COLLEGIAN

VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL. CXIX • ISSUE 2 • AUGUST 29, 2007

English immersion

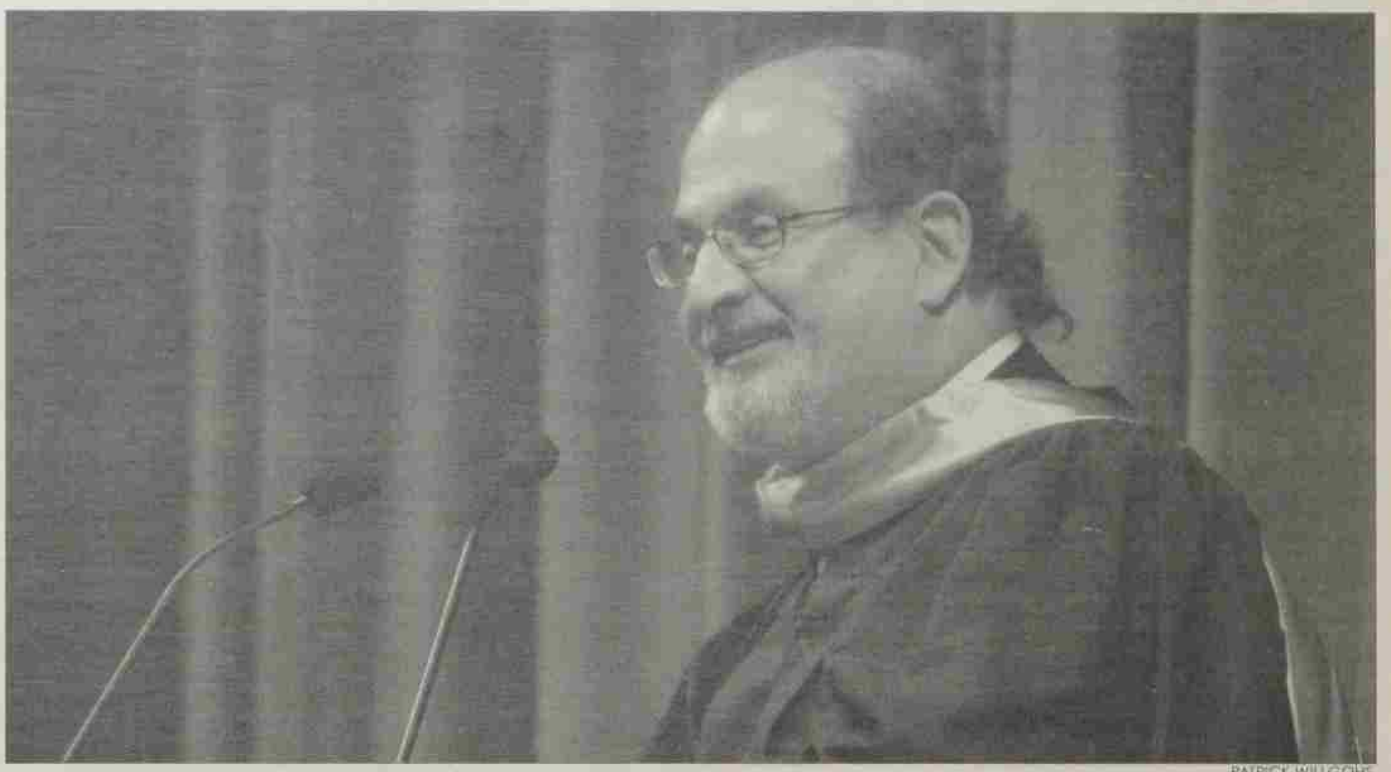
TIUA student Naoya Enomoto shares common obstacles in learning a new language and culture

ABROAD, 6

College or death: Rushdie employs a sense of humor

Controversial author focused on education outside of classrooms

EMILY STANDEN & TOM BROUNSTEIN
EDITOR IN CHIEF | NEWS EDITOR



PATRICK WILLGOHS

Salman Rushdie encourages freshmen to experience learning outside of the classroom.

This year's first convocation speaker, author Sir Salman Rushdie, surprised the audience of students and parents last Fri., Aug. 24 by ignoring the topic on which he was billed to speak, "The Art of Writing in the 21st century." Instead, he told a succession of humorous stories about his college years at Cambridge University, "the real Cambridge, in England," and casually mentioned playing croquet with famous author E.M. Forster. Rushdie's mischievous, boyish smile and easy laughter charmed his audience. Many attendees, who did not know what to expect from the controversial figure, were pleased with his approachable personality. "He put a lot of humor into his speech, but he didn't do it in a crude way," freshman Katie Hendricks said. "It was one of the best speeches I've ever heard."

On his college career, Rushdie paraphrased the president of Cambridge: "The most important things that will happen to you are not the things that will happen in the lecture hall, not the things that will happen in your supervisions. They are the things that will happen in one another's rooms, late at night, fertilizing one another." Rushdie explained that the president meant that much of college learning came from students interacting with each other to exchange thoughts and ideas. Freshman Joel Ribbens was inspired by the content of his speech. "It reinforced the idea that we're here to learn, but there's more to college than just the professors," he said.

Rushdie undermined the importance of a college degree, stating that no one had ever asked him in what subject he earned his degree. "I have to say that, as far as I'm concerned...[the degree] has been useless."

One quickly learned that such irreverence was characteristic of the British-Indian author. He deflected serious questions with a joke, especially those concerning the violent reactions to his world-renowned novel, "The Satanic Verses." His novel, published in 1988, was banned in India and South Africa and burned in Yorkshire, England because many Muslims regarded it as defamatory towards the Quran and Islam. Rushdie told the story of a writer whose characteristics parallel those of Mohammed, the oldest figure in the Islamic religion, who was sentenced to death.

The novel was inspired by a Muslim story where Muhammad was tempted to insert several verses into the Qur'an, but later rejected them, saying they had come from the devil. Rushdie's novel revealed his own dissatisfaction with fundamentalist Islamic rule. As a result, Iranian Ayatollah Khomeini issued a permanent death threat, or *fatwa*, on Rushdie, who was subsequently forced into hiding for years.

When questioned about going into hiding, he replied, "I wouldn't recommend it." He went on to say that the reaction to his novel provided him with "a close-up demonstration of how the human race behaves at its worst...and also, how it behaves at its most principled." Rushdie applauded the readers and writers, namely Steven King, who supported his novel, and claimed that those who read it as desultory towards the Islamic religion were simply misreading the novel. He insists that the novel is actually humorous and fictionalized.

> *"The most important things that will happen to you are not the things that will happen in the lecture hall, not the things that will happen in your supervisions. They are the things that will happen in one another's rooms, late at night, fertilizing one another."*
>
> SALMAN RUSHDIE

Although he claims he was not prepared for the extremity of the violent uprisings after his novel was published, he acknowledges that he knew there would be some backlash. "I've always made people mad. You also hope that you please people...in the end you write for the people who like your stuff, not for the people who don't."

The furor surrounding him was reignited earlier this year when England's Queen Elizabeth II knighted him. His visit to Willamette was secretive and he was heavily guarded by security. However, these limitations on his freedoms did not seem to bother him, as he ate at the Goudy dining hall and conversed with students and faculty.

In a post-convocation interview, Rushdie was less interested in talking about the death sentence than about himself as a writer and creator. An author for over 30 years, he said that the greatest challenge the modern writer experiences is to create a story that will transcend time because political events are transient. He suggested that the gap between the private writer and public life no longer exists. When questioned about separating the two, he replied, "It is not possible to do that. Decisions made in rooms we don't know about can shape our lives."

Rushdie said that he does not believe that reconciliation between Eastern Islam and Western democracy will ever be possible. "Radical Islam is very incompatible with American democratic thought," he said, "even Eastern democratic thought. It's a fascist political movement...you have to defeat it." He extended his argument by comparing the Islamic religion to Nazism.

His most poignant piece of advice was at the end of his speech. He said that everyone was trying to make a new home and would move around, and that this would be the first step in the journey. "Somewhere out there is Oz," Rushdie said, "but the yellow brick road starts here."

The author, who currently resides in New York, is working on a historical novel that is slated for publication in spring 2008. "The Enchantress of Florence" will tell the tale of an Indian princess who finds herself in Renaissance Italy.

Contact: estanden@willamette.edu & tbrounst@willamette.edu.

Willamette featured in news across country

WADE COLLINS
FREELANCE WRITER

This summer, Willamette received 449 media features and mentions. The stories ranged from sporting events to art exhibits to news about retired professors. Local newspapers were not the only ones to mention Willamette; larger papers such as *The New York Times* and *USA Today* did as well.

The New York Times mentioned Willamette in its article about the trend of universities forming residential colleges, allowing more interaction between professors and students.

