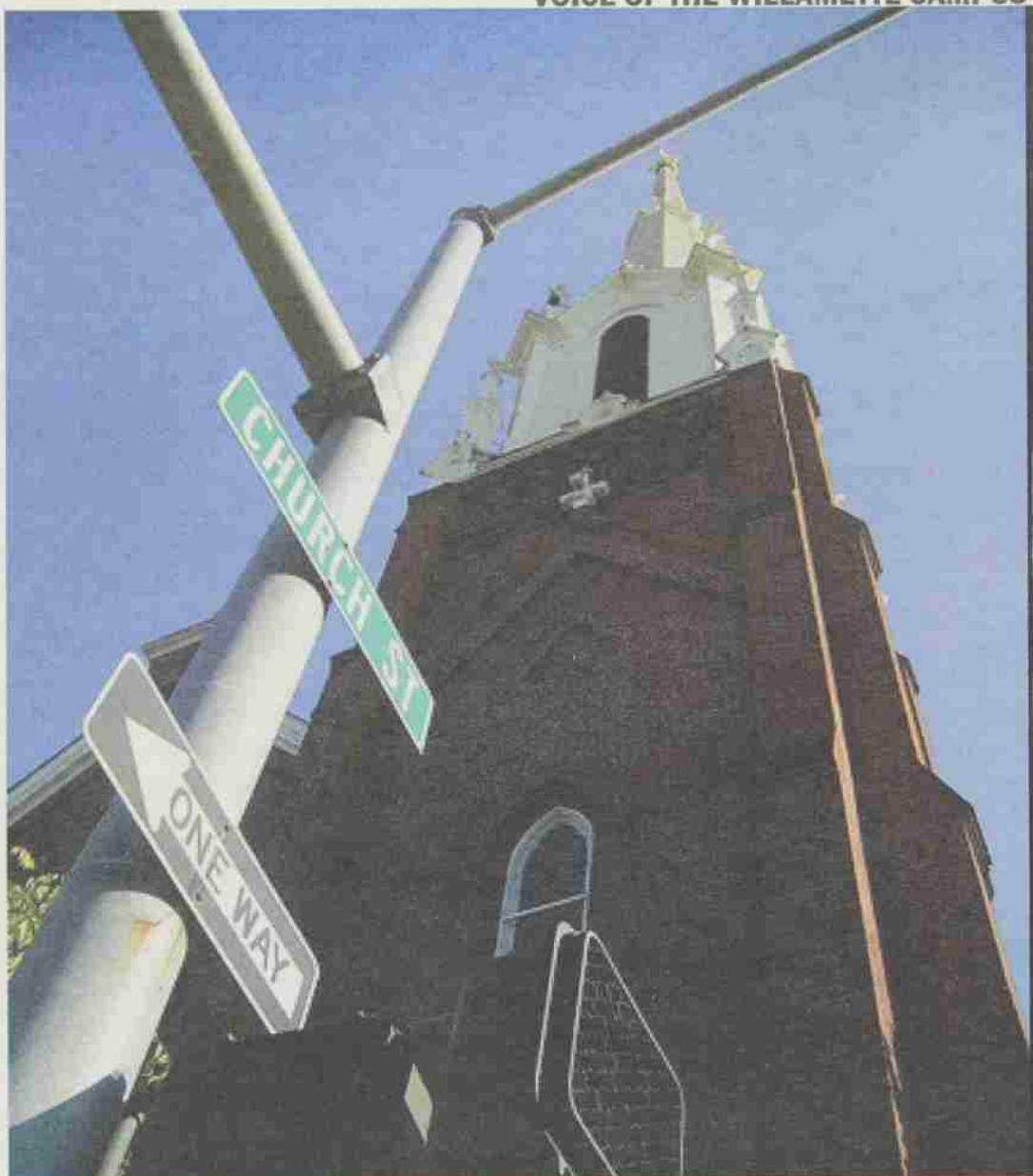


OPENING DAYS EDITION

COLLEGIAN

VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL. CXVIII • ISSUE I • AUGUST 24, 2007



SALEM: WALK IT OUT



A letter of welcome

TOM BROUNSTEIN AND ELISE YOUNG
NEWS EDITOR AND ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Dear Freshmen,

Welcome to the next four, possibly five years of your life. We are sure that you spent the last week amassing a horde of tips on how to survive Salem, live "parent-free," and adjust to a workload worthy of our institution. Here at The Collegian news section, we feel it is our duty to foist more advice upon you, and so we shall.

1. Numbered lists are typically frowned upon.

2. Be careful with your meal points. Daily organic fruit drinks do not save you from semester-end peanut butter and jelly-filled days. On the other hand, hoarding your points will simply put you in the odd position of deciding to purchase Montag's entire candy or chip section when the year comes to a close.

3. Do not reveal your birthday to any friends you suspect have the strength to throw or drag you into the Mill Stream. Technically, it is already a lost cause; your Resident Assistant (RA) or Community Mentor (CM) knows and has probably advertised your date of birth. They are just that powerful.

4. Join a club. Nothing can connect you and your classmates more than a shared love of tabletop RPGs. If, for some reason, that's not what you enjoy, and no other club looks interesting, create your own. We can't guarantee you funding, but you will have fun.

5. If money is short, go see the student employment office. Or write for *The Collegian* - we pay by the article!

6. Use the library. If you need anything for a paper, ever, they'll probably have it. If not, Summit provides all students with a massive selection of books. Don't forget to use journal articles. They are most easily found online and can provide the recent information many research papers require. The librarians are also quite helpful and will try their best to get you on the right path. And if you decide to read for fun—as odd as that may sound—the library is cheaper than Borders and has more books.

7. Don't be afraid to do some class "shopping." Sit in on that art history course you thought looked interesting. If you really like it then sign up! It is better to try and get the classes you want than to hunker down with what the computer allotted you, even if you are waitlisted a few days. More often than not, you'll get into the class you want.

8. Be careful about buying books. Class syllabi can change much faster than the book lists you see in the student store. Either pounce on the used versions you can find, returning any unnecessary books later, or wait until the first day of class for confirmation of your book needs. Never assume that buying from Amazon.com or other bookshops will wind up being cheaper than Willamette's. With shipping costs factored in, they often come to the same price. Besides, waiting two weeks for the book to ship is never a fun experience, especially when tests are looming on the horizon.

9. Read *The Collegian*—and the news section—religiously. And as entertaining as the campus safety report is, try to stay out of it.

Your intrepid journalists,
Young and Brounstein

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New class welcomed to Willamette

Class of 2011 is diverse, academically strong



NICK MARTINEZ

The class of 2011 enjoys their first dinner at Willamette, a picnic on Brown Field on Thurs., Aug. 23 as part of the Opening Days celebration. It was a chance for many students to mingle and meet their peers.

TOM BROUNSTEIN
NEWS EDITOR

Willamette was in for a change on Thursday, Aug. 23, 2007 when a new class moved into the dorms and began their annual Opening Days events. The class of 2011 is one of the most diverse in recent years.

According to Associate Vice President for Admissions and Financial Aid Sue Rauch, "the primary difference in [this class and the previous one] would be size and geographic diversity." The new class contains 522 students, a decrease from the previous year's 556 students.

The new class "includes fewer students from outside the Western states," Rauch said. However, more students are coming from what is called the "Other Western states," states other than Washington, Oregon and California. "Students coming from...Other Western states have become our second largest group at 24 percent." The class of 2010 had 19 percent of students coming from Other Western states.

While a majority of the students come from Western states, there is still much geographic diversity. Students in the new class come from 27 different states and 15 different countries.

The numbers are even more diverse when looking at cultural and racial backgrounds. "We have one more underrepresented student enrolling this fall in a smaller class," Rauch said, "thus our diversity is greater." Of important note, ten African American students are entering Willamette. Last year there were only two. "We will have 16 percent of our entering class be classified as multicultural," Rauch said.

According to Rauch, 12 percent of the students will be first-generation college students. However, this is the first year they have collected this information, so there is no comparable data.

Beyond their diverse backgrounds, the entering class is very academically gifted. According to data from the admissions office, the average high school GPA was 3.68. The average SAT score of the math and critical reading components was 1230.

“The primary difference in [this class and the previous one] would be size and geographic diversity.”

SUE RAUCH
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID

► frosh stats

Entering Class: 522
Male: 46%
Female: 54%
Total Multicultural: 81
Oregon: 32%
Washington: 21%
California: 18%
Other Western States: 24%
Non-Western States: 6%

States Represented: 27
Countries Represented: 15
Average High School GPA: 3.68
Average SAT (Reading and Math): 1230
Top 10% of Class: 47%
Top 50% of Class: 97%
Source: Admissions Office

According to the College Board website, the class averaged near the 80th percentile.

Nearly half of the students arriving this year were in the top 10 percent of their high school class. Meanwhile, 97 percent of those in the new class were in the top half of their high school classes.

While the faculty is excited to meet the new class, the new class is just as eager to get started at Willamette. "I guess if I had to describe my feelings for Willamette in one word it would be anticipation," said new student Andrew Craig. "Starting school and coming to Willamette will be a fantastic experience. I can't wait to meet new people, explore new ideas, as a person."

