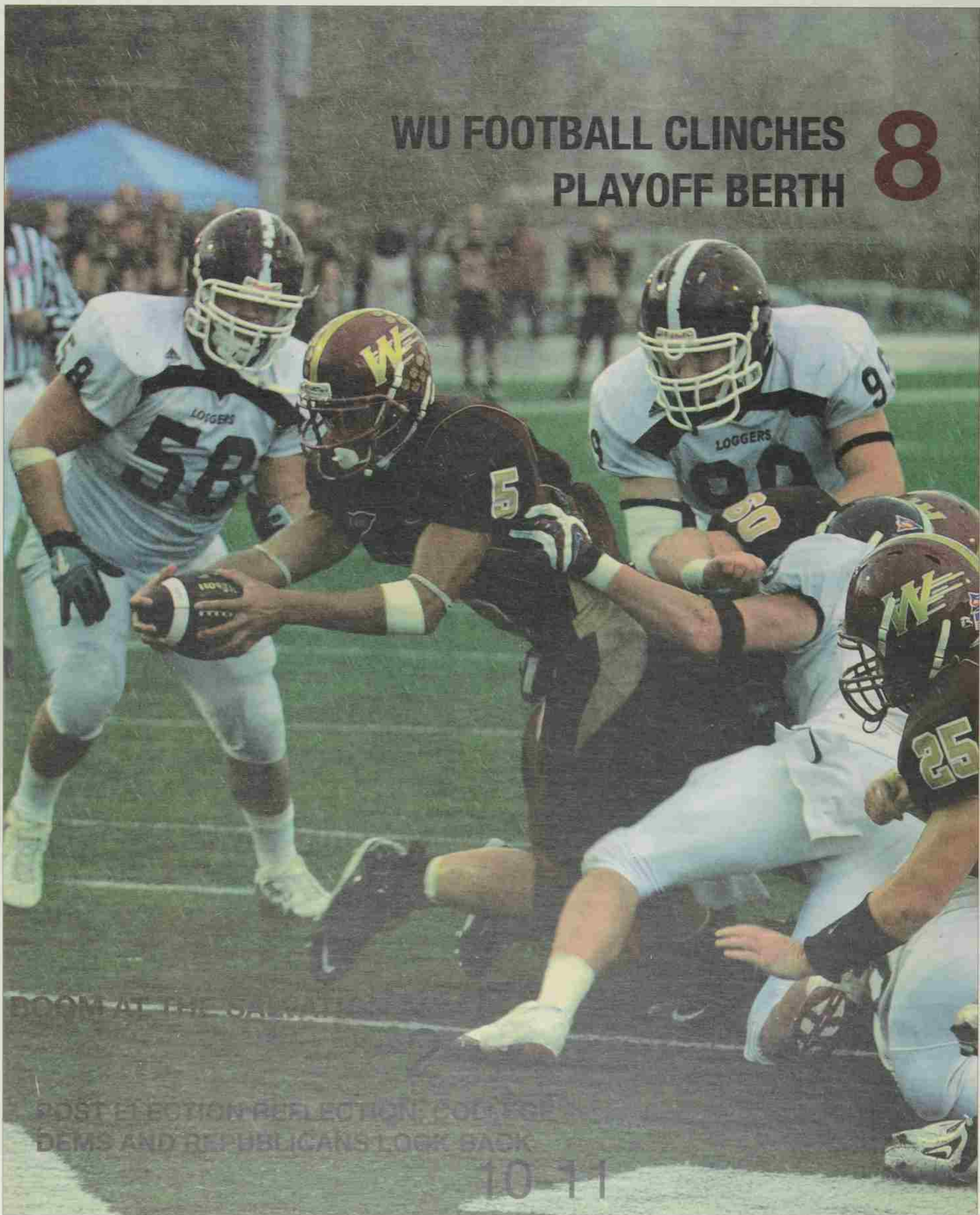


# COLLEGIAN

2007-2008 ONPA GENERAL EXCELLENCE WINNER • VOICE OF THE WILLAMETTE CAMPUS SINCE 1889 • VOL. CXX • ISSUE 11 • NOVEMBER 12, 2008



## WU FOOTBALL CLINCHES PLAYOFF BERTH **8**

ROOM AT THE VALLEY

POST-ELECTION REFLECTION: COLLEGE  
DEMS AND REPUBLICANS LOOK BACK

10 11



# Service learning club helps local community

AMBER SMITH  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Bearcats Offering Others Meals (BOOM) formed in the fall of 2007 and has since attracted many participants but is still struggling with funding. BOOM is a student-led club that serves breakfast every third or fourth Saturday at a local homeless shelter.

Founder, Co-President of BOOM and junior Coral Sorensen said that the idea for the club came to her during her freshman year when she was unable to find a local homeless-outreach organization that did not interfere with school. "I couldn't find anything that had a low-commitment level, because obviously I couldn't do it every day," Sorensen said. "So sophomore year I decided just to start one up myself."

After Sorensen received approval from ASWU, she set out to find resources. "Over the summer before sophomore year I sent out e-mails to places all over Salem ... and nobody responded except for the Salvation Army," Sorensen said. "The Salvation Army has been great. They pretty much just opened their kitchen to us ... I'm so happy they responded."

The Salvation Army that BOOM works with is located on Front Street and is connected to a homeless shelter. BOOM's Saturday breakfasts feed those in the shelter as well as others in need of a meal, according to Sorensen.

Sorensen's co-presidents are juniors Jenna Larrow and Evan Jones. BOOM treasurers are juniors Aubrey Breard and Liana Walters. According to Sorensen, her list-serv of students interested in working with BOOM contains almost 100 people. Before each breakfast BOOM organizes, Sorensen sends out an e-mail to the list-serv asking who would like to participate that week. Sorensen said

that she can only take eight participants, due to kitchen space, but estimates that around 15 students reply to offer help each time. "I don't understand why something like this didn't exist before," Sorensen said. "There is so much student interest."

While BOOM is not lacking in student interest, it does seem to lack funding. "The hard part [about starting BOOM] was going to the finance board and pleading my case for why they should give me money ... because I didn't have any precedent, I had nothing to go off of, [so] they were really hesitant to give me money," Sorensen said.

Breard blames the lack of funding on a need to get the word out about BOOM. "I don't think we've done quite a good enough job with publicity," Breard said.

However, Sorensen said she understands the difficulty of getting funding early on and has plans to apply for additional funding. "I would love to have the funds to make this a weekly thing," Sorensen said. According to Sorensen, each breakfast costs about \$80 to \$100. Currently, BOOM only has the funds to do five breakfasts per semester.

Sorensen and Walters pointed out that BOOM offers a way for students to help locally. "I just think, in a community like Willamette, students are all about international and 'big-picture' community service ... and so much of what's happening on a local level just goes unnoticed because people don't know what to do," Sorensen said.

Also, Sorensen hopes that BOOM can serve as an easy way for busy students to get involved. "If [students] want to do something to help their community at a local level, at a personal level, then this is a really easy thing to do," Sorensen said.

BOOM participants meet up at the chicken fountain at 8:30 a.m. and return by 11 a.m. Transportation is provided to and from the shelter. "It's pretty much time when you wouldn't even be awake or scheduled [for anything else]," Walters said. "It's a service project that students can realistically handle."

Sophomore and BOOM Participant Elena Crecelius said she is moved by the gratitude of the people she served. "It is a lot more rewarding than I thought it would be ... Everyone [we serve] is helpful and so grateful. Everyone helps clean up and everyone says thank you," Crecelius said.

"It's really simple. A lot of it is just instant satisfaction. We go there, nothing's made. You cook something. You serve something. You watch somebody smile and eat it and then you're done," Sorensen said. "It's so quick ... and that's not a bad thing. Any way that we can get Willamette students involved locally, I think, is worthwhile."

Supplementary reporting contributed by Zoë Larmer.

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COURTESY OF CORAL SORENSEN

Juniors Bekah Hykan, left, and Whitney Pryce scrub the grill in the kitchen at the Salvation Army.

► [willamette community service learning clubs](http://www.willamette.edu/dept/csl/students/service/clubs/index.php)  
<http://www.willamette.edu/dept/csl/students/service/clubs/index.php>

## Strengthening outdoor programs

JENNY SEWARD  
STAFF WRITER

The Office of Campus Recreation is creating an Outdoor Council this year to help serve the needs of students interested in participating in a variety of outdoor activities. The idea became an extension of the Outdoor Program which was founded three years ago and runs hiking activities as well as equipment rentals.

"The university-based program was added to provide outdoor activities to campus at large. We wanted to try to keep a finger on the pulse of what people at Willamette want to do," Director of Campus Recreation Bryan Schmidt said.

According to Schmidt, the Outdoor Council is currently in its developmental stages, but the overall goal is to bring together leaders of various outdoor groups on campus to participate in joint activities and receive more funding.

"As we were talking to people, we realized they did not know about the kayak club, future climate club, et cetera. So we started thinking maybe there should be an Outdoor Program Council so we can say here are all the things you can get involved with," Schmidt said. "In addition, it will be an opportunity for groups to discuss their activities and outings."

Outdoor Program Coordinators and sophomores Natalia Povelite and Leslie Schultz are helping Schmidt organize the council. They plan to start meetings with

other outdoor program leaders within the next few weeks.

"Leaders of clubs such as kayak, rock-climbing and rod and reel will all be invited and encouraged to participate in the first meeting of the council," Povelite said. "We hope that if everyone can get together and talk about what is needed in terms of funding, safety protocol, publicity and other things, we can begin to make the outdoors and outdoor groups on campus more functional and enjoyable and available to students."

Eventually the council would also like a small building to store equipment in and keep an office for students to explore their outdoor options and to help organize the program.

"Ultimately we would like to elect a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer to be in charge of the council. There has been some mention of looking into hiring a professional to work as the leader of the Outdoor Council," Schultz said.

In addition to Outdoor Program scheduling, discussions regarding outdoor training will be included in council meetings. According to Schmidt, first aid training, CPR and outdoor survival classes may be incorporated into the program in the future. The council may also travel to other schools with similar programs in order to decide how to model their own group.

Schmidt encourages all interested students to look into the council. "To get involved, contact me. I will be advising as we are putting the council together. Right now, you can work on it at the founding stages," Schmidt said. "Hopefully, this will lead to something much bigger as we get started."

