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Per-credit model, closure of bookstore: WU admin explore options

Gia Patel
Staff writer

In the aftermath of the textbook debacle that started the fall semester of 2023, Willamette University's administration has started to reevaluate the model our current bookstore uses on campus, determining if there is a necessity for the store at all, or if alternative models may fit the needs of the students more.

Anne Gallagher, associate vice president of budget and facilities, emphasized that 70% of students order their textbooks from different outlets than the university bookstore. Gallagher explained that the current bookstore model "is not really a feasible model for most universities and part of the reason why is because a large portion of the textbook volume has left the university and has been sent to Amazon and Chegg and all the other textbook providers in the marketplace. That makes the traditional bookstore model very difficult to run profitably." In this context, textbook volume refers to the total amount of textbooks the bookstore sells.

One of the proposed bookstore models the university is considering is the Barnes & Noble First Day Complete Program, an equitable access program where textbooks are offered to students for a flat fee per credit hour. Bill Smaldone, professor of history and former faculty president for the College of Arts and Science, was told the proposal was for \$22 per credit, meaning that if a student were to take a four credit course at the University, the cost of books through the bookstore would be \$88, despite whatever the real monetary value of the books were. In addition to this, the \$88 would be applied to all of the textbooks required for a course, whether that number is one book or seven books.

Smaldone is a huge proponent of keeping university bookstores alive and is in favor of an opt-in model. "Our bookstores has been on life

support for a long time. It costs universities a lot of money every year just to open the doors. At the time people talked about [it] costing us something like \$50,000 a year to run the bookstore. Barnes and Noble promised that if we moved to this system and a certain percentage of the students adopted it, something like 75% or 80%,

that they generate to pay for those items in courses where non-book supplies are needed. So in other words, it would be an in-house subsidy, which we do ... all the time."

Essentially, students who choose to opt in to the program but don't require textbooks for the term can move that money elsewhere to pur-

a good model for the bookstore to adopt. It would make some of the much more expensive textbooks more affordable to students, and for those classes where the professors already try to mitigate costs by picking cheaper texts, students always have the option of buying from other sources for the cheaper

Art by Eli Fukuji

el would interfere with that system." While she expressed similar concerns for pricing as Dickinson, Merritt also was concerned about "online homework sources like Expert TA. How would those be incorporated in the system? If a student wants to pay \$88 and have [the resource] ... included into their overall textbook cost, then that could be another benefit instead of having to pay [for] it separately."

Gallagher mentioned that while the programs offered by Barnes and Noble are currently being considered, there are other variations of this model that might be better suited for the student body at Willamette. When asked if all variations will have a similar structure on a per-credit basis, Gallagher said, "There's some that are per the material. With some models you can, based on your budget and your needs, select various models. So they're not all this model that Barnes and Noble has. There's variations on that theme."

However, another possible remedy that Gallagher has mentioned is closing the bookstore permanently, seeing that only 30% of students utilize the bookstore. "It's not like we'd be giving up the entire marketplace. So is there an option for Willamette to just have a continuous spirit store and a convenience store and things like that? Yeah. Is there any option to let students buy the books on their own? Yes. Are we considering that along with other options? Yes." Regarding apparel, Gallagher said in a follow-up email, "One option in the university bookstore space is to move book sales totally online but continue to have a spirit store, where apparel is sold along with school supplies and convenience items. Apparel is currently available both in store and online, so that wouldn't change."

Ultimately, it is important to note that the university is currently exploring its options in the bookstore space, continuing to investigate and inquire about each opportunity.



[the cost would be reduced]." With this system, students would fully have to opt in or out, meaning that the students who choose to opt out would not be able to purchase textbooks from the bookstore for that semester.

With the new model, Smaldone emphasized that there could be a solution for the "kinds of equipment that are not covered by the Barnes and Noble arrangement. There are ways in which the university could use some of the surplus

chase other items they need. This could look like a biology student purchasing a microscope, or a department using this surplus to purchase items required for an entire course. This solution is currently being discussed, but isn't set in stone.

When asking students their opinions regarding the First Day Complete Program, there were varying concerns. Tyler Dickinson ('26), a Politics, Policy, Law and Ethics and sociology double major, said, "I think that this is potentially

price." He presented the concern that the inherent difficulties of this model would mean "a lot of students would sacrifice the convenience of the bookstore for a cheaper price."

Ava Merritt ('26), a biochemistry major, said that this model isn't a "one-size-fits-all solution for courses, because in my experience, some of the books in my department the professors collectively write for the class, [for] which they usually charge \$30 or so. ... I think the textbook mod-

News - Pg. 1	Lifestyles - Pg. 3	Sports - Pg. 5	Photojournalism - Pg. 7	Opinions - Pg. 9
- Wild turkeys in Salem	- Visiting author Jasmine Mendez	- Bearsloths are here to stay	- Uncertainty Principle plays house show	- Opinion: How the WU flu impacts you
- ASWU clears Bistro debt	- KWU radio at Willamette	- New mens basketball staff		- Opinion: Coraline books vs. movie



Wild turkey population thrives in Salem urban areas

Robin Linares
Staff Writer

As the leaves begin to fall and the weather starts to change, some may take notice of the flock of turkeys meandering through the neighborhood. While they can often be spotted year-round, it can still be shocking to have such personal interactions with wildlife in one's backyard. One turkey even made it onto Willamette's campus in February 2022, successfully avoiding capture by Campus Safety.

In many suburban areas of Salem, including around Bush's Pasture Park, some members of the community have seen flocks of up to 20 turkeys. Mary, a community member, described her first turkey sighting experience when a similarly sized flock found its way to her driveway. "We had heard about them from other people in the neighborhood and in other parts of Salem, but that was the first time I'd seen them in our neighborhood," Mary explained. "I would be curious as to why they are suddenly showing up in residential areas, and what is causing that."

To answer that question, one must first look back to when turkeys were intro-

duced to Oregon. According to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), turkeys were not native to Oregon until two subspecies, Rio Grande and Merriam, were introduced from various states. Since then the turkey population has flourished in Oregon, with estimates of 40,000 to 45,000 turkeys now inhabiting the state.

Mikal Cline, the upland game bird coordinator at the ODFW, explained that these increases in the turkey population had recreational benefits as they allowed for more relaxed regulations regarding hunting licenses for turkeys in rural areas. However, she acknowledged the unintended consequences the increasing population has had on urban areas like Salem. "When you start talking about turkeys in town, hunting is not an option," Cline said. "Turkeys are really good at finding easy meals and easy living, so they have adapted really well to living in town."

Due to their lack of natural predators in these regions, these flocks have been free to wander as they please and are often spotted in local parks by members of the community. According to an email correspondence with Trevor Smith, the public information officer for the city of Salem,

the city parks and recreation department doesn't have a turkey management program, but does its best not to disrupt them in their habitat. "Periodically we will delay mowing activities in our natural areas when we notice wild birds nesting," Smith stated.

While many community members seem to enjoy the turkey presence, for some residents these flocks can become more of a nuisance. According to the ODFW document, Considerations for Coexisting with Wild Turkeys, turkeys have sometimes caused damage to gardens, shingles, decks and cars through "pecking, scratching, and defecating." One of the noted short-term solutions includes hazing turkeys, or making them less comfortable by chasing them off the property, spraying them with a garden hose or having bright lights near roosting locations. However, before any action is taken a homeowner needs to get a hazing permit.

