

the cooper point journal

The Evergreen State College Newspaper Since 1971 | October 31, 2018



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FROM THE ARCHIVES

Halloween 1987. Taken by Steve Davis, courtesy of The Evergreen State College Archives.

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Our Weekly Meeting

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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.



RIFLES ON CAMPUS

COMMUNITY AND CAMPUS RESPONDS

By FOREST HUNT

In its last edition the Cooper Point Journal reported that Police Services quietly purchased rifles in fall of 2017, and that the purchase was quickly authorized by President George Bridges over that summer.

Stacy Brown, former Director of Police Services, requested five AR-15 rifles on Aug. 1, which Bridges approved only two weeks later.

Purchase orders reveal that the school procured seven Colt LE6920 AR-15 rifles at \$792.68 each and seven Aimpoint Patrol Rifles Sights at \$429 each on Nov 7th, 2017. A week later the school bought nine cases of .223 Remington and 5.56x45mm NATO bullets for \$2,326.76.

Including tax and shipping, the guns and bullets cost the school \$10,897.76.

Outlined in their "Standard Operating Procedures," Police Services rules allow officers to use personal rifles. There are currently nine officers working for campus police, meaning there could

be 16 rifles on campus at any given time.

"I don't know why they would spend that money because these police officers already have rifles, I'm sure of it. I mean everybody who's involved in gun culture, who's involved in the military, who's involved in police, etc. is going to have a personal rifle no doubt about it," said Lars, a current Evergreen student. Lars said they were familiar with Police Services through Copwatch, an autonomous network who observe and document police activity, and through participation in local gun culture alongside police.

Community Responds to Rifle Decision

Interim Director of Police Services Raymond Holmes said that campus police provide "a safe environment which enables students, staff, and faculty to focus on teaching and learning," and "to accomplish that, we must be trained and equipped to the best professional standard.

That includes rifles, which are part of the standard equipment for law enforcement at every public four-year college in the state of Washington."

Professor Emeritus Michael Vavrus pointed out that, although it may be true that other public four year universities in Washington have rifles, schools of comparable size to Evergreen — like St. Martins and high schools across the country — don't have these arms.

Evergreen student Sanna Nour Mohammadi said they understand the rifles were purchased for "protection" after the shooter threat from a New Jersey man in 2017, but criticized Police Services for not thinking more broadly about threats. "Where was the protection when Naima Lowe was receiving death threats and photos of lynchings?" asked Mohammadi. "Where was her and other faculty of color's on-campus security escorts?"

Another student, Cameron, expressed empathy for the

concerns of some community members for an active shooter event, but didn't think the AR-15s would help. "I don't know if having more weapons on campus will make anything safer for anybody," said Cameron. "I think it will escalate the situation."

Lars said they would prefer campus to be free of all arms, but that "students should be armed if police officers are armed."

Student Bobby G expressed skepticism that active shooter situations were common enough to even worry about. "I think that it's far more likely the cops will use rifles to injure or kill unarmed students," said Bobby G.

Student K.B. agreed and expressed concern that rifle bullets have a high potential to ricochet off the concrete and brick that defines Evergreen's architecture. K.B. also pointed to the now heightened implications of someone trying to commit suicide by cop. "I find it terrifying

this doesn't seem to have been considered." Vavrus added that the bullets of an AR-15 could pierce classroom walls.

"The active shooters I'm worried about are, basically, the Evergreen police," said Wobbly, a current student.

Community Speaks Up On Police Misconduct & Racism

"Our officers are highly trained and certified in the use of their equipment," said Interim Director Holmes. "They adhere to the best practices and procedures regarding their use." Police Services has not yet released documentation confirming officers have reviewed the new Standard Operating Procedures for use of rifles since the Cooper Point Journal sent a public records request lodged Oct. 10.

An Evergreen student, Lynn, remembers occasions where she witnessed dubious behavior by campus police. She recalls watching a group of students of color being "treated like they did some-

thing wrong” and asked for their ID by Police Services officers after accidentally pressing the information button on an elevator. She also worried about how the police respond to students experiencing an emotional crisis, recalling a friend of hers “crying and wanting to be left alone” before the police “sat on her and fucking arrested her.”

Courtney Conaway, an Evergreen alumna, described the police as “petty” and unfocused on crime prevention, and recalled a situation where they handcuffed her after seeing an herb grinder in her room on campus.

Lars said they saw an Evergreen police officer participate in a “very violent” response to recent direct action events at the Artesian Commons Park.

Ever, a current student, recalls how she was stopped for a traffic ticket by a campus cop, and the officer was “unnecessarily aggressive.” She believed his behavior was influenced by a grudge from a previous run-in with him.

“I’ve certainly spoken to many students who have been harassed by police,” said Peter Bohmer, a faculty member, also recalling an incident in which Officer Larry Savage listened in on his phone calls on campus years ago.

Nicholas Jeffreys, a current student, outlined several instances of concerning conduct at the hands of campus police. He recounted how a former roommate “went to contest [a] ticket... and was slammed on the ground... by [an Evergreen] police officer,” which Jeffreys characterized as an example of “racial bias, completely.”

History of Tension with Campus Police

The Journal has covered instances of campus police misconduct in the past. The Journal reported on a May 14, 2017 incident in which “two Black students ... were woken up by the campus police and taken to Police Services to be questioned and remained there from around 11 p.m. until 2 a.m.,” and were not allowed to use the restroom for the duration of that time.

Former editor-in-chief Jasmine Kozak-Gilroy wrote in an op-ed for the Journal titled “Campus Police: Not ‘Just Here To Help’” that, during the 2017 student protests, “Evergreen police officer

O’Dell shoved through students ... injuring protestors.”

“It’s Bigger Than Hip Hop,” by Reclaim The Media documents the infamous “V-Day Uprising” that took place outside the Campus Recreation Center in 2008. The documentary outlines how following a Dead Prez hip-hop concert a black male student attempting to break up a fight was arrested by Campus Police Officer April Myers before being set free in the face of a crowd of supportive students. Soon after, the Olympia Police Department arrived, “throwing blows with their fists and batons and spraying pepper spray on ... [the] peaceful protesters,” according to the documentary. The crowd subsequently flipped a police car.

Bohmer recalls how the school sided against the students, collaborated with law enforcement, and “made many felony arrests afterward.”

Jeffreys also described an incident when campus police “viciously and violently” threw “an older Chinese woman” on the ground for suspected drug use after she spent “too long” in the bathroom during an event when writer and transgender rights activist Janet Mock spoke on campus in May 2016.

Jeffreys also recalled how campus police never identified who painted a large swastika on the side of a SEM II building in 2017, concluding that police were not prioritizing action against hate crimes.

