

# COLLEGIAN

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# Elections controversy exposes constitutional flaws

COLLEEN SMYTH  
CONTRIBUTOR

MATT PITCHFORD  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

What began as an appeal for Matthew Bateman's candidacy in the ASWU presidential runoff vote became a controversy over who in student government has constitutional authority over elections and other areas of student life.

On March 21, Bateman turned in his campaign expenditure form after Alicia Updegraff, Vice President of Administration had already sent an email to the student body announcing a runoff between first and third place candidates Keith Fakhoury and Elizabeth Calixtro.

He appealed his automatic disqualification to the elections board, on the basis of a medical condition, following Updegraff's recommendation. At the Senate meeting on March 22, Vice President of the Executive Ben Kittleson announced that there had been an impromptu elections board meeting where Bateman's appeal was approved. According to Updegraff, the meeting was illegal; she was not informed of it until later that night.

Senate decided to institute a three-way runoff between Fakhoury, Calixtro and Bateman.

Less than 24 hours later, Bateman received an email from Updegraff stating that elections board had denied his appeal. According to the contract signed by all candidates prior to the campaign, any appeal decision by elections board is final.

Elections "board's decision should matter more in my opinion than ours," Kittleson said. "They've got to hold us accountable to the rules of the elections." Therefore, he explained, Executive Council decided to support their decision.

Several senators also expressed concern that their vote was not being upheld by the executive council because the new constitution, which went into effect in the middle of the election, states that Senate shall "be the ultimate authority over all ASWU affairs."

Leadership Committee examined the elections packet and determined Senate's decision to hold a three-way runoff was invalid because it was a response to an unappealable disqualification that was not an issue of ethical conduct.

President Pro Tempore Megan Newcomb announced the decision at a special session of Senate on April 4, which many students-at-large attended.

During the meeting, students-at-large and senators alike

raised questions about what had transpired. A main sticking point was that many of the decisions made were based on precedent because the new constitution is the only governing document for ASWU and does not include specific guidelines for elections.

Those guidelines, along with other details are being written into the bylaws to the constitution, which have yet to be passed. Several senators raised concerns about confirming a constitution that would go into effect immediately without bylaws at the March 1 meeting, but most approved it anyway.

"I didn't want to be complicit in this constitution," junior Senator Samantha Briggs said, who abstained from the vote. "I'm glad that I wasn't, because after this whole election we can see that we needed bylaws."

"When we were working on the constitution we were like, 'We want this constitution to be very simple and easy to understand,'" Kittleson said. "It was probably not the best idea to have the constitution take effect immediately."

Kittleson explained that the plan was to pass the bylaws at the Senate meeting last Thursday. Instead, Senate worked through the elections controversy.

At the April 5 meeting, President Tej Reddy, who declined to be interviewed for this story, addressed the large crowd of senators and students-at-large.

"One way or another, this has to end tonight. This is wasting the student body's time; this is wasting the time of the officials in this election, the candidates in this election and this executive board."

After some discussion, a motion to hold a two-person runoff between Fakhoury and Calixtro passed 9-5 including a yes vote from Bateman.

Although the immediate elections issue appears resolved, not everyone felt the situation was settled satisfactorily.

For example, it was only noticed after the controversy surrounding the runoff election that ASP students had not had an opportunity to vote during the regular election, as is usu-

ally the case.

Another concern was the ethics of the decision-making processes.

"It has been really disappointing to see that this is how the student government at Willamette University functions," senior Geoffrey Suthers said.

Suthers, who attended both Senate meetings last week, was frustrated by the repeated excuse that senators and executive officers are all students, not lawyers, as well as what he perceived as bias in the decision-making processes.

"I think a lot of people lost sight of the rules and what's best for the student body and were more focused on [want-

ing] to see Matthew Bateman as president," Kittleson said. "That's where a lot of frustration arose."

Updegraff and ASWU advisor Lisa Holliday shared the worry that if Bateman had been reinstated, it wouldn't have been fair to the students who had turned their forms

“

There's a certain trust that we have set forth in all of our officers, and I would like to see that we can hold that trust."

Geoffrey Suthers  
Senior

in on time.

However, a few in ASWU did suggest a silver lining to the fiasco.

"I think it is almost a success wrapped in a crazy mess," freshman Senator Kelen Kaiser said. "The student body is more involved than it has ever been before."

Bateman, who ran for President to bring accountability to student government, holds a similar view. "I used my position as a senator to really try and inform the student body from this," he said. "I am fine with how everything has turned out."

"This is a great learning experience and it's a great leadership experience for everyone involved and even a citizenship experience for you guys that are students-at-large," Kittleson said. "Just take a step back after this is all over and realize that it is a learning experience; we are in college; we are here to learn and get better for our future lives."

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# Tour guide application process revamped

ALISON EZARD  
STAFF WRITER

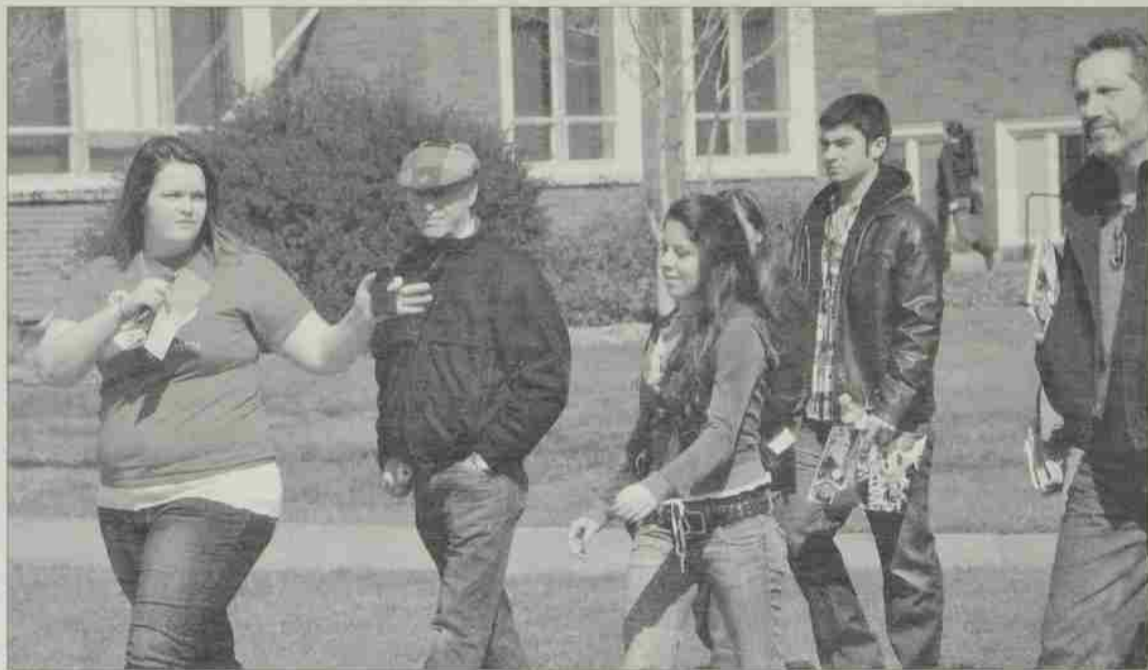
This semester, the tour guide program at Willamette is working to revamp the application process for tour guide positions.

"Our goal for this year is to take the campus tour program to the next level. We hope that by improving our recruitment strategy and having a more intentional and intensive application process, we will be able to further meet our goal," Tour Guide Coordinator and senior Rafael Baptista said.

In addition to being much more proactive in encouraging students to apply for the tour guide position, the selection committee is also adding a group interview stage that will give the selection committee a better idea of how the applicants interact in a group setting.

Following the group interview stage, the committee will be inviting selected applicants to interview individually with the committee. Once the new tour guides are chosen, the selection committee will be debuting a new public tradition (which Baptista was not at liberty to discuss) for notifying the new employees.

"Our goal is to make our application process more similar to the process used by Open-



A current Willamette Tour Guide gives a tour during spring preview day last Friday.

HAILEY ARNOLD

ing Days, Jump Start and TIUA," Baptista said.

The selection committee hopes that by revamping the application process, there will be a competitive and highly diversified applicant pool from which to choose the new tour guides.

"We are seeking reliable students with fun personalities and great communication skills. We also highly encourage science students

and students from less common disciplines and/or backgrounds to apply," Baptista said.

Tour guides, whose main function is to represent Willamette in a positive yet realistic light, are essential to the admissions process.

"One can easily say that the campus tour is the most important hour for a prospective student. A good tour can convince prospec-

tive students to register at Willamette, while a poor tour can cause a student to stop considering Willamette. One tour guide this year gave such a good tour that at the end of tour, an admitted student made the decision to enroll at Willamette," Baptista said.

In addition to serving an essential function on campus, there are many other perks to being a tour guide. Not only can guides gain additional hours during special admissions events and helping with other work in the Office of Admissions, but they also are presented with an opportunity to develop their communication skills and improve their ability to improvise and think on the spot.

"It is also a great chance to showcase your pride in Willamette and get paid to have fun. It's a low commitment job in which you are paid to showcase your university," Baptista said.

Applications for the tour guide position are available at the Office of Admissions and JobCat and are due by April 16. Applicants may submit applications to Baptista by e-mail at <r.baptista>, campus mailbox A176 or in person at the Office of Admissions.

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# Students collaborate to author book on Zena Farm

ALISON EZARD  
STAFF WRITER

The students in history and environmental science professor Bob Reinhardt's Environmental History of Zena class will present a book they collaboratively wrote on Thursday, May 3 at 7 pm at the Zenith Winery next door to Zena Farm. It details the relationship between humans and the nonhuman natural world at Zena Farm.

