

the cooper point journal

The Evergreen State College Newspaper Since 1971 | February 7th, 2018



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The Cooper Point Journal

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FROM THE ARCHIVES Students celebrating their visceral forms the Campus Recreation Center, 1974. 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.

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.

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.

Farm workers cultivate California crops. ANSEL ADAMS VIA WIKIPEDIA COMMONS.



FARM WORKERS CULTIVATE RESISTANCE IMMIGRANT WORKERS PUSH FOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN H2A PROGRAM

By Mason Soto

From a worker's death over the summer in Sumas to a sexual harassment case against an agribusiness manager in Lacey, farmworker activists are working to expose experiences of exploitation happening behind the scenes of the local food supply chain.

For the annual Farmworker's Justice Day on January 24, activists and farmworkers came to Evergreen as they have in years past to lead lectures and workshops on issues that involve local agriculture, immigration, and labor rights. A panel of local folks working with the group Community to Community (C2C) gave testimonies about working conditions and immigration, and the expanding federal work visa program known as H-2A was at the forefront of the conversation.

The H-2A Temporary Workers Program allows United States employers "to bring foreign nationals to the United States for temporary agricultural jobs", as the program's federal webpage states, and this is accomplished by sending contractors out of the country to convince people to come here for a season or

two. Many of the communities that these workers live in rely on remittances that the workers send back from the states, and sometimes this type of displaced work can continue through generations of a family.

Members of C2C, who focus on empowering underrepresented and exploited groups in decision making and social organization, question the limits that the H-2A program puts on the voices of local farmers as well as the lack of protections for guest workers. Although the program's federal webpage says the employer applying for workers must prove they can not find workers locally and that the program will not adversely affect the wage market, folks say that there is not enough accountability within the government departments who oversee the applications to ensure this happens.

For farmworkers and activists, the problems of H-2A were made tragically apparent through the death of Honesto Silva Ibarra last August. A Sumas farmworker from the campus lecture alleged that Honesto was afraid to ask for treatment for an in-

fection for fear of retaliation and deportation. The workers rely on their employers for housing, transportation, and the ability to seek medical attention, a situation that C2C says has created dangerous conditions where the aforementioned threats of replacement because of sickness or dissent are common. When Honesto was finally given medical attention, his condition was too severe to save him. In the coming weeks Sarbanand denied any wrongdoing, despite testimonies of immigrant workers being sprayed with pesticides, made to stay past their visas, and a culture of retaliation, as hundreds of farmworker activists protested outside their office in Sumas. Activists have since announced a boycott of the blueberry farm's products along with the associated companies Munger Farms and Naturipe.

Activists are also demanding the agencies that help run the program be held accountable for the exploitation folks have testified about. Executive Director of C2C Rosalinda Guillen spoke of the problematic nature of local businesses participating in the

program, sharing allegations against Dan Fazio, CEO of the Washington Farmworker Labor Association (WFLA) based in Lacey, of widespread sexual harassment and racism in the workplace. Fazio's business facilitates local farm owners through the H-2A program, helping them prove to state agencies that they need more workers, and he participates himself in training farm management on payroll, pesticide usage, and most notably workplace sexual harassment issues.

A letter sent last June to WFLA board members outlines hundreds of allegedly ignored complaints from employees since 2015 of gross misconduct. There are accusations of sexual harassment from Fazio telling a woman to unbutton her blouse, touching a woman's thigh to "demonstrate sexual harassment", and rating women in the office, to name a few. There are just as many accusations of racism, with Fazio saying he was working less because he was white and that he would ban Spanish from the workplace. The latter part of the letter is dedicated to all the complaints of illegal activity in-

volving work visa program that were ignored or covered up by management, like lack of proper advertising for local farmwork, pushing through unfinished paperwork, and in general cutting corners and purposefully stifling the local market to increase their profits through the use of H-2A. Indeed, this past January, amidst the ongoing case against him, Fazio optimistically announced that H-2A had increased 35 percent last year and encouraged lobbyists to further strip down the requirements for employers to keep bringing in workers.

Rosalinda shared how she sees the harassment case as part of a larger system of exploitation within agribusiness in an interview with the Cooper Point Journal, saying, "It appears to me there is this ongoing consciousness about farm labor and agricultural work being slave work." She spoke of how the legacy of slavery and plantation labor has perpetuated a reliance on and normalization of exploitation in the agricultural arena in that, "We're expected to see a labor force that is as close to slavery as they can get it."

Chassity Holliman-Douglas chatting with Provost Jennifer Drake. SHAUNA BITTLE.



INTERVIEW WITH VP/VP OF EQUITY AND DIVERSITY CHASSITY TALKS DAY OF ABSENCE/ DAY OF PRESENCE

By Georgie Hicks

On January 10 President George Bridges announced a new equity symposium that will be happening later this year. In the email Bridges states, “For almost 20 years, our college-wide program, Day of Absence/Day of Presence, provided a focal point for this important work each spring. This year, with the vital leadership from Vice President Chassity Holliman-Douglas, we will develop a more robust event for learning about equity”. Closing with, “It is my sincere hope that this event reinforces our commitment to addressing these critical issues facing the college and society.” I sat down with Chassity Holliman-Douglas Vice President / Vice Provost of Equity and Inclusion to discuss the changes that will be happening and how she is settling into her new job here at Evergreen.

Since starting your job here at Evergreen what particular challenges have arisen stepping into a leadership position after the protest and the school being in the media?

I think the hyper alertness, you know, based on what our campus, our community experienced last year we’re now all very alert you know.” “We’re all wanting to be

involved with trying to move our campus forward, so that’s been a unique experience for me. I’ve never been at an institution where so many people are wanting to, what I used to say, play in my sandbox. So typically I’m over equity and inclusion and it’s hard to get people to buy into it and to want to be a part of it but here everybody’s in it, everybody’s involved. So it’s a unique experience for me.

