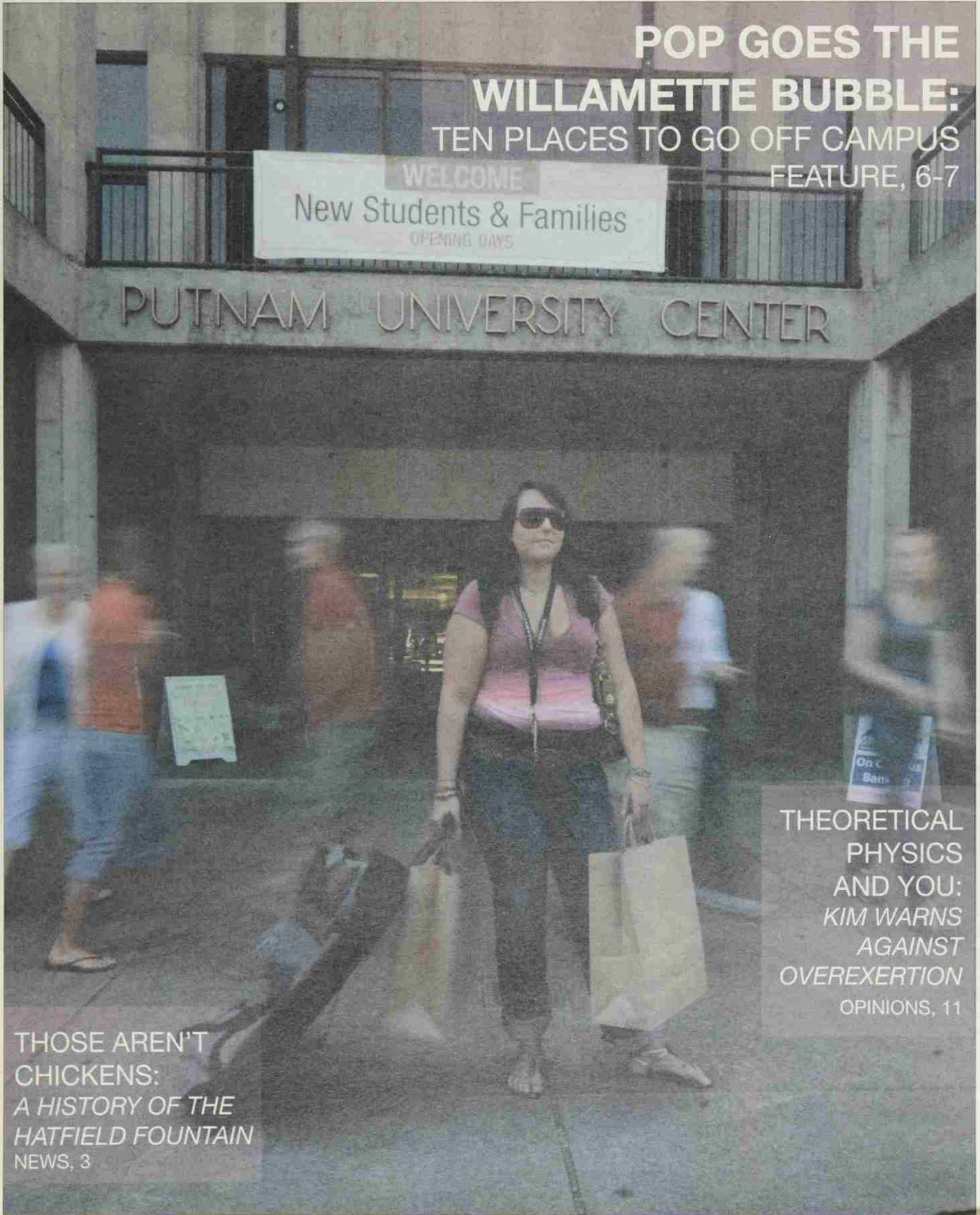


OPENING DAYS ISSUE

# COLLEGIAN

2008-2009 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE WINNER • VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL. CXXI • ISSUE OD • AUGUST 28, 2009



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# Administration shuffled

University experiences multiple transitions since spring

AMBER SMITH  
NEWS EDITOR

Since last spring when former Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Carol Long announced her departure from Willamette to take the position of provost at State University of New York (SUNY) Geneseo, a transitional scramble has occurred within university administration.

In 2008, after 11 years of serving as Dean of Campus Life, Bob Hawkinson announced his retirement. While Hawkinson remains a part of the Willamette community, serving both as a professor of politics and as the Kaneko Commons facilitator this year, his retirement as a dean left a gap to be filled. Last year, the search committee in charge of finding Hawkinson's replacement took interest in David Douglass, who was then serving as the Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. Douglass was offered the position in December of 2008.

Douglass was scheduled to take over as Dean of Campus Life beginning in June 2009. After the announcement of Long's departure in the spring, however, the situation became more complicated.

"That created a little bit of a difficulty for us because I had been serving as associate dean under Dean Long as had the Associate Dean David Goodney from chemistry and [he] was finishing up his term in the dean's office at the same time that I was supposed to be headed over to Campus Life at the same time that Dean Long was supposed to be headed to [SUNY] Geneseo," Douglass said.

Shortly after the end of last semester, it was decided that Douglass would not take the position of Dean of Campus Life and would instead serve as Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts for one year. One factor in this

decision was not having the time needed to conduct a full search for a new dean.

"It wasn't enough time to search. When we have top administrative positions [open] like this, you do a national search," Lisa Holliday, director of student activities and co-interim dean of campus life, said. "So when [Long] gave us notice, [the university] was really unable to fill a position like that in a timely manner."

“There's been a chance to bounce back.”

BOB HAWKINSON  
KANEKO COMMONS FACILITATOR

In response to the gap once again present in the Campus Life division, former Assistant Dean of Campus Life Dave Rigsby and Director of Student Activities and former Associate Dean of Campus Life Lisa Holliday were appointed as Co-Interim Deans of Campus Life.

"It was decided that ... the best thing to do for this year was to have David [Douglass] stay back behind [in the dean's office] for a year to be the Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and for Lisa and I to step up and fill in the gaps in Campus Life," Rigsby said.

According to Hawkinson, the news of Douglass' re-appointment was disappointing at first.

"I think there was a great deal of satisfaction and happiness on the part of the Campus Life division - especially the directors - in David [Douglass]'s appointment," Hawkinson said. "People greeted that with

great enthusiasm. So they were correspondingly disappointed when, after Carol left, they lost him for a year."

However, Hawkinson noted that the department is now well-equipped to begin the year. "There's been a chance to bounce back from that. I think they did what was absolutely the right thing to do under the circumstance," he said. "I'm very glad that the president appointed Lisa and Dave. ... They're both very well prepared to step up to this."

Last year the Division of Campus Life had a dean, associate dean and assistant dean, but it will be operating this year with only Rigsby and Holliday as co-deans. Several preparations were made to facilitate the transition to this new structure. Rigsby, who served this past year as Interim Director of Career Services, will be phasing out of that position early in the fall semester. Holliday, who still holds her position as Director of Student Activities, has hired 2002 alumna Beth Dittman to assist in Student Activities for this year as Coordinator of Leadership Programs.

With Douglass' term as Dean of the College of Liberal Arts lasting only one year, the university is already conducting a national search for someone to fill the position permanently.

"The [university] president has in mind, and the search committee as well, a fairly aggressive schedule in terms of time and there is hope that the search may be resolved by December or January," Douglass said.

In the meantime Rigsby is confident about stepping up during the transition. "There's just a lot of learning to do and I think that, for me, it's just being ready for those challenges," Rigsby said.

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COURTESY OF FRANK MILLER

Director of Student Activities Lisa Holliday (top) and former Assistant Dean of Campus Life Dave Rigsby (bottom) have been appointed as Co-Interim Deans of Campus Life for the 2009-2010 school year.

## Science Collaborative Research Program provides insight and opportunity



Junior Alla Yasen prepares to record brain activity of a study participant. Yasen examined the neurological basis for awareness this summer with Assistant Professor of Psychology Courtney Stevens.

RUTH HEALD  
CONTRIBUTOR

July 31 marked the end of this summer's Science Collaborative Research Program (SCRCP), which gave 21 students the opportunity to gain research experience while under the supervision of nine Willamette science professors from various departments. The program lasted nine weeks and was funded by an endowment established by two private foundations, according to Professor of Chemistry and 2009 Director of SCRCP Todd Silverstein.

SCRCP was established in 1996 and encourages students and faculty alike to apply for research opportunities. Unique to this year's program was a change in faculty participation.

"One difference [this year] is that, with all of the new hires in the sciences over the past several years, the participating faculty are mostly at the assistant professor level, which is pretty exciting," Assistant Professor of Chemistry Andrew Duncan said. Duncan oversaw a project that developed new methods for synthesis of organic compound this summer and has participated in SCRCP for the past three years.

Students will have the opportunity to present their findings on campus on Sept. 18 and also at the Northwest Regional Murdock Conference at Gonzaga University on Oct. 30-31.

Junior psychology major Alla Yasen participated in a study that used the results from several different projects that had collected brain waves from children. The study compared the brain waves of typical children to those of children with language impairment. Supervised by Assistant Professor of

Psychology Courtney Stevens and working in partnership with senior Leila Mitsunaga, Yasen's project was conducted at University of Oregon in order to have access to electro-physiology equipment needed to measure brain waves.

"Our project has been very successful, although not all of the results came out as we expected," Yasen said. "When that was the case, we learned not to take it as a failure, but as something to keep asking questions about."

Yasen recommends the experience to other students. "If you're unsure whether you want to go into research in the future, participating in a program like this will help you decide," Yasen said. "Not every scientist will enjoy research, and I think it's better to find out early on if it's just not your passion."

Senior physics major Marc Whitehead took on a project that consisted of trapping rubidium atoms in a magneto-optical trap by using lasers to manipulate the atoms in the intersections of the beams. According to Whitehead, the program provides students with important insight and preparation.

