



Portland mayoral candidates charge into pre-primary push

Campaigns seek greater visibility of platforms

DESMOND FULLER
VANGUARD STAFF

As of Tuesday, March 6, a total of 23 candidates had filed to run in the 2012 mayoral election. With the May 15 primary elections fast approaching, the Portland mayoral race moves into a critical period of voter outreach, and candidates are redoubling efforts to raise awareness of their platforms. The top candidates—Jefferson Smith, Eileen Brady and Charlie Hales—and alternative candidates like Cameron Whitten are seeking endorsements and knocking on as many doors as possible, hoping to gain momentum going into the primary.

Notable for its lack of negative campaigning, this mayoral race's focus has stayed on candidates'

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ASPSU vote to retain Leaf Zuk as senate leader

Chaotic meeting highlights inner conflict in Senate

ALEX MIERJESKI
VANGUARD STAFF

Turmoil broke out at the ASPSU Senate meeting on Feb. 28. Senator Cindy Reyes, along with three other supporting senators, made a motion to remove Leaf Zuk from his current position as the Senate Pro Tempore.

The senators cited problems with adhering to the Senate Coordinating Committee meeting bylaws, but one main reason for the motions was, according to these senators, Zuk's "failure to facilitate open communication, a safe space and a productive working environment."

Particular emphasis was put on the events that took place during the Senate Coordinating Committee on Feb. 20. Slated to address newly proposed executive board bylaws, the meeting took a turn for the worse as insults were thrown, leaving hurt feelings and tarnished reputations.

At the meeting, built-up tensions and personality differences mounted in what many ASPSU senators called a "bashing session" against Senator Erasmo "Mo" Ruis, causing the senator to resign as a Coordinating Committee member, and setting off a string of other grievances. Along with what some senators see as personal attacks on Ruis, the allowance of these attacks, inaccurate meeting minutes and other interpersonal tensions also emerged during the meeting.

According to the recorded minutes for the Feb. 20 meeting, Ruis entered 27 minutes tardy, exhibiting a concern allegedly expressed about him by other senators. The discussion that followed concerning Ruis' job performance resulted in the so-called "bashing session." Among other things, some senators allegedly expressed reservations about Ruis being their Coordinating Committee member, complained about his lack of reaching out to senators,



CORINNA SCOTT/VANGUARD STAFF

Senator Leaf Zuk will remain in his current position as Pro Tempore.

frequent tardiness and his unwillingness to join the rest of the Coordinating Committee with functions asked of it by senators.

Senator Diamond Zerework, who was present at the meeting, described how the discussion devolved: "All of the CC members were talking about the things they did not like about this particular CC member, and it was all

personal stuff," she said.

Although the minutes do recall some of the more personal comments against Ruis, according to Zerework they leave out some of the more notable comments, specifically the character attacks against Ruis. "All of us that were present at the meeting—even some of

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Bike-sharing pods landing at PSU

Portland looks ahead with Bike Share program

DESMOND FULLER
VANGUARD STAFF

By this time next year, Portlanders should see a new flock of bicycles settle in the Rose City. Part of the new Portland Bike Share program currently making its bureaucratic rounds, the 740-strong bicycle fleet would find homes at various pods across the city, including Portland State.

Portland Bike Share just might become another commonplace facet of Portland's already bike-friendly status. According to Ian Stude, transportation options manager at PSU, up to five of the projected 74 bike pods will be located near the PSU campus with approximately 50 bikes available for student and faculty use. In an email to the *Vanguard*, Stude explained the benefits of bringing bike sharing to PSU.

"The obvious benefit is to those who choose to utilize the bikes to



MILES SANGUINETTI/VANGUARD STAFF

Bikes for rent PSU will host up to five bike pod stations next year.

travel within the central city. Bike Share is going to make it very convenient and efficient to jump on a bike for short, quick trips in the urban core of Portland," Stude said.

Bike-sharing programs have gained popularity and momentum in cities across the United States and in

Europe. Programs consist of a series of automated stations where commuters can check out bikes and then return them. An annual membership of Portland Bike Share, projected to cost between \$40 and \$60, would

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Capstone controversy

PSU senior capstone requirement draws student criticism, questions

BENJAMIN RICKER
VANGUARD STAFF

The Portland State 2012 spring term course catalog has more than 70 listings for UNST 421, better known as the senior capstone. These six-credit courses cover a vast array of topics, like tutoring adult English language learners, writing grants for wildlife preservations in Africa, meditation for personal growth and social responsibility and mentoring Native American youth. Most capstones take one term to complete and are required for nearly all undergraduate degrees at PSU.

As the final component of the University Studies requirement, capstone courses place emphasis on community involvement by nudging students out of the classroom and giving them opportunities to apply their education and skills in a real-world, community-based context. According to Capstone Program Director Seanna Kerrigan, capstone

courses bring together PSU's four general education goals: communication, critical thinking, social responsibility and human diversity. "The capstone," Kerrigan said, "enhances those skills and requires students to demonstrate them. It's the culmination of PSU's general education experience."

Fifteen years ago, PSU faculty members decided that the university's general education mission would be most effectively promoted through a service learning-based senior project. Capstones were the result.

One six-credit class, at \$136.80 per credit for 2011–12, is a costly endeavor for Oregon resident students, but even more so for the out-of-staters, who pay \$475 per credit. Students of junior standing or higher can take their capstone at any time, but with such a long list of choices, selecting one can be a daunting task. Adding to that is the fact that some capstones fill up very quickly.

After struggling to find a capstone that pertained to her interests, psychology senior Celina Kishna settled on Business Outreach. Kishna, who graduates this spring, chose

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The Vanguard is published two days a week as an independent student newspaper governed by the PSU Publications Board. Views and editorial content expressed herein are those of the staff, contributors and readers, and do not necessarily represent those of the PSU student body, faculty, staff or administration. One copy of the Vanguard is provided free of charge to all community members, additional copies or subscription issues may incur a 25 cent charge.

The Vanguard is printed on 40 percent post-consumer recycled paper.

©2012 PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY VANGUARD
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PORTLAND, OR 97201

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Part three of the CPSO Series

A twilight ride with CPSO

Vanguard reporter tags along with Sergeant Michael Anderson

KALI SIMMONS
VANGUARD STAFF

Sergeant Michael Anderson pulled up in front of Smith Memorial Student Union and hopped out of his cruiser. Going inside, he snaked through the building, on the lookout for violators or trespassers. He stopped in front of a restroom, a location specifically targeted by Campus Public Safety because it's frequented by heroin users. Anderson laughed and said, "I didn't know this would be my life, waiting outside of restrooms."

Patrolling is just one of the officer's duties. Aside from conducting building checks, officers escort students across campus and are responsible for locking and securing buildings after the university closes. But, while the university has expanded, CPSO resources have remained relatively the same. "The number of sworn security officers at CPSO is roughly the same as in 1976," said CPSO Director Phillip Zerzan.

The restroom is occupied. Anderson remained outside until the occupant exited,

explaining the problems of heroin use at the university. Usually, he said, the spaces targeted by users are unisex bathrooms that can be locked. Additionally, users target spaces that are easy to enter and exit without notice—like this particular restroom on the second-floor mezzanine of SMSU right across from the offices of Student Activities and Leadership Programs advisers. According to Anderson, an arrest was made there the day before this ride-along.

Tana Atchley, SALP advisor for political and multicultural groups, said the restroom has been an issue. "I've been in this office space for six years, and I've noticed it's a problem," Atchley said. "Students have reported seeing needles on the toilet seats." Additionally, according to Atchley, during the early morning hours, people are often found sleeping in the restrooms.

After checking the restroom, Anderson went up to the third floor then down to the basement, back up to the fourth floor and into the Queer Resource Center in the north stairwell. Anderson often checks in with the center on the status of students who experienced emotional trauma or who have committed acts of violence against themselves.



DREW MARTIG/VANGUARD STAFF

Sergeant Michael Anderson during one of his standard CPSO patrols.

"We've had emergencies where we've had to come to the center," Anderson said.

Other high traffic restrooms for heroin use include the basement annex of Ondine Housing and near the Distance Learning Center on the second floor of the Urban Center Building. Another hotspot for heroin use is the Science Building 1 mezzanine area. "In December of 2010 there was an overdose leading to a fatality, after which the university put locks on the doors," Anderson said. Now coded locks that restrict access make those areas more secure.

Anderson exited SMSU and continued onto the Ondine and Urban Center buildings. As he inspected the area around the Distance Learning Center, he recalled a confrontation that happened during fall term between himself, another officer and a suspect. Anderson and Officer Denae Murphy were checking the area when a man emerged from a high-traffic restroom. They asked to see his identification, but he refused. The situation quickly escalated.

"He threw Officer Murphy onto the stairs and threw me into a door," Anderson said. Murphy and Anderson were forced to subdue the man themselves until Portland Police Bureau arrived to assist. Investigation of the man revealed he had no previous arrests or warrants and was not in possession of any drugs or illegal substances.

Recently, CPSO has seen increased car break-ins at on-campus parking structures. In response, CPSO and parking enforcement have increased their patrols of the structures. As Anderson cruised through the levels of Parking Structure 1, he explained that the first levels are often more popular due to the ease of access.

Not finding anything out of the ordinary, Anderson then cruised over to Parking Structure 3, where he saw a vehicle missing its rear window, an object dangling



SARIA DY/VANGUARD STAFF



SARIA DY/VANGUARD STAFF



SARIA DY/VANGUARD STAFF

from the space. Anderson recognized the vehicle as one that had previously been broken into, but he still ran the plates and investigated the scene. No objects were missing from the vehicle and there were no signs of forced entry.

"Parking Structure 3 was part of a stolen-car dumping circuit for many years," Anderson explained. "Sometimes the stolen cars would be found with multiple citations," he added. The problem was addressed, Anderson explained, and CPSO noticed a drop in the discovery of stolen vehicles. Not many have been seen there since.

As the sun began to set, Anderson began another one of his duties on campus: locking and securing buildings. The University Center Building was the first stop. Previously, CPSO had officers specifically assigned to secure buildings and

Heroin hot spots
CPSO patrols three on-campus restrooms that are frequented by heroin users. Two bathrooms are in SMSU—one in the Mezzanine across from the SALP office and one in the basement under the Messanine—and another is near the Distance Learning Center in the Urban Center Building.

PSU students travel to Panama this summer to provide humanitarian aid

Global Brigades Medical group gives students and community members opportunity to make social change

KALI SIMMONS
ANDREA VEDDER
VANGUARD STAFF

While many students might spend their summer soaking up the sun and relaxing, a group of Portland State students will spend part of their summer in humanitarian efforts. The Global Brigades, a nonprofit organization headquartered in the United States, focuses on helping to create viable and sustainable community services, including basic infrastructure. The Brigades will be sending PSU students and community members to Panama this July in order to provide essential services to those in need.

A chapter of the Medical Brigades, a sub-group within the Global Brigades umbrella, has been on campus for

about four years, according to PSU Chapter President Ben Hadlock. Additionally, it is expanding to include a chapter of the Environmental Global Brigades, another subgroup. Students within the combined group will go to one of two destinations in Panama: Torti Abajo or Piriati Embera. According to reports released by Global Brigades, both locations have expressed need for education and health infrastructure.

Torti Abajo "does not have any type of health center; however, the nearby town of Torti has a Centro de Salud that is staffed by two doctors, three nurses and two dentists," the report states. Additionally, the report indicates Piriati Embera "has the basic medication needed for common

sickness in the community, but does not have any medical equipment."

