

Review the events of last May, consequences from the University and the future of Sigma Chi. **P. 6-7**

The Editorial Board reflects on the conversations resulting from the 'Willamette Truth' blog. **P. 10**

NEWS

'Freshman 15' exposed as urban legend

MIKE HARDER
 GUEST WRITER

On a recent Wednesday night, the dinner menu at Goudy Commons included rack of ribs somthered in barbeque sauce, molasses baked beans and coleslaw with mayonnaise, slated between a creamy Alfredo station and an all-you-can-eat pizza bar.

Dotted across the dining hall are other stations of pita chips and hummus, fresh fruit and a salad bar – healthier alternatives to the evening's main entrees. The options are endless, but also conflicting for students who are interested about maintaining a healthy diet.



DEVIN LEONARDI

At Goudy Commons, students have the freedom to eat what they want. But for some, that presents a set of different challenges.

For new students, college often seems like a chance to branch out and try new things. But with that freedom comes a host of other challenges, including more stress, not enough exercise and different eating and sleeping habits. The result? A phenomenon known as the "Freshman 15."

All over country, hosts of students worry about their weight as they prepare to transition into college. But how founded are these concerns? According to a recent national Ohio State University survey, not very.

Rather, researchers concluded the actual average weight gain for college students is between 2.5 and 3.5 pounds. In fact, a quarter of those surveyed had actually lost weight since starting college. But during school, students still face lifestyle choices that impact not only their chance of gaining weight, but their overall health as well.

Students often blame Goudy Commons for weight gain. But Marc Marelich, director of food service for Bon Appétit, said that it's not what you eat at Goudy that causes weight gain, but how much. He noted that 65 percent of the menu for all-you-care-to-eat dinners is plant-based and local. "Goudy serves correct portion sizes as well," Marelich said. "The problem is personal choice. People keep coming back for more."

Along with how much students eat, the amount of exercise they get also impacts their health during college. And especially during the first semester, exercise habits are subject to change as students adjust to a new lifestyle.

See **FRESHMAN 15**, Page 3

OPINIONS

Putting an end to slut-shaming

EMILY DOUGAN
 STAFF WRITER

Folks, the parents are gone so I'm about to get real personal and maybe a bit dramatic with all of you. I want to talk about the word "slut," but my lovely editor told me that to do this I should probably make it more of a narrative than a PSA about how everyone should go out and bang whomever they want. Ahem...

The first week of my freshmen year, for reasons I will not go into too much detail about, my friends gave me the nickname "Down and Dirty Dougan." This was weird because, by senior-year standards, nothing I did was really "down" or "dirty." Honestly, I think it just worked for the alliteration.

Regardless, the name stuck, and to this day every time I do anything that could be even remotely taken as "down" or "dirty," the name comes back. It's not something I resent, and usually it's a term of some weird, friendly endearment. I've kind of come to embrace it, honestly, and I'm proud that I lead a life where I can "do what I want" and feel good about it.

See **DOUBLE STANDARDS**, Page 10

SPORTS

Annette Marinello: Doing it all, three varsity sports at a time

BRANDON CHINN
 SPORTS EDITOR

Most student-athletes will admit that playing a sport at Willamette is no ordinary task. Many encounter time conflicts, stressful situations and sleepless nights as a result of attempting to balance the workload of academics and athletics.

Playing two sports would be additionally difficult, as the time commitment is much more demanding. But being a three-sport athlete at Willamette – that's impossible, right?

After successfully competing in cross country, track and swimming as a sophomore in 2012, junior Annette Marinello would certainly disagree.

"It's gone a lot more successfully than I originally thought it would," Marinello said. "I owe much of that to the flexibility of my coaches and the support of my teammates."

years at Philomath High School in Philomath, Ore., the native Oregonian arrived with the intention of focusing solely on cross country and track. "I had been swimming competitively for 13 years at that point and I just wanted to shift my attention to running," Marinello said.

Marinello was later nagged with several stress fracture injuries as a result of the constant running. It was during that time that she realized the benefits swimming on her athletic sustainability.

"I get a lot of lower-leg stress injuries from running. Swimming is a really great low-impact activity to help balance that."

That, combined with her love for the sport, drove Marinello to dive back in and join the varsity swim team. "I had been swimming since I was five years old and stopping after high school made me miss it," Marinello said. "I realized at that point that I wanted to get back into it."



COLLEGIAN FILE

Junior Annette Marinello broke two individual records last year in just her first season of swimming at Willamette. In addition to swimming, she competes in cross country and track.

See **MARINELLO**, Page 8

Coming to Willamette

A three-sport athlete all four



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Eastside Commons welcomes Westwood Hall

HAYDEN MILLER
GUEST WRITER

Returning students will notice a new residence hall in the building formerly occupied by the Delta Zeta chapter of Sigma Chi fraternity, which lost its housing after a scandal last spring. Students will have the option to move to the new Westwood Hall, located on the southwest corner of the Baxter complex.

The change was part of a major renovation schedule that took

place over the summer. Projects included the Sparks Center remodel, installation of new roofing across campus and updates in residence halls.

Last spring, incriminating Facebook posts from Sigma Chi's private group were released in an anonymous email to students across campus. They included evidence of sexual violence, hazing and disregard for university policies. One of the consequences for the exposed behaviors was loss of the chapter's housing privileges, allowing for the

creation of a new residence hall.

The building was closed for new renovations, which included adding a new kitchen, refreshing the living room and renovating the bathrooms. The halls also were painted to cover up murals painted by previous Sigma Chi classes.

Director of Residential Services Cheryl Todd is quick to point out that Westwood was not the only building to be renovated. "We do this on a rotating basis," she said. "Other residential halls received the same upgrades this summer."

Some other notable renovations took place across campus, notably Southwood (formerly occupied by the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity), which was restored to neutralize the residence hall for unaffiliated students. Perhaps the most drastic renovation was in Lausanne Hall, where each floor was given new paint and carpeting.

New common areas, a laundry room and a kitchen were also installed, with brand new furniture and appliances. And in total, there were 14 bathroom renovations across campus.

As late as mid-August, renovators were hard at work removing



DEVIN LEONARDI

Renovations included new common areas, bathrooms and kitchenettes.

fraternity letters and symbols from Westwood Hall. Meanwhile, Residential Services prepared to find occupants for the new dorm.

At last check, the hall will house employees of the Language Learning Center and students wanting "super singles" – double occupancy rooms at the rate of a single. The new hall is the eighth residence hall in the Eastside community.

Junior Caitlynn Dahlquist is the community mentor for Westwood. She's excited to have a blank slate to work with. "Being the CM in Westwood is exciting," Dahlquist said. "I get to be a part of creating a new space on campus. And that's something not many people get to say they've done."

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DEVIN LEONARDI

Renovators removed fraternity symbols from Westwood Hall over the summer.

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

August 20-27, 2013

Information provided by Campus Safety

BURGLARY

Aug. 25, 11:15 p.m. (Northwood Hall): A student reported that their life-sized cutout of Justin Bieber had been stolen from their room. The student stated that their door was locked and that their window was secure.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

Aug. 25, 1:15 a.m. (Kaneko Commons): A group of students took a fire extinguisher outside and activated it. Multiple students reported that they did not approve of this, but the student went out and discharged the extinguisher anyway. The next day, one of the students called to report the incident. An investigation was launched and the suspect has been identified.

