warmer, it's a sure sign winter is over and it's time to enjoy the great outdoors. One of the best ways to enjoy the bountifulness of the gorgeous Corvallis spring weather is to get out on the links and play a round of golf. Whether at Golf City Par 3, a 9-hole pitch & putt featuring an 18-hole mini golf course, or Trysting Tree Golf Club, an 18-hole links-style championship course. So dust off your clubs and grab your friends, this is the guide to all things golf in Corvallis.

GOLF CITY PAR 3 & PUB

Golf City Par 3, just a short eight-minute drive from campus, offers a unique golfing experience for beginners and experienced players alike. Golf City is what the golf world refers to as a "Pitch & Putt", its a course built on a much smaller scale with holes usually ranging from 50-130 yards.

This is what makes Golf City the quintessential place for someone playing their first round of golf to the advanced player working to hone their short-game skills. The total yardage of the course is just over 800 yards.

A unique hole on the course is the par four 8th. The only par four on the course but it's not long at all.

Owner Jim Hayes has made his claim it's "the shortest par four in the world", a large tree separating you from the green, forces you to play your tee shot left giving you an angle into the small green to make par or even a birdie if you are lucky.

Golf City should be appealing to college students looking to golf on a budget. Currently, this would be the time of year when they charge their winter rates, but there are a few minor issues with the greens at the moment.

For this reason, it costs only seven dollars for a loop around Golf City. In the summertime, the rate is \$14.

If you are looking to test your mini-golf skills or even a place to take a significant other, Golf City has just what you need. The 18-hole mini golf course will put you back just seven dollars and even features a waterfall.

Another great aspect about Golf City is their Pub that sits just off the back of the first hole. It's open for lunch seven days a week 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and then offers a small bar menu until they close, and that doesn't happen till all golfers are off the course.

The address and phone number for Golf City Par 3 are 2115 NE Hwy 20, Corvallis, OR 97330 / (541) 753-6213

TRYSTING TREE GOLF CLUB

If you're looking to play golf on a bigger scale and share the same training grounds as the Oregon State men's and women's golf teams, take a short trek down Highway 34 to Trysting Tree Golf Club.

Hogan Arey, club professional of Trysting Tree Golf Club spoke on the history of the course and their true commitment to the students of Oregon State.

"Trysting Tree is owned by the Oregon State Foundation. It was built for the community and the students of the university. One of the great aspects is we do have an affordable rate for students. The game of golf can be expensive which limits access, so by offering that student rate we give the students of the University a chance to have a good opportunity to play and experience golf at a very good facility," said Arey.

Being a part of Beaver Nation comes with the bonus of being able to play at a course where elite Division 1 golfers practice and compete, at a discounted rate.

Trysting Tree provides options for both 9 and 18-hole rounds and also offers the convenience of using a golf cart. For those who prefer to incorporate exercise into their round, there is a walking rate of \$20 for nine holes, and an additional \$9 per person for a cart.

The walking rate for 18 holes is \$32, and adding a cart brings the total cost to \$50 per player. The golf course has a length of slightly more than 6,000 yards when measured from the white tees, the most common position, and is designed as a par 71.

While the fairways are designed to be accommodating to golfers of all levels and have minimal tree-lined holes, the greens present a challenge to golfers due to their undulating, wave-like surfaces and some having steep falloffs on either side. Even with the unique greens, Trysting Tree is manageable for any golf skill level.

If you're seeking a place to practice your golf swing, refine your putting technique, or even sharpen your chipping abilities, Trysting Tree has everything you need. Students are welcome to make use of the course's practice facilities, which include a full driving range, putting green, and a 20,000-square-foot chipping green that also features a bunker for practice escaping the sand.

Trysting Tree offers three options for the driving range buckets: Small (30 balls for \$3.50), Medium (60 balls for \$7), and Large (90 balls for \$10.50). Additionally, if you don't have your own set of clubs, there's no need to worry. Trysting Tree provides rental clubs free of charge with the purchase of any size bucket of balls.