On top of these particular events, the police “treat black students here differently, especially black queer and trans students, they treat them badly, don’t talk to them, don’t interact with them,” said Jeffreys. “They follow [people of color] around, they look at them differently ... people of color don’t feel comfortable going to police, queer and trans folks more than most.”

Jeffreys said “I worry about other people who look like me being murdered by campus police because the AR-15s, it’s a hair trigger.” He went on to reason a handgun can still give a person time to survive compared to an AR-15, where the faster trigger time and increased number of bullets make survival unlikely.

Boehmer shared similar concerns, “I’m worried about somebody who’s African

American, Latino, Native American ... [people] of color being the ones who would be shot.”

James is a student who is also troubled by how uncomfortable students of color will feel knowing police have AR-15s. James said he would love to think it did not have an effect on speech, but “I would watch what I said if someone had an AR-15 rifle,” he said.

H.L., another student, expressed his fear to speak honestly as a person of color about his opinions regarding police getting rifles, particularly as to how policing intersects with racism.

Indeed, a significant portion of community members quoted in this article elected to use a pseudonym out of fear that speaking their honest opinions may provoke campus police and potentially put them in harm’s way. Many others seemed reticent to express their whole opinions even with the protection of anonymity, one concluding after our interview, “I’m just trying to stay alive.”

Ezra Haley, a current student, wondered how many members of the Evergreen community never come forward with stories of campus police violence and misconduct out of “fear of what Evergreen police could do to them.”

It’s not just fear that has prevented some from coming forward with their stories. One alumna declined to comment on an incident of racial bias due to resurfaced trauma connected to the incident.

Community Responds to Secrecy

Community members by and large did not know why the college decided to buy rifles, a void in communication that many filled with their own theories. “Did they acquire [the rifles] because of the death threats or did they acquire [them] because of the students that were protesting and making national news?” asked James. “Maybe, but they would never say that.”

Ever was more explicit, saying, “I bet they’re preparing for more riots, and that’s why they’re getting more guns.”

The Journal reported last week that Evergreen senior administration have been candid about the secrecy surrounding the purchase of ri-

fles.

President George Bridges made the final decision, but the smaller details of how the decision was made and who knew what — and when — still remain unclear. Allison Anderson, Public Relations Manager, claimed the Board of Trustees “were consulted on the issue of police equipment and rifles.”

There appears to be no record of this consultation, nor any mention of rifles at all in the past two years of their publicly available minutes.

“I think the students deserve to have input on [this], especially because we’re the ones being affected,” said Maria, a current student.

“This campus is so undemocratic and untransparent, it doesn’t surprise me,” said student Patrick Hamilton. Hamilton said the secrecy surrounding the purchase shows the administration “know the vast majority of students here would probably support disarming the police.”

Student Alice McIntyre agreed, and added, “Not only should we disarm the police, we should kick them off campus period. We should also abolish the administration and the Board of Trustees in favor of democratically elected student-worker-faculty committees.”

What Next?

“We need to stand up and protest against [the rifle decision],” said Jeffreys. “We need to stand up and fight back, because [this] decision was not made on our behalf, and we’re willing to pay everyone’s salary. We have to rejuvenate the school spirit by rejuvenating the basis of what it is.”

Dan agreed “I think when your back is up against a wall you have no reason not to fight,” they said. “if you have nothing to lose, why not fight? Why not?” They encourage the community to fight for the sake of it, and not stop if they lose.

The International Workers of the World South Sound General Education Union, which is attempting to organize students, staff, and faculty into a single union and counter-institution, is planning a “Profs Not Cops” rally on November 7th at 1pm on Red Square.

David Weinman, a student involved with the rally, de-

scribed it as “students, faculty, and staff joining together to demand that administration stop redirecting funds from art and political economy programs to campus police.”

Responding to the idea that Evergreen has a public relations problem in the state legislature and any more protest might risk state funding or even the closing of the school, Jeffreys said, “That’s what Evergreen has been based off of, risking it. No great change is made through bowing.”

“There will be a way, there is always a way, but not if the institution doesn’t have the students back,” said Jeffreys.



The following are pseudonyms to protect the anonymity of the individuals quoted: Cameron, Lynn, Wobbly, KB, HL, Maria, Lars

Corrections and Clarifications From Last Issue’s Rifle Report

- *AR 15 rifles use .223 caliber ammunition, not .22. According to the Alex Yabon writing for The Trace, a news-room focused on gun violence, the .223 caliber is slightly larger and heavier than .22’s, but “what makes the .223... deadlier than the .22 is its velocity.” The .223 will hit its target with 335 foot-pounds of force while the .22 carries 70 foot-pounds, Yabon concluded in his article, “The Simple Physics That Makes Some Bullets Deadlier Than Others.” The AR 15s now owned by Police Services are chambered for 5.56x45mm NATO ammunition, which can also be used to shoot .223 rounds, according to Dave Dolbee writing for The Shooters Log.*

- *There are nine campus police officers, and thus potentially nine additional personal rifles. Not ten, as previously reported.*

- *Michael Vavrus’s quotes regarding “weapons envy”, etc. were a response to the original proposal to purchase AR 15 rifles made by Police Services in 2008-9 and not the recent purchase of the rifles which was made without any proposal.*

- *Wendy Endress was formerly Vice President Of Student Affairs, she now holds the title of Vice Provost for Student Engagement.*

The State Capitol building on Jun. 20, 2012. SHAUNA BITTLE. Courtesy of TESC ARCHIVES.



INITIATIVE I-1631 CARBON TAX TRIES AGAIN

By JACK STROUD

Although Washington voters rejected a carbon tax in 2016, they once again must vote on a similar proposal.

In 2016, initiative-732 proposed a revenue neutral carbon tax based on a similar tax implemented in British Columbia eight years prior. To account for the increased cost of fossil fuels on Washington residents the initiative would have included a one percent reduction in the sales tax—from 6.5% to 5.5%. With nearly sixty percent of 2016 voters in opposition to the initiative, it did not pass.

Those in support of this year's initiative, I-1631, want voters to take careful note that it is a fee, not a tax. The distinction lies in the allocation of the collected moneys. Robin Chapman, an Evergreen student and an advocate of 1631 explained the distinction. "Since it's a fee we get to dictate where it goes," said Chapman. "If it gets thrown in the tax money pool it can go to anything."

While I-732 would have been a tax borne directly by consumers, I-1631 would charge the states top carbon

polluters. If passed, I-1631 will cost the state's top polluters \$15 per metric ton of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere, with notable exceptions such as aviation fuel, aluminum manufacturers and other trade dependent businesses, a coal fired plant in Centra-ria scheduled to shut down in 2025, and pulp and paper mills which are considered carbon neutral under Washington State Law.

