



Thinking of sending an SOS? Find out more about its origin.

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Do Bearcats really care? Senior Brooks King critiques Willamette's political limited political interest

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Senior Eric Spreser reports on WU baseball series victory as they bring down the Bruins

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Demonstrations, resignations follow proposed Academy changes

 KATIE LIVELY
STAFF WRITER

Six of Willamette Academy's nine student staff members and all students in the Willamette Academy Service Learning (WASL) class have resigned from their duties at the Academy.

Former Academy employee Grecia Garcia said she and other staffers expressed concerns to Human Resources about a hostile working environment and dramatically reduced staff hours at Willamette Academy. As a result, the staffers were offered the choice of continuing to work for the Academy, moving to positions in the Multicultural Affairs Committee or doing both.

Garcia, as well as former Academy staffer and alumna Ana Franco said their involvement in the Academy in recent months led to challenges that interfered with other parts of their lives.

"Sometimes I couldn't sleep at all," Garcia said. "I was stressed the whole time."

"I wasn't able to function as a student or as a person. It was always on the back of my mind," Franco said. "I felt like I could help parents and students better how I wanted to help them if I didn't work at the Academy anymore."



GUADALUPE MOSQUEDA-FRANCO

See SUCCESS Page 2

Silent demonstrators stand outside the Board of Trustees meeting Feb. 19 in support of the 225 families affected by changes coming to Willamette Academy.

Softball sweeps 4

 TROY CONWAY
CONTRIBUTOR

The Willamette University softball team laid the wood on the University of Puget Sound this past weekend opening their season sweeping the opposing Loggers in a four-game series.

In the first game of the Saturday doubleheader, UPS struck early with a solo home run in the top of the first inning. A defensive display followed, as neither team scored until a fourth inning Bearcat rally.

Senior Victoria Bradshaw smashed a double to left field, advanced to third on a wild pitch, and was brought home on a fielder's choice to tie the game 1–1. The next inning, fellow senior Ashley Pender reached first on a fielder's choice, and later scored on an infield single by junior Mallory Asaro. The one-run advantage was all the Cats needed to secure their first win of the season, thanks to great pitching by junior Jade Smith and freshman Reanna

Lancaster, who recorded her first career save.

The second game was all Willamette. Asaro led the charge for the bearcats, going 3 for 3 with a double, a run scored, and two RBIs. Bradshaw was 2 for 2, including a triple and a walk, and Pender also added two runs and two RBI on two hits. The Bearcat bats came alive, with a total of 10 hits on the day.

Pitching was sharp again for Willamette, as Smith added her second win of the day. She only allowed one hit with one strikeout. Lancaster and junior Makayla Hari were solid in relief only allowing one hit in a scoreless fifth and sixth innings as the bearcats went on to run-rule the Loggers 8–0 in six innings.

On Sunday, the team came out ready to play and scored eight runs in both games of the doubleheader, defeating the Loggers 8–3 and 8–2, respectively thanks to a huge day by Dani Saunders.

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Artist spotlight: Rachel Carstensen



MIKE RHINE

Junior Rachel Carstensen's art provokes thoughts on humanity all over campus.

 NEBRASKA LUCAS
STAFF WRITER

I followed a soft string of music to the humanities hearth on the first floor of Eaton, where junior art studio major, Rachel Carstensen, sat on a brown, heavily-cushioned couch. She was seated across from some of her most recent artwork—several pieces lined in a row on the wall depicting the progression of a bipolar episode. Carstensen turned towards her artwork and explained, "It begins with the highs and then kind of ends with the lows. And I wanted to show that it was more complex than how it's usually portrayed, which is just like, that you're happy one minute, and angry or sad the next."

The piece was the result of a class called, "Creating Stories for Social Change," in which students are asked to create a product that is later shared with the community. Following the production of her piece, Carstensen held an event on the Ford patio last semester, and featured performances from the Funk band as well as artwork from two other students in her class.

See STUDENT Page 4



K. Sig celebrates 55 years, give or take

VERONICA FINNEY
CONTRIBUTOR

“The most important part of Theta-Delta’s history to me is the story of our re-chartering,” said sophomore Kappa Sigma member Wil Bakula. Theta-Delta is the name of Willamette’s Kappa Sigma chapter, founded in 1961 and rechartered in 2012.

“It’s the story of six students and one crazy alumnus who bought a house for them,” Bakula said.

The “one crazy alumnus” Bakula mentioned was Paul Boaden ‘77.

“The organization had thought we weren’t holding up to our standards,” Boaden said.

The fraternity’s first charter ended in 2006 due to underage drinking and liability issues.

They worked hard to fix up the place that would become their house and to get the 25 pledges they needed to be re-chartered.

“Without them and all of our other alumni support, we wouldn’t have the amazing organization that exists today.”

The group of students decided to try again in 2011. They had to stay as an interest group for a year and a half before they were made an official colony.

Because of his time in Kappa Sigma, Boaden said he was able to recognize his strengths and weaknesses. “It helped getting to know who I am.”

He and fellow fraternity members gathered this past Saturday to celebrate their chapter’s 55 year anniversary at Willamette.

Current and past members of Kappa Sigma and their guests met in the spinning room of the Mission Mill Museum for a banquet and celebration.

In addition to celebrating its anniversary, the fraternity recently passed its 1,000 member mark, which made this event even more special.

They discussed their fraternity’s history sitting around tables of red and green - the fraternity’s colors - with flags hung on the ceiling displaying the Kappa Sigma logo.

Kyle Pavey, ‘13, said he liked seeing how meaningful the event was

to everyone present. Pavey was vice president of the fraternity when he was a member. He said the experience gave him interpersonal and other skills that he didn’t learn in the classroom.

Members spoke during a presentation of photos from previous

years, highlighting the different generations of members.

Boaden described the event as a time for them to reconnect with old friends and for alumni to meet with current undergrads.

“Seeing people from different generations of the frat” was what

Wesley Dawn, ‘14, said that he liked the most.

Kappa Sigma members are truly proud of their history at the University.

“This organization has held the history,” said first year Tom Farley.

vafinney@willamette.edu



Kappa Sigma alumni and current enrolled students gathered Saturday night to commemorate their fraternity’s history.

Success hinges on more than WU pipeline

CONTINUED from Page 1

Upon learning from Associate Professor of Sociology Emily Drew, who teaches the WASL class, that two thirds of the student staff had resigned, the students of the WASL class were left to discuss their options and vote on whether or not to continue volunteering at the Academy. The vote, said WASL student Athena Moag, was ultimately unanimous to step down in unity.

Now, Moag said, the class has begun looking into alternative community service options as well as discussing ways to continue helping the students on a professional level.

“We just didn’t want the students to feel like they were abandoned,” Moag said.

Garcia said she wanted to convey one point to Academy students.

“Even though we’re not physically there, we are still able to support you,” Garcia said. “Not through the formal way, but we’re supporting you through other mediums.”

Director of Media Relations Adam Torgerson said most of the information circulating the campus in regards to the Academy is false. For example, the letter of intent to attend Willamette that all incoming Academy students will be required to sign is not a binding contract to attend the school.

“It’s not our power. It’s not in our character. It’s not what we want to do,” Torgerson said. “It’s saying that we are preparing them for success here, and when they get here, we are supporting them to succeed here.”

The word “pipeline” is the widely used term for the way the Academy will now operate, but Torgerson said the term is inaccurate because it implies students will be forced to attend WU. Students are not required to disclose on other college applications that they have signed a letter of intent to attend Willamette.

“It’s just a bad metaphor,” Torgerson said. “It’s just impersonal. Ms. Rushing has a relationship with every student in [her

Young Scholars Program]. To her, it’s not plumbing.”

Although students are not required to attend Willamette University, bringing Academy students to WU is a priority. Visits to other colleges will no longer occur through the program in an effort to immerse students in the WU experience.

Torgerson said the program will still be a success even if some or all of its students choose other universities, as long as those students are attending and graduating from a college that serves their interests.

“Even though we’re not physically there, we are still able to support you. Not through the formal way, but we’re supporting you through other mediums.”

—Senior Grecia Garcia

“It’s not like every class is fully going to go to Willamette,” Torgerson said. “It would be a success. I think we would look at why people were choosing to go somewhere else, if they’re all choosing to go somewhere else.”

Interim Executive Director Jacqueline Rushing has the same level of responsibility as past full time executive directors (FTED) have had. The most recent FTED was Michele Gray, who was let go in 2014.

She has more responsibilities than former interim directors Joshua Bilbrew and Robert Jones, Torgerson said, because she also has more education and experience than they had.

“Ms. Rushing has an enormous amount of credibility because of her expertise and experience,” Torgerson said. “The prior folks were not even close to her level.”

A successful college program, Rushing said, would have 80-90 percent of students enrolling in college. Willamette Academy’s rate since 2008 is 64 percent.

Torgerson said 47 percent of Academy students who have enrolled at WU have graduated from WU. Other WU students who are eligible for a Pell Grant have

graduated at a rate of 82 percent.

“There are some amazing people who came into this program, but on average, performing worse than students who haven’t been through the program,” Torgerson said. “It would be tough for us as a university to say that we don’t have a responsibility to do better.”

Torgerson said the design of the program has not yet been finalized. More information will be released within the next 30 days, including the composition of the incoming Willamette Academy class and the programs that will be offered.

kglively@willamette.edu

Pepper spray may stay

GIANNI MARABELLA
LAYOUT EDITOR

Campus Safety will be stocked with pepper spray by mid-March due to a recently passed ASWU bill penned by junior senator Kate Steffy.

The bill faced its fair share of concern among the senators, who worried about what students would do if they were given easy access to a defensive weapon.

“Some of the senators had personal experiences with pepper spray gone ‘wrong’ and wanted to make sure that possibility was addressed,” said senior senator Natasha Parekh.

Due to some apprehension surrounding the bill, a pilot program was proposed to test out the idea.

“It’s important to remember that this is a trial and will be discontinued if problems arise,” sophomore senator Maya Gordon said. “If and when the pepper sprays run out, senate will reevaluate senator Steffy’s bill. Other than that there is no involvement on ASWU’s part; it’s now in the hands of Campus Safety.”

