COLLEGIAN

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Collegian editor participates in conference call with Obama

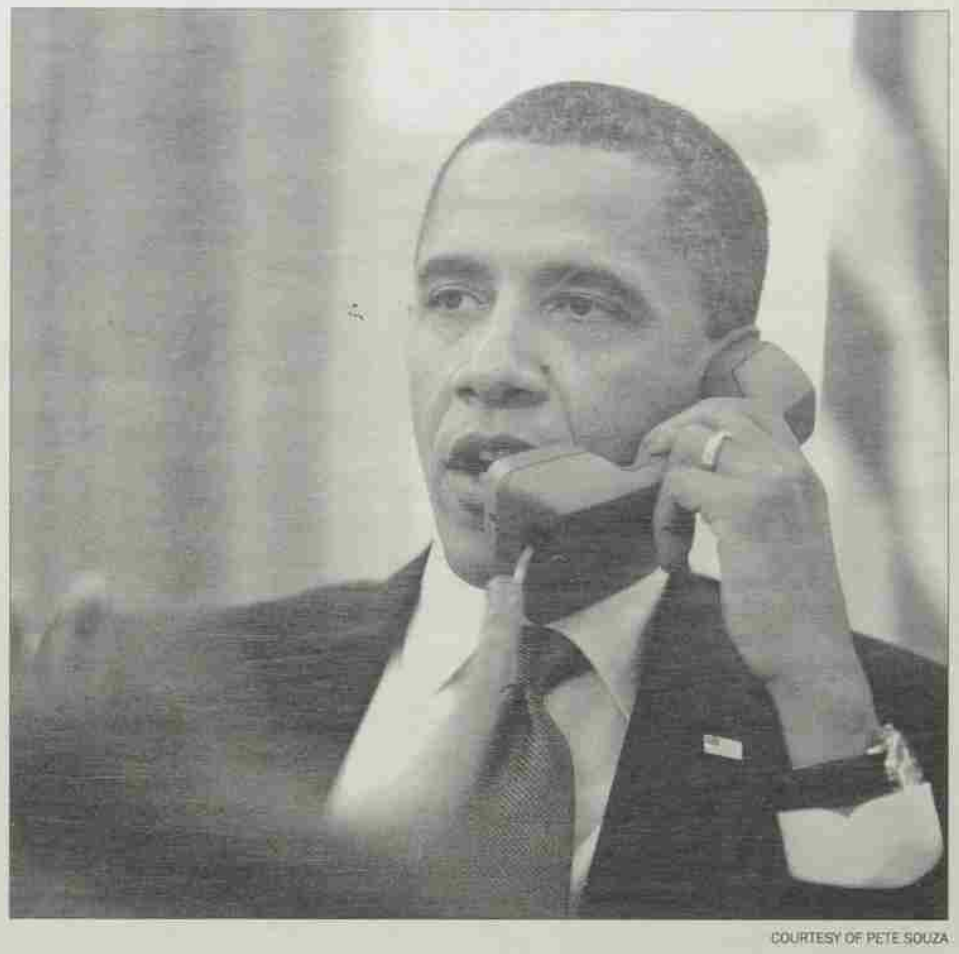
HANNAH WALLER
NEWS EDITOR

On Monday, Sept. 27, President Barack Obama hosted a conference call for young journalists, and as a representative of the *Collegian*, I was selected to participate. I received a formal invitation via e-mail from the White House, and upon RSVPing was given a phone number and time to call. After a brief introduction, the president himself came through loud and clear on my cell phone.

Obama discussed issues particularly pertaining to young people and what the administration is doing to address them. The 25 minute phone call addressed issues such as paying for college, preparing for the future via education and improving the economy.

The first thing Obama addressed was the fact that the United States has "fallen behind" in college graduation rates, dropping from first to 12th in the world in a single generation. "My goal is to make sure that every young person gets the best education possible, because countries that out-educate us today are going to out-compete us tomorrow," Obama said.

Among the ways Obama aims to reach this goal is to make college more affordable. "We've changed the way student federal loans are administered. Instead of handing over $60 billion in unwarranted subsidies to large banks ... we're redirecting that money so that it goes directly to students. This is allowing us to support community colleges and make college more affordable for nearly eight million students and families," Obama said.



COURTESY OF PETE SOUZA

President Obama participates in a conference call with young journalists in the Oval Office on Sep. 27.

Obama will also triple the investment in college tax credits for middle class families and raise the value of Pell Grants. Additionally, the administration has passed legislation that will ensure that future borrowers can choose a plan under which they never have to pay more than ten percent of their salaries each month to pay back student loans. Individuals who choose to go into public service and keep up with their payments will have any leftover debt forgiven after ten years.

The administration also introduced the Affordable Care Act, which allows young adults to stay on their parents' health care plan until the age of 26, providing relief to young people who may be in their first jobs that don't offer health insurance. "This gives you a bit of a cushion coming out of college," Obama said.

In addition to making college more affordable, Obama also wants to ensure that colleges are prepared to gear students toward the jobs of the future. This kind of preparation involves making sure that more students complete college. Currently, more than one third of America's college students do not earn a degree after six years. "It's up to students to finish, but we can help remove some barriers. We want to open the doors of our colleges and universities and accept more people so they can learn, graduate and succeed in life," Obama said.

In response to a question regarding whether there is any truth to the belief that it will be hardest yet for the generation currently in college to get on its feet, Obama said, "Your generation will be just fine. We've gone through the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. So things are real tough for young people right now, but ... if you're getting a college degree, if you have skills in math, science or communication, there are still jobs out there even in a tough environment. Don't let anybody tell you that somehow your dreams are going to be strained. I have no doubt that you guys are going to be successful."

When asked about the rising costs of public universities, the president expressed concern about the amount of money such institutions are shelling out for athletic and dining facilities. "Are we designing our universities in a way that focuses on the primary thing, which is education? You're not going to the university to join a spa, you're going to learn," Obama said. He also commented that he wants to make sure courses are being taught with an emphasis on research and getting students involved with learning opportunities outside of the classroom.

As for the immediate future, Obama said that his number one concern is the economy. "The bottom line is in order to make college more affordable, we have to improve the economy, and that's why that is my main focus at this point," Obama said.

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Volunteering at Tiger Club proves benefical for both elementary and college students

JENNIFER DAVIS
GUEST WRITER

Among the many opportunities for students to get involved in the community, Tiger Club offers a chance to tutor children at Bush Elementary School in reading, math, science and a variety of other subjects. Founded in the spring of 2007, other official goals of this program are to help the elementary school get students the help they need despite budget and staff cuts, to give them somewhere to go after school and to help them develop friendships and interpersonal skills.

According to Director of the Community Outreach Program Laura Clerc, elementary school kids in the Tiger Club improved significantly in reading fluency and in math and showed progress on the state tests for reading and math. "Our partnership with Willamette University students has been vital in order to realize achievement gains; both academically and socially," Bush Elementary School Principal Michelle Halter said.

There are many different reasons for the University's students to participate in the Tiger Club. "It's a great opportunity. I want to go in to social work and [Tiger Club] sounds like a great way to get into that," freshman Jordan Wildish said.

In a typical day at the Tiger Club, elementary students meet with their volunteers from the University and go outside to play foursquare, jump rope, tag or other activities.

Upon coming back inside, volunteers meet with elementary students who have been grouped based on grade and reading levels and begin to work with them. Students read to volunteers who help them with comprehension and pronunciation. Volunteers also play games with students that aim to improve their social skills.

Tiger Club is a worthwhile experience for students and volunteers alike. "I enjoy working with kids and just getting to see them grow and develop over the semester and gaining skills,"sophmore Inez Meras said.

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▸ Learn more

Students who wish to learn more about the Tiger Club can send an e-mail to *bushelementaryvolunteer@gmail.com*.

TYLER YOUNG

Elementary students play at Tiger Club.

COVER PHOTO BY EMILY SCHLIEMAN

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Ride against sex-trafficking raises awareness in Salem

ANNA MENCARELLI
STAFF WRITER

With engines revving and the signal light turning green, the cue of motorists took off to circle the State Capitol building on Saturday, Oct. 2. They aimed to make their point as clear to the Oregon legislature as the enormous banner pinned to the side of the leading semi-truck that read "Kids Are Not for Sale." In addition to these words inscribed visibly on the truck, a multitude of smaller signs bedecked all the automobiles that followed the chain of motorcycles in the Oregon Defenders Ride.

The Oregon Defenders Ride was comprised of approximately 50 motorcyclists and a dozen automobiles. The ride began at the West Salem Harley Davidson shop and ended at the Latus Harley Davidson store in Gladstone. The ride was organized to protest child-sex trafficking and the lack of legislation that would penalize individuals who are purchasing children from "pimps." "[Sex-trafficking] disgusts me. I am a father and I couldn't imagine my children going through that. I thought that if a group of manly men rode together openly protesting, it would make a difference," coordinator of the ride and long time motorcyclist Tom Perez said.

JESSICA STERNBACH

The Oregon Defenders proclaims its cause on a truck that lead the ride on Saturday.

The National Report on Domestic Minor Trafficking, as researched by the Shared Hope Foundation, reported that most victims of sex-trafficking are adolescent females with an average age of 13, who are often controlled by a "pimp" feigning as a caretaker or a boyfriend. Furthermore, the report also said that many customers of the "pimps" were men. The Shared Hope Foundation reported that "victims of domestic minor sex-trafficking are in detention facilities across the country for charges of prostitution while those who buy sex from them are free and their traffickers frequently escape detection."

