

# Drive By Press visits WOU

Organization shows off old technology to new generation

By Emily Mentzer  
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Taylor McClure carefully guides the teal T-shirt and wooden block under the massive roller on a press at Western Oregon University.

The roller has to be completely level or the print won't turn out right.

He pauses, picking up a massive wrench fabricated specially for this homemade press, adjusting the roller before turning the giant crank to complete the process.

On the other side, McClure carefully lifts the wooden block to reveal an embossed black print of a lizard.

"It's pretty cool," said Megan Leach, third-year student at WOU. She brought the teal colored shirt for the project.

McClure and Kate Dedlow brought Drive By Press to Western's campus on Thursday for a day of outreach and education about the art of print making. Printing T-shirts is a way the organiza-



Taylor McClure shows off a finished T-shirt to Western Oregon student Megan Leach. A third-year student, Leach bought the shirt to participate in the printing press project.

tion can make some money, as well as spread the word about prints.

"It's really old technology and doesn't require water or electricity," McClure ex-

plained, "so it's easy to take on the road."

The wooden blocks are durable under the 2,000 pounds of pressure applied by the press, so long as they stay dry.

The event had been planned in the sculpture garden behind the art building at WOU, but with the spotty rain on Thursday, McClure and Dedlow didn't take any chances.

Rather than use Drive By Press' portable unit, they used the one in the art building.

"Every press we use is totally different," McClure said. "This one is made by hand. It's been a little bit of a learning curve. I'm going to name it Sasquatch."

By the end of the three hours, and roughly 40 T-shirts made, McClure had figured out the tricks of the old machine.

Drive By Press is a national traveling organization

with headquarters in New York City and Los Angeles. It promotes the practice and appreciation of printmaking as an art form.

During its visit to Western, McClure and Dedlow presented a lecture on the history of printmaking and shared a traveling portfolio of original contemporary prints.

The goals of the organization is to enable students to gain an understanding of printmaking today, as well as the themes and subject matter used by contemporary artists; to familiarize students with the most popular and most recognizable works from print history; and to expose students to the origins and evolution of printmaking technology from the earliest woodcuts to contemporary fine art print publishing.

For more information about Drive By Press: drivebypress.com.



Kate Dedlow applies oil relief ink to a wooden block which will be used to create a unique T-shirt. Drive By Press visited WOU's campus on Thursday afternoon.

## SCHOOL NOTES

### Falls City homecoming week starts

FALLS CITY — Homecoming week begins Monday at Falls City High School, with several events throughout the week, ending with the annual homecoming dance on Saturday.

Activities kick off on Oct. 22 with a bonfire at 7 p.m. On Oct. 23, the Mountaineers take on Alsea in the homecoming football game. Oct. 26 concludes homecoming week with a game of "Community laser tag" in the high school gym at 6 p.m., followed by the dance at 8 p.m.

Admission for laser tag is \$3 per game or \$5 for an unlimited pass. Tickets for the football game cost \$5 for adults and \$4 for students.

For more information, 503-787-3521.

### DHS celebrates homecoming week

DALLAS — Dallas High School is celebrating homecoming this week with a number of events at the school.

Wednesday (today) in the annual powder puff football game at 7 p.m. at Gallaspy Stadium at the high school, 1250 Holman Ave.

Friday the Dragon football team takes the field against Crescent Valley at 7 p.m. at Gallaspy Stadium. Saturday is the homecoming dance.

Admission for powder puff is \$4 and Friday's night's game is \$5 for adults and \$4 students.

For more information: 503-623-8336.

### Lyle Elementary to host movie night

DALLAS — Lyle Elementary School in Dallas will host "Movie Night" Friday, showing "Home."

The movie will be shown in the gym at the school, 185 SW Levens St. at 7 p.m. Admission is free, but snacks will be for sale. Proceeds from the sale of refreshments benefit the Lyle Parent-Teacher Club.

For more information: 503-623-8367.

### WOU named standout institution

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon University has been recognized as one of 36 standout institutions in America and the only university or college in Oregon singled out for successfully educating students who received a federal Pell Grant.

The Education Trust, a national education advocacy organization, released the report, "The Pell Partnership: Ensuring a Shared Responsibility for Low-income Student Success," which focused on how effective schools are at graduating students with the greatest financial need.

The trust studied graduation rates at more than 1,100 public and private nonprofit institutions in the U.S. and found that WOU was one of the few institutions that is 10 percentage points above the average rate of their peers.

**Common Sense Tip FOR PEDESTRIANS**

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