The event will provide an opportunity to see the interdisciplinary tools, methods and approach of environmental history in action and learn how student-led, place-based learning can produce a collaboratively created book.

In addition, the event will also serve as an opportunity to learn about the unique history of Zena Farm. "Zena is an increasingly

important resource for the University, and this is the first attempt to create a coherent history of that place," Reinhardt said.

The Environmental History of Zena course, in which students learn about Zena's history and the methods and approaches of the field of environmental history, takes a hands on approach. It gave students the opportunity to conduct original research and include their findings in a book that examines the relationship between humans and the natural world at Zena.

"This course has been a fantastic experience for me, and I really think it suggests the power of place-based pedagogy," Reinhardt said.

The book covers a diverse array of topics ranging from geological history and conservation/preservation ideology, to information on the Kalapuya, religion and the relation-

ship between Zena and Willamette.

"The book covers the entire history of Zena, from geological origins to the present, focusing on the relationships (both real and perceived) between humans and the nonhuman natural world," Reinhardt said.

In order to prepare to write such a comprehensive book, the students spent a month of the course reading background material relevant to the study of Zena Farm. Though the students devoted time to reading all the existing histories of Zena (including senior theses), they also looked at material related to environmental history as an approach to the past, as well as environmental histories of the Pacific Northwest.

However, after the month of preparation, the students have led the way in working on compiling the book. Indeed, it was the students themselves who were responsible for

deciding what topics the book would cover, as well as who was responsible for each topic. The students were also responsible for setting deadlines for outlines and drafts and setting standards for quality.

Currently, the students are in the process of reviewing one another's chapters. Once approved by their classmates, the book will be sent to a professional environmental historian for external review for more feedback.

Once the feedback has been received, the students will incorporate it into their final revisions for the chapters and will have produced a polished and intriguing work by the end of the semester, just in time for the presentation at the Zenith Winery.

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# 'Jules Fun Run' celebrates life of Willamette professor

NATALIE PATE  
CONTRIBUTOR

As many have noticed, the month of April is packed with multiple running events. Last weekend the Relay for Life was held in the Quad, and this Wednesday is the Onion Run at Jackson Plaza. These various events are put on by Willamette organizations to benefit national causes. However, one of the upcoming running events is in celebration of one of Willamette's own.

The Jules Fun Run is coming up on April 15 to celebrate the life of Jules Abendroth, a beloved professor of exercise science who passed away last year. Hayley Serres, one of the founders of the Jules Fun Run and dear friend of Jules said, "The race is a charity event to raise money for the Jules Abendroth Exercise Science Fund. We honor her memory with one her favorite activities: running."

Andrew Brown, another founder and close friend, stated that the money goes to student scholarships; "Jules was such an avid runner and loved to exercise."

"This event began because Hayley and I felt Jules was such a strong presence on campus. Because of this, we wanted to celebrate her life and how awesome she was,"

Brown said.

Many students were extremely close with this fun, loving and warm professor. Serres, who said that she was one of quite a few students that loved calling Jules 'Mom,' said, "The day before she passed away, I got one of those Jules Abendroth hugs that we all knew and loved, and afterward was left feeling very empty. I believe Jules would love this event."

The race began last year after Jules' passing after Brown and Serres brainstormed ways to recognize and joyfully celebrate this woman's life.

"The event was conceived soon after Jules passed in January of 2011," Brown said. "Hayley and I started talking about coming up with a way to commemorate her."

This is the second year of the event. They hope to continue the Jules Fun Run every year to continuously recognize Jules' life. Brown said they "hope to make this a tradition at Willamette." The event will be held in Bush Park, a favorite running location of Jules'. Brown said, "It was only appropriate to hold the event at Bush Park."

Serres and Brown are two of the many students affected by Jules Abendroth and welcome many more students to join them in the celebration of the wonderful and influ-



Students prepare to participate in last year's "Jules Fun Run."

ential professor. The race will be on April 15 beginning at 2 pm. Contact <hserres> or <abrown> for registration and event information.

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# Relay for life raises \$2,588

NATALIE PATE  
CONTRIBUTOR

This past weekend the student organization Colleges Against Cancer put on a successful Relay for Life event. Sponsored by the American Cancer Society (ACS), along with the help of many Sigma Alpha Epsilon members and women from the Salem Relay for Life committee, Willamette students with the Colleges Against Cancer were able to raise over \$2000.

Emily Burke said, "It was two hours longer than last year's, but everybody still came out and supported us the entire time." Even friendly faces like Blitz the Bearcat showed up to help with the event. Held from 2-8pm on Saturday, April 7, "we had 114 participants, 29 teams and raised \$2,588," Amara Fanucci said. "We raised as much as last year, and we had an even better turn out!"

The event was not only an entertaining and altruistic way to run, but it was also a very extremely important to many people.

"Relay for Life is an incredibly important event to me because of the history of cancer in my family, and I am so happy that the Willamette community has taken an interest as well," Fanucci said. "The event is one that goes on all across the country, and even in some other parts of the world, so I think that Relay is a very important cause for Willamette to take part in."

Colleges Against Cancer never stops looking for more support and coalition. "We are always looking for more people to be a part of the club and/or the Relay for Life planning committee," Burke said. "We are trying to do more events and fundraising in the fall so we are looking for more ideas and more people to get more involved with the club."

Many members of the community joined together for this weekend fundraiser. "The community really came together for this event, which I think is the most successful outcome by far," expresses Fanucci.

"Many of the Greek chapters helped with set up, and did a huge bulk of the fundraising. Most sports teams also had Relay for Life teams and got quite competitive about raising the most money!" The students and organizers of the relay were thrilled at how the community came together. Fanucci said it really was a "community-wide event."

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## Cinema-Sphere

### Video Resuscitated the Radio Star



BRETT SCRUTON  
COLUMNIST

If you're an undergrad student, you're well aware of one of the great forms of procrastination, YouTube. While I'm certainly friendly with sneezing pandas and SNL clips, it's mostly music videos. Despite a blank document for your paper, you're still impressively multitasking. To watch a video, hear a song and be scared by Nicki Minaj; that's talent. What I've noticed is that this talent and form of procrastination in general has only increased.

How so, and what the hell does this have to do with film Brett? Well, riddle me this Batman, why are you procrastinating for longer periods of time and focusing more and more on the narrative of the short film at hand? Did I say short film? I meant music video.

Pre-1980s, the visual representation of music was usually reserved for live concerts. With the creation of MTV, the record labels started jumping over the idea of getting the band's image out there. This had some limitations though: mainly the video was just the band playing with a backdrop. This was lame.

Then came splicing the band with images. This wasn't perfect either. If you've been to the Ram on Sunday you know about the bombardment of tasteless videos. Sometimes you need a little something else, maybe like stimulating visuals or a story.

A new generation of directors sought to solve this. One of these new directors, Spike Jonze, teamed up with the Beastie Boys to direct numerous videos. The 1994 video never has the Beastie Boys posing and rapping. The entire video is the three rappers dressed as 70s cops in a fake movie trailer. It'd be great if it wasn't limited to three minutes, which is exactly why the last Beastie Boys video is half an hour.

Half an hour? That's like a movie! Exactly! The 2011 video for "Make Some Noise" is a star-studded spectacle featuring Elijah Wood, Danny McBride and Seth Rogen amongst others. The Beastie Boys trash an apartment, break into a convenience store, party in a limo and have a dance off with the future Beastie Boys.

The Beastie Boys aren't the only artists to do this. LMFAO have turned all their videos into short and absurd stories. The videos for "Party Rock Anthem" and "Champagne Showers" are even a continuous story of a party rocking apocalypse or what LMFAO would probably describe as a Tuesday.

Striving for a more artistic approach, both Lady Gaga and Kanye West have put out some of the best music videos today. "Bad Romance" from "The Fame Monster" was even the most viewed Internet video for a while. Kanye's video for "Runaway" was half an hour and actually sampled most of the album, "My Dark Twisted Fantasy." Did I mention it was about Kanye trying to date a phoenix?

While "researching" for this column I watched countless videos trying to figure out why the music video was evolving in this way. The answer was right in front of me. It's YouTube. As an artist you can upload anything to the Internet. It doesn't have to be three-minutes to play on MTV. People will watch your short film and probably procrastinate on their workload. I know I have.

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### MUSIC REVIEW: 'The Odd Future Tape Volume 2'

## Odd Future mix gives the fix

TILL GWINN  
REVIEWS EDITOR

Odd Future is one of those rare band names that lends a description to the group as well as providing a satisfactory referent for the collective. With an aesthetic style that is inherently anti-popular, the growing fan base of Odd Future Wolf Gang Kill Them All (OFWGKTA for short, of course) was purely grassroots.

