Year after year, the perception is that ASUPS elections are popularity contests, and that the ASUPS VP, who makes the hiring decisions in consultation with the President, hires from their friend group. “It always comes into question when execs hire individuals they’ve had pre-existing relationships with. No matter how strenuous the application process is, there’s never information released about why those individuals where hired or what qualifications they have,” Senator Chair Kaitlyn Vallance said.

ASUPS President Nakisha Renee Jones weighed in about her experiences during the hiring process for the executive team, which was finalized on April 15. “For me, it’s… trying to balance my disagreement about the process that we use in exec hiring, because ultimately, it looks like I’m disagreeing with my Vice President to some [people],” Jones said. “We hired execs last week… There was some disagreement about that process, and… I myself am the type who asks questions when I feel like it’s necessary to uncover more about what’s going on.”

The process of hiring execs to ASUPS is overseen by the outgoing executive member, other ASUPS staff and people from other departments at Puget Sound. Evaluation of the applicant, according to ASUPS VP Alissa Hartning, is based on five main factors. “When Nakisha and I were hiring the executive team, we considered the following when making a decision: Their application, their interview, if their values and vision meshed with ours, how comfortable we would feel working with them and their summer plans. From these, we hired the four individuals who we felt would be the best fit for job,” Hartning said.

After the decisions were made, ASUPS Senate confirmed the appointments for the hiring of the applicants, an act that is designed to demonstrate the approval of the applicants. However, the disagreement behind this process originated when Jones questioned the transparency of the process for the students. “As a Senator, I always feel strange approving Executive [staff] who were hired as a slate, as opposed to individuals… If we did not like one of the hires, we would not be able to express our disapproval without voting down every individual hired. It makes me feel somewhat powerless in expressing my disapproval,” Vallance said.

As ASUPS President, Jones has the power to veto that confirmation. “I didn’t know I had the power to veto the confirmation until someone else told me. I thought about vetoing it so that we can go back and actually provide the information to people about why we chose the people we chose rather than just approve everyone on a blind eye,” Jones said. “Nakisha and I are very open to talking to anyone who has questions about our decision making process,” Hartning confirmed.

Senior Senator C.J. Queirolo thinks there should be more collaboration with ASUPS Senate during the hiring process. “All ASUPS Senate committee meeting all hiring interviews should happen in person and not over email or phone calls,” Queirolo said. “Both the ASUPS President and the Vice President should be present at every such interview regarding the composition of the President’s Council. Independent Students-at-Large should observe these interviews, but that requires they be public and in person. Most importantly the Senate needs to be actively involved in these hiring decisions for Executive Directorships. I think we should seriously consider amending the ASUPS Constitution and By-Laws in order to make the hiring of all Executive Directors more of a collaborative process, and to reduce the chances of any conflicts of interest going unnoticed.”

ASUPS will have its last meeting of the semester on Tuesday, May 4. To get in touch with members of the student government electronically, you may find the appropriate member at asups.pugetsound.edu/contact.
The ECO club at University of Puget Sound is raising ques-
tions concerning the private component in which the school is investing. They are concerned that part of the Endowment Fund is being invested in energy com-
panies that are not sustainable. "We cannot get the information about where our money is going," said Rosario. "We basically want to get the Board of Trustees to direct the firm that manages our money not to invest in coal or any other extremely harmful companies," club member Luke Janssen said.

Students involved in the ECO club as well as supporters of sus-
tainable energy sourcing want to find out exactly where this por-
tion of the money is going. The ECO club is in the process of in-
vestigating this.

By ZEINAH KARA

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vestigating this.
By ANNA GOEBEL

University of Puget Sound announced their partnership this week with the Posse Foundation, a national organization dedicated to providing full-ride scholarships to students from diverse backgrounds with excellent academic and leadership potential.

The foundation has partnered with over 52 colleges and universities that partner with a specific geographical area to recruit students involved with the Posse foundation with the offer of a full-tuition scholarship. University of Puget Sound is set to recruit from the Bay Area of San Francisco. The University will commit to providing full-tuition scholarships to 10 students from the San Francisco Bay Area, who are Posse scholars.

“Puget Sound’s enrollment philosophy is guided by our commitment to identify and support students who demonstrate potential in making the most of their college education. Posse is a transformational program that improves the lives of students and the institutions that they attend,” Jenny Nickard, Puget Sound’s vice president for enrollment, said in a recent press release.

“We have many alumni and current students from the Bay Area, and are excited to welcome our first group of Posse Scholars next year.” This program supports access to college for more than 6,000 academically and leadership-driven students from historically underrepresented groups in college settings.

University of Puget Sound will join colleges such as Dartmouth, Cornell, University of California, Berkeley, and University of California, Los Angeles as partner institutions with the Posse foundation. Puget Sound will become the first undergraduate school in the Pacific Northwest to have a Posse program.

Posse scholars have gone on to attend graduate programs at nationally recognized institutions such as Yale and Johns Hopkins. 43 Fulbright scholars have been given to previous Posse scholars. Alumni have gone on to become lawyers, social workers and surgeons among other occupations.

“We are honored to be named a Posse college and further extend our commitment to making college affordable for academically talented students from diverse backgrounds,” President Ronald Thomas said in a press release. “The Posse program is unique in its approach to providing the training and support that helps students realize their academic and leadership potential, and to make substantial contributions to the communities that they transform over the course of their four years.

The program will be supported by donations and the board of trustees.

The students who will be involved in Puget Sound’s posse program will work as a cohort for their first and sophomore years here.

This is meant to create a close-knit group of individuals in order to help the scholars succeed academically and otherwise. Additionally, the Posse scholars program promotes campus involvement and engagement among its scholars. Even as high school students, the Posse foundation promotes leadership and academic excellence among its scholars.

For more information or to nominate a high school student you can visit www.possefoundation.org.
“Our senior class began the rebuilding of some programs and continued the incredible legacies that have been built up over the years for others.”

- Amanda Forshay

By NICHOLAS NESTINGEN

WOMEN’S SOCCER

As the school year comes to a close, we say goodbye to another class of phenomenal senior Log- ger athletes.

Logger seniors helped the fall season open up with a 13-3 straight NCW championship for the women’s soccer team, a second place NCW finish by the men’s soccer team, a third-place NCW finish by the volleyball team and a season in which the football team had one of its best years in recent memory.

The women’s soccer team was led by a strong senior class, which included Second Team All-West Region and First Team All-NWC players in Robin Viera (Seattle, Wash.) and Liz Blonden (Seattle, Wash.) and a Second Team All- NWC player in Annie Jonson (Portland, Ore.). Together, these three, along with senior Laura- ren Hamilton (Spokane, Wash.), helped the Loggers this season to a 16-4-1 record and a trip to the second round of the NCAA Division III tournament. Over their careers, the four seniors—along with senior Megan Ellis (Lake Os- wego, Ore.), who was injured this year—were part of four confer- ence champion teams and played in four NCAA Division III tour- naments.

Despite the on-field success, Viera, the four-year star, saw her senior class’ legacy as something bigger than winning.

“Our biggest accomplishment by far has been manifesting a family environment that focuses on team development first, which then brings us together on the field to fight for the win,” Viera said.