"SCRCP is a great program," Whitehead said. "It provides a chance to learn what professors do when they are not teaching classes. Also, it gives students the invaluable opportunity to gain research experience before they hit the job market or graduate school, adding one more skill to their toolbox."

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### ► Math Research

The Math Department hosted a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program this summer. Two professors and four students from across the country conducted research and worked on a paper to submit to mathematics journals. For more information visit <http://www.willamette.edu/cla/math/REU-RET/>.

COVER PHOTO BY BEHZOD SIRJANI

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# The chicken fountain dilemma

Campus safety, maintenance seek to curb vandalism

JENNY SEWARD  
CONTRIBUTOR

The Antoinette and Mark O. Hatfield Fountain (better known as the Chicken fountain) located between the University Center and Sparks Center has long been a target for various pranks, ranging from putting appropriately themed dye into the water on a holiday or adding soap in hopes that the fountain will resemble a large bubble bath.

While the fountain and these acts have been a part of campus tradition for the last two decades, maintenance and campus safety staff are almost always left to clean up the mess.

Richard Reed has worked for the university physical plant as a maintenance technician for the past seven years and most directly oversees the care of the chicken fountain. Reed has dealt with many occurrences of vandalism in the past and has a system to deal with anything that could potentially damage the fountain.

"The fountain's main vandalism is soap, with food coloring coming in as a close second. However, there are always beer cans floating in and scattered around the fountain and in the nest," Reed said.

"If it is soap, I have a product that reduces the foaming. There are some times [when] that is not effective so I must drain the fountain, rinse it well, and refill. If the problem is food coloring, I usually drain, clean, and refill which usually takes up to eight hours to complete."

Assistant Director of Campus Safety Cedric Wilder reports over 38 incidences of vandalism to the chicken fountain in just the last eight years. Most of these included soap and dye. Other occurrences, however, involved individuals placing objects on the fountain itself, such as pumpkins or rubber chickens in the eagles' nests located on top of the fountain. According to Manager of Maintenance and

Operations Gary Grimm, once the Salem Bomb Squad was called in to investigate an object placed in the fountain.

"Around 1990-91, some students were still mad about what they perceived to be university funds being spent to build the fountain despite the fountain being a gift from the artist," Grimm said.

"Someone planted a paint bomb that was found floating in the fountain by a staff member that required the Salem Police Bomb Squad to remove and disarm. To my knowledge no one ever claimed responsibility, so we never knew whether it came from on-campus or off."

Whenever any vandalism is recorded, according to Wilder, "time is crucial. The longer the delay, the more extensive and costly the repair."

Repairs can range from \$20 for a simple clean-up of objects to hundreds of dollars if parts of the fountain need to be replaced or when the whole of the fountain must be drained. Repairs can total upwards of \$1000 a year. So far, none of the individuals responsible for any one of these acts have been caught, though Wilder does note that there will be improved surveillance of the fountain in the future.

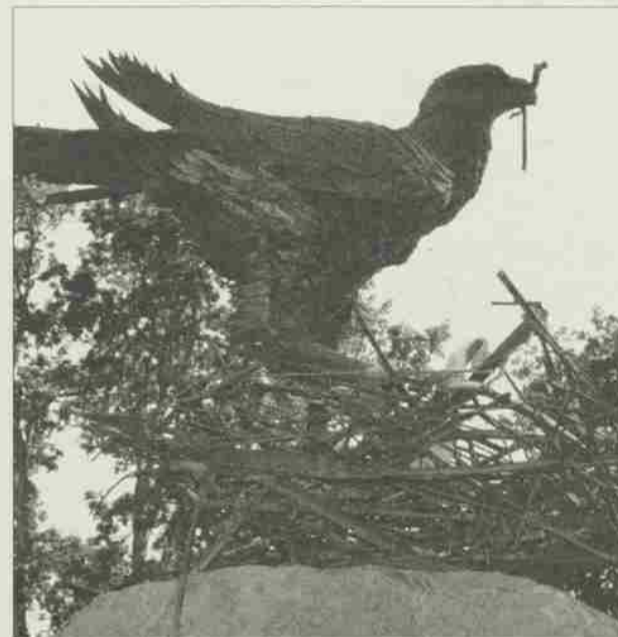
In addition to student judicial consequences, fountain vandalism can also elicit criminal repercussions: "The individuals who have vandalized the fountain have been fortunate to have escaped detection. This will change due to an increased vigilance in the future," Wilder said.

"An individual who is caught vandalizing the fountain can be prosecuted criminally. Depending on the extent of the damage and the cost of repair, the matter could possibly be tried as a felony."

Most staff and faculty recognize the tradition of pulling pranks on the fountain. However, at the same time, there is reason to caution students to think beyond their actions: "While putting bubbles in a fountain is a fun thing to do,

just remember that someone else has to clean up after you," Lisa Holliday, Associate Dean of Campus Life & Director of Student Activities, said. "Is there a different prank or joke you could choose that wouldn't impact university staff in the same way?"

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PETER VICKORY

Last week, an unknown individual placed a number of socks in the eagles' nest of the chicken fountain. According to Director of Campus Safety Cedric Wilder, the fountain has been vandalized over 38 times in the last eight years.

## Ford Hall finished on time |

New 40,000 square foot academic building nears completion



BEHZOD SIRJANI

Ford Hall, the newest academic building on campus, is now open. Classes will be held in Ford Hall beginning this term.

There is still some minor interior work to be done, but the building is essentially completed, according to the University President M. Lee Pelton. An official grand opening will be held Oct. 16 to celebrate the completion of Ford Hall and also the end of Willamette's \$125 million fundraising campaign. The grand opening will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, an opportunity for Willamette community members to view the building and a joint celebration of Ford Hall and the campaign.

Ford Hall holds 16 classrooms, various study spaces and 26 office spaces for faculty.

"I would describe it as a transformational building because it's the linchpin to adding 25 new faculty to CLA," Pelton said. "This will permit us to find offices for those 25 new faculty, while strengthening our commitment to arts and technology."

Various disciplines including Mathematics, Computer Science, Rhetoric and Media Studies, Film Studies, Music Technology, Digital Art and Russian have moved to Ford Hall which will allow space on campus for the new faculty, who have been or will be hired as part of the faculty expansion.

"The purpose of hiring the 25 new faculty was to reduce the teaching load for faculty so that they would have more time devoted to strengthening teaching and student learning as well as enhancing their own professional development through research and scholarship," Pelton said.

According to Pelton, Ford Hall will be a significant change from a location perspective as it will create a kind of "arts and cultural corridor" on the northeast side of campus, which also includes Kresge Theatre and Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center.

"It will certainly transform the northeast part of the campus," Pelton said.

To view future plans for construction, Pelton suggests visiting the Campus Master Plan at [www.willamette.edu/committees/facilities/masterplan/map/index.html](http://www.willamette.edu/committees/facilities/masterplan/map/index.html)

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MOVIE REVIEW: 'Postgrad' | PG-13

# Strong cast carries otherwise weak "Postgrad" script


**MICHAEL CAULEY**

REVIEWS EDITOR

Here in the reviews section, we're proud to bring you a WU-ish take on the outside world through its mass entertainment, and maybe even try to expand the worldview of our collegiate readers with our little write-ups. For while it may look like I'm merely reviewing a lightweight Alexis Bledel rom-com for our first issue, I'm really providing you new students with a look into your near future. Aren't I helpful?

The Bledel movie in question is "Post-Grad," which, as of this writing, is holding strong at number nine at the box office, after having made a cool \$3 million in wide release. Ouch. But while the general public might have turned its back on the former *Gilmore Girl's* latest opus on life after college (the studio also probably shouldn't have released it when kids are going back to school), I know that my dear readers are at least willing to wait until their school newspaper chimes in on the subject before rendering a verdict. Well, maybe not, but I'm still typing.

Just to go over the plot, Bledel plays the very believably named Ryder Malby, a recent college graduate who is so certain that she's going to get her dream job right out of school that she signs the lease for her new apartment before she even interviews. Naturally, she doesn't get the job, and instead of paying attention to what's going on in the life of her best friend, Adam (Zach Gilford of "Friday Night Lights"), Ryder gets wrapped up in her pursuit of a job, any job, and is eventually forced to return home to her oddball family. Hilarity and drama both ensue.

### more info

Postgrad (89 min) is now playing at:

Regal Santiam 11  
365 Lancaster Dr. S.E.