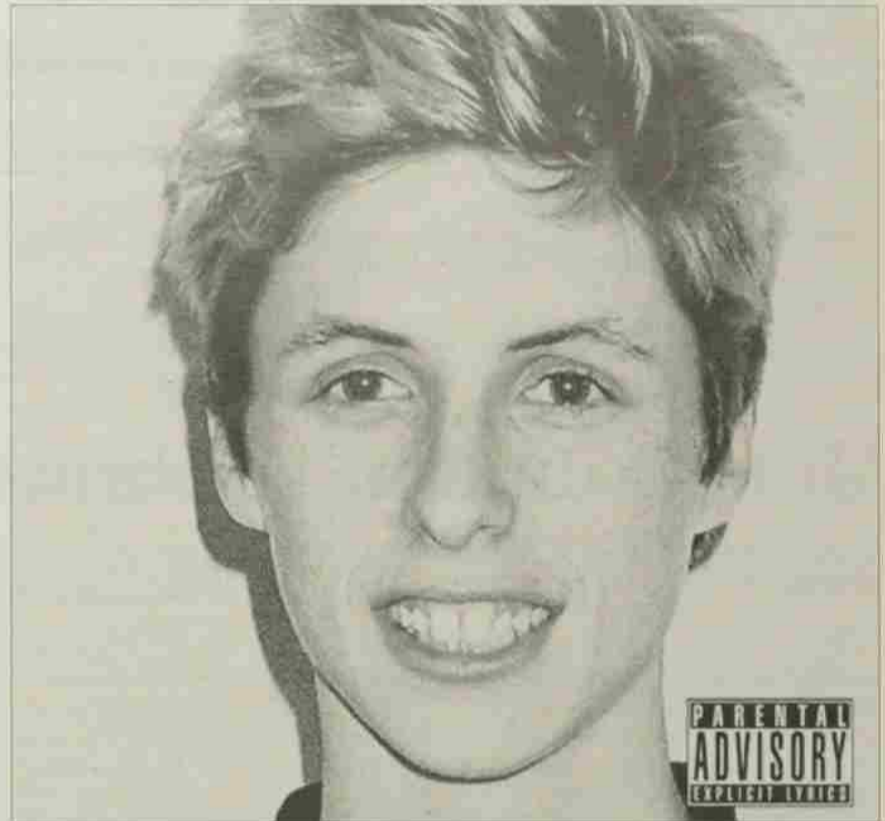
Covering the wide range of lyrical topics such as violence, being rich, tour antics, ignorance, thrashing, as well as insecurity and paranoia the group has become the next wave of rap that is hyped as f-k, refusing to calm down or take its medication.

"The Odd Future Tape Volume 2" catches the gang in uncharted land: success. Tyler, the Creator is practically a household name after winning Video of the Year for "Yonkers" (yeah, the scary cockroach eating one) and their show "Loiter Squad" probably pulls in dozens of Adult Swim's 420 regular viewers.

This being the case, "Volume 2" has a very different feeling from the first OF mix tape. Instead of depending on spontaneous humor and general ig'nant hood-rat shit like "The Odd Future Tape," "Volume 2" exhibits superior production quality (duh, they have money) and focuses on the group's success that even surprised themselves.

The beats produced by Tyler range from the creepy jazz dissonance to big booming over-driven bass tracks worth bumping in the hood while you're bumping in your hood. The highlights by Tyler are "NY (Ned Flander)" and "Analog 2," which features Frankie Ocean singing the hook and Syd tha Kyd, the group's on stage DJ and a producer, chiming in with her own soulful singing that previously has been confined to the records released by her and Matt Martian's band The Internet.

Left Brain pulls most of the remaining production wait on Mike G's "Forest Green" and the beyond energetic "50" with MellowHype yelling/rapping/not giving a f-k. Mike G is honestly the smooth-



This is Lucas. He's hella white.

THEFADER.COM

est rapper since Snoop on "Doggystyle."

Other highlights like "Real Bitch" could be seen as Odd Future's attempt at feminism. Yeah, I know their language misses the marks of equal treatment but asking for a girl that has her own money and pulls her fair share in a relationship is a little bit better than Kanye wanting that American Apparel girl in just tights. This DOES NOT vindicate them from being generally derogatory towards women but it's worth mentioning.

The soft soul/R&B sound like "White" by Frank Ocean and "Ya Know" by the Internet next to Tyler and Left Brain's abrasive speaker rattling sound ("50" and "We Got Bitches") makes for

a delightful dichotomy of the OF sound. However, it feels somewhat disconnected.

Like many acts that tap into raw emotion as an attribute, the second time around is a little shallow. With money comes raps about money. Not that there isn't a reimbursable value to "ice rap," Domo Genesis and Hodgy Beats have flooded this album with it. At a certain point it seems as if they are depending on the subject to get them through.

All in all, as a mix to pick and choose from, "The OF Tape Vol. 2" is great. One can skip back/forth and especially to the end for a verse from the Early man.

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### FOOD REVIEW: 'Annette's'

## Best of the West, Annette's

BRIAN GNERRE  
CONTRIBUTOR

Say what you will about our charming little cracked-out city, but at least Salem knows a thing or two about brunch. State Street alone boasts an assortment of establishments that can crank out any variety of savory and sweet brunch favorites with factory-like consistency and a just-like-your-mom-made-it homemade heartiness.

However, for those of you committed to the pursuit of the ultimate Salem brunch destination, look no further than Annette's in West Salem, a short drive over the bridge crossing the Willamette River and then directly off the Rosemont Avenue exit.

My hungry posse and I arrived mere minutes after their 2 PM closing time on Sunday afternoons but the wonderfully accommodating waitresses agreed to seat us provided we ordered as quickly as possible.

However, I was immediately distracted by the super swanky interior, which included jet black chairs and tables and dimly lit low-hanging lamps with beautifully intricate leaf patterns that simultaneously charmed and soothed my tired, hungry, hungover soul. This soft lighting perfectly accentuated the pale yellow walls and allowed for an emphasis on the streams of natural light that filtered through wide glass windows smartly situated around the entire establishment.

Needless to say, I was stoked before I even opened the menu. But then I did, and very nearly lost my shit. Not only is their breakfast menu extensive (a blessing and a curse for a voraciously hungry customer as indecisive as myself), but quite literally all of their omelets are made with six, count'em, SIX eggs. In my not-so-professional experience, das alotta eggs.

Of course, in one of the bigger controversies of this young decade (Snooki's pregnancy be damned), I managed to somehow not order one of these delicious monstrosities. However, the humorously-named Hobo Scramble I did decide on, which included mushrooms, onions, spinach and your choice of meat (bacon, duh) scrambled with three eggs plus salsa, potatoes and toast (sourdough, obviously), was delicious enough to (hopefully) excuse my earlier transgression.

A substantial amount of all the scramble's separate components and the fact that the bacon was the perfect amount of crispy ensured an enjoyable eating experience, and the potatoes were that crispy outside soft as soft inside combination that all of us savory brunch folk know, crave and love.

If I had to gripe about any one element of my meal, it would be the sourdough toast which, while adequately sour and toasted, was very obviously store bought and therefore a little flimsy. Blame Sassy Onion for spoiling me with the most delectable, hearty and straight-up beefy homemade sourdough, but against that Annette's bread offerings simply cannot compare.

Regardless, Annette's provides more than enough portion-wise for only a few-bucks more than places like Word of Mouth or Sassy. And trust me, three dollars more for an omelet that is literally double the size of other restaurants' fun folded-egg fabrications is the smallest of prices to pay. Go to Annette's, preferably after a long, boozey night and bask in all that is holy about early afternoon brunch.

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## David Sedaris to 'talk pretty' in Salem

ASTRA LINCOLN  
STAFF WRITER

David Sedaris, America's ever-sardonic critic and pre-eminent author of humor, will be gracing small town Salem with a book reading later this month.

The author of best sellers "Barrel Fever" and "Holidays on Ice," as well as collections of personal essays, "Naked," "Me Talk Pretty One Day" and "Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim," Sedaris has earned many compliments and awards such as the Thurber Prize for American Humor, which he won in 2001. He has also been nominated for a Grammy Award.

Channeling the dry wit of literary heroes such as Alice Munro and Kurt Vonnegut, Sedaris' works cover daring topics, ranging from American culture, to bestiality, to public defecation in department stores.

Within the Willamette community, the author is a familiar and well-loved face. In addition to general fandom, Sedaris is known for delivering one of two 2003 Atkinson Lectures, an installment of the Atkinson Lecture Series, which has seen the likes prestigious authors such as John Irving and Kurt Vonnegut himself. Indeed, since posters advertising this

event have manifested around campus, it has not been uncommon to spot girls squealing at his imminent arrival, or groups of English majors whispering excitedly in corners of Eaton.

Beyond this indiscernible excitement, many students cite his works as both a source of identification and a unifying agent for with loved ones and society at large. For example, sophomore Maxfield Peterson cites the author's work as a contributing reason he has been able to maintain a common interest and thus a good relationship with his mother.

"The intergenerational gap between an adolescent son and his mother is quite a gap to be bridged," says Peterson. "Yet I can recall many times in which my mom would run down the hall laughing, blissfully eager to read me another [of Sedaris'] passage[s] about a midget guitar teacher."

Peterson also notes his love for Sedaris' "irate, nasally voice describing his tenaciously awkward life."

Hannah Peterson, a senior who has met Sedaris, remembers the author's quirkiness. "He signed my book; he just drew a picture of an elephant on it," she says. "I brought my friend's book and asked him to sign it for her. He wrote in it, 'Sorry you couldn't come, Amber. No

whores were allowed.' I was like, 'Okay.' He's really strange."

However strange, Sedaris offers readers a means to live in our complicated world; entire life philosophies can be found in between the lines of his satirical words. For example, sophomore Davin Lacksonen says he adopted a Sedaris phrase as a personal mantra. According to Lacksonen, "Sedaris once said, 'Everyone looks retarded once you set your mind to it.' I've set my mind to it."

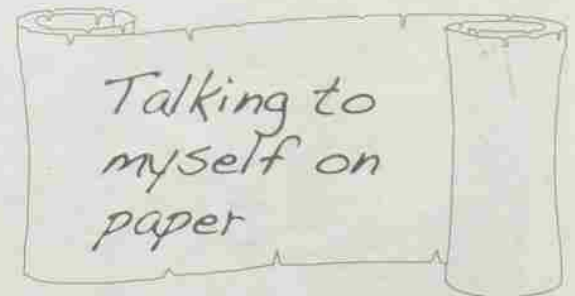
As a literary demigod among men, Sedaris' mockery of his seemingly mundane life has revolutionized the intellectual pop-literature scene. His comedic genius is easily palatable, and his "nasally" voice sounds even better when it is not streaming from National Public Radio broadcasts.

