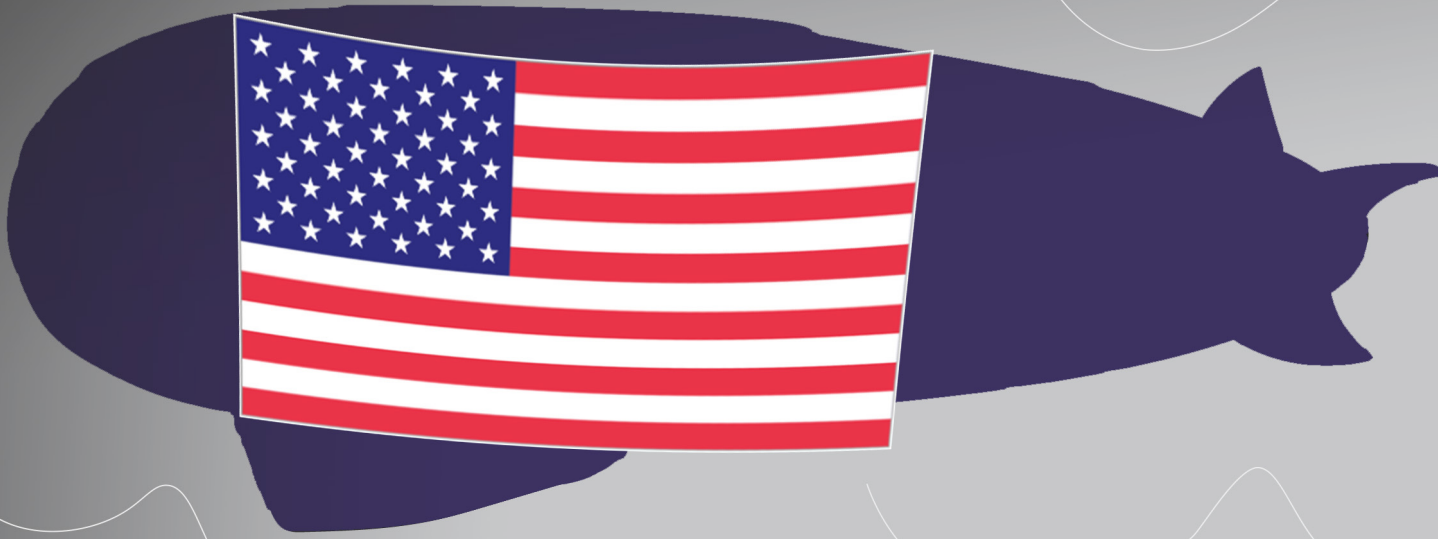


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America: Lost in the clouds



The world turns and the US. doesn't get the message

Turning a blind eye to the war in Syria

SOPHIA GOODWIN-RICE
STAFF WRITER

When the Arab Spring began in March 2011, everyone was watching. News outlets across the globe kept the rest of the world up to speed as confusion grew, uprisings swelled and bullets began to fly. We watched as a bloody civil war broke out in Syria, cringed as the government killed thousands of its own people with chemical weapons and we engaged in heated debates as refugees fled to Europe and eventually across the Atlantic, looking frantically for safe places to stay. Over time, the world's focus shifted, towards the myriad other problems facing humanity: politics, economic downfall and terrorism, to name a few. Except for the occasional photo of a war-battered child that pops into our Facebook feeds, people seem to have forgotten about the Syrian conflict. For all intents and purposes, it might as well not exist anymore in the eyes of American media.

Except that it does. The war has now raged for seven years, killing half a million people and displacing millions more. Only last week, bombings killed 500 more civilians, leaving survivors to seek shelter in cramped underground basement spaces. It was only then that the United Nations called for a 30-day ceasefire, which took days to finally pass due to Russia's hesitation to join in the agreement. However, as of this past

weekend, bombs have continued to fall, targeting hospitals and other civilian-heavy areas and making the situation in Syria humanity's worst nightmare.

To put it into Western terms, it's like that part in the Hunger Games when the Capitol bombs a hospital and hundreds of children die. It's like when the rebels blow up medic forces in order while trying to target the government. Those books, read and worshipped by middle school children across the United States, were meant to be cautionary tales, spooky tales of North America's post-apocalyptic future. We say that we'd do anything to stop that future from becoming reality, but while we weren't looking, it already did.

SYRIA, 11

Leadership shifts in South Africa

NATALIE ROADARME
STAFF WRITER

South African president, Jacob Zuma resigned from office on Feb. 14 after a nearly nine year presidency and a plethora of scandals.

"No life should be lost in my name and also the ANC should never be divided in my name," Zuma stated during a nationally televised political address. "I have therefore come to the decision to resign as President of the republic with immediate effect." Although he agreed to resign, he was not in agreement with the party's decisions which instructed him to do so. "I'm being victimized here," Zuma said, arguing that Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, who is his expected successor, and various other party leaders had not offered him clear reasoning for why he should resign.

Zuma, 75, became president

SOUTH, 2

Wu Causa and ACE visit Northwestern Detention Center

WU CAUSA
GUEST WRITER

"I've been to prisons before but it's nothing like this," an activist at the People's Tribunal said.

On Feb. 4, 2018, WU Causa—the pro-immigrant rights club on campus that works with local organizations to fight for immigration reform— and the Asian Coalition for Equality (ACE), drove to Tacoma, Washington to attend the People's Tribunal organized by the Northwest Detention Center Resistance (NWDCR).

"If it hadn't been for the massive barbed wire fences I wouldn't have even known we were there. It looked like an ordinary office building ... I was then overwhelmed with the sheer realization that we were in front of the most prolific detention center in the Northwest, which is filled with people's parents and loved ones trapped inside. All without a trial date," says sophomore Michelle Hicks, the president of ACE.

1,600 detainees are held in Northwest Detention Center, making it the largest one in the West Coast and the fourth largest in the U.S. Some of the detainees are minors, asylum seekers fleeing from border violence, veterans who served in the military, green card holders and victims of human trafficking. The for-profit company GEO group owns the NWDC, which provides nearly \$57 million in revenue.

The site of the detention center is rampant with human rights violations. It is a place where settler colonialist policies like militant imperialism, divide and rule and environmental racism have reigned free. It is cold, bleak and isolated. The EPA has declared that it is on a toxic hazardous site that is uninhabitable. There is no residential area nearby; therefore, it is meant to be out of site and out of mind for Tacoma's residents. There is no way to visibly notice the detainees due to the barbed wires, fences, security and walls. The structure of this facility is not only meant to keep families apart, but also to prevent the general public from knowing about the inhumane practices occurring their own backyard.

RISEING, 4



NEWS

Discussions of amending state constitution at Capitol.

pg. 3



SPORTS

Willamette Women's Basketball team plays a thriller in NWC championship game.

pg. 8



LIFESTYLES

Are you listening to this increasingly popular form of entertainment?

pg. 5



South African president out, corruption scandals and drought

CONTINUED from Page 1

In addition, South Africa has been struggling with a lack of water supplies in one of its largest cities, Johannesburg. The mayor, Herman Mashaba, has named this day “Day Zero,” which will occur when the city’s four million residents will be forced to shut off taps because there is no water left after to years of drought. Recently, the mayor moved this date earlier by one week to April 22.

To cut down on water usage, residents have been prohibited from washing cars, watering lawns and filling pools, and have been pressured to limit showers to two minutes and only flush the toilet when completely necessary. On Jan. 1, each household’s monthly water allowance was cut from 20,000 liters to 10,500 liters.

When dam levels fall to 13.5 percent, Day Zero will have been reached. Residents will then have to collect their daily water at local sites

and will only be allocated 25 liters per person, per day.

This drought is in part caused by lack of rain, but also misconduct and corruption. Khaya Magaxa, leader of the African National Congress in this province, has reported that the DA’s (Democratic Alliance) mismanagement plays a role in the water crisis.

“This problem has been exacerbated by the poor management on the DA side, both in the provincial government and in the municipality,” Magaxa commented. He has also noted that the DA’s failure to restrict the use of water when the first serious drought began has greatly affected the current situation.

Cape Town is also facing serious consequences after two years of drought. Recommendations of limiting water usage to 87 liters a day have been ignored by three fifths of residents. Cape Town’s own “Day Zero” has been set back to April 12, 10 days before Johannesburg’s. In response, the formation of a black

market for safe drinking water has been seen in the area.

“For enterprising gangs this is South Africa’s bitcoin. They know the value of stored fresh drinking water will soar in coming weeks

and getting thousands of litres of it now for free is likely to be extremely profitable,” commented Jamie Bowden, a long-term visitor of Cape Town who is originally from the United Kingdom. Feb. 1

saw the water limit per person in Cape Town drop from 87 liters a day to 50.

naroadarmel@willamette.edu



SPENSER WADSWORTH

Spanish language debate team win big coast to coast

QUINLYN MANFULL
STAFF WRITER

Two weekends ago, the Spanish co-captains of the Willamette University Debate Union, senior Kricia Ruano Espinoza and sophomore Emilia Cubelos, took off to Ithaca, New York to compete in the Spanish Division of the 2018 Cornell IV. This was the first time debate has traveled a team to compete in Spanish. At the competition, Ruano Espinoza and Cubelos became Second Top Speaker and Grand Champions.

This weekend the Spanish co-captains, along with other members of the team and members of the Willamette community, competed in only the second year of the Spanish Division at the Mark

O. Hatfield Memorial Debates. The Spanish Debate program at Willamette, like other Spanish Debate programs across the country, is still in its early phases. This is the first year WU Debate has had Spanish Captains, and the first year teams have been traveled to compete in Spanish.

Spanish debate programs are not only new at Willamette, but are new and budding all across the United States. Debating in languages other than English is also becoming popularized across the globe. Worlds University Debate Championships 2018 in Mexico was the first time the tournament has been held in a Latin American country, and this was the first year they held a public debate tournament in Spanish — an event normally held in English.

As Spanish Divisions grow slowly across the country, debate calls on Spanish speakers who are not a part of the debate program to help fill rooms and create the best competition. These programs are spaces for both native speakers and foreign language speakers to compete in Spanish.

“Debating in your native language is already really hard, then you add a language barrier,” said sophomore Natalie Lyell. “You have to work twice as hard to explain your analysis in a language you don’t normally speak. It helps with debate in general.”

British Parliamentary Debate (BP) was created in the 1800’s by Universities in Europe such as Cambridge and Oxford. The spaces created by BP Debate were for

British white men. Women were not allowed to debate until often the mid-1980s in these Universities.

“One of the most important parts of having a Spanish program in University Debate teams is helping decolonize the educational space of debate — allowing a space for native Spanish speakers to debate in a format created for wealthy white men is a revolutionary act against the hegemonic academic space that is still being perpetuated through activities such as debate,” Ruano Espinoza said.

At the Mark O. Hatfield Memorial Debates this past weekend, there were three Willamette teams in the final round. Sophomore speakers Koby Wood and

Phillip Amur won the tournament in the Spanish division.

These programs are difficult to build, but are immensely important to many members of the Willamette University Debate Union. At Cornell University recently, members of their community were pulled in to ensure a competitive field just as Willamette community members were pulled in this weekend. Attempting to make the space of debate more inclusive is a communal effort that Cubelos and Ruano Espinoza have been instrumental in creating on our campus and across the country.

qimanfull@willamette.edu

CAMPUS SAFETY

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

February 21, 12:38 p.m. (Winter Street): A student reported that their vehicle was damaged while they were parked on the street. The damage was noticed when the student returned to their vehicle. An officer responded and a report was filed. The student was advised to also make a report with the Salem Police Department.

