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APRIL 11, 2018

the

SPECTATOR

UNDER THE SEA



exploring gender expression at SU Drag Show 2018 – p. 17

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COUNTING DOWN THE DAYS: A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Last Tuesday was the first day of my final quarter in college. Provided I don't sleep through all my classes, come June I'll be walking across the stage donning the cap and gown as I accept my diploma. Now, I don't want to get too sentimental but, the truth is, I'm going to miss this place. For the last three and a half years, this has been my home. The memories I've created here will stick with me for years to come. But all good things end, and it seems the curtains are closing on my time here at Seattle University.

I'm going to miss staying up all night watching scary movies in the basement of Xavier. I'm going to miss waking up at noon on a Saturday to cure my hangover with eggs and hash browns. I'm going to miss the excitement I get from submitting a final paper seconds before the deadline. I'm going to miss Linda from C-Street. I'm going to miss coffee from the Bottom Line. I'm going to miss the dog park. I'm going to miss skipping class to do absolutely nothing. I'm going to miss slosh ball with the club soccer team. (I'm definitely not going to miss UCORs, paying tuition and being a broke college student.)

Most of all I'm going to miss the Spectator. I'm going to miss writers and photographers ignoring deadlines. I'm going to miss badgering my editors and designers until they hate me. I'm going to miss working past midnight every Tuesday night. I'm going to miss worrying about whether we'll be able to publish a newspaper each week. I'm going to miss all of that.

This week Bailee Clark explored how we utilize spaces on campus to enjoy the great outdoors. You should read Frances Divinagracia's article on the lack of representation in campus staff, Jordan Kenison's piece on the softball team's second sweep in the program's history or Alec Downing's story about the significance of satire and humor in today's news.

You may not know them, dear reader, but a lot of great people work tirelessly to bring you the newspaper you hold in your hands. Give them a chance and flip to the next page. It's all here, and there's much more to come.

Thanks for reading.

- Nick Turner, Editor-in-Chief

DEAR ADMINISTRATION: AMEND THE UNIVERSITY'S DEMONSTRATION CLAUSE

It was announced in February that Seattle University's decision to accept incoming high school students would not be affected by disciplinary actions taken against them for peacefully protesting.

Shortly thereafter, the Seattle Times wrote a raving article about this decision. In it, Seattle U Dean of Admissions Melore Nielsen was quoted describing peaceful protests as "in alignment with the Jesuit ethos."

"We feel strongly at Seattle U — how could we penalize students for acting on their values?" Nielsen told The Times.

The Spectator Editorial Board agrees with Nielsen's statement. We would like to believe that the university upholds those values, and that the institution does not, in fact, support protests that occur in the campus community. This assertion is rooted in a decision made in October of 2016, when Seattle University added a "demonstrations" clause to the university Code of Student Conduct.

Among the clause's numerous assertions, one of the most salient is the requirement for the protestors to meet with the Center for Student Involvement prior to the protest, "preferably 48 hours or as far in advance as possible." In addition, the clause prohibits protests from "actively disrupt scheduled class meetings, teaching, administration, or disciplinary procedures and/or other university functions or authorized activities."

The inception of the protest clause came a mere four months after the Matteo Ricci College sit-in, though the university denied the connect between the two. It is our belief that, in accordance with these new guidelines, the Matteo Ricci College protest could not have ensued at all.

The Spectator Editorial Board calls on the university administration to amend the protest clause in conjunction with the values set forth by Seattle U students and community leaders. Protest are not impactful when they are confined by rules and regulations. When in their organic and non-manufactured form, they are undeniably healthy for the university:

"It was not an easy experience, it was an experience of great debate and conflict and not easy at all," Father Stephen Sundborg, S.J. told the Spectator in May of 2017 regarding the MRC protests." But I think we're a healthier university and that we're more aware."

So why doesn't our code of conduct reflect that assertion?

To the Seattle University administration: trust us — your students — to live out the mission the way that we see fit, to identify the wrongs in the world and tirelessly fight for a just and humane future. We are not only asking you to amend the demonstration clause; we are asking you to practice what you preach.

- The Spectator Editorial Board

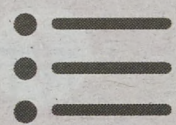


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SU WELCOMES NEW ASSOCIATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Sophia Wells
Staff Writer

OVER 70 SYRIANS DEAD IN CHEMICAL ATTACK

IN DOUMA—Hundreds of Syrian civilians exhibited symptoms of exposure to toxic chemicals and medical workers have reported that over 70 have died of suffocation in a suspected chemical attack on April 8 in the rebel-held town of Douma. Rescuers and aid groups say that the attack was executed by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's government. State news media denied government use of chemical weapons and said that the videos of civilians suffocating to death in Douma were fabricated by the rebel group, Army of Islam, to garner international support. The British Foreign Office has called for an immediate investigation, while the Russian Defense Ministry denied government use of chemical weapons. The suspected attack occurred during a long push by the Syrian government to retake towns east of Damascus, an area known as Eastern Ghouta. Civilians may have been more susceptible to chemical attack, as many were hiding in basements to avoid present conflicts with the Syrian government. Russia has warned against launching military action in Syria while U.S. President Donald Trump promised a "forceful" response to the attack.

FORMER BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT TURNS HIMSELF

INTO POLICE—Ex-President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva turned himself in to the police on April 7 to begin serving a 12 year sentence for corruption charges. Da Silva had previously stated that his conviction would pose no threat in his bid for a third term. Da Silva played a pivotal role in helping to build a leftist party that led Brazil for over a decade. Just before surrendering to authorities, da Silva spoke to a crowd outside a metalworkers union and said that the conviction was only an effort to block his vision of uplifting poor people to attend university and buy homes. The crowd of supporters physically blocked him for hours before allowing him to surrender. The imprisonment ends the race between da Silva and current President Michel Temer. Temer replaced da Silva's successor, Dilma Rousseff, after she was impeached in 2016. Temer holds center right policies and has been accused of corruption.

BUS CRASH KILLS 15 OF CANADIAN MEN'S

HOCKEY TEAM—Fifteen people died when a bus carrying Canadian Junior Hockey League team, the Humboldt Broncos, collided with a tractor trailer on a rural road in Saskatchewan on April 7. Among the dead are at least nine players, the team's head coach Darcy Haugan, an assistant coach and two people from a local radio station. The players were aged 16-21. The remaining 14 people on board were injured and the driver of the tractor trailer was not injured. Authorities have said that there is a continuing investigation into the cause of the accident. The community-owned team has won two national championships and the town has a strong connection to the team, as the arena is considered the center of the community. Hotels have offered family members of victims free accommodations and a Gofundme page has raised over \$1.5 million for the team. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a statement of support and called the town's mayor and the team president offering his sympathy.

FORMER SENATOR DANIEL K. AKAKA DIES

AT 93—Known for his success in securing recognition for Asian Americans who fought for the United States in World War II, former Senator Daniel Akaka died April 7. He had previously been in the hospital for several months. Akaka was a Democratic Senator representing Hawaii in Congress for 36 years and was the first native born Hawaiian elected to Congress. Akaka was a teacher and principal in Hawaii before changing paths to lead anti-poverty efforts in the 1970s. A World War II veteran himself, Akaka chaired the Veterans' Affairs Committee and sat on the Armed Services and Homeland Security committees. He sponsored legislation in the 1990s which eventually led to the bestowment of over twenty Medals of Honor to Asian American veterans, as only one had been awarded during the war. Akaka also led unsuccessful legislative efforts to recognize native Hawaiians as indigenous people so they could also receive federal funding.

TEXAS TO DEPLOY NATIONAL GUARD TO

MEXICAN BORDER—After U.S. President Donald Trump said that he would order military presence to the southern border of the United States, Texas dispatched approximately 250 Texas National Guard troops. President Trump said that the troops are needed to combat what he called a looming threat of drugs, crime and illegal immigrants from the southern border. Defense Secretary James Mattis signed an order April 7 to authorize funding for 4,000 National Guard troops through Sept. 30. Additionally, the Guard will deploy ground surveillance vehicles and aircrafts. Arizona and New Mexico governors have also committed to sending state troops down, while governors from Montana and Oregon have refused to send their own units. Other governors have voiced their support or opposition of the order, with some saying that the militarization and troops are unneeded. Under the order of deployment, each individual governor has control of their own state's troops, while the federal government will finance the initiative.

US SURGEON GENERAL ADVISES CIVILIANS

CARRY NALOXONE—U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams issued a national public health advisory on April 5, recommending that more American civilians carry naloxone, a drug used to reverse opioid overdoses. The surgeon general specifically notes that friends and family of those at risk for an overdose should have the drug on hand. Naloxone works immediately to restore breathing for those overdosing from opioids by blocking the brain's opioid receptors. The drug's effects can last for an hour and a half, giving the user enough time to seek further medical attention. Naloxone comes in various forms and can be administered as a nasal spray commonly called Narcan or injected directly into a patient's muscle using a syringe or auto injector. The drug is available at any pharmacy and some states allow over the counter purchase.

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SEATTLE U STAFF FEEL UNDERREPRESENTED ON CAMPUS

Frances Divinagracia
Staff Writer

Staff members work in conjunction with faculty members and upper level administrators to help the overall experience of the student body at Seattle U. They are some of the most recognizable faces to the students, and the ones who interact with them the most, but are often left out of conversations regarding the decision-making processes of improving campus culture for these students.

Staff underrepresentation is not a new issue that Seattle U is tackling, but it is becoming more prominent among the community. There are nearly 30 more staff members than there are faculty members, and yet, staff find themselves being left out of important dialogues that would allow them to express their lived experiences on campus.

The College of Arts & Sciences has realized this gap that comes from not involving staff, and is working towards a staff advisory council that would directly hear from members whose voices are not usually heard

have to say. The college already has a Faculty-Staff Senate in place. While these groups are steps forward in the right direction, Core Administrative Specialist Stephanie Lewis still believes there needs to be more attached to what that entails exactly.

"There needs to be sort of trust re-established, because at this point, I feel like the staff go to each other or they go to faculty members that they do trust and have a relationship with, but right now it's just emails coming from the top-down," Lewis said.

The College of Arts & Sciences is the only college that has an implemented second governing body, and many staff members are looking to follow their model and create a similar organization within the other colleges and departments.

Staff members have rarely been included in committees, or in conversations around search and hiring teams or human resource policies. When they are, they often do not fully represent a holistic staff experience because they're mainly comprised of higher level staff members.

Kimberly Gawlik, the Senior Administrative Assistant for the Institute of Public Service, mentioned that supervisors are usually the ones reporting back to upper level administrators without fully understanding the entire depth of staff members' problems.

"It's a very paternalistic attitude that says, 'I supervise a hundred people, I understand the needs of those people,' and so that's probably just a disconnect," Gawlik said. "They failed to recognize the importance of that voice, and when they do consider it, they consider it from an upper level bird's eye view."

Program Coordinator for Sports Administration and Leadership Rose Kaser shared this belief as well.

"At the end of the day, they're gonna be like, 'You're represented, it's right here.' But we don't share the same issues, even though we should," Kaser said.

