INSIGHT INTO SECURITY SERVICES

Incite makes accusations of racial profiling

At 8:00 a.m. on Sep. 30, Incite Newsroom released a two-sided flyer that was distributed throughout campus, which they referred to as a sedition. One side showed an illustration of a wide-smiled, spitting human in uniform with a ribbon stating “UPS Security Services.” The other side was a note on Security Services.

Incite Newsroom describes itself on its Facebook page as “a print and social media newsroom aimed at bringing action towards liberating and ending racism on campus.” It is a group of students taking seriously the University of Puget Sound’s social and economic injustice.

The anonymous author of the Sep. 30th flyer stated that they are a graduating senior and a member of color. They prefaced the note saying they had “bothered these experiences up for the last four years, unable to find an appropriate outlet for conversation due to the silencing and marginalization on this campus.”

The note ended with a potential solution, suggesting that Security Services hold an open dialogue with students of color on campus, and rethink the role of security services before I got outside of the car.”

The Trail reached out to Incite for further details about the situation; however, they declined to comment.

Badham explained that officers have gone through training on diversity-related issues. "To August this summer," all the staff went through Cultural Competency training that Michael Benitez did. Then in July, we went through Gender and Identity Training. All of our staff, I feel, are really current on these issues as part of the staff training. We're actually defined what a suspicious person is now, as to help define for our staff."

The definition Badham provided of a suspicious person, vehicle, or item is as follows: "Someone whose actions, behavior, placement or anything about the situation; however, they declined to comment.

Incite makes accusations of racial profiling that it’s anonymous, really I still can’t. Badham said. "I want to be as responsive as I can be, particularly to students, because they are the main reason we’re here."

At 1:24 p.m. the same day, Incite Newsroom posted an image on Facebook page the following updates: "1) Security has been questioning students with flyers about Incite. Asking for names and other personal information. One student reported to us that security asked them if the Incite distributors were being threatening or causing harm. Interesting."

Despite Cultural Competency training and this explicit definition for a suspicious person, biases of individual members of Security Services can create situations like the one told in Incite. Badham stated: "Recognizing that it’s a difficult job, and if there’s a slip up or an issue or things don’t go the way we want, then we want to take care of it. If it’s not the police, we have no interest in being seen that way."

Students that believe they have experienced harassment by security should report it immediately after the incident, he noted. "I don’t know harassment reporting officers. These resources include: Dean of Diversity and Inclusion Michael Benitez, Dean of Students Mike Segura and Assistant Dean of Students Sarah Sluice to name a few. More resources for reporting are available at pugetsound.edu under Human Resources."
New interfaith calendar seeks to increase awareness

By Keely Coxwell

In the past, the University has had trouble acknowledging the dates of non-Christian holidays. "Last year, one of the fireside dinners was on Yom Kippur, which is a Jewish fasting holiday," Senior Jane Sadetsky, president of the Interfaith Campus Ministry, said. "Pierce lectures, interfaith dinners and Repertory Dance Group (RDG) have all been scheduled on religious observances."

The majority of these incidents have fallen on non-Christian holidays. This is a result of a lack of awareness and the nature of the Western calendar. "Even though we are a predominantly secular institution, like almost everything in American culture, we are still tied to a Christian Christian calendar," said University Chaplain and director of Spiritual Life & Civic Engagement Dave Wright. "Because of that rarely is any issue with campus events overlapping with major Christian holidays."

"Because the major Jewish holidays often don't always fall on Sunday, there have been some issues," Wright said.

In attempt to try to prevent this from happening in the future, Wright has created a list of major spiritual observances. A campus-wide email was sent out with the list, and it is on the Puget Sound website as well. "This list shows the major holidays, which ones affect Puget Sound most directly in terms of our demographics and which ones are important enough for accommodation," Wright said. "On Tuesday we had a lot of students who were fasting for Ramadan. When we have an observance that's important to some people, then we will accommodate."
Speak Out Loud creates space for discussion, education

By Aidan Regan

The conclusion of the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound’s senate election on Wednesday, Oct. 6 featured only eight candidates, four of whom ran for the same position of freshman senator. This follows a series of resignations from the senator position and continues the pattern of low turnouts among candidates who run for Senate.

Senior Class Senator Kyle Chong expressed his concerns over the issue. Chong believes that a factor keeping students away from running is time and effort.

A senator is required to hold two cafe hours a week, sit on committees and work on projects. Chong said that this work add up to at least eight hours a week and most senators easily exceed that.

Chong himself belongs to multiple committees to make up for the lack of senators and carries the added responsibility of serving a 15-month term, instead of the normal 6- or 12-month term. This is due to the fact that once the new senior senator is elected, the former senator serves as freshman senator until graduation.

“Being a senator is not just about saying yes or no. You’re not elected to say yes and no. You’re elected to say yes and no, because...” Chong said.

Unlike members of the executive team, Senators are not paid for their work. Chong’s senate project for this semester is working on making the role of senator a paid position.

“[The executive office team of ASUPS] puts in so much good time and work. But, I also think that our senators put in a lot of good time and work into ASUPS. So I think I have my obvious question is ‘why can’t we pay our senators?’ Chong said. “They do so much for this campus.”

This is an issue that Chong has been very passionate about. “I’ve always felt that paying senators means that we are getting the best people. And it means that being a senator is not a privileged position. Because right now, to be a senator, you have to be able to give up eight to ten hours a week, unpaid, which is money that some people need to be at this very expensive institution. It makes senate a place that is ideologically narrow because people from the same socioeconomic situation are being elected,” Chong said.

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Some members have been serving partial terms or have been appointed. These members were not elected by the student body.