Craig said he was drawn to Willamette by the politics program, which he had heard was very strong. Willamette stood out for him when looking at colleges, and when he was accepted his mind was made up.

"Willamette is a whole new world I'm really eager to venture into," Craig said. While he anticipated the stress of leaving home, coming to college, and starting his life Craig's main feeling was one of excitement.

"Every one of us on the admissions staff is excited to see the new students arrive," Rauch said. "The first day of Opening Days is the highlight of application season for us. The only thing more rewarding is [watching] commencement each year."

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COVER ART: Salem's local hot-spots include the Governor's Cup and Ranch Records. For a review of Salem's independent coffee houses, see Arts, p. 5. For more Salem-area activities, see Feature, p. 7. All art by Nick Martinez.

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Behind the scenes with Opening Days

Opening Days offers freshmen a head start

ELISE YOUNG
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

On Thursday, hundreds of freshmen flooded Willamette's campus with parents and luggage in tow. The school is theirs for the next few days under the guidance and leadership of the Opening Days program.

The program is an intensive orientation event designed to introduce students to the school. Freshman, transfer and international students are assigned randomly into small groups with two trained leaders. "The leaders are the ones who do their best to help the new students transition into Willamette," senior and Lead Team member Matt Alex said.

In total, 66 students, including a five-member organization committee called the lead team, plan O.D. The lead team is hired in the middle of the first semester by the O.D. coordinator, this year, Kate Gordon. The five members are in charge of planning the entire program. "The lead team contacts all the right people and facilitates them through completion," Gordon said.

Leaders not in the lead team are members of committees responsible for putting on the events. "We get separated into different groups to

help with events," sophomore Chelsea Bowser said. "I'm helping with the decades dance."

The 2007 program includes informational events for parents and students alike, O.D. group time, a dance, auditions and even an ice-cream social. One of the biggest changes to this year's events was the elimination of Salem Day Out: an afternoon visiting businesses in downtown Salem. "It didn't seem effective over the past few years," Alex said. He added that it was difficult to get different businesses involved.

The lead team implemented a service project to replace Salem Day Out. O.D. groups will be working together to help restore the Mill Stream running through campus. "Service projects are a great way to get to know the people around you," Alex said.

O.D. leaders work hard before and during the entire program to connect freshmen with the school and students. "Last year when I was in Opening Days I met my best friend in my group," sophomore and leader Chelsea Bowser said. "It really helped me get oriented with Salem and Willamette."

The program does more than just

forge ties between freshmen and their leaders. "I have really enjoyed getting to know other OD leaders," senior Alaine Anderson said. "We are a diverse group."

The O.D. leaders are paired up during spring training. "They see who works best with each other," Bowser said. "It's up to the lead team to assign partners," she added. Each O.D. group generally has one male and one female leader.

Each pair receives group-member profiles in July. It is their job to help welcome new students to Willamette even before school has started. "We're expected to call our group or write them letters," Bowser said. "I'm really excited to meet my kids in person and so far it's odd because you talk to them just over the phone or over email."

Almost a year of planning and hard work leads up to the five-day program. "The best part is when the freshmen finally show; everything just shifts," senior Daniel Carroll said. "It's amazing to watch the campus go from 50 to 500."

Contact: eyoung@willamette.edu



NICK MARTINEZ

Lydia Link displays a sign for her co-leader Nicholas Birtcil and the rest of her Opening Days group at the picnic.

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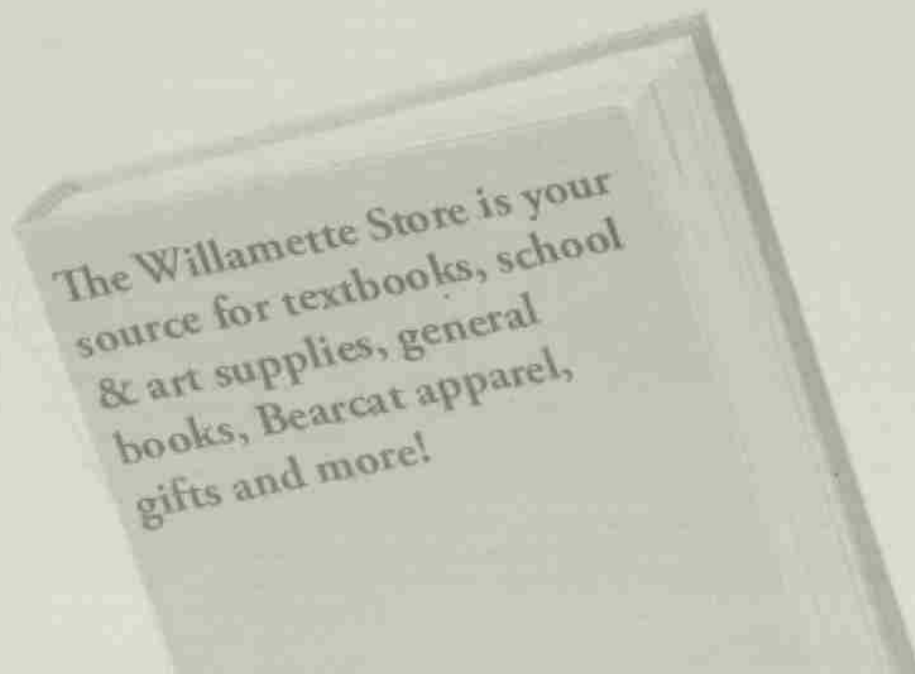
Want to write for the COLLEGIAN?

The news section of the *Collegian* is looking to add five writers for freelance work.

If interested, contact Tom Brounstein at <tbrounst>.

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Willamette University's vibrant past

School helped establish much of the northwest



COURTESY OF SALEM ONLINE HISTORY

Students gather at Waller Hall, the oldest building on campus. Today, Waller Hall serves many functions around campus, such as housing the office of the president.

TOM BROUNSTEIN
NEWS EDITOR

At first glance, Willamette could be any number of small liberal arts colleges. There are the superficial similarities—the tree lined paths, the grassy quad, the old brick buildings—that make it seem like any number of other places. However, to look at it like that misses one of the most important aspects of the college: its storied history and vibrant culture.

According to the University's website, Willamette was founded by Missionary James Lee. Lee had come to Oregon to help establish a school for Native Americans in 1834. According to Director of Alumni and Parents Relations David Audley, shortly after Lee arrived and epidemic broke out and Lee changed his tactic. "In the 1840's, Lee switched his focus from evangelizing to education," Audley said. Thus, on Feb. 1, 1842, a series of bylaws were adopted and a board of trustees appointed, establishing the beginnings of Willamette and making it the first university in the West. At modern Willamette, Feb. 1 is still celebrated as Founder's Day with cake in various places around campus.

The first building at Willamette was a three-story structure erected in 1844, one of the biggest structures in the Northwest at the time, as well as "the most imposing edifice in the Northwest," according to the Willamette website. After the Oregon capitol was moved to Salem, the building held the first session of the legislature, as well as being the home of the first court in the territory. Unfortunately, the building burned down in 1877.

Willamette was founded before the cities of Portland, Seattle and Tacoma. Thus, "the university is closely associated with the beginnings of law and government in

“There's something fundamentally unique about this place.”

DAVID AUDLEY

DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI AND PARENTS RELATIONS

this vast region," according to the Willamette website, and the school helped to educate many of the original scholars, artists and politicians in the region.

In 1852, Willamette changed its name from the Oregon Institute to Wallamet, and the current spelling was officially adopted in 1870. The university was quickly granted a charter. Audley said that in 1859 Willamette had its first graduate: Emily W. York. York hall is named after her achievement.

In 1866 the school of medicine, and in typical Willamette fashion, was the first of its kind to be established in the Northwest. "Women were attending the School of Medicine as early as 1877," according to the website. The School of Medicine has since merged with the University of Oregon. In 1883, Willamette founded a law school, once again, the first in the Pacific Northwest.

While Willamette was expanding, it was also running into financial trouble. "In the late 1890's the school was essentially bankrupt," Audley said. The students were looking for work at lumber mills in case the school was shut down. However, a last minute donation came through that helped the school stay open. Today, Willamette is in little danger of bankruptcy.

Willamette has interacted in world affairs far beyond the Northwest, however. On Dec. 6, 1941, the Willamette football team played against the University of Hawaii, and many students went to watch the game. The next day they witnessed the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Students were stranded in Hawaii until nearly May after the attack, Audley said, and many helped to overcome the devastation of the attacks, both physical and mental. Some students even signed up for the military and shipped out from Hawaii.

Even in recent years Willamette has undergone much change. According to Audley, until the late 1960's the school was a very conservative Christian school where men and women couldn't sit on the same blanket. Even as late as the 1970's Willamette had mandatory convocation and chapel.

However, a bigger change came in the 1990's. "Nineteen-ninety was the year where suddenly the campus got a lot bigger," Audley said. The class size grew dramatically at that time and stopped at the level it's currently at—about 500 students a year. "The biggest difference is there's 100 plus

clubs on campus," Audley said. "There wasn't a whole lot to do on campus" even 14 years ago. Beyond that, Audley noted that he saw the campus as more academically rigorous and more diverse. "I think that's a huge positive."