Aug. 26, 4 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): A student reported that there was damage to his vehicle. He noticed that there was some broken glass near the passenger door, and that his side-view mirror glass was missing.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

Aug. 26, 9:59 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): A student called to report that his roommate had been vomiting all day. The roommate stated that they had not been drinking and that they did not eat anything that was likely to have been the cause. The student requested to be taken to the emergency room. Campus Safety officers transported him to the Salem hospital.

THEFT

Aug. 20, 5:55 a.m. (University Apart-

ments): Campus Safety received a call reporting two male subject carrying a bike thought from the University Apartments. The caller stated that last time he saw the suspects, they were crossing Winter Street and were heading towards the School of Education without the bike. The officer left to see if he could locate the suspects or the bike. The suspects were not located, but the bike was found hidden in the bushes behind Goudy. Bolt cutters were also found where the bike had been stolen.

Aug. 20, 6 a.m. (Belknap Hall): A student called to report that his bike had been stolen. The officer found a pair of pliers near the area where the bike had been taken. The student was advised to contact the Salem Police Department.

Aug. 24, 10 p.m. (Matthews Hall): A student reported that their ID card and keys had been stolen. The student reports that they had left their keys in the bathroom. When they returned, three minutes later, the keys were gone.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT

Aug. 21, 2:45 p.m. (Off Campus): Campus Safety received a report that one of the Withnell rental vans had been damaged. While parking the car at the rental center, a student accidentally backed up into a fence.

PLEASE CONTACT CAMPUS SAFETY IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THESE INCIDENTS.

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WITS unveils network changes

KATIE DOBBS
STAFF WRITER

Students returning to campus this semester may notice some new changes to the University Wi-Fi network. That's because, over the summer, Willamette Integrated Technology Services (WITS) was hard at work preparing to unveil an updated, more secure network for students and visitors.

On Aug. 13, those changes were revealed to students: a more user friendly BlitzNet registration interface, a new Willamette Guest network across campus and updated security for the residential networks.

For network users, this means fewer headaches while adding and registering new devices, a safer network and more accessibility.

Going into the summer, WITS staff had already identified a few issues that they wanted to tackle. One of those was the registration interface. Written by the current Direc-

“Now any data that leaves your computer...is encrypted. It's just like a coded message.”

MITCH JONES
WITS Help Desk Manager

tor of Infrastructure Services for WITS John Callahan, the old interface was a custom application dating back more than a decade. At the time, it fulfilled its function, but it has since grown outdated.

“The new interface is in use by many institutions – educational and business – to handle very large networks. It's constantly developed and improved,” System Administrator Fletcher Haynes said.

While the original registration process took more than five steps, the current one has been reduced to two, and the software is also compatible with

most of today's technology.

As WITS revamped the registration interface, they also worked to create a new Willamette Guest network. The new network is aimed at giving visiting groups such as conferences and lecturers easy access to campus Wi-Fi.

To Haynes, the guest network means less confusion for visitors and more freedom for WITS.

“Prior to this, our process was if a group needed Wi-Fi on campus, we would have to manually set up a network in specific locations for them, and it was difficult to keep track of and took up a lot of time,” Haynes said. “So this lets us just leave one guest network up all over campus.”

In the midst of the other changes, WITS also implemented new security keys for all of the residential networks that make the material shared over ResNets safer and more private.

Before the keys, none of the information sent over residential networks was encoded, making it easy prey for hack-

ers. But Service Desk Manager Mitch Jones said such a worry is a thing of the past.

“Now any data that leaves your computer over Wi-Fi – the stuff you type into your keyboard – is now encrypted,” Jones said. “It's just like a coded message.”

As students settle in, they're already beginning to notice the changes. “It was a lot easier for me to register my laptop,” junior Rachael Decker said. “The network password is the same for most of the campus networks. I just needed to put in my username and password and then I had access to the Internet.”

But for those students struggling with the changes, WITS is still available for quick fixes.

“I would encourage everyone that has a problem with Wi-Fi to contact the WITS Help Desk,” Haynes said. “They are ready to help and very good at fixing things.”

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Professor conducts pesticide research

MANDY CARLSON
GUEST WRITER

While the Willamette Valley is Oregon's most densely-populated area, it's also known for its abundance of fertile soil and rich agricultural tradition.

But new research from Associate Professor of Biology Barbara Stebbins-Boaz has found that this tradition might come with a dangerous price.

Stebbins-Boaz has been looking into the effects of herbicide use on local animals. The chemical of concern is 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D), one of several used widely across the Willamette Valley. Etienne Galbreath, a student member of the research team, revealed that the chemical might cause “abnormalities during developmental, neurological and reproductive processes.”

Suzie Piluso, Stebbins-Boaz's first research student, actually inspired this project. Piluso sought to answer the question: Does pollution affect animal development?

“We put my expertise in early frog development and her curiosity and motivation together – and voilà,” Stebbins-Boaz said.

Stebbins-Boaz conducted her research by exposing African clawed frogs to high concentrations of the herbicidal hormone. The results proved that the level of exposure prevented the formation of viable eggs and deformed the sperm. The frogs could no longer reproduce.

Stebbins-Boaz said this is important because the hormone could possibly affect other organisms in the Willamette Valley. “Because the life cycle of amphibians is fairly conserved, if there is harm to one, there likely would be harm to others,” she said.

Stebbins-Boaz found that the chemical's use, paired with “continued housing and



DEVIN LEONARDI

Dr. Barbara Stebbins-Boaz has been researching the effects of pesticide use on frogs.

industrial development, habitat destruction as well as changes in climate,” compounds the challenges facing animals in the area.

Today, the herbicide is relatively safe when used according to instruction. But there's a move to engineer crops resistant to the hormone.

This would result in greater herbicide use, creating levels similar to those in the experiment. Stebbins-Boaz said that will

have disastrous effects on wildlife.

For Stebbins-Boaz, this research means being able to prevent population decline before it becomes a problem.

“The concerns are worldwide and growing,” Stebbins-Boaz said. “Many questions have yet to be answered. It's a great time to get involved.”

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BRIEFS

On Friday, Aug. 30, students will attempt to break the world record for largest game of red light/green light ever played. All students, faculty, staff and alumni will have the chance to participate. The event takes place on the Quad and students are encouraged to arrive as early as 4:30 p.m.

After the world record attempt on Friday, Aug. 30, Kappa Sigma fraternity will be holding a Welcome Back BBQ at their house off 14th and Mill, just south of Kaneko. Food is free.

Registration is now open for day hikes on Sept. 1 to Cascade Head and Angel's Rest through the Outdoor Program. The cost for either trip is \$5, paid to the Outdoor Program office in Montag.

On Thursday, Sept. 5, the 2013 Activities & Resources Expo will take place along the Mill Stream and Jackson Plaza. Campus resources, clubs and other student organizations will be on display for anyone looking to get involved on campus.