Hadlock said there is great need for assistance in Panama, as almost half of the population lacks access to proper sanitation. Many citizens have limited education opportunities because of underdeveloped or non-existent educational programs. Currently, there are only 15 doctors for every 100,000 citizens in Panama, and many of those doctors are located in metropolitan cities, away from those who live in rural areas.

Twenty-five students and Portland community members are scheduled to go on the Panama trip, along with several trained medical professionals. Students who joined the program were accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Members are expected to pay for their travel and program expenses, but the group does have some fundraising programs.

Hadlock said that finding medical professionals "is the hardest part of our duties; unless you know someone in the medical field it's almost impossible to grab their attention."

The recent Kony 2012 campaign by Invisible Children has left some questioning the effectiveness of many nonprofits. Hadlock said Global Brigades invests as much as they can in the communities they assist. "The communities that we'll be assisting don't have local hospitals; in fact, they receive no medical care outside of what GMB provides," he said.

"As far as nonprofits go, you'd be surprised how many of them are damaging to the communities or wasteful with their donations. Global Brigades' overhead is only 12 percent, considerably low for nonprofits," Hadlock added.

"Global Brigades also works towards providing sustainability though its secular holistic

model; this is a huge selling point," Hadlock said. "Giving a village pharmaceuticals and medical supplies once, and leaving, is considered medical tourism and is frowned upon in the nonprofit community because it essentially accomplishes nothing," he said.

There are currently 22 members of the PSU Brigades chapter and students can keep in touch with the group via their Facebook page. While the deadline for the Panama trip has passed, students are encouraged to join after the group returns. "As soon as we return in July, people are able to sign up to join," said Public Relations Officer Paige Talbot. "There is no selection process or requirements to join other than getting vaccines needed to travel to the countries of choice."

The group has an upcoming fundraising event, their Third Annual Salsa Night, which will be held on March 23

from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Grand Cafe-Andrea's ChaCha Club. Talbot said, "For \$10 a person, guests receive dinner and Latin dance lessons. There will also be a raffle and an auction as well."

Global Brigades is the largest student-run nonprofit in the world. According to Hadlock, the "Global Medical Brigades is only one of the nine different skill-based programs of Global Brigades. Aside from medical there is also dental, architecture, law, public health, business, microfinance, water and environmental. The different programs work collaboratively to aid in a more self-sustaining infrastructure within the communities."

Students who would like to make a donation to the group can do so at empowered.org, or they can get in contact with the group themselves and make a direct donation. All donations over \$250 are tax deductible. ■

PSU Model United Nations receives national recognition, awards

Student organization members debate global issues, international affairs

JOSH KELETY
VANGUARD STAFF

Globally minded Portland State students take part in the changing global perspective by participating as PSU delegates in the collegiate Model United Nations. Together, they examine world issues, and meet with students from other universities at MUN summits to debate issues.

Because of its success at these national events, the PSU club has been making a name for itself. Recently, Delegate Cole Simko won the Best Delegate Award at the Harvard MUN Summit, and according to senior African Studies and political science major Emily Kunkel, summits like the one at Harvard University give PSU students the opportunity to debate students from various universities.

"Here are kids taking what they have learned about politics and international relations at PSU and applying it in competition to win and beat out schools like

Harvard, Yale, Cambridge, etc.," Kunkel said.

Model U.N. is both an educating vessel in the context of international relations and a way for students to get involved and develop their leadership skills. As stated on its website, "The Model United Nations program at Portland State University strives to help students develop the skills and awareness necessary to be an effective diplomat, student and global citizen."

These students act as delegates, representing nations from around the world. Each student is part of a committee that deals with various international issues such as nuclear energy, refugees and security issues. According to political science junior Anna Cenicerros: "Members attend Model United Nations conferences around the country as delegates from an assigned country. In those conferences, delegates simulate a summit of the United Nations, in

whichever committee they are placed in."

Psychology senior and club member Jenna Burke summed up the role of a PSU delegate. "A delegate will research the topics in that committee in relation to the country that they are representing," Burke wrote in an email, "and while at the conference will advocate for resolutions that promote their representing country's ideals and values; just like a real U.N. committee."

PSU delegates, along with students from other MUN clubs, gather for summits and conferences across the nation. "This past academic year, we have gone to Northwest MUN in Seattle and Harvard National MUN in Boston," wrote Cenicerros in an email. There is also a MUN conference in the near future that the PSU delegates will be attending, according to Kunkel.

Delegates enjoy the community involved with collegiate MUN. "My favorite aspect of this student group is the community that is fostered when we attend conferences," Cenicerros said.

Kunkel agrees. "We met with other students from all over the U.S. and the world, and some friends I now have are from the Netherlands, Venezuela, Argentina, Saudi Arabia, France, Germany, Kenya and elsewhere," she said.

The involvement of the PSU delegates also serves to promote and represent PSU both on a national and international level. According to Kunkel, "because we are meeting with people from all over, when we do well in conference, it reflects on PSU and our international



PSU Model U.N. members

(left to right) Victor Mena, Anna Cenicerros, Jennalyn Burke, Cole Simko, Ellen Coughlin, Ann Coughlin and Adam Stein pose for a photo outside of Shattuck Hall.

CORINNA SCOTT/VANGUARD STAFF

programs. Our school is now known in these countries, and we slowly gain standing in the international studies community for how well we do."

As well as participating in conferences, the club organizes local events and partners with organizations whose areas range from international development to coffee production. Some of

the club's partner organizations include Mercy Corps, Bread for the World and Portland Area Global AIDS Coalition. "In addition to attending conferences, we try to host at least one or two events on campus per year which focus on international issues," Kunkel wrote in an email. "This past year, we brought Will Davis, from the U.N. Information Center in

Washington D.C., to campus to talk specifically with students about the U.N."

"In the past we have worked with the World Affairs Council of Oregon to organize human trafficking awareness events," Burke said. "We are currently trying to work with the PSU debate team on an event we hope to coordinate on this spring." ■

BIKE PODS FROM PAGE 1

Bike share program garners support and criticism

grant free rides up to 30 minutes long. At the 30-minute limit, bikes can be returned and then re-checked out for longer rides.

Senior English major Jason Fillo told the *Vanguard* that bike sharing would have been handy to have on campus when he was living in the dorms in Ondine. "Part of me is just willing to walk anywhere, but it would have been convenient. I definitely would have done it," Fillo said.

With the proposed increase in TriMet bus and MAX fare, bike sharing could also serve as a replacement method for quick trips. This also could potentially decrease high-volume crowding on public transit during rush hours.

"For every trip taken by bike share, that means one less seat being taken up on a crowded bus or train, or one less car trip adding to congestion and competing for the limited number of parking spaces in the central city," Stude said.

The Bike Share program will be run by a yet-to-be-chosen private vendor and overseen by the Portland Bureau of Transportation. The bureau's \$4 million proposed

budget for the project would consist of \$2 million in flex-funds from Metro and \$2 million in private funds from the outside vendor. On March 14, the Bureau of Transportation brought the project before the City Council for approval to send out bid requests from private vendors the city. The council approved the proposal, and the program is slated for implementation by next spring.

"We are going to continue moving forward as details get worked out," said Bureau of Transportation representative Dan Anderson.

The idea of bike sharing has drawn some criticism from bike commuters who would rather see the money invested in improved street infrastructure for bikers, and some voices in city government have argued that bike sharing should be considered a lower priority and doesn't deserve priority funding.

"Bike sharing is a priority of the mayor and city council, so we prioritize finding the funding," Anderson said.

As opposition mounted, so has support. Groups like the Bicycle Transportation Alliance support Portland

Bike Share. The general argument in favor of the project is that it will get more people commuting by bike, which will in turn create a higher need for development of bike infrastructure.

At PSU, bike sharing could potentially decrease traffic and free up parking. "I think that bike sharing will be extremely beneficial to the PSU community," said PSU Bike Hub supervisor Clint Culpepper. "Most students and staff arrive to campus via a mode other than bicycle and don't currently have a bicycle on campus to run errands during the day like grabbing lunch. The potential for reduction in small car trips within the center city is huge, and with the coming changes to the fareless rail zone, bike sharing will be a great amenity," Culpepper said.

Putting bikes on the streets of Portland may be a year out, but with funding approval from Metro and the approval by City Council, bike sharing in Portland is a few crucial steps closer to realization. To see current updates, visit Portland Bureau of Transportation's website at www.portlandonline.com/transportation. People can also visit the Portland Bike Share website www.portlandbikesharestationmap.com, where people can suggest locations for the future bike pods. ■

MAYORAL CANDIDATES FROM PAGE 1

Mayoral candidates seek endorsements, platform independence

positive traits and policy ideas, a contrast with much of the current political rhetoric at the national level. However, at times the distinctions between the candidates are less evident than their similarities. Throughout the debates, candidates have reached a general consensus on improving Portland's outer neighborhoods, particularly east of 82nd Avenue. Similarly, job creation and public transportation system improvement are part of each candidate's campaign.

The question then becomes: How do the candidates distinguish themselves from their opponents if they all agree on the same ideas? This final pre-primary push gives candidates the chance to bring their various backgrounds into the spotlight and demonstrate their qualifications.

Recently, Jefferson Smith launched a large-scale grassroots effort, enlisting more than 100 people with the hope to reach more than 4,000 citizens and educate them on Smith's campaign and the upcoming primary.

"Jefferson Smith knows how to run campaigns," said Smith campaign spokesperson Stacey Dycus. She said

The question then becomes: How do the candidates distinguish themselves from their opponents if they all agree on the same ideas?

that Smith has past experience in working to increase the participation of "young people in politics" through the Oregon Bus Project. According to Dycus, this experience, coupled "with his history of working to register voters," gives Smith insight into campaign management. "It's a valuable skill for a mayor who knows how to strategize campaigns, navigate political waters and know what can get passed," Dycus added.

Twelve fellow state legislators have thus far endorsed Smith. Dycus also emphasized Smith's achievements in the Oregon legislature and his ability to work with lawmakers. "The mayor has to manage politicians and gain consensus. Managing in that kind of environment is an important skill. Jefferson has experience—elected to house leadership over the last two terms," Dycus said.

According to Dycus, a candidate's political track record is just as important as identifying with a candidate's values. "It's not just about trusting a candidate on what they say, it's about trusting a candidate on what they've done," Dycus added.

Eileen Brady, one of the original organizers of the locally based New Seasons Market, has no prior government experience. In debates and meet-the-candidate events, Brady describes herself as a concerned citizen, mother and activist who is working to improve neighborhoods. The New Seasons grocery store chain is credited with helping to spur growth in many Portland neighborhoods in recent years. Brady has emphasized that her business experience will help with job creation and in consolidating city government to run more efficiently.

Focusing on job creation, Brady has put emphasis on courting commercial and labor organizations. She recently gained endorsements from The Columbia Pacific Building Trades Council, the Portland Business Alliance, and The American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations. Brady claims to be the candidate that can draw business to Portland and convince established economic mainstays to continue doing business here.

Charlie Hales discussed his candidacy and views on the mayoral race in a phone interview with the *Vanguard*. Hales urged a greater awareness and participation in regard to student engagement in local politics and activism.

"What makes Portland great doesn't just fall out of the sky like rain; it's the result of decisions that are made every day that steer Portland's future," Hales said. "It's not on autopilot. It's not that we will automatically have a great quality of life and a great environment where there will be a great transit system that will be affordable, where there will be a job after graduation. It's in people's interest to pay attention and get engaged."

