

University  
Honors  
College

The Official Oregon State University  
UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE  
Student Magazine

# Chronicle

Volume VII, Issue 2

Spring 2002

Free

UHC Happenings

Art and Poetry

Discover Corvallis

Book and Movie Reviews

UHC Beginnings



Spring is here!

Contents

<b>3</b>	<i>Letters from the Editors</i> Abby Phillips & Emily Simpson	
	<i>All about Julian</i> Casey Woodworth	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<i>UHC Forum / Thesis</i> Camille Springer & Patricia Ward	
<b>6</b>	<i>Leading Double Lives</i> Jessie Kincaid	
	<i>UHC Beginnings</i> Jane Clark	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<i>Sunriver / UHC Events</i> Amy Christeson	
<i>Thoughts By Joshin</i> Joshin Luiz		<b>9</b>
	<i>Discover Corvallis</i> Beth Tovar & Avantika Mathur	<b>10</b>
<b>12</b>	<i>Book / Movie Reviews</i> Brook Wegner & Jenny Joanna	
	<i>Art &amp; Poetry</i>	<b>14</b>



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*Chronicle* magazine is published every term by UHC and OSU students. Articles reflect views of the individual writers on the *Chronicle* staff, but may not officially reflect the views or policies of Oregon State University or the OSU Honors College.

### Oops!

The Chronicle staff would like to make up for our lack of attribution by commending the talented Kimberly Ivancovich for her photographs for the "Nurturing at OSU" article of the Fall 2001 issue. Sorry Kim, we apologize for our error!

Editor-in-Chief | **Abby Phillips**

A myriad of strangers with blank stares shuffle past me, indifferent to the look of panic upon my face. Cars, buses and trains are everywhere, and everyone but myself seems to know where they are going....

I tell myself, just relax, and remember what the man told you at the information booth: take the Gatwick Express train, switch to the underground tube, get off at Victoria from the Circle Line.....or was it the Central Line, getting off at King's Cross? Or maybe it was...this is where I scream: AAAHHHH!!

At that moment, I wondered what a directionally- impaired girl who has grown up in Corvallis and never stepped foot on foreign soil is doing in a place like London? To this day, I don't have a clear cut answer to that perplexing question other than I had to get out of Corvallis. Oh yes, Abby Phillips has skipped town, and disappeared from the country for a while.

Because I grew up in Corvallis, I never got the terrifying yet freeing experience of being immersed into an entirely new setting for college. No, no, Abby always stayed in her comfort zone.....but no longer.

The instant I touched the soil in Europe, I discovered I had a tool that has always been with me, but had never had the opportunity to be put into use: my sense of independence. Being stranded in London and trying to find my way from the Gatwick airport to my youth hostel forced me to think for myself. Not to mention that nobody told me that 'Way Out' means exit, and that 'Mind the Gap' means, dude, watch your step when leaving the train to the platform.

I always thought I would fail when I met the world face- to-face (and maybe I did for an instant), but that was before I had been tested. And even though I was terribly lonely, I would never regret this experience. It has taught me that I can survive. I can navigate a city that appears 3 wazillion times bigger than Corvallis. I know this sounds like a line straight from Dawson's Creek, but I really have learned a lot about myself, and now I'm on my way to studying abroad in Spain. By the time you read this, I will have become an even stronger and culturally enriched person. I'm telling you, you've got to try this. I back Emerson 100% when he stresses that the importance of action or experience take precedence over that of books. And this experience has taught me more than any book or classroom setting ever could.

Just remember what Emerson said, "The true scholar grudges every opportunity of action passed by as a loss of power."

Cheers,


Associate Editor | **Emily Simpson**

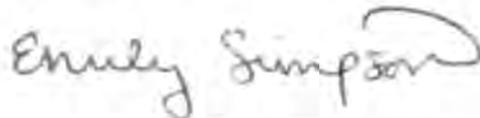
Hola a todos and greetings from the sunny shores of northern Spain. Ahhh España, home to Don Quixote, tapas, bullfights, flamenco dances, and vino. I am still amazed that I am actually here in this beautiful, unique country, living in an apartment with a Spanish host family, and having the experience of a lifetime. (Never mind the fact that I survived all of my plane flights, security checks, and a bus strike, which left me stranded for nine hours in Madrid bus station).

It is a bit terrifying and overwhelming at first - to leave everything infinitely familiar to yourself, including your native language, and submerge yourself in someone else's culture. The best one can do in preparation is to have an open mind and be willing to laugh at yourself and the situations you find yourself in. For instance, while sitting with my host parents, who were snacking on paté of wild pig (which I politely refused, as much as it tempted me), they commented that the wild pigs lived in the mountains to the south. I, all too ready to show off my bilingual skills, asked if people hunted the pigs.

\*Note: The verb "to hunt" is cazar and the verb "to marry" is casar. In Spanish classes, we do not learn the Castillian pronunciation of words, thus cazar and casar sound similar. Unfortunately, such is not the case in Spain.\*

So, much to the confusion of my parents, I appeared to be asking if the pigs were married.

Despite the slight language barriers, I find myself reveling in their culture. You learn to adjust and even to appreciate most of the differences between the life you lived before and the one you are experiencing now. I have the utmost respect for exchange students who attend college in the United States. While I am merely taking Spanish classes, they have classes of every subject in a language not their own. So I suppose what I'm trying to say is, be patient with others who might be struggling to grasp a new language or perhaps show them around to some of your favorite hangouts. In this day and age, it is critical that we be aware of other people, other countries, and other cultures and be open to learning about them and sharing stories of our own. Good luck this term!!




