

COLLEGIAN

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Ford hall has under utilized opportunities

MILES SARI
NEWS EDITOR

As one of two buildings (the other being Kaneko) on campus to have earned a gold certification from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program of the U.S. Green Building Council, Ford Hall is devoted to the principle of the integration of technology and academics.

Within the walls of the 42,000 square-foot building, Ford Hall is a space that offers the students a variety of resources and technology, such as a multimedia recording studio and media studies lab, that have become vital assets to the University, David Douglass, Dean of Campus Life said.

"I think the classrooms and the Kremer Board Room are spaces that see an incredible amount of use, and have become important assets to the University. Especially the film studies theatre. Before Ford was built, there wasn't a good theatre anywhere on campus.

The same thing with the black box recording studio in the lower level. All of those things represent important advances for the University's capacity in terms of technology."

Although Ford's facilities have become key amenities in terms of opportunities for students, it seems as though sometimes the resources the building has to offer aren't always utilized as much they could be.

"Ford is a really well designed building that has a lot to offer students, but I don't think they take advantage of all the opportunities that exist - especially with equipment like the flat screen monitors and SMART boards," sophomore mathematics major Andrew Bishop said.

Dean Douglass said that while some facilities within Ford are utilized to their fullest potential, there are some amenities inside the building that could get a little more attention from students and faculty.

"It's hit and miss. On the second floor, the tutoring and study groups for math and sciences use those glass panels to work out problems like nobodies business, and that's what they were designed for. Every time I walk through there and see students utilizing the space it warms my heart.

On the other hand, there are the plasma screens that sel-



An unused screen on the first floor of Ford.

Hanafee Perrod

dom see use. One will be on occasionally, but we won't see students there often working with the screens."

Part of the reason why the equipment and resources accessible in Ford aren't maximized to their fullest capacities is because there is a general lack of knowledge among students, said Bishop.

"A lot of students don't know that there are so many facilities and gadgets at their disposal. Many students don't know that the SMART boards are ready for them to use and can be helpful during presentations and group projects."

Dean Douglass agreed and said that some students, those who spend much of their time in Ford, of some nature are aware of what Ford has to offer, and that not as many students are acquainted with the resources in Ford.

"We [the administration and faculty] can probably do a better job of self-consciously conveying the information to students. Some of it is just that of informing students of what is there and how they can use it."

Additionally, Dean Douglass encourages students to be-

come innovative when they see unused facilities and equipment.

"One of the distinctive features of Willamette is the innovation of its students and the student initiative. I hope when students see space, they see potential and ask what can be done there. So, when they see a monitor there sort of sitting there in dark, I want them to ask what can be done with that and what are the implications?"

With the hope and expectation that the building of Ford would create a sense of synergy, Dean Douglass wants students to get in the habit of acting to change things they don't like, and that the University intentionally gives them the authority to make change.

"Part of the reason why students are unaware of the facilities Ford provides is because some of it is the University making it unclear that these resources are available to them, and some of it is the faculty and administration continuing to inspire students to look around and ask questions themselves."

What makes Ford a LEED Gold status building?

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- Custom furniture built from trees that were removed during construction.
- Displacement ventilation HVAC system that reduces energy consumption more than 40%.
- Occupancy sensors to help control lighting, heating and cooling levels.
- Low-flow and dual-flush plumbing fixtures.
- Native and drought-tolerant landscaping to reduce irrigation needs by 50%.
- Low- or no-VOC construction materials to maintain a high indoor air quality.

Contact: msari@willamette.edu

Cherry City Derby Girls final roll

MILES SARI
NEWS EDITOR

The Cherry City Derby Girls (CCDG), Salem's all women flat track roller derby league, will host their final round for the 2011 season on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. at the Pavilion at the Salem Fairgrounds.

Founded in 2009, The Cherry City Derby Girls have a roster of approximately 150 skaters, and are establishing women's roller derby as an integral part of the Salem community, Nicole Palmateer Armstrong, CCDG Publicity Committee Co-Chair said in press release.

This event will feature the Dolls of Anarchy taking on the Rydell Belles for the first bout and the Panty Raiders (with guest Thrill Kill Kittens skaters) taking on Shadow City Rollers of Longview Washington.

This bout will conclude CCDG's 2nd full year of operation in the Salem community; there will be entertainment provided by the Fearleaders and CCDG merchandise will be available, according to the release.

Tickets are now available at Clockworks Cafe and from your favorite Cherry City Derby Girl. Tickets are also available online at cherrycityderbygirls.com and are \$10 in advance or \$13 at the door. Admission for children 5 and under is free.

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A message from Development and Alumni Relations

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Willamette Closet to provide formal wear

ALISON EZARD
STAFF WRITER

The Willamette Closet, a project started by sophomore and Sustainability Mini Grant awardee Tana Watanabe, will loan out formal wear for students to Willamette students to help alleviate the financial burden of buying clothing for formal events.

Tana Watanabe discusses her inspiration for the Willamette Closet, as well as ways other students can help out.

Collegian: What was the inspiration behind the Willamette Closet?

Tana Watanabe: I am Willamette Events Board's Annual Events Co-chair (along with Tania Ontiveros), and we are planning this year's A Black Tie Affair. As college students, many of us do not have formal clothing, but all of us deserve to have a magical evening.

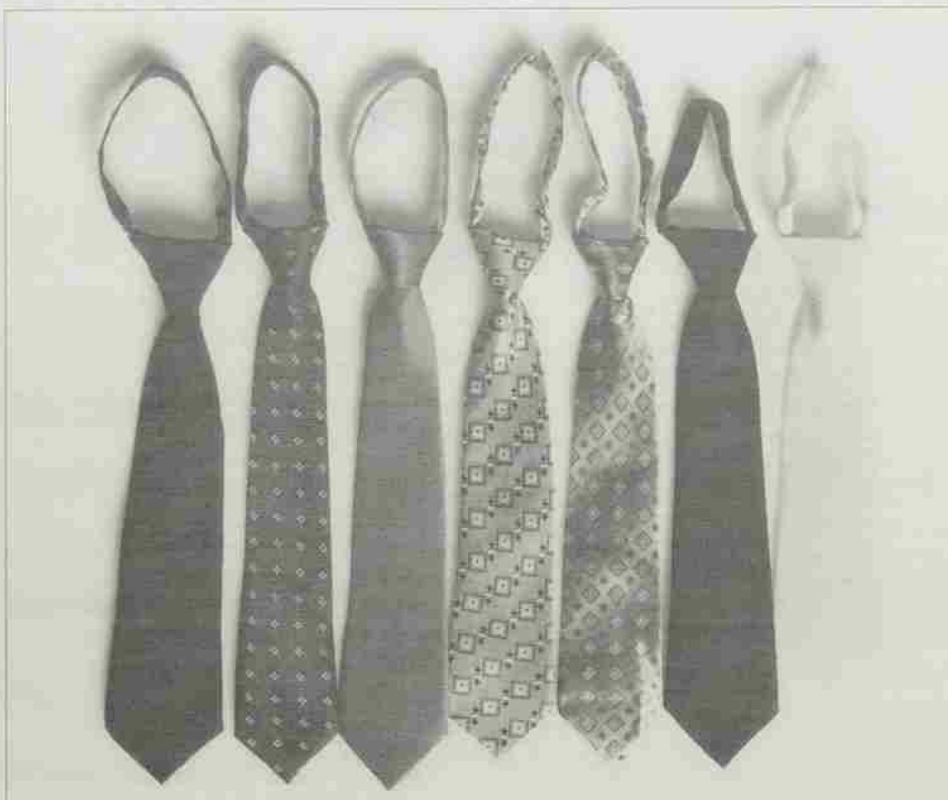
Formal clothing is expensive, and students shouldn't feel like they cannot attend a formal event because there are not affordable resources. Additionally, our school supports sustainability.

C: What was the process of applying for the Sustainability Mini Grant like?

TW: Applying for a Sustainability Mini Grant really made me think through what the goal and purpose of my project is. It helped me define to whom I would be catering, and think about why it is I wanted to go through with making the Willamette Closet.

C: How will this make Willamette become more sustainable?

TW: Through the Willamette Closet clothes will be rented and re-used. A lot of us buy formal clothing and only wear it once or twice. The Willamette Closet offers variety so people do not have to buy something



COURTESY OF PHOTOBUCKET

The WU Closet: hopefully soon full of dress cloths.

new if they want to wear something nice for an event.

If more students use the Willamette Closet instead of going out to buy clothing for events then they are spending less money and buying less clothing, which uses fewer resources.

I guess it is comparable to borrowing clothes

from a friend, except with a wider variation of options. Clothing will be washed all at once using natural cleaning products.

C: Where will the Willamette Closet be located?

TW: Until Black Tie is over, there is a classroom in TIUA that is being used to store the clothing. The first event the Closet will

be open for rentals is Black Tie. After that it is difficult to say exactly where it will be located because space is scarce on campus.

C: Why should students donate their formal wear to the Willamette Closet?

TW: Like I said, a lot of us have clothes ... left at home that we don't wear anymore. Instead of just letting them sit in our closets, we should donate them to the Willamette Closet where they can be of use to other people who may not have the resources (finances or transportation) to get formal attire.