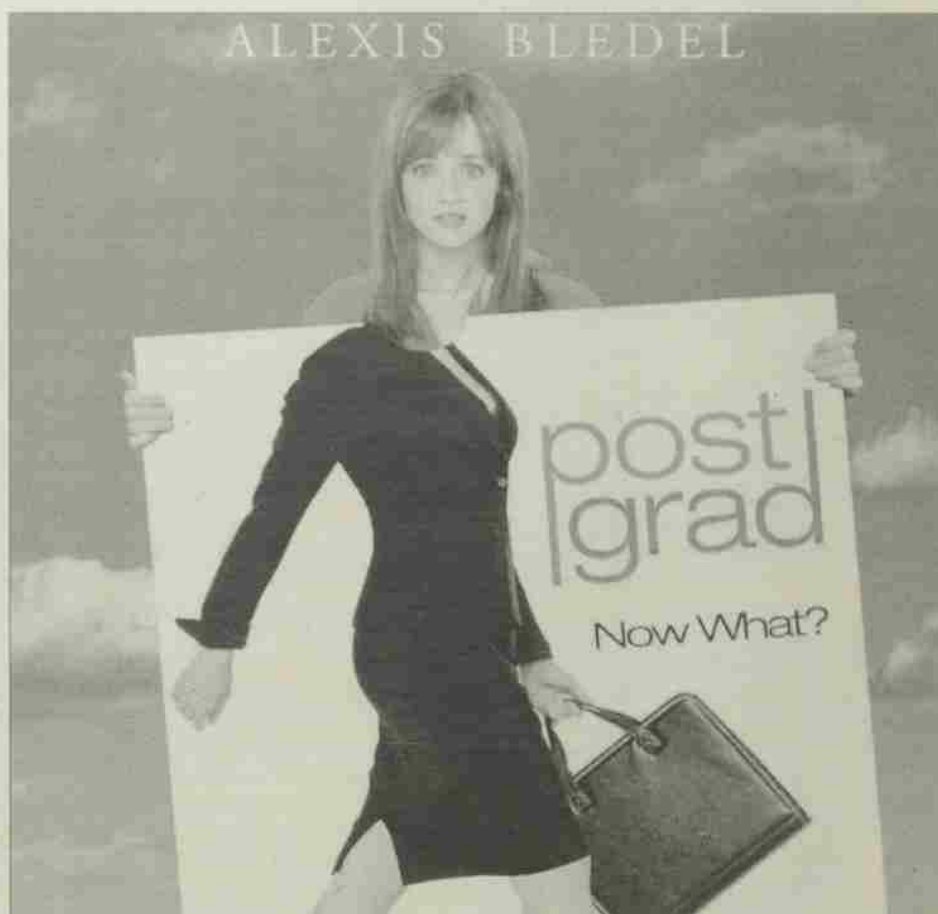
Ticket info and times: 503.370.7067

There are also several subplots involving her father (Michael Keaton), mother (Jade Lynch), grandmother (Carol Burnett of all people) and next-door Brazilian lothario (Rodrigo Santoro), but none of them ever seem to mesh together very well, and the whole thing ends with reconciliations, life lessons and boxcar derbies. Even though it carries a PG-13 rating, if it weren't for some gratuitous mentions of the Internet and Bledel dropping an F-bomb about halfway through, this thing probably could have aired on the Disney Channel right before "High School Musical 4: Can We Go Now?"

Before I continue with the trashing this film has received since it was released, I must say that "Post-Grad" is pretty likable when taken as a whole. Alexis Bledel was one of the key reasons "Gilmore Girls" was such a success, and she handles the material like an old pro (even when her character in this movie is acting like an idiot). Amanda Bynes was supposed to have the role of Ryder, and had she stayed on this thing would have been an absolute mess; the film rises to Bledel's level of commitment to her part and is better for it.

Speaking of old pros, this movie has a way better cast than it could possibly deserve. Jane Lynch gets laughs almost every time she opens her mouth in what would have been a drab role in someone else's hands, Carol Burnett has such screen presence that she breathes life into the stereotypical "crotchety grandma" role the script gave her, and Michael Keaton (Batman himself!) is hilarious as Ryder's self-centered but ultimately loveable father.

Unfortunately, there is a very significant "con" to match this movie's "pros," and that would be the script, which seems not to have moved past its first draft before the movie was filmed. Nearly every character has their own subplot or quirk, and the film simply doesn't provide enough scenes to satisfy most of them. The film is supposed to be focused on Ryder's search for a post-college career, but it seems like we're pulled away from that every five minutes to see whether Zach got into law



Bledel stars as Ryder Malby in "Postgrad."

COURTESY OF GOLD SPRINGS PICTURES

school or is going to pursue a music career, or for a scene or two about the dad's new belt buckle business (seriously). Clearly the producers were going for a "Little Miss Sunshine" type of quirkiness here, but it just ends up like a big ol' mess.

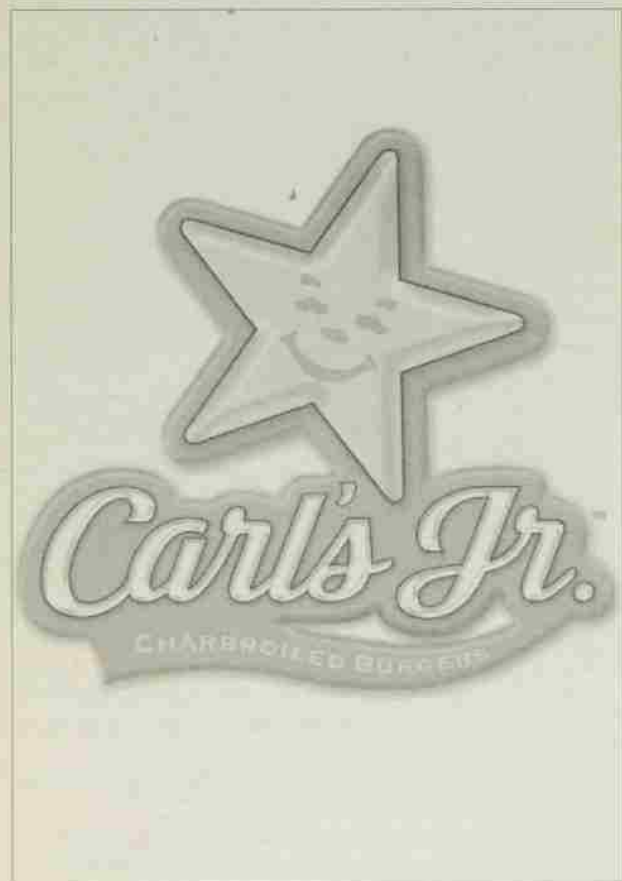
However, the film's saving grace are the scenes actually focusing on its star; Ryder's struggles with her priorities in life and the current job market feel very true and are sometimes almost even thoughtful, at least compared to most of the other scenes. These are not great economic times, and it was nice to see a movie that took that into account and presented its characters with challenges that actually have some relevancy to the "real world."

I thought "Post-Grad" was a good film to take a look at for the new freshmen class because it's always good to start off a new experience, like college, with an eye to the future so you can plan how to use your time there most effectively. Plus, it allowed me to avoid seeing some of the other movies out right now, like the one where gerbils act as covert spies. Who green-lit that one, by the way?

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### RESTAURANT REVIEW: Carl's Jr.



COURTESY OF CARL'S JR.

Carl's Jr. is the fourth highest grossing burger-based fast food restaurant in the country.

## Carl's Jr. still mostly "made of fail"

LINNEA SCHUSTER  
GUEST WRITER

Carl's Jr. is the fourth highest grossing burger-based fast food joint in the country, and five of these renowned restaurants exist within a six-mile radius of campus. Boasting 100 percent Angus beef burgers displayed in luscious portraits both in the restaurants and in television ads, Carl's Jr.'s burgers look bigger, meatier, even godlier than the average quick meal. Seasoned fast-fooders, however, know better than to be hoodwinked by these airbrushed fantasies, but they will still be disgusted and disappointed by the hot messes that arrive on their trays at Carl's Jr.

The current starlet of Carl's Jr. menus everywhere is the Portobello Mushroom Six Dollar Burger. Sesame seed buns, Angus beef, two slices of Swiss cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, red onions, mayonnaise and, of course, Portobello mushrooms combine forces into a picturesque tower of caloric might, until it is removed from its wrapper.

The millisecond that impure human hands touch the sandwich, a gooey ooze of amalgamated grease, mushrooms and melted cheese lethargically spurts from every crevice. Next falls the tomato, then the lettuce, mushrooms and onions, until all that remains are the patty, saucy cheese and buns, kept together by their uneven, interlocking textures.

A disappointing start to a rather pricey meal (\$9.89 for a small), once the burger is reassembled the overall taste forces the consumer to reconsider the possibility of improvement. The slightly tough buns lubricated with mayonnaise and liquid Swiss surrounding the Angus patty tasted like fast food should, complete with a pervasive flavor of stale fryer smoke which permeated the rest of the meal.

The Portobellos added hints of their muted tang on

top of a heavy base of blandness and, for the most part, contributed no more than an intermediary consistency between goo and substance. The vegetables, which would have normally stood out in temperature and crispness, had assimilated in texture and tepidness with the rest of the meal, lost in the rest of the flavors. This sandwich, as a neighboring diner commented, was "made of fail."

However, what glinted like 50 or so golden Excaliburs on my tray would valiantly inject "win" back into my meal: a small order of French fries, Carl's Jr. style. My premium-quality, skin-on, natural-cut fries were bathed in vegetable oil and served to perfection. The outsides scoffed at residual grease with a crispiness that gave way to piping hot potato innards, slicing through the less than savory taste of the portobello sandwich. The fries actually tasted like potatoes, and this lard fan was instantly transformed into a believer of the more politically correct frying oil.

My Carl's Jr. experience was less than satisfactory. The Portobello Mushroom Six Dollar Burger turned out to be a \$10 meal, and only a third of the sandwich managed to ascend to my mouth for consumption. If it were not for the fries, I think I would have asked for a different meal — something simpler, more reserved ... a Super Star, perhaps?

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### locations

1135 Lancaster Dr SE  
503.371.4100

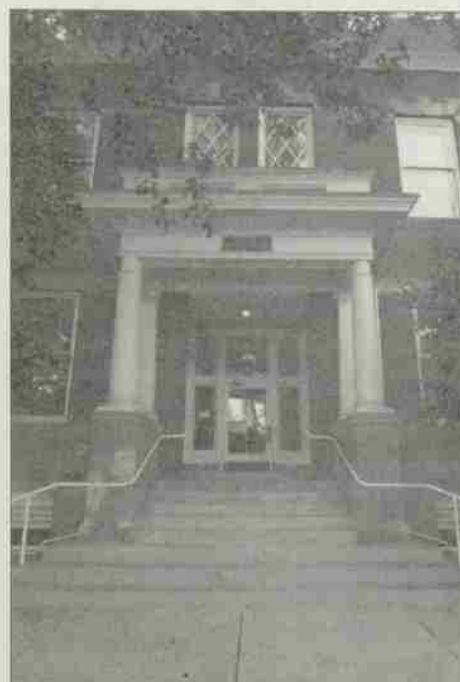
1501 Lancaster Blvd  
503.391.0500

1236 23rd St SE  
503.485.0346

### Hours:

Sun - Thur  
6 a.m. - 11 p.m.  
Fri - Sat  
6 a.m. - 12 a.m.

# Arts abound on campus and off



ERIKA FOLDYNA

The Art building houses a student gallery and most art and art history courses.