Willamette has changed considerably from when it began. The school has grown, the name has changed, and it had a part in shaping much of the Pacific Northwest. Through all that, though, there has been some constants. "There's something fundamentally unique about this place," Audley said, "and that hasn't changed at all."

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► Famous people who attended Willamette

Mark O. Hatfield, former Governor of Oregon and US senator.
Richard Laymon, horror author
Marie Watt, contemporary artist
Jim Albaugh, Boeing Vice President
Rob Strasser, inventor of the Air Jordan, founder of Adidas US
Paul De Muniz, Chief Justice of Oregon Supreme Court
Source: David Audley



Courtesy of Oregon State University

Mark O. Hatfield was the most influential Willamette alumni, shaping politics on a national level.

Interested in joining the COLLEGIAN staff?

Come to our recruitment meeting!

- Collegian office
- Third floor of the UC
- Thurs. Aug. 30 at 6 p.m.

RSVP to collegian@willamette.edu.

Alternatives to Starbucks: Coffeehouses in Salem

Small, charming coffee shops are Salem's version of the Mom and Pop store. For those who like to support local businesses and perhaps find a new favorite hangout in the process, coffee shops are the place to be. Here are a few local gems...

The Beanery
220 Liberty NE
545 Court St. NE

Looking for a quiet, relaxing place for lunch and studying? Check out the modern yet warm atmosphere of The Beanery with high ceilings, multiple tables and jiving music. The food selection is fabulous and the quiche dish is to die for. The Beanery has its own salad bar, soups, wraps and baked goods. For those who are environmentally concerned, the coffee is fair trade certified and organic and the shop is transitioning to biodegradable cups and plates, which is

CHRISTY NEWELL
ARTS EDITOR

quite an exciting step for a local business. August specials: 'free shot of espresso Sunday'; 'save a tree Tuesday bring your own cup & get fifty cents off a drink and 'free flavor Wednesday.'

Blue Pepper
241 Commercial St NE

The Blue Pepper wins in the unique category in that it is a coffee shop, as well as

an art and framing shop. With this comes a fun atmosphere with a great variety of art lining the walls. This combination can be dangerous if you are prone to browsing through art as procrastination from studying. The Blue Pepper's menu includes espresso drinks, teas, smoothies, wine, sandwiches and soups. The best part about the Blue Pepper has to be that they host live music almost every weekend, so definitely hit up the Blue Pepper then.

Live Music: Fri. Aug. 24 at 7 p.m. Singer/Songwriter Marci Curtis; Sat. Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. Singer/Songwriter Courtney Jones.

Coffee House Café
135 Liberty St NE

Coffee House Café has a hip atmosphere with upbeat music and many couches and tables to chat with a group of friends. The crystal ball, fascinating art along the walls and huge speakers give the café a unique artsy feel. The café is quite the hangout spot most afternoons in Salem and is open late most nights. The menu includes all certified organic coffee drinks and a good selection of loose-leaf teas. The variety of their food menu however is what captured my attention. It includes paninis, quiche, burritos, scones, cake and pie. The café also hosts live music and posts the schedule in the shop. Overall the café makes a great spot to chill with friends or hit the books if you don't mind a little noise.



NICK MARTINEZ

Check out the Coffee House Café for its hip and lively atmosphere.

The Governor's Cup
471 Court St NE

This spot is also known as "The Gov Cup" to all of those who have already discovered the hidden hideaway. The Gov Cup is known for its delicious chai tea lattes. If you have not tried chai, then college is definitely the time. Chai is a great alternative to coffee and has a mix of spices that reminds me of pumpkin pie. The Gov Cup is a hidden, quieter joint that is great for studying and has a quiet upstairs loft. The friendly baristas, including a few WU

students, shared with me that the Gov Cup has twenty-six different teas all of which are organic and loose leaf. Another plus is that they grind and roast their own coffee and use mostly certified organic coffee. The Gov Cup hosts live music monthly and is open until eleven all nights except Sunday, so definitely check out the Gov Cup with some friends for a spiced cup of chai.

Daily Specials: Monday: dollar off mochas, lattes and chai. Wednesday: buy one get one half off. Friday: free flavors, shots and soy.

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Rowling strikes again

ERYN MYRPHY
STAFF REPORTER

As I closed the cover of the seventh Harry Potter book, a mélange of conflicting emotions swarmed over me. I was thrilled that the novel had been such a smashing use of my time; frustrated with its epilogue; mournful that the adventure was over and happy for good of Harry. And, strangely, I couldn't shake the feeling of... jealousy?

Jealousy, that all those beloved characters would go on living in the world I had been finally and savagely wrenched from. I was no longer welcome in Hogwarts, where school is about investigating a constant stream of new ways to obtain instant gratification, where mystery and wonder are alive, where miraculous rescue is certain and where helping someone is a manageable matter of doing the right and obvious thing.

That's the charm of fantasy fiction. Instead of pawing through ambiguities in an effort to pinpoint the action that will do the least damage, heroism is about simply following your heart.

Not only does J.K. Rowling pull off her newest novel about love conquering all, she weaves a tale that keeps her readers breathless. This may be many fans' first introduction to a caliber of literature that can reduce a reader to tears and spur them to cheer aloud.

Not to say that the novel is without its flaws. She uses *Deus ex machina* far too often, and there are a few loopholes that we're required to overlook for the sake of the plot. Hallows could have used a bit of trimming.

Harry, Ron and Hermione spend months camping, and many readers may find their bickering-and-bantering chapters to be arduous. It was refreshing to see a bit of realism in a genre where main characters never seem to need directions (such certainty in any real-life adventure is about as likely as Snape becoming Neutrogena's new coverboy), but an editor unafraid to step on Rowling's toes could have done wonders.

If you haven't read *Hallows*, close the newspaper NOW. Shoo. And if you're the type of person who likes to know the ending before you read the book, shut your mouth and try not to corrupt anyone else with your twisted ways.

Hedwig's death rang a bit melodramatically, and Ron's hissy fit felt like a cheap setup for a tearful reunion. While Ron and Hermione's romance took on delightful depth, Harry and Gin-



TATIANA MAC

Barnes and Noble in Beaverton, OR hosted a costume competition for children to celebrate the book launch.

ny's "I'm going to leave you to save you!" angst was laboriously cliché. Potter didn't seem to learn a thing throughout the journey; apparently, he was born a self-sacrificial saint and would die so, making a moral to the story effectively unnecessary.

But the only acutely irritating facet of the manuscript was its ending. To the fans who had prepared themselves for the untimely death of Harry, Ron, Hermione and/or Ginny, the happily-ever-after epilogue was a sappy disappointment. Rowling rid us of the characters we loved most - Fred, Lupin, etc - instead of forcing Harry to pay an excruciating personal price. The epilogue will help tame future fan fiction to Rowling's ideas, but it rendered the epic final battle almost insignificant.

Of course, it's well known that literature reviewers are as hard to please as a first-year looking through a box of Bertie Bott's Jelly Beans for the "good" flavors.

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Salem dinner destinations

KELSEY ROGEL
STAFF REPORTER

Sick of Goudy food already? Embrace the last tab your parents will pick up with these popular restaurants:

DaVinci's
180 High St SE
Enjoy great Italian food in an unforgettable setting. Davinci's food is not the only thing that keeps customers coming back. Their unique two-story setup allows for a very aesthetically pleasing experience. The food is top notch with flat bread made fresh to order and always accompanied with delicious olive oil.

J. James
325 High St SE
Looking for upscale dining? Though a bit pricey, the quality and preparation of their dishes are superb. The white plates are frames for the culinary art that is placed upon them. Using fresh, locally-grown ingredients, Chef Jeff James creates dishes that are distinct and unique in flavor. Their northwest seasonal selections can be enjoyed a relaxed creek side setting.

Whites
1138 Commercial St SE
By far, one of the best breakfast places in town. You get the feeling that your grandma's in the back whipping up a homemade breakfast. Their simple style comes in combinations to suit anyone who walks through the doors. Try the "Big Mess," but if you get a full order, make sure to split it! It's HUGE!

La Margarita
545 Ferry St SE
Though La Margarita is known for the obvious (excellent Margaritas), their food is not to be overlooked. You are kindly greeted with endless baskets of tortilla chips and spicy salsa, but make sure you save room for your entrée. They serve a large selection of traditional dishes as well as unique house specials. Don't miss their enchiladas



NICK MARTINEZ

DaVinci's offers high-end Italian dining in the heart of Salem.

with cream sauce, which are served alongside some of the best rice and beans you can find in Salem.

Best Little Road House
1145 Commercial St SE
American food at it's finest! The Best Little Road House consistently serves delicious food. They'll bring you out a basket of sweet rolls and butter, but watch out, they're addicting! They pride themselves on having the best prime rib in town. Along with their great food, the brightly painted walls and pictures create a fun atmosphere for all ages. And for even more fun after your meal, just head out back, where they have their own miniature golf course.

Contact: krogel@willamette.edu.

