

# COLLEGIAN

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# Willamette to hire new director of Residence Life

ALISON EZARD  
STAFF WRITER

At the end of this semester, current Director of Residence Life Michael Seals will leave his position at Willamette. In order to prepare for his departure, a search committee, which includes faculty, students and staff and is headed by Associate Dean of Campus Life & Director of Student Activities Lisa Holliday, is currently working to hire a new Director of Residence Life.

The transition to a new Director of Residence Life will not only mark a shift in leadership, but also a shift in the entire structure of the Residence Life Structure. The new director of Residence Life will work closely with the current Director of Campus Life to transition all residence halls to a commons model, similar to the one currently being used in Kaneko Commons.

The new model will also incorporate greater faculty involvement in co-curricular activities. "As we prioritize the move toward a residential commons model, the successful candidate must lead this initiative. This will require a great deal of vision, leadership, and determination, as there are so many things in the course of their work day that can pull the

director away from these 'big picture' issues," search committee member and Director of Counseling Don Thomson said.

Recently, the search committee began a national search by taking advantage of a variety of avenues to contact potential candidates, utilizing the Internet as well as professional associations.

"We're talking to people across the country. It's definitely a national search. We've got people from coast to coast and in between that we're talking to," Holliday said.

In order to qualify for candidacy as the new Director of Residence Life, applicants must have a master's degree in Higher Education Administration in Student Affairs or another related field.

Additionally, candidates must have prior experience integrating the curriculum and co-curriculum in residence halls, as well as engaging faculty in the residence halls.

"They don't necessarily have to have worked at a place like Willamette, but [they need to] understand what it would like to be the Director of Residence Life at a small liberal arts college like Willamette, and what [it takes] to be successful at a school like Willamette versus a large state school or a midsize school," Holliday said.

Furthermore, the ideal applicant will have strong interpersonal

skills and will be able to relate to students effectively and easily.

"I'm looking for a director who isn't afraid to have tough conversations - I'd like to see a willingness to maintain a high level of transparency with students, as well as someone who can be held accountable for decisions the office of residence life makes," search committee member and senior Sarah Sonnenfeld said.

The search committee will not announce the new director until early May. It is still in the process of determining which candidates will move on to the semi-finalist round of the selection process. But it is already clear that the applicant pool will prove to bring forth a candidate who will be a great fit for the University.

Thomson added that "While I can't say for sure that we'll find the perfect person for the job, I can say that I have definitely been impressed by the candidates we've interviewed so far and I have high hopes for the position and the direction in which it has the potential to move."

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## Queer Student Union making a presence on campus

NATALIE PATE  
CONTRIBUTOR

The Queer Student Union (QSU) is a small but growing group of queer-identified students on the Willamette campus. Junior Dawn Hinrichs, senior Angela Leone and Sarah Greiner started the group in fall 2011.

"We recognized a need for a politically-focused queer group on campus," says Greiner. "Our intention was to create a safe space for queer students and to establish a group of people who would be interested in promoting change at Willamette and in the greater Salem area."

The students in the organization have many goals they hope to achieve. Greiner says, "We want to increase awareness about queer identities and help Willamette become a safer place for people who have facets of their identities which are not considered

normative or dominant." She continues, saying that they also "plan to continue working closely with Residential Services to make housing and academic buildings on campus safer, more inclusive spaces."

In order to accomplish these goals, QSU is joining with a variety of groups on campus.

"We are beginning to work with faculty and have conversations about the way that sex and gender are talked about in the classroom and methods for making that a more inclusive discourse," says Greiner. "We are working with other groups on campus to try to establish a diversity center that would be a resource for all the OMA and LGBTQIA organizations."

Along with these actions, Greiner says the QSU is "beginning to have conversations with Residential Services about changing resources and policies concerning gender-neutral bathrooms and housing."

Not only hoping to grow, the QSU is hop-

ing to be a continuous resource for students in the future as well. The club is not limited to those who are sexually or generally queer. The club is open to anyone, whether they are sexually queer, genderqueer, and/or politically queer, including people who identify as cisgendered and heterosexual.

Greiner says, "We have created a community where anyone who is supportive of queer agendas and interested in making a positive difference in the queer community is welcome."

The group meets every week to discuss current events that may be of interest to the group.

Greiner says some of the topics that come to mind are "defining and understanding virginity as a source of social oppression, resources that are not denied to gender non-conforming students on campus, sexual education and the lack of safe-

sex resources to queer students and ways in which we can engage in productive dialogue about queer rights."

Along with general goals, the group plans to host many upcoming events. Last semester it hosted a movie night that was followed by a discussion lead by a few of the members. Greiner says the QSU is currently planning a sex-positive prom. "It would be open to all students and would offer resources and information about practicing safe sex with partners of all sex and gender identities," says Greiner.

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### Learn more

For more information, stop by a weekly Thursday evening meeting in Collins 306 at 8 p.m.

## Tradition groups focus to build strong Willamette community

NATALIE PATE  
CONTRIBUTOR

Many campus traditions are well-known by members of the Willamette community. These traditions include Family Weekend, Kaneko by Candlelight and Student Scholarship Recognition Day. Now many are getting together to strengthen existing traditions and create new ones for future students.

Members of the Willamette community are taking action to create a stronger cohesion of the student body through tradition focus groups. Recently nearly seven groups have come together to discuss the traditions already on campus and new ones they would like to begin.

"Results from the focus groups, survey data and interviews will be evaluated by the Willamette Traditions work group," says Assistant Dean of Campus Life Luis Rosa, leader of the traditions groups. "Recommendations [will also be] made as far as supporting existing traditions, resurrecting old traditions, creating new ones and introducing them to the community."

One of the main goals of these groups is to evaluate the



Millstreaming: sometimes it's not even done even on your birthday.

current traditions and their popularity to be continued in the future. Rosa explained this when he described one of the purposes of the groups to be identifying "existing traditions, level of interest in individual traditions and ideas for new traditions." The second main goal of this program is "to better

understand how Willamette traditions contribute to affiliation, cohesion and community," says Rosa.

According to Rosa, these traditions groups are exploring the hypothesis, "strong traditions build community, improve campus climate and positively impact retention."

While the groups are primarily composed of students recruited through campus emails and assigned to their particular groups based on availability, other members of the community such as administrators and staff are also participating and facilitating these groups.

Unfortunately, since the groups are still meeting, Rosa says the process may be impacted if preliminary responses were to be announced at this time. The traditions groups hope to begin enhancing current traditions and implementing new ones on campus soon. Results will be publicized as soon as possible.

The traditions groups have gained support in the past from alumni donations. They hope to have the program grow, possibly creating additional groups in the future.

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# University hosts authors from local literary journal

ALISON EZARD  
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, March 15, ten authors from the local Salem literary journal Gold Man Review presented readings of their work in the Harfield Library. The reading was followed by a question and answer session with the authors, as well as a discussion with the editors about the journal.

The Gold Man Review published its very first issue back in Nov. of 2011 under the umbrella of the larger Gold Man Publishing. It has since grown into an annual literary journal, started by Heather Cuthbertson, who now serves as the journal's editor-in-chief.

Its inception was based on the belief that artists fulfill an essential role within the community and that pursuit of the arts should

be nurtured. In addition to this basic belief, the journal also aims to create a community among local writers and poets to allow for an exchange of ideas as well as support.

The editors who currently work for the journal had all met one another at various times through their common interest in writing, but it was not until Cuthbertson formulated the idea for Gold Man Review that they came together to create the journal.

"Last year, Heather Cuthbertson, the founder and editor-in-chief, rounded us up and proposed we start publishing some of the great authors we had come across in the area, using our diverse backgrounds in writing and literature as a guiding principle," editor Darren Howard said.

For the reading, the editors aimed for a

diversity of writing by contacting all the writers that had contributed their work to the journal and asking for volunteers to present.

"We simply reach out to those in the journal and see who wants to read their work," editor Mary-Gray Mahoney said.

The reading offered an opportunity to understand the works published in the journal in a new light — that of the perspective of the writer.

"I think it's exciting to hear authors bring their own voice to their work because it allows us to hear the way they intended the piece to be heard. They are able to emphasize the parts of the literature we might not when we are reading it. It's just a different approach to the piece, and it's particularly interesting because we are hearing the voice of the artist," Mahoney said.

In addition, the event also afforded attendees, writers and editors alike the opportunity to come together, exchanging ideas and building a sense of community around creative thought.

"From a writer's perspective, it's exciting to hear what other writers have been working on, what's important to them and what they are thinking about. Writing is such a solitary activity that readings are one way to bring writers together to create a sense of camaraderie and community," Howard said.

The next issue of the Gold Man Review is due to be published next Nov. All writers interested in submitting their work will be able to do so until May 1, 2012 by visiting [goldmanpublishing.com/submission.html](http://goldmanpublishing.com/submission.html).

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## SAE granted on campus housing for next school year

MILES SARI  
NEWS EDITOR

After a year of absence and a two-month application process, the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity will receive on campus housing for its members starting this fall semester.

Due to the large class of incoming freshman, the University was forced to find the best means for accommodating the new students. As a result of the failure to meet the 100% occupancy requirement set forth by the Residential Services, the University decided to revoke the housing privileges for SAE and the other two fraternities that did not meet the stipulation.

Though SAE was not given a residential space for this academic year, it was eligible, however, to reapply for housing in a University-owned and operated residence hall. Once the fraternity paid off a \$4,436 debt to the University for years of damages to the previous residential space the fraternity occupied, SAE was permitted to apply for housing on campus, Lisa Holliday, Associate Dean of Campus Life and Director of Student Activities, said.