The officer saw three visible alcohol containers in the room and a report was filed since the student was underage.

February 24, 10:24 p.m. (Walton Hall): Campus Safety received a call stating someone was smoking inside of a classroom. An officer responded and paraphernalia was confiscated and a report was filed.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

February 19, 7:01 p.m. (Jackson Plaza): A student called to report that she was approached by two individuals on Jackson Plaza who were soliciting about a religious organization. An officer responded but the group had already left campus.

February 20, 1:24 p.m. (Goudy Commons): Salem Hospital Security called to report they removed an individual from their campus. They received a call shortly after stating that the indi-

vidual was in the cafeteria with a firearm. Salem Hospital Security searched their cafeteria and campus and was unable to locate the individual. They called Campus Safety in the event that the caller had meant the Willamette’s cafeteria. Officers responded to Goudy, but were also unable to locate the individual.

February 21, 8:28 a.m. (Smullin Hall): Campus Safety received a call regarding a suspicious individual from a prior interaction. Officers responded and followed the individual and ensured he left campus.

February 22, 4:54 p.m. (Jackson Plaza): Officers observed two suspicious individuals walking towards the Library. Officers maintained visual contact with the individuals until they had left the campus.

February 22, 7:36 p.m. (Matthews Parking Lot): A student reported to Campus Safety that they

heard someone they believed to be in distress near Matthews Hall. Officers responded and were unable to locate anyone in the area in need of assistance, and there were no additional reports of any unusual activity. Likewise, Salem Police Department received no reports of anyone in distress in the area.

February 23, 7:19 p.m. (University Apartments): Campus Safety received a call regarding a suspicious person. A homeless individual approached a student and attempted to gain entry to their vehicle and residence hall in order to escape the cold. An officer responded and gave directions to the nearest warming shelter. Another student called and reported the same individual trying to get in to a residence hall. The individual was escorted off campus and trespassed.

February 24, 12:40 p.m. (Law School): While on patrol, an officer observed two suspicious individuals in front of the Law School.

The officer made contact with the individuals and maintained eye contact until they left campus.

TRESPASS

February 22, 12:06 a.m. (Kaneko Commons): Campus Safety received a call stating someone who was trespassed from the University was seen in a residence hall. Officers responded and searched the building and surrounding areas, but were unable to locate the individual.

February 24, 7:40 p.m. (University Center): An officer noticed a suspicious individual entering the UC. The officer saw that the individual had left his bike behind. The officer was able to locate the individual and then trespassed him from campus.

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

OR legislature discusses healthcare for all

KELLEN BULGER
NEWS EDITOR

A proposed bill was passed in Oregon's House of Representatives last week that would amend the state's 160-year-old Constitution to read: "It is the obligation of the state to ensure that every resident of Oregon has access to effective, medically appropriate, and affordable health care as a fundamental right."

Here is a look at what this proposed amendment would actually mean in practice.

The enshrinement of a statute within the state's Constitution that guarantees healthcare as a right to every Oregonian could certainly provide residents with grounds to sue the state on. If any resident were denied coverage or unable to receive appropriate medical services within the state they could potentially sue the state saying that it failed to provide a constitutional right.

So, not only could the passage of House Joint Resolution 203 provide a framework for ensuring that every person within the state has access to healthcare, but this would certainly send a strong message nationally; an amendment to a state's Constitution making healthcare a "right" would be the first of its kind in the U.S.

This all comes at a time in which only two-months ago House and Senate Republicans' \$1.5 trillion tax bill was passed, which included a provision that repealed the individual mandate within Obamacare. And it's worth remembering that Obamacare was seen at the time of

its passage as a "step" towards single-payer/universal healthcare. So, while the nation marches towards a future of healthcare where insurance providers are given further reigns to increase premiums, the state of Oregon moves in the opposite direction.

However, it is true that a constitutional amendment is a piece of legislation which requires fundamental, tangible changes to the existing system. House Speaker and Democrat Tina Kotek reiterated this sentiment, saying, "send an important value statement about the importance of health care, particularly as you see at the federal level there are a lot of efforts to scale back Medicaid and Medicare." The key word here is "value." Kotek further provided confirmation that the goal of HJR 203 is "primarily aspirational."

Another potential downfall that many point out regarding the proposed amendment is the inability of the state to fund this "aspirational goal" it is aiming to prop-up. A non-partisan organization, the League of Women Voters, prepared a written testimonial at the House hearing earlier this month where they stated, "This would commit the State of Oregon to expand funding to include health care coverage for all without the federal partnership. The State of Oregon has insufficient income to support its current responsibilities and cannot provide the added cost of health care coverage for all its residents at this time." So, while the aspirations of such a change would certainly be in

good faith to many individuals and groups within Oregon, even progressives argue that the bill lacks sufficient ground to stand on.

Despite the problems associated with the enactment of healthcare as a right in the state's Constitution, many argue that the HJR 203 serves as a de-facto referendum on whether or not Oregonians would support a single-payer/universal healthcare system. Last month, nearly 60 percent of voters approved Measure 101, ensuring low-income residents will keep their healthcare coverage. It's pieces of legislation like that and bills like HJR 203 that put on full display Oregon's willingness to be a standard bearer in the fight for universal healthcare nationwide.

Savannah Jensen, a representative of the Oregon Nurses Association, echoed the importance of this bill going forward.

"This would commit the State of Oregon to expand funding to include health care coverage for all without the federal partnership. The State of Oregon has insufficient income to support its current responsibilities and cannot provide the added cost of health care coverage for all its residents at this time."

The bill is now under discussion in the Oregon state Senate. If passed there, it would be on the ballot in November for Oregon residents to decide the state's future position in terms of the role the state government should play in accessing affordable healthcare.

kpbulger@willamette.edu

WU prepares second Day of Service

HEATHER PEARSON
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday March 10, the Willamette community is encouraged to participate in WU Global Day of Service. Alongside Into the Streets and Bearcats Give Back, WU Global Day of Service is a large-scale service event planned by staff in the Office of Community Service Learning (CSL). Participants will engage in community service for four hours at local sites, working to share their privilege and strive for equity.

Recognizing how Willamette and its community members are part of these larger histories and social systems. Community Service Learning Lead Coordinator Emma Robinson recognizes that it's important for individuals to participate in service projects.

"It's one of the most direct ways in which students can help to dismantle systemic injustices," Robinson said.

"It's a way to open yourself up to learning about people's lives," she continued. "It's important to have direct experience, to take your learning beyond the classroom and out into the communities that are directly impacted."

Last year 228 volunteers worked throughout Salem. They successfully fixed a flooded trail in Bush Park, laid gravel at the Audubon Nature Reserve, painted homes for local people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, packaged food for distribution to food banks, and more. Alumni chapters in Seat-

tle and LA also participated, as did a student group in Ireland.

This global participation sets this event apart. CSL Leaders are intentionally encouraging alumni worldwide to volunteer in their communities on March 10. Everywhere from Baltimore to San Francisco to more international locations currently in the works, individuals will be engaging in work such as creating community toolbanks, restoring butterfly habitats, and packing food at a foodbank.

"This is only the second year of the event, so volunteers will be a part of the formation stages of an event that will hopefully become a long standing tradition not only at Willamette, but all over the world," explained Robinson.

Students and staff from Willamette can sign up to volunteer in Salem. They will prepare shoes for unhoused youth, help with maintenance at the Boys and Girls Club, work in Salem parks, tend crops at a community garden, and pack food with Marion Polk Food Share, among other projects.

Robinson encourages clubs and organizations to volunteer as groups. "Service is a great team work activity, enabling a sense of civic responsibility in team dynamic."

The event will occur on Saturday March 10 from 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Participants at Willamette will receive a free T-shirt and are invited to a reception with free pizza. Individuals interested in applying can sign up at bit.do/serviceblooms.

hpearson@willamette.edu

Hospital renovations to address long wait-times



CONNOR WICKLAND

Salem health's Emergency Room is one of the busiest in the Western United States.

JORDAN DEGALIA
CONTRIBUTOR

The emergency room at Salem Health has notoriously long wait times. Located across the street from Willamette, this hospital serves as the closest place students can go in the event of an emergency when Bishop Wellness Center and smaller clinics based off of a student's individual insurance plan are not sufficient enough to treat them.

Student Landry Ferguson found this out last October when their friend began having uncontrollable seizures. They recall waiting five hours while their friend con-

tinued to have seizures with no alleviation from the medical staff. Landry elaborated that, aside from the wait, there was construction in the waiting room and due to their friend's light and noise sensitivity they had to move outside in the hallway where their friend still had "over 30 seizures and waited an additional hour and a half after being taken to a room until a doctor could see her."

Salem Health seeks to alleviate this issue with a new expansion. As the "busiest ER on the West Coast between Canada and San Francisco, seeing over 300 patients per day on average," the hospital hopes that this expansion will decrease

wait-times and better support the Salem population.

With a population of 154,637 and an approximate expected annual growth rate of 1.3 percent, nurses and hospital staff alike are hopeful these upgrades should accommodate the needs of the continually growing population in Salem. As the hospital describes it, "Rapid population growth, an aging population and declining overall health in the Mid-Willamette Valley mean growing health care needs."

On Feb. 15, Salem Health opened its \$3 million expansion to the public. It had been five months since the expansion began last September. According to a statement by the

hospital, this expansion includes "more exam rooms and a new treatment track for patients with less complicated diagnoses." If the updates do as they're intended, less serious medical conditions can be addressed faster while also prioritizing those with the most serious medical concerns.

This expansion marks the third expansion of the emergency department within Building A. More specifically, the expansion includes "adding eight treatment rooms, two consult rooms, a phlebotomy draw station, 24 results-pending chairs and a new treatment track for patients with less complicated diagnoses."

Additionally the design also consists of "a redesign of the flow of patients, with the goal to decrease the time it takes for patients to see a provider."

All of these renovations are expected to begin decreasing wait times no matter the severity of a medical emergency.

Being able to address less serious medical problems while also being able to prioritize serious conditions should certainly help students at WU. Sarah Horn, RN, Salem Health chief nursing officer explains that "these changes will allow us to see patients in a much more efficient and timely manner and we're excited to have it up and running."

As Salem's population grows, the facilities of a city must grow too. Salem Health recognizes this need and is continually working to better accommodate the citizens of Salem. Only time will tell if this expansion reduces the wait-time sufficiently so that fewer people spend half a day waiting to be seen.

jbdgalia@willamette.edu

ASWU REPORT

BENJAMIN LOVE
ASWU SENATOR

On the Feb. 22 the Associated Students of Willamette University (ASWU) met, the meeting went as follows:

The club Active Minds was approved unanimously; the club helps advocate for mental health and encourages positivity. The Dance Club was also approved.

The Co-Presidents of Wulapalooza came to the meeting and spoke on the upcoming spring event; they discussed a variety of things that will be taking place ranging from the location to the safety tents, fencing, and food trucks. Expect further communications about the event and safety changes.

President Wellman was with the Board of Trustees over the weekend. Following a presentation to the Board by Don Thomson, President Wellman reports that the Bishop conversation went well.

Sarah Shinn will be helping ASWU to choose a new ASP Senator to represent the ASP students.

Discussion on the ASWU spring round 1 budget took place, (the amount of funds requested was particularly higher than other funds request in past years.) To cover the funding gap, ASWU made cuts to some club budgets and will utilize its Collegiate Readership fund for the rest of the semester. ASWU discussed making possible changes to club funding precedents, in particular, the funding of Greek Life philanthropy events.

