



## Medford Mail Tribune - Other

**Updated: 3-19**  
[Update this newspaper](#)

Tempo - Movies

Opinion

## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Thank you, Allen Stewart! I thought I was alone believing the bridge over Barnett was a waste of taxpayer dollars.

## **Oregon's new gold rush is not good news for the state**

When Oregonians think of mining, they probably think of coal mines in West Virginia or a 49er in California panning for gold beside a mule.

## **Police keep public in the dark**

Every year during Sunshine Week, newspaper editorial boards take pains to explain that open records and public meetings laws are important not just for news organizations but for every member of the public. It helps when we have a high-profile example.

## **On health care, listen to the nuns**

One of the tragedies of the viciously politicized battle over health care reform is the defection of the nation's Roman Catholic bishops from a cause they have championed for decades.

## **Betting (again) on a federally directed education fix**

Doubling down on dubious bets is characteristic of compulsive gamblers and federal education policy. The nation was essentially without such policy for grades K through 12, and better off for that, until 1965.

## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

In more news, water is still wet.

## **Cheers and jeers**

Cheers â€” to Talent Elementary School for being named one of 10 "Champion Schools" by the state Department of Education.

## **Health care: 'deem and pass,' or sneak and sprint?**

As Democrats consider shoving health care reform through the House with a process known as "deem and pass," it is helpful to return to square one and ask: What, again, is the rush?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

President Obama wasn't the smartest person in the room; the medical doctors were smarter. The Republican Party is not just a party of no; they put forth several practical ideas.

## **So far, not so good**

On his first day in office, President Obama issued an Open Government Directive, announcing his intention to reverse the slide toward secrecy that had prevailed under his predecessor.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Do you hate resetting the clocks twice a year but don't want to be on "standard" time all year? (And why do we still call it "standard" time when we are on it less than half the year?) How about a compromise?

## **Eyes on the prize**

For the better part of two decades, most Israelis and Palestinians and most of their elected leaders have embraced the "two-state solution" to their bloody conflict — a negotiated separation into side-by-side states of Israel and Palestine.

## **'We are not victims:' Saving the world, one woman at a time**

If your impression of an Afghan woman is of a shapeless, frightened form engulfed in yards of heat-trapping fabric, you haven't met Shafiqah Quraishi.

## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

It has been made very clear to anyone with an IQ above room temperature that insurance companies have deceived and defrauded the American people for years.

## **Justice for all**

Aryeh Neier was a Jewish refugee from Germany, but when a group of Nazis was barred from marching in Skokie, Ill., in 1977, he knew his duty.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CORRECTION

## **Fiscal stability is Topic A**

We agree with state Sen. Frank Morse when he says that Oregon's fiscal stability needs to be Topic A in this year's state elections.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

With lots of discussion swirling around these days regarding the merits of certain "elective" classes in our local schools, I would just like to share a bit about the South Medford High band concert that I was fortunate to have attended last Thursday.

## **Cheers and jeers**

Cheers and a sad farewell to Ben Westlund, Oregon's state treasurer who died of lung cancer Sunday.

## **Obama wants to govern in the Wilsonian tradition**

There are legislative miles to go before the government will be emancipated from its health care myopia, but it is not too soon for a summing up.

## Sports - Community

### **Robbins helps Clackamas CC to NWAACC championship**

Freshman Travis Robbins recently helped Clackamas Community College to its fifth men's basketball title in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges championships.

## RESULTS / STANDINGS

bowling

# HONOR ROLL

Basketball

## **Local Report**

Southern Oregon's Chenin Young and Dennis Olstedt have been named Cascade Conference track athletes of the week.

## **Local Report**

Eagle Point senior wrestler Steven Josephson will help highlight the Oregon contingent as Southern Oregon University's McNeal Pavilion will play host to the Oregon-California High School All-Star Dual on Saturday.

## **Honor Roll**

Bowling

## RESULTS/STANDINGS

bowling

## LOCAL EVENTS

Archery

## **Staniforth chosen baseball player of week in CC**

Oregon Tech first baseman Cory Staniforth, a junior out of Crater High, has been named the Cascade Conference baseball player of the week.

## RESULTS / STANDINGS

bowling

# HONOR ROLL

Bowling

## **Results / Standings**

basketball

# Honor Roll

## Basketball

**LOCAL EVENTS**

Baseball

## **Former South player Daley joins OIT's 1,000-point club**

KLAMATH FALLS — Former South Medford High basketball player Myles Daley became the 26th member of Oregon Tech's 1,000 point club recently.

## Sports-Sports

### **Shipley, Black Tornado shut out Wilson**

Brady Shipley was an dominant as the sun was bright on Thursday.

## **Phoenix gets past Cascade Christian**

McKenzie Welburn belted a two-RBI double and Danielle Smith went 2-for-4 with a triple as Phoenix chipped away at Cascade Christian in a 7-3 nonconference victory at U.S. Cellular Community Park on Thursday.

