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JUNE 5, 2019

the

SPECTATOR



IMPENDING CLOSURE FOR CAPITOL HILL DAYCARE:

Teachers & Parents
Left Scrambling

IAAF HEARING OVERRULED
SEMENYA TO COMPETE

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HIGH TIMES DURING
LOW TIDES

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MEET THE NEW EDITOR-IN-
CHIEF ALEC DOWNING

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A LETTER FROM THE (FORMER) EDITOR

Stepping into the position of editor-in-chief, I really had no idea what was in store for me. What I did know is that I had the best editorial board by my side and a whole lot of stories to cover. Stepping down was a tough decision, but one I think it's the right choice for myself and for The Spectator.

Alec, I'm excited to see you take The Spectator to places it's never been before. I've always seen you as a mini-me and am still baffled that the Editor-in-Chief has previously been the Sports Editor the past two years in a row. I know that the paper is in good hands.

Frances, thanks for being the best co-chief. You were always my number two and I'm glad I had you by my side through everything. I know you'll be a good fit for news and I'm so excited to see you step into this new role.

Sophia, you excelled at News Editor. It's one of the hardest positions and I was so glad that I could trust you fully. Your ideas, your enthusiasm, and your sense of humor made every meeting and layout night so much more fun. I know you'll make a great Managing Editor next year.

Josh, I am so excited you're taking over the position of investigative editor. You have a good eye for news stories and are such a good writer that I know you'll produce some of the best stories next year.

Elise, I cannot thank you enough for taking on the unexpected role of A&E Editor. There's no one else I would've trusted with the position and I am so glad that you are as good of an editor as you are a photographer.

Nicole, thank you for being my best friend this year. I'm so glad you got involved in The Spectator and learned to love it maybeeee as much as I did. You'll be a great fit for Sports Editor.

Myrea, you were one of our most consistent writers this year and I'm glad you wanted to join the editorial board. You'll fit in just fine and I am excited to see you get along with this crazy staff we have.

This year has been crazy, stressful, and fun. I could have never done it without everyone by my side and I look forward to many more sleepless nights next year. It's not a goodbye—I'll still be on the board—but it's a big change. Every layout night there's been a memory. Every meeting there's been laughter. And every Wednesday there's been a great paper.

— Michelle Newblom, *Editor-in-Chief, 2018-2019*

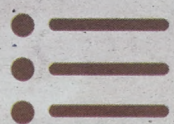


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SEATTLE U'S OWN PETER PARKER STEPS UP AS NEW EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Michelle Newblom
(Former) Editor-in-Chief

Jake Gyllenhaal, baseball and politics are a few of Alec Downing's favorite things. With interests spanning from arts & entertainment to sports to news, he's got every ground covered as he steps up to the position of editor-in-chief next year.

Coming into college, Downing was originally a business major. Before even stepping foot on campus, he changed his major during the summer and quickly got involved with *The Spectator*.

"I came to the first meeting and pretty much have gone ever since," Downing said.

The *Spectator* provided a chance for Downing to find himself in the Seattle University community and he hopes that the same opportunity will be available to other students in the coming years.

"I was going through some struggles adjusting to college and getting involved in the paper and meeting all my friends through that helped me integrate into campus," Downing said. "I want to be able to build that same kind of community for the staff next year and I just care deeply about the journalistic integrity of *The Spectator* and continuing all the great work we've done in the past few years."

Even after the path towards journalism opened up, Downing still wasn't sure what exact route to take. His initial interest fell with sports journalism, which led to him becoming the sports editor his second year.

"I got hired as a full-time staff writer and that forced me to go into news stories because there weren't enough sports stories to take," Downing said. "But that ended up helping me grow and find what I wanted to do in journalism."

One pivotal moment Downing recounts as reshaping his entire

journalistic career is the story he wrote with former editor Anna Kaplan about the mistreatment of Seattle U's custodians. After camping out in the library until midnight, Downing and Kaplan spoke to one of the custodians through the bars in the library using google translate.

After the first article, Downing and Kaplan were approached by a dozen more members wanting to come forward and share their story, prompting another article.

"It was really emotional. They had really tough things to say and hear, but it was powerful," Downing said. "That was hugely impactful and made me see first-hand the impact journalism can have and the impact I can have. From that moment on, I was pretty set on being an investigative journalist and doing hard hitting stories like that."

Downing has the career aspiration of being an investigative journalist or editor, preferably somewhere local. Growing up in the area, his favorite baseball team is the Mariners and he's a fan of Seattle journalists like David Crowman.

With an editorial board consisting of almost all the same faces from this year, Downing will be leading an experienced group that he's formed fond memories with.

"I think that there's just a lot of moments," Downing said. "There's something every single layout that just cracks me up."

Downing plans to keep delivering investigative stories next year, as well as help the future generations of *The Spectator* grow and develop. His goals for next year include creating a sense of professional development among the staff.

"I think it's important to step into a mentorship role. I'm excited to see what everyone else can do, how they can continue to grow," Downing said.

Downing encourages any student interested in writing to come to a



JP HILL • THE SPECTATOR

The Spectator's new Editor-In-Chief, Alec Downing, takes the reigns from Michelle Newblom.

meeting and see if it's a fit.

"Raise your hand, take a story, take a chance. Everyone is going to be there to support you and help you," he said.

Even with his goals and visions for next year, Downing does have some controversial opinions: one of them being his love for Hawaiian pizza.

"You can put pineapple on any pizza, any food, and it's probably going to be good," he said.

Aside from keeping up with news, politics and sports, Downing has a soft spot for comics and the "Star Wars" series.

"I'm going to try to think of a non-'Star Wars' book so I don't look that nerdy," Downing laughed, trying to think of his favorite book. But it's hard to hide that part of him as he sports a Spider-Man graphic tee under his blue Members Only jacket.

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STUDENTS AND STAFF ON MOVING FORWARD WITH CHARTWELLS

Logan Gilbert
Staff Writer

Amid a myriad of allegations, Chartwells and Seattle University are looking at plans for how to move forward with their partnership—but there are multiple conflicting opinions about what should be done from students and Chartwells workers. Chartwells has responded to concerns with steps to increase menu diversity, listen to student feedback and a plan to start new programs to help students.

Meetings between Student Government of Seattle U (SGSU) and Residence Hall Association (RHA) with top members of Chartwells including Joe Fischioni, the west division president for Chartwells, and Shelley Strayer, its resident district manager have taken place since *The Spectator's* previous issue. The two student organizations have been brainstorming how to protect student workers and uphold their responsibility to their constituents to provide quality food.

"It feels good being able to advocate not only for our residents, but also for our Chartwells employees on campus," Emma Adkin, a first-year biology and Spanish major and head of the food provider committee, said. "RHA is hoping to maintain a relationship with them once fall quarter has started to continue to give them feedback on what our students would like to see and how we can help them succeed."

In the meeting between Chartwells, SGSU and RHA, several key issues were brought up to Chartwells representatives. A pressing concern was the lack of feedback sessions, as the first session this year took place on May 23. This issue was resolved through compromise and RHA plans to hold these sessions at the beginning of each quarter with Chartwells representatives present. After the results of the last feedback session, RHA hopes to be a mediator for Seattle U's relationship with the company.

Students can provide direct feedback to Chartwells, as they can use the feedback form found on the Dine



CONNOR MERRION • THE SPECTATOR

on Campus website. Justin Groom, the executive chef, also suggested if any food quality issues are found, customers should take them directly to a manager to address the problem.

Several current and former staff members have come forward unsatisfied with how Chartwells has run the service. They are skeptical that Chartwells will change their response to feedback.

Evan Miyaki is a junior history major who recently left his job at Chartwells after three years because he was unhappy with how they were treating workers.

"Not a lot has changed since the start of the year. When we switched, it was chaotic, and they've tried to make it up to workers," Miyaki said. "No matter what, it seems like they don't fix the actual issues."

Nick Philips had been working in the Cave for the past seven years, but he is leaving his job when the school year ends. For him, working at Seattle

U is something his family has done for a long time—his mother and aunts worked for previous food service providers, and now, he does too.

Seeing how the food service is ran now upsets him, as he tries to do everything he can to uphold his personal beliefs of high quality food service, despite clashes with management.

"I've tried everything I could think of to get some changes made around here," Philips said. "I've tried talking to management, calling the Health Department and the parent company, and now I'm just trying to do everything I can to get something done before I leave."

Some students are apprehensive and they question if what Chartwells is doing is enough. A letter was posted around campus last week by an anonymous student who claimed they had food poisoning eight times and wanted more immediate action.

Annie Morrison, a first year

computer science major, echoes this concern, pointing to the seemingly unresponsive behavior the company has had over the school year.

"I feel like students' and parents' voices aren't really being heard. They had the whole campaign to tell them what they could do better last quarter, but that didn't really do much as far as I can tell," Morrison said.

As the school year draws to a close, any tangible changes are not likely to start taking place until next year, but students and staff of Chartwells are demanding significant changes. RHA remains hopeful in its outlook, and they hope that the requests made to Chartwells will lead to more student satisfaction with the food service provider.

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HONORARY DEGREES COME IN THREES: RECIPIENTS GRANTED RECOGNITION

Kristen Nielsen
Staff Writer

Like many universities, Seattle University chooses prestigious individuals to receive an honorary degree each year at graduation.

Though not an actual degree, the award is generally meant to be presented to an outstanding individual that the university would like to recognize and invite to make a speech to the graduating students.

"It is a long-held tradition whereby universities recognize individuals for outstanding contributions to society or to universities by bestowing an honorary doctorate and commencement ceremony. Seattle U is one of those universities," Seattle U Provost Shane Martin said.

Universities are free to choose recipients from a wide range of professions and accomplishments. This flexibility has allowed for other universities to grant honorary awards to many unlikely individuals, ranging from Kermit the Frog to rapper Pitbull.

Seattle U has created more specific criteria that nominees must meet.

"It's someone whose life and work has been distinguished and their message to graduates would be aligned with the mission at Seattle U," Martin said.

For Seattle U, it is important that the selected individual has work or values relevant to the university as they are asked to give a speech.

Recipients may also be chosen if they are well-versed on a topic or general issues relevant to the wider Seattle community during the time of graduation.

The decision process behind who could be considered such an individual is largely up to the president of the university, Father Stephen V. Sundborg, S.J. The Board of Trustees is responsible for reviewing and approving the list of potential candidates.

"They're there in person giving a commencement speech at graduation, so it has to be someone that's able to receive the honor," Martin said.

