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NEWS

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FEATURE

Senior Celine Sannes-Pond explores the outlandish history behind the Oregon occupation.  
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What happened this week in sports? Braydon Calder will tell you, and more.  
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## WU 'Cats find their stroke



CHRIS SABATO

Junior Alika Masai won the 100-yard individual medley and the 100-yard backstroke against Southwestern Oregon Community College.

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## Oregon's hidden Black history



JOE LINDBLOM-MASUWALE  
NEWS EDITOR

"They're not talking about this on Portlandia," Walidah Imarisha said at last Thursday's Convocation. "Racism has been institutionalized in Oregon since its very foundation. Sometimes it's changed and shifted, but it is a foundational idea that has continued to be reinforced."

Imarisha spoke to an audience of around 100 about the history of race, identity and power in Oregon. "A historian at heart, reporter by (w)right, rebel by reason", she is an educator, writer, public scholar and poet, according to her website.

As part of her presentation titled "Why aren't there more Black people in Oregon? A Hidden History", she had attendees interact with a timeline of the state that covered events occurring as early as the Lewis and Clark expedition and extended into the 2000s.

The gentrification and destabilization of Portland's Abilene (Alberta) district, state legislated

exclusion laws, the destruction of Vanport, Ore.—a city of 100,000 that was predominantly black—and dozens of other events were some of the historical points marked on the timeline.

Imarisha also asked the audience to separate conceptions of anti-slavery as meaning inherently pro-Black. According to Imarisha, being anti-slavery as a matter of Oregon policy meant having a preference for Union manufacturing that they didn't see themselves as able to compete with the low input costs involved in enslavement.

"At the same time they outlawed slavery in Oregon, they excluded Black people being able to live here," Imarisha said. In fact, the 1844 Oregon provisional government that was responsible for declaring all slaves in the territory free, also required all freed blacks over age 18 to leave the state within three years.

See OREGON Page 2

## ISIS crisis

Talking about 'ISIS' is hard when no one can agree on what to call them

JESSICA WEISS  
COLUMNIST

At this point, just hearing "ISIS" is not really scary anymore. The name has come up in American politics so often that an entire presidential debate practically revolved around it, and with the almost weekly attacks in various cities across the world, news has almost become desensitized as we begin to accept that the war on terror is long from over. As the ISIS question begins to seep into everyday discussion, it is important to look at the fluidity of the Islamic State's (IS's) expansion and what factors may be allowing it to continue to grow.

Last week, ISIS claimed responsibility for bombing a Starbucks in Jakarta, Indonesia, which killed 4 people and wounded around 25.

See NOT AFRAID Page 10

## Shotskis: Get in the calzone



See REVIEW Page 4  
SAM KEECHLER

# WU holds MLK celebration

## Oregon: Anti-slavery and anti-Black?

CONTINUED from Page 1

The initial penalties for breaking this law, known as the lashing law, would have any freed Blacks still in the territory publicly lashed with a whip. It was repealed before it could take effect, but Imarisha said it was still an apt illustration of Oregon mentalities.

Participants were asked to walk around and look at each event in the timeline, which she presented as individual moments posted along the walls of Cone Chapel. Imarisha encouraged people to appreciate the events out of chronological order in an effort to manage the crowded space but more importantly, to break away from interpreting history linearly.

After they had a chance to look over each moment, Imarisha questioned the audience about their knowledge on these events; almost no one admitted to knowing a thing prior to her introduction of the "hidden history."

"It's not just the students," Imarisha said. "It's teachers who don't have this information either."

Imarisha, who has taught at Portland State University, Oregon State University and Southern New Hampshire University has over

the past six years, has presented across the state as a public scholar with the Oregon Humanities' Conversation Project.

In her experiences speaking to Oregon educators about these issues, Imarisha said she rarely encountered people aware of the state's racial history, which is part of the reason why this information has yet to enter the public curricula.

"Unfortunately I can count on two hands how many people had actually learned these foundational pieces of Oregon's racial history," Imarisha said.

"And it's because they had a teacher who would shut the classroom door and say, 'OK, it's about to get real in here, y'all.'" The lack of dissemination of this information in Oregon public schools was a major talking point of the conversation.

In addition to Oregon Black history, in her work as a public scholar Imarisha has held conversations on topics such as alternatives to incarceration and the history of hip hop.

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FORREST SMITH



GABE TARRAN

The University, in remembrance of MLK, held dialogues including a discussion on Black Lives Matter (BOTTOM) and an "Expressions of Justice" open mic night (TOP).

## WU panel talks #BlackLivesMatter

RYAN GAIL  
STAFF WRITER

As part of the University's two week long celebration of the life and accomplishments of Martin Luther King Jr., the Office of Multicultural Affairs hosted an open forum to discuss the history, founders and national news stories surrounding the Black lives Matter movement.

Black Lives Matter is a chapter-based national organization that focuses on promoting the "validity of Black lives" and working to "(re)build the Black Liberation Movement," according to Blacklivesmatter.com. The movement was created by civil rights activists Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors and Opal Tometi in response to the 2012 shooting of Trayvon Martin.

Since 2012, local Black Lives Matter chapters have organized demonstrations across the country to bring attention to instances in which Black lives are deprived of their basic human rights and dignity.

On Jan. 19, around 100 members of the Willamette community arrived in the Putnam University Center Alumni Lounge to learn about the Black Lives Matter movement. The forum was hosted by Cornerstone Area Coordinator Janet Jacquier and first-year Rachel Washington.

The discussion opened with an introduction to the history of the Black Lives Matter movement along with how the movement had been perceived by members of the general public.

Statistics shown at the event from a PBS NewsHour poll stat-

ed that 59 percent of whites polled believe Black Lives Matter distracts from the real issue of racial discrimination compared to 26 percent of African Americans. Additionally, only 11 percent of African Americans think that they have equality while 50 percent of whites think African Americans have equality.

Jacquier and Washington also discussed how racism is often institutionalized on college campuses by providing examples of university buildings from across the nation that are named after individuals who had worked to prevent Black Americans from obtaining civil rights.

The importance of the movement to the lives of Black Americans was highlighted through a video of a spoken-word piece from poet Sarah O'Neal titled, "An Overreaction: Words On #BlackLivesMatter And MLK." In the poem, O'Neal argues that the issues of systematic racism and state violence in the United States justify the riots and demonstrations organized by the Black Lives Matter movement. These protests, according to O'Neal, are not an overreaction.

Following the video, a panel arrived to discuss issues surrounding the movement. The panel included Associate Professor of Sociology Emily Drew, American Ethnic Studies Professor Roy Pérez, executive member of Asian Coalition for Equality Carol Li, Multicultural Affairs Committee Student Representative Salome Paul and Women and Gender Studies and Art History major Ráelyne Moreno.

After offering their reactions to O'Neal's spoken word poem, the

panel first discussed how Black Lives Matter related to previous civil rights movements. Pérez described the actions of the Black Lives Matter movement as "not necessarily radical in its demands, but groundbreaking in its use of social media to communicate with a new generation."

The panel also discussed why the name Black Lives Matter is an important element in and of itself and specifically addressed why they felt the responsive phrase "All Lives Matter" was problematic. Moreno stated that the phrase "All Lives Matter" ignored the systemic violence faced by people who are Black. Li believed that the phrase promoted a problematic, "color-blind" mentality that defeated the purpose of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Paul, paraphrasing several prominent activists of the past, said that for the world to be anti-racist, anti-blackness needs to be eliminated.

The panel then opened the discussion to audience questions, including how the Internet plays a role in the discussion of social issues and the significance of the Black Lives Matter movement being started by three Black queer women.

After the event, Li said she hopes that event will inspire others to carry out activism at the University.

"Willamette is nowhere near post-racial," says Li. "It is important for all students to begin cultivating a culture of activism on campus by supporting those who have already been speaking out."

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MILES MACCLURE

Walidah Imarisha reveals the stories and struggles of Oregon's black communities at last week's convocation (ABOVE).



# Advisory board bridges communication gap

KATIE LIVELY  
STAFF WRITER

Joey Good and Thao Tran were worried.

They were in the late planning stages of the first listening session for the Student Advisory Board, the new campus group of which they were co-chairs. The Dec. 8 meeting was slated to run from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Was this too much?

Would those in attendance be able to sustain a conversation on diversity and campus climate for an hour and a half?

As it turned out, Tran spent the final ten minutes of the meeting repeatedly glancing at the clock in an effort to find an appropriate time to cut off the discussion.

"It flew by so quickly," Good said. "People just started talking. People want to talk about this stuff."

The December listening session consisted of three tables of students discussing diversity on campus with administrators at each table listening, taking notes and asking clarifying questions. It was the first in what will be a series

of efforts by the members of the Student Advisory Board to provide an opportunity for students and administrators to communicate on issues that affect the campus community.

Tran said the first session was successful in a variety of ways, particularly in its ability to provide common ground for everyone in attendance.

"I had a space where I could talk freely about race and diversity on campus without feeling judged," Tran said. "Everyone had a common understanding that we were all there to learn and that being ignorant was okay sometimes as long as you were actively trying to gain that knowledge."

As interns in the office of David Douglass, Dean of Campus Life, Good and Tran started collaborating with Douglass on plans for the group last spring.