## **Ashland takes home Southern Sky honors**

Ashland seniors Allison Gida and Adam Pavlich were named the Southern Sky Conference's players of the year and both their coaches were recognized with honors recently.

## **Ducks win NIT opener**

EUGENE — Micaela Cocks scored 16 points to lead five players in double figures and Oregon marked its return to the postseason with a 95-66 victory against Eastern Washington Thursday night in a Women

## **All-stars eager to take the floor**

Players in the third annual Mail Tribune All-Star Basketball Classic are looking forward to a couple things:

## **No. 2 Sunbirds rout Raiders**

FRESNO, Calif. — Continuing with the toughest schedule in program history, the Southern Oregon University women's tennis team dropped a 9-0 decision to second-ranked Fresno Pacific on Thursday.

## **Covington sparks Beavers at NCAAs**

OMAHA, Neb. — Eighth-seeded junior Colby Covington finished Day 1 of the NCAA Wrestling Championships with a perfect 2-0 mark to spark the Oregon State wrestling team to a 14th place finish on Thursday.

## **OSU falls to Boston in CBI opener**

CORVALLIS — John Holland had 26 points and five rebounds as Boston rolled to a 96-78 win against Oregon State in the first round of the College Basketball Invitational at Gill Coliseum.

## **SOU's Speer named NAIA All-American**

Southern Oregon University women's basketball player Jacki Speer capped off a stellar career by being named an NAIA All-American on Tuesday.

## **Albertson, South power past Eagle Point**

EAGLE POINT — Dylan Albertson showed that he's a force to be reckoned with for the South Medford baseball team Wednesday, belting a solo home run and adding an RBI double to lead the Panthers to a 7-0 triumph over host Eagle Point.

## **Staying Power**

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Friendship is a beautiful thing and it might end up being a deciding factor in bringing the NCAA championship back to Kansas.

## **Billy Hansen has smashing debut for Grizzlies**

ASHLAND — One game. One triple. One home run.

## **North wins battle of defending champs**

CENTRAL POINT — Amanda Freitas slapped a two-run single down the left-field line in the top of the seventh inning to lead North Medford to a 7-5 victory over host Crater in a season-opening battle of the defending Class 6A and 5A softball state...

## **Ducks fire Kent**

EUGENE — Ernie Kent, the winningest coach in Oregon history, was dismissed Tuesday after 13 seasons with his alma mater.

## **Robbins helps Clackamas CC to NWAACC championship**

Freshman Travis Robbins recently helped Clackamas Community College to its fifth men's basketball title in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges championships.

## **Vanguard tops Raiders**

COSTA MESA, Calif. — Ninth-ranked Vanguard blanked the Southern Oregon women's tennis team, 9-0, Tuesday.

## **St. Mary's Bates earns top SCL girls honor**

St. Mary's senior Katie Bates received the highest honor in Southern Cascade League girls basketball recently with her selection as league player of the year in voting by the league's coaches.

## **Tough choices had to be made**

The coaches handled the snubs with class.

## **Mazama sweeps Crusader Relays**

Mary Bennion won the 3,000 meters for St.

## RESULTS / STANDINGS

bowling

## Central Point

### **Father holds daughter for first time**

Lance Cpl. Joe Kahut flew home to Southern Oregon Thursday, greeted by tears, cheers and a 5-month old daughter he held for the first time.

## **North wins battle of defending champs**

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## **Boy who lost leg is recovering in Portland**

A 4-year-old rural Central Point boy is in fair condition at Doernbecher Children's Hospital in Portland after a riding lawn mower accident severed part of his right leg Saturday.

## **No charges from mower accident**

There will be no criminal charges filed in connection with a lawn mower accident Saturday that severed part of the right leg of a 4-year-old boy in rural Central Point, a Jackson County Sheriff's Department official said Sunday.

## **Young boy severely injured in mower accident**

A 4-year-old boy lost part of his right leg Saturday in what appeared to be a tragic lawn mower accident at a home in rural Central Point, according to the Jackson County Sheriff's Department.

## **Comets cruise into 5A tourney**

CENTRAL POINT — For Crater players like Jen Noon, it was all about the "fist" Friday night in the second round of the Class 5A girls basketball state playoffs.

## **Arrest made in Crater incident**

CENTRAL POINT — A 16-year-old boy has been arrested for allegedly making and setting off a homemade bomb Wednesday morning in a boys bathroom at Crater High School, causing a temporary evacuation.

## **Central Point church shelter nears end**

CENTRAL POINT — Having been ordered to shutter its doors earlier this month by city officials, Pine Street's Calvary Temple will serve a last supper of sorts to homeless community members on Sunday night.

## **Balanced Crater blows by Eagles**

CENTRAL POINT — Katie Powell, Leona Steel and Kelly Ferris each scored 13 points to lead five Crater players in double figures as the Comets defeated Eagle Point, 85-23, in the Southern Sky Conference girls basketball playoffs Thursday.