Trysting Tree is one of few courses in the Willamette Valley that offers a full-service pro shop. From demo clubs to golf attire essentials, the Pro shop has all of your golfing needs.

The address and phone number for Trysting Tree are 34028 NE Electric Rd, Corvallis, OR 97333 / (541) 713-4653

You can book tee times online at <https://beav.es/Si4>



RAFAEL QUERO JUAREZ | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

ABOVE: The green on the fifth hole of the nine hole course at Golf City Par 3. LEFT: Golf carts placed outside of the club house at Trysting Tree Golf Club. Unlike Golf City Par 3, Trysting Tree allows you to rent carts for your round.

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HOUSING

Oregon's attempt to tackle homelessness:

State legislature introduces several housing bills, one endorsed by Benton County



ASHTON BISNER | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

A donation box in downtown Corvallis in August 2022. Since Gov. Tina Kotek's declaration of homelessness as a state of emergency this last January, multiple legislative bills have been proposed to address the issue that has been an increasing issue in Oregon.

By **SKAND S.**
News Contributor

With Gov. Tina Kotek having declared homelessness as a state of emergency in several counties across Oregon, numerous housing related legislative bills have been proposed to tackle this priority.

One such bill is HB 2001 that is aimed at requiring Oregon Housing and Community Services to study affordable housing in Oregon by Sept. 15, 2024 and submit a report to the legislature.

The bill that is being introduced jointly by Democratic representative Maxine Dexter and Republican representative Jeff Helfrich, and Democratic senator Kayse Jama and Republican senator Dick Anderson is expected to get bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

Xan Augerot, vice chair of the Benton County Board of Commissioners, recently testified in writing in support of the bill.

"We need to invest in housing and services all across the state, so that each community can meet the needs of our unhoused neighbors in the place where they have family and other support networks," Augerot said in the written statement.

Democratic representative Andrea Valderrama, Democratic senator Wlnsvey Campos along with Democratic senator Sara Gelsler Blouin who represents

Corvallis, is jointly introducing SB 611 called the Reasonable Rent Bill that limits rent increases every 12 months to any building older than three years.

In addition to this, the bill provides more support to tenants receiving no-fault evictions by requiring landlords to provide three months relocation assistance rather than one month.

According to Valderrama, the legislation attempts to balance the constitutional right of return for landlords with the devastating effects of displacement for tenants.

"What we know is that being evicted is catastrophic and can lead to a cycle of homelessness. The best way to break that cycle is by making sure people stay housed," Valderrama said.

The same version of the senate bill is also being introduced in the House as HB 2733.

However, that is only one side of the story. Another bill HB 2171 that aims to repeal limits on increases to residential rent has been introduced by Sen. David Brock Smith and Rep. Boomer Wright.

In addition to this, another bill HB 2217 that would terminate month-to-month residential tenancies without cause has also been introduced in the House.

Another important bill that is potentially going to affect several Oregonian renters including OSU students is SB 684 that caps the rental application fee to \$10.

According to Democratic representative Khanh Pham, who is a co-sponsor for the bill, the motivation for introducing it is to ensure quick accessibility of housing with as few barriers as possible. The current rental application fees range from \$20 to \$75 per adult.

"Capping these rental application fees at \$10 eliminates most of the problems caused by these fees and improves access to housing, protects consumer rights, and reduces discrimination and segregation in the housing market," Pham said.

This is not the first time that a cap on application fees has been introduced in Oregon. Eugene's city council in July, 2022 voted to have such a cap but early this year in January, a Lane County judge determined that the city is preempted by the state law from enforcing the \$10 cap.

The ruling served as an inspiration for Pham to introduce it in the state legislature. Although several groups such as Springfield Eugene Tenants Association and Community Alliance of Tenants are supporting the bill, Pham anticipates that large landlord lobbyists will oppose the bill.

