

COLLEGIAN

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“PeopleDance”: Sustainability
in motion
Arts, 5

To tweet, or not to tweet?
Examining cyberculture
Feature, 6-7 and Opinions, 10



“Eleven’s a crowd”: Men’s lacrosse wins short-handed
Sports, 8

Convocation: Sudan shows signs of progress

KATE BARKER
CONTRIBUTOR

As a way to kick off the University's sixth annual Africa Week, last Thursday's Convocation was titled "Sudan Divided? History and Current Referendum." This Convocation was presented by senior Colin Wilson, Africa Club Presidents and seniors Hannah



Senior Colin Wilson discusses the conflicts and improvements in Sudan at Convocation last Thursday.

ASTRA LINDOLN

Harper and Carley Kwiatkowski and Professor of Anthropology Joyce Millen.

Sudan has been making headlines lately because the country held an election on Jan. 9 to decide if southern Sudan should secede from northern Sudan. This election, or referendum, has been discussed since 2005 through peace talks between the North and South that have sought to put an end to constant civil wars. Results showed that 99 percent of the people of South Sudan voted in favor of secession.

Wilson, who wrote a paper on the Sudan conflicts for an anthropology class he took last semester, explained that since this week is the beginning of the University's annual Africa Week, it was appropriate to start it off with this current topic.

"It's pretty crazy, now that you think about it; it's another country, yet people don't recognize it, and that these people are expressing themselves and their opinions of what they want in their government," Harper said.

The speakers started off by giving everyone a brief history of Sudan, which is one of the largest countries in Africa. The country's borders were drawn by the British during their colonial rule, regardless of the ranging tribal/ethnic groups. According to the speakers, after the country was given independence in 1956, conflicts between the North and South started. While this is

a generalized explanation of a multifaceted issue, the population of the North is more Muslim and Arabic, while the population of the South is considered more Christian and African/animist.

These cultural tensions have only escalated throughout the years, and the people in the South have felt that they are not well represented in the country. But with this referendum, South Sudan can formally declare independence in July and become the Republic of South Sudan.

Though Sudan has seen recent progress, it does not mean that all of the country's problems will go away with the new separation. There are issues these two sides are going to have to sort out. While the formation of the Republic of South Sudan is a step in the right direction, the country needs to forge a national identity amongst all the different ethnic groups and determine the kind of government they want to establish.

"They lack a lot of the things like medical clinics we have and take for granted," Wilson said. There is conflict in both the North and South between groups of people that are nomads or settlers.

For the most part, the media has been oversimplifying the conflicts. "There is so much ethnic diversity in both the North and South that the conflict is so much more than the North Sudanese versus the South Sudanese and Arabs versus the Afri-

cans," Wilson said.

Also, there are many issues relating to oil fields, which are mostly controlled by the North, while the majority of them reside in the South. This was highlighted at the Convocation in a video clip called "In Sudanese State of Unity, Mood Foreshadows Secession."

The speakers said that in addition to those problems, the recent protests in Egypt are having significant implications for other predominantly Arab countries, including Sudan. There have already been a few protests in Khartoum, the capital, for the ousting of President Omar al-Bashir.

According to the speakers, people in those countries watch the news and hear about the success and impact that the protests in Egypt have had, and this makes them realize that such triumphs are possible for them too. There is already growing disapproval of President Bashir, who has been charged with multiple crimes against humanity, including the Darfur conflict.

Nonetheless, according to Wilson, the fact that 99 percent of the Sudanese people voted in this last election is a very good sign of important progress. "We tend to demonize Africa and focus on the problems countries there have - we need to focus on positive things too," Wilson said.

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Hallie Ford Club encourages art appreciation

ANNA MENCARELLI
STAFF WRITER

For over a decade, the Hallie Ford Museum of Art has housed and showcased the University's expanding art collection. Although the museum is barely a block from campus and admission is free to students, former Hallie Ford interns Reva Main, Alisa Alexander and Kayleena Pierce-Bohen said that few students seize the opportunity to visit the artworks displayed.

"We were all talking, and we couldn't believe how many people we knew who had never been in the Hallie Ford, or who had gone there every day for a class in the lecture hall but never set foot in the collections," senior art history major and studio art minor Main said. "We all agreed that something needed to be done to get students more involved with the museum and in planning the events; a club was started." The three students co-founded the University's first art appreciation club, the Hallie Ford Art Club, in 2010.

The club was created not only to encourage students to visit the nearby museum, but also to inspire them to enjoy art regardless of major or prior artistic experience. "Another reason we started this club is that we were amazed by how many people won't even approach art because they feel they aren't good at it or don't know about it. We want our events to be a fun way for anyone to socialize and think creatively for a couple of hours without stress," Main said.

One of these events, known as the "Night at the Museum," involves art projects, food and touring the museum's art collection, and the new co-presidents of the club hope to make it an event that students can look forward to every semester.

This semester, junior Art History ma-

jors Olivia Lawther and Kathryn Pawlick have agreed to assume the role of co-presidents while interning at the Hallie Ford. They hope to expand upon the original inspiration of the club by coordinating a trip to the Portland Art Museum and featuring a film on street art, "Exit Through the Gift Shop," in March.

Furthermore, the club hopes to establish an exhibit at the Hallie Ford that is composed of artwork by students, regardless of their major. "The club is not geared toward people who know about art, but about opening up opportunities for people to take advantage of the resources at the museum," Pawlick said. "I hope that in the future the club becomes recognizable on campus and is associated with fun activities that students who are not directly art history majors will still participate in."

In the upcoming semester, the club plans to continue to introduce students to the museum and foster a community where the arts are supported. "I feel that our club is beneficial to other disciplines because art is a very important part of the Willamette community," Lawther said. "The club is about involving everyone with the museum in many different activities which creates a good environment for students to work together and meet other people. Also, the Hallie Ford is a large part of the Salem community as well, which can help members and people coming to our events interact with people outside of the Willamette bubble."

Learn more

Students wishing to join the club or receive announcements of upcoming events are welcome to e-mail Co-Presidents Kathryn Pawlick at kpawlick@willamette.edu, and Olivia Lawther at olawther@willamette.edu.

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Lilly Project holds spring semester retreat

EMILIE JENSEN
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 28-30, The Lilly Project held one of its two spring semester retreats for those that had recently returned from studying abroad. Students were able to help each other reflect on and process their experiences and what those experiences meant for each of them. The second retreat will be held Feb. 25-27 at Silver Falls State Park for anyone interested in learning more about themselves and thinking about their visions for the future.

The Lilly Project is a university program that is wholly committed to aiding students in their quest to discover what future career is right for them. This project exists in great part through funds granted from Lilly Endowment, Inc. It provides opportunities for members of the community by encouraging them to examine future career options, think about their own personal contributions to society and examine the art of decision making by becoming involved in numerous academic and co-curricular events such as the project's bi-semester retreat.

According to the Lilly Project's Web site, "Vocation, as used in the context of the Lilly Project at Willamette, does not mean strictly religious vocations; neither does it refer to building a skilled workforce. Rather, it means the way in which we live out our passions in the world, the way in which our values, our commitments and our beliefs are embodied in our choices about work, about family, about our political and social lives."

The Lilly Project prides itself in aiding the decision making process that students exercise during their vocational search. The skills introduced by the Lilly Project are derived from the engagement of larger questions dealing with the meaning and purpose of life. Allowing students to not only make intellectual decisions about their careers, but also assist in shaping all aspects of their lives both now and in the future.

Though the retreat consists of several structured activities, participants enjoy its down time as well. "It's the most calming weekend, there's a lot of time to hang out in the cabin and it's really nice to get out of Salem. Also there is no cell service so you really have to power down," junior and former participant Isabella Guida said.

The Lilly Project retreat is open to all students and is free of charge. The following are its goals: To provide an opportunity for reflection, leading participants to a better understanding of themselves and the paths they want to take. To give students a chance to practice being intentional about themselves. To model a variety of reflection tools and methods that students can take away and use throughout their lives. To have students walk away with a clearer sense of self, including identification of values, gifts and hopes. To establish a community of others who can support them in developing an authentic sense of self. And to help participants gain a better sense of what they want to do now to achieve their life goals.

"We help participants meet these goals through a variety of exercises, games, projects, journaling, collages, discussion and reflection, all aimed at helping students answer the big questions for themselves: Who am I? What's my passion? What's my purpose in life?" Associate Chaplain for Vocational Exploration and Director of The Lilly Project Karen Wood said. "We also spend time walking in the woods, hiking around waterfalls, hanging out and eating well."

Lilly Vocational Discernment and study abroad retreats have been held four times a year since 2002; twice in the fall and twice in the spring, at either the Oregon Coast or Silver Falls State Park. For more information about the retreat, e-mail Karen Wood at kwood@willamette.edu.

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Student playwrights present their work

KENDRA SCHMAL
CONTRIBUTOR

On Feb. 9, students gathered in the Hatfield Room for four 15-30 minute one-act plays, which were written by students for last semester's Creative Writing: Screenwriting class, taught by Professor of Theater and English Andrea Stolowitz.

