

WU stands up to hate and fear post-election

GIANNI MARABELLA
NEWS EDITOR

“There is no room in our country for hate, and we need to let that be known,” said sophomore ASWU senator Nate Dausman at a rally held on Nov. 11, in Jackson Plaza. The event was setup to allow people within the Willamette community to come together in the wake of the results of the presidential election and the hate crimes that followed.

Students, faculty and community members came together to protest against hate and to give support to marginalized groups on campus and around the country.

The rally was put together primarily by Dausman, sophomore senator Akerah Mackey and sophomore Marleigh Williams. The three emphasized that the event was meant to encourage love and solidarity, not spread hate.

“Today is not about Donald Trump,” Dausman said. “Today is about us. Today is about fighting the hate and bigotry that he has let loose in the country these past 18 months.”

Having pride in one’s self and one’s backgrounds was a major theme throughout the rally.

“I’m Black, and I’m proud to be Black,” Mackey said. “I want you guys to look at each other and see that the hope in their faces is fading. We need to work together to restore it.”



SANJAY KAPILA



CONNER WICKLAND



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Top: Protestors hold up signs with messages of love and support. Left: Attendees were encouraged to write messages on the ground of Jackson Plaza. Right: Sophomore senator Akerah Mackey comforts sophomore Madden Ott after speaking.

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U. of Iowa Prof. Gundlach talks to WU About African ceramics



PRESTON SCHERR

Professor Gundlach giving a lecture on the spiritual shrines of the Lobi people.

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Swim teams look to make a name for themselves this season

JARED SPOHR
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday, Nov. 12, Willamette swimming competed against the Puget Sound Loggers in a conference match-up. For the men, Puget Sound defeated the Bearcats by a score of 120-85 and for the women Puget Sound was victorious 118-87. However, the Bearcats put up a good fight and both the men and women’s team won four different events. With these results, Willamette is now 0-4 in the NWC and Puget Sound moved up to a dominating 4-0.

There were several standout performances for Willamette’s women’s team. Junior Cassie Tallman took first place in the 200-yard freestyle and the 100-yard freestyle. Sophomore Rachel Harvill took first place in the women’s 50-yard freestyle and junior Jamie

Johnson followed close behind to earn second place. In the 100-yard backstroke competition freshman Niki Kates took first, followed

closely behind by freshman Jensine Rasmussen who took second place.

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TAYLOR HOUSTON

The men’s team won a number of events but couldn’t best the Puget Sound Loggers this past weekend.



Alphi Phi holds Autumn ‘Under the Sea’ formal

KARI MILLSTEIN
CONTRIBUTOR

On Saturday night, the members of Alpha Phi and their guests met at the Mill Museum across from Kaneko for their annual fall semi-formal, this year themed Under the Sea.

This event was organized by Mattie Wiltbank, the vice president of risk management for the sorority. It was her job to book the location, set it up and clean up after everyone left and spread the word to assure attendance.

Formals like these are regular occurrences, and act as an event for members to get excited and help get rid of stress.

“We have semi-formals in the fall, and formals in the spring,” Wiltbank explained.

She went on to talk about the purpose of these events, and why they are so important for Alpha Phi.

“Basically it’s an excuse for sisters to get together and bond and have a fun dance party.”

Wiltbank is a founding member of this chapter of Alpha Phi, the newest sorority at Willamette. Alpha Phi was started at Willamette in the spring of 2015 by a small group of women who wanted to build a sisterhood around specific ideals that they agreed were important to represent as a part of our campus community.

“We have 6 values that we try to promote and live by: sisterhood, scholarship, service, loyalty, leadership and character development,” Wiltbank said. This code of integrity guides the members of Alpha Phi in both their personal and social lives. The hope is that this comes across in all the events they host, including their formals.

Dressed as a mermaid, Wiltbank and a sorority sister, Mikayla Carias, decorated the space with lights, glow sticks and blue and green curtains that created an atmosphere of watery depths. They also provided snacks to fuel the dancers, such as a shrimp cocktail platter, shark shaped gummies and goldfish. Everything was set up to immerse those who attended and help them relax as the semester kicks into gear for the home stretch.

Along with the various outfits and food options, a blow up Dory from “Finding Nemo” was set up along the wall, creating a light atmosphere to go along with the underwater themes and decorations. Several people took the chance to be photographed with the famous fish, and Dory was a popular attraction all night. Strangely enough however, when interviewed, Dory swore she never saw any of them before.

All kidding aside, the night was a chance for those in Alpha Phi to let off some steam, and for attendees who weren’t members to get an idea of what their world is like.

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Born in a dead man’s town

Artist Jess X Chen performs and enlightens in Cat Cavern

IRIS DOWD
STAFF WRITER

Poet, activist and interdisciplinary artist Jess X Chen came to Campus on Wednesday, Oct. 9 to provide what students described as much needed empowerment and hope. The event was organized by Carol Li and the Asian Student Coalition (ACE), which was formed last year by WU Alum Tiffany Chan.

Chen offered a workshop in the afternoon, and then, in the evening in Cat Cavern, she performed some of her poetry and showed slides of some of her other work. Before Chen presented in the evening, students were given the opportunity to perform their own work, some written in the earlier workshop. Chen told students at the workshop to write about the prompt, “imagine some type of armour,” to help protect a marginalized identity or sense of belonging.

Chen was born in the United States to first generation Chinese immigrant parents, and her work centers around themes of immigration, home and isolation, ecofeminism and the “queerness” of nature. She performed a poem that began with a quotation from the Bible, in Genesis, and then went on to list animal species that have non-heterosexual sex.

“This queer non-white planet is the legacy we are born from.” She noted that oysters transition from male to female when pro-

ducing a pearl, and that there are “65,000 hermaphrodite species.”

“Our queerness is ancient persistence.” She criticized those “who are trying to police the way we love each other.”

Chen then turned to the theme of nations and borders, saying that “borders are tools for colonization.” She stressed the idea of building a nation within yourself “that no legislation is able to touch,” especially if the larger country that you live in does not accept your identity.

She read a number of poems about past relationships, and spoke about finding home in another person, but then feeling lost when that relationship fell apart. Migrating birds are a recurring theme in her work; in particular she noted an endangered species that flies over the U.S. - Mexico border.

Some of Chen’s comments were made to be direct responses to current fears in America.

“America is a foster country that smells of extinction” and “indigenous feminism is really what can save our world right now,” were two of her more profound quotes.

She noted that, because of recent events, “America doesn’t even feel like home anymore.” She also noted that the American dream was like “a ghost” or “a lover that never existed.” Her poem “Prayer for the Honeybee” spoke of a “white monoculture” threatening the health of the ecosystem.



MADISON PHELPS

Jess X Chen gives a spoken word performance in the Cat Cavern.

She spoke about the 1989 Tiananmen Square protest in China, and shared some of the murals that she has created, saying: “a mural is a portal to the world we want to live in.” A poem, she stated could be, “a portal to personal healing.”

One of her visual art pieces listed binaries, from US:Mexico, man:-woman, binary:trans, white:color and heterosexual:queer. She also shared a series of portraits she did of incarcerated mothers.

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Convo: Dealing with a Trump presidency as a community

DORIAN GRAYSON
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On Oct. 10, 2016, over 125 people packed into Cone Chapel for a post-mortem on the election. Four of them were the panelists: Sociology and Ethics Professor Emily Drew, History Professor Leslie Dunlap, Economics Professor Jerry Gray and Politics Professor Melissa Michaux.

Introductions started with Dunlap, who shared her surprised reaction to the results of the presidential election, a reaction shared by many in the country.

“I agreed to participate on this panel about a month ago. On Tuesday I had a panic attack,” Dunlap said.

She explained that after the election, many minority groups voiced that the results were not surprising. The surprise experienced by white liberals in the wake of Hillary Clinton’s loss was symptomatic of privilege creating an experience gap. She explained that this was because mainstream progressives didn’t listen and that discourse is very important.

“Consciousness is not individual, but forged collectively through conversation,” said Dunlap.

Drew related Trump’s win to David Duke’s success in Louisiana when she was a child.

“The polls would have him lose, then he would win,” said Drew.

She went on to emphasize the necessity of understanding what Trump’s victory means about America: this country is racist. And yet she also had a message of hope. She had been through Republican presidencies before, and they weren’t the end of the world. But those who were most at risk were immigrants.

“To the people who are in the groups who Donald Trump was attacking, [...] you are welcome here and this is your space too,” Drew said. “You have to cross our bodies to take you out of here,” Drew said.

Michaux continued the discussion, determinedly hopeful after claiming to be too dour in her classes.

“This was a very close election,” Michaux said. “More Americans voted for Hillary Clinton than Donald Trump.”

She then took the political perspective. Voters are largely ignorant, voting on how they feel rather than facts. According to research, policy matters much less than most would guess.

“Voters use the vote as a bludgeon, not a policy tool,” Michaux said.

Finally, Gray took the economical perspective. Coincidentally or not, he was also the most pessimistic in the group.

“I do think that the economy itself is acting in the way capitalism typically acts,” Gray said. “I



CONNER WICKLAND

Panelists discuss the election results in the Cone Chapel.

think we’re blaming all the wrong people.”

The first question was about how to react to the election.

“For me it does feel comparable to the 2000 election,” Drew answered. “Take the feelings of fear and disgust you have of this election and add to it the actual rigging of this election by company interests.”

To others on the panel, though, it was different. Trump marks a significant departure from the regular way politics operated. Another student asked what Trump would be able to actually do.

“Anything that was created by executive order is very easy for Trump

to undo.” Michaux said. “I don’t get a sense that Trump cares too much about policy details. I imagine they would [repeal Obamacare] within the first 100 days.”

“Just another depressing note, I really think that the environment is the most important thing,” Gray said. “I think we’re too late. I think we’re already way behind on this. That situation is going to deteriorate.”

Despite all the info that flew around in the Cone Chapel, the real purpose of last week’s convocation was to allow the community to come together and help one another heal.

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W. Academy works to bounce back

CAROL LI
STAFF WRITER

The solidarity rally last Friday at Jackson Plaza recalled memories of this past spring, when students, faculty and staff also showed support and solidarity to protect an important college program right by our campus, Willamette Academy (WA).

Although efforts to support Willamette Academy and its students have been prevalent over the course of many years thanks to several students, last semester was inscribed in public memory due to the great amount of encouragement from many members on campus to fight for the program. This was in addition to various other issues on campus such as the eradication of the Title IX coordinator position, and the non-consensual displacement of the Student Center for Equity and Empowerment (E&E).

A prominent moment last year was when the front of Montag was fully occupied by students standing in silence to show the Board of Trustees the importance of protecting Willamette Academy.

"I am a former WA student from the class of 2014," Willamette Academy staff member Ira Cuello-Martinez said. "The academy will always hold a special place in my heart since it has helped me be academically successful in

high school and pursue my goal of studying in higher education. It provided resources and information to a student that lacked the necessary tools needed to apply and enroll into a university."

