



NEWS

University breaks world record

More than 1,000 students, alumni and faculty came together on the Quad last Friday to play the largest game of Red Light Green Light in history.

NATALIE PATE
 CONTRIBUTOR

Setting a record was not the goal; it was merely part of the process.

Sophomore Becca Brownlee said the University's Red Light Green Light event was not created to earn a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records, but instead "to kick-start the year and show you really can do something big."

For her, breaking the world re-

cord would be a bonus.

The idea formed as Brownlee and Director of Campus Recreation Bryan Schmidt searched for a way to revitalize school spirit.

After numerous conversations on the topic, they came to the conclusion that Willamette does not lack school spirit, but instead lacks large gatherings on campus.

With extensive research, Brownlee found a record that was feasible to break.

She then went through the detailed process of getting approved by the Guinness Book of World Records' headquarters in London.

Along with outside witnesses and countless pieces of evidence needed such as video footage from a number of angles, Brownlee was required to follow a long list of rules and regulations.

Special guests and volunteers such as President Stephen Thorsett, Dean of Campus Life David Douglass and Mayor of Salem Anna Peterson played integral roles in the event as well.

Though they spoke with Community Mentors and Opening Days Leaders, they tried to contain the word and blast excitement in

the week leading up to the event.

In order to top the world record, at least 756 people had to participate. While this is a significant portion of the Willamette community, Schmidt said he believed the real goal was already reached before the event.

"Students came together to volunteer just to make the event possible," Schmidt said.

But their efforts came to fruition with excitement and success when more than 1,060 people participated.

The winner of the game was the first person to cross a line in the time given. The award? A trophy with the winner's name engraved on it, as well as the

honor of having his or her name etched into the cupola of Waller Hall.

The winner was sophomore Jullian Haley. Trophy in hand, Haley said his philosophy was to simply run and watch President Thorsett.

While Schmidt and Brownlee said the record was only meant to be a one-time event, some students have already approached them about topping Willamette's record next year.

"The experience is more valuable than numbers will indicate," Brownlee said. "It was to show that something can come to fruition."

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LIFESTYLES

Department of Theatre prepares new season

PAULA ORREGO
 GUEST WRITER

This 2013-2014 theater season, the University Department of Theatre will host six productions investigating imagination through rich storytelling.

"It's a diverse season," Susan Coromel, associate chair of the Department of Theatre, said.

The first production, a play called "The Conference of the Birds," will be a collaboration with guest director Shana Cooper, who graduated from the University in 1999.

Since graduating, Cooper has seen success. She is now a director at the world-renowned Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Ore.

"It's cool when our students do well and come back," Theatre Manager Andrew Toney said.

Coromel agreed that having Cooper direct the play will give students "an idea of what is possible with a degree from Willamette."

Cooper will bring with her set designer Alan Schwanke and sound designer Sharath Patel, both of whom work at the Oregon

Shakespeare Festival, to collaborate with the Department of Theatre in "The Conference of the Birds."

The second production the Department of Theatre will host is "Hold These Truths," a solo performance piece that focuses on the internment of Americans of Japanese descent in the United States during World War II.

The performance will feature Joel de la Fuente, an actor who is currently taking time off from a film to be in "Hold These Truths" and teach a workshop for theatre majors.

The third show is "Beginnings: A Dance Concert." Salem residents, as well as University students, will perform ballet, tap, aerial and modern dances.

"It's a way to connect with the community," Coromel, associate chair, said.

The first show of the second semester is "Proof," which will be directed by Coromel.

Coromel said that students will be intrigued by the protagonist Catherine and how she "has to find peace within herself, find her own strength."

See **THEATRE**, Page 4



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BRIEFS

The 2013 Activities & Resources Expo is on Thursday, Sept. 5. It will be held along the banks of the Mill Stream and in Jackson Plaza from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Students will be able to visit an array of booths from different members of the campus and Salem community.

On Friday, Sept. 6 the Hallie Ford Museum will celebrate the opening of the Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth exhibit. The exhibit features Ancient Near Eastern art and includes pieces exploring divinity, humanity and the animal world. The reception starts at 6 p.m., after a corresponding lecture at the College of Law at 5 p.m.

On Sunday, Sept. 8, the city of Salem will close streets from Wallace Marine Park to the capitol building for the Sunday Streets festival. There will be vendors and activities ranging from Zumba to arts and crafts. The festival will take place between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Got tips? Email News Editor Ryan Yambra <ryambra>.

New community hours lead to restricted residence hall access

KATIE DOBBS
STAFF WRITER

Last year, safety in residence halls became a topic of discussion after a series of incidents involving students and people outside the Willamette community. With streaks of vandalism, theft and even trespassing, the Office of Residence Life was pushed to action.

"We want the halls to be a safe place where community is encouraged and where those relationships are fostered in a safe way," Eastside Area Coordinator Janae Brewster said.

It became apparent to administrators that in order for this ambition to be realized, some changes would need to be made to increase security. The solution: restricting residents' access to the dorms in their area to set community hours from 5 to 9 p.m.

This is a big shift from previous years when university students had access to all residence halls from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Recently, the costs of this access began to outweigh the benefits.

Avoidable issues arose multiple times, such as entire halls being charged for vandalism, stolen lounge furniture and messy kitchens.

Another reason for the change in hours was the University's urban location.

"Willamette is located right next to downtown," Brewster said. "And I think that

"I think it will really segregate campus and limit the sense of community, especially for people off-campus."

EMMA PESIS
Junior

people sometimes forget that there may be other folks around who maybe don't have the students' best interests in mind."

This was exemplified in the spring of last year when a man unaffiliated with the University gained access to three separate residential buildings on campus, evidently by following students inside. After Campus Safety was contacted, Salem Police arrested the man.

Residence Life hopes to avoid incidents like this by using the new community hours policy to make students more aware of who exactly is entering their halls.

"Students should know the person walking in behind them," Director of Rights and Responsibilities Lori Johnson said. "But by having all the buildings open to anyone who is a Willamette student, from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., there was no reason for anyone to question anyone in a building."

However, not all students are thrilled about the change. While the community

hours are meant to allow students access to events and build communities, some students think they will do the exact opposite.

"I understand Residence Life's reasoning, and I am glad the Willamette campus is addressing [an] issue that may have been neglected," junior Emma Pesis said. "But, I think it will really segregate campus and limit the sense of community," junior Emma Pesis said. "Especially for people off-campus."

Pesis's fear isn't lost on University staff members. Director of Campus Safety Ross Stout understands that it might be a rough transition.

"Even if this turns out to be a really great change, there is going to be a transition period where people are going to be surprised that they don't have complete access," Stout said.

Johnson also acknowledged how the change will impact students' lives at Willamette. "I always feel bad about adding restrictions for students, but I would rather add restrictions and try to keep people more safe," she said.

While students may not be comfortable with the transition, administrators feel that the change in hours is a worthy investment.

"We hope it will increase a person's likelihood to feel responsible," Johnson said. "It puts safety in people's minds."

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CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

Aug. 27-Sept. 2, 2013

Information provided by Campus Safety

THEFT

Aug. 29, 5:47 p.m. (Lausanne Hall): A student reported that his bicycle was stolen. The student had left the bike in the storage area of the Lausanne basement between Aug. 21-26. The student was advised to contact Campus Safety with information about the make and model of the bike. The student was also given the non-emergency number of the Salem Police Department.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

Aug. 29, 11:56 p.m. (Belknap Hall): Campus Safety received a call stating that a student was vomiting. The student had consumed alcohol and was still conscious, but speech was garbled. The student was transported to Salem Hospital for treatment. The alcohol was also confiscated.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

Aug. 31, 12:20 a.m. (Smullin Hall): Campus Safety received a call stating that a student was vomiting in the restroom of Smullin. The student reported that she was feeling ill after drinking alcohol earlier that night. It was concluded that she did not need additional medical treatment, and she was left in the care of a friend.

LOST PROPERTY

Aug. 27, 8:40 p.m. (McCulloch Stadium): A parent of a student called to report that they had lost an envelope full of cash while attending their son's football practice. The officer on duty found the envelope at the stadium, and the parent retrieved their money.

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Email questions to <msari> or visit our table at the Activities and Resources Expo on Thursday from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

School of Education to close in June 2014

NATALIE PATE
CONTRIBUTOR

The Willamette University Graduate School of Education will officially close its doors in June of 2014.