Depending on the year, the number

of honorary degree recipients varies. Once the recipients have been decided upon, Sundborg then invites them to receive the award.

The first recipient for the undergraduate ceremony will be Father James Martin, S.J., a well-known speaker and author.

"He is especially noteworthy for a number of reasons. He is the editor of America magazine, author of more than a dozen books, has multiple New York Times best sellers, and more," Shane said.

One of James' books, "Building a Bridge: How the Catholic Church and the LGBT Community Can Enter Into a Relationship of Respect, Compassion, and Sensitivity," stood out to Seattle U and made him a particularly relevant candidate in the eyes of the Board of Trustees.

In the eyes of the university, this book exemplified an issue truly relevant to students by connecting the LGBTQ+ community and the Catholic community. The goal of the book was to open up the conversation between the two communities in a respectful and productive manner.

"It was quite well-received because he was pressing for more dialogue and respect," Shane said.

The second recipient of an honorary degree at the undergraduate ceremony will be Idiaquez, the president of a fellow Jesuit university in Nicaragua.

Seattle U has also been in a formal partnership agreement with Idiaquez's school, Universidad Centroamericana, since 2014. In the midst of violence at the hands of their own government, Father José Alberto "Chepe" Idiaquez, S.J. has worked hard to maintain Jesuit values of peace and education.

"His Jesuit university is the center of resistance. It will be symbolic and powerful to recognize him," Shane said.

The final recipient of an honorary degree will be Sister Helen Prejean.

The focus of her recent work has been to advocate for death row inmates in an ultimate attempt to overturn the death penalty. Her book "Dead Man Walking" was impactful to many as she shared her experiences from working



COURTESY OF SCOTT LANGLEY

Sister Helen Prejean is one of the three honorary degree recipients.

with multiple death row inmates.

Recently, Washington unanimously ruled the death penalty unconstitutional. For the university, this makes Prejean's work extremely relevant to the students and Washington residents as a whole.

"She's an incredible human being who has done an awful lot as a leader of this social justice issue" Shane said.

With an incredible line-up of social justice leaders, the university hopes to inspire students one last time

before starting the rest of their lives.

"It's very impressive we've been able to bring this level of talent and leadership to the university for family and friends," Shane said.

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FACULTY GETS A SALARY BUMP AS LACK OF TRANSPARENCY CONTINUES

Logan Gilbert
Staff Writer

As a private university, Seattle University is not required to release any information on faculty pay rates. Through the work of professors and staff, along with key members of administration, who are starting to make changes to rectify faculty being underpaid for several years.

In the fall, David Madsen, a professor of history, started the push for pay transparency among the school's teaching faculty by providing his salary in an email to the school's professorship. Madsen is retiring at the end of this year and wanted to encourage the rest of the school's employees to share their own salaries, as well.

Chris Paul, the head of the communications department, kept the momentum going by providing a spreadsheet for staff to share their salary, but it received less traction than Madsen and Paul had hoped for. The effort ended with 32 contributors and a promise from Seattle U to conduct a market study of salaries. The study, which concluded in March, found that many faculty members were being underpaid—particularly those that work in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"We haven't really moved much on salary transparency at all...I think more information for more people is a beneficial thing for the institution as a whole, and I think we have not moved much because it's personal—it's intimately personal," Paul said. "[Lack of transparency] is a way that systems maintain inequity, because there is nothing to hold people accountable."

With the conclusion of the study and the teaching staff receiving raises, the school is on track to remedy the underpayment of the staff. The conclusion of the study found that from 2011 to 2018, the faculty was paid as much as 95% of the equivalent salary at similar universities. The round of raises that took place this year serves as a "down payment" and is the first step for the school to bring

staff salary up to 100%.

This year also saw the creation of the Faculty Staff Senate, a step towards the idea of shared governance. All members of the school are meant to come together to make important decisions about what priorities the school should have and how funding is used to meet those goals.

"[Provost Shane Martin] seems to recognize the value of shared governance...and in pushing him with the argument that shared governance in many respects is about transparency and governance. The college requires us all to know about the budget and where the money is," Madsen said.

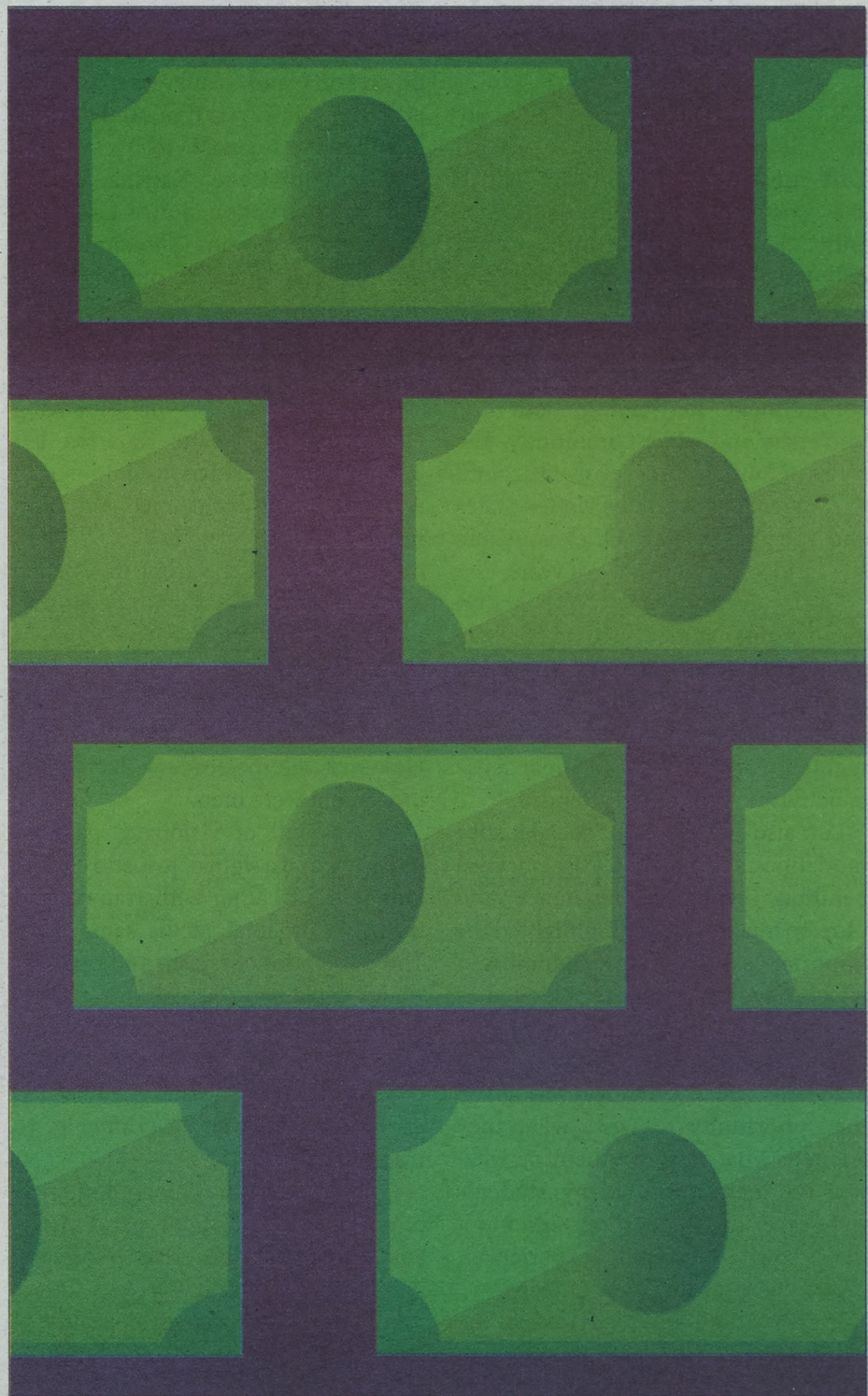
The speed at which the university moves is not notoriously fast, as pointed out by Madsen, which can be especially frustrating for students and staff that want these discrepancies of pay taken care of immediately.

"There's always a sense of urgency, understandably, when it comes to things like faculty compensation. I understand that there may be frustration," Martin said. "It's important to balance that sense of urgency with the need to get this right and to develop a system and a structure that would work for Seattle U, a system that is consultative and constructive."

Matt Phillip, the director of compensation and benefits in the Human Resources department, hopes more market studies will be conducted in the future so that the school can stay up-to-date and competitive within the field of higher education so that top notch staff can be retained and attracted.

They are hoping to have the resources to do a study every two to three years. As the university gets new technology and more money to conduct this research, Phillip says it will be a higher priority to maintain faculty pay at market rates.

Phillip explained that because of financial issues, the school redirected funds away from implementing the customary 2% to 3% performance increases. Phillip is just one of the



EMILY MOZZONE • THE SPECTATOR

many that hopes these types of studies can be done more regularly in the future.

"We had fallen behind at 95%. Some employers would look at that and say, 'Oh 95% isn't so bad,'" Phillip said. "But this university has said our philosophy is that we want to be at 100%, so we took [the study] as we need to begin a dialogue and approve funding for pay increases."

In the coming years, the salary of

faculty will hopefully continue to increase little by little. As more market studies occur, the school will be able to maintain a position of 100% pay. However, while these changes are made behind the scenes, people like Madsen and Paul will continue to advocate for more pay transparency.

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SOCIOLOGY PROFESSOR SPEAKS WITH NAEF SCHOLARS ON ACTIVISM

Caylah Lunning & Nicole Golba
Senior Staff Writer & Staff Writer

Associate Professor of Sociology at Seattle University Rachel Luft hosted an event in which she spoke about her experience with Hurricane Katrina, cancel culture, and social justice activism.

The event took place on May 29 and featured Seattle U Naef Scholars, emphasized leadership potential and commitment in serving both the university and wider community. The focus of Luft's lecture revolved around the current culture of the United States and specifically New Orleans, where she resided for a number of years.

The event was interactive, encouraging students to participate and repeat specific mantras involving past, current and future crises. The purpose of the event was to avoid crisis mentality and foster a personal sense of activism within each attendee.

Luft also analyzed four social justice modalities: power analysis, survival pending revolution, resistance and utopian imaginary. She highlighted the importance of avoiding standpoints in which ongoing crises are tolerated as they produce a global 'crisis mentality.'

She ended the lecture with notecards. Each attendee was given the opportunity to write what they learned, what inspired them or what was on their mind. Many students were eager to ask questions and input their own personal experiences, especially regarding New Orleans.

