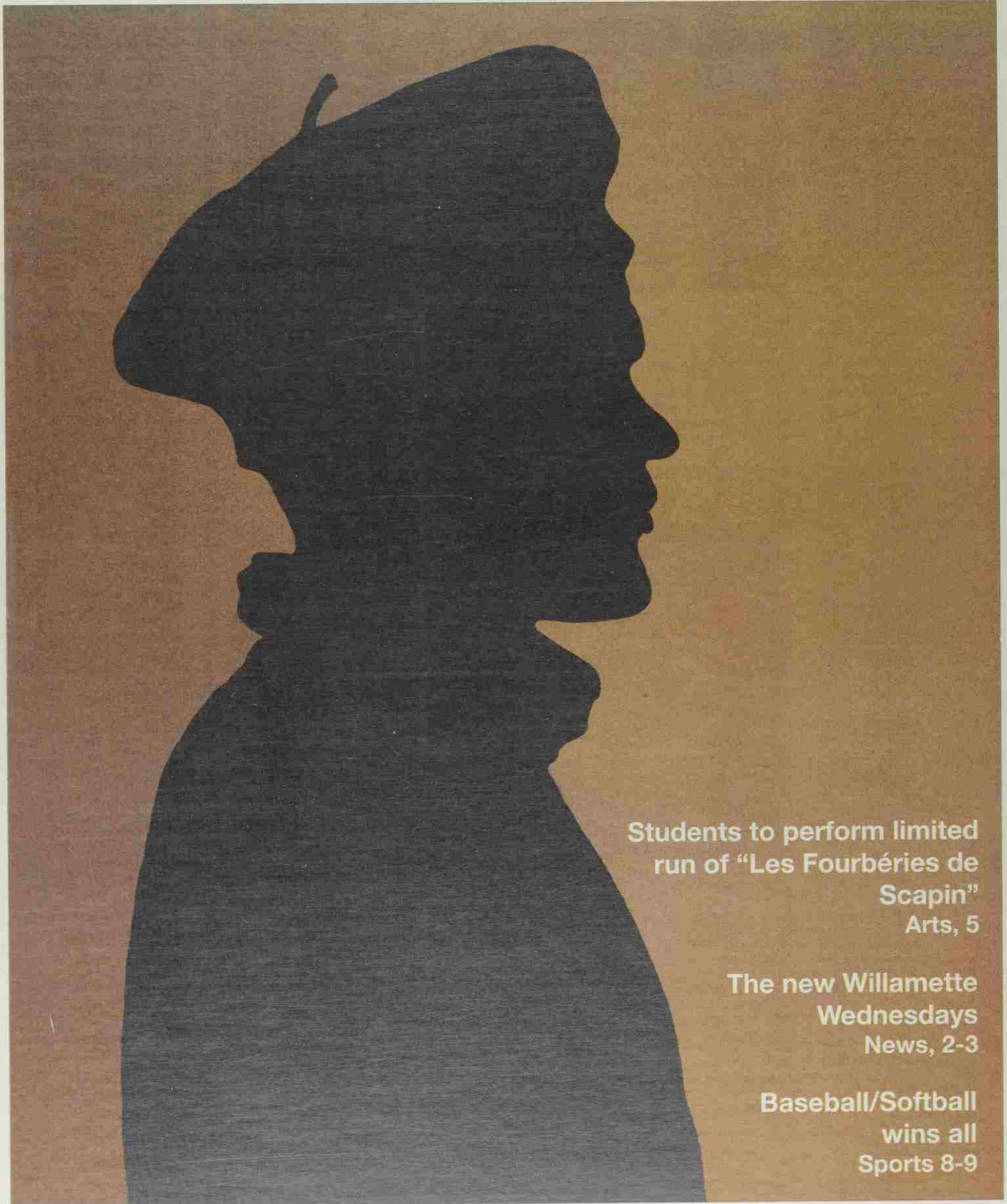


# COLLEGIAN

WINNER OF SIX 2010-2011 ONPA AWARDS • VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL CXXIII • ISSUE 20 • FEBRUARY 29, 2012



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# Invisible Children Club makes way on Willamette campus

NATALIE PATE  
CONTRIBUTOR

Students on the Willamette campus are joining together to bring support and attention to the international non-profit organization Invisible Children through the Willamette Invisible Children Club.

Invisible Children (IC) is a youth-founded, youth-run global organization that seeks to shed "light on the war in Central Africa and the malicious crimes Joseph Kony has been committing for three decades," says Cybelle Tabilas, current president of the IC Club.

"By raising funds and awareness," Tabilas says, "the organization has built schools and has brought attention to the issue through U.S. government intervention, rallies and international awareness events."

The rebel war going on currently in northern Uganda is one of the "longest running conflicts on the continent," according to the Invisible Children Website. This war, affecting four countries and hundreds of children and families, has forced many people out of their homes and cities.

The Invisible Children webpage states: "We are a movement seeking to end this conflict and bring them home. We seek to rebuild schools and provide jobs in Northern Uganda. We are the motivated misfits and masses redefining what it means to be an activist." Three young men, shook up by the struggle going on in Central Africa, began this program by creating a documentary and starting a movement of inspired youth.

Tabilas, along with many other interested



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KONY 2012 will be shown in Montag Den at 7 p.m. on Wednesday March 7.

and moved Bearcats, have joined together to create events, such as the free screening of a new documentary called KONY 2012 on March 7, which is being shown to help bring attention to current global says Tabilas.

This screening, held in the Montag Den, will help explain the harm Joseph Kony has

caused and provide information on how more can become involved to end such crimes. "Joseph Kony abducts, rapes and forces children into his army and displaces towns," says Tabilas. "Once people know who he is and the horrifying crimes he has committed, it will hopefully raise enough awareness to stop him

and bring justice to the people who were affected because of him."

The IC Club at Willamette meets every other Thursday in the Montag Loft to discuss future events and ways to bring awareness to the club, organization and issues. For instance, the IC Club is working with Africa Club for a few events during Africa Week (Feb. 27-March 3). "Invisible Children Club and Africa Club are teaming up to bring Lou Radja, the founder of EduCongo, to Willamette to speak about education," says Tabilas. She says they hope to convey that "education is a fundamental human right, not just a privilege."

Africa Week, the free screening in March, and future events are helping to enhance the IC Club's presence at Willamette. For further information, contact Cybelle Tabilas <ctabilas> and learn more at the upcoming events.

Contact: npate@willamette.edu

To watch the trailer for KONY 2012 visit the Invisible Children Website.



# Students to showcase talents at Willamette's Got Talent

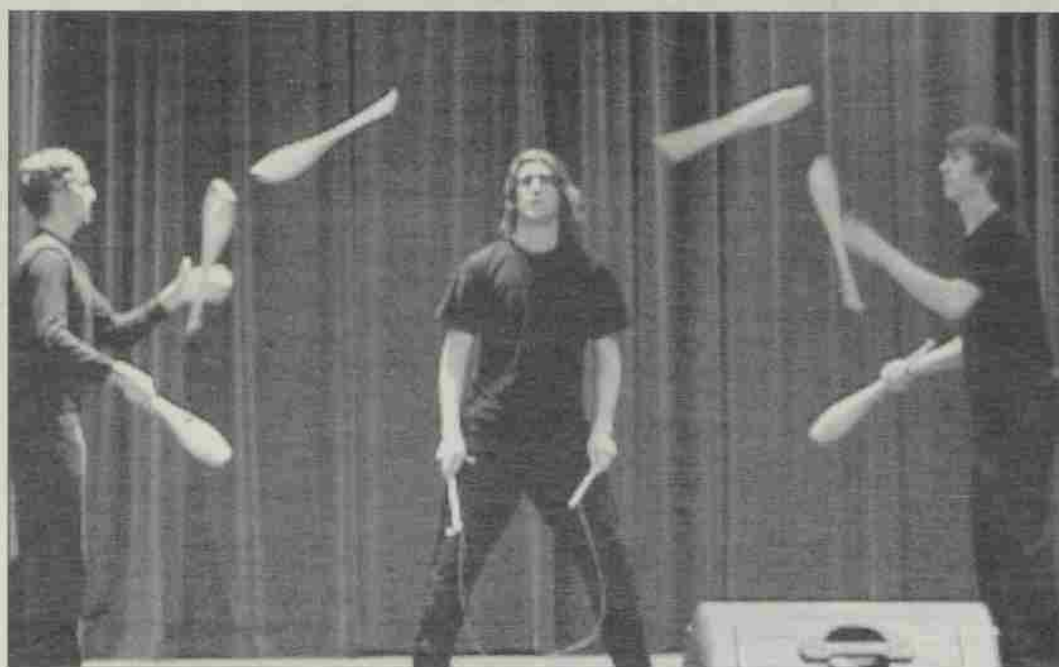
ALISON EZARD  
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, March 2, the Willamette Events Board will present Willamette's Got Talent, a competition showcasing the various talents of Willamette students in which contestants will compete for a \$200 prize in Smith Auditorium. This will be the fifth year that Willamette has hosted the Willamette's Got Talent competition.

This year, the competition boasts a wide range of acts sure to entertain all who choose to attend the contest. Although many of the contestants will be showing off musical talents, other types of performance, such as dance, will also be showcased. "We have ten acts ranging from piano/vocals, guitar/vocals, a six-piece band, two dances and more," producer and sophomore Alex Schrimp said.