The abrupt closure was announced by President Stephen Thorsett on June 6, 2013, who said the closure was made due to the eruption of lower-cost local, regional and online programs and “commensurate growth in employment opportunities for new teachers.”

GSE faculty members said they were uninformed of the University’s decision to shut the doors of one of its three graduate schools.

“In no point of the process were we consulted,” GSE Clinical Instructor Neil Liss said.

Enrolling a total of 55-65 students, the GSE offers three core degrees: M.A. in teaching, master of education and administrator license, which allows current educators to either get their initial license or renew a previously earned one.

Liss said the school, which has served the community for more than 20 years, was no exception from Willamette’s culture of leadership and dedication to the community.

“The thing about teachers is they love being students,” Liss said.

“They are always updating. Here, we learn not to think of ourselves as teachers, but instead as teacher-leaders, engaging with the school.”

He said he was surprised the faculty was not treated with the same attitude during the decision-making process of closing the school.

However, an email sent in June from President Thorsett to various members of the University faculty and the American Association of University Professors paints a different picture. The same email was posted on the Statesman Journal’s website.

According to the email, actions were taken to prepare the faculty before the official decision was made.

“The problems facing the GSE are longstanding and complex,” according to the e-mail. “Like all realistic questions of prioritization, they involved both educational and financial considerations.”

Along with previous financial struggles and issues in the workplace, enrollment in the GSE was in decline. Many employees were opting to leave the school before knowing of its future closure. The recent departure of the school’s dean made dealing with these issues even more difficult.

The email also addressed how faculty would be impacted.

“There were a total of five tenured and no tenure-track faculty with continuing contracts in the school as of June,” Thorsett said. “All five received notice in July that the 2013-14 academic year would be their terminal year of employment, consistent with the GSE Faculty Handbook. In addition, all of these faculty have been offered additional severance beyond the contractual requirement.”

The faculty will also be offered benefits such as additional salary, extensions of tuition benefits for themselves and their families and preferential rehire rights at Willamette. The administration has also been working with other institutions to help find alternate employment if needed. The University is reaching out to those who opted for standard early retirement to now have “the option to rescind their decision and instead accept this more generous severance,” according to the email.

In light of the closure, Liss doesn’t want students to suffer from a lack of motivation. He said he believes “there are still quality programs all over the country,” and he hopes students and teachers will continue to seek new avenues and find ways to update their careers and futures.

“I hope this doesn’t sour on



PALOMA HENNESSEY

The recent announcement of the Graduate School of Education’s 2014 closing came as a surprise to many across campus.

people wanting to be teachers,” Liss said. “It will be interesting to hear from CLA students originally planning or anticipating on going to the GSE.”

Liss said he and other GSE faculty, particularly Assistant Professor of Education Robin Fromherz, Professor of Education Jill Bryant and Professor of Education Steve Rhien, encourage students to talk to them and about other options to earn teaching degrees. Students who began at the GSE this ac-

ademic year will not be affected. “This was an extraordinarily difficult decision, and not one that anyone was happy to have to make,” according to Thorsett’s email. “However, benefiting from the advice of faculty, we were able to successfully implement a consultative process involving not just the GSE faculty but also the appropriate committees of the CLA and others.”

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Hallie Ford Museum of Art unveils Near Eastern exhibit

HAYDEN MILLER
GUEST WRITER

This semester, students and community members will have the unique opportunity to view ancient artwork from an underdocumented region: the Near East.

On Aug. 30, Willamette’s Hallie Ford Museum of Art unveiled its latest display, “Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections.” Hallie Ford Museum of Art Curator John Olbrantz said the exhibit offers people all over the west coast the opportunity to experience an unseen side of ancient history.

“So often, people out here are not exposed

to ancient Near East art,” he said. “This is a unique opportunity to see 64 pieces.”

Olbrantz believes that the exhibit ties into the idea of a liberal arts education, providing an opportunity for anthropology, archaeology, history, humanities and religious studies students to experience firsthand a selection of artwork from the Fertile Crescent.

The exhibit was first conceived over dinner between Olbrantz and his co-curator, Trudy Kawami, where they discovered that they both were interested in ancient artwork.

In 2004, the Hallie Ford Museum granted an endowment gift to be used to create an exhibit, and Olbrantz and Kawami decided to go forward with it.

Three years later, the two began research for the project. They decided to focus on three categories of ancient art: divinity, humanity and animals.

In 2012, after finding out that some objects couldn’t be transported, they pushed the unveiling back to fall 2013. Today, the exhibit features 64 objects.

Most recently, the museum staff was hard at work putting the finishing touches on the exhibit. They’ve been in correspondence with 21 museums across the country. The objects are so delicate that 14 museums are sending couriers to personally oversee their installations. They have also been creating informative labels for the display and final-

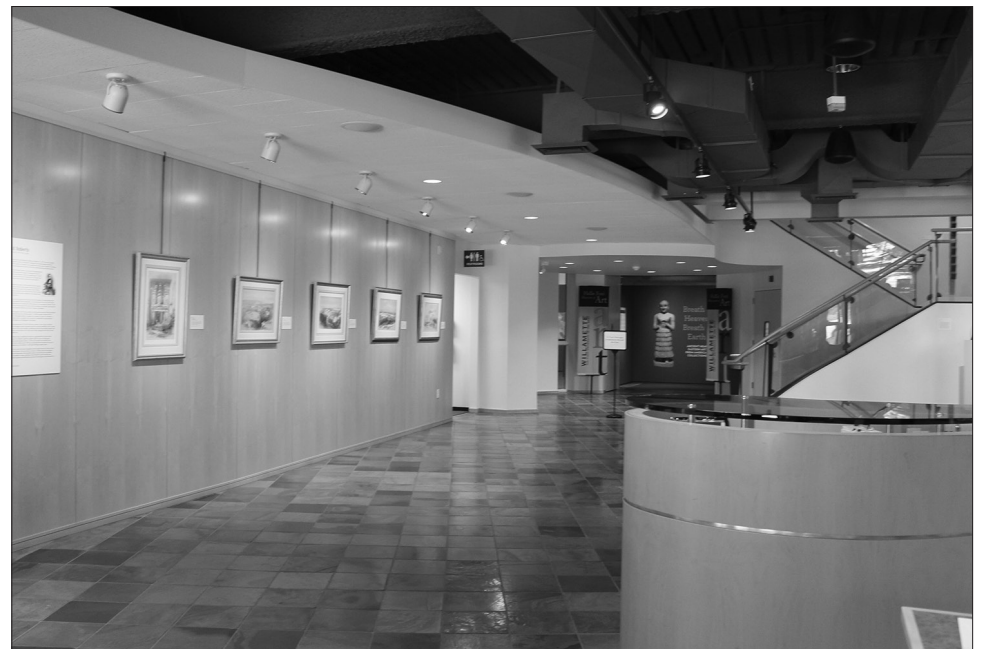
izing a 192-page book on the same subject.

Through November, the exhibit will feature six lectures on ancient Near East art by leading experts in the country, four movie screenings and a reading of ancient literature by Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Media Studies Jeanne Clark.

After the exhibit ends in December, the museum will go back to its regional exhibits, but Olbrantz will start planning another exhibit soon after.

“Personally, I would love to see an exhibit on 18th and 19th century American art,” Olbrantz said.

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EMILY FROEHLING

On Aug. 30, the Hallie Ford Museum of Art unveiled its latest exhibit: “Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth.” The exhibit features 64 pieces of Near Eastern art and runs through December 2013.

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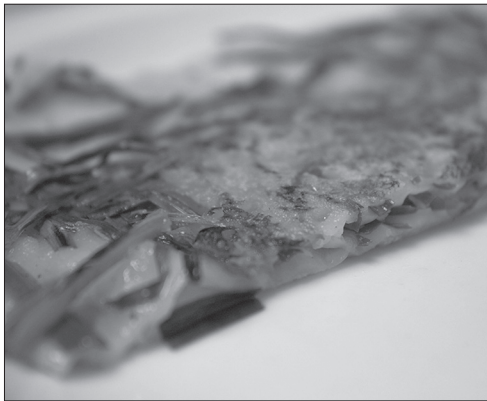
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**MATT TONOKAWA**

BiBim Bap (bebem bop) is located at 635 Chemeketa St. Though the restaurant serves primarily Korean cuisine, it boasts a wide variety of dishes, such as tuna nigiri, kana salad, steaming panjeon, kim chi stew, shrimp soup, tempura tuna sushi and the house specialty, Dol Sot Bibim Bap.



