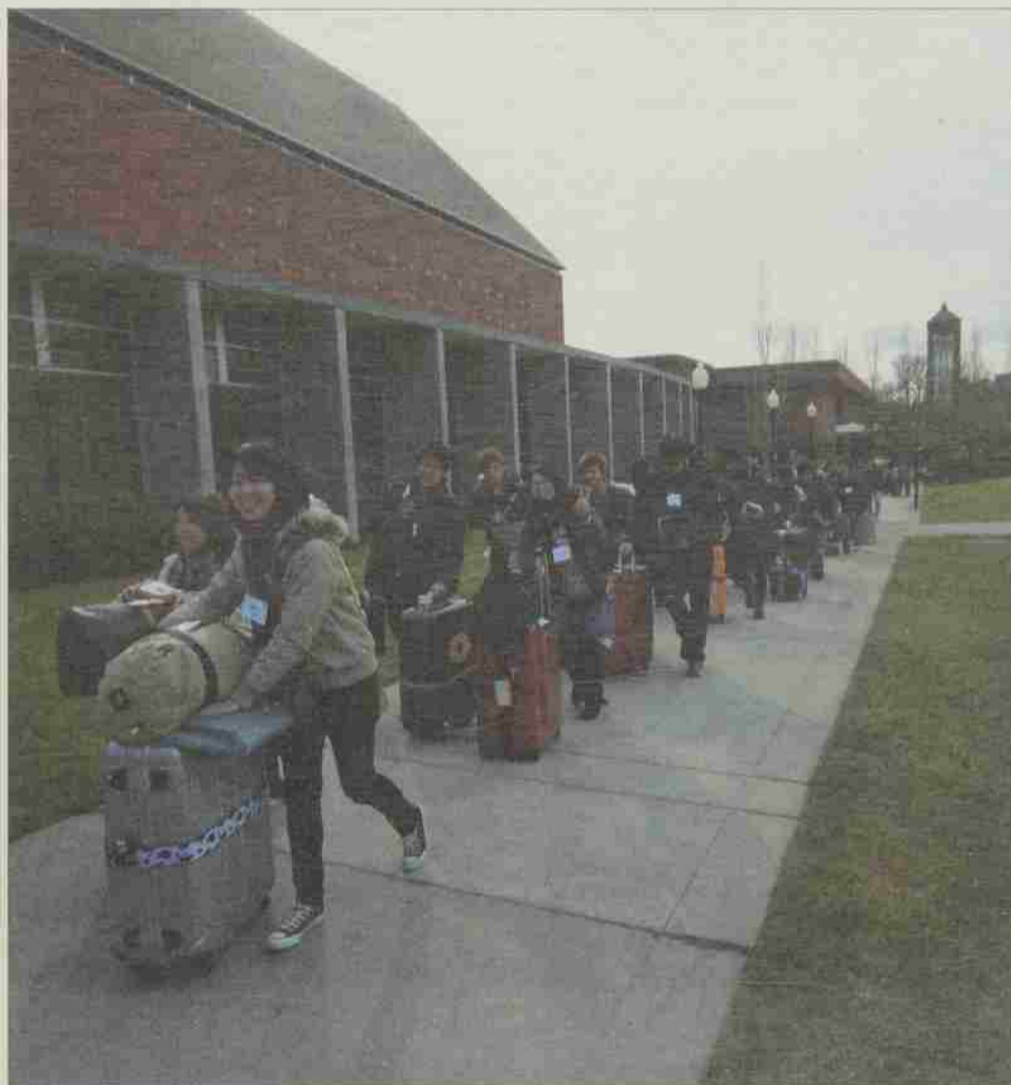


THEME ISSUE

# COLLEGIAN

2007-2008 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE WINNER • VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL. CXX • ISSUE 17 • FEBRUARY 11, 2009



## COMMUNITY

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# University celebrates Black History Month

Black Student Union sponsors speaker, other events to come

MICHELLE BELLUSCI  
CONTRIBUTOR

On Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 7pm, entrepreneur and motivational speaker Marshawn Evans addressed students in Smith Auditorium. This was the first of several events that the Black Student Union (BSU) will sponsor in celebration of Black History Month.

According to sophomore and BSU member Lucille Kituku, BSU selected Evans as a speaker for Black History Month because of her impressive résumé and her reputation as a motivational speaker. "She seemed like a very good candidate because it's not very often, especially on



COURTESY OF ASIS SPEAKERS  
Marshawn Evans, author of "Skirts in the Boardroom: a Woman's Survival Guide to Success in Business & Life," spoke to students last Wednesday about legacy.

this side of the United States, that you see young, successful black women like that, and so I thought it would be good to give Willamette students a different take on success," Kituku said.

Evans is the founder of MEU Consulting, and is currently President of Edge 3M Sports and Entertainment. She recently released her first book, "Skirts in the Boardroom: a Woman's Survival Guide to Success in Business & Life."

Evans is also a graduate of Georgetown Law School, finished 3<sup>rd</sup> runner up in the 2002 Miss America Competition and was a contestant on NBC's The Apprentice. "Everything that she's done and that she's accomplished by the age of 29 is amazing," Kituku said.

The subject of Evan's talk on Wednesday was the issue of legacy - what it means and what it requires. According to Evans, leaving a legacy requires 4 things: caring about an issue, confidence, communication and connections.

She left students with suggestions such as "to engage in the world around [them] ... [and] to give before [they] ask," in order to find issues that they care about and to make connections that could be vital to their career.

Evans also emphasized the importance of knowing one's talents, abilities, gifts and skills in order to have confidence. "Knowing who you are fundamentally is important," Evans said.

According to sophomore and BSU member Hazel Johnson, the event turned out differently than she had expected, but for the most part, students who attended enjoyed the speech. "It wasn't what we had planned it to be as far as what she spoke about and the turn out, but from what I hear, people really enjoyed themselves," Johnson said.

Johnson said that she had expected Evans to talk more about Black History Month, and its importance not only to the African-American community, but to all Americans. "She kind of skewed away from that, but I think a lot of people took away what they needed to take away, as far as having confidence and being able to pursue their dreams and going forward ... it was good to have her come

and open our eyes to different things," Johnson said.

BSU has four other events planned this month: a showing of the film Rosewood, an open-mic night during Africa Week, the Tunnel of Oppression and the "Rep Yo Class" dance. "We're really excited, we've got a lot of things planned this month," Johnson said.

For the first time, BSU will have a room in the Tunnel of Oppression. According to Kituku, rather than focusing on the oppression of African-Americans in the past, the room will focus on the oppression that they currently face. "We're going to emphasize the oppression that a lot of us have felt here at Willamette and in the past few years," Kituku said.

Johnson said that she hopes Black History Month will help students to better understand African-American culture by learning more about its past. "What I would like for people to take away from Black History Month in general ... [is] to just be open, and to want to learn and understand," Johnson said.

Kituku said that she hopes that students will gain a better understanding of the purpose of Black History Month. "I feel like a lot of people don't know what Black History Month is or what it's celebrating. It's supposed to be a reflection of where we've come from and where we're going ... being able to see people like Marshawn Evans be as successful as she is with all the racism that is still in our country is amazing," Kituku said.

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#### ► upcoming black history month events

Showing of "Rosewood," Friday, Feb. 13, 7 pm, Smith Auditorium  
"Africa Speaks" open-mic night: Thursday, Feb. 19, 7-8:30 pm, the Bistro  
Tunnel of Oppression: beginning Tuesday, Feb. 24  
"Rep Yo Class" dance: Saturday, Feb. 28, 10 pm, Cat Cavern

# Roxy nightclub opens where Lefty's closed

NOAH ZAVES  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Sixteen months after Lefty's boarded up, a new nightclub will open in the State St. venue. Roxy, scheduled for a Feb. 14 grand opening, will include a wide variety of music and feature local bands.

Roxy will primarily serve pizza and pasta, co-owner Russell Moenich said, with a less extravagant menu than Lefty's. But Roxy will feature a diverse range of bands in contrast to Lefty's blues-centered programming.

Moenich and his business partner Jeff Schutt chose the name early in the leasing process, at a meeting with their real estate agent. "Roxy" was inspired by the venerable Roxy Theater (with one "x") in Hollywood, CA.

Lo Holahan is a senior anthropology major at Willamette, and a server at Roxy. She said another senior told her about Roxy's open interview date. "I showed up, and I waited in line for three hours, and then I had about a minute-and-a-half interview," she said, "and I got the job."

Holahan said that she likes the idea of having live music every night she works. She has served in a small restaurant before, and for Bon Appetit on campus, but this is her first time in a nightclub. "Lefty's was blues only," she said, "and now we'll have a lot more variety here: jazz, blues, [rock and roll], even bluegrass. Some guy came in and dropped off a CD with a didgeridoo band, so who knows? It's gonna have all types here. I like the idea of diversity."

Moenich pointed out a few changes

in the venue since Lefty's moved out in October of 2007. He and Schutt painted the walls "angry cranberry," as Holahan described the color, "to match the pizza sauce," Moenich said. According to Moenich, Lefty's mint green walls were a little too brash for their taste.

Other changes include an upgraded sound system, a disco ball, and more advanced stage lighting, including an aluminum trellis that frames the stage.

Roxy will include a full bar, and weekly theme nights. Sunday nights will feature movies, beer and pizza. Mondays will feature martinis to accompany the Bill Hughes Jazz Jam.

Server Megan Espinosa said that Roxy's management appeals to her. "The owners got everything together really well," Espinosa said. "They're very professional, and plus they play jazz, blues, rock, everything. I like that type of music."