"We noticed that there was a bit of an issue with students being able to meet and bounce ideas back and forth between the student body and the dean's office on a number of issues," Good said. "That's what the advisory board was designed to do."

As part of this process, Good and Tran researched similar groups at colleges across the United States, created goals for their group and conducted an application and interview process. After holding interviews for positions on the committee, they selected eight members from across the grades, majors and student activities on campus.

Both Good and Tran said the main goal of the committee is to foster dialogue between students and administrators.

"There are a lot of issues, whether last semester that be the moving of the E&E, I think that was a big issue that people were really frustrated about," Good said. "Rightly or wrongly, students feel as though they don't have a voice in the process of these decisions. We really wanted to bridge that gap."

Tran said, "I thought it was time for students to have their voices heard."

Due to attendees' interest in talking about diversity at the December listening session, a follow-up session on the same subject was held Jan. 26. Good said

that while around 30 people attended the last session, the committee recognized that holding a session during finals week could discourage some students who might have otherwise attended, and this would provide another opportunity for those students.

Going forward, Good said the committee hopes to explore other subjects such as residential requirements, mental health and Campus Safety. Good and Tran meet with Douglass two or three times each week and the entire advisory board meets with Douglass once per week to discuss plans for the group as well as brainstorm ideas for future listening sessions.

Among the committee's other outreach efforts are holding office hours, sending reports on each listening session to the campus community and placing anonymous question boxes around campus for discussion at future listening sessions.

"Any change starts with dialogue," Good said.

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# Wyden: Don't block research on gun violence

SARAH HAGHI  
STAFF WRITER

In 1996, a Republican appropriations provision on an unrelated bill cut federal funding of public research into gun control. U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) very strongly advocated for funding this research in his Jan. 21 speech at the CDC Headquarters in Washington D.C.

As stated in a press release, "Despite 33,000 deaths a year from gun violence, the CDC spends nothing to research health crisis due to 1996 appropriations rider." He made his opinion clear that this ban was unjustified and superfluous when he opened his speech by saying, "This anti-research, anti-knowledge agenda defies common sense. It is time to end it once and for all."

As Wyden said, banning research is just "restricting the opportunity to gather knowledge."

The aim of this speech was not only to remove the ban on research, but also to prevent problems like this in the future. Wyden said he wants to "make sure that this discussion is no longer untethered from the facts." He discussed how the point of the research is to "better understand the basic causes of gun violence", which should not be correlated with advocating gun control as much as beneficial for the purpose of education on this matter that is literally of life or death. The research aims to "help our communities be safer when guns are present" which doesn't imply tightening the gun control laws and therefore the research should not be punished for being correlated to that.

Wyden also brought up the recent gun violence in Roseburg, Ore. and how the goal afterward was to "create a greater sense of urgency." He argues that new research will create that sense of urgency which will, as a result, help diminish gun violence. Even the author of the rider that defunded research, former Representative Jay Dickey (R-Ark.), agreed with Wyden that the 20-year-old ban shouldn't stand in the way of funding CDC gun-violence research. Wyden hopes to raise this ban on research as a way of taking a "practical, non-ideological step towards helping to keep our children and families safe."

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# ASWU president unsatisfied

GIA ANGUIANO  
STAFF WRITER

ASWU President Shamir Cervantes has proposed a step-by-step plan to change ASWU for the better, but many of senators seemed frustrated with this impromptu presentation.

Cervantes said that he was unsatisfied with his role as president last semester and was concerned that ASWU did not make as big of an impression on campus as students and senators had hoped. Along with five senators, including Jake Saiki, Teo Ekstrom, Thao Tran, Tori Leder and Natasha Parekh, current students and alumni gave feedback to Cervantes to establish the six possible steps to renovate ASWU.

Cervantes' presentation discussed student representation on student council decisions as well as the senate's overall approach to addressing student issues such as mental health,

security and the new smoke-free initiative.

The first step to change ASWU for the better relies on an adjustment to their order, currently structured according to Robert's Rules of Order.

The student body president said that the current system requires too much time and often leaves student guests confused by its process. Senator Joseph Landoni questioned Cervantes on this step, as it would require a change in by-laws, an action strongly adverse to Chief Justice Dabit.

Dabit said that ASWU would be left without a system of order if the rules were changed but ultimately stated that she was only there to enforce the senate's decision. Cervantes replied that the main goal of his first step was to eliminate a speaker's list within the senate. The discussion was becoming combative within the Senate and therefore Senator

Zach Ward motioned to move on to the following steps.

The other proposed steps did not lead to much objection by the other senators. One main focus of discussion was Cervantes's idea to have one senate meeting per month that featured a student forum. Cervantes's presentation stated that this feature would encourage improved information flow between ASWU and the student body and also prompt senators to address student concerns within their personal senate projects and reports.

In Cervantes's description of the schedule, students would have a 45-minute forum that followed a theme established by the senate. Within that time frame, students would have up to five sections allocated 10 minutes each to discuss problems, identify one with the most concern, pitch potential solutions, develop a stronger solution and revisit

former issues raised in previous meetings.

Senator Liz Gill raised concerns about this step's seemingly impractical usage of time. Gill said that the student forum take place after the senate meeting as to not keep senators for too long and to avoid conflict within the senate. Gill also described the previous lack of student involvement seen during last semester and said that an ad should be created in the Toilet Paper or the Collegian to notify students of this opportunity.

Final reflection on each of the steps resulted in disagreements between the senators, leading them to review Cervantes's presentation on their own time within the following week. The senate will be discussing these ideas in its upcoming meeting and will act on them as follows.

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# CAMPUS SAFETY

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

**December 29, 1:17 a.m. (In a Campus Residence):** Campus Safety received a call that a student had been taken from campus in an ambulance. It was later discovered that the student had a seizure and that their family was on the way to meet the student at the hospital.

**January 20, 11:19 a.m. (In a Campus Residence):** Campus Safety responded to a call of a student experiencing nausea and dizziness after a head injury. After evaluation it was determined that the student should seek further medical treatment. The student was transported to Salem Hospital by the officer.

**January 23, 1:27 a.m. (In a Campus Residence):** Campus

Safety responded to a call of a student vomiting in the restroom after consuming alcohol. After evaluation, the student declined further medical attention. The student was urged to call back if symptoms worsened.

**January 24, 11:50 p.m. (In a Campus Residence):** Campus Safety responded to a call of a student experiencing severe stomach pains. The student declined further medical attention.

## THEFT

**December 11, 10:26 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot):** Campus Safety took a report of a vehicle that had been broken into. A window had been broken and many items were stolen as the student was storing their friend's belongings

in the vehicle during their moving process. The student was given the Salem PD non-emergency number and encouraged to file a theft report.

**January 9, 9:04 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot):** Campus Safety received a report of a vehicle that had been broken into. The student left their car over break and returned to find signs someone had been in the truck. The stereo and vehicle registration were stolen. The student was given the Salem PD non-emergency number and encouraged to file a theft report.

**January 13, 10:16 p.m. (University Apartments Parking Lot):** Campus Safety took a report of a vehicle that had been broken into. Two of the vehicles windows had

been broken, and several items stolen, including a gym bag and an emergency kit.

**January 21, 8:30 a.m. (University Apartments Parking Lot):** Campus Safety received a report of a vehicle that had been broken into. A laptop and some other items were stolen. The student was given the Salem PD non-emergency number and encouraged to make a theft report.

**January 23, 4:30 p.m. (Shepard Hall):** Campus Safety received a report about a student who is missing two watches and a chain after storing their boxes over break.

**CRIMINAL MISCHIEF**  
**December 2, 1:05 p.m. (Westwood Hall):** Campus Safety re-

sponded to a call about a door that had been pried open. Maintenance called to report that a grate cover had been removed from the air ducts in the basement as well. No further information at this time.

**January 7, 8:13 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot):** Campus Safety received a report of a vehicle that had been broken into. A window had been broken and the glove box forcibly opened. The student was given the Salem PD non-emergency number and encouraged to file a theft report.

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

## Arts

When the bistro shuts down on Friday afternoons, students have to seek out their laughs somewhere else. Luckily, Capitol City Theater features Friday Night Funny comedy shows at 9:30 p.m. for \$10 starting on Friday, Jan. 29.

• • •

The Bush Barn Art Center is currently featuring emerging artist Debi Miller, internationally exhibited artist Ann Kresge, graphic designer Barry Shapiro and printmaker Yuji Hiratsuka from now until Feb. 27. The works of these consists of ceramics, colorful humor art and recognition of the refugee crisis. The gallery is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

• • •

Are the new films at the Cinebarre just not cutting it for you? Stick with the classics and catch "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" starring Sidney Poitier, Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn at the Elsinore Theatre. The films screened at the Elsinore are free with a Willamette ID at 7 p.m. and the film screens on Wed., Feb 7.

Got culture?  
Contact Lifestyles Editor  
Christine Smith <cssmith>

# Salem is uber done with Uber: Here's why

NIC SHIPLEY  
CONTRIBUTOR

Uber entered the world not too long ago, and even made a brief appearance in Salem. Many of you are probably wondering why the easy to use app is no longer in use in the city of Salem and it is not a simple answer. The drivers own the cars that they cart people around in and are not considered employees of Uber in the way cab drivers are typically employees of their specific cab company. Here lies the root of some of the PR and regulatory issues that have haunted Uber's existence: because Uber drivers are independent contractors, they are not entitled to employee benefits and often make below minimum wage in crowded markets.