Happy BiBim Bap House

An existentially anxious and welcoming culinary adventure

ELIZE MANOUKIAN
LAYOUT EDITOR

There is something universal about the confusion of Happy BiBim Bap House, a Korean restaurant located at Chemeketa Street and Church Street that is floating in the midst of a minor identity crisis. Like any college student or townie searching for acceptance, BiBim Bap is still figuring out how to articulate its message, personality and what exactly it is doing in the middle of Salem.

While the struggle of life or Korean food is not without its missteps, in the end it is often rewarding to find comfort in a sense of place.

Those just wandering down Chemeketa street might not even notice BiBim Bap if not for a small sandwich board sign down the road that points the way. Just from the exterior of the restaurant – a box-shaped structure wedged between the Veteran Affairs Department and an empty parking lot – passersby can judge the House's discomfort of self before they avert their gaze and hurry east into the Salem twilight.

Despite the restaurant's Korean persuasion, the awkward, rectangular nameplate boldly implies that both teriyaki and one-dollar sushi can be found within the Asian-adjacent menu. Happy BiBim Bap House, who are you?

I went inside to find out and was immediately greeted by a friendly woman whose witless cheer could only be matched by the brightly colored artificial flowers decorating each table.

For appetizers we ordered a tuna nigiri, which was surprisingly fresh for the one-dollar price tag, and a kani salad, which is a mix of crab meat, tobiko and something called Japanese mayonnaise. While I have my suspicions that Japanese mayo is a lot like Best Foods, the dish was still delicious.

Despite the existential anxiety, everyone in the restaurant, from the American Studies Program students to aged couples, seemed to genuinely enjoy the generous portions of hot food served and shared among friends.

Alongside the appetizers, our waiter brought us two complimentary items: a steaming panjeon, or a scallion pancake, and several small plates of kimchi, bean sprouts, spicy cucumbers and potato. These were all awesome, flavorful dishes that were a welcome break from lackluster Goudy dinners.

However, there was something slightly off about each of the entrees. My vegetarian companion ordered a kimchi stew that, aside from being totally without texture, also contained a beef surprise. While the shrimp soup had a rich broth and well-cooked noodles and vegetables, it appeared to be lacking in shrimp entirely. The tempura tuna sushi roll was so deep-fried and smothered in teriyaki sauce that they could have been stuffed with dolphin and you wouldn't have been able to tell.

I ordered the Dol Sot BiBim Bap, the house specialty, which is a hot stone pot of sizzling rice, vegetables, chicken and sauce, served with a raw egg on top. While the presentation was beautiful, and it was kind of weirdly satisfying to watch the golden yolk drizzle over everything, the chicken was dry, and the overall product was just okay, if even a little mushy.

However, I believe in Happy Bibim Bap House. Despite the existential anxiety, everyone in the restaurant, from the American Studies Program students to aged couples, seemed to genuinely enjoy the generous portions of hot food served and shared among friends.

After our meal, the owner brought the bill with a small tray of orange wedges crowned with paper umbrellas. It was a slight and customary gesture, but one that still felt sincere, as if to invite all of us to take shelter from the Salem night into a happy home.

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Upcoming Shows

9/05: Washed Out at WOW Hall in Eugene

9/05: Diplo and RL Grime at Wonder Ballroom in Portland

9/06: Godspeed You! Black Emperor at Roseland Theater in Portland

9/06: The Dodos at Cozmic Pizza in Eugene

9/06: Surfer Blood at Star Theater in Portland

Music majors take the stage in the Dept. of Theater's spring opera

CONTINUED from Page 1

The second show of the spring semester is Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro."

This opera will be a collaboration with the University's Department of Music, where music majors will take the stage, while staff and theatre students will focus on the production of the show.

The last performance of the 2013-2014 season is "The Trojan Women."

The play focuses on the women after the Trojan War, which, as Coromel described, reflects the time we live in today where war remains all too real.

By buying tickets to see these productions, students will help the Department of Theatre and support their classmates.

"We have a great deal on season packages," Coromel said. "It's a 50 percent savings [when compared to the price of] buying individual tickets."

Rachel Kinsman Steck, associate chair of the department, believes the theater is a community experience where students can explore different themes in plays and dance.

"The purpose of art is discourse, and I think our productions do that," she said.

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2013-2014 Theatre Season

- "The Conference of the Birds"—Sept. 27 to Oct. 12
- "Hold These Truths - Featuring Joel de la Fuente"—Oct. 25
- "Beginnings: A Dance Concert"—Nov. 15 to 23
- "Proof"—Feb. 14 to March 1
- "The Marriage of Figaro"—March 6 to 9
- "The Trojan Women"—April 11 to 26

For more information on tickets, call (503) 370-6221, or email thrtix@willamette.edu.

Franz Ferdinand stays gold

JULIANA COHEN
CONTRIBUTOR

On the track “Fresh Strawberries,” off Franz Ferdinand’s fourth LP “Right Thoughts, Right Words, Right Action,” frontman Alex Kapranos croons, “We will soon be rotten we will all be forgotten.”

In a way Kapranos has a point. The Scottish frontman turned 41 earlier this year, and nearly ten years have passed since “Take Me Out” topped charts worldwide. A band fitting this description would normally appear to be in its third act, perhaps signing with a major label and writing songs about “trying to be cool.”

But upon closer inspection, Franz Ferdinand has remained remarkably consistent over time, as seen in the solidarity of the original lineup and its monogamy with Domino Records.

Franz Ferdinand’s style and tone is definitely tricky to market nowadays. Readers of Pitchfork and competing indie media outlets have become accustomed to either hazier, “chiller” sounds or synth-based dance pop incorporated into buzz-worthy festival rock.

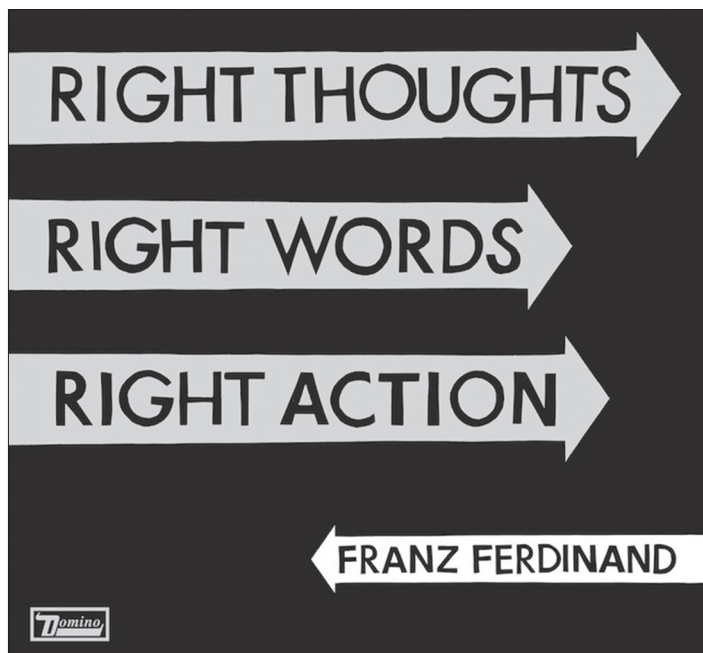
Being a longtime listener

of this project and others implicated in the garage-rock revival not too long ago, I yearn for the return of excitement for the Hives or Interpol. But alas, tastes have changed. After all, some may think they have heard all of what Franz Ferdinand has to offer, in spite of the wealth of energy and creativity the band still delivers.

Kapranos continues to churn out silly, singable lyrics with smooth delivery, whether it concerns retracting from intimacy on “The Universe Expanded” or defiance on “Stand on the Horizon.” In the past, the songwriter has dabbled with ease in balladry as well as high-energy punk-tinged anthems, giving Kapranos room to push boundaries even further.

However, the catchy lead single, “Love Illumination,” misses the mark chorus-wise with a rather juvenile rhyme scheme. Thankfully, the electric solo closing out the song makes up for this shakiness.

The band’s unique sound develops even further on “Right Thoughts” with more intricate riffs and killer melodies than ever before, having seemingly moved away from the outright



“Right Thoughts, Right Words, Right Action” was released on Aug. 26 via Domino Records.

dance grooves heard on tracks like “No You Girls” and back to the lo-fi feverishness of their self-titled debut.

The core appeal of Franz Ferdinand persists as an engaging band to see live; both the familiar and unfamiliar hits make you want to get up and dance in a less obvious way than what is deemed “festival-core” or out-

right beat-oriented.

