

Feature

Don't be a trailer. Get ahead of the game and check out this semester's film studies screenings.

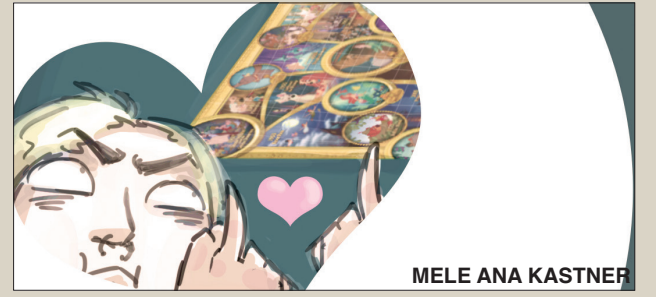
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Opinions

2015: Be proud of all the little accomplishments, because the big stuff is sure to crush you.

P. 10



THE WILLAMETTE COLLEGIAN

WINNER OF 21 2013-2014 ONPA AWARDS • VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL CXXV • ISSUE 15 • JANUARY 28, 2015

NEWS



'A larger fight for equality'

Beginning Jan. 19, students, staff and faculty organized programs and events to honor the legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee Chair Gordy Toyama said that the week-long celebration should honor the past and educate the community on civil rights.

See 200 GO 'INTO THE STREETS,' Page 2

EDITORIAL

Occupy Hatfield

Students gathered on the first floor of the library were disrupted last semester, after a crowd protesting police brutality occupied the building, chanting slogans and delivering impromptu speeches before rallying across the street at the Capitol.

The Statesman Journal estimated that over 60 protesters affiliated with Don't Shoot Portland marched through campus on Dec. 10, one day before the start of final examinations for undergraduates.

Campus Safety officers and other University officials appeared in the Mark O. Hatfield library during the event, but did not interfere or attempt to trespass members of the off-campus organization as they spoke for over a half hour.

Students sat impassively at group study tables, remaining mostly silent during the extemporaneous event. Later, when asked if they had heard about the deaths of Michael Brown or Eric Garner, most students present did not answer.

What follows is a transcription of the first address, given by a man who identified himself as Marcus Cooper.

[Protesters: Hands up! Don't Shoot!]

[Protesters: Mic Check! Mic Check!]
Marcus Cooper: This is my

question: Yes, we're interrupting your sessions, we're interrupting your labs. My question to you, which you don't have to answer now, is this: Do you know what is happening outside these walls? Do you know what is happening miles away from here?

What happened in Ferguson wasn't the first time.

[Someone in the crowd: Definitely not the last time.]

But it's the first time that a majority of you are waking up. When I say ya'll, I'm not talking about just white people. I'm talking about people who are asleep.

Do we all sleep? Excuse me, do we all sleep?

Fellow students: I'm a double major from Alabama State. I studied psychology and mental health. My question to you is this: Is there a difference between me killing somebody, and me robbing a store for some gum? Either way it's a crime, correct?

Is it in my power to shoot you for that crime? Can I kill you because you stole some gum? But should I still kill you because of any other crime? Who determines your life? Who has power over your life?

See YOU'RE DEAD, Page 10

SPORTS

Men's basketball on the rise

EVAN GIDDING
STAFF WRITER

Over the winter break, the men's basketball team quietly—but definitely—positioned themselves right in the middle of the Northwest Conference race, winning four of their last six games.

After dropping their first two conference games to undefeated Whitworth University on Jan. 2 and currently second-placed Whitman College on Jan. 3, the Bearcats bounced back in dramatic fashion, beating University of Puget Sound in overtime 84-77 on Jan. 9.

The win was truly a team effort as six members of the team scored double-digit points; junior wing Bridger Harlington, who dropped 14 points throughout the game, typified the team spirit of this season's Willamette squad.

"It's a big advantage for us to have as many guys as we do that can step up and make plays when their number is called,"

he said. "After losing senior captain Alex Brown early in the season to a knee injury, we came together as a team and knew that everyone would have to step up in order to fill that void."

However, despite losing a captain, the 'Cats also got one back. The UPS game marked the return of junior post Bubba Luedtke, the current NWC leader in rebounds per game, averaging 9.2, who missed some of the season recovering from a back injury.

Willamette's next win would come the very next night, on Jan. 10, as the 'Cats toppled George Fox University 75-72 behind freshman wing Nico Troplent's team-high of 19 points.

The game against the Bruins came down to the wire, but Willamette was able to take the game when freshman guard Brendon McCullough sunk two free throws with 25 seconds left in regulation to give his team a 4-point lead.

See BASKETBALL, Page 8

LIFESTYLES

Downtown gets sweeter

CHRISTINE SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Downtown Salem recently got a sugary addition with the December opening of Ricky's Bubbles & Sweets Shoppe.

With every step, I was overwhelmed by the pops of color and almost unbearable sense of nostalgia. I lunged for a Mars Bar, rushed over to the pucker powder station and then

stopped in my tracks when faced with Hot Tamale and Sugar Daddy candies bigger than my head.

There is hardly any white space, yet the well-organized shop keeps it entertaining to the eye without making your brain hurt. Every table and shelf is lined with sweet treats and novelties like old-fashioned sodas and chocolate boyfriends.

See CANDY, Page 5



Alongside their candy, Ricky's also sells socks, soap and other fun items.



BRIEFS

After a closed-door meeting with attorney Walter Todd and Judge Vance Day, Deputy District Attorney Doug Hanson said that they are still gathering information in the case of Beau Smith, a former Willamette student currently charged in the murder of a Salem man. Another status conference has been set for Feb. 4.

The new group of students participating in the American Studies Program from Tokyo International University of America will arrive on Monday, Feb. 2. There are 132 students in this year's class from Japan and China.

The *Collegian* has finished hiring for the spring semester. Junior Andrew Mell will be the business manager, freshman Daniella Kim will be the social media manager and senior Robin Thorson will be the distributor.

Got tips? Email News Editor Bronte Dod <bdod>.

200 go 'Into the Streets'

KATIE DOBBS
STAFF WRITER

In his 1947 paper titled "The Purpose Of Education," the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote, "Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education."

From Jan. 19 to 26, the MLK week planning committee has put on a series of events focused on the theme "Life Interrupted: A Look at Displaced Communities."

Gordy Toyama is the chair of the MLK week committee and director of multicultural Affairs. He told the *Collegian* that the programs and events of MLK week try to honor the past, educate the community and tie in civil rights and dialogue.

"Our hope is that people recognize that Martin Luther King was the figurehead of the civil rights movement, but the success of the movement is because of the people," Toyama said.

Japanese Americans interned during World War II is one of the communities this year's MLK week addressed.

On Jan. 23, painter and printmaker Roger Shimomura discussed the effects of internment on himself and his



KELLIE STANDISH

Afternoon classes were canceled on Friday, Jan. 23, and students used the time to volunteer in the community in honor of MLK week.

family during his talk "An American Diary" in Hudson Concert Hall.

Shimomura shared with the audience that much of the inspiration behind the works, such as "Minidoka on My Mind," was the experience of internment. The name references the camp in Idaho where his family was sent. It was found in the diaries of his grandmother, which span 56 years, beginning with the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor and continue as a record of her life through her internment and after.

"It's good to look at all groups that have been under-represented. Martin Luther King is about being there for

each other," senior and Into The Streets student coordinator Summer Elias said.

Over 200 volunteers participated in the community service day on Jan. 23. Volunteers were sent in groups to various locations in the Salem area. The smallest group of 18 went to Union Gospel Mission to organize donations and work in the kitchen. The largest group of 60 sorted books for the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation.

Elias points out that education is a key aspect of Into The Streets and MLK Week.

"You can't just have an event," Elias said. "Into the Streets gives students a taste of the needs in the commu-

nity and allows them to connect with the community."

Other events included the MLK Food Drive: Feed the Dream, during which donations were collected throughout the week and at the men's basketball game versus Linfield College. Linfield was contacted and encouraged to bring donations to the game in exchange for free tickets.

More events will continue into this week. The focus of Thursday's University Convocation will prepare for historian Edward Baptist's upcoming lecture by discussing the opening chapter of his book "The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism."

"My sense is that it was understood that what Martin Luther King, Jr. stood for was the struggle for social justice in the United States," Professor of History Seth Cotlar said. Cotlar is the chair of the American ethnic studies program and a member of the MLK week committee.

"He understood the African-American struggle for human rights as a larger fight for equality," Cotlar said.

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University sets \$100M goal for endowment fundraiser

JOSEPH LINDBLOM-MASUWALE
CONTRIBUTOR

Last semester, Monica Rimai, the senior vice president for finance and administration, spoke to ASWU about hiring a new firm to manage the University's endowment.

In January, they hired Global Endowment Management, LP for the position of chief investment officer.

The endowment is funds used to ensure that the University can keep

functioning in times of financial stress. It consists of donations as well as investments in the stock market.

"When we think about endowments, we think about the

long term. We think about investment strategies," Rimai said. "It is almost like a safety net in some regards, but in other regards it's really the thing that allows the institution to know that it has the ability to persist."

Currently, Willamette has an endowment of \$214 million. In comparison, Whitman College's endowment is almost \$445 million. Lewis & Clark College has an endowment of \$230 million. University of Puget Sound's endowment is \$320 million.

Vice President for Advancement Dennis Bergvall

said that Willamette hopes to begin a fundraising campaign later this year that is expected to increase the endowment substantially.