Applications are now available in the Office of Student Activities or at www.tiu.edu for students interested in serving as International Peer Coaches. The program serves to help arriving ASP students adjust to campus life during the spring semester.

Got tips? Email News Editor
Ryan Yambra <ryambra>.

Freshman 15

CONTINUED from Page 1

Senior Winnie Albright remembers her first semester of college, and it didn't involve exercise. For her, it took time to adjust to college life and realize the gym wasn't just for athletes. But by second semester, she mustered the courage to go to the gym. “I didn't realize it was a fun, social place,” Albright said. Throughout her second semester, she got into a routine.

This semester, Sparks Center is under renovation, but the gym equipment is still available for use.

Sleep is another part of college that is impacted during the course of the school year. But counselors in Bishop Wellness Center said getting a full eight hours of sleep is critical for students' health.

Some night owls won't experience much of a change in their sleep schedule, like freshman Anna Carlin. She describes herself as excited about college, but nervous for classes. Since she likes to stay up late, weight gain isn't on her mind.

For freshmen, college is a major transition that leaves them with more independence and choices than ever before. Learning how to manage one's schedule, build in workout routines and moderate meal portions are all very important aspects of college.

Rather than succumbing to the fears of weight gain inspired by “Freshman 15” mythology, consider your lifestyle and the choices you make which contribute to your well-being.

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**Applications to write and take photos for the
Collegian are due Friday, Sept. 6 by 5 p.m.
Check your Willamette email for more details.**

Earl Sweatshirt grows up on 'Doris'

JULIANA COHEN
CONTRIBUTOR

Earl Sweatshirt, born Thebe Kgositsile, earned his notoriety in 2010 at age 16 after chugging a mixture of

various illicit substances in a fisheye-shot music video promoting his first mixtape.

Around this time, the Los Angeles-based rap collective Odd Future Wolf Gang Kill Them All and its loudmouth

frontman, Tyler, The Creator, were reaching unprecedented Internet fame for violent, yet playful lyrical content with punchy beats to match.

The icing on this very

trendy cake came from OFWGKTA's home movies featuring the dozen or so members screwing around the neighborhood in Supreme streetwear. Unfortunately for Earl, his mother interpreted this cyber-exhibitionism as a legitimate crisis, pulling him out of private school and sending him to an academy for at-risk youth in Samoa.

Despite this setback, the show did go on, and fellow members even capitalized on their friend's disappearance with #FREEEARL tweets and apparel. Tyler also made a point of talking up Earl's talents as superior to his own, saddling the rapper he affectionately refers to as his brother with monumental expectations upon his return to the mainland after his 18th birthday.

As the least experienced member of the collective, Earl seems ill-equipped to reinvigorate the "Golf Wang" brand with a debut record.

Ironically, Earl's stint in solitude appears to have improved his rapping. His new subject matter revolves far less around shock value in favor of ruminations about parents, his distaste for sobriety and the absurdities of a callous local reality.

Case in point: On "Hive," he laments, "Breaking news: death's less important when the Lakers lose."

His writing, as he has explained in recent interviews, has become more elaborate, layered with quiet digs and triple entendres. Although the album is peppered with fellow MCs like Tyler, Domo Genesis and Mac Miller, Earl refuses to lean on his guests and maintains a consistent presence in all sixteen tracks, even reducing RZA of Wu-Tang Clan to a hype-man on "Molasses."

"Doris," rather surprisingly, boasts the most impressive featured production of any recent OFWGKTA release; while Earl stays involved on almost every song (listed as RandoBlackdude), he imports the likes of BADBADNOTGOOD, Samiyam and even Pharrell Williams to craft the distinct darkness heard throughout the album.

Even in the face of the ridiculousness cultivated by Earl and his cohorts, he represents the somewhat embarrassing elements of his fanbase, such as those involved in the Complex magazine manhunt, which frantically tracked down the teen at boarding school.

Earl suffers from the same frustration as Tyler in the sense that both characters want the listener to appreciate them, but not to take them too sincerely. Perhaps Earl feels too much is known about his parents, both of whom are civil rights activists.

Mr. Kgositsile and his son's strained relationship is a major point of contention: "And when their expectations raising because daddy was a poet, right," Earl murmurs on "Burgundy." One could surmise that there is plenty of material in this vein to further this deeper line of self-analysis in future releases.

Although this release is highly anticipated and has plenty of people excited about the trajectory of Odd Future, "Doris" definitely would have packed more of a punch had it come closer to the beginning of summer.

That said, the album does grow on listeners and could spawn more creative output and collaborations from its featured guests if Earl's inevitable tour bodes well.

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EMILY SAFFORD

"Doris" dropped on Aug. 20 via Tan Cressida and Columbia Records

If Tao Lin doesn't capitalize 'Internet,' should anyone?

ZANE SPARLING
CONTRIBUTOR

Tao Lin is everything you should love in a writer.

Bleak, emphatically modern, 'Important' (in a good way) and relentlessly and eminently unconventional.

Lin has been called "the single most irritating person we've ever had to deal with" by Gawker, "the most interesting prose stylist of his generation" by Bret Easton Ellis, and "probably the greatest/sexiest writer roughly seven years older than Willamette's graduating seniors" right now by this article.

Which is to say that Tao Lin is young conspicuously young, really and that his newest novel, "Taipei" (Vintage 2013), is a work that YOU, merely by being alive and possessing an approximately analogous age and attitude, are uniquely qualified to relate to, interpret and ultimately understand better than ANYONE ELSE.

Or at least anyone over 35.

Okay, okay, so what is this particular book about?

Plot-wise, "Taipei" follows Paul, a young New York writer, as he falls into and out of relationships, visits his parents in Taipei, undergoes an impulse marriage in Vegas and (don't tell mom!!!) ingests a seemingly endless stream of Xanax, Ad-derall and Percocet.

As before, Lin's writing is autobiographical if not openly confessional. His work takes the form of narrative nonfiction, where every major character and event has a strict IRL counterpart.

(E.g., Paul = Tao Lin, Erin = poet Megan Boyle, Calvin = annoying poet Jordan Castro, etc.)

I am now probably obligated to say something bad about "Taipei," as I have been crushing on Lin pretty hard thus far.

When he needs a character to sit, Tao will often write something like, "[he sat] in a position that a robot in a black comedy about a child with two fathers, one of whom was a robot, would assume to recite a bedtime story."

This, as some would say, is a rather roundabout, page-filling way of articulating, "he sat robotically." Admittedly, I tend to think this hyper-specificity is self-aware and (more importantly) hilarious, albeit this is a matter of taste. (Mine is right.)

Another interesting aspect of the novel to consider is how Lin's "adult" reviewers seem unable to get over the presence of Gmail and other commonplace websites in a (gasp) "serious work of literary fiction."

An example: "Tina... described by Kyle as 'really hot' and by Paul as 'her blog gets a lot of hits.'"

This basic Internet fluency became a sort of fixation for the aforementioned reviewers—forcing them to write things like, "digital wastescape" and "online e-alienation." At best, it felt like a courageous and semi-admirable commitment to completely missing the point.

What I think comes naturally to millennials (i.e., us) is an understanding that writers can now just put the Internet (and text info) into their stories w/o it "meaning" anything esp. deep or profound.

