THE Collegian

'MUCHAS' ADVENTURE: EATING AND GETTING THERE

◆SEE REVIEWS/12

VOLUME CXIII ISSUE XVIII VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 FEBRUARY 18, 2004

Big lessons from little students

Many undergraduates educations extend into the classrooms of local schools, where they find themselves learning along with students half their size.

By EMILY SIMPSON
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With the recent failure of Measure 30, there is no doubt that Salem schools are soon going to be relying more and more heavily on volunteers. So how are Willamette students volunteering now? There are several ways students can get involved with the Salem Public schools, whether through service or academic programs.

Service Learning

As Dennis Hoover in the Service Learning office puts it, learning through service is "just combining academics and service." This semester there are seven classes at Willamette that require students to volunteer in the community.

"It takes experimental learning to a whole new level, it applies experience and it can even help students to start networking," Hoover said.

Senior Simmie Muth, who took the service-learning course, Introduction to Teaching, liked working at Richmond Elementary.

◆SEE FEATURE/8

JULIE TOMMELEIN

Sophomore Adam Holden reads to a student last week at a local elementary school. He is one of dozens of undergraduates who spend time as student teachers, counselors, mentors and volunteers.

Mergers, bids and takeovers, oh my!

Junior Jeff Extine doesn't want to the see the world get eaten by hungry corporate juggernauts like Comcast assimilating everything in their path, even America's beloved Disney. Is there any hope for the industrialized world in the face of huge monopolies? Will Walt be thawed for an epic showdown? Only time will tell.

◆SEE OPINIONS/11

Party of five

Some Willamette students depend on their parents or guardians for money. Some non traditional students have to support three children after class. Others do both. Junior Ciara France not only is financially independent but is the guardian of her three younger siblings, aged 15, 13 and 11, due to the inability of her own parents.

◆SEE NEWS/5

Through the WIRE, resnet at Bistro

"We are positive that the WIRE's expansion on campus is going to foster a better sense of community within Willamette by having a venue where everybody can listen to the station,"

-Tyler Reich sophomore

By ANTHONY HOOPER
ahooper@willamette.edu

The Bistro and the WIRE have partnered up to bring student-run music programs to the coffeehouse via an updated sound system.

The WIRE, Willamette's student-run radio station, has found a solution to some of their listenership problems by making their programming available to all students through the Bistro. Previously, the WIRE was unavailable to off-campus students due to the limited range of the Resnet server. Instead of only having the option of listening through one's computer, now anyone can hear the station by visiting the Bistro.

"We are positive that the WIRE's expansion on campus is going to foster a better sense of community within Willamette by having a venue where everybody can listen to the station," sophomore Tyler Reich said. Reich is the WIRE's General Manager.

Both student-run organizations have put many resources into the new venture. The Bistro put up the funds for the new speakers and sound system upgrade while the WIRE volunteered many hours of service installing them. Currently, the partnership is only in a test run phase until all the bugs are worked out of the sound system. However, both organizations have high expectations for a permanent arrangement.

"I think that it is great that the two bastard step-children of the University, the Bistro and the WIRE, are working together. The WIRE has made some fabulous improvements and they are really working with us to create programming that our listeners would enjoy," Bistro General Manager senior Emily Puterbaugh said.

The Bistro has had some positive feedback from its patrons in regards to the implementation of the WIRE.

"I feel that having the WIRE at the Bistro really promotes a feeling of school community. It's really cool to hear music that other students put on while enjoying beverages that students provide," freshman Paul Andre said.

A Bistro regular, junior Tom Karnes, also praised the increased access the Bistro gives the WIRE. "I listened to it the other day and I think that student radio is a great thing. But we don't get much of an opportunity to listen to the shows because we can only hear them at a computer. Having it at the Bistro gives us better access. It would be cool to see it broadcast at the Montag Center as well," Karnes said.

Senior Insil Kang agreed. "I don't see how this can be a bad thing. If what they are playing is not good enough the Bistro can switch stations. All I can say is that is it is about time and why not?" she asked.

SAGE NUSBAUM

Above: Bistro employee senior Laura Shield plays deejay. Below: The WIRE can now broadcast through Bistro speakers.

SAGE NUSBAUM

Due to the varying WIRE programs, from talk radio to music shows the Bistro has an agreement with the WIRE that it can still play other music sources at the discretion of Bistro employees.

The WIRE has further plans for their partnership with the Bistro, such as paying for bands to come, broadcasting Open Mic Night and sponsoring giveaways.

The WIRE is also planning to further expand their broadcast to the Montag Center in the near future by installing new speakers.

Budget and design: trading spaces Kaneko-style

By SARAH KASSEL
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Friday the 13th seems an inauspicious day for a seminar on financial planning and future remodeling.

However, last Friday the first year students of Kaneko piled into their auditorium for just that. They received consulting from the Director of Financial Aid, Jim Eddy, free pizza and best of all, a discussion on how they were going to spend the $1,200 allotted for a Kaneko lobby "Trading Spaces"-style.

For those of you unfamiliar with the popular cable show on The Learning Channel, the basic concept is this: two couples pick a room in their house that they want redecorated then they switch houses for two days and try to redecorate on a budget.

Giving up all say over what happens to their homes, they switch houses and completely redecorate the room, on a budget, with the help of an interior decorator and a carpenter.

Eddy's grant of $400 per floor will allow the freshmen to plan improvements for their respective lobbies, and then give the plans to another floor to be implemented this weekend.

The students will only have from Saturday morning to Sunday evening to complete the remodeling as frugally as possible. The money they will spend comes from a competitive grant for $40,000 that Eddy wrote called Edshare.

Edshare provides freshmen with debt and loan avoidance and accounting programs. Eddy said that the idea of the grant was to bring financial awareness to the residence halls. It was in this vein that senior Kim Hill came to him with an idea about "Trading Spaces" in Kaneko.

"This was a target project for financial literacy in the first year residential commons," Eddy said. "But since the residential commons have been postponed for another couple of years, I decided to start giving RAs the chance to apply for (use of) the money."

In the future, the implementation of the grant will start during Opening Days and will include national speakers, dinner lectures and private scholarship searches throughout the year.

Hill, who is a self-described Trading Spaces fan, said the idea came to her in an RA meeting when they were "tossing ideas around."

See BUDGET, page 4

•WU is one of the 25 universities in the U.S. to receive a federal grant from Edfund, the sponsor of Edshare

•WU received $40,000 from the grant

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT: FEB. 8-14, 2004

This week Campus Safety responded to 144 calls for service.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

Feb. 12, 9:01 a.m. (Kaneko Hall): A vendor discovered that someone had damaged the glass on a third floor vending machine. The criminally mischievous individual did not gain access to the products inside.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

Feb. 12, 9:04 a.m. (Kresge Theater): A student was treated after injuring their foot. The student was advised to ice the injury and call if symptoms worsened.

Feb. 12, 5:33 p.m. (Kaneko Hall): A student was taken to the hospital after falling down stairs and a foot injury.

Feb. 15, 3:51 a.m. (WISH): Officers and WEMS responded to a report of a very intoxicated student. It was determined that no medical attention was needed and the student's roommate agreed to monitor the inebriated individual.

FIRE ALARM

Feb. 11, 6:10 a.m. (York House): Officers and Salem Fire Department responded to an alarm. A spider inside of a smoke detector was the cause.

THEFT

Feb. 9, 11:10 p.m. (Collins Science): An employee reported three tables missing from a third floor classroom. The tables could not be located elsewhere in the building.

Feb. 12, 2:50 p.m. (Kaneko Hall): A student reported a missing bicycle, which seems to have been stolen sometime after Winter Break. It had been secured with a cable inside the bike cage.

TRESPASS

Feb. 14, 5:11 p.m. (University Apartments): A man was arrested for trespassing after he had received two warnings not to return to campus. Salem Police transported him to jail.

** If you have any information about these incidents, please contact Campus Safety at ext. 6911.*

Salem Chamber Orchestra Presents "Gift of Music Family Concert"

The **Salem Chamber Orchestra** will present its **"Gift of Music Family Concert"** on **February 15, at 3 pm**, in Smith Auditorium on the campus of Willamette University.

The concert will feature the winners of the Willamette University Soloist Audition, **John Englund and Robin Ricard**. John will perform the "Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra by Ney Rosauro and Robin will perform the "Bell Song" from the opera Lakme by Leo Delibes. The program will open with the overture to The Marriage of Figaro by Mozart, and finish with a performance of Francis Poulenc's "The Story of Babar the Little Elephant." The Family Concert is SCO's thank you to the community for supporting Salem's own orchestra!

Tickets are $12 for adults and $6 for students 13 and older. Students younger than 13 are allowed in for free with a paying adult. Tickets may be purchased at the door or by calling **(503) 375-5483**. Willamette University students may purchase student rush tickets for $3 at the door.

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8:00 p.m.

Smith Auditorium

Tickets for Benazir Bhutto's lecture will be available on Feb. 4 to the campus community at the Information Desk, Putnam UC. Students, faculty and staff are eligible for ONE complimentary ticket and ONE additional ticket at $10. Please bring your Willamette ID when requesting your tickets. Any tickets not sold by Feb. 13 will be made available to the general public at the Information Desk for $10 each.

Attendees needing accommodations can make a special request by contacting 503-370-6018, preferably, two weeks in advance.

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Corrections and clarifications:

**The Op-ed piece, "Liberating Venus," published in the Feb. 11 issue, had a third author, senior Jonathon Westfall, who went uncredited in the byline due to an editor error.

**The feature, "Healthy goals, cold reviews," published in the Feb. 11 issue noted that all students need health insurance in order to use the Wellness Center's services whenever they want. In fact, all students are required to have insurance regardless. In the same story, the Wellness Center bills student university accounts for all services, not private carriers as the story implied.

The Collegian regrets these mistakes and inaccuracies. The Collegian strives for accuracy in all its content.

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LETTERS

We invite your letters to the editor. Letters can be received by postal mail, email, campus mail or fax (see above contact information).
Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name and phone number for verification and must be submitted by noon the Monday of the week of intended publication. The Collegian may edit letters for length and clarity.