CONGRATULATIONS: The Trail would like to congratulate Robin Viera, Liz Blonden and Lauren Hamilton on a great season.

PHOTO COURTESY/LOGGER ATHLETICS

MEN’S SOCCER

The winter brought a historic season by the women’s bas- ketball team, a fourth-place fin- ish in the NCW Championships by both swimming teams and a fifth-place finish by the men’s basketball team.

Seniors Ashley Agaolo (Kanehoe, Hawaii), Kayte Ainslie (Redmond, Wash.), Amanda Foshay (Managua, Cali.), Hannah Lekson (Fox Island, Wash.), Olivia Roberts (Eugene, Ore.) and Erin Stumbaugh (Loveland, Colo.) helped Logger women’s basketball gain national recog- nition, being ranked as high as 18th in the nation (d3Hoops.com) with a 24-5 overall record and a 13-3 conference record.

One of the great Puget Sound sporting moments of the year came after a victory in the first round of the conference tournament where a “whiteout” crowd stormed the court after a victory over Whitworth.

The team made it into the NCAA Division III tournament where they were eliminated in the second round, falling to George Fox. This senior class helped transform women’s bas- ketball from a .500 team to a conference powerhouse.

“We set a goal for ourselves our first year to get to the na- tional tournament, and we did it,” Foshay, the tenth all-time leading scorer in women’s bas- ketball history, said. “To have the best season we’ve had in almost a decade with our senior class is a testimony to itself.”

While the men’s basketball team placed fifth in the NCW with a 7-9 conference record and 12-12 overall record, the team was only one game out of the fourth-place conference tour- nament for an automatic bid in the NCAA Division III tour- nament.

The five-man senior class was led by Third Team All-West Re- gion and First Team All-NWC forward Nick Holden (Pasade- na, Cali.) and Honorable Men’s All-NWC forward Jordan Reynolds (Menlo Park, Cali.).

The lone senior of the volleyball team, Nicolette Reynaud (Los Gatos, Cali.) helped the team overcome a slow start to finish with a 12-13 overall record and a third-place finish in the NCW with an 11-5 conference record. Reynaud was named Second Team All-NWC.

CONGRATULATIONS: The Trail would like to congratulate Max Mirande, Connor Savage, Kevin Miller, Nasser Abdelrasul and all of the seniors on the football team on a great season.

PHOTO COURTESY/LOGGER ATHLETICS

FOOTBALL

The Logger football senior class helped the team take a huge step towards contending for a conference title in the near future with a 4-5 overall record and a 3-4 conference record. The senior class was led by several Second Team All-NWC players in Max Miranda (Klam- ath Falls, Ore.), Connor Savage (Bothell, Wash.), Kevin Miller (Seattle, Wash.), and Nasser Ab- delrasul (Salem, Ore.) and included four-year starting quar- terback Braden Foley (Bothell, Wash.).

“My hope is that this last sea- son and our senior class will be remembered as the pioneers of change in the program coming back to being successful and a very good football program,” linebacker Max Miranda said.

Senior starters Miller, Peter Bell (Klamath Falls, Ore.), Matt Moore (Chico Hills, Cali.), Doug Owasu (Seattle, Wash.) and Jer- emy Perlovich (Auburn, Wash.) will all return with an extra year of eligibility next year due to injuries.

CONGRATULATIONS: The Trail would like to congratulate Max Mi- randa, Connor Savage, Kevin Miller, Nasser Abdelrasul and all of the seniors on the football team on a great season.

PHOTO COURTESY/LOGGER ATHLETICS

WOMEN’S CREW

The three women who make up the senior class of the wom- en’s crew team include Carly Fox (Steamboat Springs, Colo.), Melissa Marlin (Midlothian, Ill.) and Leah Shamlian (Oakton, Va.).

These seniors helped lead the crew team to the inaugural NCW championship, a title that the team hopes will stay with them for many years to come.

CONGRATULATIONS: The Trail would like to congratulate Robin Viera, Liz Blonden and Lauren Hamilton on a great season.

PHOTO COURTESY/LOGGER ATHLETICS

WOMEN’S AND MEN’S SWIMMING

The women’s swimming team finished with a 7-3 overall record and a 6-1 conference record in large part because of the senior class, made up of Lauren Ko- chanowski (Salem, Ore.), Mad- ison Markel (Colorado Springs, Colo.),

Michaela Metzler (Boulder, Colo.) and Melissa Norrish (Denver, Colo.). Norrish was named First Team All-NWC in the 500 freestyle, 200 butterfly and 400 individual Medley. She also got the team’s only win the NCW Championships, win- ning the 400 Individual Medley.

In the 2013-2014 season, Nor- risch was named the NCW Fe- male Swimmer of the Year.

The three-man senior class of the men’s swimming team helped lead the Loggers to a 5-5 overall finish with a 4-5 conference record. The senior class and team were led by Jared Fisk (Eko, Nev.), who was First Team All-NWC in the 500 freestyle and was Second Team All-NWC in the 100 and 200 butterfly.

CONGRATULATIONS: The Trail would like to congratulate Sam Naatz, Kate Magee, Sam Ryan and Landon Gauther on a great season.

PHOTO COURTESY/LOGGER ATHLETICS

VOLLEYBALL

The baseball team finished one game shy of qualifying for the NCW conference tournament, where the winner gets an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III World Series. A five-man senior class that includes First Team All-NWC centerfielder Connor Savage (Bothell, Wash.)—who sits one hit shy of the all-time hits record—ace of the pitch- ing staff Steven Wagar (Yakima, Wash.)—and catcher Bobby Hes- mer (Tucson, Ariz.)—who leads the NCW in batting average— was one of its best seasons in years.

BASEBALL

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TRACK AND FIELD

While there were many ex- ceptional seniors for Loggers track and field, Joshua Seekatz (Philmont, Ore.) stands out the most. This past weekend in the NCW track and field champion- ships, Seekatz won the 3,000 meter steeplechase. Seekatz also won the 3,000 meter steeplechase two weeks ago at an- other meet.

TO THE SENIORS WE BID ADIEU

SPORTS

May 1, 2015

trail@pugetsound.edu

PAGE DESIGN/SCOTT SILVERSTEIN
WOMEN’S LACROSSE FINISHES IN SECOND PLACE IN THE NWC

By MADILENE BROOKS

Logger women’s lacrosse fell to the undefeated Pacific University after the final game of their season.

The game against Pacific took place on Saturday, April 18 at Puget Sound’s Peyton Field and began by recognizing the team’s senior members. Seniors Caroline Cook (Orrinda, Calif.), Reagan Guerrero (Orange, Ca.), Hailey Palmore (Tualatin, Ore.), Maddie Soukup (Ballard, Wash.), Lauren Shuck (Mount Any, Md.) and Riley Weide (Westlake Village, Calif.) were all honored for their dedication and commitment to the team.

Once the game began, Pacific took an early lead in less than a minute, scoring a goal and bringing the score to 1-0. With 12 minutes left in the first half Pacific brought the score up to 6-0.

However, the Loggers were still able to get on the board before the end of the half when Soukup scored a goal with ten minutes left. Sophomore Olivia Keene (Whitman, Md.) scored two consecutive goals and then assistant coach Andy Latimer called a timeout one more goal before the half ended with a score of 6-4 with Pacific in the lead.

