

Students give their perspectives on being an RA

 NIC SHIPLEY
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Next month, applications are due for next year's Resident Advisor (RA) positions. I decided it would be helpful to have some anonymous interviews with current RAs so students can have an idea of what they're getting into. Full disclosure: I served as an RA for one year, but my own opinions are not expressed in this piece.

Nic: How long have you been with the department?

RA1: Two years

Nic: What makes it worthwhile?

Being an RA is rewarding in that you get to help residents and be connected to Willamette. It's really good for professional development and holding [ones] self and others accountable. Programming is really cool, but working in the office is a bit less fun.

Nic: How have your perceptions/expectations of the job and HCL [Housing and Community Life] changed while you've been an RA?

RA1: I've become more disheartened because you see more fun stuff at the start and you don't think about the organization. As time goes on, you notice internal problems in HCL and then so many changes and lack of organization and lack of respect. You see those flaws you didn't notice at first.

Nic: Lack of respect?

RA1: I think a lot of changes were made, especially this year, without consulting student staff. For example, at the start of year they wanted RAs on campus at all times unless they notified ACs [Area Coordinator] with only a few days off a month. They backed down on this when people objected, but still, they should have asked us first. They move people without consulting them. They dissolved the intern position and made interns RAs, then moved RAs without notice. Interns were given two days to decide if they wanted to stay as RAs when the position was liquidating, which was not enough time to find housing. Many felt forced to stay because of this. This all shows a lack of respect, especially when some student employees have been here longer than any administrators. HCL has a high turnover rate, both in professional and student staff.

Nic: What are you most proud of?

RA1: Working with first year students and working with students who were going through difficult things in their lives. Feeling like I could give people resources. It's rewarding when people show up and like your hall programs. Whenever you put time into something, it plays out well.

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Religion and the election: What happened



MADISON PHELPS

Religious studies professor Stephen Patterson discusses how religion impacted this year's election.

 GIANNI MARABELLA
NEWS EDITOR

In hindsight, it feels like it was unavoidable that religion would be a harsh deciding factor in the election. The Religious Studies department put together a lecture to gather and reflect on how religion impacted the final decision.

"In what ways did race, class, gender and religion affect the way

people voted in this election?" Religious Studies Professor Stephen Patterson, asked. "Does race have anything to do with American religion? Christian dogma was used in the justification of segregation and slavery. Do Blacks and whites usually worship in the same congregations? Race is a huge factor in American religion."

While the bulk of the time was devoted to personal discussion,

the beginning was about setting up the conversations. This involved setting up understandings of class, race, gender and religion. The connections between religion and race are relatively obvious, but Patterson emphasized the connections between class, gender, and religion.

58 percent of Protestants voted for Trump, and 42 percent for Clinton. White evangelical Prot-

estants were 81 percent Trump, while White Catholics turned up 60 percent for Trump and 35 percent Clinton. Mormons were 61 percent for Trump and 40 percent for Clinton. Hispanic Catholics, Jewish people, people of other faiths and religiously non-affiliated voters all voted in a majority for Clinton.

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The meme dream team of 2016



ELLA MERNYK

'Evil Kermit' puts our fractured inner lives on display.

 JULIANA CHOEN
STAFF WRITER

This year, things looked so bleak and felt so hopeless for millennials that not even professional comics could calm us down from existential

dread and anxiety, especially when it came to our current political situation. We had our podcasts, our Eric Andre skits at the Republican National Convention, a laugh at a "South Park" episode here and there — but surely the memes we made

and distributed on Twitter made for the best catharsis. These are a few of the most passed-around viral jokes that helped us get through 2016, for better or worse.

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Former WU coach now at UC Davis

 KELLEN BULGER
STAFF WRITER

Just a couple of weeks ago, the University of California, Davis, football team capped off a disappointing 3-8 season with a win at home over Sacramento State. However, just two days following the game, the school announced that Aggies Head Coach, Ron Gould, would not be returning for the 2017 season.

UC Davis, in their firing of Gould, was looking to turn the tide, and distance themselves from what has been an absolutely dismal past three years under Gould. UC Davis football has gone 12-33 from 2013 to 2016, and have found themselves regularly in the cellar of the Big Sky Conference standings.

A struggling football team at Davis has not always been the case though. From 1971-1993, the Aggies won 22 conference titles. In only one of those years during the 23 year long span, did they fail to bring home a conference title. This level of success is one that most programs, no matter the level, could only dream of.

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ASWU holds final meeting of the semester

ASHLEY MIURA
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On Dec. 1, the ASWU Senate had its final meeting of the semester. They moved to approve numerous clubs, budgets and bills.

One of the clubs approved was KWU, which will bring back a Willamette radio station.

“Willamette has a really creative culture and a lot of student bands, but no outlet for that,” a KWU representative said. “We want to fill that niche on our campus.”

Headband was also given approval by the Senate. Headband is a male a capella group that failed to get approval due to problems with transitioning leadership.

“The transition of leadership was going to go to a senior in the group, but that didn’t happen, so for this past semester I have been working on that,” Headband representative Owen Edser said.

Honor Council then gave an update from senior student chair Jonathan Dallas.

“This past year and a half I’ve been focused on preventative outreach. 34 cases, 23 cases, nine cases, those are the past three years in numbers, so that’s great,” Dallas said. “As a senior, I’ve also been in contact for my replacement.”

The Fall Semester Round 3 budget was also approved.

Also discussed at the final meeting was a bill by junior Senator Daniel Pekich, which is intended to smooth out the relationships between various committees.

“At any time, if the EPC (External Program Committee) decides the [external programs] need more funds, then they present to the Finance Committee at any time in the semester,” Pekich explained. “The EPC can still request for funding, but they would present it to Finance, who would then present it to Senate. This keeps everyone in the loop and clarifies everyone’s jobs.”

Pekich also took the time to explain exactly why he put forward this bill.

“I think that it would be a lot for just Finance Committee to make these decisions without the EPC,” Pekich said. “When our budget runs tight the EPC will be crucial for where we spend money on EP. This way the Finance Committee will know if there are any problems in their budgets. This prevents us from spending money we don’t have.”

Before adjourning, farewells were exchanged for junior Senator Michael Chen and ASP Senator Miyano Sato. Chen will be in Ireland for the coming semester.

Sophomore Senator Adrian Uphoff also explained that his redrafting of the ASWU website would be up online within the next few weeks before the meeting ended at 7:36 p.m.

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Dreaming of a bright Christmas

A look into how the WU ground crew sets up our holiday lights



ELLA MERNYK

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Campus electrician Edwin Ulshafer, who is in charge of the Holiday lights at Willamette, has been working at WU for 20 years. He began in 1996, which just happened to be the first year that the star trees were lit. Blitz flips a switch for show but Ulshafer is the “official plugger-inner” of the Jackson Plaza display.

The star trees used to be the focus of campus decorating efforts. However, for the past two years the lights have been removed from the star trees because of the damage that they inflict. According to a press release from 2014, the grounds crew determined that the heavy cabling

can damage the trees during winter storms.

Ulshafer’s job is largely behind the scenes within the community.

“My favorite holiday is actually Thanksgiving, at least partially due to the fact that Christmas means more work for me,” Ulshafer said. “I’m always encouraged by the giddy students that walk by while I am working on the lights. Some see them as a welcome respite from finals stress, or just something pretty to look at.”

The installation, which includes the lights around trees and lamp posts, along the millstream and around the clock tower (the lights on top of the library are new this year). It takes the three campus electricians about a week of work, but there

are an additional three workers hired from a local firm to wrap some of the trees.

The electricians are also responsible for decorating the President’s house, and doing some work on the tree in Goudy. Ulshafer remarked that the lighting is a bigger deal in Jackson Plaza.

“People hang around more when they are surrounded by lights,” Ulshafer said.

The candles in the windows of Eaton and Waller, are actually dollar store candles, but Ulshafer noted, “everyone loves the little things.”

The lighting went smoothly this year — lights went on at about 6:50 p.m. on Saturday night. It was a chilly 48 degrees but not raining. Students and a number of Salem children ate

cookies, drank hot chocolate and roasted marshmallows to ring in the holiday season.

Ulshafer responded to some concerns that community members had had about the lights using too much electricity.

“When we did the star trees, before LED lights, they were using about as much electricity as it would take to run a whole house.

But after the switch to LEDs, they are using only “about as much power as it takes to run a toaster.”

He noted that being green and doing things efficiently is a big priority for the electricians on campus.

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CAMPUS SAFETY

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

Nov. 28, 10:48 a.m. (Matthews Hall): Campus Safety received a report regarding a broken window. An officer responded and surveyed the damage. The window appeared to have been kicked or struck with something.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

Dec. 2, 8:54 p.m. (Sparks Field): Campus Safety received a call regarding an individual who had been struck in the head during a boffer match. Campus Safety responded with WEMS and evaluated the individual. They determined no further medical attention was needed. At 9:28 p.m. Campus Safety received another call regarding the same individual who was now vomiting. Campus Safety transported the individual to the ER.

POLICY VIOLATION

Nov. 28, 10:45 a.m. (Belknap Parking Lot): An individual received their 18th parking citation. A report was forwarded to the Office of Rights and Responsibilities.

Dec. 2, 3:37 a.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): An individual received their 19th parking citation. A report was forwarded to the Office of Rights and Responsibilities.

Dec. 4, 1:08 a.m. (Olin Science Center): Campus Safety received a call stating that individuals were on the roof of the Olin Science. Officers responded and could hear voices coming from the roof. Officers made contact with the individuals and informed them they were not allowed to be up there. A report was forwarded

to the Office of Rights and Responsibilities.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Nov. 29, 4:30 p.m. (Belknap Hall): Campus Safety received a report of an incident that occurred a few days earlier regarding a male subject who had been inside Belknap. The individual was seen walking in the hallway and was confronted by a student who asked if he was in need of any help. The subject claimed he was from OSU and made sexual requests of the student who was trying to help him. More people began entering the building and the subject then exited.

THEFT

Nov. 30, 9:55 a.m. (Baxter Hall): An individual came in to Campus Safety to report that their wallet was lost or stolen.

Nov. 30, 10:00 a.m. (University Apartment Parking Lot): Campus Safety received a report from an individual stating that some of their belongings had been taken out of their vehicle. An officer responded but did not see any signs of forced entry on the car.

