By NISHTHA CHHABRA

Every January since 1977, Puget Sound’s Budget Task Force, which is made up of the Academic Vice President, Vice President for Finance and Administration, students, faculty and staff, makes a recommendation for a new school budget to President Ronald Thomas. The budget recommendation is what they believe will strengthen the University’s mission while accommodating to economic realities such as inflation. Last year there was an average 3.72 percent increase in overall tuition, standard room and board and ASUPS fee in order to adhere to school quality standards. With 73 percent of the University’s revenue coming from student tuition and the new budget coming up, it is important to understand how this budget is formed, where the raise in tuition has gone and how the distribution of student tuition works.

There are currently four budgets on campus. All of these budgets add up the total University revenue, which is around $120,000,000. The primary budget, called the educational and general (E&G) budget, is around 78 percent of the entire University’s revenue. The second budget, called the auxiliary budget, is essentially room, board and bookstore and is about 20 percent of the schools revenue. The third budget is the ASUPS budget. The fourth budget is the capital budget. And the salaries of staff are determined by the level of responsibility through an HR compensation system.

The highest-paid employees listed on the pay scale is the president in two years. The second-highest compensated employee at the University is the Academic Vice President and Dean, Kristine Bartanen. The highest-compensated employee at the University is the president in consultation with his cabinet, while the allocation of the compensation pool will be through the academic vice president. An example of how this distribution might work can be seen in the highest employe salary list, which is shown in Puget Sound’s IRS 990 form on Guiderstar from 2011-2013. According to the University’s website, the location of the compensation pool will be through the academic vice president. An example of how this distribution might work can be seen in the highest employee salary list, which is shown in Puget Sound’s IRS 990 form on Guiderstar from 2011-2013. According to the University’s website, the allocation of the increase in staff pool will be determined by the President in consultation with his cabinet, while the allocation of the compensation pool will be through the academic vice president. An example of how this distribution might work can be seen in the highest employee salary list, which is shown in Puget Sound’s IRS 990 form on Guiderstar from 2011-2013.

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Senior Gift Campaign benefits Rhodes scholars

By ZEINAH KARA

The Senior Class Gift Campaign of 2014-2015 is an opportunity for students of the 2015 graduating class to donate.

The Senior Class Gift Campaign is a way for seniors to give back to the school before they even graduate. The senior Class Gift Campaign Executive Committee member for the Arts Department.

The campaign has multiple representatives with differing interests on campus, and therefore, bringing together all types of seniors for this cause.

"I encourage students to bring the senior class together. The actual campaign has kind of a competitive feel to it, so there are different teams that are supposed to represent presences on campus," Mattson said.

In addition to uniting the 2015 graduating class, it is also a way for students to stay involved with Puget Sound even after they graduate. Students can sustain the connection they established as freshmen by giving two years on campus by donating. By donating and by pledging to donate for the next couple years, students "you're kind of creating this tether and connection to the school," Mattson said.

By ANNA GOEBEL

Senior Billy Rathje was named a Rhodes Scholar on Saturday, Nov. 22, 2014. He is one of 32 Rhodes Scholars in the world to be selected in 2014-2015.

"The criteria for a Rhodes Scholar is extensive work in combining the two fields," Rathje said.

Rathje believes that the reason he stood out among these candidates was due to his unusual combination of interests. Rathje is a double major in computer science and English literature, with a minor in math and has done extensive work in combining the two fields.

"I think my interaction across these disciplines has been something really helpful in my work that they may have looked at and my willingness to explore and see the connections," Rathje said.

Rathje also has an array of other interests that have made him so exceptional.

His accomplishments include designing websites, co-founding the first online theater magazine, and creating an organization called Lock, "Mondou said.

"It pays for the maintenance of Wheeleck Student Center, it pays for the food we buy in the Wheelock Dining Hall. It pays for the food we buy in the facilities, the academic study at the University of Oxford," Rathje said.

Rathje will start at Oxford next fall where he will be there for two years. While at Oxford, Rathje is considering a Ph.D. in becoming a computer scientist so that he can bring his passion for computer sciences and the humanities to the class.

"It's important to be able to give more English into the computer sciences," Rathje said.

“It's quick to call his time here at Puget Sound instrumental in being named a Rhodes Scholar, because of the University's liberal arts learning environment.

"The liberal arts environment is vague. I don't think at any other university I would be able to explore the combination of my interests in computer science and the humanities in the way that we do at Puget Sound," Rathje said.

Rathje also points to the support of his advisors, professors and friends as an essential part of his success thus far.

"The support here... has been amazing. Teachers encouraging me on an individual basis and giving me potential. The fellowship resources here are really amazing, the advisors, my family, the students that I kept me going throughout the process," Rathje said. "The University... my family supported me a lot throughout the application process. It was a team effort."
Final examinations are not the best way to test
More creative assessments could serve students well

By MELANIE SCHAEFFER

Classes are finally over, and students all over campus are celebrating their freedom. Come Sunday, however, the work is only beginning, as nearly every student at Puget Sound: final exams. From an outside perspective, it seems like there aren’t really a point to them since they will mostly be testing on concepts they’ve already learned, so why even bother? The thing is, they might not be so terrifying for students if they weren’t worth such a huge percentage of the student’s grade. So much so that this one last test could actually end up lowering the student’s grade a full letter or two.

For students like sophomore Natalie Temple, this effect is even more devastating. "I’m just not as good on exams as I am in other works," she said. She, and many students like her, simply aren’t good test takers. It’s not that they haven’t learned the material or that they left their studying until the night before, it’s just that as soon as they sit down with the actual exam in front of them, instantly forget everything they spent so much time studying.