After **Julian Uselman** graduates from OSU this spring, **don't be surprised** if you see him again someday. He might be giving you radiation treatment or **signing a**  
**copy** of his latest novel, .....

but no matter what path his life takes, he's definitely setting out to do great things.

Uselman, 22, is one of five students at Oregon State University with a Radiation Health Physics major on the pre-med track. He eventually hopes to obtain his D.O. (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine). His interest in medicine traces back to a 'B' encyclopedia that he happened upon in pre-school. Fascinated by the diagrams of the human body, Uselman has wanted to be a doctor ever since. Even back then, he says, his "brain needed food."

Uselman spent most of last summer on an internship near Tampa, Florida. He learned of the opportunity through former UHC advisor Rachel Hochman, whose brother is a radiation oncologist (a cancer specialist). He describes the experience as "life affirming." Uselman said, "A lot of people think that [working with] cancer patients would be morbid, but it's actually very uplifting." He explains that although these people knew they were going to die, many had good mental attitudes and just decided to get out of life what they could with the time they had left. Through observation and some hands-on experience, Uselman not only gained practical knowledge, but also the valuable skill of working with patients.

Says Carole Crateau of Uselman's future in the medical profession, "He has those qualities that you'd want in a doctor: medical expertise along with the gifts of com-

passion and caring."

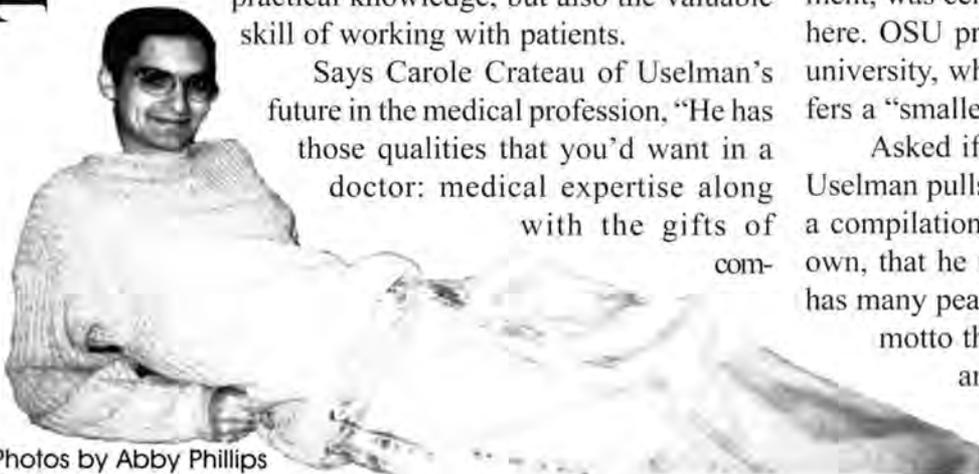
Another good quality for a doctor, according to Uselman, is creativity, and it is clear that he has plenty of it. His recently completed honors thesis is a 205 page novel (in 10 point font and single spaced, no less!) that he's been working on for nearly four years. Uselman hopes to someday publish *Crystal Dreams* as the first part of a trilogy. The complex plot involves the search for an artifact that is the pinnacle of all magical power. The author says of his masterpiece, "The book becomes a statement on the differences between faith (which is portrayed as magic) and science."

Uselman's other interests are many and varied. Jokingly describing himself as a "Renaissance Man," he does everything from traveling to cooking, and speaks fondly of his garden and his love for the outdoors. He's also been known to sew his own Halloween costumes, borrowing ideas from his novel.

Silverton, Uselman's hometown, has only 7,000 residents, so it was a bit of a change to come to a campus the size of OSU. The Honors College, as well as the Nuclear Engineering Department, was central to Uselman's decision to come here. OSU provides the opportunities of a large university, while he says the Honors College offers a "smaller community within OSU."

Asked if he has any advice for our readers, Uselman pulls out his day planner. At the front is a compilation of quotes and sayings, mostly his own, that he used for his graduation speech. He has many pearls of wisdom, but the best one, the motto that seems to sum Julian up, is short and sweet:

"Life is wonderfully."



Photos by Abby Phillips

# UHC Dean Joe Hendricks captivates audience in workshop

Contributing Writer **Camille Springer**

At the beginning of winter term, Dean Joe Hendricks hosted the annual UHC Thesis Workshop. Approximately 20 UHC students attended the workshop, not only for the free cookies and beverages, but also to gather some inside information about the mysterious thesis project. The purpose of the Thesis Workshop is to familiarize students with the thesis project and to encourage them to start thinking about it, regardless of their class standing. Two UHC students, Aaron Tinkle, a senior majoring in Zoology, and Emily Simpson, a junior majoring in Chemistry, along with Jane Siebler, and Joe Hendricks spent time discussing their own personal experiences with the thesis project, as well as answering any questions raised by the attendees.

Joe started by pointing out that the thesis project is undeniably the most distinguishing experience of the University Honors College Program. It is a process in which UHC students get “used to being the creator rather than the consumer [of knowledge]”. Joe gave intricate examples based on his field own of study, Sociology, to demonstrate how to pare down a broad topic to a specific, focused issue, which would then be presented in the thesis statement. He emphasized that the thesis project should not be viewed as an overwhelming, colossal work, but rather as a series of steps leading to the final product. Some suggestions for the project in-

clude: start thinking about ideas for a thesis project early on; become involved in a professor’s project that interests you; and of course, remember to register for thesis credit in your department when you begin the actual work.

