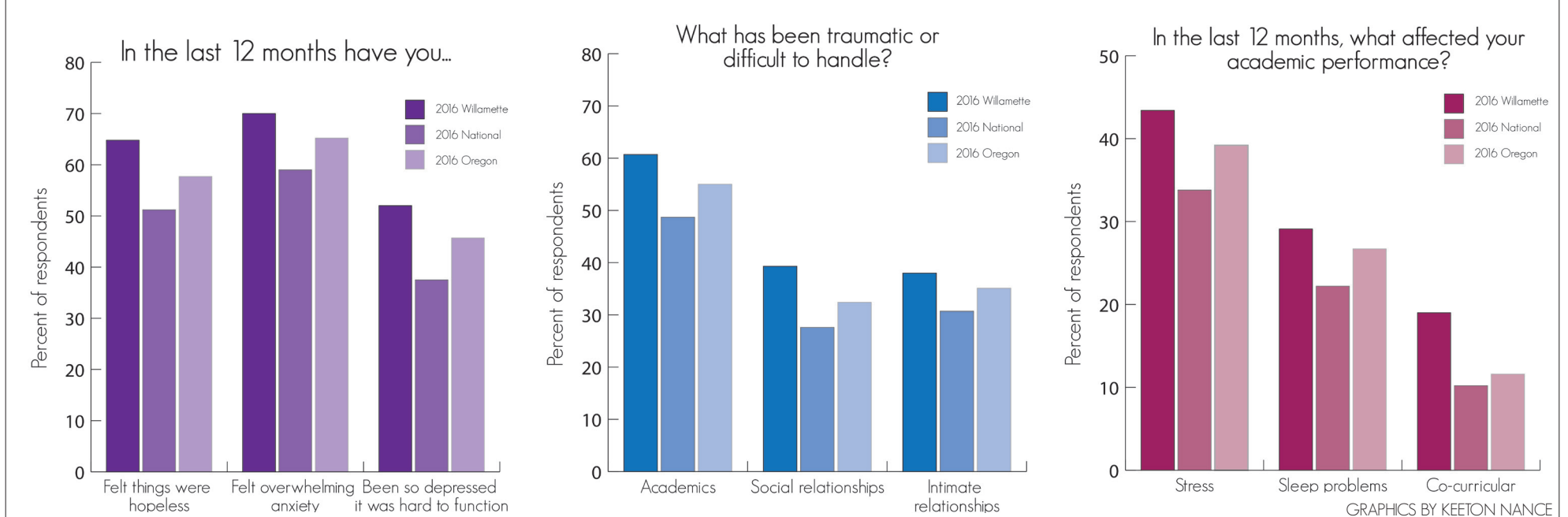


Board of Trustees delays budget decision, discusses mental health

Spring 2016 National College Health Assessment Results



KEETON NANCE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After three days of meetings and presentations, the Board of Trustees elected to delay their decision on next year's budget until their May meeting before Commencement.

The decision was made at the end of the most recent Board meetings, which were held between Feb. 23 and 25. The Board justified their decision primarily on the grounds that there is not yet firm enrollment data for the next academic year.

In May, following the University's Bearcat Day events, it is likely that

enrollment numbers will be relatively predictable, allowing the Board to more accurately predict next year's revenue and compare it to the budget proposal.

The three-day meetings also centered around housing at Willamette as well as mental health statistics from 2016, which were used to facilitate an ongoing conversation with the Board about how Bishop Health Center is addressing mental health issues.

In a presentation by Director of Housing and Community Life Scott Etherton, the Board was informed of a number of changes to residence life set to take effect next year, including

the creation of a First-Year Commons in Eastside.

Rather than housing first-year students in dorms across campus, Housing and Community Life (HCL) plans to put all first-years exclusively in the Eastside residence halls, where they will have a more involved staff of resident advisors and faculty. The Commons will also be supported by a specific committee, which will be composed of students leaders, faculty, colloquium advisors and residential administrators.

The primary goal of this housing shift is to help new students acclimate to the University through spe-

cific programming that will help students explore their majors and create stronger ties to faculty. The commons will also provide more opportunities for social connection during the first six weeks of school.

With these specific programs in place, HCL hopes to ease the college transition for first-year students so that they may achieve better grades and feel more connected to the University.

The presentation also included HCL's commitment to supporting Greek life. Citing a 2001 report to the Board, the presentation suggested that more could be done to support

Greek organizations from a housing standpoint. Based on the report, the presentation announced plans to expand sorority row by moving Alpha Phi into WISH over the summer and to develop a fraternity housing model within two years.

Following the success of the remodels of Baxter and Doney last summer, Etherton also discussed further renovation plans with the Board. Over the summer, Lee and York will be remodeled to improve the sophomore residential experience.

See ONGOING Page 2

The Montag mashup



Sophomore Henry Coba of Percy Lounge plays keyboard during the band's set on Friday night.

PAIGE MORRISEY
STAFF WRITER

It was an iconic evening on Friday, March 3, in the Montag Den, as the trifecta of Willamette bands: Doggy Dog World, Percy Lounge and the Funk Band, gathered to perform amongst a community of funk-loving college students. Their performance amassed quite a crowd in such a small space because of their known

infectious, energetic stage presence as well as their musical prowess.

Doggy Dog World, comprised of Devon O'Donnell, Ira Rubio, Jake Henry Glazer and Dru Blossom opened the show with a bang. Bathed in blue light donning a leopard print dress, lead singer Devon O'Donnell dedicated one of the band's songs to "anyone who once had \$10, but now does not have \$10."

The crowd in Montag Den erupted in solidarity, as they paid tribute to their empty pockets and bank accounts. Goofballs on and off stage, the band members of Doggy Dog World have a unique talent of engaging the crowd as if in conversation with them. Their performance is simultaneously grandiose and theatrical, as well as intimate and personal.

See MONTAG Page 5

Baseball moves up to first in the NWC

JARED SPOHR
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend the baseball gods were on Willamette's side. In a three-game conference series spanning Saturday and Sunday, the boys completed a three game sweep of the Whitworth Pirates. Outstanding pitching performances coupled with clutch at bats propelled the Bearcats to victory and to first place in the NWC standings.

The first game started with a bang as junior Troy Conway smacked a double to right field. Sophomore Kyle Paguio moved him over to third base with a sacrifice bunt, which set the table for junior Mason Fessler, who knocked him in with a sacrifice fly to right field. Jumping onto the Pirates early was the Bearcats' key to success, as they continued their momentum in the second inning with a two RBI-single by Fessler followed by a junior Jack Brett double that scored two more. The Bearcats would continue their momentum again with a two-RBI hit by Paguio in the third. All the while, starting pitcher, sophomore Matt Steindorf, was dominant as ever. After limiting the Pirates to one hit in the third and one hit in the fourth, Steindorf proceeded to retire 14 straight batters.

"It was one of those days that everything was working. I felt like I had total control of the strike zone and

confidence that our defense behind me was going to back me up," Steindorf said.

Steindorf's outstanding performance earned him conference-wide recognition, being named Pitcher Student-Athlete of the Week.

"It is an honor to be selected but I couldn't have done it without the offensive support. Also, I have to keep building off this and continue to improve because the season isn't over yet. This sweep is just the first step to completing our team's goal of winning the conference championship."

After taking the first game of the series, the Bearcats weren't finished. The boys took home an amazing comeback victory in game two that started with sophomore Connor Bailey hitting a ball up the middle for a leadoff double. Fessler then drew a walk, bringing up sophomore Cole Pursell, who came through with a single to load the bases. Up next was junior Eric del Prado, who extended the rally by slapping a single, scoring two and narrowing Whitworth's lead down to five runs. The Bearcats didn't take their foot off the gas pedal. The remainder of the eighth inning saw multiple RBI's, featuring hits by junior Cameron Igarashi, Joey Faudskar and Troy Conway.

See BASEBALL Page 8

Ongoing campus mental health discussions

CONTINUED from Page 1

The Board was also informed of the results of Willamette's 2016 National College Health Assessment (NCHA) that were specifically related to the mental health of the student body. Don Thompson, director of Bishop Wellness Center, was invited to the Board meetings to share the mental health statistics.

The assessment queried only undergraduate students last spring and produced a number of concerning results. Of the 461 respondents, within their past 12 months, 52 percent reported feeling so depressed that they couldn't function, 93 percent reported feeling overwhelmed by all they had to do and 64.8 percent felt that things were hopeless. A majority of these feelings were likely attributed to classes, as 60.7 percent felt that their academics were traumatic or difficult to handle.

While the NCHA results revealed a number of concerning mental health trends on campus, Thompson feels optimistic about the Board's commitment to mental health and the University's response to the findings.

"We're talking about [these issues] at all levels of the University, and that is a positive thing... we're talking about this and it's a sustained conversation, and I'm just so grateful for that," Thompson said.

He also described a number of changes Bishop has made over the last year to address the increased need for mental health care. The most notable of these changes are the addition of a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner and the creation of WUTalk, a 24-hour hotline that offers immediate consultations with licensed professionals that was started in January 2016. The hotline was created in response to past mental health statistics which suggested that students needed the ability to access care at all times.

