

COLLEGIAN

VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL. CXIX • ISSUE 22 • MARCH 5, 2008

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Gender-neutral housing comes to campus

Fall 2008 pilot program geared towards LGBT community

NICK MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

Starting in fall 2008, Willamette University will implement measures to create more diverse roommate policies. Dubbed "gender-neutral housing," this program will allow students of different genders to room together. It is specifically designed to meet the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) students.

The idea for gender-neutral housing was brought up two years ago by Noah Zaves, who founded the Coalition for a Better Tomorrow, which has the support of campus organizations like ANGLES, Strength Health Equality (SHE), Associated Students of Willamette University (ASWU), Concerned Students for Social Justice (CSSJ) and The Council for Diversity and Social Justice (CDSJ).

"[The Coalition] feels that students are mature enough to room with whoever they want," Zaves said. "If they have a lot of friends of [the opposite sex] then they can choose to room with one of them."

"But we also decided to act because of the issue's critical importance to the queer community," Zaves said. "Willamette's current system is blatantly heterosexist, and discriminates against several classifications of LGBTQ students, including those outside the traditional gender binary and those whose straight roommates put them in uncomfortable situations."

At a meeting last Thursday, Dean Hawkinson brought the proposal to members of the ASWU Senate. He outlined the entailments of the gender-neutral pilot program, including adjustments to the current housing preference form that will

offer information on mixed housing or allow students to specifically request gender-neutral housing. While the pilot program will not affect all residence halls, Hawkinson said that incoming and returning Resident Assistants (RAs) and Community Mentors (CMs) would most likely take part in a training program concerned with the new housing arrangements.

Senator-freshman Geneva Hooten said that while she supports the program, she also wants to make sure that residents are not confined. "I think it's great. I just want to discourage [Willamette] from making [it] a specific floor or residence hall, because it's more important to have [students who use gender-neutral housing] included throughout campus," Hooten said.

Proponents of gender-neutral housing say that it offers a vital opportunity to the LGBT community.

"Students bothered by the gender binary, many of whom are in this community, have an option through gender neutral housing to get the best roommates for them, which is the ultimate goal of roommate matching," senior Jade Olson said. "It is a necessary option for many individuals whose genders do not match their physical sexes."

Senior Elliot Williams agreed that this was a positive step for LGBT students. "I think it's great that the administration at Willamette is finally listening to its students on this issue and taking the residential needs of all students seriously by working to make all students feel safe and comfortable in their living situation, regardless of their sexuality, gender identity or gender expression," Williams said.

The decision to implement gender-neutral housing was based on thorough research. "We made official inquiries into

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... The administration at Willamette is finally listening to its students on this issue and taking the residential needs of all students seriously by working to make all students feel safe and comfortable in their living situation, regardless of their sexuality, gender identity or gender expression.”

ELLIOT WILLIAMS
SENIOR

the experiences and opinions of a number of peer institutions here in the Northwest and several other liberal arts colleges across the United States," Hawkinson said. "We spoke with people both at colleges that had very liberal reputations and colleges that had quite conservative reputations in terms of the views of their administrations."

Some dormitories around campus already contain some degree of gender-neutral housing. "The gender-neutral housing we've had for the past two years has been restricted to multi-bedroom apartments in Kaneko and Haseldorf," Hawkinson said. "We have experienced no negative consequences with these residential procedures. In fact, it is the case that we have more apartments available for gender-neutral housing than have been used."

Hawkinson wants to stress that students in relationships should not treat the new program as a means to live together. "Willamette does not support and will not provide accommodations for couples, whether gay or straight, who are

romantically involved," Hawkinson said. "We take this position because we know such housing arrangements are subject to the great instability and uncertainty of romantic relationships of people of college age."

Hooten is confident that the changes will go over well. "From what I've heard, people are supportive. People see it as a way for the campus to be more inclusive and accepting of people who are different. I think at first it will be a little rocky, but I do think that there are more people for it than those who are against it and that pretty soon everyone will support it."

"I've met the girl whose father, back in the '70s, pushed a plan that allowed men and women to live on the same floor," Zaves said. "It was a radical idea then, but now it's generally accepted as Willamette's housing standard. The same will be true for this current plan. It seems a little crazy right now, and of vital importance to the queer community, but over time we'll accept it as normal, and we'll say how silly it ever was to force men and women into separate rooms."

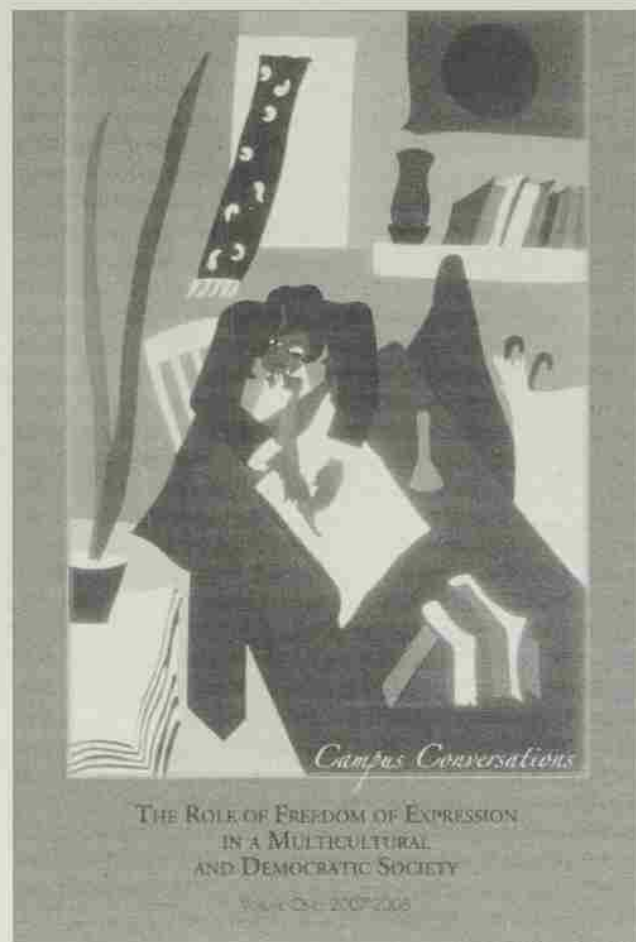
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▶ what is gender-neutral housing?

Gender-Neutral Housing allows students to choose a roommate of another sex, or from outside the traditional gender binary. It is usually implemented to serve the needs of the LGBTQ community, and also to respect the maturity of students who choose to live together. Willamette's implementation will include the designation of some bathrooms as gender-neutral, which means they will be open to any student.

For more information, visit the Coalition for a Better Tomorrow's web site: www.willamette.edu/org/cbt

'Campus Conversations' explores freedom of expression



DANIEL WOZNICKI
GUEST WRITER

On March 7, 12 essays on the topic of freedom of expression will be released in a collection titled "Campus Conversations." The essays, written by professors, faculty, students and graduates, will be printed online and will be available to the general public.

According to Assistant Professor of English Tobias Menely, the writers began considering essay topics after President Pelton released a call for papers in March 2007.

"There were episodes on campus last year that prompted the conversation about diversity," Associate Professor of Politics Sammy Basu said. According to Basu, the two controversial episodes included an off-campus party billed as "the most offensive party ever" and a number of life-sized dolls being lynched on trees on campus. "The events certainly brought these issues to the attention of a number of people at the same time," Basu said. "It's a good, constructive use of a contentious situation."

Writers were given considerable latitude in their interpretations of the topic of freedom of speech, leading to a wide variety of themes in the essays.

Menely wrote about freedom of expression in everyday conversation. "Freedom of expression is relevant to how we talk with each other," Menely said. "We have a desire to be sociable rather than frank." Even so, Menely's opinions did change over the course of writing his essay. "I started with the assumption that frankness is a general good," Menely said. "But as I worked, I realized that holding back is also good." Menely said we need to weigh these two points to the best of our ability.

Basu wrote on how freedom of expression can be used negatively in a democracy. "Freedom of expression raises interesting sorts of issues," Basu said. "Some people will use freedom to say things that may threaten democracy and, in various sorts of ways, cut against multiculturalism."

Interim Director of Community Service Learning Cassandra Farrin chose to write about the position of the listener in any situation. In her essay, Farrin used TIUA students to help her understand the position of the listener. "I used my experience of working with students and their feedback and ideas," Farrin said. "I created a sort of list of four expectations of the listener."

According to Farrin, two of these expectations are to assume that what the speaker has to say is important and to respond thoroughly to what the speaker has to say.

Essayists were not necessarily experts on the subject of freedom of expression. Menely found writing the essay to be refreshing. "It allowed me to meditate on a problem not directly related to my research," Menely said. "I could draw upon my expertise," but wasn't held to the same standards as his own research. Menely teaches classes on 18th century British literature.

Menely estimated that his essay was 20 pages long. "I think that was actually short," Menely said. According to Menely, some of the writers pushed to make their papers shorter so they would be more accessible to busy Willamette professors and students.

Farrin was hopeful that "Campus Conversations" would spark discussion among Willamette students, staff and faculty. "We tried really hard to throw our ideas out there to get the conversation going," Farrin said. "It's not stopping the conversation at all. I think students still have a lot more to say, anyway."

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▶ book launch

Friday, March 7 at 3 p.m. in the Hatfield Room: Willamette Week publisher Richard Meeker will speak on "Freedom of Expression: The real threat in America today."

4 p.m.: CLA Dean Carol Long will announce the topic of the next "Campus Conversation."

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Kresge Theatre gets a new look

Renovations begin spring 2008 with interior upgrades, wheelchair access



COURTESY OF THE THEATER DEPARTMENT

Kresge Theater is beginning an approximately \$5 million renovation this spring. Renovations will include improved wheelchair access for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and additional bathrooms.

AMBER SMITH
GUEST WRITER

Plans to remodel Willamette's Kresge Theatre have been in place for many years, according to department faculty, and these plans are about to become a reality.

Lesli Okorn, a class of 2007 theater alumna, is currently working to get the building packed up and ready for the remodel. "It's really great to see action being taken," Okorn said. "I've been here since 2002 and they've been talking about renovating it since then." The renovations will include a revamp of the interior of the theater building, as well as some changes to the exterior. According to Lighting Designer and Technical Director Rachel Kinsman Steck, the remodel will be done in two phases. Phase one begins this spring and will continue through the summer, and phase two will begin the following spring.

A primary reason behind the remodel is the building's lack of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), meaning that it is not completely wheelchair accessible. The remodel will ensure that the building meets these requirements, while also improving the theater in other ways.

"Phase one entails deferred maintenance, ADA access, new studio spaces, new dressing room spaces that are more appropriate for classroom and performance [use], minor upgrades to the interior design of the building, upgrades to bathrooms [because] we don't have enough, upgrades [in accordance with] the new earthquake preparedness requirements and we will be getting an elevator," Steck said.

