University Stays Committed to Diversity Despite SCOTUS Affirmative Action Decision

By Erin Hurley

In late June, the U.S. Supreme Court determined it is unconstitutional for colleges and universities to use race or ethnicity as a determinant in admissions processes, effectively eliminating affirmative action at the collegiate level. The two cases brought against Harvard and UNC by a conservative group named Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. have left institutions of higher learning questioning. Colleges and universities use race as a factor in admissions to create a diverse student body. Numerical determinants, like SAT scores or grades, may discriminate against minority applicants who may not have had equal access to resources and opportunities as their white counterparts. However, the backdrop of the Civil Rights Movement to create a fairer playing field for Black Americans, over the years, this policy eventually expanded to include women and other racial minority groups.

Prior to the SCOTUS decision last summer, the University of Puget Sound, a predominantly white institution, used race in the admissions process to gain a "holistic" understanding of the applicants. In response to the ruling, President Isiaah Crawford emphasized "our commitment to admitting, supporting, and graduating a diverse student body." He believes it is important for students to learn and grow with others who maintain "viewpoints, perspectives, and experiences that are different from their own." This sentiment is echoed by other administration leaders, and the University continues to emphasize its dedication to expanding diversity on campus.

Dr. Lorna Hernandez Jarvis, Vice President for Institutional Equity and Diversity, is not worried about the SCOTUS decision. The University of Puget Sound has long held ties with programs such as the Tacoma Public School Commitment, Access Scholars, and the Summer Academic Challenge, which are interested applicants to enroll in the fall. She emphasizes her efforts to receive financial and transitional support.

By Albert Chang-Yoo and Tate DeCarlo

Rush is a one week recruitment process in which members of Greek Life to be an important part of campus identity. It remains to be seen if Greek Life recruitment will sustain the University's ability to remain afloat. Members of Greek Life also indicate that at the very least a strong Greek Life presence will continue to be important for students to learn and grow with others who maintain "viewpoints, perspectives, and experiences that are different from their own." This sentiment is echoed by other administration leaders, and the University continues to emphasize its dedication to expanding diversity on campus.

By Albert Chang-Yoo and Tate DeCarlo

At the beginning of October, University of Puget Sound's fraternities and sororities hosted their first fall rush since 1988. Rush is a one week recruitment process in which Greek Life hosts a number of events for potential members. At the end, members are offered a bid, or invitation to join the chapter. It is a process which, for the past 35 years, has been held during the spring semester. Last spring, the governing Interfraternity and Panhellenic councils were issued approval by the Board of Trustees to host a rush during the fall. This move reflects an effort by the University to switch rush from spring to fall.

According to Sansone, in arguing for a switch to fall, Greek Life representatives stated their belief that the Panhellenic community was a "beacon of hope" for the campus, and that the move would lead to greater reconfiguration of the university. The reconfiguration process is unique to the situation of each house and Greek chapter. The University does not disclose the process or results of reconfiguration. Though speculation, such a framework required to maintain the University can reasonably expect to maintain Greek housing reveals potential reasons for past chapter closures; Beta Theta Pi, for example, removed their letters from their University house in 2023. That house is now transitioning to housing the much larger Phi Delta Theta. The future of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority house is uncertain as well. Theta’s former house on Greek row, aka Unit D, is unoccupied. No reasons for their departure were given by University staff or current members when asked. The choice of small sorority Delta Delta Delta not to recruit this rush season could possibly indicate another coming departure of a sorority from their University chapter house. Many Greek Life chapters remain on housing probation from the University due to inability to fill houses on Greek Row. It is worth mentioning that the University has been confronted with low enrollment and an inability to fill its own freshman dorms, which has certainly impacted Greek Life’s ability to remain aloft. Members of Greek Life also point to stringent housing and recruitment regulations that the University enforces which make it difficult to adequately fill their houses.

It remains to be seen if Greek Life recruitment will sustainably increase over the next few years. However, this year indicates that at the very least a strong Greek Life presence will remain on campus. It is also possible that other factors such as this year’s freshman class size are more influential than a fall or spring recruitment schedule. By prioritizing recruitment the University has shown that it considers Greek Life to be an important part of campus identity.
Life After Infection: Long COVID’s Health Complications

By Hannah Lee

Researchers at Washington University in St. Louis found that kids especially may remain undiagnosed because they do not have the vocabulary to talk to their doctors about their symptoms, or do not recognize that something is amiss. Long COVID is also commonly misdiagnosed as anxiety because it often shares some symptoms. The CDC also states that those who are unvaccinated are at a higher risk for developing Long COVID than those who are vaccinated, and they are still working to understand why certain groups of people are more prone to these complications.

Those who had severe COVID-19 infections have a higher chance of developing autoimmune disorders as a result of another condition, such as Long COVID is called comorbidity or co-occurrence. The CDC says, “Studies are in progress to better understand Long COVID and how many people experience them.” COVID is only in its fourth year and there is still much we do not know.

The safest thing that everybody can do now to lower the chances of developing COVID is to mask up and stay home when you’re sick. Speak with a medical professional if you have any concerns, and get the latest information. Be aware of your environment. Don’t be afraid to look over your shoulders. It’s not rude to maintain a safe distance between yourself and others. Avoid blind corners. Take wide turns so that you have room to react to what’s ahead.

Security Brief

The following report from Security Services was issued to The Trail detailing an incident in early October.