## **Sportmen's show comes to Medford Friday**

CENTRAL POINT — The lagging economy has not kept Oregon's outdoor enthusiasts from pouring through the doors of Joe Pate's outdoor show during stops in Eugene and Roseburg earlier this month.

## **Powell fuels high-scoring Comets**

CENTRAL POINT — Katie Powell continued her hot shooting, and her Crater girls basketball teammates joined in Tuesday in a Southern Sky Conference rout of Klamath Union.

## **Fairgrounds director leaving for California position**

Chris Borovansky, who has managed the Jackson County Fairgrounds for 21 years, is stepping down to take over as chief executive officer of the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds in Turlock, Calif.

## **Central Point park crossing will be discussed**

CENTRAL POINT — An open house on Monday will give residents a chance to weigh in on a planned pedestrian crossing near the Don Jones Memorial Park.

## **Central Point enacts grace period for unpaid fines**

CENTRAL POINT — Hoping to collect even a fraction of more than \$1.5 million in unpaid traffic fines and other fees, city officials have approved an amnesty program for people with unpaid tickets.

Pheonix

## **Heidi and Joe won't finish 'Amazing Race'**

In an unexpected twist, Heidi and Joe were eliminated Sunday from "The Amazing Race" reality TV show after tripping up on Morse code.

## Setting an Example

PHOENIX — Although brief, Skyler Reagan can recount exactly what it was like to be a sophomore standing on the big stage at Gill Coliseum for the Class 4A boys basketball state tournament.

Medford

## **Children are hard-hit by economic conditions**

The country's economic troubles continue to hit Oregon children hard in areas of health care and general welfare, according to data released this week by Children First for Oregon.

## **Medford council defers decision on parking meters**

The Medford City Council continued a debate Thursday over adding parking meters to downtown but made no decision.

## **Man robs Bank of America in east Medford**

Medford police are searching for a robbery suspect who held up a Bank of America branch in east Medford Thursday.

## Happy Trails

JACKSONVILLE — Large madrones arc over portions of a new hiking trail named for a woman who found great elegance and solace walking Jacksonville's public trails.

## **Father holds daughter for first time**

Lance Cpl. Joe Kahut flew home to Southern Oregon Thursday, greeted by tears, cheers and a 5-month old daughter he held for the first time.

## **Teen faces 10 years of detention for stabbing**

A 14-year-old Talent youth was sentenced Wednesday to a maximum of 10 years in the Oregon Youth Authority's correctional facility in connection with the death of a 24-year-old Central Point man during a gang-related fight last fall.

## **Police car nudged fleeing motorcyclist**

A man who sped away from a Jackson County sheriff's deputy on a motorcycle Tuesday evening was jailed on a felony charge of attempting to elude police, as well as drug and other charges.

## **Fired teacher keeps City Council post**

JACKSONVILLE — The Medford teacher who was dismissed Tuesday for allegations that he inappropriately touched students is still serving on the City Council, with the support of other members of the council.

## **Smash-and-Grab**

MEDFORD — A quick-hitting burglar made off with potentially tens of thousands of dollars worth of jewelry early Tuesday after smashing his way into an east Medford store and clearing out two display cases, police said.

## **Medford School District gets a second land offer**

Just weeks after three property owners proposed donating land in rural southwest Medford to the Medford School District, three other property owners have made a similar offer — one they say comes with fewer strings attached.

## **Smokers must use designated RCC areas**

Rogue Community College will allow smoking only in designated areas on its campuses in Jackson and Josephine counties.

## **School board votes to sack Chris Gilman**

The Medford School Board voted Tuesday to dismiss a Howard Elementary School teacher alleged to have inappropriately touched students in his class.

## **For this couple, a sign said it all**

Experts say the key to a good relationship is clear communication. So when it comes time to pop the big question, why not just ask your girlfriend to pick up lunch at a fast food joint?

## **4 Daughters fined for serving minor**

Medford's 4 Daughters Irish Pub will pay a \$3,795 fine for serving alcohol to a person younger than 21.

## **Heidi and Joe won't finish 'Amazing Race'**

In an unexpected twist, Heidi and Joe were eliminated Sunday from "The Amazing Race" reality TV show after tripping up on Morse code.

## **'Friends don't let friends die'**

Pat and Lisa McCarthy want teens to think about what it really means to be a friend.

## **Multiple charges added in Medford shooting**

Medford police have charged a man suspected in a Wednesday night shooting in west Medford with assault, attempted murder and weapons violations.

## **Police return weapons to ODOT worker**

Medford police have returned five firearms taken for "safekeeping" Monday morning when their owner was placed in protective custody.

## **Man gets six years for sexual abuse, attempted rape**

A Medford man convicted of the attempted rape and first-degree sexual abuse of a 14-year-old girl at a party in June was sentenced Thursday to more than six years in prison.