The Shared Hope International organization was created in response to the quantity of sex-trafficking victims that founder Linda Smith observed while traveling through Bombay, India in 1998. In 1999, the organization established the first of many "safe houses," where victims are able to take refuge and seek help, in Bombay.

The Oregon Defenders is one of the many chapters in the nation-wide USA Defenders Campaign. The campaign was created by the Shared Hope Foundation on Father's Day in 2006. The program's mission statement reads, "It is a campaign by men, to men and for men designed to fight the commercial sexual exploitation of our children. The Campaign is committed to raising awareness, encouraging public debate and reducing demand through education."

The Oregon Defenders began raising awareness by means of organized motorcycle rides in July 2009. "I hope that people will see the banner on our truck, as they are driving by on the freeway or walking on the streets, and I hope it will stay in their minds," Perez Said.

Two students observed the procession of motorcyclists while walking past the Capitol. Seniors Ruth Ubaldo and Kelsey Ledford had not known of the ride prior to the event. "I think they should've had more signs and advertising because I did not know what it was until I walked past it. Maybe if they had driven past the Saturday Market where people are actually at then it may have been more effective," Ledford said.

Both students were surprised and somewhat confused about the purpose of the procession. "I didn't know what was going on, but I did read the side of the truck," Ubaldo said.

Another student present at the event, sophomore Jessica Sternbach, said she was intrigued by the ride. "I thought that the cause was very admirable and interesting, but I had wished the event was better advertised and a bigger deal than what it had turned out to be. I definitely think that students would have participated if they had known; many groups on campus find this issue very important and would have liked to have their voices heard in this event by participating," Sternbach said.

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Scuba Club President Javan Bailey shares the benefits of diving

EMILIE JENSEN
STAFF WRITER

This is sophomore Javan Bailey's second year as a member of the Scuba Divers Club and first year as president. She said she is in love with the wonders of the ocean and aspires to become a marine biologist once she has received her science degree.

Collegian: What does the Scuba Divers Club represent, and what are its goals for this year?

Bailey: The goal of the Scuba Divers Club is to offer the opportunity for students to scuba dive, further their skills and education as divers and to spark interest in students to explore the underwater world of diving.

C: What specifically do you do as a club?

B: The main purpose of the Scuba Divers Club is to (drumroll) go scuba diving! We try to plan as many trips as we can to places like Hoodsport, Washington, where we encounter many sea creatures such as octopuses, sea stars and crabs. Also, we dive on the Oregon coast and Clear Lake, which is a glacier lake that harbors a petrified forest.

C: What activities are you thinking of sponsoring?

B: This Thursday, Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m., the Scuba Divers Club is sponsoring a "Discover Scuba" session in the Sparks pool. This session is courtesy of Mark Fischer, the instructor for the scuba class at Willamette and the owner of HydroSport Dive and Travel in Keizer. It is an awesome opportunity for anyone who wants to experience the sensation of breathing underwater and see what scuba diving is all about. Please RSVP to <jbailey> by Oct. 6 if you are interested. Also, next week, Oct. 14, there will be a scuba tune-up session, which is highly recommended for anyone who is certified but has not dived in several months.

C: How can students join the club?

B: Any student is encouraged to join the club. Just shoot me an e-mail at <jbailey> and I'll add you to the list serve. Unfortunately, you have to be certified to go on dives with us, but Willamette offers a scuba class where anyone can become certified.

C: What makes your club unique?

B: While I think that exploring any part of the outdoors is incredible, there is something unique about exploring life under the water. It really is a different world down there, and one that we know relatively very little about. The opportunity to explore life under the sea is an absolutely amazing experience that people do not easily forget.

C: What is the most interesting experience you've had as a member of the Scuba Club?

B: Last year, on a trip up to Hoodsport we went on a night dive. We used lights to illuminate our path and to startle all kinds of interesting sea creatures. At one point, we turned off our lights and there was nothing but darkness until we disturbed the water. Then, suddenly there was a bioluminescent green glow which is given off by a unique type of plankton that glows when it is disturbed. It was super cool.

C: Is there anything else you would like to share?

B: The first time I went scuba diving in the ocean was an experience that I will never forget. I was excited about diving but was not prepared for how amazing it was going to be. When I first stuck my head under the water I was struck with the life that existed beneath me. I immediately saw five or six sunflower stars slowly crawling along the ocean floor with their thousands upon thousands of tube feet.

As we descended further I was enthralled by the ocean floor which was teeming with life: sea cucumbers, crabs, nudibranches, sea urchins and sea stars, just to name a few. I had seen all of these creatures before, but seeing them in their natural habitat was an entirely new experience.

To me, scuba diving is more than just a recreational sport. It is an opportunity to expand our awareness of the variety of life that our planet, and especially our oceans, supports. It also is humbling to think that our actions as humans can have such a devastating impact on the underwater world that we know so little about. Scuba diving is one way to educate people about life under the sea while also giving them an appreciation for it.

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University Convocation

Advocates of ethnic studies programs address their importance

EMILY SCHUEMAN

On Thursday, Sept. 30, Professors of History Seth Cotlar and Ellen Eisenberg, Professor of Anthropology Rebecca Dobkins and junior American ethnic studies major Margarita Guiterrez spoke at the University Convocation as part of the Banned Ethnic Studies Week to raise awareness and support for ethnic studies programs. Across the states, such programs are being eliminated, but at the University they are supported and believed to bring attention to important social issues. The panel discussed the need to expand ethnic studies education.

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BOOK REVIEW: **'The Name of the Wind'**

A surprising and twisted read

HANNAH ELDER
GUEST WRITER

In "The Name of the Wind," by Patrick Rothfuss, a man named Kote tells his story – the story of a hero, but with a twist. A story of when he went by another name, one that came to be attached to many epithets – the narrative of Kvothe.

In the story, Kvothe is the proprietor of a small inn in the back end of nowhere. But then, a man known as The Chronicler tracks him down in order to record his story. Kvothe reluctantly agrees to tell it and the story enters a flashback.

Kvothe begins his story with his youth among the Edema Rhu. The Edema Rhu are a traveling band of entertainers portrayed similarly to gypsies. Kvothe is taught music, song and stagecraft under the tutelage of his parents and other relatives. He is an apt child and when Abenthy, an alchemist and arcanist joins the band of travelers, Kvothe quickly becomes his pupil.

Kvothe learns many skills under Abenthy's guidance. As an arcanist, Abenthy teaches Kvothe how to do magic by sympathy – the ability to connect two objects so that one may affect the other. However, sympathy is the weaker form of magic and Kvothe wants to learn magic of the true names of the world (like the name of the wind). Abenthy refuses to teach him, but mentions a university where magic is taught to students of the arcane.

When disaster strikes the Edema Rhu, Kvothe goes off on his own to seek out this university. There, gaining admittance is only the first struggle. He encounters everything from jealous and spiteful classmates to good friends to rumors of those who destroyed his family. He studies, learns and lives. He has adventures and earns the first few of his epithets.

The story of Kvothe's life is broken up throughout the book by moments where he stops telling his story and the narration goes back to Kvothe in his inn. He takes several breaks and we are able to see him as he is now: aged and wizened, with only Bast, his loyal companion, to support him.

This story has a definite pull. If you like fantasy, action, science fiction or just a really good fantastical ride, this book is a must read. Twisted and surprising, the narrative will keep you on your toes and truly suck you in. Rothfuss has a great way with words and well manages the duality of the story. The present and past of Kote/Kvothe's life is well broken up. The story itself is a wonderful look at how heroes can be stretched out of proportion and the way the truth can become so warped that it is unrecognizable.

The sequel is coming out in March 2011 so now is the perfect time to read "The Name of the Wind" and be ready for "The Wise Man's Fear" in a few months. Happy reading.

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What's Hot @ Willamette?

Angie Bingham
Class of 2011

TOM EHRMAN

What do you read?
"Well, I'm a Russian Major and I'm working on my thesis, so lately, I've been reading several gigantic 19th century Russian novels."

What do you watch?
"I don't watch much TV during the school year, but I like 'Chuck' and I might have acquired some 'Firefly' and I like some of the older 'Dr. Who' episodes. My favorite movie changes depending on ... the time of my life, but right now, it's 'Up.'"

What do you play?
"I'm not really into video games, but my favorite card game is 'Phase 10.'"

What do you listen to?
"Again, it depends, and I listen to a little of everything, but lately, it's been Jason Mraz and Regina Specter. They make me happy."

What do you eat?
"I'm a vegetarian, so anything with vegetables and tofu pretty much makes my day."

CONCERT REVIEW: **Arcade Fire**

Arcade Fire rocks Portland

HANNAH SCHIFF
ARTS EDITOR

The band Arcade Fire has, in less than a decade, moved from underground to mainstream, enough so to become synonymous with the likes of the Indie Titans. Famous for their energetic live performances and stage antics, the indie super-group has graced venues as prominent as Madison Square Garden and "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart."

When I heard they were heading to Portland on their North American tour to promote the summer release of their third full-length album, "The Suburbs," I grabbed a presale ticket.

I showed up at the venue, the Portland Memorial Coliseum, a solid three hours before the show started. While waiting in line I struck up conversations with many other fans, and learned that the man who was first in line had seen them 20 times. The crowd served as a symbol of the caliber of both the band's music and its stage presence.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAPTIANSDEATH.COM

Arcade Fire plays in concert. The band's new album is called "The Suburbs."