However, this kind of freezing up doesn’t happen to everyone, so some students actually do see the benefit in final exams. Many science majors, for instance, are actually glad they have a cumulative test at the end of the semester. Samantha Burch, a first-year aspirin philosophy major, said, "Without being forced to go back and regroup yourself to subjects, you really don’t learn the concepts for the next course." Burch said that, while it is true that some of their surveys, especially introductory ones, are based primarily in rote memorization of basic facts, the course is for students to come out of it knowing the information so they can then apply it to the courses they take.

For science majors, a final exam makes perfect sense. When it comes to other disciplines, however, the benefits of exams become fuzzy.

When commenting on Harvard University’s decision to do away with final exam, Jonathan Zimerman, a professor at New York University, said, "By discouraging exams, Harvard, is hardly for-
saking academic rigor. Instead, it’s clearing the way for a more engaging, challenging and truly educative college experience."

According to Zimerman, all final exams do require a student to memorize information, but not creatively. "He just lost the student's ability to think. They were somehow tested on their knowledge of the course's material in an abbreviated way. It would be able to remember stuff that the students were somehow tested on their knowledge of the course's material in an abbreviated way. It would be able to remember stuff that they had to sit down and read a bunch of facts in a couple of pages for two hours."

The most feasible solution to this is the final exam, which definitely doesn’t require rote memorization. In fact, if a student were to hand in a final paper comprised only of a comprehensive list of the facts they learned in a particular class, they would almost certainly fail. This is because the point of the essay isn’t to show how much you’ve learned, it’s to show how well you’ve learned what you did. To write a successful essay, the student has to take one or two concepts from their course and analyze them thoroughly in order to find a deeper or more powerful meaning, which goes beyond the student exactly the type of college experience that exams lack.

Essays, while probably not the first thing someone chooses to do in their spare time, can actually be much more fun and interesting than an exam. With an essay, the student can use their freedom to pick their own topic and then choose the way in which they approach it. This way, they get to write about something that actually interests them, not just what they had to learn in the course. Students also get more flexibility with time constraints; they can choose to get everything done within a short period of time, or, if they so choose, they can leave the paper to the last minute.

Finals in general are stressful for nearly every student, and they define.

Finals week: Tests upon tests cause unnecessary stress for students

Assigning roles to children is childish

By JORDYN ATKINSON

Despite strides made towards equality of the sexes, toy stores are still dividing their merchandise into boys’ and girls’ sections. Not surprisingly, the aisles designed for young girls are shockingly pink, focused on beauty and fashion while the boys’ aisle is much more exploratory, with toys such as guns or baby dolls.

In fact, it seems that gender-directed advertising and marketing is actually worse today than it was 30 years ago. Look at the Denmark-based company Lego Group for instance. It seems impossible that simple, interlocking blocks could ever have a target audience more narrow than innovative and playful children. That being said, companies moved to tailor their ads campaign in the late eighties; their print advertisements depicted both boys and girls playing with the Lego creations they had made themselves, alongside captions boasting of the creative effects that building can have on kids.

However, in the past few years, we’ve seen a rapid shift toward more modern day, the once-simple blocks have become immensely more complex, with countless new sets of accessories.

In the boys’ section of a store, Lego sets showcase pirates, trains, spaceships and other adventure-filled scenarios. Meanwhile, the Lego Group released their attempt at an alternative product for girls called “Lego Friends” in 2012, which are sets that contain mini-dolls and show scenes in TV commercials, rather than the toy’s usual array of princesses.

Lego creating different categories for their product for boys and girls is not a new tactic; selling essentially the same product to different customers is simply a business strategy. However, parents buy children gender-neutral toys, instead of those that are typically thought to perpetuate stereotypes.

A spokesperson for the partay, Lattisa Waters, made broad statements claiming that seemingly innocuous aisles of segregated pink and blue actually have extreme negative secondary effects, including expectations for career paths and future predictions of domestic violence.

While Waters’ opinion may be a bit extreme, The Greens party has the right intention. The Greens party has the right intention. Children should discover their preferences and broaden their imaginations by their own volition. Parents should not prevent their own expectations on their children by supporting them with a passive love.

If parents foster this kind of support and acceptance for their children, there is no societal boundary placed upon the child regarding any future career path, life experience or behavior expectations, which is why toy manufacturers should get rid of separation and expecta-

Girls and boys toy items: Items that are clearly marked based on the difference between genders do not promote equality of the sexes.

Opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views of The Trail staff, ASUPS, the University or its Board of Trustees. Articles and letters in the Opinion section are printed at the discretion of the editorial staff.

Full names 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.

Finals in general are stressful for nearly every student, and they define
Academic discourse: Puget Sound must learn to accept and understand other points of view, even if we don’t agree with them.

As a political- ly active liber- al arts communi- ty that has made leaps of progress on many pressing social issues, we have given voices to many, ignor- ing the fact that our new man- ner of discourse has silenced many others. In expressing an unpopular opinion, students run the very real risk of being labeled ignorant, insensitive, or downright immoral. For this reason, I am writing to you all with a simple but compelling request. As you may be aware, the current methods of dialogue do not meet the standards of openness and transparency, and it highlights the biggest challenge facing our campus: learning how to engage in productive, meaningful conversations that foster mutual understanding and respect. By only engaging with those who share our views, we deceive our- selves into thinking that we are surrounded only by people who agree with our position. As a result, we can no longer even have productive discussions through only receiving positive reinforce- ment. We must learn to be open to new ideas, irrespective of whether or not we initially agree with them.

