

the COOPERPOINT

The Evergreen State College Student Newspaper | October 12, 2016

JOURNAL



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HOW WE WORK

The Cooper Point Journal is produced by students at The Evergreen State College, with funding from student fees and advertising from local businesses. The Journal is published for free every other Wednesday during the school year and distributed throughout the Olympia area. Our content is also available online at www.cooperpoint-journal.com.

Our mission is to provide an outlet for student voices, and to inform and entertain the Evergreen community and the Olympia-area more broadly, as well as to provide a platform for students to learn about operating a news publication.

Our office is located on the third floor of the Campus Activities Building (CAB) at The Evergreen State College in room 332 and we have open student meetings from 4 to 5 p.m every Wednesday.

WRITE FOR US

We accept submissions from any student at The Evergreen State College, and also from former students, faculty, and staff. We also hire some students onto our staff, who write articles for each issue and receive a learning stipend.

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

We will also consider submissions from non-Evergreen people, particularly if they have special knowledge on the topic. We prioritize current student content first, followed by former students, faculty and staff, and then general community submissions. Within that, we prioritize content related to Evergreen first, followed by Olympia, the state of Washington, the Pacific Northwest, etc.

To submit an article, reach us at cooperpointjournal@gmail.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear from you! If you have an opinion on anything we've reported in the paper, or goings-on in Olympia or at Evergreen, drop us a line with a paragraph or two (100 - 300 words) for us to publish in the paper. Make sure to include your full name, and your relationship to the college—are you a student, staff, graduate, community member, etc. We reserve the right to edit anything submitted to us before publishing, but we'll do our best to consult with you about any major changes. Thank you!



Defendants were previously seen harrasing protestors at the Black Lives Matter Demonstratio. RICKY OSBORNE

Couple Arrested for Attempting to Bribe Stabbing Victim

DEFENDENTS BELIEVED TO BE NEO-NAZIS

By Felix Chrome

On October 5 at around 5:20 a.m. police raided two houses, which sit on the same property and share the same address, on the westside of Olympia. Two residents Cassie Hickam and Robert Fechtner were arrested on suspicion of attempting to bribe the victim of a stabbing in downtown Olympia so he would not testify against the perpetrator.

The victim, a black man, was stabbed outside The Clipper on 4th Ave and Adams in downtown Olympia on August 16. The man and his girlfriend were both injured in the attack but recovered. Their assailant, later identified as Daniel B. Rowe, was injured in the altercation and he was still on the scene when police arrived. Rowe was arrested and charged with assault with a deadly weapon.

These original charges have been added to since Hickam and Fechtner's arrest. Rowe now faces five felony charges: two counts of second degree assault with a deadly weapon, two counts of malicious harassment, and one count of bribing a witness.

Rowe has multiple tattoos that indicate he is a white su-

premacist, including ones that say "skinhead" and "white power." The police believed that this racial prejudice was the motivation for the assault. Deputy Prosecutor Joseph Wheeler told the Olympian the incident "has all the hallmarks of a hate crime."

After the stabbing, KOMO 4 news reported, "[Rowe] told police he was part of a white supremacy group and had come to downtown Olympia because he had heard that the Black Lives Matter movement had left anti-police graffiti downtown."

In the course of the ongoing investigation into this incident, police looked into Rowe's friends and associates which lead to evidence of the alleged conspiracy to prevent Rowe's victim from testify-

Hickam and Fechtner allegedly attempted to give the victim \$2000 in exchange for refusing to cooperate with police or to appear in court.

Police monitored phone conversations as well as mail correspondence Rowe had with Hickam and Fechtner while in jail, which lead to the couple's arrest. A judge found probable cause to charge them both with bribing a witness. Fechtner and Hickam's bail was set at \$75,000 and \$10,000, respectively.

Police also believe that there that Fechtner and Hickam share Rowe's racist beliefs. Wheeler told the Olympian "The indication we have is that Mr. Fechtner is a member of a white supremacist group."

Hickam and Fechtner both have extensive criminal his-

tories, and Fechtner was previously convicted of an attempted first degree murder in 1999. Wheeler continued, saying, "He is a very violent individual."

Hickam has since been released from jail. Residents in the area told the CPJ Hickam returned home, then spoke to an Evergreen student asserting her innocence and claiming charges against her were dropped.

We contacted the prosecutor's office to verify this claim, but they did not respond to our request for comment by the time this article went to print. However, neither Hickam nor Fechtner are listed as currently being in custody on the Thurston County Sheriff Office database.

Since May, Hickam and Fechtner have been living directly behind a house where a group of Greeners live, on the west side near the Olympia Food Co-op. The residents of the other house which shares the same property spoke with the CPJ but did not wish to be identified due to privacy and safety concerns. One of these residents told us, "It makes me really paranoid because all [Fechtner's] friends know where we live."

These residents said they were completely unaware of the couple's alleged involvement with neo-nazi activities. While they has spoken with Hickam and Fechtner a few times, they did not know them well and were shocked by their arrest and the following revelations. One resident of the house summed it up, saying, "It's just scary we were interacting with these people."

When police arrived to arrest Hickam and Cassie they stated they had a search warrant for both houses. State police forced everyone outside, zip-tying their hands and making them wait in the yard, while they searched the premises and arrested Hickam and Fechtner.

The residents were held outside for about twenty minutes then were allowed to re-enter their home and were

questioned by a detective investigating the case. One resident told the CPJ, "as far as [police] knew any of us could have been connected to them." However, it quickly became clear to the police that these students were unaware of the activities of the couple living behind their house.

Other community members, however, had been aware of Hickam and Fechtner's white supremacist alliances for at least a few months, since a confrontation at a Black Lives Matter demonstration in July of 2016 when they confronted protesters, harassing them and yelling "white power" among other racist statements.

During this incident a protester asked if Fechtner was a white supremacist, a label which he proudly accepted, taking off his shirt to reveal several visible tattoos of white supremacist symbols, including a portrait of Adolf Hitler. When demonstrators tried to force them to leave the premises Hickam spit on one white participant, calling her a race traitor, and attempted to punch a person of color before finally leaving the scene.

Looking at Fechtner's social media quickly reveal further evidence of participation in white supremacist groups. For example, his facebook cover photo at the time of writing this article is a banner for the "Pacific Northwest Wolf Pack" which features a version of a wolfsangel, or wolf's hook rune. This symbol was an insignia for the 2nd SS Panzer "Das Reich" Division of the Nazi Waffen-SS during World War II, and later became a neo-nazi favorite, most famously being used by the Idaho based "Aryan Nations" group.

We attempted to reach out to police multiple times about ongoing investigations into white supremacist groups and activities, but they did not return our request for comment.

News



Evergreen students Lawrence Walker III and Ar Ruschet interrupted convocation to protest racism. TARI GUNSTONE.

