COLLEGIAN

2007-2008 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE WINNER • VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL. CXX • ISSUE 13 • DECEMBER 3, 2008

"I think over time we're probably going to be less generous because you can only afford to be so generous."

MADELEINE RHYNEE, VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSION AND FINANCIAL AID

FEATURE, 6-7

"There is still time to prevent the Palestinian Territories from becoming the equivalent of a Native American Indian Reservation in Israel."

DEBBIE SOUTHORN, JUNIOR

OPINONS, 11

"[My art is] inspired by nature in an all over the place kind of way – animal work, natural world and also by personal experience."

PETER ROSENBERG, SENIOR

ARTS, 5

"Hollywood has managed to come through in a pinch and release movies that, in fact, do not suck."

MICHAEL CAULEY
REVIEWS EDITOR

REVIEWS, 4

"This is definitely a transition year ... it is very different this year and as such we have had to cut back on the overall number of trips."

DAN CATHCART, SENIOR STUDENT DIRECTOR OF TAB

NEWS, 2

Spring break alternative helps communities

Service learning trips take students across the country

JENNY SEWARD
STAFF WRITER

Service trips are being planned for this upcoming winter break and spring break through the program known as Take a Break (TaB). This year students, staff and faculty will volunteer in New Orleans over winter vacation and in Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and rural Oregon over spring break.

Senior Dan Cathcart serves as the student director of the program, which is in its eighth year of operation. This year, the number of programs being offered has been scaled back from nine to five.

"This is definitely a transition year," Cathcart said. "The previous director had been in charge since 2004 and we had to hire a whole new coordinating staff. So it is very different this year and as such we have had to cut back on the overall number of trips."

The increasing cost of airfare travel also contributed to the cutback and helped to determine the locations of the programs. According to Director of the Community Outreach Program Laura Clerc, when it came time to decide where to go, locations closer to Salem were preferred.

"With the economic situation, we looked at offering fewer trips that were more strategically located," Clerc said. "For example, tickets to Jonestown, Mississippi which is a trip that has been offered for many years were $800 to $900 per ticket, so it just did not really fall in line with the ideas behind the program."

According to Clerc and Cathcart, TaB programs are based on the four basic tenants of community, social justice, service and simplicity. The service projects are viewed by participants as a way to enhance one's spring break experience. "I think one of the biggest things that TaB does is it opens yours eyes to different communities," Cathcart said. "I went to Chicago last year and seeing the macrocosm of Chicago kind of opens your eyes to the little issues in Salem. I started thinking ... what problems do we have in Salem that are similar to some of the problems that they have in the south side of Chicago?"

Every trip offered has at least one, and usually two, faculty or staff advisors and two student trip facilitators who travel on the service projects. According to Clerc, though the TaB program is coordinated out of the Community Service Learning Office, it remains a student-led project. "We have a coordination team and a program director who run TaB ... so my role is as an advisor," Clerc said.

Senior Ethan Bancroft was a co-facilitator on the trip to Chicago and was also a part of the program in San Francisco his sophomore year. "The focus of our trip [to Chicago] was similar to San Francisco's, regarding a variety of urban issues such as economic stagnation, homelessness, hunger, HIV/AIDS and more. We were able to volunteer at a very diverse variety of service sites," Bancroft said.

Student facilitators are chosen every fall whereas the coordination team is selected in the spring, according to Clerc. Students participating in the trips for winter and spring break are also chosen in the early fall.

Bancroft became a student leader with TaB for a variety of reasons. "I got involved with TaB because I was very interested in service learning, and the opportunity of volunteering in a totally new city on a range of important issues appealed to me," Bancroft said. "I figured that I wouldn't be doing much of anything else if I simply went home, so this would be a far more life-changing, albeit not relaxing, trip. In terms of becoming a leader, I thoroughly enjoyed my first trip to San Francisco, so I wanted to give back to the program and take on a new trip to Chicago."

Despite fewer programs being available this year than previously, students' enthusiasm for all of the programs remains high. "TaB is a great program and very impacting on one's life," Bancroft said. "I am so grateful I could take part in this holistic learning process."

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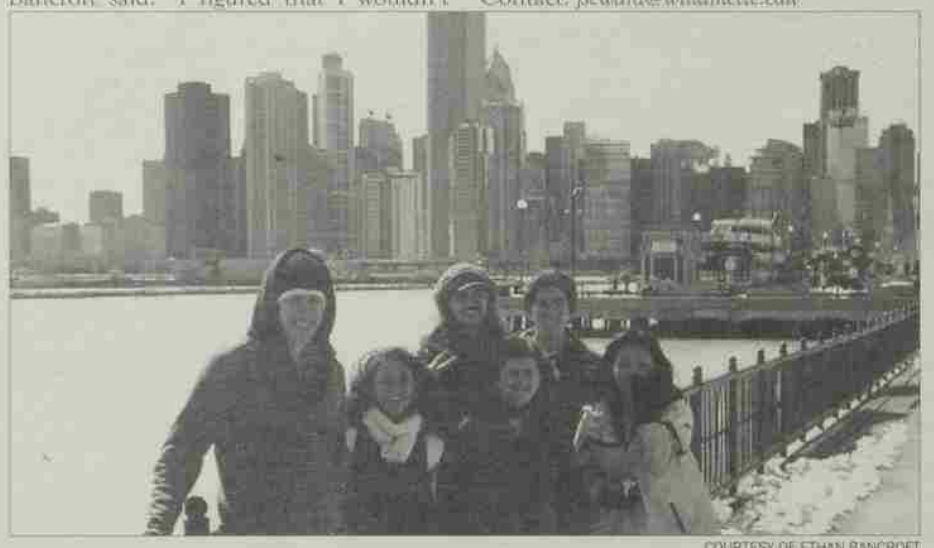
▸ learn more
For more information, visit the Take a Break website:
http://www.willamette.edu/dept/csl/tab



COURTESY OF ETHAN BANCROFT

From left, AGSM student Brian Nelson, junior Diana Serrano, '08 alumnus Sean Muller, junior Liana Walters, senior Daniel Cathcart and TIUA student Etsuko Imai at the TaB Chicago trip during 2008.

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

NOVEMBER 14 - NOVEMBER 27, 2008
Information provided by Campus Safety

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

▸ Nov. 14, 8:00 a.m., (Eaton Hall): The Campus Safety car was found to be damaged on the right side. The cause and responsible party are unknown at this point.

▸ Nov. 15, 9:21 p.m., (Shepard Hall): A second floor smoke detector was mischievously activated causing all residents to exit the building unnecessarily.

▸ Nov. 16, 11:14 a.m., (University Center): An employee reported that an unknown individual set fire to a paper sign advertising the annual Luau. The sign, which was attached to an orange sandwich board, extinguished itself after only burning a small amount.

▸ Nov. 18, 2:20 p.m., (TIUA): An unknown individual twisted 16' of tubing on the chain link fence at the northwest section of fencing.

▸ Nov. 19, 2:15 a.m., (Hatfield Fountain): It was discovered that someone put soap in the fountain.

▸ Nov. 19, 10:22 p.m., (Theatre): An unknown individual wrote graffiti on the emergency phone box at the Theatre.

▸ Nov. 20, 11:30 a.m., (Sigma Chi): An unknown individual wrote graffiti on the exterior windows of two residence rooms.

▸ Nov. 23, 7:43 p.m., (Kaneko Hall): A Campus Safety officer noted that a cover to a ceiling light, on the third floor of Kaneko, had been broken.

▸ Nov. 25, 11:15 p.m., (Sparks Lot): An unknown individual broke the rear window on the driver's side of a student's car. No property was taken from the car.

▸ Nov. 27, 6:15 a.m., (Quad): Campus Safety observed evidence that an unknown individual drove on the grass area and damaged a metal barricade on the north side of Rogers Music Center.

▸ Nov. 27, 2:00 p.m., (Haseldorf): An unknown individual "tagged" various locations on the west side of campus. A black marker and blue spray paint were used to create the illegible writings.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▸ Nov. 15, 2:34 a.m., (Kaneko Hall): A student was treated for overconsumption of alcohol. The student was assessed and left in the company of caring friends.

▸ Nov. 15, 2:50 a.m., (Beta Theta Pi): Campus Safety responding to a call found a student suffering from alcohol poisoning. The student was assessed and left in the care of a fellow housemate.

▸ Nov. 15, 2:30 p.m., (McCullough Stadium): Salem Fire responded to the stadium to care for visitor who had lost consciousness while on duty for a football game.

▸ Nov. 20, 9:19 p.m., (Kaneko Hall): Campus Safety responded to a call that a student was suffering from chest pains. The student stated that she was feeling better and did not want any further or additional medical care.

▸ Nov. 20, 10:54 p.m., (Kaneko Hall): Campus Safety responded to a call that a student was in need of medical help. The Officers treated a student for swelling to her right ankle.

▸ Nov. 21, 10:10 p.m., (Campus Safety): A student received medical treatment from WEMS after she sustained an injury to her jaw from "boffer club."

▸ Nov. 22, 10:18 p.m., (Kaneko Hall): WEMS initially treated a student for a severe migraine headache and then transported her to Salem Hospital for additional treatment.

▸ Nov. 22, 11:57 p.m., (Kaneko Hall): WEMS treated a student who was suffering from an elevated heart rate. The student did not require additional treatment.

▸ Nov. 23, 1:15 a.m., (Kaneko Hall): WEMS and Campus Safety responded to a call of a student who was suffering from alcohol poisoning. The under-aged student admitted to drinking an excessive amount of beer.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▸ Nov. 21, 11:15 p.m., (Lausanne Hall): Campus Safety Officers recovered empty bottles of alcohol, a flask, and a device used to grind marijuana in a student's room. The occupants of the room proved to be under the age of 21.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY/POLICY VIOLATIONS

▸ Nov. 14, 10:17 p.m., (York House): An unknown individual wrote an offensive message, about an employee of Residence Life, on a dry erase board that was located in a common area.

▸ Nov. 21, 9:30 a.m., (Atkinson): A student ignored a directive from a staff member and parked his car in an unauthorized spot reserved for faculty. The spot was clearly marked by a sign.

