

COLLEGIAN

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"The trouble with poetry is/that it encourages the writing of more poetry."

The words and wisdom of Billy Collins
Arts, 5



Legend watches over Bearcat Hoop Sports, 9



Holy hand turkeys!
An international Thanksgiving
Feature, 6-7



Brian Johnson challenges hetero-normative ideals in lecture

EMILIE JENSEN
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, Nov. 16, Brian C. Johnson visited campus to present his "Reel Diversity" program, which explores perceptions of diversity with an emphasis on hetero-sexism in popular film. Johnson is a popular diversity speaker from CAMPUSSPEAK Inc. and is also a minister, an educator and the author of "We've Seen it all Before: Using Film Clips in Diversity Awareness Training" (2009).

The purpose of this event was to expose the ways a society enforces hetero-normative values, specifically through film. WEB Chair of Awareness, Discussion and Dialogue Jillian Toda, whose duty is to organize campus events and programs that will engage students in discussion, explained that Johnson's program was ideal for the event schedule this year.

"I want to bring speakers, lectures and programs that deal with issues not highly visible on our campus, as well as those that are relevant to, but perhaps controversial at, Willamette," Toda said. "Reel Diversity" fits my mission perfectly because it causes us to question why we accept norms in society, even in movies, in an effective way that gets our discussion flowing."

Understanding diversity, multiculturalism and social justice is a central focus in many higher educational experiences, especially those facilitated by liberal arts colleges. Students are encouraged to understand diversities as a moral concept in order to better prepare them to become global citizens in a diverse, interconnected world.

However, because so many perspectives and opinions exist when exploring differences, diversity can be a challenging subject to grasp, therefore making it a touchy issue to present or discuss.

Johnson's presentation, "Reel Diversity," framed diversity through the medium of modern film, addressing issues regarding race, sexual orientation, socio-economics, religion and disability. By sharing clips of popular films and drawing attention to the conscious and subconscious messages given, students were able to look at diversity from a different perspective. "Movies teach us about who we are and how we think of other people," Johnson said. "They actually have more cultural legitimacy and dictation than most of our parents and teachers."

With Johnson as a guide, students were able to learn about not only the concept of diversity, but also its associated values and expressions of identity. "When we notice difference, we define it as bad and then make a prejudgment," Johnson said. "There are two fundamental principles in film. The first is that the medium of entertainment is used to send a political message. The second is that there are no mistakes in what is included or dismissed in the presentation of a film; hundreds of eyes view the footage before a production is released."

Johnson's talk was effective in engaging individuals in discussion about diversity, while presenting them with alternative and more positive ways of perceiving it. According to Johnson, at present, "It is clear that the assumed norm gets the voice." Quoting Oscar Wilde, Johnson further said "Life imitates art far more than art imitates life." He strongly advocated for his audience to pay close attention to this idea when finding themselves in situations that cause them to form opinions on issues involving diversity.

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JORDAN WILDISH

Speaker Brian Johnson describes the problems of hetero-normative values being enforced in film culture.

Teach for America allows students to educate less fortunate

KATE BARKER
GUEST WRITER

On Wednesday, Nov. 18, Gary Gregoricka hosted an information session in the Autzen Conference room regarding the Teach for America program. "Programs like Teach for America and Peace Corps are really popular with students here, so we try to make them more visible to students," Director of Career Services Jerry Houser said.

Additionally, he said that those organizations are easy to work with because they are very organized and professional. A total of seven students from the 2010 graduating class are now a part of Teach for America, and 76 former students have gone into the program in the past seven years.

Gregoricka, a recruiter for the Teach for America program in the Pacific Northwest region, gave some basic information about the program and also shared his personal experiences of having taught a class of fifth and sixth graders for three years. Gregoricka said that people of "all majors and academic backgrounds" can apply to the program and that "75 percent of the people involved come in with no educational background [whatsoever]."

Gregoricka also explained that education is really important for society. Education is not equal in America, he said, and in schools in poor and underfunded districts, children fall behind starting in elementary school. Statistics show that 16 million kids today are growing up in poverty and that even as early as fourth grade, kids in lower socio-economic brackets fall two years behind those in higher socio-economic brackets on average.

By the eighth grade, Gregoricka said, the average gap between higher and lower socio-economic levels grows to three years and 50 percent of these students will not graduate from high school. The remaining 50 percent who do graduate on average have an eighth grade reading level. In addition, a student who makes it all the way to college graduation will earn more than a million

dollars more in his or her lifetime than a student who drops out of high school. "[Teach for America] exists to end inequality," Gregoricka said.

When Gregoricka first started teaching, he gave his kids a diagnostic test to see what they knew. Even though they were entering fifth grade, they had the reading abilities of second graders. While Gregoricka admitted that his years of teaching were not all "unicorns and magic," he helped his students reach the reading level they were supposed to be at and he learned that one is capable of having a real "impact on students."

Gregoricka also noted that teaching is a difficult job, since the children have come from broken families and are not getting all the attention and care that they need. He "could help them improve their spelling, but was unable to help them get properly fed outside of class," Gregoricka said.

Houser recommended going into the program "if you have any interest in going into education" and said that it will be a "much richer [experience] than going straight into grad school."

According to Gregoricka, Teach for America is a rewarding experience that gives its participants the opportunity to truly change lives. He said that while "everyone gets hung up on logistics, at the end of the day, it's about kids and their equal access to opportunities. I can't think of a way to make a more positive impact."

The session made an impression on students who attended and aimed to raise interest among future teachers. Senior Abe Moland said, "The session enlightened me to an opportunity to give back."

The next deadline for Teach for America applications is Friday, Dec. 17 and applications can be submitted at teachforamerica.org. The final deadline is Feb. 4, 2011, but those interested are encouraged to apply as early as possible. For more information, contact Gregoricka at teachforamerica.org.

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The culture of bath time: A TIUA perspective

MIKA HASEGAWA
GUEST WRITER

On campus, people take showers to refresh themselves and keep their bodies clean. Showers are easy to use and take a very short amount of time, but sometimes I miss Japanese baths. Baths are a huge part of Japanese culture.

I interviewed some friends about taking a bath. When we take a bath in Japan, most of my Japanese friends and I soak in a hot bath. By doing so, we release our stress and tiredness. One of my friends, who is also a Japanese student, said that since she has been in the U.S., she has gotten used to taking a shower and she no longer feels the need to take a bath. If there is a bath tub, she will use it but it is not really necessary to her anymore.

On the other hand, another one of my friends, who is also a Japanese student, really misses her hot bath ritual. She said taking a hot bath is good way to release stress. I agree with her. I also feel more comfortable when I take a bath in Japan. When I first came to Willamette, I wondered why every shower head was fastened to the shower's neck. I thought it was not as useful to take a shower like this because in Japan, I can grab the shower hose and I can control it. In the U.S., I have to turn my body when I take a shower. When I asked my American friend about it, she said that it is better that shower heads are fastened because one's hands are free.

In the history of Japan, taking a bath was one form of communication. In the old days, people used a public bath. Such a bath house was called a "sentou." There is a big bath there that at least ten people can soak in at a time. People enjoyed talking with their friends and family at the bath houses. Currently, almost all people have a bath in their own home and sentous are few in the city and taking a bath in one is more expensive than taking a bath at home.

Usually people take baths in their home, but sometimes Japanese people like to go to the spa. There are a lot of good spas all over Japan. Some Japanese spas have a good effect on the body, like healing muscular pain or light injuries, making skin softer and so on.

The bath at home is still a communication space for the parents and children.

If you are interested in releasing stress, I recommend taking a hot bath. I think it is a good way to refresh yourself and helps you sleep better at night.

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Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund holds market for public

THEO KATARAS
GUEST WRITER

On Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, Pi Beta Phi and the Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund (EBZEF) will host a Zambian Market in the UC from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. featuring hand-crafted jewelry and garments inspired by African designs. The proceeds will benefit EBZEF, which supports scholarships for young women in the village of Lumwana West in remote north-west Zambia.

Elizabeth Rachel Bowers (1979-2002), the daughter of recently retired Professors of English Linda and Gerry Bowers, was a dedicated member of the Peace Corps with a B.A. in Japanese studies from Earlham College in Indiana. She wanted to give the gift of education and support that she had received back to those who needed it most, specifically to the girls of the impoverished village of Lumwana West.

In Zambia, education through grade seven is funded by the government. For the village of Lumwana West, however, families must pay for grades eight to nine, and the only option for grades ten through 12 is a costly boarding school 90 kilometers away that the villagers can seldom afford. If families can find the funds, they will most often choose to educate the boys rather than the girls.

"They are subsistence farmers so they live well below the poverty level. If the crops are good, they eat, if the

crops are not, they don't. Traditionally, girls would be married at age 12 and have eight to ten children," Executive Director of EBZEF Linda Bowers said. "But since we started the scholarship fund in honor of our daughter, however, that has changed, and now Beth's Girls, as the girls receiving aid from EBZEF are called, are going to secondary school and beyond. Before our scholarship fund, there were four girls in school after grade eight. This year, we had 93 Beth's Girls."

Thanks to the EBZEF program, Beth's Girls are able to come back to support the village with the new tools they've been given. "Our first Beth's Girl, Prudence Masanyinga, went to college for two and a half years in a community development program and has been hired by World Vision Zambia (WVZ) as the liaison between WVZ and Beth's Girls," Linda Bowers said. "She is now living in the village as a premier role model for other young women."

According to Linda Bowers, such success stories abound for Beth's Girls. "One of the girls will graduate next month as a teacher from a two-year training program and will return to the village to teach. Another Beth's Girl went to a six-month library science program and is now the librarian of the beautiful Memorial Library."

Working in conjunction with the Peace Corps and World Vision Zambia to sponsor scholarships for Beth's Girls in Lumwana West and, with the full support of the village, EBZEF has built a Memorial Library as part of

Beth's legacy. The library contains 18,000-20,000 volumes and is the largest in the province and beyond. The purpose of this summer's trip was to install solar panels to bring the first electricity to the village to provide light as well as power the first laptop computers in the library.

