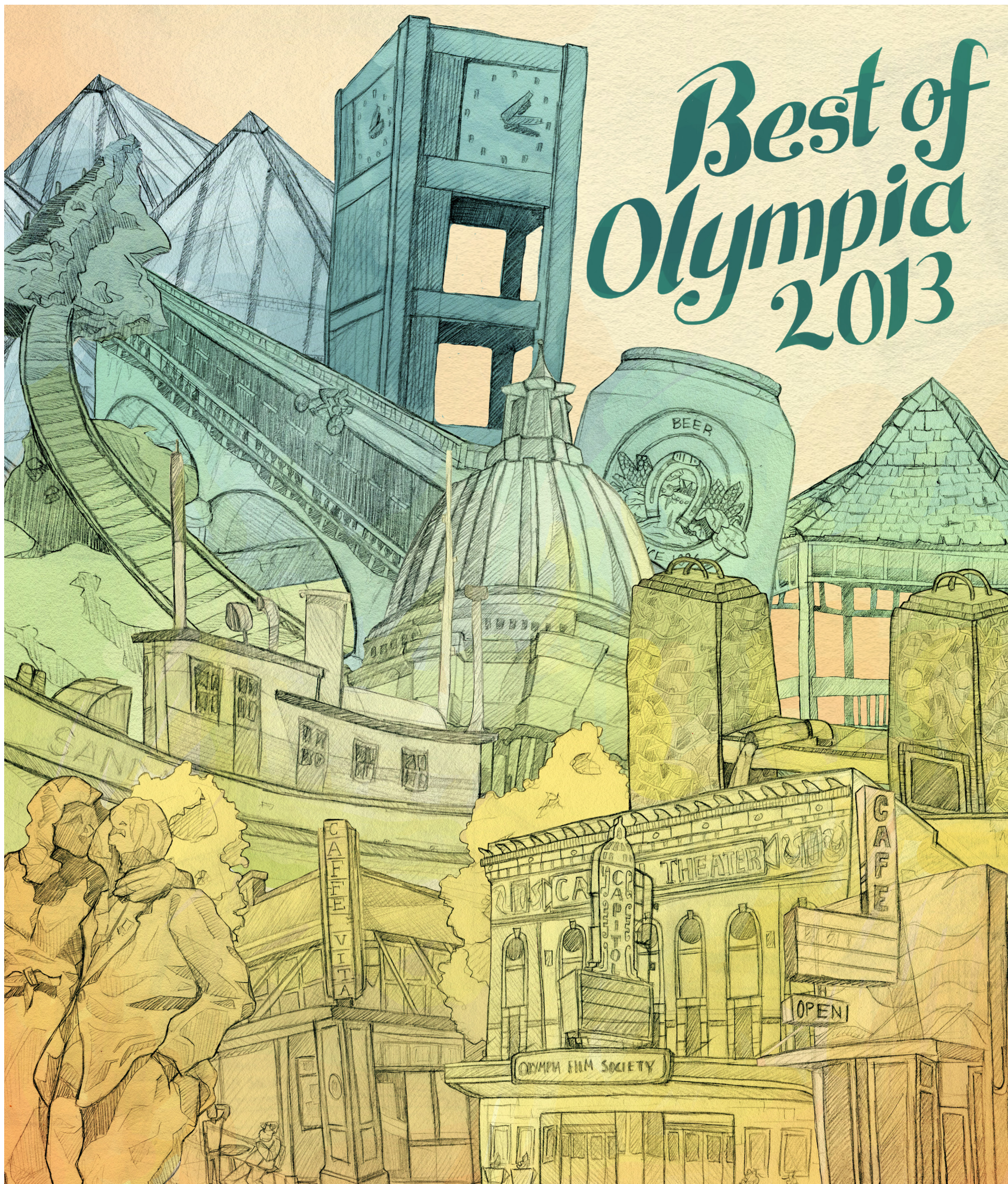




the Cooper Point Journal

Issue No. 14 | May 9, 2013 *Evergreen State College Student Newspaper*



Best of Olympia 2013

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T H U M A Y 9

CASCADIA | Jeremy Serwer 6PM *All Ages* NC
SPAR CAFE | Oly Mountain Boys 8PM NC
LE VOYEUR | Sea of Tides, Robert Johnson 9PM

F R I M A Y 10

SPAR CAFE | Paul Mauer 8PM NC
CAPITOL THEATER | The Reign of Fame Burlesque Show 9PM \$20-50
THE ROYAL LOUNGE | DJ Native Havoc 9PM
LE VOYEUR | Phoenix Farm Benefit 9PM
THE MORGUE | Mythologies, Thunders of Wrath, Le Rue, Gardenhead 9PM *All Ages* \$3
EVERGREEN LIBRARY | 4TH ANNUAL QUINCENER@! 7PM

S A T M A Y 11

OLYMPIA FARMER'S MARKET | David Wayne 11AM
PERCIVAL LANDING PARK | Olympia Wooden Boat Fair 10AM
MUD BAY COFFEE | Fool's Play Improv Comedy Troupe 8PM *All Ages* \$5
JEZEBEL'S | DJ DP Sea (Donkypunch Seahorse) 9PM NC
JAKE'S ON 4TH | DJs Danny and Mickey 9PM \$4 after 10PM
TRADITIONS | Scott Cossu, John Croarkin 8PM *All Ages* \$10-15
THE ROYAL | Ras Mas 8PM \$10-15

S U N M A Y 12

TRADITIONS | Open Shape Note Singing 5PM *All Ages* NC
2 MILE HOUSE | Blues Bentley Band Sunday Jam 5PM NC
THE BROTHERHOOD | DJ James. Punk, garage, soul. 10PM NC
URBAN ONION | Swing Dance Night 7PM Lesson, 8PM Music \$7
LE VOYEUR | Baby & The Nobodies, Them Dogs 9PM

M O N M A Y 13

THE ROYAL | Monday Night Jazz 8PM NC
JAKE'S ON 4TH | Karaoke 9PM

T U E M A Y 14

TUGBOAT ANNIE'S | Open Mic 9PM NC
THE EAGLES CLUB | OlySwing Swing Dance 7:30-10PM *All Ages* \$7

W E D M A Y 15

CHARLIE'S SPORTS BAR | Blues Jam with Blues Attitude 9PM NC
LE VOYEUR | Voyeur Comedy Night 9PM
BEN MOORE'S | Vintage Vinyl Night 9PM
SOUTHBAY BBQ | Open Mic 8PM NC

T H U M A Y 16

EVERGREEN LIBRARY | Slamspeare! 8PM

S A T M A Y 18

TRADITIONS | Hot Club Sandwich 8PM *All Ages* \$10-15

S U N M A Y 19

SYLVESTER PARK | Capital City Marathon 7AM

Correction Statement

Two phrasing errors appeared in Cooper Point Journal Issue No. 13, printed April 25, 2013, Local Band Feature on AKA and the Heart Hurt Goods. Lyrics listed as, "If you met me in person, you woulda' never thought I was capable of this," are actually, "You woulda' never thought I was capable of this, if you met me in person." Additionally, song title "Falling Off the End of the Middle" was referred to as "Falling Off the End of [the End of the Middle *sic] the Middle of the Midi" and later referred to as "End of the Midi" in shortened form.

