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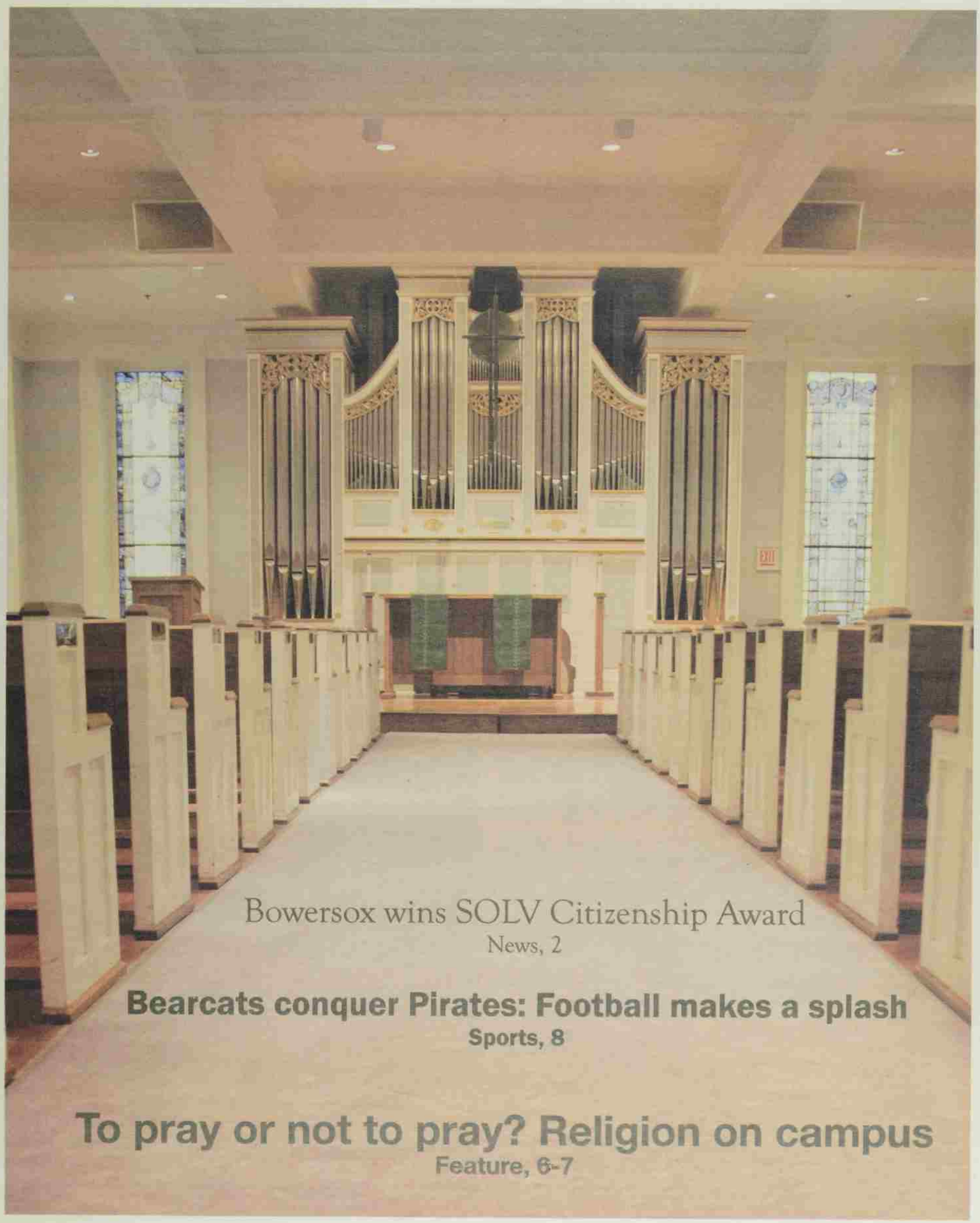

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Sustainability Council funds community projects

ANNA MENCARELLI
STAFF WRITER

Each year, students pioneer projects in sustainability that result in not only the reputation of the University as forerunner in sustainability, but a determination that holds testimony to the willpower of those desiring change. This semester, the council chose seniors Luke Johnson, Kevin Lynn and Colby Takeda, Professor of Biology Jennifer Johns, Law Student Ashley Ross White and Associate Professor of Art Heidi Grew to receive the fall 2010 Sustainability Mini-Grant Awards.

The Sustainability Mini-Grant Awards help fund these efforts and provide the resources needed for projects to be successful. The Sustainability Council selects the recipients of the grants based on the project's contribution to the sustainability of the University and/or community.

Politics major Lynn began working at the Bistro three years ago. Presently, Lynn is heading a program that will compost the food waste from the Bistro and then donate the compost to be used for fertilizing the fields of Zena Farms.

Though there used to be a composting program at the University, Lynn said, "there were never any plans about what to do with the compost at the end of the year." At the end of the year, the Bistro donated the bins. My goal was to fill in that gap and find a program to create at the Bistro that could sustain itself every year."

Lynn received the grant to help purchase the bins and worms needed for composting as well as the resources needed to ensure that the compost will go directly to Zena Farms. "We have begun purchasing produce from Zena Farms," Lynn said, "so the food waste we are producing from that Zena produce is now fertilizing the future Zena produce, creating an elegant circle."

In the project's first year, Lynn hopes to continue combining efforts with the Compost Club and ensure that the program remains a permanent addition to the Bistro's sustainability initiative.

Students are advised to look for upcoming events by the Bistro that will feature the program. "I'm hoping that this is the kind of project that can serve as a public display of how students can make certain changes and how, with a little foresight and energy, we can tackle some of the major issues we face," Lynn said.

White was first inspired to create an educational program about sustainability while attending class University Professor Morris Collin. "Sustainability in education is a subject not normally encountered until specialty classes at the university level. In the K-12 context, sustainability is rarely discussed. The lack of statewide implementation of K-12 sustainability education, coupled with limited resources and school budget deficits further restrict the opportunity for students and teachers to access age appropriate materials addressing sustainability," White said.

Recently having received a Sustainability Mini-Grant Award, White and her husband, a University alumnus and middle school teacher, intend to provide Woodburn's French Prairie Middle School with a variety of materials, including books and DVDs, in order to foster sustainability education.

"The project is an effort to allow middle school students to understand the basic concepts of sustainability at an age-appropriate level. Of the 'Four 'E's' of sustainability (environment, economics, equity and education), the project stresses the importance of education in encouraging sustainable development," White said.

White said that she hopes that by introducing the concept of sustainability in the elementary schools, it will begin to inspire younger students to create their own sustainable projects. "By learning the importance of making sustainable choices in their daily lives, my hope is that they can become more sustainably-conscious members of the Woodburn community, perhaps by being inspired to develop sustainable projects that benefit the community at large," White said.

Associate Director of Sustainable Agriculture Programs Johns was inspired by UC Davis' mural incorporating sustainable ideas. "When we started our day with the first year students during Opening Days this past August standing in front of the red barn, I thought it would be great to have something to show students while we talked about the principles of sustainable agriculture," Johns said.

Now with the resources from the Sustainability MiniGrant, Johns is hosting a mural contest that will invite students to create designs that encompass ideas of sustainability.

The winner of the contest will receive $100 and the honor of having his or her design painted on the barn at Zena Farms. Students who do not wish to submit a design can still participate by helping paint the mural in the spring. Johns hopes that this competition will bring majors from all disciplines together to not only learn about sustainability, but combine efforts in an endeavor.

"The end result will be to provide an educational resource about sustainable agriculture. It is sustainable because it extends our ability to educate students of all ages about sustainable agriculture in that 'a picture is worth a 1000 words,'" Johns said.

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Professor Bowersox receives 2010 Citizenship Award

EMILIE JENSEN
STAFF WRITER

Professor of Environmental Policy and Director of Willamette's Center for Sustainable Communities Joe Bowersox was honored by the environmental nonprofit organization SOLV with a 2010 Citizenship Award for Environmental Educator of the Year. He will receive this award at the 2010 SOLV Citizenship Awards Banquet on Nov. 12 along with six other winners from different categories.

This award recognizes Bowersox's extensive efforts in making Zena Forest a part of the University's community and curriculum, as well as his role in leading the University in sustainable practices that have given it a top national ranking.

SOLV is a venerable home-grown environmental group that was established in 1969 by Governor Tom McCall, known for his work in environmental protection and conservation. The purpose of the organization was to unite volunteers, service and conservation groups, government agencies and businesses to restore natural environments and to provide opportunities for the encouragement of environmental stewardship.

SOLV originally stood for Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism, but now the acronym holds no further meaning beyond its efforts to "solve" environmental issues with clean-ups, environmental restoration education, conservation projects and student involvement. "This award came as a complete surprise," Bowersox said. " As a native Oregonian child, I always looked up to Tom McCall, so this means a lot to me."

McCall is responsible for introducing numerous pieces of legislation concerning environmental conservation and essentially cleaned up the Willamette River single-handedly. He also formed 1000 Friends of Oregon, a non-profit advocacy, education and research organization involved in issues of land use and planning. Both SOLV and 1000 Friends of Oregon reflect McCall's views on conservation and are two of the strongest organizations of their nature in Oregon.

When asked what has inspired him to be such an active advocate for sustainability, Bowersox said, "My passion for this subject has everything to do with my upbringing. I was born and raised in the Willamette Valley and spent most of my youth outdoors in one form or another. Fishing and camping are both activities that come to mind when I think back on my youth. I was always overwhelmed by the sight of a China Pheasant outside of the house, enthralled by all that inhabited the backwoods and loved mucking around in the dirt."

These experiences are what drove Bowersox to find a way to make sustainability central to his life. "I've discovered that being a political scientist has fulfilled this desire," Bowersox said. "I am able to talk about environmental ethics and change the landscape by working at Zena Forest all while trying to instill this same passion and love for nature in my own son."

Bowersox said that it is the passion of the students that drives him. "I have taught for 18 years at Willamette and every year students keep me going with their enthusiasm, passion and genuine concern to make the world a better place," Bowersox said. "Their desires as citizens to make committed relationships with nature are amazing and keep me coming back."