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## Toast a Logger | SpiritCat event rallies students



BEHZOD SIRJANI

On Friday, Nov. 7, the ASWU senate committee SpiritCat held "Toast a Logger" from 5:30-7:00 p.m. outside Goudy Commons. At the event, students made signs for the football game on Saturday and cooked s'mores. According to SpiritCat committee member and senior David Taylor, the purpose of the event was to get students excited for the football game against University of Puget Sound the next day and increase school spirit. "We have noticed that our student body tends to be apathetic about being a part of the institution," Taylor said in an e-mail. "This isn't to say that Willamette students are uninvolved or anything like that, as most people here seem to be heavily involved in a wide range of activities, but that we don't feel the kind of school pride you see at somewhere like OSU or UO." Taylor described the event as a success, and said that SpiritCat will continue to have such activities to raise the level of school spirit among students. "We are hoping to bring back some old Willamette traditions, revitalize some that have begun to dwindle, and possibly start some new ones," Taylor said. Members of the SpiritCat committee are juniors Caitlin Rathe and Maggie Williams, sophomores Janice Rasmussen and Jesse Riehm and freshman Annie Tomlinson.

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# Specialized courses offer variety

RUTH HEALD  
CONTRIBUTOR

A variety of new courses have been added to the catalog this spring. These include: The Politics and Economics of Health Care Policy, Physical Activity and Disease Prevention, Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, Martyrdom in Early Christianity, Ethics of Peace and Violence in the New Testament, and Probability and Statistics. Each course is worth one credit and, with the exception of Probability and Statistics, each course is a one-time-only class.

Professor of Philosophy Randall Havas will be teaching Kant's Critique of Pure Reason, which examines the major work and focuses on the concept of transcendental idealism as an alternative to rationalism and idealism. "[It's] basically Kant's account of mind and world and his solution to skepticism," Havas said in an e-mail. Havas also teaches Existentialism, Kierkegaard, Meaning and the Self, Nietzsche and Philosophy, The Self in Question, History of Philosophy: Modern, and Philosophical Problems.

It is strongly recommended that students complete History of Philosophy: Modern before taking Kant's Critique of Pure Reason.

Despite the prerequisite, Havas does not recommend this course only to philosophy majors. "[The 'Critique of Pure Reason'] is one of two or three of the greatest works in Western philosophy. It is absolutely central to understanding just about every important intellectual movement in the

West since then," Havas said. "You shouldn't leave college without reading it and you won't likely read it outside of college." Havas hopes that students will be able to better understand how the mind and the world relate to one another after completing the course.

Physical Activity and Disease Prevention will be taught by Senior Instructor of Exercise Science Michael Lockard, who also teaches Exercise Physiology, Human Physiology, and Research Design. The class satisfies a Mode of Inquiry for Understanding the Natural World and has no prerequisites. The course primarily focuses on the physical aspect of disease progression as well as how lifestyle choices impact one's physical health, specifically targeting common diseases such as heart disease, obesity, diabetes and osteoporosis.

"The major focus of the class is this interaction of physical activity ... The thing about all the diseases we will be talking about is they are largely preventable, and really the biggest factor that determines prevention seems to be how active you are," Lockard said. "You can take control of your own health by your lifestyle choices."

According to Lockard, the class is structured in such a way that both science majors and students focusing on other disciplines alike will benefit from the information. "It's an important course because a lot of people really don't know the basics of their own health ... [many people] just don't have

that basic level of information to even ask questions," Lockard said.

The class includes a lab in which students will learn how to administer and interpret the results of clinical tests commonly used for many of these diseases and examine specific case studies to apply the information.

Sophomore mathematics major Jess Cogley appreciates having new options in the course catalog each term. "It's good because kids' interests are constantly changing ... and it gives them a chance to try out something new," Cogley said. "I just think it's fun to be able to have new options so you're not stuck with the same choices your whole four years."

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## new course options

IDS 329 The Politics and Economics of Health Care Policy

Jerry Gray and Melissa Buis Michaex

IDS 224 Physical Activity and Disease Prevention

Michael Lockard

MATH 266 Probability and Statistics

Gary Gislason

PHIL 250 Kant's Critique of Pure Reason

Randall Havas

REL 342 Martyrdom in Early Christianity

Phillip Tite

REL 343 Ethics of Peace and Violence in the New Testament

Phillip Tite

# Spirituality on campus: 'Why Jesus matters'

JEFF KITTS  
CONTRIBUTOR

Last Thursday, Nov. 6, Campus Ambassadors, a Christian organization on campus, held the Veritas Forum in Cone Chapel, featuring Dr. Mary Poplin, a professor at Claremont Graduate University.

The title of the lecture was "Hypocrisy, the Human Heart and Social Justice: Why Jesus matters." Poplin spoke of her experiences both as an educator and regarding her work with Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity in Calcutta. "[Mother Teresa] said you had to look at the poor not as a person who is superior to them. So if your heart is soft enough, we actually can do that because we can see ourselves as just as needy as them," Poplin said at the event. Afterwards, Poplin took several questions from attendees on subjects including homosexuality and how Jesus might have voted.

"I think for a first time effort, [the event] went pretty well. ... Our plan is to make it a yearly event, the Veritas Forum, so every year we'll bring in a different speaker," alumnus and Campus Ambassador Staff Member Richard Ferredinos said.

The purpose of the Veritas Forum was to initiate dialogue between Christians and non-Christians. "Really, our goal for this event was not to solve any of the world's problems, but to get communication between people of faith and people who consider themselves secular," Campus Ambassador staff member Craig Hammond said.

Ferredinos also stated the importance of discussion between religious and secular groups. "There is a certain perception of Christians, some of it justified, some of it maybe not. And so we just wanted to hold these events to help build a dialogue between the things we believe in and things other people be-

lieve in. I think it's good overall to have a healthy dialogue. That doesn't mean everyone's going to agree, but it means at some level that people are going to have a good dialogue with each other, and hopefully at some level build an understanding of where each person comes from," Ferredinos said.

Campus Ambassadors is one of many religious groups on campus for students wishing to learn more, seek dialogue, or find people who share their faith. The Office of the Chaplains seeks to help students find their own path, be it religious or spiritual. "We welcome all sorts and conditions of people to develop their own religion and spirituality while they're living and studying here as students," Chaplain Charlie Wallace said.

The Lilly Project is a helpful resource for students to find their vocation and calling in life. "Although the Lilly Project ... primarily reaches out to all students, religious and secular, there are some program pieces within it that are more relevant for students who religious faith is a resident category," Associate Chaplain Karen Wood said. These include internships at congregations and opportunities to study at graduate theological institutions as part of undergraduate study.

The Office of the Chaplains sponsors many religious groups that have been on campus for years, but they are also looking to help sponsor other religious groups. "We're always on the lookout for underrepresented groups that might benefit from some help in getting together some sponsorship," Wallace said.

Campus Ambassadors hold several bible study sessions each week, as well Koinonia every Friday, where they get together for worship, and often have speakers. "We want to just provide a place for spiritual growth," Ferredinos said.

The Jewish Student Union (JSU) is another religious group on campus that

holds many events, including a Passover Seder and weekly Kiddushes for Shabbat. "It's important that we have an official group, and that people know about us," JSU co-president and senior Allison Gilman said. "We want our image to be open and accepting of everybody. That's one of the tenets of Judaism, so we try to bring that out on campus."

Quite Unusual Approaches to the Divine (QUAD) meets every Monday evening in Goudy. "It's an interfaith religious group. We meet and discuss various theological, philosophical topics over dinner in Goudy. Basically anyone who wants to explore these issues is welcome to come," QUAD president, JSU Co-President and senior Zan Frackelton said.

QUAD aims to discuss topics that are open to people of all beliefs. "I try to keep the topics to something everyone would probably be interested in talking about and have some personal experiences with, but keep it broad enough so that no matter what religious background people are coming from, they have something to add to the discussion," Frackelton said.

Though the university is United Methodist-affiliated, the Office of the Chaplains supports all religious choices on campus. "It sometimes comes as a surprise to students that Willamette is a church-related institution, which tells me that our task of supporting people of all religious traditions, and of none, is moving along in some smooth way if it doesn't look like you have to be one particular way in order to be here," Wood said.

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## for more information

The Office of the Chaplains:  
<http://www.willamette.edu/dept/chaplain/>  
Lilly Project:  
<http://www.willamette.edu/dept/lilly/index.html>

# CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 6, 2008  
Information provided by Campus Safety

## CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

▶ Nov. 1, 10:00 a.m., (Kaneko Hall): Campus Safety Officers discovered vandalism caused by discarded pumpkins on the fourth floor of Kaneko.

▶ Nov. 2, 1:55 a.m., (12TH Street, across from SAE): A student placed his discarded couch by the railroad tracks and set it on fire. Salem Fire Department and Salem Police responded and conducted an investigation.

▶ Nov. 6, 2:00 p.m., (McCulloch Stadium): A fence, swing-gate at the stadium was discovered to be damaged. A preliminary investigation revealed that the damage was possibly caused by the spouse of an employee.

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▶ Nov. 2, 12:19 a.m., (Doney Hall): WEMS and Campus Safety responded to a call of a sick student in Doney. The student was assessed and was found to be suffering from alcohol poisoning. She was subsequently transported to Salem Hospital for treatment.

▶ Nov. 2, 9:13 a.m., (Belknap Lot): Campus Safety received information that a student broke her ankle as she was riding her bicycle with a friend. The student received treatment at Salem Hospital.

▶ Nov. 4, 7:45 a.m., (Goudy Commons): A student was transported to Salem Hospital for treatment after she was found to be suffering from the effects of prescription medications.

▶ Nov. 4, 11:37 p.m., (Matthews Hall): Campus Safety responded to Matthews to a call that a student was ill. An assessment revealed that the student has consumed an excessive amount of alcoholic while attempting to deal with a tragedy. The student was under the age of 21 years.

▶ Nov. 5, 12:15 p.m., (Collins Science): A student, who had been fasting, lost consciousness while sitting in the classroom. The student was transported to Salem Hospital for treatment.

## VEHICLE ACCIDENT

▶ Oct. 31, 10:00 a.m., (Sparks Parking Lot): A visitor reported that an unknown individual damaged her car as it was parked in the Sparks Lot. The preliminary investigation showed that the damage probably occurred by an unknown vehicle that was leaving the lot.