NOTES FROM STUDY ABROAD: Otago, New Zealand

Where relaxed adventure is not an oxymoron

JESSIE ROBERTSON
GUEST WRITER

New Zealand...rocks! For those of you who get the reference in the first sentence, good on ya! Those of you who don't, it is a quote from New Zealand's fourth most popular rock comedy duo Flight of the Conchords. Now showing on HBO or YouTube, the television show is about the escapades of the band trying to make it big in the states. It seems that this television show may be the only access to New Zealand that some people have, so let me provide a few more details about the lovely country that I have come to call home.

Before I get any further, yes it really is winter on the other side of the equator. Not only did it snow the day I arrived, July 2, but also every cultural holiday we associate with the seasons is reversed. Imagine a barbecue and swimming at the beach on Christmas. Kiwis (or New Zealanders) find it hard to believe that white Christmases can and really do exist. If I seem particularly glum when I am back at Willamette, it may be because I have forgotten what the sun looks like after spending a year in winter.

Secondly, Australia and New Zealand are two different places. They are over 1,000 miles apart from each other and sometimes you can tell that they get along. New Zealand is a lot smaller than Australia, but their sports teams often compete against one another. The rivalry shows how different the two countries are in culture and lifestyle. Many people studying abroad here have mentioned that cultural preferences are often the



A small town 20 minutes away from Otago shows the beauty of New Zealand.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSIE ROBERTSON

deciding factor in choosing which country to live in. I've found that each country has its own distinct culture and unique experiences.

Rugby is what unites and anchors New Zealand. After taking a road trip to see just one game I became an instant fan. The game encompasses almost every running sport into one and, while I am still learning the rules, I have become attached to the All Blacks. They are the team to beat this year. If you are interested in seeing what all the fuss is about, the World Rugby Cup is on Oct. 12 in Paris, France. I know I will

be tuned in.

While in New Zealand I am attending the University of Otago. The student life is completely different from that at Willamette. The student population is over 20,000; with those numbers there is always something to do or see. The drinking age is 18. With no open bottle laws it is a common sight on a Thursday night to see a large number of students drinking and smashing bottles on the street, sometimes even in front of police officers. There is a very relaxed attitude about drinking, pub going and even attending classes. My class enrollment numbers range from 36 to over 150. Even though my professor has no idea who I am, I am reminded of how nice my classes are when I am done for the week on Wednesday at 10 a.m.

The majority of students live in off-campus flats that are

called scarfies. The reason for the unusual name is because the flats are so cold. There is no insulation and electricity is so expensive that inhabitants have to wear scarves inside the flats to keep warm. The International Office places international students in flats with Kiwi hosts who are there to help in case of any problems. I am unsure of what the office was thinking when they placed me in my flat. I am the only girl living with five boys. This has taken some getting used to, especially after living it up with my friends in the Delta Gamma house, and it has been a growing experience. This is highlighted everyday when I have to make my own meals among the mountain of dirty dishes, which I refuse to wash on principal.

There is so much to explore and do here in New Zealand that I find myself getting frustrated at

the thought that I might not get to do all of it. Some highlights include hiking the Franz Josef glacier, visiting a Marae and experiencing Maori culture, exploring incredible amounts of nature that have been untouched for 100's of years, and of course meeting the Kiwis who call New Zealand home. Some movies to check out if you are interested in New Zealand would be *Whale Rider*, *The World's Fastest Indian*, *Once Were Warriors* and of course all three *Lord of the Rings* films. Feel free to email me and I can try to answer any questions you might have about New Zealand. We do have telephones, but only four TV stations. New Zealand may be smaller than Australia, but it has tons of heart and soul that you can't find anywhere else! New Zealand...why not?

Contact: jrobert@willamette.edu

“With no open bottle laws, it is a common sight on a Thursday night to see a large number of students drinking and smashing bottles on the street, sometimes even in front of police officers.**”**

CLOSER LOOK

CASEY CONZATTI
ABROAD EDITOR

Though Rugby might not be a common sport in the United States, it is very popular in many other countries around the world. Rugby is said to have been created in 1823 when William Webb Ellis picked up a ball and ran with it during a soccer game at Rugby School. However, it wasn't until 40 years later that rugby "code" was created.

It's a sport that appears to be a combination of American football and soccer. The object of this game, like many, is to score as many points possible in two hours and 40 minutes.

There are two teams, each composed of 15 players on the field and seven substitutes. Players are allowed to throw, run with or kick the ball. Unlike some other sports, teammates are not allowed to pass the ball forward. The player with the ball can only pass to teammates behind him. Rugby is a full contact sport, meaning that players are allowed to shoulder or even push an opponent to obtain control of the ball.

The Rugby World Cup will begin in September and last until the middle of October, so be sure to tune in and root for your favorite team.

Contact: cconzatti@willamette.edu

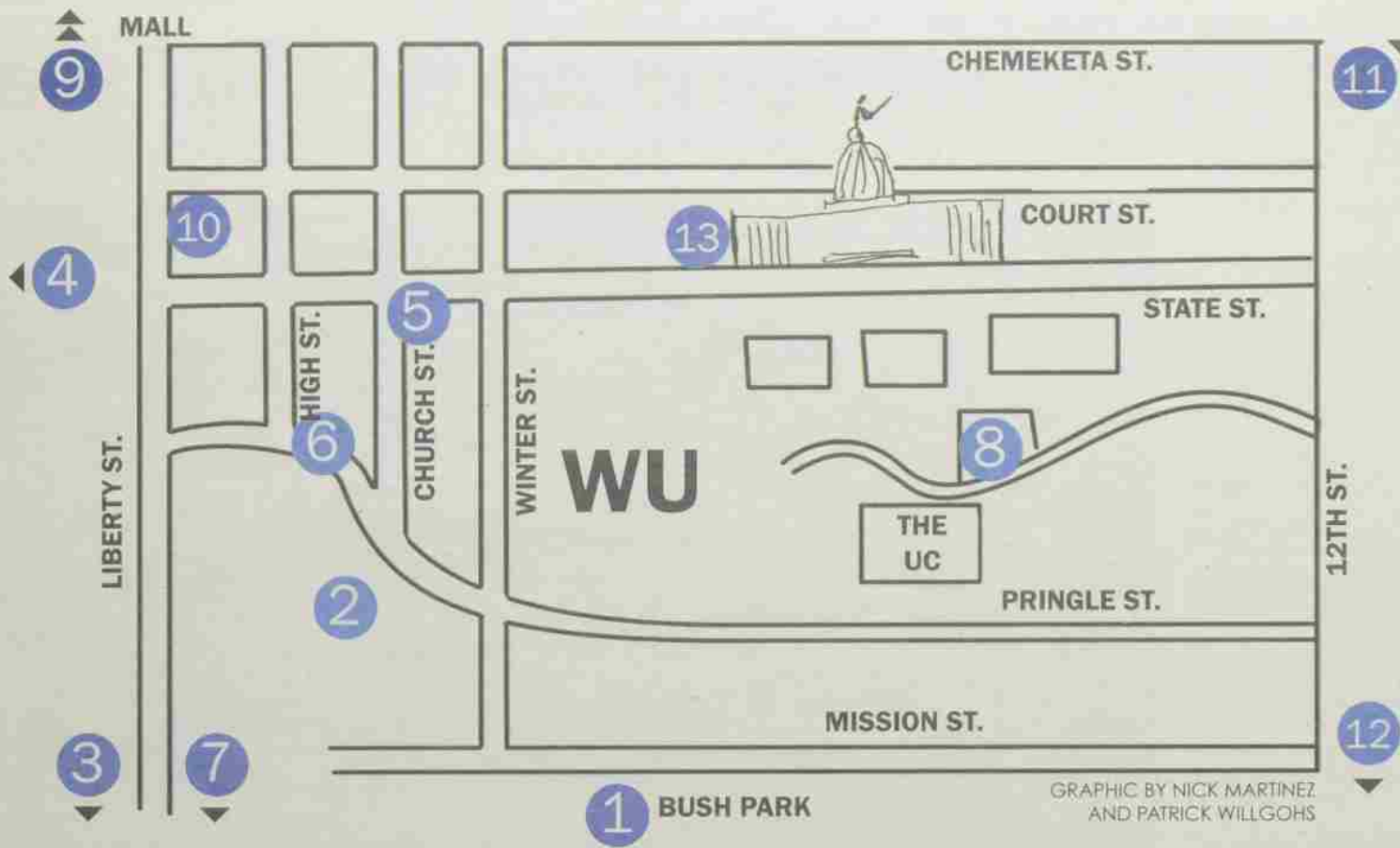
Jessie Robertson (third from right)
Julia Mazur, Emily Smith and international student Philippa Beard pose on campus across from the clock tower.



Jessie Robertson (third from right) and friends Natalie Lim, Kate Charyk and Emily Smith attend an All Blacks rugby match.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JESSIE ROBERTSON



GRAPHIC BY NICK MARTINEZ AND PATRICK WILLGOHS

SALEM BY SPOKES OR SNEAKS

Life at Willamette extends beyond its city block. Discover Salem's historical and eclectic treasures on foot or bike.

