



# The Mossy Log



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## First SEE Fair successful, over 100 clubs table

*From drag to campus media, Welcome Week event gives something for new, returning students to enjoy*

By ROSALIE ZUCKERMANN

ON FRIDAY, Sept. 8, Lewis & Clark hosted the 18th annual Student Engagement Extravaganza (SEE), formerly known as the Pio Fair, where 118 of the school's 130+ student organizations tabled in the Academic Quad. Club leaders adorned their tables with banners, candy, stickers and themed paraphernalia to draw in the students who flooded into the area by the hundreds.

These groups included academic interest organizations, affinity groups, club sports, social justice and service organizations, special interest organizations, spiritual life and student media.

New Student Orientation was packed with events from service days to drag, improv to fire arts shows, letters to future selves to the silent disco, but the festivities did not end there. Welcome Week kicked off the year in earnest. Sports games, a poster sale and a student market provided fun outlets as classes ramped up, but the SEE fair was the true pinnacle of community engagement.

Hunter Collins '27 was one of the new students who attended the fair.

"I think it was well put together and organized in a way that made sense," Collins said. "It was pretty easy to find everything and everybody that I talked to was friendly."

Collins points out the intentional design of the fair was to create a dynamic flow. Starting from more



AVA FRISON/THE MOSSY LOG

The Russian Club was one of many clubs that tabled with a wide variety of objects for those interested in joining to interact with.

academically focused organizations and moving to the athletic focused ones to social advocacy and so on as one ambles through the paths.

One might think activity fairs like this are only for new students to learn more about campus, but students of all years can get something out of this tradition. JR Saling '24 attended the SEE fair and was happy to learn more about organizations they hadn't yet interacted with.

"I made a lot of great connections with people on campus who were super kind and open about the opportunities we have here," Saling said.

They were surprised to learn about the variety of clubs available. Many students do not realize just how many groups exist at LC until they are all set up in the same place.

"It was crazy to find out that we have two separate climbing clubs, as well as various gaming clubs," Saling said.

Director of Student Engagement and Special Events Tamara Ko played a critical role in organizing the SEE fair. She sees it as a gateway to welcome students into pockets of LC they might not even have known existed.

"The student experience is very important; it plays a great role in retention," Ko said. "It brings students onto campus but it also matters in keeping students on campus. If you come to campus and there aren't events that are inclusive, there aren't events in which you can see yourself there, then I think it doesn't build a connection to the campus."

"DIRECTOR" CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## Campus unveils newly remodeled Stewart-Odell complex

*Renovations, which took place during the entirety of last year, houses primarily semester-long students*

By AMELIA DOYLE

THE STEWART-Odell renovation is complete. During the Spring 2023 semester, and into the summer, the residence hall known as Stewart-Odell was under renovation. According to the Lewis & Clark website, the renovation cost around \$13 million and took roughly nine months to complete.

The construction began on Dec. 15, 2022, and ended just in time for students to move in on Sept. 2, 2023. Now the Stewart residence hall has improved accessibility and sustainability and is

the first residence hall on campus with air conditioning.

According to the LC website, there is a new, quieter heating and cooling system that is capable of transferring heating or cooling to other parts of the building. This new heating and cooling system is environmentally friendly and uses no fossil fuels. Ben Meoz, the head of campus living, is most excited about the new bathrooms and the accessibility improvements that have been made to the building.

"While we have treated nearly all restrooms in residential facilities as all-gender restrooms, these are the

first shared restrooms built for that purpose with individual shower rooms and toilet rooms," Meoz said. "As for accessibility, the building now has added powered exterior doors for ADA access, a new ADA laundry room, a new ramp inside and two rooms with powered doors as well."

According to the LC website, over 48% of the construction of the Stewart-Odell buildings was geared toward enhancing accessibility. The building's renovations also included a new roof, new paint and new windows. The building has now been painted white and black, and matches

the aesthetic of the Stephanie Fowler Student Center, located right next to the Stewart-Odell resident halls.

Although this year, Stewart-Odell houses mostly returning students, Meoz said that Campus Living would like to get some new students into Odell next year because of the "sophomore and up" restrictions, such as the one for Holmes, that keep new housing out of reach for first time students.

As for the future of Stewart-Odell in terms of the Living Learning Communities (LLC), Campus Living is currently trying to review the

residence halls to determine the best location for the LLCs in the communities across residential halls.

Meoz expresses his hopes that student perspectives on the renovation will give Campus Living insight as they continue planning residential changes.

"I hope that when we gather student feedback in our annual Fall Resident Survey in November that the features and improvements from the renovation will be evident and that we can use that to inform discussions about future residential capital projects," said Meoz.



PAIGE A. ANDERSON/THE MOSSY LOG

The freshly painted dorms were renovated to increase accessibility for students that needed ADA compliant housing on campus.

The Mossy Log formally retracts the article "Cross Country team scrutinizes coach's behavior," initially published in print and online in the April 28, 2023 issue. The article was not consistent with The Mossy Log's journalistic standards, and has been removed from our website. We apologize for the inaccuracies contained in the article and the adverse effects they may have had.



THE MOSSY POD

### Return of our podcast

The Mossy Pod returns for fall with two new producers, Isaac Babus and Joseph Chuku. Watch out for a new episode coming out soon.



OPINION

### New COVID-19 Concerns

What does being COVID-cautious look like on campus with loosened protocols and fewer resources?

PAGE 5

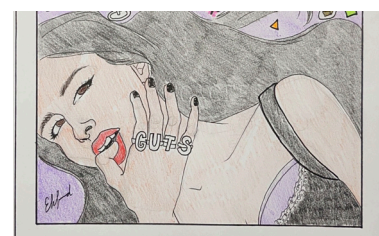


FEATURES

### Gas Pumping Controversy

With Self-service gas now an option across the state of Oregon, residents are unsure about the economic impacts.

PAGE 6



ARTS

### Olivia Rodrigo's new album

Olivia Rodrigo puts her GUTS on display in sophomore album, with many singing its praises.

PAGE 9



SPORTS

### Football recruits freshman

Lewis & Clark participates in a national trend of colleges increasing male student populations through athletics.

PAGE 10

# LC welcomes new director of campus safety

*Jay Weitman leaves the Lake Oswego Police Department to forge a new legacy at his alma mater*



COURTESY OF LEWIS &amp; CLARK

Weitman steps up in new leadership role.

By PAIGE A. ANDERSON

WITH OVER 33 years of professional experience, Jay Weitman is now the new director of Campus Safety at Lewis & Clark. An LC alum, Weitman graduated with his Bachelor of Science in Psychology in 1995 after transferring from Portland Community College as a junior.

"I was volunteering with Clackamas County Sheriff's department when I was first introduced to the college campus as a law enforcement explorer (today known as cadets) for the Sheriff's Office," Weitman said. "I came to help out at a football game."

Weitman volunteered at LC on and off for a few months and was eventually given the opportunity to work for Campus Safety.

"I was 19 years old. And I just loved it here, felt right at home, born and raised in Portland. And then they said we have availability for you to have a temporary part-time job with Campus Safety so I did that for a few months. And then a few months down the road, they had an opening for the first regular job full time," Weitman said.

Campus life looked very different before the Clery Act of 1990, which required "colleges and universities to report campus crime data, support victims of violence and publicly outline the policies and procedures they have put into place to improve campus safety," according to the act. Weitman worked as a Campus Safety officer right after the implementation of the act and was able to see the progression and increase of on-campus security and transparency.

Before the act was passed, upperclassmen were permitted to

throw parties or "keggers," as Weitman identified them, in spaces such as Hartzfeld Residence Hall for groups of students 21 and older.

"I experienced the implementation of the Clery Act and a whole 180-degree flip. We went from a real kind of crazy party campus where anything goes, to a dry campus," Weitman said.

During his time as both a student and campus safety worker, Weitman got a very well-rounded experience of LC culture and an understanding of student-on-student interaction and social politics which most safety officers do not.

"My first full-time job as a police officer was a reserved Deputy Sheriff when I turned 21, while I was still working here," Weitman said. "So I was doing that as a volunteer, part time. I was getting some shifts for parks patrol in the summer, to cover vacation shifts as the courthouse security, for instance. So I was learning about law enforcement while I was learning about college security and college safety, all at the same time."

After he graduated, Weitman took a job at the West Linn Police Department in 1997, where he spent the following six years studying the ins and outs of police work and community leadership.

"And then I transferred to [Lake Oswego Police Department] where I spent the last 20 years there, became a sergeant about a year after I started there. Most of my time was as a supervisor," Weitman said.

The past few years leading up to Weitman's retirement from the Police Department were spent working alongside school administrations in and around Lake Oswego. Weitman was a part of an effort to create consistent communication between school administrators and law enforcement. This was to find out the most efficient and effective ways to keep students safe.

"I was always really good about maintaining relationships with our school partners, and the administration, staff and faculty in the School District. Having the opportunity to work with the School Resource Officers (SROs) as their supervisor really solidified that and my focus on building community relations and remember, I'm doing this while we're going through the pandemic and then they're coming back to school while there's a big, anti-SRO movement now nationwide," Weitman said.

The upsurge of the Black Lives

Matter movement in 2020 and 2021 highlighted the anti-SRO sentiment, thorough claims that SROs only exacerbate the school-to-prison pipeline and the training required has been inadequate so far. According to research from the University at Albany in New York, SROs have been effective in reducing some violence present in schools but have not been as successful in gun-related incidents and "increase the number of expulsions, police referral and the arrest of students," according to authors of *The Thin Blue Line in Schools: New Evidence on School-Based Policing Across the U.S.*

Weitman's experience of involving law enforcement with the SRO teams at schools around Portland has been positive. By prioritizing open communication in the form of listening sessions between the city council and school board in order to keep the SRO programs relevant, yet under a careful eye, Weitman acknowledged the importance of making sure the appropriate steps are followed.

The LC Statement of Values echoes these priorities, stating that "we value accountability, cooperation,

excellence, human life, integrity, laws and the constitution, problem-solving, ourselves, respect, and service."

"You know, we're not just there to arrest kids and take them to jail. We're there to work with them to get the education they need to make the right decisions in the future and be productive. So I learned a lot about all those different approaches that were an alternative to the justice system," Weitman said.

Weitman is excited to bring much of what he learned during his time at the Police Department back to LC in terms of strengthening communication.

"It has a lot to do with community relations, how do police officers build trust in the community, and build relationships so that folks see that it's not us versus them? We're part of that community," Weitman said. "We're empowered by you because you trust us to appropriately and fairly, apply the law and have discretion and be reasonable, be the most reasonable person in the room."

Part of that is understanding the history of police and why people don't trust the police and law enforcement.

"Communities of marginalized people, like Black communities are going to have a lot more historically negative experiences. And they're going to see campus safety and they're going to project those attitudes, those preconceived notions on my staff, so I want to make sure [my staff] understands that and treats the community accordingly," Weitman said. "Stop and listen. Don't talk so much, don't lecture. Listen, treat folks with respect, like how you would want your kids to be treated."

Weitman is excited to bring all of his knowledge and experience back to LC and is passionate about working alongside the administration, Facilities and Campus Living in order to bring more transparency and communication through all levels of the college.

"The most exciting thing I'm looking forward to is this incoming class graduating. And having four more years of new classes coming in and having the opportunity to build relationships with each class. By the time we get to that point, I can step back and feel like I've made a big difference," Weitman said.



COURTESY OF LEWIS &amp; CLARK

With decades of professional experience, Weitman returns to campus as new head of security thirty years after graduating.

# Overseas office staff host Study Abroad Fair

*Departments, faculty, alumni advertise future opportunities to travel for new, returning students alike*

By KEVIN MATISHECK

THE SEPT. 12 study abroad fair promised that "refreshments will be provided." This enticement clearly resonated with a lot of students, as the initial mob made quick work of a wide array of treats in 15 minutes.

The fair featured study abroad programs in many countries, including Japan, Cuba, Jordan, Chile and Ireland. It seemed as though the whole globe was made available to LC students (so long as you had taken the correct prerequisites).