▶ Oct. 31, 2:30 p.m., (Sparks Lot): A visitor caused minor, cosmetic damage to an employee's car as she was pulling into a designated parking space. The owner of the car was contacted.

## POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▶ Nov. 2, 11:42 p.m., (Lee House): While responding to the smell of burning marijuana, Campus Safety found the location of occurrence and the students involved. Evidence was recovered.

## THEFT

▶ Oct. 31, 6:15 a.m., (Montag Den): An unknown individual pried open a cash deposit box and stole \$376.00. The matter is being investigated by Salem Police.

▶ Oct. 31, 10:55 p.m., (Goudy Commons): A student's misplaced wallet was turned into Campus Safety. The student was contacted and informed the officers that she had lost the wallet in Goudy and that \$118 was missing from the wallet.

▶ Nov. 3, 10:20 a.m., (University Center): A student locked her bicycle at a rack at the bike racks at the UC.

▶ Nov. 3, 4:00 p.m., (Belknap Hall): A student reported that she locked her bike at a bike rack at Belknap. When she returned she discovered that it had been stolen.

▶ Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m., (Goudy Commons): A student reported that someone took their backpack after it was left in a cubby hole in Goudy. The investigation is continuing in this matter.

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



## MUSIC REVIEW: Mount Eerie

## Phil Elverum rocks Eugene cafe

DAN BULLARD  
GUEST WRITER

When historic events coincide with art happenings, a choice must be made. Spending Election Day in a crowded coffee shop listening to Mount Eerie, however, is sure to beat crowding around Wolf Blitzer. No offense to the guy, it's just that overly-eccentric indie artists who start record labels tend to pack a bigger punch. Being in an organic coffee shop in Eugene can only heighten the experience.

Mount Eerie is the project of Phil Elverum, who formerly recorded under the title of The Microphones. Originally from Anacortes, WA, Elverum based The Microphones out of Olympia and has collaborated and toured with artists associated with K Records and KNW-YR-OWN.

After slowly building his way up the indie respectability ladder, Elverum caught the attention of critics with *The Glow, Pt 2*, released in 2001 on K Records. The album received a 9.2 rating on Pitchfork.com, and remains semi-legendary among certain circles.

The first notable difference between this concert and other concerts was the fact that Elverum knelt down on the floor and sang into a microphone a foot off the ground. Being in such a small space, this presented the difficulty of seeing the artist, something which didn't seem necessarily important to Elverum. After a few songs, however, the crowd settled into comfortable positions that afforded them a small square or perhaps a triangle of viewing space.

The atmosphere was perfect for Elverum's nature-

centered music. Some of the sounds that he produced with his guitar echoed the rain outside and the occasional passing of a train. His guitar tones were warm and scratchy, and his voice was mellow. His songs were simple, yet they evaded common song structures and catches. One of the most effective aspects of Elverum's music for me was the powerful swells of sound that he created, immediately dying into subtle chords.

Even more notable is the cohesiveness of his projects. Everything he releases, from vinyl to books of photography, has a distinct style. Also of interest, especially in Eugene, is Elverum's political outspokenness. At times, he would turn the minute or two between songs into a political discussion, and his cynicism didn't fly with the general populace in the building.

If you are ever in the Eugene area, Election Day or not, the Wandering Goat Café is a good place to encounter both a good atmosphere for reading and hipsters. It is hidden back in more of a neighborhood setting and has nice "homey" feel to it.

All of these things combined made for a memorable concert going experience. With Karl Blau in Salem a month ago, and Phil Elverum in Eugene, Willamette students are perfectly situated to see some of indie's interesting and influential artists. Other shows of interest in Salem are Mt. St. Helens Vietnam Band from Seattle and Portugal the Man on consecutive nights on Dec. 5 and 6 at the IKE Box.

★★★★★

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P. W. Elverum and Sun

Mount Eerie impressed last week at the Wandering Goat Cafe.

## ▶ more info

For more information on upcoming shows:

Wandering Goat Cafe  
268 Madison St.  
Eugene, OR 97402  
541.344.5161

## CD REVIEW: Shiny Toy Guns | 'Season of Poison'

## Indie rockers goes to the dark side with new album

LYDIA BURNETT  
STAFF WRITER

If you have never heard of the alternative electronica band, Shiny Toy Guns, it's about time you gave them a listen. Originally from Oklahoma, this noteworthy band formed back in 2002. Their first album debuted in 2005 (it featured the songs *You Are the One* and *Le Disko*, the latter of which you may have heard on a promo for America's Next Top Model *Go Tyra!*), and it satisfied its fans until November this year. With their new album released this month, I thought it was about time I stop playing their previous album "*We are Pilots*" on repeat and begin to branch out a little. So I picked up a copy of "*Season of Poison*" and I was surprised and astounded by what I heard.

Apparently, since their previous (and magnificent) album, Shiny Toy Guns have given themselves a makeover. The most notable change is their new front-woman, Sisely Treasure of Cooler Kids fame. If I said that I didn't miss their previous female vocalist, Carah Faye Charnow, I would be lying. But with that being said, "*Season of Poison*" still has a lot to offer. Sisely adds a new, edgier flavor to the usual Shiny Toy Guns electronica sound. In fact, some tracks (especially *Ghost Town* and *Ricochet!*) have a harder rock feel. However, their new dark and fast-paced sound is still within reaches of the electronica music genre. Though they are great songs, they are remarkably different from anything the band has previously done, and may not sit

well with older fans that are accustomed to the band's usual synthpop. But if you're not particularly fond of the band's darker image, you should know that certain tracks on the new release sound as if they could have been plucked straight off of "*We are Pilots*." Tracks like *I Owe You a Love Song* and *Turned to Real Life* are sure to please fans both old and new.

This is the part of the review where I'd start to make smart-ass comments and criticisms. But for the life of me, I can't think of anything to make fun of. The album is surprisingly awesome. If the band attempted to have the same old sound with Sisely replacing Carah, it would be a different scenario. But the band's got the right idea that if you change the singer, then you've got to change

to sound. That is, unless you want a fan riot. But Shiny Toy Guns dodges that bullet by keeping the same relatively synthpop feel while changing to an edgier, alternative-rock sound. And if you simply can't get over the loss of Carah Faye Charnow, check out her new band, *Versant* at [myspace.com/versantmusic](http://myspace.com/versantmusic). Overall, "*Season of Poison*" really, really rocks the electronica music scene. If you ask me, Shiny Toy Guns' new album is definitely a win.

★★★★★

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## ▶ more info

Shiny Toy Guns album available at:  
[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

## RETAIL REVIEW: Capital Market

## Fear and loathing in Salem, Oregon: Eat at Capp's



TYLER THOMPSON

Capital Market, located on 1420 State Street in Salem, is the prime place for Senior beer ruins.

TYLER THOMPSON  
GUEST WRITER

About a month ago, my friend and I stopped by Capitol Market to pick up our weekly batch of *Night Train*. They had seven bottles left, lined up all pretty next to the *Sour Apple Mad Dogs* and other brightly colored death medicines. We needed five: a bottle and a half for me, two for him, and a little extra for whomever we'd meet along the way. We walked out with all seven. What can I say? We're living the dream.

Point is, while we were there, we left a

note for the friendly Capps manager, a man that, after having attended Willamette for seven semesters, we've developed a fair amount of respect for.

"Dear Glenn," I wrote. "Will you please put *Night Train* on sale? We've been coming to Capps for three years, and we are your best *Night Train* customers. Please consider helping some brothers out." I was certain this tactic would work. Glenn, of all people, should understand the value of a repeat customer.

A week later, we stopped by our favorite

grocer's paradise. There was no *Night Train* to be found, not an empty space on the shelf where *Night Train* should be, not anything. *Night Train*, as far as I could tell, had been removed from the Capitol Market world. Words cannot describe my horrified reaction.

Capitol Market, or "Capps" as it is known to Willamette Students and friendly faces alike, may be the most beer-drinking-friendly establishment in all of Salem. They sell hundreds and hundreds of random micro-brews, from the disgusting "*Yeti Imperial*" to the simply named "*Fred*." Capps, to the beer drinker, is Disneyland. It's home sweet home.

You don't go to Capps for the service. You don't go to Capps for the raunchy smell when you walk in the doors, that horrendous stench of half-fried, half-dead meat. You don't go to Capps for the porn rack next to the checkout stand (though you do take a glance every time you're there).

No, sir, you go to Capps for the beer. And beer, this joint has. Anything you want, this place has. You want a *Hefeweizen* from Amsterdam, a *Lager* from Britain, a *Pale Ale* from Hawaii? They're all there, just smiling back up at you, begging, "drink me, drink me."

Capps, despite that nasty smell, the un-

friendly service, decaying food, and the lack of *Night Train* (a new development) is to many, paradise. Capps is a sanctuary for all kinds of people: people going to school, people leaving school, people who want to drown their sorrows or celebrate their victories, people who have headaches, hangovers, and girlfriends that aren't very nice. Capps is a place for all people to gather together and remember the one thing so many of us have in common: a die-hard love for beer.

Now, I don't know if Glenn got my note. If he did and he removed *Night Train* from his shelves because he was worried about my ability to function in society, then maybe he's right, or maybe he's just a cold-hearted fun-killer. My point is, I'll keep going to Capps, maybe because it's the only option at 11:45 on a Thursday night, maybe because deep down, I sort of dig that smell, or maybe because there's still a little part of me that thinks they'll put *Night Train* back on the shelves, if only for a couple nights.

Whatever the reason, Capps is a Salem staple and, in my opinion, does this school, this city and this nation a great and noble service.

★★★★★

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DANCE REVIEW: **Making the Way**

# 'Making the Way' merges the old and the new

BETHANY HUNTLEY  
CONTRIBUTOR

Looking for something to do next weekend? Set a night aside to check out the WU Dance Theatre's presentation of *Making the Way*. We can all relate to "making the way," trying to find your way through life and the unknown "might be." With dances across all spectrums of style and experience, there will be something for everyone.

The musical choices range from hip hop and folk to classical and new age. Although the dance program at Willamette is mostly females, the concert will feature three male performers. The lighting designers are also both students. This show truly emphasizes the importance of student work here on campus.