This process included demonstrating that housing in one

of the University's residential buildings would enable the fraternity to accomplish creating an atmosphere conducive to academic excellence, contributing to the personal growth and development of the membership, as well as fostering brotherhood among members, according to the fraternity application for residential space.

Once the application was reviewed by the Greek Housing Board, which was comprised of the IFC president, PHC president, a sorority alumna advisor, a Residential Services representative, and a Campus Life staff member appointed by the Dean of Campus Life, SAE was asked to give a 20 minute presentation in front of the Greek housing board, "addressing how on campus housing will benefit their organization, as well as the University," Holliday said.

Holliday said that the Greek Housing Board was happy with the progress SAE had made over the past year and that the changes were evident in their application and presentation.

"They knew what they needed to do in order to improve their image, and we were very impressed with their presentation. I think this a very positive experience as the advisor to

see how far they've come. It was a very exciting process and it gives me a lot of excitement for the future of the Greek community," Holliday said.

In lieu of SAE's successful application and presentation, the Greek Housing Board gave its recommendation to Dean Douglas, Dean of Campus Life, and he awarded SAE the privilege of receiving on-campus housing for the next academic year.

"We're pretty excited about moving back to campus next year. We are pretty optimistic and excited to reinvent ourselves on campus," sophomore SAE member Mason Brown said.

Though it is likely SAE will occupy Southwood Hall, the original residence of the fraternity, the current name of the facility will remain in place with the fraternity being an entity of that hall, according to the fraternity application for residential space.

"Now that we have a house again, we'll be able to be closer to the Willamette community and have a more prominent presence on campus," Brown said.

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## CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

March 13 - 19, 2012  
Information provided by Campus Safety

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▶ March 15, 9:32 a.m. (Olin Science): A professor called to report that a student had fainted. The officer arrived on the scene to evaluate the student. The student had recovered enough to go back to class.

▶ March 18, 3:23 a.m. (Lausanne Hall): A student reported that his friend was having a panic attack. WEMS and the officers arrived on the scene to evaluate the student. After about 15 minutes the student had recovered and was left with friends.

### POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▶ March 14, 2:30 a.m. (Belknap Hall): A student found marijuana in the trash can of the men's bathroom. A report was filed.

▶ March 18, 1:36 (Lee House): Campus safety was contacted about

the smell of marijuana coming from a room. When the officer arrived the occupants were gone, but the officer found a lighter and a bong that was confiscated. A report was filed.

### THEFT

▶ March 15, 2:45 p.m. (Sparks Field): A student left his backpack on the Sparks field. When he returned it was missing. It contained school supplies and personal items.

▶ March 16, 6:00 p.m. (Smith Fine Arts): A student reported that his backpack was stolen. He said he left it on the steps of Smith while he was playing soccer on the quad. When he came back it was missing. It contained school supplies and personal items.

▶ March 19, 11:00 a.m. (Shepard Hall): A student rented a bike from the bike shop and left it in his residence hall. When he returned he found it missing. A report was filed.

Please contact Campus Safety if you have any information regarding these incidents:  
[safety@willamette.edu](mailto:safety@willamette.edu)

### IMPORTANT HOUSING INFORMATION

April 2 - April 9

Fraternity and Sorority sign-up for Greek chapters with University designated housing.

April 11

Kaneko Commons Selection

April 12-17

In-House Selection for students who plan to remain in their current residence hall/apartment

April 18 - 19

Housing packets available at Residential Services for the all campus lottery participants

April 19

All Campus Lottery: 5:30- 10:00 pm, Montag Den

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## Cinema-Sphere

### Making money and other acts of plagiarism



BRETT  
SCRUTON

COLUMNIST

French director Jean-Luc Godard once said, "I pity the French cinema because it has no money. I pity the American cinema because it has no ideas."

I couldn't help but think of this quote while reading an Arts column last week. The column essentially identified that as a society we pay money to see bad movies and neglect good movies. Making Godard proud, the column used the French example of "The Artist" and the American "Transformers 3" to emphasize the idea that there's a more defined line between what is exceptional and lackluster in film, in comparison with other forms of art.

When it comes to these two films I feel that the column is absolutely right. Now, I wouldn't rehash the ideas of said column if I didn't have some original spin and challenge to this. See, I believe, and I doubt that I'm alone, that there is no definitive way for deciding what is a "good" film and that people will see what they want to see.

Don't get me wrong. Michael Bay isn't the next Godard by any stretch of the imagination. I think his "Transformers" franchise is an artistically challenged cash cow; it's impressive considering it's based off toys. I also do not dispute that the third "Transformers" brought in a lot more pork than "The Artist." However, there are two things to acknowledge. First, the context of a film can determine the audiences, not just the film itself. Second, subject matter of a film does not determine if the film is good.

What is the context of a film? Anything related to the production, marketing, release date, etc. of a film is the context of a film. No, "The Artist" did not make as much as "Transformers 3." The first reason for this is budgetary. "The Artist" was made for an impressive \$15 million (see how much you save without sound!). Our favorite toys-turned-movie stars acquired \$195 million for their third outing. For the mathematically challenged, that's a \$180 million difference. Needless to say the fat-cat studio executives had a larger marketing budget as well. Of course more people are going to know about "Transformers"; there's far more advertising and rhetoric accompanying it to the screen.

Moving on to subject matter, do we assume that all Hollywood films with explosions, naked chicks and an awkward male protagonist aren't worth a minute of your time? By that definition, both versions of "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" would be out. But hey, those are good movies! The original "Star Wars" movies are pretty damn close too. They have explosions, awkward farm-boy Luke and what is Chewbacca wearing? Think about it.

Perhaps it's me being too cynical, but I've seen far too many small films masquerading as quirky works of art while actually being stylized trash. I've also seen some really good blockbusters that pull off explosions, naked chicks and awkward male protagonists (amongst other formulas). Granted, I've also seen quite the opposite as well. While I agree that you should see "The Artist" over "Transformers 3," it's because I believe one is a good movie, and one isn't. But then again, you'll see what you want to see. Now isn't that the joy of watching film?

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Contact Till Gwinn at  
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### MUSIC REVIEW: 'Drink the Sea'

# 'Drink' up the bass

SHIRTLESS PETE  
GUEST WRITER

The Glitch Mob is an electronic trio from Los Angeles made up of Ed Ma, Justin Boretta and Josh Mayer, each of whom also produces and performs independently from The Glitch Mob. Each member alternately DJs, plays keys or some other MIDI-controller and plays electronic drums.

There is a special blend of electronic dance music (EDM), with elements of epic rock, punk, hip hop and classical music. Recently, the group's epicness has earned them appearances in GoPro commercials, ski films, "Top Gear," "CSI" and the trailers of "Captain America: The First Avenger" and "G.I. Joe: Retaliation." "Drink the Sea" is The Glitch Mob's debut album, released independently in 2010.

Right from the get-go, this album is made to rock. Unlike many electronic albums, "Drink the Sea" is a single cohesive piece of art, highly apparent in the smooth transitions between tracks, the interplay between songs and the revisiting of certain musical elements late in the album. The album continues to grow to the very last song, a tribute to The Glitch Mob's ability to continually deliver.

"Drink the Sea" begins with the tracks "Animus Vox" and "Bad Wings," which feature slow, hard-rockin' drums with heavy saw-wave synth patterns to amp up the energy level and set the vibe for the rest of the album.

The third song, "How to be Eaten by a Woman," starts off slowly, riding the momentum set by the first two tracks, and then, true to the group's name, drops a glitchy, poly-rhythmic groove that alternates between epic breakdowns, slow builds and arms-raised, shit-just-got-real choruses.

The album then steps back into a tribal, dancy electro-ballad, "A Dream Within a Dream." The next song, "Fistful of Silence" plunges into a glitchy, upwardly-mobile builder with overpowering synth drives.

The second half of "Drink the Sea" begins by going full-on melodious with



Do not skip the 'Glitch.'

the slow beats and ethereal ambience of "Between Two Points" featuring the beautifully longing vocals of Swan.

The album then kicks the tempo back up with "We Swarm," another synth, alternately ambient and banger fist-pumper that leads right into the grimy groove anthem of bassheads everywhere: "Drive It Like You Stole It."

The last two songs belt from the mountain top that the album has just conquered. "Fortune Days" plunges into a hyperactive swarm of rhythm and pleasing bluesy synths while revisiting elements from "How to be Eaten by a Woman" and "A Dream Within a Dream."

The last song - "Starve the Ego, Feed

the Soul" - fully culminates the heights attained by the album, leaving the listener feeling fully satiated with huge sounds and slow builds.

"Drink the Sea" is a masterpiece of electronic music. It's an incredibly versatile album with its use of very different musical styles, all blended with prodigious amounts of forward momentum for one clear goal: to bring the listener along for an epic journey.

I recommend listening to it all the way through. Check it out next time you're going for a run, driving somewhere awesome or gearing up for a Friday night.

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### MUSIC REVIEW: 'Daryl Shawn'

# Shawn calms with a few noisy

TILL GWINN  
REVIEWS EDITOR

Relaxing is not something I directly associate with Friday night. Although therapeutic detuning of my giving-a-f\*\*k meter is an essential part, I don't usually feel like chilling hard on that long awaited rageful night. However, this past week I was lured into the wide wood-grained interior of the Beanery to listen to Daryl Shawn and the unchallenged king of acoustic folk rock fun, Slater Smith.

Although Mr. Smith is one of my favorite acts to see live (when else do I get the chance to yell, "F\*\*KIN' SLATER!"). The sheer girth of media coverage "Mr. Pelton's Weather Machine" gets is only equal to the number of swooners it has received. Instead, I'm doing a review of Daryl Shawn for his tunes and show and also a small plug for the Beanery's food: both I would say may be best served cold.

