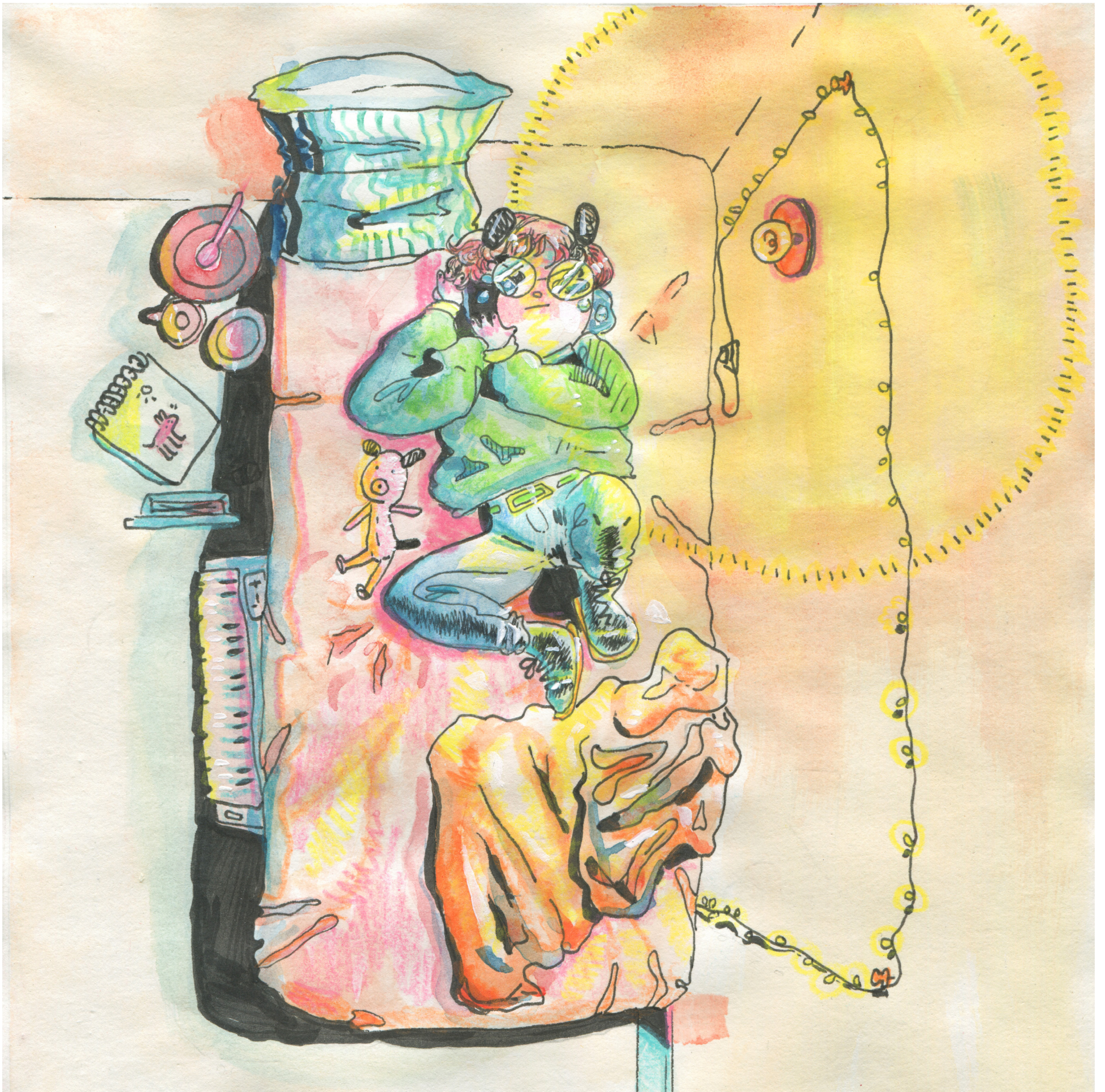


# —the cooper point journal—

The Evergreen State College Newspaper Since 1971 | April 18, 2018



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# The Cooper Point Journal

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FROM THE ARCHIVES “Ellie of Liberty” at The Evergreen State College, 1983. Photographer unknown, courtesy of The Evergreen State College Archives.

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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.cooperpointjournal.com](http://www.cooperpointjournal.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 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. every Wednesday. Come early if you'd like to chat with the editor!

### WORK 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.

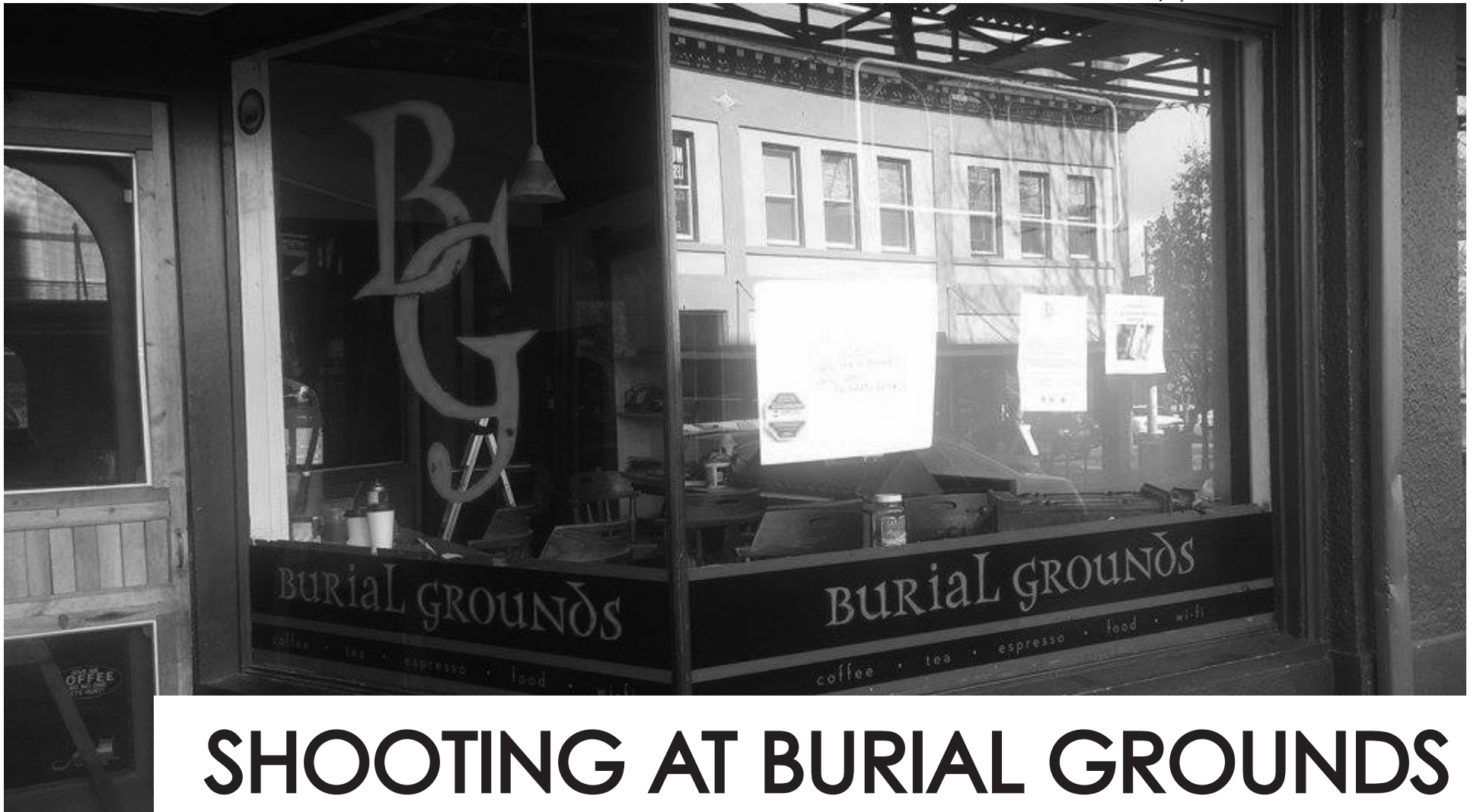
Have an exciting news topic? Know about some weird community happening? Enjoy that new hardcore band? Come talk to us and write about it.

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](mailto: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.



# SHOOTING AT BURIAL GROUNDS

## LOCAL COFFEE SHOP MET WITH TRAGEDY

By Mason Soto

Windows were boarded up at Burial Grounds coffee shop in downtown Olympia after an altercation on the evening of April 3 ended in gunshots. Police reports explain the incident as a tumultuous moment of strangers together at just the wrong time. The alleged shooter was Jon Harding, a thirty-one year old white veteran who died at the scene from an allegedly self-inflicted gunshot wound after firing shots that injured one other person. Those who were there, the veteran communities in town, as well as mental health groups and other networks Harding was connected to are reeling in the aftermath of this tragedy.