"As we gear up for this fundraising campaign, which will probably be north of \$100 million in terms of what we intend to raise, there will be a lot of exciting things we will be seeking funding for," Bergvall said.

Some gifts to the endowment are restricted, meaning that the donor specifies that

"[The endowment] is almost like a safety net in some regards, but in other regards it's really the thing that allows the institution to know that it has the ability to persist."

Monica Rimai
Senior Vice President of Finance and Admin.

their money go to a particular department, organization or to a specific purpose. The unrestricted portion is used to provide money for student scholarships and endowed chairs for professors, with a small portion dedicated to underwriting the cost of running the University.

Though the endowment can seem monolithic, properly managing its expenditure to ensure a long-term revenue stream requires strategizing on the part of Rimai, members of the administration and the board of trustees.

The 2008-2009 economic cri-

sis in particular put a tremendous strain on the endowment, administrators say.

The income from the endowment was declining because the stock market was declining, according to Rimai. "There were all kinds of financial challenges, and in an effort to shield staff, faculty and students from those negative impacts the board made a decision to increase the amount of income that we were spending from the endowment," she said.

The increased spending from the endowment during those years helped get the school through the crisis, but was ultimately unsustainable.

"It was a smart temporary solution to help protect the institution, but it was not a sustainable increase, because if we kept spending at that rate eventually we were going to substantially decrease the amount that's in the endowment and then undermine that sort of 'here forever' concept," Rimai said.

The board of trustees decided to incrementally lower the spending rate.

Bergvall said that by hiring a new company to manage the investments, the University hopes to "increase returns."

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FC makes hiring recommendation

EMILY HOARD
STAFF WRITER

The University's faculty council has finished reviewing the files for hiring tenure-track professors and promoting long-term instructors who are not on a tenure-track. The recommendations will be sent through the administration before being evaluated by the board of trustees.

The part-time continuing non-tenure track position was created in May 2014 as a way to recognize adjunct professors who have worked at the University for multiple years. At the end of last semester, four professors were eligible for the promotion.

"Faculty members who were reviewed for tenure have received FC's recommendations," Moore wrote in an email. "FC's recommendations along with my recommendations were given to the president."

President Thorsett will review the files and make recommendations to the board of trustees, who have the ultimate authority in hiring decisions for the University.

Moore said that the board of trustees will act on the council's recommendation at their meeting on Friday, Feb. 20. Faculty members will know the board's decision soon after.

According to the faculty-approved criteria within the CLA staff handbook, the faculty council "makes recom-

mendations to the President of the University with respect to faculty retention, promotions, tenure, salary increases, leaves of absence, sabbaticals and grants-in-aid for research."

It is one of the elected committees at the University that consists of seven full-time, tenured or tenure-track faculty members. The council is also charged with establishing committees in regard to professional development of the faculty, making recommendations to faculty and President Thorsett and nominating faculty members to specific committees.

The files reviewed by faculty council include personal statements, student assessments of instruction, letters from students and other faculty members and other materials provided by the person being evaluated for a position at the University. While reviewing the files, the council looks for teaching effectiveness, professional development and university or community service.

Miho Fujiwara, Professor of Japanese and chair of Faculty Council said that the feedback from students is very valuable in the evaluation.

"We do appreciate that students take time to participate in this very important process," Fujiwara said.

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ASWU tackles meal plans

RACHAEL DECKER
GUEST WRITER

At the ASWU meeting on Thursday, Jan. 22, senior Kiersten Irwin approached senators and executives about her thesis project, which asks if students can have a healthy, balanced diet on a University meal plan.

Though health was a concern, senators and executives mainly discussed cost.

Senior Jerome Sader said that, as a freshman, he assumed the biggest meal plan was the most cost-efficient. In reality, he said, he actually could have saved more money if he had gotten the smallest meal plan and paid Goudy in cash for breakfast and lunch.

"There's a difference in the way that different universities approach it," ASWU President Andrés Oswill said. "At Willamette, I believe they incorporate the operating costs into meal plans because they know that students are constantly going to be buying meal plans, so they can plan to receive a certain amount regularly."

Sader also discussed not having enough points for both breakfast and lunch, even on a bigger meal plan. When he went to the Uni-

versity for answers, he was told that students are not supposed to eat all of their meals with the meal plans, and are instead expected to spend their own money on groceries.

"The biggest problem your freshman year is there's a lack of communication about the reality of the din-



ASWU's first meeting of the semester consisted of nominations, voting and swearing in new senators.

ing experience on campus," sophomore Pierre Kaptanian said during the meeting.

Senators said the potential issues bring to mind the University's new three-year on-campus plan.

"I think if they can make it so the healthy option and the good experience of living on campus can still be

of comparable cost, then it would make more sense for them to ask or require students to stay on campus," senior Natalie Pate said.

Irwin said that there is an argument that living on campus with a meal plan is actually healthier because it so much more convenient.

"You can have a healthy diet," Irwin said. "They are providing enough to get all of your daily vitamins, minerals and vegetables."

And if you live on campus, one senator pointed out, you don't have to do dishes.

The rest of the meeting consisted of nominations and voting business.

Noemi Cruz-Cruz was nominated and approved to fill an open seat on the ASWU Judicial branch and senior Ambrielle Anderson was nominated and approved to serve as Chief Justice.

Junior Tori Leder was nominated and approved to be a representative on the Campus Safety Advisory Committee.

Three new ASWU senators were also sworn in at the meeting.

"It's going to be a good semester," Oswill said.

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CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

December 1 - 21, 2014 | Information provided by Campus Safety

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY

December 10, 10 a.m. (Gatke Hall): Campus Safety received a call regarding an attempted burglary. An officer observed that one of the windows had been pried open, but a bracket on the window frame had stopped the suspect from being able to gain entry. A work order was placed to repair the window.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

December 9, 9:05 a.m. (Ford Hall): Campus Safety received a report of graffiti on some glass panes within the building. An officer observed some writing on one of the lobby chairs. Security footage was accessed and the suspect was identified. A work order was made to remove the graffiti.

December 9, 4:45 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): A student called to report that their vehicle had been broken into, but nothing had been taken. The rear driver window had been smashed in order to gain entry. NOTE: There were two additional reports of this type of crime reported during the month of December.

December 18, 7:55 a.m. (Jackson Plaza): Campus Safety received a report regarding some beer bottles and a pint of ice cream that had been dumped on the ground. The items also had harassing notes laid underneath them.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

December 6, 12:36 a.m. (In a Campus Residence): Campus Safety received a call regarding an intoxicated student. When the officer arrived, the student was unable to hold themselves up and was unable to answer basic questions correctly. The officer called 911 to have medics evaluate the student. When the medics arrived, the student was more responsive the officer escorted the student back to their room.

December 6, 6:37 p.m. (In a Campus Residence): A student called asking for transport to the ER. The student stating that they were having an ongoing migraine. The student was transported by the Campus Safety officer.

December 6, 10:27 p.m. (Outside a Campus Residence): Campus Safety received a call concerning a student who was having an allergic reaction. The student was transported to the ER for further evaluation.

December 13, 11:26 p.m. (In a Campus Residence): Campus Safety received a call regarding an intoxicated student. The student was unable to stand without assistance, but was alert and answering questions. The student was left to care for them self.

HARASSMENT

December 5, 11:39 p.m. (University Center): Campus Safety received a report of two students arguing outside of the building. The caller reported that a male was continually putting his hands on a female. The officer arrived on scene to speak with the students. The students were having an argument and the male admitted to getting physical. When asked, the female student stated that they did not

want any charges filed. The on call area coordinator was contacted and made contact with the students to further evaluate the situation.

MINOR IN POSSESSION

December 5, 11:00 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): Campus Safety received a call regarding a noise complaint at the residence. The spoke with the students and observed a strong smell of alcohol and that many of the students were visibly intoxicated. The students all confirmed that they were all under 21. The student who lived in the room became very agitated with the officer. The officer cleared the room after having the remainder of the alcohol poured out.

December 6, 11:27 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): Officers responded to a room that was creating excessive amounts of noise. When the officer entered the room, they observed alcohol throughout the room. When asked, only one student was of legal drinking age, and admitted to furnishing the alcohol to the other students.

December 12, 2:50 a.m. (Baxter Hall): Campus Safety received a call regarding two students who were yelling at each other outside of the building. The officer met with the students who stated they had been drinking and found that they were both under 21.

POLICY VIOLATION

December 8, 8:00 a.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): A student received their 11th parking citation, their 8th of the school year. A report was forwarded to the Office of Rights and Responsibilities.

December 8, 8:00 a.m. (Matthews Parking Lot): A student received their 19th parking citation, their 3rd of the school year. A report was forwarded to the Office of Rights and Responsibilities.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

December 6, 3:50 a.m. (Terra House): An officer observed a strong smell of marijuana within the building and located the source and contacted the residents. Upon entering the room, the officer observed multiple bottles of alcohol as well as marijuana and other paraphernalia. The students in the room were very cooperative and the officer confiscated all the items.

December 14, 12:45 p.m. (University Apartments): Campus Safety received a call concerning some marijuana paraphernalia that had been left in a residence over the break. The officer met with the caller and confiscated the items.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY/PERSON

December 9, 7:08 p.m. (Hatfield Library): A student called to report that an unknown male appear to be masturbating on the second floor of the Library. The student reported that they had observed this action a few hours before, but was unsure what they were supposed to do. An officer searched through the Library, but was unable to locate anyone matching the description given.

For the rest of Campus Safety Report, visit willamettecollegian.com.