Cover



Ruby Thompson

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As you have probably already figured out, we have decided to dedicate this issue to the best spots for food, drink and other random shenanigans in Olympia according to the most insightful group of people around, The Cooper Point Journal staff (duhh). We put our heads together, did “research,” took “consensus” and came up with this year’s hottest places. Don’t forget, this is our first crack at this, but we have a range of diverse people who have spent anywhere from 10 months to 21 years in this town. Hopefully you will agree with a few, not with a few others, and maybe even learn something. Have fun.

BEST ROOM: HAPPYLAND

Some say this mysterious room doesn’t exist anymore, but it does. Once a safe place for those on bad “trips,” the room is now little more than a worn-down documentation of the Greeners who’ve traversed into the depths of...well, we can’t just tell anyone the location. This privileged information will continue to be disclosed only via word of mouth from those who have experienced the historical Happyland.

BEST SMOKING AREA: LIBRARY ROOF

Out of all of the “smoker’s pits,” the roof of the library is certainly the most enjoyable place to puff your cigarette. Unlike most of the pits which usually skew towards being huddled masses, the site at the pyramid is a destination for groups looking to do more than just have a cigarette. Whether it’s good conversation or stargazing, cigarettes are never the main reason for traveling to the roof. Even if you don’t smoke, climbing up the outdoor library staircase at night is worth it because of the beautiful glowing pyramids. Make sure you’re off the roof before the smoking curfew hits because it might not be the best place to be harangued by the police.

BEST CLIMBING ROUTE: ZEBRA TRAVERSE

Prepare to enter the Climbing Gym. Prepare to be humiliated as your hands are revealed to be humorously weak when confronted with expert climbers making short work of routes you can’t fathom making sense of outside of video games. Now that you’re so insecure, time to make it a little better. The zebra traverse is by no means a walk in the park, but given its less vertical nature (and open footholds), it can be as difficult or easy as one wants to make it.

BEST PART OF THE WOODS: ROPE SWING

If you get bored just wandering aimlessly through the woods, at some point a rope swing might be interesting. Located next to the ravine, this is undoubtedly an Evergreen attraction. Although it takes a strong grip and brave spirit (I’m not kidding, guys. Make sure no one thinks they have grip after walking back from a bonfire, even though they’ll definitely have the spirit), riding the rope through the air is a positively exhilarating experience. If you do happen to be going through the woods at a time when you aren’t inebriated, be sure to check out this part of the forest before you get down to the beach.



Food | CPJ

BEST BAKERY: THE BREAD PEDDLER

222 Capitol Way N #103, Olympia

For a town that has at least 1000 college students eager to find jobs at bakeries - because that's so Northwest - Olympia is strangely lacking in the way of solid bakeries. Luckily, for patrons at least, the Bread Peddler proves an exception to the scarcity.

I remember the first time I ever ate at the Bread Peddler - I ordered the Gateau Basque, an orange-rum cake with pure vanilla bean custard filling, while my friend ordered a blueberry scone and a strawberry Italian soda. Both pastries were phenomenal - not only were they freshly made, but it was obvious that the Bread Peddler's bakers were extensively trained in the art of baking, taking all the care in the world to produce the best pastries. Even the Italian soda was amazing - with the perfect cream to syrup mixture, Bread Peddler puts other cafe sodas to shame.

Besides the individual pastries, the best meal options are on the breakfast menu. If your cashier recommends the eggs benedict, ignore any other impulse you may have and just say yes.



BEST BBQ: RANCH HOUSE

0841 Kennedy Creek Road SW, Olympia

While it's not something usually attributed to the Northwest, Olympia is home to the world-class Ranch House BBQ. Led by founder Amy Anderson and her crew of chefs, Ranch House has competed in the worldwide BBQ circuit for over ten years, highlighted by a World Championship title won in Ireland in 2000. Although the restaurant is a little out of the way for most Greeners (i.e., off the bus route), it's more than worth it to bribe car-driving acquaintances with the promise of the best potato salad in the state. You may not be able to convince your vegan friends to accompany you, but after a couple racks of ribs, that really doesn't matter.



BEST BURGER: CASCADIA GRILL

200 4th Avenue W, Olympia

All burgers in Olympia bow down to the greatness of Cascadia. Few restaurants are able to capture the experience of a home-cooked meal as well as this low-key spot, where the burgers are everything you could want, and more. The beef (locally sourced of course) is grilled to perfection every time, so mouth-wateringly juicy that the bun (from Wagner's bakery) might just fall apart. It's like they have a never-ending backyard barbecue raging in their kitchen, helmed by the greatest backyard barbequer ever to pick up the tongs. Starting with this sublime foundation, they deliver a wide range of permutations, featuring various cheeses, onion rings, barbeques sauce, and even sauteed balsamic onions. Not only do they have an encompassing array of scrumptious burgers, they make amazing milkshakes and have some of the most competitive onion rings in town. Their prices might not be on level with fast food joints if you just want to satisfy your munchies, but for a quality burger and enjoyable dining experience go to Cascadia.



BEST DOUGHNUT: HEAVENLY DOUGHNUTS

805 Sleater Kinney Road SE, Lacey

Heavenly Donuts plays a delicate game of expectations. When approached from the road at night (being open 24 hours is the most important feature of a donut shop) the fading paint job, cracked curtains, and withered furniture feel like walking onto the set of a 90's indie flick set in the midwest. "Buffalo 66" maybe. The donuts on the other hand are divine. They possess the saccharine sweetness of a childhood memory. The prices will also make you feel like you traveled back in time (\$2.50 for 20 donut holes! Dang!) All-in-all, a monument to simpler, better days.

BEST COMFORT FOOD: THE REEF

212 4th Avenue E, Olympia

At times, The Reef has been my home-away-from-home. Unlimited Oly Coffee Roasters refills, \$3.50 tuna melts, and tomato basil soup kept me alive my first year in town. Back then, the staff was preparing for a long-due remodel that included opening the dusty, neglected card room. The fries were greasy and usually burned. The food was excellent, but generally involved a long wait between ordering and eating.