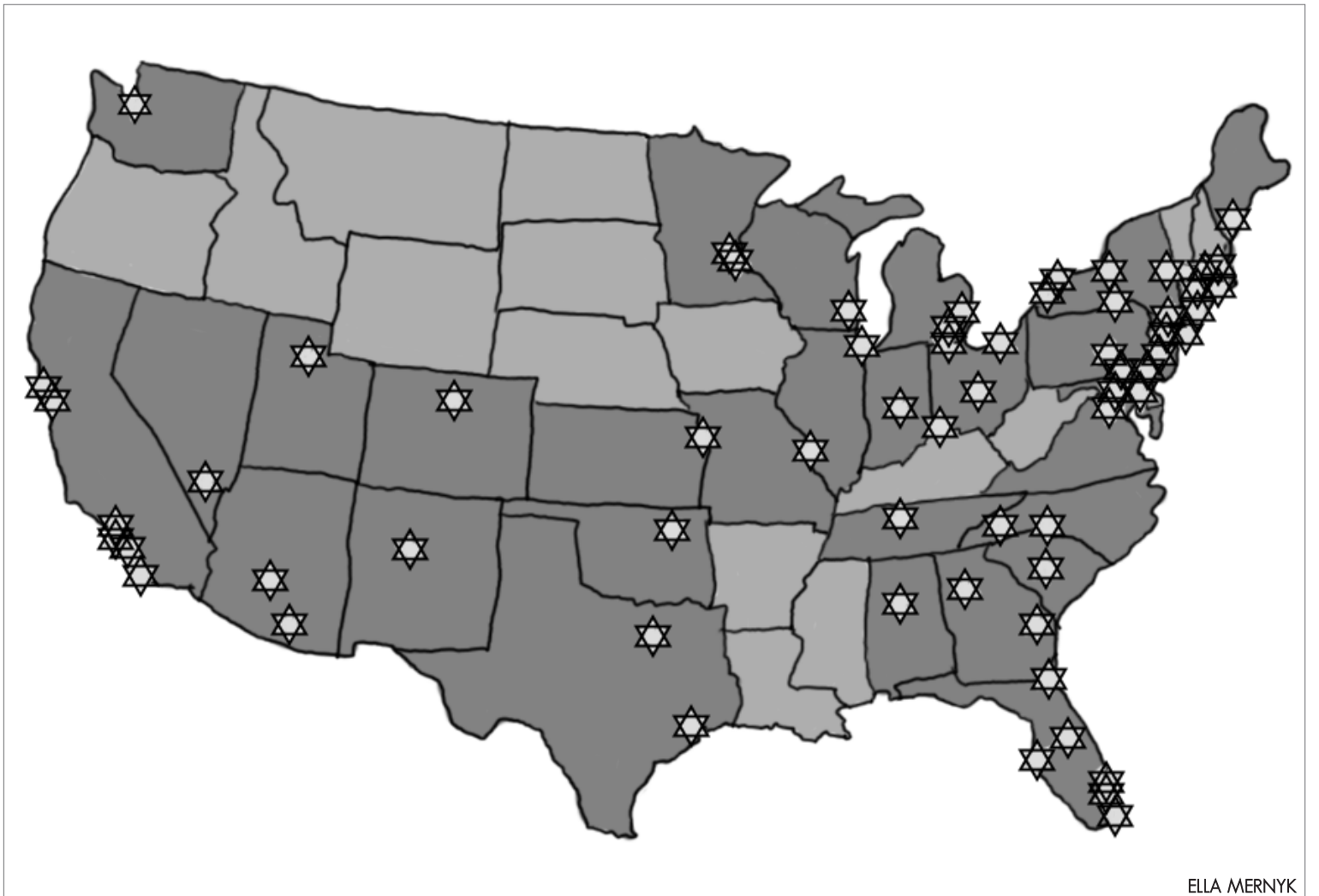
"[WUTalk] is the biggest tangible relief that both my staff have felt and the students have felt. They can call somebody day or night, it's free, it's confidential and it's with trained professionals," Thompson said.

The Board's commitment to improving mental health on campus, along with the University budget, will likely be covered further in May's meetings. Although the meetings will occur during Commencement weekend, a celebration of the accomplishments of the graduating class, the results of these meetings will create lasting effects for future classes.

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A steep rise in anti-semitism

Over 50 bomb threats to Jewish Community Centers this year



ELLA MERNYK

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STAFF WRITER

Amongst the rise in hate crimes in the United States has been a rise in anti-Semitism. Jewish centers have been receiving bomb threats and a Jewish cemetery was desecrated last week.

People waited for President Trump's response, which many felt came out late and lackluster.

"The anti-Semitic threats targeting our Jewish community and community centers are horrible and are painful and a very sad reminder of the work that must still be done to root out hate and prejudice and evil," Trump said.

The White House excluded Jews from mention in their statement on Holocaust Remembrance Day. Before the statement above, Trump was asked in a conference last week about the rise of anti-Semitic acts in the

United States. He told the reporter to sit down and refused to answer the question, calling it insulting.

"Given how quick Trump is to denounce many things, and how much of the new American anti-Semitism comes from his supporters, his one denunciation doesn't count as permanent," wrote David Leonhardt for The New York Times. "He, more than anyone else, has the responsibility to make everyday religious bigotry again feel like a part of the country's past."

The bomb threats last week were called in for schools and Jewish Community centers in Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia. All of them turned out to be hoaxes, forcing the police and news crews to enter these spaces.

"My instincts tell me this is all part of a coordinated effort," said an Ann Arbor police detective.

The Ann Arbor Jewish Community Center has had at least two recent bomb threats.

In St. Louis, on Feb. 18 and 19, more than 170 gravestones were destroyed in the Chesed Shel Emeth Jewish cemetery. Only a week later, 100 gravestones were destroyed in Philadelphia in the Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

"[The vandalism is] a hateful act, an attempt to create fear and to tarnish the memory of those who have died and attack their dignity," a Philadelphia rabbi said.

After all this, on March 3, Juan Thompson was arrested in St. Louis for making some of the bomb threats mentioned earlier. He is not believed to be responsible for most threats, nor is it clear that he was working with the other callers. He made calls against Jewish schools and centers in New York, San Diego, Dallas and Farmington Hills.

FBI Director James B. Comey recently met with Jewish community leaders to describe the increase in threats. He said that the investigation was a "top priority."

Thompson's arrest is on both federal and state charges within New York. A federal judge ordered him held without bail with an eventual detention hearing. He is being represented by a federal public defender.

Thompson was a reporter for two years at The Intercept before leaving in January 2016. A year later he started making the threats. His first was against a Manhattan Jewish history museum on Jan. 28.

The investigation for the source of the other threats and desecration is ongoing.

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CAMPUS SAFETY

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

March 5, 2:55 p.m. (Softball Parking Lot): While on patrol, an officer found that the fence against the train tracks on the Westside of the softball field had been cut. Facilities was contacted and asked to secure the fence.

March 6, 9:40 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): While on patrol, officers noticed that some ceiling tiles had been damaged and were lying on the floor. The tiles appeared to be punched from the ceiling. Officers took photos of the damage and filed a report.

March 5, 11:57 p.m. (WISH House): Campus Safety received a call from an individual stating that their room had been damaged and some of their belongings had been stolen. The individual stayed at a friend's house the night before and upon returning to the room, found that the closet doors had been damaged and some electronics had been stolen. A report was filed.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID
March 2, 9:32 p.m. (On Campus): Campus Safety received a call from an individual stating that they had twisted their ankle. An

officer responded and transported the individual to the ER.

POLICY VIOLATION

Feb. 28, 1:49 p.m. (Campus Safety): An individual received their 21st parking citation. A report was filed.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON

March 6, 2:03 p.m. (Sparks Center): Campus Safety received a report of an individual who was in the Sparks Fitness Center taking pictures and videos of students who were working out. Officers responded and contacted the individual who stated that they did not

know they were not allowed to do that. A report was filed.

THEFT

Feb. 28, 3:49 p.m. (Doney Hall): An individual borrowed a cart to move items from TIUA to their residence room. During the night, the cart was taken from the hallway. A theft report was filed.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT

March 6, 1:00 p.m. (Mill Street): Campus Safety responded to a report of a damaged vehicle, which had been sideswiped while parked along Mill street. An Officer responded and inves-

tigated the scene. A report was filed.

March 6, 3:55 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): Campus Safety received a call from an individual stating that their car had been damaged in the parking lot. An officer responded, spoke with the individual and investigated the scene. The officer observed that the car next to the caller's car had damage that coincided with the damage on the caller's car. A report was filed and the investigation is ongoing.

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

Trump's defense budget coming in 'guns hot'

JESSICA WEISS
STAFF WRITER

In the first budget proposal of his presidency, Donald Trump looks to increase defense spending by \$5.4 billion while simultaneously cutting the same amount from non-defense programs. This is expected to increase defense spending to \$60.3 billion, according to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

According to the OMB, "lower priority programs and most federal agencies" will see a reduction in their budget. Trump claims this move will focus on public safety and national security, promising increases to defense, law enforcement and infrastructure spending. This announcement only serves as a budget blueprint to mark the start of a cooperation between federal agencies and the White House on compliance with a new budget and suggestions on places to cut.

Immediately, speculation arose on areas in the federal budget that

would immediately see slashes. Multiple officials in the administration have signaled that the Environmental Protection Agency and foreign aid would be cut significantly. One OMB official claimed this budget expects "the rest of the world to step up in some of the programs this country has been so generous in funding," fueling the sense that extensive cuts to foreign aid (which is now around one percent of the federal budget) are imminent.

Given the small makeup of foreign aid to the federal budget, many have argued that cuts in these areas are unlikely to help the administration achieve their goal of cutting \$5.4 billion to balance out the defense spending increase and will pose a separate threat to national security.

More than 120 retired generals signed a letter to the White House pushing back on the proposal for cuts. Arguing that funding the State Department is "critical to keeping America safe," retired general and former CIA director David Petraeus

and retired general and former NATO supreme allied commander James Stavridis, among others, sent a letter to congressional leaders, Cabinet officials and the White House National Security Adviser.

Advocating for the State Department, USAID, Peace Corps and other development agencies that are mechanisms to reduce conflict and military tension, the letter also quoted Trump's Defense Secretary James Mattis while he was commander of United States Central Command in 2013: "If you don't fully fund the State Department, then I need to buy more ammunition."

On the more hawkish end, Arizona Senator John McCain criticized the proposed increase in defense for not being extensive enough.

"President Trump intends to submit a defense budget that is a mere 3 percent above President Obama's defense budget, which has left our military underfunded, undersized and unready to confront

threats to our national security," said McCain in a statement after the proposal.

McCain was also the only member of the Republican party to vote against Office of Management and Budget Director Mark Mulvaney during his confirmation. He claimed that Mulvaney would not commit to the level of defense spending that McCain was looking for.

Moving forward, Congress is not bound to the budget plan and will be reviewing the proposal in committees in the upcoming weeks. Administration officials are expected to be called upon to explain the plan, along with the prominent generals who will presumably be arguing against the cuts. Promising efficiency and increased national security, the administration will have quite a few hurdles to jump in the upcoming months justifying the massive shift in spending.

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Trump's discursive identity politics

JESSE SANCHEZ
STAFF WRITER

Throughout his campaign, critics generously applied the term "racist" to the current president and his supporters.

Trump has responded with insistence that he is not a racist. The president has insisted that he is actively opposed to racism and would be a "president for all."

Democrats and a number of Republican non-supporters derided Trump's refusal to immediately renounce an endorsement from a former leader of the Ku Klux Klan. Some Trump defenders have claimed that the president only refused such support as part of a political game of attempting not to alienate white supremacy sympathizers whilst having no intention of pushing a white nationalist policy agenda once in office. Eventually, the then-candidate stated that he "disavowed" support from open white supremacists.

On the campaign trail, the then-candidate remarked that there were a disproportionate number of murderers and rapists among those migrating from Mexico to the United States. The remark has been distinguished as a character judgment on the Mexican nation and people, causing offense even among those who hold citizenship and multiple generations of history in the United States.