In 2004, Luft graduated from the University of California Santa Barbara with her doctorate in sociology. After finishing her dissertation, she went back to the academy and got her first job at the University of New Orleans.

Luft has an extensive research and teaching specializations such as intersectionality, race and ethnic studies, gender and feminist theory, social movements, disaster studies, social inequality, critical whiteness studies and critical race theories.

Luft taught at the University of New Orleans beginning in 2004, the year before the Hurricane Katrina disaster

that struck the Gulf Coast in 2005.

Before Hurricane Katrina touched down on land, Luft was able to evacuate. However, thousands of her neighbors were unable to.

After Hurricane Katrina passed and the evacuation notice had been lifted, she came home to find all of her dissertation work ruined. Many of her neighbors had their belongings destroyed, forcing many residents to throw their belongings in the street.

With the amount of damaging effects that Hurricane Katerina left behind, Luft decided to join social movements for justice reconstruction in order to help bring her city back to life. She was on the front line of the movement, as she was an organizer, participant and observer to document lessons learned.

African American women made up the majority of the population. However, all the leaders during the movement were men.

"It was full of visionary, passion, intimacy, and a sight of loss and chaos," Luft said. "Dealing with trauma and trying to organize at the same time. There was a lot of racism and sexism."

Luft explained that crisis is already happening, and the disaster started a long time before the storm. During this time, society wasn't ready when crisis hit, making it difficult to respond to.

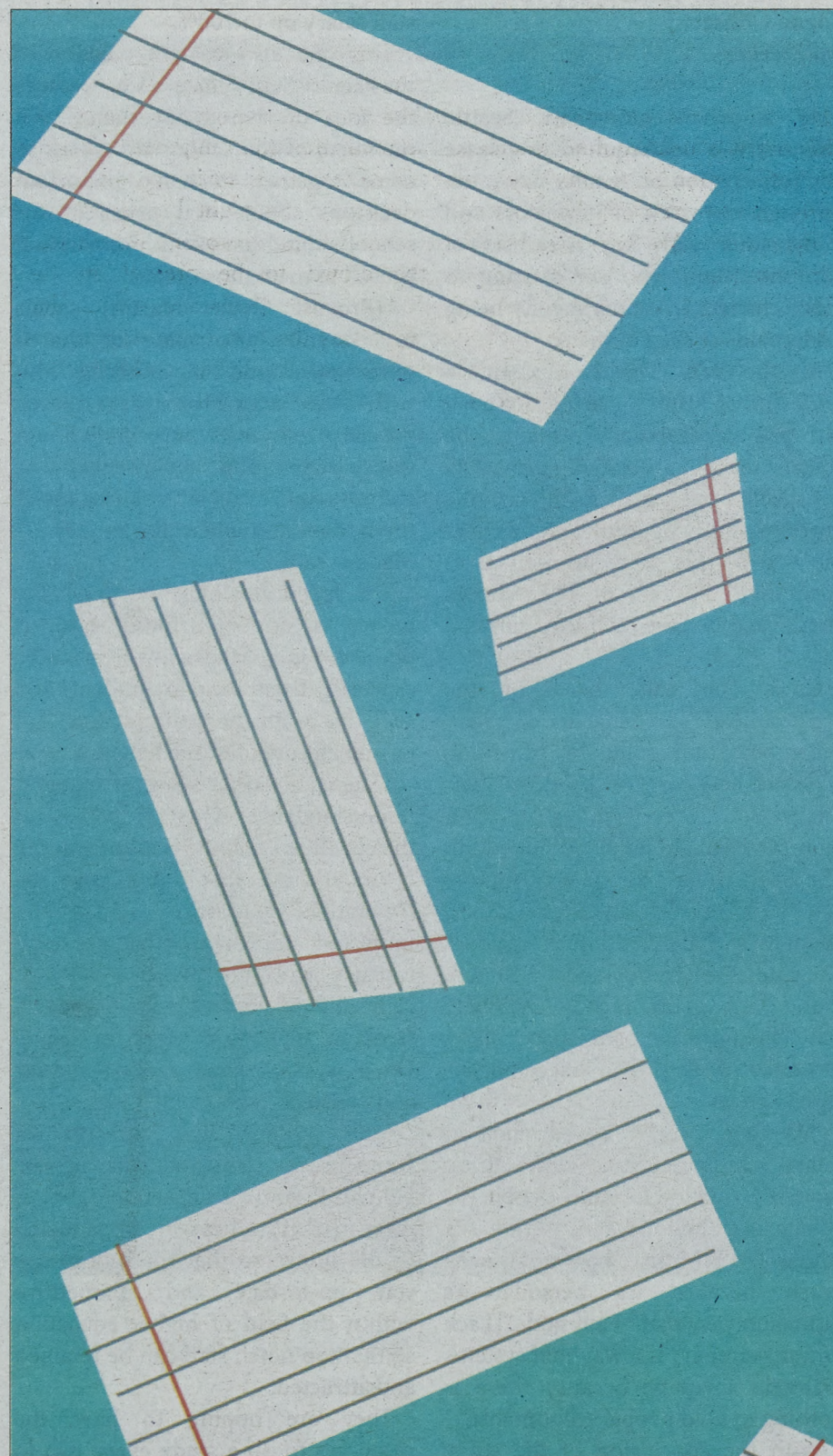
"We all live with the ongoing crisis of our age. In your bodies and minds you know that the crisis is already happening," Luft said.

Luft began her career at Seattle U with the College of Arts and Sciences in 2013, where she primarily taught and wrote about the intersection of race, gender and poverty, with an emphasis on social movements.

Senior Evelyn Chow wanted to attend the event because Luft has played an important part in her academic life as her advisor.

"I'm a sociology student, and Luft is my advisor. I definitely wanted to see her presentation before she's gone," Chow said.

Maddie Piper, a senior environmental studies and humanities



EMILY MOZZONE • THE SPECTATOR

for teaching major, also attended and spoke on the significance of Luft's lecture,

"I think it's really important to create spaces like this and listen to those voices on campus," Piper said. "Especially when talking about social justice, I think Luft did a really good job with her analysis

and everything she's talking about. Evaluating unrepresented voices and learning from people with their life experiences."

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WOMXN CHANGEMAKERS ON INTERSECTIONAL ADVOCACY AT THE RIVETER

Elise Wang
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The sun set as six women panelists' voices rose over the attending crowd at The Riveter, Capitol Hill's female-owned and managed coworking space. Driven by anger, courage and love, these women take intersectional approaches to their advocacy work throughout the Seattle community.

The panel, "Walk this Way: Womxn to Watch Right Now," centered around the interconnectivity of movements fighting for LGBTQ+ rights, immigrants' rights, gender and racial justice, environment protection, progressive philanthropy, and equity and inclusion.

West Coast Director of the OutRight Action International Katie Hultquist, a Seattle University alumna, hosted the event because she saw the interactions among various communities within the greater city of Seattle and wanted to feature the voices of powerful women within those groups.

"I wanted people to feel outrage at what our communities are facing and how our rights are being threatened and I wanted them to feel hopeful about the amazing work that his being done in our community on a variety of issues and how they can get involved," Hultquist said.

Featured panelists included Executive Director of OutRight Action International Jessica Stern, Executive Director of ACLU of Washington, Michele Storms, CEO of the Pride Foundation Katie Carter, CEO of Social Venture Partners International Sudha Nandagopal, Coordinator of the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network Monserrat Padilla, and Executive Director of Chief Seattle Club Colleen Echohawk (Pawnee/Athabaskan).

Prominent female voices present at the event went beyond the panel. Nasty Woman Wines, founded by Meg Murray, and That Brown Girl Cooks!, a culinary brand forged by Kristi Brown, provided the drinks and tasty bites offered to attendees.

Keynote speaker, Representative

Pramila Jayapal spoke to her own experience in positions of power and the importance of intersectionality in women in leadership.

"Intersectionality matters, how does it matter? Because I'm not a woman on Monday, an immigrant on Tuesday, a mom on Wednesday, and a worker on Thursday—I'm all of those things all of the time," Jayapal said. "And for all of us, that means we fight for all of those things all of the time."

The Riveter's Senior Director for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Jodi-Ann Burey, who moderated the panel, began by explaining that spelling "womxn" with an 'x' acknowledges trans women and women of color who have been historically excluded from conversations on the female experience.

To kick off the discussion, Echohawk shared her experiences as a Pawnee woman and her motivations in fighting for Native rights in Seattle. In Seattle, Native peoples make up 10% of the homeless population and are disproportionately more vulnerable to homelessness.

"What brought me to this work and continues to sustain me is, frankly, anger," Echohawk said. "Love and anger push me forward."

The other panelists agreed and shared their own motivations rooted in anger, love and courage. Padilla, an undocumented trans woman and coordinator of the Washington Solidarity Network, makes calls to Immigration and Customs Enforcement office directors on behalf of other undocumented immigrants with an unafraid, unashamed confidence.

"I don't care who you think you are, or who gave you the power, whether it's Congress or the President, because I'm still coming after you and enough is enough," Padilla said.

Carter, Storms and Stern also shared their views and approaches to women in leadership.

"I think it's about being unapologetic sometimes in being like 'I can say blank, I'm going to wear lipstick, my heels are going to be high, it's going



ELISE WANG • THE SPECTATOR

Panelists Jessica Stern, Colleen Echohawk, Michele Storms, Sudha Nandagopal, Katie Carter, and Monserrat Padilla (from left) spoke at The Riveter on Thursday night.

to be great," Carter said. "Sometimes it's about modeling a different kind of leadership than we've gotten to see in the world."

Storms reflected upon stereotypes and how women internalize these oppressive ideas and insecurities. She credits this knowledge as her motivator to overcome challenges and excel.

"One of the things that's been helpful to me about knowing that is that I can go, 'Oh right. That's bullshit,'" Storms said.

Stern shared her frustration in the fact that in 2017, OutRight Action International documented more mass arrests of LGBTQ+ people than in any other year on record. She expressed the need for thorough laws and policies that would actually protect people's abilities to live safely, inclusively and without discrimination.

Nandagopal concluded that in starting with the most marginalized folks, solutions oftentimes do not look intersectional at first. However, she asserts that the solution will have

intersectional results.

"It's going to have an intersectional solution in the long run because you started with the folks who the table does not historically get set for," Nandagopal said.

Burey encouraged attendees to go home and research the people and works referenced by the panelists. She believes that in addition to listening to the powerful changemakers in the panel, women need to be moved to do work of their own.

