

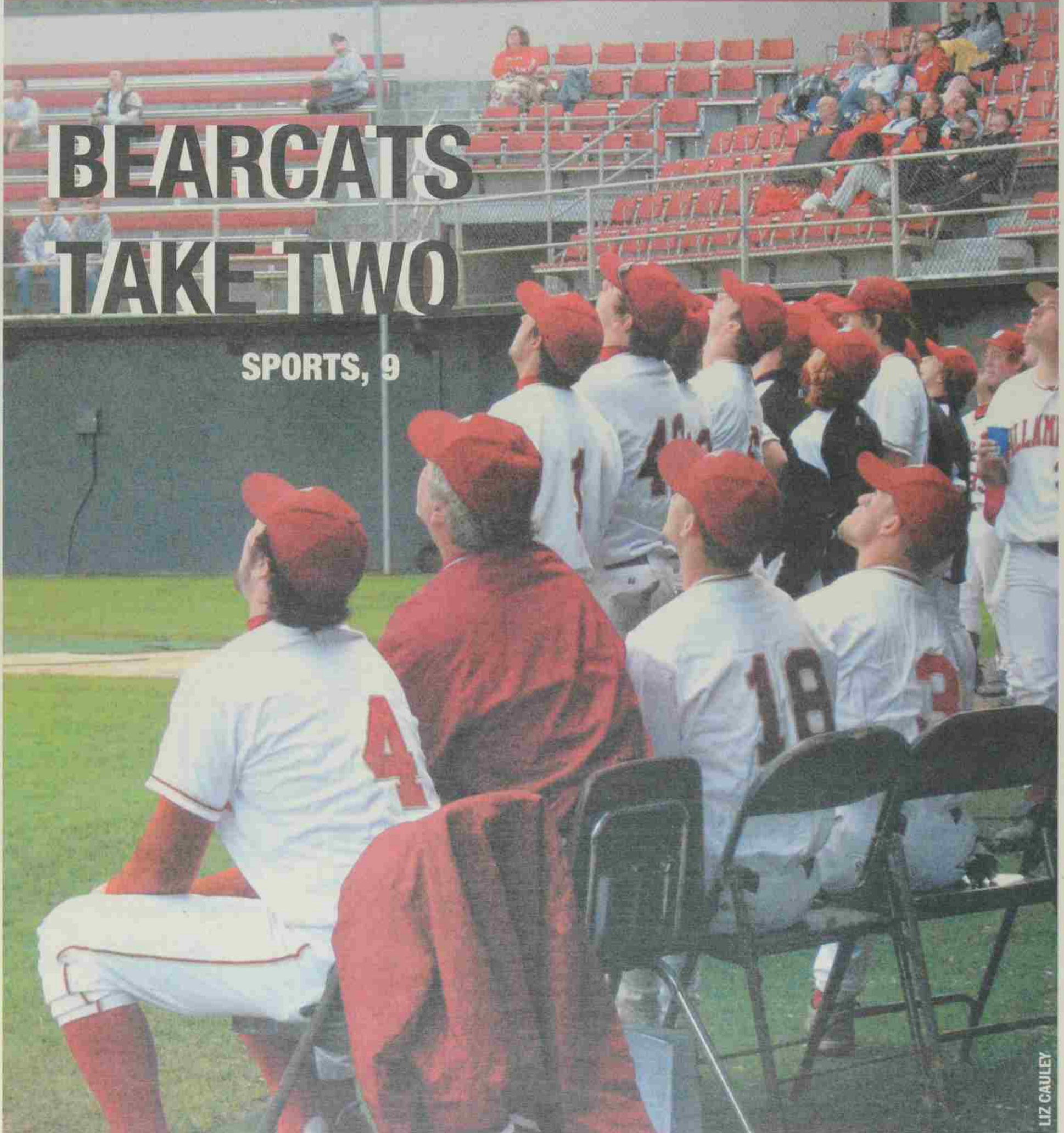
VOLUME CXVII ISSUE XXVII APRIL 25, 2007

# COLLEGIAN

VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889

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# WU safety plans refined in wake of Virginia Tech shooting

TOM BROUNSTEIN  
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In the wake of the Virginia Tech shootings, Willamette students have been getting a flurry of e-mails about new protocols to keep students safe, new plans being enacted and new technology being implemented. These new ideas, along with old ones, are being synthesized into a new plan for emergencies.

Vice President of Administrative Services Jim Bauer said "there are ideas emerging almost hourly" on how to improve Campus Safety's Emergency Operation Plan. Among them is mass notification by e-mail or using new technology to help lockdown a building in case of an emergency. "I'm sure we'll be exploring these ideas and more," Bauer said.

The establishment of a new security system for the doors at Willamette has been mentioned in several e-mails to students. According to Director of Campus Safety Ross Stout, the new system will allow for programmable "threat levels" whereby access to a building can be restricted, making it significantly harder for someone to move between buildings. The new software will be ready for fall semester of next year.

While reactions during the crises are

important, the long-term effects of what happens are also being addressed. "Willamette does a very good job of providing counseling," Associate Vice President of Communications Janis Nichols said. "Talking to people ... is for many people part of their healing," Nichols said. "I think sometimes the best thing you can do is help people share feelings and have a conversation."

"Because of our size and our level of engagement, people get to know each other on a more intimate basis," Nichols said. Virginia Tech has 26,000 students—13 times as many as Willamette.

"We have great students. We have caring and thoughtful staff and faculty who are engaged in the life of our students," Bauer said. "With that type of care and support system in place," an event like Virginia Tech seems less likely to happen.

Both Bauer and Nichols said the shooter at Virginia Tech was a disturbed individual who felt emotionally isolated and ignored.

Bauer did identify a few areas where individuals could better protect the community such as reporting suspicious persons, not propping doors open and preventing strangers from having access to buildings.



COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Mourners line the streets of Virginia Tech's campus after the shooting.

Stout agreed. "Willamette is a safe place, but our continued safety depends on everyone in the community being vigilant and taking the responsibility to make good decisions about their personal safety."

Bauer still felt this was a safe communi-

ty. "Willamette is a wonderful place," Bauer said.

"It is safe enough to me to allow my young daughters the freedom to walk and explore the campus at will and without escort. I would not do this in other areas."

## WU community members have varied reactions to shootings: some stricken, others more detached

ELISE YOUNG  
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Last Monday Virginia Tech University students came face to face with the worst shooting by a single person in U.S. history. Schools across the nation declared their solidarity with and support for Virginia Tech, taking care to reassure their own students and evaluate school safety.

Willamette's administration and staff offered gathering places for students to talk or reflect, including a vigil in Cone Chapel last Wednesday.

The tragedy was all too immediate for some. "I have a friend there," freshman Maureen Eichner said. "It was like this is someone I know who will be impacted for a very long time, so it made it more difficult."

"There are pockets of people who are very emotionally involved," Chaplain Charlie Wallace said. He also noted that faculty seemed more shaken by events, due to connections with Virginia Tech through graduate school and the relatively small world of academic disciplines.

Many students, however, did not seem to be significantly impacted by the shootings. "I'm very disconnected from it," sophomore Crystal Fast said. "It's not in my face here, other than the emails."

One of Fast's professors asked her class how they felt about the shootings and one or two people spoke. "She was appalled at the fact that no one had any feelings on the matter," Fast said. Others noticed student indifference as well. "I do think, in general, a lot of people are burned out on tragedy," Eichner

said.

The issue of student apathy in connection with school shootings has been the subject of much media reporting. "This doesn't feel like an isolated event for [this] generation," Associate Chaplain Karen Wood said, noting that events like these seem very unusual to her generation.

Regardless of intensity of student's reactions, most responded to the tragedy in at least some way. "I think there has been a lot of support and sympathy," Eichner said. Wallace said, however, that when such terrible things occur, the community can lose sight of the bigger picture. "Our vision is all of a sudden captured by this tragedy," Wallace said, "but we can't forget the context."

### ► Virginia Tech tragedy

- Date: April 16, 2007
- Number killed: 28 students, five faculty
- Number injured: 29
- Perpetrator: Seung-Hui Cho, a 23-year-old English major, a permanent U.S. resident from South Korea
- The Press: Virginia Tech's student newspaper, *The Collegiate Times*, became a crucial source of information on the tragedy for national news agencies and has been praised by the media, including NPR. It was the first media outlet to break the news of the shooting.

## House to honor Logan Will



COURTESY OF MATTHEW BOST

Logan Will, named All-American debater, will be honored today on the Oregon House floor.

NOAH ZAVES  
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Today, a bill honoring late senior Logan Will's contributions to debate and politics will come up on the Oregon House floor. Sponsored by State Representatives Brian Clem, Larry Galizio and Ron Maurer, the bill highlights his superior scholarship, passionate political involvement and world-class debate skills.

Will, a politics major from Grants Pass, Oregon, was among six undergraduates from across the United States honored as All-Americans at the 2007 National Parliamentary Debate Association Tournament earlier this month. All-American selections recognize students with strong debate histories, impressive grade point averages, and involvement in extra-cur-

ricular activities and community service.