ASWU meeting take place every Thursday at 7 p.m. on the first floor of Ford; all students are welcome.

bllove@willamette.edu

Rising popularity of podcasts: tune in to tune out

MADELYN JONES
 LIFESTYLES EDITOR

Do you love being immersed in stories but do not feel you have the time to commit to novels? Are there subjects that you are interested in learning more about but do not know where to start? In the past couple of years, a form of entertainment that has the capability to whisk listeners into fantastical worlds or teach them more about the one they are in has become increasingly popular. Now when you see someone walking around campus with earphones, don't always expect it to be music: it could be a podcast.

Podcasts do not require the time and effort required for novels — or even film — to learn something new or experience an intriguing story, since they can be incorporated into the static and routine moments of everyday life. As long as you have a listening device, like a smartphone or iPod, and some earbuds, you can listen on the go, whether that is on the commute to work or while eating dinner.

To most of us, the idea of podcasts isn't not brand new. The form traces back its beginnings to the 80s, and maybe current Willamette students heard bits and pieces of podcasts like "This American Life" and "Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me" from our parents listening to National Public Radio (NPR). However, there has been a rise in popularity over the last few years. However, the number of listeners and diversity of the community has grown more recently.

While many of the most popular podcasts are educational and deal with hard-hitting topics, there are now a variety of comedy and fantasy shows as well. "Pod Saves America" is an example of the former. This podcast stars four former Obama administration staffers, where they give their take about current political events. On the other hand, there are shows like "Welcome to Nightvale," where listeners tune into a daily radio show in the ominous and fantastical town of Nightvale, with sce-

narios based off of H.P. Lovecraft's unpublished works.

While iTunes and Spotify provide access to many podcasts, there are many other apps you can freely download to manage and keep updated with your shows, like Castro and Overcast. There are millions of hours of podcasts out there for you to listen to all for free.

Another draw of the podcast is how easy and budget-friendly they can be to make. This is not to understate any of the hard work that hosts and producers put into their shows, since many hours and hard-work can go into creating one hour of content. However, in its barest form,

podcasts are more easily created than other forms of entertainment. All you technically need to start one is a host with a computer and microphone, meaning it is a platform accessible to a diverse group of people, a place where people's voices can truly be heard.

A sure sign that a stronger community is forming around podcasts was the introduction of the first ever PodCon. This convention took place in Seattle, WA on Dec. 9-10 and was run by Hank Green, also the creator of VidCon, Joseph Fink and Jeffrey Cranor, creators of "Welcome to Nightvale" and Travis and Justin McElroy, creators of many podcasts,

both comedic and educational. PodCon brought creators and fans together for a chance to interact and experience their favorite shows in person.

Podcasts have also caught the eye of companies seeing them as a worthwhile place to put advertisements. "My Brother, My Brother, and Me," a comedic podcast hosted by brothers Travis, Justin and Griffin McElroy, self-dubbed "an advice show for the modern era," has a section in the middle of each episode called the Moneyzone, where they highlight the companies that sponsor them, while adding in some goofs on the way. This show is not

alone in that format, while ads might be played at different points in the show, many popular podcasts are sponsored by companies that often give their fans deals with a special promo code.

In a time that is riddled with technological advances, improvements in entertainment and a pervasive media, podcasts are a thing to celebrate. With their accessibility to listen to and create, it is a platform for escapism, to learn about that subject you have always been interested in or to get your voice heard.

mgjones@willamette.edu



JAMES HOODECHECK

"Celebrity Big Brother's" first American installment

JAROD TODESCHI
 STAFF WRITER

11 celebrities entered the Big Brother House on Feb. 8 for the first ever American edition of "Celebrity Big Brother." The franchise, which traditionally airs June through Sept., locks an array of people into a house, leaving them to compete for power and control over weekly evictions. It wraps up with a jury of nine bitter, evicted peers choosing the winner between the final two.

For nearly 20 years, the show has presented a unique social experiment. Each season compactly exemplifies the dynamics and interactions that can occur between people with trace amounts of similarity. Though the challenges are mostly mental and physical, the show usually revolves around the moral and ethical questions that are raised with money on the line. For the celebs, \$250,000, half the grand prize of the traditional installments. The pay cut could be due to the shortened, three week time frame, or the problematic optics of awarding wealthy people with more money.

The residents weren't A-listers or household names, by any means, but all were notable figures in their own right. The final five ultimately came

down to TV host and entertainment contributor Ross Matthews, Ariadna Gutierrez who was wrongly announced as Miss Universe last year, Tony Award Winning Broadway performer Marissa Jaret Winokur, singer songwriter Mark McGrath and Omarosa Manigault.

The most controversial houseguest was perhaps Omarosa (known mononymously), who ended a year long stint in the Trump White House as a communications aide just last month. No stranger to reality television, Omarosa first rose to fame as a villainous figure on the flagship

Brother" House, making headlines for her statements on the president and his administration, as well as how she felt working in the administration as an African-American woman.

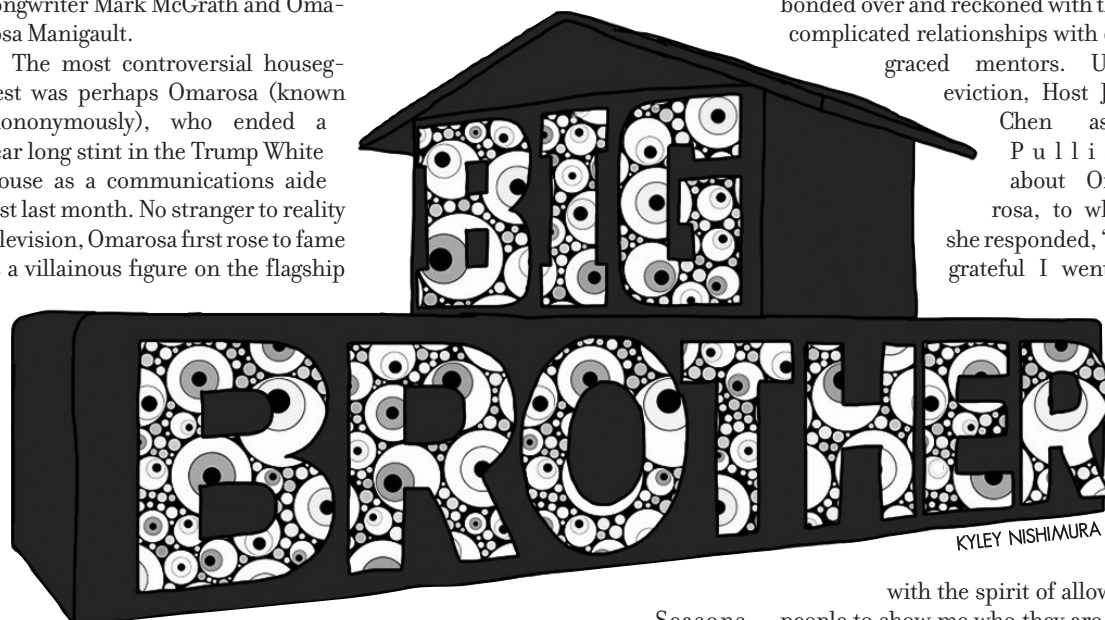
against the men of the house, naming the Times Up movement as inspiration, likely in reference to the shows long list of white male winners.

Omarosa and Keisha Knight Pulliam, a child of "The Cosby Show," bonded over and reckoned with their complicated relationships with disgraced mentors. Upon eviction, Host Julie Chen asked Pulliam about Omarosa, to which she responded, "I'm grateful I went in

The final two came down to Winikour and Matthews, who had earlier expressed his desires to win it all. "I know it's so silly but I get emotional when I think about having a real shot at winning this thing," he explained, "you know, the fat gay kid from a farm town," he tearfully described himself, continuing, "If I can show that someone like me can come in this house with UFC fighters and NBA players and rock stars and supermodels and hold my own, people out there will think that they can do anything too." Winikour ended up taking it six votes to three.

Whether competing for charity, fun, their families or reputation rebuttal, the real guilty pleasure spectacle charm of "Celebrity Big Brother" came from a sense of ease and humor that the famous faces brought to the classic competition. There may not be an obvious moral lesson to come out of a pop culture event like "Celebrity Big Brother," but the take away could be in the mutually misunderstood celebrities searching, and finding, the redeemable qualities in one another — even as they were stabbing each other in the back.

jtodesch@willamette.edu



season of Trump's own reality program, "The Apprentice." She was not shy about commenting on her experience in the White House while under the surveillance of the 94 cameras and 113 microphones of the "Big

Seasons of reality television, "Big Brother" included, have served as cultural time capsules throughout the development of the new millennium. They have proved to have far reaching social implications. This season, featured female contestants plotting

with the spirit of allowing people to show me who they are and allowing her to show me her heart."

She continued on the broader importance of their television platform, "It is very important for little girls out there to see that example. As another black woman, I wasn't going to tear her down."

Guns don't kill people: they shatter us whole

HEATHER PEARSON
 STAFF WRITER

Content warning: gun violence

There's a type of crying that feels like it has no end. That it will not stop until all the water in your body, all 80 percent of you has dried up and you are 20 percent of what you used to be. I want you to feel the morning I learned one of my high school classmates had shot three others.

Every time I return home on breaks and vacations I drive past the house where he shot them. I think about how he drove down that road looking out over the ocean, like I have all my life. I think about all the facts and stats the television spouted out in the days after, the helicopters hovering over my neighborhood, the sound of gunshots caught on someone's home security system, the way he called his grandmother afterwards, the funerals I didn't feel I deserved to attend.

How he and I used to sit in Computer Science together in high school.

Every time there is another shooting, I am brought back to this twisting and turning inside my heart, my lungs. Yes, it is political. Yes, hold your representatives responsible. Yes, share on Facebook and talk to your friends and condemn the NRA.

But also, please stop pretend shooting me with your fingers. Please stop saying you'll murder your girlfriend, you're so mad. Or that you killed that test. Please stop making me watch television shows with machine gun shots ringing out. Please stop laughing about killing, about senseless death, about murder.

There is a culture normalizing gun violence that I didn't realize was there until I found out these little things now make me fold into myself, hide, get small.

My shooting was gendered, an ex-boyfriend unable to contend with the thought of no longer being with his girlfriend. A man shooting a woman for leaving him. This leaves me without trust, always knowing the men in my life could love me and then choose to hurt me. I walk with this knowledge every day.

Many shootings are racialized, without justice. While I can empathize with the spectrum of emotions people of color feel in response, I will never know completely. But understand, reader, these reactions are there for me, for us, for others.

Universities hold small space for the Big Hard Emotions. Grief, trauma, they don't help us to ace exams or succeed in student leadership positions. But we have to feel them, for if we repress them they still arise eventually, like the morning after reports of a Florida shooting are released and I am just trying to go for a run and work on thesis and it feels like the sky fell down, suddenly, and I am crushed breathless.

Walk carefully, please, reader. Treat us with love. The personal is political, don't you see? You don't know who understands these issues deeper than skin deep, somewhere between the heart and the soul. But we are here, reader, and we hurt.

hpearson@willamette.edu

Goudy works to improve after criticisms

DORIAN GRAYSON
 STAFF WRITER

Over the years, Goudy Commons has faced criticism from students about their quality of food. Goudy breakfast and lunch have always been fine, and I love Goudy lunch during the weekdays when I have a wealth of tasty options to choose from, such as wraps, burritos, burgers, quesadillas or sandwiches.