The second half started strongly for the Loggers when first year Ella Frazer (St. Paul, Minn.) scored, bringing the game score to 6-5. Soukup then scored to tie the game 6-6. With 18 minutes left in the second half, sophomore Haley Schuster (Anaya, Colo.) scored, pulling Puget Sound in the lead 7-6.

In the final 15 minutes of the game, Pacific scored three goals, bringing the score to 9-7. Puget Sound was unable to catch up and finished the game just two goals behind Pacific.

Although the Logger lacrosse team had a whole didn’t against Pacific, there were multiple successes for individual players.

Keene and Palmore both earned titles of Northwest Conference Lacrosse Student Athlete of the Week for their performance during the weekend of April 11-12 when the Loggers defeated both Linfield University and George Fox University.

Keene was recognized for her offensive strengths: she scored 10 goals during the weekend games, contributing 13 points to the team. Keene made 45 goals for the Loggers this season, contributing a total of 52 points to the team.

Palmore was recognized for her defensive strength. Over the weekend games Palmore, a goalkeeper for the Loggers, had 14 saves. Palmore currently holds the highest save percentage in the Northwest Conference with 55.9 percent.

Logger women’s lacrosse finishes their season winning five games, losing three, and ranking second in the Northwest Conference. It will be interesting to see how the team will build upon this year’s success in 2016.

SHE SCORES! Senior Caroline Cook slips one past the goal. The womens Lacrosse team loses to Pacific, but finishes in second place in the conference. PHOTO: COURTESY:LOGGER ATHLETICS

OVERCOMING BIAS IN SPORTS MEDIA

By ZAL ROBLES

My favorite NFL team is the Oakland Raiders, but I would be a bad sports journalist if I refused to believe they were a bad team.

In sports journalism, all writers will have their biases; however, it’s the job of the good sports journalist to be ground in statistics prevents an opinion. Arguments grounded in statistics can either strengthen a claim or expanded upon if the statistics argument I presented could be added to the discussion in which readers can follow and dispute the logic and math. Arguments are demonstrat- ed in an opinion. Arguments grounded in statistics prevents two ignorant fans from having a screaming match.

Here is an example of how sta- tistics can enrich an argument. Quarterback Russell Wilson is a very good quarterback, but he is not a pocket passer.

According to SportsCharts.com, Russell Wilson in the 2014 season had 3,475 passing yards, 1,960 of those yards came on 133 passes. That means 56 percent of his passing yards came on first down. That is the highest ratio out of all 33 quarterbacks listed on the website. The top quarterback, Andrew Luck, Peyton Manning and Tom Brady, had ratios under 50 percent.

Arguments grounded in statistics are not static. They are dy- namic and can easily be expanded on to increase our discourse on the subject. The above ar- gument I presented could be expanded upon if the statistics on average time to throw, times scrambled out of the pocket divided by total dropbacks and roll-out rate were considered. Adding statistics to an opinion strengthens the relationship, weakens it, but it is beneficial to everyone because it makes the picture less hazy. If my opinion is proved wrong by statistics, I will happily change my opinion.

Actually that is a lie, I really would be unhappy to change my opinion; however, I would still change my opinion. It is important to remember that statistics are not the end to the argument, but the means to an educated opinion.

There will always be bias in sports because of fandom. Ac- knowledging bias and being able to overcome these biases is what separates a good sports journalist from a bad sports journalist.

These practices are not just exclusive to sports journalism and should be practiced across all sections of the media. This is what all journalists should strive to create. Creating opinions based on facts will create an environment of open dialogue for readers that will expand the discourse of a subject instead of reinforcing fraught opinions that divide two groups of people.

Some may note that the Oklaho- ma City Thunder is not in- cluded in the bunch, but that’s not the saddest news coming from the state of Washington.

It was a disappointing season for the team stolen from Seattle, that has consistently been un- able to meet its expectations. The results of the first round are wrapping up, with the War- riors, Wizards and Cavaliers all ready sweeping their respective opponents of the New Orleans Pelicans, Toronto Raptors and Boston Celtics.

Some of the series games still on the docket are those be- tween the Hawks, the first seed, and the Brooklyn Nets (2-1 Hawks); the Grizzlies and the Portland Trail Blazers (3-0 Griz- zles); the Spurs and the Clip- pers (2-2); the Rockets and the Dallas Mavericks (3-0 Rockets); the Bulls and the Milwaukee Bucks (2-1 Bulls).

The playoffs are too long. —Rob Korbel

The playoffs are way too long. I think if they made it so there to go all the way this year. I certainly hope that they win, but I’m a little bit afraid of Chicago or Cleveland coming out of the East,” Latimer said.

Sophomore Rob Korbel thinks there should be some changes to the playoff structure.

“The playoffs are way too long. I think if they made it so that the top four or six teams from each division get in, it would be easier to stay focused on what’s happening. It seems like the NBA playoffs are almost like half the fun is over to the original season,” Korbel said.

It’s just the beginning of the playoffs, but the best has yet to come. I can’t wait.

GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME!

By LUKIE CROWLEY

It’s late April, so that means the NBA playoffs are back on and, for some, wrapping up the Rockets Clippers can’t be forgot- ten. They scored a 44 percent save percent. Palmore currently had 14 saves. Palmore currently had a season added to the original performance thus far in the playoffs. For the team stolen from Seattle, the Eastern Conference has some strong competitors, too, starting with the Cleveland Cavaliers, who sported a 44 percent defensive strength. She scored 10 assists and 13 points during the weekend games, contributing 13 points to the team. Keene made 45 goals for the Loggers this season, contributing a total of 52 points to the team.

Palmore was recognized for her defensive strength. Over the weekend games Palmore, a goalkeeper for the Loggers, had 14 saves. Palmore currently holds the highest save percentage in the Northwest Conference with 55.9 percent.

Logger women’s lacrosse finishes their season winning five games, losing three, and ranking second in the Northwest Conference. It will be interesting to see how the team will build upon this year’s success in 2016.

The NBA Playoffs are so exciting because they are the epitome of good basketball.

—Ian Latimer

The playoffs are way too long.
Opinions

MUSIC LESSONS SHOULD BE MORE ACCESSIBLE

Students should have the option to learn an instrument for free

By Michael Greenblatt

You’ve probably been serenaded by a flute or a violin as you walked by the Music Building and thought to yourself how fun it would be to learn how to play an instrument. This year you already play an instrument and want to be able to utilize the practice rooms in the Music Building because there are no other places on campus to play.

Unfortunately, if you’re not a part of the School of Music, whether this means taking a music course, being in one of the concert bands, then you don’t have access to any of the rehearsal rooms or instruments in the building.

Many people who already do play an instrument, including myself, may not be skilled enough to join a concert band, however, you may not want to. Yet this doesn’t mean that they should not be able to have access to instruments, music lessons, or practice spaces to use for fun. As tuition-paying members of the campus community, all students should have access to instrument rentals, music lessons, and rehearsal spaces, whether they are involved in the School of Music or not.