Will, who died from injuries sustained in a car accident last November, was nominated by the Willamette University Debate Union for the award. Will was a top-ranked national debate competitor and a mentor to many students in the Willamette debate program.

Will is the first Willamette University Debate Union member to be named to the All-American team.

Some content contributed by Elizabeth Humphrey.

### ► Bill information

- Find the text of HCR 12 online at [www.leg.state.or.us/](http://www.leg.state.or.us/)  
Click on "Bills and Laws"

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# Collegian photograph helps nab suspect

*In addition, Campus Safety debuts new, more fuel-efficient patrol vehicle*

WADE COLLINS

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The individual depicted in the "wanted" photos of the April 11 issue of the Collegian came forward and admitted to stealing a student's backpack, according to Director of Campus Safety Ross Stout. The missing items were returned.

According to Stout, the stolen property was returned to its owner, a student, who was very happy to receive the items. "The photo in The Collegian played a very significant role," Stout said. "The person responsible for the theft came into the Campus Safety office and identified himself as the person in the photo."

Stout said that Campus Safety and the Collegian collaborating together would help immensely in bringing in suspects. "A substantial number of people read the Collegian each week," he said. "This is a great resource to publish these types of photos."

In another recent development Campus Safety purchased a new automobile. The vehicle, a 2007 Honda Hybrid, will replace their old patrol car in the hopes of being

more sustainable. According to Stout, Campus Safety officers use the car almost hourly for a number of reasons.

"[Officers'] duties take them to Kaneko Commons, the Stadium and back to the center of campus," he said. "The vehicle is used to patrol the campus, respond to routine and emergency calls, provide safety escorts both on and off campus, and transport people to the emergency room, when possible."

According to Environmental Protection Agency estimates, the new car gets about 51 miles per gallon in the city. The old one got about 17. Stout said that the car's electrical functions will reduce the gasoline used significantly.

"The type of driving we do, very slowly around campus, contributes to the low miles per gallon," he said. The new silver car can already be seen driving around campus.

The old vehicle is being sold by the University's purchasing department, and the funds are going towards the rent for the new Hybrid. Campus Safety hopes the funds from the sale will be enough to cover a substantial portion of the rent.



JESSIE ROBERTSON

Campus Safety's new fuel-efficient automobile will help increase sustainability on campus.

## CAMPUS SAFETY REPORTS Apr. 13 - Apr. 19 2007

### BURGLARY

► April 14, 8:05 p.m., (Kaneko Commons): An unknown individual stole an iPod and two laptop computers from an unlocked room. The residents stated that they never lock their room.

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

► April 14, 10:23 p.m., (Phi Delta Theta): A student was transported to Salem Hospital after injuring his hand when he struck a door or wall. The investigation into this incident is continuing.

► April 19, 10:14 a.m., (Sparks Center): A student injured her ankle while participating in an aerobics class. The student was transported to Bishop Wellness Center and treated for a sprain.

► April 19, 7:35 p.m., (Lausanne Hall): Campus Safety transported a student to Salem Hospital for treatment after he sustained an injury to his hand while boxing.

### CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

► April 15, 2:50 a.m., (Kaneko Commons): An unknown individual damaged the third floor west card lock door in C Wing. The preliminary investigation disclosed that the door had been forced open causing the closing mechanism to be pulled free from the door. The replacement value may exceed \$900.

► April 15, 11:54 a.m., (Kaneko Commons): A student's Blue Toyota Highlander received an approximate 1" X 7" dent as it was parked at Kaneko Commons.

► April 16, 9:04 a.m., (Sparks Center): A quarter-sized hole was discovered in a window in the front of Sparks. Preliminarily, it appears that something was thrown at the window causing the damage.

► April 18, 9:10 a.m., (Belknap): An unknown individual damaged the "Aquafina" vending machine located in Belknap Hall. The vandalism, or attempted theft left it with a 6" crack in the front Plexiglas window.

### THEFT

► April 13, 1:45 p.m., (Goudy Commons): An employee parked his motorized scooter behind a dumpster in the Goudy loading dock at approximately 6 a.m. He discovered it to be missing when he attempted to retrieve it at 1:40 p.m. The scooter was unlocked and it did not require a key to start it.

► April 19, 7:00 p.m., (Mathews Hall): A student's unsecured bike was stolen from Mathews. The brand of the bike is unknown. It is described as dark red with a "koala" bear sticker on the right handle. A water bottle holder was also attached to the middle of the frame.

► April 18, 1:58 p.m., (Kaneko Commons): It was reported that 8 to 10 pints of Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream, 40 "Meiji Hello Panda Cookies," and 5 "Butterfinger Bars" were

stolen from the Kaneko Kitchen during an event on 4-15-07.

► April 19, 4:51 a.m., (Collins Science): The 2"X5" sign on door #104 was discovered to be missing.

### POLICY / SAFETY VIOLATION

► April 13, 12:16 p.m., (Terra House): An unknown individual discharged a fire extinguisher on the second floor. The extinguisher was replaced.

► April 18, 10:15 a.m., (Sigma Chi): Campus Safety, while conducting a safety check, observed a set of golf clubs and a computer monitor impeding traffic in the first floor hallway. Multiple pieces of lumber and plywood were observed to be blocking a fire escape exit at the south end of the second floor. All of the aforementioned was confiscated because they constituted a fire hazard.

► April 18, 10:25 a.m., (Beta Theta Pi): An emergency fire

door in Beta was found to be blocked by furniture. This is a reoccurring event. The items were moved.

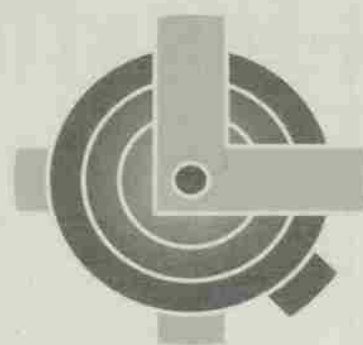
► April 18, 10:30 a.m., (Phi Delta Theta): Campus Safety performed a safety check in Phi Delta Theta and observed debris blocking the stairway passage. The items were removed as they caused a fire safety hazard.

### TRESPASS WARNING

► April 13, 9:44 a.m., (Matthews Parking Lot): A written trespass warning was given to an individual who was observed to be panhandling in the parking lot. The trespasser had a Marion County Correctional I.D. card in his possession, indicative of a recent release from incarceration. There were no outstanding warrants or wants for the individual.

\*If you have any information regarding these incidents, please contact Campus Safety, x6911.

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## Library Survey

**Thanks to everyone who participated in the Library Survey. We received over 800 responses.**

**Those who participated had the opportunity to enter a drawing. The following have each won a \$30.00 cash card. Congratulations!**

PROFILE: John Balling

# Head of WITS keeps busy with projects

MICHAEL MURRAY

mpmurray@willamette.edu

For many students, the most contact they have with John Balling are automated e-mail messages letting them know that they have exceeded their network bandwidth limitations and have been placed on temporary Internet restriction. However, Balling is more than just a mysterious name on an unhappy message.

Director of Willamette Integrated Technology Services (WITS) since 1999, Balling is responsible for the entire campus network, both wired and wireless. The telephone system is also under his jurisdiction, as well as all software used on campus and computer policies. "WITS tries to keep the bits flowing," Balling said.

According to Director of Productions and Operations Marti Morandi, Balling is always working in-depth on a number of projects. "I find him very good to collaborate with," Morandi said. "Certainly he's very interested in supporting the students. That's his number one thing."

