

# THE COLLEGIAN



## Tina Kotek Visits Willamette

**GIA PATEL**  
STAFF WRITER

On Nov. 1, 2022, Tina Kotek, Democratic nominee for Oregon’s gubernatorial race, visited Willamette University. The event was organized by Sophia Rosenberg (‘25) from Students4Tina, Willamette College Democrats, Climate Action Alliance, Choice Action Team, and Queer Student Union.

Students4Tina is a coalition of university students across the state of Oregon that support Kotek as the next governor of Oregon. In a speech, Rosenberg said, “I am personally a big fan of Tina because she supports my values, and I trust that she is going to get things done in office and I especially trust that she is going to fight for what I believe in.” They further elaborated, saying, “Republican candidates want to make sure that our

voices are silenced. They want to take away our bodily autonomy. They want to make sure that the climate isn’t in our hands. They want to make sure that we have no voice and take away our rights. This is not what democracy looks like.”

Emma Innes (‘24), events chair of College Democrats and editor-in-chief at The Collegian, Ava Digre (‘26), an Advocacy Leader for Choice Action Team, and Ian Curtis (‘23), president of Climate Action Alliance, were student speakers at the event. The student speakers continuously emphasized the need to have Kotek in office, as she is the only candidate endorsed by Planned Parenthood, proposed measures to combat climate change, and addressed disparities in Oregon that have directly impacted marginalized groups.

When Kotek entered the room, the student body



Tina Kotek addresses Willamette students. Photo by Josie Elicker

cheered, as she remarked she hoped everyone enjoyed the campaign pizza. Kotek said this election year is “monumental for our whole country, and Oregon’s no different.” She went on to say, “I would love to have your support as your next governor because I want to make sure your future is going to be safer, more sustainable, more affordable, so that you can

follow your dreams. I mean, it’s that simple. And I want to make sure we have an Oregon where everyone feels like they can be successful.” Kotek further elaborated that as governor, she intends to progress the state forward, emphasizing that voices of younger Oregonians matter to her, especially in this election.

When asked what her plan was to support the LGT-

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## Letter From the Editor

Dear Readers,

During the Fall 2020 semester, The Collegian moved completely online to comply with Willamette policies for the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, The Collegian Executive team has made the decision to return to print. Our goal is to publish bi-weekly newspapers, while continuing to publish on our website.

The mission of The Collegian is to accurately report on matters of interest to the Willamette Community. This mission is best served by being an in print newspaper, easily accessible and visible to everyone on campus. This is a new chapter for us, as all the current staff joined after the switch to online publication. As we adapt back to print publication we appreciate the Willamette Community’s support and understanding.

I would like to extend a special thanks to my staff, who worked hard to put this issue together and conducted excellent journalism.

Sincerely,  
Emma Innes  
Editor-in-Chief

## Walking Through Willamette’s Indigenous History

**MONTE REMER**  
STAFF WRITER



Signs that were seen along the tour from the Five Oaks Museum. Photos by Monte Remer

An old tree watching over the parking-lot by the chicken fountain. Boxes of bones in the attic of Eaton. A little flower. A plaque honoring an advocate of genocide. These pieces of Willamette’s past and present were on display Monday, Oct. 10 for the 2022 Indigenous People’s Day tour. Hosted by student-activist Maya Lucero-Romero (‘23) and Willamette Professor of Biology David Craig, the tour began at a sign which read “This IS Kalapuyan Land.”

The Kalapuya are a group who have lived in the Willamette Valley for [thousands of years]. Now, however, the Kalapuya face the misconception that they and their culture have vanished.

“That’s not the case,” Lucero-Romero said. “These Oregon oaks in the parking lot by the chicken-fountain are... pre-colonial oaks. They were here before the first white settlers in the Willamette Valley... even in the parking-lot, the Indigenous culture is

still here.”

According to Craig, the oaks were vital sources of food for the pre-colonial Kalapuya. Facing the trees is a map of Willamette, [renovated with CAFES funding] to show that this is a colonial campus.

A right at the chicken fountain: Craig and Lucero-Romero led the group towards the Olin Science Center. They stopped to the side, where Craig searched among countless plants and pulled out a pot.

“This,” he said, “is an Indian paintbrush.” The plant is part of an effort by Craig and Lucero-Romero to renew Willamette’s indigenous ecosystem. A key aspect of the flower, he said, is that it takes more than it gives. It invades the soil of sunflowers and grows into their roots.

Nearby, Willamette’s tall, red-brick buildings of European architecture rose above another sign rooted in the ground reading, “This IS Kalapuyan Land.”

On this Kalapuyan land, along a wall of the Olin Science Center, sixteen Indigenous plants stood above the fallen leaves. Craig explained that each plant was a source of either medicine or food for Indigenous peoples. European settlers targeted both in a campaign of erasing indigeneity. To quote Lucero-Romero, “Most people think that colonialism only happened to the people, but it also happened to the land.”

Both land and peo-

ple resisted, however. Down the path, Craig and Lucero-Romero stopped at the Star Trees as Craig began to tell a story of endurance.

In the winter of 1852, [Augustus Dowd] was on the hunt. The wounded bear still charged ahead. Then it disappeared behind a snowy ridge. Dowd must have expected a steep, rocky descent in the mountainous country of eastern California, but he gave chase nonetheless. And then he stopped. A massive tree stood in the clearing below, clouds of green needles nearly reaching the clouds in the sky. Craig described how this type of tree—a group of which form a star on the Willamette campus—was originally called wawona by Indigenous peoples. Dowd named it “the Sylvan Mastodon.” Soon after acquiring its European name, the tree Dowd saw was cut down. More trees and people alike were to follow.

In the Gold Rush era, Craig said the genocide of Indigenous people had reached such a point that some settlers believed Indigenous history should be memorialized before every tribe was extinct. The wawona tree was renamed as a memorial, but it became instead a symbol of enduring life.

“We now know of these trees as sequoias,” Lucero-Romero said. The name honors the [Cherokee linguist Sequoyah], who developed an entire writing system for the Cherokee language. Through the Gold Rush and the Trail of

Tears, the writing system refused to disappear. In the present, it’s displayed on signs and buildings across the Cherokee Nation, and the name of its founder endures on the Willamette campus today in tall green clouds which together make a star.

Other parts of Willamette’s Indigenous history persisted not because of their enduring life, but because of their pain.

Craig and Lucero-Romero led the group to a sign in front of the Town and Gown monument. The sign showed the young Indigenous children who worked at a manual labor school, one much [like Willamette University once was].

“We need to recognize that Indigenous legacy,” Lucero-Romero said, “because it’s something this institution tried to take away.”

Continuing the tour, they pointed to Eaton at the right of the sign and talked about the boxes of Indigenous remains kept in the attic, not returned to their cultures until the late 1990s.

Despite this, both Craig and Lucero-Romero said they had to fight with the Willamette administration to call actions against Indigenous peoples an “atrocities” on an informational poster. That poster is currently in Collins 205, but that’s not where the tour went. As Craig and Lucero-Romero described atrocities the Willamette administration refused to name as such, they stopped in front of a rock bearing the name Jason Lee.

The anger Lucero-Romero felt upon seeing the rock in front of Walton was what originally drew them to fighting for indigeneity. The anger was there again, in the crossed arms and shaking heads of everyone on the tour, all reading the name on the plaque. Commemorated on the rock outside Walton Hall is Jason Lee, who wrote in a [March 1836 letter] “...they [Indigenous people] must perish from the face of the Earth, and their name be blotted out from under heaven.” Six years later—in the buildings where Indigenous children were forced to do manual labor—Lee founded Willamette University.

Following the lingering reminders of genocide and forced labor, there was a stark contrast: another story of Indigenous endurance, standing tall and casting shadows over the leaf-covered earth, refusing to become blotted out from under the October sky. “Everybody thought it had died,” Craig said of the tree.

Planted in 2004 where Ford Hall is now, the oak tree was a welcome to speakers including [Wangari Maathai], the first African woman to win the No-

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Photo by Monte Remer

## Kotek Visits Willamette, continued

BQ+ community in Oregon, Kotek said that she and her wife “decided to get in this race because we want to have a state where it can be a place to be themselves, whatever that looks like. It’s just so frustrating to me that we’re still having these discussions about what it means to just let people be who they are.” Her plans include “enforcing anti bullying laws, enforcing our hate crime laws, and working with an attorney general to make sure no one is harassed or intimidated in our community,” as well as “making sure that health care is accessible to folks who need it, particularly, in our transgender community.”

Kotek explained that her main priorities as governor would be addressing the homelessness crisis, as well as related issues of mental health and addiction. “What we are going to have to do is get out there on the streets, work with people one on one, help them get connected to services and meet them where they are. There are people who have been on the streets for years, and they need to feel that they can trust somebody to get connected to services like getting into a shelter or to a rehab. That’s why I’ve been a big fan and proponent of converting motels to shelters. Because it’s easy to do, it’s quicker, and it’s effective.” She provided the statistic that “in Oregon, we are thousands of housing units behind. We need 36,000 housing units per year for the next decade to really meet the needs of who lives here now, and who will be living here in the future.”

When asked why they support Kotek, Abbi Richeson (‘26) said, “Kotek is the best eligible candidate and supports most of my opinions.” Kathleen Snyder (‘26) said, “I am voting for Tina because she is advocating for rights that queer women have been relying on for years.” Overall, Tina Kotek emphasized the importance of voting, encouraging students to vote, reach out to those they know and participate in campaign activities. Update: Tina Kotek was elected Governor of Oregon in a tight race.

## Sociology Department Changes their Course Offerings and Graduation Requirements

EMILY EMBLETON  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The sociology department will be transitioning to a new structure as of Fall 2022, changing their course offerings and major requirements. These changes will only be in effect for any new students starting this fall who declare the sociology major and won’t affect any current sociology students, according to sociology professor Jonekke Koomen. However, all current sociology majors will be given the choice to “opt into the new soc[iology] major if they want to and if it works for them.”