## **ODOT worker wants guns; police say they'll comply**

MEDFORD — The Medford man whose firearms were seized by police Monday when he was taken into protective custody has asked for their return and police say they will comply with the request.

## Jacksonville

### Happy Trails

JACKSONVILLE — Large madrones arc over portions of a new hiking trail named for a woman who found great elegance and solace walking Jacksonville's public trails.

## **Fired teacher keeps City Council post**

JACKSONVILLE — The Medford teacher who was dismissed Tuesday for allegations that he inappropriately touched students is still serving on the City Council, with the support of other members of the council.

## **Balcony's fate rests with city commission**

JACKSONVILLE — The fate of a prominent balcony on the historic U.S.

## **Jacksonville balcony focus of debate**

JACKSONVILLE — The City Council will determine tonight whether the balcony on the U.S.

## **Building Support**

A homeless person accustomed to the rigors of living in a makeshift cardboard home under a bridge would have thought they were at the Ritz on Saturday.

## **Police station proposal on hold in Jacksonville**

JACKSONVILLE — Conversion of a house the city purchased in December for use as a police station has been put on hold while the City Council explores other options for relocating city offices.

## **Jacksonville panel reduces levy requested for fire staff**

JACKSONVILLE — The City Council has cut back the amount sought in a May 18 levy vote that would increase the size of the town's Fire Department.

## Ashland

### **Ashland won't participate in watershed lawsuit**

ASHLAND — The City Council has decided it wants no part of joining the U.S. Forest Service as a defendant in a lawsuit over thinning in the Ashland watershed.

## **Ashland dentist offers alternative insurance program**

An Ashland dentist has created an annual membership dental plan that bundles and discounts services, attempting to skirt the exclusions, deductibles, denials and long waits of insurance “ and to make dental care more accessible to the uninsured.

## **Two sought in Ashland mugging**

ASHLAND — An Ashland man was mugged as he walked down Indiana Street early Tuesday, police said.

## **Billy Hansen has smashing debut for Grizzlies**

ASHLAND — One game. One triple. One home run.

## **16-year-old flees girls home**

ASHLAND — A 16-year-old girl ran away Sunday from the Lithia Springs Girls Home on Siskiyou Boulevard, police said.

## **Ashland weighs municipal court changes**

City officials are grappling with whether to make changes to the Ashland Municipal Court that could improve its efficiency, but also take away from its flexible and sometimes quirky nature.

## **Jackie Chan, Brammo Inc. team up**

Ashlandâ€™ Brammo Inc. is taking its electric motorcycles from Ashland to Asia with the help of actor Jackie Chan.

## **Food-gathering group dropped from farmers market**

ASHLAND — A group that collects fruits and nuts from trees that would otherwise go unharvested has been dropped from the Rogue Valley Growers and Crafters Market this season.

## **Raiders claim 11 titles against Willamette**

ASHLAND — The Southern Oregon track and field team won 11 events during Saturday's dual meet with Willamette at Raider Stadium.

## **'The Highest Form Of Service'**

With about \$200,000 in donated labor from volunteers, a three-story, \$1.6 million Buddhist meditation center in Ashland is nearing completion and will open for classes the first week of June.

## **'Penzance,' 'Mockingbird' lead 2011 OSF season**

ASHLAND — Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operetta "The Pirates of Penzance," a stage adaptation of Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," and Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure," "Love's Labour's Lost," "Julius Caesar" and "Henry IV Part 2" will...

## **Students learn to cook at local restaurants**

ASHLAND — A pair of seventh-graders — both with dreams of becoming professional chefs — got their first big chance Thursday over the hot stoves of Tease Restaurant as a reward for meeting an academic goal.

## **SOU plans for potential move**

ASHLAND — With the promise of more financial support than ever before, Southern Oregon University's athletics department unveiled a plan Thursday for a potential move from the NAIA level to NCAA Division II in the next five to seven years.

## **Escaped teenagers steal weapons, pickup, police say**

ASHLAND — Two teens who ran away from the Lithia Springs Boys Home on Walker Avenue Tuesday were arrested early Wednesday after they stole a gun, knives and a pickup outside of Ashland, sheriff's deputies said.

## **Board OKs second-language program**

ASHLAND — All first-grade students in the Ashland School District will begin learning Spanish in the fall of 2011, and will receive more second-language instruction each year through 12th grade, the School Board decided Monday.

## **Two more flee from boys home**

ASHLAND — Two boys ran away from the Lithia Springs Boys Home on Walker Avenue early Tuesday, bringing the total number of runaways to 12 this year.

## **Mount Ashland 'super sale' begins March 24**

Season passes for Mount Ashland will be a bargain next winter, especially if you buy between March 24 and 28.

## **Police seek leads in rest-area stabbing**

Investigators asked the public for help Monday in identifying a man who stabbed a 60-year-old Talent man with a knife Saturday evening at Interstate 5's Suncrest Rest Area just north of Talent.