The library represents a huge step forward for the village thanks to contributions through EBZEF. "The village actually got their first lights and first computers on the same day," EBZEF Marketing Manager Liesa Kister said.

The event is sponsored by Pi Beta Phi under the direction of sophomore Rachel Woods. "Working with EBZEF and Pi Phi together has been a great experience because our views on the importance of literacy and the strength and equality of women align very well," Woods said. "It's good to know that we're helping to make a difference in girls' lives."

According to Linda Bowers, "What's exciting about the Zambia Market is that it is a student effort. It's a good model of Willamette students committed to service."

The Market will include hand-crafted items by EBZEF supporters, or "Carefully picked items made by the village which the Bowers brought back from their visit just last summer," Kister said. "It's a great way to get in some Christmas shopping before everyone is neck-deep in finals."

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Professor of Russian Sara Bishop shares her passion

ANNA MENCARELLI
STAFF WRITER

Professor of Russian Sarah Bishop discovered a passion for Russian on a study abroad trip during the spring break of her junior year in high school. Afterwards, Bishop traveled to many different cities, studying the language and literature, and lived in Russia for three years. Growing up in Ohio, Bishop was fond of the idea of becoming a teacher, and after her many experiences abroad would love to add 'perpetual study abroad student' to her list of careers. Here, Bishop shares her experiences and passion for the language.

C: What classes do you teach?

SB: I teach Russian language and Russian literature, including the translated works as well as the originals, and Russian film.

C: How long have you been teaching here?

SB: This is my second year at Willamette - I came in the fall of 2009.

C: Have you taught Russian before?

SB: Yes, I taught Russian for eight years at Wellesley College in Massachusetts before I came here.

C: Where did you go to graduate school?

SB: I went to Princeton for my graduate work.

C: What was your undergraduate major?

I was a Russian language and literature major. I didn't go into grad school directly, because I wasn't sure of whether or not I wanted to go that path. So, I worked for four years in Russian-related areas before I continued on to graduate school.

C: Why did you choose to study Russian?

SB: I thought Russian was fun and [interesting], but . . . I had never met a live Russian until my junior year of high school in 1989. My Russian teacher took a group of us on our spring break to Russia. So, we got to visit Moscow and St. Petersburg, but also we got to go to Krasnodar, a Southern Russia city, where he had been teaching English the semester before.

He had close personal relationships with the kids there that had never met Americans before, just as we had never met Russians before. It was like a classic 1980s moment where suddenly the enemy is no longer the enemy. It was wonderful to know that Russian was not a dead language, but that it was a language that was being spoken. It really came alive for me.

C: What were your most memorable experiences in Russia?

SB: When I first arrived in Moscow, it was night and we were driving from the airport to this old Soviet Union hotel right off the Red Square. Driving to the hotel, looking out the windows and seeing the signs in the stores, I was seeing Russia in action. The Soviet Union signs . . . were basic signs that I could read. I had pretty basic Russian [skills], but I could read the sign for bread shop because it was just the word bread.

All of a sudden, I realized the language was real. Even before we checked into the hotel, we got to walk across the Red Square under the lights and it was gorgeous. I also think that meeting the students and their families in Krasnodar was also very significant. It was a wonderful experience.

One other thing that got me into Russian literature was that, during that same year, I read "Crime and Punishment" in my English class in high school. The language of that book really drew me in.

CG: What is your favorite Russian food?

SB: I would say the pickled mushrooms. I like pickled foods in general and obviously Russians eat a lot of pickled foods because of their climate. They collect and preserve the mushrooms themselves. There are a lot of fresh and pickled foods. I generally like Russian food.

CG: What is your favorite Russian book?

SB: I have an interest in virtually all Russian literature. Here I teach short stories, novels, a little bit of poetry and films. I don't necessarily have a favorite. A recommendation though for a good taste of the 20th-21st century literature, [the area] I generally work in, is "Master Margarita."

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MOVIE REVIEW: 'Megamind 3D'

Re-remaking the superhero movie

TOM EHREMAN
REVIEWS EDITOR

I know what you're thinking: "Megamind?" Oh please, I don't watch kids' movies anymore." And to that, I contend that "Megamind" is a film with writing, acting and humor as skillful and elegant as a "grown-up" film and, in many cases, these aspects are superior (remember "Jackass?").

"Megamind" is a little bandwagonish in that it's another superhero picture in a line of countless others spanning the last several years, but it puts a new twist on the age-old story. "Megamind" explores the dark and twisted mind of the villain character and dares to ask the question, "What if the bad guy won?"

This, of course, sets up a delightfully twisty plot and lends exciting amounts of character development to all of the classic roles in the superhero myths: the knight in shining armor superhero, the twisted and lost villain with an unfortunate past and even the perky romantically besouged female reporter get a character overhaul.

And who better to fill these next-generation roles than a star-studded list of actors including Tina Fey (Roxanne Ritchi - the perky reporter), Jonah Hill (Hal Stewart - Roxanne's dorky cameraman), David Cross (Minion - the, uh, minion), Brad Pitt (Metroman - the hero) and Will Ferrell (Megamind - the villain)? They all give a great performance. All things considered, this movie is wonderfully refreshing compared to the superhero movie remakes of late. And it is worth your \$11 at Cinnebarre this weekend.



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What's Hot @ Willamette?
Marla Williams
Class of 2013



TOM EHREMAN

What do you read?

"My favorite book series is 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo,' which I might have stolen from my brother and then bought the next two books. Usually, though, I read mysteries and sci-fi."

What do you watch?

"I kind of but don't really watch 'Glee,' and I like 'How I Met Your Mother.' I don't have a favorite movie in particular, but I really liked 'Toy Story 3.'"

What do you play?

"Scrabble. I also play Extreme Sorry - my brother-in-law and I invented it."

What do you listen to?

"My favorite band is Skiller, but usually I just listen to whatever my roommate puts on."

What do you eat?

"My favorite foods are pasta and good sushi - it has to be the good stuff, gross sushi is gross sushi. The Spaghetti Factory and the Sassy Onion are tied for my favorite restaurant."

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MOVIE REVIEW: 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1'

'Deathly Hallows' surpasses standards

JENNA SHELLAN
DESIGNER

I am going to write this review as both a true "Harry Potter" fan and cynical moviegoer. I went into the film with very low expectations; most of the "Potter" movies were unmemorable and generally lacking. They drifted far from the books, the acting was sub-par and the cinematography was over-dramatized.

However, I proceeded to see every film out of loyalty and the slight hope of satisfaction at the finish. David Yates has not been my favorite director in the series and the only alluring factor of this movie was its division into two parts in the hope of giving better accuracy (and justice) to the story.

While the six previous movies were underwhelming, "Deathly Hallows Part 1" was quite glorious in comparison. On a regular film-rating spectrum, this movie was actually very decent, and it stands out clearly as the best "Harry Potter" film yet. The acting has definitely improved, and thank goodness the three main actors finally figured out how to not make every single scene awkward. However, there were some uncomfortable scenes, mainly dealing with their newfound sexuality.

Most mainstream reviews were surprisingly negative and went so far as to call the film boring and disappointing: I thought the entire film to be ominous, moving and spellbinding (no pun intended). I was most certainly never bored and found the film to be significantly better than every other in the series.

Of course it had its problems as a movie alone, but as a "Harry Potter" fan I tried to ignore the drifts away from the book, and as a film major I knew not to compare it to classics. The film isn't trying to be a classic, it is trying to enthrall and



"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" opened in theaters last Friday.

entertain all audiences while not hopelessly failing the true "Potter" fans. With that in mind, I daresay the film succeeded.

The films seemed to be getting darker as they continued, just like the books, but without Hogwarts and with Dumbledore dead, this film surpasses the expected gloom. With Voldemort in power, characters are dying left and right and the rest are struggling to survive. True fans can't help but feel an emotional tug or even resist the urge to straight-out sob, like me.

I am not one to cry in movies, and I did not expect that my emotional responses to scenes in the book would carry over to the film. This movie also dealt with a lot of heavy issues, such as genocide, slavery and torture, which were nothing short of horrifying at times.

I found the lack of Hogwarts in this film to be refreshing, where the scenery could really be played with

and was, for the most part, just stunning. The large, desolate landscape reflected the true solitude of Harry, Ron and Hermione. As a result, the three monopolized the screen and I thought they held up to the challenge well. They brought just the right amount of quirkiness and charm to the film. When Hermione tells the story of the Deathly Hallows, it's reenacted by vibrant animations that at first worried me, but soon became mesmerizing and just plain cool.

I loved this movie and actually walked out satisfied - nay, I walked out enthusiastic. It was the drastic improvement I had been waiting for. I am absolutely thrilled for July when the second part is released.



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BOOK REVIEW: 'Mockingjay' by Suzanne Collins

'Mockingjay' a very frustrating book

BRENNA STANTON
CONTRIBUTOR

If I wanted to gouge my eyes out with a rusted spoon, I would read this book. If I wanted to gnaw my leg off and whack myself over the head with said appendage, I'd read this book. If I ever felt the compulsive need to practice interrogation techniques on unsuspecting bystanders, I would read them this book. I am, of course, referring to "Mockingjay," the third in Suzanne Collins' "The Hunger Games" trilogy.

I admit that all of this violence is somewhat misleading because the majority of "Mockingjay" is not that bad of a read. In fact, for 390 pages of young-adult fiction, it is spectacular. Gripping. The basic plot of the series consists of a country divided into 12 impoverished labor districts where the people live in fear of the Hunger Games - a series of dramatized, televised matches in which children ages 11 to 17 are chosen from each district to fight to the death.

Although the winner receives glory and all the worldly possessions they might desire, the prize does not diminish from the true purpose of the games: to remind the citizens that they are powerless in all things, even with the lives of their children. This "individual versus corrupt govern-

ment" theme continues in all three of the books, and finally comes to a climax in "Mockingjay" with the appearance of the elusive 13th district, representative of the long-awaited rebel faction. Then there is more epic-ness, and unsurprising angst in the love-triangle life of Katniss, our heroine, and much self-discovery, self-doubt, emotion and conflict - conflict that saturates the novel to the extent that if one were to remove that conflict, there would be nothing left to read.