AMY HAGELIN
MANAGING EDITOR

Although you may still be figuring out the way from Belknap to Goudy, Willamette's small city block is a great place to start exploring the city of Salem. Unlike the more commercial areas of the city, downtown Salem has many unique destinations and scenic parks. It's easy to navigate downtown Salem on bike or foot, and here's a list to get you started.

parks

1 BUSH'S PASTURE PARK | Home to Willamette's track and football stadium, Bush Park has plenty of open space and paths for running and biking. Picnic tables are scattered throughout the park, and it's often crowded with picnickers and pick-up sports games on the weekends. The Bush House Museum and greenhouse are also located on the grounds.



BUSH PARK

2 PRINGLE PARK | Located behind the Salem Hospital, Pringle Park is small but peaceful and great for lounging or studying if the grass by the Mill Stream is too full of distractions.

3 MINTO BROWN PARK | Although Minto Brown is a bit of a walk from campus, its nearly 900 acres of open space are worth a visit. Miles and miles of trails make the park a great place for long runs or bike rides, and it should be especially beautiful in the upcoming fall months.

4 RIVERFRONT PARK | As the name implies, Riverfront Park runs right along the Willamette River next to downtown Salem. Complete with a working carousel and giant globe, Riverfront Park is worth checking out when exploring downtown.

entertainment

5 HALLIE FORD MUSEUM OF ART | The Willamette-owned art museum is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday and is free for Willamette students. The current exhibitions are titled *When 6 Was 9: Rock Posters from San Francisco, 1966-71*, a range of vintage concert posters, and *Ken Butler: Hybrid Visions*, a collection of hybrid instruments created from everyday objects. Visit www.willamette.edu/

museum_of_art/ for more information.

6 ELSINORE THEATER | Designed to resemble the castle in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, the Elsinore Theater is one of Salem's historic landmarks. Although the theater has had various owners and uses since its opening in 1926, the Elsinore is thriving once again with a calendar full of classic film showings and live performances. With classic movies only \$5 a showing and tickets for live performances as low as \$12 dollars, this theater is hardly out of a student's price range. Visit the Elsinore Theater website at www.elsinoretheatre.com for the complete calendar.

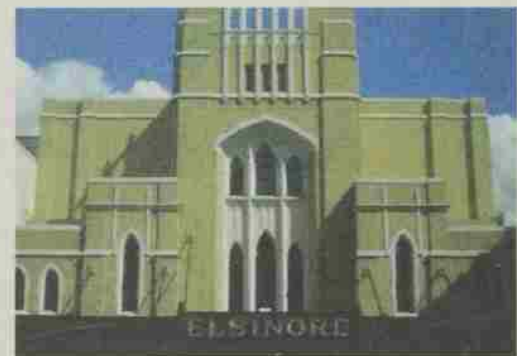
7 SALEM CINEMA | Salem's only independently-owned and operated theater, Salem Cinema shows a variety of art, foreign and independent film. Check their website at www.salemcinema.com for movies and times. Student tickets are \$6.50, and bargain shows (before 5:30 p.m.) are \$5.50.

8 SALEM CHAMBER ORCHESTRA | Willamette's Hudson Hall is a popular venue for the Salem Chamber Orchestra, as is the Elsinore Theater. The orchestra will be performing at Willamette Oct. 27 and 28, and student tickets are only \$5. For more information, visit www.salemchamberorchestra.org.

9 SALEM-KAISER VOLCANOES | The Volcanoes are a minor league baseball team located in Kaiser, just one town over from Salem, and have been a farm team of the San Francisco Giants since 1997. The Volcanoes are a Class A team in the Northwest League, and finished the season as Northwest League Champions in 2006. The Volcanoes will be playing the Everett AquaSox this weekend, and at the fireworks game on Aug. 31, the stadium will attempt to make the Guinness Book of World Records by creating the world's largest kazoo band as all the fans play "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" on kazoos. Single game tickets are \$7. Visit www.volcanoesbaseball.com for more information.

historical sites

10 REED OPERA HOUSE | Built in 1870, the Reed Opera House is now used for a variety of purposes and houses shops and restaurants. Down on the basement level, Slab Handcrafted Soap Company, owned by a Willamette alum, offers an impressive array of glycerine soaps. The Reed Opera House is also the main venue for the Salem Repertory Theatre. Their schedule can be found at www.salemrep.org.



EL SINORE THEATER

11 OREGON STATE HOSPITAL | Originally built in 1883 as the Oregon State Insane Asylum, the Oregon State Hospital is perhaps best known as the filming location for the Academy Award-winning movie "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." Although parts of the building are closed off, some sections are still used to this day and there is some controversy over what to do with the over 5,000 cans of cremains that remain on the site. An old railroad track once connected the Oregon State Hospital with the State Capitol and State Penitentiary via underground tunnels. Although visitors are not allowed inside the facilities, the building is still worth checking out.



DEEPWOOD ESTATE AND HOUSE MUSEUM

12 DEEPWOOD ESTATE AND HOUSE MUSEUM | The Deepwood Estate consists of the Deepwood House Museum, an 1894 Queen Anne style home, and the surrounding gardens. The gardens are open daily from dawn to dusk, and the house can be seen by guided tour for \$3. Visit www.oregonlink.com/deepwood for tour times.

13 OREGON STATE CAPITOL | Directly across the street on Willamette's north side, the Oregon State Capitol building and its golden pioneer are major Salem landmarks. The Art Deco style building was built in 1935, with its wings added in 1977. Many Willamette students intern at the Capitol, and the surrounding gardens are a nice place to sit and study.

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FOOTBALL

Football returns veteran group for 2007 season

Fourth-ranked Willamette looks to climb in NWC polls

JIMMY MEUEL
STAFF REPORTER

The Willamette University football team won or shared second place in the Northwest Conference from 2002-2005. Meanwhile, Linfield College dominated the field by winning or sharing every conference title in the 21st century. However, these successful runs ended for both teams last year. Linfield lost to Whitworth College. The Bearcats finished the season 2-4 in league and 2-7 overall, the worst overall record since 1982 and the first losing season since 2001.

This season, Willamette is picked to finish fourth in the Northwest Conference Coaches poll. "I think it is a fair rank for us based on what we did last season and what we have coming back," Head Coach Mark Speckman said. "But we have a great group with a lot of experience and I am very excited about this team."

Despite losing to Whitworth last season, Linfield is once again the favorite going into the 2007 season, getting five of the seven first-place votes. Whitworth was second, receiving the other two first-place votes. Pacific Lutheran was picked to finish third; the University of Puget Sound fifth; associate Northwest Conference member Menlo sixth and Lewis and Clark seventh.

The biggest holes to fill this season will be the losses of sweeper Ryan Hernandez and leading receiver Mike Plank, leaving a wide open battle for playing time in the receiving core. "The receiver jobs are wide open," Speckman said. "[Sophomore] Tony Krikorian and [junior] Drew Shepard have the most experience of our returners, but we have a good group of freshmen and transfers who will get some playing time."

The Bearcats will also return seniors CJ Washington and Skylar Swinford who, along with graduated Kevin Dean, were the two main running backs last season, as well as senior tight end Tony Davis, the Bearcats' leading returning receiver.

Under-center will also be a hotly contested position. Senior quarterback Kevin Whipps will once again battle junior Grant Leslie for the starting job. Sophomore transfer Ryan Whitcomb will also join the equation. Whitcomb enrolled



The team practices drills in McCulloch Stadium before season opener at Western Oregon University.

PATRICK WILLGOHS

in Willamette last spring and could see some action this fall. "We have great depth at quarterback," said Speckman. "The competition has made everybody better." Last season Whipps started all nine games, but was never able to completely win the job as Leslie played in seven games and took about 30 percent of the snaps.

"We are really excited about the offensive line this year," Speckman said. "We returned almost everyone from last year's team and have some good new players to give us valuable depth." Led by senior All-American tackle Brandon Bennett, the Bearcats' line is loaded with experience, as sophomore center Scott Hirschberger, junior tackle Jake Forshey, sophomore tackle Joe Penkala, senior guard Justin Cole and junior Robert Garcia all have a lot of experience.

The defense for Willamette could also be a major strength, as they return six of the top seven defenders from last year's squad. The veteran group includes senior linebacker Phil Sweet, senior linebacker Taylor Hermes, senior defensive back Tyler Gill, senior safety Ben Fennimore, junior defensive tackle Mitch MacCready and junior defensive end Mike Reeves.

Willamette also returns a veteran group of specialists. Senior all-league kicker Matt Bicoeca returns for his fourth season as the Bearcats place-kicker, while seniors Clint Moran and Stephen Shamus will do the punting and long snapping, respectively. Both are four-year starters.

The Bearcats will open the season at Division II Western Oregon before traveling to Minnesota to play Gustavus Adolphus. The Willamette home opener will be Sept. 15 against Cal Lutheran. Rounding out the non-league games, the Bearcats will play NAIA Southern Oregon on Sept. 22, before opening league play.

Contact: jmeuel@willamette.edu



A running back participates in a handoff drill in preseason practice.

PATRICK WILLGOHS

“ We returned almost everyone from last year's team and have some good new players to give us valuable depth. **”**

MARK SPECKMAN
COACH

Times are a changin': a century of sports



ANNETTE
HULBERT

SPORTS EDITOR

Sports are in a continuous state of change. The athlete who steps up his game is certainly aware of this fact. ESPN knows that the latest and greatest sports highlights will keep fans glued to their television sets.