Besides the sheer number of countries in which to study, there was a surprising variety of purposes for those trips. Students can study abroad to learn another language. The Spanish and German language tables seemed to be a popular choice; their plethora of options entranced a sizable mob of students for the duration of the fair.

Students can also travel to an English-speaking country and focus on a specified course of study. For example, they can study biology on the Australia trip. They could also do a combination of both, emphasizing both regional studies and language, which is offered in the Ecuador regional program.

The variety of trips could be one the reasons why multiple of the staff working the fair described LC's study abroad program as the college's strongest asset. The friendly faces working the tables were definitely the fair's strongest asset (though the refreshments certainly helped). The positive attitudes of faculty and student ambassadors helped to create a welcoming environment in which students could decide which trips to take and receive recommendations on prerequisites.

You cannot have a college study abroad fair without, of course, students. Students came for many different reasons, some for the food, others for the coffee and most for the opportunity to learn about study abroad opportunities and sign up for mailing lists (which filled up quickly).

Alex Rudawsky '24, who has previously studied abroad in Australia, said he enjoyed the trip and the opportunities it gave him. He enjoyed the final week of the trip on Heron Island, situated off the middle coast of Queensland, Australia in the Great Barrier Reef.

"We lucked out with weather so we could snorkel every day, and you hear

a lot about coral bleaching but the parts of the reef we were in were still completely alive."

Sarah Warren, an associate professor of sociology at Lewis &

Clark, who was hosting the table for the trip and leading the program for the spring of 2025 chimed in.

"That is something I am also looking forward to," she said.

All in all, the study abroad fair was a fun time, and the impressive array of study abroad options will hopefully end up changing many a student's life at LC.



KEVIN MATISHECK/THE MOSSY LOG

Students peruse overseas programs connected around the globe, discuss opportunities with program alumni and sponsors.

# SEE Fair for both new, returning students

*Located on the Academic Quad, fair offered opportunity to social, catch up with friends, profes-*

*Continued from page 1.*

KO ALSO DOES KEY work connecting Student Engagement staff with students in leadership positions to build a strong network of opportunities for all students.

"I think the role that student engagement plays is really important especially in working with our student organizations, who are instrumental in creating those inclusive events for all of our students," Ko said. "That means making sure that student leaders are equipped with resources, that they know where they can go to ask questions and plan things."

The change from Pio Fair to SEE follows a larger trend of LC organizations renaming themselves to eliminate the presence of the school's name and mascot, which some see as upholding a colonialist legacy. Examples of such changes include

Associated Students of Lewis & Clark changing to Associated Student Body and The Pioneer Log changing to The Mossy Log. Ko elaborated on why Student Engagement chose to rename the fair.

"I was looking for a way to increase marketing for student engagement so that students would actually know who planned the fair," Ko said. "I think a lot of folks who went to Pio fair didn't actually know who was in charge of the fair. It was still a great event but we're trying to build more of a brand for student engagement."

Although LC is home to many student organizations already, gaps between what students want and need may not continue to fit what these clubs provide. LC's freshman class is the most diverse in LC history, and they may bring new perspectives to what the college is lacking.

"The needs and interests shift as the student body shifts," Ko said. "There

are some that need to be present all the time, like our affinity groups, and then I think as our student body changes we have to learn how to adapt to those needs. Since we just started with a new class I haven't gotten to know them well enough to know what they are wanting or needing."

New students are always encouraged to share their ideas about what they want to see in our school. They are the student leaders of tomorrow, and what they lead shouldn't just be handed down to them, but grow and expand in the process.

If you missed the SEE fair, this isn't your only opportunity to learn about campus activities. There is a smaller activities fair that happens in the spring in Stamm Dining Hall. Composed of about 20-30 tables, this fair prioritizes newer organizations which formed after the SEE fair occurred.



AVA FRISON/THE MOSSY LOG

Asmaa Zaidan '24 poses at the Muslim Student Union table at the fair which introduced students to life practicing Islam on campus.



AVA FRISON/THE MOSSY LOG

Gagged Drag hosted a table at the SEE Fair which drew many interested people.

# Australia study abroad trip canceled, many disappointed

*The trip which was specifically designed for psychology majors leaves several students without options*

By CORRINA CHAN

ON SEPT. 12, Psychology Department Chair Diana Leonard announced that the summer 2024 Study Abroad program in Australia has been canceled due to "budgetary reasons." This came as a shock that deeply disappointed and upset both faculty and students.

"It was not a decision made lightly and we recognize that it will impact students who were considering the program as an option," said Blythe Knott, director of the Overseas and Off-Campus programs, in a statement.

Less than a month before the application deadline, Leonard sent out an email to the Psychology majors of Lewis & Clark stating that the Overseas & Off-Campus office had informed both her and Dr. Yueping Zhang, the faculty leader of the trip, that the program was no longer being held and there was to be no replacement in the next few years.

"As the enrollment and fiscal picture emerged this year and we faced some difficult choices, our approach was to focus resources on our core academic-year programs that continue to have strong student interest," Knott said. "While students have always expressed interest, actual enrollment has been very small for many years."

This small enrollment has resulted in there being demand for other things in the psychology department.

"Academic year offerings face increased demand," Knott said. Departments are beginning to make tough decisions in order to meet that demand. Due to the lack of enrollment in the program, the resources were deemed better spent elsewhere, and the program was scrapped for this upcoming summer."

Last Tuesday afternoon, on Sept. 12, the department met to discuss their reactions to the news.

"[This] included surprise and disappointment at the loss of next year's abroad option," Leonard said in a statement. "We also started talking about strategies to help majors find courses to fill the expected gap in their graduation plans."

A meeting was scheduled with Dean Bruce Suttmeier to continue that conversation.

Despite Psychology being LC's most popular major, the Australia program is the only psychology-

specific overseas program that the school has offered in a long time, and is the school's only summer program.

Because of this change, the next Psychology-specific program, the Irish Social Science trip, will be held in the spring of 2025, likely during the semester that some students will be graduating. This might throw off their academic plans. In addition, the next predicted date for the Australia program on the Overseas & Off-Campus website appears to be in the

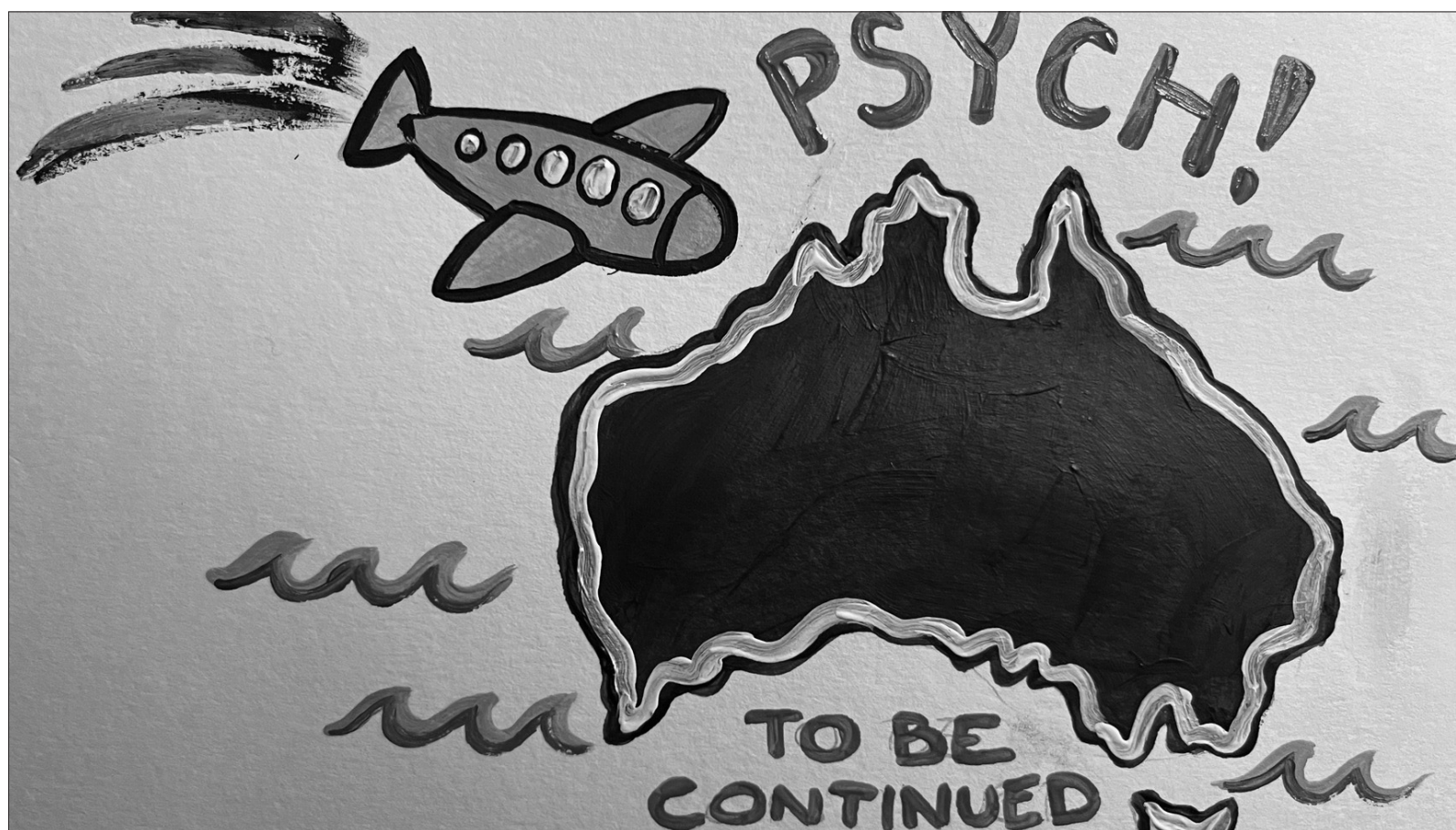
summer of 2026, after graduation for some students who hoped to join the program.

The Social Science program in Ireland is an incredibly popular alternative, however it is also a very selective option and many students have been turned away because of the limited number of spaces available.

Study abroad programs are an opportunity for students to travel and live in other parts of the world while also getting in their necessary

academic requirements at LC. The school has always encouraged students to find and participate in these programs. Because of the change, however, opportunities for Psychology majors have been limited.

Leonard encourages affected students to reach out to their advisors or her for support. "It's never easy when plans change, and we want to help make that process as smooth as possible," Leonard said.



ROSALIE ZUCKERMAN/THE MOSSY LOG

## Dovecote hours too short for normal school day

*Café located on academic campus closes prematurely during afternoon, inconveniencing many people*

By CORRINA CHAN

SINCE THE closing of Maggie's in the residential side of campus, students have been reliant on the Trail Room, Fields Dining Hall and the mini market in Fowler Center, as well as the Dovecote on the academic campus.

Part of what students loved about Maggie's were its late hours and role as a small and calming study hub. Its current alternative, the Dovecote,

closes at 2:30 p.m., depriving students of a place to work and get food in the afternoon and evening without going up the hill to the Bon.

During the day, students need a space on campus to snack or refuel with coffee, especially when they have long days of classes, meetings and studying with little time in between. When we put all our effort into working and studying, it is useful to have the convenience of having quick access to food when we need it.

Yes, you can walk back to Fowler Student Center to get a slice of pizza from the Troom, a plate of food from the Bon or even something from the little shop there (though they do not serve many snack-sized foods), but that takes a lot of time and energy when there is a cafe right there on the academic campus that fulfills the same function. Sometimes, people don't have a half hour to wait in line and often the dining halls are closed at inconvenient times. Breakfast is only open before most of us are awake, lunch happens during our class times and dinner happens during events — there's no winning!

During my freshman year, I had back-to-back classes from 9am until almost 3pm with no breaks, taking up almost the entire time that the Dovecote was open. I could have gotten there at 8am, but who wants to do that every day just to get your morning coffee or to pick up a snack for later? In addition, I completely missed the Bon's lunch meal time, so by 3pm I hadn't eaten at all.