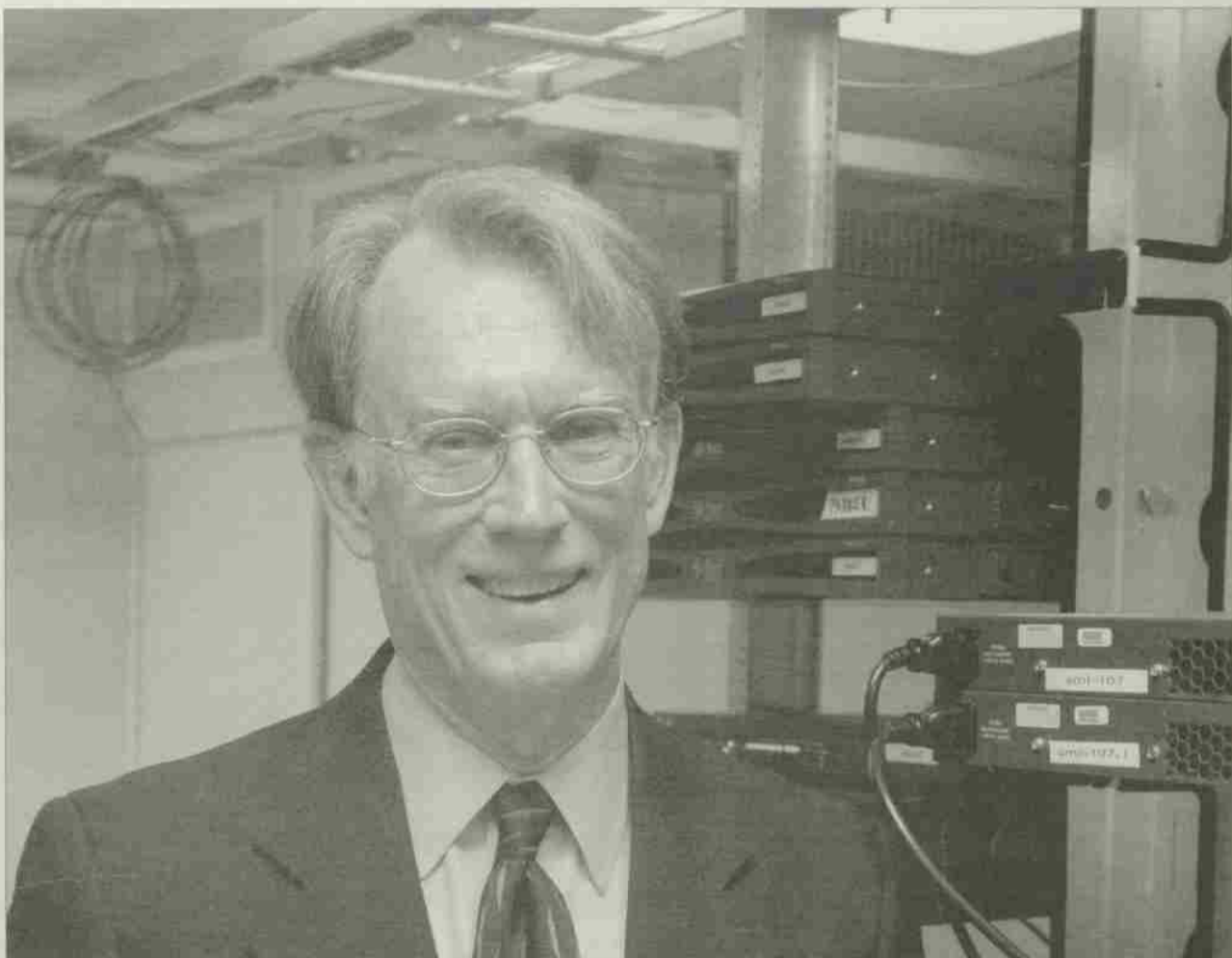
Balling grew up in a coal-mining town in southwestern Pennsylvania. Until he accepted a position at Willamette, he had never lived on the West Coast. When he first heard about the job, he decided that the change in pace would be interesting.

Balling's interest in technology started when he was at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Balling had a Ph.D. in psychology and did a lot of data collection. He had to program most of his software himself. "I grew heavily interested in computers," he said. "Through a series of jobs, I got away from psych research and moved towards technical administration." As for his computer preference, the campus uses both Macs and PCs, but Balling said he is basically a PC user. "Both have their place," he said.

Though most of Balling's work is behind-the-scenes, one project he worked on this year has made a large impression on the student body. Balling, along with the Hatfield Library/WITS Advisory Council, implemented the WebPrint program to keep track of the number of pages students were printing. Balling said that he has few complaints. "WebPrint has been going pretty well," he said. The Council is going to take a look WebPrint data and usage patterns from this semester to evaluate an appropriate page quota.

An average day for Balling consists mostly of meetings, often with other WITS department heads. Balling also meets with a number of external organizations to make sure that Willamette is up to date in the information technology world and also to keep the university's name fresh with technological organizations.

"In general, it's a very busy job," Balling said. "New



PATRICK WILLGOHS

WITS Director John Balling, who hails from Pennsylvania, is more than just a mysterious name on the Internet restriction e-mails.

things are coming at us all of the time." He said he enjoys the challenge. "In some ways that's the most interesting aspect of the job. New things are always happening," he said. "My days are never the same."

According to Morandi, Balling is good at ferreting out information on the Internet. He uses this skill to interact with the department heads. "He listens, he makes suggestions," Morandi said. "He allows a great deal of autonomy in the various teams." She also added that Balling is the brains of the operations. "He's all wits," she said.

Besides the occasional student with excessive records of exceeding bandwidth limits, Balling does not get too many opportunities to work with students. However, he has recently worked with members of ASWU to set up the

election program that is currently in use.

WITS will undertake a number of big projects over the summer. They will be upgrading most of the network equipment, including the wireless network. According to Balling, they are also adding a second server room in the Hatfield Library for backup purposes. WITS and Balling are taking advantage of a recent fiber-optics acquisition by Willamette's internet provider and installing fiber-optics that will run from Smullin to State Street. The change will approximately triple the campus's bandwidth.

Balling is excited about the new projects and his everyday work. "In general, my job here is trying to develop the infrastructure students, staff and faculty need to do their jobs," he said.

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President Pelton will hold open office hours for students today from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. This is a change from the originally listed time of 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Since no appointment is necessary, students will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis. If a large number of students are waiting to meet with the President during open office hours, a time limit may be set on each meeting.

Please contact Wendy Gleason, the President's scheduler, at [wgleason@willamette.edu](mailto:wgleason@willamette.edu) for more information.

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# Wulapalooza bigger and better than ever

JEN ASZKLAR

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As the sun pokes its head out, Wulapalooza, Willamette's annual free-admission music festival, returns to the outdoors this year. The team of students in charge said they hope to make this year's festival exceed those of years past. Held on Brown Field Saturday, April 28, Wulapalooza will feature student artwork, community booths and music from student and headlining bands.

Thanks in part to donations and sponsorships from groups including the President's Office and ASWU, the budget for Wulapalooza has nearly doubled this year, from \$14,000 to \$26,000. As a result, the festival will return to the outdoors with a larger, more professional stage.

"When it's outside it's just better," sophomore Lauren Lathrop said. "It's more conducive to have the festival celebrating the earth outside and people will want to hang out during the day and listen to the bands."

From noon to 5 p.m., 15 student bands will play onstage for 15-minute sets, representing a wide variety of musical styles. Last Friday, several bands performed at the Ike Box as a part of the first ever Wulapalooza Sampler. Festival organizers said the event was very successful, with over 100 attendees, despite the fact that it didn't have a lot of publicity.

In the evening, headlining bands from around the country will perform. Bands include The Long Winters, a group that toured with Keane; Viva Voce, a band that toured with The Shins; Cloud Cult and Taphabit.

"This will be the biggest music festival in Oregon in the month of April. It's going to be pretty sweet," senior A.J. Tunall, Wulapalooza organizer said.

Leaders of the event credit their fundraising efforts and their organization this year with the ability to get bigger-name bands, a better stage and more advertising. Posters have been put up around Salem, Monmouth, Corvallis, Eugene and Portland. Event organizers expect 1,500-2,000 people to attend.

In addition to the music, 33 clubs, dorms and organizations will have booths set up during the day raising money for the Marion-Polk Foodshare or other established charities. Student-produced films will be shown all day in Car Cavern with free popcorn, and Wulapalooza is currently looking for artwork of any medium to feature in its student gallery.

Food and drinks will also be available at Wulapalooza, with a beer garden open to alumni and students with valid ID, featuring \$2 microbrews. Bon Appetit will also host a barbecue outside and the Bistro will be open as well.

Overall, organizers of Wulapalooza said the



COURTESY OF ELIZABETH BETSY RAPP

Intergalactic White Elephant Gift Exchange is scheduled to play this Saturday at 4 p.m. on the Main Stage located on Brown Field. The band is one of many WU student groups performing.

event looks to be a success.

"The hope is to shape how the school views Wulapalooza. After Glee ended, it brought everyone from all corners of campus together and kind of replaced it," senior Brian Fiore said.

## ► Wulapalooza info

- April 28, 12-10 p.m., Brown Field  
- For band bios, a schedule of the performers and more information, visit [www.wulapalooza.org](http://www.wulapalooza.org)

## RESTAURANT REVIEW: Cacao

# Cacao a chocolate lover's delight

DANI STEVENS

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If you have the time to get up to Portland and are ever looking to impress a friend or a special someone—date, relative, or co-worker—then I have found the perfect place. Cacao is a high-end specialty chocolate store, featuring the world's best brands of chocolate, in both milk and dark varieties. The shelves and tables are lined with all flavours from many different regions of the globe, and the owner of the store is happy to help you choose what's best for you.

One of his favorites is Amedei, the brand that is often touted as the "best chocolate in the world." If you're a chocoholic, be prepared to be both

dazzled and broke by the end of the trip. Good chocolate does not come cheaply, but it does merit its price. Bars run from as low as \$3.50 to \$14 and up.

The décor inside is lovely, with rich, burnished chocolate accents against a matte turquoise backdrop. Everyone speaks in hushed, happy tones, as if not to spoil the luxury of the setting.

Near the chocolate shelves, there are a few tulip-topped tables to sit and sip their special "drinking chocolate." I know it sounds strange, but trust me—this "drink" is completely out of this world. There are three flavours—a lighter, cinnamon drink, a medium, very pure and rich representation of the genre and a spicy kick-you-in-the-pants dark version with chilli peppers and ginger. All of them



DANI STEVENS

Tulips grace the table tops of Portland's Cacao.

are divine, but I recommend going with the medium flavor if it's your first time. An espresso-sized shot costs \$2, and the larger full-cup size costs \$4. The bar where the drinks are served gleams and the accoutrements shine as if polished daily.