Calexico, a band with a southwestern feel, perhaps best known for its collaborative efforts with Iron & Wine, opened the show with a short but solid set. Although they didn't play their cover of Arcade Fire's "Ocean of Noise," they sent their horn section on stage to join in when Arcade Fire played the famous "Neon Bible" track.

In between the bands there was a great deal of set shifting. Arcade Fire's North American Tour is aided by a highly visual set featuring a giant billboard-shaped screen which shows an amalgamation of old movie footage, band member close-ups and unique segments reminiscent of their music video for "Neon Bible."

And then the magic started. The band ran on stage and the applause and cheers were uproarious. I turned around, and was hit with the solid realization that I was less than ten feet from the stage with thousands of people filling the Coliseum behind me. The set was kicked off with a new track entitled "Ready To Start," a ploy which could have been too obvious, but instead seemed just right.

The crowd surged and writhed, everyone singing along to new favorites and beloved classics alike. The sheer energy and force radiating from the stage made those in the audience trying to stand still with their arms crossed look ludicrous, as they found themselves swaying and shaking their heads in spite of themselves. By the end of the second song, lead singer Win Butler was slicked with sweat, a testament to just how much of himself he puts into his performance. He clearly holds nothing back.

Butler wasn't the only band member committed to the show. His wife Regine danced around the stage like a sprite and was captivating when she sang "Haiti" and "Sprawl II (Mountains Beyond Mountains)." Will Butler, Win's brother, ceaselessly ran around the stage playing every instrument and beating a drum to death in the classic "Rebellion (Lies)."

The show never seemed to lose energy. It only gained momentum. At the start of "Neighborhood #3," Win told the crowd "If you've been holding back, now's the time to let go" and the crowd complied. By the end of the last encore, "Wake Up," the build up had peaked, ending the show at the perfect moment. All considered, this was a concert experience for the ages, something genuine and passionate as only Arcade Fire can deliver.

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MOVIE REVIEW: **'Get Low'**

Cast delivers in Schneider's 'Get Low'

SAMI SUMPTER
GUEST WRITER

Previews are hands-down my favorite part of going to the movie theater. I don't know how those barrages of 60-second advertisements manage to captivate me time and time again, but somehow I can't get enough of them.

Unfortunately, I always seem to be five minutes late. In fact, I'm generally lucky if I can catch the last two previews before the opening credits interrupt my fun.

On Aug. 17, I broke my tardiness streak by arriving early to the movie "Cyrus." If I hadn't made my way to Theater 2 five minutes ahead of schedule, I might never have seen the preview for Aaron Schneider's "Get Low." If I hadn't seen that preview, I wouldn't have spent the next month jonesing for a healthy dose of Robert Duvall and Bill Murray.

And without that near obsessive impatience, I would not have graced the halls of Salem Cinema last week. Worst of all, I would have missed out on an excellent film.

Set in 1938 in Tennessee, "Get Low" tells the story of Felix Bush (Robert Duvall), a cranky hermit of local legend who has his mind set on throwing his own funeral party while he is still alive. Felix enlists the help of Frank Quinn (Bill Murray) and Buddy Robinson (Lucas Black), funeral home partners who hope to make a pretty penny on the loner's bizarre request.

At first, Felix's motives seem relatively clear. He wants to hear the stories everyone has been telling about him since he adopted the title of town recluse 40 years earlier. However, when the newly-widowed Mattie Darrow (Sissy Spacek) and Felix's old friend Charlie Jackson (Bill Cobbs) get thrown in to the mix, Buddy begins to realize that Felix has a much more troubled past than he ever imagined.

Both a comedy and a drama, "Get Low" demonstrates storytelling at its finest. Schneider integrates fable and truth in a way that keeps the audience wondering without being too distracting. Playing with the idea of the past and how it affects the present, the plot has no problem moving forward even when it moves back.

Even better than the story, the talented acting greatly enhances the movie's captivating plot. Robert Duvall truly delivers in his role as the irritable recluse, but even more so in the moments when his softer side comes through. His interactions with Bill Murray are hilarious to boot, and this star-studded cast does not go to waste.

All in all, I would definitely recommend this movie. It is everything I look for in a great movie – hilarious, compelling and I won't deny tearing up once or twice. "Get Low" is a movie anyone would enjoy and even better, with Salem Cinema's student ticket rate, seeing "Get Low" is much cheaper than seeing something more expensive (and a lot less awesome) at any of the other theaters in town.

Contact: *ssumpter@willamette.edu*

▸ more info
"Get Low" (100 minutes) is now playing at:

Salem Cinema
Address: 1127 Broadway NE
Show times and ticket info:
(503) 378-7676
www.salemcinema.com

MyPeace events launched in Salem

ASTRA LINCOLN
GUEST WRITER

The mayoral proclamation and art display kick-off event for MyPeace on Oct. 1 was touching. A city official spoke of his daughter who tells everyone she meets that she is full of love for them and project volunteers showed off the gray and green peace sign shirts they had made. A modest crowd of about 20 laughed together like old friends – and they probably were.

About half of those in attendance were volunteers. There were only about ten plastic folding chairs in two meager rows. They were not anticipating a large crowd, but they certainly deserved one.

If you have not heard about MyPeace, it is a Salem-based project that spans the month of October. The project uses art to inspire peace, stainability, human rights and everything else that the word peace might encompass.

Much of the art is created by professionals and aspiring Willamette-Valley-based amateurs, but MyPeace also features art by the area's homeless and incarcerated youth.

The display on Oct. 1 had basic but breathtaking portraits of peace advocates adorned with quotes that were full of hope. There was an abstract piece that used the back of an old-looking door as the canvas. Many pieces at the display were as estranged as they were elegant.

There will be several more displays throughout the month, some in coffee shops (and like any good gallery opening, many of the events will have free refreshments), some with live music.

The project has a diverse array of events, including spoken word recitals, dance performances, kite flying and even a costume "shindig." I encourage you to check out as many of these events as you can. And if you do go and spot one of those peace sign shirts for sale, feel free to pick one up. They were awesome and truly captured the MyPeace message.

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▸ Learn more

For more information about MyPeace, visit *mypeaceproject.org* or e-mail *info@oregonpeacework.org*.

ASTRA LINCOLN
A painted tree embodies the peace and nature themes of MyPeace.

The IKE Box, not your average coffee shop

ISABELLA GUIDA
STAFF WRITER

The IKE Box café, art gallery and concert venue is housed in a beautifully restored old building. Complete with murals, couches and cavernous rooms to explore, it is an exciting and interesting space. Formerly a funeral home, the IKE Box is a curious Salem site of music, philanthropy, art and coffee.

There are shows booked every Saturday for the upcoming months. On Oct. 9, Shift and In Lunar Blue will be playing. Past shows have included the Helio Sequence, Typhoon and Symmetry/Symmetry. "It's a really cool place; it's really intimate," junior art major Samuel Kuniholm said. He heartily enjoyed discovering the band Y La Bamba at its Sept. 18 concert at the venue.

The basement of the IKE Box is home to Marigold Recording, an audio, music production, video and photo studio.

The October art exhibition is the Volte Face Project, "a young group of Salem artists creating events, Web media and other community programs that expose artists of all mediums to the people of the Willamette Valley," according to the IKE Box Web site. The upcoming November exhibit will feature the mixed media and collage works of Sarah Shultz.

The IKE Box is not just a café, art space, recording studio and concert venue – it is also home to Isaac's Room, a non-profit organization that benefits troubled teens of Salem. "People tell troubled teens to get a life all the time, but here we actually give them the space and the tools to do so. When you buy a drink at the IKE Box, you are also supporting the organization," Barista Krizti Caraway said.

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▸ Learn more

All shows at the IKE Box allow entrance for all ages and cost $5. The Ike Box is located at 299 Cottage Street NE.

KENDRA VANEK
An IKE Box sandwich board advertises delicious beverages and comfy couches to be found inside.

'Aquitania' is highly anticipated

KELLEY VILLA
GUEST WRITER

"Don't you think there's a secret part of life that can't be attributed to cause and effect?" Asks a character in "Aquitania." The University's fall production, written by Stephen Legawiec and directed by Susan Coromel, is a comedy centered on the marriage of fantasy and reality.

The play is set in the 1930s, revolving around a reluctant heroine named Marguerite. She is summoned by a young prince named Roland to help him lead the country while his uncle, the king, is at war. Playing the part of the prince, freshman Dylan Angell described his character as a "bright-eyed and bushy-tailed" young man who is comically thrust into the kingly role.

Marguerite and friends attempt to save the day while learning to see life in a new, more youthful way. The action is narrated by an ethereal, Grecian-style Chorus, of which freshman Alex Kimmel is a member.

Kimmel said that a major theme of the play is being able to accept and marry magic and science. "The play larger-than-life, dynamic characters create a classic archetype of good versus evil. Elements such as magic and time travel help to create a fantasy world in which Marguerite attempts to rediscover her childhood imagination after becoming a librarian.

Angell and Kimmel both said that the production is a "guaranteed good time" and that a person "would have to be heartless not to laugh." Season tickets are available for all four productions this year, but individual tickets for "Aquitania" are also available. Preview nights are on Oct. 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. at a discounted price. Evening performances will be held on Thursday – Saturday, Oct. 8-16 at 7:30 p.m. and matinee performances will be on Oct. 10 and 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available online or at the box office.

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Stolen Sweets visit the Salem Public Library

HANNAH SCHIFF
ARTS EDITOR

On Friday, Oct. 1, the Salem Public Library hosted the band Stolen Sweets. The group performs jazz arrangements inspired by the famous Depression Era act, The Boswell Sisters. With an up-tempo New Orleans flare and witty banter between songs, the band made the evening most enjoyable.