*Making the Way* is choreographed by two professors here at Willamette, Katherine Sanders and Virginia Belt,

“

*I hope that the Willamette community will come out and see what's going on in the dance realm here on campus. With pieces ranging from Modern Contemporary to Hip Hop, at least some aspects of it will reach everyone.”*

KATHERINE SANDERS  
DANCE INSTRUCTOR

and two student choreographers, Tessa Allen and Alex Ninneman, who collaborated on an original piece.

Virginia Belt's pieces are more theatrical and narrative. In "Plums, Pies, and Parables," (watch for each in the piece), each of the nine performers acted as choreographers on their own part. She explained it as a thought piece. Her other two pieces, "The Last Fall" based on Rodin's *Gates of Hell*, and "Dancing at the Moulin Rouge," have a strong historical and artistic background, exploring the psychological underbelly of dance forms.

Katherine Sanders choreographed three pieces, which she describes as "covering a full spectrum of dance styles and energy, from modern to both lyrical and street jazz and hip hop as well." If nothing else, look forward to the hip hop finale, "Friday Night." Danced to a mix of three current songs, "Get it Shawty", "Killa" and "Church," it is a high-energy presentation by twelve talented dancers. "Even if you are not crazy about hip hop music, you will appreciate the talent here and if you ARE crazy about hip hop music you will want to see it again," Sanders said.

"I just hope that the Willamette community will come out and see what's going on in the dance realm here on campus. With pieces ranging from Modern Contemporary to Hip Hop, at least some aspects of it will reach everyone," Sanders said.

What better reason is there to come check it out? It shouldn't last more than an hour and there are five opportunities to see Willamette's dance at its best. *Making the Way* will be running from November 20-23 at 7:30 pm with a Sunday matinee at 2:00 pm. This concert will leave you wanting to dance—whether you think you can or not.

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

COURTESY OF SARAH JO KENDALL

Amanda Washko and Aaron Smith performing in "Making the Way," a collaborative dance project between professors and students.

ART HISTORY FOR COCKTAIL PARTIES:

## 'A piece of white shit'

ALISA  
ALEXANDER

ARTS EDITOR

Three guys arguing about a white painting for an hour and a half. Sound boring? Think again. Folks, I think I've found the perfect play for me, and it just happens to be at the Salem Repertory Theatre in the Reed Opera House. What's it's called, you ask? Why, "Art", of course.

Written by Yasmina Reza, set in some time between here and now where francs are the currency, this comedy is about three friends whose 15-year friendship is challenged by the presence of an all-white painting. Serge, a well-to-do dermatologist, spends 200,000 francs on a white painting with a few diagonal lines on it, much to the dismay of his friend Marc. Marc describes it as a "piece of white shit" and their friendship suffers considerably over this disagreement. Their insecure friend, Ivan, is caught in the middle of the dispute while he tries to coddle the both of them. The arguments start out as a theoretical quandary concerning the nature of contemporary art, but gradually the tiffs become more personal, and they begin attacking each other's failures. The painting seemed to have unearthed a hidden level of honesty out of these men.

This play, while it is, yes, about art, is also about friendship, truth, and honesty. Marc is really and truly pissed off that his friend could be gullible enough to spend a ridiculous amount of money on white-freakin-painting, and judges him for it. It's difficult to tell if Serge actually likes the painting for what it is rather than the fact that it is by a famous artist, and feels personally affronted when his friends disapprove. Is the painting somehow important and legitimate because it is done by a world-famous artist? Is Serge the cultured, arty one, and Marc just ignorant? Serge begins digging into Marc, telling him that he hates his wife. They stop arguing about the painting, and instead, start judging each other.

While a disagreement about a painting may seem silly—especially the fact that it threatens to destroy the friendship—I think the arguments are quite valid. Disagreeing about the nature of art is for some people, like disagreeing about religion or politics. It becomes a question of value. If your closest friend values something that you consider to be utterly ridiculous, isn't it difficult not to care? It makes you feel like you perhaps, don't know your friend after all. Many people feel personally insulted when one disagree with these core issues, or just think that other people are stupid for not agreeing with them. In the end, these friends come to some sort of strained conclusion. They agree, more or less, to keep their mouths shut, to agree to disagree. Though the play is about art, in the end it appears that friendship is valued above all else.

The last time I was at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art I saw an all-white triptych by Robert Rauschenberg. Rauschenberg is a big name in the art world, mostly a mixed-media artist, and next to this white painting was a long text panel that's purpose, it seemed, was to try and legitimize the presence of this painting. I didn't know what to think. This work was not typical of Rauschenberg. The fact that the text panel told the viewer that the painting was intentionally painted in a manner that the brushstrokes were non-existent seemed ridiculous. I wanted to appreciate the triptych, to buy into its legitimacy, but I was left feeling torn. Deep down, I felt that Rauschenberg was making fun of us, laughing away, thinking "I'm so awesome, I got SFMOMA to put up this piece of white shit in their permanent collection."

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### ► more information

"Art" runs Nov. 6 - 23 at Salem Repertory Theatre, in the second floor of the Reed Opera House. Tickets range from \$12 - 15. For further information visit the theatre's website at <http://www.salemrep.org>

## Diversity of a capella groups shines for charity

STEVEN HERNANDEZ  
CONTRIBUTOR

“A capella relies on there being a variation in people singing, each vocal range becoming an instrument and working together fluidly like an orchestra.”

The music program at Willamette is stellar. I always enjoy going to concerts because of the varied styles and great songs. Imagine my excitement when seeing that Willamette's own Headband and Up Top were to perform for a charity event: Alpha Chi Omega's A Cappella Night. It would be a wonderful chance to see music that highlights only the music quality of voice, and was one everybody should have seen.

In music, vocals are hardly ever a standalone instrument. Often bands will use them in music to express their poetry or ideas. Even in voice concerts or jazz, the vocal performer is almost always accompanied. However, when it comes to a *cappella* as an art style, it is simply superb. The beats created are made due to different vibrations of one's voice, beat boxing and the like. For our own Headband and Up Top, this is a surprising feat that adds a deeper flavor to the music. Also, a *cappella* relies on there being a variation in people singing, each vocal range becoming an instrument and working together fluidly like an orchestra. If you ever want to sample the power of Willamette's

*cappella*, you should talk with some older students who may have CDs of Headband's first recording. It will be an experience you will enjoy.

Speaking of which, the experience of the A Cappella Night was mostly positive. I loved both Divisi and Divine, groups outside of Willamette, who both did a fair job. Although On The Rocks was ok, they were simply forgettable next to our own friends and peers who sang with soul. Headband and Up Top easily stole the show. Some remark about the fluctuating strength of Headband, but it is my belief that they are staying strong. As with any group, there is always a change, but I am always proud to say that best singers around are from Willamette. Also, learn the lesson from Headband and Up Top: if you want to add a different spice of singers to the school, get out and start your own group. Finally, I want to thank Alpha Chi, who helped to benefit Mid-Valley Women and cannot wait to come back next year for another performance.

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

COURTESY OF HEADBAND

Headband is one of Willamette's a cappella groups.



# Real world learning

students engage in WU-supported research outside the c

LIS WAGNER  
FEATURE EDITOR

## A case study in democracy: experiencing social resistance firsthand in Argentina

Carson Grant

Senior Laura Westmeyer planned to study conversion of land from cattle ranching to soy production for her Carson research project when she arrived in Buenos Aires, Argentina last summer. Instead, she found herself in the midst of a widespread political rivalry, resulting in 129 days of protesting, roads blocked with tractors and inflating food prices. The emphasis of her research swiftly shifted to the social resistance affecting many facets of the society she had been thrown into.

The impetus of this political uproar was a government-ordained increase on export taxes, labeled resolution 125. Export taxes have been in place for many years in Argentina. They are meant to redistribute wealth throughout the country and keep domestic supply in line with the demand. Yet, this unusually large tax increase elicited an especially negative response because of the way it catered to the government's economic interests at the expense of the agricultural sector.

According to Westmeyer, an international studies major with an environmental studies emphasis, the export tax rivalry pitted the government against "El Campo," which literally refers to the agricultural industry. But in this particular struggle El Campo encompassed anyone affected by the tax increase, including farmers, exporters and store owners. This movement has been especially unique in its ability to mobilize masses of people who had largely been politically inactive. Many in the movement "had spent their whole lives on the farm and never [before] considered participating in a protest or becoming involved in politics," Westmeyer said.

During the course of her time in Argentina, Westmeyer attended four demonstrations and traveled to the countryside to interview cattle ranchers, union leaders, economists and even slaughterhouse owners. One of the most striking characteristics of the movement was the roadblocks, which Westmeyer experienced on four different occasions. The roadblocks prevented food from being circulated, resulting in decreased supplies of food at supermarkets, sharp increases in food prices and limits on



COURTESY OF LAURA WESTMEYER

Laura Westmeyer observed as El Campo placed a cow carcass in the road in Casilda, Argentina in protest of increased export taxes.

the amounts of products consumers could buy.

She came away from the situation with an understanding of the ideological struggle that many Argentines face. In the process she gained a new perspective on democracy. According to Westmeyer, "democracy is a word that is defined differently in each country. Without these movements from the people, Argentina would not be a true democracy; the people's voice would not be heard."

### Targeting energy efficiency in everyday faucet use

Sustainability Mini Grant

Environmental science major Jeff Bennett became interested in energy efficient design when he moved to Salem and decided to build his own house. Recognizing the inevitable energy loss that occurs when using single handled faucets and the extremely widespread use of these faucets, Bennett felt that it was about time this issue was investigated. He applied for and was chosen to receive a

sustainability mini grant, which provides funds to conduct detailed research and work toward a higher degree of sustainable design at Willamette and beyond.

The reason single handled faucets are wasteful is that water is heated up but often never used. "Each time one of these faucets is turned on, not only does heated water end up in pipes in the wall that may not be used, but cold water is released into the hot water heater forcing the heater into a heating mode rather than a storage mode," Bennett said in his grant proposal.

Due to the exponential growth in sustainable design today, one would expect it to be easy to find an energy-efficient faucet that addresses the problems with single handled faucets. According to Bennett, however, it seems that no such faucet exists. Thus he plans to develop a working model of his own, which will heat water only when a switch is enabled. Bennett is in the process of developing his design. He plans to implement his experimental faucets in Willamette-owned houses and collect data on their efficiency.