The winner of the competition—and the \$200 prize—will be decided by a panel of three judges. This year, the panel will consist of President Steve Thorsett, Student Body President Tej Reddy and Blitz the Bearcat.

As a new addition to the selection process, the judges will also be incorporating student votes into the decision this year. Students who attend the contest will be able to use a text messaging service to vote for their favorite performer. Student votes will be taken into consideration when choos-



Juggernauts Daniel Berg, Rio Sabella and Nate Wheeler competing in the 2010 Willamette's Got Talent competition. In 2011 they took first place and will forgo competition this year in order to emcee the entire event.

ing a winner. "At the end of the night the audience will be able to text in their top performer and have it be used in the selection process," Schrimp said.

For the performers, the competition is a great opportunity to showcase their talents for their peers as well as the judges. It is a chance to bring all the hard work they have put into

cultivating their talents to fruition.

"I take any opportunity I can get to dance and fill up all that stage and get to dance to the fullest. There's just such a feeling of fulfillment from performing that I can't find anywhere else; it's indescribable. I also wanted to add variety to the event by adding a dance. I was hoping other dancers would sign up as well," performer and sophomore Lauren Vermilion said.

For those who choose to attend the competition, Willamette's Got Talent is guaranteed to be an evening well spent. Not only will audience members have the unique opportunity to influence the decision-making process, but they will also have the opportunity to be wowed by their fellow students.

"All the artists have worked hard to master their craft, and now they want to share that and make an impact on other students. Students should come and support their fellow Bearcats, and learn what their fellow students can do!" Vermilion said.

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#### ► If you go

The show will be on Friday, March 2 in Smith Auditorium at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

#### Corrections:

There was a mistake in the headline of issue 19's article about the symposium called Lessons of Fukushima. It was reported that the law school hosted the symposium, but it was actually two Centers of Excellence: the Center for Asian Studies and the Center for Sustainable Communities.

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# Kappa Sigma becomes a nationally chartered fraternity

NATALIE PATE  
CONTRIBUTOR

In 2006, the Kappa Sigma chapter at Willamette University was revoked by the National Kappa Sigma Fraternity. However, with hard work and strong support of many Kappa Sigma alumni, the Kappa Sigma colony was officially recognized again as a Willamette chapter on Feb. 18, 2012.

The newly recognized chapter is bristling with excitement and enthusiasm. "We did it; after three years and 54 members, we finally have a charter hanging on the wall," senior member Aaron Bilbao said.

"We have been a fraternity for a long time — ever since we started bonding as friends and brothers over a common goal — but now we have the papers to prove it," Bilbao said.

Getting the chapter back, however, was not easy. According to many national fraternity recruiters, Willamette has one of the hardest chartering processes in the nation.

"Willamette requires nine months as an interest group before you can become a colony, then 18 months as a colony before you can apply for a charter," Bilbao said.

Not only do they have to reach 25 men to become a colony, then 50 men to become a chapter, they also have "to raise \$2500, do 25 hours of community service per man, have established pledge education programs, scholarship programs, philanthropy programs and brotherhood programs," Bilbao said.

Although the work was strenuous, a lot was gained for the group. "With the passion and excitement we gained by beat-



Paul Boaden '77 addresses family, friends, new initiates and alumni at the Kappa Sigma Theta Delta charter reinstallation banquet on Feb. 18, 2012, the chapter's 51st anniversary.

STEVE TATMAN

ing the odds," Matt Houser, 2011 WU graduate, stated. "We have grown stronger together and will use these experiences to become the best we can possibly be."

Their journey began not too long ago after the chapter was revoked due to the irresponsible actions of a few former members of the chapter.

The remaining students continued to work for a bet-

ter future for the members of Kappa Sigma at Willamette. "It is amazing to think that a little over a year ago there were only seven Kappa Sigmas at Willamette, two of which were studying abroad," Houser said.

The dedicated students thankfully had the help of many Kappa Sigma alumni. "From recruitment to house improvement to social events to community service," Sophomore recruitment chair Wesley Dawn said, "it took a tremendous effort from all of us to make it happen." The chapter said it cannot give enough thanks to the support of the alumni.

Dawn explained, "Paul Boaden bought us our house, and all of the material and tools needed to build our deck out back, among other things." They also provided strong guidance around the obstacles of regaining the chapter.

Despite the hard work and difficulties, Kappa Sigma members remain positive look towards the future and are happier than ever. Kappa Sigma now strive to become one of the leading chapters in the national Kappa Sigma fraternity, as well as one of the leading fraternities of academia, service and involvement on campus according to Bilbao, Houser and Dawn.

"I have found that people are bound together through the sharing of experiences, in particular, difficult experiences," Dawn said. "We have all worked and struggled together to make Kappa Sigma into the best thing it can be."

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## WU Wednesdays seeks to bring more spirit to campus

MILES SARI  
NEWS EDITOR

Students of Willamette University will see the start of a new program called Willamette Wednesdays starting this Wednesday, Feb. 29 in Jackson Plaza from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Founded on the idea to promote school spirit and a sense of community throughout the student body, Willamette Wednesdays was created by sophomore Lauren Vermilion. As a transfer student, Vermilion said she got the idea for Willamette Wednesdays from her previous school, Western Washington University.

"I wanted to give back to this school and this community because it has been such a positive experience; I really appreciate being here and all of the opportunities students have here," Vermilion said.

Additionally, Vermilion noticed that compared to her previous institution, it seemed like the student body at the University didn't have quite the same amount of spirit and school pride. As a result, Vermilion strived to bring a stronger sense of enthusiasm to the University.

"I am hoping that with Willamette Wednesdays, students will realize that Willamette is all we need to connect to one another, there is enough in common for us to all be bonded and support one another. A different goal is that students see school pride need not be related to sports, but just being proud of what a wonderful place this is," Vermilion said.

With the program set to commence this week, Vermilion said that the program is to last until May 9, 2012. The idea is that students will wear WU gear and come to "Jackson Plaza for the UC

depending on the weather] and students can spin a prize wheel to win t-shirts, Bistro bucks, pompoms, tattoos, pens and pencils, window clings; basically, a bunch of Willamette SWAG," Vermilion said.

The hope for the program is that each week the booth will host a different student organization.

"Not only is this connecting students to one another but it is also connecting them to all of the great opportunities on campus. If the Theater was having an upcoming show and they wanted to promote it they could be at the booth talking to students, and students may be able to win prizes such as two tickets to the show. Or if the Hawaii club wanted to promote the Luau, they could man the booth and give out samples of food, or show off dances," Vermilion said.

In sum, the overall cost of the project was \$1020. This money helps cover the cost for the more expensive prizes such as Bistro Bucks, t-shirts, candy, and a myriad of other prize items from the Willamette bookstore. The budget is set to last through the end of the school year, and Vermilion hopes that alumni donations will continue to fund the program.

Above all else, what Vermilion hopes that the club will make students "feel appreciated, and add excitement to the middle of the stressful weeks of classes. I want this to be something students look forward to every week to help brighten up their Wednesdays."

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## WEDNESDAYS

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## Tempting Tomes

COLUMN

### A thriller: Shocking



AUSTIN  
SCHOCK

COLUMNIST

No genre in literature has transitioned to movies and TV as perfectly as the thriller – the “Bourne” trilogy and the multitude of “NCIS” shows are proof enough of this – although I’ve never personally been all too fond of them. It is, however, important to keep an open mind, and as such I decided to try out a thriller. I wanted something by someone new, someone without a lot of hype; and as such I picked up Dana Hayne’s “Crashers.”

“Crashers” has a basic thriller plot: a bad thing happens (plane crash), leading to a routine check that uncovers a large terror plot to be stopped by the protagonist who doesn’t care about the law and is surrounded by inept-if-well-trained professionals. If you have any experience with this genre, then you know full well how this ride goes; and boy what a ride it is.

I wouldn’t call “Crashers” great literature by any means, but it is really fun. The characters are fleshed out to the point that the author could have dropped the indicating sentences and the reader still would have had a good chance of guessing who was speaking. The prose, while not exactly streetspeak, is definitely far from all that English has to offer. It does, however, fulfill its purpose very well: it’s easy to follow and gives all the necessary descriptions. The scenery, as it takes place between Portland and Salem, is particularly well described.

Oh, did I forget to mention that this is a local author? That’s right, not only is the book set in Oregon, but it’s written by someone who knows what he’s talking about.

It is a tad annoying as a local to have to constantly read, Oregon Health and Science University instead of OHSU (I’d always assumed that the H stood for Hospital), but it’s just a reminder that this is a book written for an outsider’s perspective. Even for those not from the area originally, however, it’s fun to be reading a book and being able to say, “I know where that is.”

I didn’t go into Dana Hayne’s “Crashers” with the highest of hopes. I’ve never been able to get into any of Tom Clancy’s books, and most thriller movies bore me to tears after about an hour. It might have been the local influence, or the way everything came together nicely, but I found “Crashers” really easy to get in to.

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### MUSIC REVIEW: ‘Beautiful Music Part 2’

## Luck-One, no longer a ‘Beautiful’ fluke

COLLEEN SMYTH  
GUEST WRITER

Before you flip the page because you “hate hip-hop,” please take a second to understand that Luck-One is not a rapper, he’s “a poet who happens to rhyme.”