Students may purchase discounted tickets for the event for \$15 upon presentation of a Willamette ID card at the box office. Additionally, the Willamette Store is raffling off two tickets. Contact Michael Smith for more information.

Sedaris' reading will take place at the Elsinore Theatre in downtown Salem (within walking distance). The show will begin at 7:30 p.m. on April 30.

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## COLUMN



## Because I care



RACHEL  
HEISTERKAMP

COLUMNIST

All right, I'm just going to say it. People (probably you) don't know what words mean. There's an incredible amount of ignorance as to the proper use of English grammar, syntax, idiom and cliché. For me, it's becoming an increasingly troubling problem.

I know: Out comes the English major snob again with her condescending column. You're probably thinking to yourself, "There's no way this applies to me; I could care less."

But if you agreed with that statement, let me tell you: You've already made a big mistake. It's best that you keep reading.

The phrase, "I could care less," is a perfect example of this topic about which I have chosen to rant. Contrary to the popular belief that this statement denotes apathy, conventions of the English language tell us otherwise. Using the conditional, "could," indicates that the amount you care might be decreased. This, in turn, tells us that you DO, in fact, care some amount. The quantity of caring may be unclear, but the only amount of caring from which you're exempt is zero caring. And this, friends, is not only ironic (since not caring seems to be what you wished to express in the first place), but it means that you just don't know how to use words. We should try to work on this.

I suppose that this column, more than anything, is a lesson for those of you (pretty much all of you) who can't seem to correctly use the English language. (I swear to GOD, if someone says "irregardless" within a 10-foot proximity of me one more time, I may start throwing heavy objects.)

So, if you give any non-zero amount of f-ks regarding your perceived intelligence (and I assume you do, considering your enrollment in a university), I am overjoyed to present you with some of the worst and most offensive examples of this epidemic to help avoid further "confusion."

As you may have noticed, a great deal of the "getting-words-wrong" issue comes simply from people incorrectly mimicking things they hear. This common mistake leads to gems such as, "escape goat." I mean, I don't want to assume anything about your personal life, but my general presumption is that most people do not, in fact, own a goat. And thus, this non-existent goat is not, in fact, on the run.

Additionally, to begin a statement with the provision, "for all intensive purposes," implies that your specific purposes are just really quite vigorous. (With a larger word count, I'd be ALL over that sex pun). Also, the idea that this cliché would exist at all if indeed it addressed such topics at once is just absurd. Yeah maybe just let this go, and try again with a noun.

I suppose when someone misspeaks the phrase, "to take something for granite," it usually comes from a problem of enunciation. But frankly, while we're on the present subject, I may as well tell you: The likelihood that the context of your conversation has to do with igneous rock used primarily as kitchen countertops is low.

Also, when you write about "wetting your appetite," I doubt you mean you fancy dowsing yourself (or some other mysterious, physical manifestation of your appetite), before you consume a meal. You probably really mean that you wish to "whet your appetite." Please feel free to aspirate the "h." Why is this? Oh - because it makes sense, you glorious nitrod.

So, maybe the next time you're having a conversation with me (or someone of equal intelligence), and you answer a question with "yeah, no..." or, "no, yeah..." please, for the love of God, consider the fact that you literally just said nothing except a haphazard and/or-completely illogical combination of words. Words that you are clearly incapable of correctly employing. Please, for everyone's sake, reflect on your life.

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## Professor Larson exhibits art of Oregon landscapes

MADELINE MOREHOUSE  
STAFF WRITER

Professor Kendra Larson's current installment in the annual Faculty Works Display has caught the attention of library-goers of all kinds - two of her paintings are prominently displayed at the front of the building.

For lovers of Larson's cool, purple and blue contributions to the warm, yellow walls of the library, a second series of paintings, "The Geography of Phenomena," are now on display in the Rogers W. Rogers gallery in the Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center.

Larson received her Masters' Degree in Fine Arts in Painting for the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and is currently a Willamette Visiting Assistant Professor of Art. She has shown her work at galleries across the country, served three residencies, and lists more of professional experience in the art world.

According to Larson, "Phenomena" is based on a series of photographs and sketches collected during various trips across Oregon. The paintings deal largely with memory - a nostalgia evoking childlike innocence, exploration and awe.

"I like that the visual qualities of paint can be enjoyed on a visceral level and that the subject matter can be somewhat ambiguous," she says. "I also have a group or fellow artists I meet with monthly to critique each other's work and talk about current issues in contemporary art."

According to Assistant Art Professor and Faculty Curator, Andries Fourie, "Larson's goal is to create a framework within which two constraining experiences of the land can coexist: the measurement and recording of scientific examination, and the sense of spiritual wonder the experience of nature's grandeur evokes."

These paintings are entirely devoid of human life or man-made structures. The forests occupy a type of mythical space, yet there are also bold reflections of the world outside our windows. Larson's work also honors the longstanding history of these forests, as they have been exposed to and survived years of man-made devastation.

"My generation, marked by the uncertainty, nostalgia and Romanticism brought on by political and economic uncertainty, takes comfort in the nostalgic view of nature as an unchanging spiritual force," says Larson of her work.

Similarly, Fourie describes Larson's work as a paradox of landscape's contemplative essence and its potential as a commercial commodity. The artist uses wood from the forest itself as canvas in an attempt to highlight this paradox. In these paintings, Larson reflects on the ironic capability of humans to destroy the things they romanticize.

The exhibition will continue through March 13 in the Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center. The paintings line the glass hallway running parallel to the Quad, so even if you can only steal a glance on the way to class, Larson's artwork is worth your attention.

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ALLY SZETO

Larson's landscape paintings such as "Warm Springs" join concepts of a lush, natural world with vivid statements of otherworldly complexity.

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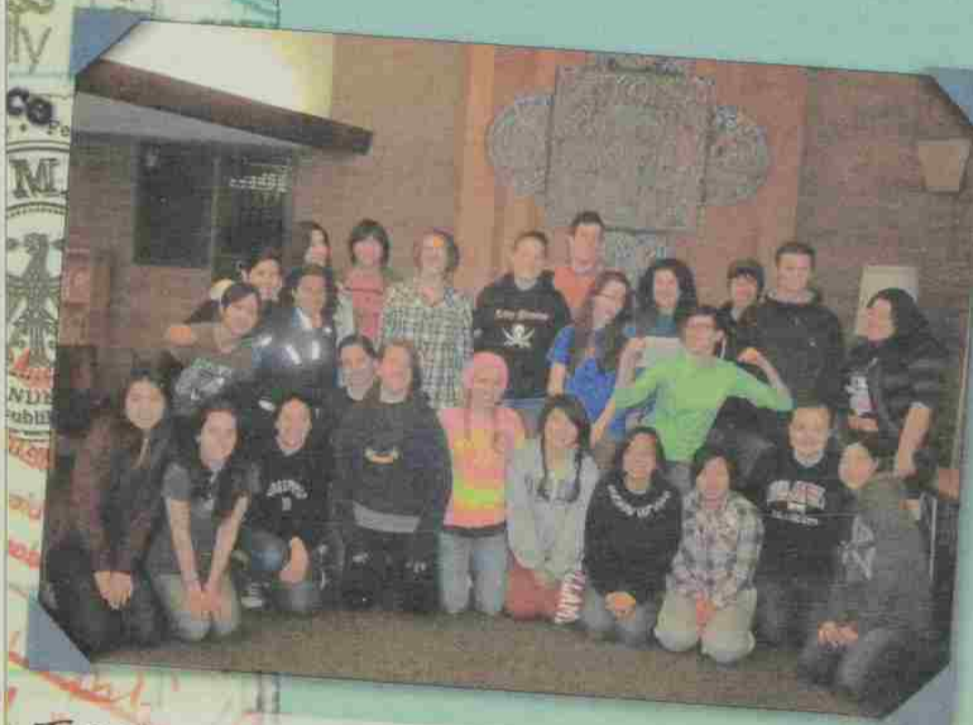
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LINDSAY BRAUNWALDER

*Tab participants help in any way they can, including handing out food on the streets of New Orleans.*



RACHEL BODDY

*Tab Portland and Tab Immigration Northwest joined for dinner one night during their trips.*



CANDACE HAMAR

*The Tab New Orleans group works to reorganize a storage space at APEX Youth Center.*

# TAKE a BREAK

LINDSAY BRAUNWALDER  
FEATURE EDITOR

TEJ REDDY  
GUEST WRITER

While many students would describe spring break as a week designated to forget about their studies and just relax, for some Willamette students, spring break means community service.

The Take a Break program at Willamette University is a student-led alternative spring break program that offers five teams of Willamette students, A.S.P. students and WU faculty members the opportunity to participate in community service and reflect on pressing social, political and economic problems.

This year the program marked its 11th year of service. Over 70 WU students participated in programs in San Francisco, Portland, Chicago, New Orleans and Immigration Northwest (surrounding Oregon and Washington areas). With the addition of these cities, the TaB program has now reached out to 23 different cities across the country.

Amy Green, the Interim Director of the Community Outreach Program and Community Service, commented that "TaB is a unique opportunity to experience service learning and learn about social justice while being challenged in an unfamiliar environment."

The Take a Break mission statement serves as the support, and a base point, that underlies the meaning behind TaB. As stated on the Willamette website, the TaB mission statement is: "to develop community stewardship in the leaders of tomorrow through: promoting critical thinking, personal growth, social action and life long community action."

The TaB motto features four themes of great importance not only to the program, but to the Willamette community in general: community, justice, service and simplicity (CJS<sup>2</sup>). Each of the five TaB trips every year tries to incorporate these values. Several participants and facilitators offer their perspective of these themes and their experiences during this past spring break.

