

DAILY PLANNER

TODAY

Today is Wednesday, March 27, the 86th day of 2019. There are 279 days left in the year.



TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT

On March 27, 1977, in aviation's worst disaster, 583 people were killed when a KLM Boeing 747, attempting to take off in heavy fog, crashed into a Pan Am 747 on an airport runway on the Canary Island of Tenerife.

ON THIS DATE

In 1513, Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon sighted present-day Florida.

In 1625, Charles I acceded to the English throne upon the death of James I.

In 1933, Japan officially withdrew from the League of Nations.

In 1942, during World War II, Congress granted American servicemen free first-class mailing privileges.

In 1958, Nikita Khrushchev became Soviet premier in addition to First Secretary of the Communist Party.

In 1964, Alaska was hit by a magnitude 9.2 earthquake (the strongest on record in North America) and tsunamis that together claimed about 130 lives.

In 1968, Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, the first man to orbit the Earth in 1961, died when his MiG-15 jet crashed during a routine training flight near Moscow; he was 34.

In 1975, construction began on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline, which was completed two years later.

LOTTERY

Megabucks: \$9.9 million
2-7-10-12-22-47

Mega Millions: \$75 million
4-14-22-43-58-9-x3

Powerball: \$750 million
24-25-52-60-66-PB 5-x3

Win for Life: March 23
52-53-54-58

Pick 4:

March 26
• 1 p.m.: 9-4-6-8
• 4 p.m.: 0-5-3-0
• 7 p.m.: 9-8-8-4
• 10 p.m.: 1-7-5-7

Pick 4:

March 25
• 1 p.m.: 5-1-2-5
• 4 p.m.: 6-2-0-7
• 7 p.m.: 6-7-5-8
• 10 p.m.: 3-0-6-9

ROAD REPORT

Numbers to call:
• Inside Oregon: 800-977-6368.
• Outside Oregon: 503-588-2941.

NEWSPAPER LATE?

Every effort is made to deliver your Observer in a timely manner. Occasionally conditions exist that make delivery more difficult.

If you are not on a motor route, delivery should be before 5:30 p.m. If you do not receive your paper please call 541-963-3161.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Fanaticism consists in redoubling your effort when you have forgotten your aim."

— George Santayana,
American philosopher
(1863-1952)

DIRECTOR

Continued from Page 1A

"What a wonderful, scenic and beautiful place it is," he said.

He believes anyone can rise to the top of his or her field with determination, passion, a good work ethic and support. He said going to a smaller university where professors can help students on an individual level gave him support that helped him succeed. At EOU, certain professors were mentors to him as he studied theater.

"Despite the fact that I had no skills, and no idea how theater really worked, they nurtured my intent to shape my creativity. They nurtured me as a young artist, and I feel very fortunate to have (had) that," he said.

Fitzgerald earned a degree in theater with a minor in creative writing at EOU, and he didn't switch his focus to film until graduate school at the University of Oregon. He said he originally applied to the theater director master's program at UO because an EOU professor encouraged him to. At UO, however, chance led him to take a film class to fulfill a credit requirement.

"I was literally just flipping through the graduate catalog and I stumbled upon this television directing class at the graduate level," he said.

Once he took that class, Fitzgerald said, he knew that filmmaking was what he wanted to do.

While Fitzgerald's films have received many awards, being nominated for an Academy Award was particularly thrilling. He said attending the awards ceremony and getting the chance to speak to talented filmmakers was exciting and an honor, but a huge aspect of the experience was spreading awareness for the refugees' plight.

"More than anything, I think what the Academy Award nomination offered is a wonderful platform to be able to talk about the issue and be able to raise awareness surrounding something that is really important," he said.

Fitzgerald was invited to screen "Lifeboat" before the Human Rights Commission in the U.S. Congress in November.

He said he believes film has a unique way of appealing to people.

"We can talk ourselves in circles on any issue and debate things endlessly, but if you can communicate something cinematically in a really visceral sense, it has the opportunity to affect people in a different way," he said. "Cinema has the power to move people through the heart."

The third short film in the series is already in the works, but Fitzgerald isn't giving any details. "Our intent is to shoot it by the end of this year," he said.

Fitzgerald said the chance to speak at EOU's commencement is an

honor, and he hopes he can show students there is no limit to what they can achieve.

Growing up in Monument, he never imagined he would be where he is today.

"I never would have thought that I would find myself at the Academy Awards," he said.

He said students should believe in themselves, and not feel that coming from a small town limits them.

"Where you come from is less important than who you want to become," he said. "If we believe in ourselves, we can do whatever we want — it's as simple as that." ■

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One injured in rollover accident near Union



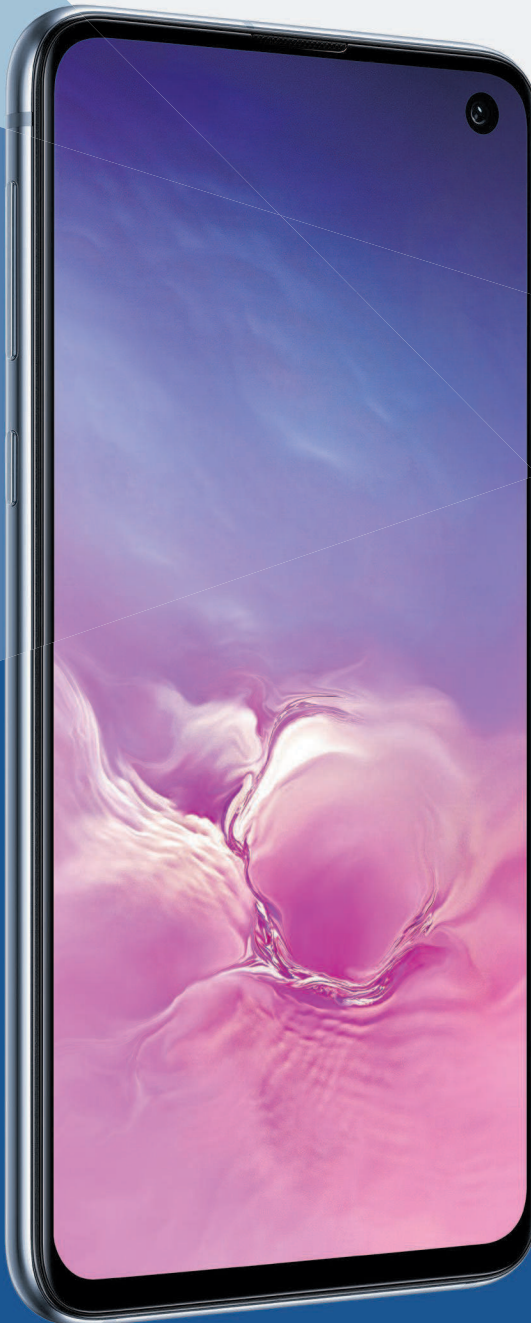
Dick Mason/The Observer

One person was injured in a one-vehicle rollover crash on Highway 237 about a mile south of Union at about 6 p.m. Tuesday, according to the Oregon State Police. The victim, an adult female driving a Chevy Tracker with no passengers, was transported by ambulance to Grande Ronde Hospital. Those responding to the accident in addition to the OSP included the Union Fire Department and the La Grande Fire Department.



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