"[Willamette Academy's] main focus is to provide resources to students of marginalized identities who have a strong desire to attend a four year institution," said staff member Marisol Garibay-Cervantes. "For example, we provide support in succeeding in middle school or high school through access to tutors, computers, calculators and empowering role models and staff. In addition we help build confidence through a variety of activities, lots of community building, leadership and prep work. Really we want students and their families to feel confident in themselves so they are prepared when they have to apply to college."

Staff member Lina Truong also emphasized the fundamental aspect of WA is to not only get students into college, but support students to be able to go to the college of their choice.

However the catalyst for opposition last semester arose when former appointed executive director Jacqueline Rushing and the University wanted to substantially change the program.

"WA would become a new program, a pipeline program to Willamette University, which is not a

part of mission statement," Truong said. Through student activism and organizing, proposed changes were not implemented. However, the program is not completely 100 percent back to its full potential.

"We just got our new executive director, Emilio, and he's doing a lot of work to bring back the program to a stable state. However, we still lack space and support," Garibay-Cervantes said. "Our academic resource center is now in a classroom in Smullin, which I question why we're there. It's cool that we are surrounded by students and faculty, but the fact that we can't get our old space in the Executive Building is problematic. The fact that we are down two administrative positions is also problematic. Our executive director is doing the job of three and he needs support."

All three have also expressed that they are in high demand of tutors and even volunteering and talking to students an hour a week will substantially help a lot.

"The Academy is continuing to rebuild itself. We need volunteers to support the students," Truong said. "It needs humans, it needs bodies to support us in the curriculums that we have. It's important to support the Academy because this Academy is a safe space for the students. Without volunteers, we are not able to keep this program running as smoothly as it could, to

reach its potential, so it's harder for us to provide that safe space for students."

Cuello-Martinez pointed out the importance of recognizing the Academy.

"It is important to acknowledge that WU is a part of the Salem community and WA is a direct connection to this community."

To volunteer at Willamette Academy or for additional information on how you can support, contact Volunteer Coordinator Angela Turpen, <aturpen>.

"It's important because this program exists for a reason," Garibay-Cervantes said. "It exists because the reality is that a lot of students don't have access to the college process. That's why this program is vital to support students and empower them."

Willamette Academy alumni and staff members Ira Cuello-Martinez, Marisol Garibay-Cervantes and Lina Truong agreed to participate in an interview for this article. All three do not speak on behalf of the Academy but have graciously agreed to share their own personal opinions to inform the Willamette community about the importance of the Academy and the current state of the program.

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ASWU discusses '16 WU finances and accounting

ASHLEY MIURA
CONTRIBUTOR

At ASWU senate's last meeting on Nov. 10, Controller Ken Pifer from Finance and Accounting gave a presentation on the endowments of the University and of ASWU. Pifer explained how the endowment worked and talked about the current financial status.

Pifer used an example of a three-legged stool to describe the endowment health factors, with three legs holding it up. The legs would consist of the spending policy, additions and investment returns. A state law called UPMIFA governs how endowments are managed and ensuring consistent investment return.

"We want to benefit the current generation, but not at the expense of future generations," Pifer said.

Current thinking in the endowment community, according to Pifer, maintains that a sustainable spend rate is in the neighborhood of 4-5 percent. Willamette's spend rate is within this margin.

Pifer also talked about how the 2008 recession affected the endowment, and showed charts that clearly displayed how the endowment dipped in value after it occurred.

"Most of our [Pacific Northwest] peers have returned to their pre-recession numbers," Pifer said, "but Willamette has not. We were not as quick to reduce costs and we haven't had as high rates of additions, but we want to get back to that."

Funding from the endowment, according to Pifer, goes to projects around the school, as well as to faculty and staff. It is normal for endowments to lose a lot of money, as long as there are additions.

"Sometimes we lose money, and that's just a part of it," Pifer said. "We've barely been keeping up with what we've been taking out. Hopefully that will improve."

Pifer also talked a little bit about the ASWU endowment. While not actually an endowment in the complete sense of the term, since the entire sum can be taken out similar to a savings account, it should be treated more like an endowment, or with what Pifer called SRI, or socially responsible investing.

"The ASWU endowment should not be viewed as a short-term savings account due to the long-term horizon," Pifer said.

After, junior spokesperson for the recently-formed Advocates for Dis/Ability Awareness and Accessibility (ADAA) Johanna Lyon talked about the club's purpose and outreach.

"A lot of students at Willamette seem to think there are no students with disabilities on this campus," Lyon said. "ADAA hopes to change that way of thinking and provide more resources for students with disabilities."

As they are a fairly new club, the ADAA is still in the process of reaching out to people, but Lyon says they hope that they can add disabilities as a more focal topic to the Opening Days program next year.

WU stands together against hate

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The event also acted as a call to action, getting the message out that simply caring might not be enough anymore.

"There is no room in our country for hate, and we need to let that be known," said Dausman. "Trump may have been elected president, but this is our democracy and we need to make it know that there is no room for racism or bigotry in our democracy. There is no room and we will not tolerate homophobia or bigotry or misogyny. These are things that we will not let happen."

Privilege was also heavily discussed, and how it will be important in the coming years.

"Be prepared guys," Dausman said. "Every day for the next four years while he's in the White House, we have to be prepared to step out and fight. And if you have the privilege that other people don't, there's a responsibility and an accountability that goes with that to make your voice heard."

After this introduction, attendees went up to give their own thoughts on the election and the country's reaction to it. A diverse assortment of individuals went up, with backgrounds ranging from privileged upbringings on the West Coast to struggles making due as undocumented residents of the country. The event was not restricted to Willamette students

and faculty, with prospective students and an elementary school teacher engaging in the dialogue as well. The threads connecting them were the plea for the community to show love to one another and the call to action in support of everyone victimized by the upcoming presidency.

"If there is ever a time to be a good friend, now is the time," one student said, with another saying, "I know that people around the world, not just in this country, are afraid. But we have people everywhere who are willing to support us and we aren't alone."

While this was going on, attendees wrote messages of sup-

port and encouragement in chalk on the ground of the plaza.

It was repeated many times that while those with privilege must use it to help those without, that they also must keep it in check and allow those who have been marginalized to speak for themselves.

After this, Dausman went up again to express thanks for the support garnered and all those who helped put the event together.

"The three of us got together on Wednesday night to make this happen, but it wasn't just us. Karen Wood from the Chaplains office was in full support of this. Also, we have so much faculty support. I only emailed like 6 professors but so many more are here. It isn't just us, we have this institutional support."

After this, Mackey led the group to the Capitol with a series of chants such as "we reject the president elect" and "No K.K.K., no fascist U.S.A." At one point those who identified as male chanted "Their choice," while those who identified as female chanted "Our choice" to show support of women's rights.

In front of the Capitol, Mackey spoke to the crowd over a megaphone regarding what to do with the imminent transition of power. She urged everyone to know their rights going forward, and to take part in keeping each other safe.

"I know it's hard, but you need to be documenting any and all hate crimes you are exposed to," Mackey said.

It was stressed that the fight against hate and injustice would not end at Willamette.

"I have been planning another rally for January when he is sworn into office," said Mackey. "We can't let up."



CONNER WICKLAND

Protesters hold up signs rejecting the violence and hate urged on by the election of Donald Trump.

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Coping with racism: A suggestion

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Racism in this country is prevailing over sanity, and, if not properly addressed, may soon be here to stay. Between daily micro-aggressions and a political climate where a president endorsed by the KKK will take office soon, it may be time to explore how best to deal with the racism we all face daily, rather than focusing all our efforts towards fighting it.

The coping skills listed here are only suggestion, and in no way a comprehensive list. These are just a few to get you started.

These coping skills are ways that you may invest your own time and efforts in solving problems that arise from racism. This will help with mastering the daily stress and conflict of racism,

which, sadly, we must all tolerate for now.

The first step to coping with racism is remembering that you are under no obligation to educate racist people. You can if you want to, but first, ask yourself these three questions:

Am I prepared emotionally to have this conversation?

Is the person listening going to actually take something away from this conversation?

Is this someone important to my life? (If so, it's probably worth the energy.)

If any of these questions come back as a no, simply walk away.

Also, don't waste your breath on internet trolls, people at parties you'll never see again or folks you just know are never going to change. When engaging in long, serious discussion about race, you can exhaust yourself.

So, this choice really comes down to picking your battles. You don't speak for your entire race, and you are definitely not required to educate every person whose racism crosses your path.

The next suggestion focuses on micro-aggressions in particular. Since micro-aggressions are more likely to occur on college campuses, this skill, in my opinion, is the most useful.

When you're faced with micro-aggressions such as:

"You're pretty for a dark girl," or "You're not like most Asian guys."

Ask the simple ask question: "What do you mean?"

This will make the person try and validate their racism and eventually help them realize that what they said was offensive. The person will likely trail off and save you from using the above skill of picking your battle.

Now, it is possible that they'll keep right on digging themselves into a hole, at which point you can either decide to simply move on or educate, in which case you will need the next step.

So, let's talk about a case where you have decided to educate them or that they have continued to make racist comments. Make it about their words or behavior. When People of Color are dealing with racism, it is often not the first time. Usually, the topic has an attached PTSD. So, when accusing a person of being racist, try not to attack them personally.

This is extremely important, because it stops them from being defensive, and you can point out exactly why the behavior or words are problematic. So, try replacing phrases such as "You are offensive," with ones like "That phrase is pretty offensive