Hales, who recently gained the endorsement of former mayor Vera Katz, said that he is the only candidate with experience in Portland city politics. From 1993–2002, Hales served as a city commissioner and played a significant role in the installment of the Portland Streetcar.

"I've tried to articulate a clear and compelling vision for our city as a place where our values of livability become real," Hales said. "A sustainable local economy, an improved local school system and a better urban environment will be the results of our work together."

Gaining attention in the bid for Portland mayor is 20-year-old Cameron Whitten. Whitten is a Portland State student with strong ties to Occupy Portland. He said that he is the candidate most understanding of student issues and is not affected by the same influences that compromise other candidates.

"I know exactly what Portland State students are going through," Whitten said. "I am very vocal in calling out the PSU administration and advising that if they are going to be raising tuition rates, then that funding should be going toward students, not administrators."

Whitten said the current political system needs big changes to achieve equity in the city. "The public needs to demand control of their government. Heavily funded professional politicians do not represent our needs for systemic change," he added.

One aspect of Whitten's platform is the stress he places on elected positions. He suggested that positions like the director of the Portland Development Commission, the city's chief of police and the city treasurer should be elected positions. Then the community would have greater opportunity to become more involved. "I see the city pioneering civic engagement by having more governmental positions being involved in forums where they have to pitch to the community how they are qualified for the job, before they can be selected," Whitten said. ■

PRO TEMPORE FROM PAGE 1

Senator Zuk argues senate's role on his removal from office is unconstitutional

the CC members—would agree that these words were said about not liking this member's entire existence, his being and his personality was difficult to work with. The passive aggressiveness never stopped," Zerework said. "It wasn't constructive at all." The misquoting in the minutes remains a point of contention among senators.

The controversial committee meeting minutes quote Ruis as addressing Senate Pro Tempore Leaf Zuk, who facilitated the exchange, in a manner threatening his position. "There have been several complaints about you," Ruis purportedly said. "We are forming a group that is thinking about impeaching you, Leaf."

In an email correspondence between senators, Ruis questioned the accuracy of the minutes. "I would like [Senator] Bear's comment about having a problem with my entire existence and my personality reflected in the minutes of Feb. 20, 2012," he said. "Also I don't recall ever saying that I was forming a 'group' to impeach Leaf."

Apart from accuracy issues

with the minutes, Ruis' quote in the minutes does reflect a rift between senators who see Zuk as not being suited for the pro tempore position and those who do. "When I saw how the pro temp facilitated that meeting, and I would even argue encouraged it, that's when I said this has got to stop," Zerework said.

The vote to remove Zuk as pro tempore failed in the senate meeting, needing a two-thirds majority. Zerework expressed that members did not necessarily expect to get that majority, but instead wanted to raise awareness. "What I wanted to do was to bring attention to this matter so that everyone can look at this position that this gentleman has and see for themselves whether he's abusing this power," Zerework said.

Zuk maintained that he strives to emphasize openness and communication in response to the motion to remove him from the pro tempore position and the general concerns expressed by senators like Zerework about his limiting of speech and safe space.

"I have stated numerous times that I am open to criticism, that I want to hear concerns, that I am willing to work to change, but that I won't violate my integrity and my core beliefs are unlikely to change," Zuk wrote in an email interview.

According to Zuk, the way that the issue was brought to the senate floor didn't adhere to the ASPSU Constitution. "The proper method for removing an officer is impeachment, the process for which is in the constitution," Zuk wrote. "Also, in Robert's Rules of Order it states that officers who have fixed terms (as all of us do) may be removed only through a process akin to impeachment (RORN 11th Section 64 pp 653-54 "Removal from Office for officers with fixed terms"). Since our rules do not say that a person serves 'a fixed term OR until their successor is elected' the method for removal is in the next point and that is impeachment."

"It was a trial held outside the norms of a trial and that is unfortunate," Zuk continued. "I find it ironic that they speak so much about safe space and abuse of power, yet their actions created a very unsafe space and made a strong attempt to abuse



KARL RUIES/VANGUARD STAFF

In production for the *Vanguard's* Night Out Guide video, Video Editor Jann Messer directs actors Leif Fuller and Emily Scott in an instructional video on ordering and making classy drinks. The video is now available with the Night Out Guide on psuvanguard.com.

power through circumvention."

As much as Zuk and those who see him as unfit for the pro tempore position hold diametrically opposed views on the matter of his job performance, there is some ideological overlap.

"What I want is, as the largest university in the state, as the most diverse university in the state, that all of our voices have validity," Zerework said. "I want as much input and sugges-

tion and constructive criticism and ultimately help in serving the greater PSU community as possible," she added. "Collective action is what it is all about."

Zuk echoed Zerework's sentiment of teamwork. "I hope that we can come together, seek solutions and also recognize and respect that we won't always agree," he said.

ASPSU Communications Director Anthony Stine used

the words "growing pains" to describe the general feeling of the executive staff on the matter. "There are 25 people in the Senate who are passionate and highly driven people. As the senators gain experience and grow as people and as a group it is expected that things like this will happen," Stine said. "We are confident that this will be fully resolved by the end of finals week." ■

Student Publications Editorships Open for 2012-2013 Year

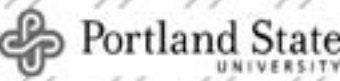
The Portland State University Student Publications Board has announced that the editorships of the *Vanguard*, the *Rearguard*, the *Portland Spectator*, the *Portland Review*, *Pathos Literary Magazine*, the *Graphic Design Center*, *KPSU Radio* and *PSU-TV* are open for the 2012-2013 academic year.

- **The Vanguard** editor oversees PSU's daily newspaper with a staff of nearly 60 persons.
- **The Rearguard** editor oversees the monthly publication of an alternative viewpoint
- **The Portland Spectator** editor oversees a monthly magazine of conservative political commentary
- **The Portland Review** editor operates a thrice-yearly literary review that publishes fiction and art from submissions originating locally, nationally and internationally.
- **The Pathos Literary Magazine** editor manages a thrice-yearly literary magazine that publishes only Portland State University student work.
- **The Graphic Design Center** manager oversees a graphic design business for students and others.
- **The KPSU Radio Station** manager runs a steaming radio station at www.kpsu.org and a short-range FM-band radio station with diverse content.
- **The PSU-TV** manager runs a streaming video documentary production organization.

Application materials may be obtained from **Judson Randall**, student publications adviser, in Room S-25A in the Smith Memorial Student Union subbasement OR by sending an e-mail to randallj@pdx.edu. Completed applications must be submitted by noon April 2, 2012, to Randall.

Electronic submissions are preferred.

The Student Publications Board will hire the editors after interviews to be conducted during the week of April 9.



CAPSTONE FROM PAGE 1

Students question effectiveness of capstone courses

Business Outreach because she gets a kick out of research and was curious about the business world.

Kishna collaborated with three other students and the owner of a local small business to improve the business model and allow expansion into other markets. However, she spent most of her time doing market research, which primarily consisted of examining numbers gathered by other people and charting trends, a stark difference from the kind of academic research she loves.

"I did not appreciate my capstone experience," she said. Kishna added that she didn't think the capstone itself was poorly conceived, but that it was a bad fit for her. Additionally, she found the teamwork component frustrating. "We're told at PSU that we need to learn to work in teams. But, that's totally bogus," she said, "because not all careers depend on group work." In her experience, group work is not implemented well on the university level.

The capstone system could benefit from being more flexible, Kishna said. It would be better, she added, if students with enough volunteer experience could opt out of having to complete a capstone. "It's ridiculous," she said. "My résumé is full of volunteer experience."

Other students agreed with Kishna. History senior Brian Burton, who plans on graduating in the spring, thinks students that volunteer should

have other options. Burton volunteers at his local library and said that he'd gladly have taken on more hours there in lieu of the capstone.

"I'm a college senior," Burton said. "It seems odd to me that community service is a requirement at this point." Burton added that he feels somewhat coddled by the capstone requirement.

About seven years ago, the University Studies Program responded to student criticism about the program's lack of flexibility by creating a capstone called Being an Effective Change Agent. While it doesn't allow students to substitute volunteer work for capstone credit, this course does grant students the freedom to design a project with a community partner of their choice.

There is an important assessment component to the senior capstone that would not be addressed by simply replacing it with volunteer hours, according to Kerrigan. Still, she recognized that students were making a valid point. "Seven years ago," Kerrigan said, "when students raised that question, there wasn't an option. There was nothing I could tell them." The Effecting Change course, Kerrigan said, addresses that issue.

Burton wound up registering for Portland's Water: History and Challenges, which partners students with the Portland Water Bureau to examine the functions of the bureau, as well as create and implement community outreach

projects. He chose it because it came highly recommended from a friend.

As a history major, Burton said his college experience has been pretty cerebral. He hopes his capstone experience will be different and somehow more personally relevant to him. "I'm looking forward to being out in the field. I want lessons that will apply more broadly to the rest of my life," Burton said.

Behind the University Studies information desk sits administrator Mike Millard. He strongly believes in the capstone requirement as an important complement to a university education because the courses encourage students to leave their comfort zones. "The whole point of education," Millard said, "is exposure to things you normally wouldn't delve into."

Millard, who would like to see service-learning become a bigger component of higher education, fields a lot of questions from students about capstone courses. Millard's best advice is that students speak to their academic adviser. He suggested students speak to the course instructor regarding questions or concerns and to pick a capstone course related to general interests and career goals.

Part of Millard's job at the University Studies office—his favorite part, in fact—is reading student evaluations. Capstone feedback is overwhelmingly positive, Millard said. He added that students largely report rewarding, but demanding, capstone experiences.

All students are welcome to the upcoming Capstone Fair on May 1 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Smith Memorial Student Union rooms 327 and 329. ■

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An Ethiopian story

Novelist Maaza Mengiste to speak at Mercy Corps Action Center

Mercy Corps Action Center welcomes novelist Maaza Mengiste for an evening of discussion and dialogue focusing on Ethiopia and the plight of refugees everywhere. Her lecture is titled “Through Metaphor and Memory: An Ethiopian Story.”

Mengiste, an Ethiopian refugee whose experiences shaped her debut novel, *Beneath the Lion's Gaze*, graduated with an MFA in creative writing from New York University—where she now teaches—and was a 2010–11 Fulbright scholar.

Her work has garnered her a Pushcart Prize nomination, several literary grants and the title of “New Literary Idol” by *New York Magazine*. She also covered the recent democratic tumult in Libya and Egypt through the lens of Ethiopia's 1974 revolution.

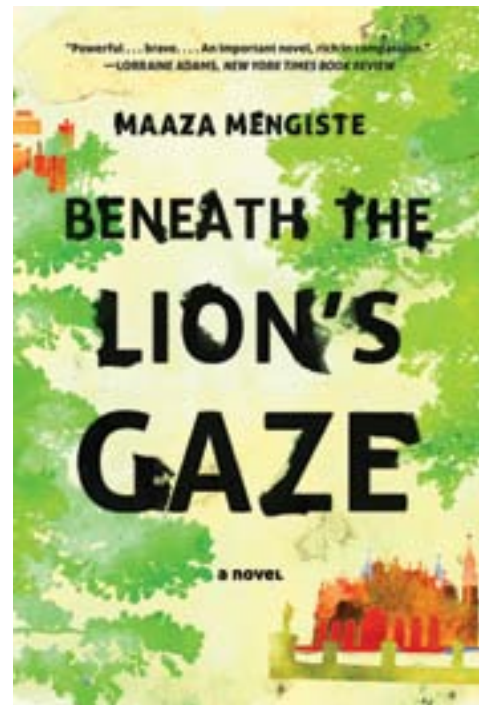
Mercy Corps' global mission is to alleviate suffering, poverty and oppression by helping



COURTESY OF MIRIAM BENKELE/WWW.NORTON & CO.
Maaza Mengiste is an acclaimed author and political activist.

people build secure, productive and just communities. Portland's Mercy Corps Action Center offers frequent educational exhibits, workshops and lectures, like Mengiste's, that focus on informing students from middle school through college about today's global issues.

