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## Say hello to new housing: First years find a new home

 **DORIAN GRAYSON**  
STAFF WRITER

Housing and Community Life (HCL) has decided to substantially change housing at Willamette. Due to the demands of improving the freshman experience, they have opted to consolidate first year housing. Eastside dorms, such as Baxter and Matthews, will be exclusively for first year students.

“We want students to develop strong bonds with the first year cohort socially and get residential support to meet their goals academically. We want better retention of students who arrive in August,” said Scott Etherton, Director of HCL.

Student retention is likely on the administration’s mind due to the budget discussions during the Board of Trustees meeting. During the discussions, it is likely that they were discussing the relatively consistent under enrollment and low retention rates. Rather than cutting costs for the budget, the Board of Trustees would rather work to see revenue go up. Part of that plan is the Eastside change.

Students, when asked, were rather split about it. Some thought it was good, others not.

“I think having all the freshmen in one place is interesting. It creates a cool community and more uniform first year experience, but it also distances them from the rest of the student body,” freshman and Westside resident Annie Mattson said.



SANJAY KAPILA

See **FIRST YEARS** Page 4 Baxter Hall, along with other Eastside dorms, are going to be made exclusive to first year students.

## Six professors are granted tenure

 **ELI KERRY**  
STAFF WRITER

Last month the University announced that six faculty members would be granted tenure in recognition of their teaching, scholarship and service. The news was announced on March 17 online by University Communications, and relayed again by the University’s official Facebook page on March 23. The promotions are scheduled to go into effect during the 2017-2018 academic year.

The faculty members receiving this distinction include Professors Anna Cox, Brandi Row Lazzarini, Roy Pérez, Abigail Susik, Kawika Pierson and Karen Sandrik.

Professor Anna Cox teaches Spanish and film studies courses at Willamette, and she has been active in the fields of visual culture studies as well as Latin American, Latinx and Iberian studies. In addition to serving on Willamette’s Multicultural Affairs Committee, she recently co-edited an issue

of the University of Oregon’s new academic journal, *Peripherica*.

Professor Brandi Row Lazzarini, in addition to teaching exercise science courses, has recently set up a biomechanics lab. She started teaching at Willamette — which she also graduated from — in 2012. Over the past year, she has published three papers co-authored with students.

Professor Roy Pérez teaches courses in the English, American Ethnic Studies and Women’s and Gender Studies departments. He has been a mentor to queer and Latinx students on campus, as well as a member of the Committee for Faculty Development and has produced a wide variety of scholarly and creative work ranging from poems and films to essays.

See **UNIVERSITY** Page 2

## Willamette athletics find success over busy spring break



IAN ROBINSON

The men’s rugby team earned third place in the National Small College Rugby Organization Challenge Cup last week. Baseball, softball, track and field, golf and tennis also competed up and down the west coast over the break.

See **NO BREAK** Page 8

# University offers tenure to six professors



PRESTON SCHERR



PRESTON SCHERR



PRESTON SCHERR



PRESTON SCHERR

Four of the six professors granted tenure this spring: left, Professor of Art History Abigail Susik, top right, Professor of Law Karen Sandrik, bottom left, Professor of Exercise Science Brandi Row Lazzarini, bottom right, Professor of Spanish and Film Studies Anna Cox. Not pictured: Atkinson Professor Kawika Pierson and Professor of English Roy Pérez.

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Professor Abigail Susik teaches in the Art History department, and is widely respected as a scholar both within and outside of that field for her boundary-pushing work. In 2016 she curated the Hallie Ford Museum of Art exhibition “For Myself: Nudes by Imogen Cunningham, 1906-1939.” She is an associate ed-

itor of the Journal of the New Media Caucus, Media-N, and served on the search committee for the dean of Willamette’s College of Liberal Arts.

Professor Karen Sandrik teaches at the College of Law, with an emphasis on courses concerning intellectual property law, secured transactions and contracts. Prior to her teaching position, she was an associate in the intellectual property

practice group at Troutman Sanders LLP in Atlanta. Before law school, she played Division I soccer at Mississippi State University.

Professor Kawika Pierson teaches at the Atkinson Graduate School of Management. His courses focus on accounting, statistics and complex systems. He graduated from the Sloan School at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2011 with

a doctorate in management and a focus on system dynamics and accounting. His thesis, “Profit Cycle Dynamics,” was an examination of the reasons behind the existence of profit cycles in the airline industry, the insurance industry and other sectors of the economy.

Professors with academic tenure have been granted appointments which last until retirement age,

with exceptions made for the rare circumstance of dismissal with just cause. The tenure system is intended to preserve academic freedom for academics, allowing them to hold controversial opinions without compromising their job security. Tenure is widely considered a major milestone in the careers of most academics.

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## CAMPUS SAFETY

### BURGLARY

**March 24, 1:53 p.m. (Hasel-dorf Apartments):** While conducting a building check, an officer noticed that a room had been broken into. Officers searched the building and located various unlocked doors and windows which had been locked a few days prior. All entrances to the building were rechecked and secured. A report was made.

**March 25, 12:09 p.m. (Hasel-dorf Apartments):** While on patrol, an officer observed an individual inside of a building that had been locked and condemned. The officer called for backup and called 911. As a second campus safety officer arrived the individual exited the building and was taken into custody. Salem Police then arrived and spoke with the individual and proceeded to walk through and check the building the individual had been in.

### CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

**March 23, 7:00 a.m. (Kaneko Commons):** While on patrol, an officer noticed that an exit sign had been ripped from the ceiling. A work order was submitted.

**March 23 10:50 a.m. (Kaneko Commons):** Campus Safety received a report stating that a wall had been damaged. A work order was submitted.

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

**April 1, 3:40 p.m. (Atkinson Graduate School):** Campus Safety received a call stating that there was a medical emergency occurring and that 911 was being called. Officers responded and located the individual who was receiving CPR. An AED (Automatic Electronic Defibrillator) was being used and the individual had been administered shocks. Officers assisted Salem Fire into the building and the individual was transport-

ed to the ER. The individual is reported to be doing well.

### HARASSMENT

**March 22, 10:00 p.m. (Campus Safety):** An individual came in to Campus Safety to report that they were being harassed. The individual spoke with an officer and a report was filed.

### INITIATING A FALSE REPORT

**March 31, 10:10 p.m. (Smit Fine Arts):** Campus Safety received an alert that there was a fire alarm activated in Smith Auditorium. Officers responded and located an alarm station that had been pulled, but there was no fire or other emergency.

### POLICY VIOLATION

**March 22, 5:53 p.m. (Collins Science Center):** Campus Safety received a call regarding individuals on the roof of Collins. Officers responded and made contact with the individuals who were advised that being

on the roof is a violation of University policy. A report was filed.

**March 29, 8:00 p.m. (Art Building):** While on patrol, an officer was flagged down by an individual who stated that they had seen people on the roof of the Art Building. The officer responded and contacted the individuals as they were exiting the roof. The officer informed the individuals that it was a violation of University policy. A report was filed.

### TRESPASS

**March 25, 3:08 p.m. (Matthews Parking Lot):** While on patrol, an officer noticed an individual taking bottles and cans from a dumpster. Because of numerous prior encounters the officer trespassed the individual from University property.

### VEHICLE ACCIDENT

**March 22, 11:35 a.m. (Sparks Parking Lot):** Campus Safety received a call from an individual stat-

ing that their car had been hit. A note was left on their windshield along with a phone number and the individual was going to attempt to contact the number. A report was filed.

**March 28, 8:50 a.m. (Off Campus):** Campus Safety received a call from an individual, on a University sponsored trip, stating that they had been in a minor traffic accident off campus. The individual stated that there was minor damage to the Enterprise rental car that they were driving but that no one was hurt.

**April 2, 3:30 p.m. (Off Campus):** Campus Safety received a call from an individual, on a University sponsored trip, stating that they had hit a post and slightly damaged their Enterprise rental car.

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



# U.S. universities offer sanctuary to DACA students

JESSICA WEISS  
STAFF WRITER

The election of Donald Trump has triggered concerns in many areas of domestic policy for young people. However, one that affects the status of many college students and campuses around the country is the protection of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients from deportation, and the role that college campuses have in protecting those students.

In June of 2012, the Obama administration began DACA to allow certain immigrants who entered the country as undocumented minors to receive a renewable two-year period legal residency and work permit, effectively deferring action from deportation. DACA status is often what allows these recipients to attend college, however they are ineligible for federal aid given their legal status.

After the election of Trump the status of these residents have been thrown into question, prompting more than 600 college and university presidents across the United States (including Willamette, Reed, Lewis & Clark, Linfield and Portland

State) to sign a statement calling for the continuation of DACA, describing it as a “moral imperative” and “national necessity.”