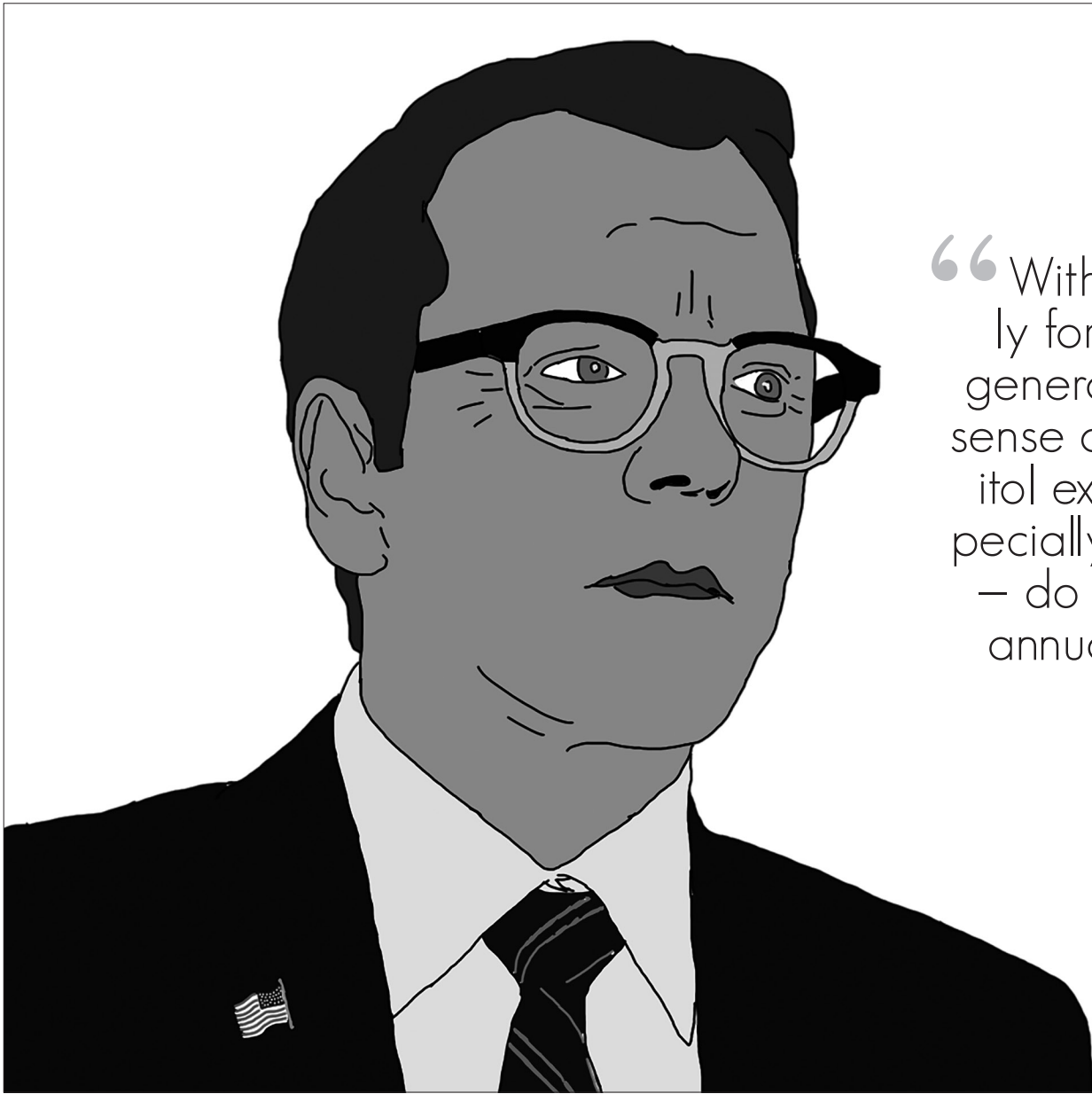
to Native Americans." This may save you from the emotional battle that is discussing deep rooted racism.

The last suggestion I have is to take care of yourself. Racism is taxing and traumatizing. Find a support system. This may be visiting the E&E, going to the Multicultural Affairs Office for a chat or finding other clubs and resources on campus. The benefits to your health and daily quality of life can be phenomenal.

Stress from coping with racism can affect every area of your life, including your mental well-being and your performance in school; it can even lower your immune system (hence why People of Color may have shorter life spans). But you truly can combat daily racism, and it is important to practice safe ways of doing so.

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'Designated Survivor' enlivens dark political fantasies



“Without blaming this show directly for Trump's victory, it would be generous to say no one felt a deep sense of satisfaction seeing the Capitol explode and cease to exist, especially during the State of the Union — do most Americans feel that the annual speech is full of truths and promises to be kept?”

KYLEE NISHIMURA

JULIANA COHEN
STAFF WRITER

If "24" embodied the spirit of America under the Bush Administration, then "Designated Survivor" is reflective of reality following the once-unthinkable election of Donald Trump.

When FOX canceled "24" in 2010 after nine seasons, most television critics had already stopped caring about the political thriller — in the age of Obama, it was argued, Jack Bauer supposedly represented bygone attitudes about torture and terrorism. Exploding cities, presidential assassinations and red-herring villains from fictional countries, according to the critics, no longer had prime-time viewers on the edge of their seats.

It didn't matter if Cherry Jones, playing a tough female president, was

made to endure a raid on the White House that resulted in a terrorist slapping her across the face — hard. For every viewer who rooted for Jack's tryst with a spunky, redheaded co-worker, another longtime fan grew weary of the campy twists and turns.

After years of growling into a Sprint flip phone, going rogue on his bosses, murdering security guards and not once eating or going to the bathroom for 24-hour intervals, Jack didn't make sense as a character — he narrowly escaped death from a lethal pathogen and watched most of his friends die before his eyes. Few fans mourned the show's cancellation.

Kiefer Sutherland, by no means a bit-part actor, had to return to television; he hasn't yet turned 50 and has the star power to once again carry a show. Tom Kirkman, the affable and humble low-level Cabinet member

who suddenly becomes President in the first episode of "Designated Survivor," is nothing like Jack Bauer — as if Sutherland hadn't proven his acting chops decades ago.

Every show involving a fictional White House reflects an attitude about the nation's present state of affairs: "West Wing," benevolence and wisdom; "24," the whack-a-mole approach of Bush's War on Terror; "Veep," cynicism; "House of Cards," cronyism.

"Designated Survivor" is about accelerationism: wiping out all the crooks in power at once and replacing them with a virtuous outsider. The initial fantasy wears off in the plot, as some powerful D.C. inhabitants, along with the rest of America, still live to take advantage of this power vacuum. Without a federal government to speak of, governors are free

to become despots and hurt marginalized populations.

Imaginative pundits speculate, every so often, that Donald Trump doesn't want to be president — or that he does, but would likely pass off decision making to the extreme conservatives in his circle. And with Trump being 70, still chowing down on fast food and soda, it's not uncommon to hear some speculate that he might die soon. Impeachment is a less macabre possibility.

On a network like ABC, one might think broadcasting a scenario in which the Capitol gets utterly destroyed would be a step too far, a ludicrous and upsetting concept that no one wishes to actually happen. Bereaved staffers are heard saying things like, "everybody died. Everybody."

"Designated Survivor" came out in late September, before many voters

received their ballots. Without blaming this show directly for Trump's victory, it would be generous to say no one felt a deep sense of satisfaction seeing the Capitol explode and cease to exist, especially during the State of the Union — do most Americans feel that the annual speech is full of truths and promises to be kept?

What's clear is that the election results have left Americans of all political leanings exasperated and eager to shake off existing leadership (big and small), and "Designated Survivor" lets viewers envision a ridiculous catastrophe for the purpose of catharsis. Years from now, the program might become a symbol for our current climate, as was "24" last decade.

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Perspectives on African ceramics at Hallie Ford

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Last Thursday, Professor of Art History Cory Gundlach from the University of Iowa gave a talk on some of the works currently on display in Hallie Ford’s “Figure and Form: African Ceramics from the Keith Achepohl Collection” in the Paulus lecture hall in the law school. Professor Gundlach spoke on his work studying the ceramic art of the Lobi culture whose people live inland in Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, and Burkina Faso.

Professor Gundlach began his lecture discussing the colonial and post-colonial history of Burkina Faso, as well as the geology and ecology that influence the types of ceramics that are made and the role they play in society.

Gundlach’s work centers primarily on the pottery used in the assembly and maintenance of shrines and the people who use them. Typically, pots are used to store millet, beer, sorghum and other foodstuffs. However, similar pots are also used in shrines as a means of purification rituals. In some instances, those who are guilty of murder are made to go before a shrine and shave their heads, filling the pots with their hair as a means of atonement.

Gundlach explained that in the Lobi culture, shrines are the main locus around which towns and vil-



PRESTON SCHERR



PRESTON SCHERR

University of Iowa Cory Gundlach speaks about African art on Nov. 10..

lages are built. Shrines are often in inconspicuous and even deliberately hidden places, a practice that lasts as a vestige of French colonial rule. During the colonial era, French authorities would often destroy these sacred sites and criminalized their maintenance. One Lobi priest, Da Dansan, appropriated materials from an old railroad used by French colonists to make a shrine. Da Dansan stated that he used railroad material such as posts, track and pieces of steel as a means of commemorating the forced labor to which his ancestors were subjected to build the railroad.

Gundlach explained that there is an effort within Burkina Faso in particular to preserve the use of traditional Lobi products, tools and buildings. For example, he talked

about the growing concern about the use of concrete structures to build Westernized dwellings as opposed to traditional houses made from earth and clay. These houses have very few windows, though most include a small hole in the ceiling where light shines through onto the shrine which always includes decorative pottery. This creates extremely high contrast lighting, heightening the mood of the religious practice.

There is a split among ceramic artists and the healers, diviners and priests who use ceramics for spiritual purposes as to whether or not ceramics should be used as trade items in the growing tourist industry in Burkina Faso. Some believe that their culture’s pottery should remain strictly in the religious realm, while others, such as entrepreneur Da Oho

Djeneba, defy religious and cultural norms by selling ceramics reminiscent of those used for spiritual purposes to tourists.

Professor Gundlach explained that there is a special relationship between women and pottery in Lobi culture. For example, women who earn money by selling pottery get to keep that money and are not obligated to share it with their husbands.

The “Figure and Form” exhibit runs until Jan. 29 of next year. Students are highly encouraged to go see the impressive collection of sacred and secular ceramic works on display and learn about the unique culture and history of each piece. A guided tour of the exhibit will be held on Dec. 13 at 12:30 p.m.

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Let’s talk about abortion

JACKIE MCKENNA
STAFF WRITER

If I got pregnant tomorrow, I would get an abortion.

I recognize how that can be read as a controversial statement, though I don’t say it looking for controversy. I understand that it isn’t the decision many others would make or have made. I say it only because it is a simple fact for me. Each person has their own personal relationship with the subject. It is not my intention to dismiss anyone else’s experience with abortion. That said, some people just won’t like this.

I understand its inherent sensitivity, but we need to have this conversation and it needs to be normalized. It needs to be. The existing conversation too often poses abortion in literal life-or-death terms. I know how and why this is a political tactic to make these conversations happen at all in the public eye, at the highest level. And I’m happy when abortion is talked about at all; I think we all know that when there is no conversation, abortions still happen in unnecessarily shitty ways and people with uteruses truly are much more likely to die. Even today, in 2016, the president-elect and vice president-elect want to defund and delegitimize Planned Parenthood, which would leave millions of women without access to abortion and other medical services, on top of humiliating those seeking abortions by forcing them to hold a funeral for the fetus.

Painting abortion as a universally traumatic and always awful event continues to demonize a medical procedure that is as perfectly safe as any other average procedure when performed by a medical professional. It is entirely possible to be cognizant and respectful of the people whose abortions represent the worst days or periods of their life even when I say that if I got pregnant tomorrow, I would get an abortion.

The conversation needs to be as much about the right and access to abortion for people who just don’t want to have a child. Being pro-choice means supporting my right to abortion, period. If you are the kind of person who thinks abortion is only acceptable in emergency situations, consider this emergency: a person is pregnant who does not want a child.

Maybe they can’t afford parenthood; maybe they are too young and not ready to have a baby; maybe they are pregnant as the result of an assault; maybe they physically cannot carry a viable pregnancy; maybe they already have children to care for; maybe they just don’t want children. Maybe it’s nobody’s business whose uterus is not personally involved!

Nobody who chooses abortion for any of a million personal reasons owes any old rando — including crusty old government officials — an explanation for their choice. The reality of an actual abortion procedure in the United States is a normal medical decision made between a patient and their care provider. If my birth control failed and I chose to get an abortion, that would be no more the general public’s concern than if I slipped, broke a leg and needed staples; it’s an ultimately unremarkable accident that does not require the moralizing of strangers.