I couldn't help but smile as familiar tunes like "42nd Street" and "Minnie the Moocher's Wedding Day" brought out a wave of geriatric foot tapping. However, the event was not geared strictly toward an older crowd. Anyone with a taste for swing music would have had a great time.

Although the Salem Public Library hosts many events, it seems to be a resource untapped by students. With tickets costing only $5 in advance and $7 at the door, it is worth attending the exciting and culturally diverse programs. Keep an eye on the arts page for updates on future happenings.

Contact *hschiff@willamette.edu*

PRESS RELEASE

Faculty perform Winterreise

Considered the greatest song cycle ever composed, Franz Schubert's "Winterreise (Winter Journey)" will be performed by University faculty members, tenor Les Green and pianist Elise Yun, on Sunday, Oct. 10 in Hudson Hall. Professor Aili Zheng of the German Department will give a pre-concert lecture at 3 p.m., immediately followed by a performance of the entire cycle at 3:30 p.m. A dramatic narrative of 24 songs set to poems by Wilhelm Müller, the cycle depicts a lone traveler as he trudges and wanders through the bleak and barren winter landscape, traversing a journey of the heart that probes the depths of human emotions.

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THE STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE

LINDSAY BRAUNWALDER
GUEST WRITER

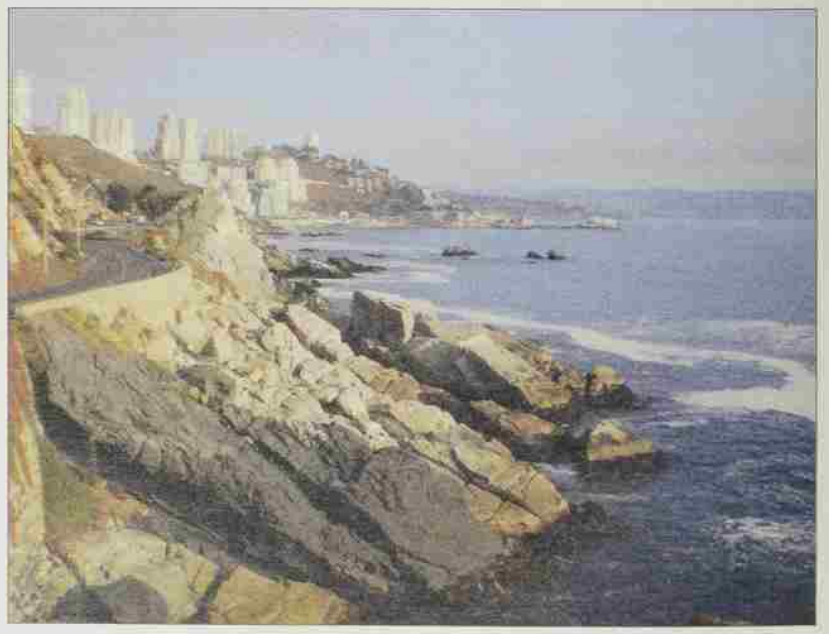
The University prides itself in many areas, and the area of international study is no exception. Study abroad is one of the great opportunities students can take advantage of at the University. The purpose of a liberal arts education is not to master one specific area, but rather, to get a full taste of what college can offer and then apply that knowledge to all aspects of life. Studying abroad is a great way to enhance a college experience and expand your cultural knowledge.

Many students are taking advantage of this tremendous opportunity available to them, and choosing international study to further their liberal arts education. In fact, International Programs Coordinator Stacy West noted that during the 2010-2011 school year, approximately ten seniors, 125 juniors and one sophomore will go abroad or are currently abroad on Willamette programs. Overall, an estimated 55 percent of the students who graduate from Willamette will earn credit abroad; this includes those that attend post sessions.

Junior Kimberly Hursh, who is currently abroad in Granada, Spain, said, "When I was applying to colleges, a strong study abroad program was really important to me. Willamette has a great track record and a very supportive office." Senior Tucker Mottl, who went abroad to Chile and Spain as a junior, agreed. "Study abroad was one of the reasons that I chose to attend Willamette, so I definitely kept track of study abroad opportunities from day one," Mottl said.

It is very common for students to go abroad their junior year. According to West, "The University really sees the study abroad process as something to do when a student clearly has an academic focus." Most likely, this part of an education will have developed by junior year.

Some students go to acheive language efficiency, or to work toward a major or a minor in a language. Junior Claire Fallet said, "I am studying in Angers, France because I am working towards a minor in French." It is important to have a goal or a reason for studying abroad. West said, "It's hardest for a student to articulate why they want to go abroad. ... Don't stop at a single reason, continually ask, 'Why? Why? Why?'"



While the study abroad experience is filled with some great moments, every moment might not be absolutely great. "It was initially difficult to get used to living with a host family; making sure I understood the rules of the house, how to do laundry, when to eat meals and table manners, to name just a few things. It was a lot of learning through observation and being comfortable asking questions," senior Molly Enzminger said. Enzminger studied in Angers, France last year.

Kimberly Hursh, on the other hand, said of her time so far in Spain, "The hardest thing to adjust to is the language. For my program, we speak Spanish all the time, and most of the locals speak very little English. It's frustrating, but I have already learned so much in only three or four weeks."

Mottl added that while being abroad presented certain challenges, it was still a very rewarding experience. "Being abroad is not perfect. There are good days and bad days, just like at home. But, in the end, I would absolutely go abroad again. It's a valuable experience in self- discovery as well as a good way to gain an international perspective. It becomes a part of who you are," Mottl said.

According to Fallet, it is impossible to deny those moments of a lifetime. "My favorite moment so far would have to be walking around downtown Angers and realizing that I had just visited a cathedral and castle in one day," Fallet said. And that has just been her experience "so far" – imagine what could happen next.

The decision to study abroad is one that must not be taken lightly and should be deeply considered prior to application. It takes time to apply and the paperwork doesn't end when the initial application process is over. Most importantly, study abroad is an investment financially, as well as to one's liberal arts education. Inevitably, the choice to study abroad requires some extra preparation on the student's part. "To prepare, I made sure to keep on track with all the papers necessary for the visa. Also, I tried to keep up my Spanish over the summer by reading books and studying grammar," Hursh said.

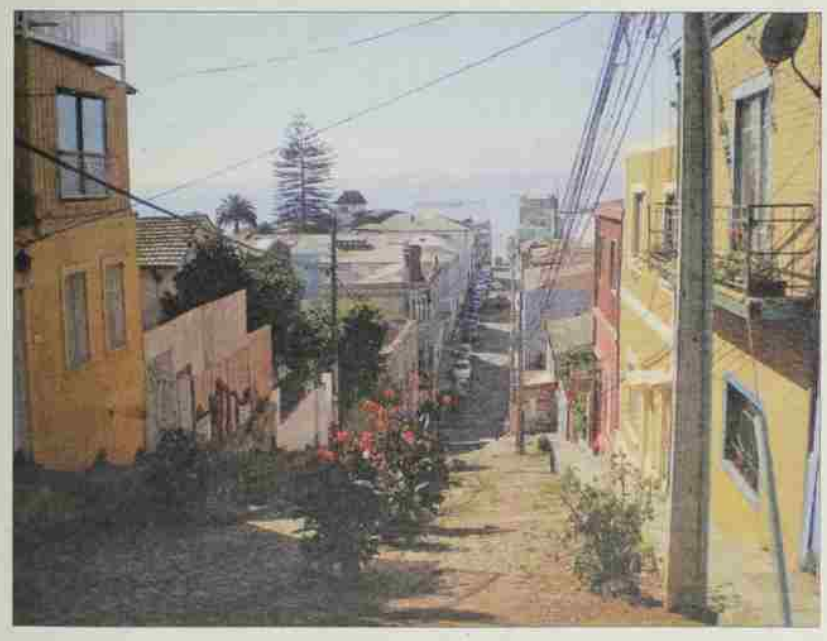
Fallet also did much to prepare. "I did research into the area of France where I am staying and I talked to as many people as I could about their experiences in Angers. I also spent some time this summer brushing up on my French," Fallet said.

According to West, "We are so lucky here [at Willamette]; there are a lot of options for students, and for different types of students. Our goal is to help the student find a program that will support and challenge them." To meet this goal, there are around 65 Willamette sponsored programs that offer a large variety and an option for almost every student. There are year and semester-long programs available, as well as post sessions, which typically take place over the summer. Some of these programs are International Student Exchange Programs (ISEP). According to the international education Web site, ISEP is an exchange association that enables Willamette students to enroll directly in universities around the world. All the ISEP programs are Willamette sponsored.

A sufficient GPA does play an important role in the application process. But even if your GPA is not up to par, that doesn't mean you can't study abroad. GPA is only one of the aspects that is evaluated when deciding if a student can go abroad. Another aspect values good relationships with professors, because excellent recommendations are also prominent in the decision making process.

Thus, applications are very important. The Office of International Education is very helpful for students during the application process. They can help in a broad sense with the initial decision of whether or not to go abroad, and then which program is best. The office can also help more precisely in areas like editing an application essay. So, if a student feels like studying abroad is something he or she wants to do, it never hurts to try. Effort made will be noticed. And once a student is culturally immersed in a foreign country, interacting with the locals and experiencing the culture, it will all be worth it.

