

Lifestyles

Wondering which fashion-forward Bearcat we picked as this week's Style Crush? Check out Lifestyles. P. 5

Feature

Curious about poetry on campus? Read some of your fellow Bearcats' poems and their stories in this week's feature. P. 6-7

NEWS

Future Doney Hall residents to receive sex-neutral bathrooms

BRONTE DOD
STAFF WRITER

Multiple bathrooms in Doney Hall will be transformed into sex-neutral facilities this summer, University officials said.

The renovations will occur as the result of the collaboration between multiple administrative departments and the Queer Student Union (QSU), who began to petition the University last spring.

Junior politics major Andrés Oswill is the president of the QSU; he was introduced to the sex-neutral restroom initiative as a freshman when he joined the organization. Since then, he has taken on the project personally.

"These are students who feel comfortable nowhere, and have genuine concerns for their safety, because of how they identify in terms of sex and gender," Oswill said. "As a University that tries to be inclusive, we should be worrying about giving them one single space where they can feel safe and comfortable."

Both the online petition and the Facebook page for sex-neutral restrooms at Willamette have gained over 300 signatures and "likes." Oswill said the members of the faculty and administration with whom the QSU worked with have been supportive as well.

Oswill and the QSU wrote the initial proposal for sex-neutral bathrooms last spring.

Not knowing where to begin, they submitted the proposal to multiple departments, administrators, faculty and staff members within the University.

Assistant Professor of English Allison Hobgood was the faculty advisor for the QSU last semester and sits on the faculty council for multicultural affairs. She worked with the QSU to bring all the relevant University departments together into one conversation.

"To make this happen there are a lot of siloed sections of the University that need to get together and collaborate," Hobgood said.

Hobgood said that the issue goes beyond gaining privacy in bathrooms.

According to Hobgood, the

faculty needs to demonstrate that they are allied with students as well; one way to do this would be to make at least one restroom in every academic building sex-neutral, Hobgood said.

"This is a campus climate, safety and rights issue," she said.

Sophomore Nate Balk is the community mentor on the third floor of Lausanne, where the sex-identifying signs on restroom doors have repeatedly been ripped down this semester.

The incidents sparked conversations among the residents regarding whether they want their restrooms to be sex-neutral.

On Thursday, Balk organized a conversation with residents to find the safest and most comfortable so-

lution for the community.

Balk said half of the residents supported making the bathrooms sex-neutral, while the other half were against the proposal. For now, the bathrooms on the third floor of Lausanne will remain segregated.

Oswill said that the University policy – which allows students to self-regulate bathroom accommodations – isn't the best solution.

Currently, if even one person objects to having a sex-neutral bathroom, then those residents who don't feel comfortable in a gendered setting – or support unisex bathrooms for any other reason – lose the option of having access to a sex-neutral bathroom.

See **BATHROOMS**, Page 2

EDITORIAL

Forget about GRE, focus on credit score

A good score on the GRE, LSAT, or MCAT exams will help you get into your dream graduate programs, but there is more to life after Willamette than further education.

Part of being self-sufficient and self-reliant adults is knowing how to manage your credit: A good credit score will open more doors after graduation than most test scores.

But what exactly is credit? What is a good credit score? What can you do with it? Why don't we know more about it?

Though we appreciate that our education at Willamette has given us the tools to think critically and theoretically, we wish the University went further in giving us tools to succeed outside of academia and the workplace. We wish we gained the more mundane, yet just as important, skills of personal financial management and credit building that will allow us to function in society.

Part of the University's mission statement claims that a "Willamette education prepares graduates to transform knowledge into action and lead lives of achievement, contribution and meaning."

However, the critical thinking skills we will acquire after four to five years in the classroom will only go so far.

Part of our education should also involve practical, tangible tools and resources that will prepare us for life after our undergraduate and potential graduate studies.

Essentially, Willamette does not teach us how to be financially autonomous adults.

But how could our school even go about offering this education to students?

One option would be a quarter-credit course in personal financial management.

Perhaps the Office of Residence Life could have Community Mentors create an educational programming series on credit building skills and financial management.

Either way, the University should seek to provide students with opportunities to receive some sort of education on financial responsibility and consumer credit.

Whether we like it or not, credit plays a big part in having economic and financial stability after graduation.

Though credit can lead to insurmountable debt, the borrowed money guaranteed by a credit grantor, such as a bank, can allow you to purchase goods and services when you need them.

See **EDITORIAL**, Page 10

SPORTS

Bearcats cap sweep over #17 George Fox in extra innings

DEVIN ABNEY
STAFF WRITER

Coming into the weekend the George Fox University baseball team was ranked 17th in all of Division III baseball, but that national ranking didn't stop the Bearcats from securing three consecutive victories over the Bruins.

"[We] expected to win, and it showed on the scoreboard," senior first baseman Brandon Chinn said.

After taking both games in a doubleheader on Saturday, the 'Cats found themselves tied 2-2 in the bottom of the 11th inning on Sunday. When Chinn came to the plate with the bases loaded and only one out, looking for a hit or sacrifice fly to win the game and secure the sweep.

He did just that, as his deep stroke to right field scored sophomore second baseman Shea Harrison and won the game in walk-off style for the 'Cats.

"I hit it, and then I knew right away," Chinn said via the Bearcat Network. "I left the bat up in the air a little longer and took my time going to first."

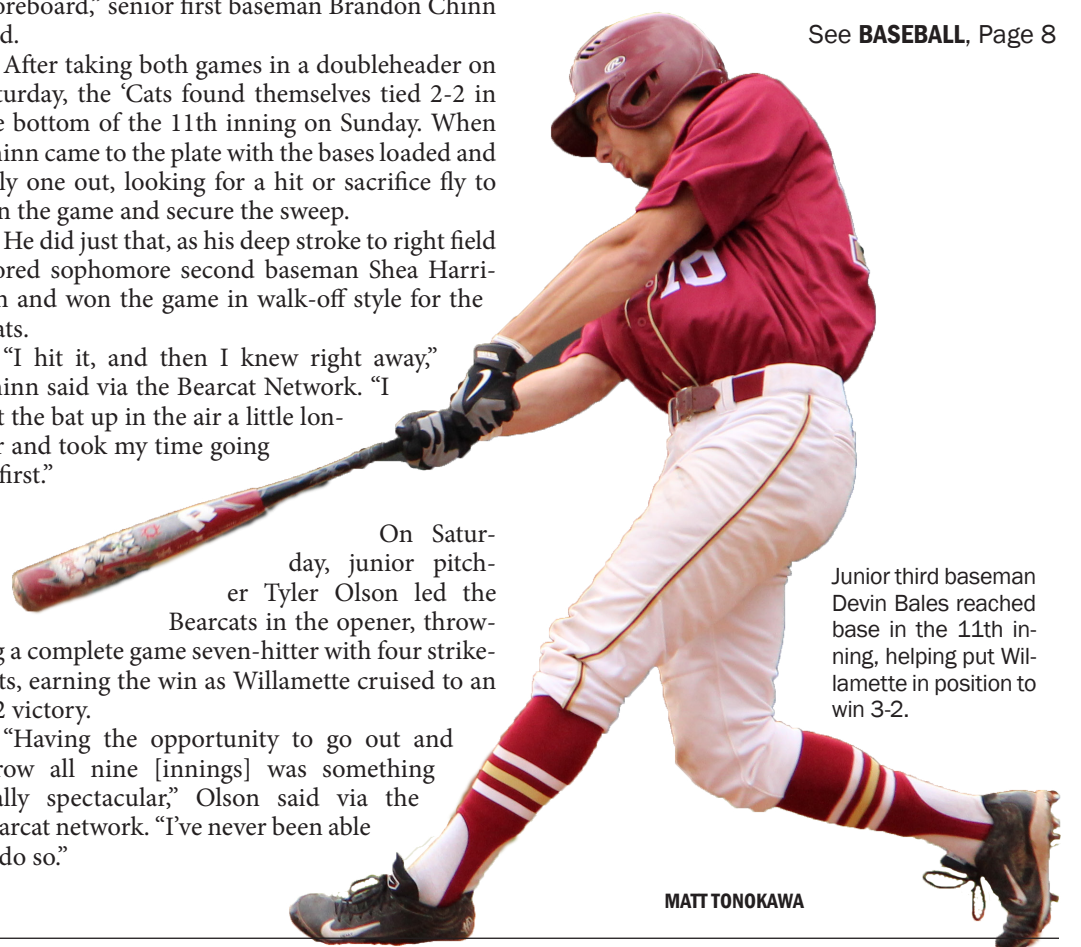
On Saturday, junior pitcher Tyler Olson led the Bearcats in the opener, throwing a complete game seven-hitter with four strikeouts, earning the win as Willamette cruised to an 8-2 victory.

"Having the opportunity to go out and throw all nine [innings] was something really spectacular," Olson said via the Bearcat network. "I've never been able to do so."

Freshman designated hitter Ty Wyatt got the offense going for Willamette, smacking a two-run home run in the first inning, giving Willamette the 2-1 lead. The Bearcat offense scored two more runs in the second inning and four runs in the fifth inning to give Olson breathing room in the game.

"Pitching with the lead, there's nothing like it," Olson said.

See **BASEBALL**, Page 8



Junior third baseman Devin Bales reached base in the 11th inning, helping put Willamette in position to win 3-2.

MATT TONOKAWA



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Edible literature attracts Bearcat bookworms

OLINA CAVEDONI
CONTRIBUTOR

Though the actual contents of the pitcher was a bit unclear – murky gray to be exact – it was clear that junior chemistry major Emily Weatherford’s entry for the Edible Book Festival, “Pitcher of Dory in Gray,” would be the winner of the Best Student Entry Award.

Why? She was the only student to enter the competition.

On March 13, the Popular Reading Group of the Hatfield Library sponsored Willamette’s third annual Edible Book Festival. The event was created as a fun way to get people into the library, Hatfield staff said.

In a blend of culinary and literary creativity, faculty, staff, their children and Weatherford created a total of 14 entries for the event.

Bistro gift cards were awarded for the Best Student Entry, Most Literary and Most Creative, as determined by Professor of Biology David Craig, resource librarian Ford Schmidt and junior creative writing major Saran Walker. There was also a People’s Choice Award so attendees could have a say in the results.

“The basic idea is to think of a book that you like, and if you can make an edible display about it, come in,” Schmidt said.

“War and Peas,” a pun on Leo Tolstoy’s 19th century novel, “War and Peace,” was the first entry. Created out of an elaborately decorated chocolate cake, the composition was divided into two parts and separated by a pretzel fence. On the right side, Fruit Roll-Up peace signs were stuck fast in a field of frozen peas; green gummy army men and fallen broccoli trees covered the other.

This entry, created by Technical Services Specialist Alice French, was the winner of the Most Literary Award and the People’s Choice Award.

A brown frosting-covered vanilla cake, inscribed with the word “Bible” in white icing, was the second entry. Holes of various sizes were plentifully bestrewn across the



cake, and the piece was accordingly titled “Hole-y Bible.” Anna Corner, 12-year-old daughter of Associate Director of Admission Sue Corner, created this piece for the competition.

“Are pictures allowed? I don’t know how I would explain it otherwise,” Ana Nezol, a Salem community member who came to campus just for the contest, said.