Located at 414 SW 13th Ave. in Portland (close to Powell's Books), this little shop is truly a gem. Check it out at [www.cacaodrinkchocolate.com](http://www.cacaodrinkchocolate.com).

## MOVIE REVIEW: "Hot Fuzz"

# British cop comedy reaches new heights of absurdity

MATTIAS OLSHAUSEN

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It's quirky. It's deadpan. It's typical "British" comedy. Not everyone may agree that British comedy is superior to all other expressions of humor, but most would agree that it is unique—and so is this film.

"Hot Fuzz" is the story of Nicholas Angel (Simon Pegg), the best officer in the London Metropolitan Police. Nicholas is so good, in fact, that his superiors are concerned that he is making the rest of the force look bad, and so they transfer him to Sandford, statistically the safest village in Britain.

There, to Nicholas' vast chagrin, his work consists primarily of chasing escaped swans and evicting underage drinkers from the local pub. His strict, letter-of-the-law ways (including his insistence on the use of the term "police service," rather than "police force") alienate him from his country colleagues. That is except for his hero-worshipping partner Danny (Nick Frost), who plagues him with questions such as, "Is it true that there's a point on a man's head where if you shoot it, it will blow up?"

But, not all is what it seems in Sandford. When a series of grisly accidents occur, Nicholas decides to dig deeper.

Contrasting the excitement of the city with the dullness of the country is nothing new, but rarely has it been done in such hilarious fashion. Simon Pegg's Nicholas is suitably humorless, but as he gets to know Sandford a bit better, he gets into situations so ludicrous that even he has to laugh. The film's climax—a bloody shootout between Nicholas and some very violent villagers—is the height of absurdity. Unfortunately, the ending is prolonged past the point of being funny, almost as though the writers got carried away by the action aspect of the film.

## ► "Hot Fuzz" info

- Rated R for violent content including some graphic images and language  
- Run Time: 2 hr. 1 min.  
- Starring Simon Pegg, Nick Frost and Timothy Dalton  
- Directed by Edgar Wright  
- Playing at Regal Landcaster Mall Stadium 11 in Salem

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## CALENDAR OF ART EVENTS

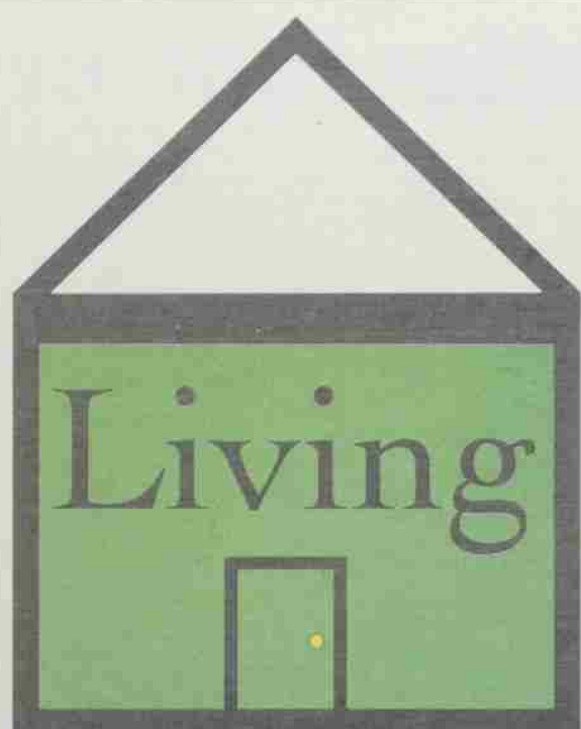
April 26 - May 1

26 "An Evening of Poetry." 6th-8th graders from Parrish, Waldo, Mill City and Houck Middle Schools will read from their original poetry at the Bistro, 6-9 p.m. Free admission.

27 "Club Proper: The Ultimate Clubbing Experience." Featuring cash prize drawings, free energy drinks and dance music. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. in the Montag Den, \$3 admission.

29 "Two Violins and a Cello." Students Hannah Leland, Bekka Scott and Aron Patton perform works by Bach and Beethoven, 8-9 p.m. in Hudson Hall, free admission.

1 "Senior Art Majors Gallery Talk." Photographer Nathan Jones, mixed media artist Maya Karp and painters Trisha Kilgus and Katy Scowcroft talk about their works, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Hallie Ford Museum of Art, free admission.



# OFF CAMPUS

Cost, convenience and freedom: How students make their housing choices

MICHAEL MURRAY  
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*Living off-campus is a privilege reserved for juniors and seniors at Willamette. The freedom associated with renting a house or apartment away from the eyes of RAs and Campus Safety can be alluring, but what are the realities of this alternative lifestyle?*

## Why do it?

Many students cite freedom as the number one reason to live off-campus. Junior Matt Read said, "I like having a separation between where I work and play. That's what my house represents." Freshman Sarah Lindstrom said she is already thinking about her plans for junior year. "I feel like they feel I need to be parented [on-campus]," Lindstrom said. She said she wants to live off-campus as soon as possible.

For other students, living off-campus is more a matter of convenience. Despite the increased transit time between home and school, many students find avoiding the housing lottery worth it. Senior Katie Collins, who lives in a house off-campus, said, "It was the housing arrangement that came through first for me." She did not want to wait for the housing lottery and risk getting an undesirable room. "I love living off-campus," she said, "Being able to get away from Willamette is valuable."

## Tips for the hunt

Though a lot of students find the on-campus housing lottery frustrating, securing a house off-campus can be just as difficult, if not more so. One way to look for a place to live is using *The Statesman Journal's* classified ads. Housing availability tends to

peak towards the end of each month. Students looking for a house should consider finding their residence in the spring because there are often other college students moving out and leases ending.

Junior Brent Knowles and his roommates took three months to find a house. There were a lot of bad options on the hunt. "One of the houses we visited was really weird," he said. "We called it the Hobbit House, because the ceilings were really low." Knowles said he found the search for a house easier than the on-campus lottery. "The lottery was really nerve racking," he said. "It wasn't chill at all."

## The freedom

Though most students look forward to the freedom of living off-campus, dealing with noise complaints from an 80-year-old neighbor can be more difficult than from a peer on-campus. Just as on-campus, communication and compromise are essential. A party on-campus can lead to a visit by an RA or Campus Safety, but parties off-campus are often visited by the police. Senior Jonathan Waltner said he is unconcerned about the potential risks. "I think it is much better than living on campus," he said. "There is the freedom of eating when you want, no quiet hours, and there is far more space to put stuff in."

Another facet of living off-campus is yard work. In many neighborhoods, there is a standard of maintenance that students must uphold, whether by doing the work themselves or by paying their landlord to do it for them.

## Hidden costs

Living off-campus can be quite expensive. According to a 2007 study by Powell Valuation, written by senior Brandon Henderson, a two-bedroom apartment ranges from \$499 to \$833 depending on a number of factors, including age, number of bedrooms, and whether or not it has amenities. For apartments in Central Salem, the neighborhood Willamette is located in, the cheapest two-bedroom apartments are about \$508 a month.

Houses are much more expensive than apartments, though they can usually fit more roommates. Housing costs also vary depending on factors such as age, location and condition. Rents can be as low as about \$860 per month, but most seem to cost a little over \$1,000 per month. Some houses can be even more expensive than that.

There are additional costs to living off campus. Many apartments include basic utilities in the rent, but most houses do not. Students must consider heating, electricity, water, sewer, garbage collection and internet among their bills. Junior Alex Ford expected living off-campus to be cheaper. "It seemed less expensive in the beginning," Ford said, "but it turned out to be about the same."

## Saving money?

One of the most convenient things of living on campus is that students know exactly how much it will cost for a year. Unlike off-campus housing, where utilities often vary, the dormitories and apartments on campus have flat rates.

Campus apartment costs range from \$4,150 for a single efficiency apartment in Haseldorf to \$8,330 for a seventh-floor



JESSICA SMITH

Top • The "Grotto," as its renters affectionately name the house, is located at the corner of Chemeketa and 14th. Bottom • The Embassy is a Christian community located on 14th Street and houses 16 residents, the majority of which are Willamette students.

## ► useful websites

-On-campus costs:  
[www.willamette.edu/dept/resservices/information/costs/](http://www.willamette.edu/dept/resservices/information/costs/)  
-Guide to living off-campus:  
[www.willamette.edu/dept/resservices/pdf/offcampus/guide.pdf](http://www.willamette.edu/dept/resservices/pdf/offcampus/guide.pdf)  
-Statesman Journal real estate classifieds:  
[www.homesfinder.com/statesmanjournal/statjour/index\\_map.html](http://www.homesfinder.com/statesmanjournal/statjour/index_map.html)

## ► utilities breakdown

-These are approximate costs and intended as a guide. Comcast is the internet and cable provider for Salem. The first three fluctuate widely depending on usage.  
-Water/sewer: \$90-100  
-Electricity: \$80-140  
-Gas: \$0-200  
-Garbage: \$45  
-Internet: \$50  
-Cable: \$50

ELLIOT WILLIAMS  
JUNIOR



Yes, because I can and because it's nice to be able to get away from campus and the stress. And my roommates are amazing.