(The same goes for Lin/Paul's drug usage, where 'the reviewers' can accurately be accused of missing the forest for the pills.)

I am not in the habit of making grand pronouncements, but I think the novelist's job is to express old truths in new language.

One thing that I have not mentioned yet is that "Taipei" is, when it wants to be, a deeply philosophical novel.

It inverts the standard existentialist's plea ("how should a person be?") into the equally lonesome question: "how can one be any other person?" and finally, claustrophobically, to the query, "how can there be any other?"

The answer—which reestablishes both Lin's literary cojones and provisional

mastery of modern misery—is resounding and absolute.

If you read "Taipei," you will be engaging with the fresh, the new, the novel.

You could do a lot worse.

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CANTEENING.COM

At the age of 30, Tao Lin has already published three novels, two books of poetry, on short story collection and one novella.



FACEBOOK.COM/KALEIDOSCOPEMUSICFESTIVAL

Bassnectar, Nas and Empire of the Sun headlined at Kaleidoscope Music Festival.

Kaleidoscope music festival debuts in Eugene

JULIA BROTMAN
GUEST WRITER

Last weekend, thousands of people gathered in Emerald Meadows in Eugene, Ore. for the first ever Kaleidoscope Music Festival, put on by One Eleven Productions. The three-day event featured various musical acts that embraced a culture of creativity, expression and exploration.

Cars were lined up on a quiet road off I-5 on Friday afternoon, waiting to enter the Kaleidoscope campground. Slowly, they moved through security with windows down, music blasting and passengers pumping themselves up for the weekend ahead.

Nestled in the 80-acre Emerald Meadows was a large open campground next to fields, small hills and tree clusters that held the festival and its five stages. Entering the world of Kaleidoscope was like being Alice in the Eugene version of Wonderland. An earthy, mystical atmo-

sphere and sense of wonder and peace was instantly present.

Multiple groups of circus performers, professional dancers and costumed characters roamed the grounds, adding to the ambiance of the festival.

Artists and artisans were featured with vendor booths and interactive community art opportunities throughout. Hammocks were hung in the shade, and for those awake early enough, there was community yoga and a guided hike through Emerald Meadows each morning.

The Sonic Portal, a 360-degree sound vortex experience, was also a popular attraction.

As is to be expected, the festival was not without its hiccups, and audience members had several petty complaints.

Regardless, as the debut Kaleidoscope Music Festival and One Eleven's first event of this kind, it is impressive that organizers got so many recognizable artists and interesting attractions together! Diving head-on

into such a massive event has left room for learning and improvement in a positive way.

The biggest problem was low ticket sales, which prompted them to drop the price from \$175 to \$89.95 last week to increase last minute sales.

Many attendees who bought full price tickets ahead of time accused One Eleven of "false advertising" and were upset, even with the VIP upgrade that was offered as compensation.

The Saturday schedule was changed, but performers worked to fill in the gaps for those unable to play. Minnesota and Amp Live teamed up to cover MiMOSA's set in addition to playing their own.

Butch Clancy threw down his second set of the day to buy time, while Bohemian Dub Orchestra tried to reduce their extravagant set up enough to meet the stage's weight limit. Unfortunately, they were unable to play the show, which was meant to be the Orchestra's live debut.

The headliners each night

played impressive shows. On Friday, Bassnectar played one of his best sets ever, according to many fans who frequent his shows. His Facebook page said it was a "perfect crowd, perfect weather, perfect evening."

Nas effortlessly rapped an incredible set with DJ Green Lantern and a live drummer. Eugene showed him that Oregon knows how to appreciate hip-hop!

And, of course, Empire of the Sun, known for their David Bowie-esque theatrics, brought the weekend to a close with a larger than life, spectacular performance.

With a variety of genres and artists known for creating interesting, innovative music, festivalgoers' ears were graced with all kinds of sounds each day.

So far, One Eleven plans to continue Kaleidoscope Music Festival in 2014. Stay tuned!

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BEARCAT BULLET

The last summer



ALISON EZARD

LIFESTYLES EDITOR

The end of summer is always bittersweet. On the one hand, it demands the exchange of freedom for responsibility, of blurred days and weeks for rigidly divided 24-hour cycles.

On the other hand, it presents an opportunity to rekindle old friendships and forge new ones, as well as tackle the familiar challenges of academia with a fresh and (hopefully) more mature perspective.

But the end of this summer is different. This time, summer as I have known it for the last 17 years is over for good. And this realization absolutely terrifies me.

What scares me most isn't that this means that the horrors of writing a senior thesis are now my reality. It isn't even the fact that I am now one step closer to leaving the womb of academia.

What really keeps me up at night is the realization that I will never again be blessed with a three-month period in which it is socially acceptable to shamelessly pursue a lifestyle more akin to that of a sloth than a human being.

Yes, I admit it. I am one of those people who will happily spend an entire day in bed, surrounded by snacks, books, magazines and electronic devices. While I do enjoy being "active" every so often, for someone as uncoordinated as I am, the appeal of most outdoorsy and athletic activities is limited, to say the least.

During the school year, my schedule is usually busy enough to keep me from indulging in such behavior. The only exception to this is when I contract whatever bug happens to be sweeping the campus and am simply "forced" to confine myself to bed. (So, please, be courteous and cough or sneeze in my general direction the next time you're sick or just feeling a bit run-down.)

But in the summer, I don't have to resort to such desperate measures as seeking out coughing and sneezing peers in order to justify my laziness. While American students may have originally been given this time off so that they may toil in the fields (or so the myth goes), these days, we are expected to do anything but work.

That's why this summer--my last summer--I made the conscious decision to be as lazy as I possibly could. Back in April, I had convinced myself that after my six-week campus job ended in June, I would simply move on to another job in order to fill the remaining two months of the summer. But as July closed in, and I started thinking about the massive student debt that will most likely keep me from taking a real vacation for the next decade, I decided to abandon the job search.

Instead, I spent my precious last two months of summer simply reveling in lethargy. Am I now totally broke from having to sustain myself while generating no income? Yes. Did I spend too much time lurking the interwebz (even venturing as far as the hidden "deep web") trying to uncover FBI secrets? Maybe ...

Do I regret it? Not even a little.

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Escape: Going blackberry picking



RACHEL FIFIELD
CONTRIBUTOR

If you're not from the Pacific Northwest, you may not be familiar with Himalayan blackberries, the delicious invasive species that ranges from Armenia to Iran.

This week's Escape column won't take you quite that far, but it will take you out of the Willamette Bubble to explore Salem. Late August and early September are prime time for these blackberries, which thickly populate Salem's parks.

Closest to campus is Bush Park, home of running trails and huge swaths of blackberry bushes by the creek. Wear long sleeves to avoid stabby thorns. Minto Brown Park is a good

choice if you want to get farther from campus. If not being able to hear traffic is your escape dream, this is your park.

It's a three-mile bike ride from campus. Check with The Bikeshop in the UC

for a rental bike if you don't have your own, or borrow one from a friend. This park is much bigger and quieter than Bush, and all the trails have banks of berries somewhere along them.