Dec. 2, 10:27 a.m. (Goudy Commons): Campus Safety received a report from an individual stating that their wallet had been stolen. The individual stated they had left their wallet in a cubby while eating dinner, had forgotten it, and upon returning the next day found the wallet was gone. A few days later the wallet was found in Campus Safety’s lost and found and was returned to the owner.

*PLEASE CONTACT CAMPUS SAFETY IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THESE INCIDENTS.

How religion impacted the election

CONTINUED from Page 1

“Various Christian denominations are arranged in a pretty deep class structure,” Patterson said. He went on to discuss how many Christians remain very traditional on class, race and gender. “90 percent of congregations in America recognize no female ministers at all.”

Religious Studies Professor Shata Almutawa then shared a presentation on how Islam is portrayed in the mainstream media.

“The portrayal of Muslims in the media has not been positive. You all know this. Either they’re terrorists, or they’re oppressed or they’re oppressors, or they’re exceptions,” Almutawa said. “It’s really widespread across most of the mainstream media. Anything that my

country did, no matter how trivial or big was portrayed negatively.”

Almutawa’s presentation included a discussion on the ignorance of reporters, and how it spreads among the populace.

“They’re not talking about a system of law that’s been written and rewritten for centuries,” Almutawa said. “They’re talking about terrorism. The distinction between politics and religion isn’t there in this discourse. We have to define Islam or Muslim different than we do terrorists or extremists.”

With this set-up, the room got some food and went to picking each other’s minds and understanding other points of view. Due to the small nature of the group, not everyone’s thoughts could be recorded, but there were many insights from the audience.

“This was not a feminist election. This was an antifeminist election,” said an audience member.

At the end of the day, it all comes down to values,” another audience member said.

“We don’t have to say explicitly who’s going to be hurt in the outcome of this election, but it’s still there,” an audience member said.

But one of the most important tensions of the discussions were from those who were surprised by the results of the election, and those who weren’t.

“We might’ve thought six months ago that we were on a steady track to a kind of utopia without racism or sexism. Now we aren’t so sure ... Many of us have hoped that things are getting better ... But we are kind of in a new day here. We have a white nationalist

who has promoted white nationalism through his website sitting in the White House as the chief political strategist,” Professor Patterson said.

But audience members pushed back, including many students.

“I’m not so surprised. I have been seeing this, my family has been seeing this ... So why were you surprised?” an audience member said.

In the end, the event seemed productive for all trying to deal with the results of the election.

“This conversation was very helpful ... This could be a starting point for talking about issues,” Professor Xijuan Zhou said.

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Giving voice to the silenced

The importance of WU CAUSA’s Border Fence

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As finals approach and winter draws near, many members of the Willamette community are busy with the ebb and flow of production that is expected in the institution of education. Yet, in addition to the academic stress of being a full-time undergraduate student, students from marginalized communities carry the burden of navigating a society that does not empower one’s fullest existence. A huge component of combating the disparities that certain communities face is bringing these stories and realities to light.

When speaking about important issues, metaphors are often powerful methods of communication as they symbolically make concepts and ideas relatable and tangible to a wide audience. It is for this reason that the physical manifestation of the fence in the middle of Jackson Plaza last Wednesday, Nov. 30 was an effective one.

WU CAUSA’s annual Border Fence display is an interruption to the academic normalcy that is only offered to some and is symbolic of the physical barriers that exist to

separate and disempower communities.

Sophomore Gonzalo Garcia Reyes, who is co-president of WU CAUSA, explained, “originally the fence panels were intended to serve as a representation of the U.S.-Mexico border, but since then, Border Fence has become a physical metaphor for all the different forms of oppression experienced by those with marginalized identities.”

Sophomore Maria Saldana, co-president of WU CAUSA, added, “I think it is important to bring light to social issues that aren’t really talked about, especially within the Willamette bubble. A lot of people think that things are getting better and that may be the case for their personal situation but there are a lot of groups of people that continue to struggle with the lasting effects of colonialism. The goal of Border Fence is to get people to engage in open dialogue about issues faced by humans and I think that is very powerful because if even one person recognizes that there is an issue in this patriarchal system, then we are one step closer to fixing that issue.”

Members of the Willamette community who walked through Jackson plaza were able to see this physical

monumental fence filled with colorful hand-made student posters with critical narratives that are not often circulated. The fence and its intricate components served as a tool to convey messages to ultimately better inform the community. This year’s fence included panels that surrounded topics such as the environment, NoDAPL, Flint Water Crisis, undocumented students, Black Lives Matter, immigration, gender and feminism.

“One of my favorite things about Border Fence is seeing throughout the day how people would stop and read the fences, hear the comments people would make on how important it is and just seeing how the whole Willamette community interacted with the fence,” said Melissa Legaria Cisneros, a member of WU CAUSA and the Border Fence committee.

To create the display, the Border Fence committee researched information, brainstormed their messages, designed the posters and pieced everything together, on top of the other logistical components this annual event entailed. Many of the topics are sensitive and touching to the students creating the posters because of the sheer reality of the

subjects discussed. For Cisneros, the posters about the importance of the Center of Equity and Empowerment (E&E) and creating safe spaces for students of color on campus were especially important.

“We need more space and to support students of color, and that is very prominent to me here at Willamette, to find a safe space to be at,” said Cisneros.

For Reyes, the undocumented student panel was most impactful because of the potential for the president-elect to eliminate DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), a program very important for undocumented students to be able to work and have access to material resources for survival.

“As much as this sucks, as much as it tears me apart, I know that there is still hope, otherwise they wouldn’t call us dreamers. I know as a fact that I will continue to do this type of work and more. I will continue to share our stories, our dreams, our visions because at least now it seems that people are more willing to listen. The panel reminded me that the next four years will be tough, but it also gave me hope because it showed me that people care,” said Reyes.

In addition to the display, WU CAUSA also organized an open mic that served as a space for expression. Several students from Professor Pérez’s Latino/Latina Literature class performed, while others shared written pieces. Two students talked about their experiences traveling to Standing Rock during this past fall break.

Overall, Border Fence serves to affirm and validate the struggle of people with marginalized identities. It is one of the many initiatives in the collective effort of people fighting for centuries for social justice and change every single day. Cisneros hopes that through Border Fence people can understand the urgent need for people to open up to realize the importance of these issues.

“These issues are affecting people’s daily lives and it is not something that should be underrepresented or disregarded. These issues are important and it shouldn’t be taken lightly,” Cisneros said.

North Salem HS holds 2016 bazaar

KOTMA ANJAIN
CONTRIBUTOR

At 9 a.m. on Dec. 3, North Salem High School opened up the 2016 iteration of their annual bazaar. Members of the Salem community spent the day exploring the different tables looking for interesting wares. Every year, the bazaar opens as an opportunity for local businesses and brands to sell their goods and services in a market-like environment. As always, many people attended this year with the holiday season looming.

There was an assortment of items being sold including jewelry, knitted accessories, baking products, clothing, makeup, cupcake wrappers and storage bins with many holiday specials and promotions associated with them.

A diverse group of businesses attended the bazaar, and they learned about the event in a variety of different ways.

“I actually found out about this from a Facebook group called ‘Event Ladies,’” independent at-home seller Jane Ferrell said.

Her products include cupcake wrappers, candy bouquets and other paper-cut products. Every item has been hand-cut in the five years that she has been selling them. At \$40, this event is among the most accessible for small businesses like hers.

“I believe that small businesses should take advantage of local events like this,” Ferrell said. “This is my first time going to this one. I participated in this one out of the many that go on in town because it’s affordable and close to home.”

Younique, a makeup brand, also had its own table offering eye-shadows, eyeliners, lip products, skin care products, foundation and more. The company also has a non-profit organization called the Younique Foundation that hosts retreats for women who have been sexually abused. A portion of their profits go to that charity.

Youniquefoundation.org states: “the Foundation is 100 percent focused on helping abuse survivors and is not distracted by the need to promote Younique products.”

The young woman working the table said this was also her first time at this specific bazaar. She was not the person to sign up for the event, but speculates that the person she works for found out about the bazaar through Facebook and an online search.

“We want to go to events, meet new people and build a customer base,” she said, explaining why the bazaar was a good idea for the company.

Pampered chef, a national kitchen utensils brand, offered cooking products suitable for any kitchen, ranging from baking with decorating bag sets to pots and pans to microwavable bowls for a hungry college student. This was one of the companies that has attended the bazaar before. The employee working their table said that the bazaar has worked out great for the company in the past.

At its peak hours, North Salem High School was flooded with customers looking for holiday items. Running until the sun began to set at 4 p.m., the bazaar was once again a good option for members of the Salem and Willamette community to shop before the holidays and winter break.



A few of the empowering messages set up on the border fence in Jackson Plaza on Nov. 30.

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Resident advisors RAte their experiences

NIC SHIPLEY
LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Nic: What does Housing and Community Life (HCL) care about?

RA 1: I think each individual working there cares about students, but as a department those concerns are lost amongst acting ‘for the good of the dept.’ By this I mean dismantling interns and making them do RA work.

Nic: Points out of 10?

RA 1: Five

Nic: Advice for those considering applying?

RA 1: Talk with existing RAs and have HONEST conversations. Ask them hard questions. Talk to different RAs because not everyone’s experience is the same. Some try to sugar coat it. Be prepared to go through some tough times and bureaucratic crap, which is unavoidable. Be flexible and know things could change with little to no notice.

Nic: How have your perceptions/expectations of the job and HCL changed while you’ve been an RA?

RA3: At first I expected it to be easy just chillin’ hanging out with people but as time goes on my view of the administrators has changed because

no doubt they’re great people but they make iffy decisions. You start to develop certain boundaries between you and the administrators.

Nic: Iffy decisions?

RA 3: Like we’re all new except for one on westside so we feel kind of on our own, whereas Kaneko is full of returners. They switched a lot of RAs from where they said they would. RAs do not feel valued, you can’t quit because you’re fined, it feels HCL can do whatever they want. If they say jump you have to jump.

Nic: What are you most proud of?

RA 2: I guess my resilience. It’s a stressful job and it throws a lot of curveballs. I’m proud of how I’ve been able to deal with them. It can be really stressful. Dealing with other humans is harder than you think it would be, you can’t really know how you’re going to react emotionally until you’re there, so I’m proud of how I deal.

Nic: What are you least proud of?

RA2: I’m least proud of being kind of lazy with the job and how it takes the backburner with other things. Obviously being a student comes first but I’m definitely way more of a student than an RA when ideally you’d be

both equally. My outlook is more try to go above and beyond, but with this you can’t do that, because it would take up too much time while trying to be a student. It was a long process to not be ashamed of not giving 100 percent. You just can’t be in that mindset, there is no Perfect RA. You can’t be a perfectionist about this job.

