Collegian

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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the END of a DECADE

As the 1980s draw to a close, the *Collegian* offers a look back at the issues that have shaped, for most of us, almost half our lives. In the world, the eighties were characterized by concerns over apartheid in South Africa, AIDS, terrorism, outer space, abortion, drugs and Reagan. At Willamette, the eighties were characterized by questions over OSPIRG, women's concerns, ASWU food services, increasing tuition and continual renovation. It has been said that no matter how things may change, they always stay the same. We agree.

1980 through 1989

the END of a DECADE

by Suzanne Budd

1980 was the year of Mt. St. Helens. It was also the year of Ronald Reagan, the Iran hostage crisis and the Moscow Olympics. These events touched Willamette University, sometimes in very personal ways, just as they touched everyone's lives. It seems strange to look back from ten years later and see 1980 in a new perspective. For many at Willamette, the 80s were more than just a decade, they constituted almost half of a lifetime.

1980 was the year the United States hockey team won the gold medal at Lake Placid. The Olympics, however, were not always wonderful. In 1980, Dianne Lazear was a student at Willamette with a chance to go to the Olympics. An excellent field-hockey player, she was invited to try out for the women's Olympic team. But the U.S. never went to the 1980 Summer Olympics. President Carter boycotted the Olympics, along with 29 other countries, because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

The Iranian hostage situation also touched the WU campus when it was discovered that one of the hostages had attended Willamette. William Daugherty spent fall of 1974 at this school and later went to work at the embassy in Tehran.

1980 was the year Ronald Reagan came to office, and the year that University President Dr. Robert Lisensky resigned. That same year, the current President, Jerry Hudson, took over with the goal of making Willamette the premier small liberal arts college of the west.

The Blues Brothers appeared in a hit movie in 1980. Along with them came a number of old college favorites and perennial sequel makers: *Airplane!*, *Caddyshack*, *Mad Max* and *Star Trek*. Stephen Spielberg began his otherworldly stories with *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. On the small screen, *Dallas* was the world's most popular TV show—with everyone wondering Who Shot J.R.?

1980 saw a very amusing Glee at Willamette. The theme was Changing Horizons, an apt theme for a new decade. There was even a minor scandal. The Glee banner was stolen and held hostage by two Kappa Sigmas in return for a date with Glee manager Nancy Prosser. The two bannernappers, Bill Geiger and Clinton Morris, got their date, and the sophomores, Class of '82, got the banner.

In the decade's first year, many things began that would become mainstays of the years ahead. The Polish Solidarity movement began in 1980 with strikes in the shipping yards. The Sandanistas had been in power for one year. Discover magazine was introduced. Dan Rather took over the anchor of CBS Evening News.

At Willamette, accreditation reports recommended a new library. Math proficiency was required for the first time, and tuition "skyrocketed" to $4,110. OSPIRG campaigned on campus for an anti-nuclear issue.

It was the year after the gas crunch, the year of the Atlanta child serial murders, the year of Billy Carter and Lybia. 1980 got the decade off to a rousing start.

The year of 1981 was marked as a starting period for many within the Willamette campus, as well as without. 1981 saw a new president into the oval office, U.S. involvement into El Salvador, large cuts into the national education budget, and science professors into Collins Center. These are some of the significant events that characterized the beginning of a decade, now at an end.

In the outside world, President Ronald Reagan was inaugurated in January 1981 as the 40th president. Throughout the year, Reagan stressed large changes in the nation to get it back on track. Indicating the economic problems already present in 1981, Reagan promised in a speech, "there is nothing wrong with America that we can't fix." Reagan passed in budget cuts in order to deal with the economic woes.

The Willamette Community saw these budget cuts up close. At the time, Jim Woodland, Financial Aid Director, estimated that 40 to 50 percent of students with Guaranteed Loans would be ineligible the next year because of the new budget regulations. Even more cuts in student grant and loan programs were being considered in the 1981 Legislative session.