A significant complexity of Bennett's work will be cost-benefit analysis. Though he is almost certain his faucet design would provide gross savings, he is unsure whether it will result in net savings. Maintenance muddies the waters further; the facilities department is currently in the process of switching all faucets on campus to the single handled model because they require less maintenance than the double handled alternative.

At minimum, Bennett hopes that his ideas will serve as a foundation for other projects. "Sustainability mini-grants provide an avenue of new ideas," Bennett said, and hopes that his work will spark ideas in others.



COURTESY OF EL CLARIN, ARGENTINIAN NEWSPAPER

Roadblocks served as a defining and effective means of protest against resolution 125 in Argentina, the subject of Westmeyer's Carson Grant research project.

### ► internal scholarships and grants available

#### Carson

Around 10 grants of up to \$3,000 per year given to undergraduate students conducting scholarly, creative or professional summer research projects

#### Presidential

Awards tuition for one semester of senior year

#### Lilly

Student recipients are awarded \$3,000 for summer research or creative project related to exploration of vocation, or meaning/purpose in life. Faculty receive \$500 stipend

#### Science Collaborative Research Projects (SCRPs)

Students of the natural sciences conduct summer research with faculty.  
Info session for SCRPs 2009 in early December

#### Student Collaborative Summer Research

#### Sustainability

Visit [www.willamette.edu/councils/sustainability/](http://www.willamette.edu/councils/sustainability/)

For more information visit the Office of Student Academic Grants and Awards or go to [www.willamette.edu/dept/saga/](http://www.willamette.edu/dept/saga/).



classroom

Who would the birds vote for?  
Biology research in political disguise

If you see a pair of dummies resembling President-elect Obama and Senator McCain on campus, it is not a sick joke. It is a biology research project on bird intelligence. Senior biology major Kaeli Swift is using the dummies to conduct research on whether Western Scrub-Jays can associate and remember faces based on positive experiences.

Once you begin to learn about corvids—the family of birds that Scrub-Jays and crows are members of—it is not surprising to discover that they can learn to favor one face over another. According to Swift, strong evidence suggests that corvids have comparable intelligence to primates. They are self-conscious, meaning they can look in the mirror and recognize their own reflection rather than thinking they are observing another animal. Also, unlike many other species of animals that bury their food for later use, corvids can think retrospectively and into the future in a way that is not instinctual.

Working with Associate Professor and Chair of the Biology Department David Craig, Swift has set up two pairs of decoys on Willamette's campus—one of each pair has an Obama mask and is holding whole-shelled peanuts while the other has a McCain mask and holds broken or single-nut peanuts. Already, the political bias is clear: corvids prefer whole peanuts because they can better cache them to be consumed later. Thus, each day that Swift's project has been in session, Obama's handful of peanuts have been devoured while McCain's have lacked in popularity.

Politics aside, we know that these birds prefer whole-shelled peanuts, but the real question is can they associate Obama's face with them? The crucial stage of Swift's research will occur when she exposes the birds to four sets



Kaeli Swift tends to her McCain and Obama dummies, which she is using to research bird intelligence.

MOLLY CARVER

of faces, two of which will be familiar to the Scrub-Jays if the study goes as planned. Students with Hilary Clinton and George W. Bush masks will act as control subjects next to students with Obama and McCain masks. Swift's hypothesis is that more birds will flock to Obama because of the conditioning she has carried out; they will be able to associate his face with the positive experience of getting whole cacheable peanuts.

Swift's project exemplifies the type of work that the Willamette's biology department fosters. "Our biology faculty is so great ... the research and networking I've done is

so critical to my future goals. [Willamette] is a great place to do research like this," Swift said. According to her, all biology professors are actively involved in research or in encouraging students to do research, which is an exciting benefit of majoring in a hard science at a liberal arts school.

To access live webcam footage of birds feeding from Obama and McCain on campus, visit <http://158.104.7.249>, login: dpcraig, password: 4terns.

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

MEMORIAL

# Remembering Joshua Bowman



I remember we went to the Sexual Assault talk as an OD Group and immediately after that a few of us went back to Kaneko to watch "The Last of the Mohicans." About halfway through the movie, the only people left were Josh and I. We sat there eating Doritos and randomly talking about life.

After finishing the movie and as we were walking over the sky bridge, he insisted on walking me into Matthews to make sure that I was not sexually assaulted on the way.

Although we joked about it, I still wonder if he ever realized how much that little act meant to me. He cared immensely for other people and his kindness has definitely touched my heart.

Every time I pass a place I hung out with him or hear a phrase that reminds me of something he would say, I realize how greatly I am missing him and how much of an impact he has made in my life. Josh Bowman, I will always remember you.

Rachael Mayer



Josh was one of those people you could tell was just good - through and through. He was always a person you wanted in your group for the activities and always had the biggest smile. I think that smile is how I'll remember him best.

Alyssa Anderson



ALL PICTURES COURTESY OF RACHAEL MAYER  
PICTURED: JOSH BOWMAN, ALYSSA ANDERSON, JAMES BALDWIN, MEREDITH BARNES, EMILY BEE, CARRIE DEAL, MORGAN DEGROFF, MAX DUPILL, ERIC HAULSTED, RACHAEL MAYER, GUNNAR PAULSEN, KATY ROBERTS, MATT SKUNTZ AND KENDRA VANEK.

memorial info

A small memorial gathering for Josh will be held in Bellmap Lounge on Thursday Nov. 20 at 4 p.m. For more information contact the Office of the Chaplains.

Josh was always basking in the glory of life and people. When I would be sweating from the summer rays, he would just smile, stretch out his arms, and say, "I'm from Alaska! I love the sun!" In every situation, he just took everything in and really FELT life. He was always thinking about what others were feeling, making sure they were okay, running up to talk to friends. He was selfless, thoughtful, joyful, and intelligent. Willamette is lucky to have experienced his presence for at least the short time he was here. The world is fortunate to have known Josh Bowman.

Loye from Opening Days Group 4,  
Kaeley Pruitt-Hamm



## FOOTBALL

## Leslie leads 9-0 Bearcats to conference championship

TIM WALSH  
STAFF WRITER

As the Willamette Bearcats clung to a one-point halftime lead over the Puget Sound Loggers, the pressure on the team, already high, seemed to be building.

"There was probably more pressure for this game than for any other this year," Willamette head coach Mark Speckman said. "Not only were we supposed to win, but we needed to win."

However, any doubt was cleared up in the second half, as the Bearcats, gunning for their first conference title in nine years, used hard-nosed defense, exceptional special teams, and a devastating aerial attack to blow the Loggers apart and turn a close game into a 49-27 rout. The victory clinched at least a share of the conference title for Willamette, and ensured the Bearcats will get the NWC's automatic playoff bid.

"It's pretty awesome," said NWC offensive player of the week Grant Leslie, who threw for a career high 285 yards and five touchdowns in the win. "Now we don't want to share it."

Tenth-ranked Willamette (9-0, 5-0 NWC) started the game with a bang, capping off a stellar opening drive with a 30-yard touchdown pass from Leslie to senior tight end Josh Lee. For the third week in a row, the Bearcats blocked their opponents' opening punt, but the return was negated by a penalty - the first of several costly mistakes to hurt Willamette's first half effort.

When the Bearcats failed to take points off the turnover, UPS (2-6, 0-5) didn't hesitate, utilizing the arm and legs of quarterback Kavin Williams to tie the game at seven. Another Willamette penalty killed a promising drive and the Loggers

drove all the way to the Bearcat 10-yard line before safety Arlin Taylor forced a fumble that Ryan Bettancourt recovered.

A holding penalty forced the 'Cats back inside their own ten, but Leslie uncorked a 93-yard pass to a wide open Scott Schoettgen and Willamette was back on top by a touchdown.

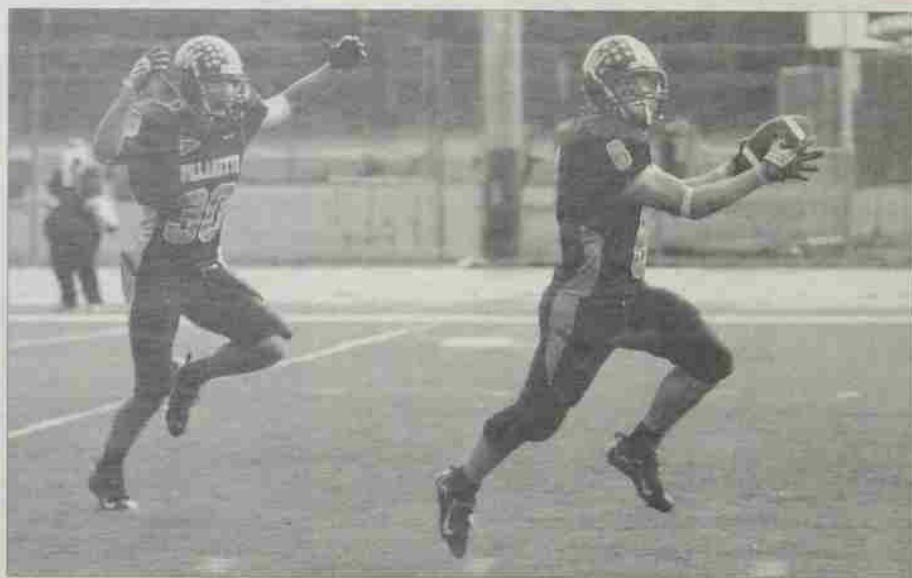
"How did it happen? It happened because [Joe] Penkala held!" Speckman laughed.

But Williams, who totaled 346 yards in a loss to Linfield two weeks ago, put the Loggers on his back with a 16 play, 88 yard drive to end the half and pull UPS within one. "It's just impossible to simulate someone like him," Speckman said, "unless we put pads and a helmet on the dumpster."

But as has often been the case this season, the Bearcats took the second half to shine. A sack of the UPS punter gave Willamette the ball on the Logger 30, and Merben Woo cashed in for an eight-point lead. Williams plunged into the end zone to cut the deficit to one, but Leslie hooked up with Woo for 65 of his 123 receiving yards to push the advantage to 28-20. On the next UPS possession, a fake punt broke down and Grant Piro stepped in front of the kick. Lukkes Gilgan recovered the ball for another touchdown, and the floodgates had opened.