On Friday, October 06, 2023, Security Services was notified about an unknown male driving a white minivan and being on campus near 13th Street that approached two students and demanded their wallets. Upon learning of the incident, our Lead Campus Safety Officer notified the Director of Security Services and the Tacoma Police Department. Our Director of Security Services and Risk Management issued a temporary warning to our campus community allowing us to be informed of the incident. Tacoma Police Officers arrived to meet with the students. Security Services provided Tacoma Police with video surveillance of the area. Campus Safety Officers increased patrols of the area to ensure the vehicle did not return to campus.

Security Services also offered the following tips for staying safe on or off campus:

- Whenever possible, walk with a friend.
- Always report any suspicious activity on or near campus to Security Services.
- Stay in well-lit,well-populated areas. Take the safest route, not the fastest route.
- Be aware of your environment. Don’t be afraid to lock down the path you’re taking.
- Avoid blind corners. Take wide turns so that you have room to react to what’s ahead.
- Carry your keys in your hands. They may be used as a weapon if necessary.
- Be aware of the location of the nearest campus blue light emergency phone.
- If you do not want to walk alone on campus, call Security Services for a campus safe walk at 253.879.3311

Risk of Bike Theft Discourages Students from Cycling

By Tate DeCarlo

Bike theft remains a threat to students on the University of Puget Sound campus who store their bikes outdoors, despite the use of locks.

Bicycles are a relatively cheap, low maintenance, and convenient mode of transportation for cash-strapped college students who don’t have to travel far. Thus, it is a common vehicle used to navigate a college campus. Though bikes may be practical, they are difficult to secure and often stolen, a struggle experienced by many students at the University. The high concentration of poorly secured bikes left outdoors and unattended during the night makes campus an ideal destination for bike thieves.

The Security Services team is aware of the bike theft noticed by Security Services. “We have had a total of 14 bike theft reports over the last 13 months but I believe that the number of unreported thefts is probably the same or higher,” Lynch said.

For many students, the loss of a bicycle can be frustrating enough that reporting the theft to Security Services seems embarrassing or overwhelming. This was the experience for Reublin-Geer, who has been regretting not properly using her lock during one instance. “I was gonna call the day that I got it stolen, but I was just so upset, and then I was also like, ‘Okay, it’s also my fault,’” she said.

Other students, like Schulz-O’Neil, choose not to report due to a lack of confidence in the likelihood of getting their bike back, even with the help of Security Services.

“What are they gonna do? All the parts are off campus now,” she explained.

Even students who don’t store their bikes on campus are still concerned that they too may be victimized. After leaving her bike outside of the sub, Ana Beltran didn’t return to it.

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It is critical to note that these programs are not solely based on race. “It’s a whole spectrum of people who are traditionally underrepresented,” Dr. Hernandez Jarvis says. “And we know that those programs benefit minoritized students in terms of race, but they’re not the only ones that can benefit from those programs.”

She also explains that educational equity is not a zero-sum game, as some politicians conceive it to be. “It’s not because you’re giving rights to people who have not had it, that you’re taking them away from somebody else.” In reality, diverse campuses benefit and enrich the lives of all students of both majority and minority groups. Differences in race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political orientation, and ability enhance and expand one’s views of the world, and an institution of higher education is often a safe space to discuss these differences.

Dr. Hernandez Jarvis faces tough work in the coming years. Legal and financial barriers may stand in the institution’s way of cultivating diversity. She is urging the University to continue to push for the representation of diversity, but his team remains in pursuit of furthering it on campus. “This is an area we can’t shy away from as an area of growth, for the University as a predominantly white institution that has this role to play. We have a desire, and we’ve done better as an organization at becoming more diverse, but we have a long way to go. So, we can’t take our eye off the ball.”

The Trail will continue to report on how changes to Affirmative Action impact the University, particularly from a student perspective.

Statement from JSU and MENA

Joint Statement on the Israel-Hamas War

We, the Middle Eastern and North African Student Association and Jewish Student Union of the University of Puget Sound, stand united in the face of war in Israel and Gaza. We have witnessed Hamas’ horrific attacks and Israel’s siege and bombardments on Gaza, and recognize this conflict for what it is: a war—a war against peace, humanity, and our collective right to existence. We write to acknowledge the anguish and despair our communities are experiencing in this moment.

To be clear, Hamas is not synonymous with Palestinian or Muslim people, and the Israeli government is not synonymous with Israeli or Jewish people. We strongly condemn Hamas’ recent atrocities, including the indiscriminate hostage-taking and killing of children, grandparents, and other civilians and the threats of broadcasted public executions. We also strongly condemn the Israeli government’s recent bombings of civil buildings, cessation of civilians’ food, water, electricity, and medical supplies; and long-term occupation and oppression of Gaza and the West Bank. To those affected by this harrowing violence: we hear you, we love you, and we are here to support you. To our campus community: please know that your peers may be struggling right now, and help us combat antisemitism and Islamophobia with these forms of hate on the rise.

Devlyn Habib and Deniz Kekemert co-lead the Middle Eastern and North African Student Association. You can contact them via email at mena@pugetsound.edu.

Chloe Knopf, Rebecca Levine, and Nate Sansome co-lead the Jewish Student Union. You can contact them via email at jsu@pugetsound.edu.

A Titanic Effort: University of Puget Sound Staff Member Publishes New Book About Familiar Subject

By Grace Farrell

Nearly everyone is familiar with the story of the Titanic, which sank after colliding with an iceberg in 1912. The Titanic sparks interest for many because the esteemed ship met such an unexpectedly tragic fate, and the 1997 film further integrated the story into modern pop culture. For some, however, the ship’s story is more of a long-lasting fascination.