“I’m not supporting this project because I want to be paid...I was lucky enough not to have to be paid for this work. There are so many people who come from different backgrounds who need the money. But it’s not just about the money. Senator pay does so much for the community,” Chong said.

Chong’s concerns for the future of the Senate lie at the heart of his motivation for enabling Senate pay.

“We need major change in the ASUPS senate or else problems like this will keep happening where people either feel like they can’t run for ASUPS. Or feel like ASUPS isn’t worth running for,” Chong said.

ASUPS Vice President Lydia Bauer stated that a lack of interest in running for senate has made it difficult to conduct business.

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Colombians, citing anger at amnesty granted to former militants, narrowly voted to reject the 52-year-long conflict with FARC, a left-wing militia group. Colombians voted by a margin of 98% to 2% against implementing the European Union’s mandated quotas for accepting refugees (though the results were thrown out due to low voter turnout). Both of these referendums raise serious question about the policymaking process, as well as the virtue of representative democracy. Referendums, which are general votes by the electorate on a single political issue, have become increasingly popular in recent years, as evidenced by this summer’s Brexit referendum. So why have referendums become so popular and why don’t we use them in the United States?

Referendums are simple, straightforward and above all, extremely democratic. They are forced on the people to vote directly on issues that affect them and cut out the middle-man of the elected. It may have made sense in the 19th century to send delegates to vote when elections could take months. However, now that we have cell phones and the internet to speed up this process, shouldn’t we cut the outdated institutions out of legislatures? We must ask ourselves, was representative democracy chosen simply because of the infrafeasibility of direct democracy? Or was it chosen as the possible system of government? I would argue the latter. Even if ordinary citizens did want to take the time to vote on every legislative decision, the simple truth is people do not have the incentive or resources to study policy at the complex level required to make good decisions about nuanced issues.

This is the reason that the Brexit Referendum, which should have been a discussion about the costs and benefits of European Union, became a vitriolic shouting match between two diametrically opposed sides. What was a debate about a trade deal actually resulted in the assassination of one Pro-E.U. Member of Parliament. In order for Britain to have made an informed decision about E.U. membership, there needed to be an in-depth and economically-focused discussion about Britain’s time as a member of the union. However, it was ridiculous to assume that the majority of ordinary British citizens would spend time reading economics papers and poring over GDP data. This is especially true when you consider that both the “Leave” and “Remain” campaigns produced catchy advertisements and slogans. I am not arguing that the public can’t understand nuanced policy. Rather, there is no incentive for the public to take the time for this. Voter turnout is notoriously low in referendums; in both the Colombian and Hungarian referendums, turnout was less than 50%. Though the level of discourse in legislative bodies isn’t always as high-caliber as we would like it to be, I would argue that a small, limited group of people, whose only job is to discuss policy and who have a dedicated staff to help them, are more likely to take this time than a busy public.

An additional problem arises from the inherent majoritarianism of referendums. Referendums allow important decisions to be made by 50% and often unrepresentative majorities. The Colombian referendum failed by just 0.42 points (of 37.44% of the public), meaning that violence could continue because of just half a percentage point of people. Similarly, in the Brexit “Leave” supporters in England and Wales were able to easily outvote the “Remain” supporters of London, Scotland and Northern Ireland. This means that certain parts of the country are being forced out of the E.U. despite an overwhelming opposition. The results have even led to serious discussions about Northern Ireland and Scotland leaving the United Kingdom. Referendums encourage Tyranny of the Majority. They allow small groups to determine the fate of even smaller groups, which intensifies divisions within societies. Tyranny of the Majority is still possible in legislatives systems, but it’s much less likely. Legislatures, at least in theory, bring together a wide group of people who represent a wide group of interests. They are forced to work together and make compromises.

While some legislatures do this better than others, we tend to be more congenial than referendums. So if referendums are such a bad idea, why have they become so popular? Since 2008, people have become increasingly frustrated with traditional democratic institutions. They feel that these institutions are not representative of their needs and do not work for them. Referendums are an easy way for politicians to make people feel like their voices are heard.

Instead of introducing referendums in the United States, I believe we should reform our pre-existing institutions. We need to make our electoral system more representative by trying to end part-the-post voting, and abolishing the electoral college. We should also curtail the influence of money in politics by overturning Citizens United and publicly financed campaigns. We should also devolve more power to local government so the public can become closely involved in the political system.

Most importantly, we the citizens must not wait for the government to fix our pre-existing institutions. As President of the fraternity, I am not attempting to silence the opinion of individual brothers in the chapter. However, we realize that wearing these shirts could be viewed as representing the collective opinions of our chapter, the Puget Sound Fraternity and Sorority community and/or Phi Delta Theta International Fraternity. Instead, I am only attempting to have these shirts to respect the Puget Sound community and those who have experienced discomfort with our shirts.

Sincerely,
Andrew Dunn
President of Washington Delta Phi Delta Theta

On October 3, Colombians & Hungarians went to the polls.

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Syrian refugees strike at a train station in Budapest, Hungary on Sept. 3, 2015. Hungary alone received 177,130 applications for asylum from Syrians by the end of Dec. 2015. If the European Union had thrown out these的应用 low voter turnout, Hungary would have rejected the E.U.’s migrant quota, limiting the amount of refugees allowed into the country.
Obama’s last stand for Planned Parenthood

By Emma Holmes

Through all the tumultuous drama of election season, it’s easy to be distracted by the theatrics of the presidential candidates and miss what’s happening with our current president, who is still very much exercising his power. Last month, the Obama administration proposed a rule that could protect funding of Planned Parenthood. The opposition at the state and local level, and the heated debate.

President Obama’s proposed rule clarifies that funds must be allocated only on the capability of clinics to “effectively offer services”, rather than the type of service provided, as was previously enforced. This mandates that clinics of similar standing, both Planned Parenthood and otherwise, must receive the same allocation of funds. The rule’s 30 day comment period ended on October 7th, and will now proceed through the legislative process.