Like many others, Nezol said she had a hard time choosing her favorite entry.

“I can’t decide between ‘The Dirty Dozen’ and ‘The Lite in the Pizza,’” Nezol said. “I



Top right: “The Lite in the Pizza” by Drost
Bottom left: “A Clockwork Orange” by Goff
Top left: The entries arrayed with placards.

think they are very creative because not just anybody could come up with an idea and implement it like this.”

“The Dirty Dozen” consisted of 12 eggs with painted faces and “Lite in the Pizza” featured a can of “Lite” beer sitting on a pizza.

Although “Lite in the Pizza” did not receive any official awards, it did receive the most ‘likes’ on the Hatfield Library’s Facebook page.

The Most Creative Award was given to an entry featuring a small McCormick Spice jar filled with “Melange,” a fictional substance central to the “Dune” series of science fiction novels.

Senior economics major Jennifer Davis said she was only able to choose her favorites arbitrarily.

“These puns are shameless. I love it,” Davis said. “People at Willamette do have a sense of humor.”

In the end, Davis picked “The Butter Battle,” two sticks of butter equipped with bread helmets and toothpick swords.

At the end of the table was the only student entry, Weatherford’s “Pitcher of Dory in Gray.” Her entry consisted of a pitcher

filled with gray liquid and a line drawing of Dory from the Disney movie “Finding Nemo.”

After many people expressed concern about the contents of her pitcher, Weatherford revealed that it was lemonade.

“I used black icing because I couldn’t find black food coloring,” Weatherford said.

Weatherford proceeded to offer audience members a prize-winning glass, on the house; some declined.

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Winners

People’s Choice Award:
Alice French
“War and Peas”

Most Literary Award:
Alice French
“War and Peas”

Most Creative Award:
Christopher McFetridge
“He Who Controls the Spice Controls the Universe”

Punniest Award:
Anna Corner
“Hole-y Bible”

Best Student Entry Award:
Emily Weatherford
“Pitcher of Dory in Gray”

Other Punny Titles:
“Roe Falling on Pitas”
“All Spice and Mentos”
“The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner Beans”

Bathrooms: private parts, public policy

CONTINUED from Page 1

The QSU proposal states that the current restroom arrangements can remain in residence halls and in on-campus buildings in order to accommodate people who feel uncomfortable with sex-neutral restrooms.

“The specifics are less important than [not] putting the burden on people who don’t feel comfortable in traditional bathrooms,” Oswill said.

Dean of Campus Life David Douglass said that many concerns could be eliminated by renovating the bathrooms according to universal design principles. The design will not only increase personal privacy, but also balance some inequities that follow gender segregated bathrooms in the first place.

Douglass said he is concerned that this initiative will help one group only to damage another. He said that the University would facilitate a dialogue so that all student needs and concerns are met in the process of renovating.

Both Hobgood and Douglass noted that Willamette was among the first universities to offer gender-neutral housing options to students. Hobgood said that Willamette used to be on the forefront of sex-neutral related issues, but is now fall-

ing behind its peer institutions.

Lewis & Clark and Reed College have sex-neutral restroom options on campus. Oswill and other members of the QSU toured these facilities and spoke to students at those colleges about it.

Oswill said that students at those schools reportedly felt comfortable with sex-neutral restrooms and were surprised that Willamette did not already have sex-neutral bathrooms implemented.

“A bathroom is not a space [for] being male or female. It’s a space about performing bodily functions,” Oswill said.

Oswill and members of the QSU have spoken with multiple departments and groups across the University, including Campus Life, Bishop Wellness Center, facilities and the student group Sexual Assault Response Allies. Oswill said that each group has brought up concerns that the proposal has addressed.

“We are very aware of those concerns. We aren’t seeking to make more students unsafe. We feel like we can make students who usually feel unsafe, feel safe and not take away that space from other people,” Oswill said. “We feel like we can do both and that’s our goal.”

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BRIEFS

It’s like IRL Snapchat: Back by popular demand, the Willamette Events Board will be hosting “How Do You See WU?” this week. Starting Wednesday, March 19, disposable cameras will be placed in various locations across campus; take a few photos, then return the camera to where you found it. The photos will be displayed after the event.

Thinking and masculinity, an oxymoron?: The Office of Campus Life will host a series of conversations and workshops on “Rethinking Masculinity” in the Alumni Lounge (UC third) from 12:30-4 p.m. on Thursday, March 20. Manly presenters include Associate Professor of Politics David Gutterman, Professor of History Seth Cotlar, Dean of Campus Life David Douglass, Rabbi Gary Ellison and Counseling Services Director Don Thompson. You must register with <ecarson> to attend this event.

Bill Nye with whiskey in rye: The Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society will be attending Gilgamesh Brewing on Thursday, March 20 from 6:30-9 p.m. to hear Assistant Professor of Biology Emma Coddington speak. To register, contact <rloydle>. Minors are welcome at this event.

Hahahahaha sorry, mom: Friday, March 21 is the last day to withdraw from full-semester classes for the spring 2014 semester. Withdrawal requests must be submitted by no later than 3 p.m. to the Registrar’s Office on the third floor of the UC.

Land of the rising pun: Join Japan Studies Student Leaders on April 5, from 12-5 p.m. throughout the three floors of the UC as they host their sixth annual Sakura Matsuri festival. Sakura Matsuri is a traditional Japanese celebration of the coming of spring and the gently blooming cherry blossoms. The event will feature food, crafts and activities, as well as incredible student and professional entertainment. Email <mtom> for details. Admission is free.

Got tips? Email News Editor Zane Sparling <zsparlin>.

Words by them: outsider art, inside

EMMA JONAS
CONTRIBUTOR

Senior history major Jordis Miller’s Carson Undergraduate Research Grant allowed her to combine her study abroad experiences, art history minor and personal interest in art brut.

Carson grants, which are awarded to approximately 10 sophomores and juniors every year, offer students the opportunity to engage in a creative, professional or scholarly research project.

In spring 2013, Miller studied abroad in Lausanne, Switzerland, where she encountered the Collection de l’Art Brut, which inspired her to center her grant around the study of art brut (also known as outsider or raw art).

Using the grant, she created an art brut display at the Installation Gallery in the Willamette art building; the exhibition, titled “Works by Us, Words by Us,” ended on March 14 and featured works from Oregon State Hospital patients.

French artist Jean DuBuffet, whose pieces comprise much of the Collection de l’Art Brut, describes art brut as “pieces of work executed by people untouched by artistic culture ... so that their authors draw everything... from their own depths and not from clichés of classical art or art that is fashionable.”

Miller noticed a discrepancy between the literature on art brut and its presentation at the Collection in Switzerland.

“[It] wasn’t as prevalent to see as much about specific artists in the literature...[the Collection] was just about the artists, which I was very pleased to see,” Miller said.

Miller said the goal of her project was three-pronged.

“[I wanted] elevate the role of the artist by analyzing the portrayal of the artist through three angles: The literature on art brut, the Musée de l’Art Brut and the art itself,” Miller said.

With support from Associate Professor of Art

History Ricardo de Mambro Santos and Assistant Professor of Art History Abigail Susik, Miller contacted the Oregon State Hospital about displaying art created by patients with mental illnesses.

Working with the Oregon State Hospital was difficult for Miller, and she said the project often faced bureaucratic setbacks. Miller had to be mindful of her role as a non-governmental operative and the project became much more time consuming than she anticipated.

“It’s been technically difficult, but it’s all been worth it,” Miller said.

The 26 pieces featured in the collection, arranged by color and medium, differed in subject matter. There were several paintings of cars, a few rivers, a bird, a harbor, flowers and a wood duck, among other subjects.

A placard next to each piece stated the title, artist’s name and medium of expression. The exhibit also offered booklets containing an artist statement for every piece. Some artists self-disclosed their illnesses in the statements, but otherwise their conditions were not identified.

Some artists wrote about their hopes of being seen in new, astigmatic ways through their art. Others explained their pieces’ connections with the past or the future. Many described art as a means of relaxation and expression and said they plan to continue creating art after leaving the hospital.

“It’s really not as dark as you might think... It’s heavy in that these people do have personal stories but not depressing ... It’s enlightening,” Miller said.

The artists had the opportunity to attend the gallery opening and see their art exhibited in Willamette’s Installation Gallery, which was the first time their pieces had been displayed outside of the hospital.

“[They were] very moved to have their art be approved by the non-hospital community,” Miller said. “[The exhibition] boosted their confidence in not just who they are but also in their art.”

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Convo addresses LGBTQ climate

ALISON EZARD
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

The lack of gender-neutral bathrooms – as well as allegations that gender-neutral housing requests are frequently denied – has created a less inclusive atmosphere on campus, LGBTQ students said during a University-sponsored convocation.

Approximately 50 students attended the talk, “LGBTQ Climate on Campus,” last Thursday, March 13 in Cone Chapel.

Organizer and senior biochemistry major Jeff Sirginson said the convocation was inspired by the support for freshman Conner Mertens, who became the first openly LGBTQ college football player in January.

Sirginson, along with other organizers in the convocation class, said they were interested in determining whether attendees felt that the University is accepting of LGBTQ students; if there are adequate resources for LGBTQ students on campus; and if those resources are easily accessible.

Initially, the organizers intended for these questions to be addressed by a Residence Life staff member; administrators said no one from Residence Life was available to speak with students.

Instead, these issues were primarily addressed by a student panel, which included senior American ethnic studies major Katie Buonocore, junior politics major Andres Oswill, sophomore politics major Dylan Sheldon and first-year College of Law student Nina Nolen.

The panel discussion was followed by a Q&A session with students.

Two major topics of discussion were

gender-neutral bathrooms and gender-neutral housing on campus.

Many students raised concerns that administrators were not adequately addressing calls for gender-neutral bathrooms on campus.

Additionally, Buonocore and an audience member stated that they had been denied gender-neutral housing despite placing a request.

Oswill said that he had heard this complaint from a number of students and that this was not an uncommon occurrence.

“That was a surprise to me because I was here when that was put in place, and it was an important piece of policy to put in place,” leader of the convocation class and University Chaplain Karen Wood said. “I was hoping that it was working well, so that surprised me. And I hope not to be surprised by that again.”

Oswill and Nolen also raised concerns that there is not a centralized support system on campus for LGBTQ students, and that it can be difficult for students to find information about the resources available to them.

This lack of support can lead to a feeling of isolation on campus for LGBTQ students and can be detrimental to academic performance, Oswill and Nolen said.

Sirginson hopes that the convocation will lead to a paradigm shift.

“I feel as though the more we discuss these things, and the more that we talk about them, the more that we are moving toward that mindset of inclusivity,” Sirginson said.

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King prepares for final performance

ALYSSA MILSTEAD
CONTRIBUTOR

At her farewell concert on April 6, Professor of Piano Anita King will revisit Johannes Brahms’ “Piano Concerto No. 2 in B flat major” 35 years after initially performing it at a 1989 graduate recital.

“For me, it’s really a fresh endeavor, even though I’m sure the music is in my heart and soul,” King said. “I just have a reverence for this piece. It spoke to me like no other piece has ever spoken to me.”