**Community** the first of the central themes of the TaB experience. Rachel Buckley, Co-Facilitator of TaB Portland, thinks "the concept of community in TaB is inherently linked with solidarity and building lasting relationships with organizations." Each trip, whether TaB San Francisco, which focused on urban poverty, or TaB New Orleans, addressing educational inequality, does not ultimately end the social problems. However, participants try and understand the people working in each field and become allies to the cause.

One unique aspect of the Take a Break program is the partnership that develops between Willamette and the "service sites," the TaB language for the community service organizations TaB participants work with. Buckley said, "[It] fosters a sense of community year after year." As these relationships grow, solidarity results. The community service organizations, which TaB trips work with, benefit from new allies in their cause. Indeed, when Willamette participants return to campus after their spring break experience, they endeavour to try and continue building community.

It is in this manner TaB participants hope to incorporate the value of community gained within the week-long experience past spring break. It is for this reason Buckley is working to build on the relationships previous trips have established and grown. "Even if the participants change, the solidarity built with Willamette University persists," said Buckley, "I think this is fundamental to building community in a meaningful and conscious manner."

**Justice** is the second major emphasis of the TaB program, and in Paige Mullins' words, TaB participants consciously explore "intersectionality of injustice and oppression in different communities across the nation." Mullins, Co-Facilitator of this year's TaB Portland, worked to ensure her group explored oppression on a systemic level. "We learned about how the intersections of systemic oppression contribute to the dehumanization of people experiencing homelessness," said Mullins, continuing, "Portland has had a long, sad history of injustices towards minority groups and low socioeconomic status individuals."

Mullins also spoke about the many organizations that her group worked with that helped people. According to Mullins, these organizations "restored the identities of those experiencing homelessness and to alleviate the injustices that a huge portion of Portland's population experiences every day." This experience was particularly informative for Mullins and the rest of TaB Portland. Mullins said, "this type of experience allowed participants to look critically at the forces within society." Ultimately, Mullins said she hoped this would help her and the participants in her group identify those forces "that perpetuate injustice so that they can

*"Our hands, minds and hearts all ached at the end of our trip, and it was completely worth it."*

KIRSTEN RAMSDALL  
TaB participant



develop their own theories of what a just society should look like."

Third, the first S in the CJS<sup>2</sup> motto represents the act of service. Willamette is a university that prides itself on its actions of service. Kirsten Ramsdell, a participant from TaB New Orleans, commented, "TaB offers community-building and service opportunities months before traveling which enables a sense of service participation and social awareness. Although this action was incredible and taught me a lot, I was completely unprepared for the amazing and life-altering experience I would have in New Orleans, working with our hands and our minds in a space completely unfamiliar to ourselves."

Ramsdell mentioned an experience with a native from New Orleans: "As James, a director at the Annunciation Mission Church (and housing) where we stayed, stated, '...being here is enough.' The simplistic act of traveling to New Orleans and attempting to understand their situation would be successful for they appreciated our acknowledgement. However, this felt so inadequate; although knowledge and education yields power and change, the best way to fully learn and understand is to involve yourself in the space of these people and interact together in collective volunteering. Our hands, minds and hearts all ached at the end of our trip, and it was completely worth it."

In the short five days they were there, the TaB New Orleans group was able to partake in many different acts of service in the local area. Each one a small gesture, vital to the completion of a bigger picture.

Ramsdell said, "TaB New Orleans focused on the struggles associated with the educational systems and youth in inner-city, impoverished locations. However, we did not simply work in schools. In order to gain a greater understanding of what we were seeing and engaging in, we volunteered with various organizations.

We spent two days renovating and painting someone's house through Rebuilding Together, a nonprofit organization that focuses on preservation of home ownership and revitalization of neighborhoods. We also worked at the APEX (Always Pursuing Excellence) Youth Center, an organization that helps to provide a safe, social

*"I wish I would have gone on a TaB trip before my senior year so I could go again."*

VIOLET MARTIN  
TaB participant

environment for youth in New Orleans in a pursuit to help them excel in their life. We also helped to hand out food on the streets of New Orleans, with James, the man who ran the mission housing where we stayed."

"Lastly," she continued, "we worked at an urban farm called 'The Blair School Project' which aims to provide a space for youth empowerment, sustainable agriculture and assistance in community development located in the Ninth Ward of New Orleans. With an emphasis on environmental justice and sustainable living, this organization attempts to combat social inequalities through social empowerment."

Ramsdell's statements and the TaB New Orleans trip represent the entirety of the other TaB trips, and the TaB program. Just being there makes a difference because it shows the willingness to help others achieve their goals and needs.

The fourth theme that contributes to the TaB motto is **simplicity**. "Simplicity was more than leaving behind our laptops and living out of a backpack for a week. For me, it was also being mindful of the words I chose to use, being clear and genuine in the ways I contributed to the group, and holding myself and others accountable as much as possible," Violet Martin a WU student who participated in the TaB Chicago trip said.

Simplicity was an aspect all the trip groups tried to incorporate into their programs, and it is something the students learned might be beneficial to incorporate in everyday life. Martin went on to say, "In Chicago, simplicity meant being intentional participants in our communities both immediately and at large - that is, my TaB group and the people we worked with. In our weeks of preparation, we talked about how to avoid coming across as asserting our authority and privileges in other communities. We wanted our approach to be more open and inquiring. Simple living is difficult and we constantly had to remind ourselves of what that looked like. I made mistakes all week - individually and as part of the group - but our sense of accountability also increased which helped to not repeat them."

"At the Immigrant Youth Justice League and the Lady of Guadalupe Justice Mission, I learned you can influence enormous change not by being an expert on immigration, but simply by sharing your story and joining in solidarity with others. Another 'simple' way we joined others in solidarity involved sandwich-making for rally participants protesting the building of a detention center in Crete, IL," Martin said.

Martin commented, "I wish I would have gone on a TaB trip before my senior year so I could go again. It was very empowering to build relationships and engage with communities outside of Willamette, to learn from them and bring it all home, knowing I have support from not only my TaB group but from people in Chicago and other places as well."

"I would encourage more students to participate in TaB for the various opportunities to learn and challenge themselves but also because it's so much fun! This past week I kept running into members of my TaB group on campus and having a great time remembering all of our jokes and funny stories," she said.

Ramsdell spoke of her TaB experience, "I'm supposed to explaining how this trip impacted me, and to be honest with you, I have no words. Yet, I have many words but have no way of summarizing them. Social empowerment and change comes from us, from people, and we all need to experience these moments, these inexpressible moments, in order to successfully implement change and understand our complex, confusing world. We all must be speechless in order to find our strong, individual voices."



*TaB San Francisco poses in front of The Safe House, a space designated for recovering prostitutes.*



*Members from TaB New Orleans work on priming a house.*



*TaB New Orleans posing in front of the house they worked on with the organization rebuilding together.*



## TENNIS

# Bearcat tennis falls short versus Whitman, Whitworth

ZACH OSERAN  
CONTRIBUTOR

The Bearcat men's tennis team hosted the Whitworth Pirates and the Whitman Missionaries this weekend for dual matches. On Friday, Willamette faced the Pirates and fell in a tough match, 6-3.

Winning for Willamette was the top doubles team comprised of junior Josh Wong and senior Cody Ferguson, with a score of 8-5. In singles, the Bearcats recorded victories at number two and three singles through contributions of Ferguson and junior Garrett Vincent with scores of 4-6, 7-5, 6-3 and 6-2, 6-1, respectively.

In the second match of the weekend, the Bearcats confronted a very accomplished Whitman team, who are ranked 9th nationally and #1 regionally. Although falling 9-0, the Bearcats put up a competitive fight in the top two singles matches losing in two Super Tie Breakers.

Ferguson, in his final home match, lost a nail-bitter 6-2, 3-6, 10-5. After transferring to Willamette from Western Oregon University in his sophomore year, Ferguson has been a major contributor to Willamette's recent success in tennis with a highlight of being the 2010 ITA runner up after a great tournament run. Wong also lost a close match after suffering muscle cramps in the second set.

After the match, freshman Jack Schreiber said, "The score might not show it, but it was a hard fought match for [us]." After the two losses the Bearcats' overall record dropped to 3-12 for the season. The Bearcat's final season match will be next Saturday against Pacific Lutheran.

The women's tennis also had a busy weekend traveling to Eastern Washington to face Whitworth University and Whitman College. On Friday evening, WU played Whit-



Josh Wong and Cody Ferguson return a ball against Whitworth. Ferguson and Wong both narrowly lost their individual matches Friday.

worth, falling 7-2. The Pirates swept all the doubles matches then secured four singles victories to clinch the match. Winning for the Bearcats were sophomore Sabrina Gutierrez at number two singles and freshman Denise Poltavski at number three singles, both victories coming in three close sets.

The next day, WU faced Whitman in Walla Walla and lost 8-1. Due to injuries and illness, the Bearcats were forced to default three matches and were not able to recover from the deficit. The lone victory of the match went to sophomore Emily Funibiki at number four singles, winning in a Super Tie Breaker 2-6, 6-2, 10-4.

After the matches, senior Shannon Palmer said despite the injuries, "the four of us who played still gave a fight and I felt that although our overall scores don't appear very close, the level of play was high and it was apparent that we all wanted to win."

After the losses, the Bearcats record dropped to 6-8 overall.

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## ▼ next up

### Men's

Willamette vs. Pacific Lutheran  
@ Tacoma, Wash.  
Saturday, Apr. 14 at 12:30 p.m.

### Women's

Willamette vs. Pacific Lutheran  
@ Salem, Ore.  
Saturday, Apr. 14 at 10:00 a.m.