Schutt has 30 years' experience running restaurants, and has run 15 restaurants across the country, according to Moenich. "We met on a different deal in Ohio and I sort of fell in love with his operating philosophy and his experience," Moenich said. "And we both have a passion for music. A deep, deep passion for music." The other project fell through, so this is the first restaurant they have opened together.

Holahan said that she likes the vibe that Roxy is creating. "Having live music, and specials nights, and Martini Mondays, and having ice-melting contests with people's butts, you know. There's gonna be a lot of

really fun events, and contests, and they are gonna bring in a lot of fun, young people to come in and enjoy the music."

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#### ► more details

For Roxy's hours and upcoming events, see the ad on p. 12.



Roxy made several improvements to the venue's stage, including new lights, a disco ball, and an upgraded speaker system.

COVER PHOTOS BY BEHZOD SIRJANI

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# Increase in TIUA class prompts restructure

JESSE RIEHM  
CONTRIBUTOR

The incoming class of 147 TIUA students tested the university's and TIUA's system.

"The two primary areas [the large number of students] has impacted are the instructional/academics and campus life," Executive Vice President of TIUA Gunnar Gundersen said. Last year's class was 112 students.

Director of Campus Life and Academic Services for TIUA Masaki Shimada said that there was a concern about housing such a large number of TIUA students. "We had some fear that maybe we would have to open up some classroom to make into a triple or something, but so far we haven't heard of those things," Shimada said.

Another adjustment TIUA had to make was with the International Peer Coaches (IPCs). Normally, according to Gundersen, there are eight to ten IPCs. TIUA hired fourteen this year.

"We had a good group of people to select, so we didn't have so much of a problem finding the candidates," Shimada, who oversees the IPC program, said.

Positions TIUA might have a hard time filling, however, are Tomodachi program host families, according to TIUA Director of University Relations and Special Programs Barby Dressler.



BEHZOD SIRJANI

Tokyo International University of America students arrived last Monday.

A Tomodachi family's responsibilities are "to meet our students at least once a month, maintain contact with them either by e-mail, phone or regular mail, and to ensure their safety and well-being on all our outings," Tomodachi participant John Patzer said in an e-mail. Patzer has been involved with the program for 15 years with his wife Mary.

Patzer said that they stay in touch with most students after they returned to Japan. Some even come back to America to visit, and the Patzers will be attending the wedding of a former TIUA student this year.

Along with the concern of not having enough Tomodachi families, there is a general concern for the quality of the experience for individual TIUA students.

Kaneko Intern David Taylor said he worked on how Residence Life staff could reach out to TIUA students. "The biggest concern experienced by the various offices on campus was how the large TIUA class this year would provide a good experience for them," Taylor said in an e-mail.

A smaller proportion of TIUA students will be able to participate in activities like TaB, according to Taylor.

Those students may take every chance they get though, according to Gundersen. "A couple have even talked about starting their own clubs," Gundersen said.

TIUA tries to maintain small class sizes, according to Dressler. "Most of our classes are 15 to a class, I think," Dressler said.

To keep that small class size, TIUA had to increase the number of professors, according to Gundersen. "We hired two full-time temporary instructors, and we hired some additional part time instructors," Gundersen said.

Gundersen said that they also staggered class times and offered a wider range of available class periods. "We've had to think about just crowd management issues," he said. "We'll be utilizing every available classroom, basically. We've converted one of our spaces into a classroom/computer lab."

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## Eisenberg |

Finalist for Jewish Book Award



### The First to Cry Down Injustice?

*Western Jews and Japanese Removal during WWII*



ELLEN M. EISENBERG

BEHZOD SIRJANI

"The First to Cry Down Injustice? Western Jews and Japanese Removal During WWII" was a finalist for the 2008 National Jewish Book Award. The book, by History professor Ellen Eisenberg, is about the reaction of West Coast Jews to Japanese wartime incarceration policies.

The award is administered by the Jewish Book Council, which has honored authors contributing to Jewish literature for over fifty years. Eisenberg was one of the two finalists recognized for American Studies.

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OSCAR NOMINEE REVIEW: 'Frost/Nixon' | R

## 'Frost' features Tricky Dick's last picture show



Michael Sheen and Frank Langella resurrect television history in Best Picture nominee "Frost/Nixon."

COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

TOM BROUNSTEIN  
GUEST WRITER

In 1974 Richard Nixon became the only American president to resign from office. Amid charges of obstruction of justice, perjury and conspiracy, Nixon was forced to resign with no political support and a near certainty of impending criminal charges. Shortly afterwards, Gerald Ford gave Nixon a full presidential pardon — he would face no prosecution for his wrongdoings. Through it all, Nixon never admitted to the charges, nor apologized to America for what had occurred.

This is the backdrop behind "Frost/Nixon." The movie follows the historical events of the Frost/Nixon interviews, while supplying its own amount of drama. In the movie, David Frost is a popular TV personality in Australia and the UK, a comedian and talk show host, who wants to break through into the limelight of America. He decides to interview a disgraced Nixon to reestablish his

credibility and become popular in America. All he needs to do is get Nixon to admit to something and apologize. Nixon, for his part, is looking for a way to reestablish his credibility and recreate his image, put the final word on his presidency and put it in a positive light. Beyond that, he's looking for a good fight. We see one of Nixon's motivations throughout the film is his urge for a battle. He doesn't just want to win, he wants to kick Frost's scrawny little ass into the ground.

Thus, the film is really a clash of these two personalities. What's remarkable is you see it all — the struggles and triumphs and failures — from just how these two people compose themselves during the interviews. You see a power struggle in how these people talk and act. With all the movies that seem to hit you over the head with their conflict, it's an incredible change of pace to see one with subtlety.

"Frost/Nixon" was just nominated for best picture, and

it's easy to see why. My biggest complaint with the film, really, is that I showed up a minute late. The acting was incredible and I hope Frank Langella earns a best actor award for his portrayal of Nixon. It was made even more noticeable because the movie was interspersed with clips from interviews with the real people being portrayed and you saw just how close the actors were to the mark.

The movie's greatest achievement is surely its portrayal of Nixon. By the end of the film you see Nixon as a broken old man, lonely and hated carrying the burden of his sins. He's lost everything and is disgraced, essentially living in exile in California. For him, retirement is comparable to death, but he's forced into it all the same. I felt pity for him, something I hadn't expected at the film's start. You still don't like him, and you know that all of this is his own fault, yet you still feel for him. For that alone, the movie should be honored.

Yet, there's much more going on here; too much for me to cover in this review. The movie seems to be a commentary on the weakness of modern journalism, and there are firm and obvious parallels to the Bush era. The characterization of Frost should be mentioned as the film shows him take the interviews more seriously and rise to the challenge that Nixon presents, going from friendly talk show host to hard interviewer over the course of the film. And the fact that the entire film creates complex and exciting drama by just showing two people talking should not be neglected.

This is easily the best film I've seen in a year and I would gladly see it again. It's more cerebral than most films out there, but it rises to the challenge and creates an intricate and compelling drama that fits the times that it's discussing.

★★★★★

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MUSIC REVIEW: Levator | 'The Biggest Waves Come At Night'

## Sometimes 'community' means telling a band its album sucks



MICHAEL  
CAULEY  
REVIEWS EDITOR

I'm just going to say upfront, I'm not a music reviewer at heart. Yes, I'm as big a connoisseur of music as anyone (I have Enya tracks on my computer, for Christ's sakes), but I've never been able to follow the criteria set by my equivalents at Pitchfork or Blender (I'm not even really sure what a "bridge" is). That said, I know what I know. Therefore, when I got Seattle-based band Levator's first album, "The Biggest Waves Come At Night" in the mail from their record company in December, and listened to a random track in the middle of the record and heard nothing but wailing and what seemed like an ethereal synthesizer in the background, I don't think anybody can really blame me for shelving it for a later date.

Returning to this album two months later, I don't think I was that off-base. I know media reviewers usually get products free in order to give their critical opinion, but I'm rather new to this experience. Especially odd for me is getting a copy of a CD that hasn't even hit stores yet, since I'm famously behind the times on current music unless I'm prodded to catch up (2001 was really my year). Yes, I constantly complain about the "state of the world today" when reviewing music, but that's only because I have a steel trap-like mind about what used to be the industry's major product. There used to be rock, pop, R&B, rap, country and then all the other stuff that never sold very well.

However, the explosion of the indie scene has led most artists to believe that if they don't experiment with each and every damn track, then they'll be just as "corporate" as Britney Spears and Katy Perry (and

it's not like these ladies aren't doing quite well for themselves). After awhile, the pretension just gets irritating.

Specifically, "The Biggest Waves Come At Night" seems almost genetically engineered to tick me off in this respect. It starts off with some nice light rock, but veers from middle-of-the-road Pixies to faux-psychedelic, Woodstock-era crap that would entertain if the songs meant anything, but they don't. All but two of the eight tracks are longer than five minutes, and I couldn't tell you one solid theme or emotion that was expressed in all that time. The denouement, track #8 ("Trampoline") is almost insulting in how much time it takes up of your life. You just want to reach into iTunes, subdue the drummer, and set up a beat fast enough that it will get the band out of your life before you're old enough to receive a pension.

Don't get me wrong, I'm glad about the

plethora of music out there. Even though there is probably not enough time in a human life to listen to all the records being put out in just one calendar year, it's reassuring that everyone with an instrument is getting their say.

However, I'm only human, and as a person who has been weaned on Saturday morning cartoons and VH1, I need actual entertainment when I buy something billed as such. I don't watch a movie or listen to music in order to learn more about their craft per se; I do so in order to get some enjoyment out of the experience. If that isn't provided to me, then I get annoyed. This is one of those cases.