There are many reasons why expanding access to the musical resources on campus would be beneficial for students. Playing musical instruments helps to relieve stress, exposes students to a whole new world of learning and talent beyond their academic studies, and, simply, is fun. At a reduced price for every student, was given the chance to play a new instrument, they might even join a band or take a music class.

To be fair, any student can already take music lessons from the School of Music through its Community Music Program, which operates year-round. But hardly anyone is aware of this. For me, as a second-year student and I only just found out about these music lessons because it was specifically looking for them.

This program should be publicized for the entire campus community, and not be treated as if it were a secret. I’m sure that many more students would take music lessons if they knew this was a possibility.

But it’s not enough just to offer music lessons—they should be made available for free or at a reduced price for every student.

Other services that our school provides, such as use of the gym, card access to equipment and resources, such as use of the gym, reduced price for every student, or for free or at a discounted price for all students, and these opportunities should not be a secret in the first place.

I say that the University should give every student the chance to play music.

Letter to the Editor

To the editor of The Trail,

Since last appearing in The Trail at the end of last semester, ECO Club has been busily investigating and advocating for divestment from fossil fuels by the University of Puget Sound. Since we started this effort last September, the amount of CO2 in the atmosphere has risen by 1.5 parts per million (ppm), crossing the 450 ppm mark, pulling us further from the 450 ppm line of wishing the 450 ppm mark. At the 450ppm mark, the chance of the temperature rising to over 2 degrees celsius in the lifetime of a child is within the climate’s worsening condition only strengthens the urgency with which we must engage the question of what we can do to cut carbon emissions, not just as individuals, but as an institution.

We began this investigation with the belief that, as an institution that invests its endowment, the University of Puget Sound has power to make a strong political statement denouncing the practices of fossil fuel companies by divesting its financial and intellectual capital from those companies. Though the findings of our investigation during the past several months have made it clear to us that the complexity involved in achieving this goal is immense, we stand by our principle that the university should divest from coal and fossil fuels as a political statement.

Convincing the university to do so seems as nearly impossible as ever. The university’s decision toouce the University’s endowment to PWP, which hires a manager for the university by not allowing everyone the chance to take music lessons, rent an instrument to play for fun.

The university’s endowment is entrusted to the outsourced investment firm Peregrine Weinberg Partners (PWP), which hires a manager to choose the individual stocks and indexes in which the endowment is invested. Of the endowment portfolio, 0.2% is invested in the Filthy 15 (top coal and mining companies) and 1.6% is in the Carbon Underground 200 (the companies with most fossil fuel reserves).

Most significantly, 10.9% which equates to $34,550,000, is invested in private hydrocarbon. While some of these numbers may seem low, we stand by our principle that the university should divest from coal and fossil fuels as a political statement.

In the last weeks of this semester and next fall, we hope to reach out to students and encourage a support network. If you wish to get involved or just show your support, please get in touch with us at eco@pugetsound.edu or https://www.facebook.com/ PugetsoundSRI.

Sincerely,

The Special subcommittee of E.C.O. on Socially Responsible Investment

Sierra Cocozzello ’15
Evan Delmas ’15
Sophia Salus-Kleiner ’18
Guila Alexander ’18
Curtis May ’18
Chris Eicher ’16
Eric Moore ’17
Bobby Stewart ’18

*Thanks to Professor Steven Neshyba for these statistics.
On September 28th, on a Monday night, I decided to watch the first episode of the 27th season of the Fawlty Towers television series, which is set in New York with New York's mayor at the time, Rudy Giuliani, delivering a heartfelt speech to the city. I was working in New York just a couple weeks earlier.

After a tribute to the lives lost, Senator Kyle Chong was elected to replace Senator C.J Queirolo. Here is how the actual election was not controversy-free. Senator Kyle Chong’s involvement in the election process was not a surprise to the ASUPS Senate. Of course the economic crisis inside me reminds us of the opportunities we miss out on by needlessly wasting our resources on election campaigns. The most important thing is to defeat a disingenuous power of 

Once again, Senator Kyle Chong is held the election. Why? A special election to fill vacated spots is well outside of the bounds of power. The pro-

Good, we like our government to serve the people. But in this case, the ASUPS Bylaws concerning elections: 

The first episode of the 27th season of the Fawlty Towers television series, which is set in New York with New York's mayor at the time, Rudy Giuliani, delivering a heartfelt speech to the city. I was working in New York just a couple weeks earlier. After a tribute to the lives lost, Senator Kyle Chong was elected to replace Senator C.J Queirolo. Here is how the actual election was not controversy-free. Senator Kyle Chong’s involvement in the election process was not a surprise to the ASUPS Senate. Of course the economic crisis inside me reminds us of the opportunities we miss out on by needlessly wasting our resources on election campaigns. The most important thing is to defeat a disingenuous power of government.

Opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views of The Staff, ASUPS, the University or its Board of Trustees. Articles and letters in the Opinions section are printed at the discretion of the Editorial staff. The Staff 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 Style guide. All letters to the editor must be signed.

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By ROSA BRANDT & EMILY ZAHNLE-HOSTETLER

The Puget Sound language requirement is something that is exciting for some and dreaded by others. Some students choose a course that will be useful for future work or travel, but others want to take a language course on a whim for a fun, new experience. For the folks who fall into the latter category (or those who plan to travel or live in Thailand in the future), there is a unique new opportunity: Thai!

“I’m expecting this class to be a lot of hard work and probably pretty frustrating, but I’d be willing to bet it will be incredibly rewarding and hopefully fun,” sophomore Anna Dunlap said. “I heard about the Thai course from Professor Kontogeorgopoulos, and he suggested that I should take it to fill the extra time in my schedule next year.”

Thai 101: Elementary Thai is being taught by Panarat Imig in fall 2015 on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm. This class counts towards the foreign language requirement or Asian Studies majors. Some students may just want to try something different, that they didn’t think they’d be able to do at Puget Sound, while others may be set on participating in the field course next spring.

The field course Barkin refers to is IPE 333: Political Economy of Southeast Asia, with Professor Nick Kontogeorgopoulos. This course already exists within the Puget Sound curriculum, but in spring 2016 it will have an added bonus—a trip to Thailand at the end of the semester. The course itself focuses on political, social and economic change in this region of the world, and it will be helpful for some of those students to know some basic Thai before traveling there.

Dunlap is in a unique situation. Having previously taken the IPE of Southeast Asia course, she simply wants to learn Thai for her future. Dunlap lived in Thailand for two months before her first year at Puget Sound, and hopes that when she goes back one day she will be able to speak the language.

“Having a Southeast Asian language like Thai taught at a smaller liberal arts institution like ours is a rare and exciting opportunity to engage with that part of the world on a deeper level,” Barkin said. Barkin played a substantial role in making the course a reality, helping write the grant and leading the pilot course-trip last year. As for the success of these language courses? He said that students showed great interest.

“I knew there was student interest in less-common languages,” Barkin said. “Early enrollment seems to have supported that belief... We hope to offer Indonesian and Malay (which are very similar languages) in future years.”

First-year student Emma Casey took a gap year, during which she did volunteer work in Thailand.

“This work had a pretty large impact on my life, so I’m always keeping my ears open for any opportunities similar to it,” Casey said. This has led her to wanting to take Professor Kontogeorgopoulos’ spring 2016 course.

