

the COOPERPOINT

The Evergreen State College Student Newspaper | May 4 - May 20, 2016 JOURNAL



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HOW WE WORK

The Cooper Point Journal is produced by students at The Evergreen State College, with funding from student fees and advertising from local businesses. The Journal is published for free every other Wednesday during the school year and distributed throughout the Olympia area. Our content is also available online at www.cooperpoint-journal.com.

Our mission is to provide an outlet for student voices, and to inform and entertain the Evergreen community and the Olympia-area more broadly, as well as to provide a platform for students to learn about operating a news publication.

Our office is located on the third floor of the Campus Activities Building (CAB) at The Evergreen State College in room 332 and we have open student meetings from 5 to 6 p.m every Monday and Thursday.

WRITE FOR US

We accept submissions from any student at The Evergreen State College, and also from former students, faculty, and staff. We also hire some students onto our staff, who write articles for each issue and receive a learning stipend.

Have an exciting news topic? Know about some weird community happening? Enjoy that new hardcore band? Come talk to us and write about it.

We will also consider submissions from non-Evergreen people, particularly if they have special knowledge on the topic. We prioritize current student content first, followed by former students, faculty and staff, and then general community submissions. Within that, we prioritize content related to Evergreen first, followed by Olympia, the state of Washington, the Pacific Northwest, etc.

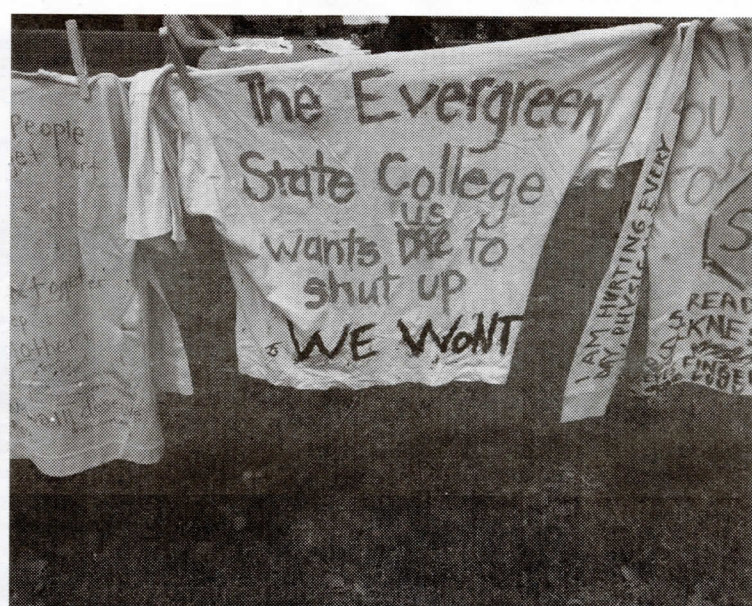
To submit an article, reach us at cooperpointjournal@gmail.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear from you! If you have an opinion on anything we've reported in the paper, or goings-on in Olympia or at Evergreen, drop us a line with a paragraph or two (100 - 300 words) for us to publish in the paper. Make sure to include your full name, and your relationship to the college—are you a student, staff, graduate, community member, etc. We reserve the right to edit anything submitted to us before publishing, but we'll do our best to consult with you about any major changes. Thank you!



Coalition Against Sexual Violence organizers (left to right) Hel Dastvan, Alya Toquinto, Sarah Travis, Odder, and Danny Hix.



The Clothesline Project features stories from survivors of sexual violence.

Empowering Survivors and Educating Allies

SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS WEEK AT EVERGREEN

By Nix Chace

The week of April 25 was Sexual Violence Awareness Week at Evergreen hosted by the Coalition Against Sexual Violence (CASV). This week is designed to bring awareness of the issue of sexual assault on this campus to the Evergreen community and to empower survivors on campus and in the greater Olympia area. There were daily workshops and events on campus. Each workshop served the purpose of bringing awareness, educating the community, or simply allowing survivors a space to safely share their stories.

On Monday, Olympia organization, Partners in Prevention Education (PiPE), led a workshop on supporting survivors of sexual and domestic violence. Student Keon Berlin recounts an important lesson from the PiPE workshop, saying, "One thing I remember that was said, was that being believed is the number one factor in survivors having a healthy and stable recovery."

On Tuesday, Apr. 26 a self-care and healing with plants workshop was held to empower survivors at the Garden-Raised Bounty (GRuB) farm in Westside Olympia. The Flaming Eggplant held a workshop that Thursday called Border Violence: Imperial Erasure, in which sexual violence on indigenous land was addressed in the context of the United States/Mexico border. Closing out the week on Friday, Evergreen student Alya Toquinto led a creative writing workshop entitled: Poetry for Reclamation. This workshop served as a way to help survivors heal together and reclaim language.

On Wednesday of Sexual Violence Awareness Week, the Clothesline Project was displayed on Red Square, serving as a way to bring justice for survivors. The project is an event where t-shirts are displayed on clotheslines so

passers-by may read the stories of survivors of sexual and domestic violence. It was an emotionally intense display that brought survivors together for empowerment and support. The shirts were designed by anonymous survivors at Evergreen who wanted to share their stories. There was a station in the center of the display where shirts were being made and advocates were available for support. It served as a way to safely and anonymously confront perpetrators of sexual assault.

"There is no accountability for rapists and perpetrators, and this is a way for people to be seen" says Hel Dastvan, CASV coordinator, who I sat and talked with about The Clothesline Project and Sexual Violence Awareness Week before it began.

"This week is such a small part of the conversation we need to be having about sexual assault." Dastvan continued to say when talking about the lack of support Evergreen provides for survivors of sexual assault.

The events of Sexual Violence Awareness Week are aimed at education and awareness for the community, as well as The Clothesline Project which also exists as a safe space for survivors to tell their stories and for allies to listen. I was interested in hearing

further what Dastvan had to say about Evergreen's role when it comes to issues of sexual violence and supporting survivors on this campus.

"Evergreens lack stance on accountability for perpetrators promotes an environment where sexual violence can happen." Dastvan stated.

The only resources for survivors on Evergreen's campus is the Office of Sexual Violence Prevention and CASV. The Office of Sexual Violence Prevention has upset members of Evergreen's community when it comes to addressing the issue of sexual violence.