More accusations came Trump's way following his remarks about a Latino judge, Gonzalo Curiel, hearing the case regarding Trump University. Trump insisted that a son of Mexican immigrants could not be impartial because he was "proud of his Mexican heritage." He claimed the judge would be inherently biased against him due to the proposal to build a wall along the Mexican border.

Policy proposals such as the border wall and increased deportation efforts have been called structurally racist and described as efforts to targetedly remove those with Mexican heritage residing in the U.S.

While running for the highest office, business dealing from the 1970s emerged. Trump has been accused of participating in redlining in New York City, which contributed to the de facto segregation of many Black residents of the city.

Last Tuesday, Trump addressed the accusations of racism in an interview. The president described the claims as "purely politics," suggesting that such claims are only intended to hinder his policy agenda and promote Democratic victories in future elections.

Trump used the term "race card," which is usually meant to diminish claims of racism as seeking unearned advantages in place of merit. When asked if he took the claims seriously, Trump responded with, "I can't."

He has repeatedly claimed that faring well among Black and Latinx voters is evidence against such claims. Trump fared similarly to Mitt Romney in the proportion of Black and Latinx votes he won. Clinton fared slightly less favorably than Barack Obama among the same demographics.

In December, the Huffington Post published an article titled, "Here are 16 Examples of Trump Being Racist." The article revives memory of various remarks as well as citing cabinet picks.

Critics have repeatedly suggested that the president uses coded language with supporters who read suggestions of White supremacist remarks as statements that do not specifically address race. For example, remarks about Muslims have been interpreted as not only concern about terrorism, but a direct association of both the religion and the predominantly Middle Eastern and South Asian ethnic groups with Muslim majorities.

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Pro-Choice Coalition gather on behalf of the Reproductive Health Equity Act

MADISON MELENUDO
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, Feb. 28, Oregonians from all across the state joined together at the Capitol in support of the Pro-Choice Coalition Lobby Day.

The lobby day was held on behalf of the Reproductive Health Equity Act (HB 2232), a bill that ensures access to free reproductive health services in Oregon such as birth control and abortions. HB 2232 also protects marginalized communities who may not be able to afford coverage through health insurance by providing free care regardless of socio-economic standing, citizenship status, race, ethnicity and gender identity.

The bill was drafted in early February by state Sen. Laurie Monnes Anderson and state Rep. Jeff Barker. Coincidentally, this was just a few weeks after President Donald Trump signed the Mexico City Policy, a ban on federal funding to international organizations that perform abortions.

Considering Trump's campaign, in which he stated plans to repeal The Affordable Care Act (which would leave thousands of Americans uninsured), Oregon legislators may have already been anticipating Trump's future treatment of health care with HB 2232.

Dr. Zeenia Junkeer, a naturopathic physician and Director of Equity and Community Engagement for NARAL Pro-Choice Oregon, served as the main emcee of event. Junkeer informed audience members about the six different organizations that make up the Pro-Choice Coalition, which promotes awareness of reproductive health care disparities felt by marginalized groups statewide and advocates for HB 2232 to be officially implemented into state law.

"We're a statewide coalition working to create a world where access to reproductive healthcare doesn't depend on who you are, where you live or how much you earn," Junkeer said. "We believe

that everybody including women, trans folks, LGBTQ folks ... need to be centered on; folks that are the most impacted and marginalized and we're here today to do that as part of support for our Reproductive Health Equity act HB 2232."

Many of the guest speakers shared personal stories that touched on subjects such as abortion, gender identity, teen pregnancy and sex education in schools. They shared their thoughts on why they believed that reproductive health care should not be a privilege, but a right.

Among them was Kaden, a transgender man who shared a personal story about his recent discovery of pre-cancerous cells in his cervix. Kaden explained that his dream of one day being a father has been put on hold due to the challenges he has faced with his current insurance denying him a medical procedure that could save his life.

"Health is a right not a privilege," said Kaden to audience members. "Health is

for women, men, transgender, non-conforming people of color, citizens and immigrants. The right to health care is for human beings. Everyone deserves a fair opportunity to live a long and healthy life and this is why we are going to need everyone's support on this bill."

House Majority Leader Jennifer Williamson also spoke at the event. Williamson has spent the past 20 years fighting to protect women's rights to choose and has served as a clinic escort and member of the board of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon.

Williamson has also been working to make reproductive health care accessible for everyone.

"I'm here today and one of the reasons I serve in this legislature is to demand reproductive healthcare equity ... and to demand it because it's a family issue and it's a privacy issue and it's a women's issue and it's a laundry list of reasons of why we are all here," Williamson said.

Williamson also mentioned that she believed we should be working to advance the reproductive health care systems so that care is accessible to all, instead of just focusing on defending basic human rights.

At the end of the rally, Junkeer continued to speak: "As a coalition we stand with all of our community members, regardless of gender identity, regardless of income, regardless of citizenship status. Reproductive rights are human rights. This is not something that's up for debate."

HB 2232 has yet to be introduced to the House, as sponsors and legislators are still filling in the gaps and fine tuning its components.

Visit reprohealthequity.org to learn more about HB 2232 and find out how to aid the cause and advance it to the next phase.

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PETER CARRINGTON

Black Tie in its entirety

CAITLIN FORBES
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

On March 4, fellow Bearcats dropped their hoodies and raincoats and donned dresses and suits for the Black Tie Affair, which took place at the Salem Convention Center. The dinner took place before the dance began, and was accompanied by a performance from the Willamette Singers.

I did not attend the dinner, however, I was there for the dancing portion. Before the dance had begun, however, while dinner was finishing up, the guests were able to enjoy a photo-booth type of experience and appetizers. This was

nice, because after the dance began it was another place for people to go to if they did not want to remain in the dance hall.

The room outside of the dancing room, which had the appetizers, was spacious and allowed for people to socialize while getting water or a small bite to eat. The convention center was decorated with round tables and modern furniture that included a few tall tables and chairs in the back, as well as a small couch-area in the corner of the room.

There was a very organized coat-check and check-in system, as well as a 21 and over lounge which was heavily supervised. The dance was also highly secure, as

there were security guards roaming everywhere around the venue.

The DJ was not to my taste, however as the dance went on there always seemed to be a sizable group of people on the dance floor. It was nice that the music was not headache-inducing loud, so if you retreated to another room it did not follow you. There were nice moments when some of the guilty pleasure and iconic songs came on like "Dancing Queen," and "Another One Bites the Dust." When these songs came on, people flooded the dance floor, and literally made the ground shake.

It was great seeing everyone dressed up to their own desire: some people wore prom dresses,

others wore shorter dresses, some suits and ties and others more casual wear. I have to say though, my favorite outfit was the person who wore the cardboard robot suit. That was one thing I really appreciated about the Black Tie Affair compared to high school dances. People had more liberty to dress as they wanted and the pressures of a "formal" event seemed to not be as present. People just came and went as they pleased.

Perhaps the best part of Black Tie, was leaving. Not to sound harsh, but there is a feeling of relief that comes with leaving a crowded environment. Additionally, the pleasure that comes with taking off high-heels and digging

into breakfast at Shari's after midnight is a feeling of giddiness and exhaustion.

I enjoyed dressing up and seeing my peers and friends who all looked dazzling, however I am not much of a dancer. Of course, what is great about dances is that everyone has such vastly different experiences within the same venue.

Overall, I would give Black Tie a 7/10. Obviously I am very biased, but I will be attending next year. I look forward to a night to cast aside homework and put on a dress instead of sweats.

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Things you can learn from being an exchange student at Willamette



PHOTO COURTESY OF
IRYNA GORBUNOVA

About the author:

I grew up in Kharkiv (Ukraine) and moved to Wroclaw (Poland) at the age of 17 to get a university education. My story at Willamette began in January 2017, when I came to Salem via ISEP student exchange program. I am a CCM major.

IRYNA GORBUNOVA
CONTRIBUTOR

Leaving your hometown is always hard. It takes time to adjust to a new environment and to get to know people around you.

While figuring out what stepping out of your comfort zone looks like, you may face a variety of challenges. Homesickness, language barrier and a gap between expectations and reality are some of them. The moment when you finally step off the plane and ask yourself: "How is it going to look?" is both stressful and very exciting.

Coming to America as an exchange student I wanted to learn more about other culture and also to share my own values. While studying at Willamette, I realized that true education begins not with long hours in a library, but in real-life situations, where you have to solve problems and make your own decisions.

In the beginning it was hard not to compare the new environment with past experiences. In Wroclaw (Poland), I attended a large public school and I expected a liberal arts university to be a completely opposite world. One of the main differences was the housing system. In Poland students usually live in dorms or rental rooms and have to cook their meals. There is no such thing as "a food-plan" and there aren't any sororities or fraternities. Basically, you live on your own and go to school for classes only. On one hand, it gives you more freedom and

independence, but on the other, the student community is often divided into small groups. There is no sense of unity. What I really liked about

agement. Apart from another clock system and time difference, time itself is perceived as an important value in American culture. Not to say

that there would never be enough hours in a day to accomplish everything, and you have to set your priorities to find a balance between social and academic/work life.

One more difference was the openness to other ethnic groups. Due to my Ukrainian background, I often had to face discrimination in a student environment back in Poland. I was positively surprised by American tolerance to other cultures. Being a Willamette student, I've realized that wherever you go, people are the core value of the community.

Each individual mindset makes up the diversity of the modern world. And sharing your ideas and concerns, creates a sense of connectedness and gives you a greater understanding of life.

Living away from home is exciting as you discover more, but also challenging. It changes your life views and helps you to discover your true identity. I would definitely recommend trying out study abroad programs because it gives you an insight into a foreign university's student culture and also a new perspective on education in general.

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“University is like this little world, a bubble of time separate from everything before and everything after.”
— Mhairi McFarlane,
You Had Me At Hello

Willamette is that here almost everyone knows each other. This is hardly possible in large universities, where scholars prioritize their off-campus life over common activities.

The second thing is time man-

agement. I started to value my own time more. I understood that Polish people use their working days inefficiently, but at the beginning, I had a feeling that people here try to fit as many tasks in their daily routines as possible.

Bass Cube is not basic: Exploring EDM

CAROL LI
STAFF WRITER

Some people may perceive electronic dance music (EDM) as just a singular type of music that sounds similar to songs produced by hit artists such as Zedd, Calvin Harris, The Chainsmokers, etc. On the contrary, EDM encompasses a wide range of genres, subgenres and styles including house, dubstep, trap and trance, just to name a few. As someone who consistently listens to EDM and has experienced festivals, I now consider myself a participant in rave and festival culture. In fact, EDM has become an integral part of my lifestyle and the lifestyles of many others.