Nic: If you could change HCL/ the job in general, how would you?

RA 3: I think I would ask for them to be more open and honest, provide more reasoning, for things when we ask for it. Theres just a lot we don’t get information on if they’re not telling us why certain things happen. RA 2: I’d want to change meeting structure. Just more efficient and to the point would be good. Lots of HCL folks have lots of ideas, but those ideas don’t go anywhere. More productive and to the point meetings. More productive all staff meetings and more 1:1 time with Area Coordinators. Instead of 2 hour staff meeting every week.

Nic: Has the job been a good use of your time?

RA 3: I want to say yes and no. Yes in the sense that you expand as a person. No in that the things they ask you to do and the meetings that we have

like, you just have to be there.

Nic: Points out of 10?

RA 3: 8/10, it’s a lot of fun

RA 2: 3/10

Nic: Advice for those considering applying?

RA 2: I would say think about your ability to deal with stress and think carefully about how you plan to deal with a job that makes you stressed out and how you plan to deal with living where you work.

Nic: How long have you been with the department?

RA 4: 2 years

Nic: What makes it worthwhile?

RA 4: I came back because I like the RA community and the relationship I have with HCL and the community I built that empowers the rest of my work as a student and working with the administration. It’s very fulfilling.

Nic: What are you most proud of?

RA4: I think I’m proud of the skills I have developed in regard to learning that everyone has their own path and will figure out their own needs eventually through a lot of listening. I have been happy with conversations I’ve had just talking with residents and it’s cool that that’s my job.

Nic: Has the job been a good use of your time?

RA 4: *laughs* Like, cost benefit wise? It’s extremely valuable, like you get \$11,000 worth of benefit. It’s so convenient to live on campus and have your food made for you and there are many transferable skills. Like if you want to be better at listening, program management, whatever, you can improve that. Lots of transferable skills.

Nic: Points out of 10?

RA 4: 8.9/10

Nic: Anything else?

RA4: Oh yeah, lots of changes that have been hard for people. I gave it an 8.9 because a lot wasn’t handled in the best way but for the people that work here, but I feel I can give them feedback. They seem invested in improving the department and making things more equitable. For as much as the department respects students and puts students first, they view RAs as employees rather than students. We don’t get the same rights as students. Your responsibility as a student comes first but your rights as a student come second.

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Black Lives Matter protests pop up all over campus

ANONYMOUS

As part of a project for Professor Drew’s Black Lives Matter class, myself and a group of students put together a “Black Lives Matter Special Edition” of the Toilet Paper, and last week put them up in stalls across campus. The project intended to educate the Willamette community about the Black Lives Matter movement as well as about the opportunities we have to engage in positive and healthy allyship to the movement.

While we knew going into this project that it would likely violate University policy and there would potentially be an effort to undo the work that we did, we felt that asking for permission would dilute the intention and impact of our project. Our project doesn’t make any attempt to portray Willamette as the progressive space it pretends to be, specifically calling out the significant lack of Black faculty at this school. Seeing as the University has a stake in presenting itself positively, we assumed that the project would be rejected by the administration, as it has been for the most part. Asking for permission would likely have resulted in having to make significant changes to crucial aspects of our project.

The morning after our edition of the Toilet Paper was put up, Professor Drew was contacted, and told that, “although we appreciate the content and message of the poster, it does not follow University guidelines for posting as well as it has taken over a space reserved for the toilet paper.” Bryan Schmidt, who coordinates the Toilet Paper, wanted the posters removed entirely. A student worker, notably a woman of color, was asked to take them down, and upon her expressing discomfort at this, a compromise was made to relocate the posters to the mirrors.

While this appreciation of content and message and attempt to compromise seem like a step in the

Black Lives Matter Special Edition

The Toilet Paper

Protest at the Capitol! Wednesday, February 1st, 2017 9:00 A.M

In the News

October 9: Delta Airlines flight attendants nearly allowed a passenger in need of medical attention to die because they didn’t believe that Dr. Tamika Cross, a black woman, was really a doctor as she said she was. They argued and questioned her extensively, then promptly allowed a white man to assist them even though he had no proof of credentials.

October 18: Emmett Till memorial was found covered in bullet holes.

October 18: 66 year-old black woman Deborah Danner with severe mental illness was fatally shot by police despite the fact that all she was holding was a pair of scissors and obviously needed help.

October 27: Lamont Perry died mysteriously under police custody after he was arrested for a probation violation.

Resources for Self-Education!

Films:

- 13th
- Arresting Power
- Black Girl in Suburbia
- Why Aren’t There More Black People in Oregon?
- Fault Lines: The Lives of Black Women
- The Black Power Mixtape

Books:

- Between the World and Me, Ta-Nehisi Coates
- The New Jim Crow, Michelle Alexander

Music:

- A Seat at the Table: Solange
- Lemonade, Beyoncé
- It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back: Public Enemy
- To Pimp a Butterfly: Kendrick Lamar

DID YOU KNOW ?

Upcoming Events

President’s Task Force on Equity and Inclusion: November 7th, 14th, and 30th

The task force is open to all campus community members. Meeting in the UC from 4:00PM – 5:30PM

ACE and BSU Candlelight Vigil: November, TBD

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration: January 20th

Classes cancelled after 12:30pm; MLK Into the Streets day of service.

Ta-Nehisi Coates: February 1st

The critically acclaimed journalist, author, and educator will be the spring Atkinson lecturer.

right direction, the message we were portraying relied on the use of that space, and this “appreciation” ultimately seems to be a performance or a deep misunderstanding, as the Office of Student Activities’ response significantly changed and watered down our message.

It feels very ironic that the University is upset over our taking of Bryan Schmidt’s space, when the University has repeatedly taken away the very little space that students of color on this campus are allowed, for example, the relocation of the Center for Equity and Empowerment. Seeing as the University feels comfort-

able taking the space of its marginalized students without their input or permission, we didn’t feel particularly inclined to offer respect that has not been given to us. We don’t feel obligated to respect University policy when University policy has caused direct harm to many of us.

It is important to acknowledge that we even made a point of waiting for the November issue of the Toilet Paper to go up before we replaced it with ours, and gave people time to read everything that was on the November issue. We made a very intentional attempt to respect that space, particularly because we didn’t

want to disrespect the work of the students who put it together. In addition, the space that we have taken over is generally not a very productive space. The “Did You Know” section may be entertaining the first time you read it, but knowing about a millipede with 414 legs, 200 poison glands and 4 penises is not contributing anything particularly useful to any of our educations. Our project, however, directly confronts issues that are present on this campus and in the world and offers resources for students to self-educate.

We want the Willamette community to know that, if posters are

relocated, it was not our choice. We believe that moving the posters to the mirrors contradicts the purpose of our project, and had we wanted them there we would have put them there. We placed them in the stalls with the understanding that this would force people to read them, despite the discomfort that might come as a result of some of this material. If the posters are moved to the mirrors, people will be able to make a choice as to whether or not they want to engage with the material, reinforcing a dynamic of white passivity that is already too prevalent on our campus.

Taylor Swift counter sues DJ in assault suit

ARIADNE WOLF
OPINIONS EDITOR

Things are obviously bad for women when even Taylor Swift cannot accuse a man of sexual assault and be believed.

Former Denver radio host David Mueller probably assaulted Swift. By “probably,” I mean that there is a photo of him with his hand on her ass.

The UK’s Telegraph reports that Swift said of the incident, “Right as the moment came for us to pose for the photo, he took his hand and put it up my dress and grabbed onto my ass cheek and no matter how much I scooted over it was still there.”

Following this 2013 incident, Mueller was fired. He subsequently filed a lawsuit in September 2015 alleging wrongful termination.

Swift responded with an October 2015 lawsuit insisting her words were accurate, and requesting a jury trial.

The media is now filled with flippant references to these events. Hollywoodlife.com refers to this event as the DJ “flipping up her skirt.” Other websites like www.perezhilton.com and The Daily Mail have insisted on publishing the leaked photo of Mueller’s hand on Swift’s ass. This incident takes place in a climate of increasing legitimization of rape culture, as evidenced by the 2016 presidential election results. Yet Swift is one of the most popular celebrities in the world, and one might expect her to be safe from such things.

One would be wrong.

The alleged groping took place at

a meet-and-greet, an event sponsored by the radio station and intended to promote themselves and attract publicity. Mueller encountered Swift while standing with his girlfriend.

This scenario just reveals that certain men feel a sense of entitlement to women’s bodies any day, in any situation. That Swift cannot be safe at work simply reflects the reality of so many women who experience on-the-job physical harassment daily.

The small, smug voice in the back of my head does insist that maybe after this, Swift will learn her lesson. Maybe she will realize Feminism is important. Maybe she will stand together with other victims.

That seems unlikely to happen.

Swift is wealthy and white, relatively secure in the world to wear revealing dresses and stand alongside white male strangers in close proximity.

That does not mean she deserves to be raped. It means she has been incredibly lucky not to experience anything like this before, not to be sexually assaulted or raped prior to this point.

Another voice in my head keeps thinking, wow, maybe she will become an advocate for sexual assault survivors!

That’s unlikely to happen, either. Swift’s comments on the incident thus far cover its impact only on Swift.

While I am sympathetic to Swift’s feelings, I am offended at her privileged assumption of the extreme and unique nature of this event.

Moreover, the media’s obsession



over this event is creepy and borderline violating. Whether shaming Swift for being in this situation or self-congratulating themselves for caring, they have joined Swift in failing to recognize the big picture.

Still. It’s hard for me to feel that sorry for a woman in a position to get the man who allegedly assaulted her fired. It’s even harder for me to feel sorry for someone who can afford to hire an attorney and sue back.

There are children being traf-

ficked all over the world today. I have a limited amount of extra emotional energy to spare for one ass-grabbing.

This should not happen to Swift. It should not happen to anyone.

Perhaps Swift using her resources to seek justice will even result in paving the way for other women to do the same.

Somehow, though, I doubt it.

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The creation of “Identity”

CAROL LI
STAFF WRITER

Some of us may recall, “Like a G6,” a familiar tune that was highly circulated back in 2010. This catchy song rose to the number one of Billboard’s top 100 chart in late October that year and was frequently played.

When I brought up the song to my roommate Alike Masei, I mentioned that the artists of that song were Asian.