“When I was last in Thailand I spoke very little Thai, and though I was more than able to get around independently with English, I have learned that a little conversation in a native tongue can go a long way in terms of building relationships and respect while traveling,” Casey said. “Having the opportunity to better learn the language native to so many people I met last year, and potentially return and thank them in said language, is a really wonderful opportunity for me.”

The grant through the Henry Luce Foundation has been designed to increase the academic focus on Southeast Asia as well as the environment. In addition to the introductory Thai course being offered in the fall, the grant has also provided funds for the trip to Thailand in the spring of 2016 through Kontogeorgopoulos’ course, IPE 333. This area of the world has, in the past, rarely been focused upon in the academic sphere, but Puget Sound is seeking to change that.

“Southeast Asia is an extremely important region of the world, but is rarely studied in American universities. Having the opportunity to offer SE Asian languages and travel to SE Asia with faculty distinguishes us from our peers and enhances what we are already doing in Asian Studies here,” Kontogeorgopoulos said.
Looking back at the Senior Theater Festival

By CLARE MAYER

Recently, a caravan—Caravan43—of relatives and friends of the 43 missing Mexican students came to Seattle, where they told their story and spread their cause. As the family members of the victims attempt to put the pieces together, sometimes it feels as if the only thing we can do is listen to their story and spread the word.

According to official reports, the incident started when the students from a teacher’s college were on a bus to the city of Iguala in the province of Guerrero, Mexico where they planned to stage a protest at a conference held by the mayor’s wife. However, on their way to the town, a clash between the local police and the students presum-

ably ensued.

The details of the confrontation were unclear, but it is assumed that, once placed into custody, the students were handed over to the local Guerres Unidos (“United Warriors”), a drug gang, where they were then murdered. Conspiracy theories about the mayor and his wife having planned the murders have arisen.

The incident would have a huge impact on Mexico. It caused the resignation and arrest of the governor of Iguala, José Luis Abarca, and became the biggest political scandal that President Enrique

host the group, said. Among the Mexican government has stuck to their claim that the students had been killed in police custody, there is some contrary evidence. Officials have only been able to identify the remains of one of the victims, which have created much doubt as to the validity of the officials’ claim. The caravan currently in the U.S. is shedding light on this lack of evidence and its implications. According to Arcelia Nuñez-Alvarez, a professor at CSU San Marcos, the caravan aims to reach out mainly to human rights activists and most cruelly Latino people in the community.

“They’re trying to share their experience for those of us who can relate and continue to keep the issue alive,” Alvarez said.

Spreading awareness of the issue as far as possible and to as large an audience as possible issup-

portative towards helping their cause, and is perhaps one of the most helpful things we can do as allies.

43 Mexican students killed: Activism on campus and abroad

By JACQUE HABBO

This week marks the end of the Senior Theatre Festival, a four-week-long festival consisting of entirely student-produced plays, throughout which we have seen productions of Looking for Normal, Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf and Hamlet, with Macbeth acting as the closing show. The festival serves as the thesis for theater majors at the University of Puget Sound, and invites the campus-wide community to engage in a collaborative production process.

The summer before their senior year, theater majors are asked to search for plays that they find inspiring, pertinent or otherwise significant. They then bring these plays to their thesis class, where the class of seniors must debate and decide together which four shows will be produced, and what roles each of the seniors will play in them. This process often proves to be a difficult one, as trying to satisfy each member of the community is a challenge.

“It is nearly impossible to get every student to agree on plays, roles and design positions—yet, every year we are able to produce a coherent and collaborative festival,” Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts Jess Smith said.

Because STF is treated with an air of professionalism, it opens doors for senior theater majors to experience an authentic production process. The goal of STF is to provide these students with applicable skills for their future careers in the theater industry.

“There are four words that we as the department want our student to embody: engaged, informed, imaginative and collaborative,” Smith said. “STF allows our students to experience these in a really intense way.”

One of the aspects of STF that sets its experiences apart from other student theater on campus is the opportunities that it gives students to produce more professional-quality shows.

“We know we have a budget, we can produce plays that you need to pay royalties for, like Virginia Woolf,” senior theatre major Shelby Isham said. “I’ve been involved with a lot of student theater through Bare Bones...building theatre from the ground up is just a different experience.”

When asked about real-world skills learned through STF, Isham hit what Smith identified as one of the four key values of the Theatre Department—collaboration.

“If you are a bad collaborator, then no one is going to want to work with you. Everyone on STF may not be the best of friends, but we learn to work together to produce these shows,” Isham said.

Collaboration is a vital skill required in professional theatre, and the STF process is an exercise in teamwork. STF not only provides seniors with the tools and experiences needed to thrive in a theater community, but it opens doors for underclassmen as well.

“Tm not really a dramatic actor, so I had trouble at first [in Macbeth], but the other cast members I’ve worked with, the directors—everybody involved has been really supportive and encouraging,” first-year theatre major Alies Lawrence said. “I’m really looking forward to many STFs to come.”

Demands of the Caravan

#1. That the United States government has to stop sending aid in the forms of ammunition and military hardware. This is because most of this aid is in large part responsible for the thousands of deaths and massive human rights violations in Mexico.

#2. That the United States applies international pressure to the Mexican government that they return the remaining 42 kidnapped students alive.
The Happy Trail seeks to tackle the taboo in this school year’s final issue. For many, anal sex is part of an already vibrant, safe and active sex life. For others, anal play is a new frontier in their sexual repertoire.

The anus is ultimately supposed to be a one-way exit for feces as it leaves the digestive tract, so when something is trying to enter it, the body’s natural reaction will be to resist. It will therefore take both willpower and time for the receiver to relax their sphincter open and allow the giver inside. It’s a marathon, not a sprint, so don’t hurry! Move into the anus slowly, and should pain occur, stop and consider exiting the anus slowly rather than doing so suddenly. Allowing time for the giver to be eased in is always the safest and least painful route.

Be safe:
Extreme use of lubrication will lead to both a smoother experience and decreased pain for the receiver, preventing any sort of bruising or bleeding that might otherwise occur. Condoms should always be used to prevent the spread of infection and should be changed if those involved are beginning a sexual activity other than anal play.

Keep in mind that the ecosystems of the anus and the genitals are different and that exchanging bacteria from one to the other can lead to some unpleasant health problems. Washing thoroughly after anal play will prevent infections and decreasing bacteria from one area to the other can lead to some unpleasant health problems. Washing thoroughly after anal play will prevent infections and increase one’s liquid intake are both beneficial toward efficient poops that leave little trace behind in the rectum. In case any messes do occur, however, it is wise to place a towel under the receiver.

Be clean:
While harsh chemicals, disinfectants or cleansers should never be used on the anus, being sure to empty one’s bowels well before the act occurs will lead to a cleaner and smoother experience. Avoiding meats and changing one’s liquid intake are both beneficial toward efficient poops that leave little trace behind in the rectum. In case any messes do occur, however, it is wise to place a towel under the receiver.

Be patient:
The anus is ultimately supposed to be a one-way exit for feces as it leaves the digestive tract, so when something is trying to enter it, the body’s natural reaction will be to resist. It will therefore take both willpower and time for the receiver to relax their sphincter open and allow the giver inside. It’s a marathon, not a sprint, so don’t hurry! Move into the anus slowly, and should pain occur, stop and consider exiting the anus slowly rather than doing so suddenly. Allowing time for the giver to be eased in is always the safest and least painful route.

