Incident in Bookstore Sparks Investigation

By Casey O’Brien

On February 17th, Omar Wandera of Leadership Public Schools and a group of his students came to visit the University of Puget Sound. Their account of their experiences here launched a month-long investigation which just came to a close at the end of March.

Mr. Wandera reported experiencing “micro-aggressions” on campus, according to his account. Wandera stated that this came from both students and staff of the university’s bookstore. Puget Sound students, he reported, gave his students rude looks and made comments towards them. He wrote in a Facebook post that was shared in the Tacoma Action Collective, a local activist Facebook group, and throughout student groups at the University. For the students, this had a very uncomfortable stay at the university. We experienced several incidents of overt racism by students and staff while we were there. There were the subtleties of the looks our students received as we walked around campus; that made many of them feel uncomfortable, and several of our students overhead Puget Sound students saying ‘get this trash out of here’ and making other disparaging remarks when hearing our students speak in Spanish.

Wandera also reported racism from staff at the university’s bookstore, stating that bookstore staff was aggressive towards students. At the bookstore, we noticed multiple staff members following around our students. Student account that they were asked over and over again, ‘can I help you’ by the workers. One older woman in particular was excessive and aggressive. She accused our kids, demanding that they leave because they were “unchaperoned.” He wrote. He also reported that bookstore staff “intimated that our students were very likely to steal something,” and told them not to touch merchandise. The University chose not to comment on Wandera’s report to The Trail for reasons of confidentiality.

Wandera made a report to the President and an investigation was launched that was led by Dean of Diversity and Inclusion Michael Benitez and Director of Human Resources Janice Haley, according to President Thomas’ emailed response to the campus community on March 23. According to the report, “The investigation was launched immediately and was guided by our campus policy prohibiting harassment and our code of conduct.” However, Wandera felt that the investigation was inadequate. He stated in an interview, “I have been displease with the response from the University. For one thing, it took too long. Over a month before we got the resolution, and ultimately, what we got was something we could have gotten the day after.”

The investigation included contact with Mr. Wandera, the president and superintendent of Leadership Public Schools, written and over the phone video chat, and interviews with those people on campus involved, said Executive Director of Communications Gayle McIntosh. During the course of the investigation, Wandera also reported, “One university official I won’t name hung up in my face.” According to Wandera, President Thomas communicated with the person about this behavior but Wandera was not involved directly in this. In response to the incident, according to the email, the University will be conducting cultural competency trainings for staff and implementing new customer service procedures. According to Dean of Diversity Michael Benitez, “I already have a cultural competence training that I put together. I have already provided this training to all of DCS and to the Office of Communications. I also provided this training during the Human Professional Development Conference in January. Both faculty and staff from across campus participated. We are also exploring different options such as video, online tutorials, as well as person to person.” An apology letter was sent to the students and teachers who came to the University and the University communicated with the school principal regarding the conclusion of the investigation.

Wandera felt that the letter they received wasn’t ideal, stating that “We got a letter of apology from one person, but it was a typed form letter. We asked for a handwritten letter and got a typed letter written by one person.” Dean Benitez stated that the letter “came from us all—from us as an institution and from the bookstore staff.”

What Wandera felt would be the best response to the incident would be to conduct a campus climate survey that all students from marginalized identities could volunteer to take, which would not be anonymous. The current Puget Sound Campus Climate Survey is sent to all students and is anonymous. “Those people can tell you what they need. They will tell you this is not an isolated incident,” he continued.

“Theses kinds of things can happen and do happen on our campus. Is it likely that we would have a couple students say these things? I think it is likely. And that is enough to say, there is so much more work to do,” Dean of Students Mike Segawa said.

Wandera felt that the voices of marginalized students on campus needed to be heard. “Our experience is over. It’s water under the bridge...but what is still real is those students that are there. Do they feel safe? If not, then do something about it.”

THE TRAIL IS HIRING APPLY AT
TRAIL.PUGETSOUND.EDU

Students React to Incident

By Emily Schuelein

Members of the campus’ Black Student Union (BSU) and Latinos Unidos were not surprised to hear about the bookstore incident because it is part of an issue that many of them have dealt with on a daily basis.

“[This is an issue] we as students of minority have to battle with everyday. It’s very much a current issue. We need a balanced distribution and more racial diversity in campus jobs,” Pamela Lara Perez, member of Latinos Unidos, said.

“I was angry but also not completely like, oh my goodness this is so out of the ordinary. There are instances where I get racial stereotypes put on me [at Puget Sound]. It’s frustrating and very upsetting since the people who came here were so young,” Perez said.

“That it would be good to make it one of our core requirements to take a class on race,” Perez said. “I think we should have more diverse professors as well, because it will make us have people of color that we can relate to and look up to instead of just having white professors.”

“Wasn’t surprised that visiting minority students were treated differently on campus in a general area even though UPS is making an effort to include everyone. There are still gray areas in which people lack the understanding of what is a micro-aggression and what isn’t, what’s ok to say and what isn’t,” Shannon Woods, member of the Black Student Union said.

Woods said, “I feel like the University should make it more of a mandatory thing like during orientation.”

“I think this incident will continue to happen if people aren’t aware of other people’s backgrounds and if we don’t start these trainings. I’ve considered transferring because of some of the looks I’ve gotten […] in the library,” Woods said. “We do have different groups coming together to make a difference for minority students and that’s what kept me, the support from these groups.”

“I would have hoped that having an organization like ours on campus and seeing how we function would inspire thoughts and actions of cultural competency among the community, yet we as an organization are regularly disregarded and ignored by a large sum of campus community,” Rachel Askew, President, of BSU (Black Student Union) said. “It is a shame, but BSU will continue to do what we do in the face of indifference and ignorance.”

PHOTO COURTESY MAKAYLAA CLANCY
SIRGE Receives Funding From Budget Task Force

By Tyler Randazzo

SIRGE, which stands for Sexual Issues, Relationships, and Gender Education, was awarded a budget by the Budget Task Force, Marta Palouqui Cady, Assistant Dean of Students and Advisor of SIRGE, has been present since the program’s inception. It was created over 15 years ago as a project under the position of Student Activities because they worked closely with me on implementing the ‘When Helos Gets Out of Hand’ program during Orientation,” Palouqui Cady said. She also noted that SIRGE served as the sexual assault awareness program on campus prior to the implementation of the program. Palouqui Cady said that the “When Helos Gets Out of Hand” program was a good sexual assault awareness program because it was more than ten years ago by a group of students who worked with Director of Student Life and Student Affairs (CHWS) and associate Dean of Students Dean Marshall. At the time, Marshall was a psychologist in CHWS. The program was created specifically for orientation, and the Budget Task Force organizer came out of that group of students.

“So the use of a club that had more than the coordinator, but there was before groups like WIXEN and VOX and Wetlands and DeMasc. At that time it was the only group that really focused on relationships and gender and educating the campus about sexual assault. So that was highly impactful.”

Over the years, as more and more groups became active, the need for SIRGE to play that role diminished but I still needed help to make sure the “When Helos Gets Out of Hand” program is still run during orientation and each semester the SIRGE coordinator also made sure “Take Back the Org.”