Although Boxersox is honored to receive the award of Environmental Educator of the Year, he said feels a discomfort in claiming the title as an individual. "All of the progress in sustainability attained here at Willamette has been a group effort," Bowersox said. "There should not be just one person singled out, many students and faculty members have been involved in these efforts and they all deserve credit for their achievements."

Anyone can become a member of SOLV; opportunities are constantly being offered for student engagement and efforts. Volunteers are always needed for beach clean-ups, tree plantings and riparian restoration. Students interested in becoming involved in sustainable practices on campus can join clubs such as ECOS, the Alternative Agriculture Club and the Compost Club, or volunteer in the Kaneko garden or at Zena Forest.

Students can also get involved with the Sustainability Council and the Center for Sustainable Communities. "Extra hands are always appreciated, especially in times with lean budgets," Bowersox said. "Students can also spread awareness by encouraging their peers to conserve water and energy by taking shorter showers, closing windows and turning off lights. Individual commitment and action is part of the solution, but it must turn into a collective action to be successful."

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Learn more
To learn more about how to get involved with SOLV, visit www.solv.org.

AARON BROWN

Professor Bowersox is being recognized for his commitment to enviromental leadership.

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School of Education holds promises for a brighter future

MATT BAILIN
CONTRIBUTOR

Often society's portrayal of education in the national media rests upon the quality of teachers on which the educational system depends. As President Obama discussed in a Sept. 8 speech concerning education reform, there is a need to find the most effective and qualified teachers in order to advance the system forward. The Graduate School of Education is helping to do just that.

The GSE's mission is "to prepare teachers not only for the classroom, but for educational leadership." Graduate students who decide to pursue an Master of Arts in Teaching degree, one of the two programs avalible, can choose to study in one of three different educational tracks: full-time, part-time and online instruction. The GSE offers these choices so that students can learn at their preferred pace.

The GSE also encourages hands-on, real world experience. Students spend roughly 70 percent of their school time in the education field, through practicum (applications of education theory) and other student-teaching assignments. By the end of the program, students will be qualified to teach in two levels (either at the early childhood, elementary, middle-school or high school level) and will specialize in a specific subject area.

Students who already have a teaching license and are practicing teachers may also opt for a more personalized Masters of Education degree. This degree allows students to pursue their own educational interests and develop specific teaching skills. Students can either choose to take classes in a hybrid setting (done mostly online) or on campus. By the end of the program, a graduate will have completed a total of 37 semester credit hours.

Other options at the GSE include specialty endorsements (allowing educators to teach in unique fields like special education) and administrator licensing. In all, the GSE's goal is to grant its students the skills and experience they need to teach well. Students and professors alike believe that the school accomplishes this better than most other schools in the nation.

Professor Jennifer Roberts, who teaches core classes like Literacy Theory and Practice, said that like many Americans she sees the positive impact that a good teacher can have on someone's future. "I believe strongly in the power of good teachers," Roberts said. "Teachers have an important job, which includes, among other things, the artful and skilled implementation of curriculum, inspiring students to reach their full potential and becoming an ambassador for the teaching profession as one that should be valued and rewarded in our society."

Roberts also said that anyone in the undergraduate program who is interested in teaching should "come by to the GSE to talk with faculty, staff and students about our program." Roberts said that the graduate school "has many options for helping those who wish to become teachers fulfill their dreams."

AARON BROWN

Students study at the School of Education.

Graduate student Dillon Hoffman, who hopes to teach secondary mathematics after finishing the program, said that he "hopes to be the best and most badass high school math teacher that has ever existed" and that "Willamette's Graduate School of Education is doing a great job at setting me up for this career."

Hoffman added that the GSE is "phenomenal" because "the graduate program is only ten months long [if one goes full time], and is complete with amazing faculty and an efficient and effective schedule that gets prospective teachers knowledgeable about teaching and well prepared to begin their teaching careers."

Administrative Assistant for Admissions at the GSE Lily Busher said that "the three program options of full-time, part-time and online make it really simple to earn an MAT degree." She said she also likes how it is "adaptable and enjoyable whether you are fresh out of college or already a full-time teacher going back for a Master's degree."

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Learn more

The School of Education is located at the corner of Cottage St. and Ferry St. For more information visit *www.willamette.edu/gse*.

America from the eyes of a TIUA student: An introduction

SHIORI SASAKI
GUEST WRITER

Hi everyone, this is Shiori Sasaki and I am a TIUA student. There are many exchange students from Japan every year, as Willamette University and Tokyo International University are sister schools. For the *Collegian*, a few TIUA students would like to discuss some of the differences between Japan and America.

I will be writing about the differences in college life. Most Japanese college students live with their families or rent apartments. This is because dormitories are rare in Japan. I asked three people who have had different living situations to share their experiences.

TIUA student Shino Goi lived with her family in Japan and was very comfortable doing so. Her mother did the household chores such as doing her laundry or waking her up, but now she has to do these things herself. It also took her an hour and a half to get to school in Japan, so she said living in a dormitory has been convenient.

TIUA student Misato Enomoto had a different experience. She lived alone in an apartment near campus while attending her university in Japan. She had to do household chores by herself. It was similar to an American dormitory system, but no one took care of her because she did not have a roommate. Therefore, she sometimes was too lazy to attend classes. At Willamette, we can have one or two roommates in our dormitory, which is a different experience, but can also be fun.

Willamette student Nick Martin participated in the Japan Studies Program. When studying in Japan, he had a host family so he was not independent, but he said he treated them like his own family.

TIUA students are still adjusting to independence and learning how to deal with people we do not know very well.

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GAME REVIEW: **'Star Wars: The Force Unleashed 2'**

The end of 'Star Wars?'

TOM EHRMANN
REVIEWS EDITOR

It's no secret that "Star Wars" has slowly been fading from the public interest ever since "Revenge of the Sith." The six-movie saga that produced a worldwide pop-culture phenomenon that included action figures, books, games, music, clubs and even a minor religion is now sustained only by a cartoon series and a video game.

The question is, will our beloved "Star Wars" allow itself to wither away into the black vacuum of dated pop-culture, or go out with a supernova the likes of which the world has never seen? That question is answered by the next video game in the series, "Star Wars: The Force Unleashed 2."

The game's first installment "Star Wars: The Force Unleashed" chronicled the life and times of one "Starkiller," a.k.a. the "Secret Apprentice" that Darth Vader took while he was serving Emperor Palpatine. Starkiller is a powerful dark Jedi who, throughout the first game, hunted down and killed several fugitive Jedi knights under orders from Vader. Eventually, he finds his way to the light side, betraying Vader in order to pursue the path of righteousness and light.

"Force Unleashed 2" picks up after Starkiller's death, following the trials of Starkiller's clone, brought to you by Darth Vader and the Galactic Empire. While this story is rushed and shallow with a laughably stretched premise, some credit must be given to LucasArts for actually making it work. It makes sense, it is engaging and several supporting characters from "Force Unleashed" make appearances, enticing fans of the first game to return for more.

The graphics look very impressive, and that is saying quite a bit, as the first game was also very visually pleasing. This can be seen with Starkiller's use of the force-repulse ability, which when fully upgraded reduces his foes to ash. Others, such as the grapple-attacks, even now have flashy animated cut scenes integrated within them.

The game-play mechanic is exactly the same as it was in "Force Unleashed," a hack-and-slash third-person platformer, which worked well in the last game; so hey, if it ain't broke, don't fix it. The difference is that in the first game, the player was able to only gradually unlock new powers. In this one, however, all of your moves are available from the start, taking some of the fun out of the experience of watching your powers grow and change.

All considered, "Star Wars: The Force Unleashed 2," though not as strong as its predecessor in the narrative department, is a fun ride and worth your money. It is available now on Microsoft Windows and Xbox 360, Sony PS3, Nintendo DS and Wii. I give it four stars out of five.

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What's Hot @ Willamette?

Bailey Moody
Class of 2014

TOM EHRMAN

What do you read?

"Right now, I'm reading Thomas Hobbes's 'Leviathan,' though I usually read fantasy books."

What do you watch?

"I don't usually watch TV. 'The Big Bang Theory' is the only show I follow religiously, though I missed the new season and my mom's TiVo-ing it at home."

What do you play?

"My favorite card game, always and forever, is Apples to Apples. As for video games, I play hella 'Final Fantasy,' and I've been known to join in for a good song on 'Guitar Hero' or 'Rock Band.'"

What do you listen to?

"Rock, Metal and Punk, mostly. Classical and Techno when I'm in the mood. My favorite band is Muse."

What do you eat?

"I love Thai food, especially at the Thai Thai in Bandon. Back home in Coos Bay, there's this great sushi bar called Momiji. It just might be my favorite restaurant, because I like sushi."

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CONCERT REVIEW: **Of Montreal**

A wild night with Of Montreal

HANNAH SCHIFF
ARTS EDITOR

COURTESY OF OPTICALATLAS.ORG

An unusual band, known for their Surrealist stage antics, Of Montreal dazzles audiences

On Thursday, Oct. 28, I went to Portland to see Of Montreal perform in the Roseland Ballroom. The band is touring to promote the September release of their tenth full-length studio album, "False Priest."

Janelle Monae opened for the band, and was by far one of the evening's best moments. Her voice is impeccable live, and her set was fast-paced and very energetic. If you haven't heard any of her music, I would highly recommend giving it a listen.

By the time Of Montreal hit the stage (the lead singer Kevin Barnes walking out in an outfit that featured purple tights and an apron) the audience was worked up and ready to go. The band played some old favorites, mainly from its 2007 album "Hissing Fauna, Are You the Destroyer," but the set was heavy with "False Priest" material. I was disappointed with the dearth of songs from the band's 2005 album "The Sunlandic Twins," but overall the song selections were good.

As far as sets and live shows go, Of Montreal is considered the best of the indie pop world. The band certainly lived up to its reputation, although I thought it had a better stage act when I saw it at the same venue in 2008. This concert featured the usual graphic sexual innuendo expected of the band, but at times took it a bit too far.