# Basketball's bigger problem

SEAN DART  
SPORTS EDITOR

By the time you're done reading this article, University of Kentucky Men's Basketball Coach John Calipari will probably piss someone off.

Calipari, as good at his job as he's ever been, will recruit the next wave of college basketball talent. These players will probably not attend class consistently. These players will probably leave the university after a year. These players will probably make millions of dollars in the NBA. These players will probably be black.

This, for some reason, doesn't sit well with sports fans. At all.

Calipari is comfortably operating within the confines established by NBA commissioner David Stern, who created the NBA age limit rule that says players must be 19 and at least 1 year removed from high school to be draft eligible.

Kentucky is too tall. Anthony Davis

is blocking everyone's shots. They're too good. They don't go to class. Whatever happened to 11th seeded VCU going to the final 4? Oh...you mean, um, last year?

College basketball is dead. Woe is me. Woe is the American Sports fan.

This reaction is not only inappropriate, and inaccurate, but it is also completely missing the real issue at hand: White NBA owners, in positions of privilege and power, are treating young, black people from tough socio-economic backgrounds as a business product and are ignoring the fact that they are people.

In response to the conversation and debate surrounding the NBA age limit, Stern offers this:

"This is not a social program. This is a business rule for us."

David Stern is completely right.

He is concerned with his product. His product is the NBA. When potential NBA players take a year to polish their games,

“ This is not a social problem. This is a business rule for us.

DAVID STERN  
NBA COMMISSIONER

the NBA's product is improved. Derrick Rose, who left after a year of college basketball under Calipari at Memphis, won the NBA rookie of the year. Then the MVP. Business booms.

The problem is, Stern's product is not a product at all. It is, more often than not, talented young black men who come from systematically oppressed backgrounds. Stern is doing what he believes is best for his product, but in doing so controls, micromanages and potentially damages the futures of human beings.

College is something that has been systematically withheld from many young people from tough socio-economic backgrounds and affirmative action programs have made positive strides in making education more accessible. To provide this opportunity of higher education is surely a good idea. To half-ass it, and demand a one year minimum that ultimately benefits the wallets of University Presidents, Athletic Directors and Coaches more than the players, however, does more harm than good.

Not only are young men being marginalized in the present scenario, a reality to which Stern is painfully and transparently apathetic. He admits that this policy is strictly business, not social work, implying he doesn't give a shit what's best for the 18 year old kids. He cares about revenue.

He's a businessman. That's his job.

It's a business decision, but failure to acknowledge that this "business decision" has very real social ramifications is naive, insensitive, and imbecilic.

Though this issue is not plainly about race, it is about equality and opportunity and in an allegedly progressive time period of open-mindedness and change, some action needs to be taken.

The NBA age limit needs to be changed,

and the liberty of decision making needs to rest in the hands of the young people and their families, not in Stern's lap.

Really, Stern shouldn't be imposing these classist morals of higher-education, and well rounded youth (whatever the hell that means) on young people who are exceptionally talented. It's not anyone's decision but theirs, but if he's going to impose some sort of "business rule," at least do it right.

Give the players the option of attending school, and if they feel they're NBA ready, let them make that decision.

We talk a lot about equality as a society, and a positive step towards achieving it would be adopting Major League Baseball's policy, where players can either:

One; go straight to the NBA.

Two; go to school for three years minimum, so this whole 'college' thing is used to the benefit of the kids, not the benefit of the university who sells their jerseys at the campus bookstore and makes millions off of their talents.

Not everyone is LeBron James. Not everyone will go to college and use really big words, and own a business one day.

This is okay.

One year of college, no financial incentives, cafeterias and dorm rooms. Or, one year of shoe deals, millions of dollars and NBAPA (NBA players association) mentoring, teaching, and fostering the NBA youth, teaching people how to be professional athletes. Let NBA veterans teach young people how to be professionals, not psychology professors begging star freshman Anthony Davis to take off his national championship hat during class in Spring semester at Kentucky.

College Basketball is not dead. Neither are our aspirations for change and equality.

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John Calipari celebrates winning the 2012 NCAA title, alongside 6 potential first-round NBA draft picks, including Anthony Davis (left).

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## SOFTBALL

## Softball set to contend for NWC title

BRANDON CHINN  
STAFF WRITER

After a year which fell short of expectations in 2011, the 2012 Willamette University softball team is on a roll. Featuring a newly revamped roster, which includes a mix of veteran leadership as well as a strong core of contributing freshman, the Bearcats are out to dominate the Northwest Conference.

Last year, Willamette entered the season ranked 20th in the nation and were projected to finish second in a perennially tough NWC. Much to their disappointment, they finished fourth with a 19-19 record and lost their first two games in the NWC postseason tournament, ending their season much sooner than anticipated.

While the preseason polls had the Bearcats repeating as fourth place finishers, a solid recruiting class brought in by head coach Damien Williams has benefited the team in more ways than one.

Senior shortstop Mica Romero, who smacked three doubles in Saturday's doubleheader, spoke extremely highly of the freshman, saying, "This class is full of very hard-working and incredibly talented young ladies which has also helped to push our returners harder than ever before."

Freshman first baseman Heather Winslow has been on a tear since day one, hitting for both average and power. To this point in the season, Winslow is hitting .339 with a team leading five homeruns and 17 RBIs.

Joining Winslow in the heart of the order is freshman third baseman Theresa Martin.

On the season, Martin has an impressive 25 RBIs while also boasting a remarkable .453 batting average. It isn't easy for a veteran heavy team to depend on youth to contribute to the team, but Winslow believes it is due to the team's strong sense of faith that they are able to succeed.

"The seniors have been helpful in many ways, but the main thing that has impacted me is their confidence. Not only the confidence in their own abilities but in us as teammates. I think that has allowed us to play together instead of as individuals," Winslow said.

The young talent is reflected not only throughout the lineup but in the pitching rotation as well. Freshman pitcher Hayley Glantz has filled in as the number two starter on her way to picking up six wins for the Bearcats in her first collegiate season.

She too believes that the veteran presence has helped to develop her game.

"Alex (Watilo) has been a great person for me to look up to because of her presence on the mound. She's really taught me how to act on the mound and what things I should focus on before and during the game," Glantz said.

With only seven games left in the regular season the Bearcats have found their stride, posting a strong 15-4 conference record. With a 3-2 victory over Whitworth in game one of Saturday's doubleheader, the Bearcats officially clinched their spot in this year's postseason tournament and are relishing the opportunity to prove their worth.

While last year's struggles are in the past, many returning players still sense the bitter-



Alex Watilo takes a swing with the Bearcats looking on in anticipation.

EMILY SCHUEMAN

ness. Romero agrees that last year's elimination remains a burden, but has decided to use it as motivation. "A lot of the returners remember the feelings we had leaving the tournament last year," Romero said. She then added, "It serves as a reminder of how much harder we need to work each and every day."

Senior left fielder Jessica Barry is also op-

timistic about the opportunity to compete for a NWC title. "I think we have a strong team this year and a clear focus of what our goals are. We are ready to go all out in the tournament and show the conference what we're made of," Barry said.

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## Bro-tops are beautiful

JOE DONOVAN  
STAFF WRITER

Coco Chanel, the definitive voice of fashion, once said, "You smell bad." It's true; fashion and sports have many intersections. Coco's words mean that fashion is more than just looking a certain way; fashion is also about smelling a certain way and about sounding a certain way.

Here's my problem: Bro-tank tops, or bro-tops for short, are too attractive. But they also make me want to puke. It took the bro-top for me to realize that attraction and nausea are not unrelated experiences.

I'm not talking about traditional tank tops, i.e. tank tops that are designed to be tank tops. I'm talking about t-shirt converted sleeveless workout uniform. These shirts say, "MY ARMS ARE TOO BIG FOR SLEEVES." Or, "MY CAR DRIVES ME TO WORK."

I'm not saying that bro-tops are "hot" or "sexy," I'm only saying that they're kind of beautiful.

Do you want to be beautiful? Get yourself a bro-top.

According to the wordsmith, "Karl" on Yahoo! Answers, beauty is expressed in "Babies forming in wombs and injuries healing."

Looking at fetuses and wounds make me want to puke. But Karl's right, there's something chunky and nauseous about beauty. Right now, I'm pregnant with the beauty of bro-tops.

Lately, I've spent too much time doing finger and neck exercises while eating "reduced fat" Wheat Thins and watch-

ing "The Godfather" on my couch. It's been a few weeks since I've been to the gym. But the bro-tank top is like a slinky dress. It's designed to be provocative.

I don't have anything against the traditional cotton t-shirt, but the bro-top seems so expressive and liberating. Why would you wear a cotton t-shirt when you can wear the equivalent of a slinky dress to the gym? The bro-top seems to "color outside the lines." It seems to be obtrusive in all the right ways.

This is why the bro-top is beautiful. A few weeks ago I worked out next to a man that smelled like shit. He had sweat stains on his back that looked like spilled mayonnaise. He smelled like potato chips dunked in sock jam. But there was something beautiful about his bro-top. The way it held sweat. The way it stuck to his back. I could see the beads of moisture form little streams down his torso. I could see his coarse armpit hair stick to his upper rib cage. He looked alive. I wondered if he knew that he was releasing his beautiful spores into my nostrils.

It's April and soon there will be sun. Soon bro-tops will spread outside. I encourage you to look at the bro-top like a fetus. Somehow it's a beautiful thing. I see people who look good in the library, in the Bistro, outside SAE but Karl from Yahoo! Answers reminds us that, "true beauty is uncommon." I encourage you to think about the bro-top as reminder of all that's beautiful in this world.