On January 10 George Bridges sent out an email announcing an end to DOA/DOP and calling for student contributions for the equity symposium that you are the head of. How did the change of events come about? Is there a group of people who make these decisions? Or was it you or George?

Right, so what I’ll say is that to the best of my knowledge our senior leadership group, which is all of our vice presidents, our chief of staff, they asked me if I would come up with an event that would increase our communities understanding of cultural competence and social justice [and] help to increase our sense of belonging as a community and really give us that space to come together and talk about what our challenges are. [With] students faculty and staff

I was asked to create this program and to put together a group of people to help me to do it. And then to hopefully launch it so that’s the extent of my knowledge and what I’ve been asked to do

In the email [President Bridges] says it’s going to be a more “robust” event, does that mean it’s going to be longer than two days?

I think what George and the senior leadership team has asked me to do is really create spaces where we can, where our different affinity groups can talk about our own unique experiences but then also be intentional about inclusion. Where we all come together and hear from one another about our experiences and what responsibility we have in helping each other to build better experiences. So when I think about robust, I’m thinking about providing opportunities for students, faculty and staff to submit workshop proposals [so they can] be a part of it. I’d like to see a national speaker come. You know just really creating more robust opportunities for us to have dialogs and not just dialogs, you know, but I want to see tools. We talk a lot but we need to walk away with tools and actions plans.

Are you aware the perception that this change of events makes the school appear to be admitting fault over DOA/DOP? What plans does the school have for dealing with media perception around this change?

I was not aware, I have not heard [that] from any students... I have a steering committee of students, a couple of faculty members and staff who have come together. They were a part of the planning of the last DOA/DOP so now they’ve joined me. I didn’t not know that students had that perception but what I will say is that I, with me coming in being brand new, [with] fresh ideas, this was the new idea that I came up [with], that we’re coming up with. And I don’t see it as the same as DOA/DOP. I don’t see it as replacement of DOA/DOP. I see it as when I came to this institution this was the type of event that I wanted to be able to provide for my campus community.

Is there a plan for media coverage?

Like I said, we don’t have specific plans but we will be working. It’s limited, we’re in the beginning stages and this steering committee have met twice, three times, we just had our third meeting last week. And so right now we’ve just

developed our work plan for media, it’s on here. We have all these different subcommittees, we have one subcommittee that’s over marketing and communications they’ll be working very closely with Zach [Power’s] office, the college relations office. So we will be developing those plans I believe it is a very important.

So you haven’t gotten much response from students outside of people who want to do workshops?

So we, again we’re in the beginning stages. So we have the steering committee and now we have President Bridges email that went out to everyone and it had our email address on there. We’ve received at least twenty-five people who have said they want to be a part of the planning and many of them were students and so our next step is, now that we’ve identified what the subcommittees are, an email will go out probably by next week and it will list all the subcommittees we have, inviting those volunteers to now be a part of those subcommittees. We’re going to send it out to the larger campus community of people who have not emailed us yet [because they] can still [email us], there’s still a place to be involved with the planning.

So that leads into my next question, which is just about transparency, and I acknowledge you are just in the beginning of planning.

Ya, but you know I’ve learned a lot being here about trying to as transparent as possible and so the email will come out next week and it will go to faculty, staff and students and when the call for proposals goes, it will be to all stakeholders faculty, staff and students. We will be sending our calendar at the last meeting and so save the dates and call for proposals will go out by the end of February. You can expect to see that information and we’re even going, [Because] we realize that students, not all students but some students may need some assistance on putting together workshop proposals and so were putting together help sessions to help students to put together their proposals and so those dates will be advertised in February as well. So we have a lot of work to do.

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You can contact the planning committees at equityandinclusion@evergreen.edu



CAPITOL LAKE, HISTORIC SWAMP

HISTORY BEHIND OLYMPIA'S MOST CONTROVERSIAL PARK

By Abbey Myrick

Olympia's Capitol Lake is a manmade body of water created when the Deschutes river was dammed in 1951. Environmentalists are calling for removal of the 5th Ave Dam and reversion to an estuary, citing such issues as invasive species and poor water quality being a direct result of the lake's existence. Opposing groups worry about such considerations as cost to taxpayers and negative effects on tourism and the local economy.

According to the Squaxin Island Tribe's Natural Resource Department, the original proposal for the Capitol Campus, designed by Walter Wilder and Harry White, called for diverting part of the Deschutes to create an attractive reflecting pool while allowing the majority of the river to continue flowing into Budd Inlet. "Actually, the entire idea behind the originally proposed reflecting pool was to take advantage of the tides. The pool itself would be filled by salt water and refreshed by the tides," reads an article put out by the department. The result would have created

a waterfront park similar to downtown's Heritage Park but would have avoided the total impoundment of the river.

The reason for damming the river completely may have had something to do with a community occupying what is now Heritage Park. Dubbed "Little Hollywood", this town within a town consisted of homes and businesses built of debris dragged in on high tides and left to beach on the mud flats. The jobless and hungry of the town pooled here, mostly the result of the severe nationwide economic downturn of the 1930's, along with bootleggers, gamblers, and sex workers. Little Hollywood was cleared out in 1941 along with the adjacent community of Chinese immigrants in anticipation of the Capitol Lake construction. The Treaty of Medicine Creek and the fishing rights indigenous peoples have fought to maintain also bring up issues with the lake's construction, and today's activists question if those most affected by decisions regarding the land can be heard any better now than nearly eighty years ago.