King will officially retire from her tenured professorship at the University at the end of this semester. On Sunday, April 6 at 3 p.m. in Hudson Hall, King will be performing during the Salem Chamber Orchestra’s (SCO) concert “Farewell: Brandenburg Concerto No. 6.”

Although King is already familiar with the Brahms’ “Piano Concerto No. 2,” she said she had to start from scratch in preparation for the upcoming concert.

This year, the University granted King her request to go on sabbatical so she could fully dedicate herself to mastering the musical composition.

The B-flat concerto is a complex, 50-minute piece consisting of four movements. For eight months, King spent three or four hours a day practicing it.

“There’s a tremendous range of expression, from very intimate writing with almost whispered emotion, to the most triumphant, heroic, relentless energy,” King said. “Brahms will take a little theme, a melody, and make it unrecognizable.”

Willamette alumna Barbie Noyes said that King served as her academic advisor, friend and confidante.

“Anita believed in my abilities in a way I’ve never been supported before,” Noyes said. “I always felt that because of my sporadic musical training, I was light years behind the rest of my colleagues. But

Anita gave me the tools to exceed [all] the expectations I ever had for myself.”

Junior piano performance major Audrey Kaltenbach said King has been integral to her academic experience from day one. In fact, Kaltenbach had a mock lesson with King when she visited Willamette as a prospective student.

“She actually knew my piano teacher from back home, so it was nice to already have a relationship to bridge the gap between high school and college,” Kaltenbach said.

King encouraged Kaltenbach to study music and make it her own.

“She’s transformed me from a pianist to a musician. That’s the bottom line,” Kaltenbach said. “She’s always working toward making beautiful music and having the lines sing through. That’s really what she’s all about.”

Though King is formally retiring this year, she will not be absent from the Willamette community. She plans to teach and advise her piano students until they graduate, and she will still teach a course on the Alexander Technique, which focuses on reducing unnecessary movements during practice and emphasizes a musician’s health.

Getting ready to finish out her final year at Willamette, King said she is looking forward to finding more balance and focus in her life post-retirement.

“I’ve done an awful lot of things here,” King said. “At a school like this, the faculty does so many diverse things. It stretched me and it was thrilling. But now I want to really focus more on the piano, on being a performer and teaching musicians to understand the anatomy of movement.”

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Support Salem's local music scene by checking out all ages shows

CHRISTINE SMITH
GUEST WRITER

Weekends can become repetitive when we consistently limit ourselves to events offered on campus.

Salem is often perceived as a sleepy town, but the weekends are alive with shows put on at our local venues.

Friday and Saturday evenings are dotted with multiple displays of talent at venues like the Level B Theater Pub. This venue seats 150 people and hosts a variety of CD releases and artist showcases, as well as cult classic movie screenings, with an emphasis on the works of locals.

On Saturday, March 8, artists performed acoustic sets as part of Aural Pleasure—a concert series at Level B. Connor Johnson, Dashiell House, Alex Curtis, Brette and Blake, Andrew Morgan and I am a Zombie, showcased their musical abilities, hoping to receive the most votes from the audience in order to play at another show in the future.

The audience was sparse, which was disappointing, but that did not dampen the atmosphere or the performances.

The music ranged from soft feel-good music by Connor, to the indie pop-rock melodies of Brette and Blake and the more intense rock-esque tunes by Dashiell. What brings all these musicians together is the passion they share. Some are in high school; some have other jobs on the side. For some, music is their entire life.

Andrew Morgan is one-half of the talented duo that is Sleeperface, but he performed as a solo act at this event. I could not sum up his skills better than by affirming my friend's exclamation, "Andrew is going to be huge someday!" The audience agreed, giving him the most votes of the night, which means he will be playing in Sleeperface on April 19 with Connor Johnson, The Lowest Pair and The Dead Pigeons.

The next music show at Level B is on March 29, featuring The Falcon, The Wails and Jack Gloe.

In addition to Level B, the Ike Box and The Nest often put on all ages shows on the weekends. They do their best to branch out and round up bands from all over Oregon. These shows are usually only around \$5, and they are way better than a typical Friday night.

I make a point to attend as many local shows as I can, which has led to me seeing many of the same faces around town. It has been a blast branching out and meeting the local artists.

Salem has its own music culture that is worth checking out. So, try something new, look for posters around town, campus and local shops, and go to a concert! Salem's musicians are producing music that is well worth a listen.

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Level B Theater Pub is located at 445 High St. SE, less than a mile from campus.

Fill your belly with a hearty one-bowl meal at Super Pho



NICOLE NA
CONTRIBUTOR

The Vietnamese dish pho (pronounced "fuh") is more than just soup. With its intensely aromatic broth, rafts of chewy rice noodles, tender cuts of meat and mounds of greenery, pho is an inexpensive, filling meal in a bowl.

The Vietnamese restaurants closest to campus tend to serve up insipid and salty versions of the soup. Upon a friend's suggestion, I journeyed out to Super Pho on Lancaster Drive to find a better bowl of noodles and satisfy that ever-present pho craving.

Located in a pothole-ridden strip mall, Super Pho's tiled floors, bright lighting and condiment-laden booths make it more welcoming than other hole-in-the-wall and mom-and-pop cousins. Like many other pho eateries, the aroma of pho permeates the air – and will permeate your clothes by the end of the night.

One wall is dominated by a bamboo tiki-esque bar, which serves up decent, if not fabulous, bubble tea/boba (\$3.95). Pick from 30 flavors and receive a sweet and fill-

ing drink laced with chewy tapioca balls and sealed by an anime character-emblazoned lid.

Super Pho's list of entrees is extensive and maybe a little intimidating, with almost every combination of meat, noodles and rice imaginable (and a separate vegetarian menu, for herbivorous patrons).

My dining companions and I were here for the pho, though, and ordered two bowls of beef pho (\$6.95 each). I went the extra-adventurous route and asked for meatballs, flank, fatty brisket, tendon and tripe, because life is made better by the occasional serving of cow stomach lining. I also ordered grilled pork salad rolls (\$3.95) for good measure.

The rolls' vermicelli filling made them nicely spongy, while lettuce provided crunch and balanced the flavorful, salty pork. These were especially tasty doused in the included peanut sauce.

Our pho itself was deeply savory and perfumed by spices, with subtle coriander, cinnamon, clove and cardamom taking a backseat to the strong star anise flavor

present. The array of proteins was diverse – tender brisket, gelatinous tendon and snappy tripe were all cooked nicely. The addition of hoisin and Sriracha sauces and accompanying pile of basil and bean sprouts made for a parade of unique and satisfying spoonfuls. A hefty helping of noodles ensured that my stomach was filled to capacity.

My only quibbles were the disconcertingly rubbery meatballs and the overwhelming allotment of onions.

We wrapped up dinner with a triple order of bubble tea, which we happily slurped on our way home.

I like to think of pho as the ultimate college student's food. It's cheap, delicious, filling and will likely leave you with plenty of leftovers best enjoyed on a groggy weekend morning. If that appeals to you, and you have access to a car, make the 10-minute drive over to Super Pho.

Great Asian food is hard to come by in Salem, and great pho even harder, but Super Pho can definitely satisfy your Vietnamese-inclined gastronomic needs.

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Trust more emotionally complex with sophomore album, 'Joyland'

JULIANA COHEN
STAFF WRITER

Toronto's Robert Alfons has resurrected the future of goth as an aesthetic with his sophomore album "Joyland," released on March 4 through the label Arts & Crafts.

The follow-up to 2012's synthpop epic LP "TRST" forges a more sincere emulation of "emotional darkness" instead of "superficiality," according to Consequence of Sound's Zander Porter; its open wounds represent "subjective inexactness and uncertainty of meaning."

Alfons was formerly aided by Maya Postepski, who left the duo shortly after the first album was released to refocus her energy on her band Austra, a breakout new-wave band of "I Don't Care (I'm a Man)" fame. While the lack of collective spirit has subsided, Alfons has used his increased influence to produce an honestly dark sound. Heavy synth permeates confessions of despair in ways too catchy to imagine previously—the possibilities of gratuitous strobe lighting excite any rave-goer's vices.

And at times, Trust sounds similar to the score of an indie arcade game, fit for the playlist of a laser tag center.

As the name suggests, the new album, "Joyland," exhibits a far more positive vibe than previously hinted at in the Trust discography. The single "Capitol" borrows optimistic tendencies from the happier tracks of Phantogram while maintaining the anthemic qualities of a band crafted for a concert hall, or at least one with un-

derground qualities. This still feels gritty, though, which is important in the age of the Cheerios sellout.

Bob your head to the beat, and knock the painful memories of an ex-boyfriend while feeling the most relevant vibes! It is okay to revisit witch house in 2014, harking back to the glory days of Crystal Castles, an experimental group that also hails from Toronto. Instead of waiting for the drop, the feeling of sadness permeates from start to finish in songs like "Slightly Floating" and "Are We Arc?"

In the absence of former member Postepski, Alfons plays with both masculine and feminine vocal affectations, shifting between deep baritone and falsetto so seamlessly that it is easy to make the mistake of thinking there are two people singing. Everyone can dance to these beats whether they are smiling, crying or something in between.

Hopefully, this iteration of '80s-revival can create a new culture of people willing to gently nod their heads as a positive gesture toward compassion, perhaps at their upcoming European show dates. The loops on this record enrich a background while creating a more dynamic foreground, signaling the rise of a more dynamic EDM movement.

Admittedly, finding Trust on the Internet can be difficult—asking Google for results pertaining to "Trust (band)" will reveal a '70s heavy metal group from France, an Argentinian all-female straight edge outfit and a rock duo from Copenhagen. If that already didn't make Alfons hard to

reach, some of his animalistic screeching might alienate potential listeners.

In a press release, "Joyland" was described as an "eruption of guts, eels and joy," a testament to its weirdness.

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SHAYNA WEIMER

In an interview for Chart Attack, Alfons names Kate Bush and Cocteau Twins as big influences on the new album's sound.

Style Crush: Natasha Parekh

MILES SARI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Sophomore rhetoric and media studies and politics major Natasha Parekh said her biggest fashion faux pas was when she owned several pairs of zip off convertible pants in middle school.

"I had red a red pair, an army print pair, a khaki pair – I used to love them. I thought they were so cool," Parekh said.

Since her days of adolescent fashion disasters, Parekh's style

has transformed from drab and frumpy to chic and sophisticated. As a student who is always on the move with classes, dance rehearsals for Willamette Dance Company and her internship at the Capitol, Parekh has found the perfect balance of unique and elegant garments that are both functional and trendy.

Drawing her fashion inspiration from both fashion blogs and her cultural roots, Parekh's cosmopolitan wardrobe has us green with envy in this week's Style Crush spread.

THE LOOK:

"Steve Madden combat boots, Forever 21 dark wash jeans, a maroon Lush tank top, a Free People necklace and a BCBGeneration shawl cardigan."



RACHEL REMBA



RACHEL REMBA



RACHEL REMBA

Collegian: What influences your style?

Natasha Parekh: I grew up in a flamboyant Indian household, so I gravitate toward Indian prints – things like bright colors, fabrics, etc. I'm also from Orange County; Southern California has a distinct fashion personality that has stuck with me.

C: Describe your style in three words or four words.