“Say what?! I thought they were white,” exclaimed Masei.

This thought reflected the fact that white people are the norm and are most prevalent in mainstream music and entertainment. I thought the song’s creators, Far East Movement, was white too until I saw a news story on my mother’s Korean news channel that highlighted the Asian American hip hop and Electronic music group that were formed in Los Angeles in 2003.

Unfortunately, the media frequently envisions Asians as doctors or martial artists. The presentations of people who look like both Masei and I are presented in extremities and in very limiting contexts. These representations, or lack of representations, then translate into obstacles that Artists of Color, such as Far East Movement, have to face while being in the entertainment industry.

When “Identity” was dropped on Oct. 21, I was thrilled to see Asian American artists/producers making a statement against the oppressive industry standards instead of compromising their values for profit. Overall the 11 song album features collaborations with artists from both Asia and the U.S. such as Soulja Boi, Tiffany, Yoonmirae, Macy Gray, Tinashe, Chanyeol and Marshmello. My personal favorite song is “Freal Luv” because of its upbeat rhythm, but the album also includes more slower-paced, soulful melodies as well such as in Masei’s favorite song “Forever Survivor.” “Identity” also includes songs that integrate Korean in them, such as in the song “Umbrella.” The group really made an effort to ultimately bridge the U.S. with Asia, a reconnection with both integral aspects of themselves.

However, representation is not nearly enough to combat the overall systems that create the disparities in the music industry. I do have issues with Asian groups such as Far East Movement participating in an overall trend of non-Black artists appropriating hip-hop while not doing the work to combat anti-Blackness themselves and having misogyny in lyrics such as in the song “FBC\$,” which basically talks about “going out every weekend” to “f*** h*****es” and “get money.” To really promote uplift for marginalized communities, artists must be careful to not reproduce ideologies that reinforce the oppression of other marginalized communities.

As a Person of Color who went through a great deal of being told I was not “American” enough, “Asian” enough, “Korean” enough, or “Chinese” enough, feelings of isolation and inferiority were constant throughout as I tried to conform to the imposed standards of these labels. I am grateful for Far East Movement’s efforts of their “Identity” album for taking that step to blur the rigid expectations that exist and to truly find appreciation in the different identities that we carry even when society does not grant them full value.

What do you meme?

CONTINUED from Page 1

Ted Cruz is the Zodiac Killer

The rumors linking Senator Ted Cruz to a string of decades-old murders didn’t prevent the Tea Party leader from being Donald Trump’s fiercest competitor or from winning a handful of primary states, but this meme gained enough traction to cause major news outlets to debunk the myth. During primary season, young liberals flocked to buy shirts bearing the phrase, a testament to how long millennials have known of (and despised) this evangelical figurehead, whose plans for America spelled out familiar echoes of GOP lawmakers scheming to overturn Roe v. Wade.

Dat Boi

Hilarity ensued when a three-dimensional frog rode onto the meme scene in a unicycle, and we all exclaimed, “here comes dat boi!” This free-wheeling amphibian inspired all kinds of variants that were almost all self-referential: the more we saw of Dat Boi, the more we laughed and laughed. In some corners of “weird” Facebook, the laughter was put on hold — meme groups imposed a moratorium on Dat Boi due to concerns that appropriating African-American Vernacular English in this way encouraged racism and anti-Blackness. Similar to the demise of Harambe memes, Dat Boi’s fall from grace inspired mindfulness in both meme creators and consumers alike.

“SpongeBob” Memes

Nickelodeon’s classic characters found new life this year, specifically in reaction images starring Mr. Krabs and the primal version of SpongeBob himself. Mr. Krabs was used again and again in a blurry shot to indicate the utmost confusion, while “Caveman SpongeBob” portrayed anger in response to unforeseen circumstances. Of course, Twitter used these kid-friendly images to describe adult-themed situations, a hallmark of millennial referential humor.

“Arthur” Memes

Much like “SpongeBob” memes, “Arthur” memes drew upon the massive popularity of a children’s animated show and juxtaposed R-rated humor to make spicy, relatable content for its now-older original audience.

Some images actually didn’t require any subversive editing: Muffy’s accusation of Francine being a “richist” and D.W.’s pointed comebacks are hilarious on their own (“Arthur,” to its credit, was written for both kids and their parents to enjoy, and includes many references that kids aren’t expected to initially understand).

Other characters, though, are made to be arguing about drugs, sex and violence, and the thematic shift aims to “ruin” one’s childhood memories. The most visible “Arthur” meme, featuring the titular character’s closed fist, truly took the Internet by storm with its versatil-

ity — there are plenty of reasons to clench one’s fist.

Confused Math Lady

Used to describe a confusing situation or narrative that makes little sense, the four-panel meme of a blonde woman seeing mathematical equations actually originates from a Brazilian telenovela, “Senhora do Destino.” The meme spread like wildfire in spite of its obscure origins, and became even more of a 2016 time capsule when stills of Hillary Clinton debating Trump replaced the original woman, and Hillary’s confusion came to represent the common viewer attempting to comprehend Trump’s bizarre statements.

Joe Biden memes

In real life, Joe Biden doesn’t drink, has a dark family history and was one of the more centrist Democrats in the Senate before becoming Obama’s vice president. But in the face of official White House photography showcasing Obama and Biden’s close working relationship, meme-makers have transformed the Veep into a childish hooligan, encouraging Obama to participate in his schemes against the incoming Trump administration. From leaving a fake foreign birth certificate in the Oval Office, to insulting Mike Pence for being a “Hoosier,” the fictional “Diamond Joe” Biden has all kinds of devious plans that Obama can’t condone. The more tender variant of Biden’s meme persona is

extremely sad to be leaving his best friends Barack and Michelle, asking in one meme if the First Family would adopt him and let him live with them after Jan. 20.

Evil Kermit

The most recently viral of the memes listed here, Kermit the Frog speaking to an “evil” version of himself in a black cape gives voice to our internal monologues. Should you do homework or watch YouTube videos all night? Should you go to grad school, or will you let your previous failures deter you from pursuing an advanced degree? Such examples of self-sabotage are utterly different from last year’s Kermit, who preferred to sip Lipton tea and judge others’ life choices.

Wholesome Memes

When so much humorous content available these days divides us, breeds cynicism and tries too hard to be edgy, many millennials are on the prowl for “pure” memes, and other media that makes us feel genuinely happy, like cute videos of animals. Wholesome memes take existing memes, like Arthur’s clenched fist and Drake’s “Hotline Bling” reaction faces, to diffuse anger and turn negative feelings into appreciation for loved ones. Like an anti-joke, well-meaning wholesome memes use a negative format to make positive statements.

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A eulogy

Reviewing a roll

 **DORIAN GRAYSON**
STAFF WRITER

There's hardly a time when 2016 wasn't disappointing. Through music, celebrity deaths, politics, etc. 2016 was absolutely deplorable. But, even as we move on toward the New Year and put 2016 behind us, we must still understand why it was a bad year, and talk about what we hope doesn't follow us into 2017.

To start on a positive note, 2016 had some excellent internet challenges. As opposed to past endeavors like the Cinnamon Challenge, the major challenges of 2016 didn't ask for any physical danger or torture.

The first was the Water Bottle Challenge, a wholesome embrace of useless skill and luck caught on camera. Started by a successful trick at a high school talent show, soon the entirety of Twitter was blowing up with videos of successful – and failed – water bottle flips.

The second major challenge was the Mannequin Challenge, where groups planned elaborate set ups and poses in which a continuous video of humans appeared like a set of mannequins. It's difficult to describe something so visual in words, but the lengths to which some people went was incredibly impressive. Through these, the internet demonstrated its ingenuity and capacity for entertainment, even in the hardest of times.

Celebrity deaths were prevalent in 2016, adding to the stressful undertones of the year. Notable musicians

died, such as the beloved David Bowie, Prince and Leonard Cohen. Writers died too, such as Harper Lee, which lead to the discovery and publication of "Go Set a Watchman." Elie Wiesel, Nobel Prize winning writer and Holocaust survivor, also passed away in 2016.

Actors were also affected by 2016, one being Alan Rickman, a widely respected actor from both popular movies and artistic character dramas. Other noteworthy actors who died included Abe Vigoda and Gene Wilder. Comic artist Darwyn Cook was also lost.

Boxing – and humanity in general – lost Muhammad Ali. And, for a more specific, personal source of mourning, Fritz Wilder and Earl Hamner Jr., notable for their involvement in "The Twilight Zone," died this year. And I'd be remiss to not mention the extinguished flame that was young movie star Anton Yelchin. These deaths reminded me, and others I'm sure, of our mortality and the fragility of the future.