At the time, I would have had to go all the way back to Maggie's on the other side of campus to get a snack. The new grocery shop in Fowler is closer, but is also smaller and has odd, ironically inconvenient hours.

Nowadays, I have late afternoon and evening classes during normal meal times, which prevents me from going back to my dorm to cook or to Fowler Center to grab a meal.

The Dovecote closing in the middle of the day during academic hours is incredibly inconvenient for students who need to eat a good meal



COURTESY OF LEWIS & CLARK

The Dovecote, a popular café on campus, is located next to the Albany Quadrangle



COURTESY OF LEWIS & CLARK

Students swarm into the Dovecote in packed periods between classes on weekdays.



COURTESY OF LEWIS & CLARK

Cafe customers peruse menus for a variety of beverages, breakfast items and snacks.

(that isn't vending machine chips) or simply sit, relax, work and talk to friends and peers.

In addition, the longer hours would allow for more student employment, another issue that is being faced on campus. The cost of paying employees because of the change would be offset by the business, because of the demand

to keep it open. Staying open for a few hours later, perhaps, for the people just coming out of classes at the end of their day or grabbing a quick meal before their night classes or before a rigorous study session in Watzek or even before they start their evening job would make all the difference for a large number of people.

## Overseas experiences are frustrating, underwhelming

*Students in language intensive programs encounter unexpected challenges when arriving in their countries*

By CHRIS TAYLOR

LEWIS & CLARK'S study abroad programs are the reason I chose to attend the school. My time in Japan and Chile was the most meaningful part of my LC experience.

I designed my time at LC around studying abroad, meeting with the study abroad office since my freshman year and coordinating my classes so that I could pursue a double major and study abroad twice. The advisors in the overseas office were always incredibly kind and helpful, doing their best to assist me with whatever I needed, both on campus and while abroad. I feel, as many others do, that my college experience was partially stolen by the pandemic, so having two semesters overseas and living my college dream was truly fulfilling.

That being said, I also fundamentally believe that LC underdelivers in its study abroad experiences. This may be different in faculty-led experiences, but for the language-intensive experiences in Japan and Chile that I engaged in, LC contracted the experience through a third-party organization. In the case of my experience in Japan, LC contracted through China Educational Tours (CET), and in my study abroad in Chile, they went through the Institute for Study Abroad (IFSA).

The incompetence displayed by these organizations left an impression on me, particularly when comparing my experiences with those of peers from other universities that created their own programs or found partnerships with local universities more directly. Then, after visiting Middlebury College in Vermont and speaking with the teams behind their abroad programs I began to realize that the office at LC is under-resourced.

An example of the aforementioned incompetency that stands out in both my experiences was the companies' lack of knowledge of the visa process. Depending on the country, the complexity of the visa process can vary greatly, and it should be

the responsibility of LC — and by extension the company that LC contracts through — to guide students through the visa process.

I lost around three weeks of my study abroad experience in Japan because CET failed to begin the visa process in time to have our visas ready for the beginning of the program, despite the fact that I requested directly from both LC and CET that my visa documents be sent earlier.

Prior to my study abroad experience, I had also completed the Middlebury Summer Language program in Japanese. There, I met many other students with the same study abroad plans as me. Their schools began the

visa process a month earlier than LC, and all arrived on time.

When traveling to Chile, I encountered a new visa debacle. IFSA advised us that a visa was absolutely necessary and required us to get an FBI background check to carry out the entire visa process.

Arriving in Chile, I learned that no visa was necessary and that by simply leaving and reentering the country, you could renew your tourist visa. Unfortunately, it was only after spending hundreds of dollars attempting to secure a visa that I came to this realization. The fact that a company specializing in study abroad did not offer this information is unconscionable.

Another point that should be made is that the academic and extracurricular offerings of these companies while abroad are lacking in comparison to offerings provided by other schools.

In Japan, the non-language courses available to LC students were all taught in English and were universally panned by those that took them as lacking academic rigor. Some schools offer better academic offerings through their study abroad programs by partnering with schools in the host country directly, while others establish inter-school consortiums, allowing them to better coordinate resources.

An example of the latter can be seen in the Consortium for Advanced

Studies Abroad, where Ivy League schools coordinate their resources to offer study abroad experiences that include far deeper cultural immersion and extracurricular engagement.

Aside from offering better and more varied opportunities for immersion, both solutions provide more clarity regarding how credits transfer between host country institutions and the American university by cutting out the intermediary process of accreditation through a third party.

Finally, it should be noted that LC students pay a significant amount on top of the study abroad companies' normal rates. This would reasonably lead students to expect some kind of enhanced experience or advantages specific to LC.

If we consider the average LC tuition (~\$46,000), which is the same as students are expected to pay to study abroad, compared to CET's Japan program price (~\$26,000), LC students pay double to study with CET through LC. In the case of IFSA's price to study in Chile (~\$18,000), LC students are charged nearly triple. Despite these inflated prices, LC students receive no additional opportunities or resources through the college, and are left under the questionable guidance of these external companies.

If LC wants to continue to center their study abroad opportunities as a key part of their identity, then they should actually make their offerings special. The joy and reward that I got out of my study abroad experience was not thanks to nor augmented by LC; it was thanks to the people with whom I participated in the programs and the welcome of the host communities themselves.

By making a direct effort to gain greater insight into the exact workings of the third parties LC works with, holding them to a higher standard and thereby tailoring the experiences offered, I believe that LC can better care for its students and truly embody the international excellence they espouse.



THE MOSSY LOG ARCHIVES

# COVID protocol removal sparks uncertainty

Questions arise with LC's relaxed guidelines after CDC demotes coronavirus from state of emergency

By ROSALIE ZUCKERMANN

ON MAY 11, six days after Lewis & Clark's spring semester ended, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) ended the Federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) declaration. Revoking critical funding and resources after over three years of living under its protection may seem inconsequential in a culture where precautions have all but gone out the window, but the ramifications reverberate from Washington D.C. to Portland. As LC begins another academic year, staff, faculty and students alike discover just how much of our safe environment was dependent on the PHE, and the pitfalls that emerge without it.

While many might think that asymptomatic — and even symptomatic — COVID is not a concern anymore, many medical sources attest otherwise. An April article from the National Institute of Health written by medical researchers argues that high levels of asymptomatic transmission can actually lead to higher fatalities.

"When immunity provides protection against symptoms, but not against infections or deaths, epidemic trajectories can have faster growth rates and higher peaks, leading to more total deaths," the article states.

It was previously required at LC to self-isolate if one tested positive for COVID, but now in accordance with new CDC guidelines, if one is asymptomatic or has been fever-free for 24 hours, one can resume life as usual. This means that students and faculty alike may show up to class having COVID, and it is up to their own discretion whether they wear a

mask, or even whether they disclose this information to others.

Although my life might not be threatened by COVID, the prospect of getting sick is highly inconvenient for a packed schedule and keeping up in classes. I understand the pressure not to miss class, but the fact that someone right next to me could be positive for COVID and knowingly come to class anyway is quite unnerving to think about. I can only imagine how heightened this discomfort is for those with compromised immune systems.

Not only are there no protocols to stop asymptomatic COVID from spreading, but the incentive to test at all has been severely diminished. Due to the federal government no longer supplying funding for free testing, LC has been forced to put a price on tests. Fairly inexpensive antigen tests are usually available for purchase at the student bookstore, but they run out quickly.

Molecular tests are available in the Health Center for \$55, but the monetary barrier discourages many students from choosing to find out whether their cough is a cold or COVID. It is not sufficient to live in blind hope of the best case scenario. To continue exercising caution, we need this knowledge so we can make the most informed decisions.

Yet, our ability to make informed decisions about COVID has become increasingly difficult now that the CDC has ceased providing data on cases and deaths — numbers which many relied on to judge risk levels. Even on a state level, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) no longer requires anyone, regardless of their workplace, to report a positive COVID test result to the OHA.

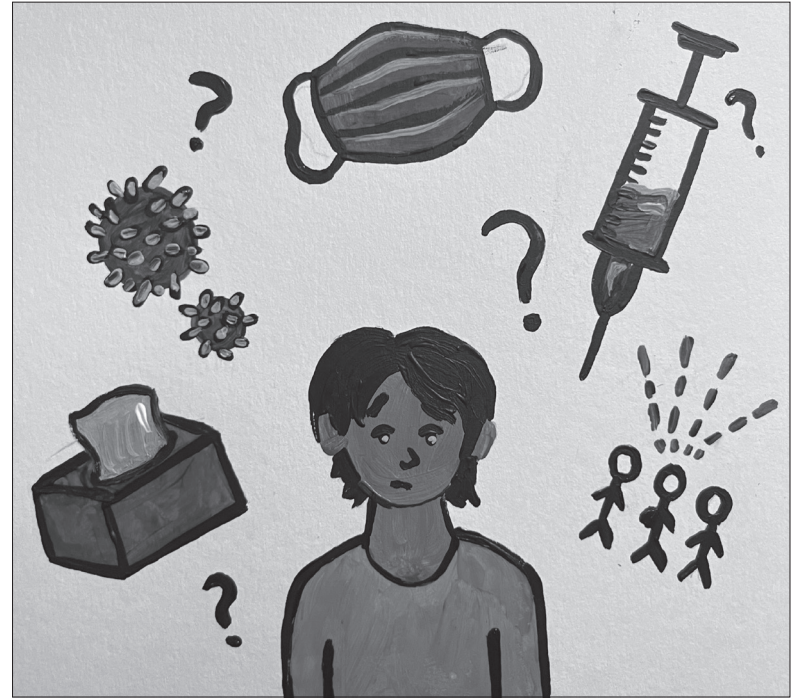
A Feb. Atlantic article entitled "No One Really Knows How Much COVID Is Silently Spreading ... Again" by Katherine J. Wu articulates the issues of not having access to this vital data.

"Even as our worries over the virus continue to shrink and be shunted aside, the virus — and the way it moves between us — is continuing to change. Which means that our best ideas for stopping its spread aren't just getting forgotten; they're going obsolete," Wu said. "Better studies on transmission patterns would help cut through the muck; they're just not really happening anymore."

My grievances with these circumstances are not directed at LC, but rather at the larger decisions being made by state and federal governments. One of the reasons I chose to attend this college was because of their exceedingly responsible and proactive COVID response. Even when dealing with stripped funding, I see that they are still making efforts where possible.

For example, although isolation housing for those with COVID is no longer an option, temporary safe rooms for immunocompromised or high risk individuals whose roommate has COVID are available. The meal pickup service has been discontinued, but exceptions are being made so that a friend or roommate may use a sick student's ID card to swipe into the dining hall for them and bring them food.

Another crucial development in COVID protocol is that LC no longer requires COVID vaccinations. In my previous years at LC, I had the security of knowing that over 99% of the people that I was regularly around were vaccinated, but this year that comfort is gone. However, I do



ROSALIE ZUCKERMANN/THE MOSSY LOG

appreciate the fact that LC strongly encourages and endorses vaccination on their COVID response website page and provides online resources for how to get vaccinated. Hopefully, when the next booster vaccine comes out, LC will hold an on-campus vaccination clinic, like they have had in past years.

I am not claiming to be a model of COVID caution. I do attend social gatherings and enter less crowded public areas without a mask. But I have been able to feel comfortable embracing these freedoms after a long period of being hypervigilant about isolating, distancing and masking precisely because of the protocols

in place that made LC a safer space. Without them, it is time for me to reevaluate what I will do next.

Part of this nuanced and seemingly never-ending issue is also learning to live in a world where we coexist with COVID — maybe not a post-COVID world, but one where it plays a much smaller role. It is about balancing the motivation to keep seeking information with keeping our fear in check, not getting carried away in uninformed, careless assumptions while challenging ourselves to acknowledge when it's time to accept where things are and take a grateful breath — whether that is through a mask or not.

# Is four-year college experience worth its expenditure?

LC student provides insight on value, necessity of higher education with changing workforce demands

By AVA FRISON

THE "COLLEGE experience" is a phrase that has been tossed around for years, particularly as a way to encourage younger generations to continue going to college. However, in light of the tumultuous past few years, more and more people are beginning to be less

enticed by the "college experience," and are opting to begin their adult lives in other ways.