As a Willamette student, the option to study abroad should never be disregarded. Students currently abroad offered words of advice for those who wish to partake in the international opportunities. Fallet said to first "figure out your options and what interests you early on." To complement that, Hursh offered these words: "For students who want to study abroad, I would suggest reading up on the history and culture of the place (your country of choice); the locals like to talk to exchange students who have taken the time to get to know the country. For students who are having doubts, don't hesitate – go. It's an amazing experience."



Mottl reiterated that there are ups and downs to a new lifestyle. "It can be difficult to adjust to the customs and routine of a foreign country, and a lot of students, including myself, end up spending a lot of time with other Americans, which is great, but I would recommend not trying to recreate your American lifestyle in your abroad experience," Mottl said. This advice from Mottl reminds us that in order to achieve our goals and receive the most from our experience, we have to leave the familiar behind.

According to Enzminger, once a student has accomplished the goal of making it to the country of his or her choosing, he or she should, "take a few risks. For example, take public transportation to visit new parts of the city, make friends with native speakers, take a dance class or go on adventures locally. So much is available to you and at your very fingertips. Traveling outside of the country is fun, but I guarantee that if you explore your immediate surroundings, you will have just as many stories to share," Enzminger said.

There is a big world out there, and the University gives students the chance to go and experience it. Why not take advantage of the opportunity? There is so much to see. So, take that leap of faith and go for it! Happy travels!

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PHOTOS BY AARON BROWN, JORDAN WILDISH, AND COURTESY OF MICHELLE BELLUSCI AND LAUREN GOLD

FOOTBALL

Bearcats can't find answer versus rival Linfield

JOHN LIND
SPORTS EDITOR

In a season with only ten scheduled games, it is never easy to stomach a loss, especially with at-large playoff bids scarce to begin with. Such a loss is only exacerbated when the opponent is none other than bitter rival Linfield. Unfortunately for the Willamette football team, both hardships coincided in a 35-7 defeat at the hands of the Wildcats last Saturday.

"It's been a tough month," Head Coach Mark Speckman said. "We weren't going to beat them that day ... they certainly deserved to win."

Linfield, the defending conference champion and preseason #4 team in the country, was on point from the get-go. Led by senior quarterback and reigning NWC Offensive Player of the Year, Aaron Boehme, the Wildcats came out fast with an eight-play, 72-yard drive that took just over two and a half minutes and put them up 7-0.

Not to be outdone, the Bearcats responded quickly. On their first play from scrimmage, sophomore quarterback Brian Widing connected with junior receiver Jake Knecht on a beautiful 64-yard pass that set the 'Cats up at the Linfield 14-yard line. Junior tailback Jamiere Abney pushed Willamette down to the nine, but the Bearcats were forced into a 26-yard field goal attempt. Freshman kicker Kyle Derby was then unable to connect, missing wide left.

From there, a strange string of events occurred. Linfield took over at its own 20, but two plays later Boehme was picked off by junior cornerback Jeff Kahler, putting the 'Cats in a great position to redeem their missed opportunity. However, Derby missed wide left once again after another Bearcat three and out.

Linfield took over once again, but a mere two plays later All-American senior linebacker (the Bearcats NWC Player of the Year) Ralph Pineda forced Wildcat running back Simon Lamston to cough up the ball, giving the 'Cats yet another chance.

Willamette would not let another opportunity slip through its fingers. Two Widing quarterback sneaks of 14 and nine yards set up the Bearcats at the eight-yard line. From there, Abney punched his way into the end zone and tied the game at seven.

"That whole exchange was a roller-coaster ride, feeling down about the field goal but then getting the ball right back," Abney said. "[On the touchdown run] I saw their whole defensive line fall because our line cut them, so I just hopped over everyone and ran as hard as I could."

That touchdown was as close as the Bearcats would get. Linfield quickly extended its lead to 21-7 on its next two drives, relying on strong passing and running from Boehme. Willamette hit an admitted speed bump when a Widing pass found a wide open Knecht in the end zone, only to have the play called back because of an alleged ineligible man downfield call.

"It was ridiculously close," Speckman said. "At the time, I didn't think the information they gave me was right."

Pressure on the quarterback was a major factor in the game. Willamette quarterbacks were sacked a total of six times during the game, while Boehme was not sacked, and rarely pressured. The Bearcats also struggled to find a consistent run game, totaling only 136 yards on the ground.

Willamette now finds itself in a difficult position vying for the postseason. Ahead loom potentially dangerous games against UPS, Whitworth and Pacific Lutheran, and Willamette must win the remainder of their games to even have a shot at making the playoffs. However, Speckman is optimistic about what this team has yet to accomplish.

"We still have six games to play, and we could go 8-2," Speckman said. "I wish we would have done better against Linfield because nobody likes losing to those guys, but we have to take care of what we can and hopefully get on a win streak."

Contact: *jlind@willamette.edu*

next up

Bearcats v. Pacific @ Forest Grove, OR Saturday, Oct. 9 at 1:30p.m.

Quick Shots

JOHN LIND
SPORTS EDITOR

GOLF

The Willamette golf teams have been all around the links so far this fall, competing in several different tournaments. The women and men both took part in the Willamette Valley Championship this past weekend at Illahe Hills CC in Salem. The women swung their way to a third place finish at the one-day tournament. The 'Cats were led by the efforts of sophomore Haylee Chung, who fired an 88 to finish fifth overall.

The men also garnered a third-place finish in the Willamette Valley Championship. Freshman Paul Shoji shot a ten-over 82, good enough for sixth overall. Not far behind were fellow freshmen Connor Boyd and Dylan Johnson, who both carded 86's to finish in a tie for 12th. The Bearcat women and men continue their season at the Whitworth and Whitman Invitationals, respectively.

next up

Men : Whitman Invitational @ Walla Walla, WA Saturday, Oct. 16

Women: NWC Fall Classic @ Bend, OR Saturday, October 23

TENNIS

Several standout Willamette athletes gave fans reason to be excited for the spring tennis season with superb performances two weekends ago at the Northwest Regional of the USTA/ITA Small College National Championships. Bearcat senior Natalia Agarycheva left no doubt of her dominance in the qualifying tournament, taking a final match over Linfield's Abby Olbrich 7-5, 6-4. With the win, Agarycheva will advance to the national tournament, held in Mobile, Alabama, Oct. 14-17.

The men's side fell just short of a similar performance, as Willamette junior Cody Ferguson advanced all the way to the regional final before falling to Whitman's Andrew La Cava, 6-1, 6-1. The 'Cats also saw sophomore Josh Wong and senior Matt Houser reach the round of 16 before falling.

Contact: *jlind@willamette.edu*

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Lady 'Cats split in Washington

MADDY GRAINGER
GUEST WRITER

The lady Bearcats had a full weekend, taking on the Whitman Missionaries on Saturday and the Whitworth Pirates on Sunday. Saturday was a hard-fought battle through the full 90 minutes. Despite the last minute change of formation, the 'Cats adjusted quickly and fell into a comfortable passing game.

"We did a really good job of adjusting" senior keeper Kelli Gano said. "[Sophomore midfielder Andrea Rowan] worked really hard in the middle, giving more options to get up offensively but to also hold a strong defense."

A solid defensive line lead by sophomore Shannon Scott and senior Megan Moore created a base of attack through the outside defenders, but also kept the Missionaries out of the 18-yard goal box. The offensive opportunities from the defensive line helped cause the first goal. Freshman midfielder Sabine Wetzel connected on a fantastic header to the far post off a crisp cross by senior striker Alex Batzer. Willamette held the lead to finish the half, continuing to attack from the outside midfielders with aggressive and dynamic play, particularly from sophomore Ariel Wilson and freshman Stephanie Kruger.

Junior midfielder Stephanie Skelly scored the Bearcat's second goal in the second half with a shot from the right corner of the 18-yard box that was safely guarded into the goal by one of the Missionaries' own players. The 'Cats finished the second half, transitioning most of the focus to defense to hold the lead. A 2-0 final score over Whitman added to the Bearcats three-game winning streak.

Sunday's face-off between Willamette and Whitworth was another successful adjustment by the Bearcats. The Pirates played heavily on the wings, passing and running down the sidelines. Luckily, the 'Cats adjusted to this tactic quickly using team defense to shut down Whitworth's outside midfielders with hard work from the Willamette midfielders.

The Bearcats got on the scoreboard first, as Skelly was able to intercept a ball played back to the Pirate keeper. Skelly finished her team-leading sixth goal to give Willamette the lead.

Unlucky penetrating passes by the Pirates gave more frequent scoring opportunities in the second half, but the Bearcats persisted by winning 50/50 balls. Despite a stalwart defense throughout the majority of the game, a momentary lapse in the final ten minutes of the game allowed Whitworth a cross, resulting in a Pirate goal. This game-tying goal pushed the game into golden goal over-time.

Despite the Bearcats' efforts and determination, Whitworth managed to put in a goal quickly into overtime, ending the game 2-1. Despite the disappointing loss, the Bearcats remain proud of the effort put forth and confident to build on this weekend's matches. This weekend, the lady 'Cats continue their home stand, hosting Pacific and Pacific Lutheran on Sparks Field Saturday and Sunday.

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next up

Bearcats v. Pacific @ Salem, OR Saturday, Oct. 9 at 12:00 pm

MEN'S SOCCER

Bearcats play well, tough weekend

LEIF HANSEN
STAFF WRITER

The Bearcat men's soccer team got a dose of Washington competition last weekend against both Whitman and Whitworth. In Saturday's match against Whitman, the action picked up in the 11th minute when the Missionaries were able to net the game's first goal on a header from three yards out.

