

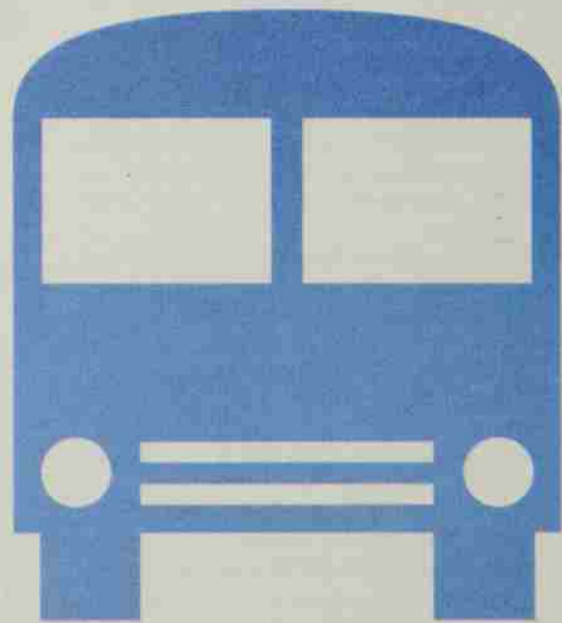
COLLEGIAN

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Underage drinking at Willamette

Amethyst Initiative provokes debate on decades-old laws

JENNY SEWARD
CONTRIBUTOR

Willamette University President M. Lee Pelton recently signed a petition, known as the Amethyst Initiative, calling for a nation-wide debate on the current legal drinking age of 21. Since its inception earlier this summer, 130 university presidents across the country have participated in the signing of the document. At the same time, however, Willamette has been reviewing its own policies on illegal drinking.

At the heart of the petition is a request to the public to examine whether the National Minimum Drinking Age Act is still viable today. Reports of increased solitary binge drinking by minors led Middlebury College President John McCordell to initiate the petition.

One of many groups opposed to the Amethyst Initiative is Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) who cite the increased possibility of drinking and driving fatalities as younger drivers gain access to alcohol and then get behind the wheel.

Many medical personnel are examining both sides of the issue as well. "Regarding the backlash from MADD, in my opinion, while driving is an important issue, I would be more concerned about alcohol interfering with brain development," Director of Bishop Health Center Margaret Trout said. "[Underage drinking] is a public health issue and any time the community can get engaged behind such an issue and start a discussion, I think that is a great place to start."

In response to underage drinking at Willamette, administrators and students alike are also examining alternatives to current policies. A spring 2008 survey conducted by the American College Health Association found that only 17 percent of Willamette CLA students have never consumed alcohol, and last year alone the school responded to 224 incidences of underage alcohol consumption.

The Office of Residence Life has to deal directly with a lot of these incidences. Director of Residence Life Marilyn Derby has been working with administrators, students and staff on examining university policy, including looking into amnesty policies similar to those in place at other liberal arts schools. These policies essentially shield students who have consumed too much alcohol and require medical attention from being charged with violating the Standards of Conduct of the university when they call for aid.

“I have not heard anyone who has signed the Amethyst Initiative say they have the answer. It is just time for a national debate.”

MARILYN DERBY
DIRECTOR OF RESIDENCE LIFE

"In essence we are already doing what other amnesty policies do," Derby said. "Unfortunately students seem to feel like they get in trouble when they call."

According to Derby, current policy depends on the situation but if any student does drink to the point of needing medical attention they are usually referred to a counselor by their area coordinator. In the past, minors were sent through a judicial process, involving a meeting with the University's Judicial Board, but now the administration is considering renaming their current policy and presenting it as an amnesty policy.

"I talked to resident assistants during their training period and they think the perception of the issue is a big deal. Even though currently students do not really get in trouble, if you have some catchy phrase like 'amnesty,' I think stu-

dents will be more likely to call," Derby said. "Of course if someone we know of has a serious problem, in order to save their life we might have a different policy."

In order to see whether students were delaying calling Campus Safety or Willamette Emergency Medical Services (WEMS) because of the perceived consequences, Residence Life ran a survey in November of 2007. Of those who had called Campus Safety for a student who had consumed too much alcohol, only 9 percent said they had ever delayed. On the other hand, 68 percent of the students surveyed believed other students would delay calling. Though the actual number of those not calling is lower than perceived, Derby and other staff are hoping to lower that number even more.

About 20 percent of the medical emergencies WEMS responds to involve the over consumption of alcohol. Student Director and sophomore Tyler Runyon estimates that about 90 percent of WEMS calls from campus come from students who are underage.

"WEMS does not have any control over discipline. Our jurisdiction is completely medical," Runyon said. "However, last year the policy was that the J-Board wrote letters to minors in possession on campus. There was no record for them. This year we are experimenting with a notice to go and see an alcohol counselor."

Part of the drive behind the Amethyst Initiative were reports that covert binge-drinking are on the rise on college campuses across the country. However, the signatories are trying to make it clear that they are not necessarily calling for a change in the national legal drinking age.

"From my understanding of it, I have not heard anyone who has signed [the Amethyst Initiative] and say they have the answer. It is just time for a national debate," Derby said.

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WEB excited, challenged by new budget

EDWARD MCGLONE
CONTRIBUTOR

The Willamette Events Board (WEB), which is responsible for planning events and activities for the student body, is expecting an increased budget this year, making room for more on-campus events and activities that appeal to a broad variety of interests.

According to the ASWU Constitution, which establishes budgets for ASWU Senate, WEB and other on-campus organizations, 27 percent of student body fees are directly apportioned to WEB for spending at their discretion.

Last year, WEB's budget reached \$86,000, helping to pay for such student favorites as the midnight breakfast, Black Tie formal dance and the screening of several popular movies. WEB co-President Chelsea McLennan says that due to the unusually large freshman class, their budget is expected to increase this year, but final budget numbers are not yet available.

Last year, according to McLennan, WEB did not program enough and left nearly \$12,000 unspent. An increased budget this year has left WEB leaders scrambling to plan more activities so as to avoid under spending.

McLennan says she is excited for an expanded budget, because it means more opportunities for a diverse set of programs such as the ghost hunters WEB is bringing to campus this Halloween. McLennan also hopes the student body will offer more input about programming.

Senior Sheila Kelly enjoyed the WEB drive in movies and "appreciate(s) their programs." When informed of WEB's larger budget, Senior Zandy Winslow encouraged events "geared towards upperclassmen ... things you couldn't get unless you went to Portland," such as concerts or cultural events.

Both McLennan and ASWU President Richard de Sam Lazaro said that ASWU's routine audit of WEB became relatively hostile, causing tension between the two organizations. "It just came down to miscommuni-

cation and there not being clear rules to what our role is," McLennan said.

Working to strengthen their relationship, both groups have moved their offices next door to each other in the Office of Student Activities. "The fact of the matter is we'll be working very closely," Lazaro said. WEB and ASWU have also worked together to establish spending guidelines and WEB will keep the senate regularly updated about their spending. "We're hoping this year to be proactive about it, keeping an open discussion with both Senate and Exec," McLennan said.

“Last year WEB did not program enough and left nearly \$12,000 unspent. An increased budget this year left leaders scrambling to plan more activities”

Lazaro says he has faith in the job that WEB is doing. "I don't think there is any tension between the two groups," Lazaro said. Vice President of the Executive Larkin Smith agreed, saying she is "not concerned at all" about the relationship between WEB and ASWU.

Lazaro said he is excited for WEB's events this year. "I've seen that these co-Presidents have been extremely enthusiastic in making sure the Willamette community doesn't get bored," Lazaro said.

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Due to an increase in the student body size, WEB will be allotted more money this year. It hopes to plan programs that will be enjoyable for all students.

COVER PHOTOS FROM LEFT: COURTESY OF TYLER THOMPSON, COURTESY OF WILLAMETTE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT, COLBY TAKEDA

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And you are having?

NOAH CHURCH
CONTRIBUTOR

It can be hard to get to know the Lunch Lady — she is always so busy, the line so long and your next class so soon. But if you ever stop by Goudy for a midday sandwich, chances are you recognize and even know the name of 57-year-old Dee Dee "Lunch Lady" Enquist. Dee Dee, who describes herself as "bubbly," came to Willamette after arthritis caused her to give up a career in dentistry. She says she loves getting to know the students here at Willamette as she performs a job she's passionate about. I sat down with Enquist to ask her a few questions.

Noah: So Dee Dee, how did you come to be employed at Willamette?

Dee Dee: At Willamette—When my children were small we would come to Goudy to have breakfast Sunday after church at St. Joseph's. Then one day about five and a half years ago I happened to see an ad in the paper and thought, "Oh, well I could do that." Went in, got interviewed, and was hired that day. I've been here ever since, and I really like my job.

Noah: You must have made an impression to be hired on the spot.

Dee Dee: (Laughs) Oh, yeah, I like to think so! My background: I do have a degree from Loyola in dental sciences and I used to teach up at the dental school in Oregon. I moved from Chicago to pursue that and later I taught junior and senior dental-schoolers how to work with auxiliary health, and then I later taught ten years at Chemeketa in the dental program until I had my children, and then I was off for ten years. Now I have come around to this. I have a son who's a senior at University of Oregon and a daughter who's a senior in high school.

Noah: What do you enjoy the most about your job here?

Dee Dee: I would say the students. To me, whatever's going on in my life, they are a very inspiring bunch of people to see. It can kind of take away any worry I might have just getting involved in their lives and seeing them and their smiling faces as they come through. So that is very satisfactory for me.

Noah: What do you not like about working here?