While the concept of getting a permit to chase a turkey off of one's property can seem odd, Cline provided a bit more context. "We're not just talking about turkeys. We're talking about all wildlife and getting permission to harass wildlife protects the landowner from getting cited by law en-

forcement because it is illegal to harass wildlife," Cline said. These permits are free, and many at the ODFW are happy to give out these permits as it's one of the best strategies to mitigate the turkey population within city limits.

Cline's other recommendation for homeowners is to be mindful of what food might be easily accessible to these flocks, as it can incentivize them to stay while also posing a danger to the turkeys themselves. "Especially when talking about artificial feed or feed that isn't naturally in the

environment ... that concentrates these animals into groups where they normally wouldn't be," Cline explained. "It makes them dependent on humans and vulnerable to diseases."

Ultimately, Cline emphasized that while it's important for humans to respect local wildlife in the area, it's best to admire them from afar for the safety of both parties. "We all want to be closer to wildlife and to have those interactions, but it's not in the best interests of the animals," Cline said.

Art by Eli Fukuji



ASWU clears the Bistro's \$42,000 debt

Chrissy Ewald
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Oct. 26, the Associated Students of Willamette University (ASWU) Senate voted to eliminate the Bistro's outstanding debt from the COVID-19 pandemic. Following conversations between ASWU exec and Bistro leadership, ASWU President Mira Karthik ('24) and Treasurer Milo Greenberg ('24) proposed a bill to use ASWU's endowment to eliminate \$42,000 of debt from the Bistro's university account. The bill was unanimously approved by the Senate. Now free of debt, the

Bistro can use future profits to buy and repair equipment, purchase supplies and fund new events and services.

Though Karthik and Greenberg both emphasized how rare this sort of grant is, last week's vote is the second time ASWU has given the Bistro money. Karthik was a first-year senator the first time, when ASWU gave the Bistro an \$18,000 grant to remain open in fall 2020. This year's grant is much larger, which Greenberg framed as positive. "If [the Bistro] ask[s] for less money ... then every profit they make still goes to paying off the debt," he said. "So they're not actually seeing any benefit,

really, from the money." Now, instead of future profits going to debt payments, the Bistro can replace aging equipment and expand services.

Karthik and Greenberg began conversations with Bistro Manager Max Kass ('24) and administrators over the summer about the possibility of drawing from ASWU's endowment to eliminate the Bistro's entire debt burden. ASWU's endowment is a little-known pot of funds that is separate from the university's endowment. It was set up twenty years ago with the goal of accumulating enough money to replace student fees as

ASWU's source of funding. If the initial financial plan pans out, the endowment will be large enough to replace student fees in about 10 more years.

The fund currently sits at about \$360,000. It has been used a few times since its inception, including to buy a stage for on-campus events. However, this is likely the largest pull ASWU has taken. "It shouldn't be, you know, only people in 30 years that can see the benefit," Greenberg said.

Karthik and Greenberg said they don't anticipate this setting a precedent of bailing out the Bistro in the future. "Maybe in another 100 years, when there's another pandemic, this will have to happen again," Greenberg said wryly. "But it's definitely not planned on."

Karthik said ASWU is confident the Bistro has returned to profitability and will stay that way for the foreseeable future. "They showed to us that they will be putting their own investments to continue to make that profit," she said. "It's a very intentional one-time funding." Kass gave a presentation to ASWU at the Oct. 19 Senate meeting that showed the Bistro has been turning a profit this fall semester, the first time since the beginning of the pandemic. The Bistro is also undergoing an audit by

students at the Atkinson Graduate School of Management to identify a sustainable business plan for the coffee shop going forward.

Karthik said the relationship this grant has built incentivizes the Bistro to maintain profitability in years to come. "Now we have a stake in your success, and students all have a stake in your success because we've pulled out money from an account that money was going into from students," she said, addressing the Bistro. According to Karthik, ASWU will have conversations with future management to ensure accountability and support for the coffee shop.

She added that one of ASWU exec's goals this year has been to prioritize supporting student organizations. "[The Bistro] is such a wonderful space that we have on campus, and there's literally no other space on campus that can replicate it," she said.

The money will be disbursed to the Bistro next financial year. "I'm super happy this worked out," said Karthik. "This was really one of my big, big, big goals this semester, and I'm happy that [the Bistro] is going to be supported. ... They've put in so much work trying to solve this problem and this is the least we can do to support them."

Photo by Jason Lehman



Strong enrollment continues at Willamette, bucking state and national trends

Chrissy Ewald
Staff Writer

In a positive sign for continued growth, Willamette welcomed 567 new students to campus this fall. Strong enrollment carried over from last year, when Willamette welcomed its largest incoming class in seven years, and the impact of this influx of students is being felt across campus. Lines are long at the Bistro and Goudy, parking is scarce, first-years are living in Kaneko A Wing for the second year in a row and the library is full of students studying for midterms.

“We feel really good about the new class,” said Sue Corner, dean of admissions at Willamette. “We basically met our enrollment goals and exceeded them in some ways. We certainly exceeded them in terms of transfer students.”

Willamette welcomed 506 traditional students and 61 transfers for a total of 567 new students. Traditional students were slightly below the goal of 525, but the 61 transfer students exceeded the goal of 35, placing the total number of incoming students higher than the combined goal of 560.

Though these numbers may seem large, Corner said classes between 525 and 550 are on target for Willamette’s enrollment goals. The large student population has put stress on housing, which has been reduced in recent years by the closures of all of Willamette’s on-campus Greek housing and

the 2016 closure of an off-campus apartment complex called Haseldorf. Though there is enough on-campus housing for all first-years and sophomores, Corner said the university will likely have to bring some buildings back into use or build more housing to meet demand in the coming years.

Willamette was able to meet its overall admission goals in part because of a large class of incoming transfer students. Transfer students are important to increasing the diversity of the student body, but can be difficult to actively recruit. About half of Willamette’s transfer students come from local community colleges and the other half from four-year schools.

Willamette’s success in attracting transfer students is hard to attribute, but the Office of Admissions has a new transfer coordinator, Ryann Wegrzyn, and is pushing to keep up the trend. “Transfers are such an important population, and we’re trying to actually be a little more transfer friendly and look for the right students to transfer to Willamette,” said Corner.

Transfer students are also typically more diverse than first-time college students. Overall, Willamette’s freshman class is more racially diverse and has more first-in-family students than in the past two years.

Willamette’s economic diversity has increased as well. According to the New York



Times College Access Index, Willamette has had an 8% increase in first-years receiving Pell grants compared to 2011. Comparatively, Reed College had a 7% drop and Lewis & Clark had a 1% drop.

Corner said the Office of Admissions is very encouraged by these numbers and is seeking to continue to recruit diverse students, despite the end of affirmative action.

Willamette did not use affirmative action policies before last year’s SCOTUS ruling, but some admissions programs will be affected. In previous years, the Access to Excellence Program (A2E), which pays for prospective students and a parent to fly in for Bearcat Days, was marketed specifically at underrepresented students, especially students of color, Pell-eligible students, and first-in-family students. The program now has to be marketed to everyone. The admissions office will see this year whether the change in marketing affects which students take advantage of the program, or whether its intention of benefitting underrepre-

sented students remains clear. While the Board of Trustees never gave the admissions office goals for racial, economic, gender or first-generation diversity, Corner said the office does internally seek to recruit diverse students and will continue to do so by working with organizations that help underrepresented students connect with college admissions offices.