"The audience needs to have a sense of responsibility—these are incredible women and also regular women who are changing so many peoples' lives, and people in the audience are also incredible people who can change each other's lives," Burey said.

"They are the ones shining a beacon of hope for me and I think everyone in Seattle needs to know them," Hultquist said, speaking of the six powerful Seattle women.

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H.A.G.S.




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THE 10

THE TOP 10 THINGS

- 10 Pictures of Spider-Man
- 9 Linda
- 8 Jake Gyllenhaal
- 7 Dick's
- 6 Taking a Crack at it
- 5 America's Ass
- 4 Everything Bagel with Cream Cheese
- 3 Our Staff <3
- 2 Gay Rat Weddings
- 1 (Your) Mama Mozzone???


HOROSCOPES: THE SIGNS AS COLORS ;)

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
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
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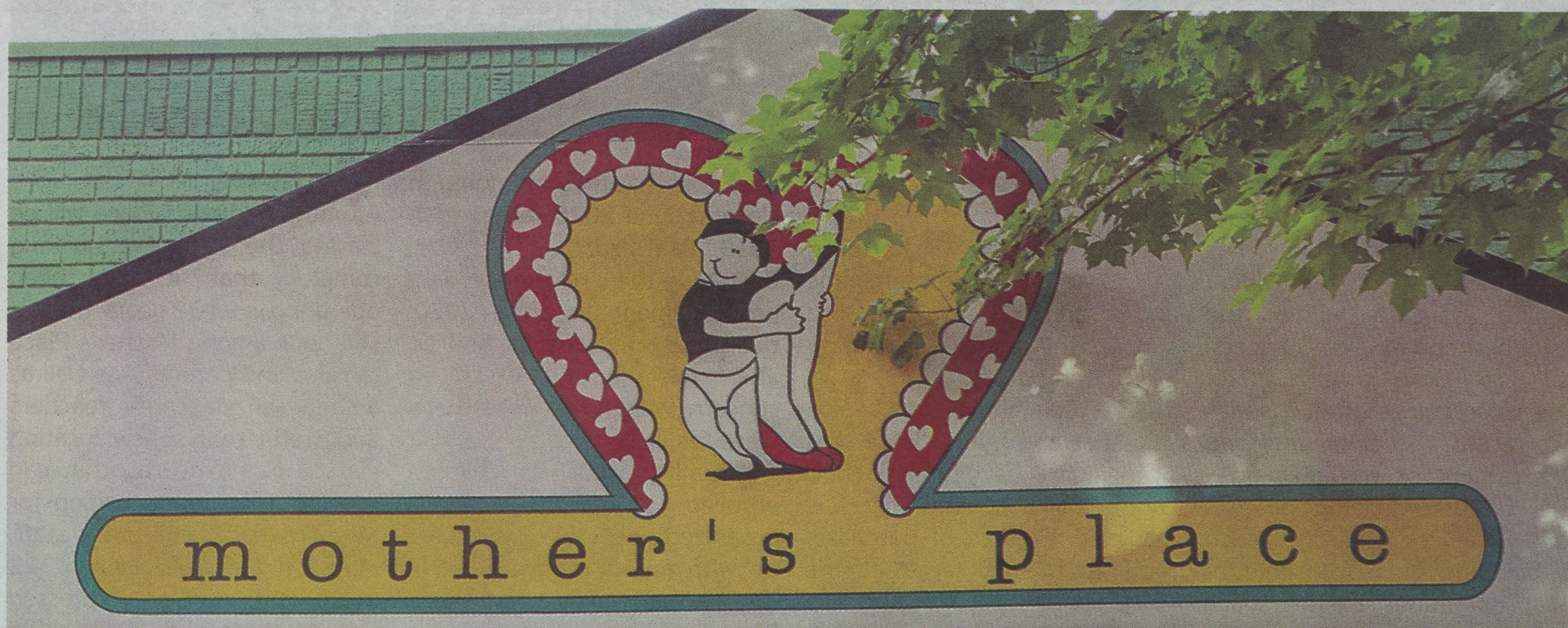
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FEATURES

11



Parents and Care Providers Race to find New Location for Mother's Place

Parents and Care Providers Race to Find a New Location for Mother's Place Daycare Before 2020

by Jack Derby

Mother's Place, a Capitol Hill daycare center that has been providing quality daycare within the neighborhood for over 30 years, is set to close in June 2020. The close comes after a series of recent developments by the owners of the building—the Seattle Academy of Arts and Sciences (SAAS)—which is planning to move some of their operations to the space that is currently occupied by Mother's Place.

The anticipated change has Mother's Place teachers, community members and parents scrambling for a replacement child care job or service.

Following the 12th Ave expansion of the Academy's middle school, SAAS decided that the space would be used for other purposes, leading to an announcement on Nov. 29, 2018 that the daycare would be closing in June 2019. In a written statement sent to *The Spectator* on May 31, the SAAS Communications team explained what the space might be used

for following the close of Mother's Place.

"Seattle Academy will be using the space for programmatic and/or administrative needs to support the students attending SAAS," they wrote.

SAAS Communications also said that as of June 2019, the Academy will have satisfied their contractual obligation that was made at the time of purchase, requiring them to keep Mother's Place operating in its 12th Ave location for an unspecified period of time.

In the Nov. 29 letter, Head of School at SAAS Rob Phillips, explained that the decision was made in alignment with the school's mission, and is intended to bring the facilities and offices of the school closer together.

"This decision was made by reviewing Seattle Academy's mission, the desire to bring Seattle Academy programmatic elements together on one block, impact to our communities, responsibilities of day care ownership and our continued need to house Seattle Academy's expanded programs," Phillips wrote.

The announcement led Mother's Place families to fear that they would be unable to find an alternative daycare center by June, as Seattle University Communications Department Chair and Mother's Place parent Christopher Paul expressed.

"Parents at Mother's Place daycare got very concerned, and we organized and have since

been told that they are going to close in June 2020 rather than 2019," Paul said.

Despite the closing date postponement to June 2020, the short timeframe to find an alternative daycare is still a concern weighing on Mother's Place families.

The families who have children enrolled at Mother's Place organized a plan to try and come up with an alternative location for Mother's Place. Mother's Place families seem to prefer to keep the current staff of Mothers Place and to resume operations in a new building in the area. The Mother's Place Parent Steering Committee, formed by Mother's Place parents and families who have children enrolled, of which Paul is a member, have taken it upon themselves to find a new place for the daycare to operate. "The Parent Steering Committee got set up to work with staff to try to find other options for Mother's Place, and we're currently in that process," Paul said. "We are looking at trying to find another location and another ownership structure for the teachers to be able to continue working with kids."

According to the SAAS Communications team, the Seattle Academy has assisted the committee in the search process, taking part in weekly conference calls to discuss possible new locations, and to provide information about organizations that might be interested in taking over Mother's Place away

from 12th Ave.

Although Mother's Place will be leaving the 12th Ave building complex that it has been operating in for 38 years, there is still hope among Mother's Place families and parents—as well as among the daycare's teachers and staff—that a new location can be found nearby that can provide a natural transition for Mother's Place families and staff. Mother's Place teacher of 22 years Kari Kohler expressed hope that Mother's Place could find a new home, but also acknowledged the expensive nature of rent in Capitol Hill.

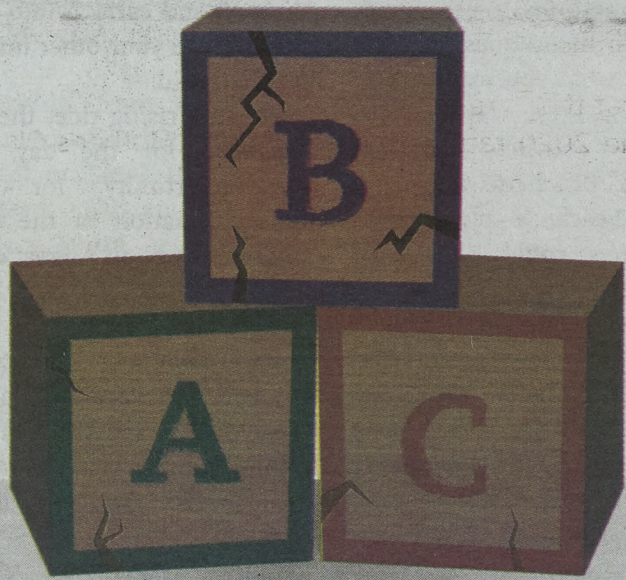
"I know that the community is working on it. You know how real estate is really expensive here," she said.

Rent is not the only obstacle in the search for a new site for Mother's Place. Paul explained that though the committee has a year to find a new location, it still may not be enough time unless they find one soon.

"The problem is, it takes about a year to cite and license a daycare, so if we don't get something sorted out really quickly, there's nothing that can be done to keep it going," he said.

As difficult as it may be to find a new building and new owners to shoulder the cost for Mother's Place, the tight time frame applies an additional pressure that makes it all the more difficult for the committee to save Mother's Place and provide a timely transition. If a move is not established soon, parents





like Paul hope that the Seattle Academy will work with the committee to allow everything to be readied for the arrival of Mother's Place to a new location. "If we don't get to a point where we have an answer within the time frame, but we have an answer outside the timeframe, I'd surely hope that SASS would work with the community, because I firmly believe that a daycare and child care are far more important than administrative offices," he said. Despite its necessity, there is undoubtedly a shortage of childcare services in Capitol Hill, largely due to the area's skyrocketing rent and the relative unprofitability of the service. A branch of the child care provider, Bright Horizons, opened in Capitol Hill in 2015, softening the blow of the Mother's Place close for some families with young children in the area. However, the waitlist for many child care centers can be extensive and can face parents with a wait that can be extremely difficult to plan around,

as Paul explained.

"There's not enough child care in the city. When we first looked for child care for our eldest child, we were told we would be facing a year and change waitlist to get a spot. So, to get a spot in the infants room, you have to be in the list, basically, as soon as you're pregnant," he said.

Mother's Place teacher, Lauren Hester, echoed Paul's concerns and acknowledged the difficulty of finding openings in the infant rooms of daycares in the area.

"There's a crisis for child care spots in the community, particularly with all of the infant spots going away," Hester said. "It's going to be really hard to fill for families that are struggling to find a place to put their little ones."

If the Mother's Place Parent Steering Committee is able to find another site for Mother's Place, it would not only significantly aid the 70 families with children enrolled at the daycare, but would save the jobs of many of the teachers and staff at the daycare, many of whom

will be facing unemployment if Mother's Place does not find a new location.