PAGE 1 GRAPHIC CREDITS

(Left to Right, clockwise)
One: Lucas Hernandez
Two: Julie Tommelein
Third: Stacy West

THE WEDNESDAY PROFILE

Education: priority through it all

"I went from all the support of church and grandparents, to no support ... all the black and whites became gray."
-junior Ciara France

By JEN DANNER
jdanner@willamette.edu

Willamette's campus is constantly buzzing with busy, stressed out students. Nevertheless, at the end of the day, most students can curl up with homework and unwind.

This is not the case for junior Ciara France, a spring semester transfer student from Chemeketa Community College. France is a guardian of three children on top of being a full time student and part-time employee at Marion County Juvenile.

At the age of 24, France has guardianship over three of her younger siblings, a 15-year-old sister and 11 and 13-year-old brothers. Her other sister recently entered Western Oregon University and is no longer in France's custody.

France's custody of her siblings stemmed from problems at home six years ago. When she was 18, France's once strictly religious and structured parents became addicted to alcohol and prescription drugs. "I went from all the support of church and grandparents, to no support ... all the black and whites became gray," she said. France took her parents addiction as a wake-up call and soon began fighting for guardianship of her siblings.

"When you're put in a situation, you just have to do it."
-junior Ciara France

Though the majority of her family frowned on her attempt to gain guardianship over her siblings, France felt it was necessary.

STACY WEST

Student Ciara France not only goes to Willamette but works and raises her three younger siblings.

France gained guardianship over her two sisters four years ago, at only 20 years old.

"My mom is an alcoholic and my dad didn't want my sisters," she said.

While raising two young women seems an insurmountable job to most college students, France was not content raising only her sister. She wanted to give all of her siblings the opportunity to live in a stable environment and worked to take in two of her brothers. "I've been trying to get my brothers since I got my sisters... Finally, my leverage was that (my father) lost his job," France said.

As a mother, France described herself as stricter than most parents. "Because I'm still so young, I know what (kids) do. I try to keep it really structured, they have to get their chores done by four or no TV ... at least five days a week we have a sit down dinner."

France says the lack of support from her family has been hard, but she recognizes that having a relationship with her parents while doing what she feels is best for her siblings is impossible.

"I can't do both. I don't have a relationship with either one at all," she said. While this used to be painful, she emphasized that the kids are at the mercy of others in this situation.

While France and her mother do not get along, she said, "I don't think she personally hates me, but she hates herself so much. Since she's not a good mother, she doesn't want me to be a good mother."

One of the most important values France tries to instill in her siblings is a respect for the importance of education. Though her parents did not attend college, France was always driven to complete her degree. France attained her Associates Degree from Chemeketa and transferred to Willamette this spring to complete her undergraduate degree.

"I'm the first one in a couple generations to go to college," France said. She names her fiancée, Darren, and his father as instrumental in her going to college. "His dad encouraged me to go back to school."

Darren, a full-time employee at Marion County Juvenile, admitted, "It's been a struggle, but I think she sees it as an opportunity ... To go to school, for her, has been a dream come true."

STACY WEST

Student Ciara France not only goes to Willamette but works and raises her three younger siblings.

In order to maintain the balance between her home and school responsibilities, France explained that, "It's overwhelming at times, but I don't dwell on it."

Throughout her hard work, at times, she feels that she missed out on being a young person. "In one sense I am a lot older than people my age," she said.

> "I don't tolerate them to be victims of their situations ... Yeah you have it rought but who doesn't?"
>
> Ciara France
> junior

However, she emphasized that she needed to take guardianship of her siblings in order to give them a better life. "I still have my friends, it's not like I'm completely bound to the house."

Her strong, assertive stance also filters into the way she raises her siblings.

"I don't tolerate them to be victims of their situations," she said. "Yeah, you have it rough, but who doesn't?"

In order to keep her siblings and herself in a positive mindset, she reminds them that there are "a lot of people worse off than you are."

France made clear that her fiancée has been a great support for her.

"He helps me a lot, we've been together for five and a half years ... he basically is the reason this works. Every time I feel down he reminds me that we're doing a good thing," she said.

France added that his deep involvement in her sibling's lives is incredibly helpful.

Darren believes France's personal stability has been an area of strength throughout the changes her family went through as she gained guardianship of her siblings, "She really has been pretty much the same person. She was always there, taking care of (the kids)... That was pretty neat to me," he said.

"When you're put in the situation, you just have to do it," France said, explaining that almost everyone would react in the same pro-active way when put in this kind of situation.

Through the hardships with which France has struggled, she has maintained focus on her goals. "I have a lot of drive," she said. "And I don't think I would have done what I'm doing with out it."

After she graduates at the end of next year, France intends to attend MAT and teach elementary school. "I eventually want to get into administration," she said.

In the meantime, France is attending the Equador post-session. "It will be a nice break," she admits. However, she added that she still has "to figure out where (the kids) are going to stay."

Public Eye

UNIVERSITY SOON TO HOST NATIVE AMERICAN POWWOW

The Native American Enlightenment Association will sponsor the second annual Social Powwow on Mar. 13. The event will take place from 4 to 10 p.m. in the Sparks Center and will feature traditional Native American dancers, drum groups, crafts and food vendors. Admission to the event is free.

BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION COMING THIS FRIDAY

Fourth Annual Black History Celebration will take place this Feb. 20 from 5 to 11 p.m. in Smith Auditorium. The program celebrates the historical contributions of African Americans through poetry, music and dance. The Black Student Organization is sponsoring the event.

SALEM MONTHLY OFFERS EMPLOYMENT, INTERNSHIPS

A new community paper is set to debut in April. There are openings for students interested in volunteering or interning, as well as paid employment positions. Freelance submissions and input from community members are highly encouraged. Contributions are needed in advertising, comics, distribution, graphic design, editing, ideas, layout, photography, reporting, research, reviews and writing. Questions and comments can be emailed to editors@salemmonthly.com.

OSPIRG CONDUCTS STUDY ON TEXTBOOK PRICES

Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group recently released a report entitled "Rip-off 101: How the Current Practices of the Publishing Industry Drive Up the Cost of College Textbooks." OSPIRG's report can be viewed at www.ospirgstudents.org. OSPIRG is a statewide, student directed and funded environmental and consumer organization with campus chapters at five universities around the state. For more information, contact jobrien@ospirgstudents.org.

WU budget lesson

Continued from page 3

She realized that the organization of this project could have many benefits for the freshmen.

"I'm really excited," she said.

"They will become involved in making the (residence hall) better," she said. "They will also receive a financial education … and learn how to budget in a useful way."

"The idea is everything," Eddy said of Hill's concept. "The students will receive pointers on personal finance, they will improve their residence hall and learn in the process."

Both Eddy and the residents of Kaneko are also excited at the prospect of the remodel this weekend.

The residents of second floor Kaneko stayed late after the financial planning meeting to discuss future improvements.

"Basically we want to make it so that the most amount of people can be in the lounge and be comfortable," freshman Liberty Upton said.

"What if we could get a La-Z-Boy?" freshman Kelly Poe asked. "How cool would that be? Everyone would fight over it."

"We want a lot of cushy things," freshman Rajani Gudlavalleti said. "Things like ottomans and a shag rug."

"We're definitely getting curtains," Upton said. "There is this huge window and the room is constantly an oven because the blinds are crap."

With plans finalized, the students will begin work this Saturday to transform their floor lounges into something more livable, comfortable, and perhaps, more retro.

The first recipients of the Edfund money, they hope to make a first year commons a little less ordinary.

•Because of the delay in the actual Residential Commons plan, RAs can start applying for some of that money to bring financial awareness to their first year students.

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Maintenance woes pester WU students

By KATE d'AMBROSIO

kdambros@willamette.edu

Keeping up with the maintenance demands of Willamette's campus is no small task for campus maintenance crews. Along with the day-to-day campus tasks, the maintenance personnel must also face the challenges Willamette's aging dorms.

"Most of the dorms are in pretty good shape for their age," Supervisor of Building Maintenance Steve Ovens said. However, there have been numerous problems with plumbing, specifically with the transfer of hot water to many dorms on campus.

The hot water return lines in Baxter were replaced last summer because of their deteriorating condition, but some Baxter residents continue to have trouble with cold showers.

Ovens is concerned about the hot water problems. "From my standpoint, I find that unacceptable," Ovens said. "But if things don't get reported it's hard for us to help."

Sophomore Megan Flora, a Baxter resident, has experienced first-hand the hot water problems in the dorms. "When you're in a hurry, it's hard to stand there for 15 minutes waiting for the water to get warm, but most of the time the water's fine," she said.

Freshman Andrew Tyler, who lives in Kaneko, voiced similar concerns.

"Hot water has been a really big problem," Tyler said.

"The water has been cold until 11 in the morning, but I have an 8 a.m. class. I usually just duck my head under cold water in the mornings and take a shower later."

Ovens said that his office has recently received only one report about the problems with the showers, and that students should relay their problems to their resident assistants, the office of building maintenance, or in emergency situations, the Office of Campus Safety.

Also of concern for students living in Lausanne, Lee and York has been the electrical wiring. Last week all three dorms had early morning fire drills, resulting from malfunctions in the alarm systems. York Resident Assistant, senior Matt Smucker said that, despite last week's unexpected 6:30 a.m. fire drill, "the building is holding up pretty well."

Aside from plumbing and electrical problems, maintenance crews have numerous other projects that demand both time and money.

According to Oven, the Willamette campus boasts an area of 1.2 million square feet with a maintenance crew of 20 people. This leaves each crewmember responsible for an area of 60,000 square feet, which is equivalent to a building the size of Olin, plus one and a half floors.

According to Ovens, the maintenance staff has adequate funding to provide for the large area, "but we definitely don't have excess." Because of budget constraints, the facilities committee helps prioritize maintenance projects across campus.

ARTS

WEB brings NACA artist to Bistro

COURTESY OF KYLER ENGLAND, PHOTO BY JOHN MAZLISH

Kyler's soulful sound will fill the Bistro Thursday.

By CARLY DIAZ
and MARY ANN ALBRIGHT
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Kyler has three albums out: "If the World Would Just End" "How Many Angels?" "A Flower Grows in Stone"

Web site: www.kylerengland.com

Leong said that other performers in this semester's series will include another solo artist, a band and a "recycle percussion group kind of like Stomp."