The program is being fully funded by Campus Safety until ASWU can determine whether it will invest in it.

The bill itself was passed in response to the negative feelings on campus regarding safety this school year. There were 1,001 instances of assault and 178 reported sex offenses last year in Salem according to the December 2015 Salem Police Neighborhood Crimes Report.

“When I came to Willamette four years ago I would’ve never felt the need for pepper spray or any self-defense device, but our campus climate has changed significantly and safety on campus has changed little in comparison,” said Parekh. “I think the pepper spray bill is a step in the right direction in terms of making students feel personally safe.”

It was stressed by ASWU that regardless as to whether or not the bill is funded in the long term, it is only

meant to be a temporary solution.

Campus Safety will meet with the ASWU senate over the course of the next few weeks to discuss the bill and long-term changes to campus security.

“This isn’t the only thing we have planned, nor is it something we had hoped it would come to, but our campus needs a solution now. A Band-Aid that will help students on campus feel safer,” junior senator Elizabeth Gill said.

“We should have never had to pass a bill like this in the first place,” Gordon said. “Students should not have to seek out a way to protect themselves; they should feel safe on campus. We should be working on finding more long term solutions as well-and as much as I and many others would love to fix that, it is far more Campus Safety’s job than ASWU’s. We can make small steps such as passing this bill, but Campus Safety needs to make the real change.”

Heeding this, in addition to funding the trial run, Director of Campus Safety Ross Stout and Assistant Director Rich Dennis will be in charge of educating all students who want pepper spray on how to safely use it.

“I think the fact that Campus Safety will be doing these teaching sessions quelled a lot of the senate’s fears and was a big part of getting the bill passed,” Gill said.

The student reaction to the bill will ultimately decide whether or not it gets full funding. ASWU hopes that the student body will be an active part of improving safety on campus.

“ASWU wants to help keep the student body safe so this is one idea, or trial,” said Gordon. “Students with other ideas are welcome to come to our meetings on Thursday nights at seven or talk to one of their class senators-we are very receptive to new ideas!”

gjmarabella@willamette.edu

Debaters learn from Hawaii trip new ways to reach different audiences

GIA ANGUIANO
STAFF WRITER

An all-female group for the University’s debate team recently participated in the Pan Pacific Tournament at Hawaii Pacific University.

Sophomore Madison Brown and junior Maddie Immel placed as semifinalists. First year Quinlyn Manfull and sophomore Jessica Weiss competed as finalists in a public debate.

Hawaii Pacific University holds this event annually and allows high

school, college and graduate students to participate.

Weiss and Manfull’s debate event was held in the Hawaii State Capitol building the night before the tournament began. Civic Communications and Media Professor Una Kimokeo-Goes said that several state representatives judged the event and the turnout was over fifty people.

They debated whether or not Hawaii should take Syrian refugees, a real topic that the House was discussing. Manfull said, “maybe we changed their mind

by hearing another perspective, which really makes me see the value in debate because we talk about how the value of debate is for our own understanding of our own issues and how to argue, but it is also about how we can influence other people’s understanding.”

The tournament in Hawaii allowed the debaters to hear many other perspectives. Kimokeo-Goes said, “being in Hawaii meant the tournament included judges and competitors that were more ethnically diverse from what we ordinarily see in Oregon.”

This challenge made the team confront many viewpoints and understand them, because it was possible that they would have to defend those stances.

Manfull said, “I’m so used to being able to say ‘America is terrible’ but here the Air Force Academy is like, ‘What? U.S. interventionism is great.’” Manfull and Brown said that one had to debate a liberal topic but frame it in a way that conservatives weren’t completely turned off by hearing.

Though the debaters said they could become frustrated in rounds, Kimokeo-Goes said: “While it can be difficult to come to agreement, it is also a great chance to get to meet other people interested in debate.” The debaters seemed to recognize this. Ethics is one of the most important qualities the debate team prides itself on, and Brown said they must be conscious of that. As such, it’s important not to personally attack the other team.

Immel said the tournaments they typically experience are often dominated by men.

“What’s really cool about this tournament specifically is that we got to bring a lot of women from our team, it was an all-female showing at this tournament.”

Manfull and Weiss often walked into rooms where they were the only girls, but Manfull said, “What I was really happy about is that there were five girls and three

boys in the final round. It was really great to see a turnout of mostly girls in the final round.”

The team that won the tournament was two girls from the Air Force Academy. Despite not winning the tournament, it was a success that still satisfied Brown because she had never seen that before.

The form of debate is British Parliamentary, meaning that anyone can participate. Kimokeo-Goes said, “The type of debate we do involves consensus judging, so at this event two to three judges would have to decide on how to rank the teams.”

Brown said, “It’s almost like town hall but is more structured than that.” In this particular competition, judges were allowed to be community members, teachers or even students from HPU that did not have substantial experience. Brown said “That’s the point of debate, anyone is supposed to take part in it.”

Brown said that the debate team is often asked, “Why does your team get to go to cool places?”

“If we are never exposed to debaters from any other region, we get worse because the Pacific Northwest judges like specific things and we are always interacting with the same teams,” Brown said.



Senior Lucas Immer (center) and fellow debaters conduct mock debates in preparation for their tournaments abroad.

gmanguiano@willamette.edu

Changes medical care providers come to WU

RYAN GAIL
STAFF WRITER

Employees from all departments on campus came out to Montag Den on Thursday, Feb. 25 to participate in the University’s 2016 Willamette Employee Wellness & Benefits Fair.

The event was hosted by the University’s human resources department and was intended as a way to educate University staff on how to get the most out of their current employee health benefits.

Many elements of the event also focused on promoting healthy lifestyles.

The event also provided an opportunity for employees to connect with nearby businesses and learn about the health and wellness services they offered.

Businesses that were in attendance at the event included Kaiser Permanente, LifeSource, Aflac, LifeMap, Guardian, Transamerica, Liberty Mutual, Enhanced Benefits Group and Gallagher Fitness Resources.

Drawings, door prizes and giveaways of health and fitness related items took place throughout the day.

After attending the event, Professor of Economics Don Negri said that he “enjoyed the festival atmosphere of the annual Benefits Fair” and that he “looks forward to seeing all the free gizmos that the vendors hand out.”

The University’s 2016 Employee Wellness & Benefits Fair also served the purpose of educating University employees about the

recent changes to their employee healthcare plan.

As of April 1, 2016, the University will be changing its medical health care providers from Pioneer Educators Health Trust to Added Choice and its dental care provider from Regence BlueCross BlueShield to LifeMap.

The University cites an increase in the cost of deductibles and higher insurance premiums for employees as the reason for the switch. Pioneer’s deductibles are reportedly set to increase from \$500 to \$1,500

for individuals and from \$1,500 to \$4,500 for families.

If the University states that if it stayed with its current provider, employees and their family members insured through Pioneer Educators Health Trust would have to pay higher-scheduled payments and a larger amount of money out of pocket for medical expenses before their insurance companies cover the rest of the costs.

After reviewing Pioneer Educators Health Trust’s increased deductible costs, the University’s Benefits Advisory Committee recommended that the University find a more affordable option outside of Pioneer.

The University states that medical benefits will be provided to employees in very much the same way and that dental coverage will be “nearly identical.”

The University has also agreed to cover any increased cost in health care coverage premiums in order to minimize any effects of the change for University employees.

Director of Media Relations Adam Torgerson, who helped to formally announce the change in provider, writes that “reaction [to the change] has been positive, and we appreciate the hard work of the staff and committee members who recommended the new plan.”

Torgerson also states that these insurance plan changes will not have any effect on student employees.

Willamette employees can expect to see premium deduction changes in their March paycheck.

rgail@willamette.edu



WU employees who attended the University’s wellness and benefits fair had opportunities to consult with a variety of healthcare representatives.

More information about the University’s health plan changes can be found online at http://willamette.edu/offices/hr/benefits/open_enrollment/index.html.

Arts

The 21 and over crew is in for a whole new clash of sounds erupting from The Governor's Cup on Friday, March 4. The Portland drum-cell-vibraphone trio Human Ottoman will be playing a free show at the coffeehouse starting at 9 p.m.

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The Historic Elsinore Theatre will be hosting the Salem Concert Band and Festival Chorale on Sunday, March 6. The group will be performing with an orchestra of over 60 instruments, a choir and multiple soloists. The performances are entitled "Requiem" and "Solemn Vespers". Tickets are \$15 and the event begins at 4 p.m.

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If you're a fan of intergalactic classics, look no further than the Historic Elsinore Theatre. They are screening "2001: Space Odyssey" as part of their classic film series on Wednesday, March 9. Tickets to the epic drama are free with a Willamette student ID and the film begins at 7 p.m.

Got culture?
Contact Lifestyles Editor
Christine Smith <cssmith>

Student puts the "art" in "humanities hearth"

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The concept of social change is something that has deeply influenced Carstensen's art. As a child, she built small structures out of recycled materials, and she continues to link this interest to environmental design in her current artwork.

"I really like playing with natural forms in my work, and also geometric forms, and the way that those two intertwine in sociology and politics. I like to see that play out in my work."

Though geometric and natural forms frequently seem at odds with one another, Carstensen revealed that one of her former classes, "Gender, Queer Theory and the Environment" encouraged her to question the separation often placed between the two. The class inspired her to reject the binary that exists between geometric and natural forms as a consistent theme in her work — which she described as a possible idea for an upcoming project.

"I'm thinking about, for my independent study, that instead of paint, I might just use the pigments from plants and print them through the press — and just keep it to using paper, plants, maybe thread and pen. And creating those geometric forms that I was talking about earlier with lines, or with thread, or maybe turning the paper into a three-dimensional form."

Carstensen sat comfortably in the humanities hearth. She



MICHAEL RHINE

Carstensen's artwork redefines and investigates the complex relationship between geometric and natural forms.

firstly admitted that she has gained considerable influence from the classes she has taken at Willamette and is appreciative of the depth of the art department:

"Above having just technical experience, they teach you to really think critically about art. I've been introduced to a lot of contemporary artists, and we've

had a lot of in-depth discussions about contemporary themes."

