

Opinions

Never again? One student questions the legitimacy of promises to end global violence.

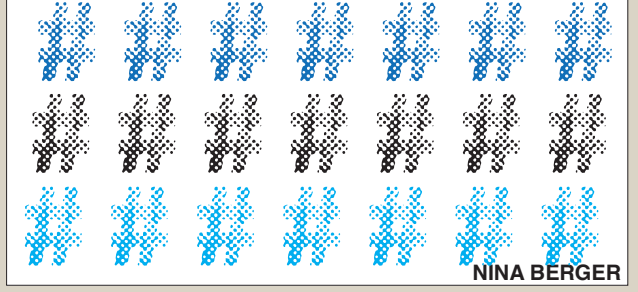
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Feature

How did a little pound sign change the way social movements are mobilized in the last year? #Feature

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THE WILLAMETTE COLLEGIAN

WINNER OF 21 2013-2014 ONPA AWARDS • VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL CXXV • ISSUE 16 • FEBRUARY 4, 2015

LIFESTYLES

Who is the cross-dressing Mormon?

ELIZE MANOUKIAN
MANAGING EDITOR

The power of the mixed metaphor lies in the attention it calls to incongruity. Together, words like “cross-dressing” and “Mormon” make a wild combination.

It’s not as though Erik Kulick, the College of Law student wearing the “Google Cross-dressing Mormon” sign, would otherwise go unnoticed on campus. His incredible height, striking blue eyes and overgrowth of blond hair are impressionable to passersby who overhear him strumming his tiny guitar by the Mill Stream on any given day.

I decided to interview Kulick, who is 34, after a friend showed me the webpage for “Cross-dress to Church Day.”

Kulick created the event in solidarity with Mormon women who received death

threats for wearing pants in protest of gender inequalities within the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS).

Kulick soars over a hundred topics a minute, punctuated by jokes and tone-shifting stories from his childhood.

Long ago, Kulick lived in what might seem like an “ideal Mormon family.” His mother, who found Mormonism working as a door-to-door saleswoman, brought him into the Church when he was four.

“I thought my goal was to convert the entire world to Mormonism through missionary work,” Kulick reflected.

“I was taught at a very young age to read these books that were supposed to be divine inspiration, so I held them to have great meaning.”

See **BOOK**, Page 4

NEWS

Univ. shuts down Zena Farm



BRONTE DOD
NEWS EDITOR

Amanda McClelland '14 became involved with Zena by chance.

Part of her Opening Days

program included a trip to the farm and forest. After that, she volunteered at Zena with the farm club almost every weekend at Willamette. As a senior, she was hired as the farm manager, and oversaw a group of students

planting, harvesting and growing food on the farm.

“Zena was my outlet for feeling like I could make a change,” the environmental science major said.

See **ZENA**, Page 3

NEWS

132 students arrive from TIU



Faculty, staff, administrators and students lined up to welcome the new class of students from Tokyo International University on Monday.

RACHAEL DECKER
CONTRIBUTOR

On Monday, Feb. 2, 132 students from Tokyo International University arrived in the afternoon, received tours around campus and attended a welcome dinner in Goudy Commons.

At the event, ASWU President Andrés Oswill told students that they could become part of Willamette’s campus life by involving themselves in the activities that interest them.

“The more you do here, the more you will take away,” Oswill said. “And I sincerely hope that you enjoy your time here at Willamette.”

Oswill’s address was followed by a short statement from Dean of Campus Life David Douglass, who told students to keep a journal of all their goals and aspirations during their time here.

Douglass then introduced the a cappella groups HeadBand and UpTop, who performed a few upbeat songs for the crowd.

The event concluded with a shared dinner between CLA and ASP students.

See **ASP STUDENTS**, Page 2

SPORTS

Workouts that work (in Doney)

KELLIE STANDISH
PHOTO EDITOR

There comes a time in every active and non-active person’s life when the thought of leaving one’s room sounds like the most difficult thing in the world. Whether it is moderately cold, raining or maybe just Monday, the energy it requires to walk out the door outweighs the desire to stay fit.

Last Monday, curled up on the couch wondering if I could somehow convince myself to get up and run, I saw someone post an article on Facebook that said, “There is always time to look after yourself.”

I laughed and rolled over to nap.

Later that day, I was assigned to write about fitness, and figured it was some kind of karmic retribution for my earlier laughter.

So, I have created a list of workouts that do not require you to leave your bedroom on rainy Mondays—you don’t even have to put shoes on! I found that they were not only fun, but incredibly entertaining.

See **DORMROOM**, Page 9



ASP students take classes, volunteer

CONTINUED from Page 1

Barby Dressler, the director of university relations and special programs at Tokyo International University of America (TIUA), said that the American Studies Program (ASP) is unique because it's a full immersion experience. ASP students live in the residence halls: 120 of them have Willamette roommates this spring semester.

"Right off the bat, they're living with someone whose first language is probably English, so they get to start using English right away," Dressler said. "If they're really motivated, the opportunities are there to get involved on campus."

In Japan, Dressler said, students tend to pick one club and stay with it for their entire school experience, but at Willamette, they are encouraged to try many new things.

One of these new things is volunteering, which Dressler coordinates out in the Salem community.

Senior Anna Walling has worked as an international peer coach for three years. This year, she is on the leadership team with fellow leaders Jared Virtue and Kelsey Engstrom.

Walling trained the IPCs in cultural competency, as well as how to interact with ASP students in a way that is most effective and beneficial.

"It's very similar to the Opening Days program, but we have more of a highlight on programming and cross-cultural communication," Walling said.

For Walling, the most interesting aspect of the job is not only meeting the ASP students and teaching them things about Willamette and American life, but also having the opportunity to learn from them. Last year, she shared her grandmother's pie recipe with them and, in return, they taught her how to make authentic Japanese food.

IPC's are hired in the fall, but for Willamette students who are looking to get involved sooner, applications for summer Community Associates will be available soon.

Dressler's advice for Willamette students who want to get to know the new ASP students?

"Be interested in them and be patient," she said. "And don't give up."

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SAM KEECHLER



MIKE RHINE



MIKE RHINE

The students will stay at the University for 11 months. Most will live in dorms with a Willamette roommate.

Green Initiative kicks off Committee funds 8 proposals

KATIE DOBBS
STAFF WRITER

The Green Initiative Fund committee approved eight projects for funding this semester. The money comes from an opt-out \$25 student fee established in April 2014. The fund gives students and faculty an opportunity to apply for grants in order to create a more sustainable campus.

The committee received proposals for 12 projects.

"We want projects to have a lot of student impact because students are paying the fee, so students should be getting the most benefit," senior GIF committee chair Kurt Wade said.

Wade said the committee prioritizes funding a number of small projects to create a more sustainable community based on their values of education, equity, environment and economics.

Joe Abraham, the Sustainability Institute director and non-voting GIF committee member, acknowledged that programs akin to the Green Initiative Fund take a couple of years to work out how to be most impactful.

"If you go for a couple of big projects, there may be fewer people involved. There

may be fewer learning opportunities," Abraham said. "I think the best thing is to fund a range of projects, small and large."

One project proposed by seniors Annette Marinello and Emma Pesis will provide informational signs at Zena.

The signs will outline the ecological importance of Zena

"We want there to be no question that this will be successful... You are giving \$25 to help the Willamette community be more sustainable."

Kurt Wade
Green Initiative Fund Committee Chair

as well as the sustainable practices caretakers use. For example, signs will be posted at transition points between the four main habitat zones of the property, to explain what lives in each area and why that is significant.

"Our project educates the public on an underrepresented environmental cornerstone of Willamette University," Marinello said.

It is unclear whether the recent closure of Zena Farm will affect the outcome of some of the projects funded. A project funded to junior Evann Zuckermann would pay for vans to transport students to Zena.

Wade said that in order to receive funding, projects, must be carefully developed.

"Feasibility is the big one," Wade said. "You have to have talked to the right people and gone through all of the ins and outs. We want there to be no question that this will be successful."

Willamette students who do not want to pay the green fund fee had the opportunity to opt-out of the fee this semester by February 2.

"You are giving \$25 for a student's idea to be plausible and help the Willamette community to be more sustainable," Wade said.

"It's presumptuous to think that we can take without giving back in some way," Pesis said.

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\$30K funded for Wulapalooza

JOSEPH LINDBLOM-MASUWALE
CONTRIBUTOR

"Be excited for everything," Emma Jonas, president of Wulapalooza club, said.

The student-organized festival, which will take place on April 25, will cost the University \$30,450 this year.

"This is not abnormal as a budgetary request," Teddy Wu said. The club received a similar amount last year.

A majority of the money, \$18,000, will go to the bands. About \$10,000 will be used to rent, assemble and run the sound equipment for the day.

The club is currently still in the process of selecting headlining bands for the annual event.

Auditions for student acts are scheduled for March 3 and 5. Jonas said that the club is looking for more than just musical acts to perform.

"You could go up there and do a comedy act," Jonas said. "We just want to showcase Willamette talent on campus."

In an effort to be conscious of sustainability at the event, Wulapalooza club is working with a company called Clean Vibes to get compostable dishware for the event.

"We're trying to up our green game," Jonas said.

The club will also host trading posts for people to exchange their recyclables for stickers, posters and other prizes.

Jonas said that Wulapalooza is a way for Willamette to bond with the Salem community.

"It's just a day for everyone to come together, not be stressed, listen to some awesome music and do cool activities," Jonas said.

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Source: Nov. 13 ASWU senate meeting minutes.