For example, gender-nonconforming students have criticized the installation of the display of flags on red square that has recently been taken down. The flags represented the number of hypothetical assaults that could happen on Evergreen of cisgender men and women on a national scale. This ignores the issue of assault that is happening on Evergreen's campus by not displaying any data to show the number of assaults actually happening on campus. The only representation of transgender students in the display was shown by a small flyer stating that the office has no data on any trans students assaults, the

office has shown no interest in changing this fact and continues to show no data for trans students on Evergreen's campus or on a national scale.

"A certain office has been putting up triggering flyers on campus...it goes to show how distant they are from the emotional process of survivorship" Dastvan speaks more about the ignorant approach the Office of Sexual Violence Prevention (OSVP) has when it comes to engaging with survivors.

Some students felt that flyers the OSVP put up in an effort to promote reporting sexual violence used violent language and phrases that could trigger its target audience. A group is now organizing to take them down and confront the administration.

"As a survivor, seeing that as the school's way of addressing this issue is so insensitive." Dastvan later remarked.

The irony of this situation only serves as a reminder of the little support survivors are receiving at this school and further demonstrates the importance of Sexual Violence Awareness Week and student groups like CASV. Due to Evergreen's lax stance on the issue through their lack of resources and refusal to gather inclusive data on student assaults is a large

factor in why CASV exists. Students have had to come together to support one another under an administration that would rather sweep issues of sexual assault under the rug.

Besides hosting Sexual Violence Awareness Week, the Coalition Against Sexual Violence pays for Safe Place Advocacy training for people who wish to be trained advocates and join the CASV team.

"If you're a student who will be at Evergreen for a year or more, join our advocacy team, let us pay for your training!" Dastvan said when speaking about ways people can support CASV.

CASV hosts workshops throughout the school year that are open to students and non-students alike, workshops can vary from topics of healing and survivorship to educating allies who want to help work against sexual and domestic violence. Let CASV know what interests you, and the team will do their best to make it happen. Advocates are available by appointment or through walk-in hours which are Monday through Thursday from 12 to 3 p.m.

RUBY THOMPSON



Data Breach at Olympia School District

EMPLOYEES PERSONAL INFORMATION RELEASED IN PHISHING SCAM

By Greg Mohan

Olympia School District fell victim to a ‘phishing’ scheme on Tuesday, April 12. Phishing is a pervasive internet scam in which people impersonate someone online to trick others into giving out personal information. In this case, scammers tried to solicit information of employees from Olympia School District using a fake email account that mimicked the district Superintendent’s, Dick Cvintach. One individual, who was never identified, responded with a PDF file that contained the names, social security numbers, addresses, and salary information of anyone who received a W-2 form during the 2015 tax year. 2,164 employees were affected by the scam including the sender, the superintendent, and currently enrolled student employees between the ages of 16 and 18.

The district’s website suggests the data breach occurred at approximately noon on Apr. 12 with notification of the incident sent out within an hour of discovery, around 7 p.m. the same day. In addition to contacting the employees who were affected by the breach, the district stringently followed policy for responding to data breaches, including a new law introduced in 2015, RCW 42.56.590, that states, “a business, individual, or public agency that is required to issue a security breach notification to more than 500 Washington residents as a result of a single security breach shall electronically submit a single sample copy of that security breach notification, excluding any personally identifiable information, to the Attorney General.”

The district also contacted the Olympia Police Department and the Internal Revenue Service as initial responses.

District officials consulted security experts, legal counsel, their insurance carrier, and their technology team in an attempt to explore all avenues towards securing employee personal data. Within two days’ time, the district offered potential solutions to the breach. They suggested all employees independently apply for a free credit check and file an Identity Theft Affidavit Form with the IRS. Employees over the age of 18 will eventually be provided access to credit monitoring services at the expense of the district, which includes \$1 million identity theft insurance per person, services which are just now becoming

available. Employees under the age of 18 will receive the benefit of similar services targeted specifically towards minors. In addition, the district is offering to cover any costs already incurred by employees from attempts to secure themselves from identity theft.

One message sent out by Susan Gifford, Director of Communications and Community Relations at OSD, suggested those affected by the scam remove birthdays from Facebook and other social media due to the fact that tax returns cannot be fraudulently filed without them. Dates of birth were not included in the email received by scammers.

As a result of the incident the district plans to incorporate “additional safety and security

training for all staff, especially as it relates to the transmission of private information via email, Internet, and phone,” as stated in a letter released to staff on April 18. Included in this letter, made publicly available through their website, was an apology from Superintendent Cvintach stating, “We are truly sorry for the impact of this incident to employees. We care deeply about the security of each of our current and former employees and will work diligently to prevent similar incidents in the future.”

An Evergreen student and part-time employee of the district, Mia Moretini, shared her own personal reaction to the incident, “I wasn’t urgently worried about everything because there’s really not much to steal from me. I don’t have credit cards and things like that, that other people are really concerned about. What’s been happening is anytime there’s an update the teacher I work with tries to forward me the emails because for whatever reason I’m not on their email contact list and I just get weird cryptic phone calls that are all recorded messages. I don’t have experience with this kind of thing: my credit info and social security stuff. I understand what it is basically, but I feel like I need this to be explained to me very basically as if I’m a child. It’s just a little bit of confusing language and procedural stuff I’m supposed to go through. Being that I’m still new to being an adult, I’m figuring all this out right now. I mostly feel annoyed because most of the times I hear about identity theft the risk of it is because someone was being careless with their personal information or where they’re using their credit cards, things like that. For me, I don’t even have anything like that yet. All I did was become an employee with Olympia School District. It’s entirely out of anything I could do, any of my control. At the same time going through it and having other people go through it with me and being able to figure out what I’m doing since I’m so new to everything made it a lot less scary than I always thought it would be. It’s not the end of the world, it’s just something shitty that happens to people. Because it happens to people so much there are steps to take to protect yourself.”