Leslie followed a defensive stand by lofting a pretty pass to Woo over two Loggers, and the lead swelled to 49-20 when Leslie tossed his fifth touchdown pass of the day to Jose Green. One more UPS touchdown made the margin more respectable, but as the clock expired, those fans still at McCulloch Stadium serenaded the team with chants of "Conference Champs!"

The linebacker duo of Jack Bevins and Tommy Grove put together another



Junior and free safety Lukkes Gilgan runs a blocked punt into the endzone to put the Bearcats up 35-20. COLBY TAKEIDA

outstanding game, combining for 31 tackles on the day. Bevins was honored as NWC defensive player of the week and a grateful coach gave Grove "extra-special warm fuzzies." The Bearcats special teams continued their streak of torrid play, marking their fourth straight week with a touchdown.

But the star of the day was Leslie, who threw for more yards than any Willamette quarterback since 2000. The senior drew heavy praise from Speckman. "Not only does he have a great grasp of the offense, but he's a tremendous field general. Great quarterbacks have an aura about them, and Grant has it."

According to Leslie, however, "it all starts with the offensive line. Those guys have been amazing. The receivers are getting open, and our timing is just so much better."

Just one more regular season game remains for Willamette, as the team hosts the Menlo Oaks (3-6, 2-3) this Saturday. But the game is far from meaningless; a win would clinch the conference title outright and practically guarantee home-field advantage for the Bearcats through the initial rounds of the playoffs. It's a fact not lost on Leslie and his teammates:

"Like I said, we don't want to share. We only have ten times a year to go out and play. If we don't, we're cheating ourselves out of an incredible experience."

Contact: twalsh@willamette.edu

## ▼ next up

Bearcats v. Menlo @ McCulloch Stadium Saturday, Nov. 15 2:00p.m.

## VOLLEYBALL: A PLAYER'S PERSPECTIVE

## Fond farewell for leaving seniors

CHRISTINA  
MCGILVRAY

COLUMNIST

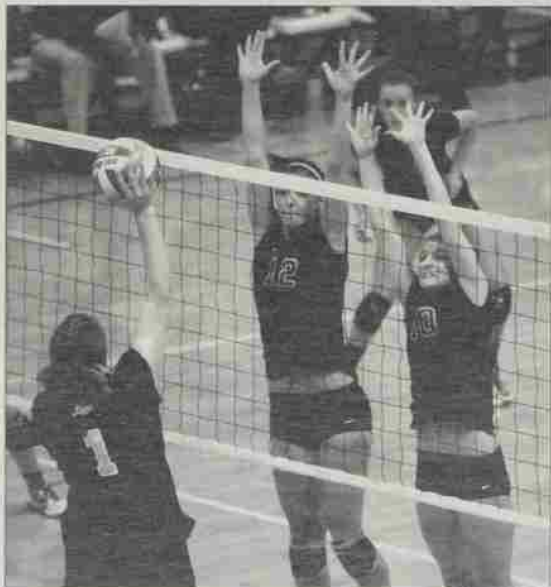
This weekend, Willamette's women's volleyball team played against Pacific Lutheran University and George Fox University to wrap up our season. We were unable to claim victory either night, but we played two strong and determined matches.

Jessica McGraw played well in both matches, earning 13 kills and 16 digs against PLU and 17 kills and 19 digs against George Fox. Although we are looking forward to next season, we are sad to be losing four strong seniors that lead both on and off the court.

This season, Clare Chedester will leave the team with 543 assists, 23 service aces, and 210 digs at the setter position. "I've learned a lot over the last four years," she said. "I'm glad I stuck it out through the first three because this season was definitely worth it."

Christine Dion played both setter and right side defender over the last three seasons for Willamette. "Playing on a team that loses more than it wins is extremely hard and frustrating, but finding the strength and ability to keep working hard in practice every single day to get better has made me a better athlete and person," Dion said. "The team began to turn a corner this season under a new coach and some strong additions to the roster. I am very happy to have been a part of this change and am looking forward to seeing what the team accomplishes next season."

Jessica Durham led the team and added 270 kills, 36 aces, and 264 digs this season as an outside hitter and defender. "It's tough to leave at a time when we've really started to turn the program around. The team is only going to go up from here and I'm glad I got to be a part of the start of that...," she said. "It has been an amazing past four years."



Senior outside hitters Kelley Lindstrom (12) and Jessica Durham (10) attempt to block a Pacific Lutheran spike. COLBY TAKEIDA

Middle hitter Kelley Lindstrom put down 148 kills, 21 aces, and had 59 total blocks this season. "Volleyball was one of the main reasons I came to Willamette, and although the win/loss record might not show it, I enjoyed it every year," the senior said. "I've learned so much about myself and about life that will go beyond the four seasons on the court. I'm really happy with my individual accomplishments and I'm proud of what we accomplished this year as a team and I know that it is the beginning of something new for WU Volleyball."

The team would like to thank all of the loyal fans we had this season, we could not have done it without you.

Contact: cmcgilvr@willamette.edu

## SWIMMING

## Men drown Lewis and Clark, 97-85

JOE GRUBER  
CONTRIBUTOR

This past weekend, the Willamette University Swim Team opened its dual meet season. On Friday, Nov. 7, the Bearcats traveled to Lewis and Clark College in Portland. On Saturday, Nov. 8, the team hosted University of Puget Sound for its home opener.

On Friday, the men's team defeated Lewis and Clark 97-85, an unexpected but welcomed result. The women's team beat Mills College 60-35 but lost to Lewis and Clark 72-23.

The men's team was victorious in five individual events and the 400-yard Medley Relay. Freshman Michael McGeehan led the team with three individual victories including the 100-, 200- and 500-yard free style events. Sophomore John Schmidtbauer also took first in the 50-yard free style and junior Kevin Tangeman won in the 1000-yard freestyle.

The men's team was thrilled with its victory over Lewis and Clark. "The men's team hasn't beaten Lewis and Clark in four years and we finally did last Friday," Schmidtbauer said. "Everyone is right on track. The team is strong but we would always take more swimmers."

The women's swim team took second place in 10 of the 11 total events, losing all events to the Lewis and Clark swim team but nearly completing a sweep against Mills College.

On Saturday, both teams fell to the University of Puget Sound at home.

John Schmidtbauer won the 200-freestyle with a time of 1:52.90. Junior Matt Tanigawa and Michael McGeehan took a one-two sweep in the 100-yard freestyle. Janelle Higashida took the lone first place for the Women's team in the 100-yard Breaststroke.

Contact: jgruber@willamette.edu

## ▼ next up

Bearcats @ Bay Area Invitational in Oakland, CA Saturday, Nov. 15 All Day



## WOMEN'S SOCCER

# Women say goodbye to team leaders

CAMERON MITCHELL  
STAFF WRITER

The women's soccer team finished its season Saturday, losing to the University of Puget Sound by a score of 4-0. The Loggers of Puget Sound jumped out quick, scoring all four goals in the first 20 minutes of the game. The Bearcats ended the 2008 season with a record of 12-8 and 10-6 in conference play. The record was good enough to place third in the Northwest Conference, but the Bearcats were unable to earn a bid to postseason play, finishing one game behind Whitworth for the second spot.

The Bearcats will lose five seniors from this year's team, but look to improve and make it back to the NCAA tournament next season. Here is a look at the five senior Bearcats who will be leaving:

### Samantha Post

Throughout her career, Samantha Post became Ms. Reliable for the Bearcat squad starting in all but four games in her four years at Willamette. Post became much more of a scoring threat in the 2008 season, recording five goals and 15 shots on goal. In a 2-1 victory over Linfield, Post supplied both goals to give Willamette a much-needed win. Post has always been a shining example of the team's hard work and dedication.

### Emily Gross

Even after a season-ending knee injury in 2007, forward Emily Gross was able to return to play a large role for this year's team. Gross started five games for the Bearcats in 2008 and finished the year with a goal to go along with an assist, putting her career goal total at 13. Gross finished the year with 18 shots, including eight on goal.

### Brittney Hewitt

Midfielder Brittney Hewitt started all but two games in 2008, recording two assists and 17 shots. In the first game between Willamette and Pacific Lutheran University, Hewitt assisted the Bearcats' first of four goals. In four years, Hewitt assisted four goals for the Bearcats and has been a vocal leader for the team in recent years.

### Kelsey Rogel

Along with being a staple of the Bearcats' defense, co-captain Kelsey Rogel finished 2008 with a team-high five assists,

including three in the Bearcats' 4-2 victory over Lewis and Clark College. Rogel has achieved All Northwest Conference every year of her Bearcat career. In 2007 and 2005 she was named second team all conference and in 2006, Rogel was honored as first team all NWC. The senior defender ended her career with 11 total assists and five goals.

### Lauren Miller

While Lauren Miller only spent two seasons with the Bearcats, it is clear that she has had a large impact on the Willamette soccer program. Miller, who transferred to Willamette after her sophomore season at Northwestern State, scored 14 goals and three assists. In 2007, Miller was the lone Bearcat on the Northwest Conference first team. Her presence on the field routinely drew double coverage and opened up the field for the Bearcats.

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



Senior forward Emily Gross (17) fights for a ball against Linfield defender Kristinie Siler in a Bearcat 1-0 win on Wednesday, Nov. 5.

## MEN'S SOCCER

# Young team finishes promising season

CAMERON MITCHELL  
STAFF WRITER

The Bearcat Men's Soccer team was in Tacoma, WA on Saturday, Nov. 8, taking on Puget Sound in the team's final game of the 2008 season. Willamette fell short in the game, losing 2-0. Puget Sound scored in the eighth and the 29th minutes to go up 2-0 before the end of the first half.

Willamette finished the season at 3-14-1, including 2-11-1 in NWC play. On a positive note, the Bearcats finished ahead of George Fox to take eighth place. Last season, the Bearcats ended the season in last place and failed to record a single conference win. The team will lose seniors Sam Hodder, Nick Forbes, and Ivan Gutierrez to graduation, three significant players on the 2008 squad. Here is a recap of the three senior careers:

### Ivan Gutierrez

Ivan Gutierrez recorded his first career goal this season in an overtime loss to Whitman College. In 2008, the midfielder started 17 games and logged 1228 minutes. On the season, Gutierrez recorded 18 shots, eight of which were on goal. Gutierrez finished his Bearcat career with two goals and an assist, and provided one of the Bearcats' two goals in a 2-0 win over George Fox earlier this season. He proved this year to be one of the leaders of the young Willamette team, as he was named co-captain for the Bearcats.