Memo to deans: Increase diversity

EMILY HOARD
STAFF WRITER

In light of a recent memo from University President Stephen Thorsett, deans from all Willamette schools are charged with improving faculty diversity, equity and inclusion.

The plans should include specific objectives and metrics to measure progress in achieving these goals, according to the memo.

Each dean will send their plan to the Council for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ) by April 3. The CDSJ will review and evaluate the plans and combine them into one cohesive proposal to be sent to Thorsett by May.

"If we want a more diverse Willamette community, what are we doing about it: sitting here wishing or are we taking some actions?" Marlene Moore, dean of the CLA, said. "So this charge from the president is 'what actions are you going to take' specifically with regard to the faculty?"

The deans have met to share their ideas, recognizing that each school has different challenges and will need to come up with its own specific plan.

Moore is working with the Multicultural Affairs Committee, the Academic Council, the Faculty Council

"I think [faculty diversity] is something that's been asked for a lot on this campus recently."

Andrés Oswill
ASWU President

and the full CLA faculty to create her plan.

Debra Ringold, dean of Atkinson Graduate School of Management, has started working with an Atkinson faculty task force.

"We will make certain that the plan is carried out in the context of each new faculty member search, and then we will track the actual search processes and hiring decisions, comparing them against our goals and objectives," she said.

Dean of the College of Law Curtis Bridgeman, who is working with the chair of the Minority Affairs Committee and other faculty, said he is open to student recommendations.

"The faculty minority affairs committee today solicited input from students via an online survey. We look forward to seeing the responses," Bridgeman said. He also plans to implement advice from the president of the Student Bar Association.

The law school is also thinking about creating of diversity officers on hiring committees from the CLA.

Once the proposals are completed Karen Wood, chaplain and chair of the CDSJ, will facilitate a discussion with the council.

"I'm excited about the memo," Wood said. "I think it's a thoughtful and timely request to move forward on this really important question and to have some accountability around it."

She said that faculty diversity is an important issue for all of the schools, and students are particularly invested in it.

"It's awesome that this memo happened, and I think it's really encouraging," ASWU President Andrés Oswill said. "It has a lot of potential and promise. I think it's something that's been asked for a lot on this campus recently."

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Red light on WU's world record

BRONTE DOD
NEWS EDITOR

On Jan. 14, a group from Phoenix, AZ broke Willamette's world record for the largest game of red light/green light which was set the previous August.

"The happy twist is we've already submitted a request to Guinness World Record to take back our record," Campus Recreation Director Bryan Schmidt said.

Schmidt and junior Becca Brownlee, who organized Willamette's world record event, had already been thinking about breaking a record every other year.

"We knew the record would be beaten at some point," Brownlee said, "but it was still strange to see the record changed on the Guinness website. Almost as soon as we found out, I wanted to try and break the new record."

The Arizona Super Bowl Host Committee broke the record with the help of the Phoenix school district. 1,136 people participated, which broke Willamette's record of 1,068.

Brownlee and Schmidt are organizing another game to break the record again. Schmidt said that since they've already achieved the world record once, they know what kind of obstacles to expect.

"We want to bring this record home to Willamette in the fall," Brownlee said. "We will need even more people, more energy and more enthusiasm if we want to be called record holders again. I know our community is more capable and I can't wait to see us come together again."

"As rough as it was to hear about it, it's exciting that we're going to have a take-back campaign," Schmidt said. "We're going to take this record back."

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'Zena is a liberal arts education'

CONTINUED from Page 1

As of Monday, Feb. 1, the University has called a halt to all agricultural production on the property. CLA Dean Marlene Moore announced the closure through the Bearcat Bulletin.

The decision seemed abrupt to McClelland. "I am surprised that, if there were big issues with the farm and easement, why they wouldn't have come up in the past six years," McClelland said.

The University bought the 305-acre property for just under \$1 million from the Trust for Public Lands. Zena has actually been assessed to be worth millions more. Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) originally purchased a conservation easement for the property for \$5 million as a settlement with Oregon for previous environmental violations.

The easement, written in 2007 before Willamette purchased the land, states what activities are allowed on the property. When Willamette bought Zena, they developed a management plan for the land that includes agriculture.

According to Joe Abraham, director of the University's Sustainability Institute, the language of the conservation easement is vague, especially about whether agriculture was allowed on the land.

In administrative discussions about how to develop more curricular and co-curricular activities on the property, Abraham said that the University wanted to make sure that they were not going to violate the easement. While Willamette owns the property, the rights to develop it are partly controlled by BPA under the conservation easement. Violating a portion of that document would result in financial consequences for the University.

Willamette hired a land-use lawyer from Saalfeld Griggs PC in the fall to determine the language of the easement and help place the University in a good position to negotiate the terms of the easement with

BPA, according to Abraham. The lawyer advised Willamette to shut down agriculture until the negotiations are complete.

"Our intention is to work with [BPA] to clarify the easement so that we understand what we can do and what we can't do," Abraham said. "Our lawyer will hopefully help us understand how to get what we want."

But Abraham isn't sure that the University's goals for Zena's future line up with the students' goals.

For Zena Farm club president Kyle Batsisky, the important issue was getting students present at the discussions about the

future of the farm. Club members want students to be part of the conversation about Zena's future. For the students, farming is an essential part of that.

They also questioned whether the University should continue marketing Zena as a place where students produce food.

Abraham has removed a video about Zena's food production from the Willamette website, and updated the language on Zena's webpage to reflect the current situation of the farm.

For McClelland, Zena has expanded quite a lot since she came to Willamette.

The University renovated the hundred-year-old farmhouse where students have participated in a live-in summer program for the last five years. Students expanded the kitchen garden to a larger field and built greenhouses and fences to keep the produce safe from. In 2014, the Farm club sold over \$3,500 of food to the Bistro, Bon Appétit, and their farm stand and donated produce to Marion-Polk Food Share.

McClelland said that Zena—with its long environmental history, connection to social justice, and opportunity for practical experience—has connections to almost every academic discipline.

"In essence," she said, "Zena is a liberal arts education."

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Zena's worth has been assessed at \$5 million. Willamette paid less than \$1 million for the property.

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

January 4-25, 2015 |

Information provided by Campus Safety

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

January 4, 7 a.m. (Winter Street): While on patrol, an officer observed a vehicle that had been broken into. The rear driver side window was smashed, but nothing appeared to have been taken from the vehicle. (There were nine additional types of these reports of this type during this period).

January 12, 3 p.m. (Rogers Music Center): An employee reported graffiti on the south end of the building. Large letters had been painted on to the side of the roof.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

January 15, 2:21 p.m. (Olin Science): Campus Safety received a call that a student had injured their hand during a lab. The officer met with the student and transported them to the ER for treatment.

January 22, 12:37 a.m. (In a Campus Residence): Campus Safety received a call concerning a student who was not feeling well. The officer met with the student, who reported feeling ill and was resting until they could walk back to their room. The student did not seem to need any medical attention, so the officer transported the student back to their residence.

January 24, 1:44 a.m. (In a Campus Residence): Campus Safety received a call concerning an intoxicated student who had injured their head. The officer met with the student and, after a brief conversation, the officer transported them to the ER for further evaluation and treatment.

January 24, 11:10 p.m. (In a Campus Residence): Campus Safety received a call concerning a student who was intoxicated. The officers met with the student and, after a brief conversation, called the area coordinator on duty to

come and speak with the student. The officers later received a call to transport the student to the ER for further evaluation.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

January 17, 9 p.m. (University Apartments): Campus Safety received a call concerning the smell of marijuana coming from a room. The officer made contact with the students and observed some paraphernalia when entering the room. The students promptly handed over the items as well as a jar of marijuana.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

January 17, 7:12 p.m. (University Apartments): Campus Safety received a call concerning severe water damage that had occurred in a student's room. The student reported that when they returned from break, the entire apartment had been overgrown with mildew and mold. The officer discovered that the shower was continuously running over the break, as it could not be turned off. The occupants were moved to another room until the damage can be repaired.

THEFT

January 8, 8:31 p.m. (Sparks Center): A student called to report that money had been stolen from their wallet. The student reported leaving their belongings in one of the Sparks cubbies while working out. When they returned, cash from the wallet had been stolen.

January 12, 12:45 p.m. (West Side Parking Lot): A student came into the office to report that a large amount of cash had been stolen from their purse. The victim stated that the purse was locked in the trunk of their car. When they came back from class, the vehicle was still locked but the money was stolen.

CONTINUED on Page 12

ARTS

Join Pi Beta Phi for a pub-style TriviaWizard Tournament to combat childhood illiteracy on Saturday, Feb. 7 in the Bistro from 3 to 5 p.m. There will be multiple rounds and prizes, and competitors are encouraged to dress up as a favorite literary character. Admission is \$1 or a book donation.

Willamette Events Board will host spoken word poet Carlos Gómez for a night of hard-hitting verses about society and masculinity on Tuesday, Feb. 10 in Smith Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. The Colombian-American "truth-telling visionary," who has starred in works by Russell Simmons and Spike Lee, will also be signing and giving out copies of his book.

Orebonians, a professional trombone quartet comprised of top-tier local symphony musicians, is set to play a free recital in Hudson Hall on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. Donations to the music scholarship program are welcome.

Got culture?
Contact Juliana Cohen
<jacohen>.

The book of Erik: a singing prophet

CONTINUED from Page 1

This reality began to unravel, however, years later when Kulick found "Mormon Stories," a popular podcast by John Dehlin that questions Mormon teachings. "I didn't believe half the things [Dehlin] said," Kulick said. "Hearing him talk about things disturbed me a little bit."