Why keep something if you are not going to wear it? If you don't like something or something doesn't fit, why not donate it to someone else who can make use of it?

If you needed something and did not have the means to go off campus and get it, you would want a resource on campus that you could use. The more donations there are the more choices there are for people.

C: Can students get involved with the project in ways beyond just donating?

TW: Of course! I am in the process of forming a committee and need creative people to help me. There are many people at Willamette with great ideas, and I would love to hear them.

I need people to help advertise and collect donations, help find a permanent space, and when it comes time to open for rentals I will need people to rent out, collect money and run the Closet. For more information to donate cloths, contact Tana Watanabe at tawatanabe@willamette.edu.

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Midnight breakfast fuels students for finals

LAUREN TOMPKINS
CONTRIBUTOR

With final exams looming in the near future, it might seem like going home for the holidays is the only thing to which we can look forward. But the students thinking this way are probably missing out; Midnight Breakfast is a Willamette tradition that's been improving the end of the semester for over a decade.

"Midnight Breakfast primarily is a way for students to unwind and de-stress before finals," Willamette Events Board co-president Rafael Baptista said. "So we try and keep it fun and entertaining."

After so many years of tradition, it might seem like the process of Midnight Breakfast would get old fast, but Baptista said this isn't the case.

"Our challenge for this and every semester has been originality - to keep the tradition exciting and interesting for students, and to provide entertainment," he said.

In keeping with WEB's goal of originality, this semester the first 50 people to be at the doors of Goudy in Willamette gear will receive what Baptista called a "secret, special prize."

Even Willamette graduates speak fondly of Midnight Breakfast.

Beth Dittman, the Assistant Director of Student Activities and WEB's advisor, recalled: "We like to think of it as a respite, a kind of rite of passage. When I attended Willamette, it was that turning point of the semester when I knew that it was time to get serious about studying."

Perhaps even more important than the event's traditional aspects is the participation of faculty.

"The breakfast is planned by WEB

and executed by Goudy staff, but 12 members of the Willamette staff and faculty serve food, because we like to emphasize [their] involvement in our community," Baptista said.

Still, the students' opinions are what matters: "We make sure that Midnight Breakfast meets student standards through feedback from students, because the event is entirely student planned, and also through Senate, because we attend every ASWU meeting."

If there's one thing to keep in mind for this semester's Midnight Breakfast, Baptista said, it's to be respectful while you're having a good time. Because the event is student-run, it means students have to clean up the mess. If those students have anything to say about it, it's that this semester's Midnight Breakfast will be the best yet.

Midnight Breakfast
December 11th
10 p.m. - Midnight
Final serving time is 11:45 p.m.

The first 50 people to arrive wearing Willamette gear will receive a prize!

Questions: contact <rbaptist>

Contact: ltompkins@willamette.edu

Good luck
on finals and
have a great
winter break!

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Tempting Tomes

COLUMN

Christopher Paolini wraps up "Eragon" well



AUSTIN SCHOCK

COLUMNIST

It strikes me as odd how often the things we grow up with take on a retrospective gleam of perfection, somehow allowing their less desirable aspects to be ignored. We say that it has always been that way, and that we would complain if the author made too many changes.

The critics, on the other hand, will always say that if the author did make certain changes, the fans probably wouldn't notice and the readership would widen as a result of improved quality.

Such an argument was clearly going on when Christopher Paolini finished his "Eragon" series with "Inheritance."

For those who don't know, a quick plot summary of the saga: There was once a noble group of people, made up of many races, which protected the land until one of their own betrayed them and conquered all.

Years later, a young man, Eragon, finds a weapon and a master who survived this conflict of old, and sets off on a quest to rebel against and overthrow this great evil.

When his old master dies, killed by the very evil our hero is off to destroy, Eragon wanders with the rebels until he locates a new master, somehow crippled by battles long ago fought. If this sounds like Star Wars, then you should know how this story will turn out.

Contrary to the other books in the series, Paolini is finally starting to vary his writing style. No longer is every noun preceded by two adjectives; nay, some are preceded by one, or even three, or even "gasp" none. That's right, no longer is this book formulaic... well, as formulaic. The majority of nouns still follow the previous trend, but it's nice to see a bit of variety in his writings.

In terms of said writing, it's still done fairly well. This is still a young adult book, so don't expect too much in the way of fancy wordage, but the narrative itself comes across rather well. It is a good story, though it's similar to many others, it still has those small details that keep it fresh.

That's not to say that there aren't problems; often I found myself figuring out mysteries long before the characters and yelling at the book. I also found the plot to move at odd speeds, racing ahead in some places and slowing to a crawl at others; like a giant game of red light/green light.

I really did enjoy "Inheritance" and hope that others give it a try as well. Don't worry if you don't remember the others in the series, the book can stand by itself with minimal issues.



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BOOK REVIEW: 'selected unpublished blog posts of a mexican panda express employee'

Megan Boyle gives us a book too ironic for hipsters

ZANE SPARLING
CONTRIBUTOR

The unexamined life does not make for a very entertaining status update.

In fact, in the case of Megan Boyle's debut book, "selected unpublished blog posts of a mexican panda express employee," spending all your time over-analyzing said status updates is going to make you want to kill yourself. Or at least make you spend the next ten hours watching Hulu Plus while bingeing on Nutella and pretending you accidentally left your phone on silent.

To be fair, that's not exactly the premise of "blog posts," a post-narrative look at how we archive thoughts and feelings on the Internet, but it'll have to do.

The book consists of roughly 50 days worth of "drafts," material that Megan Boyle wrote on her blog, but then decided not to publish. It's now been repackaged as a "poetry collection" and buoyed with several essays. These range from the informative "Everyone I've had Sex With," (21 total penetrative partners!!!) to the hilarious "Embarrassing Moments." Sample from the latter: "[I just received an] e-mail from dad saying he's read 'Everyone I've had Sex With.'"

After taking a look at the purposely de-capitalized, obtrusely rambling title of Boyle's book, one might assume that "blog posts" is standard fare for "those effin' hipsters."

In reality, Boyle's book lacks a definite place in the culture of garden-variety indie-ness. Unfortunately for Boyle, "blog posts" tendency to be both hysterically ennuï and bleakly hilarious hits both extremes of indie lit too hard to identify anywhere on the spectrum.

Just try to imagine this book on a shelf between the hypothetically 'quirky' \$35 copy of "Karma Sutra for Cars" your little sister just bought at Urban Outfitters and the dogeared copy of "Perks of Being a Wallflower" that the sad girl in your sociology class re-reads when not updating her personal tumblr. Doesn't quite fit, does it?



MUMU HOUSE

Boyle's book covers, with a cat. Give it a read and you could be this happy.

Boyle's focus in "blog posts" is consistently on moments she catalogued but then self-censored. Speaking to an online hipster-totchke/numbered-list aggregator "Thought Catalog," Boyle stated that she's "glad my first book is a bunch of stuff I originally thought wasn't good enough for anyone to see."

By publishing the un-publishable, Boyle creates a valid portrait of how humans react when they're given a blank slate to fill, and find the result unpalatable.

How does this translate on the page? Boyle's pieces, each dated from the day they were originally written, often feel like they're the product of conflicting emotions.

Fanciful ruminations like, "tom clancy probably wears a baseball hat when he has sex," can quickly turn bleak and austere, like "laughing aloud when alone is strange/the room is forcefully quiet afterwards."

As such, the tone of Boyle's work can shift from absurd profundity to existential despair faster than you can say "teen-

age angst with a graduate degree in post-emotional exercise science."

So, to anyone who has ever updated their blog to apologize for never updating their blog, or realized that there's nothing original enough they could ever say to get Justin Bieber to retweet them, "unpublished blog posts" has something for you.

Interested parties can purchase "unpublished blog posts" for 12 dollars online at mumuihouse.com, or at select independent bookstores located thousands of miles away from Salem.



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GAME REVIEW: 'Batman Arkham City'

More bat for your buck!

TOM EHRMANN
REVIEWS EDITOR

To a universally frustrated Rhetoric major, there is nothing more satisfying than dressing up in a latex suit and beating the ever-loving crap out of criminals all across town. But hey, that's just how I spend my weekends.

For the rest of you, there's Batman: Arkham City. Rocksteady Studios' continuation of the broadly successful Batman: Arkham Asylum Game hit home consoles in October and debuted on Windows in late November, finally satisfying the crazed demand of fans the world over: "MORE!"

Well, good people, more you wanted, and more you got, because for the most part, that's all "Arkham City" is: more Arkham Asylum. While normally, such a game would be seen as a lateral continuation and a failure to improve, "Arkham City" has the distinction of being a lateral move from a nearly perfect game. As they say, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it."

"Arkham City" features the same controls as "Arkham Asylum," with all the

same moves. But, you ask, what's a game without unlockable upgrades? Fear not, for there are MORE moves, gadgets, and abilities for you to collect. This is, unfortunately, also a bit of a drawback for the game.

The addition of new moves and enemies has complicated the combat system quite a bit, so much so that the old "press square to destroy" mechanic of "Arkham Asylum" seems a bit lost, and despite my hours of practice to become proficient at it in the last game, I find myself easily overwhelmed by combat here.