In the past most of SIRGE’s budget from Student Activities and Orientation, and the group would receive funding from ASUPS, especially when “Take Back the Night” became a week-long Spring Semester event, Palouqui Cady reported. Palouqui Cady put in a lot of work in the past few years to push the Budget Task Force asking for money to be added to the Student Activities budget for SIRGE and sexual assault prevention programming efforts.

SIRGE will receive an additional $2,000 from the Budget Task Force, which brings the total grants for SIRGE. This fund will allow SIRGE to continue the educational programming and more events…All of these efforts. Networked, the Sisterhood is excited about the Naomi Wolf lecture, Keysselitz said. We also learned that the program will probably be extended to the campus community at that point outlining the Board members are in the group of students like Wolf. SIRGE could never afford a speaker like Naomi Wolf so the collaboration with ASUPS was really fabulous,” Palouqui Cady said.

“The Trail also reached out to Junior Brigid Kays to see how she is doing now that she’s reached for more ways to reach out. It’s clear that which leads to more awareness and more conversation on this topic.”

Green Fee 2015-2016 Projects: New Bike Repair Station

By Tyler Randazzo

Green Fee is an ASUPS program that funds sustainable ideas and projects on campus. Green Fee was created in 2013, and all students contribute three dollars to the fund through the annual student government fee.

One project of the five currently in progress this year has already been implemented. Austin Brittenham is the ASUPS Director of Sustainability and the Chair of the Green Fee Committee, which handles all project applications. Psos Outdoors (PSO) Coordinator Chris Eicher submitted an application for a bike repair station service, Brittenham said. It was relatively inexpensive compared to other projects in the projects, and can use the Puget Sound campus community as well as greater than the entire campus community,” Brittenham added.

The new bike stand can be found near the Rock Cafe, next to the side entrance to the Cellar. The Trail reached out to Patrick Johnson, the PSO Bike Shop Coordinator, for thoughts on the importance of the stand and implementation of a bike repair station. "This stand will be a permanent addition to the bike repair stations on the cycling community on campus. For more information, or help the Bike Shop, please contact the coordinator, students are encouraged to stop by the Bike Shop during its regular hours, from 5 to 7 on Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays."

The University of Puget Sound Board of Trustees is the highest governing body of the University, but many students don’t fully understand their role or how SIRGE, an ASUPS Chair of the Board of Collins Cady noted that the board is responsible for the “long term health of the organization” and stated that “when a trustee comes in, the board has to remember that they are representing the entire college, and not just for one generation ago or two generations ago.”

Board members come from all over the country and range in age from their thirties to their seventies, according to Collins. They are elected for five years by the University and their official duties include setting the university’s priorities, making important academic and supporting and monitoring that person assessing themselves, strategic planning, and budgeting (Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees).

The qualities sought in recruiting Board members are that they are “individuals who have been remarkably committed to the college, who have a connection to the college, who can work successfully in groups, and are leaders themselves.” They are elected (or re-elected) each May, and all Board members are asked to report to the campus community at that point outlining the Board members described the SIRGE Board as a select board, elects its own trustees. Board members are elected for a three-year term, which can be renewed twice, allowing Board members to serve for six years. The next Board meeting is in May to coincide with commencement. Those meetings are not announced via any campus wide communication, but students could enter if they know where and when the meeting was happening. The Board has no voting members that students, faculty, or board members, elected by students and faculty, as the Board elects itself. The Board has three Policy committees and one site visit representative and a faculty representative.

ASUPS president Nakisha Bonnette is on the executive committee alongside the chair of the alumni association and faculty senate, as “off officers” of the board. They do not vote. Policy meetings are closed.

When asked how students could best get involved, Collins suggested they go through ASUPS or the policy committees, but said students can still get involved if they are “remarkably accessible to students” and that “students have been in touch through their Greek chapters or other organizations on campus, because those ties remain.

On the University’s website, the Board member’s names are listed and the year that they graduated if they are alumni, but no contact information or way for students to reach directly to the Board.

When asked about the Board’s goals for the next five to ten years, Collins first stated that the board is concerned with “ensuring good governance and making sure that we have the right environment here.” Collins also mentioned that “within the next few years, it would be reasonable for a new Strategic Plan for the college to come forward.” President Thomas created a Strategic Plan for his administration, and the next president may do the same.

WHERE TO FIND THE TRAIL

BLACK BEAR YOGURT
BLUEBEARD COFFEE
CAFÉ BROUSSEAU
METRONOME COFFEE
SHAKRAVIA JAV

SIRGE Receives Funding From Budget Task Force

By Casey O’Brien

The Board of Trustees business meetings are closed. Let us know if you have information about any of the incident described above.

NOTICE. The annual Bike Swap this year will be in the Thompson Hall parking lot for 4 hours on this day. All vehicles must be removed from the lot by 6pm on Friday, April 15, 2016.
Opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views of The Trail staff, ASUPS, the University or its Board of Trustees. Articles and letters in the Opinions section are printed at the discretion of the Trail editorial staff. The Trail reserves the right to refuse any letters submitted for publication. Letters to the editor will not be edited for grammar, spelling, or content, except in the case of material that is considered to be offensive, as determined by the Trail style guide. All letters to the editor must be signed and must have an email address or phone number. Letters for publication the following Friday are due no later than Monday at noon and may be sent to: The Puget Sound Trail, 1095 Wheelock Student Center, Tacoma, WA 98416 or trail@pugetsound.edu.

Student Diversity Center in dire need of renovation

By Amanda Diaz

We are an afterthought, we left our campus, our university, our former Director of Intercultural and Civic Engagement (CICE) is made up of three main offices: the Office of Civic Engagement, the Office of Intercultural Engagement, and Spiritual Life. There are a total of three full-time professional staff in our office, one for each division. All three offices share a small office, one for each division. As one student staff member puts it, “there are more lawnmowers than professional staff at CHWS,” just like there are more BHERT reports than Black students. These comparisons matter, because they allow us to see where our university likes to spend its money. And let me tell you, it is not on creating safe, more inclusive spaces.

The Student Diversity Center (SDC) is a separate building on the other side of Wheelock Student Center that is used for weekly club meetings, staff meetings, student staff office hours, and as a space where students can relax and watch television. There are over 30 clubs that meet in the Student Diversity Center ranging from advocacy groups to identity and religious based groups. It is a safe space for those who feel marginalized at our university but also a place where allies and those with privileged identities can learn and be educated by the experiences that are so often silenced.

The University of Puget Sound is notorious for underfunding and understaffing of certain departments. As one student staff member puts it, “there are more lawnmowers than professional staff at CHWS,” just like there are more BHERT reports than Black students. These comparisons matter, because they allow us to see where our university likes to spend its money. And let me tell you, it is not on creating safer, more inclusive spaces.

The Student Diversity Center is an afterthought, it is one of the least funded spaces at this university. When former Director of Intercultural Engagement Czarina Ramsey left our campus, our university said, “Since we are not paying Czarina’s salary, you can use it for things you need in the space.” We are an afterthought, we are unimportant, and we are silenced.

There is black mold in the attic and it took almost the entire year to get facilities through the door to clean it. The SDC is never mentioned in Campus Tours. We don’t even have money for posters at the end of the year, and one of the largest issues is that the CICE is completely understaffed. We have three professional staff members plus our Office Manager Helen Fickes. Skylar Blih and Dave Wright are doing jobs that are meant for an entire office team.