Voices Behind the Student Protest at Convocation

By Tari Gunstone

Two students interrupted this year's convocation with a sign reading, "Evergreen cashed its diversity check but doesn't care about black students." These students, Lawrence Walker III and AR Ruschet, spoke with the CPJ about their motivation for this protest and issues of racism at Evergreen. They felt that convocation was a way for Evergreen to sweep its racist, transphobic, and ableist history under the rug for the new students arriving here and thus felt compelled to speak up. "We were angry and carrying so much steam behind us on top of that," said Walker.

Standing silently under the podium, many black students and a couple of white students joined them up front in solidarity. The students were told to wait until the convocation's events ended, then George Bridges opened an invitation for discussion about the meaning of the protest, but did not stay to participate. The conversation that ensued among the students who stayed behind was passionate, emotional, tense, and at times messy, but most importantly, a crucial examination of racial inequity at Evergreen was sparked.

The intent behind the protest sign's statement addresses students of color's feeling that their role here is to fill a diversity box. Ruschet told me, "It's as simple as going on the Evergreen website. Right away, you can find at least a handful of pictures of people of color, that's the selling point for diversity: black students, brown students, diversity!" Walker added, "But those students are treated on campus like trophies who are super disposable."

For many new students, this

criticism came as a shock. Evergreen has a reputation as being liberal progressive, which connotes an idea of open-mindedness and social justice. But, Walker and Ruschet point out that the terms liberal and progressive are not synonymous for equality. "It's important for us to challenge what's being said when the words liberal and progressive are freely thrown around. We should ask if those people are caring for the most vulnerable, trans folk, trans folks of color, queer folks, queer folks of color, disabled folks, disabled folks of color, etc.," Ruschet suggests.

Racial bias is not an uncommon experience at Evergreen (see Forest Hunt's article in this issue). For new student Halla Warner who joined in with the protest, her hope is to be at a school that is "going to help me grow and learn and nurture me—one that doesn't only want me so that it can check a box, and post pictures online to prove its differences."

Warner hasn't personally experienced racial bias at Evergreen yet, but she's encouraging all stu-

dents to keep their eyes open and not make assumptions. "Think about this: How are the African American students in your class being treated differently than you? Are they? To whom is the class you're taking being catered or centered towards? Administratively, how many black faculty and administrators are you seeing? How many black students are in your class? How often do they get a chance to speak? What's being said in response to the things they might be saying? How does what they've said (for example at convocation) make you feel? How do you think it makes them feel?"

So where can students of color go for support when racial biases comes up? Walker and Ruschet told me that in general, they both have felt so fundamentally unsupported here. Walker shared that student groups of color are not treated with priority at Evergreen. For students interested, there is the Black Student Union, but they describe it as more of a space for black people to hang out and less of an action-based hub. Warner just joined the group

Black Focus on campus and really digs it. "If you're a black student and you're wondering where all the other black students are, that's where you'll find them. It's a hugely compassionate and welcoming community."

Walker and Ruschet acknowledged that some people of color (POC) faculty members have done their best to be supportive, but the small amount of them as well as differences in political philosophies have often interfered. Ruschet told me that they "do want to acknowledge the work faculty do amidst the predominantly white faculty here; I imagine it can't be easy for them to navigate that space that they've had to work so hard to get. As POC, you have to work 10 times harder and be 20 times smarter in order to gain credibility. There comes a point, too, where those sort of politics become damaging because they don't allow those people to be human—you always have to be on your game, the strong black person that crushes through white supremacy all the time."

For Walker and Ruschet, the education at Evergreen still centers largely around white perspectives. We discussed how Evergreen's emphasis on environmentalism often erases or dehumanizes people of color. They've heard vegan activists on campus offensively equate caged animals to slavery. Ruschet lamented that, "even when we study queer folks it comes from a hella white perspective." They would like to see a Black Studies Department form at Evergreen. Lawrence idealizes an education "where we begin with people of color and the most marginalized communities first, and then work backwards from there." Both agreed that, "keeping action at the forefront," rather than verbalized reassurances from George Bridges and the rest of the administration is absolutely fundamental in moving toward equity. Bridges has apologized for not supporting Walker and Ruschet's voices at convocation and met with them in person to make further amends. He promised them to be more transparent about what the college was doing. Walker and Ruschet remain skeptical, but hope that active follow through is indeed a possibility.

Signs of progress so far from Evergreen's administration in creating spaces for marginalized communities on campus can be seen in the Unity Lounge and the

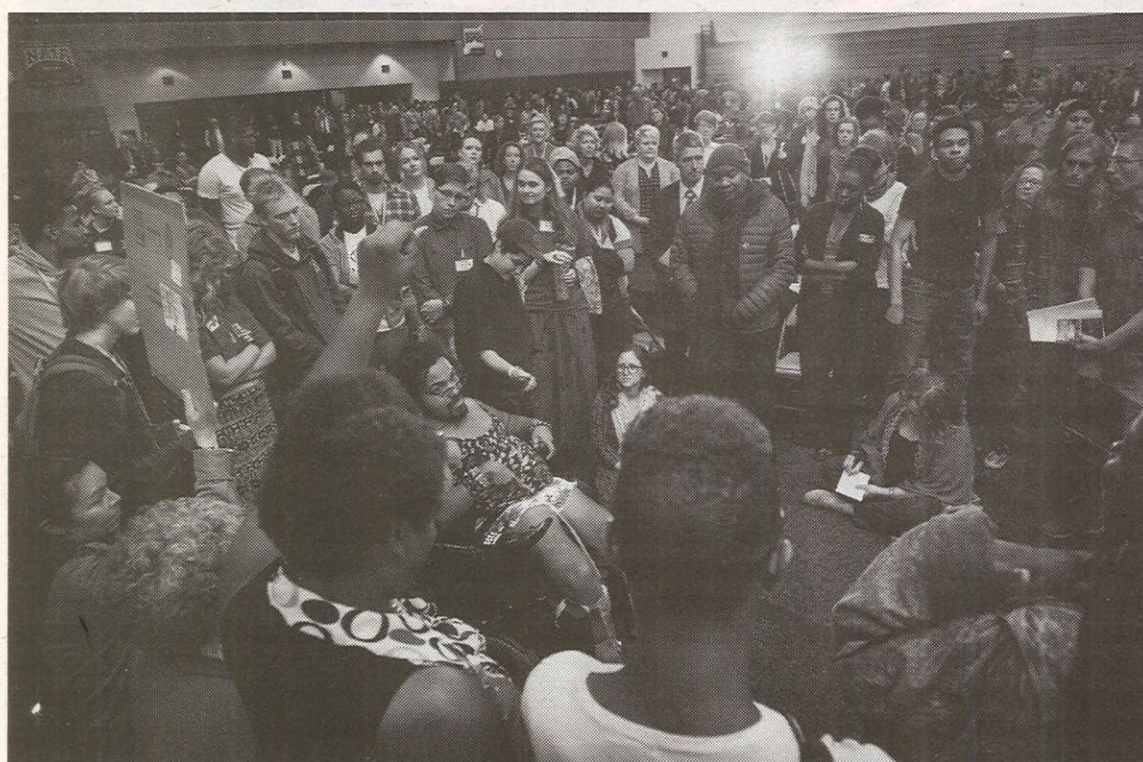
opening of the Queer and Trans Center, but Walker and Ruschet note that people of color and trans and queer folks have worked hard to create that space. They also hope that these spaces, which are located on the same floor of the Library, will not be thought of as two separate things, because, "To us they are the same thing. We are queer and trans, we just happen to be black."