The second phase will remodel the performance area, making electrical upgrades, adding adjustable seating and putting in a new tension grid. It will also include some

external changes, such as a new entryway. "It's kind of a face lift for the whole shebang," Steck said.

"It's long overdue. [The theatre] is a converted gymnasium.... It is not appropriate because the facilities that were put in there in the 70s are no longer fulfilling the requirements," Associate Department Chair Chris Harris said. "[And] the bathroom issues...there are times when you have an intermission for 10 minutes and it goes on to 15 or 20 because there's only two bathroom stalls in the women's bathroom."

According to Harris, after Sparks Center was built 30 years ago, the old gymnasium was converted into a temporary theater space and has not been remodeled since. "As technology changes, so does theater," Steck said. "The way we're designing now is much different than the way we were designing 30 years ago."

There are also safety concerns, especially with the floor, which was originally a basketball court. "The floor is not sound anymore. It's buckling and shifting...things are sagging that shouldn't sag," Steck said.

While the final price of these renovations is still unknown, due to variable factors such as rise in cost of materials and time frame for construction, the theater department predicts a figure between \$4.5 and \$5.5 million. The university is providing \$2 million and the Willamette Development Department will be raising the remainder.

"You could say, 'keep working in that tiny little space where you have to make things happen out of nothing because that's good training,' and it is," Harris said. "But that's not what students pay their money for and that's not what a university is supposed to be about."

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ASWU focuses on sustainability, life after WU

LAUREN GOLD
STAFF WRITER

From improving Willamette's sustainability rating to preparing students for real life after college, the Associated Students of Willamette University (ASWU) is currently working on many projects and has plans for the future. Through these and other activities, ASWU's goal is to create a Willamette that students enjoy and feel satisfied with.

On Jan. 31, the ASWU senate passed a resolution suggesting that the student government's private endowment of \$80,000 be invested to support socially responsible and sustainable practices. The endowment is meant to allow ASWU to invest in more expensive events without draining a full year of funds. According to the ASWU website, "the purpose of the ASWU Endowment is simply to empower student organizations and provide a financial reality for the dreams and visions of students at Willamette."

The endowment is comprised of 2.5 percent of student body fees as well as one-fourth of all unused ASWU funds each year. "The endowment is in the spirit of having a big fund so if we have a big speaker we can spend the money and not break the budget," ASWU President, senior Louis Pappas said. "It is something I would like to see ASWU and WEB tap into in the future."

The reallocation of the endowment funds was inspired by a Sustainable Endowment Institute sustainability rating of C+ for Willamette. In order to improve this rating, ASWU shifted the endowment funds from general funds to more socially responsible areas. "This shifting of funds was a symbolic gesture to show that students are concerned with sustainability," ASWU Sustainability Committee Chair freshman Janice Rasmussen said.

The ASWU Sustainability Committee has been working in other areas to try to improve Willamette's environmentalism. The committee sent out a survey to all students asking about the university's sustainable practices and asked for ideas on how to improve those practices. "We got a lot of good feedback," Rasmussen said. "The main thing students said was that we need more recycling bins, which is something we are going to work on as our next big project."

The committee held a campus-wide trash reduction competition last month, with the goal of reducing Willamette's waste. "We wanted to reduce trash production, which didn't necessarily happen," Rasmussen said. "Because the competition did cause students to think about changing their habits, we believe it was a success."

In order to prepare students for the world after college, ASWU will hold a real world readiness seminar. The seminar is supported by the Atkinson Graduate School of Management as well as the Willamette Career Services Office. The seminar will feature professors, recent graduates and other speakers who will teach students about real-world activities, such as paying off or applying for loans and doing taxes. "This is something we thought we could do for students," Pappas said. "This seminar can teach them how to do the practical things they may not have learned in college."

Another goal ASWU has for the remainder of the semester is to involve themselves in the university discussions about diversity on campus. Pappas said he wants to bring campus leaders and new individuals into the discussions about diversity. ASWU will be hosting events and discussions surrounding this issue before the end of the year.

ASWU would also like to reevaluate the role of the Willamette Events Board (WEB), and specifically the club's relationship with ASWU. "We are not focusing on what they are doing wrong; the idea of this evaluation is to allow us to work better together so that we are not stepping on each other's toes or impeding on each other's roles," Pappas said. This evaluation, which will begin in the next few weeks, will involve student surveys and discussions between ASWU executives and WEB presidents.

Overall, ASWU's goal is to create a Willamette for the students. "We want to be a resource for the students," Rasmussen said. "We invite students to come to us with ideas, because we know the right way to get those ideas started. We want to be the launching pad for students' ideas."

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UPCOMING EVENTS	5 WEDNESDAY	6 THURSDAY	7 FRIDAY		
	<p>"Out of the Past" film 7 p.m. Historic Elsinore Theatre 170 High Street</p> <p>"What Would Jesus Buy?" 7:30 p.m. Cone Chapel</p>	<p>Vikings and Death Lecture 7:30 p.m. John C. Paulus Great Hall, Collins Legal Center</p> <p>"The Women" 8 p.m. Kresge Theatre</p>	<p>"The Women" 8 p.m. Kresge Theatre</p>	<p>"The Women" 8 p.m. Kresge Theatre</p>	
	8 SATURDAY	9 SUNDAY	10 MONDAY		
	<p>Social Pow-Wow 4 p.m. - 10 p.m. Cone Fieldhouse in Sparks Athletic Center</p> <p>"The Women" 8 p.m. Kresge Theatre</p>	<p>Daylight Savings</p> <p>"The Women" 2 p.m. Kresge Theatre</p> <p>"Fat Pig" 7 p.m. Reed Opera House 189 Liberty NE</p>	<p>Global Warming: Is the Science Settled Enough for Policy? 8 p.m. Smith Auditorium</p> <p>"The Diviners" 6 p.m. Pentacle Theatre 354 52nd Ave. NW</p>	<th>11 TUESDAY</th>	11 TUESDAY
			<p>"Fostering Hope" 7 p.m. Historic Elsinore Theatre 170 High Street SE</p> <p>Improv Night 8 p.m. The Bistro</p>		

Donors recognized on Tuition Freedom Day



Freshman Emily Peters enjoys the cupcakes provided as part of Tuition Freedom Day.

MICHELLE BELLUSCI
GUEST WRITER

If tuition was Willamette's only source of revenue, classes would have ended as of Friday, Feb. 29, 2008, two-thirds of the way through the year's academic calendar. For this reason, last Friday was designated as Tuition Freedom Day, which recognized the fact that tuition only covers two-thirds of a Willamette education.

The other third of Willamette's budget comes primarily from endowment and gifts. These are made up of contributions from alumni, parents, friends of the university, federal grants and other sources. "There's a huge resource of really generous people that are in the back of our minds. We just wanted to highlight them for a day," Assistant Director of Annual Giving/Telefund and Willamette alum Sarah Grosvenor said.

A Willamette education is expensive, in part due to the high academic standards the institution maintains, such as its ten to one student-to-faculty ratio and the fact the 93 percent of its full-time professors have Ph.Ds. Without the help of donors, Grosvenor said, the quality of education at

Willamette would not be as high.

This year's Tuition Freedom Day was the first of what Grosvenor hopes will become an annual event. The event included tabling at Goudy and the University Center (UC), where students were offered free cupcakes and were asked to fill out cards thanking donors.

Student education was the main goal of the day. Grosvenor recognized that many students are still unaware of how their education is paid for, but what is important is that the teaching process has begun. "It's so important that we start getting the message out there that [(the student body) is] going to be solicited when [they] graduate, and just to start that conversation."

The event was coordinated by the Office of Annual Giving, but was for the most part led by students who "are on the front lines of fundraising and talking with our donors and have a really unique perspective on both sides, as current students and being involved in the fundraising," Grosvenor said.

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ART COLUMN

Conversation with a graduating artist

ALISA ALEXANDER
GUEST WRITER

As all of you seniors know, it's crunch time. Theses are due soon, and for the senior art majors, they're due this week. This pivotal time can be stressful, but it's also the time to reflect on the culmination of one's efforts. In a conversation with senior art major Margaret James, we discussed her art and her future.

When you came to Willamette, did you always know you were going to major in art?

I initially wanted to go into art conservation, but then ended up double majoring in sociology and art. I'm interested in the social aspects of art, and the way that objects when arranged in different ways can cause different effects. My eventual plan is to go into museum design and exhibit display. My parents are both graphic designers, so I have been exposed to art all of my life.

What response do you want to provoke in the viewer while looking at your art?

I want to disorient them; I want the viewer to look at art in a different way. For me, it's about defining objects with other objects, objects otherwise taken for granted. There is definitely a contextual aspect to art that I want the viewer to acknowledge.

What has been the most challenging or rewarding experience throughout this process?

I was immediately drawn to the looseness of Willamette's art program. However, this looseness also makes you put your entire being into the process, and when things get frustrating, it's all on you. You have your whole self vested in this. Art professors James Thompson and Andries Fourie have been extremely helpful, providing both structure and insight.

Are you excited or nervous about the Senior Exhibition at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art next month?

I'm really excited. I think it's going to be a veritable buffet of eye candy. All of the art



CONNIE GLEDHILL

Senior art major Margaret James will showcase her work at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art from April 12 to May 11, 2008.

major think so differently and have such different perspectives; the range of work is going to be incredible.

Plans for the future?

I applied for the Watson grant, and if I get it that would be amazing. It's a grant that allows one to travel around the world doing research on a chosen topic. My idea is to study treehouses in different countries, observing constructed space and how it is culturally adapted. If not, then who knows? The Senior Exhibition runs from April 12 to May 11, so go check out Margaret's thesis as well as the rest of the work by the other art majors. Just remember, this is always a stressful time of year, but for some of you, the end of your undergraduate career is near. Make the most of the time you have!

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ADVERTISEMENTS

NEWMAN CLUB BULLETIN BOARD

Upcoming events:

Thursday March 6, 7:00-8:30 pm: First Thursday Theology at the Ram. Come to hear a speaker and discuss the question, "What's love got to do with it?"

Tuesday March 11, 5:15 pm: Come celebrate Mass in the Cone Chapel. Catholics and non-Catholics are welcome.

Tuesday March 18, 5:15 pm: Pray the rosary with the Newman Club in the Montag Leather Room.

Thursday April 3: Social Justice Panel, watch the master calendar and upcoming Newman Club Bulletin Boards for more information.

Keep watching future Newman Club Bulletin Boards for more information on the upcoming Social Justice Panel.

Please contact emorbeck@willamette.edu for more Newman Club information.

Newman Club's Mission Statement

Our Mission is to integrate faith, reason and life experience on the campus of Willamette University according to the vision of Cardinal Newman. As a Catholic apostolate, we foster spiritual growth through prayer, discussion and service.