If you read the first of "The Hunger Games" books, then, invariably, you have read the second, "Catching Fire." And if you are like me, you greatly anticipated the third book, and the wait had practically become a religious experience. You read through it with as much zeal and fervor as a college student could possibly whip up (after glancing guiltily at that pile of homework you had forgone in the name of teen drama), you sighed and moaned and attempted to not bawl your eyes out (would your roommate(s) ever let you live it down?) as you got progressively further into the book ... until, finally, you hit that accursed final chapter followed by the pitiful little epilogue.

Now you just wanted to hurl yourself - or the book (or the author) - off the edge of a very large cliff. There is nothing quite like reading something epic (like Chuck Norris!) and then having that intensity guillotined by a thoroughly dissatisfying, crap ending that does no justice to the greatness of the rest of the series.

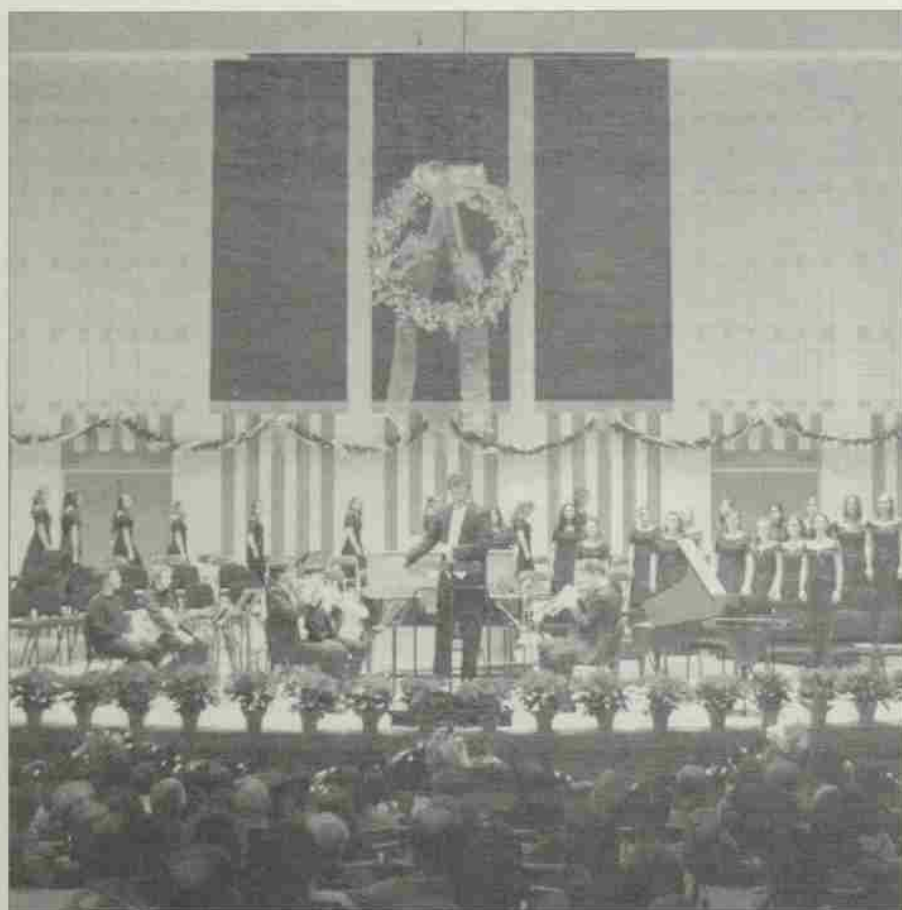
I found most of the novel to be thoroughly enjoyable - not in a "well, that was cute" way, but more of a hair-pulling, face-palming, "Oh my god, this is too much, I want to put it down but I can't because the story is so good" scenario.

It's a fairly quick read, but not one I would recommend for a reader who simply prefers to relax after a stressful class, as the ending alone practically guarantees heartburn. I can still taste the dissatisfying epilogue (which is oddly reminiscent of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows"), and am still peeved with the author. To her, I say only, "Seriously?"



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Mt. St. Helens Vietnam Band to play The Ike Box



COURTESY OF CHINA KASINGER

Mt. St. Helens Vietnam Band's newest album is entitled "Where the messengers meet." The group will perform at The Ike Box on Dec. 4.

HANNAH SCHIFF
ARTS EDITOR

On Saturday, Dec. 4, Seattle-based Mt. St. Helens Vietnam Band will be performing at The Ike Box. I was fortunate enough to interview vocalist and guitarist Benjamin Verdoes.

Unlike many groups, Mt. St. Helens Vietnam Band got started by releasing a series of PSA's and infomercial parodies on YouTube. "I think our early approach to promotion was a relief for a lot of people; they were excited to see a band take an unexpected and curious route," Verdoes said.

Verdoes finds inspiration in all sorts of unlikely places. "I go on binges. One year it will be Steinbeck, Faulkner, classical music and wearing suits. The next it might be hip-hop, Herman Hesse and assorted sweaters. Touring and playing with different bands always inspires and challenges me," Verdoes said.

Mt. St. Helens Vietnam Band has been rapidly releasing albums since its EP debut, "Weepy" in 2008. The band's self-titled album was released the following year, and their sophomore album "Where the Messengers Meet" hit shelves early August 2010.

"I work on music obsessively. 'Where the Messengers Meet' was a result of that compulsiveness. Releasing music often is fantastic if the music is quality. I respect people like Jack White who are continually challenging themselves to write and

release," Verdoes said.

The band has received mixed reviews from major music publications. "I love to be loved. I hate to be hated," Verdoes said. "Reviews are part of the game. You have to be willing to subject yourself to criticism and praise alike. That being said, the problem that I have with a lot of music journalism is that its aim is most often centered on what a particular writer feels or doesn't feel at that particular moment, and it fails to understand the context of a record and/or the people who wrote it."

Verdoes is particularly looking forward to touring and passing through Salem. "We've had the good fortune of playing in Salem several times, and gotten to know some amazing people. I am very excited for this tour and for this show in particular," Verdoes said.

When asked about what the future might hold for Mt. St. Helens Vietnam Band, Verdoes said, "We are in the process of finishing and writing songs that further the narrative of 'Where the Messengers Meet.' Hopefully in the next year I will finish the book on which the record is based. Beyond that: tear everything apart and reconstruct, again."

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► Learn more

If you are interested in seeing the rock quartet, they will be playing at The Ike Box on Dec. 4 at 8:00 p.m.

The Billy Collins reading in retrospective

ISABELLA GUIDA
STAFF WRITER

On Nov. 17 Poet Laureate and popular literary icon Billy Collins came to Salem to give a very well attended poetry reading in Hudson Hall. The poems Collins selected to read were varied in both form and subject matter; he read haikus, longer poems, an elegy and poems about dogs, divorce and being a poet. Regarding the breadth of his poetic topics, Collins said, "Why don't you have a dog come into your poem occasionally? It would be a relief from your self-absorption."

Collins led the reading in his characteristically dead-

pan tone and realistic humor, which are often cited as responsible for his poetry's widespread appeal. He jokingly said of Renaissance romantic poets (Collins is also an English professor at Lehman College) that, "what women want... is similes." In the question and answer section of the evening, he also discussed his perhaps slightly controversial poem, "Undressing Emily Dickenson."

During Collins' stay, he had dinner with a group of 13 students who expressed admiration for his poetry or interest in having the opportunity to grill a famous poet. The dinner was informal and lighthearted, as Collins was clearly accustomed to making conversation and discussing his poetics.

The dinner provided students with valuable insights

into Collins' persona. "One thing I loved was hearing him talk over dinner, because he talks the same way that he writes. I liked how frank and honest he was, and I got the impression that he is just a very genuine person, which is something I really appreciate," creative writing student Kendra Schmal said.

Contact: iguida@willamette.edu

► Learn more

If you missed the reading, or would simply like to see more works by Billy Collins, visit the Willamette Store or the Mark O. Hatfield Library.

Thirty days and nights of literary abandon

JENNIE MILLER
GUEST WRITER

The goal of the National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is to write 50,000 words in one month and produce a novel by Nov. 30. It must be a novel, it must be original and one cannot write the same word 50,000 times.

Originally a small-scale project, according to the NaNoWriMo Web site, it has grown from 21 writers in 1999 to 200,000 participants as of 2010. However, the contest still presents a challenge. In its running years, consistently less than 20 percent of participants on the Web site have won the challenge in the allotted time.

Freshman Bailey Ross said, "You think, 'How can I possibly write 50,000 words in 30 days?' Don't do that. Don't even think, 'How can I possibly write 1,667 words per day?' Think of it in 100 word chunks and it makes it so much easier."

Sophomore Austin Schock said, "The hardest part is balancing it with homework and clubs, in terms of just college. But in terms of life, it's really just sticking to the same story every day, day in, day out, and actually writing it."

From Nov. 25 to Nov. 30, participants will be allowed to upload their personal documents, validate their word count and win the satisfaction of completing NaNoWriMo.

Contact: millerjm@willamette.edu

Embodying holiday spirit: 'Christmas in Hudson'



COURTESY OF FRANK MILLER

The Willamette community will have a chance to experience holiday spirit at "Christmas in Hudson" on Dec. 9 and 10.

KALI BOEHLE-SILVA
GUEST WRITER

In case you have not yet made it to the mall for your annual dose of prepackaged holiday cheer, don't worry; the Willamette Music Department has you covered. The department's annual "Christmas in Hudson" concert will be presented this year on Dec. 9 and 10.

Featuring readings by Professor of Rhetoric and Media Studies Jeanne Clark as well as pieces performed by Chamber Choir, Voice Feminine and Men's Ensemble Willamette, "Christmas in Hudson" has its roots in the carols and lessons tradition of Oxford, England. Past performances have reflected this tradition while also emphasizing innovations that are uniquely Willamette's, such as Professor Clark's readings.

Contact: kboehles@willamette.edu

► Learn more

Tickets are \$8 and are available for purchase Monday-Friday at the Music Office in the Rodgers Music Center, or by phone at 503-370-6255.