"Now that we have our final plays, the next step was to hear them read in front of an audience so we could hear a reaction and know if anything needs to be adjusted further," Sophomore Victoria Smith said. Smith was one of the student writers who helped to organize the event.

Dan Daly, junior:

Collegian: What is your play about?

Dan Daly: My play depicts the chance meeting of two people who believe their lives are spent and that they have nothing left to give. One is an aged lawbreaker in the process of carrying out another petty theft; one is contemplating breaking the law for the first and last time by taking her life.

C: What do you hope the audience takes away from the play?

DD: I mostly want the audience to enjoy the story and believe in the characters, but I wouldn't grumble if any went away wondering how they might react to the devastation of unexpected calamity. Would their thoughts and actions sink inward toward total self-absorption, or would they look outside of themselves?

Victoria Smith, sophomore:

Collegian: What is your play about?

Victoria Smith: My play, "Two Cups of Coffee," is a heightened comedy, almost farcical, but it's still based [on] reality. It's about miscommunications and relationships and why we jump to conclusions and make (or find ourselves unable to make) some of the decisions that we do.

C: What was your inspiration?

VS: My inspiration for the play started with a really silly "what if." I was thinking about writing a dramatic piece, and Arthur Miller's "A View from the Bridge" came to mind, where the protagonist gets stabbed in the end while fighting for the woman that he loves. Then I thought,

"What if the woman he loved got stabbed instead? What if he was the one to stab her?" And then I thought, "What if it was one of those tiny 99-cent pocket knives?" Then it became a comedy.

Wesley Dawn, freshman:

Collegian: What is your play about?

Wesley Dawn: My play is about a character named Miles who desperately needs help from one of his best buddies from his youth. The fate of the world could hang in the balance.

C: What do you hope the audience takes away from the play?

WD: I just hope people think that my play was funny. So I guess ideally the audience will take a sore midsection away from the play because they laughed so much. I enjoy making people laugh and smile. Typically, when people laugh and smile, it means they're happy. Happy people are good.

I also would just like to say thanks to everyone who put together the event, particularly Victoria Smith, her adviser and the theater department.

Emily Safford, sophomore:

Collegian: What is your play about?

Emily Safford: My play is about two young inventors who are building a machine that can read people's minds and print their thoughts out on paper. Through a mix of philosophical speculation and romantic tension, they are forced to confront both the implications of the invention they have created and their feelings for one another.

C: What was your inspiration?

ES: As a writer, I have often thought it would be nice to have a machine that could process the chaotic mess of my thought process and print it out cleanly in an organized form. I realized, however, that if a machine like that were to exist, it would present difficult questions about the limits of privacy,

and of what humans can know about one another.

In thinking about the consequences this kind of machine would have in society, I wondered how the inventor of such a device would feel about its various uses. I wanted to deconstruct the dichotomy of the mind and the heart, and show that reason and emotion are not opposing forces, but rather two fundamental parts of a complex whole. The readings were made possible with the help of the Student Theatre Arts Group, who rehearsed and performed the pieces Wednesday night.

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LAUREN VANWINK

Student playwright Victoria Smith reads her original play on Wednesday.

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Book Schock'd COLUMN

'Sinful in Satin' by Madeline Hunter

'Sinful in Satin?' More like barfing in burlap



AUSTIN SCHOCK

COLUMNIST

Celia Penniford, daughter of a famous London courtesan and protagonist of Madeline Hunter's "Sinful in Satin" shares a quality with me. For I, too, have never felt the warm embrace of a man, his bulging, muscular arms wrapped around my still-quivering form as my heart raced to a crescendo of speed from which the music of Franz List could have been conducted.

There is no doubt that you can tell from my over the top parody that this book is a trashy paperback romance novel, and for that I shall forever hold both it and its author in great disdain.

Obviously, I don't really like the romance genre, but that's not my reason for disliking this book so much. The most basic plotline is actually very sound and interesting: a woman in (I'm assuming) late 19th century London trying to live beyond her past and create a new life for herself. Had the book been left at that, this would have been a charming novel on par (aside from some grammatical issues) with Jane Austen.

However, Hunter apparently didn't think that her novel would sell well enough, and, as such, decided to add in that most alluring of ingredients: sex. Were it a sprinkling, the sex might have added something to the plot. As it is, the scenes are revolting, overly descriptive ("pressing his erection like the softest squeeze," bleagh) and purely physical. It's as though Hunter truly believes that when the sexes meet, they lose all depth.

The author also thinks that when a woman is around a man, she becomes incapable of completing even the simplest of tasks. For example, there is a scene where Celia is talking about how independent and strong she is. She then walks to the window and sees, out on the street, a boy being beaten to a bloody pulp.

This boy is one whom she had just recently hired, and his attackers are other boys who have discovered Celia's lineage. Celia does absolutely nothing but stand at the window, watching events unfold and pity herself that things are now going to be so much harder for her.

When "Sinful" focuses solely on Celia, the novel is genuinely interesting. However, those moments are few, the interregnum filled with angst and sex. For an example of what this novel could have been, read Elizabeth Hayden's "Rhapsody."

If you, my readers, have a recent book that you would like me to review, just send me an e-mail (with "Book Idea" in the subject line) and I will see what I can do.



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ALBUM REVIEW: Kanye West 'My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy'

'Dark Twisted Fantasy': An egotistical negative

TILL GWINN
CONTRIBUTOR

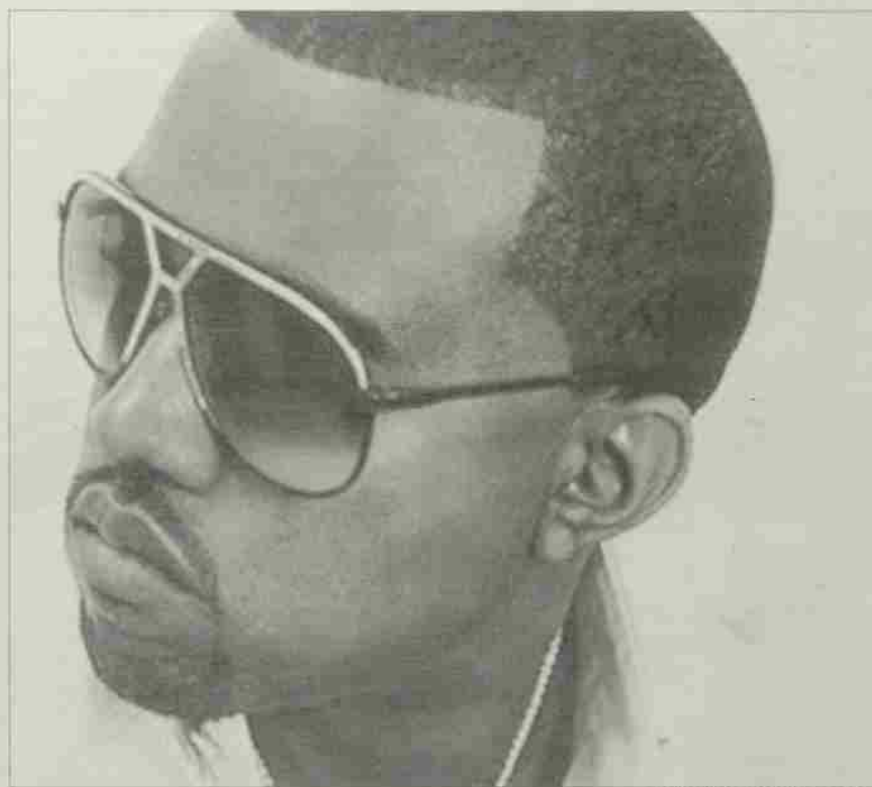
When one makes a mistake, it's important to be corrected, however embarrassing it may be. Although, to be called a jacka** by a Nobel Peace Prize winning president is probably the worst way to find out. Alas, so is the life of Kanye West after he bum-rushed Taylor Swift at the MTV Music Awards. This, as would make sense, drove him into a self-inflicted exile to a location that reflected his inner pain: (read with flirty teenage excitement) Hawaii!

There, he hung out with KiD CuDi, smoked weed and recorded one of the best albums of the year, "My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy." Thus is the paradox of West: how can I listen and appreciate the music of a man who is so arrogant that he must express his opinion at the expense of a defenseless country singer? In addition, his new album is impressive enough to make me forget all about his ego and concentrate on what fills my ears.

"My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy" is a wide range of differently mastered musicality. From the "Dark Fantasy," which emits the incapability to create truly original art now, to the bombarding finally of "Who Will Survive in America," this album is wholly complete, to say the least. Each track fits perfectly within its framework while speaking to the overarching emotion of the album. Choosing a favorite song is difficult, but I have narrowed it down to eight out of 13.

"Gorgeous" features CuDi on the chorus and mimicry of a Rattat guitar riff throughout. Kanye raps through a fuzzy vocal mic which keeps him back from the listener. This is contrasted nicely with the next track, "Power." Here the electricity of the King Crimson-inspired chorus sample feels strong enough to knock you over with its final power chord.