While that may be self-proclaimed on “Here,” it’s also true. Like good poetry, Luck-One’s songs evoke powerful emotions, especially in those ages 17-25.

“Beautiful Music Part 2” paints the portrait of a young man in transition: One who has grown immensely both in his relatively short adult life and since his first album, “Beautiful Music,” came out in 2009, but who still has a long path to travel.

It’s the perfect album for the college student. Themes such as discovering one’s purpose, earning notoriety, the ignorance of the masses and trying to stay humble while appreciating oneself all are woven together with velvet lyrics and intriguing beats.

Like most of Luck-One’s albums, “Beautiful Music Part 2” begins with an introduction that sets the tone of the entire compilation. Switching from showy, speedy flow about “a generation lost” to a gentle electronic instrumental that leads perfectly into “Black Seed” (featuring Dizz) and “Searchin’.”

This latter song is a true exploration of what it means to be successful in and happy with one’s life. It bounces from discussing his future in music (“when I’m no longer speaking from the soul/all I’m speaking is wit/yeah, that’ll be the day that I quit”) to how he’s “growing with the people [he] started with” – a reference to producer Dekk who he also collaborated with on his first album, “Beautiful Music.”

He discusses why he entered the game (“the only reason that I even started pressin’/to get my music heard/was to convey to you my honest self-expression”) and general musings on life (“I’m guessing



Luck-One’s “Beautiful Music Part 2”, released Feb. 21, is available for free download at [luckoneconscious.com](http://luckoneconscious.com).

destiny’s a long fight...the morning follows every long night”) in his most complete, aesthetically pleasing and lyrically intriguing song of the album.

In its second half, the album gets progressively contemplative and soft. “Greater Things” and “Mysterious Ways” both examine people’s willingness to accept what is told to them, saying in the latter that “people let [him] give them the scripture like they’re some seashells/floatin’ in an ocean while [he’s] omitting the details.”

On “Here” and “Welcome Home” Luck-One speaks to his notion of having finally made a name for himself in the Northwest and national hip-hop scene (a feeling explored more in-depth on his preceding album, “King of the Northwest”) while also discussing his own work ethic and abilities.

All things considered, “Beautiful Mu-

sic Part 2” is a great album with a few pitfalls. Most notably, track four, “Sword and the Pen,” fits lyrically but not musically with the rest of the songs, meaning it gets skipped more often than listened to by this reviewer.

Also, during the first listen-through, it feels more like a mix tape of individually good songs than a complete album. However, the more times one completes the full revolution, the more one understands the progression of tiny creeks to a full-bodied flowing river.

And hey, since you can download it for free on his website ([www.luckoneconscious.com](http://www.luckoneconscious.com)), you may as well go decide for yourself. Trust me, if you like Northwest hip-hop (i.e. Blue Scholars, Lifesavas and Sandpeople), you won’t be disappointed.

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### MUSIC REVIEW: ‘Mr. Pelton’s Weather Machine’

## Slater’s Sadness is sexy

ZANE SPARLING  
CONTRIBUTOR

In case you missed the posters, flyers or the other seventeen articles the *Collegian* has already written about him, Slater Smith released his debut album last Friday under the moniker “Mr. Pelton’s Weather Machine” (A Willamette in-joke that Smith can look forward to explaining in the next 10,000 consecutive media interviews).

To put it politely, Slater might be a little girl crazy. Not in a Beatlemania, “I want to hold your [euphemism]” sort of way – or even in a post-Taking Back Sunday, “you ripped out my heart and turned it into a power chord” manner either.

“Weather Machine” is a concept album with womanly curves – a focused study on the vicissitudes and vagaries of relationships: this is a plus. Too many concept albums have obtuse or overblown themes, like “Space Elves,” or “Prog Rock is Real Genre of Music,” but “Weather Machine” strips down to a focal point and is rewarded for its rudity.

Tunes like “Leviathans Get Lonely” or “Estranged” have a realness to them that seems to be personal, or at least plausibly un-fictionalized relationships Slater himself has had. Other ballads, like “Annie Caught a Plane” or “Lilium,” are flights of fancy, are still concrete story-telling

songs. (“Lilium” being one of the decidedly sexier genera of herbaceous flowers.)

However, the thematic consistency of “Weather Machine” undersells Smith as an artist. Fans who’ve seen Smith live might miss some of his new, light-hearted material like “Skeleton Jack,” which doesn’t make the cut on this record.

Smith might do well to sample from the three other lyrical topics folksy singer/songwriters are legally allowed to write about: declarations of intent regarding the rambling-ness and/or gambling-ness of the song-crafter in question, trees and vague political action. (You’d be surprised by how much free verse you can get out of a word like “cisgendered.”)

“Weather Machine’s” stylings are often sparse. Many songs rely on Smith and his acoustic guitar, most often played in a manner technically referred to as “finger picking,” but I like to call “Ryan-Gosling-Twinkly-Star-Guitar-Magic-Emote-Core.” Songs like “Slow Dance Slow” and “As Long As We Get Along,” arguably the strongest tracks on the record, make a persuasive argument that Smith’s vocalization has even more power when counter-balanced with the resonance a backing band brings. The violin, bass and drum

overdubs, (provided respectively by Matthew Cartmill, Travis Ehrenstrom, and Smith’s own little brother) create a consistently powerful sound.

The emotional immediacy of Slater’s lyrics, as well as his knack for creating universal images is apparent on these songs even more prominently than elsewhere.

“I’ve got to be honest this isn’t that innocent, but, I swear that it’s on the bright side,” promises Smith on the third track. But those who make the jaunt through the album are more likely to come out the other side more wistfully than insouciant.

In the end, one has to wonder – is Smith simply writing about one particular traumatic (read: rhyme-able) relationship, or does the profession of handsome singersongwriter just entail more interaction/cohabitation with the feminine tribe than, say, the average unwashed music critic?

Either way, most Willamette students seem eager to support Smith in his music career – if only to keep his crooning vocals safely on the air, and get rid of the competition.

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# 'Scapin' promises an outrageously good time

ASTRA LINCOLN  
CONTRIBUTOR

In 1671, Molière wrote, "It's better to be married than to be dead." While this wisdom, a line from his play "les Fourberies de Scapin" ("The Imposters of Scapin"), may not be so widely accepted among a modern audience, the remarkable comedic value of the play itself offers something for everyone.

This week, members of the Willamette community will offer their rendition of Molière's play, performed in French with English narrators.

Focusing as much on exaggeration as on the hilarity of the plot, "Scapin" is widely regarded as Molière's best piece. The play takes place in the southern French town of Nice. The protagonist, Scapin, an arrogant and pompous man, is an overwhelming yet constantly comedic character.

The story follows two young men as they both fall in love and get married without their mothers' approval while the mothers are away on vacation. Upon their return, Scapin tries to help the young lovers gain familial consent.

Thus, student director Fabien Poete describes the play as revolving around "Scapin's tricks as he tries to gain the mothers' approval of the actions of the sons, and at the same time to get some money out of their pockets for the newlywed couples."

A play full of deceit and scandal, "Scapin's" ultimate task is to gain audience approval, making for an energetically performed and

continuously engaging show. The actors take special care to make the audience feel as though they, too, are part of the performance - a feature that invites consistent bouts of laughter from the crowd.

The characters in the piece are more caricature-like than realistic. According to Poete, the outrageous acting includes, "actors making faces, jumping on tables, running in the audience, laughing, fighting with baguettes, hiding in suitcases" and more - techniques that add to the fast-paced and action-packed feel of the event.

Due to the exaggerated acting style, the play will have appeal for all audiences - knowledge of the French language is far from necessary for the piece to be understood and enjoyed. In addition to an English narrator, there will be mimes acting out the pieces of the play that are not translated for the sake of clarity as well as comedic interest.

This piece has a 13-person student cast of both French and non-French speakers. The performance is entirely student run, from the actors to the directing to the technical crew. The production is sponsored by the French Department with the support of the Language

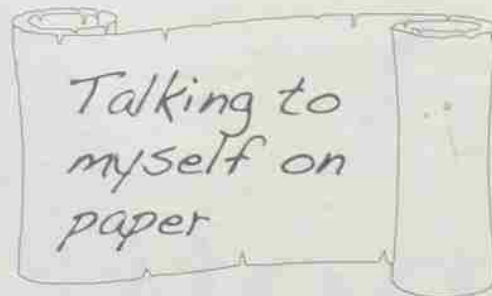


"Les Fourberies de Scapin" will feature 13 students, rowdy gesticulation, miming, narration and classic French humor.

Learning Center and French Club. Performances will begin Thursday, March 1 and run through Sunday, March 4. On March 1, 2 and 3, shows will be at 8 p.m. and the final show on March 4 will be at 2 p.m. All shows will take place the Kaneko Auditorium, and admission is free and open to the public.

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## COLUMN



## Mysterious memes



RACHEL  
HEISTERKAMP  
COLUMNIST

I'll preface this column by saying that the entire idea of humor is completely subjective and arbitrary. For that reason, please feel free to ignore everything I say immediately after reading this (and really, in all subsequent iterations of this column).

Here's the thing: I don't get memes. It's true that I'll occasionally find one and have an awkward snort/laugh/chuckle in front of my laptop, but for the most part, I'm just in a state of confusion. But I'm also in a state of sincere curiosity.