▸ Nov. 21, 7:42 p.m., (Smith Fine Arts): Campus Safety documented an incident involving two students who were observed to be drinking alcoholic beverages in public. The students were uncooperative and at times untruthful during the encounter.

▸ Nov. 22, 11:28 p.m., (Collins Science): Seven students were observed on the roof of Collins. The cooperative students left the rooftop upon being informed that being there was a violation.

▸ Nov. 27, 9:07 p.m., (Delta Gamma): Campus safety responded to a call of a suspicious person behind Delta Gamma, in the Shepard Lot. Campus Safety met Salem Police at the location. Salem Police, who had the individual in custody, explained that the suspect had wandered away from the Psychiatric Clinic at Salem Hospital and was just lost. The suspect was returned to the clinic for treatment.

THEFT

▸ Nov. 14, 6:50 p.m., (Sparks Lot): A student reported that someone broke into his vehicle and stole a stereo from the dash. Entry into the car was made by prying open the driver's window.

▸ Nov. 17, 1:14 a.m., (Hatfield Library): A student reported that an unknown individual stole her computer from the library. The student left it with friends while she went to the restroom. When she returned the computer and her friends were gone. It is unknown who took the computer.

▸ Nov. 19, 1:45 p.m., (Sparks Lot): A student reported that an unknown individual broke into her Honda and stole her car stereo.

▸ Nov. 22, 12:45 a.m., (Atkinson GSM): A student reported that an unknown individual stole the handle bars from his bicycle as it was parked and locked at the bike rack.

▸ Nov. 24, 3:20 p.m., (Lee House): A student reported that an unknown individual stole her bicycle while it was locked inside the common area of Lee House.

▸ Nov. 25, 7:30 p.m., (Shepard Hall): The Area Coordinator reported that an unknown individual stole the ping pong table from the game room of Shepard.

TRESPASS

▸ Nov. 24, 1:07 a.m., (Carnegie): A female was arrested for sleeping on the ramp on the north side of the Carnegie Building. The female had been warned on a prior occasion about trespassing.

▸ Nov. 26, 7:32 p.m., (Haseldorf Apartments): Campus Safety detained three individuals after responding to a "fire escape" alarm at the apartments. The three detainees were under the influence of intoxicants and found to be in possession of marijuana. The individuals were trespassed from Willamette property and turned over to Salem Police.

UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE

▸ Nov. 23, 11:30 p.m., (Matthews parking): Campus Safety observed an unidentified individual driving a golf cart in the Matthew's lot. The individual, probably a student, fled when confronted by Campus Safety.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT

▸ Nov. 17, 10:30 a.m., (Law School): An employee backed a rental van into a loading ramp at the rear of the Law School.

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

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Keeping up with 'The Times'

MICHELLE BELLUSCI
CONTRIBUTOR

In 2003, the university became a part of the New York Times Knowledge Network, which includes over 1,400 universities nationwide. Along with sponsoring speakers and other events, the primary role of the Knowledge Network is to bring free newspapers to campus through the Collegiate Readership Program.

According to Todd Halvorsen, Education Manager for the New York Times in the Pacific Northwest Region, the network is intended to serve as an educational tool for universities. "The New York Times Knowledge Network was created to assist educators with one of the most diverse, in-depth and informative resources available – The New York Times," Halvorsen said.

By giving professors access to newspapers for free or at a discounted rate, the program allows for their use in curriculum. "The Times is more than just news; it's material for class discussions, topics for research projects and the starting point for new ideas," Halvorsen said.

The program also encourages students to learn about current events from sources that offer a more in-depth analysis than internet sources. "It's another way for students to get news besides on the internet. There's something different about holding a newspaper in your hand," ASWU Vice President of the Executive and senior Larkin Smith said.

ASWU President and senior Richard de Sam Lazaro agreed that it is beneficial to have newspapers easily accessible to students. "I really think there's something to be said for print journalism offline ... we frequently will miss that in-depth analysis of news that we get from this variety of papers [because] we don't spend the time reading an entire article online as we do when we pick up a piece of paper," Lazaro said.

The Readership Program distributes free copies of the New York Times, USA Today and The Statesman Journal around campus every weekday for students. The university had previously offered free copies of The Oregonian as well. According to Smith, however, there were problems in communication with representatives from the paper that resulted in the end of the program with The Oregonian. The Oregonian also dropped programs with many other universities in the area.

However, according to Smith, contacts have begun to be reestablished with The Oregonian. It is hoped that The Oregonian will rejoin the readership program. "It's important to me, and it's important to students, to get The Oregonian back ... it's a great local newspaper," Smith said.

In addition to the Readership Program, the network also offers other benefits. Recently, the program has brought speakers such as Bill Bradbury and Philip Taubman to campus, and will sponsor a crossword puzzle challenge soon. "It gives us access to a great number of resources. It can bring speakers ... or any number of musical or current event type events onto campus," Lazaro said.

According to Lazaro, there is likely to be at least one speaker next semester, and possibly another crossword challenge. "We're trying to expand what the Knowledge Network can do for us that way, by running more programs," Lazaro said.

According to Halvorsen, the New York Times is an invaluable resource for learning, which is why it is important to have it available to students. "The newspaper stimulates thinking, stirs up passion and provides real-world applications every day, on every page," Halvorsen said.

Smith and Lazaro agreed that the program is an important resource in the sense that it gives students the opportunity to be informed about current events in a way that is convenient and free of cost. "The fundamental benefit is that it brings serious news to campus," Lazaro said, "[but] kids don't have to bring out their compass cards or $1.50 to get into it."

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learn more
For more information, visit the New York Times Knowledge Network website: http://www.nytimes.com/education/

Kaneko gardens: food for all

ZOË LARMER
CONTRIBUTOR

The university is enjoying the first harvest of its new garden, located in the Kaneko courtyard. Opening Days groups and other student volunteers laid the garden beds and planted winter start seeds at the beginning of this year. Now the plants are ready to eat. However, the garden has been in the works for a number of years.

TIUA Professor Tamara Smith and Professor of Earth and Environmental Science Joe Bowersox worked on starting the garden for years prior to its creation. Smith wrote a grant request for the gardens, as did Bowersox's colloquium class in fall 2007.

"Professor Smith really was the catalyst for bringing this to completion," Bowersox said in an e-mail. "She led a great group of students, negotiated thoughtfully with the administration of Willamette and TIUA, and got buy-in from all the necessary parties. Tamara worked closely with Dean Hawkinson, Associate Dean [David] Rigsby, and TIUA Executive Vice President Gunnar Gundersen to make this happen. This is really a tribute to TIUA and Willamette cooperation."

Getting approval for the garden was no small task. "For several years people have been trying to get a garden going but Willamette wasn't easily convinced," Smith said. "I thought it might be a different story here at TIUA. As is it turned out we still had to get Willamette's approval because they take care of the grounds, and we had to get approval from TIU in Japan."

However, the garden is now up and running thanks to grants from the Sustainability Council.

Sophomore Katie Rigsby is a student leader of the garden and is helping with the garden during its first year of existence. "This semester seems like a pilot program. People signed up for watering schedules and if they were there they could pull weeds or not," Rigsby said. "This fall we have had a really successful season for starting out. We have grown peas, zucchini ... broccoli has kicked off ... and lettuce and spinach have done well."

The food produced in the garden is sent to either the Marion County Food Pantry on 19th Street or the Bistro. "I think people like the idea of using local products, and it doesn't get any more local than products from our own campus," Bistro Kitchen Manager Melissa Magaña said.

Currently, there is a core group of students advised by Smith along with volunteers from both the Willamette and TIUA student bodies working on the garden. Here the language barrier that so often separates TIUA students from Willamette students is less of an issue. "[I thought the garden] would be great for TIUA as a place to connect with the Willamette students ... it is a place where less language is needed, where basic language will suffice," Smith said.

As for the future, Rigsby said she would like to see that garden affect more people in more places. "I would like to see it grow. I would like to see students to be more actively involved with [the garden]," Rigsby said. "Eventually we would like to grow enough so that Bon Appetit could use us."

Rigsby also said she would like to see greater community involvement. "Students from Bush Elementary could come and learn to garden here," Rigsby said.

Anyone wishing to become involved with the garden should contact Rigsby and ask to be placed on the list-serv of e-mail addresses. "Every Friday at two we are out there. It's not too hard and it's a great project to get involved with," Rigsby said.

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BEHZOD SIRJANI
Several heads of cauliflower growing in the community garden in the Kaneko courtyard.

learn more
For more information, contact Katie Rigsby: krigsby@willamette.edu

New financial aid opportunity for 2009

RUTH HEALD
CONTRIBUTOR

In light of the economic crisis, the university is offering increased financial assistance to undergraduate students beginning in fall of 2009. Students whose financial situations have been compromised by the current economic situation will be eligible for the Scholar Achievement Loan Forgiveness Program, which offers an upper limit of $2500 per year in loans. Loans will be interest-free and, providing a student maintains a minimum of 3.00 G.P.A. and graduates within four years, the loan principal will be forgiven entirely.

"This is a social contract between individual students and the university in which the university is willing to commit to additional financial aid ... if the student is willing to be academically engaged during the life of the loan," University President M. Lee Pelton said in a phone interview. "The university and the student share responsibility for the additional financial assistance."

The 3.00 G.P.A. requirement for the loan applies only to the year in which the student is using this loan. A student may have a lower G.P.A. and still have the opportunity to apply for the Scholar Achievement Loan, and as long as he or she maintains a 3.00 in the following year, he or she will not need to repay the loan. Students who are approved for the loan but earn a G.P.A. that is lower than 3.00 will still have the loan, but will be required to pay it back.

The Scholar Achievement Loan Forgiveness Program is funded through an alumni donation that did not have restrictions on its usage. "[The program] is projected to end in four years, unless the economic crisis extends beyond four years," Pelton said. He added that funds will be available during these four years for however long students need it to sustain their education at the university, whether it is for only one year or several.

Sophomore sociology major Caitlin Dilley appreciates the formation of the new loan program. "I think it's a great opportunity because families have been damaged by the economic crisis," Dilley said. "It shows that Willamette cares about students and their financial situations." She also said that the conditions of loan forgiveness are fair because "it encourages academic effort and focus."

