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DEVELOPING STORY

LIVING WITH(OUT) FEAR IN A VIOLENT WORLD

PERSONNEL FILES

CAMPUS MILITARY MEMBERS SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES

by Tim Jackson

On September 10th of this year, President Obama sent 500 troops to Iraq, adding to the more than 1,000 already there to combat the terrorist organization ISIS. *Knight Times* interviewed four soldiers (one retired) to see how they were dealing with the newest intervention, their philosophies of war, and how the Army has helped their civilian career.

Zechariah Dirdak, Senior

MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY: 35F, Intelligence Analyst
RANK: Specialist
WEAPON OF CHOICE: Information
FAVORITE CADENCE: "Blood Upon the Risers"
CURRENT UNIT: 1-82 Cav Squadron HHT, Bend, Oregon
OTHER LOCATIONS SERVED: Fort Benning, Georgia, Basic Training (BT), Fort Huachuca, Arizona, Advanced Individualized Training (AIT), 179th Infantry HHC, San Diego, California

Zechariah Dirdak first joined the ranks of the National Guard as an infantryman, and shipped off to the infamous all-male Fort Benning four days after high school graduation. He later reclassified as intelligence, jumping from a job demanding the smallest IQ to the highest.

When stationed in California last summer he wrote the Annex B, an intelligence report for the California disaster relief plan. "I wrote it in one day, all by myself," Dirdak said. He used a lot of the material he learned in acting in *Disaster /Relief*, a student-created play produced on campus in 2011, which dramatized the effects of an earthquake. "My time here at Warner Pacific could potentially influence how prepared the state of California is to respond to a natural disaster," Dirdak said.

Dirdak admits to feeling like an entirely different person when in uniform, similar to when he is on stage as a character. He reports that being a Christ-centered artistic humanist does not blend well in camouflage. "How can you love your neighbor when you have to find out where certain insurgents are and send a predator missile into their house?"

However, with ISIS becoming a bigger threat, Dirdak said, "They're an enemy I'd finally be okay to go fight. Their doctrine is incompatible with my way of living life. I wouldn't feel the same moral qualms as I would if I were in Iraq or Afghanistan. There has been a cycle of violence and justifications in which there is no moral

high ground for either side in that conflict." But ISIS presents a different scenario: Dirdak believes combating this group would be honorable. "They represent a coalition of radicals grouped into one semi-conventional force that is distinct from fighting insurgents." While pacifism is Dirdak's hope for mankind, he admits that intervention is sometimes necessary. "Somebody's gotta do it. Better that it is someone like me who knows Just War theory and who has a wide education in the humanities than someone who doesn't, who only thinks about eliminating the enemy rather than finding peace."

For now, Dirdak has stayed stateside and experienced the joy of camaraderie and healing among soldiers. Dirdak shared his experience of training in Idaho's high desert under the Milky Way. He was assigned to act as OP-4 (enemy opposition for training), and wore an Arabic thawb and turban. He recalls lying there in between training exercises with other soldiers on the detail: two medics, another intel guy, an engineer, and an infantryman. "We had some pretty philosophical talks about God and spirituality, what it means to be human." Dirdak explained that in the Army not many people are religious, but a lot of people are spiritual, "sort of like Portland."

Recently Dirdak performed in uniform in an *off-campus opera* *The Cantic of the Black Madonna* as a super (non-singing/speaking role). The play is about a soldier dealing with PTSD after coming back from Afghanistan. "I was acting among combat veterans who were dealing with PTSD themselves, so it was interesting to see how participating in the arts helped some of the men who have been to Iraq and Afghanistan come to terms," Dirdak said.

In the military you're told to think inside the box, and following the regulations and orders must always come first. However, there's always some color that slips into the camouflage. "Intel Analysts must mediate between uncertainty, regulations, and saving lives of soldiers while maintaining good relations with the local population. That requires some creativity," Dirdak said.

Spencer Buckle, Senior

MOS: 42R, Army Band
RANK: Specialist
WEAPON OF CHOICE: Bass Guitar
FAVORITE CADENCE: "Yellow Bird"
CURRENT UNIT: 234th Oregon Army Band, Clackamas, Oregon
OTHER LOCATIONS SERVED: Fort Sill, Lawton, Oklahoma, BT, Joint Expeditionary Base, Little Creek-Ft Story, Norfolk, Virginia, AIT

Spencer Buckle joined the Oregon National Guard right after high school. "I joined because in the Army band I could serve my country and play music. It's a mix of pride and passion."

Buckle recalls some of the horrors of basic training like it was yesterday. It was 115 degrees, he said, and the entire platoon was in the prone unsupported position. They were instructed to stick a cleaning rod down their M-16's barrel while balancing a quarter on the rod tip, pull the bolt to the rear, change their weapon from safe to semi, squeeze the trigger, and put the weapon back on safe. They then had to do that 10 more times without letting the quarter fall; if it fell they started from zero.

Buckle then moved onto the military school of music, where he trained alongside Marines and Seamen. "It makes my playing in my civilian band a lot better than I could've expected," he said. Buckle plays in two different music performance teams in the Guard, and in the civilian world, he is in the Door of Hope worship band, the WPC band, and two rock bands: Billie and the Holidays, and Samsel and the Skirt. Recently, Samsel and the Skirt preformed on KATU's AM Northwest show, and Buckle used the Fender supplied by the National Guard.

Performing the Army Band has allowed him to travel around Oregon to perform for civilians while in uniform, so he has seen the public perception of the military, both negative and positive. "There are sergeants downtown who've gotten paper or trash thrown at them," Buckle said. However, most of Buckle's encounters are positive. Among the most supportive group of people are the homeless. "In general there is a large amount of people in the homeless



This page: Zechariah Dirdak (top), Spencer Buckle (bottom). Continued page: James Cameron (top), Jeff Barnhardt (bottom). Photo of James Cameron and Eliana Cameron courtesy of Jennifer Cameron. All other photos by Tim Jackson.

bracket in Portland that were veterans, and when discharged did not get the retirement benefits promised." When performances are over, Buckle said that the homeless are the first to thank them.