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ARTS

Come see "Rhymes for Young Ghouls," a subversive tale of revenge produced on behalf of the First Nation tribe Mi'kmaq and sponsored by the Native and Indigenous Student Union (NISU). This period piece, set in 1976, takes on the plight of Native children victimized by Christian missionaries. Traditional food and drink will be served alongside the viewing in Cat Cavern on Thursday, Jan. 29 at 5 p.m.

For the third "episode" of the Salem Songwriters Circle, local musicians Rich McCloud, Andrew Tennant and Sean McLeod will perform at Christo's Pizzeria & Lounge, located at 1108 Broadway St. NE, on Saturday, Jan. 31 at 9 p.m.

Reserve your space at Tom Mayhall Rastrelli (of the Statesman Journal) and fellow reporter Carlee Wright's CAFE, a series at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art that explores themes in art and entertainment. This discussion on Saturday, Jan. 31 at 10 a.m. will focus on current exhibits, including Roger Shimomura. Student tickets are \$3 with a school ID.

Got culture?
Contact Juliana Cohen
<jacohen>

MUSIC REVIEW

Panda Bear: no longer hibernating

TEDDY WU
CONTRIBUTOR

Make no mistake about it—Noah Lennox can write a groove.

Known by his stage name Panda Bear, Lennox has produced some of the most impressive tracks of the last 10 years; these projects range from Animal Collective to his solo efforts and collaborations with other artists, most notably on Daft Punk's "Random Access Memories."

His 2007 solo effort, "Person Pitch," focuses on holistic soundscapes and weaves samples and effects over his own Beach Boys-esque vocals. The resulting album impressed many with a gorgeous and dreamy blend of sounds that flowed together smoothly.

Its follow-up, "Tomboy," marks a

departure from more complex production. Instead, Lennox worked almost exclusively with a guitar and watery pedal effects in an effort to make simpler, melody-driven songs. Unfortunately, the more it meanders from "Person Pitch," the more "Tomboy" underwhelms fans of his previous work.

"Panda Bear Meets The Grim Reaper," Lennox's newest LP, reveals an obsession with electronic beats, while downplaying his vocal harmonies and melodies to a fault. This leads to a roller coaster of quality. Far from cohesive, individual tracks tend to shine through much more than the whole album.

The lead single, "Mr Noah," is a good example of Panda Bear's expertise in songwriting. The first minute or so features what sounds like dog noises through a food processor, but transforms

into a fantastically original beat after the drums come in. Lennox's melody is the good kind of repetitive: only two alternating verses, but fresh enough to sustain interest throughout the song.

One of the album's anchors, "Tropic Of Cancer," utilizes just two ingredients: a synthesized harp and Lennox's reverbed vocals. It puts great attention on the chord progression and melody, which might be my favorite of his thus far.

Lennox's voice has a beautiful timbre—something rather unexpected unless you've seen him live or listened to a couple lesser-known Animal Collective songs.

Other tracks feel less finished and ultimately seem one dimensional. Songs like "Crosswords" and "Principe Real" start off well; the beat is straightforward and groovy, and Panda Bear's vocals work nicely into it. About halfway through, however, it becomes clear that the song is hardly developing at all, just repeating the same tune endlessly.

By the end, the track feels utterly indistinct and flavorless.

The repetition at its worst comes through on a track like "Selfish Gene." A bland, plunky electronic backing followed by a droll, forgettable vocal performance is all that exists on this track. It certainly doesn't help that it goes on like this for five minutes.

On the whole, Lennox has produced a decent effort in "Panda Bear Meets The Grim Reaper." The standouts really stand out, while other songs are less inspired and can feel like background noise at times. Still, Lennox's work is always fascinating to me, and I came away feeling ultimately satisfied.



Panda Bear's vocals were featured on Daft Punk's 2013 release, "Doin' it Right."

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MOVIE REVIEW

'Selma' revisits dark realities

ARIANNA WOICEKOWSKI
GUEST WRITER

Despite being out for less than a month, "Selma"—an account of the 1960s campaign in Alabama supporting voting rights for African-Americans—has created a great deal of buzz.

"Selma" has certainly received criticism, as many have questioned the accuracy of President Lyndon B. Johnson's support of civil rights. But the film has also been widely praised: The popular film review website Rotten Tomatoes currently pegs "Selma's" approval rating at 99 percent.

Many observers were surprised and dismayed at the list of 2015 Oscar nominees, creating the hashtag "#OscarsSoWhite" after neither director Ava DuVernay or David Oyelowo (who played Martin Luther King, Jr.) received nominations. Some theorized that the awards show harbored discomfort for the way "Selma" gives the history-writing pen to African-Americans.

"Selma" is unapologetic in its portrayal of 1960s attitudes of whites while completely humanizing Dr. King.

Viewers may feel uncomfortable with the film's portrayal of American politicians' callous use of the n-word and shameless displays of the Confederate flag, as well as the blatantly racist rhetoric of Alabama Governor George Wallace, who attempts to use twisted logic invoking supposed tradition to defend segregation in the South.

The film depicts a reluctant LBJ interacting with Dr. King during several visits to the White House, dismissing the disenfranchisement

of African-Americans as merely one of his 100 problems.

The film also has no qualms about reminding audiences that Dr. King and his companions were frequently threatened with menacing phone calls, followed by government officials and subject to wiretapping in their homes.

Despite these threats, Dr. King and the marchers summon tremendous courage and confront the danger of violent racism in hopes that more would join the cause, in hopes of making it to the front page of tomorrow's paper—in hopes that America would wake up.

DuVernay artfully blends the intimacy of getting to know individual characters with the historical accuracy of the Selma marches, including the visceral violence of tear gas, mounted policemen, raised rifles, batons and baseball bats wrapped in barbed wire.

"Selma" is not a passive film. I hope cries of "injustice!" boil in the hearts of every audience member witnessing the carnage unleashed on those who simply wanted their voices heard as American citizens.

I hope disgust simmers in their guts when they hear verbal daggers like the n-word spit from hate-filled lips; I hope they realize the weight the word carries, even when it is tossed about by contemporaries in pop culture.

I hope that tears cannot help but fall from their eyes as the reality of power through nonviolence, love, audacity and hope manifests itself by the film's close.

I hope that "Selma" makes you uncomfortable: It's time to re-live real American history.

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Who's the boss of me now? Revisiting 'Malcolm in the Middle'

ZANE SPARLING
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I sit alone and watch "Malcolm in the Middle."

Distributed by Fox, the dysfunctional-family-centered situational comedy ran from 2000 to 2006, for seven seasons, entering and exiting my life in 21 to 23 minute increments.

In schools junior and high, this show became part of my trusted entertainment pantheon: not as good as "Friends" or "The Simpsons," but unequivocally better than "American Dad" and other shows I watched begrudgingly but faithfully while waiting for better programming and Mom to arrive home.

"Malcolm in the Middle" has 151 episodes, and I have seen all of them. But like any good friend, it has changed.

In its first season, Malcolm struggles as both a proverbial fish-out-of-water and yet excessively adroit problem-solver.

Desperate to maintain a sense of normalcy and anonymity among his obscene family, he nonetheless dooms himself as the smartest person in a household of serial public fuck-ups.

Frankie Muniz, an unwilling Superman, can only save his family by cementing his status as one of them.

Ironically, this mass market, lowest common denominator sitcom places a lonely, academic prodigy as the titular character and audience surrogate—wish fulfillment for those with superiority complexes.

But things change: By the end of season two, the show morphs into an ensemble narrative, and other characters develop discrete story lines and gain importance. Malcolm becomes merely another combatant—his intelligence survives as little more than an aptitude for creative destruction.

The show revels in

extremes. Each character is defined by one or two traits; Reese and his rage; Hal's loving nature and weak-willed timidity; Lois and her rage; Francis and his rage at Lois. You will find that a good portion of each episode's spoken dialogue is shouted.

Essentially, it's a family of idiots.

Certainly Malcolm's childhood is not my own, and apparently takes place before the invention of cellphones or parental supervision.

My suburban existence was predicated on boredom, upscale monotony, endless driving and Fruit Roll-Ups.

Frustratingly, I have no previous memories regarding "Malcolm in the Middle," or what I thought of the show when it was new to me. I can barely place if I liked the show at all. Yet the frequency with which plotlines enter my head makes it clear that I was an attentive watcher, even then.

It's been said that the sitcom has a self-contained nature; its habitual return to stasis in each episode's third act constitutes the show's most narcotizing aspect.

But consider this: The character inside "Malcolm in the Middle" has no operational way to stop being a character featured in "Malcolm in the Middle."

Join the army, marry a stranger, move to Alaska—the vagaries of the situation do not matter—and still you will be unable to escape the family's grasp. You will be drawn, inexplicably and inevitably, back into relation with those whom you had fled.

"Malcolm in the Middle" exists inside a universe that compels us together—whatever the cost—rather than tearing people apart. But our access to this world is limited to the aperture of a camera's lens.

What more can be said? Life is unfair...

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BEARCAT BULLET

Stop laughing at obesity



JULIANA COHEN

LIFESTYLES EDITOR

"The Biggest Loser" feels almost anachronistic after being on the air for over a decade. It's easy to cringe at the tone-deaf treatment of bigger people, but time has also shown that its results are overhyped, if not completely bogus.

I recall a bevy of participants eager and excited after having watched the show for some time; they too wanted to experience this life-changing transformation. Often, children would be used as encouragement for their parents to "add more years to their lives."