I don’t want the conversation to be, “Abortion should be legal because it’s already so awful and the people who choose it shouldn’t be criminalized.” It needs to be, “Abortion should be legal and easily accessible because it is a person’s basic human right to be able to choose whether or not to carry a pregnancy in their body.” It should be, “Parenthood is a choice, not a punishment.”

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Highlighting students at WU: “Alika Masei: Athlete, academic, activist”

CAROL LI
STAFF WRITER

As a senior majoring in both Sociology and Women & Gender Studies with a minor in Asian Studies, Alika Masei, ‘17, dedicates himself in many realms within the Willamette community. Even though it is common for students to be involved in many extracurricular activities, Masei puts forth a genuine compassion, care and kindness towards others.

On top of being a full-time student, Masei is involved in various social justice efforts and organizations on campus is an RA and is a varsity swimmer.

Carol: How would you describe yourself?

Alika: That is a hard question. I feel like the most common way that I describe myself is being an introvert at first and through the process of

getting to know people, they make me to be more extroverted. I feel like sometimes I have an issue with becoming too connected to the people and the initiatives that I care about that sometimes I need to check myself and create distance between my involvement and who I am as a person. Although I do feel like having the emotion and passion that drives a lot of my involvement in the spaces that I inhabit is important and valid.

Carol: What would you say you are passionate about? How and why did those passions become significant in your life and efforts?

Alika: The realm that I feel that I am most passionate about would have to be creating spaces for people who feel isolated or marginalized because of who they are. As a Willamette student who struggled with my sexuality and gender expression while at this institution and within my life, I have

committed myself to making sure that no one has to experience the types of struggles that I have faced. And if they do face similar struggles to mine, that they know that there’s a network of support that aims to validate their experiences and who they are.

Carol: What do you dedicate your time and energy to?

Alika: Ooh. I feel like that’s a very loaded question. I think that the things I most dedicate my time to are being involved in and critically engaging with systemic issues around marginal identity groups in society.

Carol: So what work have you been doing?

Alika: Related to the realm of athletics I have striven to integrate my passion for social justice and genuine care for the members of my swim team community by creating and facilitating a workshop centered on identity exploration. I have also pursued opportunities to create additional resources for the LGBTQ+ community which has led to the establishment of Willamette’s LGBTQ+ Resource webpage and further conversation about the importance of gender pronouns on Willamette’s campus. As a part of the Presidential Task Force on Equity and Inclusion, I aim to give voice to marginalized student experiences across campus in the assessment of the implementation of a Chief Diversity Officer. These are a couple of the facets of Willamette that I am involved in, but sometimes I enjoy simply being with friends and supporting one another in the daily struggles that we experience being at Willamette.

Carol: How are you able remain resilient throughout your college career? Who and what has motivated and uplifted you?

Alika: For me, the friends, the faculty and family who have been sup-

portive of my experiences but also my identity while being at Willamette, have pushed me to continue to be involved in the work that I am doing. Specific shoutout to my best friend, the faculty in the Sociology and Women & Gender studies departments and all my friends and people in general that have been there for me in moments where I felt invalid.

Carol: What do you hope for yourself in the future?

Alika: I hope to continue the work that I started at this institution and extend it into my education at a graduate level. Sometimes I cannot fathom the level of disengagement with this work because of its importance. Acknowledging the histories and traumas of our country and trying to move forward to create better futures for marginalized communities must be emphasized as it affects all of our lives.

Carol: Any final thoughts that you would like readers to know and think about?

Alika: I would like to mention something that a mentor told me that really spoke to the amount of power we hold as individuals, which we often forget. He said, “You will never know the impact you have on someone by simply being in a space.” This has really impacted my life and fueled my energy in the areas that I’m involved with. I would like to one, thank the people doing the work on this campus to fight for marginal communities to have a voice, to take up space, to be valued. Secondly, for those of you not involved in these efforts to promote equity for marginal communities, now is the time to be active. Complacency is not enough.

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TESS PANETTA

Animal Misconceptions

Find out more about our

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Unfortunately, animal misconceptions are prevalent in our schools, homes and social media sites. Everyone has likely heard that goldfish only have a three second memory span. However behavioral studies have shown that they likely can remember things for many months, and can even associate sounds with feeding times, operate tiny levers and recognize their owner's presence. Examples like this are never-ending, and they often show up in Willamette's media through the *Collegian* and the Toilet Paper.

One animal that is always given a bad rap is the **sloth**. Sloths are tropical mammals that live in the canopies of trees in Central and South America. Their name in nearly every language means lazy, which is a reflection of the fact that they are the slowest mammals on the planet.

That doesn't necessarily mean they are lazy or deserve the name sloth, one of the Seven Deadly Sins. Sloths are actually incredibly efficient. They are able to save energy by not moving much, a necessity since their diet of leaves is so low in carbohydrates.

The **turtle and tortoise** misconception is one that is also alive and well in our society. While turtles and tortoises are both reptiles, they are very different animals. The main difference is that turtles live in the water while tortoises live on land. As a result, turtles usually have webbed feet adapted for swimming while tortoises have short, sturdy feet for walking on land. In reality, there are actually turtles, tortoises and terrapins. Terrapins spend their time in both land and water, but always live near water.

Pigs are often viewed within our society as unsophisticated, dirty animals whose sole purpose is to provide food for humans. In reality (despite popular belief), pigs are actually one of the most intelligent animals after humans, following elephants, dolphins and certain primates, among a few others.

Pigs also have a widely established social hierarchy. They are able to distinguish the difference between pigs that are a part of their group in contrast to those from others that are intruders, or are introduced via farm hand. Pigs are also capable of memorizing and sharing food sources among

their group and concealing it from outsiders or competition.

The reason for their perceived uncleanliness can be attributed to the fact that they don't have the ability to sweat and therefore roll around in mud or puddles to reduce their body heat and cool off.

Since life began in the sea, marine creatures have had more time to colonize their environment and adapt to its demands than us terrestrial creatures. However, many people still look down on the underwater world and regard its inhabitants to be sluggish or unintelligent. The misconception of goldfish listed above is one example, but some of the most important misconceptions about aquatic life relate to sharks.

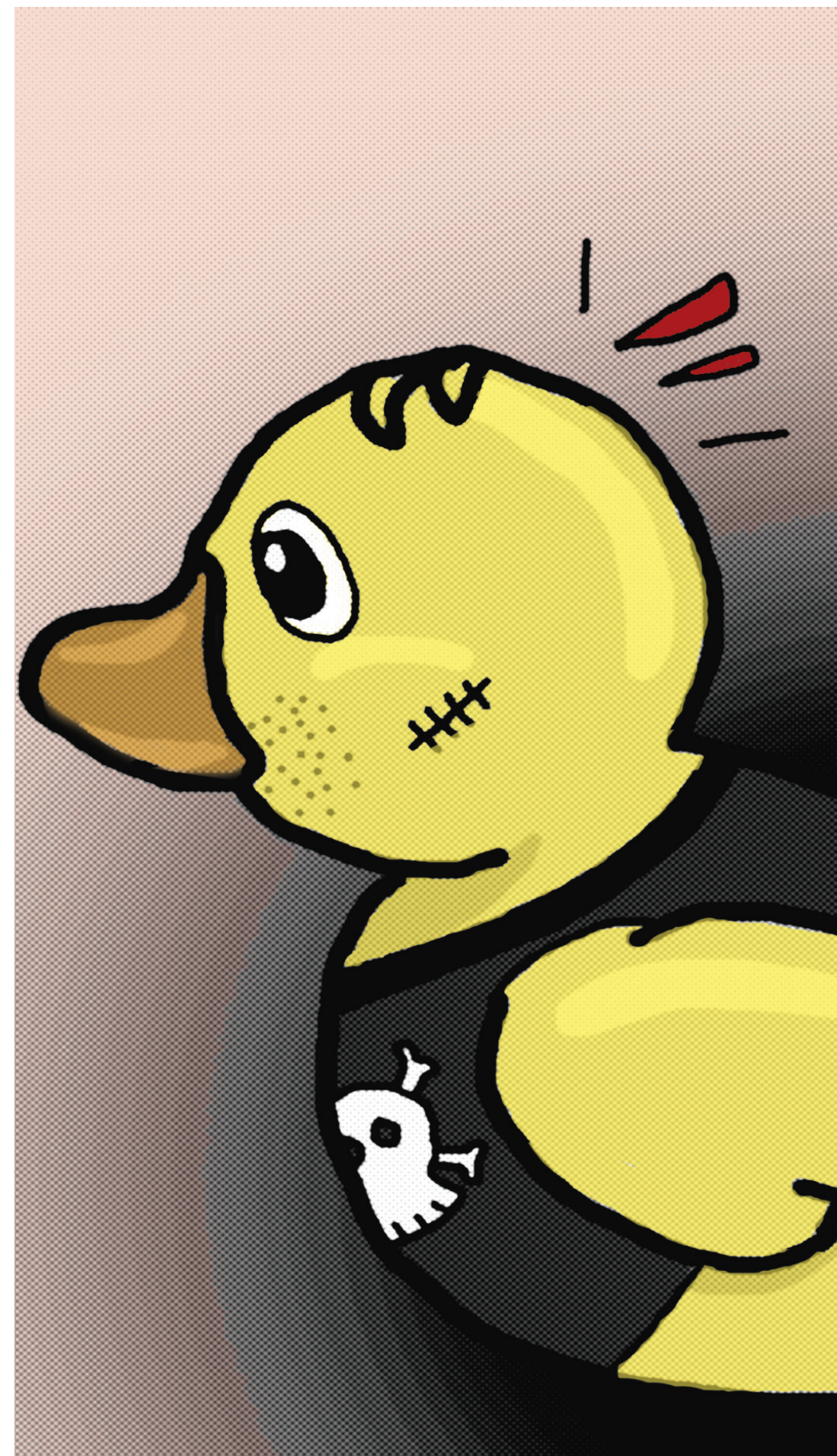
Sharks first appeared around 450 million years ago, which is long before the dinosaurs showed up about 200 million years ago. Many of the modern sharks we see today evolved around 100 million years ago, so these creatures are true living fossils.

Even with their ancient background, most people only regard them as ruthless killing machines bent on terrorizing all who enter their watery domain. Unfortunately, this stigma has been blown out of proportion through Hollywood hits such as "Jaws" and "Deep Blue Sea," but it's important to remember how inaccurately movies portray animals, especially Spielberg movies (the Velociraptors in "Jurassic Park" were triple their actual size, and Jaws was ridiculously large for a great white shark).

If an animal has been around since before the dinosaurs and is still here with us today, then clearly evolution has taken all the proper measures to ensure its adaptability within its environment. Now why would killing all life in sight be evolutionary advantageous? If sharks exhibited such an extremely detrimental behavior, it would result in severe population decline of potential food sources, thus driving themselves and other apex predators (us, for example) extinct. Homo sapiens aren't extinct – yet – while many shark species are threatened, so it's about time we stop blaming other species and labeling them as "killers" when we are the ones doing the most killing.