"I think that people have realized the hurt that military members have had. People understand it's not a soldier's choice what happens in war."

Continued on page 8.

THIS IS ONLY A DRILL

by Jesse Weber

It was a normal Tuesday afternoon, and students were learning about mythology in Connie Phillips' EN 335 class in Egtvedt 120. Students were quietly listening to Phillips talk about Greek heroes, when a message came over the phone speaker that an active shooter drill was beginning. That's when Phillips rushed to the door to lock it, shut the lights off, and directed the students to huddle into a corner like a colony of penguins. Five minutes of time passed by, and the only sound was the analog clock ticking away on the wall. Students' facial expressions ranged from boredom and awkwardness, to believability. Student Krystle Hilman gulped, perhaps remembering back to a time when this was real, and not a drill.

Last June there was a school shooting at Reynolds High School where a student was killed and a teacher wounded. As Campus Safety Supervisor Paul Hartman put it, "It was close enough to home to make you think about it." And there was a lot to think about.

This shelter in place drill was a first for Warner Pacific students and was organized after months of preparation. Most of our

current emergency procedures for fire and earthquake were created before 2005, and Warner Pacific has had procedures in place for responding to an active shooter since 2007. What is new is the implementation of a communication, training, and drilling program to help us all be better prepared in the event of various types of emergencies. Hartman contacted the Portland Police Department to review Warner Pacific's response plan. The new plan was affirmed by Captain David Hendrie from the East Precinct. An important aspect of both the new communication procedures and drills is that they will become a permanent system that will continue to keep Warner Pacific students prepared for multiple types of emergencies.

Several weeks in August and September were spent on training. Time was spent in staff and faculty meetings, welcome week gatherings, and department meetings discussing best practices for response to active shooter situations. Campus safety staff received direct training, and training sessions were scheduled for both traditional and ADP students.

Security concerns for academic buildings needed to be addressed as well. The problem with the locks on many classrooms was that they required a key to lock. Hartman

explained that this was a logistical problem because there would have needed to be a system for handing out keys and trying to keep track of which professors were teaching where. There was also a safety concern because to lock the door in an active shooter situation, the professor would have to open the door and lock it from the outside, which left them vulnerable while they locked the door. So to solve the problem, door handles were switched out for door knobs that had a push button lock. In most classrooms, the door can now be safely locked without opening it.

One of the communication issues to be addressed was the need for an intercom system. Many new phones were installed this fall in the classrooms around campus. Those phones make up the new intercom system, which is the cornerstone of how campus security staff will communicate to students when emergency response drills begin or in a real emergency. The system is not complete. Paul Hartman said that the college is still looking for a way to notify student who are in common areas around campus. In the cafeteria, the small speakers on the phones would be drowned out by the conversations during meal times. There are also buildings waiting for the phones to be hooked up in preparation for our safety drills next semester.

During the drill on September 30 and October 1, campus security focused on alerting students of the drill, but during a real emergency Hartman explained that campus security would be a resource for police officers and other emergency units depending on the situation. That could include information about buildings or keys for doors so that a building can be swept by first responders.

During an active shooter situation there are three things a student should be prepared to do: 1. Run: Whenever entering a new building, look for potential escape route. 2. Hide: Turn off lights, lock doors, close blinds, and be quiet. 3. Fight: Your goal is to kill or seriously maim the attacker.

Hartman advises the best way for students to make these decisions is to think ahead of time about the "what ifs?" If students are in a classroom, there is an opportunity to hide. If students are in a common area, such as the cafeteria, the gym, or the chapel, then hiding would not be an effective tool. The more students know about their surroundings (exits, fire extinguishers, shelter, etc.), the better they will be prepared to act in case of a fire, earthquake, or active shooter. Hartman said that he had multiple conversations with students while he was walking around between drills about what to do if the student was in a specific part of the campus.

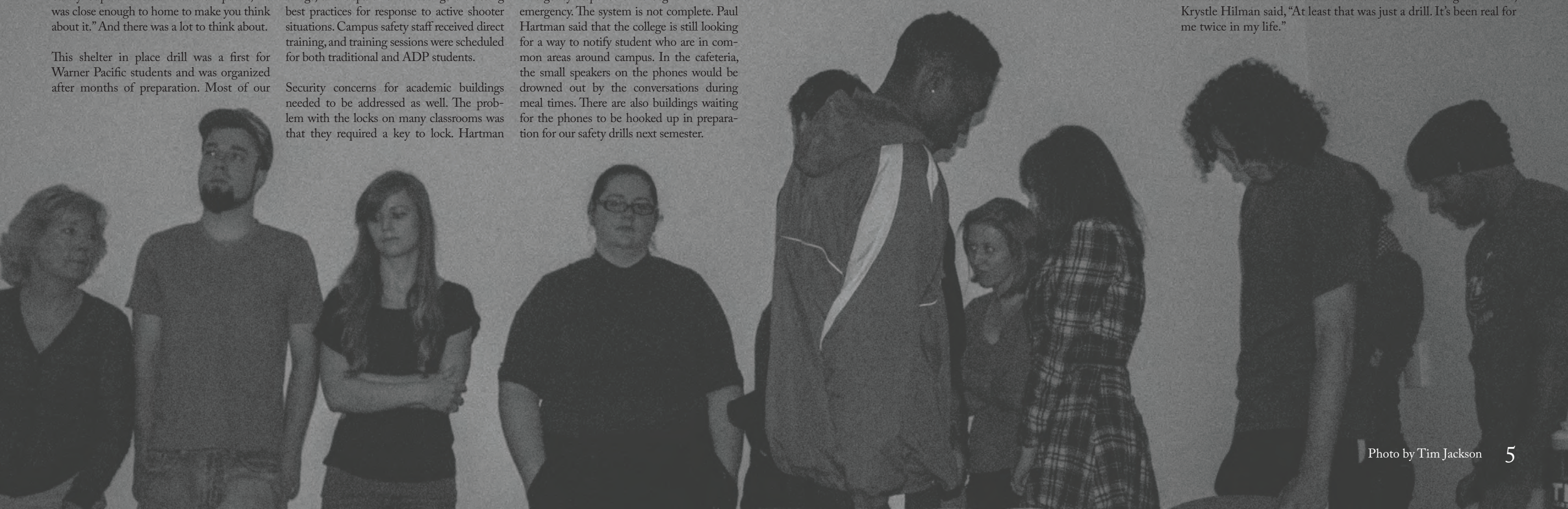
Two concerns Hartman had before the drills were that some community members would not know what was going on or that they would ignore the drill and not follow instructions. The feedback given to Hartman after the drills indicated that neither of those scenarios occurred. Unfortunately, there were a few problems with