The lack of communication has caused strains on relationships within the levels of faculty, staff, and administration members. Faculty, staff, and administrators are not

finding the time to talk with one another to understand what each line of work is dealing with and what could be improved in timely fashions.

"If you're not part of the decision making and you're not compensated at the same level that upper administration is, then things are gonna change," Kaser said. "Then we're gonna end up with the culture that we have right now of no participating, of uncertainty, of dissatisfaction, of frustration."

"All of these changes are being implemented, [but] we forgot to communicate," Kaser said. "We forgot to actually find out what you do that helps my purpose that ultimately is going to help serve our students. We all have the same goal, and that's what we tell ourselves, but we're not working the same way. We're not communicating."

When asked what solutions they would like to see implemented to improve the current culture surrounding staff underrepresentation, all of these staff members pointed to one thing: shared governance.

"I would like to see, eventually, that instead of a governing at the university that takes into account issues and ideas and thoughts that come from staff council, to be a body that doesn't need a staff council because it incorporates all of those positions and all of those voices," Gawlik said.

Staff are left with the decision to either stay or to leave, and while there are many talented people who choose to part ways with Seattle U, a large portion of them want to stay because they are heavily motivated to see the success of the students.

"We just love the students," Lewis said. "We love working with you guys and we just want to do our jobs well to be able to serve you and to help you and to have that recognized."

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VANESSA BRIMHALL • THE SPECTATOR

Seattle University Staff member Jennifer Smoose is the Program Coordinator for the Interdisciplinary Arts and Arts Leadership Program.

PROFESSOR FINDS NORMALIZING SEX TALKS HELPS LOWER HIV RATES

Sarah Haghi
Staff Writer

Feeling awkward and embarrassed while watching your parents fumble through a choppy monologue about “the birds and the bees” is a cringe-worthy childhood memory for many people. However, the discomfort of talking about sex and presenting sex as taboo or scandalous is not present in other cultures within our country.

Gayle Robinson, a professor in the Seattle University College of Nursing, had a very different experience with learning about sex in her formative years. Raised in rural Mississippi, Robinson’s community engaged in “intergenerational dialogues,” or IGDs. Robinson presented her research on the power of IGDs in Garrand on April 5.

“I grew up around this concept of people being able to help each other and talk you through things,” Robinson said.

Robinson saw how successful IGDs could be, so when she moved to Seattle and didn’t see those conversations happening, she wanted to incorporate the IGD method into mainstream forms of sex education.

Robinson discovered that in 1993, HIV/AIDS was the leading cause of death for African-American women ages 24-45. She discovered that African-American women still have much higher rates of HIV than women of any other ethnicity. African-Americans represent only 12 percent of the United States population, but constitute around 44 percent of HIV cases today.

Robinson speculated systemic reasons for this disparity, from economic to housing situations, and from education opportunities to stigmas to overall access.

“Your education level and your sense of poverty can change your whole world view about what is possible for you,” Robinson said. “And who you choose as a mate. Who you think you deserve, what you think you deserve, all can be influenced by just those dynamics.”

Through these unsettling discoveries, she saw an opportunity to implement her desire for more IGDs in order to lower HIV rates among African-American women.

“I’ve been away from home for a long time and I kept trying to figure out: How do you go home and make a difference with some of the research work that you do? And I began to make the connection between what was going on with HIV prevention,” Robinson said.

On top of creating healthier community conversations about sex, Robinson’s goal was to have more people get tested for HIV so those receiving positive diagnoses could get treatment at earlier stages.

“The risk is not knowing, so people need to get tested,” Robinson said. “Treatment does work. We have to find a way to get to communities that are more vulnerable.”

So, she returned to Mississippi and conducted a qualitative study which was comprised of interviews with 30 African-American women in the city of Forest. Ranging from ages 18-80, 93 percent of them had participated in IGDs; 56 percent were talking about sexual health; 43 percent were talking about HIV.

She had two main research questions: In what ways would IGDs be used for addressing sexual health and HIV prevention? And, what kind of topics would you include and not include in the topic?

Robinson emphasized the effect of chosen language in the success of these conversations.

“Saying ‘war on AIDS’ versus ‘response to AIDS’ matters. When you think about war, you think of someone who needs to be eliminated... We need to get people more involved in [discussing HIV], where it isn’t seen as taboo,” Robinson said.

The establishment of trust and comfort within the conversation’s setting is necessary to IGDs effectiveness. Robinson believes being able to normalize these conversations so that they can be discussed in casual settings is vital.



VANESSA BRIMHALL • THE SPECTATOR

Gayle Robinson (center) is a rural Mississippi native who did research back home on Inter-generational dialogues concerning HIV prevention among African American Women. She is currently an assistant professor in the College of Nursing. From the left, senior nursing student Lainey Shaughnessy, Dr. Robinson, and senior nursing student Shika Kalevor.

“Just having conversations at the dinner table, or while driving in the car, or anywhere,” Robinson said. “You don’t have to worry about having the right words, you just go into the dialogue and it’ll evolve but if you don’t do it, you won’t get practice.”

Seattle U senior nursing student Shika Kalevor attended Robinson’s event. She expressed frustration regarding dialogues about sexual health.

“I feel like we really don’t talk about [sex] enough,” Kalevor said.

The women Robinson talked to didn’t think any of the conversation about HIV should be censored, including contracting, testing, treatment and impact on your life.

“[This openness is necessary] to destigmatize and take some of the fear out of the discussion,” Robinson said.

Robinson is partnering with the licensed behavioral health agency, Sisters in Common, a community-oriented childcare organization that believes in having HIV-positive people held accountable by family and friends for taking their medicine

and going to doctor appointments, for example.

“It’s as powerful, if not more powerful, than a doctor you go see for a few minutes in his office and he gives you a prescription,” JC Ephraim said, a Mental Health Specialist for Sisters in Common who attended Robinson’s event. “Some kind of dialogue is more supportive in terms of health and well being.”

Robinson will work with Sisters in Common to further pursue her goal of creating healthy and destigmatized conversations around sexual health within families and communities.

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AN UPDATE ON THE NO NEW YOUTH JAIL COALITION

Rania Kaur
Staff Writer

Two blocks away from Seattle University, at 12th and Yesler, resided the Youth Juvenile Justice Center. However, a few months ago the this facility was torn down to build a \$210 million youth jail, known as the Children and Family Justice Center. The No New Youth Jail Coalition (NNYJC) has demanded a moratorium on construction, and a new series of direct action protests has gained the six-year movement a lot of traction.

On Monday, March 19, the NNYJC delivered a letter to King County Executive Dow Constantine's Office demanding a moratorium on construction.

"We demand a moratorium on construction until the County repurposes the site for meeting the needs of youth and families and eliminating any plans for courts or jails on the site," the letter states. "You are trying to push this project to completion in a rush because it is unpopular, unfunded, and illegitimate."

The project began six years ago in 2012 with King County Executive Dow Constantine taking the lead to raise money for the jail, a tax levy was

put on ballots that same year. The tax levy passed and the End Prison Industrial Complex (EPIC) sued King County for the flawed language used in the levy. It went to the court of appeals which, in 2017, deemed that the language was clear, but that the method for collecting the funding was invalid. It is now in the court of appeals at the Washington State Supreme Court.

Despite it being in the court of appeals, the construction is still ongoing. Under this new building, family courts which are currently located in downtown Seattle will also be combined in the juvenile detention center. Associate Professor at the Seattle U School of Law, Dean Spade, said that shortening the project to a youth jail misses the deeply systemic racism in these structures.

"The family court system and the child court system in the United States is targeting Black and Native families. It separates families from their children. It's immensely racist, so we should be opposing both the family courts and the youth jail part of this," Spade said.

The NNYJC is also proposing ideas for other uses for the building, pointing to different non-profits in the area that could collaborate to create a more positive environment.



ELISE WANG • THE SPECTATOR

March has been highly active for the No New Youth Jail Coalition. On Monday March 26, the NNYC protested at the entry points of the construction site causing construction to be stopped for the day.

The next day, they protested peacefully at the Chinook building where Constantine's office is located. And on the following day, they launched their social media campaign to get more than 1,000 signatures on a petition for the moratorium.

On Thursday, March 29, they dropped a No New Youth Jail banner from the East Olive Way Bridge over Southbound traffic.

"The bottom line is should we be building new jails for youth and places for youth to separate youth from their families or should we be pouring these hundreds of millions of dollars into things that we know make young people safer and more well," Spade said.

This past Friday, April 6, the NNYJC protested by occupying the main entry point of construction.

Dayanara Almon, a middle school student at Seattle Girls School is involved at the Youth Undoing Institutional Racism where she found out about this movement.

"I feel really bad because me and my friends that were in my old school, we could've all been in here because we're all youth of color. I think we

have a very big chance of ending up in here," Almon said.

Robert Gavino, a senior Humanities for Leadership major—has been involved in this particular campaign for quite a while, but has done resistance work since his junior year of high school.

"For respectable immigrants like my family, who have some class privilege—it's our property and our safety that got used to justify this jail and gets used to justify police targeting," Gavino said. "I'm not going to use my life and their life, to be used to justify how the state targets low-income people, black youth or immigrant youth."

The NNYJC hopes that King County listens, and follows the examples of cities like Victoria, B.C. where a former Victoria youth detention center became a homeless shelter.

"I want this building and so much more to be a space where people who are most targeted by these systems right now, to be able to dream of what they need it to be," Gavino concluded.

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ELISE WANG • THE SPECTATOR

On Friday morning, protesters gathered at 6 a.m. outside the construction site of King County's Children and Family Justice Center to protest the new youth jail.

KEEPING DR. KING'S FLAME BURNING IN TIMES OF DARKNESS

Frances Divinagracia
Staff Writer

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that," Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said.

Wednesday, April 4 marked the 50th year since the assassination of King, a prominent leader of the civil rights movement in America during the 1950s and 1960s.

50 years after his death, this country has celebrated and honored the legacy of a black man who spread messages of justice, peace and love to a country in a state of intolerance, bigotry and hate. Campus Ministry, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and Office of Multicultural Affairs partnered together and held the Eternal Light commemoration to revere King and his work.

Michelle Kim, who works in the Office of Multicultural Affairs, realized how it is important to have MLK Day and celebrate his life, but that there is also significance in his death and the way he died.

"He was killed doing passion work and important work, and so what do we want to do in reflecting on that?" Kim said.

She offered the closing statement to the event and spoke about choosing the name Eternal Light to truly symbolize how so many people have carried his messages and his ideas into the present day.

"Really, for me, MLK the individual is not the eternal light," Kim said. "What he stood for—love, hope, the dedication to fight for nonviolent action and creating a just world—that hope is eternal and we can make it eternal."

Six students performed a reading of King's "I've Been to the Mountaintop"—which he gave before his assassination the following evening—towards the end of the commemoration.

Among them were Mashayla Combs, Amina Ibrahim, Pa Ousman Jobe, Shika Kalevor, Matinn Miller,

and Anab Nur. Each of them chose and held books written by people of color that talked about black identity and history, which they used to hide their notecards, but also to add creativity and symbolism to their reading.

"Matinn came up with this idea and it was pretty brilliant," Kalevor said. "I chose the book *Roots* by Alex Haley because it signified where the narrative began of African descendants in the United States. We each picked a book that was symbolically important to the Civil Rights Movement."