Kulick began challenging Church doctrine openly, especially LDS' rigid position on homosexuality. His resis-



JULIANA COHEN

tance and activism is well-documented on Facebook, YouTube and his blog, where he's published critical reviews on teachings, recorded discussions with religious leaders and a letter announcing his excommunication from the Mormon community in Salem on the basis of "clear, open and deliberate public opposition to the Church," and other actions that include causing "children to be scared."

"Unfortunately, a lot of people look at a criticism as being an attack on everything about the thing itself," Kulick said.

"I think that's what I saw whenever I looked at Jesus and other great figures, whether they were prophets or otherwise—as being the ones who stood up first. That's why everyone puts them on a pedestal."

It's difficult to avoid the Jesus comparison with Kulick, whose beard speaks as loudly as the image on his Facebook profile of a tithing envelope cast on the floor of a Mormon church.

Where Jesus had parables and Galilee, Kulick has his music and Fred Meyer, where he kills time playing guitar and wearing his sign for all to see.

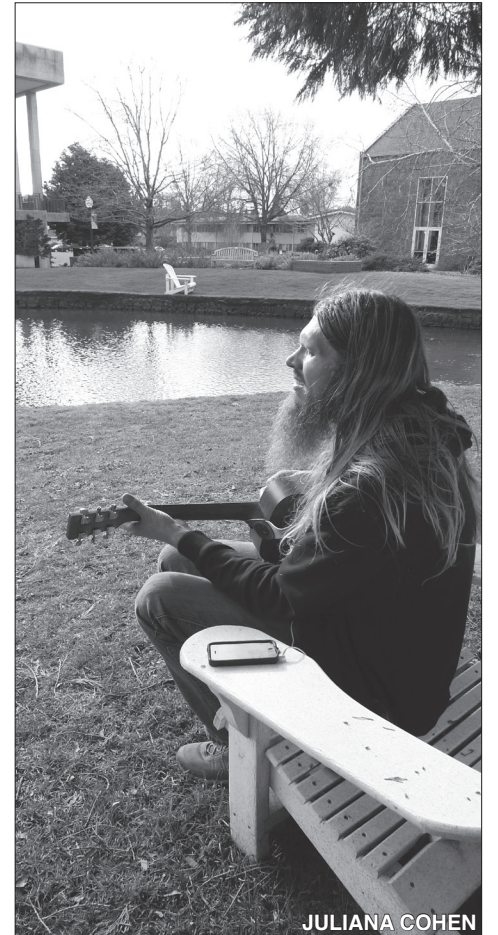
"I realized those are also like churches...we spend enough time there," he said.

Kulick talks about his music with the same level of restless intensity with which he describes his community work—in a stream of emphatic metaphors.

Music is just as much of a medium for his message as his "Google Cross-Dressing Mormon" sign.

"It's a lot easier for people to understand a problem through a parable or fiction," he said.

Kulick talks about a dream he had,



JULIANA COHEN

Erik Kulick covers Radiohead and Pavement between classes and activism.

which was kind of like the first episode of "Lost."

In the dream, part of the plane lands in a place that looks like the banks of the Mill Stream. He says he had the dream before he came to Willamette.

"I'm not bothered by my dreams," he said. "I'm more bothered by reality."

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Joker Marc Maron knows how to rip himself apart

SAM HILBURN
CONTRIBUTOR

Comedian Marc Maron isn't talked about as frequently as some bigger names, but since rising from the ashes of a mid-life crisis like a middle-aged phoenix, his career has been experiencing a quiet comeback.

After his "WTF" podcast series increased in popularity, the Renaissance du Marc continued with the release of "Maron," a heavily autobiographical TV series that can sometimes feel like more of a televised therapy session than a sitcom.

In his show, Maron plays a thinly fictionalized version of himself—a twice-divorced, 12-years-sober comedian who runs a podcast out of his garage. His podcast serves as a device for him to deliver monologues that are equal parts insightful and insane, and also as a platform to introduce guests that are much more famous than him, such as Sarah Silverman, David Cross and Danny Trejo.

Maron's show draws a lot of comparisons to Louis C.K.'s "Louie," but they're really only similar in the not-immediately-funny-but-suddenly-you've-watched-six-episodes-in-one-sitting kind of way.

"Maron" doesn't base itself around overt gags; Marc confesses this himself in one episode when he says "I don't do jokes. I just do observational stuff about my life and try to relate it to the audience."

Sometimes "Maron" achieves relatability (and these are the show's highest points), and other times things aren't as relatable—but it's at least entertaining to watch a man voluntarily self-de-

struct on screen.

"Maron's" propensity for humor with the dryness of a vast desert makes the show initially feel like a lesser version of "Louie," but Marc's brand of sadness and self-loathing are presented differently enough from "Louie" to make the show his own.

Marc Maron is not afraid to overshare, which adds to the show by making it a compelling self-examination of a very sad and bitter man, but also detracts from the show by making it mainly consist of Marc Maron ranting about things. I had this realization around the same time that I discovered that "Maron" is a great show to put on while cooking or cleaning in your apartment.

The show lacks strong visual humor, which can sometimes make it feel like an extension of Marc's podcast or his stand-up special (which is also great and on Netflix).

The best part about the show is how aware of his own bullshit Marc Maron is. In his most self-aware moment, Marc is alone in his garage rambling into his mic when he says, "I'm not sure if this has been funny, but I at least hope it was compelling." In his moment of reflection, Marc describes his show better than anyone else ever could.

After watching two seasons of "Maron" in the span of three days, I'm not sure if it was funny all the way through, but I'll be damned if I wasn't compelled the whole time.

"Maron" has two seasons available to stream on Netflix, and a third season will premiere this spring on IFC.

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(ex)change artfully tackles social unrest

ROSS KOVAC
GUEST WRITER

Halfway up the staircase, before entering the modest white room in which Portland artist Diane Jacobs is displaying her latest exhibit, I'm greeted by hundreds of shimmering, military-style dog tags hanging from the stairway wall.

Looking closer, I see my reflection in each and every one of the mirror-coated tags. All that's visible is a fragment of my reflection, bouncing endlessly between identical nameplates.

"You're It," reads the nameplate below the piece, implying that I am one of any number of dog-tagged servicemen, or that I might "be next" to lose my sense of identity among the masses. Whatever the exact purpose, Jacobs' art had me thinking—and I hadn't even arrived yet.

"(ex)change," Jacobs' most recent exhibition, showcases her unique approach to sociopolitical issues with an unapologetic boldness that some could find off-putting. Her fervent passion for social justice rings through in each of her displays, some of which play on the vulgar or obscene.

The centerpiece of this exhibition, a large American flag, highlights (according to Jacobs) the complexities of the "unjust world" in which we live. The flag is woven from colored fabric strips, each printed with

text from innumerable sources.

From a distance, the words are barely noticeable, yet together they form a comprehensive representation of the flag, both metaphorically and literally.

To call "(ex)change" polemic would be an understatement. Each section of the exhibit critiques the systematic injustices and injuries that, it claims, plague America—and more generally, capitalism.

"(ex)change's" largest piece, "\$PEAK OUT," is powerful from afar and gripping from up close. Inspired by the One Billion Rising movement, more than 300 bills of varying denominations and nationalities have custom, laser-etched messages sent in from participants worldwide.

"Cutting legal tender is shocking," Jacobs said of her piece, a statement on gender inequality. "It implies we must break the rules to force our governments to take action and transform gender inequality."

"(ex)change" runs until Saturday,



Diane Jacobs doesn't hesitate to alter currency in (ex)change.

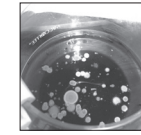
Feb. 21 at the Bush Barn Art Center in Bush's Pasture Park.

Admission is free.

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BEARCAT BULLET

My pigsty makes me cry



JULIANA COHEN

LIFESTYLES EDITOR

When someone tells the world that they're stressed out, there are a multitude of solutions to alleviate this mental condition. There are also many reasons to take care of that issue, as constant stress affects the body in serious ways (or so I've been told).

It's a vague thing to talk about and rather obvious, but most people who experience stress would like to be less stressed out. Maybe a headache is splitting your brain in two, or irksome thoughts keep getting in the way of doing work. It's not uncommon to get agitated in the absence of stress, especially after a semester ends and endless relaxation feels unnatural.

We use the term "self-medication" pejoratively, deriding the use of recreational drugs and alcohol to soothe the soul as a red flag to watch out for in loved ones. Even if a psychiatrist recommends a prescription to even out one's mood, there will still be Tom Cruise (and other proponents of natural medicine) to persuade others not to fall victim to Big Pharma.

I freak out often—both out of limitless procrastination and a tendency to blow things out of proportion. Sometimes I go to campus to freak out, but when I stay home an extra element of stress floods my head.

I've watched the TED Talks about reducing clutter, usually espoused from the mouth of a yuppie who works in the information economy. These put-together people will say something vaguely related to feng shui, the Chinese metaphysical philosophy that now translates into yuppies strategically rearranging their chaise lounges.

There's cat litter turning into desert dust on my floor now, because my Dustbuster can only suck in so much and somebody broke my broom. My hardwood floor won't make it into "Dwell" magazine any time soon.

When I returned to my apartment after winter break, the stench of rotting vegetables left in the sink made me burst into tears. I followed all the rules on Pinterest, yet my compost is a fermented soup with maggots swimming across the surface.

Don't ask me to take a panorama of my living situation—I have too much to hide.

Don't open that closet—there are over 200 cardboard boxes stuffed inside.