This Thursday at 9 p.m. in the Bistro may be the closest most Willamette students ever come to a free Jewel concert – Jewel before she traded her country-tinged, folk-driven vocals accompanied by acoustic guitar for the world of pop and synthesized dance beats. Spring semester's first performance in a series of musical acts put on by the Willamette Events Board (WEB) and the Bistro features singer / songwriter Kyler England in a 90-minute set.

With an annual budget of $4,000, the WEB music committee has about one artist a month scheduled to perform this semester in an effort to bring more music opportunities to Willamette students.

"It's a good way of providing a release, and it's a break in everyone's normal routine," said sophomore Andrew Thomson, WEB music chair.

WEB selected musicians such as Kyler from showcases at the National Association of Campus Activities (NACA) convention in Portland last November. According to Thomson, the primary criterion is sound quality, though availability and price also affect WEB's decision. Ultimately, WEB tries to choose musicians that fit in with the laid-back atmosphere of the Bistro and the Willamette campus.

"I really like playing for college students because they're at the age that music plays a huge role in their lives, and they're open to something new and get excited about discovering new artists," Kyler said.

According to Kyler, her sound has been compared with that of Joni Mitchell, Sheryl Crow and Sarah McLachlan. Her music has gained recognition around the country. She was the 2002 winner of the North Carolina Songwriters Competition and won first place in 2003 in the Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Contest's rock / alternative category for "Something So Beautiful." Kyler is currently promoting the release of her third album, "A Flower Grows in Stone."

"Wherever I play I hope to take people on a journey, to put the craziness of life on pause for a moment and lift people above the day to day. My ultimate goal with music is to move people," Kyler said.

"She kind of has a folksy-soulful sound," said senior Diana Leong, co-president of WEB. "She was one of the better ones (at NACA). Cute girl. Good music."

The performance marks a commitment by WEB to continue bringing live music to campus. "The Bistro and WEB have a long history of partnership when it comes to music, like guest artists and open mic nights. The Bistro has a really good management team and is very accommodating," Leong said.

Film Studies: major possibility?

By STEVE FIALA
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They laughed, they cried, they were film studies minors. But soon these movie enthusiasts may find it possible to take their silver screen studies to a new level as film studies majors.

"There have not been very many film programs around for a lot of years. It's only been very recently that there was any interest in film," film studies Professor Kenneth Nolley said. "People didn't take film as seriously as literature and other areas of study, but now they recognize its value."

Currently, a film studies minor takes five courses and is expected to progress from introductory level classes to a more advanced film curriculum. According to senior Mike Ross, beginning minors are given a first-class glimpse into the realm of film with the History of Cinemas classes, where students cover the scope of big screen history; one that covers mainstream cinema, and the other with material that is more avant-garde.

"You learn things about different directors in different countries and different techniques that directors use to convey their message to the audience," senior Israel Arauz said. "Basically you learn there's a lot more to film than just pure entertainment. You learn to read a piece and study it as if it were a poem or sculpture."

Although Nolley feels that a minor in the subject is sufficient for students who are interested in pursuing film studies in the future, he is currently holding out for the possibility of a subject major in the future. According to Nolley, a major in film studies would include more courses, more choices and more "layers" of the motion picture industry to explore.

Even though Nolley is considering the pursuit of an official film studies major, students have succeeded in working with the university to major in film studies outside of the traditional structure. One such student is junior Jeff Extine, who went through the process of obtaining an adviser, proposing an academic plan to the faculty board, writing about why he wants to pursue a film studies major and he now plans to take ten credits in the area.

The process is similar for Nolley, who has to develop a major that comes from and goes through the faculty, and has an academic program that the faculty and the dean approve. If the major passes the University gauntlet, Nolley is certain that it will achieve popularity.

LUCAS HERNANDEZ

Professor Ken Nolley discusses "The Grand Illusion," directed by Jean Renoir, with his History of Cinema I class.

Talk of the Millstream

ISALY JUDD & AMY RATHKE
news editors

Rolling suitcases. Once the icon of the jet-setting traveler, these tools of efficiency have had an increasing presence on college campuses everywhere for the past several years.

The rolling suitcase is found more commonly across the street at the Law School than it is here at the CLA, but undergrads find the backpack-on-wheels a handy item as well.

The reason for its prominence, griped one law student, is that "we commonly have to keep with us two or three big textbooks and our laptops at all times." That's a lot of weight to carry around in the messenger bags that are so popular among the youthful students on this side of the street.

A law student trying to carry around his or her books in a messenger bag could become permanently disfigured before their three-year law program is up. Let's face it--hunchbacked lawyers are definitely less convincing.

So, the natural solution is to take the weight off the shoulders and put it in a suitcase.

This common law student dilemma does not however explain the recent increase in the rolling suitcases this side of Winter Street. As caring members of the Willamette campus we would like to address this issue in hopes that we'll all think a little more intently about the way we take our books to class.

Before you rush out and get yourself a rolling book bag, there are a few things we'd like you to take into consideration.

#1: You will be tying into an image of older, more responsible, "adult" human beings. Are you ready for this kind of maturity?

#2: People may smirk at, and even mock you. Even if you have a legitimate reason for carrying your gear in a suitcase, like a back injury, many strapping young athletes with their multiple Nalgene bottles and backpacks big enough for a four-day expedition will have a hard time understanding your choice.

#3: While your comrades in the aforementioned "extreme" backpacks are free to scale the outside of Gatke in a single bound, you will be forced to remain on the ground, unless there is an elevator or a ramp for you to use to get to your destination.

So, should rolling backpacks continue on their way to becoming a campus institution, or should they be sent back to the airport? Are they worth the trouble, on a campus that encompasses two city blocks? This isn't the C-gate at PDX, folks. Giving up one's mobility and becoming elevator-bound just seems like too much of a hassle to us.

Univesrity honored as top peace corps campus

By ISALY JUDD
ijudd@willamette.edu

Since the 1961 inception of the Peace Corps, more than 170,000 volunteers have served in 137 countries across the globe.

Over the years, Willamette has produced its share of Peace Corps volunteers, boasting 238 participants since the birth of the program. On Mar. 2, the Peace Corps will honor Willamette for its continued tradition of worldwide service.

University President M. Lee Pelton is scheduled to accept a plaque from the organization in recognition of Willamette as on of the top Peace Corps volunteer producing universities in the nation.

"It is an extraordinary honor that we are being so recognized and I am really pleased that President Pelton, Dean Long and others are going to be in attendance," Director of Career Services Nancy Norton said.

In 2003, Willamette ranked thirteenth among small schools in the number of alumni currently serving in the Peace Corps with 21 volunteers. Willamette is also the third highest producer of Peace Corps volunteers in the state of Oregon. The University of Oregon and Oregon State University are the only schools with more alumni currently serving in the corps.

> "It is an extraordinary honor that we are being so recognized and I am really pleased that President Pelton, Dean Long and others are going to be in attendance."
>
> NANCY NORTON
> director of career services

Recent Willamette graduates are now serving in such diverse areas as environmental education in Nepal, youth development in Jamaica and English education in Namibia.

"Somehow Willamette students, even if they weren't when they first got here, become our motto," Norton said.

Activism in the Peace Corps has long been a priority for many Willamette graduates. Norton reported that, since her arrival at Willamette 16 years ago, she has helped students through the application process every year.

Despite the popularity of the program, involvement in the Peace Corps is a substantial commitment. Students interested in serving in the corps undergo an application and interviewing process to determine their acceptance and placement in the program. If accepted, students are dispersed around the world for a two-year commitment in one of 71 struggling nations that currently utilize the corps.

Nancy Norton

"The Peace Corps offers great possibilities, but you also have to do a lot on your own. There is not a lot of hand-holding," TIUA associate professor Steve Linke said.

He spent two years, from 1976 to 1978 in South Korea teaching in a university, which helped prepare him for his graduate studies in English as a second language. Linke also valued the program for its ability to introduce participants to new cultures and languages.

"Americans need to see the world from outside of America. People have a certain perception here that is tempered by the culture and politics."

In addition to the experiences gained while over seas, Norton believes that serving in the Peace Corps is extremely helpful later in life as volunteers return from abroad to enter the work force or go on to graduate school.

"All graduate programs will probably look at serving in the Peace Corps and bump you to the top of the heap," she said.

Willamette law student Matt Devore served in the Peace Corps from 1999-2001. Devore was stationed in The Gambia in West Africa where he focused primarily on teaching agriculture and forestry skills. He also found the corps to be an excellent opportunity to give back before entering graduate school.

"I was able to put my education to use by evaluating each new situation to see how I could be the most help," Devore said. "It taught me that the American way of life is just one option."

✔ *Willamette ranked thirteenth among small schools in the number of alumni currently serving in the Peace Corps with 21 volunteers*

✔ *Willamette has produced 238 since the birth of the programin 1961*

Big lessons from little

Continued from page 1

Muth even worked at Richmond more than the hours required of her. "I'm not sure how much of an impact we had, but we had a lot of fun, there was a lot of laughing," she said.

According to Hoover, "it is a nation-wide rising academic trend. About ten years ago it was odd, but now there are some schools that require their students to take service-learning courses."

> "Students who are mentored are 53 percent less likely to quit school and 46 percent less likely to use illegal drugs."
>
> DEBBIE DONALDSON
> administrator

At Willamette there have been as many as eight to ten service learning courses offered in a semester. According to senior David Baumer, though, if students want to sign up for such courses next semester, it may be hard to tell which courses are part of the service-learning program.

Baumer took the service-learning course Latin American Cultures last semester, and wasn't aware that it would be service-oriented.