Individuals typically seek out contractor work rather than salaried or hourly wage employment due to the greater flexibility and generally higher hourly pay than more conventional employment. One of the most compelling arguments against Uber drivers being contractors rather than employees is the standards to which drivers are held. Imagine you run a site that connects customers with dog sitters. If you don't pay the dog sitters yet also don't mandate how these sitters conduct their business, you conceivably have both fantastic and terrible dog sitters available on your site. In such an arrangement, you might charge a listing fee or take a portion of the sitter's revenue for the use of your site, and the sitters would be con-

tractors. If instead you maintained strict standards of conduct for the sitters, they would be employees.

Uber drivers must meet minimum specifications for factors such as vehicle age and cleanliness. Uber also sets prices, meaning drivers have to charge what the company dictates rather than the amount at which they choose to value their own labor. This, coupled with the Uber driver contract mandatory arbitration clause which prevents drivers from settling disputes with the company in court and instead forces them into less formal and more biased arbitration with attorneys, leads some to ask just how much 'freedom' Uber drivers truly enjoy.

The California State Labor Commission recently ruled that Uber drivers were indeed employees and ordered Uber to reimburse certain drivers for expenses they incurred. If this ruling were to become the norm throughout the world, it could greatly destabilize Uber's business model which relies heavily on deferring costs to drivers.

Travelers who take issue with Uber's business practices face limited alternatives. Lyft has a similar business model to Uber and taxis are being usurped by Uber and Lyft for the largely inescapable reason that taxis are almost always more expensive and often not available. "Fair trade" goods and services have been in vogue in recent decades it is possible that an employee-owned or otherwise more palatable labor-capital relationship will be adopted by a company that seeks to challenge Uber.



LANCE ROSSI

Uber gave free rides in the area last school year, and even operated regularly for a while, but it was met with backlash and is presently not operating in Salem. The municipal government's non-cooperative regulation policies that require cost prohibitive registration fees and operation standards. Under city law, a home cannot rent out a room without being a bed and breakfast and paying the associated registration fees. Is this better for Salem? Possibly.

Much like hotels who may need to cut staff if they are out competed by home-stay services, the local cab and even public transit services may suffer if Uber were to take a foothold in Salem. One group that could actually benefit immensely from Uber in Salem is

Willamette students. Those with cars could craft schedules around classes and other activities to fit their needs and maybe make some extra cash, and there would be alternatives for designated drivers for when Safe Rides are not available.

It may well be a moot point, however. The arc of economic history does not typically favor luddism, a criticism that has been levied on many municipalities who have tried to spurn Uber in favor of more established forms of driver services. Uber may be kept at bay for a time and may be forced to make some compromises, but make no mistake, Uber will be active in Salem sooner or later.

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# Review: Fired up for Shotski's Wood Fired Pizza



SAM KEECHLER

BEN MARTIN  
CONTRIBUTOR

Shotski's Wood Fire Pizza appears to be inviting immediately upon entry, largely due to the massive brick oven behind the counter and the smells wafting out from it. The restaurant shows its style with a rustic western motif that instills a sense of quality. In the middle of the room is a small unassuming stage with a projector screening "Ferris Bueller's Day Off." Our server told my dining group that starting in February, there will be live music and comedy on Saturday nights. Shotski's is conveniently located right by the recently revived and remodeled Sassy Onion.

The menu is simple yet caters to a wide variety of wants, offering what any reasonable foodie would expect from a pizzeria. They sell personal thin crust pizzas (not by the slice), calzones, salad and wings. Shotski's offers an assortment of beer and wine and is equipped with a full bar. My party did not see any actual "shotski's" in sight, despite the name of the establishment. I definitely view this as a missed opportunity. A 9-inch pizza or comparably-sized calzone will run for about 10 bucks.

I ordered a "Bracon Bad" calzone—a chicken and bacon concoction baked in a deliciously olive oil-glazed dough. It is important to note that while the two cost the same, the calzone is a much more filling alternative to the thin crust pizza, which I did not find to be particularly satiating—especially for the price. If you come to Shotski's to get full on classic pizza, be prepared to open your wallet more than you would have to in order to get a comparable amount of food at the adjacent establishments. That's just as well for me, as I found the calzone to be a much tastier alternative. The restaurant had quick service and ran well considering it is still in its infancy,

having opened just five weeks ago. This is nothing but a good sign for the longevity potential of the restaurant, which is ominously located in the final resting place of not one, but two failed previous pizza ventures. However, anecdotally, it seems to me that the buzz surrounding its opening is stronger than any hype surrounding the previous two restaurants there—Young Keechler and I had no recollection of what the other two establishments were before asking our server. In addition, the massive neon sign promoting the place probably won't hurt.

Shotski's seems to represent a step to the north with regards to Salem's ostensible "Portlandification" efforts. Between the decorum, quality of service and my lack of knowledge of restaurants there, I could see Shotski's blending in with restaurants in Portland—provided it can find a better way to provide customers with a filling amount of pizza for a reasonable price.

Shotski's Wood Fire Pizza rightfully belongs in its place in the family of quality restaurants by campus, whose siblings include heavy-hitters such as Adam's Smoke House and Sassy Onion. Whether or not the pizzeria will be able to overcome the evident curse surrounding its location makes the venture all the more interesting. I remain hopeful that the calzones will keep pumping out of the wood fire oven for years to come.

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1230 State Street  
Salem, OR 97301  
Mon-Thurs 11a.m.-10p.m.  
Friday & Saturday 11a.m.-11p.m.  
Sunday 11a.m.-9p.m.

Shotski's costs a lot of dough; the calzones are worth it though.

# Staff Style Crush: Dillon Peck

MYRIAH JUAREZ WAGNER  
CONTRIBUTOR

Willamette's student population has plenty of students who dress to the nines on a regular basis, but they had to learn from someone, right? Willamette's staff members also wear fancy clothes to work and have a style of their own. Dillon Peck is the circulation and stacks advisor in the library and his unique style just screams "he could rock a bowtie."

**The Collegian:** So what are you wearing right now?

**Dillon Peck:** Well, I'm wearing a sweater from Target, 2013. I think this (stylish shirt under the sweater) is from Land's End, it's like a tiny micro checkered thing.

**TC:** On average, how often do you shop for clothes?

**DP:** I would say I'm constantly keeping an eye out, but I don't often buy stuff because I don't find stuff that fits me very often—because I'm super tall. So if I'm going by a thrift store, I'll stop in and see, but I rarely find anything there. And any time I'm in Portland, I'm like "Oh, I'll check out Nordstrom Rack or whatever and see what they have." But maybe once every six months, or eight months...not that often.

**TC:** What is your favorite place to shop?

**DP:** Online. The reason I love shopping online is because I can say "filter: tall, inseam 36" and like actually see what I can find. It's really a struggle to find clothes. Often at like "Big and Tall" stores...they really just mean Big. There'll be like 9XL and then a tiny section of "Tall" clothes. So I don't even bother going into them.

**TC:** Favorite thing to shop for?

**DP:** I really love raw denim. I never buy it...because it's really expensive, but I love shopping for it. Whenever there's like a new collab out, I go and look. I feel pretentious using fashion terms... but I love how it's this

weird community of people who focus on one kind of clothes. I haven't really bought a pair since years and years ago because it's like hundreds of dollars for one pair of pants and I'm like 'I can get this...or like five outfits.'

**TC:** How would you describe your style and what do you think it says about you?

**DP:** I like to dress as if I'm this young childless dad...like I always like to have a fridge full of diet Coke kind of thing. When people look at me I want to seem nonthreatening and kind of vanilla, but also like I know what clothes are. I don't want to be wearing out of fashion clothes. But I wouldn't mind wearing something that's out of fashion but fits me really well.