With Jerry Judson as Willamette University President in 1981, the Willamette Community was charting change. Rising as always, tuition costs were being upped by 18 percent from the 1981 school year to the 1982 year. The 1981 tuition at the time was $4860, with Reed College at $6300.

Willamette's growth was also being meticulously charted by WU administrators. Ten professors were added to the College of Liberal Arts and the number in 1330 in terms of student enrollment was expected to rise. Newly expanded and ready for professor and student occupancy, the E.S. Collins Science Center was finished in September 1981, complete with a 4.1 million dollar price tag. Over 15 months, the Collins building was transformed from a hall into a science center, ready for the Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, and Physics departments. Plans to build a new library were also being reviewed in terms of location and design in early 1981.

In respect to notable Willamette sports activities, the WU basketball team received second in the Northwest Conference. The sport of SAGA eating was being disputed, however. With food quality being disputed by students, possible methods of improving the quality were being considered. Eventually SAGA was replaced by Marriott Food Service.

One of the most unique crises of the WU campus characterized the '81 school year. By October 1, Baxter had already received nine false fire alarms. More were expected in the semester's remaining time.

by Matthew Long

the END of a DECADE

by Chrissy Penttila and Steve Vanderheiden

As college students in 1989, 1982 is a year we probably remember with confusion, if at all. Many of us were not yet in high school, and almost none of us were old enough to vote. Like every year in American history, 1982 had its share of triumph and tragedy, of courage and hypocrisy.

At Willamette, 1982 was a year of renovation. Eaton Hall and the swimming pool at Sparks both received facelifts, as did Willamette's alcohol policy. The possession and use of alcohol was now welcome only in the privacy of one's very own room. Joe Broeker became Willamette's new head football coach, and WU marked its 140th anniversary. In 1982, the juniors won glee, while the freshmen lost, setting a tradition for three more years of consecutive fourth-place finishes. In faculty, Tim Pierson was hired as Director of Residence Life.

The ASWU Senate grappled with the decay of SAGA equipment, the poor quality of campus food, and the need for repair in the residence halls. Meanwhile, OSPIRG Willamette conducted a survey to help WU students to become "informed consumers." The results showed that it was cheaper to by AC/DC's album *For Those About to Rock* at PayLess than at Fred Meyer. The biggest album of 1982 was Michael Jackson's *Thriller*, having sold over 40 million copies to date.

Nationally, the memorial to the 57,939 American soldiers killed in Vietnam was unveiled, and President Reagan unveiled his Caribbean Basin Development Plan, a $250 million military aid package to Honduras, designed to overthrow the government of Nicaragua.

Prince Charles and Lady Di announced the birth of first son Prince William, and the British and Argentineans battled over the Falkland Isles.

The United States saw its worst economic recession in decades, striking the timber-dependent Pacific Northwest particularly heavily. In Utah, the first artificial heart was implanted in a human, and in Illinois, Tylenol capsules laced with cyanide killed seven, and incited a national panic.

Americans mourned the passing of Ingrid Bergman and Princess Grace, and terrorists bombed a Jewish restaurant in Paris, leaving six dead, while the Irish Republican Army planted a bomb in London.

After 18 years as Soviet Premier, Leonid Brezhnev died, and Reagan, in apparent confusion, addressed Housing and Urban Development Secretary Samuel Pierce with, "Hello, Mr. Mayor."

In the earth's orbit, the space shuttle Columbia released its first satellite, and John DeLorean's auto empire was brought to the ground after an attempt to finance the company by dealing Colombian cocaine with federal officials.

Palestinian and Israeli tensions heightened as the fighting escalated in Beirut, and, in Los Angeles, Animal House star John Belushi died of a drug overdose.

1983 saw many changes, both at Willamette, and in the "outside" world, that still affect the world, and also, more specifically, Willamette, today.

Willamette was marred by two racial incidents in 1983. A party held on campus, named the "Ghetto Fucntion" prompted reaction on the part of the Statesman Journal, which saw Willamette students as racists and "poor mindless dolts." To compound this negative image, Belknap Hall was the scene of a racist shooting.