When people complain about Goudy, it is typically about the All-You-Care-to-Eat meals: brunch on Saturdays and dinner most days. Those meals, due to the dynamics of a buffet, are presumably much harder to supply. Goudy's pay-for-what-you-get meals are considered good quality, and now they are trying to find a way for that to translate into buffet meals.

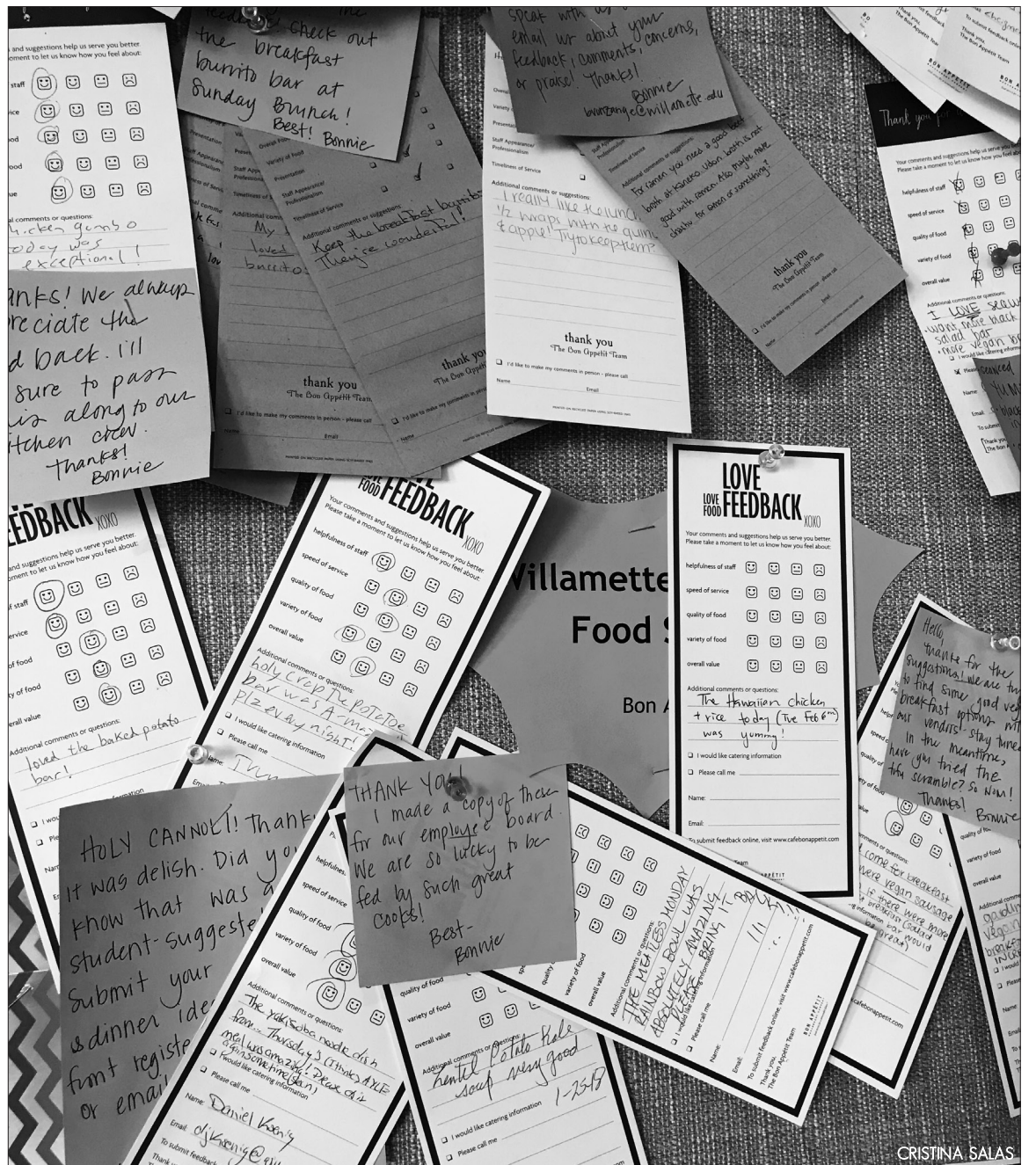
The typical Goudy dinner last year involved two grill stations, with entrée meat and meatless options, a vegan station, a pizza station with up to six varieties of pizza, a soup station, a salad station, a dessert station and a beverage station. This set-up was intended to provide both consistency — with the same stations being available nightly — and variety — with each station changing their offerings from day to day.

In talking with some peers, they consistently expressed that, though Goudy offers a variety of dishes, the ingredients they use don't change over time. Very often, for example, one of the grills will serve some flavor of white fish that always taste the same.

The main criticism, though, is that Goudy puts less effort in when things cost less meal points. As mentioned earlier, breakfasts and lunches are perfectly good, which has historically made dinner a disappointment.

"Dinner should get the best ingredients because the most people eat it," Kyra Styner said.

In order to address criticism, Goudy management has instituted a few changes. Firstly, there is a new station at dinner: the pasta station. This station has multiple types of pasta — penne, bowtie, spaghetti, etc. — with a sauce or two and usually some sort of protein.



Feedback cards and staff responses posted in Goudy Commons.

In other words, the pizza and pasta stations act as a floor for the quality of Goudy.

The second major change is a board dedicated to receiving and responding to comment cards. I noticed this immediately because my comment card campaign to bring back the lemonade was placed front and center. Since its unveiling, new comment cards have been featured and responded to, making student feedback feel validated.

"I'm impressed that Goudy seems to actually listen to comment cards," Annie Mattson said.

Goudy has already made noticeable strides when it comes to providing a diverse range of options, such as consistently putting out vegan and vegetarian meals.

Though Goudy hasn't changed much yet from last year, the pasta station and Goudy's openness to feedback have made students' experiences better. The latter is much more important, though, as

it means there will be more improvements to come as long as students are willing to be vocal about what they want fixed. Make sure your voice is heard. You can fill out a comment card at Goudy. Additionally, they're currently requesting submissions for students' favorite meals and student-created pizzas.

dgrayson@willamette.edu

Find new artists with at-home concerts

SARA FULLERTON
 STAFF WRITER

If you've been wanting to escape to a concert but are lacking funds, transport or time to make it happen, National Public Radio's (NPR) "Tiny Desk Concerts" supply a next-best experience.

The concept for "Tiny Desk" came one night about 10 years ago when NPR "All Songs Considered" host Bob Boilen lamented his inability to hear the music at a bar show over all the other noises competing in the small venue. His friend commented that he wished the singer could just play at Boilen's desk, and clearly this idea ended up making a lot of sense to others at NPR too.

New "Tiny Desk Concerts" are released every two or three days, and feature a variety of artists invited by the NPR staff.

In the last four years, "Tiny Desk" has also developed a competition where anyone in the nation can submit a video of themselves performing original music behind a desk. One winner is selected each year by judges such as NPR's "All Songs Con-

sidered" staff, and musicians like Dan Auerbach of The Black Keys.

A recent release of NPR's "Tiny Desk Concerts" featured JAMILA WOODS as an independent artist, although she is better known for her collaborations on such tracks as Chance the Rapper's "Blessings," or Macklemore and Ryan Lewis' "White Privilege II." "Blessings" was the last song on Chance's album "Coloring Book," and Woods sang the final lines of "White Privilege II." Hearing her voice for just a moment, it's abundantly clear why Woods was given the last word on both of these collaborative occasions.

Woods delivers powerful lyrics in a bell-like voice with a groove that suggests the intersection of experimental jazz with rhythm and blues. Her vocals blend strength with tenderness, and passion with the laid-back attitude that she's not trying too hard to impress you.

Woods and the band accompanying her create a sound that feels collected and spacious. Woods carries brave messages about the daily injustices people of color face, but does so at the tempered pace of the

driving drum beat, and at the leisure of electric guitar interludes.

A second voice weaves in to harmonize and echo hers in some lines. To Woods' declaration, "Look at what they did to my sister," a second voice answers, "last century, last week."

Both strong and understated, the musical accompaniment creates a circularity that allows the lyrics to build as the refrain stays steady, and makes room for scating and improv. The music moves through all the performers' bodies with cool ease.

Behind the tiny desk, Woods conjures a collective of powerful black women through her lyrics, shouting out Rosa Parks, Ella Baker, Audre Lorde, Angela Davis and Sojourner Truth. The second song in Woods' set was inspired by Nikki Giovanni's poem "Ego Tripping."

Woods refuses to let the truth's brutality sharpen her tone or steal the delicate beauty of her music. She wants those who hear her music to experience catharsis — to "Continue into their day or into their path with renewed energy and a renewed sense of self," as she shared in an interview with NPR. "Through this writing,

that's what I hope to manifest in myself."

She creates music that both embodies and speaks self love. Her song "Holy" alludes to scripture to deliver these messages. Lyrics like, "Though I walk through the darkest valley I will fear no love," rather than "evil," and, "Woke up this morning with my mind set on loving me," rather than "you," disrupt your expectation of what is to come, substituting unexpected turns towards self affirmation.

She's interested in speaking truths, and then focusing on progress. Born and raised in Chicago, she conceptualizes "staying as an act of resistance." She won't let it be reduced to the space that is "talked down upon in the media." Confronting all the forms of "violence enacted on [her] community," Woods asks, "How can love be made possible in that environment?" and her concept of love encompasses self love and "love of where you come from."

sfullert@willamette.edu



Immigrant rights How the NWDCR fights to

CONTINUED from Page 1

Detention centers do not function as ordinary prisons. They are facilities that detain immigrants from various different countries as they wait endlessly for their court hearing. For-profit corporations run these detention centers on behalf of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), a federal government agency. ICE arrests immigrants and sends them to these detention centers for them to wait for their hearings. Oftentimes, GEO group ensures that the detainees wait for years until they get a hearing.

These policies date back to the Obama era. In fact, deportations saw a rapid increase during the Obama administration. Since Trump's election, immigration arrests have only continued to increase. ICE has even asked for \$2.7 billion budget to expand detention capacity by 25 percent. Taxpayer dollars go into the pockets of for-profit contractors since ICE relies on them to maintain and run the detention centers. During the Obama and Trump administration, Congress has mandated that these detention centers need to be filled.

When ICE arrests immigrants, they are not subject to the same protections as being arrested by the police. ICE can lie to immigrants since they have no right to a lawyer or a language interpreter. They have no right to a phone call to notify families, so families may

never know if their relatives have been detained.

The NWDC is one of the worst immigration detention centers in the USA. Detainees maintain the detention center by doing the cooking, cleaning, and laundry for \$1 per day, far below minimum wage. Detainees report that they are served inedible food that is undercooked or rotten. The detainees are compelled to buy food from the commissary even though it is unaffordable. Flour tortillas cost \$2, or two days of working. Hygiene products must also be bought from the commissary, even though products like shampoo costs \$8, or eight full days of working. Families are not allowed to bring any food or hygiene products for their loved ones. Even phone calls to families are often too costly for detainees. Families frequently try to visit only to be harassed by the guards. According to immigrant rights activists, scheduled visits can be denied arbitrarily.

At the People's Tribunal, a family had been waiting to see their relative yet they repeatedly denied entry. They joined the Tribunal once they were

turned away and told WU Causa members their story.

"The family [we met] showed me another way of how inhumane the detention center is and how bureaucratic the process is...they couldn't see their family just because they narrowly missed their appointment time...I can't think of a lot of people who would be so nice and upbeat [to us] if they couldn't visit their family," said Ryan Ichinaga, a member of WU Causa and ACE.