Kanye pleads that, "No one man should have all that power," which is true. Kanye admits to being a little over the top with his pride; too much confidence is liable to kill a man says the line, "This would be a beautiful death jumping out



COURTESY OF PHOTOBUCKET.COM

"My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy" was easily one of the best albums of 2010.

the window, letting everything go."

For me, the next worthwhile songs are, "All of the Lights" and "Monster." "All of the Lights" rises above the common with marching horns and "Monster" uses a curious circus of tapping cameos to animate a living, breathing hip-hop beast with the grill of Nicki Minaj. It's ghoulish, to say the least.

Then, "Devil in a New Dress" sets us up with a slow R&B move into the album's pinnacle at "Runaway." Before listening to the album, I suggest watching the music video of the same title. Although West is mediocre at acting, his co-star Selita Ebanks is a beautiful bird-woman who is nicely framed by the music and not very much clothing.

My last, but not least, favorite is "The Blame Game" with John Legend singing over a broken heart piano with a verse and chorus of vengeance. I never

thought someone who sounds so sweet could be so sad and angry, which reminds me of the Kanye paradox I mentioned in another review.

I've come to accept that artists are at some basic level nothing more than arrogant children, some of which either refuse to grow up or to adapt their attitude to adulthood standards. Kanye has done a masterful job with the latter and it definitely shows in this album. It was easily the best of 2010 for me.



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FILM REVIEW: 'Sanctum 3D'

James Cameron, what have you done?

TOM EHREMAN
REVIEWS EDITOR

It boggles the mind how the same man who has produced the two highest grossing films of all time can turn around and fling out a stink bomb like "Sanctum." One would think that the producer and director of "Titanic" and "Avatar" using the 3D technology he personally developed for the latter film would come up with something more, or at least something prettier.

Sadly, however, "Sanctum" disappoints on all these counts, including, surprisingly, the 3D special effects. But I'm getting ahead of myself. First, let's address the plot.

"Sanctum" tells the story of a team of Australian spelunkers (including a father and son) who become trapped miles underground after a cyclone floods the cave system they were exploring. This plot, while awfully predictable, is the strong point of the movie. Despite its blandness, it manages to remain immersive. It feels like a suspense slasher, only without the homicidal maniac. There are definitely scary and even gory moments, so avoid this one if that's not your thing.

The average American audience member probably won't know a single

member of the cast by name, as only two of them have any exposure on the American film scene - Ioan Gruffudd (you'll know him when you see him. He played Mr. Fantastic in the "Fantastic 4" movies) and Alice Parkinson (who you might know as "that hot chick from 'X-Men Origins: Wolverine'").

The remainder of the headlining cast is entirely Australian. This adds a level of authenticity that American actors donning Australian accents could never manage, and for the most part, the "Sanctum" cast members are decent actors.

Gruffudd (Carl), Dan Wyllie (George) and Richard Roxburgh (Frank) do especially well. Unfortunately, they have to share the screen with Parkinson, who is, by far, the least convincing actor in the movie.

Every once in a while, though, Rhys Wakefield (who plays the protagonist, Josh), drops the ball badly enough to give Parkinson a run for her title, but, thankfully, he holds it together for most of the film.

The special effects in "Sanctum" are a major letdown, especially after they've been hyped so much. I've seen what this

same kind of technology can do. "Avatar" was beautiful, after all. But "Sanctum" somehow manages to make even this state-of-the-art CGI look cheap.

One scene features two divers deep in an underwater chasm looking upward at the surface of water, which is shimmering and defocusing like a late 1990s screensaver. The majority of the movie, however, seems to have been filmed on-location in a real cave system, so, thankfully, we don't have to contend with the crappy CGI too much.

The 3D itself is nothing special. There are no moments where the film jumps out at you, and overall it's fairly subtle. That said, it's as immersive as any other 3D experience, so it's effective.

All considered, this movie could have been a lot better. It has some wins, but several disappointments as well. I recommend seeing it, but not in theaters. Wait until it hits Blockbuster and Netflix.



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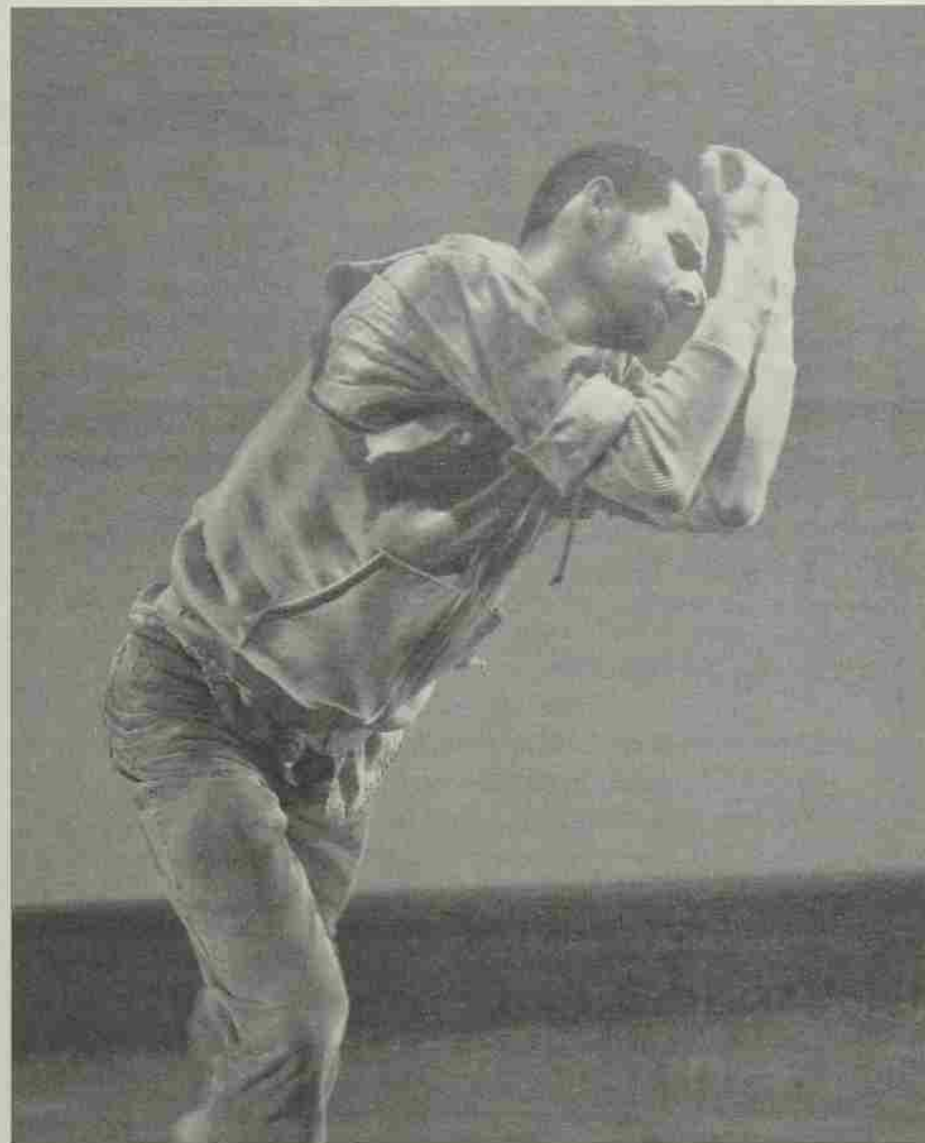
'PeopleDance': A creative spin on sustainability

JOE DONOVAN
CONTRIBUTOR

Beginning this Thursday evening, the influential experience of dance will be performed at "PeopleDance." According to the Willamette events calendar, this concert "arises from a belief that dance is a universal activity."

"PeopleDance" will capture the aesthetic of human experience, conveyed through dance in a variety of different genres, including ballet, hip-hop and modern dance. It will take place in the Playhouse Theatre.

The event is a collaborative effort between faculty and students, with some performanc-



CAMERON HILL

Matthew Nelson, Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance, brings emotion and skill to his performance.



CAMERON HILL

Apocalyptic imagery marks "PeopleDance" as a dramatic performance, enhanced by skilled dancers.

es choreographed by guest artists including Portland choreographer Okaidja Afrosó and Senior Peggyjoy Hodgén. Students who are looking to save money should attend the preview night on Thursday. Here, they can save \$2 compared to regular admission on Friday through Sunday, which costs \$8. The show runs until Feb. 26.

For Visiting Assistant Professor of Dance Matthew Nelson, this concert seeks to make dance relevant to the Salem community. He hopes to bring together the spirit and body in a way that promotes the ideals that are important to the University. A major theme of "PeopleDance" is sustainability. This concert will communicate ideas about perpetuating a human belief system. Nelson plans to draw from apocalyptic themes to convey a sustainable message.

Nelson hopes his debut production at Willamette will create the foundation for a strong dance community that will rival the best small liberal arts programs in the country. In many ways this concert aims to jumpstart the dance community in Salem, while making dance approachable for students.

Nelson is excited for the challenge of performing in the new Playhouse Theatre, believing this renovated space offers a powerful yet intimate atmosphere that allows for exciting performances. "This is a professional level production," Nelson said, mentioning the use of state-of-the-art technology to showcase the choreographers and dancers.