It's not surprising to hear that as college tuition rises, sometimes costing upwards of \$80,000 a year with tuition rates rising 153% since 1981, fewer and fewer people are willing to take out the student loans required to meet that cost, especially

considering student debt is the highest it has ever been.

It used to be that college was the most popular option in a small field of ways for 18-year-olds to begin their journey into independence. Now, there are various options, including online and community colleges, trade schools and opting to go straight into the workforce, that

still allow people to be successful, making the idea of a college education less appealing to many.

Yet, four-year colleges are still massively popular, and part of that is the "college experience." It is portrayed in every college movie: sports, parties and drinking. Simply put, the college experience is about what else the college offers aside from academics. That includes clubs, sports, dorms, the food and location, to name a few. It's what draws people to that specific college. College is a unique opportunity for young people away from home to discover themselves and learn to be independent. It is a four-year social bubble that is hard to replicate anywhere else.

However, especially in light of the pandemic, we have seen that the college experience is a fragile existence. Sports and clubs shut down. Classes were moved online and often the only social interaction students had was through technology. People began to wonder if paying to go live at college was even worth it. This led to reevaluating the entire basis of why we go to college at all.

So, given the rising costs and a plethora of alternatives, is the college experience still worth it? My take is that it depends on who you are as a person and what you want to do with your life.

If you know what you want to do and it does not involve college, it would be wasting time and money,

even if the college experience were worth it. There are a variety of ways to be successful and you do not need to spend four years of your life doing something non-essential so that you can meet societal expectations.

However, there has been a trend of devaluing an undergraduate degree in the workforce, with many starting

jobs requiring masters degrees or prior professional experience. If you know that the field you want to go into does involve a college degree, then I would find one that meets your needs and has the right experience for you.

While college is about academics, there needs to be more to college than just academics. However, it is a sliding scale of how much of the college experience you want to integrate into your life.

There are a variety of different college experiences to choose from. I chose Lewis & Clark because it offered the college experience I wanted. It was small and close to home, it had the right major and small classes and it had clubs and sports that I enjoyed. I did not want Greek life or 100-person lectures; I think I would have hated college if that were all there was.

Similarly, if community college or online classes offer enough of the college experience for you, then go for that option. My understanding of it is that it is the thing on the side that makes college extra enjoyable, but it certainly should not be the only reason you go to college.



THE MOSSY LOG ARCHIVE

## Oregon adds option for self-service at gas stations

Bill 2426 garners mixed responses, locals, visitors wary of economic impact of option to pump own fuel

By J FRANK

WITH GREAT power comes great responsibility, and Oregon drivers have just gained both. On Aug. 4, Oregon Bill 2426 took effect, granting Oregon residents the power to pump their own gasoline.

If you love rolling up to a gas station and not having to leave your car, do not panic. Under the new law, Oregon gas stations are still required to provide optional service to customers, but are now also allowed to offer self-service.

Bill 2426 was proposed in January of this year and, after widely publicized discussion, was approved by the Oregon House on March 20 and Senate on June 21. By declining to veto the bill before it took effect on Aug. 4, Oregon Governor Tina Kotek effectively gave it the final approval needed to become law, reversing the standard which has been in place since 1951.

Various reasons have been given over the years to explain Oregon's reticence to change this law, including the employment opportunities provided by gas stations and civilians' safety when handling flammable liquid.

With the passage of Bill 2426, however, New Jersey is now the only

state that still bans self-service gasoline. For some Oregonians, this was overdue progress, while others are wary about the implications of the bill.

Most Lewis & Clark students come from states where self-service gas is the norm. For those who had to adjust to Oregon's laws, the option to pump their own gas is welcome.

"I'm happy about the new law," Ella Ferencz '25 said. "I'm from California, so I love pumping my own gas, and also it means I don't have to talk to people at gas stations."

Another student from California, Zoe Berger '26, also said she prefers pumping her own gas, but is unsure about the societal impact of Bill 2426.

"Having someone pump your gas is kind of like having a waiter, where it feels awkwardly like having a servant if you're not careful about it. So (self-service) is less uncomfortable for me and I'm used to it," Berger said. "I do think it sucks because people are probably going to be out of a job because of that, but I don't think I understand the economic impact enough to be able to make a moral choice. I just know from my experience, it does feel like something you don't need a person for."

Long-term Oregon residents, on the other hand, weighed in saying that they prefer having their gas pumped



HALCYON ORVENDAL/THE MOSSY LOG

for them, but aren't worried about the new law.

"I hadn't even noticed that the law changed," Lance Inouye said. "If I go to the ones I normally go to, people are normally working there and they always come out and they just go straight into it. I'd rather them do it, if it's raining out and it's cold, I don't want to get out of my car and they're already out there."

Nico Vilches '26 expressed a similar sentiment, citing the convenience of gas-station assistants.

"I don't really understand (Bill 2426) because as an Oregonian it's just kind of nice to sit in my car and let someone else do it," Vilches said. "But also it doesn't really bother me because they are still giving you that option. If people really want to (pump their own gas) then that's great and they should do that."

Many Americans are astonished to learn that there are people driving vehicles who don't know how to pump their own gas, while many Oregonians view this as an objectionable chore. Nonetheless, Bill 2426 allows Oregonians to carefully venture into the world of self-service gas stations while letting non-Oregonians revel in the newly granted permission to pump their own gas.

## Foodie student shares insight on cheap, accessible eats

From bagels to Chinese food to burritos bigger than your head, PDX is a goldmine for college students



EMMA FORD/THE MOSSY LOG

Henry Higgins toasted everything bagel stacked with smoked lox and cream cheese.

By EMMA FORD

PORTLAND IS a foodie wonderland — with a bevy of farm-to-table restaurants, culture-blending menus and wunderkind-crammed neighborhoods around the city. Anywhere you turn, fancy and fanciful food awaits. When family is in town or paychecks have just been processed, this is a beautiful thing. But what about those lean periods every college student knows so well?

We at The Mossy Log are going to take you on a tour of Portland's most affordable and gastronomically tasty food carts, restaurants and cafes. Staying well-fed and nourished is an important part of staying healthy, not to mention happy. Whether you are looking to fuel a study session, explore a new spot with friends, find a new date spot or simply need a break from Bon food, we hope to match you up with the right spot for your gourmand needs.



EMMA FORD/THE MOSSY LOG

Jumbo Restaurant & Lounge is open until 10 p.m., making it a great late night option.

Close to campus and our hearts:  
**Henry Higgins Boiled Bagels in Sellwood**

Price range: \$2.00 - \$16.00  
Address: 1325 SE Tacoma St., Portland, OR 97202

Henry Higgins Boiled Bagels is a beloved Portland chain that serves traditionally-made New York-style boiled bagels, as well as hot sandwiches. Right as Lewis & Clark students get off of the Pio Express at Tacoma Street, the black-and-white type of the bagel shop greets them from across the street, making the Sellwood location extremely accessible. Inside, among the warm smell of toasting bread, students can order bagels with a variety of schmears and toppings. Pre-constructed bagel sandwiches, including their tasty breakfast sandwiches, are also available on the menu. Their classic everything bagel, as well as their onion and sesame bagels, are well-seasoned and deliciously chewy. The bagels are made fresh daily (with Bob's Red Mill flour, no less) and available not just at the four Henry Higgins locations around Portland, but also at certain local coffee shops and local groceries including Zupan's. Henry Higgins bagels are rib-stickingly hearty and their portion size is perfectly filling. For added bang for your bagel buck, pick up a bag of day-old bagels for \$6!

The ideal American-Chinese comfort food spot:

**Jumbo Restaurant in Darlington**

Price range: \$6.50 - \$16.95  
Address: 4427 SE Johnson Creek Blvd., Portland, OR 97222

Those seeking some classic American Chinese-style fried rice, noodles and General Tso's chicken need look only slightly beyond Sellwood to the unassuming Jumbo Restaurant in Darlington (Southeast Portland). The restaurant is rarely busy, but it should be — the serving sizes are generous and the dishes familiar and delicious. While a pricier option than bagels or burritos, each dish individually can serve one for at least two meals. These dishes are the standards of American Chinese cuisine.

Their excellent house fried rice (shrimp, beef and chicken, with peas and carrots), salt-and-pepper dishes (tofu, prawns or squid) and classic chow fun and chow mein (available with a variety of additions) are all great day-of and as leftovers. And for takeaway, all meat or vegetable dishes that come in a sauce come with it on the side, to dress as you see fit. Jumbo Restaurant is available for delivery through DoorDash, but their website supports online ordering for pickup if that is preferable. Tasty, titanic portions — what is not to like?



EMMA FORD/THE MOSSY LOG

Three massive burritos, two iced beverages show the promise of a fantastic meal.



EMMA FORD/THE MOSSY LOG

The food cart is closed on Sunday and Monday but opens early at 7:15 a.m. on Tuesday.

A worthwhile food cart adventure in Northeast Portland:

**La Osita PDX in Mill Park**

Price range: \$1.25 - \$11.25  
Address: Plaza 122, near SE 122nd Avenue and Market Street, Portland OR, 97222

Anyone with a car (or, better yet, a friend with a car) should make the pilgrimage to some of the best burritos in Portland at La Osita PDX. The small black food cart with a short menu and a picnic table outside boasts delicious and affordable tacos and burritos. An average burrito is about \$10 and their tacos are closer to \$4. La Osita has a creative coffee and smoothie menu

(their Mexican Mocha and Latte de Canella are well-spiced, and not too sweet). The La Osita classic burrito is warm and nourishing with eggs, chorizo, pico de gallo, crema, black beans and pepper jack cheese. Their egg tacos and carne asada tacos are so well-filled that they spill when you try to eat them. And the habanero salsa and salsa verde are excellent, while not being too spicy for those who are spice-shy. La Osita is also putting down roots for a brick-and-mortar store in Montavilla, and deserves every cent of support you can throw at them. They are easy on the budget, good for the soul and worth that trip.

# Students access Oregon's outdoors on a budget

*Collection of recommendations, resources makes camping, backpacking opportunities more affordable*

By ROSALIE ZUCKERMANN

ONE OF THE most popular offerings of Lewis & Clark that draws students here is our unique College Outdoors (CO) program. While CO is an excellent resource for granola pros and nature newbies alike, trips fill up quickly due to their popularity. They can also be too expensive for some, especially with limited scholarship capacity. Others simply have a difficult time making the time commitment work with their schedules.

Luckily, Portland is a city surrounded by many lush and varying landscapes and CO is not the only option to get out and explore them. It takes a bit more planning and research to orchestrate a camping or backpacking trip on one's own, but it is not as difficult as it might seem.

One of the primary obstacles for independent camping trips is lack of transportation. As someone who loves the outdoors but doesn't have a car, I rely heavily on buses. A shuttle called Mt. Hood Express serves six metro areas along Highway 26 and goes to various roads and trailheads around Mt. Hood. This shuttle operates seven days a week and is incredibly affordable: only \$2 one-way and \$5 for a day pass.

The Mt. Hood Express is only the beginning of what public transit has to offer, though. Visit [oregonhikers.org/field\\_guide/Public\\_Transportation](http://oregonhikers.org/field_guide/Public_Transportation) to find a comprehensive list of buses and shuttles that connect urban residents to wilderness areas. Read carefully, because only some of these routes include Portland; some go to other Oregon cities such as Eugene and Bend.

Another challenge can be picking a destination. While there are enticing locations farther away, like the Willowa Mountains, Mt. St. Helens and the Oregon Coast, there are also many less well known options closer to Portland.

One of these is Oxbow Regional Park, a smaller but nevertheless beautiful spot on the Sandy River east of Gresham that has 74 drive-up campsites



EMMA AMBROZIAK/THE MOSSY LOG

Latourell Falls is a popular hike in the nearby Columbia River Gorge, which hosts several camping and hiking opportunities.

offered for \$25 a night. Another option just 34 miles west of Portland is L.L. Stub Stewart State Park, located in the foothills of the Northern Oregon Coast Range and offering reservable campsites for \$11 a night. This is an excellent place to see wildflowers in May and June. An hour's drive from Portland lies the

wonderful Beacon Rock State Park, full of stunning views of the Columbia River Gorge and campsites for \$30 a night. These options all have access to bathrooms and showers.