JENNIFER STANDIFER  
SOPHOMORE



No, because I live with 50 other hot girls.

KOCHILITH FRANKLIN  
SOPHOMORE

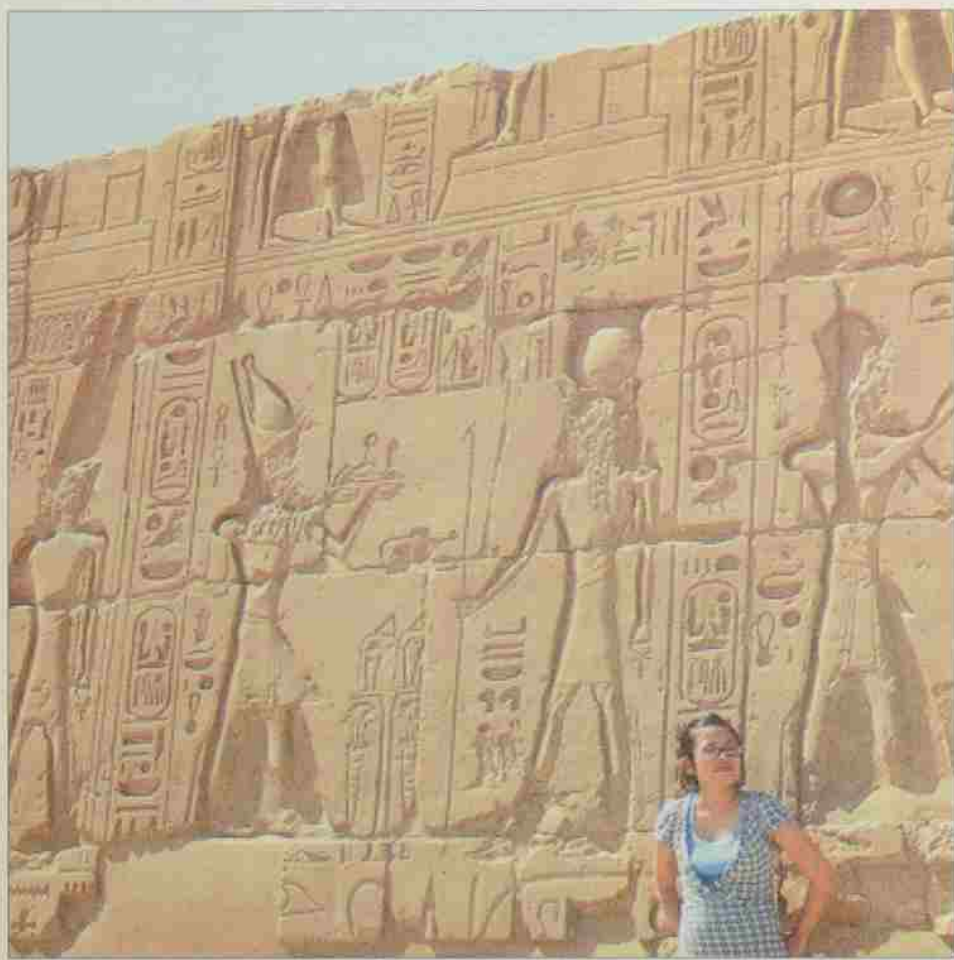


Yes, because it's a healthier living situation, being able to prepare my own food and having my own space.

Do you plan to live off-campus and why?

STUDY ABROAD: Cairo, Egypt

# Einstein and Egypt: exploring the relativity of time



COURTESY OF ADAM LUDVIGSON

Junior Tatiana Mac poses next to a lone standing wall with deep pharoanic carvings in an Egyptian temple. Each carving represents a unique story.

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COURTESY OF ADAM LUDVIGSON

Traffic in Cairo represents the general overcrowdedness and chaos of the city.

### TATIANA MAC

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Cairo (Al-Qahira) is by definition chaos. It's impossible for it to be any other way when over 20 million people work, eat and sleep (at very strange hours, mind you) in a twenty-square mile block concentrated near the longest river in the world. Bright-eyed backpacking Westerners – defined by their patience for traffic to clear – mark the beginning of tourist season and only now do I realize that this life that I have now accepted as normal, is quite far from it.

I get from place to place by camel. The modern-day camel is actually a black and white taxi driven by a neurotic man (women here are allowed to drive, unlike in Saudi Arabia, but are usually not taxi drivers) who has a keen sense of the exact width of his taxi. This camel is not terribly loyal as it's the driver's prerogative to reject destinations and leave a cloud of leaded smoke behind. Six or seven cars will fit on the equivalent of an American two-way road; eight if you honk to let the other seven know. Driving perpendicular to oncoming traffic or reversing to a missed turn does not engender the slightest road rage. Walking like an Egyptian is a slightly suicidal question of confidence. The secret is to cross lane-by-lane and not to flinch when buses, moped and taxi side view mirrors come within centimeters of your appendages. Most importantly, never stop moving.

Such is the motto of the Cairene lifestyle. Clothing stores and restaurants do not retire until 2 a.m. or later; it all comes to a question of what the owner feels like that day. Twenty-four-hour stores are not a rarity. Cairo caters to collegiate midnight snacking with nine-cent *fuul* and *tamiya* sandwiches (refried beans and falafel in 'ash – pita bread, respectively) or *koshari*, the mix of chick peas, rice and pasta with dried lentils and tomato sauce atop.

The only pause from this consistent flow of life is Friday morning, Sabbath, when the 95 percent of Cairenes are fulfilling their Muslim duties; a time where life seems to move at a normal pace. Time is an anomaly here. Drivers shake a clenched thumb and middle finger out their window to indicate patience, but the perpetual cacophony of high and low honks and immediate breaking would indicate that everyone is running just a little bit late. Efficiency is an overstatement. As chaotic as it is, there seems to be a rhythm the Cairenes all follow. It may not be the most obvious way to get things done, but things get done nonetheless.

There are two time scales in Egypt – *bukra* (tomorrow) and *a de'a'a* (a minute), *insha'allah* (if God wills it) – the most common answer

you will receive whether asking for fresh bananas or when a monument will reopen. A trip in a mini-bus to the desert will show you that, no matter how late you are, your driver always has time for one more *shai* (tea) at the Bedouin (desert nomads) rest stops. 'No' is neither an acceptable answer to give or receive. You must take that third cup of tea but 'no' to holding a baby lion in the zoo or climbing a forbidden minaret just means you haven't found the right person to slip a few pounds. 'No' is also powerful in the Khan al-Khalili, a traditional bazaar from the 14<sup>th</sup> century which sells everything from shake-up pyramids floating golden sand to scarves to a side of lamb, where suave storekeepers will offer you 1,001 camels for your hand in marriage.

But even in the calamity of this chaotic Cairene life, there are the fleeting moments of pure calmness: serenely floating on a felucca on the Nile River, or in the instantaneous seconds before the call to prayer, which blares from speakers from every single mosque in the city. There are the tranquil nights relaxing in a predominantly male *ahwa* (coffeehouses) where you drink the thick *ahwa* (Turkish coffee), with enjoying a *shusha* (water pipe).

I 'spring broke' in Jordan and upon returning, I was relieved with the familiarity of home. I've been here long enough to feel accustomed: I cross the street with little fear for my life, no longer understand the concept of a line and can speak enough Arabic to chat with my favorite shopkeepers. I'm not as concerned with the cleanliness of my food or get frustrated about things getting done in a timely fashion. Once shocking, unfamiliar things, like a voice from the dark offering an apartment, or even the absence of things: the lack of public displays of affection or the lack of exposure of head, shoulders, knees and toes – have sifted their way into the daily rhythm of my life. I am far from jaded, though. There are still those glitches that make me realize I'm no more than an extended tourist. "Welcome to Egypt" still engenders a full laugh. I'm still taken aback every time I walk by someone praying and become slightly frustrated when people don't believe I am from the States. (Most people assume I am from China, and are hard-pressed for believing that an Asian person can possibly come from America).

It's not a mystery that even with our technology and years of analysis that we do not understand the phenomena of Egypt, particularly the Great Pyramids. Egypt is a difficult place to explain to anyone. It is a never-ending series of secrets to explore and discover on your own. Just when you think you know, something or someone will happen that will through you off guard and make you realize the secrets have just begun.

Tatiana Mac is a junior mathematics and environmental science major studying at the American University in Cairo for a semester. She can be

#### ► Average costs of things in Egypt

- The conversion is roughly 5.7£E (Egyptian Pounds) to 1USD (United States Dollar).
- 50 piastres/9 cents – *fu'ul* and *tamiya* sandwiches,
- 4 pounds/.70 cents – a Twix candy bar
- 5 pound/\$1 – a 15-25 minute cab ride
- 100 pounds/\$18. – a night on the town (dinner, entertainment, drinks) or a bus ride to Mt. Sinai
- 2,280 pounds/\$400 – replacing a camera you took to the desert and ruined because there was a sand-storm and rain; although, MasterCard would agree this is in many ways priceless.