Thank you

AMY VAN WYK
CONTRIBUTOR

With less than a month to go, a silent sadness creeps into my heart. Sadness that is accompanied with a strange sense of thankfulness. And since we are in the season of being grateful and thankful for the many blessings in our lives, this exchange experience deserves the biggest thanks I can give.

Each day is a reminder that not every day is the same. We are challenged beyond our comfort zones and we sometimes surprise ourselves with our capabilities. My time here at Willamette has been what I call my "happy zone" time. Ever since I heard that I was going to the United States, my heart has been full of flowers. Each flower has blossomed every day since I have been here.

Meeting people from across the political, cultural, religious and personality spectrums has been one of the most enriching experiences here. It has opened my eyes to try and see things from different perspectives. It has been funny, awkward, real and I would sometimes find myself nodding in silence, because I have been enlightened.

Of course, not every journey was good, but none were truly bad either. A friend I met here once asked me: "So, Amy, how are you finding the United States?" My response was to literally point to my mouth as both corners of my lips were pointing up. I told him that is how I find the States, it makes me smile to be here.

I will experience some bad things, but who doesn't? And chances are, I'd experience bad things anywhere. Just because I am in the United States, doesn't mean that I will never be sad or depressed or frustrated. But even these moments of darkness are soon outshined by the light of happiness when I say "hi" to a fellow exchange student, or when I meet Willamette students at house parties and we hit it off with random topics and have a good laugh.

Halloween, specific to American culture, was one of the most fun "festivities" I have ever encountered. First, the search for the perfect pumpkin at a pumpkin patch or Safeway, carving it up and bringing it to life. Then, the important part of finding your unique costume, and perhaps, if you like, trick-or-treating. And, finally, the best part of Halloween - partying with friends (and strangers)! Unfortunately, the weather had a mind of its own and most of the evening was marked with soaking vampires, zombies, super heroes and villains, animals and so forth. What a sight!

A few places will remain fresh in my head when I set foot on African soil again - Goudy Commons, the Mill Stream, the Library, the Ram and, of course, the infamous house parties. I will also miss other places in Salem like La Brisa, a Mexican night club where I found myself moving to the beat of sultry Spanish music the

moment I walked through the doors.

For some memories, one cannot find the words to articulate them and perhaps it is better to keep them there, locked up in the sacred chamber of the brain where you can sometimes find yourself meditating about a time that once was and be thankful.

Here's what some students had to share about their memorable experiences:

Malin Karjalan (Sweden)

With almost a month left, how would you describe your experience thus far?

"It has truly been an experience, and I have enjoyed my time here to the fullest."

What will you miss the most?

"All my new friends, but hopefully we will be able to arrange some sort of reunion."

What will you miss the least?

"All the time spent on studying. Studying here is a lot different from Sweden. At home you are not obligated to go to any lessons at all. All you have to do is to pass the exam."

If there was anything you could change about Willamette, what would it be and why?

"More kitchens so the students are able to cook more for themselves and they should not be obligated to go to Goudy every day."

Anything you discovered about yourself while being here?

"Many things - I have grown as a person and have proved to myself that I can come to a new place and find new friends."

Have you been to other states here in the U.S.?

"Yes, many. I lived in Michigan for two and a half years and therefore we took many trips. For example we drove down to Florida. I have returned several times and visited California, Nevada, Arizona, Illinois, etc."

Favorite place in Oregon?

"My favorite place would have to be Crater Lake. We went down there with the international office on a trip and it was so beautiful."

Would you come back to America again?

"I most definitely will, to visit my friends and to travel."

What do you look forward to for the next month of December?

"I am looking forward to a lot of traveling with my friends, family and my boyfriend is coming. For example, my friends and I are going to Hawai'i in December."

Going anywhere for Thanksgiving? Is it celebrated in your home country?

"Yes, I have been invited by a friend in Chicago so I am traveling there over Thanksgiving. No, it is not celebrated in my home country, but I know about it since I have lived in the U.S. before."

Any other thoughts about your experience?

"I think living in the U.S. has made me appreciate Sweden more, and I never thought I would say this but I kind of miss some of the things about it."

Marlon Smith (South Africa)

What will you miss the most?

"I will miss the awesome friends that I have made here. They are not just friends, but I feel they are like family now. I will also miss Starbucks."

What will you miss the least?

"Classes and the food."

What would you change about Willamette?

"I would change the work load from homework and class periods from an hour and a half to one hour, but instead of two classes a week it should be three."

What have you discovered about yourself during your experience here?

"I'm stronger and have more self confidence than I thought I had."

Have you ever been to other States here in the U.S.?

"Yes, I have been to Washington, Maryland and Virginia."

Favorite place in Oregon?

"Well, it's Salem, because it feels like home, but I like Portland very much."

Would you come back to America again?

"No."

What do you look forward to for the next month of December? Going anywhere for Thanksgiving? Is it celebrated in your home country?

"Trying to get all my homework done so that I can relax and enjoy my last few weeks here. I'm going to a friend's for Thanksgiv-



Andisiwe Mthatyana (South Africa).

MINH NGO

ing along with some other international students and really looking forward to it. No, it is not celebrated in my country."

Any other thoughts about your experience?

"I am going to miss Willamette a lot, from sitting in Lee watching Vampire Diaries and Nikita, watching people get thrown into the Mill Stream and enjoying coffee, to the crazy squirrels running up and down."

Andisiwe Mthatyana (South Africa)

With almost a month left, looking

back, how would you describe your experience thus far? What will you miss the most?

"I will miss my dorm in particular, my room. I will miss sleeping, chatting to my roommate on Facebook while we are both in the same room. I will miss Cat Cavern (the friendly staff and, of course, the Buffalo Burger), chicken strips from Goudy Commons. Also, Scott Klein (best buddy I have ever met in the U.S.), beautiful Moroccan students who are on exchange this semester, African students who are at the Graduate School, my friendly R.A. from Belknap First and Montag Center where I wasted most of my meal points. Also, friends that I have met here and cops busting parties"

What will you miss the least?

"Boring weekends in Salem."

What would you change about Willamette?

"A more culturally diverse environment, more friendly people and a sense of community that exists among students who make up Willamette University."

What have you discovered about yourself during your experience here?

"I discovered that I set my record straight. I do not entertain people who are not sure about what they stand for or take individuals."

Have you visited any other states in the U.S. thus far?

"I haven't been to other states in the U.S. but next week I am off to Idaho for Thanksgiving."

Favorite place in Oregon?

"Portland."

Would you come back to the U.S.?

"Yes I would, but definitely not to the West Coast. Maybe the South and East Coast."

What do you look forward to for the next month of December? Going anywhere for Thanksgiving? Is it celebrated in your home country?

"I am excited about spending Thanksgiving with the Klein family in Idaho. Thanks-



Marlon Smith (South Africa).

JORDAN WELSH

for the memories, WU

giving is not celebrated in South Africa; it's not part of our culture. In December, I plan on going to California just to have a different taste of the U.S. other than concluding how the U.S. is based on one state (Oregon)."

Any other thoughts?

"My experience here has been great but I have experienced some bad stuff, I guess that's part of the exchange experience."

Koki Yamashita (Japan)

With almost a month left, looking back, how would you describe your experience thus far?

"Looking back on the past three months up till now, I have gained various experiences in my life. Cultural learning and academic learning are a few of my various experiences. I could say this three month period has been one of the densest times in my life - it's gone so fast. Meeting and interacting with people, like many WU students and the international students from all across the world has given me chances to realize the differences and the similarities as well. At the same time, looking at my country from outside of the box gave me many cultural realizations.

I have been challenged in many ways thanks to this completely different academic environment. To do a lot of my daily tasks in a second language was really tough in the beginning of the semester (if I'm being honest, it still is). But, I believe that I grew up a lot through figuring out how to cope with the daily work and trying to improve to a higher level of English."

What will you miss the most?

"I will miss friends I made during this semester, many international students who are going back to their home after this semester and Willamette students. This is really sad. Also, I will miss the Bistro and its tasty beverages and food."

What will you miss the least?

"I will miss this weather the least. Especially the frequent rain which is not enjoyable."

If there was anything you could change about Willamette, what would it be and why?

"I really like Willamette so far, but if I was able to change something about Willamette, I would change the location of Willamette from Salem to Portland."

Anything you discovered about yourself while being here?

"I discovered my mental strengths and weaknesses while I was here. One mental strength I found is to stick it out with difficulty. A mental weakness found is that I tend to be antisocial when I am so stressed out.



Koki Yamashita (Japan).

But I learned a lot from having struggled with this weakness."

Have you ever been to other states here in the U.S.?

"Yes. I have been to California, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Texas, South Carolina and Virginia. I like Texas the best so far."

Favorite place in Oregon?

"I like fishing and outdoor activities very much. So, Oregon is a great place for me to do them. I like the rivers and

mountains in Oregon."

Would you come back to America again?

"Definitely, I will. But, I would like to spend my time in a big city next time."

What do you look forward to for the next month of December? Going anywhere for Thanksgiving? Is it celebrated in your home country?

"I am looking forward to having winter break in December. I am planning to travel the West Coast. For Thanksgiving break, I might travel to the north. We do not have this kind of culture in Japan."

Any other thoughts about your experience?

"Having lived for a semester in this small community, the so-called 'Willamette Bubble' has been a really interesting experience for me. Since the majority of people live on campus, students meet with the same people many times a week. I get to know the various aspects of friends and myself through living in this community. It was interesting for me."

From the American eye:

Madeleine Dimwoody (Seattle, Washington)

Your first interaction with International Exchange students!

"I first interacted with the exchange students on my first night at Willamette. I had been assigned a roommate from Germany and that night I found myself sitting on the steps that lead from Jackson Plaza to the Mill Stream. I was

both excited and terrified that I was finally a college student and I took comfort in [the international students'] presence - they were new to Willamette like me, and yet they had college experience that I lacked, making me see both myself and who I wanted to become in them. On that first night, it was nice to be with people who seemed to know at least a little bit about what they were doing."

Anything interesting that you've noticed about the IES?