Some of the highlights included the feather cannons inside the giant paper-mâché heads perched on back-up dancers' shoulders, and the play on traditional magic that resulted in Barnes being inside a cage. The giant dragon made up of dancers and the massive TV wheeled on stage, which actually showed Barnes walking up a stairwell in the Roseland while singing, seemed both intriguing and half-baked.

The main problem with the show was a lack of definitive climax. There were too many explosive moments, including encores with Monae and her band where the audience belted along to Michael Jackson's "Thriller." The show didn't peak, but instead spiraled in surrealist imagery.

All in all, it was a good show, certainly worth the cost of the ticket. The performance may have lacked the cohesion it had when I saw the band perform two years ago (which featured Barnes stripping down to a gold Speedo, getting painted red, being "hanged" and then emerging from a coffin only to be covered in whipped cream and feathers as a resurrected angel), but it was still an amazing experience put together by a band worth listening to.

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GAME REVIEW: **'Halo: Reach'**

'Halo: Reach' is the best 'Halo' game yet

TREVOR LATAL
CONTRIBUTOR

"Halo: Reach," a video game for the Xbox 360 console, has been out for well over a month. Some of the more hardcore fans of the "Halo" series already own it, and have been playing it at the expense of their classes and hygiene alike. With the holiday season coming up, is the newest "Halo" game worth shelling out $60 for? The answer is yes. "Halo: Reach" is such a good game that you definitely won't mind neglecting your friends and family for a while to play it.

The "Halo" series (which includes five games and several spin-offs) has been around for nearly a decade. "Halo: Reach" combines the best aspects from all previous titles, while still adding some new components.

Noticeably better than in the last few installments is the single player campaign. You are no longer a lone Spartan super soldier single-handedly decimating ferocious alien hordes; instead, you fight alongside other Spartans who are just as badass as yourself. Having multiple Spartans along with the addition of space combat makes for some truly epic cut scenes and gameplay moments.

In addition, all of the Spartans in your squad (with the exception of yourself) take their helmets off, unlike in the previous games. This gives the single player story much more emotional engagement and makes it not nearly as cryptic as previous "Halo" games. But really, let's face it: most people don't even care about the single player mode even though they should. The reason why the "Halo" series has been so popular over the years is because of its multiplayer mode that is far more addictive to gamers than candy to an 11-year-old.

The game's multiplayer mode has achieved something that has not been done since the first "Halo" – balance. You can no longer dual-wield guns or entirely dominate with just one weapon. Everything has a specific use, and the auto-aim is toned down for a more even playing field.

The original pistol is also back, albeit slightly toned down for balance, along with the return of health-packs. There is even a new game type called invasion, in which a team of Spartans fight against a team of Elites (aliens that are very scary looking). Oh, and did I mention there are jetpacks now?

Yes, gone are the power-ups of the previous games. Instead, the player can choose from a number of armor permutations that give him special abilities, such as jetpacks, invisibility, sprinting and a number of other options. The armor permutations lend even more balance to the game because it takes away the unfair advantage in previous games when one player found a power-up and the others did not. Add to this the multitude of animations done while assassinating other players and you have arguably the best multiplayer "Halo" experience thus far.

"Halo: Reach" has lots of throwbacks to the original "Halo" game. This makes it more fun to play as well as effectively levels the playing field. The new additions only add to an already great game based on a decade of "Halo" titles. While it is true there are some problems such as frame rate glitches and long loading times, these are well worth the price. I give "Halo: Reach" five stars out of five.

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Natya Leela brings Bharathanatyam to Salem Library

HAYLEY HILL
CONTRIBUTOR

Whether you are a fan of different styles of dance or just want an opportunity to expose yourself to a new and exciting culture, the South Indian styles of Natya Leela may interest you. The classical Indian dance academy will soon be performing as part of the "World of Music" series at the Salem Public Library.

According to the library Web site, the Natya Leela Academy provides a "feast for the senses" through their performances of Bharathanatyam, a classic Indian dance that features intricate footwork, hand gestures and eye movements working together to tell stories of Hindu gods and goddesses.

The dance itself is believed to originate from Thanjavoor of Tamil Nadu in South India and is divided between three main elements called Nritta, Nritya and Natya. Nritta is the rhythmic element, interpreting the language of rhythm with the help of specific body movements Nritya is the combination of rhythm with expressions and conveys poetic meaning, Natya is the dramatic element, sets the performance theme.

Subashini Ganesan founded the Natya Leela Academy out of a desire to teach Bharathanatyam and to perform the classic dance for a wide variety of audiences. According to the academy's Web site, the academy hopes that "students who discover this ancient dance form will also re-discover their inner playfulness and express this creative force through their bodies."

This desire is reflected in the academy's name, Leela, meaning "spontaneous creation." The group is all about taking their dance and applying it to life, making every second full of passion and joy.

The performance will be held on Friday, Nov. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Loucks Auditorium at the Salem Public Library. Tickets are $10 in advance or $12 at the door and can be purchased now at the Salem Public Library circulation desk.

If you are interested in various styles of live music, the "World of Music" series offers concerts monthly between October and May, starting on the last Friday of each month. As always, students are welcome to attend any and all performances.

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COURTESY OF MARY BALMACEDA

The dancers of the Natya Leela perform vivid classical Indian dances.

▸ Learn more
For more information on Natya Leela, visit their Web site at *http://www.natya-leela.com/home.html.*

'The Third Crow's Shadow Institute for the Arts Biennial'

COURTESY OF FRANK JANZEN

On view now at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art are works from "The Third Crow's Shadow Institute for the Arts Biennial."

ANNIE GAINZA
CONTRIBUTOR

Tucked in a corner of the Hallie Ford Museum is the astonishing "The Third Crow's Shadow Institute for the Arts Biennial" exhibit of contemporary prints created by Native American artists at the Crow's Shadow Institute. Housed in the historic St. Andrews mission schoolhouse in Pendleton, Oregon, the Institute is a non-profit organization whose goal is to give Native Americans opportunities through artistic development. The Institute focuses particularly on fine-art printmaking, although it also features traditional Native American forms of art such as weaving, bead working and regalia making.

There is a surprising amount of depth in the works featured in the exhibit. The opening pieces towards the front of the gallery feature lightly colored landscapes and animal portraits. These pieces show a beautiful juxtaposition of color and shadow displayed on white backgrounds.

On the back wall is the largest piece, created by Adnan Charara. Titled "Umatilla River," the piece features a modern-style collage of an insect. The pieces of the insect's body are fashioned out of photographs of landscapes and paper. A penciled river flows across the background. Charara has two more pieces placed next to "Umatilla River," and both share a cartoony, modern theme with a classical idea supporting them. And, of course, the colors are all exceptionally vivid.

The adjacent wall features a few pieces by Ric Gendron. These illustrate a worldview completely different from Charara's. While Charara's pieces feature innocence and color, Gendron's pieces are still vibrant, but much darker in subject and mood.

A video plays as part of the exhibit with the artists talking about their inspiration and creative processes. The exhibit is wonderfully interactive. There is information posted about how to do printmaking like the works on display and explaining various key terms. There are small displays of the tools used in creating the art, along with descriptions of their functions.

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▸ Learn more
This exhibit will be on view through Nov. 28. Admission to the Hallie Ford Museum of Art is free to all students.

The Willamette Dance Company presents free fall dance concert

ISABELLA GUIDA
STAFF WRITER

The Willamette Dance Company's previously annual (now semi-annual) dance concert is around the corner. For those of you who have not yet experienced the treat that is the Willamette Dance Company, the concerts are free, enthusiastically attended and provide a wild, creative, joyous ruckus of a time.

On Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. and Nov. 7 at 1 p.m., you will have the opportunity to see many of your fellow students from vastly different dance backgrounds expressing themselves through the art of dance. To further entice you to attend, the dances include a Bollywood-inspired dance, a "Free Willy" dance and a dance entitled "The Persuasion of the Devil." Originating in the spring of 2009, the company is in its third season.

Preparation for the dance concert provides a creative outlet for many students. "Being in it last semester was one of the highlights of my semester. I had so much fun with it and I was so sad when it was over. We are going to blow your socks off," senior Eryn Murphy said.

The Willamette Dance Company is entirely student run and choreographed. For most pieces, there is one choreographer, but there is also input and collaboration from the dancers themselves.

Additionally, the community is interested in the Dance Company. "I think that it is great that Willamette allows non-students to participate. It brings the community in and includes people from outside of the insular academic setting," non-Willamette student dancer Piers Rippey said.

The event will be held in Smith Auditorium.

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EMILY SCHLIEMAN

Sophomore Dawn Hinrichs and seniors Leslie Schultz and Madeline Yoste practice for the fall dance concert.

Religious life on campus: An investigation

PAUL HOARD
GUEST WRITER

The topic of religion may seem more likely to ferment fights and feuds than any semblance of positive discourse or heightened appreciation. While this stereotype remains true in many parts of the world, religion is a more welcome topic on college campuses, which encourage the process of testing one's views while simultaneously learning of others'. How is religion, whether it be the practice, theoretical considerations, conversations or lack thereof, present at Willamette and how does it impact the lives of students?