Kalevor spoke to what the message of eternal light means to them as well and what it means to make sure that flame never burns out in themselves and in their communities.

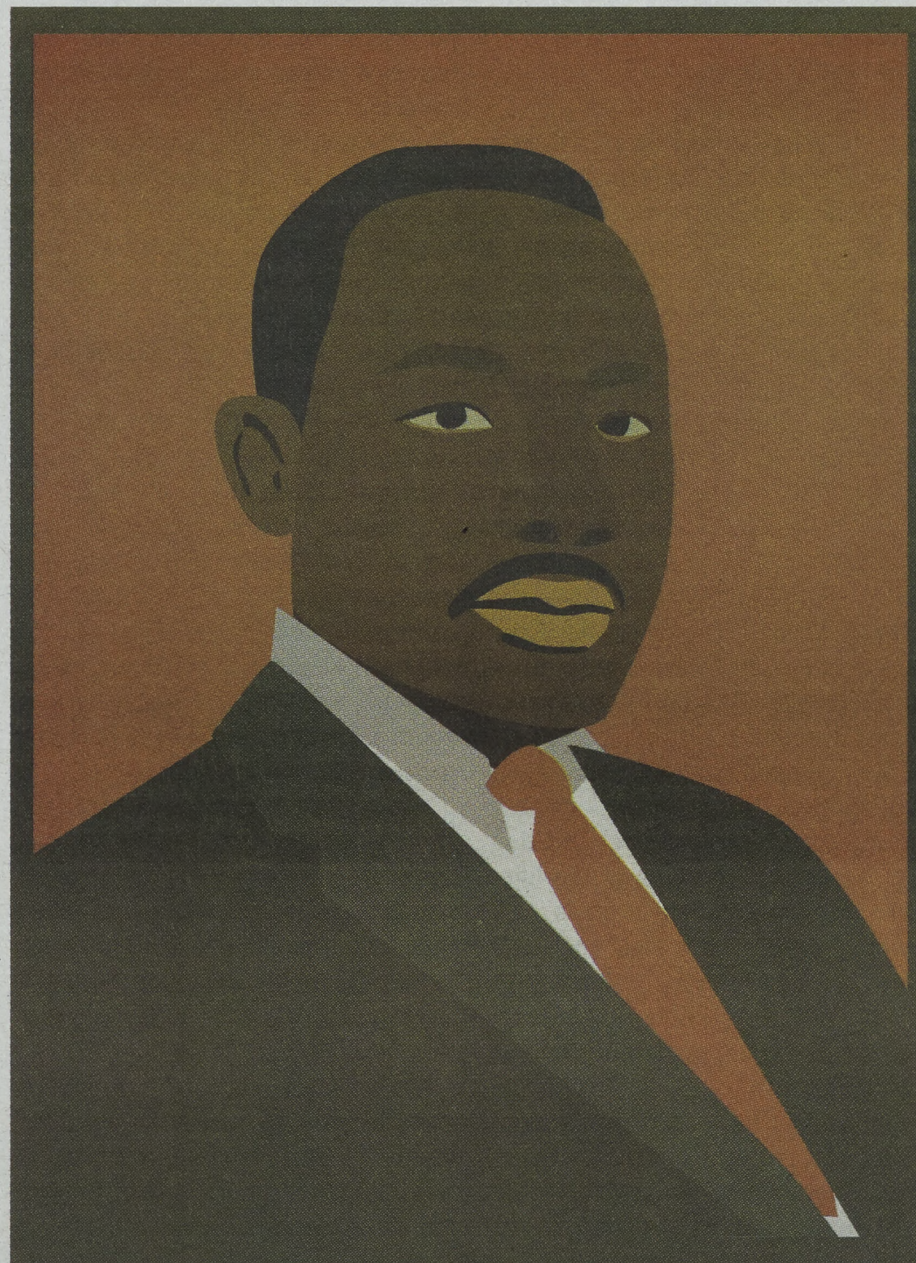
"To me, it means that our light can never be extinguished," Kalevor said. "No matter how much adversity we face as black people in America, that light and that power we hold will never burn out. We've made it this far, so it means to keep pushing and fighting for our rights."

Kalevor and Nur also touched upon how they take part in smaller scale and larger scale ways to emanate the eternal light they, and anyone else, can possess.

"The ways I've tried to honor 'eternal light' is by staying involved! Change involves action and getting educated," Kalevor said. "I try my best to attend social justice events, advocate for my peers, and stay active in the campus and Seattle community. I'm also involved with the Unnamed Project, which aims to document the voices of historically marginalized groups on campus to ensure that their voices are heard, as well as making sure that their concerns are being addressed."

Nur noted the importance of focusing on vulnerable communities when it comes to working towards change, and touched on how much she enjoys working with youth of color.

"I'm really passionate about equity for youth of color, and whenever I work with youth of color in the community, I try and honor what would be called that 'eternal light.' I believe that the idea that communities



SAMIRA SHOBEIRI • THE SPECTATOR

are powerful enough to incite change is knowledge that all people should have access to, especially our youth," Nur said.

After the candlelight vigil, attendees were given a few moments to reflect on the readings, and invited to ponder questions such as "What does it look like for you to carry this light and continue to live the spirit of eternal light?" and "How might you get into good trouble today?"

At the end of the memorial, the chapel bells tolled 50 times at approximately 6:01p.m., the same time King was assassinated, to conclude the celebration of his eternal light.

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BUDDY TALKS: GIVING THOSE WITH DISABILITIES THE STAGE

Sarah Haghi
Staff Writer

Three years ago, the Best Buddies club at Seattle University was an almost completely empty room. Junior Psychology and Humanities for Leadership major Molly McCabe founded the club and today, it has grown to include over 30 members.

As an international nonprofit organization, the goal of Best Buddies is to form one-to-one friendships between Seattle U students and people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. The buddies, the title for the club members with disabilities, are community members ranging on average from age 21-27.

"It's pure friendship, it's not mentoring, there's no hierarchy or power structure. It's just community," McCabe said.

This quarter, Best Buddies SU has bigger plans for their organization. In less than a week, on April 17, the club is putting on an event in the Wyckoff Auditorium called Buddy Talks.

Haley Gilford, a junior Criminal Justice major at Seattle U who has been a member for three years, elaborated on some of the specific goals of the event.

"These past couple months, we've focused on advocacy...talking about inclusion on a policy level and on an educational level," Gilford said. "What this Buddy Talks aims to do is to pass the mic to people with intellectual disabilities, and give them the stage to talk about how to advocate for themselves and how they did it."

"People at Seattle U really think that this is such a social justice oriented area and how could you leave people with disabilities out? But there are no people on this campus with down-syndrome and there's little visibility for people who have varying levels of autism on this campus and not all of our buildings are easily ADA accessible," McCabe said, expressing frustration regarding the difficulty to plan events for disabled people on Seattle U campus due to the limited

accessibility of buildings and limited parking spaces.

There will be seven speakers at the event, speaking from a range of differently abled perspectives, although Best Buddies solely focuses on those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

There will be four student speakers who are buddies from the club. Devon Adelman, Kenasa Sakura, Brad Morse, and Joseph Bosma-Moody will talk about their experiences with Best Buddies, the use of offensive language and their experience in the workforce.

"Every single person who is speaking has a disability of some sort and is able to use this forum to speak in a way that I don't think Seattle U has featured before," McCabe said. "That was really important to me...I don't want to be the face of Best Buddies... it's their job to advocate for themselves and they do it way better than I do."

Ph.D. candidate Dawn Dubsy is a quadruple amputee who will also be speaking about the research she's done and the foundation she started called America Against Malaria.

The last speakers at the event, Eric Mathes and Ivanova Smith, are two prominent social advocates from the community who will be discussing different forms of policy as well as how they, as people with disabilities, go about instituting change.

"I plan to speak on the importance of true inclusion and how it supports the civil rights of people with disabilities," Smith said. "It's important for students and faculty to hear from the community of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. When our lives are shared, our experiences, it should come from us."

When McCabe came to Seattle U, she had already been a member of Best Buddies in California for six years. Upon her disappointment at the complete lack of Best Buddies in all of Washington, three years ago she decided to open the first chapter in the state.

"A huge part of the club right now is that we are working with a bunch of people in the community and with Best

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Buddies International to bring Best Buddies to the state of Washington and get a state office here and a lot of business support," McCabe said, who recently got on the State Board for Expansion to bring Best Buddies to Washington state.

The University of Washington is opening a Best Buddies chapter in the next few months and the state is currently working on expanding to five high schools in the next six months.

Buddy Talks will be held at 7:00 p.m. in Wyckoff Auditorium on April 17.

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IT'S SPRING! THAT MEANS...



EMILY MOZZONE • THE SPECTATOR

THE 10

TOP 10 AIR BUD MOVIES


- 10 Air Bud: Golden Receiver
- 9 Air Bud II: World Pup
- 8 Air Bud & Scooby Doo: Never Been Higher
- 7 Air Bud and the Half-Blood Prints
- 6 Air Bud VII: Bud with a Vengeance
- 5 Air Bud IX: The Fast and the FUR-ious
- 4 Air Bud Barks up the Wrong Tree
- 3 Air Bud V: The Barkening
- 2 Air Bud XV: Air Bud Meets God
- 1 I Saw Mommy Kissing Air Bud

THE SIGNS AS DOG BREEDS


 LIBRA
9/23-10/22
Maltese

 CAPRICORN
12/22-1/20
Doberman

 ARIES
3/21-4/20
Rottweiler

 CANCER
6/22-7/22
Chow Chow


 SCORPIO
10/23-11/21
Pit Bull

 AQUARIUS
1/21-2/19
Komondor

 TAURUS
4/21-5/21
St. Bernard

 LEO
7/23-8/22
Tibetan Mastiff

 SAGITTARIUS
11/22-12/21
Bloodhound

 PISCES
2/20-3/20
Beagle

 GEMINI
5/22-6/21
Cocker Spaniel

 VIRGO
8/23-9/22
Borzoï



**LAUGHING YET?
SATIRE BECEOMES
A MEDIUM FOR THE
INFORMED**

**BY
ALEC DOWNING**



Laughing Yet?

SATIRE BECOMES A MEDIUM FOR THE INFORMED

BY ALEC DOWNING



Whether it be John Oliver ripping into the latest White House Scandal, a wacky yet oddly relatable article from *The Onion* or an outlandish headline published by Seattle University's *Hard Copy Satire*, satirical material is all around us.

At its most basic level, satire is the use of humor to reveal or critique something. It comes in many forms, the most popular and commercially successful of which being political satire.

"As long as Americans have had a political process, Americans have made fun of their political process," said Patrick Schoettmer, a professor in the political science department. "The main difference today as compared to, say, the 1950s, is the explosion of the media commons, so that there are so many more outlets for political satire today."

While satire has always existed as a way to critique those in positions of power, several revolutions in media and news helped it reach the immense popularity it now sees.

As television news became an accepted and popular source for information, it allowed for satire to utilize this growing medium. Early examples that parody traditional news broadcast, such as *Saturday Night Live's Weekend Update*, still exists to this day.