Current problems associated with Capitol Lake include poor water quality, invasive species of plants and fish, as well as potential flood issues due to sedimentation and rising sea levels. What to do about the situation has polarized communities within Olympia and the surrounding area. The Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association (CLIPA) argues that the invasive snails and plants showing up in Capitol Lake can be found in other regional bodies of water and are not as detrimental as commonly presented. CLIPA points to a cease in maintenance dredging, rather than water quality, as the culprit in excess algae blooms. "The water quality has been clean enough, good enough to swim in the past fourteen years. It's the algae that's floating on the top that makes it look sick or ugly," Bob Wubena, co-chairman of CLIPA stated at a Rotary Club of Lacey meeting early last year. He continued, "It's because it's not been maintained for the last thirty years by the state."

Since colonization, accord-

ing to U.S Geological Survey (USGS) statistics, up to eighty percent of Washington's wetlands have been destroyed due to development and dams. The Deschutes is only one of many struggling rivers where communities continue to grapple with their impact on the environment. Further North, the Elwah River was originally host to ten yearly runs of anadromous fish (species reliant on both fresh and saltwater) but was dammed twice, once in 1913 and again upriver in 1927. According to the USGS, 19 million cubic tons of sediment had accumulated behind the dams, and the fish population had shrunk to five percent of its historic numbers by the time dam removal began in 2011.

Currently, the options being considered for Capitol Lake would include either allowing the lake to continue to fill with sediment with little management, removing the Fifth Avenue dam and reverting the ecosystem back to an estuary, or a combination of both which would maintain a reflecting pool while also allow-

ing the Deschutes to flow freely into Budd Inlet once again.

Funding for the proposed \$4.9 million needed to run an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is currently being considered for the capital budget. No forward movement can be made on the issue without the EIS which will allow data analysis to inform decisions. According to Department of Enterprise Services communications official Linda Kent, "An EIS will examine issues such as sea level rise, determine whether we need updates beyond existing studies and information, and make recommendations regarding management options."

Taking into account the outcome of the EIS, the Department of Enterprise Services is authorized to implement a management plan which will have the least negative environmental impact while maintaining cost feasibility. Comments and input from the community will continue to impact decisions at key intervals, including the extent of the EIS once funding is secured.



ST. VALENTINE'S DAY UPRISING

LOOKING BACK AT EVERGREEN'S LAST RIOT

By Mason Soto + Georgie Hicks

This Valentine's Day marks the tenth anniversary of the concert-turned-riot on campus, during which Evergreen students chased not one, not two, but five separate Olympia area police departments off campus, including Evergreen Police Services, forcing them to abandon a sheriff's car in the entrance to the CRC.

The riot happened at the conclusion of the New Evergreen Hip-Hop Congress' first show, for which they raised \$12 thousand dollars to put on a concert featuring the musical group dead prez known for albums like Revolutionary But Gangsta with heavy social and political themes. Articles surrounding this event vary in their facts over the years, and the date has become somewhat shrouded in myth and hearsay. What we do know is that before the set finished up, around 200 of the 900 Evergreen students and community mem-

bers at the concert headed outside around the amphitheater where they saw Evergreen police services officer April Meyers handcuffing and attempting to take a Black man in her car to the school's police services.

The man was Kaylen Williams, a hired breakdancer at the event who was allegedly part of an altercation outside the concert. Many witnesses say Williams was only trying to break up the fight, but being the only person Meyers knew was involved, she attempted to arrest him on charges that would eventually be dropped. Seeing a Black man in a mostly white crowd being the only one led away by police, the crowd perceived an instance of racial profiling and began chanting, "Let him go!", at which point Meyers made a call for backup that four other police departments responded to. Things stayed restless as Olympia Police

Department (OPD) showed up in a brash police fashion, batons ready, pepper spraying with such abandon that there is even video of another police officer confirming friendly fire. "Some of your people are pepper spraying the peaceful people," a person filming at the incident said to police. "I know," the officer responded, "I'll be honest with you, somebody sprayed one of our officers." Chaotic violence from the police seems to have peaked there, and soon the event became instead a moment of great resistance, accentuating the most radical elements of the Evergreen community. A police car was surrounded and eventually flipped over by the riot, and images of the burning car have become emblematic of the event. The students managed to overwhelm the police and chase them off campus, only to return in riot gear hours after the crowd had

dispersed on its own, finding just the people videotaping the aftermath to push against.

In the coming days, six students were charged with

that may be difficult to erase." What the mark comes to represent as we move ten years from its making is still a point of contention, in a moment of

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"The Valentine's Day Uprising was sort of this lynchpin moment for us activists... even if it was symbolic, we were continually citing that as a political victory for us."

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crimes and the school entirely restructured how events can be planned. The backlash the school faced from media was swift, not unlike the rebukeful rhetoric that surrounded the student activism and occupations last spring, and the administration's reaction to increase police on campus after both events. Of the dead prez riot the Seattle Times said, "Evergreen has found itself with a mark against its name

even more attention on police brutality, on a campus that has since seen a coach fired for racism, allegations of racist targeting by protestors last spring, a police chief resign, and ongoing calls from the administration for more police funds.

Many activists remember the Valentine's Day riot as a victory in the midst of police repression of the ongoing actions against the shipment of military supplies through the

Port of Olympia. In an interview last June, a student who attended the event said, “The Valentine’s Day Uprising was sort of this lynchpin moment for us activists... even if it was symbolic, we were continually citing that as a political victory for us.” In the same interview, dead prez shared their thoughts about what they call the “Evergreen Uprising” in an ongoing movement against imperialism and the police state, saying that networks of activism sprang from there. While looking back, dead prez member stic.man alluded to what worse consequences might have come, and said “I don’t want to glorify or over romanticize those type of moments if there not appertus-ses and networks in place to take care of people who put certain things up for stake.”