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## OPINION

## Oh no, I know a dirty word: No thanks to sex ed

ANGELA LEONE  
GUEST WRITER

Last Thursday, Dr. Robin Jensen visited campus to speak about her book, "Dirty Words: The Rhetoric of Public Sex Education, 1870-1924." At the event, Dr. Jensen got students talking about something we rarely address point blank: How have we learned the things we know about sex?

Addressing this question explicitly in an educational setting had a rather unexpected effect on me. As each student went around, a Pandora's Box of opinions on sex education slipped open in my mind.

Students reflected that, by and large, their sex education (my own included) had been almost a joke.

Between daunting material, state regulations on what kinds of education could be funded and a general immaturity to deal with complex and sexualized information, the system was terribly dysfunctional and plainly ineffective in informing youth on how to approach sex in a healthy manner.

I was taken aback, and continue to be, in realizing that this is the first conversation I have had with a large group at Willamette on sex education and how it influenced us and failed us as young adults.

As college students at a Liberal Arts university, I daresay that sex finds its way into a disproportionate amount of our colloquial conversations and even an impressive amount of our classroom discussions.

So, why was this the first time that we seemed to get upset and realize that the flaws in the system that we blindly accepted had truly done us a disservice, dare I say, even an injustice?

Visiting home last weekend helped me gain a bit of perspective on why, at least personally, sex education is such an easy issue to overlook. Seeing my hometown after having lived outside of it for three years makes every landmark of my childhood stand out, from where I learned to ride a bike to where I had my first kiss.

I realized that outside of a worn-out "Grey's Anatomy" text and some choice library books on puberty, my sex education had been in living and growing up, hearsay and stories passed down from older siblings.

At a school like Willamette, where many of us take classes for the first time involving texts on gender, sexuality and queerness, it is hard to "look back" on sex education, because that education is not past-tense.

Many of us are still in it, afraid to ask the questions that were laughed at as kids and electing to stay in the dark to keep from losing face among our peers, perpetually assuming that the common knowledge is greater than our own.

Now, the last paragraph of an opinion column is truly not the place for a call to arms on changing this system. I am possibly overly hopeful in thinking that it could maybe be the catalyst for something more than just a conversation starter to fill a lull in a shouting match of catching up with a friend at pint night.

Yet, I think one of the best things we can do with these "dirty words" is to use them, talk about them. Be real; sex is going to come up in a lot of talk either way. Let's engage it, be shameless and try to ask the questions that were out of reach last time around.

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

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters can be sent by postal mail, e-mail ([mpitchfo@willamette.edu](mailto:mpitchfo@willamette.edu)), campus mail or fax. Letters are limited to 150 words, must include your name and phone number and must be submitted by noon Monday on the week of intended publication. The Collegian reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

## EDITORIAL

## Creating a culture of surveillance

It's no secret, more like the longest running joke in WU history, that the Campus Safety Report is the most widely read bit of written word on campus - with the possible exception of the Toilet Paper.

Why is it, really, that students love the Campus Safety Report? Are they laughing at their friends and classmates for their stupidity?

No, we'd hazard a guess that they're laughing at the administration, and secretly - or not so secretly - applauding students caught with their pants down. Quite literally, in some cases.

Who doesn't enjoy reading about students brazen enough to dump suds in the Chicken Fountain?

Who doesn't like to hear about the busted roof-top rager, wishing secretly that they had the guts?

The Campus Safety Report provides hard evidence of students having a bit of deviant fun. We're all five-year-olds at heart, and every five-year-old will tell you that the things your parents tell you not to do are usually the most fun.

The administration is our parents. And the list of rules detailing the things we aren't supposed to do is extensive.

Readers may point to the recent Spring Preview naked run as an example of the administration's flexibility. But, really, the naked run is actually an example of "sanctioned rebellion."

The administration allows the run. And it allows the run because it does good things for the image of the school.

It says that we're spontaneous and fun and free to express ourselves to all those prospective students and their tuition-dropping parents.

Readers may also cite the famed "nudity clause" which allows a student to be full-frontal on campus as long as they give Campus Safety 24 hours notice. However, it is our journalistic duty to inform you that no such clause actually exists.

The rumor has currency on campus because students like to think that school policy supports a certain amount of



The administration sanctions the annual display of student nakedness on Spring Preview Day.

ALLY SZETO

freedom in the face of society's unwritten rule book.

But in both cases, real and imagined, accepted rule breaking is really just a further reinforcement of the authority of the "exception granter."

We shouldn't need the administration to grant us permission to act if we see that a rule is unnecessary, overbearing or overstepping students' rights.

Administrators will say that every rule has a reason for being. Administrators will furthermore say that rules protect the school and students from accidents and lawsuits - a sad function of America's penchant for suing everything and anything that looks at it wrong.

It's true. Rules are necessary. But our response to the rules should neither

be one of complete subservience or complete contrariness.

They should be fitted to the situation and applied with an eye to nuance, both by the administration and by the students who question them.

### COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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## OPINION

## Student government goes alternative

ELISABETH SAUL  
GUEST WRITER

The recent election drama made me realize something: Not many students know what's going on in our student government, and not many care to find out. Those who are not completely apathetic are confused about where to find reliable information.

For the past couple of weeks, I've been attending the weekly Senate meetings as a student-at-large. When the issues surrounding the election were brought to the student body's attention, I ended up explaining what happened in the meetings to students from all classes.

I was ecstatic that people were actually interested in ASWU affairs, but I was concerned that they felt so disconnected from the Senate.

Another problem was brought to my attention at last week's Senate meeting. Many students attended, and I was finally no longer the only student-at-large in the room.

However, some students had trouble participating, as they were unfamiliar with the history of the issues at hand, the Constitution and the bylaws (or lack thereof, in this case).

To be frank, it was frustrating to see the ASWU senators and officers fielding questions that only hindered the progress of the meeting. I realized that this alternative to apathy was not making me as happy as I expected.

At the end of the meeting, I encouraged everyone to involve him/herself in student government in some way. This may seem like a hackneyed call to action, but I encourage people to look for alternative ways to participate outside of running for office.

Simply attending Senate meetings is a great start for anyone who is interested in how ASWU affects the student population.

Communication with one's class representatives is an avenue for those who want to know what decisions are affecting their specific year. A list of each class's senators can be found on the ASWU webpage.

The Senate Watchdog Committee offers a more radical option. Next year, students on the committee will work to hold the senators and executive officers accountable for their actions. They will be separate from ASWU in order to maintain their focus - working for student interests in a new way.

I see apathy and a lack of communication as two of the biggest problems facing ASWU today. While it's not easy to make a bunch of overworked students understand why a meeting of 25 of their peers should matter, I believe some of this student body apathy stems from a lack of communication.

Most people don't have the time to go look up the minutes from each Senate meeting and then e-mail their representatives with questions. Hopefully, the Senate Watchdog Committee will be able to alert students when an issue is going to have a major impact on them.

For example, I was shocked to find that decisions about huge amounts of money were being made without most of the student population's knowledge, and I hope that won't be the case next year.

I think if awareness is increased, then actually caring about student government will naturally follow.

While running for office may not be for everyone, there are alternative ways to get involved and help shape the future of ASWU.

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COLUMN

# POLITICAL PARTY ANIMALS

## Brother, can you spare \$160,000?

### Liberal Voice



**ANDRES OSWILL**  
STAFF WRITER

Student loans are necessary. While this might come across as an obvious statement, it is a contested claim.

Student loans have become an integral part of American society and an accepted part of our system of higher education. While I will not claim it is flawless, it is the best of the currently proposed alternatives. Between maintaining the number of student loans offered and reducing them, it is clear that maintaining the current level is preferable.

Student loans allow those from lower socio-economic classes to access higher education. They enable students to access opportunities otherwise barred to them by their financial situations.

Yes, student loans place a burden on the economy. They are the loans least likely to be paid back by the students who take them out, and often result in default and others taking on that financial burden.

But substantially reducing the number of student loans given out is not the answer. Reducing student loans grants a monopoly on education to those born into entitlement as there are few students who can rise through their difficulties and perform highly enough to obtain a substantial amount of merit based financial aid.

To anyone not falling into these two groups, high quality higher education is simply not an option without student loans.

There are clear economic reasons why student loans result in economic stagnation, but I would like to examine the economic reasons that student loans are so rarely paid back in the first place.

Students work to obtain and pay for a bachelor's degree. This degree will supposedly grant them access to the world of professionals. There, they expect to find a job where their hard work and dedication is rewarded with financial security, greater opportunities and greater quality of life. This is not the case.

Even within the professional world, there is a complete lack of equity. A select few, the one percent, have access to ludicrous salaries, lavish quality of life and more opportunities than their friends, family and personal chef know what to do with.

For the rest of us who are not members of this one percent, repaying college loans is a challenge. Finding a job that pays proportionally to the financial investment required to earn the degrees necessary for employment is difficult.

Our society faces incredible wealth disparities. While a select few are paid more than any one person could ever deserve, the rest struggle. No, I am not a part of the Occupy Movement, but nonetheless, the concept of the one percent is real.

Student loans are a problem, because the largest companies that come to employ us choose to pay the highest executives more than dozens of their entry-level college graduates combined.

We can talk about the economic stagnation caused by student loans, but until we raise taxes on companies who perpetuate the one percent, we will not solve the root of the problem.

Sure, we can tax the one percent themselves – but they are the symptom, not the disease. The only cure is to impose financial repercussions upon companies who squander their financial resources by paying some excessively and the grand majority insufficiently.

Student loans are not the problem but the result of a larger problem.

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### Conservative Voice



**ALEX FEATHERSTONE**  
STAFF WRITER

This article will not be well received by Willamette students, most of whom are able to attend Willamette because of student loans made available to them by the federal government. This, however, should not sway the validity of the following argument.