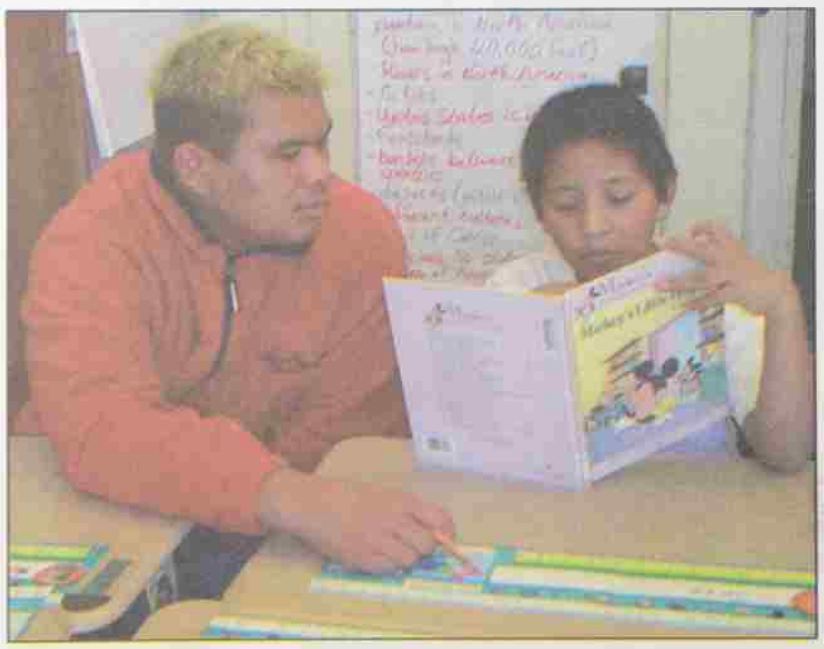
"We weren't told until the first day of class that we would be volunteering," he said. He was, however, pleased to serve. Instead of just hoping, students should talk with the professor teaching the course to find out if it is a service-learning course.

Bush Mentor Club

The Willamette Bush Mentor Club provides information for Willamette students who want to volunteer outside of class. Senior Brenna Fischer, the leader of the group, puts interested Willamette students in contact with coordinators at both Bush and Richmond Elementary.

Fischer has generally been pleased with the way the coordinators at the schools help Willamette students get into volunteering.

"They take quite a bit of info on what you are interested in. I wanted to work with fourth graders, and I do," she said.



JULIE TOMMELEIN

Senior Keith Bondaug helps teach a student to read at an elementary school in Salem. Willamette typically offer 8-10 service learning courses, where students are required to spend some of their time in the classroom.

Fischer thinks that volunteers definitely can positively affect students.

"Last week, they were so excited to tell us what they'd read," Fischer said. Then she added, with a smile, "there's a lot more energy when volunteers are there."

The one thing she suggests to Willamette students who want to volunteer is to "stay involved for a longer period of time, enough to see that you're influencing something."

Community Outreach Program

Senior Leslie Duling of Willamette's Community Outreach Program has just recently created a new program to hook Willamette students up with middle school students who need to be mentored.

"I'm working with a head member (Debbie Donaldson) of the Salem-Keizer school district," Duling said.

She has made contacts that will enable her to send mentors to Houck, Stephen's, Parrish, and Waldo Middle Schools.

Donaldson, who sends mentors to all four middle schools, said "we are hoping we can find mentors for kids who need guidance.

A lot of the kids are from low income homes, and often they don't have good role models ... we still need more mentors for them!"

She is passionate about finding mentors because she believes they can positively affect at-risk students.

"Students who are mentored are 53 percent less likely to quit school and 46 percent less likely to use illegal drugs," Donaldson said.

Duling is a little worried though, "it might be hard to get started because the semester is getting busy and there are so many other programs happening.

" Still, she hopes that this will become a permanent program for many Willamette students.

The School of Education

Students at Willamette's School of Education naturally spend some time in local schools, but according to Professor Karen Hamlin, director of the school, their impact is quite profound.

"Their first semester, our students spend about half of their time in classrooms, and by their second semester they are spending eighty to ninety percent of their time in classrooms," Hamlin said.

In the second semester, she said, "most students are fully responsible for teaching about three classes for the entire semester."

School of Education student Lorie Bickford also believes that they positively affect Salem schools.

She said that supervising teachers at North Salem High School have told her that "having a student teacher is revitalizing. It gets them excited about teaching again."

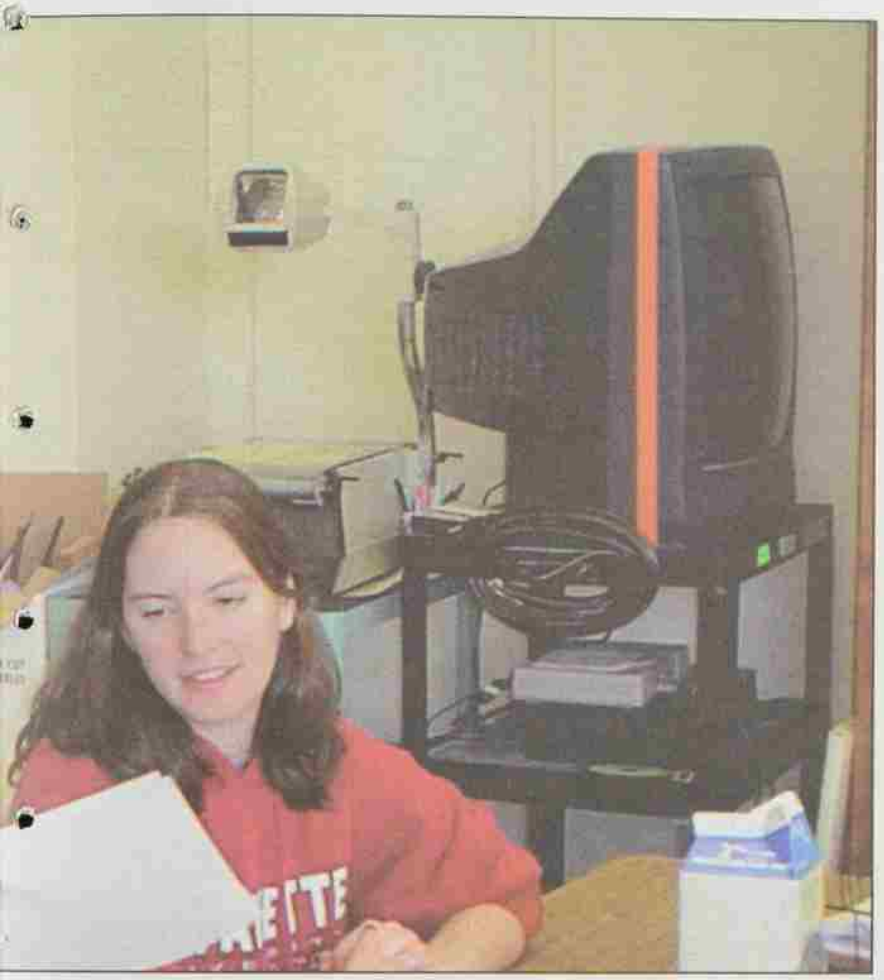
Carey McFaddin, a first year MAT student, said that she can also see a positive influence from her time at Waldo Middle school.

Senior Miranda Scolani takes instruction from a teacher a[illegible] academic programs, clubs, and on a volunterr basis. This is a t[illegible] ing more hands-on involvement in the surrounding commun

Many Willamette grads go to work in area schools.

Classes taught include the basic subjects and technology, cooking, and other courses to match student interest.

e students



JULIE TOMMELEIN

Salem school. Willamette students work in Salem-Keizer schools through rend that is catching on in universities across the nation. Schools are offer- ities as a part of their class and grading requirements.

She has seen "students improve in their grades and knowledge ... yet the most wonderful impact that I have seen is to watch the students grow into wonderful, kind, caring human beings," McFaddin said.

> "The most wonderful impact that I have seen is to watch the students grow into wonderful, kind, caring human beings."
>
> CAREY MCFADDIN
> MAT student

Hamlin said that one of the reasons the student teachers have such a positive impact is "because they bring in new ideas, they often put an emphasis on technology and may have skills the teachers don't."

To pursue that end more fully, several Willamette School of Education students have grants to investigate how to effectively integrate technology into the classroom.

Bickford, a recipient of one of these grants, is developing a program in which foreign language students in Salem can communicate with students in other countries.

"The idea is to use the Internet and a digital camera to connect up with kids from different cultures," she said.

Hamlin doesn't know exactly how many former graduates stay in the area to teach, but she thinks a significant number do.

"As I walk down the halls of Salem-Keizer schools, I see a lot of our former graduates teaching," she said.

However, Hamlin acknowledged that "a lot of graduates also choose to go elsewhere simply because they can get jobs elsewhere."

Undergrads reach out in professional ways

By EMILY SIMPSON
esimpson@willmette.edu

Junior Craig Webster likes to work with kids because "kids have different perspectives on everything ... I like having the tables turned on me."

Whether it is because they like to have the tables turned on them, or for other reasons, quite a few Willamette students volunteer in local schools. If asked, the majority of student teachers will be full of stories and opinions about their experiences with kids.

Sophomores Torey Jovick and Megan Flora, who have started an after-school cooking class at Parrish Middle School, are examples of such students. On their first day of class, they asked what the students had eaten for dinner the previous night.

To their surprise, they found that more than half the class hadn't eaten dinner at all. "What do you say to that, that I had all these options in Goudy, and threw away half my food?" Jovick asked with frustration.

"Parrish is a very impoverished school. The majority of the students are on free or reduced lunches," Flora said. Jovick and Flora want to give the students a knowledge of nutrition, and, as Flora said, "enable them to make snacks – if they have the materials – that are better than a McDonald's hamburger."

Both Jovick and Flora feel that this program is making a difference; the first day of class, forty students showed up. "They're really interested and want the recipes to try them at home," Flora said.

They are, however, concerned about what will happen after they finish the program. "There is definite interest for more classes," Flora said.

But, as Jovick said, "They really need more people to mentor and to volunteer."

Senior Valerie Cash has taken a different approach to investing herself in the lives of the children in Salem schools. She has worked in several classrooms both through Willamette classes, and on her own.

She remembered one particular day when her eyes were opened to the challenges of educating struggling students in large classroom settings. She had been working with one student in math who was far behind and making little progress.

"We sat down to do a math problem, and she couldn't do it. She started crying, and when I tried to talk to her, she said to me, 'Teacher, I'm not good.' And then I started to cry, and I told her that she is good. She can write '5' and 'M,' and that's good."

Cash is passionate about seeing people invest themselves in children's lives, but she isn't entirely satisfied with the way Willamette students often volunteer in the schools. She worries about their commitment. "As a Willamette student, the way the world works, it doesn't matter if you miss a meeting: life goes on. But with young students, it makes a big difference. They need a consistent commitment to build relationships."

Like Cash, Junior Rob Betscher has also invested a lot of his time in children. His freshman year, he began volunteering at Bush Elementary and now he mentors a student after school.