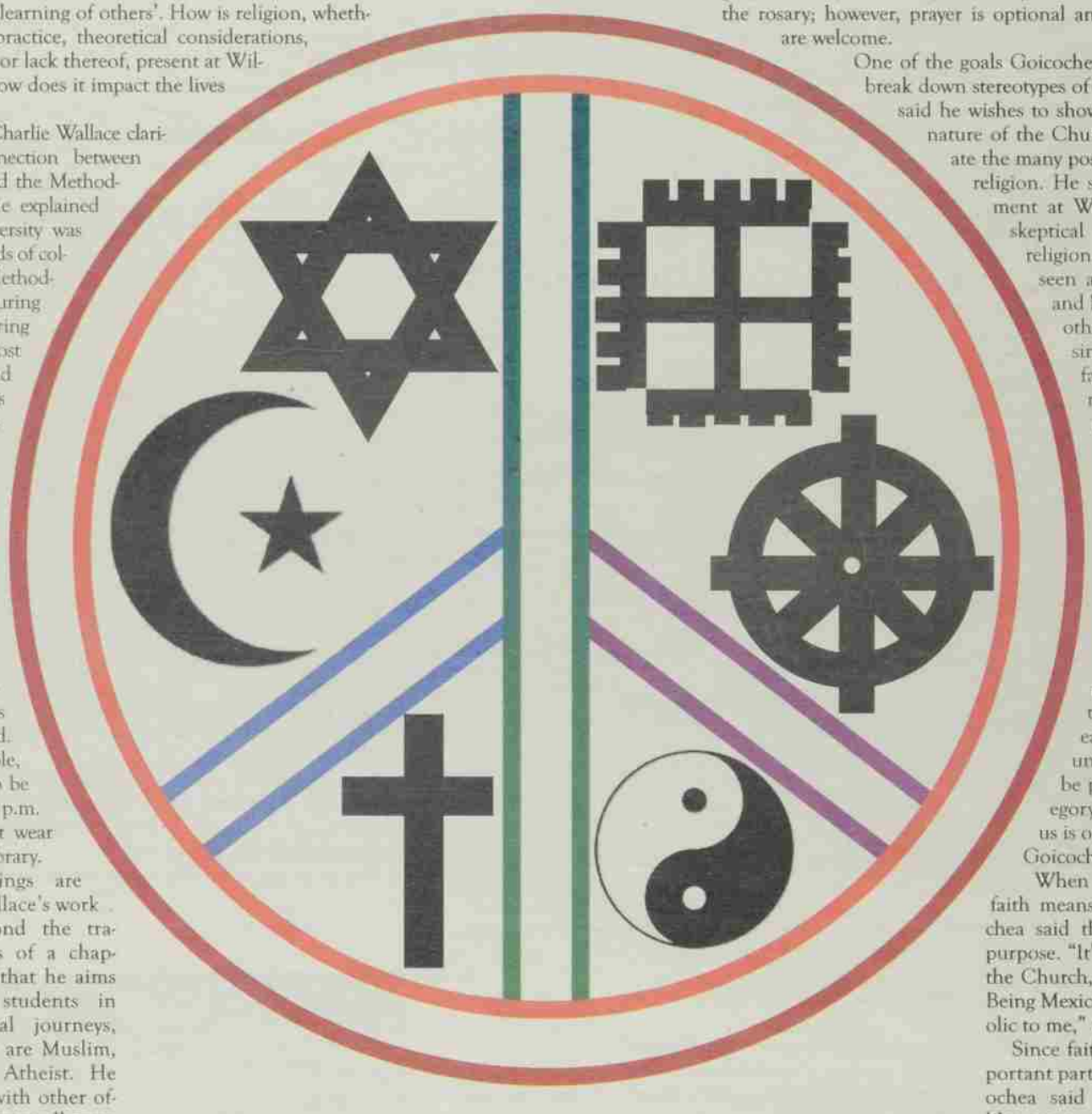
Chaplain Charlie Wallace clarified the connection between Willamette and the Methodist Church. He explained that the University was one of hundreds of colleges that the Methodists founded during the 1800s. During those times, most colleges had strong religious ties and it was normal for the president to be the religious leader on campus.

Up until the 60s, weekly chapel services were mandatory and conservative habits were enforced. For example, women had to be back by 10 p.m. and could not wear pants in the library.

Today things are different. Wallace's work extends beyond the traditional roles of a chaplain: he said that he aims to support students in their spiritual journeys, whether they are Muslim, Catholic or Atheist. He collaborates with other offices to encourage all types of students to engage in service, social justice work and sustainability. "College is a special time of life and we're in a special part of the world that gives us the freedom to follow a spiritual path and ponder what it means in relation to our future. We are here to help students do that," Wallace said.

One such student is sophomore and President of the Newman Club Rey Goicochea. The Newman Club is a Catholic organization on campus of about seven people that focuses on living out the members' faith through service and worship. While the club is Catholic, it is not strictly focused on doctrine. Rather, Goicochea said, it is more about actions. Every fourth Sunday the group goes to the Marion Street Bridge to hand out sandwiches to the homeless. According to Goicochea, they engage in inter-faith hospitality, showing love to the less privileged.

Goicochea said the club is open to anyone who wants to participate in such service projects. They meet every Thursday to do business and pray the rosary; however, prayer is optional and non-Catholics are welcome.



One of the goals Goicochea expressed is to break down stereotypes of Catholicism. He said he wishes to show the progressive nature of the Church and accentuate the many positive traits of his religion. He said the environment at Willamette is very skeptical of organized religion. Christians are seen as closed-minded and he wants to show others that this is simply not true. In fact, he said, most members of the club are liberal and do not fit into the mold of "typical" Christians.

Goicochea said that being Christian means different things to different people. According to Goicochea, each individual is unique and cannot be placed into a category. "What unites us is our faith in God," Goicochea said.

When asked what his faith means to him, Goicochea said that it gives him purpose. "It's more than just the Church, it's my identity. Being Mexican is being Catholic to me," Goicochea said.

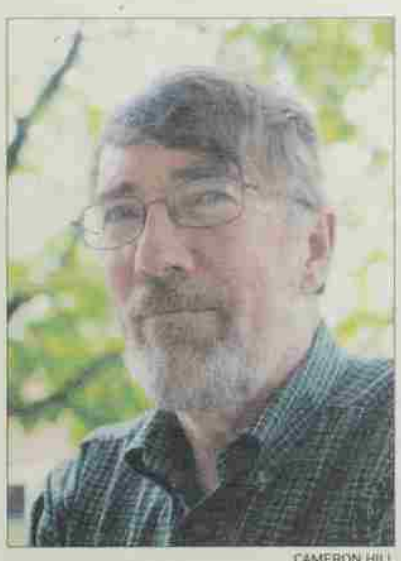
Since faith is such an important part of his life, Goicochea said that he would like more open discussion about religion on campus where students can express their views without being attacked. "I'll accept criticism from others as long as I can explain my view as well," Goicochea said.

Another example of a student acting out her faith is student representative of Willamette's InterVarsity chapter junior Kelly Kean. Kean arrived on campus as an Atheist; she did not grow up with a religious background. Nonetheless, during her freshman year, two of her friends invited her to try InterVarsity. She said that she was impressed by the community and fellowship of the group and became a Christian later that year.

She described InterVarsity as a group of students who believe in God's work.

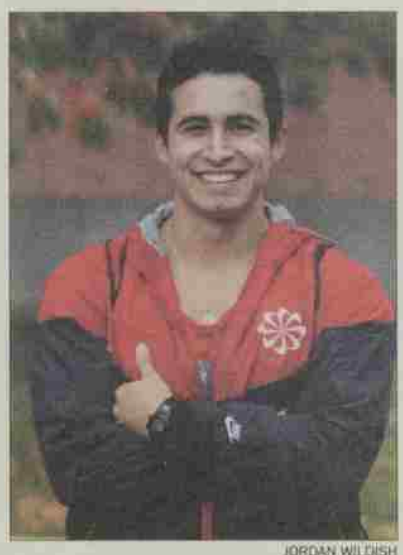
CAMERON HILL

The inside of Cone Chapel.



CAMERON HILL

Charlie Wallace, Willamette University Chaplain.



JORDAN WILDISH

Rey Goicochea, Newman Club President.

JORDAN WILDISH

Junior Kelly Kean, InterVarsity student representative.

She said that it is a diverse community of students who are at different stages of spiritual growth yet are united by their dedication to social justice. Weekly Bible studies are hosted around campus and there are specialized groups for specific audiences such as sororities and fraternities.

When asked how religion factors into her liberal arts education, Kean said that faith balances her life. She said she has a confidence that everything will work out. "Willamette can be so academic, it's good to have a spiritual life to center myself and focus on what really matters," Kean said.

> *"College is a special time of life and we're in a special part of the world that gives us the freedom to follow a spiritual path and ponder what it means in relation to our future. We are here to help students do that."*
>
> **CHARLIE WALLACE**
> CHAPLAIN

Kean also said she wishes that students placed greater priority on their faith and spiritual life because it adds another dimension to life and is still applicable today. She said she thinks students need more balance in their lives and this would be a positive step towards that goal.

Sophomore Matt Merritt has quite a different story. Merritt said that he was raised Christian and has gone to church regularly his whole life; however, since arriving at the University, he has not been involved with religious life. He said Willamette has not shaped his religious beliefs. He has not made contact with any student religious clubs because he is so busy and he does not know much about those organizations.

Merritt said, "People don't usually elaborate on their beliefs here. It's kept quiet or only talked about academically." He said he thinks more time to discuss such topics would be helpful.

> *"I'll accept criticism from others as long as I can explain my view as well."*
>
> **REY GOICOCHEA**
> NEWMAN CLUB PRESIDENT

Sophomore Till Gwinn said he thinks it is good for religion to be a more personal endeavor. He said he is not overtly against religion; however, he believes that it is a personal journey and not that of an organized system. "People like to numb themselves out by joining an organized religion but it's a much more personal decision," Gwinn said. He said that religious concepts on campus are accepted more than he thought they would be and that people he meets here are conscious of their decisions.

According to Gwinn, students are either somewhat religious and know it or they completely reject it. Whether Catholic or Atheist, he said he has witnessed that they are viewed more theoretically than emotionally and conversations generally do not turn into battles. Nonetheless, Gwinn said he thinks it would be better for religion to be a more open topic and for people to not fear one another: what he claims as the root of all conflict.

> *"People don't usually elaborate on their beliefs here. It's kept quiet or only talked about academically."*
>
> **MATT MERRITT**
> SOPHOMORE

Muslims make up a very small minority of the students here, but the University is taking action to increase their representation. Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies Fareeha Khan is a practicing Muslim who teaches two different classes on Islam in the Departments of Religious Studies and Anthropology.