On Saturday, Feb. 25, Red Cube Productions LLC hosted an event at the Roseland Theater in Portland entitled "Bass Cube" featuring artists Hal-V, SpaceCase, Fransis Der-

elle, Cesqueaxm, with Ghastly as the headliner. Senior Rachel Kennedy who went to both Bass Cube and Freaknight last fall differentiates bass music from other EDM music through the intensity of the beats within the song.

"Do the Chainsmokers have drops? Yes. Are they heavy? No," said Kennedy.

My friends and I are always looking for events to go to, and the few of us who have seen or heard Ghastly's music find his creations quite impressive. According to his website, Ghastly was raised on a goat farm and eventually worked his way onto chart topping record labels, such as Dim Mak, founded by Steve Aoki. He innovatively combines house, trap and dubstep into an interesting type of bass. Artists such as Skrillex, Diplo and Dillon Francis have recognized his talent.

For first-year Maria Quesada and senior Yuto Morita, the first few DJs were boring and not very good. But by the last two DJs they eventually got into the music. Even though bass and dubstep events tend to be more "rowdy," Bass Cube was a different experience for the people who went.

"It was very interesting. I go raving a lot, well back at home, and this was just not the same. The people there, especially the men, were a lot more aggressive than how they normally are. They wanted to dance with you, and if you were to reject them, they would glare at you and go away. It was just very uncomfortable at times. I don't know if it is just the Portland area or the people it was targeted to, but it was just very different from what I'm used to," Quesada said.

"I think the vibe was just really different. I don't really know how to explain it. Freaknight seemed a lot

more fun where people are there to have a good time, and people were more friendlier ... I would prefer festivals more because you get the variety of different artists and you are surrounded by more people which leads to the hype and excitement of going. But I mean that doesn't mean that venues and concerts like Ghastly isn't as good, I think just at that specific concert there was a lot going on," said Kennedy.

Kennedy also describes many issues at the event, such as the ticket scanners malfunctioning, the aggressiveness of security, the venue size and a perceived lack of readiness to respond to emergency situations which also contributed to the overall vibe.

The subtle distinction between festivals and raves is that festivals have many artists performing with a theme sometimes, while raves tend

to be more centered around EDM. Therefore, all raves are festivals but not all festivals are raves.

More importantly, a fundamental aspect of raves is the notion of PLUR (Peace, Love, Unity and Respect). After attending Bass Cube, I realize it is important to be cognizant of both the surroundings as well as ourselves. How we enter and interact with a space contributes to the everyone else's overall experience. Raves are meant to be a place of acceptance, escape, letting go and love. For many, it truly important.

"I love them. I think they are really fantastic and they are a great way to meet cool and interesting people with various life histories and experiences. It's important to be aware of your surroundings but overall they tend to be a very safe and happy and enjoyable environment," said Quesada.

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Halal if you hear me: A celebration of multiple identities

ZACHERY WOLF
STAFF WRITER

Last Wednesday, March 1, Safia Elhillo and Fatimah Asghar came to Willamette to perform their poetry and have a discussion about identity. The topics of their poems looked at their own cultural upbringings and how these aspects play out in their day-to-day lives. More specifically, they spoke bluntly about their womanhood, Muslim upbringing and communicate what it's like being raised as a minority in a xenophobic United States.

Fatimah, who is Pakistani and queer, deals with her Muslim-American identity by contrasting it with the dominating white culture in the United States. She started with, "Old Country," describing her family squeezing into an Old Country diner where the family picks at their meatloaf and, just like any American, ends up disliking it. "Christmas," revels in the grandiosity of Christmas celebrations in the U.S., describing it as one foot in the door. Duality in these poems are what made them so great.

Her poems are lighthearted and commented on American clichés

just as well, if not better, than a white person. Being both inside and outside of a dominating culture allows for a different response, often more critical than someone who was fully raised living those clichés, rather than experiencing them in a different light.

Fatimah recited her poems enthusiastically, excitedly gesturing throughout them, with the crowd laughing the whole time. Another poem, "Last Summer of Innocence," commented on puberty from the perspective of being a Muslim, allowing both womanhood and her religion to be put entertainingly in discussion with each other.

During the conversation between the two poets, they spoke about people's contradictory identities. No matter what you are and how many of those identities conflict, you are an image of these contrasts. Identities converse with each other and informs your own unique self. That idea came through perfectly in both poets' poems. Fatimah's last poem, "If They Should Come For Us," (easily found online and highly recommended) turned a more serious page and spoke to current political crises.

Safia's poems are more serious and lyrical. Many of the poems that she read are described as "imagined scenarios with an Egyptian Pop Star, Abdel Halim Hafez." One, in which a date gets derailed as she imagines her future instead of her dining partner, used pop culture references and introspection to continue a dialogue on larger cultural issues. Her poems ride a finer line between the serious and the comedic but, like her friend, she was able to fluently talk about two cultures, multiple identities and play around with how they intersect.

Safia was particularly enlightening in how she blended together Arabic and English in her poems. Her poems do not explain or translate the Arabic she chose to use, and she explains this as a natural reaction to being bilingual. She expressed anger at those that ask her about her identities. To her, these interactions come across as belligerent because the questions are so wildly off. "So where in South America is Sudan?" is a common one, as well as people who say something racist toward Muslims in front of her and backpedal with, "I did not know you are Muslim," instead of saying, "sorry about being



Poets Safia Elhillo and Fatima Asghar discuss their poetic inspiration in Hudson.

racist." It is not about sensitivity, but rather it is about being close-minded and not wanting to be critical of your own tiny worldview.

The poetry reading was a celebration of culture. It was hilarious and fun, especially because these topics could, rightfully, be quite somber.

Willamette should continue to celebrate diversity by inviting more poets with complex identities. These events increase visibility but more importantly share common multicultural themes that are pervasive in our lives.

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Montag Den: Your next stop to Funky Town



Willamette's three most celebrated bands – Doggy Dog World, Percy Lounge and Funk Band – congregated last Friday for a concert in the Montag Den.

CONTINUED from Page 1

Because Doggy Dog World was the opening act, I got a chance to speak with members of Percy Lounge to ask about their dynamic on stage. The members of Percy Lounge – Reed Bertran, Nick Burton, Henry Coba, Brenden Ramirez and Jasper Gill – answered this question by emphasizing the importance of connection – whether it manifested in communication through eye contact or through intent listening to one another.

"I listen to my band members

more than I listen to myself. But, for me, it also needs to go a bit deeper than that. I can't just listen to Jasper (our drummer), I have to feel Jasper," Bertran said.

"For me, connection is open-mouthed vocals, hand gestures, and booty shakes. And lots of eye contact. And absolutely listening to and feeling the rhythm that Jasper sets. Jasper is our battery," Bertran added.

As Percy Lounge took to the stage, they exhibited the kind of connection they mentioned that could only be communicated through a musical language. The

lead singer Reed Bertran embodied a noodle-like substance while dancing, almost as if he had no vertebrae. He struck a unique balance between surrendering his body to the music and communicating with the crowd through his lyrics and through movement that mimicked Gill's rhythmic drumming.

Percy Lounge finished their set with one of their most popular songs: "OJ." Fans in the crowd immediately recognized it, and began to vocally express their thirst. We may never know whether this thirst was for orange juice or for

something else. In any case, the culmination of this thirst erupted into a big finale as Bertran jumped into the swarm of people and was carried and steered by a sea of sweaty hands.

The final act of the Montag Den performance was the Funk Band, also known as "Gunk Fuuld." This funky group includes a wide swath of talent, including musicians Dexter Williams, Ayana Bradley, Andrew Mell, Olivia Fields, Brighton Sier, Jasper Gill, Brenden Ramirez and Collyn Johnson. Their set was made up of a whole range of funky tunes, including

their own original songs, as well as covers of songs such as Michael Jackson's "Bad." The groove was real as drummer Gill shredded on his set with the utmost composure, and Bradley rocked on the keyboard as if the keys were an extension of her own fingers. The fans went wild for the funk, and some even showed their support by tattooing a temporary tattoo of bassist Brenden Ramirez's face on their bodies. Overall, the combination of the trifecta of Willamette bands makes for quite a show.

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 CAROL LI
STAFF WRITER

Last week, on Feb. 26, the 89th annual Academy Awards Ceremony was held. Prestigious Oscars were handed out to various cast and crew of film productions, along with performances and entertainment for the audience. The Oscars are one of many available awards, such as the Golden Globes, Tonys and Emmys, that commemorate outstanding work in the world of cinema, television and theater.

The longstanding idea of entertainment media is that it is a place for creation where “reality” and limitations of the “real world” that we all live in may not necessarily apply. The screens containing the stories that are told can serve as a place of escape, fantasy and of imagination. These creations hold meaning to all of us as we take time out of our day to watch, listen and connect emotionally with these works. Whether it is through binge watching instead of doing assignments or chilling with friends, family and partners around a screen, media production crafts realities that we travel within each and every day.

The platform of such an awards ceremony adds this notion of “significance” to a piece of media in the mainstream viewer’s eyes. When the name is announced from the card, it is a signal to the world that this sole winner achieved what others could not. It is “the best” film, actor, actress, screenplay, etc. that the industry has to offer that year. The ceremonial recognition grants glory as music plays in the background and the individuals rise from the crowd to walk up to that stage and receive the award give a speech. Applause follows, and memorable moments are made.

This year, the Oscars were filled with many memorable moments indeed. Moana’s voice actress, Auli’i Cravalho, was joined by Hamilton’s Lin-Manuel Miranda and colorful flag holders in a stellar performance of Oscar-nominated song of the year “How Far I’ll Go.” Even though the song did not win in that category, Cravalho’s charisma and talent shone brilliantly and created lots of hype on social media. Viola Davis also stood out as she became the first Black actress to win an Oscar, Emmy and Tony. Mahershala Ali also won an Academy Award for best supporting actor.

Moving speeches were also given. Some were similar to Meryl Streep’s at the Golden Globes, which called for protection of the free press. She also expressed disdain for the actions of the powerful, especially of a certain national leader, to perform disrespect and violence. Actor, director and producer Gael Garcia Bernal utilized his platform to publicly express his stance on the U.S.-Mexico border wall.

“We travel all over the world, we build families, we construct stories, we build a life that cannot be divided...As a Mexican, as a Latin-American, as a migrant worker, as a human being, I’m against any form of wall that separates us,” he said.

