The Evergreen State College Student Newspaper | May 31, 2017 J O U R N A L



STUDENT PROTESTS AGAINST RACISM

PROTESTTIMELINE THE EVENTS THAT LEAD TO THIS WEEKS ACTIONS

5

EVERGREENDEMANDS A COMPLETE LIST OF DEMANDS SUBMITTED BY STUDENT GROUPS STUDENTSONSTRIKE RESIDENT ADVISORS GO ON STRIKE UNTIL DEMANDS ARE MET

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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 4 to 5 p.m every Wednesday.

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!

EVERGREEN **ROTESTS**

STUDENT PROTEST PROMPTS CHANGES TO ADDRESS RACISM

By Felix Chrome

vergreen President George Bridges held a meeting on Friday, May 26 to respond to student demands addressing racism, anti-blackness, and police on campus. A series of protests that began Tuesday, May 22 increased pressure • on the administration, culminating in an occupation of the library building during which administrators were blockaded in a room to listen to concerns of students.

dents demanded the Evergreen Police be disarmed and permanent position dedicated expansions in their facilities or power be blocked; Evergreen Police Officer Tim O'Dell be suspended for his behavior toward protesters earlier this week; Weinstein be suspended without pay; Andrea Seabert Olsen, the Assistant to the VP of Student Conduct, be fired; sensitivity and cultural competency training for all faculty and staff; Changes to the student conduct code must have democratic student consent; the creation of an Equity Center; the coordinator of Trans & Queer Center be

A coalition of black stu- hired in a permanent full time position; and the creation of a to supporting undocumented students. Other groups of students have also submitted further demands that will be responded to by the administration in the coming week.

> Bridges complied with many of these demands, but said "I have no plan to disarm the police at the point" and he would not fire anyone or discuss any personnel matters based on student requests. When these announcements were made students expressed frustration, saying that these two issues most immediately

affect their safety on campus. People were especially worried about Weinstein's continued media crusade, saying students were a "mob" engaged in a "witch hunt", and going on Tucker Carlson Tonight during the meeting with George Bridges, falsely asserting that students had taken over campus and threatened violence. At the meeting students shared that they had received death threats and harassment due to their portrayal in national media.

Despite the media narrative that has been woven in national press, recent protests are in response to multiple incidents,

and the precipitated event was not comments made by Weinstein. Students disrupted Weinstein's class in relation to allegedly racist comments he made in multiple emails, but protests had already begun previous to this when students were upset by a May 14 incident in which campus police woke up, held, and questioned two black students about an argument with another student over alleged racism.

The steps Bridges did agree to take include the creation of an Equity and Multicultural Center on campus; mandatory anti-bias and cultural competency training for all faculty and staff beginning Fall 2017; the creation of a retention specialist position for supporting undocumented students; and increased budget for First Peoples' Advising.

Bridges told the gathered students "The status quo is unacceptable" but "we don't know all the answers." He thanked them for their input, and said he will continue meeting publicly and privately with students in the next two weeks to understand how to further address concerns.

News



The protests were largely in reaction to an incident in which campus police held two Black students for questioning about an arguments over racism. RUBY LOVE.

A WEEK OF ACTION

By Georgie Hicks

onths of protest and community dissatisfaction came to head this week with a student led protest, specifically about empowering student voices, formed by the group behind #exposeevergreen gathered the force of the student body, occupied the Daniel J. Evans Library Building, and brought a series of demands directly to several key members of the Administration. Following a series of unsuccessful conversations with different, divided portions of the Evergreen administration over the past several weeks and years, they gathered, personally escorted and held President George Bridges, all of the Deans, the Vice President of Student Affairs Wendy Endress, a Board of Trustees representative, and the full teacher union bargaining team all in President George Bridges office for about five hours. The administration stayed in the room until demands to address the problems of systemic racism and oppression faced by minority students were agreed upon.

This measure was taken because previous attempts to make changes to policy to support students of color and other underserved populations and promote equity had been met with the various sections of the administration blaming the college's stagnancy and lack of action on other areas of the administration, sending students through an endless maze of meetings and conversations that all ended the same way: with empty promises and no concrete actions. No force was used to detain members involved in the meeting, and everyone held in the President's office were provided with food and water, with students available to attend to any emerging needs, including medical care. The building entrances were barricaded when it seemed as if police would be on the way soon. When word got out that police were not on the way, as Bridges' had told the police to stand down and they had locked themselves in police services, White students stopped guarding the doors.

The May 24 occupation followed two weeks of increased student activity around questions of race and equity, ignited by a May 14 incident during which two Black students were brought in for questioning late at night and held by campus police into the early morning. These students were not made aware that they were not legally required to go with the police and were escorted to be questioned by their Resident Director. This incident culminated with the violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act rights of the students when their personal information was accessed and their mother's were contacted the morning after Mother's Day around 2 a.m.Other factors included the administration's unwillingness to address concerns about faculty's expressions of racist, sexist, and transphobic beliefs, including emails sent by faculty Bret Weinstein, who had been broadcasting his dislike for new equity policies and expressed feelings of being

discriminated against because he is white on the all staff and faculty email chain from fall quarter.

The conversation around Weinstein's emails came to a head when the cops were called on a group of students who disrupted his class, demanding he apologize and listen to their concerns, and officer Timothy O'Dell aggressively shoved through a crowd of students protesters.

Though Weinstein is one factor, many other concerns lead to the the occupation, including the drawn out discipline process of two black disabled trans students for their participation in nonviolent protests by Vice President of Student Conduct Andrea Seabert Olsen and lack of student input in new student code of conduct rules that would, among other things, make any form of "disruptive" protest punishable.

The occupation began with a 1 p.m. meeting in the Library lobby, with students moving out to Red Square for a reading of a press release written by organizing students which listed the mounting concerns of marginalized students on campus including lack of health and safety of PoC on campus due to the mounting racial tension and racist emails from faculty. A group of about twenty students then filed upstairs to president George Bridges' office, blocking any possible exits. Hundreds of students followed, filing into the administration offices chanting "Hey hey ho ho the racist teachers have got to go."

Vice President Endress initially refused to meet with the protesters and attempted to leave without addressing the students' concerns. Endress was encouraged to return and eventually came around and was present for the meeting in Bridges' office for the rest of the discussion. Students wanted VP Endress present because of an email she sent regarding the two Black students who were held by police services late May14, that stated "by midnight the police determined that there was no immediate threat. [and] Some of the students were offered alternative places to stay. Some 'no contact' orders were put in place. The staff in Student Affairs continues to investigate and consider what consequences or restitution is appropriate."