Former Professor Robert Putnam's obituary and an article celebrating his life were featured in the *Statesman Journal*. He died of cancer July 5. During his teaching career at Willamette he was "virtually a one-man theatre department."

Due to the success of the Bike Shop here at Willamette, *Salem Monthly* featured WU student Andy Myer in its publication. The newspaper mostly honored the fact that the Bike Shop helped reduce the environmental impact that people make on the earth. Myer co-founded and now directs the Bike Shop on campus.

The Record featured three Willamette cross-country bikers from Sigma Alpha Epsilon in its national publication. The bikers were given the cover and a 10-page feature in the magazine. The bikers, Kevin Dean, Alex MacKenzie and Wes Randall, all students, made the trip to honor their fraternity brother Kalan Morinaka, who died of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Runner Nick Symmonds (class of '06), finished first in the 800 meter race at the Prefontaine Classic. This finish at the U.S.A. outdoor championships earned him a spot in the world championship meet in Osaka, Japan. Television channels, newspapers and magazines all around the country covered the race.

In June, a norovirus outbreak brought to campus by a Girls' State convention participant drew attention from the media. The conference ended early due to the amount of people that became ill. Some newspapers said that "county health workers are praising Willamette University for taking precautions."

Several newspapers in both Oregon and Washington noted the passing of Halle Ford, who gave some $14 million to the university during her lifetime. Oregon Public Broadcasting featured an interview with the director of the Halle Ford Museum of Art, which is a Ford legacy.

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COVER: All art by David Anderson.

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A look into the future

TOM BROUNSTEIN & ELISE YOUNG
NEWS EDITOR | ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The start of another year at Willamette has brought many changes to our lovely campus. We have many new faces, new classes and new books to buy with hard-earned summer savings. A new year, of course, also means changes at the *Collegian*; we plan to spice up the news section.

Our first and perhaps most useful addition to the section will be a small calendar of upcoming events at Willamette and in Salem. We figure all of you need constant reminders about what's happening in and outside of our bubble, since hundreds of posters simply aren't enough!

We will also be switching up the profile page. Not only will you get intriguing insights into the lives and minds of individuals around campus, but also articles about how Willamette stays up and running smoothly, and even a look at some of the people in the capitol.

In short, we would like to broaden your horizons of Salem. Our bubble can be difficult to penetrate and we hope that knowing what is happening in Salem, and perhaps the occasional article on how it is "doing" will help bring our communities closer together. Of course the *Collegian* is a school paper, so we will continue to report chiefly on newsworthy happenings at Willamette.

There will also be new writers and, as you have already seen, new staff. We would like to encourage you to contact either of us if you are interested in writing for the news section. We are happy to resort to bribery in the form of cookies if that is what it takes.

Of course, we are also willing to make new changes and do new things, but we need your input for it. We'd like to invite our readers to send us suggestions for articles and ways to make the news section more interesting and relevant for you. If there's something you'd like to see changed to make the paper better, we'll look into it. We may not be able to change everything you'd like, but we'll certainly try.

The news staff here is very excited about the upcoming year, and you'll start seeing some of the new influences in the next few weeks. We hope you enjoy them, we certainly will have fun putting them together.

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Res Life welcomes a fresh staff

MICHAEL MURRAY
STAFF REPORTER

Willamette students returning to campus this year will notice a lot of new faces. Of the 38 resident assistants (R.A.s), community mentors (C.M.s), house directors and university representatives (U.Reps.), only five are returning from last year. Similarly, the permanent staff of Residence Life has undergone a major change as well, as there are three new area coordinators. According to returning C.M. May Ohara, "The large number of new members to the staff will affect the campus and Res Life [sic] in a good way."

The new area coordinators were hired as replacements for Ryan Hamachek, Dave Wallace and Amanda Palmer. Associate director Bernie Liang left as well, but there is no replacement for him at this time. Terrie Tran is continuing in her position as Eastside area coordinator.

Kristen Crepezzi is replacing Palmer as the Westside area coordinator. She grew up in New Jersey and attended graduate school at the University of Vermont. Regarding her decision to come to Willamette, Crepezzi said, "Ultimately, it was the students and staff members I met that made the decision [to work at Willamette] for me."

The new area coordinator at Kaneko is Aileen Averion. She attended Miami University of Ohio and Iowa State University, both in the Midwest where she grew up. The size and West Coast location of Willamette drew her to the school. "I was specifically drawn to Willamette because of its obvious dedication to students and the close-knit feel of the campus," Averion said.

Michael Seraphin is taking on the dual role of the cornerstone and fraternities area coordinator. He grew up in Chicago and received his undergraduate degree from DePaul University. He moved to the West Coast to pursue his masters at Washington State University, where he worked with residence life. Seraphin is excited to work at a small school since he grew up in a large city and attended large universities. He said he was drawn to the position at Willamette because of the unique nature of the job. "I'm really intrigued by the position, doing both Res and Greek life," Seraphin said.

There is a shared feeling of excitement across the entire Res Life staff. Junior David Taylor is a new CM on Kaneko 3-East. "My hope is that this influx of new staff will positively alter the ways in which the campus views Residence Life," he said, "and make it easier for changes in the coming years." Res Life Intern Hannah Mitchell feels the same way. "I think it's an opportunity for Res Life to grow a lot," Mitchell said.

Contact: mpmurray@willamette.edu

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PUSHING THE LIMITS $X \to \infty$

Dartmouth grad makes math bearable –and even fun– for the right-minded

TOM BROUNSTEIN
NEWS EDITOR

There are a lot of new faces on campus this time of year. Most of the focus is on the freshmen, but there is another group excited for classes to begin–the new teachers.

Josh Laison is a new tenure track math professor who displayed all of the same energy and eagerness as a freshman. Laison viewed Willamette as "kind of a new chapter in my life now, which is exciting."

Laison grew up in Philadelphia before attending Oberlin for his undergraduate degree and Dartmouth for graduate school. His first year at Dartmouth, Laison decided that he wanted to make teaching math his career. Regarding his timing, Laison said, it "sounds a little bit late" to decide on a career, though he had a long history with it.

"When I was a kid, both of my parents were math professors," Laison said. This was one of the many things that brought him to math early. "My math courses in high school were fun." He continued to enjoy them throughout college, specifically his math teaching courses. One of his favorite parts as a teacher is that "ah-ha!" moment when a tough concept suddenly makes sense.

Laison didn't come straight to Willamette after finishing graduate school. "It turned into [a] six-year-long quest," Laison said. After having gone to a small liberal arts college, Laison decided he'd like to work at one as well, and he sent out job applications to many different colleges. His first job was at Kenyon College, where he was hired as a visiting professor. However, he was looking for a tenure track position. Consequently, a year later he went to Colorado College. After working there for four years, he went to St. Olaf College for a year before coming to Willamette and finally getting a tenure track position.

"It's weird to think we moved for the last time," Laison said of his now permanent residence in Oregon. Laison met his wife at Oberlin in 1992. Between the two of them they have moved 23 times since then. So far it seems to have worked out well. "We're really loving it here so far," Laison said. The first time Laison was in Oregon was when he interviewed for the position, and spent time visiting cities from Seattle to San Francisco after getting the job.

Explaining what drew him to a small liberal arts school, and more specifically Willamette, Laison said, "The collegiality is the main thing." He said he wanted to work at a college with small classes and strong relationships between professors and students, as well as among professors.

Laison looks forward to working with the rest of the math department. Most of the department is fairly young, which Laison sees as an opportunity to experiment and improve teaching methods and curricula. Beyond that, Willamette was recently awarded a grant to do a math research program during the summer. The addition of a new math building, and a push to lower the teaching load, made a very inviting atmosphere for a new teacher. "All this stuff going on right when I'm getting here makes it more than the standard liberal arts college," Laison said.

When Laison hears a student condemn math, saying that he or she doesn't understand it or like it, his response is "you haven't had me."

"It's easy to get disillusioned" with math, said Laison, citing bad teachers, repetitive assignments and some tough concepts among the many reasons. "Most people's response is to never take math again." However, Laison felt people who drop out of math "miss out on the creativity" in the upper levels of math. Laison feels that many early math classes miss a large part of math. "A lot of people who say 'oh, I hate math' are saying that about something that isn't math."

He compared it to a system where grammar was the only thing taught in English classes until college. Students would learn to hate English classes since grammar isn't very fun, and when they finally are given a book to read they wouldn't understand how it's an English class – they aren't doing grammar anymore. This is very similar to math classes; computations are stressed for too long and the more abstract–and fun–ideas are delayed.

While Laison is a math teacher, he has many interests outside of the field. One of the most prominent ones is an interest in board games. He has shelves full of them, and established board game clubs at the various colleges he worked at and looks forward to trying to create one at Willamette. Once Laison even organized and hosted a tournament for the game Puerto Rico.

If it's help with math, an interesting research idea or even just a quick game of Carcassonne, Laison is willing to talk. He is brimming with all the excitement and energy of a freshman, though lucky for us, he plans on staying much longer.