Perhaps the most notable improvement of "Arkham City" over its predecessor is the larger map (and greater number of challenge levels). Now, instead of having free rein over an island-bound prison, you get a complete chunk of Gotham City walled off from the rest of civilization for your convenience. Therein lies each and every villain Batman has ever encountered, as they wage gang wars against one another in a darkly cartoon-

ish, yet grittily realistic setting.

In fact, "Arkham City" goes a great distance to reconcile the comics with the cartoon with the movies; not just in theme, but in narrative canon. DC fans will appreciate this.

The characters are, as usual, gloriously colorful and the plot is satisfyingly complex, especially given the new elements added in by the downloadable characters: Robin, Catwoman and Nightrwing. You'll think you know where the story is going once you get a little into the game, but trust me, you don't.

All things considered, we could scarcely ask for a better continuation to "Arkham Asylum." Let's hope that the next game is just as mind-blowingly awesome.



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Student art exhibit: Faces of WU students

MADELINE MOREHOUSE
STAFF WRITER

An array of student artwork is on display this week in the Art building. The works are from the Figure Drawing and the Introduction to Painting courses — both of which explore the interpretation of the self.

Each student in Professor James Thompson's painting class contributed three self-portraits to the gallery, which are on display immediately as you enter the building.

These portraits are up-close, frontal and direct. The assignment for the painting class was to create a self-portrait that explored three different methods of color. The first is to describe the shadows with only black and white tones. The second portrait, located directly below the first, is to portray one's self in color in either naturalistic or abstract skin tones. The third portrait is to interpret one's self with an "element of change," according to senior Art History major, Haley Scott.

Scott's "change" self-portrait represents her as a pixie with other mythical elements. She says, "I really just lampooned the opinions of what other people saw me as after I had gotten my short haircut, but I also really enjoyed painting it, as it gave me some freedom to explore non-traditional methods of representation."

Student works from Professor Heidi Grew's Figure Drawing class are on display in the first floor gallery. The assignment for her class was to explore the idea of a self-portrait with interesting compositions and



Students from Professors Thompson's and Grew's classes explore the introspective art of self-portrayal.

an exploration of the 3D through various drawing methods.

The students have been conceptualizing their portraits since the beginning of the semester and were given four weeks to create the work.

According to Grew, a truly beneficial aspect of the project were student progress critiques in which Grew observed student dialogue, support and problem solving. Grew describes the outcome of their work to be a "...portrait of the now and of the generation."

"There is something so telling about a generation seen in these drawings. I was learning about them in a new light, new perspective as well as seeing the creative process," Grew says.

Both assignments explore themes of the self-referential and the interpretative. The paintings give other students a chance to see what their peers are doing and insight on how to interpret the idea of self. Change, growth or passion are themes of the self-portraits to which many Willamette students can relate.

Whether the portrait illustrates elements of change, or a profoundly introspective exploration, the collection offers a chance to reflect on the ways we as a generation recognize ourselves.

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Bastardizing art work?

ASTRA LINCOLN
CONTRIBUTOR

The un-muffled sounds of a multi-thousand dollar transaction drift out an open office door into the first floor of the Roger Yost Gallery, which still smells of freshly painted walls from its recent opening.

This gallery of made-for-sale artwork brags the largest showcase of international art work in Oregon.

Three paintings of a pale woman in different brightly colored veils, although it could be easy to miss them amid the clutter of the larger and more prominently displayed still life paintings of apples and foliage, are titled respectively "Succulent Scenario" and "Green Leaves."

The mission statement on the Roger Yost Gallery website lauds: "on these walls and counters you will find paintings and sculpture from Lithuania, The Czech Republic, Vietnam, France, Germany, Argentina, Russia, Spain and Hollywood. Pop art inspired by Disney and the Pixar Animation Studios."

Throughout the gallery, one is easily reminded of sterile offwhite office walls. It is difficult to decipher whether this is because the gallery is a converted bank space (the large metal door of the vault is one of the finest features of the lower level), or because the price tags on the labels are written in a larger, bolder font than the artists' names. Indeed, several of the pieces are missing titles altogether.

A poster near the entrance says the gallery hosts a wide range of "art that celebrates our love of wine and music." A small room hidden in the back has a "modern impressionism" style painting of tuxedoed-hands holding champagne glasses clinking mid-cheer. Alongside it are two brightly colored salad bowls and a painting of a girl with a melancholy expression and a paper hat holding a statue of a pheasant to her bosom.

The gallery's proudest collection, however, is found in the two rooms near the entrance, their walls covered in hyperrealist recreations of Pixar and Disney movie stills. The gallery is an official vendor of Pixar-related artwork.

Hung next to a high-definition flat-screen television playing "Dumbo" is one of the few Disney pieces that is not realist (Willamette student Makena Johnson described it as "Mickey Mouse meets bad acid trip"). If Disney is not your thing, be sure to make it to the second floor, where you can find a full room of paintings of Bruce Springsteen and a range of other celebrities all with warped, elongated faces.

For their numerous "collectible items," the gallery offers a comprehensive range of purchasing options; art is available for rent to individuals or companies and "lease can be facilitated for the corporate client." And for those of you not looking to fill your corporate office with rented artwork, you may still find value in paying a visit to the gallery.

English majors, for instance, may be interested in reading over their mission statement, as it is comically full of sentence fragments such as "A learning center" and "A place where the creative person that lurks within each of us can feel welcome and at home."

All in all, the gallery leaves the viewer more inspired to leave than to contemplate beauty. And that's because the gallery fundamentally is missing any. In a consumer culture plagued by a value system entirely derived from the economy, it's easy for artistic merit to be compromised. And it's a shame that what could be an international showcase of culture appears to be more conscientious of price tags than anything that could be called good art.

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Auditions open for the Vagina Monologues

RACHEL HEISTERKAMP
STAFF WRITER

"The Vagina Monologues" is returning to the Willamette stage. Auditions are now open to any interested students for a role in the annual production. The show is dedicated to sharing several parts of the woman's experience. The stories shared in this unique collection of monologues tend to cause somewhat of a stir — which is exactly the point.

The "Monologues" were conceived in 1996 by a woman named Eve Ensler after she conducted interviews with hundreds of women about their views on relationships, sex, violence and abuse. The resulting production was something that she performed single-handedly for many years. It has now

evolved into a series of monologues, each performed by a different woman about a different facet of her experience.

"At Willamette, Strength Health Equality (S.H.E.) has been putting on the performance for several years to bring this movement into our own community, [sharing] Ensler's amazing work and [providing] support to groups in our area that are actively working to stop gendered violence," says Ellen Scheffer, one of the show's producers.

In the past, the show has had a significant impact on the community, and its annual recurrence seems to reaffirm its power. The show is put together in a way that focuses solely on the words of the women

rather than the performance itself. In short, this is not primarily a work of theatrical measure, but of common ground.

Scheffer says, "It's more about bringing women together and putting forth an important message." In this light, everyone is encouraged to audition. Theater experience or not, every voice is important in the effort to promote a genuine and diverse collection of monologues.

Because the subjects are taboo and scarcely discussed, participation in the "Monologues" offers an opportunity for fresh insights — for both actors and audience members.

"The monologues cover a broad range of topics and each one has the potential to leave a meaningful impact on someone in the audience," Scheffer says. "At times you will find yourself laughing, feeling angry, wanting to cry or just sitting in shock at the things you see on stage."

According to Scheffer, the most important goal of the production is to start a conversation among the student body on topics that are often overlooked or otherwise purposefully avoided.

"[The show] certainly delves into some topics that many people might feel surprised or uncomfortable with, but it does so in an attempt to portray the real experiences of women around the world," says Scheffer. "It gives voice to the things we don't talk about in our daily lives and opens up a space for conversation. I hope everyone will come into the performance with an open mind, and then you might be really surprised what you walk away with."

Auditions will take about 15 minutes and will be held Wednesday Dec. 7 from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. on the third floor of the UC. They are open to all self-identified women, regardless of acting experience. The show will run Feb. 17 and 18.

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ELLEN SCHEFFER

"The Vagina Monologues" has been a popular and provocative performance at Willamette for several years.

It's all about what you wear

HANNAH SCHIFF
MANAGING EDITOR

Humans are profoundly sense-oriented. We are a sensitive breed, gaining most of our knowledge of the world we live in through the basics of touch, smell, taste, sound and sight. These sensory perceptions guide us through our daily lives and we rarely give them much thought.

We take our senses for granted, and forget just how many of them we employ when making a sandwich or playing Skyrim.

While each of our senses is necessary for survival, perhaps sight is the most necessary sense for surviving in the society we've been building through the ages. True, our Neolithic ancestors couldn't have gotten far without the other four faculties, but ever since the first crushed-berry bison was slapped onto a cave wall, we've been a visual society.

Sight and style go hand in hand. If we were all blundering around without the use of our eyes, it wouldn't matter if we wore three-piece suits or potato sacks. Through our ability to see, we have cultivated a society that needs to visually display messages quickly. Although you can't tell everything about a person by assessing what they are wearing, you can certainly make assumptions that are often accurate.

For example, by looking at a person's outfit, the educated eye can tell where they shop and what they're doing on that particular day. From there, it's relatively easy to guess what sort of job a person has, whether or not they are married, etc.