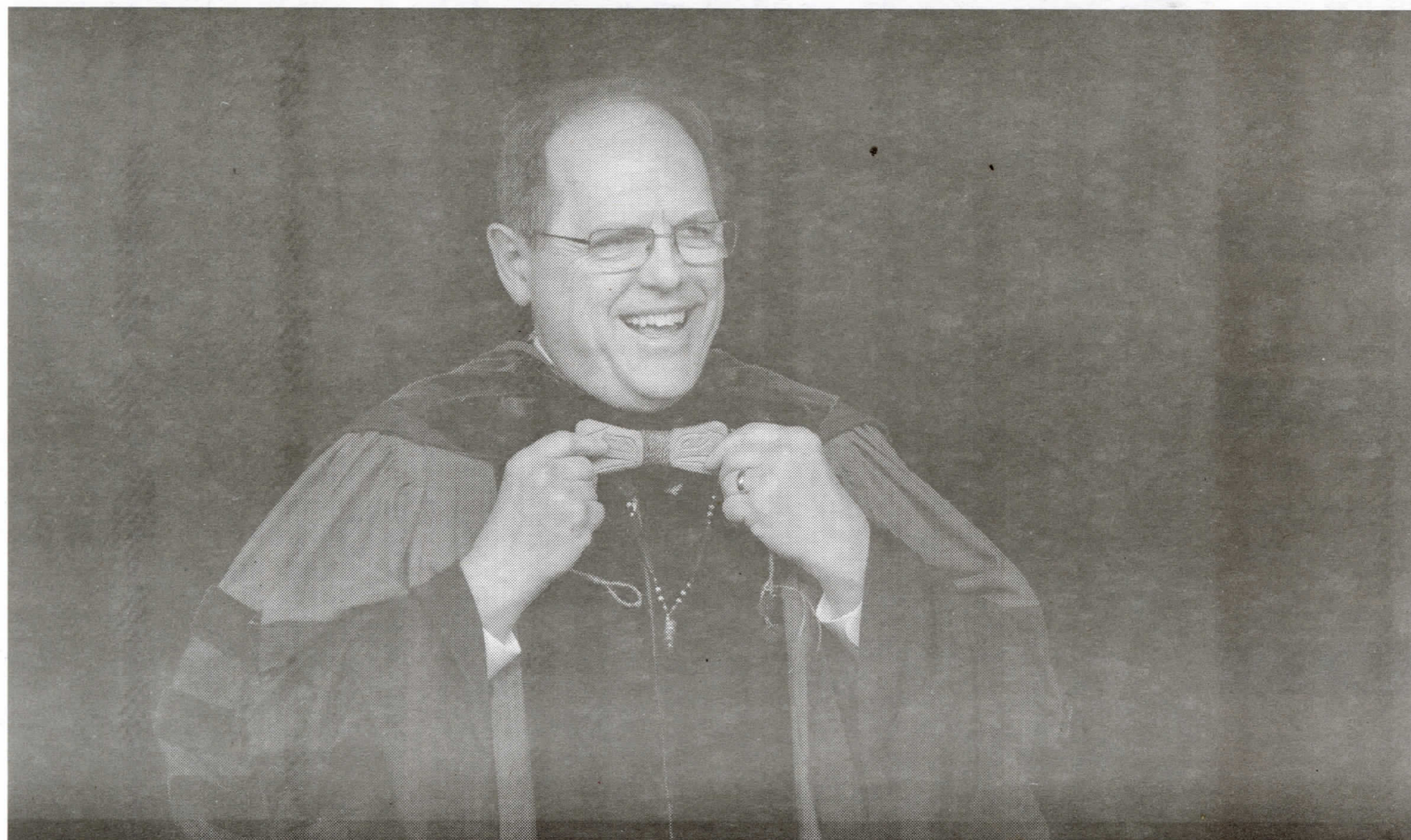
Moretini, also a part-time employee of the Evergreen State College, suggested that Evergreen itself seems to take stringent measures towards preventing such an

incident from occurring at the college. “We have to go through training. Basically telling us what we can and can’t share with people: what information. It’s strict. Even if a person’s parent calls for information there are only certain kinds of information we’re allowed to give them about their child.”

Moretini was unable to comment on preventative training for full-time employees in OSD but suggested that she had received no prior preventative training from the district in regards to data and information security.

Data breaches have taken up much of the public’s attention in the past few years after the massive breach that affected over 70 million Target shoppers in 2013. Following this incident data breaches have been mostly associated with the retail industry, although the most affected industry is actually the healthcare sector, accounting for more than a fourth of all breaches (26.9%) in the last decade according to a study done by Trend Micro. The second was the education sector (16.8%). While not all victims of data breaches are affected by identity theft, Javelin Strategy & Research states, “one in five data breach victims suffered fraud in 2015, rising notably from one in seven in 2014.” The ramifications of identity theft can be very serious. According to the Federal Trade Commission, “once identity thieves have your personal information, they can drain your bank account, run up charges on your credit cards, open new utility accounts, or get medical treatment on your health insurance. An identity thief can file a tax refund in your name and get your refund. In some extreme cases, a thief might even give your name to the police during an arrest.” It is important to note that in the breach that occurred at OSD scammers did not obtain any bank or specific credit card information from employees, making it more difficult to manipulate already existing accounts.

Often times incidents of identity theft do not develop until months and even years after the initial occurrence of data breaches. While there is no hard and fast resolution to the situation at OSD, district officials have done everything in their power to limit potential damage to employees.



President George Bridges receives hand-carved bowtie as part of gifting ceremony at his inauguration. SHAUNA BITTLE.

George Bridges Inaugurated as President

By Aria Cummings

On April 22, 2016, The Evergreen State College celebrated the inauguration of its sixth President, George S. Bridges. The celebration began with a procession featuring dancers from the Git-Hoan tribe from Southeast Alaska, faculty members, college and university delegates, the Board of Trustees, and Bridges himself.

A welcome speech was given by Evergreen Board of Trustees Chair Fred Goldberg, who presented a medallion to Bridges. Other speakers included former Washington Governor and Evergreen President, Daniel J. Evans.

The event featured a gifting ceremony led by coordinator of the Native Programs at Evergreen, Tina Kuckahn-Miller, in which Bridges received a bowtie hand-carved by Skokomish artist John Smith, among other gifts.