Navigating that intersectionality of identities has of course been difficult for Walker and Ruschet. "Yes, we are black, which is what people recognize first, but we are also hella gay and hella trans and that influences our politics, too. Both of us are non-able normative, always anxious, we go through cycles where one person is more anxious than the other, so we help each other when the other person needs it." Ruschet experiences another layer of prejudice due to their disability, expressing that, "we are much more hesitant to trust institutions to take care of us, so we sort of take care of each other." Their blackness seems difficult enough for white faculty and staff to "deal with" but Ruschet shares that the whole package of "black, tranny, fag, gimp," can really shut people down.

Even within the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, Walker and Ruschet have felt a lack of acknowledgment for the nuanced experience and identity of black individuals. "The movement is still learning how to properly provide trans solidarity. It still feels like when black, trans folks die there isn't marches for them and protests to come together to battle transphobia," explained Walker. For them, BLM has defaulted to a niche of who to rally behind and seems to operate under what they call "respectability politics," where there lacks a "by any means necessary" push toward liberation.

Walker and Ruschet have both recently started viewing themselves as anarchists mostly because of the absence of radicalism that exists in other forms of black politics. They point out that there's actually a very rich history of anarchism in the black liberation movement, even if it's not called anarchism, the spirit of it is deeply present. The roots of anarchism can be seen in slave revolts as well as the resistance seen today in Ferguson, Charlotte, Baltimore, and the prison strikes. Even black people's historic hesi-

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The protest on convocation spurred student discussion about race. SHAUNA BITTLE.

Protest Follows Year of Controversy over Racism at Evergreen

CONTEXTUALIZING BIAS ON CAMPUS

By Forest Hunt

After students interrupted convocation in protest, the guest speaker, Naomi Oreskes, as well as George Bridges and the other administrators facilitating the convocation events chose to continue with the planned schedule and told the student protestors they could speak at the end. This did not sit well with many students who felt the voices of black students should have been prioritized. Halla Warner, a freshman who decided to participate in the protest, said she was upset by the way Oreskes rudely asked them to sit down and that none of the faculty or George Bridges stepped in to stop it.

But this is not the first time black people and students of color at Evergreen have felt dismissed and unsupported by the administration. This protest came on the heels of escalating controversy and disagreements about the handling of racism on campus.

For those new to the college it's vital to put this protest confronting the institution's relationship with oppression in context. Due to Evergreen's marketing and progressive reputation many arrive at the school with rose tinted glasses impeding their understanding of the historical dynamics surrounding race that set the stage for these student-activists bold critique at convocation. There has been an ongoing conflict between students and administration over the college's commitment to inclusivity and anti-oppression.

Evergreen's main body charged with confronting issues of oppression on campus is the Bias Incident Response Team (BIRT). A "Bias Incident" is defined by the Southern Poverty Law Center's

Teaching Tolerance project as "conduct, speech or expression motivated, in whole or in part, by bias or prejudice" and may be better understood simply as acts of hate that do not reach the level of criminality.

Walker and Ruschet call the BIRT purely symbolic. "They try to sell it as a restorative justice thing, but from the perspective of most students, it's complete and utter bullshit because the urgency isn't there and action isn't done," said Ruschet. It feels like "it exists to appease the negro so they can shut up and be happy," they continued.

Many students on Greener Commons and elsewhere have expressed a want to get involved to help make the body more responsive. Jeff Beulac, a former Representative of The Geoduck Student Union (GSU) explained that the BIRT has two open seats for students filled by the Union, but all such positions are often unadvertised and inaccessible to the majority of students and that the

GSU had filled one of the seats last year with someone "who regularly made racist arguments and was often dismissive of POC". For those interested in joining the BIRT this year, inquire at one of the weekly GSU meetings Wednesdays 1:15-3 p.m. in CAB 301.

Evergreen's records documenting the number of bias incidents that happen on campus yearly are virtually inaccessible as they are not posted online or even organized. However, since the start of the Greener Commons forum in 2014 around 19 incidents have been reported there by the BIRT with an increase in the past year. With this rise of these sorts of incidents on campus, emphasis on how the BIRT responds to them continues to increase.

Evergreen's handling of an alleged hate crime in January of this year involving a non-student violently assaulting a police officer and a trans twospirit Evergreen student drew harsh criticism. The college initially only reported that a student had been hit without

clarifying their gender identity or responding to the event as a hate motivated. The student who was assaulted told the CPJ as the time, "my rage and fear about the lack of action that Evergreen has taken to prevent further escalation of this hateful violence makes my body shake".

Another hateful act of intense community concern was the appearance of "White Lives Matter" flyers across campus early Fall Quarter 2015. As recently as Fall this year, flyers associated with white supremacist group Identity Europa, with slogans like "protect your heritage", were also found. Despite being a new student, Warner has heard about these incidents and others, and she worries about the environment that allows for sentiments like this. She encourages white students to take responsibility for racism on campus, saying, "don't put it on the black student to always have to speak up alone."

Wendy Endress, Evergreen's Vice President for Student Affairs and Chair of the Bias Incident Response Team initially declined to address the "White Lives Matter" flyers last year. In an email to GSU Representatives, she stated "the implied message [of the flyers] can be interpreted as biased against the #blacklivesmatter campaign and not necessarily black people... it is nuanced and requires some assumptions about intent."

"The flyers were treated trivially at first" said current and former GSU Representative Dylan Macardican, "[Endress] made it seem like... it wasn't nearly as big a deal as students felt it was." Some Representatives pushed back and got an official response from the BIRT, an independent letter of concern from the GSU, and a workshop geared to discussing next steps. However, Macardican told us that it took over two weeks for the school to approve the venue for the workshop which lead to poor attendance, "the administration was not as fast as it could have been" he concluded.

Molly Pumfrey, a former Representative, stated "there was a lot of disagreement on what that response [to the flyers] would look like, but we did ultimately come to an agreement that everyone seemed happy with".