ERIKA FOLDYNA

Hudson Hall plays host to both professional musicians and student performers.

JAY MONK  
CONTRIBUTOR

Welcome to Willamette! Let me be one of many to introduce you to art at Willamette and the greater Salem/Mid-Valley area. There are many opportunities to be involved in the arts on campus. Ranging from sidewalk chalk art to midnight-oil-long hours of rehearsal, Willamette has much to offer the amateur and professional artist alike.

The Theatre and Music Departments both offer multiple performance groups students can be part of throughout the year. Every term, the Theatre offers two main-stage productions, as well as a plethora of student-produced shows. Previous offerings have included Improv Club, Up-Top and Headband (our two a cappella groups), Shakespeare on the Go, Theatre Student Advisory Board (TSAB) and the Willamette Dance Company.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs sponsors a Lu'au produced annually by the Hawai'i Club. This event provides an opportunity for students to come together and enjoy an authentic native Hawaiian dance and food prepared by the Hawai'i Club.

Opportunities abound within the Art and Art History Departments, as they both offer many courses and lectures on the topic of art. You can do art in different styles and periods, or maybe different fashions. Or if your fancy is writing, you can write it (or about it!) too in creative writing (which always fills up, by the way) or even in the *Collegian*, as I'm doing now!

The greater Salem area also offers a lot of art opportunities to the beleaguered art student. Every year, the prestigious Oregon Art Annual is put on by the Oregon State Fair, an opportunity for professional and amateur artists to show their stuff to



COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA USER ABOUTMOVIES

The Hallie Ford Museum of Art showcases European, American and Pacific Northwest art collections.

a jury that will vote and award a prize to the best piece. This year's Annual will be held from Aug. 28 through Sept. 7, showcased at the Oregon State Fairgrounds at Jackson-Long Hall.

The Hallie Ford Museum of Art is a great location to find art from many different backgrounds. Admission is free to students with Willamette ID. Currently on exhibition is "Requiem: By the Photographers Who Died in Vietnam and Indochina," exhibiting Aug. 15 through Nov. 8.

This exhibit honors and remembers the 135 photographers who died while working in Vietnam. The collection consists of 292 photographs spanning 1945-1975. The "Eunice Parsons: Collages" exhibit will be on display July 25 through Sept. 20. Port-

land artist Eunice Parsons has been called an American master of the art of collage. Organized by Professor Roger Hull, the exhibition features a range of collages created over the past few decades and includes work from public and private collections throughout the region.

As you can see, there are many opportunities to be involved in art at Willamette. Even the campus bookstore and downtown area offer a variety of different art supplies to help you restock your stores or explore new interests. Whether you want dance, theatre or drawing supplies, Willamette and Salem can supply your needs.

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## ART HISTORY FOR COCKTAIL PARTIES:

### Embrace pretension: learn about art



A L I S A  
ALEXANDER

ARTS EDITOR

Art - it's a tough subject to get into and it can be isolating, pretentious and seemingly unnecessary. There's war out there, along with famine and deadly diseases - you know, legitimate problems that demand attention. Who the hell has time for all this pedantic, self-inflating art-speak? Why should you, dear *Collegian* reader, even care? Well, I am here to help you answer that question.

Last year I took it upon myself to bring art down to an all-inclusive level. I, altruistically, wanted to debunk the myth of art isolationism and share my great zest for art with all of you. This year it is round two, and I'm back and better than ever. So, entering class of 2009, I must tell you why you should even care about art at all. So, in John Cusack's "High Fidelity" style, I bring you the top five reasons why you should learn about art.

1. It's everywhere. Look around: art has in some way affected everything around us. While you chemistry and sociology majors may be scoffing right now, believe me, some art knowledge can be helpful to your field. I mean, come on, we were grunting and painting stick-figure cattle on cave walls long before we could even write. The more you know about the visual world around you, the more amazing everything you see becomes.

2. It's impressive. Sure, you can speak five languages, including something obscure, like Aramaic, but can you talk (with confidence

and opinion) about the leaders of Post-Painterly Abstraction? Does sfumato sound like some nasty disease or the secret to da Vinci's beautiful paintings? Learn about art, and you too can win friends and influence people.

3. You can get, like, totally hot dates. Nobody likes an awkward silence, and while you're milling around the latest happening cocktail party, you can whip out some lovely relevant art fact. Men and women both love a well-rounded partner, and it's worked for me plenty of times. You'll have the hottest liberal arts kids pawing at your feet.

4. Embrace the pretentiousness. We attend Willamette University. I mean, come on, guys, our self-imposed modesty convinces no one.

5. Your professors will consider you worldly, mature people. It may bump you up a few notches above the others in your class on Nietzsche. You can supplement your statements with visual citations, and make connections between seemingly unrelated topics.

I hope I've convinced you. Consider me your steward, the Ann Landers of the art world. I am open to questions, queries, anything that interests you. Each week I will discuss something concerning art - periods, painters, paintings, terms or controversies. I'll do my best to make it interesting, and perhaps even make beverage suggestions. If we're talking about Pollock, we gotta pair the conversation with a nice shot of Jim Beam - neat, not on the rocks. Since this is the inaugural column, it seems appropriate that we toast with a nice glass of bubbly. Cheers.

Contact: [alexandra@willamette.edu](mailto:alexandra@willamette.edu)

## 'Antigone' Auditions

MATT BAILIN  
CONTRIBUTOR

Having been in a few productions myself in middle and high school, I must insist that everyone try out at least once for the Willamette theatre. It's fun, educational, a good resume builder, plus you can get paid for it! Ok, that last part is made up, but getting to act out on stage in front of the entire school more than makes up for it. But seriously, if you have ever thought about being in a school play, experience or no experience, you should check out for the fall semester production auditions on Monday, Aug. 31 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. This semester's play is "Antigone" by Sophocles, an ancient Greek tragedy which chronicles Sophocles' attempt to bury her brother after the Theban War. The play is directed by Jonathan Cole and will show Oct. 8 through Oct. 24.

Forgive me for bragging but being a part of Willamette theatre is being a part of one of the most dynamic and talented theatres in the state. To speak of just one small piece of their work, last semester Willamette hosted its interpretation of "Woyzeck," a play that starts at the end and works its way backwards to explain a twisted relationship that has become completely unstable. It utilized a recycled set (chaos and darkness had never looked so good) and a mature cast that even wrote part of the play themselves, since it had never been completed by the original author.

Overall, I found this work to be highly sophisticated and daring as it handled adult themes difficult for most people to view in a play. It was an excellent example of theater students being creative and resourceful, and using their talents to make something worth remembering.

Does this sound like something interesting to try out for? If you're really serious about getting into the play, here are a few things you should remember:

1. To get into this particular play, you will need to memorize a classic monologue from Greek theater, as well as 16 bars of your favorite song, which can be from any period or style as long as you love it. The monologue must be memorized, so if you haven't picked out something yet, now would be an excellent time to do so.

2. There will also be a movement audition to test your ability to follow choreographed steps, so don't forget to wear something you can move in.

3. If you want to help with making all of this possible but don't want to act on stage, you can fill out an interest form on Monday, Aug. 31 from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. You can help with set design, lighting, make-up, costume design, etc.

4. Most importantly, have fun and be aware that your audition starts as soon as you walk on stage.

Interest above all else is the first step, so if you're still reading this, many thanks and good luck at the auditions.

Contact: [mbailin@willamette.edu](mailto:mbailin@willamette.edu)

# 10 places you need to know about in Salem

BEHZOD SIRJANI  
FEATURE EDITOR

Welcome to Salem, Ore., the state capitol and the place you will spend the next eight semesters (give or take). While Salem has a wealth of restaurants, coffee shops, stores and boutiques, there are a handful that you need to know about in order to survive your tenure at Willamette.

You have probably heard from friends and family about the late nights, the early mornings and the study sessions that go long past when you want them to. You also know about the sporting events, the fascinating classes you will be taking and the faculty that will inspire you to dig deeper and engage more. What you haven't heard about yet are the hot spots that will enrich your Salem life outside of the Willamette bubble.

The first three stops on our tour will help you survive in the long term. They provide places of recreation, intellectual stimulation and an easy escape, all within biking distance.

## 1

### Salem Public Library

Intrinsic to the nature of being a student is the need to study. While Willamette University itself provides a number of great locations around campus to do class work, when the Bistro and library study rooms are full many students turn to off-campus locations to finish up their essays and projects. One such place to go is the Salem Public Library, an underutilized study space with plenty of room to spread out.

While the Public Library is only open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. most days, it is usually free of other Willamette students and full of silence. The steps and fountain outside the north door, between the library and City Hall, also provide a great area for quiet study with the soft sounds of the city in the background. If you are looking for a study break while you are there, check out some of the periodicals or the extensive art collection, which includes displays from many local artists.

Web site: [www.cityofsalem.net/departments/library/](http://www.cityofsalem.net/departments/library/)  
Address: 585 Liberty Street S.E.

## 2

### Minto Brown Park

One of the biggest parks in Salem, this 900-acre National Wildlife Refuge offers a wide range of outdoor activities to the local community. With trails for rollerblading, walking, running and biking, as well as play equipment, picnic tables and a large dog park, Minto Brown is a great spot to go when you want to get out and enjoy the fresh Northwest air.

To get there, head south on Commercial Street, turn right on Owens (the corner where Best Little Roadhouse is located) and continue for a little more than a mile until you see the entrance on your right. When heading out there, be sure to use the sidewalk or running path because the cars rarely abide by the 45 mph speed limit and don't leave enough room to share the road.

Address: 2200 Minto Island Road S.E.

## 3

### Salem Cinema

While you won't find mainstream flicks like "Harry Potter" or "Twilight" at this locally run movie theater, Salem Cinema does a fantastic job of bringing thought-provoking and often underappreciated independent films to Salem. While it has been serving the local community since 1982, Salem Cinema recently moved to a new location north of campus where it continues to showcase "art, foreign, independent and exceptional film."