Nobody should be embarrassed to still love Franz Ferdinand, even if Ian Cohen of Pitchfork media feels “Right Thoughts” deserves a measly 5.4 rating.

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BEARCAT BULLET

Observations from Pint Night



ALISON
EZARD

LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Back when I was a freshman, I went to parties fairly frequently—about every week-end. It didn’t matter to my horde of cohorts and me whether we knew the owners of the house or not; if someone “in the know” (almost never me) heard about a party, we ventured off into the night, armed with vending machine drinks mixed with cheap vodka.

I usually had a fairly good time at these parties. But one night, I made a fatal error that all but ended my desire to go out to a party again: I showed up to a party mostly sober. And what I saw through my sober eyes absolutely horrified me. Drunk and virtually devoid of dignity, my classmates, crammed into a sweaty basement, reeked of the desperation to get laid.

Now, there is nothing wrong with going out with intention of doing the hanky panky later on in the evening, but honestly, the visual of such open desperation (as I perceived it) happening on a massive scale was disturbing to experience as an observer rather than a participant. Now that I knew what it looked like from the outside, how could I ever truly let loose at a party again?

Now that I am finally 21, however, I have graduated from awkward basement parties to bars. And let me tell you, it actually is as awesome as I thought it would be. And last Thursday’s Pint Night at The RAM proved it to me.

My friends and I arrived at the bar a little after 9 p.m. After flashing our IDs at the big burly man standing near the door, we found our other friends who had managed to snag a coveted booth. I took out the little notebook I had brought with me to record the night’s events and looked around.

Though I was expecting a more lively scene, like the ones portrayed on all the teen and young-adult shows I’d spent the last decade consuming, everyone looked fairly blasé, arranged in roughly the same groupings as might be observed on a Tuesday evening in Goudy.

One of my friends described the scene as a high school dance with alcohol, with which I wholeheartedly agreed. He then warned me that things were going to get rowdy around 10 p.m. because that was when “the horde” would be arriving.

I was a little skeptical at first, especially since about half the people in the bar were people I was pretty sure had actually waited until they were 21 to start imbibing. Not exactly the makings of a wild night.

However, almost to the minute, by 10 p.m. the place was packed with students, rosy cheeked from the \$2.50 pints. This is when the real fun began, and, regrettably, when my ability to record the night’s events became seriously compromised.

But what I can tell you is this: I’m glad the senior class has matured out of the sweaty basement monkey phase and into the dignified drunken bar mingling phase.

I just hope it’s more than three years before we move onto the boring cocktail party phase.

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‘Blue Jasmine’ is a diamond in the rough of Woody Allen’s late career

DAVIN LACKSONEN
GUEST WRITER

I was caught off guard by “Blue Jasmine” for two reasons. Fortunately, both are positive. From the trailer I was expecting a slightly bleaker film, or rather one in which the dreariness wasn’t so softly punctuated by writer/director Woody Allen’s astute and sincere humor. This is one of his darkest works, but there’s a tenderness to all of Allen’s work that isn’t absent or out of place here.

From the reviews that have surfaced over the past few months in the blogosphere (and my summer reading list), one might assume that Allen as good as pla-

giarized Tennessee Williams. However, I argue that the constant comparisons to “A Streetcar Named Desire” have more to do with the exquisite performance by Cate Blanchett than the narrative and character with which Allen’s framework provided her.

The story of the film is spliced between two time frames that are given equal screen time. We are introduced to Jasmine talking the ears off an old lady about her husband, her New York life and how she is going to move in with her sister in San Francisco for a while. Although we are given good chunks of her backstory right there, single-word associations trigger memories for Jasmine, which we get

to experience with her as she gets lost in time (a technique used in recent memory in 2011’s “Martha Marcy May Marlene”).

Jasmine’s husband, played by Alec Baldwin, is a wealthy businessman that swept her off her feet and got her filthy rich off filthy money. Once he gets caught and imprisoned, Jasmine loses everything and is forced to run to her sister in San Francisco, which also means falling down several rungs on the social ladder.

The script ingeniously gives us the entire narrative in the first few minutes and then spends the next 90 minutes sprinkling it with flavorful details that morph our perceptions of its increasingly complex characters played by the likes of Sally Hawkins, Louis C. K. and Peter Saarsgard.

But what never ceases to impress me about Allen’s writing, and which is particularly evident in this work, is how in tune he is with geographical cultural quirks. As someone who has lived in four very different states in the U. S. and abroad, I always feel he strikes a rare chord in capturing the unexpected peculiarities of transitions. In this case it’s a New Yorker in San Francisco, and that sense of displacement is central to the narrative and the protagonist.

But as much as I want to praise Allen’s work here, like the other critics that come away screaming about “A Streetcar Named Desire,” I must admit that this is Blanchett’s movie. Coming off a wildly successful stage run of the beloved Tennessee Williams play, which earned her the best reviews of her almost unanimously revered career, she found in Allen’s script the potential to imbue a role with an already well-cultivated performance and a chance to relive that great character in her home medium: cinema.



EMILY SAFFORD

“Blue Jasmine” premiered in theaters on July 26.

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SALEM ON A SHOEST

INSPIRATION FOR THE BORED A

TEXT BY ELIZE MANOUKIAN
ART BY LANCE ROSSI

Salem is a fickle bitch, and for that we love her. In the complex narratives unfolding every day on campus, one might feel as though Salem plays another character in our lives—except that would be silly. While those without cars or other outlets can often feel trapped within the “Willamette Bubble”, all it takes to introduce some variety into your life is a little imagination and maybe a pair of walking shoes. Here is a list of places in our beautiful home for you to explore, and maybe discover for yourself why you should give a shit about Salem.

CINEBARRE

If you're tired of having your tormented files murdered by Eastside Resnet or watching movies on a screen smaller than your Calc 140 textbook, it's time to spring for a real movie experience. What's great about Salem Cinebarre is that they do the whole theater pub thing, where they serve you food in your seats and you feel so fancy. On Tuesdays, tickets are discounted to \$6, and every Sunday at 9 p.m. they screen new episodes of Breaking Bad for free.



ENGLEBERG'S ANTIK MALL

Engleberg's is a perfect analogy for the city in which it is located: one man's crap is another man's treasure. The shelves of the downtown antique mall are overflowing with every bizarre trinket or bauble that you can imagine: From fur coats to jewelry boxes, and vinyls to vintage baby carriages. I have spent hours here, just browsing through antique postcards, buttons and earrings. The store staff is incredibly friendly, as is the owner's corgi that periodically pops out from the backroom to play in the maze of display tables and wonders.

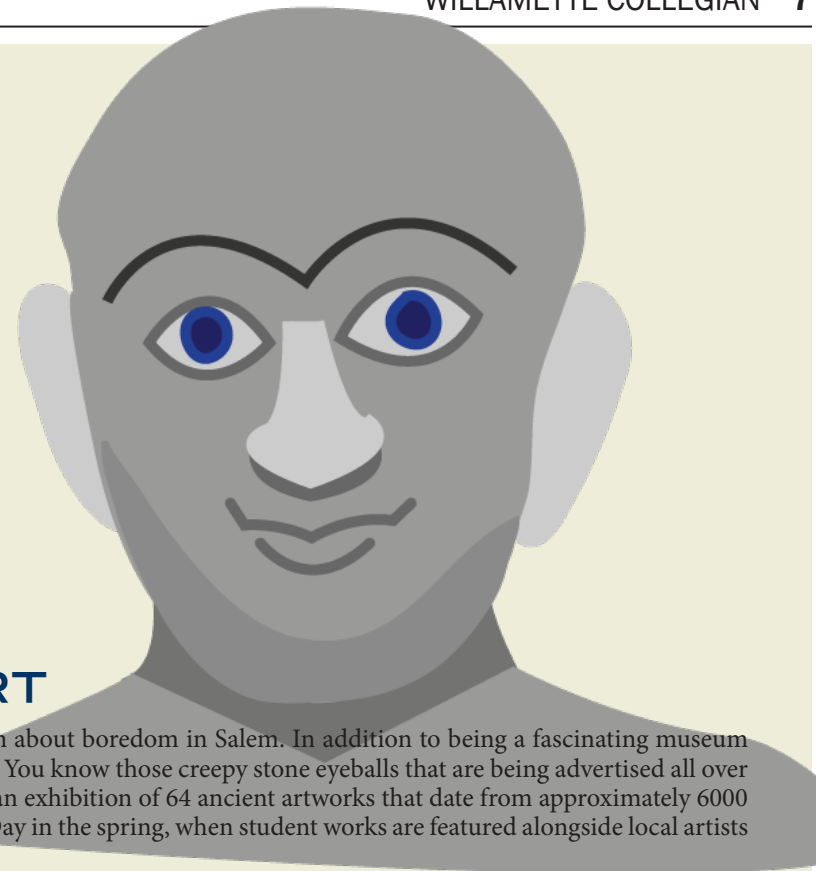


THE RIVERFRON

If you don't mind stretching your legs, th watching. For the more nostalgic among us project by artists in Salem. To the north en sure to check out Crooked House Bistro, or