Endress ultimately appeared to change her perspective, posting publicly to Greener Commons that "the message on the flyers has a negative effect on members of our community who we value and want to support." According to Beulac she also, "apologized directly for her initial reluctance

to respond to the the flyers at an event in front of students, staff, and faculty."

In addition to this controversy, the GSU's representative body has come under serious accusations of racism, sexism, and ableism that took place during their regular meetings last year. Representative Macardican said he was regularly not counted as a POC since he was white-passing individual, that POC representatives were dismissed and talked over on multiple occasions, and there were times when motions were introduced while a disabled POC Representative paused while talking.

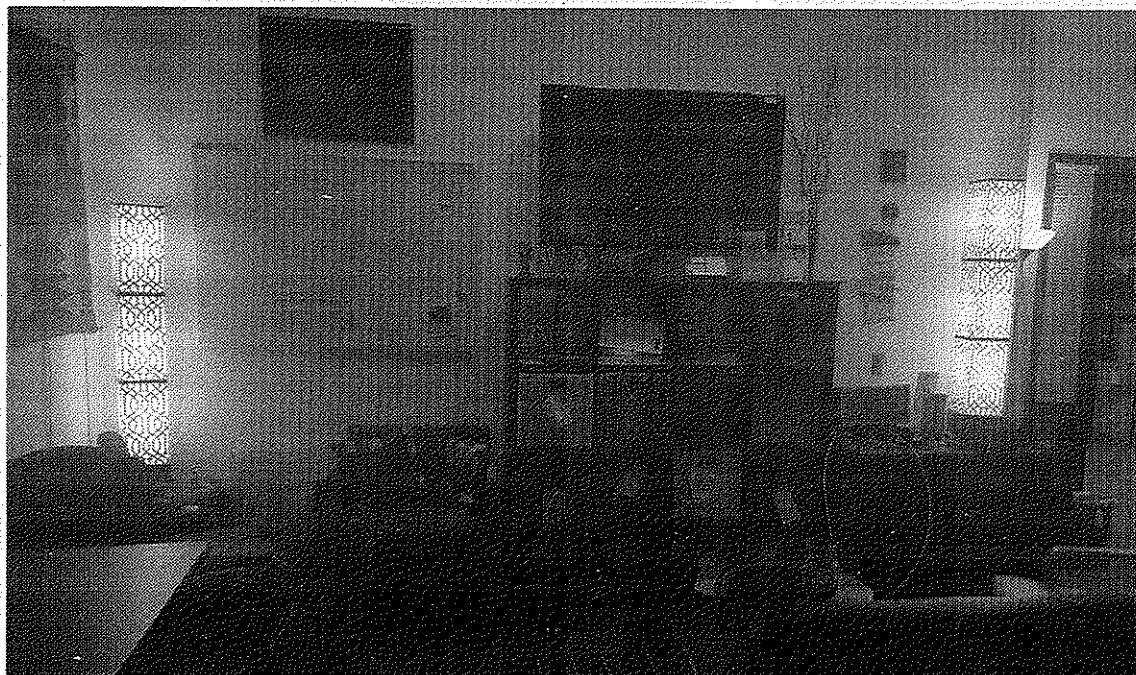
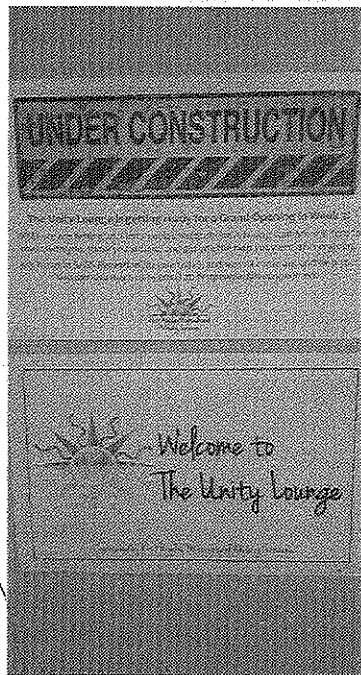
Pumfrey responded to this stating that "there were some power dynamics and struggles between various groups in the GSU" and that racism in the body was "not obvious to me, but clearly there were people in the GSU who thought it was an issue... and if it was an issue to them then I think it has to be considered an issue." She continued, "I think oppression...exists at Evergreen—racism, sexism, ableism, etc. are all pervasive despite the school painting a picture of itself as an accepting space."

The degree to which that may be true could come as a surprise. In posts on Greener Commons last year community member "corjar26" propagated blatantly white supremacist messages. In posts titled "Subverting the Cultural Marxist Paradigm" and "the invisible religious/ethnic supremacist elites" they articulated a belief that white Europeans are unfairly prosecuted, disseminated a long list of disturbing anti-semitic propaganda, actively attempted to mobilize like-minded students, and stated that anyone who disagreed was "owed retribution by a white collective." It took several days for the college to remove the posts and account from Commons after a significant amount of shocked community response.

The Southern Poverty Law Center dubbed 2015 as "the year of hate and extremism" and while many like to refer to Evergreen as a "bubble" floating independent of a harsh outside reality, we must face the fact that this community is not impervious to the growing trends of hate being recorded across America.

Forest Hunt was a representative to the GSU for the 2013-14 and 2014-15 academic years and is former colleagues with all of the Union representatives quoted for this article.

Community



The Unity Lounge now has a bigger space, and the QTC is in its old location. JENNIFER HICKS.

Unity Lounge Moves, Making Space for Queer and Trans center

By Jennifer Hicks

The Unity Lounge, a space open to everyone but focused on students of color and operated by First Peoples has moved into a new space in the Student Academic Support Services offices. First Peoples advising is a service offered on campus geared towards fostering a support system for underrepresented students such as students of color and queer and trans students. They operate two spaces on campus that students may use as they so choose- one being the Unity Lounge and the other being the new Trans and Queer Center (TQC). We previously covered the imminent grand opening of the TQC that moved into the space that was previously occupied by the Unity Lounge. The purpose of the Unity Lounge is to create a space where students can come together to get to know each other, debrief, hangout, receive support and most importantly create community. In aspiring to achieve the goal of community the Unity Lounge offers several services one of which is to hire peer advisors. This is particularly helpful for new students as the peer advisors have all been in the shoes of new students at one time or another. These helpful peers can be found in the lounge ready to help anyone who comes in!

As a student of color here at Evergreen myself I have a fondness for the Unity Lounge—not only do they have tea, coffee and really friendly staff, they offer a safe comfortable place to relax, write a paper and meet people. My first year when the campus just seemed too big and impersonal I would retreat to the safety of the lounge and its vast variety of hot sauce to eat my lunches and hangout. It quickly became a safe space for warm interactions and readily available support.