However, one moment during the ceremony arguably stood out above the rest. When the Academy Award for Best Motion Picture was up, presenters Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty announced “La La Land” as the winner, though there seemed to be hesitation when Beatty looked in the envelope. What was on the card was Emma Stone’s name for Best Actress in the film “La La Land.” Why did they still announce “La La Land” as Best Motion Picture of the year? I am not sure. Yet, the tension did not end there.

The scene went as follows. As the music plays with applause echoing throughout the room, many hugs are given as the cast and crew of “La La Land” take the stage. Take note that “La La Land” dominated the Golden Globes and is one of the most Oscar-nominated films. The camera pans and then remains still during thank you speeches while a crew member frantically runs around holding a red envelope signalling that a mistake has been made. In spite of this new knowledge, the speeches still continue. It is not until the words “we lost, by the way” are uttered into the microphone by “La La Land” producer Fred Berger that the recognition stops. Why did Berger continue to take up space and talk even though he knew that they lost? I don’t know.

“There’s a mistake. ‘Moonlight,’ you won Best Picture...

This is not a joke,” said “La La Land” producer John Horowitz, as he held up the card that read “Moonlight” to the camera. A standing ovation was given as the cast and crew of Moonlight graciously took the stage.

“I think you guys should keep it anyway ... I would like to see you get an Oscar anyway, why can’t we just give out a whole bunch of ‘em ... let’s all remember this is just an awards show,” said Oscar host Jimmy Kimmel.

When Horowitz said he was going to be proud to hand the award to the rightful winners, he was then given praise by Kimmel, even though “Moonlight” should have gotten the award in the first place and common sense, could be to give it to the film’s creators.

Then, a transformation occurred and the majority of those standing upon that stage changed to those visibly read as people of color. “Moonlight” director Barry Jenkins and producer Adele Romanski then

Hollywood

#MediaIndu



gave abbreviated thank you speeches as one of the most anticipated moment during the Oscars ended.

To those who do not see this moment, or robbing the winners of this moment, as a big deal, perhaps your casual dismissal of the moment’s impact calls into question the amount of times that you get to see people who you identify with upon pedestals such as these. The evening did not end in fully commemorating “Moonlight,” the story of a queer Black boy named Chiron who grows up having to navigate the world finally embrace himself and his past. Rather, the fixation and attention turned to the mistake and the “generosity” of “La La Land” for giving the award

to the rightful winners. Only when the award was mistakenly taken away from “La La Land,” with its majority white cast and crew, and given to “Moonlight” that the Academy Awards became “just an awards show.” This awkward, cringeworthy and painful moment is more than just a mistake. It is reflec-

whitewash

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encompass what we see, but who we see on the screen. It also includes who the creators of the media are and industries that export the content that we watch. And, finally, most important of all, the media must operate in the market and the money that is anticipated from audiences in order to profit from productions.

One example of whiteness in media is that, while people of color had to historically battle oppression in its various legal, social and economic forms to even sit in the same room as white people, white people have been able to star in and create productions, become executive decision makers in media companies and become what is considered “the norm” and targeted audience of the media. This creates large disproportions and disparities of people of color who even hold careers in the media industry, both on and behind the camera. This is why it is always so momentous when a person of

a marginalized identity is able to break the barriers of society and finally win something.

Oftentimes, people of marginalized identities are rarely ever shown in the media. If we are shown, we are shown in the form of exaggerated tropes and stereotypes. For example, Latinx people are hypersexualized, or “illegal,” Asians are “exotic” or submissive, and Native and Indigenous people are presented as “primitive.”

When people of color are scripted into films, whitewashing happens. You have white actress Emma Stone playing a mixed-race part Asian and Hawaiian woman in “Aloha,” and white actress Scarlett Johansson playing the main Asian lead role in “Ghost in the Shell.” Although race is socially constructed and racial identity cannot be determined by skin tone, this social construction has material consequences.

These roles, and therefore jobs, could have gone to people

who carry those identities, but instead went to two white women. Aziz Ansari’s “Master of None” details his difficulties finding acting work as an Indian and person of color. White people on the screen and white media are always favored, because those who mostly have a voice on the matter are white. Just take a look at how many movies have Hawaii as just the scenic backdrop, with the main characters being white, or how many Disney princesses are white. Personally, I literally only have Mulan to identify with or to look up to, and I can say that because I happen to be Chinese and Korean instead of other Asian ethnicities.

The idea of media representation is more than just seeing people on the screen. Media’s importance comes through the construction of the imaginary. Media is the creation of possibility. Media does the psychological work of showing everyone what can be achievable. Media influences the norms of society just as the norms of society influence what

is considered to be “marketable” in the media. But this idea of possibility is so crucial for people of marginalized identities to see themselves in the media, because this conveys a message that we are able to achieve various roles in society, be in certain spaces, have these stories and experiences that are valid. Media introduces the possibility that we can and deserve to exist.

To combat this issue, it takes more than just having token characters to represent diversity. There needs to be a substantial transformation where people of color are both on-screen and behind the scenes. We need stories that reflect the lives and experiences of people of color to be shown. When these stories are shown, the benefits can go to the communities of people in which they came from. We need to see that people of color are actually multifaceted individuals who deserve complex representations.

We need this so that books such as Ta Nehesi’s Coates’s “Between the World and Me” do not have to serve as the sole representation of “the Black experience in America.” We need to recognize that yes, we do collectively face systemic issues, yet survive and thrive in this world in a number of different ways. It also takes a great deal of dismantling of whiteness as the default. Activism on multiple fronts and in its various aspects must continue, in order to foster change. Finally, we must force the realization that profit should not be placed above people.

Although these problems continue to exist, there have also been other forms of resistance such as #OscarsSoWhite and #StarringJohnCho that call out whiteness in the media. More people, such as actress Constance Wu, are speaking out when injustices occur.

The following, selected from an Independent article, is the speech the “Moonlight” Director meant to give during the acceptance of “Moonlight’s” win for Best picture. The film, its majority Black cast, and its intersectional storyline, are a disruption to the ideologies and reflections of white supremacy that are embedded in the media industry. Therefore, it is of importance to celebrate this victory and give the film, and all people of color fighting, the glory they deserve.

“Tarell [Alvin McCraney] and I are Chiron. We are that boy,” the speech reads. “And when you watch “Moonlight,” “you don’t assume a boy who grew up how and where we did would grow up and make a piece of art that wins an Academy Award. I’ve said that a lot, and what I’ve had to admit is that I placed those limitations on myself, I denied myself that dream.”

Not you, not anyone else — me. And so, to anyone watching this who sees themselves in us, let this be a symbol, a reflection that leads you to love yourself. Because doing so may be the difference between dreaming at all and, somehow through the Academy’s grace, realizing dreams you never allowed yourself to have. Much love.”

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ART BY KYLEY NISHI MURA

tive of the systemic centering of whiteness that is prevalent in many societal institutions, including the media industry.

To understand how whiteness permeates throughout the media industry, it is important to acknowledge what comprises what we come to know as “media.” Media does not just

Sitting down with runner Olivia Mancl

KELLEN BULGER
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday afternoon after the conclusion of the Willamette Opener, I got the chance to sit down with one of the more accomplished Bearcat athletes, senior Olivia Mancl, and reflect on her career donning the cardinal and gold.

"It's pretty unique. For one, I've improved significantly from freshman to senior year, and I look at all these other girls that I ran against in high school and so few girls in their program have that trajectory, but I'd say that the majority of men and women at Willamette have that."

Mancl went on to explain how people discount how rewarding it is to have that kind of growth.

This notion of progression is certainly hard to argue with when one looks closer at the results. At Mancl's first ever NCAA Championship race in cross-country, she placed 80th. Over the past two cross-country seasons, the talented runner has garnered a top-15 finish in both the 2015 and 2016 NCAA Championship races, including a runner-up finish in the 2015 race.

In spite of her illustrious career as a Willamette athlete nearing its conclusion, this spring is not likely to be the last time you will see her lacing up the spikes.

"I'm not quite ready to be done with competing."

Mancl did not reveal her exact plans as for who she wants to compete for once her time in Salem is done, but she did give credence to the idea that there will be more races to be seen in the future from the Seattle native.

"It's still in the works and not a for-sure thing, but I do want to run for a club team after I graduate."

All of that being said, what makes Mancl differ from her contemporaries is that it's not just about competing or another first-place trophy; it is a way of life.

For Mancl, the love of sports and pushing herself to her limit has been developed and honed in her time at Willamette.

"Running is not an end all for me and I love competing, I'll remember the national competitions, but what I'll value more is a way of life and training that I've gotten here," she said.

Mancl made one-point very clear: all of the sustained success she's seen and experienced while competing for the small liberal arts school in Oregon is not a by-product of a hyper-intense training program instilled by the Willamette coaching staff, but in fact a state of mind that the culture of this program has allowed her to have.

"I've learned to push myself in a fun way through this program and I am really grateful for that. Just this week when I was supposed to do an easy pool workout, I ended up going so hard for like an hour. A lot of that is the social dynamic I love here and not to mention the coaching staff too."

So, in spite of the myriad of accolades the 2x All-American Bearcat has received or future portraits hung in Sparks Fitness Center, Mancl remains humble.

"I feel very lucky to have chosen Willamette for a lot of reasons. It's always easy to critique a program, but I'm really glad I spent my four years here with no regrets!"

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Baseball sweeps Whitworth



CHRISTOPHER OERTELL

Junior Jack Brett goes to 4-9 on the weekend with a homerun, a double and four RBI's.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After three quick outs, the Bearcats were back in business with back-to-back walks, followed by an excellent sacrifice bunt by junior Aaron Fong, who reached the base on a throwing error that scored Bailey and moved pinch runner junior Perry Van Eckhardt to third base. With the game tied at 8-8, the Bearcat dugout was exploding with chatter. Strolling up to the batter's box was del Prado.

With two strikes on him, he put a good enough swing on a pitch to score Van Eckhardt with a sacrifice fly for a lead. Junior pitcher Jett Gallagher, who entered the contest in the bottom of the eighth, closed out the game forcing a ground out and two strike outs, completing the amazing comeback victory.

After two crucial wins on Saturday, the Bearcats still had more work to do on Sunday. The first inning started with a bang as Brett crushed a three run homer, scoring Bailey and Fessier and putting Willamette in front 4-0 after the end of the first. Brett went 4-9 with a homerun, a double, four RBI's and two runs scored.