My advice to Levator and similar bands? Listen to some No Doubt before it's too late. They can show you the way. I promise.

★★★★★

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RESTAURANT REVIEW: Da Vinci's Ristorante | 180 SE High Street

## Good food and bad atmosphere at one of Salem's "finest" eateries

SAM HODDER  
GUEST WRITER

Perhaps you're hungry for Italian, but also looking for a nostalgic emersion into the wine bar culture of the 1990s? Voila! Da Vinci's Ristorante is the place for you. Not more than a few blocks from the Willamette Campus, Da Vinci's offers an experience reminiscent of fine dining. However, the mystique of a fancy Italian restaurant soon gives way to the reality of fairly decent meal that is unfortunately served by an unmannered staff at an inflated price.

One of the nice things Da Vinci's does offer is the ability to order half or full order dishes depending on the size of a person's appetite, or on the size of a college student's wallet. The menu offered dishes that were simple and savory, but lacking in the extra something that the price tag suggested. My date ordered the salmon, which came on a bed of mashed potatoes and greens, topped in a basic white sauce. The flavor of the combined foods meshed well, but the salmon on its own was left wanting. The braised beef and pasta dish that I ordered

was pleasant and well flavored, yet a tad on the watery side. Both dishes were amiable to the palate, but the simplicity fell short of what the cost implied.

When a restaurant sets its prices for such simple dishes so loftily, one would expect the difference to be made up in atmosphere. Unfortunately, the ambience was ruined by a few different factors. Catching the tail end of a live performance scheduled for each Friday, it was easy to see that a cohesive scheme involving music, setting and food was possible. Once the performers dismissed themselves, we were bombarded with the canned music that Da Vinci's had on hand. Conversation was overpowered by the blaring bass and synth techno beats that reigned supreme in wine bars more than a decade ago. The cliché may have worked in the downstairs barroom, but was out of place for the fine Italian motif attempted in the upstairs restaurant.

To further the deterioration of ambience, some members of the staff seemed overly colloquial and casual. While they

may have been trained to lay the napkin on a patron's lap, our waiter tossed the cloth haphazardly, rushed through his required lines and left us feeling as though we were inconveniencing him. The food would have been satisfying alone, but the fact is they attempt to sell more than food; they attempt to sell the whole ambience, and the ambience is exactly what falls short.

It is notably difficult to find a nice place in Salem for a special occasion or date, but the Friday nights (and occasional Saturdays) when Da Vinci's offers live music is when the stars align. Though it is a conditional one, I give my recommendation to Da Vinci's for their Friday night presentation. The atmosphere finally matches the menu; simple and sweet. However, make sure to get a reservation for these surefire Friday nights as any other time of the week could be hit or miss.

★★★★★

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# The good, the bad, and the boozy

## The Collegian community gets liquored up



Pete's place is located at 356 State St.

**TYLER THOMPSON**  
**SPORTS EDITOR**

Pete's Place. Sunday night. 8:00. Five of us sit around a dingy gray table in the corner, spitting distance from the bar.

There's Noah, the editor-in-chief, telling stories about home-made press passes and how he got a slice of pizza for free one time, occasionally laughing too loud at jokes that just aren't that funny, occasionally saying something so nerdy that it's hard to stomach the fact that he's actually our boss.

There's Connie, quiet, with her camera poised for a good photo op. We're positive that within the hour something's going to happen that's well worth a photograph. We're hoping Michael drinks enough that he wants to go streaking. We're praying for a cover shot.

Michael's on my right and he's never been to a bar before. He counts up the number of drinks he's had in his entire lifetime. He makes it to six, ironic only because that's the same number I downed before I came out tonight.

I recently ordered a pitcher of PBR, but not for the group. The beer was just for me. If Michael could have thought straight at this point, my guess is he would have been impressed. He turns to me and says, "I feel weird. ... I have been three quarters this drunk one time before." I smile at him. Me too, Michael, me too.

On the other side is Alisa, who organized this whole thing, who thought it would be a great idea to dedicate half her page in the arts section to alcohol. What's artistic about alcohol? Well, that's just what we came to find out. We might have come to a conclusion too. But if we did, I already forgot. Shocking.

Before I leave, I interview Michael, hoping he'll lay a golden nugget or two. Not to disappoint, he comes through in a big way. "I came to enjoy the company of people getting drunk," he said, slurring his way through the whole speech. "I find these people enlightening, and at least I'm not going to go home and hook up with any skanks."

Oh, Michael. If only I could have seen life through your eyes last night. Five of us, each about as different from one another as could possibly be conceived, bonding over rum and cokes, gin and juices and an ice-cold pitcher of PBR. Is there anything so beautiful?

Just one final note: This story would have been better if I could still read the notes I took in the bar on Sunday this morning. Seeing as the only words I can make out on the notepad are "Poop farts" I'm actually quite proud I pieced everything together as well as I did.

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From left: Conny Gledhill, Alisa Alexander, Noah Zaves, Krista Dungey, Michael Cauley, Tyler Thompson.

**ALISA ALEXANDER**  
**ARTS EDITOR**

Ah, Pete's Place. Being a townie and a WU student has allowed me to know where all awesome hideouts are in this town. My personal favorite is and probably always will be, Pete's Place. I'm about as comfortable in there as I am in my own living room. The only difference is that my living room isn't full of old men spending their welfare checks on cheap whisky and Keno.

Last Sunday night some of the over-21 members of the Collegian staff decided that as a community of exceedingly diverse people, we should get liquored up together. For our first outing I suggested that we go to Salem's best dive bar, located on State Street. Pete's has by far the stiffest and cheapest drinks in town, add wood-paneled walls, neon lighting, and genuinely friendly staff makes it a tough act to beat. It's the 'Cheers' of Salem—go there often enough and everyone will know your name.

It was a night of unexpectedly raucous fun. I watched Tyler Thompson, the Sports editor, down an entire pitcher of PBR (is that really a surprise?) and had the great pleasure of purchasing Michael Cauley, the Reviews editor, his first Jager Bomb. Three gin and tonics later I was talking to the brilliant photographer Connie Gledhill about

the finer points of still-life painting and taking drunken pictures with the bartender.

Like Tyler, I am also having a somewhat difficult time remembering the finer points of the evening. I believe I made fun of Tyler's yellow legal pad by writing "Microsoft Word" on the top of the page (he did not find that so funny). That's what three drinks at Pete's will do to you. I predict that there may be many more outings of this nature under the pretense of a 'bar review'.

That night I learned that sports and arts are seemingly long lost siblings and that Michael can surprisingly hold his liquor quite well. I can't imagine a more different group of people spending time together. It made me realize that though seemingly totally different, we've all got that awesome factor in common. Plus after a few drinks everyone's your best friend.

I challenge you this: go out there and invite the two most random people you know out for a drink. See what happens. Often conversations with people who are completely unlike yourself can be the most interesting. Who knows, maybe that uber-genius you sit next to in biology or your server at the Bistro could become your new favorite person.

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### ART HISTORY FOR COCKTAIL PARTIES:

# We're not idiots (really, I promise)



**ALISA ALEXANDER**

ARTS EDITOR

I've heard all the possible stereotypes about art students. We're all stoners or alcoholics (sometimes both). We're pretentious. We're ego-inflated assholes with holier-than-thou attitudes. While these may be true in some instances, please bear in mind that we aren't the only ones with a dodgy reputation—let us not forget about, say, the frat-boy economics majors or chem students who use lab time to make drugs. We get a bad rap when we actually aren't all that bad.

If you haven't noticed, there is a beautiful brick building on the west end of campus called the 'art' building. What goes on in there? Who are these people who attend

classes on that estranged corner of WU? The small community of art and art history majors deserves a little more respect than we get. We may not spend 15 hours a week in lab or ace everything in multivariable calculus, but we aren't idiots, you know.

The theme this week is community, and thus I took it upon myself to dispel some myths about the one I hail from. I don't know how many times I've been asked how I'm gonna like being a barista for the rest of my life (haha, I get it, you think my major is useless) or mock the fact that I have a decent GPA (usually under the assumption that the requirements are easier in this department). They aren't, really. We may not be conducting crazy experiments, but art students and art historians require a unique set of skills to make it out alive.

Art students are placed under constant pressure to create original and exciting

pieces of art. They are critiqued in front of their peers, must spend hours in the studio toiling away because like most projects—things never quite turn out the way they are supposed to. Not only do they have to be technically skilled, take courses in all areas of art, but be intelligent enough to visually communicate concepts and ideas. This is no easy task. There is a reason I don't make art and instead just look at it.

Art history majors, on the other hand, must have a photographic visual memory. We essentially must be able to visually catalog the entire history of art, from prehistoric to modern day. This does require a lot of memorizing of dates, artists, titles of work, cultures and such. On top of that, we must learn to connect works to each other, understand relationships, form a genealogical and conceptual perspective and be able to communicate it adeptly. We endeavor to academically under-

stand one of the most important aspects of our culture, art. We also get to sound really cool at art openings and cocktail parties.