The mentoring program is "for students with attitude problems, who get in trouble more," Betscher said. The volunteers and students hang out together once a week to do something fun as a reward for good behavior.

If the kids misbehave, they don't get to spend time with their mentor that week. "Usually, they're really upset they don't get to do anything," Betscher said.

He thinks that the volunteers definitely make an impact on the kids. "You can see changes in the way they respond to people, even if you just do it for a semester," he said.

Senior Kim Miller, who did an internship at Walker Middle School's counseling office, felt a little bit of frustration because she could only be there for a short time. "It was kind of hard to leave, to not see how some things would be resolved," she said.

Even so, describing a day when she got to listen to one girl's anger over being bullied, she said that she felt like she had at least a little bit of a positive impact. "Finally, she got up and wrapped her arms around me and gave me a huge hug. She just stayed there. I wasn't sure if I was breaking some code of conduct. Then she stood up and said 'Thank you, I'm ready to go back to choir now.'"

Laurie Baird, the volunteer coordinator at Parrish Middle School, emphasized that Willamette student volunteers do have a definite impact on the children they work with.

"Once Willamette students are here and trained, they become an integral part of the classroom. Teachers rely on them a lot."

According to Baird, Willamette students show Parrish students "a whole new language. They open up a whole new world. They show them that there is more to do than to just get a fast food job."

At the same time, Baird stressed that Willamette students need to be consistent.

"Willamette students have good intentions; follow-through is another thing," she said.

Still, she hopes that more Willamette students will try it out. "There is always a need here – take a chance," she said.

OPINION

Good message lost to vulgarity

JOHN SWANSON

On Saturday night, I finally got my chance to see what all the commotion was about.

One of my favorite radio hosts said two weeks ago that "The Vagina Monologues" is a pro-lesbian, pro-pedophile performance. We were flooded with shocking advertisements across campus, as pictures of vaginas were posted in random locations, attempting to interest people to attend.

I read about the organization that refused to accept proceeds from the monologues, and with all this in mind I knew that I was in for a long night. I knew the monologues would utterly disgust me with messages encouraging same-sex relationships and immorality. Why did I go? Well, I've always been considered an open-minded person. I've always analyzed both sides of the coin. So at 11 p.m., I got to see what I was waiting for.

It began with a clear message: That the intent of the monologues was to raise awareness towards domestic violence and inequalities that women have endured (with a little sexual humor.) Fair enough.

For the most part, it was not immoral, and it was certainly not inappropriate. These talented actresses were in fact speaking about real problems and making valid claims.

As the performance progressed, I became increasingly intrigued at the effectiveness of the methods used by the actresses to bring about their messages.

For the most part, it was not immoral, and it was certainly not inappropriate. These talented actresses were in fact speaking about real problems and making valid claims. It is totally relevant to talk about the struggles and hardships of women in third world countries, and totally relevant to narrate a domestic abuse scene in order to maximize the message's effectiveness.

It's a shame that in order to express real problems concerning women's hardships, one must advertise crudely and include such tasteless material.

A few acts did cause me to raise my eyebrows, however. When the scene that expressed a girl's sexual enlightenment happened, and she narrated how she was the playmate of another woman ten years older than her, I shook my head.

I was troubled when the chorus held up dildos, and I cringed at the "cunt chant." What was unfortunate about the whole performance was how such shocking material stole the spotlight from what was truly valuable about the monologues.

It's a shame that in order to express real problems concerning women's hardships, one must advertise crudely and include such tasteless material.

I applaud the monologues, because they addressed some crucial issues and made them either humorous or dramatic. I simply wish that what was good could not have been overshadowed by what was crude.

For those that could not attend, you were deprived of an excellent production. If you attend in the future, be sure that you go for the message, and not for the shock value. You'll find yourself more enlightened that way.

John Swanson is a freshman in the College of Liberal Arts. He can be reached at <jswanson>.

Is Mickey getting sold out?

JEFF EXTINE

Last week, it hit the news that Comcast was launching a bid to buy Disney.

If successful, Comcast would become the world's biggest media company. The prospect of this uber-corporation made investors scream like teenyboppers at a Justin Timberlake concert. Me?

First off, I realized that Bill Gates could flat out buy Disney and still have enough pocket change left over to still be ridiculously rich.

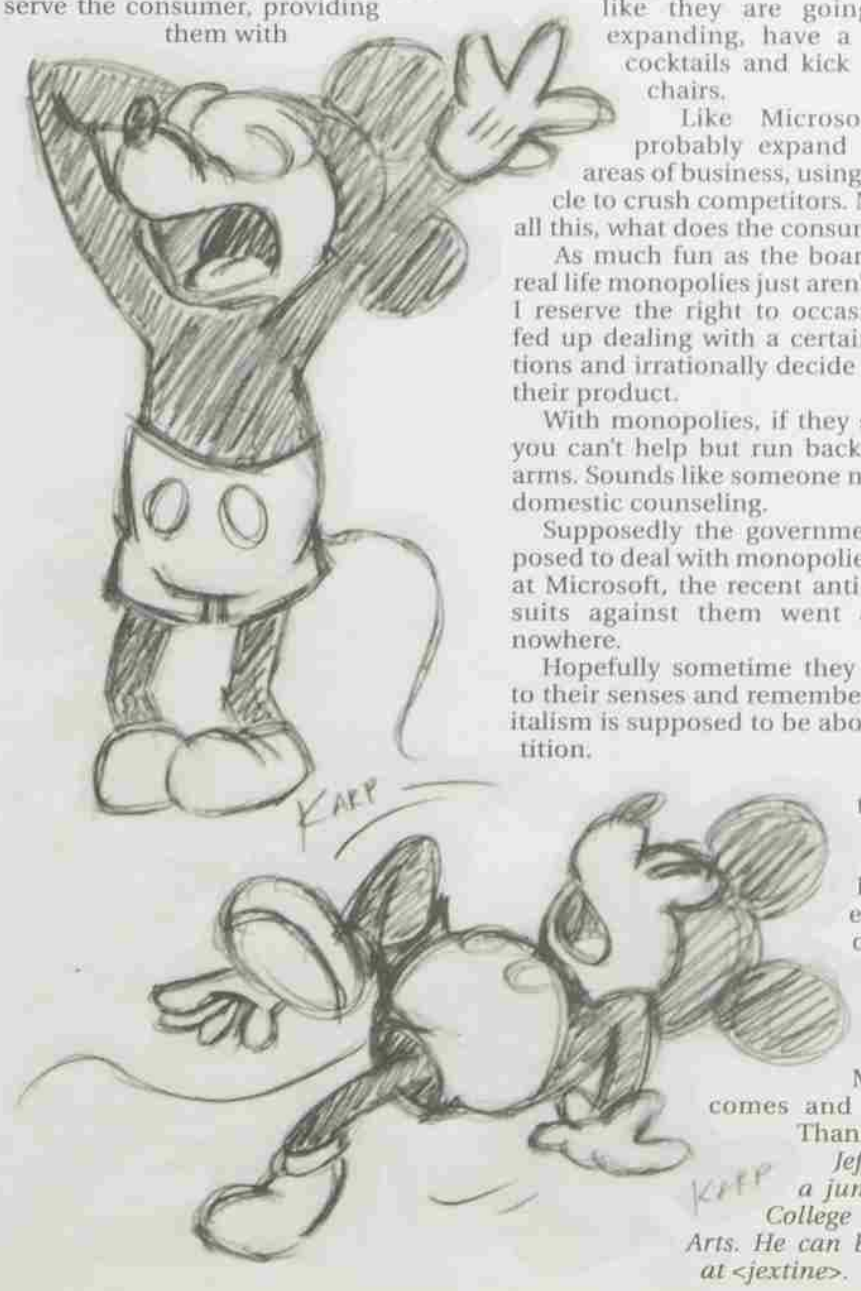
But that's beside the point. After getting past that, I pondered over exactly what the goals of a big corporation are in a capitalist society.

At first, I hoped, quite ignorantly, that corporations existed simply to serve the consumer, providing them with services and working to keep them satisfied. I mean, if AOL and Time-Warner decided to merge in order to better provide chat rooms for anonymous cyber sex encounters, that's cool.

But in reality, all these corporations, with their fancy press releases, really are just like the movie monster The Blob, except we can't get rid of them with a convenient plot device.

They are just gonna keep eating everything in their sights. I mean seriously, where does the good capitalist CEO stop until their company runs the world?

Once Comcast has become the world's biggest media company, it's not like they are going to stop expanding, have a couple of cocktails and kick it on lawn chairs.



Like Microsoft, they'll probably expand into other areas of business, using their muscle to crush competitors. Now, out of all this, what does the consumer get?

As much fun as the board game is, real life monopolies just aren't that cool. I reserve the right to occasionally get fed up dealing with a certain corporations and irrationally decide not to buy their product.

With monopolies, if they screw you, you can't help but run back into their arms. Sounds like someone needs some domestic counseling.

Supposedly the government is supposed to deal with monopolies, but look at Microsoft, the recent anti-trust lawsuits against them went absolutely nowhere.

Hopefully sometime they will come to their senses and remember that capitalism is supposed to be about competition.

Until then, corporations will just keep on eating each other up until Steve McQueen comes and saves us. Thank God.

Jeff Extine is a junior in the College of Liberal Arts. He can be reached at <jextine>.

EDITORIAL

Prospects for future clubs good under endowment plan

The endowment measure, if approved, will be up for vote in April.

ASWU is proposing to funnel 2.5 percent of student fees into an endowment.

ASWU has the opportunity to diversify into more than a bank.

Pending approval at this week's senate meeting, a constitutional amendment will appear this April as a referendum on the officer elections ballot for next year. The vote for future student leaders and the amendment is almost one and the same.

And rightly so, for with this amendment, ASWU is making its bid for a more influential future, a higher campus profile, more prestige as a campus institution, and, put simply, for more power. Well, good for them.

Some might feel a little underwhelmed when this project smells like similar ASWU projects; more like a beefcake version of the Vision Grant than something new.

On the contrary, there's no fault to be found in saving up a little. It's hard to begrudge ASWU for withholding the 2.5 percent of student money beyond a poor-sport, communal puckering and pouting at the prospect of current funds deferred to the fund.

It seems that the student government learned the lesson the state of Oregon hasn't: money in the bank is always a good idea.