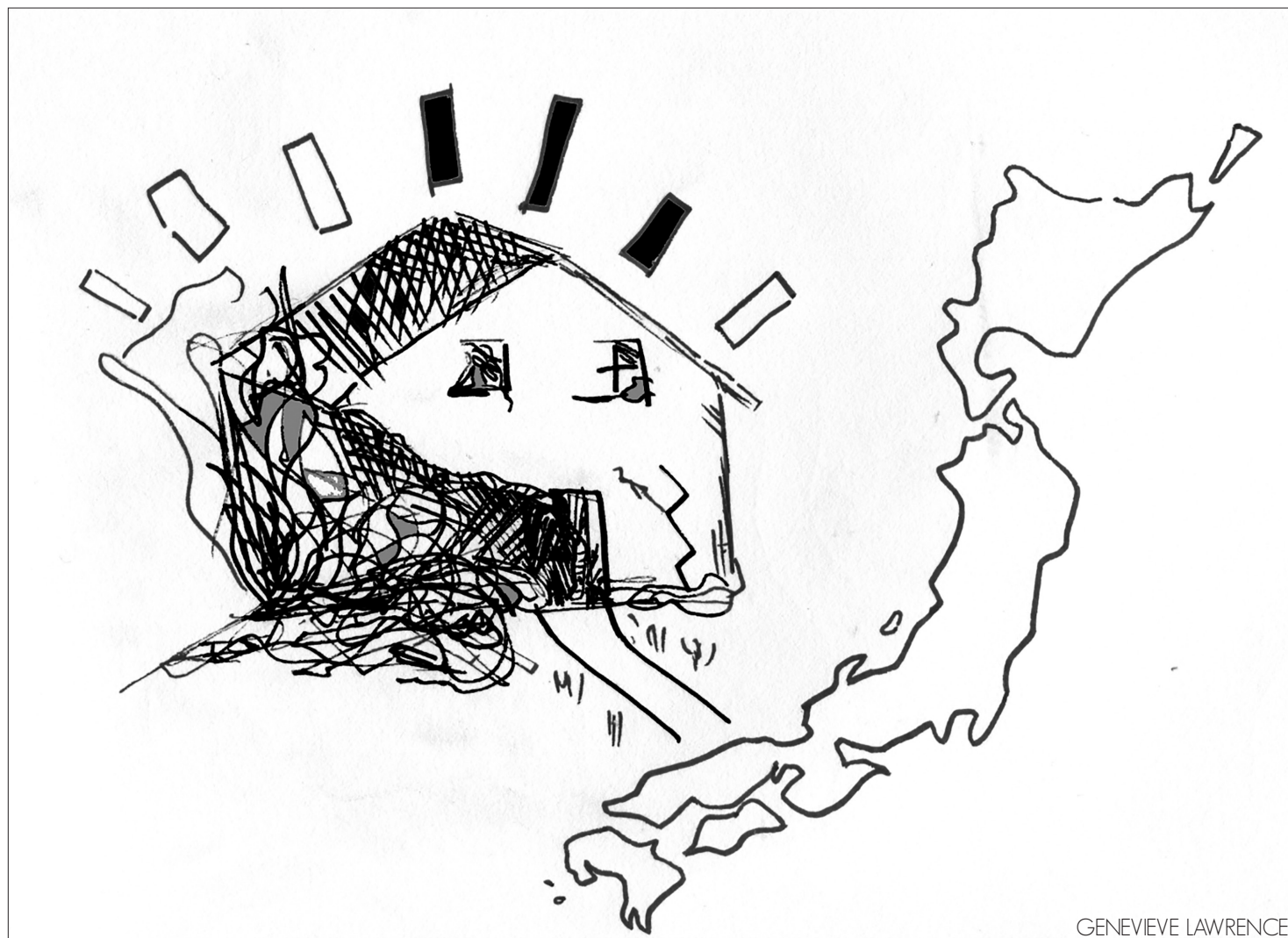
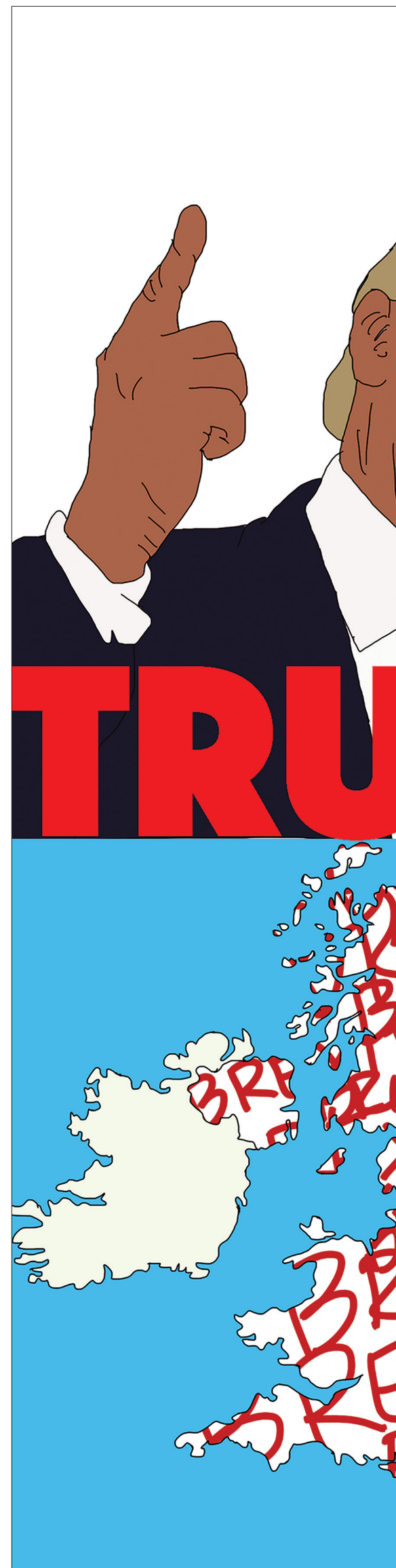
Despite the deaths of some notable actors, the movies did relatively well this year, at least. Those that loved big blockbusters got the biggest blockbusters. The Russo Brothers' "Captain America: Civil War" gave some of the best action scenes in history, alongside some of the best comic adaptations of character dramas put on film thus far. Tim Miller and Ryan Reynolds' "Deadpool" also pleased crowds with a down and dirty comic book movie that wasn't afraid to break the formula.

Serious cinema also had a good year with a slew of movies dealing with issues of complicated masculinity, such as Nate Parker's "The Birth of a Nation," Mel Gibson's "Hacksaw Ridge" and Clint Eastwood's "Sully." Upcoming Oscar season releases include films that are predicted to be amazing, such as Denzel Washington's "Fences" and Martin Scorsese's "Silence" (for those of you wondering why there isn't a woman director on this list, you found another reason why 2016 disappointed).

Television also had a decent year. Despite DC Comics lagging in movies, their TV universe has continued to expand on the CW Network, including a full on comic crossover in March. Netflix continued to expand its original content, with "Stranger Things," "Luke Cage" and "Black Mirror" all hitting hard. However, "Sesame Street" fired long-time members Bob McGrath, Roscoe Orman and Emilio Delgado, who had all been on the show for over 40 years, Bob McGrath having been on the show's premier. This was in service of a "retooling" of the show, but speaks to the 2016 trend of desecrated pasts.

But, of course, the best, most wholesome thing in 2016 was Beyoncé's "Lemonade." In April Beyoncé improved everyone's life with this release, and it was the thing that sustained many as 2016 continued in its dreadfulness.

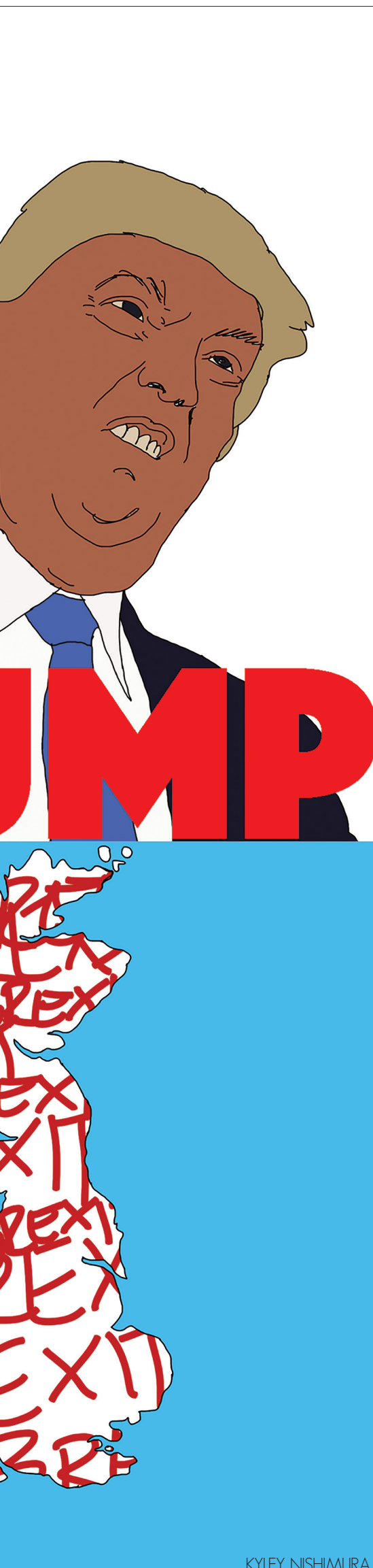
Not all music news was good in 2016, though. As already noted, Leonard Co-



GENEVIEVE LAWRENCE

for 2016

ercoaster year



KYLEY NISHIMURA



hen, Prince and David Bowie all died. Additionally, on the 10th anniversary of My Chemical Romance's seminal "The Black Parade," the band inadvertently teased a reunion that was bound to never happen. And, personally the most devastating impact, was the farewell tour and eventual ending of tier-two pop-punk band, "Motion City Soundtrack."

2016 was also a year of natural disasters. There were over 40 natural disasters in the United States alone, according to the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA). Japan had yet another major earthquake and tsunami, this time without a nuclear disaster. And if that wasn't bad enough, 2016 is looking to be the world's hottest year on record, dating back to the 19th century. The rising temperature and uptick in severe weather patterns are clear indications that the global climate is warming, and that humans are in severe trouble if things don't change. And looking at recent political developments, things won't be changing for the better.

When 2016 goes down in the history textbooks, it will be known as the year of the rise of the alt-right, a far-right ideology based around hate, power and white nationalism. They're often splinter groups from traditional conservative groups, such as the United Kingdom Independence Party's break from the Conservative and Unionist Party. While there is no strict party platform for alt-right groups, its members believe in such horrors of white supremacy, Islamophobia, an-

ti-feminism, homophobia, anti-semitism, ethno-nationalism, right-wing populism and traditionalism.

After festering on the internet for years on places like 4chan and Breitbart news, the ideology took major strides politically this year. The major victories were surprises and close calls, due to the alt-right's ability to mobilize everyone that would consider voting for them through fear-mongering and flamed hatred. The United Kingdom Independence Party, voted to leave the European Union, which they had wanted for years. There still doesn't seem to be much actual movement on it, mostly because the Conservative Party is still in power and has been more than reticent in actually following through on leaving the European Union.

As far as the United States, the alt-right hasn't created its own party so much as coopted the Republican Party. Through extremist movements like the Tea Party and the white nationalism that lay at the undercurrent of the Republican Party for a long time, there was a takeover of the Party this year. The earliest example was John Boehner stepping down as Speaker of the House because he had to constantly fight against the far-right aspects of the party. However, the party struggles were best exemplified by the mess of the Republican National Convention.

But, of course, the real alt-right victory in the United States was the Presidential election, where President-Elect Donald J. Trump won the

election with the support of only 27 percent of the eligible voters. He did so with a platform of hatred, bigotry, Islamophobia, anti-Mexican beliefs, anti-immigrant beliefs, anti-woman beliefs, sexual assault, war crimes and general far-right populism. He won.

This isn't intended to be a political article, but an analysis of 2016 would be disappointingly incomplete without covering the fear of what is to come. The true damage has yet to come, but with just weeks until he takes office, everyone is on edge. There's no telling what'll come, but 2016 will be to blame for whatever forms the atrocities take.