In the fall, a Walk Out organized by Advocates for Institutional Change came together to hold our university accountable for the way marginalized students are treated. We came with a list of 12 demands hoping that something would be done to make our campus more inclusive and welcoming to students who don’t fit the mold. One of those demands was: “We demand that the University of Puget Sound build a Cultural Center in the space that will be available where Warner Gym currently resides.”

The current space given to students in the SDC is insufficient. It does not meet the needs of marginalized students on campus, as over 30 clubs battle for time and space. It is often overcrowded and presents safety hazards, and the building itself is badly in need of repairs and additions.

Whether it was by the grace of God or a miracle, our school listened and has taken action. Committee #1: Physical Space, met with Facilities, Dean Segawa, and Sherry Mondou, head of finances, to create a plan to make this new space a possibility. Thankfully, because of fire hazards and the potential fines our university could face, they have agreed to create a temporary space where we can function while the plans for the larger Cultural Center are developed.

It is important that our university follows through with the plan to build the new Cultural Center, because it is more than just a place where we will be more welcome. It is also a statement saying, we see you, we appreciate you, and we want to support you.

There will likely be two on campus houses where the new Student Diversity Center will be located. Our will provide office spaces and intimate meeting spaces, and the other will be a larger meeting space for those groups with more than 40 members.

We want to make this transition as inclusive as we can; there will be an Open Forum to discuss the Interim New Student Open House where leaders, members, and inhabitants of the Student Diversity Center can express their concerns and what they hope to see in the new temporary space. The Open Forum will take place Thursday, April 14 from 5 to 6p.m. in the current Student Diversity Center space (address provided above). Alternatively, you can email diversitycenter@pugetsound.edu for any suggestions on making the new space inclusive, accessible, warm and welcoming.

The Student Diversity Center is one of the only spaces on campus where I feel safe, where I feel appreciated, where I feel wanted, and where I see my culture represented, not appropriated. These are not only feelings I have as a student of color, but are ones that have been expressed to me by other people of color, queer and trans people, disabled people that are so often ignored, invisible, and disfigured by the rest of the spaces on campus.
Response to Letter to the Editor regarding redistricting process

By Chase Hutchinson

Last Thursday, April 7th, I attended a meeting hosted by members of ASUPS to discuss plans to amend the current constitution. This may come as news to most students, but it is a little known fact that there was very little publicity outside of Facebook posts about this event, which not only were scarce but also listed the wrong location for where the meeting would actually occur.

The explanation given about why this was the case was that this was an attempt to promote efforts to redistrict and informing students about this process, which prevented them from “ran into bureaucratic hurdles” with marketing” and that they were “logistical complications occur. This becomes even more apparent when the amendment plan was recently changed several times because of some people who did speak up about their concerns, but in an ideal world those concerns would have been heard before this process even began.

Secondly, the letter said, “Together we can unite to advocate for an institutional change,” but that seems to only mean a small group senators. It excludes the exact voices they are trying to include which are the underrepresented students. The majority of students were not aware of the public comment period until after it ended last Friday. Even if you somehow by chance wandered into the public comment conversation, there was a lack of finalized presentation. The presenter repeatedly told that the pages of amendments were being changed as we went along. The finalized amendments should have been decided on before the public comment period even began so that students could actually know what they were voting on before it was changed without their knowledge.

Third, the Letter to the Editor that was published last Friday contained errors that seemed to contradict the facts said in the meeting. The Letter to the Editor said “in our new plan, the CICE ought get a voting representative with all the privileges and rights of a Senator” but when asked about why the SDC was not being given a representative to the CICE (which makes more sense as the SDC is actually a separate group of students, I was told they had just changed that. So that means the Letter to the Editor was a false representation of the plan. Further, the payment portion of the amendment process as well as the redistricting process are things that are being considered.

Fourth, at the meeting an informative video was shown about the planned redistricting. However, there was almost no information in the video and it seemed to be a glorified propaganda video. This criticism is not meant to call out the person that made it, but I was put off by it, and I’m sure they put a lot of time into it. However, I was told there were different ways people said the video needed “simpler” language so as to be better understood by the campus community. The video already contained next to no information, and seemed to rely on buzzwords associated with diversity that aren’t actually outline any real specifics. If that video were to be played at any of the times event would table in support of this plan, I feel it would deceive people who are watching without a specific plan to do that. This whole mess of vote. This whole mess of}

University food pantry open and running

By Nic Smit

With incredible speed, thanks to the hardwork and generosity of many individuals, the food pantry is already up and running.

The pantry’s purpose is as a resource to students struggling with food insecurity or who lack consistent access to nutritious or affordable foods, in order to better serve this body of students, it’s important that all students respect the purpose of the program and only use it when appropriate.

Information on where to find the food pantry and its hours of operation can be found online, at the link on the bottom of this article. Please be mindful that this is an honor-system, and it serves everyone’s integrity to function. Suffice to say plenty of integrity has already been shown in organizing the food pantry program. Senior Molly Golanka and Assistant Director at the Center for Intercultural and Civic Engagement (CICE) Skylar Bihl were two very important voices for the program, as they have many ideas for the program, seeing more food donations from the Puget Sound garden as well as bread and pastry donations from the Diner. Golanka shared plans as compost in the University garden. At this point, Golanka imagines the pantry to be a good starting point for programs that the garden already has and will contribute to others in the community. Still, the current achievements with the pantry have already been implemented. In the future, Golanka and Bihl aren’t planning on stopping there with the program, as they are eager to expand it and the network of food distribution programs, to offering prepared foods in negotiations.

FOOD PANTRY

Students struggling with food insecurity can now use the food pantry. PHOTO BY SKYLA BIH.

"Current this is a pantry just for students in food crisis," Bihl said. "We know there is need, but we have not been able to track how much, so hopefully we can begin meeting the need while simultaneously gathering more data.

At this point, Golanka imagines that approximately ten students would be able to visit the pantry for a meal a week, and they will go to others in the community or as compost in the University garden. Considering how nascent the program is, it is essential that the resources have already been pooled to find surplus produce and dry foods so that enough of them to potentially feed ten students who'd otherwise go without a nutritious meal.

Even better, Golanka and Bihl aren't planning on stopping there with the program, as they are eager to expand it and the network of food distribution programs, to offering prepared foods in negotiations.

Still, the current achievements with the food pantry online are immense, and show that teamwork and generosity can create a good project through production. Whatever the future of the food pantry is, it’s safe to say it’s a bright one.

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April 16, 2016 trailnews@pugetsound.edu

trailnews@pugetsound.edu
The Happy Trail is the Trail's weekly sex column that seeks to inform the community on issues related to sexuality and gender by addressing those topics in an education-based way. Our mission is to make the campus a safer place by normalizing and demystifying topics like safer sex practices, sexualities, kinks and polymorphy, while shedding light on topics like trans rights, sexual and domestic violence, gender inequalities and intersectionality. Happy Trail correspondents are not medical professionals; if you have a medical concern contact CHWRS or a local clinic. Otherwise, direct your sexuality and gender questions to trailyou@pugetsound.edu. Respond to Happy Trail articles in the form of a letter to the editor sent to trail@pugetsound.edu.