Growing up, the Pottery Barn Teen catalogue had me thinking that college life would be picturesque. Everything matched in the model dorm. No one told me how many holes I'd hammer into the pristine drywall.

My roommate and I are responsible for our own messes now. Two years ago, I vomited in the Terra basement and the University steam cleaned my puke (for the small fee of \$50, of course). Joe, who lives downstairs, would never let that shit fly.

I would never claim to be preoccupied with feng shui—I have no idea how to implement those ancient ideals even in the bastardized Western fashion.

However, until I can comfortably walk around barefoot in my home, I'll be wishing that I lived in a bold, yet muted showcase in IKEA.

Nicki Minaj topples the hip-hop patriarchy

SHAYNA WEIMER
GUEST WRITER

Anyone who has listened to Nicki Minaj's latest LP at least 50 times will understand the "Pinkprint" this album leaves on her listeners. Nicki's presence sticks, particularly in the minds of women consuming her music.

Not many female rappers are visible in the genre—let alone participate in the rap game—yet Nicki has quickly risen to become one of the most powerful lady emcees of all time. She stands out with her manic style that

includes multiple personas, voices and silly lyrics.

As she states in her verse in Kanye's "Monster," Nicki got "50k for a verse [with] no album out" when she was merely a rookie in the music industry. These days, almost every new hip-hop track seems to include the powerhouse, validating her early cockiness.

Her music prior to "The Pinkprint" showcases her massively appealing personality, but also her butt. Upon watching the video for "Anaconda," I realized just how fantastic her butt really is.

Though "The Pinkprint" has pop elements, the album generally marks a departure from overly-upbeat songs like "Super Bass," instead opting for raw, personal confessions that the world might not have expected from Nicki in the past. She opens up about previous relationships, neglected family bonds and future goals, no matter how lofty.

Nicki continues to offer dope rap lyrics, but also shows off her beautiful singing voice on songs like "I Lied" and "Grand Piano," both power ballads begging for remixes.

"The Pinkprint" also has major slappers, like "Only" and "Truffle Butter"—turn that shit on at a party and I, specifically, will love you forever.

Nicki also advances a nuanced and multilayered feminist message through her image. She's blatantly sex-positive and open about her sexuality, combats the stereotype of submissive women (but if that's your thing, no disrespect) and asserts herself loudly in her lyrics.

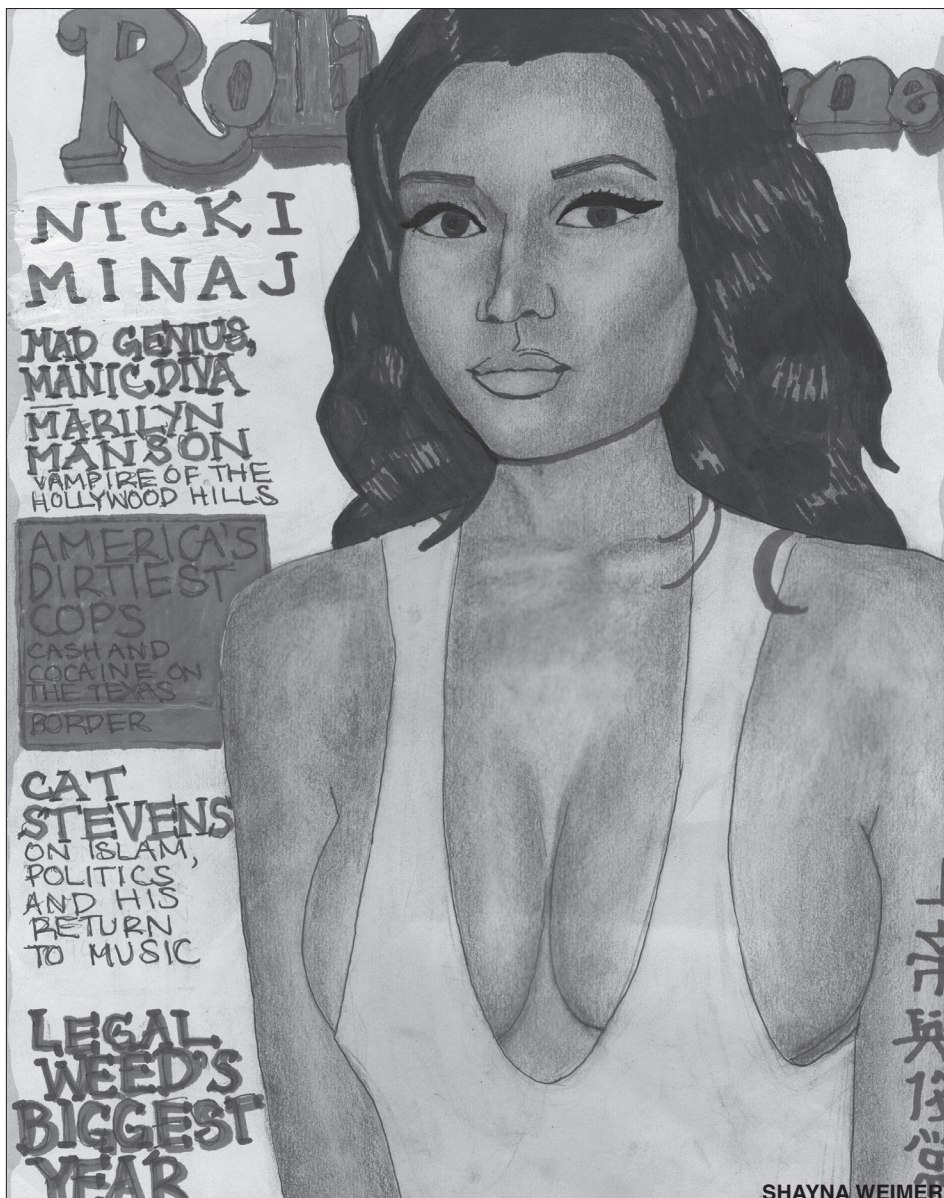
At the same time, it's apparent that her sexual image is sold for profit. I'm cool with seeing bodies—if you got it, flaunt it (and she's certainly got it).

Overexposure, however, is a different entity. I would love to see more lady artists promoting natural body appreciation instead of boob jobs, as well as a reminder that the way you look should matter a little less.

Nicki has clarified in interviews that she has eight alter egos, which all represent female gender stereotypes or challenge those roles. Most prominent are Roman and Barbie—Roman taking on the role of the "crazy bitch" and Barbie representing unreasonable beauty standards for women.

Finally, I want her to marry Drake so badly it hurts. They would be perfect together and I want them to donate their babies to me.

Nicki recently went through a breakup and Drake clearly craves her companionship: "...And Nicki if you ever tryna fuck, give me the heads up so I can plan for it."



The title of Nicki Minaj's "The Pinkprint" pays homage to Jay Z's "The Blueprint."

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1. #WorldCup

The 2014 World Cup has been labelled the most talked about social media event ever, with numbers as high as 9.9 million mentions on the final game day. Single players also received outrageous amounts of Twitter mention, with Argentina's Lionel Messi topping the charts at approximately 363,000 mentions and Brazil's Neymar coming in a close second, with 316,000 mentions.

2. #WeCantBreathe

This hashtag is a variant of Eric Garner's last words, "I can't breathe." Garner was an African-American man who was fatally strangled by NYPD officer Daniel Pantaleo on July 17, 2014 for allegedly selling "loosies"—or single cigarettes from packs without tax stamps. The hashtag ignited broader conversations about police brutality and the constant threat faced by black Americans. According to Google Trends, the hashtag was tweeted more than 1.3 million times in the month of December 2014 alone.

3. #BlackLivesMatter

Originally created by Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors and Opal Tometi, this hashtag emerged as a response to the death of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin and the failure to indict his murderer, George Zimmerman. The hashtag reemerged after the death of 18-year-old Michael Brown sparked protests nationwide, but since then the trending topic has been cleared from multiple social media histories, including Tumblr.

4. #IceBucketChallenge

This hashtag went viral in July 2014. Its purpose was to promote awareness of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS, and to encourage donations for research. This hashtag gained a lot of momentum because it was usually accompanied by a video of celebrities dumping buckets of ice on themselves and then nominating others to do the same. The success of the campaign can be evinced by the 2.4 million tagged videos circulating on Facebook.

5. #BringBackOurGirls

After the abduction of 276 Nigerian girls from a boarding school in the northeastern town of Chibok last April, this global Twitter campaign gained a lot of media attention due to high-profile support from First Lady Michelle Obama and Nobel Prize winner Malala Yousafzai. Though the hashtag helped collect almost 300,000 signatures on online petitions, the campaign has faced criticism for abandoning the cause. Approximately 230 girls are still missing while the online support and media attention has died out.

10 Most Popular Hashtags of 2014/2015



6. #WhyIStayed

After the Ray Rice scandal last September, Beverly Gooden famously tweeted, "I stayed because my pastor told me God hates divorce. It didn't cross my mind that God might hate abuse, too." Gooden created the hashtag to confront the stigma women face when they stay in abusive relationships. The hashtag went viral, as women shared their lived experiences, simultaneously debunking the myths associated with domestic abuse and sexual and gender-based violence.

7. #UmbrellaRevolution

A series of student-led demonstrations unfolded in Hong Kong last October, advocating for democratic reform under Communist rule. Though these demonstrations were peaceful, authorities resorted to the use of tear gas in hopes of pacifying protesters. The "umbrella" aspect of the hashtag originates from the protesters' use of umbrellas in attempt to protect themselves from the harmful effects of the gas. The hashtag facilitated global support, with solidarity messages stretching from Berlin to San Francisco.