All declared sociology majors and minors were informed of these changes at a Zoom meeting held at the beginning of the Fall 2022 Semester. Senior sociology major Graham George (‘23), who attended that meeting, said that the primary change he became aware of is that the department no longer requires an internship to graduate; they are now offering a career course as part of their “senior experience” in place of the internship. He said the changes ultimately make it easier to graduate. Whether the career course is required or actually a substitute of the internship was unclear to him, and is something he as well as many other ma-

jors are still sorting out with their advisors.

Professor Koomen said that the Sociology department decided to change their course offerings and requirements for three main reasons. It was primarily a reaction based on students’ senior evaluations and what courses they said “contributed a lot to their education in sociology” and those that “didn’t contribute as much to their education or felt mismatched with the rest of their soc. major”, Professor Koomen said. The department was also responding to students’ need for flexibility in their schedule, especially in the wake of the pandemic. As the sociology department (and Willamette as a whole) is seeing an increase in non-traditional students, Professor Koomen said that faculty “wanted to build more flexibility in the major so that they could count more classes outside the soc[iology] department” as well as provide more ways for students to fulfill their requirements.

The final reason is due to an unfortunate decrease in the sociology faculty, down from six to only three: Professor Koomen, Professor Lorenzen and Professor Drew, who is currently away for the semester. The department has

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Maille Olgay, Karina May, Rori Wenger, Minna Zhou, Macy Loy, Anaka Ramakrishnan

been suffering from the university’s “long-term hiring freeze,” which they are just now lifting to hire more permanent faculty members. The department is hoping to be able to hire a professor part-time in the spring, but ultimately is unsure when they will be hiring additional faculty.

George said that he’s ultimately excited about these new changes and probably will opt into the new major program since it alleviates the requirement to do an internship, though he still can do one if he has the time or finds the right program. All sociology majors are given until the end of

the fall semester to determine if they want to opt into the new program to complete their degree here at Willamette.

Professor Janet Lorenzen, the sociology department chair, declined an interview, but did state that the sociology department is not the only department undergoing these sorts of structural changes.



Photos by Josie Elicker

## News Brief: Baxter Gas Leak

EMMA INNES  
EDITOR IN CHIEF



Fire Truck outside of Baxter. Photo by Chrissy Ewald

On Tuesday, Oct. 4, there was a gas leak in the Baxter community residence hall and Bishop Wellness center. The Willamette automatically calling the fire department in the process. The gency notice at 12:54pm order- ing an evacuation of Baxter. Students were alerted the building was safe to enter shortly after 3pm.

According to Director of Campus Safety Ross Stout, the leak was caused by a malfunctioning boiler was fixed and after the building was vented out it was cleared for students to return. According to Stout, carbon monoxide detectors did go off Monday, Oct. 3 but were turned off because they were functioning part on one of the presumed to be connected to two boilers in Baxter. Contractors were replacing the other boiler when their detectors activated. The contractors alerted Campus Safety who sent a

## WU is still affiliated with the United Methodist Church. What does it imply?

ALAN COHEN  
STAFF WRITER

For many years, Willamette University (WU) has been accepting students and faculty regardless of their faith or religious conviction. In fact, many students believe that WU cut ties long ago with the Methodist Mission. Nonetheless, Willamette still has an official affiliation with the United Methodist Church (UMC), and, although two of them are currently va-

tionship between the university and the United Methodist Church (UMC), there will be three representatives of the regional conference on the Board of Trustees: the Bishop [...] who has the right to attend any meeting of the Board, including executive sessions, and the right to participate in all discussions, but without the right to vote or make motions; plus a clergy person and a lay representative who are nominated by the Bishop in consultation with the Trusteeship Committee, and elected by the Board to three-year terms."

According to the Ad-

ministrative Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Colleen Kawahara, "Willamette's Board is without the UMC clergy and lay representatives. The current bishop has announced her retirement so we are waiting until the new bishop is appointed to have those spots on our board filled".

The WU website states that "United Methodist students have access to a denominationally-based scholarship and loan program, as well as some specially designated Willamette funds." This scholarship is provided by the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation (UMHEF) up to \$4,000 exclusively for UMC members. According to the UMHEF website, for an institution to partner with UMHEF, it needs to meet certain criteria, including a "clearly defined church relationship," which Willamette fulfills with its formal affiliation.

Ineda Pearl Adesanya is the University Chaplain and Director of Spiritual and Religious Life. She "provide[s] spaces for wellbeing and connection through programming and one-on-one care sessions." Adesanya noted that "the Chaplain's office is not even a Christian office at all. It provides for the inner well-being of students, staff and

faculty, and it's not only for people who are religious, but also for people who recognize they need help with their inner life."

"The school no longer has a hard affiliation with the Methodist Church," Chaplain Adesanya said. "We come out of the Methodist tradition. [The founders] were actually unaffiliated Protestant Evangelical Christians, but Willamette later became a Methodist institution of higher learning under the leadership of the Methodist Bishop." Adesanya also mentioned that "in the past, there was a decision made to discontinue that hard affiliation with the Methodist Church," and that "the Bishop is no longer in charge of the University." This means that, even though the UMC is still represented on the Board of Trustees, and a special scholarship is offered exclusively to Methodist students, WU remains religiously independent and values students coming from all sorts of religious backgrounds (or lack thereof).

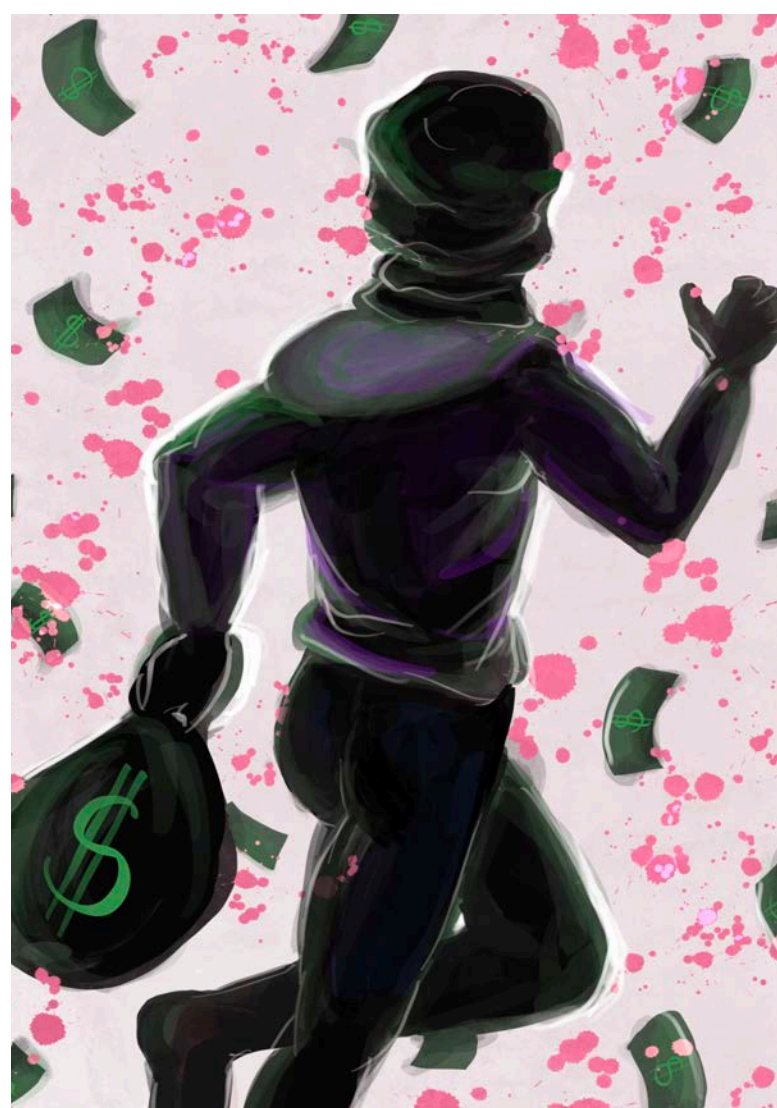
WU does not have an intention to disaffiliate with the UMC in the near future, and therefore remains, as Chaplain Adesanya stated, "an independent, secular, non-sectarian University with a purely symbolic Methodist affiliation."



## The Disappearance of Compass Cash

GIA PATEL  
STAFF WRITER

As of 2022, Compass Cash has been discontinued and funds can no longer be added to Compass Cash accounts.



Art by Macy Loy

introduced to Willamette in 2008, it provided a method of payment for a number of different services offered at Willamette University, including the vending machines, Goudy Commons, Bon Appétit providers, laundry services and photocopying services. Ross Stout, director of Campus Safety, points to the modern era of debit and credit cards as the main reason for the discontinuation of compass cash.

Stout said Compass Cash "was very popular then [in 2008] because it was a time when we didn't have the proliferation of debit and credit cards like we do today. Some people had them and some people didn't. Now, everyone has one." Stout also emphasizes the distinction between flex dollars and compass cash, saying, "flex dollars are only associated with a meal plan. Those dollars can't be spent anywhere else. In fact, we don't even really consider them 'dollars,' because they're not refundable. Compass Cash was real money that you deposited into your Willamette account for your benefit to use for spending."

Similar to what Stout said, in today's modern age, almost everyone has a debit or credit card, and with the uprise of the COVID-19 pandemic and online shopping,

this became even more prevalent. Even prior to the pandemic, the implementation of credit and debit card readers at Willamette University was drastically increasing, seeing that more and more students had one.

Stout emphasized this, saying that "vendors, like Pepsi, started providing their own credit card readers on the vending machines, but previously, we had these readers associated with our Compass Cash program that allowed people to use their ID card." As this shift occurred rapidly, Bon Appétit services such as Rick's Cafe and Blitz Market, as well as the Bistro, started implementing card readers as their main forms of payment. Stout elaborated that during this time, "the only reason we were using the Compass Cash was for Bon Appétit and The Bistro. But both of them now have the ability to take debit or credit cards. So it became kind of silly in some ways that people would take their debit or credit card and go online to transfer money to their Compass Card account only to spend it and then have to replenish it with that same debit or credit card." Stout added, "it just became this extra step that no one was interested in, costing the university time and money to maintain it. So the

decision was made that after this academic year, Compass Cash would be completely discontinued."