communication. In A.F. Gray, there was trouble with hearing the intercom from several offices because of the limited number of phones connected to the alert system. People who hid in bathrooms and other areas without an intercom reported that they did not hear that the drill had ended. Hartman said that one way to fix this issue is to send a text message to students once the drill is completed. Also, some people were caught off guard when the drill occurred Wednesday evening, even though the signs posted on Tuesday morning listed days and times for both drills.

Campus safety officer and student Tim Jackson facilitated the drill on the ADP Center 205 campus on the Wednesday evening drill. That campus is still waiting for intercoms, so Jackson walked down the halls yelling a pre-drafted monologue. "The changes can be awkward and unnecessary at first glance," Jackson said, "but God forbid we are unprepared for the day when a whack-job decides he wants to take his pain out on the world and it's no longer a drill."

Looking forward, there will be two drills per semester, rotating through the scenarios of fire, earthquake, and active shooter. Additional training sessions will help everyone prepare for the next set of drills. Hartman said that drills can lose some meaning without the context of the training. "We drilled the 'Hide' of Run, Hide, Fight, and without more complete training, run the risk of making people think that hiding is always the best option in active shooter situations," he said.

The class in Egtvedt 120 went back to their seats after the "all clear" had been given on the intercom. As Phillips was recollecting where she had left off in the lecture and students were taking their seats, Krystle Hilman said, "At least that was just a drill. It's been real for me twice in my life."



CITY ON FIRE

VIOLENCE IN AMERICA FROM LOS ANGELES TO FERGUSON

by Alexa Minasian



When the Los Angeles riots began on April 29, 1992, it was a Wednesday afternoon. The riot started after the acquittal of LAPD police officers, who had been caught on videotape viciously beating Rodney King, an African American motorist who had been pulled over for speeding after an eight mile chase. When the verdict in favor of the police officers was revealed, the rioting escalated from petty acts of property damage into full-scale violence. Bystander accounts and live television footage revealed a lack of police response to the violence, reportedly because the police didn't want to incite the growing crowds. Reporters from local news outlets claimed that the way police responded determined how fast and far the riot would ultimately spread.

Reginald Denny was one of the most famous victims of the 1992 LA riots. On his way to deliver 27 tons of sand to a processing plant, he drove his dump truck through a busy intersection where rioters began to throw rocks at his rig. Once he stopped the truck, the mob dragged him out of his seat. Someone held down his head with their foot, another man kicked his abdomen, and someone in the crowd hurled a five pound piece of medical equipment at his head. They hit him with a claw hammer three times and someone threw a slab of concrete at his head. Denny then lay in the street unconscious while people were taking pictures. Police officers in the area did not come to his assistance. Three good Samaritans finally rescued Denny and took him to a hospital. Local television outlets caught most of the incident on video.

On the first day of the riots, LA mayor Tom Bradley declared a state of emergency, and Pete Wilson, the governor of California, mobilized the first contingent of National Guardsmen. On the fourth day, President George H.W. Bush declared the city of Los Angeles to be a federal disaster zone; he sent in over three thousand army troops from the 7th Infantry Division and marines from Camp Pendleton, along with one thousand riot-trained federal law officers to help restore order. The mayor and the governor agreed that the National Guard was being deployed too slowly to handle the problem, so they decided to call in federal troops. Later reports written by military analysts, such as "Combat in Our Cities," analyze how the confusion was reinforced by problems with military-police coordination and logistical mix-ups early in the riots.

The riots raged across the city for six days and killed fifty-three people. According to final statistics, more than eleven thousand people were arrested and over two thousand people injured during the whole of the six-day riot. The 1992 riots happened more than 22 years ago, but the stories from people who experienced it are still applicable to our world today.

One person who saw the riots start and escalate live on TV was local resident Bob Young, my grandfather. He was in his fifties on the day the riots happened in LA. He and his wife were picking up their first grandchild on the way to the hospital for the birth of their second. As my grandparents were driv-

ing across town, they heard the verdict. At the hospital, they saw on the news coverage that violence on the streets had escalated in the short time they had been driving around town. "I couldn't believe that in the span of a couple of hours, the news was broadcasting the attack on Reginald Denny," Young remembered. "When my wife and I left our house, there were crowds in the streets, but they weren't violent. When I saw the attack, I was shocked at how violent it was and the fact that the news was broadcasting it on national television. I was worried about how safe the city was going to be if the police were not responding to blatant attacks on the street."