Similarly far from campus is the Riverfront Park on the other side of the Willamette River. Take the pedestrian bridge across to West Salem. Explore the sandbars and woods on the other side, which have some blackberries though fewer than the two previous parks boast.

It's fun to explore and pick berries, eating as you go along, but if you are more ambitious, a few cups of berries can become a pie or a cobbler. Check out WISH if you live in a dorm (they have the best-

equipped dorm kitchen). While they have pans and bowls, you'll need to bring your own ingredients.

If you're interested in a different kind of project, you can make a blackberry gin fizz. The recipe below makes two drinks and tastes best if you shell out for a decent gin.

You will need the following:

- Tools:**
shot glass
spoon/fork
knife
tea strainer/coffee filter/
mesh strainer
three glasses

- Ingredients:**
1/3 cup blackberries
2 tsp sugar
2 limes
3 shots/a little over 4 oz gin
club soda
ice

In one glass, crush the blackberries with the sugar as thoroughly as you can. Strain out the seeds through whichever of the filters you choose, pouring

the blackberries equally into two glasses. Slice open the limes and squeeze one into each glass, and split the shots between the two. Add ice and club soda to taste.

Stir and garnish with lime or more berries, and share with someone pleasant. It's a nice way to end a hot afternoon of berry picking.

One caveat: Many municipalities spray invasive species with herbicide. Salem doesn't do this, but it's still a good idea to wash your berries if you plan to eat a bunch of them.

Editor's Note:

"Escape" is a new bi-weekly column that seeks to help students leave the "Willamette Bubble" and explore Salem and Portland. If you have an idea you would like Rachel to pursue, email Alison Ezard at <aezard>.

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What's nΣXt?



Since the debut of the “Willamette Truth” blog last spring, the Delta Zeta Chapter of the Sigma Chi fraternity is taking progressive steps.

Moving forward: Fraternity initiates rehabilitation strategies

Natalie Pate
GUEST WRITER

Among these steps being undertaken by the current members of the fraternity are leadership reform and mandatory educational programs for all members, both designed to guide the chapter back to its core values of friendship, justice and learning.

“Most if not all of them are in collaboration with our national fraternity and/or the university administration,” acting President and former Vice President of the Delta Zeta Chapter of Sigma Chi fraternity Cody Plofker said.

New recommitment efforts will have a focus to ensure the fraternity gets back to its values.

“Sexual assault educational programs will be mandatory for the entire chapter to attend,” Plofker said. “We are trying to have educational opportunities with many different organizations to gain perspective from all sides.”

Internally, the chapter will be undergoing change in their leadership and campus involvement, starting with the election of a new consul (president), pro-consul (vice president), and magister (pledge educator) at the first chapter meeting of the semester.

“As a result of the conduct hearing, the University has asked for an internal removal of any leaders who had involvement in the Facebook

page,” Plofker said.

“We have lost our house for at least two years, and we are on social probation as well – no dances or social events, and no fall recruitment, possibly no spring recruitment. We will have to completely reform our recruitment and pledge/initiation processes moving forward.”

Dean of Campus Life David Douglass said these actions were “both an effort to address the issues with Sigma Chi and to mend the community.”

Douglass said he thinks it was a benefit to the student body to have the summer months to process what happened.

“Upon return, people have had time to reconcile – not that the issues have become any less significant,” Douglass said.

Douglass said that a letter was sent to incoming students that explained the situation, recognizing it is not just Sigma Chi and not just Willamette experiencing these issues.

Members of the fraternity will be reflecting on their actions and the overall culture of the fraternity.

“The entire culture of our chapter needs to change. I believe that the culture change will start with the chapter leadership and the older members, and it will permeate throughout the fraternity,” Plofker said.

He also said the culture needs to change so members are comfortable speaking up, even if against another brother’s actions.

“No longer will people feel bad for calling out others’ actions,” Plofker said. “In my opinion, this will be one of the most important changes that we will need to take internally and individually to change going forward.”

Plofker hopes this is a turning point for the fraternity and the entire community.

“More importantly than our reputation, I hope each and every one of us can learn important lessons from this,” Plofker said. “I think that the only solution is to sincerely reform and become better men and members of the Willamette community moving forward. Then and only then will people see our sincere efforts and welcome us back into the community. If we focus on education and our values, then I hope we can change how people see us.”

Douglass also said given time and effort of the entire community progress can be made.

“It’s like pushing a piano uphill,” he said. “It can be done, but not by one person and with more than one push.”

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Anonymous blog sparks debate over attitudes toward sexual harassment

RYAN YAMBRA
NEWS EDITOR

One email was sent. Then another. And another. Suddenly, everyone on campus knew, and they were not going to be silent about it.

During the final weeks of the 2013 spring semester, students received an anonymous email containing leaked social media posts belonging to the Delta Zeta chapter of Sigma Chi.

In those posts were evidence of sexual violence, harassment and threats against students and faculty, raising questions about student conduct violations and sparking a debate about race, gender and power issues across campus.

"It's a complicated thing," Dean of Campus Life David Douglass said. "But civility and compliance with community values are not contingent on cause. It's independent of that."

The incident drew a response from students, faculty and media outlets, including the Statesman Journal and The Huffington Post. Soon after the posts were leaked, the university began an official investigation to determine whether any conduct violations

occurred. A campus-wide email sent in May from President Steven Thorsett indicated that the school would seek adjudication and address issues of social and cultural intolerance.

"As an educational institution, our main weapon in this fight is education, both in the classroom and in informal settings in the co-curriculum," Thorsett said in the email.

To address these campus-wide issues, the University is moving forward on its campaign against sexual violence. Douglass stated that plans to tackle these issues were already in place prior to the incident.

University faculty has undergone Title IX training and University administrators and officials are training with Green Dot, etc., an organization committed to anti-violence.

Additionally, a student advisory board convened and the President's Working Group on Sexual Assault and Harassment was created to review and make recommendations regarding education, policies and services around sexual assault.

The outcome of the group's investigation is part of an ongoing effort to elicit discussion of healthy sexual behavior and gender

issues on campus.

"What happened here is not indigenous to any type of group, but endemic to organizations," Douglass said.

Members of the fraternity were removed from campus housing in addition to losing recruitment and initiation privileges. The board decided that before these privileges could be given back to the fraternity members must transform its leadership and undergo University-endorsed programming.

"The university is not a land apart from law," Douglass said. "And so the Code of Conduct is not an attempt to reproduce it. Why have a code? The answer is that this is a specialized, educational community. Education—everything must be built around that."

Looking to the future, Douglass said he hopes that the events of last spring will bring about change among student attitudes.

"Our mission is transformation and engagement," Douglass said. "I want us to achieve changes necessary to make students feel like they occupy a safe environment. This is such an important dimension to the lives students lead."

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Support survivors of assault; create change in your community

A convocation led by the Working Group will be held on Sept. 5 from 11:30 to 12:30 p.m. in Cone Chapel to follow up on the student forum regarding campus climate that took place last May.

Students are encouraged to come to the convocation to see what is happening on campus to address the issues and what opportunities are available to get involved.

"I would definitely encourage anyone interested in the issue to contact Margaret Trout on ways to get involved," Adam Torgerson, interim director and associate director of media relations, said.