When asked about if a program like Compass Cash would be implemented at Willamette University again, Stout answered, "I think the replacement is that people have debit and credit cards. Bon Appétit, the bookstore, at the Bistro, printing services, all of those places that accepted the Compass Cash now accept credit cards and it's a much more versatile tool for people. We have grown out of the need to have Compass Cash."

Students are still able to access and use their Compass Cash this year as the program phases out. Stout highlights that there are still places on campus that accept compass cash. "The only places on campus that still accept Compass Cash are the Bistro and Bon Appetit services, which include Goudy Commons, Ricks Cafe, and the Mill Stream Market. No other services accept Compass Cash anymore." If students are uninterested in spending their remaining Compass Cash, they are also able to retain a refund by emailing the service center at [service-center-info@willamette.edu](mailto:service-center-info@willamette.edu) receiving the refund via check in the mail.

## The Bearcat Minimum: Your student burnout won't fix itself.

SEAN OLSON  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Drinking a couple of shots of espresso in the Bistro. Staying up late hours. Taking a day off of class. Feeling a lack of motivation. All of these traits highlight the presence of the intangible behemoth of student burnout hitting hard on Willamette's campus.

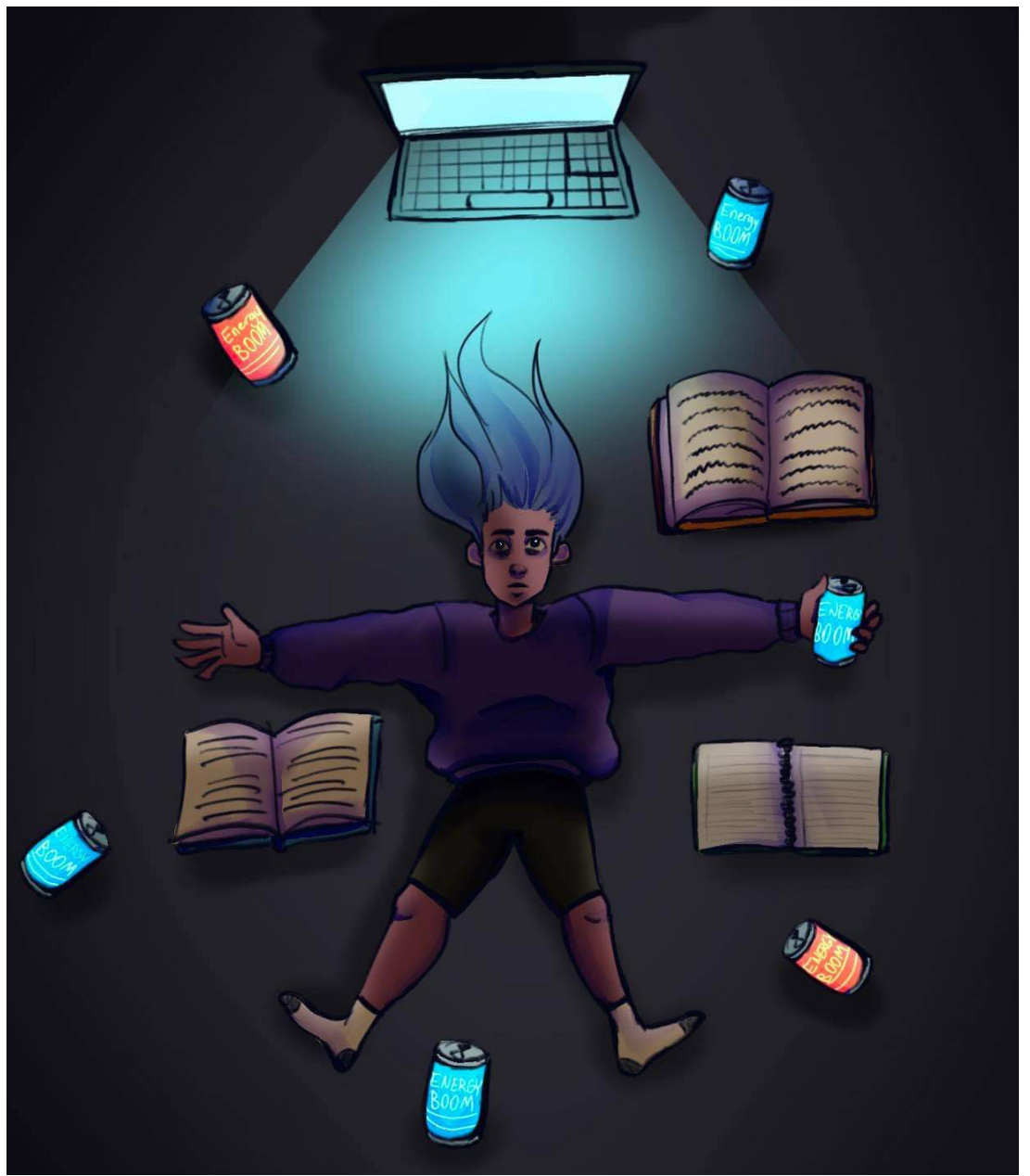
Burnouts are weird. They're individualized and complicated, but yet emotionally relatable. The commonality of burnouts among the student body is that they are caused by the overwhelming accumulation of stress, responsibilities and commitment leading to emotional fatigue, a loss in motivation and negative emotional health.

The root of student burnout on campus lies in the "Willamette culture" of activism, involvement and opportunity-taking. Our culture is derived directly from the university mission statement, "To turn knowledge into action and lead lives of achievement, contribution, and meaning." While burnout takes form in underclass students as trial-and-error and overloading

themselves with clubs and activities, upperclass students continue to burn out by engaging in leadership opportunities and committing to specialized fields of studies in seminars, capstones and thesis. Regardless, the common ground among all is that students overload their plates.

"When I was a younger student on campus," said Oakley Phoenix, the president of ASWU, "I needed to have three jobs to be able to afford to go to Willamette." Without adequate family financial support, working to pay tuition and other costs was not a choice. In addition, Phoenix passionately engages in theater, advocacy for trans people of color, BIPOC advocacy, and in other clubs throughout campus. "Because I had all these jobs, I had all these classes, I wanted to have a couple of clubs that I could just go have a good time. But all of that adds up to having a really, really full calendar!" they said. "Most folks that are overcommitted aren't doing it because they want to."

Lisa Holiday, the direc-



Art by Aissatou Coyle

tor of student engagement and leadership, has worked with student leaders dealing with burnouts. Her solution is to clearly outline priorities and limit commitments to an extent that is mentally and physically feasible. "You might care about a lot of things," she said, but "there's only so many hours in the day." Additionally, she pointed out that having a packed schedule fails to incorporate unexpected events or emergencies, which can be as simple as meeting with a friend and chatting for an hour.

According to Sue Corner, dean of admissions, economic problems caused by the pandemic have been another stressor adding to the burnout. Corner has found a trend amongst the new admitted students. A vast amount of students' applications highlighted how exhausted and overwhelmed they were by lectures over a device and the limitations to learning it imposed. "The hierarchy of needs gets all shuffled around when there's this kind of economic crisis," she said. Students now physically returning to Willamette are challenged to once again adapt their online routine they've developed over the two and a half years of the pandemic.

Don Thomson, the dean for health and well-being, tackles the misconception that student overwhelm is a mere 'time

management problem' or lack of organization: "They think you have a time management problem; like, no, you have a time problem." Students commit to various activities which conflict in time, or physically are not possible within 24 hours a day.

"Reflect on how many titles are in your Google signature right now," Thomson teased: "Right, and [other students] all kind of [give] the look that you just gave me." The titles we display exemplify the way we want to be presented—with our proudest achievements. However, this student philosophy is what Thomson argues causes students to publicly present a facade of normality, when internally we all relate to being burned out, lonely and other negative emotions.

When having a part-time job on campus, being an athlete, taking a leadership role and having to cope with their hours of academic assignments, students first sacrifice sleep. Lack of sleep negatively affects awareness, mental health and emotional state while also deteriorating your performance in the other commitments you sacrificed your sleep for in the first place. When cutting sleep becomes routine, it creates an endless negative spiral. Constant underperformance drains more time and energy than it did initially, causing students to

sacrifice more sleep.

"I think one of the generalities that is mostly true is that Willamette students have a hard time with self-care," stated Thomson. From eating to exercise, getting good rest to doing fun things, self-care is a necessity to maintain physical and emotional balance. Thomson highlighted that the underlying issue is that students place their self-care secondary to other commitments. "The question then becomes, what keeps you from doing those things? Like what are the barriers to actively prioritizing some self-care, like what gets in the way?" he said. The solution to preventing mental burnout is for students to be cognizant of their often intuitive self-care when outlining priorities.

Willamette presents numerous free services available on campus to receive counseling, care and advice. For example, the recently added UWill is a telehealth service available for students seeking immediate or scheduled mental health support. It is a resource available all year, including holidays and seasonal breaks, and done through texting, video-calling or phone calling. Additionally, counselors can be adjusted based upon preferences including issue, gender, language or ethnicity.

For students who have concerns related to Willamette life, the Bishop Wellness Cen-

ter—available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays—is another alternative. "If there are academic concerns or things related to your campus life, sometimes students choose to interact with a physical Willamette counselor," Thomson said. Hidden amongst the depths of Bishop center is the Mind Spa. It includes a leather, multi-setting massage chair and a full spectrum light to brighten you up on a cloudy, rainy Oregon day!

Passion-driven bearcats, there are only 24 hours a day. With COVID protocols fading away, burnouts are slapping harder than ever. However, whether a trusted friend or the Bishop center, having support is always a big plus. Burnouts can feel lonely and daunting, but many students are on the same boat. It's important to take care of yourself in the culture of overcommitment and overachievement.

## Indigenous History, continued

bel Peace Prize. When the foundations of Ford appeared in the tree's place, most people assumed that it was gone forever.

It wasn't. In fact, it didn't go very far. In a place just barely out of sight from Ford's upper windows, the oak was replanted. Its roots now grow into the ground, lining the path from the Belknap, where first years walk to Goudy and ducks sleep in its shade. It survives.

Near the tree, another sign read "This IS Kalapuyan Land." In 1856, there were [344 Kalapuya people recorded alive]. Today, in 2022, there are [4,000 Kalapuya people] in Oregon. On the Willamette campus—in the parking-lot, along the walls of buildings, nearly touching the clouds, along paths, and in the work of Indigenous students and staff—Indigeneity survives.