## **Study finds 70 Ashland workers are underpaid**

ASHLAND — City Administrator Martha Bennett is recommending that about 70 city employees receive raises after an outside compensation study showed they are being paid less than the median pay in their fields.

## **Revised SOU master plan nearly same as previous one**

ASHLAND — Eight months after Southern Oregon University withdrew its 10-year master plan from the Planning Commission to get more community input, the commission is scheduled to vote on a nearly identical plan.

## Talent

### **Talent council names former Ashland mayor to vacant seat**

TALENT — Former Ashland Mayor John Morrison was appointed by the City Council Wednesday to fill a vacant seat on the six-member council. The vote for approval was unanimous.

## **Talent remains mum about dismissal**

TALENT — A popular city worker's employment has ended over a personnel issue city officials won't discuss.

## **Talent's education progress recognized**

Talent Elementary is one of 10 schools statewide named a "Champion School" this year by the state for closing the academic achievement gap between white, minority and low-income children.

## **Police seek leads in rest-area stabbing**

Investigators asked the public for help Monday in identifying a man who stabbed a 60-year-old Talent man with a knife Saturday evening at Interstate 5's Suncrest Rest Area just north of Talent.

## **Rest stop stabbing investigation continues**

Oregon State Police are searching for a suspect who sped off on a bicycle after the stabbing of a 60-year-old Talent man Saturday night at the Suncrest Rest Area off southbound Interstate 5.

## **Talent official cleared of ammunition complaint**

TALENT — The Occupational Safety and Health Administration said City Manager Jay Henry was not at fault for having ammunition in his desk, attributing it instead to a shipping mix-up.

## **Ex-Ashland mayor seeks Talent City Council seat**

TALENT — Former Ashland Mayor John Morrison has applied for the seat on the Talent City Council left vacant last month by the resignation of Brian Roberts, who is now under investigation by the state Elections Division.

## **Talent on Display**

America's Got Talent, no doubt about it.

## **Talent: Doin' the right thing**

TALENT – The city will forgo nearly \$80,000 in revenues but is doing the right thing by changing the classification of a commercial building, city officials say.

## **Time remains to get your acts together**

A national TV show comes to Southern Oregon this weekend to find out if there's really talent in Talent.

## **Cabin provides refuge for lost teens**

TALENT — Sheriff's search teams found two local high school track stars Sunday morning after they spent a "creepy" night at a deserted hunter's cabin when they lost their way mountain bike riding in the Wagner Creek area.

## Your Hometown

### **Children are hard-hit by economic conditions**

The country's economic troubles continue to hit Oregon children hard in areas of health care and general welfare, according to data released this week by Children First for Oregon.

## **Ashland won't participate in watershed lawsuit**

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## **Smokers must use designated RCC areas**

Rogue Community College will allow smoking only in designated areas on its campuses in Jackson and Josephine counties.

## **Angler's Rogue chinook is an early prize**

GOLD HILL — After fighting a big fish for almost 30 minutes on light tackle, T.J. Orton couldn't wait to see the big winter steelhead flop onto the Rogue River bank just below Gold Ray Dam.

## **School board votes to sack Chris Gilman**

The Medford School Board voted Tuesday to dismiss a Howard Elementary School teacher alleged to have inappropriately touched students in his class.

## **Motorcyclist leads deputy on high-speed chase before crashing bike**

SAMS VALLEY — A high-speed chase Tuesday on Highway 234 ended in a low-speed crash and possible felony charges for a motorcycle driver who attempted to elude a sheriff's deputy.

## **Talent remains mum about dismissal**

TALENT — A popular city worker's employment has ended over a personnel issue city officials won't discuss.

## Theater

### **'Ruined' at OSF's New Theatre**

Mama Nadi wants the impossible. She wants to make her thatched-roof bar in a small mining town in the strife-ridden Democratic Republic of Congo an oasis, a place where brutality can cease for a few moments of civility and pleasure.

## **'Penzance,' 'Mockingbird' lead 2011 OSF season**

ASHLAND — Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operetta "The Pirates of Penzance," a stage adaptation of Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," and Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure," "Love's Labour's Lost," "Julius Caesar" and "Henry IV Part 2" will...

## **"Gigi" to open at Camelot Theatre**

Sweet and funny will fill the bill with Camelot Theatre's family-friendly production of "Gigi," to open Friday, March 19. The musical won a Tony Award for best original score in 1974, with music by Frederick Loewe and book and lyrics by Alan Jay...

## **Spring talks at OSF**

Actors, directors, scholars and other associates of OSF will share insights about the festival and its shows during a series of programs this spring in Ashland.

## **For now, the show won't go on**

ASHLAND — Oregon Stage Works is ringing down the curtain. Peter Alzado, OSW's founder and producing artistic director, said the nonprofit theater's lease in the A Street Market Place was up in December, and he won't renew it.

## **OSF's 'Well' becomes a tale of two realities**

Parents. Can't live with 'em, can't live without 'em.