I guess the incredulous feeling on my part is because these memes are an art form that only produces an effect inside our heads. Literally the second someone says it out loud or tries to explain one to someone who hasn't seen it, all humor value is completely lost. The voice of your over-eager friend just doesn't match up to the voice you used in your head when you read over it the first time you scrolled past on QuickMeme.

So, it's an art form that can only be shared via the internet and is probably experienced in entirely differently ways based on the individual. Doesn't that seem a little weird?

Despite the general meme trends of appallingly awful grammar and worse spelling (my English major brain is exploding), I am slowly warming up to them. I posit that this is because the concept of a "voice inside your head" is something with which I can definitely connect.

For example, an elderly British gentleman's voice inexplicably replaces my own as the internal narrator of every book I read. This, as you might imagine, makes some novels rather hilarious, but others become mostly just absurd. Perhaps making my identity displacement issues a public fact was unnecessary, but my point here is that I understand that sometimes, things are only funny in our minds.

Another puzzling aspect of these internet fixtures is the specific culture surrounding their existence - a sort of unwritten rulebook in their honor. If a meme-creator (designer? artist? drunk guy?) pairs a stupid phrase with the wrong stupid picture, it's apparently some kind of awful taboo frowned upon by others in the meme community.

Frankly, I don't really know which pictures can or cannot go with which phrases, and I don't know how to incorrectly spell which words in the correct way so they "fit" the image. Perhaps an actual manual about what makes a good meme and what makes up a complete failure would be useful. Mostly, I just really don't get the point.

This leads me to believe that there is the slim possibility that I am the one who is doing something incorrectly, that maybe I am just reading these memes completely wrongly and everyone else is on the same page (note, I said a *slim* possibility).

I do try to understand; I regularly browse the Willamette (read: people who I trust to be smarter than the average internet user) Memes Facebook page for reference. But, for the most part, all I really understand at this point is that it's a trend that's probably not going away anytime soon... and that it is in no way helping our society's spelling and grammar practices.

Rest assured, friends: I will continue my research and share any revelations I have regarding this incredibly important social phenomenon.

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# 'Watchmen' prequels divide graphic novel community

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ARTS EDITOR

BRETT SCRUTON  
STAFF WRITER

The publishers of DC Comics recently announced that a series of prequels to what is perhaps the most famous graphic novel of all time, Alan Moore's "Watchmen," are in production.

The prequels will be released in seven different mini-series entitled, "Before Watchmen," with four to six issues each. They will include stories of Rorschach, the Minutemen, the Comedian, Dr. Manhattan, Nite Owl, Ozymandias and Silk Spectre. In total, "Before Watchmen" will account for 34 comic book issues.

Unsurprisingly, news of the series is creating a tumult among the members of the graphic novel community.

In an interview with the New York Times, Moore said, "I tend to take this latest development as a kind of eager confirmation that they are still apparently dependent on ideas that I had 25 years ago." Moore, who declined royalties from the 2009 film adaptation by director Zack Snyder, is also refusing any involvement in the project.

The original 1985 "Watchmen" constructs a complex, theoretical and unique world that exemplified contemporary issues of 1980s Cold War America while simultaneously deconstructing the idea of the superhero.

Moore's "heroes" are flawed pawns in a flawed world - a world where nuclear war is only deterred by the only superhero with

actual "powers:" Dr. Manhattan, the superhuman antithesis to all natural laws.

As a work of art, "Watchmen" has already withstood the test of time. Often lauded as the "Hamlet" of graphic novels, "Watchmen" is defined by Moore's incredible literary talent paired with Gibbons' complex visual codes.

For some fans, adding the prequel series is the equivalent of penning prequel books for John Steinbeck's entire "Grapes of Wrath" Joad family, but not actually having them written by Steinbeck.

Those in favor of the series share the more optimistic sentiment that "Watchmen" is not simply in the hands of monkeys with typewriters. The new series will be penned by Brian Azzarello, Darwyn Cooke, J. Michael Straczynski and Len Wein - capable, well-seasoned writers with talented artistic counterparts (Lee Bermejo, J.G. Jones, Adam Hughes, Andy and Joe Kubert, Jae Lee and Amanda Conner).

Ultimately, the graphic novel community agrees that these iterations will be widely read, whether or not they will be well received; anyone who has read "Watchmen" is, at the very least, curious.

The series will be released in weekly issues and will culminate with an epilogue. An official date has not yet been announced, but it will begin sometime in summer 2012.

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# Memory, sparrow songs, Doritos: fiction writer to give reading and lecture

MADLINE MOREHOUSE  
STAFF WRITER

On March 5, 2012, the Hallie Ford Literary Series will present its second event of the year: a showcase of the critically acclaimed fiction writer Anthony Doerr. Doerr will give a lecture on the craft of writing and will perform a reading of selections from his most recent book, "Memory Wall."

The Hallie Ford Literary Series is a program that invites up-and-coming writers to share their works and perspectives. Guests come from a variety of literary genres, from fiction and poetry, to songwriting and playwriting. Scott Nadelson, the Hallie Ford Chair in Writing, believes that these events are beneficial for building a deeper connection between the Willamette community and the literary arts.

"The Hallie Ford Literary Series provides an opportunity for Willamette students and members of Salem's community to connect

with contemporary literature as a vibrant part of our culture," says Nadelson.

Fiction writer Anthony Doerr is the winner of The Story Prize, a prestigious national award for collections of short fiction. He is also the author of four books, including the memoir, "Four Seasons in Rome;" the novel, "About Grace;" and his latest short story collection, "Memory Wall."

Doerr's visit will be divided into two separate events. The first will be a lecture entitled, "Break the Pre-off the -Dictable: Some Thoughts on Habitualization, Cliches, Sparrow Songs, Doritos and Writing that Puts You to Sleep." This lecture will focus on fiction writer's use of language in order to create surprise, present new ideas and ultimately create an individual experience for every reader.

The second event will be a reading from Doerr's latest work, "Memory Wall," a collection of short stories set in locations across the world that delves into the idea of memory.

According to Nadelson, Doerr's writing style positions the reader to feel as though they are situated in time with the characters. Doerr is also known to incorporate his background in science into many of his works, making them even more dynamic.

"[Doerr's] stories combine complex plot and strong narrative pull with rich, universal themes about the nature of memory and identity... Sentence by sentence his stories are as vivid and engaging as any I know," says Nadelson.

Audiences should expect to leave the events with new understandings and perspectives of how fiction works and the writing process undertaken by its authors.

Doerr's lecture will be on Monday, March 5 at 4 p.m. in Eaton 209. The reading will take place that evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Hatfield Room. The event is free of charge.

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# A note of clarity

LINDSAY BRAUNWALDER  
FEATURE EDITOR

When one graduates from Willamette, they move on to the next stage of their life with a degree in hand. The Bachelor of Arts (BA) is the most common degree offered at the University, however, Willamette offers one other type of degree for undergraduates: the Bachelor of Music (BM). The BM is a vibrant and musical addition to the possibilities that Willamette has to offer.

Professor and chair of the Music Department Anita King said "The BM degree requires two-thirds of the courses in the students' major and about one-third out. It is an intensely concentrated degree and the students who take this usually come in with a very strong background in music and a clear desire to make it a career path from the outset." She continued, "At Willamette we offer four tracks of the BM degree: Music Education, Music Performance, Music Composition and Jazz and Improvisation in Contemporary Practice."

As listed on the Willamette website, a music major should come away from their experience at WU with a pretty impressive skill set. These accomplishments include performance skills, musicianship skills and analysis, the ability to compose music and effectively use technology related to their area of musical study and finally a student studying music at Willamette gains thorough knowledge of music history.

According to King, there are currently about 60 music majors at Willamette. These students are very dedicated and passionate about music.

Benny Kuo, a sophomore working towards his BM in general music, said he chose to study music at Willamette because he "wanted to become more proficient in music and focus on voice studies."

"I want to bring good music to the world," he said.

Dan Daly, a senior who will be receiving his BM in composition in just a few months, said, "Music is a satisfying challenge on many levels; it has its own extensive history, it interacts with all the arts, it exists in community, it blends transcendent inspiration with diligent craftsmanship. Not least, it elevates emotion."

Those students, like Daly, receiving a BM have unique senior thesis projects they must complete to obtain their degree. For example, King commented, "For performance majors it is a senior recital with scholarly program notes. For composition majors it is a major

composition project." These projects are as challenging as any senior capstone or thesis, and when a student has finished they have accomplished a great deal.

It is no secret that WU has an incredible Music Department, and many of the music majors chose this school for that reason. Daly commented, "I chose Willamette University exclusively because of the Music Department. We have an extremely talented, experienced composer-in-residence. We have a burgeoning music and technology program surpassing those of many state schools."

Kirsten Ruddy, a senior and Music minor, said, "The Music Department was one of the main reasons that I came to Willamette. Of all of the schools that I auditioned at, Willamette's faculty was the most welcoming, encouraging and genuinely made me feel the most welcome. Also, Willamette is very generous with music scholarships, which doesn't hurt."

There are students, however, who didn't know as much about the music program before they chose Willamette.

Zachary Kambour, a sophomore Music Education major said he wasn't initially drawn to Willamette because of the Music Department. Kambour mentioned, "I didn't know much about the Music Department when I first heard of Willamette but I knew they offered scholarships. Once I got here though, I quickly realized how amazing the department really is."