## TRACK

# Women take sixth NWC title, men place second

ANNETTE HULBERT

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The Willamette track and field program displayed its famous depth on April 20 and 21, as the Bearcat women and men brought home a Northwest Conference title and a second place finish, respectively at the Northwest Conference Track and Field Championships in Tacoma, Wash.

The women earned their sixth NWC title by a landslide, finishing with 257.33 points. George Fox placed second with 124 points. On the men's side, Willamette trailed Linfield only slightly, finishing with 195 to the Wildcats' 211.83 points. The Bearcats earned additional honors this past weekend, led by the selected Athlete of the Meet, senior Andrea May. Willamette Head Coach Matt McGuirk was chosen as NWC Women's Track and Field Coach of the Year.

The Bearcats began earning victories on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, as sophomore Jena Winger won the women's 3,000 meter-ste-

plechase with a Baker Stadium record of 10:52.71. Junior Melinda Fahey threw 131'10" in the discus to take home a NWC title, while junior Ian Batch edged his competitors with a winning time of 31:52.95 in the men's 10,000 meter run.

The winning trend continued on Saturday, as May won both the 100-meter dash and the 100-meter hurdles. Senior Julio Vieyra took two more events on the men's side, contributing a winning 1,500 performance after his victory in the 800. Junior Sarah Zerzan led a 1-2 finish in the women's 1,500, followed by sophomore Maddie Coffman.

Freshman Jennifer Luecht led a 1-2-3-4-5 sweep in the 200-meter dash, clocking in at 25.95 seconds. Mariah Hanson won the women's 400 meter dash in 57.38 seconds, initiating yet another 1-2-3 sweep. Junior Jordyn Smith recorded a NCAA provisional qualifying time in the women's 400 meter hurdles, placing at 1:02.95. Batch earned another win and led a 1-2-3-4-5 sweep in the 5,000.

The women's relay teams contributed strong performances as well, as the young 4x100 meter team of freshman Autumn Schmuck, freshman Lydia Marsalli, freshman Kaitlin St. John and sophomore Katie Klein won their event in 49.33 seconds. The 4x100 team of Hanson, Klein, Sascha Larsen-Helbing and Luecht won their event by a margin of 11 seconds with an NCAA provisional qualifying time of 3:53.20.



ANNETTE HULBERT

Junior Sarah Zerzan runs to victory in the women's 1,500 race.

## coming up

Bearcats track can next be spotted in action at the Western Oregon Twilight Meet on Friday, April 27, starting at 2:30 p.m.

## CREW

## Willamette crew brings home first place victories from Conference

JENNIE MORSE

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Last Saturday, Willamette's crew team competed in the Northwest Collegiate Rowing Conference Championships held in Washington on Lake Stevens. Although the regatta had Willamette racing against higher ranked teams, the Bearcats were able to come out strong and secure a few first place victories.

The women's novice eight, who have built a prominent reputation for themselves this season, beat out their rivals, University of Puget Sound, to finish with the fastest Division III time in the region. In another novice race, the women's four boat with freshmen Eliza Edwards, Caitlin Dilli, Jasmine Henry, Megan Delph, and Lacey Ellingson got third place in a tough race.

The women's varsity four boat also won a Division III title after placing fourth behind Seattle Pacific University and two Western Washington University boats; all of which

represent Division II schools. "It is frustrating to compete against programs like WWU, but it serves to set high goals for ourselves that we are capable of achieving," senior Kimber Grady said. The women's varsity four, which consists of seniors Becca Ralston, Ashley San Blise, Kimber Grady, and juniors Lauren Schwartz and Laura Jones, beat UPS and Lane Community College for the first time in four years. Both UPS and LCC were ranked top ten in the nation last year.

The women's lightweight four also won their race by 5.5 seconds and defended their two-year title as conference champs. However, to race in a lightweight race, each rower must be under 130 lbs, so the Bearcats were forced to accept second place as one rower missed the qualifying weight by only one pound.

Seniors Brice Miyasaki, Megan Meidinger, Becca Ralston, and freshmen Lacey Ellingson and Eliza Edwards skillfully rowed their way to first place in the coxswains four race, beating out five other boats.

In the men's division, the pair of junior Danny Croom

and freshman Marc Whitehead earned first by defeating Lewis and Clark College. The men's lightweight four also put in a tremendous effort in the varsity race despite being outsized. "We lost the race simply because our competition was well trained and well over 160 lbs (qualifying weight for a lightweight boat), but the experience we took as a team is indescribable," freshman Mike Isaacs said.

"Crew is arguably the ultimate team sport and it was good to compete with those you have come to know and love like your family," Isaacs said. "Our coach has spent countless hours single handedly sculpting everyone of us into race worth competitors. It is truly an experience to get the wisdom and guidance of a life long rower and Olympic coach."

Up next for the team is the Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championships on Lake Natoma in Sacramento, California from April 27-29. "The women's varsity and novice eights, the men's pair, and the women's lightweight four are eager to get back in the mix with all west coast programs this weekend," Grady said.

## COLUMN

## Willamette joins Northwest Collegiate Cycling Conference

JAN TABORSKY

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GUEST COLUMNIST

The Willamette Valley is considered to be a mecca of road cycling, so it's a wonder that WU has never before fielded a cycling team. That all changed this spring.

Freshmen David Davidson, Whitney Pryce and myself joined forces with sophomore Jason Ames to compete in the Northwest Collegiate Cycling Conference, one of the most competitive in the nation. It all started with Pryce, who took the initiative to start the team in the fall. The cyclists have been traveling to race weekends known as "omniums" all around the Northwest, where they compete in a road race, a team time trial and a criterium over the course of two days. The road race is an event that demands extreme endurance and climbing power; the riders must race between 40 and 60 miles on average. The team time trial is held on the same day as the road race, and it is a brutal all-out effort for 10 or 15 miles, with each member taking turns blocking the wind for the

others. On Sunday, the cyclists must race the criterium: an event of less than an hour in length, held on a very short course filled with dangerous corners. The criterium favors sprinters and risk-takers—just ask Ames, who visited the emergency room on April 15 after hitting a curb at 30 mph.

The Bearcats are making a very strong entrance into the collegiate cycling circuit, with Ames and I dominating the Men's C field, and Davidson holding his own in the Men's B. Highlights of the season include a third-place finish from Ames, one fourth-place each from myself and Ames, a seventh-place from me, and Davidson's many 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> places. Pryce has struggled bravely with health problems the last few races, but nonetheless is a valued team cook.

The cyclists encourage anyone who might be interested in racing to give it a try. "Bike racing is not for the faint of heart, but after the first race you'll be addicted," Davidson said. Plus, the spandex outfits are hella tight. Fun intended. Even if you are a new cyclist who's never ridden competitively, the team encourages you to train with them and, if you like it, to consider giving racing a try next season. Pryce points out that the Whitman College cycling team formed only five or six years ago, but now



JAN TABORSKY

Willamette Cycling encourages those interested to join the new team.

sports 50 members, and two Div. II National Championships.

"Cycling is all about having fun ... traveling ... spending time with friends," says Ames. "I have been an athlete my entire life, but I have never enjoyed anything as much as cycling." The four Bearcats plan to

expand the team to competing in mountain biking races in fall as well as the normal road calendar. The long-term vision of the squad is to develop and grow. And we want you to be a part of it.

Leg shaving is not required.

## BASEBALL

# Baseball takes two games from Pacific University

KARL HUMBLE

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Bearcats baseball recently concluded their final weekend series of the season. They played Pacific University twice on Saturday and once Sunday, taking two of the three games.

The doubleheader featured a total of 56 hits, 28 by each team. In the opener, Gilmore hit home runs in the first inning and the sixth inning, and Grant Yamaguchi blasted a grand slam in the second inning, but it wasn't enough, as the Boxers overcame an early 7-2 deficit. Pacific pulled within 7-6 and 9-8 later in the game, before WU added two insurance runs in the bottom of the seventh on RBI singles by Ty Eriksen and Ryan Peterson.

Trailing 11-8 at the start of the ninth inning, the Boxers sent nine batters to the plate and scored four runs on four hits a walk and hit batsman. The first run scored when Ryan Bailey walked with two outs and the bases loaded. Two more runs crossed the plate when Nick McNeely singled

through the right side of the infield to tie the game. Will Hunt drove in Bailey with an RBI single, before Kyle Barksdale fled out to left field to end the inning.

In the bottom of the ninth, Barksdale moved from behind the plate to on the mound, and quickly recorded two outs. Young kept the inning alive by sending a single into right field. He advanced to second base when Barksdale committed an error on a failed pickoff attempt. Barksdale got Peterson to ground out to complete the game.