Student Scholarship Recognition Day

April 16, 2008

A day to showcase student Scholarship at Willamette

Any CLA student enrolled in the academic year 2007-2008

Applications Accepted
NOW through March 14

www.willamette.edu/cla/ssrd

PLAY PREVIEW: 'The Women' | Kresge Theatre

Theater season ends with all-women play

GREG THOMAS
GUEST WRITER

Like many recent on-campus events here at Willamette, the theatre department's upcoming production, "The Women," addresses a number of women's issues.

The play is a chronicle of the lives of several Manhattan socialites, including Mary Haines the sweet, faithful wife of Stephen, and the drama that results when she discovers her husband's infidelity.

Based on Clare Boothe Luce's original theater production, "The Women" is a "gleefully malicious comedy about New York socialites, their twisted marriages and the delicious gossip that ruins their reputations," according to the Willamette Theater Department's press release. "The Women" examines several poignant subjects ... including love, marriage, pride and friendship.

"Even though it's set in the 30s, the play has a lot of pertinent themes of today," Publicity Manager Sarah Jo Kendall said. "It focuses on women's relationships with one another and how they interact with each other without outside influences. Willamette, communally, is becoming more aware of women's issues and the production of "The Women" fits nicely into that, I think."

The play features 19 actresses from

Willamette and the surrounding community in an exclusively female cast. "Women aren't playing men—there are no men at all in the play. They talk about men, but we never see any—it's all second-hand through the women," Stage Manager Ben Crop said.

The theatre department hired outside help for the production of the play, including Crop, a student at the Atkinson Graduate School of Management, and guest director Karen Vaccaro, a renowned theater performer/director hailing from Chicago, Ill.

"There is a large budget for this production," Crop said. "The costumes are so intricate—hand-made dresses, corsets, silk stockings, high heels, the wigs, the hair, the makeup—on so many different girls."

"Combining all the different experiences and hopes for the production from the large cast and crew is a great challenge," Kendall said. "We're trying to reconcile everyone's ideas about the production and what it needs to be. It's a great thing that we have so many talented people involved."

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Junior Sarah Jo Kendall and senior Annie Rimmer star in the last play of the 2007-08 season, titled "The Women."

OSCAR REVIEW

Celebrating a year of sad movies with accents



Marion Cotillard accepts her Best Actress award at this year's Academy Awards ceremony.

MICHAEL CAULEY
STAFF WRITER

Yeah, 2007 came and went, and all it left us was a few movies to remember it by. But while we were busy watching Johnny Depp do his best Keith Richards impression for the third time in nearly as many years, and laughing in delight while Mike Myers cashed yet another huge paycheck from Dreamworks, apparently the people who voted for this year's Oscars were seeing more sophisticated fare that didn't have half as many CGI monsters.

Best Picture "No Country for Old Men" Okay, this is embarrassing. I didn't see this one. I'm sorry, but I heard such good things about "There Will Be Blood" (turns out they were a bit exaggerated) and seriously, why do they release all this stuff at the end of the year so that it's still in theaters during award season? I could've picked up five copies of "Transformers" on DVD while I was out, but I'm supposed to shell out \$20 in order to see a one-time showing of what promises to be a violent, nihilistic movie just on the off-chance it wins best picture? I'm just gonna say no.

Best Director Same deal
Best Actor Daniel Day-Lewis ("There Will Be Blood") My review for this movie was a little...bitter, shall we say? Director Paul Anderson should be held well-accountable for those flaws, but Mr. Day-Lewis was actually pretty terrific with his moustache and his milkshake monologues and all that. If you get a chance, see Jon Heder's impression of him on Saturday Night Live; it's pretty damn good, though you might be lost if you haven't seen the movie. Sorry, can't help you there!

Best Actress Marion Cotillard ("La Vie en Rose") Okay, this one actually was on DVD, but I literally did not hear of the woman until after she'd won the award (I guess I don't keep well enough tabs on the latest French biopics). Plus, I kept pulling for Ellen Page from "Juno" to win, but I knew not to get my hopes up too high; I remember how Haley Joel Osment crashed and burned with "The Sixth Sense" (what happened to that kid anyway?) in the face of Michael Caine, as if that was a fair fight! Granted, Ellen Page is twice his age, but I don't think they even noticed.

As I'm not sure how to end this, I'll leave you with a quote from last week's "Weekend Update" on SNL (hosted by Ellen Page, coincidentally): "For the first time in decades, all four of the wins for acting awards at this year's Oscars went to European actors. When asked why, analysts said this was because American actors were spending all of their time in break-dancing movies."

Come to think of it, why was "Stomp the Yard" snubbed this year? Rip-off!

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more info

Preview: March 6 at 8 p.m.
Performances: March 7, 8, 13-15 at 8 p.m.,
March 9 and 16 at 2 p.m.

MOVIE REVIEW: 'Charlie Bartlett'

New teen movie is 'Ferris Bueller' on Prozac

LYDIA BURNETT
GUEST WRITER

I'll admit I had my doubts about Charlie Bartlett. To me it seemed like just another one of those ever-beloved sophomore films about some socially hazardous youth working his way up to the ranks of the high school elite. And I was right. But Charlie Bartlett surprisingly has more to offer than most movies in its genre. Think less "American Pie" and more "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

Charlie Bartlett (Anton Yelchin) has been expelled from every private school he has ever attended. This time it's for running a business making fake IDs out of his dorm room. You see, in Charlie's world, being seventeen and popular is pretty darn important, and so far no one has been able to prove him wrong. As his mother sees it, they have one last choice: public school. After his first day proves to be rather undesirable, Charlie discovers a way to be known and loved by his peers.

With inadvertent help from his family's psychiatrist, Charlie becomes a shrink to his classmates, going so far as to even provide medication. Things are going swimmingly...that is, until he gets caught. In the end, by being a listener, Charlie learns a little about himself and a lot about life.

It would be easy to write off Charlie Bartlett as a mindlessly entertaining film simply based on its plot outline. However, this movie is chalked full of dark, witty, satirical humor. Yes, this movie does take place in one of those mythical movie high schools that you're pretty sure don't exist but it's still fun to pretend anyway.

However, don't let that distract from you its edge. Charlie's charm will have you captivated right from the start. Even angst-ridden Principal Gardner (Robert Downey Jr.) creeps his way into your heart. Each character is brilliantly portrayed and has something to offer. And what's even better, despite the stereotypical high school, none of the characters are completely



School is in session with Mark Rendall and Anton Yelchin in "Charlie Bartlett."

one-dimensional. Everyone's got baggage. Overall, this coming-of-age story has a ton of issues...and I like that.

Contact: lburnett@willamette.edu

RESTAURANT REVIEW: Momiji Japanese Restaurant

Sushi venue offers 'best values in town'

KELSEY ROGEL
STAFF WRITER

Many places to eat in Salem close early and are rarely open on Sundays. So I decided to seek out a restaurant that possesses both of these qualities, which I consider to be a necessity for procrastinating college students. This led to me Momiji, a Japanese restaurant located in South Salem off of Commercial St.

Momiji is known to have the best values in town for Japanese food. Their lunch plates cost about \$5, while a similar dish would cost \$13 at Fuji Rice Time.

The restaurant is very small, so the best choice for seating is at the sushi bar. There you'll be able to see the entertaining chefs create your order. The service is a little slower than other restaurants I've been to, but I'm willing to wait for it to be made freshly when I order it. If you sit at a table, you might get lost in the hustle-bustle of restaurant traffic. So sit at your own risk!

For a simple meal, start out with

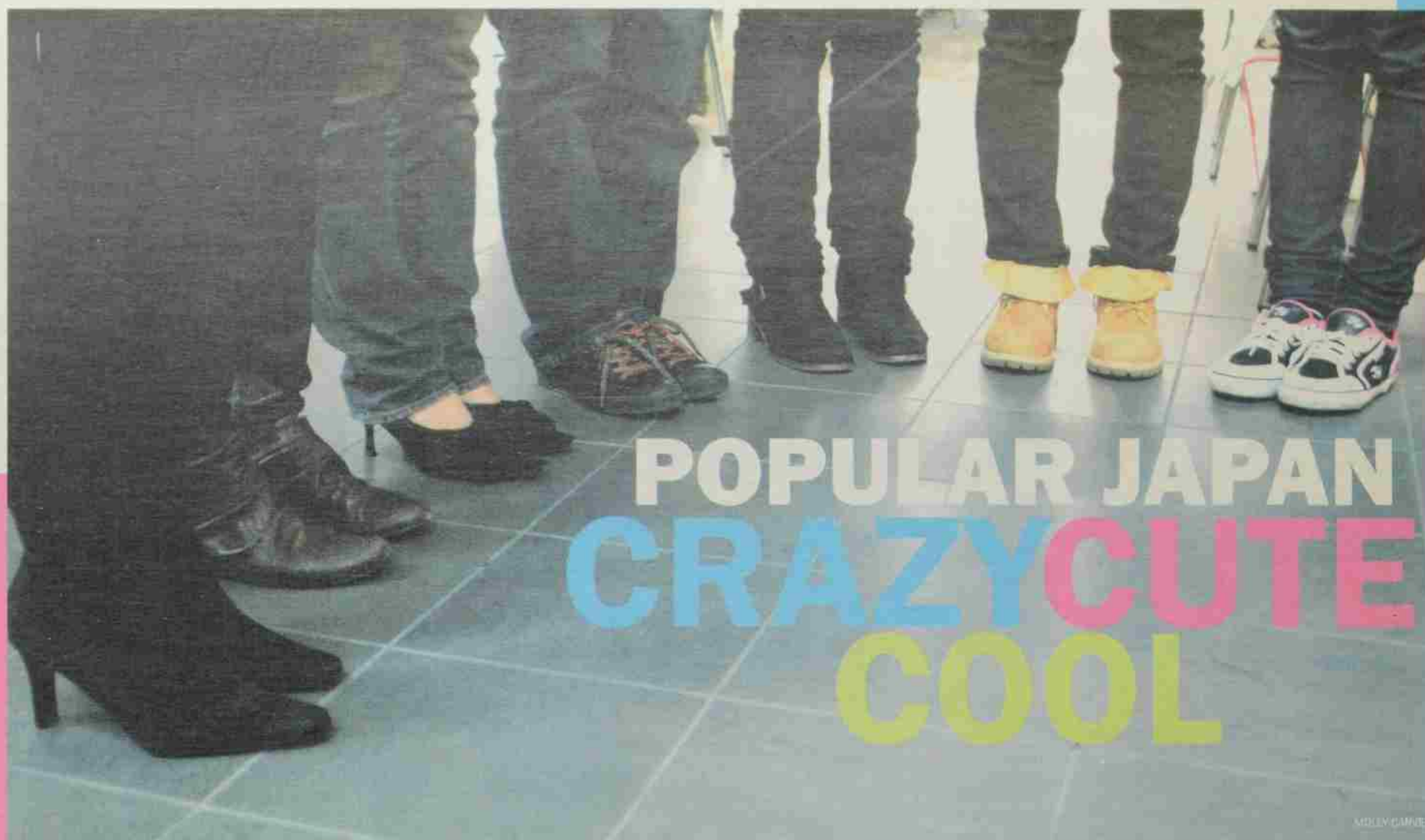
a bowl of miso soup. If you're a sushi fan, try the Salem roll or spicy salmon tempura roll. For another option, order the teriyaki, udon or tempura, they're all delicious choices! Top off your meal with an order of mango mochi ice cream, and you'll be stuffed.