This information was false as students were escorted by Resident Director Hanna Smith at around 11:45 p.m. and held until around 2 a.m. that morning. The two students who were held and questioned had restrictions put on where they could go in the dorms they live in, at one point they were not allowed into their own dorm rooms and were not offered any resources in which to ensure their safety after this harrowing experience. VP Endress was also involved in pressing charges on two Black students for their participation in a series of protests against the Administration's lack of action in supporting students of color. One day prior to the occupation, on May 23, Endress had refused to apologize before about 300 students and failed to confirm that information in the email she had sent out was false. When she was asked whether

the information in the email was factual she opted to say "to my knowledge" and when asked to apologize she said she "wanted to apologize with integrity" and that she "take[s] responsibility for sending that email too soon" to which she was met with disappointment from the students present, who knew that the day she sent the email Endress had been in implicit bias training and yet still sent out an email that left students of color vulnerable.

While all this was happening, professor Bret Weinstein was mocking protesters on Twitter and on Facebook, saying, "If I am hearing them correctly, they are calling for me to be fired as a racist. The fact that I am not a racist makes this awkward." Weinstein had been the focus of student attention for months after he sent an email that called the reversal of the day of absence "a show of force and an act of oppression in and of itself". For this year's event, as opposed to previous years, a small amount of white students, 200, were invited to hold caucus and workshop off campus and PoC were invited to be present on the campus they often don't feel welcome on for their own workshops. Weinstein opposed this change, saying he would not support the reversal and that "you may assume I will be on campus on the day of absence" and encouraged others to do the same. Weinstein, and evolutionary biologist, then offered to have "a discussion of race on campus through a scientific/evolutionary lens.'

Weinstein also received infor-

mation from students who spied in a closed Facebook group including a screenshot of a student's post offering names and faces of students supporting weinstein for PoC to know who to avoid for their own personal safety. No threats of doxxing or violence were made by this student. Weinstein publically posted a screenshot of this message from the closed group, mocking the student saying, "This is a small peak at what my students and I are dealing with. Evergreen is busy with other things while certain people are targeted for their beliefs." As of May 25, the student Weinstein reposted is receiving death threats, threats of sexual assault and is being harassed on Reddit, online sources and directly to her phone by Neonazi groups and students who live on campus due to Weinstein's actions.

As the library occupation continued, a faculty meeting was interrupted and many faculty chose to join the administrators meeting with students. The full teacher union bargaining team was present and agreed to bring any issue up in the bargaining with the admin over the collective bargaining agreement (CBA), as the current CBA ends in August. When the question of why racist professors could not be fired came up, it was made clear the CBA and the system of due process at this school made it difficult to remove teachers even when they have committed clearly racist actions. Cynthia Kennedy, faculty and bargaining team member, stated her issues with the CBA and how it has been used to protect racists herself saying, "...when my colleague was saying some thing that were racist, what was decided was that he wasn't actually breaking anything in the CBA. so there wasn't anything that we could do." she continued by saying "I didn't think that [The Current CBA] was working and I really really see what ya'll [students] are bringing up as complaints as real complaints and I don't know if there is a system that can work with it right now." "I am willing to work to help talk about that [as a bargaining member], but I don't see that what we have is working."

At this point other Faculty started speaking up about their experiences trying to combat racism. Teachers who had been here for 15, 20, 30 years were said, they've gone through the current process, and it doesn't work, that the system is broken.

Finally Bridges agreed to work on the demands. Around 5:30 students and administrators came to an agreement and the occupation was ended. Bridges was given two days to meet demands and he promised if any demand could not be met he would outline exactly why it could not be met in an announcement Friday.

Students warned George that, "If you're not transparent we will be back" to which George responded "I want you to come back even if I am transparent, either way I want you to come back."

News of the protests have been shared heavily on social media. RICKY OSBORNE.



A YEAR OF EVENTS

By Jasmine Kozak-Gilroy

Recent protests were a response to tensions that have been mounting through the entire academic year. Here is a summary of some of the events that lead to student action—

September 21 Student Protest at Convocation

Two student protesters took the stage during a question and answer session with the invited speaker holding a sign that said, "Evergreen cashes diversity checks but doesn't care about blacks". President George Bridges interrupted the students, thanked them for vocalizing their concerns, and said that they would have more time to speak on issues of race on campus after the Q & A ended, a promise that was never realized.

November 18

Bret Weinstein Sends Email about Equity Action Plan

In the first major email thread of the year, Weinstein sent an email criticizing the Equity Council's Strategic Equity Plan to the entire Staff and Faculty email list saying, "From what I have read, I do not believe this proposal will function to the net benefit of Evergreen's students of color, in the present, or in the future." His email sparked discussion and critique of his positions by staff and faculty of color and allies, which was met by more emails by Weinstein and supporters.

January 11

Protest at Swearing In Ceremony of New Chief of Police

A group of students, including the two students that took the stage at convocation, brought noisemakers to the swearing in ceremony of Evergreen State College Chief of Police Stacy Brown, taking the microphone from Wendy Endress, the Vice President of Student Affairs, and chanting "Fuck cops". This incident launched an investigation and prosecution of these two students, threatening suspension for the allegedly violent action of taking the microphone from Endress.

March 15

Weinstein Sends Email Regarding Day of Absence

Bret Weinstein sends out email protesting new configuration of Day of Absence/ Day of Presence, bringing on more controversy and many, many more emails.

May 14

Black Students Detained By Police

A week of internet conversations and drama culminating with one student calling the campus police of two Black students, alleging that they had threatened him. His call led to both students being led out of their dorms at about 11:45 p.m. by their Resident Directors to be questioned by the police.

May 15

Students Discuss Questions of Racial Profiling with VP/ VP of Equity Candidate

Students co opted the planned conversation with the first of three Vice President/Vice Provost of Equity and Diversity candidates to talk about recent events and the history of racism and administrative stagnancy on campus.

Continued on page seven.

Community



Protesting students discussed what changes could be made to address their disssatifaction with Evergreen. RICKY OSBORNE.

STUDENTS DEMAND CHANGE

ultiple Coilitions of POC students delivered demands to George Bridges and other members of the administration. We suspect they will cotinue to grow and change as this story progresses. Here are the current demands that came out of last week's events—

We demand that no changes to The Student Code of Conduct be made without democratic student consent. We demand consent as distinct and separate from input in the process of revising the codes that govern us. The coalition of black students and students of color that are submitting these demands will nominate 5 black students to inhabit a Student Code of Conduct Task Force by the end of Spring Quarter 2017. The Student Code of Conduct task force will be an autonomous body from the office of Student Affairs, will employ a consensus based decision making process, and will have ratifying and veto power over all revisions to the student code of conduct. The office of Student Affairs will submit revisions of the Student Code of Conduct to the Task Force and will not implement those revisions until the Task Force gives their written approval. The task force will do no labor other than review changes presented and say yes or no. The students placed on that task force will each be paid a stipend of \$500 a quarter until the Student Code of Conduct is approved. We demand that no one is charged with a student code of conduct violation until these revisions are finalized. No one is charged for the demonstrations of the past two weeks beginning May 14th.