Brad Payne, Puget Sound Dining and Event Services’ Senior Outlets Manager and musician, is one such individual. He’s been intensively researching the Titanic for over 20 years. After her wreck was discovered in 1985, Payne became fascinated with the famous ship as a young boy and proceeded to spend the next several decades exploring the logistics of her collision. Payne dove into found footage, read magazines and books, and eventually encountered survivor testimonies in order to piece together a comprehen- sive understanding of the incident. But it wasn’t until he encountered David G. Brown’s book, The Last Log of the Titanic, that the desire to consider withstandings perspectives of the collision emerged.

“It offered a new angle to the story that I’ve never heard about or read before,” Payne said. “I realized that I don’t agree with a lot of his conclusions; it still forced me to pretty much rethink everything.”

Payne began to publish articles about new “tidbits” of information from the Titanic that emerged from his research findings and went on to draft two long articles sequentially: he decided to undertake what he called a “labor of love” and convert his work into a more cohesive format. Payne is now a published author; his book, 11:40: Analysis of Evasive Maneuvers & Damage Assessment on RMS Titanic was released Oct. 3 in the U.S. and was published earlier this year in the U.K.

As the title suggests, his book consists of two major portions: a damage assessment and an exploration of how various aspects of the ship responded to the collision. The damage assessment Payne conducts is especially unique; he remarks that this is something “no one has ever written” about before.

In his publication, Payne aimed to unpack previous misconceptions about the wreck. One such notion was showcased in James Cameron’s Titanic, which depicts the engines being put in reverse following the collision. This was refuted after the movie’s release, which Brad Payne confirms and elaborates on in his book.

Payne is especially proud of two segments in the publication, one of which discusses “the movements of the ship after the iceberg,” and another outlining “a generalized idea of when and how the ship was going to be evacuated,” especially because the elaboration he provides on these subjects is unusually comprehensive. The book also includes a timeline portion that pieces together where individuals were at specific points and how different portions of the ship interacted with the iceberg. This was especially hard for Payne to craft, as having to “piece together” such an ever-evolving narrative proved to be quite complex, especially with a publication deadline looming over him.

Thankfully, after completing this lengthy writing process, Payne had little difficulty with the publishing process and got his proposal approved almost immediately.

Payne remains passionate about his ongoing Titanic research and hopes to spread the knowledge encapsu- lated in his book to a broad audience. This publication is available on Amazon and should be accessible at the University of Puget Sound’s library relatively soon. For more information on Payne’s book, articles, and music, he encourages you to visit his website at bradm-payne.com.
Athlete of the Issue: Izaiah Jerenz

By Kate Patterson

Congratulations to Athlete of the Issue, senior and wide receiver Izaiah Jerenz! Jerenz received an all-Northwest Conference honorable mention for his impressive accomplishments during the 2022 season. At the midpoint of their 2023 season, the Loggers have increased their success over last year, and have won 2/3 of their home games so far. In tandem, enthusiasm at home games has grown this year, with Student Involvement & Programs hosting a Logger Rally Day with free swag at home games last month, and ‘Pizza with the Prez’ (i.e. free pizza) at all home football games this fall! Logger Football’s next home game is Saturday, October 21. Watch Linfield try to get a ‘pizza’ the loggers (punt intended) at 1pm!

Q: According to Logger Athletics, you had 830 receiving yards for the 2022 season, second best in the North West Conference. How do you think you’ve been able to find this high level of success on the team?

A: I think I have been able to find this high level of success because of my brothers who push me consistently and support me as well as my teammates who put me in good positions. I have a good quarterback and players that help me.

Q: How do you see your role as someone who’s been with Logger Football for several years?

A: I see my role as one of the older guys who can help show the younger guys the ropes and make sure they get to be successful.

Q: In the October 7 homecoming game, Logger Football went back and forth with George Fox before pulling ahead right in the last of the fourth quarter. What were you thinking about at the end of the game?

A: At the end of the game I was thinking how we were able to pull it off. I was impressed with the team and how we were able to not give up and come up big in crucial moments.

Q: What hopes do you have for the rest of this final season with the team?

A: For my final season my hopes are just to win and to ball out with my brothers and watch them succeed.

Q: What is your favorite memory from your career with Logger Football?

A: My favorite memory from my career with logger football would have to be the George Fox game this year. The atmosphere was crazy, the crowd was jumpin, and our team won in spectacular fashion.
Ongoing Faculty Research around Campus

By Jack Leal and Caitlin Yoder

Professor Benjamin Tromly

Benjamin Tromly is a historian and the author of 2 books, including Making the Soviet Intelligentsia: Universities and Intellectual Life under Stalin and Khrushchev (Cambridge University Press, 2014). He teaches courses like “Politics Eurasia,” “The Russian Revolution,” “World War II in Europe,” and “Modern Europe since 1815.” Tromly’s current research concerns historical propaganda in post-Cold War Russia. In particular, his focus is on deliberate attempts to influence collective memory, charting how the nation’s perspectives on Russian history have become more glamorous and unethical. This new history features tanks in parades, children dressed as soldiers, and a past that never happened. According to Tromly, this new wave of propaganda is a response to Russia’s “unheroic history that doesn’t make for the construction of a ‘useful’ past.” These historical alterations hooraw The Great Patriotic War and glamorize collaborationists like the infamous Andrey Vlasov. During his sabbatical, Tromly spent time in the US and Germany, building his new book tentatively called The Vlasov Army: The Specter of Wartime Resistance from Stalin to Putin. In the effort to unmask Russia’s biased historical narrative, he scourcd German archives on Soviet operations in WW2 including the Soviet secret police, the Gulag, and (Soviet) prisoners of war. Tromly’s objective is to reframe Russia’s historical narratives, demonstrating that these portrayals do not benefit any greater understanding while also shedding light on the country’s troubled past.