Gabe Shepherd, the Corvallis city councilor for Ward 4, said that the city council has not yet taken any position on bills relating to housing.

Corvallis local housing community organization, Unity Shelter has also not

taken any stance on the proposed bills, nor has Corvallis Housing First.

However, Executive Director of CHF Andrea Myhre, did say that she was unhappy with Benton County not being included in the recent declaration of homelessness as a state of emergency by Kotek.

"It's great that she (Kotek) is making progress on homelessness issues, but not including our county and the rest of rural Oregon, was a huge oversight," Myhre said.

Although Benton County is not considered as a rural county, it is a part of the Rural Oregon Continuum of Care — a quasi-governmental organization that provides grants to organizations addressing homelessness.

The executive order from Kotek was based on the increase in homelessness measured by the Point-in-Time count — an annual count of number of people on the street and in shelters which was suspended in most rural counties during the pandemic due to lack of capacity to perform counting.

According to Myhre, Benton County has a similar per-capita homelessness rate when compared to metro areas in Oregon and homelessness is not only an urban issue but also a rural one.

"So, we're hoping that the governor can find ways to include our areas in with that declaration," Myhre said.

EDUCATION

Spanish Interpreters are needed in Corvallis and this is how you can help

By **VINCENT HO**
News Contributor

There is a need for Spanish speaking volunteers in Corvallis.

Across Corvallis, there are many places that need Spanish speakers in order to volunteer to help around the community.

Some of these places include schools, donation centers and medical clinics.

Since there are no formal Spanish classes at Franklin K-8 and Garfield Elementary, Oregon State University Spanish speaking students can sign up for an internship opportunity to volunteer and help teach Spanish at these schools.

Students like Maya Sonpatki, Bio Health Science and Spanish Major, currently volunteer for the program at Franklin School.

Raven Chakerian, the senior instructor of Spanish and Italian and head coordinator of the program, started while she was teaching Portland State University. She started a senior capstone that involved students doing similar tasks to what the current program was doing.

"Students just get something out of it that they don't get sitting in the classroom which I found really exciting, so when I came here I wanted to start something like that," Chakerian said.

These students go out to these schools for two hours a week to teach students how to speak Spanish.

"I really enjoy the opportunity to be able to ignite that spark and that passion for language learning in these students and to give them an opportunity that they wouldn't otherwise have," Sonpatki said.

There are also many off campus locations that need Spanish speaking volunteers. Community Outreach Incorporated, which is a transitional housing facility that houses a medic clinic, food pantries, dental clinic and women's clinic is also in need of Spanish speaking volunteers.

The reason given by Angelina Rivas, the client resources coordinator for Community Outreach Incorporated, is that there are a large portion of Spanish only speakers who

| continued on **PAGE 10** |

TERESA AGULERA | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Spanish Interpreters

Continued from PAGE 9

come to the clinic.

"We need them in all areas but specifically Medical and Dental Clinics because that's where we see the highest population of Spanish only speakers" Rivas said.

While it is encouraged to volunteer at the medical and dental clinics, Rivas said that places like the food pantry also need volunteers who can speak Spanish and English.

Another location that needs Spanish speaking volunteers is Vina Moses. Vina Moses is a donation center that markets itself as a "thrifty store where everything is free".

They also have an Emergency Financial Assistance Program that "can also assist with rent, utility, prescriptions, and other urgent financial needs."

The Vina Moses website encourages anyone who is able to speak is encouraged to help volunteer for them.

The role where the donation center needs Spanish speakers the most is as an office assistant. This role actively involves speaking to patrons of the store and answering the phone.

The website asks that anyone who signs up for this role be comfortable with the Google suite and would prefer anyone who signs up to be Bilingual English/Spanish.

According to Chakerian, she wants to expand out the Spanish internship program at OSU to help both Vina Moses and Community Outreach Incorporated in the future.

"Formalizing relationships with these organizations would help fill a need in our community while also giving OSU students the opportunity to do something hands on," Chakerian said.