President's Working Group initiates campus climate shift

CHRISTA ROHRBACH
FEATURES EDITOR

On May 9, the Office of the President announced the formation of The President's Working Group on Sexual Assault and Harassment in response to ongoing issues surrounding campus climate and sexual harassment.

These issues were highlighted in the investigation regarding the actions of some Sigma Chi fraternity members last spring.

"What we all realized is there needs to be better communication about these issues," Adam Torgerson, interim director and associate director of media relations, said.

The working group began by analyzing data collected from the university community by a third party survey after specific questions about sexual assault and harassment on campus evoked by students, faculty and staff. Kristen Grainger, vice president Title IX coordinator, said analysis of the results brought about a need to address these issues raised by the Sigma Chi incident last spring.

"We look at this to say, 'Are we meeting need in the way that is best for our community?'" Margaret Trout, director of Bishop Wellness Center and co-chair of the working group, said. "What we want to get at is a sense of the truth. What we seek to do is to educate the community."

To increase education and to

prevent sexual violence on campus, as well as provide greater support for survivors, the working group has enlisted the help of outsiders to the University – community members. "These are all partners in the community; these aren't new relationships," Trout said. "What they represent is outsiders looking in."

The community members involved with the working group will work to help the University review its policies and move forward in compliance with Title IX.

"It's important that our community partners have confidence in us," Trout said.

Community involvement acts not only as an outside viewpoint for the University policies, but also as a source of support for students who would like to seek guidance beyond the university campus.

The increased familiarity community partners will develop with students through the working group's partnership allows them to improve their own policies to best help University students.

"We can't even begin work until we are all speaking the same language," Trout said.

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Photos by Kelley Villa



**HOLLY
PETERSEN**

STAFF WRITER

Grant Holman steps up to the plate. He runs the toe of his cleat through the dirt, adjusts his helmet and peers into the outfield. Perhaps it occurs to him that tens of thousands of people are peering back at him from the stands, or even that millions more are watching him in restaurants, bars and living rooms all over the world.

But perhaps it doesn't, because, despite being 6 feet 4 inches tall and weighing 166 pounds, Holman is only 13-years-old. Holman is still a child, a pitcher for the Chula Vista little league team that competed in the championship game of the Little League World Series (LLWS) against Japan this past Sunday.

Every August, little league teams from all across the globe travel to Williamsport, Pa. to compete in the LLWS. Starting from regional games, all the way to the final championship game, the LLWS is a nationally televised, primetime event.

I wish I hated the Little League World Series. I really do. I wish I hated ESPN for capitalizing on a children's game, for showing HD close-ups of a child's humiliation after a moment of failure, for taking childhood innocence and making it industry. But I don't, because despite all the criticism the LLWS faces, there is so much to love.

The excellent sportsmanship exhibited by the players, despite abrasive fans yelling and booing from the stands, is something to be admired. In the first inning of the championship game, Japan's Kazuki Ishida hit Chula Vista's Giancarlo Cortez on the helmet with a pitch. Ishida, followed by the entire Japanese infield, came to home plate to make sure Cortez was all right and to shake his hand.

Professional athletes, as well as adults in general, could learn a lot from the strong sense of camaraderie displayed not only between teammates, but between opponents during the LLWS.

LLWS gives us a chance to watch a sport played by children with the purest of motives. These kids may have overzealous parents in the stands living vicariously through their child's athletic success, or a self-aggrandizing coach yelling from the dugout, but they remain wide-eyed and excited just to be able to play in the spotlight. With no salary involved, you also know these little leaguers participate solely because to the passion and love they have for the game.

The LLWS also does a good job of showcasing international talent. The tournament consists of eight teams from the United States and eight teams from other countries. This year's win by Japan is their third out of the past four years. Taiwan has won the most championships with 17 total. The tournament truly lives up to its title of being a "World Series," and it's great to watch teams from different cultures come together and all show integrity and respect.

For me, the Little League World Series is a showcase of athletics before the sport of baseball becomes an occupation. It is a display of healthy competition often found only in children. With news in professional sports today often dominated by cheating scandals, contract disputes and athletes' unlawful behavior, the presence of these innocent children playing for the love of the game brings us back to what drew us to competitive sports in the first place.

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Marinello competes in cross county, swimming, track and field

CONTINUED from Page 1

In the pool

Despite being a newcomer to the program, Marinello wasted little time in letting her 13 years of swimming experience show. On Jan. 16, a little over one month after she joined the team, Marinello was named the Northwest Conference student-athlete of the week after taking first place in three individual events.

Marinello's success continued into the NWC Championships, where she qualified for the championship round in two separate events. She was also a member of the 400-yard Medley Relay team, which broke a University record set back in 2005.

When all was said and done, Marinello individually broke records in both the 100-yard and the 200-yard breast-stroke competitions as well. "I didn't have any set expectations coming into the season, so it was a nice surprise to have that success in both team and individual races," she said.

Support system

Excited for her accomplishments in the pool, Marinello was quick to credit her teammates for their warm and welcoming support. After joining the team a month late because of cross country overlap, "I was definitely nervous about how I would be received at first," Marinello said.

"They were really supportive of me which made everything go a lot smoother," Marinello concluded. "They welcomed me into their family without any questions. I thought that was super cool."

Outside of the pool, Marinello is very clear that it is her teammates from all three sports who make it possible for her to do what she does. "Every season I go into, my teammates are there working really hard. It's great to know that they're there for me offering support and encouragement," she said.

Challenges

While reflecting over her three-sport experience from last year, Marinello admitted it wasn't all fun and games. "The overlap is definitely challenging. I enter both the swimming and track seasons when my teammates have already been going at it for nearly a month," she said.

Marinello also talked about the importance of staying balanced. "It's tough trying to manage all of it and not overwork myself. You have to focus on one [sport] and move to the next so it's not too much at one time."

While being a three-sport athlete does seem challenging and unlikely to be done by many in future years, Marinello is adamant that she isn't more special than anybody else. "People tend to make a big deal about it, but I don't

see it that way," she said.

"When I'm there I'm doing the same thing as everyone else," Marinello added. "They are all working hard and so am I - trying to work together and accomplish the same goals."

The Willamette experience

While hopeful in high school that she would one day be as active and successful as she currently is, Marinello wasn't sure the opportunity would ever present itself. "I was hoping it would be pos-

sible but wasn't sure because the challenges were so great," she said.

Now, she reflects back gratefully that she found a school like Willamette to help turn this dream into a reality. "I don't know that this would have happened at any other school," she said. "It takes a special school like Willamette to provide all of those opportunities. I'm very thankful that it all worked out."

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Above: Posing in front of the Sparks Pool, Marinello holds her running spikes, which she uses in both cross country and track.