Aaron Tinkle, whose thesis is a unit on elementary school health education in dentistry, charmed the crowd with his easy manner while giving his perspective on the thesis experience. Two mentors turned him down before he found his current mentor. He also started his first thesis project only to discover that it had lost all of its appeal. He did what he had to: dropped it and started work on a new one! One should never feel trapped in their thesis work. If you come to realize that your topic no longer interests you, don’t feel obligated or forced to stay there.

Emily Simpson, whose thesis work will be on premicellar aggregations, spoke about the HC 403 Introduction to Thesis class and shared her experiences in the mentor search as well. One of her revelations from the class that pertains to theses done in the sciences was that even if your experiment fails, you can still extract a perfectly good thesis paper from the research. Bad results are still results!

The UHC hopes to offer the Thesis Workshop each term in the future, rather than only once a year. For any UHC student—from first-year to junior—learning more about the UHC thesis requirement earlier, rather than later, is most helpful.

# Forum with President Risser leaves attendees satisfied

Contributing Writer **Patricia Ward**

Will students have to pay to ride the city bus? Why does the College of Engineering receive so much money? What is happening to OSU? The financial panic that swept over OSU has left many students with seemingly unanswerable questions. It is questions and concerns of OSU students like these that President Risser addressed at the Presidential Forum on January 30th in the Memorial Union lounge.

While topics ranged from the lack of accessibility in University facilities for handicapped persons, to the sparse parking availability, the majority of questions centered on monetary issues.

Last year, OSU broke new ground when the Cascade Campus became the first successful annex of the university. Students attending the forum questioned the practicality in funding the Cascade Campus while the financial status at OSU is so grim. In response, President Risser stated, “The state legislature funds [the Cascade Campus] separately.” “One does not drain the other,” he added.

While that situation had a simple solution, what about the discrepancy of money allotted to different departments at OSU? The legislature denied the College of Veterinary Medicine at OSU the necessary \$8 million to have a four-year program at OSU. Students will now have to transfer to Washing-

ton in order to complete the program.

In contrast the Engineering program was allotted \$40 million. In this case, President Risser explained that in this case a private donor had given this money to the Engineering program, and Risser made it clear that the funding at OSU was “not a case of priority.”

Private funding is also needed in other colleges at OSU, as many departmental improvements could be feasible with an extra source of income. Since the university cannot rely on funding from the state legislature to fulfill departmental needs, students questioned the impact that private funding could have on the university. However, according to Risser, private donations would have to “increase substantially,” for OSU to obtain measurable benefits.

The underlying concern throughout the forum was making sure OSU was using and will continue to use its money effectively and efficiently. Though it seems like a convenient time to abandon hope, Risser assured the crowd of students that OSU still has options.

“There are actually ways that we can market our programs to generate revenue for the entire university.” Though not all problems were resolved by the end of the forum, students had a better understanding of the issues facing OSU and Risser’s visions to improve the university.



# While standing in line for food at one of the dining centers on campus, have you ever **found yourself complaining** to your friends about your enormous workload?

Did you ever look up and notice that one of your fellow students, perhaps even a fellow UHC student, was patiently waiting to take your order? Did you then wonder how on earth they survive keeping up with schoolwork and having a job at the same time? What is the secret behind successfully managing homework, working a minimum of 10 hours a week, staying in touch with friends and still getting a good night's sleep? Find out as three UHC students give their expert opinions on what it takes to lead a double life.

Jana Dickman, Jennie Mieger, and Miranda Ruth all emphasized the absolute necessity of good time management. Dickman, a junior in Zoology, said that to keep up with everything, it takes a certain mentality and ability to balance work and leisure. Mieger, a sophomore in Exercise and Sports Science, stated that it helps to have her homework completed before she even arrives at work.

You might assume that leading a double life is made easier by not enrolling in very many classes each term, but don't forget that these are UHC students we're talking about here. Your next impression might be that they don't have to spend much time studying, but you would be wrong about this as well. The amount of time these students spend studying ranges from at least 10 hours a week to slightly more than 20. Ruth, a senior in Wildlife, particularly enjoys staffing the SLUG (only one of her two jobs) because, "It's getting paid to study." The appeal of accomplishing two tasks at the same time is enough to keep Ruth a happy SLUG staffer.

So what is there to enjoy about working besides the income? Mieger finds her job as a caregiver of elderly people at Timberhill Assisted Living both personally and professionally fulfilling, as she desires a health-



Photos by Abby Phillips

Jana Dickman, Jennie Mieger, and Miranda Ruth pause from their busy schedules. Each is active at school and in the Honors College while maintaining work on and off campus.

related field. She finds her job so enjoyable that she doesn't even view it as "going to work". Other benefits of her job include valuable work experience for a résumé and the ability to gather background information for her honors thesis. Dickman, who works at the deli in McNary Central, enjoys her job because she gets to work with other students.

What would they do with their extra time if they weren't working? All three girls agreed that they would actually accomplish less without a job to occupy their time. However, they also admitted that they wouldn't mind spending more time hanging out with friends, studying, or catching up on sleep.