After a grease fire, a rebuild, an electrical fire, and the most phoenix-like return of them all, the diner back is better than ever. Reliable sources told the CPJ that employees spent the interim between fire #2 and the latest reopening meticulously perfecting soups, sauces, fried items, and vegan options.

King Solomon's Reef, our feelings haven't changed. We can't live through long winters, lonely summers, or midterm slumps without your savory, oily love.





BEST PIZZA: VIC'S PIZZERIA*1822 Harrison Avenue NW, Olympia*

Since 1999 Vic's Pizzeria has served up tasty pies that straddle the line between old-fashioned simplicity and gourmet sophistication. While their classic cheese proves their basic pizza-making prowess, their expertise extends into various delightful veggie options tastefully loaded with fresh toppings. The Bella, for example, features marinara sauce, mozzarella, mushrooms, artichokes, feta, and pesto. At Vic's, the crust is always perfectly crisp and the toppings juicy, but never greasy like at most other pizzerias. They also boast local ice cream, and an extensive selection of beers.

BEST FOOD CART: CALIFORNIA TACOS*Various locations*

As a native resident of San Joaquin Valley of California, my taste in Mexican food is admittedly biased. You can catch me whining about the scarcity of quality authentic Mexican food in western Washington at the mention of a remotely related subject. California Tacos brings the taqueria experience to west Olympia, downtown, and Lacey residents. The burritos have grown from classic "baby-leg" size to leaner, more manageable proportions without compromising the magnitude of flavor. Vegan or vegetarian? Try the veggies fajita burrito. Craving Caribbean flavor over Mexican? Try the torta cubana. And trust me, get the red sauce on the side.

BEST PHO: PHO CAPITOL*2419 Harrison Avenue NW, Olympia*

There are a lot of fancier places to get pho in Olympia, but when it comes down to it, you can't beat the no frills soup at Pho Capitol on Harrison. Although squeezed in a strip mall between a card shop and a golf store, Pho Capitol cooks up the classic Vietnamese noodle soup with wholesome goodness that wins out over more upscale options. They have three varieties: beef, special beef (with extra cuts of meat), and chicken, in both medium and large sizes, for either \$5.75 or \$6.95. Here, the toppings really make the difference, with plentiful portions of succulent limes, basil, jalapenos and crunchy bean sprouts. The broth strikes the perfect balance of salty, savory, spicy and sweet, at a price economical enough that you might as well get an hum boa (pork-filled sweet bun), spring rolls, or a glass of their outstanding Vietnamese coffee (iced coffee sweetened with sugar and condensed milk).

BEST BRUNCH: DINO'S*1822 Harrison Avenue NW, Olympia*

While Sage's and the Bread Peddler may get more lip-service around Olympia, Dino's has quietly become the best place for wholesome meals on morning-afters. With an intimate space and personable staff, Dino's delivers meals that are more like having a culinary school friend make you an omelette than going to a restaurant that happens to have a brunch menu. A spacious outdoor seating area is also available on days when you want to bask in the sun. Items like the Scramble and Breakfast Burrito are mainstays at diners across the country, but the kitchen staff put their own advanced touches on them, making the meal far more than just another bore of a brunch.

BEST THAI: NARAI*320 4th Avenue E, Olympia*

Narai won "Best in the South Sound" while I still pledged my allegiance to Thai Pavilion. Authenticity is key in my relationship with a particular restaurant's pad thai. Thai Pav and I were four years deep in a completely monogamous affair. I heard about the *Weekly Volcano's* opinion on this new place across the street and remained unphased. One day, my best friend brought home some pad thai from Narai: oh my goodness. Perfect, fiery spice, not too sweet, oils completely taken up by noodles. The overall effect was satisfying, soothing, adventurous. I was overwhelmed with the goodness of it. Yet, I was still able to come back to TESC for a productive layout night at the CPJ. After several rendezvous with the same pad thai all I can say is, "wow, Narai, you never cease to amaze me."

BEST HOTDOG: OLYDOG*311 4th Avenue E, Olympia*

If there's one thing that we all know Olympia is famous for, it's the hotdogs. Vendors and carts pop up nightly on every street corner, and even the fancy restaurants include hotdog friendly options. But in this land of buns and weiners, Oly Dog takes the cake for best sausage. With free cream cheese on the bun and onions and dill relish on top, the jumbo hotdog will take your taste buds for a ride. Sitting outside enjoying a dog and watching the local Olympians stumble in and out of Jake's is an experience to remember.

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**BEST AFTER MIDNIGHT: THE REEF***2419 Harrison Avenue NW, Olympia*

Your blood sugar is cranking, and you just cranked—that at Jake’s for two-plus hours after killing it at karaoke around midnight. You’re not done talking to friends you “haven’t seen in forever.” Besides, a hot dog won’t prevent the royal hangover you’re going to have tomorrow. You need an order of tochos, chicken-friend steak, vegan chilli: something substantial to soak up those cheap mixed drinks you started the night with. Open until 3 am, the Reef’s kitchen is a safety net for the after-bar crowd and an excellent option for those working late or on closing shifts.

**BEST VEGAN: LE VOYEUR***404 4th Avenue E, Olympia*

Okay: I’m not vegan. But I’ll speak for those with milk and egg difficulties and vouch that guaranteed vegan options bring an indescribable peace of mind to quasi-omnivores. Le Voyeur’s versatile menu and available substitutions let you have your authentic (-tasting) reuben, and a quesadilla too. Efficiency and attentiveness in customer service means that patrons don’t have to sacrifice satisfaction for style or character. The open-to-view kitchen is an added comfort for people who enjoy seeing exactly what goes into their food and drink. Dietary restrictions, selective preferences, and culinary voyeurs welcome!

**BEST MEXICAN: PEPPERS***114 Cherry Street NE, Olympia*

If you don’t feel like eating Mexican food from a truck, Peppers is the best you’ll find in Olympia. Excellent enchiladas, chile rellenos, and bombdiggity nachos are just a few options to salivate over. Their advertisements boast something along the lines of “Greatest Salsa Bar in the Universe,” and while I’ve never been off the planet to check out other salsa bars, Peppers sure has a solid selection. Oh, and make sure to get a margarita while you’re there – you can’t get that at a taco truck.