NP: Sophisticated, hippie chick, chic.

C: Has your style evolved since you've been at Willamette?

NP: Absolutely! It was a struggle learning how to layer. I'm from Southern California, so I never used to worry about going out and being cold.

C: What's the one article of clothing in your wardrobe that you couldn't live without?

NP: A blazer.

C: Do you accessorize much?

NP: Yes! I love jewelry. I go for simple stuff, but sometimes my Indian side comes out and I splurge on something crazy and unique.

C: Do you prefer heels or flats?

NP: Heels. I have so many shoes; on campus I have probably 20 pairs, and at home I probably have 45 pairs of shoes. Last summer, I worked 40 hours a week in the courtroom, and the judge forced us to wear heels; he was really strict. I tried for the first few weeks to be cute and wear my favorite heels, but it just didn't last. My feet couldn't take it.

C: Do you read any fashion magazines?

NP: I like following fashion blogs. There are a lot of cool blogs on fashion and feminism. Fashion kind of takes a back door when working at the Capitol, and I need inspiration for looking professional in the workplace while still having my own style.

C: What was the last piece of clothing you bought and why?

NP: I bought a black dress. It was appropriate enough for work, but it didn't make me look like an old lady. It had really nice fabric, covered my knees, with a high neck and a long hemline. Check.

C: Do you have any personal styling tricks?

NP: The first thing that I always think about is function and sustainability. After trying to be cute in Oregon, I realized that being functional is more important. I pay attention to fitting, which clothes are more flattering to my body. Cuts are really important. Then I add a unique accessory to differentiate the outfit and bring color to it.

C: Any fashion advice for other students?

NP: At Willamette, we have such a comfortable, accepting environment. It's really a place where you can try things out and people will still think you're looking awesome. Just go for it and experiment.

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BEARCAT BULLET

Guide to spring break in Salem



ALISON
EZARD

LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Spring break is a hallowed tradition among college students. According to all the teen television shows and movies I watched back in the 2000s (Remember the 2003 classic "From Justin to Kelly" starring American Idol's Justin Guarini and Kelly Clarkson?), it is the time during which one piles all their friends into a car and sets off for a week of waving red cups around on the beach in Miami while wearing a bikini top and jean cut-offs.

But in real life, not everyone can just throw away a few hundred dollars—at least for a week of living out their tween spring break fantasies.

Those of us who live in the residence halls will likely go home to see our families and high school friends, while those of us who live off campus may opt to forego the whole vacation thing and just stay right here, thank you very much.

If, like me, you've chosen the latter, you may be wondering what to do with your precious week of free time.

Well, fear not, Bearcats, for I have compiled a list of zany activities that are sure to make your spring break a blast.

1. Backyard camping is a good ol' standby for any "staycation." Rent a tent from the Outdoors Program, grab a couple friends and zip yourselves in for a night of beer-fueled exchanges of your deepest, darkest secrets.

2. Explore downtown. Salem is full of little hidden gems like the candy and cupcake shop on State Street or the bead shop on Liberty Street, but you'll never find them unless you allow yourself to get lost wandering aimlessly around the city. Spring break is the perfect opportunity to wile away an afternoon exploring.

3. Pack a picnic basket full of tiny sandwiches, toast, jam and tea, and spread out a blanket at Minto-Brown or Bush Park. If you can't muster the energy to drag your carcass farther than a stone's throw away from campus, the gardens at the Capitol Building would also make a lovely picnic destination.

4. Go full sloth mode. Turn off your phone for a few days so no one can bother you, and do nothing but eat sugary cereal and marathon Lifetime movies that won't make you have to exercise your brain in any capacity. Just don't forget to shower. Or not. No one's going to see you anyway.

5. Pull a "Spring Breakers" and stick up a restaurant with your best pals while wearing matching pink ski masks in order to obtain the money necessary to fund a week of getting blacked out in Cancún or wherever it is they go. (I haven't actually seen the movie). I mean, what could go wrong, right?

6. Alternatively, you could spend a day listening to James Franco saying "spring breeaaak" looped over and over. Perhaps the repetition of his Riff Raff-inspired character's favorite phrase will inspire you to devise a wacky scheme for adventure more exciting than any of my sorry attempts.

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ESCAPE: Satisfy your sweet tooth at Sugar. Sugar. and Candy Tyme

RACHEL FIFIELD
STAFF WRITER

Without much time to explore due to the crush of schoolwork, I wanted an adventure that would offer instant gratification in the form of something I could take home with me, rather than a lazy exploration through a park or other Salem attraction.

This week's escape took me in search of sweets in the Salem area, with a visit to both the locally owned Sugar. Sugar. in downtown Salem, and Candy Tyme, an Oregon-Washington chain located in the Lancaster Mall.

Sugar. Sugar. is a tiny blue and white storefront with a layout straight out of a Pinterest dreamscape. Color-organized glass jars of sweets line the pale blue walls, and a display case at the front counter offers cupcakes and baked goods. Unfortunately, there were only a few cupcakes on

display the day I went.

Operated by people who clearly care about details, every aspect of the shop was carefully organized and color coordinated, right down to the blue and white display cakes in the front window.

The candy selection is full of familiar favorites: orange slices, gumballs, Jordan almonds and gummy sharks among others. The candy is also fresh, which is not always the case when sweets are offered in bulk.

Reasonably priced and wrapped in quirky packaging, a selection from Sugar. Sugar. would make a great gift for deserving sugar-requiring people, or simply for yourself.

The atmosphere and decor in Candy Tyme, on the other hand, is louder and more geared toward children. With a wider array of candy, trinkets and daily samples, it is an equally technicolor experience that will give you mild nostalgia for the middle school mall experience.



RACHEL FIFIELD

Sugar. Sugar. is located at 335 State St., and Candy Tyme is located at 831 Lancaster Drive in the Lancaster Mall.

Lollipops with (dried) scorpions inside and a small selection of trash-themed candies definitely set it apart from Sugar. Sugar.

Candy Tyme also offers a dazzling array of jellybeans, chocolates and other bulk candies, as well as fudge and a massive Pez collection. Novelty items include a sour powder mixing station and a Jurassic Park-themed set of candies in

test tubes.

Bright, fun and less expensive than its counterpart, Candy Tyme is a nostalgic visit to the early 2000s, just as Sugar. Sugar. is a nostalgic, slightly hipster visit to the 1950s classic candy shop.

Either way, you will enjoy a brief and presumably much-needed sweet respite from school.

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<p>Firebreather by James Volz</p> <p>It probably doesn't matter whether or not I include all the insignificant details. I'm only writing this as catharsis, not because he had any actual friends or living relatives. Well, who knows, really, I never learned a lick about his family. He kept me in the dark on everything: being from Florida, living homeless for six years, keeping a gun under his side of the mattress, having two children he abandoned in 1988. In life he was clean, handsome, suave--now just an urn eternally smirking from my mantle. Grief is imagining his stubble grazing my cheek again; rage is--</p> <p>We lived free, burning ugly holes in our pockets but just buying new pants; price tags were so far from reality but I still dreamt of them. My womb and his business grew hot with the spark he sweetly mercilessly lit. Grief is a one-two punch, you find out that your old life is dead, and then you find out that it never lived at all. The funeral director told me my husband was a scammer, a Ponzi-scheme fanatic who hadn't even given me his real name, my knees buckled. If you loved Sean as Sean or any other man he pretended to be, may your pain be tenfold that of any other grief, may you hurt for lifetimes--He caused nothing but pain in this world and His legacy shall remain so. His child will never grow to be anything he should be, malnourished and crying each night. I cannot believe that a man so charming that I took one look and slipped an imaginary ring on my finger-- I'm going to season your ashes with salt and eat them myself, savoring every black bite and washing it down with a tall glass of water--He always called me that when He wanted something, "my tall glass of water," like I would baptise you and make you new. The fire ate you and one glass of water cannot douse the flame.</p> <p><i>James Volz is a senior creative writing major who has been writing poetry since middle school. Originally, it was a coping mechanism for dealing with his adolescent fears, but over the years has remained one of his favorite pastimes. He likes to think his poetry has become a little less melodramatic since then, even if it hasn't.</i></p> <p><i>jevolz@willamette.edu</i></p>	<p>How To Write About Muslim Women by Noor Amr</p> <p>When a Muslim Woman demands justice in her community, Talk about how she "unveiled" the misogyny of muslim men. When a Muslim Woman is sexually assaulted in a public space, Attach a photograph of a woman being stripped naked in Tahrir. When a Muslim Woman stands up to political oppression, Tell them that she is the first, the only; an anomaly. When a Muslim Woman recounts instances of sexual harassment, Use the term "Arab Street" frequently & attach a 99% statistic. When a Muslim Woman participates in a revolution, Regularly use the words "sexual revolution", "honor" and "virginity". When a Muslim Woman discusses intimate partner violence, Insert a photograph of a model in niqab revealing one bruised eye. When a Muslim Woman stands up to the Taliban, Give her a book deal and fly her around the world. When a Muslim Woman stands up to your tax dollars, Plug your ears and call her a terrorist.</p> <p><i>Noor Amr is an Egyptian-American muslim feminist who enjoys smashing the white-savior industrial complex while sipping a cup of shay bel laban. She is a junior.</i></p> <p><i>namr@willamette.edu</i></p>	<p>Boy by Edgar Jimenez</p> <p>Hey faggot! he said while looking straight to him. The intense hatred in his eyessent fear into the poor boy. The innocent boy did not do anything to him. Yet he was judged for a reason -- the reason to be himself. Better watch out, faggot! The boy, alone in such a public place, felt targeted, denial, fear, hurt. He roams around to find a way. He tries to be one of the boys. They push him. Get out of here, faggot! He roams the streets and feels the same. Alone in a lonely place. Paranoid that someone will come and beat him. Why? Because he is being himself. There's that faggot! He turns to look and runs. Runs for freedom. Runs to safety. Runs for security. They reach a cliff. Down below the sea sways. The tides tackle the cliff, trying to push him towards them. This is the end, faggot! They approach him, inch, by inch. Please don't, the boy thinks. Tears drip, and there is no one around. Why ... No one knows. The wind pushes him forward, but gravity pulls him down. He floats down into the rocks, onto the foamy tides. Did they push him off the cliff or was it him?</p> <p><i>I'm a queer student of color that is interested in foreign languages and photography. Social issues and parts of my identity have shaped my writing; most of my poetry is centered around my identification as queer and as Latino. My favorite ice cream flavor is pumpkin because it is delicious, plus it's the same color as my skin. I am a freshman.</i></p> <p><i>ejimenez@willamette.edu</i></p>
<p>Green Envy by Jessica Davison</p> <p>I am jealous of the stars in the sky. I have roots deep in the ground. Dirt Soiled with cynicism and doubt Fertilized with loathing Watered with problems Drenched Stepped on, walked over often.</p> <p>Kissed by the sun each morning Serenaded by songbirds Engulfed by the colorful world around me I envy the colorful grass and the beautiful sky Lulled to sleep by the glow of the moon And the flickering stars.</p> <p>I am up in the sky The view from here is astounding But I am alone Surrounded By distant friends I envy the world I shine on.</p> <p><i>Jessica Davison is from Portland, Ore. She is a junior English major with a creative writing focus.</i></p> <p><i>jldaviso@willamette.edu</i></p>	<div><div>Song of</div><div>Bearcat poets</div><p>In the chaos that is the week before spring break separating each of us from the long awaited five days of freedom, it is easy to get lost in the papers and midterms we have left to do. According to Psych Central,</p><p>the largest and oldest mental health network on the Internet, it is beneficial to take breaks in between these bursts of studying to refresh and refocus on the task at hand.</p><p>This week, we have compiled</p></div>	
<p>Self-Made Astronauts by Blanca Gutierrez</p> <p>If you fall onto trampolines... you can propel ... up to space</p> <p>What a dream Kanye said shoot for the stars you might land on a cloud</p> <p>Well ...</p> <p>we don't all have a backyard It's all dirt and concrete and landing hurts So I'll find what I can Boxes Chairs And I'll Stack Stack. Stack.</p> <p>With my brothers and sisters We'll Stack our own stairs to the moon.</p> <p><i>I grew up in Southern Oregon and am looking forward to earning a BA in English and American ethnic studies. What do I believe about art? It is a powerful means through which we can glimpse the joys and struggles in the lives of different people. I am a senior.</i></p> <p><i>bgutierr@willamette.edu</i></p>	<p>MY STORY IS. . . RESISTANCE by Nilo Thomas</p> <p>I have a story A story of power A story of culture A story of family A story of resistance</p> <p>In this story my people have been Beat down, shut down, persecuted, Exploited, cheated, ignored, Made to be extinct</p> <p>In this story my people have been abused by a racist system that Devalues and dehumanizes their traditions, their culture, their race, their beliefs</p> <p>In this story my people have worked the fields, Hammered down the railroad, Mined for gold in holes of dirt and rock In the name of Manifest Destiny</p> <p>My people built this nation With their sweat, with their tears, with their blood I will not be silent My people formed this country with their labor and their hearts and their love of freedom and a better life My people died so that I can have a story</p> <p>But this isn't the end of my story it is just the first couple of chapters scattered throughout my story of beautiful dark skinned kings and queens</p> <p>My story of sun kissed dancers and drummers My story of golden skinned warriors and chiefs and weavers My story of great and magnificent temples and pyramids reaching to the sun and the moon Of artists and singers and storytellers Of longhouses and community feasts Of brown doctors, red lawyers, yellow leaders All entwined in one great novel that tells of generations of oppression and culture, of triumph and defeat, of beauty and tradition, of survival.</p> <p>My story is not the dominant narrative of colonialism wrapped up in that Columbian hero bullshit</p> <p>My story is power My story is culture My story is family My story is resistance</p> <p><i>I'm 23. Born in Phoenix, Arizona. I'm multiracial. I'm an activist. I'm a 3-2 BA/MBA Marketing student. I majored in Sociology. I love writing, making music and performing.</i></p> <p><i>nthomas@willamette.edu</i></p>	