It was before ten at night on Tuesday, and a crowd of folks were socializing around the coffee shop as people do most nights. Witness accounts in reports released by Olympia Police Department differ, but some things are clear. A group of people were involved in an argument or altercation outside the coffee shop, but

neither Harding nor the victim were a part of the initial fight. Harding apparently approached the group to intervene, then the other man did the same, either to break up the original fight or to stop Harding from escalating the situation, depending on report. Testimonies show that things turned chaotic quickly as Harding and the other man attempted to break things up, and Harding fired his gun in the direction of the group of people about five or six times. The other man that had walked up, a black man who is a recent transient to Olympia, was the only person that a bullet hit, and after he suffered multiple gunshot wounds he left from the scene to seek help, riding with a friend to a local hospital. Some reports say that Harding was firing directly at this man, but it is unclear. After shooting, hitting and shattering the windows of the coffee shop storefront, most reports say that Harding turned the gun to his own head, shot once, and slumped

to the ground. Another couple reports conflict, saying that Harding was shot by another shooter from somewhere further away, but these accounts offered no description of a shooter, just where the sound of the gun seemed to come from. Information from the Thurston County Coroner's Office stated that the fatal shot was self-inflicted. Friends of his say that Harding was an avid gun-carrier and let it be known. He was part of a group dedicated to suicide prevention for veterans called Twenty22Many, getting its name from the statistic found in a 2012 Data Report by the Department of Veterans Affairs stating that twenty-two veterans commit suicide each day in the United States.

Numbers like this are on the mind of local veterans now more than ever. As an Evergreen student and veteran who asked to remain anonymous said in an interview with The Cooper Point Journal, "I'm intrinsically connected to homelessness and mental health

issues if only from the stats I face." This student shared how the veteran community can be isolating, and that they find resources hard to realize through all the procedure. "I feel like most of the services here that claim to be for veterans are really just collecting checks and shuffling people who need care from one bureaucracy to another. I don't see any accountability or real effort to care for veterans as individuals."

Accountability and intersections of identity are parts of many of the conversations around this shooting and how the story is being told. Olympia City Council Member Reneta Rollins made many posts on her Facebook about the event, where she first described how she knew Jon Harding and mourned his loss. Her next post responded to comments that she had ignored the other victim and the issue of race in her earlier discussion of the shooting. She emphasized the importance of giving space to such a discussion especially as a person in a posi-

tion of power, and she wrote, "I believe the unnamed Black man who was shot has humanity and trauma worth centering.... To the Black man who was injured, I apologize to you for minimizing what you went through and I am glad you are physically ok." Another post said the victim was "on a long road to recovery."

In a post on the Burial Grounds Facebook page announcing the shop's temporary closing after the shooting, these issues and others came up. People discussed how downtown has "changed" in terms of communities on the street, guns, and crime. Burial Grounds offered replies, calling for people to get involved with resources from the city government. One comment by the page read, "Gun ownership is assuredly apart of this conversation, however, we do not want to dismiss the problems surrounding a lack of dependable resources for not only the street community, but also for patrons and other businesses who are downtown."

George Bridges speaking at the TESC Latinx Summit. SHAUNA BITTLE.



# INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE

## PRESIDENT DISCUSSES DOA/DOP, EXTERNAL REVIEW OF EVENTS LAST SPRING

By Georgie Hicks

On the morning of April 10, George Bridges sat down with the Cooper Point Journal to talk about Day of Absence / Day of Presence (DOA/DOP), the changes in campus communications, where he hopes to see the school going and the release of an external review that came out on April 1 of this month.

The interview opened with a question regarding Bridges involvement in the planning of the new equity events occurring this Spring and again in Fall. “I’m not playing an active role”, he said, explaining that though they had worked closely together, Vice President and Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion Chassity Holliman-Douglas had been recruited for the exact purpose of planning these events, and she has been working with a group of students, faculty and staff for the planning. Bridges is optimistic about Holliman-Douglas’ position, saying, “I’m very supportive of her and her work... I’m excited about the possibility of more events that include more people on these

issues.”

When asked about whether no longer having DOA/DOP is a decision that is go-

ing to benefit the school and the student body more than having it, Bridges specified that he did not see the events

incurred enormous costs on the people here, on the college’s serious academic reputation and financially, hundreds of thousands of dollars, changing the venue and commencement, those kinds of things and law enforcement, given the Patriot Prayer [rally on campus]...,” continuing to say, “My concern is if we were to have another Day of Absence / Day of Presence event this year, the people who incurred those costs are still looking at us, focusing on us and want to use us for their own purposes. I just think the risk of having those cost incurred again hurt the statement.”

combination of those factors that said, [we] don’t wanna incur costs and harm having an event named Day of Absence. The work must continue, and let’s move to a different model.”

About whether there would be a public statement in an attempt to combat national and other perspective that may take the ending of DOA/DOP as the school admitting fault in the program, Bridges said:

“It is not the fault of DOA/DOP, it is the fault of extremist groups using us, and I put the burden on them.”

On October 5 2017, the formation of The Independent External Review Panel, was announced by Bridges.

The resulting document states, “President Bridges provided the Panel with a charge to conduct a review of the College’s response to campus events involving student protests and unrest in the Spring of 2017. Our objective was to gather information about the campus events and incidents, collect data, review actions taken, and prepare and submit

.....  
“It is not the fault of DOA/DOP, it is the fault of extremist groups using us, and I put the burden on them.”  
.....

Holliman-Douglas was planning “as a replacement for Day of Absence/ Day presence”. He said that no longer having DOA/DOP this year, “was a very hard decision to make. I participated in [DOA/DOP] last year. I learned from it, I learned about all manner of issues pertaining to race and bias and I enjoyed it. Continuing on to say, “[DOA/DOP] will always have an important part in Evergreen’s ongoing history of dealing with race issues and

with power and privilege, but right now, the risk is, in my opinion, too high.”

The risk in Bridges opinion was twofold, the first of which being, “concern about the likely cost to people, to the reputation of the college and to the financing of the college.” He said that last year’s event was, “taken hostage and held hostage by external groups misrepresenting it and then using, exploiting it, to advance their own causes and in the process

a report on our findings and recommendations...”

The external review titled Report of The Independent External Review Panel on The Evergreen State College Response to the Spring 2017 Campus Events was presented on April 1 to Hon. Keith Kessler, Chair of the Board of Trustees and President George Bridges.

A link to a PDF of the document can be found on the Evergreen Website under Reports and Statements.

Under the section “Deeper Communications” the review states, “Despite some administrative efforts in this direction, a general desire was broadly manifested on campus for more clear communication and opportunities for the campus as a whole to engage in deliberate and meaningful ways with the circumstances of these events, clarify the lessons learned, establish trust, and craft a clear path forward from them.”

It continues, saying, “We learned that traditional communication patterns were disrupted after the incidents due to apprehension about ‘outside’ interaction from unknown sources that were personally and institutionally threatening. The resulting lack of visible communication activities

during the Summer of 2017 contributed to the anxiety on campus with the opening of the Fall quarter at the College. Campus constituents indicate that these communication gaps on the issues have persisted into the current academic year, though we note some new efforts have been introduced by campus leadership.”

In response to anxieties around lack of visible communications over the summer he said, “Part of the problem with the summer, why we didn’t communicate as well was because we were communicating with the legislature that was hugely demanding and I didn’t anticipate that to be so demanding so we could have done better and we’re trying to do the best we can now.”

On the subject of new efforts, President Bridges responded to a question asking him to expand on what those efforts are and the ways the gaps are being closed.

He named three strategies that as he said, “weren’t being used last year.”

“We have a biweekly newsletter that comes out, called Evergreen Forward that just talks about the activities going on on campus, and issues we are facing,” he said of the first effort. This publication which is only sent to staff and faculty

included “a special issue that went out early on, that talked about the work we’d done in response to Spring events.”

Another is, “a series of gatherings called the Community Forward... lead by the Deans, that have involved conversations and discussions.”

Thirdly, “every month there’s a gathering of managers, supervisors and academic deans, about 70 to 80 people show up, just for transmitting information about the budget, enrollment, how we’re adapting to the unrest last spring. All of those are ongoing and they didn’t exist last year. And there’s more on the way.”

He said, “I think what’s most important is that there be more face to face contact. So this quarter every Wednesday at noon I’m going to be sitting in the Marketplace and anyone can approach me with a question.”

As per an email send out by Wendy Endress, VP of Student Affairs on April 9, there will also be a Q&A session with Endress and other members of the Student Affairs Senior Team, every week from April 10 through June 6 in the Marketplace on the 2nd floor of the CAB, Tuesdays 8-9 am and Wednesdays 3-4 pm.

About having these upcoming conversations George said,

“We must and I’m excited about it. Is it enough well, we’ll see, but we have to do more.”