The show became so successful, both for its inspirational qualities and ability to suck in onlookers, that an Australian version of "The Biggest Loser" ran for nine seasons. Its original trainers, Jillian Michaels and Bob Harper, obtained countless ad campaigns and sold books that further validated their ability to motivate overweight people.

After 16 seasons, its efficacy has come into question: The contestants have gained back their weight, criticized the show's techniques and exposed it as a sham faux-reality.

Recently, Kai Hibbard, who competed in season three of "The Biggest Loser," claimed that the show gave her an eating disorder, caused her hair to fall out and that she eventually faced an intervention from loved ones because of her unhealthy behavior.

Even Michaels, who spent 10 years on the show yelling at the woefully out of shape to hurry up and slim down, ended up quitting "The Biggest Loser" last year, claiming that she felt "ashamed" of the way the show made her out to be a villain, and that it did not show the "bonds that [she built] with [her] clients."

Hibbard alluded to this selective editing in an interview; instead of week-by-week weight loss, sometimes the actual elapsed time between weigh-ins amounted to three weeks.

Contestants are also primarily fed sponsored food, like Jennie-O turkey or I Can't Believe It's Not Butter.

The most disturbing thing to me, even as a tween, was every season's "temptation challenge." Far from the final versions of themselves (and still dealing with food withdrawal), producers put contestants in a room filled with cupcakes and Paula Deen-grade delicacies—when someone slips up and takes a bite, that individual gets mercilessly shamed by other contestants and the audience.

In later episodes of these cycles, contestants return home with the adulation of a decorated veteran. Their friends, family and neighbors throw loving parties in the hopes that they will win the competition and take home hundreds of thousands of dollars (and maybe a sponsorship deal).

Sadly, the "ranch" is merely a TV set and acts as a vacuum for impossible body manipulation. No consideration is given to the competitor-actors, who deal with unforeseen consequences for the rest of their lives.

Even if you wouldn't qualify for a "Biggest Loser" transformation, it's easy to get sucked into the numbers game and spiral into harmful thinking when it comes to the size of one's body.

Headlines mentioning Hibbard's revelations make note of her calling the show a "fat-shaming disaster," which might signify renewed attention toward a prejudice that many cloak under the guise of fitness and health.

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We'll take you to the candy shop: Ricky's sweetens the mood

CONTINUED from Page 1

There are endless rows of pre-packaged sweets, as well as pay-by-the-pound candies and over 10 kinds of Jelly Belly dispensers. At the checkout, Ricky's offers fancy truffles and novelties like chocolate-covered Twinkies.

Jessica and Steve Boldenow started the shop out of a love for nostalgic items. "The Sandlot" and other classics are usually playing in the background, prompting reminiscent thoughts about Big League Chew. The couple is almost always there running the store, alongside their son—it's a real family business.

They pride themselves on selling hard-to-find candies, some imported from England, Japan and beyond.

"People see places like this in bigger cities, but there was nothing like it around here," Jessica explained. "We brought it downtown."

During the short time I spent in the shoppe, I witnessed giddy customers exclaiming after they spotted a childhood favorite, with others

commenting on what a great addition this is to Salem.

It's the type of establishment one would expect in cities like Portland or Los Angeles, but seems totally out of the ordinary for sleepy Salem.

Ricky's is located on Liberty St., just a brief walk from campus. It's a rarity that will cure any sweet tooth within seconds of stepping on the premises.

The owners regularly update the store's Facebook page with new candy shipments and photo contests. Their most recent contest called for a selfie with a mannequin, adorned with Skittles and clothes made of candy wrappers.

The shop currently opens at 11 a.m., while the closing time is still in the works as the owners determine what people want. Customers of all ages frequent the store and rave about the assortment of treasures found inside.

It is definitely worth the cavities.

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CHRISTINE SMITH



CHRISTINE SMITH

Ricky's Bubbles & Sweets Shoppe appeals to one's inner child.

Director's Cut: A look into

EDNA HTET
STAFF WRITER

Last year, Professor Ken Nolley—founder of the film program as well as its main contributor—retired. Because he taught History of Cinema, one of the foundational courses in the program, his absence left the future of the program in question.

"We decided that we wanted to keep it going," Professor Fran Michel of the English department said. "There were a lot of faculty on campus who were interested in cinema studies and who do cinema studies, so we got together and developed a proposal for a new course that would be Intro to Cinema Studies," she said.

The course would be shared between Michel herself, Professor Anna Cox of the Spanish department,

Professor Amadou Fofana of the French department and possibly Professor Sarah Bishop of the Russian program. The class would explore different methods of cinema study, along with the development of the film industry.

While the group of professors worked on the course, they also wanted to tidy up the film major as a whole.

"It's a little baroque in its current form," Michel said, "We thought it was more complicated than it needed to be, so we came up with some ways to simplify the program and make it easier to figure out."

The new and improved program will go by cinema studies, in part to mark new changes, but also to acknowledge the diminished importance of motion pictures in the field.

"We're not always looking at film anymore. Often we're looking at digital images," Michel said.

The program's changes have been submitted to the appropriate committees, but unfortunately, the project has been tabled because the University is reviewing all programs before making any decisions.

That means we don't know exactly what's going to happen.

Though professors are willing to offer the revised version of the introductory course, they might have to wait a few semesters. Students who are film studies majors and minors at this point will be able to continue in the current program. What we don't know is whether next year we'll find film studies on the books, or cinema studies.

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Film Screenings

JANUARY

January 28
Vertigo dir. Alfred Hitchcock
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

January 29
Rhymes for Young Ghouls dir.
Jeff Barnaby
UC Dining Rooms 1 & 2
5 p.m.

January 29
Welcome Back, Mr. McDonald
dir. Koki Mitani
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

February 2
Chocolat dir. Claire Denis
SML B-17
7 p.m.

February 4
Vertigo dir. Alfred Hitchcock
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

February 10
Ohayo dir. Yasujiro Ozu
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

February 17
Inch'Allah dimanche (Sunday
God Willing) dir. Yamina
Benguigui
SML B-17
7 p.m.

February 24
Nuit Noire 17 octobre 1961
dir. Alain Tasma
SML B-17
7 p.m.

February 3
Chocolat dir. Claire Denis
SML B-17
7 p.m.

February 9
La Bataille d'Alger dir. Gillo
Pontecorvo
SML B-17
7 p.m.

February 11
Dance, Girl, Dance dir.
Dorothy Arzner
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

February 17
Zatoichi dir. Takeshi Kitano
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

February 24
Yojimbo dir. Akira Kurosawa
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

February 3
Taboo dir. Nagisa Oshima
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

February 10
La Bataille d'Alger dir. Gillo
Pontecorvo
SML B-17
7 p.m.

February 16
Inch'Allah dimanche
(Sunday God Willing) dir.
Yamina Benguigui
SML B-17
7 p.m.

February 23
Nuit Noire 17 octobre 1961
dir. Alain Tasma
SML B-17
7 p.m.

February 25
Imitation of Life dir. Douglas
Sirk
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

MARCH

March 2
Salut cousin! dir. Merzak
Allouache
SML B-17
7 p.m.

March 3
Throne of Blood dir. Akira
Kurosawa
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

March 10
La Promesse dir. Luc and
Jean-Pierre Dardenne
SML B-17
7 p.m.

March 17
Cache (Hidden) dir. Michael
Haneke
SML B-17
7 p.m.

March 30
La Haine (Hate) dir. Mathieu
Kassovitz
SML B-17
7 p.m.

March 3
Salut cousin! dir. Merzak
Allouache
SML B-17
7 p.m.

March 9
La Promesse dir. Luc and
Jean-Pierre Dardenne
SML B-17
7 p.m.

March 11
Alien dir. Ridley Scott
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

March 17
Ugetsu dir. Kenji Mizoguchi
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

March 31
La Haine (Hate) dir. Mathieu
Kassovitz
SML B-17
7 p.m.

March 16
Cache (Hidden) dir. Michael
Haneke
SML B-17
7 p.m.

March 18
Surname Viet Given Name
Nam dir. Trinh T. Minh-ha
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

March 31
Ringu dir. Hideo Nakata
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

APRIL

April 1
Surname Viet Given Name
Nam dir. Trinh T. Minh-ha
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

April 7
Branded to Kill dir. Seijun
Suzuki
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

April 14
La Graine et le mulet (The
Secret of the Grain) dir. Ab-
del Kechiche
SML B-17
7 p.m.

April 20
Le Havre dir. Aki Kaurismäki
SML B-17
7 p.m.

April 27
Welcome dir. Philippe Lioret
SML B-17
7 p.m.

April 6
Entre les murs (The Class)
dir. Laurent Cantet
SML B-17
7 p.m.

April 8
The Watermelon Woman dir.
Cheryl Dunye
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

April 14
Princess Mononoke dir.
Hayao Miyazaki
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

April 21
Le Havre dir. Aki Kaurismäki
SML B-17
7 p.m.

April 28
Welcome dir. Philippe Lioret
SML B-17
7 p.m.

April 7
Entre les murs (The Class)
dir. Laurent Cantet
SML B-17
7 p.m.

April 13
La Graine et le mulet (The
Secret of the Grain) dir.
Abdel Kechiche
SML B-17
7 p.m.

April 15
Maquilapolis dir. Vicky
Funari and Sergio de la Torre
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

April 21
Ghost in the Shell dir.
Mamoru Oshii
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

April 28
Hula Girls dir. Lee Sang-il
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

MAY

May 5
Departures dir. Yōjiro Takita
Ford 122
6:30 p.m.

to the film studies program

Favorite Films

Casey Berg, Junior, Film Studies Major

"My favorite film seen in a class was actually 'Star Wars,' not because I hadn't seen it before, but because experiencing it on the big screen in Ford theater was incredible."