**CONTENT WARNING: Mentions of sexual assault**

**Statutory rape laws and definitions**

**By Natalie Scoggins**

Statutory rape, typically defined as sex between an adult and a post-pubescent minor, often enters ambiguous territory when it comes to defining rape. The truth is fairly clear-cut: the sex may seem consensual, but the fact is that minors are incapable of giving consent to adults. (Statutory rape may also occur between two minors, but that is not the focus of this article. Additionally, sex with prepubescent minors is categorized as pedophilia or child sexual assault/abuse rather than statutory rape.)

Adolescents may seek out sex or sexual approval from adults in part because the brain's decision-making/self-control/tick-reward centers in the prefrontal cortex are not fully developed, because of unprecedented sexual development and curiosity, because of romanticized examples in pop culture and media, and because of societal pressures to have sex and be sexual, especially as a young woman (B. J. Casey, “The adolescent brain”).

Young women and girls are bombarded with images of sexuality from a very young age. Young boys men and boys are told that if they do not show an interest in sex and take it where they can get it, they are not masculine or developed. Adults seek out sex with minors, though, often because they know they have that power over them or because they consider their own desires more important than the safety and wellbeing of a child.

The law is certainly important and weighs heavily on these situations. However, the legal consequences are often not the most serious. There is a serious power imbalance in sexual encounters or relationships between adults and minors in terms of social standing, life experience, and legal power, as explained by the American Bar Association's "State Legislative's Handbook for Statutory Rape Issues." While the perpetrator may harbor regrets, the victim or survivor has often been exposed to coercion and grooming, which can have lasting impacts. The experience may lead to the development of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or complex post-traumatic stress disorder (C-PTSD), the latter of which arises from prolonged or repeated abuse, according to Judith Herman in her book Trauma and Recovery. That emotional trauma plus the physical violation itself can have severe negative psychological effects that can have lasting consequences for that child's future.

The legal process isn't easy, either, as with any rape or sexual assault cases. It has gotten better as age of consent laws and rape laws overall have improved, but up until the 1990s, male victims were often not taken seriously (especially with female perpetrators) and female victims were expected to prove that they were "of previously chaste nature" or they themselves would be blamed for promiscuity, writes Carolyn Cocca in her book "Jaibait on statutory rape in the United States. Even now the term "jaibait" itself is used to refer to underage girls/women who present themselves as sexual beings who may "tempt" men, thereby placing the blame on the girls rather than the rapists, then approaching a different kind of victim blaming if she reports the crime.

Both girls and boys can be subject to statutory rape by men and women. The US Department of Justice (DOJ) states that 95 percent of reported victims are female with 99 percent male perpetrators, while 94 percent of perpetrators of male statutory rape are women. In reality, rates may be higher in numbers and in percentage of male victims, as most young men/boys surveryed anonymously stated that they saw their statutory rape by a woman as a positive experience, as did 44 percent of girls when talking about the older men they had had sex with, according to sociologist Denise Hines. It is also important to note that LGBTQ+ youth are at high risk, but statistics are largely unreliable because of stigma and intra-community issues.

While adults and minors alike should be aware of statutory rape laws and the psychological and social consequences, it is ultimately the adult's responsibility to avoid anything sexual with minors besides education, to be aware of the age of the other person and to shut down any advances made by the minor.

In Washington state, the age of consent is 16. Sex with anyone under 16 is considered statutory rape, as is sex with a 16 or 17 year old if the other person is more than 5 years older. More information is available on the Washington State Legislature website under RCW 9A.44.010. Laws differ depending on the state and country.

"LOLITA"

Vladimir Nabokov's 1955 novel Lolita tells the story of the sexualization and sexual abuse of a 12-year-old girl by her stepfather Humbert Humbert. While the story itself is more about the perverse obsessions of Humbert, the adaptations of the book often shift the blame partly to Alvy to Lolita (Dolores) for her own sexuality. This can be observed in Stanley Kubrick's 1962 film and in Lana Del Rey's frequent references in her album "Born to Die." The term lolita is sometimes used to refer to sexually precocious children or to reference pornography featuring young girls.

"MARY KAY FUJALAAU (NÉE SCHMITZ, FORMERLY LETORNEAU)"

In the mid 1990s when she worked as a schoolteacher, Letourneau (34 at the time) pleaded guilty to the rape of a 12 year old student Vili Fualaau by whom she was impregnated. After agreeing to not see the student any longer and a 7-year sentence in prison, Fualaau re-quested that the no contact agreement be repealed, and the two later married with Fualaau stating that he is not a victim. The case has been referenced in TV shows such as Friends, Gossip Girl, and Gilmore Girls, being painted as problematic, but other media makes playful references to phrases like "hot for a teacher" and call male students lucky for being objects of older women's sexual desires.

"DAVID BOWIE"

After his death in January of this year, discussions and confessions of David Bow- ie's relationship with Lori Marton and other young women resurfaced. A former "groupie," Marton was the first promotional model signed by Bowie when she was only 14 years old. She looks upon the experience positively, but also admits in her essay "I Lost My Virginity to David Bowie" that it was unhealthy and inappropriate. It's common for musicians and celebrities to be involved in statutory rape, from Elvis Presley to Woody Allen to Tyga. Even if the women involved do not feel negatively, they may still suffer emotional and psychological damage, and see those examples for other young women. If they do come forward, they are often ignored or not be-lieved, such as in the cases of Jared Leto and, until recently, Bill Cosby.

**Term of the Week**

**QPOC**

/ Q-P-O-C / noun

An acronym meaning "queer person/people of color," used primarily by queer people of color. Used to distinguish one's identity and call attention to the intersectional issues and the additional obstacles faced by LGBTIQ+ people of color as opposed to cisgender and heterosexual people of color and to white LGBTIQ+ people.

Not all LGBTIQ+ people use the word queer for themselves and many people of color define their own sexuality outside of white American terminology, so the term QPOC should not be used to describe someone without their permission.

**QWOC:** queer woman/women of color

**QMOC:** queer man/men of color

**Notable statutory rape examples**

**LOLITA**

Vladimir Nabokov's 1955 novel Lolita tells the story of the sexualization and sexual abuse of a 12-year-old girl by her stepfather Humbert Humbert. While the story itself is more about the perverse obsessions of Humbert, the adaptations of the book often shift the blame partly to Vili Fualaau for her own sexuality. This can be observed in Stanley Kubrick's 1962 film and in Lana Del Rey's frequent references in her album "Born to Die." The term lolita is sometimes used to refer to sexually precocious children or to reference pornography featuring young girls.

**MARY KAY FUJALAAU (NÉE SCHMITZ, FORMERLY LETORNEAU)**

In the mid 1990s when she worked as a schoolteacher, Letourneau (34 at the time) pleaded guilty to the rape of a 12 year old student Vili Fualaau by whom she was impregnated. After agreeing to not see the student any longer and a 7-year sentence in prison, Fualaau re-quested that the no contact agreement be repealed, and the two later married with Fualaau stating that he is not a victim. The case has been referenced in TV shows such as Friends, Gossip Girl, and Gilmore Girls, being painted as problematic, but other media makes playful references to phrases like "hot for a teacher" and call male students lucky for being objects of older women's sexual desires.