And as I said before, they're open on Sundays. Drop in between 4 p.m.-9 p.m. because sushi is only a dollar! Have yourself a Sunday sushi session, and start the week off right!

Contact: krogel@willamette.edu

more info

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POPULAR JAPAN
CRAZY CUTE
COOL



TOP: While TIUA students bring Japanese fashion influence, they also adopt more casual American styles, such as Converse and Nike sneakers. MIDDLE: TIUA student Takashi Sato. BOTTOM: TIUA student Ye Zhao.

KAELEY PRUITT-HAMM
STAFF WRITER

Pokémon. Manga. Hello Kitty. J Pop. Anime. These household names probably ring a familiar bell for many, as they are elements of a globalized culture originating in Japan. As one digs deeper into Genokai, the entertainment world of Japan, one may realize how explosively vibrant, unique and attention-grabbing it can be.

A large part of the Willamette community is made up of Tokyo International University of America (TIUA) students who recently arrived for the semester. TIUA provides an opportunity for hundreds of students from another country to study in America and learn about American living. "Lots of people in Japan are interested in American politics," TIUA student Kazuki Shimizu said. "I came here to follow my dreams of helping poor people around the world by learning English, which is an international language." Japanese culture is influenced by the Western world, but it has swept the world with its own originality in many ways.

The fashion world in Japan has become notoriously outrageous. Books have been written on trendy Japanese street fashion. According to senior Nick Woolsey, who spent a year abroad in Japan, it is almost a ritual to strut fantastic wardrobe combinations down the street in Tokyo.

"There are lots of weird and interesting fashion trends," Woolsey said. "One is called Gothic Lolita, where they dress up as 17th-century gothic girls on Sunday afternoon. Many walk down Hatajuku [a shopping district] in Tokyo, which is becoming a large tourist destination and main fashion hub in Japan."

From Gothic Lolita to *gyaru* fashion, there are many trends that have found their way onto the streets of Japanese cities. There are also several sub-categories of *gyaru*, *kogyaru* or gal fashion, which is said to have been founded by Namie Amuro, a model with tan skin and light brown hair. These sub-categories range from *bgaru*, which models after mostly hip hop styles,



COURTESY OF ARTS.AUCKLAND.AC.NZ
ABOVE: EGG magazine provides fashion inspiration for young Japanese women. RIGHT: Model Namie Amuro started the *gyaru* trend of pairing tanned skin with light brown hair.



COURTESY OF CHANNELA.COM

to *tasuta* or Rastafarian styles.

"*Gyaru* fashion is for younger kids, 14 to 18 [years old]; high school age," TIUA student Kaori Yanagita said. "This fashion is very strange. They imitate EGG magazine. [It's] very crazy, I think." According to Yanagita, magazines like EGG and Non-no are the primary sources of fashion inspiration for girls her age.

Many Japanese fashion trends also seem to be modeled after Western standards of style. "They're trying to look Western," Woolsey said. "There are even *gyaru* boys with big perms and I would see them walking around; even my roommate got a perm and dyed it a little blonde. Then again, they're trying to be Western, but they take American standards for fashion and music and make it their own."

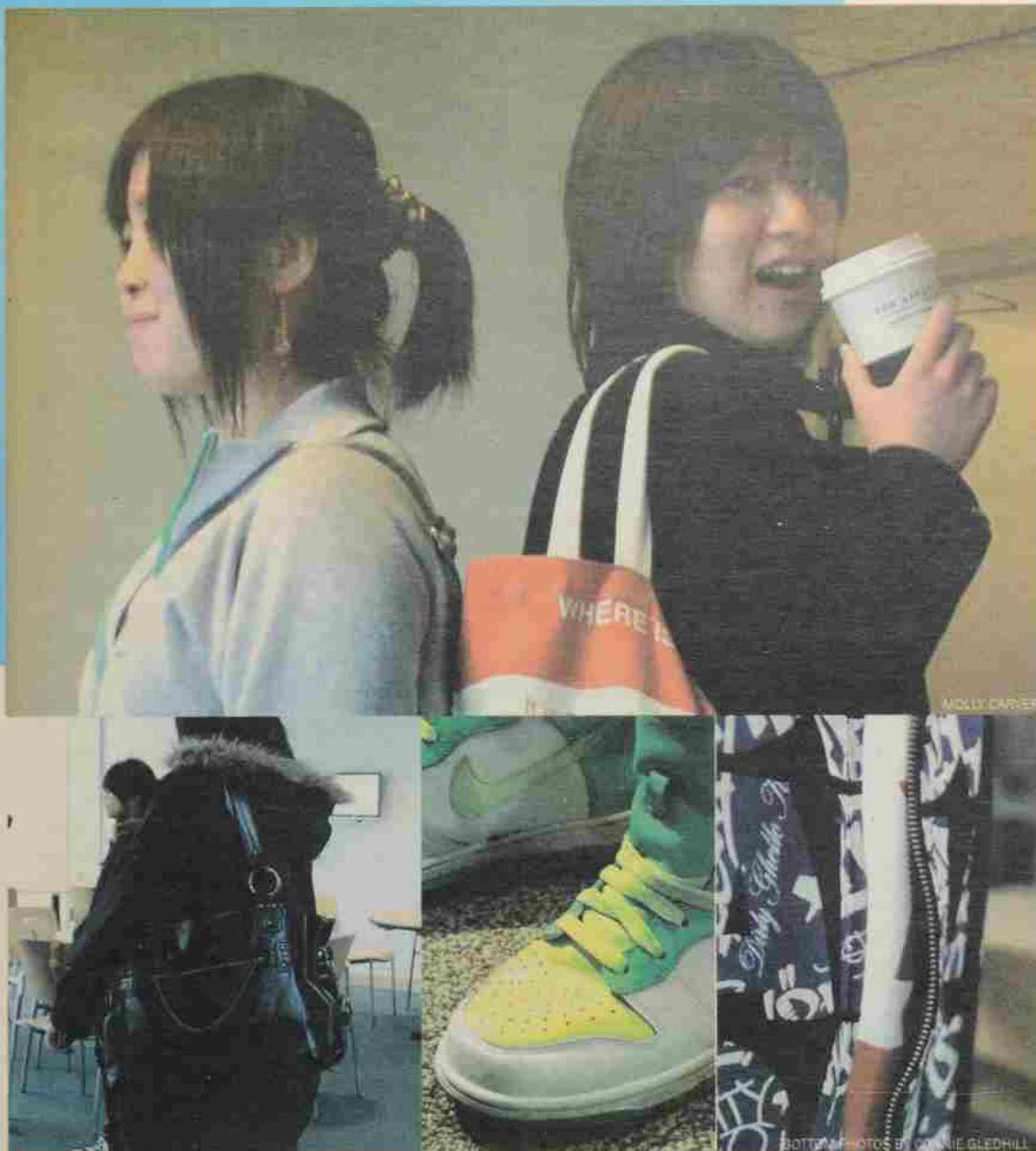
Some have speculated about the motivation behind the trends of fashion in Japan. "I think high school student girls and college girls are very fashionable because in Japan we don't have many parties or customs or any reasons to dress up in dresses," Yanagita said. "Last week at Black Tie was my first time I dressed up in a dress. So [in Japan] we are usually fashionable every day."

Out of the variety of sub-cultures

within Japanese trends, there seem to be some important themes that express the country's values in the 21st century. "It's important for girls to be cute," Shimizu said. "Some girls have to dress up for work, like the 'maid cafes' that make girls dress up as maids and speak in the cutest way possible," Woolsey said.

Girls' fashion is not the only medium by which Japanese culture idolizes cuteness. From small toys and paraphernalia to card games like Pokémon, the rest of the world has even caught on to Japan's infatuation with endearing characters. "There are many cute things that are popular among girls and boys," Yanagita said. "Ritassukuma is a very soft toy, for pencil cases and many goods, as is with Hello Kitty and Japanese fashion. It's very calming for us, and it relaxes us. ... No one knows why it's popular, but it is so popular."

However, some aspects of this cute culture in Japan have seemed to turn a bit sour in some perspectives. "There are stacks and stacks of anime and computer games that are sexual. The thing that gave me super culture shock was that they're really into little girls in



TOP: TIUA students Mutsami Tokaji and Seira Shimazaki. BOTTOM LEFT: TIUA student Yuka Saito. BOTTOM MIDDLE AND RIGHT: TIUA student Noriyuki Noji.



“ I think high school student girls and college girls are very fashionable because in Japan we don't have many parties or customs or any reasons to dress up in dresses.”

KAORI YANAGITA
TIUA STUDENT

the manga,” Woolsey said. “Actually, quite a big problem in Japan is the ‘Lolita complex,’ which is a culture of salary men being sexual with children. Many high school girls [are able to] afford their expensive clothes and bags through prostitution. That’s definitely part of underground pop culture: Japan’s fascination with innocence.”

It is clear that Eastern and Western cultures lean in different directions in terms of collectivism versus individualism. “That’s why they [dress up] every Sunday, so they get individual recognition, which is hard to come by in Japan,” Woolsey said. “A lot of my friends often translated this for me. Japan is a country of small villages, and so everyone wants to keep their feelings down and support the group. To express their individuality and personal recognition, they turn to things like anime and manga, Gothic Lolita, porn for older men.”

On the other hand, the county is generally filled with a healthy level of unique styles. “It’s definitely not across the board; that culture is definitely a minority,” Woolsey said. “Most of my friends enjoy manga and anime, but had a normal life and weren’t addicted to it. The whole cute escapism is not a nation-wide...thing.”

Whatever it is about Japanese culture certainly has captured the attention and interest of millions of people around the world. A continued exchange of cultures on Willamette’s campus, throughout the country and between seas has created fascinating conglomerations of ideas on what is popular and cool.

“Both [Eastern and Western] cultures have pros and cons,” Woolsey said. “Japan adopts Western...styles, but they do make it their own. Everything Japan adopts, they make it their own.”

Contact: kpriatth@willamette.edu

LEFT: TIUA student Mayo Kowase.

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NUTRITION

Organic foods: Do they really benefit your health?


JORDYN SMITH

COLUMNIST

Contrary to popular belief or current fads, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) makes no claims that organic foods are safer, healthier or more nutritious than conventional foods. There is also little research on the health outcomes of eating primarily organic diets.