Professor Rachel DeMotts

Rachel DeMotts is a political scientist in the University’s Environmental Policy and Decision Making department and teaches a variety of courses. Her research is usually based in Southern Africa, and for the past 20 years she has intermittently worked in Botswana and Namibia. During her sabbatical, she spent time in Nepal, meeting individuals doing community-based tiger conservation. These activists monitor and track tigers and other animals to better keep wildlife from entering their villages. DeMotts expresses how wildlife conservation can inadvertently exclude human experiences, like people living in these rural communities. “You can’t keep an elephant out of the crop that’s supposed to feed your family for the next six months, you’re going to have a pretty big problem. And that’s not something that usually gets talked about when we talk about national parks and wildlife conservation. So I think we need to do both,” she said. Her goal was to understand the different perspectives of this community inside and out. DeMotts learned how to identify paw marks, track the tigers, and learn about other regional animals, like birds, elephants, and rhinos.

Professor Brett Rogers

Brett Rogers is a professor for the GLAM department and teaches classes such as “Ancient Greek,” “Ancient Tragedy,” and “Scientific, Fantasy, and Antiquity.” Currently, he is co-writing a few different pieces, one of which is called “Cyber-Dogs, Gut Thinking, and the Limits of Recognition in Homer’s Odyssey.” It focuses on the robotic dogs depicted in Book 7 of The Odyssey, discussing how the ancient Greeks were thinking about automation and the connections we can draw to our own modern ideas about artificial intelligence. Professor Rogers’ research of medieval manuscripts led him to ancient debates about what we now call A.I. dating back to antiquity. His research suggests that these ideas are not new, they are just repackaged with modern technology. That concept of connecting present day ideas back to antiquity and vice versa is the underlying question that guides his scholarly research. “For all of our technological innovations, for all of the material differences that are so magnificant between the present moment and two-to-three thousand years ago, there are also things that haven’t changed as dramatically as we think they have,” Rogers said.

Professor Gwynne Brown

Gwynne Brown is a music professor who graduated from the Puget Sound School of Music. Her current research focuses on Florence Price, an African American composer and performer. Along with pianist Joe Williams, she is co-writing a chapter that discusses how Price contributed elements of African American music with European traditions. Professor Brown has also been studying William Dawson and other 20th century African American composers for about a decade now. Her studies have brought her to care deeply for music by these composers, and she regards it as “some of the most distinctively American music.” Furthermore, working with African American scholars has shown her how limited her perspective is due to her own identity and experience. When Samantha Ege, the co-editor of The Cambridge Companion to Florence Price, reached out, Professor Brown was more than happy to write a chapter. “For a composer as important and wonderful as Florence Price, surprisingly little has been written about her, so I’m excited to be part of this growing amount of scholarly literature on her,” she says. Brown emphasizes that there is still lots of work to be done. A plethora of artists, scholars, and others who have contributed greatly to American music have not yet been written about. For this reason, she is very grateful for the opportunity to write and research about these figures. She encourages everyone to shed light on those people who are less talked about not just in the context of classical music, but everywhere. “I hope students are always asking questions and looking for places where they can contribute to the creation of knowledge,” Brown says.

Professor Gwynne Brown

Professor Brett Rogers

Professor Benjamin Tromly

Professor Rachel DeMotts
Homecoming Weekend

Who’s Your
Halloween Hottie?

- Dedication
- Fancy party
- Scaring neighborhood kids
- What do you value most in a partner?
- Going to a haunted house
- What is your biggest pet peeve?
- What would you do on a date?
- What catches your eye in a potential partner?
- Take a long nap
- Height
- Fashion sense
- Introverted
- Extroverted
- Of course, darling
- No way
- Are you more introverted or extroverted?
- When people give up too easily
- Toxic positivity
- Babies crying on airplanes
- A long, slow walk on the beach
- Act or coffee
- What is your ideal date?
- Michael Myers
- Pennywise
- Lady Dimitrescu
- Freddy Krueger

The Blue Mouse Theatre
Now Serving Beer and Wine
All Tickets $10

Friday the 13th
A New Beginning
Friday October 13th 10pm

Rocky Horror Picture Show
Three Saturdays
October 14th, 21st and 28th
11:15pm

Friday Night Frights
1st Friday Every Month
Halloween III
Friday October 20th 10pm

Purchase Tickets Online
https://bluemoosetheatre.com
Since Aug. 28, Kittredge Gallery has been home to some pretty creative portrayals of dead things. Inspired directly by the Puget Sound Museum of Natural History's exhibit, gallery show "The Hidden Specimen" features pieces such as life-sized insects made out of found trash and handmade nesting dolls painted like different species of owls.

TThe exhibit was curated by departing Natural History Museum Education and Outreach Director Madison Mayfield, for whom a show of this kind was a long-time dream. On the evening of September 28, Kittredge hosted a reception for the show which included a presentation given by Mayfield followed by a drawing night for all interested parties over at the museum itself.