While Minto-Brown is just out of walking distance (although V about 20 minutes. Minto-Brown is huge, a whopping 898.9 acres o hello to the Minto Island Growers, an organic farm and nursery n

TRING: ND BROKE



HALLIE FORD MUSEUM OF ART

If you have not already been to Hallie Ford, you are a cultural failure who has no excuse to ever complain about boredom in Salem. In addition to being a fascinating museum literally one block from campus, and Oregon's third largest art museum, students always have free admission. You know those creepy stone eyeballs that are being advertised all over campus? HFMA is housing more than just a spooky statue collection; "Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth" is an exhibition of 64 ancient artworks that date from approximately 6000 BCE to 500 BCE. Go. Go now. Also, make sure you visit Hallie Ford during Student Scholarship Recognition Day in the spring, when student works are featured alongside local artists (including University faculty). This is Willamette, after all. Don't be afraid to get a little liberal with your arts.

THE OREGON STATE CAPITOL

While taking an actual tour of the capitol building is probably boring and a waste of your time, you can climb the 121 steps to the observation deck at the top and see Salem from one of the city's highest points. The surrounding gardens are also a nice place to walk around, or a pretty detour for late night trips to McDonalds or Safeway. I personally love the character that the art and engravings inside and out lend the building. The fascinatingly fascist scenes of white people penetrating the fertile lands of Oregon with their empire provide some nice eye candy for passersby, and food for thought for hungry liberal arts students.



BUSH'S PASTURE PARK

Bush's is 90.5 acres of trees and gardens located down Winter Street. Not only are there trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, tennis courts and natural groves of old Oregon orchards, but Willamette's football and baseball stadiums are also conveniently located along the park's border (in addition to a soap box derby track, where I have seen many a baby townie zooming around). Next to the historic Bush Park Mansion is a fascinating plant conservatory, the oldest greenhouse in the state, and a garden with over 2,000 roses. Bush's Park is simply a nice place for people to escape, relax or contemplate life. I once sat in the gazebo for an hour on shrooms, just watching the clouds and the earth speak to each other. Oh, gazebo.

NT

The Riverfront is the best walking tour of Salem a Bearcat could ask for. Riverfront Park is a short distance from campus and offers some interesting statues to look at and a nice lawn for people. There is a beautiful hand-carved carousel for children (as well as slightly older children) to romp around. The path to the south end of the park will lead you to the EcoGlobe, a tile mosaic and is the Union Street Pedestrian Bridge that connects to West Salem, a historic neighborhood that many Willamette students take the chance to visit. If you venture far enough this way, make use of Salem's best restaurants, or the Sundance Lavender Farm where you can cut your own lavender. Or, you know, Taco Bell.

MINTO-BROWN ISLAND PARK

Willamette students are prone to traveling further distances, even when drunk/in the rain), you can borrow a bike from a friend or the Bike Shop and make it there in the rain. The park also cooperates with local farmers to protect certain areas for agriculture. Venture deeper into South Salem and say hello to the park that has an amazing food truck, and offers programs like berry picking and yoga.

Bean ball justice for A-Rod



DEVIN LEONARDI

STAFF WRITER

When thinking about the monetary value of athletic achievement and prowess in professional athletics, the Canadian band Barenaked Ladies' penultimate pre-chorus lyric, "If I had a million dollars I'd buy your love" reminds us of the lengths people will go to be recognized and valued.

So, if you were a professional athlete, how far would you go to live up to expectations? How would you buy people's love? Would you even go so far as to cheat?

For New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez, the highest paid baseball player in Major League Baseball history, the pressure of performing at an expectedly high level must be immense. However, that certainly does not permit you to use steroids in order to prove yourself worthy of an over \$30 million annual salary.

This year Rodriguez sits at the crux of an investigation that found 12 current players guilty of using performance-enhancing drugs. What sets Rodriguez apart from these individuals is his trademark indignation and denial.

He is the only person with the audacity to appeal his 211 game suspension, the largest non-lifetime sanction placed on a single player in MLB history.

Personally, even though I'm never really surprised by Rodriguez's continuous antics, I still find his actions and lack of respect for the game infuriating. Apparently, his co-workers do as well.

On Aug. 25, just weeks after MLB announced Rodriguez's plans to appeal the suspension, Boston Red Sox pitcher Ryan Dempster nailed Rodriguez in the elbow with an errant fastball. For a moment, justice was served.

Honestly, there aren't a number of skin-seeking bean balls that could make up for the way Rodriguez has defaced the game of baseball. But in reality, a player retaliating against another player's actions is also an offense that should not be tolerated.

Even though Dempster denied the intentionality of his ill-fated pitch, he was suspended for nine games. Luckily for him, his next start wasn't originally scheduled for another 10 games anyway. Coincidence? I think not.

While it seems as if the entire baseball planet, myself included, is against "A-fraud" (a very trendy nickname for him these days), there are actually a surprising number of opponents who have provided support.

36 major league pitchers were anonymously asked by ESPN Magazine if they would intentionally hit Rodriguez at the plate; all were opposed.

And while Rodriguez has drawn a lot of heat for being able to play during the appeals process, 83 percent of those surveyed agreed that he should in fact be able to. This is however mostly because they realize that he is a member of the player's union, and therefore is entitled to this basic right under the collective bargaining agreement.

Whatever the case may be, I think the players have it right.

Justice isn't meant to be served up in the form of bean balls or tomato throwing fans; it comes from a system without discrimination.

Instead, maybe the best approach for the commissioner's office to take is to enforce its so called "no tolerance" policy and make a bold statement by banning A-Rod for life. After all, this would be his proverbial third strike. The first from 2001-2003, the second in 2009, and the third in 2013.

You're out, Alex.

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Bearcat football seeks to exceed expectations in 2013

BRANDON CHINN
SPORTS EDITOR

After a 2012 season full of change, the biggest noticeable difference for the Willamette University football team coming into 2013 will be the newly installed turf that it's playing on.

The Bearcats are just days away from being able to put that newly-renovated field to use when they welcome Hardin-Simmons University to McCulloch Stadium under Friday night's lights.

"I think I speak for everyone in saying that we are anxious in a good way," senior quarterback Josh Dean said. "We can't wait to see what this team is capable of."

All eyes will be on the football team come Friday night; expectations run high following a much improved 2012 campaign. After winning a mere four games in 2011, the 'Cats doubled their win total in 2012 with eight wins in 10 games.

Despite outside expectations and the third place projected finish Willamette received in the Northwest Conference preseason poll, second-year head coach Glen Fowles doesn't want his team getting caught up in wins and losses.

"We expect our guys to compete and be proud of their performance. When you do that the scoreboard will take care of itself,"



Senior Terrell Malley makes a cut and escapes a defender during the Cardinal and Gold Scrimmage.



Members of the Willamette football team participate in scrimmage as they prepare for Friday night's season opening game.

Fowles said. "At the end of the day, you want to be proud of what you've accomplished."

One person who can certainly be proud of his accomplishments last season is the man under center. Dean, who served as a backup quarterback in all of 2011, rapidly burst onto the scene as a junior.

He compiled 3,345 passing yards and 34 touchdown passes, leading the NWC in both statistical categories. As if that weren't enough, he also broke several Willamette single-season passing records on his way to garnering Second Team All-NWC honors.

"It's exciting and always satisfying when your work pays dividends, but it's back to a blank sheet," Dean said. "Time to focus on a new year."

While he enjoyed plenty of success last season, Dean is still working to raise his level of play even higher, something that is very pleasing to Fowles.

"Some people tend to get complacent when they are the guy, but Josh is continuing to do more," Fowles said. "It's an amazing situation."

With no questions surrounding Dean's potential for 2013, plenty of outside questions have risen regarding who he'll pass to, as Dean's top three targets in 2012 (former Bearcats Jake Knecht, Jake Turner and Benny Weischedel), which accounted for nearly 55 percent of Dean's completions, have all graduated.