Shawn's music is a delightful mix of contemporary acoustic-rocking, gentle vocalizing and the occasional instrumental freak-out. Playing a classical flamenco guitar, he also supplies himself with the long forgotten drum percussion that most acoustic acts leave behind. Hailing from New York City, a town touted for lyrical troubadours, Shawn is of a different breed, concentrating his energy on strumming out the long road he has travelled instead of trying to explain it.

His showing at the Beanery provided a similar feeling: the open space created an echo that was in some ways an aesthetic delight and in others a quality hindrance. Shawn's grandiose builds are like a weathered truck making it over a mountain pass: his back and forth sway on stage acknowledges this endless effort, as well as the hole beginning to form on his guitar's unprotected body: a sign of long hours spent strumming and

drumming against it. Once the peak is summited, he coasts back down gently with blues-picking riffs that settle the mind back to more coherence.

Some of this is lost in the muddle of a room not built for the strings. With no soundman to check the levels, Shawn's set reverberated heavily with the extra bass of the bigger guitar body of his styling, making vocals incoherent most of the time. Although his instrumentals were performed well, the more heavily strummed sections became too much. With its high ceilings, the Beanery matches Shawn's style well but acoustically the lack of control gave up bits of quality. Perhaps the more rowdy and intoxicated scene that most Fridays come with would have helped Shawn a bit but it wouldn't have been worth losing the calming combination of music, mood and food.

Being able to enjoy a decent meal is rare in the comfort of a cafe; most the time those preparing the food are more concentrated on his/her next tattoo or the volume of scowl each customer receives. The Beanery, on the other hand, seemed to actually care. They have a wide selection of panini-styled sandwiches that are prepared cold but can be pressed upon request. I choose to go without the heat on my mine which featured a medley of vegetables (peppers, red onions, sun-dried tomatoes, spinach) arranged around a bit of turkey. Although they brew delicious Allan Brother's Coffee, I opted for a Hefeweizen with my meal, being 21 enough to do so (finally).

All together, the evening was one of the best ways to slowly start my weekend.

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# Library to host 'Edible Books' contest

HANNAH MOSER  
ARTS EDITOR

"Edible Book Day" may not be exactly what you imagine. Indeed, in lieu of ingesting material paper and ink, the idea is instead to create gastronomic masterpieces based on all things literary.

In this light, the day can be described as a contest of wit. "Edible Book Day" is an international event that yields clever and creative twists on book titles, authors, characters and the like.

Titles like "Oliver Twist" are often punned upon; one such iteration consisted of a bowl of olives and another of lemon peelings, and was titled: "Olive or Twist?"

Entries are judged based on several categories. For Willamette, the judges will be CLA student, Hannah Elder, Professor Mike Chasat, and Tim King from the Willamette Bookstore.

Categories will include: "Most Literary," "Most Beautiful," "Punniest," a People's Choice Award, and many others. After judging takes place, winners will be awarded with Bistro gift certificates, and each entrant will get the ultimate prize: devouring their culinary creations.

Carol Drost, Associate University Librarian for Technical Services, says she came across the festival while visiting different colleges with her daughter and afterward, took steps to bring it to Willamette.

One such campus that hosts the event is University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash. — a school similar in size and character to Willamette. Adriana Flores, a junior from UPS, says the event is a favorite among Puget Sound library-goers.

"It's such a fun, witty way to bake!"



An example from University of Puget Sound's 2011 Edible Books Festival entitled "Frank in Stein," winner of "Most Humorous" category.

says Flores. "You get together with friends, think of your favorite books and turn them into cake and then you get to eat them. Win."

Drost also says that the event is a great opportunity for students to express their love of books and reading through a creative outlet.

"The contest lets people do something crazy and zany, but also brings it into the library. It shows that the library is here for more than just studying," says Drost.

This year, members of Pi Beta Phi fraternity for women will also help to facilitate the event. As a national organization, Pi Beta Phi participates in philanthropic endeavors to support literacy, so the contest presented an opportunity for a natural pairing.

In the future, Drost says the library hopes to partner with other groups on campus as well, such as the Willamette Bookstore, the English Department and the Art Department.

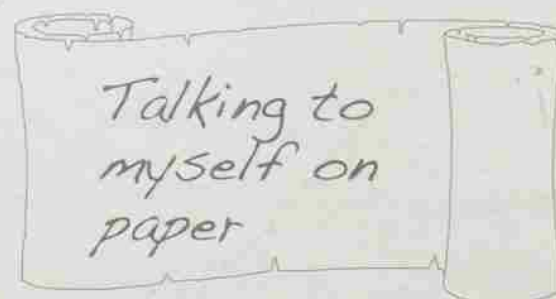
Entries will be accepted and displayed in the Hatfield Room from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Apr. 4, and judging will take place that same afternoon. Bistro treats will be available throughout the event, and viewing will be open to all.

For more examples, visit the international website for the festival.



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## COLUMN



## Snobbier than snobby



RACHEL  
HEISTERKAMP

COLUMNIST

I will begin this column as I typically do — with a disclaimer. For the next 500 words, I will be pointing out a flaw in myself that I ABSOLUTELY recognize as obnoxious and absurd. But then again, my habits are pretty set in their ways (as habits tend to be). So, in lieu of making a change, I am instead making fun of myself.

I, dear readers, am a huge snob. So much so in fact, that I snobbishly look down upon other snobs. It's not cute. Let me explain a bit.

If I get really into a new band, for instance, it's a situation that is dependent upon many things. The most important factor in me listening to something new is that NONE of my friends have any idea who that band is.

This isn't to say that I don't have faith in my friends' music choices (though some have been known to listen to the "Glee" Christmas album...). It's more that there's some inner (and ridiculous) desire to be the mysterious, cool one. It gets worse. I'll literally lose interest in a band or an artist entirely once it becomes "a thing." It's awful. And it makes no sense.

But here's my point, and I shit you not: The only reason I haven't yet read "The Hunger Games" is because everyone else has already read it.

This is the point at which I will tell you why this makes no sense, and if you're the same way, perhaps I'll convince you to just stop it.

If something is famous or is receiving a lot of attention, it's probably because it's GOOD. There are exceptions, of course. Sometimes bestsellers or billboard toppers are literally just products of uncreative people writing uncreative things or making weird sounds and calling it music.

However, if your friends (whom you hopefully trust) tell you to read something or to listen to something, it's a pretty good indicator that it's a good thing. And it's okay to not be "the cool one" every time. (This is what I tell myself, anyway. Maybe one day it'll sink in.)

Really, the point is, art is art. It's not going to stop being art just because lots of people like it or know about it. It's not going to be more beautiful if it's unknown and underground. I don't really know where this urge to be different (and, let's face it, an annoying indie freak) comes from exactly.

There's a good chance that by wanting so fiercely not to be a cliché sorority girl, I have become a cliché hipster-wannabe. But really, if you think hard enough about the categories in which you can place yourself, literally everything is a cliché.

So really, we should be focusing on what we truly enjoy in books, music, etc. and not what we think we should be enjoying. Oftentimes, these two things are on opposite ends of the iTunes library.

I think after all this ranting it is appropriate to end this column with a promise to all of you to change my snobbiness. So, yes, (for you especially, Amara Fanucci), I plan on reading "The Hunger Games" over spring break.

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# West African sculptures come to Hallie Ford Museum

MADELINE MOREHOUSE  
STAFF WRITER

The exhibit, "West African Sculpture: Selections from the Mary Johnston Collection," will be on display at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art beginning next week. The exhibit will feature a selection of masks, sculptures and other artistic objects from across West Africa.

John Olbrantz, director of the HFMA, organized the exhibit and selected the works from Mary Johnston's private collection in Florence, Oregon. Johnston collected the works from a variety of sources, including her brother, who frequently made trips to West African countries including: Mali, Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Cameroon, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire.

All of the sculptures are representative of different peoples of West Africa and date back to the early 20th century.

Pieces from this era are significant because most African art of that period is crafted from wood, making the pieces vulnerable to outside conditions like weathering. According to Olbrantz, this makes the collection extremely rare and uncommon.

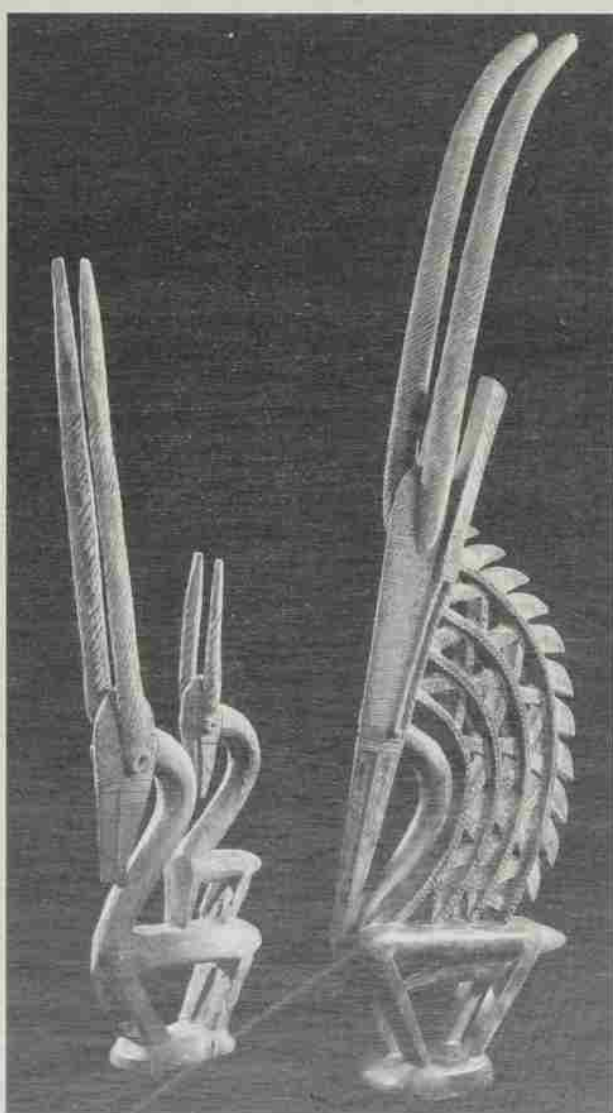
"Each of these sculptures were made for a specific culture," says Olbrantz. "They were not created to be hung on a museum wall, but in their proper context they have a living, breathing, central role to their culture and in thought."