**DAVID BOWIE**

After his death in January of this year, discussions and confessions of David Bow- ie's relationship with Lori Marton and other young women resurfaced. A former "groupie," Marton was the first promotional model signed by Bowie when she was only 14 years old. She looks upon the experience positively, but also admits in her essay "I Lost My Virginity to David Bowie" that it was unhealthy and inappropriate. It's common for musicians and celebrities to be involved in statutory rape, from Elvis Presley to Woody Allen to Tyga. Even if the women involved do not feel negatively, they may still suffer emotional and psychological damage, and see those examples for other young women. If they do come forward, they are often ignored or not be-lieved, such as in the cases of Jared Leto and, until recently, Bill Cosby.
REUBEN FALOUGHI, an original member of ConcernedStudent1950, is a former Division One athlete with firsthand experience with social change. His lecture, entitled “ConcernedStudent1950: Personal Growth and Institutional Transformation,” recounted his personal experiences as a student activist and leader during the protests on his campus, and outlined strategies to counter the marginalization of underrepresented students on campuses. The ultimate goal of these strategies was to create a safer campus environment for people of all races and identities.

Faloughi experienced first-hand racism as a Black student attending a school in the South. He was an original member of Concerned Student 1950, an activist group that has led the fight against racial hostility at the University of Missouri. In May 2015, Concerned Students 1950 – 1950 being a reference to the year the first black student was admitted to the university – forced the resignation of then-president Tim Wolfe. This was achieved largely through sit-ins, boycotts and other forms of nonviolent protest.

Faloughi also spoke of the difficulty he experienced with his reputation as a Division One athlete, expressing that his athletic proficiency often overshadowed his academic one – to the extent that he was often viewed as a purely athletic talent. Nowadays, Faloughi holds a degree in psychology and continues his activism, working towards social change and a shift in attitudes toward marginalized groups.

In addition to the lecture, students were given the opportunity to attend a lunch with Faloughi and ask questions in a more personal setting. This was a rare opportunity for students to be personally connect with an on-campus speaker and modern day activist.

“I was curious to learn more about Faloughi’s view on student activism and his overall outlook towards racial, gender and class justice within the bureaucratic university system,” sophomore Hannah Borgerson, a student who attended both the lecture and the luncheon, said.

Borgerson emphasized Faloughi’s point that, in order for change to occur, people need to accept that people will be uncomfortable discussing important issues regarding racial injustice and inequality.

“Part of Faloughi’s work includes facilitating these types of conversations with heads of universities and students so actual change can happen,” said Borgerson. “He urged students who want to pursue change and activism to do so. He told us not to hold back on the change that we want to see on this campus and in any other systems we participate in.”

When asked what Borgerson took away as the highlight from the luncheon, she said, “I was impressed with how accessible, honest and proactive Faloughi was. He pulled from powerfully personal experiences that revealed his weaknesses, strengths, and growths. I was impressed with his view on how constant and ever-changing education is. Lastly, he expressed the ultimate need for honesty, sincerity, and openness within learning forums.”

UPCOMING:

ASUPS Lectures welcomes activist Bree Newsome

By Marcelle Rutherford

On Tuesday, May 3rd, Bree Newsome is coming to speak at University of Puget Sound. Newsome is famous for her outspoken and fearless actions against white supremacy and racism in this country.

Newsome became famous after being publicly arrested for scaling a thirty foot pole outside of the South Carolina state building and pulling down the Confederate flag that flew there. She pulled it down on June 27, 2015, and the flag was officially removed from the building July 10 of the same year, just weeks later.

Newsome has also been arrested at several other protests. For example, she was arrested at a sit-in protesting voter ID laws.

Newsome is also a filmmaker, and has won several awards for her work. She works in the horror and sci-fi genres and, when speaking at a panel at Spellman College, explained that being a Black woman in the film industry is one of the reasons that she became an activist.

“Bree Newsome stands as an example of courageous activism that can be possible in the face of bigotry today. The coolest part is that Bree Newsome is our age, she is a part of our generation, but at the same time she represents another step in a tradition of civil disobedience that has propelled the Civil Rights movement since its origins. I think she stands as an inspiration for activists on our campus,” Arda Bulak, ASUPS Lectures Chair, said.

With the recent issues concerning diversity and race relations on this campus, Newsome’s speech will be a welcome addition to the conversation. Her lecture takes place in the Fieldhouse at 7:30 p.m. The lecture is free for students with a UPS ID, and $4 for the general public.

“I think this lecture is primarily for students who care about activism, or aspire to become activists themselves - particularly in the vein of the Black Lives Matter movement.” Bulak said.

“However, considering Bree and her colleagues outlined and executed a plan to take down the Confederate flag in South Carolina, I encourage any student that wants to see or hear Bree speak. She is still very young, but she may become one of the great activists of our generation – I wouldn’t miss this opportunity to see her,” Bulak said.

Tickets can be purchased at the Information Desk in Wheelock Student Center.
By Courtney Seyl

On April 9th a group of performers from the improv comedy troupe Upright Citizens Brigade (or UCB as they are more commonly known) came to Tacoma and performed at the Blue Mouse Theatre.

UCB is a New York-based improv and sketch comedy group founded by Amy Poehler, Matt Besser, Ian Roberts, and Matt Walsh. They have theatres in New York and Los Angeles, and have a touring troupe called UCB Tourco, which is a small group of players who travel around the country performing. They were joined by the University’s own improv group Ubiquitous They (UT), led by senior Maddie Peckenpaugh and Dylan Dolin.

The troupe that came to Tacoma is part of the touring company of players. Ubiquitous They opened the show at Blue Mouse Theatre by performing a short round of improv. Dylan Dolin, Darrin Schultz, Jacquie Harro, Molly Gregory, Allie Lawrence and Sophie Schwartz performed scenes based on a random location. They performed a scene, based on an audience suggestion, about a warehouse full of rats that met with hearty laughter from the audience in preparation for the UCB performance.

Four UCB performers came up from Los Angeles to perform: Tamar Stevens, Ryan James Hitchcock, Josh Brekhus and Kale Hills. They performed two longform segments involving audience participation in the form of interviews and suggestions. The first half of the show was based on an interview done with an audience member on the stage. The audience member was asked questions about where she was from, what she majored in and where she lived on campus. These tidbits were then used to create small scenes. The second game they played required random text messages from the audience that they used to create small scenes, similar to the interview game but with no context and less information.

Both segments of the show were huge hits with the audience, getting big laughs on almost every joke.

Ubiquitous They Improv performs every Friday in the Cellar at 10 p.m.

For more information about the UCB touring group go to ucbtourco.com.

Rep. Derek Kilmer named Commencement Speaker

By Eada Gendelman

As the year comes to an end and the long-awaited graduation day approaches, seniors are eagerly looking forward to the next step of their lives. To send them off, U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer was chosen as this year’s Commencement Speaker at the University’s 124th graduation ceremony— and many seniors feel there is nobody better for the job.

“I am so excited that Rep. Kilmer is going to be speaking at graduation, as he has been an active member of the Tacoma community for so long,” senior Stephanie Gates said. “[He] promotes improvement within the city that we’ve been living in for the past four years.”