For those who are interested in backpacking rather than camping at designated sites, there are seemingly

endless routes available that span mountains, valleys, rivers, lakes and forests. To review them, visit websites like [theoutbound.com](http://theoutbound.com), [AllTrails.com](http://AllTrails.com) or [hikeoregon.net](http://hikeoregon.net). Many places listed are free of charge and simply require registering for a wilderness permit ahead of time.

As for acquiring gear, REI provides inexpensive rental options including sleeping bags, bear canisters, tents, stoves and much more weather-specific and specialized equipment. Other outdoor equipment stores also rent gear, such as Mountain Shop and Next Adventure. And of course, our very own CO program is also an excellent resource for borrowing and renting supplies.

If renting supplies does not feel preferable to buying, there are also a number of discounted options for buying secondhand gear and hiking clothing. Well known companies like REI and Patagonia have used gear and clothing available for purchase online. Some lesser known brands such as GearTrade also offer used products.

Some products are difficult to come by secondhand, like hiking boots that fit, so if you do make the investment to buy a pair new, keep in mind the option to resell them to these same companies. Not only can you get a portion of what you spent back, but you can also help somebody else by providing them with affordable options.

Food can be another area where costs add up. Many backpackers rely on pre-packaged freeze dried meals, but at \$10-\$15 for a couple servings, it is not the most cost-efficient choice. Buying easily rehydratable grains in bulk, such as couscous, is much cheaper. Paired with tuna or chicken from a pouch, which can be bought at most grocery stores for just a few dollars, and dried veggies, you can easily create a tasty, filling meal for a fraction of the price.

Your peers are also some of the best resources you can ask for. Many LC students own lots of camping gear and might be willing to lend it out. Some might even want to join you on your trip and would be willing to drive their car. Do not hesitate to ask around about outdoor opportunities, because more often than not, students will be thrilled to share their knowledge and help make the profound experience of immersing oneself in nature more accessible.

# 2023 Studio Ghibli Film Festival to last six more weeks

*Months-long celebration of Miyazaki's iconic animated films comes to a close in early November*

By CORRINA CHAN

HAVING begun in March and concluding in November, the 6th annual Studio Ghibli Film Festival is underway in Portland. From "My Neighbor Totoro" to "Spirited Away," a variety of Director and Co-founder of Studio Ghibli, Hayao Miyazaki's, movies will make a resurgence in theaters for a limited time.

The films will be shown in some combination of Japanese or English dubs with Japanese or English subtitles, depending on the theater.

"Each film will have an exclusive selection from the documentary series '10 Years With Hayao Miyazaki' so you can step behind the scenes with the animation master," the Ghibli Fest website states.

It is a series on the life of Miyazaki, ranging from his childhood to his love life to showing how his drawings came to life decades ago. It also details tragedies such as the 2011 earthquake and how they affected his family, life and work, in addition to exploring the process of aging. It is a must-see for people of all ages.

New this year is the filming of a live action retelling of Spirited Away that played live on stage in Tokyo's famous Imperial Theatre. The play, first shown in 2022, was "full of dazzling sets, captivating musical numbers, and wondrous puppets of beloved characters." It was adapted and directed by John Caird, who also worked on productions including *Les Misérables*.

The Ghiblifest website not only shows a description of the movies in the lineup, but also lists the dates that each film is being shown. Each film is only shown for a limited time, so be sure to watch the calendar so you do not miss your favorite Ghibli movie on the big screen. Movies are still showing fairly often, so check the website for when they will be available.

Next in the lineup is "Howl's Moving Castle" (2004), a favorite among fans. From Sept. 23-27, it will be showing in theaters across the country. "Howl's Moving Castle" is a beautifully illustrated romantic fantasy featuring wizards, warring kingdoms and a castle on legs. The movie tells the story of a girl who is turned into an old woman by a witch and goes to work for a wizard named Howl in his roaming castle.

The festival will conclude with "Spirited Away", (2001), beginning Oct. 28 and finishing on Nov. 1. This one is a fantastical story filled with spirits and demons, following a girl who must work in a bathhouse in the realm of spirits in order to save her parents, who have been turned into pigs. This, being one of Miyazaki's most beloved films and "one of the most critically-acclaimed films of all time," as the website states, is a wonderful conclusion to a year of films full of fantasy, love, war and longing.

Having the opportunity to view some of Miyazaki's most famous, influential and memorable animated films with friends and family is an experience that cannot be missed and is available for a limited time.



GILLIAN WATTS/THE MOSSY LOG

## Mossy Music

editorial recommendations



### "Lake Missoula"

By Richy Mitch & The Coat Miners (ft. Mt. Joy)

"Lake Missoula is an angelic song that carries such amazing themes of transition. It's about a lake that the songwriter used to visit and how he relates to it. Richy Mitch is always able to create fantastic lyrics, but what makes this song so incredible is the harmonies with Mt. Joy. The melancholic melody is perfect for a stroll in Autumn."

-Maia Kesler

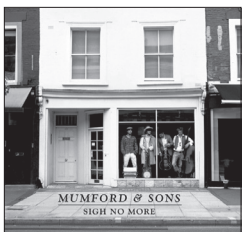


### "Lassú Madár"

By Platon Karataev

"Hungarian shoegaze for when you find yourself between the river and the woods under the night sky. This track folds the chill in the wind, the falling leaves, the birds flying south and human introspection all together into the same autumn landscape. Listen to the whole album if you have the time and space."

-Theo Kocs-Meyers

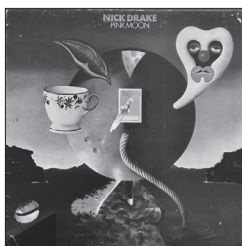


### "Little Lion Man"

By Mumford & Sons

"There is something about the Mumford & Sons' music that just screams 'fall' to me. Maybe it's the fast paced guitar that makes you feel like you're running through the forest like you did when you were eight or their raspy voices, but this is what I listen to when the leaves turn."

-Corrina Chan



### "Place to Be"

By Nick Drake

"This song carries a poeticism that can only come from a songwriter with generational talent. It pushes you into darkness and begs you to look around and appreciate it. It is melancholy captured and divine. It lets you be weak and it reminds you how essential that is."

-Nat Watson

# "Nimona" film illustrates acceptance, resilience, queerness in fantasy world

By ROSE R. BIALK

THE ANIMATED film "Nimona," based on a graphic novel by ND Stevenson of the same name, is an unabashedly queer film. Despite various production issues, the film has finally been released, to the delight of viewers.

The movie, released on Netflix in June, has been met with a positive reception, including a 94% from critics on Rotten Tomatoes, as well as charting on Netflix's weekly Top 10 list in 26 countries. However, getting there was no small feat.

Stevenson originally created "Nimona" as a webcomic in 2012 and later published it as a graphic novel, to critical acclaim. It was therefore no surprise when, 20th Century Fox acquired the rights to create a film based on the webcomic in 2015.

The trouble began when Disney bought 20th Century Fox in 2019. At the time, "Nimona" was in production at the Fox subsidiary Blue Sky Studios, who created the "Ice Age" series and "Ferdinand."

According to Business Insider, the "Nimona" team began to feel pressure from Disney leadership about the queer themes of the work, especially concerning a same-sex kiss that was to be included. The project was delayed by Disney multiple times before Blue Sky Studios shut down entirely in February 2021, ahead of the film's scheduled January 2022 release. The film was roughly 75% complete.

The release delay was speculatively impacted by the queer themes of the film, both a gay relationship being central to the plot and the overarching themes of gender identity represented by the titular character. Unlike many of Disney's other "first gay characters," these couldn't have been cut or censored as they are integral parts of the story.

Luckily, despite these obstacles, this story has a happy ending. Another studio, Annapurna Pictures, picked up Nimona following the Blue Sky closure. There, the team finished the film and sold the distribution rights over to Netflix, where it was eventually released in June.

framed for killing the queen, and the two set out to try to clear Ballister's name. Both have become outsiders to society at large, but while Ballister is trying to find his way back in, Nimona rejects the system entirely. "Nimona" takes place 1000 years after a monster

the outside of society, and maybe, someone who could understand her. The two join forces in order to prove Ballister's innocence, but where Ballister wants only to return to his position he fought so hard to obtain, Nimona doesn't see the point in seeking approval from the society that so firmly rejected her.

This is reflected in their dynamic as well, with Ballister trying to view Nimona in terms of what sort of boxes he can put her in to understand her when it comes to her shape changing abilities. Nimona is not a human who can shapeshift; she is a shapeshifter, and thus she is herself in any form she takes.

It is this lack of understanding of who she is that eventually causes the climax of the film. After being misunderstood and rejected by society, Nimona assumes a monstrous form to match people's view of her.

She lashes out at the people and society who never bothered to understand who she was. This attack is only ended after Ballister finally sees her for who she is, not a girl who sometimes turns into other things, but as Nimona.

In the end Nimona does not need to change who she is in order to be accepted. This idea is so important coming from a film that centers around a character who, while never explicitly labeled, clearly is not cisgender.

Especially now, when trans people are under attack by both individuals and entire state governments, this message saying, "Don't give up, you deserve happiness, you deserve to live," is crucial. This notion shines throughout the film, in both the sheer joy on Ballister's face after learning that Nimona is alive, and in the final speech he gives, echoing a point Nimona made at the beginning of the film.

Nimona begins the film saying, "Some of us don't get the happily ever after we were looking for. Maybe it's not that kind of kingdom." However, instead of leaving it there, Ballister adds onto this sentiment, saying, "Or maybe it's not the end of the story."



HALEYON OVERDINAL/THE MOSSY LOG

*It asks hard questions about societal conformity, social change and gender identity, and it is also a good movie.*

"Nimona" is an incredible story about persevering against those who attempt to sand down your edges and reject integral parts of you.

The movie asks hard questions about societal

conformity, social change and gender identity and it is also a good movie.

In the film, the titular Nimona is a shapeshifter who has spent her life exiled from society. She meets Ballister Boldheart, a fugitive knight

attack forced their society to build walls all around itself for protection from the monsters on the outside. The nobility is tasked with becoming knights to protect the citizens of the realm, despite the fact that no one ever goes outside the walls.

Our story begins in earnest when, at the knighting of Ballister, the first commoner ever to attain this position, the sword he is being knighted with releases a magical attack that kills the queen, and forces him to go on the run, lest he be imprisoned for a crime he didn't commit.

Enter Nimona, a so-called monster, due to her being a shapeshifter. After hearing about the supposed queen killer, she sees a kindred spirit, someone else on

## Upcoming Events



### GALLERY OFFERINGS

Hoffman Art Gallery:  
*Broken Spectre*

"Broken Spectre" is an immersive, 74-minute film that shifts between a manifold of ecological narratives, from the topographic to the anthropocentric, and to a careful examination of nonhuman violence and survival... in the Amazon Basin and related eco-systems."

- Lewis & Clark Website: Events

Portland Art Museum:  
*Black Artists of Oregon*

"This exhibition serves to deepen our awareness of the talented artists who have shaped and inspired artists regionally and nationally, and it will be the first of its kind to consider the work of Black artists collectively in Oregon."

- Portland Art Museum Website

### SEPTEMBER

**22 - 24 - Theatre:** The Evolve Experience  
2:00 pm and 7:00 pm  
@ Winningstad Theatre  
"The Evolve Experience is a unique arts-based workshop built around first-person narratives from police officers, judges and Black community members describing their lived experiences at the intersection of race and the justice system."  
-Portland's Centers for the Arts

**23 - Music:** Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark in Concert by the Oregon Symphony  
7:30 pm @ Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

**23 - Comedy:** Demetri Martin  
7:00 pm @ Revolution Hall

**24 - Art:** Zymoglyphic Gallery Open  
11am-3pm @ 6225 SE Alder St  
Eclectic collection of paintings, drawings, three-dimensional creations and digital art open to the public twice a month.