"I felt really good at the plate and I attribute it to being able to relax in the game because of the work we put in during practice. Everyone has bought into the system and that shows in the early success that we have had. To keep my recent success going, I'm going to keep preparing each week and try and do too much at the plate and trust in the plans that our coaching staff has set out for us," Brett said.

The remainder of Sunday's game featured the conclusion of solid pitching performances from sophomores Nathan Gilman and Brandon Nelson that kept the Bearcats in the game. Gilman held the Pirates hitless in the fifth and sixth innings, before Nelson entered the game and gave the Bearcats three excellent innings. Nelson finished the game allowing just two hits and struck out four.

Up next for Willamette is a conference matchup against Whitman, which will take place at a neutral location.

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Has anything changed?

Did the Raptors trades really make a difference in the East?

ALEX GORDON
STAFF WRITER

Since LeBron's return to Cleveland, the East has belonged to the Cavaliers. They are always the superior team that everyone else is chasing. Other teams' success is always viewed with a kind of "that's cute" filter.

The Raptors have been the Eastern Conference's closest thing to a challenger for the last few years. Even this is an exaggeration, as they were barely able to get through the first round of the playoffs last year. Nevertheless, they are the deepest and most battle tested team that the conference has to offer. This year has been patchy for them. They are currently in a tight race for the second seed with Boston and Washington. With Kyle Lowery most likely out for a considerable amount of time with a wrist injury, things don't look great with time winding down on the regular season.

All this being said, the Raptors finally got their upgrade at power forward, having acquired another strong defensive minded player in P.J. Tucker. Surge Ibaka, while not as flashy as trading for Paul Millsap, could honestly be a better fit for the Raptors, especially with beating the Cavs in mind. The issue for them playing against Cleveland has always been that the Cavs can simply go small and proceed to run the Raptors off the floor. This is because, previously, the Raptors didn't have a big forward



PATRICK LOFTUS

that could chase Kevin Love or Channing Frye around the three-point line. Ibaka, at his best, is a big man mobile enough to chase whichever shooting center the Cavs want to play while still providing some of the shot blocking necessary to at least make Kyrie and LeBron think twice about going inside every possession. This is something that Millsap doesn't provide, though he is the significantly better all around player.

Ibaka also spaces the floor next to Yonis Valanciunas who needs a shooting frontcourt partner, and they didn't even need to give up Patrick Patterson in order to get

him. Patterson has been one of their most reliable and versatile big men over the past few years, and someone that is widely credited inside the organization for helping them get to the level that they're at. Tucker is a hard nosed defender to throw at LeBron or Irving, something you can never have enough of playing against the Cavs. He has improved his outside shot since resurfacing with the Suns a few seasons ago, and continues to be a swiss army knife on the floor. With Demarre Carroll seeming as if he will never fully regain his prime Atlanta form, it's a good insurance policy and an intelligent move no matter how you slice it.

In conclusion, the Raptors are deep, and made win-now moves that didn't compromise their future or cap situation and got players that, on paper at least, help to close that ever-present gap between the Cavaliers and the rest of the East. In the end it may be futile, and we might not see results this season because of their injury struggles. Never the less, kudos to them for making a trade, and a smart one at that, in order to try and get over the mountain top.

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Combine showcases talented 2017 draft class

LOUIS KNOX
STAFF WRITER

The NFL combine is a yearly event for college football's top players to showcase their talents in hopes of reaching their lifelong goals of playing in the National Football League. This gives players the opportunity to potentially prove wrong those who have doubted some aspects of their game.

The combine is a set of football-related tests that can help determine an athlete's aptitude to play at the next level. Tests of size, speed, strength and agility can help an organization determine whether a player would be a good fit for their program.

With the NFL draft looming, this can be the difference between some

players getting drafted in the first round and some not at all.

This weekend provided some exceptional performances by a multitude of players from all over the country. The event provided things we have never seen before in regard to athleticism.

The star of the show came on day two of the four day event, with University of Washington wide receiver John Ross. Ross, who was a 100-meter track star in high school and a four star recruit from Long Beach, California, excited every-time with his lightning athleticism.

The 40-yard dash is the standard football measurement of speed, and in 2008 running back Chris Johnson broke the all-time combine record with an official time of 4.24 seconds. Despite having leg

cramps, Ross was able to put up a new record of 4.22 seconds, ending Johnson's reign of the fastest man in football.

Another standout came from the tight end position. Despite not being known for their speed, five different tight ends ran a sub-4.6 second 40 time, including a staggering 4.42 from University of Mississippi's Evan Engram, who stands at 6-foot-3-inches, 235 pounds. In last year's combine there were no tight ends to accomplish the feat of breaking 4.6 seconds.

Beyond just speed, teams look in other areas to measure a player's explosiveness, one of which is the standing broad jump. This is essentially just the distance an athlete can jump from a standing position. This year showed an outbreak in this category as well.

In the broad jump there were 17 different athletes who reached or exceeded the mark of 11 feet. This is significant because last year there were just six athletes who reached this mark.

University of Michigan's linebacker/safety/running back/returner Jabrill Peppers competed in multiple position drills. The Heisman Trophy finalists skillset is projected to best translate to the NFL as a safety, but this season he was listed as a linebacker, so he was forced to compete as a linebacker. However, he managed to compete in the defensive back drills on the last day to show off his many talents.

In addition to Peppers, another shining star was former Texas A&M defensive end Myles Garrett. The projected No. 1 overall pick dis-

played his freakish athleticism in a multitude of ways. The 6-foot-4-inch, 272 pounder ran a staggering 4.64 40-yard dash, did 33 reps of 225 pound bench press and had a 41-inch vertical jump. Garrett has frequently been compared to the 2015 No. 1 overall pick in Jadeveon Clowney.

With all of this fantastic talent available, teams will look to build through the draft and bolster their organizations for the next decade in hopes to get their hands on the Lombardi trophy. The draft will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and begin on April 27, 2017.

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First-year track and field Bearcats make a statement

ERIC DEL PRADO
STAFF WRITER

The Willamette track and field team completed at Roy McCullough Stadium last weekend as they hosted the Willamette Opener. The event was well attended as Colorado College, University of Portland, Western Oregon University and Corban University were there. The event had many quality finishes for the Bearcats, especially first-year Bearcats.

Junior Hannah Swanson won the women's 800-meter event, dominating the field with a time of 2:23.58. Sophomore Orion Ewell took fourth in the men's 100-meter dash, and freshman Riley Burton took third place in the men's 400 meter dash. Junior Roshan Rogers came in fourth in the men's 110-meter hurdles. Senior Maura Forbush came in fourth place in the women's 400-meter dash, while junior Teneah Rushen came in fifth place in the women's 200-me-

ter dash. The women's 110-meter hurdles saw two freshmen Bearcats come in third and fourth places, respectively, as Melissa Scott and Sallie Tucker got their Bearcat careers off to great starts. Junior Jewell Sparks also placed second in the 400-meter hurdles. In long distance events, sophomore Keith Burton placed seventh in the men's 5,000 meter, while freshman Michael Montague placed eighth.

In field events, freshman Elijah Hall-Crockett placed fifth in

the men's high jump and freshman Brian Peck came in fifth in the men's long jump. Freshman Saige Swan was second in the shot put, and third in the hammer throw, while freshman Josh Martin came in third in the shotput and second place in the hammer throw.

In the women's events, senior Angie Turpin came in second in the hammer throw. Senior Marisa Hamilton placed third in the shotput and freshman Hope Du-

enas came in fourth place in the discus. Scott continued her good first meet as she tied for first place in the pole vault. Sophomore Alex Stacy came in third place in the triple jump.

The Bearcats had a good showing for their first meet of the year and will take to the track and field next Saturday in Forest Grove, Oregon.

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this week in sports

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

AARON ODA
STAFF WRITER

There are some great things coming up in the world of sports. But for right now, I'll catch you up on what happened this past week in the world of sports.

"Huh?"

This week is midterm week and, as students, there just never seems to be enough time to get things done. In the world of sports, we saw a record breaking 40-yard dash time. Time is of the essence of every single sport.

"Every day that you live, time gets more valuable."
-Joe Moore

NFL

This week was the NFL scouting combine. This is where prospects get to show off their

different measurable physical skills for all 32 teams.

Some of the tasks that they complete during the combine include a 40-yard dash, vertical jump, broad jump, bench press and a thing called the wonderlic test.

People have said that this is one of the biggest and most high stress job interviews a person can take. It has multi-million dollar implications, because draft position could rely on performance in these activities and interviews.

The most notable performance from the combine came from wide receiver John Ross. Ross ran the 40-yard dash in a blazing 4.22 seconds, a new combine record. The previous best 40 yard dash time was 4.24 by a running back named Chris Johnson, which was set in 2008. For reference, a good time to run the 40-yard dash is anything under 4.4 seconds. So this record breaking run was one for the ages.

NBA

The big news in the NBA this week is Kevin Durant's injury. Durant injured his knee Tuesday against the Washington Wizards, when teammate Zaza Pachulia got pushed back into Durant's knee. Durant's knee was given a grade two MCL sprain and tibial bone bruise with a timetable to be reevaluated in four weeks time. The Warriors are losing a big playmaker, who is the go to ball scorer in crunch time, averaging 25.3 points per game for the team this season. This injury came at a bad time for the Warriors, who have a tough schedule ahead of them. For the first time in over 150 games, they lost back-to-back, losing on Tuesday after Durant's injury and again on Thursday.

The San Antonio Spurs only find themselves two and a half games behind the Warriors and with Durant being injured they are looking to close the gap and even take hold of first place in the

Western Conference. As a side note, the San Antonio Spurs are only the second team to have also clinched a spot in the playoffs, with the other team being the Warriors.

NCAA Basketball

Start reading up on the many different college programs that will have a chance to be in the important NCAA tournament in March. With the bracket being revealed on Sunday, all we can do now is watch the start of the Madness in March with teams completing their conference tournament through the weekend. Their hopes are to make a last impression for committee members or get an automatic bid by winning the conference tournament, but if not, they leave it up to the committee members to decide who will stay and who will go.

Until next week, K DEN!

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Intramurals Weekly

RACHEL FISCHER
STAFF WRITER
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STAFF WRITER

With 5v5 basketball playoffs coming up next week, every point counts in these final games of regular season. Going into Tuesday night's coed beginner game, Dagron and 808s and Fastbreaks were in close contention for the second seed in their bracket. This made for an intense, high stakes match-up. Although it was not a high-scoring game, the battle was tight with no more than a five-point lead by either team. In the end Dagron pulled out a win and secured the second seed in the Tuesday beginner's bracket.