8. #YesAllWomen

After the infamous Isla Vista killings in May, #YesAllWomen emerged as a response to #NotAllMen, in which men attempted to distance themselves from misogyny and violence against women. The social media campaign brought women's experiences with sexism together, simultaneously holding men accountable for their participation in rape culture. Within 12 days, the hashtag reached 1.2 million tweets.

9. #TanSuit (#YesWeTan)

Last August, Twitter was buzzing about President Barack Obama's outfit choice during a press conference on foreign policy, resulting in the trending topic #TanSuit. Just last month, however, the White House retaliated, posting a picture on its Instagram account depicting yet another tan suit, with the cheeky caption "The President's suiting up for the big speech. #YesWeTan." Twitter user Dave Earley famously satirically stated, "When I saw that #YesWeTan was trending, I assumed at first it was referring to Boehner. #OrangeNotTan."

10. #AlexFromTarget

One Sunday afternoon in Frisco, Texas, a Twitter user that goes by Rims was shopping at Target when she noticed a particularly handsome cashier. She took a photo without him noticing and captioned it "YOOOOOOOOOO." The tweet went viral, and soon everyone was tweeting about their favorite employees with their own personalized hashtags. The original tweet reached approximately 1,110 retweets and 1,900 likes.

#CULTURE

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The Internet and human interaction are not mutually exclusive. Though a number of sentimental hipsters will still look back with teary eyes at a time when we all “still participated in actual conversation,” the Internet has actually elevated our access to discourse, making distance between individuals almost completely arbitrary.

Consider the hashtag. That wondrous little symbol that for decades was but a useless pound sign on the corner of our phones—and has recently turned into a worldwide phenomenon vital to Internet culture.

You likely see your friends casually using hashtags to add that finishing

touch to their selfie captions on Instagram or Twitter: #Cute, #SelfieSunday and, who could forget, #Swag. But as we interact more with hashtags, that little pound sign has evolved into a political engine.

The sweet thing about hashtags is that—after creating one on social media—it automatically becomes a link through which all other uses of that hashtag are conveniently amalgamated. This virtual collection consequently becomes an organized space of information and more focused conversation. Topics range from Taco Bell’s newest burrito to commentary on Kim Kardashian’s most recent selfie. However, there has been an emergence of hashtags specifically created in response to social issues. Their popularity proves that the hashtag allows for the voices of marginalized identities to come together and be heard.

An early example of the hashtag as a vehicle for organization that comes to mind involved comedian Stephen

Colbert and writer and activist Suey Park. After Colbert tweeted a racially-charged, allegedly satirical comment aimed at the Asian community, Park responded by initiating the “Cancel Colbert” and “Not Your Asian Sidekick” Twitter campaigns. Though Park later commented that she did not actually want the show to end, she did expect an apology. Author and activist Michelle Malkin later added, “I’m sick of liberals hiding behind assumed ‘progressiveness,’” ending her tweet with Park’s “Cancel Colbert” tag.

The feud led to a greater conversation about hashtag activism, in which many praised Park and her peers for making use of such a casual tool to start a social movement. Critics, on the other hand, were quick to call her work “slacktivism,” a term coined by radio host and political commentator Dan Carlin. The term refers to an easy, “lazy” form of activism, in which participants may retweet, reblog or repost content about social issues, and

then completely disengage, considering their work complete.

It is important to note that the very use of the word “slacker” by critics of hashtag activism produces a stigma for those who do not fit traditional definitions of an able body. The work of Park and other activists brings attention to the possibility that hashtags allow: For the first time, a larger variety of voices, bodies and opinions have space to be heard in a public sphere. Simultaneously, these varying identities use the space to find each other.

What lies at the core of social movements is engagement and cooperation, regardless of the medium through which they are achieved. The standards by which we measure “effective” or “productive” activism, then, need to be reexamined.

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“I don’t really use hashtags, but I find them funny and I think that’s how they’re supposed to be used. I understand people using hashtags to try to spread their ‘message’ or to get something trending, but I personally do not think that is the best way to spread a message or use hashtags.”

-Conner Olson, sophomore, undeclared

“I think hashtags are hilarious, but I feel like they should stay on the Internet. They can make conversations more interesting and funny, but they definitely shouldn’t be used in any serious or academic writing.”

-Juliette Hallberg, sophomore, computer science



“I don’t really use them in social media. I think people use them to be funny, but sometimes they are just annoying and they’re trying to get likes. That’s weird. I just think they pop up too often in real life.”

-Maile Symonds, sophomore, politics

“Is there #anything #irritating about this #sentence? I unfollow people who use hashtags. I hate reading a tweet with multiple hashtags in it, as though someone is talking to you with food in their mouth. Let’s keep the web a hashtag-free place.”

-Mitchell Heidenreich, sophomore, civic communications and media



Fielding ideas



BLAKE LEPIRE
STAFF WRITER

Though I felt indifferent toward both teams in this year's Super Bowl, I felt it was my duty as an American to watch. The game did not disappoint—it was a thrill ride from beginning to end.

However, when I crossed paths with an old friend shortly after and brought up the game, I was confused when they said: "I don't follow sports. There are real issues in the world and sports distract from social progress and reinforces issues that need to be addressed."

While I share the belief that we are in great need of social progression, I disagree with my friend. I don't think sports halt social change at all.

In the rules of football, there is nothing that says sexual orientation correlates with playing ability, that race should dictate position or that masculinity is the superior identity.

Rather, sports serve as a platform where these ideas play out.

But, if you believe the way to prove you are against media that seem to reinforce social issues is to avoid them, then you should also shun all television, advertisements and contact with 99.9 percent of the population, because most things are influenced by such cultural constructions.

In fact, choosing to avoid such media actually reinforces the cultural constructions they project, because the only way to promote change is to initiate a discussion. It's possible that my friend recognizes this point but doesn't see football—or sports in general—to be a significant medium worthy of analysis.

They would be wrong, again.

The 10 most watched television broadcasts in American history have all been Super Bowls.

Therefore, if football is used as a platform to facilitate discussion, it is likely that many people will take part. In fact, there have been a few incidents where this has taken place within the last year.

Since my friend chooses not to follow all things football, they missed out on an important discussion about domestic violence that was ignited by the lack of punishment professional football player Ray Rice faced after being caught in an abusive situation.

They also missed out on a debate about the health and safety of athletes, which is framed around the effects of concussions that are inevitable when your job is to bang your head on large objects at high speeds.

There is also an economic debate in the college football ranks over the exploitation of labor, which has led a group of Northwestern football players to unionize. Not to mention a discussion about the importance of integrity framed around the Patriots' deflategate scandal.

All of these topics were very relevant just within the last year, and all of them present an opportunity to positively influence the way people think in respect to change on a large scale.

Progressive ideologies and sports fanaticism should not be mutually exclusive.

In fact, sports may be one of the best media to ignite social progress and ultimately bring to light the issues that need to be addressed on a larger scale.

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Runners train for spring success



MICHAEL UNDERWOOD



MICHAEL UNDERWOOD



MICHAEL UNDERWOOD

TOP: After a record-breaking season in football, senior Dylan Jones looks to achieve personal and team success as he trains for the 100 and 200 meter races and the 4 x 100 meter relay. LEFT: Senior Daniel Swanson hopes to continue this year's cross country success as he enters his final track season. RIGHT: Junior Jacob Shafi prepares to compete in the 1500-meter race and the steeple chase as the spring approaches.

Swim narrowly loses final dual meet

JOSH CABRAL
GUEST WRITER

The Bearcats' final dual meet of the season is now in the books, after the men's and women's swim teams fell to the Wildcats at the Linfield aquatic center last Saturday.

With the completion of this event, the men's team finishes out the season with a 2-5 record in the Northwest Conference, while the women finish 1-6.

The women's team was edged out by only 20 points (112.50-92.50) on Saturday, led by the strong performance of freshman Cassie Tallman.

Tallman recorded first place finishes in the 400-yard individual medley, 100-yard backstroke and 100-yard breaststroke. Junior team captain Malia Santos captured first place in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 1:01.55. In addition, Santos contributed to a Bearcat win in the 200-yard medley relay, along with freshman Ashlyn Witherwax, junior Michaela Zuber and freshman Jamie Johnson,

where the ladies finished five seconds ahead of the Wildcats.

In addition, Santos participated in a close race in the women's 50-yard freestyle, where she tied for first with Rita Cohen of Linfield.

The two swimmers both clocked in at 25.88 seconds.

The men's team suffered a similar fate, losing in the closing minutes of the meet, with a final score of 107-98 in favor of the Wildcats.

In the final event of the meet, the 200-yard freestyle relay, freshman Mark Yuvienco started off the race with a slight lead, but was out touched at the finish by the Linfield anchor, leaving a margin of 0.20 seconds between first and second place.

Yuvienco provided clutch performances earlier in the meet, taking first in both the 100-yard butterfly and the 500-yard freestyle. In the 500-yard freestyle the Bearcats were able to secure a 1-2 finish, thanks to sophomore Shelby Merrill besting the remaining swimmers. Merrill delivered the team a first-place finish in

the 1,650-yard freestyle relay as well with a time of 17:28.81.

Bearcat teammates sophomore Alika Masei and sophomore Jason Bayang recorded times of 54.71 and 57.95 seconds, respectively, in the 100-yard backstroke, leading Willamette to another 1-2 finish.

While not walking away with a victory over Linfield, some swimmers were able to leave with new personal bests. Yuvienco set a personal season best with 53.05 seconds in the 100-yard butterfly and freshman Reuben White set a personal best time of 1:50.22 in the men's 200-yard freestyle.