With student tickets costing only \$7 with your Willamette ID, Salem Cinema is an excellent place to go in order to get away from academics and engage a different part of your brain. If you are interested in seeing what movies are currently showing, visit:

Web site: [www.salemcinema.com](http://www.salemcinema.com) or  
Address: 1127 Broadway N.E.

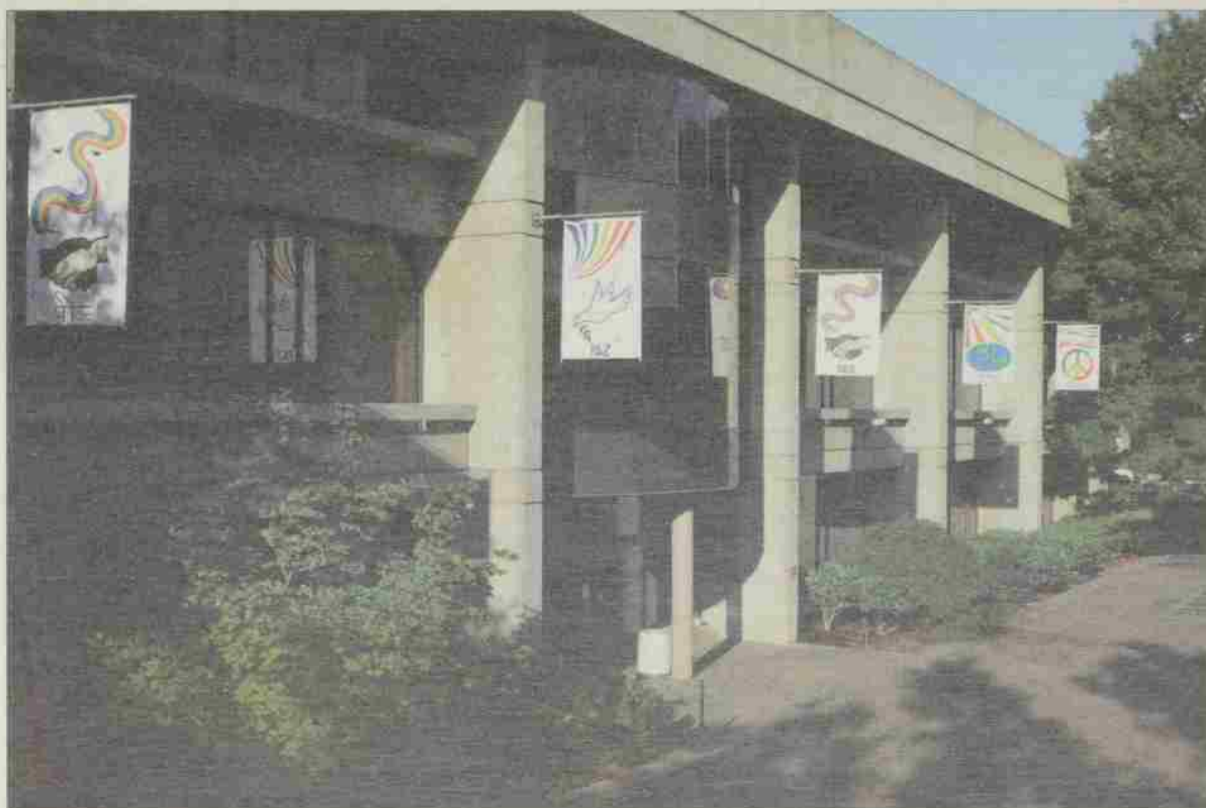
The last part of our tour will involve the one of the central aspects of your college life: food. While the highly varied and equally tasty campus dining options will be a staple in your quest for nourishment, there are a lot of great places to grab a bite off campus. These range from young cafés to Mexican restaurants in old opera houses and have menus just as varied.



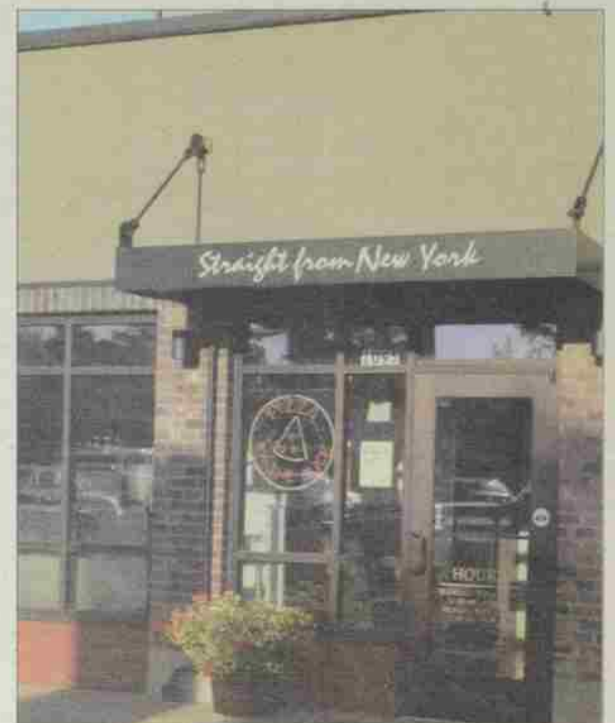
La Perla sits on the second floor of the Reed Opera House.



The waiting area for Roadhouse's 18-hole mini golf course.



The north door of the Salem Public Library, facing City Hall.



Straight from New York's location across from Roadhouse on Commercial street.

# 4

## WinCo Foods

While most college students do not have access to unlimited spending money, food still remains one of their basic needs and it does not always come cheap. WinCo Foods bills itself as "The Supermarket Low Price Leader" and sells typical grocery store items at prices well below the competition's. This 24-hour store is a popular destination with the Willamette crowd. Be careful, though – WinCo only accepts cash or debit cards as forms of payment.  
**Address:** 1240 Lancaster Dr. S.E., 4575 S.E. Commercial

# 5

## Word of Mouth Neighborhood Bistro

A full service restaurant with cuisine as varied as the clientele, this house-turned-restaurant is full of Salem charm and delicious entrees, all of which are chef Steve Mucha's takes on classic dishes. Most Willamette students find their way to Word of Mouth for breakfast, where favorites such as eggs Benedict, French toast and biscuits and gravy keep them well fed for less than \$9.

With coffee that is second to none in Salem, this restaurant is a desirable option for the morning crowd. For the early risers, the morning special is available for \$3.95 from 7-8 a.m. and \$7.50 afterwards. For an up to date list of specials, follow Word of Mouth on twitter at [www.twitter.com/wordofmouthOR](http://www.twitter.com/wordofmouthOR) or visit: [www.wordofsalem.com](http://www.wordofsalem.com)  
**Web site:** [www.wordofsalem.com](http://www.wordofsalem.com)  
**Address:** 140 17th Street N.E.

# 6

## Venti's Café

Just around the corner from Straight from New York Pizza exists a small café known for serving food under the motto "good, clean food." Famous for its teriyaki chicken, Venti's Café has a diverse menu that also includes many vegetarian options. With everything from salads to rice bowls to wraps, Venti's has enough to satisfy nearly every customer that walks through its doors. They also work hard to carry a unique variety of microbrews and ciders for the 21-and-over customer.

Beginning at 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, beer is served from the restaurant's eight taps, half of which are in the bar downstairs. For more information, you can find the full menu, beer list and catering options online:  
**Web site:** [www.ventiscafe.com](http://www.ventiscafe.com)  
**Address:** 325 Court Street N.E.

# 7

## Straight from New York Pizza

In line with the previous two locations, Straight from New York Pizza has a lot to offer in the way of great food and great prices. Their main special is two slices of cheese or pepperoni pizza with a medium drink for \$6. Considering that slices of pepperoni go for \$3 each, you can get that medium drink for free. For the vegetarians out there, cheese pizza is only \$2.50 per slice, so you will save 25 cents off that soda.

For the hungrier crowd, Straight from New York does sell whole pies and will even deliver – perfect for your late night study group. They have three locations, the closest of which is downtown Salem across from The Beanery and on a block which has a Starbucks at each end.  
**Web site:** [www.sfnypizza.com](http://www.sfnypizza.com)  
**Address:** 223 Liberty Street N.E.



One of many beautiful fields at Minto Brown.

# 8

## Best Little Roadhouse

"It starts with a smile and ends with a full stomach and the anticipation of your next visit," reads the Web site of Best Little Roadhouse, a restaurant recently voted Best Steakhouse by The Statesman Journal. Serving the traditional steakhouse favorites such as buffalo wings, potato skins and nachos, this restaurant also offers a number of great steak cuts such as sirloin, ribeye, NY strip, filet mignon and tri-tip.

Roadhouse not only provides you with a great dining experience, but also hosts an 18-hole mini golf course that includes a number of different features and water hazards. Games cost \$6 per person most days, or \$4 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturdays. For full menu listings visit:  
**Web site:** [www.bestlittleroadhouse.com](http://www.bestlittleroadhouse.com)  
**Address:** 1145 Commercial Street S.E.

# 9

## Muchas Gracias

Many students at Willamette will tell you that one of their least favorite places to eat is Muchas, but they are lying, at least when you look at how much money they spend there. With over four locations in Salem, this 24-hour Mexican diner is quite a crowd pleaser on late nights and weekends. They have great traditional items like tacos and enchiladas, as well as a Willamette favorite, the Oregon burrito. You can walk, bike or drive to these locations and be sure to find something that tickles your fancy for less than \$5. Quite a deal for the college budget.