Corner said the Office of Admissions is also watching the university’s gender ratio. Like colleges across the country, especially other liberal arts institutions, Willamette has an increasingly low male-to-female ratio. While a skewed gender ratio isn’t in itself a problem, Corner said she doesn’t want any group of students to feel like Willamette is not for them. “When you see a decline, you think, what’s happening with the guys that they might not think they fit in here?” she said.

Overall enrollment at Oregon colleges and universities is a mixed bag. Some are recovering well from the pandemic, while others, particular-

ly community colleges, are still struggling to get numbers back to healthy levels. Corner said there are several factors behind Willamette’s current success. Record-breaking alumni giving is increasing the amount of scholarships the school can give, which is lowering the financial barrier for prospective students. The Office of Admissions itself has low staff turnover, which Corner said is key to establishing trusting relationships with high school college counselors.

However, the most important but perhaps least tangible factor Corner named for increased admissions is momentum. “I think we have momentum with a really positive reputation out there among schools and counselors and the people who kind of influence students,” she said. “They see Willamette as the right fit for a broad range of students. We’re welcoming, we’re friendly, we have a better faculty than so many other places. That, I think, we’re doing that right.”

Photos by Jason Lehman



Visiting author Jasminne Mendez explores identity and language through writing

Lee Parsons
Staff Writer

The most recent visitor from the Fall 2023 Hallie Ford Literary Series was author Jasminne Mendez, a multi-talented Dominican-American artist celebrated for her contributions to poetry, prose and translation. Mendez is judging the poetry portion of the annual Mark and Melody Teppola Prizes for Creative Writing at Willamette University this year. During her visit Mendez shared her insights through reading and commentary on a few of her works, giving the audience a glimpse into her life and the themes that inspire her creativity.

An award-winning author, Mendez's first poetry collection, "City Without Altar," won the 2022 Texas Institute of Letters Best Book of Poetry Award. Her debut middle-grade novel and most recent publication "Aniana del Mar Jumps In" received glowing reviews in March of this year. She's also made a mark in transla-

Photos by Carolyn Vazquez

tion, working with New York Times Best Selling authors like Amanda Gorman, Nikole Hannah-Jones and Calribe Ortega. An alum of the University of Houston, Mendez serves as the program director for literary arts non-profit Tintero Projects, and calls Houston, Texas her home and workplace.

During Mendez's visit, she read excerpts from both poetry collections and published books. She led with a poem about the experience of being Dominican while living in Texas where Spanish speakers typically speak Mexican Spanish. She has lived in Texas for 25 years and said, "I code-switch a lot while living in Texas, not just in English but also in Spanish." This code-switching can be seen in her readings of her work — for each character she has a different voice that aligns with their background. Her ability to seamlessly code-switch is a testament to her linguistic versatility, a skill that reflects the complex identity she holds.

Growing up, Mendez grappled with being told that because she was Dominican she could not also be Black.

This self-identity was deeply rooted in historical events, particularly the Haitian Genocide, where Haitian and Dominican identities were forcibly separated — she explained that she was told Haitian people were Black, so she couldn't be Black as a Dominican woman due to society's desire to keep the two ethnicities in distinct and separate categories. In her work "City Without Altar," Mendez delves into the horrors of the genocide, using her writing to confront the injustices of the past. The title of the book refers to the lack of memorial or "altar" for the victims of the Haitian Genocide.

Reading an excerpt from this powerful book, Mendez connected this event of violent racism to her own experiences of medical racism. She shared a story about when doctors, influenced by racial biases, were willing to amputate the tips of her fingers without full sedation on the grounds that there was a low chance she could be pregnant. This shocking experience highlights the systemic issues embedded in the healthcare system and mirrors the historical racial preju-

dices she uncovers in her work.

The next reading Mendez did was from her latest book, "Aniana del Mar Jumps In," where she tackles the theme of chronic illness, drawing from her own experiences. The story revolves around a girl's desire to swim despite her illness and her mother's reluctance due to water-related trauma. This book, inspired by Mendez's mother and the movie Moana, tells a story of regaining one's bodily autonomy. Its first draft was written in just four months over the pandemic and is her latest book to be published.

Mendez's last reading was a recitation of one of her own poems. She sang pieces of the poem, truly performing rather than just reading it. The poem was about returning to the Dominican Republic for the first time at 19 years old, and it led to a discussion about language supremacy.

Emphasizing that there's no single correct way to speak a language, Mendez expresses that it's essential for Spanish speakers to embrace linguistic diversity, rather than deeming others' Spanish wrong

due to differences. She illustrated this point by sharing her experience of taking her five-year-old daughter to the Dominican Republic, where her child naturally adopted a Dominican accent.

Closing out by speaking about the hope she sees for positive change, Mendez shared that small yet significant transformations, such as people wearing their natural hair in public, mean that, "We're no longer trying to whiten our hair. It's a step toward accepting our Blackness." In response to an audience member's question about identifiers, she encouraged people to choose the labels that personally resonate with them.

The presence of Jasminne Mendez and similar authors at Willamette University serve as a reminder of the power of literature in exploring identity, confronting historical injustices and promoting inclusivity. Her artistry and insights continue to enrich the literary world and challenge readers to question societal norms, embracing the diverse and multifaceted identities that define us all.



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The return of the KWU radio

Lane Shaffer
Staff Writer

Willamette has a radio for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. KWU Radio is student run, with more than 30 people or duos streaming a variety of content weekly, coordinated through the KWU Radio Club.

Savanna Starks ('25) is the president of the club and took on the job of restarting shows after the pandemic. KWU Radio originally kicked off as a club in the fall of 2017 but went defunct with the onset of COVID-19.

Sophie Smith ('21)

Photo by Lane Shaffer



was a co-president of the club during the 2019-20 school year when the club ended. Smith said they ran their last event in November 2019 and had some technical issues that, combined with COVID-19, ended the club. "No one really had the capacity to be a leader at that point," Smith lamented. "We all kinda knew before COVID that we had to find some younger students to pass the torch to, but obviously that didn't happen."

Starks explained that The Collegian had taken over the radio at the start of last year but wasn't able to get it running again, so she took the lead: "The Collegian was taking a long time to do it last fall, and so I took it from them, and

that's how it started."

This year she was able to efficiently split the duties in order to begin broadcasting quickly. Starks handled the tech and copyright side of things while Vice President Ike Turman ('26) led outreach. "We got it started in like two or three weeks, which is way faster than I thought we could," Starks remarked.

One new broadcaster, Alyssa Diggdon ('27), is the host of the LysolCleaningWipes Radio Hour on Monday from 4-5 p.m. They have never done any radio before but joined to try it out and share their love of music. "I've always been a very big nerdy little music fan of indie-alternative stuff. [The studio] is a place where I can just talk, draw and also play my music," Diggdon said.

Diggdon plays a variety of songs and introduces each song before it plays, sometimes giving background context to the song if they know it. "I'll tend to have a friend in the studio with me, so I'll chat and have a little side conversation as well," Diggdon commented.