The collection represents 14 different ethnic groups from West African countries and lends direct insight into cultural practices and everyday goings-on. For example, some of the masks on display were worn for harvest festivals and ceremonial rites of passages. All reflect the greater political, social and spiritual processes of their lives. The masks were created to be worn on a person within a specific social context.

Olbrantz says, "What makes these works interesting is the way they function in tribal and fabric immediacy, and the directions of these pieces are very powerful in their diversity and simplicity of sculptures."

This unique collection gives cultural evidence of a time and place that is important to recognize as a part of the larger scope of a deeply intertwined history of global art.

The exhibit will be on display starting March 24 until June 3 in the study gallery of Willamette University's Hallie Ford Museum of Art.



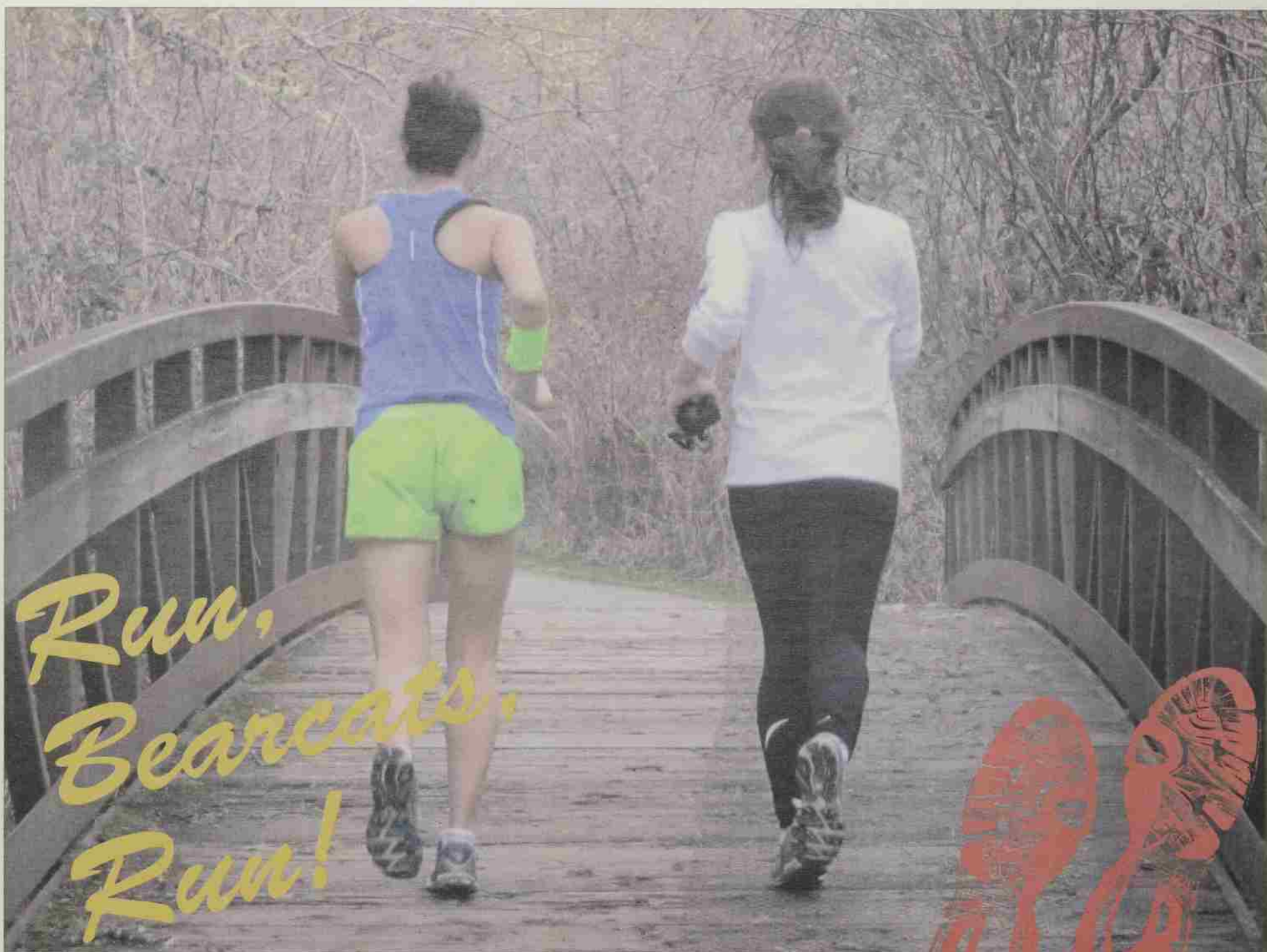
Two "Chi Wara" masks from Bambara, Mali — one of many types featured in the exhibit.

COURTESY OF THE HALLIE FORD MUSEUM OF ART

The perfection of art is to  
conceal art.

— Quintilian





KIMBERLY HURSH

LINDSAY BRAUNWALDER  
FEATURE EDITORKIMBERLY HURSH  
GUEST WRITERAMANDA APPLE  
GUEST WRITER

Spring break and the semester's end are approaching. This only means one thing, a copious amount of projects, papers and tests. Students at Willamette are bound to feel this end-of-year crunch, and with it, that

evil little word that seems to take over your life: stress. Many are hoping to find a cure for the stress bug, and a possible solution is running.

And no, this does not mean on a treadmill. There

are some hotspots around Salem where Willamette students like to practice their de-stressing activity and students new to the running scene are encouraged to check out these places as well.

According to [howstuffworks.com](http://howstuffworks.com), running can help one de-stress, and also improve their health. Running gives you time to be alone with your mind and it's good to have moments just to think, to wrap your head around what is happening in your life or to contemplate current problems you might be dealing with.

The website also states some of the health benefits that correspond with a simple 20 minute daily run. Those who run frequently are less likely to suffer from bone loss or muscle loss later in life.

Running also aids in the process of losing weight and getting into shape. It seems relevant to say when one feels better about their appearance they feel happier in general. This mental benefit is accompanied with the chemical release of the body's "happy hormone," endorphins. [Howstuffworks.com](http://Howstuffworks.com) explains that endorphins do help to relieve stress and anxiety, they help to slow the aging process and they enhance the immune system.

So, the next time you feel you need a break from the papers and books covering your desk or the extreme study sessions in the library, instead of resorting to the latest episode of a favorite TV show, try a 20 minute run instead.

Amanda and Kimberly, two WU seniors tested out a few of the popular running spots around Salem. Their reviews demonstrate the idea that running is an activity almost anyone can pick up and benefit from, and that there are places around Salem fit for many different levels of runners.



A view on-looking the view at Minto-Brown park.

KIMBERLY HURSH

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Amanda takes on the mud at Minto-Brown.

### Amanda

I ran short distances in track during middle school, but then took a liking to tennis in high school. When I got into college, I decided not to join any sports teams, but simply continue to exercise on my own. I started running longer distances to deal with stress and to self reflect on my day. Running has allowed me not only to get a great work out and stay sane, but also to explore Salem. Unlike tennis, running is my go-to exercise because you can really do it anywhere, in any weather, with no equipment needed, except some running shoes.

### Riverfront Park

**Scenery:** You have to run through the city to get to the water, but once you are there, it is a calming lookout.

#### The Perks:

- Running through the city to get there helped me navigate around Salem better (a bonus when you do not have a car on campus!)
- Nice restrooms.
- It is important to stay hydrated when working out, but I do not like having extra weight on me when I am running. That is never a concern here because water fountains are easy to find at the Riverfront.

#### The Pitfalls:

- Temptations along the way (like bakeries), but if I am going for my daily run, usually my mindset is focused on exercising and not treats; it's more about time management and making sure I get in my exercise.
- Only pavement (which is worse on your knees).
- Can get a bit crowded (often mothers with strollers).
- Waiting at crosswalks.

### Bush Park

**Scenery:** Nature with a wonderful whiff of spring blossoms.

#### The Perks:

- Close to campus (great for students on a time crunch).
- Bark dust trails or pavement, take your pick! (bark dust is better on the knees, but it can get a bit mushy. In that case, I suggest the pavement).
- Distance around the park is roughly 1.5 miles so it is great for short or long runs.
- Facilities: restrooms and water fountains.
- Hills so you can get your inclines in.
- Not too crowded, but there are both walkers and runners. I personally like to have some people around because it motivates me to work a little bit harder than if I was alone (and see how I'm improving by secretly competing with the regulars and others I lap).
- Familiar faces (I feel more comfortable seeing the same people, even some Willamette students/professors. I have made some morning friends who always make my day when we smile at each other in passing).

#### The Pitfalls:

- High school students hang out there.
- People sit in their cars around the border (for some reason it really irritates me; as I pass them I just keep thinking, what are you doing here? Get out of your car and move!)
- Can get a little mundane doing laps.