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Learn more

Tickets for "PeopleDance" can be purchased online on the Theater Department Web site, or at the theater box office. The show will be performed from Feb. 18-26. Tickets are \$8. The \$6 preview show is this Thursday, Feb. 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Africa Market promises to entertain and educate

KELLEY VILLA
CONTRIBUTOR

An African Market will be held in Cat Cavern on Saturday, Feb. 19. Various African wares will be available for purchase and many culturally engaging activities will take place throughout the day.

A short film entitled "The Single Story" will be shown at 11 a.m. The film features Chimamanda Adichie, a Nigerian writer who discusses what she calls "the danger of the single story." Adichie said that thinking about another culture in strictly one way "robs people of their dignity."

From 12-1 p.m., Ghanaian drummer Okaidja Afrosó will hold a dance workshop. According to his Web site, Afrosó "hopes to preserve traditional African music and dance and to promote cross-cultural understanding by sharing his culture with diverse groups of people."

The market will be held from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

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Multi genre artist Dao Strom to visit campus

KALI BOEHLE-SILVA
STAFF WRITER

The writer and musician Dao Strom will bring her medium and genre bending work to campus next Wednesday, Feb. 23 as part of the Spring Hallie Ford Literary Series. Titled "Story and Song," the event will showcase Strom's creative work.

"I am particularly excited about her visit because she works in two media that use language as a means of expression," Hallie Ford Chair Professor Scott Nadelson said.

Strom has published two novels: "Grass Roof, Tin Roof" (2003) and "The Gentle Order of Girls and Boys" (2006); and two albums: "Send Me Home" (2004) and "Everything that Blooms Wrecks Me" (2008). She has used both mediums to explore the themes of immigration, motherhood/motherlands, war and conflict, family relationships and love, among others. Many of these themes are drawn from personal experiences.

Strom was born in Saigon, Vietnam and immigrated with her mother to the U.S. She has since lived in northern California, New York City, Iowa, Texas and, most recently,

Portland, where she continues to write and make music under the collaborative title "The Sea and the Mother."

According to Strom's blog, she is currently working on "Requiem for the Migration & Mother(land)songs," a song cycle, and "Notes from the Southern World," her third work of prose. These two in-progress works deal in various ways with the diasporic and

“ I am not good at winding stories down to neat conclusions or epiphanic endings. My own tendencies seem to lean toward the ambiguous ending.”

DAO STROM
WRITER, MUSICIAN

her interests and preoccupations with an enormous emotional range. Her visit provides a unique opportunity for us to have conversations about the different craft challenges and possibilities that come with different media, as well as the universal aspects of artistic production that transcend medium and genre," Nadelson said.

Excerpts from "Grass Roof," "Tin Roof"

and "The Gentle Order of Girls and Boys" are available at www.daostrom.com/books, and her most recent track, "Origin Tale," a version of a Vietnamese creation myth, is available at daostrom.bandcamp.com.

The track's accompanying blog, daostrom.wordpress.com, describes her process of writing the song and is a good way of getting at what Nadelson phrased as "her elegant use of language; sentence by sentence, her prose is lovely, precise and haunting."

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Dao Strom's 2004 album "Send Me Home" poetically addresses complex themes taken from her personal experiences.

Cyberculture and the evolution of communication



KRISTEN KELLAR As people turn to the Internet and technology to network and communicate with others, the notion of a cyberculture has come to define our society. According to the Resource Center for Cyberculture Studies at the University of San Francisco, cyberculture began in the early 1990s when newspapers and magazines began posting their stories online. Since then, it has grown to include the use of social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter.

Statistics on Facebook's Web site report that it has more than 500 million active users, and on any given day more than 50 percent of those users have signed on. With the U.S. Census Bureau estimating that there are 6.9 billion people in the world, that means that just over seven percent of the world's population is an active user on Facebook. Their statistics also report that each month, users spend more than 700 billion minutes on the site, averaging a little more than 45 minutes a day per person.

When Facebook was first created in 2004 it was only available to college students, though it later opened up to high school students and now anyone over the age of 13 can create an account. Senior Danny Miller said that he remembers when Facebook was only available to college students and said that, for that reason, the site seemed much more exclusive.

Senior Katy Hoth said that she remembers when Facebook first allowed high school students to register. "I remember having to have a high school e-mail address ... and prove you were a high school student," Hoth said.

The exclusivity that Facebook created in its early days has branched to other Web sites that have since tried to do similar things. Hoth said, "When Facebook became uncool, Web sites like Twitter and LinkedIn were created in an attempt to recreate the exclusivity." While anyone can join the networking site LinkedIn, users can send invitations to others to join.

One thing that draws users to Facebook is that it combines many aspects of communication into an easy-to-use site, junior

Estella Yee said. By being able to post status updates and pictures, everything is together and it's easier to know what's going on. However, even though it makes communication easier, Yee said that some people tend to become obsessed with what's going on in other people's lives.

Part of that could stem from what people are willing to post on the Internet. "[Certain people] are in the know about everything and the reason they are is because they pay attention to Facebook way too much. I think people are too open. For a while, I used to post status updates all the time, and I used to list my favorite bands and all my personal information, and then I realized that it's kind of stupid. Why do I need to have all this stuff posted? If people want to know something about me, they don't need to look it up on Facebook; they can just ask me," senior Taylor Buchheit said.

With the country's culture becoming more cyber-oriented, more of users' personal information tends to end up on social networking sites. While some say that users

should keep in mind what is posted and who could potentially see that information, Miller thinks differently. "I kind of feel like people shouldn't worry about it as much as people want them to. We're becoming so Puritanical, and I feel like people are always saying not to post things that you wouldn't want your parents to read. I feel like it shouldn't matter," Miller said.

Hoth said that when posting things online, users need to keep in mind that the whole world can see it. She also said that in certain cases, there should be some sort of etiquette about what and when information is posted. Death is one of those things that should be taken into account, Hoth said.

Hoth said she once learned about a friend's death through Facebook. "One thing that really irks me is that when someone dies, do not keep posting on their wall about how much you miss them. It's sort of just gratuitous, and why are you doing this? It's to show you care, but not a representation of what you actually think," Hoth said.

Facebook's reach across the cyber world has become more noticeable recently through other Web sites and even car manufacturers. Buchheit said, "It's really weird - I saw a commercial for [the Chevy Cruze] and if you click a button on the mirror it says what Facebook is doing, what people's statuses are. Everyone is posting every little thing about their lives. ... And now all sorts of Web sites are becoming like that. I'll go on some random Web site I've never been on before and

then it shows pictures of my friends and it says my friends 'like' this, and it's weird how they know who my friends on Facebook are." Miller said, "Technology has made [Facebook] more portable, and more people are starting to use it, and every site you go to, now there's a 'like' this on Facebook button." Miller said that he uses sites like Facebook and Twitter more often because they are easily accessible from his phone. Even though Miller uses both Facebook and Twitter, he said that he thinks they are pointless.

twitter

"Facebook has basically invented their own market and now they fill a void, but they created it in the first place. With e-mail, instant messaging and text messaging, there's no real reason why you'd ever need to use Facebook. It doesn't create a solution to a problem; it's just there and the same goes for Twitter," Miller said.

While some people like Facebook for its ability to make information about friends and contacts more accessible, Twitter does a similar thing.

"Twitter's pretty big, and I think it's sometimes more

useful than Facebook because a lot of bands and companies [tweet] and there's useful things about it," Buchheit said. Buchheit, who is the drummer for the band These Evil Days, said that networking sites are helpful because they allow him to tell people when and where their shows will be, and sites like MySpace allow them to showcase their music.

While Miller does not understand the purpose and intrigue of Twitter, he said that in the field of journalism, "it's definitely more relevant because they can send you the headline of an article, but then again you can go to the Web site. But, I guess it's a way to get everything together."

In June 2010, Twitter CEO Dick Costolo announced at the Conversational Media Summit that Twitter had 190 million users, though not all of them were active users. While the number of social networking site users is increasing, Hoth said, it will take time before a Web site as popular as Facebook comes around.

As has happened with other social networking sites, there will come a time when Facebook will lose its popularity, Buchheit said. "But, I think something else will come out that's even more in-depth about everything. I think computers are so built into our daily lives that the further

“ [When Facebook dies] I think something else will come out that's even more in-depth about everything. I think computers are so built into our daily lives that the further we get, the more integrated they'll be.”

TAYLOR BUCHHEIT
SENIOR

“ Facebook has basically invented their own market and now they fill a void, but they created it in the first place. ... It doesn't create a solution to a problem; it's just there and the same goes for Twitter.”

DANNY MILLER
SENIOR

facebook



Sophomore Amanda Tamanaha spends time using her computer in the library. Many students use social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter while taking a break from studying.

EMILY SCHUEMAN

LinkedIn

we get, the more integrated they'll be," Buchheit said. Miller said that he thinks the next big social networking site could possibly have a relationship with Google. "I don't think it'll take much for a site to come along and for people to make the switch. People are so fickle and they'll just think of it. It could be something that Google comes up with or that Google buys, but it'll probably have something to do with Google. ... Google is just so quick on its feet and they'll always buy things up," Miller said.

