The Budget Task Force has sent their annual budget proposal for the 2016-17 fiscal year to President Ron Thomas. The group is charged with hearing from various University constituents and compiling a budget for the President’s consideration, which he can then amend before submitting to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

“The Budget Task Force process includes, essentially, representatives from all of the areas of the University come to speak to us,” Academic Vice President Kris Bartanen said. “They present written materials that provide history, context and comparison on their budgets, and then include any requests that they have for increases in operating budget. Then we compile all of the requests. Each of the areas is asked to prioritize their requests. Then we make determinations of how, what we can fit, in terms of dollars that are available. We usually arrive at those recommendations through consensus.”

According to the Report of The Budget Task Force, the group discussed major cost drivers, market competitiveness, program quality, the impact of potential budget reductions and long term planning, among other important aspects that affect the budget.

“The Budget Task Force consists of] two students, two staff, two faculty members, Vice President Mondou and myself. President Thomas also addresses the Budget Task Force at the beginning of the process. Our charge is to recommend a balanced budget for the subsequent fiscal year, and it also has to be a budget that works on a projected financial model over the next five years,” Bartanen explained. The Budget Task Force has estimated that both the revenue budget, money coming in, and the expense budget, money being spent, are going to be $97,220,000 each. An “aggregate tuition and fee increase of 3.36 percent, 3 percent increases in the faculty and student-staff salary pools, and a 2.5 percent increase in the staff salary pool” are recommended in the report of The Budget Task Force.

“The tuition increase that we are recommending is the smallest tuition increase in 44 years,” Academic Vice President Kris Bartanen said. That 3.36 percent tuition increase translates into a roughly $600 tuition hike. Tuition increased 3.75 percent in the 2015-2016 fiscal year, and 3.72 percent in the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

“The fundamental, big reason why tuition increases is because we are a very labor intensive enterprise,” Bartanen said. Over the last six years, tuition has climbed some 19 percent. Indeed, money received from the government has also declined in some respects, with funding for Federal- and State-funded student work-study programs declining by 15 percent, according to the report.

While private college tuition continues to grow, state university tuition in Washington will drop by 15 to 20 percent by 2016, according to The Seattle Times.

“We think the educational program at Puget Sound is of high quality and we want to maintain the quality of that program. There certainly are some fixed costs, if you will. We have insurance for the university and when insurance premiums go up we need to pay the premium. We pay fees to be part of NCAA and we have fees for the Council on Undergraduate Research, et cetera.”

86 percent of the revenue budget will come from net tuition and fees, continued on pg. 2
Budget Task Force Breakdown

By Emily Schueler

Following interviews with all Sigma Chi chapter members by the Dean of Students Staff and Sigma Chi Fraternity International Headquarters staff, two book chapters have concluded investigations into the incident of bias hate that was reported on February 26.

There are a number of these guys who had three interviews, with two on Monday and one on Wednesday morning,” Dean Mike Segawa said. “[Assistant Dean Sarah Shires and Director of Student Contact Frank Cirioni] have done all of what has turned out to be twenty four interviews altogether. We interviewed some students in who we knew going in were not at all involved with it, but their perspective, or if the student wanted to talk to us, would be useful for us to hear.”

“I think their goal was to ensure that there were no underlying cultural issues that they would need to address as part of the big picture,” Director of Greek Life Randy Hanson said. “Legislators. Mike Stephens said. “They [Sigma Chi Fraternity International Headquarters] found the same violations that we found. Sigma Chi Fraternity International Headquarters, the international president, Mike Greenberg led the on-campus investigation. “They had an interview team come in for the week prior to that which consisted of local alumni, so eight days total,” Stephens said.

“We recently learned of a situation involving our chapter at the University of Puget Sound where individual members of the chapter were alleged to have made discriminatory statements and/or promoted discriminatory behavior during isolated events that occurred in the chapter house,” Executive Director of Sigma Chi Fraternity International Michael Church said. “Our policy public any of these sanctions will be,” Stephens said. On Tuesday, Feb. 16, Stephens, Segawa, Shires and Cirioni met with Sigma Chi chapter leaders to start the mediation process. Some of the sanctions will involve education and facilitated dialogues.

“We hope to come to an agreement on different sanctions for the remainder of the this year, next year and a half,” Stephens said. “The general sense from the comprehension is that there are some members that they’ve been very surprised have stepped up and have said we need to change the culture. I think this has brought the chapter closer together and not in a defensive way, but more in a way of ‘ok, what do we need to do to heal and move forward.’ They have had several internal discussions about ‘how do our Jewish members feel about this, how do our non-Jewish members feel about all of this? How do members that identify with the LGBTQ community feel in this chapter? They have already started going down that road.’

Correction

The new area of the fitness center, renovated as part of the larger Memorial Fieldhouse renovations, opens on Monday, Feb. 22.

The new room adds more area to the existing fitness center and features new cardio equipment.

“The remodel of the existing fitness area is finished, the two spaces will connect and substantially more new equipment will be added,” Director of Athletics Amy Hackett said.

Hackett added that since both parts of the fitness center are open, the room will have a more functional layout.

“The rest of the Fieldhouse renovations, including the new aquatics center and climbing wall, will continue to open in the coming months.”

The climbing wall construction is ongoing. “I don’t have a firm date on when it will be done,” Hackett said. “There was a little bit of a delay in ordering the actual materials...so that’s in progress,” Hackett said.

“As for the aquatics center, construction will be underway,” Hackett said.

“It will likely be the last space to open, as there are many mechanical aspects that make the construction of the pool a long process. The pool will be open sometime this summer,” Hackett said.

“Everything will be operational at the start of the next academic year,” Hackett said.

The Trail’s first article covering the incident of bias hate that was reported on February 26.