Chakerian also said that students who are interested in this program should contact her to learn more.

BEAVER'S DIGEST

'It's A Mutually Beneficial Program': How the Corvallis Indoor Winter Farmers Market meets community need

By NATALIE SHARP
Beaver's Digest Contributor

Bright fresh fruits and vegetables line the walkway of the Benton Oaks RV campground on Corvallis' wintery Saturday mornings. With protection from Oregon's rainy winter months, the Corvallis Indoor Winter Farmers Market runs from Jan. 14 through April 8 in the Benton County Fairgrounds and meets several needs in the community.

"(The market) fills a gap for a number of producers who have the ability to sell during what is the off-season for most markets," said Lynne Miller, the manager of the CIWFM.

Very few local farmers' markets in Oregon operate through winter months and if they do, most only have a select few weekends that they run. The CIWFM gives vendors a weekly reliable site throughout the winter and gives local residents continued resources

to buy locally.

The other major need it meets is for individuals receiving the Oregon trail SNAP or EBT benefits. SNAP is a federally-funded program providing a monthly stipend for most cold food items. College students aged 18 to 49 who attend school at least half-time may be eligible for SNAP by meeting income guidelines and additional criteria.

The farmers market works to be accommodating with the use of SNAP and has a special Double Up Food Bucks program where, if you spend \$20 of your SNAP dollars at a participating farmers market, they will match up to \$20 so people can spend a total of \$40 dollars on locally grown fruits and vegetables.

This program is also available at most of the farmers' markets in Linn and Benton counties, along with many others in Oregon, explained Rebecca Landis, the

market director of the Corvallis-Albany Farmers' Markets.

Yet, the CIWFM is one of the only consistent markets to run through winter.

Each participating farmers market has its own "currency" and that currency is only valid at that specific market. The CIWFM gives out wooden tokens when matching SNAP payments. A token purchased at CIWFM that can only be spent at CIWFM and does not expire. However, any DUFB received at any market can be spent at any participating farmers' market.

Tokens can be spent on the typical SNAP items, and the DUFB is exclusive to fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, herbs, beans and vegetable starts.

The program creates a win-win situation, Miller said.

"Vendors benefit greatly because when the

| continued on PAGE 11 |



KATE ZINKE | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

The main entrance at the Corvallis Winter Market on Jan. 28 located at Guerber Hall 110 SW 53rd Street. The market takes place every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. until April 8.

CARTOONS

MOSSY WET ROCK: MINI 3
BY MARS ROMERO



HAM CREEK: PUNXSUTAWNEY PHIL
BY HELEN WHITE



MOSSY WET ROCK: EP 11
BY MARS ROMERO



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COLUMN

College degrees, a valuable commodity or glorified paper weight in today's employment scene



The Firing Line

By **ALEXANDER BANKS**
Columnist

A tightening labor market threatens the legitimacy of college degrees, as companies like Google are reducing their educational requirements to refocus their priorities on skills and experience.

The Washington Post reported that companies cutting their college degree requirements has led to a surge in hiring.

Fortunately, college degrees still do — and will continue to — remain a valuable source for building wealth.

With student loan debt almost at \$2 trillion nationwide, some students leave college and enter the job market already down six-figures. Every so often the question of whether a four-year degree is a scam or not makes the rounds in social discourse among teenagers and twenty-somethings.

While college may not outright be a scam, the modern day price of a degree hasn't yet caught up with the quality of the education. Depending on the career one wants to pursue, there might be better alternatives.

It's important to consider all possibilities when making important decisions, like attending a four-year university.

Brandon Hamilton, a third-year marketing major, wouldn't consider college a scam, although there are levels to the necessity of a college degree.

"I think it's a good tool, if what you're going to do requires that, like if you're going to be an engineer," Hamilton said.

Hamilton felt that college would be a better experience if the students weren't forced to spend money on pre-requisite classes. He said universities should focus strictly on the skill specialization necessary for their career field.