Dee Dee: Well, this I have said to my bosses: this is the only job I think I have ever had that I don't have to drag myself to—it's just time to go, time to go back and make the sandwiches and work. But probably just that it gets very busy. I wish it could be maybe a little slower paced, or just being sure that I always have what they would want, that I'm not out of anything and am able to accommodate them. I try not to look up when we're really busy, because I look up and see how long the line is.

It's better for me to just focus on what's right in front of me. ...

Noah: If Hollywood made a movie about you, would it sell?

Dee Dee: Well, I think it would spark some interest; I don't know if it would sell, but after my initial interview about two-and-a-half years ago for the Collegian that sparked another interview for the Statesman Journal, I ended up on the front page as the "Lunch Lady." I was constantly referred to as the Lunch Lady, and I've been stopped downtown and asked if I indeed am the Lunch Lady—in a bar.

Noah: (Laughs)
Dee Dee: So it kind of follows me. Would it make a good movie? I think it would. I mean, I'd be interested to know who might play me, but... (laughs).

Noah: What book or movie has most changed your life, and how?

Dee Dee: Oh boy. I would say the movie and the book "The Notebook." My dad passed away a year ago in April, and he was 88 then, and my mother will be 85, so I have what I like to refer to as "my big kid." ... My mother is headed into a dementia situation, and I think that book really brought in full circle, because my dad would have certainly been the caretaker for my mother. And theirs was quite a love story as well, because they were always so connected. ... So I would say that book, that movie; the parents in that movie quite well told a story that I really connected to.

Noah: Tell me about hobbies you love to pursue.

Dee Dee: Well, I do like to bake and cook. The State Fair has just ended, and I was in back talking to my coworkers, telling them how I have a blue ribbon and a \$10 prize award for cookies that I submitted years ago to the State Fair... And I was inspired by this latest State Fair to maybe try that again. ...

Noah: Finally, last question: Describe your perfect sandwich.

Dee Dee: (laughs) Perfect sandwich. Gee, there are so many that I make! ... I would probably go with just a very nice vegetarian sandwich. ... Maybe some focaccia bread with a sun dried tomato cream cheese with red peppers, maybe a Swiss cheese, spinach, the marinated onions that I make — I like those quite a bit, and they're colorful! Some portabellas and some grilled vegetables, and have that pressed just enough to have the cheese melt.

Noah: You're making me hungry!
Dee Dee: (laughs)

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For the full audio clip of the interview visit www.willamettecollegian.com.



Dee Dee "Lunch Lady" Enquist always has a smile on her face as she makes students sandwiches in Goudy. Enquist says the students are the best part of her job.

Gas prices alter student life

LAURA BRAITHWAITE
CONTRIBUTOR

With prices at the pump rising dramatically, many students, clubs and organizations at Willamette have a rough road ahead. Budgets are being altered to meet these financial circumstances to accommodate student life.

"As we estimate our T.A.B. [Take a Break] trips, it is up by a third overall from last year. It's definitely affecting travel and all the places that need transport," Dean of Campus Life Bob Hawkinson said.

Although the Lilly Project does have adequate funding for outreach grants, \$250 to \$500 for use of community outreach activities, guidelines to be approved for the larger grants will become stricter. If the Lilly Project notices that this program could be done using public transportation, they will tell students to use it. "It will bring more conservation. If people could actually fit 15 people in the back of a van they will do anything they could to do that," Lilly Project Coordinator Karen Wood said. "Hopefully there will be a lot of collaboration between clubs and organizations so that they can use our resources wisely."

Regarding trips for community outreach and service organizations ASWU President Richard de Sam Lazaro said, "going further isn't as practical anymore and I'm sure that's the way it will be for all clubs when they're going on retreats and seeing things in Portland, it's a little more expensive and a little bit less feasible."

One of the biggest concerns hitting the Willamette campus regarding the gas price crisis is the fact that many students may not be able to return home for the holidays due to the high cost of travel. The coordinators

of campus life are currently in discussion over this issue.

According to Hawkinson, this became a larger issue when certain parents of first year students spoke with administrators beginning to regret that they could not afford to have their children come home for Thanksgiving. Although residence halls are open, food services are not. "In the past people who have come from a distance tend to go home with other students at Thanksgiving. That's a very common pattern that happened even when I was in college," Hawkinson said.

Freshman and Texas native Kyle Michaels said that she could not travel home for Thanksgiving and will be spending it with friends in Portland instead. "We only have four days, and it costs a lot of money to buy a plane ticket all the way to Texas with not enough time to actually spend with family and friends. It's heartbreaking because it's my first time away and it's hard to not be there for a holiday when most families are together," Michaels said.

Although these circumstances seem tough, there is a Willamette family to fall back on. "It's kind of depressing. It's never been replacement for family, but there have been times when I don't go home for Thanksgiving or Christmas because I have stuff to do on campus. It's amazing though how you can make a Willamette family," Lazaro said. "I've had a professor when there are nine students in our course that weren't going home invite us to his house. So, there is always someone else in the same position. It's not fun but there are people here who will support you and you won't be lonely."

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Ruth Bader Ginsburg | Women in the workplace



MOLLY DARVER

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg began the 2008-2009 Arkinson Lecture Series on Friday, Sept. 12. As only the second Supreme Court Justice to visit Willamette, Ginsburg's address was extremely well-attended, with a line stretching from the steps of Smith Auditorium all the way to the front of the University Center. Ginsburg spoke on women's rights, specifically women and family rights in regards to labor practices. She cited a variety of court cases on the subject, tracing the nation's progress thus far in this area. During the question and answer session after her speech, a student asked Ginsburg, "if [she] could be any amendment, which one [she] would be?" She answered that there was no question, she would be the 14th amendment. When asked if she had any advice for feminists today, Ginsburg responded that young feminists should go for what they want, be independent and not let anything hold them back.

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RESTAURANT REVIEW: **Muchas Gracias****Making happy memories is Muchas Gracias' legacy**TYLER THOMPSON
SPORTS EDITOR

There will come a time during your college life when you'll make a discovery that will change the way you look at the world. Just 941 steps from campus, a ten-minute walk for those dedicated enough to make it, there lies a building that was constructed for people like you and me. For the unacquainted, the name piques curiosity and a distant longing. For those that have discovered the restaurant's secret, it's a name that breeds extreme hunger and intestinal anxiety.

I am, of course, talking about Muchas Gracias. If you haven't been to Muchas yet, it's probably about time you stopped in. I promise you, I've probably been 60 times in the last few years, and while sometimes I regret the decision (okay, most of the time I regret the decision) it's been an interesting trip every time.

I was a freshman when I first found Muchas. We'd make the trek at least once every weekend, smoke cigars along the way, talk about life, and then wander around Salem until late into the night.

As a sophomore, I was racing a friend to the doors when I fell face first into the curb only to bounce back up and get into line, my face and hands cut up for weeks afterward. And as a junior, emboldened by my perceived seniority, I greeted the workers with a resounding, "Hey Muchas Gracias employees!" before trying to convince the waitress that I used to work for the company and that I was capable of making my own food. I ran into the back, was tripped by the cook, and then sprinted back to campus, convinced that they'd call the cops.

My point is, going to Muchas is about making memories. The food is somewhere between heart wrenchingly delicious and stomach clenchingly disgusting. The atmosphere, bullet holes and all, is borderline unsafe and the friends you'll meet along the way will make you lose faith in humanity. But I guess in a way, you don't go to Muchas for the food, atmosphere, or sense of security. You go to Muchas because you're in college. You go because stumbling 941 steps for a grease-filled tortilla is never a bad idea.

When I'm at Muchas, I just feel like I'm living the dream. Muchas Gracias is everything college is supposed to be — down



Senior Tyler Thompson poses with an employee of local restaurant Muchas Gracias.

to the styrofoam cups filled with cheap beer, the meth-heads yelling obscenities outside, and the giant duck overseeing everything from 12 feet over State Street.

A word for the wise, Muchas Gracias is best served after midnight, and sobriety is optional, but not recommended. Go out and get some. I promise you won't be disappointed.

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▶ more info

Address: 1980 State Street
Telephone: 503-588-1710
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a weekMOVIE REVIEW: **'Transforming Energy'****New eye-opening documentary**LYDIA BURNETT
STAFF WRITER

Transforming Energy is a new documentary that follows an immensely important trend. Recently, many films have been released in order to alert people to the ever-growing dangers of global warming and issues with oil. Though you may feel that you have learned all you can about the current state of Earth, Transforming Energy shows that you certainly have not thought about it like this.

This eye-opening film gives the opinions of many different people all somehow involved in trying to prevent climate change. You hear many perspectives, from the ideas of the visionaries, the strides of the engineers, the call of the activists and even the first hand accounts of victims of global warming. It follows several stories, from the students aiding in discovering advances in solar powered transportation, to a stonemason making life-altering changes in order to benefit our environment. The movie introduces opposing opinions, even giving credit to perhaps less optimistic and less popular views on the Earth's current state.

Though not an extraordinarily high budget or high profile documentary, Transforming Energy is a very effective film. It engrains in the audience the idea that our current way of life is not sustainable. The documentary shows that it will not be one solution, such as just ethanol or only solar panels that will help the Earth's predicament. Instead, Transforming Energy shows that as inhabitants of the Earth we must combine all these efficient alternative sources of energy, from bio-fuels to wind power.

It motivates the audience by showing so many attainable solutions of global warming. The audience hears the plea of the native Alaskan village near the Bering Sea, which brings the movie to a much more human level. Their story shows that this climate and energy problem is not all science mumbo jumbo, it is affecting the human race and we must do something. It is endearing and, most importantly, informative. Its willingness to see all perspectives of the situation is very refreshing; it allows the audience to fully understand all the available options.