When Young and his wife eventually made it back to their side of town and to their home, they heard concerns that the rioting activity was moving in their direction. "I was worried when I heard that rioters and looters might come to the neighborhood, so I got my gun out. I never had to fire, thank God, but if the possibility that I might have to shot came, I was prepared," he said.

The continued loop of coverage about the riots was also unnerving for Young. "The news outlets continued to show footage of the attack on Reginald Denny on what seemed like an hourly scale. The news also repeatedly showed the video of the attack on Rodney King and live reports of what was happening on the street. We were glued to the TV during what was supposed to be one of the happiest events in our lives. We were concerned about getting everyday activities done during the violence, like going to the grocery store."

Though Young had lived in LA during the Watts riots of the 1960s, the 1992 Los Angeles riots felt more dangerous to him. "During the Watts riot, most of the violence and chaos stayed in Watts. In the 1992 LA riots, the violence had spread out much farther across the city than where it had originally started. The riot also lasted longer than the one in Watts. I was worried because for all the years I have lived in Los Angeles (since the 1940s), I had never seen-or have since--this level of violence."

The events of the 1992 riots may have passed into history, but they still have an effect on Young. "That time in history I have never forgotten because of both the birth of my granddaughter Alexa and the many riots that seem to be happening in the world today. I can't help but be glad that my family was not tremendously affected by the actions of those that were rioting. I do hope though that we as a society learn how to better show our frustrations without having to cause unnecessary harm and damage."

Current events like the riots in Ferguson, Missouri after the fatal shooting of 18 year old Michael Brown suggest that history can repeat itself more than 22 years later. Tension in Ferguson has been ongoing since August 10 and more than 150 arrests have been made. The Warner Pacific Drama Program is confronting these current events by including *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992* in its fall production line-up, *Violence in American Plays: Student Directed Works*. Anna Deavere

"I FOLLOWED THE TRIAL CAUSE I WANTED TO SEE IF JUSTICE WORKS AND ON THAT PARTICULAR DAY JUSTICE DIDN'T WORK."

KEITH WATSON IN *TWILIGHT: LOS ANGELES 1992*

Smith wrote the docudrama that tells the stories of people affected by the 1992 L.A. riots. The student director of the play, Zechariah Dirdak, believes that the play explores the these events with the added benefit of time and distance. The theme he is most interested in is violence and the way in which our society has seemingly embraced it. Dirdak is making the creative choice not to shy away from the violence and profanity in the play. "Its examination of violence has meaning that can only be applied through profanity," he said.

Twilight: Los Angeles 1992 will be produced as part of a six play series exploring violence in drama. Robin Gordon, the Drama Program Director, is interested in how violence has been written for and portrayed on the stage and how performing or viewing staged violence affects both actors and audience. Dirdak's cast will present eight monologues with characters portrayed by six different actors. Selected monologues from *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992* will run on November 7, 13, and 15 as part of *Violence in American Drama*, a student directed showcase. Other plays in

the showcase touch on themes of abuse of power, class tensions, sexism, racism, and gender issues. Each show will be followed by a talkback with the audience.

Incidents like the acts of violence that led to and occurred during the riots in Los Angeles in 1992 and Ferguson in 2014 show the darker side of the human condition. Violence permanently altered the lives of Rodney King and Reginald Denny. Violence ended the life of Michael Brown. These incidents have impacted countless other witnesses, victims, and participants. Through *Violence in American Drama*, students this semester will be able to confront these events and consider how does one live in a world marked by violence.

Reginald Denny's injuries in April 1992 were severe. He suffered multiple seizures and today still has trouble performing basic motor functions. He has since largely stayed out of the public eye after he unsuccessfully tried a lawsuit against the City of Los Angeles. He was last seen on national television shaking hands with one of his attackers after he received an apology.

James Cameron, Band Director

MOS: 42R, Army Band
RANK: Staff Sergeant
WEAPON OF CHOICE: The horn, though a pretty good shot with an M-16.
FAVORITE CADENCE: “Air Borne Rangers”
CURRENT UNIT: 234th Oregon Army Band, Clackamas, Oregon

James Cameron has spent his entire enlistment in the 234th Army Band. “I have had the privilege to play for President George W. Bush, go on tour with Pink Martini, play for the Secretaries of State for all 50 States, appear on national TV in Panama and play on the deck of the USS Missouri,” Cameron said. The list doesn’t stop there, as Cameron estimates that he has played in about 90% of the concert venues within Oregon while serving. When I asked Cameron his reason for joining the Guard, it was rather simple: “to play music and to serve my country!”

While Cameron’s career in the army has been prosperous, it started at Basic Training like any enlisted soldier. “I had a Drill Sergeant who was an Army Ranger, he asked if anyone smoked.



Some folks raised their hands, to which he shouted, “Congratulations, you just quit!” He then told us he would kill us if he ever caught

us smoking. Later, during Fire Guard duty, Cameron walked into the Drill Sergeant’s office to clean and caught him smoking. “I was a tad scared for my life,” Cameron said.

Beyond these areas of influence, Cameron is a long-time member of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (on horn), Music Director and Conductor of the musicals at Clackamas High School (the current show, *Fiddler on the Roof* is his 6th show at CHS), Conductor of Solid Brass, a Portland area brass ensemble, and Worship Ministries Director at Mt. Scott Church of God. In the civilian world, Cameron has traveled on musical tours with various groups to locations such as Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Vancouver (British Columbia) and Banff (Alberta).

Cameron works with Buckle both in uniform and out of uniform. “He sees me as a Squad Leader, Horn Player, singer, and many of the other roles I play in the Army Band, and so he sees a side of me that perhaps other students do not,” Cameron said.