Although the SAAS Communications team did inform The Spectator that they have offered retention in some form to some Mother's Place employees and transition bonuses to financially support others after the daycare closes, it would devastate many of the teachers if they were unable to continue the work that they have enjoyed doing for many years. Kohler talked about how important Mother's place is to her, and how saddened she would be to see Mother's Place closed forever.

"It's my life, you know. I'm in my mid-40s. I started here in my early twenties. I love the community, I love the kids," Kohler said. "I can't even face it yet. It's devastating."

Mother's Place is renowned for its dedicated and caring teachers, and many have worked at the daycare for decades, like Kohler, as Hester explained.

"I've worked here for five years. A lot of people have been here a lot longer, and there are some staff members that have been here for over 30," she said.

With all of the success that Mother's Place has achieved in childcare for Seattle's communities over the years, it is disappointing to many families that the daycare will be shutting down. Kohler expressed her disappointment that the work of so many passionate and experienced employees may come to an end in a little over a year.

"It's kind of a shame. It's been here for almost 40 years, and something working so well doesn't seem like it can just be shut down," she said.

The annexation of Mother's Place is not the only controversial expansion of the Seattle Academy's facilities to be announced recently. The Academy is partnering with Seattle Parks and Recreation to appropriate South Park fields and surrounding facilities for the Academy's use, although they will be required to open the fields to the public during community drop-in hours.

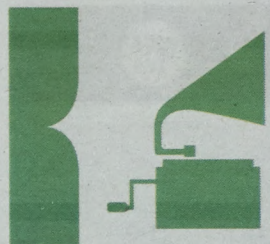
The rapid expansion of the Seattle Academy throughout Capitol Hill, brings up certain ethical concerns regarding increasing gentrification in the area, but in the case of Mother's Place, the Academy remains adamant that it will help them further their mission. They said that they carefully considered and planned for their decision beforehand, as the Communications team at the Academy explained.

"Our Administration and Board did not take this decision lightly and are committed to a respectful transition for the staff and an open line of communication and support to the Parent Steering Committee," they wrote.

As for the Mother's Place families and staff, the daycare will continue to operate as usual as teachers and care providers like Kohler hope for a new benefactor to take up their cause and find them a new site to operate in.

"We just do our job and love the kids, and hope that that continues."

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THE HIGH IMPACT OF LOW TIDE BEACH WALKS

Kristen Nielsen
Staff Writer

For many, low tide is a unique opportunity to briefly view exposed seaweed, crabs and mystery objects before watching them become engulfed by the ocean.

However, for members of the Beach Naturalist Program run by the Seattle Aquarium, low tide is the perfect opportunity to educate the community and encourage an appreciation for the many wondrous creatures usually hidden below the ocean's surface.

The Seattle Aquarium relaunched this event in 2012 as a way to engage intimately with members of the community and with efforts to educate and spread enthusiasm for the Puget Sound environment.

Community Engagement Liaison and naturalist Kayla Grattan encourages attendance, reminding the community that the event will continue all summer at nine different Seattle beaches at varying times.

"You can come to a new beach and experience a totally new system than the one you're used to every time," Grattan said.

Grattan has spent two seasons with the naturalist program, getting involved after moving to Seattle with an environmental studies degree.

"I was familiar with tide pooling; I'd done it for work elsewhere. I found out about the naturalist program and here we are," Grattan said.

She noted that the job quickly became a 'jobby,' a mix between a job and a hobby.

"I really like bridging the gap between education and us people who live so close to places like this but may not get the opportunity to learn about them," Grattan said.

Low tide naturalist Christine Veterhart shares a similar enthusiasm for the program, seizing the opportunity to join after being approached by other naturalists.

According to the Seattle Aquarium website, "beach naturalists are local citizens who care about Puget Sound beaches and want to help protect them."

"I just started by having fun with another naturalist," Veterhart said. "I knew nothing about this 'cause I don't usually hang out in the low tides, but there's a ton to learn every single day."

Veterhart hopes her story will encourage others to come to a low tide walk or consider joining the program themselves.

Other attendees were quite familiar with tide pools, though they were still adamant about the importance of attending similar events.

Anna Bruchette was one such attendee, a biologist with a doctorate in virology and a passion for tide pooling.

"It's an opportunity to discover the creatures that are out here and just take some time to look at the things you wouldn't usually look at," Bruchette said.

Bruchette also reinforces the importance of education, noting how valuable it is to have the naturalists

accessible for questions.

"There are so many questions you can ask about what you explore and see and that's a great way to learn about the world and how things are interconnected," Bruchette said.

Along the beach, a plethora of unique creatures could be viewed upon taking a closer look at the seaweed and between rocks.

Anemones of all shapes, colors and sizes were nestled beside rocks and other debris. Clams burrowed deep under the sand and sent jets of salty water through their siphons onto unsuspecting passersby in response to disturbances.

Moon snail egg cases littered the beach, looking like rubber car parts rather than eggs. This, Veterhart explains, can be an issue as many volunteers conducting beach clean-ups misidentify the egg cases as discarded plastic.

"You think you know empathy but then you're thinking about these little critters down here and you've never had compassion for them. It increases your appreciation just being here. You can see all these wonderful things

going on and carry it into the rest of your life and your other interactions," Veterhart said.

With the rising tide, the walk was concluded for the day. However, the opportunity for education and appreciation of the tide pools continues through August 4.

Though the program is geared towards conservation, the naturalists remind us of the importance that such an event can have in the simplest ways.

"Anytime you get outdoors it's a very healing thing," Veterhart said. "Come on out and have some fun, it's amazing what you're able to see."

Grattan adds to this idea, mentioning that whether you are able to attend the events or not, we should all strive to understand the importance of conservation, especially in areas so close to home.

"Keep up the good work, spread our conservation method through your work—we really appreciate it."

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Katie Osterhage describes a sea creature to a little boy on the Low Tide Walk with the Seattle Aquarium

KOSHIN MATSUSHIMA • THE SPECTATOR

DIVERSITY ON DISPLAY AT THE FRYE ART MUSEUM

Erick Lake
Volunteer Writer

Two new exhibitions opened at the Frye Art Museum, featuring “After Preparing the Altar, the Ghosts Feast Feverishly” from Seattle-based Chinese American writer Jane Wong and “Give It or Leave It” from Los Angeles-based African American artist Cauleen Smith, and they are a remarkable breath of fresh air.

With a full house attending Saturday’s exhibition opening, both exhibits are visually striking and enjoy considerable floor space at the Frye. Both exhibits retell the stories of women of color through art, which resounded particularly well with many community members at the exhibition, and portrays one of the most diverse lineups many attendees have seen in some time.

Lilian Ang, a 23-year-old Chinese American woman and long-time Seattle local, connected with Jane Wong’s exhibit through their common upbringing.

Ang spoke about how her parents grew up during the great famine in China, much like Wong’s parents did, which inspired this exhibit.

Wong’s collection of poems, artifacts and photographs speaks to her upbringing in a New Jersey Chinese American restaurant, highlighting immigrant narratives in the United States and displaying the intergenerational trauma in their families.

The art on display tells the story of her family’s experience in China during the Great Leap Forward, the Maoist reform campaign that claimed the lives of more than 36 million people and comments on the contrast between contemporary American abundance and rural Chinese famine.

“My parents would tell me about it, but I don’t think I really understood the enormity of how terrible and how hard it was to live through that,” Ang said. “I think this exhibit does a really good job of capturing that.”

A common theme that can be seen throughout Wong’s exhibit is the



JOSHUA SCOGGIN • THE SPECTATOR

Jane Wong’s exhibit had attendees reflecting on their heritage and upbringing.

importance of food in adolescence, how it can be used to bring people together and how much pain it causes when it is hard to find. This juxtaposition can be seen clearly in many aspects of her work.

Wong decorates traditional Chinese altars with her favorite childhood snacks and candies, along with photographs of her grandparents during and after the famine in China. Another exhibit displays a vast number of ramen bowls, many of which are filled with lines of poetry highlighting food scarcity in her family’s history.

Smith’s exhibit, “Give It or Leave It,” is a blend of various mediums and inspirations, from short films that she directed to collected artifacts and art pieces. She pulls

inspiration from genres such as Third-World Cinema, science fiction and Afrocentric feminism.

Her new exhibit is an energetic and optimistic reimagining of the phrase, “take it or leave it,” and Smith attempts to imagine a future that is “black, spiritual and unabashedly alive.”

Smith takes advantage of the many different mediums in her work to create an exhibit featuring many unique textures. Naa Akua and Anastacia-Renee Tolbert, two local African American female artists, were impressed by the variety in Smith’s exhibit.

“It’s multidimensional,” Akua said, “and I like the fact that I am being given that, that I am being shown many versions of something that takes

my time and patience to really devour the foundation and the message that’s being given.”

Tolbert was particularly interested in the blending of contemporary art and ancestral tradition, which can be found in both exhibits.

“I think sometimes art goes get really caught up in what is now, what is modern and forget what it’s been,” Tolbert said. “I think these two pieces are doing a lovely job of showing both.”

“Give It or Leave It” displays this marriage between contemporary and ancestral art in its use of ancient African sculpture and references to multiple inspirations from Alice Coltrane to Sir Thomas More, blending them with modern film techniques, lighting and perspective.

The harmony between ancestral and contemporary is a central theme in Wong’s exhibit as well, combining ethnic Chinese cultural artifacts with objects that a contemporary American viewer would be more familiar with, such as Chinese take-out bags and ramen bowls.

These aspects serve to highlight an important focus for the Frye this summer: using art that draws on diverse traditions and experiences to imagine a future that builds off of these experiences, one that is aware of and hopeful for these “shared histories.”

“I’m just grateful that the Frye decided to take on both of these artists’ and writers’ work,” Tolbert said. “I think it’s really important and meaningful.”

“After Preparing the Altar,” “The Ghosts Feast Feverishly” and “Give It or Leave It” will be on display at the Frye throughout the summer until Sept. 1. As always, admission to the Frye is free for all.

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GET THE SCOOP ON SALT & STRAW'S NEW COOKBOOK

Myrea Mora
News Editor

This year, co-founder of Salt & Straw ice cream Tyler Malek released "Salt & Straw Ice Cream Cookbook," the product of six years in the making. His ice cream company is known for their unique seasonal flavors and this book allows customers to bring these flavors into their homes all year long.