For over a decade, Kilmer has served not only the entire country, but also the Tacoma community and college students specifically. Throughout his time in government, he has been a strong advocate for making higher education affordable for all.

“Kilmer’s focus on improving the quality and equity of our educational system shows that he has a depth of understanding about how we can grow our society in a sustainable way,” senior Jordan McLuen said.

Kilmer is also known for his passion towards economic development and environmental policy, among many other topics that the Puget Sound community identifies with.

“His emphasis on conservation and environmental stewardship resonates deeply with me; I wrote my senior thesis on climate change policy,” McLuen said. “I am proud that our Commencement Speaker also recognizes it as a fundamental issue that needs to be prioritized.”

Kilmer currently serves on the Appropriations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives. He has been named one of the 10 most effective lawmakers in Congress by The Washington Post. “I would really like to hear what Representative Kilmer believes will be the role of our class in the future,” McLuen said. “It is evident that he has a vision for the future of Washington State, and to know how our class can be influential on a broad scale is something I hope he will discuss.”

Even with Kilmer’s illustrious service to this country, he continues to offer endless support to Tacoma and the greater Pacific Northwest region. “I would love to hear Kilmer speak about how to invest in the community that you came from, because he grew up in the Pacific Northwest and he obviously cares about fostering this area,” Gates said.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE DEREK KILMER
An advocate for educational and economic justice, will be the Commencement Speaker at University of Puget Sound’s 124th graduation ceremony.
Study finds link between depression and having parents

By Yolo Ono

Are you a troubled teen with a history of getting up to no good? Do you sometimes feel sad because your dad’s kind of a dick? Did you ever struggle getting out of bed in the morning just to do the same old routine? Good news, it might not be your fault, it might be your parents’.

A study released in April of 1974 by the Kato Institute has found a direct link between depression and being raised by two functional adults. The study, which was conducted in a basement, noted that when asked about their depression, people tended to generally bring up their mom or dad as kind of being an ass, which right here would go another interesting fact about the study. After thousands of interviews in Tod’s basement, we concluded that parents don’t seem to ‘get it,’ Marco Brokle, lead researcher for the Kato institute, told The Flail. And because they don’t get it, when subjects got sad, parents often responded by saying ‘just feel better’ or ‘don’t be sad, that’s stupid.’ This kind of negative feedback seems to result in the subject just being more depressed and the depression getting worse. While the parents might not be the specific cause of depression, they certainly add to it by being total asses. And when I say asses, I’m not talking about donkeys, baby!

And wait, there’s more! Not only can parents add to their child’s depression, the Kato study also found a link between parents and anxiety. While more research is needed for the link to be more than just a hunch, Kato researchers are postulating that parents who scream over their children’s beds while the children are sleeping tend to have more anxious children.

“If the child is subjected to hours of a parental screaming while they sleep in their bed, that child is typically more anxious than other kids,” Marc Walberg explained. Lastly, the study shows one final link between a child desiring to be an artist and their parents failing entirely. We’ve all heard of the “troubled artist.” Well, it looks like that trouble starts home.

“We found what kids are really saying to their parents when they mention they want to be an artist is ‘Mom and Dad, you did a bad job and now I want to make art about it,’” Brokle explained. “While this is not true in 99% of cases, in the other 1% we also found no correlation.”

In conclusion, depression might be caused by your parents. It might not be. Who knows in the end? Life’s full of unsolved mysteries. I think the main point is to just live and learn. After all, we are in college. Now if you’ll excuse me, I think I need to make a long overdue call to my parents.

Biopic Review

By Darn Skalpz

This week’s review looks at the 2014 film “A Good Man,” based on the life of beloved actor John Goodman, known for his roles in Monsters Inc., The Big Lebowski, and Transformers: Age of Extinction. This is a rare treat; as it is not often that a biopic is made about an actor while they are still alive, let alone one who still appears in multiple films a year. The titular Goodman is played by veteran action star, Steven Seagal, who interestingly is the same age as John Goodman, 63. It seems only fitting that the award winning actor, Goodman, be played by an actor, Seagal.

The film appears to be loosely based on John Goodman’s life during the year 2010, when Goodman didn’t appear in any films, and lived in Eastern Europe. However, “A Good Man” is clearly an adaption, as Seagal’s character is named John Alexander, similar to how “Everybody Loves Raymond” doesn’t actually have a character named Everybody.”

The writers acknowledge the difference in name by giving Seagal the nickname “Goose.” Goose, Goo, Goodman; they might as well have not changed the name for how obvious the nickname was.

Now, I don’t claim to be an expert on the life and times of John Goodman, but I don’t know how accurate the part of the film that details his time as the leader of a covert ops team, attempting to kill an Islamic terrorist, is to the real life of John Goodman. In terms of characterization, the portrayal of Goodman by Seagal is spot on. Seagal put on fifty pounds in preparation for the part, and said “if” twelve times in the first minute of the movie. And while I have never seen John Goodman kill a terrorist with a long bladed weapon, I imagine Seagal performed the task in a manner similar to how Goodman would have done it. The majority of the film focuses on the period of John Goodman’s life where he lived in Eastern Europe, and would frequently be an artist is ‘Mom and Dad, you did a bad job and now I want to make art about it,” Brokle explained. “While this is not true in 99% of cases, in the other 1% we also found no correlation.”

The film fails as a piece that focuses on the life of John Goodman by dedicating too much of the story to the Russian mob and the troubled lives of a small family unit that are John Goodman’s neighbors. I’d like to believe that John Goodman has moved past part of his life where he feels the need to kill mobsters and leave their bodies in the street for the police to find, but only time will truly tell. Ultimately, Seagal’s grey look and oddly southern accent make the character of John Goodman hard to sympathize with, mostly on a guttural level. A possible sequel, “A Good Men,” would be very interesting to see, since it could bridge the gap between “A Good Man” and “A Few Good Men.”

Rating: Okayboy / Goodman

Our writers are Maddy Kunz, Nish Chhabra, John Miller Giltner, and Dana Donnelly. Guest writer Darrin Schultz co-wrote with editor Michelle Leatherby this week. Pseudonyms have historically been used by Combat Zone writers. We want to keep this tradition and credit writers by name in order to promote transparency. Our intent is to make people laugh and to provoke people to think critically.
Hillary Clinton releases new playlist on Tidal

By SpaNish

“Often” by The Weeknd

“I usually love sleeping all alone / This time around bring your friend with you / But we ain’t really going to sleep at all”

“He is SO hot” Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton screamed, smoothening her brand new red pant suit.

“The Government Totally Sucks” by Tenacious D

“Ben Franklin was a rebel indeed/ He liked to get naked while he smoked on the weed/ The government totally sucks”

“Yolo” by The Lonely Island (Feat Kendrick Lamar)

“Take no chances (no chances)/Stop freelancin’ (right now)/Invest in your future/Don’t dilute you’re future (uh-huh)/401k, make sure it’s low risk/Then get some real estate (how much)/Beast.”

Hillary, an avid hip hop and comedy fan, says she could really relate to the hip and contemporary message this song had to offer.

“Picture to Burn” By Taylor Swift

“State the obvious, I didn’t get my perfect fantasy/You’re a redneck heartbreak Who’s really bad at lying”

“Wait so this song isn’t about Bernie Sanders?” Clinton asked the newspaper after realizing the title of the song was spelled “Burn” not “Bern”.