GEO group enforces a divide and rule policy in order to prevent any notions of solidarity amongst the detainees. They put various housing groups, or pods, in competition with one another. The pod with the cleanest cell would be given two pieces of chicken once a week.

The detainees are confined indoors for 23 hours per day, and are allowed only one hour of recreational time in a small yard at obscure times that they are likely to miss.

They are hindered from going to court hearings because the Detention Center ensures that they legal the paperwork is difficult for detainees. Detainees who have limited understanding of their rights and the court processes, due to language barriers or other factors, are not allowed to seek proper legal counsel. Even if they are able to fill out the paperwork, GEO group may ensure that detainees miss their court hearing by delaying transportation means. Detainees could wait for years before they get a court date or attend a hearing for their case.

Testimonies from the detainees and reports from the NWDCR claim that they are also denied access to prescribed medications, treatments, or mental health care.

Reports from the Northwest Detention Center Resistance indicate that some detainees are put in solitary confinement indefinitely when they protest conditions. Families may not know about transfers since GEO group is not legally obliged to notify them.

Activists argue that these human rights violations are purposefully coordinated and systematic. They argue that GEO group and ICE maintain such living conditions in order to psychologically debilitate detainees into giving up on their cases so that they continue to work in the center.

Description of Resistance

On March 7, 2014, 1,200 detainees went on a hunger strike. They took turns if they couldn't maintain the strike for the whole time, but many were able to. A week later, the detainees in the Joe Corley De-

tention Center in Texas also went on strike in solidarity with the NWDC detainees to demonstrate that the human rights abuses of GEO group are happening all over the nation. The strikers demanded nutritious food, lower prices in the commissary store and higher wages for their work. They also called for an end to immigration detention and asked to be released until their cases were heard.

According to the Hunger Strikes Handbook, a scholar-activist project that documented the protest organized by Professor Megan Ybarra and NWDCR, the strikes caught the attention of activists throughout the USA and the world. Reporters from Mexico, England and Japan shared news about the hunger strikes and immigration detention in the US. Activists also showed solidarity with the detainees by reading letters written by detainees or having live phone calls with organizers on the inside. Soon after, activists in over eighty cities nationwide called for an end to all deportations. The Obama administration, unfortunately, was not responsive to these demands.

Many of the detainees on strike were placed in solitary confinement or had family visits shortened or banned. Some were even coerced into signing deportation forms, while asylum seekers were threatened with a denial of cases. They threatened to place a tube down their throats and force-feed them. GEO group also transferred many leaders of the hunger strikes to a detention center in Dalles, Oregon.

The hunger strikes ended on May 1, lasting for 56 days. While some strikers were reunited with families and GEO group stopped force-feeding, others were deported or transferred. Hunger strikes have been occurring periodically since 2014. On Feb. 7, 2018, 120 detainees began hunger strikes once again.

As the hunger strikes and other means of protest continue on the inside, the NWDCR tries to spread awareness of their plight, including through the annual People's Tribunal.

The People's Tribunal is starkly different from other rallies or protests. According to the NWDCR's statement, "People's Tribunals have a long history of being used anytime legal or political systems do not provide adequate remedy for harm in cases of abuse or injustice."

The nature of the People's Tribunal was one that refused to work within the confines of an oppressive system; rather, they work towards radically changing the status



are human rights eradicate detention centers

quo. Many members of ACE and WU Causa noted that the activists insisted that “if you are not here to change things, then please leave. If you are here for yourself, then please leave.”

The People’s Tribunal is a part of the #ICEonTrial campaign with Detention Watch Network and the NWDCR. They conducted a public trial against ICE and GEO group’s retaliation against activists and detainees. The symbolic purpose of this is to ground ideas about justice on their terms. “Instead of putting immigrants on trial, the People’s Tribunal turns the spotlight on ICE and GEO,” said Professor Jonneke Koomen. The NWDCR chose four activists who work on behalf of organizations that advocate for climate justice, anti-colonialism, and anti-racism. Each of the activists has visited the center and listened to testimonies of detainees. Under the theme of labor rights, the judges read the testimonies of the detainees and reflected on the overall implications of the detention center on immigrant lives.

The Tribunal found ICE, CBP, and all immigrant detention centers guilty of extensive human rights violations, including organized slavery, abuse and trauma towards generations of immigrant communities, and environmental racism on land that rightfully belongs to indigenous communities, specifically the Payullup nation. The Tribunal called for all immigration detention centers to be shut down, along with clear and transparent records of the abuses that happen in the detention center. The verdict called for the release of all detained people and reparations in the form of medical care and compensation for lost wages. On a larger scale, they demanded ICE and other militarized entities that terrorize people of color to be dismantled. They asked for an end to the persecution of immigrants and their families. Finally, they asked for the land to be returned to indigenous peoples.

The activists and protesters at the Tribunal came from a variety of organizations and backgrounds. People from the Detention Watch Network, the Red Line Salish Sea, BAYAN USA Pacific Northwest, NAACP, Ending the Prison Industrial Complex (EPIC) and Got Green. Some were families of the detainees who wanted to show solidarity. Some were from an organization of Filipino immigrants that advocates for LGBTQ, immigrant and workers rights. Some organizations fight for climate justice, while others fight for indigenous rights in solidarity with the Sioux Tribe at Standing

Rock. Some activists were from a church that gives warm clothes, food and a ride home to released detainees.

The NWDCR and its allies are resolved and uncompromising in their fight for the dignity and respect of all human beings. According to their website, they “reject the paradigm that classifies immigrants as either ‘hardworking’ or ‘criminal,’ ‘worthy’ or ‘unworthy.’ Words like these seek to further divide our communities between people whose lives are considered disposable and people whose lives are judged worthy of protecting.” They view the struggle for immigrant rights as interlinked to environmental, indigenous, LGBTQ, women, and workers rights.

Where to go from here?

Currently, there are legal means by which others are trying to take down GEO group and ICE. Bob Ferguson, the Attorney General of Washington, announced a lawsuit about a year ago over minimum wage laws. Even though correctional facilities fall under the 13th amendment loophole and minimum wage laws, he claims the NWDCR a private facility, not a correctional facility, since it is a place where detainees are waiting for their court hearings.

On Feb. 23, 2018, the ACLU of Washington filed a suit to uphold the free speech rights of hunger striker Jesus Chavez Flores, who was put in indefinite solitary confinement and suffered physical abuse at the hands of detention center guards due to his protest.

Evidently, the legal battle towards better treatment of detainees is difficult. However, the ultimate goal of the NWDCR is to shut down all detention centers.

Message to WU

Our experience with the Northwest Detention Center Resistance has highlighted to us a groundbreaking way of doing activism at Willamette. While people often have good intentions, they may occasionally treat immigrants as a hobby or a field of interest. The NWDCR has shown a form of activism that treats immigrants as individuals with the agency to lead movements. Therefore, we should work towards creating a culture of activism that respects immigrants’ right to lead their movements.

MARIA DEL ROCIO ORTIZ CHAVARRIA



A judge at the People’s Tribunal said, “Our livelihood keeps them detained... Their blood is on our hands. Their families’ blood is on our hands.” Since daily life involves engagement with an oppressive system that seeks to dehumanize immigrant commu-

nities, we all have an obligation towards immigrant lives. WU Causa urges people to regard immigrants first and foremost as people we have a duty to, not as pastimes.

WU Causa encourages activism that moves beyond attending rallies and protests. We advocate for an activism that also includes a self-reflection of how one’s daily life affects various communities. This is a type of activism that goes beyond performative actions or scholarly discourse.

Furthermore, we condemn any activism that sees fighting for immigrant rights is as a form of a gift or a charity case from a savior. We condemn the use of activism as a resume builder or a way to appease white guilt. The consequence of such an attitude is the further suppression of immigrant voices and disrespect to revolutionary movements. The hunger strikes and the NWDCR demonstrate that immigrant rights progress only when immigrants take the center stage of the movement. Therefore, we urge people to engage in activism that promotes humility and respect to the lives that are impacted.

WU Causa seeks to follow the intersectional and global mission of the NWDCR. We regard immigrant rights movements as interconnected with indigenous rights, LGBTQ rights, and workers rights. Furthermore, we believe in activism that humanizes people by trusting them to lead their own movements. As a leader of the Northwest Detention Center Resistance said, “Our strategy is simple. Just follow the leadership of those inside. They are the experts...They know better than anybody how to shut down that place. It’s...up to us how to support their leadership.” As a campus, we need to do this better.

Acknowledgements

WU Causa would like to thank Professor Jonneke Koomen for informing us about the People’s Tribunal and the Asian Coalition for Equality for supporting immigrant rights. We would also like to thank Professor Megan Ybarra, Associate Professor at the University of Washington (and formerly of WU), and the Hunger Strikes Handbook for providing information on the NWDC. Finally, we thank the NWDCR for a humbling experience.

amannava@willamette.edu



PROFESSOR KOOMEN



MARIA DEL ROCIO ORTIZ CHAVARRIA



Willamette Softball team opens NWC play

CARRIE FOX
STAFF WRITER

The Bearcats kicked off NWC action with a doubleheader against Pacific University this past weekend. Willamette University held a lead in each game, but Pacific rallied to defeat the Bearcats 10-9 and 5-4. The teams were scheduled to complete the four-game series with another doubleheader at the WU Softball Field on Sunday, Feb. 25, but the Sunday games were rained out.

Sophomore Jocelyn Glasgo went three for three in the first game and finished the day four of six with three runs and two walks. In the opener, she hit a triple, scored twice and drove in four runs. Glasgo pitched all seven innings of the second game and took the loss. She allowed seven hits and five runs, but only three runs were earned. She registered four strikeouts and allowed no walks, while throwing 97 pitches with 72 strikes.

The Bearcats started the game with a 6-1 lead after scoring one run in the first inning and five runs in the second. Junior Emily Bishop singled up the middle to start off the first inning. She went to second when freshman Bailey Hillmick reached base on catcher's interference, and Bishop later scored on a single by Glasgo.

Pacific scored one run at the top of the second. With two outs and runners at first and second in the bottom of the inning, Glasgo hit an RBI single to right, scoring Bishop and moving Hillmick to third. Glasgo was able to make it to second on the throw home.

After sophomore Vanessa Almaraz walked to load the bases, sophomore Maya Shipway sent a two-run single through the right side. Sophomore Kea Gier followed with an RBI single to center, and Shipway eventually scored on a bases-loaded walk by freshman Danielle Koontz.

The Boxers pulled within 6-5 by scoring four times in the third in-



Left: Shipway tosses the ball to first year Danielle Koontz. Right: Glasgo looks on as she scores.

ning, and gained the lead in the top of the fourth giving the Boxers a 7-6 advantage.

Three runs by the Boxers in the sixth inning increased their lead to 10-6. Willamette rallied in the bottom of the seventh, but finished one run short of tying the game. With one out and freshman Kaitlin Manker at first, Hillmick singled to center. Glasgo belted a triple to left field to push Manker and Hillmick across the plate. Almaraz walked. On a double-steal, Glasgo scored and Almaraz went to second, as WU pulled within 10-9. Shipway batted next and walked, but a fly out and a strikeout ended the threat.

Glasgo's three hits led the Bearcats in the opener and Bishop went two of five with two runs, however the Boxers took the first game 10-9.