Tyler Malek co-founded Salt & Straw with his cousin Kim Malek in 2011. Even though both founders call Seattle home, the company is based in Portland, Oregon. The pair started their business with a vision and passion to make their mark in the industry but lacked recipes.

"We realized that ice cream is a perfect soapbox to tell amazing stories from. I like to think about all the amazing ingredients that I can find in the city and the nonprofits I can work with to elevate people's stories," Malek said.

As business boomed, they developed a revolutionary ice cream base that could be sold to customers through Williams Sonoma. Malek describes this base as being extremely user-friendly and "impossible" to mess up when making your own ice cream flavors.

After creating this base and experimenting with flavors that gained traction all throughout the West Coast, they wanted to bring the recipes of classic flavors like Sea Salt with Caramel Ribbons, creative ones like Roasted Strawberry and Toasted White Chocolate and scandalous ones such as Buttered Mashed Potatoes and Gravy to their customers.

"We focus on transferring magic [found in the kitchen] into one scoop of ice cream, and that's what creates these amazing flavors," Malek said.

Following the release of the book, Salt & Straw partnered up with Williams Sonoma to go on a nationwide tour. The promotional tour began on May 1 in New York City and continued westward, finally ending in Seattle.

On May 29, Malek traveled to

Williams Sonoma in University Village to take part in an ice cream making demo and book signing. May 30 marked the end of the tour as Malek stopped by Salt & Straw's Ballard location for a final book signing.

Malek wrote this book to tell the world how Salt & Straw found inspiration from different cities and then transferred their discoveries into a scoop of ice cream. The demos that took place during the tour were meant to show the audience how easy it can be to make their own ice cream, and Malek further hopes his book inspires others to experiment with recipes and discover new ice cream flavors.

"I think ice cream is one of the easiest forms of pastry to make but people get scared from it," Malek said. "In reality, it is so fun, and at the end of the day, I want people to take this book and use it almost as a blueprint

to think about flavors found in their city in different ways."

Garry Horvitz and his wife, subscribers to the Williams Sonoma and Salt & Straw mailing list, attended the event together. As active ice cream makers, they knew they had to take advantage of this event.

"We love ice cream and wanted to find new and better ways to make it. We have an ice cream maker and have purchased lots of ice cream-making books. This event helped us learn new and useful techniques," Horvitz said.

Blair Hite felt inspired to attend the event as his friend owns a donut business and was excited for Malek's tour. Hite proudly mentioned that he has gone into every Salt & Straw location in Portland.

"I'm from Portland, and because Salt & Straw is a local business, I wanted to hear what Tyler had to say and

learn how ice cream is put together," Hite said. "I came in not so excited to make ice cream because it's something I hadn't done, and now I would love to try."

Gia Go attended the event with her sister and mom. They have been strong followers of Salt & Straw since the company launched in 2011. They have not tried making ice cream before but try to support the business in any way possible.

"I would definitely be willing to try [making ice cream] but our main purpose was to come and see Tyler in person, support him and since we live nearby, it was such a cool event to come to."

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COURTESY OF SALT & STRAW

BILLIE EILISH COMES OUT AND PLAYS AT MARYMOOR PARK

Michaela Moore
Staff Writer

The 17-year-old sensation Billie Eilish made her way to Redmond to play a sold-out show at Marymoor Park on a cool, spring evening. This was a stop on her "When We All Fall Asleep" world tour.

The crowd was surprisingly young and filled with parent chaperones. It surprised me only because I didn't think Eilish necessarily appealed to the younger crowd.

Eilish started the night off by hyping the crowd up with her song "bad guy" and seamlessly transitioned into "my strange addiction." Eilish then switched directions shortly after that with her ballad, "idontwannabeyouanymore."

The song "idontwannabeyouanymore" is an emotional tune about not feeling beautiful and living with insecurities. While Eilish sang, the crowd responded and sang back at her. It was particularly chilling about listening to the crowd sing about being insecure.

There was a moment when I realized that many of the people at the concert have probably felt those insecurities at one point.

Eilish discussed how she deals with these insecurities in her songs. She performed one of those songs, "xanny," which is about how Eilish does not feel the need to take Xanax, drink, or smoke to cope or feel cool. The most saddening and ironic thing I saw during that performance was the girl next to me pulling out a capsule of Xanax and taking one with her friend as Eilish sang "don't give me a xanny, now or ever."

I was also stunned by Eilish's powerful vocals. She sounded just like she does in the recorded album and had fun throughout the concert. She performed 17 songs, but it was a quick set as she did not talk much in between songs. However, she spent a tender moment explaining one of her songs "i love you."

Eilish tours with her brother, Finneas, and the two of them write songs together. For "i love you," Eilish brought a bed onto the stage and she

explained that the two of them wrote the song on a bed and they wanted to perform the song exactly how they wrote it. It was a sweet moment and seemed incredibly important for the two of them to share it.

Later in the night before playing "when the party's over," she wanted the crowd to be present in the moment. She explained that if that night was the best or worst night of your life or if you have been stuck in a rut or not, feeling those emotions is okay and she encouraged embracing those emotions. Living life involves worrying about what comes next and people do not take the time to live in the moment because they may not want to think about their feelings.

The concert overall was fantastic. There were moments I was able to

jump, dance and laugh with her, like when she forgot the words to her song "COPYCAT." In the next moment, I could be emotional and feel the pain that she felt while singing. Despite being far back from the stage, I felt connected with her the whole night because I felt her emotions.

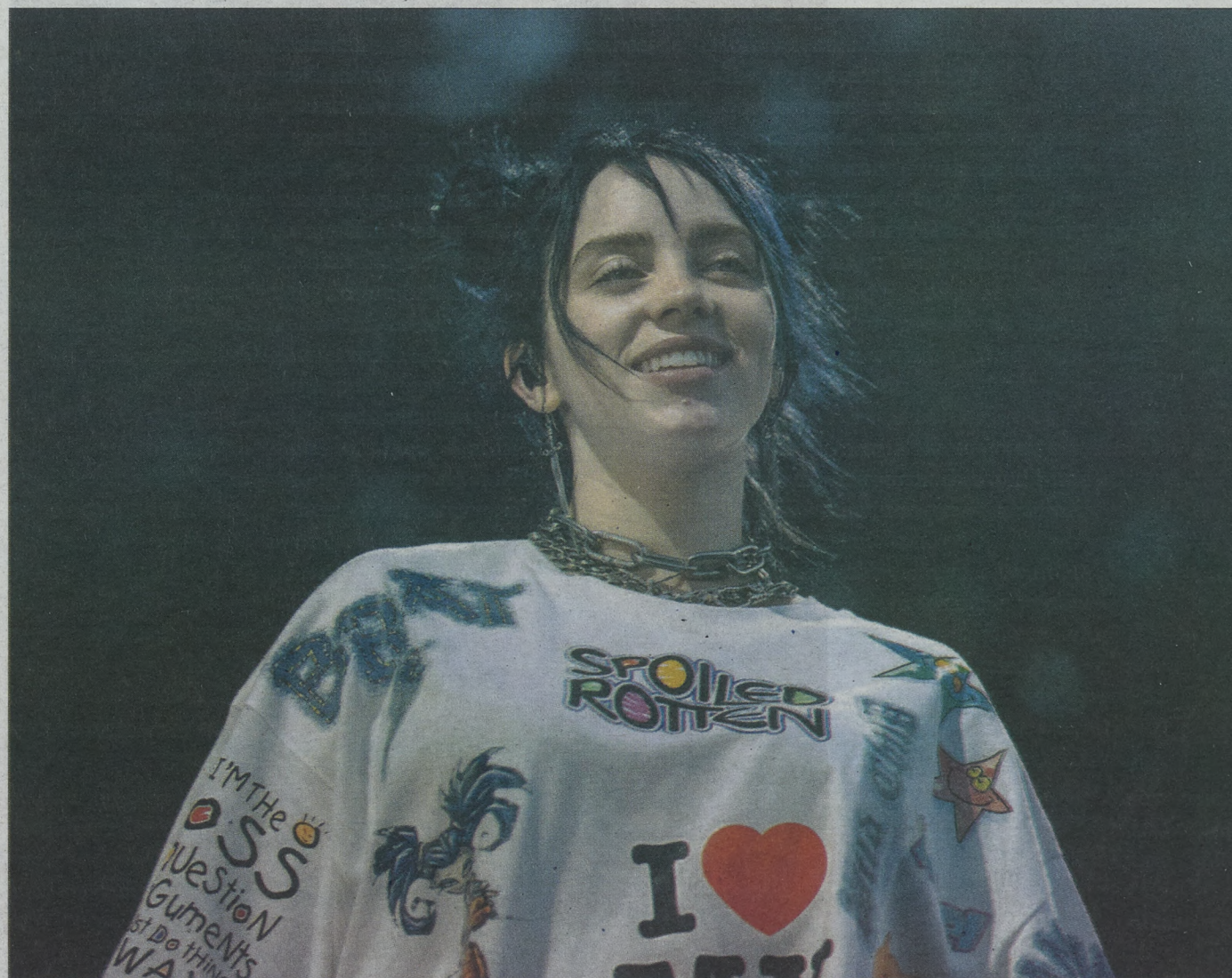
When the sun went down, so did the house. Eilish rounded her set out with "ocean eyes," "when the party's over," and ended with "bury a friend." The shift in emotions was fun as she made sure to leave the crowd with a song that left them feeling powerful.

Billie Eilish is an artist I have been wanting to see for a long time now, and I am glad it was after the release of her new album because she explored many different themes in her album that weren't in her EP. I had the

opportunity to listen to some of my favorite songs come to life. "bellyache," "listen before I go," and "when the party's over" are three songs I really looked forward to hearing and it was a great experience to listen to songs that mean a lot to me, surrounded by other people who felt the same connection to the music.

One thing is certain, Eilish cares about the music she puts out. She wanted to establish a connection with the crowd and she wanted to have fun with it, and that is exactly what she did during her stop in Redmond.

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JAVIER PLASCENCIA • THE SPECTATOR

Billie Eilish on stage at Marymoor Park during her tour stop for the "When We All Fall Asleep" world tour; June 2, 2019.

ALADDIN REMAKE BRINGS CLASSIC TO A WHOLE NEW WORLD

Michaela Moore
Staff Writer

Another Disney remake has made its way onto the big screen. This time, Disney recreates a beloved classic, "Aladdin." This movie comes just after the live-action remake of "Dumbo" and precedes that of the highly-anticipated "The Lion King."