“American Idiot” by Greenday

“Well maybe I’m the ‘****’ American/’m not a part of a redneck agenda/New everybody do the propaganda/ And sing along to the age of Propaganda.”

“Before He Cheats” By Carrie Underwood

Heartbreak sucks.

Student almost becomes bio major after attending wrong advising session

By Madd Punz

Once a semester, each student on campus will make an advising appointment with their advisor and have that same conversation about what classes they want to take the following term, and whether or not they’re talented enough to actually achieve their goals. For some students, this 15-minute meeting is the only time that they will see a professor for the semester.

For second semester freshman Emma-Leigh Parlay, her most recent advising appointment was only the second time she had ever met her advisor.

“Well, it kind of makes sense,” said Parlay. “Because, you know, my advisor is a bio professor and I’m thinking about declaring a Communication Studies and Studio Art double major, so we don’t really have a lot to talk about.”

Parlay’s advisor, Professor Bueller, fulfilled his professorly duties and set up the advising appointment, even though the feeling seems to be mutual, as the two “don’t have much in common,” according to Bueller.

“It was a fairly standard advising appointment,” stated Bueller. “She was a little quiet, but that’s not unusual for freshmen.”

“Yeah, it was pretty clear that he didn’t know who I was,” Parlay revealed. “I mean, it wasn’t super obvious at first, but he kept asking me about how I liked my science classes, how I was doing really well in all of them and on track to be an MCB major like we talked about before. And like, that’s sounds great in theory and everything, but I haven’t even fulfilled my prerequisites yet. And like, that’s super obvious at first, but he kept asking me about how I liked my science classes, how I was doing really well in all of them and on track to be an MCB major like we talked about before. And like, that’s sounds great in theory and everything, but I haven’t even fulfilled my science core yet, and I was planning on taking astrology.”

“I was going to tell him, but by the time I figured out what was happening, it was too late. The meeting was almost over, and it just would’ve been too awkward,” said Parlay.

“Oh,” was Bueller’s initial response when he was informed about the Parlay’s advising meeting. “Well, at least she got her hold released and she can register for classes.”

“He didn’t release my hold,” Parlay said. “He was looking at the wrong student’s file completely. I had to go to the registrar and have them help me register. I think the only reason that they agreed to do it with my hold still on is because I was crying a lot when I asked them. But, you know, all’s well that ends well.”

So far, it is unconfirmed as to whether or not Bueller is aware that he did not release her hold. He refused to answer any further questions after the initial interview (the one where he discovered how his advising meeting with Parlay had gone awry).

Parlay has stated that she is in the process of finding a new advisor—someone within the humanities—but it is taking a little longer than she would like due to her new “vetting process,” where she reportedly has all her potential advisors fill out a questionnaire relating to her involvement with the school as well as “a variety of personal questions such as favorite color, book interests, and overall aesthetic vibe.”

“The point isn’t to trick them,” Parlay said about the questionnaire, “I just want my next advisor to know me well. . . Or at least better. So whichever one gets the most questions right is the one I’ll choose.”

Parlay said that none of the professors have yet to give her survey back to her, but she’s sure they’re just taking a long time because “they’re probably just being thorough.”

Hillary Clinton sighting: Hillary Clinton was seen on Alder this past week listening to her own playlist. Here’s an exclusive pic.
Logger lacrosse to finish season strong

By Nick Nestingen

It has been an up and down year for both lacrosse teams at Puget Sound. For the women’s lacrosse team, the difficulties started in August when Head Coach Liana Halstead unexpectedly announced that she was stepping down from the program. Halstead coached the Loggers to a 10-4 finish in 2015 and was named NWCC coach of the year after the season.

Despite returning three seniors and having a large junior class, Halstead’s loss has been felt as the Loggers have struggled to duplicate the success of 2015. Currently the team has a 1-9 overall record and 1-3 record in the NWCC. Both the offense and the defense have regressed from last year. The Logger offense is averaging only 4.10 goals per game while the Logger defense is allowing an average of 16.50 goals per game, almost eight more than last year’s average.

While the team certainly has not had the success it desired there is still an opportunity to end the season on a positive note and help build towards success in the future. The team currently has four games remaining, all of which are conference games. This includes a game against Linfield College, a team which the Loggers defeated 15-12 on Mar. 6. If the Loggers are able to find a way to win three out of the last four games, the team has a legitimate shot of jumping up to second place in the conference.

If the Loggers are going to have a big finish to the season they will need senior Kerri Smith (Kirkdale, Washington) to continue being an offensive force. Smith currently leads the Loggers with 21 goals this season. The team will also need goalsies Leah Strohmberg (Los Angeles, California) and Rebecca Simon (Hillboro, Oregon) to build off of their strong performances from the team’s 20-7 loss to George Fox on Apr. 2 where each of them made three saves.

Regardless of how the season ends, the future remains bright for the Logger women’s lacrosse team. Next year the Loggers will return a six person senior class that will include 2015 All-NWC selections Elena Becker (Bellevue, Washington) and Hailey Shoemaker (Portland, Oregon). Additionally, the eight players who are currently in their first year will also develop and improve drastically over their first college off-season.

The team’s next game is on Apr. 10 where the Loggers will face Whitman College, a team that defeated Puget Sound 17-5 earlier in the year. If the Loggers come away victorious they will be tied for third place in the NWCC with Whitman.

The men’s lacrosse team has also had a tough season as the team currently holds a record of 3-5. The team opened up the season with an impressive 11-6 win over Washington State University. However, the Loggers then went on four game losing streak that included a tough 15-10 loss to Portland State University.

The men’s team has showed signs of life as it enters the final stretch of the season. The Loggers beat St. Mary’s College on March 23 by a score of 6-4. The team then followed that up with an even more impressive victory, beating the 26th ranked team in the country in the University of Portland by a score of 9-5.

The team has been led all year long by junior Jake Wuesthoff (Newbury Park, Calif) and senior Ben White (Salt Lake City, Utah). Wuesthoff and White have combined to make up most of the Loggers offense with Wuesthoff scoring ten goals on the season and White totaling 17 goals. The two will need to continue scoring for the Loggers to finish the season strong.

The Loggers currently have four games remaining, all of which are conference games. The Loggers are currently 0-1 against FNCLL North Northwest Forest Pass and Northwest Washington 2-9 early in the season. The remaining schedule is relatively easy as Puget Sound plays only lower ranked teams the remainder of the year. The rest of the teams on the schedule all hold records below 500. If the Loggers can take advantage of the easy schedule the team has a good chance of finishing the season high in the conference standings.

Many outdoor activities in the Tacoma area await, ready to be explored. With the weather as nice as it is at the moment, the area offers a plethora of outdoor activities: biking trails, for a playground, a sprayground, a pond, picnic areas and an arboretum. Although the park is still closed, it still offers numerous trails for an escape from the rush of everyday life.

A short 6 minute drive from campus brings visitors to Ruston Way, providing a walking or driving option. The park is about 27 acres and offers numerous options, including biking trails, for a playground, a sprayground, a pond, picnic areas and an arboretum. Although the park is still closed, it still offers numerous trails for an escape from the rush of everyday life.