With the upcoming weekend off, the Bearcats have the opportunity to prepare for the 2015 NWC Championships.

At this event, all eight men's and eight women's teams in the conference are expected to participate.

The Championships will take place Feb. 13-15 in Corvallis, OR.

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Basketball falls to conference leaders

MAX CRADDOCK
COLUMNIST

Coming off some big wins, the men's and women's basketball teams traveled to Washington last weekend to face top conference teams Whitworth and Whitman. The men fell to both teams on the weekend, putting them at 4-6 in the Northwest Conference, while the women lost both games, too, dropping their record to 1-9 in the NWC.

Despite Whitman holding a double-digit lead for most of the second half, the Bearcat men were able to come within just four points with 1:45 left in Friday's game. However, the Missionaries were able to pull away in the last two minutes to achieve a 78-70 win over Willamette.

Four Bearcats scored in the double digits, led by junior Bridger Harlington, who tacked on 18 points. Senior Kyle McNally recorded a double-double, registering 10 points and 12 rebounds.

On Saturday, Willamette's men lost to Whitworth 90-83, marking the team's second loss in two days. Despite shooting a commendable 45.5 percent from the field, the Bearcats were unable to slow down Whit-

worth's offense, as the Pirates scored 90 points on 50 percent shooting from the field.

The Pirates dominated on the glass, out-rebounding the Bearcats 39-30 and grabbing offensive rebounds on 15 of their 30 misses from the field.

Willamette trailed Whitworth 45-35 at the half, but outscored the nationally-ranked Pirates 48-45 in the second half. Unfortunately, the comeback effort fell short, despite the team converting on 20 of their 26 second half free throw attempts.

Junior Bubba Luedtke led the Bearcats in scoring with 22 points, 11 rebounds and three blocks. McNally also tacked on 11 points, shooting 5-7 from the line, while Harlington scored 19 points on 5-8 shooting from the field and 7-10 shooting from the line.

"I think we played well, but we have to be more consistent," Luedtke said of the team's performance. "We got down early, and against a team like that we have to come out with more intensity and focus. We need to become a more consistent team and get back to playing defense like we have all year."

The win brings Whitworth's record to 17-2 overall and 10-0 in the NWC, while the loss drops Willamette to

6-13 and 4-6 in the NWC. Willamette returns to action this Friday, when they travel to George Fox, before returning home Saturday to take on Puget Sound at 6 p.m.

Willamette's women also fell to Whitman on Friday evening, 71-60.

The Bearcats held a 37-31 lead at the half, but could not silence a comeback from the Missionaries, who closed the game with a 16-7 run.

Senior Katie Kalugin achieved 16 points, 10 rebounds and three steals to lead Willamette.

The Bearcats were then defeated by Whitworth the following night, 67-51.

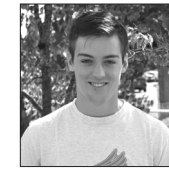
Leading the way for the Bearcats was senior Jojo DeLong—who scored 11 points on 3-6 shooting from three-point range—and Kalugin, who scored seven points and hauled in 18 rebounds.

The win brings Whitworth's first-place women to 18-1 and 9-1 in NWC play, while the loss drops the Willamette women to 6-13 and 1-9 in the NWC.

Willamette's women will also travel to George Fox Friday night at 6 p.m. and then return to Willamette this Saturday to take on Puget Sound at 4 p.m.

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Warriors shatter expectations



MAX
CRADDOCK
COLUMNIST

Before this NBA season started, there weren't a lot of indicators about who would be the top teams in the league.

The Miami dynasty had crumbled with the return of LeBron James to Cleveland. LeBron was joining forces with a team that was a mix of young stars who had yet to play a meaningful game in their professional careers and veterans well past their prime.

Indiana superstar Paul George was lost for the year with a broken tibia and fibula, leaving that team in shambles. The Western Conference seemed like a crapshoot, with the reigning champion San Antonio Spurs continuing to age and the Oklahoma City Thunder losing point guard Russell Westbrook and forward Kevin Durant for extended periods of time to start the year.

It was apparent which teams were going to take major steps back from last season, but it was hard to tell which teams would lead the way.

However, with over half of the regular season completed so far, the Golden State Warriors have established themselves as the team to beat in the NBA this year.

While most NBA pundits expected Golden State to be a playoff team, very few expected the Warriors to be contending for a title this season.

The Warriors were dispatched in seven games against the Clippers in the first round of last year's playoffs. Shortly after the season, Golden State fired its head coach, Mark Jackson.

The move befuddled people within basketball spheres, considering Jackson had coached the Warriors to the playoffs in back-to-back years and to over 50 wins for the first time since the early '90s.

The Warriors' management released a statement essentially saying that Jackson had helped the team improve but was not capable of improving the team to the point where they could win an NBA championship.

So, who did the team's management believe could improve their team to the point of being title contenders?

Former NBA sharpshooter, general manager and color commentator Steve Kerr, a man who had never coached an NBA team before this season.

I was prepared for this all to blow up in the faces of the Warriors' management—expecting the team to regress to the point of missing the playoffs—while Mark Jackson would have his career resurrected elsewhere, leading his new team on an improbable championship run that would one day be turned into an inspirational Disney movie.

However, that prediction ended up being slightly off, as the Warriors are now 37-8 and Jackson has returned to working as a color commentator, with his coaching services still not being in demand.

Bottom line: Watching this year's Warriors team makes you wonder how they weren't title contenders before now.

Point guard Stephen Curry is playing at a level that should put him in contention for the MVP award. Klay Thompson has developed into one of the league's most prolific scorers, having set the NBA record for points in a single quarter.

Even when Curry and Thompson both go cold—which is a rare occurrence—the team can turn to big man Andrew Bogut, who is producing one of the best seasons in his long career.

While much still remains in this NBA season, and we won't truly learn how great this Warriors team is before the playoffs arrive, there is no doubt now that the Warriors are legitimate title contenders.

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Dormroom workouts

CONTINUED from Page 1

1. Try a 30-day challenge. Pick one thing to do every day for 30 days, and you'll find it becomes easier as it becomes a habit. Some examples of things to do include:

- planks
- handstand push-ups
- wall sits
- mountain climbers
- jump squats
- lunge split jumps
- tricep dips on your desk chair
- burpees

2. Try a circuit. Even if you only have 15 minutes, you can pick five things from the above list and do each for a minute three times, trying to get as many reps as you can in that time period. For those who are familiar with CrossFit, these are called EMOMs (or every minute on the minute).

3. Online workouts are your new best friend. There is an endless supply of workout videos and apps that you can try until you find one that works for you.

From Pinterest dormroom workouts to YouTube and hundreds of other websites, there has to be one that you like.

New on the exercise scene is Barre3, a combo of ballet, pilates and yoga that can be done in a confined space. Their website, barre3.com, has videos of varying length and focus.

Lastly, YouTube has everything. You can access videos of Zumba workouts, an awesome channel called BeFit—which features real trainers including Jillian Michaels and Jane Fonda (so obviously entertaining)—and a great yoga channel titled Yoga with Adriene. You can basically take workout classes without leaving your room.

Even if you spend only 15 minutes a day, that's enough to provide a nice study break and de-stresser, especially during those crazy (or lazy) weeks when leaving the room just isn't a feasible option.

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KELLIE STANDISH



KELLIE STANDISH



KELLIE STANDISH

Freshman Mona Utting practices alternative ways to stay fit without leaving her Matthews dorm room.

No White House tour for Netanyahu

NATE BALK
GUEST WRITER

In March, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu while addressing congress in March about Iran and Islamic extremism. However, neither President Obama or Vice President Joe Biden have extended an invitation to him to visit the White House.

Though this may appear beneficial to many, because Netanyahu faces a daily threat from Iran and continuous tension with Israel's Arab neighbors, there is a lot of tension in Washington over the prime minister's arrival.

The day after the State of the Union address on Jan. 20, Speaker of the House John Boehner made the announcement about Netanyahu coming visit to Washington.

Speaker Boehner surely made this decision to stiff-arm President Barack Obama and to show his support for the Prime Minister. Furthermore, Boehner's invitation has come at a time when the Israeli government is gearing up for elections.

What this move does is show the Israeli people that the Republican-led Congress, which sends a significant amount of foreign aid to their country, is supporting Prime Minister Netanyahu.

Subsequently, Prime Minister Netanyahu will have the upper hand in the upcoming Israeli elections, and the speech will bolster Israelis who feel threatened by Iran into supporting the prime minister even more.

Though clearly, this would be detrimental for Israel.

Really, what Speaker Boehner's move does is allow the prime minister to show that he has attracted the attention of the United States, which has the potential to help their cause.

However, what is most perplexing about this issue is the White House's reaction. Neither President Obama nor Vice President Joe Biden extended an invitation—because Speaker Boehner apparently failed to follow protocol by not allowing President Obama to extend the invitation.

However, Obama more than likely would never invite Prime Minister Netanyahu to speak on these issues to Congress, because they do not see eye to eye on these issues.

Netanyahu has continually preached increasing sanctions on Iran for their nuclear program and has shown that he is unable to reach a compromise regarding the Palestinian crisis, furthering the divide between Israel and the Arab world.

Though this may not be a huge issue on a national level, it leads me to question if Congress or the president is really running our country.

With issues as controversial as these two are, the president and leadership in Congress need to be working together, rather than taking jabs at one another.

As seen in Paris, Gaza and throughout Syria, our world is not safe.

It would behoove leadership in government to work together rather than infuriating one another.