One difficulty for Diggdon has been technology. For the first two shows of Lysol-CleaningWipes, Diggdon's microphone wasn't functioning properly, but they were able to figure it out. They explained, "I want to learn more about the tech. The way that it works right now is they've given us instructions for the sliders and

mics." As the club progresses, there will be more opportunities for tech training.

There are other opportunities for growth too. "I really want Willamette to get a frequency on the radio because right now it's just online radio," Starks said. She noted that this brings more rules about what you can and can't say due to free-speech restrictions on mass communication platforms like broadcast radio, but could be worth it to reach a broader audience. "Another thing that would be really cool is if we had live performances, so like bands come in and play music and then it streams on the radio."

Keeping the radio consistent has been a little difficult, given that there are over 30 shows ranging in topic from movie reviews to Reddit stories to curated music each week. The "WU Flu" also hit the radio club pretty hard, according to Starks, but the group persevered. "If someone calls out, we just ask the person before them to play a playlist that's an hour or two long," she said.

One facet of the club that is different from most is that they don't meet frequently. They had two introductory meetings to get people signed up and explain the technological side of things. They will also likely have a mid and end of semester meeting, according to Starks.

This can make building a community more difficult. "You don't really see



Art by Carolyn Vazquez

much of anybody. It's like, you all come in at your own time," Diggdon lamented. "It would be cool to see [the club] have, aside from everyone doing their own show, having a radio club meeting here just to hang out and chill and listen to music, or little listening parties."

If you're interested in joining KWU, it's not too late. "We do rolling applications, so every two weeks we send out applications to our mailing list. We have open slots that need to be filled and we'll probably expand our hours soon," Starks said. They're also looking for people interested in audio tech to help out. Listen in at <https://kwu-radio.mixlr.com/> and check out their Instagram page @kwu_radio to stay up to date on shows and events!

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ASWU Student Org

Upcoming Events

- Fall Break: Nov 22-24, 2023
- ASWU funding requests- Dec 1, 2023
- Matthews/Baxter Snowflake Soirée- Dec 1, 6pm - 10pm
- ODP - Portland Movement Gym Climbing- Dec 2, 2023
- ODP - Ice Skating- Dec 3, 2023
- Midnight Breakfast- Dec 10, 9pm

ASWU sponsored orgs from the University Calendar are added here.
See more at: <https://events.willamette.edu/>

PNCA-Willamette athletes prove Bearsloths are here to stay

Jackson Garrett
Sports Writer

What do you get when you cross a bear, a cat and a ... sloth? When Willamette University merged with the Pacific Northwest College of Art (PNCA) in 2021, few focused on this question and its implications for Bearcat athletics. Willamette already has a high level of athletic participation — 25% of the student body — but the merger could potentially grow Bearcat athletics even further, as PNCA students can now compete at the DIII level for Willamette. While the practice is uncommon, there are some students who make the commute up to Portland for class and down to Salem for practice.

Athletic Director Rob Passage urges PNCA students who are interested in competing in Salem “to reach out directly to our coaches.” He explained, “Any current or prospective student can reach out to the coach and let them know they are interested. ... [Students should] begin that conversation because the coach is going to want to evaluate their ability to be a productive member of their program and if it is going to be the right fit for the

student.”

Due to the inconvenience of the commute, Passage does not expect a major increase in sports participation as a result of the new integration. Athletes in team sports will have an especially difficult time splitting time between the two campuses. However, the process seems much more feasible in individual sports, as athletes can potentially train on their own in Portland.

Leilani Luu (‘26), a runner for our cross-country team, is the first Bearsloth athlete, which is the term she prefers instead of “slothcat.” She was originally recruited by Willamette and believed that she was going to be attending classes in Salem before learning that Willamette bought PNCA, which allowed her to pursue a graphic design major while still competing in cross-country. She took on the difficult commute of living in Salem and going to class in Portland because both running and a future in art are important to her. She explained, “I just really like art. I don’t know what else I would do with my career and my set of skills if I didn’t do art and I also don’t want to give up running at the same time.”

Luu is finding suc-

cess as a Bearsloth. In addition to her contributions to the cross-country team, she recently received a grant to create an art gallery she is calling “Be Normal,” which will showcase her digital art based on the stigma of medicating for mental illness. This will be on display at PNCA starting Nov. 1 through Nov. 15.

While Luu might currently be an outlier, Willamette

is working to better support Slothcat athletes. The university does not provide transportation for students who make the commute, but Passage states that they are working on aligning other systems at PNCA, including health services, so that the campuses can have similar resources for students. Luu also urges students who are interested in pursuing an art degree while also playing a sport

at Willamette to “make sure to communicate with your advisor about what you need, or else you will not have a schedule that allows it.”

With 900 students attending PNCA, perhaps many more will soon choose the way of the Bearsloth, pursuing their ideal education while still continuing their athletic career.

Photo provided by Leilani Luu



‘Don’t count us out’: Men’s Basketball’s fresh start

Ernie Samora
Staff Writer

After earning a 1-15 record in the 2022-2023 season, many fans were left disappointed. Following the spring departure of former head coach Kip Ioane (‘01), Bearcat Men’s Basketball has undergone a complete coaching overhaul and gained several new recruits. All the changes that come with new leadership have provided players with a breath of fresh air, but are these changes enough to turn the tides for Men’s Basketball?

Mike Lenahan has joined Willamette Univer-

sity as the new Men’s Basketball head coach. Lenahan has lengthy experience in both NCAA Division I and NCAA Division III, where he coached at University of California-Berkeley and University of California-Irvine, helping to build both teams up to a place in the NCAA tournament. In terms of Division III, Lenahan has also coached at University of Redlands and Bard College, his most recent school. At Bard, Lenahan inherited a team that had previously gone 0-24. In his two years as coach, he earned a record of 15-35.

Along with an entirely new four-man coaching staff,

Men’s Basketball has also received three transfer students and five first-years, eight new players in total. “They have been key additions right away,” explained Jack Boydell (BA ‘23, MBA ‘24), who is entering his fifth year in the program and led the squad by far in points last season. These large additions to the team paired with new plays have created an excitement among the team that was not there in previous years. “I think there’s more energy because of all those factors of newness com[ing] in,” explained Boydell. “Everyone’s just excited to get going.” This new excitement and sense of community may help contribute to on-the-court results.

In the past, Willamette Men’s Basketball has excelled on offense, but struggled on the defensive front. In response, Lenahan is placing a heavy focus on building up a formidable defense. This includes developing an aggressive man-to-man defense and reducing opportunities for uncontested shots on the rim. “We’re going to run, we’re going to press, we’re going to get after teams,” said Lenahan. “Get one percent better each day.” The men are being taught to make plays, read and react, while also being given the freedom to make their own calls when needed in order to keep up the speed that

has been one of Men’s Basketball’s strengths in recent years.

Lenahan is focusing not just on the strategy and team dynamics, but also the mental aspect of basketball. Former coach Kip Ioane (‘01) established Teams of Men, a program aiming to develop positive masculinity within male sports teams. Although the program will not continue at Willamette, Men’s Basketball is still striving to be positive contributors to the campus and wider Salem community. “We take that stuff very seriously,” explained Boydell. “We want to uphold the same values the program taught.” AJ Tennathur (‘27), a first-year on the team, explained the team dynamic: “I know that the coaching staff and the team really cares about us as people.”