Pelton explained that students will have the opportunity to apply for these scholarships as opposed to other loans that are determined by the FAFSA alone. "Students will demonstrate that their need has changed because of the economic downturn," Pelton said. A link to the loan applications is featured on the university homepage.

Vice President for Admission and Financial Aid Madeleine Rhyneer said in an e-mail that these funds will be offered in addition to but not to replace other loans for which students are eligible such as Perkins or Stafford loans.

"These funds are the result of a gift and have nothing to do with the federal loan programs. It is Willamette money that is being allocated to this purpose," Rhyneer said.

The impact that the economy will have on admissions remains ambiguous. "I am certain that the economic downturn is having an impact on family decisions related to college," Rhyneer said. "When times are difficult, it is a natural reaction to scale back plans and save resources."

According to Rhyneer, The Scholar Achievement Loan Forgiveness Program is the only concrete action regarding financial aid assistance for undergraduates the university is taking at this time. "Willamette is far ahead of other schools who are implementing cost-cutting strategies but not directing new funds directly to the students as we are," Rhyneer said. "President Pelton's leadership in supporting this program is noteworthy."

Pelton remains optimistic about the university's future in relation to the economic crisis. "I would like to reassure the community that we are fiscally sound and in good financial shape," Pelton said.

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learn more
For more information, visit the Scholar Achievement Loan Forgiveness Program website: http://willamette.edu/admission/scholar_loan/

Also, see the Feature section on pages 6 and 7.

MOVIE REVIEW: **The Year's Best Movies**

Batman punches his way to the top of this year's best movies

MICHAEL CAULEY
REVIEWS EDITOR

PARAMOUNT, WARNER BROS.

Robert Downry Jr, Harrison Ford and Christian Bale star in the box office hits of this year: 'The Dark Knight', 'Indiana Jones' and 'Iron Man'.

Well, another year is about to go by, and I don't think I'm alone in concluding it was a strange one to live through. We had one of the longest and most contentious elections in our history, terror overseas, the near-collapse of the world market, and most importantly, the unveiling of a new Britney Spears who doesn't shave her head and beat cars with umbrellas. But through all of this, Hollywood has managed to come through in a pinch and release movies that, in fact, do not suck, and they should be congratulated with a list. A list, you say? Yes, a list of the Best Movies That I've Seen in 2008!

1) "The Dark Knight": Well, duh. Heath Ledger's untimely death only increased the hype for this highly anticipated Batman sequel (what that says about people, I don't know). Christian Bale, Ledger and director Chris Nolan certainly fulfilled everybody's high expectations. Transforming the idea of what a comic book movie could be (does anyone remember Jim Carrey in his Riddler jumpsuit from "Batman Forever"?), "The Dark Knight" proved to be just a great crime drama in general, and certainly the best I've seen in a long time. And did "The Departed" have Leo Dicaprio overturn a humongous big rig through sheer ingenuity? I didn't think so.

2) "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull": The only movie I've ever seen twice in one night in theaters (don't ask) I was a bit confused the first time around and thought it was terrific by the time the second credits rolled. Yes, I even liked Shia LaBeouf's turn as "Mutt," which is not something I ever thought I'd have to write for a newspaper article in my lifetime. I was surprised when I then read all the negative reviews, but I guess I shouldn't be; nostalgia's a double-edge sword. People remember the original Indiana Jones movies as being the Mona Lisas of adventure films, a standard that is impossible for repeat viewings to confirm. The first three movies were a blast, and the latest installment slides in quite easily.

3) "Iron Man": You know what, maybe I'm just a very blockbuster-friendly guy! In fact, this probably ties with "Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist," but I just reviewed that so it quietly gets the boot. But returning to our subject, who knew Robert Downey Jr. had "action star" written all over him? Director Jon Favreau took a relative gamble by taking the brilliant actor and moving him into the flying and explosions genre as Tony Stark, but Downey's quirkiness helps easily pull this one out of the "Hulk" morass and into the "Spider-Man" stratosphere. The movie's also refreshingly grown-up, as the leading lady, Gwyneth Paltrow as Pepper Potts, doesn't spend the entirety of "Iron Man" pining for the man in the metal suit, but would rather match wits with him with witty repartee that could have been lifted from a '30s screwball comedy (that's a good thing). Really, the "Iron Man" film as a whole just sparkles, and in a world that is intent on releasing sequels to "Saw" every single year until everyone involved dies of old age, we could certainly use a little more of that.

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MUSIC REVIEW: **Kanye West | '808's and Heartbreak'**

Outspoken Kanye tries to hit the high notes in new rap-free album

LYDIA BURNETT
STAFF WRITER

Though it may be a bold statement, I still stand by my belief that today's popular music will never get stale, old or tired. I'm not worried. And you shouldn't be either. Why? Two words: Kanye West. Yes, with the release of his new album "808's and Heartbreak," it's clear that Mr. West is determined to singlehandedly reinvent R&B, and though his mission would seem tough to the rest of us, if anyone can do it, Kanye West can.

For years now, Kanye West has been the king of hip-hop. His songs have been featured on millions of radio stations, have graced countless mix CDs, and have been considered personal summer anthems by an immeasurable number of teenagers. His concerts are constantly sold out, and his public appearances typically turn into a mob of screaming people and seizure-inducing camera flashes from the paparazzi. The man's a musical genius and deserves the fame he's achieved. Now, his ego is probably just about as big as his renown, but what else do you expect?

Even before the album's release, his single "Love Lockdown" hit the radio and hit it hard. Though "Love Lockdown" may not sound anything like the bass-pounding, hip-hop hit single "Stronger," it is still wonderful in its own way. The songs on "808's and Heartbreak" are strangely simple and melodic, very different from anything Kanye has ever done before. Kanye has always been a fan of adding techno beats to his music, and this carries through to "808's and Heartbreak." But as opposed to cluttering this music with beat upon beat, it seems as though Kanye wants the audience to listen to his lyrics. Each song is remarkably clear and simple. You'll also notice that the new album has practically no rap and can be better categorized as R&B than hip-hop. Always outspoken, even in his music, Mr. West has changed a lot since his last album and so has his music.

Some may be disappointed that his new tunes are a bit harder to dance to. Sure, you can't envision yourself busting out your best moves in the club to "Love Lockdown" like you could to "Stronger." Don't get me wrong, the beats are still strong, but are typically coupled with slow, melodic moments of music. The songs are still catchy, but you'll have to be a bit more creative on the dance floor. I'm sure that Kanye fans will be more than pleased with his new innovative sound. If you're not a fan of his current singles on the radio (mainly "Heartless" and "Love Lockdown"), there are still a number of other incredible songs on the album. My personal favorites are "Amazing" (which features Young Jeezy) and "Robocop." Overall, if you want to keep abreast of the newest trends in music, you must check out "808's and Heartbreak" because no one sets trends quite like the king, Kanye West.

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- Highland Elementary is in need of non-fiction books in both English and Spanish.
- Books in Spanish are especially sought after because more than half of the students at Highland come from Spanish-speaking homes.
- Books at the 5th and 6th grade reading levels are also desired.

The Willamette Store is offering a **25% discount** on any children's book purchased for the Tree of Giving project, from now until *December 12*.

Donations can be dropped off** with any person working at the Circulation Desk in the library, or in the donation box at The Willamette Store, **from now until December 12.

*Please visit our tree of giving, located near the entrance of the library, and see the beautiful ornaments adorning it (one representing each book donated).

Contacts: Melissa Treichel: <mtreiche> x6018 or Tim King: <tking> x6772

Your friends at the Hatfield Library and The Willamette Store!

RESTAURANT REVIEW: **Soba Asian Bistro**

Not your average Panda Express

DANIEL WOSNICKI
GUEST WRITER

If you go out to eat much in Salem, you probably know that there is a wide selection of Asian restaurants in the downtown area. You can find Thai, Vietnamese, Chinese and Japanese food all within walking distance of campus. Wow. Let me make an aside to say how impressive that is. I harp on Salem for being boring as dirt after 9 o'clock on a regular basis, but downtown is like a petri dish for good Asian food. Hmm, that was not my greatest work with metaphor.

Regardless, it's true that you needn't traverse all of downtown for a variety of Asian cuisine. Soba Asian Bistro offers a range of Asian cooking all in one neat little package, er, restaurant. You can find it a couple of blocks down State Street and expect to pay $6-$9 per meal.

Let me make this clear: Soba is not like Panda Express. Your meal is not pre-made and sitting in a heated pan. It's cooked when you order it, and that shows in the quality. The other main difference between Soba and fast food is that Soba has a relatively healthy selection. The meat is mostly grilled instead of deep-fried, and a number of dishes come with a lot of veggies.

I wouldn't recommend going to Soba if you're looking to stuff yourself after a day of fasting and homework, or more accurately fasting due to homework. The food does not have a huge calorie count, and the proportions, like the prices, are moderate. Going to Soba on an empty stomach will quite possibly leave you unsatisfied.

In addition to the prices, Soba has a nifty little card that they'll stamp every time you eat there. After the ninth stamp, you can turn in the card for a free meal. So basically subtract ten percent from the price of every meal you eat. Now, you'd have to be a serious regular to make that card worthwhile on your own. I like to go out once a week, so it would take me about ten weeks of nothing but Soba to fill up the card. That's just not going to happen. It has also come to my attention that some *Collegian* readers are college students that don't have enough money to eat out every week.

Fear not, you can still fill up your card without emptying your checking account at the same time. A friend of mine and I have developed a unique system of sharing a single card to fill it up faster. When the tenth meal comes, one of us gets the free plate and we split the price of the second one.

So next time you're in the mood for Asian food, give Soba a try. Just remember to bring a friend.

Contact: *dwosnick@willamette.edu*

'Making the Way' showcases variety

BETHANY HUNTLEY
CONTRIBUTOR

If my preview article for Making the Way wasn't enticing enough to make you go, I am terribly sorry; you missed out on a great show. For those of us who complain about how nothing ever goes on at Willamette, the weekend before Thanksgiving proved us all wrong. There was the dance performance, Jazz Night, the Senior Art Gala at the Bistro and Up Top at the Coffee House Café.