BEST SANDWICHES: 5TH AVENUE SANDWICH SHOP*117 5th Avenue SE, Olympia*

If you want a sandwich like your mom used to make when you were a kid, but 20x more legit and delicious, this is the spot. My server was the owner’s daughter – she forgot my cheese and in return I got 3 free cookies for the mistake: “The words, ‘I forgot’ should never come out of my mouth.” Great service, fun place, delicious sammiches!



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**BEST BAR: THE CLIPPER**

402 4th Ave E, Olympia

This was an especially difficult category to pick since many places certainly have their strong suits (and cocktails), be it drinks, ambience, or overflow of gothic decoration. In the end though, none of those things embody the essence of the “perfect” bar and all the implications that come with it. But the China Clipper inevitably came out on top because of its ambiguity. It’s a place that can be enjoyed by any and all kinds of folk. They offer a wide range of entertaining activities in one convenient location - if you consider drinking and singing pop songs as activities that aren’t directly linked forever and always. It’s kind of like a Funplex for adults, but the tickets have been replaced by phone numbers and instead of a jungle gym there’s just your rendition of “Wagon Wheel” belted out to an enthusiastic crowd.

**BEST BAR FOOD: THE FISH TALE BREWPUB**

515 Jefferson St SE, Olympia

Homo sapiens cannot live on organic brew alone - we require sustenance to accompany our drink. But with menu items like Caribbean pulled-pork, salmon quesadillas, vegan chocolate cake, and a \$6 Happy Hour oyster shooters at the Fish Tale BrewPub, your drink of choice never has to feel lonely again. House-made cured meats, hummus, and various sauces are available for infinite pairings with Fish Tale Organic Ales, Leavenworths, Reel Ales, and Spire Mountain Ciders, all bottled right across the street.

BEST DRINKS: CRYPTATROPA

421 4th Ave E, Olympia

The Cryptatropa Bar pours their drinks as strong as anywhere in town. Just kidding! They pour them much, much stronger - and this is no small part to why they won our “best drinks” category. Add to that a proclivity towards fresh ingredients for every drink and a selection of homemade sauces and syrups, and you’ve got yourself one tasty cocktail for, well, cocktails. We especially recommend the whiskey ginger - muddled (or crushed) lemon and lime with their delectable homemade ginger syrup. Find yourself a dark corner (that shouldn’t be hard), order up a few rounds, and get drinking. Just remember, they’re not going to skimp on that pour, so have the cab on speed dial.

BEST POOL TABLES: THE EASTSIDE CLUB TAVERN

410 4th Ave E, Olympia

For those of you who aren’t the greatest at billiards (or even if you are) make your way over to the Eastside to save your quarters. Play pool by the hour on their new tables and grab one or four of their ever changing brews on tap. If you get sick of scratching or losing on the eight ball, try out drunk ping pong! Don’t forget that you can order pizza by the slice or calzones from Al Forno’s through a window near the back.



Bars | CPJ

BEST DIVE BAR: MCCOY'S*418 4th Avenue E, Olympia*

2013 opened on an intense note for McCoy's. On December 4, 2012, local skateboarding hero Casey Heath, was senselessly murdered while spending time with friends on the back patio. The incident brought changes to the unpretentious safety and familiarity of the community hub, but not for the worse. For the score of regulars who frequent McCoy's noon to seven "Happy Hour" or attend its cramped, spirited shows, Heath's wrenching loss was a deep tragedy that spurred amazing unity and revival.

Much more than your standard dive bar, McCoy's is one of the historical heartbeats of Olympia, Wash. The staff isn't quite sure how long the establishment has been open. John, a bartender, and I concluded that the origins are clouded in mystery, and it should probably stay that way. The unparalleled combination of artists, transients, local legends, and storytellers makes it a little like "Cheers" with way more characters and way less uniformity in seating.

Variety withstanding, the regular crowd consists mainly of folks who make some of Olympia's finest food happen, people who remember the city's grunge-capital days, and anyone who appreciates an open-air porch. We gave McCoy's "Best Dive" for the fine cocktail of dive bar elements it offers patrons. The fully-stocked jukebox, well-loved pool tables, and a rear exit only begin the list of the bar's character traits. If you want to tag the back porch, bring your own chalk. And remember to tip the bartenders - they are hard at work fueling a small community.

**BEST ATMOSPHERE: THE BROTHERHOOD LOUNGE***119 Capitol Way N, Olympia*

You must know the Broho. This spot is a little off the beaten 4th Ave path, but can easily be considered one of the best bars in town. Between the quirky foreign film posters, centralized pool table, and quaint smokers' patio out back, the Brotherhood Lounge gives off the best range of vibes. From dreadlocked hippies to state workers still in their suits, you'll be among a wide variety of drinkers at this charismatic lounge. They even have trapeze artists that come in to perform above the heads of the drunken patrons.

**BEST BLOODY MARY: SAGE'S***903 Rogers St NW, Olympia*

While the Sake Bloody Mary at Sage's may use sake in lieu of vodka, it is truly the most refreshing option you'll find in Olympia. Perfectly balanced, light and full flavored, this drink is topped off with several olives and greenbeans, not to mention two kinds of peppers. Best of all, the vegetables are skewered across the top of the drink, as opposed to unceremoniously dumped into the glass itself. (See: every other Bloody Mary in town.) The only imperfection in an otherwise perfect drink is a slight lack of heat for my taste, but with a bottle of hot sauce right there on the table, this is easily remedied. Get one today. Heck, get three.