We demand that Officer Timothy O'Dell be fired and (Suspended during the investigation) suspended without pay while an investigation takes place. We demand Officer O'Dell be fired if he is guilty of using excessive force and aggression when responding to student protesting. When responding to the call made by Brett Weinstein, O'Dell did not ask questions. O'Dell started violently pushing through students who were trying to protect black students. O'Dell was asked to stopped and students expressed that they weren't dangerous. O'Dell refused to listen. O'dell continued to knock students over in attempt to reach the black students. O'Dell was targeting people of color.

We demand the immediate firing of Andrea Seabert Olsen, the Assistant to the VP for Student Conduct, from all Evergreen State College Positions. We request that no transfer happen but a complete removal. Seabert Olsen has shown a consistent often violent flaw in judgement when it pertains to the needs and safety of Black students, other students of color, Trans students, students with disabilities, students who have experienced sexual assault. Seabert Olsen has been given an ample amount of time to educate herself about the needs of more marginalized students and has failed to show evidence of effort or effectiveness. We believe that at this point there is no way for Andrea Seabert Olsen to redeem herself as her reputation directly influences her ability to do her job. The students who are in the most danger in the current climate and culture of both the Evergreen campus and the United States do not view Seabert Olsen as a safe person to seek help from. We demand no expansion of

police facilities or services at any point in the future. We demand that police services sell all of their lethal and less than lethal weapons and donate the money to manifestation of demands enumerated here. This demand entails that at no point in the planning stages of any expansion of campus facilities should plans be articulated or students, staff, administrators, faculty, or contractors be paid to work on plans to provide increased office space, increased surveillance technology, or more or expanded holding cells to Police Services. We demand for the institution to create a student collective to develop and implement alternative to policing.

We demand mandatory sensitivity and cultural competency training for faculty, staff, administrators, and student employees. Hire the Aorta Collective or a comparable anti-oppression training collective to develop a plan for mandatory trainings for all Faculty, staff, and student employees. We demand anonymous evaluation forms for students to evaluate all faculty.

We demand the creation of an Equity Center in the 4th floor of the Library Building. We demand a remodel that will accommodate students and have movable walls for caucusing spaces. This Equity Center must be fully staffed and must have an assistant director, innovative program coordinator, case manager and student advisors. We demand that Equity Center have it's own budget and be connected to the new VP/ VP for Equity and Inclusion.

We demand for the coordinator of the Trans & Queer Center to be permanently hired full time. Currently, they are temporarily hired and their contract ends in June.

We demand the creation of a permanent position that will support undocumented students. This position will have a budget that will create scholarships, housing, and protections.

We demand that the video created for Day of Absence and Day of Presence that was stolen by white supremacists and edited to expose and ridicule the students and staff be taken down by the administration this Friday.

We demand Bret Weinstein be suspended immediately without pay but all students receive full credit.

We demand an official statement on each of these demands from George Bridges that is divided up into 10 sections on this Friday May 26th, 2017.

We demand that no changes to The Student Code of Conduct be made without democratic student consent.

We demand that Officer Timothy O'Dell be fired and suspended without pay while an investigation takes place.

We demand the immediate firing of Andrea Seabert Olsen, the Assistant to the VP for Student Conduct, from all Evergreen State College positions.

We demand the immediate disarming of Police Services and no expansion of police facilities or services at any point in the future.

We demand mandatory sensitivity and cultural competency training for faculty, staff, administrators, and student employees.

We demand the creation of an Equity Center

We demand for the coordinator of the Trans & Queer Center to be permanently hired full time.

We demand the creation of a position that will support undocumented students.

Time line continued from page five.

May 19

George Bridges Hosts Conversation About Race, Met with Call from Students to Boycott Event

On May 18 Wendy Endress sent out an email that included false information about the students who had been detained by the campus police, lauding the accomplishments of the administration in the pursuit of equity, and inviting students to a forum hosted by George Bridges to discuss the questions of race brought up in the previous week. Students, fed up with the administrations pattern of inaction and self congratulatory rhetoric, called for a boycott of the event in a press release, positioning the actions of students within a decades long history of inaction and explaining, "We have already voiced our experiences over this year and Wendy and George have made it obvious they don't care about how recent events are affecting the student body. They are making an effort to diminish our voices and take control of a situation they refused to acknowledge until it began to tarnish their reputation."

May 23 Students Confront Weinstein

In the morning of May 23, students disrupt Weinstein's class to discuss emails, with some individual students declaring that they believed that Weinstein should be fired. The campus police were called, and they in turn called the County Sheriff's office for backup. When the cops arrived, student protesters formed a protective ring around the students of color conversing with Weinstein. This ring of students was ripped apart by Officer Timothy O'Dell when he shoved through protesters, injuring two students.

Meeting Held By George Bridges to Discuss the Morning's Events and Student Complaints

At 4 p.m., Bridges met with students to discuss the actions of O'Dell, complaints about Weinstein, and other student safety concerns. The meeting was attended by Bridges, Endress, and Brown. Weinstein was in the crowd of community members who gathered. Students took over the meeting, which was planned as an event moderated by members of the administration, to discuss concerns, ask questions, and make demands of the administration.

May 24

Students Barricade Library, Occupy Building, and Meet with Administrators

Students gathered at 1 p.m. for a rally before flooding inside to George Bridges' office, blocking exits and, over the course of several hours, barricading the main library entrance, gathering Deans, the entire collective bargaining team for the United Faculty of Evergreen union, and hosting a meeting centered around student concerns and demands, moderated and managed by the students themselves. Students presented Bridges with a list of demands, requesting that they be addressed by 5 p.m. Friday May 26.

May 26

George Bridges Addresses Demands

Bridges set a meeting in the Longhouse at 5 p.m. to address the demands made by students, during which he fielded criticism for a stark refusal to disarm the police and, for the most part, repeating patterns of talking instead of acting, implying that many things are out of his control.