Now that the bomb has been dropped, it is important to note that there are other benefits to purchasing organic foods. Before we get into details, let us review exactly what organic foods are and what they represent. Organic foods are produced without the use of conventional pesticides, artificial fertilizers, human waste or sewage sludge and ionizing radiation or food additives. Animal products are produced without the use of antibiotics and growth hormones.

Furthermore, organic farm animals must have access to pastures for grazing. In the United States, organic foods guarantee at least 95 percent organic plant and/or animal ingredients, and that a government-approved expert has inspected the farm where the food was produced to ensure that requirements were met.

Yes, a few studies have reported that organic produce has higher levels of vitamin C, certain minerals and antioxidants, which are known to protect the body against aging, cardiovascular disease and cancer. However, the differences are so small that they may have no impact on overall nutrition.

Advocates for organic foods argue that organic products are safer, with less pesticide residue than conventionally grown versions. However, the amount of man-made pesticide residues found in conventional food is still well below the unsafe level, as determined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The effect these small doses may have in the long run is unknown.

There are also problems with the argument that organic foods contain fewer toxins than conventionally grown foods. Plants produce numerous natural toxins. These toxins are present as residue in organic foods. The absence of synthetic insecticides and herbicides in organic crops results in more pests and weeds than conventional crops, possibly producing more natural toxins. Nevertheless, there is little evidence that organic food has more bacterial contamination than conventional food.

As the evidence is clearly conflicting, the best steps to follow with all produce include:

1. Wash/scrub produce under steaming water to remove dirt, bacteria and surface pesticide residues. Do not use soap.
2. Remove the peel from fruits and vegetables.
3. Remove the outer leaves of leafy vegetables.
4. Trim visible fat/skin from meat and poultry because pesticide residues can collect in fat.
5. Eat food while it is fresh, as some nutrients (i.e. vitamin C) oxidize over time.

Interestingly, the health of the environment and the society as a whole is the one unquestioned benefit regarding organic foods. In producing organic foods, pesticides and fertilizers are eliminated. This reduces the accumulation of toxic and persistent pesticides in the soil and water and promotes more natural conditions for farm animals.

The bottom line is that the research is inconsistent. The only definitive findings are related to the environmental and animal safety benefits of organic food.

Sources: webmd.com, nlm.nih.gov

Contact: jasmith@willamette.edu

TRACK AND FIELD

Bearcats claim 14 events at Willamette Opener



Senior Melinda Fahey, junior Merben Woo and junior Brooke Smith won two titles each in the individual meet with no team scores.

COLBY TAKEDA

CAMERON MITCHELL
 GUEST WRITER

It was an exciting weekend for the Willamette track and field squad, as they laced up their spikes for the opening event of the 2008 season. The Bearcats look to continue their excellence on the track, as they have had a total of 10 NCAA Division III National Championships in their history. The Bearcats have also produced 42 Division III All-Americans. The Willamette Opener featured teams from across the Northwest, including teams from NCAA Division I.

Men

Junior transfer Merben Woo took first in both the 100- and 200- meter dash. Ryan McLaughlin and Jonathan Lanning finished first and second, respectively, in the 800-meter race. McLaughlin won the event with a time of 1 minute 58.41 seconds and Lanning finished right behind him at 1:58.84.

The Bearcats placed especially well in the field events, as Willamette took first in the hammer throw, long jump and the pole vault competitions. Colby Takeda won the pole vault with a height of 3.95 meters. Cliff Chen took second place by vaulting 3.80 meters. James Yamashita won the long jump with a jump of 6.34 meters and Jacob Monroe triumphed in the hammer throw. Monroe launched the hammer 45.67 meters to take first place in the event.

Women

The Bearcat women opened up their season with a first place in seven events. Lydia Marsalli set the tone for the sprinters, as she won the 100-meter dash and placed second in the 200-meter race. Marsalli ran the 100-meter dash in only 13.29 seconds. She was followed by sophomore Kaitlin St. John, who finished second with a time of 13.34. Senior Carly Killam placed second in the 1,500-meter run, meeting the NCAA Division III

qualifying standard with a time of 4:39.71.

The Bearcats placed highest in the field events, as they won six of eight events. Junior Brooke Smith dominated in the high jump and the javelin. Smith won the high jump with a height of 1.61 meters and was triumphant in the javelin after throwing a length of 34.18 meters. Senior Melinda Fahey took first in the discus throw and the hammer throw, also meeting NCAA provisional qualifying marks. Fahey threw the discus 40.38 meters and the hammer 46.82 meters. Both Fahey and Killam were named NWC Athletes of the Week.

The Willamette Opener was an individual meet with no team scores.

 Contact: cmitchel@willamette.edu
next up

 Western Oregon Dual @ Western Oregon Univ.
 Saturday, March 8, time TBA.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Willamette falls to Puget Sound in playoffs

JIMMY MEUEL
 STAFF WRITER

Although men's basketball was picked to finish sixth in the Northwest Conference, the team never lost confidence. "Our goal was always to make the playoffs and give ourselves a chance at the conference and the [National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)]," junior post Kyler McClary said.

The Bearcats fought their way through one of the most balanced and competitive conferences in the country in one of its most competitive years. They began the season picked to finish sixth in the conference. When the dust finally cleared, the Bearcats managed to find themselves in third place at 9-7. They became the recipients of the third and final playoff spot after holding the tiebreakers over three other teams who were also 9-7.

The Bearcats traveled to Puget Sound

for the semi-final game of the playoffs, hoping to avenge the loss in the season final, in which the Bearcats fell 127-121 in double overtime. Willamette came up short, losing 87-82 and committing 30 turnovers. The Bearcats finished the season 11-15 and 9-7 in conference play.

Junior wing Cory Costantino led the Bearcats with 23 points, which was also a career high. Senior wing Mike Smith contributed 17 points and McClary chipped in 13 for the Bearcat effort.

"We were disappointed with the loss to Puget Sound," Costantino said. "But once the disappointment of losing passed, we recognized that it was a good season."

The loss to Puget Sound marks the end of the careers of Smith and senior post Ian Mansfield. Smith finishes his Willamette career with 704 points and was recognized by the coaches with second team all Northwest Conference honors. Mansfield finishes his

career with 563 points and 359 rebounds.

Next year the Bearcats look to build on their accomplishments with the return of much of the nucleus from this year's team, including five seniors. "We return a lot," Costantino said. "We lose a scorer in Mike and size in Ian, but everyone else is back. Our upperclassmen as well as our freshmen point guards will only improve and only get tougher." In addition to McClary and Costantino, the Bearcats will return freshman point guard Robbie Kunke, junior post Tain Cantrell and sophomore post Cameron Mitchell.

Elsewhere in the Northwest Conference, Whitworth beat Puget Sound to claim both the regular season title and conference tournament. The Pirates get a bye into the NCAA tournament and will host the winner of Pomona-Pitzer and Occidental.

 Contact: jmeuel@willamette.edu

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Willamette records first win of season over George Fox

ANDREW ROSS
 GUEST WRITER

The women's tennis team recorded its first win of the season last Friday, with a 7-2 win over George Fox University. Despite the win, the Bearcats came up short to the Lewis & Clark College Pioneers on Saturday, falling 6-3. With the split, the Bearcats now stand at 1-6 (1-5 Northwest Conference).

On Friday, the Bearcats were able to win close matches at number one singles and number one doubles en route to victory. Seniors Tiffany Kam and Alaine Anderson came up clutch at the end, teaming up to give the Bearcats a huge doubles victory, 9-8 (7-2).

Kam also led the Bearcats with her close singles match. Kam squeaked by

Heather Orr in a first set tiebreaker 7-6 (7-2), coming up late to seal the first set victory. With momentum from the first set carrying over, she was able to win the second set, 6-2.

On Saturday, the Bearcats traveled to Portland to take on Lewis & Clark College. Willamette fought hard, but was not able to come up with the overall victory, losing 6-3. Freshmen Samantha Wong and Jamie Slonaker led the Bearcats to their only victory in doubles, 8-4.

Despite the loss, there were several standout individual efforts for the Bearcats. Wong pulled away in a tiebreaker late in number six singles for a 6-4, 4-6 (10-7) victory. Junior Abby Funabiki recorded the other singles win for the Bearcats at number four singles, dominating her opponent on her

way to a 6-3, 6-1 victory. "Abby played an incredibly strategic game," sophomore Emily Elliot said. "She got in her opponent's head by feeding on her weaknesses and breaking her down point by point."

Sophomore Alyssa Morrison delivered another win in number three singles, defeating Lewis & Clark's Whitney DeBree, 7-5, 6-3.

 Contact: across@willamette.edu
next up

 Bearcats v. Pacific @ Courthouse Tennis Club
 Friday, March 7 at 3 p.m.

 Bearcats v. Puget Sound @ Puget Sound
 Saturday, March 8 at 1 p.m.

BASEBALL

Men win league series against Lewis & Clark

JAKE MONROE
GUEST WRITER

The baseball team took three of four games from Lewis & Clark College this weekend, winning its first league series of the season. The Bearcats swept the Saturday doubleheader 15-13 and 8-4 and split the Sunday games, winning the first game 9-1 and falling in the second game 10-8. The weekend against Lewis and Clark improves their record to 6-4 on the season and 3-1 in Northwest Conference play. Lewis & Clark falls to 3-5 and 1-3 in conference.

The star of the weekend for the Bearcats was junior first baseman Kyle Stalker, who hit six home runs and extended his career home run total to 24, beating Willamette's previous school record of 21, which was set by Grant Trenbeath from 1990 to 1993. Stalker has 10 home runs on the season and is facing the single season record of 13 that has stood since 1987. "I am excited about setting the record, but I'm more excited that I was able to help the team get off to a good start to conference play," Stalker said. "Everyone played well and we were able to put together three great wins. This weekend is a testament to the abilities of this team and the potential we have for a great season."

Senior pitcher Clint Moran recorded the win in game one, pitching the first six innings and allowed just one earned run. Freshman left fielder T.C. Lee had two homers in the game, the first coming in the fourth inning and the second in the seventh. The Bearcats also fielded an impressive five double plays through the course of the first game which they won 15-13, despite allowing 11 runs in the eighth and ninth inning. The game ended on an athletic play by senior center fielder Sean Anderson, who caught the ball in a dive at the warning track.

The Bearcats' second game of Saturday was postponed halfway through the fifth inning due to darkness after a rain delay. After the top of the fifth, the Bearcats sat ahead at 2-0. Willamette scored two more runs in the bottom of the fifth to take a 4-0 lead, but Lewis & Clark managed to

tie the game at 4-4 after the seventh inning. The Bearcats posted four more runs in the bottom of the eighth, to which Lewis & Clark had no response. The game came to a close with the Bearcats on top, 8-4. Freshman pitcher Chris Torgerson was credited with the win in game two and is now 2-0 in his first season with the Bearcats.