Mayfield, who has a background in science illustration, was impressed by the quality of the art produced by community members who attended the Museum’s monthly drawing nights and felt that an exhibit of this kind could spark viewers’ interest in the museum.

“Mayfield feels that the demand for art in science museums is growing, driven by the demand for engaging science education experiences. As a result, the museum has begun to incorporate more art into its exhibitions and educational programs. This exhibit is a great example of how art and science can be combined to create a compelling educational experience.”

A watercolor by Madison Mayfield that was featured in "The Hidden Specimen" from Aug. 28 – Oct. 14

Artist of the Issue: Mya Woods

By Kailey Kairo

Congratulations to Artist of the Issue, junior Mya Woods! As a musician, actor, and director, Woods is not only a part of the art scene both in and around Puget Sound. When she's not performing as the bassist for local band Up in the Attic, she can be found working as both an actor and leader in the University's theater department. With their upcoming debut as stage manager in the fall mainstage play, Woods has made it clear that she can do it all! Come see the results of her hard work at the University. “It definitely does feel like kind of my love letter to the museum. And a way to increase community engagement and provide an open space to anyone who is interested, especially given that the University is not a public institution. Especially in these types of research collection spaces, for a while it has felt very closed off. If you’re not a researcher or scientist with a PhD, what are you doing in that space? So this is just also a great way to kind of break down those barriers and let others into the museum to use it,” Mayfield said.

Q: You’re the student stage manager for the upcoming mainstage play "Our Town." What exactly does this position entail, and how does your role impact the show as a whole?

A: In my position, I essentially have to keep track of all the moving parts of this show! I am the translator for director to cast, designer to director team, and cast to designer team, and in all the other ways that communication needs to be had, I keep track of it. My impact on the show I think is just making sure the community between everyone is respectful in and out of rehearsal.

Q: What have been some of your major goals as student stage manager for "Our Town"?

A: My first major goal was just to find my groove as a stage manager. I had never done it before and I wanted to make sure that I kept everyone but also myself organized! But overall, my main goal this entire process was to enjoy the ride! Shows can be majorly stressful at times, but I felt that I needed to remind myself in those times that I’m getting to work on a show I love with an amazing team and wonderful cast, so I could enjoy the time I’m having right now! Working on shows in college should be a learning experience but also so fun! And I wanted to make sure that I never forgot to have that fun.

Q: You’ll be featured as a director in the upcoming Directors’ Lab. Could you share some general passion or ideas that you have in mind for this event?

A: Directors Lab is a project that my excitement never dies down about! For this event, myself and the 4 other students in the THTR 313 class are each directing a scene from a play that we choose, and we get to facilitate the whole process ourselves. I just think that personally, I want to create space with the scene I’m directing to offer a more comedic energy to the Norton Clapp Stage, since I don’t always see it in the shows we do. I also just feel so much excitement and love for my fellow directors! I really think that the line-up of scenes that we have all chosen are very interesting and offer a wonderful time, both for people who want to audition, but also people who will come see the show later this semester.

Q: What has been one of your favorite moments in theater so far?

A: My favorite moment I think recently has been working on Game of Love and Chance this past spring. I really enjoyed getting to both act in and sound design the show because it was just such a fun and comedic show to be a part of! I also think that sound designing the show Eurydice was also one of my favorite moments since I was able to write music for the sound design and composing for theater is my dream job.

Q: What are your plans moving forward in your theater career?

A: To just keep working on shows!!! I think at my happiest when I’m able to do the ones I enjoy and that’s what I lovingly get to do at UPS, but hopefully we will get to do for the rest of my life! I also always most excited about bringing work, since it is my second major and truly one of my passions.
**Marky Mark and Ramaswamy Go Bar for Bar Over Instagram Live**

By Emmet O’Connor

Mark Wahlberg, notable actor, rapper, and Catholic has announced on Instagram Reels that he too will be joining the Republican Presidential Primary race. Within seconds of Wahlberg posting the Reel, Republican candidate, former rapper under the name “Da Vek,” and entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy, commented “Nahhhhh bro want the heat.” followed by ten laughing crying emojis, three red one hundred emojis, and two fire emojis. Wahlberg responded one hour later stating that Ramaswamy “would not last one second in a Cypher, and the date was made. On the eighth of October at 10:00 AM, Vivek Ramaswamy and Mark Wahlberg would have a rap battle over Instagram Live.

The rap battle started early; Wahlberg was hosting and rapping about his story in as soon as the clock hit 10:00 AM. Neither of the Republican presidential candidates had the chance to contact a music producer to create a beat for the rap battle, so Ramaswamy pulled up a “Drake Type Beat” on YouTube and the cypher commenced. Wahlberg started off the rap battle, opening with the line “I’m from Southie, he’s from Harvard he’s got nothing on the Wahlbergs.” This line makes little sense, yet it was spoken with the same bravado that Wahlberg normally delivers his lines of dialogue with, so the Live audience reacted positively. He later stated, “God is in my corner, so this election’s in the bag. I was in Trans-formers, leave you rolled out like auto bots.”