ACTS OF VIOLENCE

by Brandon Bush and Julia Feeser

SIX STUDENT DIRECTORS TAKE ON PLAYS THAT CONFRONT THE VIOLENT IMPULSES IN HUMANITY

This semester, six student directors will explore previously published one-act plays and selections from full-length plays. Sidney Davie, Deborah Landers, Brandon Bush, Brianna Ooms, Melissa Sondergeld, and Zechariah Dirdak are directing plays that portray or reveal acts of violence and the role that gender, class, and race have in building the tension or dramatic conflict that leads to or results from an act of violence in each play. Senior Kelsey Davisson mentors this year’s student directors. Senior Emily Shaindlin is the Stage Manager. The cast includes current students and drama alumni. Professor Robin Gordon directs the Drama Program.

of his wife and child. With the help of poor, lonely pie maker Mrs. Lovett, Todd opens a barber shop where the blood of moralizers freely flows. Meanwhile, Mrs. Lovett’s pie shop, one floor below the razor’s edge, is drumming up extraordinary business with its fresh meat pies.

Oleanna by David Mamet: An emotionally distraught Carol visits her professor, John, over a poor grade and her lack of comprehension in his class. He offers her a promising grade in the class if she starts the class over with him as a tutorial. Carol visits John again after submitting a report to the Tenure Committee stating that John sexually harassed her in his office. She starts to leave the room, and when John attempts to physically stop her, she calls for help. What follows is a final battle for power in the third and most volatile act of this play.

Boy Gets Girl by Rebecca Gilman: A hard-working New York writer in her 30s, Theresa’s career is taking off, but her personal life is stalled. A friend sets up Theresa on a blind date, and the casual get-together turns into a hideous nightmare as Theresa deals with a misogynistic stalker.

Birdbath by Leonard Melfi: Frankie, a slow-budding writer, meets a flustered, lonely girl, Velma, while they are working at a late-night cafeteria in Manhattan. After work, Velma tells Frankie she can’t go home, so he invites her to his apartment. After a few drinks, Frankie both comforts and seduces the lonely and undervalued Velma. His attention proves to be too much for Velma, who reveals a very dark secret to Frankie. As the night unfolds, the audience learns more about Velma’s violent nature.

Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992 by Anna Deavere Smith: Monologues from several individuals describe the devastating aftermath of the 1992 riots that broke out after the police responsible for violently beating Rodney King were acquitted of charges. This docudrama gathers diverse victims, witnesses, and others to explain the consequences of this violent event.

The Zoo Story by Edward Albee: This play introduces Jerry, a lonely man whose only connection is with a dog. He meets Peter in Central Park at a bench which neither of them want to share. Jerry keeps telling Peter that he has been to the zoo, and when he explains why, the revelation of man as a caged animal turns a day at the park into a dangerous fight for selfish purposes.

The plays run in rotation November 6 – 9 and 13 – 16, and each performance date offers a double-billing. *Birdbath* and scenes from *Sweeney Todd* will be presented on Thursday, November 6, Sunday, November 9, and Friday, November 14. *The Zoo Story* and scenes from *Boy Gets Girl* perform Saturday, November 8, and Sunday, November 16. Act Three of *Oleanna* and selected monologues from *Twilight: Los Angeles 1992* will be presented together on Friday, November 7, Thursday, November 13, and Saturday, November 15.

Sweeney Todd by Hugh Wheeler: After being sent away on false charges, barber Benjamin Barker (aka Sweeney Todd) returns to exact revenge on Judge Turpin, the man who sent him away and robbed him

All performances take place in McGuire Theatre. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evening performances begin at 8 PM, and Sunday matinee performances begin at 2 PM. Talkbacks with company members will follow each evening or afternoon of performances. Tickets can be purchased by calling or visiting the WPC Bookstore, 503.517.1100.



Jeff Barnhardt, Library Circulation Supervisor

MOS: 13M, Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) Crewmember
RANK BEFORE RETIREMENT: Sergeant
WEAPON OF CHOICE: The M2 .50 Caliber Machine Gun
FAVORITE CADENCE: “If I die in the Combat Zone”

In 1980 Jeff Barnhardt joined the Guard straight out of high school. “The National Guard was fun because you got to play Army,” Barnhardt said. However, when that got boring, he joined the active Army and was stationed in Fort Sill. Barnhardt has advice for anyone considering joining the Army. “Take everything your recruiter says with a grain of salt,” he said. “The Army is vast; they have no idea what your job will be like. One guy in my unit said he’d be jumping out of airplanes, and that wasn’t the case.”

“It takes two things to make it through basic training: having the common sense to listen to the Drill Sergeant, and being physically capable of doing so,” Barnhardt said. “We had bikers, dopers and conspiracy theorists. The time to rebel is not to your Drill Sergeant.”

“Basic training strips you of your basic rights, and you forget how attached you are to everyday pleasantries,” Barnhardt said. “Mail call is always a wonderful thing; it breaks ranks. From general to private, mail really is sacred. During basic training, it’s only less important than food. It destroys morale not to get a letter. If you have someone going into the service, a letter will really make their day.”

“Like all real adventures, basic training is horrible, but when you’re done with it, it’s an accomplishment,” Barnhardt said. “Rappelling down a helicopter frightened the devil out of me.” After basic training, soldiers either go back home as a guardsman to serve one weekend a month, or go to a military installation as an active duty member. Barnhardt reflected on his time during active duty: “For the most part, it’s a 9-5 job where you have to run in the morning.” However, in the field during training exercises, soldiers work around the clock. And even in peace time, the job description can be dangerous. “It’s easy not to see somebody when you’re driving at night with lights dimmer than parking lights,” he said.