& The Breath Froze
by Lauren Vermilion

There was that time
when the skin flared
and the eyes sparkled
and they rivaled the sky that would watch us sleep if we had taken cover under darkness with
our secrets.
And the breath froze
and there were no words that spoke from busy lips.
Now you're across the globe and gone
And our words are black and white and
we are left with gray.
Bleak a world without a love in both heart and hand like it could have been
with you still here.
We, stars flung across our spilled ink into darkness that can't be traced to beginning or end. . .
just perfect flashes.

I should not wish upon a moment that barely existed between us, but I will on this light we
shared.
. . . I wish I had not been too scared to love.
to that great emotion I was mutinous twice
Run away from that which I could not fight
I miss days that I cannot, should not miss.

Feathers scattered by a shotgun. Rudely awoken to our folly, would we not fly away if our
wings still worked?

*I am a senior politics and environmental science double major, minoring in Spanish. I am from
Seattle, Wash. and want to live abroad after graduation. I appreciate all forms of art, and I
create as a means to express my emotions.
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My Selfie:
reflect on spring

a variety of poems produced by
University students to give folks an
easy way to take this break in the
middle of your study sessions. Take
a breath, relax for a few moments
and dive into the works of fellow

students. It may not finish your
midterm for you, but it could give
you a new perspective and much
needed intermission from the
monotonous stream of textbooks
and assigned readings.

Let's Start With the Sequel
by Kate Piluso

1.
My mind can't begin
to fathom your numerous
facets of being.

2.
Your lazy smile with
near perfect teeth and lips that
I see in my dreams.

3.
When you're close by, I
feel lightheaded with slick palms
and, God, I'm so young.

4.
But, maybe it's not
you. My desires come from my
idea of love.

5.
The notion of no
longer sleeping alone and
wrapped in my own arms.

6.
That's not mine now and
it might never be; I can
hope, though. That's enough.

7.
So, details fade;
I'll keep the idea of you
safe in my pocket.

*Kate Piluso is a current junior in
the creative writing department at
Willamette. She enjoys singing with
the Dramatic Vocal Arts program,
being the Community Mentor of
Shepard and spending too much
time writing haiku poetry in class
instead of taking productive notes.*

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Oak Tree
by Crystal LeFebvre

I wish she'd roll the
Blinds up earlier
—It's not like it's not
Just her and me—
In the dark sweet chill
Of morning's first whisper;
She hears me,
I know

Doe she dance out of her night clothes
And into the new
Like a flower losing petals
Or a tree changing leaves?
I want to see
Her dance;
She knows

Why is it fine
For her to stare
At me and bite her lip
And think of sunlight
Dancing on my boughs
When I can't even catch
A peek of her dancing on her toes?
I don't know—

—but here come the blinds at last.

*I am a second-semester sophomore
at Willamette University double
majoring in creative writing and as-yet-
undeclared psychology. I'm a Northwest
native, born and raised in Portland,
Ore., so this bright thing in the sky
you call a "sun" has been a slightly
disorienting, but welcome, source of
warmth. I tend more towards prose than
poetry, but working at the mail center
window leaves you lots of time and little
scraps of paper on which to doodle some
words.*

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I am not the child of Diaspora
by Lark Sealine

"Mama, how do you make holishkes?"
"There's a recipe in the book."
"No, mama, it's not the same."
And it's not.
I am the child who asks too many questions.
I can't replicate the food that brings tears to my mother's eyes,
or sing the kasha and bo'i kallah songs that weigh heavy
on my English-only tongue.
When I say kaddish yatom the words don't fit my mouth.
I'm the child without meaning,
the child who knows the sounds but not the words,
who places the scent
but not the taste.
I have the sounds of mournful wedding klezmer to rock me to sleep.

"Mama, what's for dinner?"
"Kasha varnishkes."
"Mama, what are you making?"
"Rugelach."
"Mama, how do you make holishkes?"
"It's in the book."
It's in the book. With knishes and bialys and pletzel. It's in the book.
Not in me. Not in my hands, not intrinsically in my fingers
where I can weave it into my daughter's.
I am the child with nothing to reclaim,
I am the child halfway between, and nowhere.
For me there is no old country.
For me there there is a forbidden memory,
so I trip over my hora feet,
and dance to rhythms that beat faster than my heart,
while assimilated blood pumps through my veins.

"Mama, how do you make holishkes?"
My mother's kitchen is bright and familiar.
Her hands which always smell like lavender and beeswax
slice apples to sit atop a thick golden lekach.
"Mama, how do you make holishkes?"
My mother walks lightly,
she speaks loudly and laughs louder,
and yells with the force of her parents behind her.
She tells me stories of places I will never see.
"Mama, how do you make holishkes?"
She kisses my small nose,
smacks my hands when I'm in her way,
I fear her potch until she holds me to her yeast-scented collarbone,
and smooths my soft hair over my vertical forehead.
I teach myself to speak like her,
to walk like her,
and mimic the singular way she breathes.

"Mama, how do you make holishkes?"
My mother,
who has taken all life gave her and worse,
who has distanced herself from both
the traditions of her people
and the customs of the new world,
is tired.
The child of generations who gave up,
who walked away with tired feet and broken backs,
who fried soufganiot to trick me into feeling home.
Who does not know how to teach me to make holishkes.

*I was raised in a practicing Jewish family and I try to incorporate my
identity as a Jewish American living in the Bay Area into my pieces. I am
a sophomore English major and American ethnic studies minor, and I am
exploring creative writing in different forms as well as literary and cultural
studies. I hope to go on to graduate school for literary and ethnic studies, and
I hope to always write independently of my academic pursuits.
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Drunk on the Coming Year
by Dallas Frederick

Starlit. My cigarette and the milky way,
smoke leaving my mouth squeezing the same liquid shape,
licking the image onto the edges of the night sky,
monochromatic and beautiful,
I saw It then.

News Years Eve and my mouth
tastes of whiskey as I press my back into the dirt beneath me.
Old wood fire chattering.
The long brown rings inside,
all of their fibers talking to each other,
whispering like things shared or
like lips between lovers.

Muddy clay ground.
Drunk, my whiskey blood and there are more stars than I remember seeing,
all bright, all blinking.
The night birds stir with a soft cooh.

Dizzy. I topple slowly to the ground and
I am caught and tossed into the sky while all her eyes
return the gaze I am throwing.
Yet, I definitely see It.
Moving just beyond where the last far thing is visible,
the light there murmurs a little, too.
From my fire I feel oddly connected.
I feel a fever of history while that satellite looks back at me.

Home. It never seems to change,
but I am changed every time I come back.
The numb outside air,
my winter mouth gasping for something familiar,
my eyes dart up and she's still there.
The universe stays,
she waits like an unopened paycheck.

*From the shattering sound of torch flames and the clammering of hammers
against steel I make my student research. Beneath the concrete floors of Gatke
I sculpt my homework and prepare for graduation with a degree in Studio Art
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Keeping the field clean

The N-word. A word that is racially charged, yet at the same time a common phrase in the vernacular of sports culture. It's a word that is rooted in our country's history of oppression and discrimination. It simultaneously has the power to divide and perhaps indicate a sign of respect or endearment between athletes.

But it doesn't belong in sports just as much as it doesn't belong in our vocabulary.

Recently, the NFL has begun to talk about the possibility of banning the controversial word from the game, instituting penalties for on-field usage.

But if the NFL is going to ban the N-word, why not ban all discriminatory language and swear words? Why is it OK to say one word is worse than other offensive language that is targeted against players of certain sexual orientations, gender identities or ethnicities?

In an interview with Sports Illustrated earlier this month Seattle Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman said: "It's almost racist, to me. It's weird they're targeting one specific word. Why wouldn't all curse words be banned then?" Sherman makes a good point. If this word gets banned, shouldn't every other derogatory slur also be banned?

With the current state of sports culture, terms like N-word and F-word have no place in the game of football.

That being said, how can the NFL regulate such a thing? Although discussions seem preliminary at this point, the NFL could institute player fines or team penalties on the field when players use such language.

Ideally, issuing such penalties would incentivize athletes to clean up their on-field language.

This problem becomes increasingly important as the NFL increases its use with microphone technology during national broadcasts.

Another interesting, perhaps more effective suggestion by journalist Robert Klemo of Sports Illustrated, was the idea of educating younger players in the league about the implications of using discriminatory language.