**TC:** What is your favorite article of clothing?

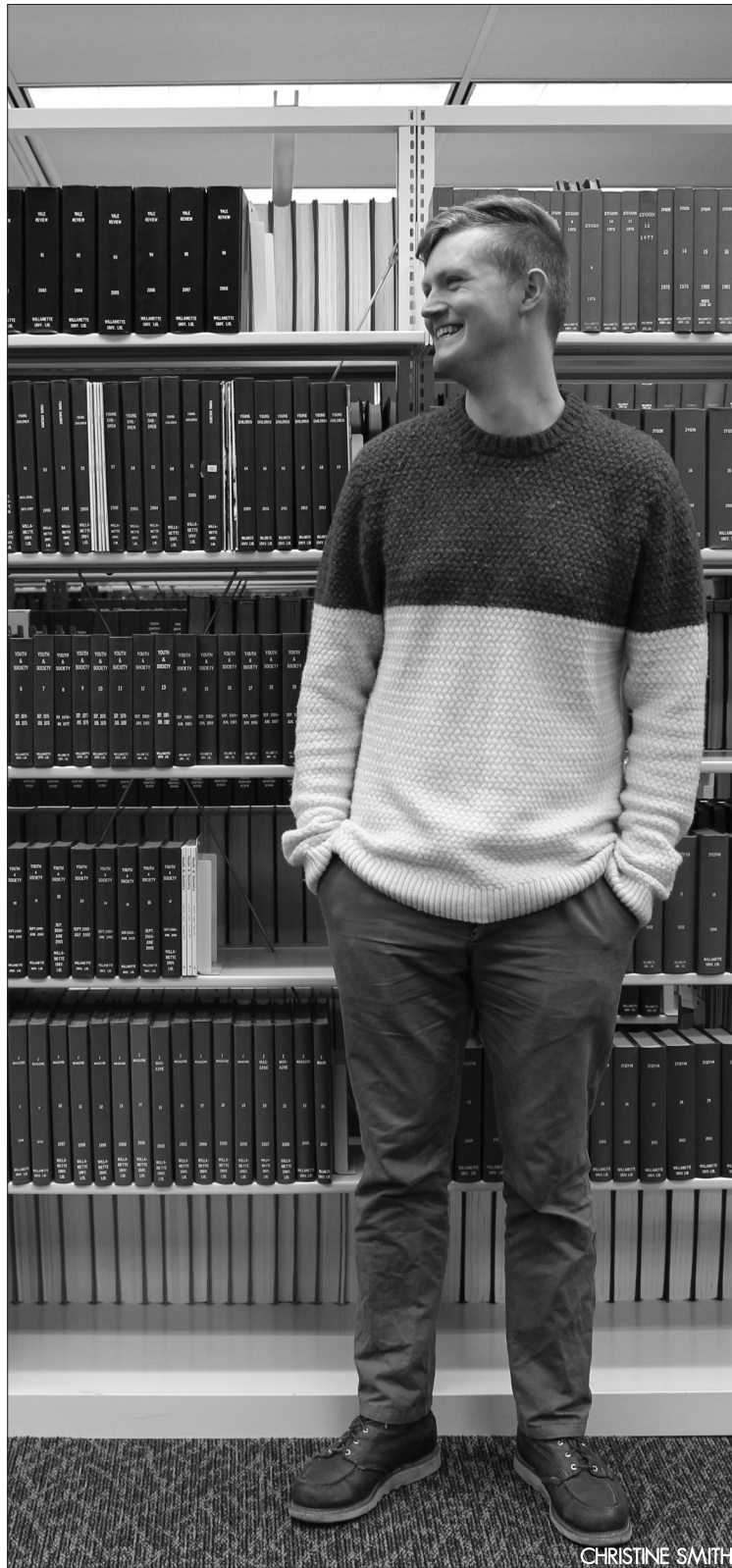
**DP:** I was at H&M a couple months ago and I found this giant sweater. And giant in the best way, because the sleeves are super super long, like way too long for a human being. And I think, because of that, it was on super sale for like five dollars—for this wool blend sweater, with this great pattern. The sweater itself is cut too long for my torso and the sleeves are also too long, which feels luxurious like a Lexus to me because I am so used to clothes being too short.

**TC:** What one aspect is most important or defining of your style?

**DP:** So my socks are always mismatched...on purpose. I always try to get them to have the same theme. So I'll pick like the same color family with different patterns, or I'll have like two different striped socks. Right now I'm wearing a blue striped sock and a grey striped sock. It's just because I got so tired of not being able to find a pair of socks.

When asked if there was anything else, Peck was very enthusiastic about the fashion scene on campus!

**DP:** I think Willamette students stun, like all the time...



This week's style crush doesn't have to read up on fashion; he's a natural.

like everybody. It seems like every time I walk to the Bistro I see like three people who could be on a fashion blog and they're wear-

ing really expensive clothes. So I'm very impressed.

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## Ban the bags

CHRISTINE SMITH  
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Katy Perry once said, "Do you ever feel like a plastic bag drifting through the wind, wanting to start again?" Contrary to popular cultural belief, that romantic plastic bag is actually an atrocity floating towards the ocean to become another piece of the plastic cesspool that makes up the bane of my existence. Unlike the people who made a resolution for this New Year, that bag won't get a chance to start again.

We live in a plastic infested world. You will inevitably encounter plastic items in all sorts of forms throughout your day. Even I fall victim to plastic silverware and the like on a regular basis and I do all I can to avoid using its single use derivatives. I feel that single-use plastic bags, like the ones from Target and grocery stores and such are the easiest to avoid and the most utterly useless. They were created just to exist as a form of drain blockage, animal strangulation and waste accumulation.

Plastic shopping bags are most prominent in the United States. Many other countries either don't have them or charge a nominal fee to anyone who just must have a plastic bag to carry their four items home where they will just remove the items from the bag and toss the bag aside. Did they really need that bag? Probably not.

It's likely another consumerist fad. When walking through a shopping mall, an individual carrying tons of plastic bags, each with only an item or two in it, it looks as if that person holds the world in their hand (especially when you're a tween swiping the numbers off of mom's debit card). It's another method of conspicuous consumption.

When Winco first arrived to my hometown, I was excited for their bulk items and low prices, but every single kind of candy, nut, dried fruit, etc. had to be in its own plastic bag. I left the store immediately after realizing that the purchase required so many small plastic bags.

California later issued a plastic bag ban and was the first state to implement such an initiative. I returned home winter break of 2014, the first break after the proposed ban, to find that there were people outside of Target protesting the ban.

Their motto was "Ban the plastic bag ban" and I had to double back and approach the table because I thought it must have been some sick joke. The person at the table stated their motto to me, and I said "why the heck would I do that?" and left, rather disappointed in my fellow Ventura locals.

The people tabling said that they believed that they deserved to have these plastic bags, without thinking of the future impacts of a seemingly trivial item. The ban has actually been overturned and is up on the ballot again this voting year.

Hopefully this year, California will be one step closer to being shopping bag free.

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## You don't need a spoon to enjoy this Serial

CASEY DOBBERT  
CONTRIBUTOR

The next time you go to the gym, or really any time that you are plugged into your headphones, let the soothing voice of Sarah Koenig wash over instead of bumping some of those hot top 40 jams. Koenig's podcast, "Serial", swept the nation last year with its debut season about a man who was convicted of the murder of his high school girlfriend. This interesting, and slightly unnerving, story compelled audiences all over the world to tune in each week to listen to the exploration of a murder trial that transpired over 15 years ago.

Well, now Koenig is back, and if you don't normally consider yourself to be the handwagon type, you just might want to reconsider this self-evaluation and jump on it. This season, we meet the main character, Bowe Bergdahl. You might've heard

of Bergdahl before because he was all over the news due to his five-year imprisonment by the Taliban. His release was greatly anticipated and he was initially welcomed with open arms upon his return to the United States. The public opinion shifted from that of a warm welcome to one of cold hostility within hours of his return, following accusations of Bergdahl being a traitor or deserter.

Koenig, in true Koenig fashion, returns this season to investigate the claims made against Bergdahl, and what really happened overseas. She is joined by filmmaker Mark Boal, and so during most of the podcasts, it's his voice that you are hearing. He conducted interviews with Bergdahl for his own work on the subject.

What's so intriguing about this podcast is that it tells a real-life story, partially in real time, and it's really hard to deduce what is really going on. Each week, new information leads you to a dif-

ferent conclusion about the situation. The narrative is keenly presented, in a way that keeps you on the edge of your seat—or treadmill, depending on your listening venue.

The premise of the story is that Bowe Bergdahl purposely triggered a DUSTWUN (duty status—whereabouts unknown), the protocol for when an officer goes missing. Bergdahl admits that, it was his intention to cause this alert, but for the purpose of bringing attention to corrupt leadership within his platoon which he thought would endanger the lives of his fellow soldiers. Through 25 hours of recorded conversation with Boal, Bergdahl recounts his intention to leave his post and hike 25 miles to a nearby Army command center.

Unfortunately, after five years of imprisonment with the Taliban, we can safely say that Bergdahl's plan failed. While the

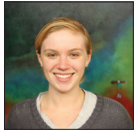
essential details of his case are known, "Serial" investigates the choices Bergdahl made, as well as the perspectives of others involved, from US Army officers on the ground to Taliban members present in the period this occurred.

Fair warning, you will be sucked into the world of "Serial" from the first episode, because this gripping story is just too hard to resist. From the questions surrounding Bergdahl's action, to the reactions of his fellow army officers and the actual testimonies and interviews with Bergdahl himself, the listener gets a complete idea of the situation in order to draw some conclusions and opinions, but not enough to satisfy all of the quandaries this podcast ignites.

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# Keeping up w

How a standoff in rural Oregon



CELINE SANNES-POND  
STAFF WRITER

Cliven Bundy and his sons have a weird family tradition of bonding over trying to overthrow the federal government.

Much has been made of Ammon Bundy and the Citizens for Constitutional Freedom's recent militia occupation of the Malheur Wildlife Refuge in Harney County, Ore. that began on Jan. 2. Their supporters, many of whom come from the far right of the political spectrum, argue that the occupiers stand heroically against government tyranny. Staunch liberals, on the other hand, deride them as grown men playing cowboy on stolen land.

Bird-watchers are, of course, some of the most frustrated with the scene playing out on what is otherwise a tranquil reserve known for its bird population. Some have pledged to use their best binoculars and cameras to document any illegal activities in which the militants engage.