The second game began with Pacific scoring four runs on six hits in the first inning. Willamette countered with three runs in the bottom of the first, as Sean Anderson provided a two-RBI single and Young drove in the third run with a single through the right side. Willamette rallied with three runs in the fourth and one run each in the fifth and sixth innings for an 8-7 lead. Young brought home all three runs in the top of the fourth with a homer to right field. Willamette starter Jarrod Summers, who weathered the Boxers' early success, shut down Pacific over the final five innings to earn a complete-game victory. He improved to 6-3 on the season.

In the third game, junior Tye Sundlee pitched a complete game and struck out nine, improving to 5-3 on the season, leading Willamette to a 5-2 victory.



LIZ CAULEY

Junior Sean Anderson hits a two-RBI single in the second game against Pacific.

## ► coming up

The Bearcats will conclude the season on Thurs., April 26, in McMinnville when they take on Lewis & Clark.

## NWC STANDINGS

Standings as of Apr. 24, 2007

### BASEBALL

	W	L
George Fox	19	5
Pacific Lutheran	18	3
Linfield	14	7
Puget Sound	13	8
Whitworth	9	12
Willamette	9	14

Lewis & Clark	8	15
Pacific	5	16
Whitman	3	18

### SOFTBALL

Whitworth	24	0
Linfield	21	1
Pacific	16	6
Willamette	11	13
Pacific Lutheran	10	14
Puget Sound	9	15
George Fox	5	23
Lewis & Clark	2	26

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## GOLF

### Men's golf places sixth in championship

DESI HALL

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Willamette's men's golf headed out to Tokatee Golf Club in Blue River, Ore. on Sunday and Monday to conclude the 2006-07 golf season. The men played in a two-day, 54-hole tournament, playing 36 holes the first day and 18 the following.

The men's result at Tokatee proved consistent with earlier results from this season as they ended the two-day tournament in sixth place. The tournament at Tokatee was the Northwest Conference Men's Golf Championship, which counted for 50% of the overall ranking for the Northwest Conference men's title. The other two contending tournaments ended with 6th place finishes for the Willamette's men's team as well.

The men took a full team of six golfers to Tokatee. Willamette's top scorer was senior Martin Kraal, who tied Carter of Whitworth for 8th place, only one stroke away from the

three-way tie at 5th place and five strokes behind the leader. Kraal scored a 74.73/76 over the 54-hole tournament. The other three counting scores were shot by Ben Bryant, Shane Adversano and Dave Bennett.

Whitworth College won the title this year, followed by Linfield in 2nd, Pacific Lutheran in 3rd, Pacific University in 4th, University of Puget Sound in 5th, Willamette in 6th, Whitman in 7th, and Lewis and Clark College in 8th place.

The women finished their season last week placing 4th overall for the title, coming in only after Puget Sound in 1st, Linfield in 2nd, and Whitworth in 3rd. Willamette was only one point away from tying Whitworth for 2nd place.

Next season is looking bright as both the men's and women's teams have many returning players. The women's top golfer, Whitney Ueno, will return as a junior next season. The men's team can look forward to sophomore Ben Bryant returning strong next season.

## SOFTBALL

### Softball swept by Whitworth

JIMMY MEUEL

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This past weekend, Willamette University softball traveled to Spokane Washington to take on the Whitworth Pirates. Willamette dropped all four games to the Pirates. The Pirates came into the series ranked eighth in the nation according to the national fast pitch coaches' poll. They are also leading the conference with a perfect 24-0 record.

The Bearcats' closest game with the Pirates came in game three, yet they still fell 9-7, losing in the final inning of play when Whitworth put up a four-spot to take control. Willamette threatened in the top of the seventh, stringing together three hits, but stranded four runners.

"I am very proud of how our team has played so far this year," said Head Coach Damian Williams. "We were very young going into this season and have lost several players to injury. Our players are doing a great job, especially considering the strength of the conference."

Senior thirdbaseman Molly Barnes, the lone senior in the starting lineup, has led the way for the Bearcats, hitting an impressive .434 with six homeruns and a slugging percentage of .717. Also having an outstanding season is sophomore pitcher/designated hit-

ter, Nikki Franchi, who is the team's second leading hitter behind only Barnes. She is also the ace of the pitching staff in almost every major statistical category. Also having outstanding seasons are junior shortstop, Elizabeth Gilgan, who has made every start this season for Willamette, while batting .369, and junior first baseman Geneva Hale, who is leading the team in home runs.

Willamette will finish out the season against Pacific University and try to climb back to .500 in conference play. If Willamette can win the series they will be exactly at .500 and with a sweep they will finish over .500 in league for the third season in a row. At least a split with the Pacific Boxers will guarantee the third consecutive year in a row they will finish with a winning record overall.

Next week Whitworth will take on Linfield with the Northwest Conference title on the line. Linfield, ranked third in the country, with a 21-1-2 mark in league play, is looking to capture their fourth conference title in a row. The Wildcats' only league loss was at the hands of Willamette. No team in the Northwest Conference has gone undefeated in conference since the 2000 Pacific Lutheran squad and no team has had a perfect record since the conference expanded to a 28-game league schedule.

## • BEYOND THE • looking glass

LAUREN BROOKS  
OPINIONS EDITOR

You probably weren't aware of this, but we're right in the middle of National Turn Off Your TV Week. For many students, turning off the TV isn't such a big deal, mainly because they don't really have time to watch it in the first place. For others, watching television might be the way in which they choose to avoid doing homework or how they spend their free time. Either way, the free cable in one's residence hall can certainly be tempting.

I grew up in one of those "No-TV!" households. We did have movies and the public access channel, but my mom refused to get cable. On Saturday nights I got to watch one episode of "Star Trek: The Next Generation," two if I was lucky. When it finally stopped showing, I called the station to express my dismay that I would no longer be able to watch Captain Jean-Luc Picard replicate another "Tea, Earl Grey, hot," but to no avail.

So what did I do instead? I read a lot. And whenever possible I went over to my best friend's house, a "Yes-TV!" household. Because I never had access to it, I would zone out in front of the TV to the point where you'd have to yell my name or hit me to get my attention. Even the commercials were exciting.

But ultimately, I'm glad I didn't have cable. It forced me to do other (more productive) things instead. But since coming to college, I've managed to get sucked in. One of two things happen when I watch television: Either I channel surf and watch a totally useless show because I'm bored, then realize I just wasted several hours of my life, or I happen upon a really awesome show, like the Discovery Channel's "Planet Earth," and it's so eye-opening that I'm tempted to tune in every week.

The problem is that there's too much out there. While I would love to be a committed fan of "Survivor," "The Office," "Weeds" and countless other shows I've seen previews for, I just don't have the time. It's true that one can learn from TV, but if you're not careful you could end up spending all of your time watching other people's lives instead of living it yourself.

The question of how much TV is too much is difficult to answer, but I'd like to leave you with some food for thought. According to the Boston Public Health Commission, the average adult, by the age of 65, will have spent nine years watching TV. Additionally, children watch an average of 27 hours of TV a week and by age 18, the American child has spent more time watching TV than time in school. Scary, huh? So no matter how much you may learn from Stephen Colbert, it might be good to spend some time in the real world—no pun intended.

### EDITORIAL

## The human cost of Plan Colombia

One of the most pressing issues in current US policy concerns our attempts to curb global drug abuse. Over the past several decades, the US government has combined strong domestic enforcement measures with a foreign policy focused on destruction of major global drug supplies to create a comprehensive drug enforcement policy. While lauded as a success by its architects, the policy has been criticized by a variety of organizations, a criticism which was recently articulated in the recent Willamette-hosted "Drug War Road Show." The show raises questions concerning the effectiveness and ethicality of U.S. foreign policy regarding drug enforcement and presents some compelling problems with the program.

The primary case study for looking at US drug policy abroad is Plan Colombia. This policy, centered on military aid to the Colombian government and fumigation of coca crops, has been described as a "roadmap to peace" by the Colombian government. When examining the effects of the program, however, a number of concerns about the program present themselves.

The first problem with Plan Colombia is its effectiveness. A variety of studies, including the last major presidential drug report, have shown that drug trafficking into the United States has not been significantly effected by the program. Moreover, the study speculates that our policy may even increase the incentive for people to work for the drug cartels, as smaller private farmers are pushed out of business by indiscriminate fumigation and forced to grow their crops in more protected, cartel-controlled areas.

Beyond concerns of effectiveness, Plan Colombia presents problems at the humanitarian level. When fumigating crops, it is difficult to single out coca plants, especially when a small patch of coca is being grown next to a field of fruit or grain. Fumigation often destroys entire yields, resulting in drastically increased poverty and



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driving small farmers who may have previously relied on corn into growing more lucrative coca crops in order to make up the debts they have incurred. This problem is exacerbated by the frequent destruction of crops that do not even contain coca. Secondly, and more importantly, the herbicides used by the US are well below even the loosest environmental standards. Fumigation often results in contamination of surrounding soil and water, and human rights groups such as Amnesty International maintain that cancer rates have as much as tripled in certain areas of the country.