"It has to start with education, not just penalties. Otherwise, players are going to feel like they're being targeted, and they won't respond well," Klemo said. "It will take an education process that lasts a long time, in terms of either trying to convince these guys that it's not a good word to use, or trying to convince them that for their own benefit they shouldn't use it."

Educating young athletes coming into the league about the impact of this violent language could be a great way to dissolve the use of slurs and demeaning language in the league.

Although it is unlikely the NFL will begin to penalize players this upcoming season for using such terms on the field and in the locker room, starting the discussion shows that the league is moving in the right direction.

It's time to clean up the language of professional athletes, regardless of racial, sexual and gender identities.

It's time to educate them on the implications of the language they are using. NFL players and athletes are role models for millions of children and fans around the world.

They should keep that in mind when they open their mouths.

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Bearcats secure 11-9 victory over Bruins

DEVIN ABNEY
STAFF WRITER

In the second game, it was the Bearcat offense, guided by junior catcher Tiras Koon, which propelled the team to the 11-9 victory.

With four doubles, Koon was one of six Bearcats to have a multi-hit game as the Bearcats registered a season-high of 20 hits.

"I was just looking for my pitch," Koon said. "They were pitching to my strength, and I liked it."

While the Bruins would

score nine runs to keep the game close, sophomore pitcher Jackson Watt entered the game throwing a scoreless ninth, securing the 11-9 win for the 'Cats.

With George Fox's advantage in recent years, including a three-game sweep against Willamette in 2013, the wins were that much sweeter for the Bearcats.

"George Fox always got the best of us the past couple years, so this meant a lot," Koon said. "It felt great."

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MATT TONOKAWA



MATT TONOKAWA

Above: The Bearcats celebrate after senior Brandon Chinn hit a sacrifice fly to solidify the 3-2 victory over George Fox.

Left: Junior utility player Tiras Koon (left) led the Bearcats on Saturday with four doubles in the second game of the double header.

Runners set six personal records

EVAN GIDDINGS
STAFF WRITER

Last weekend at the Lewis & Clark Tri Meet, rainy conditions restricted the Willamette University track and field team. But at the Lane Preview meet at Lane Community College in Eugene, Ore. last weekend, the sun seemed to give the Willamette runners a much needed boost; six Bearcats set personal records.

Sophomore sprinter Kylea Johnson, who took first place in the women's 100-meter dash in 12.66 seconds, a personal best, felt that the weather conditions played a role in shaving 15 seconds from her previous best.

"Lately it has been a bit cold to garner too many personal records, but our team did an excellent job of preparing this week. With the weather conditions in our favor, it helped propel my teammates to that personal record time," Johnson said.

Other victors for the women included junior distance runner Michaela Freeby, who led a 1-3-5 finish for the Bearcats in the 800-meter dash with a personal record of 2:17.69. Fellow distance runners junior

Annette Marinello and sophomore Hannah Bressler also placed third and fifth at the meet.

In the jumps, junior multi Bekah Daniel snagged first place in the long jump with a distance of 17 feet, 8 inches. This new personal record moved her from a tie for 10th place up to sixth on Willamette's all-time list.

"I was determined to relax and remember why I'm out at the track every day – to work hard and have fun," Daniel said. "I think my team and I accomplished this, and the momentum we were creating was contagious for everyone."

Her teammate, junior jumper Elisa Ahern, followed closely with a jumping distance of 17 feet, 4 inches to take second place.

The other winner for the women's team was sophomore thrower Jameka Townsend, who captured first place in the javelin as her winning throw covered 126 feet, 6 inches.

Her fellow thrower junior Jordan Loos was the only winner for the men's team; he set a new personal record in the hammer throw with a length of 159 feet, 1 inches.

In the event, Loos led a 1-2-3 finish by the Bearcats as senior Max Faulhaber and junior Tyler Higley both finished closely with throws of 157 feet, 2 inches and 155 feet, 5 inches respectively.

In the sprint heats, both sophomore Dylan Jones and senior Chris Luetjen excelled in the 100-meter dash. Jones achieved third place in 11.11 seconds, followed immediately by Luetjen, who took fourth place in 11.12 seconds.

This upcoming week will be a short one for the Bearcats, as Willamette hosts Corban University in a dual meet on Wednesday, March 19 and Thursday, March 20.

Although they have fewer days to prepare for the meet than usual, Freeby is confident that her team will be ready to roll.

"I think that this meet is just another opportunity for us to continue to improve our qualifying mark for conference. Our training is built around competing so the change shouldn't be a problem," Freeby said. "It would be great to see a lot of Willamette fans out at the meet."

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Tiras Koon

Baseball - Junior - Honolulu, Hawaii

Koon had a monster game against George Fox University, hitting four doubles in the team's 11 - 9 win on Saturday. Koon finished the weekend with six hits in 11 at bats.

How to win your March Madness pool

EVAN GIDDINGS
STAFF WRITER

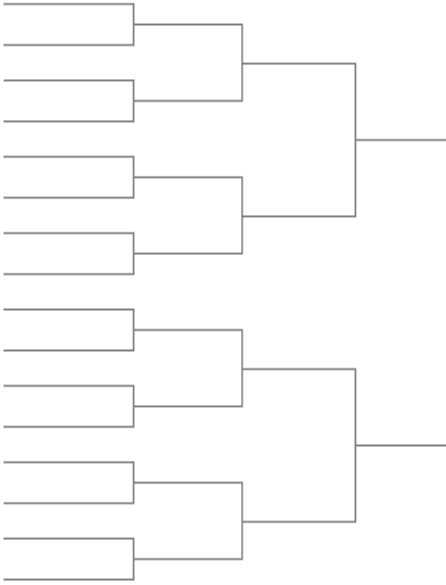
March Madness is upon us. The NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament spans from March 18 until April 7; captivating hoop fans across the nation in a way that no other athletic event can.

From avid sports lovers to uninformed bandwagon fans, everyone who participates in the tournament does so by creating their own bracket. This idea of bracketology is what draws many fans to watch and pay close attention as they follow their picks throughout the one-game elimination tour-

nament of champions. The problem that most people have is how to pick their bracket. Don't fret; I am here to guide you along your path to NCAA bracketology fame. Now, I cannot guarantee perfection – nobody has ever picked a perfect bracket. In fact, according to the Book of Odds,

the chances that someone remains perfect through just two rounds are one in 13,460,000. Despite having the odds against you, there are ways to maximize the amount of matchups you select correctly. I have three ways to do so.

1 You shouldn't try to be that rebel who tries to start his or her own trend. Instead, continue to trust the ones that work. For the Round of 64, which is where the majority of the upsets occur and what eventually shapes the tournament, follow the trends of past years. In the last 13 years, a no. 12 seed has beaten a no. 5, and a no. 4 seed has gone down to a no. 13 seed in six straight years. Don't be afraid to pull the trigger here. Also, in the past two years, a no. 15 seed has won in the first round, with Norfolk State University upsetting Missouri State University, and Lehigh University defeating the mighty Duke in 2012, while just last year Florida Gulf Coast University knocked off Georgetown University.



Following the steps to success:

2 When looking around for teams to pick, especially in those games where you just can't decide (and in some cases just don't care), "ride the hot hand." This means that there will be teams coming into the tournament with momentum and others with little steam that can help separate your bracket from others. Examples of this include last years. no. 12 Mississippi State University team as they won the SEC Tournament and went on to upset no. 5 University of Wisconsin who many analysts had as a sure lock in the Sweet 16. Now this strategy isn't without its flaws, but throughout the years there have been plenty of examples, such as the 2011 National Champions Connecticut that suggest that teams coming into the tournament on a hot streak are more likely to sustain it than those who aren't.

3 If all else fails, work backwards. What I mean by this is that everyone has their favorites. Use those to construct your bracket and then build around it. If you are a big fan of a specific squad and see them going far, then pencil them in and drop whoever is in their path. This also relieves pressure of overthinking those early matchups and second-guessing yourself. There are some games worth stressing over, but they shouldn't include your top-seeded favorites you picture in the Final Four (or beyond). Now, using these guidelines cannot secure a flawless bracket as the unpredictability is what makes March Madness so great, but I do foresee a more consistent way to predict matchups as well as a greater understanding of this so-called "bracketology". So, good luck with your brackets. Whether your bracket busts on the first day or the last, just remember, no one's perfect.

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Winning streak extends to seven for WU

BLAKE LEPIRE
CONTRIBUTOR

With another successful weekend, the Willamette softball team's winning streak is up to seven, launching the Bearcats into Northwest Conference Championship contention. The team won two consecutive games on Saturday over George Fox University and came back on Sunday to snag a pair of victories from Pacific University, improving its conference record to 8-5. "Our team feels on top of the world," freshman pitcher Jade Smith said. "We now know what we can do when we come together as a team and play quality softball." The Bearcats trailed 1-0 in the first game after George Fox scored in the bottom of the first inning, but they responded in the second inning after a two-out RBI triple by freshman outfielder Myranda Ramirez. A few innings later in the fifth, the Bearcats exploded with four runs behind a two RBI single by sophomore second baseman Ashley Pender, and a two-run home run by junior catcher Amanda Absher. That 5-1 lead was more than enough run support for Smith. After giving up a run in the first inning, Smith tranquilized the Bruin offense. She

held George Fox scoreless through the final six innings while ending the game with four strikeouts. Leading 5-1, Willamette scored four more runs in the seventh, solidifying the 9-1 victory. In the second game of the doubleheader, sophomore pitcher Victoria Bradshaw took to the mound and continued the Bearcat pitching dominance. The offense scored a run in the top of the first inning after junior first baseman Heather Winslow led off the game with a single to center field, stole second base and scored on an RBI single by Pender. That one run proved to be enough, as Bradshaw pitched a complete game shut-out, yielding just three hits. Nevertheless, the Bearcats added two insurance runs in the later innings for the 3-0 win. "I felt extremely confident on the mound. It's a great feeling to know that your team is there to back you up no matter what, and that's exactly how I felt with my defense," Bradshaw said. On Sunday's game against Pacific, Smith picked up in the circle right where she left off the day before. The Bearcats scored in the first inning after a base hit by Pender and once again, that would be all they needed to secure their victory. Smith threw a complete game, striking out five batters while scattering six hits and allowing zero walks.

The Bearcat offense added one run in the third and fourth innings, and two more runs in the sixth to end up with a 5-0 victory. Winslow continued her hitting dominance by going 2-2 in the game, while Pender added two hits and a RBI of her own. In the second game of Sunday's doubleheader, Willamette University fell behind 1-0 in the first inning after Bradshaw surrendered an unearned run. The Bearcats didn't let the deficit last long, scoring one run on a fielding error and another on a sacrifice fly by junior catcher Erin Norris to take a 2-1 lead. Giving up the one first-inning run, Bradshaw zoned in throughout the final six innings, striking out six while permitting only one additional run. The 'Cats extended their lead to in the fifth on an RBI single by Winslow to ensure the 3-2 victory and doubleheader sweep. "As a team right now we have really good chemistry," Bradshaw said. "We have really been focusing on winning games as a team and not as individuals. We've had a lot of momentum in these last couple of games, and we hope to continue that momentum into our future conference games."