The center is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, for free group tours and exploration. ■



Mercy Corps and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences presents
Maaza Mengiste: “Through Metaphor and Memory: An Ethiopian Story”
Wednesday, March 21
7 p.m.
Mercy Corps Action Center
28 SW 1st Ave.
\$15 general; \$10 students.
Tickets available online at Brown Paper Tickets, by phone 503-896-5747, or at the door

Tsugaru shamisen group Abeya comes to PSU

On Thursday, April 15, the Center for Japanese Studies will present the shamisen group Abeya in the Lincoln Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m.

“A shamisen is a type of Japanese guitar made from animal skin and wood. In this case, Abeya will be playing ‘tsugaru’-style shamisen, which is the most up-tempo, percussive style,” said professor Lawrence Kominz, the PSU faculty member helping to organize the event. “Just like flamenco guitar sounds different from blues guitar, ‘tsugaru’ shamisen is unique in this way.”

They'll play selections from a wide-ranging repertoire that includes traditional music from different local musical traditions throughout Japan, their own material and improvisations that express the creativity of the moment. Listeners will be taken on a tour of Japanese folk music of the last 150 years and hear the more modern stylings Abeya has incorporated into their music.

In addition to the tsugaru shamisen, members play the flute and the drums. The ensemble includes patriarch Hidesaburo Abe and his two sons, Kinzaburo and Ginzaburo Abe, the beautiful Maya Nemoto, Ryu Gokita and Tatsumaki Ando.

Abeya's performance style has been compared

to the shamisen group The Yoshida Brothers in composition and use of instruments. It represents a creative blending of the Japanese traditional arts with the personality and sensibility of Japan's younger generation.

“Expect the music to be energetic and fun,” Kominz said. “This is a chance for PSU students and anyone who's interested to see Japanese music and a part of Japanese culture. For almost everyone who comes, this will be a totally new experience.”

General admission tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for students with identification.

“These remarkable Japanese performing arts programs that Dr. Kominz brings to PSU almost always sell out,” Ken Ruoff, director for the Center for Japanese Studies said. “Soon the Center for Japanese Studies will publicize this upcoming performance widely in the community, so we urge interested students, staff and faculty to purchase their tickets now, before the event sells out.”

Tickets are available at the PSU box office at tickets@pdx.edu or 503-725-3307. ■

Want to attend this event for free? Just email editor@psuvanguard.com and tell us about a previous PSU Center for Japanese Studies event that you attended in one paragraph or less. What was the event? How did you hear about it? What did you take away from it?

Our favorite email will win its author a pair of free tickets to Abeya's Tsugaru Shamisen performance.

The witch is back!



Mamie Parris (above) and Katie Rose Clarke star in the Broadway production of the Grammy and Tony Award-winning musical *Wicked*, which will play at Keller Auditorium Wednesday, March 14 through Sunday, April 8.

The story follows the unlikely friendship between the emerald-skinned Elphaba (Parris), aka “The Wicked Witch of the West,” and self-proclaimed popular “good witch” Glinda (Clarke) as they navigate college life in the Land of Oz. *Wicked* is a cultural phenomenon that *The New York Times* recently named “the defining musical of the decade.”



Abeya comes to Portland to celebrate the Japan-U.S. Cherry Blossom Centennial.



Acoustic storytelling Parfait Bassale, left, performs at Northwest Portland's Sometown Lounge, accompanied by Amor on Cajon.

Out of Africa

An interview with Benin-born musician and PSU graduate student Parfait Bassale

NICHOLAS KULA
VANGUARD STAFF

The story behind many Portland bands is simple: Bored people get together and play music with other bored people.

In the case of Benin-born, Senegal-raised Parfait Bassale, however, the story is part of his music, and it is nothing short of breathtaking.

Parfait's shows are captivating and highly engaging. Until his recent show at Sometown Lounge, most of his performances transpired on small stages, where he and his audience would lock onto one another. Consisting of Parfait on vocals and guitar, and another musician named Amor on Cajón, Parfait's stage real estate is minimal, but his emotion and message could fill the Rose Garden.

The *Vanguard* recently caught up with Parfait and asked him a few questions about life, love, family and Africa.

Parfait's warm glow could illuminate an entire room, and his speech patterns command attention. He's a soft-spoken man of average stature, but when he speaks, your attention is not going anywhere. It is perhaps this effortlessly charming quality that makes Parfait such a terrific performer on top of being a musician.

The Portland State graduate student hails from Benin, a small country in western Africa, adjacent to Nigeria and Togo, an equally sliver-like country. Parfait jokingly refers to Benin as “the ice cream cone,” because of its shape.

When he was two years old, Parfait left Benin with his family and eventually relocated to Senegal, another French-speaking African

nation. He stayed there until he graduated high school, then left Senegal for Portland, following his older brother here.

“Moving to Portland was really providential. My older brother was the pioneer. He didn't want to go to France. A peer of his has an uncle in Portland who is an artist, a sculptor,” Parfait said. “In Africa, if you have a friend somewhere, it's like family.”

Making this transition wasn't the easiest thing to do. A notable hindrance was Portland's weather.

“It was a challenge. If I had known about the weather, I probably wouldn't have come,” Parfait laughed. “I come from a tropical region, where it's beautiful year round. I showed up in October, and I realized my brother had told me everything about Portland *except* the weather! Coming from Africa, we don't talk about the weather. It's not a conversation topic; it's always nice!”

Integrating into Western society was the crux of his difficulties, but his conventional wisdom saw him through it.

“There is a saying in Africa: ‘When you put a piece of dry wood in a river, it will never become a crocodile; it will be a wet piece of wood.’ You will never become ‘like them,’ but you will be altered,” Parfait said. “I'm not the same person. My views have changed, and that influences my music as well.”

“It alters the way you're able to empathize with people, and it has really influenced me,” he continued. “It was easier to have a certain picture of the U.S. back in the day, but then you come, and you're part of the West for a while, you're part of this family. You're able to see the shortcomings of

home, and it allows you to see people and accept them for their strengths and weaknesses. It has changed the way I relate to people.”

Parfait's love for music didn't thrill his parents.

“[Their approval] has been an evolution. Initially it was hard because all my family members are academics. Music wasn't an option,” he said. “It was hard for them to accept it, but a lot of it fueled my material. They just had my best interests in mind.”

“It was easier to have a certain picture of the U.S. back in the day, but then you come, and you're part of the West for a while, you're able to see the shortcomings of home, and it allows you to see people and accept them for their strengths and weaknesses. It has changed the way I relate to people.”

Eventually, Parfait's persistence won them over. “They were here last summer for my wedding. It was a groundbreaking thing. It was their first time hearing me play. There were cheers all over. My parents loved it, respected it,” he said. “In Africa, when you win someone's approval, they say, ‘You have my blessing.’ I finally got it.”

Growing up in Senegal, Parfait listened to many Senegalese and French hip-hop groups, which helped shaped him artistically. When he moved to the United States, however, Parfait decided that he needed to learn an

instrument. He chose guitar, which marries well with African storytelling. But what exactly is “African storytelling?”

“The key thing is that Africa has a very oral tradition,” Parfait said. “The way we passed knowledge was by sitting around the oldest tree in the village. We would sit and tell stories—stories with wisdom. Eventually the stories were accompanied by a drummer.”

“Over the years in certain tribes, you have a specific lineage that is responsible for the storytelling, so you would add singing, and you have this whole genre of building stories around songs. It's a big tradition of passing on wisdom, knowledge and eventually songs to the next generation.”

Parfait has some advice for those looking to start their own musical traditions.

“Follow your passions, never quit and be persistent. [Your passions] are there for a reason,” he said. “Never give up school; never give up academia. As a result [of school], I am rich, the content is richer and it wouldn't have been had I given up one or the other.”

Had Parfait given up, we'd likely never hear his amazing life story. Parfait has a monthly gig every first Friday at Lents Commons coffeehouse (9201 SE Foster Rd). He's currently in the process of tracking his new album, *Faceless Love*, at Ghost Studios in Portland. The record is scheduled for release this year.

Whether Parfait's story gets to the people is ultimately in the hands of a higher power. When asked about the future of Parfait, he replied:

“Honestly, only God knows. I am pursuing it when there's resistance all around. I'm open to whatever can come of it, and I cannot close down any opportunity. If I get exposed to a larger audience, I will take it. I'm not worried about [if I don't]. I'm just doing what I can.” ■

The heretical science of Galileo

Portland Opera performs Philip Glass’ *Galileo Galilei* at Keller Auditorium

JEFFREY RAY
VANGUARD STAFF

Galileo Galilei, that famed 17th century Italian astronomer whose work pioneered the scientific method, earned the wrath of the Catholic Inquisition when he observed that the Earth revolved around the sun. It was a concept inimical to the Catholic dogma of the time, which taught that the Earth was the center of the universe. Galileo’s theories led to his trial and house arrest by the Catholic Inquisition, despite that he later recanted his findings.

Galilei’s compelling life story is the subject of composer Philip Glass’s opera *Galileo Galilei*, which opens at the Newmark Theatre in the Keller Auditorium Friday, March 30, and will be performed by the Portland Opera. The opera will deliver encore performances throughout the following week.

A shorter, more intimate work than most operas, *Galileo* tells the story of the esteemed scientist as he contemplates his life’s work and the decisions he’s made. Anne Manson, conductor for the show, described Glass’s *Galileo* as “a chronological story that goes backwards.”

The opera opens with an aging and blind Galileo, played by tenor singer Richard Troxell, before flashing back through the events of his life.

“The story moves back in time, step by step,” Manson said. “It goes through his recantation and his trial, and it also features his daughter, Maria Celeste [played by Lindsay Ohse]. They were very close, even though she was in a convent for most of her teenage years and adult life.”

Troxell, who has spent months researching both the historical figure and the operatic character of Galileo, sees the opera as a deeply personal story that chronicles “the conflict of his love between his church and his science.”



Celestial bodies
Just a few of the period-style costumes on display in *Galileo Galilei*.

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF SUE BONDE/PORTLAND OPERA

sonal story that chronicles “the conflict of his love between his church and his science.”

“It’s a story of love. It’s Galileo’s love of his ideas, his inventions and everything that he did. And his commitment, not only to science, but also to his church. He was devout. He loved his faith and everything about it,” Troxell explained. “The sad part is that he gave up his science for his faith, though he kept his science secretly.”

Troxell is just one of many singers playing the role of Galileo. His tenor performance will depict the aged scientist before baritone singer André Chiang takes over, assuming the mantle of the younger Galileo. Even Galileo as a child makes a brief appearance, looking to the constellations as he listens to the compositions of his musician father, Vincenzo.

Manson urges opera newcomers to try out works like Galileo first, attributing its accessibility to its unique format. As one of Glass’s smaller-scale pieces, it adopts a more intimate tone and focuses more on the theatrical side than conventional works. It is also performed in English, with particular care taken to make song lines comprehensible.

“If you don’t know opera, if you haven’t

had experiences with opera, this is the kind of piece you should see first because it has a wonderful theatrical quality to it,” she said. “The music is mesmerizing and just colors and enhances everything going on onstage.”

