

Willamette Collegian

Holiday Supplement

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Supplement

"Streams of thought" series opens Author discusses the atrocities of Apartheid

By DEBORAH BELLEMORE
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Mark Mathabane, author of *Kaffir Boy*, described the indignities of apartheid and growing up in South Africa to a crowded room last Thursday evening.

He spoke about the 18 years he lived under apartheid and the atrocities he saw committed against black people. "I've found many of you to be men and women of conscience. My mission is to tell you the truth [about South Africa]."

Mathabane was born in Alexandra, a ghetto where over 150,000 people live on a square mile of land under squalid conditions. "A mere stone's throw away" are mansions and gardens owned by white South Africans, but 90% of the Whites never see the conditions of Blacks, according to Mathabane. He stated, "I was determined never to make my peace with the ghetto."

He described how he slept on cardboard under the kitchen table, because his mother, father and the youngest child slept on the family's only bed. He spoke of families broken up by the authorities and police terrorizing the people. The police "would come unannounced at any time of day or

night," he said. Mathabane's own parents were forced to flee their home, leaving him, at the age of 5, to take care of his brothers and sisters until they were able to return. His father was forced to work on a potato farm, while his mother and the children waited for the garbage trucks "to dig for half-eaten sandwiches."



Mark Mathabane, author of *Kaffir Boy* talked about his youth in South Africa to a large crowd in the Hatfield room last Thursday. Mathabane was the first speaker in the "Streams of Thought" series.

He described his mother, "a rare woman," and how she imparted the values of love, hope and understanding to her children. "She taught me not to hate white people," he said, even though she daily saw the atrocities committed by the Whites. Mathabane stated that his mother believed in the value of an education, and told how she waited in line from 3 in the morning until 10 a.m. to try and get a permit so her children could attend school. She did this for six months unsuccessfully, until a white nun helped her obtain a permit for him to attend school. School became Math-

abane's ticket out of the ghetto.

Mathabane proceeded to talk more generally about apartheid. "South Africa daily sinks beneath the yoke of injustice," he stated. He said that disinvestment and sanctions are the last nonviolent solution for the Blacks.

"We aren't willing to settle for anything less" than freedom and justice he stated. He compared the Black South African's struggle to obtain liberty to that of the American Revolution. Mathabane added that the cause of justice is never easy or popular, "but I believe that a society founded on injustice will not endure."

Senate concludes semester business

By DEBORAH BELLEMORE
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

President Eric Fishman initiated discussion concerning the withdrawal of money from students' special deposit accounts at the final senate meeting of the semester last night. The Business Office offered to send every student a memo listing the amount of money in their account twice a semester. He said that he had expressed concern about the removal of money from the special deposit for damages in the halls to Residence Life. They agreed to automatically send a memo to students for any money removed from student's special deposit.

Senator Shawn Patrick asked if it would be possible for Campus Safety to notify students when they remove money from students' accounts to pay parking tickets.

Senator Marc Overbeck moved that students be notified by the Business Office every time money is taken out of a student's account. The senate passed this

motion after some discussion.

Fishman said that the Food Service Committee received a response from the Marriott Corporation which agreed to make every effort to improve the quality of its services.

The Publications Board recommended a \$750 funding request for *Jason II*, and senate approved the recommendation.

Senator Sara Imel expressed concern about a pig that had been let loose in Lausanne Wednesday at approximately 3:30 a.m. She said that someone had spread corn along the first floor hallway and left poems regarding the students in Lausanne in the hall.

Treasurer Jon Radmacher stated that the semester financial summary would be available after the December figures are calculated.

Vice President Mike Tewfik announced that the Late Night Breakfast on Sunday the 13th from 10p.m. to 12p.m. is free to all undergraduates.

WU students assist children

By KAREN LANGDON
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The Sharing Tree is encouraging the Willamette Community to donate toys to needy children this Christmas.

Willamette will sponsor the division, which supports abused and neglected children including an unemployed family with seven children. Ambassadors and Intervarsity Christian Fellowship will provide gifts to the children of inmates at the Oregon Women's Correctional Institution.

Contributors should bring new unwrapped presents to the Chap-

lain's Office by December 18. Senior Wendy Ice, coordinator of the program suggests that individuals supply gifts such as stuffed animals, puzzles, blocks, legos or blankets, food, clothing and money.

The Children's Service Division will particularly appreciate stuffed toys because Ice says abused children are often leery of adults and do not wish to speak to their therapist. Therefore, therapists at the Children's Service Division will give a child a stuffed animal, and the child will speak to it.

Ice hopes that Willamette University "wants to provide food, which is desperately needed, bedding, and also games and toys that are more family oriented."

Like Intervarsity, Campus Ambassadors will provide a toy for 14 children whose mothers reside in the Correctional Institute.

Ice commented that "Christmas is one of the worst times of the year for abused and neglected." She "would really appreciate more help." Ice would be thankful to any student who would help make signs or spread the word.

FROM THE EDITORS

Meagan Flynn and Daniel Keppler

One of our goals for the semester was to keep the *Collegian* out of its own editorial page, but every good policy has exceptions.