What is so striking about the movie is that the options it proposes are not completely unattainable or even very far-fetched. Why haven't we taken a serious look at these alternatives? Why do people giggle at the thought of solar powered vehicles? How can we not do something when people's homes are being taken away? I would think that watching species of animals disappear one by one would be our call into action. What restrains us is the thought that none of this will be easy. Transforming Energy addresses that it is not a simple switch but a lifestyle change and effectively using all our alternative energy methods. Thanks to us, the Earth's booboo is too big for just one Band-Aid.

Contact: lburnett@willamette.eduHISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE TELEVISION: **Environmental mascots****It's not easy being green on TV**MICHAEL CAULEY
REVIEWS EDITOR

The environment is a trendy topic right now, I won't deny that. Al Gore rescued himself from political oblivion with a very persuasive PowerPoint presentation on how we're wrecking the planet's atmosphere, and Woody Harrelson's still trying to find a way to make his car run on hemp (I hear he's almost got it!). However, those of us who've paid attention over the years (or just have a photographic memory for ridiculous pop culture crap) know that the word's been out about cleaning up Mother Earth for years now, and just because people are starting to take up notice in the 21st century doesn't mean that the trailblazing visionaries from our recent past should be forgotten. So, for your reading pleasure, here's a short run-down of the environmental heroes that inspired people all across the nation to occasionally clean up after themselves.

Captain Planet and the Planetheers (1990)

The brainchild of wacko media magnate Ted Turner, the Planetheers, a gang of international teenagers, fought the evil machinations of polluting villains for six seasons on TBS (yep, it was actually on that long). However, when their magic rings' powers combined ("Earth! Fire! Wind! Water! Heart!") they formed Captain Planet, a brawny silver superman who could probably have kicked their butts if he wanted but instead decided to fight evil polluters wherever they may be. Granted, the villains were a tad broad (they seemed to be polluting for the hell of it without any grander aims, and they all had names like Looten Plunder, Verminous Skumm, and Duke Nukem), plus you can't help but hurt for poor Ma-Ti, the Planetheer from South America, who got stuck with the doofy Heart power while his friends' powers were significantly more useful. Overall though, Captain Planet showed us all the most important lesson of all: the best way to tell someone to pick up their trash is by punching them first.

The Crying Indian (1970)

Back during the Nixon administration, there was a great man named Iron Eyes Cody. He stood on the side of the interstate, watched as a man thoughtlessly threw his bag of trash out the window, wounding the planet with hamburger wrappers. Unable to contain his emotions any longer, the stoic Native American let loose only one single tear at the thoughtlessness of modern man. Heartbreaking stuff. The fact that Cody was in fact Italian (compose yourself if necessary) doesn't hinder a still very powerful commercial for Keep America Beautiful. You'd do well to YouTube the spot, though it may not be necessary as it aired like ten million times over the next three decades. Seriously, I saw it during an episode of Mighty Morphin' Power Rangers when I was eight and it really bummed me out.

Woody Owl (1973)

In the 1970s, the U.S. Forest Service introduced a

“When their magic rings' powers combined ("Earth! Fire! Wind! Water! Heart!") they formed Captain Planet.”

friendly six-foot-tall giant owl who took to the airwaves with just one important message: "Give a hoot, don't pollute!" Yes, even though the large bird mascot in question didn't in fact even have working arms with which to pick up trash himself, Woody devoted his life to telling seven-year-olds to throw their crap in the garbage can in commercials sandwiched between episodes of "The Scooby-Do/Dynomutt Hour". Dammit, that's just plain ballsy.

And so of course, because the Bush Administration has to ruin everything, Woody Owl's been given a new slogan as of 2006: "Lend a hand, care for the land!" Pardon me while I vomit.

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COURTESY OF UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

Woody Owl is pictured walking through the woods in this 1973 promotional postcard.

Artists investigate our relationship to the environment

SARAH LYDECKER
CONTRIBUTOR

We live in a society that is dominated by the instant gratification of technology. The ability to contact people via internet or cell phone 24 hours a day, to travel vast distances on a whim with the use of personal automobiles, and the many luxuries of electricity allow us to forget that we are still but animals—just one species living in the biosphere. Our ability to create tools allows us much convenience but carries with it a great responsibility to the environment. Throughout history, humans have ignored this fact and today we live with the crushing implications that have arisen from thousands of years of conspicuous consumption. Don't believe me? Read "Ishmael."

The rising cost of gasoline is just one component in the mess we are in. Humanity has such great potential to create and to live in harmony with the world, yet instead we ignore this in favor of subjugating the earth for personal gains. This method of living is NOT sustainable; we will either continue to consume until there is nothing left but canalization or find a way to achieve balance with nature. The snake cannot eat its tail forever.

As it becomes increasingly obvious that the world is going to hell, more artists chose to confront this stark reality through their work. The concept of art as a mode of personal expression and exploration is a fascinat-

ing one, especially when one considers how rapidly technology has become the cohesive element that binds our daily life together.

There are artists who chose to investigate the relationship between that which they create and the environment. These environmental artists include the likes of Joseph Beuys and Andy Goldsworthy, both of whom have used natural materials to make works that emphasized the transformative power of nature and the condition of the local environment. In 1982, Beuys created the work 7000 Oaks in which he attempted to reforest a plot of land with oak trees. Goldsworthy is known for his site-specific sculptures that are made from found objects and also for popularizing the art of rock balancing.

Particularly interesting is the manner in which environmental artists interact with their environment as an equal, and not simply something to be exploited. It is necessary that Willamette deepens its appreciation for the environment. In the coming weeks there will be a showing of Andy Goldsworthy's film "Rivers and Tides" with an accompanying discussion, as well as a campus-wide art event that will promote the appreciation of nature through the making of art. Look for flyers around campus soon for more details, and in the meantime, look around and revel in the majesty of nature.

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Artist Andy Goldsworthy creates site-specific works of art from purely natural materials. COURTESY OF GRAEME MITCHELL

ART HISTORY FOR COCKTAIL PARTIES: Hedonism and its discontents: artists' reflections on our decadent culture



ALISA ALEXANDER

ARTS EDITOR

America is like the bratty younger sibling of world power. We want what we want, how we want it, and when we want it, and we want it NOW, whether it be the last cherry popsicle, new Lego set, or floundering African country. America will harass Mommy and Daddy until they relent into shameful submission.

It is therefore no surprise that we are in this high-gas-price/energy crisis. Walking? What's that? I refuse to walk with the proletariats, I am instead going to drive



If art and beauty are truly amoral, then it doesn't really matter if people are sculpting statues out of poodle puppies or painting pictures of naked women riding blocks of Velveeta.

ALISA ALEXANDER
ARTS EDITOR

my big yellow Hummer to the nearest Starbucks. I don't care that it's only half a mile from my house, thank you very much (and when someone drives such a big car, you've got to wonder, what are they compensating for that is so small?). We live in a culture of hedonism, pleasure being the most important pursuit of all. And hey, I'm not going to judge. I'd butter my toast and cream my coffee with hedonism if I could, but there is something to be said about practicing it in moderation.

This decadent hedonism permeates all elements of our culture, and has taken a special fancy to the art world. British artist Damien Hirst knows how to appeal to our obsession with indulgence; he recently sold his work "For the Love of God" for the highest price in history of any living artist—\$100 million dollars. That's more than the gross domestic product of Tuvalu.

The work is, no shit, a human skull encrusted with \$15 million dollars worth of diamonds. Somewhere my tiny, buried conscience is thinking, wow; you could

probably feed a handful of people with that money, but what the hell. It just proves that people are going to spend their money on whatever they want, no matter how frivolous.

But when it really comes down to lavish decadence there is no artist that does it better than Jeff Koons. Of course, he's American. He has to be to produce the kind of art he does. He relies on pop culture, kitsch, and total narcissism to propel his work. There is, perhaps, no piece of art that better expresses our cultural obsession with celebrity and tackiness than Koons' "Michael Jackson with Bubbles."

I was horrified yet semi-intrigued by the large, gilded, porcelain sculpture when I saw

portraits in pornography. But I think that our capacity to constantly consume without regard for the ramifications stems from the same place that Koons' work does. It's about the pleasure principle, only we're leaving out one giant part of the equation. Attain greatest amount of pleasure but try and cause the least amount of pain to others. We're getting our jollies, that's for sure, but it ain't helping the rest of the world.

If art and beauty are truly amoral, as Schjeldahl says, then it doesn't really matter if people are sculpting statues out of poodle puppies or painting pictures of naked women riding blocks of Velveeta (see artist Mel Ramos for a fine example). Hedonism in art has its place — it's there to tell us when we are being idiots, to realize that what we find so preposterous in art is more

or less what we are doing to the world. Our grandchildren (well, yours, not mine; there is no way in hell I am going to procreate) won't really know what a polar bear is, or salmon, for that matter.

Before I get too preachy on you, I'm going to retreat back into my art cave. Reserve your hedonism for your Saturday night binge-drinking or Rococo sculpture. Just try not to pump your SUVs full of it, or government policies.

Art has many purposes; it's there for us when we want to be self-indulgent, and there to tell us when we've gone overboard. I use it as my barometer, my moral gauge, because really, who needs a giant crucifix of Christ to tell you when you've screwed up when you've got Michael Jackson and Bubbles?