Meet Your 2017 Graduation Speakers

By Sylvie Chase

he graduating class of 2017's commencement ceremony will be held on Red Square on Friday, June 16 at 1 p.m. Commencement is an open event for anyone who wishes to celebrate the graduating class of students. A myriad of speakers will be present for this years ceremony, featuring guest speaker Jaime Mendez, an anchor and reporter for Noticias Univision Seattle, faculty speaker Anne Fischel, and three student speakers, Eder Humberto Nunez Dieguez, Kadazia Allen-Perry, and Jesi Richardson-Chapin.

Jaime Mendez

Originally from Colombia, Jaime Méndez is an anchor/reporter for Noticias Univision Seattle, KUNS-TV 51, the first regional Spanish language newscast in the Pacific Northwest. He also coanchors a Sounders FC highlight show and is the Spanish TV playby-play announcer for Sounders FC games of Major League Soccer. A popular personality among the Spanish-speaking community, he graduated from Evergreen in 1995 with a focus on Political Sciences and Communications. He got his start in broadcasting at Evergreen's KAOS community radio station where he launched his own two-hour program featuring talk, music and guest appearances in both Spanish and English. After graduation, Méndez returned to Colombia for a short time before moving to Miami, where he was hired by Caracol Radio, a major Colombian station with a huge presence in south Florida. "It was such a great experience to work with people who really know what they're doing and view their work as community service," he says. "I've brought that way of thinking to my work in Seattle. It's important to let the immigrant community know what services are available.'

Jaime and his news team have built relationships with local politicians, as well as the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and the King County Sheriff's office, collaborating on anti-gang programs and other outreach to the Spanish-speaking community. Méndez also takes advantage of the connections of their sister station KOMO news when covering particular stories relevant to his audience

Anne Fischel

Anne Fischel joined the Evergreen faculty in 1989 after teaching at Hampshire College in Am-

herst, Massachusetts. Anne is a documentary filmmaker whose teaching has focused on nonfiction media production, media theory, and community studies. She has enjoyed and benefited from teaching collaborations with colleagues in environmental studies, political economy, public health, anthropology, Middle East studies, animation, education, African-American studies, Native American studies and feminist studies. Anne has been active in college governance, and most recently, served on the Agenda Committee which oversees and facilitates faculty deliberation and input into policy decisions. She was a co-founder of the Sustainability and Justice planning unit, an interdisciplinary group of faculty who share a common focus on extending student learning through community-based work and collaboration. She is also a member of the Undocumented Students Task Force, one of several groups working to support undocumented students at Evergreen.

Anne helped to co-found Strengthening Sanctuary, a local organization working to expand and protect the safety and security of immigrant residents of Thurston County. Anne's own films include Lewis County: Hope and Struggle, which documents the history and current struggles of workers in nearby Lewis County, and Under the Stack, a documentary about the environmental impacts of mining and smelting in three Southwestern communities.

Eder Humberto Nunez Diéguez

Eder was born in Mexico migrating to Oregon with his family at the age of 10. He attended both the University of Oregon and Troy University before transferring to Evergreen Fall of 2011. A father of two, he served 10 years in the United States Army deploying multiple times. Through volunteer work at CIELO, an integral Latino education center in Olympia, he has realized his passion for community building, service and outreach and hopes to continue pursuing this passion after graduation.

Kadazia Allen-Perry

Kadazia graduated high school from Tacoma School of the Arts. She attended Pacific Lutheran University before transferring to Evergreen in the Fall of 2014. While at Evergreen, Kadazia focused on visual arts and communications exploring different elements of identity centered on the African American experience in filmmaking. This past year, she started her own production company, Fro On Fleek Productions, and premiered her first feature length film, Chronic Means Forever. After graduation, Kadazia intends to pursue independent filmmaking full time and, eventually, pursue a master's degree in producing and filmmaking.

Jesi Richardson-Chapin

Jesi entered Evergreen Fall 2013 graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2015 the same year her daughter received her Master in Teaching degree from Evergreen. Prior to entering Evergreen, Jesi held positions in law enforcement, corrections, school resources and community grant coordination. Currently, she is the Program Coordinator for Homeland Security Region 3, coordinating training and exercises for emergency responders in a 5-county region. She enrolled in the Master in Public Administration program in order to influence "policies and procedures that create a culture of equality and safety for our most vulnerable citizens." This year she is receiving her Master in Public Administration degree along with her son, James, who is receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree. Jesi is also a mother of six.

Community

Arts & Culture

UP COMING

WED. MAY 31

Evergreen State College *CRC 117. 4pm. Free.* Self Defense Workshop

★ Obsidian 414 4th Ave E. 9pm. \$5 Transfx, Merchandise, B Boys, Oh

Le Voyeur 404 4th Ave W. 9pm. Vomity 134 with Erin Ingle

THUR. JUNE 1

Rythm & Rye *311 Capitol Way N. 9pm.* Hotcabi, Extra Measures

Obsidian 414 4th Ave E. 9pm. 21+ Wizzerd, Sower, Turian

FRI. JUNE 2

Le Voyeur

404 4th Ave W. 6:30pm. All Ages. \$5 The Tattoos and THC Tour with Bryan Torch and The Aviator Experience

Eagles Hall *805 4th Ave E. 8pm. All Ages. \$5* Young Pioneers Release Show

Rythm & Rye *311 Capitol Way N. 8pm. \$15. 21+* Giants in the Trees, Dancehall Queen, C Average

SAT. JUNE 3

Heritage Park 330 5th Ave SW. 10am. Witches March

★Olympia Center 222 Columbia St NW. 11am-4pm. Free. Olympia Comics Fest: Cartoonists Expo

★Le Voyeur 404 4th Ave W. 7pm. All Ages. Slug Christ, Nobodies, Crimewave

Le Voyeur 404 4th Ave W. 10pm. \$5. 21+ Dark Palms, Psychotic Reaction, Ron Hexagon

SUN. JUNE 4

★ Orca Books
509 4th Ave E. 2pm.
Book Club: The New Jim Crow

Le Voyeur 404 4th Ave W. 9pm. Flames of Durga, The Snubs, Dancehall Queen

BLACK FEMME LIVES MATTER!



BREANNA SWAYZE

★ = Staff Recommended

Arts & Culture

STUFF 2 DO

By Tari Gunstone & Sylvie Chace

FRIDAY 6/2-SATURDAY 6/3

OLYMPIA COMICS FESTIVAL

Timberland Library - 313 8th Ave SE // Olympia Center - 222 Columbia St NW // Capitol Theater - 206 Fifth Ave // Danger Room - 201 Fourth Ave. W. All events free except for the stage show (\$6)

The Northwest's longest-running alternative comics event converges this weekend in Olympia where direct connection between comic creators and readers is cultivated through cartoonists' expo, panel discussions, author and illustrator signings, and a stage show featuring comedy skits, interview, music, and slideshows. This year's guests of honor include Emil Ferris, Simon Hanselmann and Peter Kuper.