In the second game, the Bearcats again fell short 5-4. Willamette trailed 1-0 after Pacific scored in the first inning, but the Bearcats were able to score four runs in the third. Glasgo hit an RBI single down the right field line, and Almaraz drove in a run with an infield single toward third. Shipway brought in the third run with a double to left field, and Almaraz was able to score the fourth run on a ground out by Magnani.

"I think we are a very talented, but very young team this year and

that showed this weekend." Shipway said. "We started off with the lead in both games and offensively were very successful. Our defense struggled, but I think that will clear up with more work together when we get the chance to build our team chemistry. Overall I am beyond excited for the rest of this season, this team is capable of amazing things we just need to seize the opportunities we have."

"I think the conference opener against Pacific was a great way to start off our season. The games didn't end the way we wanted them to but we learned a lot about ourselves as a team this weekend. I feel that these

two games were a good starting point for our team to capitalize on and we have a lot of potential for the rest of the season we just need to implement the skills we've been practicing. I love our team chemistry this year and it's easy to have fun with my team on and off the diamond. We may be small but we have a lot of talent. I'm happy with my performance this weekend considering it was our conference opener but I know I too have things to improve on and am excited for the direction our team is going," said Glasgo.

cfox@willamette.edu

Women's Basketball had a historic season

DANI SAUNDERS
STAFF WRITER

The 2017-2018 season has been monumental for the women's basketball team. Not only did they defeat a team that is nationally ranked at #13 in the top 25 Division III women's basketball polls, they also competed for the Northwest Conference championship against George Fox University. Amongst these accomplishments, there were two players who received all Northwest Conference honors. Junior guard Britanny Kochenderfer received Second-Team All-Conference honors by scoring in double digits in multiple games in the 2017-2018 and senior guard Kylie Towry received First-Team All-Conference honors by leading the Northwest Conference in three-point baskets made and averaging around 17 points a game. The women's basketball coach, Peg Swadener, was voted Northwest Conference Women's Basketball Coach of the Year as well.

On Thursday, February 22nd, the Bearcat women's basketball team took on Whitman College in a semi-final game within the Northwest Conference tournament. Prior to this, the women's basketball team has not played in the conference tournament since 2001. The Bearcats held a

steady lead throughout the game, and as time was winding down, the score was 50-44. When there was less than three minutes left in the game, Whitman began to answer back to the points that Willamette had thrown up earlier in the game. After a couple free-throws, a turnover on the part of Willamette and a few for baskets made, the lead was reversed and Whitman lead Willamette 52-50. Sophomore Drew Farmer of Willamette answered back with a jumper to make the score tied and then senior Ashley Evans hit a three-point shot with 16 seconds left to secure the win for the Bearcats. This win on the 22nd placed Willamette into the conference championship.

This last Saturday, the 24th, the women's team took on George Fox University in the championship game. The women's team has not had a winning season since the last time they made it to the conference tournament, which again was back in 2001. Towry also broke the Willamette scoring record to top off her senior season, scoring 1,433 points.

The first half of the game pointed towards an easy Bruins win, but the second half of the game is when it got interesting. The first half ended with a score of 31-15; but, after a couple minutes into

the third quarter, the lead was cut down by Willamette 37-25. After this point, the score was flip-flopping back and forth between the Bruins and the Bearcats. At one point, the Bruins had a 16-point run, but the Bearcats always seemed to answer back. At the end of the third quarter, the score was 46-35. Towry scored a three-point shot to kick-off the fourth quarter of the game. After the scoring bounced back and forth, the score became 49-46 with five minutes remaining. Scoring again was a toss up as both teams were fighting as hard as they could. Towry and Kochenderfer were the ones scoring for the Bearcats with less than five minutes left in the game. The score became 52-50 with a tight Bruin lead, but within the last two minutes of the game they managed to score eight more points and defeat the Bearcats.

Needless to say, the women's basketball team battled hard this season and made some history. It was a long season with ups and downs, but that just means that next year's season is set up for even better success. Nice job women's basketball, and congratulations on a historical season!

dsaunders@willamette.edu



Senior Guard Kylie Towry ends her career as the leading scorer.

Norway wins Pyeongchang Winter Olympics

JARIN KOBASHIGAWA
 STAFF WRITER

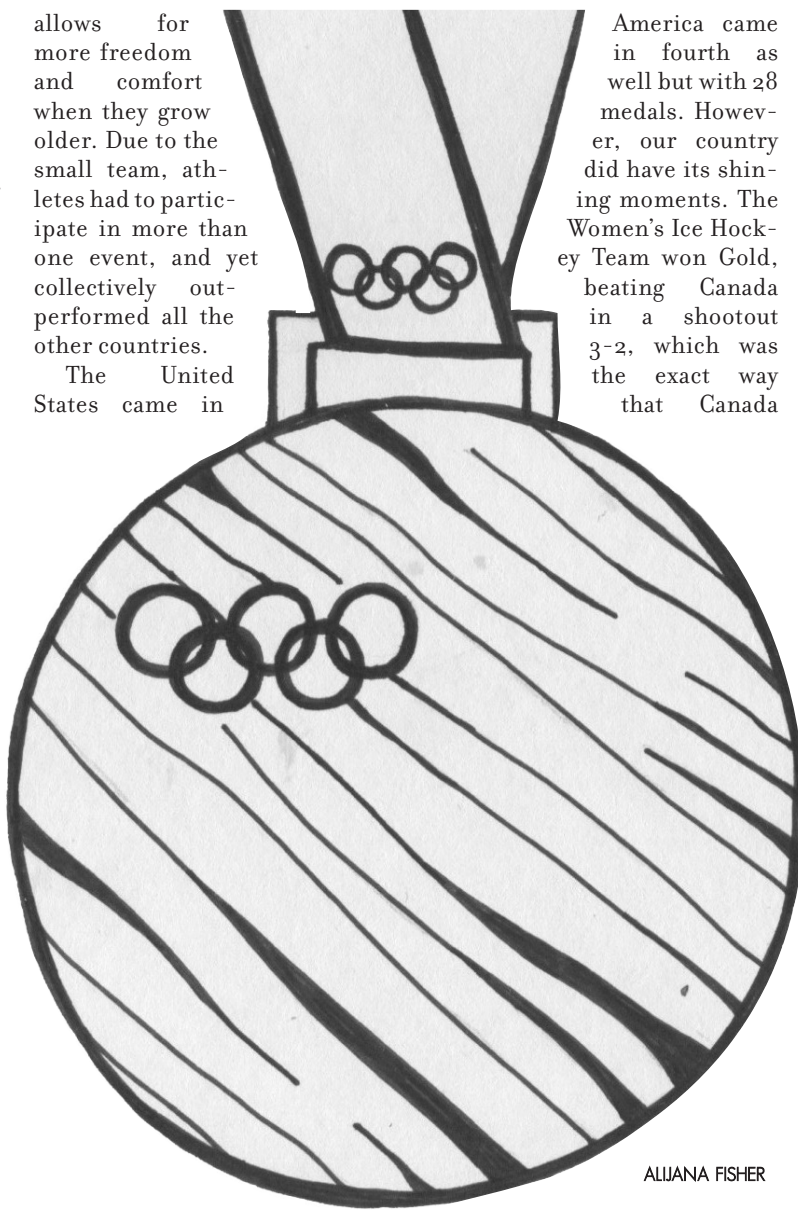
On Sunday, Feb. 25, the Winter Olympics came to a close and the torch was extinguished. The closing ceremony consisted of a performance by Martin Garrix, multiple K-pop groups and Lindsey Vonn. In the end, after the intense competitions, Norway proved to be the most dominant country in winter sports.

The final medal count for Norway was 39 with 14 medals in Gold and Silver, and 11 medals in Bronze. Previously in the 2014 Vancouver Winter Olympics, Norway won second place with 26 medals, three medals behind Russia. Norway won medals in alpine skiing, biathlon, curling, freestyle skiing, ski jumping and speed skating and nearly placed in every category of cross-country skiing. Additionally, Norway broke the record for most medals received by a single country, which was previously held by the United States (37 Medals) in the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

What is more impressive about Norway's performance is that only 109 athletes participated for Norway while the United States had a team of 242 athletes. Norway prides itself on humble athletes who have a very different upbringing compared to American athletes. In Norway, children will not receive medals or huge cash rewards for participating in contests. Also coaches and trainers will not regulate weight and meal plans of athletes, which

allows for more freedom and comfort when they grow older. Due to the small team, athletes had to participate in more than one event, and yet collectively outperformed all the other countries.

The United States came in



ALIJANA FISHER

America came in fourth as well but with 28 medals. However, our country did have its shining moments. The Women's Ice Hockey Team won Gold, beating Canada in a shootout 3-2, which was the exact way that Canada

exciting finish by only 0.72 seconds. The U.S. also dominated the Snowboarding Halfpipe for Men and Women. Shaun White had one of the most impressive runs on the Half-Pipe in all of Winter Olympic history, scoring a 97.75 and beating Japan's Ayumu Hirano's 95.25. Chloe Kim, a 17-year-old, from Long Beach, California took Gold for the half-pipe with a score of 93.75, beating China's Liu Jiayu who scored an 85.50. Team USA also won Gold in the Slopestyle for men and women. Jaime Anderson took first for the Women's Team with a score of 83.00, beating Canada's Laurie Blouin who scored a 76.33. Redmond Gerard won for the men's team and scored 87.16 to edge out Canada's Max Parrot who scored an 86.00. In Women's Alpine Skiing, Mikaela Shiffin got the Gold for Giant Slalom and silver for Alpine Combined Women. Lastly, David Wise, who is a two-time gold medalist in the freestyle skiing, won gold once again with a score of 97.20, beating Alex Ferreira who is also an American skier who had a score of 96.40.

The next Olympic event will be the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics. In this Olympics, the International Olympic Committee has allowed Baseball/Softball, Karate, Skateboarding, Sports Climbing and Surfing to be added.

jtkobashigawa@willamette.edu

fourth overall in the medal count, approximately 16 medals behind Norway. Compared to the 2014 Vancouver Winter Olympics,

beat the U.S. in the 2014 Winter Olympics. Team USA also placed Gold for Women's Sprint Cross-Country Skiing, beating Sweden's team in an

IM weekly

DRU DRAPER
 STAFF WRITER

Olympic Update:

As the Winter Games came to a close with the closing ceremonies this last Sunday. We are reminded of the power of athletics and sports. For three weeks, the world comes together to unify around sports. We don't have to speak the same language, be from the same culture or have anything else in common. The ability for humanity to unite around a single activity every two years is one of humanity's greatest accomplishments. Not only is it entertainment for us, but helps us focus on our common humanity, one that desires to work hard and compete.

The United States came in fourth place in the medal count with 23 medals, behind Canada (29), Germany (31) and Norway (39). Our Ice Curling team brought home the gold on Saturday against Sweden, and yes... The Simpsons predicted this too.

Back to the regularly scheduled programming...


Intramural Basketball is wrapping up with the season this week as playoffs finish up with week.

On Monday, Sigma Apple Pi and Smokin' Trees & Scoring 3's advanced in the Coed Beginner league and will be squaring off on Wednesday for that coveted championship t-shirt.

Badminton is up and running this week now also! If you have some extra time on your hands, come down to Henkle in the evenings. It is a very fun sport to watch, if you have never done so!

dcdraiper@willamette.edu

this week in sports

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
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AARON ODA
 STAFF WRITER

This week in sports we are covering everything from Golf to the FBI to references to the Kardashians. Let's take a look at This Week in Sports.