Game three began with a victory for Willamette, as the Pioneers scored their only run in the second inning on an RBI by first baseman Tucker Lawrence. Willamette went on to score nine runs on just eight hits.

Sunday's second game began with a homerun by Stalker in the first inning. The scoring action continued in the second inning as sophomore transfer and designated hitter Mike Rierson hit a double and was sent home with an RBI on a double by junior second baseman Ellis Webster shortly thereafter. For the first time of the weekend, the Bearcats could not keep pace with Lewis & Clark and they fell to the Pioneers 10-8.

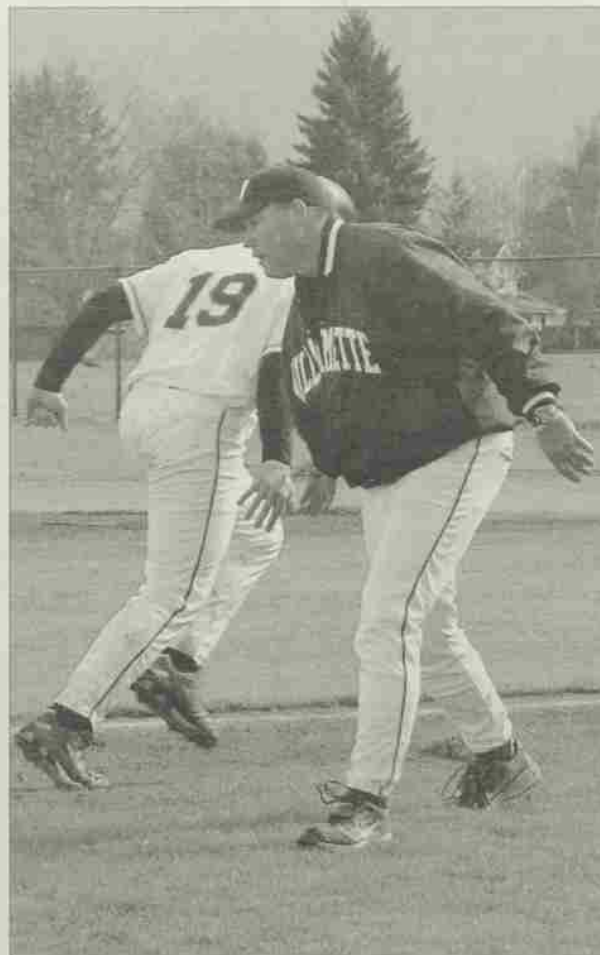
Senior right fielder Colin Young attributed the Bearcats' early season victories to a different attitude in the past year. "Everyone made an effort to improve throughout the last year and it is obvious in the optimistic attitude we have seen in the clubhouse. It's great to see it showing in our game," Young said.

The Bearcats sit atop the Northwest Conference tied with perennial contender George Fox, who took three of four from Pacific College last weekend. Elsewhere in the Northwest Conference, Linfield and Pacific Lutheran split their league openers as did Whitworth and Puget Sound.

Contact: jmonroe@willamette.edu

▼ next up

Bearcats v. CSU-East Bay @
John Lewis Field, Willamette Univ.
Sunday, March 9 at 12 p.m.



TATIANA MAC

Junior first baseman Kyle Stalker hit six homeruns and had 13 RBI in the Bearcat series win against Lewis & Clark.

MEN'S TENNIS

Bearcats dominate George Fox, Lewis & Clark

ANDREW ROSS
GUEST WRITER

The men's tennis team dominated Northwest Conference (NWC) opponents the George Fox University Bruins and the Lewis & Clark Pioneers last weekend at the Courthouse Tennis Center. The Bearcats claimed 8-1 in both matches en route to two victories. With the two wins, the Bearcats improve their record to 3-4 (3-3 NWC).

On Friday, the Bearcats began the match on the right foot by winning two of the three doubles matches before going into singles. Junior Andrew Murakami and sophomore Micah Mack improved their number one doubles record to 4-2 (4-1 NWC) overall with an easy 8-3 win. In the number two doubles match, senior Eric MacMillan and freshman Matthew Houser worked together on their way to an 8-4 win.

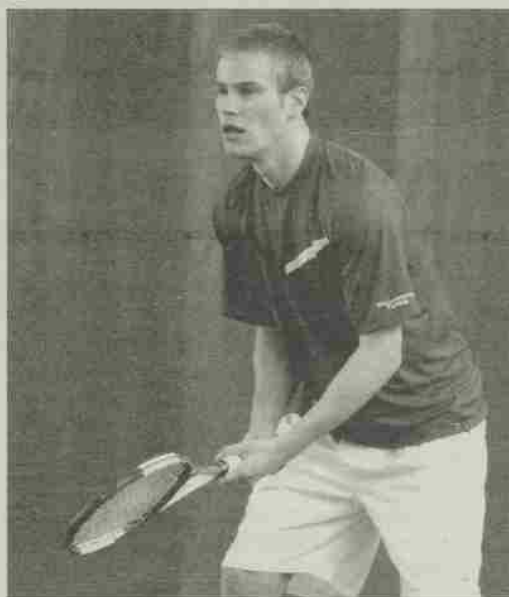
With a 2-1 lead early in the match, the Bearcats needed success in singles to clinch the win. Willamette swept the singles matches 6-0, winning all six matches in straight sets, and losing only 11 games in the 12 sets. The Bearcat effort was led by MacMillan at number one singles, who recorded a 6-0 6-1 victory. "He played awesome," freshman Jordan Helvie said. "His senior presence is evident through his on-court composure."

On Saturday, Willamette took on Lewis & Clark at the Courthouse. The Bearcats managed to pick up right where they left off, downing the Pioneers 8-1.

The action began early, as number one doubles partners Andrew Murakami and Micah Mack edged the Pioneers 8-6, completing the sweep of doubles for the Bearcats. "They are clearly going to be one of the top tandems in the NWC," Helvie said.

The Bearcats also got wins from number two doubles partners MacMillan and Houser (8-2) and number three doubles partners Fitz Paccione and Luke Lagattuta (8-3).

With the 3-0 lead going into singles the Bearcats were able to easily put away the Pioneers, winning five out of the six singles matches and claiming the easy victory. Murakami and Paccione continued their doubles success with victories at



COLBY TAKEDA

Senior Eric MacMillan was named NWC Player of the Week after last weekend. He went undefeated at number one singles and number two doubles.

number three and number four singles 6-0, 6-1, and 6-3, 6-0, respectively. In number two singles, Houser narrowly lost 7-6, 7-6. Both sets went into tie-breakers, and Houser's valiant efforts almost pushed the match to a third set.

The Bearcats are excited about the rest of their season and are looking towards a run at a Northwest Conference Championship. "We are quite a unique team," Helvie said. "With most teams it's evident who the best players are. Ours is unique in the fact that any one day anyone can play any position."

Contact: across@willamette.edu

▼ next up

Bearcats v. Pacific @ Pacific
Friday, March 7 at 4 p.m.

Bearcats v. Puget Sound @ Courthouse
Tennis Club
Saturday, March 8 at 4 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Pacific takes pair of one-run games from Willamette

JIMMY MEUEL
STAFF WRITER

The softball team lost both its contests to Pacific University by one run this past weekend, 2-1 and 7-6. The second game continued through nine innings. The schools could only play two games this weekend because of a rainout on Saturday. The Bearcats and Boxers will play the remainder of their games at a later date.

Willamette fell to 2-2 overall and 0-2 in conference, while Pacific improved to 8-0 on the season and 2-0 in conference.

The first game was a pitcher's duel between junior Nikki Franchi and Pacific's Miranda McNealy. Franchi surrendered two runs on five hits, with a walk and three strikeouts. The Boxers scored one run in the first inning and the score remained one-to-nothing until the sixth, when Franchi scored on a fielder's choice by sophomore catcher Jayleen Morris. The Bearcats were unable to shut down the Boxers as a double and past ball allowed the Boxers to hit a sacrifice fly and win the game.

Pacific will be one of the main teams in the conference this season," sophomore catcher Nicole Wallace said. "Even though we lost, it shows a lot about our team that we could keep up with them. We know we can win and we know we can beat them when we play them again."

The Bearcats were held to five hits by McNealy, who recorded nine strikeouts.

The second game was a seesaw battle through the first three innings as

Willamette and Pacific traded runs. The Bearcats were led by sophomore outfielder Katie Peterson's two run home run in the second inning.

"Our offense came around a bit in the second game," Wallace said. "Our defense improved a lot from the first week of the season."

Elsewhere in the Northwest Conference, Linfield College and Whitworth University squared off in a battle of heavyweights. Linfield put itself in a great position to repeat as conference champions by sweeping the Pirates 9-4, 13-3, 5-2 and 13-2. In more Northwest Conference play, Pacific Lutheran University swept George Fox University and University of Puget Sound took three of four from Lewis & Clark College.

Next week, the Bearcats will face George Fox and Lewis & Clark in games that are must wins if the Bearcats hope to compete for the conference title. "We have to make sure to not play down to their level," Wallace said. "We need to come away with a sweep."

George Fox is 0-10-1 on the season and 0-4 in conference after being swept by Pacific Lutheran. Lewis and Clark is 1-6 on the season and went 1-3 against Puget Sound last weekend.

Contact: jmeuel@willamette.edu

▼ next up

Bearcats v. Lewis & Clark (DH)
@ Lewis & Clark
Saturday, March 8 at 12 p.m.

Bearcats v. George Fox (DH)
@ WU Softball Field
Sunday, March 9 at 12 p.m.

Noah's Ark-ticle

So let me be clear...



**N O A H
Z A V É S**

OPINIONS EDITOR

I had plans to write a beautiful column about the constructive power of encouragement and positive speech, but the unexpected community response to my last column necessitates a few clarifications.

First, thank you to everyone both in the Willamette community and throughout the country who responded so promptly. (More thanks for the serious responses than the hate mail, but feedback's always nice...) While my intentions were not as many of you characterized them, I do appreciate your readership, and I look forward to a continuing exchange of ideas.

Here's the deal: I do not now, nor have I ever, entertained the possibility that a white resource center is remotely necessary. Our entire campus, and indeed much of our American society, is structured to function as a white resource center.

Why, then, did I write that column? I wrote it to promote the necessity of the Center for Social Justice and Diversity, using reverse logic and humor which I thought my readers would understand.

Most of you realized my goals, and for that I am grateful. However, I am deeply troubled that some of you would agree with the fake proposal in my column, for a white resource center.

Not only is a white resource center far from necessary on this campus, but the Center for Social Justice and Diversity will be open to members of all races and sexes and orientations, and will be a place where people can come together to further the ideals of social justice, kind of like the United Nations.