Student loans are crippling the country. In the United States there is more student loan debt than there is debt from credit cards or auto loans. The amount of student loan debt is past the \$1 trillion mark and climbing exponentially higher.

Under different circumstances, were the job market not already saturated with non-specialized degrees, were jobs readily available for generally educated people and if the entire economy system weren't on the verge of collapse, the problem of student loan debt might be much less extreme.

But the truth is that this utopia is not our current economic state. The white-collar job markets are overflowing with eager, well-educated applicants. But the only jobs that are readily available are either trade (masonry, welding, electrician, etc.), or manufacturing and agriculture based jobs, otherwise known as "blue collar."

While I would like to argue that people who graduate with bachelor's degrees are just too snobby to take these jobs that they believe themselves to be "above" them, there is some truth to there being no benefit in doing so.

Most of these blue-collar jobs can't pay their labor force enough money so that the employee can both live off of the salary and pay back their student loans.

For every five student loans that a person cannot pay back, either because they are unemployed or are not making enough money, the government has to pay back four of those loans in their entirety.

Statistics show that the US government guarantees eight out of every ten student loans awarded in the United States. This is startling information when coupled with the fact that Americans 60 years or older still hold over \$36 billion in student loan debt and nearly three of ten student loans have past-due balances.

This equates to the government having to spend \$267 billion to cover non-repaid student loans. When the federal budget is \$760 billion, this is a lot of the budget for the government to use in paying back unpaid student loans.

When I say that the "government" has to pay them back, I really mean that taxpayers pay them. When the government allocates a portion of its income to covering unfulfilled loans, it takes that money away from funding other necessary government programs and services.

This creates a monetary deficit. Deficits are only fixed in two ways: More taxes or cuts in government spending. We all know government isn't going to shrink, so the taxpayer's wallet must.

More taxes equate to a higher costs of living and doing business. When these costs go up, businesses are less inclined to assume other costs, such as hiring more employees. In fact, it encourages them to cut costs by cutting employees. The fewer positions available, the harder it is to find a job. The harder it is to find a job, the more educated people have to become to be competitive and the more indebted people become.

The cycle begins anew.

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COLUMN

# Bearcat Bullet

## I can't (force) quit you, baby



**KEVIN BELL**  
COLUMNIST

Now, as you sit reading this periodical on all pertinent goings-on in the world between State and Highway 22, a number of things are assuredly flying through your mind.

Not likely included is whatever PowerPoint-based, liberal intelligentsia drivel your totally un-bro-fessor is mistakenly attempting to impose upon your undeniably superior 18-22-year-old worldview while you blatantly peruse the Bullet in the back.

But many other things take its place.

Whole WAVES of things, EXCITING things, POWERFUL things even! By "powerful" and "waves" I, of course, refer to AM, FM, TV, UHF, VHF, satellite, GPS, cell phone, microwave, air traffic control, SETI, 802.11 wi-fi, CIA mind control, Doppler radar, NORAD missile defense, active sonar, police-band radio and everyone's favorite: leaking gamma-rays from poorly cleaned up Cold War experiments.

Some have rightly pointed out that none of these things are natural; humans have never had to endure such a bombardment of electromagnetism; as little as a century ago, we had none of that! Nothing. Silence.

Well, except for cosmic background radiation; and I guess dolphins and bats, who think they're such hot shit with their echolocation and their lack of intelligence or opposable thumbs.

I have two partially censored words to say about that change ... F-KING SWEET. You can't deny that the noise is awesome. I mean, really, four in every five parties you likely attend are playing dubstep or some other EDM, which is really just a collection of barely controlled microphone feedback loops.

Anyway, it's played so god-awful loud in decidedly un-acoustically sound basements that you probably couldn't make out the lyrics if there were any to be had in the first place, and that's EXACTLY WHAT PEOPLE WANT!

Also, when listing things I cannot live without, I eschew Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs (food, water, shelter) in favor of Facebook, WoFros, my endless gigabytes of TOTALLY LEGALLY downloaded music and software, oh, and let's not forget the sum of all human knowledge, wisdom, literature, joys, pains, epic fails, cats and accumulated experience on the Internet.

Which is everywhere, for free. Whether you can appreciate it or not, it's all flying through you at unbelievable speed all the time, everywhere you go, which is just so stupefyingly DOPE.

Now, some of you may have confused me with someone who tolerates luddite factions of hippies and their objections to such, but all hippies had was a "wave of love" and a correspondingly titled summer, and we have way cooler waves now.

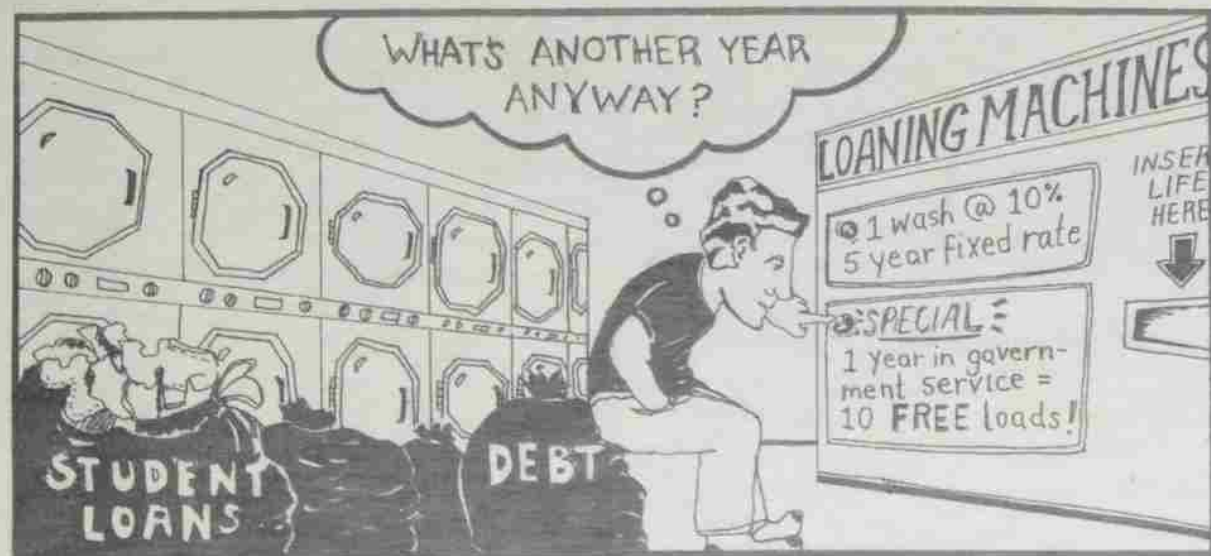
Anyway, a wave of love only gets you roaming IG reception at best, and not even that if you're trying to get a signal in Ford or Kaneko.

Also, it ultimately only existed because the CIA had Bay Area prostitutes dose their Johns with LSD that spring, who passed it on to people who didn't realize that Kerouac's "On the Road" was satirical and suddenly, drugs=love.

Not to disparage all hippies, mind you – some of my best friends wear tie-dye – just people who complain about my toys.

thdr: SCIENCE.

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CARA THOMPSON • cthomp@willamette.edu



## CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

March 27 - April 9, 2012  
Information provided by Campus Safety

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▶ April 1, 3:00 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): A student who had eaten off campus called to report that she believes she had food poisoning and requested to be transported to the hospital.

▶ April 1, 10:41 p.m. (York House): A student reported being ill for a few days called Campus Safety to be transported to the hospital.

▶ April 3, 8:20 a.m. (Lausanne Hall): Campus safety received a call about a student who fell down the stairs and may have broken her ankle. The officer arrived on the scene to evaluate the student. She was transported to the Salem Hospital.

### POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▶ March 29, 11:00 a.m. (Lausanne Hall): During a fire inspection drug paraphernalia was found. Two pipes were confiscated and the occupants were contacted.

▶ March 29, 2:24 p.m. (Doney Hall): During a routine fire inspection marijuana was found and confiscated. A report was filed.

▶ March 29, 3:50 p.m. (York House): During a fire inspection drug paraphernalia was found and confiscated. Some of the confiscated items were: glass pipe and cleaning supplies for the pipe. The occupants were contacted and a report was filed.

▶ April 7, 11:00 a.m. (Belknap Hall): Campus Safety was contacted about the smell of marijuana coming from a room. When the officer arrived the

occupants were gone, but the officer searched the room and confiscated multiple items.

### THEFT

▶ April 4, 7:43 p.m. (Goudy Commons): A student was caught stealing food at dinner time. Campus safety was called, but the student was gone by the time the officer arrived on the scene. A report was documented.

▶ April 5, 4:00 p.m. (Law School): A laptop computer was found to be missing from the student services staff room. The Salem Police were called and a report was filed and documented.

▶ April 6, 8:44 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): A student left his car unlocked at Sparks while playing soccer and when he returned he found that his cell phone was gone. The student said that nothing else seems to be missing.

### DISORDERLY CONDUCT

▶ March 31, 6:56 p.m. (Ford Hall): A male subject, who was a not affiliate of Willamette, was intoxicated and would not leave the Ford Hall. Campus Safety responded and contacted Salem Police. The subject was detained and taken off campus by Salem Police.

▶ April 7, 1:32 a.m. (Montag Center Store): Campus Safety was called because a student was harassing the Montag store employee. The offender was gone by the time the Campus Safety officer arrived on the scene. A report was filed.

### CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

▶ March 28, 11:00 a.m. (Eaton Hall): The south side of Eaton was spray painted with symbols. A report was documented and filed.

Please contact Campus Safety if you have any information regarding these incidents:  
[safety@willamette.edu](mailto:safety@willamette.edu)

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