### Minto-Brown Park

**Scenery:** You can take the highway, but I like taking the more scenic back path overlooking Salem.

#### The Perks:

- Perfect distance for a longer run (about two miles to get there if you take the scenic route).
- Beautiful view of nature away from the city.
- Not many others on the path; pretty isolated.
- Good if you want to get dirty on your run! (I find this the most refreshing when I am in an intensely stressed mode).

#### The Pitfalls:

- On the contrary, if I am not in intense mode, puddles and mud when it rains are not my friend (do not wear your nice runners!)
- Not many inclines.
- Facilities are hidden (I believe they may be in the small parking lot as you enter the park).
- Can hear the cars on the highway above along the run there.

### Amanda's playlist

I tend to perform best when I listen to music that is in sync with my pace, but just a good beat will suffice. Something upbeat and motivating keeps me going longer and faster. The "oldies" from the 90s like Backstreet Boys, also the soundtrack of Glee, motivate most of my daily runs. When I'm taking an easy run, I usually listen to Carbon Leaf or Owl City. However, when I go for real intensity, listening to Smash Mouth or Kutless boosts my endurance the best.

### Kimberly

I am not a runner. Not that I haven't tried; my sophomore year, I went through a brief, three month stint of self-improvement, at the end of which time I came to the conclusion that running is hard and boring. Zumba is my thing, or kickboxing, or even just a walk and conversation with a friend. However, running is the quick and dirty way to burn calories, so I have been known to resort to this most loathed form of exercise on the very rare occasion.

### Riverfront Park

**Scenery:** The Willamette River does have a certain iron grey charm about it.

#### The Perks:

- Water fountains and bathrooms.
- No mud.
- Between the park and campus, there are a number of coffee shops and bakeries in which I can reward myself for a job half-way done.

#### The Pitfalls:

- The park can be crowded depending on the weather and the hour, and it's my personal preference that there are not many witnesses to my sad attempts at running.
- The sidewalk is hard on your knees, especially if you're not used to running much.

### Bush Park

**Scenery:** A river runs through it.

#### The Perks:

- Water fountains and bathrooms.
- Close to campus, so it's perfect for a quick run, which are all my runs are likely to ever be.
- The bark dust keeps the mud to a minimum.

#### The Pitfalls:

- Again, might run into people I know, who may or may not be judging me as they lap me for the third time.
- The hills. No matter which direction I run around Bush, I will eventually have to struggle up a hill. It's a question of whether I'd rather run up an incredibly steep but short hill, or take on the long but gradual ascent on the west side.

### Minto Brown Park

**Scenery:** The path to the park that runs along the river from the corner of Mission and Saginaw St. is one of the prettiest in Salem. And much more enjoyable than taking the highway.

#### The Perks:

- Running in Minto Brown truly feels as if you've escaped from the city. After the constant buzz of dorm-rooms and Goudy, the silence is refreshing.
- Blackberries! In the fall, bring along a bucket and stock up.
- It's flat.

#### The Pitfalls:

- Getting there is a bear. At my level, the run there is about all I can manage, which means I may not even make it to Minto before exhaustion turns me back in defeat.
- If there are bathrooms or water fountains, I couldn't find them.
- What with the great deluge of rain we've been hit with this semester, the river is actually encroaching on parts of the park. Unless you can run in rain boots - which you should actually be able to do if you're from the Northwest - it might do to wait until April.

### Kimberly's playlist

My playlist is a mini-ego trip, which I find necessary when I'm five minutes in and already thinking I'd like to be home right now.

- Extraordinary - Liz Phair
- Amazing - Kanye
- Hate On Me - Jill Scott
- I Feel Fine - The Beatles
- Pride (In the Name of Love) - U2
- She's On Fire - Train



Kimberly running along the water front.



## SOFTBALL &amp; BASEBALL

# Softball sweeps, baseball stages comeback

MICHELLE LASHLEY  
STAFF WRITER

Willamette softball dominated conference opponents Pacific University and Lewis and Clark this weekend, scoring 27 total runs and allowing 2. Saturday the Bearcats shut down Lewis and Clark, winning the first game 10-0 on the run rule in five innings, and the second game 7-1. Sunday they swept a doubleheader from Pacific University, 9-1 and 11-0. Willamette moved to 9-8 overall, while improving to 8-4 in the Northwest Conference.

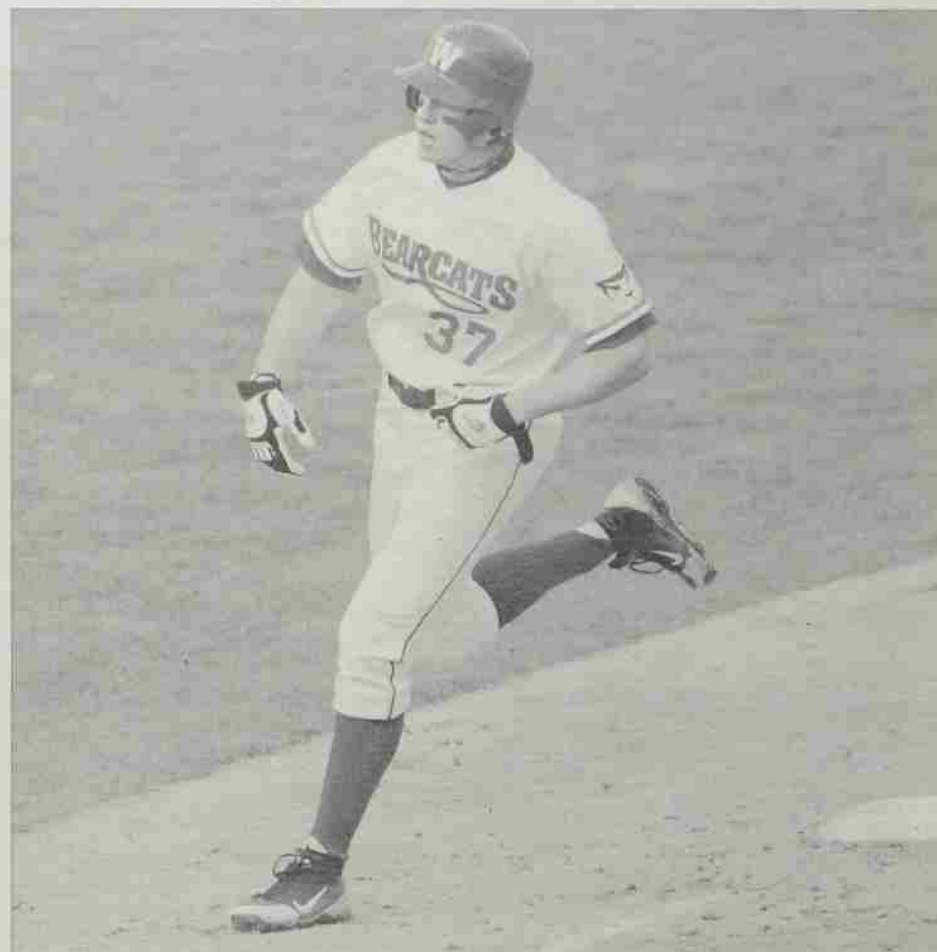
The efforts were led by the excellent pitching of senior Alex Watilo and freshmen Hayley Glantz. In the first game against Lewis & Clark, Watilo pitched a 5-inning one-hitter with three strikeouts.

In the first game against Pacific the next day, she pitched another one-hitter. "This weekend we really played team softball. Our defense was strong which allows me as a

pitcher to feel comfortable and supported. All of the runs we scored definitely helped too. Every single person on our team contributed to our wins this weekend, that's what Willamette Softball is about," Watilo said.

Glantz continued the excellent pitching in the next two games, pitching a complete game eight-hitter against Lewis & Clark and a one-hitter against Pacific. "I think we just came out hard in the first game and kept our intensity through to the second. We did a really good job working off of each other's hits and carrying that into our defense. We had two really great games," Glantz said of her team's efforts this Saturday.

Saturday's offensive efforts were led by freshman Heather Winslow who hit three home runs during the game while recording five RBIs. "I've been trying to focus more on team hitting lately. So when I get up to bat I'm thinking just find a way to advance my runners, and it happened to work out pretty well



RYAN ROBBIE

Sky Kelley rounds third base after hitting a homerun that helped WU clinch a victory over George Fox.



EMILY SCHLIEMAN

Jessica Barry helped WU softball win 4 games this weekend versus Pacific and Lewis and Clark.

for me this weekend. It's all for the girls who play next to me," Winslow said.

Willamette's baseball team had a split weekend, falling to George Fox in both games on Saturday 14-6, 5-4. Then Sunday, the Bearcats were able to come back and win a hotly contested game by hitting two 2-out homers in the ninth inning. The Bearcats improved to 5-14 on the season, 3-6 in the Northwest Conference.

Freshman pinch hitter Rolenn Himuro hit a double in the second game against George Fox Saturday and was integral to the victory on Sunday with a late single to center field. "It was late in the game and we were only down two runs and I knew we just needed something small in order to start something up. Our clean-up hitters were behind me and I knew they could get the job done and I just needed to get on somehow."

True to Himuro's prediction, the clean-up hitters did come in the form of juniors Sky Kelley and Mitch Rowan who both hit

homeruns in the final inning of the game to secure the victory for Willamette. "I would say especially in clutch situations you just need to go up to the plate, grab both of 'em and be a meat about it. Simplicity is the key here," said Kelley of his thought process when approaching the final key plays at the end of the game.

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## ▼ next up

### Baseball

Willamette vs. Lewis & Clark

@ Portland, Ore.