Carstensen's artwork is showcased throughout campus. She touched on the aforementioned progression of a bipolar episode representation located within the humanities hearth, constructed a geometric display on the second floor of the art building and de-

signed an emoji reconfiguration of Franz Marc's Gelbe Kuh on the silent floor of the library. The pieces might seem vastly different but Carstensen insisted there is a common theme: "I really like bringing humanity into my work."

nlucas@willamette.edu

Animal Collective is back, with an apparent stroke of genius



LANCE ROSSI

IAN ROSENZWEIG
STAFF WRITER

A figurative brush stroke at that, of pure poppy psychedelic sounds in the form of their tenth studio album titled "Painting With". It's been four years since the last release from this Baltimore born-and-raised experimental-electronic-pop-psychedelic group, and

many fans were justifiably satisfied when the band finally released the full album on Friday, Feb. 19 of this year. For those raised through the last millennial transition that grew up adoring the wonders of seeking innovative tunes, Animal Collective has been a reliable escape out of this fast-paced reality.

The band's own Noah Lennox, aka Panda Bear, discussed the ab-

sence of the reverb we've come to suspect from Animal Collective, in addition to the in-your-face modular synth sounds that surround the new album. These factors mark a serious change in the band's musical pursuits and Lennox put it all in perspective by bringing up a past release during a "Rolling Stone" interview. He said "Even [2009's] 'Merriweather Post Pavillion',

people were saying was our poppiest record up to that point, but there still were like long, drawn-out passages of drone."

"Merriweather" was bouncier than most of the band's earlier stuff, but without unfortunate consequence. In fact, it proved they were capable producers of both aesthetic and stimulating tracks that appealed to the masses. They gifted the world with some pretty trippy bangers like "My Girls" and "Also Frightened".

"Painting With" has the same recording line-up as "Merriweather", featuring Lennox, Avey Tare (David Portner) and Geologist (Brian Weitz), with the last member of the collective, Deakin (Josh Dibb) not present. While this album has productive vibes in its entirety, the debatably most progressive and pleasing sounding tracks of the twelve on "Painting With" are "Vertical", "Lying in the Grass", "Bagels in Kiev" and "Golden Gal". "Golden Gal" definitely takes the title of catchiest melody off this release. Go take a listen and attempt to disagree with that "Golden Gal" claim.

The album was recorded in the Studio 3 room at EastWest Studios in Hollywood, which is remarkably the very room where the Beach Boys recorded "Pet Sounds" in 1966. Still for the "Rolling Stone", Weitz told Weingarten about the experience and how "The guys would deliver [instruments to us] ... [and] they'd be like, 'This was used in Planet of the Apes...and these are from the 'Poltergeist' soundtrack.'"

To paraphrase Lennox's words from the same interview — with

additional cultural references provided — "Painting With" is a statement against the ambient and soothing contemporary-drone-indie music (i.e. Mac DeMarco and Grizzly Bear) that has dominated air waves over the last decade or so. The statement the album is making aligns with the directions of both of the most recent dance-oriented releases from metaphorical pop-sensation cousins, Kevin Parker (Tame Impala) and Claire Boucher (Grimes).

Animal Collective should be held in high regard amongst the other psychedelic foundation bands of recent decades, like Of Montreal, by all who love the broad spectrum of quality indie groups. Animal Collective has no doubt influenced the music of other contemporary and originally psychotropic greats like Beach House and Deerhunter, who began recording their dreamy lullabies and pop-rock-electronic ballads only several years after this Collective in 2003 and 2004.

This album differs dramatically from their past, but change must not immediately be embraced as wholly negative. It's smart to be skeptical when a band makes as bold a transition as Animal Collective has done here, but it's equally important to try and move past that initial caution. Honest musical groups like Animal Collective that love to get weird rarely release a full studio album that doesn't have at least one song that sends a wonderfully new and beautiful experience to your senses.

irosenzw@willamette.edu

“SOS” – not just a call of distress

SARAH HAGHI
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday Feb. 23, Professor Mike Chasar gave a presentation to an Eaton Hall lecture room that he called “From Baraka to Rihanna: Legacies of the Black Arts Movement.”

Based on the black poet Amiri Baraka’s book entitled “Black Art”, Chasar explored the use of the term “SOS” following the Black Arts Movement throughout the years since the 1960s when it first became a keyword in African American poetry. Chasar said, “Does ‘SOS’ mean save our ship? Save our souls? Save our skins? Same old shit? Yes it does. Is it a call for help? A WWI memorial? A request for correspondence? A draft notification? Yes it is.”

In its earliest form, “SOS” was the Morse code distress signal, but over time it was used as an acronym and backronym (a redefinition of an existing acronym). “SOS” came to mean many things from the likes of “Save our Students” or a drug prevention club to “Secrets of Sex” or “Shakespeare on the Square”.

Chasar described “SOS” as “a floating signifier that gained racial significance in World War I.” During this time, the military was extremely segregated, with only 20 percent of African American soldiers enlisted actually going to combat. The majority worked in labor troops that Chasar described as “the military equivalent of chain gangs,” called the “Service of Supply”, where the new meaning of “SOS” came from.

The conditions that these soldiers worked in were so awful that SOS in this context came to be known as a sign of racial discrimination, broken promises and unacknowledged sacrifice. However,

it eventually came to serve as a reminder of pride and the quality of their character.

“SOS” has been adopted in a variety of other ways since World War I including SOS letters—used like modern-day personal ads—as well as references in Sonia Sanchez’s poem “Blk/Rhetoric” and Patricia Smith’s legendary spoken word performance of “Skinhead,” the performance of which is riddled with juxtapositions. It caused a media controversy because the message doesn’t fit the medium. The speaker is a white, racist man, and the writer and performer is an African American activist woman. Smith cannot possibly lose herself in the poem, yet it closes the cultural and emotional distance between these rivaling people.

Rihanna’s top hit song “SOS (Rescue Me)” is informed by this history. The music video, from when she is trapped in mirrored cells by the camera, to when two black men lift her up onto a gleaming stage and, through that action, answer her call for help.

When asked about the modern implications of “SOS (Rescue Me),” Chasar said, “We don’t typically take song lyrics seriously at the university level, in English classes, or in history classes. But Rihanna’s lyrics suggest that they’re more complex and more embedded in a poetic tradition than we might assume.”

Baraka’s poem “SOS” uses the phrase “calling all black people” six times within seven lines as it imitates the voice of a radio distress call.

“Baraka’s title ‘SOS’ invites the multiple meanings of this media history into the poem... There isn’t just one way to read, hear or decode ‘SOS’ but a multiplicity of ways contingent on which SOS in which me-



SARAH HAGHI

Professor Chasar enlightened his audience on the transformation of “SOS”.

dium in which context we use to do that decoding,” Chasar said.

From Baraka in the 1960s, as a man writing on the page, to Rihanna, the contemporary woman performing on screen, SOS has carried through the years, evolving as a

symbol for racial identity. As Chasar said, “Poetry disrupts the use of language as a transparent medium for meaning.”

slhaghi@willamette.edu



Broad City, narrow target audience

CHRISTINE SMITH
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

“Broad City” was recommended to me with the description of: “It’s like ‘Workaholics’ but with girls running the show. They just get high and do hilarious stuff all the time.” My recommender wasn’t wrong and I ended up tossing homework aside to power through season one of Abbi Jacobson and Ilana Glazer’s adventures in around 24 hours.

The show appeals to such a specific type of person that many 20-year-olds fretting that their lives are going to amount to nothing can relate to. They make society’s idea of failure appear to be a bearable festivity, as long as you have your partner in crime ready to wreak havoc with you. Who doesn’t want to dick around with their best friends all the time while still managing to have a roof (albeit a grimy one) above their heads?

“Broad City” launched as a web series in 2010 — a web series that received heavy criticism for being too bizarre, unscripted and ultimately a failure — at least according to multiple critics. Viewers found it revolutionary and it gained so much hype that it became a Comedy Central 30 minute weekly show. The premiere of its third season on Comedy Central spiked its ratings and even Rotten Tomatoes thinks it’s fresh as can be and gives it a 98 percent rating. It has racked up millions of dedicated television and online viewers who constantly reference their ludicrous dialogue in conversation, like “PKW...got your phone, keys, wallet?”

“Friends” created an unrealistic view of living as a 20-something-year-old in New York. Not everything is cute and quirky, and high paying jobs or perfect significant others don’t just show up at your doorstep. “Gossip Girl” showcased the glamorous and unattainable parts of New York, but “Broad City” brings light to the lives of millennials all over scraping by and doing nearly anything for free stuff. It reaches an audience that “Two Broke Girls” wanted, but did not quite reach.

“Broad City” is revolutionary because of the intense chemistry between Ilana and Abbi, in combination with the bizarre humor that is somehow more relatable than other shows. They document the strength of best friendship — the kind of friendship where your best friend has witnessed your ugliest moments, your blackout moments and your golden moments. They are your ride or die, your wingman and your biggest heckler.

Everything Ilana and Abbi do is on their terms. They aren’t waiting around or sitting back waiting for life to happen; instead, they are whirlwinds accomplishing everything a reckless individual has on their bucket list. Their favorite activities include: movie hopping, shoplifting, party crashing and scheming their way out of the bill and they helped me establish a life goal of crashing a rooftop party in a metropolitan city. They have no filter and are 100 percent unapologetic about it.

The season premiere targeted organic food co-ops, the kind that cost an arm and a leg and indentured servitude in exchange for a bushel of vegetables. It did not disappoint and the girls continue to be my heroes every week.

cssmith@willamette.edu

ROBOCOPP hopes to robo-stop on campus crime



ROBOCOPP.COM

CASEY DOBBERT
STAFF WRITER

If you see a friend carrying around something that resembles a blue flash drive with a cute little robot face on it, whatever you do, don’t pull on it. This seemingly innocent robot face is actually a very powerful sound-grenade that emits a screech with just one tug. This baby emits a 120-decibel alarm when you pull its pin, and will keep screaming until the pin is replaced.