After all of that in early November, everyone needed a bit of a release and break from fear and sadness they felt in this situation. Enter Cards Against Humanity. While the company behind the popular party game were happy to poke fun at the election, releasing Trump and Hillary packs during the election, and a full Trump set after the election, they weren't free from the sadness. Their answer? A Holiday Hole dug on Black Friday.

"The holidays are here, and everything in America is going really well. To celebrate Black Friday, Cards Against Humanity is digging a tremendous hole in the earth."

About 30 minutes south of Rockford, Oregon, Cards Against Humanity had a crane. That crane would keep digging the hole for as long as people kept paying. Through two hours, the crane kept digging and the people kept paying. After the money dried up, though, the hole needed to be filled back in. The Holiday Hole is nearly all filled back in, but that's not the important part.

Initially when asked where the hole was located, the Cards Against Humanity team answered "In America. And in our hearts."

The Holiday Hole was the perfect catharsis for Black Friday. After a year of disappointment and sadness, the sardonic release of a pointless hole, being contributed to by people all over the world, was just the remedy. Almost no matter who you were, 2016 was a harrowing year. There was a hole in all of us. And transferring that hole to the ground, together, was the perfect way to deal with the year.

"What if you dig so deep you hit hot magma?"

"At least then we'd feel something," said Cards Against Humanity in their Holiday Hole Q&A.

But, of course, 2016 isn't over yet. So enjoy your finals, holidays and the everlasting hole in your heart.



Willamette's claim on a great coach

CONTINUED from page 1

There are many people, like myself, that were born into this world less than 20 years ago so, it may be hard to know Dan Hawkins past and his success in Salem, Oregon.

Hawkins was the head football coach at Willamette from 1993-1997 before leaving for Boise State. While Hawkins was at Willamette, he garnered a nearly 80 percent winning record and brought the Bearcats to the NAIA Division II National Championship game in 1997.

After Hawkins' string of successes at Willamette, he took an assistant coaching position at Boise State University, and eventually became the head coach in 2000. While at Boise, he helped bring the Broncos to national prominence, with a 53-11 record, four conference titles and an unbelievable stretch of 31 consecutive games won in their conference. All of this was before Hawkins took the helm in 2006 as head football coach at the University of Colorado.

He also hired a man named Chris Petersen in 2001 as his assistant coach at Boise State. This is the same Petersen who is now head coach of the current Pac-12 champion, No. 4 ranked, College Football Playoff participant, the Washington Huskies.

While Hawkins undoubtedly has had his fair share of struggles, like floundering at Colorado and eventually being fired, the man's track record of success is nothing short of incredible.

Hawkins successfully worked his way up from coaching at a tiny liberal arts school in Salem, to leading teams that are now nationally ranked contenders. The best part about all of this is that he is one of our own.

Hawkins' success a little over 500 miles down south in Davis, California, is contributed to the fact that the little school on State Street can lay claim to helping produce one of the greatest stories in college football.

With the addition of Dan Hawkins to UC Davis' staff, the Aggies, are getting an alumni of their school, a national title contending, former DI head coach, a Willamette Bearcat Hall-of-Fame head coach, to patrol up and down the sidelines for them next fall.

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Women's basketball is rolling along

ERIC DEL PRADO
STAFF WRITER

The women's basketball team did not lose a single senior from last year's roster and their experience is showing well. Currently at 6-1 overall and 1-1 in Northwest Conference play, they are already halfway to last year's winning total of 12 games. Also, their six wins is their third highest win total for a season in the past 10 seasons. The team is hoping to sustain this fast start and have a record-breaking season. Junior post Madi Andresen credits the team's early success to: "teamwork on and off the court. While we have great athletes on the team, it is not just one player that wins us games."

Leading the way offensively for the Bearcats is senior guard Kylie Towry, who is averaging 15.6 points per game. Towry is shooting 46.1 percent from the field. She also has etched her name in the record books, as she has made the most 3-pointers in Willamette's history. She was able to break the record with 178 baskets made after the game against Walla Walla University on Nov. 26, and keeps adding to her record every game. She also leads them by playing 29.9 minutes per game. Junior guard Ashley Evans is second on the team in both points per game with 9.3 and 29.4 minutes per game.

The team is very diverse offensively, as they do not really have one player that they lean on to score. They do shoot 3-pointers often, but can also use the inside game if that is not working. Evans also leads the way with 1.4 steals per game on defense.

Freshman point guard Drew Farmer leads the 'Cats in assists, as she dishes out an average of 3.4 a game. Junior point guard Mary Eckenrode is not far behind, as she dishes the rock 3.1 times per game. They are doing this while minimizing their turnovers as they both are averaging fewer than two turnovers per game, which is quite a feat. On the boards, the Bearcats are led by juniors Andresen and Celine Gregoire who are averaging 5.3 and 5.1 rebounds per game, respectively.

The basketball team is looking to ride this hot start into conference play and prove the opposing coaches wrong, as they were predicted to finish seventh. The Northwest Conference is historically tough, as George Fox is nationally ranked and Whitman is just outside of the national rankings.

"This year, we all just really want to win and go all the way to the conference tournament, I



think we all have that as our goal, and we have what it takes," said Andresen.

Last Friday night, the women's basketball team took on the Whitman College Blues in their first Northwest Conference matchup. Whitman is just outside of the national rankings and is predicted to finish close to the top of the Northwest Conference. Needless to say, the Bearcats were expecting a tough opponent and they were not quite able to keep up with the Blues.

The Blues jumped out to a 12-0 lead at the start of the game, and that was all they needed in order to fend off the Bearcats the rest of the way, as they won 61-46. Senior forward Marissa Hamilton led the Bearcats offensively with 13 points, but it was not enough. The game was all the Blues as the closest the Bearcats were able to cut the lead down to was 43-36 with 1:59 left in the third quarter. They were able to get this close

"Friday night's loss was tough for all of us, but as our coach always says, that one loss doesn't define a season, and with a big game the next day, we had to refocus and learn from it," Andresen said.

Andresen and the team bounced back big as they dominated the Pirates in all aspects of the game and won 72-48 behind Andresen's 17 points.

The success on Saturday could have also been contributed to a team meeting. Andresen said, "supporting each other in good times and bad. This was our main focus for Saturday's game as well as celebrating every positive aspect within the game, both on offense and defense." This win over Whitworth also had huge meaning for the Willamette women's basketball program as a whole because it was the first time since 2009 that they had beaten them.

Andresen led the way with 17 points, going 7 for 11 from the field and 3 of 4 from the charity stripe, while hauling down six rebounds. Andresen was not the only Bearcat baller getting buckets on Saturday night, as Eckenrode had 13 points and six more rebounds and junior guard Whitney Anderson pitched in 12 points and 3 assists. Gregoire also scored nine points and led the game with seven rebounds.

The game was only close in the first quarter as Whitworth had a 12-11 lead midway through the first quarter, but that was as close to victory as they would get. The 'Cats led 20-16 at the end of the first quarter and the Pirates got as close as 20-18 before the Bearcats put their paws down and went on a 11-1 run. The Bearcats also had a commanding 40-26 lead at half-time, which was probably due to the fact that they had a 20-9 rebounding advantage. Second half was all Willamette again as the closest the game got was 57-46, but again Willamette went on a 11-0 run right after this to put the game out of reach.

The Bearcats take a break from conference play and they take on Whittier College on Friday, Dec. 9 at 8 p.m.

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Swim team finishes first semester strong, looks forward to more competition

JARED SPOHR
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday and Saturday, the Bearcat Swim teams competed in the Corvallis Senior Open.

During Friday's competition, junior Mark Yuvienco placed second in the 200-yard butterfly, and junior Cassie Tallman took second in the 100-yard breaststroke. Senior Alika Masei swam well enough for third place in the 100-yard breaststroke, and placed sixth in the 200 individual medley.

During Saturday's competition, leading the way for the Bearcats were Masei and Tallman. Each of them swam well enough to earn second place in the men's and women's 200-yard breaststroke events, respectively. For Tallman, her second place finish now gives her a place in the top five on Willamette's list. Teammates junior Reuben White and freshman Derek

Ludwig joined Masei and Cassie as competitors in the "A" finals. White finished in fourth place in the 200-yard freestyle, while Ludwig received eighth in the 100-yard butterfly.

"With this meet being the last competition on the first semester schedule, I think it is very important to stay ready between now and January in order to stay on top of our

break, but it is important to always make sure we take time throughout this stretch to stay in shape because swimming is a sport where just taking up to three days off can throw you off rhythm and could possibly make you lose your touch in the water."

Masei commented on the break as well, adding, "For staying ready between now and January, I would say that staying in a relatively fit swimming condition over the winter break is necessary. We do have a swimming training trip in the latter half of the break, but the swim team as a whole has a good pocket of downtime after finals end for the semester. There is definitely an emphasis on staying healthy, not partaking in any dangerous activities that could potentially hurt our bodies as well as just finding the time to get in the water as much as possible," he said.

"That being said, the winter break is also a time to rejuvenate our bod-

ies from the physical, mental and emotional toll that comes with being a student-athlete. I cannot stress enough for all athletes, whatever sport you may play, the importance of finding time to spend moments with those you love. Whether it's family, friends or that one person who always makes you smile, find the time to be with them. I think that the most preparation I am going to do before the swim season continues in the spring, is being among good people, good food and good rest. Now whether or not racing my brother everyday in the pool is a part of that equation, who knows. All I know is that I will be surrounded by the ones I love, and that makes all the difference."

Willamette swimming returns to action on Friday, Jan. 13, when they will host College of Idaho.

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“It is very important to stay ready between now and January in order to stay on top of [the] game.”