Emil Ferris is new to the comic scene with her first graphic novel at age 55, My Favorite Thing is Monsters, being hailed as a stylistic tour de force. Its protagonist is a 10 year old girl of Mexican, Irish, and Cherokee ancestry who obsesses over monsters to the extent of constantly picturing herself as a werewolf girl. The story explores the fictional world of monsters and the monsters that dwell within each of us. Ferris imagined the story while fighting partial paralysis from contracting West Nile Virus, in which she duct-taped a quill to her hand so she could draw in the hospital, slowly finishing Monsters over six years of dedication.

Simon Hanselmann is best known for Megg, Mogg, And Owl which chronicles the lifestyle of a witch and her cat who deal with their depression and various addictions. He identifies as a "flesh-swaddled skeleton" who regularly cross-dresses, including the time he wore a beautiful white wedding dress while marrying comics. Yes, he literally married a a stack of comic books in 2014.

Peter Kuper just won the Eisner award for his most recent graphic novel, Ruins, and is famous for many of his contributions to the comic and illustration world including Spy vs. Spy and World War III, the comic anthology magazine that arose in critique of the right-wing conservatism that permeated the social and political state of the country after the election of Ronald Reagan. With its anti-establishment beat, it sounds like the perfect read for today's current climate.

One of the panel discussions will be: Resist Through Making Comics, which Kuper and the other guests will likely have great insight to share (11:30 at the cartoonists' expo).

The event kicks off Friday night with a preview at the Olympia Timberland Library starting at 6:30. Saturday features the cartoonists' expo and panel discussions from 11 am - 4 pm at the Olympia Center, and the stage show from 5-7 at Capitol Theater with guest of honor book signing following at The Danger Room until 8:30.

SATURDAY 6/3 SLUG CHRIST LIVE AT LE VOYEUR

Le Voyeur- 404 4th Ave E. All Ages. 7pm.

Musician and rapper Slug Christ comes to Le Voyeur along with other talent such as Nobodies, Crimewave, and Virginia Slim. Signed by Awful Records, Slug Christ comes from Atlanta, Georgia where they've produced a debut album, Crucifixion of Rapper Extraordinaire. This show is hosted by Le Voyeur and CapCity Hip-Hop. The facebook event page states that you need tickets to attend the event, which are being sold for \$13 at Le Voyeur. The page has also posted an after party/show event at O'Malleys on the westside at 11pm featuring Nacho Picasso, this after party will be 21+. This is sure to be a night filled with beats, dancing, and much more, so be ready for a show to blow you away!'

SUNDAY 6/4

BOOK CLUB ON THE NEW JIM CROW

Orca Books - 509 E 4th Ave. 2pm.

The Black Alliance of Thurston County and Orca Books are hosting the last of a three part series book club covering Michelle Alexander's important read, The New Jim Crow; Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness. If you missed the first two, but have read the book and want to analyze it with fellow community members, Sunday's discussion will cover the last two two chapters (5 & 6). Enjoy discussion, refreshments, free parking, and 10% off if you purchase The New Jim Crow from Orca.

SUNDAY 6/11

THE ARTERY: COMMUNITY EMPOWERED PERFORMANCE ART FESTIVAL

Capitol Theater - 206 5th Ave. 6:30 p.m. All ages.

A diverse gathering of Puget Sound artists will gather to present mixed-media performances including spoken word, experimental dance, film, storytelling, and music. The DAIPAN butch collective from Seattle will perform their choreographed dance piece Stone Silence from the Japanese dance theater tradition in which the dancers traditionally wear white body makeup and express haunting imagery through slow, hyper-controlled movements. Many other acts are scheduled including Olympia poet and master of ceremonies, Lennée Reid, will share a multimedia poetry and movement expression, Summoning Oshun. Reid told Oly Arts that, "I think The ARTery will bring much needed attention to the intercultural aspects of local performance art."

SLUG CHRIST

Arts & Culture



Students install their final show in the Evergreen Gallery. JASMINE KOZAK-GILROY

End of Quarter Shows EVERGREEN'S FINEST ART STUDENTS SHOW OFF THEIR WORK

by Ruby Love

Spring quarter is almost over, programs are wrapping up their coursework, and many students and faculty are working together to put on final shows and performances to showcase their hard work this year. We found a few for you to check out! One of our favorite things is touring around the school at the end of each quarter to check out the work our fellow students have poured their hearts and souls into; spring quarter is particularly great for this as many students are graduating, or wrapping up year-long projects. Here's our list, come support Greener artists!

This spring, Evergreen Gallery is hosting "Emergence: Practice and Process", which is the "culmination of interdisciplinary research and creative inquiry in the visual arts." The exhibit features the work of students in the program "CultureLab", and will include a diverse range of mediums from printmaking to animation. The exhibit opens at Evergreen Gallery on Thursday, June 1, from 5-7pm. There is also a screening as part of the exhibit, in the COM Building Recital Hall, Tuesday, June 13 at 7pm.

The program "East and West: Sanskrit and Greek Dance and Theatre" will be having their final performance on June 1 at 7pm in SEM II D4107.

Okay, so, this isn't technically art, but hey... science is an art! Science students will be putting on a "Science Carnival" where they will present their academic work in the sciences. Art people, go and support your science buds! The "Science Carnival" will take place in the Lab I lobby on Friday, June 2 from 10am to 3pm and it's free.

This next one is off-campus!

Greeners Kaia Spiliotes Fornes and Selina Bell are hosting an opening reception for their joint photography show. The show will be up one night only, so it's worth the trek downtown. They've promised food, too! The opening reception will be at Olympia Knitting Mills Artist Collective (508 Legion Way in downtown Olympia) on June 3 from 5-7pm.

The program "India: Dance and Culture" is performing "An Evening of Odissi Dance" as part of the conclusion of their program work. According to the program's description, "Odissi, one of the major classical dances of India, combines both complex rhythmic patterns and expressive mime." The performance will be in the COM Building Recitxal Hall on June 3 at 7pm.

The Evergreen Singers are holding a performance called "Two Centuries of Freedom Songs" as part of the finish of their quarter. The performance will be in the COM Building Recital Hall on Sunday June 4 at 7:30pm.

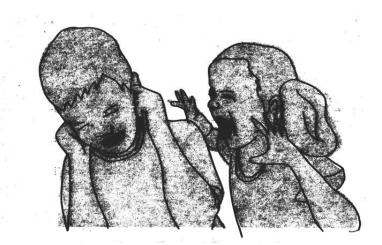
Students of the program "As Real As Rain: The Blues and American Culture" will be performing music as part of their program. Their performance takes place in the COM Building Recital Hall on June 8 at 7:30pm.