"I was just excited to interact with people from other countries. They've shared a lot of opinions they have on American lifestyle, such as the fact that we're a 'road country,' but the one that stands out the most is that most of them think that the food in Goudy has too much refined sugar in it, which makes me wonder whether I would find their food to be particularly bitter. It's strange how the little things are usually the most different."

Any similarities?

"I remember having a discussion with one of the German students and one of the South American students about superstitions, and we learned that a lot of our superstitions were very similar, if not the same. The globalization of society has generally contributed to a lot of similarities in our lifestyles in general."

What have you learned from exchange students? Have they made an impact on your life or on your mindset?

"The exchange students have taught me to be more aware of myself and the cultures represented around me in order to be a global citizen. The roommate I was assigned at the beginning of the year ended up moving out because we had different opinions on what constituted socially acceptable behavior, and I think that was partly a cultural gap."

What do you think of the Willamette exchange program?

"I'm very excited that the Willamette exchange program has such a significant impact on the University. There are more than 50 exchange students on the Willamette campus this year, and

I've been affected by each one I've come across. I feel I can confidently say that most of the people who have interacted with the international students have had positive

experiences. In a world that is rapidly globalizing, it's important for students to have firsthand interactions with other cultures, and I'm glad that Willamette is taking that need so seriously."

Christopher Jimenez (Los Angeles, California)

Your first impression of International Exchange Students (IES)?

"My first impression of international exchange students was a good one. What I found the most interesting about an international exchange student is their impression of the United States. Their responses on how 'things are bigger in America' is what really made me realize how different countries in different parts of the world are."

Anything interesting about IES?

"I found some German exchange students to be very interesting. Their fascination with just how much larger things in the United States are, again, made me realize the discrepancies between our country and theirs. Accents always are interesting to me, since in the television industry, accents are very much exaggerated."

What have you learned from exchange students? Have they made an impact on your life or on your mindset?

"The exchange students have given me the incentive to travel. They share a part of their life with me along with their culture ego, really broadening my horizons."

What do you think of the Willamette exchange program?

"I really find the exchange program to be great here on campus. The exchange program really does add to the diversity on campus and gives it an actual 'university' feeling. We're a private school in the United States and we aren't really able to experience another culture from a different part of the world, just from the community around us; and if it wasn't for the exchange program at Willamette, I wouldn't have some of the friends I have made."

Any other thoughts?

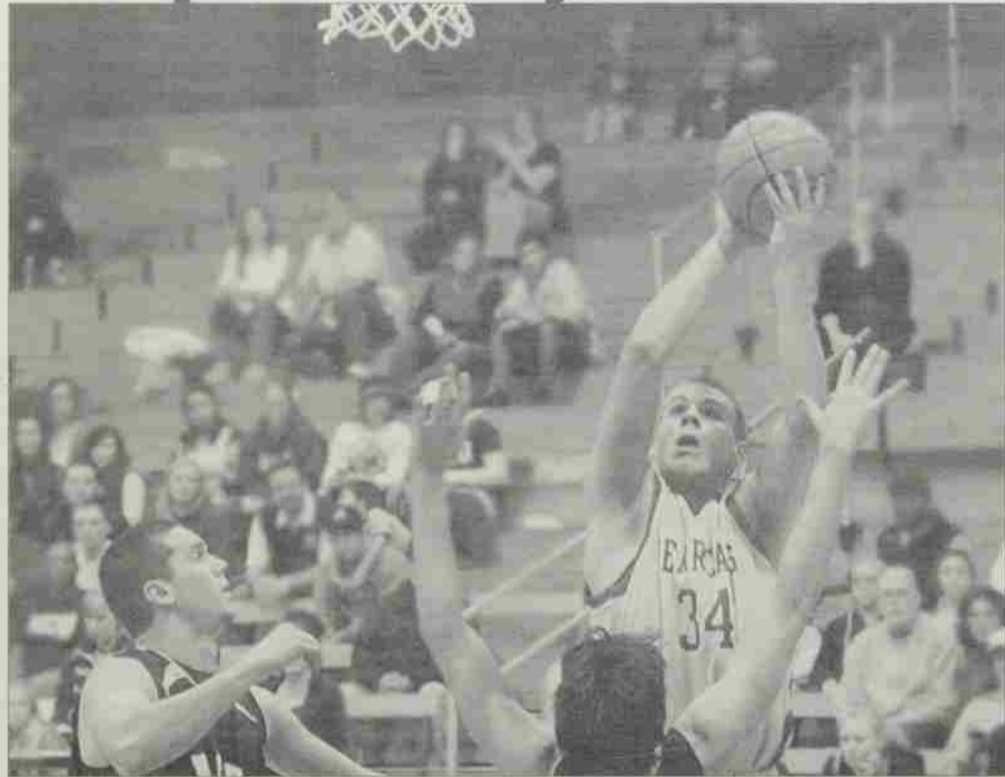
"It would be a lot of fun to incorporate the exchange students in the Ohana program to make them feel more welcome. It'd be a great way for them to get a head start on the social part of school to make their learning experience even more worthwhile."



Christopher Jimenez (Los Angeles, California).

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Upside big for 'Cats despite early losses



ALLY SZETO

Junior post Taylor Mounds during Saturday's game against Northwest Christian University.

BRANDON CHINN
 CONTRIBUTOR

Men's basketball kicked off the season Tuesday night, losing to NCAA Division II Western Washington 115-84. After scoring the first basket of the game, Willamette surrendered ten unanswered points to the Vikings, who led 17-6 just five minutes into the game. With just over seven minutes left in the first half, the Bearcats cut the lead to eight, but a 9-0 run for Western Washington gave them a lead they would not relinquish.

The 'Cats showed a solid all-around effort, as four players hit double figures. Junior post Taylor Mounds led the 'Cats with 23 points and seven rebounds while sophomore transfer Sean Dart made his Bearcat debut, shooting 6-7 from the floor and tallying 14 points for the game. Junior wing Ryan Meehan and senior guard Marcus Holmes contributed with 16 points apiece.

After the loss to Western Washington, Willamette bounced back nicely, coming from behind to stun Concordia University 89-88. The Cavaliers controlled most of the first half, leading by as much as 13 points. But the Bearcats stood strong in the second half, cutting the lead to 66-64 with just over seven minutes to go in regulation.

Willamette then regained the lead via a layup by Meehan, putting them up 80-79 with 2:10 remaining. After a Concordia three-pointer put the Cavaliers up one with seven seconds left, Willamette pushed up the floor, looking to take the last shot. With two seconds left, Meehan took a pass from Mounds and laid it in as time expired.

Meehan's buzzer beater capped a wild finish to the game. In the final two minutes, there were three lead changes between teams. For the Bearcats, Dart was the high scorer with 21 points. Mounds recorded a double-double with 17 points and 12 boards.

Dart was quick to credit the rest of the team, especially senior guard Robbie Kunke. "I have to attribute my early success to the rest of the guys on the team setting me up," Dart said. "Kunke makes me eight to ten points better every time he's on the floor."

Saturday night was the home opener for the Bearcats, as they hosted the Beacons of NAIA Northwest Christian University. Tensions rose early when freshman wing Avery Manu got tangled up with Beacons forward Brent McKee while fighting for possession of the ball. After the whistle, McKee shoved Manu, drawing a technical foul on the play.

The infraction sparked an 11-3 run for the Beacons. For NCU, guard Brian Hampton was the catalyst early on, scoring seven of his ten first-half points in the first five minutes of the game. Throughout the early part of the first half, Willamette failed to find a rhythm offensively and, as a result, the Beacons extended their early lead 20-9. The Beacons stretched their first half lead to as many as 23 points.

The second half started out all Bearcats. After the two teams exchanged field goals, the 'Cats used a stingy defense and buckets by Mounds, Kunke and Dart to force a 9-0 run and cut the Beacons lead to 11 at 61-50. At the 15:39 mark in the second half, Holmes went in for a steal in the backcourt and was whistled for a foul by referee Stuart Alley. Unhappy with the call, Holmes showed his displeasure and was charged with a technical foul, consequently sending him to the bench with four personal fouls.

Never a team to give up, the 'Cats made one final stand to get back in the game. With less than ten minutes left in the game, Willamette clawed back, cutting the NCU lead to nine at 81-72 on a Meehan three-point bucket. But at the 3:40 mark, Hampton once again delivered for the Beacons, hitting his third three-point field goal of the game and sealing the victory for Northwest Christian, who improved to 3-2 overall in the 102-90 victory over Willamette.

The Bearcats are still missing sophomore guards Terrell Malley and Cody Pastorino, who both contributed heavily last season but have to wait a mandated week to transition from football. Despite the loss, Willamette had several offensive bright spots throughout the night. The post game was once again stellar as Dart posted a double-double, scoring 31 points and grabbing 12 rebounds. Mounds tacked on 22 points along with seven rebounds.

Coach Kip Ioane was pleased with the team's competitiveness in the second half, saying the team played with a "changed mindset and sense of urgency. ... The passion and focus displayed is something we need for 40 minutes, not just the last 20."

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next up

Capital City Classic @
 Monmouth, Oregon
 Nov. 26-27, All Day

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

'Cats drop opening set to Concordia, NCU

MICHELLE LASHLEY
 CONTRIBUTOR

It was a rocky start for Bearcat women's basketball as the team dropped its first two season games by considerable margins. They faced fierce opponents Concordia University and Northwest Christian College, and both games showed the weak points in the young team. With only six returning players, the team has known all along that this would be a building season for Bearcat basketball (picked ninth in the preseason poll for the Northwest Conference).

The team's first game was in Portland on Friday against the Concordia University Cavaliers. In addition to being a considerably older team, the Cavs already had six games under their belt for the season, with a record of 3-3. Willamette's experienced players showed their strength in the opening minutes of the game, with senior guards Erin Barclay and Alex Zennan and junior forward Kaileigh Westermann going on an early 7-0 run, forcing two turnovers from the Cavs. A free throw from Concordia ended Willamette's run, but a layup from Westermann made the score 9-1, Willamette's biggest lead of the night.