On page sixteen of the review it talks about developing a strong and “integrated internal Evergreen campus

communications, that restores a sense of trust and transparency”, then near the bottom it goes on to talk about concerns “by senior admin that internal campus communications may be shared with or visible

.....

“[Last year’s event was] taken hostage and held hostage by external groups misrepresenting it and then using, exploiting it, to advance their own causes and in the process incurred enormous costs on the people here.”

.....

to hostile external audiences.” When asked about any specific plans in place to deal with external threats, Bridges responded,

“I think the concern we have, and it’s something that’s been really challenging this past year, is whenever I send out an email, to all campus or

even just to the staff and faculty it ends up going to extremist groups... and there’s really no way we can stop that without crushing someone’s first amendment rights and so as much as I dislike it, the challenge is we just have to be aware.”

“We’re trying to be more

Photos from Day of Absence/Day of Presence, 2017. SHAUNA BITTLE.



aware in our communications, where it might go and how we will respond. I wouldn't say there's a strategic plan for dealing with that piece of it but we have an overarching umbrella of ways in which we are communicating internally and have pretty much decided that our internal communications are much more important than the critics out there"

Lastly, when asked what he would personally like to see happen to get the campus to a point where moving forward is possible, he said, "I think one of the things we must do is have continuing dialog. It needs to be face to face and it needs to be campus leaders, not just me... leaders, students, faculty, [engaging in] more collaboration, and work together on the college. When I came two, two and half years ago, I came with a view that students should be involved in almost every aspect of the college and administration and it's been a hard transition for Evergreen. Given the nature of classwork, program work, students are really focused on their programs and study, and I think that by working together on issues—and this sounds like President speak, I really mean it, we work together on problems because I believe our students have great ideas and they care deeply about the institution. So how do we bring them into the dialog? How do we bring them into the conversations about the future of the college? I think that's the way in which I would hope we can move, acting like a real community. And on some issues that's easy and on some issues that's harder but I believe that students need to have a voice and we, administrators and faculty, need to listen more carefully and bring students into the dialog, rather than keeping them away. So if there's anything, that's what I suggest we do, and I'm hoping that we can find ways to do that. I want us to find ways to do that."

*The external review can be found at: <https://www.evergreen.edu/trustees/reports-and-statements>.*

Students wander across Red Square. SHAUNA BITTLE.



## BUDGET CUTS AT EVERGREEN

By Sebastian Lopez

On March 2, Evergreen Academic deans sent out an email to all students with information of the budgetary cuts happening next year. In their email, they inform students that due to a continuing fall in enrollment for next year, which adheres to the trend of falling enrollment over the past decade, 10% of day time and 3% of evening/weekend classes will be cut as well as 24 faculty full-time equivalent (FTE) positions.

The administrative decision to cut programs and faculty has riled many students and faculty. After being informed that their area of learning would be dramatically reduced with the cancellation of evening and weekend classes and the loss of half of their faculty, one student who chose to remain anonymous has begun a petition signing and education campaign that seeks to let students know what is coming. They implore students to consider their own voice in these top-down decisions. Though the student's focus is on the photography area of learning, which is seeing cuts to two out

of three of their faculty members, they want students from all departments to stand up for their voices to be heard.

The anonymous student tells the Cooper Point Journal, "My vision [is] for a more democratic process. It's for the administration and students and faculty to have the opportunities to be in open [transparent] dialogue..."

This student feels that the decision to cut faculty and programs is short-sighted and will only hurt the college, and says, "... if anything we should be adding more classes in order to get more student but we don't have the funding so it's sort of this downward spiral and by eliminating the programs we have we're sort of shooting ourselves in the foot."

Already enrolled in a daytime 16-credit program, the student said, "taking an evening [4 credit] course is really important to me because those are two aspects of my degree, but if they cut those evening and weekend classes I'm forced to choose [between the two areas of learning]. I think that's really harmful for a lot of

students... Right now, the decisions have been made based on [numbers] but not weighing what these decisions mean for current students, what that means for faculty who teach those classes, or what it means to future students who are looking at those courses."

The decisions the administration is currently enacting, according to this student, are decisions that could hurt enrollment and retention by focusing on the budget rather than the needs of students, both current and prospective.

The community is looking for other ways to tackle the issues, and the student we spoke with shared, "One thing that has been mentioned quite a lot is better community outreach in the Olympia area specifically. We don't go to high schools like Capitol in Olympia or Tumwater High School or North Thurston... I was an SPSCC [South Puget Sound Community College] student before and SPSCC really prides itself on having this relationship with Evergreen. I think we could build a better reciprocal relationship

with SPSCC where we do visits over there or go advertise these amazing programs and opportunities available at Evergreen." Other proposed solutions to the current budgetary crisis brought on by falling enrollment are an increase to tuition and stronger legislative pressure to increase budgeting.

"[Last spring], students wanted to be heard and so they went to extremes... but it wasn't well received by administration and [students] are still really mad about that," the anonymous student shared. Continuing, they said, "Administration needs to recognize that students are upset with not feeling like they have a say. Nobody had any idea of these issues [and decisions] and nobody has asked, what can we do as a school? What can we as students, what can we as faculty, what can we as an administration do to improve the situation and make sure opportunities are still available and make sure students want to come to Evergreen? Because it is a great place with great opportunities that are available."

Some folks gather to dress as their favorite star duellers! PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN, COURTESY OF WIKICOMMONS

## UP & COMING

**WEDS. APR 18**

### Gallery Boom

11 a.m., All Ages.  
Pets Themed Arts Show

**THURS. APR 19**

### Capitol Theatre

7 p.m., All Ages.  
Oh Lucy!

**FRI. APRIL 20**

### Last Word Books

6 p.m., All Ages.  
Rebellious Mourning, The Collective  
Work of Grief

**SAT. APR 21**

### GRuB

10 a.m., All Ages  
Planting a Hedgerow with Pat

**SUN. APR 22**

### South Sound YMCA

10 a.m., All Ages  
Earth Day Clean-Up

**MON. APR 23**

### First Peoples Multicultural Advising Services

10 a.m., All Ages  
Trans Support Group

**TUES. APR 24**

### Le Voyeur

7 p.m., All Ages.  
Speck / Bacteria / (Women of the)  
Divine Orgasm

**THURS. APR 26**

### Le Voyeur

6 p.m., All Ages.  
Lawn Chairs [CA] // The Co Founder  
// Itemfinder // Jay Levy

**SAT. APR 28**

### Track House

7 p.m., All Ages.  
Open No Mic

**SUN. APR 29**

### Ghost House

7 p.m., All Ages.  
Anna McClellan / Staffers + Cedar  
Sap / the Washboard Abs (solo)



## STUFF 2 DO

By Morrissey Morrissey

### THURSDAY 4/19 INTRODUCTION TO BABY WEARING

North Star Boutique. 6:30 p.m.  
Free. All Ages.

Man, babies are so weird. I always forget that they exist but do you ever think about the, like, logistics of a baby? They can't walk and you have to take them everywhere, all the time. Sometimes I'll forget my bag on the bus or something and totally freak out, can you imagine if I had a baby? That would be a wreck. Luckily, North Star Boutique gets that and is continuing free and accessible baby classes for people who want to be better at doing things for the baby (like not leaving it on the bus). You can come by on Thursday, April 19th to catch a class on three different methods of wearing a baby. The class is open to the public and welcomes everyone with a V.I.B (Very Important Baby) in their life whom they wish to wear.

### SATURDAY 4/28 THE PROCESSION OF THE SPECIES

Downtown Olympia. 10 a.m.

It's that time of year again, pals! The rain is getting marginally warmer, the days are getting ever-longer, and hundreds of people and children are marching through the streets dressed in garb to resemble their favorite fauna! Isn't spring beautiful? Every year, groups of locals don costumes they've been working on all year and hold a little parade through downtown for no reason other than good-old-fun. On this upcoming Saturday, April 28th, it'll be happening again and boy, am I excited! Catch me at 10 a.m. in a mini-lawn-chair, umbrella in my hand and glass of public-appropriate non-alcoholic Four Loko in my CPJ beer-koozy™ taking in the beautiful spectacle.