After Mark Wahlberg finished his ten-minute long verse, it was now time for Ramaswamy to respond. Ramaswamy began by taking a dig at Wahlberg’s acting ability, “You act like you’re still tryna make it out of Boston, after Departed we all knew you lost it.” Following this line Ramaswamy continued into Wahlberg’s acting career, however, he did acknowledge that they were both men of faith, however, Ramaswamy does not claim to be a believer in the Christian faith and not Christianity: “We’re both pro-god so we got

“All my life, I’ve dreamed of bringing people together: Forgiving bonds, joining souls, making connections! But that dream has been quashed, denigrated and disregard-ed by that godforsaken Instagram account, they’ve con- nected the market and we’re fighting for scraps. But no more, I say, no more. By the grace of the Bull Moose, we’ll bust their trust! Bukk Bukk!” Further inquiries into their praise of the “Bull Moose” revealed a sizable progressive community on campus. Though the student body is already largely progressive, these progressives are more closely aligned with the early 20th century progressive movement, and their members include most of the plaintiffs in the aforementioned lawsuit. Typified by President Theodore “Bull Moose” Roosevelt, the progressive movement heavily emphasized anti-corruption reforms and federal economic interventions to protect the consumer, which the progressive community on campus sees as the solution to modern sociopolitical issues. Moreover, the campus progressive community has a strong ecological bent: most progressives on campus are easily identifiable by their Blundstone boots, Cotopaxi backpacks and jack-ets, discreet REI tattoos, and insatiable predilections for backpacking. In fact, the original idea to use antitrust law to break up the @upsmissedconnections monopoly came to the community during a backpacking trip.

“We were out there, in the great wilderness of the President’s forest, com-miserating about how corporate consolidation would be the death of American innovation, when we realized that that same principle also applied to Missed Connections. It used to be this hub of innovation, of connecting people who might never have interacted otherwise, in new and novel ways. Now, every post is about a missing hydroflask with a coexist sticker on it, a moderately attractive person sighted from 200 feet across campus, or a wastrel freshman perpetuating the vicious cycle of T/P property damage. This cannot stand, the gossip on this campus has been stagnant for too long, I say, too long!” At press time, the progressive community had since been polarized over whether or not @upsmissedconnections and similar accounts should actively intervene in life on campus, and the broader Tacoma area, to promote scandal and intrigue and thus actively advance these accounts’ interests. The pro-interventionist faction of the community, whose members’ bonds have since deepened after discov-ering their mutual love for the late rapper DMX, has since begun to refer to itself as the “Ruff Ryders.” Members were also observed digging a canal between the Universi-ty of Puget Sound and Pacific Lutheran University cam-puses, so as to “make Puget Sound a global epicenter in the trade of hot goss [sic].” It remains to be seen whether this division will impede their antitrust efforts against @upsmissedconnections.

Marky Mark and Ramaswamy Go Bar for Bar Over Instagram Live

By Walter Marmite

Ubiquitous Instagram account @upsmissedconnec-tions, a central online destination for the University of Puget Sound student body, was at the center of a lawsuit filed on Thursday, over perceived “monopo-lization of both on-campus communication and the lia-ison’s dominance:” the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). @ups.parties, @ups.sex.confessions, @ups.get.yo.freak.on, @ups.tea.spillage, @ups.hot.person.sighted and @ups_rate.my_professor_on_their_looks — specific-al-ly allege that @upsmissedconnections has stifled the market and made it impossible for smaller accounts who are focused primarily on promoting off-campus events, spreading salacious and unfathomable stories, or anonymously calling out freshman, to gain any traction. When contacted for clarification, a representative from the FTC clarified:

“At the FTC, we’ve never seen a monopoly this op-pressive until now. The stranglehold @upsmissedcon-nexions has on the market would make John D. Rocke-feller blush! It makes Standard Oil look like a mom-and-pop shop! It’s, quite frankly, a travesty for the American econ-

omy and the American consumer that one Instagram account has such an insidious hold on the market.”

A representative from @ups.tea.spillage further described the personal impacts of @upsmissedconnec-tions’ dominance:

“By Emmet O’Connor

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CHWS Wants You! Get Tested Today!

By Frannie Edward-Hughes

The World Health Organization reports that an estimated 374 million people are affected by sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) every year. The terms STI and STD can be used interchangeably, but the term STD is surrounded by more stigma due to the implication of the word disease. Healthcare professionals are making the switch to only using the term STI due to STDs negative connotation.

The University of Puget Sound has also been working to remove the overall stigma around testing and talking about STIs. Getting screened for sexually transmitted infections is extremely important and should be done at least once a year for a sexually active person. Being screened for an STI means that a person is being tested without showing any symptoms. Many people believe that one needs to have symptoms present to have an STI, but many of these infections are asymptomatic, meaning getting yearly screenings is extremely important. Regardless, STI symptoms to look out for may include pain with urination, unusual discharge, pain with intercourse, or visible sores and bumps. Sexually active people should be aware of these symptoms, and if they do appear, they should get tested.

Getting tested can seem inaccessible and scary, but it is the only way people can make sure they are not infected. The University of Puget Sound works to make testing highly accessible. Counseling, Health & Wellness Services (CHWS) at the University has a helpful webpage with all of the STIs and STDs that can be tested for at the school along with approximate costs listed. This page helps reinforce the University’s point to make STIs less stigmatized. Danielle Bus, Wellness Education and Prevention Specialist at CHWS, says that she wants students to know that getting tested is not something that should be ashamed of doing, and that, “it really is just like other preventative types of care, like getting vaccines, or getting a physical every year.”