Contact: alexandra@willamette.edu

it at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in 2004. It's a garish, almost nauseating work, but that's what makes it the perfect American sculpture. He's laughing at us, but he knows what he's doing. Long gone are sculptures of Roman emperors, in this day and age, we get Michael Jackson lounging languidly with his chimpanzee.

It gets better. Koons' has a whole series titled "Made in Heaven" that includes numerous sculptures of the artist and a model named Lloona gettin' down and dirty. In various positions, and various media. You don't even have to guess what's going on, just read the titles: "Dirty-Jeff on Top", "Position Three- Kama Sutra", and so on. This is American pop art at its most hedonistic and degenerate.

So what? You say—this does not have anything to do with gas prices or our current economic situation. There are more important things to worry about than some artist who apparently enjoys making self-



Hedonist art at its best: Jeff Koons's "Michael Jackson and Bubbles." COURTESY OF EARLHAM COLLEGE

Seven years later: me

LIS WAGNER
FEATURE EDITOR

Beyond its skeletal foundation of facts, history largely consists of interpretation. The past is never truly remembered as it was, but instead as it was observed and preserved. Memories are filtered with the passage of time, but with time also comes newfound wisdom in the form of hindsight, illuminating memories from a different perspective as the world around us evolves.

Thus, our history of 9/11/01 will never be static. Each year invites us, as citizens of the U.S. and as global citizens, to reflect on the events of Sept. 11 and to reconstruct what the tragic and pivotal day means to us at this point in time. In response to the seventh anniversary of 9/11 last Thursday, a handful of students and faculty from the Willamette community have shared their personal memories and thoughts of a day in history that will never be forgotten.

Contact: ewagner@willamette.edu

I was in the sixth grade. I walked out to the bus stop on the corner of my street, which I shared with one other kid. He told me that the World Trade Center had been attacked. I said, "Oh," and reverted to my usual silence. I didn't recognize any significance to his comment because I had no idea what the World Trade Center or twin towers were; I also didn't want to reveal my ignorance, so I didn't ask questions. I thought, "It's just something far away that won't really affect me." Shortly afterward my dad came out and repeated the news, and over the next few weeks all I saw on TV and heard people talk about was the attack. I gradually learned more and more, and when I got older I researched the event. Now that I know so much more, I reflect back on my thought in sixth grade that 9/11 would not much affect my life—and I realize that I am lucky enough for that thought to be true, in a way. 9/11 did not directly touch me. In another way, however, 9/11 has defined my generation. It was a reason to learn about the Middle East, to become politically active, to rally for war or for peace, and to reconsider the United States and the world.

Freshman Noah Church
nchurch@willamette.edu

I was a graduate student, living in Madison, WI, with my wife in September, 2001. She was more than five months pregnant with our first child. Like virtually everyone, I remember in vivid detail where I was when I first heard that "something was happening." It was just before 8:00 a.m. CMT, and I'd just stepped out of the shower. My wife was in the bedroom getting ready to leave for work. I turned the television on, put on the "Today" show, and saw an aerial image of one of the towers burning. About 5 minutes later, I incredulously watched as something flashed across the TV screen and there was an explosion in the second tower. Soon after, I called my father, who lives in Central Washington, and woke him up; I told him he needed to be watching the news. Some time later, I recall holding my head in my hands and pleading with the first tower to stop falling as I watched it on live television. The second, of-course, fell shortly thereafter. For the remainder of that day and into those that followed, every dimension of life - emotions, day-to-day tasks, interacting with others - seemed clouded by stunning confusion.

I do not reflect on 9/11/2001 as a stand-alone event. For me, it is inextricably linked to the anthrax letters that began circulating about a week after 9/11; these were initially presumed to be part of a broader, coordinated attack that had started on 9/11. The emotional and psychological effect of both attacks together was—truly—terrorizing. The first seemed so unbelievable and surreal—planes don't fly into towers,

and sky-scrapers don't fall down; this had never happened. The second increased the uncertainty exponentially - what daily event could we possibly take for granted more than getting the mail? Yet, this suddenly became a potentially deadly activity. This had the effect of making people wonder what the next element of the attack would be ... food supply systems? Water processing plants? Was a nuclear detonation a possibility? For me, this sense of fear dragged on for months; almost as vivid as my memories of 9/11 is my recollection of the conscious relief that I felt in mid-December when I left the country to spend three months in Mexico. Finally, I had left the perpetual and uncertain fear behind for a little while. Yet, my son was soon to be born into this historical reality.

We have not, in my opinion, gotten the response right in the aftermath. That which would cause people to perpetrate systematically such a horrible crime must be, I believe, a far more complex set of motivations, contexts, and reactions than we can comprehend in the short term - even less so when we allow the issues to be framed for us in short media sound bytes, political photo opportunities, and hubris-laced public discourses on patriotism and might. But regardless of the paths we have chosen these past seven years, it is my hope that we will begin to think about all of this with far greater humility, dispassionate analysis, and reason as we move into the future.

Kelly Strawn, Sociology Professor
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Sometimes broken. My mom
"Chris, some
reporter said.
but my ears w
time I was o
to turn on th
seventh grade
I walked i
What are the
sound so up
table with his
He didn't tur
where a report
of the twin to
turned to mo
the phone ran
the phone or
even finish m
the phone le
turned up th
type of cereal
"...We dor

It was freshman year
My mom came to wake
earlier than normal. She
big was happening and w
the news. I knew close to
twin towers. When the
a plane had crashed into
didn't think about the re
have happened. I was sin
worried and sad for the
day at school I found o
was the culprit. I was si
I didn't think anything
happen here. All we did
was watch the news.
Senior Stephanie Good
sgood@willamette.edu

Memories of 9-11

I heard about the Sept. 11 attacks during my second year in Singapore, where I was getting my bachelor's degree in computer science. A friend of mine heard the news on CNN and sent me a text message telling me to watch the news. From then on I saw it all over the news. It really shocked me. Before 9/11 I had not been aware of the hatred aimed at the U.S. from other countries and cultures. Since then I have also felt the racial repercussions in my own life; before 9/11 it would have been a lot easier for me to get a visa to enter the U.S.

**Quang Nguyen, international student from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Atkinson school, '12**

...times all the rules have to be...
...y mom woke me up really early...
...something's happened! The NPR...
...aid..." Mom was talking to me...
...rs weren't working yet. By the...
...s out of bed, mom had gone...
...n the TV. Hardly your typical...
...ade, California morning...
...d into the kitchen wondering...
...the twin towers? Why did mom...
...upset? Dad sat on the coffee...
...his bowl of cereal in his hands...
...turn to me; he watched the TV...
...porter repeated, "A plane hit one...
...n towers a few minutes ago..." I...
...mom to ask, "what are..." and...
...rang. My mother never picks up...
...on the first ring. But I didn't...
...my question. Mom talked into...
...e loudly, frantically, and dad...
...he volume of the TV. What...
...eal should I have this morning?...
...don't know who is behind this

attack?..." I turned to my father to ask him, "What are the twin-" and he hushed me and motioned for me to come over. Frustrated, I sat beside my sister and my father to watch the TV say "...and it's still burning and huaaagh OH MY GOD!! ANOTHER PLANE CRASHED INTO THE SECOND TOWER!!" My cereal choice became less important than the tears rolling down my dad's face. I was frustrated, hungry, and something was happening to our country I didn't understand...and "A second plane just..." I was wondering why mom was yelling at me to eat. How can I eat when "Oh dear GOD!! it's FALLING..." even the reporters are scared...

My mom, dad, sister and I sat with our tears and empty stomachs, our lives on hold.

Sophomore Chris Armstrong
charmstr@willamette.edu

...year of high school...
...ke up my sister and I...
...she told us something...
...d we needed to watch...
...to nothing about the...
...e news declared that...
...nto the twin towers I...
...e reason why it might...
...simply surprised and...
...he victims. Later that...
...d out that terrorism...
...is shocked, horrified...
...ing like that would...
...did all day at school



COLBY TAKEDA

Professors Kelley Strawn, David Gutterman, Camillio Gomez-Rivas and Stas Vysotsky spoke at the first convocation of the semester at Cone Chapel in Waller Hall. The discussion, held last Thursday on the seventh-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, explored reactions to and implications of 9/11 that shape our world today.

BASEBALL

Coaching change a shock for baseball team

TIM WALSH
CONTRIBUTOR

Willamette University's usually stable baseball program received a shock at the start of the school year with the surprise resignation of head coach Matt Allison.

Allison, who owned a 92-97 record with the Bearcats over five seasons, submitted his letter of resignation on Sept. 1, just before the start of the school year. In 2008, Allison guided Willamette to a 20-20 overall finish (16-15 in the NWC).

According to Athletic Director Mark

Majeski, Allison gave no written reason for resigning, but senior All-American and reigning Conference Player of the Year Kyle Stalker indicated in an interview that there had been some friction between Allison and the athletic administration.

"When we heard the news, there was a lot of frustration [among the team]," Stalker said. "The timing was really unfortunate."

Both Majeski and senior second baseman Ellis Webster agreed that the timing of the resignation, just a short while before the beginning of



"We're very lucky to be able to bring in Coach Swick. It was absolutely the right move to make."

KYLE STALKER
FIRST BASEMAN

fall practice, made the situation extremely difficult.

However, Webster offered additional insight into Allison's decision. "He just wanted the team to progress beyond what he felt he could offer us," Webster said Monday. "Obviously, we didn't want him to go—he was a true players' coach—but in the end it was his decision."

Whatever the circumstances of Allison's resignation, the hiring of interim head coach Aaron Swick seems to have met with unanimous approval.