ROBOCOPP is a personal safety device, that many students now are opting to use over, or in combination with, pepper spray and personal safety apps.

ROBOCOPP was thought up by Sam Mansen, who sought out a personal safety device for his sister who attended night classes at a college in the Bay Area. In his search, he discovered that the only real option for personal safety devices was pepper spray.

“We were looking at what alternatives are there, one being a personal alarm,” says Mansen “and it turns out that it was much more effective in preventing an assault.”

A personal alarm is not a new concept, but ROBOCOPP is crafted to be user-friendly. Instead of being bulky and cumbersome, ROBOCOPP sports a sleek design that allows it to be attached to a keychain, backpack or other device in order to make it easy to carry and keep on your person.

cdobbert@willamette.edu



BROOKS KING
GUEST WRITER

For a university with students that pride themselves on being politically engaged, the proof is not in the pudding. Bearcats overwhelmingly demonstrate an attitude of apathy towards international political issues. The Syrian Civil War is a case that exemplifies this problematic reality on campus.

In the 21st century, there is no war that is not on a nation's doorstep. Since the fall of communism in eastern Europe, the world has experienced the rise of globalization, an increasing interdependence between all regions of the globe. This means that events, especially those weighty with political significance, have wide-reaching consequences over the entire world. World War II is an example of such an event; arguably, Syria is a comparable contemporary conflict. In order to understand why the war is such an important issue, it is necessary to understand the roots of the conflict and the key players.

The Syrian Civil War has many tangled roots, but the primary cause of the war can be traced to a massive drought in 2006 that the region experienced. The drought has inhibited the ability of the Syrian people to carry out agriculture successfully in the more rural regions of the country. This has caused life in rural vil-

lages to be unsustainable, leading to an exodus of people from the villages into major cities such as Aleppo and Damascus. Strains on agriculture contributed to food shortages in the major cities, increasing desperation amongst the displaced and poorer populations within the cities. As tensions began to rise, the Syrian government's reaction only created further strife.

President Bashar al-Assad's response to pro-democracy protests in the wake of the recent election was considered by many to be authoritarian. Assad's brutality only produced more democratic resistance, and then further violence and repression by the government. These events have had much greater impact than initially thought: the culmination of these events were uprisings against Assad's government marking the start of the Syrian Civil War in March 2011.

The magnitude of the Syrian Civil War has produced geopolitical ripples across the world. The conflict primarily involves the Syrian Government forces under the leadership of Assad fighting against a large number of disparate rebel groups. But beyond Syrian borders is a proxy war brewing with many different players, including the Islamic State, France, Russia, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and the United States.

These are just some of the major international players within the

conflict. Considering that all of these nations have different interests and endgames adds further confusion and creates difficulty in resolving the war. For instance, the Islamic State has pushed its front into Syria, bringing a self-ordained mission of carrying out the End Of Times with it.

The two biggest players in the Syrian Civil War outside of Syria, the U.S. and Russia, have both pledged military support in Syria but their aims differ. The United States has committed to bombing runs against the Syrian Government forces, the Islamic State and various rebel factions it considers to be 'terrorist groups,' such as the Nusra front. Interests in the region extend beyond the borders of Syria, as the U.S. uses its close ally, Saudi Arabia, as an arms supplier to the rebel groups it supports.

But Syria stands as territory of interest for international players outside of civil war. The United States' staunchly anti-Assad rhetoric stands primarily in opposition to Russia's support for the Assad regime. Since the fall of the USSR, Russia has played a destabilizing role in conflicts in Georgia, Tajikistan and the Ukraine. Now it is fulfilling a similar niche within the Syrian Civil War in what some consider the latest iteration of Russia's attempt to maintain control in states previously dominated by the Soviet Union. Russia's support of al-Assad's regime has resulted in

military actions against rebel groups, many of which are supported by the United States. And tensions between the U.S. and Russia have escalated due in part due to the different sides each state has taken in the conflict—not to mention the history of bad feelings.

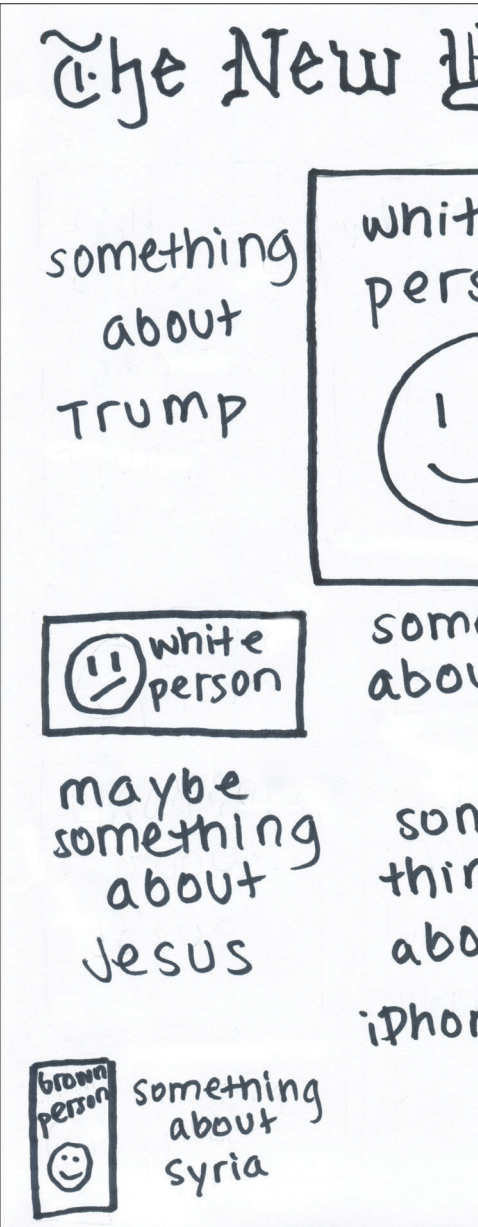
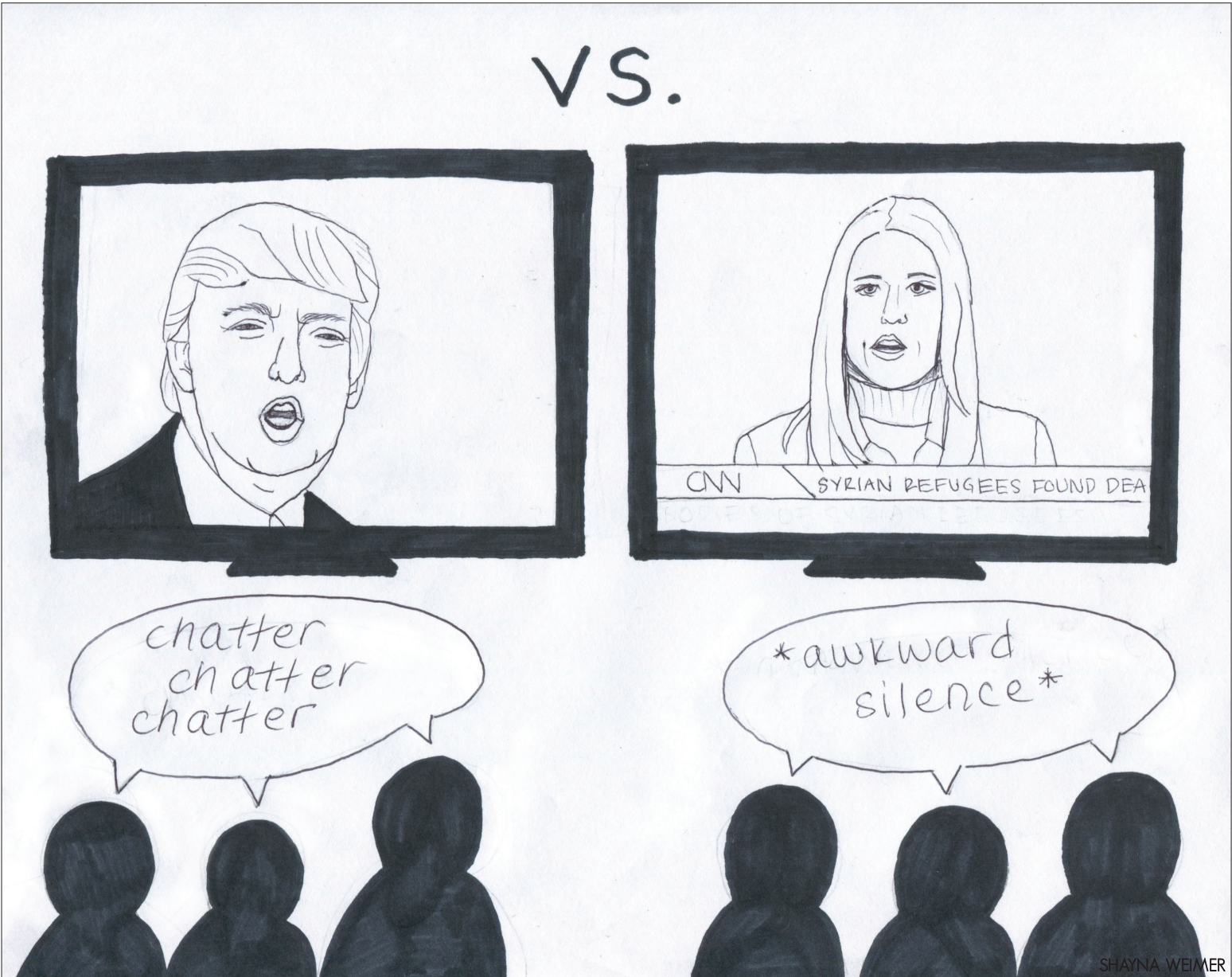
The tension that separates the U.S. and Russia hums with the possibility of direct conflict, made worse when

Turkey shot down a Russian jet that reportedly violated Turkey's airspace last November. Turkey happens to be a part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which requires member states, such as France, the UK and the USA, to go to war on behalf of any other NATO-allied country attacked by an aggressor. Had Russia responded, all NATO nations could