“This is not the first time Sigma Chi’s Headquarters has been involved in a situation involving our chapter,” Director of Greek Life Randy Hanson said. “We recently learned of a bias hate that was reported on February 26, and ask everybody to keep an open picture,” Director of Greek Life Randy Hanson said. “We recently learned of a bias hate that was reported on February 26, and ask everybody to keep an open mind and let’s move forward. I don’t know if any public any of the sanctions will be,” Stephens said. On Tuesday, Feb. 16, Stephens, Segawa, Shires and Cirioni met with Sigma Chi chapter leaders to start the mediation process. Some of the sanctions will involve education and facilitated dialogues.

“We hope to come to an agreement on different sanctions for the remainder of the this year, next year and a half,” Stephens said. “The general sense from the comprehension is that there are some members that they’ve been very surprised have stepped up and have said we need to change the culture. I think this has brought the chapter closer together and not in a defensive way, but more in a way of ‘ok, what do we need to do to heal and move forward.’ They have had several internal discussions about ‘how do our Jewish members feel about this, how do our non-Jewish members feel about all of this? How do members that identify with the LGBTQ community feel in this chapter? They have already started going down that road.’

Correction

The new area of the fitness center, renovated as part of the larger Memorial Fieldhouse renovations, opens on Monday, Feb. 22.

The new room adds more area to the existing fitness center and features new cardio equipment.

“The remodel of the existing fitness area is finished, the two spaces will connect and substantially more new equipment will be added,” Director of Athletics Amy Hackett said.

Hackett added that since both parts of the fitness center are open, the room will have a more functional layout.

“The rest of the Fieldhouse renovations, including the new aquatics center and climbing wall, will continue to open in the coming months.”

The climbing wall construction is ongoing. “I don’t have a firm date on when it will be done,” Hackett said. “There was a little bit of a delay in ordering the actual materials...so that’s in progress,” Hackett said.

“As for the aquatics center, construction will be underway,” Hackett said.

“It will likely be the last space to open, as there are many mechanical aspects that make the construction of the pool a long process. The pool will be open sometime this summer,” Hackett said.

“Everything will be operational at the start of the next academic year,” Hackett said.

The Trail’s first article covering the incident of bias hate that was reported on February 26, and ask everybody to keep an open mind and let’s move forward. I don’t know if any public any of the sanctions will be,” Stephens said. On Tuesday, Feb. 16, Stephens, Segawa, Shires and Cirioni met with Sigma Chi chapter leaders to start the mediation process. Some of the sanctions will involve education and facilitated dialogues.

“We hope to come to an agreement on different sanctions for the remainder of the this year, next year and a half,” Stephens said. “The general sense from the comprehension is that there are some members that they’ve been very surprised have stepped up and have said we need to change the culture. I think this has brought the chapter closer together and not in a defensive way, but more in a way of ‘ok, what do we need to do to heal and move forward.’ They have had several internal discussions about ‘how do our Jewish members feel about this, how do our non-Jewish members feel about all of this? How do members that identify with the LGBTQ community feel in this chapter? They have already started going down that road.’

Correction

By Tyler Randazzo

The new area of the fitness center, renovated as part of the larger Memorial Fieldhouse renovations, opens on Monday, Feb. 22.

The new room adds more area to the existing fitness center and features new cardio equipment.

“The remodel of the existing fitness area is finished, the two spaces will connect and substantially more new equipment will be added,” Director of Athletics Amy Hackett said.

Hackett added that since both parts of the fitness center are open, the room will have a more functional layout.

“The rest of the Fieldhouse renovations, including the new aquatics center and climbing wall, will continue to open in the coming months.”

The climbing wall construction is ongoing. “I don’t have a firm date on when it will be done,” Hackett said. “There was a little bit of a delay in ordering the actual materials...so that’s in progress,” Hackett said.

“As for the aquatics center, construction will be underway,” Hackett said.

“It will likely be the last space to open, as there are many mechanical aspects that make the construction of the pool a long process. The pool will be open sometime this summer,” Hackett said.

“Everything will be operational at the start of the next academic year,” Hackett said.
Tampon tax remains an unrecognized issue in US politics

By David Balgley

In Malcolm Gladwell’s provocative essay “John Rock’s Error,” he discusses the ‘demographic transition’ of Western societies from a status quo of high to low fertility rates. This has had a significant impact on patterns of menstruation—the contemporary Western woman menstruates between 350 to 400 times in her lifetime, on average. This is a landmark change. Beverly Strassmann, a professor of anthropology at the University of Michigan, conducted research among the Dogon people of Mali to gain insight into menstruation patterns in a pre-industrial society. She found that the average Dogon woman menstruates about 100 times in her life.

This difference is largely explained through the usage of contraceptives and birth control methods, which were not utilized by Dogon people at the time Strassmann did her research. Technological advances in birth control techniques have played a major role in empowering women, but it has also resulted in a significant increase in menstruation.

This leads us to the topic at hand, which is the tampon tax, a term that has gained increased prevalence in recent years that is often used to criticize such taxes.

First, women are forced to pay for a product related to a biological function not under their control. More specifically, in the majority of states, feminine hygiene products are classified as ‘luxuries,’ and therefore are subject to sales tax.

Five states currently consider feminine hygiene products to be necessities and tax-exempt: Michigan, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey and Massachusetts. Legislation has also been introduced in California to abolish sales tax on feminine hygiene products.

According to a news release from the office of the bill’s sponsor, Assemblymember Cristina Garcia, California women pay $7 a month on average on tampons and sanitary napkins, with $20 million going to the state in the form of taxes.

The tampon tax is another form of discrimination against women, and it is regressive, in that it hits women living in poverty particularly hard.

This is exacerbated by the gendered wage gap; women earn 78 cents on the dollar in comparison to men, according to a report issued by the White House in 2015.

The fact that 40 states, excluding those aforementioned and the five states with no sales tax, have explicitly labeled feminine hygiene products as ‘luxury items’ is an injustice.

Quite frankly, it is another iteration of an ingrained patriarchal system that seeks to marginalize women socially, economically and politically through both implicit and explicit mechanisms.

Luckily for students here at Puget Sound, CHWS has recognized the issues attached to the tampon tax, and provides tampons for free at its office in the S.U.B.