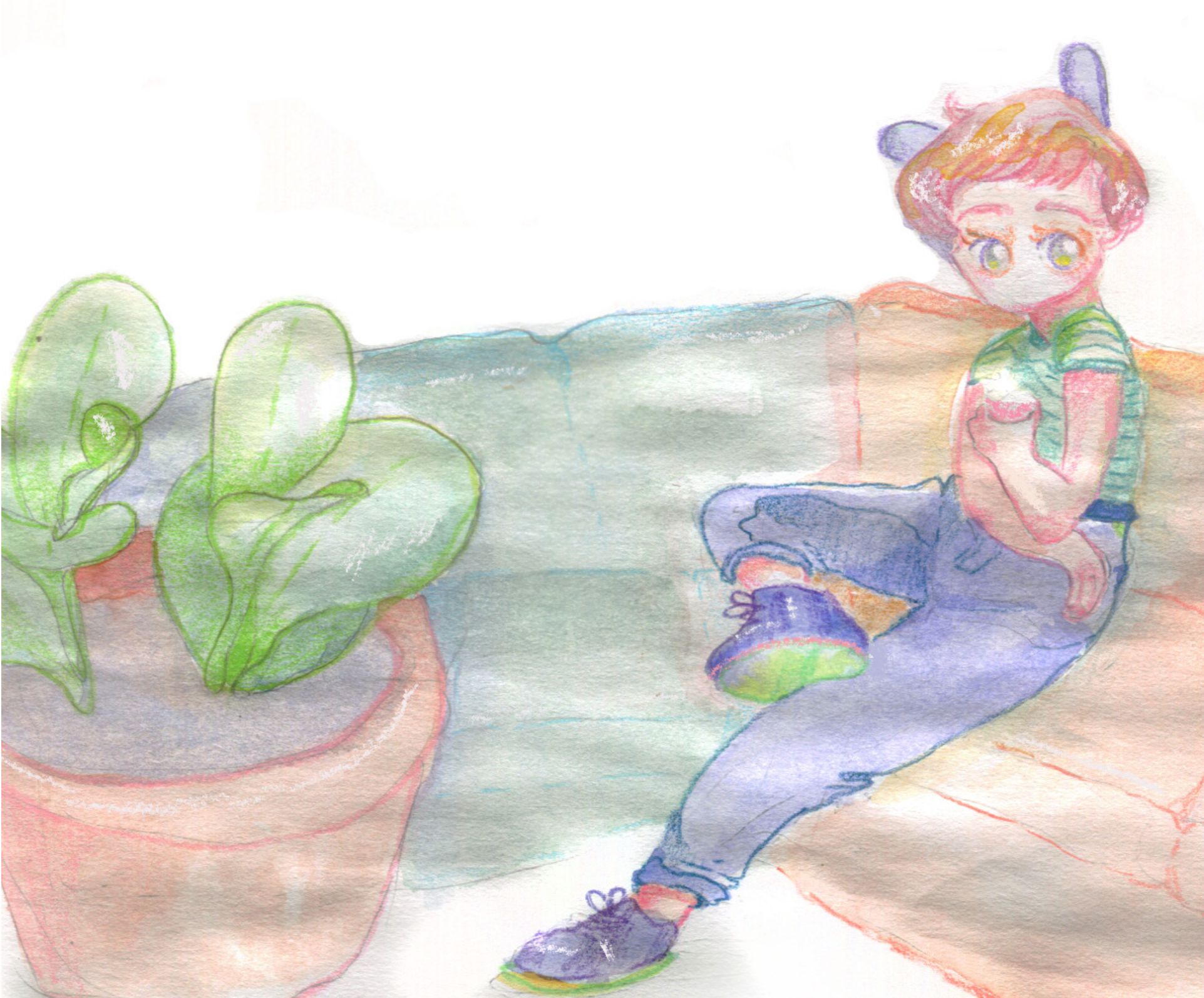
### SATURDAY 4/21 YU-GI-OH TOURNAMENT!

Greener Organization. 5 p.m.

Do you know why Yu-Gi-Oh is called that? It's a weird romanization of "Yugi-Ou" which, when translated from Japanese, means "King of Games". But.. why would they call the game the King of Games? And the little guy in the show who plays the game is called Yugi, derived from Yu-Gi-Oh, I guess? Why isn't he called Yugi-Ou? I guess I don't know if he's particularly good at the game, but I assume he is because he's the main character. What is Yu-Gi-Oh about? Did the show come before the card game? As I understand it, it was originally a manga which featured many games (like "Duel Monsters" which later became "Duel Kingdom") but eventually it focused in on just the one card game and ultimately became the monster of a franchise that it is today. Is it like Pokemon? Why aren't there cuter Yu-Gi-Oh monsters? Is Digimon a card game? If I go to this event, do you think people would answer my questions? I guess I'll find out on Saturday, April 21st (after mastering Yu-Gi-Oh this week) when I compete and inevitably win the laundry card that is being offered as a prize. I have my own washing machine, though, so if you need a laundry card after the 21st, hit me up.

MORRISSEY  
MORRISSEY

*Artist interview by Jasmine Kozak- Gilroy*





**How did you end up doing the cover art? Why are you excited about this?** We both know it's because we couldn't find anyone else, but.... there was that one time last year when I wasn't even going to Evergreen when I tried to be the cover artist [laughs] and it didn't happen, so, I guess it is [working out] now.

**What do you do for the paper?** Formally I do the comix editing and the web managing, making me the Comix Editor and the Web Manager. I think I do less of those things than expected and more of other things than expected, you know? I draw pictures sometimes.

**What else do you do?** I feel like I am in my eval right now. Like, what do you do here?

**You write Stuff 2 Do!** Oh yeah, I do write Stuff 2 Do.

**And it is really fucking funny.** I do comedy writing. I'm a comedy writer for Cracked.com— no not really, but I've been telling people that.

**How did you get tricked into working for the CPJ?** Cause I liked hanging out. And I thought it would look good on a resume. And, I don't know, you said you needed help, right? I think that's how it happened is because I know you and I wanted to help out... I don't know if I'm necessarily a lot of help, but I am a lot of fun.

**I am interested, as a reporter and a friend— I was going to make some bad joke about being your boss, which I think is very funny but also terrifies me.** People always think that you're my boss and like never once have I ever thought that, not because your my friend but because I'm disrespectful... You're the Editor-in-Chief, I am the Comix editor, you're the best one at Editing-in-Chief and I am the best one at Comix, so as much as we couldn't make it without you, I think if I stopped right now... something would happen. I don't feel like you're my boss, no offence.

**That's fine, I don't want to feel like your boss— I'm not trying to lean in.** In a moment of vulnerability, I'm going to tell you this- I don't know what that means. Can you explain it to me?

**There was this book that was written by this lady about being a boss and having it all, it all being having a career and having a family. It is called lean in and her version of feminism is like, leaning into and succeeding in capitalism and having the most intense version of a conventional life.** Yeah I have been interpreting it as like "fuck it up". I feel like going hard and fucking it up is morally good but lean in is kind of like... dark. I think it means what I thought it meant, but its like its dark twin. Dark fuck-it-up, take the fun out of going hard and fucking it up.

**That sounds right to me.** And it's like, how dare you... take the fun out of going hard and fucking it up.



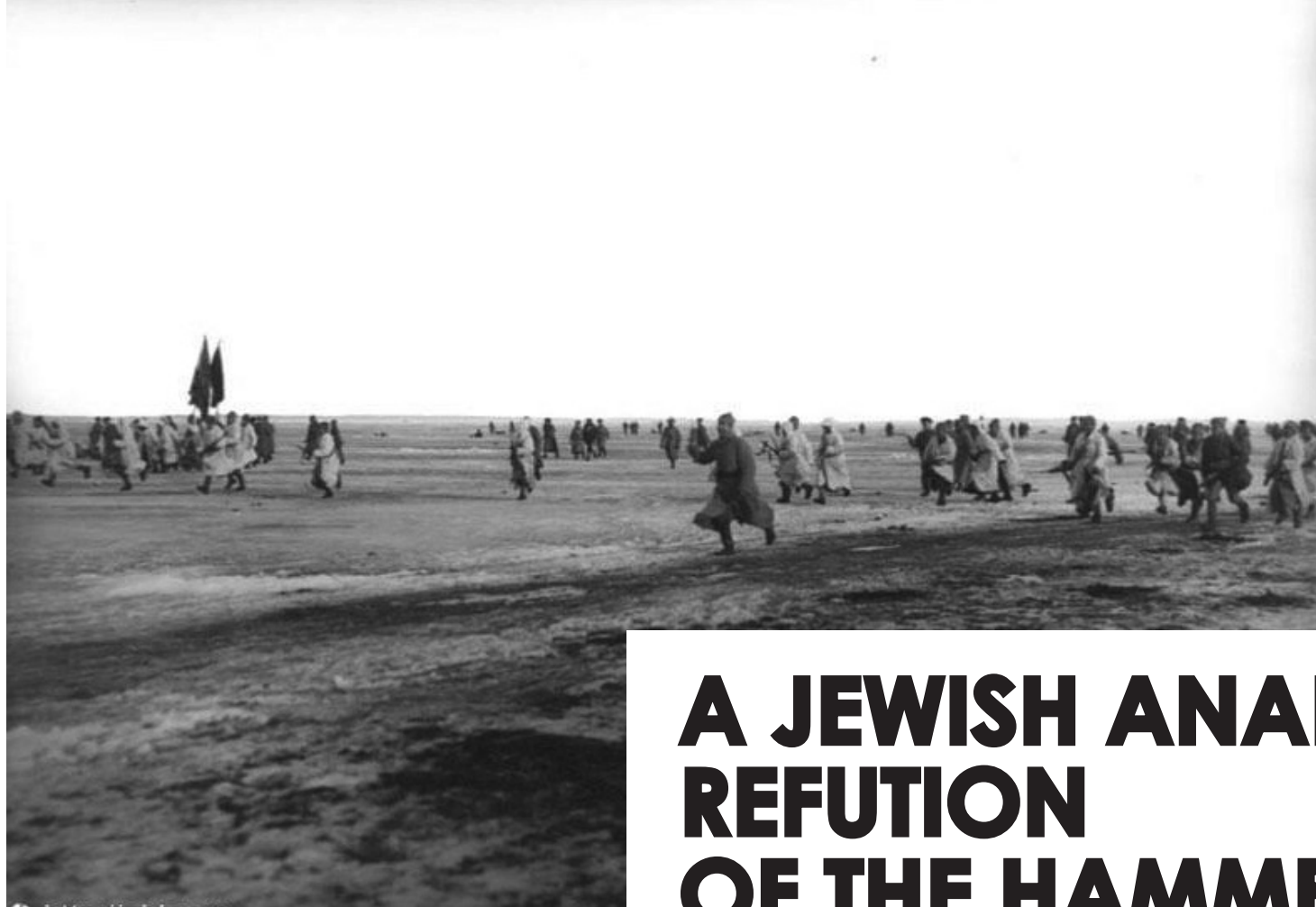
**Literally, how dare you be so hetero about it.** Yeah, I guess that's just what straight people do, even your passion has to be boring.