Jon Stewart began hosting the *Daily Show*—one of the most popular and influential political satire shows in American pop culture—nearly two decades ago. The show continues to this day and is now helmed by Trevor Noah. It spawned numerous spin-offs including Stephen Colbert's *The Colbert Report*, John Oliver's *Last Week Tonight* and Samantha Bee's *Full Frontal* as well as international versions of the *Daily Show*. Jon Stewart and his legion of satirical prodigies have established themselves as some of the biggest names in not just political satire but television news.

These shows have wide appeal but have become particularly popular amongst millennials.

This however, as Victor Evans, a professor in the Communication and Media department, pointed out, does not mean political satire shows are the only source of news for the younger generations, a common misconception.

"Young people get their news from everywhere especially through social media. They are getting news from everywhere so it's not like they are only depending on these satirical shows for all of their news, they are getting it from multiple viewpoints," Evans said.

Julie Homchick Crowe, a professor in the Communication and Media department, explained how satire

as a comedic form actually requires the audience to be informed prior to consuming it.

"The way in which satire might segment the public is sometimes the degree to which audiences are made to feel like insiders. We don't understand satire if we are unfamiliar with the object being satirized," said Homchick. "Stephen Colbert's character on *The Colbert Report* is funny to audiences who understand who Bill O'Reilly is, which is who Colbert modeled his character after. In this sense, the audience gets to be "in" on the joke."

Both Evans and Homchick's sentiments are supported by a study of the 2012 presidential election news cycle which concluded that "Millennials don't watch [political satire] to get informed; they watch because they are informed." The study also found that 50 percent of millennials watched political satire shows for election coverage but that these same millennials also got news from network or cable news and/or through the internet and social media.

The internet and social media have also vastly changed the ways in which people consume both news and satire in their own ways.

Schoettmer believes satire in the age of the internet may be important to the future of American politics, "I think we are seeing political humor increasingly democratized by the

internet, where anyone could go viral with a well-crafted satirical political meme. This could potentially allow for conservatism to rediscover its funny bone" Schoettmer said. "I think recreating a sense of irreverence and an ability to laugh at oneself within the political class could help to take the edge off of the sharp cultural divides that currently make bipartisan cooperation difficult. People who can laugh together are people who can live together."

Caitlin Carlson, yet another professor in Seattle University's Communication and Media department described her own reasoning for why these shows have gained such popularity and sustained this through the internet revolution, "The accessibility is a huge reason. The segments of these shows break up well to be shared on social media so I can see a topic I am interested in and watch it while I'm doing something like waiting for the bus," Carlson said.

Carlson expressed her own reasons for watching current political satire shows. "I trust John Oliver, I trust Samantha Bee, I don't always trust the mainstream media and I think particularly for millennials who have grown up in a 24/7 news cycle and are so media literate, they understand that part of the point of media is to make money so they will sensationalize things" Carlson said.

Evans echoed similar sentiments as to why there is more trust in political satirists than mainstream media outlets, "The younger generation has a mistrust for the media. They don't believe what they are being told especially because it appears to be unbiased but it's generally not. Satire shows point that out and make it clear just how biased they are and I think that transparency draws young people in."

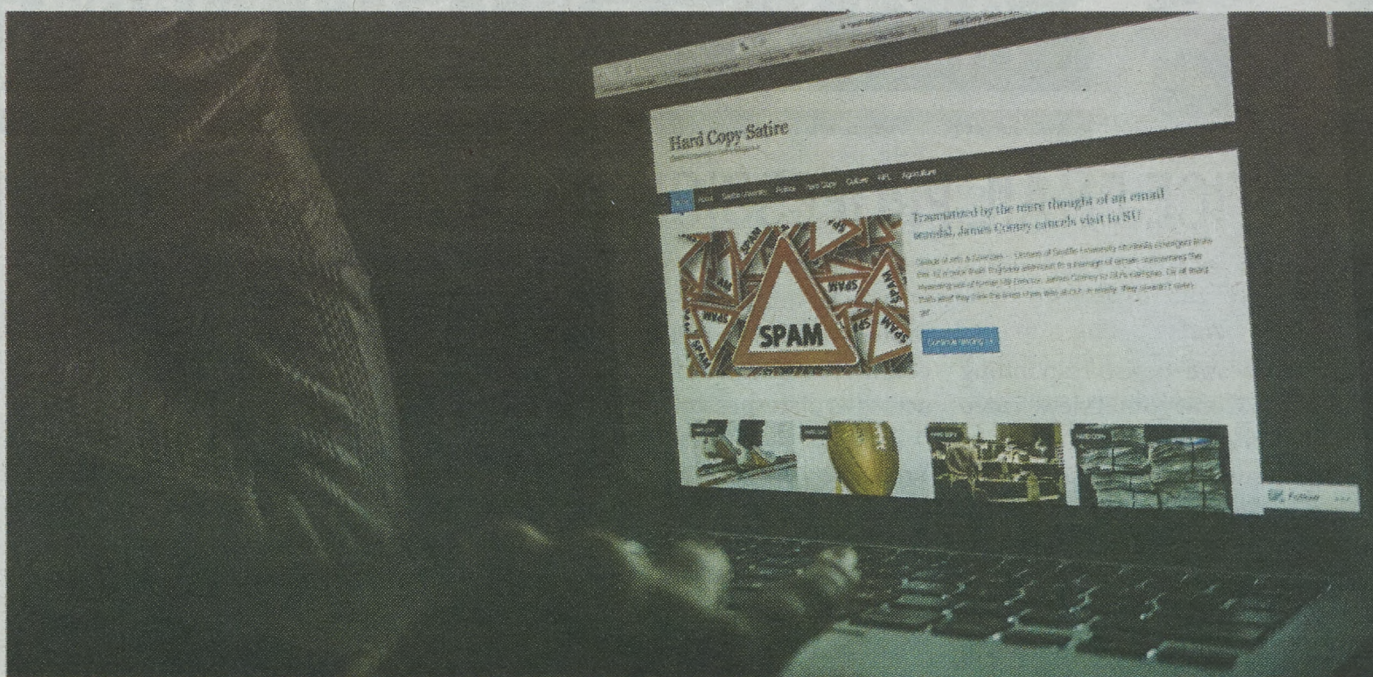
Brian Onishi, a professor in the Philosophy department, despite his admiration for satire offered a different perspective on how social media and satire may actually be a potentially troublesome combination.

"My concern is that because we are so entrenched in these digital cultures that we make it very easy to speak in 140 characters or to have messages disappear, it's part of these platforms, it seems to me that satire is built for this time in that we can laugh at something and then move on very quickly. The danger about it is that satire sometimes presents very serious things in a very funny way but it also allows us to move past it very quickly and not care about it as deeply as we can" he said.

Onishi did, however, see the positive side of satire when he wrote a chapter for the book, "Futurama and Philosophy". The book delves into the ways that the cartoon Futurama presents philosophical themes and questions. Onishi's chapter, titled "Queer eye for the robot kind" focuses on the season six episode, "Proposition Infinity."

Futurama, as the name would suggest, takes place in the future and as such did not deal with the real-life political issue of the legality of same-sex marriage, but instead swapped it out for robosexual marriage, marriage between a human and a robot. The episode satirized Proposition 8, a California ballot proposition that passed in 2008 that banned same-sex marriage, which was approved but later ruled unconstitutional.

Onishi added to his earlier critiques and offered "Satire is almost always critical, it's negative, it doesn't always seem to give a lot of space for what 'we ought to be doing'. Maybe that's not



GRIFFIN LEEMON • THE SPECTATOR

Seattle University's own satire magazine, *Hard Copy Satire*, anonymously publishes weekly articles on the latest SU news.

the job of the satirist but if we look to these cultural heroes and they're just providing laughs, there might not be someone who gets listened to in the same kind of way with the same audience."

While national political satire may receive the overwhelming majority of attention Seattle University does have its own satire publication: *Hard Copy*.

Founded in 2015, *Hard Copy* describes itself as "a weekly cooperative satirical and humorous publication open to all mediums of expression." The online-only publication is published anonymously. In an anonymous interview, one *Hard Copy* writer satirically claimed they wrote under a pseudonym because they were in the Witness Protection Program.

As for why *Hard Copy* was founded in the first place, one writer who spoke anonymously stated that they founded *Hard Copy* after they "got turned down for a staff position at the *Spectator*." Another *Hard Copy* writer compared this incident to a scene from the Star Wars film, *Revenge of the Sith* "Seriously, it was like when Anakin was denied the rank of Jedi Master. A villain was born that day."

The satirical publication pulls no punches and has time and time again shown their willingness to go after just about anyone and everyone at

Seattle University. This includes even President Fr. Stephen Sundborg S.J., who is a common subject of many *Hard Copy* articles. The publication and its writers refer to him as "Father Steve Daddy" and one writer expressed one of the publications long-term goals relating to Sundborg: "Our greatest challenge will forever and always be attempting to get Daddy Steve to read one of our stories."

An article from February proclaimed "Budget Cuts Force Father Steve to Sell His Full House™ Box Sets." In response to the alleged tragedy, *Hard Copy* created the website dvdsforsteveplease.com, which features a photo of Sundborg crudely photoshopped to appear with the main cast of *Full House*. "We're still at a mere \$20 for our GoFundMe campaign to buy Father Steve a Full House DVD box set."

While *Hard Copy* primarily tends to stick to satirizing campus news, they do occasionally foray into the realm of politics, sometimes intertwining the two as seen in the recent article "Traumatized by the mere thought of an email scandal, James Comey cancels visit to SU" in which both the absurd email chain involving the entirety of the College of Arts and Sciences and James Comey's tumultuous political career were skewered.

Hard Copy's own staff had their ideas

on why younger generations seem to be particularly receptive to satire, one writer simply responded "Our sad, sad lives." Another suggested, "Something has to fill the gaping void." And yet another posited that "upsetting news has been more or less inescapable our whole lives and satire is a way to cope. That and Trevor Noah is just so damn charming."

Evan's is not unfamiliar with this kind of thinking, "That's one of the biggest things I hear from students when I ask why they don't watch the news, 'it's depressing, it's dark, it's all horrible things.' Satire still uses the same stories but because it's done in a humorous way it takes that effect out of it and I think young people prefer that."

While political satire has been around since the birth of the country, there is no doubt it has increased in popularity in modern times, though and that while this generation may not be the first to utilize it, it is now an undeniably necessary and integral part of today's mediapolitical and politicalmedia landscapes.

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PRACTICE EMAIL PROFESSIONALISM AND STOP REPLYING ALL

Hunter Uechi
Staff Writer

“Please cease and desist responding to the James Comey Interview/Video Conversation email chains in all of their iterations,” Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) David Powers stated in an email addressed to students in the CAS.

On March 22, Seattle University students in the CAS were addressed in an email announcing an on-campus event. Students began replying to all recipients either commenting on the event or requesting others to stop replying to all. After four hours of students filling up the inboxes of anyone associated with the CAS, Dean Powers sent this cease and desist email.

Sophomore international studies and Spanish double major Raisa Steger was in the middle of studying for her finals when she heard her computer ringing with notifications.

“A lot of people were trying to get administrators’ attention or telling people to stop replying but, several people were doing it for fun,” she said. “It just got to the point where I had to figure out how to turn off all my notifications because it got to be too much.”