This is the second deception that is the biggest hindrance to achieving a liberal arts understanding of the world, a doctrine to which we have all subscribed. By closing ourselves off to contrary opin- ions, we cheat ourselves out of the benefit of learning from a variety of perspectives. Although some points of view may be offensive to us, it is important that we consider them, as bluntly stated by the Declaration of Independence, all men are created equal. By only letting others speak who agree with us, we cheat ourselves out of the ability to learn anything, and thus, we prevent ourselves from true learning.

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The five most useless “YouTube Challenges” of all time

By SOPHIE CARR

YouTube has this given generate a vast platform to express our- selves, be it through anime-mixed music videos, funny cat compila- tions or how to play guitar tutorials. Yet, there are genes within the YouTube community that should truly be labeled as dubious entertain- ment.

1. Social experiments have become a disease on YouTube, and we are now left with a flood of Y outube parodies. To watch these experiments, we are forced to witness others perform the most uncomfortable and demeaning tasks. It’s a sad state of affairs that these experiments have become so popular. As a result, many of us have polarized opinions about the Grand Jury’s decision to let Wilson Sullivan go.

2. In a perfect world, paradoxes would only be made by profes- sionals—perhaps music video di- rectors or even writers. Lonely Island, for example, and their in- excusable ballad, “I’m on a Boat,” incured a flood of YouTube paro- dies parroting a parody. To watch any of these is an encouragement to all of us to search ourselves overboard with a small hope of drowning.

3. According to YouTube’s info- graphic, 100 hours of video are uploaded to YouTube every minute. And it would seem that every min- ute, every hour is spent uploading tributes to all that is wrong with the YouTube, just by the number alone. The most popular YouTube tribute videos, typical homag- es to a favorite television character or movie, are currently being moved… moving… moving… toward psychosis.

4. The one ultimate, unforgivable sin of the Internet video medium is the YouTube user who misuses the viewer from the video’s title into thinking they had recorded a certain event when in actuality they were watching about the event. There is no need to further elucidate. This plain and simple, is treachery.

5. Sequels to viral videos are con- sidered the bane of the inter- net fame. The follow up to an Internet hit always savoirs disp- lay the spectrum.

I recently watched a video made by the guys who created “What Does the Fox Say?” and it was called the “Trucker’s Hitch.” It was a YouTube parody of a television trans- fer student Lacy said.

It would be best if we all boy- cotted viral video sequels, if only to protect the pride of renowned YouTubers. If someone has created a piece of resistance of a viral hit, unsubscribe from them immediately. They have to learn.
HEY YOU! Where’d the Hey Yous go?

Consider sources’ motives before promising anonymity. Reserve anonymity for sources who may face danger, retribution or other harm, and have information that cannot be obtained elsewhere. Explain why anonymity was granted.

—Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics

Pillow talk exposes vulnerabilities, increases bonds

Pillow talk is the act of conversing with a sexual partner following any intimate activity. This can include touching, caressing, or cuddling with a partner that is either sleeping or asleep. Many people find pillow talk to be a way of expressing feelings and emotions, and can help to strengthen relationships.

Pillow talk can create and strengthen relationships; it can also be used to dissolve them completely.

Pillow talk is the act of conversing with a partner following any intimate activity, generally while lying in bed. Often, pillow talk involves discussing positive or negative experiences with a partner.

By PAT N. DIAZ

"This (almost) the season to rely on snuggling with a sexual partner for warmth: winter. In the colder months, scholars like Diamond and Afifi have found that testosterone levels decrease in both men and women, resulting in a lowered sex drive. This could mean that there will be less boning in your relational future and more pillow talk instead.

Pillow talk, "Huey said, "is a no-brainer that physical intimacy can also lead to emotional intimacy when partners share personal feelings, thoughts, and desires. Due to chemical processes that happen in the brain after a sexual encounter, these conversations tend to be more positive than they would be if they were had at any other time.

Pillow talk does not necessarily require the involvement of romantic feelings and emotions. It’s the kind of talk that can happen in the presence of others, even in public places.

Pillow talk can determine relationships; it can also be used to create and strengthen relationships, or dissolve them completely.

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Getting Through the Holiday Blues

By SOFIA SCHWARTZ

A s a child, the holidays are a time of wonder, filled with magic and joy, but as the years pass the idea of a man in a big red suit delivering presents by way of the electric fireplace becomes more and more illogical. ‘The magic surrounding the holiday gradually dissolves and the holiday season transforms into a time geared toward family. While this focus is idealized as a heartwarming opportunity to take a break from one’s busy life and spend time with the family, it’s very common to hear people complaining of the pressures the holidays put upon them.

While methods of celebration vary from family to family, most people partake in a slew of holiday-themed parties during this season, events which tend to cause stress. Those hosting have to work to organize the food, the invitations and their homes to meet expectations; the guests have to determine the number of events they attend while maintaining their regular lives, and both have the expectations pressed upon them to be social throughout the get-together as well as maintaining the seemingly required excitement for the holidays.

Most people relate some sort of tension with the holidays and frequent students find that the most difficult thing to manage is re-assimilating back into their homes, dealing with the strange limbs of being home, yet missing their other home at college. They’ve changed during their time under their parents’ roof and refrain from certain bad habits they might have developed at school, namely excessive swearing and late nights. It’s common for students to feel as if they’ve changed during their time away and the holidays is the period in which they are trying to fit back into the mold they left behind, trying to fit who they are into who they were.