The 'Cats were able to hold off the Cavs for the first quarter of the game, but the Cavs were gaining momentum. A few quick three-pointers and a free-throw from the Cavs put the score within four points, but then a three-pointer from Zennan gave Willamette back its margin at 17-10. Then Concordia went on a scoring run that the Bearcats could not control.

With 11:58 remaining in the half, a field goal from Concordia guard Rachel Scarpelli gave Concordia the lead, 19-17. The Cavaliers held the lead for the remainder of the game. The Cavs then went on a 12-point streak, which Zennan was able to end with another three-pointer. The Bearcat's offense was never able to spark and ended the half 47-34, trailing by 13.

The Cavaliers opened the second half with a vengeance and two quick threes, starting a run of 19 points in the opening minutes and holding the Bearcats to one field goal. This put the Cavs ahead 66-36, a margin they would hold. The rest of the half was spent trading buckets as both teams earned 30 points, leaving the final score 96-66.

Accuracy from the field proved to be key on Friday. The Cavs held the Bearcats to 25 of 64 from the field (39.1 percent) and five of 12 from three-point range, four of these made by Zennan. The Cavs sealed the game with free

throws, going 25 of 37 from the line compared to Willamette's 11 of 19.

The home opener on Saturday against Northwest Christian's Beacons and showed again the weaknesses holding back the young Willamette team. Again, the Bearcats were facing a more experienced opponent with considerably more games under their belts and especially on the defensive end, the Beacons' strength and experience showed.

The team was aided early by junior forwards Westermann and McFaddin, who each got early points in the paint, leaving the low scoring start at 5-5 with 13:26 left in the half. But the Beacons were able to get a quick succession of three pointers and capitalized on key Willamette turnovers. Even so, the Bearcats left the half only trailing by eight (28-20).

The Beacons came out strong in the start of the second half, scoring seven quick points with 18:06 left in the half. These points started a 14-1 run for NCU from which Willamette was never able to recover. The Beacons only shot 38 percent from the field in the half, but they were able to hold Willamette to 26.9 percent, forcing 27 Bearcat turnovers. The Beacons let the Bearcats get to the line for 31 attempts, but the 'Cats only made 14, at 45 percent. The Beacons took the game 72-43.

According to Westermann, however, this weekend's losses will not hinder the team's progress. "A season goal that we have set is to take each practice and game and focus on them one by one. The only way we will be successful as a team is if we concentrate on the task at hand and take each possession as a chance to prove someone wrong," Westermann said.

Team captain Zennan also remains confident in the team. "We are a young team and many of us haven't played with each other yet. The home opener was a great chance for us to see the relationship that we have on this team, work out all the kinks and establish a game for our team. Our team needs to find our own style of play, push the ball and be disciplined within our game and I believe we will be successful," Zennan said.

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next up

Capital City Classic @
 Monmouth, Oregon
 Nov. 26-27, All Day



EMILY SCHLIEMAN

SEAN DART

BEARCAT STAT

A transfer from Eastern Oregon University, sophomore Sean Dart established himself during the Bearcats first three basketball games, scoring a total of 66 points on combined 26-33 shooting. In Willamette's 89-88 win over Concordia, Dart was a perfect 9-9 from the floor for 21 points, along with six rebounds and a block.

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Court named for legendary Coach James

JOHN LIND
SPORTS EDITOR

Last Saturday's home opener for the Bearcat men's basketball team was more than just a spectacular game for fans to watch. It also helped solidify Gordie James in the lore of Bearcat Hoop.

James, who actually coined the term "Bearcat Hoop," was on hand for the official dedication of Gordie James Court in his honor. James, who coached at Willamette for 22 years, was brought on the court at half-time and Athletic Director Mark Majeski presented him with a plaque. James, in many ways a Willamette legend, was given a standing ovation both before and after his speech.

Although well known and loved by players, parents and students, James is also notorious for his tendency to shift the spotlight off himself. "I truly view this as an 'us' dedication, because it was always the dedicated Bearcat family that made this special," James said.

Despite his modesty, James will undoubtedly go down as one of the great coaches in Willamette history. During his tenure, James compiled a 357-230 overall record, including 16 winning seasons and six NWC titles. His career was highlighted by the 1992-93 season, in which his 'Cats won the NALA Division II National Championship, with a 29-4 record.

For James, the return to Cone Fieldhouse was a sentimental one. "I have such passion for this gym and this court and the Bearcat program," James said. "It's something that will always be a part of me."

James was also humbled by



ALLY SZETO

Former men's basketball Head Coach Gordie James (right) stands with Athletics Director Mark Majeski during the dedication of the newly-christened Gordie James Court during halftime of last Saturday's game against NCU.

the dedication. "To be honored for living your passion and doing your job is very special," James said.

Past players were also on hand to see the dedication. When asked what he missed most about coaching, James showed why, immediately answering, "the players." James went on to say the most important part of coaching for him was developing relationships with his players.

Players henceforth will have the honor of playing in the shadow of James's name, although he would never admit that the program was about him at all. He was quick to remind those listening that, "to be a true Bearcat, you're always a Bearcat."

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Reeder's Reader

The most underused equipment at the gym



JO REEDER

COLUMNIST

When I go to the gym, I frequently see people lifting weights, and on the treadmill, elliptical and stationary bike. However, I rarely see anyone on some great equipment that the Willamette gym provides, including the ergometer, yoga balls and bouldering wall. To add intensity and variety to your workout, try a couple of these tools.

Rowing machine

Otherwise known as an ergometer or erg, this machine provides an unparalleled full-body workout. It is meant to imitate rowing on the water and is a staple in rowers' workouts. The erg gets your heart racing, as exercise on this machine is approximately 55 percent aerobic.

It also works muscles in the back, abdomen, thighs, calves, arms and shoulders. You can crank up the resistance to increase the strength training and facilitate muscle growth. The ergs in Sparks also have built-in entertainment. Turn it on, select fish game and row faster or slower to avoid being eaten by the larger fish. Find videos of proper rowing technique on YouTube.

Yoga ball

Also known as a fitness ball, balance ball or exercise ball, this piece of equipment is great for abdominal exercises, especially for people with back problems. Doing crunches on a ball can decrease the pressure put on the back during regular crunches. It increases the intensity of the exercise by forcing you to contract your core muscles to keep yourself stable on the ball.

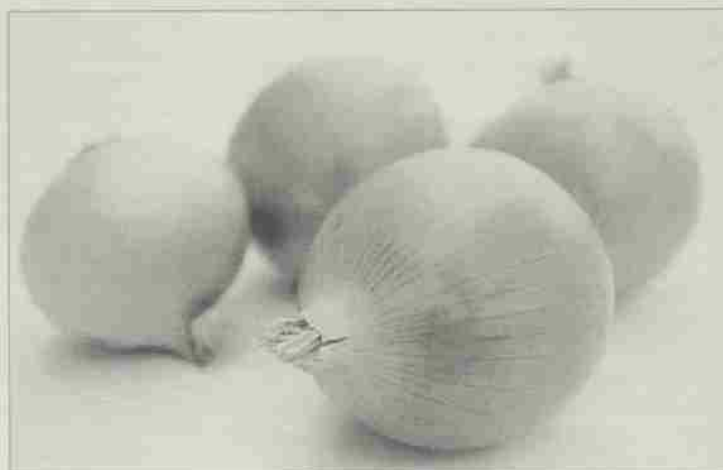
You can also use the yoga ball to increase the intensity of push-ups and planks. Doing regular pushups while resting your feet on the ball forces you to work core and leg muscles harder than a regular push-up would. Placing your forearms on a ball while in a plank position with feet on the floor has the same effect.

Bouldering wall

The bouldering wall, located in the lower gym in Sparks, is great for a fun, enjoyable workout. It works muscles that are normally neglected by traditional resistance training, including muscles of the hands, feet and forearms. It also helps improve flexibility. Many climbers report a feeling of accomplishment and independence while rock climbing. Bonus: it was recently refurbished by the climbing club. It now displays new bouldering courses and a beautiful mural of a mountain landscape.

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FOOD OF THE WEEK Onions



COURTESY OF TSMEDIA.NET

Onions have very few calories, about 60 per cup, no cholesterol, trivial amounts of fat and a fair amount of potassium. Additionally, onions have been shown in rat studies to increase bone calcium and bone strength. Onions have also been shown to reduce risk of stomach, esophageal and prostate cancers, and possibly provide some protection against cardiovascular disease.

Onions can be added to nearly everything. Put them on sandwiches, salads, pizza or eggs and in soups, stir fry, fried rice, casseroles, burritos or curries. To sweeten them, cook them in a skillet and oil over medium heat until brown. Add cinnamon for an interesting flavor combination.

CROSS COUNTRY

WU finishes season at nationals

JOE DONOVAN
CONTRIBUTOR

On Saturday, the Bearcat cross country team concluded its season by competing in the national meet. The meet hosted the best Division III teams from around the country.

The Bearcat men traveled to Waverly, Iowa expecting to challenge the best in the nation. Last week was marked by an upset victory over the best in the West Region, and the Bearcat men finished 23rd in the overall team standings. "In order to be successful five guys need to run well; at the national level all mistakes are amplified," junior Ben Donovan said. "I don't doubt we'll be back next year." Donovan finished third for the Bearcats and 186th overall.

The Bearcats did bring home two All-American titles. Seniors Kimber Mattox and Stefan Redfield both placed in the top 35. Redfield was happy with his race. For him, this national meet was an accumulation of his training at Willamette.

"It has been my goal for the last three years to place in the top 35 at nationals, and this was my last chance so I knew I couldn't waste it," Redfield said. "Achieving this award was a very satisfying way to end my career here at Wil-

lamette. I'm very thankful to the program and the coaches and I am so glad I could finish on a great note."

Redfield finished 17th overall and was the first runner from the West Region. Mattox, who has previous All-American experience in track and field, finished the season strong. She finished 35th overall. After placing seventh in the regional race, Mattox rebounded, taking second among all West Regional competitors.

Both Mattox and Redfield were happy with their races. "In every race, there are things that went well and things that could have gone better. Overall, I had a good race," Mattox said.