Making the Way was fantastic. The dancers were all amazing, invested and passionate about their hard work. The performances had great costumes, props and music. The first piece, "Pro-Fusion," felt like a synthesis of ballet and hip-hop. The dance was very connected to the music, and featured umbrellas as props—super fun.

The second piece, choreographed by Virginia Belt with individual components from each dancer, was theatrical and funny. It was very original and unique and featured great music and spoken word. It included a Shel Silverstein poem, parts of Robert Burn's "Ode to a Mouse," a section from Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream and music from artists like Sufjan Stevens, Joni Mitchell and Wilco. The entire piece was a great reminder to connect to the people around you.

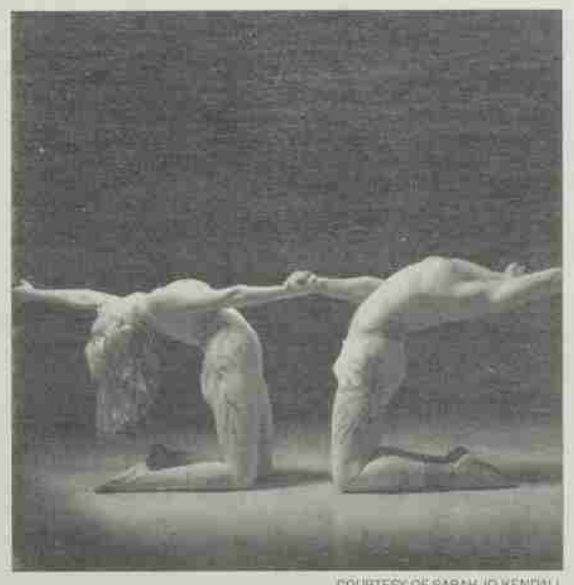
Probably my favorite part of the performance was "Dancing at the Moulin Rouge," which explored the underlying stories behind the dance forms that started out in Bohemian Paris. The stories told were powerful and the dances engaging. A striking performance was that of Lesli Okorn who danced "La Goulue" (the glutton). Her dancing was impressive and her interaction with the audience showed an obvious background in theatre.

One of the greatest parts about the performance was that it gave Willamette dance students a chance to choreograph their own piece. "Anatomy of a Cuckoo," choreographed by Tess Allen and Alexandra Ninneman, was excellent.

The most powerful performance was The Last Fall, performed by Amanda Washko and Aaron Smith. Performed to "Confutatis and Lacrymosa" by Mozart, the entire piece was breathtakingly impressive. It felt like a Greek celebration of the human form. Based on Rodin's "Gates of Hell," it depicted two people falling and landing in hell. The finale truly lived up to its title. Although it was a little too short for my tastes (I wanted more!), the hip-hop piece "Friday Night" was full of energy and brought the entire performance together.

Next time you're wondering what there is to do on campus, check out the events board and try something new. WU theatre always does a great job with their performances.

Contact: *bhuntley@willamette.edu*



COURTESY OF SARAH JO KENDALL

The talented performers of 'Making the Way' incorporated multiple styles of dance in each piece.

Gala for art's sake

BETHANY HUNTLEY
CONTRIBUTOR

The Friday before Thanksgiving, the Bistro opened its doors after hours for the senior studio art majors to sell some of their work. Planned by Lauren Lathrop, one of the featured artists, the Senior Art Gala was a great way to see some of the thesis work of our studio artists and also purchase some of their work.

The work for sale was all created by Willamette art students Lauren Lathrop, Susannah Kelly, Peter Rosenberg, Trish Khaler, Kari Clarke, Georgia Watson and Tess Milo. It was mostly current work in the artist's preferred medium which included a lot of variety encompassing jewelry, wax art, ceramic pottery, thread drawings, paintings, drawings and prints.

Lauren Lathrop is doing her thesis in fiber arts – textiles and sewing. Work in that method was for sale and it was gorgeous. Susannah Kelly had a great deal of work for sale, much of it from her time spent abroad in Italy, including figure drawing. Her pieces demonstrated skill in colored pencil, water color, acrylic and oil paints.

Peter Rosenberg probably had the most variety in his work. He said that his work is "inspired by nature in an all over the place kind of way- animal work, natural world and also by personal experience." His work has been described as raw, graphic, gestural and urgent.

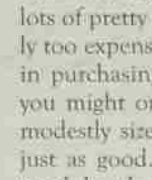
Tess Milo described her work as eclectic. She had three series including flowers and black and whites. Her thesis will be in installation interpreting today's social scene among the youth. Probably the greatest part about the work for sale was that the profits went towards a cause. Studio art majors end up spending a lot of personal money on their thesis work. Although Willamette reimburses some of their costs, it's usually not enough. By selling some of their work, they can counteract part of the price of being an art major. All of the art was reasonably priced.

Supporting fellow students is important, especially when it's mutually beneficial. I mean, who doesn't want to be able to say "I went to school with this artist!"

Contact: *bhuntley@willamette.edu*

ART HISTORY FOR COCKTAIL PARTIES:

Embrace the consumer in you



ALISA ALEXANDER
ARTS EDITOR

I'm not too keen on the holidays. You're forced to spend time with people you can only stand to see once or twice a year, you go broke buying them shit they obviously don't need, gain around five pounds from gorging yourself (which makes you depressed, and the realization that your ass is three times bigger than it should be makes you even more depressed) and by the time New Year's Eve rolls around you're too sad to leave your apartment and end up cuddling a bucket of Haagen-Daz and passing out at eleven.

However, if you're not like me and actually like your family and friends (and feel compelled to purchase them gifts), let me make a few suggestions. There must be, in any good family, an art lover. Now we art lovers aren't that tricky to buy for, you just need to know where to look.

First off, we love coffee table art books. I'm talking about those huge ones that weigh five plus pounds, have lots of pretty pictures, and are generally too expensive for us to feel justified in purchasing. But if you're like me, you might only be able to afford the modestly sized ones, which are often just as good. Here are a couple that won't break the bank.

Umberto Eco has compiled two astonishingly beautiful art encyclopedias, titled "The History of Beauty" and "On Ugliness." Filled with gorgeous reproductions, these books explore the nature of beauty and ugliness in a chronological and thematic fashion. They're also chock-full of excerpts from novels and poems. ANY art lover or Umberto Eco fan would love to have even one of these, and they are priced at $45 a piece.

Phaidon Press produces some of the greatest art texts out there. Their enormous "30,000 Years of Art: the Story of Human Creativity Across Time and Space" surveys just that—the entire history of art. This baby is huge, it has over a 1000 illustrations and goes from prehistoric to modern day. If you buy this book for someone, they will love it forever. It runs at $49.95.

Now, maybe you aren't into buying books, in which case there are other things you can purchase your culturally-edified friend. The website www.museumstorecompany.com has tons of fun and kitschy art-related stuff. Do they like Alexander Calder? Buy them a too-cute abstract mobile. Or maybe, you're really cheap. If that is the case, just take the easy way out and buy them a Gustav Klimt or Van Gogh coffee mug. Hey, it's the thought that counts, right?

I'm not really into endorsing people buying stuff for no other reason than it being a holiday—I mean, shit, a guy got trampled to death at a Long Island Wal-Mart on Black Friday. Does anyone need an iPhone that bad? To be honest, I didn't have anything else to write about. Plus I thought I'd give my adoring fans some Christmas gift ideas in case they feel the need to express their undying love for me in a materialistic fashion. Oh, look at me, such a hypocrite.

Contact *alexanda@willamette.edu*

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The economy tests Willamette fin

JESSE RIEHM
GUEST WRITER

Maggie Williams is running out of money. Williams, a junior, pays her tuition from a college fund set up by her grandparents. "I don't quality for need-based-financial aid in the slightest, and basically I have to graduate a semester early to manage to pull this off because otherwise I'm completely out of money" she said.

The amount of money in her fund changes every day with the market. "I don't know how much money I have left because that kind of [thing] changes dramatically from day to day depending on whether people are freaking out or not," Williams said.

She plans to study abroad next semester, but will be on a budget. "I'm still going to go; it's just ... that I'm not going to have much money to travel," she said.

Director of Admissions Teresa Hudkins said the university should focus on current students like Williams. Hudkins said that liberal arts colleges need to be fiscally conservative, and "if we keep that in mind and first fund the financial aid budget and then work from there, then we'll be okay with the students who've enrolled."

Madeleine Rhyneer, vice president for admission and financial aid, agrees. "I know we have an absolute rock solid commitment to our students who are here, and we're going to do everything we possibly can to help them. If their family encounters a significant financial problem, we're going to do everything we can to help them stay [in school]."

A few students felt the economy dropping over the summer, according to Rhyneer. Some families took pay cuts or lost jobs, and the university had to compensate. "We did see people who were impacted," Rhyneer said. "We were able to take care of them ... through the regular financial aid renewal process and [by adjusting] their awards."

To appeal a financial aid package, students go through the Financial Aid Office. Director of Financial Aid Patty Hoban said that every appeal is different. There's a joke among financial aid officers, Hoban said: "We get into the financial aid business because we like answering every question with 'that depends.'" The appropriate way to appeal a financial aid package changes on a case-by-case basis.

Hoban said that appeals generally come in the form of a written statement. The Financial Aid Office used to have a form, but it switched to a more personal appeal process due to the need to ask students more specific questions.

The thing that every appeal needs is the signature of whoever is making the appeal–whether it is a parent, guardian or the student. Another thing the Financial Aid Office needs, said Hoban, is "some kind of dollar amount estimate of what their current financial situation is."

> *"The reasoning behind the [Scholar Achievement Loan] is very straightforward–students are the heart of Willamette University and we want to help families who have or are experiencing financial challenges due to the global economic slowdown. I don't know of any other school that has taken this step, and I am very proud of Willamette for assuming this leadership role."*
>
> **MADELEINE RHYNEER**
> VICE PRESIDENT ADMISSION AND FINANCIAL AID

The financial aid department bases awards on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA, however, uses information from the previous tax year. Sometimes financial situations change for the worse in the current year, Hoban said. Students can ask for new estimates based on their current financial situation.