In fact, of the 48 shark attacks in 2015, only three were fatal. Meanwhile, at least 100 million sharks were killed by humans. So who's really to blame here?

Overfishing is the reason, but it's not just from accidental netting by fishermen. The unfortunate and gruesome reality is that sharks are purposely sought for their fins, which are chopped off and the still alive body



is thrown overboard, where it slowly bleeds out and dies. The fins are used in shark fin soup, a delicacy in some Asian countries, though it is outlawed in many other countries including the

United States. Making this illegal is a step in the right direction, but more needs to be done to protect these vital creatures as part of the oceans ecosystems.

conceptions

furry friends on campus



hot, dangerous, non-air conditioned world in which they live. One of the most well known facts about camels is that some, those from the Middle East and Africa, have one hump, and those from central Asia have two.

However, have you ever considered why they have humps in the first place? Particularly in the hotter places camels inhabit, external temperatures can exceed 120 degrees over long periods of time, temperatures at which a human would likely experience dehydration and potentially die. This heat also makes it very difficult for plants to grow, and as camels are primarily plant-eating ruminants (similar to a cow), this means that food is only available for certain periods of the year. So, camels bring their food with them in the form of large amounts of fat in their humps, which can be digested and broken down into both food-energy and water.

Camels are not polar bears or penguins though. They don't live in cold areas where scarce food means energy needs to be insulated. They are trying to lose heat as fast as they can on hot days. This is why camels have humps on their back: it allows them to concentrate all of their insulation away from their internal organs where most body heat is produced.

Another animal of particular interest to Salemites are **owls**. Owl Capone, the attacking owl in Bush's Pasture Park, brought Salem fame from shows like "The Rachel Maddow Show."

The most common owl images that are introduced to the public are through beloved cartoons and films, such as "Winnie the Pooh" and "Harry Potter."

Owls are commonly portrayed as characters who have a vast amounts of knowledge and will share that wisdom when a protagonist is in trouble. The association of these humanistic qualities with the owl, or any animal in general, is formally defined as anthropomorphism.

This act is commonly committed by the subconscious and can lead to many misconceptions. For example, if an owl tilts its head to the side, an anthropomorphic approach to explain this behavior is that the owl is contemplating an idea. This explanation of the head tilt is a humanistic approach because the act is a common behavior among humans. Owls are not humans, however, and so any head tilt cannot be attributed to the cognitive process of an owl. By avoiding anthropomorphism, less misconceptions will be created and the spreading of false information will be further limited.

Willamette's most prized wildlife, our **ducks**, seem to hold a place in everyone's heart. They are also likely the most misunderstood campus animals. Many *Collegian* articles mention the duck couples and their romantic antics that "inspire true love in the Willamette community." In reality, female Mallard ducks are generally monogamous, meaning they have one mate, but the males frequently pursue females other than their mates. Additionally, males force copulation onto females with their corkscrew penises in an often hard-to-watch display, since it appears as though the male is drowning the female.

Other duck misconceptions include how the standard duck's quack is the sound of a female Mallard, since males don't quack. Another thing to keep in mind: feeding bread to ducks may have seemed like a fine practice in the past, but it causes serious health problems for the ducks and pollutes the water.

Squirrels are the other common and well-loved campus animal. Many people don't know that there are two types of gray squirrels: the non-native eastern gray squirrel that is prolific on campus and the less well-known native western gray squirrel.

The eastern gray squirrel was brought over from the East Coast by Governor Ben Olcott in 1919 and released on the Oregon Capitol grounds because the governor thought that they were cute and more gregarious than our native squirrels. It is true that they are more gregarious, but this causes problems because they are able to out-compete the native squirrels and take over. Western gray squirrels are considered a threatened species in the state of Washington and they may be on their way to that listing in Oregon as well.

So the next time you see a Facebook post with animal facts, question it. Do your research and ask your neighborhood biologist. We can all do our part to be well-educated about animals so we can teach the kids in our lives the real facts. This will increase curiosity, and foster a culture that values knowledge and the animals we share the planet with.

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Moving away from the cool waters of the ocean and entering the dry arid land of the desert, **camels** can be found and so can their misconceptions. These intriguing humped mammals are often

seen as being stupid, poor-tempered pack animals, with little value beyond carrying things for Indiana Jones. However, camels are actually a model of incredible adaptation to the incredibly



SPORTS BRIEFS

LOUIS KNOX
STAFF WRITER

This was a big transition week for many Willamette student athletes. Many fall sports have ended and many winter sports are beginning. A lot of the athletes will shift into their offseason programs, while many others will transition into retirement from playing their collegiate sport.

CROSS COUNTRY

This week in cross country, two athletes were selected to compete in the 2016 NCAA Division III Cross Country Championships. Unsurprising to many, the two selected were senior Olivia Mancl and junior Patrick Loftus. The championships will be held Saturday, Nov. 19, in Louisville, Kentucky.

MEN'S SOCCER

With the season being done for a week now, the men's soccer program begins a large transition period as they lose eight of their key seniors. This includes veteran goalkeeper Josh Fuentes, who recorded 86 saves in his career, NWC Honorable Mention forward Julian Hanlon-Austin and lock down defender Jack Elton. Junior forward Alan Hernandez received NWC First-Team All League honors, partly because of his four goals this season.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Women's soccer received well-deserved awards for a long season of hard work. The Bearcats had three athletes that received conference recognition: junior forward Emmy Manset, first team, senior midfielder Emma Sanders, second team, and sophomore defender Liz Stewart, honorable mention. The Bearcats are going into the offseason looking to replace six key seniors from their 2016 campaign.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The women's team has entered the 2017 season, with an entire returning roster from last year's season. Last year, the Bearcats finished with a record of 12-13. However, under the leadership of senior guard Kylie Towry, who averaged 13.5 points per game, the Bearcats look to improve this year. Last year, the Bearcats were known for their explosive firepower from beyond the arch with the team averaging over seven 3-pointers per game in the 2016 season.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The men's team is entering the 2017 season with a very young roster. They only have three seniors on the team this season. However, the team has two returning junior starters, Nico Troplent and Brendan McCullough.

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Football finishes the fall season

A heartfelt farewell to our 2016 senior Bearcats

ERIC DEL PRADO
STAFF WRITER

Willamette football ended their 2016 season last Saturday at McCullough Stadium, with an unfortunate loss to the George Fox Bruins, 21-7. The Bearcats finished the year with an overall record of 3-7, and were 2-5 in the Northwest Conference. Prior to the game, the 25 seniors who poured their heart and soul into the football program for four years were honored before they played their last collegiate football game.

Willamette played better offensively in terms of yards gained in comparison to the Bruins, as they were able to earn 364 yards on offense compared to George Fox's 293 yards. The 'Cats were also more efficient in their first downs. They recorded 21 first downs on the day compared to the Bruins' 12. However, the Bearcats were not able to overcome their four turnovers, which ended up being the difference in the game.

Willamette got the scoring started on Saturday when senior Jimmy Sharpe ran in from one yard with 8:53 left in the first quarter. This was the last time the Bearcats would see the end zone for the season, always getting close but never able to convert.

George Fox tied the score three minutes later and was able to then score twice more, once in the second quarter and once in the third quarter.

On the defensive side, sophomore Kendrick Pearson had eight tackles to lead the Bearcats. Senior Nikk Ryan added five tackles and one and a half sacks. Senior running back Taylor

25-36 on pass attempts for 188 yards. That bumped him to the 3,000-yard mark for his career, and he looks to improve this number next year for the Bearcats.

small play could have gone the Bearcats' way in those games and they could have easily been 7-3 on the season.

They also were a very resilient second half team because they never quit, and many times, dominated the opponent in the second half. There are many positive things to take away from this season as they look to rebound in the 2017 season.

Many of the seniors played important roles on the team for the past couple of seasons, and there are many key players that will return for next season. Junior quarterback Ryan Knowlton and freshman quarterback Matt Castaneda will both return with more experience in leading the offense under their belts.

Leading receivers juniors Jordan Fickas, Jeremiah James and Kevin Martz will also be back and will play safe targets for the quarterbacks to throw to. Also returning will be junior offensive lineman Sal Lopez, who has been a key fixture the past three seasons for the Bearcats.

Willamette will be working hard in the weight room and on the field during this upcoming offseason in order to make a push for the NWC title in the 2017 season.

“While they did not finish with the record they had hoped for, the Bearcats did show some good signs during the 2016 campaign . . . There are many positive things to take away from this season as they look to rebound in the 2017 season.”

Wyman wrapped up his career with 56 rushing yards, which put his season total at 1,037 yards and his career total at 2,027 yards.

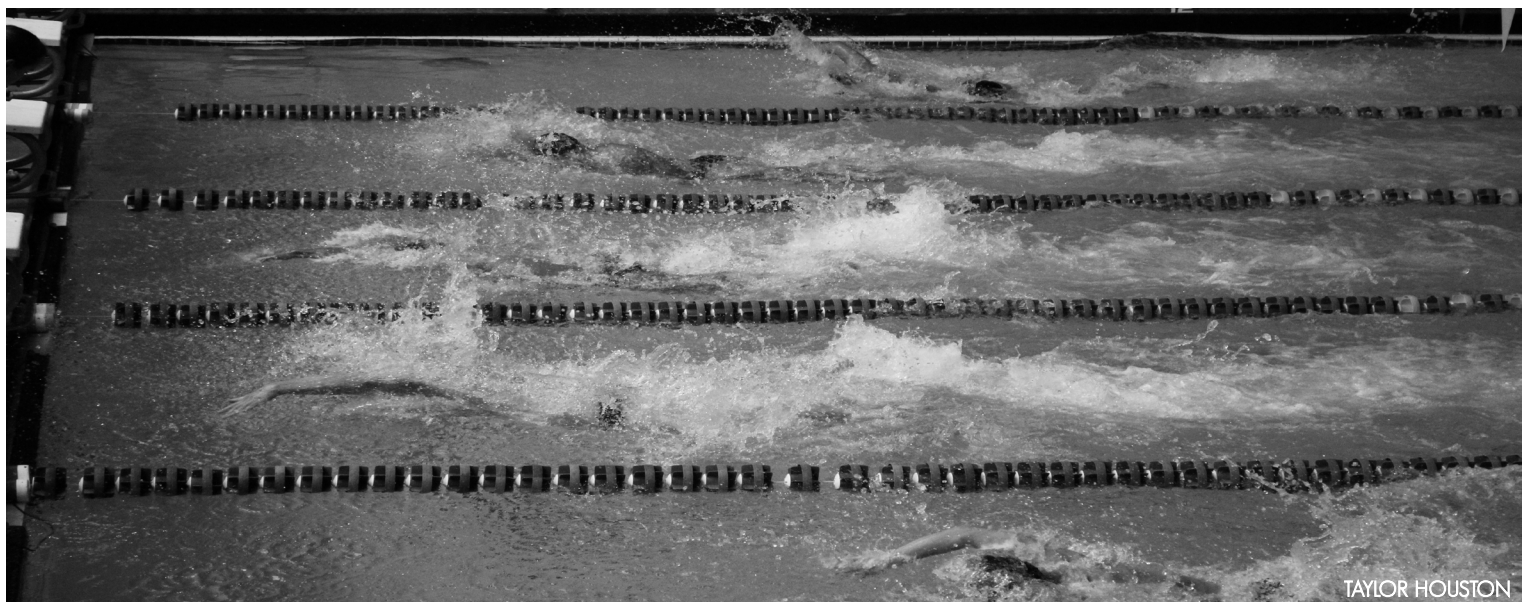
Junior quarterback Ryan Knowlton finished the day going

While they did not finish with the record they had hoped for, the Bearcats did show some good signs during the 2016 campaign.