This has not stopped the detaining of two DACA recipients however, a 19-year-old student who possessed a small amount of marijuana in San Antonio and a 23-year-old parent of a United States citizen arrested in Seattle when Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was searching for the DACA recipient's father.

The executive order Donald Trump enacted on the Jan. 25 gave priority for deportation to undocumented immigrants who have “committed acts that constitute a chargeable criminal offense,” even if they have not been convicted or charged. There was no clarification on whether or not this would apply to DACA recipients.

With these actions and a spike in ICE raids across the country, a debate has been prompted in regards to the role colleges play in protecting DACA students. Following the move by many cities to designate themselves as “sanctuary cities,” or a city that does not use its resources to cooperate with federal

officials to seek out undocumented immigrants for removal or deportation, many colleges have decided to or are debating to designate their campuses as “sanctuary campuses.” Essentially the general policy would entail refusing to cooperate with federal officials who seek to deport undocumented students, protecting the identities of undocumented students on campus, and refusing all information sharing or physical access to land controlled by the university to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or ICE.

The topic of designating campuses as sanctuaries has been extremely controversial, with schools like Harvard claiming that the measure is ineffective (as with a simple court order any campus would still legally be required to hand over all undocumented students on campus), and the chairman of Portland Community College's board of directors resigning because he did not agree with the decision to make PCC a sanctuary campus because it “politicizes the college.” A similar position on the issue has been taken by Stephen Thorsett here at Willamette, who wrote that “the University does not take political stands,”

in a campus-wide email sent in late January.

Oregon has led the movement in designating campuses as sanctuaries however, with Reed College and Portland State University being among the first institutions in the country to declare their campuses as sanctuaries in Nov. 2016, after Trump's election win. It is important to note however that both universities have stated that legal reasons could inhibit their abilities to protect DACA recipients, with PSU stating that they “will not facilitate or consent... unless legally compelled to do so or in the event of clear exigent circumstances,” and Reed stating that they “will not assist... absent a direct court order.”

The debate over the status of DACA recipients is not close to over, as their unique case of residency status puts recipients in a difficult situation amidst the larger debate over undocumented immigrants and deportation. As campuses move forward in discussing their role in the process, many more of these clashes within institutions are likely to arise.

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# 11 killed in the St. Petersburg metro bombing

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MANAGING EDITOR

At least 11 people were murdered in a subway bombing in St. Petersburg, Russia this past Monday. In the mid-afternoon — when the train was in motion between Tekhnologicheskoy Institut Station and Sennaya Ploshchad Station — an explosion went off in the third car. At least 40 people are confirmed by Russian Health Minister Veronika Skvortsova to have been injured in the attack according to TASS, a Russian News Agency.

When the explosion occurred, the conductor opted to continue on to the next station instead of stopping the train so that the injured could get medical attention and allowed for evacuation. In the panic, those who were able did their best to assist those who had been hurt.

“People there did not have whole bodies ... They were not asking for help. They were not moving,” a man told CNN. “Their eyes were glassy. They were bleeding out. Not a pleasant thing to see.”

According to Skvortsova, ambulances arrived on scene soon after the train stopped at the station.

“The ambulances were the first to arrive, the first crews were at the scene already three minutes later,” Skvortsova told TASS. She explained that a total of 42 crews worked at the scene.

A second explosive device was found hidden in a fire extinguisher at the Vosstaniya Square metro station, but was dismantled by authorities. According to media reports, that bomb was larger than the one that went off, and carried about a kilogram of TNT.

Russian President Vladimir Putin — who was in St. Petersburg at the time — went on national television to assure the people that the culprits would be found.

“Law enforcement agencies and intelligence services are doing their best to establish the cause and give a full picture of what happened,” the Russian president said.

Putin went to the scene on Monday evening to lay flowers at a makeshift shrine.

While no group claimed responsibility for the attack, the suspected bomber was Akbarzhon Jalilov, a 22 year old native of Kyrgyzstan who had obtained Russian citizenship. While the attack has been labeled as a terrorist attack, authorities are still investigating the nature of what happened. It was the Kyrgyz security service that identified Jalilov.

This is the largest bombing Russia has experienced since the Volgograd bombings in December of 2013. These were two separate suicide bombings which killed 34 individuals. Both the Volgograd bombings and Monday's attack targeted mass transport. In 2010, Moscow's metro system was attacked in two suicide bombings, killing 38 people.

According to a senior U.S. administration official, President Donald Trump spoke with Putin over the telephone to give his condolences and offer his support. The U.N. Security Council condemned the attack, calling it cowardly and barbaric.

St. Petersburg Governor Georgi S. Poltavchenko declared a three day mourning period beginning on Tuesday.

“I appeal to you, citizens of St. Petersburg and guests of our city, to be alert, attentive and cautious, and to behave in a responsible manner in light of events,” Poltavchenko said.

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# Taking your nominee and going home

DORIAN GRAYSON  
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One of the most important, long-term presidential powers is the ability to nominate judges to the Supreme Court. This is especially powerful when the same party holds a Senate majority, as it means their agenda will survive in the highest court in the land for decades to come.

However, there are not enough Republicans to completely vote Judge Neil Gorsuch in. Eight Democrats are needed to vote in favor of Gorsuch for him to be nominated. That looks unlikely and many

Senate Democrats will instead opt to filibuster Gorsuch.

This may not be enough to counter Gorsuch's nomination. Senate Republicans are saying that if they do not get enough votes to confirm Gorsuch, they'll change the rules so ensure they have enough votes. This is a relatively unprecedented use of the Senate's powers.

Who is the judge that's causing so much controversy? Gorsuch is a 49 year old, chosen by Donald Trump. He graduated from Oxford, Columbia and Harvard, and worked for two previous Supreme Court Justices.

Gorsuch is relatively similar to the judge he is replacing, Judge Antonin Scalia, but a far cry from the judge he's replacing for potential confirmation: Judge Merrick Garland. Garland's nomination was blocked during the last year of the Obama presidency by a Republican Senate. Gorsuch, on the other hand, is a noted legal conservative that some say has a chance to be persuasive to Kennedy, the deciding moderate in most cases.

Gorsuch has had some relatively contentious opinions, though. He has spoken openly of being legally against assisted suicide, a concept that is very quickly becoming legal

in more states. He has also shown himself to be a proponent for religious freedoms, in their exclusionary forms. He joined dissent against the Affordable Care Act to require coverage for contraception, on the basis that it should be optional on religious grounds.

But it's impossible to judge a nominee on their history alone, which is why the Senate holds confirmation hearings. This is the opportunity for the Judge to win the Senate over. However, in this case, it looks like many senators have already chosen whether to vote the Judge in already. This is due to party lines.

This left most of the time to Democrats to ask serious questions about troubles in Gorsuch's past, while the Republicans sat back and watched. This also led to Gorsuch giving vague, non-committal answers. His audience wasn't the people asking the questions, but those remaining silent.

When asked about a time where he said that there was information gained from “enhanced interrogation” techniques such as waterboarding, Gorsuch replied but didn't give much of an answer.

“My recollection of 12 years ago,” he said, “is that that was the position that the clients were telling us. I was a lawyer. My job was an advocate, and we were dealing with detainee litigation.”

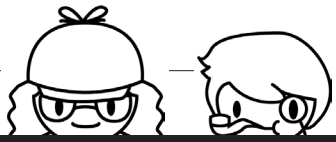
When asked about Presidential abuse of powers, he replied in a similar manner. “Presidents make all sorts of arguments about inherent authority — they do — and that is why we have courts to decide,” Gorsuch said.

It seems, however, that not enough Democrats are won over by the nominee, and it seems he will not be confirmed under the current system. It remains to be seen if the Republican Congress will carry through with their threat to change the rules.

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MIRANDA MARTIN



Sherlock & Watson

Dear Sherlock and Watson,  
The game is not afoot. The Willamette community has not utilized our column to help them with their cases. How do I rally the community to submit their questions?

Shameful Sherlock

Dear Sherlock,  
I am sorry that this is happening to your business. Try to encourage the campus with social media promotions, and emphasize how professional you and Watson are at solving cases.

The game is always afoot.  
Best wishes,  
-Sherlock

Dear Sherlock,

Write an advice column in the Collegian shaming them.  
Apply now!  
-Watson

Need advice? Sherlock and Watson are on the case! Email the Lifestyles Editor: [caforbes@willamette.edu](mailto:caforbes@willamette.edu)

# First years take over Eastside



SANJAY KAPILA

The exterior of Matthews Hall, where most first years will be living next year.