This demonstrates a recognition of the fact that feminine hygiene products are a necessity, and should be classified alongside other tax-exempt medical essentials, such as prescription medicine, prosthetics and some over-the-counter drugs.

Unfortunately, this issue continues to be largely unrecognized at the level of state legislatures.

Until state legislatures pass measures that explicitly recognize these products as a necessity instead of a luxury, women will continue to be hit with an undue economic burden, simply for being an American woman in the 21st century.

Want to have your opinion heard?

Letters to the Editor should be concise and timely, and should respond to an issue addressed by an article in The Trail or be used as a platform to convey issues to the campus community. Letters to the Editor will be printed as space allows and The Trail reserves the right to refuse any letters submitted for publication. Letters to the Editor will not be edited for grammar, spelling, or content, except in the case of material that is considered to be offensive, as determined by the Trail style guide. All letters to the editor must be signed and must have an email address or phone number. Letters for publication the following Friday are due no later than Monday at noon and may be sent to: The Puget Sound Trail, 1095 Wheelock Student Center, Tacoma, WA 98416 or trail@pugetsound.edu.
Suicide and suicidal thoughts are not a small issue in college. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for students, and on the Puget Sound campus 44 incidents of suicidal actions or statements have been officially reported this year alone. Hearing someone express suicidal thoughts is a frightening experience, one which many students are not equipped to handle. Fortunately, Puget Sound has a vocal group of students and staff that is working to increase education on suicide prevention.

By Nicky Smit

Bringing Suicide Awareness to the Mainstream

Suicide and suicide thoughts are not a small issue in college. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for students, and on the Puget Sound campus 44 incidents of suicidal actions or statements have been officially reported this year alone. Hearing someone express suicidal thoughts is a frightening experience, one which many students are not equipped to handle. Fortunately, Puget Sound has a vocal group of students and staff that is working to increase education on suicide prevention.
Women in nerd culture

By Sophia Lugo

Over the past few years it seems as though "nerd culture" has risen in popularity, especially in mainstream media. With an increase in video game and comic book culture, these communities seem to be growing a larger fanbase. The mainstreaming of this subculture makes visible the problems with misogynistic and objectifying attitudes so prevalent in the communities.

With a boom of new 'nerdy' content in many platforms ranging from film to TV and video games, it seems as though a transition is being made within society to accept this content as the norm or as popular. This past year the Marvel and DC universe has lured a huge amount of exciting superhero content, both in the comic world and the TV/movie world. With Netflix producing multiple new Marvel TV series ("Jessica Jones," "Daredevil," and so on) and The CW having plenty of DC content ("Arrow," "Legends of Tomorrow," "The Flash" and so on) there is a larger amount of content available.

What is great about this content is a greater representation of women and comfort in placing female characters in the forefront and as important, powerful figures. Oftentimes, in video games and many movies, women tend to be hypersexualized and written to act as sex objects, and plots are developed to develop the male characters. In writing and portraying the female characters, these new trends and influential, these shows and movies are able to appeal to a much larger demographic that includes and accepts women.

The impacts are not all positive, though. As representation increases, so does backlash and criticism, in this case in the form of misogyny.

Nerd girls are a relatively new phenomenon within pop culture, despite women having practically invented science fiction and having been interested in "nerdy" media for as long as it's been around. Many define nerd girls as those who are interested in general things like video games or comic books. This idea of nerd girls is usually gender specific, especially when the argument is made that nerd girls are becoming more applicable, because they like things that are associated with men.

The concept of nerd girls maintains a very misogynistic and heteronormative standard, picking out a lot of female fans in a lower standing than male fans and being held to higher standards when it comes to counting as "true fans." Within the community, there are still struggles with the idea that amazing "nerd girls" to criticize, once again making it a belief that nerdy girls are not for women or can not be enjoyed by women. At the same time, the appeal of nerd girls to these men comes from placing women across each other. A simple google search of the phrase "nerd girl" gives you many results on why nerdy girls are so hot, how you can start dating a nerdy girl, and other articles that make better girlfriends. Society loves to place women against each other, which is why电网 casting women in opposing roles, (nerd girls, popular girls and so on) it's very confusing as to what's going to be considered a standard and decide who has more appeal or worth.

A beginner's guide to understanding romantic and erotic fanfiction

By Kaitlyn Vailance

Fanfiction, a term which Merriam-Webster defines as "stories involving popular fictional characters that are written by fans and often posted on the Internet," has been quickly emerging from online forums and websites and into popular consciousness in a way few predicted. While the term "fanfiction" may lead many to think of teenage girls publishing their own stories in a way for conception to occur, since sperm can live in the body for up to five days, the American Pregancy Association states.

Preti of the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia says.

Myth: Menstruating individuals live in the same space or spend a lot of time together, their periods will sync.

Fact: Periods vary on average from three to seven days, while the entire cycle ranges from 21 to 35 days. Because of this, it is unlikely that two people would tend to coincide occasionally or even regularly if the cycles are not of similar lengths. Part of this myth is confusion bias, while the entire cycle ranges from 21 to 35 days. Because of this, it is unlikely that two people would tend to coincide occasionally or even regularly if the cycles are not of similar lengths.

Myth: Menstruating women are more likely to be pregnant during ovulation.

Fact: Menstruating women are about half as likely to be pregnant during ovulation. Time since last period is the major factor for fertility, according to the CDC.

Myth: Menstruating women should not have sex during ovulation.

Fact: Menstruating women can still get pregnant during ovulation. Time since last period is the major factor for fertility, according to the CDC.

Myth: Menstruating women should still be used if pregnancy prevention is desired.

Fact: Menstruating women are about half as likely to be pregnant during ovulation. Time since last period is the major factor for fertility, according to the CDC.

Preti of the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia says.

Myth: Menstruating women can still get pregnant during ovulation. Time since last period is the major factor for fertility, according to the CDC.