The activism that continues to manifest on campus remains informed by our past, and in moments like the Uprising when a stand against repression becomes visceral and messy, more than performance or a class project, the trend is to demonize protest and reinforce the very project the action pushes against.

Thurston County Sheriff car after the fact. COURTESY OF ROZELL TOWNSEND.



OLY HOMEFUND MAKES BALLOT

By Sebastian Lopez

Next Tuesday, Olympia residents will be given the chance to vote on The Home Fund, a measure that could build 350 housing units in 10 year to serve for those by homelessness and the affordable housing crisis in the city. This will be done through the addition of a .1% tax to Olympia’s current 8.8% city and state combined sales tax.

In an effort to ease the

struggle of those with no housing, The Home Fund seeks to construct housing for the most vulnerable people in the Olympia community. “Everyone deserves access to a safe and secure home... Many of the most vulnerable people in our community find themselves without a safe place to call home,” explains The Home Fund’s official website about section.

Last year, at least 9 people died on the streets of Olympia due to lack of space in the city’s overcrowded shelters, according to Meg Martin, director of the Interfaith Works Emergency Overnight shelter who stated, “I believe that every life is scared, and I do not want to see one more person die on the streets without the opportunity for permanent housing.”

Housing in Olympia has

reached a point of crisis in recent years. Property taxes, values, and, naturally, rent have all gone up; this has led to many residents becoming vulnerable to the whims of the one-sided landlord-tenant dynamic in Olympia.

Many of those who support the measure realize that this does not solve the current housing crisis. Such as the Olympian Editorial Board which stated, “A tough-love approach has its place, but there is science behind putting people under a roof with oversight and services before getting them to sober up.” This was in response to the against section of the voters’ pamphlet section on the prop, written by a member of the organization People Against Wasteful Spending and Taxes, who believe the measure “is not a stand-alone solution.”

“[Jessica Bateman has] only been on council for 2 years; to get from being new on council to getting a big ballot initiative like this in two years is pretty awesome,” stated city councilor Renata Rollins told me few weeks ago, “There’s ideas for long term and short term as well as prevention... [The Home Fund’s] long term.”

The Home Fund campaign is a grassroots movement that has knocked on 6,500 doors so far, in an effort to bring out the vote next Tuesday, according to the campaign’s co-chair and Olympia city councilor Jessica Bateman. “[The Home Fund] gives us the opportunity to address the real problems instead of focusing on the symptoms of individuals not having a safe space to call home,” stated Bateman in a video supporting the proposition.

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Greeners have an opportunity to help bring out the vote by helping canvas and phonebank for the campaign from The Home Fund’s campaign headquarters at 1014 4th Ave E. Check out The Home Fund’s Facebook page for more details on the many pre-election events (including an election night party).





BAILEY COATES

artist interview
by sally linn

Bailey Coates is an illustrator and photographer in their senior year at Evergreen. They've been drawing since they were a child but their photography practice has been a recent discovery due to an accidental class enrollment at Evergreen.

Their illustrative work focuses on the themes of animals and Furry subculture while their photography is thinking about themes of sexuality and the uncomfortability of having a body. They've developed a professional practice where people on the internet will pay them in order to receive Furry fandom art from them. It's extremely business like for them.

Their drawings practice serves as an emotional release for them while shooting photography is more of a theoretical and technical practice in the studio. They shoot on the twin-lens Mamiya cameras that Photoland has available for photography students.

Their current project is to think about the sometimes scary aspects of having a body and what that involves when having sex. Scary-bad while simultaneously scary-good. For them, this involves creating still life images that don't involve the human figure at all. This means using suggestive material like rubber hosing, animal parts, fake hair, stretchy vinyl, warped plexiglass, animal blood, etc.

Something they've constantly been aware of in their work is the reception that they are only trying to be shocking and edgy using these explicit themes. This isn't their goal. Instead, they aspire to be funny, gross, uncomfortable, and scary. There is a huge spectrum of emotions that people feel around having sex and they're all equally interesting and motivating for Bailey.

Their final project for last quarter involved a series of 35mm photos in which they took a few of their friends to the cheapest motel room they could find (in Fife) and shooting incred-

ibly explicit images in this explicitly sleazy, pornographic environment replete with cigarette ashes on the floor and in the toilet, etc. This was important for them to push boundaries and try new things. Examples include: using chocolate cake to replicate a shit fetish, pissing in the sink, masturbation in a dedicated sleazy place.

Over the last year they have been working on getting more acquainted with the technical aspects of photography with experimenting with different formats, moving from 35mm to medium format, using studio flashes, and becoming more comfortable with their work and dismissing comments about their work that could ostensibly be seen as "edgy" or "wild".

They have a unique process that involves shooting on medium format film with the Mamiyas available at Photoland and then digitally scanning their negatives. They like this process much better because they are firstly a digital artist via their illustrative art.

If they had an enormous budget, their fantasy art project is to construct an elaborate environment and having a large scene involving group sex. The only limit is the limit. Something that involves a lot of people with sex happening in a beautiful space.

In the studio, most of the work they do they feel is pretty basic. Simply dodging and burning and having a range of values in terms of lightness and darkness. Intimate. Bailey is very much into a black and white aesthetic, emphasizing the aesthetic values of the medium.

Personally, they hide behind the camera; they don't like to be photographed. The main idea they are working on right now is the existential questions around sex and death. Ever since their cat died when they were five, they have been concerned with the question of death.

Their advice for the kids is to do whatever the Fuck you want and to pursue whatever you are obsessed about.