The program "The Play's the Thing: Study of Theatre and Drama" is performing multiple one-act plays during week ten of the quarter. Each performance is actually two plays, one right after the other, each lasting about thirty minutes. Performances will take place in the COM Building Experimental Theater: June 8 at 8pm, June 9 and 8pm, and June 10 at 2pm and 8pm. Tickets are free for students!

The program "Mediaworks" will be having a screening for their final projects, "From Our Minds to Yours". The screening will take place in the COM Building Recital Hall on June 14 at 6pm. Tickets are free!

Last but not least, the program Art/Work has mysteriously told us that they will be having a final show at some date and some time, somewhere in Olympia, and has instructed our readers to "stay tuned for flyers around campus." YOUNG PIONEERS

HIGH AGAIN



Young Pioneers "High Again"

By Ruby Love

During a staff meeting a couple weeks back, our lovely staff liaison/boss lady/office mom Aevee came up to me holding a mysterious cardboard box with my name scrawled on it. "Someone dropped this off for you," she said, and I opened it feeling like a dang celebrity. Inside was a note from K Records founder Calvin Johnson and an LP: (one of K Records' bands) the Young Pioneers' debut album High Again. I gave it a listen (okay, like four or five listens) and have included my thoughts below.

Washington band Young Pioneers started off over twenty five years ago, the brainchild of Evergreen grads, and served as "mentors to [Calvin Johnson's] band Beat Happening". Johnson says, "We often played shows together, and Beat Happening recorded our first record in their rehearsal space using their drums and amplifiers." Young Pioneers, though, never formally released a record of their own. The band split up in 1987. and its members went on to work on other projects. Young Pioneers' guitarist, Brad Sweek, played with Kathleen Hanna's Viva Knievel, and singer/guitarist Chris Pugh founded the band Swallow, an early grunge act which had a few releases on Sub Pop.

Three of the four original members got back together in 2015, reforming the band to write and record their first official album. That album, High Again, was recorded at K Records' Dub Narcotic Studios in Olympia and has its official release on June 9 of this year.

The album kicks off with "Twin Ice Caves", which sounds like the soundtrack Olympia punks wish was playing when they walked down 4th Ave. The songs are angsty and rough around the edges, due to the all-analog recording. The roughness purely intentional, and highly crafted; the band's technical skill is obvious, and their songwriting avoids the eye-roll-worthy melodrama of some of Olympia's younger punk acts.

Listening to these songs brought me back to my teenage years. This album sounds like the coolest version of the Pacific Northwest - the version that exists in the minds of seventeen year olds stuck in small midwestern towns (I know this, I was one). It sounds like the Olympia that Olympia wishes it still was.

If you want to catch the album live, Young Pioneers are playing an album release show on Friday June 2 at the Eagles Hall (508 4th Ave. E.) in downtown Olympia. They will be joined by Spider & the Webs and Evergreen students Lindsay Vanderpool and Penny Henzel. The all ages show goes from 8 p.m. to 11p.m. and the cover is five dollars.



A sign spotted at the library ocupation. RUBY LOVE.

The Truth about the Evergreen Protests

By Jacqueline Littleton

r. Bret Weinstein of the Evergreen State College shared this headline on twitter: "The Shrieking Mob of Students Confronted the Professor for Opposing Racism." The mob of students in question were protesting what they see as problems with the culture of The Evergreen State College at large; administrators punitively targeting people of color, recent campus police brutality against people of color—especially black students—and changes to some of the school's legal codes which would affect students' right to demonstrate. The word racism has lost all meaning if those students were proponents of racism, protesting Weinstein's opposition.

Weinstein's ability to center the narrative of student protest around himself is indicative of his power, and is another example of the historically proven tendency of white men in positions of power to victimize themselves. In recent days he has added the support of infamous atheist Sam Harris, Sean Lennon, Bill O'Reilly's protege Tucker Carlson, and Ashley Rae (@communism_kills on twitter) to his numbers.

By his own account, Weinstein is a progressive. He opposes what he calls "the regressive left," which we can assume is exemplified by the student protesters, and he has tweets upon tweets expounding this view. What is not present on his twitter feed is any written support for trans people, for people of color, for the disabled or the working class. When he appeared on Tucker Carlson's show on FOX News on May 26, he spoke only about himself and how recent events had affected him. As he has self described as the most ardent anti-racist around.

Weinstein could have taken this interview as an opportunity to debate Carlson on his decision to blame the recent Manchester attacks on the entire religion of Islam or his penchant for labeling all black activists as thugs.

Progressive cred notwithstanding, Weinstein put the Evergreen student body at risk by publicizing the protest in such a dishonest and unflattering way. The faces, names and phone numbers of student organizers were published online on subreddits dedicated to harassing leftists and people of color. A swastika was spray-painted on the side of a seminar building the day after the protest. Students living in Olympia have been routinely harassed by Weinstein's sympathizers who show up to on and off-campus housing to threaten violence and shout racial slurs at students. These are all directly the fault of Weinstein's self-martyrdom and his control of a narrative that does not belong to him.

Some clarification is necessary.

Weinstein claims the on-campus protests from May 14 to current day are all about him and his contributions to the staff and faculty email. The email he has highlighted is one where he voices opposition to the annual school event, claiming the Day of Absence/Day of Presence is one which oppressively segregated white people. The structure of DoA/DoP has been the same at Evergreen every year since the 1970s, inspired by a play of the same name by Douglas Turner Ward. This 3 day long event has consisted of optional workshops for people of color who share cultural practices with each other, resistance tactics against racism, and workshops for white people to do anti-racist work from a white perspective. Both groups come together in the following days and share what they have learned to build a stronger and more conscious multiracial learning environment for all. In previous years, the workshops for people of color were held off-campus (hence the "absence" in the title), but this

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year the administrative organizers chose to hold the workshops for white people off-campus instead. The presence day functioned the same. Weinstein stated that because the structure had reversed, and now called for the absence of white participants, it was a "show of force, and an act of oppression in itself."

I took the liberty of speaking to some white Evergreen students who were enrolled at the time of the 2017 DoA/DoP. One student reminded me that, like always, the Day of Absence was optional and required students to pre-enroll to attend. She did not feel forced or oppressed but made the autonomous decision to participate in the day's events. Another white student did not enroll because of conflicting commitments, and only participated in the Day of Presence activities. He stated that there was no sense of obligation to attend, nor did he feel forced or oppressed. Many other white students echoed these sentiments including those who did not attend simply because they did not want to. Since these events were for the students, one has to wonder where Weinstein imagined this oppression if it did not happen to any of the white students who he feels were affected.