Glass has written other operas about history’s biggest names, such as *Einstein on the Beach* and *Satyagrah*, based on the life of Mahatma Gandhi. In addition, he has composed several film scores, including Martin Scorsese’s *Kundun* and Stephen Daldry’s *The Hours*. Glass’s contemporaries have referred to him as a minimalist, due to the repetition of motifs in his work.

“Philip Glass has a very distinctive style. It is a very tonal style. It’s not dissonant and angular, like some contemporary music. It’s extremely rhythmical,” Manson said. “This particular piece is very lyrical and beautiful. It has some very beautiful vocal lines, and it’s very interesting, pairing his particular style with this subject, which relates to the stars, the earth and the sun. It feels like there’s a lot of circular motion in the piece.”

Both Manson and Troxell have traveled the world, performing at opera houses throughout the U.S. and beyond. Both have performed at

the Portland Opera several times, and each is excited to return to the city.

“I’ve spent my life doing opera, and I find it incredibly compelling,” Manson said. “To me, what’s so compelling about opera is the combination of the musical, theatrical, literary and visual elements all coming together. To me, that’s an incredibly powerful art form.”

“Unlike a play, where it’s just you and the text and the scenery, this is you and a full orchestra—music and singing and dance, choreography, everything,” Troxell said. “It’s the ultimate piece of theater.” ■

Portland Opera presents
Philip Glass’ *Galileo Galilei*

Opens Friday, March 30, 7:30 p.m.
Additional shows April 1, 3, 5, 7
Keller Auditorium
(222 SW Clay St.)
Tickets start at \$20

Filial piety and moral decay

Luchino Visconti’s panoramic drama *Rocco and His Brothers* raises the pitch, rends the heart

MIKE ALLEN
VANGUARD STAFF

Imagine celebrating your recent engagement to the classy and beautiful daughter (Claudia Cardinale) of Milanese bourgeoisie in their small but tasteful apartment in their home city. Wine, appetizers and boisterous conversation flow freely, and you look singularly handsome and promising in your Italian suit.

Suddenly, your recently widowed mother and four brothers arrive at the door after having traveled by train from their impoverished farm town in Italy’s deep south and barge in. They accuse you of disrespecting your deceased father by wearing a white flower in your hair, demand that you take care of them all and derail your impending marriage.

This is just the beginning of Luchino Visconti’s 1960 film, *Rocco and His Brothers*.

What follows is a nearly three-hour odyssey of big family dynamics in post-war Milan. The family moves into a concrete-block basement apartment and the brothers find jobs. Simone, one of the older brothers, immediately shows potential as a scoundrel, which he lives up to quite well. The beds are thin, the clothing thinner and the weather cold.

Yet the sweaty, too-close family dynamics are amplified by the bold intrusion of the brassy and comely prostitute Nadia (Annie Girardot),



Alain Delon
stars as Rocco.

COURTESY OF TITANUS FILMS

who flirts with them all before settling on the muscular lout, Simone. Their romance provides the dynamic that moves this whole film forward and rattles the family to the bone.

The film is about boxing, sex, vice and crime. It is about filial piety and a mother’s eternal love. But mostly it is about the eternal fallibility of the human spirit. If Simone is predictably degenerate, what can we say about Rocco (Alain Delon), whose passivity and misguided reverence for his older brother predictably leads to the death of the woman who loves him and the end of the family’s honor?

The high-pitched drama is amplified by the vigorous, sing-songy Italian language. Read the subtitles quickly; they often have a hard time keeping up with the frenetic pace of the dialogue. The character’s vocal range is evidently stretched as they converse, laugh, cry, scream, curse and croon silently into one another’s ears.

The cinematography borders on the noir, and even when the scenes are sunny, the character’s dispositions are decidedly less so. But throughout the ordeal, the men are manly, the women beautiful and the heart quintessentially Italian. ■

Northwest Film Center presents
***Rocco and His Brothers* (1960)**

Friday and Saturday, March 23-24
7 p.m.
Whitsett Auditorium (1219 SW Park Ave.)
\$9 general admission; \$8 Portland Art Museum members, students and seniors

Synth pop: never say die

Teel’s album *University Heights* reminds us why the ’80s were a stellar decade for music

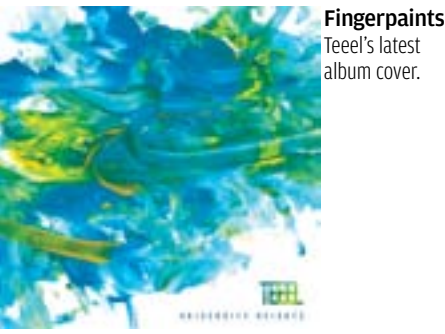
NICHOLAS KULA
VANGUARD STAFF

Did you hear Teel’s 2011 album *Amulet*? I didn’t think so. As an avid electronic music proponent, I refuse to let Teel’s new record, *University Heights*, suffer a similar fate. Simply put: If you enjoy the voltage-drenched goodness of New Order and Pet Shop Boys, you’re going to dig this album and then some.

The baffling thing about contemporary throwback ’80s synth pop is its staggering quality-to-quantity ratio. While genres like black metal and grindcore have absolutely abysmal ratios, it seems like every band that attempts synth pop ends up putting out a stellar record. Teel’s *University Heights* is no exception to this rule and plays like a tribute to the analog synthesizer in contemporary music’s binary scrub-down.

Bands like Tesla Boy and Com Truise are the acts to whom Teel (A.K.A. Jim Smith) owes the greatest debt, as they are his most recent sound-alikes. Fans of those acts should appreciate Smith’s analog swagger because his dense, punchy synths hit exceptionally hard, especially on tracks like “Quaid.”

Smith’s workroom is the stuff of gearhead legends. His is a tiny room stacked to capacity with vintage synthesizers that would make most aficionados jealous. The walls are plastered with synth ads (most of them for Moog gear), and his computer is adorned with the Moog logo as well. A Moog Rogue sits



Fingerprints
Teel’s latest album cover.

COURTESY OF SYNTHESISC RECORDINGS

perched atop the piles of circuitry—the same unit responsible for songs by everyone from Peter Gabriel to Mr. Oizo to KMFDM.

A curious lower-spectrum completion in Smith’s bass lines immediately sets his music apart from any other electronic pop music. His choice of real vintage gear for the bulk of the instrumentals on *University Heights* immediately makes all bass squelches and soaring arpeggios come alive.

Smith’s song structuring is masterful. His tracks even harken back to the ’80s in terms of layout and layers, something that truly keeps other synth-pop groups from sounding as if they were born and bred in the epoch they draw from. In the ’80s, the synthesizer was billed as the “hot new thing” in music, and nearly every band had one. Some acts relied solely on the synthesizer for their notoriety. Those artists had one or two seasoned synth-men in the studio pushing all the buttons and arranging every line—almost nothing was left to the artists.

Smith sounds like he was one such knob-twiddling producer, tired of others taking credit for his studio chops. His stuff is that good. It sounds manufactured, but we know different.

Some tracks, like “Moogwai” and “Deadites,” sound so lush and full, you’ll swear you’re



Monica Vitti
plays Giuliana.

COURTESY OF FILM DISEMILA

Look, but don’t touch

Michelangelo Antonioni’s *Red Desert* is as fascinating as attractive people who don’t like you

MIKE ALLEN
VANGUARD STAFF

How does a modernist-existentialist Italian film, replete with long, uncomfortable silences, odd hyper-long shots, an industrial aesthetic and a complete lack of narrative arc sound as a way to kill two hours over spring break?

Well, what if it’s filled with some of the most breathtaking cinematography since the dawn of color film, rivaling even Kubrick in its composition, interplay of line and color, hue and tone? What if it was playing at the Northwest Film Center, and you know that that cute visual arts student you’ve been eyeing thinks you’re a bit of a philistine?

Michelangelo Antonioni’s *Red Desert* (1964) is just the film to get you in good with the art house crowd, and it’s not bad to look at, either. To call the film ambiguous is an understatement. Mercurial and unsatisfying come closer.

Monica Vitti plays Giuliana, the wife of Ugo (Carlo Chionetti), a power plant executive. An automobile accident unbalanced her mentally, and she transitions from composed, silent and painfully vulnerable into paroxysms of absurdity with little provocation. Ugo, at best, is cool toward her damaged psyche and positively indifferent at worst.

Giuliana strikes up a relationship with his co-worker Corrado Zeller (Richard Harris) that, like everything potentially sexual or emotional in this film, remains mostly unconsummated. They put on the performance of an affair without all the torrid lovemaking. (Until the end. Kind of.)

There’s an “orgy” scene, in a lurid red-painted room in a shack by the sea, involving dirty jokes, lots of leg and quail’s eggs, but no actual sex. Again, it is the performance of an orgy, all

of the trespasses and meaningful glances and guilt, without the release. The sea shack retreat also represents a mere performance of rustic escape. It lies eerily near a major shipping port in what looks like a superfund site.

This strange juxtaposition embodies the major theme of the movie: existential alienation in an industrialized world. But how are we to interpret this alienation? Is it simply the result of our limited aesthetic sensibilities? Can we not see the beauty in the Euclidean simplicity of a factory?

Antonioni even seems to imply that a sort of life emanates from the power plant. Great bursts of steam issue forth from hidden valves and fire from stacks, and there is beauty to the pools of obviously contaminated water that the characters contemplate.

Speaking of beauty, the restored print of the film is gorgeous. For example, Giuliana’s hair is unmistakably red. In earlier versions it could be blond with highlights. Imagine that Rene Magritte painted an industrial landscape. Those clean lines and cool complex pastel tones dominate the screen with occasional splashes of a fire-engine-red pipe, or a kelly-green coat for contrast.

The interiors are equally arresting: the wall surfaces seem inspired by Theraan frescoes with their complex matte neutrals and rich pastels. We even see a wall patterned with wild plum trees.

Whatever the critics argue about the film’s depiction of modern industry, there is one telling scene at the end of the film. Giuliana and her son, Valerio, are standing outside of a factory and Valerio has just been playing among some menacingly hissing pipes. He looks to the skyline and asks his mother, “Why is the smoke yellow?”

“Because it is poisonous,” she answers. ■

Northwest Film Center presents
***Red Desert* (1964)**

Friday and Saturday, March 30-31
7 p.m.
Whitsett Auditorium (1219 SW Park Ave.)
\$9 general admission; \$8 Portland Art Museum members, students and seniors

Pink party hummus

Ratchet up your dip with sweet beets!

KAT AUDICK
VANGUARD STAFF

This vibrant recipe mixes the delicious flavor of chickpea hummus with the bursting beautiful color of deep-red beets. Throw the two together and you’ve got one unique party dip that tastes as awesome as it looks. The rich beet flavor also adds a distinct earthiness to this traditional Middle Eastern dish.

A favorite among vegetarians, hummus is a great way to get your protein. Not to mention, chickpeas contain zero saturated fats and no cholesterol. Hummus is also rich with essential omega-3s, which are powerful components that help maintain and promote healthy heart-function.

Layer this hummus spread on small triangle toast points, garnish with your favorite garden salad greens and chopped green onion, and you’ll have a crunchy and healthful snack that looks and tastes absolutely delicious.

Directions

Drain and rinse chickpeas. Set aside.

Skin and chop beets into 1-inch cubes. In a large pot, cover beets with water and bring to a boil. Cook until beets become fork-tender

Ingredients
8 oz. can chickpeas
1 large onion, chopped
1 pound beets
1/2 cup tahini
4 cloves garlic, minced
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1/4 cup and 1 tbsp. olive oil, divided
3 stalks green onion, finely chopped for garnish



KARL RICH/VOVANGUARD STAFF

Red yum A colorful twist on a Middle Eastern dish.