## SHUCHAT and the Cost of Art

MONTE REMER  
STAFF WRITER

Coming back into the room, Parker Jones ('23) knew that the mannequin would be there. He's the one who put it up—just a foam head on a broomstick and a box, dressed in one of Jones' hoodies, with a hefty bottle of apple juice for structural support. The mannequin sure looked different, however, in the darkness outside his window: "Actually recording it," he said, "and creating the spooky ambience, became something totally new, became fear."

Upon jumpscaring himself, Jones realized that all was going according to plan. His final project for the Shuchat Arts Fellowship Program was to create six works of art which represented Paul Ekman's six basic emotions. He presented

the mannequin and other works from late August to early September of this year. Shuchat is a program which provides annual \$5,500 stipends to Willamette students majoring in art, music or theater.

The stipend covers eight weeks of work, time in which this year's Shuchat fellows created their projects.

For Mia Apodaca ('24), their project was a story that needed to be told: "I started noticing that we did a lot of dead white man plays [in theater classes]... but how do you find those people you don't hear about? We tend to be like, 'oh, my story's already been told. I don't have to make a space for myself. I can observe.' But as a POC in a white-dominated school, in a



white-dominated industry, I had to realize that I had to push for my story."

Apodaca's project is a play titled "Ladybug: What More Can I Be?" The protagonist Ladybug navigates life, love and loss, and under-represented voices are at the play's heart. Apodaca wanted a play by a Latine playwright, played by Latine actors and made with a Latine audience in mind. The decision to have a nearly all-Latine cast was a difficult one, but anything less, they said, would be a disservice to their work.

When she and her family moved to Oregon, Emerald Russell ('24) realized a similar need to tell her own story. Russell—just a kid at the time—was thinking about how happy she was to be escaping racism. "Or-



Photos provided by Parker Jones

gon is liberal", she was told. "It won't be so bad there."

Then she was told of the Oregon sundown towns. "I got warned," she said, "like, you better watch out." She saw the murder of George Floyd and other innocent Black lives: "Especially at college, I saw performatism at its best when it comes to social issues. I have seen racism in settings both small and large, [and] ever so sly it is not thought to be racist...as long as someone stays under the guise of being woke, it is deemed to be good enough."

Seeing parallels between 2020 and the 1960s, Russell looked to the life of Aretha Franklin. Already, she was taking notes for what would eventually become her final project: a concert chronicling the history of Black activist music from the

1940s to the present, with racial violence across the nation and tokenism and microaggressions at home forming the backdrop to her artistic process. After a lot of work and a long time coming, Russell's concert What Moves Your Soul has a debut date of November 6 at 3 p.m. in Smith Auditorium.

Other Fellows saw their visions change as they worked: "Initially I just wanted, like, a string quartet and to add some synth," Matthew Quirarte Valencia ('23) said, "but as I kept going I figured, okay, maybe I wanna expand my instrumentation, I wanna write for a whole symphony maybe. Then I started writing this piece...and I started writing that with every orchestral instrument under the sun."

Quirarte Valencia's



Photo provided by Oakley Phoenix

project is a soundtrack for a fantasy videogame. The game itself doesn't exist, but that isn't important. "You don't even have to play the video game, you just listen to the soundtrack," he said. He plans on a release of the project's website in the coming weeks and hopes the project itself will soon follow.

About his hopes for "The M.I.D.I. String Quartet," Valencia said, "I feel like, if I can get somebody to cry [with my music] or just feel inspired, I feel like I've done my job."

In contrast, Oak Phoenix ('23) found his successes more in participants' happiness. Perhaps the greatest of these successes was seeing his participants hugging. He also loved adding more souvenirs to his and Jones' studio.

Pulling out one such souvenir, he said, "It's just an ass." He chiseled it out of a sheet of metal, and it now sits to the right of the mannequin. "That was one of the pieces that inspired this summer project, because like, let's make it fun, let's make intimacy less taboo."

That's what Phoenix's project is all about. Inspired by his Catholic school sex education—or lack thereof—he explored the ways in which young people have been misinformed about sex, and ways to improve the conversation around sex. He presented the project from late August to early September. It consisted of intensive conversa-

tions, anonymous confessions, interactive art and introspection.

One of Phoenix's pieces made it to his final presentation, but he doesn't know whether it was successful. "Because the concept for it was...you play music that you like, that makes you feel confident, and just dance in the space where no one else can see you. And truthfully, I don't know if anyone did it, because I never walked in and saw someone doing it...maybe it's not my place to know if anyone actually did it."

So why did the Shuchat Fellows do it? Why do many continue to do it—this grueling process of making art, sometimes art that just gets thrown away, or that risks going unseen after so much effort? Why, to

make Phoenix's example a metaphor, do six people spend their time setting stages on which they can only hope people will dance?

To change the world. To create something beautiful. To bring people together. To make mistakes.

Jones hesitated when asked how he imagined the perfect version of his project. Then, with a confident grin, he said, "I think failure was the perfection."

Note: Danny Davis ('23), another of the Shuchat fellows, did not respond to an interview request. Her project includes voiceover work for advertisements, audiobook narration, corporate training and descriptive audio for film and television.



Photo provided by Oakley Phoenix

Willamette Welcomes Lisa Logan:  
New Director of the GRACJULIETTE BURNS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This June, Willamette University welcomed a new staff member: Director of the Gender Resource and Advocacy Center (GRAC), Lisa Logan.

Logan comes to Willamette from Eastern Washington University, where they managed the Women's and Gender Education Center (WAGE) for seven years. They received their Bachelor of Art in Women's and Gender Studies at Eastern before getting their Master's Degree from the University of Arizona. Following their education, they held roles in various environmental, anti-racist and anti-violence nonprofit organizations. Now, Logan is excited to branch into advocacy at Willamette.

When asked about their interest and passion for gender education and advocacy, Logan said: "I am [a] nonbinary trans person, and I have my master's in Gender and Women's Studies, so it's part of my expertise and I was really passionate about serving LGBTQ students." Logan said they were excited upon finding out Willamette is in the Pride Index's top ten of religious-affiliated schools, "It seems like a very LGBTQ-friendly place."

Logan, along with the Chaplain, the Sexual Assault Response Advocates (SARAs) and the counselors at Bishop Well-

ness Center, are all confidential advocates—trained confidential responders to gender and sexual violence. They are given 40+ hours of training with the Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force, as well as training on campus. The training with the Task Force covers a range of topics on relevant issues that an advocate may encounter, and gives trainees access to debriefs and advice from those on the Task Force.

When it comes to the GRAC itself, Logan said that its greatest strength is in its workers. Within the center, student workers come together to provide education, resources, and events. Logan added, "All of the students who work here are by far our greatest strength. They're passionate and informed, educated, committed to really transforming not just Willamette, but the culture into a more friendly place for survivors. Their commitment is really, really high."

Overall, during their time at Willamette, Logan hopes to teach students to refine their activism skills, help the student staff at the GRAC set work boundaries and foster an open, healthy work environment. The GRAC is a place for all students, a place of collaboration which Logan hopes to truly foster.

## 50 Years of Title IX

**NED MARTIN**  
STAFF WRITER

June 23 marked 50 years since Richard Nixon signed Title IX into law. Title IX, a 37-word law, changed the landscape of education and sports for women. However, credit for this bill does not belong to the late former president. Instead, two women should be credited: Patsy Mink and Edith Green.

Mink was a trailblazer for women in government. She was the first Hawaiian woman, the first woman of color, the first Japanese-American, and the youngest person to serve Hawaii in Congress. Both Mink and Green prioritized education and gender equality.

Green is a Willamette Law School alumna. She attended Willamette Law from 1927-1929. She grew up in Salem and taught in Salem for ten years here. In 1954, Green became the second woman to represent Oregon in the House of Representatives. She served for twenty years and was given the nickname "Mrs. Education" because of her intense focus on education and the need for diversification in the public school system. Her most lasting legacy was Title IX.

Title IX passed through Congress despite adamant push-back from many men in office. When it passed, Green said, "I don't know when I have ever been so pleased." While Title IX remains the law 50 years later, it is not without problems. One of the many issues plaguing sports across the country is a lack of women coaches.

According to a Forbes magazine report, before 1972, women held "90% of the head coaching positions for women's teams." Today, around 40% of women's teams and approximately 10% of men's teams across the NCAA have women coaches. Athletic directors are also predominantly men. Willamette Volleyball Head Coach Lily Hallock said, "One of the major downfalls of Title IX is that as there has been more money put into women's athletics, more men are now in charge."

Of the 11 women's teams on campus, five are coached by women. None of the men's teams have women coaches. A majority of the school's assistant coaches are men as well. This is not to say Willamette has practiced misogynistic hiring



practices. Instead, it shows the persistence of misogyny in the NCAA. Hallock insists the Athletic Department "truly believes in equality between men and women's sports." While gender diversity in coaching has been negatively affected by Title IX, the athletes have benefitted.

Before 1972, only 1 in 27 girls participated in high

school sports. Today around 2 in 5 girls are playing sports in high school. Hallock highlighted this progress. She explained that Title IX's implementation exposed stark contrasts between her adolescence to her mother's. Hallock explained that her mother "grew up in the 1950s, where that meant that she got to play sports a couple of times

a year." Hallock, on the other hand, could begin sports in the first grade. These changes to the landscape of women's sports have enhanced diversity at the collegiate level. Before 1972, 15% of collegiate athletes were women. Today, almost half of collegiate athletes are women (44%). However, equality in numbers is not the only way for schools to stay within the guidelines of Title IX. As Associate Athletic Director and Senior Woman Administrator Leslie Shevlin explained, "Most schools, especially with a football team, and most schools in general, very rarely meet proportionality."

Recently, the Athletic Department has made serious efforts to maintain Title IX compliance. However, the department has not been immune to controversy. In 2016, "The university made the difficult decision to end the rowing program really because of safety. We were using the Willamette River, currents had changed, there was not a safe and sustainable way to continue that program," said Rob Passage, Willamette athletic director. Willamette faced backlash on the decision from both athletes and the student body. So how is Willamette Title IX-compliant today? The law only requires schools to meet

one of the three requirements of Title IX to be compliant. Today, Willamette meets two of the three options.