Fact: Menstruating women are about half as likely to be pregnant during ovulation. Time since last period is the major factor for fertility, according to the CDC.

Myth: Menstruating women should still be used if pregnancy prevention is desired.

Fact: Menstruating women can still get pregnant during ovulation. Time since last period is the major factor for fertility, according to the CDC.

Myth: Menstruating women should not have sex during ovulation.

Fact: Menstruating women can still get pregnant during ovulation. Time since last period is the major factor for fertility, according to the CDC.

Myth: Menstruating women should still be used if pregnancy prevention is desired.

Fact: Menstruating women can still get pregnant during ovulation. Time since last period is the major factor for fertility, according to the CDC.

Preti of the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia says.

Myth: Menstruating women can still get pregnant during ovulation. Time since last period is the major factor for fertility, according to the CDC.
YWCA Pierce County supports, protects victims of domestic violence

By Grace Cook

With February being the official month of love and bad rom-coms, it’s hard to remember that intimate partner violence is just as likely to occur on Valentine's Day as any other day of the year. The YWCA of Pierce County works 24/7 to provide support for survivors and their children as they recover and rebuild their lives.

Unfortunately, conversations about intimate partner violence are often confusing and unconstructive, leading to victim blaming and survivors questioning the validity of their experience.

"Intimate partner violence is important to talk about because it’s incredibly complicated and there are a lot of misconceptions surrounding it. The more people know about intimate partner violence and the many different forms it can take, the safer our community becomes," Jayne Berglund, the volunteer and resource coordinator for Pierce County YWCA, said.

Berglund emphasized the importance of supporting and protecting survivors, especially since the likelihood of being killed by an abuser increases by 75 percent when they do attempt to leave.

When a survivor confides in a trusted friend or family member, the best thing they can do is believe and support them. The YWCA also provides housing for survivors, their children, and even their pets; a factor many survivors must consider when deciding how to leave their current situation is whether they can bring their animals to a shelter.

Recently the YWCA was able to renovate its emergency shelter, expanding the number of beds available and making the space beautiful and welcoming. The staff at the YWCA works tirelessly to support survivors throughout the community.

This past October the YWCA created “Voices of Courage,” a monologue event hosted on the University’s campus in Kilworth Chapel. The monologues were an opportunity for the community to engage with real stories of abuse and confront their own conceptions of what it means to live through intimate partner violence.

“The night of the performances, we had a full house that included a lot of familiar and unfamiliar faces and I think one of the greatest takeaways from that was that, yes, we do have a supportive community and yes, our community cares about ending domestic violence,” Berglund said.

"Voices of Courage" was the first of its kind for the YWCA, and like their other projects, aimed to support survivors in every way possible. The YWCA works constantly to reach members of the community in need, and provide survivors with resources to heal and rebuild.

Volunteers are always welcome in a variety of positions. Information is available at http://www.ywcapiercecounty.org/volunteer-opportunities.

There are opportunities available on campus as well, for those interested in being part of the process for creating safe spaces on the University’s campus.

YWCA PIERCE COUNTY An organization that seeks to provide shelter, care and services to victims of domestic violence, regardless of gender, race or religious affiliation. PHOTO BY GABE NEWMAN

CONTACT THE YWCA
405 Broadway Tacoma, WA 98402
(253) 272-4181
info@ywcapiercecounty.org
24-Hour Crisis Hotline: (253) 383-2593

WINTER RECIPE:
Butternut Squash Soup

PHOTO AND RECIPE BY LEANNE GAN

1 large butternut squash (about 1.5-2 pounds)
2 tablespoons olive oil or other vegetable oil
1 large yellow or sweet white onion, chopped
2 large carrots
1 stick of celery
1 small fuji apple, peeled and diced
2 cups prepared vegetable broth, or 2 cups water with 1 vegetable bouillon cube
2 teaspoons curry powder
2 teaspoons grated ginger, or more, to taste
Pinch of turmeric
1 14-ounce can light coconut milk
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Step 1 Bake the squash, preheat oven to 390 degrees. Cut in three parts and place them cut side up. Then wrap them completely in foil and bake for 50 minutes to an hour, until you can easily scoop out the squash and set aside. Chop vegetables and the apple while waiting.

Step 2 Heat about half the oil in a soup pot. Add the onion and sauté over medium-low heat until golden, about 8 to 10 minutes.

Step 3 Add the chopped apple, squash, carrots, celery, broth and spices. Bring to a steady simmer, then cover and simmer gently until the apples and carrots are tender, about 10 minutes.

Step 4 Transfer the solids to a food processor in batches if need be, and process until smoothly pureed, then transfer back to the soup pot.

Step 5 Stir in the coconut milk or coconut cream and return the soup to a gentle simmer. Cook over low heat for 5 to 10 minutes, until well heated through. Season with salt and pepper.

Step 6 To serve, ladle soup into each bowl, then place a small mound of kale and greek yogurt or sour cream to garnish.

Step 7 Enjoy!

Fridge life up to 4-6 days
FEATURES

Black History Month seeks to inspire conversation, cultivate awareness

By Eada Gendelman

For the month of February, the Black Student Union (BSU) has organized a wide range of events and activities to honor Black History Month. Whether it be group discussions or watching films together, BSU has worked tirelessly to fill this month with meaningful experiences that not only celebrate the past of African Americans, but also inspire both Black and non-Black students to cultivate a well-informed community of allies.

Working together with other University sponsors, organizations, and professors, BSU has created a programming calendar that provides students with a variety of ways to get involved with Black History Month.

In the last couple of weeks, professors from the African American Studies Department have given lectures, films like "Straight Outta Compton" have been shown, and the first Black Box Friday took place.

"On Black Box Fridays we pose a question to the campus community with our giant black box in the center entrance of the S.U.B. at noon and allow students, faculty, staff, and visitors to answer," BSU president and senior Rachel Askew said. "This is the biggest event we hold during [Black History Month] because it is full of interaction."