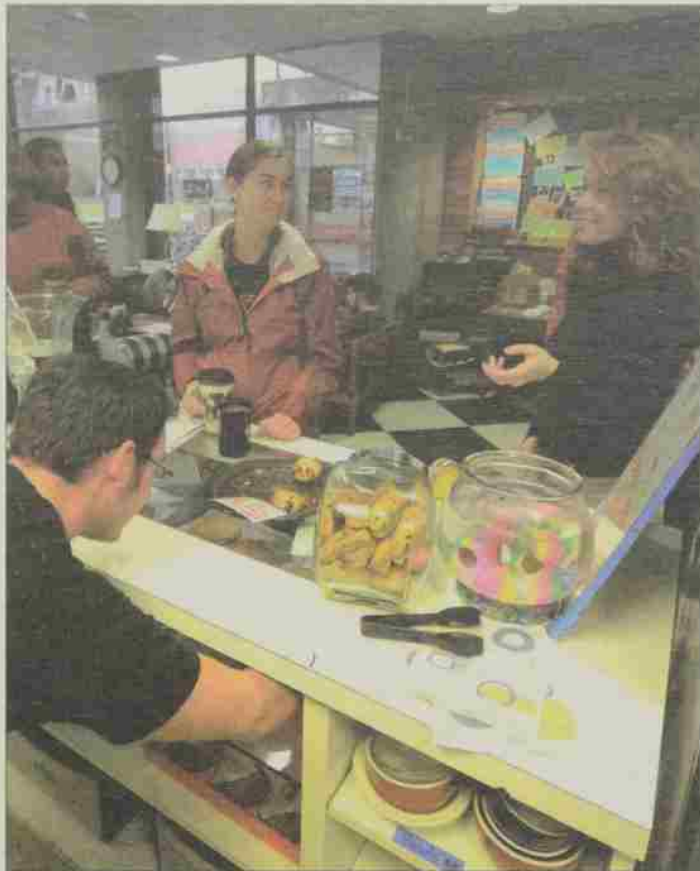
The point is, all fields of study need each other. Artists need scientists, and the sciences need art. Life would be pretty boring otherwise, plus after a while you realize that all fields are connected somehow.

Much of scholarship funding and grant awards go to the sciences. I'm not saying that they don't deserve it, but I'm going to go ahead and sound like a broken record and say we need more funding for the arts. And also, maybe a little more respect. Now if you'll excuse me, I need to go ponder early colonial portraiture and its relationship to late medieval iconography in regard to their uses of secular and discursive indexicality. So take that.

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# MORE THAN COOKIES AND COFFEE

## THE BISTRO'S UNIQUE ROLE IN THE WILLAMETTE COMMUNITY



BEHZOD SIRJANI  
CONTRIBUTOR

In the fall of 1986, the Bistro opened its doors for the first time. Armed with their grandmother's recipes, hand-me-down cafe tables, and a group of ten enthusiastic student staff, Eric Fishman and John Donovan laid the groundwork for what has become a unique Willamette institution.

In its current form, the Bistro still holds true to its founding, acting as a gathering place for students and faculty on campus, allowing them to stop by for cookies, coffee or conversation. On any given day, professors, students and staff sit at the tables and couches, with prospective students coming through on their daily tours. People play chess, complete crossword puzzles, share stories or sit and eat in silence, enjoying the comfort that the Bistro offers. "I spend more time here than anywhere else on campus on any given day, so I see the basic groups that are hanging out here, and they are people from all different age ranges, into different things and living in different areas on and off campus. A lot of people interact here," senior and Bistro employee Lauren Lathrop said. With a menu that offers everything from chocolate chip cookies to a knuckle sandwich (which is free, by the way), how could someone not find something to tickle their fancy at the Bistro? The menu even includes gluten free alternatives and vegan offerings.

Even the staff itself is diverse, with sophomores, juniors and seniors spanning many of the departments and extracurricular activities that Willamette offers. "The founders ... at their 20 year reunion, told me that they were happy they hired from so many different groups on campus because at one point the Bistro wasn't doing too well financially, and that week they told their whole staff ... who were a part of all different fraternities and all different sororities and all different groups on campus. [The employees] all went and told their clubs and their chapters to come and support the Bistro, and the next week came and everyone supported it," Bistro Manager Mo Goltz said. Ever since then, the management has tried to stay true to that tradition of inclusivity.

Because of the diverse team and environment, many Willamette students and professors feel at home in the Bistro, integrating it into their daily routine for a variety of reasons, including the atmosphere. "I almost never buy anything from the Bistro. I'm a loiterer. They should have kicked me out years ago," senior Ben Apel said, who is often found in the Bistro playing scrabble. "I think the reason that I come here so often now is because I live off campus. ... It's hard to go home in your breaks between lunch and your next class, or lunch and practice. You have to go somewhere on campus and you don't want to be in the library, so where do you go? You go to the Bistro," Apel said.

Besides the atmosphere, the Bistro serves as a meeting place for many students on campus, with its numerous couches, tables and chairs. "I've never met people anywhere else, even for group projects or class," sophomore Emily Knell said. Knell just transferred from Dickinson College in Pennsylvania, and her experience with campus coffee shops was much different there. "It was called the Quarry and I went there for totally different reasons. I didn't want to get to know anyone there because the people that I knew were not good people. I don't know many people here, but I like to come [to the Bistro] for the tea and social atmosphere," Knell said.

Yet the Bistro isn't the only spot for students to meet or socialize on campus, even though its central location and extended hours make it a highly convenient destination. "I think that within each department there is a core group that hangs out in a core area. You could say the same thing for dorms, but I would say [the Bistro] is on par with those. It's like how the Kaneko kids kick it in the atrium over there and the Matthews kids hang out in the basement," Lathrop said.

Convenience isn't the only issue, though. Many students and faculty identify a perceived attitude around the students who frequent the Bistro, as if they are a unique culture that speaks a foreign language, incomprehensible to outsiders. "I've heard it can get pretty cliquy [in the Bistro], but the whole campus

ALL PHOTOS BY BEHZOD SIRJANI

PICTURED CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Mike Isaacs, Rose Fullerton, Bethany Williams, Dana Kleinhesselink, Tom Salina, Caitlin Ellis, Professor Cindy Koenig-Richards, Dean Robert Hawkinson



is pretty cliquy. I know a lot of people who have never been in here. A lot of athletes never come in here, and that is a huge portion of campus," Apel said.

Even members of the freshman class have articulated mixed feelings about the Bistro. Some have made it their home, dropping by daily, while others claim to have no reason to visit. "None of my friends or I drink coffee and we can never find anywhere to sit in the Bistro, so we just hang out other places," an anonymous freshman said. "I'm sure it is great for some people, but we just don't have any business there," the student said.

Some sorority members offered similar opinions, pointing out that they have multiple places to study or socialize in their houses, plus the food is free. But on certain occasions, the Bistro can provide an escape for them. "I go [to the Bistro] for the change of scenery. I get sick of everything in the house so this is my escape," junior Caitlin Rathe said. "It's a great place. I get tons of work done here. Other times I meet new people. I met a big group of law students when I was sitting in the corner reading and they all came and filled in the couches around me. We just started talking and I still have Bistro dates with them. It's great," Rathe said.

History Department Chair and Professor William Duvall has witnessed the Bistro's entire lifespan at Willamette. "It has been a bit of a divisive place on campus. There are students who don't come in here, who exclude themselves. But I think it is a gathering place for students who want to be here. It has a creative feel. The students who work here play different music, so [the Bistro] isn't the same all of the time," Duvall said. "It has had its ups and downs... Whoever it is that screens the potential candidates has done a good job of selecting managers who work well together. But I think so much depends on the team. They create the atmosphere and the food and have gotten more diverse and interesting through the years. ... One of the things I like about this place is that it isn't pretentious," Duvall said.

While many students sing the Bistro's praises, the Willamette community can also be found at many other locations on and off campus. The Beanery, Governor's Cup and Coffee House Café all draw Willamette students with their own diverse atmospheres and individual quirks. On campus, dorm common spaces, television areas and Montag are all inhabited by students avoiding their homework or visiting with their peers. On any given night of the week, the Montag center in the Baxter complex is filled with students, but not for its coffee. "Montag has games, they have much larger selection of food stuffs, they have a television, there are a lot of things to do there and a lot of reasons to be there. But in the Bistro, people come to interact with others. Even if they are sitting in the corner with their earphones in and on their laptop, they are still a part of the environment. They are still interactive in some sense, because at some point they will look up and see someone they know and strike up a conversation," senior and Bistro kitchen manager Melissa Magaña said.

It is that opportunity to run into friends and strengthen the community feeling that keeps so many students coming back to the Bistro. For some, the Bistro has practically shaped their Willamette experience. "I worked here for a semester and then I took a semester off since I wasn't feeling like a part of the [Willamette] community. So I moved up to Seattle and I worked there and I was miserable and I missed my friends that I had here, I had completely taken them for granted and I missed them like crazy. I missed the Bistro so much," senior and financial manager Jessica Junke said. "So I got back here as fast as possible. After that I never took anything for granted."

No matter your purpose, the Bistro has something waiting for you, whether you want the cheapest cup of coffee in Salem, a diverse cookie selection or the chance to relax on some couches and catch up with your friends.

"I think [the Bistro] is one thing that people can get behind," Goltz said. "Everyone generally likes cookies and coffee and hanging out with friends."

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*I almost never buy anything from the Bistro. I'm a loiterer. They should have kicked me out years ago."*

**BEN APEL**  
SENIOR



## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Bearcats on life support after discouraging weekend

TIM WALSH  
STAFF WRITER

With just four games left, the Bearcats officially find their season on life support following two crushing losses over the weekend. With Friday's 77-65 loss at Whitworth University and Saturday's 88-84 overtime defeat at Whitman College, the Bearcats (9-10, 5-7 NWC) will



In Saturday's overtime loss to Whitman, post Cameron Mitchell (pictured here against Pacific) brought down 23 rebounds, the most in a single game since Ken Ashley had 36 in 1962.

need significant help to reach the playoffs for the second year in a row.

"I think we're focusing less on our record now, more on finishing as strong as we can," junior post Cameron Mitchell said. "We just have to keep playing."