In 2016, the rowing team argued that the athletic department did not meet any. They did not meet the first prong because athletics should represent a proportionally equal athletics population to the student body. Nor did they meet the second prong, "the school must demonstrate a continual expansion of athletic opportunities for the underrepresented sex." (Collegian 2016) At the time, Willamette had not created a new team for women in over two decades. The third prong requires schools to fully accommodate both interests and abilities of the underrepresented sex in sports. At the time, it appeared Willamette did not meet this requirement either. They disbanded a full roster while not bringing in more women athletes.

Willamette's athletic department came to terms with the rowing team and Title IX requirements. Athletics resolved the issue of disbanding rowing by planning to implement women's lacrosse and triathlon. The athletic department has stressed the difficulty of implementing new sports. Shevlin explained, "typically, sports... have to hit a certain threshold, and then they're an actual sport, where the NCAA sponsors the national championship." Before that point, sports can only be con-

sidered a club. Yet the Athletics Department has found a way to add two NCAA sports in the last six years.

The lack of local competition played a role in the time it took to add these sports. Shevlin explained the difficulties for Willamette were geographical, "[Willamette is the only] institution in Oregon or Washington [that competes in triathlon]. There are some Colorado and California schools, although not Division III." This means Willamette triathletes must travel out

of state to Illinois during their regular season.

Another problem some people have with Title IX is the binary gender language. Shevlin explained how the school has made efforts to accommodate students with a "transgender inclusion policy for athletics and Campus Recreation... [that] is up for revision. We just had a group meeting the other day. We will work on a revision because a lot has happened in that space." This issue has seen a lot of debates in the courts, but is

continuing to evolve.

LGBTQ representation transcends Willamette. The NCAA has not changed its stance on the gender binary. As Shevlin explained, Willamette and the NWC has allowed students who identify differently than their assigned gender at birth to play. But many transitioning students may be held out of competition at the national level.

Overall, Title IX's legacy has had positive effects on US athletics. On one hand, coaches and those making decisions in

sports are still predominantly men. However, women's athletics has become more competitive as more and more girls are growing up playing sports. It is not as if Title IX could change the landscape of sports all by itself, Passage, said it best when he said, "there's still room to grow." It will take continued efforts to diversify athletics at Willamette, the NWC, and the NCAA. This year, we celebrate Title IX for all the advances the law has made in sports.

## Fun fact: There are Apartments in McCulloch Stadium

**SKEET STARR**  
STAFF WRITER

McCulloch stadium, the figurative home of Bearcat football, baseball and track, is also the literal home of certain athletic department staff. "Upstairs of the stadium, above all the locker rooms, there are conference rooms...and at one end, the very south end, there's this apartment," said Rob Passage, director of intercollegiate athletics. In fact, according to Passage, there are four private apartments, which surround a communal kitchen, living space, and bathroom.

Unlike the late Trailblazers owner Paul Allen's glamorous and mysterious Moda Center apartment, the McCulloch Stadium units are born of necessity,

not excess. The athletics department uses the apartments as transitional housing for seasonal and recently transplanted staff. "It's not great, actually," Passage admits. "That's why it's probably transitional. It's not like people are like, 'Hey I want to live here for a while.'" He explains further: "It is something that allows them a place to live during the season while they're coaching, and/or live while they are trying to figure out Salem, and find, y'know, longer-term housing." Similar housing options exist in Willamette's broader academic sector, said Associate Athletics Director Leslie Shelvin. The Kaneko complex includes housing options for similar purposes.

The McCulloch apart-

ments were added during the 1992 renovation of McCulloch. According to then writer Christ Garrettz in a 1992 issue of The Collegian, as part of the renovation, "A new second floor has been constructed; It will house meeting, offices, and apartments." As of Oct. 2022, the apartments house two assistant coaches from the baseball and football programs. The residents are expected to carry out small tasks related to the upkeep of the stadium, including making sure lights are turned off, and all the gates are locked or unlocked.

Socially minded students might give the side eye to work housing programs. In many instances throughout history, company housing and stores have

been instruments for worker abuse. However, unlike in the company towns of old, McCulloch stadium residents aren't paid in scrip, and according to Passage, they aren't directly paying rent either. Stadium residents are taxed as if their housing is a form of income, but are not billed by the university. Still, considering ongoing rent increases in Salem, the relationship between the university and its working residents could stand to become more tenuous if demand for cheaper housing solutions increases among staff. For now, the stadium housing program makes sense for many members of the athletic staff. At the very least, their commute seems hard to beat.

## Searching for Downtown Salem's Skate Scene

**SKEET STARR**  
STAFF WRITER

Tired of Opening Days and faced with the prospect of another first year ice-breaking event, I slunk back to my dorm to grab my skateboard. A quick google search for "Nearest Skatepark" led me ten blocks northwest to four quarter pipes, a low flatrail, and a concrete pyramid in a grove of Douglas Firs on the far side of Marion Square Park. Shouldered out of the transition section by BMXers and relegated to the more mellow street section of the park, I plied my trade, trying back 180s on flatground. It was a moonlit, t-shirt-wearing night in August, and no other skateboarder was in the park. A new Willamette student skater may find themselves wandering aimlessly through the brick and granite buildings of the central area. A trained eye may land on a statue of a traveling minister perpetually riding a horse on three grindable granite ledges. A stone plaza lined with small varying stair sets lies a block from the office of revenue, which holds two mellow kicker ramps, a handful of stair sets and a perfect metallic ledge on a sculpture in its courtyard. Although the central area houses numerous temples to street skating, one may struggle to find any monks. Local skater and Zumiez employee Roman Carden puts it simply: "The scene around here is so minimal, y'know? It's bare minimum."

The older generation of skaters in the area have more to say. In the late '90s and '00s, "we'd have 25 people trying to skate SP (Marion Square Park, otherwise known as Salem Park) on a Friday night," says seasoned local Max Carlson. Pete Ingram, owner of Blast Off Vintage clothing store and skate counter, agrees: "There was more people putting in effort." Each of these long-time scene members attributes a large portion of the success of the old downtown Salem scene back to one shop: EXIT Real World. Founded in 1993 by Missy Samiec, a graduate of Willamette's Atkinson School of Management, EXIT led the skate culture of the downtown area for over two decades. At SP, Max Carlson regaled me with tales of EXIT's skate team. Pro skaters Sebo Walk-

er (Krooked, Spitfire, Bones Swiss etc.), and Tyler Bledsoe (Quasi, HUF), among others, got their first break in the industry at EXIT. Former EXIT Real World co-owner Jake Hauswirth explained, "Those guys would just meet up at the shop and go filming. They just needed somewhere to be a part of." The team was "pretty elite and pretty hard to get onto," says Carlson, who used to work at the shop. Between Hauswirth, Carlson and Ingram, I listened to hours of tall tales about the happenings during the EXIT era.

A vert ramp on the stage of the Elsinore Theater, a frontside flip over the SP pyramid to flat performed by Baker Skateboards' renowned Andrew Reynolds, free shoe giveaways at SP, and so on. All agree that EXIT was the downtown skate community's cultural hub. As online sales became more popular in the 2010s, "it got harder and harder to have a retail store," says Hauswirth. In 2014, EXIT packed up for good, leaving behind a void.

Today three skate shops operate within the central area: Blast Off Vintage, Caakes, and Zumiez. Blast Off Vintage, run by Pete Ingram, houses a small skate counter near the front desk of a large store which primarily focuses on vintage clothing. When I first entered the store, I immediately saw who I thought must be spoke with Roebke around 4 p.m., he told me, "It's been slow today. We haven't had a customer." Charged with bringing the apparel-based Caakes back from the brink of closure, Roebke hopes to refocus the storefront towards skateboarding retail with a special interest in vert. Vert is a form of skating that requires Tony Hawk-esque skate ramps, which are hard to find in the Salem area. "I don't want to completely change the skate scene, but I want more people to know about vert skating." As I left the shop, he offered a customer 35% off a new pair of Lakai's, but in the end Caakes didn't have the correct shoe size in stock.

system. Between transactions, he explained to me that he first opened the skate counter using surplus products from the defunct EXIT Real World. Today, there does not seem to be too much surplus to go around in terms of skate gear at Blast Off. Ingram helps keep skaters supplied, but vintage clothing remains his main focus.

A few blocks down High Street from Blast Off lies Caakes. The banner on Caakes' website proclaims, "Caakes is a street inspired lifestyle brand... that collaborates with inspired individuals to produce custom, one-of-a-kind designs to connect you to your authentic self." Struggling Caakes ownership has recently placed Aumsville born vert skater Nolan Roebke at the head of day to day management. Stepping off the busy street into Caakes, I was immediately greeted by Roebke, glossy concrete flooring, bare white walls, and a perfectly windexed skate counter.

When I



Photos by Macy Loy

Supply & more," according to their website. "Zumiez seems to try...at least the workers seem to try...that's all we got," says Carlson. Roebke, a former Zumiez employee, put his feelings more bluntly: "As a skater I absolutely despise Zumiez." Pete Ingram is in the planning stages of a new sticker design to sell at Blast Off which reads,

"We're small but we're not in the mall." Roman Carden, a current Zumiez employee, holds a more nuanced viewpoint of the corporate issue. "I'll skate corporate stuff, I'll fucking skate Nikes. I don't give a shit."

Still, he admits, "I'd rather go to Caakes or Blast Off Vintage

tag e up here if I have the option to, but it's not often that I get the option to."