## **Review: Austen on stage is still light and bright**

Like the lovers in a Shakespeare comedy, Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy spend most of "Pride and Prejudice" doing the aversion dance before they discover that, oh my, they love each other.

## **Review: Heating up that old tin roof**

Two things should be said about the revival of "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" that opened Saturday afternoon in the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's Angus Bowmer Theatre.

## **Review: Danish modern 'Hamlet' opens OSF's 75th season**

Your have your gutsy Hamlets, like Olivier, and your sensitive Hamlets, like Gielgud.

## **'Grease is the word'**

Danny, Sandy, Rizzo, Kenickee, Frenchy, Roger "the gang's all here." The story of the 1950s Rydell High School seniors will unfold in Ashland High School's production of "Grease."

## **Designer creates new worlds for two plays**

Christopher Acebo allows that, yes, the new "Hamlet" set he created could be described as Danish contemporary.

## **The slings and arrows of staging 'Hamlet'**

How do you produce the sprawling, elusive play that is "Hamlet?"

## **Oregon Shakespeare Festival opens**

The Oregon Shakespeare Festival will launch its 75th season at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, with a contemporary production of "Hamlet," directed by OSF Artistic Director Bill Rauch, in the Angus Bowmer Theatre. The next two days will see the...

## Performances

### **Devil Makes Three at Old Ashland Armory**

The Devil Makes Three returns to Ashland March 24 to present its mix of punk, hillbilly, bluegrass, blues, ragtime, country and gospel.

## **Two hit musicals at the Craterian Theater**

Experience all the excitement of Broadway when two of its hit musicals, "The Drowsy Chaperone" and "Hairspray," come to the Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater later this month.

## **Cris Williamson**

In honor of Women's History Month, St. Clair Productions will present acoustic guitarist and songwriter Cris Williamson in concert at the Unitarian Center in Ashland. Williamson is touring in support her new CD, "GiftHorse."

## **Coming soon to Craterian Performances**

The Capitol Steps — The bipartisan troupe of singing satirists will use their musical talents to poke fun at politicians of all types at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 15, at the Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater, 23 S. Central Ave., Medford.

## **The South Medford Jazz Celebration**

A jazz concert at the Medford Armory will showcase generations of jazz players, ranging from middle school musicians to touring professionals.

## **Northern Harmony Quartet**

The Northern Harmony Quartet will present the sacred and secular singing traditions of Russia, Africa, Caucasus Georgia and various regions of the United States in its performance this week in Ashland.

## **The Southern Oregon Concert Band**

Say goodbye to winter at a free concert presented by the Southern Oregon Concert Band at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 16, at North Medford High School, 1900 N. Keene Way Drive, Medford.

## **Trio Voronezh at the Craterian Theater**

Three classically trained musicians, Valerie Petrukhin, Vladimir Volokhin and Sergei Teleshev, formed Trio Voronezh in 1993 and began playing innovative arrangements of works by Bach, Vivaldi, Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky in the subways, small clubs and...

## **Curtis Salgado to perform**

Curtis Salgado has a lot to celebrate. The blues and soul singer and harmonica player came into his own on the Northwest music scene in 1972 with another up-and-coming blues artist — guitarist and vocalist Robert Cray.

## **Joe Bonamassa at the Craterian Theater**

It's a wonder Joe Bonamassa isn't a bigger household name because those who know him put him in the same category with the likes of Jimmy Page, Jeff Beck, Eric Clapton and Stevie Ray Vaughn.

## **Sol Flamenco presents music and dance**

Traditional flamenco music draws its inspiration from the influences of Gypsies, Jews and Moors who lived in Europe's Iberian Peninsula in the eighth through 16th centuries. The art has evolved over centuries, but its passionate traditions remain.

## **Rogue Valley Chorale**

The Rogue Valley Chorale will present love songs that span generations and styles this weekend at the Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater.

## **Review: Self-professed 'orchestra animal' wins over RVSO audience**

Peter Rubardt, the fourth conductor to try out as conductor for the Rogue Valley Symphony Orchestra, won bravos Friday evening with lifting and moving performances of Haydn, Shostakovich and the alternately sweet and thundering musical painting of a...

## **Peter Rubardt and the Rogue Valley Symphony**

Peter Rubardt says Shostakovich's great Cello Concerto No. 1 is an anchor point for both orchestra and audience in concerts he'll conduct this weekend locally.

## **Megadeth, Testament and Exodus**

The seeds for the thrash metal all-star tour that includes a stop at the Medford Armory on March 3 were planted last year during a conversation between Megadeth frontman Dave Mustaine and Testament vocalist Chuck Billy.

## **The Year of the Search continues**

A bit like Mark Twain quipping that reports of his death had been exaggerated, Peter Rubardt says the state of classical music provides not only grounds for alarm, but great hope.

## **Fishtank Ensemble**

The LA Weekly calls Fishtank Ensemble "cross-pollinated gypsy music  
â,¬». one of the most thrilling young acts on the planet."