Saturday, Mar. 24 at 12:00 p.m.

### Softball

Willamette vs. Concordia

@ Salem, Ore.

Tuesday, Mar. 27 at 12:00 p.m.

# WU students need to compete

SEAN DART  
SPORTS EDITOR

Athletes have it easy. If an athlete yells at someone, or says something like, "I want to win SO bad that I'd eat seven infants and punch a baby horse!" people will be like, "Man, that athlete really likes to compete."

This weekend, I was watching one of those overly-dramatic slow motion replays of this gigantic man harnessing a rebound. He was drooling, soaked in sweat and making the face you make when you're just about to exert considerable force, or anticipating a bowel movement the size of Russia.

He leaped up, grabbed the rebound and shielded it away from his defenders, quite clearly screaming the words, "Give me that shit! Get the f--- off me, motherf---er!"

The announcer voiced over, marveling at this drooling competitor, remarking, "Look at that young fella's competitive drive! He's got some fire in his belly, doesn't he, Jeff?"

It's not fair, is it? When is the last time YOU, dear reader, were able to say, "Give me that shit, motherf---er!" and be praised for it?

Was it in your math class, when your professor took back your test too soon?

If you wore a basketball jersey outside, could you smash a car's window, and scream, "That's a FOUL, you shirthead!" to the bumper and someone walking by would just be like,

"He's competing. This guy really gets after it."

I think it's time we try. It's March Madness... let's compete, Bearcats. Here's a comprehensive list of where and how to win on campus.

### Scooters:

I want to see scooter-riders wear helmets with spikes, carrying a club and smashing the ankles of freshmen who aren't walking fast enough. Every scooter needs to be coated in WD-40, doused with lighter fluid and lit on fire at 10:10 every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We need to be competitive "Cats. COME ON!"

### Goudy Wrap Line:

Everybody wants to be first, right? Nobody likes waiting! Do winners WAIT! Do competitors allow themselves to be told, "One second, ma'am, please put the axe down, you will get your chicken caesar wrap momentarily!" NO! Never! I think the only logical way to solve this issue of waiting in line is to crawl on your hands and knees and tie everybody's shoes together that are in front of you, then push the first person forward. This works roughly two-thirds of the time.

### When There Are 10 People Waiting For Cardio Equipment At The Gym:

Well, Bearcat, you're a competitor aren't you? And you value physical fitness, don't you? You're not just going to let that person run on the treadmill right in front of you, ARE

YOU?! Standing directly next to them, in their peripheral vision, singing the words to "Party in the USA" by Miley Cyrus works every time.

### First Floor Of The Library:

Have a contest with your friend. Go around to every table and count how many of the following you can spot:

- Laptops with Facebook open.
- Guy with book half open, doodling, talking to that girl he likes and asks to study with all the time.
- Times that someone says, "Ahhh, I'm getting NOTHING done," because nobody ever does anything on the first floor of the library.

### Bistro:

Count how many times Bon Iver is played in the given time you are there. If you're in for a real competition, put on some Nickelback and watch yourself get swallowed alive by a raging assortment of beanies and plaid.

### Mill Stream:

Mud-sloshing contest with ducks. They're so adorable.

### Class:

See how many words you can use inaccurately, but have more than four syllables, so nobody corrects you, because nobody really even knows what that word means. I'm talking to you, student that uses the word "brisanee."

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## TRACK &amp; FIELD

# WU track has strong weekend

DEVIN ABNEY  
STAFF WRITER

The Bearcat track and field teams turned in a spectacular performance against cross-town rival Corban University on Thursday. The Willamette teams combined to win 16 of 29 events, including nine first place events for the Bearcat men and seven first places for the Bearcat women.

Two of the most impressive performances came from freshman Michaela Freeby and senior Sally Venable in the women's 3,000-meter steeplechase, where they finished first and second respectively. Freeby's time of 11:03.17 was good enough for fourth place on Willamette's all-time list while Venable's personal record time of 11:51.31 moved her up two spots from ninth to seventh on the all-time list. The two Bearcat women have registered the top two times in NCAA Division III this year.

Also winning track events for the women were junior Stevie Gildehaus, junior Alisha Till and freshman Molly Bond. The three took first place in the 800-meter run, 10,000-meter run and 100-meter hurdles respectively.

In throwing events, the Bearcat women were led by freshman Taryn Greenberg

whose first place hammer throw of 127'3" put her tenth on Willamette's all-time list and thirteenth in the entire NCAA Division III this season.

A pair of women Bearcat freshmen also won field events. Jossalynn Wright tossed 35' 1.75" to win the shot put while Kelsey Engstrom threw the discus 97'11" to win first place in the discus throw.

On the men's side, three Bearcat men won an individual throwing event. Sophomore Max Faulhaber won his second consecutive hammer throw with a heave of 165'2". In the javelin throw, Willamette junior Nolan Mayther achieved first place with a throw of 172'9". Junior Wyatt Briggs won a pair of throwing events, finishing first in both the discus throw and shot put with distances of 135'9" and 41'10".

In jumping events, senior Ray White registered the top distance in the long jump with a leap of 21'1.5". Bearcat Spencer Clemmer led the field in the pole vault with a height of 12'11.75"

Contact: dabney@willamette.edu



COURTESY OF WU ATHLETICS

### Paul Winger

Winger placed 3rd in the 200 meter dash, placed 6th in the 400.



COURTESY OF WU ATHLETICS

### Jaela Dinsmore

Dinsmore placed 5th in the women's 200, with a personal record time of 25.65 seconds.



COURTESY OF WU ATHLETICS

### Ray White

White jumped 44 feet 11.50 inches, good for 3rd place in the triple jump.

### Bearcats Show Well Versus D1 competition at Oregon Preview

Willamette University was represented by over 20 athletes this weekend at the track mecca of the west coast, Hayward Field in Eugene. WU was lead by Winger, Dinsmore and White (above). Other placers for the 'Cats were as follows: Freshman Carson Kenney and Elisa Ahern placed 9th in long jump and triple jump respectively. Theresa Edwards and Caitlin Greene placed 11th and 13th of 32 respectively in the women's 1500. Kit Kingstad and Kevin Aubol placed 13th and 17th of 31 runners in the men's 1500 respectively. Max Faulhaber claimed 11th in the men's hammer throw at 144'9".

## TENNIS

# Women's tennis splits, men lose tough games

ZACH OSERAN  
CONTRIBUTOR

After a short flight to Spokane, the Willamette men's tennis team took on the Whitworth Pirates last weekend. In a rematch of 2011 NWC Semifinal where the Bearcats defeated the Pirates 5-1, the Pirates came out on top this time with a dual score of 8-1.

The Bearcat's lone win was at doubles where #3 doubles team sophomore Will Cooper and junior Cameron Thompson came out victorious with a final score of 8-6 in a tight match.

Junior Josh Wong said after the match, "The match obviously didn't go as well as we wanted," but noted that injuries and a change in altitude did not play in their favor. Looking to the future he said, "Whitworth outplayed us that day and that's all there is to it, but there's no doubt we'll be ready when they come to visit us here at home."

After the loss Willamette drops to 3-4 overall and in conference. Looking on to the rest of the season, the Bearcats have a break in action and will be traveling to Honolulu to resume competition over spring break against some of Hawaii's best teams.

In women's tennis news, the Lady Bearcats had a busy weekend hosting Whitworth University and Bellevue College this weekend. Whitworth, ranked 9th in the West Region of NCAA Division defeated the Lady Bearcats 6-3, but the Bearcats had some great individual performances during the match.

#1 singles player senior Shannon Palmer cruised to victory in a match over her former high school teammate winning 6-2, 7-6(7-5). Another highlight of the match was the outstanding play of seniors Emily Bee and Denise Poltavski at #2 doubles ousting the Pirates 8-3. After the loss the Lady Bearcats dropped to 5-4

overall and 3-4 in conference, while the Pirates continued their undefeated season in conference play improving to 6-0 and 7-1 overall.

Bee said after the match, "We played tough against Whitworth (who was undefeated), and despite the loss, really gave them a run for their money. We fell just short of coming out on top after doubles, which would have made a huge difference overall. We're confident that our next meeting will be equally competitive."

On the second half of their competitive weekend, the Lady Bearcats hosted Bellevue College in a rematch from last year where they were defeated 8-1. Saturday the Bearcats returned the favor and handily beat Bellevue 6-3 in a non-conference exhibition match.

Willamette, although losing the top two singles matches, rallied on to win the 3-6 singles matches to cement a victory along with #2 and #3 doubles teams earning victories.

The Lady Bearcats will resume action in Austin, Texas, March 26th to kick off a three match road trip against St. Edwards University, Trinity University and the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

Contact: zoseran@willamette.edu

### next up

#### Men's

Willamette vs. Hawaii-Pacific  
@ Honolulu, HI.

Saturday, Mar. 24 at 10:00 a.m. (HST)

#### Women's

Willamette vs. St. Edward's University  
@ Austin, Tex.

Monday, Mar. 26 at 2:00 p.m. (CDT)

# By the numbers: Beating the odds

BRANDON CHINN  
STAFF WRITER

In today's society, numbers are a big part of everyday life. They are used to formulate projected outcomes, summarize successes and failures and to create expectations. There are better schools than Willamette.

There are bigger campuses, more advanced programs, higher ranked athletic teams. In sports, numbers and rankings are relied upon to separate the elite from the mere mortals. Amidst all the madness March brings us in college basketball, we are obsessed with numbers.

But as two #2 seeds fell to #15 seeds this weekend and Jeremy Lin continues to solidify himself as a starting point guard in the NBA, the question is: What do numbers really mean?