The team has already volunteered with Church at the Park, an organization that works with individuals facing homelessness in Salem, and held free basketball clinics at The Boys & Girls Club, where the players use basketball skills such as put ups, speed and positive body language to teach leadership traits. “I really appreciate all the teammates and coaches for allowing that environment to happen,” said Boydell.

Lenahan understands that past years’ records may

cause some to overlook the Bearcats this upcoming season. However, with the inclusion of these new changes the team is confident that they will defy expectations. “I have no doubt that we’re gonna be successful,” claimed Tennathur (‘27).

The 2023-2024 coaches poll places the Bearcats at dead last in the upcoming season. In fact, the voting tallies show that not a single coach selected Willamette for any placement other than ninth. Meanwhile, in practice under Lenahan, the men are running a drill called “Win the Conference.” “We’re hoping to surprise some people,” Lenahan said.

Men’s Basketball’s first game was Nov. 4 at Multnomah. The first home game is Nov. 10 against Evergreen.

Photo from Willamette athletics website



“I think there’s more energy because of all those factors of newness com[ing] in,” explained Boydell. “Everyone’s just excited to get going.”

First-year Grubis helps blaze a path toward Triathlon Nationals

Mason Williams
Staff Writer

The Women's Triathlon Team is nearing the completion of a triumphant third season, placing second at the West National Qualifier and thus qualifying for nationals with first-year Riga Grubis ('27) leading the charge for the team's successes.

Grubis took sixth place at the West National Qualifier meet on Oct. 14 in Springfield, Missouri with a time of 1:16:52. Her strong finish led to her selection for the All-West Region Team for Division III among seven other competitors. She was also chosen as the West All-Region Freshman for her repeated accomplishments during the 2023 season. Additionally, she won the Milikin Splash and Dash individual championship on Sept. 22. Her victories show the Triathlon Team's growing success as a new program at Willamette University.

While Grubis had

prior experience with running, biking and swimming, she had never competed in a triathlon before coming to Willamette University. She instead ran cross-country and track and field in high school in Fairbanks, Alaska. Her interest in triathlon began while looking into Willamette and being recruited by the triathlon team. "I've always been a cross-country and track person," she said. "[Triathlon is] such a new thing for me."

Grubis recalled how nervous she was going into the season: "Going into it I was kind of nervous that I wouldn't even be able to do it. For it to work out really well, I'm super happy." The freshness of the experience was also something she enjoyed this season. "It's really hard to burn out. When I'm like, 'Oh, I've been running too much!' we hop in the pool. The type of training is so different than anything I've ever done that it's just really fun." When asked about her goals going into nationals and the rest of her athletic career,

Grubis stated that her main goal is to have fun and enjoy the sport. "I just want to keep up with [having fun] and use it as a foundation to go further in the next three years."

Grubis credits the efforts of Head Coach Brett Franz for her successful first season. Franz has been coaching at Willamette for 18 years. He spent 14 years coaching cross-country and track before becoming the triathlon head coach when the program was created during the pandemic. Franz noted that getting the team off the ground was one of his biggest challenges, not only because the Triathlon Team was a fledgling program, but also due to the scarcity of triathletes in high school. When asked about his recruiting strategy, Franz explained his priority of finding committed athletes. "It's a challenging sport for someone that doesn't want to do it," he said. "[My goal is] making sure that we know their 'why' of why they're doing it, and because they want to do it, they want to have fun and they



want to try something new."

Photo provided by team

The team first competed three years ago, sending two athletes — then first-years Veronica Castille ('25) and Ella Isaacson ('25) — to nationals. Last year, they sent five competitors. This season, the number has increased to seven thanks to the team's performance at the West National Qualifier. Franz's ultimate goal

is for the Women's Triathlon Team to become the top Division III program in the country and compete against Division I and II teams.

The Triathlon Team will compete at the Women's Collegiate Triathlon Championship, which will be hosted in Tempe, Arizona on Nov. 11.

Fast Break sports report

Skeet Starr
Sports Editor

10/31

Hello Bearcat Fan!

The hounds of defeat seem to have largely gnawed their way to the marrow of Willamette athletics this week. Even the winged jester who visits me in my dreams to tell me how to write the Fast Break stood me up on the astral plane last night, leaving me with no jokes

Art by Carolyn Vazquez

for you, Bearcat Fan. None! Sigh. Let's go to the news.

Women's Swim carried the department taking first at the NWC relays, then third at the sprints. Men's Swim clocked in at fourth in both events.

Football put up a promising 21 points on the Loggers, who themselves put up an even more promising 40 points.

Men's Soccer held fast to defeat Whitman 4-3 after leading 4-1, then fell victim to the Pirate onslaught at Whitworth (2-6).

Women's Soccer

picked up two narrow losses at the Whits. Both Bearcat squads will return home next weekend to finish their seasons.

Women's Basketball opened their pre-season in disappointing fashion, ceding Salem supremacy to the Corban Warriors (57-64).

Volleyball made a meal out of the Pioneers in a back and forth dog fight on Wednesday (3-2), then were leveled by the Boxers later in the week (0-3).

Men's Golf are facing off in Nevada at the NCAA DIII preview as of Sunday night. Results will be making

their way in until Tuesday.

In the wide world of sports: Kyle Larson, Christopher Bell, Ryan Blaney and William Byron will put rubber to asphalt on Sunday, Nov. 5 at the NASCAR Cup Series final in Phoenix, Arizona.

Consider in the coming weeks: Winter cometh on padded feet in the dark morning. Will your crop yields and mental fortitude sustain you, or will the black rider carry you beyond the mountains wrapped in blankets sewn from frost?

Mary Vickery
Staff Writer

11/7

Welcome back Bearcat Fan! Try to cut your confusion short — it's time that I, a non-Starr, got in on the beauty of the Fast Break. I aim to steer clear of existentialism, though I fear that the subliminal messaging and fluoride in my water will keep me from doing so. Forget about me; let's focus on what truly matters: sports!

Women's Swim was defeated by the Lutes 102-103 but not without a fight. With wins in three events, Bearcats made quite a splash on the scoreboard. Men's Swim sank a loss against PLU, pulling an end score of 72-112.

Men's Soccer broke away with a win in their last home game on Nov. 5, 2-1 against Pacific Lutheran. This win brought Willamette to 8-6-1 in NWC. Sadly, their season

ended the next day in Forest Grove with a 1-3 loss.

Women's Soccer fought a good fight against PLU Saturday, tying the first half but losing 1-2 after a Lute goal in the second. They pulled together a 2-2 tie on Sunday against Pacific, ending their season.

Men's Golf finished in 11th place at the NCAA Division III preview after Brock Olson ('26) shot a 220.

Football lost 6-64. The Boxers cruised to 55 points up in the first half, and the Bearcats finally graced the scoreboard in the fourth quarter.

Men's Basketball put up 97 points against Multnomah, who outdid them by putting up 114.

Volleyball hit the court running Nov. 3, spiking a 3-0 win at home against Puget Sound, then kept the party rocking Nov. 4, with a 3-1 win against the Bruins.

In the wide world of sports: Patrick Mahomes threw 2 touchdowns in Germany against the Dolphins, leading to a seven point lead. With a final of 21-14 Kansas City fans are supposedly enjoying delicious seafood platters.