Despite these incidents, Willamette was named by U.S. News and World Report as "the best small comprehensive university west of the Mississippi River." The campus building that experienced renovation before its renovation in 1983 was Eaton Hall. Economics Professor Russell Beaton was chosen "Professor of the Semester" by the Mortar Board.

Most notable in sports in 1983 was the women's swim team, which took fourth place in national competition. Bearcat football broke a season loosing streak of 6 to defeat Linfield College, who at the time was the defending national champion in our league, 26-21.

On the national scene, Ronald Reagan approved Congress's vote to make Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a national holiday, a decision that even today generates controversy among more conservative groups. A Korean Airlines 747 was shot down by the Soviet Union, an act which precipitated a chilling in U.S./U.S.S.R. relations. A *Collegian* editorial celebrated the resignation of Secretary of the Interior James Watt.

The made-for-TV The Day After attempted to simulate the horror of nuclear war before a nationwide audience. Professor Ken Nolley commented that the film adopted "the position of the disarmament supporter, without the passion," and that "It doesn't give us the means to imagine what we need to imagine." Still, the film was the subject of widespread discussion among students, teachers and parents.

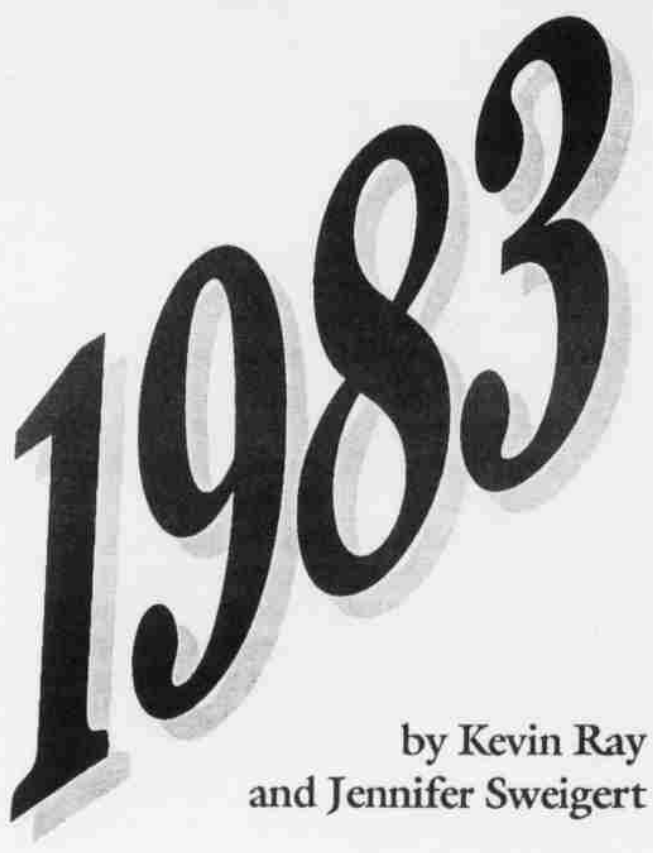
1983 saw a new student organization emerge on campus. The Irish Student Union was formed at Willamette the same year a new Mill Stream Bridge was built.

In 1983, Dominos' Pizza organized "Dorm Wars," a competition between campus residence halls. The object was to buy the most Dominos' Pizza. The winning residence hall was treated to a free pizza party, compliments of Dominos. Along with Salem Cinema, opened in 1983, Domino's continues to cater to the campus's entertainment needs.

Among the most memorable movies released in 1983 were *Return of the Jedi*, *War Games*, *Risky Business*, and *Mr. Mom*. Michael Jackson's *Thriller* continued as the most popular album of the year.

In an event that was later to be repeated several times during the 1980's in different contexts, a *Collegian* editor, Stan Shaw was forced out of office, to be replaced by Mark Pettinger.