The road swing to the NWC's eastern Washington schools is always tough, playing back-to-back nights in cities almost 200 miles apart. Last season, Willamette swept the trip and held high hopes that this year's results would be similar.

But the Bearcats, who lost 69-68 at home to Whitworth over winter break, ran up against a brick wall with the Pirates (17-4, 9-3). Despite jumping out to an early 7-1 lead, two quick foul calls on Mitchell before the 17:00 mark of the first half seemed to take Willamette out of its offensive game plan. Staying in the game with 9-11 first half free throw shooting, the Bearcats rallied to tie the game at 28, but Whitworth capitalized on several Willamette miscues to take a 35-28 lead into halftime. It was another cold night shooting for the 'Cats, who were just 8-30 (26.7%) from the field and started 1-7 on threes.

Still, Willamette rallied to start the second period, using an 11-5 run to close the gap to 40-39. But the referees' whistles continued to blow against the Bearcats, sending Whitworth into the bonus just four minutes into the half. With Mitchell sitting on the bench with four fouls, Willamette continued to hang tough on the back of Tyler McClary, who led the Bearcats with 23 points and seven rebounds. But the Pirates' Calvin Jurich escaped an obvious traveling call and converted an old-fashioned three point play to give Whitworth the lead for good and start a 16-3 Pirate run to end the game.

The following evening saw Willamette matched up against Whitman (8-13, 4-8) in a game critical to the Bearcats' playoff hopes. Despite exceptional first half play, including a 12-2 run where Willamette held the run 'n gun Missionaries without a field goal for more than four min-

utes, back-to-back three pointers cut a 41-30 Bearcat lead to just five at halftime.

Those threes would haunt the Bearcats in the second half, as Whitman hit two more triples out of the break as part of a 16-2 run that put the Missionaries on top 46-43. Josh Erickson temporarily stopped the bleeding with a three of his own, but Whitman uncorked another 11-0 run to take a 65-58 lead. Behind the shooting of McClary, the Bearcats clawed their way back to within one at 79-78 before Scott Schoettgen nailed a high, arcing shot to tie the score at 80 with 1:10 left to send the game into overtime.

A Mitchell jam gave Willamette the lead, but after McClary put the Bearcats up 84-81, the Missionaries rattled off seven straight points to leave Willamette's playoff hopes hanging by a thread. McClary (28 points, 6 rebounds in 42 minutes) and Mitchell (25 points, 23 rebounds, 3 blocks, 2 steals in 39 minutes) put forth superhuman efforts in the loss, but the Bearcats were hurt again by the officials' whistles. By the end of the game, four of Willamette's five starters had four fouls. In the entire second half and overtime, the Missionaries were whistled for just seven.

"We're not that disappointed [with the Whitman game]. We played really, really hard," Mitchell said. "They just played out of their minds."

With four games to play, sitting a game back from fourth place Linfield College, Willamette will likely need to win all four and must have the Wildcats lose at least once to crack the conference playoffs. Mitchell remains optimistic that the Bearcats can end the season on a positive note. "We just need a hard week of practice, and I think everything will take care of itself," Mitchell said.

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## next up

Bearcats v. Pacific University @ Cone Fieldhouse Friday, Feb. 13 at 8:00 p.m.

## COMMUNITY

## Bonding over basketball: Keggle Club unites fans

KIRK STRUBLE  
CONTRIBUTOR

What's the one thing that can always bring sports fans together? You guessed it - Beer. It seems that Willamette University's Keggle Club has really put that concept into action.

After being revived last year by '08 graduates Colin Daily, Dan King and Drew Roeser, the Keggle Club is going strong during its second season back. Despite its enthusiastic core of members, many people still do not know what Keggle Club is really about.

Keggle Club is an organization aimed at boosting attendance, participation, and spirit back to men's basketball games for students 21 and over. On a typical game day, the first keg gets tipped around 5:30 p.m. Members then participate in socializing and games, including everyone's favorite: beer pong.

But it's not just fun and games for members of the Keggle Club. After all, it can't all be about the beer, right? For important games, chants and cheers are composed and organized and information about opposing team members is distributed to better prepare the fans. This year the organizers of Keggle Club have placed special emphasis on making sure everyone is at the game before tip off, so everyone usually leaves for Sparks no later than ten minutes to 8 p.m.

Despite its slightly controversial nature, the Keggle Club is seen by many as a means of bringing students together. According to senior and club organizer Morgan Kuschel, "Keggle Club does a great job of bringing students from all around campus together for a common purpose. Willamette boasts pretty good enthusiasm for basketball and I believe that Keggle Club is vital to this."

"Gathering before the game gets students excited to go yell and scream for our team," Kuschel said. "Also, because I live with three of the basketball players I know that the team really appreciates the support that Keggle Club brings."

“Gathering before the game gets students excited to go yell and scream for our team.”

MORGAN KUSCHEL  
SENIOR

Kuschel is not the only person to have a positive opinion of Keggle Club. Senior Maurice Herring also feels that Keggle Club is vital to supporting Bearcat Hoops. "If there's one thing that I've noticed that students at Willamette lack, it's school spirit. The reason Keggle Club is so great is because it creates an atmosphere for students that encourages uninhibited school spirit."

Though men's basketball is currently the only sport that Keggle Club supports, many agree that it would work equally well for other sports - especially football. So keep your eyes peeled for future seasons.

There are currently 35 members of the Keggle Club, though organizers are anticipating stronger numbers as the season continues. Any student that is age 21 or over is encouraged to join.

For just \$20, members receive a t-shirt with the likeness of head coach Gordie James as well as a keg cup for every home game. For those of you who don't drink beer, don't worry, your membership fee is only \$10, and you still get the t-shirt. Contact Morgan Kuschel <[mkuschel](mailto:mkuschel)> or Grayson Pitcher <[gpitcher](mailto:gpitcher)> to join. And don't miss the Bearcats and the Keggle Club this Friday, Feb. 13 as they take on the Pacific University Boxers in a Northwest Conference match up.

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## GOLF

## Ueno comes up short in early tournament

CHARLOTTE BODDY  
CONTRIBUTOR

On Feb. 2 and 3, amidst great competition, senior Whitney Ueno finished second at the C.M.S. Invitational in Claremont, CA. Ueno was hard-pressed throughout the tournament, but came through in the end. "I enjoyed the tournament; the weather was great and the host team really took care of us," Ueno said.

Despite placing second, Ueno had her fair share of frustrations: "I think the most frustrating thing for me was my own performance at the tournament. I was hoping to do much better, but I think I just need to practice more to improve," Ueno said.

Since her freshman year, Ueno has remained highly competitive in conference play while the team as a whole has not been able to stay quite as consistent. In Ueno's final year, she hopes that the team will have a great season. "I want everyone to play the best they can and to have fun this season," Ueno said.

In the first tournament of the new season, the men scraped through to finish third. Senior Ben Bryant led the bearcat pack and was closely followed by sophomore Shane Adversalo, junior Robbie Beard, freshman Taylor McKenzie and senior Tyler Robinson.

After the tournament, the golfers spoke of the nature of the sport. Adversalo, who played much better on the second day of the tournament carding an 86-81, was frustrated with inconsistent play.

"Golf is more of an individual sport [because] you can only blame yourself for a bad shot," Adversalo said. "We need to find a way to forget

about the bad holes and move on."

While Adversalo concentrated on individual efforts on the course, Beard, who tied Adversalo's total at the end of the tournament, pointed toward the team dynamic of the sport also being important. "Golf is unique in the fact that when playing, it is just you against the course. In the end however, you are part of the team. It is the only sport I know where individuality collides with team camaraderie," Beard said.

The good news for this year's team is that the Bearcats seem to be gelling better than they ever have before. "The team camaraderie this year is very strong," Adversalo said. "The amount of support we give each other on and off the golf course is unlike anything I have ever experienced with a team."

"We all supported each other throughout the tournament, and despite our poor performance, we all had fun," Bryant said.

None of the men's golfers were particularly pleased with the performance last week, but all are staying positive for the rest of the season. "During tournaments, it really doesn't matter where we finish, whether it be together or separated. We are all still a team in the end," Beard said. "No matter if you finish first, second or last, at the end of the day, we as a team have each others' backs."

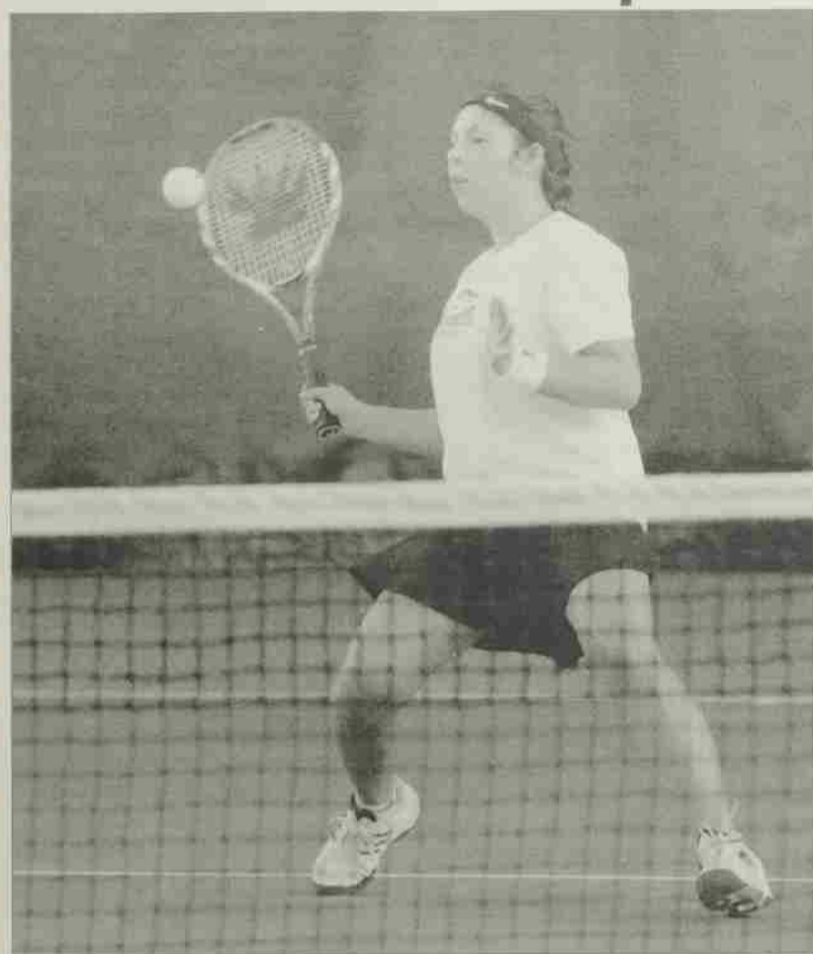
Contact: [cboddy@willamette.edu](mailto:cboddy@willamette.edu)

## next up

Bearcats @ Logger Invitational Mar. 5-6 at 8:00 a.m.