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Madness is back



BRANDON CHINN
SPORTS EDITOR

It's the middle of March, and school is kicking my ass. Papers are piling up and tests are getting harder. I look outside a window at the library, only to see the rarity of a sunny day in Salem giving hope to what looks to be a promising summer. For the past couple of weeks, I've been counting down the days to ultimate freedom. Yes, spring break is just three school days away, but the sweet feeling of release is arriving much sooner. It has been looming heavily on my mind, and finally, after all the anxious waiting, March Madness is back. The 12-month calendar features several great moments throughout the year, but few are greater than the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament. Especially in the realm of sports, it offers much more than any single game or event ever could. But extend beyond the realm of the sports world, past the jocks and meatheads, and you'll find that it has a lot to offer you, too. The NCAA Tournament consists of 68 teams, all of which will square off in a single-elimination, win or go home format. It doesn't matter how many wins a team had in the regular season, or how many players are going to the NBA next season. The only thing that matters is the score when that final buzzer sounds. The single-elimination format intensifies every moment of the game. There is zero room for error. Even the slightest of slip-ups could signal the end of a long journey. This heightened intensity adds a major sense of drama to March Madness. Who will advance? How far will they go? Seeing teams at the top with their backs against the wall ... the uncertainty makes for one dramatic month. At Willamette, drama is something we are all too familiar with, especially at this small liberal arts institution, I'm constantly made aware of all the "he said, she said" talk, who is dating whom and who liked whose Facebook posts. If there is something people at this school really crave, it's drama. March Madness always promises to offer at least one "Cinderella story" every year. This is perfect because personally, being both a Yankees and Lakers fan (it's pathetic, I know), I've come to realize people's craving for a true underdog. There is no better place to find that underdog success story than the tournament. Last year, Florida Gulf Coast University entered the tournament as a lowly number 15 seed. Taking on powerhouse Georgetown University, a no. 2 seed, FGCU upset the Hoyas 73-68. The underdog team from Florida didn't stop there; advancing all the way to being one of just 16 teams remaining, Florida cemented itself as the feel good story of the year. March Madness is more than just a sporting event. It's 10 days of non-stop thrilling action, leaving every viewer on the edge of his or her respective seat. It's a chance to bond with friends, day drink and even win a bunch of money (unless you're a student-athlete). Ultimately, March Madness is about the players. It's a climactic finish to a season that started over five months ago. It's a moment they'll always remember. What's not to love?

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The dreaded question

EMILY DOUGAN
COLUMNIST

The number one question I, and probably most graduating seniors, are tired of hearing is, "What are you doing after college?"

I am actually to the point where if one other person asks me, I might punch them, or myself, in the face. But what is even worse than the question itself is the look you get no matter how you answer it.

Here's the thing: There is no good way to answer that question.

It doesn't matter if you have a job set up in your dream field with health benefits and a condo. Someone is going to judge you for it.

I've heard plans ranging from graduate school, to working at a major business firm, to resigning oneself to become a potentially homeless burrito stall owner, and not one of these plans gets 100 percent approval.

If you are deciding to go to graduate school, you are deemed as not knowing what to do with your life and seem like you are just putting off the decision for a few years by possibly paying another hefty tuition bill.

If you start a career, you're giving up your youth and settling for a lackluster life. If you don't have a plan at all ... well, then there is something seriously wrong with you.

I've gotten to the point that when asked what I'm going to do with my life by strangers at the supermarket, I lie.

I tell them I'm going to go work for some non-profit and get some "real world experience."

This has come after telling people that my intention to go to graduate school in Europe (it's a lot cheaper and those Europeans know some things about environmental management) has been met with comments about my pretention and privilege.

But you know what? That is messed up.

It's messed up that I feel bad about discussing what the future holds for me. I should be damn proud; I worked hard to get into the school I wanted and know it's what I want to do.

The same goes for many of my other fellow soon-to-be graduated seniors.

We don't need to be held accountable to anyone else in choosing what we do with our degrees. We're adults; we can make decisions for ourselves now. We shouldn't have to feel like our life decisions are constricted by those hoping for a certain outcome.

We have spent the past four years working our butts off to get a degree. Shouldn't we be proud of that accomplishment and excited about what the future holds?

I say we should. I say, in the words of the ever so wise Miley Cyrus, "Forget the haters." Do what you want after graduation, whether that's working at an ice cream shop or backpacking through South America for two years.

Do what you want with the knowledge you've hopefully gained these past few years, and be proud of it. You've earned the right to do what you need to do for you.

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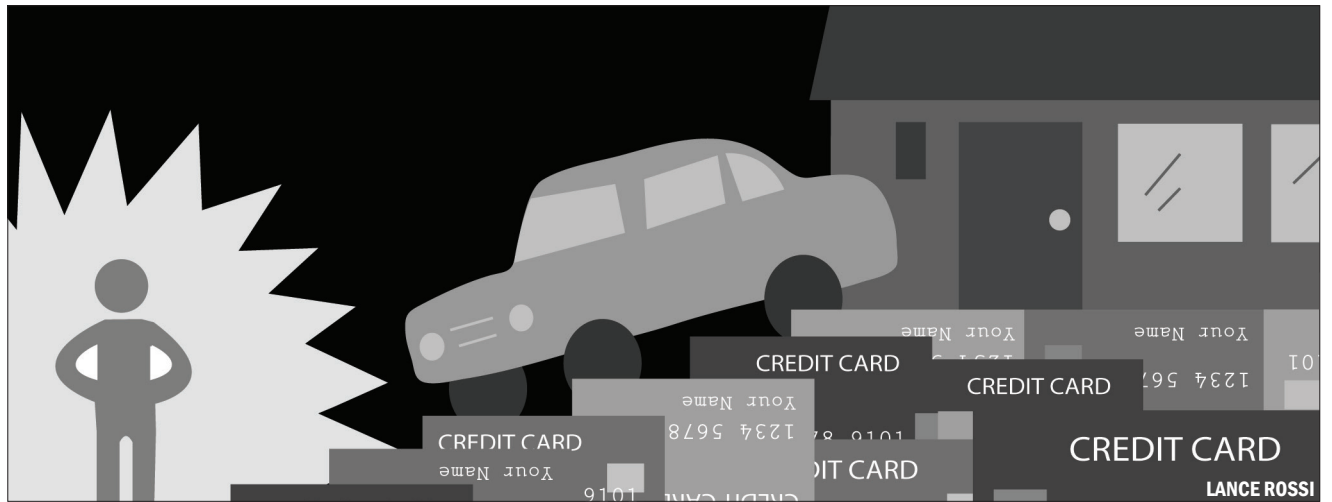
Letters to the Editor

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name 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>.

EDITORIAL

Credit: Few recognize score's importance



CONTINUED from Page 1

Let's consider what doors are closed to us if we fail to attain credit, or if we mismanage it due to a lack of knowledge about responsible and appropriate use.

Fast forward about three or four years after graduation.

Looking to buy a car to get to and from your new job? If you don't have a decent credit score, you will most likely get turned down for financing, and if the car dealer does grant you a lease on a car, the interest are probably astronomical.

The higher your score, the more bargaining power you have. Trying to buy your first home or rent an apartment, specifically in a very populated area? Good luck.

Without an attractive credit score behind your name, a credit lender or a property manager is less likely to grant you a mortgage or a lease on a

piece of property.

All of this is unfortunate. It makes us hate consumerism even more, but it makes it all the more important for us to have a basic understanding of what credit is, how it works, and how we can gain an excellent score.

We recommend the University takes our advice and consider offering resources to students who are interested in establishing credit at a young age.

College really is the opportune time to build your credit.

Spending these four years helping students learn to carefully manage a budget, pay bills on time, and apply for one or two credit cards is really the best thing for economic future of students.

Most of us will be left with the burden of paying off a hefty bill student loans, but even with this debt, a good credit score will go far.

Our classes teach us how to turn

our knowledge into effective action achievement, but part of this knowledge should be learning how to be financially responsible.

Relationships with credit are complicated. You can't live with it, and you can't live without it.

But learning to live peacefully with credit will have you feeling relieved in the future once you sign the dotted line on the lease for your new post-college pad or that car you've wanted ever since you learned how to drive.

COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

Miles Sari • Editor-in-Chief
Kelley Villa • Managing Editor
Maggie Boucher • Opinions Editor

Trajectory to twenty: crumbling, mumbling

MARIKA McCARTHY
COLUMNIST

In another life, I could have been an art history major.

But art is too concrete. Though the laws of the universe last forever, I feel like they're somehow fleeting. Physics is based in flashes of silver, tricks of the light in a spring stream. Water trickles out of cupped hands, falling through cracks between fingers, and holds up ships, holds a body together.

Even so, sometimes I feel like Winged Victory of Samothrace: headless and heartless, aimless and armless. But she has lasted through the ages, and I feel so ephemeral in comparison.

My birthday is in one week, and somehow turning 20 seems so concrete. I know that it shouldn't. Another mere year of my existence doesn't compare to the planet or the water – recycled for millennia – that feeds it.

I didn't have anxiety over a slough of other meaningless birthdays, only a repetitive feeling of waking up expecting to feel different and feeling exactly the same.

The only time I've ever felt distinctly older was my sixth birthday. That was the day I

got my ears pierced.

Still, I'm feeling more and more like a child each and every day. Once upon a time I was so excited to leave one decade, but I'm petrified at the thought of leaving a second.

Twenty should feel different, and I'm sure that it won't.

On scratch paper and in the margins of my notebooks – even written with a finger in the salt spilled on an IHOP table – I've made promises to myself. Promises to leave certain behaviors behind in my teens, promises to do better as an adult. I should learn how to study. I should delete my Tumblr. I should know how to walk in a pair of heels by now.

Happy B-day, happy D-day.

There is no inevitability about 20. It is a foreign concept that I am still struggling to translate. It seems so far away, even if only a week away.

Does a statue count the years since her own beginning? Winged Victory surely doesn't count her milestones in multiples of 10 years. It just wouldn't make sense.

She has much bigger milestones: her birth, her rediscovery, moving to

Paris. Perhaps she counts her time, not in years, but in the visitors who come to see her. But that must not be it,

for she can't see all the visitors at the Louvre.

She's lost her head.

I feel like I'm losing mine.

I will have the chance to actually be able to call myself a 20-something, and pretend to be able to relate to Thought Catalog articles after a couple hours of being a year older.

At the same time, nobody writes songs about girls who are 20.

It's anti-climactic and petrifying at the same time.

And Wednesday will be just another day, because what is time but a something constructed by humans?

At least, that is what I'm saying now. Maybe I'll tell you something different if you ask me about it in a week.

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The Winged Victory of Samothrace depicts Nike, the Greek goddess of victory, and is part of the Louvre's permanent collection in Paris, France.

MILES SARI

Tea Party president: What's the worst possibility?

CHRISTOPHER DAY
GUEST WRITER

It's undeniably true that "myths and legends die hard in America."

If you need proof, look no further than the Conservative Political Action Conference that took place last week. The Tea Party certainly had a good showing. Rand Paul, Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio, Sarah Palin ... what's not to love?

Sen. Paul implored you to "[i]magine a time when our great country is again governed by the Constitution. Imagine a time when the White House is once again occupied by a friend of liberty."

Sen. McConnell lifted a rifle triumphantly over his head to the delight and glee of the crowd.