When I asked the students what was the most challenging aspect of working towards a Music major, the answer across the board was time commitment. Daly said, "On top of a normal course load, music majors spend hours in personal practice, ensemble rehearsal, concert performance and attendance."

Kuo also commented that the most difficult thing to manage as a Music major was, "Time commitment while at a liberal arts school. I want to be involved with a lot but the class load continues to battle against that."

Ruddy mentioned that, "The hardest thing about studying music and being in ensembles is the time commitment, but I'm sure that most everyone involved in music at Willamette would say it is totally worth it. For me, I wouldn't trade that time or the experiences I have had for anything."

Part of this time commitment includes the participation in music ensembles at the University. According to the Willamette website, Music majors are required to participate in an ensemble every semester.

At the beginning of every year, the Music Student Handbook is distributed to all prospective



Male Ensemble Willamette rehearses for their upcoming concert.

RYAN ROBBIE

Music majors. The Handbook outlines departmental policies and contains sample curricula from the various music major programs.

Common ensembles that Music majors often join include the three choirs at Willamette: the men's choir, or Male Ensemble Willamette, the women's choir, or Voce Femminile and the mixed choir, or Chamber Choir.

Kuo said, "Choir at WU has been a blast. The directors know what they are doing and get the best, healthy result from their singers. The program is really strong and well-built. The students in choir all come from different backgrounds and come in for one purpose: to sing our hearts out. I enjoy the sense that no matter our studies, we are connected via the enjoyment of music."

Daly had a very special moment in choir this past semester, he said, "My favorite choir experience was this last Christmas in Hudson Hall, in which the gentlemen of Male Ensemble Willamette premiered a piece I had written."

While the choir ensembles present a great opportunity for the Music majors at Willamette, many of the members in choir are not Music majors. However, they still share a passion for music.

King said, "250 students participate in music ensembles every semester and about 150 enroll in music lessons. That means non-majors participate fully, and some perform at the highest level. We have very strong students who are not Music majors but perform as soloists, in small chamber ensembles like the Waller String Quartet, as concerto soloists with the University Chamber Orchestra, and even give non-required senior recitals. With three guest artist series where some of the world's greatest musicians give public concerts and workshops and master classes for our students, as well as the many faculty and student recitals, I often feel like I am participating in a 9-month music festival with very diverse and high quality offerings."

Christine Welch Elder, the director of Voce Femminile, commented on the concentration of Music majors in her choir, "About 20-25 percent are Music majors, and interestingly, the Music majors in Voce are not necessarily vocal in concentration. Each

semester I have some who are majoring in Music in other instruments."

Choir allows for students of all different practices to come together and create beautiful music. Paul Klemme, the director of Male Ensemble Willamette, relays this same message, "Choral music enables so many people to participate in music. It is especially good for bringing amateur musicians together. Singing in choir is a very personal expression. It is magnified when that personal expression is done with others who feel the same thing," said Klemme. Only two of the 30 members of Male Ensemble are Music majors.

The director of Chamber Choir at Willamette, Professor Wallace Long, comments on the joys of being in choir, "I still sing in a choir, called Male Ensemble Northwest. The memories I create in choir and that I have always cherished involve the combination of music and friendship. I just love making great music, and choir music, when it is really well done, is extremely exciting."

What makes it special is when you make great music with a group of people that you really enjoy. When you sing with friends in a choir, you can relax and reach your full potential as a vocalist because you are surrounded by people that care about you and support you in your attempts to become a great vocal performer. It is just awesome."

Being a director of a choir is certainly a different experience than singing in one, but Welch Elder, Klemme and Long explain their pleasure of directing. Welch Elder explained, "I like the way a rehearsal leads me as much as I lead it. I always come with a clear rehearsal plan, but so much of what I do is responding both to what I hear and to the energy of the group. So directing is a lively interplay of many elements, and I find it both interesting and challenging."

Klemme said, "For a long time I have felt that one of my gifts was leading, promoting and directing. Directing is something that feels natural to me and I enjoy the challenge of creating a musical menu and serving it."

*I have an incredible job at Willamette and feel so blessed to work with my students here."*

Long commented that, "I have an incredible job at Willamette and feel blessed to work with my students here."

Ruddy summed up her relation with music, saying, "I feel like my musical experience at Willamette has been well-rounded. Being able to perform with such talented and hardworking musicians, and work with such passionate directors such as Christine Welch-Elder and Dr. Wallace Long, has given me way more than I could have ever expected coming to Willamette. Choir has become a pseudo-family to me."

**WALLACE LONG**  
PROFESSOR OF MUSIC

Whether a student is working towards a BM degree, a Music minor or they are a member of a choral ensemble, music brings people together and it touches lives on a personal level. There is something unique about being able to make music. It is an indescribable sensation, and Willamette offers many incredible opportunities.

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*Music is a satisfying challenge on many levels; it has its own extensive history, it interacts with all the arts, it exists in community, it blends transcendent inspiration inspiration with diligent craftsmanship. Not least, it elevates emotion."*

**DAN DALY**  
BM SENIOR

**Winter Choir Concert**  
**Saturday, Mar. 3**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**in Hudson Hall**  
**FREE**



RYAN ROBBE

The women of Voce work on memorization of musical selection.



RYAN ROBBE

Christine Welch Elder enthusiastically directs the women's choir.

## SOFTBALL &amp; BASEBALL

## Softball sweeps George Fox, baseball crushes Corban

MICHELLE LASHLEY  
STAFF WRITER

Scoring 29 runs in the double header, WU swept the George Fox Bruins this weekend, 10-1 and 19-10. Head coach Damian Williams said of his team's excellent start to the season, "Everyone has impressed me so far. The players came back in tremendous shape and are ready to play." The Bearcats improved to 3-4 on the season, while starting Northwest Conference play at 2-0.

Key to Willamette's victory in both games was senior pitcher Alex Watilo, throwing all five innings in the opener and holding the Bruins to five hits and one run. In the second game, she came on in the third inning, allowing just one hit and no runs. In the two games combined, she had seven strikeouts and three walks.

Willamette took charge of the first game immediately, taking a 7-0 lead in the first inning. It started with junior Jessica Barry opening on a walk and then scoring on a triple, hit by sophomore Allison Martin. A wild pitch allowed Martin to score and sent freshman Heather Winslow to third. Winslow scored on a single to left field hit by sophomore Courtney Galli. Freshman

Theresa Martin hit an RBI triple, giving WU a 6-0 advantage. Senior Nichole Robertson then drove Martin in with a grounder.

George Fox hit their only run at the bottom of the fourth. The Bearcats would register three more runs in the last two innings of the game. Willamette only held a slim edge in hits, but the Bearcats took advantage of the five errors by the Bruins. WU did not have an error in the entire game.

Rain and wind during the second game made defense sloppier for both teams. But it was time for the Bearcats offense to shine, and with 17 hits producing 19 runs, the 'Cats scored in all five innings.

Willamette's big inning came at the top of the second with nine runs, sending 14 batters to the plate, registering six hits and benefiting from three errors. This included a two-RBI double from Theresa Martin, and a single RBI from Allison Martin and Robertson. At the end of the inning, the Bearcats led 13-3.

Willamette had their own sloppy second inning, making three errors and allowing the Bruins six runs. But three runs at the top of the third created a comfortable cushion that the 'Cats would keep for the

rest of the game.

Jessica Barry went 3 for 3 with a walk, three runs and two RBIs, while Winslow finished 3 for 4 with three runs scored. Robertson was 2 for 3 and tallied two runs. Sophomore Hope Kloerko went 2 for 2. Freshman Theresa Martin went 4 for 4, scoring three runs and four RBIs. She was one of the many young players who contributed substantially to these two victories.

"We have a lot of new talent this year who have exceeded the expectations and pushed returners in practice so that the bar has been raised to a whole new level," said senior Mica Romero.

In their first home game of the season, the Bearcat men dominated Corban University, pounding out 19 hits for a final score of 17-5. It was the largest margin of victory that the Bearcats have had this season.

Willamette took an early lead with a solo-homer from junior Mitch Rowan at the bottom of the first. Then the Bearcats began to slip, as Corban tallied three runs in the top of the third to take the lead. Willamette got out of the inning with a 4-6-3 double play initiated by freshman Hunter Gallent with an excellent stop up the mid-



COURTESY OF CHRISABATO.COM

Junior Tyson Giza went 2-4 with a double and an RBI in a 5-3 loss to Corban.

dle, and executed by sophomore basemen Tommy Kawamura and Brandon Chinn.

Chinn commented on the team's tenacity this season, "The biggest thing that has changed for our team this year is our team mentality. Last year we played a bit tentative and fell short on a lot of close games. This year we're going out and expecting to win."

The momentum earned from the defense carried through the bottom of the third inning, where with two outs, junior Tyson Giza advanced from first to third on a hit by Kawamura and then scored on a wild pitch. Giza said of the team's play so far this season, "As a team we're really focused going into the start of the season next week."

Excellent defense continued

into the fourth, where Corban failed to score. Then, in the bottom of the fourth, Willamette took control of the game. The Bearcats used three hits to produce three runs, with junior Sky Kelley scoring on a failed pick-off attempt at first, sophomore Tosh Semlacher scoring after a single up the middle from Gallent and Gallent scoring after Chinn doubled to left center.