### Nick Forbes

Forward Nick Forbes came into the 2008 season after sitting out the previous year due to injury and his presence was felt immediately. Forbes was second on the team in points, with five. He scored two goals in 2008, including the goal to give Willamette a tie against Pacific University. Forbes had 21 shots and 15 on goal, starting nine of 18 games on the year. In his three years on the team, Forbes recorded four goals and an assist.

### Sam Hodder

It was a tough year for Sam Hodder, who missed the first half of the year with an injury, but the forward made the most

of the time he had on the field. In 11 games, four of which he started, Hodder scored a goal and made 17 shots, 10 of which were on goal. In the road win against George Fox, Hodder provided Willamette with a goal to give the team a 2-0 lead over the Bruins. In 2007 Hodder was second on the team with three assists. In his four-year career, Hodder finished with two goals and five assists.

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



Senior midfielder Ivan Gutierrez (5) started all 17 games he played in this year for the Bearcats, collecting two goals and an assist.

## CROSS COUNTRY

# Runners prepare for regionals

CHARLOTTE BODDY  
CONTRIBUTOR

With the 2008 Cross Country season coming to a close, both Willamette's men's and women's teams will be hosting the NCAA West Regional at Bush Park next weekend. The Bearcat women are looking to add to an impressive Northwest Conference Title victory, while the men are seeking redemption after their second-place finish in the NWC Championship. Who will succeed in this important battle of strength and teamwork? On Saturday Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>, Willamette Cross Country will have its answer.

"This weekend we are looking forward to winning yet another Regional championship," senior Maddie Coffman said. "We're having good practices and thinking very positively about the meet this Saturday."

"We have been training a long time for these last couple races, and I think our team will rise to the occasion. We all need to race our best this Saturday, and I am confident that we can go out and win this meet," sophomore Stefan Redfield said.

While the team competitions will be a strong focus for Bearcat runners, there are those on the team who also have important personal goals imbedded within the race. "I would love to be able to follow in the footsteps of Sarah Zerzan and win the meet, but it's more important that the team does well," Coffman said.

On the men's side, Redfield said, "my goal is to race smart and to finish with nothing left. As a team we need to go out in a pack and work together to finish at the top."

The West Regional often brings some of the most competitive talent in the Division III world. "Our competition will be a little more intense with CMS and a few good individuals from other schools being here," Coffman said. "We are confident though that we will run great races and be able to win the regional title again."

"Although there are a few more teams than [there] were at the Northwest Conference Meet, I don't anticipate that it will feel all that different, with the exception being that we are the host team and know this course like the back of our hands," senior Jena Winger added.

Competition for the men should be stiff as well. "I am sure that there will be some very good teams. It is going to be a tough race, but I feel that, if we bring our best, no one should beat us," Redfield said.

The fate of Willamette's Cross Country success rests on the shoulders of 14 talented athletes. Can the team stave off its opponents and bring home two more regional titles? One factor may prove most important in determining the answer to this question.

"I think a big fan turnout would really put the positive energy we have had this whole season over the edge and contribute to our sixth-straight West Region Title," Winger said.

So if you're free next Saturday, Nov. 15, head over to Bush Park and cheer on two of Willamette's best sports teams. Your support may be just the difference these runners need.

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### ▼ next up

Bearcats v. NCAA West Regional @ Bush Park Saturday, Nov. 15 at 10:00a.m.





## Colleen, Cornered

### In honor of a hound



**Colleen  
Martin**

OPINIONS EDITOR

If you haven't heard Barack Obama's speech from election night, I'll tell you the most important point: he's getting his kids a puppy. Like anything our president-elect does, this statement was brought under heavy scrutiny. Even the New York Times was joining in the plethora of questions about breed, rescue, age, training, gender, what college it will attend, etc.

But when I heard that statement, I couldn't help but think of my first (and only) dog. My family had to put her down the Thanksgiving of my freshman year of college, and I always resented the fact that dogs don't get proper obituaries. So, I will selfishly devote my column this week to giving my dog, Noche, the memorial she always deserved.

A basenji/black lab mix, Noche looked like she was wearing a tuxedo, sporting predominantly black fur with patches of white on her chest and paws. Her curly black tail knocked ornaments off the Christmas tree and only uncurled when she was sad.

Noche learned one-half of every trick we tried to teach her. She could sit, but she wouldn't lie down. She could go fetch the ball, but she didn't ever feel like giving it back. She could beg well, just not on command. She could heel, but only for about 30 seconds until a squirrel, food, or just about anything else would distract her.

Despite this, she was a good dog. We got her when I was four, and she tolerated me through my childhood, when I thought that pulling her tail was a good idea and that she would look excellent in one of my dresses and hats. Doing a little dance of excitement when you walked through the front door, she always made you feel as though you had been missed. My mom and I have a habit of talking to ourselves, but she would usually respond with a sympathetic sigh so we wouldn't feel crazy.

Oftentimes we would let Noche out front to greet my dad when he came home from work. One day we all thought she was back inside, but it wasn't until we noticed her missing from her usual spot under the table (a prime spot for catching dropped food) that we realized no one had let her in. Our front yard isn't gated, and we all panicked when we couldn't find her nearby. Looking for hours, we despaired, as it was dark out and Noche blended in nicely with nighttime, her Spanish namesake.

Upset, we came home, and planned on calling the shelter in the morning. My mom opened the door one last time, and there was Noche, standing on the porch, waiting happily. Unlike any human, she held no grudge that we had forgotten to let her in, but instead showed her love and loyalty by returning right home after taking herself for a walk. It was at that moment that we all realized how much a part of our family she was.

Leaving for college, Noche was my hardest goodbye. She was 14, and we didn't know how much longer she would last. I laid down next to her the night before I left, and found myself unable to say anything. She put her paw on my hand, and I knew she understood. Though I still often miss her, I have nothing but gratitude for the memories she left behind.

Noche may never have been in the White House, but she will always be the First Dog to me.

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## EDITORIAL

# Fighting the November nervous breakdown

November has started out rough and will just get rougher. Though it was an exciting election, it has left us all a little emotionally drained. Yet school continues, and both professors and students have much more work to do before the semester is over. Tests and papers all have impending due dates, and keeping up with reading is getting that much harder. Not to mention the weather keeps getting worse. The rain is finally here, bringing with it wind and taking with it any opportunity for our bodies to produce vitamin D. It is easy to get the winter blahs in November, but we on the Editorial Board have a few suggestions that could improve students' and professors' moods this month.

Students of every major are beginning to feel the strain of the semester—the need to knuckle down, the weight of worn-out textbooks and binders and the late nights filled with sweet, sweet caffeine. All-nighters are no longer just for the studious and unprepared, but for the average peer who normally gets by without too much hassle.

Because of this, we would ask all professors with 90-minute classes to take mutually-constructive action: a five-minute break after the first 45 minutes. A five-minute break allows students to gather their wits, so to speak, and would raise attentiveness and interaction in the second half of class. This, in turn, would help the professor effectively communicate and teach their course material. The break may also help students remember material by giving them a

very short period to reflect on what was just taught. In any case, during these "crunch" times, both students and professors are looking for tricks to understand and process as much knowledge as possible and a five-minute break may be just the answer.

Another way that professors can help students (and themselves!) is by bringing their dogs to class. Some professors do it already, but not very many. Dogs are a stress reliever, and a healthy one too. Many Willamette students have pets at home and miss them. Dogs are a huge part of some people's lives, but living in the dorms and just college life in general don't really work for having a dog. A class dog may cure some of that homesickness. Another great benefit of having a dog in class is for use as an example. Classes often talk about pretty abstract concepts, and professors can ground those concepts by telling a story about their dogs that illustrates their points. Who doesn't love a dog story with a moral?

Another simple solution that makes everyone feel better is baked goods. Remember in elementary school when nearly every week there was an excuse to make cookies or cupcakes—someone's birthday, the 100th day of classes, or even just a Friday? We encourage students to take that approach to life. It's hard to be sad or frustrated when eating freshly baked cookies, and something that simple is able to help relax and reenergize students. Beyond that, making delicious deserts is always a good excuse for hanging out

with friends who have been neglected due to insane piles of homework. It's a good chance to both see other people and do something relaxing. Most of all, it's just fun.

Even though this time of the year can be a nightmare, everyone needs to take care of him/herself and look out for others. Most of us are a wreck at some point in the fall and winter months. Between exams, getting sick and the sheer amount of rain and gray skies, it can be difficult to keep your chin up and stay healthy and happy. Making sure we stay healthy by doing all those things you hear about—drinking enough water, getting enough sleep, dressing warmly and eating well—can really make a difference between a great holiday season and a sniffly, miserable winter. By staying healthy and by focusing on the little things in life—from a professor's visiting pooch to baked goods at the Bistro—you can make that homework seem a little bit easier and the rain clouds a little less oppressive.

## COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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## OPINION

# Yes, we did...So what happens next?

MICHELA GORE  
GUEST WRITER

It was a few minutes past 8:00 p.m. when I arrived at the Marion County Democrats' Election Party. I knew by the screaming and hugging that the news teams had just projected Barack Obama would be the new President-Elect. My shouts and hugs joined the party.

Election night has become a blur of crying, dancing, and hugging strangers with which there was a very large generation gap. I can barely remember John McCain's concession speech because I was sobbing so hard. And while some might consider my reaction extreme, the more Democrats I talk to, the more I hear of election night experiences similar to mine. Indescribable joy from Obama's victory led to dancing in the streets, impromptu outbursts of our national anthem, and quite a few celebratory rounds. Even the rest of the world was celebrating with us.

Two days later the results of Oregon's Senate race were finally announced, electing Jeff Merkley (D) over incumbent Gor-

don Smith (R). Many members from College Democrats had been involved in this particular campaign, which only added to the joy of our group's community.

As the President of College Democrats, I inherently have a biased view of election night. But on a college campus which leans heavily towards the "left," there can be no doubt that Obama's win was welcomed by most of Willamette.