In short, 1983 saw many events, both within and outside of 900 State Street that still affect our lives today.



by Kevin Ray and Jennifer Sweigert

the END of a DECADE

by Missy Swenson

1984, the year George Orwell's vision of a society controlled by surveillence monitors and where emotions were non-exsistent was supposed to come true. While this vision didn't become reality, other things happened which made it a memorable year.

Techonology wa on the move, as Orwell had predicted, with computers becoming less expensive and more accessible to the public. But with this accessiblity came a growing fear of technology taking over our lives. These fears were addressed by John Naisbitt, aothor of Megatrends, who visited Willamette in the spring of '84, to speak of a future with humanized technology and more democracy and a decentralized government.

1984, was a big year in politics, with a presidential election putting the incumbent, Ronald Reagan, up against former vice-president Walter Mondale. But it was the lesser players that made the race more interesting, people such as Jessie Jackson, who ran in the primaries as a Democratic candidate and set himself up for another run for president in 1988. Also, Geraldine Ferraro, became the first female to win a spot on a national ticket, as Mondale's running mate. Reagan ended up winning the election, claiming forty-nine states, while Mondale won one and the District of Columbia.

Willamette, too was making its own political history in 1984. ASWU President Hance Haney won an unprecedented second term by only forty votes. Senate also had its work cut out for them, as they tackled such issues as the alcohol policy, proposed tuition raises, and the continuing SAGADome problem.

But 1984 wasn't just about technology and politics, but also showed a more human side. Touched by the pictures in the nightly news of children starving in Africa, musicians from across the world recorded songs about it and had the proceeds go to help the Africans. The largest project involved over forty musicians from the United States in "U.S.A. for Africa," whose song "We Are the World," raised over $40 million in relief funds and won a Grammy for Song of the Year.

The world of athletics also had its share of glory and pain in 1984. The Winter Olympics were held in Sarajevio, Yugoslavia, and Oregonian Bill Johnson made a big splash by winning the gold medal in men's downhill skiing. The summer Olympics, held in Los Angeles had their stars, as Greg Louganis won gold medals in both men's diving events, and the United States won more total medals then any other nation in history. But there was a downside to these games, as the Soivet Union and most of the Eastern Bloc boycotted the games and the anticipated showdown between Mary Decker and Zola Budd in the 1500 meter never emerged.

The patriotism of 1984 carried over into to the end of the year, with so many successes in every aspect of American life, both personally and politically, and socially.

Halfway through the decade, 1985 was another year full of controversy, politics, the common and the unexpected, and full of issues that have continued to find their way to Willamette's campus even now as we move into the 90s.

The Glee theme for 1985 was "Novelty—Our Unforgettable Past," and perhaps foreshadowing last year, sophomores won the event and juniors walked the Mill Stream. (The seniors came in second and freshmen, third, though, reversed from 1989's Glee.) ASWU elections brought John Sagore to the presidency, Lindsay Partridge to the vice presidency, Ed Spicknoll to the secretary's chair, and Steve Fukuchi to the treasurer's position, replacing Sid Elliot.

1985 was also a year for health problems. On campus, a large outbreak of food contaminations concerned students in Doney and Lausanne. Off campus, the death of Rock Hudson brought the reality of AIDS more openly into the minds of the world as people became increasingly aware of this medical threat.

Faculty at Willamette had its publicity during 1985, as well. Professor Bald was honored with the Burlington Faculty Achievement award for her work in Political Science. Charles Wallace was hired as WU's chaplain; Professor Valez was rated the top professor of Spanish and Portuguese by the Oregon Chapter of the American Association of teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. In the same year, a Willamette staff member from the media center was slain in his home.

In 1985, the plans for the Hatfield Library were finally approved, as was the dedication to Hatfield. Construction of the building began in spring. Meanwhile, the old library adopted two kittens from the Humane Society to "add to the warmth of the library."