**Segue: is art your passion?** I hope not. If this is how I treat my passion, that's sad. I was thinking about this in the shower today. I refer to myself as a professional artist a lot, like jokingly because I do technically get paid to make art, but I think the joke is, I don't put nearly as much, like, care into my work as others might? It's just like fun and nice. I just really like drawing and I don't know if I am passionate about it but it is something that's been a constant in my life. Like earlier I was saying, I don't think I would say that I am an artist but I do think it is a central part of me that I draw. Me and my friend were having this conversation the other day,

and in way or another creation is something that I hold really close to myself, really close to my heart. And just this idea that I'm doing something and creating something whether or not its for someone else, and I don't do it for other people— and I know that sounds silly and really corny, but I just do it because I really like to create things, and not necessarily make art but make something...

**You say that you don't put a lot of care into it but we were talking earlier about not connecting with people who say their art isn't about anything even though when we talk about it you say you just make art for fun. Personally, having some relationship to the way that you create stuff, you do seem to put a kind of care into it— enjoying it is a kind of care.**

*Interview continued on page 13.*



## A JEWISH ANARCHIST REFUTION OF THE HAMMER AND SICKLE

By Some Jews

During the Russian Revolution, the crossed hammer and sickle became a Communist symbol, representing the union of the industrial proletariat and the agricultural peasant. Despite this relatively innocent origin, the symbol has come to represent the totalitarian Communist state... and, we argue, anti-Semitism. Stalin's Terror, the gulags, the executions of those who fought alongside the Bolsheviks in the revolution but did not share their exact political vision, the USSR's active cooperation with Nazi Germany—the USSR was, arguably, not ethically superior than any given fascist state. Nevertheless, one hundred years later, the Communist flag continues to fly at Leftist and anti-fascist demonstrations across the world as if this history did not matter. This is troubling to those of us for whom the Bolshevik betrayal remains fresh. Individual Communists have long fought against fascism, many of them in good faith... but, writ large, anarchists and Jews have never had reason to trust the Communists at their backs.

The Bolshevik Party persecuted many different ethnic, cultural, and po-

litical groups; here, we will mainly discuss its warfare against Soviet Jews. Although Lenin publicly denounced the frequent pogroms in pre-revolutionary Russia, they continued throughout the revolutionary and war years. Yet even within the ranks of the Bolshevik army, anti-Jewish violence was rampant as the "hatred of the Hebrew was of course common ... it was not eradicated even among the Red soldiers. They, too, have assaulted, robbed, and outraged Jews." Many people of that time noted that there were "two kinds of pogroms: the loud, violent ones, and the silent ones." The latter is what the Bolsheviks excelled at. The Bolsheviks made a tactical, not ethical, choice to move away from the open anti-Semitism of the Tsarist era and instead waged a covert war to uproot and destroy Jewishness in the Soviet Union. The anti-Semitism propagated by the Bolsheviks was not dissimilar to the anti-Semitism that many Jews still encounter on the Left. Today, it is often masked and veiled by the words "bankers," "the media," "neocons," "Westerners"... and even "Bolsheviks." This is due to the remaining influence of The Protocols of

the Elders of Zion, the false document used by Tsarist loyalists to blame Russian Jews for fomenting political disruption, and, later, the Revolution. The layered history of anti-Semitism turns back upon itself.

During the year in which Lenin publicly denounced the traditional Russian pogroms, 1919, he also wrote a directive of the Communist Party known as "The Policies on the Ukraine," stating in part that "Jews and city dwellers on the Ukraine must be taken by hedgehog-skin gauntlets, sent to fight on front lines and should never be allowed on any administrative positions (except a negligible percentage, in exceptional cases, and under [our] class control)." Stalin, too, shared this anti-Semitic stance as early as 1907, when Stalin differentiated between the "Jewish faction" and the "true Russian faction" within Bolshevism. Even in this alleged Communist utopia, Jews were to be forever outliers, never fully to be allowed into Russian society. These Communists shared a goal with the monarchists they opposed—the death of Jewish culture. Even when they did not intend physical death for Jews,

we should always read assimilation as a violent hegemonic social force bent on the destruction of a culture. This is not a new analysis. From a Soviet Jewish response to the 1952 murder of thirteen Jews in the USSR: "We who have signed this appeal firmly declare that we will never take the painful and shameful path of national self-destruction: we declare that forcible assimilation is genocide pure and simple."

On a 1920-22 visit to a shtetl in post-revolutionary Russia, Jewish anarchist Alexander Berkman spoke with a peasant Jew who expressed this sentiment; "They [Bolsheviks] also hate the Jew. We are always the victims. Under the Communists we have no violent mob pogroms... But we have the 'quiet pogroms,' the systematic destruction of all that is dearest to us — of our traditions, customs, and culture. They are killing us as a nation. I don't know but [which] is the worst pogrom. Just as today, the Soviet government preferred to use codewords to signal its anti-Semitism: "petty bourgeois," "banker," or "Zionist." Terms such as "internationalism" (despite the internationalist roots of Communism!) and "Zionism"

were seen as signals of Jewish loyalty to other countries, and marked Jews as “untrustworthy.” Jews who maintained a feeling of solidarity with other Jews living abroad were seen as enemies of the state, as a fifth column. “On September 21, 1948, Ehrenberg writing in Pravda [official newspaper of the Communist Party] delivered the opening blows of the new [anti-Jewish] campaign. He warned Soviet Jews that their identifying with Jews in other countries would prove their disloyalty to the Soviet Union.”

Anarchists of the time, who were often but not always Jewish, were also accused of anti-Soviet activities; many were imprisoned, exiled, or executed. Trotsky’s campaign against anarchists used words such as “bandit” or “dissident elements” to demonize them. These accusations resulted in scores of executions and the imprisonment of thousands; others were exiled to camps in Siberia, and few of these were ever heard from again.

European Jewry was quite diverse, and, within the Soviet borders, Jews took part in many aspects of Soviet life, from engaging in various political movements to continuing to practice traditional Jewish community life. At the time of the revolution, Jews had been stateless and in exile for nearly 2,000 years, and made homes wherever necessary. Anne Frank wrote in her diary a then-common view of Jewishness: “We can never become just

thors, and intellectuals, made a similar statement: “There are not two Jewish peoples. The Jewish nation is one. Just as a heart cannot be cut up and divided, similarly one cannot split up the Jewish people into Polish Jews and Russian Jews. Everywhere we are and shall remain one entity.”

However, Jewishness is not monolithic. Jews have been spread across the earth, and adapted accordingly. Jews have different histories, stories, languages, skin colors, and experiences, but often share a similar experience of anti-Semitism. When Feffer speaks of a “nation,” he is not calling for nationalism, but referring to a common ethnic and cultural tradition.

Having already dismantled the Jewish Bund, a group that fought alongside the Bolsheviks during the revolution, Lenin continued the destruction of Jewish cultural life. The Bolsheviks were opposed to any form of religion, seeing the dismantling of all religious structures as necessary for utopian hegemony. Synagogues were shut down and rabbis were put out of work; any priest, rabbi, or other religious leader who kept preaching, teaching, or practicing were sent to the gulag, where many people died. Whatever one’s view of religion, this is deeply terrible. For Jews, this forced secularist hegemony and repression was particularly painful. Jewish life, both, secular and religious, is deeply tied to its religious stories and traditions; even the Yiddish language,



Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman. U.S. NATIONAL ARCHIVE.