This fee would be implemented in 2020 and increase annually by two dollars, with inflation taken into account. If the state's 2035 carbon sequestration goal is met and things are likewise on track to meet the 2050 goal, then the fee will no longer increase except for inflation adjustments.

I-1631 aims to reduce WA's carbon emissions by twenty million metric tons by 2035 and fifty million metric tons by 2050. A study conducted by the Washington Department of Ecology concluded that the 2035 goal is too lenient and should be pushed up to 2030.

Estimates of the how

much money I-1631 could generate in the first five years of its implementation range from \$2.2 billion to just under \$3 billion. A fifteen member panel, all appointed by the governor, would have the ultimate say in how this revenue is spent. The statute stipulates for what purposes the money must be spent, however, flexibility and adaptability are constitutive of the initiatives budget plan.

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"This initiative was drafted in large part by people representing the voices of lower income communities."

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In a discussion facilitated by the Yakima Herald Editorial board, a representative of the No on 1631 coalition, Dana Bieber, said "this 15 member board can spend the money in any way they choose." Bieber suggested board members might invest money generated by I-1631 into personal hedge funds or spend

it out of state where Washingtonians would reap no benefit.

In that same discussion, Mo McBroom, representative of the Nature Conservancy and proponent of I-1631 retorted that Bieber's claims were "absolutely not true." While there is no concrete budget plan, the initiative states that money must be spent to further one of three environmental categories: clean air and energy investments, clean water and healthy forests, and healthy communities investments.

The Initiative would include three Investment Advisory Panels, one for each of the above listed environmental categories. These panels are intended to be a check on the jurisdiction of the 15 member board, even though the panels would likewise be appointed by the governor. McBroom, in the previously mentioned discussion remarked that, "This initiative was drafted in large part by people representing the voices of lower income communities." Furthermore, it is written into the initiative that, "at least one-third of the membership of each panel must be representatives of the interests of vulnerable populations in pollution and health action areas." Advocates of 1631 feel that this diverse participation in the creation and continuance of the measure can justifiably assuage concerns of accountability. Opponents aren't so sure.

Many worry that the fee intended for large oil companies and other polluters will be passed on to consumers. The estimates of increased cost of living vary widely. Bieber relies on predictions that foresee an additional \$440 a year for Washington families; Chapman, on the other hand, states that, "It's only going to cost the average household \$10 a month." These costs, no matter the amount, would be a result of oil and energy companies increasing their costs to make up for the carbon fee, they are in no way an integral part of the initiative. McBroom argues that, "The oil companies want you to think that they will pass the costs on but if that

were the case why would they be investing \$20 million to defeat this initiative, they know that it is going to hit their bottom line."

Jon Devaney, President of the Washington State Fruit Association and opponent of 1631, pointed out a contradiction he saw in McBroom's and other proponents argument to the Yakima Herald Editorial Board, "that our growers will be able to pass on these added energy costs to our customers and they expect us to believe that oil companies will somehow not use that market power to pass costs on to their customers, who are my members." Devaneys main argument is that Washington farmers will be put at a competitive disadvantage due to increased costs of fuel.

The initiative is intended to reinvest the money it generates to help disadvantaged communities, as stated in section six of the initiative: "Funds for this community capacity program must be allocated through a competitive process with a preference for projects proposed by vulnerable populations in pollution and health action areas and rural communities." Speculation to the efficacy of this and other provisions of the initiative run wide.

Advocates feel that it is too late to wait for a perfect solution. A recent United Nation study paints a devastating picture of global temperatures at 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, suggesting we are well on our way to a disastrous tipping point and drastic measures will have to be taken to prevent it. Devaney feels that proponents of I-1631 set us up with a "false choice of either you do nothing about environmental issues and air quality or you pass 1631." He goes on to say that Washingtonians care deeply about the future of our environment and much is going on to protect it in spite of 1631.

If the initiative passes it will be the first of its kind in the United States and will potentially be a model for other states and countries to follow. If it does not pass those battling for environmental protection will not tire.



The Physical Computing Center:

3D Printers, Virtual Reality, Raspberry Pi & more

By STEPH BECK FEY

Tucked away in a corner across from Media Loan, Library Room 2708 is easy to overlook. But since this summer, it's been home to one of the most interesting spaces on campus. The Physical Computing Center, as it's called, is a new computer lab attempting to take an interdisciplinary approach to comp-sci. Boasting a 3D printer, an HTC Vive virtual reality headset, as well as a supply of Arduino microcontrollers and Raspberry Pi miniature computers; the Center attracts students from a variety of academic backgrounds and working on a variety of projects. A bike shop coordinator comes in to make plastic fenders with the 3D printer. A business student explores New York on Google Earth VR. One student, as a final project for a robotics class, used a Raspberry Pi to make an apparatus that checks their potted plant's soil moisture and waters it accordingly.

It isn't only the fancy technology that brings people here, however. It's common for people to come in to work on and ask

for help with more traditional programming projects, with interns Andrew Jordan and Jaysun Balakrishnan serving as unofficial tutors. Other times people come in just to hang out or do homework. Jordan says he goes out of his way to try and encourage a friendly, social atmosphere in the lab. There's coffee always on offer, shelves full of technical books and sci-fi novels for students to read, and Jordan himself is always happy to chat and to help with projects. His efforts seem to have paid off.

Francisco Velez, an astronomy student working on digitally modeling binary star systems, enthusiastically describes the lab as a more supportive, productive environment than other workspaces on campus. "This place is very welcoming. What helps me perform better here is the way everyone treats each other here, it's very positive." And Professor Richard Weiss specifically notes that the two programs he's taught that made use of the Physical Computing Center saw more enrollment than usual from students who

had never taken a computer science class before.

If anything sums up the space's mission then, it's this:

A common project, especially for those hoping to work up to robotics, is to program LEDs to change colors or blink in a sequence. The lab is full of small lights used for just this. When

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*Boasting a 3D printer, an HTC Vive virtual reality headset, as well as a supply of Arduino microcontrollers and Raspberry Pi miniature computers; the Center attracts students from a variety of academic backgrounds and working on a variety of projects.*  
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he can, Jordan leaves the overhead bulbs off so that the room is illuminated by the soft colorful LED glow. Each pattern, the result of a student coming here and leaving knowing more than they did when they walked in. It's kind of beautiful.

DANK'S WONDER EMPORIUM RAIDED BY STATE POLICE

By ZAINAB UMMIE SILLAH

On October 18th, Canada legalized recreational marijuana. It's about time, eh? On that same Wednesday, State police raided local dispensary Dank's Wonder Emporium.