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“[If this happened while I was a freshman], I think I’d meet a lot more freshmen ... It’s nice that everyone will be in the same boat, but at the same time that means no one knows what they’re doing.”

Others were more skeptical. “I’m not too keen on the idea of the entirety of Eastside becoming freshman only dorms,” said sophomore Kylie Paddock. “Having lived on the Eastside (specifically the

Baxter Complex) of campus for two years now, I love the community of freshman, sophomore and the few juniors living in the dorm. When I came to Willamette as a freshman, I had no idea where classroom buildings were, what Bishop was, or the hours of some of the buildings on campus, I always had the upperclassmen living in the dorm to ask.”

It seems that the first year experience included close proximity to those that knew more than them. However, it’s likely the Board

of Trustees decided this with at least some research on the matter. Whether things go wrong or right, the changes would be easy to reverse if they don’t go well.

A more popular choice with students was for the renovations planned for Westside and Cornerstone.

“It’s great to get these new renovations to update the the older stuff on campus and I also think it’s cool that they’re implementing a first year living program and dedicated

space to do it at,” freshman Hunter Ignacio said.

Mattson gave an alternative she thought would be a more effective compromise.

“I think I’d make at least one dorm all freshman but not require all the first years to live there. That way, incoming students have the option to live in a strictly first-year dorm, but they don’t necessarily have to,” she said.

As the interviewees continued, they started to list what they would change, should they be in charge. Ignacio wanted future renovations in Eastside dorms and housing transparency. Paddock suggested expanding gender neutral bathrooms to all of Eastside.

It’s clear that those on campus have strong opinions due to being directly affected by the changes. The changes were communicated effectively, as everyone interviewed knew of them. However, Paddock still has to vacate her community she’s lived in since starting. Given that these changes have yet to be implemented, their effectiveness has yet to be proven.

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# Pinecones: A rather short narrative

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CONTRIBUTOR

At 1:30 a.m. Lucy stumbles out on the grass, holes in tights, make-up smeared. Almost toppling over, she picks up a small pinecone and tosses it helplessly skyward. She picks up another, and with more intention this time, manages to bounce it harmlessly off the lower bricks of the three-story dorm. She turns to the ground once more, displeased, and grabs anything she can find out of the wet grass. A small stick crashes into a gray pillar next to a second story window. A chunk of bark collides with a nearby tree branch. Finally, something strikes!

Three heads swivel as a misshapen pinecone bangs loudly against the dorm window. They

glance around the room at each other. “What the fuck was that?” Rachel asks, startled, while Lana stomps to the slightly open window and definitively shuts it without a word. Jack gets up to check outside.

“Holy shit, it’s Lucy,” he says. “What is she doing down there?”

He thinks Lucy is probably cold down there, wearing only a red nightgown and ripped tights, her stuff strewn about in the mud.

Lucy stands resolute below the bright room, and shouts: “LANA!” Then her phone buzzes from the grass.

Jack: Dude, don’t throw shit.

Lucy ignores him. “LANAAA!!” She picks up another pinecone, waits desperately and hopelessly for a reply, and decides not to throw it.

“God damn it,” she mutters. Tears drip into her shoes for a couple of minutes. She drops the pinecone, and thinks to herself, this isn’t worth it. The side door of the dorm opens and Jack steps out.

“Hey. What are you doing?” He cuts straight through the grass and hugs her. “Are you ok? Don’t throw things, Lucy.” She buries her head in his shoulder.

“I don’t know what else to do. Lana won’t talk to me,” she stutters out.

“I know, but this is just gonna make it worse. Let’s go home.”

Lucy gathers her things, takes a few steps alongside Jack, and recalls earlier in the night when she and Lana were walking and smiling. She remembers thinking that even after the past week ev-

erything was going to be alright. She remembers dancing in the basement and grinning through the hallways. They had talked on the roof and Maxey was there, acting like an idiot, pissing Lucy off. She told him she didn’t like him right to his face and Lana pulled her away. Lana asked her why she did that in a panicked voice, and Lucy thought about how he really deserved to get punched.

Over the roar of the crowd, Lana defended Maxey and yelled that she was fine and that Lucy should back off. Lucy of course yelled back, still convinced Lana would change her mind, but as she slowly realized she wouldn’t, she started crying.

They left the party and took the long route home, arguing the whole way. She remembers

Lana leaving her at her dorm. She walked inside and just stood there, staring into the fluorescent air, thinking there had to be something more to say, something else she could have done to fix, to convince, to erase. She remembers sprinting back across the dimly lit campus. “Lana, please...” The words scraped her throat and disappeared as the door closed.

Lucy sits in her dorm. Jack makes her cereal and the two of them stay up late talking. She tries to let it go and get over it and move along, but it doesn’t get any better. The sun rises, and it doesn’t get any better. She closes her eyes. The pinecones are calling.

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# CSL celebrates the achievements of outstanding WU student

BELLA GREEN  
CONTRIBUTOR

I had the opportunity to talk with Madison Rotter, a senior History & Anthropology major. Rotter works at the Willamette Academy overseeing workshops and working with the Pathways program, which aims to build relationships between the University, the Academy and people in the community. When she is not working on her senior thesis, she is also involved with Sexual Response Assault Allies (SARA) and the Office of Admissions. Willamette Academy will be recruiting new volunteers in the fall, with a particular need for STEM majors.

To begin the interview, I asked Rotter to describe a typical day at the Academy. She described the Academy’s role in relation to the students they serve and explained what the students do during their time there.

“In their seventh grade year, the students get nominated for the Academy, they go through the application process and we make a commitment to the families that we will provide resources for these students until they graduate from high school.

Right now is the nomination period where we are recruiting two classes. 3-7 p.m. is open for our high school students. They come to the Willamette Academy Annex, and that’s a space for them to study, to work together, to use computers, to hang out and they’re expected to come once or twice a week.

In that time we also have a group of Willamette students who are mentors to these folks, so students will go and meet with their mentor who they work with all year long and talk about what’s going on in the student’s life, and then the mentors are responsible for keeping track of their academic records, transcripts, communication with teachers and stuff like that.”

She went on to tell me about the

different opportunities available for volunteers and employees at the Academy, making a point to address the need for volunteers for the fall.

“So the mentors’ main job is to build relationships with students. There’s another set of staffers who aren’t mentors that I’m a part of called the Academic Support Program Assistance. And then there’s always volunteers. They might help out with a workshop and supervise students and participate in the workshop with them. We have Saturday Sessions, which are once a month. The last one we did SAT prep for the juniors. We’ve had Planned Parenthood and people from the Capitol building come and talk about ways that our students could get involved, so that’s our Saturday sessions look like. 10-3 p.m. is for administrative activities. For volunteers, if people think what the Academy it does great work but might not want to work with students, it’s a great opportunity to work those first

five hours.”

Rotter was passionate about the value of working at the Academy as she talked more about her experience there.

“It’s definitely the biggest source of education I’ve received from the University, working at the Academy. It’s not just tutoring students, it’s a whole nonprofit. There’s a lot of support and a great community so you’re able to build skills and have different sorts of experiences while still contributing directly to your community, which is awesome.”

To wrap up the interview, I asked Rotter about the Willamette motto and its significance to her. She was insightful in her reply as she talked about how working with the Academy has enriched her education.

“I think that education in general, if it’s doing its job, should be aimed toward that motto. The Academy is a great space to learn how your education matters. Not just the Academy,

but opportunities that will allow you to learn outside of the classroom and do it in a way that’s engaged is the piece that makes my education worth it, personally. I encourage people to get involved when they have the time. I think that’s a part of what holistic education is all about. I think our professors are really community oriented. Most of them are doing something outside of the classroom to contribute to their community in some way and I take a lot of pride in being able to say that about my University.”

Rotter’s latter comments are particularly impactful in that she highlights the fact that there are many opportunities to get involved here at Willamette. In her closing statement, she mentioned her perspective toward her education as a driver to help her become more engaged in her service work. As she defines it, it is safe to say that Rotter is living out the Willamette motto.