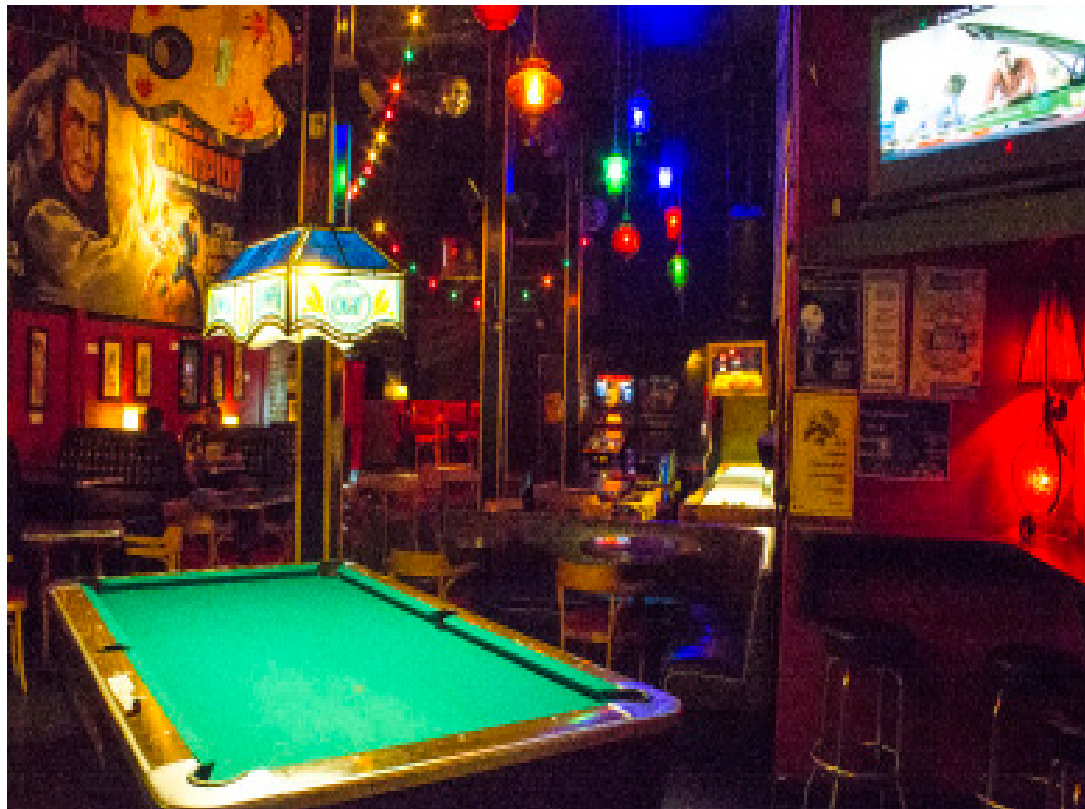
BEST SPORTS BAR: WESTSIDE TAVERN*1815 Harrison Ave NW, Olympia*

Watching sports in Olympia can be a chore. It's difficult bearing the condescending glares from people at the bar who'd rather watch muted "Adventure Time" and occasionally read the subtitles than hear you discuss the merits of Pau Gasol's offensive presence. Luckily, Westside Tavern has three TVs, and on major game days, at least two will always be devoted to the festivities. If what you want doesn't happen to be on, they will gladly change a TV per your request - just be patient if they're busy. On top of that, the bar's reputation as one of the few spots for sports camaraderie draws in a crowd that are there because they WANT TO WATCH THE GAME. Toss in the very solid bar food (wings, burgers, sports meat), and the Westside Tavern should become your favorite bar to watch sports at.

**BEST SHUFFLEBOARD: THE BROTHERHOOD LOUNGE***119 Capitol Way N, Olympia*

Quick – name your second favorite venue at which to play shuffleboard in Olympia. What’s that? You couldn’t think of a single other place? Well...guess we’ll see you at the Brotherhood then.

The shuffleboard table here is perfectly adequate. You’ve got a table, pucks (or biscuits), and sand. Add to that the cheap drinks at the Broho and the fact that the table is rarely in use, and you’ve got a long night of drunken lounge-sport in front of you. Game on!

**BEST KARAOKE: THE CHINA CLIPPER***402 4th Ave E Olympia*

There are only a few places where one can channel their inner rockstar, and the greatest of them is The China Clipper. With the mirrored walls surrounding a packed dance floor (on Friday and Saturday nights), you’ll feel like you aren’t just a broke college student getting wasted on jello shots...No, you’ll become Prince, Bruce Springsteen, and Madonna all wrapped into one. At least for a five minute fantasy you will.

BEST BEER: SKEP AND SKEIN*2106 Harrison Ave. W Olympia*

The small tavern’s name connotes something of global culture and taste. Exhibit A: I recently hosted traveling installation artists from Hungary. At the Vic’s/ Basil Leaf bus stop, two very jolly, reasonably inebriated young men greeted my guests, myself, and a co-host. “Oh, you’re from Hungary?! You should go to Skep and Skein. Good beer!”

Anecdotes aside, Skep and Skein delivers on their reputation with consistency in customer service and diversity of selection. Menus often change daily, as in-stock items rotate in and out. Alcohol percentage, International Bitterness Unit values, brewery of origin, and prices, including those for take-home growlers, are listed on menus. Skep and Skein loyally features products from West Coast and Colorado microbreweries, with an emphasis on Northwest brewing.

Although “Skep” is in this issue for beer (Ginger Pale Ale, Rye Black IPA – whatever your wildest hops can sew), their most unusual virtue is blurring the lines between beer, cider, mead, and wine. 3% to 12% alcoholic beverages are at their finest at 2106 Harrison Ave., on Olympia’s Westside.

**TO AVOID: 1230 ROOM/THE BIG WHISKY***N/A*

We couldn’t give this special award to only one Olympia club. Unless you’re looking for a random hookup with someone at a bar that feels more out of place than Chewbacca on “Star Trek”, don’t go to the 1230 Room. While the attempt to bring a big city nightclub to Olympia is honorable, it just doesn’t fit in with the grunginess that makes Olympia bars endearing.

Big Whisky falls in the same awkward boat. You’ll find wannabe cowpokes decked out in the latest fashion from Buckle at this “country rock” bar. Don’t forget to ride the mechanical bull after downing a few tequila shots...If you’ve lived in Tumwater your whole life, we’ll see you there.

**BEST HAPPY HOUR: ANTHONY’S HEARTFIRE***1675 Marine Dr NE Olympia*

3-7 p.m. at Anthony’s is the only time it becomes affordable for broke students to genuinely feel like high rollers. This place sells beer and mixed drinks for \$5.50 or less, has outdoor seating on the water (ON THE WATER PEOPLE) and will serve up things like steak tenderloin in the most delicious teriyaki sauce for 7 bucks.

They have other kickass dishes like chicken wings and fancy pizza for 5 bucks too. Basically, any time the sun is slightly out, just go there and “treat yo self.” It’s totally worth it.



BEST CAFE: CAFFE VITA

124 4th Avenue E, Olympia

On the relatively bustling corner of 4th Ave and Washington Street, Caffe Vita is the ideal location to sip coffee, meet friends, play board games, or write that essay on post-structural philosophy you haven't quite started yet.

The Seattle-based coffee enterprise brings an intellectual touch to their cups, using vintage equipment and helping pioneer the Third-Wave movement of artisanal, direct-trade coffee since the 90's. For their efforts, GQ named them a "best place to get coffee in America" back in 2009, describing their coffee as "complex" and "provocative."

When you're sipping a cup of joe at your Caffe Vita table, you can't help but feel the heartbeat of Olympia. Or maybe that's just the caffeine.