Playoffs are determined by a combination of factors including a team's record, sportsmanship rating and point differential. Sportsmanship ratings are decided after each game for both teams by the referees and supervisors. These ratings are based on a team's attitude and conduct toward the opposing team and the officials. Both Dagron and 808s and Fastbreaks have demonstrated good sportsmanship throughout the season and this game was no different, with each team receiving a rating of five out of five. Good luck to the teams in playoffs next week! #doitfortheshirt #dontretireplayintra-murals

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Anti-Semitism and American Jews' relationship to the Trump administration

JEREMY HANSEN
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When I went to Jewish day school, we always observed Holocaust Remembrance Day. Prior to college, I took a trip to Poland, visiting Auschwitz and other concentration camps to learn about the Holocaust for myself. The Holocaust is the singular event that the Jewish community vows to never allow to repeat itself. That is why the state of Israel is taken so seriously by so many. The rest of the world cannot be trusted to not ship us off to concentration camps at a moment's notice, and so that land that is now slated as "Jewish" has to be protected at all costs.

The Holocaust is a shared memory among all Jews. It was an atrocity so horrific, calculated and far-reaching that it led to the mass exodus of Jews from their previous homes in Eastern and Western Europe, a situation that left us in search of a new homeland. Due to nonstop violence between Zionists and Arabs post World War II, the U.K. requested that the United Nations make an official decision regarding what would be done with what was then Palestine. Thanks to remaining international shame over the Holocaust, as well as international pressure, a Jewish state was created — Israel.

The Jewish people have a prominent voice in America as a historically marginalized group that currently has a high level of privilege. That has led to the prevalence of progressive liberal values among Jews (70 percent voted for Clinton), despite our affluence. Yet those liberal values have not always been applied to Israel itself. That dissonance has always been present. Now, with the friendly relations between Israel's prime minister and America's so obviously repulsive leader, we have to realize that liberal values here have to translate to the same values overseas.

We live during a backwards time in American politics. The far-right

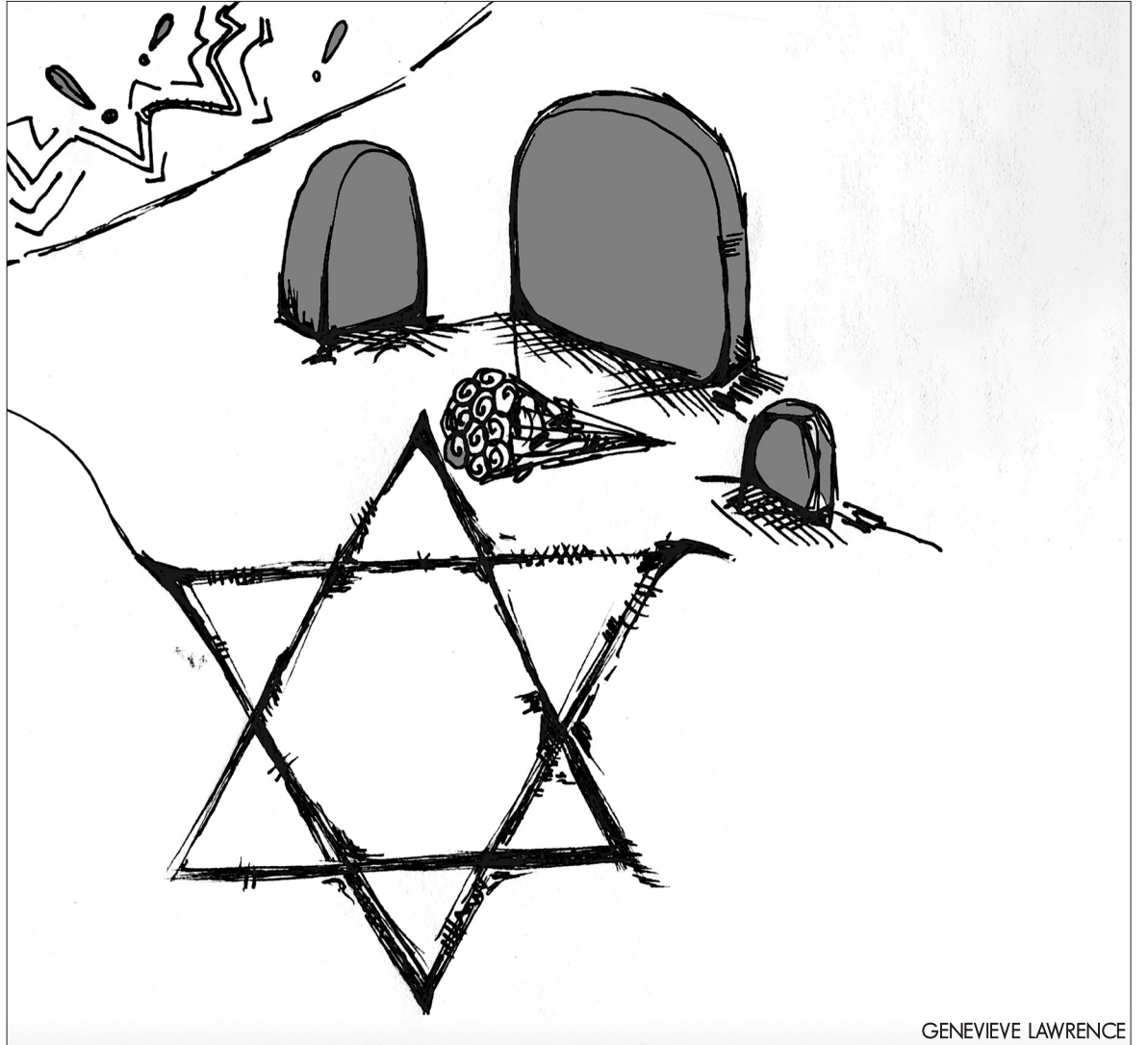
has been led (until recently) by a gay Jewish man. A foul-mouthed businessman is our president. The political support of the most fundamentalist Jewish groups, along with the government of the Jewish state, aligns with white supremacist groups who want to wipe them off the face of the earth (if that isn't Holocaust denial, I don't know what is). Someone needs a wake-up call: those who deemed Jewish critics of Israel as "self-hating" are redefining the word hypocrisy.

When a Haredi reporter asked President Trump how he planned to curb anti-Semitic attacks in the U.S., Trump silenced him. Instead of answering the question, Trump used the moment to champion himself as "the least anti-semitic person."

Politically, this was one of the most bizarre and tone-deaf things I have ever witnessed. This is not simply because Trump did not seize the opportunity to denounce anti-Semitism, but because he silenced one of his firm supporters. This reporter later defended Trump's aggressive and bullying behavior towards him due to the new friendliness of the White House towards Israeli Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu. Despite continued military support from the Obama administration, Netanyahu never had a good relationship with President Trump's predecessor, mostly due to Obama's opposition to the West Bank settlements.

Mr. Trump is using his relationship with Netanyahu as a ploy to get a free pass from a large portion of the American Jewish community. Confrontation on social media between progressive and right-wing members of the Jewish community see the right argue that our new president is less anti-semitic than the Obama administration due to his administration's blind support of the Israeli Prime Minister. They suggest that Trump's personal level of anti-Semitism does not matter.

Unfortunately, the need to protect Israel that much of the Jewish com-



GENEVIEVE LAWRENCE

munity seems to feel is close to being our undoing. Some very prominent groups (such as AIPAC) are willing to sacrifice the well-being of the Jewish community in the United States in exchange for unquestioning federal support of the Jewish state.

In reality, Trump's rhetoric and fear-mongering have empowered anti-Semitic groups. His overtly racist comments regarding Muslims and Immigrants, as well as his characterization of predominantly African-American neighborhoods as nothing but hell-holes, may not directly refer to Jews, but they have empowered groups who do hate

Jews. There has been a rise in hate-crimes in general, and also a sudden spike in anti-Semitic attacks. Jewish schools have been threatened and cemeteries have been desecrated.

Members of the Jewish right, however, have refused to acknowledge Trump's role in the occurrence of such events. The Israeli government champions Trump as their savior and refuses to equate recent anti-Semitism with the new administration. Orthodox Jewish Groups who cite anti-Semitism as the primary cause of criticism of Israel seem to be missing that.

The American Jewish community has to unite and realize that neither our president nor Israel's current Prime Minister have the best interests of the Jewish diaspora at heart, otherwise we risk truly just Jewish values fully vanishing from this world. While many Jewish groups have worked hard to fight for fundamental change in both Israel and America, the most powerful groups, such as AIPAC, have put so much hope into the Jewish state that they are unwilling to fight for changes that need to be made both there and here.

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There's something happening here, but what it is ain't exactly clear

GIANNI MARABELLA
MANAGING EDITOR

Before I came here, I was never the type to pick up a sign and march in the streets. Willamette has this way of invigorating its community members to stand up and fight for what they believe in. There's nothing quite like hundreds of voices joining yours in unison to call for progress.

When I attended the solidarity rally students held immediately after Trump's election, a majority of the group joined in chanting "No K.K.K., no fascist U.S.A." as we marched toward the capitol.

As we marched on, I overheard one student ask, "what's fascism?" Their friend replied, "I dunno, something bad."

They laughed about their confusion, and I thought nothing of it. Every voice makes us stronger, right? Yet these two friends represent a big issue that is apparent not only at Willamette, but in left-wing dialogue in the U.S. as a whole.

Willamette has carved out its voice, and the community it houses speaks out with that voice with strength and conviction. But I look around and worry that many of us are just playing lemming, and don't really understand the

words we assert with such passion.

We all know the talking points. The Muslim Ban is bad. Donald Trump promotes misogyny and xenophobia. For many of us, these ideas are now ingrained as common sense, as irrefutable truths. The only problem with that is, half the country stands guard to tear you down for these beliefs.

“If you want to tackle different forms of oppression in this country in a way that matters, acknowledging these problems isn't enough.”

We all know the stereotype the right has constructed of the liberal college student. They claim we are entitled kids that needs their trigger warnings, or the snowflake that just needs to grow up and get a job. Blindly picking

fighters makes one liable to prove them right.

I look at a man like Milo Yanopoulos, hardly a modern day Aristotle, who breezes through every talk he gives no matter the audience. Whenever he speaks at a university, liberal students get the mic, they have their time to talk, and Milo is able to turn them away without a blink.

He has this power because he is rarely approached with facts. Instead, he just has to turn another young person's anger in on themselves and repeat the same baseless assertions. No matter how hollow his words are, or how little he actu-

ally has to say when you pay attention, the truth of the matter is that his opponents rarely have anything more substantial backing up what they say.