Weinstein is within his rights as an academic and an American to voice his opinions, no matter how wrong. The fact remains that these were not private emails. He voiced these opinions in a public email forum which all faculty and staff, including student staff, could view and that should signify he was open to the possibility of dissent from the student body. As the livestream videos of the 30 minute protest shows, dissent happened, but the videos also offer proof of Weinstein's dishonesty. Of all the protests and actions which have taken place on campus over the past two weeks, only around fifty minutes were dedicated to Weinstein and those fifty minutes were not exclusively about his one email. In reality, there was an ongoing email debate between staff, faculty and Weinstein about his tendency to place himself in issues he is uneducated on. At some point, they debated the existence of racism in the sciences, which many of Weinstein's allies thought was nonexistent. The people of color and allies who read the emails saw this as documentation of Weinstein's ignorance and inability to understand the needs of students of color. Even more, they saw it as proof of The Evergreen State College's failure to do proper bias training with faculty and another piece of evidence that Evergreen does not support its diverse student body.

Among this evidence is the track record of the Evergreen residential

director who has incompetently handled multiple cases involving issues of sexual and physical assault, racism, and harassment. On May 14, that residential director pulled two black students out of their rooms at 11:30PM in response to a non-black student's complaint about aggression. They were told that they had been requested at Police Services and were kept there till 1:30AM with little information as to why they were called, while the student who made the complaint was allowed to stay at home. Around the time of the 2016 election decision, there was a student action on campus. Two disabled black trans femmes were the only people targeted for charges, despite the large and diverse amount of people present. It is the combination of these events, along with many others including Weinstein's emails, that create a culture at Evergreen that many students find unsafe.

The protests, which began on May 14, are the culmination of this, of years of documented and undocumented racist aggressions both from and within the institution of Evergreen. Weinstein centering himself is not only dishonest, but contributes directly to the culture of hostility that students protested. Attached below is the most recent list of student demands, which was the purpose of the demonstration on May 24. Almost none of which refer to Weinstein, and the call for Weinstein to be suspended has since been retracted.

If Weinstein is truly the antiracist he claims to be, we ask him to take this opportunity to learn from the student body which pays his salary. What he is doing now is antithetical to his purported goal. Weaponizing the publicity he has gained from Trump supporters, FOX News fans and self-ordained "rationalists" against protesters is only making students of color more unsafe. The horde of powerful media figures and their followers that Weinstein has directed at us distracts from the changes we are calling for from our education environment.

In light of these facts, we have come to the conclusion that Weinstein is using the student action of the past two weeks for his own gain. He intends to use the protests to make a point about what he feels is wrong with campus culture and the left. We ask that he find a way to make this point that does not put young black, brown and other marginalized people at risk.

As voices of this student body which often go unheard, we call on Bret Weinstein to take a seat and we call on The Evergreen State College to step up.

Letters & Opinion





ome of the RAs on strike. Photo Credit RAFT

Resident Assistants On Strike!

By Resident Assistants Fighting for Tommorow

On Friday, May 26 at 7 p.m. a group of Resident Assistants of The Evergreen State College went on strike as the group RAFT (Resident Assistants Fighting for Tomorrow).

On Wednesday, May 24, 2017 a group of Resident Assistants (RAs) submitted a list of demands as the group RAFT, just before noon to offices on the third floor of 'A' dorm. The demands were delivered to the Residential and Dining Professional staff (ProStaff) including Resident Directors (RDs), Associate Director (AD), and Director of RAD. The strike was initiated after the ProStaff of RAD did not meet the first deadline detailed in the list of demands. The first deadline stated that the RAFTies would need to receive "written and signed confirmation that all personnel listed in the preface to these demands have read and agree to have conversations regarding these issues."

The time was specified through an email exchange with the Director of RAD as 5pm. The director called a white member of RAFT to ask to meet oneon-one to discuss concerns. RAFTies found this contact choice notable, given that half of the RAFT negotiation team are People of Color (PoC). The contacted RAFT member refused, and after contacting others in the group, several RAFTies attended this meeting. The deadline was extended from 5:00pm to 7:00pm to accommodate complaints about full workloads from the professional staff, and changed from requiring written confirmation and signatures to

requiring email confirmation from all except the one Resident Director (RD) on vacation at the time. This negotiated deadline was not met. At 7:03 p.m. the RAFTies submitted an email stating that the strike had begun.

The list of demands was prompted by RAs experiencing and recognizing inequities, injustices and clear discrimination coming from the ProStaff and other campus administration over the years. Specifically, the list includes points on limiting RA involvement with the police, bringing Student Wellness Services to lower campus, RA working conditions, and ProStaff accountability measures. The full demands can be read on RAFT social media, listed at the bottom.

RAFTies are still engaging in their communities by participating in student-based groups like Community Watch (CW), ensuring residents have access to support services on campus, and maintaining interpersonal relationships with residents. The first round of negotiations will be taking place on Tuesday, May 30, at 1 p.m., on the 2nd floor of 'A' dorm.

To read the full list of demands, or for more information, visit RAFT on Facebook and Twitter at @evergreenRAFT

OR WHOLE

PIZZA

Letters & Opinion



ergreen police partake in a training exercise with other local police departments. SHAUNA BITTLE

Campus Police: Not 'Just Here to Help'

By Jasmine Kozak-Gilroy

Police, on or off campus, are positioned as protectors of the safety of all citizens, an illusion that comes in conflict with the reality of violence routinely committed against protesters, regardless of the tactics protesters choose to employ. Instances of police aggression against protestors in the form of pepper spray, flash bangs, and body to body violence is not just seen during so-called riots, but experienced during marches and peaceful occupations of space.

Critiques of the institution of policing are often brushed off as extremist or fantastic exaggerations, but problems with the police are based in the very logic of policing. Police are commissioned to maintain order, the current order of the world, and thus always inherently work in favor of the status quo. Police are peace keepers, but the kind of peace they keep is not peace as an end to structural violence, but a peace based in non disruption of the status quo. If you are a member of a group that the status quo does not favor, if you are among other things not white, not wealthy, not straight, or not cisgender, then the cops do not and can not work in your favor. Because police are inherently pro status quo, no matter what individual members of the police force say policing, as an institution will always work against protest and change, as protest functions as disruption of the status quo, and the actions of cops reflect that.