Refusing to dwell on players of the past, however, Fowles expressed confidence in his current players' abilities to get the job done.

"There are a lot of guys who are going to have to step up and play, and we expect them to do so," Fowles said. "Some good

players are going to be given the opportunity to define themselves going forward."

Dean, too, expressed confidence in the present receiving core. "Guys have stepped up during camp and have proven that we shouldn't miss a beat on the outside," he said. "I'm confident in saying we [also] have the best running backs in the conference," he said.

One of those running backs Dean referred to was junior halfback Dylan Jones, who ran for 716 yards and six rushing touchdowns last year. He also recorded two touchdown receptions on his way to being named Second Team All-NWC.

While admitting to the team's success last season, Jones was not satisfied with being 8-2 and is focused on improving that record in 2013.

"I think I can speak for my whole team by saying it wasn't good enough," Jones said. "Those two losses are on all of the returners' minds. With a few new freshmen, our team has a lot of potential."

The high expectations directed at the Bearcats seems futile, as it is surely the players themselves who are casting out the highest of expectations for the 2013 season.

Gearing up for Friday, the 'Cats are ready to go out and start living up to those expectations. "There's an intensity that should be evident on game day," Dean said. "It may be cliché, but look for a team that leaves it all out on the field."

Only time will tell, but if the Bearcats can live up to all of the hype, then Friday night will certainly be the start of a season to remember.

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Women's soccer victorious in season opener

DEVIN ABNEY
STAFF WRITER

The first 29 minutes of the Bearcats women's soccer opener versus visiting Howard Payne University were a dogfight, as neither side could gain an advantage in scoreless play.

But just 27 seconds and two goals later, the 'Cats jumped out in front and never looked back, en route to 3-0 season opening victory.

"It feels great to win the season opener," junior forward Sarah Desautels said. "Starting out the season with a win is great validation for all of the hard work we have put in both during the summer and preseason."

Willamette's inaugural goal of 2013 came on a corner kick in the 29th min-

ute. Desautels delivered the kick, which deflected off a HPU player's head and bounced into the net.

Only 27 seconds later, WU was back in action.

Junior midfielder Malia Simpson dished a beautiful pass to sophomore Rachel Fleener, who knocked the 16-yard shot past the goalie and into the net. It was Fleener's first goal of her Willamette career, as she only took two shots her freshman year.

The two goals were all the Bearcats needed, as their strong defense stymied HPU all night long. An integral part of the strong defensive effort by the 'Cats included a sharp offensive attack that kept possession away from HPU.

"The forwards and midfielders did a good job of playing defense up top, which made it difficult for the other team to get

opportunities on our half of the field," senior goalie Nicole Price said. "Everyone did a great job covering their marks and playing hard for the full 90 minutes."

Desautels added an insurance goal in the final minute of regulation. The ball bounced off the right post, off the goalie and into the net for the final score of the 3-0 victory.

While the victory was a nice start, the Bearcats are focused forward.

"The team and I were ecstatic to win our first game, but we all know how competitive our league is and will definitely not rest on this win," Desautels said. "We are continuing to work hard and are looking ahead to see what we can do to prepare for future games."

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Men's soccer nabs two victories

DEVIN ABNEY
STAFF WRITER

Two games, 11 goals and two shutouts later, the Bearcats men's soccer team has opened the season in style, dominating visiting Howard Payne University in the season opener and delivering an even more impressive victory over visiting Lawrence University.

The theme of the two games: Score early and don't stop.

"We knew we needed to take the momentum, score early and never let down," senior midfielder Trevor Jensen said.

Score early they did, as in their season opener against Howard Payne University last Friday, the Bearcats scored two goals in the first seven minutes.

It took Willamette fewer than five min-

utes to score its first goal of the season, when Jensen booted a 45-yard pass on a free kick to junior midfielder Adam Lewis, who knocked the ball into the net.

Only two minutes later, sophomore midfielder Austin Jacobsen found the right side of the net on a 12-yard shot. His goal came after an opposing defender failed to clear the ball. Jacobsen then took control of the ball from just outside the penalty box, dribbled closer and scored his first goal of the 2013 campaign.

Sophomore midfielder Tyler Yates provided the final two goals for the Bearcats. His first score was from 8 yards out, as the streaking Yates received a perfectly placed 25-yard through-pass from sophomore forward Yazan Hishmeh.

Yates's second goal came against a short-staffed HPU team, as a red card

cut the HPU squad to 10 players on the field.

In the 8th minute, Bearcat freshman midfielder Julian Hanlon-Austin delivered a powerful shot that was saved by the HPU goalkeeper. Yates, however, was left wide open on the deflection. He promptly kicked the ball in from the top of the penalty area for the final goal of the 4-0 victory.

The Bearcats dominated the night on all levels, finishing with 12 corner kicks to HPU's three and achieving an impressive 23-8 shot advantage for a successful start to the season.

"Winning the season opener was huge for us and a good first step towards a successful season," Yates said. "We kept a high tempo from the beginning of the game which allowed us to have many attacking opportunities early on."

Willamette carried over its dominating play into their second match, scoring six goals in the first half of a lopsided 7-0 victory over Lawrence University.

"We didn't expect to score six goals in the first half," Hishmeh said. "But like our coach said, we've got to keep our foot on the pedal."

A pair of seniors in Jensen and defender Kevin Martin led the 'Cats, scoring two goals apiece. Hishmeh, Jacobsen and Hanlon-Austin scored the remaining three goals for Willamette.

For the second match in a row the Bearcats blanked their opponent, as sophomore keepers Braydon Calder and Julian Juarez combined for the shutout.

But while the wins were nice, the 'Cats have larger ambitions.

"It's always great and exciting to start the season off with a big win," Jensen said. "However, we need to stay focused and keep taking it one game at a time if we truly want to accomplish anything special this year."



MIKE RHINE

Sophomore midfielder Austin Jacobson attacks the goal last Friday night against Howard Payne University. The Bearcats won 4-0.

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Resiliency on display, WU splits at Pacific Coast Classic

ZACH OSERAN
STAFF WRITER

Kicking off the year at the Pacific Coast Classic in Claremont, Calif., the Bearcat women's volleyball team illustrated much of the same winning resiliency that they displayed at the end of last season.

The team competed against several of the strongest teams on the west coast and returned home with a 2-2 record.

Both times the 'Cats were defeated, however, they followed up with an impressive victory, including a come from behind win over the University of La Verne, which was receiving votes to be ranked in the national top 25 polls.

"I would say that we just stayed positive this weekend and didn't sweat the little things," senior setter Emily Compton said. "We didn't let the other teams good play get us down and instead respond-

ed with our own good play".

On Friday, the Bearcats opened the tournament with a competitive match against UC-Santa Cruz, but eventually lost in four tightly contested sets.

Later in the afternoon, the Bearcats responded to La Verne, rallying back from a two set deficit to capture a 3-2 win.

"Throughout the entire match, nobody lost confidence," senior libero Lizzy Balding said of the team's rally. "It took all 15 of us, coaches included, to beat them. Everyone stepped up when it counted."

Willamette returned to action Saturday, again splitting their two decisions. The team lost the morning match in three sets to Claremont McKenna before winning the afternoon match against Pomona Pitzer in another five set thriller.

On a crucial match-point, leading 15-14 in the fifth set,

seniors Carly Hargrave and Kirsten Brehmer teamed up for a crucial block to clinch the match.

"It was crucial to play hard at that point to secure the win for the team because we had the momentum rallying back from being down 12-14," Brehmer said. "Having a block in such a dramatic moment in the match is the best feeling to end a match on feeling the ball securely hit your hands and knowing it is not getting past you."

Leading the Bearcats in kills was sophomore Sarah Fincher, who ended the match with 17 kills and a .250 hitting percentage.

Fincher, who transferred this season from Southwest Baptist University, commented on the importance of starting the season strong.

"It was very important for us to have a strong tournament. The results didn't matter so much, but rather

figuring out how to play together and function as one unit," Fincher said. "We really learned how to rally together in that fifth game and come out with the win."

Also contributing for the Bearcats were sophomore outside hitter Lindsay Compton, who recorded nine kills, and Hargrave, who produced nine kills and four blocks. Middle hitter Shannon Waltz contributed eight kills, Balding added 16 digs, and Compton collected 50 assists.