Contact: tbrounst@willamette.edu.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH LAISON
Math professor Josh Laison settles in a tenure position at Willamette after many moves and a six-year search.

> *"A lot of people who say 'oh, I hate math' are saying that about something that isn't math."*
>
> JOSH LAISON
> ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS

▸ selected research projects

- fixing numbers of finite groups
- unit bar k-visibility graphs
- subspace intersection graphs
- dual unfoldings of polyhedra
- seeing dots: explorations on the visibility of lattice points
- comparability invariance results for tolerance orders
- unit and proper tube orders
- fixing numbers of Kneser graphs

Source: http://faculty1.coloradocollege.edu/~jlaison

▸ history

- *St. Olaf College*, visiting assistant professor of mathematics, statistics, and computer science, 2006-2007.
-*Colorado College*, visiting assistant professor of mathematics and computer science, 2002-2006.
-*Kenyon College*, visiting assistant professor of mathematics, 2001-2002.
-*Dartmouth College*, Ph.D. in mathematics, 2001.
-*Oberlin College*, B.A. in mathematics, 1996.
-*Central High School*, Philadelphia, PA.

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Teenage boy heroes Evan (Michael Cera, *Arrested Development*) and Seth (Johna Hill, *Knocked Up*) step off a city bus in a scene from Superbad.

MOVIE REVIEW: **SUPERBAD**

Superbad: funny because it's true

TYLER THOMPSON
STAFF REPORTER

From the producers of "40-Year-Old Virgin" and "Knocked Up" comes "Superbad," a raunchy, crude, foul-mouthed, vulgar and ultimately hilarious comedy with the charm of "American Pie" and the tenacity of "Can't Hardly Wait."

The credits roll out of the way to reveal our heroes du jour: Seth, Evan and the ever-lovable Fogel (who's recently changed his name to McLovin for his fake ID). The trio of high school outcasts has been invited to a high school party for the first time ever. All thoughts are consumed by the hunt, all energy expended to find someone, anyone, to sleep with. There's a catch though. The friends have been given the task of supplying alcohol for the entire party, a promise they accidentally agree to out of nervous haste to nail down their invites.

Sheer craziness ensues as the three young men find themselves all across town, face-to-face with coke dealers, degenerate bums, mysterious felons and a pair of drunken halfwit cops (Seth Rogan and Bill Hader). Eventually the group makes it to the party, alcohol in hand, itching to get laid.

This is certainly not a family movie and is probably not a good choice for a night of romance. It's a guy's show; a movie made by men, for men, about men. All the same, embedded beneath the penis jokes and explicit sexual banter is a comedy that sheds light on fundamental truths about high school insecurity; truths that we all can relate to. It's funny because it's true, exaggerated certainly, but true. We've all felt like we couldn't get a date if our lives depended on it, like no one notices us, and the people who do think we're losers anyway. Maybe we are losers, but at the end of the night, when everyone else is hooking up or passed out, we've still got each other, and that's not all that bad. (Four out of five stars).

▸ more information
Superbad is now playing. Please consult a threatre schedual near you.

top breakfast spots

EMILY STANDEN & AMY HAGELIN
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & MANAGING EDITOR

Looking for some greasy, down-home food to cure any after-effects from a late night? Luckily for you, Salem has a wealth of breakfast diners and cafés. Instead of sticking with the restaurant every Saturday, try exploring some of the local gems.

1 **Off-Center Café**
Don't let this café's sketchy surroundings stop you from sampling its delicious food. This homey diner attracts a young crowd and in addition to typical diner fare, it boasts homemade items such as its buttery toast and banana milkshakes. Vegetarians will delight at the extensive meatless options. The kitschy décor, namely a Beatles-inspired yellow submarine decoration, adds to this café's alternative ambience.
1741 Center St Ne

2 **Sassy Onion**
A student favorite due to its close proximity to campus, the Sassy Onion is always a safe bet. Although its breakfast menu is limited, all of the food is consistently good. Their many types of French toast and breakfast burritos adds variety to the typical breakfast menu. The décor is clean and simple, and the servers are friendly.
1244 State St

3 **Busick Court**
This nearby restaurant serves breakfast with a twist. Their banana-stuffed French toast was a hit with food critic and cooking show host Rachel Ray, and their home fries are perfectly greasy. Watch out for the lines on Sat. and Sun., but the food here is definitely worth the wait.
250 Court St NE

4 **Eola Hills Winery**
If your parents are in town or you want to take your friends out for a classy treat, this local vineyard's elegant Sunday brunch is ideal. For only $30 per person, you receive unlimited trips to the buffet tables and two glasses of their specialty wines. The food is gourmet enough to justify the price (think crepes Suzette, potatoes O'Brian, made-to-order omelets, chocolate-covered strawberries and more). A fun precursor to homework day.
501 South Pacific Highway 99W Rickreall, OR 97371

RESTAURANT REVIEW: **CASCADE BAKING COMPANY**

Local sustainable bakery in WU's backyard

DANI STEVENS
STAFF REPORTER

During the whole horrible moving-in process, shifting stuff from basement to car to box to drawer, looking for the appropriate place to keep things, it came to my attention just how sad an empty pantry can be. If you need to fill yours, I have a suggestion of a local and sustainable bakery where you can get your daily bread. Cascade Baking Company is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. It is located downtown at the very end of State Street where it meets Front Street. The bread flavors are wonderful; the selection isn't what one would find at a grocery store. There is an original Salem Sourdough, made sour with a culture from local grapes, a wonderful focaccia, 100 percent whole wheat, cinnamon swirl, fresh handmade croissants, pugliese and many more daily variations. Goudy uses Cascade ciabatta rolls for the lunchtime sandwich line. If you are running late, chances are the rolls will already be gone because they taste so good.

You can feel good about buying bread at Cascade because all of the ingredients are as local as can be. Great Harvest makes tasty bread, but the ingredients are shipped from far-flung locations all over the United States and world. The owners at Cascade won't ship bread outside the local region.

Perhaps the most extraordinary feature of the bakery is its oven. Owners Stephen Perkins and Debra Edwards built the brick oven. It uses an internal gas system to heat the bricks in the morning; the residual heat throughout the day bakes the rest of the bread. This process uses 70 percent less natural gas daily than normal bread ovens. The whole structure is very similar to what one would find in small European villages today.

Visit Cascade Baking Company to test the bread for yourself. My new favorites are the fruit-filled croissants. I think you'll like them too!

▸ more info
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Abroad in America: sister school enables Japanese-American relations

COURTESY OF NAOYA ENOMOTO

Tokyo International Student Naoya Enomoto participates in a traditional Japanese festival.

NAOYA ENOMOTO
TIUA CORRESPONDENT

Hi. I'm Naoya Enomoto, a TIUA student. I am going to tell you about TIUA, and my experiences of TIUA life.

In 1989, Tokyo International University of America (TIUA) was founded as a campus of Tokyo International University (TIU). TIU is in Kawagoe which is near Tokyo, a famous traditional Japanese city. Every year, about 100 TIU students participate in the TIUA program, studying English and American culture. It starts in February and it ends in December.

In spring semester (February to May), TIUA students study English only. However, they can study some subjects using English in summer semester (May to June) and fall semester (August to December), and they can also join in some Willamette classes in fall semester. TIUA students also participate in many events at Willamette University like TaB trips and some club activities.

In spring semester, although TIUA students study just English, there are many other opportunities to touch the American culture. For example, my class went to a high school and talked with high school students who have been studying Japanese. Also, we gave a presentation about sustainability not only for TIUA students, but also for the Willamette community.

TIUA students struggled with the class since it was taught in English only, not Japanese. They did not expect how hard the class would be. Finally, they were able to get through the class. In summer and fall semesters, TIUA has many classes using English, for example, linguistics, history, anthropology and so on. Some of those subject classes cannot be taken at TIU like music, theater, volunteerism, etc. So we are excited to attend these classes.

In fall semester, we have the "Rites of Passage in Japan and the U.S." class, which is a joint class with Willamette University students. In that class, students will discuss the differences between Japan and America, especially the ceremonies of birth, marriage and death. And we have some creative classes.

In summer semester, I took a screenwriting class, and I wrote a film script. Our goal was writing a script with over 20,000 words. Although it was difficult to express what I wanted to write in English a friend of mine and I were able to write a script with over 20,000 words! In fall semester, some students will try to write a novel with 50,000 words. That will be an exciting moment for them.

While we got accustomed to the class, TIUA students were surprised at the differences between TIU (Japanese university), TIUA and Willamette University (American university) when we came here. For example, Japanese university classes are mainly lecture, but American university classes are mainly discussion or debate. So many TIUA students realized that they have to "participate" in the class positively, by giving their opinion.