EDITOR: JANIEVE SCHNABEL
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OPINION

Healthcare is finally here

New health care bill has things looking up



Emily Lakehomer

Governor Kitzhaber recently signed a bill into law that should improve state-wide healthcare and make it more affordable for everyone.

Let the trumpets ring! This bill has been passed in a time where quality healthcare at an affordable price is an absolute necessity.

Kitzhaber has expressed that he believes his new healthcare bill could aid in fixing the federal budget as well. The Obama administration has been keeping an eye on Oregon's healthcare happenings for some time, and now they just might find what they have been looking for.

This new reform is largely due to the two new bills Kitzhaber signed: Senate Bill 1580 and House Bill 4164. Respectively, these bills approve Oregon Health Authority proposals for coordinated care organizations (CCOs) and require Oregon Health Insurance Corporation to establish and deposit money into federally insured accounts.

SB 1580 allows officials to assign caseworkers to Medicaid patients to manage the treatments for a client's health, including medical, dental and mental care. Kitzhaber hopes to eliminate redundant tests and procedures as well as reduce expensive hospital stays. SB 1580 would work through CCOs, which would serve mainly Oregon Health Plan clients.

The state will allow each CCO to figure out the best way to spend a fixed amount of Medicaid funds. By doing this, the state holds the individual CCOs accountable, should they use up their allotted budget, to meet quality standards. Oregon is asking that the first new wave of CCOs have their applications in by this spring in order to be running by August of this year.

Currently, CCOs are able to care for roughly 600,000 members of the Oregon Health Plan. Later this year, however,

the state plans to ask CCOs to provide care for about 300,000 school and state employees as well. Since the number of CCOs should increase as per the new healthcare bill, these high numbers should not be much of an issue.

HB 4164 creates a health insurance exchange for individuals and small businesses. The insurance exchange would be online, in an attempt to make things more convenient for people and employers to find the most affordable and suitable insurance plans.

In more detail, HB 4164 will allow qualified individuals and small businesses to tap into federal subsidies and tax breaks with standardized benefit packages, thus ensuring consumers know what they're getting. Currently, around 173,000 Oregonians who purchase their own insurance will be able to join the exchange program. Also included are small businesses with up to 50 employees who choose the use the exchange program.

The new healthcare bill also focuses on rewarding doctors for healthy patients, starting with the 600,000 low-income patients currently on Oregon's Medicaid plan. Doctors will now have an incentive to keep their patients as healthy as possible, which will most likely result in more quality healthcare for everyone, not just the upper-echelon.

While everyone is included in the new bill, its first and foremost focus are patients with chronic diseases, mental illnesses and addictions who account for the largest portion of current healthcare spending.

"By focusing on prevention and wellness, by focusing on community-based management of chronic conditions, by better coordinating care, we can create a healthcare system

that actually produces health, that can improve the health of our population, and can save us millions, if not billions, of dollars," Kitzhaber said.

The bill has people hoping to see physicians make new efforts to keep in touch with their patients, thus ensuring that prescriptions are being taken and appointments are made. By doing this, costly emergency room visits would be cut, putting more money in taxpayers' pockets.

Proponents of the bill say that if all 50 states were to adopt this approach, the federal budget would save more than \$1.5 trillion over the next 10 years.

However, opponents of the bill have stated that insurance exchange won't save the state any money in the long run except through subsidies and tax breaks.

According to Barak Richman, a Duke University health-law expert, reduced competition and fixed budgets improve neither quality nor efficiency. "The state is moving contrary to overwhelming statistical evidence in assuming that coordination, rather than competition, will generate desirable outcomes for patients, consumers and taxpayers," Richman said.

But aren't the physician incentives being created to enhance competition, making doctors strive to give the very best care to their patients?

Despite the critics, Kitzhaber's healthcare-reform bill has been signed and parts of it will go into effect as early as this summer. Even if there are some kinks to be worked out, healthcare reform has finally come to Oregon, the state with some of the highest unemployment and lowest Medicare reimbursement rates in the country.

Kitzhaber has accomplished one of the many things he set out to do in his third term as governor, and he deserves support—as does this bill. Go out and get healthy! ■



ELIZABETH THOMPSON/VANGUARD STAFF

Conspiracy theorists, relax!

Google's privacy policy changes will not adversely affect students



Holly Laycock

Just when you thought the Internet knew you pretty well, Google announced that it can do a lot better. So much better, in fact, that users with a Gmail account will have a lot of decisions made for them by an algorithm under their new privacy policy. Which is fine for student accounts; it's people with personal Gmail accounts that might want to consider a switch to a new provider.

With PSU's recent migration to Gmail, you may be wondering whether you should opt-out now, but not to worry—PSU's emailing system will remain unaffected by the changes. If you have a personal Gmail account, however, it might be worth reading through the new (shortened and less painful) policy.

As of March 1, Google condensed its 70-plus privacy policies for each of its services into one umbrella policy for a more streamlined and intuitive user experience. But what exactly does this entail?

The changes are not likely to result in too drastic an overhaul. However, a few of them will allow Google to share information that it collects internally. The information will be used for targeted advertising and to create better products in the future. This includes Google Chrome apps and more services from Google.

This isn't exactly a new concept; from personalized advertisements to Google's terrifying memory regarding any and all information sent, received or searched, we have all become familiar with how

what we do on the internet is forever recorded.

The difference this time is that Google's services will be in closer communication, always focusing on you and anticipating your needs. The example that Google gives is that if you're logged into Gmail on a mobile device, Google Maps will be able to use your location and alert you of any traffic jams that could make you late for an appointment stored in Google Calendar. This is potentially very helpful stuff.

However, there are drawbacks. This cached information can be used to target advertise in the wrong fashion. Any student knows that sometimes, you have to search bizarre things for a paper, ranging from "squid reproduction" to "Imagine" chord progression." These are not isolated from one's normal searches. How are students to know if the research for one anti-smoking paper is going to make Google offer them ads on quitting, fancy cars or impulse behavior?

Things like this make me both self-conscious and frustrated when I use Google, because a person's identity is determined and reduced instantaneously by an algorithm that is just as likely to cater to advertisers as it is to users. But how can you not opt-in in today's world?

There's no reason not to with your student email account. Kirk Kelly, associate chief information officer for

the Office of Information and Technology, confirmed this stipulation. "We have a separate contract with Google, and it is not impacted or changed by the recent Google privacy changes," Kelly said.

There you have it. When you're surfing the web, it might actually behoove you to do so under your PSU Gmail account. Granted, many people haven't been pleased with the migration to Gmail at times (myself included). I've heard plenty of students griping about the decision, but that could be because no one likes change—especially on such a huge scale. There are bound to be some glitches, but Gmail's benefits outweigh the inconvenience of having to learn a new system.

And that's what OIT's Google Training is for anyhow. They offer self-help tutorials on their website and free classes for students, staff and faculty that can get you started consolidating your own online experience.

Cloud storage means accessing a paper in class when the dog really does eat your homework. Document sharing means group work gets a lot easier than five people finding a time to meet up. Having everything in one place means a student's life gets a little less scattered—help that I'll gladly accept.

But as a senior, I'm going to have to start looking ahead to an email address unprotected by PSU's private contract with Google. When that time comes, I might log out altogether. ■

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ETC.

PSU’s bursting at the seams

Is the new urban renewal plan the answer?

Mayor Sam Adams gave his last State of the City address on March 2, and predictably, it featured his many accomplishments and the legacy he leaves the “incredible” city of Portland. We got the usual run down on how our streets are safer, our roads more bike-friendly, our jobs increasing and, best of all, our food is more compostable! But, the mayor’s not finished yet. A politician facing his or her final 10 months is like a kid in a candy store who’s got one minute to pick up as many treats as they can. The result is a frenzied whirlwind, ending with an armload of goodies precariously clutched at the heart. A trail of dropped candy follows them all the way home. Or, in Adams’ case, dropped projects.

One of the biggest and tastiest treats Adams managed to successfully grasp in time for his speech was the Education District Urban Renewal plan. He first introduced it a year ago as a partnership between Portland State and Multnomah County to “focus on expanding Portland State University as a leading engine of economic growth, prosperity and opportunity.” It’s a plan to accommodate the growth of PSU which, according to President Wim Wiewiel in the *Portland Business Journal*, is “grossly under-spaced.”

With a student body of 30,000 people, it is projected that in 25 years, that number could be closer to 50,000. Basically, we’re outgrowing ourselves and need some more space.

This plan aims to give us more. Over the next 25 years, tax dollars would be used towards the building up and improvement of a 134-acre zone around PSU up to Lincoln High School. This would allow the campus to expand and at the same time, according to the plan’s proponents, would



Eva-Jeanette Rawlins

provide jobs and lift income through improving the value of the land. So, that sounds harmless enough. Or does it?

It’s a great deal for PSU, undoubtedly, but what about everyone else? Well, the school district would tentatively receive funds to renovate Lincoln High School and Multnomah County would get \$19 million to build a new Department of County Human Services headquarters. This makes for some happy people.

But here’s the kicker. Because it’s based on tax dollars, the urban renewal area would redirect \$58 million away from the state’s public schools. Gulp. As if our schools didn’t have enough bad news, here comes a new headline.

It’s all well and good to make sure that our universities are supported and improved, but if we’re doing it at the cost of the very children we hope will one day be gracing the halls of higher education, that’s just plain wrong.

When education boards are trying to make decisions between closing schools, increasing class sizes or laying off teachers, where is an extra \$58 million going to come from? This could be a fatal blow to Portland’s already hemorrhaging education system.

Mayor Adam’s own words may come back to haunt him. At the beginning of his speech, as he outlined the greatness of Portland, the city, he said, “What this shows is that we’ve done a great job planning for and investing in Portland, the place. But we haven’t done the same for our greatest asset: our people.”

One of the top “unacceptable” consequences he observed were “steep high school and college drop out rates.” Hmm. So, the answer, obviously, is to take more money from the sys-

tem that is struggling to hold on to its kids.

Nobody’s against progress. But, right now, our schools are straggling. Now is not the time to put the proverbial millstone around their necks. President Wim Wiewiel says he understands the concerns, but points to the future and what the long term benefits of increased tax bases could mean for the county.

But seeing as it’s a 25-year plan, an entire generation could be missing out on what are only considered potential benefits.

It’s not just schools that will be paying, either. Aid to senior citizens and those in financial hardship, as well as state-funded youth programs, are some of the services that will be impacted by this decision, as Multnomah County is slated to foot \$53 million of the cost, according to the Portland Development Commission estimates.

One does not have to look far to see the consequences of urban renewal gone awry. The South Waterfront project that once held so much promise largely remains just that. A promise. Where are all the jobs that were supposed to be created? And, as oil prices reach higher and higher, so will the cost of construction and invariably, planners will be back asking, “Please, sir, may I have some more?”

The prosperity of PSU is essential to Portland, and the potential benefits of the expansion of this urban university are no doubt numerous. However, it seems wrong and downright unconscionable to use money from a public school system which currently only graduates two-thirds of its students to do so.

We need to find the money elsewhere. And, perhaps we should be thinking about the 33 percent of our kids who won’t be making it to university this year before we plan another building. ■



Tedium? Nonsense

PSU should be stricter on admissions

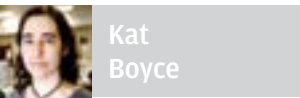
Did you get into Portland State on your first try? Were you admitted despite the fact that you barely met the minimum requirements?