On every Friday this month, the BSU calls on all students to participate in this process of engagement, and all are invited to debrief with the club and discuss the Black Box questions on Feb. 18, Feb. 25 and March 3.

"I would encourage students to attend all of these events if they desire to learn more about the black experience. Being black is not the sharing of one story, but the sharing of multiple stories that form a history of blackness… It is key to constantly be learning," Askew said.

Looking forward, there will be spoken word performances by Chaney Sims and Yazmin Monet Watkins on Feb. 21 at Immanuel Presbyterian Church at 5 p.m. and on Feb. 22 at Kilworth Chapel at 7 p.m.

Then, from Feb. 26–28, Campus Films will be showing the film "Creed," BSU will host many discussions as well.

"Each week our club selects a thought-provoking question together based on national news and topics popular in the media. [They] may range from Beyoncé to how histories of slavery impact the classroom," Askew said.

Jam-packed with events, Askew hopes that Black History Month is particularly impactful this year, in light of the recent national events of oppression and police brutality against people of color. She hopes that this month extends into a new culture of knowledge across campus.

"I do not think that black history should be relegated to a 29-day period… I hope instead that this month sparks an energy that encourages students at [Puget Sound] to seek out what it means to be a part of a global community and a nation where blackness is a part of our history," Askew said.

Despite the fact that February is meant specifically for commemorating African American history, Askew believes that the topics that are discussed throughout this month are still as pertinent as ever.

"History is not something that lies in the past, but something that remains active and builds as people grow through it. So as we discuss Beyoncé and the Black Panther Party or slavery and mass incarceration, there is an interconnectedness that supersedes relevance," Askew said.

Even as Black History Month passes by, BSU has new plans and ideas for the months ahead.

This semester, they will be releasing a literary magazine titled "Black Ice." Submissions are encouraged and can be sent to ups.bsu@gmail.com until April 15.

Upcoming Events:

Black Box Fridays: every Friday in the S.U.B.
Debrief & Conversation: Feb. 18, Feb. 25, Mar. 3
Chaney Sims and Yazmin Monet Watkins: 5 p.m. Feb. 21 @ Immanuel Presbyterian Church; 7 p.m. Feb. 22, @ Kilworth Chapel
Creed Film Showings: Feb. 26-28

San Juan Islands: Hidden gem of Puget Sound

By Natalie Hereford

Looking for a weekend getaway? The San Juan Islands are an archipelago located just below the Canadian border. Getting there from Tacoma takes about four hours by car, making the San Juans a perfect daytrip for those looking to escape the stress of school or make memories and explore a new place with friends or a family.

The most populated islands in the San Juan archipelago—San Juan Island, Orcas Island, Lopez Island and Shaw Island—are easily accessible by ferry, while smaller islands may prove more difficult to access. Some students never quite understand Derek Shepherd, of "Grey’s Anatomy" fame, love for ferries, while smaller islands may prove more difficult to access.

While driving up Mt. Constitution, true to Doe Bay’s namesake, a lot of deer can be seen.

Island and Shaw Island—are easily accessible by ferry, while inland trails are more standing at about a half-mile tall. The mountain is the island’s tallest mountain, standing at about a half-mile tall. The mountain is accessible by foot or by car and offers a vast panoramic view of the archipelago and the Sound on clear days.

While driving up Mt. Constitution, true to Doe Bay’s namesake, a lot of deer can be seen.

Coastal trails offer hikers plentiful views of madrona trees and rocky beaches, while inland trails are more isolated. Some of these trails have historical fact posts set up detailing how the island, forests, rocks, plants and animals, came to be after the receding of the Vashon Glacier.

I highly recommend students take a trip out here at least once before graduating, either to escape campus for a day or for an entire weekend. Visiting the San Juan islands is a must.
Our writers are Maddy Kunz, Nish Chhabra, John Miller Giltner, and Dana Donnelly. Guest writer Darrin Schultz co-wrote with editor Michelle Leatherby this week. Pseudonyms have historically been used by Combat Zone writers. We want to keep this tradition and credit writers by name in order to promote transparency. Our intent is to make people laugh and to provoke people to think critically.

Sophomore’s essay on her own tragic childhood worth about a C+

This week Professor Dr. Hartman is standing in for The Flail’s usual literary critic James Franco. The following is a review of “Lalala, Oops I’m Dead” by Dr. Hartman’s student Bebbie Reinhart. It was written for class and received about a C+.

“Mom and Dad, I’m home,” I shouted as the creaking door revealed my reluctant fate. Back then, I didn’t think much about a door opening to only one xylophone. Looking back, however, I now get what Oprah meant when she said, ‘knock knock, sorry I’m naked’ to Bobby Flay on the radio show; she meant that it was the beginning of the end. The beginning of no longer being together but alone, next to each other. Talking but not listening—only understanding. Accepting. And fighting. Answering but not speaking. Scared. Running. Trick or treat? Where am I? Daddy, are you home? They can’t hear you anymore, BABY.

See, when I opened the door—that creaking god damn door—I thought I was home. But deep down, I knew that home was gone. And it wasn’t ever coming back.”

So ends the personal essay “Lalala, Oops I’m Dead” by sophomore Bebbie Reinhart. And while her essay makes attempts at success, Bebbie ultimately fails to answer her writing prompt: Why Did You Come to Puget Sound?

Now most people would argue that any essay, despite the subject matter, must answer its prompt effectively or receive an F. And at first glance, that would be true of “Lalala, Oops I’m Dead.” For starters, you don’t know what’s going on while reading it. And it leaves thoughts in your head like, “This is not at all what I asked for” and, “I think she meant misogyny—not monogamy.” But consider this: Bebbie’s really trying here. She put her heart and soul into this essay. She wanted it to be great.

And while “Lalala, Oops I’m Dead” is not even close to being great, it’s worth about a C+ at least. I mean, there are some promising metaphors in the piece. The Oprah/Bobby Flay idea is very interesting. It would have been nice if she brought it up anywhere else in the essay but still she’s trying. And that’s my point. Bebbie is trying. And that’s worth something. Right?