Amidst this repression, the All-Russian Zionist Congress was broken up by the Bolsheviks in April 1920; its leadership and ranks included many self-hating Jews. The Yevsektii was the mainly Jewish section of the Bolshevik party that dealt with issues of dismantling Jewishness. After betraying their fellow Jews by co-operating with the state’s plans for Jewish cultural extinction, this section was disbanded in 1929. Many of its leading members were sent to the gulag, or exiled, or murdered in the Great Purge (1936-1938) because of their Jewishness. Collaboration with the state saves no one in the end.

Nearly as soon as the Bolsheviks took power, they began to execute anarchists and Socialist Revolutionaries, most of whom had fought alongside the Bolsheviks in the Revolution. They also purged elements of their own party deemed “anti-Soviet” or “counter-revolutionary.” This state repression was well documented by the Soviet government, but here we have chosen to use journals and letters of those affected. Lithuanian-American Jewish anarchists Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman describe the Bolshevik betrayal: “The systematic man-hunt of anarchists... with the result that every prison and jail in Soviet Russia filed [sic] with our comrades, fully coincided in time and spirit with Lenin’s speech at the Tenth Congress of the Russian Communist Party. On that occasion Lenin announced that the most merciless war must be declared against what he termed “the petty bourgeois anarchist elements” which, according to him, are developing even within the Communist Party ... On the very day that Lenin made the above statement, numbers of anarchists were arrested all over the country, without the least cause or explanation. The conditions of

their imprisonment are exceptionally vile and brutal.”

Another letter in the same collection gives us a first-hand account: “In 1919 I was arrested at home, in the daytime by order of the Moscow Tcheka. Kept in a cellar of the Moscow Tcheka (called “the ship”) where 70 prisoners were sleeping on boards or on the floor; among them were menshevists, left socialist-revolutionists, bandits [anarchists], peasants, officers, and the former Minister of War, Polivanoff. Each night men were taken out to be shot--mostly bandits... A youth of about 17, whose name I have forgotten, was thus carried away to his doom in my presence.”

Finally, from a 1924 letter published in the same collection, collectively written against the murder of prisoners who were protesting prison conditions: “The troops of the “G.P.U.” and the keepers shot at socialist and anarchist prisoners who were peacefully promenading. The shooting was done in volleys, wholesale, shots being fired at those who fell to the ground as well as at those who were carrying out the wounded. We know that the conduct of the “G.P.U.” towards the socialists and anarchists imprisoned on the Solovetz Island is an inevitable result of the entire policy of terror applied by the Soviet Government to socialists and anarchists. And we therefore have no doubts that new sacrifices are in store for us.

During the Revolution, the Bolsheviks tactically used the language of solidarity and political diversity to attract these allies they later murdered. Even in the Revolution, however, anarchists were being indirectly murdered by Bolsheviks, who often used anarchists for the hardest and most dangerous work; later, these once-allies were often criminalized as “bandits.” From an anony-

.....

“Even in this alleged Communist utopia, Jews were to be forever outliers, never fully to be allowed into Russian society. These Communists shared a goal with the monarchists they opposed—the death of Jewish culture.”

.....

Netherlanders, or just English, or just representatives of any other country for that matter, we will always remain Jews...” Around the same time Frank wrote this, the famous Yiddish Bolshevik poet, Isaac Feffer, who was eventually tortured and murdered in 1952 by Stalin in a roundup of Jewish poets, au-

which was mostly spoken by European Jews, is deeply influenced by Judaism. (After the Revolution, Yiddish was momentarily recognized as a language, but was “cleansed” by the Bolsheviks of any reference to Judaism or to ancient Hebrew-Aramaic. Hebrew, meanwhile, was banned.)

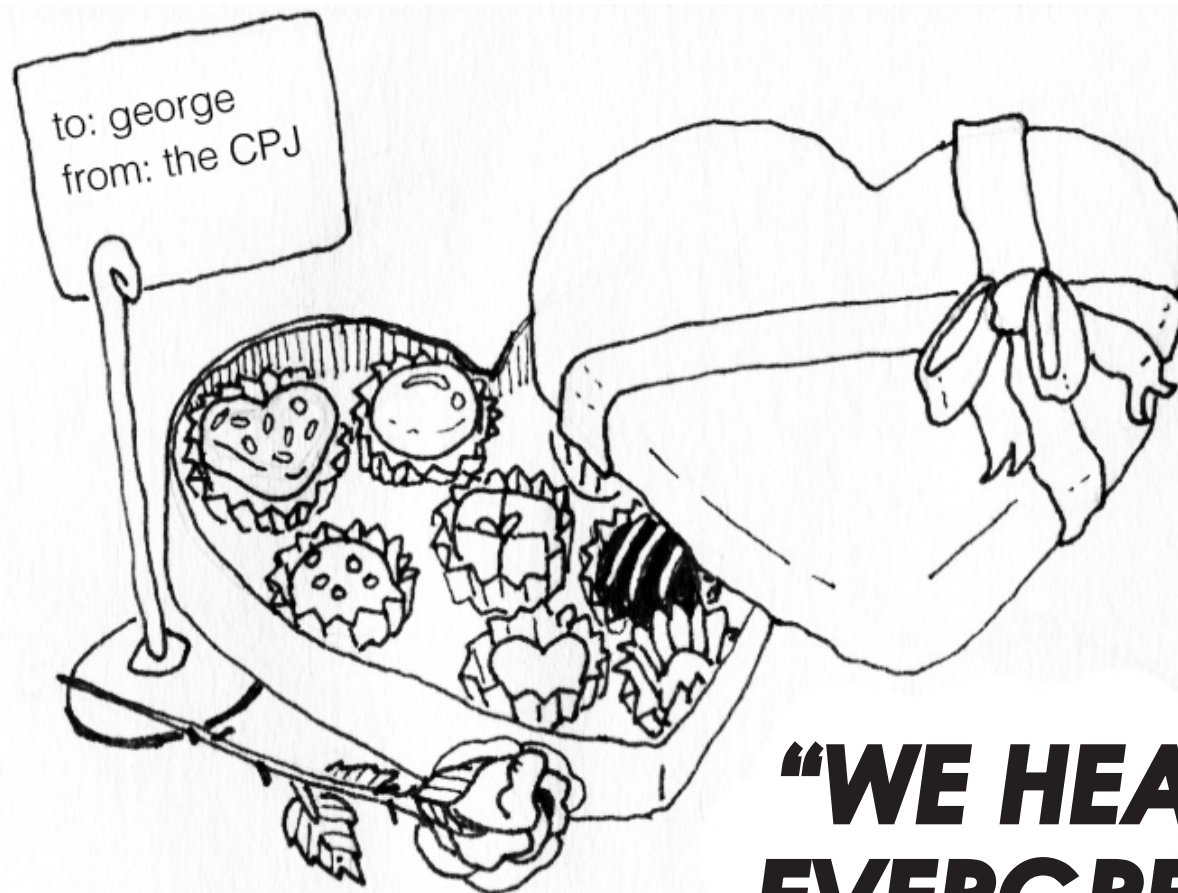
mous Jewish anarchist; “As long as they were revolutionary we cooperated with them... The fact is, we Anarchists did some of the most responsible and dangerous work all through the Revolution. In Kronstadt, on the Black Sea, in the Ural and Siberia, everywhere we gave a good account of ourselves. But as soon as the Communists gained power, they began eliminating all the other revolutionary elements, and now we are entirely outlawed. Yes, the Bolsheviki, those arch-revolutionists, have outlawed us.”

The disillusionment of anarchists and Socialist Revolutionaries (SR), who had fought alongside the Bolsheviks, seemed endless. Anarchists and SRs all across Soviet lands bore witness to this treachery and betrayal. The people of Kronstadt, a naval fortress on Kulin Island, experienced arguable the greatest Bolshevik betrayal of all, next to the Bolshevik betrayal of anarchists fighting fascists in Spain. In March 1921, an anti-Bolshevik rebellion erupted in Kronstadt. Stationed in Kronstadt were two war ships, mainly consisting of anarchists and SR sailors. From those ships the rebellion spread into the town of Kronstadt.

The terror against the people of Soviet lands continued after the deaths of Lenin, Trotsky, and Stalin, and Jews continued to be persecuted. Although, Lenin had condoned pogroms, the long tradition of anti-Semitism could not be undone with his one sentence, and the Bolshevik goal of “uprooting Jews” from their Jewishness was still anti-Semitic. Just as the Jewish intellectuals had foreseen, that with each Jewish generation that passes, each one is more mute than the next, without poem, without song.