When the ceremony was complete Bridges gave his inauguration speech, which focused on thinking about the future of Evergreen, and the direction he would like to see it move. He began by asking, “what has the college achieved in transforming and benefiting the lives of our students,” and “what are our hopes for Evergreen in terms of how it serves future generations of students?”

Bridges thanked Evergreen’s founders who, in his words, “encouraged a model of teaching

and learning that promotes creativity and curiosity over compliance with academic requirements,” and are “committed to an educational experience that gives primacy to personal relationships between faculty and students, championing a process that inspires lives and careers.”

In his acknowledgment of the founders of The Evergreen State College, Bridges states that they were “motivated by intellectual passions rather than the necessities of employment or career trajectories; nurtured an institutional culture and mission dedicated to advancing social justice and the embetterment of the community and in our society; and recruited and retained generations of faculty to embrace and carry on this unique vision, passion and pedagogy.”

Bridges spoke about the Evergreen goal to “shape and transform the lives of our students,” highlighting programs for students to participate in community based learning and internships that allow “students to translate theory into prac-

“tice,” and later said he would like to ensure “every student must have the opportunity for an internship, research assistantship, or community-based project that expands their learning beyond their academic programs and courses.” He praised students connections to Olympia and Tacoma, and wanted to strengthen these relationships that extend beyond campus.

Bridges shared lots of high praise for the institution of Evergreen and its history, but also said he wants to make sure the school “sizzles with new ideas and approaches to all aspects of teaching and learning.”

He stated that as president he would like to invest further in faculty development, so that professors can best meet the needs of students, while also allowing “faculty more opportunities to pursue their creative and scholarly interests with each other.”

Bridges also wants to prioritize creating new curriculum for the school, “a curriculum that is as flexible and agile as it is in-

novative, adapting to the backgrounds, interests, and expectations of the students we admit.” However, he then seemingly contradicted this stating that “curricular offerings must be more predictable over time.”

Bridges continued talking about his visions and what may be to come at Evergreen. He announced that in the next few years a large renovation of student housing will take place, and referred to this as an important opportunity to improve living conditions and to connect students with one another.

He continued discussing improvements saying highlighting connecting with students, “our support in advising, mentoring and tutoring must reach and meets the needs of every student.” He continued that it is the administration’s responsibility to forge these connections saying, “every student must have active, working relationships with our advisors, student mentors and the faculty and staff with whom they routinely interact. We cannot expect stu-

dents to come to us—we must routinely reach out and go to them.”

Bridges also seemed to acknowledge some of the issues facing the administration, say he is creating the Equity and Diversity Standing Council, which will “will work to develop an action plan for improving the cultural climate on our campus. This plan will identify and address inequities at the college while also expanding opportunities for traditionally underrepresented groups to have greater voice in major decisions that affect their experiences, education and work. Our goal is to ensure that all campus members feel welcome, empowered, safe and fully capable of succeeding.”

Bridges concluded his speech by saying that “We all have dreams that Evergreen can and will become much more than it is now. Let us have the courage to dare to make our dreams for the college and for the generations of present and future graduates a bold and everlasting reality.”

The night then concluded with the Evergreen Singers singing the Alma Mater and Evergreen fight song.

Although just inaugurated George Bridges has been our acting president since the beginning of this school year. He came to the Evergreen State College after serving 10 years as president of Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, and prior to that he was a dean and professor at University of Washington (UW).

Bridges’ background is not in education, but criminology. After earning his undergraduate degree in 1972 from UW, Bridges pursued his graduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania. There he earned his M.A. in criminology and Ph.D. in sociology. Prior to pursuing an academic career, Bridges worked as a social scientist in the staff office of the Attorney General of the United States.

So far in his time as president, Bridges has hosted many student events with the clear focus of trying to engage directly with the Evergreen community. If his inauguration is any sign, we can expect these efforts will only increase.

Community

UP & COMING

WED. MAY 4

Le Voyeur

404 4th Ave E. 9pm. FREE.

Vomity 80: "Spew Day" featuring Khadija Hassan

THUR. MAY 5

Student Activities Office

2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW. 4pm.

Securing Your Student Group's Legacy Workshop

The New Moon Cafe

113 4th Ave W. 8pm. All Ages. \$5

Napalm Raid, Jæng, Deprogram

FRI. MAY 6

★ **The New Moon Café**

113 4th Ave W. 8pm. All Ages. \$5

Box Fan, Freaky Pup, Twelve Gardens, Heat Shimmer

SUN. MAY 8

Le Voyeur

404 4th Ave E. 10pm. \$5

Duzz, Silence, Hen's Teeth, Flesh Collage

WED. MAY 11

Obsidian

414 4th Ave E. 9:30pm. \$5-10. 21+

Kitten Forever, Fun Fact, Erica Freas

THUR. MAY 12

★ **Le Voyeur**

404 4th Ave E. 7pm.

CONVEX MIRROR Poetry Reading #1: Sarah Bradley, Felix Chrome, Jessie Herzog, Cynthia Spencer, Alice Wynne

THUR. MAY 12

★ **Obsidian**

414 4th Ave E. 10pm. DONATION.