"Our intensity and competitive drive were really strong in this tournament," Hargrave said. "I expect that to remain consistent as we complete our preseason matches and begin conference play."

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Fantasy frenzy



HOLLY PETERSEN

STAFF WRITER

Sports fanaticism breeds a multitude of irrational behaviors.

In my house, tears have been shed, remotes thrown and doors slammed after the loss of an important game. I have come to fear changing seats in the middle of a sporting event, as this would obviously bring unfortunate luck to a team hundreds of miles away.

It is not at all unusual for the mood of my entire house to be affected by the outcome of a single game. All of this makes sense to me. However, despite my best efforts, I am unable to comprehend the craze that is "fantasy football."

Everywhere I turn, there is chatter about choosing this year's dream team. Over summer, on the bus to a retreat for Community Mentor training, the guy in front of me was reading a 20-page article entitled, "How to Succeed in Fantasy Football."

At my opening hall meeting, a resident asked if he could bring his laptop because the meeting happened to conflict with the time of his fantasy draft. In my classes, people discuss drafting strategies while studying statistical spreadsheets and reading top ten lists of who to draft and why.

Quite frankly, I find fantasy football to be very stupid. Sundays are no longer a day of leisure, but days spent frantically checking your various leagues, religiously watching the ticker at the bottom of the TV screen for current information on your fantasy players.

Additionally, team loyalty is lost. At what point does the make believe team you've assembled on your computer become more important than the team you've rooted for your entire life?

Will Aaron Rogers ever really toss a game-winning fade to Andre Johnson? Unlikely. Watching games becomes exhausting, praying your worshipped team is victorious while simultaneously rooting for your fantasy players on opposing teams.

The game temporarily turns even the most casual NFL fans into full-blown fanatics. Anyone can join or create a fantasy league with a few simple clicks. Many who partake in fantasy football don't necessarily follow actual football. They often choose their teams based on statistical trends and recent stories in the media rather than actual on-field talent.

When Arian Foster announced his decision to become vegan, the fantasy football world was up in arms, second guessing their plans to draft the perennial all-star. In what other sport would so many fans care about the personal dietary plan of a professional athlete?

I recognize that, in many ways, fantasy football is a good thing. It helps with television ratings, merchandising and the overall popularity of football. It fosters a sense of camaraderie and connection between old and new friends, family and colleagues, bringing people closer through online competition. It's a way for fans to enjoy football even if their favorite team is out of contention by week five.

But think about what type of fan you are really becoming. Whether it's for a few extra bucks (keep that on the DL), or simply for bragging rights in next year's draft, don't lose track of that hometown team you pulled for growing up. After all, that team is REAL and always there for you, right?

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Protesters' perspective: Facing the Truth

LINDSEY DENNIS CHANEL SULC
SURABHI MAHAJAN GUEST WRITERS

Editor's note: After the Willamette Truth blog was released, a meeting was called in which 25 people from different parts of campus met to compose an open letter to the community. After releasing the letter, the students held silent demonstrations across campus.

We are a group of students who compiled the open letter to the Willamette community and conducted the protests in response to the release of the Willamette Truth blog last May. We feel underrepresented in the coverage of the events concerning last semester.

Our pictures were seen in last week's feature, but our voices were not heard. We have heard multiple voices express frustration with what they perceive as an attack or singling out of Sigma Chi. These voices have argued that the Facebook posts revealed on

the blog do not accurately reflect the individual members of the fraternity and that the posts were meant to be light-hearted humor to which we have overreacted.

In this article, we hope to make clear that although we find these Facebook posts disturbing and refuse to dismiss the incident with a "boys will be boys" mentality, our concern is with what we see as a bigger campus culture of violence and oppression—of which these posts are only one manifestation. We believe that the Facebook posts and the conversations about them reveal that there has been a culture of bystander behavior that is not limited to Sigma Chi, but extends throughout our campus.

We feel it is due to this dangerous atmosphere that we see sexism manifest itself throughout campus. Whether it is being forced to endure jokes made about sexual assault or sit quietly while a dominant student in the room takes up a majority of the conversation in class, we feel

our campus' daily actions frequently support a system of male dominance.

We believe the Facebook posts illuminate racist and xenophobic attitudes towards students of color and non-western students on campus. For non-western women and/or women of color, this is folded into the sexism they experience. Thus, in order to avoid bystander behaviors, we saw that it was our responsibility to our community to take action. We protested to remove Sigma Chi from campus to help make this community a safer place for many students.

Additionally, we did this protest to show the Willamette administration issues on campus. While necessary services such as S.A.R.A exist, we question whether the administration follows through with proper Title IX procedures, such as punishing perpetrators of sexual assault or rape culture. If they have not, we feel that this creates an atmosphere that isolates survivors of sex-

ual assault, leaving them only to seek support from student-run organizations, like S.A.R.A., or from off-campus organizations such as Mid Valley Women's Crisis Service.

We recognize the steps the administration has taken recently to resolve some of these issues, but we still feel we have a long way to go. We see the response that the fraternity has gotten from the University as a form of education, for which we are thankful, as we feel this kind of response is unprecedented by our administration. Now more needs to be done, by the administration, faculty, staff, and, most importantly, by the student body.

This article is the beginning of where our group wants the discussion to go this year. No matter how difficult it is to realize the fault that lies within us, we need to gather as a community to make ourselves better.

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Midwest love, West coast learning

EMILY DOUGAN
STAFF WRITER

Despite my attempts at hiding it, many of you may know I am a Midwesterner. I have been for my whole life. You can tell by the outline of the state of Illinois on my back and the way I say words like "Chicago" and "bag" when I get excited (read: drunk). While I've been living outside of the good ol' American prairie land for a bit now, my first year of college was filled with a difficult transition that I feel is often overlooked. Of course, all new students struggle with the new lifestyle that arises from coming to college, but few Willamette students really understand what it's like to come to a completely different cultural region than the one you were raised in.

Political and cultural differences aside, the first major change in my lifestyle when coming to the PNW came from how I approach food. Growing up, I was exposed to a lot of bacon. And corn. Oh my God, we have a lot of corn in the Midwest. I cannot stress that enough. Here, though, it seems like everyone hates corn and its various products (albeit for good reason). During my first week of college colloquium, we watched a movie about how corn is evil. It made me question everything about myself and how I was raised. I'm still recovering.

But all silliness aside, this foodie culture shock has been good for me. I honestly eat healthier when at school than I do at home, and I thank the PNW for its positive influence on me. Other cultural differences took me a little practice to get used to, however.

Like excessive public nudity. Okay, maybe this isn't just a Pacific Northwest thing, but I had never actually encountered it up front until I started at Willamette. I remember at the beginning of my freshman year, I was getting ready to go on a hiking trip with some friends. However, when I met up with them to go, one of the girls (who is from Oregon, mind you), said that everyone had decided to go to the hot springs instead. I asked if I should go grab a swimsuit, and the girl responded, "Nah, just go naked."

My little freshman brain nearly had an aneurism. But I did it, and it was OK. This opened a door to more public nudity (such as the infamous "naked run" on prospie day) and, you can ask my roommates, I'm naked a lot of the time now.

So, since coming to the Pacific Northwest, I've been confronted with a lot of cultural changes. I've become more conscientious of certain social issues, and become a lot more, uh, liberal. But I don't think I've completely lost my "Midwestern-ness." I still eat corn on occasion, and find myself referring to soda as pop. It's important to have balance when going through cultural changes; embrace the new without rejecting the old. And get naked, if you must.

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What can be learned from local politics

JACOB VAN BAALEN
GUEST WRITER

Marion County Democrats. That fancy, officially official name shows that this group of outstanding citizens represents (they really do!) all Democrats in this wonderful city of Salem. But they're all older, busy and honestly, quite unorganized.

That's why we're here. We need to talk. You have the new ideas that this local party, and all local parties, need.

I suppose I should explain. Local parties, especially county parties, are horribly underfunded and ineffective. They lack the ability to do things, and often times they sit in a pool of agitating agreement. They agree on what needs to be done, but they can't really do anything about it.

These people in the parties have the

ideas – who needs to do what and where and how – but they lack the volunteers and people to organize their plans.

Without the organizers, they are a club of people who get together and talk about politics; with organizers they can be a force in (local) politics. You can be that organizer.

Just during last year's election, a small group of Willamette students took a local House race and made it something that the opposition had to actually worry about, keeping resources and time away from other races and forcing the hand of the Republican Party in the campaign.