As if working and attending school were not enough to complicate their lives, these girls are also involved in other time-consuming activities. Dickman stays involved in the house activities at her co-op, Ruth is the president of Mortar Board and occasionally writes for the Chronicle, and Meiger is on the Steering Committee and participates in the Peer Mentoring program for the UHC.

These three described their bosses as very understanding and accommodating, acknowledging school as the top priority. The girls are given the flexibility of scheduling work around tests and projects.

What many people consider to be an overwhelming workload, is in fact just the right amount for these three girls. With a little extra effort on their behalf, they are able to handle school, work, relationships, extra-curricular activities and life in the UHC. Apparently, all it takes to lead a double life is a little time management.

The University Honors College (UHC) at Oregon State University is **like a fine wine**: given the right ingredients and enough time to age, the result is an **exceptional mixture** of motivated, bright students and distinguished professors. ....

Originally, there was an Honors Program at OSU from 1966-1991, but it closed due to budget cuts. It was very different from the University Honors College program that opened in 1995, but the latter stands on the shoulders of those who went before.

When the doors of the UHC opened to the first group of students, they were a part of what was only the eleventh degree-granting Honors operation in the country. Years of work by the Faculty Senate Honors College Committee had paved the way, with leadership drawn from the College of Science and across the campus.

The goal was to create a university-wide Honors College, not one centered in the liberal arts or in any other single college. Joe Hendricks was named as the founding administrator on April 1, 1995, and he continues to joke about that being a propitious date. The first staff was small; Joe Hendricks was joined by an office staff of one—first Marilyn Welch who agreed to

come out of retirement to assist with the set-up phase, and a bit later Tammy Henderson (now Brown). Over the course of that first summer, Carole Ann Crateau, doing double duty as writing instructor and advisor, came on board and planning proceeded at a rapid pace. Somewhat later, two visiting faculty appointments were made for that first year, Lani Roberts (Philosophy) and Robby Robson (Mathematics). Others joined them until the Visiting Appointments were suspended in order to use the funds for further coursework. After a short period of operation, the demands of the advising responsibilities had grown to the point where a full-time Head Advisor was added in the form of Jane Siebler. Dean Hendricks was one of the forces in the successful establishment of the UHC with a vision of creating a program where students are challenged to excel. He readily admits the brain trust of the staff and the UHC Council were crucial to what has become the present University Honors College.

Lani Roberts, one of two visiting faculty members that first year, was invited by Dean Joe Hendricks because of her outstanding reputation, along with her demanding teaching style. Since her original involvement, Roberts has taught multiple courses in the UHC,

including PHL 205H, helped with grant writing responsibilities and taken part in creating the Small Group Instructional Diagnostic (SGID) format for course evaluations. Roberts sees the University Honors College as providing significant benefits, primarily in the quality of education. The small classes allow for an interactive learning style and close relationships with professors, who then can serve as both teachers and mentors.

The Student Steering Committee was started the first year as an innovative way to involve students in the program. The first Steering Committee members chose not to elect officers, instead anticipating that students would emerge to give leadership to student initiatives. The Steering Committee was started with the goal of student interests and has continued to be student driven. Many creative ideas have stemmed from Steering Committee. The Honors College as a whole encourages students to

participate in the operations of the college and in the leadership of the Honors Residence Hall, McNary Hall.

The student learning center, nicknamed the SLUG (Students Learning Underground) when it opened during the second year of UHC operations, has become the facility it is today without ever having funding included for it in the UHC budget. The Chronicle, originally known as Ecclesia was started by two students on the original Steering Committee, Kevin Stoller and Bryce Payne (Payne has subsequently earned an MBA and now sits on the Honors Board of Regents). It was created for the purpose of having a forum for student communication and exchange of ideas. Those first students were also invited to share their ideas in the renovation of McNary Hall, which had stood empty for a few years. They met in groups and worked with staff from Residence Life, under the leadership of Tom Scheuermann, and designed what has become a great place to live.

Crateau considers the most prominent benefit of the University Honors College to be the community of scholars, with “students really turned on to learning.” The Honors College has a complex story of its creation. It is not over, however, since the UHC aims to recreate itself and refresh its agenda as it moves forward.



Illustration by Bryan Ko



Friday night, after 3 long hours of navigating the **mysterious highways** around central Oregon, and spending another 30 minutes **lost in the resort** itself, we **finally made it** to Sunriver.

We bumbled around the house for a while, scrambled to claim the remaining couches, and marveled at the spacious house and outdoor hot tub surrounded by a snowy backdrop.

**Saturday noon:** We headed to Mt. Bachelor to start the snow activities. Busted out the dining trays we borrowed from McNary Central--the sled of choice for poor college students. Our efforts in sneaking these items away from campus paid off, because once we got the technique down, the plastic trays proved to be surprisingly effective (although, I wouldn't recommend attempting snowboard style). Our fun was momentarily interrupted when we were given a warning by a man who obviously didn't appreciate our newfound sport, and thus we were forced to look for a safe refuge from the Ski Patrol.

**Saturday 3 pm:** Sat at the Mt. Bachelor lodge and thought about heading back, but with one little problem: 11 people and one little Honda. Oops.

Q. How long does it take almost a dozen honors students to find a way of getting back to the resort?

**Saturday 3:10 pm:** Brainstorming got boring. Snuck away from the frantic group with a friend, found an ice pick and scribbled OSU all over the windshields of several innocent cars.