You should have seen Bebbie read the piece out loud in class. Sure, it made everyone feel uncomfortable because this person they hardly knew at all was retelling the most personal details of her life. But she read it with such passion that I couldn’t fail her. I mean, just think about it. She obviously has a lot on her plate right now and an F would only make that worse.

Let me put it this way: when I was a kid, I had to come out to my parents about being genderqueer. Now imagine in response to me saying, “I’m not a man or a woman,” my parents just said, “F.” By the same principle, “Lalala, Oops I’m Dead” receives a C+. Yes, it’s not good but anything lower would be like kicking a hipster for asking to DJ a dance party and then only playing Radiohead songs. Sure, it’s wrong, but the hipster doesn’t know any better and he obviously has some daddy issues.

“Hey, it’s me, Mandy Moonz. So I guess there’s this whole internet thing where girls compare themselves to other girls to say how unique they are. Well I decided to put that to the test and let me tell you, it took a lot of soul searching and I found out a lot about myself. What I discovered was that I’m not like other girls. I, Mandy Moonz, am a quirky girl.”
Super sick art bro anticipates Super Bowl

By Bairn Skalpke

Plot Synopsis: Pound of Flesh was released in 1971, stars the French actor Jean-Claude Van Damme and has a rating of 1.5 stars. Van Damme is known for being a high-energy stuntman, which is evident in this scene of Van Damme taking out a kidnapper. The movie follows a mercenary-type seeking revenge over the course of a couple days after something bad happens, but has much less interesting action sequences, and so many boring car talks that ultimately mean nothing. The weakness of the movie probably comes from not having the main character, as Van Damme just appears to be sweaty and tired in every scene. Should there be a 2 Pounds of Flesh? Nah, I don’t think a sequel would work very well since Van Damme died.

For this article, I will be reviewing a movie on Netflix that has been rated in the 1.0 to 1.9 star range, and deciding if it deserves the rating. I did not do any research on the movie prior to watching it, and will not before the publishing of this article.

Deacon is French, Sad Viggo, who is named George, but I'm not sure who Deacon is. Sad Viggo for a while, is American, so Deacon's kidney inside them, as it follows a mercenary-type seeking revenge over the course of a couple days after something bad happens, but has much less interesting action sequences, and so many boring car talks that ultimately mean nothing. The weakness of the movie probably comes from not having the main character, as Van Damme just appears to be sweaty and tired in every scene. Should there be a 2 Pounds of Flesh? Nah, I don’t think a sequel would work very well since Van Damme died.

By Bairn Skalpke

Plot Synopsis: Pound of Flesh was released in 1971, stars the French actor Jean-Claude Van Damme and has a rating of 1.5 stars. Van Damme is known for being a high-energy stuntman, which is evident in this scene of Van Damme taking out a kidnapper. The movie follows a mercenary-type seeking revenge over the course of a couple days after something bad happens, but has much less interesting action sequences, and so many boring car talks that ultimately mean nothing. The weakness of the movie probably comes from not having the main character, as Van Damme just appears to be sweaty and tired in every scene. Should there be a 2 Pounds of Flesh? Nah, I don’t think a sequel would work very well since Van Damme died.

For this article, I will be reviewing a movie on Netflix that has been rated in the 1.0 to 1.9 star range, and deciding if it deserves the rating. I did not do any research on the movie prior to watching it, and will not before the publishing of this article.

Deacon is French, Sad Viggo, who is named George, but I'm not sure who Deacon is. Sad Viggo for a while, is American, so Deacon's kidney inside them, as it follows a mercenary-type seeking revenge over the course of a couple days after something bad happens, but has much less interesting action sequences, and so many boring car talks that ultimately mean nothing. The weakness of the movie probably comes from not having the main character, as Van Damme just appears to be sweaty and tired in every scene. Should there be a 2 Pounds of Flesh? Nah, I don’t think a sequel would work very well since Van Damme died.

By Bairn Skalpke

Plot Synopsis: Pound of Flesh was released in 1971, stars the French actor Jean-Claude Van Damme and has a rating of 1.5 stars. Van Damme is known for being a high-energy stuntman, which is evident in this scene of Van Damme taking out a kidnapper. The movie follows a mercenary-type seeking revenge over the course of a couple days after something bad happens, but has much less interesting action sequences, and so many boring car talks that ultimately mean nothing. The weakness of the movie probably comes from not having the main character, as Van Damme just appears to be sweaty and tired in every scene. Should there be a 2 Pounds of Flesh? Nah, I don’t think a sequel would work very well since Van Damme died.

For this article, I will be reviewing a movie on Netflix that has been rated in the 1.0 to 1.9 star range, and deciding if it deserves the rating. I did not do any research on the movie prior to watching it, and will not before the publishing of this article.

Deacon is French, Sad Viggo, who is named George, but I'm not sure who Deacon is. Sad Viggo for a while, is American, so Deacon's kidney inside them, as it follows a mercenary-type seeking revenge over the course of a couple days after something bad happens, but has much less interesting action sequences, and so many boring car talks that ultimately mean nothing. The weakness of the movie probably comes from not having the main character, as Van Damme just appears to be sweaty and tired in every scene. Should there be a 2 Pounds of Flesh? Nah, I don’t think a sequel would work very well since Van Damme died.
BEST ON THE FIELD

LUKIE: BEAST MODE 2.0

After “Beast Mode” was born in the 2010 playoff run against the Saints, every fan, analyst and coach was searching for the next big thing called Beast Mode 2.0. There were runs against the New Orleans Saints in the 2013 divisional playoffs, a run where he destructed Dashon Goldson of the San Francisco 49ers and nearly every game where he went Beast Mode at some point to set the tone for the Seahawks. One run stands alone: Playing the Cardinals at the end of the 2014 season, the Seahawks were up 23-16 in the fourth quarter. It had been a tough game for Lynch as he had barely played in the first half due to an upset stomach. It simply didn’t matter, that was one of things that Marshawn Lynch could do, turn it on at any moment. On that play, Lynch broke a tackle at the line, cut back towards the sideline, met two Cardinals defenders there and showed them both out of the way while keeping his feet in bounds. He then broke free, shook off another tackle and made his way to the end zone. It was truly mesmerizing.