The Financial Aid Department needs specifics. Sometimes it is dollar amounts reflecting the change in the financial situation; sometimes it's the details about the change in circumstances. A pay stub is a common way to verify an altered financial situation. "We may ask for a copy of a current pay stub, to verify the change in circumstances," Hoban said.

The Financial Aid Office might even ask why there was a job change. An example that Hoban gave is if a parent follows a dream to quit a job and open a coffee shop, and can't pay as much as a result. An appeal under those circumstances probably wouldn't be successful.

One thing is for sure–Willamette is already seeing the recession. "We did within the first few days," Hoban said, talking about the first big plunge in the market this year.

"Each day after that, I received a phone call from three different families who'd never gotten financial aid before," Hoban said. The calls were mostly from concern of what the changing markets might do. They weren't based on an actual change in those families' financial situation.

"It's at all income levels that people are worried," Rhyneer said. "Often when there are economic challenges, it affects certain groups of people more, whereas this economic upheaval is widespread."

The university reevaluates financial aid packages for returning students based upon data submitted on the FAFSA. Students do the FAFSA every year, and every year they get new packages. If those students need more aid, then they can appeal for more.

"In general, although I'm worried for future students, I'm actually not worried about the students who are here," Rhyneer said. "Our commitment to them is solid."

Financial aid for new students may change as the economy affects Willamette. "I think over time we're probably going to be less generous, because our financial resources will only go so far," Rhyneer said. Willamette's financial resources are limited, and if more students need an increase in more financial aid, Willamette might not be able to help as much.

Hudkins said that it's a difficult balance. "I can't pretend to know all that is involved in operating a university like Willamette, and the admission officer point of view is often so completely focused on prospective students and financial aid. We admission people need to remember that current students have needs too," she said. "You have to take a broad look on how to help as many people as we can. I know that the powers that be are going to do that."

Hudkins said that every year admission staff refocuses how they sell Willamette. "We're always talking about what we refer to as target messages ... redoing brochures and updat[ing] information on the web," she said.

Selling Willamette is even more difficult with the recession, according to Rhyneer. "I think that what's happened in the markets has really eroded consumer confidence about everything ... and in environments like that, private colleges are costly. They're high ticket items for families to consider."

But Willamette may still be a smart choice. The difficulty that Rhyneer says she'll have is "explaining again why a Willamette education –... at times like this more than ever– [is] a worthwhile investment."

One way that Willamette is helping students afford to attend is with a new program, the Scholar Achievement Loan. President M. Lee Pelton announced the loan Nov. 21 in an e-mail to the Willamette community. In that e-mail, he outlined the basics of the loan, which will be available in fall 2009.

Rhyneer said in an e-mail that the loan is to support students. "The reasoning behind the loan is very straightforward–students are the heart of Willamette University and we want to help families who have or are experiencing financial challenges due to the global economic slowdown. I don't know of any other school that has taken this step, and I am very proud of Willamette for assuming this leadership role."

The university has a budget shortfall this year–$1.1 million according to Pelton's email–but the Scholar Achievement Loan comes from alumni donations.

"The money comes from an estate bequest, so it is 'new' money that President Pelton has decided to put aside to fund these loans," Rhyneer said in the e-mail. "I take it as a tangible demonstration of President Pelton's leadership that he is directing these funds to students rather than using them to shore up our budget."

The shortfall hasn't affected the financial aid in the budget either.

"We budget a figure every year," Rhyneer said. "We were able to help some students who need help, but we didn't go beyond that budget."

Hoban said that they can often help students whose financial status has changed. "My feeling is that a lot of the time, 50 percent is as quantifiable as I can make it, we can help them."

Rhyneer wants students to ask for help if they need it. "We would hope that students would come and talk to the financial aid staff instead of thinking, 'Oh, oh my gosh, I have to leave,' because we can't promise that we can do anything, but we'll do everything that we can ... to work with those students and their families," she said.

"We're going to help people who are here. This is an absolute commitment–on my part and the president's part," Rhyneer said.

In the end, though, it comes down to a formula in a Financial Aid Office computer. "It's 100 percent formula in terms of determining a student's documented need for aid which is why it's important for families to provide us with dollar

▸ appealing a financial aid package

Contact Financial Aid Office;
- -Use specifics if possible, and offer to show proof;
- -Describe changes in the financial situation, or why the package isn't sufficient;
- -Don't say negotiate (it sounds bad);
- -Sign the appeal.

Source: www.collegeboard.com

▸ financial aid applications applications increase

In Oregon:
- 23 percent at community colleges
- 7percent at public universities
- Almost 1 percent at private colleges and universities

Nationally:
- 16 percent increase

Source: Oregon Student Assistance Commission, from www.oregonlive.com.

Numbers from Aug. 29.

▸ where to find extra money

For institutional scholarships for current students, go to:
www.willamette.edu/dept/finaid/scholarships/
Free scholarship search website:
www.fastweb.com
Contact the Financial Aid Office:
finaid@willamette.edu
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3rd floor of the University Center

llamette financial aid

Achievement Loan] is very straightforward—
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school that has taken this step, and I am
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MADELEINE RHYNEER
VICE PRESIDENT ADMISSION AND FINANCIAL AID

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"We're going to help people who are here. This is an absolute commitment–on my part and the president's part," Rhyneer said.

In the end, though, it comes down to a formula in a Financial Aid Office computer. "It's 100 percent formula in terms of determining a student's documented need for aid which is why it's important for families to provide us with dollar amounts associated [with] the changes in their financial circumstances," Hoban said.

That formula is why the Financial Aid Office needs specific data. If they don't have numbers to work with, then the formula won't change it's answer.

But financial aid officers do have some control. "We have discretion as to what elements we would consider...but ultimately everything gets plugged into the computer."

The formula may need to work for the Willamette student who's worried about her finances: Williams. "I'm hoping that Willamette will give me money senior year so that I can travel as much as possible [during study abroad]," Williams said.

Even with that help, it might not be enough. "For a long time, I was resisting graduating a semester early even though I always could, but it's gotten to the point where the financial crisis is making me graduate a semester early," Williams said. "Basically, I don't really have a choice. I can't afford to stay the full four years."

Contact: *jriehm@willamette.edu*

▸ Willamette presents unprecedented loan

On Nov. 21, President Pelton announced the new Scholar Achievement Loan. According to his email:

–It will be available for four years, beginning fall of 2009.
–It is for the undergraduates who have been most severely impacted by the economic downturn.
–There is no interest.
–The student must maintain a 3.0 g.p.a. or better during the semester in which he/she receives the loan.
–The loan will be forgiven if the student graduates in four years or less.

For more information on the Scholar Achievement Loan, go to:
www.willamette.edu/admission/scholar_loan

Financial Aid Office website with information on the Scholar Achievement Loan, aid for study abroad, FAFSA, and more:
www.willamette.edu/dept/finaid/

▸ further reading

For more information regarding the Scholar Achievement Loan Forgiveness Program, see page 3.

▸ where to find extra money

For institutional scholarships for current students, go to:
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FOOTBALL

Unbelievable season comes to heartbreaking close

TIM WALSH
STAFF WRITER

The Northwest Conference's annual preseason poll picked the Bearcats to finish fourth in the NWC. D3football.com's preview magazine Kickoff picked the Bearcats third, 81st overall. The Bearcats play in McCulloch Stadium, capacity 2,400, and have won exactly one playoff game in ten years – two weeks ago against Occidental.

The Wisconsin-Whitewater Warhawks, defending national champions and back-to-back-to-back Stagg Bowl participants, were ranked number two overall by Kickoff. The Warhawks are 39-3 over the last three years, play in Perkins Stadium with 13,500 seats and are among the elite of Division III.

"If you drove on their campus and you drove on our campus, I think you'd be shocked that we play them," Willamette Head Coach Mark Speckman said.

But the Bearcats' Cinderella year and Whitewater's fluke regular season loss propelled the two schools onto a collision course that ended in a titanic battle last weekend, with the defending champs surviving a furious Bearcat rally to pull out a 30-27 victory. The loss eliminated number six Willamette (11-1, 6-0 NWC) from playoff contention, while the Warhawks advance to the quarterfinals.

"Close losses are always tough," Speckman said. "This one stings a little more ... We know we could have won."

number four Whitewater (11-1, 6-1 WIAC) set the tone early. Two three-and-out series by the Bearcats set the Warhawks up with excellent field position, and Whitewater cashed in with two easy touchdowns.

Willamette's sputtering offense finally kicked into life after the second touchdown, but Grant Leslie's fourth-down pass to Scott Schoettgen fell incomplete deep in Warhawk territory. Whitewater scored again easily, and the Bearcats suddenly found themselves down 21-0 just minutes into the second quarter. Two more Willamette drives penetrated inside the Warhawk 25-yard line, but a Leslie interception and another failed fourth-down conversion left the Bearcats with a goose-egg at halftime.

"If someone had told me that we'd make a great comeback, I'd have kicked [field goals]," Speckman said. "At the time though, I felt we needed touchdowns ... It was a debatable decision."

There were signs of life toward the end of the half when cornerback Ryan Bettancourt made an interception in the end zone. After a defensive stand forced the Warhawks into their first punt of the day to start the third quarter, the Bearcats' offense finally got on the board with an 82-yard strike from Leslie to Schoettgen.

The Bearcats dominated the third quarter, punctuating another long drive with a Leslie bullet to tight end Josh Lee, but the most critical play went Whitewater's way. Facing second down from the Willamette one yard line, Deon Horne was tackled in the end zone for a safety to put the Warhawks ahead 23-7. It would prove to be a difference-maker.

"We have a strategy for when we're inside the five," Speckman said. "As we were watching film, I was really hoping we'd never get inside the five. I honestly don't know what play would have worked."

Another difference-making play came on a two-point conversion attempt after Lee's touchdown pulled Willamette to within 23-13. As Scott Schoettgen attempted to catch a Leslie pass in the back corner of the end zone, a Whitewater defensive back appeared to interfere with the receiver, but no flag was thrown.

Asked if he thought there was interference, Speckman replied without hesitation, "Absolutely. The Whitewater radio guy thought there was interference. But what can you do?"

