

Today's crossword solution

H	O	P	I	G	R	E	T	A	S	I	F	T	
E	P	I	C	R	O	V	E	R	E	M	I	R	
R	E	N	E	I	B	E	A	M	S	P	R	I	Y
E	N	T	R	A	P	S	S	W	A	R	M	S	
I	F	S	C	E	R	A	M	I	S	T			
S	H	U	N	T	P	A	L	A	T	E	S		
L	A	N	K	S	E	L	E	C	T	O	H	M	
O	I	L	S	T	R	I	V	E	S	N	E	E	
E	R	E	T	R	U	C	E	S	R	E	A	R	
T	R	E	A	S	O	N	S	I	D	L	E		
S	A	T	I	A	T	E	S	N	U	B			
A	G	E	N	D	A	H	U	B	C	A	P	S	
B	A	R	S	G	A	M	U	T	A	R	I	A	
E	P	E	E	G	R	E	T	G	E	T	S		
R	E	D	S	M	E	S	S	Y	E	A	T	S	

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Leading history

Black History Month person of the day

Jane Bolin was born April 11, 1908, in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Her father was a lawyer, and she spent much time in his office, deciding at an early age that she, too, wanted to practice law. Bolin graduated from Wellesley College in 1928 and got a law degree from Yale University in 1931.

Bolin was one of two black people in her class at Wellesley and one of three women and the only black person in her class at Yale. She wrote later in life about the discrimination she experienced at both schools, and she said the treatment helped form her devotion to working on social problems such as poverty and racism. Bolin clerked in her father's law office until she passed the New York State Bar exam in 1932. She then married an attorney, Ralph Mizelle, and the couple opened a law practice in New York City. In 1937, she was named Assistant Corporation Counsel for the city of New York, becoming the first black woman named to the office.

In 1939, during the World's Fair, New York Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia appointed Bolin to a judgeship on the Domestic Relations Court, where she served for 40 years. During her time on the court, she helped bring about two major changes: Assigning probation officers to cases without regard to religion or race, and requiring private child care agencies that received public money to accept children without regard to ethnic background.

— Michael J. Kleckner



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Melton

continued from page 1A

A University junior, Melton is working to establish better access to education for underserved populations, including people of color, people with disabilities and people from low-income families. And as one of two ASUO multicultural advocates, she officially represents the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in Suite 4 for the first time.

In addition to her conservative ideology, Melton also left behind her large Catholic family in Cave Junction — including 67 first cousins. After two years in Eugene, working full-time graveyard shifts at a Chevron and taking classes at Lane Community College, she became the first person in the family to attend a university.

"I don't think I would have left Cave Junction at all if I hadn't been queer — I wouldn't have needed to. Cave Junction was comfortable," she said. "Increasing equality, in general, is a big thing for me, but I definitely got involved because I'm queer."

Melton, double majoring in sociology and women's studies, said she made her way into student government by being thrown into positions of leadership.

"People would tell me, 'You'd be good at this — just go for it,'" she said.

She first became active on campus when she learned about Project Saferide, and she applied to be the volunteer coordinator for a program she says provides a simple but crucial service.

"I believe in what Saferide does," she said. "Who can disagree with their cause? It's a fundamental truth that women are unsafe at night, and what better way, on a level that's tangible, to prevent sexual assaults on campus?"

She soon took her newfound activism to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Alliance, becoming director of the student group her sophomore year. She used her position to network with other student groups as well as with ASUO, stressing the need for more representation for LGBTQ issues in student government.

ASUO President Rachel Pilliod said while she was campaigning for the office in the spring, she worked with Melton to accommodate this growing need.

"We used to have only one multicultural position, and that person was spread really thin," Pilliod said. "We wanted to really prioritize the LGBT community on campus and focus in on issues that had been previously overlooked."

After the election, Pilliod restructured the office and added the second multicultural advocacy position, and she was excited to see Melton apply.

"I think Maddy has an amazing sense of compassion for people who are going through a particular time, understanding privilege and dealing with concepts that are often times uncomfortable or difficult for people to deal with, especially if they're coming from their own understanding about these things," she said.

Eddy Morales, Melton's co-multi-

cultural advocate for ASUO, agreed and said their work has already been successful because of the way they have learned from each other.

"Maddy deals more with LGBTQ concerns, and I deal more with students of color experiences — but we support each other's work," he said. "She can come up and tell me about issues she's having about dealing with her own whiteness, and her privilege in that, and we can sit down and talk about it."

As an advocacy leader in ASUO, Melton works closely with her staff, many of whom are student interns in the office. Reed Wagner, the intern coordinator for ASUO, said Melton is one of the most effective leaders he's worked with at the University.

"There's a genuine level of admiration when it comes to Maddy," he said. "She's a strong communicator, which I think is one of the main ingredients in her strong leadership."

In addition to her positions of leadership on campus, she also has served the interests of students at the statewide and national levels, working for the Oregon Statewide Students Equal Rights Alliance, the Oregon Students Association and the United States Students Association.

Ultimately, Melton says she wants to work to educate people in low-income communities.

"Power doesn't lie in positions created just for queer folks," she said. "Power lies in positions that are created to help everyone."

Contact the managing editor at jessicarichelderfer@dailymerald.com.

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