UP & COMING

WED. FEB 7

The Evergreen State College
5:20 p.m., Longhouse.
2018 Liberal Arts Forum: Roy
Scranton, Author of "Learning to Die
In The Anthropocene"

Cryptatropa
9 p.m., \$7, 21+.
Cold Showers, Second Still,
Clayface

SAT. FEB 10

The Evergreen State College
12 p.m., CRC, Free.
Chibi Chibi Con 2018

Le Voyuer
10 p.m., 21+.
Aquarius Dance Party

MON. FEB 12

The Flaming Eggplant Cafe
5:30 p.m., Library Lobby
Trouble Screening: Learning to
Resist

TUES. FEB 13

Cryptatropa
8 p.m., 21+.
Deja Blue, Briana Marela, Ben Zar.

WED. FEB 14

The Evergreen State College
7 p.m., Lecture Hall 1
Black History Month Film Series:
Hidden Figures

FRI. FEB 16

Le Voyuer
9 p.m., 21+.
Divide and Dissolve (AUS), Crimex,
Acracy, Cyberplasm

SAT. FEB 17

Le Voyuer
10 p.m., \$5- 15 sliding scale, 21+.
FRUITOPIA: A Dance Party To
Benefit Oly Jail Support

SUN. FEB 18

Le Voyuer
10 p.m., 21+.
Ghost Bitch Tape Release, Espirit,
Gregggggg

MON. FEB 19

Dumpster Values
8 p.m., \$5.
SmilesWithTeeth,
noneforme, Cedar Sap, Tiny
Birds



OLYMPIA'S OWN COLT BARTEN MEET VOMITY'S NEW HOST

By Sebastian Lopez

Last August, after a 5 month long hiatus, I made my triumphant return to the audience's section at Le Voyeur's Wednesday night open mic stand-up comedy show, Vomity. My date and I had arrived to a typically raucous show on the beautiful summer's night, one of those fair weather nights that I long for today.

That evening, we were witness to a myriad of Legendary Olympia Comedians that brought me to a good belly laugh; but it wasn't until I first witnessed Colt Barton and his unique brand of strangeness and chararicature, howling on about fucking his wife and his mother being in the audience, that those belly laughs became full-body guffaws. Last week, I learned that Colt would become Vomity's new host/ producer, and quickly realized the potential greatness of such company; but, who is this new host and why could he have an impact?

Simply put, Colt Barten is a quintessential Olympia comedian. "I went to Vomity first. I started last April, before I turned 21. I wanted to do comedy before I was 21, that was a goal." As his artistic focal point, Colt was able to use Vomity as a place to make valuable connections to furthered his development as a comedian. "I think it's fun, meeting comedians. I just want to hang out with funny people. I think all comedians are kind of kindred spirits. You feel very connected to people who do comedy."

Colt's inspiring persona, which could be described (not definitively) as a mix of Demetri Martin's burlesque intelligence and Zach Galifianakis' unrelenting incoherence, started as another story of self-realization and the serene discovery of a personal identity. "I've always loved comedy, I listened to a bunch of comedy podcasts. I listened to [a podcast] called Hollywood Handbook that was very influential to me."

Through this podcast, Colt discovered a network of message boards where he first began to develop his style.

"When I first got into comedy, I thought I'd never be able to do [standup]."

At first, Colt's certainty of his stand-up self was up in the air. He was confident in his comedic skills after years of developing his expression online, but he still wasn't sure the real world or those who weren't his friends and family, would be accepting of what he offered. "I didn't tell anybody I was doing stand up for like 2 months. I didn't tell my family because I had a fear that if they came they would just tell me it was good - no matter what... I didn't want them to give me false confidence. I wanted to do [that] on my own." And to nobody's surprise, Colt was a natural. "It felt very comfortable. In stand up, you pretty much say what you've prepared and then just go off stage, that's the nice thing. You can play

off messing up or being weird. That's also the other thing, you can be weird in comedy and people accept that."

Quickly, Colt caught the attention from many established Olympia comedians such as Sam Miller, who has written for Cooper Point Journal and expressed his enthusiasm regarding Colt as host. Colt also caught the eye of former hosts Nicole Ash Bailey and Chris Roper. "Chase and Nicole were really nice to me and supportive. I went to Seattle with them once to go to comedy shows and they told me about other comedy shows to go to."

Olympia's comedy scene has gained a lot over the past few months. Jaunt in the Raunt has popped up as a new open mic opportunity for those who seek an audience outside of what was once Olympia's only open mic, Vomity. Vomity itself is a breeding ground for a different sort of performer-audience dynamic that has garnered a conducive safe-space for all that could allow for experimentation, according to Mr. Barton, and he hopes to continue with that as the new host of the renowned show.

As to where he thinks Vomity could go, Colt expresses, "I think it'll develop. I'm excited to do some cold opens and maybe have some weird themes to Vomity. We still have to book 18-19 people, so I'll keep doing that, [but] I don't want to take away comedian's times to do new stuff. I wish there were more sketch options [in Olympia] that aren't just stand up."

"I've thought about inviting sketch groups to come to the open mic that could encourage other people to come do weird sketches.", Colt carried on. Vomity is no stranger to the strangeness of Olympia's population; and though it's had much of that weirdness missing, it's not too late for alternative comedy to make a grander appearance at the show.

Colt continued, "[Sketches] could, maybe, break the formula. Vomity is fun when it breaks. It's kind of what I've always wanted to do. I'm really interested in creating a weird comedy variety show." The future of Vomity is bright, and those with an interesting vision for Olympia comedy are encouraged to sign up and join the madness.

•••••

Vomity is an open mic comedy show held at Le Voyeur every Wednesday at 9 p.m. Sign ups for 3-minute slots are open from Tuesday at noon until the show starts. Anybody interested in signing up can do it through Vomity's Facebook page.