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# I'm not fine on the inside

What a typical conversation looks like when I'm trying to explain my Lupus to people:

*I have a disability-*

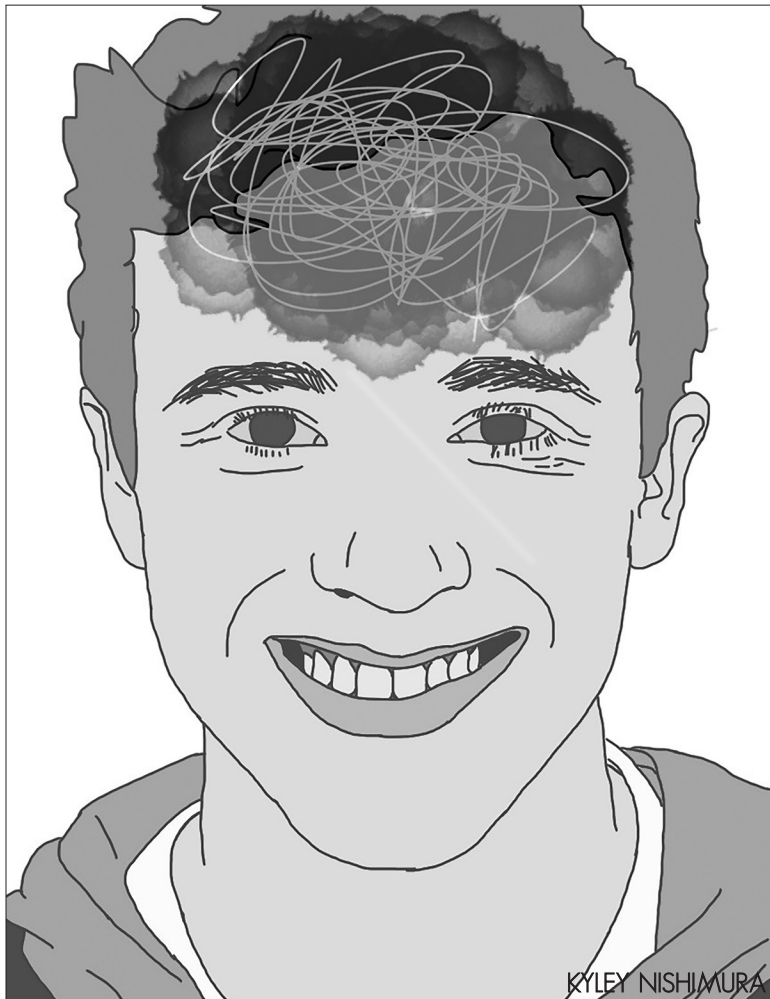
*"But you're not in a wheelchair, how can you insult those with actual disabilities??"*

*No, no I have a genetic chronic illness-*

*"You have an illness? But you look fine. You're not coughing or in a hospital, how can you insult those with actual illnesses?"*

*Yes because looking fine is the goal, but I am actually not fine-*

*"What do you mean you're not fine? You go to classes, if you're not fine, why are you in college? You go out with friends, if you're not fine why don't you just go home?"*



LAUREN ALEXANDER  
CONTRIBUTOR

I am an 18-year old girl who strives for an education, I happen to have some problems and difficulties that you can't see and there are so many people on campus just like me.

An "invisible illness" consists of any physical or mental illness that isn't portrayed in a physical or outward social manner. This can include genetic illnesses, chronic illnesses and mental illnesses.

I have lupus. Lupus is a genetic chronic illness passed down by the women in my family. My grandma, my mom and I all suffer from this illness. I have the worst case out of the three of us, and yet most of the doctors refuse to admit the existence of my lupus at all, citing, "Well she is just a young woman. She must just have anxiety or a sprained ankle or something." This is a common response to women with chronic pain or mental problems, but that is an issue for another article.

What does my illness do?

Firstly, I am always in a state of discomfort or pain in some part

of my body; most of the time in more than one part. Unlike illnesses like AIDS, which cause the immune system to underact and not fight problems, my immune system overworks and attacks healthy parts of my body.

It has: attacked my lungs which cause massive breathing problems and damage, caused my heart to have occasional stutters and beat jumps as well as induced anemia that goes away and then comes back. In addition, it causes a deficiency in white blood cells.

My brain also takes hits through different symptoms of depression, anxiety, paranoia, mania and anger. Overall, my body and muscle tissues have deformities in my hips which causes chronic pain everywhere.

I can be sensitive to light, sound and touch as well as the sun, and I will also experience random sharp pains anytime, anywhere throughout my body. This pain and discomfort tends to flare, which means it will get really bad and then calm back down to a more tolerable level.

It sucks.

It sucks because it's not easy to explain, not to friends, not to

professors or employers. I am a social person and I love being around people, but I hate canceling plans, missing classes or rehearsals because I can't physically get out of bed.

But I think the worst part is the judgment of my friends and other people around me. They tell me I'm faking it or just want an excuse to lay in bed. They tell me I'm too happy to be so sick. So many times I will have to fight for what's wrong with me, or be asked to prove myself.

I want you to understand that there are many people on campus with hurts that you can never see. I'm opening up to all of you in hopes that you'll look at your friends with mental health disabilities, physical disabilities and chronic illnesses in hopes that you'll see us in a new, kinder light. All we want is a little kindness, a little respect and a little love.

If you yourself have a disability or just want to talk about my story or yours, feel free to email me. I am always down for Starbucks and I am a very good hugger.

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# Don't just release the Kraken, find your own

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I would like to begin this by throwing out one very important statement: giant squids are the most incredible things in the known ocean. They are fierce predators, fascinating deep sea survivors and most notably, giant. The most amazing thing about the giant squid is that despite its defining feature — the fact that it is giant — we know next to nothing about them.

These massive sea creatures have captivated the imagination of sailors, sci-fi writers and the sea-loving public for hundreds of years, but most of what we know about them has been learned from dissecting the dead carcasses that sometimes wash up on the shores of countries below the equator.

Most interestingly, they seem to only have two natural predators: other giant squid and sperm whales. At this very moment, there could be a literal battle between the Kraken and Moby Dick's cousin hundreds of feet below the ocean surface, and the ten year old inside of me finds that epic and incredible.

I've had a deep admiration of giant squid since reading Jules Verne's "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," which features an epic fight against these creatures and a submarine. It's an incredibly awesome, though unrealistic scenario, and I loved it immensely. The

idea that "the Kraken" could be a real thing captivated the mind of my younger self so much so that I am fairly sure I watched every single documentary on them that exists, which isn't much of a feat because there are not many.

The first picture of a live one was in 2004, and the first time one was caught on film was years later in 2012. They've escaped our observation for so long, hiding in the great depths of the ocean, and they will likely continue to evade us for a while longer. They are a constant reminder that no matter how much mankind thinks it has taken over every part of the planet, there is so much more out there that eludes us still. The ocean holds a vast number of secrets that will not be unveiled in our lifetimes, or even the lifetimes of our children and grandchildren.

Surprising at it may seem, I do have a point for discussing all of this. First, and most importantly, I think giant squid are freaking amazing. But second, I think it is very important for us on campus to remember that there is so much more out there than just the academic bubble we live in. Giant squid are a childhood fascination for me, a random personal passion that I would never want to pursue beyond a general interest. I don't plan on pursuing the study of them in any way, but learning more about them just interests, entertains and amazes me.



I recommend to every student on campus to find their own giant squid. Find a random passion outside of your academic study and pursue it for the sake of personal enjoyment. It's too easy to get caught up in the world of being

a student that I sometimes forget that I genuinely love learning about different things, and I imagine I'm not alone in that feeling.

Strive to find something that excites the wonder in you, and ignites your passion for the world.

Never forget that feeling of discovering something brand new that you never knew you loved, because that is one of the purest forms of joy out there.

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# Anna Akana, A prominent How Youtube

 CAROL LI  
STAFF WRITER

From cooking tutorials, to music videos and even video game commentaries, YouTube is a hub for media content that has become a prominent part of this generation's culture. Due to the nature of YouTube, almost anyone and everyone with access to internet and a computer is able to upload videos. This gives ordinary people the ability to produce content to be circulated on a platform with viewership, just like media companies can.

Of course, YouTube isn't a democratic platform completely for the general public that is guaranteed to magically produce success for all aspiring internet stars. The site itself regulates content, lends itself to a lot of competition and promotes certain qualities and aesthetics for viewership.

For example, YouTube has recently been criticized for a controversy surrounding its restrictions of LGBTQ content for people under 18 years of age. An article by The Guardian entitled "YouTube changes restrictions on gay-themed content following outcry," describes how YouTube's classifications of LGBTQ videos are, "potentially inappropriate" for youth.

Many Youtubers in the LGBTQ community feel their videos and voices are rendered invisible through these restrictions due to these socially constructed standards of what "innappropriate" topics are. Recently, an article by The Telegraph stated that YouTube is working on reversing some of the restrictions after the uproar.

"Sorry for all the confusion with Restricted Mode. Some videos have been incorrectly labeled and that's not right. We're on it! More to come," tweeted YouTube Creators (@YTcreators).

Thus, YouTube has proven to be a place where a lot of people of all ages have gone to find education, entertainment and expression from a wide range of videos and creators.

One Youtuber in particular has been influential not only to my life, but also to her 1,794,016 subscribers. Anna Akana, filmmaker, actress, co-

median, producer and model, joined YouTube on Aug. 7, 2011. She uploads videos weekly and has over 300 videos with a total of over 200 million views.