We constantly make these unconscious assumptions. If you see a person in athletic gear, you tend to categorize them as an athlete. In the Pacific Northwest, an umbrella is often the marker of a tourist.

While our educated guesses can be wrong, they often do reveal a lot of factual information. We present ourselves a certain way for a certain reason, and while our clothing may not be fully representative of our characters, it shares an awful lot more than we might otherwise like to believe.

I spoke with some of Willamette's best dressed to see what student's had to say about style at Willamette. The consensus seems to be that Willamette is to fashion as round pegs are to square holes. Senior Stephen Moore commented, "College students are old enough to think about style, but without their mothers' guidance they develop their thoughts incongruently. Wearing a three-piece suit jacket, dress shirt, tie, jeans and sneakers is not style."

When asked if Willamette has an overarching sense of style, Louis Strack, a student at Willamette's College of Law replied, "Not really. Unless you count pajamas," and senior Kelly Tanner commented "As far as style at Willamette [is concerned,] it tends to be a mix of Pacific Northwest granola (socks and sandals, Northface fleece, etc.), and the Urban Outfitter's catalog."

While these responses might paint Willamette as a style-free place, fashion can be found around campus. From well-dressed faculty to students curled up in the Bistro in corduroy and combat boots, secret pockets of style develop.

I asked my interviewees what style meant to them, and received some interesting responses. Moore said, "Style is, like any other developed form of creativity, a history of expression and interpretation which I, in turn, interpret and express." According to Strack, style is "being recognizable in a crowd."

Ultimately, while Willamette may not have a distinct and unique style, it is important to remember that most students are tired and stressed. Students are too busy to do much more than roll out of bed. And without the obligation to dress well that comes with many careers, it can be hard to find motivation to wear more than that pair of sweats.

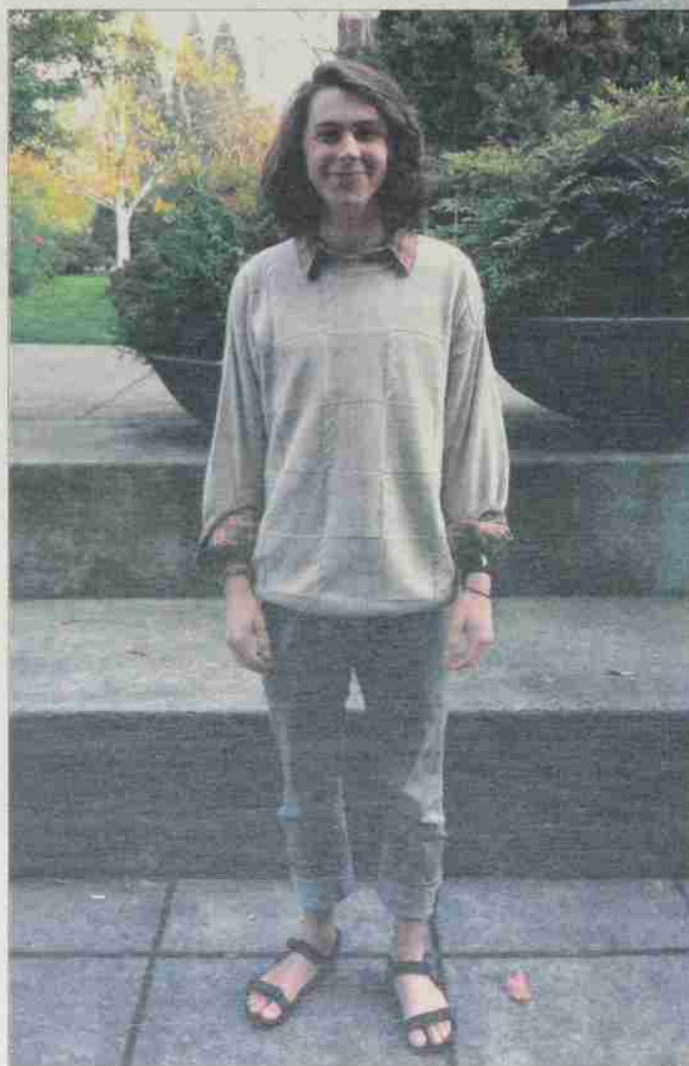
Additionally, without a steady source of income, most students have to ration their monetary supplies and clothing gets the short end of the stick.

Here are a few more amusing, intriguing and inspiring insights into what fashion means at Willamette:

Contact: hschiff@willamette.edu



HANNAH SCHIFF
Junior Lauren Riggs still looks stylish despite the sudden cold spell in Salem.



HANNAH SCHIFF
Sophomore Dallas Frederick's style is casual and comfortable, while still looking well put together.

Louis Strack [considers his style] "farmer chic. Eminently practical yet foxy."

I tend to choose clothing for practical rather than aesthetic reasons." Strack is also a supporter of "shopping" in free boxes, a testament to the fact that you can keep your wallet full and still look sharp.



HANNAH SCHIFF

Freshman Ashley Tozier is well dressed while still conveying a sense of individuality.

Kelly Tanner's sense of style tends to revolve wholeheartedly around her shoes.

"I often run into problems with the rain, seeing as some (okay, let's be real, most) of my shoes are not rain compatible. This means that most of the year I have to wear a lot of boots and cheap shoes so I don't care if the rain takes a turn for the biblical while I'm walking across campus.

When thinking about what to wear, more often than not, I start with the shoes and build my outfit from the feet up. When there is a nice day, relatively speaking, when it seems like it won't rain, that's when I get to have the most fun.

I've also discovered recently that I talk about my shoes in a way that most people reserve for pets, making me a crazy shoe lady instead of a crazy cat lady.

I prefer to shop online, typically when I should be doing homework. I'm a big fan of Modcloth but seeing as I'm on a budget, most of my money gets pumped into Forever 21 and Ebay for the pricier items I have my eye on. If I find a pair of really nice boots or something chances are someone is selling them on Ebay for less than Nordstrom is selling them."



HANNAH SCHIFF

Freshman Will Tigar says "wearing suits ... makes me feel more confident and makes me feel like I can take on the world."

Stephen Moore's personal style is "Relaxed Northwest collegian proper, (brown leather shoes [black is too east coast] with jeans [the frontier damnit!], dress shirt [or plaid, of course] under-sweater [layers keep a man warm], coat without hood [because a gentleman doesn't need to be outside when it's raining])."

Two factors govern his wardrobe: "1. **Function.** The variance of temperature and humidity present in our region are so great, that one simply must wear layers of clothing to be able to enjoy the day. 2. **Form.** So long as I am consistent in which pieces of attire I like and choose to wear, I always end up in a balanced ensemble. (If I'm going to wear my bright green robe, I better wear my bright red sweatpants!)"

If style is what I have professed it to be, then isn't purchasing clothing from department stores primarily inauthentic? Allowing a corporation to interpret the style of the zeitgeist and sell it to the masses eventually (after enough cycles) destroys the cultural and/or individual experience of 'style.'

I shop on the Internet and at Value Village. Although I have just presented department stores as relatively evil, they do provide me with many of my clothing items (socks, underwear, pants, undershirts) because they are cheap, fresh and durable. Also, any person who chooses to dress primarily in department store attire is easily forgiven because we are not what we wear. But to those people I do remind, humanity is visual, forgetful and fickle; don't let your Sketchers keep you from making a good friend.

Here are a few insights and tips from some of fashions greats:

As fashion designer and icon Coco Chanel once said, "I don't do fashion, I am fashion." But what does it mean to be fashion? Being well dressed is more about feeling good in what you're wearing than anything else. Wear clothing that you find comfortable, flattering and a good outward reflection of yourself, and the compliments will follow.

"The dress must follow the body of a woman, not the body following the shape of the dress," said designer Hubert de Givenchy. One of the biggest detractions from a good ensemble is a poorly fitted garment. Everyone has a different shape and size, all of which are beautiful, but not all of which are meant to share clothing. Get to know your body, and find clothing that enhances your form.

Fashion blogger Solanah frequently discusses the benefits of shopping in vintage and thrift shops. You can often get better deals on clothing there, and you'll find interesting things to add to your wardrobe that you won't see on anyone else. Plus, you get bonus points for supporting local businesses. You can check out her wonderful blog, Vixen Vintage at vixenvintage.blogspot.com for fashion tips and photos.

19th century author William Makepeace Thackeray wrote, "Bravery never goes out of fashion." Don't be afraid of being "different." Style should be about expressing yourself. If someone doesn't like or understand your style, that should be their problem, not yours.

Check out online retailers like etsy.com and modcloth.com for interesting and (mostly) affordable clothing. Etsy features both handmade and vintage items, while Modcloth offers daily-updated selections of women's wear and accessories from independent designers.

Jamiere Abney: Leading with his play

MADDY GRAINGER
CONTRIBUTOR

Despite the usual success of the Willamette football team, Coach Mark Speckman's vaunted "Fly" offense isn't the best at producing individual stars or exceptional individual statistics. Luckily for the Bearcats, senior tailback Jamiere Abney is absolutely fine with that.

For the past three years, Abney has been the humble workhorse of the offensive backfield. This season, Abney was thrust into the spotlight due to the surplus of youth on offense. Abney was one of just two seniors to start on offense for the Bearcats.