NBA

If you like the drama shows like Keeping up with the Kim Kardashians and Abby Lee's Dance Company, you should start paying attention to the NBA. First, starting with the most glaring situation in the league involving the San Antonio Spurs. This drama starts with their superstar forward Kawhi Leonard and his unwillingness to return to the team because of a supposed injury. Head coach Gregg Popovich commented that he would be surprised if Leonard

returned this season, but there also have been rumors that he has been cleared to play but is just away taking time from the team.

Beyond this, there has been drama between a news host on Fox and LeBron James for her comment telling him to just shut up and dribble his ball. This has obviously only provoked him to speak out more and has lit a fire she surely didn't anticipate.

NCAAB

One of the most interesting stories in sports right now has to be in the scandals found in college basketball. With the FBI getting involved in some investigations against more than 20 nationally recognized teams like Arizona, Duke and North Carolina. Just know the mess and corruption in college basketball has just begun.

But of course the madness must roll on to March. A game worth mentioning is number five Duke losing to unranked Virginia Tech by a score of 64-63. Put Virginia Tech on your watch list come bracket season because this team is the second in history to beat a top 10 ranked Duke, Virginia and North Carolina in the same season.

Golf

This week was special for me because we saw Tiger Woods wearing his red shirt on a Sunday in a tournament. Going into Sunday Tiger found himself within the top 10 and was at one point only five shots off the lead. He looked a lot better than the man who had missed the cut and didn't play any golf the weekend before, so watch out for him in the Masters in April.

Count me as on the bandwagon and mark my words: Tiger may be able to pull some magic and finish his career on the high note.

Olympics

The Winter Olympics is finally wrapping up after entertaining us for the last two weeks. The United States ended the games with 23 medals and nine golds. I was able to watch three of them and they were certainly special. Shaun White's Gold medal in the snowboard halfpipe redeemed him after the 2014 games in Sochi. The women's snowboard halfpipe also went to an American named Chloe Kim. I can say this one is special for me because she is not only an American, but an Asian American who was able to win a Gold medal in her family's home country of Korea.

The American men's curling team was also able to come home with a gold medal. This was a first appearance in the gold medal game for the American team and they were able to come through with the win by a score of 10-7, upsetting the power house that is Sweden. A fun fact about the American men's curling is that the RAM restaurant, which has a location right across the street, is a proud sponsor of the team. So let's raise a pint to the Gold medal winning men's curling team. Until next week, K DEN!

Ohh brah have you ever noticed quote of the week

"When you have a fight with your conscience and lose, you win." —Joe Moore

aoda@willamette.edu

Give your money to women

QUINLYN MANFULL
 STAFF WRITER

My Tinder got banned a couple months ago because I had my Venmo in my bio. Tinder is super against sex work and that's a terrible thing in and of itself, especially because I was not soliciting any sort of sexual act for money. I literally just wanted men to pay me.

There are numerous historical reasons for men to hand over their wallet to women — the capital obtained by their ancestors was unjustly acquired and stolen from women. Men have erased women from historical accomplishments, subjugated women to domestic servitude, have blocked women from entering the bastions of power and opportunity afforded to their ancestors, such as educational institutions. Today still, women make up the majority of unpaid labor globally — even before you account for labor that we do not even consider labor: emotional, reproductive and sexual.

Men are taught that they have a birthright to the attention of women. It is a radical act of resistance to ignore a man, to refuse them attention — resistance that far too often leaves women dead. The proper reaction to male entitlement of women's attention is to act even more radical and demand remuneration.

In the late-capitalist hellscape that we have found ourselves in, value is determined by the payment made on something. A couple steps removed from full redistribution of wealth is the interpersonal transfer of wealth from men to women.

#GiveYourMoneyToWomen began surfacing back in 2015, started by Lauren Chief Elk as a way to access capital that has been unjustly robbed.

Not only does handing over your credit cards to women begin to balance out gender-based income inequality that has existed since the beginning of time, but it also acts as payment for the years of unpaid labor that women undergo to support the men in their lives. From unpaid reproductive labor, to unpaid household labor and unpaid emotional labor, women are expected to give themselves to men 24 hours a day and then split the check.

I hear a particular critique of #GYMTW all the time from so-called feminists, that feminists should want to make their own money, that asking men for money is moving back to a time in which women could not make money. I think this level of Lean In feminism is annoying at best, and an entrenchment of corporate patriarchy at its worst.

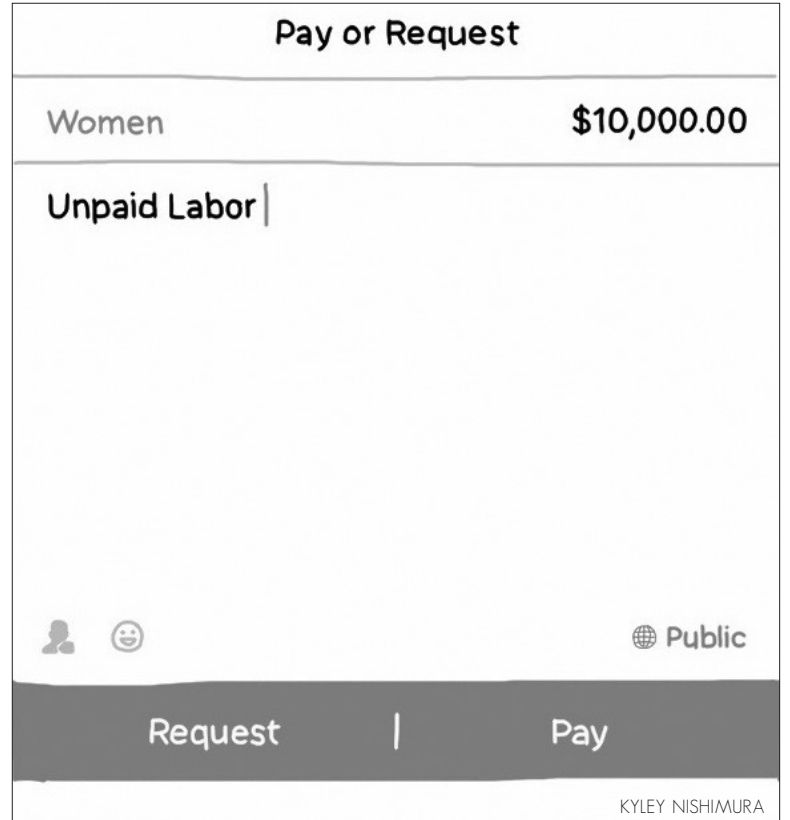
Structures are set up not only to economically disenfranchise women; to not allow women to access

the fruits of their labor, but also to not even value most labor done by women. When we do not value emotional, reproductive and sexual labor done by vastly women, we see the devaluation of the care sector and a continued pay gap that has been built on hundreds of years of plunder, isolation and of exclusion.

Emotional labor is the act of women providing unpaid therapy to men, putting on a perky face for what often is a lesson on why women are people, calling men into conversations in order to politely tell them they are perpetuating toxic masculinity and rape culture. Emotional labor is expected of all women, at all times.

Men are so oblivious to the amount of emotional labor they require from women — and women often rationalize their emotional labor for men as just being nice. It's far more than that. From birth men are told they are special, parents support them speaking their mind, telling them to grow and try and succeed, to grab opportunities and run with them. When they do not understand something or when something is hard, they often require the hand holding of women around them.

On campus, Give Your Money to Women looks like paying the women in your life who help you, who make your life easier. Venmo the girl who always answers your questions in



class, bring coffee to that friend of yours who is constantly explaining social dynamics to you and slide a couple bucks to the girl you constantly interrupt in your Intro to Sociology.

When you look around, take a step back, and understand your role in a system of patriarchy, that

exploits you and profits off of your body and your labor, it is about time you demand compensation.

Venmo: @quinlynmanfull
 qimanful@willamette.edu

The sun never sets on Xi Jinping



WILLIAM GUPTON
 OPINIONS EDITOR

Late last week, Chinese President Xi Jinping was given a decision made by his own party that solidifies

his role as the most powerful man in the world. The Communist Party in China has moved to remove language in their constitution limiting presidents to two five-year terms. President Xi, with only one year left

in his first term, is moving to become the world's newest autocrat.

This news was not surprising to me, I have been watching China's political development for the past year. There have been three major power plays that have stood out to me among this, each of which is all too reminiscent of a past dominated by imperial rule.

First, China has been very quietly asserting imperial influence in the developing world, participating in a shadow imperialism that has been giving China a major role in the future of these nations. The centerpiece of this shadow imperialism is the so called Belt and Road initiative, a Chinese-led infrastructure plan in Africa and western Asia in the total sum of \$60 billion dollars. To many, this plan sounds like an instance of Chinese leadership and support for the world, but as Pakistan discovered, this is not an equal partnership. Shortly after the plan was laid out, three major projects in Pakistan were halted by China without the say of Pakistani leaders, pending "new guidelines" according to a local paper.

Chinese's absolute decision making in this project has stoked fears amongst many about the power it gives China in nations where developments are taking place. According to Ian Bremmer, president of the Eurasia Group, because of the way these projects are unilaterally controlled by China, there is a significant fear that nations which fall out of political favor with Xi Jinping could suffer severe economic punishments. As a result, China's seeming benevolent economic investment becomes a powerful political weapon for asserting international power.

Second, the Chinese Communist Party, which is dominated by loyalists of Xi, recently moved to enshrine "Xi Jinping thought" in the party constitution. When this is officially instituted, it will mean that President Xi's political philosophy will be permanently contained within the communist party. This is a move that puts him on a similar level to Communist legend Mao Zedong, demonstrating a desire in Xi to place himself in an authoritarian position of central power.

This, combined with a massive propaganda machine that is working to make Xi nearly divine amongst his people, is leading to a cult of personality growing around the Chinese president. As China is bullying buddhists in Tibet, demolishing mega churches with dynamite and asserting military power in the South China sea, Xi is constantly portrayed as a charismatic fatherly figure instead of a militaristic authoritarian ruler. Because of the cult of Xi, the Chinese president can get away with dangerous policies and international bullying while still being painted as a benevolent lover of peace amongst the Chinese people.

The third action in this set is this recent news that Xi is pushing to remove constitutional term limits on his reign as president. President Xi is not even at the end of his first term, and yet he is already moving to ensure that he will have more than one left after this. Rather than wait until the end of his second term to cling to power (see further Vladimir Putin's extension of his rule), Xi is capitalizing on his political momentum and growing influence to prevent himself from facing domestic limits. If these term limits are completely removed, Xi will no longer have to worry about losing

power domestically and can instead focus on solidifying his international dominance. Make no mistake, Xi Jinping intends on making himself the most powerful man on the planet.

All of these actions remind me too much of imperial rule in Europe anytime between the fifteen to nineteenth centuries. For comparison, the British Empire was spearheaded by a central authoritarian figure acting with extreme amounts of power with the minor limits of some democratic governance in parliament, making economic investment in foreign nations for personal benefit and asserting military influence in foreign nations. All of this was accomplished while the monarch maintained an outsized presence amongst their own people. President Xi is doing nearly the exact same thing, finding a way of reinstating authoritarian power in the modern age, becoming the virtual monarch of his nation.

Xi joins the list of modern leaders pushing the limits of democratic governance to assert individual power. The list now includes: Vladimir Putin in Russia, Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Turkey, Donald Trump in the United States and Xi Jinping in China, and out of these figures it's Xi on top. We are entering a new age where democratic rule is being pushed and challenged, possibly nearing a breaking point, and these figures are only the beginning of these tests. Unless proponents of democratic governments stand up to these leaders, they will continue to solidify power and encourage others to make the same grabs of unrestricted power.