NICK: SEAHAWKS VS. GIANTS, NOV. 7, 2010: THE FIRST GLIMPSE OF BEASTMODE

In Week 9 of the 2010 season, the Seahawks faced off against the New York Giants, failing miserably 41-7. While this game was an embarrassment, it gave fans the first glimpse of the “beastmode” that lay within Marshawn Lynch. Trailing 21-0 in the 1st quarter, Seahawks quarterback Charlie Whitehurst handed the ball off to Lynch on a 2nd and 6. Lynch was originally wrapped up by a defensive end a half yard behind the line of scrimmage. For most running backs, the play would end here, but not Lynch. After being wrapped up, Lynch continued to drive his legs and keep fighting. He shrugged the defensive end and four other Giants through a pile for a seven yard gain. He almost broke free and ran for a touchdown, but was finally dragged down. Had Lynch scored on the play, it wouldn’t have shown through all of his career highlight reels; instead the play will just have to stand as one of the greatest seven yard runs of all time.

LUKIE: MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL VS. EAGLES (2011)

Back when the Seahawks were below average and had just acquired Lynch, they played the Eagles on Monday Night Football in a non-exciting game. However, Lynch had one of his signature moments in that game. Early in the first half, the Seahawks were driving and were inside the Eagles 20 yard-line. They gave the ball to Lynch, and he pulled out a Houdini act. He ran into a wall of defenders, and it seemed to everyone in the stadium that the play was over … not so fast. Lynch kept his legs moving (a mark of him) in a pile that was similar to a rugby scrum and somehow emerged on the other side and ran into the end zone for a touchdown. The announcers were befuddled, the Eagles were at a loss for words, Lynch was wrapped up, frequently everyone was. He was amazing.

NICK: SEAHAWKS VS. RAMS, NOV. 13, 2011: MARSHAWN LYNCH JUKES RAY LEWIS OUT OF HIS SHORTS

In one of the defining games of the 2011 season, the Seahawks beat the Baltimore Ravens, giving fans a glimpse of the team’s exciting and bright future. With 3 minutes left in the game, the Seahawks drove, trying to knock the clock while leading 22-17. Facing a 3rd and 5, starting quarterback Tarvaris Jackson dumped a check down pass to Marshawn Lynch. Two Ravens, including future Hall of Famer Ray Lewis, rapidly closed in on Lynch and it appeared he would be tackled just short of the 1st down marker. Instead of just falling forward, Lynch leaned toward his left and suddenly sprang horizontally to his right, leaving Ray Lewis doing the splits while the other Raven dove for air and landed flat on his face. This is the sort of juke move you see in arcade videogames, not in real life. This moment not only left Lewis looking handy, but also demonstrated an incredibly underated part of Lynch’s game, being his finesse as a runner.

LUKIE: NFC CHAMPIONSHIP GAME VS. PACKERS (2014)

The Seahawks were in the midst of a massive comeback, they just needed someone to finish it. Marshawn Lynch was your man. After recovering the onside kick, they drove the ball to the Packers 24 and from there, #24 took it. That goal line touchdown run was filled with emotion considering that it was happening in the NFC championship game. Even though the game went overtime and the Seahawks won, that moment will always stick in my mind.

NICK: SEAHAWKS VS. BRONCOS, SEP. 21, 2014: MARSHAWN LOSES A DREAD

With the Seahawks leading the Broncos 17-3 late in the 3rd quarter of a Super Bowl XLVIII rematch, Seattle Seahawks quarterback dumped off a short pass to Lynch along the left side of the field. Lynch took off down the sideline where he was spun out of bounds by a Broncos’ defender. Before Lynch returned to the field of play he bent over to pick something up. The replay camera zooms in showing a single dreadlock that had been ripped out by the Broncos player. Lynch casually tucks the dreadlock into his sock and jogs back to the huddle completely unfazed. When asked about the event in a later interview, Lynch responded, “I had to R.I.P. one of the dreads, I don’t know what I did. I had to R.I.P. one. Had a nice service when I got home.”

BEST OFF THE FIELD

LUKIE: SUPER BOWL PARADE

After the Seahawks won the 2013 Super Bowl against the Broncos, we all gathered in Seattle to watch the parade. That day was freezing but it didn’t matter one bit because of the significance of the moment. Marshawn Lynch made it that much better. In the parade, the players were coming in by Ride the Ducks trucks, and standing on top of the front of the truck with music blasting was Lynch. He looked so happy, relaxed and pretty damn cool.

NICK: SUPER BOWL XLVIII MEDIA DAY: “I’M JUST ABOUT THAT ACTION BOSS.”

While nothing but repeated catch phrases were used in the media days leading up to Super Bowl XLIX, Lynch did give one interview the year before at Super Bowl XLVIII where he said one of the most iconic quotes of his career. Approached by Hall of Famer and analyst for the NFL network Deion Sanders, Lynch gave a four minute interview where he talked about his excitement for the game, his expectations for the team and more. When Sanders asked him why he didn’t like to talk to the media Lynch responded “I ain’t got nothing to say. I’m just about that action boss.” A quote has never been more appropriate to describe Marshawn Lynch. While his personality and lifestyle remain mysterious to the fans, Marshawn Lynch was a man who loved the game of football, played for his teammates and had unmatched determination. He truly was about that action (boss).

LUKIE: “I'M GOING TO GET MINE MORE THAN I GET GOTT”

In an interview with former Seahawks Fullback and good friend Michael Robinson, Lynch dropped this quote in reference to what happens on the field with Beast Mode. I just love it.