The last few years for the *Collegian* have been a time of turmoil. The paper has suffered from a lack of consistency with advertisers, dramatically different editorial policies, and staffs that rotated along with each new editor. No individual can be blamed for these problems, but the *Collegian* has been drastically in need of a stability that can be maintained for more than one semester, or one year.

The *Collegian* must be more than just a paper of the editor (or editors). The purpose of the *Collegian* is to present accurate information to the campus, explore pertinent issues, and, occasionally, entertain. For the staff, it is ideally a learning experience, in addition to being an activity. Sometimes, both editors and students can forget that the *Collegian* exists primarily for these reasons. When other concerns are dragged in, the *Collegian's* true purpose suffers, and consequently, the entire campus suffers.

The constitutional revision committee is considering a new advisory structure for the *Collegian*. Changes like these could finally signal a period of transition for the paper.

At the discretion of the publications board, the *Collegian* editors have the option to continue for a second semester. We have chosen not to exercise that option. After a rewarding, but trying semester, we lack the energy and motivation to continue through the spring. Additionally, it is difficult to achieve long-term improvements for the *Collegian* while putting so much energy into simply producing the paper each week.

Early next semester, the campus will be faced with several important issues like divestment, which will be voted on by the board of trustees on January 27. Consequently, we will continue to publish the *Collegian* until a new editor is selected, and until that person (or persons) feels comfortable with the position. Hopefully, this precedent of a smooth transition will help to change some of the attitudes that have plagued the *Collegian* in the past. It's time to change the practice of "out with the old, in with the new." There is no reason that *Collegian* editors, past, present, and future, shouldn't work together on the same publication.

Applications for spring semester *Collegian* editor are available today (Friday) in the U.C. If you are interested in working with people and informing the campus, we strongly encourage you to apply.

Willamette Collegian

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The *Willamette Collegian* is the official publication of the Associated Students of Willamette University, published weekly except during university holidays and exam weeks. The contents of this publication are the opinions and responsibility of the staff of the *Willamette University Collegian* and does not necessarily reflect the policy of A.S.W.U. or Willamette University.

LETTERS

The *Collegian* encourages opinionated responses from its readership in the form of letters to the editor. Letters must be typewritten, dated, signed and include a phone number. Letters are subject to editing and must be submitted to the *Collegian* by Tuesday prior to publication.

ADVERTISING

Advertising rate is \$5 per column inch of display space. To inquire about advertising, contact the *Collegian* at the above phone number.

OPINION

THE CUPOLA COMMENTARY

Castor and Pollux

Mystery Writers

Well, here it is — the big day. Before the authorship of this column is revealed or anything else is said, a few words of explanation are called for:

To begin with, there's only one of me, not two. My reasons for writing this column were not to attack persons or institutions. Nothing, repeat nothing — in this column was ever meant as a personal attack. And to be honest, not necessarily everything which was written reflected my personal opinion on an issue.

If it looked as though this column had no purpose, realize that it wasn't written for senators, members of ASWU committees, or officers (except perhaps for their amusement or displeasure). They usually know what is going on politically, and generally formulate opinions on such subjects rather quickly. It was for those who didn't know that some people were (sigh) already thinking about next year's ASWU elections, that people were grumbling about the student budget process, or that deferred rush and the new class schedule were going to be major items of discussion. This column attempted to provide some insight into such things, even if the opinions offered on them were erroneous or unsub-

stantiated.

I wish I could apologize to those whom I told I wasn't writing this column. Sorry about fibbing.

I'd like to see the spirit of this column continue — in some form, somewhere. Perhaps someone else will now take up the task of writing it. And now, on to publications.

I've observed the ASWU Constitutional Review Board, and believe that the committee has made some important progress toward the much-needed goal of reforming the structures which oversee the *Collegian*. Editor selection, publications board credibility, relationship to ASWU, and funding were the concerns regarding the *Collegian* which received the most attention. At our final meeting of the semester, the board decided to propose a new *Collegian* Board to oversee the paper.

There was quite a bit of mathematical calculation to determine the proper composition of the *Collegian* Board. It should reflect a good balance between people with journalistic knowledge and people whose opinions reflect the average student.

The *Collegian* Board should produce a better system for over-

seeing the *Collegian*, but will not necessarily, however, guarantee a superior paper. Hopefully though, problems concerning the internal operations of the *Collegian* will be resolved by the organization of a new, strong staff manual which will update and revise *Collegian* operations.

Overall, I'm pleased with what's been done. Though we are a long way from the radical changes some would like, we've recognized problems, voiced concerns, and taken action on those concerns. The constitutional review board shouldn't necessarily be hailed as a miracle worker, but it's made some decisions which deserve recognition. And on that positive note, I bid my farewell.

Oh, right. I almost forgot about the matter of my identity. To learn my last name, take the first letter of the last paragraph, the second letter of the second to last, and so on, though the third paragraph from the top. One last hint, before people check, is that I also wrote last semester's *Cupola* by myself — under the names of Siskburn and Birtwood. Happy hunting. And my sincerest best wishes to the next editor(s) of the *Collegian*.