The answer to this is simple ... they mean absolutely nothing.

While numbers have the ability to predict or measure an athlete's future success, they do not have the ability to predict the most important thing: a person's will and desire.

This year, every set of numbers and predictions for this first matchup between #3 in the nation Missouri and Norfolk State favored Missouri. This past Friday however, Norfolk State was able to set those predictions aside to create a few numbers of their own: Norfolk State 86, Missouri 84.

Many that follow sports are familiar with the incredible journey of Jeremy Lin. While Lin was in fact a Division I athlete, he played at Harvard which is not exactly known for their athletics. Even so, Lin only averaged 12 ppg

and was known his freshman year as the physically weakest guy on the team. Going undrafted out of college, Lin bounced around the NBA and even down to the D-league, before finally finding a home with the New York Knicks. While all numbers and odds seemed to be going against Lin, he remained resilient and kept fighting to achieve his goal.

After countless attempts and failures, the resiliency finally paid off. Lin was called back up to the NBA, finally seeing playing time but only out of 'desperation' as one coach put it. He capitalized on his opportunity, leading the Knicks to a seven game win streak in which he averaged 24 ppg on his way to establishing himself as a legitimate NBA point guard.

Lin and Norfolk State were predicted to be insignificant and yet, they managed to find their way to the top. What makes them different than any of us? Numbers? Certainly not.

Lin and Norfolk put aside the numbers and predictions that told them they would be insignificant. They became something, in spite of expectations. They've proven that it really isn't about the numbers or labels, it's how you respond to them.

There is noticeable talent all over this small, private, liberal arts college. Don't let expectations and numbers stop you. There are no numbers that can measure determination, there is no ranking for resiliency and there are no upsets in the field of dedication.

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## OPINION

## Sustainability in six deadly syllables

ALEX LANZ  
GUEST WRITER

A backlash exists against a word many are fond of using. It extends to students, faculty and alumni – the whole campus community. And I have to say the criticisms are justified.

"Sustainability" is the kind of buzzword that can be wantonly thrown around in public discourse. When its meaning isn't pinned down, our green, utopian imaginations are allowed to run wild, serving rhetorical ends – but not practical ones. We are having a discussion wherein everybody's thoughts on the central concept are different and unconsolidated.

It's easy to use a word. But start interrogating it, and the challenges become apparent. Can we constrain the framework of sustainability to a single college campus? What do the principles of sustainability mean in regards to that setting? And who gets to decide what is or isn't sustainable anyway?

All these and more are questions we have put off by diluting the notion of sustainability, and now, because of the way we've carried on this conversation, members of our community feel disenfranchised.

The Willamette Sustainability Council is aware of these issues, and from what I've seen, it has some compelling ideas of what to do about it. These include open mic public forums and symposiums in April (preferably near Earth Day).

If you find the word "sustainability" irksome, consider this an invitation to refine and crystallize a working definition of sustainability that is meaningful to Willamette as an institution, and to do so as an institution.

A contributing problem has been the lack of effective communication by environmental groups here at Willamette, something we are determined to fix this term and in the future.

I am a member of the newest of these groups, the Environmental Community Outreach Society (ECOS), and we plan to make more visible the sustainable initiatives that exist now and are forthcoming in the pipeline.

Numerous projects are helping to make Willamette green, and they are worth celebrating. The Bike Shop has an internship and hosts maintenance workshops. Bon Appetit has purchased a steaming system, reducing cleaning effort and saving costs. The campus grounds have native and drought resistant plants that are maintained with the minimal use of organic pesticides.

There are further projects that may appear in the near future. A Sustainability Office would be a single place where we can all collect and voice our ideas and suggestions, which would be relayed to the appropriate department. It would create work-study jobs. New quarter-credit classes on equity and sustainability issues are also on the table.

But we can't move forward until the "sustainability" problem is solved. By steering the dialogue on campus to agreeing on a definition of sustainability, the Council can make it more inclusive and advance a focused vision of Willamette's future.

Whatever framework we come to, we can agree that sustainability should be a high feature of any healthy future society.

Make sure you know what sustainability means to you; you don't want to be left out of this conversation. We are all embedded in this challenge together as an institution of learning. How we choose to get involved now will determine whether or not we can meet the challenge as one.

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## CORRECTION

The writer of the issue 22 guest opinion, "Basic women's rights: Nothing freaky, please" was Virginia Alvino, not Victoria Alvino.

## EDITORIAL

## Campus Life pushes for traditions

The Office of Campus Life has been running a series of "Traditions Focus Groups" over the past month in an attempt to learn "how Willamette students understand and interact with traditions unique to our university."

They are reacting to the sense that WU may lack the strong traditions that are so prevalent on other universities. We don't have the downpour to cheer at football games; we don't play year-long games of assassins; and we don't even have a yearbook.

Luis Rosa, the Assistant Dean who is leading the focus group, states that raising retention rates is the administration's motivation for holding the groups.

It seems that traditions are important because they foster connectedness. They provide students with the feeling that they are part of an overarching, positive experience that can help them through difficult individual experiences, such as academic woes, and keep them at the University.

So, campus traditions are vital, and they seem to be lacking. This begs the question, what exactly is the definition of a tradition on this campus?

If by tradition, we mean something more like superstition, then yes, WU might be lacking. There only seem to be two campus wide myths: Those attached to kissing under the Star Trees and to

stepping around the Jackson Plaza seal.

A more expansive definition, though, might be a consistently repeated event or activity, originally created because people consider it to be worthwhile and continued because the generations that come after agree with them.

Willamette traditions, rather than Greek traditions or Lausanne traditions or Biology Department traditions, should also be defined as events that can hold meaning for every member of the Willamette community.

Rosa finds that Willamette students, because of traits they share such as co-curricular involvement, academic excellence and a commitment to social justice, tend to identify and create traditions that reflect these traits.

Within these parameters, Wulapalooza is a tradition. So is Africa Week. Year after year, students consider these events important enough to invest in them their time and passion.

That is not to say that Willamette students don't like to have fun. And here's where students, and the Editorial Board, identify where we might be lacking.

We'd like to see students, as an inclusive Willamette community, relax once in a while. Expand Serenades to look something more like Freshman Glee, bring back the Push Ball, reinstate

the campus-wide game of assassins. Do something that has absolutely no value beyond fun and community.

Another question: Can any tradition initiated by the administration really be the outgrowth of student spontaneity and passion?

Rosa says that this is a potential risk that Campus Life is "aware of." The idea of the focus group is to engage and hear from students in order to be assured that any actions taken by Campus Life "come from the students."

The data, Rosa says, seems to suggest that traditions here aren't lacking, they just aren't like those at other, larger universities. He argues it is a unique community, and to compare its traditions to other universities is to ignore the identity of WU students. Maybe one time will tell.

COLLEGIAN  
EDITORIAL POLICY

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

## MEMBERS

Matt Pitchford • EDITOR IN CHIEF  
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## Letter to the editor: In defense of Invisible Children

Dear Editor,

In a previous *Collegian* (issue 20), Natalie Pate wrote an article about Invisible Children and Joseph Kony. It was on the first page, but I bet a majority of the student body skipped over it because they didn't care. They probably did not know to what they would be exposed in the near future. Three weeks later, everyone knows who Joseph Kony is. Anthony Macuk does a wonderful job in issue 22 emphasizing that the point of the film is to raise awareness, and the cynicism towards the film is uncalled for. Much of the controversy and arguments were started the day of or after "KONY 2012" was broadcast online by blogs, so the points brought up had little thought and research

put behind them and are easily rebutted. IC was started by three college students, so if any of my peers disagree in any way with how IC runs, I encourage them to start their own nonprofit.

Sincerely,

Cybelle Tablas

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters can be sent by postal mail, e-mail ([mpitchfo@willamette.edu](mailto:mpitchfo@willamette.edu)), campus mail or fax. Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name and phone number, and must be submitted by noon Monday on the week of intended publication. The *Collegian* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

## OPINION

## Buy a wristband for your white man's burden

MARISSA BERTUCCI  
GUEST WRITER

In the past week and a half, social media platforms have born witness to the proverbial "blowing up" of Invisible Children's "KONY 2012" web documentary/bleeding heart machine.

The link has been ubiquitously disseminated through every social circle in our generation bracket, mostly captioned with various emotional calls to action – "This made me cry!" and "Kony's such a douchebag!" and "Watch this or you're a terrible person," proving that if you give a mouse a cookie, he's gonna want a soapbox.

The post-coital glow of being in the "know" has reduced the majority of our darling bandwagon Facebook friends to complacent bleeding hearts. Increased awareness cannot be a goal in and of itself. If you're posting a status but not calling your Senator, you're just sitting on your hands and feeling like a saint for it. Nice work, captain.

There are sparks of criticism floating around, thankfully, but most skeptics dwell upon the whispers of corruption in the higher echelons of the organization, the reductive coverage of fact and the

general futility of throwing \$30 at an action kit.

These are important questions to ask, and the internet's outcry sparked a response from IC, who fairly graciously addressed fiscal transparency issues.

Squint a bit and look at the skyline of the issue – the structures which contain IC. These jovial, tan, occasionally publically-masturbating spokesmen are not the conductors. They are naïve operators with (probably) good intentions working within a framework which has historically paternalized the entire African continent.

A sticker demanding Joseph Kony's head ultimately reinforces that framework.

Nobody's born pure evil. You've got to believe that Joseph Kony's mom is possibly a very nice woman. Why isn't anyone asking about the shocking number of warlords and attempted dictatorships in Africa right now? It's not an organic cycle of poverty and corruption. There is no satanic mold growing political corruption somewhere in the Sahara.