> *"The most exciting point of TIUA life is making many American friends even though speaking English is hard for us. Through studying English, we can communicate with them [American students] better."*
>
> **NAOYA ENOMOTO**
> TIUA CORRESPONDENT

In addition, all students did not have an experience living on campus because Japanese universities don't have a residence for their students on campus. So we are excited about living on campus with Willamette students and meeting many friends all day long.

The most exciting point of TIUA life is making many American friends even though speaking English is hard for us. First, we are nervous about talking with Willamette students since they speak English faster than we expect. But through studying English, we can communicate with them better. Also, we are pleased that Willamette students are friendly to us. Before we came here, some TIUA students thought that Americans were a little bit stern due to some movies and TV programs. But they have realized that was misunderstanding. We are glad that TIUA students and Willamette students are getting along with each other.

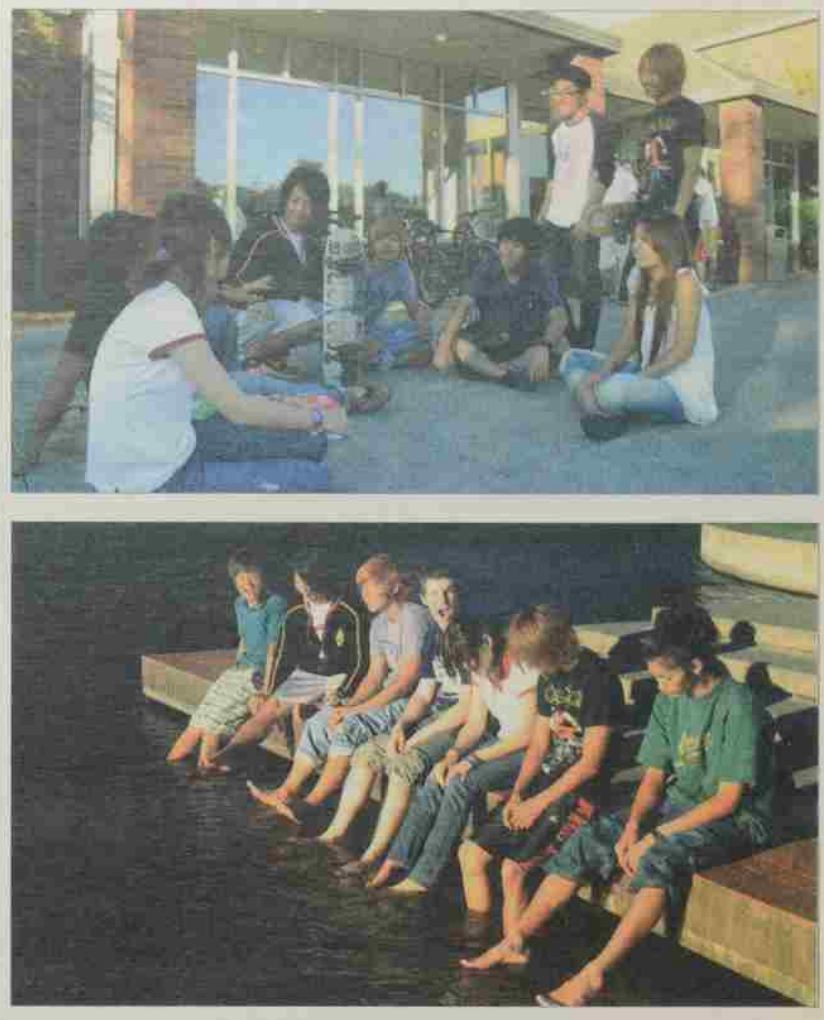
TIUA holds many events and activities. For example, TIUA holds Kaneko Day Camp every summer, and many students participate in this program as a teachers or counselors for children. They teach American children some Japanese culture like origami, calligraphy and Japanese language. TIUA students who are teachers make some handouts and teach those things using English.

Some students who are counselors take care of American children who participate in this program. I participated this summer, and I was a teacher for junior high students. I taught them traditional Japanese culture. Even though I am Japanese, I had to study traditional Japanese culture to prepare for my class. The hardest part was using English. We had to use English only during my class to teach them. That was a big challenge for TIUA students because they had not spoken English such a long time. But we had fun.

So, did you get what TIUA is? The TIUA program is a big challenge for all students because they live here using English all the time. On the other hand, it is a good opportunity to know the different cultures and make many friends. When you meet a TIUA student, please say "Hi". TIUA students are waiting for you to become your friend!

Contact: nenomoto@willamette.edu

TIUA STUDENTS AROUND CAMPUS



PHOTOS BY DAVID ANDERSON

With one semester of study behind them, the Tokyo International University of America students have become acclimated to the American culture.

CLOSER *LOOK*

CASEY CONZATTI
ABROAD EDITOR

The Obon festival is a Buddhist celebration observed in Japan to honor the deceased. It is typically held during the seventh month of the year, which depending on the calendar in use would be July or August.

During this time it is believed that the spirits of the dead return to earth to visit their relatives. This is akin to the Mexican holiday, *Dia de los Muertos*, and other festivals held around the world in honor of those who have passed away.

Japanese people observe the Obon festival by visiting the graves of their ancestors with offerings of food, and hanging lanterns in front of their residences to guide the spirits home.

The festival is also observed by performances of the *bon odori* dance. This dance is presented by dancers clad in yukata, which is a light-weight summer kimono, to the sound of taiko drummers.

At the end of Obon relatives of the deceased place floating lanterns in lakes, rivers and oceans, to guide the spirits back to their world.

Since this is an important family tradition many people return to their hometowns to celebrate together. As a result the days surrounding the Obon festival are marked by heightened automobile, train and airplane traffic. Many businesses are also closed during this time.

Sources: http://www.japan-guide.com/ http://gojapan.about.com/cs/japanesefestivals/

Contact: cconzatt@willamette.edu.

post-apartheid: still fighting segregation

Summer post-session expands university's connection with South Africa

MICHAEL MURRAY
STAFF REPORTER

"How do you do a class abroad?" Professor Leslie Dunlap asked. She found the answer this summer when she led a group of Willamette students on a post-session to South Africa. Dunlap and the 14 students, accompanied by study abroad advisor and WU alumnae Stacy West '07 and teaching assistant Beth Phillips '05, spent three weeks traveling through South Africa. Professor Andries Fourie, who emigrated from South Africa almost 20 years ago, accompanied them for a week. The post-session on social movements in South Africa was worth 1.0 credit - the same as a regular class at Willamette. In order to get the same amount of classroom time, the group had to spend six hours a day, including weekends, in class. However, class was not always held in a traditional setting.

"We would sometimes meet in hotel lobbies, in college classrooms and sometimes on the tour bus," Dunlap said. The course was not oriented around lectures. The students had an extensive reading list, with discussions held almost every day. The material often corresponded with the sites the students had visited recently.

Alumnae Mary Klann '07 decided to attend the post-session after hearing about it from Dunlap. "To be honest, I didn't really know what to expect," Klann said. "I knew that we were going to be traveling through and learning about post-apartheid South Africa, but I didn't really think much about it until we landed in Johannesburg, and I had to step back and take in my surroundings and say, 'Wow, I'm in Africa!'"

According to Dunlap, Willamette students and faculty have been interested in Africa for a long time. The idea for this post-session originated with President M. Lee Pelton and former Director of International Education Kelly Ainsworth. The university is moving towards establishing an African Studies department led by professors Amadou Fofana and Joyce Millen. Last year the school celebrated Africa day; this year it will be Africa week.

For Dunlap, one of the most inspiring moments of the trip was when Fourie arrived and took the group on a tour of his hometown, Port Elizabeth. She said that watching and listening to Fourie as he drove them past his former home and high school, which included a shooting range from the militarization of the country during apartheid, was "a unique and irreplaceable experience." Fourie left South Africa in the height of the civil war, while Nelson Mandela was still in prison. "When preparing material for students, it requires you to examine it in a more objective way," he said. "In some ways [South Africa] is very different. In some ways it is the same."

"I grew up there," Fourie said, "but I was able to have experiences with this group that I could never have had growing up because of segregation." The most powerful part of the trip for Fourie was during the home-stay with a Xhosa family. It was the closest interaction with black South Africans Fourie had had since being conscripted into the South African army and riding through villages in armored personnel carriers to enforce apartheid. "It was a transformative experience," he said.

Fourie's group's goal was to encourage the breaking down of the racial barriers of post-apartheid South Africa. Similarities can be found between the histories of South Africa and the United States. Both countries have histories of European colonization, accompanied by slavery, racial inequality and successful social movements against both. However, the two countries have arguably moved in different directions. "You see enormous wealth and heartbreaking poverty in close proximity that you don't necessarily see here," Fourie said. Dunlap described returning to posh urban hotels covered in concrete after working in a Soweto township all day with Habitat for Humanity, "When we first arrived in Johannesburg, the hotel seemed comfortable," Dunlap said, "but by the time we left, it seemed alienating, cut-off from the city."