"I think the teaching of it could be more real world applicable," Hamilton said. "In the business class I'm taking now, Introduction to Entrepreneurship, I feel like that class should be helping entrepreneurs with entrepreneurship endeavors, and not just teaching (us) how to work in a group."

Hamilton works as the Vice President of the Lonnie B. Harris Black Cultural Center, has previously been involved

in the marketing club, and also spent time in the sports product development club. He said that OSU has provided him with the opportunities to build connections.

He plans to become a freelance photographer and videographer, and eventually start his own business.

Carson Mandera, a fourth-year kinesiology major, agreed that there is still some necessity for college, but for careers that require a degree.

"There are many better, cheaper options for education, like google career certificates, on the job training, or even just self study," Mandera said. "There's an endless amount of information on the internet that can be accessed for free."

Mandera shared the same sentiment as Hamilton, feeling as though colleges force students to spend too much time taking classes they don't need.

According to him, internships and apprenticeships are an effective means to receive an education.

"I think self-study should be taught, and classes should be a lot more hands-on (with) practical learning," Mandera said.

As someone whose passion is fitness and helping others, Mandera is thinking about taking his education further, studying to become a physical therapist. Schooling would then be necessary for

his goals.

In the Washington Post article mentioned earlier, Lucy Mathis dropped out of her computer science undergraduate program to pursue an internship in information technology at Google. She now works for the company making six figures as a systems specialist.

According to the article, although she wasn't good at academics, she had a knack for information technology.

The first college in the US is claimed to be Harvard University, which was founded in 1636 (chartered in 1650), one of the most prestigious universities in the world.

Before college was widely accessible, building wealth through laboring, apprenticeships and self education was very common. John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie, two of the richest men in modern history, were just two people who never went to college but amassed great wealth.

One can feel justified in believing a college degree isn't necessary to be successful and build wealth, and they wouldn't be wrong in feeling that way.

The only thing worse than wasting money studying for a degree with little job growth and a low average median income is dropping out with no tangible goals, or because someone else did it and happened to get rich.

Yes, Bill Gates dropped out and, yes, Mark Zuckerberg dropped

out, but that's not telling the full story.

They both left Harvard because the university was interfering with their billion dollar ideas. Even if their plans failed, they would have had a very comfortable safety net to fall on.