Under the banner of Communism and the hammer and sickle, millions of people— Jews and anarchists, but many many more besides— were persecuted, jailed, silenced, tortured, repressed, and murdered. We write in hopes that this information will demonstrate to anti-fascists the importance of refusing to tolerate the presence of statist Communists in our movement, no matter their specific affiliation. Perhaps people who identify as statist Communists will also be moved by this material to renounce their politics and join us in our struggle against domination, racism, and oppression of all kinds... but we do not have any great hopes of that.

*This is an abridged version of a zine that can be found in its completion at [tohuwabohujournal.wordpress.com](http://tohuwabohujournal.wordpress.com)*



## “WE HEART EVERGREEN”

THE CPJ DISCUSSES  
CRITIQUE OF CRITIQUE

By Georgie Hicks

As a newspaper, it can sometimes feel and look as if everything produced here is critical, but there is a difference between being critical and being bullies. While critique can be difficult to stomach for those on the receiving end it is, in fact, our job, to interrogate, critique and search for answers to hard questions. Since the beginning, this paper has been a place of declared “advocacy journalism”, and as such over the past two years it has seen its fair share, if not more, of controversy, national intrigue and outright hate mail.

We believe, especially in this current political climate and being a newspaper in the era of fake news and attacks on media, it is paramount that we stand clearly and proudly for what we believe in and the ethics we hold. Writing is an inherently critical practice, and the kind of writing done for this newspa-

per— writing for the sake of creating a public dialogue surrounding topical issues— demands an approach that looks explicitly at what is not being discussed, revealed or done.

Forgive us for not being a, “let’s all just come together, hold hands and sing around a bonfire” type of crew, and though we may not live up to the neo-liberal peace, love and happiness, Evergreen stereotype we do believe in the students and the school, we are some of the students who choose to go to this school. We hope to get out of this institution as much as we put in. If we couldn’t hold this belief we would have left this place a long time ago.

It is the nature of organizations to be self congratulatory, and we know that there will always be plenty of fanfare and horn blowing regarding the work that is and will be done to improve

equity on this campus. It does not feel necessary nor useful to participate in those congratulatory efforts. As writers we remain uninterested in producing work that simply regurgitates easily accessible information to students, or that self aggrandise the actions of the College or community. No matter what the school, the government, or our fellow students do to remedy disparity and inequalities, there will always be more work to be done, and this is the work we focus on. We know achievements have been made, but we also know it is important to keep pressure on to always push further forward. In activism, the work is never done.

Although our critique is misconstrued by some as malicious, it is borne out of a real affection for this College.

*Continued on page 15.*

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+ NEWS WRITERS

*Continued from page 8.*

Totally. It is not meaningless to me. It is not something I would want to do as a job, the second that it turns into that realm, it is not fun anymore. I have always done art for myself and I think that shows a lot in my art. I am always trying to stop myself from doing this thing... drawing exclusively self-portraits, I have always just drawn myself over and over again, or I will draw a comic of me doing something, and I have always done that since I was a little kid, I have always drawn myself. I don't think it's out of vanity... I was thinking about this in the shower too, I think I've drawn throughout my life as this way of self reflection and especially as a queer and trans person, or someone who growing up felt really weird, or like not normal, not human, and definitely not seeing myself in the media, like, making my own media of myself, and like making myself real in this way, and drawing myself looking however I wanted to

I think coming into transness for me had a really big relationship with me drawing, and drawing myself how I want to look or whatever... it has always been important for me in that way.

**What else shows up a lot in the work you do?** Are we talking about furies? Ugh, furies. I guess there's another word for it. I was thinking about when I started drawing furies, I just started drawing animals a lot as a kid because I was always really into animals, and I would like pretend to be a dog, a lot of kids do that, and especially queer kids pretend to be a dog, which is kinda weird. I think that has to do with this denial of humanity and media reflection in children. But I do draw a lot of furies, and I think maybe it's related to that. As someone who doesn't feel like a man or a woman, part of gender for me is feeling feelings that don't necessarily feel like a man or a woman, but definitely I relate it to my gender. In the past, I've related it to different parts of the world.. and relating with non-human things, that's really important to me,

like being able to see myself in nature and in everyday objects, where I can't see myself in other people and not feeling connected to other people in that way. Not to say that I feel particularly connected to dogs, but they're very cute and very fun to draw. But like furies are gross, so i wanna distance myself- I want to lean out, step away. You know? I think there's a theme of like plants and monsters. I used to draw dead things a lot. I think that's in the same vein of feeling denied community.

**I do not know if this is rude to say, but all of your art is very cute, there is something very endearing about it. Is there maybe a connection between representing all of these things that are denied humanity, and thinking about queerness and making those things fun and cute? Even when you are drawing things that aren't self portraits you are very kind to them, they are all so sweet.** I don't know if I could draw something ugly even if I tried, just because like, I love my little guys, ya know? Even if I did draw something that was ugly I would still be like "it's cute". I really have a soft spot for ugly things, or things that kinda look weird or wrong. I just like drawing soft little things. As someone who makes zines and comics and stuff, a lot of that art is oversaturated with the grotesque and masculine, and this like cutting edge sort of feeling of- especially alt comics or whatever- of like 'Isn't life so grimy' and stuff, and so it's really important for me when expressing the griminess of my experience is also continuing to hold tenderness and softness in with it. This idea that within and despite the harshness of reality, there's always kindness, maybe? You know? And I just like to draw cute things. I love 'em.

.....

*Morrissey's art work is featured in every single issue of The Cooper Point Journal in the Comix section. To be featured along their great work, you can submit your own comix (or memes!) to [cpjcomix@gmail.com](mailto:cpjcomix@gmail.com)*

## RE: ALL GENDER REST ROOMS ON CAMPUS

By Alexander Butler

One year ago in February of 2017, I submitted a letter to the Cooper Point Journal concerning Vice President John Hurley's memorandum stopping the Space Committee's approval of the all-gendered bathrooms in Seminar II. The Space Committee had approved the switch of the bathrooms in May of 2016, with the memorandum stopping the change submitted by John Hurley in June. The memorandum stated that the change of the bathrooms "warrants further study" and that "building occupants need to be consulted to determine if they have objections, I would also like for the committee to consult with Conference Services as many conferences are booked in Seminar 2".

The "further study" has finally occurred under the combined Space and Land Use Group now named the SLUG. This group created a survey detailing different options regarding all-gendered bathrooms in the Library Building and Seminar II. The results of the survey showed that for the Library: "66% voted for the proposed option, which includes equitably distributed multi-stall restrooms for women, men,

and all genders on the 1st and 2nd floors." With Seminar II having "46% of the survey respondents voted for making all restrooms all gender." 504 students (13% of the student body) gave their opinion out of the 901 total submissions, with the other submissions coming from faculty and staff. As a result, the SLUG "recommended the integrated Option 2 for Seminar 2. Of the 18 multi-user restrooms at Seminar 2, 6 will be women only, 6 will be men only, and 6 will be all gender. These will be equitably distributed throughout the facility."

I wanted to first and foremost thank Jeanne Rynne, David McAvity, and the SLUG committee members for their continued work and support on making these all-gendered bathrooms a reality. Thank you to the students that both worked on this project and those that submitted survey responses. Lastly, I also want to thank John Hurley for his approval of this change. I am delighted that Evergreen has taken a step in the right direction and look forward in seeing the new bathrooms forthcoming installation.