There is a lot of positive change happening in the city. For instance, the Constitutional Court building is made of the same bricks as the prison that held political prisoners during Apartheid. This theme of rebuilding from the past is common, and many museums were designed and run by event participants, rather than academics. "History has this great democratic potential in South Africa," Dunlap said. Klann was moved by the spirit of reconciliation, especially in the Constitutional Court. "The new architecture in this building has taken on the spirit of the new democracy, and instead of a place where prisoners used to have no rights, they hold Supreme Court cases in the same space, which are open to the public," she said. "Justice is now open to everyone, instead of hidden and decided upon by a small elite."

Post-sessions are common at Willamette, according to West, and are often oriented by department, as in the case of the biology and Spanish post-sessions in Ecuador. "It takes a lot of planning," West said. With most study abroad programs, someone who is familiar with the area and culture is there on the other end to help with planning. With a post-session, the planning is done from a distance at Willamette University. Not having someone on-site can lead to complications. On this trip, one tour guide left abruptly because he thought the group had a liberal agenda.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JASMINE AZPIRI

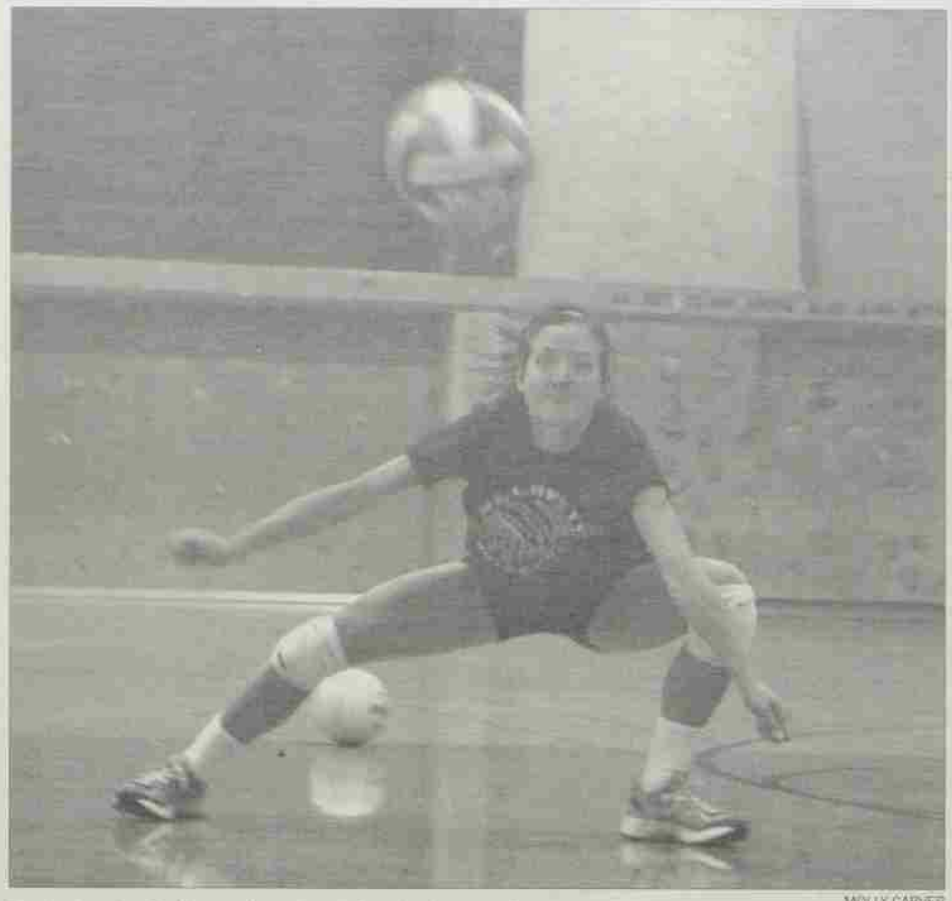
TOP • Lauren Lathrop spends downtime with her host-sisters sharing music on her iPod. ABOVE • Lathrop cooks traditional food over a fire with a local.

The experience of traveling to South Africa is one that West will never forget. During a home-stay with a Xhosa family, West and student Iman Al-Baqsami had a firsthand experience with something they had only read about. They witnessed a traditional practice in the Xhosa culture: cleaning floors with hot water and cow dung. West and the student were invited to help spread the dung. "My first thought was 'How cool! We read about this,'" West said. "My second thought was 'I don't know if I've ever stuck my hand in cow dung before.'"

West does not usually attend post-sessions, but was able to go to South Africa because Willamette recently established a relationship with Rhodes University in Grahamstown. A Willamette student will be attending Rhodes in the fall, and West hopes that a student from Rhodes will visit Willamette soon. According to West, there are plans to do another post-session in South Africa, though the details are still up in the air. Junior Lauren Lathrop, who attended the post-session said, "I would like to see this course offered as a regular post-session opportunity, but that's up to the university."

Contact: mpmurray@willamette.edu

Veteran volleyballers to bolster season potential



MOLLY CARVER
Senior Jordyn Smith pratices her defensive bumps for the upcoming volleyball season.

RACHEL JANNY
STAFF REPORTER

The self-motivation of the Bearcat volleyball team is what will be driving it to success this year. The girls never took a break in the off-season last year, working hard on their own time to up their game, following it up with impressive dedication during the summer. The girls are pushing hard due to a rough season and a young team, but seniority and hard work it looks like they will be able to reap the benefits of their labor.

"The work we put in this upcoming season has not only strengthened us physically, but has given our team much more unity and commitment," sophomore Edyth Lee-Barnes said. "We are working for each other every second we are on the court and we can feel the connectivity we have developed."

The Bearcats are determining playing time by practice performance with hopes that this new strategy will up the competition with practice scrimmages.

Even though the only additions to the team have been this year's incoming freshmen, the rest of the girls feel that last year's experience will make the difference. "With few changes to the roster, we were able to focus our players specifically and make acute adjustments for each player," Lee-Barnes said.

Starting center Brittany Ashby looks to be a strong contributor this year as well as "big hitters" Julie Stutzman and Kelley Lindstrom. Stutzman and Lindstrom are expected to score most of the points for the Bearcats.

> *"The work we put in this upcoming season has not only strengthened us physically, but has given our team much more unity and commitment."*
> **EDYTH LEE-BARNES**
> SOPHOMORE

New to the coaching staff is Assistant Coach Megan Fitzsimmons, a former player from the University of Portland. Fitzsimmons has brought to the Bearcats her knowledge and experience from coaching and playing, which can only help the ladies' potential for the upcoming season.

The Bearcats have a tournament at Willamette the weekend of Aug. 31 through Sept. 1 and will be flying to Spokane the following weekend for another tournament at Whitworth University.

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COLUMN

An athlete's kryptonite: the common cold

JORDYN SMITH
COLUMNIST

Fall is upon us, as is football, volleyball, soccer and cross-country season. As our fall athletes have been preparing for their seasons for one or two weeks already, what could be more draining than two- and three-a-day practices? Answer: having a freakin' common cold that not one medical whiz can seem to figure out on top of it.

After an exhaustive bout of exercise, natural killer cells & salivary IgA, antibodies that help fight bacteria and viruses, are reduced. Usually, recovery to pre-exercise levels occurs within 24 hours, but after high-intensity exercise, levels may remain suppressed for up to 72 hours, increasing susceptibility to bacteria.

When routinely training at intense levels, antibody decline accumulates and can persist for long periods, clearly leading to an increased risk of respiratory illness. The impact of upper respiratory illness (URTI) may cause sport performance to decline. A new study offers the following tips to help athletes avoid URTI.

1 Include mental relaxation and stress management strategies in your lifestyle.

2 Ensure you eat a quality diet, including plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables and carbohydrates so that glycogen stores are always maintained.

3 Ensure that rest and recovery are part of your training program.

4 Aim for eight hours of sleep every night.

5 Avoid touching your eyes or mouth with your hands.

6 Avoid sick people, large crowds and busy social events before and after competitions.

7 Avoid sharing food and drinking utensils with others, especially teammates.

As much as one might try to avoid getting the cold, it can be inevitable. And let's be honest, even though the cold has a wimpy reputation as far as illnesses go, we all secretly want to curl up in bed while Mom serves us chicken soup. Unfortunately for student athletes, opting out of practice is often not a choice.

It is recommended that potentially sick athletes perform a "neck check." If symptoms are located above the neck, (i.e., stuffy nose, sneezing, scratchy throat), the athlete should proceed cautiously through her practice at half speed, gradually increasing intensity.

The athlete with "below the neck" symptoms, (i.e. fever, aching muscles, hacking cough, vomiting, diarrhea) shouldn't train. Exercising during the development of an infection may worsen the illness.