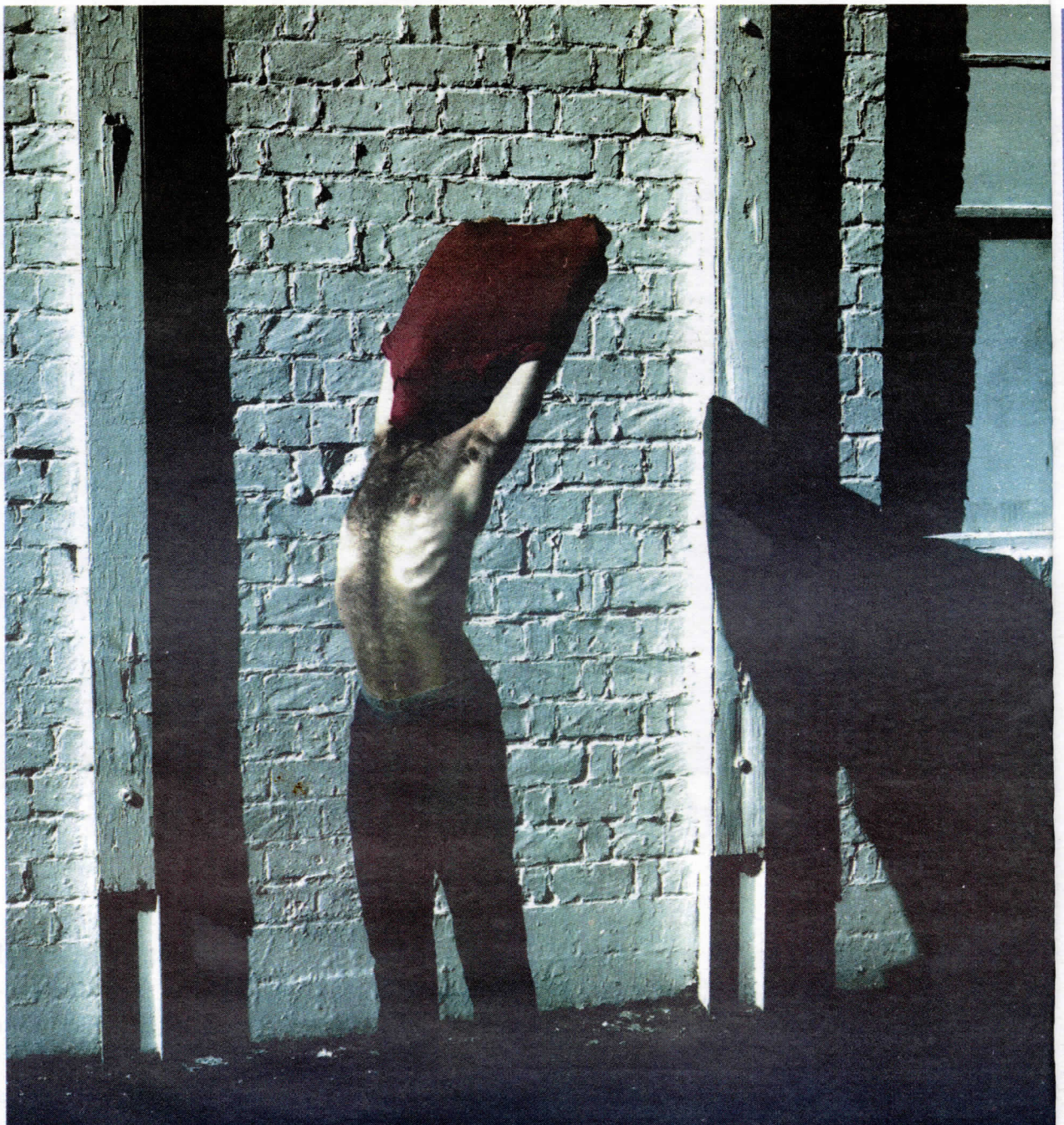
Free Breakfast Club #1

★ = Staff Recommended

THE
brotherhood
LOUNGE

HAPPY HOUR 4-7

119 CAPITOL WAY
WWW.THEBROTHERHOODLOUNGE.COM



COVER ARTISTS

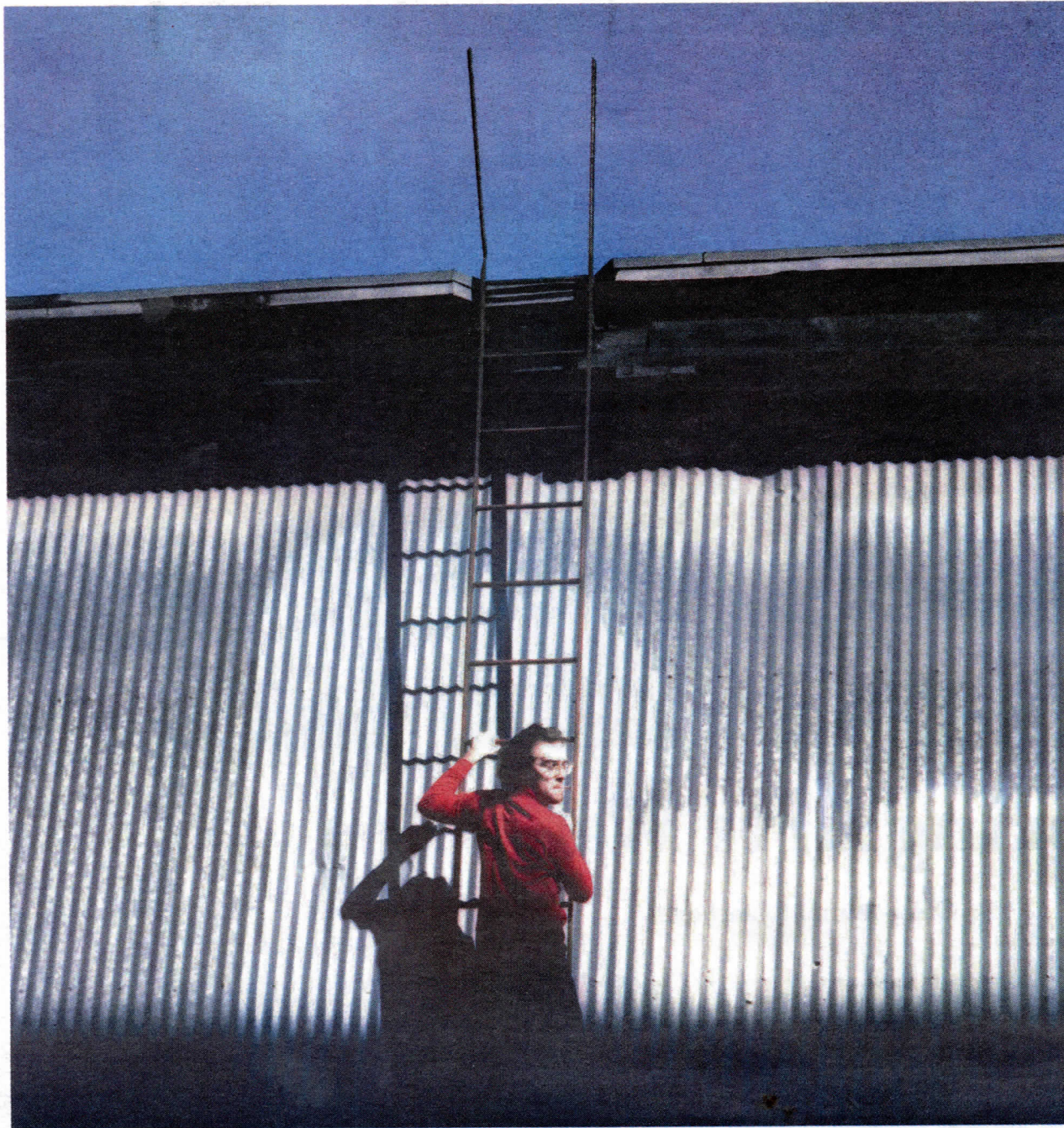
COREY COOMES ANDIE GIRON

By Ruby Love

As is the case each time it happens, Arts Walk was ridiculously loud and crowded. I knew it would be virtually impossible to see it all, and as I personally try to avoid large gatherings of people whenever possible, I made it my mission to see just one show – a collaborative analog photography series by Corey Coomes and Andie Giron.

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I weaved my way through the strange mix of young kids with their parents and loud/drunken townies to the Mixx 96.1 building, ducking in through the doors with a sigh of relief. Coomes and Giron's work lined the walls of a small room, illuminated by bright lights on stands aimed up at the photographs. I don't normally prefer harsh lighting for photography exhibits, but the simple floor lights served to intensify the photographs' rich colors; each one vied for my attention and I had to force myself to make a circle around the room instead of jumping to each new picture that caught my eye. The show was just up for Arts Walk weekend, and Coomes explained it as almost impromptu—everything had come together just at the last minute, in time for the hordes of art-lovers to descend upon downtown (can you tell I don't like crowds?)

I caught up with Coomes later to talk about the project and his photography work.

First off, where are you from?

I'm from Dixon, Illinois. The childhood home of Ronald Reagan. And Andie was born in Illinois, but is from the Seattle area.

What year are you in school?

I actually graduated last spring, and Andie is a junior. I studied animation, photography, movement, and art therapy.

What got you interested in photography?

I really liked it initially because it was easy. I think I was naturally inclined to use cameras, because drawing was more frustrating. I got disposable cameras as a kid, but it wasn't until coming to Evergreen and seeing people working at Photoland that I got really serious about it. (Coomes still works in Photoland, as an Instructional Photography Technician.)

So, tell me about the project – you mentioned that it plays with the idea of fashion photography, and that you

guys got started with a joke about how hard it was to take off a turtleneck.

Yeah, Andie has a specific eye for fashion, and is interested in alternative fashion. Before that I hasn't looked at fashion too closely, so I was coming at it from a different perspective. (The Facebook event page described the series as "a tongue-in-cheek representation of fashion photography throughout the history of color film photography.")

Are the prints in the series digital?

Three of them are (the yellow dress ones, and the foot-in-mouth one) but the rest were printed in the Photoland color darkroom.

All of the images are shot on film – what did you use?

We shot on Fujichrome Velvia and another type...all slide film.

What are your plans for new work/ what are you looking forward to?

I'm interested in alternative chemical processes, taking digital collages, combining analog and digital art forms...even incorporating sketches and abstract drawings with representational photography.

Do you have any advice for other photographers/artists?