Drought, displacement
Evolution of the

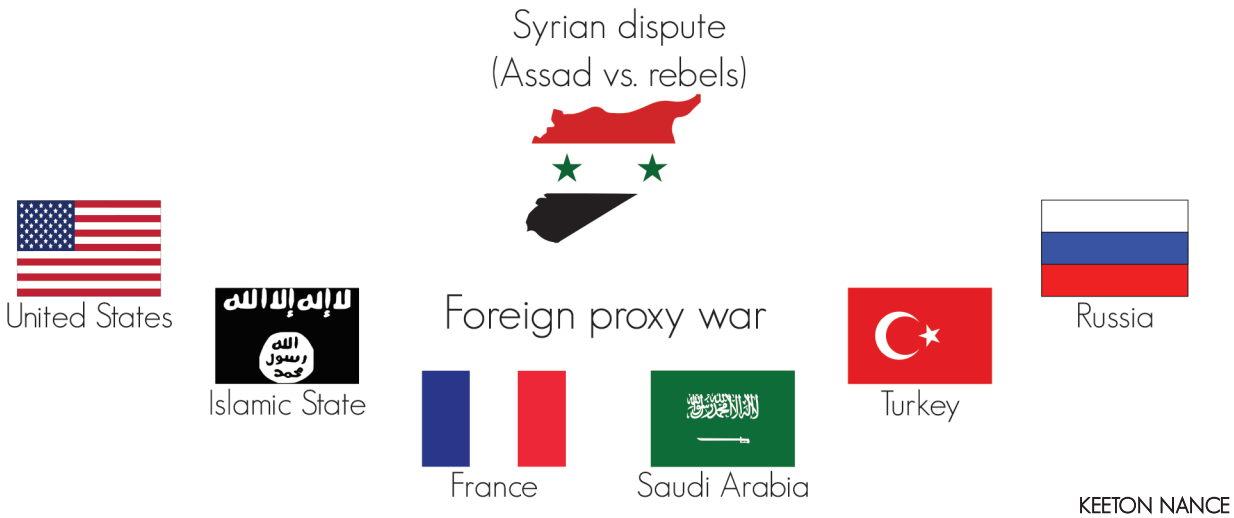
Apathy complex

The Willamette



Displacement, disaster:

the Syrian conflict



Apathy and displacement:

displacement: response to Syria

have declared war on Russia, plunging a large portion of the Western world in an international conflict with the potential of expanding into a third World War.

By our own human nature, we are doomed to repeat our mistakes. Yet beyond academics, students are either blissfully ignorant or blatantly complacent of this impending crisis.

One can find apathy and a general disinterest while discussing the conflict with their peers. Are these world events blown out of proportion? Do these events really carry such weight? Or are Americans so insulated against world events that they brush off global conflict like a nagging mosquito?

The Syrian refugee crisis has not caught up to the United States fully.

There are several specific reasons that may explain this: the geographic distance of the U.S. from Syria, stringent refugee policies and intensive application process and the travel costs to refugees. There has been no end to the debate regarding Syrian refugees and asylum seeking in European Union countries like Germany and France, and in the U.S., the granting of asylum is all-too-often reduced to a political issue rather than an ethical one. Our representatives and candidates use the granting of asylum as political bargaining chips rather than treating this issue as a real problem. One can see this reflected in the American mindset, when the shock value of what a candidate preaches generally overshadows reality of a dire situation.

Despite a generally “progressive” mindset, Willamette students are not so different from “average” Americans, and also fall into the trap of critiquing inflammatory rhetoric while ignoring the bigger picture.

For instance, Republican hopeful Donald Trump unabashedly centers xenophobia as a campaign promise. His bigoted rhetoric incites fear of Muslims, and as media outlets remind us, fear of Syrian refugees potentially seeking asylum, considering Syria’s high Muslim population. Virtually every Willamette student has seen the YouTube clip in which Mr. Trump calls for “a total and complete

shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country’s representatives can figure out what the hell is going on.” Due to their shock value, Trump’s speeches generally provoke a fervent response, be it positive or negative. Willamette students are especially ready to engage in vehement critique, particularly in expressing strong, negative reactions towards Donald Trump.

Why are students so quick to care about Trump’s words, but not the conflict in Syria, which has implications reaching far beyond the American political sphere? The disparate response between international events and domestic ones lies in both the privilege of ignorance and the exercise of American exceptionalism.

The privilege of ignorance refers to the adoption of an apathetic mindset towards important issues because one is not directly affected by them. In the case of Syria, Americans have not had to deal with the larger impacts of the war that other states and countries, such as E.U. nations and Syrians themselves, have had to face, such as mass migration, social strife caused by displacement and the lived experience of violence. Not only do we not experience any of these direct or residual consequences of war, but we already think we’re different by virtue of our passports.

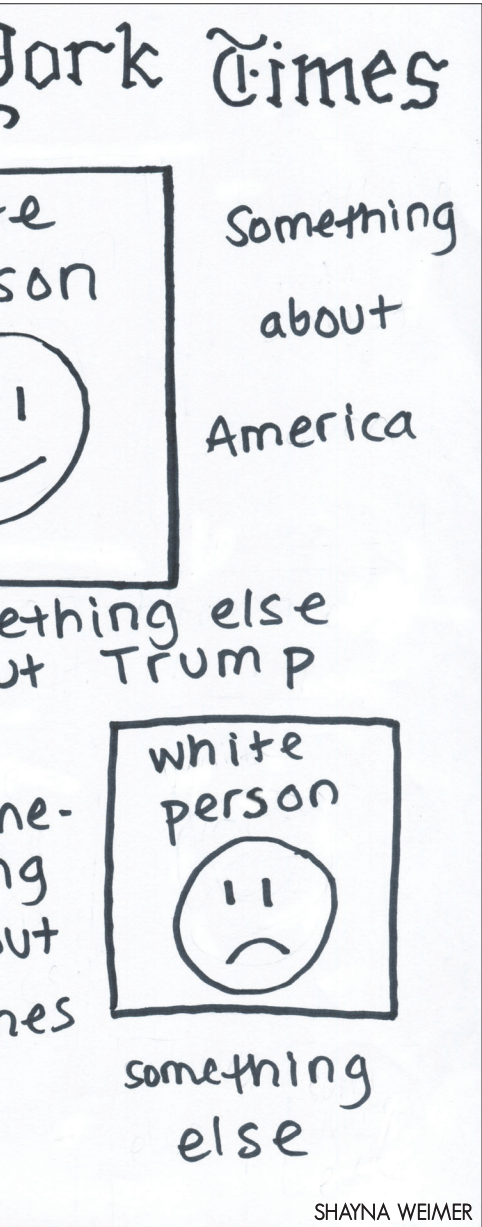
Although exceptionalism contains positive connotations, such as hold-

ing ourselves to a higher standard of growth and progress, it is a double-edged sword. Exceptionalism detaches Americans from considering the problems other nations face. Exceptionalism becomes exemptionalism as Americans are not interested in outside affairs that do not directly impact them. This holds true when considering how Americans and, by extension, Willamette students, consider domestic political issues in comparison to international ones.

Donald Trump spews vitriol at various minority groups? Shock, rage and awe. Planned Parenthood is under attack from the Right? Better go spray paint a piece of cardboard and stand outside of the Oregon State Capitol building for five hours. Refugees are being denied asylum? America is dropping bombs in a far-off desert? ... What else is new.

The dispassionate response from Willamette students towards major international issues is disappointing, but not confounding. In this regard, Willamette reflects the general American rhetorical fixation with domestic affairs and subsequent disinterest with international events. But if Willamette students are going to tout themselves as politically active, perhaps they should take a look in the mirror, and then across the pond.

bking@willamette.edu



Baseball takes 2 of 3 against George Fox

‘Cats led by strong pitching and the long ball

ERIC SPRESSER
STAFF WRITER

After a rough first game of a three game series for the baseball team, the Bearcats came back big and had to win the series. Coming into this weekend, WU was sitting at 1-2 in Northwest Conference play but after beating George Fox University twice, have climbed back to 3-3.

Along with getting back to .500 in the NWC, the Bearcats were able to improve to 8-7 overall on the season. George Fox, who had been unbeaten in conference prior to this series, fell to 4-2 in conference and 8-6 overall.

Sophomore third basemen Mason Fessler, who had a great weekend at the plate going a combined 4-9 with five runs scored and three RBI said, “It was great to win the series. Our goal every weekend is to win a series and this weekend we were able to do that. I think this one was especially big because of how we bounced back after that first game blow out. It shows a lot about our team and the fight that we have to come back and win the next two.”

The first game of a double header on Saturday saw a well-played first few innings for both teams as the score was 4-3 in the Bruins favor after just four innings of play. Things were still within reach for Willamette at 7-3 in the eighth inning before a grand slam from George Fox broke the game open. After a couple of more runs in the ninth, the Bruins went on to win the game 13-3.

Freshman shortstop Tyler Janitz contributed a 2-RBI single in the bottom of the first inning of the second game of the double header, to give WU a 3-1 lead after one

inning of play. With solid pitching on the mound from freshman Matt Steindorf, the ‘Cats were able to hold a 5-4 lead heading into the bottom of the 7th inning. With some patient hitting, WU was able to get three runs in the inning, all on bases loaded walks, solidifying an 8-4 lead, the eventual final score.

Sunday saw more excellent hitting from the Bearcats as they were able to score seven runs in the first two innings, punctuated by a three-run homerun by sophomore Ty Wyatt in the bottom of the second. The Bearcats held an 8-6 lead going into the bottom of the eighth inning when sophomore Perry Van Eckhardt led off the inning with a solo homerun that was the beginning of a five-run inning to close out the Bruins for good. Senior pitcher Jackson Watt came in the ninth to pick up his second save of the season and Willamette walked away with the 13-6 victory.

The Bearcats were led by Eric Del Prado at the plate as he went 5-14 with six RBI, three doubles, and two runs scored in the series.

“I felt pretty comfortable at the plate this weekend,” Del Prado said. “I was lucky enough to come up in some spots with runners on base, and I just tried to put a good swing on pitches. Thankfully some of the balls fell in.”