An exciting thing about the move of the Unity Lounge is not only that it is now in a bigger space but also its proximity to the TQC, this offers a unique ability to have cross over between students of color and queer and trans students. It can be a common experience for

people with intersecting identities to feel forced to pick one or the other feeling either that they're not a person of color enough or not queer enough for one of the groups that they identify with.

I spoke with Mia Harvey who is an advisor for the Trans and Queer Center on campus who had this to say about the move of the Unity Lounge and the creation of the Trans and Queer Center-

"I think one of the exciting parts about the TQC being adjacent to the Unity lounge [is] often times the queer and trans students of color feel like they have to chose one space or the other. When in reality people can't separate the two [identities]. So this is a great opportunity for students with intersecting identities to develop

relationships between [groups of] non-poc trans and queer students and students of color who may not identify as LG-BTQIA+. Often times I know for myself when I was going to school [I would think] oh I'm not queer enough or I'm not POC enough, so bridging that and really facilitating that conversation with students and students in that space is really important. You don't have to meet XYZ to be considered enough these are things you are 100% of the time and these discussions are really important."

Aside from the new Unity Lounge being larger, the move to the room next door serves to remind the institution that the Unity Lounge and the TQC are both still in temporary spaces and that permanent spots for these places have yet to

be identified. The move was a strategic move to make sure that the TQC was established and the Unity Lounge was updated and received a larger space, while also keeping both of these spaces on the radar of the institution so as to not allow them to forget these are needed services that are still in temporary spaces.

The TQC and the Unity Lounge will be working together to create workshops and dual safe spaces for students with intersecting identities. The first of these joint events will be the grand opening of both spaces Wednesday 12 of October at 2pm. The Unity Lounge will also be a part of the upcoming National Coming Out Day-Tuesday October 11- to support intersectionality between the two centers.

The TQC's new space, located in room 2147,

I sat down with Mimi Alcantar, alumni and Multicultural Student Advisor for First Peoples to ask if she had any advice for new and returning students of color at Evergreen and also to show what a huge effect places like the Unity Lounge can have on Evergreen students.

"Hearing from students helps students to practice how to verbalize their needs and also helps us reassess the way we run these spaces. The spaces are set up in way that we have identified that the students need them [to be], but the way things are set up are not always in a way that works for everyone so it's possible to request services that you need but don't see addressed yet"

The connections and skills the Unity Lounge offers can have lasting effects on students as people and also professionally. As a student Mimi frequently used the Unity Lounge and about the support she received she says, "I attribute my ability to have graduated and have my degree now to the Unity Lounge and to the support that I received from First Peoples, because I had been supported so critically I wanted to give back to the community". As the first person to hold the title of Multicultural Advisor Mimi felt confident she could do the job; "based on the way I was supported I knew what support can look like {the position} was designed in a way that looked to me like the work I was already doing in terms of advocating for students and taking [the] initiative to put together events and workshops, meeting one on one with people to give advice and to make connections. Establish relationships and get to know people's stories. [to] give back to the place and the people who were so inspirational. As a first gen Latinx student of color being able to give back was really important."

So head on over to the unity lounge and TQC to check out these brand new spaces offered at Evergreen! If you have any questions for first peoples they can be contacted at first-peoples@evergreen.edu while the TQC can be found on their facebook page TESC Trans and Queer Center.

Arts & Culture



People buy, sell, trade, and give away zines at the Oly Zine Fest. SYLVIE CHACE.

Olympia Zine Festival

THE SECOND ANNUAL FEST FEATURED ZINES, WORKSHOPS, AND ACTIVITIES

By Micheal Martinez-Esquibel

When I walked into the Olympia Center, I was first greeted with three tables covered in paper. Little did I know, those little pieces of art were what I had come for. I looked on the table and found a small folded piece of paper, decorated with a pair of detailed hands, that read “A Perzine Called Anxiety.” That mini-zine, created by Miles Morrissey, was the first zine I ever laid eyes upon. After reading its solemn yet encouraging message, I had a yearning to learn more. Right then, I saw a doorway filled with joyful commotion and happy people. I knew I had to go in.

When I first arrived in Olympia, I thought I would never encounter a community as artistic and welcoming as the one that belonged to Evergreen—until I walked through that doorway. “Would you like a positive affirmation?” was the first question I was asked upon arrival to a booth operated by Kristin-Leigh Brezinski, an advocate for body positivity. By walking through those doors, I not only attended my first Zine Fest, I entered into a world all its own. This annual event, celebrating its second conference, is a haven for Washington’s zine fanatics. The two-day event included a ‘tabling expo’ in which artists and zinesters alike sold, purchased, and traded zines. This one-day ‘tabling’ wonderland of original art was followed by

workshops facilitated by professional zinesters.

For those of you who are clueless to what a zine is, as I was upon walking into Zine Fest, here is a definition given by “Zines 101”: “A zine (pronounced “zeen,” like *ma*gazine) is a self-published, small circulation, non-commercial booklet or magazine, usually produced by one person or a few individuals.” Considering that I knew nothing of zine’s existence before this event, there was a lot for me to learn. Zines, for a lot of people, are a platform for anyone to speak up for anything. Since all zines are published by the artist or a distributor, zinesters can say anything they want, however they want.

An idea best described by a zinester I interviewed, Juli, “I

can say whatever I want and no one will censor it.”

The accessibility of zine-making allows for, as Zine Fest organizer Ally Mackey describes, “a low barrier form of getting you work out there.” Ally Mackey, who was on a team of eight founding members for the Olympia Zine Fest, saw the rich zine culture of its namesake town and decided to celebrate it. She emphasized the power of community created from producing, trading, and selling zines. In only its second year, Olympia Zine Fest has already begun to awake and inspire the community at large. I found optimistic and exuberant inspiration from 10-year-old zinester, Helen Caddy.

At Zine Fest’s main event, Helen was celebrating her first

week as a zinester by proudly displaying her debut zine, *Before Fireworks*. The zine captured a happy reminiscence of her family and their pre-firework rituals. She was most happy about the fact that she had a wonderful piece reflecting on her life and put it out there with no middleman. “You can write a book and put it out there. You don’t have to send it in to people who will say ‘I don’t like this’... I like my book and I’m gonna put it out there!” Not only are zines a way to express oneself, they lend their literary freedom to topics that people are passionate about. There is no better example of this than Dawn Stahura, a librarian at Simmons College in Boston.

“I think it gives me a platform to talk about what needs to be talked about... No one can tell you ‘You shouldn’t talk about this.’” In her workshop, Dawn spoke to the importance of zines and its sense of community and nurture. She told a story of a woman in Israel whom she befriended through problems they were both enduring, that they shared through their zines. “It’s a way to break the silence. The first step to make change is to have the courage to step up.” For many, zines are that courage. This year’s Zine Fest featured pieces on body positivity, racism, mental health, and feminism. The topics depend solely on what the artist feels they must talk about, as there is no one telling them they can’t.