Committee Selection Unfounded

By SCOTT CLEMANS
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

I am a junior, but I used to be a sophomore, and before that a freshman. I live off-campus, but I used to live in a fraternity, and before that in a residence hall. I am a Greek, and have been ever since I've been at Willamette, but many close friends of mine are not.

I'm an individual, with my own beliefs and desires and attitudes. But at the same time, I'm a lot like everyone else on this campus. I can't help it — it's part of the Willamette Experience that we all find.

In my opinion, it doesn't really matter where you live, or what class you belong to, or what organizations you participate in. In the end, we're all the same, and all different.

So why then does the ASWU Elections Board insist on selecting people to fill committee positions according to Greek affiliation (or lack thereof) and current residence?

The result of this procedure is a committee system which may or may not have the best people for the job representing the student population.

Before everyone out there starts rolling their eyes and whispering "He's just saying that because he didn't get the seat he wanted," I guess I should tell you that I am on the committee I applied for, and I'm not doing it to make some future resume look good.

I am saying that because I'm concerned, concerned that student representation on some committees may

not be the best that it could simply because the elections board decides that "We already have a Pi Phi / Belknapian / sophomore on the committee ... Let's get somebody else."

What a ridiculous thing to say! I know from personal experience that a randomly-selected group of eight Betas would offer as diverse a variety of opinions as if you deliberately selected one person from each residence hall.

So when I hear people tell me that they were not selected for a committee (and I do hear many) because someone else from their hall, fraternity, sorority, class, etc. is already on it, I get angry.

I get angry because I am a Greek, and have been deliberately prevented from serving the Willamette student population for that reason in the past.

This year, when I finally got my chance, I thought that maybe things were getting better in that respect. Obviously, I was mistaken.

Granted, there are occasionally issues which divide the campus into partisan groups according to residence, or Greek affiliation, such as the deferred rush proposal. These issues require equal representation for both parties, and the committee which resolves them should be balanced. But can anyone think of another issue which 75 percent or more of the student population doesn't agree on?

Elections board, it's time to give the best-qualified students, no matter where they live or what group they belong to, a chance to work for us. We need what they've got.

Viewers should travel by P,T &A

By MARTIN DIECK
COLLEGE ADVERTISING MANAGER

Planes, Trains and Automobiles is a story about a man whose karma catches up to him all at once.

Neil Page, a successful marketing manager played by Steve Martin, starts out in a meeting that has gone overtime, with a plane ticket in his hand.

As the meeting breaks up, so does Neil's life. One thing after another goes wrong. Perhaps the most terrifying thing that happens to Neil is meeting Del Griffith, John Candy, a shower curtain ring salesman.

Griffith is perhaps one of the most loathsome characters I have ever seen; a perfect role for John Candy. He starts a chorus of the Flinstones on a bus, leaves a six-pack of beer on a "massage" bed, clears slime from his throat while drifting to sleep, and then becomes distasteful.

As fate would have it, Neil and Del get united for a "tour" of the midwest as they try to get Neil

home to his family for Thanksgiving. As the title hints at, they start in a plane then on a train then a bus, a rental car, and finally end up on a freezer truck.

The story was disappointing and slow-moving. Steve Martin was far from his best. The movie was somewhat redeemed by the director of photography. The filming showed great creativity and captured the humor of the actor's expressions beautifully.

As a result, my favorite scene was when Steve Martin first exited from his meeting frantically searching for a cab to get to the airport on time.

He ends up on a corner across the street from a young businessman. They glance at each other and then down the street to see an empty cab. They glare at each other and the race is on.

The movie has its moments but they are too few and too limited to make it a good movie. On a scale of 1 to 10, I'm giving it a generous 6.

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Mr. Kwan

Sophomore victorious at Baptism of Steel

By JAMES CIARAMITARO
WILLAMETTE FENCING INSTRUCTOR

Michael Hines, a sophomore at Willamette University, took first place in the Baptism of Steel Fencing Tournament at the Vancouver Fencing Center, Saturday, defeating a field of twelve other novices.

Second and third places were taken by students from Clark College and Oregon Episcopal School. Advancing to the semi-finals through a series of six hard fought matches, Hines seemed to improve as the competition got tougher. He won his final bout with a clear 5 to 2 victory.

Hines has taken two semesters of fencing at the college and is secretary/treasurer of the Willamette University Foil Fencers Club. During his second semester, he has been a Teacher's Assistant to fencing instructor

James Ciaramitaro.

Ciaramitaro is quoted as saying: "Not only did he win, but he looked good doing it. He kept himself under control during the fencing, and showed good sportsmanship and restraint by keeping quiet after several bad calls."

Novice fencing is visually scored by a panel of four judges and a director, and occasionally valid touches may go unseen.

Hines was especially pleased with the win because his team

mates and club members were there to support him and cheer him on. Also participating in the tournament were Willamette students Mike Lockhart and Alan Dewitt.

Personally, Hines considers this a rite of passage. And in fact, by winning a novice tournament, Hines is no longer ranked as a novice fencer by the United States Fencing Association, and must only compete against more advanced fencers.

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