This strain can be difficult enough as it is, but combine this with the stress of the holidays and students might find themselves encountering Holiday Blues.

“The Holiday Blues refer to feelings of anxiety or depression during the period between Thanksgiving and New Year’s,” the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) said on its website. “They may be associated with extra stress, unrealistic expectations or even sentimental memories that accompany the season.”

NAMI’s website explains that the symptoms often associated with Holiday Blues include loneliness, isolation, fatigue, tension, frustration or a sense of loss. These symptoms may appear alongside certain holiday activities.

NAMI reports that aside from specific triggers, factors that can cumulatively result in Holiday Blues include changes in diet or routine, alcohol intake, an inability to be with family or stress related to purchasing gifts either due to overcrowded stores or bereft wallets.

In order to avoid Holiday Blues the website advises one to prevent these instigating circumstances. NAMI suggests attempting to maintain normal routine, which hopefully includes healthy practices (e.g. getting enough sleep, eating and drinking in moderation, avoiding alcohol, exercising and allowing oneself some alone time). It also advises people to maintain reasonable expectations for holiday spending as well as holiday activities.

While the holidays can be stressful, as aforementioned it is a time about family and while they may be part of the problem for some, they also tend to be part of the solution. The holiday season is filled with one’s family, whether it is the family of your childhood or the family formed later in life, and these are the people who are there to give support.

A Brief History of Holiday Lights

Timeline source: “Christmas Lights and Community Building in America,” Brian Murray, University of Illinois


1884. Germany. First mention of the burning of Yule log on the shortest day of winter to remember that the sun will return.

1890’s, United States. First evergreen trees decorated by German settlers in Pennsylvania, however did not gain popularity yet as still seen as a pagan symbol.

1925. Outdoor lights first offered commercially, leading to first neighborhood decorating competitions.

1956. Orange County, California holds competition “40 Miles Christmas Smiles” for decorating house and yard with lights. This is one example of many.

1975. Legend says that Martin Luther is inspired by a starry winter night and places candles upon a tree.

1800’s. United States. First neighborhood decorations within homes to show hope for the return of spring.

1923. Outdoor lights are displayed publicly on the first National Christmas tree. Lty president Coolidge, the tree features stands of red, green, and white lights.

“Openheimer was a great place to hang out in and it’s really nice in the rain and in the sunshine, and all kinds of weather…Hanging out with the people that I work with and constantly creating something and being in an atmosphere where all my friends are hanging out and there is just good energy around is one of my favorite parts.” Rachel Moore

Down to the grind: the faces behind your latte

“We’re seeing a number of ways I can keep trying to first neighborhood decorations.” - Kyle Dybdal

“I really love taking what is normal and turning it into something they are go their day, like just eating breakfast is their day. But to put a little more something joy and is a lot of fun. I really like cooking and I’m not learning my craft just because I keep improving what I can do.” - Kyle Dybdal

_February 22, 2015_ - _December 12, 2014_ - _tsalnutreasures@pugetsound.edu_
s behind your latte

Photos by Presley Reed III

Book collecting contest calls for submissions

By ADA SMITH

C alling all bibliophiles: Your time to shine has come. How do you arrange your bookshelf? Is it by genre, or by author? Do you arrange by the color of your books or the size? Or is it some combination of all three? Whatever way you organize your tomes, you now have the chance to win up to $750! Every other year, Collins Memori- al Library hosts a Book Collecting Contest with cash prizes. There will be a prize for one collector ($750), for the best essay ($500) and a third prize of $250 sponsored by Collins will be offered this contest.

Getting this money is easier than you might think. To start, either organize your lights in a thematic manner or pick a theme and start collecting. The guidelines put a cap on the collections of 45 books, so try not to get too carried away. Once you have your books, help the judges figure out why you picked the ones you did in a two- to four-page essay. The winner of the last contest was “Hunting the Dark Night: Books on the Batman” by Ian Fox.

If you’re floundering about what makes a winning collection, all of the winning collections and the essays that went with them can be found online via the library’s web site.

Our own contest is a part of a much larger organization called the National Book Collecting Con- test. The organization is actually a collaboration of separate organizations that sponsor the prizes. Some of them include the Antiquarian Booksellers’ Association of America (ABAA), the Fellow- ship of American Bibliophilic Societies (FABS) and the Center for the Book and the Rare Book and Special Collections Division (Library of Congress). Their website states: “the program aims to encourage young collectors to become accom- plished bibliophiles.”

Our own competition is partly funded through our library, but the majority of the money comes from the Book Club of Washington. It’s mission is “to further the interests of book collectors and scholars and to promote an understanding and appreciation of fine books.” While most people picture a book collection being something like a library, with floor-to-ceiling book shelves filled with ancient leather- bound collectibles, worth more money than you will ever make in your life, or books that are em- bazoned in glass showcases that are worth a small island: a book col- lection doesn’t need to be anything so complicated or expensive. It can be as simple as your favorite child- hood series of fairytale and a few books giving iterations or com- mentary on that story. The books can be as contemporary or as main- stream as you want, or you can buy all the books online or used. What matters is the content and how it fits together.

This contest is a rare opportuni- ty to either hone and perfect an al- ready existing collection of books or to reward yourself by taking up a meaningful and entertaining hobby.

The deadline for the applica- tion is March 26, 2015. For more specific guidelines for the compe- tition and to read past winning es- says, visit the Collins Memorial Li- brary’s website.