The Bearcats move forward from Saturday's race, looking toward future teams. Freshman Parker Bennett raced well in his first national meet. He said he was happy with his race and is excited about the future. "I'm glad I had the opportunity to run. Now I can see how to race better for next year," Bennett said.

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COLUMN



Until we have faces



M A T T
PITCHFORD

OPINIONS EDITOR

It seems natural enough that our culture values authenticity and genuineness above deception and pretending. We prefer that people be real with us, rather than pretending to be something they are not. We dislike people who wear one "mask" with a certain group of people and another mask with others. But this valuing of reality above perceived pretending is almost too simple of an approach to the question of life.

We are all pretending. There is a dynamic tension between growth and genuineness, between substance and the form of substance, between possession of an attribute and pretending to have it. We equate masks with deception. But oftentimes, a mask is something that ought to be equated with growth. We can wear a mask to become like it underneath.

There are watermelon farmers that have found that by allowing the fruit to grow into a square glass container, the melon will naturally fit the space given to it. The square, stackable watermelons are often twice as expensive as the usual ones, but the practices of agriculture and capitalism are not the point here. We grow into shapes as well. We are watermelon people, and as such have to be very conscious of what we are growing into.

You've probably heard this concept before as "fake it until you make it." It seems counter-intuitive, but how can you gain an attribute or characteristic without acting like you have it already? Let's say you need to practice delegating your responsibilities or listening to other people or being less busy. You can try to break such skills down into manageable chunks, but at some point you are acting contrary to the "real" or practiced you. You are trying to fiat a new habit. Put another way, there is a difference between pretending to gloss over an absence of a habit and pretending in order to gain that habit.

So the question isn't so much what we will find at the deepest core of our personality. It's an interesting and often worthwhile study to introspect in such a way. But when you dig deep enough to discover the unexposed raw core of self, what do you see? What can you see? It is important to discover what masks you are choosing to wear.

So, it seems that we are forced, for better or for worse, to wear masks until we have faces that have grown into them. As such, it is absolutely vital to know what masks we are trying to wear in the different contexts of our lives. Our habits, choices and perspectives can help to mold us into something great or into something small and unfortunately twisted.

It seems that our love/hate relationship with masks encompasses how we have to live this life. We need to pretend in order to grow. But pretending by itself isn't enough. Perhaps, at the risk of meshing analogies, masks are the seeds that allow us to grow into the things we are trying to become. Know what you are trying to become.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We invite you to submit letters to the editor. Letters can be sent by postal mail, e-mail (lgold@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

The best in class

There is such joy and terror in signing up for classes. Seniors and juniors may have already gone through the rigors of registration, but the question of what classes each of us ought to attend in the semester to come (and the ones after that) still remains. While the question ultimately comes down to your desires, your MOIs and your major, there are several aspects that are well worth considering for their universal nature in the college class selection process.

1. Find out about the professor.

There are great professors in every department. But when you are soliciting advice from your fellow students about potential classes, try to find out about the professor personally. You can learn a lot about their teaching style, grading difficulty and overall pedagogical approach.

Some of these may mesh with what you want in a class better than others, but beyond comparing teaching styles, you can also find out which classes cater to a professor's specialty. In each department, every professor has an academic area of interest. If you can take one of those classes, you may well be inspired by their passion and vigor.

2. Take what you want.

Registration may close by December, but the jockeying will still continue well until next year. If you don't get a class that you really want or need, don't be discouraged. Being on a waitlist is not the end of the world. You can get into classes, provided you are willing to put in the extra effort. I guess the point here is to say that the registration process, while vital, is not the be all end all of your schedule for next year. This knowledge should give you a bit of breathing room.

3. Allow for change.

We're told to allow for changes of majors and interests throughout the entirety of college. But the point of this idea isn't just in regards to your future plans, classes or otherwise. Rather, it's recognizing that how you feel now may change when spring semester rolls around. The difficulties of motivation, friend-drama, health and time will change. Your class schedule is a decided factor in these pursuits.

4. Be here.

In many ways, the registration process is an exciting foretelling of things to come. Whatever classes

you end up taking, keep in mind that this semester is not over. The excitement or fear for classes to come should not distract us unduly from the time spent here in our current classes, pursuits and adventures. Registering for classes, like any part of this collegiate adventure, requires a firm understanding of its time and place. As important as college is, and as important as classes are to it, this is not the final determinant of your life.

As the time to register finally rolls around, this article is ultimately an appeal to sanity. It is something to consider in terms of professors, academic desires and changes. But more importantly, it is a time to be excited about what is to come without sacrificing the here and now.

COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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OPINION

Cage me gently, Golden Gate

GRACIE GREGORY
GUEST WRITER

In the bestial realm, creatures intentionally mark their territory. This can be seen in ferocious claw markings on tree bark or canine urine on park benches, and is a sweet reminder of the significance of location to everyone. Although these tactics do not "buy" land, they establish the place's importance.

I am in the midst of determining what is mine to "mark." My house isn't really mine anymore, and Matthews 314 will be the domain of another nervous freshman next year. In the human sphere, it is unrealistic to intentionally claim places, because other humans might not respect that in the near future. This is why I think we accidentally leave pieces of ourselves behind. Territory is claimed by how radically we love and remember it, and this can often be inadvertent.

I don't know how or when it happened, exactly, but a measure of myself is waiting at the Marin Headlands. This is a general term used to describe a park that overlooks California's Bay Area. For us, it is a particular concrete bunker with

graffiti and a stupefying ocean vista.

This is where I unwillingly fled when I cut my first high school class on a bright and windy April day at two o'clock. We spun around in circles, met French tourists and climbed up trees and away from responsibility. On that day, I left behind my defenses.

Not much later was the day Alicia died. I didn't know her well, but so many of my close friends did. It happened in a sudden, tragic, adolescent accident involving too much beer and too little distance between her and the edge of the cliff. The Headlands swallowed up a girl that was important to those who are important to me. On that day, I left behind my grit.

The sunrise after graduation night, we flocked there in a trance ... naturally. It was cold, and somehow bright in the dark. We wrapped up in blankets, nestled close to friends and made false promises to everyone else, appreciating them all the same. There was little drinking, other than the steady slurp of salt air. All walks of life were there. All groups accounted for. On

that day, I left behind my certainty.

The Headlands stand for echoes, revealed illusions, deafening stillness and mementos. It's where I was born, and where my missing puzzle pieces are. I can't tell if I'll be able to collect them, if they belong there or if I even want them back. All I know is that having this quandary makes a place your own.

It's not easy to realize the truancy of character traits, but linking them to a cherished setting makes it more manageable. Rather than viewing old habits and mannerisms as evaporated, we must trace them back to places we love. Places that somehow have come to belong to us. Next time you wonder where the old you has wandered, I hope it's comforting to know that it partially remains in the Pacific Ocean, Interstate 5 or some small plot of earth far away. Let's welcome the dispersion of ourselves, especially in this time of migration: college.

Contact: gracie.gregory@gmail.com

—Do you have an opinion?—

Do you like to write your opinions down?

If you answered yes, then you are a perfect candidate for a guest writer!

If you are interested in joining, please e-mail mpitchfo@willamette.edu



POLITICAL PARTY ANIMALS



Liberal Voice



MAXWELL MENSINGER
COLUMNIST

As of this week, Four Loko is no longer legal in the state of Oregon ... or Washington, Michigan, Utah, Oklahoma or New York. It appears this alcoholic energy drink, like many others before it, enjoyed a short stint before being outlawed. Why is this one important? Why now? Hopefully my concerns here will sufficiently illustrate why this matters.

Essentially, Four Lokos are three dollars for four beers and a pretty unnecessary helping of caffeine. The drink has recently been wildly popular at college campuses across the nation because, to put it simply, it does some damage. Four Loko, along with brethren Joose and Max, are gradually being forced to either alter their ingredients or suffer the legal consequences.

Just recently, Four Loko announced that it would remove the caffeine from the product. The company did, however, become somewhat defensive about this decision, claiming that the FDA has put it under too much suspicion, and that as with rum and coke or Irish coffee, caffeine mixed with alcohol is not actually dangerous. Is the government ganging up on poor Four Loko? Should we mourn its loss?

To be sure, the "Four Loko Stories" page on Facebook has some pretty ridiculous and amusing stories, none of which give me faith in Four Loko as a legitimate product. Indeed, the fact that a Facebook page exists solely to document all the terrible things Four Loko does to people probably means that Oregon did the right thing.

Frankly, Four Loko ought to be outlawed. Unlike rum and coke or Irish coffee, Four Loko's prominence on college campuses has resulted in an unacceptable amount of random blackouts and hospital visits. It's the kind of drink that appears in unnecessarily bright and ridiculous colors, toting "delicious" flavors like grape, fruit punch, watermelon, etc. The only purpose this serves is to attract young, underage drinkers.

I hate to sound like a Puritan, but honestly, as a judge, why wouldn't you ban this drink? Aside from these reasons, people just don't know how much they're drinking. If Four Loko changes its content and removes its caffeine, then I don't see any real problems, because then people can be more aware of how much they're drinking.

In reality, the real problem here is irresponsible drinking. Legislators and judges shouldn't be fooled into thinking that this issue will go away with Four Loko. If anything, the Four Loko problem is mostly a symptom of some overly crazy party scenes and somewhat-stupid college kids; naturally, the binge drinking issue ought not to be ignored. This, however, does not excuse Four Loko. The drink is excessively dangerous as is, and to keep it legal would be a true disservice to Americans (and most of all, rookie drinkers) everywhere.

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Four Loko

Conservative Voice



NICK TAYLOR
COLUMNIST

This week, Oregon joined five other states in banning Four Loko, that delicious elixir of nights long forgotten. The drink has been receiving increasing amounts of national attention since nine students at Central Washington University were hospitalized earlier this year with blood alcohol contents (BAC) ranging from .12 to .35 after consuming this so called "blackout in a can" (to the student who was hospitalized for having a .12 BAC: You're in college now, step your game up).

It is true that this refreshing beverage is cheap, effective and easy to drink, but why is it becoming so heavily regulated? The legislative hostility towards this drink is reprehensible, and must stop.