Accompanied by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board, the officers responded to complaints of a possible illegal marijuana smoking club operating at the dispensary. For two years, Chronicast, a member of the High Times podcast family, had been covering the news of Dank's Wonder Emporium. It is a possibility that Chronicast is also linked to marijuana usage on the premises.

The dispensary was closed for an official search on Wednesday. Enforcement officials confiscated cannabis, paraphernalia and other items from the shop. In addition to the products in the shop, officials confiscated equipment used by Chronicast as a part of the investigation. The Emporium reopened Thursday, October 19th, operating its regular business hours.

Dank's Wonder Emporium was originally founded in November of 2012, as a medical marijuana collective in Pacific, Washington. Its official website states its aim is, "to provide the best possible medical marijuana to as many Washington patients at the most affordable price possible." This ongoing goal prompted the collective to apply to the "lottery" for an I-502 retail marijuana establishment license.

Washington voters originally passed I-502 in 2012. The State Liquor Control Board conducted a lottery drawing to determine which establishments would receive recreational retail marijuana licenses. Three members of the collective applied for three licenses out of a total of nine potential lottery slots. The location in Pacific, Washington was the only dispensary granted a license, that was later annulled due to a ban on recreational marijuana in the city. Similarly, in September of 2013, Dank's owner Random Vaughn, expanded the collective to the city of Auburn. However, the establishment was shut down a few months later due to a city enacted ban on all marijuana collective gardens.

However, members of the collective were not deterred. In April of 2014, Dank's purchased an existing cannabis collective in Puyallup, Washington. The dispensary was renamed Pacific Green, and underwent remodeling to create a more accessible environment for its customers. Pacific Green of Puyallup was the first store that had a fully functional Dab bar and lounge. Dank's official website states, "The purpose of the Dab lounge was to provide patients a safe and secure place to consume their medication if for any reason they were unable to safely or securely consume it at their home."

Owner Random Vaughn purchased another struggling cannabis collective in August of 2014. The location in Spanaway, Washington was remodeled to include a Dab bar and lounge, due to the success of its sister store Pacific Green. The collective then expanded to the city of Tacoma in November of 2014.

Washington state passed SB-502 in April 2015, stating that all medical marijuana collectives and dispensaries were to be shut down as of July 1, 2016 or face felony charges. The state allotted additional recreational retail marijuana licenses in lieu of the closings. Dank's was granted priority one out of a three-tier priority list, and would apply to potentially receive three licenses. Dank's was granted the two locations currently operating in Edmunds and Olympia, where the investigation is taking place.

Dank's website states, "We [have] fought for safe and local access for patients and now customers since 2012." The company realizes that they are a part of a growing industry, therefore understands, "additional effort may be required," in providing customers with high quality products. If it is found that marijuana was indeed used on the premises, Dank's Wonder Emporium, and its owner Random Vaughn, risk losing operating licenses, and could face criminal charges, according to a spokesperson for the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board.

Investigation is underway, expect updates from the Journal.

The Washington National Cathedral. by AgnosticPreachersKid. Courtesy of Wikicommons



The Magnitude of Matthew: Remembering Matthew Shepard 20 Years Later

By MICHAEL MARTINEZ-ESQUIBEL

As autumn approaches, a chill in the air reminds us that the winds of change are ever present; and no more than today do we need to hold this reminder close to our hearts. With tension increasing in our divisive culture, it is important to remember the steps that we have taken to get where we are. In the immortal words of philosopher George Santayana, “Those who do not learn history’s mistakes are doomed to repeat them.” This is why the name Matthew Shepard must not be forgotten.

On Oct. 6, 1998, a gay university student by the name of Matthew Shepard was kidnapped, beaten, and tied to a fencepost on the outskirts of Laramie, Wyoming. Shepard would spend the next 18 hours tightly bound to that fence, fighting for his life in freezing temperatures, before a mountain biker discovered him the next evening. Shepard was then helicoptered to Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado, where he was cared for until he passed away on Oct. 12.

After the incident, members of the New York Tectonic Theater Company made pilgrimage to Laramie in search of answers. Over the following years, they conducted upwards of two hundred interviews with residents of the sleepy Wyoming town, some of whom actually knew Matthew Shepard personally. From those interviews, the company compiled and produced *The Laramie Project*, a narrative the-

ater piece describing what happened in the town after Shepard’s beating. The play has since been produced across the country, and this fall, the Evergreen Theater Company will bring it to Evergreen’s campus.

The Laramie Project serves both as a reminder of the transgressions committed and as a way to honor Matthew. When director of the Evergreen Theater Company, Walter Grodzik, chose to produce *The Laramie Project*, he did not know that this year is the twentieth anniversary of Shepard’s death. A number of the cast members had not heard of Matthew Shepard before picking up the script.

Frankly, if it weren’t for my theater fanatic of a mother, I wouldn’t have known the story myself.

There are a lot of people that don’t remember what happened, and at the time it was a national and world news event,” Grodzik recalled during our interview. With the recent passing of the twentieth anniversary, Grodzik believes now is the perfect time to put on this show. “It’s been a coming together of a wide variety of circumstance,” said Grodzik. “This play was exactly what we should be doing right now.”

News of Matthew Shepard’s beating reached the national spotlight, and seemed to shock America to its core. The crimes committed against Matthew appeared to be motivated by hate. America seemed to wait on

pins and needles to hear about this case. With the AIDS crisis occurring one decade prior to Shepard’s beating, a paranoid homophobia loomed in the United States. The defendants in the Shepard case, Aaron James McKinney and Russell Arthur Henderson, clung to the “gay panic” defense. The “gay panic” defense excuses the actions of the accused on the basis of an unwanted encounter with a homosexual individual. An outlandish legal defense such as this has historical precedent, and can be compared to the “Twinkie Defense” adopted by Dan White while on trial for the murders of Harvey Milk and George Moscone. The perpetrators in Shepard’s case, Aaron James McKinney and Russell Arthur Henderson, were both from Laramie and were only 21 years old at the time of the attack — the same age as Matthew.

Shepard was openly gay, and alone at the bar the night of his attack, making him an easy target for such hate. After word of Matt’s assault became public knowledge, he quickly became a symbol in the fight for gay rights. After Matthew’s death, vigils were held in some of the country’s largest cities including San Francisco, New York City, and Washington D.C.