**Saturday night:** We made it back to Sunriver in one piece and even learned how to put chains on a car. Then it was party time! Everyone gathered together in one house to enjoy a fun, energetic night. Sub sandwiches. Cookies. Mystery Science Theater 3000. Poker. Trivial Pursuit (And just a clarification here: the girls team was half the size of the guys--what an

unfair advantage! Just wait 'till next year...). Plus, we got to visit with the UHC Board of Regents, who joined us for dinner.

**Sunday morning:** Most people headed back, but a few of us decided to tackle the mountain once again--this time on cross-country skis. Our group consisted of skill levels ranging from a pro-XC racer to a guy whose skiing career had just begun the previous day.

**Sunday afternoon:** Reclined the passenger seat and slept like a baby all the way back to campus.

~ \* ~

60 students sharing 3 houses: \$30 each  
Gas money for the drive, plus some for getting lost: \$5

Passing up homework to spend a weekend in Sun River: Priceless.

~ \* ~

Missing out on UHC activities is a huge mistake. From camping at the beach in the early fall to the upcoming rafting trip spring term, there are activities planned throughout the year as a reward for hard-working honors students. Other than the Sun River trip, another recent and very successful event was the UHC dance in mid-February. Master music-mixer Bob Baddeley created a great line-up of tunes from student suggestions and his own preferences. From ballroom to swing, students had a chance to show off their incredible dancing skills. All in all, it was a great night. Several weeks later, with the arrival of Siblings Week, UHC students dropped by the Slug to munch on delicious snacks--and thus show their brothers and sisters that college really is about free food.



*Ice pick in hand, graffiti-artist Jane Clark leaves evidence of OSU pride on unsuspecting cars in the Bachelor parking lot.*



*Mark Shaver, Jessica Wicksnin, Blake Robinson and Bryan Ko give their make-shift sleds a test run.*



*Mark Shaffer and Bryan Ko take charge in the quest to put chains on the car.*

Photos by Amy Christeson

## A few gray hairs - Joshin Luiz bares all

Just a few days ago, one of life's harsh realities reared its head at me. I woke up and went into the bathroom. Still a bit groggy, I turned on the lights and looked into the mirror. That's when I saw them— gray hairs! Of course I pulled them out, but they made me realize something — I was getting old. Presently a senior, I was forced to look into the future — and it didn't include the term "Thirsty Thursday." I chose to ignore this thought at the time and soon headed off to class. As I walked down Jefferson, I saw a crowd of starry-eyed freshmen. As they giggled and laughed, it brought back memories of the glory days. Back when the sum of your course credits would almost always be less than ten, and when you were still physically capable of staying up until 3a.m. on consecutive nights. I tried doing this again recently but fell asleep somewhere around 10a.m.. Yup, age does have a way of sneaking up. Whether it's a receding hairline or an increasingly pronounced gut, change, no matter how hard you fight it, is inevitable.

Now not all change is bad. Just because your back may ache in the morning and your knees hurt at night, it is not necessarily an indication that you are past your prime. There are many new things that bring me pleasure. Nowadays, I gain much

amusement from those complaining about two-page papers being due the week of midterms. Little do they realize that soon they will be scurrying into the SLUG to start AND finish those papers during the ten-minute break between classes. Now, as an honors student, I do not condone this sort of behavior, but it is hard to discourage it when you have managed to get A's employing this very method. I also enjoy registering for classes without relying on the ever so crucial advising appointment (no offense Jane). Then being able to find my classes every term without having to confer with my trusty campus map.

The point of this little introspective is this: three years ago, I remember seeing the seniors sitting on the couch of the SLUG, some were sleeping and some were reading. Things haven't changed. The carpet may be new and the computers may have been upgraded, but the cycle continues on. Now I find myself taking naps where those in the past had also rested their weary heads. I'm not bitter that I can no longer run up and down the hallways of McNary at 2a.m., all I am saying is this: when I go home at the end of a long hard day of class and work, I can sit back, relax, and bask in the glory of the fact that I'm legal!

### Little-known slug facts: Things we bet you didn't know.

- Slugs have tongues with 27,000 teeth and rasp their food.
- Slugs go about .007 miles an hour.
- Slugs are hermaphrodites, which means that they have both sets of reproductive organs. If they are ever lonely, bored, or under stress, they can mate with themselves.
- Slug slime can take away the sting from nettles.
- Slugs can stretch out 11 times their normal length.
- Slugs mark their own scent so they can find their way home after dark.
- Northwest Banana Slugs can grow up to 18 inches long!
- Slugs are vegetarians - they eat just about everything green: lettuce, cabbage, green beans, peas, cucumber, etc. Also dog food.
- Slugs love beer (don't we all?). Actually, in a taste test conducted by students from Colorado State University Entomology, it was found that, above everything else, slugs like Kingsbury Malt Beverage.



Corvallis is full of **exciting events** and delicious food, so it's easy to see how a few of its **finest jewels** are sometimes missed. Here's what you've been missing: some of **Corvallis' best secrets.**

## Gorilla Grams

Much more than your basic balloon shop, Gorilla Grams offers a wide variety of gift giving and decorating choices. The best part: a costumed character is happy to deliver your bright bouquet or "cookie arrangements." As you can probably guess, the gorilla, who can dress up as anything from a ballerina to Elvis, is a favorite.

In 1996 Valerie Brannen, the brain of the company, came up with a novel concept: work should be fun! "I wanted to develop a business that brought smiles and laughter not only to its customers but also to its staff." Thus Gorilla Grams was born. Over the years they have added incredible edibles, delivery options and more.