Consider in the coming weeks: The chaos of our lives is merely that of our own making. We are simultaneously the problem and the solution. Our innate drive to uniqueness and pull to cause waves during our time on this earth pale in comparison to the moon, who has been here long before us and will be here long after. Go sports!





Uncertainty Principle band plays at house show

Anushka Srivastav
Media Editor

Five friends embarked on a unique journey that combined their academic pursuits with a passion for music. Meet John Campi ('24), Aiden Dopson ('25), Maxwell Fontaine ('24), Joaquin Ocaña ('24) and Lou Babik ('24), the members of the Uncertainty Principle Band. The group initially went by the name "Putnam," an inside joke resulting from Campi's humor. However, they

later adopted the name Uncertainty Principle, which is a scientific principle that states, "We cannot know both the position and momentum of a particle."

Their musical journey began in October 2022 when Fontaine, Ocaña and Babik decided they needed Campi's bass skills. The band was born, but what started as a casual jamming session soon morphed into something more. The missing piece to their puzzle, a singer, was found in Dopson. Nervous but encour-

aged by his bandmates, Dopson became part of the Uncertainty Principle. Their debut at the Bistro, while far from perfect, marked the start of their musical odyssey.

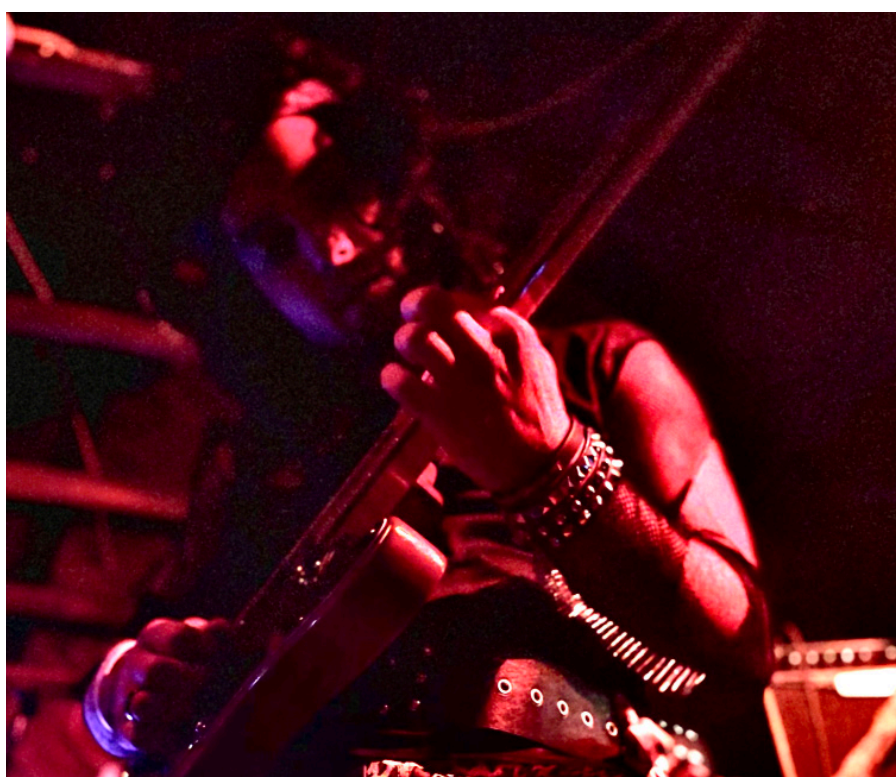
As Dopson put it, "We can only get better," and the band cites their unwavering belief in their potential motivated them to push forward. The turning point for Uncertainty Principle was their show in February 2023 in a garage. As the first note played, the crowd's enthusiasm marked

a pivotal moment that transformed everything. Dopson described that experience as being on "cloud nine" — an electrifying feeling that came with their first official performance. It wasn't just the thrill of performing, though; it was the shared experience of creating music with their friends that made it truly special for the band.

On Oct. 27 of this year, as Halloween weekend kicked off, the group rocked the stage and had a blast. The crowd was filled with

fellow Willamette students who sang along with them. Uncertainty Principle stated that they feel more confident with each show and believe their experience is making them better performers, all while enjoying the love and support of their audience.

The group shared, "Our band is located in Salem, Oregon, but we have no idea where our music will take us. In turn, we're hoping to gain momentum as time goes on, but we have no idea where that'll take us. We're very excited."





Opinion: How the “WU Flu” impacts you

Marit Hickey
Staff Writer

Since time immemorial, college students have faced many challenges. Of the issues that are not admittedly self-inflicted, the award for the most inconvenient, annoying and persistent problem has to go to the cold-like infections so easily spread on a college campus.

Although word of the “WU Flu” or “Campus Cough” is going around, the reality is that the cold and flu season is not yet in full swing, and it is important to be prepared for when these illnesses fully hit Willamette’s campus.

Don Thomson, Willamette’s associate dean for health and wellness and the director of the Bishop Wellness Center, talked about what sick students can do to help prevent the spread of illness. “The most important thing we tell students to do is if you’re sick, stay home. If you go to class when you’re sick, you’re more likely to spread what you have to other people. Take care of yourself and rest,” he said. When asked about masking, Thomson added that masks are another very crucial tool in preventing the spread of sickness, especially within cramped or crowded

spaces.

Residential life on campus, synonymous with close quarters, is a key part of what allows illness to spread so quickly among college students. If you’re living with someone who is sick (a roommate, housemate, etc.), Thomson said, “As long as you don’t have symptoms, you can go to class. [Do] anything you can do to keep surfaces clean, and do all the things that boost your immune system like resting and staying hydrated.”

Most colds are easily fought with time and the free medication that Bishop keeps stocked outside of its door when it is open, including grab-and-go care bags for colds that include ibuprofen, cough drops, disposable thermometers and information about how to use the supplies. However, if a student is experiencing a fever that is not breaking or responding to over-the-counter medicines like Tylenol or ibuprofen, they should call Bishop to get the care they need.

Currently, Bishop does not provide flu shots, though students should keep an eye open for any updates. Flu shots are highly encouraged and are easily available at most grocery stores and pharmacies. To find the nearest flu shot

provider, students can use the search function on vaccines.gov and type in Salem’s zip code, 97301. From there, local options can easily be viewed. There is also an option to see locations that offer COVID-19 boosters, which are also recommended especially for college students.

Getting vaccinated before the peak of flu season not only helps prevent illness, but it also lessens the severity of any symptoms you might experience if you catch it. It also helps build up herd immunity, the idea that if enough of the population gains immunity to an illness, it can slow or halt its spread entirely, which is especially important considering there is a non-insignificant amount of people who are immunocompromised or cannot get vaccinated in the first place. These people are disproportionately affected by more mild infections that others may be able to shrug off. Similar to COVID-19, while some can get over the flu relatively quickly, others who are vulnerable and rely on herd immunity may have prolonged health issues that can be life-changing.

Just because events like the cold and flu season may appear trivial, it does not mean that it is acceptable to shirk the

responsibility of containing illness. People who belong to these vulnerable groups are everywhere, are of every age and might all have different conditions. For example, people undergoing treatment for cancer are heavily impacted by mild infections. People who have asthma are more likely to have serious respiratory symptoms. Anyone around you could be at greater risk if they fell ill.