On Monday, Dec. 8, approximately a hundred members of the campus community participated in “We Can’t Breathe—A Die-In for Solidarity.” The demonstration was a protest of Eric Garner’s death by strangulation by a police officer as well as the high levels of targeted use of force on people of color by law enforcement. “One purpose of this demonstration is to express how many people on our campus re- struggling with or have been moved by recent events, events that confi rm and continue the long history of police violence against African Americans and the failure of the nation to ensure the right of equal enforcement. “One purpose of this demonstration is to express how many people on our campus re- struggling with or have been moved by recent events, events that confi rm and continue the long history of police violence against African Americans and the failure of the nation to ensure the right of equal enforcement. “One purpose of this demonstration is to express how many people on our campus re- struggling with or have been moved by recent events, events that confi rm and continue the long history of police violence against African Americans and the failure of the nation to ensure the right of equal enforcement. “One purpose of this demonstration is to express how many people on our campus re- struggling with or have been moved by recent events, events that confi rm and continue the long history of police violence against African Americans and the failure of the nation to ensure the right of equal enforcement.

December 12, 2014
trailfeatures@psru.round.edu

By ROSA BRANDT

As the days get darker and finals approach, many students are familiar with a magical phe- nomenon that occurs each Decem- ber: Zoolights at the Point Defiance Zoo. Whether you have never even heard of it, or are a devoted annual returnee, this glorious display of col- ored lights and holiday spirit is sure to bring happiness to the bleak time of preparing for finals week.

For those who are unfamiliar with Zoolights, it is simply the zoo deco- rated with more than a half a million Christmas lights. From Nov. 28 un- til Jan. 4 the zoo is open later into the evening (until 9 pm) allowing guests to wander the pathways adorning the impressive light displays, purchase hot chocolate, spend time in the in- door South Pacific Aquarium, and more.

However, how much do students actually know about Zoolights? In fact, there is quite an interesting his- tory about the tradition of Christmas lights in general that is little known.

Let it be noted that there is a wide va- riety of legends and stories, making it difficult to determine what happened first, and where. This timeline high- lights a sample of important historical occurrences and legends that have led to the popular tradition of Christmas lights and eventually Zoolights in par- ticular.

However, amongst this timeline of legend, invention, tradition, and con- sumerism, it is important to remem- ber what lights (of any sort) repre- sent in this season. During the darker days light represents the promise of the return of longer days, and keeping hope. During World War II, it trees expressed hope for a peaceful future, and this metaphor can still be relevant today, in various ways. Whatever light means to you, and whether it relates to your religion or just personal signifi - cant, remember this importance. Let it be a pleasant constant through the cold and dark of the winter season. Take time to enjoy the lights around you, whether or not you are a tree, in your neigh- borhood, or at Zoolights. It truly is a magical way to get in the holiday mood.

2014, Point Defiance Zoo. First year the zoo has switched completely from incandescent lights to light-emitting diodes (LEDs) for increased energy ef- fi ciency. Zoolights this year will feature 147 light fi gurines, including Mt. Rainier, a giant octopus (100 feet wide!), and the iconic purple and green Flame Tree. 1987, Point Defiance Zoo, First official Zoolights open to the public. 1988, Point Defiance Zoo. Architect Ken Aviananda, a magical way to get in the holiday season.
By THOMAS OVERTON

The Puget Sound women's bas- ketball team took on the Univer- sity of California at Santa Cruz Banana Slugs and the Colorado College Tigers Dec. 5 and 6 at a tournament hosted by Pacific Lu- theran College.

The Loggers remain unbeat- en this season after walking away with two wins over both teams during the tournament. First, the Loggers defeated the Slugs 53-51, handing them their second loss of the season.

During the second half, half, Puget Sound shot into the lead right away.

After allowing the Slugs two points, the Loggers bounced back, scoring nine consecutive points, and never looked back.

The Loggers maintained a field goal average of 41.4 percent and a three-point average of 36.4 percent, scoring consistently during the second half, they were again no match for the Loggers' defense who had a level-headed response to the complaints, voiced by Pac-12 commissioner Larry Scott.

“Everyone can do the math. Four shots and five big confer- ences, and beyond the five big confer- ences there are other strong teams. So any bellyaching about not get- ting in, I don’t think people are go- ing to react to that,” Scott said in an interview after the selec- tions were made.

“If you’re guaranteed a spot for your conference champion in Division II, it’s not about what’s going on in other parts of the country,” Scott said.

The decision was met with some complaints as only four of the “pow- er” conferences in college basketball got seats in the four-spot playoff. But the committee members antic- ipated this and had a level-headed response to the complaints, voiced by Pac-12 commissioner Larry Scott.

“All season, new way of determining a champion

New season, new way of determining a champion

A look inside the new NCAA playoff system instituted this year

The Puget Sound basketball team took on the University of California at Santa Cruz Banana Slugs and the Colorado College Tigers Dec. 5 and 6 in a tournament hosted by Pacific Lutheran University.

The Loggers remained undefeated all five games, increased their field free throw percentage from 31 percent and a three point percentage of 41.4 percent and a three point percentage of 36.4 percent.

The Loggers made an average of 71.4 percent of their free throws and put the Slugs behind with an average of only 45.4 percent made.

The Loggers led the first half with an eight-point lead, making five out of the six free throws, making five out of the six free throws, while the Loggers only made 69.3 percent of their free throws, scoring 10, as well in free throws.