Unfortunately, for those of us who are politically inclined, we are now facing what is described as the "post-election blues." Many of us put our hearts into this election, whether it was by volunteering/working for a campaign, nagging our apathetic friends to vote, or even just daring to hope that in this election, things would be different. Now I find myself, and many of College Democrats' members, asking, "what do I do with myself now?"

Thankfully, we have much to look forward to in the coming four years. But what do we do with ourselves until January? And what do we do DURING the Obama administration? Oftentimes we set our sights so

much on elections that we forget what it really means to be devoted to politics. Being a good citizen is not just about filling in those ballots once every other year, and our role is also not to be a government cheerleader.

After eight years of a Bush administration, we have had a lot of practice being critical. However, it is not enough to complain to our friends. To truly be a good citizen we must participate as fully as possible in our government, keeping tabs on what it is doing, and responding when we disagree. There are many levels at which this is possible, but responding at the local level is probably the most effective method.

Election season is over. We have elected a capable, intelligent and reasonable man to the White House and filled Congress with his supporters. But the job isn't over. Now we must reengage ourselves in local government, local issues. Don't forget, the 2009 Legislative Session starts second semester. Are you ready to get involved?

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Obama: A new era of hate?

Obama's win was indeed of epic proportions. And while I have hope that he will bring much needed change to this country and the world, I am worried that his election may also bring some significant negative consequences.

The history of hate groups—especially white supremacist groups—in the U.S. can be mapped against social equality and diversity movements with almost perfect correlation. Indeed, it is those movements and events that inspire the hate or pride of

those involved in such groups.

Right now, hate group membership is in abeyance—numbers are down and rallying causes are hard to find. Unfortunately, regardless of his success or failure, the election of Obama is the "threat" which will provide the much-needed rallying point for supremacist and hate groups. This being the situation, we should expect to see a surge in supremacist group membership and probably a rise in hate crimes.

Willamette prides itself on being a culturally aware and diverse environment. I believe that for us to stay ahead

of the curve and truly be aware of what is happening outside the WU bubble, it is time for WEB's Awareness, Discussion and Dialogue Committee to bring this discussion to campus.

David Bernstein

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Letters can be sent by postal mail, email ([rizzaves@willamette.edu](mailto:rizzaves@willamette.edu)), campus mail or fax. Letters must include name and phone number and be submitted by Sunday morning on the week of intended publication. The Collegian reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. Letters should be less than 200 words.



OPINION

# Moving past the referendum against Republicans

SCOTT CANTONWINE  
GUEST WRITER

After the polls closed on November 4, we learned that the 2006 election was not the capstone in the "referendum against Republicans." Election Day 2008 continued America's movement against Republican candidates and causes at all levels - local, state, and federal. In Oregon alone, several conservative ballot measures were rejected handily; Mike Erickson, the hopeful to replace Democrat Darlene Hooley as one of Oregon's U.S. Representatives, was dealt a near-20% loss; and two-term Republican Senator Gordon Smith was ousted in favor of former State Speaker of the House Jeff Merkley.

Now that the record-length campaign season has concluded, there will be a change in political rhetoric - more precisely, a critical shift from proposals to action. I believe this will be the centerpiece of the inception of the Obama administration. As Obama and other Democrats said on the campaign trail, change is needed. On November 4th, Obama said, "change has

come to America." Now it is time to see that change come to life.

One arena where change is of paramount importance is economic development. More so than setting a timetable for Iraq troop withdrawal or universal health care, concrete and decisive action must be taken to reverse the negative course of the U.S. economy.

In the past year, we've seen a multi-billion disbursement of stimulus checks and a \$700 billion bank bailout - both programs displaying questionable efficacy in promoting economic growth. The Obama administration and the legislative branch will need to develop a course of economic action emphasizing systemic business growth. Without this sort of support for creating a self-sustaining economic infrastructure, the Federal Reserve could print money to no end without any net improvement in the U.S. economy.

In addition to the changing of the guard in Washington, D.C., attention should be paid to the local political climate. The 2009 Oregon House will feature a majority of 38

Democrats. With few exceptions, the Democratic caucus will be writing the agenda for the 2009 session. A critical note is that any federal economic development action must be supplanted by a similar dedication to business growth. Ideally, the 2009 legislative session will be met by a commitment from lawmakers to make Oregon a place where businesses can come to prosper.

Finally, what to do with the Republican Party itself? As a former county Republican Party officer, I know the party lacks the "activism" mentality that was exemplified in 2008 by the Obama and other Democratic campaigns. Going forward, Republicans must look at the existing party structure in

the same way a company might look at a faltering brand: reinvigorate the brand, or a competitor will take over the market.

One positive of this election was seeing Americans taking ownership of their political process. Minority voters registered substantial growth in their turnout, and Americans of all affiliations exercised their right to vote. Hopefully, Americans can unite and use the political process to create meaningful change in their communities. Republican, Democrat, or otherwise, I think we can all agree that would be a good take-away from Election 2008.

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*The Obama administration and the legislative branch will need to develop a course of economic action emphasizing systemic business growth.*

## TOM'S THOUGHTS: A Mad Lib letter to your family



**T O M  
ACKERMAN**  
COLUMNIST

Hello dear readers, it's that time of year again. The rains have come, the semester is more than half through, and everyone is overworked and borderline depressed. But you know who the real victims are here? Your family. I bet they haven't heard from you in eons. Why, even the once-homesick freshmen have started ignoring their parents' e-mails. You know what would cheer them up? A real, honest-to-goodness old-fashioned, handwritten letter!

To make it easy for all of you, I've created a template for your letter home in Mad Libs style. Just fill in the blanks as you see fit. You can try to be honest, or you can lie overtly. Your relatives won't care either way, they'll just be happy to hear from you.

All the usual rules for Mad Libs apply. Don't forget the unwritten rule of "don't fill in every blank with the word 'penis' because that shit won't make any sense."

Dear \_\_\_\_\_, I hope you are well. I'm having \_\_\_\_\_ semester, but finals are just around the \_\_\_\_\_ so I can't get too excited.

It's started raining all the time here now. In fact, it is rainy and gray so often that my roommate has developed \_\_\_\_\_.

Luckily the kind folks at Bishop Wellness Center say that the \_\_\_\_\_ should stop within a few days.

Students are doing everything they can to stay upbeat here. Don't think this means I've become a party \_\_\_\_\_ though. I always drink responsibly. Why just the other night I only drank \_\_\_\_\_ of Pabst Blue Ribbon. That was on election night though, and I needed to drown my sorrows. I can't believe \_\_\_\_\_ lost!

Oh! I almost forgot. Did you hear about the \_\_\_\_\_ in the Mill Stream? That shit was \_\_\_\_\_ I got the \_\_\_\_\_ you sent me. I use it every day!

What other news do I have... President Pelton talked to me in the lunch line the other day! I complimented him on his \_\_\_\_\_ and he asked me about my classes. I told him that I really enjoyed my Social History of \_\_\_\_\_ class, as well as my Creating \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ class. But I confided in him that professor \_\_\_\_\_ is a \_\_\_\_\_ - bag, and that (s)he knows nothing about the field of \_\_\_\_\_.

I suggested that (s)he be \_\_\_\_\_ immediately. Pelton said he would take it under consideration.

Well that's all I have to say right now. Hope to see you during \_\_\_\_\_ Say hello to the \_\_\_\_\_ for me.

\_\_\_\_\_

Well that's it. Just fill in the blanks, and then rewrite the letter on a sheet of college-ruled paper in your finest cursive. Or if you're a lazy ass, just cut the whole thing out and send it, your family probably won't know the difference. If you're an orphan, or if you burned some bridges before you left for college and are now no longer on speaking terms with your family, fret not! Just send your letters to me, Tom Ackerman, box A125, and I'll get back to you.

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## IF I HAD A HAMMER: I can't help but smile, then cry



**KAELEY  
PRUITT-  
HAMM**  
COLUMNIST

I can't help but smile when I glance at the numerous headlines screaming "Victory!" for Obama. Much of the world seems giddy with hope and pride at our overall victory in the race against racial divides.

We truly should be celebrating the fact that not only have the recent elections indicated that our country has progressed from a recent history of extreme oppression of everyone who isn't a white male by electing an African-American president, but we have also elected someone who is just plain cool in terms of their foreign and domestic policy plans.

But then again, I personally can't celebrate just yet. We (and the world) have a long way to go in our fight against ethnic politics.

I would love to use this column space to both congratulate America for a job well done, and to remind the U.S. that we are actually behind compared to some countries that were electing females as presidents before Hillary Clinton was even born. But then I remember the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the Sudan, and other countries in crisis around the world, and I can't help but move on to the need for good foreign policy on these issues simply

because they're too urgent, relevant, and just plain awful to keep silent about.

Ethnicity is still a major factor that decides who gets what on this planet. The color of one's skin and the family into which one is born still dictates whether one lives in luxury or in constant fear of persecution. Over and over again, we are reminded of the immense danger that comes with governing on a teeter-totter of resources based on race.

Here's one example of those reminders: the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes Region of Africa have been involved in what many are calling "Africa's First World War" or the "gradual Holocaust" for many years now. In what is seen as a struggle for the DRC's wealth of resources (primarily mineral and water wealth) as well as a continuation of the Rwandan genocide, outside forces control a great part of the country as different political groups take turns assassinating each other for power and Rwanda invades the DRC to supposedly defend Congolese Tutsis from refugee Hutu militias. The U.S., among other nations, has provided military training and political support to Congolese governments willing to reciprocate with political favors.

In between the lines of the political and military story lies immense civilian suffering. Since August 1998, over five million people have died from fatal re-

sults of the fighting between regionally intertwined militias. About 45,000 people die every month of the year. One thousand die every day.

Salvatore Bulamuzi, whose entire family was killed in northeastern DRC, said in 2003, "I am convinced now ... that the lives of Congolese people no longer mean anything to anybody. Not to those who kill us like flies, our brothers who help kill us or those you call the international commu-

nity." It has now been five years since he expressed this hopelessness, and where are we still?

But we may still have a chance to prove him wrong. Maybe this time our government will listen to its own people, at least. So let's continue to make sure our country is progressing away from global ethnic conflict, not adding to it.

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JACK BROUNSTEIN





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MEXICAN GRILL

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