None of us, including my editors and the proposal's authors, saw this response coming. I can't apologize for my column, because I stand by my statements and by my tactics, but I can and will express my sadness that hundreds of Willamette students failed (for the second time in as many years) to recognize the use of satire.

So, as this conversation nears its close, I look forward to a Willamette campus where white students recognize their privilege, and where white and minority, straight and queer, male and female students can all participate in the creation and use of a Center for Diversity and Social Justice.

Contact: nzaves@willamette.edu

EDITORIAL

What's the problem with gender-neutral housing?

The Collegian Editorial Board is excited about the passage of the new plan for gender-neutral housing. We thank Dean Hawkinson for his support of the proposal, and the rest of the administration and the Board of Trustees for their part in its approval.

This issue is of crucial importance to the queer community, and it also represents a significant increase in the trust Willamette places in its students (and their maturity level). We look forward to further student proposals, and to develop Willamette policy.

One complication is the question of whether parents should be notified of their student's decision to live in a gender-neutral setting. While many parents have open communication with their students and are involved in the move-in process, other students prefer to keep their housing preferences private.

Some lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) students may be open about their orientation at school, but do not feel comfortable sharing that information with their families. For that reason, we are

happy that the administration is seriously considering this issue and its importance to the LGBT community.

Another important issue to consider is the potential negative reaction from future students and their parents. Many conservative people may feel threatened or uncomfortable with the liberal and more radical move to mixed gender housing.

Even if students can choose same gender housing, they will still be surrounded with gender-neutral housing. Further, the change will affect Willamette's campus attitudes, politics and reputation.

Although we hope that this change will lead to positive publicity and increased student attendance rates, it is possible that the results will be less favorable.

Another problem that was important to address was the issue of relationships. Since not everyone associates with a gender, it is important to keep the language neutral. Regardless of the language though rooming with a significant other in a small dorm room can be problematic and ought to be weighed carefully.

Though homosexual couples have been

able to live with each other before this new program was passed, heterosexual couples could now live together as well. If both heterosexual and homosexual couples live together, the number of break-ups can be expected to increase two-fold.

To be continually finding new living situations for couples that didn't "work out" would be a huge hassle. Not only that, but couples living together always has the potential to isolate them from the rest of the community. Luckily, the board has foreseen these problems and is working on ways to promote living with friends, and not lovers.

COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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Noah Zavés • OPINIONS EDITOR
Colleen Martin • COMMUNITY MEMBER

ASK ME ANYTHING:

Bad taste in music?



**J A D E
O L S O N**

COLUMNIST

Hello, faithful readers! Before I dispense with this week's likely ill-founded advice on life in our beautiful little bubble, I want to tell you a story. Last Wednesday was a gorgeous day. Of course, I mean gorgeous in the Oregon sense—the sun came out for a while and it wasn't freezing cold.

But you know what a sunny day in February means here at Willamette! There were at least 80 people on the quad, sunning themselves and playing frisbee as if they had made a wrong turn somewhere and ended up in California. Wanting to cherish such a time, I longboarded in a tank top and shorts up to where my friends were reading in the sun.

It was then that tragedy struck—I hit a crack in the path at the wrong angle and went tumbling ass-over-teakettle, scraping my knees and breaking my pride into five distinct pieces. Then, something wonderful happened. On the way from the bloody sidewalk to my friends, 11 separate individuals made sure I was okay. Here is an inventory of the things that these most excellent samaritans offered me:

1. Help walking

2. A call to WEMS
3. A hug
4. Hookah
5. To carry me back to my house
6. Antiseptic and gauze
7. "Herbal medicine" (and I do mean more than a birch bark poultice)

This painful and embarrassing event turned into a sunny reminder of why I love this campus. We may have a lot of things to work on in terms of social justice, sustainability and diversity, but in the end, it seems everyone is willing to help out the stupid kid who just fell off her skateboard. Now, onto this week's question.

Dear Jade,

Apparently, I listen to bad music. Well, I don't think it's bad. Okay, I listen to country. But my roommate and neighbors who are frequently over, not to mention my friends, can't stand it and they always tell me to turn it off. I listen to emo music when they're around because they all like it, so don't I deserve a turn?

-Gone Country

Dear Gone,

Yes, what a marvelous foundation for a friendship, taking turns listening to music that makes only some people's ears bleed. Just

because they're in the majority here doesn't mean that they get to impose their whine-fest on you. Turn their own logic right back on them—they don't like listening to your music and you don't like listening to theirs. Majority rule be damned; they shouldn't be deriving such sick pleasure out of that music in the first place, let alone out of forcing it on you.

That said, I do believe that there's an amicable solution here. I don't know much about music, and to be honest, both genres that we're talking about here make me want to stick a fork in my ears. But there has got to be some music out there that everybody involved can enjoy.

I'll spare preaching the glorious truth of Bob Dylan for my friends who have learned to drown it out, but try to come up with a genre or even a single band that you and your emo friends can deal with. The magic of the Internet, especially something like Pandora, may be able to help you here.

If nothing else, put on something that you and your friends hate equally. Then you're all even and you can annoy everyone around you even more and watch the hilarity ensue. Clay Aiken, anyone?

Contact: jolson@willamette.edu

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In response to "Blind grading ensures objectivity" (Feb. 27)

Tatiana Mac acknowledges the "severe consequences" of enacting a blind grading policy at Willamette, and yet still suggests that blind grading is a viable option.

Yes, there would be less risk of favoritism and bias, but we would also lose one of the biggest advantages of a small liberal arts college: the personal intellectual relationships that a 10-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio allows.

Learning does not take place only inside the four walls of a classroom or lab or at one's own desk in the wee hours of the morning; learning is an endeavor enhanced by conversation.

Discussing a paper or a proof with a professor is more than a

move to get an A, it is a move to get an education.

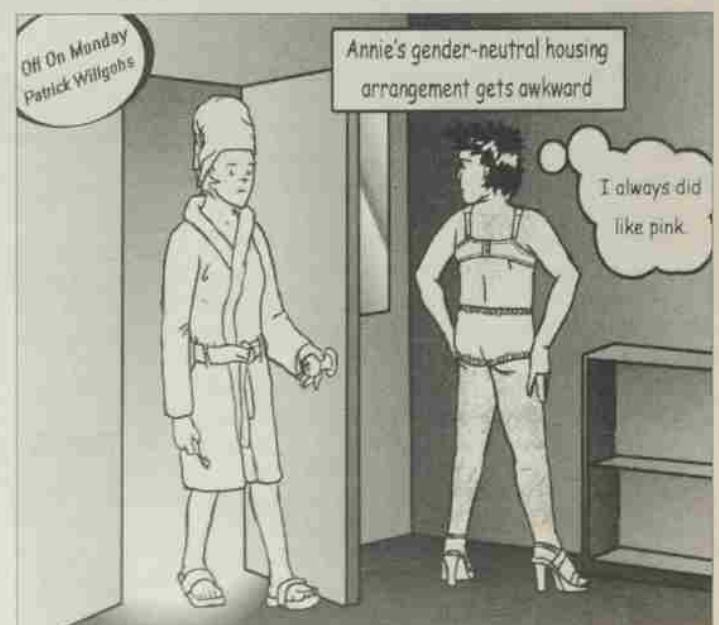
Had I wanted to be nothing more than a number, I would have gone to a large state school and saved 88 grand. Students shouldn't need a blind grading policy to take personal responsibility of their work. Grow up, talk to your professors and take full advantage of this education we have purchased.

Caitlin Palo

cpalo@willamette.edu

Letters can be sent by postal mail, email (estanden@willamette.edu), campus mail or fax. Letters are limited to 150 words, must include 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.

COMIC BY PATRICK WILLGOHS



OPINION

Beware of the sidewalk invasion

BRENT JONES
GUEST WRITER

So, you just got of class. You are still a fluster of calc notes, over priced textbooks, colored-coded pens, and possibly feminine hygiene products. You try to restrain your belongings back to your backpack/ large bag/ man purse. It's 9 a.m. The fact you had been up until 2 a.m. 'studying' again makes this no easier.

Then, all hell breaks loose. You, being so focused in your own little world, refused to acknowledge the low roar bustling from behind. Then MMMRRRRROOOOOOOOOOW a speeding golf cart swipes within inches and sends you jumping higher than the driver must be. Thus, the entirety of your being you put away is violently hurled onto the ground.

You are *that* kid. This degrading and image killing experience has become all too common at Willamette. Similar situations of a lesser degree have resulted in brief scares or a grudging change of direction. Then, there is the emotional damage - which can never be fully repaired. Ever.

Who, might you ask, would perpetrate these heinous offenses? Why would we allow such occurrences on our campus? And, with these events so common, why doesn't Campus Safety stop them?

And in there we find the source of chaos. Also, I would point out, Campus 'Safety' writes their own reports. Who knows how many undocumented student stampedes have occurred without our knowing. Why the rage? Maybe we have locked ourselves out of our dorms one

too many times.

However, they are not the only drive-by perpetrators. Perhaps it was from knocking all the leaves off trees, too many gum spots cemented to the floor or the Chicken Fountain was filled with soap too often.

Try and remain conscious long enough to catch the license plate. Between landscaping and maintenance crews, a fair share of incidents can be attributed to these professionals, "On an important errand (joy-riding) with no time to stop (screw ya!!!)."

I, for one, do declare my inability to tolerate this action. I go to a liberal arts college. I will wear sandals when I damn well please without fear of yucky toes because I did not want to be ran over. I have gotten my sneakers soggy for the last time. I should not be made to feel like my sidewalks ... need sidewalks. That's just freaking complicated.

And, how disconcerting is it when you are zoning out and listening to your iPod, then turn around to see an automobile stalking you. No one likes the deer-in-headlights feeling, especially when it's literal. What next, small jet planes using the sidewalks for runways? Not at my WU!



I should not be made to feel like my sidewalks... need sidewalks. That's just freaking complicated."

Therefore, I shall propose that only civilians frequent the paths, and all motorized vehicles be equipped with 4 wheeling capabilities. This will come as a pleasure to the students. Now they never have to shuffle six inches to the right ever again. And the staff ... well they will be four-wheeling. No anticipated complaints. The entirety of our school will never have cold feet again. Well, outside of the Cone Chapel at least.

At the point where getting to any one class requires more evasive maneuvers than a WWII dogfight, we have an issue. We've all seen those intimidating golf carts drive on grass before. They can simply dominate the fields and leave us students to walk in peace. It would also save time to drive across fields instead of on walkways. Competing with longboarders and bikers is hard enough. But actual vehicles have no place on my cement. We shall reclaim the sidewalks so rightfully ours.

Of course, this is all absolute falsehood, we will adapt however necessary to allow the all necessary services be acted upon quickly and efficiently. Keep up the good work!