Senior Amand Forshay (Mor- rin, Calif.) led the Loggers in points, scoring 21, and Sheldon La Limper (Kapolei, Hawaii) made 50 percent.

The Tigers showed skill in their free throws, they made 69.3 percent of their free throws, while the Loggers only made 69.3 percent.

The Loggers pulled ahead in the beginning of the first half, allowing the Loggers to score 50 percent.

At the end of the half, the Loggers led by three points.

The Loggers fought hard, scoring consistently during the second half, they were again no match for the Loggers' defense who put up a total of 30 defensive rebounds compared the Tigers' 21.

This game, Puget Sound had a field goal average of 59.2 and scored off 45.5 percent of their three-point shots.

The Tigers proved unsuccessful when trying to measure up to the same level of play as the Loggers.

They had a low field goal aver- age percentage of 32.7 and made zero percent of their three-point shots.

Although they lacked successful field goal shots, the Tigers showed skill in their free throws.

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The Loggers maintained a field goal average of 41.4 percent and a three point average of 36.4 percent.

Senior Kaitlyn Ainsline (Redmond, Wash.) and junior Allie Wyszynski (Sammamish, Wash.) each added 10 points to the scoreboard.

What really set Puget Sound apart was the Loggers' defense who had a level-headed response to the complaints, voiced by Pac-12 commissioner Larry Scott.

“My opinion is, you know, that’s all about what’s going on in other parts of the country,” Scott said.

Junior student and University of Oregon fan Jace Hanson voiced his opinions on the new system in an interview prior to the committee's decision.

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Katy Ainslie stands out in her senior year as the women’s basketball team crushes competitors

By ZAL ROBLES

Katy Ainslie (Redmond, Wash.) is on the top of her game this year as a senior and is looking to lead the Loggers’ women’s basketball team to a conference title in her final year. She averaged 13.3 points per game and 5.1 rebounds so far this season.

The Loggers are off to a 7-0 start this season and don’t seem to be letting up anytime soon after beating Santa Cruz 53-51 this past Friday Dec. 7 and crushed Colorado College 94-45 on Saturday Dec. 8.

Ainslie added 10 points in the first game and in the second she racked up six points. The week before she was named the Northwest Conference Student-Athlete of the week after providing a double-double scoring 23 points and 11 rebounds against Concordia (Lake Oswego, Ore.).

Ainslie didn’t even realize it. In fact social media was what alerted her.

“I didn’t even know! I saw it on Twitter actually, and it’s definite - and 11 rebounds against Concordia is having is more important than any individual award I could get, ”Ainslie said.

Her talent is seen in so many ways and is highlighted by her teammate, junior Emily Sheldon (Portland, Ore.).

“She has the most consistent jump-shot you will see. We call her Dirk (Dirk Nowitzki, NBA player) because she has a signature move where she turns around and hits a jumper (similar to Dirk’s). You just can’t guard her, and there is only so much you can do when guarding her because she shoots so well. She is also aware about who’s having a good shooting night and finds them. She makes everyone on the team better,” Sheldon said.

Her talent on the court is no-table, but what really shows is her leadership in that she makes everyone around her that much better, while also being a consistent teammate. Sheldon elaborated about just that.

“Katy’s definitely the ideal team-mate to have because she works so hard and she’s so caring about every single person on the team, she is the leader and does everything right all of the time. She doesn’t get down on herself when she makes a mistake, “Sheldon said.

The chemistry has played a huge part in the recent success and Ainslie can’t say enough about how wonderful it is to be a part of the team.

“I honestly step on the court whether it is a practice and a game and whether I’m personally having a good game or not, it’s always fun to play with this group of girls,” Ainslie said. “It doesn’t matter if I score two points or 20, I’m always having fun. I think we really push each other to make each other better and reach our full potential because we all know what we are capable of. If I don’t see someone working hard, I will call them out. And if I’m not working out, I will be called out. Being accountable is really important.”

The coaching staff has taken their chemistry to the next level.

“I think the coaching staff is on the same page as us this year, and that is something we may have not really seen in years past. They make sure you are giving our hardest 100 percent of the time,” Ainslie said.

The coaching staff and the team’s chemistry have contributed to the strong start overall, but there are a few games that Ainslie has marked down on the schedule, especially in conference.

“Some of the teams in conference I am really looking forward to playing. Whitman and George Fox are two teams I have never beaten while at [the University],” Ainslie said.

Those games will be focused on for sure, but for Ainslie, leaving the season without any regrets is the most important focus.

“I want to leave senior year not having any regrets,” Ainslie said. I think that is the biggest motivation for me to be able to look at my four years and be satisfied with everything I have accomplished. I don’t want to end my senior year and feel like I should have done something more and could have done something more.”

The way the season is going, it doesn’t look like she will have to worry.
Thrift shops are dangerously low on ugly sweaters

By COWMAN BLACKMAILER

Thrift shops surrounding Puget Sound are beginning to shut down due to an influx of sales and decrease in donations. Store owners are scrambling to keep their charities alive and discover the truth behind the recent trend.

“I noticed that more middle-class customers began shopping in my store around the middle of the year,” said Randy Daniels, owner of a local thrift shop. “They can’t be stopped, no matter what ridiculous fashion I put up, they will continue buying whatever I am selling.”

Despite this evidence, most students who belong to this group claim to have shopped at thrift stores for its frugal qualities and disassociation with corporate brands. The single was a huge success selling over seven million copies in the United States alone. Since its release, the artist’s work has closely been associated with the genre “hipster demographic,” a group largely comprised of young middle-class Americans.