Balloons are not what they used to be. Although you can come in for a basic bunch of helium color (and many do), you can also have the staff create almost anything you can imagine. "We can do anything from selling a balloon on a string to a loft with about a thousand balloons," says Valerie. Some of their specialties include beaver-ific OSU-themed creations (they did a ton of the Fiesta Bowl decorating in Arizona), elegant weddings, and unforgettable graduation, birthday and anniversary parties.

So what can one expect from a gorilla gram? The ballerina gorilla (a favorite) takes the recipient for a spin around the dance floor and then poses for a picture. They don't sing, but will happily read a personalized poem as they deliver your surprise.

Formerly located on downtown on VanBuren, Gorilla Grams has moved to 9th Street and Sycamore, behind Darrell's Restaurant. Call them at (541) 752-2889 or check them out online at [www.gorillagramonline.com](http://www.gorillagramonline.com).

**Your Balloon Service Professionals**


&


**Valerie Brannen C.B.A. (541) 752-2889**  
[www.gorillagramonline.com](http://www.gorillagramonline.com)

## Iovino's Ristorante

Tucked away on the Corvallis riverfront, on the corner of First Street and Monroe, one can find an elegant and trendy new dining atmosphere. Iovino's Ristorante is the local Italian hot spot with great food, an affordable menu, fine wines and much more.

Regina Iovino, the restaurant owner, realized that Corvallis was in desperate need of authentic Italian dishes back in 1999. She found the perfect building and went to work. The uptown casual atmosphere is relaxed and easily caters to its customers wants and needs.

The menu is full of adventurous flavors coupled with old-time favorites and portions are generous. "Plates are piled high, the way they should be," says Regina. If you are looking for something a little lighter try a half order of pasta or one of the fresh and tasty salads. Their full service bar, martini menu and wine list should be more than enough to whet your appetite. Vegetarian or Vegan? No problem. There is something for everyone to enjoy at the restaurant.

Iovino's offers a variety of pasta entrées, salads, paninis, pizza, fresh seafood specials and old-time Italian favorites. Whether you are looking to impress a new boss, enjoy an evening with friends or treat visiting parents to an uptown experience, Iovino's is the place to be.

The restaurant opens daily at 5p.m. to serve dinner. Reservations are recommended and the restaurant is open for private functions everyday from 10a.m. to 4p.m. Full service catering and impressive party platters are also available. Give them a call to cater your upcoming event or make reservations today at (541) 738-9015.



Iovino staff surprised by Gorilla Grams. Both are known for putting smiles on people's faces.



**IOVINO'S**

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# Nearly Normal's

Staff Writer | Courtney Gardner

Looking for something fresh, tasty, and just a little out of the ordinary? Head over to Nearly Normal's on 15th Street behind Circle K. Just a short walk from campus, this vegetarian restaurant promises a fun, social setting and has something for everyone, vegetarian or not.

Nearly Normal's cuisine has a multicultural zest, so for those who are not brave enough to try a tofu potato, Nearly Normal's offers several bean burritos and tasty pastas. Other international foods include curry and foods from Greece and the Middle East. Not only do they specialize in exotic foods, Nearly Normal's caters to vegetarians the way very few other restaurants do. Breakfast foods use organic potatoes and free range eggs. Many lunches include tofu, falafel or sunburgers (burgers of sunflower seeds, veggies and spices). Even several vegan meals are on the menu. Meals are fresh, healthy and delicious, and range in price from about five to ten dollars.

Customers order and pay downstairs and then retire to the social atmosphere to wait for their food. One may enjoy organic coffee, a fruit smoothie, or a cold glass of organic carrot juice while waiting. The restaurant is decorated with bright, original paintings. Tree trunks draped with colored lights extend from the floor to the ceiling. Adding to the fun flavor of the atmosphere, Nearly Normal's has a designated theme of a restaurant bird, the flamingo, and restaurant flower, the iris.

If the downstairs is crowded, which it usually is during lunch hour, head upstairs. A feeling of oneness with nature is emphasized by the wooden paneling on the floor and walls, and skylights that allow natural, bright light to illuminate the upstairs room. Cacti decorating the windowsills and hanging plants give the room a very fresh feel, perfect for a vegetarian restaurant.

Before becoming the popular restaurant it is now, Nearly Normal's was somebody's home. It has since been expanded and renovated, and just recently, employees celebrated Nearly Normal's twenty-second birthday. The restaurant has been very popular since its opening.

Nearly Normal's caters to your needs. If you have little time between classes for lunch and no time to wait in line, you can order ahead and your food will be ready and waiting by the time you arrive. All orders can also be made to go. Service is helpful and laidback. Unless one's diet consists solely of meat, Nearly Normal's is a great place to go.

Nearly Normal's  
Nearly Perfect  
Gonzo cuisine

109 NW 15th  
753-0791

Open: 8-8 Mon. -  
Wed.  
8-9 Thurs. & Fri.  
9-9 Sat.

# Nature Spots in Corvallis

Staff Writer | Avantika Mathur

Looking for a way to enjoy the sunny spring weather we've been having? You don't have to go far. Try hiking up the trails, or having a picnic at one of the many nature spots in the Corvallis area. Enjoy the natural beauty of Oregon by visiting one of the following locations.