Like members of the Christian groups on campus, members of the Jewish Student Union (JSU) are also diverse in their backgrounds and beliefs. Senior and Co-President of the JSU Alex Mozell said, "No two Jews have the same idea about what it means to be Jewish." Senior member Lena Yesowitch said that Judaism is more of a philosophy than a religion and said that the belief in God is not required to be Jewish.

> *"Willamette can be so academic, it's good to have a spiritual life to center myself and focus on what really matters."*
>
> **KELLY KEAN**
> INTERVARSITY STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

While the majority of the JSU is of the Reform movement, junior and Co-President Rebecca Stanley is a Conservative Jew who closely adheres to the traditional Jewish rules and rituals. According to Stanley, Willamette has made a significant impact on her religious perspective. She attended a Jewish school for 12 years before going to college. "Back then I was told Jews were the minority, but it wasn't until I arrived here when it really sunk in," Stanley said.

Although she said she is pleased with the welcoming environment on campus, she would like to see more efforts from Goudy to accommodate the dietary restrictions of Jews. Mozell said he would like "Christmas in Hudson" (a concert during the holidays) to have a couple of Jewish songs to acknowledge the group's presence on campus. Overall, however, the students said that they feel very comfortable at Willamette because it is friendly and open.

Sophomore Loftin Langsdorf said he agrees that the University is easygoing and that community members are civil and accepting of one another. He is not part of a religious group on campus but said he would be more likely to join if there were more fun activities that were not strictly religious. "If you want people to get together and discuss such topics, you should do fun, light stuff first to create a positive atmosphere and appeal to a wider variety of people," Langsdorf said.

The easygoing attitude that Langsdorf described is evident in many students. Sophomore John Snelgrove said, "Believe whatever you want as long as it doesn't get in my way."

Similarly, when asked what he thinks about religious life on campus, sophomore and Atheist Sean Sharma said, "I'm Atheist so I don't care about religious life."

This is one view on campus, but is certainly not held by all. Sophomore John Lind said that "Atheism is the overarching name for apathy towards religion."

Another student, who wished to remain anonymous, said that he/she thinks there is a serious problem because Atheism is the overwhelming norm at Willamette. "As a liberal arts school, we should take controversial issues and discuss them. If nobody disagrees then there is no valuable discussion."

Senior chemistry major Dani Miles does not fit this supposed conformity. She has been involved in Campus Ambassadors (CA) all four years and is now one of its student representatives. She described CA as a community that provides an outlet to discuss faith. "College is an important time to ask questions and we want to encourage the spiritual journey," Miles said. Every Thursday night they gather in the Hatfield Room to socialize, discuss and worship.

Furthermore, CA engages in service projects, including the recent human trafficking awareness week. Miles said she is motivated to join forces with other groups such as Angles and the JSU. One of the things she said she loves about Willamette is the ability to talk with all different types of people. "It's special we can be here and talk about such topics," Miles said.

There is a multitude of religions and variations within each represented on campus. There also seems to be many opportunities for discussion or involvement.

Reinforcing this attitude, Wallace said, "Education has a spiritual and ethical side as well as an intellectual side. In the Northwest, we can do this in a way that is not sectarian but rather through a deep and soulful side to education that we want to foreground. Part of it is volunteering, justice work, religious studies, meditative life and how one relates to people who are different from one's self. In church related traditions we are poised to do that very well."

Contact: phoard@willamette.edu

CROSS COUNTRY

Runners excel at NWC Championships

JOE DONOVAN
CONTRIBUTOR

Last Saturday, the Bearcat women and men faced more than high winds and pouring rain at the NWC Championship hosted by the University of Puget Sound. Despite being the pre-race favorites, the men's team finished a close second to a surprisingly strong Whitworth while the women placed third behind Lewis and Clark and Whitworth. The 'Cats saw some superb individual efforts, as both senior Kimber Mattox and junior Leo Castillo captured individual conference titles.

Senior Stefan Redfield placed four seconds behind Castillo, taking second overall. This one- two finish at conference was the first for Willamette since 2007. However, it was not enough to beat the Pirates, who snuck by with 33 points to the Bearcats' 36. Finishing closely behind Redfield were sophomore Kevin Aubol and senior Ryan McLaughlin, who finished eighth and tenth, respectively.

McLaughlin, though disappointed with the team's second place finish, is optimistic about the upcoming meets. "Our team is coming into Regionals more focused than ever before. Conference has only made us more determined to be Regional champs," McLaughlin said.

Mattox led the Bearcat women with a six-kilometer time of 22:09 that bested every other runner in the race by almost ten seconds. Mattox's time was a personal best, and the sixth best performance in Willamette history. Sophomore Teresa Edwards was second for the 'Cats and 12th overall. Junior Sarah McSweeney rounded out the top three for Willamette, finishing 22nd overall.

McSweeney said she was happy with the Bearcats' performance and versatility. "It has been really exciting to see different runners from across the team stepping up in meets and I can't wait to see what happens at Regionals," McSweeney said.

These Bearcats are very positive about their future meets. Edwards is excited to see how the women's team develop during this post-season. "We can now look forward towards our upcoming meets and strive to become stronger and healthier so that we can have the best race possible in two weeks," Edwards said.

Contact: *jdonovan@willamette.edu*

next up:

NCAA West Regionals @ Salem, Oregon
Saturday, Nov. 13 at 11 a.m.

FOOTBALL

Bearcats force Pirates to walk the plank

JOHN LIND
SPORTS EDITOR

Friday afternoon, Willamette football took the long and desolate drive to eastern Washington for a Northwest Conference match-up with Whitworth College. While the 'Cats used plenty of gas for the seven-hour drive, sophomore tailback Terrell Malley had no problem keeping his foot on the accelerator once the Bearcats took the field.

Malley led an overwhelming Willamette ground game with 17 carries for 103 yards as the 'Cats took care of business, defeating the Pirates 28-12 last Saturday.

Malley's impressive performance was only a part of the Bearcats' usually dominant run scheme. This time around, the team accumulated 310 yards rushing. In the passing department, sophomore quarterback Brian Widing was efficient, completing 10-12 passes for 97 yards.

"We just stuck to the ground and kept going at them," Malley said. "Whether it was five yards or ten yards or whatever, we just kept moving the ball."

Whitworth did not have any notable statistics in the game, likely because of two major factors. Pirate senior running back Adam Anderson, a large part of the offense, was injured and did not play in the game. More importantly, however, Whitworth achieved seemingly subpar stats because they simply never had the ball.

Willamette's run-heavy attack drained the clock and kept the Pirate offense off the field. The 'Cats totaled 41:22 of possession time in the game, more than doubling that of the Pirates.

"We controlled the ball, especially with the wet conditions, by sticking to a solid, efficient run game," Malley said.

The Bearcats came out of the gates quickly, jumping to a 16-0 first half lead. An 18-play, 61-yard opening drive that ate up over nine minutes led to a 29-yard field goal from freshman kicker Kyle Derby.

After forcing the Bucs into a punt, the 'Cats went back to the ground. Highlighted by runs of 18 and 17 yards from senior tailback Jose Green and Malley, respectively, the Bearcats moved it slowly but surely down the field. Green gave the 'Cats their first touchdown of the game when he punched it in from two yards out.

Sophomore safety Dominic David wanted to be sure the Pirates did not get the ball for too long. With the ball near midfield, David picked off Buc quarterback Andrew DeFelice and returned the ball all the way to the Whitworth six-yard line. It did not take long for Malley to seal the deal, scoring from two yards out.

Whitworth countered by driving down the field and scoring to make it 13-6. Whitworth was pressing to score again near the end of the first half, but a lob to the end zone by Buc quarterback Taylor Eglet came down in the hands of sophomore defensive back Cody Pastorino, stalling the Whitworth drive.

COLBY TAKEDA
Senior tailback Jose Green eludes Linfield defenders in a game earlier this season. Last weekend against Whitworth, Green rushed 12 times for 73 yards and a touchdown.

The second half was an exhibition in ball control for Willamette. The 'Cats were even more run-heavy in the third and fourth quarters, rushing 36 times and keeping the clock ticking. The Bearcats played solid, mistake-free football, committing no turnovers.

The Bearcats (6-2, 3-1 NWC) will play their final home game of the season this Saturday against Lewis and Clark College.

Contact: *jlind@willamette.edu*

next up:

Bearcats v. Lewis & Clark @ Salem, Oregon
Saturday, Nov. 6 at 1 p.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Women suffer winless weekend in Washington

BRANDON CHINN
CONTRIBUTOR

Willamette was unable to handle the Whitworth University Pirates Sunday afternoon, falling behind early and allowing three first-half goals before losing the contest 4-1.

The Pirates jumped out to take the lead early. In the seventh minute, senior Molly Moore connected up the middle on a pass from junior Sarah Berentson. The Bucs would then double their lead in the 22nd minute, as Berentson would get in on the scoring to make it a 2-0 game.

Just four minutes later, however, Willamette tightened up the score as senior forward Alex Batzer delivered a pass to freshman midfielder Sabine Wetzel. Wetzel followed through with her fourth goal of the season, putting the Bearcats on the board at 2-1.

In the 35th minute, Whitworth would add to its lead, making the score 3-1 for the Pirates heading into the half. The scoring simmered down in the second half until the 70th minute, when the Pirates tacked on one more to seal the deal.

Sunday, the 'Cats concluded their weekend road trip as they took on the Whitman Missionaries. Both teams were strong defensively throughout the full 90 minutes of play. The game's lone goal was scored early on in the 12th minute when the Missionaries' freshman MacKenzie Hughes put Whitman on top 1-0. That is all Whitman College could provide on the offensive side as the Bearcats controlled the play for the majority of the game, effectively preventing the Missionaries from establishing any real threats.