This is why students

should care about the WU Flu, and be responsible when sick. It’s not just one’s own health and wellbeing that is at stake. As a part of a small and tight-knit community, we need to be aware of how our actions affect others in more ways than one, and this is an action Willamette students can easily take to help support each other this time of year.

Art by Maille Olgagy



Opinion: “Coraline” movie vs. book: The eeriness of perfection and simplicity

Mya Jewinson
Staff Writer

“Coraline,” released in February 2009 by LAIKA Studios, is a film many claim as a classic and a staple to play during the Halloween season. What many don’t know, however, is that the critically acclaimed movie is actually based off of a book written in 2002 by popular horror novelist Neil Gaiman. Both are stories about a curious girl who wanders through a mysterious door to find her “Other Mother” waiting for her; however, there are some key components of the story that are different between the two media. The book is a fantastic read for those who enjoyed the 2009 film adaptation, spinning the tale to be even closer to the horror genre.

Wybie Lovat is a beloved character from the 2009 film. He is a nervous, geeky, antisocial kid who interacts with Coraline throughout the movie, both in the real world and the Other Mother’s world. Wybie, despite being so crucial to the storytelling of the film, isn’t present at all in the book. Why?

Wybie is what is called a foil character. In literature, a foil character serves as the opposite of the protagonist for the purpose of highlighting certain qualities of the main character.

Putting Wybie and Coraline side by side allows for Coraline to have a companion, someone the audience can compare her qualities to. If Wybie were to be present in the novel, the novel would lose elements of its eerie atmosphere and, in turn, become less scary.

As a reader, I really enjoy a simple novel from time to time to give my brain a break, and Coraline is almost deceptively simple — a children’s book with simple sentences and spaced out paragraphs. There is a sense of loneliness sandwiched between the negative space of the pages, and its short chapters are preceded not by a name, but a roman numeral. Essentially, Wybie being present in this world that Gaiman created would expel the very element that makes it so scary: the knowledge that Coraline is, at the end of the day, utterly alone.

If you don’t like slow buildup in a book, then this is a great book to pick up. The plot of the book moves much faster than the movie due to its lack of worldbuilding. Coraline goes through a tiny door in the drawing room of her family’s new flat, but between the two stories, what she finds on the other side is different. In the book, she is confronted by a being who is very blatantly not her mother, in a much less welcoming house and in a far

more eerie manner. The Other Mother in the book immediately proposes the conflict that, in the movie, takes time to build up: she wants Coraline to sew buttons onto her eyes and stay with her forever. Much more of the book is focused on Coraline’s survival, and drills home a central fear that is present in almost anyone: the fear of being alone.

Coraline ventures into an undeveloped world with nothing but her pajamas, a satchel and the omniscient Black Cat that helps her along in her journey. Though there are characters who encourage Coraline throughout the book, such as the Black Cat and the Ghost Children (who are former victims of the Other Mother), Coraline has to face every obstacle alone: the cellar, the garden, the theater, the drawing room — all while battling the thought, “What if I don’t make it out of here?”

If you are a fan of scary media and want a good, light book to read that will get your skin crawling, “Coraline” is it. I am a decently paced reader, and I read this book in a couple of hours. If you enjoyed the film, the book will not disappoint you; however, as with most book-to-film media, you cannot expect the same things. The movie is more artistic, but the book is scarier. The book is also cheap, and a paperback



copy can be found at most bookstores for \$10 or less (I found mine for \$3.50).

I highly recommend this book; it is one I keep on my shelf if I want something compelling and unique. It doesn’t lose its re-readability

and never fails to put a shiver up my spine. I leave you with this: beware the cellar scene.

Happy spooky reading, Bearcats!

Art by Carolyn Vazquez

Opinion: A combination of emotions and data makes for the best WU education

Brooke Austin
Staff Writer

Willamette University prides itself on its ability to create safe classes centered around serving students to the best of its ability, stating on several different sites how students have “the space to share their deeply held beliefs, principles, and ideas, especially on challenging issues and topics.” When both data and emotions are included in the classroom, students gain the best education.

Many classes here at Willamette have found a balance that seems to be beneficial to most students. When asked if she prefers emotional or data-based classes, Amanda Padgett ('25) said, “I think a mix of both.” Padgett explains how for her own personal preferences in class, being able to include both makes the class feel more engaging.

Physics professor Daniel Borrero feels the same. “I think a lot of times students don't really see the sciences as being creative fields,” he said, further emphasizing the idea that the most valuable educa-

tion comes from a combination of both emotion and data in classes.

Padgett, a Politics, Policy, Law and Ethics major, explained how emotions and data are prevalent in her classes. “Emotional reactions to certain things ... impact the way people talk about data.” She added, “When you come into the data set with ... your preconceived notions, I think that really dictates the conversation.” Padgett also discussed the idea that, “Society's feelings towards the topic don't impact the way we understand the facts. But I think that when you incorporate both of those together, that can be very valuable.”

Professor Sarah Chivers, a visiting assistant sociology professor, explained the benefits of including the option for students to tap into emotion or data. “Some people don't have the capacity to reach into individual things,” she said. “So they can write about the big structural things, but for some of us, like something so bad has happened to us, to share it is to begin healing.”

Borrero shared the same idea about the impor-

ance of incorporating emotion and data in classes, even bringing up Einstein's theory of relativity as an example. “All that math [had] already been developed. People had already kind of studied the stuff, but it took Einstein to really kind of just think about the same math in a different way.”

Though many students and professors believe that a mix of both emotion and data is important to include, some students like Josi Lee ('26) prefer more emotion-based conversations in class. She reflected on a previous class she's taken, Intro to Public Health, at Willamette: “There was a total lack of emotion which I found ... hard to follow.” Regarding the classes she's taking now, she said, “They were appealing to emotions, and I enjoyed those classes a lot more.” Like Padgett's experience coming from a high school where emotions, a heavy aspect of humanity, weren't allowed in a classroom, Lee appreciates Willamette's openness to allowing emotions to influence a class. “Their environment is a lot better.”

Despite a few classes putting a greater emphasis on



Art by Eli Fukuji

emotions or data, a common consensus here at WU is acknowledging the importance of including both. For example, in traditionally data-based sociology, the classes benefit from data because they allow students to see how their emotions are being formed by the structure our society has put in place. Similarly, physics benefits from emotion because it allows people to understand how to view data in different ways and how that data plays out in everyday life.

With the recognition

that both emotions and data are not only incredibly important, but prevalent in classes here at Willamette, students and professors are able to both gain and give valuable knowledge. Furthermore, they acquire the ability to interpret data as fact or as a structural system, as well as understand how emotions are a heavily influenced means of viewing said data. With both included in a classroom, students can receive the best education possible.

Compiled by: Priya Thoren, Opinions Editor

Topic: What is your favorite aesthetic?