Steger said she did not engage in the chain because she did not want to add onto the responses. She hoped other students would come to the same realization and stop responding too.

Mike Laveson, the associate director of career services, said in instances like these when replying to all becomes an issue, it gives the community a chance to reflect on how one can practice professionalism.

“Professionalism is contextual but, especially on a university campus, there is always a way to be considering what [professionalism] means,” he said. “Seattle U has its own culture as a university and as a part of that culture, there are a set of norms, expectations

and practices.”

Laveson explained that a lack of professionalism, regardless of the communication medium, can come across as disrespectful to the recipient.

Business communication lecturer Professor Andrea McDowell also stressed the importance of thinking about emails from the perspective of the receiver.

“The bottom line is that [sender] intent is irrelevant. It doesn’t matter if you weren’t trying to offend someone, or if you were trying to make a different point,” she said. “How your reader perceives that message is what he or she is going to believe about it.”

One of the guidelines McDowell emphasized that part of good email professionalism practice is to never send an email when feeling particularly emotional. She does recommend writing out these feelings but through a different outlet.

“Write it in some other format first because it helps you get the emotions out and you can’t hit send. You don’t ever want to be in a really emotional state,” she said. “Take a step back and have someone look over it.”

Having someone else look at the email allows a third-party to accurately

evaluate whether the purpose of the message is coming through or if the emotion behind the email is upstaging the original intent of the email.

McDowell explained that the difficulty of email and other digital communication lies in the lack of nonverbal clues present during phone or in-person conversations.

“You lose a lot of the richness of communication because you don’t have tone or body language,” she said. “Once someone has been offended, or gets upset, you’re in the position of having to go back and explain yourself or apologize but, the damage is done.”

McDowell also recognized that many people already know how to act and respond professionally but that instantaneous messaging has decreased the amount of time people take to construct an email free of errors and mistakes.

“People are used to communicating casually so they transfer that into different spaces where it is not appropriate,” she said. “[One needs to] recognize there are different levels of formality and be willing to shift. It takes practice, being intentional and not treating all writing the same.”

One way Laveson intentionally

approaches composing emails is by taking the time to consider who his audience is.

“I am always aware of who is my audience. I assess if an email is delivering valuable and relevant [information that] serves them in some way,” he said. “I want to be respectful in my emails in both the content and the time I am asking the person to invest in reading it.”

McDowell echoes this, explaining that awareness is important when writing an email. She said there are so many different aspects of a receiver’s identity that can affect their perceptions and the way they hear or read a message.

“People just need to be really mindful of the receiver, the goal of their message, how their receiver is likely to perceive or interpret [their message],” she said. “Don’t assume. It takes slowing down and being mindful about being professional.”

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SEATTLE U COMMUNITY FEELS THE “INSTAGRAM EFFECT”

Bailee Clark
Staff Writer

For various reasons, the call of the wild is heard by many Seattle inhabitants. According to a recent article by the Seattle Times, the number of Seattle-area hikers has doubled in the last nine years due to the “Instagram effect” interpreted by Washington Trail Association’s Kindra Ramos as a growing need to detach from technology. It seems that for many Seattle University community members, this sentiment may ring true.

Emily Keithahn, a senior psychology major, conducted a study on how nature impacted levels of stress for different personality types. She distributed a survey online through social media, and a variety of Seattle U students and city dwellers along with folks from other parts of the country responded.

“We had lot of really interesting results,” Keithahn said. “One was that self esteem is related a lot to stress.”

She also saw results that showed that neuroticism and levels of stress relief found in nature were connected. Emotional instability, high levels of stress and anxiety, and the prevalence of strong emotions characterize neuroticism.

“People who are high in neuroticism and also stress benefited the most from spending time in nature,” Keithahn said.

The test asked participants to answer scaled questions, and there was also a qualitative section where people were asked to describe how they feel in nature with three words. Commonly used words were rejuvenating, stress relieving, calm and relaxing.

Another benefit that some get from nature is in the realm of the spiritual or religious. Matthew Riley, an adjunct professor at Seattle University, teaches classes on religion and ecology. He finds nature to be a place of spiritual and personal growth.

“I go to nature to relax and exercise and also rejuvenate my inner person,” Riley said. “I become more relaxed

and in touch with myself. I also feel more empathetic, connected and sympathetic. I feel like it makes me a better person.”

Riley pointed out that many religions have traditions and stories based in nature. Certain stories take place in a natural setting such as Moses getting the Ten Commandments on the mountain and Jesus wandering and having revelations in the desert. Riley also mentioned that the divine would often be presented to people in nature.

“When Jesus was about to be put on the cross, he went to the garden to pray,” Riley said. “He didn’t go to the temple to pray, he didn’t stay inside, he went out to the garden.” Today still, some people prefer to go into the natural environment to pray or seek spiritual connection.

However, nature isn’t about grand revelations and spirituality for everyone, but can be as simple as providing a little break from the grind of day to day life, or motivation to get

through the day.

Will Green, who graduated last year from Seattle U with a degree in film studies, said that during his time as a student and still today he finds peace in the outdoors.

“It is good to keep things in check and in perspective,” Green said. “It’s really easy to get worked up and feel trapped in the bubble of the city. But even just listening to the wind or the trees or the birds in the morning outside my window in Seattle is nice.”

These small bits of nature that can be seen right outside the window or on campus can be just as beneficial to some as a retreat to the mountains or the forest. Seattle has 6,591 acres of forest, and the streets are lined with greenery and teeming with creatures.

“Nature is a free resource to us,” Riley said. “You don’t have to pay for it or schedule an appointment. You don’t even have to go out into the wilderness, you can just go sit on a park bench or next to a tree outside

of your apartment and it is very soothing. You can get a lot of benefits from being near something green, or birds and flowers. Even if they have been planted by the grounds crew.”

Seattle is known as “The Emerald City” because the city is full of natural growth and nature enthusiasts. Washington is a haven for many folks who enjoy skiing, hiking, surfing and a multitude of other outdoor activities. It seems that these activities might be becoming even more important for a generation immersed in Instagram and other technologies, especially on an urban college campus like Seattle U.

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The cherry blossoms are beginning to bloom near the Saitama River in Japan.

SAMIRA SHOBEIRI • THE SPECTATOR

LOCAL ARTIST INTERPRETS MIGRATION AS HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

Sophia Wells
Staff Writer

With every piece of her art, from abstract paintings to an ornamental rug made of flour, Mary Ann Peters depicts her interpretation of scenes of migration in countries like Lebanon and Syria.

Town Hall Seattle hosted local artists Peters and Gary Faigin on April 5 to discuss Peters' recent works surrounding the refugee crisis and migration, as part of Town Hall's 'Inside Out' event series. Peters was the Artist in Residence of Seattle University in 2012 and Faigin is currently the artistic director at the Gage Academy of Art in Seattle.

Peters said that she saw it as her duty to educate herself to change the common and erroneous ideas of what that area of the world looks like.

"I felt that because my heritage was Lebanese and because my family was of Arab descent and because there were so many incidents of people of Arab descent being maligned that it made almost an ethical dilemma for me to not look at this topic and make this work," she said.

Many of her works are what Peters refers to as an "after image." She is responding to history and removes the nostalgia surrounding a particular event or heritage, instead replacing it with education. Some work that mirrors this sentiment is her recent series "this trembling turf," which is made of white ink on black scratchboard and depicted the search for things that are buried.

While studying at the Arab Image Foundation, Peters learned about the possible existence of a mass grave under a golf course in Beirut, Lebanon, which would be aligned with an incident that happened in a Palestinian neighborhood adjacent to the course. The mass grave has never been formally confirmed but it inspired Peters to read about forensic anthropology and its tools.

"It for me is just that we walk on histories, some of them are painful and some of them are just sublimated

sensitivities or sentimentalities," she said. "But they're important, they're the record of our existence."

In a series of works entitled "impossible monuments," Peters depicts smaller events of tragedy that feed larger ones. One such piece is a massive installation called "impossible monument (nothing but the memory)" in which Peters tackles the people who have profited off demise and tragedy of those trying to migrate across the Mediterranean.

Some people sell faulty floatation devices to those trying to flee, some of which are filled with newspapers instead of air. With this in mind, Peters' installation consisted of two walls covered in wound up newspapers, with pieces of backpacks or bags found interspersed among the newspapers.

Throughout the evening, Peters stressed that instead of referring to the issue as a migration crisis, we should acknowledge there is actually a worldwide humanitarian crisis occurring. She said that there is a serious question left in the fray

of whether we will be willing to accommodate people in need, in this case those with refugee status.

Another piece, "impossible monuments: flotsam," is an interpretation of a story Peters heard from a nurse from doctors without borders. The nurse told Peters about Yemeni fishermen he had spoken with who found belongings and remains of those trying to cross the Mediterranean in their fishnets.

With this, Peters created a piece consisting of a fishing net filled with items that would be found with a refugee. Peters said that the most important thing taken is typically a phone and the most needed item is Wi-Fi to communicate. Peters was particularly surprised to learn that many people carry lemons with them, as sucking on lemons can help cure the sea sickness that comes with travelling on questionable boats.

Event attendees Barbara Robertson and Janet Berkow know Peters and her work and were interested in hearing more about her experiences.

"I know her and I'm a visual artist

myself. So, I knew she was speaking here and I thought she's always good," Robertson said.