Willamette University has provided the backdrop for significant change to college athletics for over a century, which not all Bearcats may know—even while our current athletes are breaking records and constantly changing the face of sports. Here are some of the changes to make WU history:

• 8 years ago...

Both a Willamette woman and man won national track & field championships for the first time in school history. Jimmy Watts claimed the decathlon, while Beth Fitzgerald took the 800-meter trophy.

• 9 years ago...

Willamette University made the transition from NAIA to NCAA Division III, following in the footsteps of other current Northwest Conference schools.

• 10 years ago...

Liz Heaston Thompson bears the prestigious title of the first woman to score in a college football game. Heaston's background in soccer (she was an NAIA Honorable Mention All-American selection in both 1996 and 1997) gave her an edge as the kicker in a game against Linfield College. Heaston scored not one, but two extra points in the 27-0 victory over the Wildcats, earning a place in history.

• 66 years ago...

Willamette's 1941 football team is remembered for far more than athletic achievement (which it demonstrated with an 8-2 season record). The morning after losing a game to the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, head coach Roy S. "Spec" Keene's team bore witness to the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor.

Not content to sit back and watch history happen, the

Bearcats volunteered for 10 days of guard duty at Punahou School. Most recently, the team was commemorated in an ESPN segment titled "NFL Films Presents."

"Spec" Keene is also credited for an unprecedented coaching record of six Northwest Conference championships, six conference championships in basketball, and two conference championships and two straight state intercollegiate championships in baseball.

• 75 years ago...

Long before Title IX, Rachael Yocom, class of 1937, seized every available sports opportunity and demonstrated her versatility in the process. In her junior year at Willamette, Yocom placed sixth in the javelin at the 1936 Olympic Trials.

In addition, she went 5' 2" in the high jump. A singles championship in tennis and a stint on several women's semi-pro softball teams rounded out Yocom's remarkable career in college athletics.

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WOMEN'S SOCCER

Women's soccer looks to build on last season's triumphs

DAN MASLANIK
STAFF REPORTER

The Bearcats hit the soccer field on Aug. 20, ready to improve upon a season in which they made it to the first round of the playoffs. Willamette tied the top-ranked Trinity College in the first round, 1-1, but Trinity advanced on penalty kicks (3-1). The team does not have a single senior on the roster, but will be strongly bolstered by a talented junior class, including First Team All-Northwest Conference pick Kelsey Rogel. The Bearcats will also expect quality results from a returning sophomore class, such as Meghan Anderson and Selena Levy. Willamette will enter the season ranked second in the NWC preseason poll to their closely matched rival University of Puget Sound. UPS claimed its sixth consecutive conference title last year with just one point more than Willamette. The Bearcats are currently ranked twentieth in the nation in the NSCAA poll, and hope to keep moving up the rankings. Head coach Jim Tursi has ushered in a new era of victory for the Bearcats, leading the team to nine conference titles since his arrival in 1993.

The Bearcats have a very positive outlook for the season. They plan to use their valuable experience gained during last year's playoff run and advance even further this year. "The team is very optimistic," sophomore forward Rachel Janny said. "The team is looking good. We are very young, but we did not lose a lot of talent, and we have good new freshmen coming in."

Janny emphasized the team's commitment to success throughout the season. "The team was motivated and planned to put in the work now in hopes of it paying off for them later during the season," she said. Janny, as well as the rest of the team look forward to having the continued support from their fans on the sideline.

The Bearcats play an exhibition scrimmage at home on Wed. Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. against Evergreen State College. They will face eighth ranked UC Santa Cruz on Sept. 4 at 1 p.m. at the University of Puget Sound.

Contact: dmaslani@willamette.edu



PATRICK WILLGOHS

The women's soccer team was recently ranked twentieth in an NSCAA poll.

MEN'S SOCCER

Mature players key to soccer success

Players "on the same page" for preseason play

KELSEY ROGEL
STAFF REPORTER

The Willamette men's soccer team is confident about their upcoming season. There will be major contributions from seniors Thomas Cloutier, Mikey Rodriguez, Ben Ward, Trevor Jones, Austin Buell and Adam Dew. The men have a core group of returning players who each play a significant role in the team's future success, after losing only five players from last year's team. In addition to this large group of returning players, the men have a group of 12 incoming freshmen and transfers to supplement their roster. After ending the fall 2006 season with a record of 1-17-1, the Bearcats are hoping to build greater team chemistry this preseason. "We have good soccer players, we all just need to get on the same page and work together towards the same goal," Cloutier said.

Rodriguez led the team in scoring last season, contributing five points on one goal and three assists. Sophomore goalkeeper Mark Bennett will also be one to watch, as he started nineteen games last year and recorded 116 saves.

Coach Nelson Larson is excited about the challenges the team has ahead of them after the recent team growth. "We are slowly changing the face of the men's soccer program and it is time to make those changes on the field by winning some close games and winning the games we should," Larson said.

The Bearcats will kick off their preseason playing Cal State East Bay at home on Aug. 31 at 7:00 p.m. Later they will take on University of California Santa Cruz, one of the best teams in Division III, who last year had a record of 21-2 and is now ranked 4th in the national polls. Finally, the men will round up their preseason traveling to Colorado to play Whittier and Colorado College.

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SPORTS CALENDAR

AUG 29 Women's Soccer vs. Evergreen College, 7 p.m. at home

AUG 31 Volleyball vs. Warner Pacific/Willamette University Tournament at home, 2 p.m.
Men's Soccer vs. Cal State East Bay, 7 p.m. at home
Volleyball vs. UC Santa Cruz/Willamette University Tournament at home, 8 p.m.

SEP 01 Volleyball vs. Eastern Oregon/Willamette University Tournament at home, 2 p.m.
Volleyball vs. George Fox/Willamette University Tournament at home, 6 p.m.
Football at Western Oregon University, 6 p.m.
Men's Soccer vs. UC Santa Cruz at home, 12 p.m.
Women's Soccer vs. UC Santa Cruz at home, 1 p.m.

If you're into balls, you should consider writing about them.

Become a sports writer. Some experience preferable.

Contact Annette Hulbert at <ahulbert> for more information.

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Noah's Ark-ticle Screw wading: Just jump!



**N O A H
Z A V E S**

OPINIONS EDITOR

A freshman in college you are. Probably scared to death. Certainly uncomfortable in a brand-new environment. But don't worry, because I've got the perfect fix.

A single change to your life will ensure endless fun here at college. This change allows you to meet more friends than you can imagine, enjoy 10 times as much fun as you did at home and perhaps even break the law (but in a fun and safe manner, of course). All you need to do is jump in.

Now, I know this seems easy enough to say. Just jump right in and have a good time, right? After all, this is Noah's third year on campus, and meeting new people and being friendly has become a habit. But I remember well the terror of my first Willamette arrival.

In the hotel breakfast room on the first morning, I saw a member of my OD group whom I'd met at the regional welcome party. "Go say hello," my mother urged me. "I recognize her from the house in Oakland." I flat-out refused, muted by a sudden rush of trepidation. "Don't even look in her direction," I begged.

The ordeal continued after my campus arrival. I suffered through hundreds of introductions on my floor, in my hall and at the opening e/side activity. I stayed on the wall during every Opening Days function (except the Decades Dance, of course), and avoided conversation during meals. You can ask my OD leader Shain Corey, now a senior. Suffice it to say that I prevented myself from having all the fun I could have.

Then, sometime during my freshman year, I discovered the secret to social interactions on the Willamette campus. Everyone is scared to death of meeting new people and trying new things, so why not jump in and enjoy that connection with a new friend? At every party you go to most, if not all, of the people there are more worried about their appearance, and the impressions they make, than about having fun.

Dig: The sooner you realize that everyone is in your boat, the sooner you can start to sail out together on the ocean of fun. Walk down your hall and duck your head into every open door. Knock on the ones that are closed.

You'll learn the lines soon enough: Hey, what's your name? Where are you from? Which colloquium are you in?

If it's going particularly well, you can start to improvise: So, what are you thinking about studying? What activities did you do in high school? (It's a good idea to consider and memorize a few original questions when you have a moment, lest you freeze up in this situation.)

If you really hit it off, you can jump in completely: You know, you're really fun to talk to. Want to go get some coffee at the Bistro and continue getting to know each other? You'd be surprised how effective this is - I met some of my best friends this way. (Note: You can also meet best friends on your way down the stairwell into the basement. Be on the lookout for decks of cards and nice-looking people...)

Every freshman at Willamette, even the ones who look cool, is scared to death of meeting people and going places. So make a new friend, do something crazy and experience the kind of fun you could never have at home.

Contact: nzaves@willamette.edu

EDITORIAL

With an eye to yesterday's residence halls, look to tomorrow

Many Willamette residence halls are old. Lausanne was built in 1920, according to the Fusser's Guide, and Baxter followed in 1948, to house World War II veterans studying on the G.I. bill. The rest of the Eastside dates to the sixties.