Barnhardt has never seen the elephant (a term meaning he hasn’t seen combat), as he joined right when Vietnam was wrapping up. “I could tell the morale was low post-Vietnam,” he said. Barnhardt often thinks about what it would’ve been like to see combat. “Would I be brave? I wouldn’t feel that bad if I shot at someone shooting me,” he said, then laughed. “I’d probably run away like the Three Stooges, to be honest.”

How does one succeed in the military? “Don’t complain. Don’t get in trouble. Keep your locker secured. And you’ll make general.” Relaxing in his office chair in the library, Barnhardt said, “I’m glad I joined the army, and even gladder I’m out of it.”

TRIGGER WARNING

One or more of the plays presented addresses or depicts murder, suicide, brutal beatings, physical and verbal threats and assault, sexual harassment, alcoholism, mental abuse, and profanity.

TO PROTECT AND SERVE: *Police Militarization and Protecting the Public*



by Selena Montoya

Like most mornings in Los Angeles, California, the sun was slowly creeping across the sky and the temperature was at a perfect 64°. Similar to other establishments in North Hollywood, the Bank of America opened promptly at 9 o'clock. Outside, people were meandering about, talking to friends, while others moved in chaotic yet precise paths while speaking heatedly into their cell phones.

Inside, the bank tellers were assisting the handful of patrons, accepting checks, checking balances, withdrawing money, and talking through the process of loans. All was quiet; the day was going smoothly in its first 17 minutes of operation. Then two men walked in, dressed in black coveralls, ski masks, bulked up by 40 pounds of body armor, and carrying select-fire Kalashnikov rifles, handguns, a HK-91, and a fully automatic AR-15.

They shot at the ceiling, demanded their duffel bags to be filled with money, and forced their way into the vault. Eight minutes later they gathered their bags to leave, unaware that two LAPD officers had spotted them just as they were walking inside, had radioed code 211, robbery in progress, into the station and were awaiting back-up.

Once the robbers emerged from the bank, they were told to put their weapons down. They refused and opened fire. The police officers, armed at the time with only 9 mm handguns and 12 gauge shotguns, were heavily outmatched and all they could do was take cover and hope to somehow end the barrage of bullets. Eventually back-up came in the form of 350 other police officers and FBI agents.

As recounted in a 2013 Police Magazine article, this was the beginning of the infamous North Hollywood 1997 shootout in which a total of 2,000 rounds of ammunition were fired, twelve cops and eight civilians injured. After a forty-four minute high-intensity firefight, both robbers were dead.

The only reason the officers were able to keep up in the gunfight was that they had entered a nearby firearms shop and commandeered assault rifles to level the playing field. One robber, a man named Larry Phillips, was shot down only when his gun jammed. The second, named Emil Matasareanu, eventually surrendered after he was shot in both legs to disable him when he attempted to get away in a stolen vehicle. He eventually died from excessive blood loss.

This event, along with others, has been used as evidence to support the need of higher grade weapons, gear, and training for domestic law enforcement. In today's society, civilians and criminals alike are able to purchase equipment on par with military grade weapons and armor, while domestic law enforcement personnel are left outmatched in gear. With this in mind, how can we expect law enforcement to be suitably prepared to combat forces that are well beyond their league?

The separation of military forces and domestic law enforcement dates back to the ratification of the U.S. Constitution. Both organizations are used to uphold the peace; however, the primary objective of domestic law enforcement is to protect civil rights for both victims and criminals alike. Aggressive action in the form of violence is to be a last resort only. As stated in the LAPD police motto, they are meant to "protect and to serve" the citizens of their state and country. Every emergency within the state is to be handled with the lowest force possible. The job of first responders such as police and firefighters is to protect, serve, and maintain order in their communities, while also remaining within their strict code of conduct. *Continued on page 12.*



Portland Police in riot gear block MAX platform during the Occupy protests on November 16, 2011. Photo by Igal Koshevoy.



“TO PROTECT AND SERVE” CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11:

In contrast, the military is meant to actively pursue and eradicate outside forces. As stated in their creed, military forces are meant to “stand ready to deploy, engage, and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.” The first policy to be instated to prevent the use and abuse of the military forces within domestic law enforcement was the Posse Comitatus Act of 1878 which stated that, “Whoever willfully uses any part of the Army or the Air Force as a posse Comitatus to execute laws shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.” This statute separated the military powers from domestic law enforcement, though it did allow the assistance of such powers when no other option was available.

I spoke to two men who have had experience in domestic law enforcement, Joshua Jeffery and Mitchell Chung. Both have given me incredible insight into what they perceive “police militarization” to be and how they have personally been affected by that process in their years of service.

Josh Jeffery is a Warner Pacific alumnus and now a graduate student at Vanderbilt studying American Religious History and Political Theology. His study focuses on the intersections of Church and State, especially around the use of government power towards religious groups. He has experience in public law enforcement, fire service, emergency management and has worked at the Redmond Police Department, the Metropolitan Service District, and the city of Portland, as well as in various volunteer efforts in domestic law enforcement.

Jeffery said that when he was hired into his first volunteer position in 1994, he was told the law enforcement was a “para-military organization.” This simply means that domestic enforcement is structured in a similar way to military enforcement. There are officer ranks and personnel units, officers are highly disciplined, and there is a clear command structure.

They are trained under policies, case and statutory laws that they must obey above all else. This includes the wearing of specific uniforms to differentiate between departments and civilians alike.

Then in 1999 while he worked for Redmond Police Department, officers were issued semi-automatic AR-15 Assault Rifles, and SWAT officers were allowed to carry their fully automatic machine guns as well as their tactical equipment in the trunks of their vehicles in order to respond quickly and efficiently to heavy firefight incidents. This, Jeffery said, was a direct response to the North Hollywood shoot out that had taken place only two years prior.