STUFF 2 DO

By Morrissey Morrissey

FRIDAY 2/9

**AYE BABES OF COLOR
ART SHOW AND OPEN MIC**
7 p.m. Donation at the door. All Ages.

You have to catch the first installment of the hopefully long-running Aye Babes of Color Art Show and Open Mic! There will be art (nice), performances (double nice), and an open mic (very nice) in a space centering woman and nonbinary artists of color (quadruple nice)! Donations at the door go to making this event on-going and helping compensate artists for their hard work.

SATURDAY 2/10

CHIBI CHIBI EDM DISCO PARTY
The CRC. 10 p.m. No Cover. All Ages.

Do you partake in the two completely different yet often intersecting interests of ANIME and EDM? Well, lucky you! Along with ChibiChibiCon happening on campus again this week, we are also being re-met with its annual ANIME EDM DISCO DANCE PARTY! Don your cat ears and neon gas mask or whatever and dance, dance, dance to some nightcore-remixed anime theme songs (or so I assume?!). Unfortunately, vaping is not allowed.

SUNDAY 2/11

HOW TO MAKE SAUERKRAUT
GRuB. 8 p.m. \$7. All Ages.

Admittedly, Valentine's Day is a sore subject for me. Don't get me wrong, I'm not single, but it does seem weird that there is this whole manufactured holiday to celebrate my relationship with my partner but what if I just need some me time right now? It has left me feeling.... SAUER! That's why you can catch me at this GRuB event sampling foods by OlyKraut, Olympia's beloved fermented foods producer. I'd much rather spend this fake-holiday season (I say that because Valentine's Day is a fake-holiday) alone in a place I've never been before, eating old cabbage and learning about probiotics. At least my good gut bacteria appreciates me.

SATURDAY 2/17

FRUITOPIA
Le Voyeur. 8 p.m. \$5- 15 Sliding Scale. 21+.

Do you miss Friction? Looking for a place to hang with your queer pals? Go to Le Voyeur and dance your queer butt off at this super cute and cool party! Throwbacks and top 40's alike, it'll be both cool and so, so hot! DJ JAM PACKED and DJ RAT BABY will be "spinning" from a computer and not vinyl—all night long and all proceeds go to Oly Jail Support (that could mean YOU one day)!

Letters & Opinion



How did you feel when you woke up? I had just woken up from a dream I delved deep into. I was still in it, floating within the precipice of what was my imagined world, my imagined plane in time. Also, sweaty.

How do you feel about aroma therapy? You like or maybe you want to try it? I've been dabbling with the activity for a bit now. So far, I've found it useful for associating smells with good memories, specifically very calm ones. If you're asking whether or not I recommend it, I'd say it depends on the environment you're putting yourself into while you're doing it. What I've done is kindle some earthly aromas while I read or think to myself in bed, which has led to a calming association with the woods around me. In the end, I believe aromatherapy is a form of deliberate sensory adaptation for the sake of a calm existence, like many other spiritual endeavors.

Your opinion on clothes for dogs? Is it really needed? Depends. If it's cold, you don't want a chilly dog, so an adorable jacket or sweater is ap-

propriate. When it's summer time, then take that sweater off, you don't want a hot dog! Remember, we've domesticated these wolves to hell, so that means we have to care for them in the ways their bodies aren't used to anymore. Lotion those pads!

Do you do a selfie every day? No! Keep space open for some shitty mobile games!

What if the chamomile tea is no longer soothing? Then you consider the possibility that whatever problem you may have, or whatever it is in life that you seek soothing for, is bigger than chamomile tea. Look deep inside of yourself and find what it is that you really need, what you really deserve. That might just mean other teas like peppermint, lemon balm, or lavender. Maybe it means yoga. For me, it usually means a good cry.

.....

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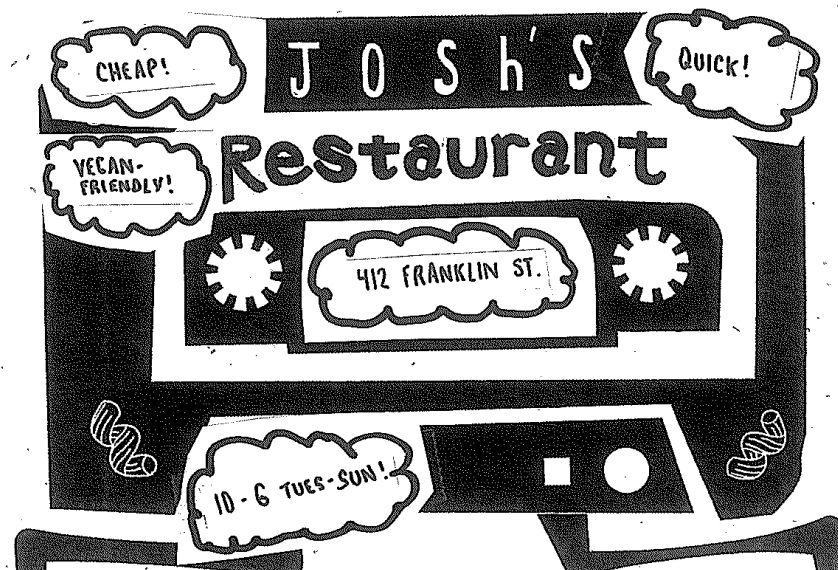
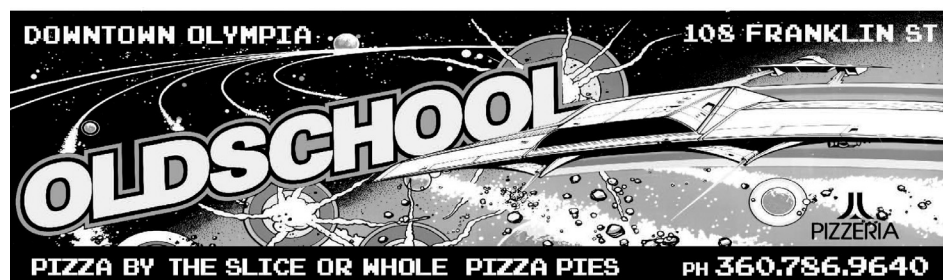