Swick, who served as Allison's assistant in the 2006 and 2007 seasons, spent the past year as a graduate assistant at South Dakota State University and as an assistant with the Green Bay Bullfrogs of the Northwoods League.

"We were really fortunate to get a great young coach like Coach Swick," Majeski said. "He was here for two years, he knows Willamette, and he knows the team — he recruited probably 80% of them."

Webster agreed. "Obviously, as a team, we'd have liked to have some input in the hiring. Given the timing, that didn't happen. But had we been able to pick, we'd have chosen Coach Swick."

Stalker echoed both Webster and Majes-

ki: "We're very lucky to be able to bring in Coach Swick. It was absolutely the right move to make."

Swick, who pitched for the University of California-Berkeley, brings "a different edge. He's a bit more aggressive and focuses more on fitness," Stalker said. And pitching will need to be an area of focus for Willamette after last season, when a team ERA of 7.54 repeatedly foiled an offense that averaged approximately eight runs per game.

Despite the renewed emphasis on pitching and defense, both Webster and Stalker appeared confident that the transition would be smooth.

"We've got a unique chemistry," said Stalker, "and we're going to have a great season." Webster offered similar thoughts. "The transition is going to be really smooth. Coach Swick commands a lot of respect."

"We disappointed ourselves last year," continued Webster. "We could have done a lot better. But we're working even harder, and we're going to win."

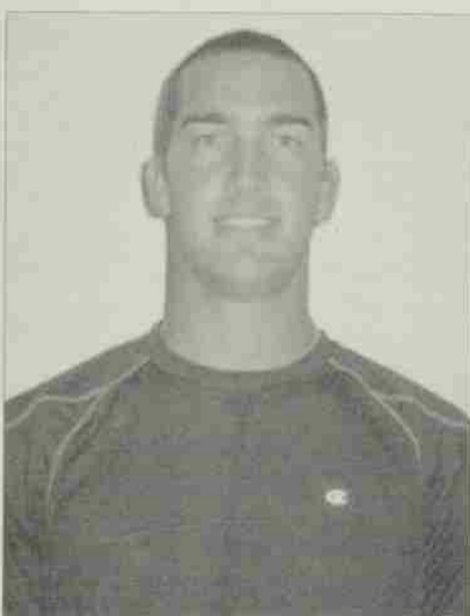
Swick is the second new head coach appointed in the NWC this off-season. At Whitworth University, 2008 graduate Dan Ramsay was appointed head coach in May.

Contact: twalsh@willamette.edu



COURTESY OF WILLAMETTE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Former head coach Matt Allison submitted his resignation on Sept. 1, 2008.



COURTESY OF WILLAMETTE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Former assistant Aaron Swick will take over as Head Baseball Coach for the 2009 season.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Bearcats take key game from UC Santa Cruz

Women leave California 1-2

CAMERON MITCHELL
CONTRIBUTOR

Nothing came easy for the Bearcats Women's Soccer team this weekend, as they traveled to California to take on three well-established soccer programs. Willamette came away with a record of 1-2 on the road trip, including a 1-0 victory against UC Santa Cruz on Monday. The win came after two defeats to Cal State East Bay and University of Redlands.

The Bearcats, who lost to Santa Cruz last season, got revenge on a goal scored by freshman Kimber Mattox. The goal came with less than nine minutes remaining in the game to give Willamette the 1-0 victory.

The Banana Slugs are a force to be reckoned with on the west coast and are routinely in the top 25 in the nation. Sophomore goalie Kelli Gano played another stellar game with three saves and her second shutout of the 2008 season. While the Bearcats scored the only goal of the game, they only managed seven shots compared to their opponents' 12.

On Saturday, the Bearcats took on the University of Redlands in an afternoon thriller that ended in a Willamette loss. The Redlands Bulldogs won the game on a goal in overtime by Kelsey Kimmel. It was an unassisted goal that came only 90 seconds into the first overtime period. Senior Lauren Miller recorded four of

the Bearcats' nine shots in the loss.

The first game of the road trip paired the Bearcats with Cal State East Bay, an independent division III school. This match, like the others, was a hard fought battle.

The Pioneers scored on an early goal to take a 1-0 lead. The team added one more in the first half, followed by a third in the second half. But Willamette was not finished, as Mattox put the Bearcats on the board with a goal in the 77th minute. The Bearcats were heavily out shot in the contest, as they lost that battle by a score of 23 to eight. Junior Rachel Janny supplied the team with four of the eight shots.

Now, with a record of 2-2, the Bearcats return home to Sparks field to begin Northwest Conference Play. First up, the Whitman Missionaries travel to Salem for the conference opener.

Last season the Bearcats tied Whitman at home, only to lose 3-0 to the team from Walla Walla, WA, later in the year. The game kicks off at noon on Saturday at Sparks field.

Contact: cmitchell@willamette.edu

▼ next up

Bearcats v. Whitman @ Sparks Field Saturday, Sept. 20 at 12p.m.

Rugby | Direct from the match

LUKE RUSSELL
GUEST WRITER

Our first game of the season was quite a memorable one.

Junior Stephen Scott, captain of our rugby squad, contacted numerous alumni with the hope of setting up a friendly match. The club is extremely grateful for the numerous donations from alumni over the past few years and this match was the perfect way to extend our gratitude. This game was also the unveiling of our new white home jerseys that the team was able to purchase with the donations received from alums.

The match featured some good play from both sides. "The Old Boys" outmatched us in strength and pushed us around on most of the rucks, but our side countered with a decent running game highlighted by juniors Allon Freiman

and Andrew Momboquette.

It was also a good match for the first timers to get acclimated with the game and rules. Senior Kellen Peters, playing his first game, had a great try in the second half when he ran down a kick from the opposite side of the field.

The score was an afterthought in this game as everybody was having a great time. After time expired, all the ruggers circled up for our traditional "BASASRRBASAS" chant and it signified something special.

The "Golden Oldie" award was presented to Brian Kaufman for his extreme generosity in providing us with warm-ups.

The alumni game will now be an annual tradition after the success of this year. I look forward to coming back after Willamette to experience this as an "Old Boy" myself.

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FUEL CONTROVERSY

Athletic budget in trouble with increased travel costs

Department creative in covering costs

TYLER THOMPSON
SPORTS EDITOR

In a nation where travel costs have spiked significantly in the last 12 months, everyone feels the crunch.

An athletic program that maintains 20 teams per year, Willamette's athletic department budgets hundreds of thousands of dollars each semester for travel costs.

"We schedule a year ahead of time," Director of Athletics Mark Majeski said, "but in the last year, travel costs have gone up, bus costs have gone up, and airplane costs have gone up dramatically."

When the budget was created, such increases were not taken into account, leaving much of this extra money unaccounted for.

According to Head Football Coach Mark Speckman, his team's trip to Southern California last year cost roughly \$20,000. This year, the same trip will cost the school nearly \$32,000.

"There's clearly a need to address these things," Majeski said. "There are lots of things on this campus that need money."

But while budget restraints are tight this year, Majeski is confident that the school will not let its teams down. "We have a plan in place to cover these costs," he said. "It will take a more focused and concerted effort to raise money [including] better communication with alumni, parents, and friends."

Majeski is also confident that, while the school maintains steadfast support for its 20 teams, budgetary cutbacks in other areas will be considered.

"It's definitely part of the conversation," Majeski said.

"You make maintenance [and] staffing cuts, little things here and there," Speckman said.

According to Speckman, one of the major cost increases for travel this year has come from the airline industry. Plane tickets to California last year cost around \$200 per student. This year, the same ticket may cost upwards of \$250.

Also, because airlines are cutting back on the number of flights offered, the football team needed to stay an extra night in Los Angeles for their game last weekend, a win against California Lutheran. The extra night required more money to be spent in other areas as well.

"You know, you've got to feed 100 guys, and everything is just a couple of bucks more," Speckman said.

With only nine teams in the Northwest Conference (six of which play football) many teams don't have a choice but to travel far from home for road games.

"If you want to have a football team, these trips are absolutely necessary," Speckman said.

When asked if trips such as the one this weekend to California would be cut in the future, Majeski was clear in his response. "That would be the wrong reaction. You can't take things away from the programs and the students."

Contact: tthomps@willamette.edu



The women's soccer team gathers before boarding buses for the weekend's road trip to southern California. COLBY TAKEGA



Scheduled a year in advance, long road trips are a necessity for many Willamette sports teams. COLBY TAKEGA

VOLLEYBALL: A PLAYER'S PERSPECTIVE

Team drops four matches over tough weekend

CHRISTINA MCGILVRY
CONTRIBUTOR

This weekend we traveled to Thousand Oaks, California to play in the California Lutheran Tournament. We played against four tough California teams including California Lutheran University, a team ranked 22nd in the NCAA Division III National Poll.

We dropped four matches this weekend, losing to the University of Redlands, Pomona-Pitzer, Claremont-Mudd-Scripps, and California Lutheran.

In our opening match on Friday, Sept. 12, we played against California Lutheran. We played soundly and held off a dominating offensive attack from the Regals, who put up a staggering .329 hitting percentage.

CLU won the match 25-19, 25-10, and 25-17. Jessica Durham led our team with seven kills and 12 digs. Freshman right side hitter Anika Moffett added five kills while Clare Chedester added 20 setting assists.

Later against Redlands, we were defeated 25-20, 25-17, and 25-14. Freshman Jaela Dinsmore moved forward from defensive specialist and stepped in as an outside hitter. She led the team with eight kills and ten digs and a .208 hitting percentage. Carli Sash added six kills in the match. Chedester added 14 assists while Christine Dion contributed 11 assists.