The magnitude of Matthew’s murder shook the earth, and the aftershock was felt by many — Grodzik included. “People are really mourning the loss of this gay man, I don’t think it had

happened in this country before,” recalled Grodzik with a somber voice. “It was just very common that a queer-identified person — particularly trans people at that time — would be murdered, and no one would give a shit, and all of the sudden this happened to Matthew and the world seemed to stop. It was unbelievable to me, that after the devastation of AIDS that they actually stopped. They mourned the loss of this young gay man, they paid attention. It was just unfathomable to me that that actually was the response because it appeared that the country had finally woken up, and the world woke up too.”

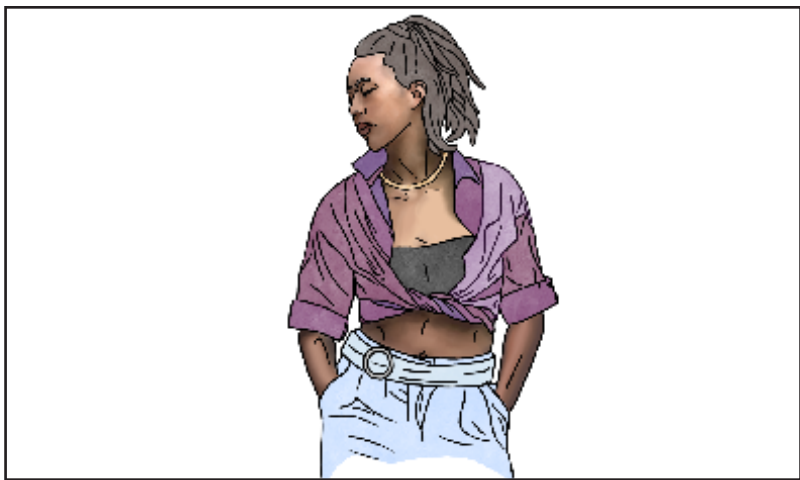
Yet, in the eyes of many, the country is still asleep. No matter how much time passes, hate does not seem to disappear. Twenty years after the tragic death of their son, Dennis and Judy Shepard still struggle to find a final resting place for his ashes. They had held onto Matthew’s urn since his passing, for they feared that burying him in a public place would leave him subject to vandalism. However, two decades after their first born’s death, the Shepard family has finally found a home for Matthew, with the help of Bishop Gene Robinson.

Bishop Robinson of the Episcopal church — the first only gay man to hold the position — worked with both the National Cathedral and the Shepard family to ensure Matthew a safe final resting place. The Na-

tional Cathedral in Washington D.C. — which has historically advocated the inclusion of the LGBTQ community — offered to house his urn. On Oct. 26, 2018, almost exactly twenty years to the date of his death, Matthew Shepard was laid to rest in Washington D.C.’s National Cathedral. Internet headlines published after ceremony gave Matthew four final parting words: you are safe now.

In a 2017 interview, Judy Shepard shared her emotions surrounding hate crimes; more specifically the one committed against her son in Oct. 1998. “I’m angry that people who knew better let this happen, that we let this happen.” She spoke of the fear she held for the current state of our nation, a sentiment many seem to empathize with. “You have to channel that into making things happen. It has to be what gets you up and keep moving.”

Although the winds of change might whip us around every once in a while, as long as we keep it at our back, we will keep moving forward. As we carry on, we must remember what happened to Matthew, as to not repeat the same mistake; and this is why Grodzik is devoted to telling this story. “It’s really simple: to be remembered, your story must be told, and we’re telling the story,” said Grodzik. “We are remembering him.”



STITCH *BAIRD*

artist interview by Brittanyana Pierro

Stitch Baird has been drawing for most of his life, finding ways to channel his art into a representation of himself.

“I feel like it’s a way for me to communicate what I experience without having to spill my life story to strangers. And when people see my art, and when they say they like my art, it makes me feel like I’m not alone in what I experience. Because even if someone else doesn’t experience the same thing, they can see how I experience it.” Baird said.

“I think I’m more of a conduit than a creator...I channel my feelings into a visual medium, or visual representation... I don’t think of things to draw the things that I draw end up on the paper with the pen that I’m using.”

“I found it to be really therapeutic.” Baird said “If I’ve done the outline for something and I just have to go over it, I can like dissociate into it. And then I can sort out my feelings about what I’m trying and about what that represents while I’m going over it.”

One of the bigger projects Baird has been working on is a Tarot card deck. The deck is called Midnight Oddities and according to Baird it represents “The things that go bump in the night, the monsters under the bed.”

Each card in the deck has an individual meaning. One of the cards Baird is most deeply connected to is “The Magician.”

“It’s about your capabilities and the resources at your disposal. And it means you need to tap into your whole full potential and not hold back. And that’s been very important to me. Because in high school I took on a lot of projects, but I never really took them on because I felt like I had an obligation...Because everyone [said to me] like, ‘Oh, you have so much potential.’ And I felt like ‘I have to do something with that.’ But I was never really doing things that I enjoyed or that I thought I was good at. And now I’m focusing on fewer things, but things that I actually think I have potential to be good at. And things that I feel good about” he said “for me [the card is] about

transformation into more of who you are meant to be.”

The deck as a whole has also has an important purpose, created by Baird to be a message for those in search of healing.

“Different decks are designed to have different energies and stuff. And this is meant to be a deck for survivors.” Baird said. “This is meant to be like a recognition of what we’ve all been through and a route to get past that, and heal from that.”

There are currently 16 out of 22 cards completed in the deck. Baird estimates the finish date to be December of this year. To contribute to the production of the Tarot deck follow this link and donate! https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/594883811/midnight-oddities-tarot?ref=project_link

To see more of Stitch Baird’s art follow his IG: @bad.wolf.artisto or his Tumblr: @badwolfartisto. To commission Baird work email him at bad.wolf.artisto@gmail.com



“It’s sort of like taking your demons and putting them on paper, and telling them that they don’t control your future”



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

As you may have heard, I-1631, the bill to charge big energy companies for their carbon pollution, has made it to the ballot. As a student studying climate justice, this makes me very excited. I've spent a lot of time this past year gathering signatures to get it on the ballot and recently have been reaching out to voters about the benefits of the initiative. I think it's really great that there is a wide representation of Washington citizens that will have a say on where the money collected from big energy money will get to be spent. The main goals are to get clean energy infrastructure built so that low income communities can easily make the switch, to mitigate and prepare for climate disasters such as sea level rise and wildfires, and to restore forest and marine habitat. With these goals in mind, the appointed committee will work to ensure the environment is being protected.

I learned about cap and trade deals last year in school and it left a bad taste in my mouth. I saw that these kind of policies can easily be taken advantage of by big energy companies to exploit land in far away places. I don't see this happening with I-1631 because the people handling the money have our best interests in mind. I hope you'll join me in November on voting YES on I-1631!