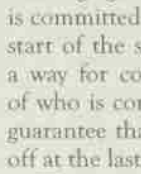
Treatment for URTI consists of rest, fluids, pain killers and over-the-counter cold remedies. Acetaminophen (Tylenol) is recommended for fever, headache and muscle pain along with lozenges, saltwater gargles or viscous lidocaine for sore throat.

Source: http://www.pponline.co.uk/

Contact: jasmith@willamette.edu

COLUMN

Division III schools need a letter of intent



JIMMY MEUEL
COLUMNIST

The beginning of the school year should be one of the most hopeful times of the year for everyone involved in sports. Everyone is convinced that this year will be the year for their school's team. Coaches are excited that their blue-chip prospect will be the guy who leads them to the Promised Land. Yet while the DI and II coaches are salivating over their recruiting classes, the DIII coaches are hoping theirs just show up on campus.

Here is the difference: if you sign a scholarship to play sports at a school, you are bound to that school's team. You can still go to a smaller school and play right away or go a different school and play a different sport, but you cannot make a lateral move without penalty.

For example, if you sign a scholarship to play football for Oregon, you cannot change your mind at the last second and play for Oregon State that same year. However, in Division III there is nothing protecting the school against a bigger school coming along and swooping up prospects at the last second. Even now, it would not be too late for one of Willamette's freshman athletes to bolt for Division I.

That is why the NCAA should create a letter of intent for Division III schools – a binding agreement stating that a student is committed to the university before the start of the school year. This would be a way for coaches to have a solid idea of who is coming to their schools and a guarantee that athletes will not be lured off at the last second by a better offer.

This system would be an improvement for coaches and student-athletes for several reasons. It would create less work for DIII coaching staffs, which are predominantly made up of volunteers, because they would not have to recruit as many players. It would benefit student-athletes because the school would know who is coming and who is not, and therefore would not over-recruit certain positions.

In bigger schools the coaches know who is coming and the players know where they stand going into the school year. In Division III, coaches must do a lot more recruiting in order to guarantee that they get at least one athlete.

Similarly, players never know where they stand in the recruiting class and could be walking into a situation where they are third-string in their own grade. If a school could administer a binding agreement, recruits would know where they stand and coaches would have peace of mind about the future of the program.

The major problem with the letter of intent is that recruits have little incentive to sign. By committing, recruits would be signing away their right to find a better offer in exchange for nothing.

Therefore, the NCAA would need to come up with some sort of reward for signing with a DIII school. It would be unrealistic to tie the letter of intent to financial aid or admissions, as this would be problematic with respect to the mission of Division III.

It would also be impossible to promise anything in the way of playing time or a roster spot as an incentive to sign because this would handcuff coaches' options in the future. But whatever the solution, it is evident that there needs to be some sort of binding agreement between schools and athletes so programs are not caught short-handed when the season rolls around.

Contact: jmeuer@willamette.edu

Coach Speckman nominated for Liberty Mutual coach of the year

MOLLY CARVER

Coach Speckman's football team will compete for the first time at Western Oregon, Sept. 1 at 6 p.m.

JIMMY MEUEL
STAFF REPORTER

Willamette University head football coach Mark Speckman will be featured this fall on ABC as part of the Liberty Mutual coach of the year program. The program will feature more than 20 coaches from around the country, including Speckman, during football games broadcasted on ABC. ABC has not decided which week they will broadcast the segment on Willamette.

Last season was the first year for the Liberty Mutual coach of the year award, which went to Greg Schiano of Rutgers, who led the Scarlet Knights to one of the best seasons in school history. This year, Liberty Mutual will recognize a winner in each division. Willamette competes in NCAA Division III. Liberty Mutual will donate $20,000 to the general scholarship fund of the winning coach's school and $100,000 to a charity of the coach's choosing.

A film crew was on hand to record the Bearcats' practice and document their contribution to the United Way Foundation's Days of Caring, where Bearcat players helped clean up Bush Park.

Next Saturday, the Bearcats begin the season at Western Oregon University. The Wolves compete in the NCAA Division II and the Greater Northwest Athletic Conference. The Wolves shut out the Bearcats' last season 42-0, also in the opening week, and defeated the Bearcats 35-0 in 2005. Willamette last beat Western in 2004, 38-21.

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Getting it done in the long run: cross country gears up

Division III champion, Sarah Zerzan, returns for senior season

ANNETTE HULBERT
SPORTS EDITOR

This year, the Willamette cross-country teams will enter the season with a legacy of success that extends beyond the Northwest Conference. For five consecutive years, the men's cross-country team has won both the Northwest Conference Championships and the West Region Championships. Their wins are reminiscent of Coach Chuck Bowles' reign, as the men's team took both conference and district titles from 1978-1982. The women's side is matched in terms of victories, with five NWC titles and four West Region Championships in a row.

Both women's and men's teams competed in the 2006 NCAA Division III National Championships in Ohio, earning 20th and 27th, respectively. The majority of the teams will return to compete again in 2007, including seniors Ian Batch and Stephen Millard, junior Josh Clough and sophomore Kyle Kotaich. Juniors Jena Winger, Maddie Coffman, Edith Polanco and senior Katrina Brett are veteran runners on the women's side.

The women's team also returns the 2006 DIII National Champion, Sarah Zerzan, for her senior season. Zerzan claimed the individual national championship with a margin of 20 seconds, as she completed the 6 km in 22:31. Expectations are raised for both high-profile teams this fall, and the Bearcats are aware of this fact.

"This year, we're coming up with our own expectations, rather than Matt [McGuirk] coming up with them," junior team member Ali Maki said. "This is so we can shape the team and follow the rules we're deciding."

The Bearcats' fall regime normally includes a weekend-long training camp, during which the team determines new goals and expectations for the year. Team bonding is another order of business, much of which takes place during long training runs. The teams also help their newest members acclimate to the intense program.

"We have 11 new guys, which is awesome," senior Millard said.

McGuirk will enter into his fourth season as the head coach of cross-country, after coaching both men's and women's track and field teams to their fifth consecutive Northwest Conference Championship. He will round out his coaching staff with recruiting coordinator/assistant coach Brett Franz and assistant coach Chris Sabato.

The team begins the season with a home meet on Sept. 15, on the Willamette Grass Course at Bush's Pasture Park, 2:30 p.m. Shortly after will be the traditional Northwest Conference Preview, held at George Fox University at 10 a.m.

> *"This year, we're coming up with our own expectations, rather than Matt [McGuirk] coming up with them. This is so we can shape the team and follow the rules we're deciding"*
>
> **ALI MAKI**
> JUNIOR

Contact: ahulbert@willamette.edu

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News Writers and Photographers wanted

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News writers, contact Tom Brounstein at <tbrounst>.
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SPORTS CALENDAR

AUG 31
Volleyball v. Warner Pacific at home, 2 p.m.
Men's Soccer v. Cal State East Bay, 7 p.m. at home
Volleyball v. UC Santa Cruz, 8 p.m.

SEP 01
Volleyball v. Eastern Oregon/Willamette University Tournament at home, 2 p.m.
Volleyball v. George Fox/Willamette University Tournament at home, 6 p.m.
Football at Western Oregon University, 6 p.m.

SEP 02
Men's Soccer v. UC Santa Cruz at home, 12 p.m.

Noah's Ark-ticle

NOAH ZAVES
OPINIONS EDITOR

A few days ago, I was sitting in the *Collegian* office listening to our editor-in-chief and managing editor discuss potential times for their office hours. This got me thinking: could I have office hours of my own? I've often thought it would be fun. What organizations could I include in my office hours?

And then reality hit me like an Amtrak train: I'm far too busy to hold office hours. Between my classes for two majors, my numerous performing ensembles and all the fun little projects I do on the side, I already face a serious lack of time. But at that moment, the thunderbolt of inspiration struck. (Really it was the lightning bolt of inspiration that struck, and the thunderbolt was merely an aural manifestation of the strike, but that's not nearly as poetic...)

While I don't have the time for actual *Collegian* office hours, I could hold "office hours" in my room, perhaps on a daily basis. Presto!

This would allow me to include the numerous organizations with which I'm involved, and accomplish a variety of tasks when nobody shows up. I have, of course, the additional advantage of exciting music and a gorgeous view (you just can't match a moon-lit Golden Man over Montag Center).

Furthermore, I can show off my awesome room to everyone who wants to talk. In my third year, I remain proud of my decorating abilities, and excited to share my accomplishments with the world. (On a side note, if your room needs decoration, I'm your guy. Call me.)

My challenge remains that college students keep busy schedules. Anyone who has ever tried to organize a meeting for more than five people knows that it's nearly impossible to line up that many schedules. But I propose a fail-safe solution.