CHILLEST CAFE: SIZIZIS

704 4th Avenue E, Olympia

Welcome to Olympia, where cafes are given purposely frustrating names in pursuit of some sort of faux irony. That being said, if you aren't offended by getting a load of attitude from the gauge wearing, dreadlocked staff, enjoy the crazy variety of teas and coffees. In Olympia there is something to be said for a cafe that's only closed from Midnight until 7 a.m., making it a convenient place to wind down during an adderall-addled all-nighter. The strongest selling point for Sizizis though is its aesthetics. The dimly lit interior is replete with creaky pale red and green floorboards and all the wood inside the cafe, directly from Pike Market, create an atmosphere somewhere between hipster hotspot and medieval sea vessel. Whether you're into dark rooms or not, this is the one in Oly that was done right.

MOST UNIQUE DRINKS: BURIAL GROUNDS

406 Washington Street SE, Olympia

Creative, fun and interesting – I'd love to make Burial Grounds my main coffee shop. Not too crazy about plain drip coffee? Burial Grounds has sweet flavors and combinations to satisfy you! They have a dark atmosphere, and create a skull in the foam of your coffee, how cool is that?!



BEST COFFEE: OLYMPIA COFFEE ROASTING

108 Cherry Street NE, 1706 Harrison Avenue NW & 2824 Capitol Boulevard, Olympia

On the surface, Olympia Coffee Roasting might seem like a parody of hipster coffee obsession, but in practice theirs is the only coffee worth Olympia's name. Awarded Micro Roaster of the Year by *Roast Magazine*, they hand-make each cup to order with your choice of beans directly traded with family farms across the globe at their downtown cafe. At home, even if you don't have their fancy equipment and precisely heated water, their beans will still outperform all others in your coffee maker. The combination of immaculate ingredients and technical know-how (a founder studied food science at Evergreen) results in a cup of coffee on an entirely different plane from other local establishments. Olympia Coffee single-handedly puts our low-key town alongside Portland and Seattle on the cutting edge of coffee in the country.

You can get their coffee at their three cafes (on Harrison on the Westside, Cherry Street downtown, and a brand new location on Capitol Boulevard), as well as at The Flaming Eggplant, The Reef, and wherever else they care about coffee.



BEST EVENTS: TRADITIONS

300 5th Avenue SW, Olympia

Traditions Cafe is one-part community events, one-part fair-trade world products and one-part local and organic. They boast delicious fair-trade coffee from all around the world and yummy sandwiches made with fresh, local and organic ingredients. Spilling out of the store to cover the walls of the cafe – and sometimes part of the floor – you'll find art from over 50 different countries.

With a vibrant, friendly and politically-charged environment, Traditions is not just a cafe with delicious food, guilt-free coffee and unique, worldly art – it's also an important venue used by many in our community to host events ranging from concerts and spoken word poetry to workshops and public forums. This cafe has one of the most diverse event offerings in Olympia.

**BEST WATER: ARTESIAN WELL***4th Avenue E & Jefferson Street SE, Olympia*

“...It’s the Water.”

There was once a time when Olympia was host to roughly 95 Artesian well sites – most in and around the current downtown area. Now, however, only three remain: two in locations seemingly elusive to most of our community, and the last located in the heart of downtown Olympia behind the Cryptatropa bar.

The Artesian Well has always been a place where community comes together. The Well – once privately owned – has officially been in the hands of the City since fall of 2011. Three years ago the Well was just water flowing out of a nondescript pipe that came out of the ground, over a grate in the corner of a parking lot behind a bar.

Along with the buying of the Well, the City re-tested the water, cleaned up the site and added, with input from the community and local artists, mosaic-covered platforms, a community bulletin board and posts for flower baskets.

In an effort to keep this site community-based and inclusive, in March of this year the city allocated \$100,000 to initiate the Artesian Court Project, an extension of the Project for Public Spaces. This will be a two-phase project that will convert the site into a more friendly and fun environment that will include a ping-pong table, a basketball court, food carts and more.

FUN FACT: When Olympia Beer had been brewed and bottled here in Olympia, one of their special ingredients included Artesian Well water and they coined the slogan, “It’s the water.”

**BEST PARK: PRIEST POINT***East Bay Drive NE, Olympia*

Do you need to escape Olympia, but don’t want to spend two hours (and that’s if you speed) driving to The Gorge? Priest Point Park is the best local option for parks. Its miles of forest trails take you far away from the concrete jungle of downtown, and the park is excellent for cooking fires and large parties. Parts of the beach can be muddy, but at low tide, just lay out a towel to sunbathe, while reminiscing to fellow Greeners about the first time you took molly and how the Dave Matthew’s Band understands you as a unique individual.

**Artist Profile: Matt Smith***By Melkorka Licea*

You might not know it, but the CPJ staff is only human and occasionally duplicates answers once... twice...maybe three times in an artist profile. We hoped it passed as an artistic choice, but we’ll admit it wasn’t. Here’s last issue’s profile in all its glory...

What medium do you prefer and what challenges you the most?

I don’t think too much about the mediums I use beyond functionality between surface materials and mark-making materials. If a canvas, for example, is very large, I will begin a painting with a large house brush or oil sticks. If the surface is a small piece of wood, or paper, I will most likely use guache and/or watercolors and inks. The most challenging aspect to my art has been trying to incorporate found and recycled materials without losing any underlying meaning in the piece. If anything, I hope this aspect to my art only deepens their (conceptual, academic) meanings. I love the natural aura and mystique of objects which have seen ages pass, so incorporating them into the creative process seems like a positive step.

How do aspects of your life influence your art?

I write poetry which seems to boost my creative spirit. If and when a painting dry spell occurs, I will sift through a dictionary, combine unlike words, and use them as a platform for painting ideas. I love sleep. I believe sleeping in and waking up naturally, with no alarm, also influences my creative process. I will sometimes paint til’ four in the morning. I know I won’t always be able to get away with this, so to be advantageous now (while I can) is of utmost importance to me.

What emotions do you try to evoke with your art?

I try to evoke feelings of awe through the use of extreme opposition. I hope to create artwork which acts as gateway to the ethereal. Underlying themes of much of my work are what is vacuous, infinite, la solitude, oneness, absence, presence, and completion, through the use of subliminal repetition, patterning, and often, intensely opposing lurid color schemes.

How have you garnered attention from art galleries?

I am very busy when it comes to the showing of my work, which keeps me well-rounded. It is important for me to receive feedback from a ‘general public’ as well as critical analysis in an academic environment. I am a talkative person, most might say friendly, and I think because of this showing work has not been an issue for me as of yet. I reap much enjoyment from sitting where my art is shown and eavesdropping upon a conversation about my work. That is where I learn the most about what the people think of the things I do.