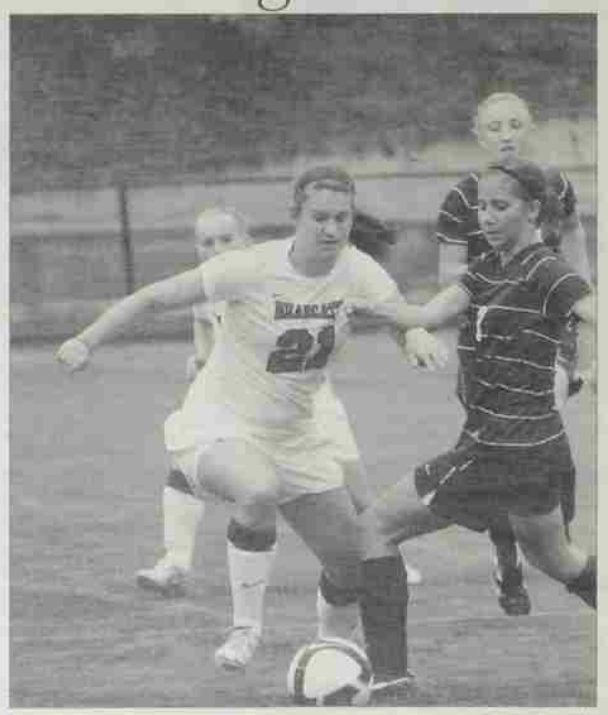
Despite being held scoreless, Willamette had several good offensive opportunities. The Bearcats used a variety of offensive looks including a triple diamond X offensive approach that helped move the ball forward, giving them several scoring opportunities. Wetzel thought the variety of offensive approaches was crucial in controlling possession: "The triple diamond was extremely effective throughout the first half, but we found a lot more success and elevated our intensity once we switched to a 4-4-2."

Wetzel also said that she was proud of the team's efforts, saying that the women "left it all out on the field." The Bearcats conclude their season next weekend as they travel on their final road trip, taking on Pacific Lutheran Friday and the Pacific Boxers Saturday afternoon.

Contact: *bchinn@willamette.edu*

next up:

Bearcats v. PLU @ Tacoma, Washington
Friday, Nov. 5 at 12 p.m.



EMILY SHLIEMAN
Freshman defender Holly McKendrick (21) fights for possession.

VOLLEYBALL

'Cats look to finish strong at home

AARON BROWN

Sophomore outside hitter Danica Reed dives to save a ball against George Fox earlier this season.

MICHELLE LASHLEY
CONTRIBUTOR

There are only a few more chances to see your Bearcat volleyball team in action as it enters the last week of the season. This week was a mixed bag, the team both losing and winning a match against Northwest Conference foes.

The match on Wednesday against Lewis and Clark opened strong, with the Bearcats beating the Pioneers by a margin of four points in the first game. However, Willamette lost the second set to the Pioneers to even the score at 1-1. But the Bearcats picked up their game, going on to win the final two sets by hitting .255 in the third set and a blistering .448 in the final set. They won the match 3-1 (25-21, 20-25, 26-24, 25-14).

Several key players put up impressive stats for the 'Cats. Sophomore Madisyn Leenstra put up a match-high 20 kills with a .296 attacking percentage. Senior captain Molly Blankenship contributed 12 kills of her own to the Bearcat cause, while freshman Carly Hargrave added 11. Sophomore Bridget Miller led the game in overall assists, setting up her teammates 46 times.

Freshman Shannon Waltz showed great skill in defense, getting four blocks at the net. All but one player who saw time on the court for Willamette came up with at least one dig. "We really stepped up and played like a team," Leenstra said. "It was so much fun to be on the court with the girls and get a well-deserved win."

In Friday's match against Pacific Lutheran, Willamette got a great start, scoring the first eight points of the first set. However, the Lutes used an 11-3 run to knot the game at 18, and later took the first set.

The Bearcats fought back with the score 22-20 in the second set. Hargrave made two crucial kills which, along with an attacking error from PLU, won the set for the Bearcats.

Unfortunately, the 'Cats could not find that same magic in the final two sets and PLU won the match 3-1 (25-22, 20-25, 27-25, 25-19).

The Bearcats sit at 8-15 overall and 4-10 in the NWC. The ending of the season for Blankenship is bittersweet. "We've been on a rough roller coaster this season and this will be my last chance to play with this amazing group of girls. We have two games left, and I know they are going to be amazing," Blankenship said. "We have nothing to lose, so this next weekend should be the best volleyball I'll ever play, with the most incredible group of girls I've ever played with."

Contact: *mlashley@willamette.edu*

next up:

Bearcats v. Whitworth @ Salem, Oregon
Friday, Nov. 5 at 7 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

Men's soccer falls to Whitworth, Whitman

LEIF HANSEN
CONTRIBUTOR

The Willamette Men's soccer team invaded the Evergreen State last weekend to take on two tough contenders, Whitworth and Whitman. The 'Cats kicked off play on Saturday afternoon against Whitworth University, as they took aim at their second NWC victory of the season.

The Bearcat defense was able to hold off the swashbuckling Pirates attack in the first half, but let its guard down in the 66th minute as a Whitworth attacker received a cross from the left side in the middle of the box and finished into the Willamette net. Whitworth found the goal again in the 87th minute to put the icing on a 2-0 victory. The Pirates pounded the Willamette goal in the second half as it accumulated 13 shots; including the first half, the team compiled 23 total. The 'Cats totaled seven shots.

After a disappointing result in Spokane, the Bearcats' trip would not get any easier as they headed down to Walla Walla for a spooky affair with Whitman College on Halloween. The Willamette defense was once again strong throughout the first half until the Missionaries were able to break through in the 41st minute. A Whitman corner led to a header from five yards out which was easily converted.

Whitman's attack was unrelenting in the second half. The Bearcats, however, were able to hold the Missionaries at bay until the 89th minute when a strike from 20 yards out made its way into the 'Cats net. Immediately following the goal, sophomore defender Etienne Galbreath was sent off after his second caution. It was a bellicose contest, as eight cards were issued. This included two red cards, given to Galbreath and sophomore midfielder Mike McGrew. McGrew was sent off after his second caution in the 40th minute.

The Missionaries finished with 28 shots, 13 of which were on frame. Senior keeper Eben Hellekson achieved ten saves to match his career high, set earlier this year.

The Bearcats will wrap up their season against rival Linfield College in McMinnville on Saturday at 6 p.m. Despite a rough season, Galbreath says the season is not over until the final whistle blows. "While our season may not have gone as expected, we are not a team to be taken lightly, especially against Linfield," Galbreath said.

Contact: *lhansen@willamette.edu*

next up:

Bearcats v. Linfield @ McMinnville, Oregon
Saturday, Nov. 6 at 6 p.m.

Abe's Abs
Med ball madness

A B E
MOLAND
COLUMNIST

It is always easy to find yourself reaching into the candy bowl around this time of year, sending your once chiseled abs from structurally resembling a Hershey's bar to that of a pile of gummy bears. So now that Halloween is over, stop grabbing Reese's and grab a medicine ball instead.

The medicine ball is a great way to add variety to your ab workouts, and the potential for different exercises using them is limitless. Dating back to over 3000 years ago, Persian wrestlers were known to be training with animal bladders filled with sand. Similarly, Hippocrates sewed animal skins together, filled them with sand and had his patients toss them back and forth for rehabilitation. Luckily, technology has caught on and today there is a variety of much more sanitary medicine balls available.

One of the most notorious uses of the med ball was in boxing training, in which a boxer would lay down and have the med ball dropped on their stomach to simulate a punch. You can try that, but I recommend the cycling med ball drill instead.

Lying on your back, raise your legs with a 90-degree bend in them. Place a medicine ball (anywhere from 4-6 kg) to rest on your feet, and have another in your hands. Have your partner stand in front of you. Tap the ball in your hands on the ground above your head and then toss the ball to your partner as you are crunching upward.

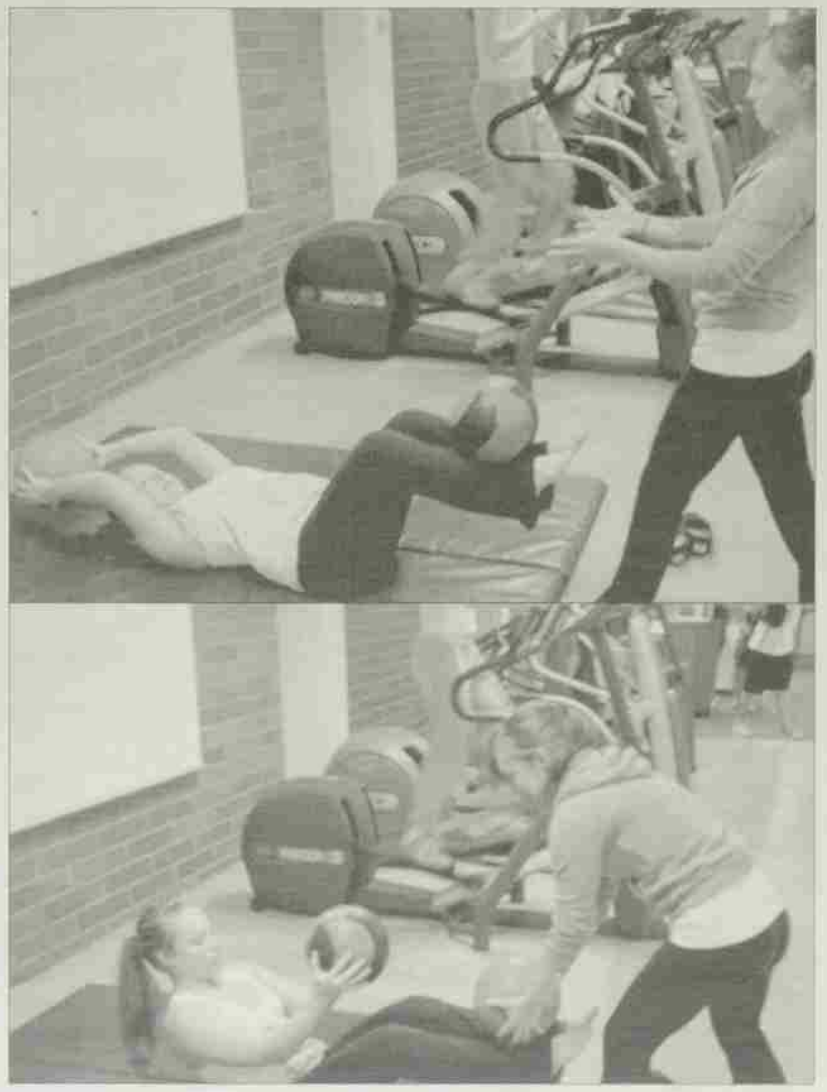
After you have released the ball and at the peak of your abdominal flexion, grab the ball resting on your feet to bring it back overhead while your partner places the received ball on your feet. Try to shoot for 20 cycles, rest and then reverse the direction of the ball, having your partner toss it to you.