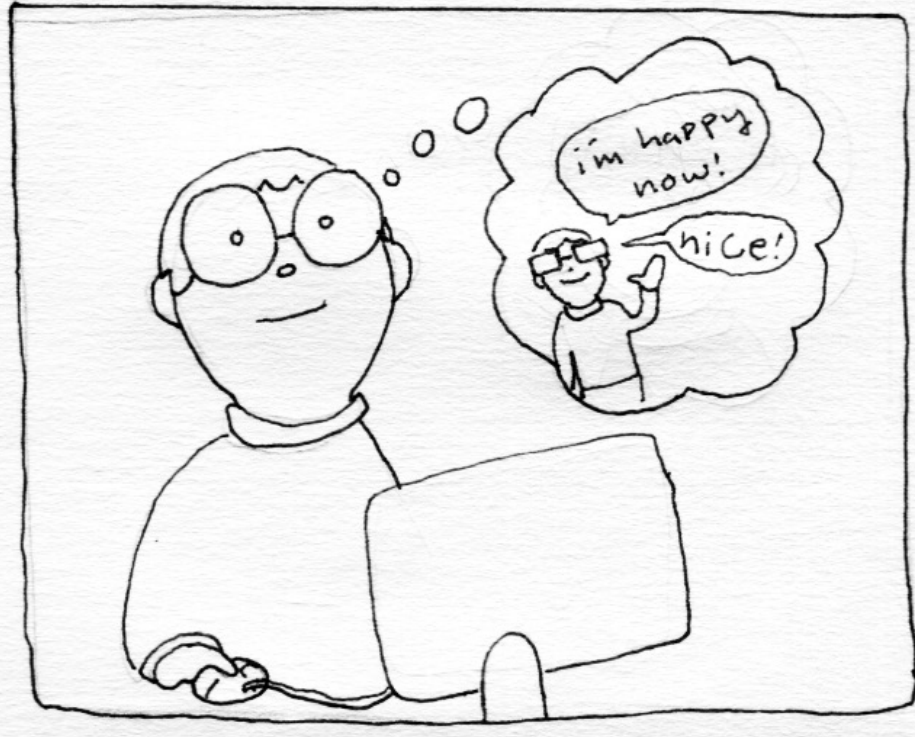
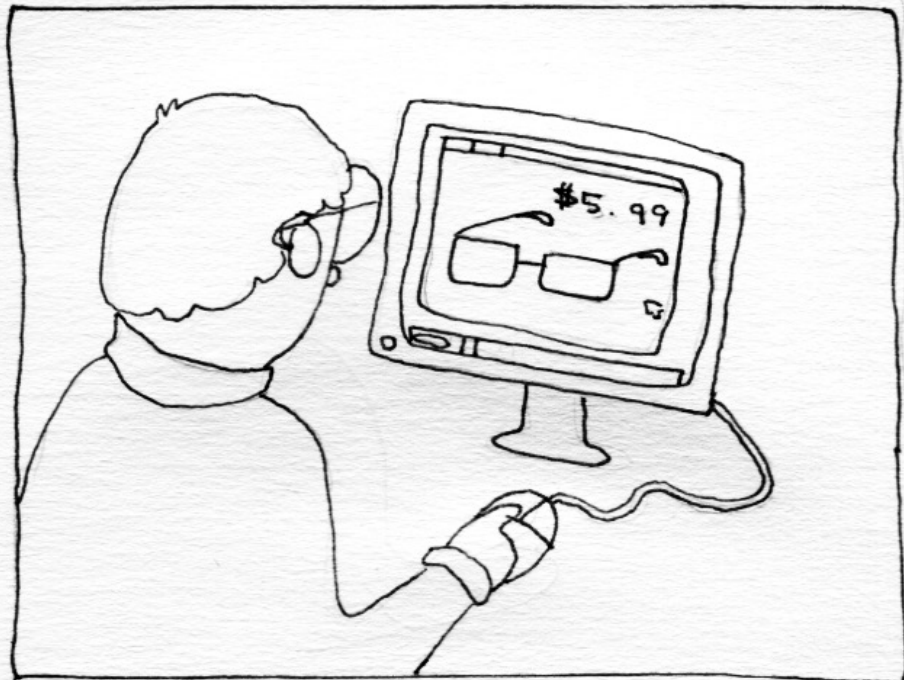
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The CPJ is always taking comic submissions. Just send your comics to [CPJcomix@gmail.com](mailto:CPJcomix@gmail.com) at at least 300 dpi or drop off a hard copy to the CPJ office, CAB 332 across from student activities. For more information, as well as submission guidelines and sizing requirements, visit us at <http://www.cooperpointjournal.com/submit/>

Continued from page 13.

We are critical because we want this campus to be an environment in which students, staff, and faculty can thrive regardless of whether or not they grew up well-off, well-read, or white. The Evergreen State College is one of the only public liberal arts colleges in the country, providing a kind of education that is often inaccessible to students who did not grow up affluent. Evergreen's creation as a low cost public college that emphasized the importance and efficacy of a broad, creative education was inherently an act of equity, but lack of explicit attention to such pursuits by the administration for the past several decades has led to crashing retention rates.

If we wanted the school to crash and burn we wouldn't be spending hours and hours writing, researching and editing to make sure that the student body and the community has accurate information. We wouldn't stay up until all hours of the night laying out a paper for a place that we hate. We may not be the biggest fans of every single person in the student body, the administration, the staff or faculty, and likewise they may not be the biggest fans of us, but we are all here because we find something in this institution worth supporting, be it the interdisciplinary ideals or the opportunities this school offers our own educational paths. We do this work because though Evergreen may not be the place we want it to be right now or ever, we still think we should have some sort of hope that it can be the place we want to see, with a constant commitment to criticism and a lot of work.

From our perspective, this campus is in many ways still thriving. Students and faculty are working to develop creative ways to engage with one another and academic material, but instead of thriving because of support from up top, people are finding ways to thrive despite the weight of administrative pressure to conform to models that are not working. Independently, folks are doing work within constraints to develop active models for education that produce the results they want from their academic experience.

We appreciate this school and we value the education we have received and continue to receive here. We believe the best way to show our appreciation to and care for our community is through a commitment to critique by questioning, and uplifting voices of activists and minority groups in the belief that there are always more voices to



by April Davidson

## ARIES 3/21 - 4/19

If there is chaos and instability in your relationships, it will end soon. No doubt you've known upheaval and heartbreak; the harmony and kinship you crave is on the way, but you'll only get what you give. You have received so much love, how much of it have you been open to take? How much have you given? In relationships there is always compromise; You want to feel like a priority to the people you love but you'll need to show them they're a priority to you.

## TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20

Quality over quantity. It's going to be an uphill battle and you aren't going to need any dead weight. No compromise is necessary, if there is an instinct to defend yourself or say "no" then you need to honor those gut feelings. Your defenses are there to protect you, your boundaries are set so that any relationships you have will be able to go the distance. Trust yourself first.

## GEMINI 5/21 - 6/20

At this point, you've done everything you can think of in order to make things right. If you're still confused about what to do, I'm going to suggest that you do nothing at all. The issues you are facing may not be able to be resolved at all, and accepting this is the only way through. Don't blame other people. Your health and contentment depend on your ability not to take new action but to accede to a lack of closure.

## CANCER 6/21 - 7/22

Things are building up to a moment of intense creative energy but there's something in the way of your ability to express yourself. Problems with your business or partnerships have negated any sense of stability they could provide. Material fulfillment can only provide physical comforts, but what about emotional or self-fulfillment? I'm not saying you need to abandon your foundations, but you are encouraged to go exploring for some fun and romance.

## LEO 7/23 - 8/22

What kind of person do you want to be in the world? I'll tell you how people already see you; strong, compassionate and patient. You will now have the opportunity to prove these qualities to yourself by how you handle demands coming from home or private life. You've only gotten this far because of your foundations. It may be frustrating or not exactly what you want to be doing, but you must prioritize holding space for those who feed you.

## VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22

You've been looking for messages, a sign of life, and you'll soon be up to your ears in information. When the time comes, you'll want to be a lot more connected to your emotions and spirituality than you are now. When the cure for your anxiety arrives, you'll need to be able to greet it with tenderness. The way to find balance and to get what you need is to turn your joy in communion to not just one person but to whatever is most holy to you.

## LIBRA 9/23 - 10/22

The thing about setting boundaries in an intimate relationship is that, while you're making them to protect yourself, the boundary will most likely cause pain. More pain than what you're attempting to protect yourself from? That's hard to say. I do know that you deserve to feel comfortable and respected. Right now I am recommending that you take care of your own needs first and place no expectations on anyone other than yourself to fulfill them.

## SCORPIO 10/23 - 11/21

Everything will become so much about other people that it will become necessary to figure out your personal needs. I'm sorry to say that things are going to get quite a bit more confusing before they become clear and you're going to keep feeling powerless as long as you are unwilling to assert some level of dominance or self-sovereignty. Don't wait for someone else to save you. If you're stuck, don't try to change the situation, change how you think about it.

## SAGITTARIUS 11/22- 12/21

Even adventurers need time to rest, to retreat and withdraw from the world. It's necessary in order to prepare for new journeys ahead of you. Something going on in your life, ill health, rejection, is going to demand that you take a time out. If it's a failure, good, you will learn something. Don't think of isolation as cutting yourself off; think of it as a different way to invite insights you couldn't get if you stayed locked in what you know.

## CAPRICORN 12/22- 1/19

A renewed sense of self-confidence and validation is coming to you. A moment is coming where you will look around at all the brilliant individuals who make your community and realize that you are one of them, that your role is indispensable. As you know, clarity and triumph are often fleeting, so toot your own horn while you have the wind.

## AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18

You're in a position of importance, whether you realize it or not. Don't underestimate the impact that you have on others right now. With all this attention it will be helpful to review your goals and recommit yourself, so you know what actions to take when you are called. Give yourself a break on getting all the details perfect, focus on the big picture for finding the plan that really works.

## PISCES 2/19 - 3/20

Sometimes logic and reason can help, but oftentimes they are useless in the face of strange disagreements and frustrations. Conflict doesn't always make sense, but don't forget that it isn't always bad. Trust your instincts towards faith and fun. The less you avoid the discord in your life and the more that you just accept facts, you will be able to open up to gaining new kinds of wisdom. Look at the problem like a hurdle, not a barrier.

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