It is with great pleasure (and in front of an audience of thousands) that I unveil Noah Zaves' first-ever multi-organizational office hours: 3 a.m. to 5 a.m. Mon.-Fri., Matthews 318 (4 a.m. – 6 a.m. on weekends). I'm pretty sure I'll be there, and not too many people have prior commitments. So I look forward to welcoming each of you, even faculty and staff, to my office hours. And I was serious about the decorating – call me.

Contact: nzaves@willamette.edu

▸ Noah Zaves' office hours
3 a.m. to 5 a.m. Monday through Friday.
4 a.m. to 6 a.m. on weekends.
Location: Matthews 318
Please call in advance to confirm.

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

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Noah Zaves • OPINIONS EDITOR

EDITORIAL

This is your voice. Make it real. Contribute.

Dear Greater Willamette Community,

This is your voice.

Help us make it real.

Please allow us to introduce ourselves. We are the *Collegian* Editorial Board, a group of people which represents as much of Willamette's diversity as we can fit in a room. Each week we pick a new issue to write about, with the intention of presenting new perspectives for your consideration.

The foundation of higher education is the confluence of conflicting ideas. To that end, we strive to enhance your academic growth by presenting not only popular or "politically correct" ideas, but as many (and as varied) as we can find. If Joe Freshman, an Editorial Board member, wants to defend the virtues of an all-Caucasian dorm, he's welcome to, as long as he can provide a sound factual basis for his assertions. We don't necessarily agree with everything we print, but we're committed to providing as wide a viewpoint spectrum as possible, for that is the *raison d'être* of an Editorial Board.

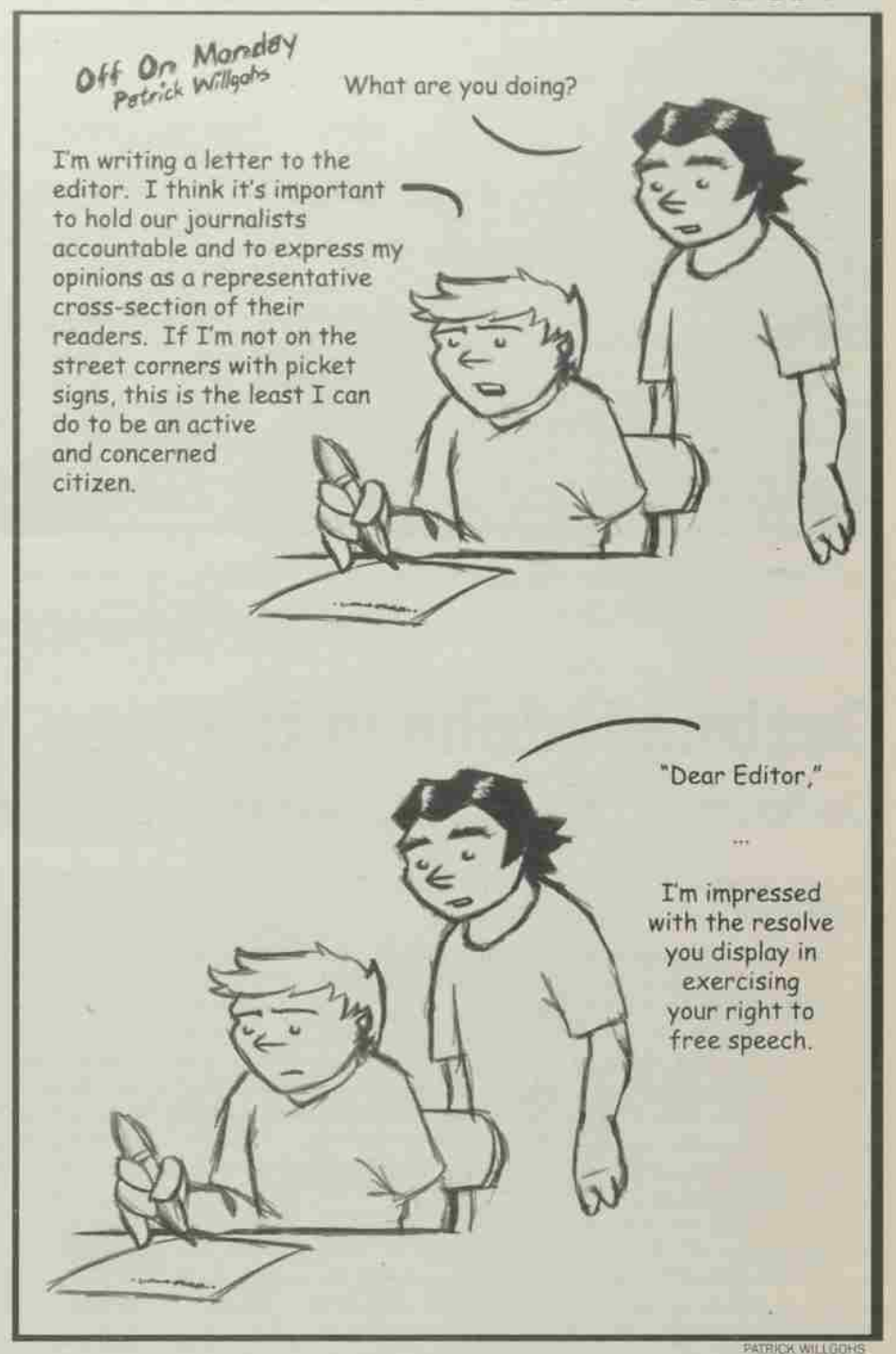
Having invited all Willamette students to contribute, either by writing Op/Eds or by joining the Editorial Board, we now wish to extend this opportunity to Willamette's faculty and staff. As members of the Willamette Community, we value the unique perspective you have attained on the "other side" of education. Please be prepared - we will call on you to write. Note that we don't intend this interaction to be adversarial, but solely to add a new viewpoint to our list, providing an ever more diversified collection of ideas.

This is our call, and this is your obligation, Willamette. Join the Editorial Board, or submit Op/Ed pieces for issues you care about. Don't let it be "those crazy editorial board members wrote something." Make it "we wrote something cool, and challenged the entire campus." Because if you change even one opinion, then the venture was worthwhile. And if you challenge even one person to broaden their perspective, the entire world will feel the effects.

With love, diverse opinions and journalistic passion,

The Collegian Editorial Board

▸ more information
to join the Collegian Editorial Board, submit an Op/Ed piece or write a letter to the editor, contact Opinions Editor Noah Zaves at <nzaves>.



PATRICK WILLGOHS

Freshmen disorientation part II: The stuff I didn't remember the first time around (but have since remembered)

TOM ACKERMAN
COLUMNIST

Your (somewhat) friendly upperclassman mentor is here with more nuggets of wisdom for you freshmen to take to heart.

Get a Facebook

If you aren't on Facebook, you will be left out of *everything*, without exception. Your peers won't even really believe you exist until they can find you on the internet.

Lausanne is haunted by ghost hookers

Lausanne was a brothel during the '40s, and some people died or something. The main thing that you need to know is that it's haunted.

Lock your door

This will prevent theft, but mainly it will keep even the large and intelligent rats out of your room (for a while).

Red sky in morning, students take warning

This one is pretty self-explanatory.

Rhymes are helpful

I just decided.

Go to your RA with all of your problems

Your RA will start avoiding you in no time.

Windows are not meant to be broken

I know some of you probably came to college just for the chance to break some windows, but I'm here to tell you, that's not how we do things around here.

Uhhh brush your teeth?

Crap, I'm really running out of wisdom nuggets here.

Don't brush your teeth while driving

Seriously, the other day I saw this chick brushing her teeth while driving. That can't be safe. It was on a Sunday, but I guess she must have been late for *something*. Then just 15 minutes later I saw this other lady with an Egg McMuffin in one hand, and a hash brown in the other, *driving with her palms*. Did she have to be holding *both at once*! I mean really, the only way this could have been worse was if she'd been wearing a beer hat full of McDonald's coffee and had fries strewn across the dashboard for easy access.

The sky bridge is dangerous in the winter

This one isn't even funny. Sometimes the bridge gets icy and it is scary. I have a friend whose bike went out of control on the way down the bridge. Luckily, by colliding with pedestrians he was able to slow down. He surely would have perished if not for his quick thinking.