In some of Jeffery’s other jobs, he was not significantly affected by militarization efforts, including his time as a Special District Police officer with Metro and his service with the Water Bureau. Nor does he believe any militarization has taken place in these agencies since then. However, he did voice his concern about the Water Bureau Rangers, who were created in direct response to 9/11 to protect the infrastructure of the water supply. “It was created as an anti-terrorism force, but it has never been given the tools to carry out that mission,” Jeffery said.

The only two departments that saw any true militarization during his time of service, Jeffery said, were the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) and the Forest Service. However, even then, he said, the major militarization that can be seen by the public is the over-the-uniform tactical vests each group is allowed to wear. The PPB wear all black vests with bullet resistance material inside as well as pockets used to hold ammunition, med kits, and other such equipment. The Forest Service’s vests are green and are for use in severe weather and tactical mobilization. In either case, the use of the vest is optional. Both services are issued AR-15 rifles, and carry full-body armor and fully automatic weapons. The PPB’s main use of this equipment will only occur in the event of a serious emergency, while the Forest Service will use them only in the summer when responding to marijuana take-downs.

When I first interviewed Josh Jeffrey, I found this information incredibly intimidating. As an individual with a biased and rather stereotypical upbringing directly opposing the police force and this type of outfitting, I found the knowledge that officers were in possession of this equipment infuriating. However, my interview with Mitchell Chung challenged my view.

Mitchell Chung is a current Warner Pacific student. He has been a City of Portland Police Cadet for two years, was an Emergency Management officer for the City and County of Honolulu, and has been part of United States Customs and Border Protection Explorer Post 401.

I had never spoken directly to Chung on campus before, but I had recognized him around campus last year, most notably in his hosting of the WPC Annual Luau last spring. Talking to him about such a controversial issue really shed light on many of the biases I held in regard to the police force.

The first thing he said really stood out to me: “The question is, how do I perceive the presence of this person?” As with many issues that in the U.S., perception is at the root of it all. He showed me a picture of himself in uniform in Honolulu and asked me what stood out to me. I told him the little bundle on his left leg was what had instantly grabbed my attention. He then asked me what I believed the pouch held, and I told him that it had to be some sort of weapon, a Taser perhaps. When Chung told me it was actually a medical kit, my head was reeling. I felt ashamed for thinking he would be carrying some sort of weapon.

He went on to tell me that the usual critique on police militarization is formed on the basis of appearance. It is a purely psychological and emotional reaction to seeing someone outfitted in military stylized gear. There is a negative connotation linked to the thought of weapons and armor; when regular citizens see them being worn, we are automatically intimidated and wary.

For Oregon specifically, Chung told me to keep in mind the Oregon Revised Statute 133.033 Peace Officer: Caretaking Function. This statute has three subsections. (See sidebar for details.) These statutes set in place show, explicitly, that the domestic law enforcement’s first responsibility is first and foremost to the civilians in their state. They are required by law to assist civilians in any way they can to uphold the peace and maintain law. They are first responders to every emergency, from earthquakes to massive shootings, and are meant to only resort to violence as a last resort.

Jeffery said that “militarization is inevitable in some ways, incidents such as North Hollywood and 9/11 have shown that American law enforcement need the ability to respond to bad guys with significant amount of fire power.” However these are some of the more extreme cases. He was not advocating for the use of high power firearms in everyday activities, but in the case of an emergency it would be appropriate if such tools were made readily available when such events occur.

As Chung put it, “You can’t rescue anyone unless you can protect yourself.”

OREGON REVISED STATUTE 133.033 PEACE OFFICER: CARETAKING FUNCTION

1. Except as otherwise expressly prohibited by law, any peace officer authorized to perform community caretaking functions
2. Community caretaking functions mean any lawful acts that are inherent in the duty of the peace officer to serve and protect the public. Community caretaking functions includes, but is not limited to :

- a. The right to enter or remain on the premises of another if it reasonably appears to be necessary:

- i. Prevent serious harm to any person or property
- ii. Render aid to injured or ill persons; or
- iii. Locate missing persons

- b. The right to stop or redirect traffic or aid motorists or other persons when such action reasonably appears necessary to:

- i. Prevent serious harm to any person or property
- ii. Render aid to injured or ill persons; or
- iii. Locate missing persons

3. Nothing contained in this section shall be constructed to limit the authority of a peace officer that is inherent in the office or is granted by any other provision of law.



The Knight Times

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Cover Photo: A soldier in the 3-116th Cav Scouts unit fires off a mortar round at Orchard Combat Training Center, Idaho. Photo by Tim Jackson.

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TWO UKRAINES: *Nostalgic Memories and Current Realities*

by Diana Nesukh

I was three years old when I moved to the United States with my family. I hardly remember those first years in Ukraine except for riding a beat up red tricycle, star gazing in an old barn with a section of the roof missing, making bead bracelets next to a cow that I was supposed to be milking, and other hazy memories that often feel so distant they couldn't possibly be real. That Ukraine bore significant meaning because it felt like I was part of something more. I was a part of a long heritage and was raised in a house my grandfather built. I was part of a community where everyone knew everything. That Ukraine was safe and warm. That Ukraine was me as Laura Ingalls Wilder in *Little House on the Prairie*. It was simple. That Ukraine was mostly made up.

I was so young that what little I do remember is romanticized by my longing to orchestrate an elaborate history that gives me depth. In reality, that Ukraine might have been safe and homey, but it will always be a mystery. When I was in high school, I realized that most of that Ukraine was made up by my imagination. Returning to my homeland with my parents, I saw the reality of a place I never want to go back to.