Michelle Bumatay, Visiting Professor of French and Francophone Studies

"'Chocolat' by Claire Denis. I think that she's an amazing cinematographer and the way she tells narrative through film is very particular. I think it really helps; I've taught scene analysis with that film. I think it works very well because there's just so much that you can grasp from it.

'The Battle of Algiers,' which we're going to watch in my class as well, is a great one to teach. I think it's important for world cinema in general."

Marissa Louie, Sophomore, Film Studies Major

"One of my favorite films I've seen in class is Wim Wenders' 'Paris, Texas.' Robby Muller's cinematography is absolutely amazing and I think it's pretty hard not to fall in head over heels in love with Nastassja Kinski."

Scott Forman, Senior, Film Studies Major

"I've really gotten into French New Wave cinema. It's kind of this genre of film from France, obviously. As far as more current films go, I'm a big fan of Christopher Nolan. I think he's a really creative director."

Sarah Williams, Senior, Film Studies and Women and Gender Studies Major

"That's a tie between 'Blancanieves' and 'Buitiful,' both from Peninsular Cinema."

Ryan Cornwell, Sophomore, Film Studies and English Major

"I enjoyed the screening of 'Breakfast on Pluto,' an Irish film that follows a transgender woman through war-torn Ireland. It was unlike any film I had seen in its narrative style and thematic intersection of gender, sexuality, youth, hate and war."

Fran Michel, Chair of Film Studies Program

"'The Watermelon Woman' is one of my favorite films to teach. It's the first feature-length film to get wide release that was written and directed by an out African-American lesbian, which makes it historic right there. It's also really funny and I think does interesting things in relation to questions of spectatorship, assumptions about audience and film history."

Check out some classes being offered this semester:

ENGL 355W

Feminist Film Criticism is one of the courses that counts in the major for the theoretical dimension of film studies. The course looks mostly at feature length, mostly American film. The class also reads theoretical and critical works, starting more or less with Laura Mulvey's classic essay on "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema." The course examines films like "Vertigo" and "Dance, Girl, Dance" by Dorothy Arzner, one of the only women working in the Hollywood studio system as a director at the time.

FRENCH 241

French 241 is a film class that counts for both the film studies and the French department's language requirement. The class is offered in English, so the films are watched with subtitles. Officially, the course title is French History Through Film, but the specific topic changes depending on who teaches the course. This semester, visiting professor of French and Francophone Studies, Michelle Bumatay, is focusing on immigration and identity.

FILM 245

Peninsular Cinema is a class that focuses on films from the Iberian Peninsula that also gives a historical foundation for film in these areas. Students put on a film festival in which each group is assigned a different film to screen and present on.

FILM 235

Spectacular 68 is a class where students study films from the '40s, '50s and '60s, and how they all contributed to this air of revolution that happened in the late '60s. The course looks at the history of world, foreign and domestic film and discusses how it is portrayed in film.

JAPN 340

This course offers an introduction to Japanese cinema focusing on major directors, like Akira Kurosawa and Hiro Narita. The course pays close attention to language and style and their role in socio-cultural context.

ENGL 135

Screenwriting is a course in which students explore the process of writing scripts and plots for films. Students in this course get to write their own Hollywood-style narrative and then act out each other's writing in class. The course covers other forms of creative writing as well, like poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction and dramatic writing.

RHET 319

This course examines how national identity is structured and conflict is portrayed in film depictions of the disputed homeland of Israel/Palestine. The course will consider problems of documentary, stereotyping, nontraditional narrative structure and docu-animation within the context of the religious, social and political tensions in the region. Subject films will range from archival footage and independent documentaries to major feature films.

Deflate-gate, overinflated



HOLLY PETERSEN
SPORTS EDITOR

Two weeks ago, the New England Patriots defeated the Indianapolis Colts 45-7 in the AFC championship game, earning their spot in the Super Bowl this Sunday.

Despite the blowout, and the Patriots emerging as the clear winner, people are still questioning the legitimacy of the victory.

Shortly after the end of the game, ESPN reported that 11 out of the 12 footballs used by the Patriots were under-inflated by about one or two pounds per square inch. Since then, the sports world has erupted with constant updates, discussions and press conferences about this so-called “deflate-gate.”

The argument is that with the deflated balls, it would have been easier for Patriots quarterback Tom Brady to grip the ball, and easier for his receivers to catch it.

Former Super Bowl stars Jerry Rice and Ray Lewis have even publicly called for an asterisk next to the Patriots in the record book if they beat the Seahawks on Sunday, both asserting that the under-inflation of the balls was clearly intentional and outright cheating.

In response to all the uproar, Patriots head coach Bill Belichick held a press conference last week, shifting any blame from the organization by offering a pseudo-scientific explanation about the weather and its alleged effect on the pressure of the footballs.

Bill Nye countered the argument with scientific proof that basically called bullshit on all of Belichick’s claims.

While I’m inclined to agree with ev-

erything the Science Guy says, I just can’t get on board with the public’s obsession with this.

This is not a scandal.

Do people really believe that Tom Brady’s football success is dependent on the pressure of a football?

Do people really believe that the Patriots would risk being caught cheating in the AFC championship game against the Colts, a team they’d already demolished during the regular season?

Basically, every sports story needs a villain, every Super Bowl needs a controversy—and Brady and Belichick fit the bill.

Compared to the Seahawks’ charismatic head coach Pete Carroll, Belichick is just a grumpy snake with a bad reputation and the 2007 spygate scandal—an incident where the Patriots were penalized for videotaping the New York Jets’ defensive signals from the sidelines—still looming over his head.

Meanwhile, Brady is too good to be true. With his inspiring backstory, chiseled jawline and model wife, he’s the kind of guy people love to root against.

The prospect of golden-boy Brady cheating is enough to make Patriots haters salivate.

Intentionally under-inflated or not, no amount of air pressure could’ve saved the Colts from the colossal beatdown they experienced at the hands of Tom Brady and Co.

Regardless, one thing is for sure—game balls on Super Bowl Sunday will be triple-checked.

If the Patriots come out on top, the win is legitimate. Even if all the obnoxious, bandwagon Seahawks fans (you know who you are) try to convince you otherwise.

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Men’s basketball on the upswing

CONTINUED from Pg. 1

In their next two games, the squad struggled to find their shot, shooting only 34 percent, and resulting in a loss to Lewis & Clark University 68-59 on Jan. 13 and Pacific Lutheran 62-55 on Jan. 17.

Yet, they rebounded from the losses in typical Bearcat fashion.

Down 12 points to Pacific University with 12:08 left to go in the second half, Willamette rattled off 18 unanswered points to a 65-59 lead on their way to a defining come-from-behind 78-71 win on Jan. 23.

“I believe that we have begun to really gel with one another,” said senior guard Noa Smith, who dished out a career-high of seven assists. “Every player on our team is able to bring something unique to the table.”

Looking for their second week-end sweep in the month of January, the Bearcats rode their momentum right through Linfield College on Jan. 24 in front of a packed Cone Field House on the annual Martin Luther King Feed the Dream Night.

After jumping out to an 11-3

lead in the first five minutes, Willamette hit a bit of a cold spell on the floor, shooting only 37 percent in the first half.

However, without losing composure (and having learned from the previous weekend’s losses), the ‘Cats broke out and started firing on all cylinders, knocking down nearly 60 percent of their field goals, six of which came from behind the 3-point line.

Harlington, who posted a career-high of 21 points against the Wildcats, feels that the squad has proved they can use these last few weeks to propel themselves forward in the NWC.

“These past few wins for us have been a huge momentum builder heading into the turn of conference play,” he said. “We’re excited to see some of these teams again that we have already played, as we feel that we let a couple of winnable games get away from us.”

The Bearcats will travel to Washington this weekend, facing Whitman on Friday and Whitworth on Saturday.

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Women’s basketball rebounds after losing first 7 NWC matchups

BLAKE LEPIRE
STAFF WRITER

Over winter break, the women’s basketball team kicked off their season—going undefeated in Hawaii, then beginning their conference play with seven consecutive losses.

The Bearcats traveled to Honolulu, Hawaii, to play in the Hoop N Surf Classic from Dec. 19-20.

“The Hawaii trip was great. It was like going back to playing summer basketball in small gyms and hot weather,” senior Jojo DeLong said. “It was a great opportunity for us to play against some good teams with nothing to lose.”

Willamette began the Classic with a game against Wheaton College (Mass.) and came away with a 65-57 victory behind DeLong’s 28 points and eight rebounds. In the second game, Willamette faced Lake Forest College (Ill.) and won a defensive struggle 43-38.

Senior Katie Kalugin had a very efficient game, going 4-9 from the field and grabbing 11 rebounds.

After going undefeated during their trip to Hawaii, the Bearcats waited until Jan. 2 to begin a string of tough conference matches. The Bearcats fought hard but dropped the first seven games in conference.

“Conference play is always tough. We play in a league where the top five teams are nationally ranked, so we knew going into these games we would need to elevate our level of play,” DeLong said. “Losing to teams is never easy, but we have managed to pull through some games with close margins, with the hopes of beating some teams the second time

around.”

Last Saturday, the Bearcats came home to face rival Linfield and to commemorate Martin Luther King.