The Bearcats, however, were able to equalize in the 27th minute on a well-placed header by emerging freshman midfielder Brandon Shiluk. Regarding the goal, Shiluk said, "I was able to get good positioning in front of the goal and anticipate the pass."

The game extended into two overtimes, but the extra time yielded no goals for either side as Willamette and Whitman fought to a 1-1 draw. The referee was not shy with the whistle, calling 40 fouls in the game, 14 for Whitman and 26 for the Bearcats.

Willamette's Sunday matchup against Whitworth promised to be an intense one, as the Pirates pitted their infamous three consecutive NWC titles. Whitworth made an immediate impact with an early score in the third minute as a delicate through ball found its way to the feet of a Pirate attacker who finished the pass into the left corner of the goal from ten yards out.

The Bearcats then clamped down and parried Whitworth's consistent attack for the duration of the half. Instrumental in the defense was freshman left back Robin Hryciuk, who said that he was "happy to get the opportunity to go out and prove himself." In addition, he mentioned that he was "pleased with the way that [the team] recovered defensively from the early goal."

In the second half the 'Cats turned up the heat offensively, creating several promising openings. In the 75th minute, Willamette received its golden opportunity as McGrew played a clever ball just inside the box to cutting Shiluk. Shiluk was immediately fouled by a Pirate defender, setting up a penalty kick for the 'Cats.

The Bearcats chose junior defender Brendan Dineen to take the shot, whose bid glanced off the right post and out of play. At the end of the contest, Whitworth's mechanically efficient play was too much for the Bearcats, and they fell 1-0. Credit is due to the Bearcats for stepping up and putting the pressure on, as they led the shots margin in the second half 8-7.

It was a heated affair. The Bearcats were issued three yellow cards, all in the second half.

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next up

Bearcats v. Linfield @ Salem, OR Saturday, Oct. 9 at 7:00p.m.

CROSS COUNTRY

WU excels in Charles Bowles

JOE DONOVAN
STAFF WRITER

The Charles Bowles Cross Country Invitational has become not only an important event in Willamette's athletic calendar but also a note-worthy event in the Salem area. Thousands of people were in Bush Pasture Park on Saturday morning for one of the largest cross country meets west of the Mississippi.

The 36th annual event hosted over 1,100 runners competing in four separate races. Teams came from as far away as Tennessee and Hawai'i to race in a highly competitive field. The Bearcat women and men ran swiftly, competing among the best in the country.

"We really do have all the pieces that we need to be great," sophomore Teresa Edwards said. "We just all need to put them together at the same time and we can do amazing things."

The women, led by senior Kimber Mattox, placed 12th overall. Individually, Mattox finished an impressive 16th in a very competitive field. Sophomores Alisha Till and Edwards finished second and third for the 'Cats, respectively completing the five-kilometer course, placing in 92nd and 103rd overall.

The University of Idaho captured the women's title with 55 points. Finishing second was the Division II, nationally-ranked Alaska Anchorage with 95 points. The individual title was won by Miriam Kipng'eno of Alaska Anchorage, who completed the five-kilometer course in 17:19.

The Bearcat men's solid performance on Saturday is generating excitement for the post-season. Senior Ryan McLaughlin was happy with the teams fifth place finish. "We showed great depth that can be found in every successful team," McLaughlin said.

Led by junior Leo Castillo and senior Stefan Redfield, who placed 20th and 24th respectively, the Bearcats upset conference rival Whitworth by over 100 points. Redfield was ecstatic with the outcome of the meet. "Right now our team is the best it has been since I have been running at Willamette. Our whole team should be proud of their performance," Redfield said.

Sophomore Kevin Aubol and McLaughlin also had impressive races, finishing 35th and 47th, respectively.

The Portland Pilots – ranked seventh nationally in Division I – captured the overall team title with 25 points. Finishing second was 15th-ranked Alaska Anchorage. Marko Cheseto of Alaska Anchorage won the men's race, completing the eight-kilometer course in 23:18.

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next up

Mike Hodges Invitational @ Oregon City, OR Friday, Oct. 15 at 3:30p.m.

COLBY TAKEDA

Leo Castillo runs at the Charles Bowles Invitational last Saturday. Castillo place 20th overall.

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball leaves empty handed

MICHELLE LASHLEY
STAFF WRITER

It was a tough week for Willamette volleyball with the Bearcats losing both of their matches after a marathon effort through both games. Last Wednesday, they faced off against Lewis and Clark, fighting the Pioneers all the way into the fifth set. Then on Saturday, they forced first-ranked NWC rival Pacific Lutheran into a fourth set.

The first two sets opened slowly against Lewis and Clark for the Willamette team. The Pioneers were able to take control of the game with a string of small runs and win the first two sets. However, the 'Cats had a burst of energy in the third set led by sophomore Danica Reed. Reed served four consecutive points, including a serving ace. The Bearcats were on fire in the third and fourth sets, able to bring back-to-back victories by 25-21 and 25-15 margins.

The last set remained close until the final points, when a kill from Lewis and Clark and a ball handling error lost the set for the 'Cats. Willamette lost 2-3 (25-18, 25-20, 21-25, 15-25,15-13).

"We came out flat but really turned it up during the third and fourth games," sophomore Emily Compton said. "Unfortunately we didn't win, but I thought it took a lot of heart on our team's part to fight to get back in the match. They better watch out next time, because we won't let it happen again."

One exciting part of the match was seeing talented freshmen Carley Hargrave and Shannon Waltz as they energized the 'Cats through the middle sets. Hargrave ended the match with 14 kills while hitting .414. She added one serving ace, one solo block and six block assists. Waltz was equally impressive, adding 11 kills of her own and four aces. She had one solo block and one block assist. "The freshmen players are bringing a competitive mentality to the team. The level of the girls' play, returnees and freshmen alike, is rising rapidly because everyone is pushing each other to get better," freshman Kirsten Brehmer said.

The Bearcats knew that Saturday night's match would be tough. Senior captain Molly Blankenship said before the game, "Pacific Lutheran is going to be one of our toughest matches this year. They are number one in our conference and are on a four match win streak."

Pacific Lutheran University dropped the first set, but rallied to defeat Willamette University, 3-1. PLU struggled in the first set, gaining a .028 hitting percentage, but they came back reenergized, ending the match with an overall hitting percentage of .218 compared to Willamette's .109.

The Bearcats now sit 6-9 in the season and 2-4 in conference play, but even after this rough week, the team remains optimistic. "We are slowly figuring out how to work as a team, and as the season progresses we are improving in talent and figuring out how to work as a team, rather than individuals," Blakenship said.

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next up

Bearcats v. Whitworth @ Spokane, WA
Friday, October 8 at 7:00pm

Abe's Abs

Using the bounce for your belly

ABE MOLAND
COLUMNIST

Fellow six-pack seekers, I introduce you to the physiotherapy ball. This amazing device was dubbed the "Swiss" ball by American physical therapists after seeing the benefits of integrating them into exercise. Other aliases include the "Fitness Orb" (by Dwight K. Schrute and office workers across America after experiencing lower back pain and boredom at their cubicles) and "the funniest way to knock your friend flat on their back" (by male youth everywhere after trial and error). A "physioball" is a great way to change up your normal ab routine in order to procure a stronger core.

The term "core" goes a little deeper (no pun intended) than what I'm sure after last week's article are your now well-defined rectus abdominus and external obliques. There is a network of three subsystems that surround your spinal column in order to provide stability and prevent injury. The **passive subsystem** (vertebral ligaments and intervertebral discs) provides proprioceptive information regarding the position of your spinal column to the central nervous system.

The **active muscle system** (erector spinae group, diaphragm and muscles connecting limb to trunk) creates tension, torque and angular momentum to provide stability and functional movement. The **active neural subsystem** (involved muscle spindles and joint capsules) regulates the recruitment of core musculature and fine motor movement. The power of these three equally important operations united forms the kinetic transfer station between upper and lower extremity angular movements in any number of athletic or daily activities. A weakness or imbalance in just one of them can result in poor performance or even injury.

The physioball introduces the element of instability to a core exercise, forcing you to utilize the muscle and neural subsystems to recruit more muscle fibers during abdominal contraction to stabilize your core and keep you from embarrassingly flying off into that unsuspecting law student on the mat next to you. A recent study showed that after five weeks of physiotherapy ball exercises, both torso balance and muscle activation levels were increased compared to a regular floor abdominals exercise protocol.

A great Swiss ball exercise that will turn any core from slinky to steel by targeting all of your stabilizing core muscles is the roll-in. Start in the push up position with your feet on the ball. While contracting your core slowly bring in your legs towards your chest, hold for three seconds and then slowly back out to the push up position.

Repeat three sets of ten reps. This is activating all your core systems, as well as essential muscles connecting your extremities to your core, such as the hip flexors and deltoids. The further you roll out on the ball, the more intense the exercise. The exercise becomes more difficult, as you are extending the momentum arm of your lower extremities and increasing the contraction force needed to keep your core stable and injury free.

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ROLL-IN EXERCISE

ABE MOLAND

Sophomore Amanda Tamanaha performs the Roll-in.

OPINION

Matt's Musings

Amateur philosophers

MATT PITCHFORD
OPINIONS EDITOR

There are two fundamental concepts that I value enough to determine the majority of my decisions here at college. The first is other people. The second is the question, "How shall we then live?"

There are a lot of ideas, theories and philosophies at Willamette many of which come into direct conflict with one another. That's part of the wonder of this place. We get to try out our beliefs in a context filled with as many different ideas as there are people. And when I say, "try out," I really mean it.