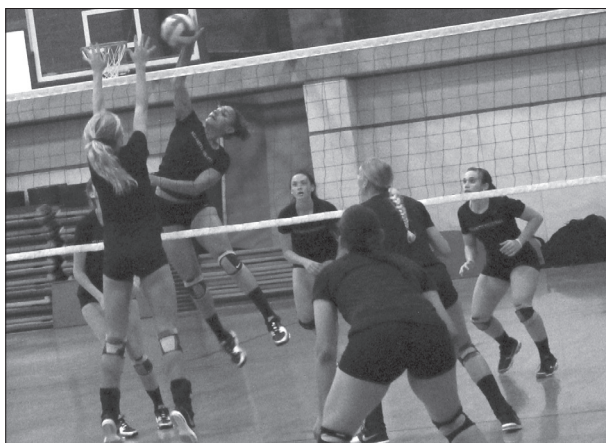
Volleyball carries momentum into fall season

**ZACH OSERAN
STAFF WRITER**

After finishing last season on a high note, the Willamette University volleyball team looks to pick up right where they left off with, the start of the 2013 season.

The 'Cats will get their first chance at that revival this weekend when they travel to southern California to compete in the Pacific Coast Classic.

There the Bearcats will go head to head with several top-notch teams, including UC-Santa Cruz, Claremont-McKenna and other top programs throughout the region.



DEVIN LEONARDI

Above: Bearcat varsity volleyball players compete in an intersquad drill.

Senior middle blocker Shannon Waltz is excited about the opportunity to open the season against high-caliber opponents.

"Competing against strong teams at the beginning of the season helps elevate our level of play as we go into conference," Waltz said. "It also allows our incoming freshmen time to transition to the collegiate level of competition before season actually starts."

In showing ample amounts of success at the end of 2012, the Bearcats are now confident in the outlook for the upcoming season. Junior Opposite Elisa Ahern spoke about the importance of the team going out and competing.

"Our goal is to continue growing as a team and play hard and have fun this season," Ahern said. "We have such a great team this year and I am super excited to compete with this group."

The Bearcats have five returning seniors who will provide the team with experience and depth. Waltz returns as the only conference honoree from 2012, being named Honorable Mention All-NWC after ending the season with 125 kills and a team-high .301

hitting percentage.

Named Honorable Mention All-NWC as a freshman in 2010, senior middle hitter Carly Hargrave will also serve as a force at the net in Willamette's front row. Hargrave ended last season with 192 kills, the most of any returner, and a .276 hitting percentage.

Other returning seniors include outside hitter Kirsten Brehmer who played in 20 matches and contributed 36 total blocks last season, setter Emily Compton who had 846 assists in 2012 and libero Lizzy Balding who led the team with 232 digs as a freshman in 2010.

The Bearcats also will introduce two transfers and four new freshmen to the squad. During the off-season the Bearcats put an immense amount of time into conditioning and preparing for the upcoming season.

Hargrave provided her thoughts on the team's overall outlook, "We have a lot of talent on this team and it adds to the overall competitive drive," she said. "We worked extremely hard this summer to prepare and it's definitely showing."

After traveling to California, the Bearcats will trek east next weekend to play in the competitive Colorado College Molten Classic. NWC play begins Sept. 20 and the team's first home match will be on Sept. 28 against Pacific Lutheran.

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Disregarding projections, mens and womens soccer write their own scripts

DEVIN ABNEY
STAFF WRITER

It seems as if before the season even begins, before the very first minute of competition is played, there are already several out there doubting the Bearcats.

According to the pre-season Northwest Conference Coaches Poll, the Willamette women's soccer team is projected to finish seventh in the conference out of nine possible spots.

"Honestly, I don't pay any attention to polls," head coach Hillary Arthur said. "Polls cannot measure the heart of our team, the mindset of our team, or the desire of our team."

The 'Cats will face a stiff challenge in replacing four seniors who contributed heavily in 2012. Helping ease that replacement will be a strong returning class of 21 players, along with an incoming class of eight freshmen that promises to be up to the challenge.

"This season is looking different from last year in that we have a lot of young and strong talent, and a drive to succeed that I don't think our team has seen in a good while," sophomore forward Ashland Bernard said.

If the Bearcats are to climb the conference ladder, Bernard will be one of the leaders steering the team towards success. The sophomore was the team's scoring leader in 2012 with 13 points. Among her five goals and three assists was a three-goal hat trick and assist in the Bearcat's thrilling overtime win over Lewis and Clark on Sept. 12.

Equally important to the Bearcats chances at success is a pair of upperclassmen in junior forward Sarah Desautels and senior goalkeeper Nicole Price.

Price maintained an impressive 1.66 goals against average while registering three shutouts. Last season Desautels knocked five goals into the net out of an astounding 18 total shots on goal.

Another key to the Bearcats success will be the hard work the team has been putting in before the season starts. Long before the rest of the student body arrived at

the University, the Bearcats were out on the hot field working tirelessly towards a conference title.

"We push each other every practice, which means we will only come out stronger when conference comes around," Desautels said. "Winning conference is never out of the question, that's something that is definitely in the back of our heads this year."

Among the highlights for the upcoming season are a trip to California starting on Sept. 6 where the 'Cats will face La Verne, Pomona and UC-Santa Cruz.

When they get back, the women will get their first chance to prove the critics wrong as they start conference play on Sept. 18 in



DEVIN LEONARDI

a home match versus Lewis and Clark. The poll will be the last thing on their minds when they take the field.

"We will control the things that are in our control; attitude, effort, enthusiasm, work ethic and team chemistry, in doing so we will prepare ourselves the best we can for those things that are not within our control," coach Arthur said. "Attitude and a positive mind set determines so much even before we step onto the field."

Prior to hitting the road next week, the Bearcats kick off their season with a home match on Friday, Aug. 30 against Howard Payne University (Texas). Kick-off is set for 5 p.m.

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DEVIN LEONARDI
STAFF WRITER

Coming off their first winning season since 2000, the Willamette men's soccer team and Head Coach Lloyd Fobi look to improve upon steps toward success in 2013.



DEVIN LEONARDI

"Past achievement is the detriment to future success," Fobi said. "For me personally, last season's accomplishments have nothing to do with this year. It's a new season and a new day-at-a-time mentality."

Senior midfielder and team captain Trevor Jensen has been in this position with coach Fobi before.

"One of the good things about Lloyd is that he is always very consistent with what he wants," Jensen said. "This year we are trying to be a more plain style team, keeping the ball on the ground a little more."

Jensen, who was third in overall scoring in the Northwest Conference in 2012, is just one of seven players from last year's team to receive All-Northwest Conference honors. Of those seven, the Bearcats return four: Jensen, senior defender Kevin Martin and sophomores Austin Jacobson and Yazan Hishmeh.

At 6 foot 3 inches, Hishmeh provides the Willamette forward pack with some much-needed size. In 2012 Hishmeh led the team with seven goals.

"This offseason I focused on getting

bigger and getting stronger, but keeping the agility and quickness up there, and our whole front line is only getting better and quicker too," Hishmeh said.

Offseason and pre-season preparation will be critical for such a young, but acclaimed team. Success and recognition always come with the price tag of having a target placed on heads of outstanding players for the upcoming season.

For this very reason, coach Fobi insists that his players never become stagnant.

"For the guys that did well last year the challenge is to not stay where they're at, but to bump up to the next level," Fobi said. "That's the only way we can look at the end of the season and say that we did better than last year."

Last Thursday, the Northwest Conference released the 2013 coaches poll that ranked the Bearcats fourth with 29 points and placed Whitworth at the top position with 49 points.