Taking the lead, the Bearcats never looked back, scoring 12 more runs but only allowing Corban two. Rowan hit for three-fourths of the cycle, going 3 for 5 with three runs and two RBIs, bolstering his batting average to .440 for the season. Kawamura and Semlacher earned three hits each and Gallent went 2 for 5, scoring two runs and two RBIs.

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COURTESY OF WU ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

Senior Mica Romero hit two home runs this weekend, as the Bearcats went 3-1 in their first NWC games.

## Sunday Square-Off:

Sunday softball split the second part of their double header with George Fox, winning 9-1 and losing 10-7. Willamette moved to 4-5 overall, 3-1 in NWC play.

Bearcat baseball lost a tough game at Volcano Stadium versus cross-town rival Corban 5-3. Willamette fell to 2-8 on the season.

## ▼ next up

## Baseball

Willamette vs. Pacific Lutheran  
@ Salem, Ore.

Saturday, Mar. 3 at 11:00 a.m.

## Softball

Willamette vs. Pacific

@ Forest Grove, Ore.

Saturday, Mar. 3 at 12:00 p.m.

## It's leap day, do something crazy

JOE DONOVAN  
STAFF WRITER

I'm sick of sports. They make me feel old. Especially when I watch college basketball, EVERYONE IS YOUNGER THAN I AM. I know there are lots of big games in March. But doesn't March Madness feel a little too much like a motivational speech? I feel like I'm getting tricked. I feel like things aren't as good as they seem.

I hear announcers talk about "March Magic." They're referring to high-energy basketball games. I watch these games on TV and everyone is smiling. Everyone is beautiful. Where are the ugly and unhappy kids? These games are too clean, too polished, too much of a production. Every year I get the feeling that this amazing game will never happen again. But then the next year, it happens again.

Last March I realized I feel like I'm not watching a basketball game, but a performance of a basketball game. I want gritty sports.

Bearcats, where are the gritty sports?

I get the feeling that each college basketball game aspires to achieve a "seize the day" mentality. But "March Madness" conveys a message that opposes "living everyday to its fullest."

Rather, this tournament suggests just the few hours you watch basketball in March should be lived to their fullest. Their message implies you can resume living your sad sack life in April. Call me old, but that message is getting kind of old.

Yesterday, I fell down a flight of stairs. I was trying to eat a hot dog and walk at the same time. There was red smear on the wall, and I'm pretty sure the smear was ketchup and not blood.

My question is this: why can't March Madness be more like me? Why can't March Madness have a better grip on grit?

Here's a definition of grit: the ability to know that the red smear on the wall is ketchup and not blood. I want sports to stop blowing things out of proportion. I want sports to be okay portraying the non-spectacular. Sometimes I go to sporting events, and I'm bored. I have such high expectations for sports. Nothing happens EVER. I never feel the

urge to stand up and cheer.

March is a time to sit on couches and watch college basketball. It's a time to decide if Gonzaga is close enough to be considered a home team. While March is for spectators, Leap Day is for "doers."

Many athletes have an, "I live everyday to its fullest" disposition. I get the sense that this expression is used to explain an overscheduled lifestyle. Sometimes I see kids at seven in the morning in the workout room. They're reading, listening to music and running.

But the real "just for life" attitude has a holiday. It's called Leap Day. And on Leap Day, we celebrate by having a bonus day.

Yesterday as I lay crumpled at the bottom of my stairs, I realized that leap day is like the Olympics. We should give gold medals to those who play hard every day.

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# WU All Stars

Sophomore Sabrina Gutierrez won the #2 seed matchup, 6-2, 6-4 versus Pacific. Willamette lost the closely contested match versus Pacific, 5-4. The Bearcats moved to 2-2 overall, 0-2 in the NWC.



COURTESY OF WU ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

In Willamette's first match of the season, Josh Wong (above) started for the Bearcats. A matchup between two returning First-Team-All-NWC players, Wong defeated Pacific's #1 seed Troy Zuroske 6-2, 4-6, 6-3. Willamette lost overall, 6-3.



COURTESY OF WU ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

## NBA All Star Game: By the numbers

BRANDON CHINN  
STAFF WRITER

17,125 people filed into the Amway Center in Orlando, Florida this weekend to watch the 2012 NBA All-Star Game. Those people, along with those who witnessed the action on TV, were rewarded with a jam-packed night filled with highlights from some of the greatest players in the National Basketball Association. But while the game received its share of hype, it also drew criticism from many due to the lack of importance surrounding the event.

Over the course of the weekend, I asked at least 10 people if they wanted to watch the All-Star game on Sunday, almost all of them were quick to reject. Now either those people don't like me and didn't want to be around me for the length of an entire basketball game, or their interest in the event was simply not there.

Going with the latter for my personal sake, I began to wonder how in the world someone couldn't enjoy watching someone as gifted as Kobe Bryant perform against other top athletes in the NBA.

I came to the conclusion that it doesn't matter that the game means absolutely nothing because it is still incredibly intense! Who isn't going to enjoy a game that comes down to the final shot? In a game where 301 total points were scored between the two teams, it is almost impossible to not get caught up in all the action. Here are some additional numbers that help us dive deeper inside the game that was.

**271-** Lakers guard Kobe Bryant finished off a fast break in the third quarter with a two-handed slam, moving him in front of Michael Jordan for the most career points in All-Star Game history. Bryant finished the game with 27 points on an efficient 9-17

shooting to up his career mark to 271 points.

**89-** The record setting number of points scored by the Western Conference in the first half. Kobe Bryant helped lead the charge, recording 14 first half points while Thunder forward, and the game's eventual MVP, Kevin Durant contributed with 12.

**3-** Finishing with 24 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for the Eastern Conference All-Star team, Miami Heat guard Dwayne Wade became only the third player in All-Star Game history to record a triple-double (Michael Jordan, LeBron James).

**5.5-** The number of minutes played by Lakers center Andrew Bynum, who underwent a knee injection on Friday. Bynum didn't score, but did block Orlando Magic All-Star Dwight Howard's first shot attempt of the game.

**6-** Three pointers made by Eastern Conference/Miami Heat forward LeBron James. James ended the night 6-8 from beyond the arc, finishing with a team-high 36 points.

**0-** The number of times the Eastern Conference led during this year's All-Star Game. The Western Conference struck first on an early jumper by Kobe Bryant and although the Eastern Conference battled their way back in the 4th quarter, the Western Conference led from start to finish en route to a 152-149 victory.

**27-** This was the total number of times I yelled, "OH MY GOODNESS," and jumped off the couch after witnessing yet another amazing play by the game's best players. No wonder nobody wanted to watch the game with me.

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## Ball flaunting

SEAN DART  
SPORTS EDITOR

Do you think you can look cool while doing athletic things? When you go for a run, do you feel like posing for a picture? When you finish 30 minutes on the treadmill, do you do a touchdown dance?

I'm 6'6" with lead feet and bad knees, and I don't think it's possible to look cool while moving.

I can dunk, but when I do it, most people are just like, "You just grabbed the rim while doing an un-coordinated layup. Do you want a cookie?"

The answer is yes, and the only people who look cool while moving are NBA players.

NBA All-Star Weekend is the ultimate showcase of talent, athletic ability and balls. That's right:

**BALLS.**

Or, rather, a ball-flaunting contest. Kevin Love flaunted his balls from the furthest distance with the most accuracy when he won the 3-point shootout. He's from Oregon. Did you know that?

Jeremy Evans threw balls while jumping the highest, winning the slam dunk contest. Dwyane Wade and LeBron James watched, wore jean jackets, big glasses, and ate hot dogs with their balls. These guys have some real balls.

They're actually all ball-flaunters. Even my favorite player, Kobe Bryant, the best player ever in the history of ever, flaunts his balls, shoots whenever he touches it, and says things like "Ball, ball, ball!"

The highlight of this year's All-Star Weekend came when Derek Rose, last year's regular season MVP, stood still and was all like "What up?" when the rest of the Eastern Conference All-Star starters danced, and told the audience, "Everyone, look at my balls!" during player introductions.

Nobody wants to be in the dunk

contest, and I'm not really sure why. Did you watch the dunk contest? Every year, it is Christmas morning, and every year, I throw a violent tantrum, asking my parents why they wrapped up Chase Budinger AGAIN this year, when all I wanted was Blake Griffin jumping over 17 mid-size fuel-efficient sedans!

Anyway, what I'm saying is NBA All-Star Weekend needs some improvements.

- The 3-point shootout should be done with the contestants lit on fire. This could be funny, and potentially hilarious. At the very least it will force Mary Albert to come up with another colloquialism.

- Every dunk contestant should be bouncing off of trampolines. I don't care if it's dangerous. Something needs to change.

- Nicki Minaj should be the coach of the Western Conference All-Stars.

- High-five contest. Have you seen the elaborate pre-game high-five's in the NBA? I want to see who the most encouraging dude is in the NBA. I think Dirk Nowitzki would win. Mostly because he says really funny things in German.

- Every player wears a microphone. I want to hear LeBron say, "defense!" I want to hear Kevin Love say, "My uncle was a beach boy!" I want to hear Blake Griffin say, "I'm really good at dunking!"

- Most boring interviewer contest. We could keep a running tally of cliches. It would be so fun, guys. Once LeBron James said, "Just playin' hard for my teammates," for the 750th time in one interview, we'd all be like, "Alright, this isn't fun anymore."