Back at .500 in conference play, and a tie for fourth in the conference, Willamette will travel to Tacoma to take on the Lutes from Pacific Lutheran University this weekend in another three-game NWC series.



Top: The Bearcat offense gathers in the dugout as they prepare to face Bruin pitching. Left: Freshman Brandon Nelson delivers a pitch in the first game on Saturday. Right: Senior Austin Hagarty prepares to take a swing against George Fox University.

this week in sports

| sun | mon | tue | wed | thu | fri | sat |
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| <p>EVAN GIDDINGS SPORTS EDITOR</p> <p>NBA</p> <p>Stephen Curry is ridiculous. If there is one reason you should watch basketball, it should be him. In one of the best regular season games that has been played so far, Stephen Curry tied the record for the most threes in one game, with 12 as the Warriors defeated the Oklahoma City Thunder in overtime. The Warriors won 121-118, thanks to Steph's twelfth three, which went in with 0.6 seconds left on the clock.</p> <p>Also, Steph shot the ball from 38 feet. The three-point arc is 23ft 9in from the hoop. He finished the game with 46 points.</p> | | <p>The Portland Trailblazers had a good week, going 3-1, with their one loss coming to the Houston Rockets on Thursday. Damian Lillard is still on a tear for the Blazers. Last week he averaged 30.2 points per game. The Blazers sit in seventh in the Western Conference and are still poised to make the playoffs.</p> <p>NHL</p> <p>We'll get into it by talking about the random team of the week: the Florida Panthers. The Panthers have a record of 35-19-8, which is good enough for 78 points and first place in the Atlantic Division. They are currently on a two game losing streak after dropping games to the Minnesota Wild and Columbus Blue Jackets last week. They will need to pick it up next</p> | <p>week because the Tampa Bay Lightning, who are also in the Atlantic Division and also sit on 78 points but with one more game played, are currently on a seven game win streak and looking to take over the top spot in the division.</p> <p>The Los Angeles Kings had a good week, going 3-1. They beat the Calgary Flames, Edmonton Oilers and Buffalo Sabres by a combined score of 6-2. However, their one loss came to the Anaheim Ducks, who are currently on an eight game winning streak and only sit two points behind the Kings in the Pacific Division.</p> <p>MLS</p> <p>The MLS preseason came to a close as 15 teams played their final tune-up games on Saturday. The</p> | <p>largest score line came from the Orlando City, Bahia game, which ended 6-1 with Orlando coming out on top. Bahia plays in the second division in Brazil.</p> <p>The season begins on March 6. Some teams, however, are playing in the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football, Champions League already. The teams playing in this are the Sounders, Real Salt Lake, LA Galaxy and D.C. United.</p> <p>MLB</p> <p>Yahoo Sports has reported that, like our University, the MLB is cracking down on "chewing" the good stuff this year. Smokeless tobacco will no longer be allowed in stadiums in Boston, San Francisco and Los Angeles.</p> | <p>All teams have now reported to spring training and have had their first full-squad workouts. Games begin on March 1 with the Blue Jays, Braves, Indians, Orioles, Phillies, Pirates, Reds and Tigers all playing in Florida.</p> <p>NFL</p> <p>The NFL Scouting Combine just wrapped up. The top 40-yard-dash time this year was 4.31 and was set by Keith Marshall, a running back from the University of Georgia. The top vertical jump this year was set by Daniel Lasco of Cal and was 41.5 inches. ASU's Christian Westerman took the top spot in the 225-pound bench press with 34 reps.</p> | |

egidding@willamette.edu



Bearcat Spotlight



MARK ANDREONI
STAFF WRITER

Bearcat Spotlight interviews personalities, captains and talents from Willamette varsity and club sports. Find out about these athletes, and what they do when they're not at practice!

Up this week: Wyatt Perry, a kitted out birder from Fort Collins Colorado who moonlights as a rugby player.

Mark: Who is your celebrity crush?

Wyatt: Katy Perry, we share the last name already.

Mark: If you could go to dinner with anyone alive or dead, who would it be?

Wyatt: Probably Max Planck; he's a physicist. He just did a bunch of stuff and I also heard he wasn't a nice person. I just kind of want to see what he's like.

Mark: What is the most interesting thing you've ever eaten?

Wyatt: I ate some dog food once, like canned dog food.

Mark: How was it?

Wyatt: Really disgusting, yeah. I was with my friends and they said I couldn't do it.

Mark: Did you ever have an embarrassing phase?

Wyatt: I guess that's pretty much just now. I just wear Keens all the time and people think that's embarrassing, but not to me.

Mark: Is there something you're obsessed with?

Wyatt: Does cookie dough count? Yeah, definitely cookie dough.

Mark: What is an overrated liquid?

Wyatt: Gatorade, it can actually have too much electrolytes. It can end up dehydrating you.

Mark: What could you not live without?

Wyatt: My Keens. Yeah, definitely my Keens.

Mark: Favorite cartoon when you were young?

Wyatt: Scooby-Doo, for sure.

Mark: Favorite character?

Wyatt: Well, I liked Shaggy the most. I thought Freddy was a little uptight and controlling. Velma is probably the second.

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

Wyatt: Just in the star trees, you know? Nice sounds.

Mark: If you could teach a college level course, what would it be?

Wyatt: Multivariable calculus, it was my favorite course ever.

Mark: If you had a sandwich named after you, what would be in it?

Wyatt: So it has to have pulled pork and then probably a lot of cheese. So yeah, just pulled pork and cheese.

Mark: What is the worst job you've ever had?

Wyatt: I did dishes at an old folks home, that was bad. I had to wait tables sometimes and they were not very nice.

Mark: If you were a supervillain, what would your master plan be?

Wyatt: Forcing art majors to be physics majors.

Mark: What is an underrated or underused musical instrument?

Wyatt: By far the mandolin. You can use it in any situation, and it's small and easy to carry around.

Mark: What would you name your hypothetical children?

Wyatt: Okay, so my first daughter would be Maude and second daughter Sophia. I assume I would have son and he'd be Aaron.

Mark: Favorite cheese?

Wyatt: I really like Muenster.

Mark: If money weren't an issue, what would your dream job be?

Wyatt: Oh, I'd probably still be an environmental engineer. That's what I really want to be.

Mark: Worst book you've ever read?

Wyatt: My least favorite was "Things Fall Apart" by Chinua Achebe, which I read in high school. Great author, I just didn't like the book that much.

Mark: What is, or what would be, your catchphrase?

Wyatt: Leave it to G-Money.

Mark: How would you describe your own smell?

Wyatt: A bear who forgot to shower for a couple days.

Mark: Do you have a guilty pleasure TV show?

Wyatt: I went through a phase of "One Tree Hill."

Mark: If you could ride a giant version of any animal to school, what would it be?

Wyatt: A giant black chickadee. I would like, fly on it and put a saddle on it.

Mark: Then the question from Anelise: How many times a day do you defecate?

Wyatt: Well after Goudy about three, but yeah, on average one or two.

Mark: Your question for next week?

Wyatt: How many glasses of water can you drink in ten minutes?

mandreoni@willamette.edu

Run, jump and throw: the 'Cats are ready to go

CARRIE FOX
STAFF WRITER

This spring, the Willamette University track and field team will look to build off of a very successful 2015 season, on and off the track. Both the men's and women's teams earned Scholar Team Award of the Year, as the men won the Northwest Conference Championship, while the women took second place.

WU's women went on to win the West Regional meet and earned an automatic qualification for Nationals and at one point in the season, they were ranked number four in the Western Region. Meanwhile, the men took fourth at the Regionals and received a wild card bid to the National meet.

The Bearcats only plan to carry and build off this incredible success they had last season and senior Taylor Ostrander feels confident that this group of athletes can accomplish that. "We have a really strong distance crew on both the men's and women's sides and our team dynamic this year has been really great," she said. "Everyone is so positive and encouraging, it's been a really great training atmosphere."

Ostrander — who also runs cross country and was named an All-American in the fall — finished in first place in the 5000-meter race at the 2015 Northwest Conference Track and Field Championships. She also placed second in both the 10,000-meter race and the 3,000-meter steeplechase. In addition to those feats, she has also qualified for the NCAA Division III Outdoor Track and Field Championships every year while at Willamette.

Other key returners for the women include seniors Maya Bowton and Hannah Bressler who each had impressive performances last season. Bowton placed seventh at the Northwest Conference Championships for the high jump, and Bressler came in fourth place in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

For the men, seniors Yonny Castillo and Hans Lehndorff will be expected to lead the distance and field events, respectively. Castillo finished second in the 5,000 and 10,000-meter runs at the 2015 Northwest Conference Championships, while Lehndorff — who is also on the football team — looks to improve on all three of his events: shot put, discus throw and hammer throw. In 2014, he placed first in the discus at the NWC Championships where he also set a personal record in the shot put at 13.97 meters.

The team also has a lot of new members who will look to show their potential. There's a total of four new freshman on the men's squad, including Tom Farley, who is a thrower along with three distance runners, Keith Carlson, Robbie Melhorn and Ben Newman.

Also featuring four new faces is the women's team, with freshman Hazel Carr and Emily Evans running the distance events and Alex Stacy competing in the jumps, with Betty Ortiz rounding out the freshman class.

With plenty of talent behind her, Ostrander feels like the team has a lot of potential to be great again this year. "The jumpers, throwers, and sprinters have all been working really hard since their fall pre-season too and should have a lot to bring to the table," she said.

Willamette track and field will begin the season with the Willamette Opener at Charles Bowles Track on Saturday, March 5. Start time is 10 a.m.

cfox@willamette.edu

Bearcats roll over the loggers

CONTINUED from Page 1

After falling behind 1-0 in the first game, junior Steffany Dunn sparked the Bearcat offense with a single in the fifth inning. She proceeded to steal second base and was later waved home on a double down the line by freshman Promise Burnett. Saunders then started her big day by blasting a two-run home run, her first of the year, and giving the Bearcats a 3-1 lead.

A five-run sixth inning improved the Bearcat lead to 8-1, after doubles by sophomores Elaine Norcia, Kathryn Moore and Saunders.