Hoth said that when she graduates this May, she will probably spend about the same amount of time on Facebook, if not less, because "when you're in college you spend a lot of time on it when you're avoiding homework or whatever, but when you're not stuck to a computer all the time, there are better things to do with your time."

As people turn to technology for interaction with others, both Buchheit and Yee said that they should still get out and physically talk to others. Yee said that while sites like Facebook do provide communication, they also hinder it.

Though there are positives and negatives to the usage of social networking sites, Buchheit said that he thinks the emphasis put on such sites is unfortunate. "Because we have Facebook, most people won't just call people to talk, they'll just write them a note on Facebook," Buchheit said. "That's like the main level of contact for people."

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Social Networking and Careers

JERRY HOUSER
ASSOCIATE DEAN AND DIRECTOR OF CAREER SERVICES

A recent survey indicated that social networking is becoming one of the best resources for the job search, and LinkedIn is the best network. There are 1,200 Willamette alumni on our LinkedIn group. This means that you can connect with a lot of alumni for advice, suggestions, recommendations and job opportunities, and it is only available to Willamette alumni and students.

Here's what to do: Get a nice, professional looking picture of you (a head and shoulders shot) and upload it in the LinkedIn profile. Then build your LinkedIn site thoroughly - don't make it just minimal. It should contain everything that is on your resume and possibly more.

From that site you can link the reader to your own resume and Web page (you can make a nice Web page in about one hour through Optimal Resume via the Willamette Career Center site). You now have an online professional brand that employers, friends and colleagues can find. This is not Facebook; it's serious information only.

Many employers tell us that they check your Facebook account before hiring you. If they don't like what they see, you are out of luck.

Thirty-five percent of candidates are rejected because of Facebook content. When you are job hunting, be sure you clean up your Facebook and wall postings. Eliminate any pictures or conversations that might be taken the wrong way. Keep an eye on it, and rather than sending employers to Facebook, instead link them to LinkedIn.

I've heard that some companies are beginning to instant message or tweet candidates to confirm appointments or set up connections. Some jobs are beginning to appear on these networks as well. But the standard and professional way to interact with employers is through e-mail.

If your e-mail address has a silly name like "bigdaddy" or "fishbreath," change it. Facebook is good to use for contacting friends to inquire about jobs, but don't use it as a career branding tool.



MARCO FIALLO

Associate Dean and Director of Career Services Jerry Houser provides resources for students looking for career networking.

Houser provided the following online resources for job searching and networking:

- CareerBuilder
- MonsterTrak
- Jobster
- LinkedIn
- Facebook
- Craigslist
- MyWorkster with Indeed
- Optimal Resume
- Jobfox
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BASEBALL

Bearcats picked fourth in NWC, With bevy of returning, new talent

JOHN LIND
SPORTS EDITOR

Vacant for most of the summer, Roy "Spec" Keene Field has suddenly become alive with action during the past few weeks. A quick scan of Goudy Commons during dinner hours will usually yield a group of red-shirted men chowing away after a hard practice. With spring looming just around the corner, 36 Bearcat hardhats are already breaking out their bats and gloves and fine-tuning themselves for Friday, Feb. 18.

That's right. Baseball season is finally here.

With just days left before the season-opening four-game series against Simpson University in Redding, California, Head Coach Aaron Swick isn't sweating over his team's last minute preparations.

"No, I'm not nervous," Swick said. "This team has experience. We have 23 returning letter winners and seven of eight everyday guys on this team. They know the drill. It's a bunch of level-headed guys going out there to play."

Willamette was recently picked to finish fourth in the NWC Baseball Preseason Poll by the league's head coaches. Reigning NWC Champion Linfield College, who finished last year's national tournament in third place and is currently ranked eighth in the country, is the favorite to repeat in the conference.

The Wildcats received seven of nine first place votes from coaches in the conference. Also ahead of Willamette in the poll are Pacific Lutheran University and George Fox University.

"I don't put too much weight into that poll," Swick said. "Once we had fall practice, I knew we had a solid group of guys here that has a chance to do some pretty good things this season."

The 'Cats open their season against a slew of California teams, finally beginning their NWC schedule on March 5 against Lewis & Clark University. The weekend of May 12-13 will be an important one, as the Bearcats play their home opener (and only series of the season) against rival Linfield at Roy "Spec" Keene Stadium.

The Bearcats graduated only one senior last year and return some considerable experience to the lineup, espe-



EMILT SCHUEMAN

A Willamette player is pictured swinging during a 2010 game. The Bearcats kick off their 2011 season this Friday against Simpson University.

cially in junior DH Mitchell Rowan and senior outfielder T.C. Lee. Both Rowan and Lee were First Team All-NWC selections, and were 1-2 in almost every major offensive category for Willamette. Both Rowan and Lee also started every game they played.

The Bearcats boast even more returning All-NWC talent, including the likes of senior catcher Max Stepan, senior pitcher Chris Torgerson and sophomore outfielders Sky Kelly and Tyson Giza. Starter and senior Doug Bloom will also add his valuable experience to the squad. Swick said the captains of the team, Lee, Stepan, Bloom and senior pitcher Devin Grindy, will all be counted on for their leadership.

Willamette has a bevy of youth, boasting an 11-man freshman class on this year's squad. Swick was complimentary of the freshmen class, calling them "an athletic, talented group who are extremely competitive."

Besides a strong offense, this 'Cat team is anchored by its depth. "We have multiple guys who can play the same position, which makes it much easier to sustain injury," Swick said.

As for the outcome of the season, Swick would not give a conclusive answer on a predicted finish, but said that the team has "the talent, experience and drive to compete for a conference title."

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next up

Bearcats vs. Simpson @
Redding, California
Friday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m.

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LACROSSE

Men's Lacrosse opens season on fire

EVAN TURNER
CONTRIBUTOR

The Men's Lacrosse (WULAX) season is in full swing, with wins over Humboldt State University (HSU), Central Washington University (CWU) and a shorthanded loss to Gonzaga University (GU).

The WULAX spring season featured many pressing questions, such as what effect new Coach Kyle Tolzman would have on the offense, the health of junior attack-man Ian McAnnis-Entenman and concern over whether a limited number of players could hurt the team in the long run.

These questions were quickly answered after this weekend's games against CWU and GU, where WULAX turned in a come-from-behind overtime victory over CWU with McAnnis-Entenman scoring the winning goal. WULAX showed no lack of conditioning, heart and poise with their victories over HSU and CWU, starting the season off 2-0.

On Saturday, after their victory against CWU, WULAX chanted, "Eleven's a crowd, eleven's a crowd," since their weekend roster was only the ten players required on the field at any one time. Their limited numbers were due to unexpectedly low spring turnout, sickness and academic obligations.

Senior midfielder Jake Horacek credits Tolzman for bringing a dynamic new system to the team. Tolzman brought the system over from his days as a player at the University of Oregon and it has already shown some early success. This on-field success can be attributed to the performance from McAnnis-Entenman, who scored nine goals and three assists against CWU.

When asked about his exceptional performance, McAnnis-Entenman said, "I was really proud of our team for coming out against a 30-man roster and showing that we can play with anyone. Quality over quantity." The WULAX home opener is on March 4 against Concordia University.

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BEARCAT STAT

In WULAX's intense 16-15 overtime win against Central Washington University this past Saturday, Junior McAnnis-Entenman delivered for his team, scoring nine goals and assisting on three more, helping his team to a 2-1 record to start the lacrosse season.

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Ian McAnnis-Entenman LACROSSE



JORDAN WILDISH

MEN'S BASKETBALL

'Cats endure losses to top ranked Washington foes

BRANDON CHINN
STAFF WRITER

With a two-game winning streak in hand, the Bearcat men's basketball team headed north of Oregon's border for a couple of crucial games against the Whitworth Pirates and the Missionaries of Whitman College.

Whitworth entered Friday night's contest as the top-ranked team in Division III and they quickly showed why, jumping out to a 25-5 lead. The Pirates were successful thanks to an early 11-point contribution by junior post Felix Friedt. The rest of the first half was more of the same, as the Pirates extended their lead to as much as 26 at 46-20 before reaching 61-38 as they headed into the locker room.

Despite coming off the bench, junior post Taylor Mounts scored nine points, shooting an efficient 4-7 from the floor in just 14 minutes of play. Mounts also hauled in four first-half rebounds. The Bearcats' offense added to the score board at the beginning of the second half as Mounts, along with junior wing Ryan Meehan and sophomore guard Terrell Malley, combined for eight points less than five minutes into the half.

However, the Whitworth offense was just too much for Willamette to handle as the Pirates' lead grew to as much as 48 on their way to a 115-69 victory. One bright spot in the loss for the Bearcats was the return of sophomore post Sean Dart, who suited up for the first time in two weeks and managed to play 16 minutes while scoring three points and collecting two boards.

Mounts and Malley both tallied 17 points for the Bearcats. Needing only five assists to break the school's all-time career assists record, senior guard Robbie Kunke dished out four assists to go along with his five points and six rebounds, making him only one assist short of the Willamette school record.