The conclusion of the Corvallis Senior Open spells the end of the first semester season for the Bearcats, as they will not compete during break.

game,” Yuvienco said. “It can be challenging at times between now and January with finals rolling around and going back home for Christmas



Tom Brady might be the best quarterback in the National Football League



LOUIS KNOX
STAFF WRITER

Another record falls to Tom Brady. On Dec. 4, the New England Patriots played the Los Angeles Rams and were victorious. With this win, the Patriots extended their season record to 10-2, but beyond that,

Tom Brady picked up his 201st win as a starting quarterback, surpassing Peyton Manning and Brett Favre. Brady's accomplishments came rather unexpectedly, as he was only a part-time starter at the University of Michigan. In addition, he was only a sixth round draft pick, and 199th overall in the 2000 NFL Draft. Born in San Mateo, California, Brady grew up a San Francisco 49ers fan, especially a fan of quarterback Joe Montana. Montana, in his own right, has been considered by many to be the best quarterback to play the game. Brady and Montana are the only two players in NFL history to win multiple MVPs and Super Bowls. During his career, Brady was able to get to a level set by only two other quarterbacks: Montana and Terry Bradshaw of the Pittsburgh Steelers. All three players won four separate Super Bowls, Brady, in ad-

ditional to these, has also won two more AFC Championship games. Of course, Brady's rise to power in the NFL did not come without a little luck along the way. Brady's first year as a starter came at the expense of fellow Patriots quarterback Drew Bledsoe, after a severe chest injury forced him to be added to the injured reserve list. The 2001 season changed Brady's life forever. This was the start of a dynasty for the Patriots; the team would win the Super Bowl in 2001, 2003 and 2004. In 2007, Brady was able to break another record. He threw for 50 touchdowns in a single 16-game season, breaking another Peyton Manning record. The team also posted an 18-0 record up until the Super Bowl, where they fell short to the New York Giants with a score of 17-14. Brady's excellence can be attributed to his relentless work ethic and perfectionist attitude when

it comes to the game of football. Brady's success can also be attributed to the coaching genius of Patriots Head Coach Bill Belichick. The two together have become the most successful player-coach combination the game has ever seen. Midway through Brady's career it appeared as if his reign over the NFL would not be sustained much longer. In 2008, he tore his ACL in the first game of the season. The season of 2012 was one of much disappointment. Brady and the Patriots had the opportunity to get revenge on Eli Manning and the New York Giants, as they met in the Super Bowl once again. The sequel went just as the first, with the Patriots losing once again to the Giants. However, in 2014, Brady was able to win a fourth ring, this time with a whole new arsenal of weapons at his disposal. In a classic battle, the Patriots beat the defending Super Bowl champion the Seattle Seahawks, in

a last second interception by rookie corner Malcolm Butler. Throughout his career, Brady has never been the strongest, fastest nor the most talented player by any means. His success came from his will to compete and his sheer hatred of failure. Now at 39 years old, Brady is nearing the end of his career. Despite showing any signs of slowing down in the 2016 season, Brady looks to overcome his four-game suspension that he was sentenced to by commissioner Roger Goodell for the infamous deflategate scandal. Despite missing a quarter of the season, Brady has the Patriots currently tied for the best record in the AFC at 10-2. They are once again poised to go on a deep run in the playoffs.

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NBA First Quarter Report: Have the first 20 games taught us anything?

ALEX GORDON
STAFF WRITER

If you just looked at the top two teams in the Eastern Conference, and the top three teams in the Western Conference, it would be easy to conclude that all the predictions made pre-season have panned out. The Warriors and Cavaliers sit atop their respective conferences simply biding their time until they can return to once again matchup in the finals. The Raptors, Spurs, and Clippers sit below them. Great teams, but ones that simply don't have the juice to beat those two titans in a seven game series. The standings never tell the whole story however and there have been some pretty significant twists in both conferences up to this point. Maybe the most significant is that neither the Warriors or Cavaliers' look bulletproof. Many would argue that it doesn't matter, and that the regular season is just a warmup for these teams. That doesn't mean you can't take anything from their losses.

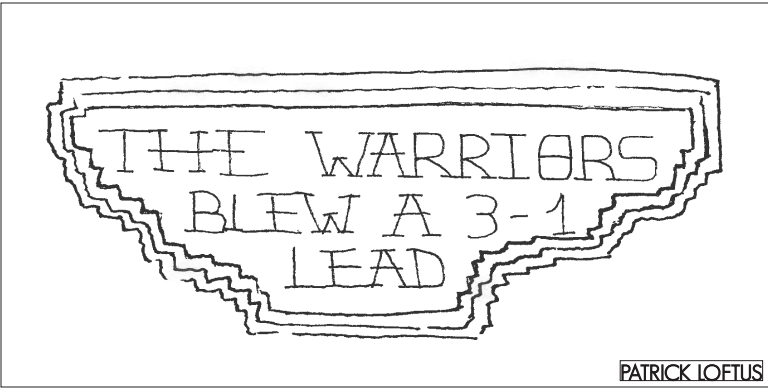
The Cavaliers' last three losses have been against the Bucks, Clippers and the Bulls. Giannis Antetokounmpo is becoming something that we have never seen on a basketball court. We have seen big guards before, we've seen skilled passing centers before and we've seen freakishly athletic wings before, but somehow Giannis is all of these rolled into one. It's allowing him to average 23 points, eight rebounds, six assists, two blocks and two steals a game. According to Bucks' beat writer Alex Boeder, "Giannis has more points than Carmelo, rebounds than Blake, assists than Conley, steals than Kawhi, blocks than Ibaka. Turns 22 next week." It's absurd, and with Jabari Parker finally healthy beside him, the Bucks are starting to look like the positionless monster many thought they could be. The Bulls beat the Cavaliers last Friday. That is a sentence that many NBA talking heads never thought they would be saying over the course of this season. Everyone looked at the strange coagulation of has-been stars the Bulls collected over the off-sea-

son and concluded that it would be impossible to score with three minus perimeter shooters on the floor together. They're third in the East though, riding a career year from Jimmy Butler. Dwayne Wade's veteran savvy continues to amaze, and Rajon Rondo hasn't looked anything like the moody, enigmatic player whose meltdowns over the last few years caused many to question if he still had a place in the league. They've had a cakewalk schedule so far, so the success might

not last, but it is emblematic of the surprise uncertainty that surrounds the league right now. The Spurs and Clippers are a bastion of continuity throughout all of this, however. They sit a game and two games behind the Warriors respectively. Many have been saying this could finally be the year that the Clippers break through the Warriors, even though they look unbeatable at times, as predicted. The Clippers have the athletic size that could be the

key to their downfall. They still need help on the wing, but their four man core of Chris Paul, J.J. Redick, Blake Griffin and DeAndre Jordan looks as good as any four man group in the league, no matter who they throw out there with them. The Rockets have been something of a surprise also at 13-7. Mike D'antoni has put James Harden in the perfect position, basically giving him the ball and surrounding him with shooters. He is averaging 29 points and 12 assists right now, which leads the league in assists. To conclude, there are seven teams legitimately vying for a playoff spot in the West, all within seven games of each other. In the East, 10 teams are within five games of each other. Though we could very well end up with Cavaliers and the Warriors come June, the path to get there is nowhere near as clean cut as it seemed to be 20 games ago.

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this week in sports

AARON ODA
STAFF WRITER

This past week in sports was crazy. We saw drama in NCAA football's last regular season week, as well as the selection of the four teams that will be playing for the national championship. The NBA has seen teams rise and fall with the season now in full swing. The NFL has seen its first team clinch a playoff spot. Let's see what happened in this previous week of sports.

NFL Football

After 13 complete weeks of the NFL season, the first team has punched its ticket into the playoffs. The Dallas Cowboys are the first team this season to accomplish this, with a current record of 11-1. The Cowboys have been the topic of conversation all season with the play of two rookies, Dak Prescott and Ezekiel

NCAA Football

Elliott, the injury and benching of Pro-Bowl quarterback Tony Romo and, of course, a current 11 game winning streak. I can honestly say that I have been at a loss for words to describe what Prescott and Elliott have been doing all season running the offense especially with both of them being rookies. To me, this is an accomplishment in itself and whatever comes after this is just icing on the cake. But what will be important for these two moving forward is if they can recreate what they did this season and avoid the sophomore slump.

The four team playoff has been set after conference championship games were played this weekend. The four teams that are in it, are No. 1 Alabama, No. 2 Clemson, No. 3 Ohio State and No. 4 Washington Huskies. The semifinal round will pit the Crimson Tide against the Huskies in the Peach Bowl on New Year's Eve. The other semifinal game is be-

tween the Clemson Tigers and the Buckeyes in the Fiesta Bowl on New Year's Eve. The teams are picked on multiple characteristics by a selection committee of college athletic directors. These are two of the 40 bowl games that will be played over a four week span to end the college football season. Teams in other bowls need to have an above .500 winning percentage, which means they have to win more games than they have lost or have an equal number of wins and losses. There were only 75 bowl eligible teams out of the 80 needed to fill all these games this season, so you will see five teams that are under this .500 winning percentage playing bowl games.

NBA

The Los Angeles Lakers are the surprise team of the season. With a below average record of 10 and 12, they are still one of the surprise teams this year. Considering it took the Lakers until February last season to win 10

games, that is a remarkable improvement. Some teams play worse under new head coaches because, more times than not, they implement a new scheme or change the culture of the team and this takes some time to get used to. But new head coach Luke Walton has done some remarkable things with a team that had little expectations coming into this season. A team that seems to be under performing are the Washington Wizards. This season, they have a backcourt with John Wall and Bradley Beal, who have been playing together since 2012. In the last four seasons, the duo has shown flashes that elite backcourts show, but have yet to put it together for a season or a playoff run. Time is running out for the two of them in Washington, as the team may want to part ways with the players and start with a fresh group of young players. K DEN, until next semester!!

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Gender binary irrelevant within modern society

JACQUELINE MCKENNA
STAFF WRITER

It is 2016, and in the United States, at the very least, we are arguably living in a futuristic world.

Most people carry hand-sized supercomputers around in their pockets on the daily. Hoverboards were all the rage until we realized how douchey they are. You can use a 3D printer to make a gun or a pizza.

We have reached the apex of technology imagined by most 20th century theories of “the future.” Yet, we are still using the same old outdated, scientifically unfounded notions of sex and gender that were firmly in place when television was still newfangled.

When the words “social construct” are uttered, many people are immediately wary.

Maybe you’re expecting a shrill caricature of a feminist to start yelling at you about stuff you genuinely didn’t know about.

Joking that “X is a social construct” has become an easy punchline for the less creative souls on college campuses, along with the usual quips about how sensitive and coddled college kids are these days.

Here’s the thing, though: nobody likes to be corrected, but everybody has something to learn

about something (myself included, very obviously)!

I’m a cisgender woman, which means I identify with the sex and gender assigned to me at birth. I’m bisexual, which means I am attracted to people of my own gender as well as people with different genders.

I’m also a Women and Gender

“There are so many multitudes of identities in the world not contained within a flawed, binary understanding of select aspects of biology.”