This exercise provides dozens of stimuli to promote beneficial muscle adaptations. The motion of tossing the ball mid-crunch adds an element of explosion and speed. Throughout this exercise your lower body is stationary. Hip flexors, quadriceps and lower leg muscles all contract to support the additional weight of the med ball on your feet.

The ball never follows the exact same trajectory when tossed, so in each throw and catch your muscles are working differently, increasing balance, control and hand-eye coordination. This concept directly applies to improving performance in sports, making it an ideal resistance-training tool to enhance performance.

So don't put up with listening to people "Snicker" at the number of bags of candy you downed this weekend. Hit up Sparks for some abdominal "Crunch" time, but when working out with the med ball, make sure you don't have any "Butterfingers."

Contact: *amoland@willamette.edu*



ABE MOLAND

Junior Hallie Tobias, left, and sophomore Reya Tobias perform the cycling med ball drill.

COLUMN

Define your space

MATT PITCHFORD
OPINIONS EDITOR

Given our glimpses into great and meaningful things at this point in life, I've found myself fearful of "settling." There is so much to experience, do, change and learn that I don't want to end up accepting a pursuit or career that is less than what I am capable of. I want to fill my "space," rather than contort myself into something less.

When I was working a retail position at Staples a few summers ago, I found people who seemed to have settled. They had been working at the job for years, with the eventual goal of moving up into middle management. They knew all the annoying policies and inane retail acronyms.

The space that retail gives you is small. It's the same with parking meter keepers or construction sign wavers. There are so many hopes, dreams and desires that don't fit into a job where you are relegated into the work of a petty or power-tripping task-keeper. The space of these activities is smaller than the people in them, so they have to smash themselves into it. This is where the idea of a "soul crushing" job comes from.

On the other hand, there are the spaces that are much larger than the people in them. There are the spaces where we are challenged and uncomfortable. They demand more than we thought we could give and require more than we thought we could fulfill. It is a challenge of becoming what we are expected to be. This is where the idea of "stretching" yourself as an individual comes from.

So, the size of our life-space has a direct impact on the rest of our life. A space too small can lead to atrophy and pettiness. A space too large can promote growth and even greatness.

College is unique, in part, because it is a time in where we get to have a direct hand in defining the space of our life. We can choose challenge or we can choose complacency. In the end, we are partially choosing how large, impactful and meaningful our life can be. The collegiate life feels like a bubble, but its impacts will extend far beyond the four years at this institution. It is a setting of a trajectory for the rest of life.

Now, it's important to note that we don't get to control everything about this little life-space. We get to affect our filling of it, but life itself is filled with fundamental incomprehensibilities. You never know where your space will ultimately end up. You never know what will suddenly be taken from it. You never know what will suddenly be given to it. But however incomprehensible life may be in its entirety, there is something to be said for completely engaging in the parts where you do have an impact.

In the end, it is far better to stretch yourself into a challenging space than to settle into one that is smaller and more comfortable. Settling is spirit crushing. To stretch is more difficult. But sometimes the most worthwhile things are also the hardest.

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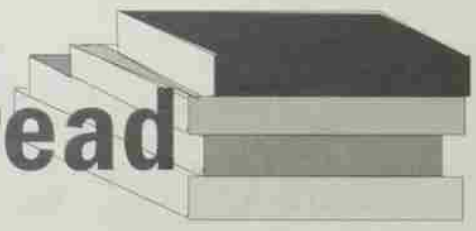
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters can be sent by postal mail, e-mail (*lgold@willamette.edu*), campus mail or fax. Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name and phone number and must be submitted by noon Monday on the week of intended publication. The *Collegian* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

EDITORIAL

Take the time to read



Keeping one's balance and sanity as the weather turns from crisply colorful to dull grey can be especially difficult as one's academic assignments also turn from vague future events to looming deadlines. An old-time solution is curling up in a cozy blanket with a book and a mug of something warm. But even outside the particular fall tradition of reading to stave off the rain, books can be an excellent means of balance.

Studies have suggested that Americans are reading less frequently and less proficiently, especially teens and young adults. Just take a gander through any young-adult section at a bookstore and you can see these two tendencies come together in bland and pretentious perfection.

Part of this tendency comes from the cultural and social trends that have developed due to the digital age. Just as oral histories, storytelling and bards faded into obscurity with the creation of books, our books seem to be increasingly obsolete. But the replacement of books is not closed by the creation a separate form of knowledge and comprehension. Rather, books seem to be replaced by a reduction or devolution. Television and YouTube are not comparable forms of knowledge dissemination and mental stimulation.

Beyond just the process of learning and intellect, books are also incredibly useful in the questions of how we should go about living. Reading good books and good poetry gives us insight into how other people have answered the questions that face us all. The greatest writer is just as much of a philosopher as he is a prophet. As the rightfully eminent writer David Foster Wallace once said, "Fiction is about what it means to be a f***ing human being."

Now, it's definitely difficult to read for fun in the face of all our responsibilities and required academic books. Such class readings aren't bad, but they can also be incomplete in their specifics of focus and factionalism. The point of this article isn't to give you a list of books to read, but to ask you to consider your reading and round out the parts of it that are missing. It's another thing to add to our already busy lives, but it's absolutely worth it.

Sometimes it seems that we just forget about it. The United States has a comparatively high literacy rate, but even within the States there are thousands of people who are functionally illiterate or who are below their intellectual reading level.

Taken on the whole, the college student is incredibly fortunate. At this institution, we have the most ready access to nearly any book imaginable. Millions of writings spanning mind-boggling varieties of topics are all at our fingertips. So many books, so little time.

So, let's not forget to take advantage of our ability to read books. It's worth it not only in terms of what we can know, but also in terms of our life as a whole. It's difficult to find the time to do anything at college, but reading should be given that time. Life is too short to not read good books.

COLLEGIAN
EDITORIAL POLICY
The Editorial represents the composite opinion of the *Collegian* Editorial Board

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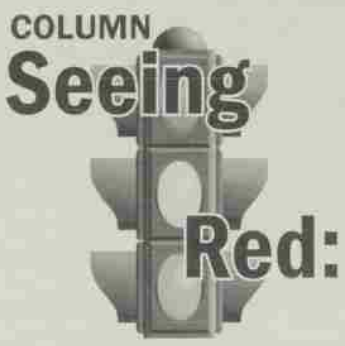

Influence

CAITLIN PREMINGER
COLUMNIST

On one of my first days at Willamette, during Opening Days, I took a tour of the Hatfield Library that concluded with a free prize. In exchange for writing down the name of the book that had influenced us the most we could choose from a genuine Willamette Frisbee or a travel mug. Coffee enthusiast that I am, I quickly scrawled down a title and handed in my paper. Then I snuck looks at other people's answers – "The Catcher in the Rye," "The Sun Also Rises," etc.

I had written down "The Gospel According to Larry."

Call it my instant aversion to anything scholastic – which I fully admit – but I balked at the idea of being subject to some supposed pillar of literature. I opted instead for a book that had been both an enjoyable middle school read and was decidedly unacademic and antithetical to a tome. Why should I play their game? What did that even mean, influenced? Reverence has never been my strong suit.

Months later, I was relating the story to a friend who responded that she thought of influence in terms of how something has changed the way you think. Suddenly my small act of flippant defiance became an expression of veritable fact, for as luck should have it, "The Gospel According to Larry" had made me examine consumerism and materialism far more extensively than my freshman colloquium, which focused on that very topic.

It's not as though I was once a consumerist glutton; I just didn't give consumerism much thought. If I wanted something and could afford it, why not buy it? But post-"Larry" I had a very different approach. I emulated the novel's main character, Josh, for whom every purchase was a major, major decision. In fact, Josh owned only 75 possessions. I was hardly ambitious enough to pare down my Earthly belongings to 75, and I still have plenty of crap I don't need, but I am now much more thoughtful about material possessions.

Before buying something, I ask myself if I like this item so much that I want to invite it into my life. Usually, the answer is no. In the same vein, I periodically purge my possessions to stave off feelings of claustrophobia. Having too much stuff makes me feel tied down and anxious.

For me, consuming is an exercise in mindfulness. I strive to reduce my life clutter, and I seriously doubt whether I would think this way if I hadn't read "The Gospel According to Larry."

With any luck, you're not as resistant as I was to the idea of some outside source having sway over an aspect of your worldview. Enduring influence doesn't have to come from lofty places. In my case, Larry's imprint came quite unexpectedly, and for a time I don't think I was even aware that a young adult novel had had such a lasting impact. Turns out influence can stay subconscious for a while before bursting forth from the mental folds. Funny how that happens.

Contact: *cpreming@willamette.edu*

Do you have an opinion?
Do you like to write your opinions down?
If you answered yes, then you are a perfect candidate for a guest writer!
If you are interested in joining, please e-mail *mpitchfo@willamette.edu*

OPINION

It's time to "toughen down"

AUSTIN SCHOCK
GUEST WRITER

"This class suuuuuucks." The voice, grating upon my eardrums like nails on a chalkboard, emanates from the person to my left. I am in class and two people have finished the in-class worksheet early. You can guess who my compatriot is. "This class sucks."

Again and again, this individual disrespects the entire class, the teacher and me. "This class suuucks." The person continues, in a classic case of bullying. If this person hated the class so much, why were they even there? Why didn't they just leave, or not even come, if they were so unwilling to show respect to the teacher and the rest of the class?