Kunke's next chance to break the record would come Saturday night against the Whitman College Missionaries, a team that narrowly beat the Bearcats in their last matchup 74-69. Kunke tied the record on the game's first assist just a little more than five minutes in.

Despite the good ball movement from the 'Cats, Whitworth jumped ahead early with a 22-5 lead. With 7:47 remaining in the first half, Kunke found Meehan, who drained a jumper. This play gave Kunke career assist number 503, breaking Rob Cantonwine's record for most assists in the Willamette Bearcats' history.

When asked about what the record meant to him, Kunke said, "It's an honor to become the all-time assist leader at a university where there has been such a long history of great point guards. The excitement has been overshadowed by our team's poor performance, but nonetheless I am incredibly thankful to have had the opportunity to play with some incredible players and for some incredible coaches. I wouldn't trade these past four years for anything."

Kunke's assists record was one of the few highlights in this game for the Bearcats. Whitworth stayed hot from the field, draining 17 three-pointers on the night and running away with a 119-77 victory over Willamette. Meehan scored 21 points for the Bearcats, while Mounts added 18. Over the weekend, Willamette surrendered a combined 234 points.

Mounts talked about some of the woes throughout the weekend. "This weekend was a series of many events that didn't go our way. To beat teams of their stature, you can't make mistakes, especially early, and that's what we did," Mounts said.

Mounts also indicated that this weekend's games are a thing of the past, and these final two games are about more than simply building on their record. "We are a very close team and want to play the next two games for Robbie, our lone senior. Robbie will be in the record books forever at Willamette; he's a great player. We have to focus on winning for him," Mounts said.

In his second night since returning to action, Dart played 19 minutes while scoring five points and pulling down five boards. Dart said that his foot is in pain but that he is willing to look past it and finish the season strong.

"The biggest thing for me is missing two weeks of practice. Anytime that happens, and you miss so many reps, you're going to be rusty," Dart said. "I'm nowhere near where I'd like to be, but I came back for the last two weeks because I can still be 6'6" and rebound and play a little bit of defense. ... If it helps the team win, it's worth it to me."

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▼ next up

Bearcats vs. PLU @
Tacoma, Washington
Friday, Feb. 18 at 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Willamette has Washington woes against Whitman, Whitworth

MICHELLE LASHLEY
STAFF WRITER

Women's basketball dropped two road games this weekend, losing by narrow margins to Whitworth and Whitman. Tied for fourth place in the NWC, both schools boast .500 conference records, proving to be a tough matchup for the young Bearcats.

Even with two disappointing losses, both games were also hotly contested, as the Bearcats showed poise in tough away-game situations.

Going into the last week of conference play, the 'Cats will look to end this season with a bang. "This was a tough weekend for us - we continue to learn about ourselves as individuals and a team," freshman forward Mackenzie Lamson said.

Whitworth had a strong showing from its veterans, with all five of its starters scoring in double figures. The Bearcats had three double-figure starters of their own in senior guards Alex Zennan and Erin Barclay and forward Kayleigh Westermann. The game had ten ties and 17 lead changes, including 12 lead changes in the second half.

At the 11:44 mark, Willamette was up 16-12 when a Whitworth forward forced the tie with two successful free throws followed by a layup. The Pi-

rates held the lead until the last seconds of the half, when Zennan made a three-pointer with two seconds left. They entered the break tied 31-31.

For the first seven minutes of the second half, the two teams traded buckets, with eight lead changes. Then the Pirates hit a couple of smart threes, giving them an eight-point advantage.

Then the Willamette seniors Barclay and Zennan, along with senior forward Shayna Glynn, went on a 9-0 run to give Willamette back the lead. Finally, the Pirates went on a 13-6 run that sealed the game.

Willamette had one of its most offensively efficient nights, with 26 field goals on 66 attempts. But on defense, they were out-rebounded 48 to 37, and they gave the Pirates 30 chances at the line compared to the Bearcats' 16.

Saturday night, Whitman College played an exceptional first half, leading into the half with a 42-20 advantage. They pushed their lead to 25-8 with seven minutes of play still left in the first half. Willamette was then able to go on an offensive surge of its own, scoring 15 points in the last five minutes. But the bearcat defense was unable to contain the Missionaries, who kept their lead throughout the 'Cat surge.

The Bearcats were able to gradually battle back in the second half, cutting the Missionaries lead to 13 points with 13:05 left. That lead was reduced to nine with a Westermann jump shot. But then the Missionaries went on an 8-0 run, creating the margin that they would lead by for the rest of the night.

The Bearcats made a drastic improvement from their weakness the night before, getting to the foul line 30 times and making 23 of those points. But they lost the contest at the boards 58-34 and shot 26 percent from the field on 60 attempts. Barclay led the team with 14 points and Glynn had 11.

Lamson is confident about the team's remaining games. "Going into our last week, I feel confident that we can end on a positive note. We know what we need to do to be successful; it's just a matter of doing it," Lamson said.

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▼ next up

Bearcats vs. PLU @
Tacoma, Washington
Friday, Feb. 18 at 6 p.m.

Abe's Abs Keepin' the core class-y



A B E
MOLAND

COLUMNIST

It's that time of the spring again where midterms and papers are bearing down upon us all. With all that stressful and time-consuming work, the first activity usually cut from our schedules to make more time is the visit to Sparks. This really is a shame, as several studies have demonstrated that 30 minutes of daily, moderate to vigorous exercise, primarily cardio endurance activities, can improve focus, brain function and ultimately test scores.

If you still can't manage to find time to lace up your trainers, I've got the answer for you. Don't even get up. Just sit there. I mean, really, you're probably just sitting in class right now. So since you're not taking notes you might as well work on your abs.

First of all, push your butt to the back of your chair and pull your shoulders back. Try and draw yourself up as much as possible, accentuating the lower curvature of your back, and hold for a few seconds, then slightly release. Your final position will leave you in the ideal sitting posture, which in general will reduce risk of strain or overuse injury, prevent back aches and make you look like you're paying attention.

One of the best exercises you can do for your core while sitting in class is belly squeezes. They utilize isometric contraction and do not require continual movement, and therefore are the stealthiest. Simply contract your abs as hard as you can for ten seconds and release. Do two to three repeats of these in each set, three sets per class.

Another great exercise is knee raisers, which work on both your core and hip flexors. Contracting your core once again, raise your leg from the hip with your knee bent three to four inches off the ground and hold for five seconds. Alternate legs for a minute, with two minutes rest in between for a total of three sets.

If you're less concerned with the lecture on hand and more concerned about chiseling your stomach, it is entirely possible to do crunches while in class. Plant your feet firmly on the floor and place your hands behind your head. Curl your torso downwards, contracting your core tightly, then return to your healthy posture.

Try to do 20 before your professor catches on and starts to unfairly dock you points for active participation. If you dare, go for three sets of crunches. You can also throw in rotation to work your obliques by driving your elbow to the opposite knee.

Once you've run through these exercises, make sure to get up and get some water. Not only will this help you keep hydrated, but walking around will get your blood circulating after sitting for a prolonged period, and at this point you probably don't know what's going on in the lecture anyway.

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Senior Tori Tomlinson demonstrates crunches you can do in class. ABE MOLAND

COLUMN



Matt's Musings

Our true tales



M A T T
PITCHFORD

OPINIONS EDITOR

We are all storytellers. We all tend to relate our days and difficulties in presentations that are more narrations than expositions. But beyond the particular events that we tell other people, the macro-level story of our life itself is especially important to consider. We should examine the story we are telling ourselves about ourselves.

If I were to tell you that I was an English major, what expectations would you have about my character, looks and interests? What about a math major? Theatre? AES? Music? Economics? The expectations that other people have for us are always an interesting dynamic in the declaration of our majors.

Shall we fulfill what people expect our major to be? We can subvert those tendencies and "own" them or refuse to comply at all. Either way, we are responding to the perceptions caused by the academic story we choose to identify as our own.

This principle extends further in two ways. First, it is interesting to see how we set up expectations for ourselves in the story we identify as our own. Just as I can respond to someone's perception of a rhetoric major by fulfilling or breaking it, I can choose to conform or contradict my own expectations that stem from the story I am telling.

Second, the power of our story extends much deeper than our academic majors. Who you tell yourself to be and who you tell others you are can influence every area of your life and identity. Who you believe you are religiously, culturally, ethnically, sexually and every other aspect of your composite identification can influence your actions, responses and expectations. What does it mean to call yourself a party-animal? A politico? A poser or a prodigy? There is no part of ourselves that is not also a part of this greater story.

But this story-building is not so freeform as our ideas of narrative fiction may initially suggest. Some stories are better than others. That is the whole point of examining the narrative of your life. Much like how papers are invariably better when you proof-read them, our story is better when we do everything we can to verify it.

The saddest stories, in contrast, are the unverified ones. The phrase "living a lie" is particularly apt. Somehow, however intuitively, we know that some of these personal tales are true, some are adopted and some ought not be ours.

There are adopted stories that don't truly jive with us. Being identified with a particular idea need not be the fullest definition of who we are. In order to fit into the expectations of our identities, we need not become caricatures of ourselves. The depth of who we are is not found in what we conform to, or even what we refuse to conform to.