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Pop in to CES this summer for career advising and a popsicle!
Is your job or internship search heating up? CES can help you keep your cool. We’re open throughout the summer, with occasional exceptions for holidays or staff training. Drop-in hours are not in effect, but you can call 253.879.3161 or pop in to schedule an appointment and chill out with a popsicle, compliments of CES.

THANK YOU TAYLOR FOR BEING A GR8 EDITOR

;-) love ur staff

Opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views of The Trail staff, ASUPS, the University or its Board of Trustees.

WANT TO SEE YOUR AD HERE?
It’s too late. The semester is over.
Check back next year. But for now, check out these cute puppies.
TOP TEN THINGS AUTHOR HATES ABOUT SCHOOL AND STUDENTS AND PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING

By COWMAN BLACKMAILER

1. I don’t want to go to your girlfriend’s brother’s friend’s post-punk revival home show. I mean I don’t even know what post-punk revival means, what makes you think I’m down for wasting my Friday in some dingy garage. Plus, Jessica is tota- tally cheating on you, dude.

2. I don’t know you well enough to listen to or care about your political views if I’ve only been talking to you for three minutes. Seriously, I’m not at this par- ty to discuss the United States’ military budget, I really don’t care if you think conservatives are “killing this country.” I’m pretty sure they think the same thing about you. Please go away and let me drown my sor- rows in this Mike’s Hard Lem- onade. I know we’re not the class myself. We’re probably right, I should just tell me if I’m going to be up all night cramming, I just need- ed this class to fulfill my art re- quirement. I’d be able to eradicate Birken- stocks, I’m sorry, I really tried. If I had a dollar for every time I saw a vegan wearing Birken- stocks, my piggy bank would be a lot fuller.

4. I really don’t get Birken- stocks, I’m sorry, I really tried. If I had a dollar for every time I saw a vegan wearing Birken- stocks, I’d be able to eradicate PETA. Just let me wear my Nike slip-on sandals in peace.

5. I get it, I’m a male W.A.S.P. As of late, I’m not in a popu- lar demographic, but really I’m not the antichrist I promise. We aren’t all the same you know; we’re just a little different. Do you think they’ll be the most financially sound organizations. 6. Don’t act surprised when I haven’t heard of your indie- folk-alternative-rap group from Pittsburgh, Cole.

I know you just wanted the satisfaction of naming an ob- scure band. Plus, I didn’t even know Colorado had a Pittsburg. They have a festival for people like you. No, not Coachella… you probably think you’re above Coachella anyway.

8. You know what? You should go the mall. I’d have gone through that procedure. Besides, I bet you’ve never heard of your Gender Studies class.

10. I can’t even count the amount of times I’ve almost gotten hit by a longboarder. My medical insurance went up by 25 percent because the company found out that I go to Puget Sound. I understand that you’re missing being able to cruise down the boardwalks of Southern California, but—wait, you’re from Minnesota?
By MICHELLE LOSERBY

The following is the University of Puget Sound's unpublished Trail article report from January 2015 through May 2015.

This report is compiled by a single writer. As a part of an effort to cultivate a campus environment in which a student's issues are elucidated by equitable journalism, this writer has not asked for her editor's consent before compiling this list for publication.

Fact-checking for this list was provided by the Microsoft Office for Windows 97 animated assistant Clippy.

1. Student Seeking Computer Science Major to Create Antrimatic: Date for Fraternity Formal: Asks Date to be Programmed with Professional Golf Statistics

   This article was not published because it's “not news.” What- ever.

2. Student Group Petitioning for New Activity Credit: Walking While Smoking

   The writer for this article attended the ASUPS meeting at which the student group was slated to appeal, but no group members were in attendance. The writer later received an apology email from the group leader stating, “Sorry, I was on my way to the meeting but I left my lighter at home and gave up.”

3. Campus Housing to Create New Requirement for Provost to Live On Campus in Dorms Until Tenured

   Staff writers repeatedly tried to contact housing officials via email, but consistently received various out-of-office on a float trip auto-replies. One writer went into the housing office in an attempt to schedule an interview and found a bowl of butterscotch candies with a post-it note reading “receptionist out of office: please don’t eat.”

4. Several Students Downloading Tinder in Hopes of Finding and Matching with Attractive, Enigmatic Diversions Bairsta

   The writer assigned to this article was distracted by the bairsta’s attractiveness and could not recall any information from the interview.

5. Tech Services to Literally Quarantine Laptops of Students who Refuse to Download Anti-Virus Software

   Tech services quickly realized this course of action was illegal and withdrew the threat.

6. ASUPS Spends Entire Meeting Trying to Remember Words to Alma Mater, Forgets to Give Verdict on Proposed Senate Impeachment

   Is it “We love thee Alma Ma- ter,” or “Hail to thee Alma Ma- ter?” I think it might be both.

7. Debate Duo So Cute You Just Want to Squish Them, and They Also Keep Winning or Something

   An editor reminded writers that several articles about the debate team had already been written and suggested writing something different, perhaps about the S.U.B. or sustainability.

*Single meaning one person, but she is also not in a relationship and would like you to slide into her Twitter DMs. Meincelhakelovery

PHOTO COURTESY/GABE NEWMAN

It looks like you’re writing pure libel and trying to pass it off as satire. Would you like me to turn a blind eye?

☐ Yes, we’ll call it fact-checking.

☐ Don’t speak.

☐ Please don’t mention this again.

By HUTCH THE GREAT

The campaigning for the recently announced special elections has been ongoing for the past week and reports have shown that any hint of a discussion about what to do with these elections has been about as well received as last week’s article about Greek Life (meaning it’s a necessary conversation to have, but students are still allegedly “bitching” about it).

Reports have been coming in that there have even been people shouting at members of the Senate during their open forum held at meetings. However, stu- dents can rest easy in knowing that there is at least some benefit to having these elections again—insofar that students can collectively heave a sigh of relief that they will never have to actually serve on ASUPS them- selves, because that shit just seems awful at this point, ac- cording to some students.

“I would hate to have to serve on Senate, especially if I had to go through elections twice to get there. One round of cam- paigning sounds exhausting enough, but having to do it twice? It’s enough to drive someone insane. I would rather spend hours being forced to read idiotic Yik Yak com- ments, which, let’s be honest, are pretty much most of them, than have to go through one of these meetings. That’s how bad it seems to be for them from the outside. I’m just keep- ing my fingers crossed that they don’t call us back from summer break to have us vote in another election. Based on how things have been going so far, though, I wouldn’t put it past them,” an anonymous student from Greek Life said before being escorted back to their cell of censorship.

In fact, there have been re- cent allegations that a contin- uity plan has been hatched by ASUPS to possibly kidnap students from their individual residences to bring them back, should this election go awry. The plan allegedly came on the heels of the increased qual- ity in S.U.B. food, during which tracking devices were insert- ed into the various meals in or- der to keep a tab on students, just in case. The plan was the brainchild of President Ronald G. Rhombus who, honestly felt they had to take matters into their own hands to prevent a catastrophe from happening.