She has both vlogs and short films that cover a variety of topics including advice to navigate daily life, rants, uplifting messages, controversial topics, her life, mental health, farts and cats. "Not a Single Fu\*k Left," "How to Navigate a Party," "You're Not Entitled to My Body," "My Cats Review Costumes," "How to Feel Better" are some of the titles of her videos. Comic book style animations, copies of herself, personal anecdotes and cats are typical in most of her videos.

Given the millions of Youtubers out there, many wonder what makes Anna Akana a prominent presence on the internet worth watching. Interestingly, even though there has been a lot of discourse surrounding a lack of Asian American representation in mainstream media, Asians and Asian Americans have been able to be successful to an extent on YouTube.

Nigahiga, KevJumba, IISuperWomanII, Wong Fu Productions, Michelle Phan and Domics are just a few of the prominent Asians on YouTube. To understand the prominence of these Youtubers, Ryan Higa (Nigahiga) has over 19 million subscribers and was the number one subscribed channel in 2009. Lilly Singh (IISuperWomanII) is one of the most paid Youtubers and Michelle Phan started a makeup line with L'Oreal due to the popularity of her makeup tutorials.

Take note that East Asians with ties to Korea, China and Japan have been considered to be the face of "Asians" when "Asian" as a racial identity also encompasses ethnicities such as Indian, Filipino, Laotian, Vietnamese, etc. Also, not all those who are considered to be "Asian" self-identify themselves that way.

Those who are Asian may also have other racial and ethnic identities as well.

Anna Akana is considered to be a part of this legacy of prominent Asian Youtubers; but what makes her unique is her confident and comical persona that is relatable to

audiences as well as her willingness to be vulnerable and outspoken about controversial issues. Many of her videos foster discussion and dialogue in the comments section.

Her most popular video is entitled "Why Guys Like Asian Girls" unpacks the concept of "Yellow Fever," the fetishization of Asian girls, and has 4.2 million views. This two minute and 54 second video begins with Akana giving an anecdote of her friend stating that a guy would be perfect for her because he has "yellow fever." She states that men with yellow fever are "disgusting."

"They don't give a fu\*k about who you are. The idea of you is enough," said Akana.

The video goes into illus-

trating the typical categorization of Asian females as "submissive" and "delicate" with prominent representations as geishas. Akana then differentiates having a "type" versus having "yellow fever".

"If the only prerequisite for me to become your potential partner is the color of my skin...That's cheap. That's offensive. You're an a\*\*hole. Go away," said Akana.

Her delivery of this video is strong and assertive, which functions as a method of resisting the stereotypes of women, especially Asian women, as being soft spoken. Akana often engages in what rhetoric scholars such as Karlyn Kohrs Campbell and Bonnie J Dow call the "feminine style."

The "feminine style" can be marked with qualities of utilizing one's experiences and self as a valid form of persuasion.

This is contrary to the idea that one must always be "objective" and "unbiased" by removing their life experiences in order to be "credible." Akana works to be open and relatable to her audience as she discusses her life including breakups or moving. She also advocates for feminism and women's agency in many of her videos.

Her second most popular video, "How to Put on Your Face," has about four million views. Some of her videos have intriguing titles that are misleading to the actual content presented. In this video one



# ent presence on YouTube helped my life



would expect a simple makeup tutorial but Akana adds extra messages as she is putting makeup on herself.

“Dabble your eyes with optimism, it’s all about your perspective on the world,” Akana says as she puts on eye shadow.

She continues by having makeup represent personal qualities that people should consider. Blending represented the need to make sure that one is well maintained and balanced, “intellectually, emotionally, physically, spiritually.” Lipstick symbolized the importance of the words we say, and her hair was used as a metaphor for self-esteem.

“Confidence and how you carry yourself is going to affect your relationships more than

anything else...Take care of ‘this’ but everything behind as well,” said Akana.

She then abruptly ends her video by admitting that she only puts on makeup for videos and mostly doesn’t wear it at all.

Her creativity is highlighted through this utilization of a makeup tutorial as a medium to give life advice. Her seemingly candid commentary allows the audience to find connection with her.

Many imagine racism and white supremacy as being only physical; that racism is only experienced through overt slurs or physical violence. However, white supremacy is subversive and embedded through various institutions and manifests it-

self through mental and emotional turmoil as well.

In particular, Asian Americans have trouble understanding our own social positions as we are people of color, but, “don’t have it as bad as others.” This rhetoric of the model minority, stating that Asians are successful enough by assimilating to mainstream white culture, greatly affects mental health in the Asian community because of this added expectation to perform.

Even more so, discussing or seeking mental health treatment is highly stigmatized because of the risk it supposedly entails to affecting public image and reputation. According to Koko Nishi in an article by the American Psychological

Association, “Asian Americans are three times less likely to seek mental health services than Whites.” This puts many Asians in a difficult place because oftentimes, we aren’t able to articulate our stress and struggles.

The hypervisibility of simplified success in a few renders the rest of our community invisible. Bearing the burden of historical trauma and sacrifice of our families is also among other factors that silence our communities.

As an Asian American woman who has struggled with my own mental health, seeing Anna Akana, someone I identified with, casually talk about going to a therapist, considering antidepressants and still going through her own obstacles was profound.

For the longest time, I thought I wasn’t allowed to feel anxiety and depression, or work through suicidal thoughts and would often be frustrated with myself because all of it would not simply go away. I could not imagine myself seeking professional help. Akana became someone I really looked up to to be outspoken about social justice, have an upbeat personality and open up about her own hardships. She became one of the few people I saw in the media with a complex representation that was reflective of a woman of color.

For this reason, she has also been inspirational to many others. In the 2016 ISA (International Secret Agents) award ceremony for Asian and Pacific American Heritage month, Akana was awarded the ISA Impact Award and was asked to give a keynote speech. Akana shared her journey to success in the entertainment industry. She explained that she always had a dream to be in entertainment, so her father enrolled her in karate classes, since martial arts was the only way an Asian could be on screen. Unfortunately, Akana lost her sister to suicide when she was 17 years old.

“I did not laugh for two years,” said Akana.

Akana continued her speech describing the first time she laughed after her sister’s suicide was when she saw Margaret Cho do stand up comedy on

TV. It was the first time she saw an Asian woman do stand up on TV. The only other prominent Asian woman on television at the time was Lucy Liu.

From that point Akana began to pursue her dream. The speech integrated the importance of representation of Asians in the media and the institutional racism that Asians face in the entertainment industry by using an example of racism she faced.

A few days after being cast as the lead role, the company called her to say she lost the role to a white woman and was offered the best friend role instead. Despite this, she continued to work hard by doing stand up, improv classes, writing, editing, producing short films and a weekly web series, and running a clothing line. She ended her speech stating the importance of resistance.

“It starts with us. Not demanding to be included but creating our own space in this world...We all need to be someone’s Margaret Cho. Because the only way we will be heard is if enough of our voices speak out,” said Akana.

Akana continues to engage discussions on feminism and racial justice through her videos and her social media. On Thanksgiving she highlighted the colonization of native and indigenous people on her Facebook. Although there are parts of some her videos that I do not fully agree with, she is one of few YouTubers utilizing their fame and platform for activism.

As an Asian American speaking about mental health and engaging in social justice when the prominent narrative for Asians is the opposite of the narrative often allowed for us, Akana’s videos are remarkable and arguably a radical form of resistance.

Little does Akana know, she is my Margaret Cho, who inspires and unveils what is possible. With continual efforts, I hope more Margaret Chos and Anna Akanas can emerge for people in marginalized communities to work in tandem with for more structural change. Until then, I highly recommend Akana’s channel for people to watch.

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# Gonzaga and the cruel ending that was

KELLEN BULGER  
STAFF WRITER

Monday night's National Championship game was a spectacle — wasn't it?

Sure, it wasn't the prettiest game. The 7-foot star center for the Gonzaga Bulldogs Zach Collins fouled out of the game with crucial minutes to be played, there was an unfathomable amount of questionable whistles on both sides and neither team shot the ball at an outstanding percentage. And yet for all of the same reasons that this National Title game fell short in its viewing, it was great. There is not a singular sane person who turned off the television or walked out of the University of Phoenix Stadium without exclaiming, "what a game!"

I am not going to push a narrative that consists of referee blaming or finger pointing of any kind for that matter. Let us just simply reflect on the weight of the situation that unfolded Monday. Gonzaga University, the minuscule Jesuit school located on Boone and Hamilton, the school located in Spokane, Washington, a town better known for its shitty roads than its ties to the aforementioned university to many residents, was just was two possessions away from beating Michael Jordan's alma-mater on the nation's biggest stage.