## TENNIS

## Tennis looks toward future, women defeated in opener



COLBY TAKEDA

Freshman Fabi Dieguez and the rest of the Bearcat women fell to Southern Oregon over the weekend, but are looking to improve on a season in which they went 8-8 in the NWC.

### COURT WESTON CONTRIBUTOR

The new season provides a fresh start for the Willamette tennis teams. After last year's underachieving seasons, both the men and women will get another shot at becoming top tier teams in the Northwest Conference.

New Head Coach Toby Krauel will take over a men's team that came within one win from playing for last year's Northwest Conference title. Willamette was eliminated in the second round of the men's NWC tournament at the hands of eventual champion Whitman College and finished the year with an overall record of 8-9 with an 8-8 record in NWC play.

Krauel will be putting an emphasis on reforming the atmosphere associated with Willamette tennis. The team seemed satisfied with an unexpected trip into the second round of the tournament last year, but Krauel will attempt to build on that success and push for a shot at becoming the top team in the Northwest Conference.

The Bearcats will miss Eric MacMillen, a 2008 first team all-northwest conference selection, who amassed a 14-5 singles record last year while leading Willamette to a first round upset over Whitworth University. It will also be difficult to replace the leadership and 9-4 doubles record that Fitz Paccione established last year. "Fitz was the guy who pumped everyone up before matches," junior Micah Mack said. "He lifted us up when we were down." Mack, returning for his third year on the team, finished 4-9 in singles play and 7-10 in doubles.

The 2009 men's team will feature ten individuals, including five sophomores. Seniors Andrew Murakami and Alex Sepenzis join Mack as the only three players to have played on the team for at least two years entering this season. The pair finished 9-7 and 5-9 in singles as well as 8-10 and 2-5 in doubles, respectively.

The men open their season this coming Friday when they host Whitworth.

The women will look to Becky Roberts, who is entering her ninth season as the Bearcats head coach. The Bearcats finished with an overall record of 8-11 last year, going 8-8 in NWC play, and were victims to an early postseason exit when they lost to Whitman in the first round of the women's NWC tournament.

Roberts has a very talented squad and will look for leadership from junior Samantha Wong, senior Abby Funabiki and freshman Shannon Palmer, who has already established herself as one of the top players in the Northwest. Earlier this year, Palmer had a strong showing at the Wilson/ITA Northwest Regional where she finished second in singles. Wong finished with 11-2, one of the best singles records in the conference last year.

This year's women's team is very young. Eight of the 13 players are freshmen and two are sophomores. The "elders" on the team are Funabiki, Wong and junior Alyssa Morrison, who finished last season with a record of 5-16 in singles and 9-11 in doubles.

The women's season is already underway, having lost to Southern Oregon (2-0) 8-1 on Saturday, leaving Willamette at 0-1. Morrison and freshman Kristen Dedijer-Small picked up the only victory for Willamette in the #2 doubles match, winning 9-7.

The women will travel to Spokane, Wash. on Friday to take on Whitworth and then meet with Whitman on Saturday in Walla Walla, Wash.

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### ▼ next up

Men v. Whitworth @ Tennis Court-house Friday, Feb. 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Women v. Whitworth @ Spokane, WA Friday, Feb. 13 at 2:00 p.m.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Women drop Whitworth, lose to Whitman over road trip

CAMERON MITCHELL  
STAFF WRITER

Coming off of two close home wins, the women's basketball team traveled to Eastern Washington to take on Whitworth University and Whitman College. The road trip, which featured 16 hours of driving in three days, was partially successful for Willamette.

The team went 1-1, including a 73-64 win over the Whitworth Pirates on Friday night. Saturday night featured the Bearcats against third place Whitman. Whether it was the long drive or fatigue, Willamette did not come out ready to play.

The Missionaries of Whitman scored many transition baskets early, jumping out to an early 7-0 lead. The Bearcats responded with three straight baskets to tie the game at seven, but then the route began for Whitman.

Led by Hilary White, who scored 12 points in the first half alone, the Missionaries pulled away to take a 20 point half time lead. Shooting a dismal 11 of 30 from the field in the second half, the Bearcats were not able to cut Whitman's lead and eventually lost 86-52.

A bright spot for the Bearcats was transfer Keilyn Fujioka, who got the start for Willamette and scored 11 points and hauled down 8 rebounds. Fujioka played at Willamette in the 2006-2007 season, only to transfer, but she eventually transferred back and began playing after winter break this season.

She brings much needed size to the team, as she finished Saturday's game with a team-high three blocks. Senior Molly Fillion led the Bearcats with 16 points to go along with 11 rebounds. Fillion, who is virtually a lock to be

named first team all conference, has been stellar all season long and continues to lead the young Bearcat squad.

Friday night's game proved to be a shooting clinic for Willamette, as the Bearcats totaled nine three pointers in the game, six coming from sophomore guard Alex Zennan. The Bearcats built a ten-point lead going into halftime and never let up, winning by nine points.

Fillion led the team once again with 20 points and 16 rebounds. She also dished out three of the team's 13 assists. Zennan finished with 24 points on 9 of 14 shooting. Zennan's three ball has been working as of late for the Bearcats. She is shooting .393 from three point range 13 points per game. Jenny Fillion added eight points, four rebounds and a team-high four assists for Willamette.

The Bearcats are currently 3-9 in NWC play and 4-14 overall. With four games remaining, the Bearcats hope that their success as of late will help them pick up a few more conference wins and start making a name for themselves in the Northwest Conference.

Willamette continues league play on Friday at home against Pacific at 6 p.m. While the Bearcats were defeated by 25 against the Boxers in the team's first game, the Bearcats should be able to use an enthusiastic home crowd to give the team the energy that they need.

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### ▼ next up

Bearcats v. Pacific University @ Cone Field-house Friday, Feb. 13 at 6:00 p.m.

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## Colleen, Cornered

### Finding community



Colleen  
Martin

OPINIONS EDITOR

I went to a quirky little middle school/high school with a principal who was just as quirky. We had all-school "gatherings" every week to update everyone on the state of the school, different events that were coming up, and other various announcements. My principal thought these gatherings were vital and that we should come together often, because we were a "community" and needed to check in with one another.

He liked that word a lot, community. He used it a lot too. It got a little excessive, really. One time, when I was in 8th grade, I decided it'd be a really great idea to let him know this small fact. So I put a formal memo in his mailbox informing him about his overuse of the word, along with a list of synonyms in order to help him out. He was a nice guy who had a sense of humor, so he laughed and used the synonyms for about a week, and then promptly forgot them.

He went back to the constant reminders about how we were a community, giving us examples of what community members do. Frequently, we were told when we weren't being a community. "Having book fights is destructive, and harms our community," he lectured. "When students threaten other students with pocket-knives, we're failing as a community," he sniffled. (He was a man in touch with his emotions, and tended to get choked up rather easily.) But, after these lectures or tearful gatherings in which the students would have to discuss what we thought the best solution would be, he'd perk back up again and go back to being a cheerleader for community.

"Good morning! It's a beautiful day in our community, don't you think, Colleen?" This was often his greeting to me, half-teasing because of the grumpy look on my face. Usually I would respond with something like "Bah!" since I could rarely string a sentence together in the early morning.

Occasionally, I did try to argue what the definition of community really was, and that he was putting too much emphasis on his sense of what it should mean. I believed that it was a group of people often stuck in the same place or stuck with a similar characteristic. The community of Santa Fe or the community of people with nine toes, for example. Just because you were in one didn't mean you wanted to be, and not all communities are good. There were such things as crappy communities.

Again, he'd laugh, but never agree. He put so much more into the word. To him it was an opportunity: a group of people who were bound to work together and create a wonderful place. He knew that the students of our school were capable of it and that we had and would accomplish great things when we believed it too.

He was often disappointed, which is a common product of having high hopes in a group of middle and high school kids. But, to my surprise, he was sometimes proven right. The school banded together and marched on the Capitol when the school was almost shut down for bureaucratic reasons. Most came together when the building was tagged to paint a mural in place of the graffiti.

Though I still disagreed with my hope-infused principal that all communities had the capacity to do good, it was hard not to admire his unrelenting belief in people, even when he was constantly let down. And, in the end, his idea of community, whatever your own definition may be, is an attractive one.