Do lots of research on other artists, and just get lost in the process of creating, almost like it's a ritual.

You recently "started playing the Instagram game." How do you view the intersection of analog art and social media? It's a weird mix.

Yeah, I recently got an Instagram...people had been kind of pressuring me to get one and I was really against it for a while. I've been using it to kind of gauge interest even if only in a superficial way. It's almost like a game...you give people hearts and they give you hearts. But you can't say it's not a prevalent tool in this day and age...it's a weird thing to show mostly analog work in a digital space. I've mostly ended up networking with other people doing the same thing – there's a weird connectedness there.

You can find Coomes' work on Instagram, he goes by @Shit-party. You can also find Giron, under @AndieGiron.



Spring Arts Walk features Procession of the Species as well as the many art shows and events at local businesses. CHLOE MARINA MANCHESTER.

Spring Arts Walk

By Chloe Marina Manchester

I am not from Olympia, I got here in last fall to start my Sophomore year at Evergreen. The first Arts Walk I went to was the fall one and it was, for me, kind of an exciting bust. I didn't know downtown. I didn't know what I was doing. So I just ended up wandering and drinking way too much coffee for lack of anything else to do. For Spring Arts Walk I was determined to actually enjoy it and know what I was doing, or at least put up a pretty convincing act that I knew what I was doing.

I went on Friday night with a who is actually friend from here. Home grown Oly trash. I was doing a pretty good impression of being Oly trash myself, or at the very least, pretty identifiably Evergreen, for good or ill. I have green hair and was dressed entirely in black and grey, complete with a pleather jacket, some beat up Doc Martins, and a beanie. We got downtown and went in search of coffee, once that was acquired we, as (transplant and otherwise) northwesterners, could actually function.

We wandered around downtown and stopped into shops that looked like they might have free samples, shout out to Hot Toddy and Encore Chocolates and Teas for proving us right. There was a huge number of people out on Friday night, it looked like what people from small towns think Olympia looks like all the time. There were a couple main things going on, although I use the term main very loosely. There were crowds of people circled around other people who were doing things. Dancing, break dancing, fire twirling, and a pretty annoying clown to name a few. I heard at least three Prince songs blasting over crappy speakers that night. There were children and young parents almost everywhere you looked and crust punks smoking cigarettes right next to them.

I don't really know very much about

actual art and this Arts Walk seemed to be less about actual art than it was about downtown Olympia, a far cry from the very art centric Arts Walk of my hometown. It seemed like people wanted to put themselves on display more than they wanted to see art, their own or otherwise, on display. When we got there the sun was setting but now darkness had settled in. It was around that time that my friend and I decided that, theoretically, Arts Walk might be more fun under the influence, not that either of us would ever do a thing like that, of course.