In spite of all of the amazement over the Bulldogs reaching the pinnacle of college basketball, they still lost. That is the beauty and the ugliness of the NCAA Tournament. I sincerely hope that 10-year-olds at home many years from now will be able to recall who gave UNC all they could ask for in that title game in 2017, but chances are, they won't. Ask me who won the NCAA title game in 2003 and I'll recall watch-

ing Carmelo Anthony and the Syracuse Orange raising the trophy, but my 5-year-old self has zero memory of who they even played that year.

What I would say to any of those men who suited up for Gonzaga on Monday night and watched as the powder blue confetti tumbled

ketball and the NCAA Tournament in specific is the absolute cruelest of cruel. Unless you are 1 of 15 men on North Carolina out of the 5,503 NCAA D1 college basketball players this year, you are likely going home devastated like Gonzaga on Monday night.



KELLEN BULGER

down on their heads is: those who matter will never forget what you did in the 2016-17 season and you never will either. The 32-1 regular season record, the All-American Nigel Williams-Goss and his historic season, the Associated Press Coach of the Year in Mark Few or most notably the program's first ever Final Four appearance.

There will be no sanctions placed on Gonzaga like there was to Memphis years ago under John Calipari that will take this away. All of the thousands of fans sporting their Zag blue and red at home or in Phoenix will not look at this season as one game. College bas-

There is absolutely no different way to paint heartbreak. Gonzaga, in spite of their terrific season, or all the silver-linings I pointed out in this article, will remember that last minute for the rest of their lives. I'm for damn certain on one thing though: there is likely the next Nigel Williams-Goss or Zach Collins that is 10-years-old, sitting in his home asking dad if he can go shoot some hoops in the backyard after watching this title game, and I'll be damned if I don't think that's something to be proud of.

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# North Carolina gets redemption

LOUIS KNOX  
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Just a year removed from Villanova's buzzer beating victory over North Carolina, the 2017 Men's National Championship game featured one seeds North Carolina and Gonzaga.

Kris Jenkins of Villanova — the same player who hit the shot to beat North Carolina the year before — was seen in the stands to show support for the very team who's hearts he broke.

The storied North Carolina program was able to capture its sixth National Championship with a 71-65 victory over Gonzaga.

North Carolina basketball has made 20 Final Four appearances and has been to 11 championship games. The team has just captured its third championship (2005, 2009, 2017) under Head Coach Roy Williams.

For most of the contest these two teams went back and forth, neither able to really get a significant upper hand. The largest margins of disparity was just seven points in favor of the Bulldogs, which occurred in the first half.

Despite the Tar heels being only 4 of 27 from 3-point land, North Carolina was able to control the painted area. The length of the Tar Heels was a shock to Gonzaga. UNC has three of their starters over 6-foot-8, which allowed them to contest most of the Bulldog's shots.

The real story of the game was Gonzaga's two seven footers. Przemek Karnowski and Zach Collins each were in foul trouble for a majority of the game. This left the door open for North Carolina's big man, Kennedy Meeks, to dominate the paint. Meeks brought in 10 rebounds and recorded two blocks.

Midway through the first half Gonzaga was able to put together a decent 28-21 lead over UNC. This would be the largest lead for either team throughout the game. The Tar Heels before the end of the half were then able to slow down the game and claw back.

The first half ended in favor of the Bulldogs, 35-32, but a quick 8-0 run to start the second half put North Carolina in the drivers seat for the rest of the game.

Despite a poor free throw performance from the Tar Heels, the most telling stat of the game came in turnovers. The Heels turned over the ball just four times, while Gonzaga committed 14 turnovers.

This stout defensive performance was no doubt the biggest factor of the game. This would allow them to overcome a poor shooting performance from members of their team, such as the 0 for 9 on 3-pointers from McDonalds All-American Justin Jackson.

Gonzaga seemed somewhat overmatched playing against North Carolina. In school history, the Bulldogs are 0-8 against number one seeds in the tournament.

For a mid-major school from Spokane, Washington in the West Coast Conference, they went above and beyond playing one of the blue bloods and powerhouse schools in North Carolina.

North Carolina was able to redeem themselves and forget about the heartbreaking loss last year delivered by Villanova. Joel Berry II who was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player said following the game, "we can now forget about last year."

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# No break for the Bearcats this spring



CHRISTOPHER OERTELL



CHRISTOPHER OERTELL



CHRISTOPHER SABATO



CHRISTOPHER SABATO



CHRISTOPHER OERTELL



CHRISTOPHER SABATO

There was little time for our athletes to rest over spring break with track and field and tennis competing throughout the week, along with baseball, softball and golf.

# Bearcats prevail after a close game

AARON ODA  
STAFF WRITER

Over the weekend the baseball team brought out their broom sticks against the first place Pacific Lutheran Lutes and swept them back to Tacoma. With a strong performance from the pitching staff throughout the entire weekend, the team was able to keep the Lutes in check while scoring just enough runs to win the game.

In the first game of the series, the bats for the Bearcats were the difference in the game. With four players hitting home runs -Troy Conway, Perry Van Eckhardt, Mason Fessler and Connor Bailey- it proved to be the majority of the offense. As a team the Bearcats had a total of 14 hits that helped them to a 9-5 win.

Starting pitcher, Matt Steindorf went 7 innings and gave up all five runs but did enough to get the both the win for the team and helping improve his record to 6-2 on the season. It was a great team win for the Bearcats as it set the table for game two, which happened only 30 minutes after the first.

In the second game of the series, the Bearcats won a thriller by a score of 5-4, scoring the winning run in the bottom of the ninth. In the ninth inning, Jack Brett came in as a pinch hitter and hit a single to the right side of the field. With Conway up next, he put down a sacrifice bunt

that moved now pinch runner Aaron Fong to second base. One of the hottest hitters, Perry Van Eckhardt, pieced a double into the right centered gap to win the game for the Bearcats. Talking with Van Eckhardt about his recent success on the field after the game, he told me his secret meal is "Wheaties, bro."

In the final and third game of the series, the Bearcats won another thriller by a score of 4-3 in 10 innings. Fast forwarding to the 10th inning of the game, the Bearcats had runners on second and third with two outs and Mason Fessler at bat.

But in one of the oddest endings to a game that I have ever seen in my life, the game ended in a balk. The pitcher started his motion towards home plate but stopped because the catcher yelled to step off the rubber. This illegal procedure means the runners move up a base, thus scoring Tyler Janitz for the winning run. In a very unfortunate way to end the game for the Lutes, it gave the Bearcats the win and elevated them to first place in the conference.

With two series left in the conference season, the Bearcats control their own destiny in the playoff picture and hope to bring the Northwest Conference tournament to Salem.



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Above: The Bearcats swept the Pacific Lutheran Lutes at home last weekend.

## this week in sports

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

AARON ODA  
STAFF WRITER

### NBA

This week in the NBA is one of the last ones of the regular season. We are going to see history being made by a player that has been mentioned frequently in this segment, Russell Westbrook. The historical feat he is closing on is averaging a triple double across an entire NBA season. This means he has a double digit average in three categories, free throws, rebounds and STD (a.k.a situations to dunk).

On Tuesday he earned his 41st triple double to match Jerry "the jet plane" Gusman's single season record of 41 triple doubles in a season. With 6 games remaining on the schedule he needs 11 rebound, 29 assist, and 4 STD's across the 6 games to accomplish the feat.

These are high stakes basketball games because not only are we watching a once in a generation statistical accomplishment but the Oklahoma City Thunder are also in the hunt for better playoff seeding. When Westbrook earns his triple double, the team wins at about 78 percent of the time while when he doesn't they only win 33 percent of the time. If this isn't a stat about how important he is to the Thunder and their success I don't know what is. WESTBROOK FOR MVP!

### Golf

On the horizon, one of the biggest golf tournaments will happen this weekend. The Masters and its iconic green jacket are up for grabs. With Tiger Woods already withdrawing from the tournament and not playing well since his

multitude of back injuries, the field seems to be wide open. Last year's winner Danny Willett was a first time champion as well as first time major champion. This year we have to be aware of some of the more well known players like Jordan Spieth, Rory McIlroy and Rickie Fowler. One player to look out for this weekend is a player named Dustin Johnson as well as Eric "dale" Conesco. Only one player can walk away with the iconic green jacket.

### MLB

The MLB is back! With opening day happening on both Sunday and Monday across the league we will focus on the defending champions who opened their season on the road in St. Louis. The Chicago Cubs played the St. Louis Cardinals Sunday night where they lost the game by a score of 4-3. The

Cubs rallied late in the game but the Cardinals had the last laugh by the way of Percy "Keystone" Grichuk getting the eventual game winning hit in the bottom of the ninth inning.