- Coolest interview. Ron Artest would start talking about baby teeth, and nobody could compete.

- No more Pitbull. At all. Ever.

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LeBron James is all like "WHOA! Check out my balls, guys." Kobe is like, "I don't have a head."

COURTESY OF MSN.COM

## COLUMN

# Myth of the bedpost

## Feces and fear: Time to get over it

BETHANY WILLIAMS  
STAFF WRITER

Nor too long ago, I decided it was time to try anal sex. I made up my mind, bit my lip and bent over. I lasted about three seconds.

"NOPE."

My partner responded post-haste. All we could do was look at each other and shrug; we had tried. I was extremely disappointed. I had wanted to so badly; wasn't that enough?

"Booty sex is a no-go," I texted my friend the next day. "F-king OW."

She asked me if I had eased into it, tried a finger or two, gotten myself some lube.

"No," I admitted. "Just went straight for the penis."

I was convinced that deciding to have anal sex was sufficient; that desire and mental preparation were all I needed in order to make it happen. My friend kindly informed me that I was being naive. I needed to work my way into it. I had set a lofty goal and had neglected to take the necessary steps for achieving it.

"Shit," I said.

"Yes," she responded. "It's all part of the process."

She told me that no matter how convinced I was, I still had to warm up physically, I had to stretch emotionally and get used to the idea that I might end up shitting all over myself.

Similarly, I have to keep reminding myself that I'm not going to wake up the morning after graduation and be completely ready for the world. Desire won't turn me into a graduate student. Wishing really hard won't make me a professional. Convincing myself I have a job, an internship or an apartment won't make those things happen.

I have to get out there, put in some elbow grease and have some experiences. I'm not going to get exactly what I want right away, but by cultivating the necessary skills, practicing and trusting myself and my support system, I'm going to get there.

It took me a long time to entertain the idea of ass play. If you had asked me three years ago if I thought I would ever be having anal sex (and loving it, for that matter), I would have laughed in your face. Not interested.

If you had asked my former self if I foresaw being an English major or wanting to be a professor or that I might look into publishing, I would have denied it vehemently.

However, my life is nothing I ever would have anticipated either. And for that I am extremely grateful and endlessly pleased.

Surrounded by a nurturing educational and social community, I have been able to learn about myself and my passions. I have been able to experiment and I have been lucky enough to figure out how to fail.

My partner and I started over and indulged in an assortment of anal adventures on our way to the big bang. The preparation was wonderful, and through it I learned about myself and my body. The final payoff may have been delayed, but it was much more enjoyable, and I traded in my "nope" for a chorus full of yeses.

Trying new things and being confident are great, but being too cocky right out of the blocks never gets you very far. Or off. Realizing that failure can be part of the process, taking small steps and accepting the shitty sides of working toward a goal are all a part of growing.

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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.

## EDITORIAL

## Navigating the potential pitfalls of non-profit

Willamette sends an impressive number of students and alumni into the non-profit sector. A whole host of organizations offer students a chance to take what they've learned in theory and transform it into tangible change out in their communities.

The service route has an almost unquestioned stamp of approval attached to it, but before making the cross-over, students have the responsibility to question what may seem unquestionable.

Non-profits can be nothing more than a bandage. They provide a fix for the most immediate problem, like the gaping hole in your knee, but they also have the potential to mask the greater problem, like the cable you just tripped over.

Once the most visceral reminder of what scarred us is taken care of, we tend to forget that the root of the problem still exists and continues to affect others.

Larger non-profits are bureaucracies. In a point of tension, they can find themselves reliant on job creation built upon the systematic injustice perpetrated against others.

Also, non-profits often take a "top-down" approach to the communities they work with—an approach that only perpetuates the systems of inequality which make the non-profit necessary.

If service to others is a catch-22, what can we do? It takes much time

and effort to take down the cable; do we allow the wound to bleed freely in the meantime?

A question with highly subjective and ambiguous answers, perhaps the best and only approach is to enter into the field with a critical eye turned to not only the organization but also yourself.

Do your research, question the organizations and choose carefully. Teach for America, for instance, may be transforming education, but it also partners closely with multinational corporations like GE, something you would want to be aware of if you're going into the sector to avoid big business.

Even the Peace Corps does not come without its dangers. Anytime a program operates abroad, especially a government-run program, there is the potential for ethnocentrism.

Before you apply, take time to seriously question your own abilities and motives. If you are motivated first by the luster a non-profit position adds to your resume, you may not be effective in that position.

If you're considering non-profit because you lack direction or because the job market is terrible, take yourself over to the Career Center and look again.

Even if you enter into the field because it's the "right" thing to do rather than the best fit, then you've done the organization and the people it serves,

not to mention yourself, a disservice.

The most well-meaning employee, if they are not prepared mentally and emotionally, can cause more damage than good in the high-stakes environment of a non-profit.

Perhaps the above considerations do contribute to your decision, but they should not be the deciding factor. You must first be motivated by not just the desire to serve, but by the deep understanding of the limitations of the field, the organization and yourself.

And if, after your research and self-search, you do choose to sign up, continue to adjust yourself and the organization to mitigate the inherent paradoxes of non-profit service.

Given that at stake is the well-being of society's most vulnerable, these are not organizations with which to involve ourselves lightly.

### COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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Matt Pitchford • EDITOR IN CHIEF  
Kimberly Hursh • OPINIONS EDITOR  
Hannah Schiff • MANAGING EDITOR

## Letter to the editor: In defense of working at WITS

Dear Editor,

[Regarding the editorial in Issue 18]

As an employee of multiple jobs on campus, I feel that I have some authority to correct your assumptions about working at Willamette.

I've been a part of the WITS Help Desk since my sophomore year and a barista at the Bistro since the fall of 2010. I have to make it known—your critique of WITS employment

couldn't be more inaccurate.

Any of the people that work there can admit that at times, notably at the beginnings of semesters, work is particularly stressful in dealing with the influx of computer issues.

But I've been using computers since I was about 5; my first one came with a fresh install of Windows 3.1. I'm no Amadeus, especially compared to my co-workers who are just as, if not more, computer literate than I am.

Solving problems is a challenge, but a rewarding one that we are all qualified to do. And when work is slow, we can learn more about being awesome at our jobs, read books, do homework, browse Reddit—you name it.

It's a far better job than you give it credit for, and I couldn't be happier to work for WITS.

Sincerely,  
Brian Yee  
[byee@willamette.edu](mailto:byee@willamette.edu)

## OPINION

## When elephants dance: Our ties to Africa

CONOR FOLEY  
GUEST WRITER

At the kickoff event for Willamette's seventh annual Africa Week, speaker Lou Radja spoke of the South African philosophy of Ubuntu. Radja referred to the words of Archbishop Desmond Tutu on the concept of Ubuntu, saying "my humanity is caught up, is inextricably bound up, in yours."

Though the Archbishop's quote speaks to the spectrum of human capabilities, Radja reminded the audience of the reason most were there by quoting an African proverb, "when elephants fight it is the grass that suffers."

The proverb speaks to the tragedy of social dynamics in a stratified world. Many students on campus are struck by a sense of injustice, as evidenced by the many themed weeks and months that seek to draw attention to injustice.

As students with relative privilege, many of us are drawn in by the realities conveyed through Radja's words, and we eagerly seek to heal those problems.

However, Radja was not finished. He continued by noting that the grass still suffers when elephants are dancing.

I believe that we are so strongly bound to our own lives that we forget the ties we share with others even as we attempt to celebrate their lives and raise awareness for their cause.

The African Studies Club was founded to draw attention to the reality that most of the news about Africa that we receive has a negative spin. By sponsoring a day of celebration that soon grew into a week of events, the club has been able to focus on the rich culture of the African continent.

But what do we overlook in our celebrations? Are we truly serving the interests of our global community by celebrating with foods and festivals? And what does it mean if we forget about our neighbors when the week ends?

Certainly we cannot all be expected to drop everything and go to Africa, nor should we be. Neither should we be content with sending a check or "liking" a Facebook status. These actions lie firmly within what "common

sense" and comfort tell us is possible, and we severely limit our potential by believing them.

I advocate for communities that see in themselves the potential for change and that structure that change into their everyday lives. These movements for change must also be consistent with the identity of the community.

It is not appropriate for us to speak about what is necessary for Africa to do to fight injustice. On the contrary, we should be asking what is necessary for us to do to fight injustice.

More than anything, these questions should be asked in community. The editorial staff of this paper has called for increased constructive dialogue on campus. We can accomplish this by attending the events that are part of the many themed weeks on campus.

We can create communities of change by engaging critically with the world around us and by remembering that our lives are bound to others even as we dance.

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COLUMN

# REDUCTIO AD AWE SOME

## Killing religion with contraception



ANTHONY MACUK  
STAFF WRITER

Lately, the Obama administration's stance on birth control has become controversial, particularly among Catholic bishops and Republican presidential candidates.

There's been a lot of concern that the new contraception mandate is part of a larger war on religion perpetuated by the Left in this country. Such concerns have been dismissed as overblown or unrealistic, but they continue to persist.

So, on behalf of all the liberals out there who favor contraception, I think I'm obligated to take a moment to explain the truth.