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## EDITORIAL

# Racism on campus: Are you participating?

Willamette's enrollment is 17 percent multicultural. While this may not be any direct fault of the university itself, face it: Willamette is not racially diverse. The majority of students are white, and it shows.

Along with this mission to physically diversify the campus through faculty hiring and student admission, the university makes a strong effort to bring multicultural speakers to campus, hold events that spur conversations about diversity, and represent the diversity that does exist on campus. While the university makes a valiant effort, simply hosting MLK week events doesn't make Willamette an attractive or accepting place to be a racial minority. The truth is that being anything but white on this campus makes one an outsider.

So who is at fault for this uninviting atmosphere? There are a wide variety of sources for this problem, however this article will focus on the most tangible one: the students. This is not to say that students at Willamette are racist. In fact, it seems quite the opposite. Our student body is, in essence, accepting of diversity. Students are interested in learning about other cultures, and diversity talks and events are never badly received.

But if this is true, why do many non-white students and faculty feel as if they don't belong? As much as white students and faculty try to be open and accepting of other cultures, and as much as this campus pushes emphasizes the issues surrounding diversity, the words and actions of white students and faculty regularly ostracize non-white members of the Willamette community.

This atmosphere on campus has caused numerous professors and students to leave campus to seek a career or an education elsewhere (although many of the faculty will not cite this as the reason that why they left). While students' comments and actions may not be malicious, conscious or intentional, they are still present and still have a sig-

nificant impact on non-white students and faculty on the receiving end.

Anyone with a skin color other than white is a rare sight on campus - and this is precisely what many racially diverse faculty, staff and students say makes them uncomfortable. Because their numbers are so few, non-white students and faculty receive more attention than others walking around campus. Aside from being stared at everywhere they go, minority members of the community must deal with, for example, those who are of the campus majority on campus asking them how they feel as a minority, or what their minority experiences are as a minority. Although these comments may not intentionally exclude or distress anyone, and may not even be recognized as anything significant, the fact that they are perceived that way remains.

Willamette is a predominantly white community, and along with that goes comes a predominantly white culture. Seemingly innocent institutions like the Bistro can actually be places where minority discomfort grows. The culture present in the Bistro, and all over campus, supports the dominant culture, and therefore causes separation and excludes anyone who may not be a part of that culture.

This kind of exclusion can happen to anyone who is around members of a certain group. However, this is not merely an isolated occurrence; it is the overarching environment at the university. Racial minorities at Willamette feel left out of most situations, and this can cause them to feel isolated and as if they are merely guests in the campus community.

The solution to Willamette's diversity problem is not only inviting more diverse students and faculty to join the campus community; we have to make them want to come here and (most importantly) stay. And to do that the university and its students have to do more than just talk the talk of diversity and acceptance. They have to walk the walk.

Creating a welcoming environment for every racial class is not just about celebrating diversity, as many of the university's speakers and events do, it is about truly creating a dialogue on campus about the real issues surrounding racial barriers. Ignoring the true issues behind the racism present at this university is unacceptable. Rather than standing by and letting small, seemingly insignificant comments or actions go by unaddressed, we must put a stop to this exclusion and take care to actually create an open community.

Students need to truly make an effort to understand the feelings of those who may be different from them. Jumping to one's own defense about inappropriate comments is no way to make minorities feel like true members of the Willamette community. Understand where they are coming from, accept that they are uncomfortable and make an effort not to say a similar comment in the future.

That is not to say that just because one is white means that he/she must walk on eggshells, but merely that he/she needs to be more aware of the little things that occur on this campus that exclude important members of the community. We need to start a real dialogue to, get to the bottom of this issue rather than just letting it go. Respond to this editorial, talk to your professors, go to the job talks of racially diverse professorial candidates. Do something, and maybe we can create a real plan to further improve racial inclusion and diversity on this campus.

## COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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## TOM'S THOUGHTS: TV: The great community builder



T O M  
ACKERMAN

COLUMNIST

If you hadn't noticed, the theme of this week's *Collegian* is "community." As I pondered how community functions at Willamette, I realized that nothing has the power to bring college students together quite as effectively as American television. I know few people who care about decisions made by ASWU or HHR, but ask most anyone about the latest episode of "The Daily Show," "Grey's Anatomy" or "America's Next Top Model" and you're bound to get a very opinionated answer. Seeing upwards of 50 kids huddled together in solidarity gazing wide-eyed at the season premiere of "Lost" is enough to warm even my icy heart.

Unfortunately, I don't seem to watch much TV in college (not since "House M.D." became more about feelings and less about House being a cranky old man who's always right. Also, I only feel comfortable watching "Project Runway" in the complete privacy of my own home). Anyhow, for my column this week, I've thought up some concepts for TV shows that I would watch religiously, and truly care about. So if any of you readers grow up to be TV producers, make these shows, I'll watch them, and I guarantee they'll help build communities.

First off, for some time now I've wanted

a show called "Action Hero Camp," where good-looking young male actors train and compete to become action movie stars. The show would be hosted by Steven Segal (because he can't possibly have anything better to do), and would follow the usual reality show conventions (physical challenges with one guy kicked off every week by judges). Each episode would have contestants practicing a different action hero task.

Tasks would include: shooting guns, acting like you've been shot, driving recklessly, jumping over cars, jumping out of moving cars, jumping out of helicopters, jumping off of buildings, fight choreography and delivering snappy one-liners. Of course there would be famous guest "camp counselors," like Jackie Chan and Bruce Willis, who show up for an episode to show the contestants how things are done. The real entertainment would come when contestants start to break down ("I'm not jumping out of any more damn helicopters!" \*sobs\*).

Next, I'd like to see a celebrity interview show where completely normal people do the interviewing. First you'd get a famous person, say, Clive Owen, sit him behind a curtain on some sidewalk of a major street, then have an intern go around asking nameless pedestrians, "Hey, can you spare ten minutes of your time? We need somebody to interview Clive Owen." And then you pull back the curtain and the random nor-

mal person sees Clive Owen and probably pees their pants in shock and envy. Then the show becomes a montage of different interviewees asking questions or swooning over seeing a movie star. If you're really on the ball, you'd get a musical guest and put them in a back alley somewhere then have your interviewers introduce them to do a musical number. Why should Conan O'Brien and Jay Leno have all the fun? Also, I feel that only nameless laypeople have the balls to ask the hard-hitting questions I want asked (So Clive, boxers or briefs?).

Additionally, some other shorter show pitches: "America's Next Top Plumber," "Project Freeway" (competition among car designers), "SSPD: Solar System Police Department" (a sci-fi action, comedy, buddy-cop show starring Dave Foley), "Blacksmiths" (Discovery Channel show about blacksmiths), "Great American Scavenger Hunt" (it's like the amazing race, but teams have to find weird stuff).

Finally, I really want to see a TV show about origami. I'm not sure how it would work, maybe just "How It's Made" style with a disembodied voice telling you how to fold pandas and boats and velociraptors out of paper.

I don't remember what this had to do with community anymore. Oh well, happy Valentine's Day everyone!

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OPINION

# Is our community as open-minded as it seems to be?

SEAN IRVING  
GUEST WRITER

Although I believe that Willamette aspires to be a progressive campus open to diverse ideas, this aspiration is limited to ideas that are politically correct and acceptable in progressive circles. Willamette creates a community of open-mindedness so long as the mind does not wander outside of predetermined boundaries.

I believe that our campus as a whole stifles thought that does not conform to liberal norms. I question our community's ability to step outside of what is considered "correct thinking" and truly consider other viewpoints.

Have you ever seen a speaker on campus whose talk was about the values of polygamy? How about a speaker who supported fundamentalist Muslims' belief in a patri-

archal social structure? Or a speaker who criticizes Israel for its history of violence against the surrounding Arab nations and the treatment of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip? If you consider the 2009 spring events calendar you would find events like a week of dedication to Martin Luther King Jr.'s work, Africa week where the keynote speaker will talk about the African Diaspora and an event that will discuss the return of land to Native Americans. However, what you will not find is any event that pushes us outside of our standard realm of 'progressive' thought.

I do not want anyone to interpret this editorial as representative of my beliefs — these speakers would express opinions that are contrary to my views, but if we are to consider ourselves an open-minded commu-

nity, we must consider the possibility that our conventional wisdom is incomplete. We can learn from people who have radically different opinions from our own. By inviting speakers to campus who do not present viewpoints that coincide with our beliefs and constantly being receptive to thoughts that we do not consider our own, we will foster an environment that is conducive to a true liberal arts education. Learning about views that are outside circles of progressive thought will help us grasp more fully why it is that we hold the beliefs we do.

Many will disagree with the ideas presented by these controversial speakers, but we will all walk away from them with a greater understanding of belief systems that are not our own. We will gain a firm understanding of why it is we disagree, rath-

er than just having an impulsive reaction, like "polygamy is wrong" or "homosexuals should be afforded the same rights as everyone else." To truly understand and shape the world around us we must understand why it is that we believe what we do and the underlying reasons for our beliefs.

Not until we learn about and consider viewpoints that are opposite from our own can we understand the justification of our own beliefs. For this reason we should invite speakers to campus who are proponents of views contrary to our own, and be open to ways of thinking that we do not ascribe to in our every day lives. Only then in this newfound understanding, both of ourselves and others, can we declare that we are open-minded.

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## IF I HAD A HAMMER:



KAELEY  
PRUITT-  
HAMM

COLUMNIST

The period of time from sixth to eighth grade (middle school) was one of the most excruciating of my life. It involved braces, jewelry from Claire's and competitions against girls over clothing, gym class, boys and just about anything that could be contested. The worst part for me, of course, was lunch time. Struggling to know with whom to sit was awkward enough, but I sat with the "popular kids" for a long few months that I would never want to relive.