In reference to the current conflict in Ukraine, Sarah Palin cheerfully proclaimed, "Mr. President, the only thing that stops a bad guy with a nuke is a good guy with a nuke." She later scolded President Obama for allowing some "very, very, very bad dudes [to] gain ground."

This is a no-man's land in the marketplace of ideas. This is contrived nostalgia for a slice of phony Americana that ought to send shivers down the spine of any rational person.



GAGE SKIDMORE



PAUL.SENATE.GOV



CRUZ.SENATE.GOV



RUBIO.SENATE.GOV

Clockwise, from left: Former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin, Senators Rand Paul, Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz. All are Tea Party-backed and considered potential 2016 presidential candidates.

You would struggle to find a room full of grown-ups behaving less seriously.

However, all of this pitiful rhetoric begs the questions, "Why NOT elect one of them? What's the worst that could happen? I mean, deep down, aren't we all just a little bit masochistic? Aren't you sort of interested to see what would happen?"

Think about it – we all have

the same morbid desires to stop and ogle at car accidents or to put our finger in a light socket.

Put aside your desire for well-functioning, helpful government for a moment. Don't worry so much about climate-change or labor rights.

Instead, why not adopt policies that embody the noble American traditions of xenophobia, racism and sexism?

Why not brazenly threaten other nations (because why do we have all of these soldiers if we're not going to expend a few)?

As the saying goes, may you live in interesting times.

The great American journalist Harry S. Thompson once said, "This may be the year when we finally come face to face with ourselves; finally just lay back and say it – that we are really just a nation of [330] million used car salesmen with all the money we need to buy guns, and no qualms at all about killing anybody else in the world who tries to make us uncomfortable."

Maybe a Tea Party president would help us embrace this once and for all.

We could build a 100-foot fence along the border (make that BOTH borders), make guns easier to purchase and carry, tell women what to do with their bodies, pass harsher drug laws, pump every ounce of oil we can find out of Alaska (and build that massive pipeline), deport everyone who wears less than 30 SPF sunscreen, fill up our prisons with the poor, get rid of the minimum wage and find another country to invade.

2016 is right around the corner – we've had a good run – maybe it's time to just let it ride.

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Making the most of your four years

ANDRÉS OSWILL
GUEST WRITER

Friends, classmates, Bearkittens, we each have four years here to make a difference. Four years to be involved, change practices we dislike and generally improve Willamette.

Coming into my fourth year here, I'm acutely aware of how much I have done and how much I have failed to do. I have been involved and made an impact in countless ways, but what sticks out to me most are the times I didn't act.

As students, we have a plethora of opportunities to get involved; we have numerous chances to make our voices heard. While the resources to do these things could be publicized more aggressively, some of the responsibility for the shortcoming of inactivity does come back to us for not seeking them out.

There are over 100 clubs, groups for every interest on campus and ways for students to form new groups when they're interested.

Try going to the Office of Student Affairs on the second floor of the Putnam University Center – talk to the leadership consultants. Ask the student leaders who are paid to be a resource and help guide you through the labyrinth of University administration.

I'm not saying that every student is morally required to become more involved; the quintessential Willamette student is over-committed and spread too thin, always on the verge of a meltdown. This isn't about every student taking on more, but about every student finding a balance.

If issues on campus are important to you, prioritize them. If you think that your student leaders aren't representing you well, challenge them.

If you feel like this University is not doing enough to support you, chastise it. My fellow students, this is our university, and we have the ability to take as large of a role as we care to.

It is very easy to fall into the familiar rut of criticizing problems, complaining about the way things are done, and saying you could do a better job if you had the chance. I know how easy it is because I do it all the time.

Fight that urge, Bearkittens; step up to play a greater role on our campus.

Apply to be a student on a standing committee in the fall. Write to your ASWU Senator to tell them how you feel about how they're representing you. Work with fellow students to suggest alternatives to aspects of campus that you do not like.

When you see a survey asking what locked doors you'd like to see unlocked or what your thoughts are on Campus Safety's lockdown policy, respond to it! When an effort is made to reach out to us, we should meet the University halfway.

We can make a difference.

If four years is enough time for a president to lead the nation, then four years is enough time for us to make an impact on Willamette.

We have the power, Bearcats – we can make this University an amazing place, but only if we make it a big enough priority.

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Alpha Chi: Place to be a real, strong woman

MAGGIE BOUCHER
OPINIONS EDITOR

"I wanted to meet new people."
"It's a great way to be involved."
"My friends were doing it, and they dragged me along too."

These are just a few of the reasons I've heard women give for joining a sorority at Willamette. And as my pledge class and I were sitting together in Alpha Chi Omega for the last time as "new members" this past week, explaining why we had joined, it was difficult for me to formulate one solid answer.

You can ask anyone who knows me relatively well, and I guarantee they will say I was the last person they ever expected to be in a sorority. I was the last person I ever expected to be in a sorority.

Nineteen of the 24 members of the soccer team are a part of Greek life. So, while it's difficult to be on the team and not be influenced in some way, I still wasn't sure what I wanted to do. But I signed up for recruitment anyway.

It isn't easy trying to decide which sorority to join after only four days. However, even though I'm sure most people assume I chose Alpha Chi because I'm on the soccer team, I truly visited each house with an unbiased view. On Tours and Philanthropy Night, I went to Delta Gamma and Pi Beta Phi, but when I walked into Alpha Chi Omega, something was different.

It wasn't because my teammates were there or because parts of the house are decorated by Pottery Barn. It was because I knew I belonged there. It was because I knew I wanted the opportunity to be a "Real, Strong Woman."

Although different sororities have their own values and principles, it's easy to put them all into one pile and say they are the same. Pi Beta Phi's core values range from



KARYA SCHANILEC

New members of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority stand outside the chapter's house on Bid Day. Last week, all three of the University's sororities had initiation weeks.

"integrity and lifelong commitment" to "philanthropic service to others and sincere friendship." Delta Gamma is based on the principles of "personal integrity, personal responsibility, and intellectual honesty." And Alpha Chi Omega's five membership standards are "academic interest, personal development, financial responsibility, character, and leadership ability."

I'm not going to deny that the three have similarities, but when I finally became a lifetime member, I was being initiated into Alpha Chi because I believe specifically in the values for which we stand.

I have the Symphony of Alpha Chi Omega hanging in my room not because I'm on the soccer team, but because every day I try "to see beauty even in the common things of life." Every day I try "to shed the light of love and friendship round me," and "to appreciate every little service rendered." Every day Alpha Chi Omega's symphony is my symphony.

People can roll their eyes and laugh.

People can have whatever opinion they want about Greek life and what it means.

But until you know the frenzy of running towards a huge group of strangers who will eventually become your best friends on Bid Day, until you know how good it feels to have an entire house of women who care about you, until you know the joy of sitting by the Mill Stream eating Thai food with your sorority family, until you know the happiness of being given a four-year old carnation that your "Big Big" received on her Preference night, you will never know why I and the rest of my sisters joined the Beta Chi chapter of Alpha Chi Omega.

When it was finally my turn to share that night, there were a lot of things I could have said. I decided to keep it simple, though. I replied, "I'm here because I found a place where I belong. I found the perfect place to be a real, strong woman."

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CORRECTION

An article in Issue 22 of the *Collegian* written by Surabhi Mahajan and Katie Buonocore was mis-titled "Memoirs' experience undermined by campus disrespect." The event referenced was actually called "Willamette Monologues."

Any corrections should be submitted to editor-in-chief Miles Sari <msari>.

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

March 10-15, 2014 |
Information provided by
Campus Safety
EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

March 10, 2:39 a.m. (Baxter Hall): Campus Safety received a call stating that a student was feeling ill and requested medical attention. The officer met with the student, who was shaking which was caused by their migraines. After a brief evaluation, the officer transported the student to the ER for further medical attention.

March 13, 6:20 p.m. (Sparks Center): Campus Safety received a call that a student had fallen while using one of the treadmills. Sparks trainers evaluated the student and determined that the student had a minor concussion. The caller reported that the student had already left Sparks, having been cleared by Sparks staff. The caller also reported that the screen of the treadmill had been broken in the incident.

March 15, 5 p.m. (Campus Safety): A student came in to Campus Safety seeking medical attention for their injured finger. WEMS arrived to the office to evaluate the wound, gave the student gauze to stop the bleeding, and advised the student to contact Urgent Care.

HARASSMENT

March 13, 9:30 p.m.

(Shepard Hall): A student came in to the office to report that they had been receiving disturbing text messages and phone calls from a former friend. The student reported that the correspondence had briefly stopped when they had changed numbers, but had started again recently. The student reported that the suspect had begun threatening them with blackmail and slander. The student also stated that they had contacted Salem police as well. After a brief investigation, the officer was able to discover that SPD had recently taken the suspect in to custody.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

March 10, 10:49 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): An officer was alerted to the smell of marijuana. Upon investigating, the officer observed some individuals on the balcony, using a lighter. Shortly after, the officer made contact with the students. They showed the officer a cooler that contained some marijuana and marijuana paraphernalia. The officer confiscated the cooler and its contents.

March 13, 2:05 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): Campus Safety received a call that some drug paraphernalia had been found while conducting fire safety checks. The officer responded to the scene and

confiscated the items.
March 13, 3:30 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): Campus Safety received a call that some drug paraphernalia had been found while conducting fire safety checks. The officer contacted the student who stated that they did not know about the item, and that it did not belong to them. The officer confiscated the item.

March 13, 9:34 p.m. (Delta Gamma): Campus Safety received a call regarding marijuana that was found in one of the rooms during a routine safety check. The officer arrived on scene and confiscated the marijuana.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

March 10, 11:30 a.m. (Kaneko Commons): Campus Safety received a call that the pool fence had been damaged. The officer arrived on scene and observed that some fencing slats had been removed from the fence.

SEXUAL HARRASSMENT

March 13, 4:55 p.m. (Mill Street): A student came in to report an incident that had occurred while walking to the mail center. The student observed a small, red, beat-up vehicle that was keeping pace with her. When the student looked over, she observed an unknown male making eye contact with her and he was fondling himself. The student yelled at the subject and he

immediately drove away.
THEFT
March 14, 1:15 p.m. (University Center): A student came in to the office to report that their phone had been stolen about a week ago. They called their own phone number and someone answered, but would not say who they were, nor make an attempt to return the phone. The student was advised to make a report with Salem PD as well.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT

March 11, 12:51 p.m. (Skybridge): A student came in to the office to report an accident that occurred while they were crossing the Skybridge. The student reported that they were riding their bike across the bridge when they saw a Willamette golf cart coming from the opposite direction. The student swerved to avoid the cart and caught their handlebar on the fencing. The student was thrown over the handlebars as a result. The operator of the golf cart stopped and asked the student if they needed any assistance, which the student declined. After leaving the area, the student noticed that their bike's front tire had been damaged by the incident.

***PLEASE CONTACT CAMPUS SAFETY IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THESE INCIDENTS.**

SUDOKU

Input a digit from 1 to 9 in each box, so that every row, column and 3X3 subregion contains each number exactly one time without repetition.

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Congratulations to Andrés Oswill, Colleen Smyth, and Greg Ebert on being elected as ASWU Executive Members.

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