Previously, politically conservative state and local governments were able to funnel federal grants to non-Planned Parenthood clinics, and nearly cut off federal funding of preventative screenings, exams, and contraceptives that serve low-income women at those locations. Unsurprisingly, there has been a backlash against the legislation both from Pro-life activists and those who believe this rule over-reaches into state’s rights.

In fact, most the coverage that’s accessible online is from liberal or conservative news sources, making it nearly impossible to find an unbiased overview of the proposed rule and its implications. The lack of coverage from main media is confounding, but serves as a testament to the extremely charged nature of this debate.

Planned Parenthood has certainly held its place in the race for Presidency, as Hillary Clinton advocates for the services it offers while Donald Trump has stated he will attempt to completely defund Planned Parenthood if elected. Perhaps it’s this tittering future that has motivated President Obama to take a strong stand for Planned Parenthood in his last months of office, as he ends two terms of advocating for women’s reproductive rights. At any rate, the debate will doubtlessly continue, despite the potentially solidified funding of affordable reproductive care in our nation.

Family and body image

By Nayla Lee

At a recent family gathering I attended, everyone got all dressed up for a fancy meal. When I told my aunt I liked her outfit, she replied with a stream of opposition: “it makes my arms look fat,” “but my hair is so frizzy,” “I’m too old to be wearing something like this.” Not for the first time, I noticed that I often treated like second nature for people, especially women, to counter compliments with a list of flaws. I looked at my cousin, the wrinkling her dress between her fingers, and imagined her mother’s words coming out of her mouth.

We model our behavior after the people we respect most. At a young age, for many, that includes their parents. Witnessing the same narrative over and over among the women and men that are close to me has shaped the way I interact with praise, humility, and my own body image.

There’s no question that young women especially are bombarded by advertisements and messages telling them how to look. Consequently, many, if not all, women, feel like they are not good enough. This is important to consider that parents and other family members can either add to those messages or counteract them.

I met with two of the leaders of WIXEN, Junior Hannah House and Sophomore Fiona Gredev, to hear some of their personal stories and consider the wider experiences shared by the club’s members. WIXEN (Women’s IntereXtionalism, Empowerment, and Narratives) is a club on campus in which female and feminine-identifying people meet to discuss and confidentially share their experiences about a predetermined topic. Past conversations have been centered around Bodies and Parents, two focal points of my curiosity.

In our discussions of our own experiences, Hannah, Fiona and I commented on both the empowering and the harmful examples set by the adults in our lives. Fiona mentioned the way her mother blazed the trail for her, saying, “I remember when I was little, noticing that [my mom] didn’t shave...When I stopped shaving, it was like, my mom does that, it’s not that weird.” I feel like all the women around me are constantly trying to lose weight, and while my mom has never specifically been like, ‘I’m so fat,’ she was always trying to lose weight and then trying to make us lose weight all the time...so then your whole family is kind of affected by it,” Hannah said.

When I asked her, she remembered it starting, she paused before saying, “As long as I can remember.” Sometimes actions speak louder than words; although often unspoken, the pressure to conform to a glorified standard can be insidious and destructive.

The possible effects on mental health are numerous. Eating disorders, body dysmorphia (an obsessive preoccupation with perceived defects or flaws in appearance) and steroid use. These are extreme and dangerous ways individuals can fixate on contorting their bodies into a learned ideal.

It’s scary to think that we, too, might be the ones perpetuating these standards. Our words set the example for the way our friends and family speak about us, and themselves. When compliments are rejected and shame is mistaken for humility, we are telling the world and ourselves that this is, and should be, the norm.

If you’re struggling with body image concerns, consider scheduling a counseling visit with CHWS. If you’re interested in discussing issues like this, consider attending a WIXEN meeting in the SDC from 6-7 on Monday evenings.

Know the difference: Vaginal health concerns

By Emma Holmes

UTI/urinary tract infection
—main symptom is painful, burning urination
—very common
—often caused by not washing after sex, rough or very frequent sex
—usually treatable with antibiotics, but if untreated can become dangerous

vaginitis
—generic term for irritation/inflammation of the vagina, encompassing many types
—can include itching, pain, unusual discharge

yeast infection
—caused by an overgrowth of naturally occurring yeast (usually Candida albicans) in the vagina, usually due to bacterial imbalance or excessive moisture that allows yeast to propagate
—manifests as itching in vaginal area, burning during urination or sex, and thick discharge
—treatable with over-the-counter or prescription antifungal medication

bacterial vaginosis
—caused by an imbalance of naturally occurring bacteria in the vagina
—very common
—often occurs after sexual contact with a new partner, but not considered an STI
—can include pain, foul odor, unusual discharge, and itching, along with general symptoms of bodily infection such as fever and chills
—may also not have any symptoms
—treatable with prescription antibiotics

vaginismus
—involuntary vaginal muscle spasms that may make any kind of insertion difficult and/or painful
—ranges from mild to severe
—can be physical or can be psychosomatic (in the case of trauma, for example), or may have no discernable cause
—often linked to stress and anxiety
—common in post-menopausal individuals

Information from the CDC, NIH, and Mayo Clinic
Sigma Chi brings Cultural Competency Program to chapter

By Madeline Brown and Molly Wampler

‘The Sigma Chi fraternity at Puget Sound has been making efforts this year to educate its chapter on diversity issues. The efforts follow reports of an anti-Semitic joke allegedly made by a small group of brothers in the house. The allegation led to an official investigation by the university and a temporary mandatory suspension, a Jan. 27, 2016 email from the University shortly following the incident explained.