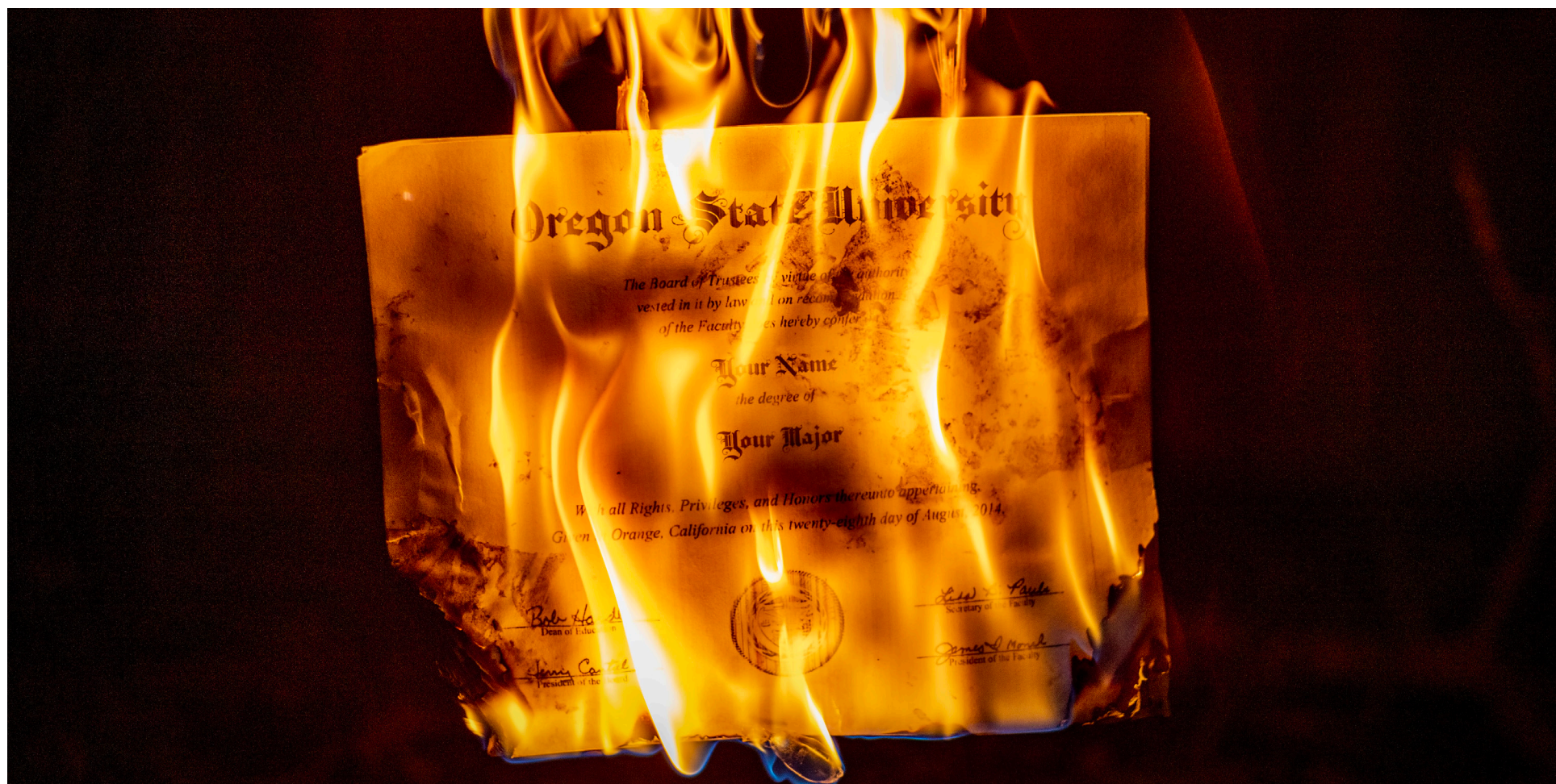
Mary Maxwell Gates, mother of Bill Gates, was the first woman to chair the national United Way's executive committee and the first woman on the First Interstate Bank of Washington's board of directors. Zuckerberg's father and mother were both a dentist and a psychiatrist, respectively.

For a first generation or low-income student, dropping out and spending your life savings to start a business in the garage is not feasible.

For the average person, data and statistics can be relied on to help us direct our decisions. According to Georgetown University's research on the payoff of a bachelor's degree, a bachelor's is worth 2.8 million on average over a lifetime, and bachelor's degree holders earn 31% more than those with an associate's degree and 84 percent more than those with just a high school diploma.

The average repayment period for student loans ranges anywhere from 10 to 30 years, depending on how deep in debt the repayer is.

Colleges need to be thought of as an investment, because the one that you plan on attending will treat it like one, even if you don't.



ASHTON BISNER | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

A photo illustration of a Oregon State University college degree burning on March 1. Questions are raised of whether a four year college degree is worth the debt that comes along with it in the face of an experience driven employment environment.

Farmers Market

Continued from PAGE 10

customers have more money, they spend more, and that means more income for the vendors," Miller said.

"It's a mutually beneficial program," said Chad Shinn, a consistent vendor from Camron Ridge Farmstead. Shinn and his wife Liz run a farm in Jefferson, just 30 minutes outside Corvallis, growing and selling a wide array of "farm fresh, top quality, grown responsibly produce" which, they claim is "the most nutritious and delectable!"