“The home game against Linfield was a special night because of its ties to the Feed the Dream event, which encourages folks to come to our game while also contributing to the MLK committee food drive,” Kalugin said. “We anticipated that this event would bring in a large crowd, which gives our team a strong sense of home-court advantage.”

Not only did the Feed the Dream event make it a special night, but the Bearcats tallied their first conference win of the season against rival Wildcats.

The Bearcats dominated Linfield in the first half, taking a 40-26 lead. The ‘Cats maintained their lead throughout the second half and finished with a 71-56 victory.

Kalugin had another big night with 17 points and 13 rebounds, while sophomore Kylie Towry also performed well, registering 13 points and 4 rebounds.

“When it comes to conference play, our team is making necessary adjustments mostly on defense,” Kalugin said. “The discussion lately has been about trusting one another on team defense in order to ensure that we get stops and rebounds.”

Next week, the Bearcats travel to eastern Washington to take on Whitman on Friday and Whitworth on Saturday. Willamette will not play at home again until Feb. 7, when they are scheduled to play Puget Sound at 4 p.m.

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Swim teams gain momentum

JOSH CABRAL
GUEST WRITER

With just one conference dual meet left this winter, the Willamette men's and women's swim teams are wrapping up their seasons. The men's team currently stands with a record of 2-4 in the Northwest Conference (NWC). The women's team currently has a record of 1-5 in the NWC.

While the scoreboard may indicate that this has been a tough season for the Bearcats, things are not necessarily as gloomy as they seem. Members of both teams say that improvement has been key for them this season.

"This season has been so awesome. It's been the best season the men's team has had in the four years that I've been here," senior co-captain Zander Le Bel said.

Junior Leah Freeborn had positive comments on the women's team's long-term growth, as well.

"It's the best season we have had since I have been on the team. Over half our women's team are freshmen but the team chemistry has never been better," Freeborn said.

The improvement of both teams was evidenced in their most recent meet, where both the men's and women's teams were able to top Lewis & Clark at home on senior night.

This win has given both teams momentum heading into the last dual meet of the semester against Linfield.

Junior women's co-captain Malia Santos notes that their recent success can be attributed in part to the individual growth the younger members of the team have experienced as they continue to adjust to collegiate-level athletics.



The Bearcat swimmers get ultra-hyped for their meet and prepare to swim their hearts out. CARSON FOREMAN

"We have been a small team in the past and the amount of freshman girls we got this year has really contributed to the strength of our team," Santos said.

The women's team has grown from four members to 14 in just six years. They say it has been a long-term goal of theirs to defeat both Lewis & Clark and Linfield in conference, and that the victory against Lewis & Clark shows their growth transcends the increased number of athletes.

The men's team expressed similar goals for the season's end.

"One of the team goals we have is to be the best team, as in the best cohesive unit. We are all really close and supportive of each other," Le Bel said.

By focusing on the core of the team, the men have found success against

their Oregonian rivals this year, winning two-thirds of their meets. Another goal of the men's team this season was to win against a Washington opponent.

They came within one point of besting University of Puget Sound.

Both teams say they are proud of what they have accomplished thus far in the season; there has been an emphasis on camaraderie and on fun, while maintaining a competitive demeanor.

The Bearcats hope to defeat Linfield this Saturday, then ride that momentum into the conference championships, which take place Feb. 13-15 in Corvallis.

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Let's leave Marshawn Lynch alone



MAX
CRADDOCK
COLUMNIST

In the NFC Championship on Jan. 18, Seattle Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch overcame the shaky play of his quarterback Russell Wilson and singlehandedly steamrolled the Green Bay Packers.

However, after leading his team to its second Super Bowl in a row, all talk was not centered on his game (in which he rushed for 157 yards and a touchdown on just 25 carries) but on the potential fines that may soon be coming his way.

The first of these fines is due to his celebration during his touchdown run and the second is targeted at his refusal to talk to the media after the game. Lynch was also nearly not allowed to play in the game for wearing gold-plated shoes.

The first of these fines in question makes sense to me. With 1:25 to go in Sunday's game, Lynch ripped off a 24-yard touchdown and finished it off by turning around to stare at the Green Bay defenders while pretending to grope himself.

This so-called "hold my dick" celebration gained Internet notoriety when he first pulled it off in the 2011 playoffs, and because of this it has become sort of Lynch's signature.

However, the NFL is not OK with Lynch groping himself in front of a giant national television audience, especially since the NFL prides itself on being "family friendly."

After the touchdown, the NFL issued a \$20,000 fine because, as we all know, no organization is more qualified to judge the morality of other's actions than they. As reprehensible as Lynch's gesture was deemed to be, a photo of Lynch performing said gesture was available in the official NFL online store, reports Deadspin, for \$149.95. Unfortunately for those who haven't bought one yet, they've already sold out.

Before the game even started, Lynch was almost disqualified from playing. Lynch attempted to wear gold-plated cleats that were infused with real gold flakes. However, the NFL lived up to its tradition as the No Fun League and told Lynch that he would not be able to play unless he wore white, black or team color cleats.

Lynch obeyed, but proceeded to walk backwards into the end zone while holding his junk and staring down NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell.

After the game, Lynch refused to speak with reporters and, because of this, will most likely be given a \$50,000 fine, a penalty that he already suffered earlier this season.

When Lynch does attend his press conferences after games, he often repeats short sayings that have nothing to do with the questions being asked, such as "I'm thankful" or "thanks for asking."

While it makes sense that the NFL forces its players to speak with the press—since a large part of the allure of professional sports are the behind-the-scene looks at its players—it seems that Lynch is truly uncomfortable in these situations.

If Lynch has social anxiety, then he shouldn't be forced to stand in front of his locker every week while dozens of reporters badger him with questions.

Lynch gets the job done on the field, and that should be enough.

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How to June-uary

KELLIE STANDISH
PHOTO EDITOR

Some of you may have noticed that it's been a bit balmy than usual these last couple months. People running in shorts and t-shirts, lush green mountain roads and unusually high numbers appearing on thermometers have people wondering—is it June, or is it January?

The sad reality is that it's the middle of winter and there's a huge shortage of snow. Snowshoers, skiers and snowboarders around the Northwest have had their hearts broken by the realization that the snow isn't here. Or so I thought.

While I spent most of winter break mourning this sad development, skiing on ice and reminiscing about the glory days of school vacations spent on powdery mountains, I failed to think about all the benefits that this June-uary brings us.

1. Mushier snow is better for snowballs and snow caves.

Senior Daniel Swanson and sophomore Olivia Mancl set out to Mount Rainier National Park to find some snow, but when their trip resulted in less than wonderful snow conditions, they decided to build a cave. Not only was building the structure a whole lot of fun on a nice bluebird day, but their cave was so successful that park rangers asked the amateur excavators if they were going to sleep in it.

2. You can wear a t-shirt on the mountain, enjoy crystal clear views and work on your goggles/sunglasses tan.

While senior Shannon Sollitt prefers cold winters filled with lots of snowfall in her hometown of Jackson Hole, Wyoming, winter break was not without its fill of adventure.

She and her family and friends took advantage of every snowy day



they could (even Christmas Eve), and spent the less than powdery days cross-country skiing in the sun, enjoying stunning views of the Tetons and wearing very light layers while doing so.

3. Do some mountain biking or hiking in normally snow covered areas.

Since she lives in Kodiak, Alaska, finding snow is not normally a problem for junior Anelise Zimmer—but this January was a different story. While she had to leave some sad snowshoes and skis behind, she said tromping around the mountains and enjoying the 45 degree weather and easy hiking conditions made for a pleasant way to spend winter break. Hiking and biking paths all over Oregon are more accessible than usual this time of year!

4. Laugh about it

Freshman Derek Lund and friends took a trip to Canada in search of some ski action, but found that snow chasing is proving more difficult than usual.

"That day was one of the best days I've had skiing, not because of the snow conditions or the terrain, but because I laughed and enjoyed myself more than I could've imagined, on a day where the primary weather condition was rain and only 20 percent of the mountain was open," he said. "As long as I'm able to put skis to a slope I can never have a bad day."

While you could choose to crack lame jokes about the lack of snow and secretly be really bitter about it (like I did), it turns out there is actually a whole lot of fun that can come of it. Happy June-uary!

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Millennials and the new wave



ZACK BOYDEN
COLUMNIST

Whether we deny it or not, the millennial zeitgeist is a search for authenticity in a world that continues to parody itself.

With the rise of globalization and the death of ideology, millennials seek something that exists in a true form: something that emanates confidence and is not afraid to be bold.

That is what draws people like me to conservatism; but sometimes the old arguments used to justify it do not resonate with me. While it may be fair to say that conservatism reveres the tried and true, it doesn't mean that something that has remained for a long time is good only because it lasts.

Conservatism should be more than just "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." There has to be something as the basis.

That way, conservatives can fuse with progressives on important issues that threaten the nation. It also helps prevent society from making compromises that seem good superficially but that end up sully our cultural heritage. Often this kind of compromise detracts from our foundation, and threatens our rights that were founded by the Constitution.

If one is to call themselves an American conservative, their trust and foundation must ultimately lie in the Constitution. The country has no other basis for conservative tradition.

The document itself is incredibly important: Assigning some sort of earthly sanctity to the Constitution is absolutely warranted.

Therefore, it must mean something to attach ourselves to this document—we cannot just merely support it "as my father did before me."

At least, that is the millennial disposition. It's why we're so skeptical of traditional institutions—if the only reason people participated in something for years is because it was "tried and true," then millennials say support of said institution may actually be misplaced.