“The incident that initiated this process was a conversation that was insensitive and hurtful. The investigation determined that the comments arose from a well-known commercial card game, were not motivated by hate, and were not meant to target any particular person or community,” a follow-up campus email from March 10, 2016 explained.

“As a result of broad ranging discussions conducted during the course of the investigation, the campus chapter will seek to educate its members on issues of social justice,” the March email read. As part of the mediation agreements with administration following the investigation, the fraternity designed the Cultural Competency Program, explained Sigma Chi President Matty Specht. The program was designed to account for the brothers’ varying levels of consciousness with regards to diversity issues, clarified Specht and Tyson West, Chairman of the Puget Sound chapter of Sigma Chi’s Diversity Committee.

The basis of the program is a three-part, discussion-based workshop to educate their members on diversity and inclusion. “[This program] is mainly for educating the brothers themselves,” said West.

“When you’re approaching the topic of diversity or inclusion, it’s such a broad topic—whether you’re talking about religion, race, socioeconomic background…the easiest way to handle it is to look at the specific group of people and talk about specifically what the needs are for our small community,” said Specht.

The campus email from March noted the importance of connecting these lessons to the rest of our university. “However, as is the case with the larger Puget Sound community, there is cultural competency work to be done towards reducing bias in our university community,” it reads.

Puget Sound student Maxwell Hauer appreciates the intention of the program, but feels it may have fallen short. “It’s great to put in these efforts within their own community. But Sigma Chi is also a part of the broader UPS community, and they caused a lot of hurt within it. They need to make amends with the Jewish students of this campus. I have yet to see that happen."

Specht and West both mentioned the possibility of working with Hillel, Puget Sound’s organization for Jewish campus life, to coordinate discussions and/or an event with them, but there are no set plans at the moment between the two organizations.

Sigma Chi leadership is also emphasizing the importance of informal dialogue among brothers, as a way of creating a space more open to communication about humor, diversity, and inclusion. They are also trying to get everyone to the same level of understanding about when certain humor is appropriate, and how to proceed when confronted with something that makes them uncomfortable, Specht and West shared. “The reason to... make sure everyone is involved is so people who are more offended by crass humor can express the way that they would like people to have conversations with them, and so if there ever is a misunderstanding where someone hears someone’s words and misinterprets them, we as a community can just talk about it,” Specht said.

Specht hopes this program will spark further discussion outside of the three workshops. “The goal of this program is to also encourage people to continue to have those conversations whether it’s inside of a workshop or outside of a workshop,” Specht expressed.

This program is bringing in CICE and Student Diversity Center representatives as moderators and educators, Specht and West explained. The future of the program is still yet to be determined, Specht and West both agreed. The program is planned for continuation through the current school year, and could be annual depending on its effects. “This isn’t a one-time event, we’re breaking it up into different segments and possibly even doing it again and changing it based on our feedback,” Specht said. Specht also explained in an email to the Trail that the program may be replicated for other on campus groups.

Specht acknowledges that the continuation of the program and all discussions about diversity are crucial to the not only the chapter, but the campus community and beyond. “Because, like so many other things, diversity isn’t just a training you have to be certified in. It’s a lifelong learning discussion.”

Last week on campus:

“Singing the Poetry of Paul Laurence Dunbar”

“Transforming Pain into Progress: A Night with Shalisa Hayes”

Minntia Daniel-Cox performs in the Kilworth Memorial Chapel on October 6th.

Shalisa Hayes speaks in the Wheelock Student Center Rotunda on October 6th.
The Dogs of Puget Sound
By Charlotte Fron

Dogs have become a part of the University of Puget Sound community, bringing smiles across campus as they run through Todd Field or roll around near the S.U.B. Faculty, student, and Tacoma families walk their dogs on the beautiful campus.

Politics and Government Professor David Sousa enjoys walking his two yellow labs, Buckley and Colbie, around campus in the evenings. Sousa likes the park-like setting of the campus, and says it’s especially relaxing at night. When asked why he brings his dogs to campus, Sousa said, “It makes students happy, it makes us happy, and it’s close by.”

Several dogs live on campus. Twenty-three pound French Bulldog, Winston, lives with sophomore Elly French in Schiff Hall. Winston is French’s emotional support animal, acting as her grounding mechanism. “He makes me smile. He gets me out of my room and we go on walks,” said French. French and Winston share their connection with the community. “When you see a French Bulldog, it’s pure personality just from the face. He’s always off-leash and runs up to people. He puts a smile on anyone’s face. I think he helps more people than just me,” French said. Just like any University of Puget Sound dog, Winston brings community members happiness and relaxation. “If you hold him, pet him, play with him, he releases a lot of stress,” French said.

Emaleigh Curl, a sophomore living in an on-campus house, walks her six-month-old Husky Australian Shepherd mix, Nova, around campus. She likes the attention Nova gets from students: “everyone’s really friendly towards her, which makes it easy for her to socialize.” Curl’s friend, Ellis Whinery, added that Nova “helps get people in a good mood. Having some companionship and love, even from an animal, is always good.”

Two students have created a powerful social media page, Dogs of Puget Sound, which shares pictures of dogs found on campus. Senior Alana Yang and junior Edrick Wang started the Instagram and Facebook pages in May 2015. “We just got really bored during our finals week and we tried to do everything except for homework. We started it as a joke, pretty soon after Gabe Newman started Humans of Puget Sound,” Yang said. “There’s also a lot of inspiration from [popular Facebook page] Humans of New York,” Wang added. The popularity of the account quickly skyrocketed, with the follower count approaching 1,400. Yang and Wang would like to reach 2,000 followers by Winter Break.