Yours truly,
ROXY CASIMIR



Art Forces x Susan Greene: Art that Forces Change

At the corner of State and Capital in downtown Olympia is the Olympia-Rafah Solidarity mural. A large tree grows from concrete, obstructed by bright blue waves crashing over. Since 2011, the eye-catching colors of each leaf invite the viewer to take a deeper look into who the leaf depicts. Indigenous people, activists, musicians and radical organizers are painted in vivid color as important leaders in the Olympia community.

Art Forces has created a diaspora of peoples working on art and social change from the streets of San Francisco to Olympia, Washington, and across the globe to refugee camps in Palestine and Lebanon. Their artwork articulates global issues of social justice, precarity, borders, migration, and decolonization.

Spearheading the movement is muralist Susan Greene. The New York City native has led

over thirty public art projects worldwide. Greene's work as a social art practitioner, educator and clinical psychologist sparks the discussion of world commonality and connectivity. A San Francisco activism archive, Freedom Archives, says she focuses on "the borders and migrations involving memory, decolonization, and the relationships between creativity, trauma, and resilience in the context of globalism."

Founded in 2001, Art Forces states its use of community art and technology, including murals, websites, social media, is to inspire analytical thinking and action. The vision of Art Forces is to connect social justice struggles and histories that have been decimated or consigned to oblivion. Their official website states their work is in "the intersection of trauma, memory, creativity, resilience and resistance." The project aims to

By ZAINAB UMMIE SILLAH

"imagine new possibilities," by disturbing and rupturing perceptions of culture, in order to create cultural alliances that offer the public an opportunity to see global connections.

Evergreen student Ana Beatriz says the mural "makes me feel like there are so many stories, that I can never cognitively understand them all. But I can get a view of them from this mural."

Art Forces straddles many mediums with its ongoing goal "[of using] culture as an organizing tool to bring people together across movements." Since its inception, the movement has completed over fifty public art projects in the United States, Palestine and Lebanon. Their projects and products are used by activists and organizers to promote change in many arenas, including mental health, non-violent resistance and the environment.

GREENER STYLE

A new section where we ask students questions and they answer! Is this a section about your style? Your ideas? Your impulsive responses to a stranger's questions on the street? Only time will tell! For now, let's say all of the above. If you have a question to recommend, send it our way.

Question: What is your favorite thing about Halloween?

"Seeing people in different costumes."



"Definitely candy."



"Probably the parties, can I say that?"

"My favorite thing is especially the ability to do something really disgusting and its socially expected."



There no age barrier to wearing a costume. Candy corn flavored puke.

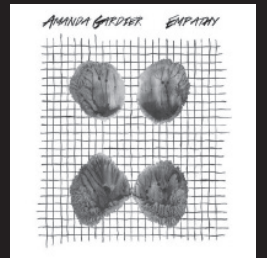


PHOTOS BY MARIAH GUILFOIL-DOVEL

KAOS TOP 10

89.3 THE WEEK OF OCT. 31

- 1 Amanda Gardier - *Empathy*
- 2 Ural Thomas and the Pain - *The Right Time*
- 3 Aphex Twin - *Collapse*
- 4 Nes - *Ablam*
- 5 Hip Spanic Allstars - *Old School Revolution*
- 6 Catarina Dos Santos - *Radio Kriola — Reflections On Portuguese Identity*
- 7 Johnny and Jaalene - *Johnny & Jaalene*
- 8 Diane Durrett - *Diane Durrett & Soul Suga*
- 9 Cumulus - *Comfort World*
- 10 Tiki Collective - *Muse*



YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT!

Ten volunteer peer reviewers from other NWCCU-accredited colleges will visit campus to gather more information as part of a cyclic review process required of all accredited institutions.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS WITH THE PEER REVIEWERS:

► MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5

At the request of the reviewers, sessions are specific to each group's unique perspective:

NONSUPERVISORY STAFF

2-3 p.m. in Purce Hall Classroom 4

STUDENTS

3-4 p.m. in Purce Hall Classroom 3

FACULTY

4-5 p.m. in Purce Hall Classroom 4

FIND EVERGREEN'S SELF-STUDY AT:
evergreen.edu/provost/accreditation

UP & COMING

WED. OCT 31

Building the Movement for Mutual Aid

3 p.m.
SEM II C1107

Olympia Halloween!

3 p.m. - 6 p.m. free candy
Downtown: look for balloons!

FRI. NOV 2

Black Box Jazz: Anjali Silva

8 p.m., \$25
Center for the Performing Arts

SAT. NOV 3

Shook! Drag Extravaganza

9:30 p.m.
Octapas Cafe

THU. NOV 8

**Angels in America:
Millennium Approaches**

7 p.m., \$12 admission, \$7 for students
Kenneth J. Minnaert Center

SUN. NOV 11

Films: Queerama & State Fair

11 p.m. - 2 a.m. \$10 admission
Capitol Theater

Makeup Workshop with

Hartung FX

2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Octapas Cafe

MON. NOV 12

Film: Trans Youth

4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. \$10 admission
Capitol Theater

THU. NOV 13

The Water Connects Us:

Welcome Dinner

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. potluck & open mic
The Longhouse

FRI. NOV 14

The Water Connects Us:

Panel & Special Guests

10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
The Recital Hall

International Education Fair

12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Library Lobby



STUFF 2 DO

By MASON SOTO

WED 11/13 - THUR 11/14

THE WATER CONNECTS US:

*Gathering with Those Who Work in
Water Protection & Restoration
Recital Hall. See Calendar for Times. Free. All Ages.*

This upcoming two-part event will offer discussions at Evergreen with indigenous people, environmental water protectors, scientists, and media creators, all dedicated to sacred water. First, a Welcome Dinner at the Longhouse on Tuesday will include a potluck, poetry reading, live music, and an open mic. Wednesday events will involve panel discussion with special guests at the Recital Hall. The Mediaworks Programs is sponsoring the event, which is free to all and open to the public.

MONDAY 11/12

OFS PRESENTS: TRANS YOUTH

Capitol Theater. 3 p.m. \$10 Cover.

Olympia Film Society will be showing this 2017 documentary film at Capitol Theater. It follows the lives of seven trans young adults living in Austin, Texas. Director Rebecca Adler attempts to capture the nuanced, intimate lives and reflections trans youth experience, to dive deeper than surface images and understandings of trans life. The trailer had me shaking!! In a good, stirring way. Check it out! (Also, if your interest is piqued, you might want to save the date for another Olympia Film Society showing, *Queerama* on Nov. 11, a film "somewhere between documentary and theater", revolved around queer film history).