Saunders finished the game 3 for 4 with four RBI and one run scored. Moore was 2-for-3 with one run and a pair of RBI.

In the final game of the weekend, Willamette jumped out to an early lead, scoring seven runs in the first two innings. Saunders led the game off with another hit, and later scored after a botched throw down to second base on a Pender stolen base attempt. Pender later scored on a ground-out by Burnett.

In the second inning, Saunders drove a double to right-center field, which brought in two of

the five Bearcat runs that inning. Moore had an RBI single, and Pender cleared the bases with an RBI triple.

In the fifth inning, Saunders scored again on a double by Pender.

Saunders again finished 3-for-4, with three runs, a walk and an RBI. Moore was 2-for-4 with a run and an RBI, and Pender finished 2-for-3 with two runs and two RBI.

"I can't wait for the rest of the season to get underway," said Saunders, who finished the day 6-for-8 with four runs and six

RBI's. "There's a whole new team philosophy and I'm ready to get more wins with my 'Cats."

She credits her big day to her game day ritual of "getting dressed in the bathroom while blasting music and singing at the top of [her] lungs."

Willamette travels to McMinnville, Oregon next weekend to take on rival Linfield College. They are scheduled to play doubleheaders on Saturday, March 5 and Sunday, March 6 starting at 12 p.m.

tconway@willamette.edu



SAM KEECHLER



SAM KEECHLER



SAM KEECHLER

Left: Junior Mallory Asaro attempts to beat out a ground ball against Puget Sound. Middle: The infield assembles in the pitcher's circle during the second game on Saturday. Right: Junior Jade Smith went 3-0 over the weekend and was named NWC pitcher of the week for her efforts.



Great success: My cat is named Savannah

SIMON ORR
CONTRIBUTOR

I have, to put it mildly, run afoul of the administration lately. This is not a topic I wish to discuss. Suffice it to say that I have ruffled a few feathers this year. You might have noticed. Today I will write the least legally-actionable, most banal, most protected-statement-of-opinion article of my life.

My cat is named Savannah. She is brown. I think. I'm color-blind. Savannah has no problem with the University administration. She is a cat. Her problems mostly consist of my trying to trim her toenails and my apartment being a disaster due to my perpetually high level of stress.

Savannah has a favorite toy. It is yellow and shaped like a bird. The toy was named "Bertie the Budgie" by the manufacturer. It is made of recycled bottles and catnip. She alternately mauls it and cuddles with it while she sleeps. She has not had to deal with so many "associate deans" that she has no time for class or study outside of meetings. She enjoys mackerel flavored wet food.

Savannah does not meow. Instead she gurgles and

moans. She clearly takes after me in this respect. Occasionally we both roam the apartment whining incoherently. We are friends.

Savannah enjoys long car rides. She is a very good cat. She comforts me after meetings with University middle management that leave me sobbing for hours. She accords me respect, probably in the hopes that I will give her crunchy treats. Perhaps I should bring crunchy treats to administrative meetings.

Savannah was sick last month. She did not have to worry that her professors rarely accept sick notes, and that the University health center does not write them at any rate. Nor did she have to worry that the University has reclassified Disability Services as an administrative department, informing her that they no longer are governed by HIPAA. I nicknamed her "Sneezy." She did not find that amusing.

Savannah does not respond to her name. Instead, she responds to "Kitty." In fact, she responds to any two-syllable word with a hard consonant at the beginning. I enjoy coming up with new nonsense names for her. Kooba. Kree-naw. Klumpa.

You might notice that that last paragraph did not have any overt or subtle digs at the University. That alone qualifies this as the least-libelous and most banal article I have ever written for this publication. The fact that this is about my cat, who I sometimes refer to as "my purr-sausage," re-emphasizes this fact.

I got an email last week from an administrator indicating that they had waited outside of class for me, but I didn't show up. They reminded me that attendance is important and offered to assist me in finalizing plans to withdraw from my classes. My return email indicated that it would be wise to, in the future, advise me when meetings had been unilaterally declared so that I could be sure to attend.

My cat bit me earlier, and I yelped. She was so startled by the noise that she started crying. She had been expecting me to just sit there while she hurt me.

sorr@willamette.edu

Why attend class?

JOSH SINGER
OPINIONS EDITOR

Willamette's attendance policy is just one aspect that makes the college campus feel like a more costly high school. For most classes, professors will drop your grade by some arbitrary amount after three unexcused absences, meaning absences that don't tie to athletic events or aren't some impressive sickness or a family emergency. It doesn't matter if you're not playing hooky; you could be sick but not sick enough, tired after a long night's work or wake up one day aching for pause in life, but you will not be excused in the hallowed pages of the attendance sheet.

Don't get me wrong, I realize that in the working world, many laborers have X amount of sick or vacation days, but there is a clear difference between attending school and a job. We pay for school. While I do believe that we should be punished for missing class, college students do not need an attendance policy to regret skipping.

Without any financial aid, the University's tuition is roughly \$22,500 each semester, which means each class costs \$5,000. If there are 15 weeks of school in a semester and if each class meets roughly three times a week—

and if we take into account that the University hardly celebrates federal holidays—then missing a class equates to roughly \$111. Even if one has financial aid that reduces the tuition by half, that is still \$55 gone for an hour unattended. While some readers may scoff at my rough math, neither Registrar nor the Office of Financial Aid knows the actual cost of each class.

Let's also not forget that we are still missing class. We are not only losing money but also our education. In theory, every class meeting is essential to the course, so if we miss one, then we should fall behind. Our grades should be punished not by some arbitrary attendance policy, but by us doing poorly on our schoolwork. We should want to go to class. It is in our best interest to go to class, and I'm willing to bet most students are aware that, in the distant future, we will have to feed ourselves.

Our punishment should be that we are paying for something we are not (attending). It baffles me that the University feels the need to add salt to a wound. Does the University believe we are not motivated enough? Are we not afraid enough of the working world? I realize that the University is a small school that likes to imagine itself as one happy family, and while I do so dearly miss

my parents, I'd appreciate it if my instructors didn't attempt to take their place.

My father, who is a computer science professor at a community college, told me that his job isn't to teach attendance, it is to teach computer science. If students didn't come to his class, then they missed out. If they arrived tardy, then they still missed out. The University's professors shouldn't teach attendance, they should teach their respective subjects to the best of their abilities before attempting anything else, and it would be a stretch to say that any professor from any university has nailed the art of education.

Students don't need an attendance policy. We should be entrusted with the responsibility to manage our own time because if we don't go to class, even under the knowledge that we are in debt just for the opportunity to do so, then we must have a good reason, "excusable" or not. I realize that it's every instructor's nightmare to teach an almost empty room, but I hope to quell those fears by reminding that we are not children who are at school because we are legally required to. For better or worse, we are college students, and our legal obligation is to pay our loans.

jsinger@willamette.edu

Global thoughts: The elitism of the Bernie Bros



JESSICA WEISS
COLUMNIST

By a 73.5 percent to 26 percent margin, Hillary Clinton beat Bernie Sanders in the South Carolina Democratic Primary. What was more significant was that she won 84 percent of the Black vote, surpassing Obama's margin in South Carolina in 2008. This is despite the fact that Bernie has tried countless to cater to this demographic.

South Carolina showed that practicality is more important than an ivory tower elitism, and this is a lesson that quite a few Bernie fans have trouble understanding.

Speaking to an overwhelmingly white crowd in Greenville, South Carolina, Sanders discussed systemic injustices faced by the Black community, such as police brutality, incarceration rates and drug crime prosecution. This is a useful microcosm for his approach to courting outside his normally white, young, college-educated following.

While he gained notable support among youth in South Carolina, his approach failed as he was unable to grab the individual perspectives and narratives Clinton acquired. Clinton reached out to the mothers of Trayvon Martin, Sandra Bland, Eric Garner and many others who have been seen on her campaign trail in South Carolina. While it may not have shown in debates and town hall meetings, where she is constantly being grilled for her "pandering to voters" (Wow,

I didn't know people in politics did that), Clinton captured the narrative of what police brutality and injustices faced by the Black community.

Garner's mother said, "She has proved to us, one by one, that we do matter in her campaign. We are endorsing her because she endorsed us." Clinton has established herself as one who took the time to listen.

We see that Clinton's more humanist approach and activism in the Black community has been vouched for by notables like John Lewis (known for his role in organizing sit-ins, the March on Washington and the march from Selma to Montgomery with Martin Luther King, Jr.). She has been using her privilege to fight for the underprivileged, as her first job straight out of Yale Law was working in criminal justice reform.

On top of this, she is able to attack Sanders who has merely laid claims about his history in activism which have been disputed by John Lewis. Lewis said he never saw Sanders at civil rights events.

Clinton is aware of her position of privilege and establishment, and instead of talking about overarching issues like her opponent, she focuses on individual narratives. She has shown that grassroots is not the way to go.

This extends to a critique of a certain section of Sanders base that the internet has coined the "Bernie Bro": typically young, college-educated, white, well-off males.

This term emerged from a general frustration toward Bernie supporters who tell other groups, namely wom-



ELLA MERNYK

en and people of color, that they need to support Bernie because he best represents their interests. Obviously meaning well, this demographic tends to not only be off-putting, but blindly elitist in its expression, assuming others are totally fine being told that they do not know what is best for themselves.

Although Bernie Bros are not a majority of Sanders' supporters, it is important to note that many Bernie voters share similar sentiments, they just understand it is not their position to tell others how to make decisions.

I saw a wonderful critique the other day by a Black man responding to a supposed Bernie Bro, explaining why he supports Clinton. He claimed that

when asked why he believes African Americans love Clinton so much, his response was simple: during Bill's presidency, people had jobs. He wanted Bernie supporters to understand the privilege they had: the economic security to be able to advocate for something totally new. He claimed that white, college-educated, young people do not know what it's like to be disempowered and to fight for basic economic needs. He would rather vote for someone with a past history of improving the conditions of the disadvantaged.

He went on to talk about the Clinton administration's many successes, from maintaining the lowest rate of Black unemployment in the U.S.

during Bill Clinton's administration to pushing for universal healthcare way before it maintained mainstream support as well as passing policies like the Earned Income Tax Credit, which created one of the largest redistributions of income in contemporary American history.