OSPIRG found its way into the pages of the *Collegian* several times through the year, seeking support then as now. One OSPIRG issue in 1985 was whether to fund through a positive check-off on fee payment slips. Homecoming in 1985 was deemed a great success, featuring a luau, the freshman leaf rake, and a costume dance. Also in 1985, on Feb. 24, the Willamette Community Orchestra debuted, three years after the dissolution of the Salem Symphony.

In sports, Willamette's football team had its first winning season since 1977, with a 6-2-1 record; basketball gained ex-Trailblazer Geoff Petrie as interim coach. Petrie had the position as Coach Rich Glas took the year for sabbatical.

Outside the Willamette campus, Reagan started his second term in January, while Geraldine Ferraro faced the press concerning her family's life. Terrorism continued to be an issue this year; as well, Reagan's colon became the subject of news features across the country.

Looking far beyond the scope of our campus, people all across the world prepared for their once-in-a-lifetime glimpse at Halley's comet, which last appeared in 1910. The comet first started appearing in September of '85, with its best show yet to come in April of '86. And, in film, the first of the *Back to the Future* movies made its debut.

by Mark Gerson

the END of a DECADE

1986

by Gretchen Daly and Pam Stucky

For Willamette, fall of 1986 marked the year this year's seniors entered college. These students were greeted by the long-awaited Hatfield Library, which was opened that fall and dedicated on Sept. 4. Shortly after it was opened, a Willamette student was suspended after crawling through the ceiling tiles in the 24-hour study room into the library.

Also making its debut in 1986 was the Bistro, managed by John Donovan and Eric Fishman, who first came up with the idea of a student run café. The *Collegian* switched its system of publication in 1986, with the introduction of the Apple Macintosh computer.

In gubernatorial elections, Goldschmidt and Paulus debated on campus Oct. 15. A full page advertisement and ballot measure run for Paulus free of charge in the *Collegian* caused controversy over editor Dave Chiappetta, who resigned at the end of the year.

Freshman Glee, 1986, may be remembered most significantly for one thing: the senior class, having lost the last three years, threw Glee in order that they would lose again. They marched to the tune of "The Mill Stream Blues"; in April, students danced to the tune of Nu Shooz, who played in Cone Fieldhouse for $2 per student. 1986 also brought a new alcohol policy to campus; open parties were outlawed, and thus began guest lists and the checking of IDs.

In sports, both men's and women's cross country teams qualified for Nationals, and Mike Hines became a member of the U.S. National team for rifle shooting. Frank Meyer switched from Dean of Admissions to Vice President of Student Affairs in '86, and Dan Rouslin arrived as violin instructor. In ASWU, Steve Fukuchi won the presidency after two run-offs.

With 1986, apartheid came into Willamette's concern. More than 120 students, faculty and administrators rallied in Jackson plaza to show opposition to apartheid and Willamette's investments in South Africa. In April, 50 students held a "sit in" on the steps of the UC to protest the U.S. bombing in Libya on April 23.

Also in the world, the Voyager, a light aircraft manned by Rutan and Yeager, set out to fly around the world without stopping to refuel. The Voyager 2, a NASA project, reached Uranus in this year, but the explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger early in the year put a stop to most space programs for quite some time. That tragedy chilled the nation, as teachers and others nationwide mourned the death of Christa McAuliffe and six others.

1986 was the year of the Marcos downfall; as Corizon Aquino attempted to pick up the pieces of her country, Imelda was ridiculed for her stash of shoes. The Statue of Liberty celebrated her 100th anniversary, and the issue of whether to raise the speed limit to 65 was debated both in and out of the courtroom. The worst ever nuclear reactor accident, in Chernobyl, panicked the world as little information but much radiation leaked out.

Nearer to home, Vancouver, B.C., geared up and kicked off a six-month celebration with Expo '86; *Star Trek IV* pleased trekkies and whale-lovers alike, and *Crocodile Dundee* brought Australia to the minds of Americans and the world.

1987

by Pat Kurkoski

What time is it, Willamette? During the spring semester of 1987, the Oldest University in the West became the place where time stood still as a structural flaw stopped the recently dedicated $150,000 Whipple clock tower.