The amendment is perfectly reasonable and well written. The endowment eventually, around 2010, will allow ASWU to inject triennially a chunk of change – to the tune of $5,000 – wherever and to whomever they wish.

The resolution's language is restrictive in the terms of each withdrawal and purposely ambiguous, even footloose, on the possible uses: "Lu'au stage" this, "ASWU sound equipment" that.

Preset conditions for these handouts demand that the beneficiary has a long-term investment in the campus in mind. So don't plan any big parties.

V.P. of the Executive Kate Rykken says the entire grant process falls under the jurisdiction of future senates.

This way, the dead (the graduating classes between now and then) won't legislate for the future generations of Willamette students. Let them decide how to spend the savings given future needs.

Ship-shape, this sounds all well and good – sign us up!

Half a dozen years from now, you can come back and see a campus aviary, a sheltered bike rack, or a poor man's half-pipe.

No doubt, this is a good idea. We could even expand those tunnels that everyone says run underneath the school.

Whether or not this was the right focus for student government given ASWU's current situation is probably the more interesting question. Willamette's student government already functions as a bank, or a grant foundation, handing out cash as they see fit. To use a financial term, they need to diversify.

The course of ASWU's reform to this point in the year has been subtle and substantive – a little more professionalism in the senate meetings, a little more visibility through public service announcements.

Last semester, they admirably held their own in the tussle over the dean search, fulfilling their mandate of student advocate with enough stubbornness to win points on principle if not an actual reversal on the administration's decision.

The student government is building its image – becoming more than a bank – and it's clear that ASWU is trying hard to do so, and this endowment is a good addition to that effort.

That said, they only have a little bit more time to hop on the residential commons bandwagon. ASWU is involved on an individual level, with members of the senate on various committees, but they need to get involved on the institutional level.

ASWU can then truly acquire the influence and presence on campus that they rightly seek.

ASWU will need to dish itself up a bigger slice of the pie, elbow some room for itself as an institution, not just the students in general, and ASWU is definitely taking a step in that direction. We look forward to seeing more progress in this endeavor.

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Coup d'Coop

EVAN COOPER

That's right, I get paid even if I don't write anything, as long as people send in beaucoup letters to the editor.

So please, do me a favor and keep it up, and I'll kick it on my lawn chair margaritaville-style up in the Collegian office berating my coworkers for not working hard enough. I love my job.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Voice of the Silent WU Majority — Hopefully

First Disappointment: "Vagina Monologues" are supported at WU. If you're trying to elevate the condition of women, Monologuers, can I recommend that you begin by respecting her and her body by changing your name?

Second Disappointment: Condoms are sold at booths in the Putnam building. What about a booth advocating abstinence until marriage instead, complete with supporting statistics of health and happiness advocating chastity?

Third Disappointment: A student proclaims that legalizing Gay Marriage in Massachusetts was the "correct" thing to. What is the moral condition of our country if we believe that gay marriage will have no negative consequences in our society?

Fourth Disappointment: A student's letter in support of racial equality is trodden by WU Staff. People of character understand that policies of preference are wrong. The "underprivileged" don't need crutches or canned coddling from god-playing academicians, they need respect.

—Shaun Hansen,
LAW student

Although it claims to be steeped in objectivity, Mary Ann Albright's article concerning the relationship between S.H.E. (Strength, Health, and Equality) and the Mid-Valley Women's Crisis Center is inflammatory and negative — creating the image of tension where none exists. Mid-Valley and S.H.E. have a solid and friendly understanding on this issue, born shortly after Willamette's first showing of the Monologues in 2001. S.H.E. is saddened by MVWC's decision not to accept VM proceeds and wishes their leadership would reconsider, but we do not in any way condemn them for their decision or see it as hostile.

I recently spoke with Jayne Downing-Burnett (MVWC director) on the phone to confirm that our organizations have a mutual respect for one another and a healthy professional relationship. In the future I would urge the Collegian to pursue aspects of the Vagina Monologues that are actually salient, relevant issues, such as the opinions/functions of our current beneficiaries (The Liberty House and Planned Parenthood) or the potential for positive community interaction that the Monologues create.

—Stephanie J. Hartford
S.H.E. Co-Director

See details on page 2, "Inside the Collegian"

SPORTS

Boys beat George Fox, fall to L&C

By ALEX COMPTON
acompton@willamette.edu

Friday night's game against George Fox was one of scoring excellence for the Bearcats, with four players scoring in the double digits.

Future Schedule:

Feb. 20 at Puget Sound

Feb. 21 at Pacific Lutheran

Feb. 24 vs. Pacific at home

Feb. 27 vs. Linfield at home

The Willamette Men's Basketball team took on two NWC teams this past weekend to try and hold on to their second place position in the conference. The Bearcats' first game against the Bruins of George Fox ended in triumph and increased their win total to 9 games. However, a close contest against Lewis and Clark ended in a disappointing loss as a last-second three pointer downed the Bearcats and brought their conference record to 9-3.

Senior forward Miles Sandgathe led the team with 20 points. Sandgathe netted two consecutive three-pointers, and eight points from freshman Josh Erickson allowed the Bearcats to gain a comfortable 12-point lead at halftime.

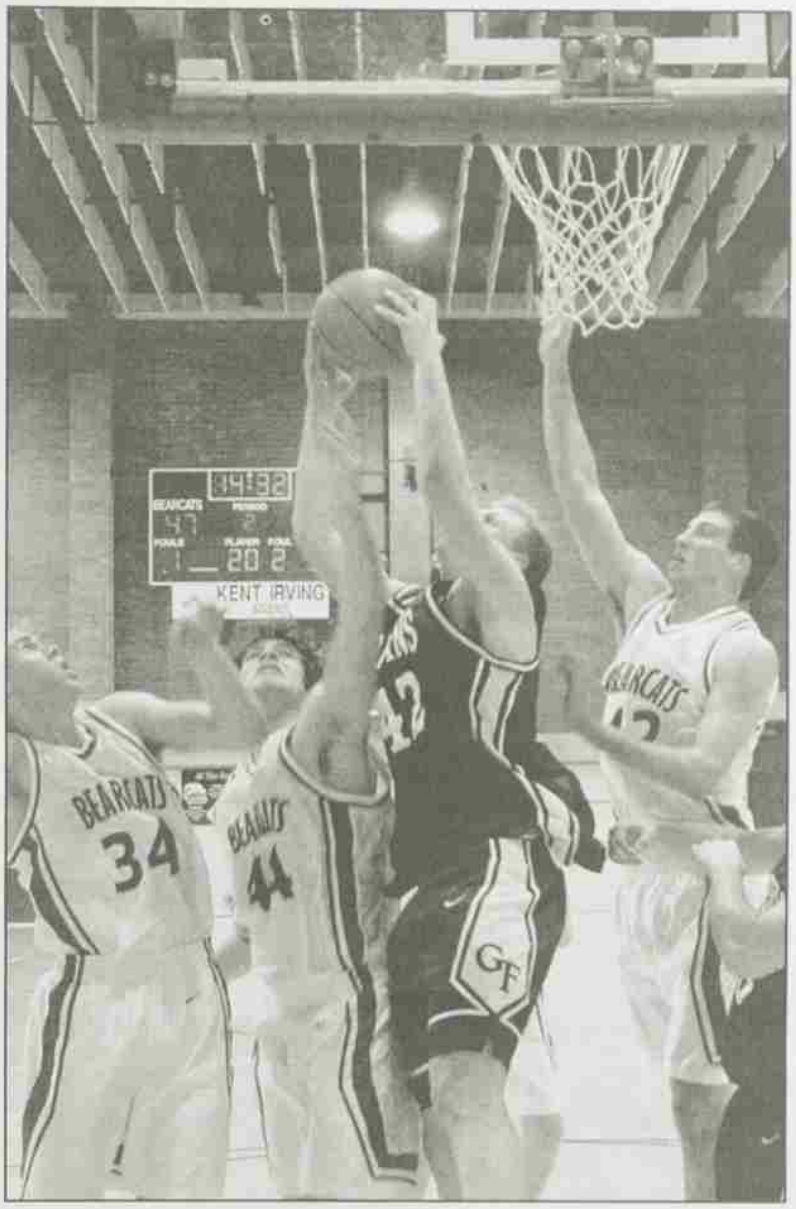
In the second half, junior Harold Sublett Jr. denied continued Bruin aggression as he drained his lone field goal of the night and proceeded to snatch an offensive rebound to assist sophomore John Olinger with a jump shot.

With three minutes to play, the Bearcats were up by 11 points. The Bruins were only able to come up with three points as the buzzer sounded, leaving the final score 75-67 in the favor of the Bearcats.

Olinger was credited with 17 points on the night, while Erickson and senior David Force tallied 14 apiece. Sublett Jr. and Force dominated the boards with five rebounds each.

"The key ... was that we had a balanced team effort throughout the game. Josh Erickson came in off the bench and gave us a big lift in that ball game and we were able to knock down open shots in the second half and hold on for the victory," Force said.

The Bearcats traveled to Portland the following day to face the Lewis and Clark Pioneers (5-5 NWC) in a match anticipated to become a victory for Willamette.



LUCAS HERNANDEZ

Seniors David Force and Miles Sandgathe and sophomore Brennan Garrelts battle for a rebound in Friday's win over the Bruins.

The Pioneers turned out to be more comparable competitors than expected. Lewis and Clark held an astonishing 17 point lead at the end of the first half by the hands of John Mietus, who scored 20 points and 9 rebounds in the first half alone.

A Willamette comeback ensued as Sublett guided the squad with 16 points and 11 rebounds. Garrelts followed closely with 14 points and 6 boards while Force continued his high scoring streak with ten points and seven assists.

After tying the game with 28 seconds remaining the second half, the tables had seemingly turned in the direction of the Bearcats.

However, with one second left on the clock, Danny Winchester of Lewis and Clark put up a jumper from beyond the arc to win the game. Willamette's dismal three-point percentage (2 for 20) was a contributing factor to the 61-58 loss. Regardless of the defeat, Willamette still holds the second place position under the top University of Puget Sound.

Only 4 games remain in the regular season. "The next 4 games all serve as playoff-type games for us," Olinger said. "We are going to get back to work this week and get ready to play first place UPS on Friday night. We have to get past what happened on Saturday night and look forward, at this point we have no room to feel sorry for ourselves or worry about the past."