Rather than simply donating the money like “kind” people do, these thrift shoppers often make sure helping others will no longer require your own home! You should really be ashamed of the fact that you even own such an ugly sweater, never mind the fact that you wore it out in public. 

H misleading, research and you would be better off doing cancer! They say “only a miniscule portion of the money you pay goes to cancer research and you would be better off donating it rather than buying an excessive amount of clothing so you can brag to your friends about it.” Which you know... clearly means that while they just want everyone to continue getting cancer.

These people truly inspiring and hilarious comebacks in defense of our movement. These brilliant students clarified that they normally sit in a futon in their dorm, not an old armchair that no one uses anymore. Not only are they students very kind, they are so witty too! Us heroes are gorgeous, kind, and just great people. That’s why we share those posts all day, so you can all know how great we all are too. You’re welcome, America.

I really could not be more proud of the online revolution that is manifesting to ensure helping others will no longer require you to actually put in effort. How tiresome is it to have to actually help with time and money when you can use your social media presence to care in place of yourself?

As a response to this, we all are too. You’re welcome, America.

November 25, 2014

I really could not be more proud of the online revolution that is manifesting to ensure helping others will no longer require you to actually put in effort. How tiresome is it to have to actually help with time and money when you can use your social media presence to care in place of yourself?

As a response to this, we all can begin to improve the world around us and you can do your part to ensure that the problems of our planet are solved without having to leave your own home!

It isn’t wonderful that we no longer have to get up out of bed to help others? With the click of a button, we can wish our problems away. It is a wonderful system that is guaran- teed to work in 90 percent of cases. No flaws, absolutely none. We promise.

However, these fellow online heroes are under attack by these radical America-haters every day. It truly is a tragedy. People who believe in doing good just to be good are accusing them of armchair activism or whatever nonsense these people say is false kindness. How- ever, I could never be more proud by the responses students here gave. They were truly inspiring and hilarious comebacks in defense of our movement. These brilliant students clarified that they normally sit in a futon in their dorm, not an old armchair that no one uses anymore. Not only are they students very kind, they are so wit- ty too! Us heroes are gorgeous, kind, and just great people. That’s why we share those posts all day, so you can all know how great we all are too. You’re welcome, America.

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As a response to this, we all are too. You’re welcome, America.
A festival of people? What the Dickens are you talking about? The Tenth Annual Dickens Festival, that’s what! This weekend filled with unique activities in the guise of Victorian England to establish an overwhelming sense of community. The festival occurred in the Stadium District in Tacoma, Dec. 6-7.

It is difficult to find the words to describe what a truly lovely experience the festival gave its participants. The world of Charles Dickens was brought to life in an unexpected way. The festival was not complete without centering around Charles Dickens and his work, but rather around the ideals he stood for and wrote about—the community of people. Community was established and celebrated in a variety of ways. First, well over fifty small businesses were represented, either through vendors and performers in the main showroom; restaurants, cafes and pubs that hosted free or discounted items for participants; the various shops that hosted events, and the many sponsors who donated gifts for the costume/beard contests and ads in the festival handouts. It was a great way to see what the Stadium Business District has to offer.

Community was also established in the huge variety of people who arrived to enjoy the fun. From kids to adults, from first-timers to veteran festival attendees and even from people just passing through to people going all-out with their costumes, everyone had a wonderful time. One lady stole the show by dressing in a white wedding gown and remaining in character as Miss Haverson from Great Expectations—all day long! Her efforts paid off when she won the “Best Dickens Literary Character” award in the costume contest.

Saturday consisted of a fundraiser marathon—Run Like the Dickens—a series of shows and songs in multiple locations. A ball and silent auction took place in years past, but they were replaced this year with a “Procession of Stars,” much to the disappointment of veteran festival-goers.

There were four places hosting events and shows, so people were kept on their toes to see as much as they could. The majority of the events happened in the Titus Will Showroom, and some highlights included an excerpt from Scrooge: The Musical (playing now at Tacoma Little Theatre), Duo Finelli (two ladies performing a comedy act for all ages), former mayor Bill Baarsma’s story of Jack the Bear (an 800-pound black bear who lived at the Tacoma Hotel in the late 1800’s), and festival hosts Mario and Frances Lorenz performing an authentic musical. Children also loved the “Procession of Stars,” first in creating the stars in the month prior and then getting to participate in a parade with them.

Sunday hosted a very unique concert by John Doan, a world-renowned collector of harp guitars, and a local historian and music professor at Willamette University. The instruments are incredibly rare and his playing was other-worldly. This particular concert focused on the classic Christmas tradition of home and the hearth. This added beautifully to the sense of community established by the rest of the festival.

Festival hosts Mario and Frances Lorenz started the festival 10 years ago after Frances joined the Stadium Historic Business District Board as chair of the Holiday Committee.

Prior to living in Tacoma, the Lorenzes lived near Galveston, Texas—home to one of the biggest Dickens festivals in the nation—for five years. They enjoyed the festival in Galveston so much that they decided to bring it to Tacoma. Frances was delighted with this year’s level of participation. She said the crowds always depended on the weather, but despite the rainy start to the day, there was active participation all day. A favorite Dickens quote of hers was “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times,” as it seemed to represent life for her and the world right now.

Colleen Allen ran the auction chair this year, gathering all the items to be used for the silent and live auctions that would have occurred at the ball. She said it was a lot of work, as the meetings to start planning the festivals began in January, but she enjoyed the process. She was particularly excited for the “Procession of Stars,” a new addition to the festival this year.