Although time may have stood still that spring, tuition certainly didn't. The trustees decided to raise tuition 20 percent, from $7,500 to $9,000. This money supposedly would provide for an increase in faculty salaries.

Glee was won by the seniors, and the juniors made the infamous Mill Stream march. The Crazy 8's played the Glee dance, but the event that will be most remembered is the John Roades Blue Monday birthday suit bike ride down sorority row.

The ASWU election was tainted by somewhat of a scandal. ASWU Secretary Doug Huntington was forced to withdraw from the presidential race because he had received an in-kind donation of lawn signs, which he failed to sufficiently report in his campaign expenditures statement. When the dust had settled, Eric Fishman won the presidential race, Jon Radmacher was elected treasurer, Larry Didway was elected secretary, and Mike Tewfik was the new vice president.

Outside of Willamette, 1987 saw the Ollie North show in Congress and the U2 Joshua Tree album. Gary Hart and Jim Bakker experienced the collapse of their careers due to marital infidelity. Delaware Senator Joe Biden exited the race for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination following charges of plagiarism.

The fall semester greeted one of the largest freshman classes in Willamette history. However, with Rush delayed for two weeks into the semester due to a decision by the University Student Affairs Committee, the flood of incoming students led to overcrowding in the residence halls. Students were housed in guest rooms, while doubles were set up as triples and triples as quads.

Willamette also greeted its newest students with its newest program, the "freshman experience," or World Views. All 420 freshmen read about and discussed the Victorian Era until the class finished at Thanksgiving break.

Fall 1987 also saw the rise and fall of the *Vanguard*, an independent newspaper started by Rick Spoonemore, '89, and John Rehm, because of their dissatisfaction with the *Collegian*. The paper, which operated out of the basement of Gatke hall, published five issues before the end of the semester and its own end.

Fall also witnessed the construction of Smullin Hall and the initial development of plans to renovate Waller Hall. Barney the Bearcat disappeared for a while (the suit, that is), and the Willamette student body voted against making the campus a Nuclear Free Zone. The campus, however, moved closer to divestment of South Africa associated stocks. Speaking of stocks, it was on Monday, Oct. 19, 1987, that the Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 508 points. In the crash, Willamette lost $6.5 million, 10 percent of the endowment.

the END of a DECADE

by Suzanne Budd

It was a ho-hum election year for the United States in 1988, but it was a year of issues, nonetheless. From sports, to politics, to nature, to personalities, 1988 was loaded.

1988 was an Olympic year, and the Olympics brought both pride and shame. Brian Boitano wowed them at Calgary, but Debi Thomas lost a battle with nerves and East German Katarina Witt on the ice-skating rink. Florence Griffith Joyner and Ben Johnson became the fastest humans in the world, but Johnson's victory was tainted by steroids and scandal. The U.S. men's volleyball team and Greg Louganis both gained quite a following in residence hall lounges on their trips to the gold.

At Willamette, the big issue of the year was South Africa. In spring of 1988 the push was on for the University to divest from South Africa. The issue was hotly debated on campus, but in the end, the Trustees voted to remove their assets from South Africa. In the fall of 1988 the suggestion that Willamette host a South African student was brought up and later became a reality.

1988 was the year of the Persian Gulf, the first shuttle launch after the Challenger explosion and the year Jimmy Swaggert confessed to sleeping with a prostitute. On campus, the Phi Delta Theta fraternity became an issue when it was kicked off campus and revoked by the national organization. Metanoia came into being in the old Phi Delt house as an alternative residence and philosophy.

Between droughts and whales, it was a hectic year in nature. The nation went through its worst drought year in 50 years, culminating in the huge Yellowstone fires in August. In Point Barrow, Alaska, the world came to the rescue of three whales trapped in offshore ice. Though one whale died, the combined efforts of many nations freed two of the whales.