Like many state universities, PSU has a minimum grade point average requirement of merely a 3.0 and is generally not hard to get into. Many people have benefited from this policy. But for the sake of the school and the student body, perhaps making PSU’s admission requirements a bit stricter would not be a bad idea. Maybe PSU will no longer be known as that university that is so easy to get into.

University of Oregon has recently decided to end its guaranteed-admission program. Students with a 3.4 grade point average or higher out of high school used to be guaranteed admission to UO, provided that they passed the required preparatory classes. These applicants would not be required to fill out the entire application or write an essay.

The minimum GPA requirement for admission to UO and PSU is a 3.0, not much lower than the 3.4 required for automatic admission.

Because the guaranteed-admission program is ending,



Kat Boyce

starting next school year, UO applicants for the 2012–13 academic year need to go through the essay writing and paperwork, no matter how high their grades are. Previously, a student would only have needed to do that if his or her grade point average was lower than a 3.4.

Because a 3.4 is not significantly high, it does not make a lot of sense for a guaranteed admission program for students with a 3.4 or higher to exist. Though the idea of it sounds interesting enough, it served as more of a promotion for UO than as a way to get students into college. Therefore, it is understandable that the program has come to an end.

Before UO decided to bring their program to an end, the universities in the Oregon University System were all supposed to grant automatic admission to those applicants with a 3.4 GPA or higher.

If the program had guaranteed admission to those with a more impressive GPA, 3.9 for example, it would have made much more sense. But the applicants with a 3.4 are not

small in number. Therefore, the Oregon state universities were likely guaranteeing admission to a good portion of its applicants and not a select few.

The fact that UO’s guaranteed-admission program has ended will certainly incur the wrath of next year’s applicants, but those applicants can still get in by doing only a little bit of extra work.

PSU, like many of its neighbors, has lower standards of admission. If UO, which currently has only 6,500 fewer students than PSU does, is becoming stricter about its admission policy, perhaps PSU should do the same.

Admission to college should feel like a huge accomplishment rather than something that one is entitled to. When applying to Reed College, for example, one wonders how successful their application will be. But when one applies to Portland State, they practically expect to get in. Should this continue as the norm?

Because Portland State has more students than even University of Oregon, and like its Eugene-located counterpart is willing to consider anyone with a 3.0, it may be best for it to do the same.

It would hardly be fair for a university to simply raise its GPA requirement, seeing as one’s GPA while in high school may be vastly different from what they will earn during their college career. However, there is nothing wrong with fixing the process so that applicants are screened a little more carefully. If incoming students have to work hard to get in, they might appreciate their education more and have greater success in college.

For the sake of PSU’s future graduating classes, perhaps UO’s lead should be followed. Make admissions more difficult, and perhaps the future will see PSU become a much more competitive school on a national basis. ■

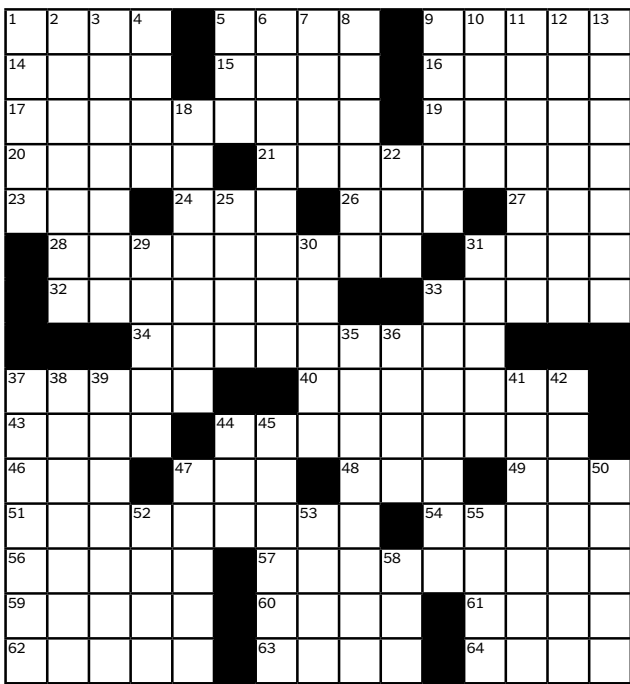
The New York Times Crossword

- Across**
- 1 What “.” means on some exams
 - 5 River in W.W. I fighting
 - 9 Brewing giant
 - 14 Kind of street
 - 15 Top
 - 16 Gray ones can cause arguments
 - 17 “Look for
 - 19 Caffé ____
 - 20 “If only”
 - 21 “Entice with
 - 23 With 26-Across, none
 - 24 Stumble
 - 26 See 23-Across
 - 27 Some investments, for short
 - 28 “Drop one, say
 - 31 Broker’s goal
 - 32 “Cold Mountain” novelist Charles
 - 33 Most common first name among U.S. presidents (six)
 - 34 “July, for Major League Baseball
 - 37 Where lines may cross
 - 40 Voluntarily, perhaps
 - 43 Those Spaniards
 - 44 “Doesn’t worry
 - 46 TV’s onetime ____ Club
 - 47 Electric ____
 - 48 NetZero, e.g., for short
 - 49 Zip
 - 51 “It may bear a coat of arms
 - 54 Relatives of raspberries
 - 56 Succeed
 - 57 “View from Land’s End
 - 59 Order countermanded by “Down, boy!”
 - 60 Long haul
 - 61 Legion
 - 62 Travels over what’s hidden in the answers to the seven starred clues
 - 63 Average
 - 64 Bygone fliers
- Down**
- 1 “____ his kiss” (repeated 1964 lyric)
 - 2 Suckler of Romulus and Remus
 - 3 Sellout
 - 4 What we share
 - 5 Derisive call
 - 6 See 13-Down
 - 7 Exotic avian pets
 - 8 Join forces anew
 - 9 Tight
 - 10 Man from Oman
 - 11 Sony recorder
 - 12 Twiddled one’s thumbs
 - 13 6-Down in sub-Saharan Africa
 - 18 Salty orange square
 - 22 Suffix with hex-
 - 25 Stir at a speakeasy
 - 29 Island birthplace of Epicurus
 - 30 Spartan king who fought Pyrrhus
 - 31 After-dinner drink, maybe

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

FRAUD SEAR COTS
ANDISO ORCA AFEW
BASSRELIEF NCAAA
RELIC STOAT
ALGMIDASSTOUCH
ROOMIES ITE RTE
IKEA STINTS
DISCUSSTHROWERS
BERTHS ANAT
UVA AYE AWESOME
SINGLESSBAR TSP
ORALS AUTOS
PINE BUSSTICKET
ELAN ASHE CALVE
NESIS HEAD AMMAN

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0209



Puzzle by Kevin G. Der

- 33 Holy Roman emperor during the War of the Spanish Succession
- 35 They include Cuba and Jamaica
- 36 Smart answers
- 37 Lower
- 38 It’s south of Helsinki
- 39 Government study, briefly?
- 41 Spanish husbands
- 42 Ophthalmologist’s procedure
- 44 Musical notes
- 45 Puts in, in a way
- 47 Fe, Ag, Au, etc.
- 50 Jrs. take them
- 52 “The Land of Painted Caves” novelist
- 53 Designed for flight
- 55 Singer Phil
- 58 End of a match, for short

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today’s puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

Back to School



First spring issue

April 3



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Online comments

The story doesn’t stop when the print hits the page. Don’t like something you read in the *Vanguard*? Want us to cover a story? Do you feel there is more to be said? You have the opportunity to praise us or rip us apart here at the *Vanguard*. Post a comment online or write us a letter. Tell us what you think. Here are some online highlights from psuvanguard.com.

A bit hazy on the details

I am having trouble understanding this statistic: “33 percent self-identified as smokers or former smokers and 67 percent self-identified as nonsmokers” (“Campus smoking policy under review,” March 8). Why are they grouping smokers and former smokers

(those who no longer smoke) in the same 33% as opposed to leaving each separate? And / or combining former smokers with non smokers?

Any light that can be shed on this would be appreciated. Thanks for the story. WILLIAM

Not the best work?

Good job, Vanguard! I’m impressed with your willingness to swallow whatever crap the administration wants to offer up (“February 2011 audit warned of possible personnel shortcomings in OIT,” March 6).

Funny that the *Mercury* scooped you on this one by... 2 weeks? Also funny, they seemed to have had more information. Incidentally... per the *Mercury*’s article on 2/20,

Telling students not talk to the media violates PSU’s community relations policies. On its community relations page, PSU clearly states its policy about students talking to the media: “Faculty and staff may be contacted by members of the media directly to comment on a topic, situation, or policy at the University.” The stated policy does add the suggestion: “It’s a good idea to contact the Office of University Communications prior to responding to reporters.” Walker apparently interpreted this rather liberally.

Any one of us could have talked to any one of you. Srsly. And would have. Because we were totally f****ed over by this whole thing. But, y’know, can’t have your paper possibly getting its funding cut, so probably shouldn’t ask the hard questions, eh?



Rainy day blues Anna Bertrand (left), Becca Bliss (upper right) and Brittany Hendrickson (lower right) take the field during the brief game against North Dakota.

Rain ruins home opener

Softball prepares for end of pre-season

ROSEMARY HANSON
VANGUARD STAFF

The Portland State women's softball team felt the effects of playing in the Northwest when their first home game was called due to weather. The game against North Dakota was rained out in the top of the third with the Vikings down 3-5, but the cancellation makes the short sheet of statistics unofficial. The Vikings leave their home field this weekend when they play their final pre-season invitational at Boise State.

"It just is kind of a bummer," head coach Tobin Echo-Hawk said. "The kids get excited for that first time to put their plays in front of our crowd...and even though we were down, the kids had this feeling that we would

win no matter what. That is the kind of confidence that comes from playing at home and knowing the field and knowing the situation." The Vikings hosted top-ranked Alabama last night, but the results were not available as of press time. After their brief stint at home, the Vikings will again hit the road to face Minnesota, Boise State and Utah State in the Springhill Suites Invitational this weekend.

"We had a pretty intense week of practice," Echo-Hawk said. "We had some little things we needed to work on and tweak, and the kids embraced the toughness and did a good job. As far as what is expected [for the weekend], we play some good teams. It's a good time to get some success and build our confidence and go into the regular season with that confidence."

As of press time the Vikings have a 9-10 overall record. In the most recent

invitation, the Vikings split the weekend with two wins and three losses. The wins against Maine and UC Davis highlighted the defensive pitching talents of four-time consecutive Pacific Coast Softball Conference Mountain Division Pitcher of the Week Anna Bertrand.

While Echo-Hawk said that Bertrand was frustrated with her short performance in the rained-out game against North Dakota, the pitcher has consistently performed well for the Vikings and leads the PCSC in three categories.

With Bertrand on the defensive front, the Vikings have seen recent success from senior lead-off hitter Karmen Holladay, sophomore third-baseman Crysta Conn and junior second-baseman Carly McEachran. All three are among the team leaders in batting averages, with Holladay batting a .339, Conn .320 and McEachran a .259. All three made key hits in the Vikings' win over Maine.

Echo-Hawk said the team has recently put a lot of focus on offensive performance, and that in the short amount of time against North Dakota that practice paid off. Even though the team was down 3-5, Echo-Hawk said the team was paying attention to each at-bat and getting in good hits.

McEachran said that the offensive focus in the upcoming games needs to be on fundamentals and mechanics.

"I think our goal right now is to get better each game and each at-bat," McEachran said. "So whether it is the outcome we want or not, we need to stay focused."