This being Olympia, both my friend and I ran into at least seven people we knew. Around the time the Luminary Procession started, which I couldn't get a good picture of for the life of me, we ran into someone my friend knew who wanted to go eat food. Going to the Reef was brought up but then shot down, apparently I only like the Reef because I'm new in town. Not going to the Reef was validated when we walked past and saw all the Olympia Weirdos™ smashed inside the overcrowded diner. We ended up going to Old School Pizzeria, which had no less people or Olympia Weirdos™ inside, but did have the added benefit of being pizza.

It was about nine at that point and we picked up another person for our little rag tag group. And, of course, this being

Olympia, we went with him to get his nipples pierced. Which apparently hurts.

On Saturday, I coerced more Friends With Cars into going to to Arts Walk with me for Procession of the Species Celebration. According to their website the Procession of the Species Celebration is an artist pageant about connection to the natural world, "on Procession day, residents don their creative expressions and proceed through the streets of Olympia in masks and costumes. Carrying banners, windsocks, and giant puppets, they participate in a cultural exchange honoring the awe and splendor of the natural world." As an artistic pageant, the Procession seeks to cement art's place in public expression. As a celebration of the natural world, the Procession seeks to awaken the public to issues surrounding environmentalism, and the protection of the world in which we live.

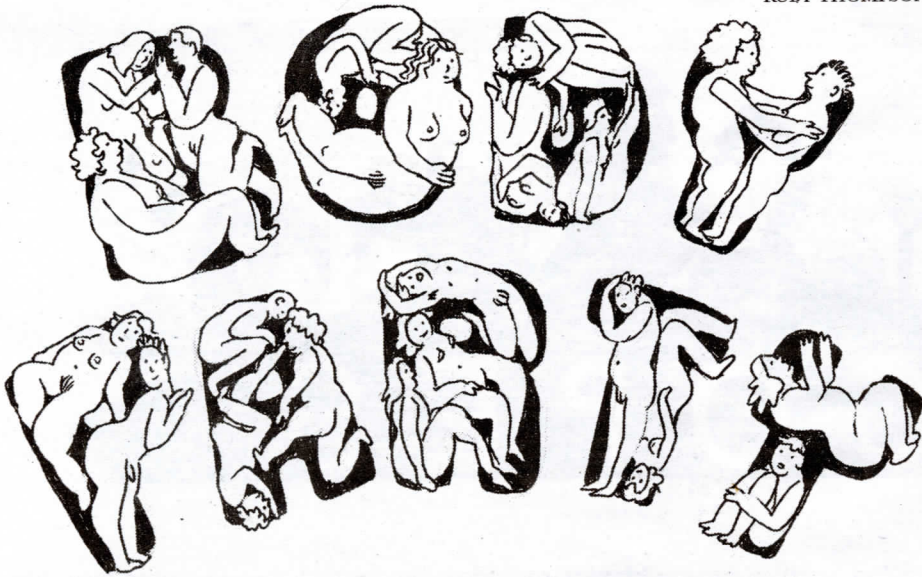
There were also people holding up religious signs, like the abortion protesters that sometimes show up on Red Square like to do. I couldn't tell what they were actually protesting. Maybe they just wanted an audience? Is it an anti evolution thing? I have no idea.

The Procession started with bees. A lot of bees playing music, something I recognized but couldn't quite place. And then came the ocean. And then it moved

onto land and then sky. For the most part, it was people and children dressed up as things from the natural world playing music, dancing, or both. Some of the parade, however, was made up of elaborately constructed animals, some of which looked like they had twenty people controlling them. The largest of which was an immense twentyfour foot peacock. One of my favourite animals represented was a giant penis, oh, I'm sorry, it was actually geoduck. The geoduck in question had a water bottle and every so often it would squirt water out, like its brethren in the sand. I could not, for the life of me, figure out how the person in the geoduck costume knew where they were going. There were no eye holes that I could see.

The Procession of the Species Celebration was honestly the best parade I can remember going to in my life. Everyone was smiling and dancing and celebrating the world in which we live. And none of the kids even cared that they weren't getting pelted with candy. As my grandmother once said while drunk, "All you really need for a parade is penguins, anything else is just a waste." I might be misremembering, but I'm pretty sure this parade had penguins.

RUBY THOMPSON



ADVICE ON SEX, RELATIONSHIPS, &

Dear Body Party,

My partner is really into porn. Like really, really into porn. They watch it more or less every day, and it makes me really uncomfortable. Last time I brought it up they made me feel guilty for asking them to stop doing something that makes them happy. I want them to be happy, sexually and emotionally, and asking them again makes me feel gross and controlling, but not saying anything is starting to feel passive aggressive because they know I hate it. Where do I go from here?

Dear Porn Star,

Porn is tricky. The sex positive progressive in all of us is desperate to destigmatize sexual imagery but there is no doubt that the majority of porn is problematic in its depiction of not just women but sex in general. While there are many, many problems with the porn industry as a whole, the biggest post production concern is usually regarding its unrealistic portrayal of bodies and how they have sex. Porn sex is often overly violent, forgets any notion of consent, and eschews any real displays of pleasure in favor of aesthetics. This tends to cause two distinct problems within relationships- that people either begin to feel like they can't live up to the physical standards set by porn and that their partners don't find them attractive anymore or their partner's porn watching begins to impact the kind of sex they're having together. Either one of these problems tend to lead to partners feeling neglected and unrespected.

There is no solution to this problem that doesn't involve you talking to your partner about how their habit makes you feel. Try to avoid blame, and instead explain that when they watch porn so regularly, you feel insecure about your relationship. Explain what in particular makes you uncomfortable- going in knowing what you want is an important part of fostering helpful discussing as opposed to unfruitful conflict.

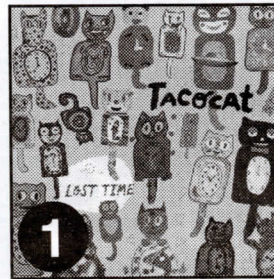
One way to address this problem without asking your partner to stop watching porn completely is to discuss with them how they could change the way they watch porn. Many of the problems that arise with porn come from it being a capitalist mega structure that feeds off of the exploitation and degradation of bodies, and thus propagates toxic ideas about sex and people in general. Talk to your partner about switching from mass free sites like PornHub and YouPorn to smaller sites run by independent producers. It is worthwhile to pay independent producers of porn who make content for themselves and who work outside of that particular system of exploitation. By removing the elements of exploitation present in mainstream porn you may be able to address some of the problems it is causing in your relationship.