The photos are taken by anyone on campus, and are posted after they are directly-messaged to the Dogs of Puget Sound account on Instagram. “We get a lot of submissions, and we want to encourage [more],” Yang shared. The account has made students happy, because many miss their dogs from home. “I myself miss my dog so much, so when I see dogs on campus I want to hug them and pet them,” Wang said. Dogs on campus raise general morale, especially during finals week. “When finals week is very rough, it’s nice to have something to make you smile,” Yang said. Wang points out that dogs bring ‘overwhelming happiness’ and believes ‘golden retrievers are living hugs.’

Wang also comments on how easy it is to find dogs on campus: “when the sun comes out, our campus turns into a dog park.” The creators of the page also want the photos to help students access dogs; they post pictures of dogs in real-time with the dog’s location so that nearby people can quickly pet a dog, improving their mood. “It’s pretty well known now that if your dog shows up on the Instagram account, the chances are much higher that people are going to pet it,” Wang said. Yang describes the effect the social media account has on students: “seeing a dog on your Instagram just makes you really happy and it’s even cooler when you saw it ten minutes ago and now it’s on your Instagram,” Yang said.

The creators are looking for enthusiastic student interns to continue the Dogs of Puget Sound legacy when they graduate. Dogs of Puget Sound expect stickers for distribution in late October.

CHWS brings flu vaccine to campus
By Emma Brice

The fear of catching the infamous Puget Plague can now be appeased thanks to CHWS (Counseling, Health and Wellness Services). The flu shot formula has arrived on campus and is now available through early next year for students.

CHWS is a great resource on campus for students to seek any help they may need. “CHWS exists to serve the health needs of Puget Sound’s students so that they are more likely to be successful in their pursuits, whether it be academics or in activities outside the classroom,” Libby Baldwin, the nurse practitioner at CHWS said.

Every fall, CHWS stocks up on flu vaccines in an effort to alleviate some of the implications that flu season has on campus. Other immunizations are also available throughout the year such as Tetanus, Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Hepatitis. Testing for Tuberculosis exposure is offered as well.

“Widespread vaccination benefits the individual and the community as a whole, because influenza is so contagious and spreads rapidly anywhere people congregate – which is just about everywhere a college student lives, works, plays, and interacts on a daily basis,” Baldwin said.

During the first semester, students are especially susceptible to sickness because of the cold weather and increase in face-to-face interaction as compared to summertime. Getting the flu can be a process that interrupts life for more than a week, which is not ideal for a college student studying for midterms.

The person being vaccinated will be given an information sheet to read about influenza, and then will complete a short screening questionnaire and have their temperature taken to make sure they are a good candidate for getting the shot that day.” Baldwin said. CHWS is offering vaccinations for $25.00 compared to a local pharmacy ranging from $34.00 to $40.00.
Marlins pitcher Jose Fernandez gone too soon

By Will Keyse

On Sept, 26, 2016, the Major League baseball community mourned the passing of Miami Marlins pitcher Jose Fernandez. The news struck in the early hours of the morning when Fernandez’s boat “Kaught Looking” was found wrecked on a jetty off the coast of Miami’s South Beach.

The impact of Fernandez’s passing reaches far beyond just his family members and Marlins teammates. As a Cuban-American, Fernandez had acquired an enormous following within the large Cuban community in Miami. He was also very popular in Cuba.

Fernandez was born in Santa Clara, Cuba, and successfully defected to the United States when he was 16 years old—following two failed defection attempts. It is a tragic irony that the very body of water that led him to freedom and superstardom also led to his premature death.

Fernandez played high school baseball in the United States and was drafted by the Miami Marlins (formerly the Florida Marlins) in the 1st round of 2011. He was just 21-years-old—following two failed defection attempts. It is a tragic irony that the very body of water that led him to freedom and superstardom also led to his premature death.

Fernandez was called up to the major leagues in the 2013 season, the second youngest pitcher in the National League at the time, and went on to win the Rookie of the Year honors for his outstanding performance on the mound. In 2014, his season was cut short by an elbow injury; he was forced to undergo Tommy John surgery and would not pitch until the next season. In the 2016 season he was elected to the All-Star game and posted a 16-8 record, leading the NL with a record of 253 strikeouts, before the fateful night of his death.

Members from around the Puget Sound baseball community were shocked and deeply saddened by the loss of Fernandez. The pitcher was known as being one of the most energetic and positive players around the league, and was admired for both his skill and his character.

“Fernandez will not soon be forgotten,” said Scott Schwaab, a former teammate of Fernandez’s. “He was a true leader on and off the field. His loss will certainly be felt by the entire baseball community.”

Williams-Krebs Showing leadership in final year

By Emily Harman

The Puget Sound women’s soccer team is ranked #1 in the Northwest Conference (NWC). Unbeaten in conference play, the Loggers are tied with Pacific Lutheran University for the top position in the NWC. Senior Grayson Williams-Krebs (Lake Oswego, Oregon) hopes to lead the Loggers to their 15th consecutive conference win. As the team pushes forward into the playoffs, Williams-Krebs is leaving it all on the field.

“It’s my last year, and I am trusting the last 18 years of my training,” Williams-Krebs said. “I’m the player I am going to be, and it’s cool to just kind of showcase all of that last year.”

Williams-Krebs has the second most goals scored in the NWC and is one of the Loggers’ most effective offensive players. A natural leader during games, she is focused on being an active leader off the soccer field this season too.

“I want to take more of a leadership role this season so I can help the younger girls, and next year they can do it too,” she said.

As she looks to the future, Williams-Krebs is excited to explore options beyond school and soccer, which are things she says “have made up [her] entire life so far.”

“I think I want to work at a start-up,” she said. “Or do some type of volunteering, something where I can help people. I think my personal experiences and my sports experiences have helped me get to that point. I want to use my experiences to help other people, that’s really where I am.”