I have nothing against the discipline of philosophy. I enjoy reading and studying philosophy as much as the next student. But when any study of thought becomes more historical than inspirational, it starts to lose some of its most important qualities. Thinking about life and how we ought to live it is never a question that can be settled by the memorization and regurgitation of what other people have thought.

When a philosophical or metaphysical theory becomes so obtuse as to be rendered nearly impossible to understand, it is extremely difficult to apply that philosophy to life. It's like doing mental jumping jacks. There is a lot of effort, but in the end you don't move anywhere.

That's not to say that the truth ought to be simple. Neither is it to disparage the work of intellectual giants that have preceded us. But it is definitely worthwhile to question the applicability and "livability" of any idea. What we say we believe can become so contradictory and cumbersome that we may even start to act in a completely different way.

We should all be amateur philosophers, in the most ancient and etymological of ways. Amateur is derived from the French, "lover of." Professionalism in the field of philosophy is a noble goal. But absolutely everyone should love philosophy – in the sense of understanding how to live life. Everyone should love discovering more about life, how to approach it intellectually as well as how to live it. Learn from the great, "professional" philosophers. But also consider what you personally believe.

Knowing what you believe is only one step among many. The next part is actually "trying it out." Willamette is a singular context. People from a variety of backgrounds and experiences and beliefs are all gathered in one place. We are setting trajectories for the passions and ideas that will make up the rest of our lives. It is well worth discussing, debating and double-checking your ideas at this juncture. This is the place to try to live out ideas ... if you can.

That's the question; can you not only articulate, but also live according to your own ideas? Do they relate to reality in a communicable and consistently applicable way? Can you be inspired by the ideas that have come before, but not be constrained by them? In short, your time at Willamette University is the best time to figure out what you believe, why you believe it and how it actually works if you can.

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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 (*lgold@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

Campus civics engagement

Student government is absolutely unique, as far as most institutions of power go. Because its scope is necessarily limited to a relatively small group, its issues address a relatively small number of concerns. Because it is built into and overseen by another organizational structure – namely the University as a whole – it has a unique set of checks and balances.

But that doesn't mean it's not without its problems. In examining this context, it's easy to see the methods of civic engagement that we were taught in high school are insufficient. For example, is it necessary to write letters to your representative when you can just visit your senator down the hall?

As such, it is important to recognize that we need a different model of involvement at this University. Individual students have the ability and the responsibility to engage, interact and participate with ASWU.

Since ASWU's processes are almost completely in the realm of a representative body, it is important to examine those processes in particular. Any discrepancy in such representative equality should cause us to take pause.

For example, the majority – almost two-thirds – of eligible senators and executive officers are in Greek fraternities or sororities.

This either means that most non-Greek students don't care enough about ASWU, that it's simply a coincidence or that there is a partisan problem in the election of senators. Whatever the case, there are consequences to this imbalance.

First, it gives the appearance of exclusivity. A student can be intimidated when seeking to enter a space that is primarily made up of students that have already formed relationships, voting blocks and precedents. Second, it can blur the line between the two groups of ASWU and Greek life, to the detriment of both.

They are, and should continue to be, separate entities. But, especially in the realm of politics, sometimes appearance is just as important as reality. ASWU recognizes these consequences and seems to be taking steps to mitigate them.

It's encouraging to see those actions that ASWU has been taking lately. The call for "transparency, accountability and representation" is almost a cliché one, but it seems that our current student government is moving to better represent its constituents all over campus. Especially in light of these steps, it is not our intention to bash on the Greek system, but simply to point out the fact that ASWU's current perception warrants change.

As always, the notion of governmental involvement and accountability is a two-way street. It requires the rest of the student body to engage with the process, affiliated or otherwise. If you are a student that believes that ASWU is under-represented, then you have even more reason to become involved. It's even easy to just talk to your senator.

ASWU isn't a pretend government or simulation. They deal with hundreds of thousands of dollars and craft policies that can impact the entire school. It is vital for all students to take an interest and become involved in ASWU, its representational ability and its power.

COLLEGIAN
EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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OPINION

Seeing Red:

Vinyl

CAITLIN PREMINGER
COLUMNIST

I am not hip. I'll be the first to admit it. I can't pull off scarves and American Apparel employees intimidate me. That said, I've recently come to really like vinyl records.

My discovery came quite unexpectedly. I was at a friend's house and she happened to have a record player and a fairly impressive vinyl collection. Previously, I'd figured records were like early CDs – different medium, same end result.

Then we put on Led Zeppelin's fourth album.

Suddenly I was transfixed. While "Going to California" melted into "When the Levee Breaks" I stared, mesmerized, at the record going around and around. Somehow sitting on the floor, watching the record player and actively listening, as though anticipating some expected event, just made sense. Why wouldn't everyone listen to music this way? I thought of how my parents grew up experiencing music and I understood. It wasn't even an "aha" moment; it was an "of course" moment.

It occurred to me that I was much more inclined to listen to the entire album, start to finish, instead of deciding one song was boring and skipping to the next. I heard the music in sequence just as the producers had intended, and it seemed that picking up the needle to listen to a different song would not only interrupt the continuity of the music, but would deny the album's wholeness. I began to think of the tracks as part of a whole; remove one and the whole becomes incomplete.

The tangibility of records has an appeal all its own. Something about sitting in front of a giant Rubbermaid and physically flipping through records is more satisfying than passively browsing someone's iTunes library. While MP3 files remain forever locked in your computer, a record is something you can touch. You can smell the cardboard jacket, pour over the liner notes ... or, in the case of "Abbey Road," search for clues regarding Paul's death.

Records are sensory; they are a medium that demands interaction on the part of the listener. Browsing a vinyl collection, taking a record out of its sleeve and putting it on a turntable contribute to a more involved experience – you are an active participant rather than a passive recipient.

I've also developed a fondness for vinyl's sub-par sound quality. Scratches, warbles, fuzzy background noise – all these imperfections in the recording remind me that the music wasn't created in a vacuum. It was created by people, for people, with the best technology of the time. A record's sound quality isn't perfect, but neither is music. Music is a product of humans who are inherently flawed, so in a sense, listening to music with imperfect sound quality makes the music more human and more real. Vinyl removes the distance between recording artist and audience.

I'm all too happy to plug in my earbuds and scroll through the playlists on my iPod, but for a whole different music experience, vinyl is a pretty sweet way to go. To those of you who have been enjoying vinyl for years – right on. Finally I can dig it.

Contact: *cpreming@willamette.edu*

Do you have an opinion?

Do you like to write your opinions down?

If you answered yes, then you are a perfect candidate for a guest writer!

If you are interested in joining, please e-mail *mpitchfo@willamette.edu*

OPINION

We are all the subjects of AES

MADELINE YOSTE
GUEST WRITER

In support of Banned Ethnic Studies week, I am writing to offer my perspective as a white female who has come to understand the important role American ethnic studies plays in the process of self-discovery.

I came to Willamette with a unique perspective on race. Having been born and raised in New Orleans, a city that is approximately 28 percent white, I had many experiences of being the racial minority.

From being one of seven white students in my middle school, to listening to speeches made by a black mayor, I was often forced to be aware of my whiteness. Though I formed many positive relationships with people of color in my communities, I was not exempt from the reality that I was living in one of the most dangerous cities in the United States, and what my white society taught me was that the face of that violence was black.

After personally experiencing different crimes, I developed a strong suspicion of these black faces. I did not want to be racist, but when it came to protecting my life, I would lock my car doors at the sight of young black men on the street.

These facts are difficult and embarrassing to admit, but ignoring them only helps racism persist. Moving to Salem and enrolling at Willamette, I left the diversity of New Orleans and became part of an undeniably dominant racial group.

Recognizing the lack of the thoroughly diverse community that was so formative in my early years, I was drawn to the Intro to American Ethnic Studies class my sophomore year. I expected to learn about history and to discover other cultures, but by the end of the semester, I had learned more about myself, and my own race, than I could have ever imagined.

To study American ethnic studies is not to study other cultures, race by race; rather it is to show everyone that they are subject to our society's race constructions and the systemic racism that exists. We wrote essays about not only "How did you learn your racial other?" but also "How did you learn your own race?"

Understanding my whiteness and its privileges was difficult but invaluable. I learned that participating in racism does not only mean the usage of racial slurs, but more importantly, it means accepting the societal system that makes it so easy for whites to succeed and people of color to struggle. Look around you and ask yourself: Do Willamette's demographics reflect the true population of our country? Why or why not? Can you accept this? This is the first step.

Fighting racism is not about being unafraid of the criminals in my hometown, but about understanding how and why those people were forced to be criminals in the first place. It is about understanding that this was not an accident, and that it is the result of a system that, only when challenged, could bring justice to our society.

By understanding how race and racism affect me, I view the world and how I choose to exist in it differently. I view politics differently, I view white culture differently, I view the violent criminals differently and I view Willamette differently. Only by studying American ethnic studies have I been able to understand who I am and how my life is controlled by a racism that is so deeply engrained in our society that we simply cannot choose to ignore it.

Banning ethnic studies in schools is only choosing ignorance.

Contact: *myoste@willamette.edu*

OPINION

K-Light's Insights

Foxy Fridays

KRISTIN LIGHT
COLUMNIST

I've started a new tradition, and I'd like you to join. It's called "Foxy Friday," and it's happening every Friday. All you have to do is wear something that makes you look and feel good while wearing it. Now, I'm not saying, "Please, wear something that makes you look like a total slut," but rather the opposite. I want you to look your best. I want you to suit up and show the world what you're made of.