Adam Martin was extremely passionate about the stars. He served on the committee to add this to the festival.

“Tacoma’s Lumins Festivus is an autumn holiday unique to the City of Destiny. Their first year’s theme in 2012 was the ‘Stellar Galactic Zoo of Life,’ so, when the Dickens team asked [me] to include a luminary this year’s festivities, [I] decided to take the simplest element from last year’s theme—the stars—and to focus the ‘Procession of Stars’ on the elements of life shared in common across South Sound communities.

“There is a light in all of us. We celebrate that,” Martin said.

Martin also works with a group dedicated to joining the arts with learning and life in the South Puget Sound, as well as contributing to the “Tacoma’s Outsiders Guide,” a great resource for anyone looking to get more involved in Tacoma. He said students at Puget Sound tend to find themselves in a bubble, but his work allows people to get out of that and experience what this great city has to offer.

If you’re looking to get involved in Tacoma, this festival is a great way to do it. There are some truly wonderful people in this town, and this festival was a wonderful celebration of them. As we enter this holiday season, let us never forget Dickens’ famous words: “God bless us, every one!”

Veritable Hosts: Dickens Festival hosts Mario Lorenz and Frances Lorenz. Their love for the Galveston Dickens Festival inspired the two to start the Tacoma Dickens Festival 10 years ago.

PHOTO COURTESY/CASEY DEY

PHOTO COURTESY/AMANDA CRABTREE

PHOTO COURTESY/JOHN DOAN

PHOTO COURTESY/CASEY DEY

PHOTO COURTESY/CASEY DEY

PHOTO COURTESY/JOHN DOAN

PHOTO COURTESY/JOHN DOAN

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PHOTO COURTESY/JOHN DOAN

PHOTO COURTESY/JOHN DOAN
A female mallard wing specimen, part of the Slater Museum of Natural History's vast collection of plants, birds and other creatures. On Dec. 4 the Slater Museum hosted Duck, Duck, Goose: Waterfowl Night, a continuation of the Night at the Museum series.

PHOTO COURTESY/SLATER MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

By JAMES KANER

This past week had students and families flocking to the Slater Museum of Natural History to take part in the latest Night at the Museum. Thursday, Dec. 4 marked Slater Museum's Duck, Duck, Goose: Waterfowl Night exhibit, which welcomed anyone interested to learn about our fine-feathered, water-inclined friends and the invitation was not ignored by the Tacoma community.

The museum’s atrium was filled with the buzz of college students wandering from station to station, excited murmurings from families taking in all the museum had on display and the sounds of museum personnel explaining it. Of course, this all came along with the museum’s signature scent. A veritable army of caretakers of all ages, in the main room as children and students got to paint decoys to look just like the real thing. Museum docents and other staff were also available to explain the preservation process, as well as provide background information about the lives of these birds in the wild.

The stars of Thursday night’s exhibit were the many kinds of waterfowl that call the Pacific Northwest their home and undoubtedly the museum itself as it helped spotlight one of the many ways natural history museums give back to their communities.

Night like Waterfowl Night extend an open invitation to the greater Tacoma area and invite the public to learn more about what’s in their backyard, and perhaps more importantly, what we’re doing to study them.

The Slater Museum offers more than just cool exhibits, as this semester saw the beginning of a new program offering a chance for students to earn extra course credit and learn more about the museum itself. These student volunteers or “docents” helped operate each station Thursday night and each had a different lesson, ranging from the many duck specimens the museum owns to some truly rare samples of local waterfowl.

Each docent is expected to be well versed in the many different species that the museum keeps. The Slater Museum has been a staple of campus learning from the time of its creation. This museum could not have happened without the tireless work of Professor James R. Slater, after whom the museum is named.

The museum comes from humble beginnings, starting as a cramped attic storeroom in 1930 and evolving to encompass much of the second floor of Thompson Hall.

The museum undoubtedly owes its growth to Slater’s trailblazing of the (at that time) largely unexplored field of amphibians and reptiles native to the Tacoma area. From his research, a collection grew of various amphibian and reptile specimens and since then many more specimen collections have accompanied it. The museum’s collection grows at a rate of about one to two percent per year. Of these specimens the museum is probably best known for its vast collection of bird families that allow them to dedicate entire nights to specific species like they did on Waterfowl Night.

Each of these bird families helps the museum’s personnel teach different lessons covering important topics like genetics, diversity, the evolution of viruses and bacteria and how natural history museums such as the Slater Museum can help contribute to society.

What’s in the museum can at its core be split into three different categories. It boasts an impressive mammal selection totaling nearly 30,000 specimens including skulls, full skeletons and skins. Its bird section totals 23,000 specimens. If the designs on docents shirts are anything to go by, it is quite the iconic selection.

These two sections are in addition to the original amphibian and reptile collection, which has grown considerably over the past few decades. In addition, the museum boasts vast collections of insects and plants, making its Night at the Museum series possible.

Ask any docent working at the museum and they’ll tell you one of the most common misconceptions they hear (usually from children): “Why did you kill these animals?”

The museum goes to the lengths of hosting museum nights, reaching out to local schools and offering the public access to their vast collections in the name of a noble goal: to teach the community at large about the world they live in.

HOW MANY?
The Slater Museum of Natural History has one of the largest collections in Washington State and in the region. It has

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For more coverage on Slater as well as other articles, go to trail.pugetsound.edu