Contact: bkjones@willamette.edu

OPINION

What you see isn't all you get

JON COLLINS
GUEST WRITER

To many, the fraternities are shrouded in mystery. I'm sure you have seen members wandering in droves on the Goudy trail from Eastside, their dialogue rich with a bizarre jargon, using terms like "chapter" and "dues."

However, the greater entities that these strange creatures represent are often misunderstood, chastised for their alleged debauchery and their lackadaisical attitudes.

The Greeks frequently respond to these attacks with the same old song-and-dance; statistics boasting how many members are involved in sports, community service and all manner of leadership positions.

It is inefficient and, to a certain degree, inaccurate to regurgitate a cliched outburst of numbers in order to gain a certain existential validation.

While these statistics may provide a qualitative cross section of Greek members, they do little to define what it means to be Greek or illustrate why people join Greek organizations. Impressive as the membership might be, the ultimate power of the fraternities does not lie in numbers or statistics but in an unseen force that transcends any quantitative description.

It is difficult to understand this side of the fraternity community without any direct experience; however I will attempt to appropriately divulge this secret by telling my own peculiar story.

As a freshman I was staunchly opposed to the idea of "going Greek." Similar to many of my peers, the word "fraternity" provoked a repulsive stream of stereotypes in my mind alongside the image of a disheveled John Belushi.

Regardless, I reluctantly accompanied a friend to observe these "bros" in their own environment, convinced they would possess few impressive qualities.

Much to my chagrin, I found them to be remarkably human. These were not the simplistic creatures I had imagined; these were admirable intellectuals, ambitiously involved students with an impressive range of tastes and talents.

What was even more perplexing was that they interacted on a level of friendship that I had never seen. The overwhelming sense of community was intoxicating, and as I continued to observe, I realized that the hopes and desires of those individuals were in many ways identical to my own.

After I decided to join, I engaged in a process through which I developed a deep and intimidating sense of friendship and devotion to the point where the term "friendship" became insufficient to describe my relationship to this collection of individuals.

Ultimately, the statistics and leadership opportunities often associated with the fraternity system are merely superficial benefits in comparison to the emotional connections created between members. Granted, it is not always peaches and rose petals. There are many challenges and difficulties that must be diligently overcome.

However, regardless of its trials, or perhaps because of them, I can honestly say that all numbers aside, being a member of a fraternity has made me a better person. Could I have had a college experience that was as rewarding had I not joined? Maybe, but then I would have not met the people who have shaped my life and will continue to do so beyond the college realm.

I know this may all sound "cheesy" to you, and I am in no way attempting to justify the occasional errors of the fraternity system. I merely wish to shed light on the neglected internal side of the fraternity experience in the hopes that we, as members of the greater Willamette community, may better understand each other.

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TOM'S THOUGHTS:

Bold epoch begins in student housing



T O M
ACKERMAN
COLUMNIST

In a comforting display of liberalism, the administration last week decided to green-light gender blind housing for Willamette students. Imagine it: dudes livin' with chicks, chicks livin' with dudes. It is truly a bright future.

Some God-fearing Willamette students think that the bond of roommates is a sacred union between two men or two women. They believe that allowing a man and a woman to live as roommates goes against the Bible (see "Jesus: The College Years"). Despite this faction touting right wing conservatism, most Willamette students believe that gender blind housing is a real step forward for the University.

Several other proposals were made to change housing policy. All of these proposals were ultimately shot down. One proposal was for "Venetian-blind housing." It was vetoed on the grounds that we college students can't have nice things, and it would raise tuition exorbitantly.

Another failed proposal was for Double-Blind housing, where roommates would not be allowed to talk to, or even see each other. It was thought that this option would appeal to pre-med students and others who require a study environment free of any distractions, but do not want to pay extra for a single room. For better or worse, the council deemed "double-blind housing" "infeasible" and "stupid."

Other proposals called for whole new residence buildings to be constructed.

The least-ambitious of these plans was put forth by the Association of Sustainable Students (ASS). Their plan, called project Green Future Now, called for cardboard boxes to be collected from the Salem area and put in the Sparks parking lot for students to live in. ASS' plan discourages the use of cars by taking up valuable parking space.

All the buildings in project Green Future Now are both recycled and recyclable, but most importantly, once erected, they do not consume any non-renewable resources ... or indeed, resources of any kind. Green Future Now was ultimately given the red light by the High Tribunal, on the grounds that "Not even damn hippie freshmen would want to live in cardboard boxes in a parking lot."

Other proposals suggested sister dorms to augment Willamette International Student Housing (WISH), which currently houses very few international students. The first of these proposed sister houses was WASH, Willamette Aryan Student Housing (by the students who brought you gender blonde housing). WASH was turned down so fast, you don't even know.

Next up was Willamette Underground Student Housing (WUSH). WUSH was proposed by a student who claimed to be from "Underfornia," the secret state under California. He gave a rousing speech about how underground housing would foster diversity at Willamette by encouraging students from the "Understates of America" to apply here.

The Committee of the Sacred Compass was seriously considering

WUSH, when it was determined that the student who proposed it was not a student at all but was in fact, "some crazy guy." Next on deck was Willamette Yurt Student Housing (WYSH). If you have never been inside a yurt, you have not truly lived (if you don't know what a yurt is, look it up *right now*).

I really wanted WYSH to become a reality. Who needs tennis courts? Bulldoze'em and give me my own yurt! Unfortunately, WYSH was turned down because it sounds like WISH, and the worry was that Residential Services might easily become confused.

In all seriousness, I'm fine with gender blind housing, but Dean Hawkinson says "Willamette does not support and will not provide accommodations for couples, whether gay or straight, who are romantically involved."

That might be a good rule to have, but how are you going to enforce it? Surveys maybe? (Circle one: Do you like like your roommate? Yes No). Hidden cameras perhaps? (I recommend the CanoodleCam™ from CreeperTek Ink). Maybe they'll just turn a blind eye and let the violent crimes of passion be their own regulator.

Note: I know that the administration technically calls it "gender-neutral" housing. But, unlike blindness, neutrality isn't very funny (except in Sweden's case). Also "neutral" doesn't rhyme with many things. So before any of you get all huffy and send me emails saying I'm not using the PC term, know that I did it just to make you laugh.

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CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

FEB. 22-28, 2008

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

▶ Feb. 28, 2:45 p.m., (Doney Hall): Several students defaced a mural on the third floor of Doney Hall when, without authorization, they added tracings, signatures and initials in ink.

THEFT

▶ Feb. 25, 7 a.m., (Kaneko Commons): An unknown individual removed a couch from Kaneko and placed it in the motorcycle parking just south of Lausanne Hall.

▶ Feb. 28, 3:50 p.m., (Law School): An unknown individual stole a black gym bag from the locker area in the Law building.

▶ Feb. 28, 7:17 p.m., (Goudy Commons): An unknown individual stole a NIKE backpack, containing a baseball glove and an MP3 player, from a cubby hole. All items except the MP3 player were recovered near the executive building.

▶ Feb. 28, 7:20 p.m., (Goudy Commons): An unknown individual stole a student's backpack, which contained traveler's checks and credit cards, from a cubby hole in Goudy.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▶ Feb. 22, 10:40 p.m., (Kaneko Hall): Campus Safety, while responding to a noise complaint, found numerous items of evidence to indicate that the occupants of a room, both minors, had consumed alcoholic beverages.

POLICY / SAFETY VIOLATION

▶ Feb. 22, 2:45 p.m., (Matthews Hall): Campus Safety, responding to a call, located a dog that was unattended and tied to a generator between Matthews and Bishop Wellness Center. The owner was located.

▶ Feb. 22, 10:46 p.m., (TIUA): A

student falsely identified himself to Campus Safety officer who was responding to a noise complaint, which was in violation of policy.

▶ Feb. 28, 10:15 a.m., (Cat Cavern): A Bon Appetit employee injured his knee when he tripped over an uncovered, exposed power source cord on the floor, which was placed in preparation for the "Puttin' on the Ritz" event. It was subsequently covered.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

▶ Feb. 26, 8:30 a.m., (Phi Delta Theta): A student reported that she and a female friend were walking in the Matthews lot when they were confronted by three males who were inside of a black vehicle, possibly a BMW. The men unsuccessfully tried to get the women to approach their vehicle several times. The suspects gave up and yelled obscenities to the females as they drove away. It is unknown, at this time, if the suspects were students.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT

▶ Feb. 26, 2:20 p.m., (Sparks Lot): A student reported that she parked her car in the Sparks lot on Feb. 17. On Feb. 21, she noticed that someone had backed into her vehicle causing a crack to the rear bumper and possible damage to the trunk mechanism. The person who caused the damage did not leave a note.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▶ Feb. 24, 10:50 p.m., (University Center): A student experiencing breathing difficulties was transported to the emergency room for treatment.

▶ If you have any information regarding these incidents, please contact Campus Safety at 503.370.6911.

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY

THE FIRST UNIVERSITY IN THE WEST

ATKINSON LECTURE

series

presents

FRANK RICH

Columnist and Author



Wednesday, March 12, 2008

8 p.m.

Smith Auditorium

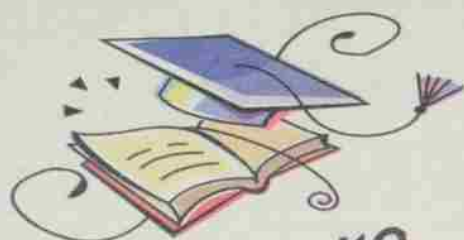
A former film and television critic at *Time* magazine and *The New York Post*, Frank Rich began working for *The New York Times* in 1980 and over the years has served as chief drama critic and political commentator. His op-ed columns have been a regular feature of the *Times* since 1994. In 1999 he was given the additional duty of senior writer for the *New York Times Magazine*.

His weekly essay on the intersection of culture and news helped inaugurate the expanded opinion pages that the paper introduced in the Sunday Week in Review section in 2005. From 2003-05, Rich was the front-page columnist for the Sunday Arts & Leisure section.

Tickets for students, faculty and staff are available at the Information Desk in the University Center beginning March 3. The first ticket is free with a University ID; the second ticket is \$10.

Tickets for the general public are \$10 and are also available beginning March 3 at the same location between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

7th Annual Senior Salute Celebration!



When is it?

Thursday,
March 6, 2008

11:00 am to 3:00 pm
in the Alumni Lounge

Class of 2008!

We Salute You!

What is it?



An event designed to assist Willamette seniors in handling all of those little arrangements that often times are stressful, but are always necessary for graduation. Such arrangements include:

- ▲ Cap, stole and gown sizing and pick-up.
- ▲ The ordering and purchase of announcements, class rings, and diploma frames.

This event will also allow you the opportunity to get in touch with department representatives and find out about all of the other exciting activities for the CLASS of 2008.



Who's it for?

ALL SENIORS graduating in the class of 2008 are invited. We want to answer all of your questions and help with your graduation needs.