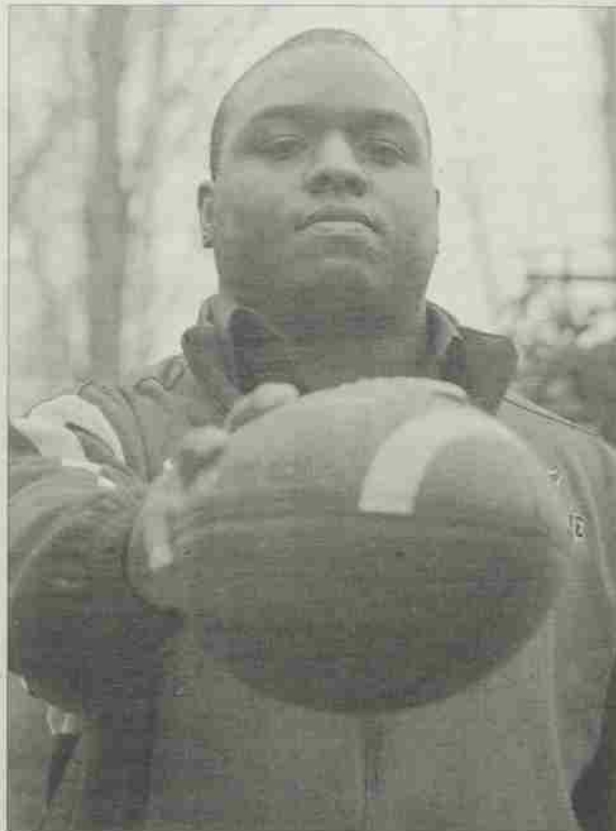
For the Willamette offense, growing pains were unavoidable as the 'Cats started 0-2. However, Abney stepped up, rushing for 228 yards and two TD's in close losses to UW-Stevens Point and Hardin-Simmons. He explained that there was general lack of understanding that progressively improved over the season. "We were trying to find our identity as an offense and as individuals," Abney explained.

Abney said the offensive success was a progression throughout the season. Despite the offenses' slow start, "by the end of the season, people were in the right place and knew their assignments on an individual basis."

Abney's personal expectations were set high by both the coaches and himself. "I knew the offensive coaching staff well enough to know I had a big role," Abney said.

Coming into this season, Abney had high hopes for personal and team success. Abney met all his personal goals, including being the Bearcats leading rusher with 552 rushing yards and averaging 5.5 yards per rush. He also achieved his goal of making First Team All-NWC.

For Abney however, these personal goals were in place for the team's benefit. He put his mind to being a good leader,



ROBERT MARCH

Despite being one of two seniors starting for the Bearcat offense this season, Jamiere Abney stepped up as a leader of the team.

setting the tone with hard-nosed play and a no-nonsense attitude. Abney's hopes for a positive atmosphere and good team camaraderie were positive outcomes of the season.

Although Abney is not the most vocal leader, his work ethic had a definite influence on his teammates. "Jamiere is a prime example of someone who leads with his play," junior flanker Jake Turner said. "You know that he's going to go into a practice or game and give it all for every single yard."

While much of this drive is internal for Abney, he also credits motivation and personal growth to the coaching staff. "They pushed me to be more than just a good player but a leader, to be more vocal, and to take on a bigger leadership role."

It is clear that Abney took this to heart, and stepped up to humbly, yet confidently, lead the team.

Abney's modesty is reflected in his work-ethic and performance. Without show-boating his success, his unceasing hard-work and dedication to the team is visible in consistency and execution in games.

Abney thought the "play of [his] career" was this year's win over Pacific University when he scored a touchdown after breaking seven tackles, helping the Bearcats to 49-7 win over the Boxers.

"In a leader, working hard and determination and effort really show," Abney explained.

Jamiere Abney deserves recognition for his commitment and consistent dedication to the team during his career in the program. "I played for the guys on my team and I like to compete, but it isn't all about the recognition for me," Abney said. His humble outlook on team success contributed to many Bearcat wins and a great tradition of hard work over the past four seasons.

Contact: mgrainge@willamette.edu

SWIMMING

Women's swimming sweeps, men's team falls

DEVIN ABNEY
CONTRIBUTOR

The Willamette Women's Swimming Team beat Mills College and College of Idaho handily in a home doubleheader last Friday. The Bearcats defeated the two colleges by wide margins, defeating Mills 62-32 and the College of Idaho 63-29.

The women's team won both relays, part of a stellar nine victories for the 'Cats on the night. A pair of freshman, Hope Nelson and Kersey Bars, had big nights, winning two individual events apiece. Bars won the 200-yard freestyle in an impressive time of 2:16.07, and won a close 100-yard backstroke in 1:11.55. Nelson swam to victory in two freestyles, winning the 100-yard with a time of 57.86 seconds and the 1,000-yard in 11:52.32.

Three other Bearcat Women had individual victories. Freshman Summer Elias prevailed in the 50-yard freestyle, sophomore Erin Parkinson won the 100-yard breast-

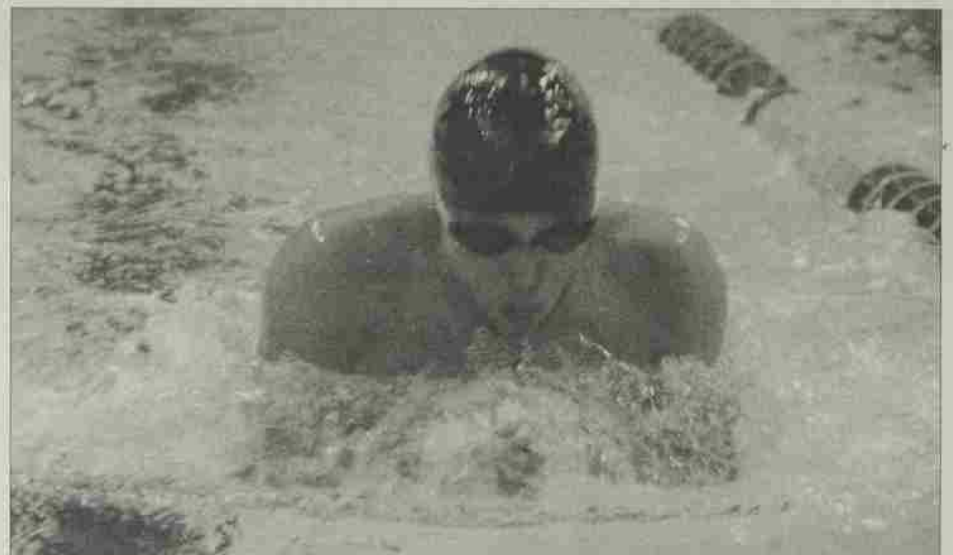
stroke and junior Kayla Kosaki came out on top in the 100-yard butterfly.

On the men's side, a number of Bearcat's had strong meets despite the 111-74 loss to the College of Idaho. Along with a relay victory, three men won their individual events. Freshman Aran Johnson earned his first collegiate victory in the 50-yard freestyle. Fellow freshmen Sean Piper and Zander Le Bel each won an individual event, with Piper winning the 400-yard individual medley and Le Bel finishing first in the 500-yard freestyle.

Contact: dabney@willamette.edu

▼ next up

Bearcats vs. Whitworth
@ Sparks Fieldhouse, Salem, Ore.
Saturday, Nov. 4 at 12:00 p.m.



Sophomore Chris Whitehead competes during last Saturday's match against Mills College and the College of Idaho.

CYBELLE TABILAS

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TREE OF GIVING BOOK DRIVE



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

This year's
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Harritt Elementary School.

We are accepting new, unwrapped books appropriate for elementary children and new hats, scarves, and gloves.

The Willamette Store is offering a 25% discount on any children's or young adult book purchased for the Tree of Giving project, from now through December 13th at 5 p.m.

Donations can be dropped off at the circulation desk in the library, or in the donation box at The Willamette Store.

Please visit our Tree of Giving, located near the entrance of the library, and see the beautiful ornaments adorning it (one representing each book).

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Men fall just short in OT

BRANDON CHINN
STAFF WRITER

After a pair of losses last weekend at the Capital City Classic, Willamette aimed to get back on track as they opened conference play, hosting Pacific Lutheran and Puget Sound.

Heading into Friday night's game against the Lutes, head coach Kip Ioane stressed the importance of the 'Cats doing what they do best. "Tonight's key is tempo. If we get the game going as fast as we can then we have a good chance to win," he said.

The Bearcats overcame an early deficit, going on a 9-2 run to take a three point lead early in the half. Willamette would lead for much of the first half and went into the locker room with a 35-33 lead. Junior post Sean Dart provided Willamette with a nice boost. Dart, who saw action for the first time this season following knee surgery, went 3-3 from the floor, posting six points in just four first half minutes.

The game went back and forth in the second half, but with less than five minutes left in regulation it appeared as if the Lutes were pulling away. Trailing 72-65 with 4:35 remaining, junior guard Terrell Malley drew a foul on a made basket and drained a three pointer on consecutive possessions to cut the lead to one.

The Lutes answered, extending the lead to 75-71 with 1:30 remaining. However, the Bearcats weren't ready to quit yet. After connecting on two free throws on the previous possession, sophomore guard Trevor Bos found his way past the defense, laying the ball in with twelve seconds left and forcing overtime.