The Vikings open the weekend's invitational against the Minnesota Gophers. The Vikings follow the Minnesota game closely with games versus Boise State and Utah State. Portland State takes on Boise State on Friday, with a double-header against Utah State and Boise State again on Sunday.

The Gophers are currently 17-6, however they play the Boise State Broncos today. Minnesota currently has two key leaders: sophomore pitcher Sara Moulton and freshman utility player Kaitlyn Richardson. This week, Moulton earned her third Big Ten Player of the Week, and Richardson was given her second consecutive Big Ten Freshman of the Week award.

Boise State currently holds a 15-10 overall record. The Broncos are led defensively by senior pitcher Aubrey Zell who earned her 100th appearance as pitcher last weekend. On the offensive side the Bronco's have sophomore Tara Glover, who won the Mountain Division Player of the Week for March 8.

The Utah State Aggies are not faring as well as the other teams in the win column. The Aggies come into the weekend off a seven-game losing streak and hold an

8-15 overall record. The Aggies have struggled to garner wins despite big offensive performances from sophomore outfielder Kassandra Uchida, who recorded 15 hits in a recent loss to Harvard.

"We need to work on our mental toughness in the upcoming games; it's the overall main thing we've been working on," McEachran said. "There are some injuries and people being moved around from positions and in the lineup, so just focusing on the business at hand and getting the job done despite anything that comes up that is beyond our control."

The Vikings have the Springhill Suites Invitational along with one final pre-season game against Boise State on March 27 before the team holds its regular season opener against Utah Valley on March 30. The results and live stats for this weekend's games can be found at goviks.com. ■

Vikings finish with best record in three years



Good luck Chuck Departing senior Charles Odum runs downcourt. Odum was second in the conference in scoring.

Men's basketball team sees improved record under head coach Tyler Geving

RANDALL THEIL
VANGUARD STAFF

The Vikings finished their 2011-12 season with a 17-15 overall record and a 10-6 conference record. This was their best result in the three years Tyler Geving has been head coach of the team. The year ended with the Vikings making a deep run into the playoffs, culminating in a 69-63 loss away against the Weber State Wildcats in the semifinal round.

"I thought we had a great year," Geving said. "The way we played at the end of the season, I think we were always going to be a team that got better toward the end of the year."

This season was filled with ups and downs. The team often went on winning and losing streaks. It went the entire back half of December without getting a win, but also went on four three-game winning streaks over the course of the season. The Vikings were in the fight to climb out of the Big Sky gutter and into the playoffs until nearly the end of the season, which they finished with a three-game conference winning streak against Sacramento State, Eastern Washington and Northern Colorado.

While this year's squad was dominated by the performances of departing seniors Charles Odum and Chehales Tapscoff, it was also the opportunity for next year's stars to get a feel for playing with the Vikings. Guards Lateef McMullan, Michael Harthun and Gary Winston could step up and provide a strong backcourt presence for the Vikings next year, while recent acquisition and bench star

Renado Parker could take more of a role in the Viking offense.

The Vikings were able to make it to the playoffs on a string of conference victories that reversed their mediocre standing early in the season. They won their round in the quarterfinals decisively, beating the Montana State Grizzlies, a team who had beaten them twice in the regular season, 75-53 at home. Things looked optimistic for the Vikings as they traveled to Missoula, Mont., to face the Weber State Wildcats.

Unfortunately for the Vikings, however, the Wildcats proved to be more ready than the Grizzlies. Portland State held the lead briefly in the middle of the game, but the Grizzlies rallied toward the end and finished the match 69-63.

Head coach Tyler Geving, who was awarded Coach of the Year honors by collegeinsider.com, will nevertheless be pleased with the team's improvement this year. The team, which was picked fifth in pre-season polls, finished out the season in third position in the Big Sky Conference, finishing with a better performance than the women for the first time in years. Now Geving will have the chance to show what he can do with a team that is entirely of his own making. The Vikings have already picked up a big signee from Sheridan Junior College, Lamont Prosser, and are expected to announce more signings in the spring.

Geving said the team still had two scholarships left to offer after picking up Prosser, and that further acquisitions would be announced later in the year. He said the team would take a little time off over the break for the players to decompress before starting spring workouts and training. ■

Your 2011-12 seniors

Next year's squad will have big shoes to fill. This year was the final seasons for three impressive Viking starters. Guard Charles Odum and forward Chehales Tapscoff were both named to the All-Big-Sky Conference first team at the end of the season. Tapscoff led the league in rebounds while Odum finished second in scoring. Odum also picked up three Big Sky Player of the Week awards this season. Big Nate Lozeau anchored the Viking front court and stiffened the PSU offense.

Charles Odum



.529 accuracy from the field
19.1 points averaged per game
3.9 rebounds averaged per game

Chehales Tapscoff




.526 accuracy from the field
14.1 points averaged per game
9.3 rebounds averaged per game

Nate Lozeau



.568 accuracy from the field
7.2 points averaged per game
4.8 rebounds averaged per game



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Vikings find the silver lining

Schoning and Yada lead an inexperienced team

ALEX MOORE
VANGUARD STAFF

This time last year, the Portland State women's golf team was fighting with Northern Arizona University for the number one spot in the Big Sky Conference. Head coach Kathleen Takaishi was leading a team full of talent who would eventually be Big Sky champions.

This year, the team that has been champion of the Big Sky six of the last nine years is struggling.

The Vikings have finished second to last in two tournaments already this spring season. Most recently, Portland State finished 11th of 12 teams in the Peg Barnard Invitational.

The team is very young this year, leaving Tiffany Schoning as the only senior on the team.

"It's been a bit of a struggle," Schoning said. "We lost a load of talent. We're just really young and that's going to be really hard to start out with. We are definitely seeing improvements as far as potential and fundamentals; the scores just haven't quite come yet. We are hoping to see that change in the last tournaments of the season."

Schoning and junior Britney Yada are leading the Vikings this season. Yada leads the team with a scoring average of 77.29 so far, and Schoning isn't far behind at 77.41. Behind those two, this Portland State team is not very experienced. No one else on the team has more than one year for the Vikings.

Schoning sees herself as a leader on the team, being the only senior, but she has been



DREW MARTIG/VANGUARD STAFF

Play through Senior Tiffany Schoning relaxes on the green. Schoning is the only senior on the Vikings squad this year.

nothing but disappointed with herself.

"Can I cuss?" Schoning said when asked about her play this season. "Not good. I have been extremely disappointed with my play this season. The fall wasn't what I was looking for and the spring has been even worse. So that's definitely tough."

She said her play has been improving this quarter, however.

"The funny thing is so far this spring I have been really happy with where my game has been at. I have been really happy with where my putting is, where my chipping is and my swing. The score's just haven't been coming. That's really difficult."

If this season can't be about winning the Big Sky Conference for the third year in a row and the fourth time in the last five years, it

ends up being about Schoning and Yada helping the inexperienced golfers play up to their potential. Portland State has a lot of young talent including sophomores Samantha Webb, Loren Forney and Katie Ortman. The three sophomores competed in Portland State's last tournament, the Fresno State Lexus Classic.

"A lot of stepping up is going to have to happen, with

the fact that I am the only senior this year and Britney [Yada] is the only other junior," Schoning said. "We're the two leaders of the team. It will be interesting to follow how the team does after I leave and after Britney leaves."

The Vikings' next tournament, the Anteater Invitational, is on March 26 and 27 in Santa Margarita, Calif. The tournament is an all-day event. ■

Women's tennis is down but not out

Vikings hope to get season back on track with win against Linfield this weekend

NILESH TENDOLKAR
VANGUARD STAFF

The Portland State women's tennis team hasn't had the best of seasons in 2012. The team has a 2-11 overall record and has yet to win a conference game after five attempts. However, the Vikings have a chance to snap their four-game losing streak and set a winning tone going into their remaining conference game when they take on Linfield at home on Sunday.

"We always expect the best from our opponents," head coach Jay Sterling said. "We expect Linfield to put up a good fight and a good match.

I think it will be a good weekend for us to get back on the right track and work on things we need to do to get on the winning path again."

Doing well against Linfield might depend on the team's performance in doubles competition. The teams play three doubles matches and the team that wins at least two matches gets the doubles point. Sterling feels that consistency in doubles games has been a trouble spot for the Vikings.

"Doubles has been an Achilles' heel for us this year," Sterling said. "We are 9-30 overall in doubles; that's [a] 30 percent win percentage. We have to find some pairings that can work and bring consistency of play."

The Vikings have had an uneven set of results this year. In the middle of a month-long losing streak in

February, the women won a lopsided 7-0 victory over Montana State, Billings. The next day they got a 0-7 drubbing from sister college Montana State.

"If you look at our matches from week to week, we got some girls who play and compete really well and next week they don't," Sterling said. "It's the lack of consistency that's been frustrating. We are addressing that seriously this week."

With a 0-5 record in the Big Sky Conference in 2012, Portland State is at the bottom of the conference table. With only three conference matches left to play, the Vikings are unlikely to qualify for the Big Sky tournament. The top four teams in the table make the playoffs and four Big Sky teams already have three more conference wins this year. However, this

will not deter the Vikings from giving their best in the upcoming matches.

"We are hungry for a conference win," Sterling said. "We left at least two conference wins on the table. We were the better team and we had opportunities to take the win and we didn't do it."

The team will welcome freshman Ashley Spencer back into the lineup. This year, Portland State had to cope with more than its share of suspensions and injuries. As a result, its players had to play one or two levels above their usual spot in the singles lines.

"We have Ashley Spencer back in our lineup, which will give us more depth and allow us to play some stronger doubles," Sterling said. "She is a two-time state doubles champion and an incredible doubles player. Its hurt us not having her in

the lineup, in singles and in doubles."

Going forward, Portland State will hope to learn from their experience and get some wins under their belt.

"I am not super happy [with this season's results]," Sterling said. "We are a stronger team than we have played. We had opportunities but we haven't capitalized. But we are a young program and we have a lot of freshmen on our team. A little bit of that is expected, but it's certainly no excuse."

"We have some talent on the team and the ability to do play better than we have. Its just the lack of consistency from player to player each week," Sterling added. "If each player plays to her ability, we will have a better record than we have. I expect us to win some conference matches after spring break."■

Upcoming

Friday, March 14

Softball SpringHill Suites Invitational (three days)

Vikings (9-10) vs.
Minnesota (17-6)
Boise State (15-10)
Utah State (8-15)
Boise, ID

NBA



at



Trail Blazers (19-19)
@ Chicago (35-9)
**United Center
Chicago, IL
5 p.m.**

WHL



at



Winterhawks (48-17)
@ Victoria (22-41)
**Save-On-Foods
Memorial Arena
Victoria, BC
7:05 p.m.**

Listen on winterhawks.com

Saturday, March 15

Men's Tennis



vs



Vikings (2-11) vs. Montana (4-3)
**Vancouver, WA
noon**
Forecast: high: 51 degrees, sunny

MLS



at



Timbers (1-0-0) @ FC Dallas (1-0-0)
**Dallas, TX
5:30 p.m.**
Watch on ROOT SPORTS

Sunday, March 16

Women's Tennis



vs



Vikings (2-11) vs. Linfield (7-0)
**Vancouver, WA
Noon**
Forecast: high: 65 degrees, sunny

Men's and women's Track and Field Oregon Preview All day Eugene, OR

NBA



at



Trail blazers (20-22)
@ Oklahoma City (32-10)
**Ford Center
Oklahoma City, OK
6:30 p.m.**