To really understand what's going on at Malheur, we need to backtrack to April 2014, when Ammon Bundy's notorious father, Cliven, was embroiled in a standoff with the federal government in Nevada. That standoff goes back even further, though.

Really, it all started about two decades ago with a tortoise.

In 1989, the desert tortoise was officially listed as an endangered species. In an effort to save the tortoise, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) designated thousands of acres of land near Las Vegas to be overseen by the federal government and used for strict tortoise conservation purposes. The BLM was entrusted with creating an environment for the tortoises to thrive, and

their vision didn't include cattle roaming freely among the creatures.

Enter Bundy, who had previously grazed his cattle on land now being taken by the BLM. He and others who had used the land for their ranching livelihoods, as well as for mineral prospecting and recreational pastimes like motorcycle racing, felt that the government had acted without respect for the needs and opinions of those who lived in the area.

In 1993, the Washington Post reported that "Cliven Bundy [and company], whose family homesteaded his ranch in 1877 and who accuses the government of a 'land grab,' are digging in for a fight and say they will not willingly sell their grazing privileges to create another preserve."

Bundy and other ranchers in the area asserted that state rights trump federal law, and decided to continue grazing their cattle on the land. Bundy ignored the fines and warnings from the government for illegally grazing his cattle on the protected land.

Over the next few years, federal agents in the area became nervous dealing with the ranchers who, led by Bundy, had begun to threaten and harass the agents publically. In 1995, USA Today reported that violence against government agents was taking place across the state. At least three bombs were detonated in BLM and U.S. Forest Service buildings in Nevada. For two decades, the federal government avoided confronting Bundy and confiscating his cattle for fear of causing violent retaliation.

The tense situation continued in a stalemate until the BLM finally showed up on Bundy's property in 2014, prepared to collect 20 years of fines (now \$1 million) from Bundy.

The Bundys — Cliven, his 14 children and 52 grandchildren



— bunkered down at the ranch and pledged to fight the feds as the BLM set about rounding up Bundys cattle to sell at auction. Over the next week, protesters from all over the country began arriving at Bundy's ranch, ready with pocket constitutions to picket government tyranny with him.

"It's not about the cows... It's about the freedom to make our own choices close to home," one

protester told the Washington Post.

At the height of the standoff, over 1,000 protesters had joined the Bundys, many of them armed and on horseback.

Many reportedly followed Bundy's orders to train their rifle sights on government officials' heads when they approached the property or cattle. The BLM ultimately backed down, citing concerns for civilians' and government employees' safety if the conflict were to escalate to violence.

To date, none of the protesters involved in the standoff have faced legal repercussions for their defiance of law enforcement. Many observers believe that by allowing the Bundys to incite armed protest and openly ignore federal law, the government gave the Bundys implicit permission to conduct such activities again. The Malheur standoff appears to be a further step in the Bundys' mission to undermine federal authority.

The Malheur standoff, too, has a somewhat bizarre backstory. Instead of tortoises, this time it began with arson.

Politico reports that ranchers Steven and Dwight Hammond illegally poached deer on land owned by the BLM close to their own land. To destroy the evidence, they set fires on their own property as well as that of the BLM. They were sentenced to prison, and were subsequently released, only to be sent back by a federal judge who declared that they hadn't served enough time.

Admittedly, this is a pretty unusual and arguably unfair decision. Some, especially

in areas like Harney County, see it as part of a systemic disenfranchisement of those who live and work in rural areas, especially in the western United States. The federal government owns over half of Oregon (and 85 percent of Nevada, which contributed to Cliven Bundy's criticism of the government). Many who live in rural areas like Burns see the federal government as using power to enact environmental regulations that impede activities like ranching and mining, which many rely on to support their families.

"What people in Western states are dealing with is the destruction of their way of life," one Oregonian father of four, and former professional rodeo rider, told the Washington Post. "When frustration builds up, people lash out."

Ammon Bundy, all the way down in Phoenix, Ariz., heard of the plight of the Hammonds and decided to lend a hand to his fellow ranchers. They arrived in Burns, Oregon and started an armed protest of what they see as the BLM's continued injustice towards the Hammonds. When the BLM refused to kowtow to the cowboys, Ammond led a group of the protesters to split off from the rest and take over the nearby Malheur Wildlife Refuge.

Since the occupation began, the Bundy's militia has had a difficult time articulating precisely what its goals are. A video statement released by Ammon Bundy soon after the occupation began framed the issue as being primarily about "the people's land and resources" which, he claims, the



CAMERON BEAN

Ammon Bundy, spokesperson for the Citizens for Constitutional Freedom and leader of the wildlife refuge occupation.

# With the Bundys

has occupied our imagination



federal government has unfairly appropriated.

A few days later, however, the protesters shifted the focus back to the Hammonds. Bundy used their plight to argue that the BLM has overstepped its bounds as a federal agency, and is using its power to imprison ranchers.

The inability to commit to a specific message may have something to do with the wide variety of groups and individuals, many of which are extremist groups, who have responded to Bundy's call for rebellion.

"What we're seeing is an amalgamation of a lot of different and disparate strands of the extremist movement converging in one place," Ryan Lenz, a senior writer for the Southern Poverty Law Center, told the New York Times. "Although they all have slightly separate agendas, they've come together in Oregon because of the same intense resentment of the government."

Many of these groups have racist agendas. Some, like the Three Percent of Idaho (a group that derives its name from the legend that only three percent of Americans actively participated in the Revolutionary War) have recently trained their focus on preventing refugees of the conflict in Syria from finding homes in Idaho and other northwestern states. Other groups espouse homophobic, anti-black and antisemitic sentiments, the New York Times reports.

The Hammonds quickly issued a statement through their attorney clarifying that they are not affiliated with the Bundy militia, and do not support them

or their aims. They surrendered themselves to prison on the appointed date without incident.

It isn't just the Hammonds who are rejecting the protesters' support. The population of Harney County has been quite vocal in their wish that the protesters would give up their standoff and leave.

Many in Harney County agree that the the government treats ranchers unfairly, but believe that the occupiers have addressed the problem in the wrong way. The former mayor of Burns, Len Vohs, told the Washington Post that while he agrees with the protesters' grievances against the government, he and the rest of the town think it's time for the protesters to head home.

Even like-minded anti-government groups appear to disagree with the militia's methods. When the occupiers released a call to arms on the third day of protests, many regional right-wing groups declined the invitation, and even those that have made the journey to the Malheur preserve have expressed an opposition to the Bundys' approach.

"There's a better way to go about things," Brandon Curtiss, president of the Three Percent of Idaho, told Reuters. "If you want to make a change like that, you need to get the county citizens behind you to go through the proper channels."

Other conservative groups have raised more vocal criticisms of the takeover. They worry that the standoff will result in unnecessary bloodshed, citing the standoffs at Ruby Ridge, Idaho and Waco, Texas, in which

favorite was PETA's donation of vegetarian beef jerky) after they released an update asking followers back home for snack donations.

The next step forward remains unclear. On Jan. 22, negotiations with the occupiers failed yet again. Heeding law enforcement's growing impatience to end the occupation, the FBI attempted to negotiate with Ammon Bundy.

The Oregonian reports that the "hang-up appears to be Bundy's belief that FBI authority agents have no standing to deal with the refuge takeover unless they're deputized by Harney County Sheriff Dave Ward."

Meanwhile, Sheriff Ward continues to urge the group to cooperate with the FBI (whether they're deputized or not) and bring a peaceful end to the occupation.

This came after Governor Kate Brown sent letters to top government officials insisting that decisive action be taken to end the standoff. She criticized the federal government for allowing the occupation to persist for such an extended period of time.

Brown wrote, "It is unclear what steps, if any, federal authorities might take to bring this untenable situation to an end and restore normalcy to this community. I must insist on a swift resolution."

As we move into week four of the Malheur occupation, onlookers have some serious questions to ponder. As easy as it is to write the occupation off as a ridiculous gripe about the government, we also need to consider the ways the government has failed to help rural areas prosper. Much of the anger the occupiers express is righteous—ignoring their concerns further marginalizes people who already feel shunted to the side by the government.

The righteousness of their anger has been complicated

by the occupiers' methods. We cannot ignore the fact that the people of Harney County want a return to peace, and we certainly can't ignore the racist elements that have arrived to support Bundy's militia.

In addition, many observers have pointed out that while the government has historically responded to peaceful protests like Black Lives Matter with tear gas thrown by police in riot gear, so far they've pretty much ignored the openly armed and often aggressive Malheur militia. The occupiers are certainly protected by the privilege of being white, and this fact further complicates an already morally complex situation.

We are left with a slew of tricky questions like these surrounding the Malheur militia that reflect a lot of deeper questions about America as a whole. Luckily, though, we're also left with various websites to send dildos to the militiamen to peruse while we ponder these questions.

Update: According to The New York Times, FBI and Oregon State police have confirmed the arrest of Ammon Bundy in a confrontation at a traffic stop in rural eastern Oregon that left one dead. Seven others were arrested, including Bundy's brother Ryan, along Highway 395 en route to a community meeting in John Day, Ore.

Authorities have confirmed that all of the arrested face federal felony charges of conspiracy to impede officers from discharging official duties through use of force, intimidation or threat.