Studies major, which means I have spent more time than perhaps the average cisgender person reading and thinking about sex and gender roles. I consider my major to be an important field of study, because gender is inarguably a part of people’s lives.

So, let’s dispel some common ignorance! When someone says, “Gender is a social construct,” they mean that the binary roles of “man” and “woman” are social categories that were created for social purposes to enforce social hierarchies.

These roles vary throughout time and place, which is why the expectations of “manhood” or “womanhood” in one culture may be unthinkable to another culture.

Gender roles are not set in stone; they can change over time, because they are a social tool, and society is constantly changing.

Sex roles can get a little more confusing for people, even though they may easily accept that gender roles are not universal.

Categories based around physical sex seem to be related to biology, which many people have been led to believe is inarguable scientific fact. Unfortunately, what we casually call “science” itself is its own constantly changing category that is created socially.

Hundreds of years ago, it was inarguable scientific fact that the Earth is flat, but now we know that that isn’t true.

The same can be said about biological sex: science supposedly tells us that XY chromosomes = a penis and testicles = identifying as a man. The thing is, though, even starting from chromosomes, the understanding of that science is super flawed.

There are dozens of chromosomal combinations in humans that aren’t XY or XX. There is no binary at the basest level of human creation. So, that one’s out.

No two people with the same genitalia are exactly alike based on that genitalia, because human variation is so expansive that even their “same” genitalia is going to differ in size, shape, color, etc. So that’s out, too.

“Science” as we know it is a category created by humans to describe phenomena observed in nature, and the processes we create to understand them; the phenomena are real, but our understanding is always, by definition, what we create in response.

There is no binary anywhere, really.

Intersex people — those born with reproductive anatomy that doesn’t fit typical cultural definitions of “male” or “female” — exist, period.

When an intersex baby is born, historically doctors will perform unnecessary, non-consensual surgery to “fix” the baby’s genitalia, often based on the length of a penis.

Non-intersex trans people exist. Non-binary trans people exist.

There are so many multitudes of identities in the world not contained within a flawed, binary understanding of select aspects of biology. The identities and realities of these people are real; it is the systems and categories we already have in place that do not match.

That’s OK! Society and culture don’t exist without people, and that means we have all the power we need to change them.

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‘Gilmore Girls’ reboot reveals privileged Rory’s flaws

MADISON BROWN
CONTRIBUTOR

While wading through my post-election depressive fog, I was reminded by my sisters that the long-awaited new “Gilmore Girls” was dropping on Netflix over Thanksgiving break.

Yet, when I woke up from a tryptophan-induced nap last Thursday to queue up the first of four 90-minute episodes, something immediately seemed off.

Rory inspired my teenaged self to break the mold of my own small town and go to college. Her drive validated the ambition that I myself felt.

Rory proved with her successes that if you worked hard and dreamed big, anything was possible. She provided a representation of women that I had never seen before. Now, the once-endearing quirks of Rory seem incredibly self-indulgent and privileged.

Rory Gilmore was the brilliant daughter and only child of single mother Lorelai and one half of the “Gilmore Girls.” When the original series ended, she had just taken an exciting job covering the 2008 Obama presidential campaign.

Rory stood on the precipice of adulthood, about to begin a new and exciting phase of her life.

If the GG reboot accomplishes anything, it’s to provide a reminder that you can’t go home again. Time marches on, and the turbulence of life wears on even the most rock-solid of relationships. You have to ride out the difficult times and stay true to yourself.

Now, almost a decade later at 32, Rory is a “freelance journalist.” In fact, she doesn’t prepare any pitches for interviews with publishers and falls asleep while conducting interviews. We never see her churning out endless pieces, as freelancers must to

survive and to make a name for themselves.

Rory is effectively homeless. She’s drifting from her mom Lorelai’s house, to her grandmother’s, then to her childhood best friend Lane’s. She has boxes of her stuff scattered between three different cities.

Rory has lost her mojo. Her very Rory-ness was her work ethic, her drive, her bright intelligence and passionate sense of right and wrong. Now, the girl who always had her nose in a book is seen with one in hand only once in this entire season.

We discover in “Episode One” of this new miniseries that Rory is having an affair with Logan, the college boyfriend she once rejected for his immaturity. He is engaged, but that doesn’t stop Rory from living with him in England when the fiancée’s not at home.

All the while, Rory dodges phone

calls from her dorky but sweet boyfriend of two years.

These flaws were always in Rory’s character, but the things we could look over when she was a precocious teenager are deeply uncomfortable to see in a fully adult woman.

Rory doesn’t have to live a perfect feminist life, but the Rory we know would have at least felt guilty about her illicit relationship. This time around, she is unrepentant about her behavior.

Despite the fact that her road to success was previously paved with her grandparents’ money, Rory always had an incredible work ethic. She cared about her achievements in academia, which felt like a strident feminist statement in the too-cool-for-school TV landscape of the 2000s.

Rory wasn’t a “chill girl.” She always wanted to be better, achieve more.

Many young female fans rooted for Rory because we wanted the nerd

girl to have it all. We wanted her to achieve, because her success gave us hope for our own.

“Gilmore Girls” was always a series about digging yourself out of ruts, of people painfully trying to break out of the self-imposed boxes they are in. The show was at its best when its powerful sense of longing and frustration came through.

Yet, it’s also a show about the seemingly unbreakable patterns in the romantic and familial relationships we have. Fast forward 10 years, and the same old dynamics are there between all the characters. Now, however, both characters and audience chafe at them.

While I was greatly disappointed in “A Year in the Life,” it served as an important reminder that adulthood and what you do in your 20’s matter. In fact, they shape the rest of your life.

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Peace out, Willamette: Got to burst the Bubble sometime

ANDREA RISOLO
MANAGING EDITOR

To me,
To my freshman year, when I met my friends-of-convenience, the first people I saw, then clung to them for dear life. When I met my lifelong friends, who I still cling to for dear life, who forgive me for never texting back. When I learned to drink, but not too much; when I learned to speak up in class, but not too much.

When my roommate got raped, and their rapist transferred with zero repercussions.

To my sophomore year, when I lost my friends to sorority squats and crafting. When I barely left my room, but also got the best grades I’ve ever gotten.

To my junior year, when I final-

ly had the freedom of privacy. To the friends that went abroad, and to the friends that left and never came back.

To my senior year, when my friend killed herself, and my housemate emotionally abused us. When I broke my leg and failed my first semester of thesis. When I never slept and felt guilty when I had fun.

To my super-senior year, my last chance to list “student” rather than “unemployed” under “occupation.” When I had to make new friends again but no longer felt guilty. When my life became a cycle of work, class, thesis, pint night, Spur. When I was OK with that.

When I realized I could never live at home again.

When more of my life happened in four-and-a-half years than in the previous 18 years.

To growing up and getting through it all anyway, because I know who I am and know who I can go to for help when I need it. To me, because sometimes you just have to congratulate yourself for even put-

“Sometimes you just have to congratulate yourself for even putting on pants in the morning.”

ting on pants in the morning.
Sometimes I wonder if Willamette was a mistake, if I should have gone to a school bigger than one square block. Maybe I wouldn’t have lost so many friends. Maybe I wouldn’t have failed. Maybe I would have more job prospects after I graduate.

into the trash.

Maybe I wouldn’t have made such remarkable friends in Greek life, in the theater and science and math departments, on the baseball and football teams, in ASWU, from TIUA.

I wouldn’t have had class in a bar, or dinner at a professor’s house.

I wouldn’t have learned to be actively and openly critical of this institution, and all the many problematic things it does, while still appreciating the privilege I have to even be here.

I hate this place, and I love this place. I am this place — often terrible, but sometimes good.

Willamette and I make mistakes left and right, and we both should always be held accountable. But I grew up here. I made the choice to be here, and to remain here.

The only person I have to blame or credit, for my best friends, for my academic successes and failures, for where I go after popping the Willamette bubble, is myself.

Peace out, Willamette.
It’s been (too) real.

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Humans of Willamette

What is your holiday wish?



Jacob Henderson
Religious Studies
San Francisco, California
Junior

Elle Wilson
Religious Studies
Snoqualmie, Washington
Sophomore

Gabriella Vogt
Sociology
Poulsbo, Washington
Junio

[In unison, with gusto] "The downfall of the racist patriarchal capitalist system!"



Bridget Wulfin
Biology
Ravensdale, Washington
Senior

"My holiday wish is for more funding in science."



Drew Swanner
Exercise Science
Ojai, California
Junior

"I will be traveling over the break, so my holiday wish is to encounter new cultures and new places that I never thought I would."



José Fausto
International Studies
Ameca, Jalisco, Mexico
Junior

"My wish isn't a holiday wish but it is a wish for my lifetime, and it is to have a Great Dane puppy named Poseidon."

INTERVIEWS BY
MEREDITH MARSHBURN
PHOTOS BY
CONNER WICKLAND

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The Red Onion: So good it'll make you cry Willamette newspaper to be discontinued

MASON KELLIHER
CONTRIBUTOR

After weeks of speculation Keeton Nance, editor-in-chief of the Willamette student newspaper, has confirmed that the Collegian will be scrapped.

The decision comes after immense pressure from the Willamette Environmental Community Outreach Society (ECOS). In a media release, the ECOS club president said that "the printing of the school newspaper is an unnecessary strain on earth's dwindling natural resources," and "because nobody actually reads the newspaper, except the writers' parents, there is no point cutting down trees to further stroke their egos."

Initial concerns about the strain the printing of the newspaper was putting on the environment were raised by a professor in the envi-

ronmental science department.

In an interview, the professor told us how "boring and useless" he thought the newspapers were, saying that "nobody really cares about abortion and white privilege, especially when they're talked about in every issue, so there's no point wasting trees to print these so-called newspapers."

In a statement, Willamette's president endorsed the decision to scrap the newspaper although he "didn't even realize we had one." Despite this, he understood that feelings throughout the campus were mixed.

In an email to faculty and students he wrote "Dear Willamette community, as we continue to process the strong emotions and reactions felt after the discontinuation of the school newspaper, I want to thank the many

members of this community for the support that you have given each other. I ask today not that we put away our differences, or pretend that this wasn't a historic decision. I ask instead that we commit ourselves, despite those differences, to making Willamette the kind of community that shows others that the environment is more important than allowing students to write for the school newspaper, no matter how good it looks on their resumes."

The good news is that students won't be going without the news. The president's office has confirmed that with the money the school is saving from no longer paying student writers, Linfield's newspaper, The Linfield Review, will be delivered to campus.

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