After going back and forth for most of overtime, the Lutes took a two point lead in the closing minutes. Receiving a pass from the perimeter in the Cats' final possession, Dart spun his way towards the basket and scored, tying the game at 81.

Dart's heroics would not be enough however, as a controversial foul call led to a Lutes free throw with one second left, sealing the 82-81 victory.

Despite the loss, several players shined for Willamette. Malley led all scorers with 21 points while senior forward Taylor Mounds added 17 on an efficient 7:11 shooting from the floor.

Heading into Saturday's game against the #22 UPS Loggers, Dart felt it was important to shake off any lingering effects from Friday's loss. "You never enjoy losing, but in terms of tough breaks you can't control a call in the last five seconds. What we can control is how we bounce back and play tonight."

Although UPS jumped ahead early, the Cats' stayed within striking distance, trailing by only nine points entering halftime.

After watching the deficit grow to twelve points with under fifteen minutes to play, Willamette clawed their way back. A pair of made free throws by freshman forward Alex Brown started an 8-0 run for the Bearcats, cutting the lead down to four. However, the Loggers responded with an 11-2 run of their own, taking control of the lead and the game in a 73-59 Bearcats defeat.

Mounds led all scorers with 23 points while hauling in 12 rebounds for his third double-double of the season. Despite losing both games on the weekend, Mounds is encouraged by the team's competitiveness early on.

"I thought we showed a lot of fight this weekend. Obviously we didn't come out with the outcome we wanted but I think we're moving forward," Mounds said. "These were only the first two games of conference; we still have fourteen left to play so I think we'll be alright."

Contact: bchinn@willamette.edu

▼ next up

Bearcats vs. Montana St.
@ Bozeman, Mont.
Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m.



ALLY SZETO

Senior forward Taylor Mounds pulls up for a three-point shot against UPS last Saturday. Mounds led all scorers with 23 points and also collected 12 rebounds.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Bearcats drop two against PLU, UPS

SEAN DART
STAFF WRITER

In the opening weekend of Northwest Conference Play, lost their Friday march against Pacific Lutheran University 60-54, and came up short Saturday versus University of Puget Sound; 76-60.

Friday, PLU was up 37-33 at halftime, and saw their lead expand to 14, but the Bearcats rode the hot hands of junior Sophie Wilson and sophomore Mackenzie Lamson to bring the game within reach. Wilson drained three three-pointers in the first half, and Lamson went on a 6-0 run by herself to whittle the lead down to eight in the second half.

Sophomore wing Alexa Beeson hit a jumper from the wing and followed with two free throws with just over a minute remaining, but the Bearcats couldn't quite surmount the Lutes' lead.

A main area of focus for the team is establishing a new mentality where they expect to win those close games. Lamson and Westermann, the team's two leading scorers, agree confidence and attention to detail are key elements.

"It's going to come down to discipline, people knowing their roles and executing, especially down the stretch," Lamson said.

Lamson lead the Bearcats with 12 points and 4 steals, and Wilson pitched in 10 points off the bench. The Bearcats shot only 33 percent and were out-rebounded by the Lutes 41-35.

"If we can figure out a way to put together a full 40 minutes, we will be a force," Westermann added.

Saturday, the Bearcats faced defend-

ing NWC champion Puget Sound. Although UPS took control early, Willamette was on the Loggers' heels the whole game, as senior forward Kaleigh Westermann led the 'Cats with 14 points. Despite Lamson going down early in the second half with an ankle injury, the Bearcats trailed 56-52 at the 8-minute mark. However, UPS made a late run that bolstered their lead to 72-57 with 2:35 remaining.

Freshman guard Jojo Delong recorded seven points, six rebounds, two assists and four steals. Fellow freshman Kaitlyn Nordlien recorded 11 points and led the team with seven rebounds.

UPS shot 54 percent on the game, including 8-15 from distance. The Bearcats struggled from the field again, shooting just 36 percent, but remained close in the rebounding battle, 42 to 39.

"UPS is a great shooting team which is always difficult to stop. They are also very physical, but I thought we did a good job of being physical back," Delong said.

Despite the two narrow losses, the Bearcats are confident in their ability to bounce back, and look to use these next few preseason games to get back on track.

"We are working to change our mentality and expect to win those close games," Lamson said.

Contact: sdart@willamette.edu

▼ next up

Bearcats vs. William Jessup
@ Salem, Ore.
Thursday, Dec. 8 at 7:00 p.m.

OPINION

Myth of the bedpost

In the spirit of the season

BETHANY WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

I've learned a lot by reading Dan Savage and watching porn, but perhaps the most practical lesson I've learned is that sex is a niche market.

Just try to make up a fetish—the chances are good that it already exists and that there is a website that will tell you all about it and can put you in contact with other people who are interested.

I'm afraid it's very cliché to write a column about fetishes, so I'll steer clear. Yes, they exist. No big deal. What's interesting is that talking about them still feels illicit.

Learning about and participating in so-called "alternative" sexual acts is basically confined to the computer screen and the back pages of trendy newspapers. While these are great resources, they seem insufficient.

Our society is built on communities. Identifying as part of a sexual community might be just as enriching as bonding over common political views or shared scholastic interests.

If conservatives, liberals, atheists, deists, vegans and meat-eaters are all out in the open, flying their flags and reaping the benefits of collective identification and group support, why not the tail-wearers, the micropenis-lovers and the defecators?

Maybe it's due to the social pressures of a small school, or maybe few of us are fully awakened sexually, or maybe I just have sex with boring people, but not once in my sexual career has a tryst been preceded by an explanation of tastes.

Good and not so good, my sexual experiences have basically all been versions of the same, which is a sentiment that has also been expressed by my friends. And their friends. And the movies we watch. And the books we read.

Alas, the reality of sexual diversity is just another example of something we know to be true but too often fail to acknowledge in our everyday lives. However, the need for active participation in recognized communities is something we recognize every day.

There is such a thing as sexual (in)compatibility. Why waste time having sex that doesn't work for you? Would you live in a city or listen to music or wear clothes that you hate? Not if you had the opportunity to choose—and although they may be marginalized, sexual options exist.

Not everyone has a blue streak running through their sex lives, but everyone depends on community. Knowing what turns you on and who you can go to to talk about sex are personal experiences that will change throughout your life but contribute to sexual and mental health.

If you need encouragement, take comfort in Savage Love, peruse some porn and know that yes, everyone else is also turned on by Mariah Carey's rendition of "All I want for Christmas is You."

The easy answer is to encourage open, non-judgmental reflection and communication, and I know that this is easier said than done. However, in the spirit of the season, with all its togetherness, good food and alcohol, maybe just give it a try.

Contact: bwilliam@willamette.edu

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters can be sent by postal mail, e-mail (mpitchfo@willamette.edu), campus mail or fax. Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name and phone number and must be submitted by noon Monday on the week of intended publication. The Collegian reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

Collegian Publishing Policy

It is the editorial policy to publish all articles and letters to the editor, regardless of content, along with the author's name.

EDITORIAL

Survive and thrive through finals

An abnormally crowded Hatfield and the growing anticipation of Midnight Breakfast can really only mean one thing: Finals week is upon us. With a vengeance.

As stress levels rise to heights not previously seen this semester—especially for freshman experiencing college final exams for the first time—we here at the Editorial Board feel that some well-timed advice is in order.

Of course, students of all classes can take note. Year after year, we all tend to strategically repress the trauma that is finals week. Here are some ways to deal with it.

Stay hydrated

During finals week, students inevitably look to find their productivity at the bottom of a coffee cup. As the caffeine shakes don't exactly leave one feeling stress-free, our advice is this: Slow it down.

The busier we are, the more we tend to take coffee as if it were a dose of Nyquil: quickly and with a grimace. Next time you head downtown for a coffee break, make sure it's just that: a break.

Go with a friend and take 20 or 30 minutes to actually enjoy your mug of the Gov Cup's finest Chai tea latte. Wouldn't that be more enjoyable than chugging your fifth Red Bull?

Make a play date

As college students, here at the crossroads of "dependent on my parents for food and shelter" and "I can drink in bars," we vacillate between Stupid Kid and Responsible Adult with varying degrees of awkward in between.

Truth is, responsibility sucks. We're asked to be a lot more adult about it during finals week, so take the time to regress a little.

Grab some equally overworked, library-bound friends, throw on two or ten layers and play disc golf around campus.

Better yet, venture off of campus. Skip stones on the Willamette River. Climb a tree. Find a playground—go swinging or play tag. Buy some chalk and "decorate" a particularly boring piece of the sidewalk.

If it's too cold and wet to go out, jump on your bed or run up and down the stairs. Anything to expend a little nervous energy.

Whatever it is, be a kid for a half an hour, and then grow back up and get back to work.

Take care of yourself

We know, during finals week it seems that there is nothing more important than your ten page history final on sex and morality in the medieval ages. But eating, sleeping, exercising and generally not becoming one massive, bleary-

eyed, germ-spreading cold should be up there on your list of priorities.

Trust us, the stress will only increase if you have to pause at your work every five minutes to cough up a lung. Similarly, all-nighters pulled by candlelight only lead to work that is much less impressive by the light of day.