### OCTOBER

**05 - 06 - Comedy:** Taylor Tomlinson  
7:00 pm @ Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

**06 - 14 - Dance:** Swan Lake  
2:30pm and 7:00pm @ Keller Auditorium

**07 - Music:** Friends of Noise & PDX Pop Now Present  
4pm @ The Electric Blocks  
Free, all-ages showcase of local music from every genre.

**08 - Music:** Open Mic  
9pm @ Laurelhirst Public House  
Hosted by Johnny Franco!





# Olivia Rodrigo's sophomore album took GUTS

*"SOUR" sequel is "instant classic," showing off singer's range, pulls from pop-punk, new wave influences*

By EMMA FORD

**G**UTS IS A story, told in references, of girlhood and glory. Twenty year-old Olivia Rodrigo pop-punk bashed her way out of conventional wisdom that a second album equals a sophomore slump, and her Sept. 8 release sees her securing her place as a modern teen star.

Rodrigo's songwriting, as has been widely covered, is a rejuvenated and sparkly take on punk and grunge that makes no secret of its pop sensibilities. Her ballads weave together an album of bangers that hit like water balloons – a surprise for sure, but not enough to cause permanent damage. Each song flirts with edgy in its own way.

Rolling Stone has called the album "another instant classic" and Spin Magazine enthused over the star's "bold step forward." But what much of the praise has merely glanced over is the refreshing way Rodrigo's influences have shown through. For the younger generations, Rodrigo and the musical minds she has allied herself with re-package the great alternative rock genres and the lessons they teach.

In keeping with her first effort, *SOUR*, Rodrigo is indebted to decades past. In production, her songs bear comparison both to New York and London of the 1980s with new wave bubblegum and 1990s Seattle with the distortion of grunge rock. Her lyrics and their femme bravado follow a proud lineage of rock-girl swagger.

"All the time," sings Rodrigo in album opener "all-american bitch." "I'm grateful all the time."

The last few years have seen her tumble through the news cycle



EMMA FORD/THE MOSSY LOG

endlessly, and many of her lyrics call out the exhaustion of public stardom, taking strength in generations of rockers before her.

Where her pop-punk predecessors in Blink-182 and The Offspring went

before her, Rodrigo demonstrates a mastery of making stupid decisions sound almost smart because they are just so fun. Alanis Morissette and Courtney Love's ripped-stockings, smudged-eyeliner sensibilities find

a modern and potentially more likable protagonist in her diatribes against ex-lovers and fake friends. No Doubt and Bikini Kill's treatises on feminism are expanded upon in each defiant line.

Beyond her upbeat hits, Rodrigo shines in her star-making form – the piano ballad.

"You can win the battle, but you'll never win the war," sings Rodrigo in "pretty isn't pretty." "You fix the things you hated, and you'd still feel so insecure."

Her ballads range from The Cure to Tori Amos, each one packaging the emotions of girlhood in an accessible way, sure to serve as a soundtrack to teenage angst for years to come. She is relatable not only to the 13 year old on the cusp of high school but the 23 and 33 year old looking back on their time.

The last of the influences clear in Rodrigo's work are more modern than the fare of Gen Xers – the female singer-songwriters of the 2010s (among whose number one can count FKA Twigs, Lana Del Ray and Lorde) anchor Rodrigo's work in this century. The combination of tried and true rock lessons with familiar but not dated pop creates a beautifully charismatic sonic template. When matched with her undeniable moxie, Rodrigo is well on her way to influencing whomever will come next.

"Rodrigo, pop star and veteran performer, knows how to turn the ritual humiliations of girlhood into dazzling, over-the-top spectacles," Pitchfork writes. "The world's a stage, and she's gonna put on a f\*cking show."

Rodrigo has proven with *GUTS* that she is not going anywhere. She has taken the lessons of the past and thrust them another step on the never-ending march into the future. As her world tour begins, one can only hope she is allowed to continue that growth that has already borne another fabulous album for us to enjoy.

# "Broken Spectre" film exhibits environmental destruction

*Richard Mosse's immersive Hoffman Gallery installation illustrates deforestation in the Amazon Rainforest*

By KAI MERMIS-CAVA

**O**N AUG. 25, Lewis & Clark opened "Broken Spectre," an immersive film created by Richard Mosse documenting the devastation of the Amazon Rainforest. Currently showing at the Ronna and Eric Hoffman Gallery of Contemporary Art, "Broken Spectre" is primarily black and white, comprised of picturesque shots of the Amazon Rainforest itself, as well as heart-wrenching scenes of burning trees and razed land. The film is captivating, stretching across two screens, and switching from a single perspective up to as many as four perspectives at once.

Richard Mosse is an Irish artist currently operating out of New York, best known for his photography and filmography. His work focuses on humanitarian and environmental

crises, with recent solo exhibitions showcased at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC, the Barbican Art Gallery in London and the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne, Australia.

"Broken Spectre" uses a wide array of film and photography techniques, including heat-sensitive analogue film and ultraviolet studies, to create a multitude of visually striking scenes, such as acres of blood-red trees and black scorched earth. In several gorgeous, almost hypnotizing scenes, fluorescent microscopic imagery shows the beautiful complexity of the Amazon and its organisms.

Perhaps most iconic is the use of airborne footage, sweeping over the Amazon and forcing a viewer to take in the gravity of empty, demolished land, in heavy contrast to the lush rainforest. These shots, despite the

lack of narration, perfectly capture the nature of the planned and steadily progressing demolition of the Amazon Rainforest.

Accompanying the extraordinary visuals of "Broken Spectre," the sound design is incredible. From the bone-chilling roar of chainsaws to near-violent, thunderous music, the sound of the film immerses viewers. The score is a beautiful and haunting addition to the visual experience.

The film features multiple perspectives, including the Yanomami and Mundurucu Indigenous communities fighting for their land and their survival, illegal miners destroying natural land masses and rivers for barely a scrap of gold and Brazilian cowboys setting fire to the rainforest in order to create empty land for cattle to graze.

Footage of protests in Brasilia, the capital city of Brazil, contains

an especially striking scene of people holding a sign with the word "Genocida" ("Genocidal," as translated to English) in bright red letters. This sign was likely directed at Jair Bolsonaro, the former president of Brazil (from 2019 to 2022) who is known for rolling back the legal protections of Indigenous groups and facilitating the destruction of the Amazon Rainforest.

In a passionate speech of an Indigenous woman, she expresses her disdain for illegal miners and those who seek to use Amazonian land and calls people to action. As is made exceedingly clear by "Broken Spectre," the land of the Amazon Rainforest is being

destroyed, and alongside it, the homes of many Indigenous communities.

Her speech was vehement, powerful and heartbreaking to watch as she pleaded for safety and peace in her community.

*Upon leaving the theater, Broken Spectre will stay in the viewer's mind, and the silence outside the gallery will feel uncanny.*

Upon leaving the theater, "Broken Spectre" will stay in the viewer's mind, and the silence outside the gallery will feel uncanny.

After watching over an hour of the deforestation of the Amazon, it feels strange to walk through the LC campus, surrounded by lush trees and flourishing greenery. It can make one feel lucky to be surrounded by such beauty, but also quite aware of the impact we have on the world around us.



ISAAC BABUS/THE MOSSY LOG



ISAAC BABUS/THE MOSSY LOG

"Broken Spectre" is showing in Hoffman Gallery through Dec. 15, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Side-by-side shots of environmental damage span the length of the screen, immersing viewers in destruction and its impact.

# Colleges recruit male students through athletics

*Lewis & Clark's football program seeks to support new members through peer mentors, community*

By EMMA FORD

OVER THE PAST few decades nationwide, male academic success and engagement in higher education has been steadily decreasing in comparison to female counterparts. Women are starting to outperform men on the standardized tests required for college admissions, graduate at higher rates and make up increasing percentages of incoming classes. The New York Times reported that Tulane University in New Orleans had a freshman class of almost two women to every man this year, a dramatic example of the trending numbers, which remain closer to three women for every two men.

Men's decreasing enrollment in college, particularly BIPOC men, is a major concern for educators around the country. In response, universities are seeking to increase the number of men they bring in each year to close male educational gaps. One of the primary ways this gap is being addressed is by recruiting male athletes, especially for the still male-dominated sport of football.

Athletics recruitment has (anecdotally) gone to great lengths to attract men to higher education, sometimes lowering the barrier to entry presented by grades and other indicators of academic achievement. At many universities, academic merit scholarships match or are outpaced in dollar amount by the financial aid provided to athletes. Some admissions departments give extra consideration to male athletes with inferior grades, who rely on the importance placed on their athletic ability to push them over the edge in admissions. Moreover, there is a lot to be gained, career-wise, from playing at a school with a famous Division I team.

At Lewis & Clark, however, much of this does not apply. LC offers no athletic scholarships or increased financial aid for players. As an intellectually rigorous institution, there are few safety nets from academic campus for low-performing athletes should they fall behind their non-athlete peers. So what draws student athletes to our Division 3 school — especially for a sport like football?

"It's our players," Head Football Coach Joseph Bushman said. "And it's been this way since I got here. We are very family oriented. We have a really strong chemistry. And so when recruits show up on campus, they can sense how together our guys are and how together our coaches are. I think that makes them feel at ease and know that if they come here, they're going to be looked after and cared for and have a sense of belonging."

Students echo Bushman's views on the team environment.

"Yeah, my recruiting process from Lewis and Clark was my favorite out of all the schools I interacted with," said

Charlie Murrin '27. "I was recruited by Coach Machado, our offensive coordinator. And I love that he is a super nice guy, and he was super nice to me. Like when I was on my visit, I was here a little bit early, and he took me out to a breakfast spot in Lake Oswego. And that made a super good impression."

Approximately 21% of LC's freshman males are on Bushman's 2023-2024 football team, leading to a much larger team than has been seen in recent years.

"When I got here four years ago, our roster size was 62. And now we started with 101, and currently we're down to 99," Bushman said. "So we've really, really grown. And that was something that I was told was important to our higher ups, that they want to increase our numbers in football."

This large of a team attracts many different athletes, fostering a diverse community of players. Will Trunzo '24 walked on his freshman year, and has had two years of participating in recruitment under his belt going into his junior year with the team.

"We do an incredibly thorough job in our recruiting. We search all over the country, we find a lot of really great candidates," Trunzo said. "And we bring them here, we show them what we're all about, we show them the team, we host them, we do events with them. And I think that, overall, we do a really thorough and good job of recruiting the best candidates that we can find for the team."

High school football players interested in coming to LC have extra resources to learn about campus when considering playing football here. Recruiters can go directly to schools or "prospect camps" to observe and talk to players. LC hosts multiple of its own prospect camps here at the college during spring semester, where high school students come to tour campus, spend the night and meet coaches.

GMTM Inc., an online social networking site for college athletes, writes to its users that liberal arts colleges are spaces to get the holistic college experience, not just the college athlete experience. Development of skills beyond those on the field are meant to allow students to grow in ways that will help them for years once their sports career is over.

"Bottom line: Your professors are going to know your name and (you will) learn what you need to succeed," Scotty Jenkins said in an article for the GMTM site.

LC takes the "student" in student athlete seriously. Both coaches and students emphasized the importance of and support devoted to academic success.

"I think athletics in a lot of ways really helps with academics," Trunzo said. "Because while it is an incredible time commitment, the coaches put in a lot of effort in terms



COURTESY OF LEWIS & CLARK

LC's football team gained 46 new players, the largest class in program history and 21% of all males in the freshman class.

of study halls, in terms of matching up student athletes in the same major, in terms of all of these kinds of efforts they make in order to keep us academically engaged."

At LC, this starts before players even commit to the school. In an academic culture that has been struggling to keep up men's levels of achievement in higher education, LC athletics prioritizes players knowing what they are getting into.

"On my visit, I had an academic mentor, Logan Herman," Murrin said. "He's an environmental studies major. It was great to talk to him, and then I also talked to one of the professors, Elizabeth Safran."