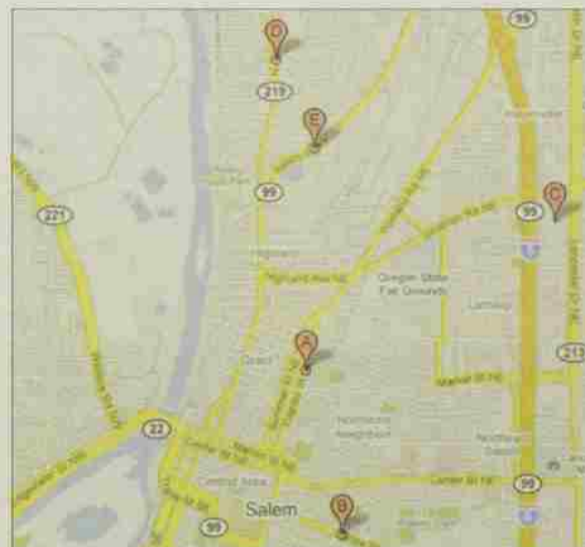
**Web site:** <http://www.muchasgraciasmex.com/>  
**Address:** 1980 State Street

# 10

## La Perla Tapatia

Do 99¢ tacos sound like your idea of a deal? If so, look no further than La Perla Tapatia, known for these less-than-one-dollar goodies. This great price also comes with entertainment, as La Perla inhabits the second floor of the Reed Opera House, placing it in a U-like-formation above the first floor shops. As there is no flooring in between them, scents of wooden furniture and fresh soap trickle up to the customers, and put them in a perfect position for people-watching the shops below or the streets outside.  
**Address:** 189 Liberty Street N.E.

Contact: [bsirjani@willamette.edu](mailto:bsirjani@willamette.edu)



Not one, not two, but five convenient Muchas locations in Salem.



The entry and café of Salem Cinema's new location on Broadway Street.



These lush greens at Minto Brown are home to many species of native Oregon wildlife.

ALL PHOTOS BY BEHZOO SIRJANI

# 2008-09: Year in review

## Letter from the Editor



**TIM WALSH**

SPORTS EDITOR

Dear parents and students, new and returning:

Welcome (back) to the home of the Bearcats! As sports editor of this year's *Collegian* it's my pleasure to introduce you to the exciting world of Willamette athletics. From the moment men's soccer kicks off at Corban next Tuesday afternoon through the NCAA Track and Field Championships in May, you can count on the *Collegian* to consistently provide in-depth, high-quality coverage of Bearcat sports.

The 2008-09 academic year was a thrilling one for fans of Bearcat athletics. Four teams captured Northwest Conference championships, three were ranked in the top ten nationally, and seven athletes earned All-American status. Through it all, the *Collegian* was there, and this "2008-09: Year in Review" was compiled using reports from last year's staff. Supplemental information and statistics came from the Willamette Sports Information Office.

Our team of reporters are again looking forward to providing you with the highest quality coverage of Willamette athletics anywhere. By all accounts, it should be another thrilling year. See you at Sparks, Cone and McCulloch! Go Bearcats!

Sincerely,  
Tim Walsh  
Sports Editor

## FALL SPORTS

### FOOTBALL



COLBY TAKEDA  
Jose Green (36) and Tony Krikorian (83) celebrate Green's go-ahead touchdown against Southern Oregon.

An explosive offense, an opportunistic defense and outstanding special teams propelled Willamette (11-1, 6-0 NWC) to its best year since joining Division III in 1997: an undefeated regular season, one of the four top seeds in the playoffs and a No. 4 final national ranking. Co-Northwest Conference (NWC) Player of the Year Merben Woo was the key cog in the Bearcats' unique "fly" offense, rushing for 816 yards and getting 890 more in receptions.

Despite losing starting quarterback Ryan Whitcomb in the season opener, Willamette never missed a beat, amassing a perfect non-conference record that included wins over Concordia-Moorhead and Southern Oregon. NWC play saw the Bearcats topple defending champion Whitworth (31-23), traditional power Pacific Lutheran (45-18), and finally archrival Linfield (52-28) - all on the road - propelling the team to its first playoff appearance since 2004.

A first-round win over Occidental set up a showdown with defending national champion Wisconsin-Whitewater, which saw a late Willamette rally fall just short. Five Bearcats garnered All-West Region honors, Woo and offensive lineman Jake Forshey were named All-Americans, and Head Coach Mark Speckman was named West Region Coach of the Year.

### MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Senior Josh Clough led Willamette to a second place team finish at the NWC Championships, as Whitworth barely eked out a victory over the Bearcats. Junior Kyle Kotaich finished eighth, sophomore Ryan McLaughlin finished ninth and freshman Leo Castillo and sophomore Stefan Redfield rounded out the team scoring with 13th and 16th place finishes respectively. Clough then led the Bearcats' to a third-place team finish in the West Region championships, held at Willamette's own Bush Park. Clough finished in 14th place, followed closely by Kotaich (15th), sophomores Nick Rebol (17th) and Redfield (19th), along with Castillo (22nd). Ranked 29th going into national competition, the Bearcats pulled out a 27th place finish, with Clough finishing 87th, Castillo 113th, Kotaich 117th, Redfield 140th, freshman Kyle Jackson 145th, and Rebol and McLaughlin finishing 180th and 188th to round out the team score.

### WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY



COLBY TAKEDA  
Seniors Jena Winger (212) and Maddie Coffman (203) led Willamette to its seventh conference championship in a row.

With Willamette's seventh consecutive conference title on the line, the Bearcats crushed their opponents in the NWC Championships. Senior Maddie Coffman won the individual title and senior Jena Winger finished second to help clinch a first-place team victory for the Bearcats. Sophomore Tina Patel finished ninth and junior Molly Lewis placed 14th. Coffman then took the West Region title, easily outpacing her competition and propelling Willamette to a third-place finish and an at-large bid to the national meet.

Though the Bearcats were favored to win the regional race, Winger collapsed partway through and was unable to finish. Patel finished 16th for the Bearcats with Lewis right behind in 18th, and junior Hannah Vietmeier 38th. Ranked 30th in the nation going into the national championships, the team came away with a 15th place team finish. Coffman took fourth in the race, garnering All-American honors for the second time in as many years. Winger bounced back to finish a respectable 49th, with juniors Tina Patel and Molly Lewis coming in 86th, and 108th, respectively.

### MEN'S SOCCER

A young Bearcats squad featuring 13 freshmen finished the season at 3-14-1, including 2-11-1 (7 points) in NWC play. But in a season that featured steady progress across the board, the Bearcats did finish ahead of George Fox to take eighth place in the NWC. Along the way, Willamette recorded its first home win since 2006 (a 1-0 win over cross-town rival Corban) and its first conference victories in over two years: two 2-0 victories over GFU.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

Five seniors led the Bearcats to a third place conference finish, posting a 12-8 overall record, 10-6 (30 points) in the NWC. As first year Head Coach Hillary Arthur took over from longtime leader Jim Tursi, close games became a signature for Willamette. The team finished 10-4 in one-goal matches, including 7-3 in games ending with a 1-0 score. Four Bearcats earned All-NWC postseason honors, including senior Kelsey Rogel, who was selected to the conference first team and the All-West Region second team.

### VOLLEYBALL

Willamette volleyball's rebuilding process took a big step forward under new head coach Tom Shoji, as the Bearcats climbed out of the conference basement for the first time since 2004, finishing the season with a 6-20 overall record (4-12 NWC). Highlights included snapping a four-year losing streak at Cone Field House with a dominant win over The Evergreen State College and sweeping the season series with Whitman College.

## WINTER SPORTS

### SWIMMING

Both Willamette swim teams had difficult seasons, as the Bearcat women finished at the bottom of the pool with a 2-7 (0-7 NWC) record in dual meets. Willamette's men fared little better, closing out the year with a 1-7 (1-6 NWC) tally. A lack of depth hurt the men in several races, including the regular season finale with Pacific, where the Bearcats were unable to assemble a team for the 200 freestyle relay.

The Northwest Conference championships were little consolation, as depth issues continued to plague the team. Still, several performances did brighten the meet for Willamette, as junior Gwen Schulze placed sixth overall in the women's 100 butterfly, and the men's relay team recorded a sixth place finish in the 200-yard medley relay. Schulze also garnered an eighth place finish in the 200-yard butterfly finals, and junior co-captain Jenna Larrow finished ninth overall in the 1,650-yard freestyle.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Despite returning the core players from a 2007 team that made the Northwest Conference tournament, the Bearcats (12-11, 8-8 NWC) were unable to keep their momentum in 2008, as inconsistent play sealed a fifth-place conference finish - two games out of the last playoff spot. Nevertheless, Willamette played inspired basketball during its final two weekends, defeating Pacific, Lewis & Clark, and George Fox, while pushing #3 Puget Sound to the brink in a 75-74 loss. The next week, longtime head coach Gordie James announced his retirement, leaving behind a 357-230 record over 22 years and the 1993 NALA National Championship to his name.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Willamette's women's basketball team finished its year at 4-18 overall, (3-13 NWC), but the season was about much more than just wins and losses for the Bearcats, as the team had to deal with the sudden death of Head Coach Bruce Henderson on Dec. 8. But behind Interim Head Coach Sara Brooks and senior twins Molly and Jenny Fillion, Willamette rallied, putting together a remarkable three-game stretch in late January and early February that saw the Bearcats topple Linfield, Pacific Lutheran and Whitworth all in a row. Additionally, Willamette was a thorn in the side of eventual national champion George Fox, playing the Bruins close late into two conference contests.



Courtesy of Willamette Sports Information  
Women's basketball coach Bruce Henderson's death shocked the Willamette community.



Courtesy of Willamette Sports Information  
Men's basketball coach Gordie James stepped down after 22 seasons leading Bearcat Hoops.



COLBY TAKEDA

Nikki Franchi set 32 school records while leading Willamette to a 29-6 record in 2009.

## SPRING SPORTS

### BASEBALL

Led by an exceptional senior class, Willamette rebounded from a tough early season stretch to earn a fourth place finish in the NWC. The Bearcats (21-17, 18-13 NWC) recorded the program's most wins since 2003 and its most conference wins since 2001. Senior All-American Kyle Stalker rewrote the Willamette records for batting average, home runs, RBIs and slugging percentage, and the team as a whole possessed one of the most potent offenses in the country - averaging over seven runs per game and smacking 53 home runs on the season. Under new Head Coach Aaron Swick, the Bearcats finished the season on a tear, knocking archrival Linfield out of playoff contention and sweeping a four-game series with Pacific.