I bring up this story as an example of something that has been brought into the spotlight this past month: bullying. Merriam-Webster defines bullying as, "to treat abusively." Now, many reading that definition will say that what my classmate did was not bullying, but that the individual was just expressing an opinion. However, abuse includes "harsh insulting language" as part of the Merriam-Webster definition. I think that most people would consider my classmate's comments to be insulting to the teacher, essentially saying that the class was not worth his time.

I would like to say first off that I rarely watch my speech. I won't let myself swear, but most other things get by scot-free. As such, I'm not going to play the hypocrite and tell people to watch what they say. Instead, I am just warning you all that your words do have an effect. Inarguably, this particular professor can be a little hard of hearing at times, but I have a difficult time believing that she never heard a word.

However, after many years of having students who say the same thing, I doubt that she considered it worth her while to talk to this person about the comments. Does that fact make this act right? Just because someone is not caught or punished for what he or she did does not merit those actions, nor does a continuing trend lend itself to inherent moral correctness. Assent based on silence is only as strong as the fear of speaking up; but once that fear falls, the floodgates are open and all hell breaks loose.

For all you people out there who bully and are now saying that your victims should just "toughen up," I leave you this message: shut up. People like you made not only my life but also the lives of so many people that I know a torturous experience. In fact, as occurred in the class, you still make my life hell.

When you bully, you dehumanize your victims, robbing them of any self-respect by making yourself feel good. Bullying is not just a youth problem – it affects everyone. It's time to take a stand. Next time you hear someone tell a victim to "toughen up," tell the gorilla that it's time to, "toughen down."

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COLUMN

K-Light's Insights

C's get degrees

KRISTIN LIGHT
COLUMNIST

Midterms have passed us by, and it's time for updated grades. With this reveal of grades comes the usual, "Oh no! I got a B-" or "This is going to kill my 3.78 GPA." To which I reply, "calm the f**k down." You got a B-, so what? How much harm can that B- really do? It's not going to come to your room and murder you in the middle of the night, nor is it going to discover your deepest, darkest secret and tell it to everyone you know.

A B- isn't real. It's an evaluation of how well one person feels you did in a particular area. As objective as professors try to make the grading process, it's still a reflection of how well the professor thinks you can demonstrate the knowledge that they passed down to you.

So, I have a new philosophy for you. C's get degrees. That's right, to pass all of your classes and get your degree, you need a solid 2.0 GPA. You can get a C in every class and still graduate.

Now before you get all defensive and think I'm trying to tell you to abandon your life of academia, let me put this into perspective. You didn't come to Willamette in the first place just to slack off. If you wanted to do that, you would have gone to a state school, community college or just stopped pursuing school in general. By deciding to go to a small liberal arts college, you chose to be committed to your education.

By willingly living in Salem, you have to be focused on your academics. You are no slacker. Education is very important, and grades mark how well you are learning. But, you may also have a problem. You freak out when you don't get the grade you desire. It's a red alert when things are not perfect. You stress yourself out by constantly trying to achieve the best you can.

Is it worth it, though? Is all of the tension of getting straight A's something you desire? Why would anyone willingly want to stress themselves out as much as possible? College is about discovering who you are and what you can make of yourself in the real world. If all you do in college is constantly strain yourself, and never take the time to walk away from the pressure, you're only proving to the world that when you grow up, you are going to be a hot, anxious mess.

Take some time to fail. Let go. If the difference between an A and a B is your sanity, then stop trying so hard. C's get degrees. This saying doesn't mean just stick with a C average, it means that you have room to slip and fall. You don't need to be perfect. Sometimes your worst work is good enough to stand on its own. Sometimes, failing is more relieving then succeeding.

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THERESA BAROSH

COLUMN

Bearcat Bullet

Imbedded journalism

BRETT SCRUTON
GUEST WRITER

Hello disappointed readers who were hoping to read Kevin's witty and unorthodox musings on Willamette life. I was told that Kevin was off fighting zombie moon Nazis and could not fill his role as the trusted "Bearcat Bullet" columnist.

Those still reading get to hear from me, Brett Scruton, suave campus adventurer and as of this weekend, imbedded reporter. Saturday night, I departed from our campus with my trusted freshman associate (that guy who does that thing) to hit the frontline of the SNAFU that we call Halloween. My assessment? Willamette was not prepared for Halloween, but had too much fun to realize or care.

The first general lack of preparation was the consistency of how Bearcats, notably lady Bearcats, were dressed and the general weather pattern of Salem. So yeah, it rains. Now I certainly have no objections to the adopted college standard for Halloween dress, but the practicality is something we have to acknowledge in Salem.

In the early stages of the night, there was a general confusion of where off-campus parties were and this only led to the inebriated huddling together under any possible cover from the increasing torrents. I don't think that Ellis Island was the intended holiday theme this year but that's what happens when you don't acknowledge where you live. As one girl demonstrated in a discomforting question, "Will it be raining when we come back?" You may make educated guesses about her condition.

Those under similar conditions struggled indoors as well. The concept of the narrow stairwell/hallway is always something dropped from the mind of the weekend-loving. Halloween only seems to make this scenario worse with the inclusion of large obtrusive costumes in the already restricted space. This space is already made more hazardous by the necessary festive decorations.

It so happens that spiderwebs make up the majority of these decorations. I watched as fellow Bearcats became wrapped up in these sinister embellishments, leading to fleeting moments of panic, confusion and, worst of all, a sense of uncool. I ended up breaking journalistic neutrality and saving a friend from this fate because 1) He's not Indiana Jones and 2) He was wearing sunglasses inside. You're welcome dude.

People were confused. Peopl,e were scared. People were wet. Most importantly, they enjoyed the experience. Though, maybe not the aftermath.

Despite the buckets of fun that rained down on Salem this weekend, I am forced to be **Irrationally Irritated** at the individual and or/team who stole my bike from the front of Doney. You're a master thief because you picked a master lock; I get it. But not only did you straight-up jack my bike, you also damaged the building of Doney itself and the ghost of Gregg Doney will never forget! Maybe next time I'll lock my bike in the botanical gardens. At least someone will be watching.

Contact: *bscurton@willamette.edu*

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

OCT. 22-28, 2010
Information provided by Campus Safety

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▸ Oct. 23, 11:24 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): A student reported the smell of marijuana coming from a particular room. Campus Safety responded and interviewed the student inside the room, who exhibited signs of marijuana use. Marijuana paraphernalia was confiscated.

POLICY VIOLATION

▸ Oct. 26, 3:35 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): A student received her 12th parking citation on 10/25/2010. The Judicial Office was notified.

▸ Oct. 26, 3:39 p.m. (Atkinson Parking Lot): A student received his 25th parking citation on 9/24/2010. The Judicial Office was notified.

▸ Oct. 26, 3:39 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): A student received her 11th parking citation on 9/29/2010. The Judicial Office was notified.

▸ October 26, 3:39 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): A student received his 14th parking citation on 9/27/2010. The Judicial Office was notified.

THEFT

▸ Oct. 28, 4:22 p.m. (University Center): A student reported that his bicycle had been stolen from the University Center when he had parked for a short time and left it unlocked.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT

▸ Oct. 27, 4:55 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): An employee called Campus Safety because someone had struck her vehicle sometime during the day. She was given the Salem Police Non-Emergency number to file a report.

WELFARE CHECK

▸ Oct. 23, 11:49 p.m. (Lee House): A student requested a welfare check for his friend who had made statements indicating that she would hurt herself. Campus Safety and Residence Life staff met with the student and referred her to medical staff at Bishop Wellness Center.

Please contact Campus Safety if you have any information regarding these incidents:
safety@willamette.edu

ADVERTISEMENT PHOTO BY COLBY TAKEDA

SPOT THAT SHOT

SEEN THIS BEFORE?

KNOW WHERE IT IS?

Be the first person to e-mail the correct location to Editor in Cheif Lauren Gold: lgold@willamette.edu And win your picture plus ETERNAL GLORY in next week's *Collegian.*

Calling all scavengers

it's time to hunt

How well do you know Willamette?

Rules: Instead of collecting objects, you'll be collecting information!

What's next: Find the answers. Bring your completed copy to *Liz Frawley, Waller Hall 3rd Floor.*

First 3 people with correct entries will win Bistro bucks! Winners notified by email.

1. A generous benefactress made an $8 million gift to Willamette—one of the largest in the University's history. Her portrait hangs in the academic building named in her honor. What color outfit is she wearing? _____

2. An alumnus from the College of Law made a large gift creating a place for law students to study, relax and enjoy Bistro goodness. What is the name of the cafe? _____

3. An anonymous alumnus endowed a lecture hall in the Hallie Ford Museum of Art in honor of Professor Roger Hull for his many years of service to Willamette. What floor of the museum is the lecture hall located? _____

4. Penelope "Penny" Parks Knight and her husband, Philip Knight, CEO of Nike Inc. made a $5 million gift to establish the Alex L. Parks Distinguished Chair at the College of Law. Who currently holds this chair? _____

5. The gateway to Eaton Hall was given by which class? _____

6. Our Star Trees were a gift by which class? Interesting note: An alum donates the money to light the trees every winter. _____

7. Each plant in this garden along State Street is endowed in memory or recognition of someone with a Willamette connection. What kind of plants are these? _____

8. Which class left its legacy on a sidewalk outside of north entrance to Waller Hall—the one facing State Street— with the engraving "WE'RE THE BUNCH WE HAVE THE PUNCH"? _____

9. Which country singer gave a benefit concert to help raise money for the Sparks Athletic Center? Her picture is located inside the fitness center. _____

10. Waller Hall's historic old step on the east entrance has a plaque above it to highlight the hundreds of feet that have crossed it since what year? _____

Congratulations to our word search winners: Madison Tilton, Samantha Huntington, Marta Tarantsey, Larissa DeHaas and Jenna Wu

A message from Development and Alumni Relations

WASH YOUR HANDS!

...

IT'S COLD AND FLU SEASON