The State of the Union address showed this to the American people and immediately following, Speaker Boehner came out with this announcement. More importantly, I hope that both sides take this as a wake-up call to work together.

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The hypocrisy of 'never again'



Israeli Defense Force soldiers patrol the Wailing Wall in Old City Jerusalem.

JOSEPH GOOD
GUEST WRITER

On Jan. 27, the world recognized International Holocaust Remembrance Day, marking the passage of 70 years since the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp by Soviet forces.

Auschwitz and nearby Auschwitz II-Birkenau were concentration camps, where an estimated 1.1 million people—mostly Jews from across Europe, but also political opponents, prisoners of war, homosexuals and Roma—were exterminated.

To commemorate this event, world leaders, heads of state and aging survivors at-

tended a ceremony at the site in Poland, pledging "never again."

What hypocrisy.

Anti-Semitism has returned to the world with a vengeance. Hundreds of attacks against Jews have taken place in the past year alone. A kosher market was targeted in the recent Paris terrorist attack—four Jews were executed there. Last summer, a terrorist targeted the Jewish Museum in Brussels, killing another four. A synagogue, with a congregation of 200 still inside was firebombed by a mob in Paris in July.

Whatever your thoughts on Operation Protective

Edge, during which an "Iron Dome" missile battery was stationed outside my dormitory building on the University of Haifa campus, the anti-Semitic monstrosity that has reared its ugly head in the excuse of protesting the actions of the state of Israel is egregious.

We here in Israel feel the results of this anti-Semitism on an almost daily basis. Only a week and a half ago, 12 were stabbed on a public bus in Tel Aviv. In October, a terrorist rammed his car into a crowd waiting at a light rail station in Jerusalem, killing a three-month-old baby and a 22-year-old immigrant from Ecuador. The perpetra-

tors of these actions held beliefs grounded in anti-Semitic propaganda. The fact that I—or anyone who shares my heritage—cannot take a bus, train or even walk down the street without fear of harm, or even death, is a constant reminder that the lunacy promoted by Hitler's Nazi Germany still exists today.

In the aftermath of the Holocaust—referred to as the Shoah among the Jewish people—the world effectively declared war against mass murder, hence the slogan "never again." This effort has been nothing but a failure.

Around the world, we see the evidence: Ask the thousands that have died in the Central African Republic, Nigeria or Columbia. The hundreds of thousands who have died in Syria. The millions who have died in the Congo, in Afghanistan and Somalia. The countless victims around the world in the 21st century alone.

I cannot help but think that the "never again" mentality and the institutions created in its wake—the United Nations Security Council, for instance—while having good intentions, continue to serve as a stain on our collective humanity. In the wake of the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, I wonder: Would such an institution really intervene in the event of a repeat of the Shoah?

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Even sheeple need their shots



ZACK BOYDEN
COLUMNIST

If you haven't heard of the recent incident at Disneyland to look it up. The "Happiest Place On Earth" was home to something quite unhappy indeed—the resurrection of measles, a disease declared nearly eradicated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2008.

What's the cause of these recent measles cases? Scientists have pointed to the recent trend of parents refusing to vaccinate their children with the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine because of a 1998 report that the vaccine had a potential link to autism.

When placed under peer review (as is tradition in scientific research), the report held no water. For the last decade and a half, scientists have consistently found evidence to the contrary. The MMR vaccine does not cause autism, and they have also affirmed the safety of numerous other standard

vaccines that are used on children.

The report that originally made the claim was actually declared fraudulent in 2010, and the researcher behind the report was discredited.

Yet this report inspired an "anti-vaccination movement" that is likely the cause of a reduction of vaccination rates among American children. It's an ideology that is held by a lot of people who desire to give their children "all natural" lifestyles.

Here in the United States, personal choice is something we highly value. It's a tenet of individualism—a core concept in the development of the United States. But the general rule is that your choices should never interfere with other people's freedoms.

Sometimes, however, we all take it a bit too far. In fact, in this modern age we've almost taken such a laid-back attitude to people's actions that we don't even question the choices that some individuals make.

That's because in the modern world, the individual is our God. The concept

can no longer be critiqued. Even entertaining ideas of anti-individualism will merit shouts from the mob: "What, you don't think for yourself?"

The implication here is that anyone who does not worship the individual as the ultimate source of truth is too afraid to think outside the box, and is therefore less intellectually worthy than anyone who "thinks for themselves"—as if somehow this makes their opinions more relevant.

Individualism is defined as putting the self before the whole. In this case, some parents have assumed that by making sure their children are "more natural," they will have better childhoods and be happier overall in their adult lives. To some of them, this includes not vaccinating their children.

The problem with this is these parents' choices actually harm other people. When less and less children are vaccinated, we lose the benefits of what is called "herd immunity" by immu-

nologists. In the short term, an entire population does not have to be immune to a disease, just a large majority (usually around 90 to 95 percent). The disease won't be able to spread, and thus a few people who aren't vaccinated can fall through the cracks without much harm.

Without herd immunity, this vaccination gap could allow the measles virus to adapt and potentially overcome the original antibodies created by the MMR vaccine, thus making it useless and putting the entire population at risk.

Think about measles in Disneyland as a parable for rampant individualism. Personal choice is absolutely fine in many regards. But when a small group of individuals choose a path that threatens the survival of the species as a whole, we need to question our priorities and wonder whether we should be relying on the choices of mere individuals to ensure the continuation of our culture.

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Corrections:

COVER

The *Collegian* misspelled the name of a staff sports writer last issue ("Men's basketball on the rise," cover). The writer is Evan Giddings, not Gidding.

NEWS

An article on the University endowment misattributed the information given in its final paragraph. The source, who stated that the University hopes to "increase returns" by hiring a new investment firm, comes from Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration Monica Rimai, not the vice president

for advancement, Dennis Bergvall.

LIFESTYLES

A drawn illustration accompanying a music review ("Panda Bear: no longer hibernating," page 4) incorrectly spelled the name of its creator. She is Shayna Weimer, not Weimar.

FEATURE

In two places, last week's feature misspelled

the name of Willamette's English department chair. The professor's name is Frann Michel, not Fran.

The *Collegian* invites its readers to submit corrections for publication. Errors of fact found in print can be sent to <zsparlin> and will be corrected in the next edition of the paper.

Harm to farm? Zena closes doors

Willamette's Graduate School of Education. The film studies major. And now Zena Farm.

What do all these things have in common? Each provides targeted benefits to niche-interest students. And each program has been shuttered, shut down or drastically revised by the University—leaving students suddenly out to dry.

If you haven't heard, this Monday administrators ordered a halt to agricultural production and other educational activities at Zena Forest & Farm, the 305-acre property purchased by the University from Bonneville Power Administration in 2008.

The *Collegian* had the story before anyone else, including the Bearcat Bulletin. We broke the news on Sunday ("Production at Zena Farm halted," online). For the most recent developments, check this week's cover and news section for more information.

Before Monday, students used the property to grow crops, and lived and attended classes in the property's main farmhouse. But the BPA's easement, which predates Willamette's purchase of the property, may preclude dorm or classroom usage.

The University certainly seems to think so. They've retained a land-use attorney and barred students from most activities on the property, at least until the end of the summer, and possibly into the fall semester as well.

In an email to club members, Zena Farm Club co-leaders Sam Spengler

and Kyle Batsky wrote that they found the farm's closure "very troublesome."

"Not only does it counteract the work done by past generations of students and faculty to cultivate an educational space for learning about farming and our food system as a whole, it also violates the promise made to new and incoming students that they would have the opportunity to farm on this land," they said in an email.

Spengler and Batsky are right. It's unfair for the University to renege on its promises to prospective and transfer students. Whether its the shuttering of the GSE, revamped majors or Zena Farm—the University has the habit of promising the moon, then leaving students stranded on the launch pad.

Take the film studies major. As the *Collegian* reported last week, ("Director's Cut: A look inside the film studies program," pages 6-7) the retirement of Professor Ken Nolley, who founded the program and served as its main instructor, has left the major in upheaval.

Other faculty want to see its curricula revised, its class requirements amended and give the major a spiffy new name—cinema studies. But the University has issued a general hold on revisions until it completes a gargantuan review of all majors, one that leaves the current crop of film students stuck in the lurch.

On the one hand, it's hard to be-

lieve that administrators haven't done the best they could. People retire, old syllabi (not to mention professors) really do benefit from the occasional culling and, sometimes, unexpected legal issues arise. Easements and zoning violations only seem like legal niceties when you're not the one liable for an expensive lawsuit.

Still, it's unfair that students will end up footing the real cost, exacted in lost curricular and extracurricular opportunities. It's likely true that the average student doesn't regularly participate in Zena Farm Club, but when you look at the aggregate, the same could be said of any other student organization, including the *Collegian*, ASWU or the Greek system.

It's part of the double-edged sword that is Willamette's extracurricular programming. Opting to satisfy a plurality of niches, few on-campus clubs hold the interest of a majority of students. The end result is an atomized campus, where individual constituencies fend for themselves against a united administration.

It's a fine system when the drastic changes only affect somebody else. But as Zena's dispossessed student-farmers are learning, ploughshares can turn back into words.

COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

This editorial represents the composite opinion of the *Collegian* Editorial Board.

Zane Sparling • Editor-in-Chief
Elize Manoukian • Managing Editor
Maggie Boucher • Opinions Editor

Blurred lines

MARJORIE MEEKS
COLUMNIST

There are very few things in life that irritate me as much as those ridiculously cheap Native American costumes you can pick up every October in your local Spirit Halloween store. More often than not, the outfit involves taking ceremonial garb sacred to particular Native American societies and reducing it to plastic feathers and a fake axe. There is no consideration given to the cultural significance that costume may hold, however poor an imitation it may be.