At LC's prospect camp, an event called Meet Your Major takes place where prospective students can meet professors from different departments on campus in small groups to discuss their academic interests — even if not all those interests are easy to come by. "The thing we battle is that we don't have a business major," said Bushman. "It's really hard to get kids to wrap their heads around (the fact) that they can come here and get a business experience here. That's why our little sliver of entrepreneurship is great."

Popular majors for prospective freshmen players pose another interesting challenge — as well as

lacking a business program, LC has no kinesiology major or other route for sports medicine. Players who want that experience are encouraged to think outside the box about their time at LC. Participation in Rhetoric and Media Studies is popular, as well as the Entrepreneurship program.

Besides their academic life, athletes have an entire campus to engage with. Balking stereotypes that male students are more disengaged from campus life compared to female students, many football players participate in extracurricular activities off of the team, and the coaches emphasize the place of players in the school community.

"As athletes, we have to go support everyone else too," Bushman said. "If you want people to come to your games, you have to go to other people's events, you need to go to concerts, you need to go to plays, you need to be visible. It's a two way street."

Mutual support events like the Arts Department tailgating a game or the football team going en masse to student theater productions support those goals. While LC may not have the same football culture as other schools, they can find their place on campus their own way.

"While athletics are an important part of my experience at this school," Trunzo said. "I'd say, don't let it be the

only thing you do here. It's incredibly important to engage academically and to engage socially with people who aren't involved with athletics because it will enrich your experience here to a great degree."

A world that tells men they have no future or no space to succeed is one that needs to be changed. As the halls of academia see dwindling enrollment and decreasing engagement from male students, it is important that universities seek to support them as part of a balanced community. And while athletics is by no means the only way for men to participate on campus, it is still a major part of recruitment of men to our college, especially via football.

"Don't stress out so much about what college is going to be like," Murrin said. "I've loved the transition so far. And I have a lot of friends on the team and outside the team. That was a worry of mine over the summer, but it hasn't been the case at all."

LC athletics and the football team's coaching staff are on the right track to combat the tenuous place of men in higher education. The football team members at this school are recruited and guided to be engaged, successful and positive members of campus life. When one part of a community is lifted up, the whole community is lifted along with them.

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EMMA FORD/THE MOSSY LOG

## New head golf coach has high hopes for team

*Previously a baseball player, Brad Breier looks forward to making positive changes as new sports leader*

By **CLAIRE BACO**

**L**EWIS & CLARK welcomes Brad Breier as the new head coach of men's and women's golf this year. Breier is originally from Los Angeles, CA. After college, he worked as a teacher and an assistant golf coach at University of Redlands, whose women's team won the national title in Division Three (DIII) golf last year. Breier and his wife moved to Portland this year to escape the heat, and the move opened up new opportunities.

"The Redlands team pushed me

to apply," Breier said. "If you told me a year and a half ago that I was going to be a head coach for a college program, I probably wouldn't have believed it. But now, I love it."

Breier did not start his sports career in golf. In college, he played DIII baseball at Willamette University in Salem, OR, and only fell in love with golf after his baseball career ended.

"After spending so many years in the weight room, I just didn't really want to go back," Breier said. "My buddy called me and said, 'Hey, you want to play nine holes of golf?' I was

absolutely horrible. I was awful. But I hit one good shot and I was addicted. I bought golf clubs the next day."

Breier inherits a team that has struggled in recent years due to low recruitment and a rotating coaching staff. Millen Mistry '26, the sole captain for both the men's and women's golf teams this year, is hopeful that Breier's guidance will be a much-needed boost to performance and morale.

"There's a lot more structure in the program, and a lot more discipline about what we're accountable for, and what he's expecting out of us, which at the end of the day is just going to make the program even better," Mistry said.

One way Breier has already implemented changes to the golf program is by installing a new golf hitting simulator.

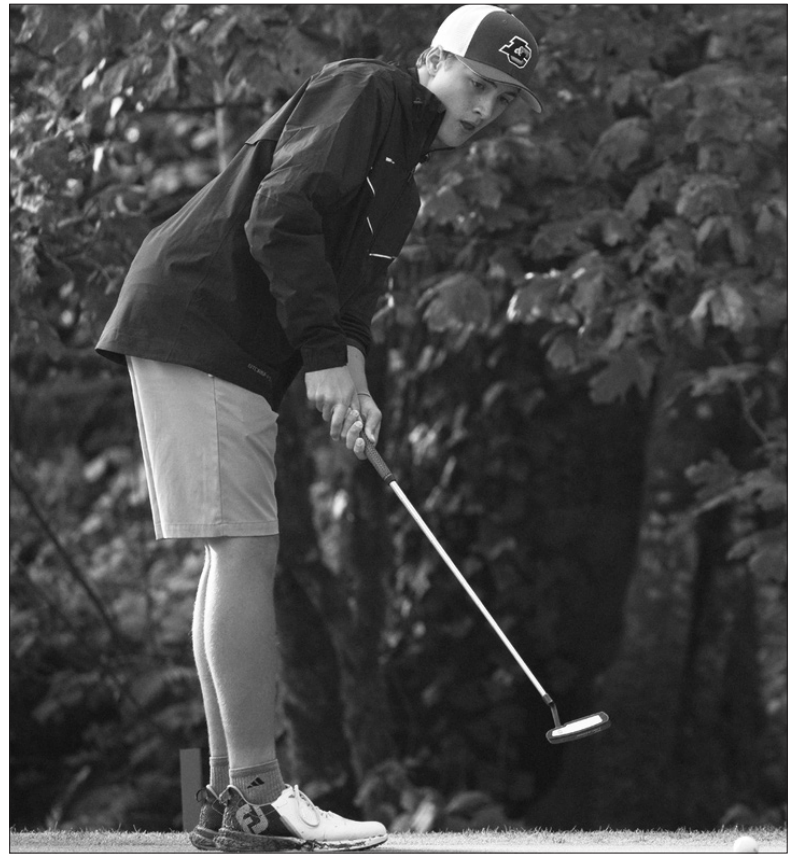
"Not many people know about it, but there's a door in the gym that leads to a pretty big space where we can hit balls," Mistry said. "There's a projector, there are simulators, so we get all the numbers and we can play courses in there. Coach Brad got hired early in the summer, and that was the first thing he took under his wing."

Breier has many more goals in mind to move the program forward. Although he was hired too late to do any serious recruiting for the team's 2023 season, he is hitting the ground running by looking for freshman recruits for next year, and building skills with the current team members to rise in the Northwest Conference rankings.

"This year is about laying the foundation, the culture, the work ethic, what's going to be required on a year in year out basis," Breier said.

Breier is also looking to expand the golf program, both at the competitive level and within the general LC student body.

"It's a great sport to learn and to



COURTESY OF LEWIS & CLARK

Many players are exhilarated for the for the approaching season with their new coach.

be able to go do recreationally with friends," Breier said. "There are a lot of great public forces around here. We're going to have a golf class on campus next semester that's going to be teaching anyone – people that have played forever or people that are just learning. I'm happy to work with everyone, it's such a fun sport, and it's something that you can do and it's not super stressful on the body."

Mistry also has goals to build the team up to be stronger competitors.

"In terms of the team, I think everyone's looking for the same

thing. We're just trying to improve, especially because we got no recruits this year. We're just trying to look to play better this year, and then put us in a better position to succeed," Mistry said.

With Breier as the devoted new head coach, the team is looking positively towards the future. LC cannot wait to support the team during the season.

"I'm excited to be here," Breier said. "I'm excited to help build the program, and I don't plan on going anywhere."



COURTESY OF LEWIS & CLARK

New coach Brad Breier is looking forward to his transition from baseball to golf.

## Men's soccer look for a victory in the upcoming matches

*Current Lewis & Clark athletes practice vigorously over summer to adjust to conditions of coming season*



COURTESY OF LEWIS & CLARK

Riedman plays semi-pro in preparation for the beginning of the soccer season.

By **AMELIA DOYLE**

**T**HE LEWIS & Clark first Men's Soccer team since 1991, has begun their season. Over the summer, players have been participating in various activities to prepare for the upcoming season.

"I played all summer for a competitive team back home in Seattle and worked with my coaches to stay

sharp and improve," soccer player Ben Tallent '26 said.

Another player on the team, Kaushal Riedman '26, said that he focused on staying in shape and getting lots of in-game experience over the summer. During the summer he played for the semi-pro United Premier Soccer League team, the Alaska Timbers, in his hometown of Anchorage. In addition, he coached multiple youth soccer teams.

"I wanted to make sure that when I came back in the fall, I wouldn't be too rusty and that I'd be able to help out the team in our first conference season in decades," Reidman said.

Tallent is excited about playing in his first season of NCAA games and is looking forward to growing as a player. One of Tallent's fondest memories on the soccer team so far was when the team scored their first goal and won their first game. Riedman echoed this statement.

"My favorite soccer memory would have to be our first game this year against Multnomah University. Following our season last year and with all the new players coming in, it was really important to start off strong. We got down early in the second half, but it was such a great feeling to be able to come back and get a win at Griswold in our first game back," Riedman said.

Tallent said that it was an amazing feeling to see the team succeed and he is looking forward to repeating the experience in the upcoming years. However, since the Men's soccer team is one of the newest sports teams at LC, it comes with some additional challenges.

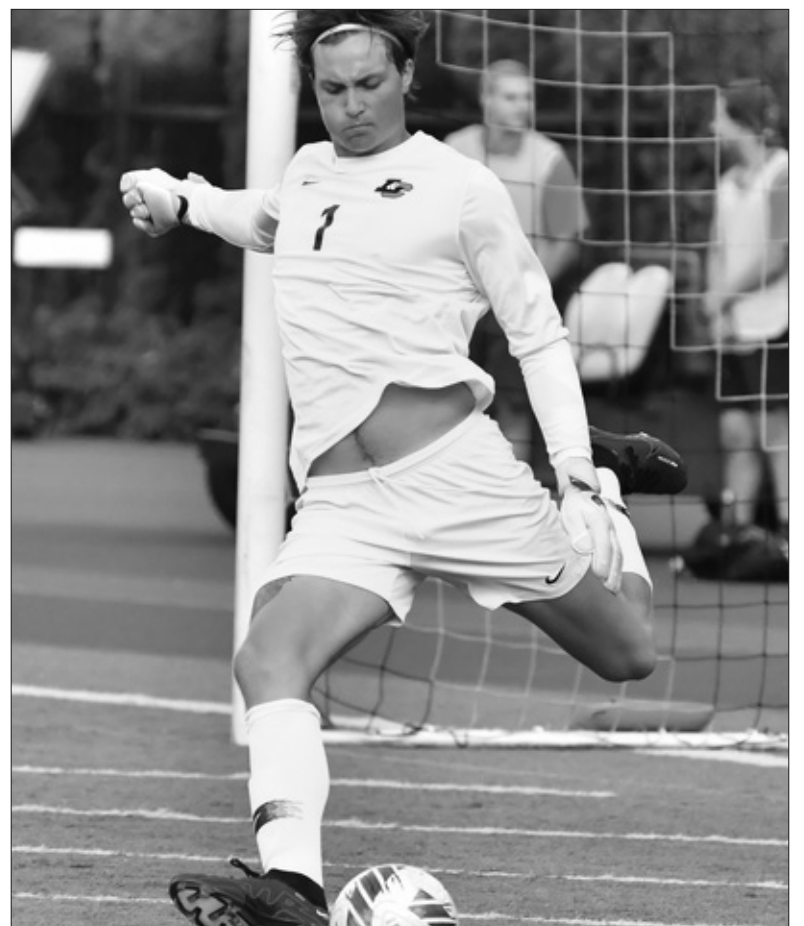
Both Tallent and Riedman explained that LC men's soccer is one of the youngest teams in the conference, and almost entirely made up of freshman and sophomores.

"A lot of us will have to grow up fast and learn to adjust to the college speed of play much faster than players at other schools might," Riedman said. "While this may be a challenge for us this season, I know this will make us that much stronger than other teams in years to come. Overall, I'm really excited to be part of the team this year and take on a conference together. We all support each other on and off the field and I know that will help us this season."

Tallent said that the team will never shy away from a challenge and is dedicated to improving.