“I couldn’t trust you students to run your own elections this time, so steps had to be taken. I realize that this could be con- sidered an invasion of privacy, but I had no choice. The failure of the students to get through one cycle of elections without fucking it up made it a neces- sary precaution to secretly trick students into ingesting tracking devices I am borrowing from my buddy who works in the NSA,” Rhombus said, as they sat be- hind their computer with which they monitor the various loca- tions students are going in case they need to act quickly.

Rhombus continued by say- ing, “I also have friends in the FBI who will be in charge of ex- traction. The amounts of fa- vors I had to call in on this one just to put this all in effect are mindboggling. I even had to call Obama and get a fleet of drones to fly across the country to make sure a student doesn’t find a way to dispose of their tracking devices. I’m just hop- ing no one gets an MRI anytime soon, because that will mean the whole plan could go up in smoke.”

It is with this that the interview concluded—Rhombus said they wished students a good summer, but warned them not to get too comfortable because they will do “what’s nec- essary” to ensure that the fu- ture student representatives are properly chosen so that they can continue to serve the school without anyone actually taking the time to learn what it is they are doing.

PHOTO COURTESY/GABE NEWMAN
ROASTING, TOASTING AND GRILLING

With summer just around the bend, campfires, grills and barbecues across the nation are coming out of hibernation and warming up the cool evenings. In the coming weeks, countless Puget Sound students, staff and families will be gathering around fires to roast, toast or grill. But after all these years, some may be growing weary of hamburgers, hotdogs and roasted marshmallows.

By DANIEL WOLFERT

COWHORN BISCUIT
Roasting, toasting and grilling over a fire are not only for lunch or dinner while camping; being surrounded by a fire are not only for roasting, but also for Pie Iron Tacos:

Directions
Take one canned biscuit from its package and wrap it around one end of the stick. Put that end above the flames, turning continuously, until the biscuit expands and bake to a golden brown. Remove from heat before the biscuits are burnt and, after pulling them from the stick, fill them with fruit, eggs, sausage, jelly—anything you like!

Lunch can easily be made into more than hamburgers with the help of a pie iron, which acts like a small panini press attached to a very long handle, so that it can be placed in heat. This can be used not only to toast and press sandwiches, but also for Pie Iron Tacos:

Ingredients
-1 lb. Pre-cooked meat (such as shredded chicken or pulled pork, can be replaced by roasted veggies)
-1 oz. shredded cheddar cheese
-12 corn or flour tortillas
-1/2 cup diced onions
-1 cup shredded cilantro
-2 oz. shredded mozzarella cheese
-1 oz. spinach
-1/2 cup cinnamon
-4 Apples
-1/2 cup sugar
-1/4 cup butter
-1/4 cup flour
-1/2 cup brown sugar
-1/4 cup cinnamon
-1/2 cup sugar
-1/4 cup butter
-1/4 cup flour
-1/2 cup brown sugar
-1/4 cup cinnamon
-1/2 cup sugar
-1/4 cup butter
-1/4 cup flour
-1/2 cup brown sugar
-1/4 cup cinnamon
-4 Apples
-1/2 cup sugar
-1/4 cup butter
-1/4 cup flour
-1/2 cup brown sugar
-1/4 cup cinnamon

Directions
Open the pie iron and place one tortilla, lightly oiled on both sides, down close to the iron. Place a thin and evenly spread amount of the filling ingredients (meat/veggies, cilantro, onions and cheddar) and place another tortilla, lightly oiled on both sides, on top of this. Close the pie iron so that only tortilla is sticking out of the sides and place it above the flames, turning continuously. Remove once the edges of the tortilla begin browning, open the pie iron and enjoy!

Pie Iron Tacos

Ingredients
-1 oz. shredded cilantro
-1/2 cup diced onions
-1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
-12 corn or flour tortillas
-Garnish (sour cream, salsa, guacamole)
-Vegetable oil

Directions
Open the pie iron and place one tortilla, lightly oiled on both sides, down close to the iron. Place a thin and evenly spread amount of the filling ingredients (meat/veggies, cilantro, onions and cheddar) and place another tortilla, lightly oiled on both sides, on top of this. Close the pie iron so that only tortilla is sticking out of the sides and place it above the flames, turning continuously. Remove once the edges of the tortilla begin browning, open the pie iron and enjoy!

Stuffed Dinner Rolls

Ingredients
-Bread dough (can be pizza dough)
-2 oz. flour
-2 oz. shredded mozzarella cheese
-1 oz. spinach
-1 oz. tomato sauce
-Diced Italian sausage (can be replaced with roasted veggies)
-Vegetable oil
-Aluminum foil

Directions
Slice the apples in half, core them and fill the insides with butter, sugar and cinnamon. Place the halves back together, lightly coat the outsides with butter, and wrap in aluminum foil. Place in the coals, turning continuously, for roughly 5 minutes. When you remove and unwrap the apples, you’ll find that the sugar and the apples themselves will have caramelized, making for a treat like a personal apple pie.

In the coming weeks, we’ll be focusing our attention on creating more inclusive and creative spaces for individuals to express their true selves through clothing. While society has much further to go in abolishing the social construction of a binary system, the fact that these issues are being discussed is a step in the right direction. As Gregory notes, “the securing of equal opportunities—access to health care, housing and protection from workplace discrimination—for transgender people constitutes what many consider to be our nation’s next civil rights movement.”

Gendered clothing restricts expression

Why are our clothing choices constrained by the gender binary? Shaming of people who, purposefully or accidentally, bend gender norms is commonplace today, as media headlines show. Clothing should not be dictated by social constructions of gender. Movements in the fashion industry present some hope for deconstruction of gendered expectations.

By KASEY JANOUSEK

In the past few weeks, gender and dress have made headlines all over social media and in various popular news sources. First, there was a photograph of Jaden Smith wearing a dress. The controversially outspoken young man was seen donning a dress in public—something that pop culture websites and magazines had a frenzy over. Last week, a Daily News headline read: “WORLD EXCLUSIVE PHOTOS: Bruce Jenner seen wearing striped dress outside Malibu home.” The former Olympian-turned-Kardashian-ex-husband was wearing a black and white striped max dress in the privacy of his own space, or so he thought (note: Jenner requested that male pronouns still be used for the time being). I doubt I’m the only one who finds these headlines extremely disturbing and highly problematic. First of all, I would think that the Daily News should be focusing their attention on, I don’t know, the tainting state of Yemen? Secondly, in a country where individuality is valued and promoted, why can’t people wear what they want without being scrutinized? Why should the public and the media be able to give any voice or any judgmental opinion on the ways that others choose to dress? That’s because individuality is only allowed when it is on the realm of personal space for individuals to express their true selves through clothing.

GENDERED CLOTHING RESTRICTS EXPRESSION

Cisgender values are instilled in us by societal norms at birth. Newborn boys are given blue blankets, while newborn girls are swaddled in pink. Our very first “outfits” are gendered. This past week, Vogue published an article on Andrea Peijc, a high fashion, globally recognized model. Born with male sex organs, Peijc’s career has remained highly successful since under going gender-confirmation surgery only a year ago. She has not only become the face for trans models, but for all models around the world. Additionally, the author of the article, Alice Gregory, points out that designers like Gucci, Proenza Schouler and Chanel used male models in women’s wear runway shows, displaying androgyny is celebrated as beauty in the fashion industry, and highlighting how gender is becoming non-binary in editorial fashion.