Long live the Xi.

wrgupton@willamette.edu



Syria: out of sight out of mind

CONTINUED from Page 1

It isn't that the war in Syria is the financial responsibility of the West, or even directly the political responsibility. However, when it comes to humanitarian causes, there should be no question of the rest of the world giving aid, security, or at the very least, attention. As Americans, we credit French aid to our eventual winning of the Revolutionary War, and ourselves to the Allies' victory in both world wars. The Syrian conflict may be more confusing—with terrorists, rebels, governmental forces and other nations all playing destructive roles—but the United States can find ways to help without putting troops on the ground or planes in the air. We can take refugees, donate money to aid organizations and keep our own people aware of what is going

on in the rest of the world. We can be present, rather than being detached and letting Syria's own civilians fight to protect themselves.

At the same time, individu-

tions has deployed relatively few Peacekeeping missions in proportion to the towering numbers of humanitarian crises that plague the world, and missions don't usu-

sense that the United Nations has a hard time coming to resolutions and taking actions — imagine a heavily partisan United States Congress but on a global scale and

much (in this case, Russia initially refusing to support the cease-fire) for an action to not be taken, rendering the United Nations effectively useless in situations such as the one in Syria. How can we justify thousands of people dying, millions of children knowing only a life of bloodshed and a warzone described as 'hell on Earth'? How is it not our first instinct to do everything in our power to help?

Maybe we don't have the means to give everything we have and stop the war once and for all. But the least we can do is pay attention, replacing news stories of celebrity gossip with real-life news and maybe eventually gain enough support and resources to give Syria the humanitarian attention it deserves.

“However, when it comes to humanitarian causes, there should be no question of the rest of the world giving aid, security, or at the very least attention.”

al countries shouldn't have to be alone in giving support. In its 73 years of existence, the United Na-

ally begin until after significant amounts of destruction have already occurred. In a way, it makes

with all sorts of nations with differing interests and internal conflicts of their own. It doesn't take

slgoodwinrice@willamette.edu

Russian collusion isn't as simple as it seems

SOPHIE SMITH
 STAFF WRITER

On Feb 16, Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein held a press conference in which he explained the Department of Justice's recent indictments of Russian nationals. The indictments, which charge thirteen Russian individuals and three companies, are a step forward in Robert Mueller's special counsel investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. The accused have been charged with bank and wire fraud, as well as aggravated identity theft.

While this is indeed important news, is it really surprising? Suspicions that Russia interfered with American democracy have existed since last January, when a report was released that said U.S. intelligence has "high confidence" the Kremlin tried "to undermine public faith in the US democratic process." The indictments

are a statement to Russia, letting the country's leaders know the U.S. is aware and disapproving of the meddling, though this holds little weight since Russian nationals cannot be tried in U.S. courts.

Instead, the part of Rosenstein's address I find to be most significant is his statement that there is "no allegation in this indictment that any American had any knowledge" of the Russians' meddling. It's true that investigations like this need to be drawn-out and deliberate — releasing information too early and without substantial factual support could be detrimental to the investigation, not to mention unethical. Perhaps the investigation will eventually reach those at the top of the White House, including Trump himself, and investigators are just unwilling to share their plans just yet.

But it has been over a year since

tigation began, and there have yet to be any developments that prove Trump's administration participated in Russia's meddling. So far, revelations have been spread-out and relatively negligible. There is a handful of guilty members of the Trump campaign and transition team: so far, five people associated with Trump have pleaded guilty to various crimes, most notably Michael Flynn for lying to the FBI about contact with the former Russian ambassador.

Yet, so far there is no evidence that these individuals were working to get Trump elected, but rather just to advance their own self-interests in their involvement with Russia. Right now, Paul Manafort, the former chairman of Trump's campaign, is facing pressure from the Department of Justice for his connections with the former president of Ukraine. Investigators believe Manafort illegally received millions from working as a lobbyist for the Ukrainian pres-

ident's political party. Manafort has allegedly been spending this untaxed income on his lavish lifestyle back in the States.

It certainly appears that characters like Manafort participated in illegal activities with Russia and its affiliates, but their motives seem to be exclusively personal. This network of dark money, no matter how disconcerting it is about the current state of U.S. leadership, does not prove there was an organized operation between Russia and the entire Trump campaign.

My opinion on the matter is perhaps a controversial one: I do not think Donald Trump had anything to do with Russian collusion. He isn't politically savvy enough to have spearheaded — or even to have participated in — such a massive operation, and I find it unlikely he would have left so few tracks that Mueller's investigation has yet to uncover any proof of his involvement.

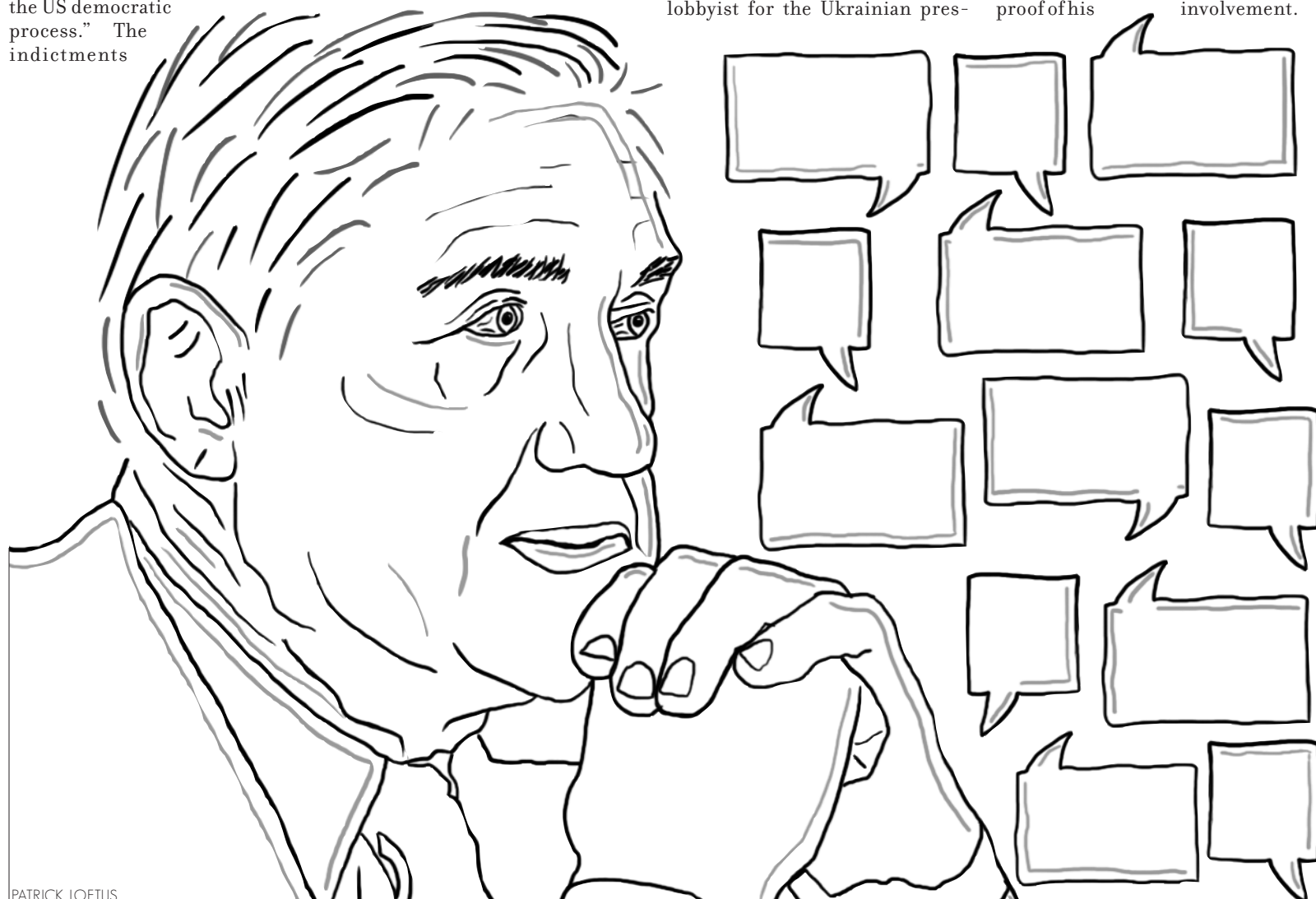
Further evidence that Trump was not directly involved in the Russian meddling can be found by examining the acts of those meddlers. Last week's indictments accuse certain Russians of posing as Americans on social media, posting divisive material and organizing rallies across the country. Many of the social media posts did not mention Donald Trump, instead just sharing points similar to his campaign platforms.

One example, posted by the fake Facebook account "Stop A.I.," included a photo of three women wearing burqas, disturbingly begging viewers to "Like and share if you want burqa banned in America." Other accounts created posts in support of Bernie Sanders and Jill Stein. No evidence has been found that Russians colluded with either campaign.

Several rallies these fake accounts advertised were anti-Trump, like the DC event "Support Hillary, Save American Muslims" and "Charlotte Against Trump" in Virginia. While the Russians likely wanted to help elect Trump, it appears their main goal was to instill disunity among Americans.

Putin wants to assert his political power in the world, and part of doing so means diminishing the sanctity of western democracies. If he can portray countries like the U.S. as disunited and tumultuous, his own country will look stronger by comparison.

Robert Mueller's investigation is indeed gaining ground and it is still possible future developments will find senior members of the Trump administration, perhaps even the president himself, guilty of Russian collusion. But for now it appears this was just a Russian-devised scheme designed to wreak havoc on American democracy. Donald Trump is only a pawn in someone else's game.



PATRICK LOFTUS

slsmith@willamette.edu

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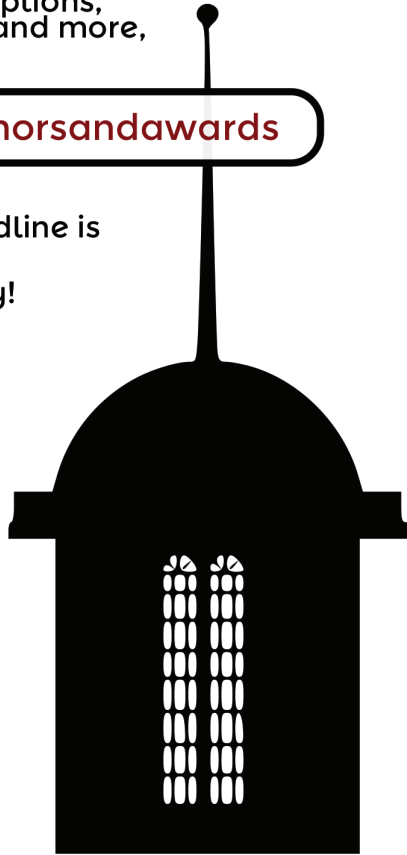
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What are we listening to this week?

"House by the Sea" by Moddi
— Madelyn Jones, Lifestyles Editor

"Expensive Mistakes" by Fall Out Boy
— Caitlin Forbes, Managing Editor

"Ritual" by Wrabel
— William Gupton, Opinions Editor

"Get Off" by Lonzo Ball
— Eric Del Prado, Sports Editor

"In Hell I'll be in Good Company" by The Dead South
— Alana Mockler, Opinions Layout Editor

"You Want it Darker" by Leonard Cohen
— Gianni Marabella, Editor-In-Chief

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