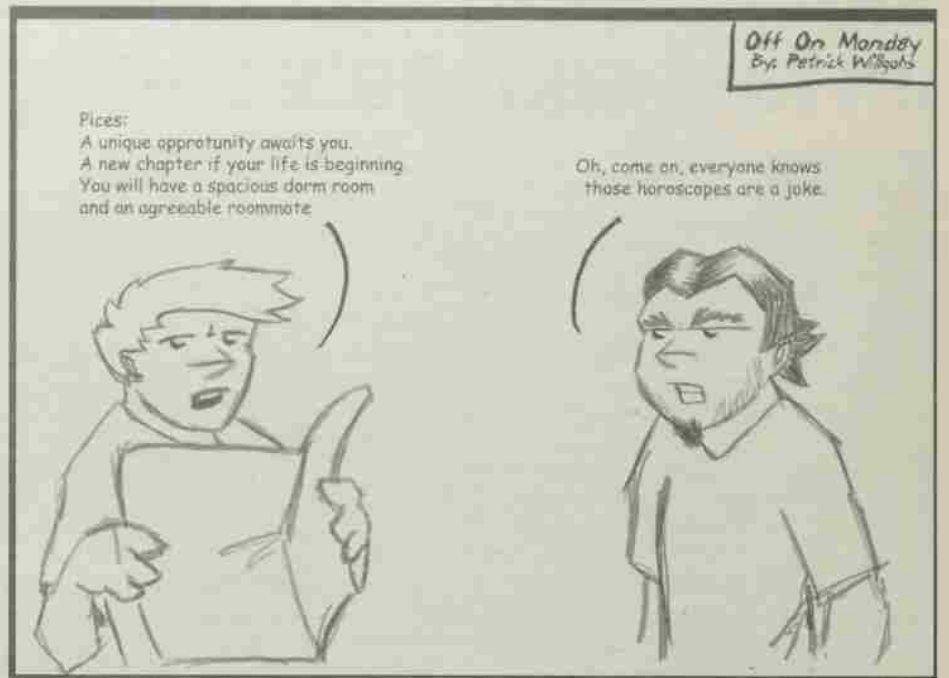
Kaneko is relatively new, built in the late eighties to house the Tokyo International University of America. Kaneko's newest wings opened last year. But we are students at an exciting time - Willamette's residence situation is about to change.

Kaneko's new wings, B & C, herald a new era of Willamette housing. Together with the "vintage" wing, Kaneko Commons is the first commons community on campus, including eating, sleeping, learning and socializing areas. The Eastside Commons is currently under development, with more to follow, including a potential Greek commons.

Willamette's older residence halls show plenty of wear. In Matthews and Belknap, paint peels off some of the cinderblock walls, and the water tastes stale. Doney's outdated architecture, Lee/York's tiny rooms and Baxter's bathrooms make living more difficult. But the situation isn't all bad.

Many of the newer halls are clean and bright. They use the latest technology and they have elevators. Kaneko and UApps have air conditioning. But the new dorms feel a little more distant than the homey, slightly run-down dorms like Matthews or Doney.

Furthermore, Willamette's residence hall quality beats many other schools. Our dirtiest, grungiest halls are still cleaner and more comfortable than many other colleges' higher-end dorms, where basic necessities like overhead



Pices:
A unique opportunity awaits you.
A new chapter in your life is beginning.
You will have a spacious dorm room
and an agreeable roommate.

Oh, come on, everyone knows those horoscopes are a joke.

lighting and heat are missing. In the next decade, several of Willamette's residence halls will be replaced by sterile and impersonal buildings. So enjoy while you have it the unique opportunity to live in a building with so much history, tradition and character. It's worth a little extra dirt in your water.

- **dorms established**
- Lausanne: 1920
 - Heseldorf: cir. 1920 (acquired by WU cir. 1980)
 - Baxter: 1948
 - Doney: 1955
 - Lee/York: 1960
 - Shepard: cir. 1960
 - Matthews/Belknap: 1961
 - Kaneko (vintage): 1989
 - UApps: 1995
 - Kaneko (B & C wings): 2006

COLLEGIAN

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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Freshmen Disorientation: Everything they don't tell you during Opening Days



**THOMAS
ACKERMAN**

COLUMNIST

This first column is for the new freshmen. Hi newbies. As freshmen there is an extremely good chance that you have never met me; as such I will take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Tom Ackerman; I'm a sophomore hoping to major in sarcasm with a double minor in sleeping and eating. I was born and raised in Phoenix, (where the cold water runs hot and most respectable people try very hard to look like Californians). People seem to find me amusing, so they gave me a column in the paper.

I learned much my freshmen year, mostly the hard way. And now through my infinite generosity, I impart my hard-earned wisdom to you wide-eyed, ignorant greenhorns. Eat French Dip sandwiches from Goudy.

Don't be a fool like me and wait until second semester to try this delightful sand-

wich. A perfectly prepared French Dip with a steaming cup of au jus, a bag of Sun Chips and a tall glass of root beer is my idea of the perfect lunch.

If you go far enough in any direction, you enter the bad parts of Salem.

Salem is a pretty nice town, but its outskirts can be frightening. If you're exploring on foot and start to see used car lots, unusually high concentrations of chain link fences, street fights or packs of wild dogs, you should probably head back to campus at a brisk pace.

Don't piss off your RA. They all know judo. I found this out the hard way.

Wrap it up. Hopefully you know what this means.

Do not dive into the Mill Stream or the Chicken Fountain. I am constantly amazed by how uncommon common sense is these days.

The library has just what you need. But you won't be able to find it without the help of a grizzled and irritable librarian.

Umbrellas are for wusses. You're in Ore-

gon now; rain is the default weather setting. Get used to it.

Don't trust the couches in the Matthews basement. There are about 60 of them all dating back to before the Reagan administration. They smell like wet dog and low-end retirement home. And they eat children.

Meet as many people as possible during Opening Days. This is the most important advice I can possibly give to you. Your first days of college are a very unique time. All too soon you reach a point where you can no longer sit with a table of strangers just because they seem cool or walk into any open door and introduce yourself. For a week or so you are free of many of the taboos of polite society; you should make the best of it. Otherwise you'll turn into a bitter recluse like me.

I sure hope my awesome advice has been helpful. I wish you all a great first year.

Questions? Comments? Death threats? Marriage proposals? Send them all.

Contact: tackerman@willamette.edu

WE KNOW YOU HAVE AN OPINION, SO SHARE IT WITH THE WHOLE CAMPUS

If you are interested in being a guest columnist for the Collegian, contact opinions editor Noah Zaves at nzaves@willamette.edu.

Which club should you join?

Repulicans v. Democrats



MICHAEL FARAGE

PRESIDENT
COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

Twenty-first Century Repression
College: a breeding ground for intellectuals, an environment that challenges students to think and question. Why is it that this nursery for free philosophy is dominated by liberal beliefs that often segregates and ostracizes non-conformists? Does the 'open-minded' nature of liberals apply only to like-minded individuals? If so, then what role do the independent-minded students play in the increasingly liberal college dynamic?

With 72 percent of college professors identifying themselves as liberal, is it a wonder that intolerance towards different political views is accepted at almost all universities? It is striking to note that while groups of students flock to 'diversify' faculty by seeking out candidates based on gender, race and sexual identity, they neglect to correct this imbalance in thought. This 'lapse' in sight dangerously violates the very ideals that these liberal students claim to fight to protect.

The dominance of left-wing groups on college campuses intimidates conservatives into silence. Many are forced to deny their beliefs for fear of punishment, either by the hands of their graders or in the eyes of their peers. Meanwhile, liberal groups claim to campaign for minority rights and diversity.

This glaring contradiction, and blatant form of discrimination, leads students to one conclusion: It is acceptable to silence and discriminate against students who hold different opinions than those the left hold. A bold accusation? Perhaps. However, all across America this intolerance has been harbored by the 'intellectual elites' of higher education.

Many professors present one-sided critiques of events both past and present, leaving those who hold differing opinions open to the mercy of subjective grading. The few students who do speak out in opposition to the liberal messages spread by professors and peers are often accused of 'hate speech', intolerance and close-mindedness.

Administrative members make subtle moves to sabotage events and speakers that promote awareness of conservative ideas, often by double booking or outright condemnation. Such actions ought to be unacceptable by any assembly, especially one that operates under the pretext of being tolerant, inclusive and compassionate.

Furthermore, the single-minded nature of American colleges ought to come under serious scrutiny. In order to foster the development of healthy and well-rounded individuals, as colleges fervently claim to do, they must allow students to decide their own paths, not coerce them into a set of beliefs.