On the plane, I felt sick. It was the first time flying since I came to the United States, and I was unfamiliar with the motion sickness that came with takeoff or landing. My stomach felt like it was a

raging sea swooshing back and forth trying to push its way out. By the time I finally got to Kiev, I was ready to turn back and fly home. It was a gloomy overcast day in September when we exited out of the plane by ladder outside. My sister, grandma, and I grabbed our luggage and headed out of the crowded airport. From Kiev, the uncle who picked us up drove 12 hours to Irshava, the small village where I was born. The ride was grueling. My uncle's car was an old van that had a hole at the bottom of the passenger door. The weather in September was not unbearably cold, but sitting next to constant blowing wind at my feet, I felt as if the lower part of my body was trapped in Antarctica.

The streets were broken, and the entire ride was bumpy and uncomfortable. America's streets are literally paved with gold compared to the unrecognizable rubbles of pavement Ukraine has to offer its drivers. As we drove through downtown Kiev, I was utterly disappointed. I wanted the feeling of being a tourist in awe of my own culture, but was left instead with the feeling that it was somehow foreign to me. What I saw was rundown buildings, crowded streets filled with cars ready to break into pieces, and people who were unhappy.

This Ukraine was completely different than the one I had painted in my mind. I hoped the rest of the trip would reassure me that

there was something special about this place. The house we left behind had changed drastically. The barn behind the house that I envisioned was half the size it was in my mind and barely standing. The tall grass obviously had not been cut for a few months. The well was barricaded because it had run out of water. The inside of the house smelled of mildew, with dust covering every area of every piece of furniture. When we left, my parents allowed my grandfather's nephew and his family to live in the house and take care of it. Unfortunately, it was a mess.

The month I spent in Ukraine was a blur. Missing my life in the United States, I felt as though I was in an alternate universe looking down at myself going through the motions of visiting old people I didn't know, eating food with every kind of mushroom in it I could possibly imagine (it was mushroom season), and hearing a language that I understood but began to hate. What was it about this Ukraine that had changed? Everything was different than I had imagined. The most disappointing thing was the people. There were no "thank you's" or "sorry's" exchanged. Glaring and eye rolling were acceptable, and yelling at a person directly in front of you was normal.

On one of the never-ending days, my two sisters and I decided to go shopping. Because it was September, I came well equipped

with sweatshirts and jeans. This wardrobe made us stand out; we were dressed much too modestly compared to most of the other girls, who were wearing belly shirts and high heeled stripper boots. When we arrived at the so-called "mall," we began perusing the racks and looking for something, anything, that we might like. I saw a button up shirt (the only one without elaborate jewels all over it), grabbed it, and walked to the back of the store where there was a sheet hanging to make a fitting room. I tried on the shirt but unsurprisingly did not like it, so I left it in the fitting room. As soon as we got outside, we heard a woman's voice hollering at us, "Devushka! Devushka!" Knowing that she was saying "girl," I turned around to look at who she was yelling at. She grabbed my arm and began screaming at me for stealing the shirt I had tried on. My oldest sister pushed her off me and explained to her that I didn't steal it but just left the shirt in the fitting room. She glared at me and made very clear that if I try something on, I better put it back where I found it. That was the last time I tried on any clothing.

THIS ARTICLE IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES ON WARNER PACIFIC STUDENTS' TRAVEL EXPERIENCES.

Pictured: Independence Square in Kiev before and after the January 2014 riots to oust pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovich. Photo by Reddit user nasdaf.

The month long trip was filled with rude interactions and shopkeepers changing prices once they found out we were from America. This Ukraine was cold and uninviting. I remember a specific Sunday when my sister and I went to a market craving something to snack on. We stopped at a stand that was selling ponchiki or filled donuts. The smell of creamy potato filled donuts and spiced cabbage filled donuts made our mouths water. We knew that my grandmother would want some and that we'd probably have some later on that day; thus, we asked for about a dozen or more. The clerk looked at us in an angry way with his eyebrows coming together, making him look like he only had one. He scolded us for thinking that just because we were from America, we thought we could buy out his entire supply. We didn't buy any donuts that day, but instead returned to our house with empty stomachs and hurt feelings. That experience is so striking now because I recognize that, although the clerk was rude, he was expressing what most of the country was feeling. Ukrainians don't want another country's

presence looming over them. They want independence from Russia, who has been using them as their puppeteer, and independence from Americans who come into the country flaunting their money.

Thinking back, it is hard to find any positives about the trip. One aspect of this Ukraine that I was in awe of were the cathedrals. There were countless cathedrals that seemed very out of place. Painted gold and blue or rich burgundy with intricate silver designs, this architecture took the spotlight. How could such a poor country afford to build such elaborate buildings of worship? One cathedral, right in the middle of our village, rang a loud bell every Sunday morning. The bell was obnoxious but there was something so compelling about it. It was so traditional and seemed more ancient than all of Ukraine. The bell brought back memories of my early childhood when I was a flower girl at my neighbor's wedding. The service took hours as the Orthodox priests held crowns over the bride's and groom's head as they prayed. The voices of the men echoed on the large round ceilings.

The two contrasting Ukraine's were an eye opener to me. I was in a complete culture shock even though technically that culture was my own. For a very long time I didn't understand how a country could be so unattractive. Watching the news today about all the problems in Ukraine, I can get an idea of why my experience several years ago was so awful.

That Ukraine I made up in my head was not struggling with an impending power over it trying to manipulate its every move. That Ukraine wasn't working endless hours to make almost nothing compared to the government officials who was controlling it. That Ukraine was free and independent. I can finally begin to have a sense of understanding why the people were so unkind and boisterous, why the cities were run down, and why the streets weren't paved. This Ukraine did not have a say. This Ukraine was taken advantage of and used for everything it had to offer. This Ukraine was on the brink of disaster. Having experienced this Ukraine, I can understand why it is struggling right now.



Diana landed in Kiev and drove 12 hours west to her home village Irshava, which is south of Mukacheve.