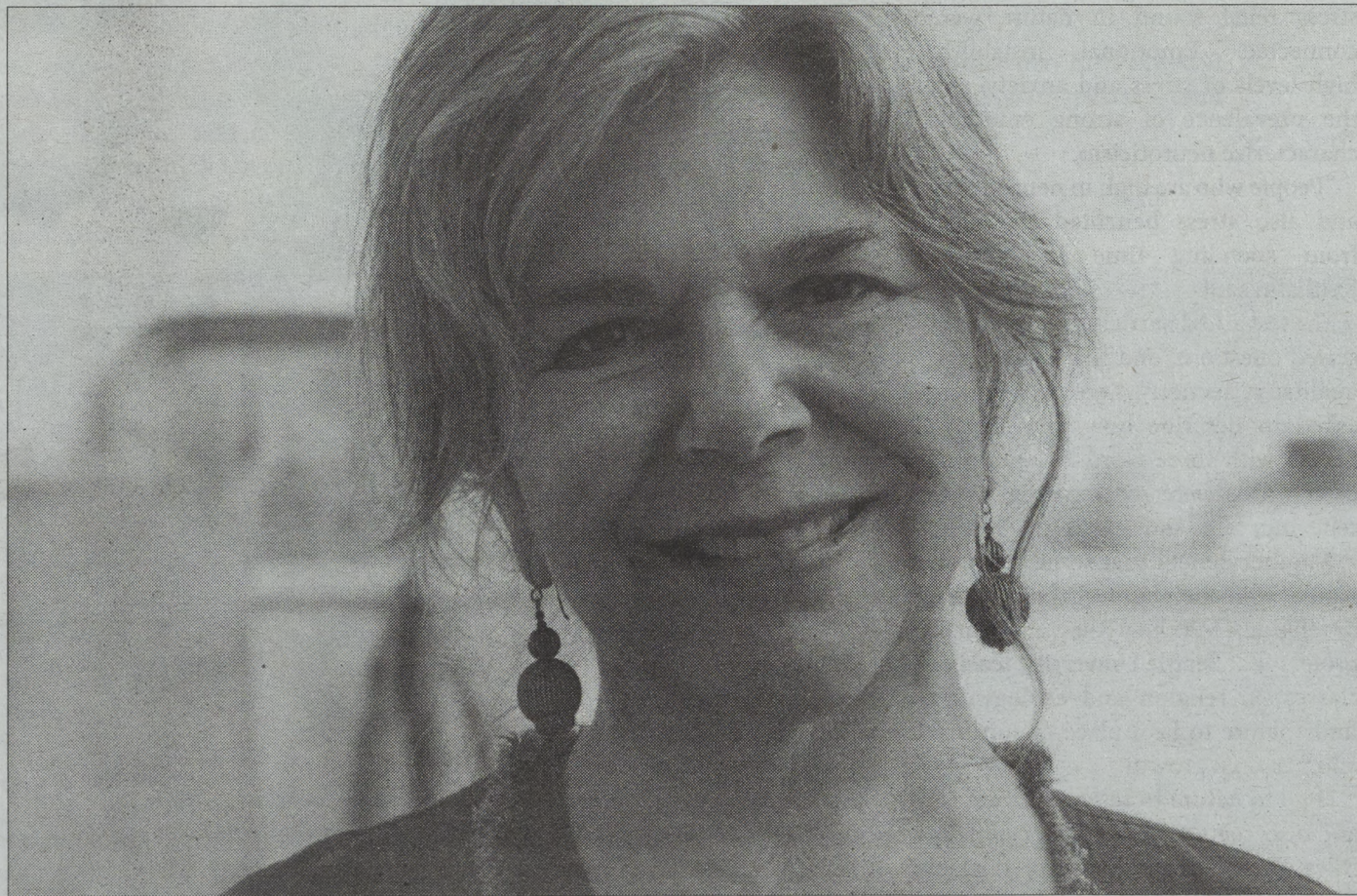
Berkow was most impressed by Peters' immense range of materials used in her work, as she has pieces made from almost any medium imaginable, including paint, flour and a sail.

"And it was always in response to a particular train of thought, so she doesn't start with materials, she doesn't start with art making," Berkow said, "She starts with an experience and digesting it and making it personal enough and then finding out what the right way is to express it."

Peters said that her art pieces are her own way of changing the world, and its perceptions of migration, a little bit at a time.

"We are all in some state of concern about the world and you can just choose your pocket that you want to give some sort of credence to," she said.

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COURTESY OF EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE

OFF WITH NO TROUBLES, SU DRAG SHOW 2018 WAS THE BUBBLES

Rania Kaur
Staff Writer

What do water and gender expression have most in common? Fluidity.

Exploring drag performance with an “Under the Sea” theme, drag kings and queens dressed as mermaids and pirates alike in the Campion ballroom last Friday. Put on annually by the Triangle Club and hosted by drag queen Abbey Roads, attendees for this year’s Drag Show nearly filled the room.

Notable drag performances included RC Justin, Seattle University Men’s Rugby Team, Paul and Eucalypstick and Magical Michael who also accompanied Lamborghini in their performance. Professional drag queens and kings Abby Roads, Samuel L. Jack-u-son, Isabella Richards and Mercy, Devine entertained the audience with their elaborate costumes and performances.

Song performances ranged from Big & Rich’s “Save a Horse [Ride a Cowboy]” to Justin Timberlake’s 2006 “SexyBack” and even featured a song from Disney’s “Moana” called “Shiny.”

Ash Vera, a junior majoring in criminal justice and forensic psychology, used drag as a form of self-expression on the stage this year. When Vera performed, they talked about how their journey of self-love and self-discovery has led them to be proud of who they are. Vera renamed the year 2018 “20-Gay-teen,” as they celebrated their queer self, performing as both a drag king and queen to Bea Miller’s “S.L.U.T (Sweet Little Unforgettable Thing).”

“I identify as genderqueer, and for the past two years being in a drag show, it was kind of like, I felt that I had to be male-presenting. I did add some female aspects into that, but I thought I had to stay in the male persona for it to be drag,” Vera said. “This year, in talking with some friends of mine, they encouraged me to just be who I am and that kind of fluidity that I have—it wasn’t a bad thing. I do feel masc sometimes, and I do feel femme sometimes, so I wanted to present

both which is why I switched it up.”

Ann Marie Zocchi, a history major and junior, reprised their role as Director of the Drag Show for their second year in a row.

“This drag show is very special to me. The one last year was amazing and beautiful, but I didn’t know what I was doing. This year, I had a slightly more idea of what I was doing. What made this drag show more special to me was who I wanted to include in the show,” Zocchi said.

Zocchi emphasized the ways she considered the changing definition of drag and inclusivity when thinking about how to direct this year’s drag show.

“There is a problem with the drag community of not being inclusive of all people, whether being a race, shape, gender, sexuality—people really put this narrow definition [on performers],” Zocchi said. “I tried to

break that open and expand that and include people that are beautiful and amazing performers. We did a lot more of that in this drag show.”

Seattle U hosts its own version of a drag race inspired by the popular show RuPaul’s Drag Race. Audience participants get the chance to strut their stuff with costumes designed by Seattle U student Ivy Jong.

The drag race is pitted against a chosen drag queen, king, and pair. The winner is chosen by the loudness of the crowd’s clapping and cheers. This year, the drag race included Tiffany, King Hoseidon and the pair Captain Lick Sparrow and first mate Dick Turner. Captain Lick Sparrow and Dick Turner emerged as victorious with their performance to Young Money’s “Bed Rock.”

Jong, an English and Creative Writing junior, has designed the costumes for the Drag Race since her

first year at Seattle U.

“I feel like drag is all about expressing yourself even when other people don’t really understand that or really accept it. I don’t really care, this is who I am,” Jong said. “I used to watch a lot of fashion shows and drag shows as a kid on tv. I was always a weird kid and I would dress really weird and even though people thought I was a weird kid because of it, I felt really empowered, that’s why I wanted to make costumes for the Drag Show.”

The Drag Show is gone until next year, but it seems the message of self-love and self-expression is in the spirits of all who attended. Anyone inspired to help plan or perform in next year’s Drag Show can contact the Triangle Club.

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SAMIRA SHOBEIRI • THE SPECTATOR

Paul and Eucalypstick bring their electric energy and dancing onto the stage of the 2018 Seattle U Drag Show.

THE IMAX FILM FUELING PANDA-MONIUM

Jacqueline Lewis
Senior Staff Writer

Picture me, a 20-something year-old, crying alone in an IMAX 3D feature film at Seattle's Pacific Science Center, all because a panda cub is lost and hurt in the wild. The search party suspensefully hikes for days to locate the panda by her GPS collar. I've been a fan of pandas since I made my animal-habitat diorama on them in first grade, gathering bamboo leaves from my backyard. Because of this history, I wouldn't categorize my emotional distress during "Pandas" the documentary as anything too out of character.

It's been a while since I saw a film in 3D, but because it was in the Boeing Theatre, a dome-shaped space ideal for 3D viewing, it didn't seem as over the top as other 3D films and really added to the stunning visuals. Not to mention—when your story's leading lady is an independent and sassy 3-year-old panda cub, Qian Qian, you really ought to do her justice.

It has also been too long since I giggled and awwed in public over the adorable force of nature that pandas truly are. Sure, it seemed like I was the oldest non-parent in the packed theatre, but I was nonetheless enthralled from start to finish.

The film opens up with narrator Kristen Bell's enthusiastic and sweet voiceover, as she sets the stage for the discussion on wildlife restoration and pandas (coined in the film as the "King Kong of cute"). The looming threat of extinction is positioned as an effect of human interaction, with sweeping landscapes, beautiful temples and mountains being filmed to show the human hand in the world's natural resources.

So when "Sharp Dressed Man" by ZZ TOP plays while panda cubs roll down slides, wrestling and squealing in the Chengdu Research Base for Giant Panda Breeding in China, the tempo change is met with audible enthusiasm from the theatre. My heart swelled as the little kids in front of me reached out towards the screen to touch the pandas, the 3D

visuals perfectly capturing the curious cubs as they crawled towards the camera lens.

This film achieves a unifying joy I haven't felt in a theatre since watching "Return of the Jedi." Maybe it's because I love pandas as much as Chewbacca, but "Pandas" successfully interrogates globalism and environmental responsibility in a way that makes sense to a child, potentially starting the conversation between the younger generation and their parents.

We are first introduced to Hou Rong, the research director at Chengdu, a seasoned biologist having successfully raised 200 pandas in her 24 years at the research base. Her next step for panda rehabilitation is ambitious, and the focus of the documentary: to introduce them into the wild. Back in the United States, Ben Kilham is doing important work with black bears. A man with the stature and likability of John Goodman but the heart and ingenuity of a biologist, he and his family have successfully raised 150 black bears for wildlife release in the New England area for decades.

Cue the hilarious and heartwarming scene of Kilham walking through the forest in his hiking boots and Levi's, followed by six rambunctious cubs filing behind him like ducklings. Traveling to America herself to enlist Kilham's help, Huo Rong and Kilham team up to apply the

method of human compassion, trust, and GPS tracking to aid the pandas' transition into the wild. This exchange and collaboration of ideas and experience makes for a good start to the nature documentary, but there is a thread of American excellence woven throughout the narrative to appeal to the predominate American audience and make it relevant to their cultural achievements.

The Disneynature and IMAX documentary conglomerates make money off of telling wordly stories through a lens of science, humor and interconnectedness and it sells. For the last few years, Earth Day has brought on a slew of family-friendly nature films, usually donating a proceed of opening week sales to wildlife funds for efforts documented in the film.

There is a market, established through credible research, dialed-in cinematography and that charming Disney-esque storytelling that entices viewer's curiosity for "far-away" lands, to put it mildly.

We see another international pairing later in the film. Field biologist Jake Owens from America and Bi Wen Lei from a small village in Mongolia have been working with panda cub Qian Qian since she was born. They watch her grow up and transition from the research base to wildlife enclosures. As the young men work over the years together, as friends, researchers and the two closest to Qian Qian, this

relationship becomes the heart and soul of the film.

Wen Lei acts as Owen's guide as they take Kung Fu classes together to sharpen their agility to "wrestle" with Qian Qian, join for meals of local delicacies and interact with many locals. Owens, apparently the more established wildlife biologist, believes Wen Lei has grown into an excellent field biologist and can take over the panda research in the future. The behind-the-scenes footage of this partnering shows a mutual collaboration of respect and expertise that puts a face to what we mean when we say the environment calls for a "global effort."

Despite problematic undertones of American excellence, the adorable and educational panda research in this film creates a channel exposure for a young audience to see the cross-cultural exchange of research, resources, and optimism as something to inspire and achieve a shared goal. As the credits roll in with "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" bopping throughout the theatre, you can't help but smile and wiggle-dance in your seat, even if you are double the age of the majority of the audience.