Williams-Krebs cites her time on the Logger soccer team as something that has helped her realize this passion.

“This year, being a senior and helping the other girls, I have felt like soccer has had the most meaning for me,” she said.

“This mentorship will be her legacy. Williams-Krebs hopes, what she has learned all about and the message she hopes to instill in her teammates before she graduates is that she is able to use my experiences to help other younger girls and I have been able to teach them that soccer is more than just kicking a ball around.”

“You are going to have lifelong friendships, you are going to learn to overcome adversity, you are going to know how to work under pressure,” she said. “All those life skills will translate when I step off the field for that last time.”

Ultimate Frisbee strongly connected to Northwest

By Kevin White

From September 29th to October 2nd, the best Ultimate Frisbee teams in the United States and Canada met in Rockford, Illinois to decide the National Club Championship. While Boston-based teams ended up sweeping the titles across all divisions (men’s, women’s, and mixed), the Pacific Northwest played an important role in the tournament.

Seattle, Portland and Vancouver all had big teams represented at Club Nationals. Senior captains for both Puget Sound Ultimate Frisbee teams, the Postmen and Clearcut, played on the Pacific Northwest teams.

Senior Rob Korbel (Denver, Colorado) played for the Portland Rhino. They lost in the regional semifinals, just missing a trip to the national championships. Senior Eli Kalsencher (Portland, Oregon) played for the Portland Schwa, who beat their biggest rival on double game point (sudden death, when the next point wins) to clinch a spot at Club Nationals.

Portland Schwa faced an uphill climb to get to nationals, and they did it the hard way. According to Kalsencher, Schwa was an incredibly young team with an average age of 24, compared to their competitors’ average age of around 30.

In the end, despite a “Cinderella-story” run to get to Rockford, Schwa ended up finishing last in the women’s division. However, Kalsencher liked what they were seeing from her team. “It was a really great experience for us... at nationals, [all of our hard work over the summer] finally all came together and worked.”

Next year, Kalsencher expects Schwa to improve on their showing. “Both Korbel and Kalenscher plan on using their club experience to help lead the Postmen and Clearcut to victory. Clearcut is coming off a great season, finishing third at Division III College Nationals, while the Postmen finished third in regionals. Kalenscher expects to draw on her experience as both a teaching tool and a personal well of encouragement: “playing club has helped me a lot [to know] different things that I can help our new players with... playing those top teams at nationals, it’s helped me grow as a player a lot as well.”

Korbel shares similar sentiments on both his personal experience with the club as well as his expectations for the ultimate frisbee season. “Playing club challenged me to be a better player both physically and mentally. This year we expect to win.”

While everyone under their belts, the senior captains of Clearcut and the Postmen plan to lead their respective teams to victory. The journey starts the weekend of October 8th, when both teams go down to Corvallis, Oregon for the Beaver Brawl tournament.
Rugby creates family atmosphere

By Ally Benko

There are many club teams that the University of Puget Sound has available for students who are looking to play sports outside of the varsity level. One of these club teams is rugby. The teams play both semesters; their season ranges from late October to February. Both teams started recruiting at Logjam (which was on September 2) but did not start practicing until later in September.

A junior co-captain of the men’s team, Max Coleman, said that recruiting “really depends on the freshman class, usually... and how many first-year or even second-year students come out.”

Both teams encourage any student to come out and play rugby. They will not turn anyone away, even if there is no experience at all in the sport. The respective captains, Coleman and Senior Katie Riechardt, stress this point, because they want to continue the inviting environment they became a part of back when they were first-year students themselves.

A first-year student, Aaron Stahr, joined rugby this year “for the excitement of a new experience.” He had never played before but decided to join after seeing the booth at Logjam.

Club sports are all student-led, meaning that a few of the players from each club team are all on an executive board. The president, vice president and captain are all part of this board.

The board gives the club players a say in who their coach is, where they play and how they spend the money Associated Students of Puget Sound (ASUPS) gives them each year. For McKay, the board also helps to “foster a great community and family dynamic. Clubs are the first thing that a freshman talks about on campus so we try to offer a welcoming community for them and new players of any age.”

McKay also pointed out how “at the end of every practice both the men and women’s teams yell ‘Family!’ to remind each other why we play rugby.” The teams usually practice at the same time, sharing Lower Baker in their nighttime practices.

Neither team has had an official game yet, but they will be playing later in October. The women’s team will play at Whitman University while the men’s team will play at Seattle University.

Campus mourns passing of Ed Boitano

By Gabi Marrese

The Puget Sound community was saddened by the loss of athletic faculty Ed Boitano. Boitano was a longtime track and field and cross country assistant coach. This year would have been his fourth year working with cross country and his 21st year involved in coaching athletics here at Puget Sound.

"Ed was a valued member of our athletic department for over two decades," Puget Sound Director of Athletics Amy Tedesco said.

Ed for helping out, I really appreciate all you do for the program and for me.” He goes, “Hey, I’m here for you, whatever you need, you let me know. That’s the relationship we had together.”

Boitano was there for the athletes on the team in both the coaching aspect and as a support network. During nationals, he traveled with the athletes whether they were distance runners, sprinters or even decathlon participants.

“Whenever I needed something to pick me up, Ed was there encouraging me to focus on the next thing and look at the positive. He was more than a coach, he was a friend,” sophomore Liam Monaghan said.

Ed was a central figure in the Puget Sound Athletics community, and the absence of his warmth will be noted. “We are going to miss his everyday presence making kids feel relaxed and appreciated,” Orecchia said. “You just can’t replace a person like that.”