"While we've had a rough start to our season, we're starting to get into the swing of things and we love having supporters at our games. It really

helps the team to see our classmates and peers out there cheering us on. If you haven't come out to see a soccer game yet, grab some friends and come see for yourself how committed the guys are to doing the school proud," Tallent said.



COURTESY OF LEWIS & CLARK

The Men's Soccer team preps for the upcoming season and is excited to compete.



# The Backdoor

## NSO Off the record: school secrets they left out

Hangouts, hideouts, hooligan haunts around campus revealed in debaucherous tell-all tour of campus

By JESSIE SHAW

To all new students, welcome to Lewis & Clark! Although you might have toured the campus four times already during the long-ass NSO week, there is an abundance of overlooked spots you most likely did not see nor hear of. Whether you are looking to study for an upcoming test, or you are more interested in the quintessential college pastimes of doing drugs and having casual sex, these campus haunts may be perfect for you!

One super-secret spot you might not have heard of on campus tours is the Gazebo. Nestled in one of our secluded forest spots between the Reflection Pool and Olin Hall, it is a popular spot for students to drink alcohol, smoke weed or do other drugs. Additionally, many students who go to the Gazebo write their names or dirty messages on it.

"It is insane," Thurman Merman '27 recalled. "There are mostly sophomores and juniors. People get drunk and stoned and you can even sometimes smell the weed from there to the Reflecting Pool."

Merman is one of the few freshmen who has ventured to the Gazebo and knows of its existence, hearing about it from his LC alumnus cousin. Merman also goes there to smoke weed to rebel against

his family, who he described as "conservative Christian right-wing Republicans." Family members, when asked for comment, described themselves as "moderate Democrats" and as "holiday churchgoers, mostly on Easter and Christmas."

Casey Macy '26 is one of the most frequent visitors to the Gazebo. As the leader of the Leftist Student Union (LSU), she hosts club meetings at the Gazebo where she and her members engage in mild-mannered political discourse about their school.

"Lewis & Clark were racist slave owners and we demand the school changes its name," Macy explains. "We also demand the school provide a haven for marginalized students. We write these messages on the Gazebo so we are less likely to get in trouble with the school but still be heard."

Indeed, the Gazebo is covered in graffiti, including messages from the LSU but also from other random visitors. The LSU has inscribed phrases such as "BLM," "ACAB," "Change Name" and "Fuck

the SCOTUS." However, some visitors find their messages annoying and cover

them with doodles of boobs, often insults to the LSU.

Another spot worth mentioning is the water tower at the Graduate School campus, across the street from the Forest Halls. Surrounded by trees, it can be difficult for a newcomer to find, yet this makes it the perfect spot to have picnics with friends, where students get silly with substances or start an orgy.

Chris Cross '24, a resident of the Hartzfeld/Holmes dorm system for the third year in a row, had a warning for would-be tokers gathering at the water tower.

"Beware of active Campo (Campus Police) patrols!" said Cross. "The last thing you want is to get busted for smoking there. It is really such a rookie freshman move."

Lastly, another spot to consider checking out is the lounge area on the upper floor of the Watzek Library right by the stairs leading down to the atrium. While most students will go to the Watzek Library to study, some go to the small landing at the top of the main staircase to fornicate when they cannot

do it in their dorms. In a way, it makes it a good spot for a couple to get cozy since there is a large, comfortable sofa. However, if that is what you choose to use the space for, make sure no one else is around.

Dinah Mite '25 recalled that they once accidentally stumbled upon their roommate en flagrante delicto with her boyfriend.

"One night, I had finished studying and was about to head down the stairs to leave when I noticed my roommate Moira was already heading downstairs on Jack. I pretended I did not notice and went down one of the secondary stairs – I was unsure if walking right past them and not saying hi or something would be rude."

Despite their shock, Mite is not against their roommate Bonin' with Jack anywhere but in their dorm.

"At least they didn't do it in our room," said Mite.

No matter what your pleasure is, you can be sure there will be a spot on campus to pursue it. We at the Backdoor support you wholeheartedly! However, if you find none of these spots appealing, you can always find other overlooked hideouts to do your business. Just make sure you write to us and tell us what they are! We have a feeling the ones in this article are about to become very popular...



EMMA FORD/THE MOSSY LOG

## Relationship advisor? I hardly know her!

By ROSALIE ZUCKERMANN

In my previous years at Lewis & Clark I had ventured into my dorms to find name cards in the shapes of cute animals or decorated with stars. When I approached my door, I laid my eyes upon a construction paper cutout of a chlamydia cell emblazoned with my name. Indeed, on every door was a different STD name card—who knew there were so many!

This year, in response to Taylor Swift's tour, a new era began. Very much in the spirit of Swift herself, campus policy states that couples can now room together.

I soon noticed more updates to residential life. Each shower had been installed with a double showerhead. A sign proudly announced that four legged showers were no longer a policy violation – it is just bonding and making memories in a new environment, and is that not exactly what college is about? Like the sign at that smoke spot with the stained hammock that says, "Clothes are the most deeply ingrained capitalist regime." Taking them off together is a great way to strengthen community.

When I passed my RA's door, it all began to make sense. There hung the crown jewel of all the themed regalia: an LMFT certificate from none other than the prestigious Labia & Cock College. And no, LMFT did not stand for Lost Men, Found Tits (although people really should get that as an option on their coming-out certificate.) It was the real deal: My RA was a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

But abandon no hope yet, ye who are entering each other around here! Contrary to its non-inclusive title, the training does include situationships, FWBs and that one blue haired girl with a nose ring who said your Carhartt overalls were sexy.

I talked to my RA, a kindly white man named Lichen with a pornstar and assuredly no implicit bias whatsoever, about what training he had undergone to reach such a position of the utmost responsibility. The first step was a trip

to the seventh level of hell (passing first through layers one through six: NST groups, classes, hallmates, clubs, jobs, and parties) – dating apps.

Each RA was given exclusive pictures of a celebrity with which to make a Tinder profile and field the chaos that ensued in the DMs. Lichen had the toughest job, for he was Timothée Chalamet. He referred to his undercover experience as on Tinder as a "crash course in the girls and the gays," necessary training for LCers.

To recover from the Tinder trauma, training then segued to a calmer structure of Powerpoint watching and crocheting under desks. They covered all the essentials, from bi panic to daddy issues, god complexes to polyceles, rounding it all out with a classic what-the-hell-is-foreskin-and-will-it-hurt-me lecture.

I asked Lichen if he had had any residents seek his help yet. He responded by melting in a pile on the floor and asking if he could hide from them in my closet. (I told him he might already be in the closet.)

Apparently, on the first day of class he had to untangle an orgy of quad roommates when their piercings got stuck to each other. On the second, he fielded two bawling freshmen who claimed that the same baseball player had promised his sweaty jersey to each of them. On the third, he had to file for annulment after someone got married in the ravine because they didn't want to hurt their NST lover's feelings by saying no. So on, and so on, until on the seventh day, he rested. Oh wait, what was that about god complexes?

Who is to say how the dorm drama will evolve as the year continues and the STD name cards become more and more relevant. I for one can't see anything wrong with an overworked 20 year old holding up the mental health of an entire hall.

All I know is that noise canceling headphones are essential and Lichen would greatly appreciate it if you brought him tissues because his residents go through them faster than FSU's free condoms.

## Under-studied LC dialect exposed by know-it-all editor for newbies

By MAYA MAZOR-HOOFIEN

Hey Seamen! Welcome back to campus! I hope you had an amazing summer thirst tweeting about state senators or whatever it is you do.

Despite all the excitement that comes with a new semester, the adjustment period can be difficult. Returning students often experience quite the culture shock coming back after a summer of getting misgendered at a retail job, while new students may feel that Lewis & Clark is home to a language entirely unknown to them before arriving on Palatine Hill.

This mystique is no misinterpretation. The secret, storied dialect of LC has been perfected by the student body over years, combining internet slang, academic buzzwords and culturally appropriated expressions. It can take months of immersion and rigorous study to develop fluency in this localism, but who has the time? Not you, dear reader, who has barely made it 100 words into this article without skimming for a dick joke. For your convenience, nay, survival, here is the Backdoor's guide to LC Lingo.

### Vocabulary:

Troom (n.): A portmanteau of the Trail Room.

T\*mpleton (n.): The deadname of Fowler Student Center, who donned a fresh coat of paint and came out as emo as the end of last semester.

Situationship (n.): An entanglement between two (or more!) people who are sexually attracted to each other but are still getting over their exes.

Boning (v.): When two LC students love each other very much, they go to the dining hall and PDA like there is no tomorrow. Keep it up you guys. Everyone loves this and thinks it is cool and normal.

Slay (n.): I cannot do this one. Please just, like, ask a friend. You ask so much of me, and it simply cannot go on like this.

### Common phrases:

If you hear a Lewis & Clark student say the common phrase "I have been super stressed out lately", what they mean is "I have been doing

ketamine on weeknights and allowing my untreated dyslexia to destroy my relationships."

This, however, is not a commutative statement; "I do a lot of ketamine" translates roughly to "I thought I took ketamine once, ignored the friend who said it was probably a crushed-up baby aspirin, and fell into a placebo K-hole."

"I feel super unsafe in this space right now" means "I am a little cold."

"I did Model UN in high school, but now I am a STEM major" is a less common phrase, but important to know, as it means "I am the fucking worst, but at least I am self-aware."

"I am going through a really hard time right now" means "I use my mental illness to justify treating people badly."

### Fashion:

"I love your outfit!": This means nothing. Equivalent to "hi" or even "like" or "umm."

"I love your outfit!": This is a lesbian come-on. Though many have tried, it is impossible to tell the two meanings apart.

Here are some common responses for the above:

"I thrifted this top" means "I paid the equivalent full price for it in downtown Boulder but it also doesn't fit me right."

"Oh yeah this is vintage!" which means "I dug it out of the bins, half-heartedly hand washed it and now I feel like a celebrity when I wear it around campus. It was made in 2017."

### Academics:

"You were slaying that class debate" means "I loved when you said something you saw on TikTok out loud like it was original after nobody else raised their hand to answer a professor's question."

"As someone with an invisible marginalized identity..." is more common in a discussion or debate setting. This means "I am gay and/or trans, and this makes me not white for the sake of this argument."

Outside of the classroom, here is some language related to academics to know:

"I am going to kill myself (ideation)" means "I have minimal responsibilities typical of a student/young adult."

"I am going to kill myself (intent)" is slightly different, and means "I have

homework due in the morning for a class I forgot I was in."

### Hobbies:

"I have recently gotten really into crocheting" actually means "I am going to kill myself."

"I play jazz bass" translates to "I am a virgin and I cannot drive."

"I play jazz drums" is notably different, meaning "I am not a virgin and I can drive but the issues run so much deeper."

### Introducing yourself:

One of the best ways to learn a language is through conversation. Try out some of these introductions to strike up a conversation of your own.

"I am from the Bay Area." You should follow this up by arguing about what cities count as The Bay. People love this. Yes, Marin counts. No, Modesto does not.

"I am from SoCal." This is a good start, but people really want you to list the names of cities near LA as though everyone has heard of them. Ojai is pronounced how? You made that up. The Griffith Observatory? That is from Bojack Horseman, silly!

If those sound intimidating, consider giving some of these short, beginner-friendly phrases a shot!

"I am a comedy writer." Say this one to a man. Know that he will take it as a challenge, so be ready for him to tell you why Sarah Silverman is not funny.

"I am a poetry minor." Say this one to a woman— I promise it is a good idea and you will not have to read draft after draft of mixed metaphors about a sapphic summer, bitter sweet turned sour at the tip of her tongue or whatever.

"I am in a band." Use this one with caution; it is a strong aphrodisiac, bordering on mind-control.

### Closing thoughts:

Though it may seem impossible, most students are able to attain at least an intermediate level of proficiency with these words and phrases by fall break. If all else fails, here are some rules of thumb to follow: Always snap to show approval, avoid eye contact at all costs and get really comfortable saying "c\*nt". Good luck, and welcome back!



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