However, the new "Aladdin" movie made me a firm believer that the live-action remakes are unnecessary. The animated movies are classics, and there is nothing wrong with the existence of those movies.

This remake, directed by Guy Ritchie, has original songs from the 1992 classic, but it feels a lot more Broadway and all about dazzle, which makes sense because there is a Broadway adaptation that the movie draws on. When some of the songs came on, it took me out of the moment, simply because it was jarring.

Princess Jasmine's character had a bit more of a story in the new movie. Actress Naomi Scott did a wonderful job of giving Jasmine a new sense of herself. She seemed more powerful, especially in the new song "Speechless." To see an exciting, powerful female character on the screen is always refreshing. Other characters were not so fun to see on screen, like the Genie and Jafar.

Everything about the Genie felt cheesy. Will Smith looked incredibly odd as a blue, CGI'd Genie. Luckily he shifts to disguise himself as a normal human in his natural skin at some points, which makes his character more compelling. However, Robin Williams's Genie from the original movie is untouchable. Williams brought such life to the character. Smith's was interesting, but it did not feel right.

However, at least the Genie was still an enthralling character. Jafar, despite being a villain, should have also been a worthy character, memorable and enjoyable to watch. Marwan Kenzari's Jafar was boring. A movie should have an entertaining villain but Jafar was just alright. I truly don't think

it's the acting—it's that this Jafar was written poorly.

Thankfully, the hero of the story, Aladdin, was as charismatic as he was in the original. Mena Massoud did a great job portraying Aladdin as he went on his adventures with Genie to have Jasmine fall in love with him.

Massoud and Scott had great vocals that contributed to the film and the

updated songs were fun. However, as mentioned earlier, some of them felt too showy. It makes sense though, as the visuals were also very showy.

The visuals were beautifully done in regards to the colors and the costumes in the film. Even though Jafar was a boring character, at least his costumes were not. The movie felt a lot more grand when compared to

the animation, but at times, the film was overwhelming.

It was interesting to see the addition of a new character, Dalia, the handmaiden. She was a witty and cute addition to the film. To add to the depth of the plot, she even has a chance with romance in the film with the Genie.

One necessary thing to mention about the remake is its casting. All of the actors and actresses were fantastic, and I was appreciative of the fact that the cast was not just white. "Aladdin" is based off of "The Arabian Nights" story "Aladdin's Lamp," which has a Middle Eastern origin.

Representation in movies is incredibly important, so the casting of actors of color was great to see, especially considering white actors have and continue to play roles where the original story featured someone of color.

Overall, Ritchie's "Aladdin" was interesting to watch. I think I would rather watch the original over the new rendition, but it was nice to relive the nostalgia and magical world of "Aladdin," despite it being readapted. For the newer generation of Disney fans, I am sure it will be a great film because the live-action movies are now the norm. However, for older Disney fans it just did not feel right.

As it is an adaptation of the animated movie, there are some new points in the movie that some may enjoy more than others, but one thing remains: Disney keeps the magic alive even in a remake.

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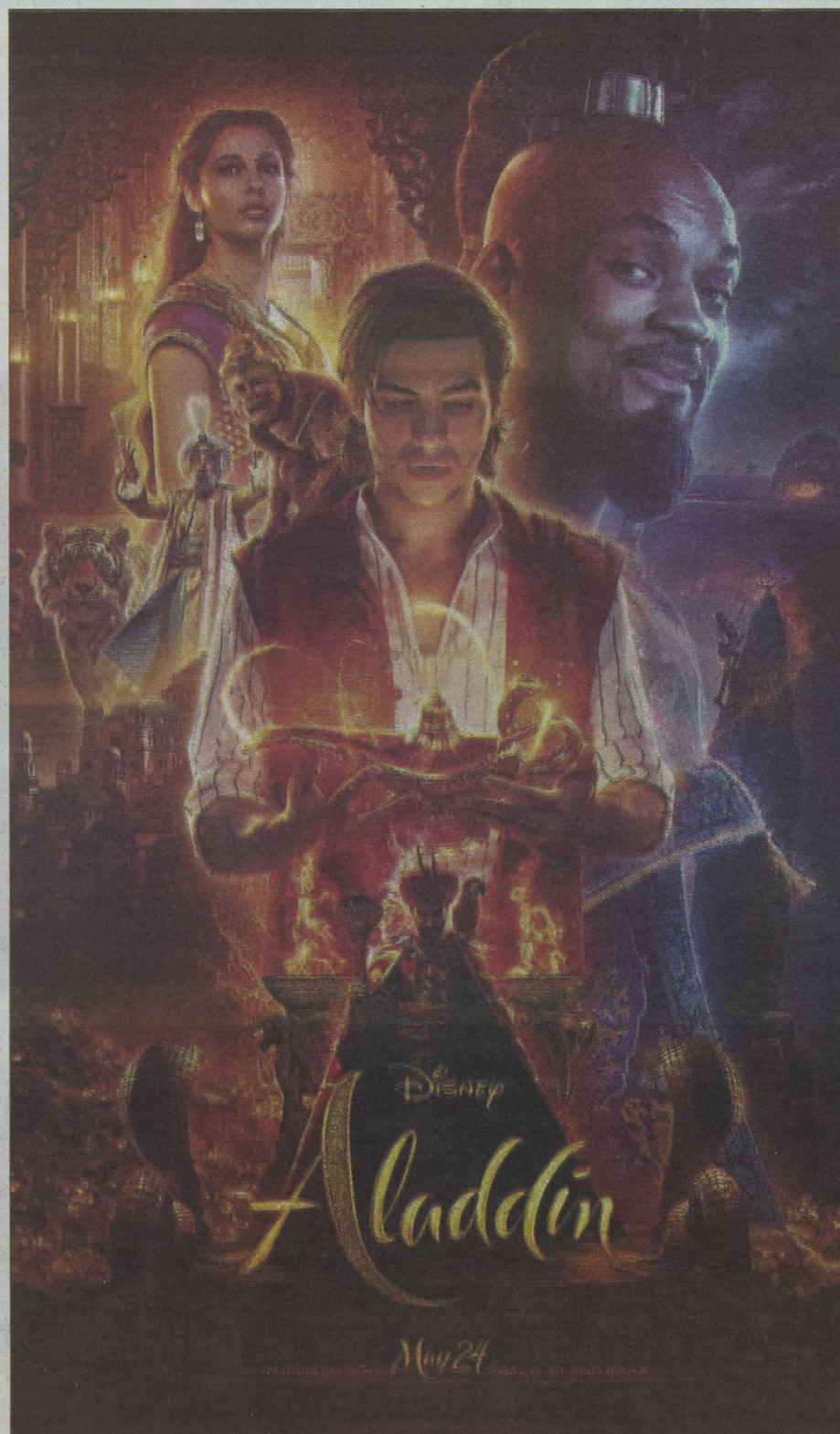


IMAGE COURTESY OF IMDB



SOFTBALL HEAD COACH HIRAI'S CONTRACT EXTENDED TO 2023

Caylah Lunning
Staff Writer

The Seattle University Head Softball Coach Geoff Hirai solidified a contract that extends until 2023. Coach Hirai entered his fourth season with the Redhawks this year and is coming off a historic 2019 season for the Seattle U softball team.

Hirai explained what the key to his success has been during his time at Seattle U.

"It's just an accumulation of all four years, just understanding the philosophies," Hirai said. "We have and the culture that we set. Being a new coach, it takes a while to fully embrace the culture that we were setting and just the seniors being really great leaders and teaching the younger players—the culture that they have set."

Before coming to Seattle U, Hirai began his Division I coaching career as an assistant coach for the University of Washington (UW). During his time with the Huskies, he saw them advance to NCAA tournament berths while helping four players obtain five All-American honors.

Hirai continued his assistant coaching career at the University of Virginia (UVA), where he served as the team hitting coach. In his three seasons with UVA, they made an NCAA tournament appearance in 2010.

At Hirai's last stop before coming to Seattle U, he finished his assistant coaching career at Oregon State University (OSU). Hirai worked primarily with offense and hitters. Thanks to his help, the Beavers obtained numerous school records and NCAA tournament appearances in 2012 and 2013.

Hirai started his career with Seattle U during the 2015-16 season. In his first year at Seattle U, Hirai led the Redhawks to two wins in the Western Athletic Conference (WAC)

tournament for the first time since Seattle U entered the WAC conference.

In the 2017 season, Hirai led the Redhawks to 20 wins. In the WAC tournament, the Redhawks almost obtained their first WAC tournament title, falling short by three outs.

"I think our culture is our culture, and we just want to keep working hard, that's the first thing I told the players, hard work pays off. I think this year [2019] is a combination of that," Hirai said. "We aren't going to change much of anything, it's kind of what we do. We're going to condition hard, lift every week like we do, and we're going to get better, faster, and stronger."

The 2018 softball season was full of records and firsts for the Redhawks. Hirai paved the way for Seattle U, setting a Division I program record with 33 games won. Madison Cathcart was named all-region,

NFCA All-Region First Team, as a first baseman. Cathcart also set eight school records and was ranked top 12 nationally in six different categories in Division I play.

As the 2019 Seattle U softball season came to a close, it went down in the record books as a notable one. The Redhawks won 40 games; Of these 40 wins, the Redhawks beat out three NCAA tournament qualifying teams. The Redhawks went 15-3 in WAC conference play, winning all six series and garnering three sweeps.

During the WAC tournament, Hirai and the team of Redhawks went 3-0, winning the team's first ever WAC tournament.

Hirai explained that both himself and the team were feeling jubilant when they finally got the long-anticipated WAC tournament victory. "There were all kinds of happy emotions. It was just a great moment

for the program and especially for those seniors," Hirai said. "They have worked so hard since day one. It was just great to see their faces and how happy they were."

In the Redhawks' opening debut in the NCAA tournament, the Redhawks fell to Mississippi State. The Redhawks came back and took a victory against Fordham for a 1-0 win in the eighth-inning, becoming the first WAC team to win an NCAA Tournament since 2015.

Hirai ended the interview thanking everyone, from alumni to current Seattle U students, faculty, and players. The continued support has not gone unnoticed, and the Redhawks look forward to many successful seasons in the future.

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Geoff Hirai, who has been granted a contract extension as the head coach of Seattle University's Women's Softball team, takes a swing.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE U ATHLETICS

ATHLETICS AWARD SHOW MARKS END OF HISTORIC YEAR FOR REDHAWKS



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE U ATHLETICS

The Seattle University Softball team won their first WAC title and advanced to their first NCAA Tournament during the 2019 season.