We began play early Saturday morning against Pomona-Pitzer University, losing 25-16, 25-10, and 25-17. Later that day we took on Claremont-Mudd-Scripps for our final pre-season match, losing 25-20, 25-18, and 25-15.

We had to play this weekend without our right-side hitter Jessica McGraw due to an abdominal injury she sustained Monday during practice. This week during practice we will need to focus on eliminating unforced errors and cutting down long runs by our opponents.

We open our 2008 Northwest Conference season this weekend against Whitworth University on Friday, Sept. 19 and Whitman College on Saturday, Sept. 20. The conference this year consists of eight other very strong teams, including Puget Sound University, ranked 9th nationally, and Pacific Lutheran University, ranked 16th nationally. Pacific Lutheran finished first in the NWC last year, but lost to Puget Sound in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division III tournament.

Other strong teams we look to compete with this season are Linfield University, who finished third last year and is currently predicted to finish third in 2008. Whitworth University and Pacific University round out the top five teams picked to compete in the conference this season.

We travel to Spokane, WA on Friday to take on the Pirates at 7 p.m. followed by Walla Walla, WA on Saturday to play Whitman at 5 p.m.

Contact: cmcgilv@willamette.edu

▼ next up

Bearcats v. Whitworth @ Spokane, WA Friday, Sept. 19 at 7p.m.

FOOTBALL

Football dominant in second straight win

STEPHAN GARRETT
CONTRIBUTOR

The Willamette football team proved to be equally as dominant in Thousand Oaks, California as it was in its home opener. The Bearcats continued their strong start to the season with a 31-17 win on the road against California Lutheran. Willamette confirmed its resolution in coming back from a 7-3 halftime deficit by outscoring California Lutheran 28-10 in the second half.

Once again, the defense proved to be a major spark for the team, forcing five turnovers for the second straight week. The turnover count notwithstanding, the defense was especially tough in the second half, holding the Kingsmen to a meager 93 yards of total offense.

The offense performed equally well with an exceptional performance from senior flanker Merben Woo who gained 113 yards and scored two touchdowns. The offense also peaked in the second half scoring 28 points and gaining 193 yards of total offense to trounce the opposing Kingsmen.

The game was not without its problems, however, as the Bearcats watched CLU drive 98 yards at the end of the second quarter to take a 7-3 lead. It would be the team's last and only lead, however, as it would be unable to match that drive in the second half.

Momentum changed quickly during the course of little more than a minute in the third quarter. The Kingsmen went from being ahead 7-3 with the ball

at their own 23-yard line, to trailing Willamette 17-7.

Two huge turnovers were key plays in the turn around. The first was a fumble recovery following a sack by junior outside linebacker Matt Banta. Inside linebacker Tommy Grove came up with the ball. The second was an interception returned for a touchdown by sophomore strong safety Arlin Taylor.

Willamette's dominance in the first two games can be characterized by an incredible turnover ratio of +9. The Bearcats committed its first turnover of the year on a fumble in the second quarter, but managed to control the ball and control the game the rest of the way.

Willamette almost gained the lead before the half as they faced fourth down and seven with the ball on the CLU 14. However, the pass to sophomore Jose Green fell incomplete and the bearcats trailed by four entering the locker room.

On Saturday, the team returns for a home game against Southern Oregon at McCulloch Stadium. The Raiders are coming off a tough loss to Sacramento State and will be looking for their first win of the season.

Contact: sgarrett@willamette.edu

▼ next up

Bearcats v. Southern Oregon @ McCulloch Stadium Saturday, Sept. 20 at 3p.m.



Colleen,
Cornered

Walk in the park



Colleen
Martin

OPINIONS EDITOR

This week, the Collegian decided to have an underlying theme for all of its sections. (I was hoping for dinosaurs to be our theme, since I had always pitched that to the prom committee in high school, only to be unfairly rebuffed year after year.) The gas crisis/environmental issues in general were chosen instead. My only real commentary about the gas crisis is that I think people should walk and bike more, if the distance isn't ridiculously great. However, I think the question is, why don't people bike and walk more?

Reason one is extremely obvious. Sheer laziness is a reliable cause of many problems arising from the human race. Why the hell should I walk somewhere when my car can get me there? When I am in New Mexico where my car, Stella, is, I find myself exceedingly sloth-like. My car has music, air conditioning, and when I am in it I am sitting down. What more could a girl ask for?

However, cars are used more often for time-saving purposes. Workaholics tend not to have the spare 20 minutes it takes to strap on a bike helmet (which also doesn't exactly bode well for their business-hair) and pedal leisurely to the office. It's a sad truth, but in today's fast paced world, it seems like every second counts, and walking and biking tend to be seen as a waste of those precious minutes.

More important, our country is not particularly accommodating for bikers and walkers. While in Germany this summer, it was overwhelming to see the amount of biking and walking that goes on, particularly in the city center. Sometimes there were more bikes than cars. Many cities have sidewalks double the size of the ones in the U.S., specifically so there can be heavier pedestrian traffic. I walked distances in Germany that I would never walk here in the states, simply because it was more typical to walk than to drive. Plus, when you see a 70-year-old man biking faster than you could, and an 80-year-old woman with a walker choosing to walk home as opposed to calling a cab, you feel slightly more inclined to prove yourself mobile.

Finally, I feel as though biking and walking have reputations of being unsafe. We feel so protected in our metal cages that we forget how dangerous they can be, and focus more on how bikers are hit by cars, and how innocent pedestrians will surely be mugged, attacked, or mauled in some unimaginable way. I'll be the first to admit that I am often nervous when walking, particularly at night. It doesn't help when people gasp and say, "you WALKED there?" as though it is some miracle that I am still alive. After I told my mom how much I was walking and running my freshman year, I received a rape whistle for my birthday. Though I am sure incidents do occur, I have to wonder if my worrying is completely justified, or if I need to take a closer look at some statistics.

So as much as I'd like to tell everyone to leave their car keys at home and enjoy the fresh air, it's understandable that there is some hesitation. No doubt we'll be moved by pocketbook issues like gas and parking costs, but it would be nice if we could instill a culture of walking. We might even restore meaning to the idiom, "a walk in the park."

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Letters can be sent by postal mail, email (nzaves@willamette.edu), campus mail or fax. Letters must include name and phone number and be submitted by noon Monday on the week of intended publication. The Collegian reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

EDITORIAL

Gas crisis fuels student issues at WU

It is well known that our nation is facing a crisis regarding oil. However, it is easy to ignore the way it is affecting our school. How can we help our university community in this time of rising gas prices?

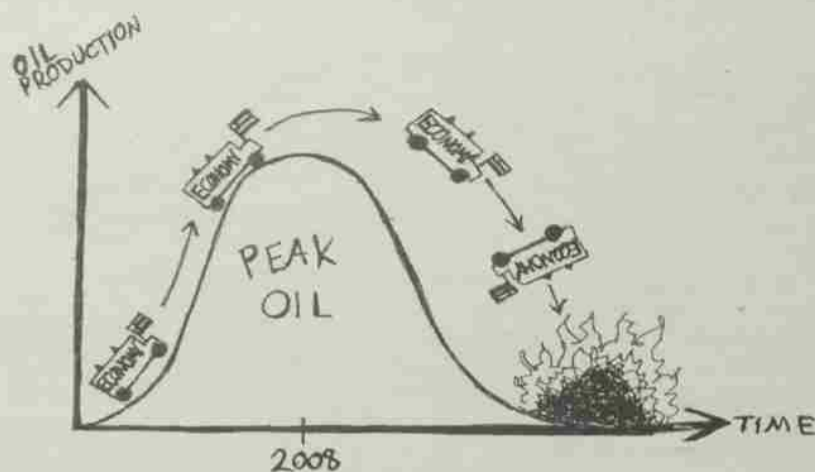
In looking for areas where the school could save money, the sports teams tend to be an easy target. The football team, for example, flew down to Los Angeles last weekend at a cost of \$32,000. Last year the same trip only cost them \$20,000. In a time of increased costs, it seems wasteful that the football team is spending so much money—and so much more money—just to play a game.

Yet the problem isn't that simple. While it costs a lot to fly to LA, the increased gas prices are hurting the airline companies who are in turn reducing the number of flights they run. This meant that the football team needed to stay in LA for an extra night, which drastically increased the cost of the trip.

The bigger problem, though, is that if the football team didn't go to LA, it couldn't play a full season. There are only five Division III schools within driving distance, which means that if the football team has to travel. If it doesn't travel, it would not be able to play a full season, which means Willamette Football would not exist. The team brings a lot of money to the school in the form of alumni donations, student tuitions, and free advertising, so it's in the best interest of the university to sustain them. On the other hand, \$32,000 for a one-weekend trip is an incredible amount of money to be asking.

Many students travel primarily by car. We recognize that cars are often essential for transportation, but we believe students should make an effort to carpool to counteract their gas use. Some students live too far off campus to walk or ride a bike, but they can get rides with other Willamette students. They might have to spend more time on campus because of a difference in schedules, but they can use this time studying in the library or socializing.

For on-campus students, sometimes trips to Safeway require a car to carry the groceries. These trips should have



HEIDI ANDERSON

more than one student who needs groceries. If one person needs to go somewhere, then chances are another person does too. Students with cars should ask if their friends need to go to Safeway, as well. Running errands in groups saves a lot of money in gas. Sometimes these errands are time-sensitive, but students should check first to see if any friends need to go to the same place.