THUR 11/8 - SUN 11/18

ANGELS IN AMERICA:

*A Gay Fantasia on National Themes
Kenneth J. Minnaert Center for the Performing Arts.
Various Dates & Times. \$7 Students, \$10 General.*

Tony Kushner's nearly 30 year old two-part play continues to captivate playhouses and audiences all over the country. It is about the AIDs crisis, about being gay in New York in the eighties, about religion and politics and love and the nature of progress, among other things. The South Puget Sound Community College Theater Program is producing the Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winning set of plays in four showings, with a back to back performance on Sunday, Nov. 18, along with optional dinner catering.

EVERY SUNDAY

MAINTAINING THE BEAUTY OF THE PARK

West Central Park. Free. All Ages.

The West Central Park Project is back at it, hosting "volunteer work parties" every Sunday at the titular park, where they encourage the community to come out and support local parks through gardening, pruning, picking up litter, and bird house painting, as well as plenty of other fun outside craft type things! They invite everyone, from those with a naturally green thumb to people who don't even really know what dirt is! Join them any of the Sundays from here to March to participate in keeping the town's parks lovely and lively.



**A SPOOKY CONGRATS
TO OUR COSTUME
CONTEST WINNERS!**

**1st Place:
Courtney,
Burned Fairy**



**Runner Up:
Isah,
Death**



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Arts & Crafts Fair

WEDNESDAY
NOV. 28TH

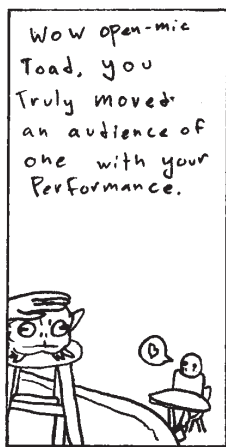
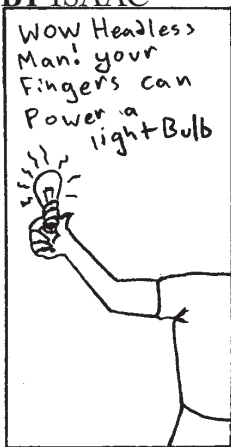
11AM TO 4PM

COLLEGE ACTIVITIES BUILDING

INTERESTED IN BEING A VENDOR? EMAIL SANTILLJ@EVERGREEN.EDU

COMIX

BY ISAAC



BY TRINITY, NOAH & MARCUS



Marcus



Noah

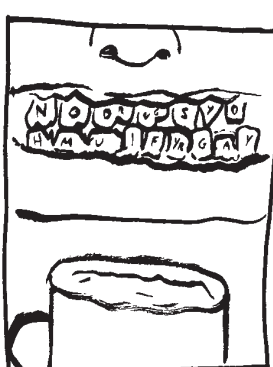


Trinity

BY MARCUS

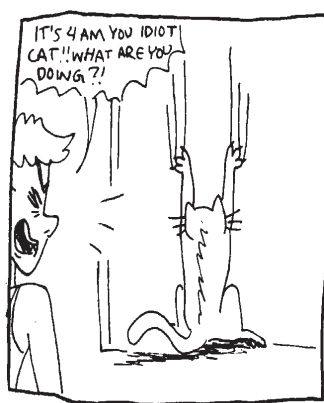


Marcus



Noah

BY KELLY M, ISAAC CLARA



Kelly M.



Isaac



Clara

BY MARCUS, CLARA & ISAAC



Isaac



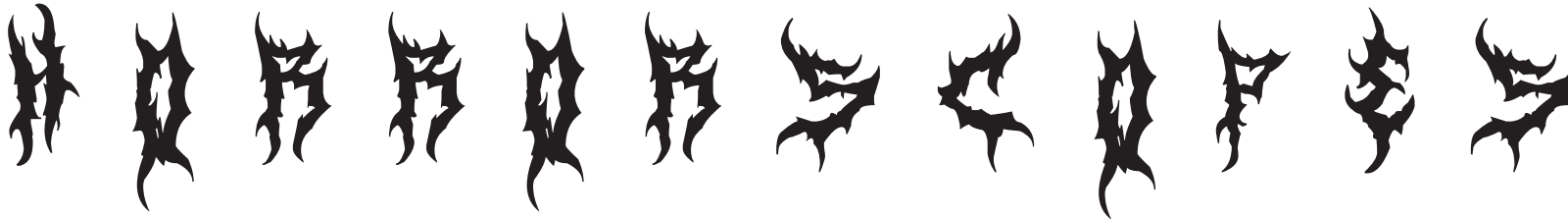
Clara



Marcus

WANT TO HAVE YOUR COMIX
**PUBLISHED IN THE
COOPER POINT JOURNAL?**

The CPJ is always taking comic submissions. Just send your comics to 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/>



By
Mariah
Guilfoil-Dovel

Scorpio (October 24 - November 22):

You slay all day and don't want to do it alone! You are the group costume! Specifically, the Spice Girls! Get your four besties together with you and no matter where you go you're sure to have a great time!

Sagittarius (November 23 - December 22):

You are always such a clown! You love keeping everyone laughing so, naturally, you are going to have the funniest costume of the night. Let this night give you the chance to showcase your hilarity and popularity by flexing your meme muscles. You are:

The meme costume!

Capricorn (December 23 - January 20):

You are a natural trendsetter and have a great sense of style! This, along with your penchant for feeling comfortable and always being prepared to sprint has you fitting right in (or keeping up?) with your favorite celeb family. Take advantage of the current athleisure trend and pop on your fave sweats and those white dad sneakers and you are set to go. Yeezy vibes all night.

Aquarius (January 21 - February 19):

You view Halloween as a scary, spooky, fright filled night, but that's what makes you so into it. You can be found at a haunted house or hosting a scary movie night. But isn't that true for all year round? Your costume is truly terrifying. Go ahead and dress as your normal self, just with an extra reminder of the scariest thing to us all: crushing student loan debt!

Pisces (February 20 - March 20):

The anti-Halloween person. You're the one who forgets its even Halloween until a bunch of kids show up at your door dressed as Batman and cats. You realize you'll either need to turn off all your lights and pretend you aren't home or rush to the store and buy a big bag of candy and leave it in a bowl outside your door while you continue your Bob's Burgers marathon.

You should choose the second option. Pick up some Candy on your way home and leave a "Please take one" sign on your steps.

Aries (March 21 - April 20):

We all know you're a go-getter and a bold person. You've been crushing goals all month and you don't have the time to devote to an elaborate costume. You still love the holiday and want to be a part of the fun without all the extra work. You should be:

Taurus (April 21 - May 21):

As the procrastinator of the group, you win the last minute costume award. Despite this, you're not going to go for something that would be *GASP* predictable! No way, being uncreative is your nemesis! With this costume, you get to wear whatever normal stylin' outfit you love. Just take a frame off your wall and take out the photo inside. Then, when someone asks "What are you?", you hold the frame around your face and exclaim "I'm a self portrait!"