Photos Credit: Max Coleman
Relationship defies definition: Love in the Post-Label Era

In an underground yet strikingly influential movement, young adults across college campuses have begun abandoning relationship labels and moving into a complex and fluid experiment in modern love. These trailblazing individuals have been constructing kinships that transcend definition, which exist almost entirely in the gray area between exclusivity and "just a fun time." Humphrey and Andy Loper, who have been engaged in an on-again, off-again, relationship-but-like-not-really for over a year, have been at it for a while. "The two met after they hooked up at a Halloween party, and according to Humphrey, "it was emotionally ambiguous attachment at first sight." Though conceptually foreign to most of the public, Loper argues that the rules of their arrangement are actually quite simple. "It's best not to explicitly clarify what exactly is going on," he explained. "Our relationship transcends the very definition of relationship; we believe that to place a label on the situation would stifle the fluidity and general sense of confusion that surrounds each interaction."

Romantic relationships have long been fraught with the miscommunications that inevitably arise when people with differing ways of thinking try to interact with one another. Yet this groundbreaking group of students and young adults are approaching a solution by declining to directly communicate at all. Loper and Humphrey's experience provides a shining example. Humphrey recalls that, after their initial encounter, she promptly forgot about Loper's existence until she received a text, which read "sup," intrigued her so much that she immediately set out to discover the identity of her suitor. Loper, for his part, was equally intrigued by Humphrey's reply of "new fone who dis." The rest, of course, is history. The pair attribute their success to their ability to individually interpret the relationship as they wish, without having to consult the other. In this way, their bond becomes multi-dimensional, breaking the boundaries of a singular definition into simultaneous, conflicting definitions.

"We're so much on the same page that we don't need a page at all," Loper said. "As a matter of fact, I think we've begun to communicate telepathically." Humphrey did not explicitly express her agreement, instead merely flashing her eyes in an uninterpretable yet significant manner towards her co-theorist.

The pair have subsequently become strong advocates for this relationship model, encouraging others to leave behind their comfortably defined partnerships and to venture forth into the emotional fog of kind-of-more-than-friends. They argue that such experiences are essential for the self-discovery process, and that experimental adventures with (sort of) significant others helps to instigate the formation of a stable identity.

For the stubborn skeptic, Humphrey maintains that there is no harm in trying it out at least once. "Besides," Humphrey said, "if you get yourself into a really emotionally murky situation, you can always use it as fodder for your avant-garde screenplay later on."

LIBERAL STUDENTS FEIGN IGNORANCE ABOUT CHRISTIANITY

By Pagliaccio

An impromptu dialogue sparked today on the second floor of Wyatt Hall. In a routine discussion of the day's reading in English 331, the conversation shifted to religion. The students discussed William Butler Yeats' famous poem "The Two Trees." The poem, a 1893 classic, contrasts the description of two very different trees.

Jose Hankins describes what happened as "really spontaneous. I just said I'm not like, religious, or anything but that the poem might be about the Tree of Knowledge and the Tree of Life. You know, like in the Bible. Genesis? I don't know, I never went to church." He augmented his ground-shattering words with dismissive hand gestures. Hankins' colleague, Mara Garfield, corroborated his point.

"You can see that the first stanza is filled with nature imagery that emphasize growth and new life. This parallels the Tree of Life, the perfect state of humanity which gave life to the world. It's all a myth, though. I always went to public school, I really am clueless about this whole, what do you call it? Christianity thing."

Another classmate, Sarah Ferrin, grew up in the same neighborhood as Garfield.

"Yeah we did First Communion together," Ferrin said. "Not really sure what Mara is talking about. Good for her, I guess."

In an Introduction to World Religion class just down the hallway, Professor Berne asked students to describe their own definition of religion in a written assignment. One student wrote on their paper "I don't know what that is. That's just how progressive I am." Another student wrote "I went to Christmas Mass once. But I don't like to shove that down people's throats."

Another student in 331 closed the conversation up, saying "the rhyme scheme is Richard Dawkins Richard Dawkins, illustrating the rich Richard Dawkins and tone."
A brief guide to WA haunted houses

By Georgia Diamond Gustavson

It’s the best time of year for thrill seekers, deviants, and anyone who wants to test their bravery. When Halloween comes around, haunted houses are one of the most elaborate and memorable ways to experience October. Not only is it thrilling, but the great amount of talent and unrestrained creativity that can come from the production of a haunted house event makes them a worthy holiday treat. Here’s some of the best frights in the Seattle/Tacoma area this month.

FRIGHOUSE STATION — Tacoma

Located right in the basement of Frighouse Square, Frighouse Station is a classic low-tech haunted house attraction. It’s the perfect way to get scared. The attraction is a haunted house event attended by the ears of the dog. The house’s mission is to educate women in the art of service animals and also provide a place where people can come and meet other dog lovers. Owners laughed at the pet store that when we arrived at Kandle Park on Saturday, Oct. 1st for Dogtoberfest, a festival put on by the Soundview Veterinary Hospital.

Dogs played with one another as well as with the dog groomers from the Pet Partnership, who were advertising the Dog Rescue Around Washington, that brought some dogs to be adopted by people at the event.

"My Morbid Mind" — Lacey

If you want the most extreme, deliciously harrowing October experience around, look deep within yourself, and ask “Am I really ready for Hell’s Gateway?”, Tacoma’s high-tech, non-commercial haunted house (the first of its kind in Washington) has two unique alternatives to the classic haunt experience. The first, ‘Dark Nightmare’, is a timed complete blackout event where customers stumble to collect clues with only a personal glowstick for light. The second alternative is called ‘Real Fear Torture Chamber,’ and sounds like its name is legitimate. This extremely interactive 1-1.5 hour experience only allows those over 18 to enter after they sign and fingerprint a waiver. Participants must also sign up for an allotted time slot for their group, so expect to feel very isolated from others. There is a safe word for the chamber, but even so, entering should not be taken lightly. As their website says, don’t wear your Sunday best.