I began thinking about this opinion piece as a reactions to a pattern I saw in conversations surrounding the cops being present while students argued with vocal anti-abortion rights advocates who frequent our campus. Students often implied or flat out said that the police were watching out for the safety of students in particular, or at least, were there for the safety of everyone involved. In the specific case of the confrontations between anti-abortion rights protesters and students, it is important to note that the cops do not show up when the anti abortion rights advocates show up or start screaming at students, but instead arrive when students engage with anti abortion rights protesters, and a sign of imminent conflict arises.

For the police, it seems, it is not a safety concern that anti-abortion rights protesters are screaming at students, but it is that students are screaming back. This logic comes from an administration wide fear of riots and a fear of loss of control, as Chief of Police Stacy Brown herself discussed when I interviewed her back in January saying, "sometimes, that crowd mentality, you can have people that are there to be peaceful, but sometimes something happens and then there's that crowd mentality that changes. And there's also studies on that, too. And then, some bad choices are made." The administration seems to fear that when students express dissatisfaction or gather and organize together those students will become a threat.

The insinuation that student protests are something that need to be protected against is condescending and dangerous.

Recently, during student demonstration that featured students confronting Bret Weinstein, Evergreen police Officer O'Dell shoved through students who were serving as a screen between the police and other students who were talking to Weinstein, injuring protesters who did not pose anything but a theoretical threat is one of many instances in which this fear is expressed.

In the wake of recent campus protests and the demand that the police be disarmed, it is important that we recommit ourselves to a mindful examination of what the administration, and other institutional organizations like the police, stand for in the context of student rights and safety. In our interview, when discussing protest as a concept, Brown stated, "a lot of great work has been done in this country through protest. And a lot of great work has been done through peaceful protest;" but followed that statement saying, "it is peaceful until it's not, and then it's too late." These two statements cannot co-exist. If all peaceful protest is "peaceful until it is not", and if, as Brown insinuated in other parts of our interview, the only valid protest is peaceful protest, then there is no room for protest at all. If the status quo at the Evergreen State College is institutional racism, and the police are here the protect the institution that shelters that form of institutional violence, they are a white supremacist threat.



Astrology



By Sylvie Chace

The sun is shining down on this beautiful Gemini season where we are being pulled quickly in a myriad of directions. Where life may feel overwhelming and exploring every angle of a situation may be a lot of work, it is necessary for growth and change to occur within us and outside of us all. Mercury, planet of communication, will shift from stable Taurus to analytical Gemini on June 6, on the same day Venus will move from powerful Aries and into grounded Taurus. Venus is at home in Taurus, a sign of beauty and all things connected to earth. And Mercury is in the sign it knows best in Gemini, thus initiating a sort of balance in our lives. Where there is order coming out of the chaos, with so many directions for us to go in now that a school year is coming to a close, the shining sun sheds light on what it is we know we want. Our true desires have room to develop and breathe.

ARIES 3/21 - 4/19

It may seem scary to dive in deep to your desires, but you know that you feel unsatisfied with where you're currently at. There's no need to be afraid of what's really going on in your head, you've always known what you truly want and now is the time to uncover it, let your desires roam and be free in the world.

TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20

For a sign that is known to be quite stubborn, you are actually usually fairly passive. Conflict just doesn't seem worth it unless it's something you truly feel passionate about. Harness that passion. It is necessary now to stake a claim, make a statement, and let your stance be known.

GEMINI 5/21 - 6/20

This is your season Gemini, and while your sign is vast in how many angles you can approach your life, right now you may be feeling quite steady. The sun is shining down on you and it's up to you to harness that positivity and use it to better yourself, to focus in on where you're at and where you want to be.

CANCER 6/21 - 7/22

Being a water sign, you are very self-aware of your emotions and desires. You know exactly what you want and you're not afraid to explore those depths of your mind. However just because you feel self-actualized doesn't mean that delays and external struggles aren't a thing. Learn to roll with the punches, Cancer. Setbacks are a part of the journey too.

LEO 7/23 - 8/22

Whoa, slow down there Leo! While you keep planning for each day as it comes, what are you doing for the bigger picture overall? It may be time to sit with yourself and ask the bigger questions, like what do you really want for yourself right now? Take a trip into nature and take it easy. Work towards a bigger goal rather than focusing in on plans for tonight.

VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22

You've been mistreated, badly. You've felt the wrath of judgement wrap around you and now it's time to break free. You're not alone, Virgo. For someone who likes to skirt around these deeper emotions, it doesn't mean you don't feel them. Don't be scared to be vulnerable and you'll see that people believe you, people do care.

LIBRA 9/23 - 10/22

Sometimes it is easier to dream and think wishfully on our desires than to actually put pen to paper and do the work to make it reality. The key here is doing the work. You may find yourself feeling sleepy, and that's ok. But sooner or later you must wake up and decide what to put your energy into.

SCORPIO 10/23 - 11/21

Something wicked this way comes, Scorpio and it's not what you think. For a sign that's all about change, you're feeling resistant. There's something deeper in you that you may have been rejecting or keeping secret and now is the time to embrace it. It may change things, but not in the big terrifying way that you assume. It may set you on a better course.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22 - 12/21

You've taken quite a beating recently, Sagittarius, and while you're known as the optimist of the zodiac you may find yourself proceeding with extreme caution. Like a hissing cat, you're not lashing out at others out of anger, but out of self-protection. Tend to your wounds and stay safe out there. While you've experienced a lot, you're still fighting and that shows deep strength.

CAPRICORN 12/22 - 1/19

You may find yourself hesitant to proceed with the way your life is as of now. You can see the path before you and it looks limited, it looks the same as it always has. You have a choice now, Capricorn. You always have. You can choose to go along, business as usual, or you can change some aspect of your life to give it new meaning.

AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18

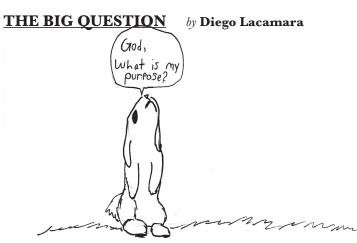
Contentment surrounds you during this time, but just like how a sweet 30 minute power nap can turn into a 3 hr snooze, we must be careful about indulging too much. While you deserve to treat yourself, don't go so far that you end up filled with regret. All things in moderation, Aquarius. You can have your bliss without getting swept away too far out of reality.

PISCES 2/19 - 3/20

You're working hard Pisces! You should be proud of the tremendous effort you're putting into all your projects, however you have a tendency to get isolated. You might believe no one understands you so it's easier to just do things alone. Your powers of intuition are necessary Pisces, and you'll find now that working on a team will take your work to another level.

THE RIGHTEOUS KNIFE by Isaac Hollandsworth





SUMMER by Rachael Lynn Howard



JRAWINGS OF JUDY JODOROWSKY by River Gates