Four of their seven losses were within two touchdowns or less, which showed that any

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Diving into the 2016 swim season: Facing rough waters



TAYLOR HOUSTON

The men's and women's swim teams competed against Puget Sound this last weekend, but unfortunately did not get the win.

CONTINUED from page 1

On the men's side of the swim team, senior Shelby Merrill came from behind and took first in the 1,650-yard freestyle. The grueling 33 lap, 1,650-yard race, ended with a win by Merrill in a time of 17:23.28. In addition, junior Mark Yuvienco and freshman Ben Hedman ended with a 1-2 finish in the 400-yard individual medley. Freshman Derek Ludwig finished first in the 100-yard butterfly. Senior Alike Mesai finished just in front of senior Jason Bayang in the 100-yard breaststroke to complete another 1-2 finish.

“I am feeling pretty optimistic about this season from a team perspective. I think all the freshmen guys this year are fantastic and have tremendous potential,” said junior Reuben White, who placed second for the Bearcats in the men's 100-yard freestyle.

“I also think some of my older teammates, for example Shelby Merrill who is a senior this year, have been swimming really fast. From my own individual perspective this first half of the season has been a little rough, but it's getting better. I am definitely stronger than past years, and my stroke is a lot better. My times haven't

been where I want them, but I am confident in the training of Coach Shevlin and Coach Summers, and I think by the end of the year I'm going to be ready to do some fast swimming,” White said.

White noted that the key to his progress this season came from success outside of the pool.

“So when I get into the locker room I can focus on swimming fast. This means making sure my academics, sleep and food are all good. If I am struggling in practice it usually has less to do with what I am doing when I'm there and more with what I am doing when I'm not there. Ideally

not a whole lot is going through my head when I compete. I tend to think a lot, and I swim fastest when I can get in my zone and just focus on swimming. The most important mental aspect for me in competition is making sure I don't overthink my race and just perform exactly what I've been trained to do.”

The Bearcats will compete at the CAT Senior Open in Corvallis, Oregon on Dec. 2 and 3.

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Curse of goats be gone

The Cubs finally won, which was . . . Expected?

ALEX GORDON
STAFF WRITER

It took 108 years, but the Chicago Cubs finally won the World Series. Since their last Series game, the Cubs played 15,000 regular season games, and in that time span, both radio and TV were invented. Halley's comet passed the Earth twice during this time. The flag poles that were put in place to hold future banners at Wrigley rusted and had to be replaced. Mark Twain was even alive.

Sports "curses" are odd because the longer they last, the more they seem realistic. The rational reason for the Cubs taking over a century to win another title was that they simply never had the talent. That discrepancy came from a number of factors, including money and the willingness to spend it. They seemed to run into fluke failures during any prolonged stretch of success, which is certainly enough to make one think that divine intervention must be involved over the course of a 108 years.

Depth always seemed to be the issue though, and more often than not the collapses were predictable. The fact that life-long

Cubs fans could have been born and died never seeing their team win a World Series was pretty incredible, and it was a period of ineptitude that we rarely see in any single organization over any peri-

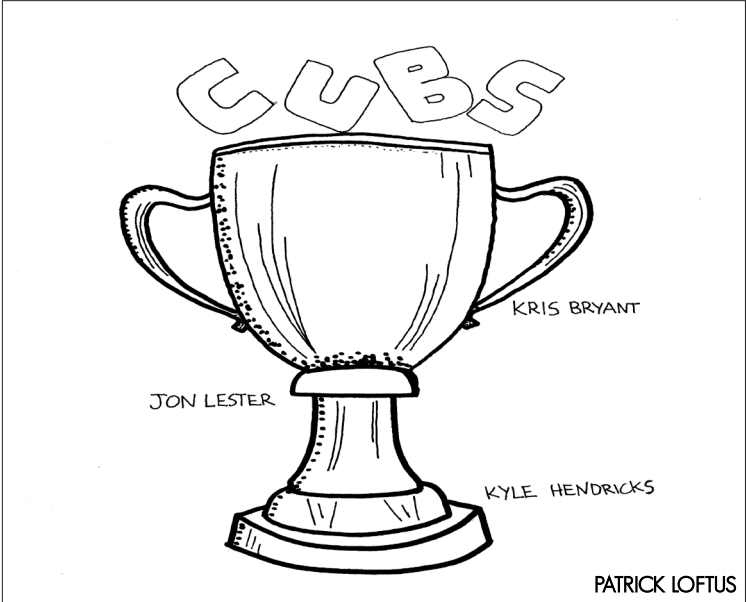
ing to end an '86 World Series drought in Boston, Massachusetts. He immediately began to rebuild that lead to the Series win we just witnessed for the Cubs. He scraped the middling

showed itself in Game 7, in contrast to Cleveland, which was forced to start its ace Corey Kluber three times in a seven game series.

The funny thing is, is after being the loveable loser for so long, this was no sporting miracle we witnessed. Four Cubs were in the running for some of the MLB's highest honors, including Chris Bryant for the National League M.V.P., both Kyle Hendricks and Jon Lester were nominated for the Cy Young award and Joe Maddon was nominated for Manager of the Year.

The Cubs were the best team in the National League by record during the season, and played well all throughout the playoffs. For the first time in forever they were the favorite, and yet we still had a series for the ages. Those pesky dark forces swirled one last time in resistance during Game 7 as if the world couldn't bare to see this great futility come to an end, but they prevailed as the odds would have predicted they would. Maybe they can do it again in another 108 years.

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od of time. They took all the steps they needed to in order to remedy that however, starting with the arrival of general manager, and certified curse buster, Theo Epstein.

Epstein signed with the Cubs after the 2011 season, after help-

team that the Cubs had been rolling out for years, opting instead for a youth movement that would produce some of the best young players in the league.

They assembled a deep and talented pitching staff, which

Willamette distance runners' time to shine

KELLEN BULGER
STAFF WRITER

Willamette is a school that has seen its fair share of success in athletics. With more than 180 All-American athletes, eight combined National Championships and six Olympians in it's history, we're no joke on the field. However, with all that being said, one sport that does not draw the largest crowds or bring in the most money or garner the most attention is cross country.

Under the leadership of Head Coach Matt McGuirk, the Willamette Cross Country program has flourished. Since McGuirk took the helm in 2001, the Cross Country teams have won either a men's or women's Northwest Conference Championship 13 out of the last 16 years. This unprecedented level of maintained success is simply not seen at many other universities.

One thing that Willamette distance running also does is create top-notch athletes. Nearly a staggering 20 percent of the All-Americans from Willamette either competed in cross country or a distance event on the track. And as far as the National Championships go, five out of our eight combined championships are from either cross country or track and field. We're pretty good at this running thing.

Now, I can already hear the critics mumbling while thumbing their way through the *Collegian* about how a cross country and track athlete like myself is simply being braggadocious in favor of his own sport. If there's one sport that can afford to be advocated for, it's cross country.

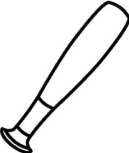






What many consider the absolute worst part of their day, week, month or even year is what these strange humans do every day for fun. While many are recovering from various forms of Saturday night fun, these people are meeting at Bush's Pasture Park every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. for an easy 50 to 80 minute run. While in no way is there any proclamation here for an increased level of praise, there is an understanding that begs to be reached.

Whenever I am introduced to a person and I tell them how I competitively run, nine out of 10 times they scoff and detail how they hate running or just do not understand how someone could enjoy that activity. Yet, the reality is, we do enjoy it.

In no way are there any arguments being made here that distance running is inherently better than any other sport or deserves to be treated as if it is. However, there is a point to be considered, that next time you walk past a couple of women or men that are shuffling along in shorts that appear to be egregiously small in length, maybe give them a "good job this season." Maybe not. Just know that these student athletes have and continue to represent our institution in a way that we can all be proud of, no matter the level of popular praise.

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this week in sports

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
1 	2 	3 	4 	5 	6 	7 

AARON ODA
STAFF WRITER

This week in sports was a doozy with upsets happening left and right in college football, the NFL season rolling on and the NCAA basketball season underway. So let's take a look at what happened this previous week in sports.

NFL

This week we are focusing on a rather unfortunate finish to a football game. The match-up was between the Denver Broncos, who are 6-3, and the New Orleans Saints, who are 4-4 this season. Fast forwarding to the end of the game; the Broncos converted a 37 yard field goal with two minutes and 50 seconds left in the fourth quarter, which put them up on top with a score of 23-17. With the Saints controlling the ball, it took them six plays and 75 yards to score a touchdown, which then tied the game up at 23-23.

The Saints attempted to kick for the extra point to take the lead, but the Broncos blocked the kick and returned it to their end zone, taking a shocking lead of 25-23.

The Saints, who looked in line for the win, had to try for an onside kick because they just scored the touchdown and it was their turn to give the ball back to the Broncos. The onside kick was unsuccessful and the Saints lost 25-23, in a series of events that probably makes Saint fans scratch their heads.

NCAA

What a week it was for the teams in the NCAA top five, and not in a good way. This past week, three out of the five teams at the top of the standings lost, and most likely ended their quest for a National Championship. No. 2 Clemson, lost to unranked Pittsburgh. No. 3 Michigan lost to unranked Iowa. No. 4 Washington lost to No. 20 USC.

The most shocking loss was the game between No. 2 Clemson and unranked Pittsburgh.

Vegas had Clemson giving 21 points to Pittsburgh, which meant Vegas thought Clemson was going to win by at least 21 points. But the Pitt Panthers had other plans for Clemson. The defense for Pitt intercepted Heisman Trophy candidate Deshaun Watson three different times, which led to two Panther touchdowns in the game. The quarterback for Pitt looked like the Heisman Trophy candidate; Nathan Peterman threw for 308 yards, five touchdowns and had no interceptions.

NCAA Basketball

This previous week was the start of the 2017 NCAA basketball season. Defending champion Villanova University, opened this week against Purdue in a top 15 match-up. Last season, Villanova beat North Carolina on a buzzer beater

that shocked the country as well as people's March Madness brackets. North Carolina also hit a very late bucket to take the lead and they thought they had the National Championship in the bag, but Villanova had a response.