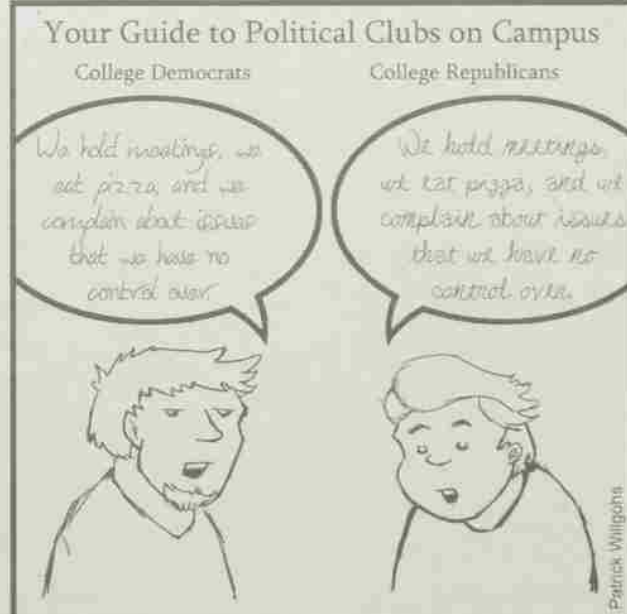
An enormous burden now falls upon the shoulders of concerned and independent-minded students, for it is the responsibility of those whose views are challenged to step up and defend them. We must take a stand to ensure balanced discussion and force students to think about the directions in which their leftwing peers and professors push them.

If it weren't for the dissenters, Affirmative Action would be implemented unquestioningly nationwide without concern. Minorities would be captives of this new form of intellectual slavery, passively subjected to discrimination and bigotry by those who maintain power through their suffering. Students would not broaden their views of abortion beyond the scope of woman's rights to include discussion of an unborn child's right to life. The idea of a welfare state would progress, ignoring the importance of personal responsibility and denying the reality that we have control over our own lives. Just as racial, ethnic and religious discrimination are rightly condemned, so too ought to be political and ideological intolerance.

As College Republicans, we see this disparity in higher education and seek to correct it. It is our mission and moral obligation to fill the information gap and present the views that are all too often overlooked or silenced.

At Willamette, it is our goal to create an environment where no student is afraid or ashamed to identify with a political party for fear of ridicule, reprisal or reproach. By hosting speakers to explain the often-misunderstood pillars of conservative thought and allowing individuals and organizations to present conservative views on controversial issues such as social justice, we strive to balance out the campus dialogue. It is our goal for students to arm themselves with as much knowledge as possible, and to use that knowledge to create their personal opinions and beliefs. As we move into the twenty-first century, let us reaffirm our commitment to tolerance of thought and intellectual diversity.

Contact: mfarage@willamette.edu



RYAN MOOTHART

PRESIDENT
COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

The race for the Presidency is already well underway, and we still have 15 months to go before the 2008 elections. This will be, without a doubt, the most contentious and important presidential election in a lifetime. Right now, thousands of our armed forces are trying to pinpoint terrorists in Iraq while simultaneously dealing with mass sectarian strife. We have over 40 million people in the wealthiest country in the world without healthcare because they can't afford it.

We have an upper class that keeps getting richer while the lower and middle classes are receiving more and more of the tax burden. The largest generation in this nation is in the process of retiring and the Social Security trust fund is going broke. Not to mention, this country is fed up with President Bush's policies.

It's our time to shine. In 2006, we saw the return of true people-powered politics. Democrats stopped trying to play along with the Republican strategy of using scare tactics to get votes. They got tough and America voted overwhelmingly Democrat in the midterm elections. This was only the beginning of the big blue tidal wave that's sweeping the nation.

In this state alone, Democrats took control and presided over a session that finished ahead of schedule and under budget, passing numerous bills that will move Oregon forward.

Democrats in the House of Representatives have passed dozens of progressive

bills to help average Americans all over this country. And the leadership of the Democratic Party is doing its best to bring our troops home from Iraq.

However, this president has rejected the will of the American people and has refused to compromise. Instead of giving tax breaks to those who need them, he gave them to those who never even asked for them. Instead of going after the Taliban and Al-Qaeda, he went after a sovereign (albeit brutal) dictator in Iraq, under the guise of "weapons of mass destruction," which has sparked civil war. Instead of spending money wisely and being fiscally responsible, this president has spent more money (that we don't have) than any other president in history.

It's time for a change, and a big change at that. Corrupt members of the Republican Party are imposing special interests that don't represent the American people, and they won't give up their power voluntarily. We need to take this power from them and give it to those who will use it to benefit all the American people (not just a select few) and the rest of the world.

You have the opportunity to play a part in this upcoming election. Help us re-elect a Democratic legislature here in Oregon. Help us re-elect our Democratic members of congress in this state. Help us take on the Republican Party and defeat United States Senator Gordon Smith, who has flip-flopped on key issues in an attempt to save his own skin. And finally, help us elect a Democrat as President of the United States of America.

We can do it and we want you to join the effort.

Contact: rmoorthar@willamette.edu

Ask Me Anything: Student-to-student Advice



JADE OLSON

COLUMNIST

Hey there all you students, faculty and staff out there in Collegianland! School is back in session and we all know what that means: another year of classes, friends, professors, activities, organizations, events and papers. In other words, it means another amalgam of stressors and dilemmas.

Now don't get me wrong. I love school! But anybody who finds college life easy isn't trying hard enough. Most of us have realized by now (or, in the case of those brand new first-year students, will soon realize) that problems abound. Relationship troubles, ethical questions, social predicaments and the like

are all part of living and learning here. And most of the time, we are able to utilize logic and reason to solve these issues and move on. However, sometimes we can't and we just don't know what to do.

That's where I come in.

You heard right, Willamette University. After years of demand from readers, your very own *Collegian* finally has an advice column! I have dubbed it "Ask Me Anything," and I truly mean just that. I'll be answering questions about college life, family, health and wellness; sex, school, ethics, work, friendship, relationships and more.

Why should you listen to me? Honestly, for the same reason that you'd seek out the advice of any friend. I can often empathize with your situation, and if not, I can certainly sympathize. I don't claim to have any more

experience or knowledge than any other junior at this school, a fact which, I believe, makes my advice all the more salient.

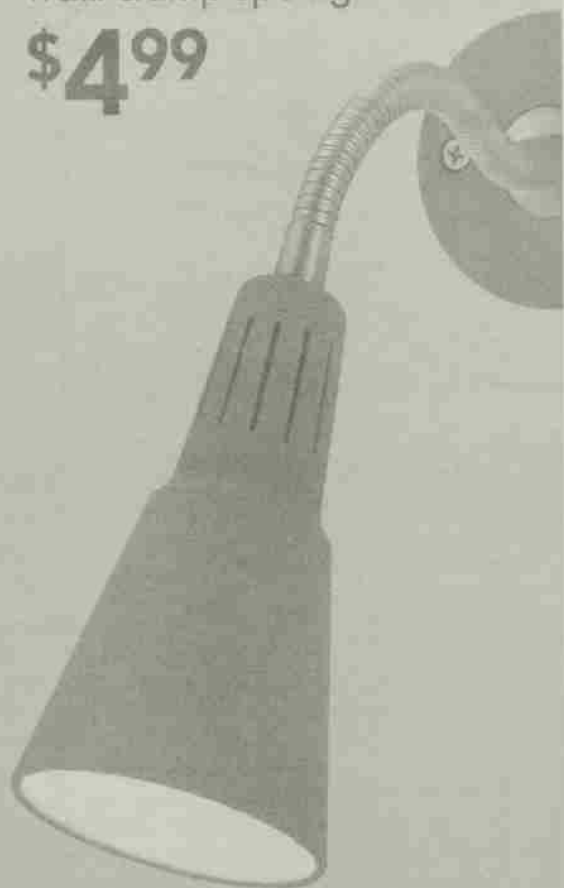
Embarrassed to ask your friends? Ask me. Unable to make an objective decision? Ask me. Lacking the necessary information to take action? Ask me. Send your questions (remember, they can be about anything) to jolson@willamette.edu. I promise I won't go looking you up on Facebook, but if it makes you feel better, send them from a non-Willamette e-mail address. Come on—you know you have, like, four. I guarantee your absolute anonymity. Everyone is welcome to submit questions (yes, that means you too, professors!). And keep in mind one simple mantra that my mother taught me: It can't hurt to ask.

Contact: jolson@willamette.edu

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters can be sent by postal mail, email (estanden@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.

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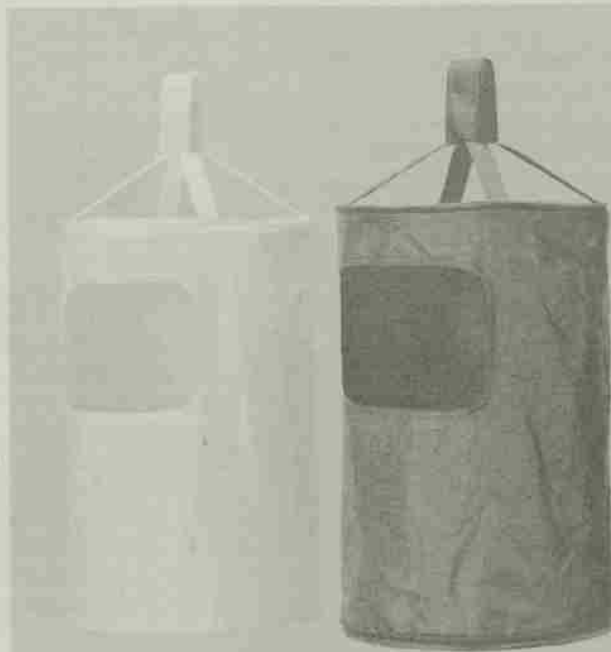


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