The Warhawks responded by handing the ball to running back Antwan Anderson, who carried the ball 15 times for 116 yards and a touchdown in the fourth quarter alone. Still, Willamette had life after a 27 yard touchdown reception by Schoettgen and a blocked Warhawk field goal attempt. When Deon Horne pulled Willamette within three at 30-27 with a little over three minutes left, the Bearcats were moving the ball at will against Whitewater's vaunted defense.

Unfortunately, they would not get another chance. Anderson, who had 269 yards on 34 carries for the day, salted the game away as Whitewater's line opened gaping holes in Willamette's defensive front. Speckman was particularly impressed: "I could average three yards behind that line," he said.

Despite the heartbreaking defeat, the Bearcats put together one of their most impressive offensive outings of the season against one of the nation's top defenses, racking up 509 yards on the day. Leslie threw for 285 yards and three touchdowns on 16-24 passing, and Horne ran for 124 yards on 20 carries. Schoettgen abused the Warhawks' secondary for 169 receiving yards and two touchdowns.

Speckman, however, was more impressed by his team's grit. "There was no quit in any of those guys. Our defense played gutsy ball. Our offense moved the ball against them better than anyone had in three years. But there's only so many bullets in the gun. What they have that we don't have is tremendous depth. That's what we need," Speckman said.

"But hey," Speckman said. "One thing we have going for us is that if you're looking for the best school with great football, we're the pretty obvious choice right now."

Contact: *twalsh@willamette.edu*

COLBY TAKEDA

Wide receiver Scott Schoettgen makes a shoe-string catch during Willamette's 30-27 playoff loss to the Wisconsin-Whitewater Warhawks. He scored two touchdowns in the game and gained 169 yards.

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Bearcats finish 27th at DIII National Championships

CHARLOTTE BODDY
CONTRIBUTOR

In what has been a season to remember, the men's cross-country team impressed once again, placing higher than its national ranking at the Division III National Championships. Willamette, ranked 29th in the nation during the season, and finished at 27th.

Senior Josh Clough finished 87th in a field of 278 runners. "This was my best finish out of four years running at the championship meet," Clough said.

The Bearcats were superb at nationals. "As a team, we finished two spots higher than predicted by the coaches' polls. Additionally, we were prepared, focused and had seven guys run their best efforts. The experience gained by the younger returnees will be invaluable next season," Clough said.

As for the rest of the Bearcats, freshman Leo Castillo placed 113th, junior Kyle Kotaich finished in 117th, sophomore Stefan Redfield finished in 140th, freshman Kyle Jackson placed 145th, and sophomores Nick Rebol and Ryan McLaughlin finished in 180th and 188th respectively to round out the team score.

After facing the toughest opponents in the country, Clough led the Bearcats to a team finish of 602 points.

As for his favorite memory during the season, Clough replied, "The way this team came together, both men and women, has been the highlight of this cross country season. The team had a great chemistry, and we raced as a team not as individuals."

Clough had some parting words for his teammates. "Continue the positive team atmosphere, it will lead you to success. The tools and skills are currently present; it is up to every returning individual to make a decision and commitment, come together for one purpose, and make that purpose a reality."

Overall, the season was an excellent one for the Bearcats. With team chemistry, bonding and teamwork, the 2008 men's cross country season was a success. After defeating multiple tough opponents again and again, the Bearcats capped their season successfully by making it to nationals and proving themselves at the sport's highest stage.

The Bearcats placed higher than expected at nationals and demonstrated that coaches were wrong nationwide. Even though the Bearcats did not bring home their seventh consecutive NCAA West Regional Title, they still had one of their best seasons because of their remarkable teamwork and comradery.

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WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Seniors lead team to #15 spot

TYLER THOMPSON
SPORTS EDITOR

The Bearcat women's cross country team went into the National Championships last weekend in Hanover, Ind. ranked #30 in the nation. The team came away with a 15th place team finish, besting both West Region teams by 39 and 67 points respectively.

Senior Maddie Coffman took fourth in the national race, garnering a second All-American title in as many years. Finishing just 22 seconds behind Bethel's Marie Borner, Coffman improved by seven spots on her 11th place finish last year at the same race.

"The plan this time was just to go out and run hard," Coffman said.

"It was actually really cold and no one knew what to wear, so everyone just made their own decisions," senior Jena Winger said of the race.

Conditions notwithstanding, the race went well for the Bearcats, with Winger bouncing back from a difficult race at the Division III West Regional to finish a respectable 49th, junior Tina Patel coming in 86th, junior Molly Lewis finishing 108th and senior Edith Polanco taking 148th. Also running for the Bearcats were junior Hannah Veitmeier and senior Ali Maki.

"I think we had expectations and we achieved them," Winger said of the team's season performance. "There were some disappointments and some things went well, but people achieved some great milestones."

The national race is much different from other races in that teams compete against not only the best teams in each individual region, but also highly competitive teams from other parts of the country.

"The competition really throws people off the first time, there are a lot of people, and they are all really good," Winger said.

Middlebury College won the national title, placing all five runners in the top 62. Willamette finished toward the middle of the race with 275 total points.

Emotions were running high for a team that has been led this season by a handful of dedicated seniors. "It's very odd knowing that that's my last cross country race. I've been doing it for ten years, and now it's over," Coffman said.

Going into next year, the team will have to replace not only two-time All-American Coffman, but also Winger, Polanco, Maki, and Mara Engle, all leaders on a team that will need to rely on younger runners in the future.

Both Coffman and Winger pointed toward this year's freshman class as the next group of highly devoted Willamette runners. "There are some good young runners on the team," Coffman said. "It's weird how much they're like us."

For this team, a successful national race concluded a season of ups and down for Willamette's women. In her final season running for the Bearcats, Winger's proud of what the team has accomplished.

"It's just a great group of girls ... and we've had the best chemistry this year of all my years."

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Men pick up first victory

ERIK JENSEN
CONTRIBUTOR

Last weekend, the men's basketball team traveled south to Claremont, Calif. to take part in its second tournament of the season, the David Wells Classic.

After two disappointing losses at the Duane Wolfe Memorial Golden Rule Shootout in Idaho the preceding weekend, the Bearcats went 1-1, improving the team's season standings to 1-3 overall.

Claremont-Mudd-Scripps and Pomona-Pitzer each hosted a round of the tournament on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 28 and 29, respectively.

In the team's first game, the Bearcats were bested 71-69 by Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. The opening half of play yielded fair struggle for the Bearcats and going into intermission, the team trailed 34-32. The Bearcats proceeded to take a strong lead in the second but failed to hold on to it in the closing minutes.

The following day, Willamette defeated the Pomona-Pitzer Sagehens 80-72, claiming the first Bearcat win of the season. Going into the game, the team was on a six-game losing streak dating back to the last three games of the 2007-2008 season.

With the initial half including several lead changes, Willamette started the second half seven points ahead of Pomona-Pitzer. While the Sagehens cut it close at times, Willamette maintained the difference by taking the offensive when necessary.

Junior Cameron Mitchell scored his fourth double-double of the season, netting 35 points and collecting 12 rebounds. Mitchell, who had previously earned All-Tournament Honors at the Caldwell Tournament, is currently ranked first in the Northwest Conference in rebounding at 13.5 rebounds per game, and second in the conference in scoring with 22.0 points per night.

As a whole, Willamette is ranked third in the NWC in defensive rebounds with 32.8 per game. The Bearcats are third in the NWC in total rebounding with 39.5 rebounds per contest.

At the tournament's close, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps had gone 2-0 and took the tournament's title. Pomona-Pitzer tied Willamette with a 1-1 record, while Oberlin lost both its games.

Mitchell, who's leading the team in scoring and rebounding, has shown the energy of a bear on the court, dominating the competition. The Bearcats had two other players in double digit socring: Kyler McClary with 13 points and Nick Babij with 12.

Friday, the Bearcats will return to California to play Menlo College in the first of two games this weekend. Sunday, the team will compete in an exhibition game against Atherton's Bendingo Braves.

Willamette is currently ranked eighth in the NWC, with last year's champion, University of Puget Sound, leading at 5-0.

According to head coach Gordie James, "the league this year is the strongest [it has been] in the last 22 years." As such, the Bearcats' defense is going to have to play a big role in their next outing, with the goal of diffusing their opponents to the outside.

Contact: *ejensen@willamette.edu*

▼ next up

Bearcats v. Menlo College @ Atherton, CA
Friday, Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Bearcats winless in Lady Yote Classic

CAMERON MITCHELL
STAFF REPORTER

The Willamette women's basketball team was in Caldwell, Idaho this past weekend facing two tough NAIA opponents. Willamette, led by Seniors Molly and Jenny Fillion, took on College of Idaho and Eastern Oregon in the Lady Yote Classic, hosted by the College of Idaho.

Though winless, the team gained a great deal of road experience and the knowledge of what it takes to be a successful team.

Saturday evening, the Bearcats were matched up against Eastern Oregon, a NAIA Division II school from LaGrande. The Bearcats started strong in the first half, taking a 31-29 halftime lead. Sophomore point guard Alex Zennan scored nine points and dished out two assists in the half.

But the second half turned out differently for Willamette, as the team quickly lost the lead and eventually was downed 68-48. Molly Fillion was the leader for the Bearcats, scoring 13 points and finishing with five rebounds.

"Molly continued to play well, with another double-double," coach Bruce Henderson said. After being named the Northwest Conference player of the week last week, Fillion is currently averaging 15.5 points per game to go along with 10 rebounds per contest.

On Friday, Willamette took on the College of Idaho in an evening matchup. The Coyotes proved to be too strong defensively, suffocating the Bearcats and forcing an astounding 42 turnovers in the game.

Henderson said that the game was "controlled chaos. They press you the whole game and it made us play faster than we wanted to."

At the half, the Bearcats were only down by nine, but managed only 19 points in the second half as the Coyotes pulled away. Fillon scored 19 points and added 14 rebounds and four assists. Junior post Nicki Clowdsley hauled in 12 boards for the Bearcats.

While the team is struggling offensively, Henderson wants to make sure that the team is always focused on the defensive end, saying, "we can't let our offense dictate how hard we play defensively."

The team has five more non-conference games and begins the NWC season on Jan. 2 at Pacific Lutheran University.

Contact: *cmitchel@willamette.edu*

▼ next up

Bearcats v. Warner Pacific @ Cone Fieldhouse Thursday, Dec. 4 at 7:00 p.m.