One of the prohibiting factors of getting tested for students is the cost, but there are places in Tacoma that offer free STI testing. Planned Parenthood, which is within a 10-minute drive from campus, offers free or sliding scale tests for people without insurance. The Washington Department of Health also maintains a website that lists free places to get tested by county.

As far as preventive measures, the University offers condoms and dental dams, as well as lube and the morning-after pill at the vending machine outside of CHWS. The Associated Students of The University of Puget Sound (ASUPS), located in Wheelock Student Center, also sells condoms in the vending machines as well as the morning-after pill. Students at the University can call the triage nurse after CHWS hours to discuss symptoms they may be having or questions. Information that students find online regarding STIs can be misleading and the University highly recommends that students come in and get tested if they have any concerns whatsoever. So let’s get tested!

Does it Hurt to Pee?

A New Post-Sex STI Pill Could be the Solution!

By Amelia Pooser

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Gonorrhea cases have increased by 118% from 2009, and syphilis cases have increased 74% from 2017. These numbers are very concerning to medical professionals as gonorrhea, chlamydia, and syphilis can be easily treated with antibiotics, but it seems there is a lack of information or availability of such treatment for STIs. So, it is exciting news that a new medical approach is breaking through in the field. The C.D.C. has announced that they plan to recommend the use of doxycycline after unprotected sex. Doxycycline is a widely used and common antibiotic that has been denoted as doxy-PEP. This could be a great solution to the rising cases of STIs but it can only be recommended to certain groups at this time due to its limited testing.

Only gay or bisexual men and transgender women are cleared to use the drug at this point. This is due to successful testing by the C.D.C. that reported that if doxy-PEP was taken within 72 hours of the unprotected sexual encounter the rate of infection decreases significantly. It was important to “target” this group of individuals first as they represent a large portion of the STI epidemic. For example, the C.D.C. reported that men having sex with other men accounted for half of the syphilis cases reported. However the guidelines for the drug use could expand in the future to include heterosexuals and cis-women but this would require more research and testing to be performed.

It is also important to note that as of now there are no significant concerns about these bacterial diseases (STIs) developing antibiotic resistance. Doxycycline has been in use for decades and only gonorrhea has shown some signs of mutation or evolution. Therefore medical professionals are in full support of the antibiotic being provided along with other sexual health programs to the public.

This development is very important not only medically but socially as well. As a country we have a history of ignoring the importance of sexual health and sexually transmitted infections and/or diseases, with tragic consequences, and this drug is a step forward in the country addressing the growing problem. The next steps for the drug will include the official publication of the new C.D.C. guidelines for the drug after a 45 day public comment period. Additionally there seems to be an acknowledgement from the administration that STIs do disproportionately affect marginalized communities and there will be a conscious effort to spread the news about the drug to these communities. So don’t let that pee sting any longer and look out for doxy-PEP in the near future.
I started saying “slay” or “that’s so real” ironically, but at some point it stopped being ironic and I genuinely can’t stop, it’s like every other sentence now. So real bestie. Irony poisoning really took over my life but I learned to use it for good. Once I realized my brain couldn’t tell the difference between jokes and real beliefs if I repeated them enough, my life changed for the better. Now I really do love myself and being alive.

I can’t get through a single day, not one without seeing a stupid greek life post. Part of my draw to this campus was the small and approachable greek life community, now they are multiplying like rabbits. I think it’s sick how this school was proud that they gave freshman a semester off before having the ability to join greek life but now that we are in massive debt and you need to keep enrollment high you are willing to fold on your values to prey on impressionable young adults.

I literally lol’d at that last sentence — while I’d also be willing to fold on plenty of “values” to keep my business running, I really don’t think fall recruitment was a conversation among the budget task force. And really, you should feel bad for them, they have 50 yo alumni yelling at them constantly about declining recruitment numbers only for many of their peers to see them as sheep that have to pay for friendship. It’s a hard knock life.

Federal Judge Gags Trump a Little Bit

Werner Herzog Announces New Documentary Film About High School Senior’s “Impossible Dream” of Losing Virginity Before Graduation

GOP Nominates the Ghost of Newt Gingrich for House Speaker Position

Taylor Swift Confirms Dating Travis Kelce is Start of Her Neolithic Era

New Zealand Elects Most Conservative Government in Decades, Helmed by Bandobras Bootstraps

Punk Show Attendee Trying Desperately to Compensate for Growing Up Middle-Class

White Ally Here to Listen to Podcast by Other White Allies Here to Listen Instagram User Drastically Overestimates Their Platform

Pre-Med Student Admitted to Medical School Unable to Cope with Loss of Only Defining Personality Trait

Everything Man Knows About Israel-Palestine Conflict Drawn From You Don’t Mess With the Zohan

The World Just Got a Little Bit Darker

Meet Our Team

Andrew Benoit

Ishaan Gollamudi

Sam Gerrish

Andrew, a junior from Illinois, serves as the Editor-in-Chief. Andrew is studying Anthropology with a minor in History and is a member of the Honors program. When he’s not in his office in the media room, Andrew is usually at the movie theater or working at the Center for Writing and Learning.

Ishaan (’26) is an MCB major from San Jose and the Editor of the Combat Zone, The Trail’s satire section. Often spotted hunched over a lab bench, volunteering at the Neighborhood Clinic, or working at the CWL, rumors that he has a social life are demonstrably false.

Sam is a junior in her second semester as a writer for The Trail. She is a Nat Sci (bio) major, works for Sustainability Services, and studies an endangered seabird called the Marbled Murrelet. Sam is commonly seen walking dogs (she’s got a whole business going) or frolicking around barefoot.
It's Spooky Season!