What is your ultimate goal?

My ultimate goal is to continue manifesting. Being an idealistic dreamer has brought me thus far and raised the bar continuously while doing so. One day soon, I will be a successful independent artist. Since as long as I can remember, I have never seen myself as being anything but a painter, and the only thing that could ever stop me from painting is the loss of my opposable thumbs and even then I’d just paint with wine from the brush of my tongue!

Random | CPJ

BEST PLACE TO SEE A SHOW: CAPITOL THEATER

206 5th Avenue SE, Olympia

Capitol Theater has long been the most trusted venue in Olympia for major(ish) acts on tour. Whether you want an opportunity to slip Andre Nickatina your number and a note telling him which strip club in Tacoma to meet you at or you want to see a little known film that doesn't include DC/Marvel comics and/or hovercrafts, the theater can accommodate your wildest desires from an entertainment perspective. The theater is also the home to many festival shows including the Olympia Film and Music Festivals. Beyond the major events that the theater hosts, there are always interesting films and the popcorn is very reasonably priced.

BEST BOWLING ALLEY: WESTSIDE LANES

2200 Garfield Avenue NW, Olympia

I come from a neighborhood where the last standing bowling alley was killed because of yuppification (Sunset Bowl anyone?), so the fact that there even is a bowling alley here is fucking great. Not to mention the homepage of their website lists a number of "bowling health benefits." What badassess. Plus O'Malley's Lounge, off to the side of the lanes, serves up some really solid bar food and always has at least two different flavors of Jello shots. This place is the definition of bowling with class.



BEST THRIFT STORE: DUMPSTER VALUES

302 4th Avenue East, Olympia

From abundant Members Only jackets to acid wash jeans, Dumpster Values is the place to find all of your hipster essentials. Since these mainstays change so frequently, it's important to keep yourself up with the trends... like the products they carry, is what I meant. The hole-in-a-wall, vintage vibe wouldn't be complete without their artsy decorations and cash-only policy. Try bargaining with the cashier for a cheaper deal! And try not getting harassed by groups of teenagers on your way out.



BEST CONVENIENCE STORE : WESTSIDE FOOD MART

1802 Harrison Ave NW, Olympia

First and foremost, this is the section to properly say rest in peace to the Handy Pantry. For those of you attending Evergreen before 2011, you remember the simple charms (ambiguous age standards) and the sheer convenience of having, well, a convenience store right between campus and the west side. Take a moment. Shed a tear. Anyways, Westside is cool too. The clerks are really nice and one of them will play the saxophone for you. Oh, good selection of beer too.

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Evergreen Professor Charged with Assault and Trespassing

Arrest caught on video

By Ray Still

“I’ve had a lot of experience with cops lying, saying I’ve assaulted them when I haven’t,” said Peter Bohmer, a professor at The Evergreen State College.

On March 5, Bohmer was arrested on charges of trespassing on government property and assaulting Washington State Patrol (WSP) officer Kenyon Wiley.

Bohmer has denied that he assaulted Wiley in any way.

The incident stemmed from a February 8 decision by the Olympia City Council to ban camping on public property. The Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) constructed a camp at the Artesian Well on March 1 in reaction to homeless shelters closing in the area and in protest against the new city ordinance.

According to Bohmer, at least 22 people were staying at the camp on March 3, “showing the clear need for shelter and more affordable housing.”

On March 4, City Manager Steve Hall ordered the camp to be dispersed. The camp was moved to the unused Department of Fish and Wildlife parking lot off of A Avenue and Washington Street. The camp

again received notice to disband before 6 p.m. on March 5, or anyone left on the property would be arrested. Seven people, including Bohmer, were arrested for trespassing.

Only Bohmer was charged with assault.

In Wiley’s original report – written on March 6 – Wiley described how

“They knew who I was. I was a ‘known protester.’”

-Bohmer

“[Bohmer] ran straight into me” in an attempt to get past him.

The report details that Bohmer ran into Wiley two more times before Wiley arrested Bohmer. “He appeared pleased,” Wiley wrote. This became grounds to charge Bohmer for assault of the fourth degree (Assault IV). Assault IV is considered a “gross misdemeanor” in Washington State,

and is punishable by a \$5,000 fine and up to a year in jail.

An eyewitness to the arrests recorded the alleged assault and posted it on YouTube under the username CoyoteScofflaw.

The video shows Bohmer attempting to move around Wiley, as opposed to running into him. It also shows Wiley stepping in the way of Bohmer, denying him access to the government property. By the end of the clip, viewers can see that Bohmer attempted to go around Wiley a total of three times, while keeping his hands close to his body and away from Wiley, and each attempt was blocked by the officer.

Wiley made a supplemental report on the assault on March 8, changing and further explaining some details about how Bohmer assaulted him. “Mr. Bohmer walked into my outreached arms in an effort to get to the tent,” Wiley wrote. After Bohmer ran into his arms three times, Wiley arrested Bohmer, “which appeared to be [Bohmer’s] goal,” he repeated. Neither of Wiley’s reports stated how he moved in front of Bohmer, as seen in the YouTube video. Wiley could not be reached for public comment on the incident or the arrest.

“I knew the chances of being

arrested were quite high,” said Bohmer. “I guess I wanted to show solidarity together with the six other people who were being arrested. I wanted to take that stand.”

In addition to the assault charges, Bohmer asserts that he was verbally abused during his arrest. “They knew who I was. I was a ‘known protester,’” said Peter Bohmer, quoting the Defense Attorney when he read the official police report.

“You always send in the kids to get arrested while you slink away,” Bohmer said an officer told him. “This time, we have you under arrest.” This quote could not be heard on the YouTube video that recorded the arrest, nor did any Washington State Patrol officer record it.

Bohmer’s next court date is on May 9 at the Thurston County District Court at 2:30 p.m., where he will continue to fight the Assault IV charge.

The video of Bohmer’s arrest can be found online at the address: bit.ly/YLSZZe.



Police monitor the take-down of the homeless shelter. Photo courtesy of the Washington State Patrol.

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Letters & Opinion | CPJ

Anarchy Burger, A May Day Tale*Abraham Tadesse*

My first May Day rally finally came, and I dove into it head first with good food and great conversation running through my veins. At 4:23 p.m. I was chilling in Sylvester Park, getting my “radical” on with a double cheese-burger and my second caramel Frappuccino. I’m an activist. Spirits were good in the park – Dropkick Murphys were playing, police in riot gear were sweating like pigs (haha), and the sound of helicopters was unmistakable. The icing on the cake was how sunny it was.