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CAMERON BEAN

The arrest of Dwight Hammond (above) and his son Steven, sparked the occupation of the Malheur Wildlife Refuge.



# Women's basketball is successful over break

ERIC DEL PRADO  
CONTRIBUTOR

While the rest of us were at home watching Netflix over break, the Willamette women's basketball team was hard at work. They played 11 games over the winter break, six of them in the Northwest Conference. Sophomore point guard Mary Eckenrode said this "was a great opportunity to spend quality time with one another and bond as a team."

They started the break with a solid 77-54 win over the southern Virginia Knights, led by Sophomore point guard Ashley Evans who scored 14 points and dished out seven assists. The Bearcats then took to the skies as they headed down to California for two games against Caltech and Whittier College.

Caltech was no match as Willamette cruised to a 69-36 victory behind freshman forward Celine Gregoire, who led all scorers with 15 points. The next night, the Bearcats again found themselves in the win column with a 53-35 win over the Whittier College Poets. Pacing the team in scoring was junior forward Alex Wert who grabbed four rebounds and scored 11 points.

After a well-earned 11-day break, the lady 'Cats took to the floor again, this time back in the friendly confines of the Cone Fieldhouse. Not skipping a beat, WU earned a 73-57 victory over Northwest Christian as the sharp-shooting backcourt of Evans and junior Kylie Towry dropped 14 points apiece.

Willamette had one last tune up before they started Northwest Conference play again, and it resulted in a 69-53 victory over New Hope Christian. The lady 'Cats had three players in double digits with Towry leading the way with 15, while Eckenrode added 11 points and Evans contributed 10.

Four days later, the Bearcats headed into NWC play against a 9-2 Puget Sound University squad with a 1-1 record in conference play. To the dismay of the Bearcat faithful, the Loggers were able to come away with a back-and-forth 67-64 victory. The difference came in the turnover battle as UPS forced Willamette into 16 turnovers, capitalizing with 19 points scored off the mistakes. Wert battled the Loggers leading scorer, senior Emily Sheldon down on the block, grabbing a game high 15 rebounds for Willamette, but it also was not enough.

The next day however, Willamette got back in the win column with a 57-48 victory over their rival, Linfield College. Towry again led all scorers with 19 points as the Bearcats went into halftime down 24-22, but took over in the second half. They went on a 12-2 run to start the fourth quarter and never looked back.

The next three conference games proved to be a low point for the Bearcats as they lost to Whitworth 58-47, Whitman 63-52, and George Fox 76-55. Yet, this should not be too discouraging as both Whitman and George Fox are nationally ranked, and the team will get another crack at them later on in the season.

This past weekend, the 'Cats shrugged off the three-game skid as they beat Lewis and Clark College 64-57. Sophomore guard Whitney Anderson paced the team with 19 points, heavily contributing to a victory that puts her team at 11-6 overall and 3-5 in NWC play. Willamette will take to the hardwood again on Friday, January 29th at Pacific Lutheran University and then at home on Saturday, January 30th against Pacific University.

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CHRIS SABATO

Sophomore Madi Andresen goes hard in the paint to score two of her five points against George Fox on Jan. 19.

## RECENT GAMES

12/15 Win 77-54 vs. Southern Virginia	1/9 Win 57-48 vs. Linfield
12/18 Win 69-36 @ Caltech	1/15 Loss 58-47 vs. Whitworth
12/19 Win 53-35 @ Whittier	1/16 Loss 63-52 vs. Whitman
1/2 Win 73-57 vs. Northwest Christian	1/19 Loss 76-55 vs. George Fox
1/4 Win 69-53 vs. New Hope Christian	1/23 Win 67-54 @ Lewis & Clark
1/8 loss 67-64 @ Puget Sound	

# Bearcat Spotlight



MONTANA MILLER

MARK ANDREONI  
CONTRIBUTOR

Bearcat Spotlight, a weekly feature, interviews personalities, captains and talents from Willamette varsity and club sports. Find out about these athletes, and what they do when they're not at practice! Up this week, Jo Hernandez, a women's player from Adrian, Ore.

Mark: What is your major?  
Jo: Biology

M: Celebrity Crush?

J: I don't know. Who should I pick? I don't really know a lot of celebrities; Natalie Portman is my go to. Oh, Mila Kunis is good too. One of those.

M: If you could go bowling with

anyone, alive or dead, who would it be?

J: Probably one of my professors.

M: Which one?

J: Professor Hobgood, because I just got into her class and she seems really cool. That's pretty much the only reason.

M: Best concert you've been to?

J: I've only been to one concert and it was just the other day. They were Oh Wonder. That was amazing.

M: If you could have any mythical creature as a pet who would it be?

J: A Basilisk.

M: Is there something you're obsessed with?

J: Candles. I have a whole area just full of them.

M: Scented or just normal?

J: They are all just really weird. I go to thrift stores and just buy bags and candles and find places for them in my room.

M: Overrated Liquid?

J: Chai tea, I just hate it.

M: What could you not live without?

J: This is hard, what could you not live without?

M: Yeah it is hard, coffee maybe.

J: Water is like the obvious answer, right?

M: If you could live anywhere on campus that wasn't a residence hall, where would it be?

J: In the UC 3rd floor in the radio station [WU Wire] booth next to the Collegian offices.

M: The walls are all covered in graffiti.

J: Yeah that's my favorite part I love looking at them. I really want to add something, I'm just not ready yet. Actually I am. This year is the year.

M: If you could teach any college level course what would it be called?

J: How to B.S. your readings.  
M: What song do you hate the most right now?

J: Any song by Ariana Grande.

M: What musician would play the soundtrack to your life?

J: The Weeknd

M: Do you have any New Year's resolutions?

J: Yeah I have two, I'm flossing more currently and I'm trying to learn MC Hammer's Can't Touch This dance.

M: What question would you like to ask the person next week?

J: What do you think you smell like?

M: How would you describe your smell?

J: I don't know! That's why I'm curious about what they'll say.

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# Swimming rides a tide of success

TROY CONWAY  
CONTRIBUTOR

The Willamette women's swimming team has been red hot in the month of January as they head into this Saturday's matchup with Linfield College riding the wave of a three-match win streak. The Bearcats are now 4-4 overall, and 3-3 in Northwest Conference action after recently defeating Southwestern Oregon Community College, Pacific University, and Lewis and Clark College.

The men's team has also been on a roll after besting both Pacific and Lewis and Clark in back to back weeks for their first two victories of the season. They sport a 2-5 overall record and a 2-4 record in conference play.

On January 16th, the teams met in Corvallis to take on the Oregon State University Beavers and Southwestern Oregon Raccoons. Oregon State's women defeated Willamette, 138-78, but the 'Cats left the Southwestern Oregon squad to drown, trouncing them by a 166-53 margin.

Some Bearcat standouts included freshman Kiley Lin, who earned first place in the 50-yard butterfly in 28.18 seconds along with duo of sophomore Cassie Tallman and senior Leah Freeborn, who took first and second, respectively, in the 100-yard individual medley. Tallman registered a time of 1:04.08 and Freeborn finished in 1:09.19. Willamette also took home first place in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:45.64. The relay team consisted of Lin, senior Michaela Zu-

ber, sophomore Jamie Johnson and freshman Rachel Harvill.

On the men's side, Willamette fell to SWOCC 137-87. However, junior Alika Masei provided a bright spot for the Bearcats, taking home two first place finishes. He won the 100-yard individual medley, 100-yard breaststroke and also placed second in the 50-yard backstroke. On top of those outstanding accolades, Masei also beat his season-best time in the medley by 0.12 seconds, and the breaststroke by 0.18 seconds.

In addition to Masei, the men also had a one-two punch of their own with sophomore Mark Yuvienco winning the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 54.97 seconds followed by junior Dan Aki placing second in just 55.89 seconds. Junior Shelby Merrill finished second in the 50-

yard freestyle and third in the 100-yard freestyle, while sophomore Reuben White placed second in the 100-yard freestyle.

The next week, WU came home to sweep the Pacific Boxers as the men won 118-77 and the women as well, 145-52. There were a total of four swimmers who each won two events for the Bearcats. The men's team double dipped with two wins from Yuvienco in the 200-yard butterfly and the 500-yard freestyle, as well as Masei who won the 200-yard individual medley and the 200-yard backstroke. For the women's team, Tallman won the 200-yard individual medley and the 200-yard breaststroke, while freshman Anna Burdine took first in the 500-yard freestyle and the 1,000-yard freestyle. The Bearcats were victorious in an impressive 10 out of 11 events.

Last Saturday, the 'Cats were back at it as they traveled to Portland to take on Lewis and Clark. The Willamette women took down L&C, 119-86, and the Bearcat men's team outscored the Pioneers, 117.5-87.5. Again, Burdine and Masei had two first place finishes each. Burdine won the distance events of the 1,650-yard freestyle and the 500-yard freestyle, while Masei was triumphant in both the 100-yard backstroke and the 100-yard breaststroke. Both were fantastic races for the men as they filled the podium with 1-2-3 finishes in both races. In the 100-yard backstroke, Masei was followed by junior Jason Bayang and sophomore Max Thompson. After Thompson's 100 breaststroke win, top 3 finishers were rounded out by Bayang in second and firstyear Mykah Fujiwara in third.