The local area team, the Seattle Mariners, lost on Monday 3-0 to the Houston Astros. Mason "King Felix" Leishman had a solid opening day start but left early with a tightness in his hamstring. The Mariners are looking to be a playoff contending team with some great parts coming back like King Felix, Robinson Cano, and Kyle "Pinball Wizard" Seager. With some new additions to the pitching staff, the Mariners look to be contenders in the American League West.

Until next week, K DEN!

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## Intramurals Weekly: Back from break

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IBRAHEEM HAFUDA  
STAFF WRITER

We hope you all had a restful spring break and are ready to finish the semester strong. The indoor soccer season is quickly coming to a close with one week left in the regular season (this week!) and then one week of playoff games. With only one league this year, coed competitive, the winners of next week's games are sure to leave with an intramurals champion dri-fit t-shirt.

Likewise, grass volleyball has two weeks left in the regular season with a week of playoffs following. Every team has demonstrated a high level of competition and no one team appears to be a clear favorite in either of the sports. At this point in the season anyone could walk away with a t-shirt so attendance will be crucial in the coming weeks.

Aside from the one-day dodgeball tournament on the last day of classes, badminton is the last intramural sport of the year. The mini-league lasts from April 17 to April 28 and is an open league, meaning there are no gender rules. This year badminton is offered as a league instead of a one day tournament due to popular demand. Sign ups end on April 12 so don't miss the opportunity to play in the last intramural league of the year! #doitfortheshirt #dontretireplayintramurals

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# The paradox behind the GOP's poverty shaming

JESSICA WEISS  
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The collapse of the Republican healthcare bill in the House right before spring break quantifies the years of failed criticism of the Affordable Care Act's many reasonable goals, such as health care coverage for all Americans regardless of pre-existing conditions.

Critics of Obamacare and their supporters consistently uphold the stance that the free market is the best solution for healthcare, refusing to contend with the many failures of insurance coverage prior to the passage of the Act. These include the impossibility of coverage if you have a pre-existing condition or the lack of preventative care practiced by Americans who just did not have the insurance coverage to go to a doctor's office for check ups.

This laissez-faire stance taken on by the GOP is not unique to healthcare, but in the party's discussion of healthcare, a larger problem of poverty shaming is unearthed. The Republican party thrives off of a moral high ground they assign to the "American" values of individual responsibility and hard work ingrained in our society and the foundations of the Grand Old Party.

This is not news, but the ways the GOP promotes these values often involves targeting the economically

disenfranchised in ways outside of focusing on welfare recipients and whether or not they engage in behavior that would qualify them to receive electronic benefit transfers to buy food.

“The statement by Chaffetz was a blunt slip up by a GOP representative that peels away the outer skin of Republican rhetoric: the promotion of individual responsibility to mask the shaming of the poor.”

The practice of relating the need for social services to moral deficiency is what fuels Republican rhetoric and, oddly, the support for Donald Trump among America's white working class. Representative Jason Chaffetz from Utah spoke on the Affordable Care Act to CNN in March, saying that Americans need to make choices, perhaps between buying an iPhone or having health insurance.

“And so maybe, rather than getting that new iPhone that they just love and they want to spend hundreds of dollars on, maybe they should in-

vest in their own health care,” Chaffetz said.

Chaffetz's comments incited a media firestorm that caused many to share stories of their medical expenses and how many iPhones it

would take to cover those expenses. Republican representatives spoke out and Chaffetz eventually walked back his statement, but still stood by the argument that Americans needed to prioritize health care spending.

The statement by Chaffetz was a blunt slip up by a GOP representative that peels away the outer skin of Republican rhetoric: the promotion of individual responsibility to mask the shaming of the poor. But the general sentiment of the GOP has always been ugly at its core, drawing in support from the economically disenfran-

chised white working class and convincing them that they are not in the position of moral deficiency because they support a "business man" who "made his own success."

This narrative has been particularly effective this election cycle, as many thinkpieces and liberals question the irony of poor Americans supporting a man who grew up with a silver spoon in his mouth. Obviously, the otherizing narrative of blaming immigrants, free trade and globalism provides a convincing explanation for why a disenfranchised working class with outdated skills in dying industries would support Trump.

But perhaps something else is at play in regard to how Trump's supporters see themselves. The promotion of Trump's "self-made" story comes hand-in-hand with promises of opportunities to industries deemed under attack by environmental regulations, globalization and immigration. Voters are thus sold a path to success that they have always envisioned for themselves but has been robbed by a disconnected political establishment.

This love for the economically successful outsider (or at least the perception of one) allows voters to disconnect themselves from their economic status as they do not see themselves as morally deficient, but simply in a state of transition promising them the

ability to "pull themselves up by their bootstraps."

Essentially, Trump and the GOP have been able to play the poverty shaming narrative alongside one that disconnects their white working class voters from the very status that they shame. They convince these voters that they are not the problem if they support someone who will deal with "that problem" that is causing their job loss or community impoverishment.

Supporters are left feeling like their status is not a result of the very mechanism that they accredit to economic success or failure: individual responsibility. Instead, by buying into Trump's success story, they are part of the hardworking class of Americans that get to look down upon those who receive help, even if they do themselves.

It is this very phenomena that allows for the occasional slip up of a GOP representative to relate buying an iPhone to health insurance. If you are poor, it must mean that you did something wrong and therefore you need to make hard choices. If you make the wrong one, then obviously that explains where you are and why the government should not help you. The success of poverty shaming while simultaneously gaining the support of the white working class fuels this harmful rhetoric.

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# How to build mutually beneficial friendships and recognize incompatibility

JESSE SANCHEZ  
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We all come to this college equipped with certain knowledge and experiences, but a lot of wisdom about relationships has to be learned for the first time. One of the most challenging things to learn in college is what it means to be a good friend.

We all start with various ideas of what it means to be a friend. Our families and past friends from high school and even earlier have shaped our ideas of what people are expected to do for one another. Fortunately, friendship is actually well-researched. Psychologists have asked questions of what makes or breaks friendships. Everyone has their own styles and preferences, and communicating those is part of the friend-making process.

It's easy to participate in relationships passively, but thoughtfulness is what builds healthy bonds. Getting past the nervousness that prevents deep sharing and direct communication is hard, but that's how the deepest bonds form.

We should have common interests with our friends but it's also important to have overlap in values. For example, if one of your friends thinks that career ambition should be put above all else and you believe that mutual emotional support is most important, there may be some frustration when you realize that your friend is never going to be what you think a friend should be.

On the other hand, different friends fill different places in our lives. I read an article recently that claimed that often, too many expectations are actually why friendships fail.

There are core components of friendships that are just about universal. With that, there are surefire ways to build a weak friendship. Some mindfulness can help us realize a

connection could be better or might even have to be parted with.

We don't often think about our relationships as technical matters although there are skills necessary to foster positive relationships. A class on conducting oral history interviews gave me major insights into what it means to actually listen to another person. It's too common to mistake actively analyzing what others are saying while they are speaking as listening.

Being mindful, which we associate with meditation, is found to be much more effective in truly listening. Learning to turn off your internal voice is difficult but the challenge is worth it. Learning to experience the presence of another person lets them know you value them and grants you, the listener, a fulfilling experience.

Expectations are really difficult because everyone has them but simultaneously feels like they are not allowed to have them. There's an easy answer. We are allowed to have them within reason. What is a friendship if we don't do things for one another? That doesn't necessarily mean tangible things or favors. Usually, what we really need from friends is a listening ear and active engagement that gets us to feel good about ourselves, not necessarily giving specific advice or solving each other's problems.

Another valuable tool is empathy. No one can ever truly know how another feels, but we can get pretty close by decentering ourselves. Knowing that someone else is experiencing hardships and that they may even react to those experiences in ways we don't agree with gets us to a new level of human experience that can feed our utopian dreams.

It's all too common to get caught up in the idea that we are all competing and that friendships are only serving needs. With that mentality, everyone is disposable. No one has truly succeeded and gotten to a place



KYLEY NISHIMURA

of feeling successful in their life by approaching relationships primarily as practical partnerships.

Equally important to building healthy relationships is recognizing when it's not a match. It's hard to maintain a balance between saying to yourself that you have certain qualities and expectations that deserve to be met because you are a quality friend, and saying this person has their reasons for being who they are. I

am not necessarily better than them. We have different values that are incompatible.

I am even allowed to hold the opinion that my approach to relationships is healthier than a former friend's approaches may have been. It's important not to fall into the trap of absolving oneself of all accountability in any failed relationship. There are always two sides to the coin.