ADVERTISEMENT

OREGON PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

Congratulations,

Professor Richard Ellis

The Board of Trustees and the faculty, students, staff and alumni of Willamette University congratulate Richard J. Ellis, the Mark O. Hatfield Professor of Politics at Willamette University, for being selected as the **2008 Oregon Professor of the Year** by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

Since 1990, the Carnegie Foundation and CASE have named nine Willamette University faculty members **Oregon Professor of the Year**.

"What is truly astonishing in the undergraduate liberal arts setting is how Ellis has incorporated research done by students in his own work. In the acknowledgement pages of five books, published by the University Press of Kansas, Ellis thanks 33 different Willamette undergraduate students who worked as research assistant on those five projects. It is a rare undergraduate professor who has done so much to introduce his or her students to the joys and rigors of research."

—Carol S. Long, PhD
Dean, College of Liberal Arts
Willamette University

Oregon Professors of the Year from Willamette University

2008 Richard J. Ellis, Politics
2005 Jerry Gray, Economics
2003 Suresht Bald, Politics
1998 William Duvall, History
1995 Daniel Montague, Physics
1994 Arthur Payton, Chemistry
1993 Roger Hull, Art History
1991 Mary Ann Youngren, Psychology
1990 Frances Chapple, Chemistry

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Colleen, Cornered

Registration 101

Colleen Martin
OPINIONS EDITOR

On Tuesday, Nov. 25, something epic happened. I had a good registration time, junior standing, and some good luck. I managed to get into every single class I wanted without a hitch. I pressed a button, and it was all over. This has never happened before. I'm sure registration also went smoothly for many others, but for the majority, registration has been or will be a frustrating hassle that will leave some cursing the registration god as they watch yet another class fill up with hours to go before their time.

One thing I've learned from experience as well as an older sister who also went through college is that the cruel, red "closed" sign doesn't necessarily mean you should give up hope. In fact, there are several things you can do before resigning yourself to taking a class that doesn't excite you. The following list has helped me six out of seven times, so trust me; I am a scheduling expert.

E-mailing the professor: It is ridiculous how few people actually e-mail a professor, simply asking if you can get in their class. Taking a small amount of initiative can show a professor that you have a real desire to take his or her class, and it's worth a shot. Your e-mail should be respectful, understanding and full of proper grammar and full sentences. Remember, in real e-mails, "I" is still capitalized. This is not a text message, people. My e-mails had an extra touch of absolute desperation, since I am neurotic and easily stressed. I have a sneaking suspicion that professors felt so bad for me that they let me in purely to get my heart rate back down.

Going to talk to the professor: Sometimes, e-mail just isn't enough. The professor might need to see your precious face in order to be won over. If you state your case, show your passion, you might just get what you want. Or, if the professor wants you out of their office, they might just say yes to get you to leave. Either way, you win!

Attending the first day of class: Do you know how much shuffling around there is during the first week of classes? I had a class that was supposed to be full, but only 12 people showed up on the first day! If people are dropping the class, who do you think the professor is going to add? If you guessed "eager student with add/drop slip in hand standing right in front of him or her," you are correct!

Squatters: Even if you go to the first day of class, you may be told "no." If this happens, you have one last shot. I actually only know of one courageous student to attempt this, but it did eventually work out in his favor. He was told that the class was too full, and that no more students were going to be let in. Desperate to take the class, he simply showed up anyway. He participated in discussion, turned in the first assignment, and pretended like he belonged. Eventually, the professor waved her white flag and let him into the class. I have to warn you, this approach should only be used in times of dire crisis (as in, you won't graduate without this class), otherwise, you're just plain annoying.

Registration is inevitably flawed, and to be honest, I think it's a system past saving. So it's up to students to figure out how the system works and how to manipulate it. It's an important skill of college and one worth learning. So throw out your pride and you're well on your way to begging into the classes of your choice.

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EDITORIAL

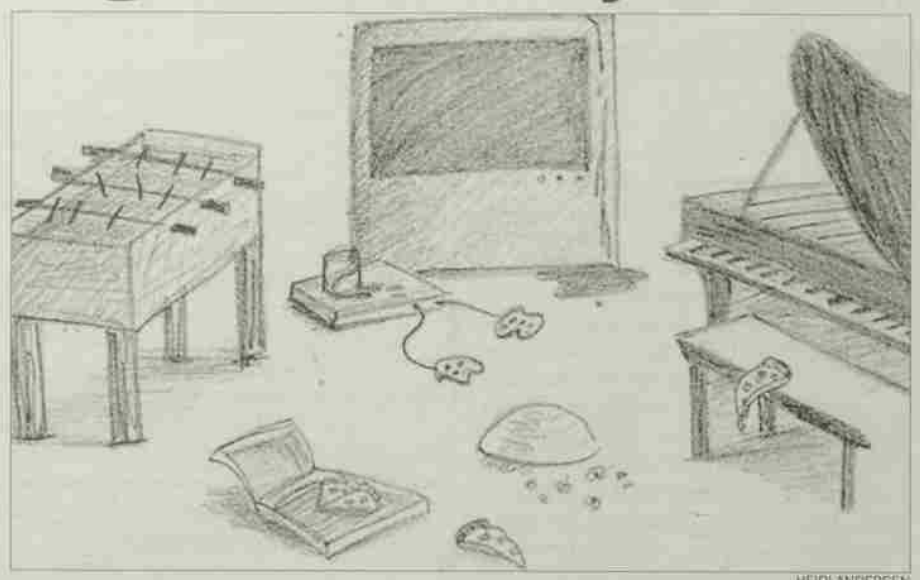
The little things that really irk us

We've all heard the phrase, "it's the little things that count." In the spirit of this proverb, the editorial board has decided to focus on a few of those little things this week. Our intent is not to be whiny, but merely informative in what we can all do to make a small effort in keeping our school great.

First, both students and professors can agree that the state of a classroom has enormous repercussions. More working markers equal more productive, happier professors. Students spend all of their time sitting in chairs with a desk in front of them, so the condition of those chairs and desks make all the difference to the amount learned, the overall experience of the class and the impression on prospective students. Furniture that is broken, shoddy or well used should be replaced.

Another one of the issues currently facing Willamette's campus is the one-way flow of plates, cups and utensils away from Goudy and Cat. Equal parts space-case-ness and malicious intent, this phenomenon nonetheless leaves Goudy fork-less during the peak dinner hours. Students of Willamette, we call on you to take responsibility for the chicken on your fellow student's plate (which cannot be eaten with a spoon, no matter how hard you try), and bring back all the utensils hiding in your room. No matter how they got there, please help Goudy facilitate dinnertime by returning them. And Goudy, we know it's not your fault, but could you maybe buy a couple extra forks to be prepared for when this happens?

An unsavory blemish is at the Smith Auditorium and Fine Arts Building. Some time ago, someone apparently had the urge to graffiti the building. They put an "F" in front of the "Arts" part of the sign—leaving the sign "Smith Auditorium and Fine FArts Building." Seriously, how old are we? Did a second grader climb up to that sign and unleash his or her sense of humor upon the Willamette community? It looks like they tried to erase the "F," but it wasn't done very well. This is something that really needs to be fixed. Think of the prospies and alumni who come here and see Willamette's Fine Arts Building.



HEIDI ANDERSEN

The dorm common areas are very popular hangout spots. However, though they are cleaned every day, there is only so much the facilities staff can do to make a dent in the damage that is done throughout the semester. People break couches, remove cushions, tear fabric and leave messes. Further, there are certain activities that occur in these areas (usually late at night) that simply shouldn't happen in a communal area. People shouldn't have to do a thorough inspection before sitting down. It isn't hard to clean up before calling it a night and reserving bedroom activities for, well, the bedroom.

Finally, one more problem on campus we'd like to see fixed is the ever-present noise issue. We are irked by those folks who continually have their stereos up, as well as those folks who insist on singing, yelling or chanting in those hours between night and morning. The causes of the noise range all over the place, and they are creating a nuisance on campus. It is their duty as part of a community to stop causing this problem. We understand your desires to celebrate, but pick a better time to do it. Don't forget: not unto ourselves alone are we making noise at 2:30 a.m.

In the end, while it's important that the administration fixes things that are broken, there's an even more important step: students need to take better care of school property. Many students treat school property disrespectfully at best, trashing it at worst. Anytime stuff ends up in the Mill Stream or stuff in Montag is broken, students are to blame and it's our responsibility to hold ourselves to a higher standard.

While it does sound cheesy, we are a community and we should act as such. Our actions influence each other, and damaging furniture isn't just disrespectful to the school, but to every single student who attends this school. While it's true that this is done by a minority of students, it's one of the little things that students have direct control over that could improve the campus significantly.

COLLEGIAN
EDITORIAL POLICY
The Editorial represents the composite opinion of the Collegian Editorial Board.

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IF I HAD A HAMMer:

Like father, like pilgrims

KAELEY PRUITT-HAMM
COLUMNIST

I am sure that over Thanksgiving break, you all were reflecting on the heroic story of our forefathers delving into new territory to forge their own lives away from the oppressive rule of the Brits. I'm sure that, as you forked stuffing and cranberry sauce into your mouth, a smile reached your lips while you silently thanked the Native Americans for generously sitting at the table with their invaders, passing the salmon/turkey, and cooperatively handing over the prosperity of the land as well as their way of life in America. But I bet you weren't thinking about the connection between you, Papa Jim and King James as you enjoyed the family dynamics around the dinner table, were you? Here's why you should:

Historically, the holiday of Thanksgiving was retroactively made a commemorative day of our country's origins by Abraham Lincoln in the 19th century, but the idealized tale of the pilgrims and the Indians gorging themselves together is what elementary school history books drilled into us as the basis for our break in November. We all know the story: Puritan separatists of the English Separatist Church fled persecution by evil tyrant King James I via the Mayflower, landed in what is now New England and were greeted by kind and giving natives who eventually "let" the colonists take over the show.