COMIX

Deja Vu Liuxing Jay



Stephan Curry Is A Basketball Player Morrissey Morrissey



Untitled Issac



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WE TRIED EVERY FLAVOR OF
La Croix
FOR THE SAKE OF JOURNALISM
By The Cooper Point Journal Staff

Hello from the hive- mind behind The Cooper Point Journal. Being full- time students, we spend an obscene amount of time picking out snacks at the beloved Greener Bookstore, wasting precious break minutes loitering between the chocolate bars and the bougie jerky. And while our own meth- odologies have deduced that the perfect bookstore snack is a bag of Amy’s white cheddar popcorn, just \$75, and a can of La Croix, which will run you between \$65 and \$85, science has yet to determine which flavour of La Croix is best, until today! Picture five Cooper Point Journal editors, at the peak of our investigative journalism careers, sitting around a small wooden table covered with half empty, multi-sized aluminum cans, sipping and smelling from clear plastic cups. For the sake of productivity the staff of your favorite (and only) school paper have taken it upon ourselves to rank every varia- tion of Evergreen’s favorite and most elitist presenting fizzy drink available at the student store so that you can make your choice quick and get back to studying in no time.

CranRashery

Some of us remembered it being better, with one person exclaiming “very boring like bad weed or a crayon”. With a taste like child cough syrup or gummy hair vitamins. The winning comment goes to this gem; “The only thing I like about this flavor is the illusion that it may cure my UTI.”



Mango

This flavor has a smell that, “gets way deep in your nose” and is, “all smell no flavor”. The taste profile includes: Arizona/ Jet Tea / juice / not ripe asian pear. The CPJ reports that, “It smells way too sweet! It’s really intense and kind of nauseating,” and, “The smell is really over- whelming you can’t taste anything.”



Peach- Pear

The smell leaves you disappointed when your tongue realizes it’s just bubbly water. Peach pear has a fragrance of pear Jelly Belly’s and the inside of Claire’s accessories, with notes of cilantro, this drink leaves you feeling as if you are “drinking a smell” Take it from the mouths of our reporters either, “AHHH IT’S SO GROSS” or “I would drink this though, I would!”



Cantaloupe- Grapefruit

The agreed-upon smell was shampoo. We didn’t have much to say about this very average, very melon-y taste, though it did possess a confus- ing aftertaste. Our sophisticated palettes detect, “Pumpkin pie notes but you really have to think hard about it.”



Coconut

This flavor was the most controversial, everyone either loved it or hated it, but we all agreed that it tastes like sunscreen. The flavor is the most hair spray/ Febreeze-y of them all. There was some surprise– “Fuck I don’t hate this one, I hate my uncle but I don’t hate this one.” The flavor brought up a lot of familial and childhood associations, testers reporting that, “My nose says no, my mouth says yes”, “I want absolutely nothing to do with this it tastes like expired co- conut water” and, “It reminds me of masturbat- ing in the shower as a child”



Aprirot

There was real controversy around whether this flavor had a flavor or not. Some of us thought it tasted like a soapy, melted popsicle in a glass of water, with a very light smell possibly of “acetone???” Others declared, “Does it taste like an apricot, no– but would I drink it, yes.”



Tangerine

Surprisingly tangerine tastes exactly like tan- gerine! Unfortunately tangerine does not dis- perse well in water and leaves you with a chalky mouthfeel. Though not the highest score this flavor does win the unofficial rating of bright- est can which is a little confusing considering the minimal flavor. This tastes exactly like you’d expect it to, like someone put tangerine in water. The staff reports: “It’s fine”, “It lies to you the least”, and, “I would buy this, that’s the fucked up thing, but only because I’ve had 6 grapefruits and I need something else. Same with peach- pear.”



Lemon

Lemon, the perfect flavor to crack open with your baby boomer pals! Lemon has a smell that’s a cross between Fruit Loops, Lemon Pledge and Sprite. This La Croix has a strong lemon scent but a very passive flavor. An inof- fensive option, something you could drink at an airport bar. Taste profile descriptions included, “Classic bottom”/ “Neutral bottom”/ “Not a power bottom like passion fruit” and, “On a mil- lennial scale where 10 is the most and 1 is the least, I’d put this as a 1 or 2.”



Berry

Berry was the flavor we started the night off with. All we really have to say about this flavor is that it tastes like Hubba Bubba gum and smells very much so like Lip Smackers. Overall not a bad choice, if you don’t really like La Croix you might like this one. But fans of obscure flavors beware– “So milque toast to me”



Kiwi- Watermelon

It has got some sour apple slurpee/ sour straw vibes, smell wise, and a distinct wood/ grass taste. One of our writers screamed, “IT TASTES LIKE PENCIL SHAVINGS!” upon first sip. Kiwi- Watermelon is earthy in either a bad bad or a good good way, depending who you ask. Overall it felt confusing and chaotic, but we agreed that, “it’s a creeper” and, “if you gave me the whole can and then you gave me 1 to 2 more cans I’d be into it”.



Cherry- Lime

With only 3 comments made in total this fla- vor produced the least controversy or content, it mostly just tasted like a La Croix version of Shasta fruit punch or a red Iced without any sugar. Our reporters described it as a shrug emoji, which unfortunately does not translate well in print.



Passionfruit

Passion fruit had the cutest can! This flavor is beautifully fragrant and perfume-y and smells like those cherry pineapple popsicle from child- hood. The taste is herbal, and clean, otherwise described as leafy, “vegetal” or pine like. Or “I like it as an experience but not as a drink”



Blackberry-Cucumber

Our reporters agree that this flavor has the fragrance of \$1 dollar Suave shampoo that your recently divorced dad buys because he thinks you have to buy gendered shampoo (which is part of the reason he was divorced in the first place. Other comments include that it makes you, “Feel calm but not too fancy,” like a cheap face mask.