## Bald Hill Park:

This 284 acre park surrounds a sizeable hill with an elevation of four hundred and fifty feet, but the hike up the trail to the top is worth the effort. A breathtaking panoramic view of Corvallis rewards those who reach the top of the trail. The park is full of wildflowers throughout the spring and summer, and aside from the hiking trail, there are also bike paths for those who enjoy a good bikeride. Bald Hill Park is located west of Corvallis by the Benton Country Fairgrounds on Oak Creek Road.

## Chip Ross Park:

Open forests and great natural areas greet visitors of Chip Ross Park. The park features amazing and expansive views of the Willamette Valley and the city. With less demanding nature paths, strenuous hiking trails, and picnic tables, Chip Ross Park offers fun to all sorts of people. One of the popular trails at the park is Dan's trail to McDonald Forest. The park is located north of Corvallis, off of Highland Drive. Turn at the Chip Ross Park sign.



Illustration by Bryan Ko

## McDonald Forest:

This location is a real resource to Corvallis. Not only is it a great place for recreational activity, it is actually a research forest. Oregon State students study the timber in that area. Located north of Corvallis, McDonald Forest features ten miles of hiking trails for those enthusiastic hikers. The multiple use trails and 60 miles of logging roads stretching throughout the forest can be used for hiking, horseback riding or biking. The more difficult trails are perfect for those people looking for a challenge. The Jackson Creek area is accessed by following Highland Drive north to Lester Avenue. Turn left until you reach the parking area. The Oak Creek area is accessed by following Oak Creek Drive west from the intersection with Harrison, 53rd, and Walnut. After two miles, you will come to the junction with Cardwell Hills Road. Turn right and follow Oak Creek Drive one mile to the parking area.



## Brotherhood of the Wolf intriguing, original



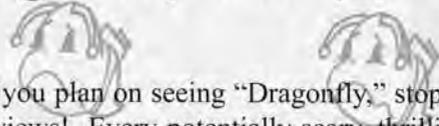
On the bizarre end of the movie continuum, we have the subtitled

“Brotherhood of the Wolf (Le Pacte des Loups) from France. During the 18th century, a score of women and children are dying at the hands of a gruesome beast in the region of Gevaudan. The King sends two men to investigate—the charming naturalist Grégoire de Fronsac (Samuel Le Bihan) and his enigmatic Native American friend, Mani (Mark Dacascos, the most worthwhile part of the movie). In between making the acquaintance of a mysterious courtesan (Monica Bellucci) and falling in love with an innocent rich girl (Emilie Dequenne), Fronsac finds time to untangle a complicated web of deceit and destruction that has more to do with power-hungry human beings than bloodthirsty beasts.

“Brotherhood of the Wolf” isn’t rated ‘R’ for nothing. Nudity abounds, and the gore factor is quite high. Be prepared to cringe, the violence borders on sickening at some points. The fight scenes that don’t involve the loss of body parts, however, are fantastic. When Fronsac and Mani first arrive in Gevaudan, Mani puts on a martial arts display audiences haven’t seen the likes of since, dare I say it, “The Matrix.”

The cinematography is also well-done, managing to capture haunting images in almost every frame. Any scene that involves mud or water is beautifully filmed, even though most of them involve death. The beast itself isn’t the best computer generated image ever, but tricks with fog, as well as a healthy dose of startling sound effects, up the movie’s creepiness scale. Multiple layers make “Brotherhood of the Wolf” hard to categorize, but suffice it to say that though you may not leave the theater satisfied, you’ll definitely be intrigued.

## Dragonfly disappoints, previews best part



If you plan on seeing “Dragonfly,” stop watching the previews! Every potentially scary, thrilling, or exciting moment has been shown in the trailers. All that’s left is Kevin Costner. A lot of Kevin Costner.

He pretty much has the screen the entire time, save for his wife’s death scenes and a few appearances by Kathy Bates as his next-door neighbor. And for the first third of the movie, his acting is so bad you wish he would just join his dear departed wife! Costner plays Dr. Joe Darrow, a man wracked by guilt and emptiness since his wife’s untimely demise. Her lifelong obsession with dragonflies begins to haunt him, and when comatose patients start calling his name and bringing back mes-

sages from the beyond, Joe starts to believe his dead wife is trying to tell him something critically important... and to say any more would ruin the movie even more than the trailers have.

“Dragonfly” never quite determines what it wants to be. Sentimental love story? Creepy ghost flick? New Age philosophy? Costner is passable as the grief-stricken husband (although the dead wife is much more interesting than her live spouse), and none of the other actors make a very big impression, not even the usually good Bates. The kids are cute, though being that they have cancer, it’s a little depressing. The movie doesn’t get really interesting until the last twenty minutes, and the ending, at least, is unexpected. Probably a great rental, but don’t waste your money on the big screen.

## Requiem for a Dream thoughtful in reality



A balding paranoiac, a heroine addict, a mother obsessed with domestic perfection, mermaids and caverns, miracle-diet infomercials, and a demonic, (mobile!) Frigidaire. . . what else, but a post-modern artist, or sweet pickles before bed, could possibly produce a vision of such schizophrenic elements? Only the overzealous TS Eliot enthusiast is capable of such wonders.

It is suggested that director Darren Aronofsky’s recent independent film Requiem For a Dream is best viewed and understood following a deep reading of TS Eliot’s poem “The Lovesong of J. Alfred Prufrock.” The

uncanny similarities that begin with “A patient etherized on a table,” an image that initiates Eliot’s poem and concludes Aronofsky’s film, are infinite in number and diverse in their revelations: so “let us make our visit” to “those half-deserted streets, the muttering retreats” of the human mind and all of its paranoia, fear, and delusions.