The Bearcats get back in the water this Saturday, Jan. 30 in the WU Natatorium as they take on the Linfield College Wildcats. They hit the pool at 1 p.m.

## WU hoop winter recap

ERIC SPRESSER  
CONTRIBUTOR

While the shots didn't fall for Willamette University men's basketball in the first month of the season, the Bearcats found their stroke over the winter break.

Coming off a pair of losses to nationally ranked Whitworth University and Whitman College, including a nail-biting overtime loss to the number one team in the nation in Whitworth, the 'Cats were able to trounce George Fox at home last Tuesday and take care of Lewis & Clark in Portland this past weekend. While the men currently hold a 3-5 record in conference play, they are in a three way tie for 5th place and are only one game behind 4th place which would earn them a spot in the end of the season conference tournament.

The top four teams from the Northwest Conference advance to play each other at the end of the season with the eventual winner automatically earning a bid to play in the 64 team NCAA tournament. After taking #1 Whitworth to the brink of their first loss of the season last weekend in an eventual 81-77 OT loss, it is clear that the Bearcats have the talent to compete for a conference title.

With that mindset, Willamette got two key victories this week behind big nights from sophomores Nico Troplent and Brendon McCullough along with a trio of seniors: Bubba Luedtke, Bridger Harlington and Alex Brown.

Troplent scored 14 points to go along with five rebounds and four steals against the Bruins and then followed his well-rounded performance with a 20-point night against Lewis & Clark. On the year, Troplent is averaging 11.8 points per game to go with 3.8 rebounds per game.

Meanwhile, Luedtke continued to dominate the glass as he hauled in 20 rebounds to go with 10 points against George Fox before earning another double-double with 10 points and 10 boards against L&C. He is averaging 12.4 points per game and is leading the NWC with 10.1 rebounds per contest.

From behind the arc, Harlington kept the hot hand, moving up to 8th best in the NWC in 3-point shooting at a 42 percent clip. Against the Bruins, he knocked down two three's amongst his 12 points, while nailing three triples against the Pioneers on his way to 11 points.

McCullough had a team high 16 points to go with four assists against George Fox and is averaging 9.9 points per game so far this season.

Returning from an injury that kept him out from the George Fox game was Alex Brown as he provided a spark off the bench to score 18 points and grab five rebounds for the Bearcats in their defeat of the L&C on Saturday night. On the season, Brown is averaging 10.1 points and three rebounds per game.

With a balanced offense that features several dynamic players who can dominate the floor on any given night, the Bearcats have the ability to do some damage in the remaining eight games and find a way into the NWC tournament.

Looking to this week, the Bearcats travel to Tacoma to take on Pacific Lutheran on Friday night before returning home to Salem to take on the Pacific University Boxers on Saturday night. With Pacific Lutheran sitting at 4-4 in the conference and Pacific at 3-5, this weekend has the possibility for the Bearcats to not only keep their winning streak alive, but also gain some ground on the rest of the NWC.



CHRIS SABATO

Reigning NWC swimmer of the week, sophomore Cassie Tallman prepares to swim at Cone Fieldhouse.

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# this week in sports

sun      mon      tue      wed      thu      fri      sat

BRAYDON CALDER  
STAFF WRITER

If this is your only source for news about sports, then you missed a lot. However, I will not be recapping all that you missed because this is a piece about what has happened in sports the past week. Sorry.

### NBA

The Golden State Warriors won all three of their games this week. They are 8-2 in their last 10 games. They still own the best record in the league at 41-4, as of Monday, and are on pace to set the record for most wins in an 82 game season.

The closest team to the Warriors, and arguably the ones playing the best basketball right now, are the San Antonio Spurs. They have a record of 38-7 and won three games last week to extend their winning streak to 13 games, until the two teams met

Monday night at Oracle Arena where the Warriors picked up their 4th 20+-point victory in as many games.

The Portland Trail Blazers and Los Angeles Lakers faced off last week. Portland took the game 121-103. Kobe has a record of 6-26 when playing in Portland, which is his worst record in any city.

### NHL

The Montreal Canadiens won one game and lost two this past week. They are 3-6-1 in their last ten games and have a record of 24-21-4 after starting the season 18-4-3.

The Los Angeles Kings slipped a little this week and went 1-2. They dropped games against the Minnesota Wild and Arizona Coyotes but got the win against the San Jose Sharks. However, they still sit at the top of the Pacific Division at 30-15-3, with the next best record being 25-18-4, belonging to

the Sharks.

The Washington Capitals currently have the best record in the NHL at 35-8-3 and have played fewer games than all the other teams.

The random team to talk about his week is the New Jersey Devils. The Devils sit at fourth in the Metropolitan Division. They have a record of 25-19-5 and are currently on a four game winning streak, which is tied for the best in the league currently with the Colorado Avalanche.

### MLS

Okay fine, I lied. I'll tell you something that didn't happen this past week. The Portland Timbers defeated the Columbus Crew to win the MLS Cup. Happy?

### MLB

Okay, it's the offseason for the MLB so there isn't much going on. So, I'll tell you one more thing that

didn't happen in the past week. The Red Sox signed David Price to a seven-year contract worth \$217 million.

### NFL

The Super Bowl matchup is set. The Denver Broncos will be facing the Carolina Panthers. The Panthers finished the regular season at 15-1, with their only loss coming to the Atlanta Falcons. The Panthers defeated the Cardinals on Sunday by a score of 49-15.

The Broncos finished the regular season at 12-4, before winning their two playoff games against the Pittsburgh Steelers and New England Patriots. The second of which came down to a failed two-point conversion by the Patriots with less than a minute to play.

The battle for the Lombardi Trophy is on Feb. 7 and will be played in Santa Clara, California.

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# Great success: I am terrible and so can you

SIMON ORR  
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I have a confession, Willamette. It's been a long time coming, and I'm finally comfortable enough to share it with the world.

I am a terrible student. Just awful. I don't go to class as often as I should. I don't always do the readings. I lose my papers on the way to turn them in.

Last semester, I earned solid Cs. Yet, I learned more during last semester than in any semester prior. I now have a solid understanding of video art. I can (sort of) articulate why violence in photography is problematic (usually?). I have a working understanding of the complexities in modern Islam, and I'm pretty sure I took another class, too. I am comfortable admitting that, while I may not be great at schoolwork, I am OK at school.

That said, I will admit, I am in a field where my GPA doesn't matter as much to graduate school as it would to, say, a pre-med student. But I am satisfied that I am working for my own personal knowledge rather than for honors on my diploma.

I am not advocating that you stop caring about grades. I am advocating that you stop caring about them so much.

My attitude towards grades was

initially a bit more scornful until one of my professors took me aside and reassuringly, pointedly mentioned that colleges grant degrees only to those who play by their rules. That is, in fact, the point of a degree: to certify that you met certain standards. So rather than disregarding the university's standards entirely, just disregard them as a reliable metric of success. Set your own metric.

My metric is whether I can apply knowledge learned from previous courses in my present courses. This is generally a sign that I have retained a good measure of the material, that my depth of understanding is decent enough for me to bring queer theory into my statistics class (I should disclose that the only F on my transcript is Applied Statistics).

I do not have a very tight way to wrap this column up. I haven't really figured out what this philosophy means for me in my future studies and if those studies are to include grad school. Let me conclude by suggesting that, in addition to university standards, each one of us should consider developing our own personal measure of success independent of grades. Should you require, this exercise should at least tide you over during the three week wait for an appointment at Bishop.

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SHAYNA WEIMER

# Global thoughts: I'm not afraid of ISIS

CONTINUED from Page 1

While not as surprising because ISIS has been known to reach out of their comfort region, Jakarta is a significant target because it is the largest Muslim country in the world, with relatively low levels of religious extremism and violence related to religion.

I write this piece not to discuss the rise of ISIS or where fault should be placed for its genesis, but to criticize global response to their recent outreach of campaigns. To find a perfect demonstration of why one should be frustrated, we do not even need to look past U.S. borders.

After Paris, when news was

coming out about how some of the attackers may have come to Europe as refugees, U.S. state governors and members of Congress immediately rushed to speak out against the receiving of Syrian refugees.

Aside from the pure idiocy of this logic—considering there has not been a single illegal vessel carrying migrants into the U.S. due to the sheer length of that journey—the common (and valid) argument made against state governors and members of Congress is that the fear and ostracizing of Muslims in the U.S. and those fleeing the conflict are exactly who ISIS wants.

But then on the other end of the spectrum, we see a response with a similarly paralyzing effect: the

playing down of the seriousness of ISIS's tactics to use religion to commit acts of terror. An example of this would be the San Bernardino shootings, where there was evidence found of the shooter being involved with ISIS.

A huge debate broke out in Congress and the roles almost flipped between the left and the right. The left called for people on terrorist watch lists to be prevented from purchasing a gun, while the right's defense was, well, sometimes we're racist and mislabel people as terrorists, and we don't want to take away their second amendment rights so we think that's a bad idea. More or less verbatim.