This is a problem. Traditional institutions can be and often are good for society. In the case of the Constitution, reading through it will help one realize how amazing it truly is.

It is brief, constructive and, of course, malleable. The authors of the document allowed for interpretation because they knew their political and moral models would be inadequate for coming generations.

Now, I value the Constitution and the years it has lasted. Its ideas are powerful enough for me to put my faith in it.

It is not merely a statement of ideas for a political system; it's the basis for the being of the United States.

It's this kind of authenticity to which millennials could attach. It is a physical representation of the values that Americans hold dear both as citizens and as members of a civil society that traces its roots back to the eighteenth century.

Thus, the values and freedom enshrined in the document must be protected.

When extremists attack freedom of speech across the Atlantic, or when solitary bombers attack our freedom to assemble on our home soil, we must fight to protect our values.

It's our duty to protect the Constitution, the values it represents and the freedoms it guarantees us. Only then can we conserve our American heritage.

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Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

In response to the Dec. 3 article titled "Hazy future for weed," I think a crucial point of information was left out. There is a very particular reason why nearly every single higher-education institution in this country, including in Washington and Colorado, still bans the use of weed on campus. That is because federal funding guidelines for college institutions (i.e., FAFSA) mandate that controlled substances be banned on campus.

What does this mean? Even if a state legalizes marijuana, as long as the federal government has banned it, a school could lose all of the financial aid that its students receive if the institution were to allow marijuana use on its campus.

On another note, banning smoking (tobacco and marijuana) on campus is an issue that needs to be addressed soon. We are behind other area institutions like Lewis & Clark in improving air quality for people who struggle to breathe, like those with asthma. Keep that in mind as we move forward.

Soren Underdahl

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name and must be submitted by Monday at noon on the week of intended publication. The *Collegian* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. Please email letters to <zsparin>.

Dear Editor,

Upon reading the feature article in the Dec. 3 issue, ("Grand jury's Ferguson decision raises controversy over American justice system," page 6-7) in which Jessica Meza-Torres cites the Statesman Journal's article "Recalculating the rates of black arrests in Salem," I was disappointed to see that what seems to be the more shocking statistic—the number of actual arrests made per 1000 residents—was used over the statistic that states that 95.5 black people vs. 32.6 non-black people per 1000 residents were arrested.

The latter statistic demonstrates the number of actual people arrested versus the number of actual arrests made. The reason I have issue with this is that the rest of the feature article is focused on people involved—activists, politicians, teenagers, policemen and Michael Brown—and thus diluted the catharsis I felt upon reading the article and diluted the purpose of the feature article.

I would like to conclude that the statistic that the Journal found, which was the driving purpose of their article, could have been used as equally and effectively over the statistic cited in the feature article because the proportion remains roughly the same: The number of black people being arrested is still grossly triple to the number of non-black people. Further, I believe that the purpose of the Journal article cited was misconstrued.

Taylor Mutch

The *Collegian* invites its readers to submit corrections for publication. Errors found in print can be sent to <zsparin> and will be corrected in the next edition of the paper.

You're dead

CONTINUED from Page 1

What would you do, if you got up from here—and you left because a bunch of angry protestors came in here, and you're walking to your car—and you got shot by a police officer? Because he thought he saw something in your pocket. Even though it was an iPhone.

[Crowdmember: Or Skittles.]

Then what? Then you've got to realize it's not just a police and black thing. Bruh, that's an old story! We're past the whole police and blacks and blacks and police and black vs. white and whites vs. blacks. Racism has been alive before ya'll were here. Before I was here. Racism probably won't die.

That is not the world I want to live in. I want to live in a world where I can walk outside and not have to fear that I'm going to die, because the person who is supposed to be protecting me, is the one that's killing me. And you guys are standing up watching me die. Does that make sense?

I'm as fearful for my life as I am for yours. The Mike Brown of Portland won't be somebody of color. It's going to be one of ya'll.

And when you say, "Excuse me, it wasn't me"—Boom. That's your ass my man. You're dead. You're dead, because he accidentally shot you in your head when he meant to shoot you in your ankle.

This is the world we live in now. Law enforcement is not enforcing law, they're enforcing death.

My name is Marcus Cooper. You don't have to be afraid of me. If you have something to say, please speak. We're not here to attack nobody. I'm not here to attack nobody.

COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

This editorial represents the composite opinion of the *Collegian* Editorial Board.

Zane Sparling • Editor-in-Chief
Elize Manoukian • Managing Editor
Maggie Boucher • Opinions Editor

2015: A puzzle odyssey



KATE PILUSO
COLUMNIST

To ring in the New Year, my mom and I hosted a luncheon where we watched the Ducks play in the Rose Bowl.

(For those of you not familiar with the sportsball jargon, the University of Oregon played in a football game that was a pretty big deal on the first of January. To celebrate the brutality of sports and the futility of life, my mom invited people to our home to watch.)

Ever the thoughtful hostess, my mother tasked me with going and getting a puzzle for people to do if they were uninterested in watching the game.

That is how I ended up

in a Fred Meyer's toy aisle on New Year's Eve holding a basket filled with wine and snacks and staring at a daunting assortment of puzzles.

I set my sights on the 'adult puzzles' of 500 pieces or more—because this gathering was strictly adult and I wanted no part in assembling a basic child's puzzle.

Nothing jumped out at me, so I contemplated aborting the mission and telling my mom to go look herself because it wasn't the New Year yet and I had places to be.

But then suddenly a beam of light illuminated the most perfect puzzle I had ever seen:

An extra-large 2000-piece collage of successful Disney films.

Our bond was instant. That

puzzle was my soulmate.

Flash-forward to kick off on New Year's Day, wherein a slightly hungover me opened up that beautiful puzzle and realized for the first time in her life how much 2000 of something could tangibly be.

Two thousand puzzle pieces is too many puzzle pieces.

The guests at the party briefly glanced at the heaping pile of puzzle on the card table in my basement as the Ducks worked their way to victory and did little to help.

Being the dedicated and newly fortified 2015 version of myself, I knew in my heart of hearts that finishing this behemoth of a puzzle was my destiny, so I worked on it throughout the entire game.

And most of the following game.

And during any of my plentiful spare time over the break.

The puzzle went from being my inanimate soulmate to the bane of my very existence in the course of a few short days.

Lo and behold, on the ninth of January at one in the morning, after copious hours of work and severely straining my back, I finished that motherfucker and nearly collapsed on top of it.

I also flipped it off several times as I laughed

vehemently in victory.

The completed puzzle stayed on our basement floor (since extra-large 2000-piece puzzles are too large for card tables) until the day before I came back to campus.

When the time came, I mournfully hummed "Taps" to myself as I pulled apart all 2000 pieces and put them back in their box and realized that that puzzle was the first thing I'd actually accomplished in the year 2015.

I was weirdly proud of that.

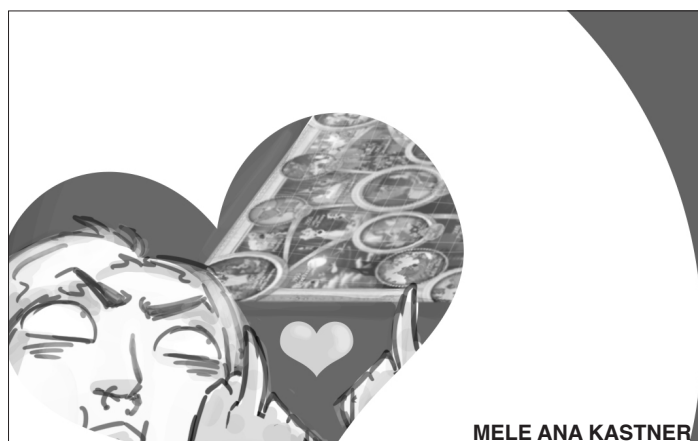
With little to no outside help, I'd done that puzzle. I'd found where all of the pieces went.

I'd set a goal for myself and I'd accomplished it.

One of my resolutions this year is to be proud of myself and my achievements more often, because I'm doing all manner of things in my life and sometimes the very act of doing things can be really, really hard.

I hope you can be proud of yourself more in this year as well.

I mean not all of us can finish 2000-piece puzzles, but I'm certain you're doing other important things with your time instead.



MELE ANA KASTNER

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Home is wherever I'm with me

MAGGIE BOUCHER
OPINIONS EDITOR

"You will never be completely at home again, because part of your heart will always be elsewhere. That is the price you pay for the richness of loving and knowing people in more than one place."

No matter how old we get, it's always hard to say goodbye to the people and places we love. We might get used to it, but it never becomes any easier. As the years go on and we travel to more places and meet new people, it becomes harder and harder to feel as if we are completely at home at any given time.

As I was packing to go home for winter break, there was a part of me that didn't want to leave. Yes, I was excited to see my family, eat my Mom's food, watch Christmas movies and sleep

in, but even with the stress and chaos of finals, I wanted to stay at school, too.

However, last year I couldn't wait to go home. Why was I so much more excited last year? What had changed?

I had met even more great people, joined a sorority and started to find activities I loved. Willamette had finally started to feel like another home.

But, a few weeks ago, it was just as hard to leave my family and come back to WU as it had been to leave school and go home a month ago.

I've realized that as we grow up, it's impossible to have just one home. Because it always seems like we want to be in three or four different places at once. There are moments when I want to be at home with my family, out with my friends and sitting in the Alpha Chi window seat all at once. It's such a

weird feeling and sometimes I wish I could just be content in one place, but at the same time, it's important to realize how lucky we are to have more than one "home."