Just as every artist does, zinesters each have their own inspiration or reason to start creating their pieces. For twenty-year zine veteran Jimi Sharpe, it was music. Sharpe, who founded the *F.I.B. Zine*, stated: “I wanted to see what made them [musicians] tick.” For twelve-year zine veteran, Sage Adderley, it’s therapy: “I think that they [zines] are the most therapeutic way to deal with life stuff.” Travis William Fink, a two-year zinester, said: “I do it to stay lighthearted.” For twenty-year zinester and Evergreen alum Meilani, it was a reason all her own: “I

have a paper fetish that don’t stop.” Beyond that, Meilani appreciates the value of physical art in a digital age: “I dedicate myself to tactility.” Zines hold more importance than preserving tactility, they solidify humanity in time.

From attending Zine Fest, I learned many things. First of which: what a zine was. Through interacting with people within the zine community, I have learned that this art form gives a lot of artists, or humans in general, an identity. One of the most valuable lessons I learned from zine fest was that anyone can create beauty in this “no excuses” art form. Olympia alone has plenty of resources, including some within the Evergreen community. On campus, there is a zine library in the Student Activities Offices that houses publications from past student groups. In the greater Olympia area, there are many resources for various needs. The Olympia Timberland library, allows fifty free prints per week as well as free access to all zine making supplies. The library also holds a Zine Club, in which veteran and aspiring zinesters can work on projects and share their work (and so can you). If you don’t feel like making zines, there are over two-thousand zines to check out from the Olympia Timberland Library. The accessibility of the art and the inspiration of the community were so encouraging that by the end of Zine Fest, I, a clueless reporter, was making my own zines. If that doesn’t prove that anyone can make zines, I don’t know what will.

Within these two wonderful days, my zine knowledge went from clueless to competent. I learned everything from zine making to zine distribution with topics ranging from fireworks to space adventurers. Yet the most important wisdom was from activist Dawn Stahura: “[It’s] powerful to tell your stories. We are all important, we all have stories inside of us.”

Arts & Culture

UP & COMING

WED. OCT 12

Evergreen Library
2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW. noon.
Queer & Trans Center Open House

★ **Evergreen Gallery**
2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW. 2pm.
Inkfest 2016

Something Wicked
202 4th Ave E. 7pm. \$10
Ghost Hunters: A Paranormal Improv Show

Le Voyeur
404 4th Ave E. 9pm.
Vomity 102: Odd Spew-ture
Ft. Summer Azim

THUR. OCT 13

Ben Moore's Restaurant
112 4th Ave W. 6pm.
Olympia People's Mic 5 Year Anniversary Ft. Aurielle Marie

Cryptatropa
421 4th Ave E. 9pm.
No Soul Night: All Vinyl Soul Music ft. Fancy Cat and Anthony Alvarado

FRI. OCT 14

McCoy's Tavern
418 4th Ave E. 8pm. \$10. 21+
DOA, The Stuntmen, Dance Hall Queen

Obsidian
414 4th Ave E. 8pm.
Lord Franzanian Vaudeville Show

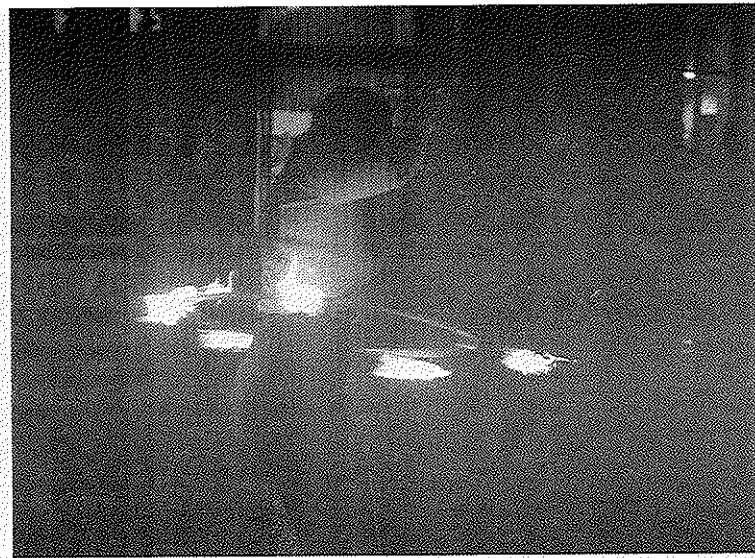
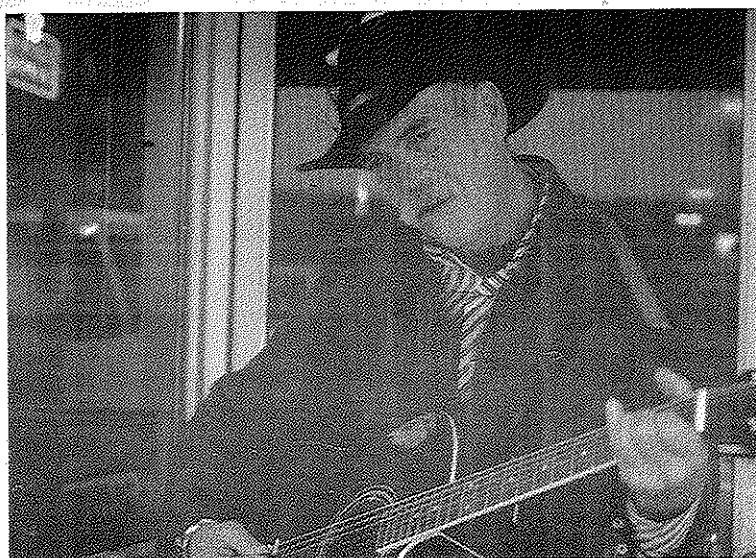
SAT. OCT 15

Evergreen
2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW.
10:30am. \$30, \$15 for Students.
Return to Evergreen 2016

★ **Tumwater Timberland Library**
7023 New Market St SW. 2pm.
Women Your Mother Warned You About

Dugout Recording House
1015 10th Ave SE. 8pm. \$5
Jo Passed, Duzz, Deha Blue

★ STAFF RECCOMENDED



FALL ARTS

FALL ARTS WALK IS A LITERAL WASH AND I'M A BUZZKILL

By Chloe Marina Manchester

Arts Walk is a biannual (the one that's twice a year, not the one that's every two years) event in downtown Olympia where most of the businesses in downtown showcase exhibits from one or multiple artists. There are street performers, rain, and a mixture of downtown and Evergreen freaks and weirdos along with adorably wholesome families. I'm not gonna lie, I think spring arts walk is better; it's less cold and depressing, less dark at an unreasonably early hour, and there are two parades. I'm a sucker for a parade.