Rather, our story is found in the unique pieces. Our habits, beliefs, thoughts and actions must be examined in context of that utterly unique narrative of our lives. We should know the complete impact of the story we are telling ourselves.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters can be sent by postal mail, e-mail (lgold@willamette.edu), campus mail or fax. Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name and phone number and must be submitted by noon Monday on the week of intended publication. The Collegian reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

EDITORIAL

The tweet heard 'round the world

There are always those tools and inventions that appear to be more novelties than deep and impactful changes. Such inventions are always questioned, often lampooned and even more often misunderstood.

For example, the then-editor of Prentice books foretold in 1957 that, "I have traveled the length and breadth of this country and talked with the best people, and I can assure you that data processing is a fad that won't last out the year." We can assure you that, indeed, data processing and computers have lasted much longer ... and are the primary means through which this article was published.

So, sometimes calling an invention a fad or critiquing its usefulness is not quite so intellectually ironclad as mere derision may lead one to believe. Today, we seek to better the reputation of the much-criticized Twitter. While we cannot predict whether Twitter will become a mainstay of our culture, like the automobile or the computer, we can see the dramatic effects that Twitter has already had on our media and information systems.

As a journalistic tool, Twitter is changing the informational landscape. More and more major news organizations, like the New York

Times, CNN, The Oregonian and our very own Statesman Journal are using Twitter to post breaking news, alerts and updates. Jacob Harris, a senior software engineer for the NYT pointed out, "If anything, it provides a new way to reach readers. ... I think it might be cool in terms of transparency if more journalists did Twitter both on the stories they're covering or their general lives and interests."

That is just what Twitter is - an instant augmentation of the media systems we already know. The papers were carrying all sorts of information about the Egypt protests, but the final announcement of Mubarak's resignation, along with several world leader's reactions to it, were first reported by Twitter.

The NYT's J. David Goodman catalogued several of these reactions, ranging from Germany to Bahrain, and added that the Middle East is a "region that has seen online social networks lead to real-world social upheaval." News organizations, world leaders and grassroots organizers are each leveraging Twitter. Such a tool is not one that should be dismissed lightly.

Will Twitter replace more conventional forms of journalism? Probably not. It is quick and pro-

vides real-time news updates, but it is also capable of error and certainly limited in its analytical depth. There are times when "slow" journalism is absolutely warranted. But to pretend that Twitter is merely a fad for the socially hyper-connected is to discount the deep impacts that Twitter has already demonstrated in the realm of journalism.

So, we here at the Editorial Board believe that you should be conscious of Twitter's media power. Sign up for one if you like, but even if you don't, you should at least recognize that there is powerful potential built into the framework that Twitter provides. So much potential, in fact, that it can even change the very way each and every one of us interacts with the news.

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COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

The Editorial represents the composite opinion of the Collegian Editorial Board.

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COLUMN

Seeing Red: Bullsh*t



CAITLIN
PREMINGER

COLUMNIST

Last week I fell victim to what seemed a random attack of allergies. My sinuses were in perfect order on the way to class, but once in the building, they were in full revolt. I sniffed and snuffled in what must have been a terribly uncouth display, figuring there would at least be a satisfying sneeze at the end of all this. There wasn't. I finally left class to take care of things, but that was only a marginal help and the torment continued.

I gradually concluded that my body

was having an allergic reaction to one of my classmates. She wasn't wearing perfume and I sincerely doubt it was dandruff, but she was spewing half-baked ideas. Every time the professor posed a question, she raised her hand and offered a hardy, "Well I think it's because, umm, it sort of looks like ..."

I like to think that there exists a tacit agreement among students that when you raise your hand to speak, it's because you've already considered an idea well enough to articulate it when you open your mouth. Even if the idea is unfounded, incorrect or ill conceived, I expect it to at least be fully formed. And hey, if you offer something that's a little off the mark, that's all right. You stepped forth to contribute, and that's more than I do a lot of the time. So panda hats off to you, truly.

It's when I have to listen to your haphazard brainstorm that I get irritated. This is why I think Willamette should offer a bullsh*t major.

A bullsh*t major would be an education in the art of pontification. It would be interdisciplinary and draw on several departments; bullsh*t majors would take introductory classes in various subjects so as to have a modest understanding of a wide range of topics. The bullsh*t major values breadth, not depth.

The mark of the dedicated, talented bullsh*t major is the ability to say as much as he can, as eloquently as he can, with as little knowledge of the topic as possible. It would be akin to public speaking or rhetoric mixed with improvisational theater.

There are some disciplines that draw on these talents already, but a bullsh*t major would be better suited to the current world outside of college life. In a tough job market, sometimes you have to fake it till you make it. Nothing will get your foot in the door like being a prize bullsh*t artist.

This is not to say, of course, that a degree in bullsh*t will open doors to any profession. The fields of law, medicine and other sciences are best left to those individuals with the proper training. However, I submit that any non-specialized field is open to anyone silver-tongued enough to worm his way into it.

Once hired and established, the perceptive bullsh*t artist will pick up on cues from his colleagues and job training will take care of the rest. It's not a compromise of integrity, just a reasonable suspension of disbelief.

And besides, who doesn't want a BA in BS?

Contact: cpreming@willamette.edu

Do you have an opinion?
Do you like to write your opinions down?
If you answered yes, then you are a perfect candidate for a guest writer!

If you are interested in joining, please e-mail mpitchfo@willamette.edu

COLUMN

K-Light's Insights

We can do better



KRISTIN LIGHT

COLUMNIST

Okay, normally, I theme my column with an inspiring message. "Reach for the stars, be proud of who you are, demand free tampons, blah blah blah..." Well, not this week. I'm sorry, fans, but this week is not full of uplifting, positive or random moments. This week is full of the emotion I can most identify with at this time in my life: rage. That's right, folks, I'm pissed off. I am angry, upset, outraged. I am livid.

What about exactly? Well, let's start with the GOP. One of the latest stunts the GOP has tried to pull is limiting federally funded abortions - but with a twist. This law would have limited who

was eligible for tax-funded abortions. As of right now, the law provides free abortions for women whose health is compromised by pregnancy, victims of rape and victims of incest. The GOP, though, wanted to change the definition of rape to "forcible rape," or rape only acted on by using force.

WHAT? This law would have changed the entire definition of what constituted rape, in which not giving consent would no longer be the defining mark of rape. Had this bill been enacted, decades of women's rights would have been thrown out the window.

We no longer live in an America that blames the woman for being raped. We haven't for quite some time. So, how does the GOP think it is perfectly legitimate to pass a law that puts women down a peg and makes them second hand citizens? How is this okay?

Fortunately, the law did not pass. However, women everywhere should still be enraged. Why should our rights be threatened? Yes, the law had to do with abortion. Abortion has always been a highly controversial topic, hence a lot of people are keen to restrict it as much as possible.

As a pro-choice activist, I believe that

everyone has a right to speak out for what they believe about the matter. In a perfect world, we would all sit down and discuss our differences together and draw the conclusion that neither of us is absolutely right, but our personal opinions are what hold true for us.

As for this law, had the GOP phrased it in a better way, it would have been another anti-abortion law. They did not, though. Instead, they attacked the rights of women all across the United States by bluntly paraphrasing a complicated issue.

They defined a dense problem as crassly as they possibly could. They took away the semi-automatic that protected our rights against rape and, in place of it, handed us a stick.

This is what truly pisses me off. The GOP turned women from regular citizens to second class. I was raised to believe that no one is of lesser value merely because of who they are. How can a major, law producing group be allowed to turn off all morality and call a group less significant? Yes, I'm angry. Why? Because we can do better.

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OPINION

Love, attachment and Buddhism

AUSTIN SCHOCK
GUEST WRITER

Valentine's Day: a festival to the gods and ideals of love. For those in a relationship, it can be one of the best days of the year. For those who are not in a relationship, it can be a day of sadness. For those, like me, who have never been in a relationship, it is a day to dream of possibilities and eventualities.

But what exactly is love? I'm not here to talk about love, specifically, but about a similar, yet misunderstood, concept known as "attachment."

Attachment is, in my opinion, one of the greatest cases of mistranslation in history (I'm just going with a Buddhist twist on things for this article). A more accurate translation might be "obsessive desire," or perhaps just "obsession."

Many people confuse it with love, which it could be called. However, such a connotation leads to confusion when people are told that they need to love. How can one love without being attached? By loving without obsessing, that's how.

It would probably be a good idea now to define love. Love is not a feel-

ing purely based on the physical, though that is part of it. When you truly love someone, each and every day they are the most handsome person on the planet, an infinitum that can never be surpassed; and every day when you see them again, you prove your statement from the day before wrong.

However, there is also an emotional part of love, where you accept the other person with your whole heart unconditionally, even when it means risking ripping it in two.

Now that love has been defined, we can further delve into attachment. Attachment takes the basics of love, but brings them to an entirely new, dangerous level. Whereas when you are in love, you would do anything for a person even if it meant supporting them being with someone else, in attachment, there is a sense of jealousy where you want the person to be happy, but only if they're with you.