The best piece of advice I can give is to appreciate where you are when you are there. It's OK to miss those who are in a different city or a different state or a different country, but don't spend so much time wishing you were with them that you don't take advantage of the time you have with those

who you are with currently. Home doesn't just mean one place anymore and be happy where you are right now because soon you will be somewhere else, wishing you were back here. It's hard when your heart is constantly being pulled in several different directions, but it's a small price to pay for being able to know and love people in more than one place.

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LANCE ROSSI

Our first last day

RACHAEL DECKER
GUEST WRITER

Senior Bearcats, another milestone has come and gone: our last first day of college, and with it, the beginning of the end of our time here at Willamette.

I remember my thoughts on our first, first day of school in gruesome detail:

- 1 This OD lanyard is such a nice place for my keys... better just wear it around my neck from now on. It's safer that way.
- 2 Walton or Smullin... Walton? No, Smullin. Shit.
- 3 Where the hell is my roommate? I waited in line for 30 minutes for this wrap, and if she left, I'm going to throw it at her.
- 4 Found her... It only took 10 minutes this time.
- 5 Teriyaki sauce. Teriyaki sauce everywhere.
- 6 Are you sure Eaton has a fourth floor?

Last Monday was an entirely different experience. Here's kind of how it went down:

- 1 Shit, I can't find my Compass Card and I have approximately five million packages in the Mail Center. All textbooks. All ones I need today.
- 2 I really hope I remembered to cancel my six-month trial of Amazon Student, or they're going to charge me \$50, which seriously cuts into my Pint Night budget.
- 3 When was the last time I even saw my Compass Card anyway?
- 4 I'm so hungry... God, I want a Goudy wrap. I don't even care how long I have to wait in line. Shit, how much cash do I have? \$3. I guess I could get some soup?
- 5 I'm getting a fucking Barz Bar and no one can stop me.
- 6 I actually can't even remember the last time I left the Bistro.
- 7 I think I'm having an existential crisis.

People often tell me that it looks like I have my life completely together. But that couldn't be further from the truth.

The truth is that I have no idea what I'm doing next year.

This winter break brought with it a lot of unwelcome questions from extended relatives and distant family friends:

- "Oh, you're a senior?"
- "What's your major?"
- "English? Well, what do you want to do with that?"

Well, second-cousin Margie, I don't fucking know. And I get the feeling I'm not alone.

For every senior who has an awesome internship or job offer lined up, I feel like there are at least 10 more of us who are still trying to figure it out.

And figuring it out is exactly what we're supposed to be doing right now. Figuring it out is perfectly alright. Whether we realize it, we are different people than the bright-eyed freshmen who lined up in Campus Safety to get their ghostly green ID pictures taken.

Somehow, without realizing it, we have become those seniors who lounge in the Bistro like it's our living room. We have gone from having three friends to being incapable of going anywhere on campus without running into at least 20 million people we know (two of whom we have probably made out with at some point or another).

And on May 17, four short months from now, we are going to graduate.

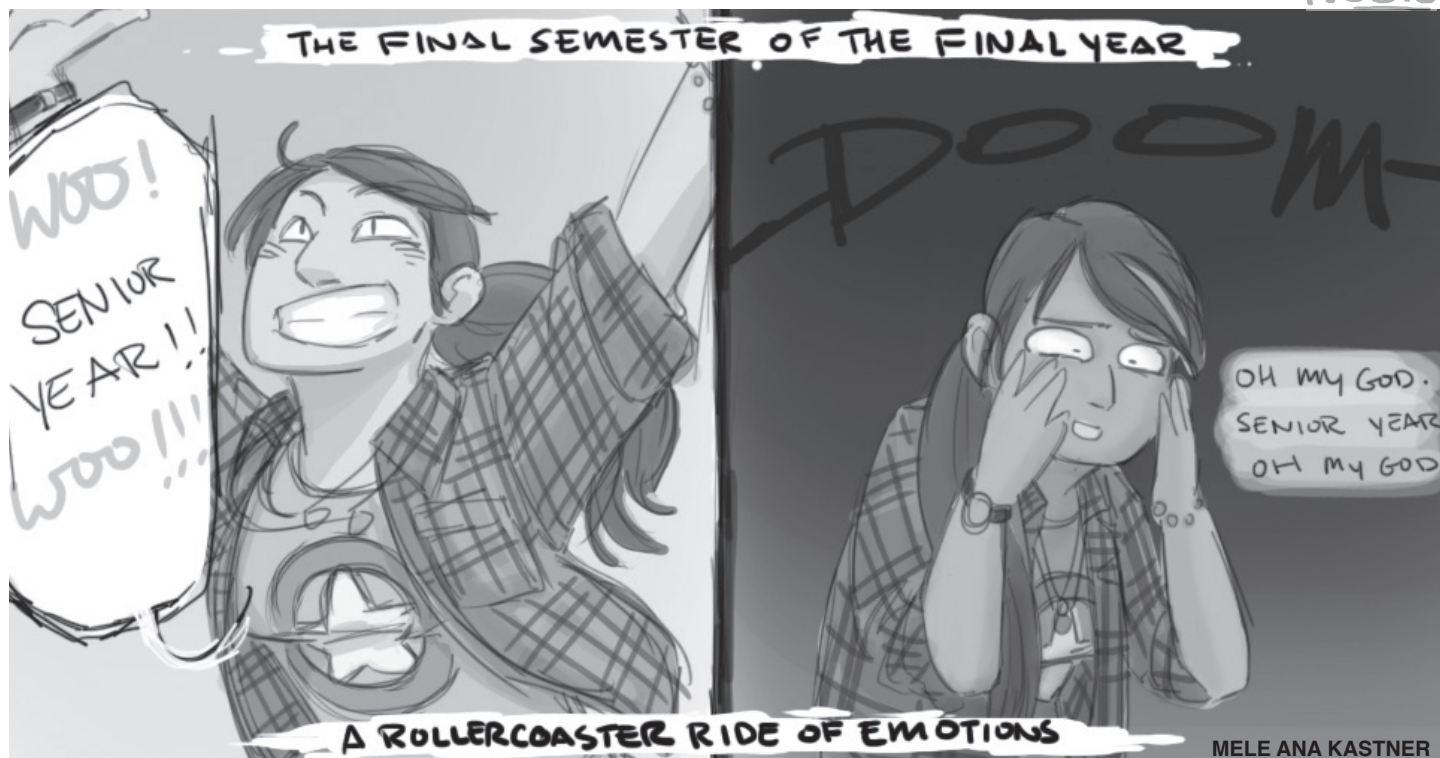
And we're going to figure it out. Until then, I'll see you all at pint night.

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Black Mirror: the beginning of the end

NōBIS



A ROLLERCOASTER RIDE OF EMOTIONS

MELE ANA KASTNER

Grand Theft Auto scares the shit out of me

MARJORIE MEEKS
COLUMNIST

I can't stand unnecessarily violent video games.

To be fair, I know I have a biased opinion. I'm a Nintendo baby, after all.

I spent my childhood days searching for Princess Zelda, battling with Pikachu and flying around on Kirby's star. I'm an avid fan of puzzles, platformers and anything associated with the Mario Bros. trademark. And so help me god, I will never get rid of my beloved Nintendo 64, which is currently plugged into the television in my bedroom.

My preference in gaming is clearly biased. But frankly, even if it weren't, I think I would be hard pressed to understand the appeal of games where violence is used not as a plot device necessary to continue story, but an aspect of entertainment in and of itself.

I can't watch someone play Grand Theft Auto without cringing. The concept of a game where the player is encouraged to harass, assault, murder and potentially even torture other characters sets my stomach on edge and leaves me mildly queasy.

That feeling blows into full out nausea when I force myself to acknowledge that this is not only a single game, but a wildly popular franchise. People will line up at

midnight at stores around the world to be one of the first to get their hands on the next installment.

I cannot help but feel that this enthusiasm prompts a serious discussion about our cultural values.

Now I want to make it very clear that I am in no way insinuating that such games result in teenage psychotic murderers, as the popular myth goes.

Due to my general faith in humanity, I am going to assume that the average gamer maintains a healthy divide between what they believe to be fiction and what they believe to be reality. To say that video game violence is directly responsible for the violence in our society is far-fetched, to say the least.

However, it is critical that we acknowledge the impact violence in pop culture has on society as a whole.

The targeted audience for this particular genre of game is fairly broad: adults, age 17 and older, as per the M rating. Therefore, these are probably people who go to school, who have jobs, who have families. Games such as these are meant for their off hours, to be enjoyed as fun and amusement, much like movies or books.

Unlike books or movies, though, violence in games like Grand Theft Auto is not meant to further any kind of plot. There is no "grand design" that the

player is working for, no final goal to aim for. The entertainment is the violence itself—the player is supposed to murder and assault people because murder and assault is "fun."

And the player, the average Joe with a job and a family, enjoys it without a second thought.

The sense of normalcy with which this otherwise barbaric behavior is treated within this game baffles me.

Many would argue that because the world these atrocities are being committed in is fictional, it's not harmful.

But the fact that there is even a market for this kind of fantasy, in which people are eager to pretend to brutalize other people, illustrates that the damage to our culture has already been done. We have desensitized a massive population to the larger implications of what those actions mean.

Video game violence has achieved a sense of normalcy within pop culture, because it's normal in society. It's not that I'm scared everyone is going to spontaneously begin reenacting Grand Theft Auto in real life.

I'm scared that someday, when someone does do something that sick and barbaric, it will be so ordinary that it won't faze anyone.

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