The Pick: Cryptidcore
Submitted by: Monte Remer, Lifestyles Editor

The Pick: Core core
Submitted by: Ernie Samora, Staff Writer

Staff Comment: It really highlights the myri-

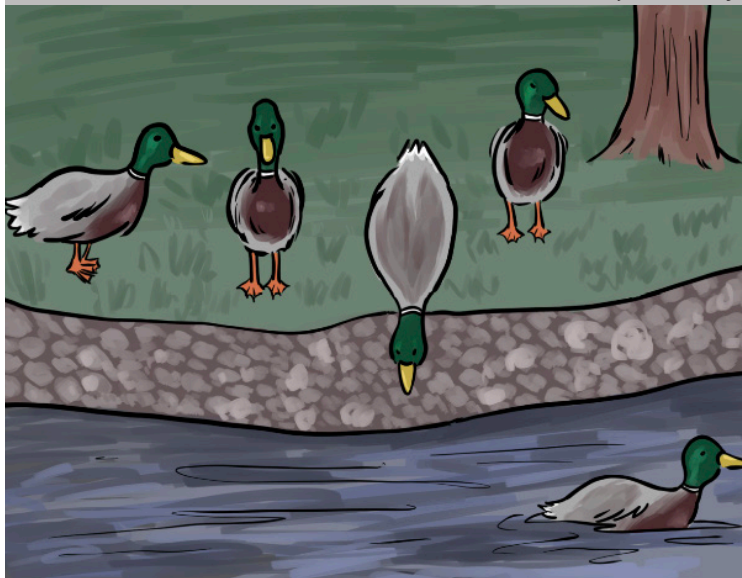
ad of juxtaposing ideologies of the dichotomous relationship between the inherently hegemonic capitalistic nature of our world in conjunction with the plethora of diasporas of our expectations growing up.

The Pick: Bigfoot swag core

Submitted by: Isis Coyle, Media Manager

Staff Comment: If society was more advanced, I would constantly be

Art by Eli Fukuji



Staff Picks

decked out in Bigfoot drip. Unfortunately, we just live in a time where reppin a brother's merch is cheugy. Life is a jungle and we all just living in it.

The Pick: PNW grandmacore

Submitted by: Chrissy Ewald, Staff Writer

Staff Comment: When I go home to Seattle and see people on the bus wearing those zipper hiking pants with a Helly Hansen rainjacket from probably 1995, a hiking hat with a chin strap, and musty crusty hiking boots, I feel at home. Extra points if they have hiking poles with them on the bus. I aspire to join them in caring about function only in my sarditorial choices.

The Pick: Gross core
Submitted by: Mary Vickery, Staff Writer

Staff Comment: I only really trust someone if they look a little gross.

They don't have to actually be gross, but they have to either look like it, or act like they might be. Some dirt under the fingernails, torn up shoes, or some smudged eyeliner will really bring any look together in my book.

The Pick: Cowboy core
Submitted by: Eleanor Hu, Managing Editor

Staff Comment: Cowboy boots are the perfect footwear for 99% of situations—they can be worn rain or shine and dressed up or dressed down. I'm also a big fan of obnoxiously audacious belts, (ethically-sourced) suede fringe, and unironic horse graphics. Plus “y'all” is arguably one of the best ways of addressing a large group.

The Pick: Cool bugs
Submitted by: Skeet Starr, Sports Editor

Staff Comment: Insects maybe

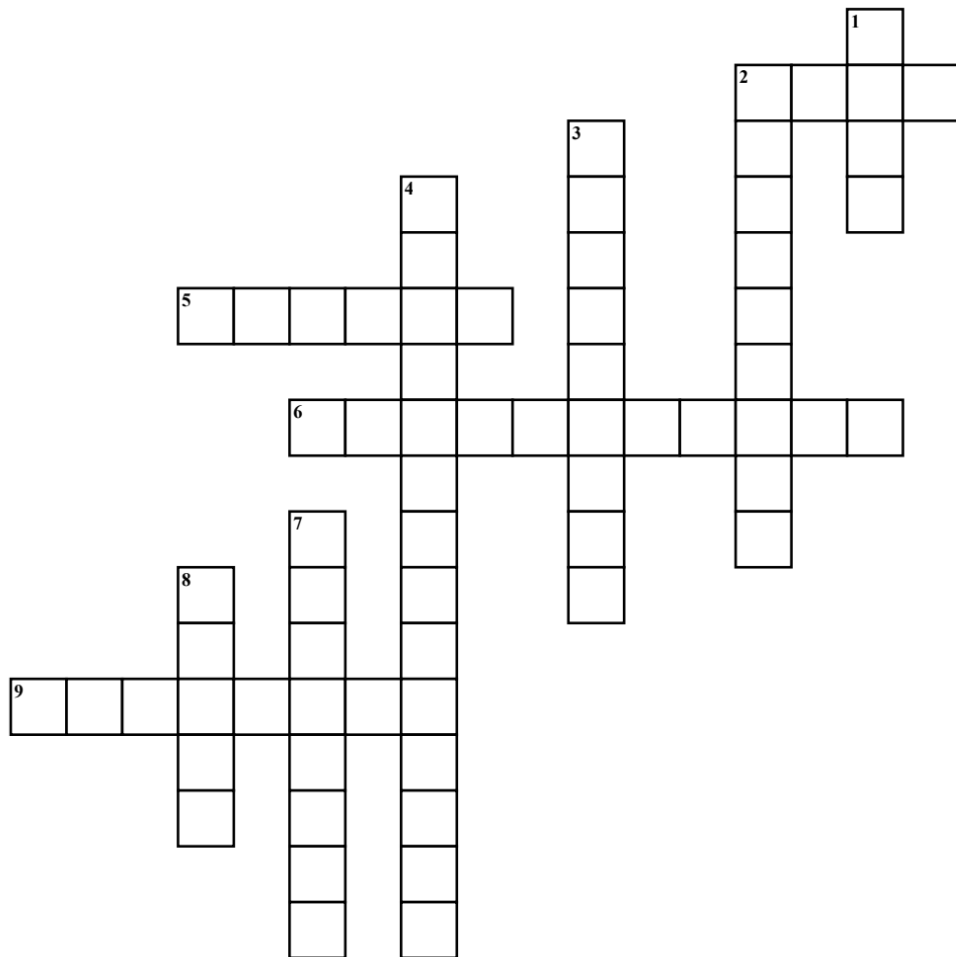
The Pick: Dark aca-

demia
Submitted by: Priya Thoren, Opinions Editor
Staff Comment: One of my favorite hobbies is scrolling through my Pinterest board containing over 3,000 pins of various dark academia architecture and outfits. It's the reason why Eaton is my favorite building on campus; it makes me feel like I am in The Secret History or Harry Potter, about to put on my favorite brown sweater and curl up with a warm mug of chai.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed are from the individual staff members and do not reflect the perspective of The Collegian as a whole. The submissions are unedited and unaltered from what was submitted by individual staff members.



Rainy Day Crossword



Across

- [2] "Curl up with a good ___"
- [5] You can spill it with your friends or drink it on a rainy day
- [6] A common saying for heavy rainfall
- [9] What do Oregonians never use in the rain?

Down

- [1] Warm and fuzzy feeling
- [2] In Jackson Garrett's article about PNCA athletes, the preferable term for a mascot representing PNCA athletes competing for WU athletics
- [3] Uncommon in Oregon rainstorms
- [4] Classic rainy day song by The Neighbourhood
- [7] Movie set in Forks, Washington
- [8] Which "Mean Girls" character can "predict" the weather?

Answers: Across: 2. book 5. hottie 6. catsanddogs 9. umbrella Down: 1. cozy 2. bearsloth 3. lightning 4. sweaterweather 7. twilight 8. karen

Comic by Carolyn Vazquez