Crossword Key

Across
4. Pie
5. Harvest
7. The Slab
9. Cider
11. Equinox
16. Salt
18. Leaves
19. Ninth

Down
1. Oranges
2. Peas
3. Grub
6. Spice
8. Harrington
10. Fox
12. Oil
13. Scala
14. CSS
15. Oar
17. Autumn

Correction:
In the September 29 issue of The Trail, Shawn Reite was reported as having enrolled in the University of Puget Sound through the FEPPS program. Reite was enrolled in FEPPS through Tacoma Community College. Please send future corrections to trail@pugetsound.edu

THE PUGET SOUND TRAIL

Editor-in-Chief.................Andrew Benoit
Art Dir. and Layout Manager.............Elena Segura
Business Manager...............Vernica Brinkley
Managing Copy Editor..............Kate Patterson
Copy Editor..................Surya Kalaimani
Editor......................Bently Kalik
Editor......................Albert Chang-Yoo
Editor......................Kasley Kario
Editor.......................Ihsaan Gollamudi
Editor......................Amelia Pooner

The Trail is an independent, student-run organization funded by ASUPS. The Trail seeks to produce a credible weekly newspaper that serves as a comprehensive source of information relevant to its readership. The Trail acts as an archival record for the university, serves as a link between University of Puget Sound and the greater Tacoma community and provides an open forum for student opinion and discourse.

Visit trail.pugetsound.edu for the full mission statement

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TRAIL@PUGETSOUND.EDU | TRAILBUSINESSMANAGER@GMAIL.COM
Guide to Puget Sound

Horoscope
By Kate Patterson

Taurus
You deserve a little treat this week. There’s no day that a Met cookie can’t improve.

Gemini
Take extra good care of your stuffed animals (that of course you don’t have, that would be too embarrassing) this week, the cold weather might be getting to them.

Cancer
Remember to look on the bright side, especially when the bright side is that Taylor Swift’s 1989 re-recording comes out in seven days!

Leo
Take extra care to get out in nature. Even if you feel like all your friends hate you, the trees don’t (probably).

Virgo
Try to get into the fall spirit this week! Try a Gilmore Girls Latte—a latte with pumpkin, white chocolate, and cinnamon—at Lillis Café, or make fall decorations, the sillier the better.

Libra
Give someone a compliment. Not only will it make their day, but making someone feel good will make you feel good too!

Sagittarius
I love you but french fries aren’t vegetables.

Capricorn
You’ve been working hard, make sure to take time for yourself and celebrate the progress you’ve made.

Aquarius
I know it feels like the sun is abandoning us, but it will get worse before it gets better, so enjoy the sun when you can this week.

Pisces
Enjoy spooky season! And if anyone tells you 3 costumes is too many, they’re a hater.

Greek Life
Letter = Campus Names
Fraternities: IAE = AKA
SNA = Sigma Chi
Phi AD = Phi Delta
Sororities: KA9 = Theta
Pi Beta Phi = Gamma Phi

Lillis Hours + Bagel Bar Hours:
Best Phone: 206-246-2080
1642 N. Postoe St., Unit D, Tacoma, WA 98407
Best Fax: 206-246-2080
4907 Tacoma Mall Blvd., Tacoma, WA 98409

October 2023

Best Rooms:

Birthday: Indistinguishable
- Rent Hall
- dresses
- Libra
- Scorpio
- Capricorn
- Aquarius
- Pisces

October 20 2023

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Best Study Spots:
- Recovered of the Library
- Has conference rooms
- Has chairs
- Good for group work
- Wyat Corner Tables at the end of the faculty
- office hallway
- Can get great views of Todt Field + people
- welding

Best Places to Bring the Parents:
Brooklyn:
Shakebobs Iowa:
Souther Kitchens:
1716 9th Ave. - Tacoma, WA 98409
2220 6th Ave., Tacoma, WA 98402
Waffle Stop:
2121 S. Proctor St., Tacoma, WA 98407
Java:
MIM Deli:
2220 6th Ave., Tacoma, WA 98402
Metropolitan Market:
5420 S. Proctor St., Tacoma, WA 98406
Diner:
Gateway to India:
2501 4th Ave., Tacoma, WA 98402
Piper Bar and Grill:
2111 S. Proctor St., Tacoma, WA 98407
The Iguac:
2212 4th St., Tacoma, WA 98405

Registering For Classes:
1. As class registration for Spring 2024 match-
approaches here are some tips:
Tip #1: Try to attend your registration time!!!!
Tip #2: Have all of your classes in your shopping cart before your registration time!
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Tip #4: Recheck your Peer Advising or your Faculty Advisor? They can help you deter-
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interesting classes on campus.

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Mon-Thurs: 7:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Fri: 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Bagel Bar: Mon-Fri: 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Auditions:
2023 Directors’ Lab
A Festival Of Scenes
DIRECTED BY
AIDAN BARK
ARYA KANNAN
LAKEY JACOBSON
JULIA PEARL STYLES
MIY WOODS

AUDITIONS:
OCT. 30TH - 6 OR 8 PM
JONES 203

CALLBACKS:
OCT. 31 - 6-10 PM
JONES 203

PERFORMANCES:
DEL. 4TH AND 5TH

classified@pugetsound.edu
pugetsound.edu/strings
theatrearts.pugetsound.edu
Theatre Arts

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