Pamplénousse

We call this flavor “millennial lemon”, similar to lemon in that it’s not shocking and just tastes like citrus-y bubbles. This one has a better can smell than cup smell, but overall just smells like the gummy candy version of grapefruit, along with a rather gummy texture. Someone said; “It fools me into thinking its going to be sweet like more than any other”



Ni-Cola

I know, I know, hear us out though, cola is actually amazing! It smells like Cola gummies but spicy, as in spices— hints of pumpkin spice, clove, nutmeg. This drink is nostalgic in a cozy way and tastes the way chocolate smells.



Pineapple- Strawberry

The winning flavor smells like popsicles, play make-up, and scented markers. This sparkling water beverage posses a strawberry flavor that tastes more like actual strawberries than most strawberry flavored things. This drink is “not as freaky” as you’d expect making this is a just a all around wholesome drink, vanilla, but not in taste if you know what we mean. Much like the others, this drink brought us back a few decades— “Smells like childhood summer but like in a bad way.”



Final Thoughts

True to millennial form, all La Croix is secretly flavored like nostalgic candy! Our panelists report; “All of the flavors are a really nostalgic experience that draw you back into this gross childhood joy and like after this experience I’ve figured out this brand.” Other comments include, “I’m just going to go back to buying bottled San Pellegrino and hoping that their red stars means they’re communists” and the market- research question: “How has this affected Fresca?”



by April Davidson

ARIES 3/21 - 4/19

Last issue I told you to play more, did you start or did you freeze up when faced with all the options? Did you play a little bit but then got distracted by all your other obligations? Some mediation on your intentions towards your future will make your creative/community choices in the next 6 months more precise. Your friends won’t forget about u while you hermit yourself, if anything they’ll be even more excited to see what you made in isolation.

TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20

Did you cut out unnecessary responsibilities from your work like I suggested last issue? Or did you trudge so far with your burden that now you losing interest and awareness? Insisting on working past the point of which you are capable will bring all kinds of imbalances. Besides, people look so much more important when they’ve learned how to delegate tasks.

GEMINI 5/21 - 6/20

Forming a belief system can be tricky; once you form an opinion that means you’ll land in conflict with a differing opinion. Subscribing to any particular organized system means conforming, picking one side and sticking to it. For some people this is okay, but staying with one static thought would be soul crushing for you. You are allowed to change your opinion, especially based off new evidence encountered in the field, in fact I encourage it.

CANCER 6/21 - 7/22

My hope is that you have spent the last month contemplating your most intimate needs and boundaries, because soon you will have need to communicate them in the most explicit and holistic truth you can summon. If you’re not prepared yet, you still have time. My suggestion is, in order to come to a conclusion you will want to inquire not with your emotions but with your intellectual understanding and excitement.

LEO 7/23 - 8/22

Loving, heartfelt and generous to a fault. No one could accuse you of not giving your all to people that you love. You do this without thinking, a natural reflex, but this impulse puts more burdens on you than you can handle. If it feels like it’s never enough for some people, know that it never will be and that’s okay! You are enough, you are abundant, but you can’t be everything. Don’t bend over backwards, you’ll feel better with your dignity intact.

VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22

Under regular circumstances you have amazing routines, all stemming from an intuition about how things should be. Things have gotten a little scattered, your path has been disrupted and you’re having to formulate all new goals. A reconciliation is coming; it will take a lot of courage and insight about yourself but it will purify your understanding into something useful.

LIBRA 9/23 - 10/22

Suddenly, things are extremely good, how did that even happen? You’ve got confidence, friends, an abundance of creative nectars, maybe a cute new romance or at the very least the radiant energy that could attract one. Enjoy this and don’t make the mistake of holding it too tightly. These pleasurable moments will be guidance when the path is lonely again.

SCORPIO 10/23 - 11/21

You’re a deep thinker but you’re at a point where you are going to uncover deep-seating feelings, needs or experiences that have laid buried for a long time. Your aptitude for this work can not but overstated, but even you can grow weary of too much introspection. I encourage you to keep going; once passed thru the shadows of the valley we can truly appreciate the vitality of self-confidence, knowing where you came from.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22- 12/21

If things aren’t working out exactly like you expected them to, take a look at whether or not you really took the time to address the mundane tasks. Satisfaction seemed so close but instead there’s just disappointment because you were sloppy, smug or unrealistic in your communications. The good news is that this is the perfect time to turn things around by striking a balance between your desires and ultimate well-being.

CAPRICORN 12/22- 1/19

This is a moment where you will see clearly the benefits and the pitfalls of how you have handled your finances and possessions. You are secure, and you probably could think of a few ways you could increase your security, but don’t let it define your existence. Take the time to really appreciate what you already have before you set out to acquire more. What good are all these earthly pleasures if you can’t share them?

AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18

Sometimes you know and sometimes everything is all confusion, but it’s okay and even good to keep moving despite where you are in your understanding. You’ve gained so much insight about yourself and the most exciting part is that there’s still more to find out! The self is not a static entity, it grows and changes in your relationship with everything you come into contact with. Don’t you deserve to claim your accomplishments and celebrate your being?

PISCES 2/19 - 3/20

You’ve arrived in a period of where you will need to seek out some level of isolation. Things need to be sorted out in preparation for a period of activity in the near future. Self-destructive habits need to be let go and awareness of your spiritual needs should be your goal. In solitude is where you will receive the messages or information you need to confront ugly behavior. No one will show you honor and respect until you give it to yourself first.

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