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COURTESY OF OUTRIGHT GEEKERY

TIME OUT SESSION: WAC HITTER OF THE WEEK CHASE WELLS

Jacqueline Lewis
Senior Staff Writer

Sophomore and right-fielder Chase Wells was awarded Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Hitter of the Week for the week for his outstanding play (batting .615) in the Redhawks' road series sweep against Chicago State. He hit his first home run of the season, chalking up three RBIs, with no walks or strikeouts in his 13 times at bats. It was the first time this season Wells had consecutive games with multiple hits.

JL: What's it like to be getting into the groove with season well underway, and to be recognized by the WAC?

CW: It feels pretty nice. It's nice to know that our hard work is paying off.

JL: After hitting your first home run of the season last week, how does it feel to be that offensive player for your team?

CW: It feels pretty good especially since how good our offense is. I'm not the leading guy in [batting] average, in home runs, there's I think six guys above me, so to be that guy for that [Chicago] series is exciting.

JL: What are some of your other roles on the team besides hitting?

CW: Playing defense is a huge role for me. We already have the bats, it's just the defensive part [that is lacking]. So, if I can just add that more to our already crazy good lineup, it's just a good addition.

JL: You're specialized as a utility player. Do you play any other positions besides right fielder, the position you played last week?

CW: I'm predominately a right-fielder, but I play pretty much anywhere in the outfield. I just got thrown into the right [field].

JL: Last season, men's baseball finished 20-35-1. What has the team and coaching staff been focusing on to improve game play?

CW: A huge aspect we've focused on is just to play hard, to not care what the outcome is like. Just as long as you gave 110 percent, no one is going to care about the win or loss.

JL: Well, it seems to be working, the team is 16-9 right now. After your strong play in Chicago last week and in general, have you felt a different energy with the team this year?

CW: The energy has been a lot different this year, especially since we don't have eleven guys on the disabled list. So now that everyone is healthy, you just get that same moJoe and everyJoe is on the same page.

JL: What has been something you've been focusing on to improve on in the past year?

CW: For me, getting stronger is a huge one because I never really lifted in high school. Baseball wise, I'm trying to hit the ball more to the left field than try to pull it.

JL: What has the coaching staff been like in your development as a player?

CW: If you have any questions, they always know the answer. They know how to approach you, they're very reasonable, very communicative when it comes to that stuff. I love 'em to death.

JL: What's your favorite Redhawk memory thus far?

CW: The Notre Dame win is up there. I'm going to have to say my favorite memory is my freshman year, before baseball season even started, we got to play this soccer game out on SU Park. We got to be in these little bubbles, the giant inflatable balls, and we just got to lay out each other playing soccer. That was a lot of fun.

JL: Heading into this weekend's games against Northern Colorado, what can we expect from the team? What are your predictions for how the match up will go?

CW: First, my prediction is I think it will be a high-scoring game because we are all a left-handed lineup and Northern Colorado has all right-handers in their pitching staff. So, I expect a lot of runs being scored. Also, I think Tarik [Skubal], who is going to throw on Friday, I think he is going to throw a one-run ballgame.

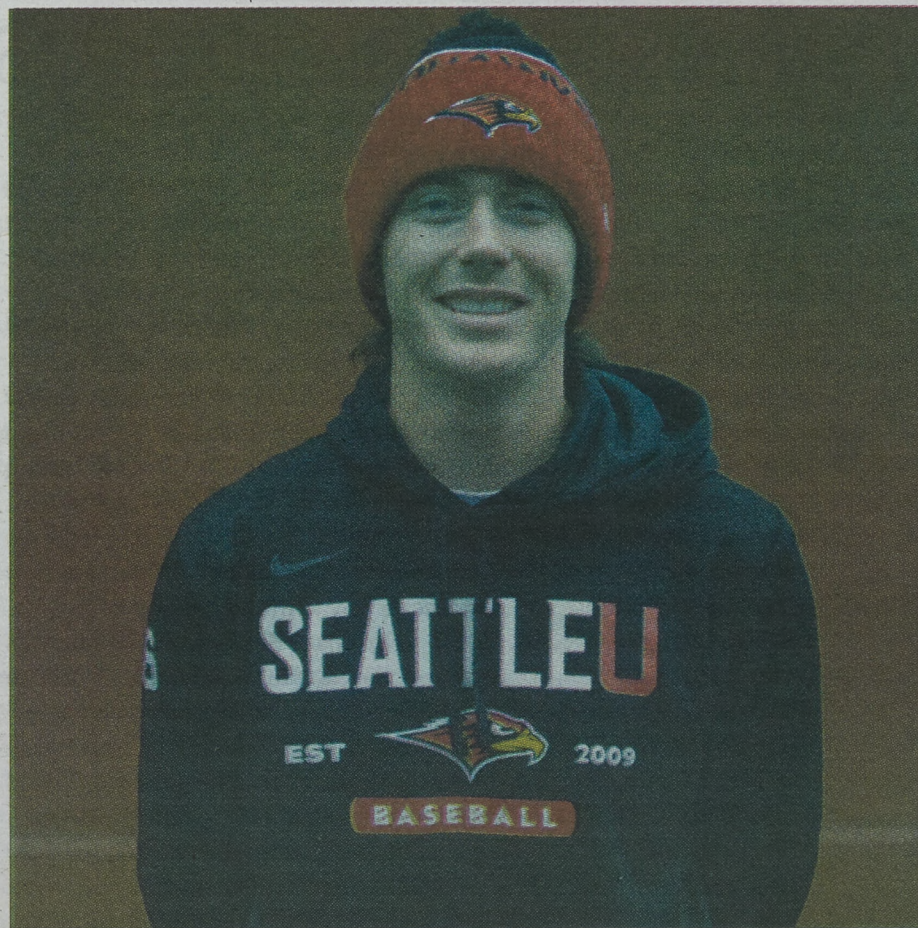
JL: How do you continue this energy, from being a WAC award recipient and batting really well, in the future? How do you focus?

CW: I honestly try not to think about how many hits I get each game. It's about whether I hit a ball hard, or how many pitches I can see each at bat. It's just putting up good at bats.

JL: What are some big games or teams to beat this season?

CW: GCU [Grand Canyon University] is a team to beat, and it's always nice to beat the Cougars [Washington State] and beat UW again. However, the huge win for us was against Notre Dame, that was a big one for us.

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HALEY DOW • THE SPECTATOR

Chase Wells did not strike out once in his 13th times at bat against Chicago State, contributing to the Redhawks road series sweep.

SOFTBALL SOARS IN SWEEP OVER ROOS

Jordan Kenison
Staff Writer

The Seattle University Softball team won three games against University of Missouri at Kansas City, successfully sweeping the Roos this past weekend. The Redhawks have been on a roll as of late, starting the season 5-1 in league play. This is only the second time in the softball program's history that the Redhawks have swept a league opponent.

Head coach Geoff Hirai valued the team's accomplishment and the first sweep under his tenure.

"It's a good way to keep our momentum going through the WAC [Western Athletic Conference]. Our goal is to win the WAC championship. So this just gives us a step forward [towards that goal]," he said.

Attributing to their great start to the season, he explained that it all boils down to dedication to the details.

"We are improving every day and buying into our culture and understanding that our culture will bring us to where we want to go," Coach Hirai said.

The Redhawks' stingy defense was on full display in the first two games, winning 6-2 and then 13-0. As if their steady defensive strategy was not already pivotal to the team's success, their narrow 1-0 victory on Sunday highlighted Seattle's ability to stay in games even when the bats aren't making much noise.

"As time goes on we're coming more together. Getting to know each more, playing together more, it's a lot of fun to be with them" redshirt first-year Carley Nance said, who pitched a three-hit gem in the close game on Sunday to complete the sweep.

Similar to her coach, Nance believes it is her team's commitment to winning that has allowed them to flourish as of late.

"Keeping our [level of] high work;

that's how we have been and that's how we will stay," she said.

She revealed how the team's dedication to base running is a signature quality that the team prides itself on. "It's hard, but once it's over it's so rewarding. We work hard and if we run hard during then we play hard together," Nance said.

Teams that get off to hot starts tend to be susceptible to getting lost in their overwhelming success. Still, senior Maddy Kristjanson says they are keyed in, "taking it one game at a time."

She is adamant that she and her teammates are focused on becoming better players rather than focusing on what the future holds.

"When we get to WAC, we are already going to feel prepared and will keep continuing to work on the little things to get ready and win some games," she said.

The Seattle Softball team takes on Cal State Bakersfield this upcoming

MATT LIPSEN • THE SPECTATOR
Madison Cathcart bats against the UMKC Roots at Seattle University on April 6th, 2018.



weekend. It will be interesting to see if the Redhawks can carry their strong play into the WAC championships beginning this May.

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SEATTLE U WOMEN'S TENNIS CONCLUDES REGULAR SEASON

Caylah Lunning
Staff Writer

The Seattle University Women's Tennis team had a busy weekend at Amy Yee tennis courts in Seattle as the team took on New Mexico State, Chicago State and Grand Canyon University (GCU).

The Redhawks kicked off their long three-day weekend of matches against New Mexico state this past Friday. The Redhawks captured a 6-1 victory

and earned their first conference win of the season. Doubles pair, senior Michelle Lui and redshirt-senior Kelli Woodman, earned a 6-4 victory.

Following their lead was doubles duo of first-year Hannah Gianan and first-year Kyra Jung who also took a victory with a 6-3 win. In the singles competition, Lui won 6-3 and 6-4. Gianan won 6-4 and 6-2. Jung won 7-5 and 6-3. Woodman won her matches 7-6 and 10-3. Junior Lily-Ana Kreutzer won 6-1 and 6-3.

Gianan seemed pleased with her team's overall performance.

"I think we did really well this weekend, considering we weren't expected to win any of these matches. We showed them that we do know how to come out here and play hard and play strong," Gianan said.

The Redhawks unfortunately dropped their matches to Chicago State with a close 3-4 loss. Winning singles matches consisted of Lui with a dominant 6-1 and 6-1 win. Gianan won 7-5 and 6-3. Jung added another victory by winning 6-1 and 6-3.

This past Sunday, the Redhawks concluded their regular season against GCU. The Redhawks barely dropped their Senior Day match 4-3. Doubles Gianan and Jung dominated their match 6-2. Another doubles team consisting of sophomore Kali McCollister and Kreutzer also won their match 6-4. Singles competitor Gianan won again—winning 6-2 and 6-2. McCollister tallied another win, winning 6-3 and 7-6.

Senior Audrey Scott expressed her thoughts on the GCU game, noting that the team gave their all.

"Overall, it was a tough school. We came into this thinking they were the toughest teams in our conference. Everyone gave their 100 percent effort and it just came down to a couple of points," Scott said.

Head Coach Adam Reeb was satisfied with the team's overall performance this past weekend.

"I think we did really well this weekend. Friday, we beat New Mexico State for the first time ever, we played our best match of the year and that was really fun to see everything come together. We played really well, we fought really hard and put ourselves in positions to win. It didn't quite go our way, but I'm just really proud of the team," Coach Reeb said.