Willamette was aware of varying environmental issues during 1988. That was the year Baxter's kitchen failed a health inspection, and the issue of a "SAGAdome" was resurrected. Also, styrofoam was banned on campus. The only stray animals the campus had to deal with was a stray cow that wandered around one day in February.

1988 was a year of change and some definite upheaval. The Soviets pulled out of Afghanistan that year, the same year ethnic minorities began open protests inside the Soviet Union. Benazir Bhutto was elected Prime Minister of Pakistan. Eastern Airlines went bankrupt and Donald Trump bought the Eastern shuttle service, renaming it the Trump Shuttle.

Willamette grappled with fear over the campus going dry and other issues. KWU reappeared again and again, first with the appointment of Evan Rice as manager, then speculation about sound quality and finances. Finally, there was a semester-long battle over the name of the station.

Ground was broken for the creation of TIUA in 1988, and students organized a march against racism in the fall. The perpetual parking problem continued in all its glory. And ASWU balanced a very strict budget to overcome an old deficit. It was the year of the new Oprah, and Mickey Mouse's sixtieth birthday.

Though 1989 has not yet come to an end, it has already been a year filled with as many events as one could want in a year. On Willamette's campus, the year was started off with the continuing KWU/KZON debate, a bookstore task force to look into the bookstore management, and more SAGAdome discussions.

With the start of February came subfreezing temperatures and more snow than Salem has seen in years. So much, in fact, that on Feb. 2, President Hudson elected to cancel classes for the first time in remembered history at Willamette. As the snow fell in February, tuition was raised to $9,900.

Dean Julie Carson, who started at WU in November of 1988, concerned herself with issues of overcrowding and extending Willamette's reputation to the east. The Soviet Union sent to Willamette a visiting student and professor; the student, Igor Ovchinnikov, offered his views in a Collegian column on more than one occasion.

In Glee, the Class of '91 won its second year, this time to the theme, "A Vision of Innovation." Freshmen came in second, seniors third, and juniors walked the Mill Stream. In swimming, Willamette proved excellent; at the National meet, the Bearcats broke 11 Willamette records. Also in sports, Rugby was introduced to WU.

Parking problems, computer viruses, the Greek Ethics board and senior skits occupied students minds on a local level, while Salman Rushdie, Exxon, Tianamen Square, abortion and Pete Rose were national focuses. The Willamette theatre productions of *The Blood of the Lamb* and *Cloud 9* continued the controversial theatre series. In May, TIUA was dedicated, though not completed, and the first TIU students arrived for classes.

TIU, gas leaks, bomb threats and Senate were major topics of discussion through fall semester, along with Homecoming, OSPIRG, and how to spell the word for the female of our species. As well, events outside our campus affected Willamette students directly. The San Francisco shake shook up several students with family or friends in California, and Willamette's East German exchange student had an intimate interest in the happenings at the Berlin Wall and in East Germany in general.

With 1989, Reagan's time in office came to an end, with Bush and Quayle taking over. Deborah Norville came in for Jane Pauley, as well, and Chris Evert retired after the U.S. Open this year. The Voyager 2 arrived at Neptune, 12 years after it had been launched, and is now drifting off into the unknown.

The year of 1989 was a successful one for movies, especially sequels and revivals: *Batman* brought out batpeople all over the nation, while *Star Trek V* satiated trekkies for a few more years. *Ghostbusters 2* made its appearance, as did *Back to the Future 2* and the third Indiana Jones movie.

1989 was also a great one for significant anniversaries. Woodstock was remembered 20 years later, as was landing of man on the moon; Saturday Night Live celebrated its 15th anniversary, and the *Collegian* celebrated 100 years of its evolution as a newspaper.

by Pam Stucky

the END of a DECADE

Eighties On the Record

A personal, subjective look at the best albums of the past five years

by Curt Kipp

As the decade closes, it's time to dust off some phrases and recall some old albums. Yes, it's time for my list of favorites from the last half of the decade (I don't know much about the first half, which, given what I do know, is probably just as well.) In no particular order:

U2's *The Joshua Tree* (1987) produced the most satisfying compromise between the Edge's Anglo-punk descendent guitar wallpapering and Bono's soulful, purposeful wailing. Anguished tracks like "Exit" and "With or Without You" convey intense pain while "One Tree Hill"(in my opinion, U2's best song ever) and "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For" sound, well, spiritual. Say what you will about self-righteousness. This album earns every bit of its emotional impact.