I honestly don't feel the Bern, and I find it funny that so many people who hate "white privilege" do. I think it is ultimately going to be the individual perspectives like this, like that of the mothers of the young Black men who have been killed by our unjust system, that sheds light on this problem.

jweiss@willamette.edu

Say goodbye to your old period ways



NAOMI MORGAN
GUEST WRITER

I love my period. Instead of dreading my “monthly visitor,” I look forward to it. I anticipate the moment when I feel a subtle shift in my body and I realize: I’m about to start bleeding! How cool is my body?

I haven’t always felt this way though. For years, my period was a source of stress, pain and embarrassment. It inconvenienced me as frequently as possible (I could probably write a book called “Camping While Menstruating: How to Avoid Bear Attacks”), and I was more apt to use the word hate than love to describe our relationship.

However, in the past year, I have worked to redefine that relationship. I no longer think of my period as something that happens to me but something that I actively do. I am a menstruator: an active agent rather than a passive recipient of my monthly cycle.

What helped me redefine my relationship with my period was my decision to buy a DivaCup. DivaCup is just one brand in the world of menstrual cups. Menstrual cups are a sustainable alternative to pads and tampons. Rather than absorbing menstrual fluid, they collect it. Worn inside of the vagina for up to 12 hours, menstrual cups are made of medical grade silicone. They can be sterilized in boiling water, and depending on the pH of your body, they can be used for up to 10 years. While menstrual cups can cost up to \$40, they quickly pay for themselves.

I read extensively about menstrual cups, and while I knew they were great on paper, I was still nervous to try mine. Would it be uncomfortable? Would it leak? Would it be gross? There was an endless list of anxieties.

Fortunately, it only took a few days to adjust. I emptied it once in the morning and once

before I went to bed (talk about convenient). I couldn’t even tell I was wearing it, and best of all, I could measure my menstrual flow thanks to the marks on the side of the cup. I had never felt so connected to and excited about my period.

The more I used my DivaCup, the more I loved it. After a few cycles, I realized I might never need to buy pads and tampons again, and that my DivaCup was significantly reducing the amount of waste I produced each month. The average menstruator uses anywhere from 9,000 to 12,000 disposable menstrual hygiene products, such as pads and tampons, in their lifetime.

Picturing my DivaCup next to a mountain of 12,000 used pads and tampons was striking, and I realized that periods don’t require disposable solutions. Upon reflecting on how my DivaCup has changed my life—how it has reduced my

amount of waste and how it has empowered me to love my period—I wanted menstrual cups to be more accessible for others.

Thanks to the Green Initiative Fund, Bishop Wellness Center will have 70 DivaCups available for free for members of the Willamette community by the end of March. The cups will be distributed on a first-come first-serve basis while supplies last. If you don’t think a menstrual cup is right for you, that’s ok, but if you’d like to try one out, then this is a great opportunity. My DivaCup has played an important role in helping me learn to love myself. I have no doubt it will be in my life for many years to come, and I wouldn’t want it any other way. Period.

nmorgan@willamette.edu

Letter to the Editor

The Editor, Willamette Collegian:

Climate change is justifiably a hot topic today, but the ecological crisis is far more serious than climate change alone. Numerous environmental limits have been violated, not just those relating to greenhouse gases. You—the young—face a perilous and frightening future.

The rational response to this disaster is to quickly reduce environmental impact by ending overconsumption, reducing population and sharply increasing efficiencies. The old are in positions of power and could initiate these changes, but they have persistently failed to act. Unless they are jolted out of their immoral passivity, your lives will be much worse than theirs. Your children will suffer the most, with many dying prematurely in a degraded and chaotic world.

I am a baby boomer who has studied the environmental crisis for 25 years. I have concluded that the progressive and environmental movements are tightly bound to the prevailing order and will not spur the required economic and social transformations. The only hope is a youth ecological revolt: your militant refusal to succumb to an imposed fate.

I strongly urge you to strike, challenge teachers and administrators, disrupt school events, write scorching articles and in general disrupt society’s ecocidal flow. Do not be beguiled by the implied promise that playing by the rules will lead to a comfortable life. The current situation is unprecedented and the rules are obsolete. The promise is a lie.

History has dealt you a terrible hand, but swift action may yet salvage the biosphere and preserve your future.

Frank Rotering
Vancouver, Canada

Social justice warrior: Who is a gentrifier?



JESSE SANCHEZ
COLUMNIST

Gentrification is one of the most complex, theoretical social justice issues in contemporary dialogue. There is no limit to the intricacies in identifying gentrification. Should I feel guilty about going to the newest coffee shop? Should I support businesses that have been only around for a decade or more?

The answers are not simple or definitive. After a lot of soul searching, I have come to some tentative conclusions, for myself at least, about how to handle gentrification within Salem and Portland.

Before we navigate the complex, ever-shifting social hierarchies, we have to recognize the

potential harms of gentrification. Debate over definition usually hinders discussions of changing urban landscapes. Gentrification can be defined as any introduction of new businesses, particularly those only accessible to affluent consumers, or even the construction of any housing not affordable for those around or under the poverty line.

Yet, while we may never completely agree on a definition of gentrification, its negative effects can become a rallying point in deciding how to fix it.

Housing is at the core of the crisis. Everyone should have a place to live, yet we exist in an absurd society that does not collectively support that idea. Low-wage workers are absolutely necessary to maintain the current economy (which is totally rubbish, but we have to work

with it until it can be overthrown), so society must provide for low-wage workers.

If quality of life is supposedly increasing in Portland, those who have built the community should be able to stay. Portland has seen a sudden influx of people fleeing the high prices of the Bay, Los Angeles or New York, but these people who seek opportunity in an “up-and-coming” city are likely not interested in displacement. They probably just want hiking trails, coffee and bike paths. Yet, the effects of their new presence has to be acknowledged. Building condos and occupying the storefronts below them is no crime, but what right does someone have to price out people who clean those offices? What right is there to evict those who didn’t have the opportunities to become an entrepreneur?

If you’re not fighting it, you’re complicit. Of course, we have to live our daily lives, but letting ourselves settle into complacency is exactly the problem. There are people living in tents!

To solve this issue, it’s important to realize that there are no quick solutions. For utopianists the question of what will achieve a best society is always present in mind. In that perfect world, no one has to worry about earning housing or food, and gentrification is a non-issue. However, as Foucault reminds us, until an ideal can be achieved, we must find enjoyment in our spaces of resistance.

Tons of organizations and grassroots movements are building. Find them. Shop at the old mom and pop shop. Go to the Chinese restaurant run by immigrants as well as

the trendy microbrewery. Make a conscious effort to not claim the space as your own because that’s when gentrification gets colonial. If you don’t want to be a gentrifier, then remember the ultimate goal of achieving equity and ask yourself everyday if you’re contributing.

My hometown is great in a lot of ways, but I absolutely hate it. I’m not about to move to rural Montana (which I’m sure is totally fine, but there’s probably not a lot for an arts and humanities graduate to do), so cities make a little more sense for a queer individual. Using my marginalized identity could be easy enough to justify my own contribution to the problem. It’s a rationalization I hear all too often.

jsanchez@willamette.edu

Humans of Willamette

What is your motto?



Abigail Mendenhall
Senior
Exercise Science
Twin Falls, Idaho
"I guess my motto would be like treat others how you would want to be treated and everybody's worth your time. And I guess, I don't know, I've had a lot of exposure especially to the special education system and so, I don't know, I've just seen that a lot of people are condescending to others and that just really bugs me."



Norman Aman
First Year
Biochemistry
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
"I know that to succeed, all I need is all I got, so everything I do, I give it all. When I was in high school, I was a big, big kid, and my freshman year I won zero matches, didn't win a single [wrestling] match, so that was my coach's motto and he told me that, and I've been following it ever since. And I went from a defeated season to an undefeated season, which was perfect."



Zachery Johnstun
Junior
Philosophy
Ogden, Utah
"I have a cheesy quote that has been pretty resonant with me recently, and it's 'it's time to meet the future by delivering God to the present,' and that's really intense for me, because God is an experience that is overwhelmingly powerful, and mainly based on love. So you could even switch it around by saying 'it's time to meet the future by delivering love to the present,' because laughter is the greatest medicine."



Anna Landgren
Sophomore
Environmental Science
Sherwood, Oregon
"Just treat everyone else the way you would want to be treated and just remember that everyone is going through struggles and you might not see them, but everyone deals with their own shit, and I think that's important to keep in mind."

INTERVIEWS BY ANDREA RISOLO
PHOTOS BY SAM KEECHLER

Dormroom recipes

Being in college doesn't mean you have to be reduced to slumming it at Goudy. If you have a mug, microwave or waffle iron, you are all set! Here is an easy breakfast recipe you can make in your room. More to follow soon!

BLUEBERRY MUFFIN WITH STREUSEL TOPPING MUG CAKE

Ingredients:

Muffin:

- 1/4 cup flour
- 2 tbsp granulated sugar
- 1/8 tsp baking powder
- 1/16 tsp baking soda
- 3 tbsp fat free milk
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 7 fresh blueberries

Streusel topping:

- 1 tbsp cold butter, chopped into tiny pieces
- 1 1/2 tbsp flour
- 2 1/2 tbsp brown sugar
- 1/8 tsp cinnamon

Directions:

1. Mix everything listed in muffin ingredients except blueberries into a microwave safe mug with a small whisk. Drop blueberries in, spreading them out. In a small bowl, mix streusel ingredients, until butter pieces are completely coated in the flour, sugar and cinnamon. Sprinkle small crumbles of streusel on top of muffin batter, spreading out evenly across surface.
2. Cook in microwave for about 1 minute. Let cool for a few minutes before eating.



ELLA MERNYK

Are you an ambitious journalist who dreams of editing, revising and Tuesdays in the UC? Want to prove yourself to your parents? *The Collegian* is hiring executive positions for Fall 2016! While we can't help you with your parents, contact <emanouki> for more information about building your own print newspaper empire.