Some things to note about NCAA basketball is that the season ends with 64 teams that enter a single elimination tournament that is known as March Madness. Teams that should be in the mix this year when March rolls around are Duke, North Carolina, Kentucky, Arizona and Indiana.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving break! Until next time, K DEN!

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California death penalty reinstated: Ways to hold white supremecists accountable

ARIADNE WOLF
STAFF WRITER

In a film entitled “We Need to Talk About Kevin,” a wealthy white teenage boy shoots dozens of his classmates, his sister and his father for no apparent reason.

We need to talk about Kevin. We need to talk about the death penalty, and who we should really be scared of.

The voting public of my home state of California voted a few days ago to keep the death penalty, and I support them wholeheartedly.

Well, maybe it’s more appropriate to say that I support this one particular, teeny little act whole-heartedly. The reality is, they’re probably going to continue to use it in the racist and classist way all states have been using it for years. That much, I cannot support.

However, the entire criminal justice system is equally racist and classist. We need to fix our criminal justice system. It’s not the best in the world; it’s not even close.

In the off chance this ever changes, I want the death penalty to remain on the books.

Here’s why. There are many different Kevins roaming the world today. There are even many different kinds of Kevin.

There’s the guy who told me that white men who rape women are simply “boys being boys” while Brown men who rape women are horrible

and evil. There’s the 10-year-old boy I teach, who I had to threaten to make him stop pulling another boy, a Brown boy, down several steep steps by the ankles.

I’ve yet to see clear evidence that sociopathy is an inborn condition that truly exists, but I’ve seen plenty of evidence of what happens when privilege goes unchecked.

Some people never learn to handle disappointment. Some people allow their egos to govern them, and learn they can treat women and People of Color like lesser beings and get away with it.

I want the death penalty on the books, because I want protection from Kevin.

We need to talk about using the law like white-boy conservatives do.

Let’s be clear — I know plenty of white men who are not terrible people. Moreover, I know that wealth and privilege do not necessarily lead to murderous tendencies.

Still. There are a lot of ways to kill a person, and I don’t want any Trump followers thinking they’ve got a social mandate to try them out without reprisal. I don’t want anyone following in his footsteps, trying to punish anyone he doesn’t understand. So, just in case, it’s nice to have the death penalty. It’s nice to have options.

Perhaps one day we will collectively figure out some way to vanish hierarchy and binaries, to live side-by-side without having to constantly determine who gets to be oppressive. May-

be, at the very least, we’ll learn from those cultures that had already learned how to decide what roles their community members would play, without requiring violence to do it — before colonialism ruined it.

In the meantime, I want protection. I want to be able to carry a gun, and if I need to, I want to be able to use it one day.

More than that, I don’t want to lose hope in one day living under a government that will be willing and able to compassionately protect the many at the expense of the few.

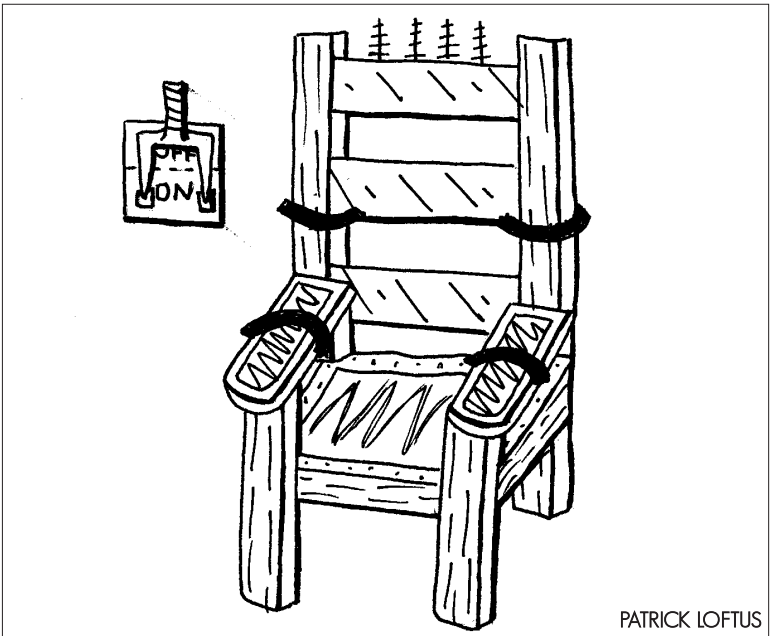
I know who I need protection from, and I hope one day my government knows that, too.

In the meantime, I watch the people around me, and I don’t much like what I see.

What I see is a significant number of white men in positions of authority they have not earned, trying to reassure me that everything will be OK. I don’t need to be reassured. I need the white men around me to do their jobs, to respect me and everyone else they encounter and to stop being so condescending.

What I see is white men dodging responsibility for anything and everything, taking advantage of unearned privilege and using it in ways that make everyone else’s lives miserable.

I need to know there is some way to hold Trump, and also his followers currently doing so much damage, accountable.



So let’s talk, Kevin.

Let’s talk about how you think everyone else is here for your amusement and that when we stop stroking your egos, you’re free to ignore us. Let’s talk about how our entire society has been structured for centuries around what makes YOU comfortable, what makes YOU feel good, what YOU want.

Let’s talk about how often you show up as a white liberal man, saying all the right words of feminist anti-racist rhetoric. Let’s talk about how, now that public pressure and media attention have forced some

modicum of justice under the law, NOW you think maybe the death penalty is a bad idea.

I don’t mind saying that I believe in nonviolence towards most people in the world. I also don’t mind saying that this stance does not apply to everyone, and I have good reasons for that opinion.

I think maybe it’s time Kevin stops getting to hold the monopoly on violence, while protesting all the while that he “didn’t know what he was doing.”

Yeah you did, Kevin. Yeah, you did.

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I will not support the president-elect, and you don’t have to either

JESSICA WEISS
STAFF WRITER

Tuesday night began a cycle of what we should have known quite too well, and what those who have come before us sadly do know well.

We did not expect America to revert to its mean and show us that fear of the other has and remains a normal sentiment for many Americans. Tuesday was a demonstration that in times of distress, many of us can easily blame everyone but ourselves for our problems, and we have no problem letting a supposedly “anti-establishment” candidate win off of the so-called establishment he detested so much.

The irony in a populist candidate losing the popular vote but winning off of the Electoral College has its own implications for the foundations of who this country’s “populists” really are, but this isn’t about them.

This isn’t even about the first female to ever win the popular vote for the presidency, with more votes received than any white male presidential candidate, or the message it sent to young women: you CAN be all that you want to be, just not president.

This is about everyone our president-elect promised would not be alright after this election if he won. This is about all of the individuals who let their pain be known and their anger heard.

This is a tribute and justification for why, if targeted or called whiny for not being able to simply move on, they will respond with full force.

For America to be made great again, our anger, shame, and unapologetic tone cannot be silenced. We cannot simply “listen to the opposing view,” or “work together with the other side.”

How, might you ask, are we to achieve some form of progress without working together with those in power? My response is that we will fight them with the same fire they

used with us. That same fire that led to eight years of opposing a president, stopping a government from functioning properly, fighting against a healthcare plan with no better options on the table, attempting to take women’s rights back a few decades, and fighting against gun legislation while the vast majority of the country supported it.

Guess what? Their anger won, and to listen to our first lady when she tells us to go high when they go low means to use our anger in a way that defends the very groups our president-elect has promised to hurt.

“But not all of his supporters are racist, sexist or homophobic. They voted for a president who they genuinely believed would make changes that benefitted them, and there was no other option.”

To be able to vote for a president and say you do not agree with some of his statements, but are able to look past them, does not inherently put you at risk of wearing the feared labels of racist, sexist or homophobe. Yet the impact of what you have done is something you still have to account for.

You may not have intended for your vote to be one in the name of hate, but if you look at the most immediate outcomes of this election, and who it has empowered to go out and act, your impact sure as hell resulted in hatred.

You may not have gone out and drawn swastikas or committed hate crimes against individuals in groups that the president-elect has threatened, but you have empowered or protected those who have. To tell individuals to stop whining and complaining is not only refusing to claim responsibility for the impact of your support, but outrageously insensitive of you.

If people protesting the undisputed outcome of this election — that minorities, women, and members of the LGBTQ+ community are facing immediate threats — bothers you

because you believe that these people are unnecessarily angry at those that simply disagree with them, then I am extremely jealous. I am extremely jealous that you are able to look at what has happened and only see a war of dissenting opinions while many fear for their safety or right to live in this country.

Anyone who refuses to talk to a supporter of the president-elect after the election is fully justified in their decision.

To be asked to talk to an individual who cannot grapple with the unintended impacts of their actions, or the actions of those they sympathize with, is to be asked to talk to a child. To not

be able to listen to the pain of those who are most at risk over the next four years because you think their attacks are due to a different opinion on tax policy is beyond my comprehension, especially since they have not been afforded the luxury of being listened to.

Minorities dealt with eight years of a party that vehemently opposed every attempt to promote their advancement, and it was so important to them that they felt the need to halt the functions of their government multiple times to send a message.

And yet after eight years of the unapologetic attempts to silence their opposition, the anger of this party won the presidency. They did not win

through this “unity” and “working together” narrative that many seem to be suggesting. America rewarded their hatred with the executive AND legislative branch.

When I hear “Make America Great Again,” I think of the future I want to see. A future where all legislation-producing bodies are not working every day to halt progress for women, minorities and members of the LGBTQ+ community while masking their work as “fighting for everyday Americans.” To get there, it is now our time to go high, stand up, and fight like hell.