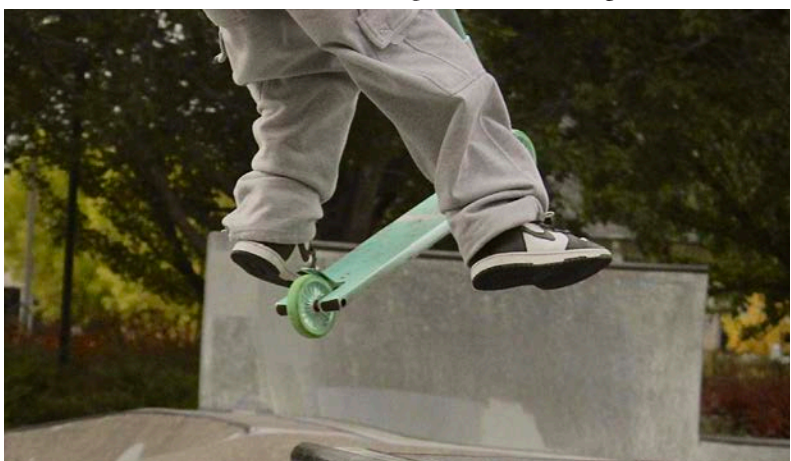
Shops and culture are important, but skate scenes are built on concrete foundations. In terms of parks, the central area's begrudgingly beloved SP has remained unchanged since its opening in the early '90s. Meanwhile, nearby Carlson Skatepark in Keizer (Keizer Park) has recently been revamped by the legendary Dreamland skatepark company. Dreamland, which was founded by the concrete guerrillas who created Portland's iconic Burnside park, fixed structural issues at Keizer. They also added brand new features to make the already huge complex irresistible to local skaters. Carlson explains that over the years, the younger generation of SP skaters weaned out. "Maybe it's because there's so many good parks around here." When I met Carden at SP, he explained to me that he preferred to go to Keizer Park, but wound up at SP out of necessity. Referencing Salem's unhoused population, Roebke

remarked, "The parks are fine, it's the people that go to them that suck."

The central area's surplus of street spots are guarded by local state and government regulations. A "pedestrian safety zone" encompasses a vast swath of the downtown area, and from the river to the capitol, skating is prohibited even on public sidewalks. Of course, government buildings that lie beyond the safety zone also prohibit skateboarding. "There's a rumor that the inventor of skatestoppers is from Salem," claims Carlson.

Despite the lack of easily skateable infrastructure and cultural backing, the downtown scene's faint and hopeful heartbeat can still be heard. Carden explained a theory of his to me: "if we just start skating all the shit in the world and make every business complain about how skaters are skating their stuff, eventually they're gonna have to revamp this [Salem Park] so skaters stay away from those businesses, right?" In terms of SP revamp plans, Carlson hopes to see a park that extends all the way under the bridge so that there will always be a dry place to ride. In order to restore the scene of the '00s he says, "we would just need a shop like Missy's again." The old growth firs pose a problem for park expansion plans, but both Carden and Carlson imagine them protectively surrounded with skateable transitions. Furthermore, salvation could await the scene three miles east of SP at Geer Park, where the City of Salem plans to break ground for a new 20,000 sq. ft. skatepark in 2024.

The Willamette street skater of today stands on the edge of a neglected frontier. The perils of this frontier must be met with optimism, and a true love for skateboarding. Come rain, cop, security guard or forgotten park, downtown Salem skaters must brave the elements to reach their potential. At SP, I asked a kid who couldn't be more than 15 what he thought I had to include in this article. He thought for a moment then responded: "Keep pushing, don't give up."



## Leaving It All on the Court: Volleyball Set for First Winning Season Since 2016

**SKEET STARR**  
STAFF WRITER

Heading into last weekend's matchups against the Loggers and the Lutes on Oct. 28th and 29th, Bearcat volleyball was locked in a four way tie with Puget Sound, Whitworth, and George Fox for the Northwest Conference (NWC) title. The Loggers felled the Bearcats with a 3-0 sweep, two sets of which were within two points. Then the Lutes narrowly scraped out a win in the fifth set, 15-12. The weekend's disappointing results all but knock the Bearcats out of the title race. This weekend, though, they still stand to leave a mark on Willamette volleyball history. If the team pulls out a win against either Lewis and Clark or George Fox, they will earn the Bearcats' second NWC winning season in 15 years, and the first since 2016.

Olivia Cadien ('25), who leads the squad in kills with 271 on the season, explained via email: "The team put in a lot of work in the off season and we worked on fine-tuning our shots and working on our defense. I think some of it [our success] has to do with our mindset this year, too. We have a large graduating class, and we came out from the beginning of the season thinking, 'we need to all play for each other and not for ourselves.'" Shyla Sato ('23), team leader in digs with 443, continued on the same email thread: "I think we were really starting to learn how to gel together as a team. Every year

each individual player is so talented and brings different skills to the court, but it's just a matter of us putting all the pieces together." The primary players of the starting six are Cadien, Dani Queja ('23), Emma Porter ('23), and Sato. Cadien and Queja combine for 55% of all kills. Porter alone completed 86% of all assists. The four combined make up 80% of the team's digs, with Sato leading the group by a mile.

Alongside these four's dominance on the stat sheet, the Bearcat supporting crew continue to make sure the system runs smoothly. In the email interview Cadien said: "I think that our middle blockers, Kaitlyn Westby ('25), Sydney Locke ('26), and recently Nora Wade ('26), have been big impacts offensively and defensively. They get huge blocks, kills, and, less noticeably, hold the blockers and the other side, allowing for us to have only one blocker up when we hit." Sato pointed out that the entire team functions as a unit dedicated to improving each other. "The whole team deserves to be recognized. Although our digs, assists, and kills are what's shown on the stat sheet, we aren't able to get better every single day if it wasn't for our teammates pushing us in practice."

The Bearcats are 5-1 at home this season, and hope to capitalize on that advantage this weekend. "Playing at home is always fun and ex-

citng. It provides a feeling of comfort being on our own court, but we owe a lot of our success to the fans" said Sato. "We love our cheering section and can attribute a lot of our at home wins to them. They bring an immense amount of energy to the game and we always appreciate everyone who comes out."

Three of the big four this season, as well as two other big point earners, Steele Jasa and Lexi Martin, are seniors. Cadien, a sophomore, isn't worried for the future of the squad, however. "I think it will be difficult losing our seniors, but we have many freshmen this year that have the ability to step in next year. I do not doubt that we will come out next year having put in the work during off season and building on what we have accomplished this year." And as for this weekend, the seniors will undoubtedly be looking to make a statement for their last dance. Sato explained: "Although we have had a lot of success, I think it's also important to acknowledge the losses we have had this season. We have played some really tough matches and I think it made us motivated to get back in the gym and work even harder." It's the positive culture displayed here that has kept the Bearcats together throughout the season. And as for the Bruins and Pioneers, read the above quote back to yourself, and start praying.



Emma Porter at Willamette vs. Pacific University, Sept. 12, 2022. Photo: Photo: Kendrick Arakaki/Willamette University

## Men's Soccer wins the Northwest Conference

**ERNIE SAMORA**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



Photos from the team's Instagram.

It's a great day to be a Bearcat!

It has been a phenomenal season for Willamette Men's Soccer. After an electric victory against the Linfield Wildcats in McMinnville, Men's Soccer has officially won the Northwest Conference! The Bearcats brought an explosive energy to the field, ending with a final score of 5-0. Men's Soccer is also currently ranked #25 in the NCAA DIII National Coaches' Top 25 Poll.

15 Bearcats have scored at least one goal, for a total of 49 in the season. Pierce Gallaway ('23) leads with an impressive 11 goals and six assists. Goalkeeper Pierluca Carnovale ('24) ended the season with an astonishing 48 saves.

The team worked hard for their victory. They began their training during their offseason.

The start of their season marked weekly 6 a.m. training, sometimes in the cold and rain. Their determination and unparalleled amount of time training makes their victory even sweeter. "Winning the conference was an absolutely surreal feeling," Carnovale said. "Our coaches and senior class really deserve this."

Carnovale also wanted to show appreciation to the fans who supported them. "Shout-out to everyone who came to a match or streamed an away game, we couldn't have done it without you."

If you see any of the soccer players around campus, be sure to tell them congratulations and be sure to support them Saturday the 12th as they play Wisconsin Platteville in Chicago at the national tournament!

## SAAC seeks to bring Willamette Community together

**ERNIE SAMORA**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“We want to bring the Willamette community together and make it fun to be a Bearcat.” Ryan Johns (‘24), president of the Northwest Conference Student Athlete Committee, co-president of the Willamette Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and offensive lineman on Willamette Football, is hoping to make Willamette Athletics and the Bearcat community better than ever.

The Covid-19 pandemic made folks understandably concerned about going to large public events, including live sporting events. Now that the

campus is able to better manage Covid on-campus and restrictions are beginning to return to the pre-pandemic norm, SAAC is trying to get more people at the games and build the Bearcat community.

SAAC is a committee of two students from each sports team that meet biweekly to discuss service events, events to bring campus together, and how to foster an engaged student athlete population. SAAC’s motto: “Non nobis solum nati sumus,” or “Not unto ourselves alone are we born.” Their ultimate goal is to build and better our community through athletics, bring athletes into the com-

munity, bring community into athletics and ultimately build leaders.

One challenge SAAC has experienced is a disconnect between student athletes and non-athletes. “People don’t know when the games are. They don’t know how to get there,” Johns said. Some students are not informed of when athletic events are occurring, making it difficult to get them in the stands. In order to offset this, SAAC provides a poster with the dates of all the on-campus home games in the athletic center on the second floor of Sparks. Johns also said that the Bearcat app is a great way to keep track of when and where home games are taking

place.

Even with the disconnect, Johns said the attendance of games is on the rise. There are more people, both students and folks from the broader Salem community, at the games than there have been the previous two years. Before classes began, the football team volunteered at a local youth football jamboree. Now, Johns has seen several of the Salem locals they met attending the football games. By bringing athletics into the community, Willamette Football expanded and strengthened the Bearcat community.

Considering the class of 2026 is the largest freshman class in seven years and Covid is more

manageable on campus, there is an opportunity to get more students in the stands than we have had since the start of the pandemic.

In the future, SAAC will be arranging several themed games, such as a “pink out” or a Halloween event. Events and themes will be listed on the Bearcats app. Potential events coming in the future include tailgates, barbeques, and maybe even food trucks. If you have anything you think would make the sport games more fun, reach out to a SAAC representative to let them know!

When asked for any final comments, Johns had this to say: “Go Bearcats!”