High imperial powers made it their favorite party trick to generally screw things up in African colonies, but one particularly long-lasting reverberation comes from their hand-picking of a

Europeanized black elite class.

This is a big, complicated issue, but one consequence is the tendency for elites to retain political power – and some of these elites are not nice guys. They funnel aid money into buying a fleet of Mercedes, not because they're pure evil, but because they have internalized an inferiority complex that creates an unending hunger for power. Kony, anyone?

This is not a blame game for Facebook slacktivists. But if it is a game, then imperialism has won.

In the film, Jason Russell says, "We have seen these children," as if the white gaze somehow legitimizes their existence.

Joseph Kony is a small man. He's committed atrocities and ought to be brought to justice, but a campaign that persists with the patronizing rhetoric of saving helpless African babies merely strengthens the institutionalized North/South divide.

There is work to be done, but an approach that does not deny African agency – and maybe doesn't waste so much damn paper – is in order.

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## COLUMN

# POLITICAL PARTY ANIMALS

## Obama's Afghanistan recapitulation

## Liberal Voice

ANDRES  
OSWILL

STAFF WRITER

When it comes to Iran, there are many approaches that will not work.

Direct military intervention will not work; insisting that Iran halt nuclear development before negotiating will not work; funding Israel to attack Iran will not work.

In order to eliminate the threat of an armed nuclear Iran, we must make it our main objective. To do this, we must change some of our existing policies, all done in the name of preventing an aggressively nuclear Iran.

The United States provides financial support to foreign countries, something that 59% of Americans favored cutting in a 2011 Gallup Poll. The US gives a \$3.1 billion Foreign Military Financing grant yearly to Israel. We fund them to protect themselves from hostile neighboring states. Of these aggressors, the chief one is Iran.

In recent years, Israel has become aggressive — not to the point of exhibiting the erratic behavior of Iran, but taking distinctive steps towards that direction. We give \$3.1 billion every year to a country whose foreign policy goals are moving farther and farther from our own.

Recently, Israel made international headlines in its stance toward Iran. While the United States strongly opposes military intervention in Iran, Israeli leaders announced the possibility of "pre-emptive strikes" on Iranian nuclear facilities.

There is no nation as set on instigating war with Iran as Israel, which is funded by US foreign aid. There could be no doubt that any attack on Iranian facilities would instigate regional war, an event with catastrophic effects much worse than the wars in Iraq or Afghanistan.

While no country in the region could be considered Iran's unequivocal ally, few would miss the chance to strike back at Israel, their antagonistic neighbor, if Israel were to attack Iran. The US has invested \$115 billion in supporting Israel. Despite this gargantuan amount of support, Israel continues taking actions contrary to US interests.

I am not going to say that we should cut off funding to Israel. Instead, I pose the question: Why are we doing this? If Israel is instigating actions that are against the US interests, then the US should decrease its aid to Israel and use that funding to pursue constructive relations with Iran.

Iran repeatedly claims that its only objective in nuclear development is creating nuclear power plants. The idea of assisting Iran to achieve nuclear energy has been considered — under the condition that they agree to supervision by the UN's International Atomic Energy Agency to ensure production remains below the level needed for nuclear weapons. However, in the current hostile environment, talks of this have fizzled out. Curtailing Israel's antagonism could allow this goal to be pursued once again.

Another factor is Israel's colonization of Palestine, which is opposed by both the US and Iran. Iran is intricately connected with Hamas, the ruling faction of Palestine's Gaza Strip, and has cited Israel's actions as a significant factor in its aggression towards Israel.

In order to best improve its relations with Iran, the United States should decrease funding to Israel's military, putting American interests first in achieving regional cooperation in the Middle East.

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## Conservative Voice

ALEX  
FEATHERSTONE

STAFF WRITER

I hate to say this, because normally it's a Republican president's prerogative to start an unwinnable, unnecessary war, but it appears that Obama is trying to do just that.

The situation in Iran is dire and only getting worse with Obama's harsh sanctions and threats of bombing. In recent months, Iran has lost its largest ally, Syria, to riots and revolts.

This comes at the most distressing time when Israel and the United States are threatening to bomb Iran over their nuclear program. Iran is literally alone in the most volatile, war-prone region of the world and facing threats of attack. This makes them nervous.

To compound the fear of being friendless and fear of attack, it was announced late last week that Swift, an organization that controls international banking transactions, cut off Iran's central bank from all international transactions.

What this means is that any country that wants to purchase oil from Iran has to purchase it in actual 24K gold blocks rather than any other form of currency.

Preventing the Central Bank of Iran from conducting any transactions will also affect the money flow within the country. Effectively, we are making scared people desperate by cutting off their money supply.

This situation should be disconcerting for multiple reasons. The most prominent is that desperation makes people unpredictable. People who feel they are going to die, either from starvation or war wounds, ask themselves, "Why not try to fight?"

Iran has a passionate army driven by religion and national pride that has no respect for international laws surrounding war or human rights. Iranians will fight to the death to defend themselves against something they view as unjust.

The US needs to change its strategy. Rather than force Iran into becoming broke, alone and unstable, it would be better if the United States and the United Nations followed the mantra, "Keep your friends close and your enemies closer."

If the United States is unsure about the goals of Iran's nuclear program, then let's offer to send them scientists to help them 'develop nuclear power.'

We can also figure out who is supplying Iran with uranium and ask them what type of uranium Iran is buying. There is a large difference between U-235 (the uranium used for nuclear power) and U-238 (the uranium used for nuclear weapons).

Iran has offered to let experts tour the nuclear plants and evaluate the plants. All of the experts have returned saying that they cannot confirm anything. If we don't know, why are we immediately forcing drastic, harsh sanctions on Iran and threatening "strong" military force?

It seems like Obama is trying to push Iran in between a rock and a hard place. It seems that a moderate, diplomatic president would be looking for all possible diplomatic measures to settle the issues, especially when Iran appears to be cooperating more than any other country would be willing to do in the same situation.

So, why are we crippling them and pushing them towards war? The US needs to get out of the Middle East. Buy their oil; nothing else. Leave them alone.

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## COLUMN

# Bearcat Bullet

## Break yo self, fool

KEVIN  
BELL

COLUMNIST

This week I write to you from an undisclosed location in the mountains, holed up in my fortress of solitude apart from the little people below.

While I may already be gone, many of you are preparing to once more leave our cloister of academia to return out into the wider world over Spring Break.

Of course, the wider world in this instance is not the same thing as the "capital-R" Real world, with student loans and employment and Joseph Kony and other nebulously-understood bad stuff, but in this case a world full of wet t-shirt contests, Tecate and cramming 16 undergrads into a hotel room sized for two brooms and a mop bucket, depending on your destination of choice.

While stereotypes of spring break road-trips and misadventures abound in pop culture (the fear is, right now, slowly eating away at your parents' minds), in reality, it is often a far different animal.

I, for instance, have spent the majority of my SB's doing what I'm doing now, lying about what I'm really doing to make it sound cooler.

Especially since what I'm actually doing is sitting in an empty classroom at the first of two national debate tournaments and slowly drowning in a sea of the self-righteous, intellectual circle-jerk which surrounds me as such.

While I do intend to travel a bit later on, most people will end up either sitting at home damning Willamette for having SB the week after all your friends from home had theirs, or putting around Oregon looking for the place where all the cool kids hang out (SPOILER ALERT — south of here).

Should you actually be leaving the state for warmer climates with lax law enforcement and beer fountains, allow me to congratulate you on behalf of those of us who could not share in your fun, in my own special way. So, way to go, and eat a dick!

Sorry about that; my hereditary, Irish, working-class mistrust of people who can afford to go to beaches is kind of a bitch to shake, even after four years eating Bentley's filer mignon on my friends' parents' collective dimes (thanks!).

Anyway, parents of freshmen who inexplicably read my syndication, you likely have little to worry about unless your children somehow fail to call for 12 hours or have to stop for gas outside your hometown, in which case they'll likely be kidnapped.

And freshmen on your first SB, try to bring some water along with your beer while camping. By the way, the first In-N-Out on I-5 South is exit 687A in Redding; right on Hilltop, right on Dana.

You're welcome, people without prior planning skills or smart phones.

Finally, whoever stole the mixing board last week, your grace period just ended, so best make like a tree and get ready to be clear cut by a big guy in a plaid shirt. Only fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

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OPINION

ROBERT MARCH AND KENDRA VANER



## PLASTIC'S AMAZING VANISHING ACT



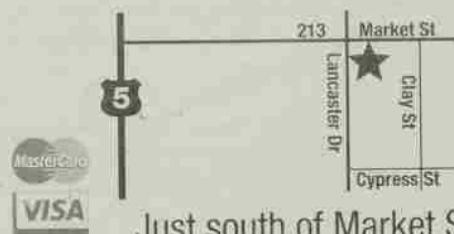
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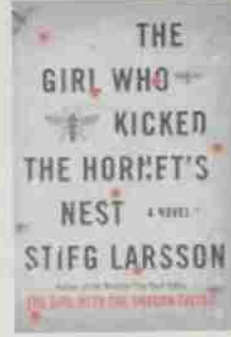
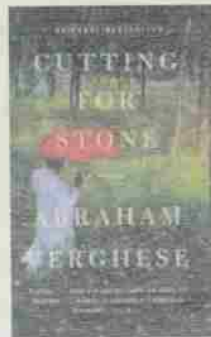
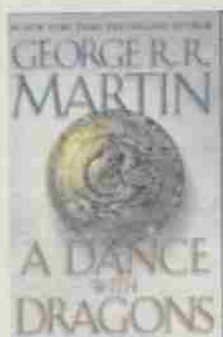
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