While androgyny is not the same as being trans, it shows the open and accepting spaces within high fashion. We need to pull ourselves away from the gender and drama surrounding “Best Dressed” and “Who Were It Better?” lists, and focus our attention on creating a more inclusive and creative space for individuals to express their true selves through clothing.

While society has much further to go in abolishing the social construction of a binary system, the fact that these issues are being discussed is a step in the right direction. As Gregory notes, “the securing of equal opportunities—access to health care, housing and protection from workplace discrimination—for transgender people constitutes what many consider to be our nation’s next civil rights movement.”
MORTAL KOMBAT FRANCHISE RELEASES SEQUEL

By JAMES KANER

Any fans of fighting games or the classic Mortal Kombat franchise have likely found themselves swept up in the bone-snapping, gut-wrenching hype-storm of goodness that is Mortal Kombat X. First hitting shelves on April 14, Mortal Kombat X welcomes new-comers and veterans of the franchise alike to take control of characters ranging from Aztec warriors, to the color-coded ninjas who serve as icons in the video game industry, and have a bloody good time.

I've had the opportunity to sit down and play through the game for a week, and I think it's safe to say this may be the best Mortal Kombat to date. Now it's important to say right here and right now that Mortal Kombat X is not a perfect game. There are a number of missteps that can be seen occasionally that have been implemented by series creator NetherRealm Studios, but there is plenty the game does right.

To get the negative stuff out of the way quickly, the game does feature a number of micro-transactions. Fear not though, poor gamers, because these are mostly quality of life purchases, such as an easy way to perform fatalities and unlocking collectibles.

Another such faux pas comes in the choice to make Goro: the four-armed juggernaut of pain and pomposity that is a series icon by this point only available through either pre-ordering the game or buying him in the in-game store. As I said, there are small things and the game more than makes up for its missteps in what it does bring to the table. Now that we've gone over the little nit-picky problems, let's talk about what the game does right.

If you've caught any advertisements or trailers for the game than you've likely encountered the tagline: "Who's next?" Now for newcomers to the series or just people who haven't been around for the last couple games, this can be considered a legitimate question.

This is because a third of the game's impressive 24-character roster is dedicated to entirely new characters who all manage to have distinct fighting styles, looks and personalities which has helped breathe new life into a series that has been around since 1992. Do you want to be the ritual performing War God Kotal Kahn? Or does the idea of stepping into the shoes of dual-whip-wielding telekinetic warrior Takashi Takeda tickle your fancy? Before you start panicking that the character you've been playing with since the days of the SNES is gone, you should know that classic characters make their return and their new designs stand out just as well as the new blood.

In Mortal Kombat X it's important to note that the characters serve as more than just window dressing for people you can beat up. X features what I find to be a complex and well thought-out story that every character gets to play a part of. That being said, there are still tongue-in-cheek moments that the writing team has been known for and it's never quite made clear how the person whose spine you just snapped in a fight is able to walk around two minutes later. These are small things, however, and it's best to focus on what I believe to be the core elements that the story weaves for us. Most of the new characters that I talked about before are either the children or the descendants of past Mortal Kombat characters. This choice allows the story to feature a number of scenes centered on the importance of family whether it be in the form of newcomer Cassie Cage caught between living up to the legacy of her deceased mother and father or Takeda trying to forgive his father for abandoning him.

Now while an engaging story is good and well, and something you just want to get into the guts and the gits that are inherent to fighting games and Mortal Kombat historically has never skipped on either. This is not a game for the faint of heart. A trademark of the series makes its bloody return in the form of hyper-violent and reality-bending fatalities that differ from character to character. Do you want to replace someone's head with their ribscape? You want to dislocate someone's jaw and take a selfie with them? You can do that! No, really you can. The possibilities are bloody and endless in this new and remarkable chapter in a fighting game franchise for the ages.
YEARS IN REVIEW: MODEST MOUSE

By DANA DONNELLY

Modest Mouse’s Good News for People Who Love Bad News, released in 2004, burst onto the scene like a firecracker. The album sparked a desire to look back at the band’s history and reflect on its impact.

In this article, I will explore Modest Mouse’s journey over the years, highlighting key moments and milestones that have shaped the band’s unique sound and influence.

The band’s first records reflect the directionless surroundings of the original trio: frontman Brock on guitar and vocals, bassist Eric Judy and drummer Jeremiah Green. Early albums like Lonesome Crowded West and This Is a Long Drive for Someone with Nothing to Think About are composed of long, bleak songs that don’t adhere to clear musical forms.

The lyrics are introspective musings on small-town entrapment and paved-over landscapes, exemplified in Brock’s defeated words, “Gotta go to work, gotta go to work, gotta have a job. Goes through the parking lot fields, doesn’t see no signs that they will yield, and then thought, ‘This’ll never end, this’ll never end, this’ll never stop,’” from the song “Custom Concern.”

But already these early albums, which were written when the members were still just teenagers, reveal an insatiable longing to reach outside of the small and dreary world they found themselves in. In the song “Ocean Breathes Sally,” they dream about a moment “when the ocean met the sky... when time and life shook hands and said goodbye. When the earth folded in on itself. And said ‘Good luck, for your sake I hope heaven and hell are really there.’”

Brock conveys a deep existential terror in many of his songs, and the very best of Modest Mouse comes through when he meets this fear and isolation with awe-inspiring attempts to create an antidote of something deeper and worthwhile through his music and lyrics. The first listen to Strangers to Ourselves left me with some doubts. Many of the tracks are pleasant, but none initially stood out with the wit or f Erriness that made me love Modest Mouse in the first place. One or two tracks were downright hard to listen to. The song “Pistol” is probably meant to be a funny goofing around track, but is easily the band’s worst song ever. It aims at the jarring and pointlessly gross sound of songs like “Lounge” or “Tiny Cities Made of Ashes,” but the music is abysmally grimy sound of songs like “Circle, Radius.”

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To celebrate this milestone, Modest Mouse released Lonesome Crowded West, which was well received by critics and fans alike. The album features songs like “The Moon and Antarc tica,” which has become a classic and is still making music because they mean it. While Strangers to Ourselves may not go down as a classic like The Moon and Antarc tica, the knowledge that Modest Mouse hasn’t lost their earnest approach to music is comforting thought.

ALLEN STONE TO PERFORM AT UPS

By TYLER SHERMAN

The last day of classes at the University of Puget Sound is sure to showcase excitement—no relief—galore. This year, however, the last day of classes will also showcase musician Allen Stone.

Stone was born and raised in Cheyela, Wash., and is a class of 2008 graduate of the University of Puget Sound. His latest musical effort is his breakthrough, both professionally and personally.

Stone’s third album, Radius, was released in 2013 and features songs like “I Wasn’t Right,” and “Barbwire,” which have earned the musician his rapid rise in the music industry.

His music is a reflection of his personal experiences, and his lyrics are introspective and well-crafted. Stone’s music speaks to a lot of people, and his shows are a way for students to celebrate.