Gemini (May 22 - June 21):

Obviously, you're a social butterfly. Between your latest fling's monster mash and your class friend's big shindig, you are at a loss for which party to attend. Honestly, you'll probably end up going to all of them. You are a social butterfly, so for Halloween, be a social butterfly! Duh! This costume is fun and simple, all you'll need is to print out some logos from social network sites onto a tutu and pop on some butterfly wings! Voilà!

Cancer (June 22 - July 22):

Cancers are known for always keeping others guessing and you have definitely been keeping your costume a guarded secret all month long. Take advantage of this Halloween to not only debut a new outfit, but a new relationship as well! Your costume is:

The couples costume!

There are a lot of routes you can take, but of course you love the path less traveled. Introducing Bob Ross and Tree Painting!

Leo (July 23 - August 21):

Leo's high self esteem and love of attention means the choice has to be something fun and easy to wear. You are in for a night of activity, be it at home with the family or out causing some spooky mayhem. No matter what, you will want a fun and easy going costume that still steals the limelight. You are:

The Baewatch Lifeguard!

This costume works on so many levels. You can make it sexy with little effort or suitable for the cold weather with little effort. All you need is a red swimsuit, some red sweats, and a jacket you can take on and off as you please.

Virgo (August 22 - September 23):

Virgos love thinking and analyzing situations, but you also know how to have a good time. When it comes to choosing your Halloween costume, you are no different. You'll want something that shows off your personality but won't break the bank or be too demanding of your time and attention during this haunted night. You are a party animal and don't want your costume getting in the way. Introducing:

The party animal! All you'll need is a mask of your favorite animal and a party dress or suit that makes you feel like a million bucks.

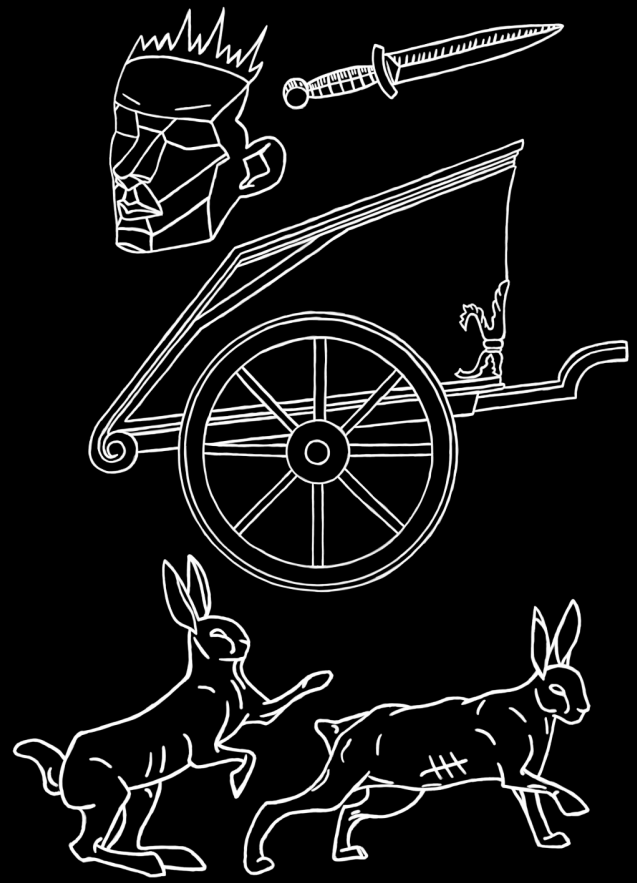
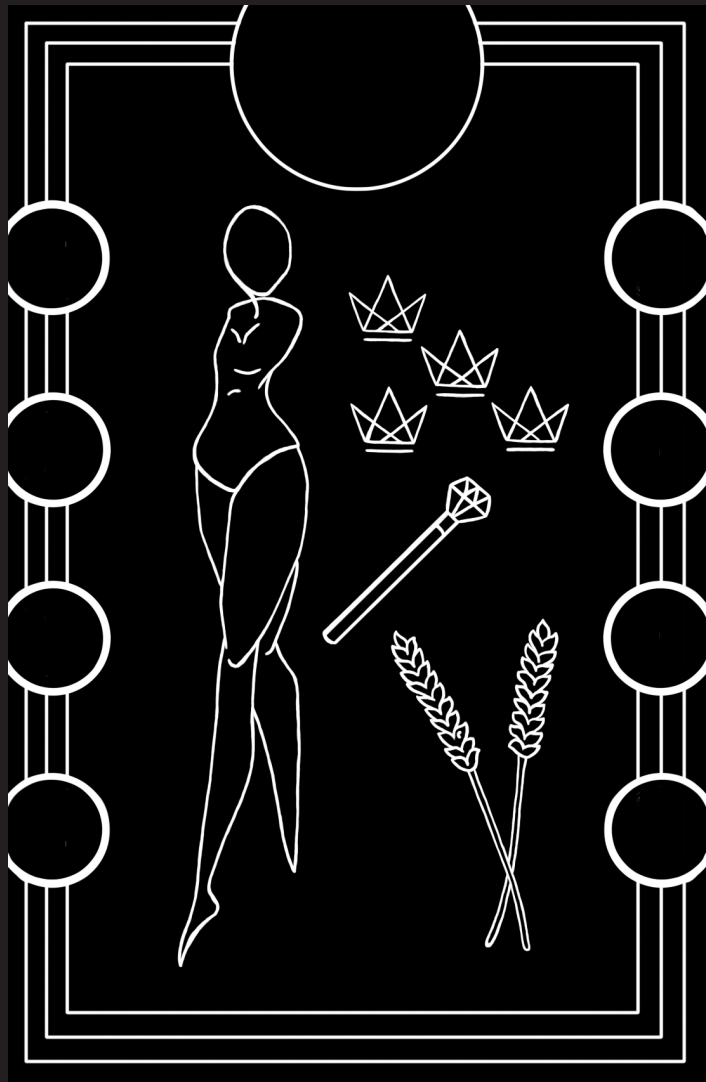
Libra (September 24 - October 23):

Libra, you queen. You're very ambitious, as usual. Your goals are big and you are ready to conquer them. You're a great friend, a natural diplomat, and honestly YOU RULE. Sometimes that attitude can get you in trouble but not on Halloween. Take this night to embrace your natural royalty!

You could go full gown and sceptre this year or keep it simple with just a crown.



drawings BY MORRISSEY MORRISSEY



VII



II



I