Chalk Talk

BEARCAT WOMEN DROP TWO

The Willamette University women's basketball team lost two games over the weekend. The Bearcats fell to George Fox at home Friday night by a score of 58-84. Four Bearcats scored in double figures, led by sophomore center Megan Scheelar's 16 points. Saturday night, Willamette lost to the Pioneers of Lewis & Clark 79-84, in overtime.

The game was the Bearcats' closest game in league play this year. Senior guard and Honorable Mention NWC Player of the Week Simmie Muth scored 22 points, while freshman guard Brianne King added 20. The five-point defeat was a marked improvement over the last meeting between the Bearcats and the Pioneers, a 55-74 defeat at home on January 17.

STEPHENSON NAMED MALE SWIM COACH OF THE YEAR

Bearcat head swimming coach Al Stephenson was named Northwest Conference Male Swimming Coach of the Year after guiding the Bearcat men to a fifth-place showing at the NWC Championships this weekend.

Stephenson just completed his sixth year as head coach of the Bearcats, following a long stint as an assistant. The Bearcats' fifth-place finish is the second-best effort in Stephenson's tenure.

WU INTRAMURALS TO SPONSOR KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

The Willamette University Intramural Sports program will be sponsoring a kickball tournament on Saturday. Teams of eight players will play in a five-team tournament, starting at 11 a.m.

Sign-up sheets can be found in the Student Activities Center on the second floor of the University Center, and must be turned in by 5 p.m. tomorrow. Registration is limited to the first five teams.

REVIEWS

"Monster" shows truth behind killer

Charlize Theron steps out of her normal "hot chick" role to star as a disturbed prostitute/serial killers.

By STEVE DUMAN
sduman@willamette.edu

THE REEL DEAL

"Monster" is sad.

I went to it as any casual observer might: with an average disposition, not necessarily knowing what to expect. I came home and crawled into a cold bath tub with all my clothes on and wept myself to sleep.

"Monster" is making headlines due to the performance of Charlize Theron, the ordinarily hot actress from films like "The Italian Job" and the Kevin Bacon classic "Trapped." Theron's performance is everything everyone claims, and it is at the heart of the aforesaid sadness.

She plays Aileen Wuornos, a prostitute in Florida who became a serial killer and was caught, tried and then executed in 2002. Though Theron traditionally plays the part of the mind-blowingly attractive blonde, "Monster" finds her with ratty hair, slightly overweight, and with imperfect teeth. In essence, she no longer looks like a "Charlize."

The film also features Christina Ricci, an actress I wouldn't necessarily wish upon any movie. However, she does very well in "Monster," portraying Wuornos' love interest Selby. Also featured is Bruce Dern.

He plays a Vietnam vet and Wuornos' only real friend in the world. The soldier's way saves the day.

Theron grasps the role with both hands, and everything she does – even her uncomfortable foot shift while standing – is incredibly convincing. Compared to Theron's other roles, it is amazing to see her naturally portraying a prostitute whose awful experiences drive her to a series of murders.

"Monster" marks the third effort of director Patty Jenkins. Jenkins clearly wanted to tell the complicated human story behind the label assigned to Wuornos as a "serial killer."

And, though Jenkins certainly achieves this goal, it remains difficult to describe this movie as good or bad.

The story is well told, the acting is phenomenal and the emotions are very real. The content, however, is so heavy and draining that the movie becomes really, really depressing.

Compounded with the fact that it is based on a true story, it is without hope and difficult to watch.

MONSTER

Writer/Director: Patty Jenkins

Genre: Crime/Drama

Rated: R

*based on a true story

Of course, this is exactly the point. Wuornos seems without hope, forced into a psychological state no one should ever have to face.

Therefore, the movie is good in respect to telling the story of a real person, but it is not a film I would recommend for a date night – or any other night you want to sleep outside of a cold bath tub.

The story is well told, the acting is phenomenal and the emotionas are very real. The content, however, is so heavy and draining that the movie becomes really, really depressing.

New restaurant is "Muchas" too far away

By DUNCAN ROBERTSON
sadatboy@hotmail.com

FEATURED VENUE

Last Saturday night I did something not uncommon for a Saturday night. I went to Muchas Gracias at 2 a.m. This was not just any Muchas run, however. I went to check out the brand new mega-Muchas that lives south on Commercial. It's really deep; I didn't know Commercial went that far south. I imagined it splitting off into an array of quaint roads that lead to those charmingly marginal towns like Medford or Tillamook.

After the journey, the first thing a Muchas Gracias connoisseur will notice is the size. It's huge: I counted four employees working at two in the morning, and that is simply the perspective from the counter. Behind that half wall it's big enough to hide a whole gaggle of cooks. The seating area (yes, seating area) could fit hundreds of people. Echoes bounced from wall to wall. It was hard to get a count of how many customers were there; small children were running around underfoot playing tag as if in a great forest. They were blissfully unaware of my presence. (Some of the employees bring their children to work, and being that there is such an expanse, let them run amuck. I love Muchas; it is the only fast food restaurant where I would expect small children to be cutting loose at 2 a.m., and for that to be hunky-dory).

If you were to think of the three Muchases in Salem as a family, this one is the huge uncle who lives in another state but organizes the family reunions and makes toasts at weddings.

Most of all, I was curious to see the new sign. Those Muchas executives knew what they are doing with their old signs (A duck? A lemon? That's just uncanny!), but this new restaurant was a big let down in the sign department. This new Muchas has no quirky sign, just a to-the-point square in the familiar shade of yellow-gold like a beacon to the hungry. A bit formal for my taste, really.

Thankfully, the differences stop there. The menu hasn't changed. My usual giant fish burrito and small lemonade were glorious. A bit sloppier than I remember, but yummy all the same. The cabbage was crispy, the tomatoes were red, and the oh-so-luscious-white-liquid that drips over most of the table did just that. The smell lingered on my hands till morning.

However, don't expect it to turn into a new WU hangout. It's really far down there. It may be the farthest south I've been on Commercial, even including that time I got lost trying to find Mr. Formal. It's in a different zip code, so if you want to visit, get a DD, look left, and KEEP GOING.

Girls can build on this year

STEVE ALBAUGH

Cinderella was not on the roster this year for the Willamette girl's basketball team, and it is safe to say that a trip to the big dance of the NWC playoffs is not in their immediate future.

Most people would point to the fact that Willamette lacks a dominant frontcourt, which has been the Achilles heal of the Bearcats' for years now. Senior post Deanna Lund has provided some solid glass cleaning for the 'Cats with just over seven boards a game, but it hasn't been enough, as the team ranks eighth in the conference in rebounding margin.

Defense has also been an issue this season. Because of lack of team rebounding, the 'Cats have given up too many second-chance baskets and high percentage shots for the opposition. In addition to opponents thriving from the field at 40 percent from the field, the Bearcat perimeter D is also suspect with NWC rivals shooting 32 percent from deep.

Despite a less-than-respectable 0-12 record that appears to have them locked up in the cellar position of the NWC, the Bearcats remain resilient with the goal of getting better with every game. At this point in the season, the team looks so bad on paper that the writing center would be hesitant to help out, but we must remember that paper is easily recycled – the hard part is getting a system down that works and works well. The quick answer to the problem would be adding another set of twins to the Bearcat roster or a 6-5 Ukraine center, but that is easier said than done for Head Coach Tom Steers and company.

As it appears that the Bearcat's fairy godmother is on vacation, the prospect of a post season at Willamette is somewhat far fetched. But the 'Cats are in a unique position, one in which they have nothing to lose and everything to gain with four competitive games left conference play.

"We have a solid core of younger players, and they have gotten a lot of valuable experience this season," senior guard Simmie Muth said. This final stretch may be the end of line for a committed group of seniors including Abbie Unick, Sarah O'Brien, Lund, Simmie and her sister Jammie Muth, but this is a starting point for a team laden with young talent.

It is safe to say that Steers will have his work cut out for him in off-season recruiting, especially with his most productive post leaving in Lund. "While our wins haven't showed it, Coach Steers is doing a great job of building our program," Simmie said.

As for Bearcat fans, they will have to remain patient, for as they say, "Cone was not built in a day."

Standings

MEN'S SWIMMING

Whitworth	(6-0)	(9-0)
PLU	(5-1)	(6-1)
Puget Sound	(4-2)	(4-6)
Linfield	(3-3)	(3-3)
Whitman	(2-4)	(3-4)
Willamette	**(1-5)**	**(1-5)**
Lewis & Clark	(0-6)	(0-6)

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Puget Sound	(7-0)	(8-2-1)
Whitworth	(6-1)	(8-2)
Willamette	**(4-3)**	**(7-3)**
Linfield	(4-3)	(5-3)
PLU	(4-3)	(4-4)
Lewis & Clark	(2-5)	(2-5)
Whitman	(1-6)	(2-6)
Pacific	(0-7)	(1-8)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Puget Sound	(11-1)	(19-2)
Willamette	**(9-3)**	**(14-7)**
Linfield	(8-3)	(13-7)
Whitworth	(8-4)	(15-6)
Lewis & Clark	(6-5)	(13-7)
Pacific	(5-6)	(8-11)
Whitman	(2-10)	(6-15)
PLU	(2-10)	(5-16)
George Fox	(2-11)	(6-16)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

PLU	(10-2)	(16-4)
Whitman	(10-2)	(16-5)
Puget Sound	(9-3)	(17-4)
Whitworth	(8-4)	(16-5)
Pacific	(4-7)	(9-9)
Linfield	(4-7)	(7-13)
George Fox	(6-7)	(12-9)
Lewis & Clark	(2-9)	(5-15)
Willamette	**(0-12)**	**(4-17)**

current as of 2/17/04

standings from www.nwcsports.com

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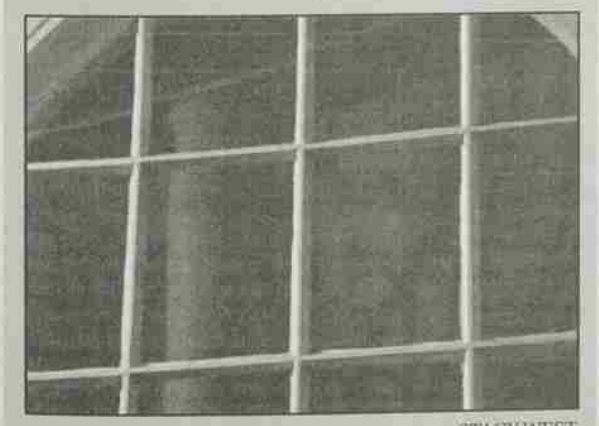

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Sifting through the H2O

At the Northwest Conference swim meet, NWC Coach of the Year Al Stephenson guided the Bearcat women to a third place finish and the men to a fifth place finish.