## Sprinter in a Strange Land

**RYAN STROBEL**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Willamette’s student athletes are notorious for missing classes, tests and other learning activities. Countless roll calls have been delayed by bewildered professors who distinctly remember having more students. What you may not know is that those athletes are honor bound to fulfill a commitment much more important than any old midterm exam. Those athletes are going to sit on a bus for several hours, run around on a big rectangle for an hour or so, and then hop right back on the bus.

Simon Kidder (‘24) is all too aware of the time spent traveling. As a member of Willamette’s Men’s Track and Men’s Soccer teams, a shocking percentage of his life has been devoted to sitting on a bus for tens of thousands of meters so he can get out and run four hundred. He explained that the track team’s meets are almost always within Oregon’s borders, “which is nice because you don’t have to travel that far,” but he did mention the 2022 Northwest Conference meet, a two-day event in Tacoma, as a rare and exhausting exception. These numbers pale in comparison to his travel for soccer. After describing a five day trip to San Antonio, he took a moment to think before

confirming that it was the longest trip he had taken for the sport. The grim reality of Kidder’s situation did not seem to affect his outlook. “Yes, those overnight trips take out a lot of time, but they’re also just so much fun—the bus rides with the team and that social aspect. Just getting to hang out with the team for a long time.”

Katherine Thornton (‘24), another member of the track team, echoed the sentiment. When I asked how she preferred to spend downtime on the track bus, she said she typically tried and failed at both sleeping and homework before resorting to team interactions “like talking, playing games, hanging out, playing rock paper scissors for two hours...” she continued, listing other games that could be played “with minimal equipment,” including ninja, chopsticks, zip-zap-zop, mafia, and other fourth grade classics. Creating Spotify blends was another preferred activity. She even cited playing “Egyptian rat slap” as one of the best memories she made in her time on the track & field team.

But these trips are not all fun and games. Thornton described the difficulty of sleeping in a hotel room as an obstacle



Photo from Willamette Athletics website.

to consider before competing. Apprehension can build after arriving at a rival school, and the unfamiliar environment may affect the player’s mindset. Kaiona Apio (‘24) once achieved their personal javelin record on Western Oregon’s track “just because the runway was a little similar” to the one at McCulloch Stadium. Apio continued: “it definitely shouldn’t affect you mentally. You should be stronger than that. But I do really remember that Lane’s track is blue.” Although the blue track did not come up again in our interview, the implication was clear.

In their respective interviews, Apio and Kidder both recalled one specific trip, nicknamed the “Whits Trip.” This week-end-spanning odyssey gets the journeys to our two

least convenient rivals over and done with in one fell-swoop. It begins with either Whitman College, in Walla Walla, Washington or Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington. From Salem, the bus ride to Whitman takes over five hours. Whitworth approaches seven. The team leaves early on Friday morning and returns to Salem late on Sunday evening, or even early on Monday morning, in extreme cases. The athletes interviewed for this article unanimously agreed that Willamette professors don’t hesitate to make accommodations for their schedules, but I’ve personally witnessed many athletes face unintended consequences from such trips. Turning in assignments late, missing important material, or presenting on Google Slides after ev-

eryone else already went is an inescapable reality of the Division III athlete.

All of the time and energy spent traveling can take its toll on student athletes. When I asked Thornton if this shared experience was important to team bonding, she told me, “Yeah, it can be. Sometimes it can just be exhausting. But we’re tired in silence together.” Apio, near the end of their interview, said, “sports affect our lives so much, especially when we’re involved in them. They’re a big part of our identity, and so being trapped in some kind of vehicle, with a bunch of other people, who you know from practicing every day and also have that identity... You’re going to compete and prove this identity. It’s definitely very good for team-building.”

## Review: 24 Hour Theater

PRIYA THOREN  
STAFF WRITER



Photos by Karina May

The 24 hour long stretch of time between 8 p.m. of Saturday, Oct. 15 and Sunday, Oct. 16 was jam-packed with the hustle of writing, directing and acting five one-act plays. Actors showed up already in a costume of their choice on Saturday evening, tasking the playwrights to come up with a story around them; the act was also required to feature a magic wand. After hours of rehearsals, Student Theatre Arts Group for Equity (S.T.A.G.E.) opened the doors of Putnam Studio in the M. Lee Pelton Theatre building on campus at 7 p.m. Sunday evening to welcome an eager audience to their showcase.

The first play, “Age-Old Question,” written by Ike Turman and directed by Sophie Files, featured four immortal characters who banded together to try and diffuse a bomb. The characters seemed reluctant to do this task, and had some witty banter as they tried to figure out how to diffuse it. The theme of magic wand had an integral part in the act, with the bomb eventually magically disappeared by Gray (played by Nur Yuceoral).

Turman, the mind behind “Age-Old Question” said: “It felt really cool to get to apply my writing to something... not very often do big projects come along where people can collaborate with bringing their strengths together as opposed to individualistic approaches. People get boxed into things they don’t want to be in, but here

everyone got to bring strengths and the end result was a collaborative effort where you could see everyone’s artistic methods on display,” he said. Sophie Files was the director of “Age-Old Question” and said that directing the act was very chaotic. They expressed their need for sleep, but also their pride for their actors.

The second play, “This is a Satchel,” written by River Hosten and directed by Elliott Alongi, was set within the familiar walls of Baxter Hall. The whole play enjoyed the noise of laughter from the audience—a jab at the recent gas leak in the complex elicited an especially large reaction. Olle Wurtzel played Olle, who donned a heavy Russian accent that made the already funny lines even funnier. Haley (played by Haley Jarvis) and her roommate Lani (played by Lani Southern) perfectly presented the air of amicable roommates. However, it was revealed that the siblings’ parents were responsible for the death of Lani’s parents, and she sought revenge by becoming Haley’s roommate to kill her and her brother. Luckily, Haley was able to escape and free Olle before it was too late. The mundane feel of regular college life combined with the plot twist made for a comedic and gripping act overall.

“This is a Satchel” actor Haley Jarvis found the experience to be really fun—everybody was very supportive of each oth-

er, she said. She added that it was a great community bonding event, and that anybody should consider doing 24 Hour Theatre, even if they have never done anything related to theatre before. It allows people to explore different avenues of theatre, like directing, writing, etcetera, she said. Fellow “This is a Satchel” actor Lani Southern was proud to say that this was her third time doing 24 Hour Theatre. It is always a lot of fun; most things are silly in 24 Hour Theatre, she said.

The third play, “Happy Birthday,” written by Caleb Larson and directed by Ella Stringer, took a more emotional route but kept up with the theme of plot twists. The play began with Vivian (played by Tori Purpura) watching silently from a desk as April (played by Francesca Finch) sobbed to the ground about her neglectful mother. Vivian invited April to her house, where she began to slip and reveal her true motives of using April as a replacement for her late daughter Chloe. April’s fear was quite palpable, but I found the whole concept to be a little predictable. However, I commend the knife fighting scene, which was just the right amount of intense.

Next up was “Baron Mind,” written by Vincent Schillings and directed by Irislyn Monteith. The play began with a comedic sequence of emails read out loud by their writers, Olga Hanford (played by Margareth Ramos) and Geoff Davis (played by Noah Mendel). It seemed to be your casual workplace dispute comedy, until ghost Horace Hanford (played by Chase Pyne) appeared after being summoned by the phrase “It wouldn’t hurt to be a bit more spirited” and a wand of power. It was then revealed that he was Olga’s great-great-great-

grandfather. After reading aloud a family story about a monkey and teaching Olga how to optimize her power in the workplace, Horace left. What stood out to me the most was the unabashed promotion of Oregon American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), which was funny and memorable in its repetition and singing of the organization’s phone number, which for the record is 503-232-1195.

“Baron Mind” playwright Vincent Schillings described the writing process as a haze. Schillings had begun writing the act at 11 p.m. Saturday evening and was back at his dorm at 4 a.m. Sunday morning. Chase Pyne, aka Horace Hanford in “Baron Mind,” summarized his 24 hour theatre experience as both terrifying and amazing. He had had no prior experience in theatre, but his nerves were not visible on stage. He was surprisingly not that tired after the show, Pyne said.

The final play was titled “Arcane Arcade,” written by Anna Burns and directed by Lily Walsh. The act was short

but eventful, as two friends discovered a magic wand within the floor of an abandoned arcade. The sudden flickering of lights accompanied the voice of the owner of the wand—a spell-caster—who demanded it be returned to them and snatched it back to the right part of the universe. The music was a nice touch, and the concept of having a voice offstage was interesting, and I think the desired mystical effect was achieved.

The sheer range of emotions that was able to be configured and displayed all within 24 hours was a feat that I believe the entire cast and crew of the event should be proud of. The reactions from the audience were a great addition to the comfortable and casual atmosphere of the night, and the sense of community extended past the stage. I would say that this is one Willamette event you do not want to miss out on—whether you prefer working on the productions or would rather be in the audience, Putnam Studio is the place to be on 24 Hour Theatre night.



## Staff Picks: When Does The Holiday Season Begin?

Topic: When does the Holiday Season begin? Are you a November 1st person, or does it not even cross your mind until the beginning of December?

Compiled by: Bella Montalvo, Opinions Editor

Disclaimer: The views/opinions expressed are from the individual staff members and do not reflect the perspective of the Collegian Staff, nor the view of the Collegian as a whole. The submissions are unedited/alterd from what was submitted by individual staff members.

**The Pick:** A week before Thanksgiving-New Years Day

**Submitted by:** Gus Gunter, Business Manager

**Staff Comment:** I think that the greater holiday season starts about a week and a half before Thanksgiving and last until New Years

**The Pick:** October is for Halloween, festive decor can come out during Daylight savings, but the Holiday season starts in December

**Submitted by:** Chrissy Ewald, Managing Editor

**Staff Comment:** October is the month of Halloween and should be observed accordingly. I love when people put up festive lights around daylight savings (because WOW winter in Oregon can be dark), but I think people need to wait until December for Christmas things out of

respect for Thanksgiving.

**The Pick:** November 1st

**Submitted by:** Maille Olgay, Artist

**Staff Comment:** I think Christmas time starts after Halloween. October is for Halloween but November and December are for Christmas. (personally I don't like Thanksgiving because of the history)

**The Pick:** November 1st

**Submitted by:** Monte Remer, Staff Writer

**Staff Comment:** I mean ideally Halloween would just never end, but the second that it does, Christmas songs should be blaring.