Gas can also be saved by intelligent decisions about club and dorm activities. While a trip lasting several hours, such as to the coast, can be exciting, the area around Salem has several attractions as well. Consider a trip to Enchanted Forest or to Silver Falls State Park. If you use your imagination, a meaningful and exciting retreat or trip can be accomplished with much less gas, and therefore much less money.

Though we complain about the high gas prices and how they affect us, they very well may be helping us in the long run. Sure, we may think it only helps to drain our bank accounts (or rack up credit card debt), but high gas prices have benefits.

First, high gas prices make us think about how much we drive. When we have to shell out almost four bucks a gallon, we're less likely to drive everywhere we go and more likely to take mass transit, especially on longer trips. The less fuel that is burned, the better—not only for our wallets, but also for our environment.

Also, the more we have to pay for gas, the more urgent the issue of alternative fuel sources appears. People who have to pay over a hundred dollars to fill the tank of their Hummer might think twice about buying a gas-guzzler next time they purchase a car, and the more people who invest money into hybrids, electric cars, and other environmentally friendly (and cheaper) solutions, the more likely the corporations and government are to think critically about their priorities.

Finally, we all need to get our heart rates going in order to stay healthy. Walking and biking are great ways to get somewhere and exercise at the same time! The next time you grab your car keys, stop and think if the trip is long enough, or if parking is going to be a huge hassle. If you can't really justify driving, then strap on your helmet and start peddling.

Though it is impossible to find a solution in a short editorial, the most important thing is to be aware of the situation, and try our best to adjust to these tough times.

COLLEGIAN EDITORIAL POLICY

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In response to 9/11 chalk writing

I was disappointed by the chalk writing that was in Jackson Plaza last Thursday, the anniversary of the September 11th attacks, claiming that "9/11 was an inside job." While I understand that the people spreading the message of a "government cover-up" are entitled to their opinions, I feel that it was completely inappropriate to display their messages on such a day. I read every word written in the plaza and there was no mention of how many people died or any sort of memorial tribute.

The anniversary of September 11th should be a day to remember all the lives lost in the attacks on the twin towers. It's a day to remember the families that lost loved ones. It's a day to think about all the men and women in fire and rescue, police forces, paramedic and cleanup crews that worked so hard, even long after September 11th. It's a day to think about people who are still dealing with physical or mental

trauma from that day. September 11th is a day to reflect and remember.

At this point, on the anniversary of September 11th, it doesn't matter if the government had a hand in the attacks, or if terrorists are to blame. I have seen documentaries on both sides of the story and both are convincing. Think what you will about what happened on that day. What matters is that we can't forget the men and women affected by this horrible tragedy.

Emily Class
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Response to Greek System (Sept. 10 Issue)

News flash: people are not good to each other. There are more haters than lovers. We judge, criticize and violate many of the things we should cherish. The point

of community is to unite people, not to divide them into polarized groups. We are individuals living together, and it deeply disturbs me that we have started off the year throwing stones at one another.

The recent article regarding the Greek system has not accurately described or addressed the root problems it discusses. Cliff Leek is aware of the instances he lists because Greek organizations are situated on campus and are required to have security guards. What about the off-campus events without security guards? Rape, violence and noise complaints are not limited to the Greek system. Stereotypes put people in boxes and simplify issues to a comical level. If your goal is to unite the Willamette community and create positive change, then you must promote unity actively.

Sarah Lydecker
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TOO MUCH INFORMATION: Unstamped letters to important people



BRENT JONES

COLUMNIST

Now that we have a mutual understanding of the history of Awkward, we may appreciate when it rears its ugly head. I speak now of the times when you are just about to say something—but don't. Whether due to shyness or better judgment, we often hold our tongues when we feel the need to speak. Then again, I think there may be some mutual benefits from a good chat with yours truly. Therefore, in an attempt to make up for past failures, I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge those people in principle, with letters they'll never read.

To the lady in Goudy who made my sandwich, thanks. It was delish. And you're right, honey mustard is ham's best friend.

To the Guy on a Unicycle, keep doing it. Keep being that guy on a unicycle. You need to ride a unicycle because the rest of us are not. Every college has one, and it's especially important to maintain the position at Willamette seeing as how replacements will be hard to come across. I really don't know if you get to classes any faster on one wheel, but seeing you puts the extra pepper in my step. Makes me want to do things. I think, "this guy, he unicycles on

his way to class. I can barely walk myself to class. Wait. I don't even go to class."

You set the bar, showing the rest of us we are either lacking a wheel or have one too many. It gives us something to strive for: this guy's balance is better than a cat with eight legs, what have you done today? Checked Facebook again? Shame.

Other notable unicyclists: Demetri Martin, Adam Corolla, Your Mom, Donald Rumsfeld (Run a war? No time, must unicycle).

To M. Lee Pelton, I'm not avoiding talking to you, but I'd like to save our first dialogue for a special occasion—like graduation. Then I'll let you know all the things Willamette's done right or wrong. In the meantime, keep reading this column and raise my scholarship, lest that conversation never come. PS, I'm still up for handshakes.

To the guy who clicks his pen five or seven times before he's about to write something during class, stop it. Just stop it. My pen does just fine with one click. If yours does not, you can have my pen. Or here's another idea, when you finish writing something ("Note to self: eat more cheese") try "not" clicking your pen afterward, so the point is still out, should you feel so inclined as to write something again ("Note to self: make that swiss cheese").



To Ruth Bader Ginsburg, I echo what I feel to be the driving question from much of the student body: where'd you get the badass top hat?"

To my hopes and dreams, hold on.

To the one hobo next to the state capital building, sorry, I really did have change. But you asked me for a cigarette first. This leads me to believe that the money would end up in the form of more cancer-sticks, and I feel like I was doing you a favor by denying a means which would have made your cough worse—but hang in there. It is little known, but the apocalypse mentioned in many religious texts is actually the misinterpreted prophecy for when hoboes will take over the United States government in 2012. So hang in there, your day will come.

To Ruth Bader Ginsburg, I echo what I feel to be the driving question from much of the student body: where'd you get the badass top hat?

To the girl at the pool during the Klub Kaneko event I was working as sound tech at, you were sitting next to said pool for

the better part of four hours. You have blonde hair and were wearing a red shirt. I would make my rounds checking wave distribution and you would be sitting there in a chair, sometimes with people, sometimes not. Either way, every time I went by our eyes would meet, and I would have to double take and look at something else to avoid the Awkward. But after the ninth time of doing anything it becomes Awkward. I think we have a lot to talk about. Meet me at the chicken fountain Friday at midnight sharp. I'll be wearing a tweed jacket and leather pants, making sounds like a duck. Friends of this girl, let her know she has a date with destiny.

Wow, I sure hope this guy's kidding about that last part. Either way, questions? Comments? Throw things?

Contact: bkjones@willamette.edu

IF I HAD A HAMMER: The Politics of the Playground



KAELEY PRUITT-HAMM

COLUMNIST

When I was young, I was a nerd. Emphasis on *was*. I was into animal rights activism, writing stories, and gardening behind the arts building on our playground. Every time I would put my dog-face lunchbox away in my classroom, a boy named Wyatt would say, "Hey, freak!" and shove me against a brick wall.

When I would come home to calmly relay the events of the day to my parents, they would not tell me to hit him back, tell the teacher, or run away. They asked me to brainstorm how to surprise the bullies I encountered with a force more powerful than any other option. So the next time the popular jump-rope champion called me weird, I tried something else. I said, "Thank you," smiled, and skipped away. The next time Wyatt captured me and threatened to use a knife, I would ask him how his day was going, because he clearly wasn't having a good one. The jump rope champion

became my best friend until fifth grade, and Wyatt ended up going to counseling and never bothered me again.

I am not telling you this story to feel sorry for myself (sniffle, sniffle!) or to drag others into Nostalgic Kaeley Land. I wish to encourage others to think about this model of conflict resolution as a concept that applies from the playground to the Palestinian Territory, from bullies to Bush.

Last week, I spent two days in Portland at a training workshop on nonviolent movements, led by the Serbian student group who nonviolently overthrew the genocidal dictator Milosevic from power less than a decade ago. They reminded me of a human history that often goes untold, a history of people choosing to strategize and think beyond the militaristic options of addressing conflict and instead intervene with humanity and dignity.

From the Salt March led by Gandhi to the bus boycotts and sit-ins led by Martin Luther King, Jr. to the joined police force/citizen overtaking of the Serbian Capitol led by a symbol of freedom, people have proven war wrong.

Take a look at the conflicts around the world, throughout time, and it is clear that powerful, not passive, peace is possibly the path to take. The way to take power away from oppression is not to oppress back or sit and meditate as they use the underdog as the doormat. Pulling the power rug from underneath the bully's feet by rolling with the punches, surprising him/her with strong and calm reactions, and letting him/her sit exhausted in his/her own injustice is the way to overcome.

Maybe someday Bush will realize that hitting others for their lunch because they were going to hit him first if he didn't preemptively strike is not an okay thing to do. Maybe OPEC will suddenly notice that their Lego tower of wealth is about to outgrow the playground itself and will start to share. For now, consider it my hope for humanity that the nerds of the world will take the high road in playground politics.

Contact: kp Pruitt@willamette.edu

Sustainability tips for a greener lifestyle

JEFFREY COLLINS
GUEST WRITER

Since I work for the Center for Sustainable Communities, editing our weekly newsletter, my friends often ask me about the best ways to make their lives more environmentally friendly. Alas, omniscience does not come with the job and I often can't come up with a ready answer, I can, however, give this list of general suggestions (in no particular order) that you may not have heard before for improving the sustainability of anyone's life.