Let me explain where this idea was hatched. A couple weeks I ago, I observed something. As a general rule, our school does not dress up. We've become comfortable with our jeans and t-shirts, our flip-flops and shorts. We've settled into this mood of extreme casual, as we adjust into our usual world of papers, midterms, exams, books, all-nighters, coffee dependency and all-around stress. In an earnest effort to try to be better students, we let our fashion senses escape us.

This got me thinking. The sororities and fraternities dress up on certain days to bring attention to the positive aspects of Greek Life. Choir and band members dress up to remind others of an upcoming performance. Sports players dress up the day before a game to hone themselves into a mind-set of professionalism and confidence. But not all of us are in these organizations. Our interests don't always call for the need to dress up, and we'll go through our lives without thinking about it.

This is a shame. The positive benefits of dressing up are more influential than you might believe. Studies have shown that students who dress up for class have higher confidence rates. These elevated confidence rates can even lead to higher self-esteem as well as higher grades. Yep, dressing up can give you that extra boost to help you out on that exam you were worried about.

It all has to do with attitude perception. The more positively you feel about yourself, the more certain you are of your work and the less likely you are to make mistakes on tests. Dressing up can give you an edge that allows you to feel more professional and act more professional when you need to.

As a school, we need a day to feel good about ourselves. Considering how much stress we are dealing with, we all need self-esteem boosters. This is how Foxy Friday came to be. It's a day to look good and to feel good, and what better day to do that than Friday? It's the beginning of the weekend and, no matter what your plans for the night are, you are ready to go. Plus, "Wily Wednesday" or "Sly Saturday" just doesn't have the same appeal. In the wise words of Barney Stinson, "Suit up, be awesome." We need to start feeling awesome. It's time, Willamette, to show Friday just how foxy we can really be.

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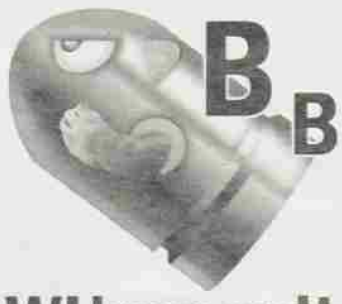
THERESA BAROSH

OPINION



B Bullet

WUmmunity: a study

KEVIN BELL
COLUMNIST

Saturday night I was at a party and, while it was definitely one of the better ones I've been to at WU, it still had the unfortunate side effect that many great parties do: being visited by the 5-0. While I rationally knew that there was little chance of being spoken to (let alone ticketed) by the Salem police, I still reacted instinctively by bolting through a blackberry bush to hide in a back corner of the yard.

Unfortunately, I was wearing my fresh new kicks and favorite jeans, which, while stylin', did a pretty poor job of protecting this columnist from the actively hostile embrace of blackberry thorns. Loss of dignity and blood aside, this turned out to be useless, as the SPD only came to the front, quieted down the boisterous Bearcats and then went on their merry way to do whatever SPD officers do.

As anyone who's been a student at Willamette for approximately a year knows, we have a unique and heretofore unexplainable relationship with the Salem Police Department. It seems that either law enforcement in Salem is incredibly lax (unlikely, as anyone who's attempted to drive in Oregon can tell you) or they have some reason not to ticket or otherwise deal with Willamette students for anything more complicated than speeding 20 miles over the limit in a school zone – a common mistake.

At first I was convinced this was due to "respect" for students working hard at furthering their education by attending such a prestigious university. Then, after I sobered up, I realized that that was preposterous, so it had to be something else. I worked my contacts up top, and this is what I've been told are the three potential reasons. Many Bothans died to bring us this information.

1. Pelton has an under-the-table deal with the government to keep the cops off our backs. If they ever stop following the terms of the arrangement, he will turn his weather control machine (which he uses to make it always nice on Parents and Alumni weekends) upon the Capitol building – essentially holding the state hostage.

2. Campus Safety gets jealous whenever someone that's not them busts a Willamette student for doing naughty things. They have established a détente in which they will not turn their mighty arsenal of walkie talkies, Maglites and golf carts against the woefully outmatched Salem Police in a gangland rivalry that could dwarf Mexico City ... but ONLY so long as they remain the sole arbiters of noise violations and bong-confiscation for WU students.

3. Mark O. Hatfield loved fratting so much that through clandestine legislation passed while he was in office, Willamette students have a degree of legal protection rivaled only by foreign diplomats who can, to the chagrin of Meter Maids the nation over, leave their ridiculous foreign cars all over the place.

I'm **Irrationally Irritated** at a politician, who recently [supported/opposed] a political thing that [hurt/helped] [me/my constituent group/minorities] and now [he/she]'s being [lambasted/fawned over] by those hacks on [Fox/MSNBC/whatever]. CLEARLY A CONSPIRACY TO TAKE OVER AMERICA IS BEING HATCHED IN OUR MIDST! RUN, TAKE TO THE STREETS, PREPARE FOR MARTIAL LAW, AAAAAAGGGHHH!!! It's the only reasonable explanation. But probably not; it'd just be too much paperwork anyway

Contact: *kbell@willamette.edu*

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

SEPT. 24-30, 2010
Information provided by Campus Safety

BURGLARY

▸ Sept. 29, 10:08 p.m. (McCulloch Stadium): An employee called to report a group of juveniles who were at the stadium. The officer arrived and the group tried to leave in an SUV with items stolen from the concession stand but was blocked by the officer's patrol vehicle. Salem Police was called and the five suspects were arrested for burglary. All of the stolen items were recovered.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▸ Sept. 24, 9:55 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): A student called to report that a friend of his had become ill from consuming alcohol. WEMS and Campus Safety arrived on the scene to evaluate the student. It was determined that the student needed to go to the hospital, and Salem Fire was called. The student was transported to Salem ER and the On Call Area Coordinator was contacted.

▸ Sept. 25, 11:55 p.m. (Beta Theta Pi): A student locked herself in the guest bathroom after consuming alcohol elsewhere on campus earlier that evening. She responded to the Campus Safety officer knocking at the door, at which time she was evaluated by WEMS. It was determined she did not need to go to the hospital and was left in the care of a friend.

▸ Sept. 29, 2:30 p.m. (Collins Science Center): A student had passed out in class. The student had given blood about two hours earlier. She was transported back to her residence room.

▸ Sept. 29, 8:08 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): A student called to report that his girlfriend was not feeling well. The officer evaluated the student and then transported her to the Emergency Room. The On Call Area Coordinator was notified of the transport.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

▸ Sept. 29, 10:00 a.m. (TIUA): An employee called to report that there were three small holes in the windows facing south in the second floor of the TIUA office area. Three silver BB balls were found in the area. An RA also reported that a pellet gun had been heard in the area the night before.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▸ Sept. 26, 12:18 a.m. (Doney Hall): Campus Safety received a report of the smell of marijuana coming from a room. The officer made contact with the individuals in the room, who exhibited symptoms of marijuana use. Residence Life was notified of the incident.

▸ Sept. 27, 11:00 a.m. (Doney Hall): During a fire inspection, items were found that had contained marijuana. The items were confiscated.

▸ Sept. 27, 11:40 p.m. (Terra House): During a fire drill, the officer conducted a check to make sure all residents were out of their rooms. Inside one of the rooms, multiple cans of beer had been left out in the open. The room also smelled of marijuana. Neither resident is 21 years old.

▸ Sept. 27, 5:56 p.m. (Doney Hall): During a building check, an officer noticed the smell of marijuana and found it to be coming from a particular room. The officer made contact with the individuals of the room, who exhibited signs of marijuana use, and found drug paraphernalia in their possession.

▸ Sept. 29, 9:45 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): Campus Safety received a report the of smell of marijuana coming from a room. The officer made contact with the occupants of the room, one of whom admitted to smoking marijuana in her room.

SUICIDE THREATENED

▸ Week of Sept. 24-30 (Off Campus): Campus Safety received a notification from a student that a friend threatened to hurt himself. Salem Police and Campus Safety met at the friend's house off campus. The student was provided with different options to help his situation.

THEFT

▸ Sept. 27, 6:11 p.m. (Goudy Commons): A student reported that his bike had been stolen from the area near Goudy. It had been left there unsecured for approximately ten minutes.

▸ Sept. 30, 11:49 a.m. (Rogers Music Center): A student reported that her bike had been stolen while she was in class in Rogers. The bicycle was not locked.

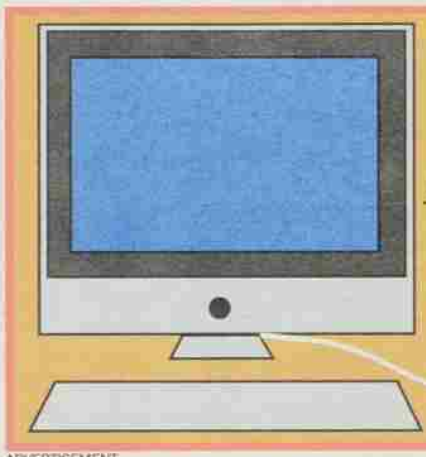
WEAPONS VIOLATION

▸ Sept. 30, 2:20 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): During fire inspections a university employee found a machete. It was confiscated.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON

▸ Sept. 26, 3:35 a.m. (Hatfield Library): An individual was seen erratically running around campus. The officer interviewed the person, who turned out to be a student. The reasons for the student's behavior are unknown.

Please contact Campus Safety if you have any information regarding these incidents:
safety@willamette.edu



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