Thanksgiving is thought of as a time to celebrate the ensuing prosperity our country has enjoyed for the centuries following the colonization of America. We're pretty lucky that those separatists chose a fine piece of realty to "discover" and "share" as rogue refugees. Then again, that gratefulness necessarily includes one awkward "thank you" and apology to the Native Americans for committing atrocities against their people after a good meal.

In addition to celebrating prosperity, the holiday has become a time to celebrate our developed cultural value of individualism and diversity. Americans, particularly young collegiate folk, understand the good old urge to throw in one's hat, claim to be "misundah-stood" by the Man and the oppressive parents, and depart to far-away lands where the grass grows greener. At least for me, that urge roasts within my heart with special fervor while dysfunctional family dynamics dominate even the taste of mashed potatoes and an academic rest for four days.

Growing into one's own person and expressing one's own trademark self apart from the family is an especially important part of the adolescent stage of development. Now is the time for us to decide what we do and don't like about the past generations' actions, to develop new views of the world never seen before by our parents and to forge our own paths towards an even more prosperous and mindful life.

But as we come back from our retreat to the homeland, our appreciation for our own lives at school perhaps renewed, there may be a better way to express our individuation than nose piercings (although they are pretty fly) and genocides against an entire native population. Perhaps there is a way that we can step onto new academic, political, and social ground without stepping on others' toes too much. As we simultaneously give thanks and apologies for what our forefathers (and mothers and fathers) have left behind, we may need to question Uncle Sam, too.

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Letters can be sent by postal mail, email (nzaves@willamette.edu), campus mail or fax. Letters must include name and phone number and be submitted by noon Monday on the week of intended publication. The *Collegian* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

A MESSAGE FROM ABROAD

Thanksgiving weekend away from home

DEBBIE SOUTHERN
CONTRIBUTOR

Thanksgiving weekend. Twice in a row now, I have missed the opportunity for a big meal, family time and pumpkin pie. And twice, I have been relieved to avoid the ignorance and deceit that runs rampant at this time of year. The Pilgrims and the Indians were not mutual friends, as it turns out.

One was a violent occupier, a colonizer and an oppressor. The other was oppressed, annihilated and displaced. And now it seems fitting that I spend Thanksgiving Day leaving Palestine* because my Israeli visa has run out and Israel will not allow me to continue studying in the Occupied Territories. I give thanks for the time that I was able to spend here, the experiences that I was able to have and the amount that I was able to learn. But on this day, I also mourn the tragedies and injustices that have occurred with the colonization of the Americas, and vow to continue to work against the ongoing colonization of this land. Of Palestine.

In my time here, I have seen, and indeed lived in, the Palestinian ghettos that Israel would give Palestinians as their future "state." Thirty-foot concrete walls block out the sun in refugee children's backyards. Dying olive trees are kept from their farmers by barbed wire and electric fences. Bullet holes decorate the walls of living rooms adorned with framed pictures of killed or imprisoned family members. Checkpoints make travel nigh impossible and prohibit thousands of Palestinian Muslims from visiting Jerusalem (the third most holy city in Islam), even during Ramadan.

I have seen Israel prosper as well. Paved streets are lined with houses with lawns, yards and swimming pools. Modern cities are speckled with trendy cafés, yuppie malls, beaches and an unparalleled party scene. Off-duty soldiers go home for the weekend, intellectuals lounge in coffee shops, and bands play in bars. Orthodox Jews and groups of religious soldiers flock freely to the Wailing Wall to welcome the Sabbath every Friday evening, and the celebrations are especially lively on Yom Kippur.

Both sides have suffered, but one has power and the other does not. While one side enjoys the privileges of a wealthy, prosperous nation, the other lives daily under military occupation and the constant threat of ethnic cleansing and dispersal. It is time for us to recognize the reality presented by the facts on the ground and demand an end to the ongoing Israeli Occupation of the Palestinian Territories.

Thanksgiving is viewed by many as a National Day of Mourning as it allows us to remember and reflect upon the injustices occurred upon the Native American community by European colonizers. But let it also serve as a reminder to the ongoing injustices occurring to indigenous communities, both in the US and around the world. Today, there is still time to prevent the Palestinian Territories from becoming the equivalent of a Native American Reservation in Israel. There is still time to demand a comprehensive and just solution to the problem – which begins with an end to the Israeli Occupation. There is still time. There is still hope. And for that, I give thanks and continue to work.

COURTESY OF DEBBIE SOUTHERN

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**Note: Although the journalistic standard is to use the name "Palestinian Territory," the writer has requested that we use the name "Palestine."*

OPINION

A response to critiquing "sucky" Christians

KRIS SMILEY
GUEST WRITER

Two weeks ago, I, along with many of you, read an opinion piece in the *Collegian* that strongly criticized and condemned Dr. Mary Poplin, Campus Ambassadors and Christians. After going through it, I experienced two contradictory emotions: joy and sadness.

Being a Christian who continually screws up, I was relieved to see someone proclaiming humbling truth: that we suck. Unfortunately, having attended the Veritas Forum at which Dr. Poplin spoke, I was disappointed by both the way the opinion writer originally obtained and then presented the answers to his questions.

Now, I would like to give you some context. I have never supported, and still do not support measures like Proposition 8. My reasons are a mix of theology and politics and I personally voiced my disagreement in a conversation with Dr. Poplin afterwards (since her 90 minute lecture never touched on same-sex marriage or homosexuality). However, I would warn caution before swallowing the entire picture Mr. Eliot portrays in his article. His method of questioning was disheartening rude in its condescendence, interruption and word twisting. He asked real questions that deserved answers, but his article expressed none of the understanding he expects from those who voted for Proposition 8. He had an agenda to grind and he went about it in an ironic way, but I don't hold it against him. People are justified in complaining and criticizing Christians and their actions.

We Christians excel at hypocrisy. We might believe in giving to the poor and the oppressed until it hurts, but you'll be hard pressed to find a Christian Willamette student who doesn't own a computer, an mp3 player or other expensive materialistic items (let alone the tuition). We will profess a deep trust in God's peace, but we'll turn around and support wars that cause anything but spiritual or physical peace. We've had witch-hunts, crusades, inquisitions, pogroms and massacres. We've raped, slaughtered, mocked and tortured all in the name of a God we claim to follow. We're a miserable, struggling, divided lot.

It's been said by many progressive and liberal Christians that if Jesus were to come back today, he would hang out at bars, on the streets with prostitutes, with illegal immigrants, with lawyers and politicians, and with inmates on death row. I disagree; if Jesus were to come back today he would hang out with Christians – at mega churches, at the Vatican, at the Mormon Temple and any other important Christian landmark. He would hang out with us because of how often, and how horribly we've misrepresented him. He would hang out with us because, judging from history, we're probably the one group that has caused the most pain in the world.

So yes, Mr. Eliot, though I disagree in the manner you went about showing it—we suck. And though it may be theologically unsound, I would like to apologize to Mr. Eliot and to the reader, whatever background you are from, for our wrongful deeds. I would ask for your forgiveness for the hurt and injustice we have committed. Forgive us, please, for as someone once pointed out, we so often know not what we do.

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TOM'S THOUGHTS:

Don't bother me, I'm watching the science channel

TOM ACKERMAN
COLUMNIST

Hey readers, as you may or may not have noticed, this past weekend was Thanksgiving weekend. As such, I spent my time eating, napping, watching television and being entirely unproductive. Even my creative juices were put on hold as I diverted all of my attention to the "How It's Made" marathon. Thus, this week, instead of one of my usual witty masterpieces, you readers get my inane commentary on the facts from the "DID YOU KNOW" section of the most recent Toilet Paper.

Okay, let's get this started. DID YOU KNOW:

1.) Cockroaches can live for 9 days after their head has been cut off. *"Living" is a term used very loosely here.*

2.) In Cleveland, Ohio it is illegal to catch mice without a hunting license. *But they do sell moose traps for your home or garden. Gotta keep those pesky 1200 pound vermin at bay, otherwise they'll procreate and soon your whole house will be overrun with moose.*

3.) Donald Duck comics were banned in Finland because he doesn't wear pants. *This led to Finland being kicked out of the U.N., an organization that, if nothing else, enjoys its cartoons.*

4.) Coca-Cola was originally green. *And Dr. Pepper was originally an ophthalmologist.*

5.) If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days, you would have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee. *And boy would that cup of coffee hurt on the way down after all that yelling.*

6.) Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the U.S. Treasury. *Oh man, what if the government started issuing "Chance" cards? That'd be rad. And maybe I could start driving around in a giant chrome top hat...*

7.) 80% of millionaires drive used cars. *But a mere 0.002% of millionaires purchase and wear used underpants.*

8.) 90% of women who walk into a department store immediately turn to the right. *But the 10% of radical leftists are making their voices heard, thanks in part to Barack Obama.*

9.) Mosquitoes have 47 teeth. *Hacksaws have well over 100 teeth, and most hockey players have 3 teeth, but only one of these groups can give you malaria.*

10.) -40 degrees Celsius is equal to -40 degrees Fahrenheit. *Both of these are equal to 3 degrees Kelvin, but nobody uses the Kelvin scale. Not even Kelvin.*

11.) The U.S. army packs Tabasco pepper sauce in every ration kit that they give to soldiers. *Are the armed services really into product placement now? WANT TO ACCELERATE YOUR LIFE?! JOIN THE NAVY AND DRINK POWERADE!!!*

12.) Apples are more effective at keeping people awake in the morning than caffeine. *I've actually found the opposite to be true in my studies. See, an apple a day keeps the doctor away, so if I don't eat any apples in the morning, I'm forced to be constantly alert to make sure that no doctors get too close to me.*

Well, that's all I have for you. I hope you all had a good Thanksgiving weekend, 'cause now it's time to start preparing for all those superfun finals!

Contact: *tackerma@willamette.edu*

Want to work for the Collegian?

We are now hiring the following positions for Spring 2009:
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In addition, applications for the 2009-2010 editor in chief are now open. The deadline for submission is Monday, Dec. 8.

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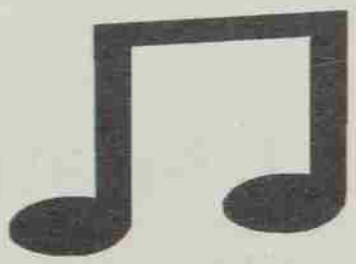

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