Most of us understand the troublesome concept of cultural appropriation. Halloween costumes, including but obviously not limited to the unfortunate depiction of Native Americans, is a clear cut example. Many of us have even encountered this phenomenon on a personal level, either when taking offense to our own cultures being used in such a way, or perhaps even in unwittingly taking part of it ourselves.

Regardless, I suspect that I am preaching to the choir when I state that cultural appropriation is an insensitive and obnoxious practice.

What is perhaps more important to address, then, is the difference between appropriating a culture and appreciating it.

We've all heard the accusations of what does and does not classify as appropriation. Does eating sushi disrespect Japanese traditions? Is speaking a language of a culture you're not part of inconsiderate? Would it be discourteous to wear a different society's traditional garb under any circumstances?

Evidently, not every instance of cultural appropriation is as clear as plastic Native American headdresses.

In our attempts to fairly represent the uniqueness of different cultures, some of us have taken a few steps too far.

We live in a global era, with unprecedented interaction between societies worldwide. We cannot simply isolate each culture unto itself and label any inevitable overlap as appropriation. Our individual communities are simply too interconnected for that.

The line between appropriation and appreciation is undoubtedly blurred, but nevertheless, it is absolutely necessary that we recognize that it does exist.

Once we have established that crucial distinction, we must establish general guidelines to distinguish the two. Some instances may not be so easily separated. I can't provide an exhaustive checklist of what is considerate. I only offer my own contemplations.

Cultural appreciation is based upon understanding. I will not go so far to say that it demands a comprehensive knowledge (let's be honest, I hope my enjoyment of sushi isn't dependent on knowing its complete history), but at the very least, acknowledgement of its origins.

I can eat ethnic food and recognize that its uniqueness is derived from an entirely different culture than my own. I can learn a new language and appreciate that this is the first language of people far away who are having totally different lifetime experiences than I am. I can wear a different culture's traditional garb under the correct circumstances and be aware of the social significance of what I am doing.

Cultural appropriation is painful. It takes the elements that make a culture special and pares them down, only to resurrect them in a dismal counterfeit and call it by the same name.

To confuse this degradation with the act of regarding a culture—or any of its components—as beautiful or vivid or interesting is a blow to all who wish to know the world beyond themselves.

We must appreciate the world and the individual uniqueness it already presents, not the cheap, repackaged imitations they sell us on store shelves.

My Wiggles sex life



KATE PILUSO
COLUMNIST

My job at the info desk in the UC is probably one of the greatest work opportunities I have ever had... and probably will ever have.

A typical shift includes the following: sitting on my butt, looking approachable, talking with my friends as they appear, occasionally answering the phone and transferring calls, pointing out bathrooms and working on homework/perusing the Internet to my heart's content.

As I'm forced to contemplate actually joining the workforce post Willamette, I've come to understand that this job may, in fact, be perfect.

It's a fulfilling position, and I am very lucky to have it (she says with the utmost sincerity because she doesn't want her employers to think she's ungrateful about the best job she's ever had). Through my work, I've gotten exceptionally good at consistently sounding pleasant on the phone no matter how I actually feel, while simultaneously crafting fantastic tweets. If you're interested in the many misadventures of Kate's twitter, feel free to follow me @kate_was_here with the hashtag #ShamelessSelfPromotion.

In the last couple of weeks, amidst the advent of the semester, everyone spent copious amounts of time in the UC lobby socializing or buying books or picking up packages. Through the cacophony of "Hi! OMG, I've missed you so much! How was your break?!" I could just barely answer the phone to direct calls or hear myself form a coherent thought.

Since I can't take out any of my frustrations on anyone around me while working, I instead descended into a hole of bitter-Twitter observations, which consisted of me aggressively typing out 140 horrendous characters about everyone I found

annoying before deleting them all.

Among all of the UC malarkey and my internalized near-tweeted angst, I noticed the trending hashtag #DescribeYourSexLifeWithABand, which spoke to my soul. So I tweeted out the first thing that came to mind:

#DescribeYourSexLifeWithABand:
The Wiggles.

To me, this tweet is straight-up comedy gold because:

a) The literal denotation of said band name is on point when thinking about all those awkward little jiggles and wiggles that can occur during sex.

b) My sex life has predominantly involved partners who wear brightly-colored polyester turtlenecks.

c) Just imagine The Wiggles (new and old squads alike) having their very own musical Australian orgy.

A fair amount of folks have cringed/laughed at my expense but seem sincerely off-put by the comedic brilliance of my tweet when I've recounted it to them.

I understand their discomfort in the story—no one really wants to laugh at the mental image of a friend having sex in the style of and/or with The Wiggles—but I've recognized something in myself through making this joke that is incredibly valuable and that I now hold close to my heart.

I am secure enough in myself to make shitty jokes with me as the punchline.

So, yes, I'll make a terrible comparison between my vagina and The Dust Bowl. Yes, I'll willingly recount my shame spiral of rewatching far too many Disney movies and sobbing like a baby during each and every one of them. And, yes, I'll talk about how I am an expert on the dance floor at doing the fat girl robot (which is exactly like the regular robot, but with a slight jiggle).

Just remember that being the butt of a joke can actually be really validating if you're the one making it.

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MELE ANA KASTNER

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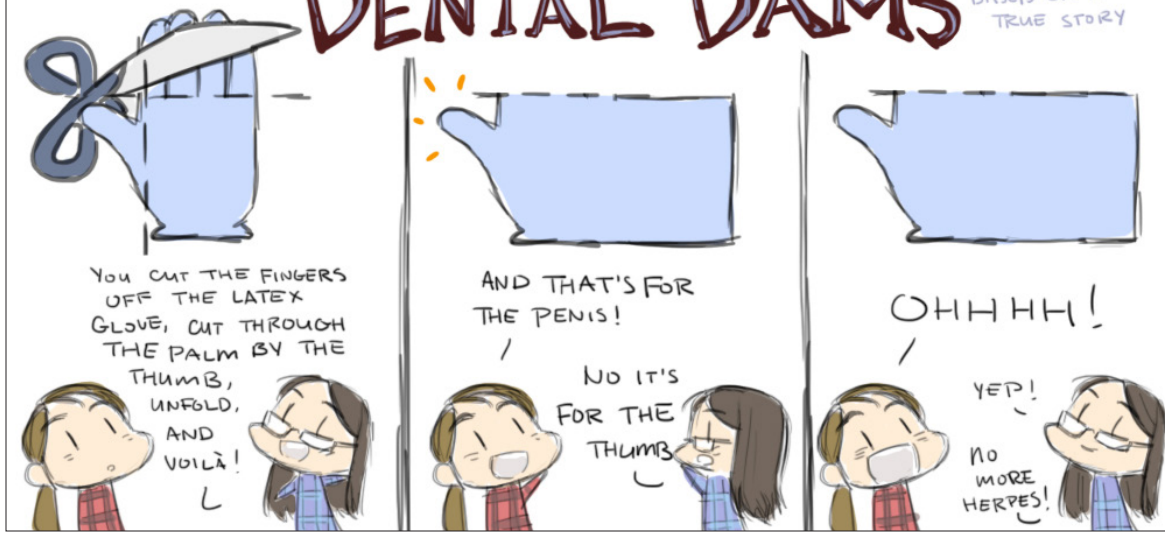
No penis necessary

NōBIS

MELE ANA KASTNER

DENTAL DAMS

BASED ON A TRUE STORY



CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

CONTINUED from Page 3

January 19, 1:30 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): A student came into the office to report that their bike had been stolen. The student reported locking it up with a U-lock, but when they returned from break, the bike and lock were missing.

January 24, 8:40 a.m. (Matthews Parking Lot): A student called to report that they observed a strange male subject stealing a bike. The student observed the man take most of the bike from the rack before putting it in their vehicle and driving away. The student

attempted to take a picture of the vehicle's license plate, which was forwarded to Campus Safety.

January 25, 1:14 a.m. (University Center): A student called to report that their bike had been stolen. The student had locked the bike to the rack outside with a U-lock. When the student returned, the lock had been pried apart and the bike had been stolen.

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

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Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,
I've been involved with Zena Farm since I transferred to Willamette three years ago from a small liberal arts school in New York City. One of the primary reasons I chose this school was because of the Zena property and its ties to sustainable agriculture. I quickly became involved out there through the Farm club, participated in the 2013 summer program and continued to work at the farm until leaving in August to study abroad.

The decision announced last week via Farm club that the University is planning on suspending food production at Zena came as a shock to me, as well as to many others who have been involved with the farm over the years. One of my main concerns—and a worry that I think many people share—is that the flimsy legal basis for this suspension will serve as leverage to ban farming indefinitely, while the University continues to advertise Zena Farm as a main component of its sustainability mission. I understand that the problem is complex, but the influence of Zena Farm extended beyond

the Farm club to the Willamette community through the food stand, its contract with Bon Appétit and, further, with its donations to the Marion-Polk Food Share. Suspending all agricultural activities at Zena seems like a Band-Aid solution to a much larger problem.

If you're interested in working to get farming re-established at Zena, please contact Farm club presidents Kyle Batisky <kbatisky> or Sam Spengler <sspengle>. I would also encourage you to call or email President Thorsett <president>, Vice President Moore <moorem> or Dean Douglass <ddouglas> with your questions or thoughts about this decision.

Tim Daly

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 <zsparin>.

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