Being able to acknowledge these issues is a huge first step, and arguably the most important one we take when we find something to fight for. However, if you want to tackle different forms of oppression in

this country in a way that matters, acknowledging these problems isn't enough.

Good intentions are enough at a place like Willamette, where the better part of the population is like-minded, at least in regard

to issues in their broadest sense. However, if one isn't aware enough to give an informed response when faced with a knowledgeable opponent, they could risk invalidating themselves and just giving the opposition more fuel to run off.

Being able to name all the countries in the Muslim ban will get you nowhere if you're just going to rallies to support Muslims without doing anything to learn the basic principles of the religion, or how they relate to these countries. Repeating the words "wage gap" doesn't mean you know what it is and how it's calculated. While it's all well and good to stand and fight, you can't really do anything if you don't have a leg to stand on.

So, before you march for a better tomorrow, do try to educate yourself. It's easy to forget when living at Willamette, but most of the center of the country is satisfied with letting marginalized groups fall by the wayside. The United States is filled to the brim with people who stand against you.

However, knowledge is power (despite what the election would imply). The more you understand, the stronger your voice is and, by extension, the stronger our voice is.

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Understanding white privilege

BETHEL EYASU
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Privilege is granted to people in society on the basis of factors such as gender, race, sexuality, mental and physical ability, socioeconomic status and geographical location. These factors are then intertwined, which is where the term intersectionality comes in. This means that people of all backgrounds can definitely be privileged in one way or another, but certain types of privilege hold significantly higher value, especially in a Eurocentric society.

Having privilege as a White individual does not mean everything has been given to you on a silver platter, or that your skin color enables you to have a problem-free life. No one should be made to feel guilty for the privilege they have, but it is extremely important to acknowledge that it exists so that it can be used beneficially in ways that help and support those who do not possess the same advantages.

From amplifying (and not speaking for) the sidelined voices of non-White individuals to talking with other White individuals about race, there are many ways to give this support.

White privilege is manifested both formally and informally within our society. So, what exactly is it then?

White privilege is only having to worry about one version of “the talk” (the second version of “the talk” being about how to behave when confronted by the police). White privilege is being able to go through security lines at airports without being “randomly selected” every time you fly. White privilege is when the media humanizes White criminals by circulating family photos and highlighting their accomplishments, but demonizing non-White criminals (and victims) by presenting incriminating photos of them and emphasizing their criminal histories. White privilege is being able to go shopping without getting

followed or harassed about your race. White privilege is having a criminal record, but still having a better chance of getting a call back for a job than a non-White individual with a clean slate. White privilege is getting pulled over on the road for only legitimate reasons. White privilege is not having to be hyper-aware of the color of your skin in most settings. White privilege is being able to live a life where the negative stereotypes of your race do not negatively impact you.

“Having privilege as a white individual does not mean everything has been given to you on a silver platter.”

It is difficult to ignore White privilege when people like Brock Turner only serve three months behind bars after being charged with three counts of sexual assault. You can’t ignore the fact that White individuals can carry out acts of terror without being labeled as terrorists, or that White individuals are also the least targeted in hate crimes. A White person isn’t called “triggered” when educating others on why something is offensive toward their race. The concept of White privilege is not complicated; it is simply having the ability to navi-

gate through society without certain implications because of what you look like.

I personally do not understand how people can deny this concept exists. Time and time again people argue that there can be no such thing as white privilege because different groups of White people have hugely varying levels of privilege financially. Yes, privilege can come from hard work and the accumulation of wealth, and that isn’t just because of one’s skin color. However, non-White individuals oftentimes find themselves working harder for the same benefits.

News flash: having money does not ensure you’ll be treated with respect. White people who are not as financially stable as their non-White counterparts are still more likely to be treated with respect due to their appearance. Being wealthy does not magically make society view a non-White person any differently. It does not shield one from negative stereotypes, and it definitely does not protect one from a policeman’s bullet.

Acknowledging White privilege is the first step moving forward with discussions about race. Having discussions with those you may disagree with, listening to more than one perspective, keeping your mind open and trying to understand others will do so much in helping us become more tolerant toward the opinions of others.

I have noticed that conversations about racial topics such as White privilege are oftentimes conducted among individuals with the same mindset. Why is that so? Continuing this only preserves White fragility and the centering of Whiteness within our campus, which prevents progress. Us Willamette students are intelligent and diverse in our beliefs; therefore, we should take advantage of our campus’ qualities and generate dialogue that will promote awareness.

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The Red Onion

Scientists discover new gender pronouns on Mars

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STAFF WRITER

NASA scientists searching for life on the red planet got more than they bargained for yesterday when they stumbled upon three new gender pronouns.

The discovery was made just after 2:00 a.m. PST by the team working on the Mars rover mission. It has been reported that the rover found the new pronouns embedded deep in the Martian soil while searching for liquid water.

In a press conference the head of NASA’s curiosity mission told reporters about their exciting findings.

“Naturally, there was a bit of shock at mission control when we got the first reports back from the rover. But once we ran some tests and confirmed that these new pronouns were legitimate there was just this big party. I would put it up there with the moon landings,” he said.

The job for the scientists at NASA now is to name the pronouns.

“Well, all the obvious ones are taken like he,

she, ze/zie and (f)ae so we are looking at some new one like pe/e, po/o, and fa/rt,” the head of the Intergalactic Gender Naming Department said in a statement.

A non-binary student shared their take on the discovery.

“I’m really excited because I have never been able to find a gender pronoun that fits me. There’s only a couple million online so having these three new ones gives me a new hope. Currently I’m using the fa/rt pronouns,” fa said.

NASA’s CEO has already announced plans for a new expedition to Mars with the sole purpose of discovering new gender pronouns.

“Our top scientists didn’t believe that there could be more gender pronouns out there so we have to keep searching. Forget life on other planets, this is the new frontier. If there are more pronouns on Mars, imagine what other weird stuff could be out there,” he said.

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What in the hell is a Trump doctrine?

JESSICA WEISS
STAFF WRITER

Doctrines of foreign policy in the United States are often unofficial indicators of the general direction presidents will take the relationship between the U.S. and the rest of the world. Often, the press coins the description of a president’s foreign policy to reflect actions that a president has taken, as with The Atlantic and the “Obama Doctrine.”

On Feb. 20, the New York Times published an Opinions piece entitled “Why the World Needs a Trump Doctrine.” Contributed to by the National Security Advisor to President Jimmy Carter, the piece laid out foreign policy recommendations for the president in order to establish America’s role at the helm of a world in disarray. Using rhetoric critical of Trump’s America-centric campaign slogans and emphasizing America’s role as a world power and geopolitical stabilizer, the authors lay out strategic decisions to shape a

foreign policy doctrine that assigns the U.S. an extremely active role in international affairs.

The entire idea of a “Trump Doctrine” is a fabricated fantasy of foreign policy traditionalists that assumes the president cares about “people who have worked their whole life in the field.” From highlighting the importance of regional geopolitical commitments — such as defending Japan and South Korea or U.S. contribution to NATO — to improving our relationship with Russia by requiring both sides to abide by international law, the expectations outlined here are a fantasy version of what we can expect from Trump.

More likely than not, foreign policy under Trump will be a disarray of problematic relationships with questionable world leaders like Netanyahu and Putin. It will jump-start the upsurge of far-right nationalism in Western liberal democracies. It will include a complete disregard for national security interests because “America First” requires we

put our biggest domestic problems to the wayside while exaggerating non-existent conflicts, such as the right for transgendered individuals to choose their own bathrooms or keeping out people from countries that have not produced terrorists.

The fact that the publication advising the shape of a Trump doctrine can be barred from White House press conferences for being “fake news” while simultaneously remaining one of the most trusted media sources in the country more or less characterizes how this whole foreign policy doctrine ordeal will go.

Since the president has taken office, he’s already had to retreat on a mistake he made as President-elect by talking to the Taiwanese president and violating an agreement with China. He had to pull a “maybe not” after promising all-around support to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, who recently proposed new Israeli settlements in the Palestinian-con-

trolled West Bank (a decision that Press Secretary Sean Spicer admitted might get in the way of peace deals between Israel and Palestine). Finally, Trump had to ask his National Security Advisor to resign after questionable conversations with the Russian ambassador.

Donald Trump’s utter rejection of cosmopolitanism and international cooperation in favor of protectionist nationalism (with an exception for Russia, apparently) has led him to call NATO obsolete. It has encouraged far right anti-European Union parties all across Europe to rally around their national flags, at the expense of inter-party collaboration.

Clearly, we are in need of a worldview in which the U.S. works together with Russia. We need a president who makes sure that Russia follows international law, instead of occupying Eastern European countries. We need a perspective that supports government policy in which the U.S. supports multilateral

security operations to promote international stability; unfortunately, this ideology is one Trump would laugh at. This could possibly be due to the fact that he needs Russia on his side for certain “reasons”; perhaps he just literally does not know why all the things suggested in this article are good. After all, the call with the Taiwanese president was one he later brushed off as a genuine mistake while he snuggled up to Chinese President Xi Jinping to restate the “One China” stance.

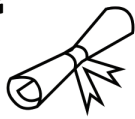
To speak of a “Trump Doctrine” with goals that seem to reverse everything Trump has said and done is not only hilarious, but a complete waste of time. Considering we have a president who has demonstrated that he can barely handle his administration, the suggestions in the article are clearly relevant. It would be even more useful if Trump actually took advice.

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Class of 2017 Senior Salute Celebration!



When is it?



Thursday, March 9th
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
in the **Alumni Lounge.**

What is it?

An event designed to assist Willamette seniors in handling all of those little arrangements that often times are stressful, but are always necessary for graduation.

Such arrangements include:

*Cap, stole and gown sizing and pick-up.

*The ordering and purchase of announcements, class rings, and diploma frames.

This event will also allow you the opportunity to get in touch with department representatives and find out about all of the other exciting activities for the **CLASS of 2017.**

Food!!

Prizes!!

Fun!!



Who's it for?

ALL SENIORS cleared by the Registrar to graduate with the class of 2017 are invited.

We want to answer all of your questions and help with your graduation needs.



CLIMATE CHANGE WHAT NOW?



NAOMI ORESKES

Harvard professor and environmental scientist will share how industry-funded researchers can delegitimize scientific consensus — like the science behind climate change — to mislead policy makers and the public.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 7:30 P.M.

HUDSON HALL, MARY STUART ROGERS MUSIC CENTER, FREE ADMISSION

Sponsored by the Dempsey Foundation and the Willamette University Environmental and Earth Sciences Department. For special access needs, call 503-375-5442 at least one week prior to the event. ASL interpretation will be provided.



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