The eponymously-titled debut by the **Fine Young Cannibals**(1986) is a continuous soul romp through ten tunes. But in this case, the material doesn't matter; it's the style. Sounding straight out of a nightclub on a rainy, moonlit night, Roland Gift glides and purrs through his lyrics, while Andy Cox's punk-coated jangle and David Steele's bass provide the perfect backdrop.

The People Who Grinned Themselves to Death, recorded by the **Housemartins** in 1987, is a pure party record for the skeptical and the radical. While some might find fault with the blend of Christianity and Marxism beneath the surface of the lyrics, it cannot be denied the dual attack of jangly guitars and P.D. Heaton's vocal finesse is irresistably catchy.

XTC's *Oranges and Lemons* (1989) represents the better of the trio's two excellent late eighties albums (the other being *Skylarking*.) Songwriters Andy Partridge and Colin Moulding lay down great pop melodies like they're going out of style, and their lyrical wit is rare and intelligent. XTC has raised pop music to an art form; *Oranges and Lemons* is a musical museum.

Doolittle (1989), by the **Pixies**, sounds like deviant fodder on the first listen. It still sounds like deviant fodder on the hundredth listen, but by then it sounds great. Laden with eerie harmonies (courtesy of Mrs. John Murphy) and shrieking, shattered guitar riffs, the songs showcase the nightmares of singer Black Francis. The Pixies are an acquired, but addictive, taste.

At the top of the funk metal heap is **Living Colour**, with their *Vivid* album(1988). Forget the overplayed "Cult of Personality." Every track on the album is a killer. "Which Way to America?" is a ferocious documentation of the split of this country into two economic classes. "Broken Hearts," propelled by funky, hip hop country twang (picture that), is an apologetic love ballad. The rest of the songs fall in between.

R.E.M.'s *Green* signaled a delightful turn towards what one member called "bubble-gum metal." Relentlessly experimental within the parameters of pop, the LP, with its centerpiece "You Are the Everything" sent out an optimistic call to action for those concerned about the fate of the world.

The Doctor is one of **Cheap Trick**'s least well-known albums. Released in 1986 to zero fanfare, it may (unfortunately) represent guitarist Rick Nielsen's last experiment with loopy melodies, behind Robin Zander's omnipresent stereotypical rock star persona. While the subsequent *Lap of Luxury* found the original group reunited, that album proved that Cheap Trick should play their own material, not rely on generic schmaltz from people like songwriter Diane Warren.

I guess a quick look at this list proves that such lists as this one are purely subjective. Still, these albums are my favorites, so I heartily recommend all of them.

THANK YOU!

TO ALL OUR CONTRIBUTORS THIS SEMESTER, WE APPRECIATE YOUR ENTHUSIASM!

Gretchen Anders
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Mark Gerson
Kevin Grossman
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Eric Kreis
Matt Long
Mark Munro
Stephanie Nutt
Chrissy Pentilla
Craig Pepin
Nick Petzak
Wyatt Pickett
Kevin Ray
John Rehm
Chris Rogers
J.D. Roth
Noel Snodgrass
Mike Skeen
Pam Stucky
Jennifer Sweigart
Missy Swenson
Mei Ching Tan
Martin Taylor
Chris Tsongas
Ryan Vancil
Steve Vanderheiden
Cari Vanderscheure
Bill Wilkerson
Tom Willett
Cathi Woods
Amanda Wells

Collegian

Be a part of it

Information Meeting Tuesday, Jan. 16, 6 p.m. in the Collegian Offices.