## **Vagabond Opera**

Vagabond Opera's mix of musicianship, energy and theatrics is the stuff that feeds Eric Stern's soul.

## **A Young phenomena**

To say he was born with a saxophone in his hands would be an exaggeration, yet Gabe Young comes close. At 2 years old, the young instrumentalist received his first saxophone, and although it had a plastic, non-detachable mouthpiece, the inspiration...

## **An innovator of folk music**

There's more to Joe Craven than you might guess if you've never met him. When the multi-instrumentalist talks about his collection of found and contrived musical instruments — cake pans, umbrella stands, stringed tin cans, cereal boxes and a...

## Visual Arts

### **Third Friday art walk in Medford**

A collection of organic and circular paintings, "Paintings from the Earth" by Jacksonville artist Leah Fanning Mebane, will be featured through April 10 at the Rogue Gallery & Art Center, 40 N. Bartlett St., Medford.

## **Hazel Barry**

"Spring in Focus," a collection of garden-inspired oil paintings by Medford artist Hazel Barry, will be displayed through March at Art and Soul Gallery, 247 E. Main St., Ashland.

## **'Jacksonville is for the Birds'**

A collection of 14 birdhouses designed, built and autographed by local artists will be displayed from Monday, March 15, through April 16 in Jacksonville retail stores before being auctioned at 12:45 p.m. Saturday, April 17, in Doc Griffin Park.

## **First Friday art walk in Ashland**

The work of budding young artists will highlight the First Friday art walk in Ashland's downtown and railroad district. The monthly art walk will be held from 5 to 8 p.m.

## **Chocolate, chocolate, chocolate**

Truffles, bars, sauces, fudge, milk, dark and white — expect to see every shape, form, texture and flavor of the sweet brown confection at the 6th annual Oregon Chocolate Festival.

## **Third Friday**

Inspired by photos her husband took in China, Ginny Matheson captured unique pieces of Chinese culture in her most recent acrylic paintings.

## Tempo

### **'Ruined' at OSF's New Theatre**

Mama Nadi wants the impossible. She wants to make her thatched-roof bar in a small mining town in the strife-ridden Democratic Republic of Congo an oasis, a place where brutality can cease for a few moments of civility and pleasure.

## **A Change Of Seasons**

There are fewer certainties in life than there were when we were younger. Clocks don't even seem to run like clockwork these days; to which, for the most part, we've grown accustomed.

## **Brothers Comatose at Caldera**

Sitting on the stoop of their house on Haight Street in San Francisco, members of Brothers Comatose conceived many of the songs featured in their debut album, "The Brothers Comatose, Songs from the Stoop."

## **Devil Makes Three at Old Ashland Armory**

The Devil Makes Three returns to Ashland March 24 to present its mix of punk, hillbilly, bluegrass, blues, ragtime, country and gospel.

## **Two hit musicals at the Craterian Theater**

Experience all the excitement of Broadway when two of its hit musicals, "The Drowsy Chaperone" and "Hairspray," come to the Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater later this month.

## **A strategy to winning your NCAA bracket**

Every year millions of men go gaga each spring during college basketball's championship tournament.

## **Cris Williamson**

In honor of Women's History Month, St. Clair Productions will present acoustic guitarist and songwriter Cris Williamson in concert at the Unitarian Center in Ashland. Williamson is touring in support her new CD, "GiftHorse."

## **Third Friday art walk in Medford**

A collection of organic and circular paintings, "Paintings from the Earth" by Jacksonville artist Leah Fanning Mebane, will be featured through April 10 at the Rogue Gallery & Art Center, 40 N. Bartlett St., Medford.

## **Guilty pleasures â€” nachos**

Crunchy and covered with cheese are two features that I find infinitely craveable in food.

## **Common Nautical Voyage at the Gypsy**

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with rock 'n' roll by CommoNauticalVoyage at 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, at the Gypsy Blues Bar, 205 W. Eighth St., Medford.

## **Restaurant Inspections**

Jackson County health inspectors evaluated 106 restaurants in February. All passed their semiannual inspections. Scores are reported in the Mail Tribune, with a portion published weekly.

## **'Penzance,' 'Mockingbird' lead 2011 OSF season**

ASHLAND — Gilbert and Sullivan's comic operetta "The Pirates of Penzance," a stage adaptation of Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," and Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure," "Love's Labour's Lost," "Julius Caesar" and "Henry IV Part 2" will...

## **Hazel Barry**

"Spring in Focus," a collection of garden-inspired oil paintings by Medford artist Hazel Barry, will be displayed through March at Art and Soul Gallery, 247 E. Main St., Ashland.

## **'Jacksonville is for the Birds'**

A collection of 14 birdhouses designed, built and autographed by local artists will be displayed from Monday, March 15, through April 16 in Jacksonville retail stores before being auctioned at 12:45 p.m. Saturday, April 17, in Doc Griffin Park.