During the market, vendors collect tokens that are spent at their booths, and at the end of each week, the market reimburses them for those tokens. By tracking their distribution they know that at the average

CIWFM, around \$1,500 are redeemed in SNAP and \$1100-1200 in DUFB per week.

"It's a seamless process," Shinn said.

The DUFB rules are heavily influenced by federal funding programs, which are mostly about produce.

"We do try to coach people on what they can spend each currency on, and most people are able to get what they want with a little planning," Miller said.

Farmers' markets shoulder most of the work and cost to distribute SNAP tokens, said Landis. Landis and other CIWFM managers had to apply to the Farmers Market Fund in Portland in order to receive funds coming from federal, state and local grants to allow Double Up Food Bucks at the CIWFM.

"There is a lot of record keeping and accounting needed to do SNAP and DUFB,



KATE ZINKE | ORANGE MEDIA NETWORK

Jessica Haidenberger and Brian Fagon attending the Corvallis Winter market, located at Guerber Hall 110 SW 53rd Street, on Jan. 28. She explained that she liked coming to the winter market for the food and to see what the vendors have to offer.

The Barometer lists OSU's favorite and least favorite things this month.

YAYS & NAYS

↑ ↓

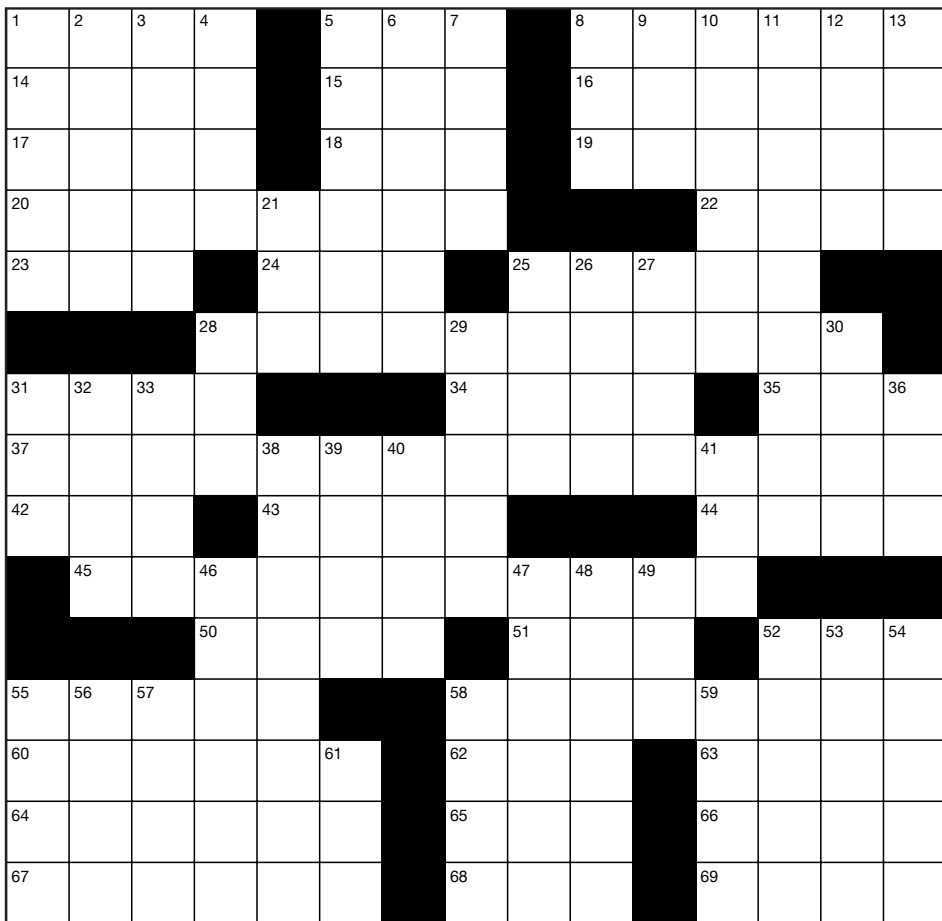
YAYS

- Spring begins
- Womens History Month
- March Madness
- Saint Patricks day festivities