In the movie, the handful of main characters share two striking similarities: they all are tortured by addictions (in a variety of forms from illegal drugs to diet pills), and they all, when just upon the verge of achieving their life’s dreams, crumble into dust. Not only is Aronofsky’s film revealing about American culture as

being characteristically, (but covertly) prone to addiction in its obsessive attachment to television, the media, and rigid ideals of beauty and success (for always “the women come and go/Talking of Michaelangelo”), but it is revealing about the self-destructive element of human nature: the element that causes us to doubt ourselves the most, to fear the worst, when we are hovering upon the threshold of our dreams.

A striking scene in the film portrays a widowed, lonely mother, who, overdosing on diet pills to prepare herself for a potential opportunity to appear on television (her life’s dream), is caught up in a terrifying hallucination. The hosts of a diet-miracle infomercial taunt and mock her from the television screen, and she is caught “pinned and wriggling on the wall”, while the refrigerator, suddenly possessed of demonic qualities and powers, advances from the back. It is as if she and the other equally self-destructive characters are performing a grotesque, frenzied dance to Eliot’s rhythmic song. Arounfsky critically and artfully examine the causes and tendencies of this human sense of inferiority that makes one feel unworthy

of one’s own dreams; that could produce, instead, such terrifying nightmares.

Both Eliot and Arounfsky seem to urge us not to ask “the overwhelming question”; we are not to discern what is the requiem for a dream, but rather why a requiem for a dream? Are not our unspoken, deepest desires the one unlimited, un-

confined aspects of ourselves? Why do we feel inadequate for our own desires? What is it about our greatest dreams and desires that makes them more threatening, and somehow no longer ours when they verge upon realization? Eliot tells us:

We have lingered in the chambers of the sea

By sea-girls wreathed with sea-

weed red and brown

Till human voices wake us, and we drown.

And in Arounfsky’s film, drown we do; we drown in our addictions; in heroin and diet pills, in television and in romantic delusions, in prostitution and in violence: a tragic downward spiral that leaves us debilitated and broken, and yet safe, somehow, once again, from that threat of success, that threat of ultimate happiness that tormented us so.

In Arounfsky’s film, drown we do; we drown in our addictions; in heroin and diet pills, in television and in romantic delusions, in prostitution and in violence:

## Science and Religion: Both Helpful, Both Human

“All men desire by nature to know.” — Aristotle

What is life? How did it begin? Where did the world come from? Human beings have been contemplating such questions for thousands of years because people possess an innate desire to know about the world and its unfolding events. Humanity observes, questions, and attempts to explain life’s events and experiences through theology and the sciences.

The crucial parting point of theology and science is over the issue of causation. While theology seeks the ultimate reasons for why things happen (primary causes; God’s choice), science endeavors to explain how things happen (secondary causes; natural laws and processes). Though many scholars have believed the two ways of comprehending the universe to be complementary, after the Scientific Revolution, the sciences became increasingly secularized and predominantly concerned with secondary causes. Misconceptions of the dynamic relationship between science and theology — particularly Judaeo-Christian theology — developed over time, resulting in their portrayal as distinct opposites and oftentimes rivals.

The consequence of such a rivalry is further contention. As some people have come to idealize science as a superior route to knowledge, others fear

that the acceptance of scientific authority threatens all that is sacred and truly meaningful in life. Del Ratzsch, the author of *Science and its Limits*, is a Christian who believes that such extreme attitudes hinder scientific inquiry and deform religious beliefs. In his book, Ratzsch presents an analysis of the philosophies surrounding modern science and encourages readers to consider the questions that science can and cannot answer about the world and human experience.

In this search for Truth (hidden and otherwise), it is important for the people involved to remember to use their investigative abilities correctly, respecting nature and one another in the course of their work. If, as the saying goes, “all truth is God’s truth,” neither the Christian, nor the scientist, nor the Christian scientist, has any reason to fear what human inquiry may reveal about the world. The modern worldview is “inescapably shaped by science” (8), but science is also limited by “human conceptual resources” (58). It is to the advantage of science and religion to work together to reach beyond their own limits. The two need not always agree; an argument is often productive — but only so long as those engaged in the dispute are informed and considerate of the other’s views.



# Poetry & Art



*Anna Schrage*

Ick  
 lightly crawling on my skin  
 filthy insect  
 how you bug me  
 all your habits so gross  
 your feeding so vile  
 you bite suck and pester  
 but while i convict you  
 with your behavior  
 you show me to be the fool  
 those beetles  
 those flies  
 one rolling and eating dung  
 one feeding & secreting disease  
 into my food  
 how uncouth  
 how unsanitary

didn't anyone teach bugs  
 about hygiene  
 the fleas  
 the ticks  
 they hid and wait  
 sometimes 9 months  
 cold  
 unfed  
 waiting like silent  
 hunters  
 to spring parasitic  
 but are they really  
 so evil  
 malicious  
 or has my presumption  
 that they have  
 emotion  
 undermined me  
 and my ability  
 to understand them  
 and the biological  
 wonder of their  
 perfect design  
 how cleverly  
 created they might be  
 but i'll never see  
 pas my contrivance  
 because they are  
 just bugs  
 ick

--Amber Leis



*Clint Peterson*



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