On Friday night, I walked the two miles down the hill from my friend's apartment to downtown with the sole goal of getting food before we event attempted to walk around and look at stuff. The new ramen place down town may be genteriffic, but it has reasonably good food, I got to admit. Pro tip: bring in your own hot sauce, they would probably yell at you but things are never spicy enough in this town. Another hot tip, if your friends convince you to put your number on the receipt because your waiter was flirting with you, he will text you and say it was his long time goal as a server to have that actually happen. And then you end up with a date. Go with your impulses.

Even with all the things going on across this great country of ours with regards to clowns, there were still an impressive number of clowns. Some were making balloon animals for kids or juggling, which is still an accepted thing that happens. But then we saw it. This

intensely creepy clown with a bulbous fake nose holding a sign that said "Clowns are made of people." That is not an accepted thing that happens. Our photographer, Bella, said that he walked up to her while she was taking pictures of arts walk and said, "Click." I don't even know how you could respond to that.

One of the main things that I like to do at any given arts walk in any town is to go into anywhere that looks like it might have free food. Olympia really let me down in that regard this time, although the rain did discourage me from doing more thorough investigative journalism in that respect, because no matter how long I live in Olympia, I will never think that being cold and soaked in rain is a good time. It isn't, and people who think it's fun either haven't been here long enough to lose all hope, or are lying to themselves.

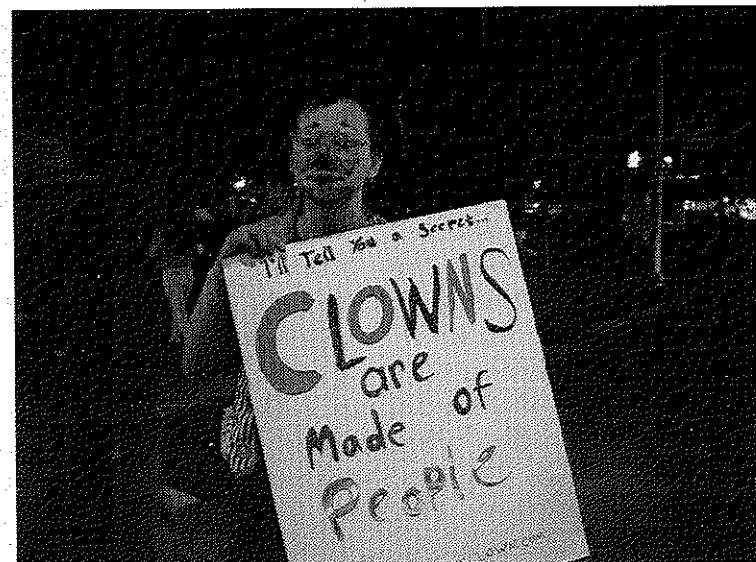
I realized that Olympia had got to me sometime last year and have leaned into it, to an extent. That extent being buy-

ing a crop top with a moth and moons on it from Psychic Sister.

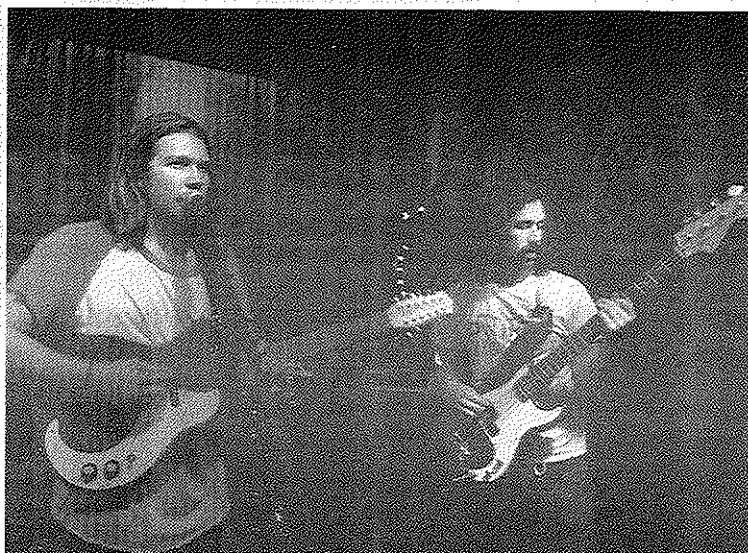
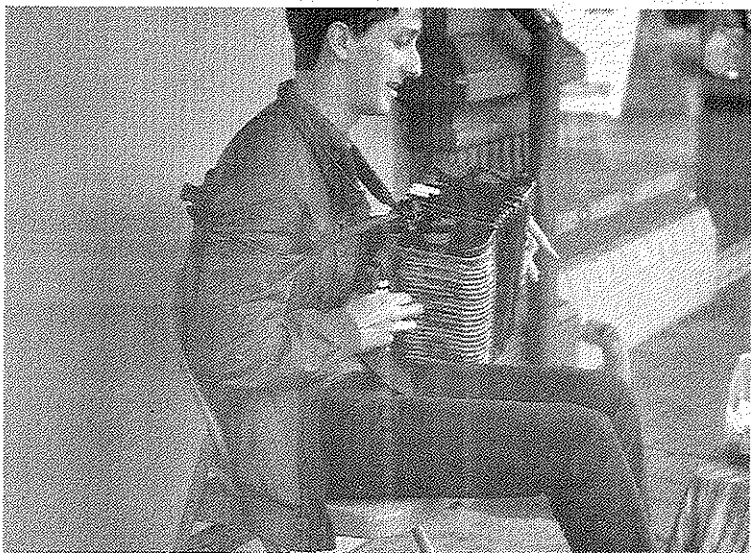
I also attended, or at least attempted to attend, arts walk on Saturday. I more or less spent the amount of time it took to walk from the bus stop to buy coffee and then to Browsers Books to buy a book of poems that I feel in love with over the summer and decided I need to permanently own. Rupri Kaur's Milk and Honey, if you're curious.

But Saturday's arts walk was, both literally and metaphorically, a wash with the rain being much more oppressive than it was Friday night and I had homework and laundry to do, both of which meant I could be warm and dry and wear a blanket like a cape.

I am still looking forward to Spring Arts Walk and the Procession of the Species parade, which is always cool and adorable.