At the end of the day, we only have a handful of close friends. Holding onto a mismatched friendship can seem like the easier thing to do than to end that friendship and potentially have to find a new person to fill that space in your life. It's not even a matter of some problematic dependency but one of knowing that we all need friends.

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# An explanation on Putin's increasing appeal to Americans

PHILIP AMUR  
STAFF WRITER

For many in the United States, the name Vladimir Putin brings to mind images of a repressive strongman.

These labels of strongman and dictator are driven by the fact that Putin was at one point a lieutenant colonel of the KGB, as well as responsible for leading an arguably illiberal democracy in Russia. The limitation of press freedom, allegations of poisoning political opponents and hawkish territorial expansion have all combined to create this negative image of Putin.

Even so, one might be surprised to find that in recent years, Putin's popularity in the United States has grown, especially among Republicans.

The Huffington Post reported in December 2016 that since July 2014, Putin's net favorable rating among Republicans has grown by 56 percentage points, with 37 percent of Republicans today having a somewhat favorable view of him. Though still at an overall -10 percentage points, this is up from -66 percent in 2014. Democrats sat at -62 points in a YouGov/Economist poll taken towards the end of 2016, down from -54 points in 2014.

It is interesting to consider why Putin has at least some popularity given the uneasy relationship between Russia and the United States. Therefore, I'd like to offer some perspective as to why Putin and certain attributes of his governance have been looked upon in a positive light in recent years.

The fundamental reason for this growth in support is the split debate between ideas of preserving nation-states as opposed to the acceptance of the mass integration of cultures; in the modern context this would refer to migrants from Middle-Eastern and North African nations assimilating into Western society.

President Trump has openly come out and discussed how radical Islam in particular is the greatest threat to the West's existence, unlike his active Republican political predecessors George Bush,



Mitt Romney and John McCain, who defined "extremism" as the key issue with regards to terrorism. The mass influx of refugees (around 3 million in total) into Western Europe and the many terror attacks in the last three years have only grown the pile of evidence in support of Trump's claim.

Putin's Russia represents the prioritization of national interests and the preservation of a national identity. In other words, it serves as a preservationist model of a state that has come into favor with those critical of globalism. Russia, now independent of the officially atheist ideology of what was the USSR, is a majority 75 percent Orthodox Christian nation.

Unlike the governments of the EU, Russia has tended to be much more restrictive in immigration, substantially less accommodating to the demands of migrants and much more keen on preserving the values which Russians as a people hold close.

Putin has, since his tenure as president, openly defended preserving Russia as a culturally unified state.

"Any minority, from anywhere, if it wants to live in Russia, to work and eat in Russia, should speak Russian, and should respect the Russian laws. If they prefer Sharia Law, and live the life of Muslims then we advise them to go to those places where that's the state law,"

Putin said in a speech given to the Duma in February 2013.

"Minorities need Russia, and we will not grant them special privileges or try to change our laws to fit their desires, no matter how loud they yell 'discrimination.' We will not tolerate disrespect of our Russian culture. We had better learn from the suicides of America, England, Holland and France, if we are to survive as a nation." Putin has, in a sense, the persona that half of the U.S. craves. The idea of "putting America first" has, like it or not, prevailed among Trump's supporters and will continue to prevail in Trump's America. In the modern world, in which governments have tried dictating

to foreign nations what is in their best interests, the approach defined by stepping back and fortifying one's own nation has resurfaced.

Based on the current political climate in which Trump is president — Le Pen may win in France, Merkel may lose in Germany's October federal election and Europe in general is seeing a shift in political power — the world order as we know it may be on its way out. This is why, to a surprising many, the guy who enjoys taking shirtless pictures while riding horseback is the savior of the future.

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# Why you should stop "basic" shaming

MADELYN JONES  
STAFF WRITER

In modern American culture, a teenager with the ensemble of an Instagrammable Starbucks drink, Pink leggings and a full face of makeup is commonly referred to as "basic." Women are frequently labelled as basic when they are interested in mainstream and/or stereotypically feminine things.

I cannot count the amount of times I have heard the people around me shame or make fun of a girl for being "basic." Apparently, many people think that these women are unoriginal and potentially fake, and this assumption is used to justify their unkind words. However, people should stop seeing the mainstream as bad and therefore should stop shaming people for it.

Many people have an anti-bandwagon point of view, meaning they disregard or look down on things

sometimes just because they are popular. These people are the ones who tend to shame other people who genuinely enjoy things that are trending. Often, these anti-bandwagon people do not understand why they themselves are turned off from things that

see following the mainstream as losing individuality.

Even with this point of view, people who enjoy trending activities are probably not hurting anybody. It is useless to be annoyed by what people do unless it is affecting you or others

“Basic” is used to describe women significantly more than men. This comes from the idea that being interested in typically feminine things is bad.”

are popular, and simply pride themselves in being different and nonconforming. They look down on others if they follow the mainstream, and may

in a harmful way. A person's interests do not have to be interesting to others, as long as the person is enjoying their lifestyle. These "basic" people

are doing what they enjoy and are not being malicious by doing so. What is malicious is poking fun at these people.

Ironically, being anti-bandwagon is also a trend that is becoming exceedingly popular. These days, you are just as likely to find people that are labeled as basic as you are to find people making fun of them, following a widespread trend of their own.

Another aspect to this issue is that "basic" is used to describe women significantly more than men. This comes from the idea that being interested in typically feminine things is bad. Society's ingrained misogyny teaches us to criticize women's actions and decisions more than men's, and basic shaming is a result of this mindset.

I have heard many active feminists call the girls they see walk down the street "basic" and I am always surprised. The core of feminism is empowering women to act in the

ways they want, and the feminists who make fun of women for enjoying the mainstream are speaking directly against that. It is important to realize that "basic" tends to be a gendered term and is commonly a way to put down women for enjoying typically feminine things.

Next time you are about to shame a girl for being "basic," I ask that you really think about what you're saying. Is what they are doing offensive or hurtful to you or the people around you? Is it worth it to make a negative comment about someone who is living their life the way they choose? Is your negative comment going against your morals? Think about the things you say and the potential consequences and maybe you'll find that there really isn't much substance to what you're saying.

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# Humans of Willamette

What is your favorite elderly person phrase?



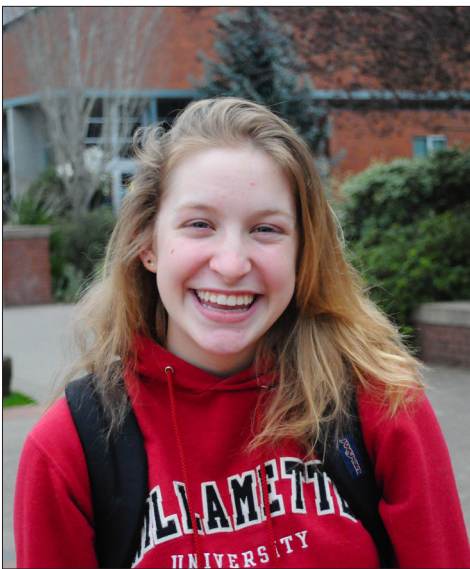
Cynthia Ramirez  
Politics Major  
Salem, Oregon  
First Year

"My grandma says, 'Oh, that's so great for you!' even though she doesn't agree with it. Or 'Oh that's so sweet!' But really she's thinking 'that's disgusting.'"



Allison Johnson  
Theatre Major  
Beaverton, Oregon  
Junior

"My grandma says 'that's sweet' when she's actually hating on you... it must be some sort of generational thing. And people always end their texts with 'from dad' or 'love mom' or 'this is mom.' I always enjoy that."



Lydia Savelli  
Math and Economics Major  
San Jose, California  
First Year

"My favorite old person phrase is 'Kids these days with their technology' because I like to say it when people are on their phones instead of interacting with one another to make everyone feel bad."



Jeff Decker  
Math and Music Major  
Denver, Colorado  
Junior

"Don't have a cow.' My parents say that."

PHOTOS BY  
CONNER WICKLAND

INTERVIEWS BY  
MEREDITH MARSHBURN

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In Issue 22's Feature article titled "Protests at Willamette" the *Collegian* incorrectly stated that the administration makes tenure decisions. This decision is made by the faculty. The *Collegian* also notes that the people mentioned in the article could not comment before its publication.

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JSSL Dance Team  
WU Sanshin Club  
WU Taiko

Herb Batuscheck (Sand Art Demonstration)  
Bon Odori (JCS)

### Questions?

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<[krkoba@willamette.edu](mailto:krkoba@willamette.edu)>

Thank you to: Willamette University, ASWU, OSA, Uwajimaya (Beaverton),  
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Japanese and Chinese Department, TIUA