A second area of humanitarian concern is Plan Colombia's impact on governmental and regional stability. By not discriminating between coca crops and refined cocaine, US enforcement agents have also targeted the chewing of coca leaves, an ancient indigenous sacred practice. This, combined with our military aid to the Colombian government, has resulted in a drastic decrease in indigenous rights in the past few years, and a corresponding increase in violence from tribal militant groups such as the FARC. Moreover, the policy has created a rift

in government. Corruption is rife in Colombian politics, and the military aid funneled into Colombia has often been put to use in one cartel's war against another, rather than into any kind of legitimate drug enforcement policy. This undercuts the effectiveness of US policy, but it also drastically increases the danger to the millions of citizens caught in the crossfire between warring cartels.

Several options have been proposed to address these concerns. The most recent government assessments of the situation have recommended a transfer of funds from enforcement to domestic treatment, along with a shift to targeting the demand rather than supply for cocaine and other drugs. Others, focusing on humanitarian aspects of the policy, have suggested subsidizing Colombian farmers' growth of other crops in an attempt to remove Colombian economic dependence on cocaine. Either way, it is important to address these humanitarian questions and to support policy alternatives that will take into account both a policy's effectiveness and its impact on those it is designed to help.

### Needs More Cowbell



CHRISTINE RIIPPI & MAGGIE SHANEYFELT  
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Maggie and Christine have found their purpose in life. They will follow in the footsteps of all the greats and change the world through the gentle art of laughter. The goal: to have a late night talk show. Christine will sit at a mahogany desk with a bad comb-over and no pants (but no one can see that). Maggie will stand behind a drum set, pretending to play and commenting to the other musicians about that groovy H-chord they just rocked.

But we all know that a goal without a plan is simply a dream, which is why we have a plan, sort of. Step one! Create a "Top Ten List" that will dazzle the Willamette community at large (that we can later present to David Letterman when we stalk him at the stage door of his theater). Hold onto your breeches, Cats—it's time to laugh.

Top Ten Things We'll Miss About WU:

10. Seeing the shining ass of the Gold Man everyday for inspiration. If that doesn't make us want to learn, we don't know what will. Damn the Gold Man—Save the Empire!

9. Drunken Muchas Walks. It was fun freshman year—as an alumni it's just sad.

8. The progression of the Goudy wrap. Freshman Year: The wrap is all you eat. Sophomore Year: You ate too many wraps freshman year, and now you don't even want to look at the wrap lady. Junior Year: You're abroad, dreaming about wraps (or wrap lady). Senior Year: Every wrap could be your last, so it's perfectly acceptable to double fist the wraps.

7. Registered Parties: 250+ drunken co-eds contained to a 20 foot by 20 foot sauna, where the walls seem to be evaporating? Sign us up! Our only question: Why aren't there more?

6. Watching the massive tour groups with their matching red folders on Prospective Student Weekend. The parents look nostalgic and the kids look like they're trying to blend in (which is impossible because no matter how hard you try, we know you're fresh meat), and those tour guides make walking backwards look effortless.

5. Springtime because we observe the Circle of Life in the form of baby ducklings and miniature squirrels. We also observe people trying to tan by the Mill Stream in 65-degree weather, but we won't miss that.

4. Learning lots.

3. When new shipments of sweatshirts come in at the WU Store and everyone runs out and buys one. Remember the kelly green revolution? We blocked it out too.

2. Being in a college Facebook network and reminiscing about life before Facebook (Fusser's anyone?).

1. Our article. What, did you think this was going to be all warm and fuzzy? No. We will miss ourselves and being able to rant and rave every week about issues we find to be important. And of course, our fans who actually read it.

Our only regret with Willamette? We were never on the WU website as the featured "Student in the News." Luckily for us, there is the "Alumni in the News" section, so there is still hope. In the immortal words of Governor Arnold, "We'll be back."

### COLLEGIAN

#### EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters can be sent by postal mail, email (cfoss@willamette.edu), campus mail or fax.

Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name and phone number and must be submitted by noon Monday, the week of intended publication. The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.

## STUDENT OPINIONS

## Fraternity membership extremely beneficial

BRIAN NELSON  
GUEST COLUMNIST

Entering college I never imagined going Greek. Nonetheless joining Beta Theta Pi has significantly altered who I am today. I joined because of friendships, but my passion for Beta has grown and I have continued to enjoy my experience because of leadership opportunities and because I have surrounded myself with other people who share my passion for cultivating the intellect and for helping our community.

Being a part of Beta has significantly improved my ability as a leader. Coming from being a big shot in high school to a nobody in college, my confidence levels were low. Having the upperclassmen in Beta believe in me as a leader helped re-establish my confidence in myself. Confidence allowed me to succeed. I have always held leadership roles and having the house behind me gave me the confidence to continue on my path of leadership development.

Leadership in Beta has been different from leadership in other organizations. If you live with the people you work with, it's easier to hold each other accountable. As the Vice President of Recruitment for Beta Theta Pi, this fall I had the opportunity to run our recruit-



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ment program. Knowing that everyone was counting on me, and having everyone's support pushed me to succeed. Every day my friends and Beta co-workers would check in to make sure things were going well.

Working as a VP meant acting as a manager over my friends and this created a tricky relationship. Not wanting to upset my friends, I had to figure out how to get the best out of

them and how to motivate them without coming across as a dictator. This has been a challenging and rewarding experience. I have learned a lot about the difficulties of management through being in Beta.

Being a part of Beta has given me a chance to be a role model for younger Betas, and that gives me one more reason to be the best I can be. Because I know that people are looking up to me, it makes me strive for perfection. Through recruitment and through being a member, I have had the chance to get really close to a wide array of people. Recruitment allows me to stay in touch with the younger generation of Willamette students and gives me a lens with which to look back at what I was like freshman year.

Fraternity membership has taught me how much people can change in a few years and has taught me about giving people second, third, and even fourth chances. I have found that I can learn the most from people that are different from me. Hearing how other people think, even if I disagree, has taught me a lot about working with people and how people work. My fraternity membership has helped me learn to tolerate different leadership styles and different personalities in the workplace.

I trust my brothers and have tremendous respect for them, which makes it easy to take their constructive criticism. I cannot improve myself unless I know my faults. Living with a group of people I respect has been conducive to personal growth. Living next-door with the people I work with helps to push me towards my best.

Going Greek has enriched my college experience. Every fraternity on campus strives to support its members at all times. According to the North-American Interfraternity Conference, "fraternity members tend to graduate from college at a higher rate than those men not involved in fraternities."

My fraternity membership has provided me support both for my personal life and my pursuit towards academic excellence. The same goes for all Willamette's fraternities: Beta, Phi Delta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Sigma Chi all have GPAs above the male average.

Seeing other Greek passion for helping the community and their passion for helping and supporting other members within their houses has helped me do the same. Going Greek has helped me grow closer to becoming the man I want to be. GO GREEK!

Brian Nelson is a junior in the Willamette CLA. He can be reached at <bnelson>.



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A WHOLE NEW  
WU!RD!

## ECONOMICS

Why doesn't  
economics make  
more sense?RYAN SANDLER  
COLUMNIST

Since I started writing this column, I've gotten more than one e-mail from readers who enjoyed reading it, and wondering why their own economics classes were never so interesting or easy to understand. And indeed, as I wrote about in my very first column, economics has a reputation for being "the dismal science." Originally that label was given because economists were always predicting dire and awful events that might happen to the economy. Now the name sticks because people simply think it is boring.

I would say the reason for this is twofold. For one thing, many of the basic concepts in economics require a very intuitive understanding of the underlying theory. Conveying this kind of understanding is just plain difficult. Even the very best professors can fail to get through to some students simply because the student's don't quite think the same way. The other big reason is that economics, like most disciplines, assumes that students in the introductory courses will continue to higher levels. To do otherwise would leave potential economics majors high and dry later in their education. Teaching basic economics classes thus entails teaching enough math to get by in intermediate economics class. When I tutored a class of principles of microeconomics last semester, almost all the problems my students had were about algebra.

On a totally different note, because of *The Collegian's* production schedule, this will be my last economics column in *The Collegian*. I am graduating in a couple of weeks and moving on to the Ph.D. economics program at UC Davis, after which I may actually know what I'm talking about with all this economics stuff.

If this column has stoked your interest for the economics of the everyday world and you still want more, consider picking up *The Undercover Economist* by Tim Harford, or *Naked Economics* by Charles Wheelan, which are both excellent introductions to the cool stuff that lies at the root of the so-called dismal science, behind the math and the funny graphs. If you need your economics on a more regular basis, Tim Harford writes a pair of weekly columns for the *Financial Times* of London which are in many ways the inspiration for this column. They can be found, for free, at [www.timharford.com](http://www.timharford.com).

And that's a wrap. Go forth into finals week and maximize your utility. And remember, incentives matter.

## ► Economists call it:

The Dismal Science.

## ► By which they mean:

Another name for economics itself, generally used when people consider it overly gloomy in its conclusions, or else boring beyond belief.

## ► They care because:

It is generally a misconception, and causes people to dismiss economics as a dry, dull alternative to math or finance.

Ryan Sandler is a senior in the Willamette CLA. He can be reached at <rsandler>.

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