### GOLF

Senior Whitney Ueno, one of Willamette's most decorated athletes, tied for second overall at the NWC women's golf championships, just one stroke behind the leader. Still, Ueno's outstanding performance couldn't stave off a seventh-place finish for the women, and Head Coach Tom Hibbard stepped down at the end of the season. The Willamette men also faced tough opponents in the NWC Championships, finishing in a tie for sixth place. Junior Shane Adversalo shot 160 to lead the Bearcats, with fellow junior Robbie Beard right behind with 162 and senior Ben Bryant third scoring 164. Steve Prothero, Willamette men's golf coach for 44 years, also retired.

### SOFTBALL

Despite being ranked in the top 10 for much of the season and finishing second in a competitive NWC, the Bearcats could not get a break from the NCAA Playoff Selection Committee, as they were left out of the field notwithstanding their stellar 29-6 (22-6 NWC) record. Senior All-American Nikki Franchi became the most celebrated softball athlete in Willamette history, holding 12 single-season offensive records, six single-season pitching records, seven career offensive records, and seven more career pitching records - a total of 32 Willamette records.

In 2008, she led both a dominant Willamette pitching staff that topped the NWC in team ERA (1.08) and a dangerous group of bats that held a .330 batting average. Twice the Bearcats pulled off 11-game winning streaks, but a season-ending series against then top-ranked Linfield apparently doomed Willamette's playoff hopes, as the Bearcats dropped three of four games to their rivals.

### TENNIS

It was déjà vu in 2008 for Willamette's men's tennis team, as the Bearcats repeated their 2008 fourth-place finish at the Northwest Conference tournament. Willamette (10-9, 9-7 NWC), who also finished fourth overall, was led by the No. 1 doubles team of Matt Houser and Cody Ferguson, who defeated Whitman College's previously unbeaten doubles pair in a stunning upset. That win, however, was the only bright spot for the Bearcats who dropped the team contest 5-1 to the eventual champions.

Women's tennis (8-13, 7-9 NWC) likewise faced Whitman in the conference tournament, also losing to the Missionaries and dropping to sixth place in the standings. But Head Coach Becky Roberts was pleased with her young team's progress, particularly freshman Shannon Palmer, who garnered first-team All-NWC honors.

### CREW

Willamette women's crew capped off an excellent season by finishing second overall in the Northwest Collegiate Rowing Conference (NCRC). Head Coach Susan Parkman was named NCRC coach of the year, and the women's varsity 8+ was selected for the NCAA Championship Regatta. There, the Bearcats placed third in the Petite Qualifier, before placing fifth in the Petite Final to finish 11th overall. Willamette finished the regular season with a #9 national ranking in the NCAA Division III poll. Willamette men's crew also saw improvement, despite limited numbers.

### WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

For women's track and field, the 2009 Northwest Conference Championships were about maintaining a long run of dominance, and maintain it they did, gaining their eighth consecutive NWC championship title with relative ease, leaning on several outstanding individual performances to gain 196.5 points, outpacing second place Whitworth. Freshman Kimber Mattox set new school records in the 3,000-meter steeplechase and won the 5,000 meters. The previous record-holder, senior Jena Winger, finished second, and both athletes attained NCAA automatic qualifying marks. Winger and Mattox also rounded out a 1-2-3 finish for the Bearcats the 1500 meters, a race won by junior Maddie Coffman.

Coffman gained another first-place finish in the 800 meters. Fellow junior Jennifer Luecht captured her third straight 200-meter dash title while also taking first in the 400 and running the anchor leg on Willamette's first place 4x400 relay squad. Yet another junior, Christina Edholm, took home first in the shot-put. All told, six Bearcats qualified for the NCAA championships in 12 events, with Coffman and Mattox gaining All-American status for their efforts.

### MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Behind a thrilling finish that saw the Bearcats storm past Whitworth and Linfield on the final day of competition, Willamette men's track and field captured their sixth NWC championship in eight years. Senior Drew Lackman and freshman Leo Castillo jumpstarted the Bearcats' remarkable comeback, as Lackman swept the hurdles while Castillo brought home titles in the 1500 and 5000 meters.

Freshman Paul Winger won the 400-meter dash, and junior Chris Platano took the 3000-meter steeplechase. In the field, senior Grant Piros placed first in the javelin, and freshman Raymond White (triple jump) and senior Jacob Monroe (hammer throw) also won their events to put the Bearcats back on top. Seven Willamette athletes qualified for the NCAA championships, where Piros gained All-American status with his 7th place finish in the javelin.



COLBY TAKEDA

Abe Moland hands off to Neal Howard in the men's 4x100 meters at last spring's Willamette Invitational.

Contact: [twash@willamette.edu](mailto:twash@willamette.edu)

### next up

Men's Soccer @ Corban  
Tuesday, September 1 - 4 p.m.

Women's Soccer v. Northwest Christian  
@ Sparks Field  
Tuesday, September 1 - 7 p.m.

Volleyball v. Northwest Christian  
@ Cone Field House  
Tuesday, September 1 - 7 p.m.

## NOW HIRING

The *Collegian* is currently looking for sports reporters to cover:

Crew  
Volleyball  
Men's and Women's Golf  
Men's and Women's Tennis

If interested, contact Sports Editor Tim Walsh, [twash@willamette.edu](mailto:twash@willamette.edu)

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# WELCOME

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## Colleen, Cornered

### A troubling piece of advice



**Colleen  
Martin**

OPINIONS EDITOR

It feels like it was just yesterday that I, too, was unpacking my things in my freshman dorm room, quietly wondering to myself why I had so much stuff.

Who am I kidding? It practically was yesterday. Three years are nothing in the scheme of things, and I won't pretend that I've become wise and all-knowing in the meantime. Also, I still have too much stuff. But that's another matter.

The thing is, I had a lot of trouble deciding what to write for my first column of the new school year. I spent quite a long time trying to come up with some bit of unique advice, but ultimately, I ended up with a bunch of ugly doodles on my paper and zero words to offer you. I was throwing my stuffed goat, Peak, in the air as I always do for inspiration, when I suddenly remembered the dilemma I had while packing up for college.

Back in 2006, while compressing space bags in a vain attempt to fit everything in my suitcases, I found myself deeply concerned about Peak. I have had Peak since I was six, when he instantly became my favorite, and he has lived happily on my bed ever since. Here I was, on the cusp of one of the largest transitions of my life: moving out, moving to a new state and going to a new school. It all felt very grown up to me, and yet I couldn't imagine not bringing along Peak. I was sure everyone else wouldn't even have to ponder the matter, as they were fully matured and didn't need something as foolish as a stuffed animal.

Thinking this a sound conclusion, my plan was to leave him behind. Most others agreed this was a good idea, and had recommended it from the start. But a few days before my departure, I panicked. What if I couldn't sleep? A new city, a new room, a new bed? It all seemed too overwhelming, and I simply couldn't part with Peak. I asked my mom what she thought, and she was appalled that I would even think about leaving him. Knowing how much he meant to me, it seemed odd to her that I would question myself.

So along he came, stowed away in my suitcase. I figured my roommate would probably laugh, but she only commented on how cute he was. Over time I learned others had brought along their own stuffed friends, but that's beside the point.

I think we're all given a fair amount of advice about college, from study habits to social tips to whether or not we should bring comfort items. While I appreciated all the guidance I received, I began to let the advice dictate my actions. It's hard to remember that what works for some doesn't necessarily work for others. I suppose that even if you recognize good and well-intentioned counsel, it doesn't mean you're ready to take it.

Though the two Toms have given you much better tips, my suggestion would be to not always feel the need to follow advice. Of course, that leaves you with a paradox.

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## EDITORIAL

# Roommates: How to survive living with one your freshman year

Hello, freshmen. We promise to enlighten you with opinionated editorials as the year progresses, but this week we at the editorial board have decided to open with a few helpful tidbits on one important aspect of college life.

Ah, dorm rooms. This is one of the few times in your life when the term "roommate" will be literal. One tiny room, two strangers: this combination can be more challenging than that complex variables class you accidentally signed up for. Never fear, the editorial board is here to help you navigate your way through the maze of sharing a living space.

**Rules are awesome.** But you know what's more awesome? Knowing where to draw the line. If your list exceeds five key rules, you've gone too far. You don't need to set each other's bedtimes, or stipulate time-outs for violations.

**Talk often.** We've heard communication is the key to a healthy relationship, and that's probably true, but again, be careful about balance. Roommates are tricky since you are thrown quickly into a living situation, and the temptation to share intimate details can be overwhelming. Sharing helps you understand one another, but over-sharing can make you scared of one another.

**Spend time apart.** If you've gotten to the point where you're more than just roommates, you're also friends, fantastic! But if you go to breakfast, lunch and dinner together, and happen to share a class, we assure you, your roommate's company will wear thin. If you start to notice the small tics, like how he scratches his nose after sneezing, or how her breathing gets heavier while chewing, then run, don't walk, far, far away from your roommate for a good three hours. If you hear his or her footsteps behind you, you have a whole different problem.

**Don't touch each other's beds.** Come on, this is obvious.

If you have permission, that's fine, and possibly weird, but seriously, leave the sacred place of sleeping alone.

**No unexpected exiling.** This is not only avoidable, it's just uncool. No one likes to come back to find a sock or some other object signaling one's temporary banishment on the door. Even expatriates get some kind of notice, and so should your roommate.

**No smelly things.** Did you know taste is 75 percent smell? If you let something mold, get stale or if you refuse to launder your gym socks for too long, it gives your roommate the automatic right to throw said smelly things out the window. Speaking of smelly things.

**Shower often.** How often in your adult life can you get away without paying a water bill? Hardly ever, so grab your loofah and shower shoes and get going. As we said before, your roommate does have the right to throw smelly things out the window...

Ultimately, you don't have to be best friends forever with your roommate, but you will have to find some way to get along, or at least tolerate one another. It's sort of like an arranged marriage: you didn't pick each other, but divorces are just so messy and full of paperwork.

## COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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## TOM'S THOUGHTS: An introduction: Freshman disorientation



**T O M  
ACKERMAN**

COLUMNIST

Do you smell that reader? Do you? Take a good whiff. That's the smell of the first *Collegian* of an exciting new year. (Unless of course you are reading this online at the *Collegian* Web site, in which case you are smelling raw internets, which I cannot condone). Anyhow, as has become the custom, my first column of the year contains advice for the new class of freshmen. The advice I give to freshmen is generally good advice for those of any age, though, so if you are, in fact, not a freshman, don't despair! Please, keep reading.

If you are a freshman, then hello, I'm Tom Ackerman, and when I'm not fighting

*If you are a freshman, then hello, I'm Tom Ackerman, and when I'm not fighting crime or participating in jigsaw-puzzle tournaments, I write this bi-weekly humor column for the Collegian. My humor has been described as "multifarious," "transcendent" and "ultra rad."*

crime or participating in jigsaw-puzzle tournaments, I write this bi-weekly humor column for the *Collegian*. My humor has been described as "multifarious," "transcendent" and "ultra rad." Needless to say, my intricate puns and advanced poop jokes might be too complex for many of you incoming freshmen to decipher. Thus, I have taken the liberty of inserting helpful explanatory notes throughout the column within brackets [like these], not to be confused with parentheses (such as these here). I'm sure you'll be confidently understanding and enjoying all of my columns in no time. [Funny, because I'm lying. You see, I'm a man of mystery, never to be fully understood.]

**Bit of freshman advice #1:** If you don't have a Facebook account, get one immediately. I don't care what your reasons are for not having one, and nobody else

does either. No matter your excuse, you just come off sounding like a self-righteous neo-Luddite. So hurry up and get a Facebook account or else you'll be left out of nearly everything ever. [Funny, because it's true.]

Don't even finish reading this column. Skip class if you have to, because getting a Facebook is now your number one priority. [Luddite is an inherently funny word. Just say it... Luddite.]

**Bit of advice for freshmen #2:** OK, does everyone reading have a Facebook now? Good, because my second bit of advice is NEVER LEAVE YOUR COMPUTER UNATTENDED WHILE YOU ARE LOGGED ON TO FACEBOOK! In fact, don't even save your username and password in your browser. Why? Well, the only thing college kids like to do more than screw each other is to screw with each other's Facebook pages.

What's that? These are your friends

in the above paragraph. The internet is serious business.]

**Final bit of advice:** Make good choices. Now I know you've probably heard this a lot from your parents. Unfortunately, it is very vague counsel. Thus, I've made my own version that is much clearer: Don't do anything that might earn you an unflattering nickname. Such a nickname would follow you all through college. Say your name is Mike, and you made some... less than admirable choices in your first weeks here. You might be dubbed Skanky Mike by the community at large. At this point there is nothing you can do about it. You can't say, "hey, chums, I'd much prefer to be called Awesome Mike or even Just OK Mike." Such pleas would be useless.

The only way to change an unflattering college nickname is by replacing it with a worse one. For instance, say our friend Skanky Mike is driving down I-5 one day when he accidentally runs over a koala that has escaped from the zoo. He would then immediately become Mike Who Kills Koalas. Of course, if his promiscuity continued to be a problem, there is no reason why he couldn't become Skanky Mike, That Guy Who Kills Koalas (I rather doubt that would happen though, since what kind of woman would be with a man who kills koalas?).

And once Mike is universally known as a loose-moral'd koala-killin' heathen, he'll be very unlikely to find a steady job, and his grades will likely plummet because all liberal arts professors love koalas. What I'm trying to say here is make good choices. [The above paragraph is funny because it subtly implies that Salem might have a zoo. Ha Ha! Preposterous!]

Well I've run out of space, so I guess that's all the wisdom I'll impart on you freshmen for now. I hope you all become devoted readers of the *Collegian*.

Happy new school year everybody!

*Death threats? Marriage proposals? Drawings of me you made in class when you really ought to have been studying?*

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OPINION

# ... And to help other people at all times

TOM BROUNSTEIN  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Welcome to Willamette. You might have heard of it before. We're the school that had a perfect football record last year, has recruitment material telling you how many baby ducks are born on campus each year (that's why I came!), and the one you're planning on attending for the next four years.

And it's going to be a good four years. You'll meet some of the most awesome people you can imagine, see incredible things, expand your mind and imagination, and have countless opportunities of which most people can only dream. Parents, I can promise you that your kids are at a good place. That won't stop you from worrying, of course, but trust me, they'll be happy. It's going to be a good four years.

That's not to say there won't be rough spots, though. I'll be honest, there are going to be bad days, weeks or semesters. There are going to be hard times. It's not going to be the perfect dream every single second. There will be more good than bad, but there will be bad.

Here's the dirty little secret we kept from you until now: college is hard. There are going to be times when you can't make it on your own. You'll need a shoulder to lean on, and you will be thankful when your friends are there to help you stand. There are going to be times when you need help, and you'll be shocked at how hard those around you work to help you. From the students to the professors, the people here will be there for you when you need it.

And you should be there for them. Perhaps the most important piece of advice I can give incoming freshmen - or anyone, for that matter - is to help other people at all times.

When you have a big paper or giant math problem set looming over you, it can be hard to think outside of your own little world. It's difficult to think about how your friends are doing, but make that effort and be there for them, even if it means putting off your work for a bit. Grades are secondary to life, and taking care of each other is far more important than some score your teachers give you. Don't forget that.

Last fall, I was having a bad day. I had clocked about 12 hours worth of homework for the day (which is far from normal) and was frustrated and stuck on a differential equations problem for nearly an hour when I got a phone call from home saying my grandmother was in a coma and wouldn't wake up. The doctors doubted she would make it through the night (she lasted a

he had delayed working on it until after midnight to take care of me when I really needed it.

I have a multitude of stories like this, where I'm on both ends, and they are how you survive the tough times that will be thrown at you. So, during the next four years, make a point to look at those around you, see how they're doing, and most of all

*There are going to be times when you need help, and you'll be shocked at how hard those around you work to help you. From the students to the professors, the people here will be there for you when you need it.*

week - she always was a stubborn woman). After trying to deal with this myself, wrestling my emotions, I walked across the hall to my friend's room. He took one look at me and asked what he needed to do, without hesitation. I found out later that he had an essay due the next day, but that

be there for them when they need it. Even the simplest things, a phone call, a hug, or just a smile, can make all the difference. When you can tell someone needs a helping hand, be there and help them stand.

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## ORDERED ORDURE: A lesson on becoming your own multiverse



**MICHELLE  
K I M**  
COLUMNIST

I extend a hearty and only somewhat apprehensive welcome to you, the incoming class of 2013. Having just sprung forth from the fertile depths of your pre-collegiate lives, you will no doubt begin your careers at our institution with ambition and admirable strength of commitment. In fact, my hopes for this class are so high that I expect the following: even when you aren't busy discussing string theory and Sartrean metaphysics over Jell-o shots (it's all we do in college, duh), you will tirelessly continue in your pursuit of academic excellence by participating in any number of the fine activities available on campus.

But before you sign up for more than (even) you can handle, consider the following advice, which I would like to offer on behalf of the celebrated theoretical physicist, Lee Smolin.

*Fecund Universes Theory*, also known as *Cosmological Natural Selection (CNS)*, is the theory that universes reproduce and give rise to offspring, which are then selected for their ability to reproduce and adapt in the multiverse. To put it simply, Smolin took Darwin's theory of natural selection and applied it to the cosmos: rather than animals competing with each other to reproduce, CNS involves universes competing with each other to spawn more baby universes.

However, lacking the proper equipment as we think of it (masses of stars and dust do not have girl-parts and boy-parts), how does a universe reproduce? Smolin suggests that black holes do the job. When matter collapses to form a black hole, he proposes, it doesn't just pack itself into a "dead" singularity but creates another universe *à la* the Big Bang with properties that are at once as similar and different to the parent universe (the universe in which the black hole was formed) as

a child is to a parent.

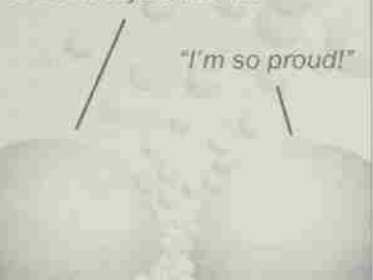
It would follow that the more black holes a universe creates and sustains, the more "fecund," or fertile, it is. The more offspring an organism produces, the more likely it is that some of those offspring will survive and carry on its genetic legacy. Similarly, universes that are ideally suited to continue existing and produce similar offspring will dominate in the multiverse.

This charming theory is an application of Darwinian principles of evolution on a larger scale - Smolin takes one way of looking at life on earth and expands it to look at life in the multiverse. Trippy, as we brainy college kids call it. But what if we take this point of view and focus it, rather than expanding it, on, say, our academic careers? Every activity or topic of study that you choose to undertake while at Willamette will only be maximally beneficial to you if you can devote maximum effort.

Choose well. You, as your own brilliant little multiverse, only have so much time and attention to divide among your interests. Those pursuits which are best suited to our abilities and temperament will be the fecund universes of our lives - birthing achievements, useful skills and valuable lessons faster than you can say "My pet rabbits got into the Spanish Fly!"

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*"Look honey, our babies are growing up to be universes just like us!"*



CARTOON BY STEPHANIE JONES

## Question of the week

If you needed to hide something at Willamette, the shape and size of, say, a body, where would you hide it?



“

*In the mass of freshmen. No one would ever find it.*

TOM BROUNSTEIN  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

“

*The cadaver lab, and you could get rid of the formaldehyde smell with a tomato juice bath.*

JEFFREY COLLINS  
DESIGNER



“

*Next to the law school. There's already one there.*

TIM WALSH  
SPORTS EDITOR



PHOTOS BY COLLEEN MARTIN

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COMIC BY STEPHANIE JONES

start

finish

Willamette seen from a freshman point of view

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