By BRIAN BEST
bbest@willamette.edu

Last weekend the Willamette Bearcats swimming teams traveled to Federal Way Washington for the NWC swim meet. Both teams were up against stiff competition including Whitworth, University of Puget Sound and Linfield as the primary threats.

Defending champions for the men were the Whitworth Pirates and for the women the UPS Loggers.

The meet started on Friday with early leads by the defending champions with UPS leading the women's team and Whitworth leading the men's.

Highlights from the first night include Nadia Marcovchick placing third in the 500-meter freestyle for women and Eric Swinn placing second in the 50-meter freestyle for men.

At the end of the night the Bearcat women were ranked second behind UPS and the men were third under Whitworth and Linfield.

Sophomore swimmer Amanda Dickson praised the team's performance and ability. "I was very impressed with the poise of the women's team and it was nice to see that all of our hard work paid off," she said.

After a strong first day, Willamette dropped from its second and third place positions after outstanding performances by UPS, Whitworth, Linfield and Pacific Lutheran.

For the women, UPS tripled their lead from 82 points to 246 and won five women's events for the day.

For the men, Whitworth strengthened their lead while UPS, PLU and Linfield all pulled ahead of Willamette.

Willamette sophomore Eric Swinn finished first in the 100-meter backstroke with 51.32 a qualifying time for the national event. "The season went well because it was led by Al Stephenson, who coached on a personal level," Swinn said.

On the third day the UPS loggers pulled even farther ahead in the women's league, amassing 805 points and pulling ahead of second place Whitworth by 368 points.

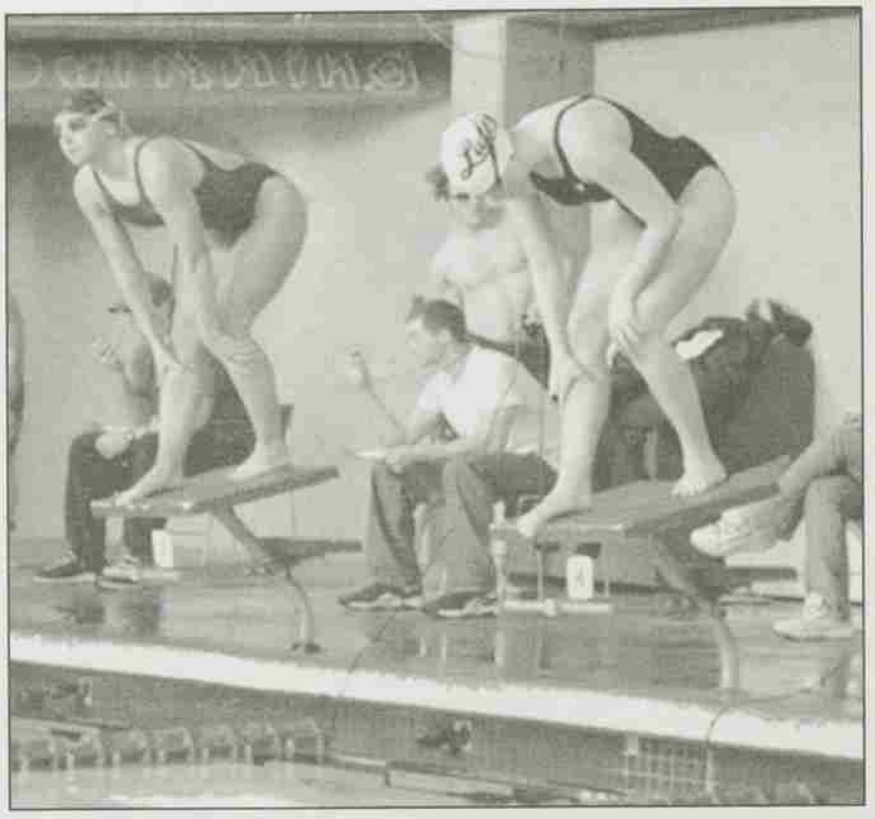
Whitworth dominated the men's league, easily accumulating more points than second place Linfield.

Conference also saw 15 new meet records this year with several by UPS and Whitworth. UPS sophomore Breanna Trygg set a new record for the 200-meter women's backstroke, giving her an automatic qualification to the NCAA Division III national meet.

Junior Michele Rennie of UPS also broke her own meet record in the 200-meter breaststroke and broke the UPS school record.

Willamette's men's coach Al Stephenson was awarded male coach of the year while Whitman coach Jennifer Blomme won female coach of the year and finished under Willamette in both men's and women's.

UPS freshman Alex Borgen won female swimmer of the year, winning the 1650 during the meet and also swimming in the 400 freestyle relay.



ERIC LAM

Senior Nadia Markovchick prepares to launch against PLU earlier this season. The team finished third in the NWC meet this weekend.

Whitworth teammates Rhys Birky and Kevin Wang were awarded co-male swimmers of the year.

Birky swam on the team's first place 400-meter relay team and swimming a 46.85 100-meter race. Wang set a meet record in the 200-meter backstroke and another in the 400-IM.

Finishing overall third in women and fifth in men, the Bearcats had a quality meet and walked away with a coach of the year award.

Leadership and coaching was important in the team's performance. "The team stuck really close together because Owen Williams and Aaron Hasenkamp were models and inspirations for us all," Swinn said.

"I was very impressed with the poise of the women's team."

-Amanda Dickson, sophomore

Baseball wins one of four vs. Point Loma

"Baseball is a game of repetition. You can't have a break in competition like in other sports, you need to play every week to stay competitive and improve."

- Matt Allison, coach

By JEFF MORRIS
jmorris@willmette.edu

After winning the Menlo Tournament in Atherton, California last weekend, Bearcats baseball returned to the Sunshine state on Thursday to play four games against one of the nation's top teams, Point Loma Nazarene University. The team lost three of the games and watched their record abruptly plummet to 4-3.

The early weekend began with a game the Bearcats lost 16-3 while being out-hit by a staggering 20-6 ratio.

Despite Bearcats hitters striking out nine times by the close of the fourth inning, the game remained close until Point Loma put eight runs on the board in the fifth inning to take a 9-0 lead.

The Bearcats did have a promising ninth inning, however, when they knocked home a pair of runs, accounting for the final score. Junior pitcher Chris Murrell took the loss in his first start of the season.

The weekend continued with a late morning double-header on Friday that the teams split 1-1. Point Loma cruised to an easy win in the first game, but the Bearcats finessed the latter game and cruised to victory.

They started the game off with a run, which Point Loma quickly matched; the game continued scorelessly until sophomore Matt Johnson blasted a three run homer to ease Willamette into a 4-1 lead. By the bottom of the seventh, the game had progressed into a 5-4 thriller.

The Bearcats' starting pitcher junior Zach Vande Griend sealed the victory by striking out Point Loma's last two batters, completing his first start of the season, and dealing Point Loma its first loss this year.

The Bearcat's went into the final game of the series looking "to generate a split," said head coach Matt Allison, but the team was unsuccessful.

They lost the game 14-10, but batted sensationally, with five players each getting two hits apiece; also, senior Andrew Bartels hit a pair of three-run homeruns, helping to account for the game's seven long balls. Allison accredited the defeat to the team's three fielding errors, which allowed an eight-run fifth inning: "…if we had taken care of the ball better, we could have won…. We hit the ball real well."

Regardless of the recent losses, optimism surges through Allison and his team. Concerning the consistent trips to California, Allison said. "That has absolutely helped us. Baseball is a game of repetition. You can't have a break in competition like in other sports, you need to play every week to stay competitive and improve."

And improvement is all the team hopes for in the rest of the season, Allison said. "Our goal is to try and get better week to week."

COMICS

Prince Darius by Pat Keys

The WU Side

By Gina Johnson

"I never thought 'just a summer job' could have left the impact on me that it has."

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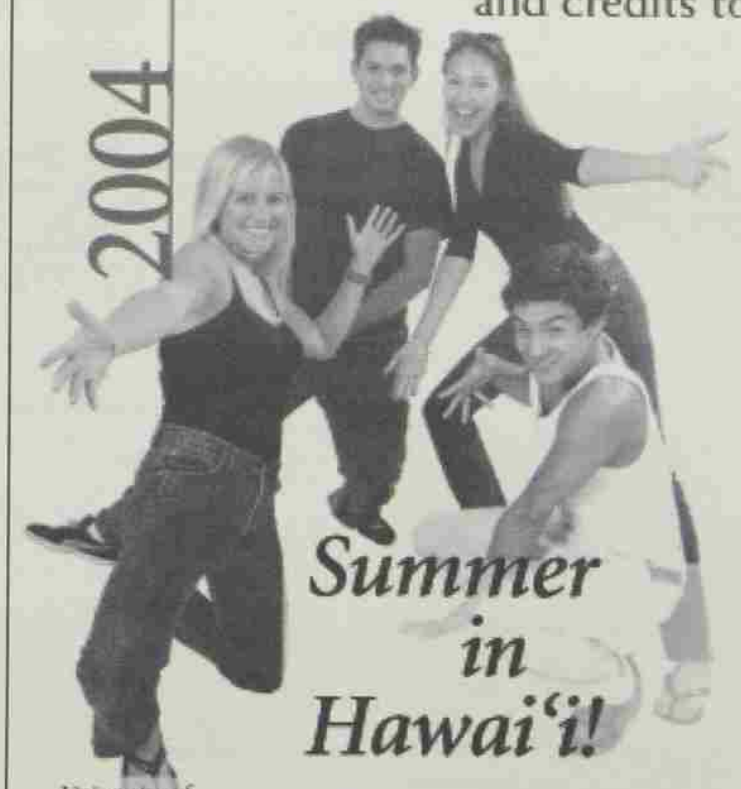

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