We're sure none of these suggestions are a surprise to you. But even the very reminder here is a good one: Your finals are important, but they are not the most important thing you have ever done or will ever do in your life.

These breaks are enjoyable and possibly random ways to find the thing that is most important during these last weeks of school: perspective. Putting in the effort is not the same thing as sacrificing your sanity. So good luck, and see you at Midnight Breakfast.

COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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Matt Pitchford • EDITOR IN CHIEF
Kimberly Hursh • OPINIONS EDITOR
Hannah Schiff • MANAGING EDITOR

OPINION

A safe place: Why SARA believes you

CAITLIN GIBSON
GUEST WRITER

Everyone wants to be heard. It's inherent in our nature, and as we navigate through college we have so much to talk about. Yet, there are voices on our campus that are afraid to speak for fear of the stigma associated with sexual assault and the work of the on-campus organization, Sexual Assault Response Allies, known best as SARA.

Undoubtedly, there is a stigma associated with the issues of sexual assault that is noticeable in the discourse on our campus.

When the issues that SARA works with are forced into the shadows and misconceived, the value of our work is challenged and our presence on campus is underappreciated.

It is important that appropriate definitions are in place when talking about sexual assault so that everyone understands what it really means, what we do and why we're here.

When we talk about sexual assault, we recognize all feelings of violation or discomfort by recognizing that it is never the fault of the victim. The myth that victims or survivors can prevent rape or are responsible for their experience

of sexual assault must be debunked in order to acknowledge all who may feel they are victims of sexual assault.

Although SARA certainly does seek to dispel these misconceptions and encourage open and meaningful dialogue about these issues, we are most importantly here to simply listen and be as much of a resource as needed.

Each SARA member is drawn to this work and is thoroughly trained by Mid-Valley Women's Crisis Services in order to be the most prepared and conscientious allies Willamette can offer.

It is also a common misconception that SARA is here only for survivors. Our resources are for survivors, friends and family of survivors and anyone who wants more information or a listening ear.

In order to best serve anyone who comes to SARA, we provide information about on-campus and off-campus resources to make sure that everyone is well-informed in any decision-making or healing process.

SARA is on campus to support survivors and make sure they have a safe place to go. We are not here to tell anyone what to do or to encourage a survi-

vor to take any specific course of action. Only a survivor can know what feels most comfortable and useful.

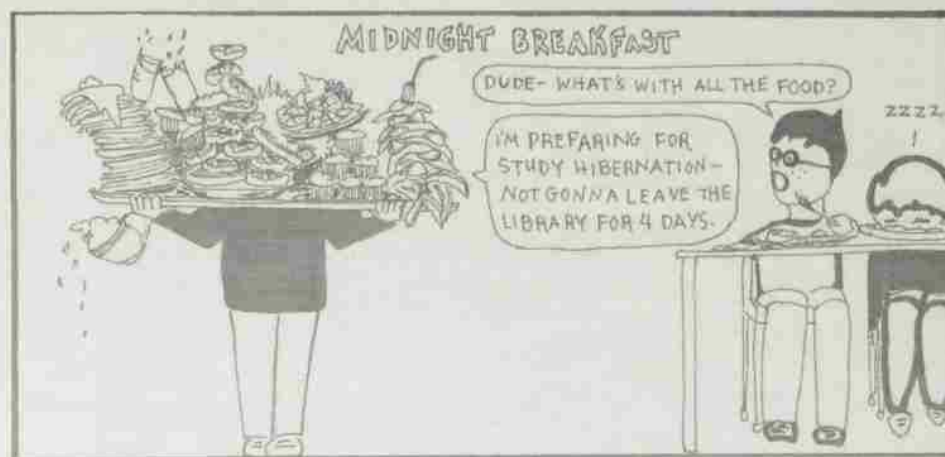
It is currently estimated that one in six women and one in eleven men will experience sexual assault in their lifetime. Sadly, the chances that you or someone you know will experience sexual assault during your time at Willamette and your lifetime are real and not an issue to be cast aside.

Sexual assault can happen to anyone; SARA is on our campus in acknowledgment of this truth. SARA deserves a place on campus because it recognizes that these issues are not foreign to the Willamette bubble.

If anyone would like to contact SARA, office hours are held Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m. in the Women's Resource Center. Online Meebo messenger hours are from 6-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday. The hotline is available Friday at 5 p.m. - Monday at 8 a.m. by calling 503-851-4245.

We are SARA, and we believe you.

Contact: cagibson@willamette.edu



OPINION

REDUCTIO AD AWE SOME

Big gun diplomacy



ANTHONY MACUK
STAFF WRITER

I'd like to congratulate President Obama on his recent decision to station 2,500 Marines in northern Australia, and for his newfound assertive stance on the role of the United States in the Pacific.

In the midst of a huge economic downturn and large-scale budget cuts, it's a relief to see that the President is still committed to America's deeply held value of making bullheaded military gestures in order to annoy China.

It may be hard to accept, but the Asia-Pacific situation requires action. China has been making unilateral claims for ownership of the South China Sea, despite the fact that the sea also borders Malaysia, Vietnam and the Philippines.

We have to send a message to China that it's not okay to use military intimidation to try to control shared waters. And the most logical way to do that is to use our military to dictate policy in the South China Sea from 7,000 miles away.

In an address to the Australian Parliament, Obama declared, "The United States is a Pacific Power, and we are here to stay."

This is entirely justified.

The fact that the Pacific Ocean covers a third of the planet is irrelevant; part of it borders America, so we have a right to claim the whole thing (similarly, the fact that Earth is located within the Milky Way makes us the Supreme Galactic Power).

Besides, this isn't strictly about projecting Pacific power. Australia needs our support to defend itself against various evil threats.

We're not sure what they're threatened by, but one thing is certain: If we don't step in, the world may lose many of Australia's unique features, such as boomerangs, hordes of poisonous animals and attractive male TV characters with sexy accents.

There is concern that this new policy may aggravate tensions in the region, possibly creating some sort of new Cold War between the US and China. This fear is, of course, entirely irrational; if there's one thing America is known for, it's easing tensions.

Still, in the highly unlikely event that our actions do end up causing Cold War II, there could be a silver lining. We currently owe China somewhere in the ballpark of 50

gazillion dollars, but if our two countries become openly hostile, China will probably give up on ever getting paid back.

On the other hand, a second Cold War would require certain sacrifices. The United States does rely on China to produce a very small number of its commercial products. In the interest of patriotism, we would probably have to stop doing that.

The impact would be relatively minimal. We would only have to get rid of our computers, cell phones, iPods, TVs, microwaves, toasters, toilets, shoes and toothbrushes. Most of that stuff isn't all that important. Besides, sacrifice is the price of freedom.

In any case, it's probably not going to come to that. The Australian military commitment shouldn't be taken too seriously. It's a great way to annoy China, but it's not like we're trying to actively block its growth (that's what our bases in South Korea and Japan are for).

Contact: amacuk@willamette.edu

COLUMN



To be Amurrican



KEVIN BELL
COLUMNIST

I've been thinking a lot about America lately, possibly because I'm currently dressed up to go to an American Revolution themed party, complete with a midnight ride and dumping (Long Island Iced) Tea into the Bay (of my unfairly taxed liver) over some political issue to be determined at a later date.

Only in America can so many of the wonderful things that we take for granted exist. Even for all its many and varied flaws (corruption, fundamentalism, New Jersey, etc.), it remains the best f-king place in the whole world.

In the immortal (attributed!) words of Danny McBride: "Sure, I've been called a xenophobe, but the truth is, I'm not. I honestly just feel that America is the best and the other countries suck. That used to be called patriotism."

Sure, you can go on about how Europe is "cultured" or "sophisticated" or "bankrupt" or something, but the truth is obvious to anyone who's ever been.

I spent a month in Europe in 2009, and, I swear to God, I heard "Damn She's a Sexy Bitch" about once an hour in 7 countries. McDonalds may have waffle fries in Italy, but it's still McDonalds. The whole world watches Hollywood movies, because even in Cannes explosion-porn is more fun to watch than avant-garde art films.

The one exception I'll make to this rule is Bollywood's action movies and massive choreographed dance numbers, but only because they're the one thing Michael Bay will never be able to compete with in terms of sheer, ludicrous insanity.

This is to say nothing of our "defense" budget, which is more than that of the next six countries after us combined. Why do you think there hasn't been a great power war for the last 60 years?

It's because you will get blown the f-ck up by \$700 trillion worth of phallic symbols, and America loves to strut around the phallic-symbol locker room sans towel. Insert Jerry Sandusky joke here. Followed by obligatory Fredo joke some soccer bros told me to make at Senior Social.

In terms of our own small lives, nobody does freedom like America. Birch all you want about police state, censorship or free speech zones, but France banned Muslim headscarves, and England is one giant episode of Big Brother made real.

Also, Australia is fatter than us, the Japanese have the highest suicide rates after the Northern Europeans and Amsterdam banned selling weed to tourists, so you might want to rethink your vacation plans bros.

The rest of the world followed the advice of the once-relevant Rich Boy and threw some D's on that bitch. In this case, though, "D's" are dysentery, dictators and discotecks, in order of increasing threat to human life.

So, call the AES and International Studies majors and tell them that the big bad Bearcat Bullet blew baseless bollocks before baffling bores bellow boundless belligerence. Bitches. And if you're not as irrationally irritated about alliteration as I am right now, clearly you haven't actually been reading.