**The Pick:** November 1st

**Submitted by:** Eleanor Hu, Life-styles Editor

**Staff Comment:** I am huge on Christmas music and I don't

celebrate Thanksgiving, so as soon as October 31st ends I'm celebrating the holidays. Actual holiday activities might not happen until a little later, but November 1st is Mariah Carey time.

**The Pick:** The end of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

**Submitted by:** Emma Innes, Editor In Chief

**Staff Comment:** October should be Halloween only. I don't mind stores setting out Christmas stuff in November and festive lights should be kept up from November to at least February because pretty and Oregon dark. The Holiday season begins when Santa arrives at the end of Macy's Thanksgiving day parade. However, I will be drinking as many peppermint mochas as I can from November onward.

## Opinion : My experience at Willamette as an international student



**JIMMY SIMPSON**  
STAFF WRITER

I'm an international exchange student from the UK and I've been studying at Willamette University for over a month now. During my short time here I've experienced plenty of culture shocks and have had time to reflect on the many peculiarities of life in the U.S. From education to recreation, I've encountered several differences between here and home.

Coming to an English-speaking country I expected the number of cultural barriers to be minimal. Since an early age I've been heavily exposed to American culture through lots of different media, from late-night television shows like Saturday Night Live to some of my favorite music artists, and so I arrived in this country believing that I was already familiar with its people and conventions. However I quickly came to realize that the U.S. is unique in so many ways.

I'll start with some of the differences between Willamette and my home university, the University of Birmingham. The teaching model here at Willamette is more rigorous than

that practiced in the British higher education system. While back home the onus is very much on the student to conduct their own independent study and research, the learning here is much more closely assessed and guided by the professor. Here we are marked on attendance and participation in classes. Assessment also takes a variety of forms, from presentations to summaries of the key reading. Moreover the workload definitely feels more intense. As someone who is accustomed to no more than an hour or two of preparation for every class per week, the weekly homework assignments and large quantities of reading are at times challenging. For all its demands, the academic experience here is nonetheless rewarding. I've found myself engaged and participating in class content to a much greater degree. I've learned so much in just the first few weeks of semester, and I am constantly challenged by my professors, but in a way that feels healthy and stimulating.

There are other aspects of American campus life that I've found intriguing and at times even jarring. The emphasis on extracurricular activities, particularly the culture of sport pro-

moted here at Willamette, differs a fair bit from British campus life. In the UK most students (at least from my own personal experience) come to school first and foremost to pursue their degree. Extracurricular commitments are often secondary, while here almost everyone I've met has their own project or side hustle(s). Most people play or have played for a sports team (or several) from elementary school onward. Many of the male students I have met at Willamette in particular have told me that their primary reason for coming to university is to advance their sporting careers. Undergraduate life at Willamette extends far beyond just academics. The university is just as much a community as it is an institution of higher education; it promotes physical, spiritual and emotional development just as much as it does good grades and employability. The emphasis on extracurriculars certainly makes for a more well-rounded undergraduate experience.

Life beyond Willamette has presented even more surprises (as well as the occasional challenge). It's difficult to understate just how much bigger everything is here in the U.S. Be it the portion sizes, cars, houses, billboards, you name it: Americans don't shy away from making everything and anything jumbo size. Recently I found myself in a Starbucks in Seattle and what I

expected to be a small macchiato turned out to be comparable to a grande back home. This is clearly an expression of the much broader consumer culture practiced here in the U.S. Yes, we have all the big brand names in the UK, but American consumer habits are pretty distinct. Everyone (well, almost everyone) has the newest iPhone, the newest Nikes, the biggest and flashiest car. I may be exaggerating, but it all amounts to a status symbol in a way that it just doesn't for us Brits. I've talked at length about the peculiarities of U.S. culture with my fellow British exchange students.

A few weeks ago Clemmie Little ('23), a friend from home who is also here at Willamette, observed how spending money and outward expressions of wealth seem to be "cool" here in the U.S., especially among young people. Among British students this is generally not the case. Buying from thrift stores (or, as we call them, "charity shops"), dressing cheap, embracing tat and "slumming" it are all pretty common features of British university culture. Not so here. There are plenty of other cultural differences, from the obvious (spelling) to the more subtle (certain social conventions and cultural expectations). Of course there are also the less trivial differences, the not-so-pleasant characteristics of the U.S. political system, which,

well, I won't go into here.

I'd briefly like to discuss a recent event that significantly impacted me and brought my foreign status into sharp focus: namely, the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Just several weeks into the fall semester the world was shaken by the news that Britain's longest-reigning monarch had died at the age of ninety-six. Though I am personally no royalist and staunchly oppose the British monarchy, I cannot deny that experiencing such a monumental historical event so far removed from my home country left me with strange and complicated feelings. Being absent from all the mourning and pageantry surrounding the Queen's death was certainly an odd experience, and observing my country's response from afar felt somewhat alienating. Though the event made headline news everywhere, I could sense that it didn't quite hold the same importance for my American peers. It highlighted the fact that the culture I grew up in, and the one that I call home, is just one of many in the grand scheme of everything.

My time so far living and studying abroad has undoubtedly broadened my perspective of the world in which we live. While at times strange and emotionally taxing, it has made for a humbling and fascinating experience.

## THIS WEEK IN COLLEGIAN HISTORY

**10 Years Ago**  
Headlines from  
**November 14, 2012**

*WU football routs UPS 55-0*

*Why all your stolen goudy dishes are costing you money*

*The Willamette hook-up: tips and tricks*

*PubCat on campus: give it a shot*

*ASWU passes and act to fund the Blitz the Bearcat Program*

**50 Years Ago**  
Headlines from  
**November 16, 1972**

*Beatles decline said due to 'almighty dollar'*

*Cats rolled by Loggers*

*Politics seen destroying language*

*Harvey named law dean*

*Lichens indicate air quality*

*Ellis jazz concert given senate vote of confidence*

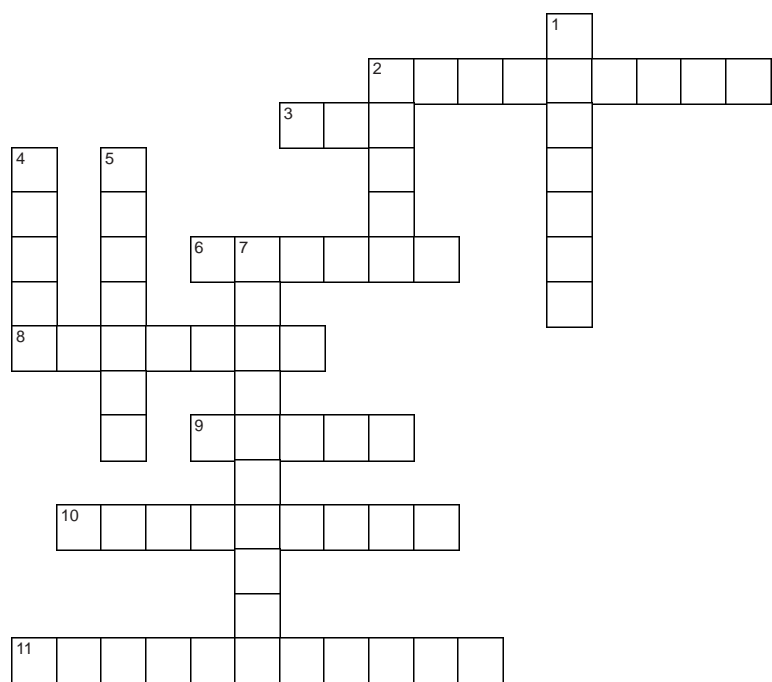
**100 Years Ago**  
Headlines from  
**November 15, 1922**

*"Win my chum week" to open on Sunday eve*

*Country club is scene of Adelante Webster party*

*Miss Jeffers announces her betrothal to Mr. Wentz*

*Intercollegiate Committee to gather in Portland for discussing uniform methods*



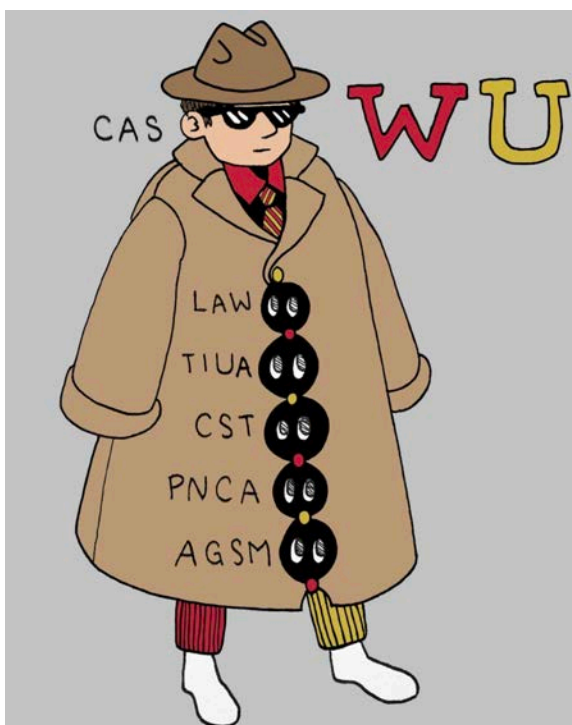
**ACROSS**

- 2. This major has changes to the requirements
- 3. this type of tree remains in Sparks lot
- 6. Blitz's predecessor
- 8. This fellowship gave students money for art projects
- 9. This Student organization puts on shows in 24 hours
- 10. 50 years of this law
- 11. Being phased out by WU

**DOWN**

- 1. Collegian staff disagree on when this season begins
- 2. Skeet Starr went looking for this culture in Salem
- 4. Name of The Collegian's mascot
- 5. Blitz market can't sell this anymore
- 7. Found in the football stadium

## ART AND COMICS



Willamette is just six schools in a Trenchcoat. Art by Chrissy Ewald



Boots the duck. Art by Minna Zhou



Boots the almighty. Art by Chrissy Ewald

Boots the miscommunication. Art by Maille Olgay



Wheel of Goudy. Art by Chrissy Ewald



Barney's revenge. Art by Josie Elicker