Though they ultimately lost, this is the kind of effect that a few college students in the local party can have. While many of us have other obligations, we have the time – many of us even search for opportunities just like this one.

We also have the vigor. We orga-

nize things for our other activities like it's our job. We force ourselves into the Willamette bubble that many bemoan so much by using most of our organizational talents on Willamette's campus alone. So, if you like politics, why not break out of the Bubble? You never know just where it will take you.

I recently found myself as a member of the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Oregon, where we set the party platform, set the budget, meet statewide officials and do other things that are really cool to anyone who enjoys the nitty-gritty of political operations.

You can become part of a group of 100 who represent 900,000 people. So give it a shot – it'll be worth it. I promise.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Professor Stebbins-Boaz explains chemical study, research

To the Editor:

Regarding the article in the Aug. 28 issue of the *Collegian*, "Professor conducts pesticide research", let me clarify a couple of points. Neither my students nor I have done any experiments using local native animals. We use the South African Clawed frog, *Xenopus laevis*, a widely accepted amphibian model system. We primarily study the effects of herbicides on reproductive cells called oocytes, which we surgically, and non-lethally, remove from the females.

This work contributes to worldwide research efforts to identify and understand endocrine disruptors, which are industrial, pharmaceutical, consumer and agricultural chemicals that interfere with hormone-regulated mechanisms such as reproduction. We are all exposed to sublethal concentrations of many potential endocrine disruptors e.g. bisphenol A in plastic water bottles.

Be a smart consumer and keep apprised of ongoing research. I recommend this informative research/news link as a start: <http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/>.

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Send a letter to the editor in response to one of the articles in this week's *Collegian*.

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name and phone number and must be submitted by Monday at noon on the week of intended publication. The *Collegian* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. Please email letters to <msari>.

Got thoughts?

Get paid to write guest columns for the Opinions section.

Contact Opinions Editor Becca Brownlee <rbrownle> for more information.

"There's no such thing as the 'voiceless'. There are only the deliberately silenced, or the preferably unheard." -Arundhati Roy

EDITORIAL

Where does WU stand as a working body? Recognizing your community and the strength in numbers

When Willamette unofficially broke the world record for the Largest Game of Red Light Green Light last Friday with 1,061 participants, something happened that we don't see very often.

Hordes of students from all corners of campus life came together in one place, for one cause. How often do we get to see that? When do we stand as one, as a community, as one working body?

We have Wulapalooza. We have Midnight Breakfast. We have Fred Meyer night. We might have the first football game. These are all great events. But we don't have too many "We are Willamette, dammit" events that have no labels and promote no specific student organization.

Our reason for not gathering together more frequently isn't that we don't care about our community. Our issue is that each of us cares about a lot of different issues that don't always overlap and don't call for everyone coming in tandem.

Willamette school spirit starts by naming the reality that there are a lot of us with different interests on campus. We get so focused on the club we're running or thesis we're writing that we forget that there are other people doing different things with different passions. In 2010-2011, 95 percent of students were involved in at least one co-curricular activity. Most Bearcats were involved in 3.4 activities. We have bubbles within the Willamette bubble.

That's all well and good, and it's what makes our community so multifaceted. But we need to come together every once in awhile and stop pretending that our interest or major is more important than anyone else's.

We need to promote what our liberal arts education truly demands: interdisciplinary studies and interactions with different ideas, people and schools of thought — and being open to discovering something of value in each. The great part about our campus is that there are resources to make opportunities like this happen.

Red Light Green Light was incredible not because Willamette shattered a world record, but because it's pretty damn neat to see half of the undergraduate population in one place with a common goal. Seeing excited students standing in line together on a warm August afternoon was amazing. What was even better was seeing them talking to Bearcats they had never met before and passing along waiver forms, pens and clipboards to make the line move faster for everyone.

The editorial board isn't calling for hundreds of students

to show up to every baseball game or choir concert (although that support would be great). We aren't looking for ASWU Senators to throw themselves into intramural sports, or for art history majors to transfer into microbiology class (although that would be awesome, too).

Our school spirit isn't only about increasing the number of students we have at each and every event or having students broaden their extracurricular horizons. At its most authentic, our school spirit should be about using the word "we" more often and supporting each other — and asking

hard questions of ourselves and our community when some people or groups aren't included in our collective.

A bofferer isn't going to always understand what a theater techie is doing with that plywood and that spraypaint — and that is OK.

The bofferer just needs to remember that what that techie is doing is valuable and meaningful work, and vice versa. Their work (even when it's invisible) makes Willamette the vibrant place we each have the privilege

“At its most authentic, our school spirit should be about using the word “we” more often, and asking hard questions of ourselves and our community when some people aren't included in the collective.”

of experiencing on a daily basis.

Let's ask questions of and commend the hard work of the President's Working Group on Sexual Assault and Harassment at convocation in Cone Chapel on Thursday. Let's be proud that our women's soccer team beat Howard Payne 3-0 in their first game of the season. Let's celebrate the success of the six students that did research through the College Colloquium Student Research Grant Program this summer.

Let's not let our gatherings stop at Red Light Green Light. This world record is just the beginning.

COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

Miles Sari • EDITOR IN CHIEF
Becca Brownlee • OPINIONS EDITOR
Kelley Villa • MANAGING EDITOR

SOPHOMORE SLUMP

Or comeback of the year?

MARIKA MCCARTHY
STAFF WRITER

I had an existential crisis the day classes started.

I will only have two more first days of school. Maybe more, but I don't think that graduate school counts. But soon I will have one more first day of school. Then I won't.

And then what? Soon I'm going to be 30? Married? Huh?

I distinctly remember sobbing in my childhood bedroom late at night and being consoled by my dad. What happened to the little girl with nightmares?

There is something so jarring about coming back to school and not knowing the many new faces on campus, not knowing how to take classes that you didn't already take in high school, not knowing how to not be a freshman. It is hard to readjust after making so many adjustments last fall.

My posters fell from the walls of my new room in the middle of the night, and somehow it seemed like an inexplicable metaphor for my life.

I don't know what it means.

I'm so much more lost than I was last year.

Because there are places that I somehow ended up claiming were mine. And they don't belong to me anymore, even if it seemed like they did. They belong to a new crop of starry-eyed students. Students who seem to know where the off-campus social gatherings are being held.

Was it only last year that I knew? Am I trying too hard to be young and hip? I feel like I'm a parent who just hasn't gone home after moving her son into Belknap.

A disconnected, broken doll. It's a Saturday night and I want to go to bed. Does it even matter whether I know where functions are functioning if I don't want to go? I used to be able to fall asleep anywhere and anytime, but I know that I would just toss and turn.

Because I didn't think that things would change this much. I thought I would settle into a safe, normal, known routine. But Goudy has new dishes and I'm not living two doors away from the girl's bathroom anymore.

I wasn't expecting to feel so homesick surrounded by all my friends. I felt it last year too, but it had been expected and I fortified myself with goodbye parties and cards from relatives. The potential in every new moment was like nicotine, like lightning in my veins.

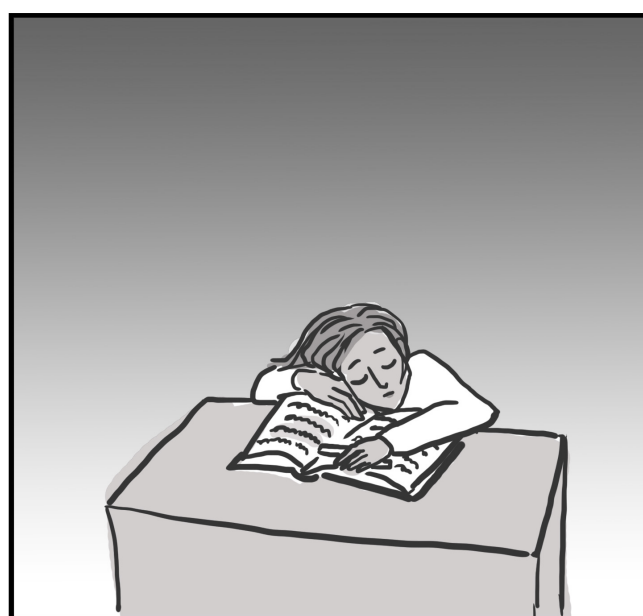
Maybe it is time to grow up. Start a to-do list. Officially declare my major and put it in the signature of my Willamette email. Detox by drinking apple cider vinegar.

Breathe.

Prepare for junior year.

mimccart@willamette.edu

Struggling on State Street: Learning through osmosis



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