Stay Safe & Have Fun,
-Party

Body Party is a positive, open-minded column about everything bodies, sex, relationships, and self love. This column is not written by a doctor but done by a person who has researched the topic and looked into your questions thoroughly. If you have any questions or problems and want advice about sex, medication, love, STD's ect. please submit them to bodyparty@cooperpointjournal.com

KAOS 89.3 FM TOP 20

Albums for the week of Apr. 25



- 1 Tacocat - Lost Time
- 2 Rokia Traore - Ne So
- 3 Fela Ransome Kuti And His Koola Lobitos - S/T
- 4 Hot Rush - Hot Rush Lives
- 5 Purson - Desire's Magic Theatre
- 6 Thao & The Get Down Stay Down - A Man Alive
- 7 Cha Wa - Funk 'N' Feathers
- 8 Blood Ceremony - Lord Of Misrule
- 9 Tim Hecker - Love Streams
- 10 Fatima Al Qadiri - Brute
- 11 Anoushka Shankar - Land Of Gold
- 12 Bombino - Azel
- 13 Debo Band - Ere Gobeze
- 14 Alma Afrobeat Ensemble - It's Time
- 15 Suuns - Hold/Still
- 16 Lnzndrf - S/T
- 17 TransFx - Into The Blu
- 18 Scott Yoder - Looking Back In Blue
- 19 The Coathangers - Nosebleed Weekend
- 20 The Cave Singers - Banshee

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By Nix Chace

Thursday April 28th Mercury stationed retrograde. The retrograde will last until May 22nd, overlapping the Mars retrograde which is still happening until June 29th. Two retrogrades at once sounds like a tricky time for the signs, however, this mercury retrograde hasn't been all that bad! While Mercury, planet of communication, in retrograde typically means mayhem and major communication meltdowns, this retrograde so far has brought up what we truly want & need in our lives. For fire signs (Aries, Leo, Sagittarius) This means that you shouldn't be so hard on yourself, don't let the retrograde outshine you, go out and be the brightest. For earth signs (Taurus, Virgo, Capricorn) this has been a time of seeking knowledge and thinking of different ways to handle your problems, what's worked before isn't working anymore. For air signs (Gemini, Libra, Aquarius) don't shy away from yourself, don't hide in groups of people, be real with yourself. For water signs (Cancer, Scorpio, Pisces) these next couple weeks are about letting nothing stand in the way of your healing, your happiness.

ARIES 3/21 - 4/19

You've been licking your wounds lately, wounds that you gave to yourself. Be gentle, Aries. No one else is this hard on you. Realize that you are brave and talented and strong and coming down on yourself hasn't gotten you very far. Motivate yourself with care and tenderness for a change.

TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20

This season has allowed you time to settle into yourself and your thoughts. Being alone has brought you some realizations about what you really want and need. This is still your season and your time to shine, nothing and no one is standing in the way of making your thoughts become reality.

GEMINI 5/21 - 6/20

Get real with yourself. It seems that sometimes you hide from what's going on inside by being constantly surrounded by others. Get some space and think about those things that you're running away from. Nothing will change if you can't confront yourself. You'll find that things are so much easier to solve than you think.

CANCER 6/21 - 7/22

You've always been known to be so introspective but lately you've been trapped in your own mind. Get outside and breathe in the fresh air. If you think of anything, think of your friends and your social circle, how do you see yourself fitting in? What needs changing? Don't be afraid to let loose and show people who you are.

LEO 7/23 - 8/22

This retrograde has shone a light on what you really want. Now is the time to take some risks and go for it. Start creating, start doing. No one knows how to put on a show quite like you do, so don't be afraid to shine. You've seen the light and now is the time to do something about it.

VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22

Mercury is your ruling planet, and it being in retrograde affects you a bit differently. So many questions have been coming your way and now is the time to try new methods for answering them. Listen to others, don't be afraid to seek help or to ask for things. Nothing will change or get better if you stay stuck with the same routine.

LIBRA 9/23 - 10/22

Your wallet has been looking a little thin lately and it didn't get that way on its own. Pay attention to the real issues that need fixing, what are you perpetuating? What are you running away from? Material things won't solve anything, but you can. You have the power to fix it all if you really try.

SCORPIO 10/23 - 11/21

Showing your tender side has always been scary, but it's necessary. This season is about seeking safety, be it with others or yourself. Let out the darker parts of yourself, let them see the light and don't be afraid to show how you really feel. This retrograde has made you extremely honest, and not just with the ones you trust, but with yourself. Let your honesty and tenderness be a gift.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22 - 12/21

Mars has been in retrograde in your sign, and it's made it nearly impossible for you to finish the mountain of work you have to do. You've been overwhelmed and overscheduled. Things will change, you just have to start small and go easy on yourself. There is so much love around you from people who care, let them lift your spirits, you don't have to do it all alone.

CAPRICORN 12/22 - 1/19

You've been so tense and stiff from the hard rigid work that this season has brought you. Remember that work doesn't have to be so taxing. Make your work fun, make your work something that makes it not feel like work. Bring joy into your everyday life and don't be afraid to laugh at your mistakes. Getting a paycheck doesn't have to feel so miserable.

AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18

In the end, we can only ever rely on ourselves. It seems you have forgotten how capable and strong you really are. Understand your power and your strength. Prioritize yourself above people who aren't worth your time. You deserve to be loved by yourself, you deserve to bask in how far you have come. It takes great power to go through what you've gone through and come back out on top.

PISCES 2/19 - 3/20

You've always been known to be the emotional one, Pisces, but what are you doing with those feelings? Think about what you want to channel your emotions toward, what do you want to see happen? Times may be hard, but you've got to move in the direction of progress. Create something, join a group, invest time in someone you love. Channeling all of those hard emotions will get you to a better place in life.

LAST CHANCE TO SUBMIT

we're working on our final issue of this school year and looking for student submissions to include in our week nine/graduation issue!!

if you have an article idea or want to know more about writing for the CPJ email cooperpointjournal@gmail.com or attend a meeting wednesdays at four in CAB 332

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