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Father John Misty Seattle show

By Olivia Langen

When Father John Misty’s silhouette emerged on the illuminated smoke-filled stage in Seattle’s Paramount Theatre, the crowd’s screams could be compared to those at the Beatles’ first American Stadium performance in 1965. The former Fleet Foxes drummer, also known as officially known as Josh Tillman, has gained plenty solo recognition from his 2014 album “Love, Sweet Love” and “I Love You, Honeybear.”

Tillman’s April 6 show opened with an intriguing duet, “Tess and Dave.” Their brief set ranged from upbeat electronic tracks to acoustic ballads about beer, complete with endearing choreographed dance moves. Where Tess and Dave were quirky, Tillman’s performance was magnetic. His lyrics are startlingly self-aware; they have a kind of didactic realism that really bums a person out while simultaneously making them want to dance.

Clad in tight black pants, a low cut blazer and rock-star-level self-awareness, Tillman showed off his charisma throughout the hour-long set. When he was not strumming an acoustic guitar, he was dancing across the stage, occasionally reaching out to the audience and grasping the hands of adoring fans. His misanthropic songs blended with the audience’s energy surprisingly well. Father John Misty’s sardonic “Bored in the USA,” a less than amusing Springsteen tribute, is a lengthy rant about the flawed American middle class. While singing about his “useless education” and “sub-prime loan,” he reached into the audience for a crowd-member’s cell phone. Then he filmed himself singing on the device, staring ominously into the phone’s camera lens.

Tillman actually played “Bored” on the Late Show with David Letterman and dubbed an ironic laugh track into his live performance. He received a rather confused and unenthusiastic audience response from the Letterman audience.

His latest “I Love You, Honeybear” is emotionally off-putting altogether; “The Bear” considers the album “so openhearted it hurts.”

The song “Holy Shit” is a perfect example of the album’s duality. Tillman writes, “Maybe love is just an economy based on resource scarcity / But what I fail to see is what’s got to do with you and me.”

“I Love You, Honeybear” was intended to be a set of love songs for “Tillman’s” newlywed wife. The result; due to his sarcastic songwriting tendencies, was something closer to self-deprecating cynicism than adoration.

“When I’m writing, I can’t avoid the fact that I’m writing,” Tillman told Rolling Stone, regarding his oft-meta lyrics. On top of Tillman’s careful artistic choices, he has also been known to cover popular music, most notably Taylor Swift’s “Blank Space.” At last Wednesday’s show, singer Rihanna’s “Kiss It Better” to the exuberant crowd.

Writing until you can’t stop

Author Jim Lynch speaks about his process and progress being a full-time novelist

Creative work and the monetary system do not always blend. Poets are professors who write poetry. Novelists have day jobs. In a world where more time is always harder to find and feels even scarcer, we are increasingly desire more instantaneous results, it can be even harder for someone as successful as Lynch to follow their creative pursuits.

Last Wednesday, Northwest author Jim Lynch talked about his process and progress as a full time novelist, and the importance of perseverance in a business that can be disheartening for creative minds.

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Lu’au continues to bring Pacific Island culture to campus

By Daniel Wolfert

With the distant sound of a single conch shell, amid the dim blue stage light of the Memorial Fieldhouse, the Tahitian dance began. A jubilant whoop broke through the sound of the lonely conch, the beating of drums and percussion thunderted through the wide room, Puget Sound students dressed in black and brilliant orange luau costumes began to pour onto the stage, now illuminated in bright blue lighting and greeted with thunderous applause from the hundreds of students, staff, faculty and visitors in the stands.

The Tahitian dance was only the first of the University of Puget Sound’s annual Luau, held on Apr. 9 in the Memorial Fieldhouse, and opened an evening of festivities meant to celebrate Pacific Islander culture, heritage and, above all, dance. Themed this year as Ku’u Wahi Pana (meaning “The Places that I Love”), the Luau is an event that, although occurring in late spring of every year, begins in the summer with the preliminary planning of the students which run it. “I danced in Tahitian this year, and I thought that was really fun because I love the audience participation because we get community involved. It feels that the most striking aspect of the Tahitian dance was not its intricacy, so much as its community involvement,” Hermosillo Torres similarly felt that the Luau offered the opportunity for the many students that grew up amid Hawaiian culture to share some of their traditions and festivities with the many more students for whom Hawaiian culture is not home – giving non-Hawaiian students a chance to engage with Hawaiian practices.

“I’m from California – I’m not Islander in the slightest, I’m Mexican and Native American, I don’t have any of that in my blood, but I appreciate the culture,” Hermosillo Torres said. “It’s a good time, getting to know the type of dance – I mean, I love dancing – the culture,” Hermosillo Torres said.

The aspect of community involvement is one that Katano believes to be the most important and relevant to the University, allowing the campus to become acquainted with the Hawaiian culture in which she grew up. "I feel like [the campus community] is able to learn about our culture, with emcees talking about our background and what we do back home, and they learn stuff about Hawaii, and it also gives us a reminder of where we’re from,” Katano said. "Being from Hawaii, and dancing hula for my entire life – maybe since I was four – made me want to get involved, and to share a part of my culture with everyone.”

Hermosillo Torres referenced his experience dancing with Baniqued in the 2015 Luau as one of the primary reasons he became involved with the Luau. Hermosillo Torres referenced his experience dancing with Baniqued in the Luau. Hermosillo Torres referenced his experience dancing with Baniqued in the 2015 Luau as one of the main reasons he became involved this year. “It was really cool for me to be able to experience that culture, with Baniqued, who is from Hawaii – it was really cool to be able to participate in his culture with him because he was also in Tahitian, and of course, Adam Lewis as well,” Hermosillo Torres said. “I’m from Hawaii, and I’m a part of the Hawaii club, you are already accustomed to this culture. Lots of us have been doing this since high school, and kind of get recruited for doing this by putting on this big production,” Tahitian Dance leader senior Tara Ito said. “I’ve been involved since freshman year, I don’t do various things.”

"I danced in Tahitian this year, and I thought that was really fun because I love the audience participation because we get community involved,” Hermosillo Torres said. “I feel like [the campus community] is able to learn about our culture, with emcees talking about our background and what we do back home, and they learn stuff about Hawaii, and it also gives us a reminder of where we’re from,” Katano said. “I think that’s pretty exciting."

Hermosillo Torres similarly felt that the Luau offered the opportunity for the many students that grew up amid Hawaiian culture to share some of their traditions and festivities with the many more students for whom Hawaiian culture is not home – giving non-Hawaiian students a chance to share a part of my culture with everyone.”

Highlighting the importance of community as a focus of the Luau, Hermosillo Torres cited sophomore Nathaniel Baniqued – Hermosillo Torres’ friend and fellow member of Beta Theta Pi – as one of the primary reasons he became involved with the Luau. Hermosillo Torres referenced his experience dancing with Baniqued in the 2015 Luau as one of the main reasons he became involved this year. “It was really cool for me to be able to experience that culture, with Baniqued, who is from Hawaii – it was really cool to be able to participate in his culture with him because he was also in Tahitian, and of course, Adam Lewis as well,” Hermosillo Torres said. "Being able to bond with my Beta brothers and spend time with them doing something that was fun and important to Nathan was a really cool moment.”