After leading the conference with 36 goals last season, it may be difficult for the team as a whole to live up to expectations. The Bearcats will need some of their younger players to step-up in order to meet such high expectations.

"Personally I don't care weather they put us last or first, we still have to go out on the field and play," Fobi said. "Until you play the game, you can't really tell that this team is going to be the best team in the conference, or that team is going to be the worst."

Having already experienced an alumni game and an exhibition match, the men's soccer team is now ready to kick things off for real. On Friday the 'Cats will host Howard Payne University, taking their first step in what can potentially be a season to remember.

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Left: Sophomore McKenzie Andringa shoots past the keeper during an early season practice. Right: Freshman Stefan Wutte (22) controls the ball during the men's alumni game.

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Political Party Animals

Are higher education loans a good return on investment?

Towards the end of their last session, the Oregon State Legislature passed a plan that would allow students to attend college and pay for it through their future paychecks. On Aug. 22, President Obama also released a new plan

to combat escalating college tuition costs. His goals mirror those of Pay It Forward, Oregon's plan but instead of having students pay tuition as they enter the workforce, Obama called for a college ranking system that assesses

the value institutions give their students. Federal financial aid would be allocated based on student debt default rates, graduation rates and salaries of later careers.

graphic by LANCE ROSSI

Bang for your buck

JACOB VAN BAALEN
GUEST WRITER

Those of you who have met me probably know that I am, unabashedly, a Democrat. I bleed blue. But if you've been paying attention to recent developments on the cost of college, you've seen the president's newest absurd plan to help curb this cost. Simply put, the president is going to tell you what your particular education is worth to the government.

Yes, my fellow Willamette students, the government now gets to tell you how much "value" your school has. That assigned "value" will help to determine how much money your university will get from the federal government.

That "value" will be based on myriad factors like average debt, graduation rates, diversity, and other pointless statistics, none of which are about how well you fit at a school.

President Obama is trying to create a reliance on rankings that will lead to students going to a school where they don't belong rather than going to the school that's right for them.

Admit it—Willamette is expensive. But if you're anything like most Bearcats, you love it. The thought of transferring is a dirty one, and at the end of the day it's worth it to be here. Financial aid was probably a factor in everyone's choice to come to Willamette, but we all found something special here that made us want to come despite the hefty price tag. But the government's plan would make choosing a college about only another number.

Which is why, in what is a seldom held opinion for me, I side with the states on

this one. Toward the end of the 2013 session, the Oregon Legislature passed a groundbreaking bill to examine a new way to help students pay off their college debts after graduation.

In essence, it's a no-loan plan in which the government pays for college, and the students pay it back as they go through life. It's like a payroll tax, but the money is used to pay for the education you received.

Now it's time for the Democrat in me to speak. To get this to work we would have to, yes, raise taxes. This state, any state, or even the federal government could not absorb the cost of college without raising taxes.

But, while people hate taxes like the plague, they are a good way for the government to provide essential needs. Which, for most jobs, is a college education.

It is, essentially, a pay-it-forward program—you get it free now, you pay for it as you earn money with skills you learned from your education.

While this new plan would only affect state schools in the beginning, its effects have the potential to be wide-ranging as it expands. Rather than taking college and making it into a "bang-for-your-buck" program, Oregon's plan allows students to go wherever they like at the public's expense.

Once they have benefited from the program, the students pay money back like responsible citizens—a fair, simple option that doesn't restrict choice of school to arbitrary rankings.

Which is why, in what is a seldom held opinion for me, I side with the states on

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Rethinking 'value'

ELIZE MANOUKIAN
GUEST WRITER

The decision to invest in a college education at Willamette University, and any other public or private institution of higher learning in America, is often more financially challenging for families than buying a home.

Last Thursday, President Obama unveiled a new plan to target soaring education costs by evaluating schools based on affordability and accessibility, and then potentially using these ratings by 2018 in the federal distribution of financial aid.

Jacob is right in that a school's relative value assigned by this system will be based on numbers: The ratings system will reward schools that hold down costs for students and ensure that low-income students can find a place on their campus.

Unfortunately, how special it feels to be a Bearcat is not something Obama will look at while compiling these rankings. The president will not consider how organic Goudy salads are, how pretty the Mill Stream looks on the webcam, or the hotness of the new Bistro baristas. Instead, it evaluates schools based on their ability to push kids out in four or fewer years as functional, job-potential adults who can contribute back into the delirious mess of a system that spawned them.

Any student strung out on tiny meal plans and London Fogs can tell you about the life of a broke college kid.

While the rest of the developed world has figured out how to offer citizens affordable options of continued education, administration figures indicate that American public university costs have tripled in the last 30 years.

The average loan-borrowing student has earned the right to graduate with \$26,000 or more in debt.

Even before doing the math to calculate how many London Fogs that is (10,833), the systemic nature of the problem is clear. College tuition costs have skyrocketed for the same reason that our country has gotten so fat from high-fructose corn syrup: Government subsidies have unintended and scary consequences.

To make college accessible for the middle class, the government offers whispered promises of subsidized college tuition while gently pumping billions of federal dollars into the system.

Because the demand for a college education is so inflated, colleges have the ability to set artificially high tuition based on whatever they think a family can pay.

This, coupled with the fabled narrative that ties college to success, keeps demand for an education high while the supply stays as small as a Women and Gender Studies classroom. Conveniently left out of this equation are low-income students.

The best way to confront this bizarre, confounding and profoundly unfair problem is to have a national discussion that rethinks the value of a college education.

A degree is no longer a guarantee for job in this economy.

Perhaps before students decide to go into massive amounts of debt for a piece of paper, educators should be forced to consider innovating conditions in today's institutions.

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While people hate taxes like the plague, they are a good way for the government to provide essential needs. Which, for most jobs, is a college education.

The government offers whispered promises of subsidized college tuition while gently pumping billions of dollars into the system.

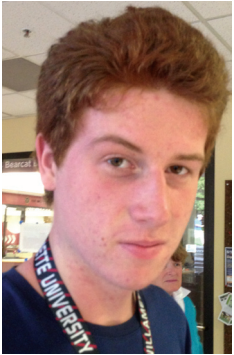
Struggling on State Street: Fred Meyer in August



EMILY SAFFORD

Word in the 'Stro

What is your favorite
Bistro treat?



Brendan Blosser-McGinnis
Freshman
"The Black Hole. That's the bomb."



Caitlin Gibson
Senior
"Pumpkin spice latte and a chocolate chip cookie."



Garrett Maltzan
Junior
"Buzz Bar."



Happi Yi
Senior
"London Fog and a chocolate chip cookie."



Katie Pyne
Sophomore
"Barz Bar."



Shoshana Jarvis
Senior
"Snickerdoodle."



Rachel Nelson
Freshman
"I haven't had any yet. It's on my to do list."

**What happened in ASWU Senate this week?
When is the next WEB event?
Why should you visit Salem Cinema?
Did someone get busted this weekend?
Who won that game you missed?
What's happening at Hallie Ford?
What issues are the Political Party
Animals tackling this week?
Answering critical questions
for over 100 years**

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