Beware of "greenwashing" This insidious marketing practice makes products seem more environmentally friendly than they really are. One study performed last December found that 99% of 1,018 randomly selected products were guilty of this practice. For example, many companies that offer "carbon offsets" merely plant forests of invasive trees, which is not ecologically sound by any standard. Likewise, any company promoting a non-food product as "organic" should be questioned, since there are no standards for the label.

Don't use a tray at Goudy Believe it or

not, the Willamette Valley is facing a water shortage. Trays require an enormous amount of water to wash, water that would be better used for agriculture or left in the ground to feed springs.

Remember that the three R's are not all equal The mantra "reduce, reuse, recycle" has been drilled into our brains for so long that I once asked my mom why Oscar the Grouch lived in a garbage can rather than a recycling bin. However, recycling is not like a medieval indulgence, a license to consume without thought. Recycling takes energy—energy to transport, to sort, and to process. It is far better to invest in reusable containers like metal water bottles.

Use a laptop The energy demands of a desktop are extraordinarily high compared to laptops. Even a very powerful laptop can use as little as 20% of a desktop's energy consumption. Also remember to put computers into sleep mode or turn them off when you're done.

Eat less meat Meat requires a much larger area of land to produce the same number of calories than vegetables; beef, for example requires more than 50 times the land than vegetables. Pork and poultry require less, but still far more than vegetables. This increases

the amount of wild land lost to agriculture, raises global food prices and puts pressure on farmers in underdeveloped countries to push into sensitive habitats, and raising livestock, especially cattle, produces far more greenhouse gas emissions than growing plants.

Wear a condom—every time No, you have not stepped into sex ed. Believe it or not, using birth control is the single biggest thing you can do to reduce your impact on the environment. Many of us will, in the next decade of our lives, decide whether or not to have a child. As the world's population continues to rise, demands for food, travel, and consumer products rise as well. By not having biological children—choosing instead to adopt—you not only improve the life of an already-living child, you reduce your long-term impact on the environment.

Finally, if you're interested in keeping up to date on sustainability news on campus and around the world and receiving more tips for sustainable living, sign up for Willamette University's Sustainability Newsletter through JASON or by e-mailing me.

Contact: jacollin@willamette.edu

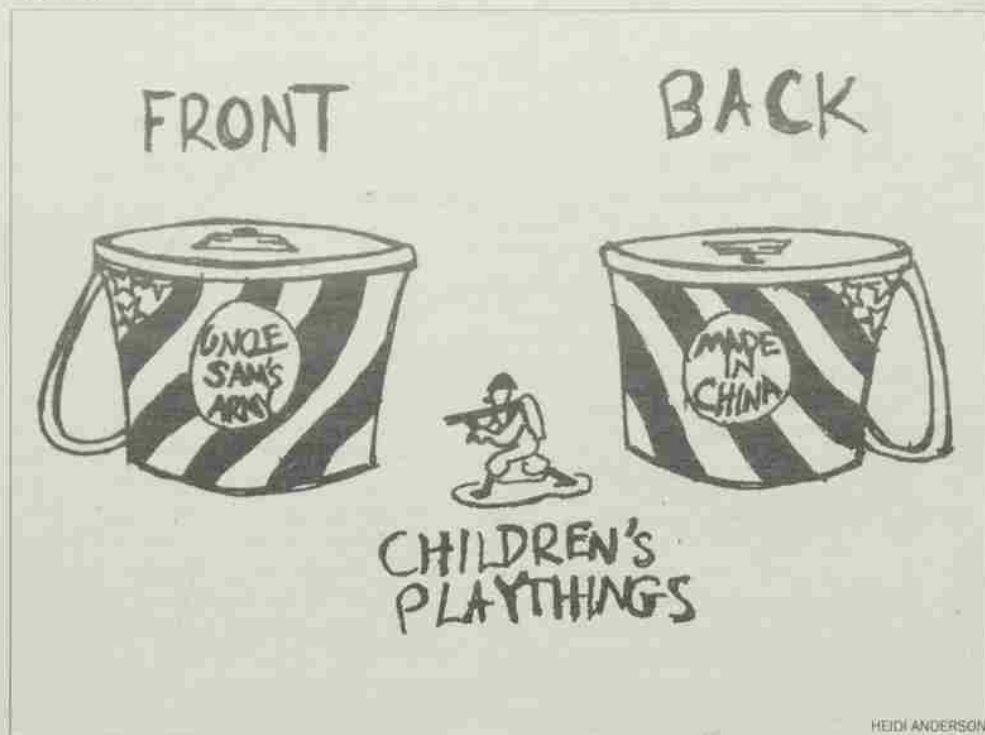
Enjoy writing? Have a knack for photography? What about a great sense of humor?

Apply for a position on the Collegian!

(Available positions include writers for all sections, photographers.)

Contact Noah Zaves <nzaves> for more details.

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CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 7-SEPTEMBER 13, 2008

Information provided by Campus Safety

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

▶ September 11, 10:03 p.m. (Baxter Hall) - A student reported that the third floor emergency exit door was standing open and could not be locked. An officer investigated and discovered that an unknown individual(s) had torn the alarm locking device off of the door.

▶ September 11, 11:22 p.m. (Winter Street) - An officer heard a crashing sound near Goudy Commons and responded to investigate. The officer observed two male subjects in that area and attempted to get them to stop. They did not, and at that point the officer made no further attempt to stop them. Further investigation revealed that the crosswalk sign had been broken off at the ground and thrown on the grass south of Doney Hall. The officer looked for the two subjects but was unable to locate them.

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

▶ September 13, 12:07 a.m. (Off Campus) - Salem Police contacted Campus Safety with a request to assist them at an off campus location where a group of Willamette students were disturbing the neighbors with a loud party. Salem Police reported that they had been to this location on three occasions and would be making arrests if there were called out again. Campus Safety officers recorded the names of the people present and asked for their cooperation in keeping the noise level down.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID

▶ September 11, 3:46 p.m. (Law School) - A non-student collapsed while walking in front of the Law School. An employee called Campus Safety, who then called 911. EMS responded and transported the subject to the emergency room.

▶ September 12, 11:36 p.m. (Kaneko Commons) - Officers responded with WEMS to a report of an intoxicated student who reported that he had consumed 5-7 shots of rum. He was conscious and reasonably oriented, so it was determined that he did not require additional medical attention. He was 19 years old and referred to the Campus Judicial office.

▶ September 13, 11:50 a.m. (Sparks Parking Lot) - A student called for assistance after experiencing knee pain that was recurring from an injury earlier in the week. WEMS evaluated her and

recommended that she go to Bishop Wellness Center for further evaluation. Campus Safety drove her back to her residence.

▶ September 13, 5:50 p.m. (Baxter Hall) - A student requested medical attention for a bee sting that she had received the day before. WEMS evaluated her and recommended Benadryl. Campus Safety drove the student to Safeway to purchase the drug.

HIT AND RUN ACCIDENT

▶ September 9, 9:25 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot) - A student reported a dent and scratches on the rear driver's side fender that were not there when he parked his car. Photographs were taken in an attempt to locate the vehicle and driver who caused the damage.

POLICY VIOLATION

▶ September 9, 3:45 p.m. (Matthews Parking Lot) - A student's parking violation records were turned over to the Campus Judicial office when it was determined that he now had accumulated 15 parking citations.

POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

▶ September 11, 11:55 p.m. (Haseldorf Apartments) - Officers responded to a report of the odor of marijuana in Haseldorf. The room from which the odor emanated was located. Officers knocked on the door and when they received no answer, they keyed in. No marijuana or paraphernalia was observed, but there was evidence of incense having been burned.

THEFT

▶ September 7, 2:00 p.m. (Matthews Parking Lot) - A visitor reported that his vehicle had been broken into and his wallet and stereo had been stolen.

▶ September 9, 3:00 p.m. (McCulloch Stadium) - An employee reported that a boat trailer that was stored at the Stadium was stolen sometime over the summer.

▶ September 9, 4:10 p.m. (Belknap Hall) - A student reported that his bicycle had been stolen from the bike rack on the east side of Belknap.

▶ September 12, 3:00 p.m. (Matthews Parking Lot) - A student reported that she had heard a rattling sound from beneath her vehicle. She took the vehicle to a dealership to be looked at and they determined the bolts on her catalytic converter had been loosened in an attempt to steal it.

Candidates Forum Changes

The 5th Congressional Forum, scheduled for Sept. 22 at 5:30 p.m. in Cone Chapel at Willamette University has confirmed event participants and panel members.

Now scheduled to appear at the event sponsored by the Oregon League of Minority Voters and Willamette University are Steve Milligan, Monmouth City Councilor and a member of the Libertarian Party; Alex Polikoff, an electrical engineer from Corvallis and a member of the Green Party; and Democrat Kurt Schrader, a member of the Oregon State Senate.

Mike Erickson, the Republican candidate for the congressional seat, has been invited to the event but has not yet agreed to participate.

All four candidates are competing for the seat held by Rep. Darlene Hooley, who is retiring.

OLMV board members who will serve as panelists include Randall Edwards, Oregon State Treasurer; Gale Castillo, president of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce in Portland; and Sho Dozono, president and CEO of Azumano Travel in Portland.

The forum is free and open to the public.

Contacts: Janis Nichols, Willamette University
503-370-6069

Promise King, Executive Director, Oregon League Minority Voters
503-289-7520

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Join us for an informational meeting on Thursday, October 2 or Monday, October 6 at 4:30pm in the Alumni Lounge.

For further information contact:
Lorenzo Lambertino <lambert> x3313 or Naomi Collette <ncollett> x3351

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