NICK: SEAHAWKS SUPER BOWL PARADE

A few days after the Seahawks won Super Bowl XLVIII, the city of Seattle hosted a championship parade. Throughout the excitement and euphoria of the whole event, Marshawn Lynch once again stole the show. While the rest of his teammates rode in army trucks, Marshawn chose to stand on the hood of a Duck (a unique tourist bus) that led the entire parade. For the two hours the Seahawks paraded through the street Lynch danced in his Beastmode brand clothing, throwing Skittles in the air, banging a drum given to him by a fan and drinking Fireball Whiskey provided by another bystander.

LUKIE: “I’M JUST ‘BOUT THAT ACTION, BOSS”

Man, there are so many quotes that I could have put down here, but this one is a classic. During the Media Day for Super Bowl XLVII against the Broncos, Lynch had an interview with Deion Sanders discussing everything about him and the game. He never wants to talk and repeats that with this quote here saying that he only cares about playing, not the interviews that he does. It will stick with him forever, his quotes are immortal.

NICK: POSTGAME PRESS CONFERENCE, NOV. 23, 2014: “YEAH”

After the Seahawks defeated the Arizona Cardinals 19-3 Marshawn Lynch was surrounded by media for an interview. Lynch traditionally skipped media interviews but had to pay several fines as it is league policy that players have to talk to the media after games. Lynch who apparently had grown tired of these fines, decided that he would finally talk to the media. But instead of giving real answers to questions he instead responded with one word to every question, “Yea”. Eventually a “Maybe” and “no” were gridlock in but Marshawn had figured out a way to cheat the system. The “Yea” press conference later inspired other defiant press conferences that included quotes such as “I’m just here so I don’t get fined,” and, “You know why I’m here,” as well as, “I appreciate you asking,” all of which added to the hilarious and mysterious character that is Marshawn Lynch.
Pussy Riot speaks in Seattle

By Georgia Diamond Gustavson

February 19, 2015

Pussy Riot, the infamous punk band that captured the world’s attention with their恨手fast, unconventional performances, is making history again. The three members of the band—Nadezhda Tolokonnikova, Maria Alyokhina, and Yekaterina Samutsevich—were arrested in August 2012 for performing an anti-Putin song at a Moscow cathedral. Their trial became a symbol of the Russian government’s crackdown on dissent.

Pussy Riot’s performance at the cathedral was not intended to be a political act. It was a spontaneous, impromptu performance meant to express their joy and creativity. However, their actions landed them in jail for two years, charged with “hooliganism committed in a public place.”

Their trial was a spectacle of the Russian justice system. The three members of Pussy Riot were accused of “hooliganism” for their “actions” in the cathedral. The trial was covered by international media, and the band’s supporters organized protests around the world. Despite the international attention, the Russian court convicted all three members of Pussy Riot of “hooliganism.”

The sentencing of Pussy Riot was met with widespread condemnation. The international community called for their release, and many organizations worked to free the band. In August 2013, the Russian government reduced their sentence to two years and six months, and the three members of Pussy Riot were released.

In Seattle, the three members of Pussy Riot spoke at a rally on February 19, 2015. Their statement was a call to action for those who believe in the power of art and creativity to challenge the status quo. They spoke about their experiences in Russian prison and the importance of art in challenging censorship and oppression.

The Seattle rally was one of many that Pussy Riot organized to support their legal case. The band’s commitment to their cause is a testament to their dedication to freedom and creativity. Their story is a reminder of the power of art to inspire change and challenge the status quo.
Peter Wieben moved to Egypt to be closer to his then-girlfriend. “To cut a long story quite shorter, the revolution happened. It was the sort of situation where I saw a lot of my friends were among the people that were injured or killed or affected a lot psychologically by the violence and what was happening,” Wieben said.

During the revolution, Wieben observed his own friends and family members taking part in the protests; yet Wieben himself was unable to join them out of fear of the chaos that surrounded him and decided to stay indoors. It wasn’t until one day, when the streets were unnaturally quiet, that he looked out the window and saw a man. The man pointed at his own eyes and looked at Wieben; it was then that he knew he had to do something.

“I saw that the way it was portrayed in television and print media was very sensational and the idea that where the camera is pointing is toward this sort of iconic image of the protestor or the violence or the police or the tear gas and given that I had experienced it personally with my city, I wanted to show another side of it, on a more human scale than what I was seeing on TV. I wanted to show a more human level of what it was like living this. “The drawings were just one of the tools I had at my disposal. I wasn’t a journalist so I just sort of said, ‘Okay, I’m going to try whatever I can do to tell the story the best way I can.’ This is naturally what came out. “They are just simple little things, but they are my way of trying to depict what I saw and it was mostly just a desire that I had something to say and no way to say it. So I had to invent my own language to communicate it,” he said.

It wasn’t until an incident in Rabaa Square in 2013 that Wieben and his wife decided to leave Cairo for Europe. Nearly 1,000 people died on Aug. 14, 2013 when armored vehicles opened fire on a protest in the square. Wieben described how his friends had walked through so much blood, that they had to throw their socks and shoes away unable to remove the stains.

“You can’t live there after that,” he said. When Wieben began his journey to Europe, he had a realization about what role he had obtained during the revolution. “As I sort of reflected and did this work, it occurred to me that, technically, I was part of this crisis. This was a big part of the reason that the story really spoke to me. It’s something that made the story something that really pulled me towards it. “[My involvement in the crisis] constantly causes me to reflect on the impact that an American passport has and the ability to hire a lawyer has. Because I showed up and I had a bit of the ability to speak to a Dutch lawyer and say ‘I’d like live here’ and ‘How do I manage this?’ They walk you through it. But to compare that experience with what I saw in Greece, for example, people are coming on tiny boats with no driver and just a little on board motor, it really puts it in perspective. “It just shows you, the sort of privilege you sort of take for granted and that it’s really profound,” Wieben said.

How can students help the refugees? Start local in Tacoma and Seattle with the hungry and homeless here. Tell a story about these people and show others life through their eyes and know that the opportunity to help will come along sooner or later.

For more information about Peter Wieben and his art visit peterwieben.com or follow him at @peterwieben