Nicole Golba
Sports & Opinion Editor

Although the 2018-2019 athletics season has officially come to a close for the Redhawks, records have been broken and new standards have been set. May 31 marked a day to commemorate the student-athletes of Seattle University, with individuals from sports across the board winning awards and gaining recognition for their hard work. Friday night marked a celebration of seniors, broken records and community involvement.

Fall season provided Seattle U teams like cross country, soccer, swimming, tennis, basketball, and rowing a chance to kick the year off strong.

Men's cross country, led by Seniors Eli Boudouris and Ben Monk, took third place at the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Championships. Both individuals, taking seventh and eighth place respectively, earned First and Second-Team All-WAC awards.

The women's soccer team continued their historic quest for gold, advancing into the first round of the NAAs after winning their fourth WAC Tournament title. They have now won eight total conference championships since 2013.

The start of winter quarter featured continued success as Redhawk teams set the tone for the new year.

Both men's and women's swimming took seventh and eighth place respectively at the WAC Championships, with highlights coming from the men's side as they broke a school record in the 400 freestyle relay. Junior Greg Raper, specializing in sprints and butterfly, also set a new school record in the 100 freestyle.

Men's and women's track and field opened up their seasons, building up to notable performances at the WAC Championships held in Nampa, Idaho. Both teams finished sixth place with Sophomore Nathan Pixler picking up a gold medal in the process, winning the 800-meter run.

Seattle U Women's Softball, beginning their official season in winter and spring quarters, recorded what has arguably been the best year thus far for the team. The team, becoming the first WAC team to win an NCAA Tournament since 2015 while winning their first-ever Division I NCAA Tournament game, garnered continued success throughout the season.

The team also won their first-ever ►



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE U ATHLETICS

Sophomore Nathan Pixler was awarded for his performance at the 2019 WAC Indoor Track & Field Championships, where he earned gold in the 800-meter run.

WAC regular season title and WAC tournament championship.

The women's golf team also fared well during the spring season, ending the year off strong in a tie for first place at the WAC Championships. The Redhawks had their best-ever finish as a team after tying with New Mexico State, building momentum for future seasons.

A number of athletes were recognized at the banquet, including seniors, first-years and inspiring individuals who have influenced the campus in one way or another.

Redshirt Senior Isabelle Butterfield

of the women's soccer team earned Eddie O'Brien Female Student-Athlete of the Year. As a central midfielder, the team's co-captain excelled both in and out of the classroom and will graduate from Seattle U with a degree in mathematics and computer science.

First-year Declan McGlynn nabbed Male Freshman of the Year recognition after a notable freshman campaign on the men's soccer team. He was also chosen as the WAC Conference Freshman of the Year and member of All-WAC Second Team, starting in 14 games as a forward and scoring six goals with five assists.

Within the Service to Athletics category, Sophomore Jamie Hegg from the women's track and field team took the award. When asked about the program she has been involved with and the work required as a student-athlete, she noted the significance of the award.

"It has been very challenging to get the program running, so it was nice to know that my work had an impact," Hegg said. "As a student-athlete at Seattle University, I think it's important to recognize all the opportunities we have and do our best to share them with others."

The 2018-2019 seasons were ones to be remembered for the Redhawks. Broken records across the board and notable work both inside and outside the classroom have built upon previous years and set the stage for more in the coming years. The celebration of a notable year provided Redhawks a chance to come together, recognize each other's hard work and most importantly prepare for an even more successful 2019-2020 year.

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SWITZERLAND SIDES WITH SEMENYA—IAAF RULING OVERTURNED

Nicole Golba
Sports & Opinion Editor

Castor Semenya, a South African middle-distance runner specializing in the 800-meter run, has made headlines in the news time and time again for her notable performances—but more recently for different reasons.

Semenya, a long time sports-enthusiast who originally began running as training for soccer, took the gold at the women's 800-meters during the 2009 and 2017 World Championships. She also took silver at the 2011 World Championships in the same event. At both the 2012 and 2016 Summer Olympics, Semenya took the gold medal.

Following Semenya's continued success at the World Championships, questions began to arise regarding her biological sex. The rapid athletic progression Semenya experienced in her 800-meter personal bests sparked the interest of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF).

Semenya took a sex verification test, but results were never officially published. November of 2009 marked the start of an official investigation, but by July 2010 Semenya was cleared to compete again in women's competitions.

In 2015, a rule change regarding the policy on suspension for individuals with naturally high



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIRED.COM

levels of testosterone in women notified the IAAF that it had two years to provide evidence to support the original policy.

April 16 of 2016 marked an iconic day in history as Semenya became the first individual to win the 400-meter, 800-meter and 1500-meter titles at the South African National Championships. With two world-leading marks within a short four-hour span, speculations arose once again involving Semenya's true sex.

Most recently, the IAAF announced a new "differences of sex development" rule. In 2018, it ruled that any given athlete with specific disorders of sex

development, testosterone levels of 5 nmol/L and above, and androgen sensitivity must take medication to lower their testosterone levels.

Semenya did not back down from the official ruling, announcing her decision to legally challenge the IAAF rules on June 19, 2018. The IAAF amended the regulations, but Semenya appealed the decision to the Federal Supreme Court of Switzerland.

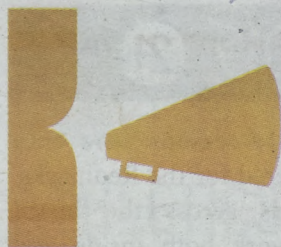
As of June 3, 2019, Switzerland's supreme court temporarily suspended testosterone regulations, handing a legal victory to Semenya. As a result, Semenya will not be forced to take hormone-suppressing medication

and will be allowed to return to competition.

The IAAF has the option to challenge the ruling, and although a court date has not yet been established it could take place as soon as the end of June.

If the suspension remains in place, however, Semenya will be able to complete the remainder of her season and participate in the Diamond League's, where she looks to defend her title in Qatar in September.

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TO STRAIGHT FOLKS AT PRIDE: BE DELIBERATE ABOUT THE SPACE YOU HOLD

It's ironic to see a person who called me a faggot in sixth grade celebrating the progress of LGBTQ+ rights, and it's a strange experience to see my former harassers at Pride with a rainbow-painted face.

I understand that public view towards LGBTQ+ folks has changed in 10 years, and it's entirely possible that those former bullies are changed, reformed, and open-minded. Same-sex marriage is legal, LGBTQ+ employees are protected from discrimination, and I feel safer holding hands with my boyfriend in public...mostly.

However, when I talked to my mother a few months ago about the AIDS epidemic, she was shocked at how emotional I was. I told her about how we lost an entire generation of gay people to an epidemic that the U.S. government ignored. I told her that Reagan, Bush, and all of the other complicit politicians murdered the pesky gay folks living in Greenwich Village, and I said that they would have killed me, too.

In 2019, Pride is ahistorical. Police departments and companies like Amazon walk in parades, but they're stomping on the graves of trans and gay folks brutalized by police and traumatized by laws that continue to criminalize our existence.

Pride is a casualty of the millennial LGBTQ+ movement, and it's a tragedy for queer folks to feel unwelcome at a celebration of their own marginalized identities. Pride, at its core, is a celebration of how we challenge straight and cis norms and dismantle heteropatriarchal gender expectations.

Pride is inherently uncomfortable for straight and cis people, and rightly so. It's a parade of kinky gay men in leather, lesbians riding motorcycles, and drag queens prancing through the streets. Straight folks turn away and awkwardly smile when I kiss a man, and though that response is ordinarily hurtful, Pride renders it empowering, as queer folks take ownership of our disregard for gender norms.

It seems to me that straight and cis people come to Pride to moderate it and water down the sacred celebration as another capitalist holiday for profit. Instead of celebrating our flagrant disrespect of gender norms, it becomes another opportunity to spend money at Target, get drunk in a park, and buy brightly colored t-shirts—only this time, instead of red-white-and-blue, they're rainbow.

Pride is a celebration of queerness and its history. In June, we celebrate the resilience of those who lost every single one of their friends to AIDS and those who grew up without gay or trans role models to guide their maturity. We remember the courage of the trans women of color who threw bricks at the policemen who wanted them dead, and we march to show that we will not be silenced by incarceration, violation, and murder.

All too often, straight folks forget what they carry into queer spaces. When I see straight folks at Pride, I remember the kids who harassed me in locker rooms, the anxiety I felt when I started questioning, and the fear I feel every time I hold hands in public—and the fear that prevents me from kissing a man when people are nearby. Yes, even in Capitol Hill in progressive Seattle.

So please, my straight and cis friends, be aware of what your presence carries.

I know you mean the best by showing support at Pride, but understand

your place. Pride is central to the resiliency of LGBTQ+ people. I show up to be with my community—not to become an exhibit for straight folks trying to prove how open-minded they are.

Yes, Pride is a celebration of free love and acceptance, and you could argue that exclusionary attitudes runs counter to those ideals. But more importantly, it needs to be first and foremost a space for healing from centuries of trauma inflicted on the LGBTQ+ community. Don't decentralize our healing for your party.

And for God's sake, no cops at Pride.

— Josh Merchant, *Investigative Editor*

ASK MAMA MOZZONE

by Emily Mozzone



Q: *Mama, what are we going to do without you?*

A: Hey there stranger. I promise you'll survive without me! If you're ever in need of advice, I'll still be available at my Seattle University email (mozzonee@seattleu.edu). Just because I'm a mama with a degree now doesn't mean I'm too busy to answer people who need advice. Good luck in your studies, before you know it, you'll be graduated too!

Q: *I LOVE YOU MAMA*

A: I LOVE YOU TOO, BABE! <3 Let me give you some classic Mama life advice: be sure to know your worth, try hard in school, do your best to get a side job or internship in something you want to do long term, and if you truly feel like you've dedicated too much, don't be afraid to say no to jobs or other favors.

Q: *Who WILL you miss the most?*

A: Tough to say... since I'm not leaving Seattle, I can catch up with people anytime. But I think the thing I'll miss the most is class with Naomi Kasumi. I've really made friends for life in the Digital Design Class of 2019, I hope you have the chance to make lifelong friends, too!

ASK MAMA AN ANONYMOUS QUESTION AT
GUIDANCE@SU-SPECTATOR.COM

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JAVIER PLASCENCIA • THE SPECTATOR
Billie Eilish joined by her brother, Finneas, on stage at Marymoor Park during their tour stop for the "When We All Fall Asleep" world tour; June 2, 2019.