Contact: kbell@willamette.edu

An ASP student perspective on Willamette

MAO TAMURA
GUEST WRITER

I love Oregon because there is majestic nature. It looks like my hometown.

I love my roommate. She is amazing. We were roommates all semester. She is studying Japanese and I am studying English, so we helped each other.

I love my Willamette friends. One of my friends was too friendly. I didn't know America has the habit of hugging. That's why, when I came to Willamette, I was so surprised, but now I love hugging. It is a sweet habit, isn't it?

I will try to hug to my family. They will probably reject me. It's a pity, but I can imagine. My Willamette friends are crazy, outgoing, funny and ridiculous. I mean I have good friends. Everyone was nice to me. I couldn't live without them. Thank you for such a happy time!

I love my German class. Some of the class-

mates were funny because they spoke a joke without a point in German. I loved that. Everyone was so smart; maybe they don't need textbooks. It was a nice class for me.

I love my Outdoor Program friends. They taught me the word "damn!" Now I can use the word. My Outdoor Program friends are excellent. When I joined the Outdoor Program meeting, they were eating ice cream. I was surprised because in Japan, we don't do that. I learned American culture from the Outdoor program.

In the program, there was a shy member. I greeted this member. The member didn't look at me. I was shocked. I tried to speak to the member. So, now we are good friends, I hope.

I also love my coordinator. He is silly. Is he really older than me? I can't believe it. However, he taught me a lot of American

culture. For example, most American miss their family, but most Japanese miss Japanese food. I didn't realize.

He let me experience a different culture. That's why I love my Outdoor Program friends. So, my favorite program is OUTDOOR.

I love my ASP friends and ASP staff members. They supported me a lot. I have to thank them from the bottom of my heart.

Finally, I really have to thank my family. Thanks to my family, I could come here and study English. Still, I have no confidence to speak English, but I did meet great friends. I think I couldn't come here without my family's help.

I love here.

Contact: mtamura@willamette.edu

Letter to the editor:

Concerning the Willamette Store textbook rental program

Dear Editor,

Textbook Rental program saves you money!

The Willamette Store launched the Textbook Rental Program to save students money on their textbook purchases. Compared to new book purchase prices, students saved 43% to 58% renting used textbooks, and 25% to 45% renting new textbooks. Students who found these savings told us that our rental program was a HUGE success. We rented 140 different titles, and students saved \$25,194!

Here are some real-life examples: Amelia Armitage saved \$87.30 on her used Statistics text; Laura Coddington saved \$133.29 on her used International Economics text; Ethan Berg saved \$66.17 on his Microeconomics text; and Parker Bennett saved \$76.28 on his used Psychology text.

We are offering a THANK YOU bonus to any student who used the rental program this fall. We are giving you a coupon for 15% OFF a purchase of clothing & gift items. Coupon is available to you when you return your rental books (deadline: December 19th). The

Coupon is good through the end of March 2012.

We will expand our rental program to include even more titles, and we hope more of you will choose this money-saving option.

Go Bearcats!

Sincerely,

Don Beckman
The Willamette Store
dbeckman@willamette.edu

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

November 18 - 23, 2011
Information provided by Campus Safety

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▶ Nov. 23, 3:41 a.m. (WISH House): A student reported that he had possibly dislocated his shoulder and requested to be transported to Salem Hospital. The officer transported him to the Emergency Room.

▶ Nov. 28, 6:58 a.m. (Lausanne Hall): A student reported that her friend in Lausanne Hall was ill. Campus Safety evaluated the student and determined that she needed to be evaluated by paramedics. Salem Fire Department was called and she was transported to Salem Hospital.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▶ Dec. 1, 8:45 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): Campus Safety was notified of a student who was in possession of drug paraphernalia in Kaneko. The officer interviewed the student and confiscated the paraphernalia. A report was sent to the Campus Judicial Office.

▶ Dec. 1, 12:20 a.m. (Southwood Hall): Campus Safety was notified of the smell of marijuana coming from a room in Southwood Hall. The officer interviewed the students in the room and conducted a plain view search, but nothing was found. A report was sent to the Campus Judicial Office.

▶ Nov. 18, 9:00 a.m. (Southwood Hall): Campus Safety was notified of the smell of marijuana coming from

a room in Southwood Hall. The officer conducted a plain view search but did not find any paraphernalia. He did find alcoholic beverage containers in the room. A report was sent to the Campus Judicial Office.

THEFT

▶ Nov. 19, 11:43 a.m. (Goudy Commons): Campus Safety was notified by Bon Appetit staff that a student had entered Goudy and eaten food without paying for it. The officer questioned several students, including the student who had stolen the food. A report was sent to the Campus Judicial Office.

▶ Nov. 21, 7:04 p.m. (Goudy Commons): A student reported the theft of his backpack, which included his wallet, passport, camera and textbooks. A second student later reported the theft of her purse, which included her wallet and cell phone. Video evidence showed that both items were taken by the same suspect at 6:43 p.m. The thefts were reported to Salem Police.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

▶ Nov. 18, 11:47 a.m. (Cascadia Hall): Campus Safety was notified of some property damage at the North entrance of Cascadia Hall. Photographs were taken of the damage and a work order was submitted to repair the door.

▶ Nov. 21, 11:50 a.m. (University Center Art Wall): Campus Safety was notified that the art wall by the University Center had been vandalized. The vandalism had occurred sometime between Nov. 18 and Nov. 21.

ASSIST OTHER AGENCY

▶ Dec. 1, 10:42 p.m. (Off Campus): Campus Safety was notified by Salem

Police that two Willamette students had been issued a citation for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia. The officer arrived and confiscated the items. A report was sent to the Campus Judicial Office.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON/ACTIVITY

▶ Nov. 27, 1:18 a.m. (Doney Hall): A suspicious person was found loitering in Doney Hall and later sleeping in his vehicle by another residence hall. He was asked to leave by the officer and he complied with the request.

THEFT

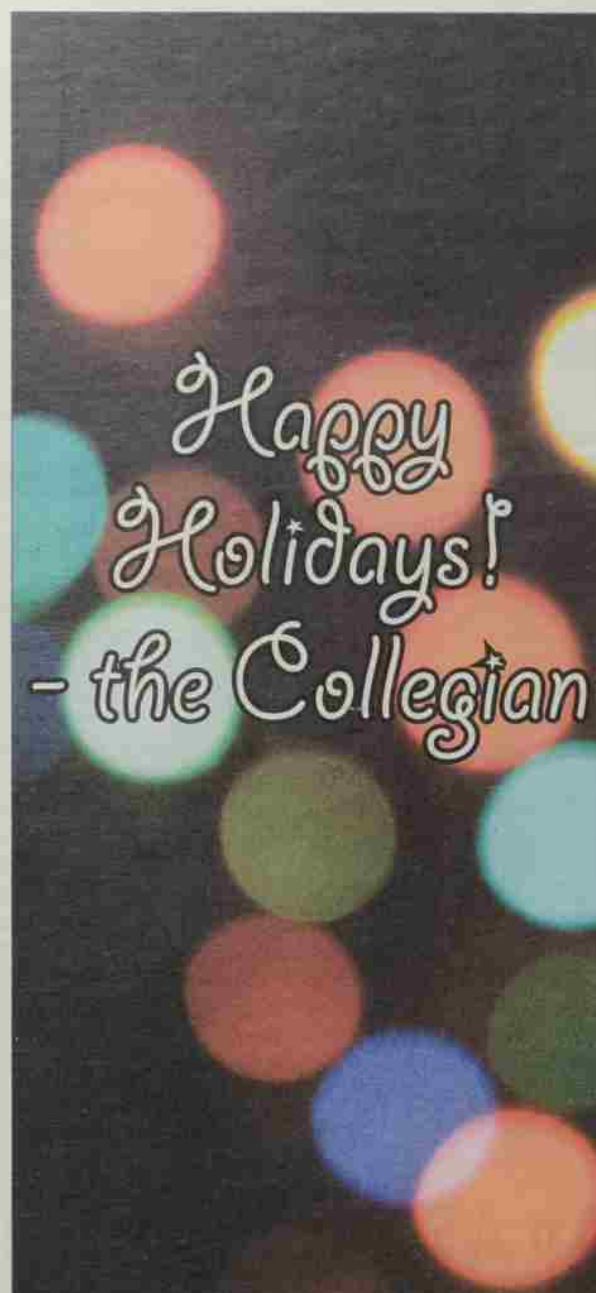
▶ Nov. 29, 3:05 p.m. (Matthews Parking Lot): Campus Safety was notified by a student that her vehicle had been broken into and the car stereo with AM/FM tuner and CD player had been stolen.

▶ Dec. 1, 3:10 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): A student called to report the theft of the peddles from her bicycle. The student was directed to the Bike Shop to get new peddles.

WELFARE CHECK

▶ The week of Nov. 18-Dec. 1 (On Campus): Campus Safety received a call from a concerned student that a friend of his might harm him/herself. The officer contacted the student by phone since he/she was off campus. The student came back on campus and spoke with the on call Area Coordinator and officer. He/she was provided with contact information for several resources that could be helpful.

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



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