First, let us start with the fact that anyone who is old enough to purchase Four Loko is an adult that can make his or her own decisions. He or she can choose what to eat and drink, where to work, what to drive and how to vote. Is it the responsibility of elected officials to tell an adult that they cannot buy something that is little more than a combination of two already legal ingredients: caffeine and alcohol?

Drinks of this nature are commonplace, acceptable and available at every bar on the planet. Virtually every adult of legal drinking age has consumed at least one Jäger bomb, vodka Red Bull or Irish coffee - and there has never been any serious backlash or outcry. Not to mention that far more dangerous products are available to people of a younger age - cigarettes.

Proponents of this type of ban claim that the drink is marketed to young people, and that is what justifies pulling it from store shelves. But Phusion Products, the makers of Four Loko and other premium malt beverages, has a rebuttal.

Their Web site states the following facts: "Our cans feature seven different warnings about the alcohol content and the need for an ID for purchase. We were the first caffeinated alcoholic beverage company to add 'WE ID' tags to our cans. A full 100 percent of our distributors receive and share our responsible drinking materials, and we feature 17 of these materials on our Web site." This company cannot be faulted for any wrongdoing.

In the spirit of the American way and the Democratic process I urge you to call your senator, write your representative and sit down to lunch with your governor over a cold, smooth and crisp Four Loko to ensure that the rights of all Americans are protected.

Contact: ntaylor@willamette.edu

COLUMN



Pourin' one out fo' da homies



KEVIN BELL
COLUMNIST

This weekend I got thrown out of the STRFKR show prematurely, and not even for anything really cool that I'd intended, like sparking one in the middle of the mosh pit in front of the stage or throwing some of my freshman friends of smaller stature physically onto the stage. No, as I had worked my way to the front of the crowd, some friends of mine asked "Hey, are you enjoying the show?" to which I replied, "Yeah homes, its aight, I guess."

Not knowing that the maelstrom of hipster techno beats and inebriated WU students had impaired my hearing, apparently they had asked if I wished to be crowd surfed, and immediately failed to hoist me into the air, instead causing me to kick the two large and angry looking men in front of me in the back of the head. Next thing I knew I was being thrust outside, sans coat or Camelbak filled with "Saguaro Juice," which is a drink I concocted that's one part cheap whiskey, one part regret at not having mixer and one part corroded Camelbak plastic tube.

Regardless, once outside I ran into the illustrious former editor of the publication this column is named after, BluntSavager42069. Despite his oft-mispronounced foreign name (he's from the Internet), he is a solid gentleman with a good eye for sensational news, a good ear for a story and a good nose for New York Sour Diesel.

It was in my brief work for "The Bearcat Bullet" my freshman year that I developed my drive to write professionally (\$10/week is nothing to scoff at folks) and expose the seedy underside of campus life for what it truly is. With such classic pieces of Pulitzer-worthy acclaim as "Every Word in This Article is the Same" and "How to Roll a Joint With 'The Bearcat Bullet,'" we did the tough work nobody else was willing to do, thankless a job as it was.

In my all-too-brief conversation with Mr. 42069, he expressed a degree of satisfaction that the name had lived on, even though we have now been absorbed into the back page of the Collegian, and also a desire to publish again, so a near-future "Bullet" will once again be written by the publication's founder. For those of you who remember the oft-fabled long ago days of 2008-09, once again the editor will be back. So be excited.

In lieu of making potentially libelous claims about persons or entities unlikely to respond and of questionable substance, this week I would like to make a special shout-out. I've been told that of all places on campus, residents of Shepard Hall are fans of my back-flap writing. While I'm not entirely sure what additional substance-free utility you're getting out of my drug, alcohol and genital related humor, I appreciate the patronage. A lot of people forget you exist, Shepard, cloistered away in your corner of Sorority Row, unassuming in stature or noise complaints, but I got your back. As long as you don't report me for being in violation of sub-free dorm policy.

Contact: bicurton@willamette.edu



TERESA BAROSH

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

Nov. 12-18, 2010
Information provided by Campus Safety

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▶ Nov. 12, 9:55 a.m. (Law School): A student appeared to having a seizure in the restroom. Campus safety and Salem Fire responded to the location. The student was transported to the Emergency Room by Salem Fire Department.

▶ Nov. 12, 8:30 p.m. (Baxter Hall): A student called to report that her friend was experiencing flu-like symptoms. Campus Safety responded to her location and took her to the Emergency Room.

POLICY VIOLATION

▶ Nov. 17, 1:10 a.m. (Collins Science): Campus Safety was notified that someone was on the roof of Collins. The officer made contact with the student and explained that it was a violation of policy to be on the roof.

▶ Nov. 17, 4:00 p.m. (Campus): A student received his 16th parking citation. A report was forwarded to the Campus Judicial Office.

▶ Nov. 17, 4:00 p.m. (Campus): A student received her 12th parking citation. A report was forwarded to the Campus Judicial Office.

▶ Nov. 15, 10:10 a.m. (Campus): A student received his 20th parking citation. A report was forwarded to the Campus Judicial Office.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▶ Nov. 12, 3:46 p.m. (Kaneko Commons): Campus Safety received a report of the smell of marijuana coming from a room in Kaneko. An officer made contact with the individuals on the balcony of the room. Additionally, the students were not cooperative with the officer.

▶ Nov. 12, 9:42 p.m. (Star Trees): Campus Safety received a report of three individuals smoking marijuana by the Star Trees. The officer interviewed the three students, who smelled of marijuana and exhibited signs of marijuana use.

▶ Nov. 14, 12:33 a.m. (Doney Hall): Campus Safety received a report of the smell of marijuana coming from a particular area of Doney. The officer determined what room the smell was coming from and conducted a plain view search. No marijuana paraphernalia was found. However, alcohol was found in the room and both occupants were under 21 years of age.

▶ Nov. 18, 12:40 a.m. (Doney Hall): During a building check, an officer noticed the smell of marijuana coming from a room in Doney. The officer interviewed the students in the room and confiscated marijuana and marijuana paraphernalia.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

▶ Nov. 15, 5:00 p.m. (Lausanne Hall): Unknown person(s) entered a secure storage area and tampered with items of a former Willamette student in the storage area. A work order was submitted to fix the gate.

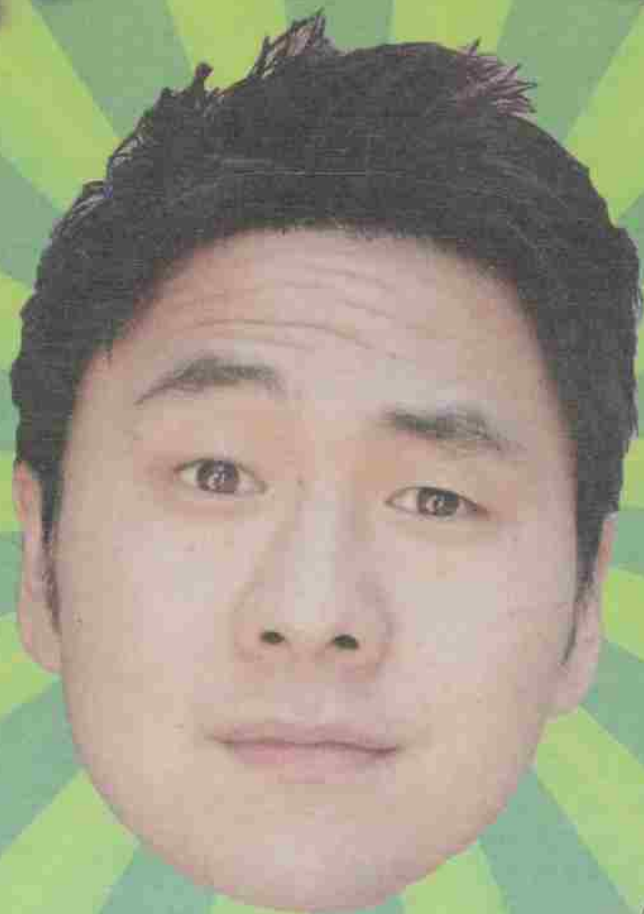
THEFT

▶ Nov. 13, 3:00 p.m. (Terra House): A student came into the office to report the theft of his bicycle. The cable lock had been cut and the bike had been stolen

ADVERTISEMENT

Kevin has numerous television appearances, which include Comedy Central's Premium Blend, Jimmy Kimmel Live, and HBO's Down and Dirty. Most recently he was the winner of 2009 NBC's Stand Up for Diversity Showcase. He was given a talent deal and showcased at the 2010 NACA National Conference, where he went on to book over 75 college dates.

KEVIN SHEA



December 2nd, 2010

Elsinore Theatre
170 High St SE
Salem, Oregon 97301

For tickets, please go to www.capitolproductionsinc.com
Doors Open at 6:30pm || Show starts at 7:30pm.

in the space of two hours.

▶ Nov. 17, 12:15 a.m. (Atkinson GSM): An employee called to report that a fire extinguisher was stolen from Atkinson Graduate School. A temporary one was installed until a new one could be ordered. It is unknown when it was taken or who might have taken it.

▶ Nov. 17, 5:30 p.m. (Lausanne Hall): A student came into the office to report the theft of his bicycle. The bike had been secured with a cable. When the student returned a week later it was stolen.

▶ Nov. 18, 10:50 a.m. (Matthews Hall): A student came into Campus Safety to report the theft of her bicycle. It was last seen over the weekend in the bike rack near Matthews and Belknap Halls. The cable lock used to secure the bike was found cut in half.

▶ Nov. 18, 2:30 p.m. (Lausanne Hall): A student came into Campus Safety to report the theft of his bicycle. He parked it on the south side of Lausanne using a cable lock. He returned the day after to find it had been stolen.

WELFARE CHECK

▶ Nov. 13, 6:00 p.m. (Off Campus): Three students reported that they were concerned about a student who had been depressed. The officer on duty made contact with the students to confirm that the student in question was doing fine.

Please contact Campus Safety if you have any information regarding these incidents:
safety@willamette.edu

WANT SOME EXTRA CASH?

THE COLLEGIAN IS HIRING AN AD MANAGER FOR SPRING 2011

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