Dogtoberfest: good for the community, great for dog lovers

By Parker Barry

The annual Dogtoberfest provides a place where people can come and watch dogs play around as well as get educated about various dog-related programs in the area. It was overcast and windy, but even so, entering should not be taken lightly. As their website says, don’t wear your Sunday best.

Harvest — Seattle (21+)

If you are able to have some wine with your blood, Seattle Immersive Theater has decided to ramp up the average party experience to a new level of twisted debauchery. Seattle’s largest immersive haunted experience, directed by Ali el-Gasseir and designed by award-winning Scenic Designer Paul Thomas, “evolves from elegant to sinister,” according to the event’s website, as guests are free to wander at their own risk.

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Here’s a quick look at some of the events going on for the rest of the month:

October at Puget Sound is full of interesting lectures covering a wide range of topics. Right after Fall Break is a perfect time to jump in and broaden your learning horizons.

Upcoming October events

**Revolt She Said, Revolt Again**

*By Courtney Seyl*

“Revolutionize. Transform. Revolt. You are not to do as you are told. Revolt. She said. Revolt again. A wicked and frank education in contemporary feminism, language, and gender politics, Alice Birch’s patriarchy-smashing absurdist play is anything but well behaved and like nothing you’ve ever seen onstage. Intersecting and interconnected vignettes turn the dominant male paradigm on its head.” (Washington Ensemble Theatre Website)

What does it mean to be a woman in today’s society? This is the question Alice Birch’s play Revolt, She Said, Revolt Again poses throughout its 70-minute run at the 12th Avenue Arts Center. Produced by the Washington Ensemble Theatre and directed by Bobbin Ramsey, Revolt was a show that was “a bit of a fluke” according to actor and artistic director Samie Detzer. “Getting the rights to Revolt was actually a bit of a fluke. We had been in the works to obtain the rights to another play with strong feminist themes. We happened to lose those rights while I was in New York, and meeting with an agent who suggested I take a look at Revolt. When I read it I absolutely fell in love and sent it to the rest of the company because we choose plays by consensus, and then I called out director Bobbin Ramsey and told her that I wanted her to direct it.”

The show also served as a way of responding to the female talent in Seattle. “It was amazingly fun to get into a room and spend so much time talking about things I spend my life thinking about. It was liberating to be in a room run by women, where we were the de facto experts,” Detzer said.

The show itself dealt with themes of marriage, rape, pregnancy, sexuality, sex, and women in the workplace. It covered these variety of topics through a series of nonlinear vignettes. The actors never left the sight of the audience as the dressing rooms were on either side of the stage. However, they always appeared in character and the energy they had was consistent throughout the performance.

Detzer also explained the vulnerability of performing a show like Revolt. “Sharing this play for the first time was a bit scary, a bit vulnerable. The actors never left the sight of the audience through the performance. Detzer also explained the vulnerability of performing a show like Revolt. "Sharing this play for the first time was a bit scary, a bit vulnerable. It's impossible not to put yourself into these characters, into this play, and so the first time we had people watching us do it was a bit unnerving."

The play also brought in a surprisingly varied audience, according to Detzer. “We have a relatively young audience here. But this show, despite being non-linear and a bit absurd, resonated with a wide variety of people. It draws people in. Gets them excited. It’s not like other plays, and audiences seem hungry for that.”

Revolt, She Said, Revolt Again ended its run on October 10th, but Seattle is never short on theatrical experiences.

“Go see everything at On the Boards. Go see Sarah Porkalob’s shows. Go see The Hollow Sessions. Go see Justin Bond at Teatro Zinzanni. Go see Adore Delano at Neumos. Go see VigiTous at Seattle Rep,” Detzer said.

Detzer says Washington Ensemble Theatre is also working on their next project: “Our next show at WET is Every Five Minutes by Linda McLean. It’s an enigmatic and circular story about trauma and recovery directed by Ryan Purcell. After that we have Chekhov’s Doll’s House, part classic, part drag, all wild! This is a feminist deconstruction of Ibsen’s classic play by Stranger Genius award winner Cherdonna Shinatra and Ali el Gassier. I will be acting in Doll’s House.”

Upcoming October events

*By Anya Otterson*

Right after Fall Break is a perfect time to jump in and broaden your learning horizons. October at Puget Sound is full of interesting lectures covering a wide range of topics. Here’s a quick look at some of the events going on for the rest of the month:

**What:** “Timeless Music and a Timeless Disease: Classical Composers and Consumption”

“An interdisciplinary lecture-recital that explores the cultural links between music and tuberculosis (TB) while also increasing awareness of TB’s threat to global public health.”

*Who:* Yolande Chan and Mary Perkinson

*When/where:* Oct. 19, 5 p.m., School of Music, Room L6

**What:** “Religious Freedom, Executive Power, and the Supreme Court”

*Who:* Noel J. Francisco

*When/where:* Oct. 24, 5 p.m., Trimble Forum

**What:** “The Year Feminism Won: The 2016 Election in Perspective”

“She will be discussing how gender has played a very central role in the 2016 Presidential Election.”

*Who:* Nancy Cohen

*When/where:* Oct. 25, 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m., Kilworth Memorial Chapel

**What:** “Words in Dust and Literary Fireworks: Contemporary Chinese Book Arts”

“The presentation will consider a wide variety of works produced by contemporary Chinese book artists, the paradigms they push against, and the powerful global messages their artworks convey.”

*Who:* Amanda Clark

*When/where:* Oct. 24, All Day, Collins Memorial Library, Room 020

For the rest of the lecture schedule and other events, check out the Events Calendar on pugetsound.edu or the Eventi app.