Many would call the behavior of one under attachment "stalkerish," wherein the person would begin to

lose the ability to function in everyday society, their entire world revolving around gaining the love and attention of a single individual.

Now the danger of attachment can truly be seen. Quite often it's hard to tell when one is falling into this trap, especially when the loneliness of Valentine's Day starts to set in. Instead of self-pity, however, for those of you who are single, perhaps it would be a better idea to realize what exactly it means to love in a platonic way.

Buddhist philosophy - in which I am not well versed (in case I get something wrong, dear reader, you have been warned) - teaches that it is best to love everything, though not necessarily equally.

A special someone should be loved more than others, but it's possible to love anything. Such love can help mitigate the effects of attachment, and lead to a healthier, better Valentine's Day for all.

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COLUMN



Pelton's meltin' away



KEVIN BELL

COLUMNIST

There is a MASSIVE CHANGE THAT WILL AFFECT EVERY PART OF YOUR LIFE about to take place at Willamette. This is the last semester of the Pelton Administration, which has run Willamette over the past many years, and with that change will invariably come discord, strife and much wailing and gnashing of teeth ... or, at very least, you'll notice that there's a different speaker at commencement than usual. You know, whatever.

We've seen over the last few years much progress on campus: Ford Hall, renovations to many of our aging buildings and a great improvement to our national image, but much of the work is done behind the scenes and goes underappreciated. If you ever find yourself comfortably and illegally drinking on campus, but unafraid to call campus safety if a friend is in need, thank the Amethyst Initiative, a program spearheaded by President Pelton to ensure a safe and cooperative environment for slammin' Jaegerbombs.

If after graduation you find doors opening before your Willamette degree, thank him for his unprecedented assistance to the school's image and value. Not those cool sliding-glass doors at supermarkets, though, I'm pretty sure that those are just witchcraft of some sort. When some snooty BusinessWeek writer thinks that our degree can be slandered against, Pelton dons his a**-kicking boots and calls him out on his methodology.

That guy got reassigned to cover hurricanes by trying to build sandcastles in front of them as they land to see their effect on sand-based property values. As this column has mentioned before, Pelton also has a super-science weather machine that makes the sky pretty on particularly relevant days.

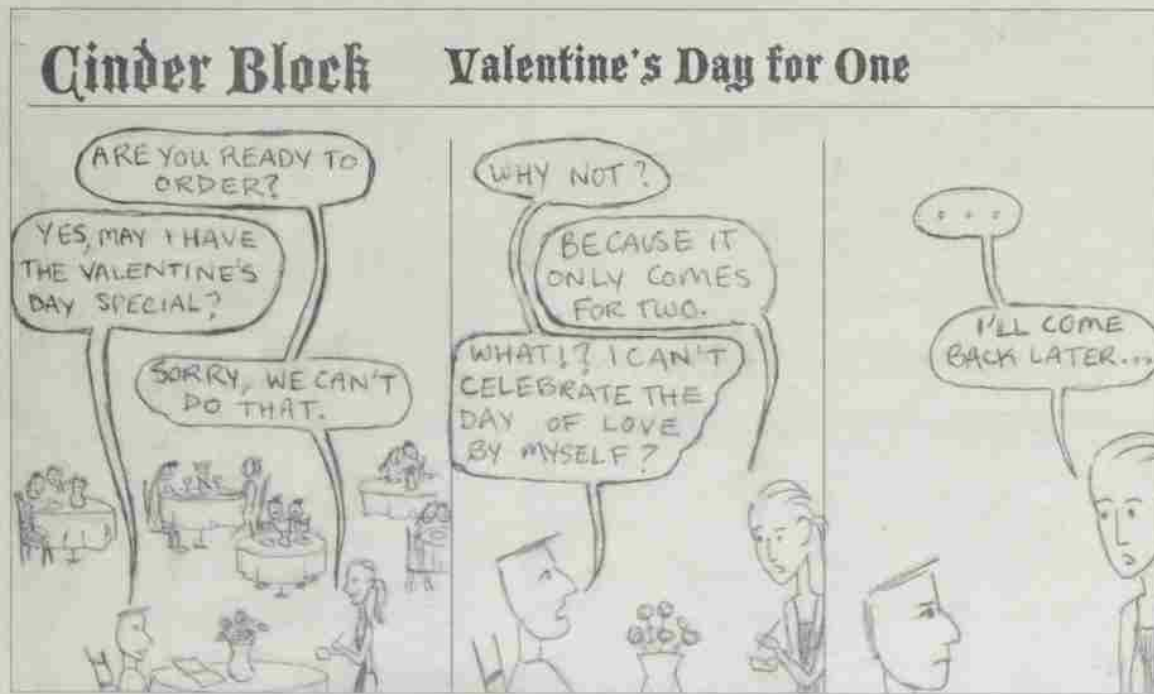
I have also on several occasions witnessed him paying for student meals at Goudy, healing the blind, eradicating smallpox and taking casual strolls atop the Mill Stream. Long story short, he's a pretty cool dude and worthy of public recognition on campus. Let's get to know our departing leader a little better, then.

In acknowledgment of his upcoming departure, I took it upon myself to use my formidable powers of journalistic privilege. E-mail, access to the campus directory and ten minutes of free time to arrange a closing interview with the man, the myth, the legend of M. Lee Pelton. So, over the course of the next week, we will be sitting down to coffee and scones so that I can learn a little more about what it's been like to administer our fair campus.

I turn to you, dear readers, to put together your collective noggins to help me ascertain what exactly you would like to hear about. So far all I have is the Blue Velvet Classic, "what kind of beer do you drink?" which seems to me somewhat lacking in depth, close as I'm sure it is to so many of your hearts.

So e-mail me whatever you'd like to know about and I'll try to squeeze it in to get it out next week. Really, e-mail me, I'm desperate here; don't get me Irrationally Irritated at you for being apathetic. The king got a sweet new gig on the East Coast, long live the king!

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Follow us on Twitter @WUCollegian **CAMPUS SAFETY
REPORT**Feb. 3 - 10, 2011
Information provided by Campus Safety**CRIMINAL MISCHIEF**

- ▶ Feb. 4, 3:10 a.m. (Haseldorf Apartments): Graffiti was discovered on the North wall of Haseldorf. A work order was submitted to maintenance to have the black spray paint removed.
- ▶ Feb. 7, 8:15 a.m. (Sigma Chi): Campus Safety was notified that a cinder block had been glued down in front of Sigma Chi. A photo was taken of the damage and maintenance removed the block.
- ▶ Feb. 7, 8:20 a.m. (Sigma Alpha Epsilon): While on patrol, the officer found the lion statues in front of Sigma Alpha Epsilon were covered in shaving cream and the stairs were covered in white stuffing from a pillow. A photo was taken of the damage and facility services was notified.
- ▶ Feb. 7, 9:30 a.m. (Atkinson Parking Lot): An employee reported damage to her vehicle. There was a scratch down the length of the vehicle on the driver's side.
- ▶ Feb. 9, 1:30 p.m. (Waller Hall): An employee reported finding a large quantity of melted wax in the shape of a triangle with a circle in the center. It was approximately ten feet by ten feet in size.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

- ▶ Feb. 5, 11:25 p.m. (University Center): Campus Safety was notified of an intoxicated student in the women's restroom at the University Center. WEMS determined that 911 should be called after their evaluation. The student was transported to Salem Hospital.
- ▶ Feb. 5, 11:36 p.m. (Belknap Hall): Campus Safety was notified of an intoxicated student in Belknap Hall. The officer evaluated the student and determined that 911 should be called. The student was transported to Salem Hospital.
- ▶ Feb. 7, 6:00 p.m. (Sparks Center): A student injured his ankle playing basketball and requested a ride to Urgent Care for treatment.
- ▶ Feb. 8, 9:45 p.m. (Terra House): A student called to report that her friend had passed out from a migraine. The officers called 911 and the medics determined the student should be taken to the hospital. The student declined transport and signed the necessary forms. She was left in the care of her friends.

POLICY VIOLATION

- ▶ Feb. 4, 7:45 a.m. (Doney Hall): An employee found chalk writing that was advertising an event on the side of Doney Hall. The group responsible was contacted and a work order was submitted to remove the chalk.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

- ▶ Feb. 4, 10:25 p.m. (Doney Hall): Campus Safety was notified of the smell of marijuana coming from a particular room in Doney Hall. The officer made contact with the residents of the room, both of whom appeared to be under the influence of marijuana.

- ▶ Feb. 6, 1:01 a.m. (Matthews Hall): Campus Safety was notified of a party in a room in Matthews. The officer made contact with the students and their guests in the room, which smelled of marijuana.

THEFT

- ▶ Feb. 5, 5:20 p.m. (Hatfield Library): A student reported the theft of his bicycle from Hatfield Library. The bicycle was not locked.
- ▶ Feb. 5, 7:59 p.m. (Ferry and Cottage Street): A student called to report someone had broken into her car and stolen her GPS from the vehicle.

Please contact Campus Safety if you have any information regarding these incidents:
safety@willamette.edu

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