Why? Because their lives revolved around hating other people. We would sit down and one of the "popular kids" would whisper something like, "Oh no! Here comes Person We Like to Make Fun of and Exclude!" Everyone would cup their hands to their foreheads and act conspicuous, snickering and "trying to hide" from the poor clueless excluded person. How messed up is that?

The worst way that a group can come together is for

## The shaky bonds that create exclusion

the purpose of rallying against another individual or group. This is neither a healthy nor a sustainable way of bonding.

But it happens all the time. Former President Bush knew that hating others was a quick way to "unite" people, however, and he took it and ran with it. Al Qaeda, Iraq, Saddam and Osama all became the excluded kids, and the U.S. became the "in-crowd" with name-calling and stick-throwing as the trick.

From sports fans to the military to foreign policy, this jr. high rule seems to carry through in many parts of human daily life. But we can be better than that. There is no need to define who we are by who we aren't — that's just immature.

So instead of following this jr. high rule myself and only talking about what a community is not, I'll take a stab at a guess as to what does make a people unite in a healthy way. I believe the closest answer I can give is communication (yes, this is beginning to sound like Dr. Phil's next self-help book, but work with me).

The world has taken large strides in the arena in the mere act of communication. Something I discovered this summer when I found myself holding a Rwandan wom-

an's cell phone while we cut grass in her field in a rural area. I've continued to appreciate the vast steps towards an "in-touch world" we've taken as I get one call a day from my Rwandan buddy Stanley, facebook messages from my Italian exchange student and, of course, even the weekly text from my grandmother.

The kind of communication I'm talking about, however, necessarily involves deep discourse. A community needs to really talk about their issues, identity, actions and life to meld together and define who they are. That's why free press that isn't controlled by a single authority but involves all voices is such an important characteristic of a society.

Media can be such a powerful tool to bring perspectives to the foreground when they would have never made it within someone's view, to amplify voices that have been silenced before, and to bring up issues that have been shoved under the rug or never been juxtaposed together in the past. So let's use communication to truly unite our community — it's what the truly cool kids are doing these days.

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OPINION

# Hug a Biologist: Darwin Day is for English majors too

JEFFREY COLLINS  
DESIGNER

I hereby declare Thursday, Feb. 12 to be "Hug a Biology Student Day." Not because I'm a biology student and like hugs (though I am and I do), but because it marks the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth. Yes, the father of evolutionary theory and the bane of biblical literalists for a century has reached his bicentennial, and I would like to encourage everyone to take a moment and think about what they owe to evolutionary theory.

Evolution is the glue that holds biology and the biological community together. Unlike any other theory I can think of, it has remained essentially unchanged since its proposal. Albert Einstein, in defending his theories of relativity against the onslaught of Niels Bohr's theory of quantum mechanics, famously said "God does not play with dice." Whoops: turns out He does. (And quantum mechanics doesn't seem to predict movements of big things, like planets. Physicists still search for the Theory of Everything.) Atomic theory, as first proposed and still popularly conceived,

had electrons whirling around the nucleus like planets around the sun. Again, wrong. (As it turns out, electrons actually exist everywhere in space at once, in something called a superposition, until we look for them. It hurts my head too.) Evolution by natural selection, on the other hand, has been improved only by the addition of Father Gregor Mendel's theory of genes and statistical models developed in the latter half of the 20th century.

Of course this is interesting from an academic stand point (to me, at least), but I will forgive the liberal arts majors for asking why they should care about Darwin. Let me give just two critical examples of evolution's impact on modern life. First is the case of antibiotics. If you've read the news recently, you've probably heard of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) or multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) invading hospitals. MRSA and MDR-TB are two of the worst infections one could get because, in addition to being deadly, the bacteria causing the infections are resistant to the antibiotics most commonly used to treat them. This is a classic case of evolution. Antibiotics have

been overused since they were introduced: many people from older generations will remember getting doses of penicillin for the flu, a viral infection that doesn't respond to antibiotics, and we still dose livestock regularly — regardless of whether the animals are ill — with powerful antibiotics in an attempt to increase milk, egg or meat production. When the bacteria are exposed to antibiotics — and *Staphylococcus aureus* is found everywhere — only those with genes to resist them survive to reproduce. And so rises MRSA.

The other, and to me more interesting, case of evolution's importance that I'd like to share with you is the case of rabbits in Australia. It turns out, contrary to what my six-year-old cousins might tell you, there is such a thing as too many bunnies. When a British expatriate in the mid-19th century grew homesick, he decided to import his favorite quarry to "provide a touch of home, in addition to a spot of hunting." The fur-balls began to multiply, and by 1910, they had spread over so much of the continent that the government decided to build a fence to keep them out of what little land remained lago-

morph-free (the "Rabbit Proof Fence" from the 2002 movie). It didn't work, and eventually the government released the Myxoma virus, which only infects rabbits, in an attempt to cull the population. It worked, for a time. Like bacteria attacked with antibiotics, only those rabbits with a mutation allowing them to resist infection survived. Now almost the entire population in Australia is resistant. Since scientists are considering the use of introduced parasites to control fire ant populations, they had better consider the possibility that the ants will simply evolve to deal with the parasites.

I could go on about the importance of evolution, but I fear that it would take over the entire page. So allow me to end with a request. If you do not feel the urge to hug a biology student on Thursday (though I don't understand why you wouldn't), do something that would make us even happier: learn more about evolution, and teach it to everyone you know that doesn't believe it's true.

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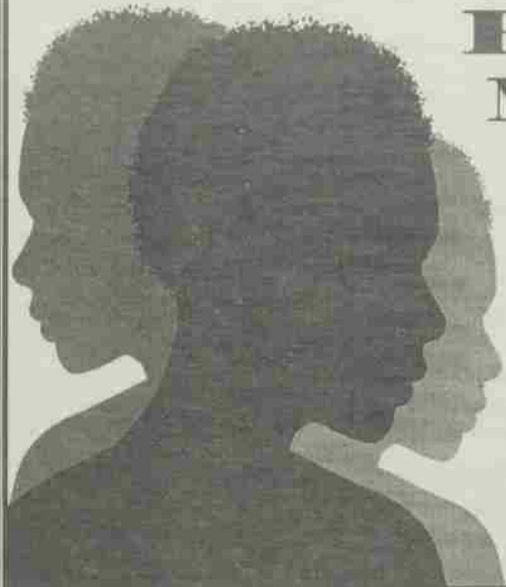
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CONTACT: COLLEEN MARTIN, OPINIONS EDITOR  
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CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID DOUGLASS AND JOHN BALLING ON YOUR NEW APPOINTMENTS.

Want to know more? Next week, get excited for a news article about the two appointees.

## CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 5, 2009  
Information provided by Campus Safety

### CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

▶ Feb. 4, 4:15 pm, (Sigma Alpha Epsilon): An unknown student spliced into the television cable line and ran the illegal line to a second floor room.

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▶ Feb. 3, 1:16 am, (Lee House): A student was transported to Salem Hospital as she suffered from a high fever.

▶ Feb. 5, 11:05 am, (Lausanne Hall): A student was transported to Salem Hospital as he suffered from a high fever and flu-like symptoms.

▶ Feb. 5, 11:11 am, (Belknap Hall): Paramedics transported a student to Salem Hospital as she had difficulty breathing.

### POLICY VIOLATIONS / SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

▶ Jan. 31, 10:59 pm, (Sigma Alpha Epsilon): Campus Safety observed two female students accessing the roof of SAE. One of the students lied about her name and the other lied about her residence location.

▶ Jan. 31, 11:20 pm, (Sigma Alpha Epsilon): Campus Safety observed a student urinating in the bushes next to the west entrance of Sigma Chi.

▶ Jan. 31, 11:35pm, (Off-Campus): A

student became intoxicated at a University sponsored event and attempted to purchase alcohol after she was prohibited from doing so.

▶ Feb. 1, 8:08 pm, (Writing Center): Campus Safety discovered evidence that an unknown individual burned incense in the Fireside Room of the Writing Center.

### POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▶ Jan. 30, 9:00 pm, (Smullin Hall): Campus Safety discovered six students drinking alcohol while in an academic building. It was determined that five of the students were under the age of 21 years.

▶ Feb. 1, 1:42am, (Kaneko Hall): A student, under the age of 21 years, was found to be in possession of alcohol while hosting a get-together in his room.

### THEFT

▶ Feb. 3, 12:20 pm, (Sparks Lot): A student's locked bike was stolen from a rack at Sparks by an unknown individual.

▶ Feb. 3, 5:10 pm, (Smullin Hall): A student left his "longboard" outside of his classroom for one hour. Upon his return he discovered that the board had been stolen.

**Please contact Campus Safety if you have any information regarding these incidents:**

[safety@willamette.edu](mailto:safety@willamette.edu)

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- 2/11 LIVE BAND KARAOKE W/ THE ELEKTONIS
- 2/13 PKC GRAND OPENING PARTY W/ THE TY CURTIS BAND
- 2/15 MOVIE, BEER & PIZZA NIGHT THE GODFATHER PART II
- 2/16 MARTINI MONDAYS W/ THE BILL HUGHES' JAZZ JAM
- 2/18 SHADES OF LADDS ALL STAR COMEDY TOUR
- 2/20 FIRST SLEEP
- 2/21 TRAY & THE SHADES
- 2/22 MOVIE, BEER & PIZZA NIGHT W/ CADDYSHACK
- 2/23 MARTINI MONDAYS W/ THE BILL HUGHES' JAZZ JAM 6-9PM
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