Spontaneous road trips to Alaska are not a good idea

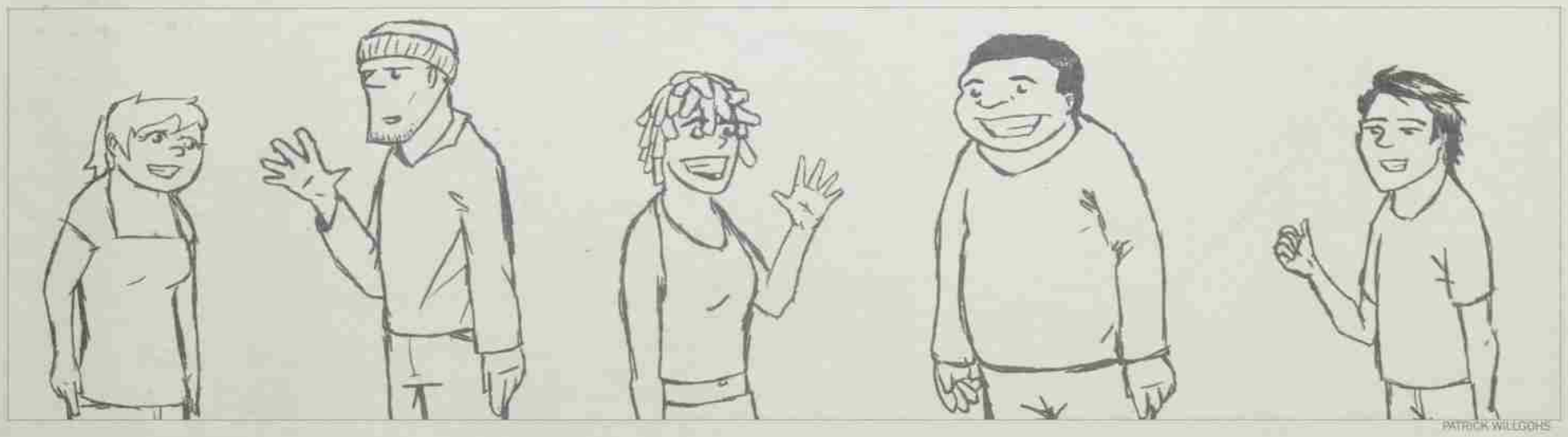
You will get lost. You will have your food stolen by bears. You will get frostbite. And you will not "find yourself." Just say "no" to spontaneous road trips to Alaska.

And finally:

Get your shit together

Seriously, you're in college now. C'mon people.

Contact: tackerma@willamette.edu



PATRICK WILLGOHS

Sexual assault as an issue of gender

ELLIE HOLT
GUEST WRITER

The biggest risk factor for having a sexual assault perpetrated against you is your gender. Women are sexually assaulted at a much higher rate than men. That is not to say men are never victims; they deserve support and validation as well. However, our community needs to recognize that the crime of sexual assault happens more often to women, and we must ask what in our society establishes this tendency and how it is perpetuated.

First, let's establish that sexual assault is not sex "gone wrong" or a miscommunication between partners. The perpetrator chooses his victim and makes her vulnerable and accessible to his attack. He does this by befriending her and her friends, eliminating contact barriers so she is not wary of his touch and possibly using drugs and alcohol to reduce her judgment. Also, the perpetrator works to undermine her credibility, especially in relation to his. He does this by taking leadership positions and being that guy that everybody loves and trusts. He could start joking about her promiscuity or refer to her drunkenness so as to keep her from telling friends and to make others question her credibility should she disclose information.

Sexual assault is not really about the sex or sexual contact. The perpetrator enjoys the process of sexual assault more than the sex. That is because sexual assault is about the perpetrator maintaining power and control over the victim. From the description of the process above, it is clear that he warps her world into one in which he can do to her what he wants and never be held accountable for his sexual offense. Not being held accountable is part of the perpetrator's game as well; he likes to see how much he can get away with.

Perpetrators choose to sexually assault women because of their gender. Our society makes women more vulnerable to sexual violence and limits their credibility through its expectations of our sexuality and normalization of sexual violence against us. The media helps establish both. Advertisements show women in vulnerable or submissive positions. Models often look frail and many times are contorted or tied in bondage. Not only do these media outlets establish what is "sexy" and what women should strive to be like, but they make violence against women commonplace. This only further normalizes the sexual violence of perpetrators against women.

Any crime in which the perpetrator targets the victim because of his or her membership in a certain social group is a hate crime. Sexual violation is a crime; it is perpetrated against victims that identify as women and yet our society does not recognize this type of offense as a hate crime. It is time that we stop treating sexual assault as if it is sex gone wrong, and start examining the tendencies within our society that allow it to continue and hold the perpetrators accountable for their crimes against others.

Contact: eholt@willamette.edu

▸ contact information
Weekend Crisis # (503) 851-4245
Walk-in hours in the Women's Resource Center (3rd floor UC) on Tues and Wed, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The WUMAV perspective: Stand up

CLIFF LEEK
GUEST WRITER

Young men are flooded with media images of violence, toughness, insensitivity, dominance, sexism and homophobia as standards of acceptable masculinity. We are told that to be truly accepted as men in our society we must conform to very strict gender norms and hold others accountable to those norms as well. Children learn that masculinity is defined by physical prowess and bullying while we label men who differ from this definition of masculinity with derogatory epithets that challenge their sexuality or gender identity. This name-calling serves no other purpose than to reinforce masculinity as dominating and violent.

Those same labels are applied to those men who choose to break what anti-violence educator Jackson Katz refers to as "the masculine code of silence." When men are in groups, they commonly objectify, degrade and dehumanize women. It is this code of silence that keeps the majority of nonviolent men silent while sexist and homophobic comments are being made.

Men are constantly reminded through physical and verbal abuse that we will not be considered "real men" if we stand up to homophobic and sexist behavior. Being disrespectful to women as well as to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) community has been reinforced as masculine behavior, and remaining silent while other men perpetrate disrespectful or violent acts has become deeply ingrained into our psyches as men.

Today, I would like to offer up an alternative to men on our campus who are tired of being silent and who are fed up with hearing about and witnessing verbal and physical abuse in our community. The alternative is to join a growing community of men who have chosen not to accept the societal norm of men as violent or dominant. A growing number of men on our campus are standing up to this malformed media version of masculinity and have chosen to reclaim and redefine masculinity for ourselves. Masculinity does not have to imply violence, disrespect and dominance. I think it is about time men stand up to say we will no longer accept the current definition of manhood.

I am asking the men on this campus to speak out against dominating and abusive language and behavior. Stand up when the word "gay" is used as an insult. Stand up when men who are not physically powerful are accused of being less than masculine. Every one of us who stands up to reclaim masculinity makes it exponentially easier for men after us. Join the movement by standing up in your day-to-day life and if you want support, are interested in learning more and want to join a community of men who are standing up with you, then you should consider joining the Willamette University Men Against Violence (WUMAV). Our first meeting will be held on the third floor of the UC on Wed, Sept. 5. All are encouraged and welcome to attend in the hopes of nurturing a more united and safe community.

Contact: cleek@willamette.edu

Ask me anything: Student-to-student advice

JADE OLSON
COLUMNIST

Dear Jade,

I just have one question: when will my overprotective parents leave me alone? They are driving me crazy. I know they mean well, but they are so lame. What should I do?

Smothered Freshman

Dear Smothered,

When it comes to college, a lot of parents have a very difficult time letting go. Their child is suddenly living a largely autonomous life, no longer dependent on them in many ways. They may feel as though they're no longer needed, an unsettling experience that can prompt them to react by worrying and fussing.

There's a lot of good news here, the first and foremost of which is that they will, eventually, calm down and let you live your life without calling you every 10 minutes to make sure you're still alive. Going off to college (or, for that matter, returning to college) is a transition period, and a tough one for many people. The most important thing to remember here is that this is not easy for them, and it will serve your family well in the long term if you are as patient as possible and if you try to make compromises. For example, instead of every night, call them every other night for a while, then maybe twice a week and so on. In time, they will calm down and back off.

Please keep in mind a very important fact which you've already stated: "they mean well." It's true! The reason that they're driving you up the wall is that they love you and are concerned for your welfare. When you get frustrated, just take a moment and imagine how you would feel if your problem were reversed and your parents didn't care enough to ever call you. When you picture that scenario, you'll likely realize that your problem truly is a blessing in disguise—albeit a horribly annoying one.

Contact: jolson@willamette.edu

WE KNOW YOU HAVE AN OPINION...
SHARE IT WITH THE WHOLE CAMPUS

If you are interested in being a guest writer for the Collegian, contact Opinions Editor Noah Zaves at nzaves@willamette.edu.

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

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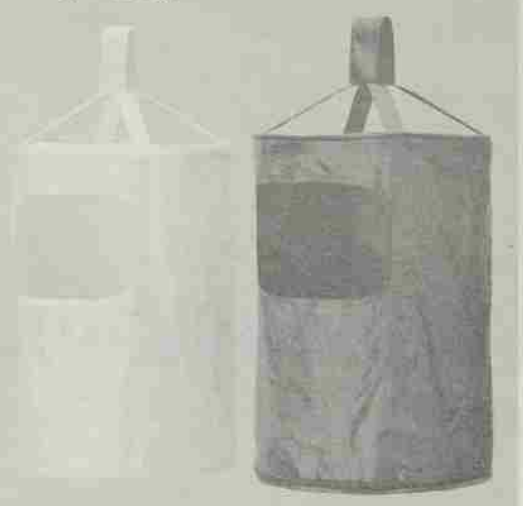

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