The truth is that the conservatives are absolutely right. The Left's goal is nothing less than the total destruction of religion in America. We've been at it for years, and contraception is our current weapon of choice.

For a more historic example of how we systematically oppress religion, consider the entertainment industry. It's no secret that Hollywood tends to lean to the left, but the

truth is that we currently enjoy large-scale control over most media entertainment.

We use that influence to constantly saturate cinemas with anti-religious messages in order to gradually alter public opinion. The process is slow, but eventually we'll get there (it would go a lot faster if Mel Gibson didn't keep getting in the way).

The overall strategy is to slowly desensitize everyone to all of our anti-religious propaganda by gradually increasing the presence of objectionable content. The contraception mandate follows the same approach but takes it to a far more sinister extreme.

First, we'll force all employers to provide birth control pills, regardless of their religious preferences. That's easy enough because we can just make up some sort of clever, superficial justification like "women's reproductive health."

Then we'll start putting them in vending machines, replacing all other products. And no, there will be no exceptions, even if the vending machine is a devout Catholic. Eventually we'll just start throwing them at people we see on the street.

At this point, you might be wondering how some of these ideas are going to

directly oppress religion in America. To be honest, we don't fully understand it either. We just know that conservative politicians and Catholic bishops won't like it, so it seems like a good place to start.

Once we've run out of things to replace with contraceptives, we'll have to find new and creative ways to annoy the religious establishment.

Reproductive health is clearly an uncomfortable topic, so we'll need to create an extremely sexually charged atmosphere (ideas so far mostly revolve around sneaking up behind people and yelling "vagina").

Until now, nobody has seen through our scheme because we go to ridiculous lengths to cover our own tracks. Most of us even lie outright and claim we're Christian, even though we're all actually godless atheists bent on world domination.

Unfortunately, it seems that Rick Santorum and Newt Gingrich are on to us, and they see the birth control mandate for what it is.

This is a regrettable setback, but we're not worried. Sooner or later, we'll succeed in using contraceptives to destroy religion in America. It's only a matter of time.

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OPINION

# Church in a compromising situation

ROBERT DIAZ  
GUEST WRITER

I'm a Roman Catholic, and I like to think that I'm a reasonable Roman Catholic. Now, if you're about to say "reasonable Roman Catholic" is a contradiction in terms, quiet down for a moment and let me get my point across first.

In the last few days, I've heard my fellow, less reasonable Catholics on television talk about how the Church is under siege, but I've also heard well-meaning progressive types say this debate about contraception is not at all a religious issue. They are both wrong - very, very wrong.

Let me address my fellow Catholics first (because there are so many at Willamette). We are not under siege. This debate over contraception does not amount to persecution of the religious in this country.

For perspective, consider that Catholic Christians are actually persecuted for their beliefs in other countries and have been in the past.

The debate over contraception is just

that - a debate. It is a disagreement, and disagreements have compromises. Please do not let some doughy-faced goon of a presidential hopeful (I wonder who I'm talking about) convince you otherwise.

Next, I want to talk to the supporters of women's reproductive rights. Please stop pretending that this debate is devoid of religious issues. Simply saying it does not make it so.

For the Catholic Church, this is a religious issue because use of contraception is a sin, and the Church does not want to support a practice that it believes to be sinful. Now, that might seem antiquated and unimportant, but the simple truth is that it violates a religious belief.

In this country, we already accept that demanding that a person go against their religious beliefs, or lack thereof, is wrong; that's why we don't do prayer in public school anymore. Although, that prayer might have been useful for some of those pop quizzes they sprung on me back then.

What this debate over mandated birth control amounts to is the conflict between

two fundamental rights: The rights of the religious to practice their beliefs and the rights of women to basic healthcare.

Both are extremely important in our society, and both should be completely inviolable. Neither one should come at the cost of the other. A compromise is needed.

What really makes this argument tiresome to me is that there has been a compromise since about the beginning.

President Obama has said that in the case of birth control, religious institutions will not be mandated to pay, and the insurance companies will assume that responsibility for them. In all likelihood, the insurance companies will receive subsidies for this from the government, and the government gets its money from us.

So, let's just stop all this bickering over this issue. There is a compromise; let's get behind it so we can all get what we want.

Then we can get back to arguing about who the next president should be.

Contact: rdiaz@willamette.edu

COLUMN

# Bearcat Bullet

## Come at me bro



KEVIN BELL  
COLUMNIST

While it may not yet be the end of the year, the concept of graduation has, for me, as I'm sure it has for many, been a very harrowing one to grasp.

Willamette has been my home, the rock upon which I will build my metaphorical church, and leaving it behind for wherever I go next makes me kind of sad.

Before I go all teary-eyed on you, a difficult concept to convey via episodic humor column, there are a few things I need to make sure of before I go.

One of the first, and most important beyond Thesis, Grad School or figuring out which homeless shelter looks least likely to give me hepatitis once both of those things inevitably fail, is how to determine the legacy of that which is most important to me: The Bearcat Bullet.

As a result, I am holding a competition to determine who I will blackmail the Illuminati-run Editorial Board into giving my section to. Anyone who wants in can submit an application containing your name, a sample of your writing and \$100 in small unmarked bills (optional, but recommended) to me by email or dead drop. I will determine who I like the best in a non-transparent, unfair and likely nepotistic fashion that you're not allowed to complain about.

Mostly I just want to be entertained by bad writers, but if you win I'll make up a trophy and you get to be the admin of "The Bearcat Blogger" once I graduate, so that's cool.

Know that you inherit the nadir (look it up) of learned discourse at our fine institution, as well as a fairly decent mass of hate/fan/ambiguously-appreciative mail, and a salaried position that Forbes Business Weekly described glowingly as "a pittance, akin to modern-day slave labor," so be sure thy nerves are properly steeled and loins girdled ere you take on the challenge.

Think of it like "The Last Crusade," but with fewer Nazis and more Monday morning phone calls from editors with undiagnosed antisocial personality disorder and proven ties to terrorist organizations.

I look forward to your submissions like euthanasia for a terminal cancer patient, except in this case it's my literary career (lol) and the afterlife is a life of destitution in my parents' basement.

So, be gentle and be sure the pillow you use has a 1200 thread count Egyptian cotton case: I've got my standards, you know.

Also there was a person who, at some point over this last week, I told I would include in my column, but they only gave me a quarter, so this is all they're getting. Pay better next time and I might remember your name and gender, but realistically, I'm just going to make your name into a masturbation pun.

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CARA THOMPSON • cthomps@willamette.edu

The Illuminati-run Editorial Board notes that "winning" the aforesaid competition does not guarantee a columnist position.

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**CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT**  
 February 20 - 27 2012  
 Information provided by Campus Safety  
 The campus safety report will return next week due to low volume of reports this week.

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**Philanthropy** A Crossword Challenge

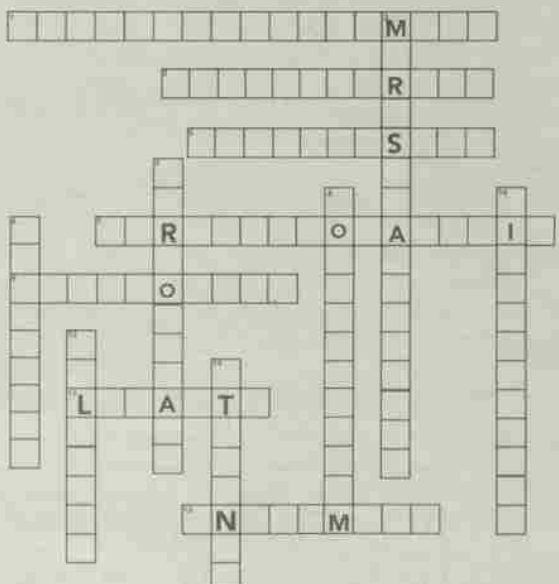
Answer the question below and learn about our community. You'll find that giving back and living by our motto, "Not unto ourselves alone are we born," is a huge part of our identity here at Willamette University.

**ACROSS**

1. A symbolic day in which we recognize that tuition covers only three-quarters of the actual cost of a Willamette education.
3. Selfless concern for human welfare and advancement, usually manifested by donations and generosity to socially useful purposes.
5. A day in which we celebrate the founding of Willamette University.
7. An award based on a student's academic, artistic or other notable ability.
9. Readiness or liberality in giving - a word used to describe the actions of 3,293 CLA alumni who made gifts to Willamette last academic year.
11. Manifested through school pride and commitment to Willamette's long-term goals and success.
13. The university's savings account.

**DOWN**

2. Mother of alumnus and philanthropist John Rogers '63, who's name is associated with a Willamette scholarship and auditorium on campus.
4. Grant for summer research projects.
6. A way to save up your pennies to make a difference and the mascot for the Freshman Textbook Scholarship.
8. The practice of volunteering one's time or talents for charitable, educational, or other worthwhile activities, especially in one's community.
10. Grant to enrich the meaning of experience through reflection, funded, in part, by Lilly Endowment, Inc.
12. This program consists of student callers connecting with alumni and parents, telling them about upcoming events and asking for their financial support.
14. Those who directly benefit from alumni and parent support to the College of Liberal Arts.



**Win a Bistro Gift Card!** Be one of the first three students to accurately complete this crossword and return it to the Office of Annual Giving, 3rd Floor of Waller Hall.

A message from Development and Alumni Relations

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