## **Grant Lyon**

Comedian Grant Lyon will present shows at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 12-13, at Chadwick's Pub in the Rogue Regency Inn, 2300 Biddle Road, Medford. The San Francisco Weekly described Lyon as "a hilariously sharp observer." Lyon's...

## **Coming soon to Craterian Performances**

The Capitol Steps — The bipartisan troupe of singing satirists will use their musical talents to poke fun at politicians of all types at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 15, at the Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater, 23 S. Central Ave., Medford.

## **Delhi 2 Dublin at CultureWorks**

Stop me if you've heard this one before. Two men from Punjab walk into a bar.

## **Candye Kane at Alex's**

California blues artist Candye Kane knows she's not a superhero, but she says it doesn't hurt to think like one. When the jump blues singer and songwriter learned she had pancreatic cancer, back in 2008, she says she would allow herself only 10...

## **"Gigi" to open at Camelot Theatre**

Sweet and funny will fill the bill with Camelot Theatre's family-friendly production of "Gigi," to open Friday, March 19. The musical won a Tony Award for best original score in 1974, with music by Frederick Loewe and book and lyrics by Alan Jay...

## **The South Medford Jazz Celebration**

A jazz concert at the Medford Armory will showcase generations of jazz players, ranging from middle school musicians to touring professionals.

## Tempo-Books

### Editorials

#### **Police keep public in the dark**

Every year during Sunshine Week, newspaper editorial boards take pains to explain that open records and public meetings laws are important not just for news organizations but for every member of the public. It helps when we have a high-profile example.

## **Cheers and jeers**

Cheers " to Talent Elementary School for being named one of 10 "Champion Schools" by the state Department of Education.

## **So far, not so good**

On his first day in office, President Obama issued an Open Government Directive, announcing his intention to reverse the slide toward secrecy that had prevailed under his predecessor.

## **Eyes on the prize**

For the better part of two decades, most Israelis and Palestinians and most of their elected leaders have embraced the "two-state solution" to their bloody conflict — a negotiated separation into side-by-side states of Israel and Palestine.

## **Justice for all**

Aryeh Neier was a Jewish refugee from Germany, but when a group of Nazis was barred from marching in Skokie, Ill., in 1977, he knew his duty.

## **Cheers and jeers**

Cheers and a sad farewell to Ben Westlund, Oregon's state treasurer who died of lung cancer Sunday.

## **The danger is real**

It may be comforting to sit in the Pacific Northwest and read about devastating earthquakes in Haiti and Chile. After all, those kinds of disasters happen to people living far away, right?

## **Unfortunate timing**

The subject of public employees' pay is never more controversial than during a recession, when many private citizens are out of work and struggling to get by.

## **Gun case courts disaster**

A gun-rights decision by the Supreme Court two years ago threatened to make it more dangerous to walk the streets of Washington.

## **Consider the alternative**

President Obama didn't use the "R-word," but he effectively called on Democrats last week to use the reconciliation process to pass a comprehensive health care reform bill that Republicans vehemently oppose.

## **One person's pork ...**

The congressional tradition of earmarks — federal money directed to states and localities for specific projects — is a favorite target of government watchdogs.

## **A whale of a plan**

Maybe you're among the thousands who viewed "The Kingdom of the Blue Whale" on the National Geographic Channel.

## **Cheers and jeers**

Cheers and jeers to the residents of John Day and Grant County, who turned out by the hundreds in protest after a leader of the white supremacist group Aryan Nations said he wanted to establish a new headquarters there. Paul R.

## **Cops and robbers**

Medford Police Chief Randy Schoen says his department needs more officers to cope with an increase in serious crimes. He also says he hopes to pay for the additional officers with savings from consolidating and streamlining dispatch operations.

## **Just fix it (chapter 2)**

Last week, it was the frustrating plight of a young woman, born to American parents on a U.S. military base overseas, who can't find anyone to help her prove she's a citizen.

## **The tail wagging the hot dog**

The notion that the hot dog should be redesigned inspires a variation on the mad-scientist-movie line: "Man was not meant to tamper in God's domain." Or, in this case, Oscar Mayer's.

## **The legacy**

Ten years ago, when President Bill Clinton announced his 2001 budget, he stood before a made-for-TV backdrop reading "America: Debt Free By 2013." No, that wasn't a joke.

## **Circling the wagons**

In the push and pull of conflicting issues in cases of employees accused of wrongdoing, public officials sometimes have to hold back information they'd otherwise share.

## **Farms vs. fish**

Few places feel the grip of drought like California, now in its fourth dry year despite a sodden January. The impact on the state's agriculture, vital to the entire nation, is stark: Acres harvested in broccoli dropped 72 percent between 2006 and 2009.

## **Smoke and mirrors**

The Rogue River Planning Commission let emotion get the better of it last week when it denied a reasonable request to consolidate two existing businesses under one roof. The City Council should restore common sense when it hears an appeal of the decision.



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