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Locker room talk reflects reality of sexist privilege

JESSICA WEISS
STAFF WRITER

When the public viewed the video of president-elect Donald Trump making comments condoning sexual assault alongside television show host buddy Billy Bush, the response was quite predictable. We saw anger and outrage from both sides of the aisle in the form of condemnation, and a bunch of Republican congressmen who needed to use the “What if this was my daughter/mother/sister/etc.?!” question to justify why they could not support Trump, as if women cannot exist in their own right outside of their relation to the men in their lives. Nevertheless, Trump tried to excuse his behavior by brushing it off as “locker room talk,” and then having his wife Melania do an interview where she said she felt like she was raising two boys, her son and her husband. This all particularly angered one group that felt targeted by this statement — athletes. After the “locker room talk” excuse, many athletes from the professional level down to high schoolers commented on the matter. We are told by athletes from all skill levels that these are not the conversations men have in locker rooms, and to suggest so would be disgraceful. OK, fine. Trump wasn’t in a locker room and his comments were awful in their own right. But where did this term come from, and where exactly are these locker rooms? A culture that normalizes and decriminalizes sexual assault doesn’t just suddenly pop up in a vacuum. And if I must prove why such a culture exists, just reference Trump himself, who told us that “he could do it because he was famous.” Or the fact that Derrick Rose (professional basketball player) just got acquitted in a civil sexual assault lawsuit where he claimed he did not know what the word “consent” meant. Regardless of whether or not you think he was in the wrong, the trial involved a judge that joked with Rose about wishing him success unless his team played the Los Angeles Clippers, and a jury which asked to pose for pictures with Rose after the trial. Sadly, lawsuits like this involving professional athletes (or famous men in general) are not unique. But what is really interesting with the “locker room talk” dismissal is the vehement opposition from athletes who tell us these are not things that happen in the locker room. Not us, they tell us. OK fine. If not you, then who? “Locker room talk” was not a term Trump invented, unfortunately. However much I wish we could blame the phenomenon on him, the term originates from an accepted norm of a fraternity-like culture within the male athletics community, with generated statistics to prove that these groups are actually more prone to cases of sexual assault than otherwise. A culture of acceptance occurs not when it is obvious that people are making explicit comments condoning sexual assault, but when good people stay quiet and are complicit through their silence. Before everyone blows up at me for making some pretty harsh accusations, I will bring forth the numbers. In a story published by Wisconsin Public Radio, a National Public Radio affiliate, we are told

that one-third of reported sexual assault cases on college campuses are perpetuated by athletes (a rate almost six times higher than their peers). This cites a famous study done in the Journal of Sport & Social Issues done by Todd W. Crosset, Jeffrey R. Benedict and Mark A. McDonald. The study looked at the relationship between athletics and reported sexual assaults at 20 Division I institutions during the 1992-1993 school year. The Wisconsin Public Radio does however warn of the risk of casting all student athletes into this net, and stated that the research pointed to certain sports where athletes are disproportionately represented in such cases. It was the athletes in “power and performance sports” that would be overrepresented. These sports included football, basketball, wrestling and hockey. These sports are also overrepresented “in similar proportions in domestic violence cases.” Sports that are underrepresented in cases included the more individual sports: swimming, tennis and running. Another piece written by Pacific Standard Magazine also examines this relationship right after the case at Baylor University, where the president and head coach of the football team were fired after an investigation found rampant evidence of mishandled sexual assault accusations against football players. Pacific Standard presented data from a 2014 survey that showed that “in more than one-fifth of universities, the athletic department oversaw cases involving sexual assault allegations against athletes, prompting the National Collegiate Athletic Association to issue a resolution that athletic departments can only participate in, but never lead, investigations into such allegations. Still, the recent investigation at Baylor found that the university’s football program frequently dealt with sexual assault allegations internally.” Pacific Standard continues on to look at reasons why student athletes may be overrepresented in cases of sexual assault by turning to anthropological research. Research in the field suggests that a culture of male dominance, sex segregation and tolerance of interpersonal violence breeds higher rates of rape. Basically, an environment can contribute to sexual aggression.

They make the connection that athletes are sometimes extremely sex segregated and in male dominant environments, particularly in these “power and performance” sports which are also aggressive in nature. This may help to explain the need to distinguish the type of sport in the Wisconsin Public Radio piece, as the more individual sports have fewer of these factors. While you cannot blame a university for encouraging behavior by merely allowing these sports in the first place (insert statement about the importance of football and basketball to American culture or something), the key issue is that many have been blamed for being complicit and sweeping allegations under the rug. They tie this back to the Baylor case, where the investigation concluded that university officials “created a cultural perception that football was above the rules.” Pacific Standard then goes further to suggest that the lack of consequences may have created an environment where players believed they could get away with anything (Sound familiar?). Even on the professional stage, some are questioning the validity that “locker room talk” does not occur. After Trump’s comments, ESPN published an article titled “Athletes respond to Donald Trump’s ‘locker room talk’ defense of taped comments.” In it, numerous athletes across multiple professional leagues along with several Division I collegiate coaches denounce Trump’s comments and tell us they are appalled at the notion that this language is being tied to the locker room. A former NBA player tells us the locker room is actually where they don’t feel safe expressing themselves because of potential public backlash. I was particularly not sympathetic to this statement, because if your safe space is a place where you know you are saying things that degrade women, what a shame that public scrutiny is now keeping “boys from being boys.” A Miami Dolphins linebacker also tells us that he has heard some “distasteful” things in the past but the culture is changing, possibly due to public scrutiny. This is the closest any of the male athletes have come to admitting the notion that “locker room talk” exists. The most interesting feedback, however, came from female professional athletes. The Miami women’s basketball coach scruti-

nizes the concept, telling us that she believes we need to look at the leaders of those in locker rooms to examine the culture that exists and “why those conversations happen.” Minnesota Lynx (Women’s National Basketball Association) coach Cheryl Reeve goes further and claims that the notion of “locker room talk” only proves that women are not treated equally in the sports world. Reeve is quoted as saying, “It is what men do. Let’s not have all these men stand up and say, ‘Well, we don’t do that!’ ... Donald Trump’s candidacy has shined the light on so many problems that exist that I always talk about.” She was joined by Miami women’s basketball coach Katie Meier who said that, “If that is the actual talk that’s happening in locker rooms, it’s time to look at the leaders and examine their culture as to why those conversations happen.” This, to me, is the most interesting comment, because it shows that even within the highest echelons of the sports world, women will tell you what everyone has seemingly denied. While it may not shed light on a rampant and prevalent problem, simple acknowledgement of a culture (and by a woman) is significant in that people within the industry can attest to the existence of a problem. A norm that permits language that may encourage sexual assault does not end with the scrutinization of Donald Trump. Sadly, he still has people, including his wife, defend that “boys will be boys.” The fact that there was such a defensive narrative afterwards, and such surprise that this excuse was used, was what was amazing. The misunderstanding in how something becomes ingrained and institutionalized has led us to the point where professional athletes find it to be an acceptable defense to say that they do not understand the meaning of the word “consent” (Derrick Rose). It has also enabled legal argumentation to portray an accuser of sexual assault as promiscuous or “asking for it.” The perpetuation and success of rape culture has never been an issue within a vacuum, and no one should be excused from asking why these things happen. If we want to talk about our mothers, sisters, daughters, girlfriends and whoever else, let’s talk about our fathers, brothers, sons, and boyfriends. If we honestly and truly think they have gone through their lives without hearing anyone make degrading or questionable comments about the treatment of women, fine, they’re off the hook. But they are still accountable for not speaking up when someone around them does or says something that could be considered “locker room talk,” and especially so if they did not speak up because it would cause a discomfort or potential conflict between them and their counterparts. That’s a choice. I, and many others do not get to choose to be on the receiving end of a culture that silences the victims of sexual assault and makes it seem normal. Rape culture exists because good people are complicit in the process, and the first step to even putting a dent in the problem is to have everyone recognize that “locker room talk” is something that happens everywhere, and probably closer to home than we would like to admit.

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An American lament and farewell

DORIAN GRAYSON
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To everyone who voted for Donald Trump: you are not necessarily a bigot, but you are OK with bigotry. I grew up in California, a notoriously liberal playground. Despite my regressive, racist, homophobic, transphobic, sexist, and Trump-voting father, I found out that I am not a straight male. With the help of the queer family I found in high school, I discovered that I am bisexual. More importantly: I am trans. I am a person made political. I am more than just my non-binary gender. I am a writer, a reader, a nerd and a gamer. I hate that society has gendered everything so much that my every action carries gendered implications. Whenever I present like I want to, I have to watch to see if those around me even accept my identity, much less think less of me for it. When I was walking home in my dress and makeup last Friday, I watched everyone for signs of aggression, and for the possibility that they would assault me for my gender presentation. I don’t get to choose whether my identity is a topic of conversation. I am struck by two facts: I am trans, and Donald Trump will be president. He will get to choose up to three Supreme Court Justices. Trump’s virile rhetoric bought the Republican executive and legislative power. Veterans’ care, Social Security and Medicare could all be privatized. Marriage rights could be revoked. Many people will likely be forcibly removed from their homes, federal regulations protecting marginalized peoples will be dismantled. This list does not even include potential military and domestic disasters. For anyone who says it’s just four years, you’re wrong. Thanks to the potential stacking of the Supreme Court, civil rights — movements against oppression of all kinds are going nowhere fast. I had hope that, within my lifetime, I could be accepted. I had hope that the public would learn to accept genders outside the binary. I had hope I could be me. I still hold that hope, but not for this country any more. Even before the election surprised me, I was nervous. I knew that I would look at the popular vote count and know that each of them would likely reject my being and identity. It was terrifying to see the final results. I have a message to all my fellow trans folk. I’m sorry, and I’m here for you. I hope you’re safe. To all the queer kids in the closet, too young to vote and now too scared to come out: I have felt the pain that you have, and I’m sorry. To People of Color: I’m sorry white people failed you. I’m sorry racism remains politically advantageous. This lament is for all those who feel defeated. This lament is for those who will be harmed if Trump follows through on his rhetoric. This lament is for those who were reminded Tuesday how much mainstream U.S. society rejects them. In the end, this isn’t about me. I hope everyone out there that is affected by this election is able to find solace. All will be well. Just maybe not here.

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‘Stronger together’: campus gathers in solidarity



Left: Protest organizers, from left, Sophomore Marleigh Williams, Nate Causman and Akerah Mackey speak to the crowd on Friday. Top: Students carry signs to show support for marginalized groups. Bottom: Students chant in front of the capitol.

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CAMPUS SAFETY

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

Nov. 10, 3:00 a.m. (In a Campus Residence): An individual called Campus Safety asking for a transport to the hospital. An officer responded and transported the individual to the ER.

Nov. 10, 3:23 a.m. (In a Campus Residence): An individual called Campus Safety asking for a transport to the ER. An officer responded and upon arrival determined further medical assistance was necessary and called for paramedics. The medics arrived and transported the individual to the ER.

Nov. 12, 11:54 p.m. (In a Campus Residence): Campus Safety received a call regarding an individual who had fallen off their skateboard. Campus Safety and WEMS responded. After evaluating the individual, WEMS determined that further medical attention was needed. Campus Safety transported the individual to the ER.

Nov. 13, 11:09 a.m. (In a Campus Residence): Campus Safety received a call regarding a student who had injured their ankle. Campus Safety and WEMS responded. After evaluation of the individual WEMS determined further medical attention was needed. Campus Safety transported the individual to the ER.

HARASSMENT

Nov. 10, 6:15 p.m. (On Campus): An individual came into the Campus Safety office and reported that someone had shouted racist comments at them as

they walked across the parking lot. The individual also stated that the same event had occurred two weeks prior, by what appeared to be the same individual.

THEFT

Nov. 8, 4:00 p.m. (Collins Science Center): An individual reported to Campus Safety that their two bike tires had been stolen. The individual stated the bike had been secured to the bike lock, but upon return the wheels were gone.

Nov. 11, 7:12 p.m. (Executive Building): An individual came into the Campus Safety office and stole an item off of the front desk. Security footage was revealed and a photograph of the individual was obtained.

WELFARE CHECK

Nov. 11, 11:27 p.m. (On Campus): While on patrol, an officer encountered some individuals who were looking for their friend. The officer joined the individuals in their search, and eventually was able to help them find their friend. The officer made contact with this person and ensured that everything was alright.

Nov. 14, 12:42 a.m. (On Campus): Campus Safety received a call from an individual who was concerned that their friend was going to harm themselves. An officer and the area coordinator on duty responded and contacted the individual.