NAYS

- Sporadic rain and cold weather
- Finals
- Start of allergy season
- tax season

CROSSWORD



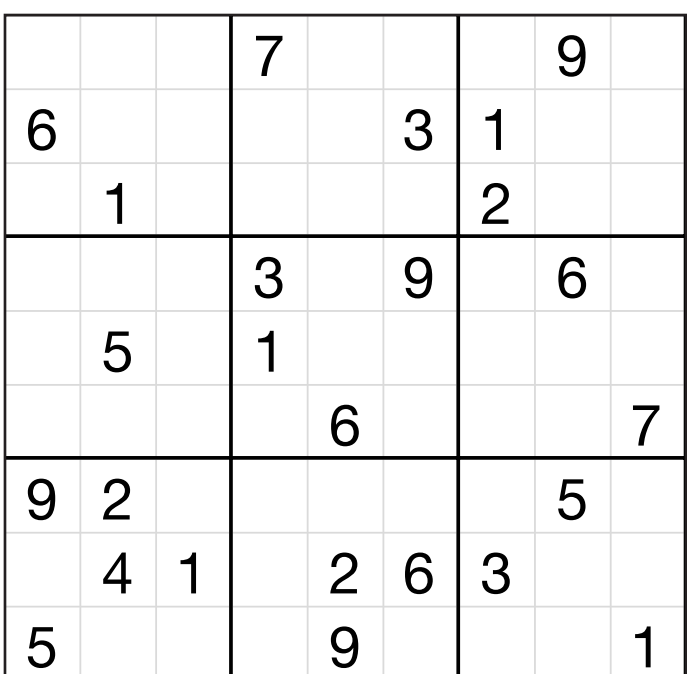
ACROSS

- 1. Look around
- 5. Under CAN
- 8. Grassy ecosystem
- 14. "____ guvnah!"
- 15. Prom attire
- 16. Milne's bear
- 17. Baum's dog
- 18. A third of tri
- 19. Candy company sued for its use of slave labor
- 20. With 58-across, David Crosby, Gram Parsons, and Mick Jagger, proverbially?
- 22. Half a fortnight
- 23. Some remote control buttons
- 24. Actress de Armas
- 25. Many Scandinavians, comparatively
- 28. Love poem writer's observation
- 31. A predator's snack
- 34. Mom's sibs
- 35. ____ card
- 37. Two editing tools, proverbially?
- 42. ____-fi
- 43. Geometry calculation
- 44. Belief systems
- 45. An interest in dendrology, proverbially?

DOWN

- 1. Adjust
- 2. It is an example?
- 3. Choir singers
- 4. Gaming novice
- 5. Quick directional changes
- 6. Ice cream dish
- 7. "____ of evil"
- 8. Defeat in video games, slangily
- 9. Falsehood
- 10. Response to this clue?
- 11. Grabs the attention of
- 12. Major river in northeastern Africa
- 13. Look for
- 21. Basketball player Ming
- 25. Breath heavily
- 26. Curve
- 27. ____-majesté
- 28. Bread type
- 29. Chad's neighbor
- 30. Carpe ____
- 31. Mac alts.
- 32. Unit of ribs
- 33. 2000 film "____ Brockovich"
- 36. Summitter goals: abbr.
- 38. Not talkative
- 39. Flat-bottomed boats, like Noah's
- 40. Modernists
- 41. Ice Age sloth
- 46. Cares for
- 47. Cringes
- 48. Frank and Atlantic
- 49. Affirmations
- 52. Summits without harnesses
- 53. Uses a couple needles
- 54. Sugar eater
- 55. Community member?
- 56. Abuelita's kiss
- 57. Better than the bark
- 58. Many Minecraft trees
- 59. Spanish appetizer
- 61. Devil worshiping grp.

SUDOKU



By TUCKY HELM
Puzzle Contributor



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