What was left in the shadows

was any discussion about how ISIS sort of works like the temptations to buy a gun and commit a domestic act of terror. ISIS seeks out social outcasts (of a particular religion), and makes the individuals feel like they are part of a community of outcasts. ISIS then turns the West's sentiments against their own Muslim populations to feed into the ultimate goal of a war between the West and the Muslim world.

We can't bar the entrance of refugees, but we need to take a serious look at how Islam does play a role in ISIS, so we can move forward instead of being paralyzed by the fear of being racist. This calls for suppression of both left and

right, and the need to discuss how to make the Muslim community feel at home in the West, while still being able to recognize issues of national security and the war on terror.

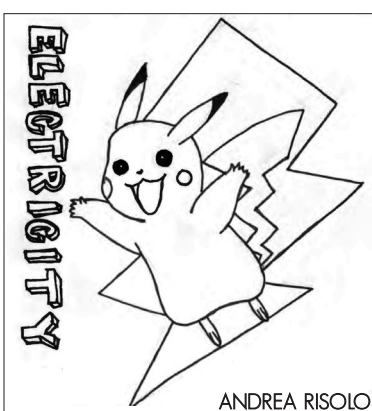
We cannot afford skipping this discussion unless we become okay with the status quo. Congress, and this nation as a whole, must come to terms with the new world we live in, regardless of who or what we think brought about this situation.

Both sides have some justification for their fears and proposals, so the constant battles we are having over this issue needs to move forward.

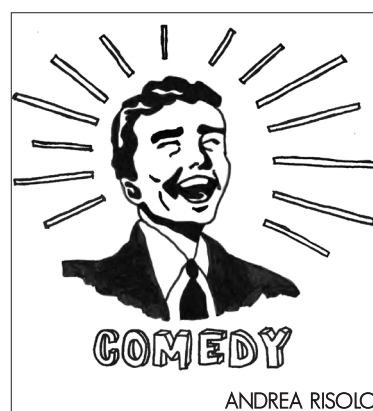
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ANDREA RISOLO



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ANDREA RISOLO



The Collegian sits down with Sports Editor Evan Giddings for a conversation about things that are overrated, things that are underrated and why he always carries cabbage.

### Electricity

**Evan:** Underrated. I don't think anyone today could live without electricity. They say they could, but let's be honest, no one's living without a cellphone, a computer, or anything generally that could plug into a wall. So that's how I feel about that.

**The Collegian:** I've heard that 86 percent of the world's population has an iPhone (\*editor's note: this is not a

confirmed statistic). Doesn't that blow your mind?

**E:** That honestly does not surprise me. Electricity is completely underrated because so many people take it for granted.

**TC:** I don't know how any of that works. When I flip a light switch I don't know what's going on. I just assume it's going to work, and when it doesn't work I'm pissed.

**E:** Yeah, whenever there's a blackout in your house, everyone freaks the fuck out.

**TC:** Flipside: candles make everything smell better.

**E:** They make everything smell better,

however, the process of going to light a candle in every single room—kind of a tedious one that I haven't seen anyone really enjoy doing.

### Comedy

**E:** Underrated as well. A lot of people think that funny is something that is just there. For instance, what we're doing right now: the goal is to be entertaining and funny but funny is something that can't be forced. There's like some people that are really funny. And I think that with comedy in general, a lot of comedians nowadays have to go through a lot just to get to a place where they can feed themselves.

**TC:** Like four years of no one laughing at you.

**E:** Yeah or just getting shit on at comedy clubs, performing at colleges like ours. I'm sure that we've had comedians that have come through here in the past, and everyone's like 'boo, that guy sucks,' and he's probably sitting there, he's been prepping for weeks, probably his whole life for his big break at Willamette University and some guy just gets up and throws a piece of cabbage at him.

**TC:** Do you just carry cabbage around with you?

**E:** I don't know, some people might. But yeah, that's why I think comedy's underrated.

### Weddings

**E:** Underrated for the guests but overrated for the groom and bride. If you're enjoying a free mini bar, dancing, cake, and maybe an exquisite appetizer like calamari, then it's freaking awesome. If you're the couple who've more likely than not been stressing over the damn thing for months, then it's a relief instead of a celebration. But hey, I guess I'll figure that out when the time comes.

# I'd like to thank the Academy for white privilege and nepotism

JOSH SINGER  
 OPINIONS EDITOR

The recent backlash against the Oscars are mostly about how the Academy has somehow managed to nominate only white actors this year. This act in itself might not have been so offensive if this exact situation hadn't occurred in previous years, and if there weren't talented actors of color currently alive. However, unfortunately for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science, these statements hold true, making the all-white cast of the Oscars the most recent sore thumb on an already battered hand of the filmmaking industry.

Although it is incredibly disturbing to imagine that the Academy thought the only talent in "Straight Outta Compton" was its two white screenwriters, the current discussions regarding the Oscars' racism can, I hope, springboard the idea that the Oscars is, and always has been, a disgusting ceremony and, at best, a guilty pleasure.

It is important to note that the Oscars has always been a toxic award show, and it has never had the reputation of being the fair judgement of any year's film industry. Only a fool would think that the Oscars makes the final decision in what makes a good actor good or, inadvertently, a for-

gettable actor forgettable. Nicolas Cage won one in 1996, and if that doesn't show you how amazingly inaccurate an Oscar win is, then you probably haven't seen "Next," the only film which had me standing up in frustration as the credits rolled.

In fact, the simple act of being nominated or slightly considered for an Oscar is not without corrupt practices. Producers spend \$3-5 million, sometimes even triple that, for their Oscar campaigns, which involve special screenings for Academy voters with hired women whose only purpose is to hold bottles of champagne. It isn't surprising that these practices have some industry insiders

equating involvement in the Oscars to the experience of Stockholm Syndrome. And although most of the time this brown-nosing falls flat, it is hard to believe that these behind-the-scenes back-rubs don't sway a good number of votes.

Furthermore, winning an Oscar may not be even a benefit to an actor's career. Many of Hollywood's top-grossing actors are not Oscar winners, such as Harrison Ford and Tom Cruise, and there's always the possibility of an "Oscar jinx," which happens when an Oscar winner becomes so concerned with their public image and ego that they start degrading as a performer.

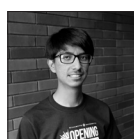
Even though I've always believed that award shows like the Oscars is simply Hollywood giving itself a pat on the back and a sloppy kiss in the mirror (with tongue), even I can recognize that this self-congratulation shouldn't be exclusive to Caucasians. Because while the Oscars itself is a narcissism powerhouse, there are actors of all colors who deserve to be appropriately awarded for their achievements. Unfortunately, at this time, that award is not an Oscar.

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# Election : I feel the 'Bern', but do we need Hillary?



CAMERON BEAN



JESSE SANCHEZ  
 COLUMNIST

With the upcoming election, the socially justice oriented voter has a lot to consider. We are facing issues including wealth inequality, gender equity, racial justice and educational quality. Many opinions from pundits to political enthusiasts offer all sorts of perspectives about what will best advance social justice in the coming years. Questions remain about pragmatism versus idealism, reflected in Bernie Sanders' calling for radical shifts in the political

system, in contrast with Hillary's encouraging a practical approach to progress with small steps. Even O'Malley, who was once quite unaware with an "All Lives Matter remark", has since realized the increasing recognition that making such a statement requires centering Black experience in the political conversation. There is a lot to consider. Personally, I'm not entirely sure who to vote for. Each has their flaws, from uncritical positions on Israel to supporting targeted killings in the Middle East.

What's fortunate is that an election happening in the midst of social movements and upris-

ing has forced the conversation to move left. Each candidate has some progressive policy ideas, so it becomes a matter of weighing what best promotes equity.

Bernie continually centers economic justice, which is a major component of achieving social equity. Wealth inequality has a clear effect on educational quality and equality of opportunity, especially for people of color. While I am not of the opinion that marriage equality is radically progressive, he did come out (no pun intended) in favor of equitable policies long before the others. Universal free education and healthcare would promote much

greater opportunity for all in the status quo system (until we tear it down). However, the question remains if the presidency is the best outlet for radical change in a fundamentally hierarchical system.

In regards to Clinton, while it often seems she only pursues what is politically expedient at a given time, such a strategy may be effective. It's not always entirely clear what the Clintons have up their sleeves, and we have seen some surprising moments of her advocating for new conversations on healthcare—another area with striking disparity along lines of race, gender and sexuality. Changes in student loan policies

are one of Clinton's more achievable and important policies, as educational debt plagues our society by weighing down graduates from seeking opportunities in fields we actually want. People of color and first-generation students are especially affected with college costs increasing and underpaid blue collar parents unable to pay out of pocket.

As for the Republican front-runners, Donald Trump and Ted Cruz, I think it's reasonable to say they are not particularly interested in social justice.

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# Humans of Willamette

Do you believe in conspiracy theories?



SAM KEECHLER

Gabrielle Vogt  
Sophomore  
"There is a theory that cows milked at night make you sleepier because there's more melatonin in it. I'm not sure if that's a conspiracy theory or a biological fact."



SAM KEECHLER

Maddie Cleaver  
Sophomore  
"I don't think we went to the moon. She's beautiful. The moon would never let anyone penetrate her. That's some bullshit. I also think horses are probably a conspiracy theory. I love them but I don't think they're real. They're made of glue, they become glue and they go back to glue."

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