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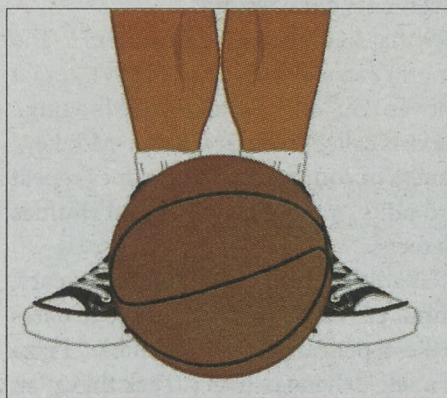
TAYLOR GUY • THE SPECTATOR

A MARCH MADNESS FOR THE AGES

Jordan Kenison
Staff Writer

March Madness is the most wild and exciting tournament of the year for college basketball fans. Another season has come and gone and the infamous month has produced nothing short of jaw-dropping, spectacular highlights throughout every round.

The tournament, which raises billions of dollars in revenue for the



TAYLOR GUY • THE SPECTATOR

NCAA, is so popular because—as its name suggests—its unpredictability is highly entertaining. The matchups themselves are hard to predict due to the sheer number of teams and variables involved.

In the NBA, the season is usually more predictable. There are only 30 teams, compared to the tournament's 68. Moreover, the NBA is a superstar-driven league, giving heavy advantages to franchises who have been blessed with elite players like LeBron James and Kevin Durant.

Not to say that college teams with the best players do not have the same advantage. However, the collegiate playing field can be considered more even. Many times, the best teams do not win the national championship, largely because despite their players' immense talents, the fact remains that college athletes are still amateurs at the end of the day. They are not fully matured, neither physically nor mentally, making them susceptible

to fatigue and feeling the pressure during crunch time.

In line with its trademark uncertainty, this year's men's tournament offered one of the largest upsets in college basketball history.

UMBC (which stands for University of Maryland: Baltimore County for everyone besides those who even knew this school existed) entered the tournament as a 16 seed and beat the 1 seeded Virginia, making it the first time ever that a 16 seed has downed a 1 seed. This historic upset is indicative of how special this year's competition turned out to be.

Villanova beat Michigan in the men's championship in a 79 to 62 victory over Michigan, making it the second time in the last three years that they have captured the title. Sophomore guard Donte Divincenzo, who came off the bench, scored a remarkable 31 points while adding two blocks and five rebounds—making him the highest scoring bench player

ever in the National Championship game. He took over the game when Villanova's primary stars were having difficulty and was awarded the MVP of the final four.

On the women's side, Notre Dame junior Arike Ogunbowale shined as she led the Fighting Irish to the national championship. She delivered two of the most clutch moments in tournament history, hitting game winning buzzer beating shots from the left wing in both the final four and national championship game. She offered 27 points in the Irish' astounding upset of UConn in the semifinal round and another 18 points in the championship.

Although basketball fans remain hopeful, this year's tournament will be a tough one to top for years to come.

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SEATTLE UNIVERSITY GETS NEW ASSOCIATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Caylah Lunning
Staff Writer

The Seattle University athletic department recently appointed Alex Romagnolo as the new Associate Athletic Director. Athletic Director Shaney Fink made the announcement Monday, Feb. 26.

Romagnolo arrived at Seattle University with an impressive athletic background. He played four years of college soccer at the University of San Diego from 1999-2002 where he helped his team to two West Coast Conference titles, along with four NCAA tournament appearances.

Romagnolo expressed his willingness to provide resources for the athletic department at Seattle U.

"I had a great experience as a student athlete at the University of San Diego playing soccer there, and when I graduated trying to figure out what I wanted to do, I wanted to make sure that I could provide that same type of experience to the current student athletes. One of the main reasons

that I go into the development side is because I saw that you could make a big impact and you could raise the funds that would have those types of impacts on our student athletes and provide them with the resources that they need to not only compete, but also what they need in the classroom."

Romagnolo joined the California Bears athletic department in 2007 where he was the Assistant Director of Ticket Sales. He held the position until 2011. In 2014, he would shift his attention back to collegiate sports where he accepted the position of Director of Rockne Athletic Funds at Notre Dame. He held this position until coming to Seattle U.

There are many similarities and differences between the schools that influenced Romagnolo's decision to come to Seattle U.

"One of the reasons that attracted me to Seattle U was that it didn't have that big football presence, so we could focus more on the Olympic sports and some of the other sports that don't get support and attention that they

deserve. At Notre Dame, the biggest similarities that I see are the Catholic institutions and their desire to educate the whole person. What I really loved about Notre Dame was some of the stuff that the student athletes did in the community: giving back. And I've seen a lot of that here at Seattle U."

So far, Romagnolo has enjoyed his experience at Seattle U.

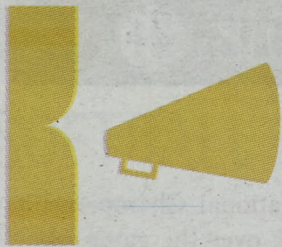
"It's been great, everybody has been so welcoming and so friendly. The thing that I love about the University too is that it's very open and people are very welcoming where you can go in and talk to coaches and have discussions, and it doesn't take weeks to get on their calendars."

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PHOTO VIA SARAH FINNEY
SEATTLE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

Alex Romagnolo worked for UC Berkeley and Notre Dame before coming to Seattle U.



RUNNING OUT OF SPACE

Last week, I came to the stark realization that there is no last frontier. There is no part of the globe that has not been marred by humankind's poisonous encroachment, and now even places outside this planet have felt this touch.

On April 1, China's prototype space station called Tiangong 1 broke apart and scattered through space in a fiery explosion. The station was 34 feet long and weighed more than nine tons, and now chunks of it are adding to the accruing human produced debris dubbed "space junk". This space junk is born from debris created in the launch, orbit, or collision of satellites, or from the breakdown of large objects like Tiangong 1.

This may seem like a non-issue, but these objects will stay in orbit and are becoming a danger to space exploration as they move extremely fast, are filled with toxic materials, and are unpredictable in location.

I felt dejected when I learned about this. I was born and raised in Nebraska, and the thought of the unexplored depths of the oceans and the cosmos always fascinated me. I pictured the ocean as a vast and colorful world full of beauty. Now I know that heaps of trash the size of Texas befoul the ocean, coral reefs around the world are becoming bleached and dying, and we are losing species after species to extinction.

As saddened as I was by learning the true state of the ocean, I decided to put my hope in space. From a young age I have felt a special connection with space. Some of my earliest and fondest memories are of my dad and me laying on the lawn and looking up at the pinpricks of light that are stars. He taught me how to locate different constellations and told me stories about them. On a dark and warm night in a pasture with crickets chirping I learned to navigate by the stars. There were no houses or lights for miles around. I thought that I would never be lost, because I could always find the North Star and orient myself that way.

Moving to Seattle, I immediately felt disconnected and lost. When I look to the sky all I see is clouds and maybe a few occasional stars. It is nothing like the sky I grew up under, the celestial bodies that inspired me and gave me hope. I knew that the stars were still there though, and this thought comforted me.

But now, I am confronted with space junk. My frustration with the species of which I am unwittingly a part of is at an all time high. Humanity is a slow working poison, whose tentacles have sprawled out and strangled the planet, putting mother nature in a death grip, and now they have reached beyond. In the grand scheme of the timeline of the universe, we are but a small blurb, a small blurb that has managed to change and destroy things forever.

—Bailee Clark, Staff Writer

WE HAVE ENTERED THE WORLD OF "BLACK MIRROR"

Would you believe me if I told you, we have entered the world of "Black Mirror?"

The fourth season of "Black Mirror," a science fiction, psychological thriller series on Netflix, was harder to binge than other seasons because of the emotional weight each episode held. The horror technology stories told this season did not seem to exist in as distant of a future as the rest of the series. In the season finale episode titled "Black Museum," a traveler visits a rundown museum full of illegal artifacts and exhibits of technology advancements gone wrong.

One of the artifacts was a stuffed monkey that had been gifted to a child. The monkey had the consciousness of his late mother so she would be able to interact with her child using the phrases "monkey loves you" and "monkey needs a hug." There is a stuffed monkey toy that currently exists called "Chitter Chatter-Monkey." Of course it does not contain the consciousness of your mother but it does repeat every sound you make. The toy laughs and talks in a higher pitch and shuffles towards you in response to any sound it detects.

Another parallel our world has with "Black Mirror" is self-driving cars. Throughout season four there are autonomous cars transporting people to dates in "Hang the DJ" and even a vehicle that strikes a pedestrian in "Crocodile." Pizza Hut announced in January their concept of a self-driving delivery truck they plan to develop with Toyota. Waymo, a company born out of a Google self-driving car initiative, has been testing their cars in Arizona driving more than 25,000 autonomous miles each week without safety drivers.

Uber has also been testing their own line of self-driving cars. They have drove well over 3 million miles but, they have halted their advancements due to a fatal crash. The race for other companies to establish themselves in the self-driving market overshadows the fatality establishing the start of a culture more concerned with the progression of technology.

—Hunter Uechi, Staff Writer

ASK MAMA MOZZONE

by Emily Mozzone



Q: *I need a little advice, if you're not too busy! I've been dating my girlfriend for a few months now, but I still get super nervous when I talk to her! She will say something nice or hug me and I want to do something back, but I get too nervous and I freeze up or do something stupid! Is there any way to get over this? Will it just take time or can I do something?*

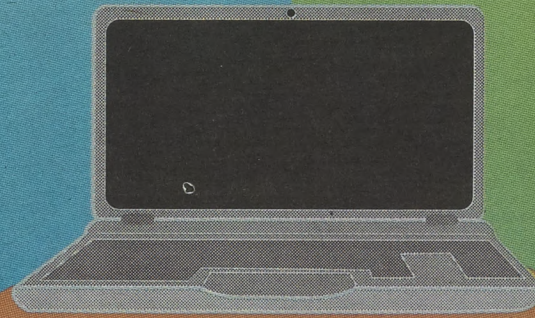
A: How cute! You probably aren't being as stupid as you think, if she likes you as much as you seem to like her I bet she thinks you're being dorky and cute. When I first started dating, I was so nervous all the time. I took little steps with myself, making more eye contact at first, then moving on to smaller forms of physical contact like hand holding! It's okay to move slow, if that's what you feel most comfortable with. You'll have to put in some effort, but in my experience, once you do a scary thing, it becomes easier each time. Good luck, and I'd love a follow up if you make progress or need more advice!

Q: *My best friend is dating this guy who I think isn't good enough for her. I don't want her to think I'm bad friend, is there a way I can bring it up without hurting her feelings?*

A: I think it depends how long she's been dating him. If it's only been a few weeks, I think she'll likely trust your opinion enough for you to bring it up directly. If it's been a few months, it's harder territory. If she's the type of person to put her friends first, you should be able to bring it up, although you'll probably have to do a serious sit-down type of meeting. If it's been over or around a year, it's a lost cause, buddy. If he's emotionally or physically abusive, then please by all means address this issue ASAP. But if you just don't like his personality, in all honesty maybe she sees something you don't. I'd ask her what she likes about dating him, and how he makes her feel. Maybe talk about successful relationships you've had and how they made you feel, and if she's not in love and feeling cared for it may help her see that she doesn't feel that way in her own relationship.

Ask your own anonymous question at:
<http://askmozzone.tinyurl.com/>

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Andie Larkins pitches against the UMKC Roots at Seattle University on April 6th, 2018.

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