May Day is a celebration of the international labor movement that’s celebrated in over 80 countries. It is one of the few days of the year to demonstrate on behalf of communist, anarchist, socialist, and labor groups, in remembrance and respect of the 1886 Haymarket affair in Chicago.

Going on word-of-mouth information from fellow Greeners, I went down at 4:00 p.m. Parents with their kids in hand, communists from Lacey, and the everyday happy-go-lucky political activists filled the streets on 4th Avenue and marched. After, we met back at Sylvester Park for a family-friendly (ish) area to rest and relax.

I missed the noon demonstration deliberately because, from what I picked up, anarchists and the like were going to hit up the streets of Olympia and cause some mayhem. I didn’t want to throw a rock through a window, but being in the midst of something so out of the ordinary from the non-violent Evergreen approach filled

me with a form of excitement that scared me, not with fear, but with a childlike fascination of, “Ohhh, what’s gonna happen next?!”

With my second caramel Frappuccino and Happy Teriyaki burger in hand, I walked over to Sylvester Park. I noticed a group of Greeners

“This is what anarchy looks like!”

who had planned months in advance for May Day, their banners hung up in the sun for the world to see. They filled me in on how after the first protest, most people had left, and how news reporters were now using the residual folks in the park as an example of how “out of control and radical” the protest had become. Damn reporters. So I waited in the park for something to happen.

Once 6:00 p.m. rolled around, I made my way to the Kissing Couple statue, and was greeted by some Greeners, candy kids, homeless folks, and some people dressed in all black. Earlier, I ran into a man to whom I’d given a cigarette, and we began talking about what would happen at the second event, for which he filled me in on some very interesting information: “Yeah, Olympia PD got two undercover Coast Guard Officers to blend in with the crowd, which is total bullshit.” Looking back, I don’t know how much I believed him, but because this was my first “rally,” I ate that

simple comment up as an irrefutable fact. I was pumped.

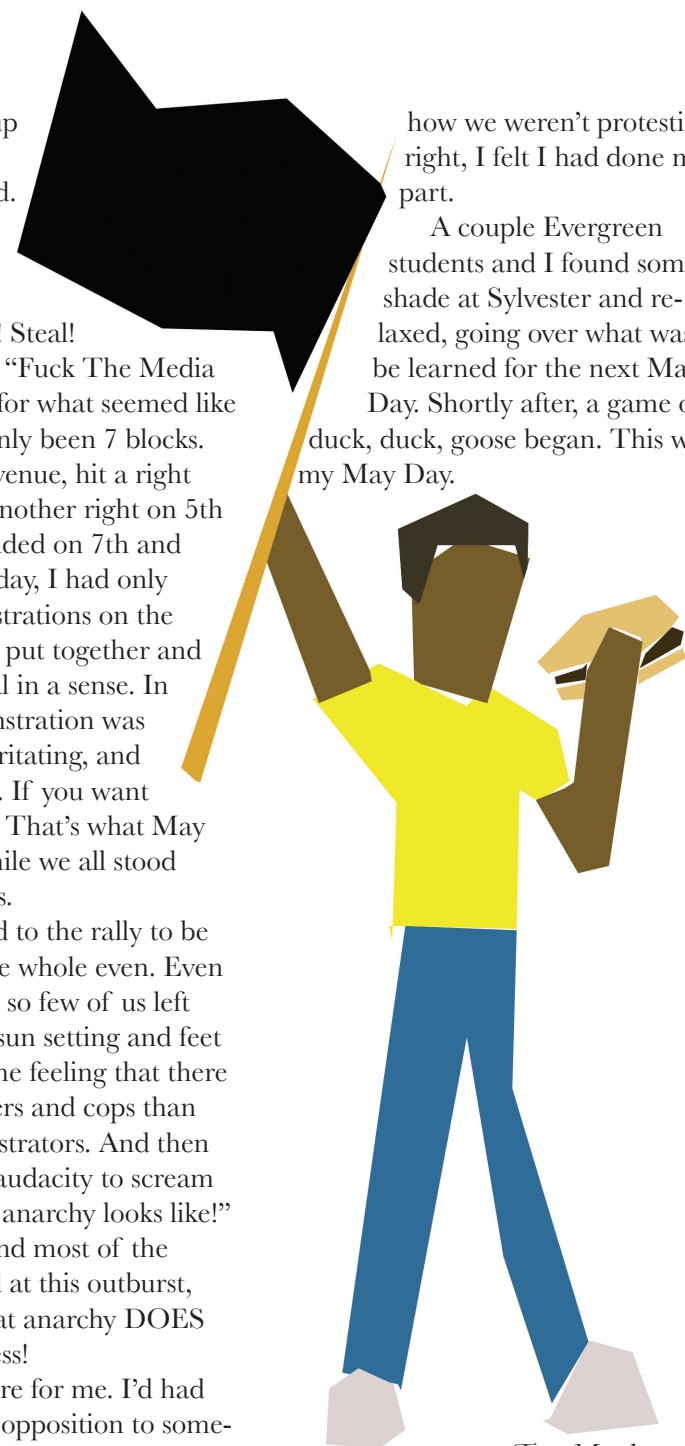
At 6:20 p.m., the walk began with cheers of, “Loot! Loot! Loot! Steal! Steal! Steal!” and, “Fuck The Media Pigs!” We walked for what seemed like miles, but it had only been 7 blocks. We went up 4th avenue, hit a right on Jefferson and another right on 5th until we finally landed on 7th and Capital. Before today, I had only seen these demonstrations on the news, looking well put together and almost professional in a sense. In person, the demonstration was loud, confusing, irritating, and above all inclusive. If you want to protest, protest! That’s what May Day taught me while we all stood there – all 30 of us.

I found this end to the rally to be the best part of the whole even. Even though there were so few of us left that day, with the sun setting and feet throbbing, I had the feeling that there were more reporters and cops than there were demonstrators. And then someone had the audacity to scream out, “This is what anarchy looks like!” Cops, reporters, and most of the protestors laughed at this outburst, because this is what anarchy DOES look like: a hot mess!

It all ended there for me. I’d had my fill of political opposition to something, and I needed a cigarette. Once an old lady started yelling at us about

how we weren’t protesting right, I felt I had done my part.

A couple Evergreen students and I found some shade at Sylvester and relaxed, going over what was to be learned for the next May Day. Shortly after, a game of duck, duck, goose began. This was my May Day.

*Troy Mead*

Pedondo & Company Rome Davis



Baked Carlos Alvarez