Arts & Culture



UP & COMING

WED. OCT 19

Obsidian
414 4th Ave E. 8pm.
Katsura Yamauchi, Blood Moon Raga, Hammer of Hathor

Le Voyeur
404 4th Ave E. 9pm.
Vornity 103: Voyeur Comedy Open Mic

THUR. OCT 20

Washington State Capitol
416 Sid Snyder Ave SW. 1pm.
March on State Capitol to Protest Police Brutality

Ben Moore's Restaurant
112 4th Ave W. 6pm.
Olympia People's Mic 5 Ft. Alex Dang

FRI. OCT 21

Three Magnets Brewing
600 Franklin St SE. 4pm.
OFS Benifit Happy Hour

Olympia Film Society
206 5th Ave SE. 6pm.
The Less is More Film Fest

Ben Moore's Restaurant
112 4th Ave W. 6pm. \$8
Tyrone Hashimoto

MON. OCT 24

★ **Obsidian**
414 4th Ave E. 9pm. \$8. 21+
Screaming Females, Moor Mother, Pines, Bad Sleep

★ **STAFF RECCOMENDED**

THE brotherhood LOUNGE
DAILY HAPPY HOUR 3-7
119 CAPITOL WAY
www.thebrotherhoodlounge.com

WALK 2016

ARTS WALK MUSIC RUNDOWN: GENIUS OR MADNESS?

By Rachel Carlson

Arts Walk weekend in Olympia is usually a circus, and this year was no different. Although I have seen the streets more crowded, the variety of musical acts was enough to entertain even the most jaded of listeners. Olympia really shone, coming out with some of the best emerging artists of the region, punctuated by the reigning king of contemporary artists from Olympia in the last ten years making an appearance.

I started the Artswalk weekend standing in the rain waiting for tickets to see Xperience: The Chasing Grace album release party, hosted by Macklemore. The drizzle was fierce and the line was about halfway down the block for tickets at the door. The show was sold out, and the crowd came to the consensus that the show was "amazing". The high energy performance wowed the show goers and really kicked off the night. The cd release for "Chasing Grace" was a sold out success, and the thoughtful lyrics and evoked a lot of emotion from the crowd. Chasing Grace has been a long time coming and his website describes the album as "a sonic journey into the mind of man whose soul is at war. It's a view into the essence of a man who is transforming from an insecure kid burdened with America's social constructs, into one who questions the world and the religion he was raised in." The performance was on point, fun, and really got the crowd of people who had waited so long pumped.

There were, of course, the

usual jam bands and jazz acts, playing horns in the rain in front of Capitol City Guitars to small swells of people who ebbed and flowed from the audience in search of ice cream and mixed media installations to oogle. The Olympia music scene has long been hailed as a secret, and this Arts Walk lineup really made that clear. The talent holed up in our all american city is stacked, with new bands moving here just to network and play where their predecessors laid the groundwork for living a life of passion for art.

The weekend had a packed music schedule and on Friday Obsidian had a triple header featuring Fuzzy Math, The Loud Potions, and Co-Founders. Le Voyeur had a metal show and I caught a few minutes of A God or Another, and then moved onto McCoy's for a show with Le Grotto, Soggy Creep, and Whitewood Funk. I wandered through a Brown Edition show at Cascadia Homebrew. Saturday night Swoon played at McCoy's and brought out the usual crowd of local artists and greeners, plus

the end of Arts Walk stragglers. There was live music everywhere and overall I feel like this weekend really gave us a slice of the best that Olympia has to offer. Fuzzy Math

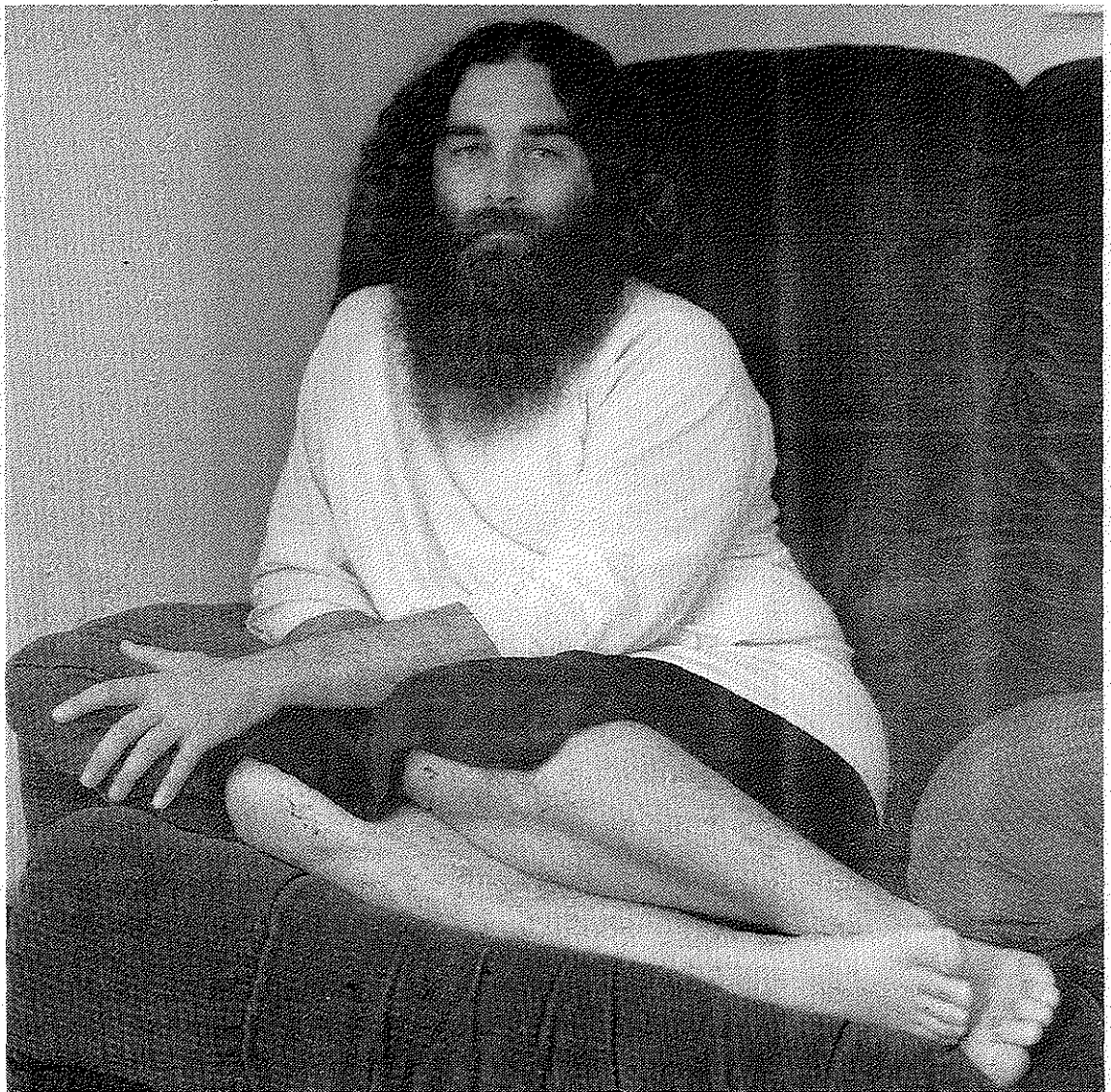
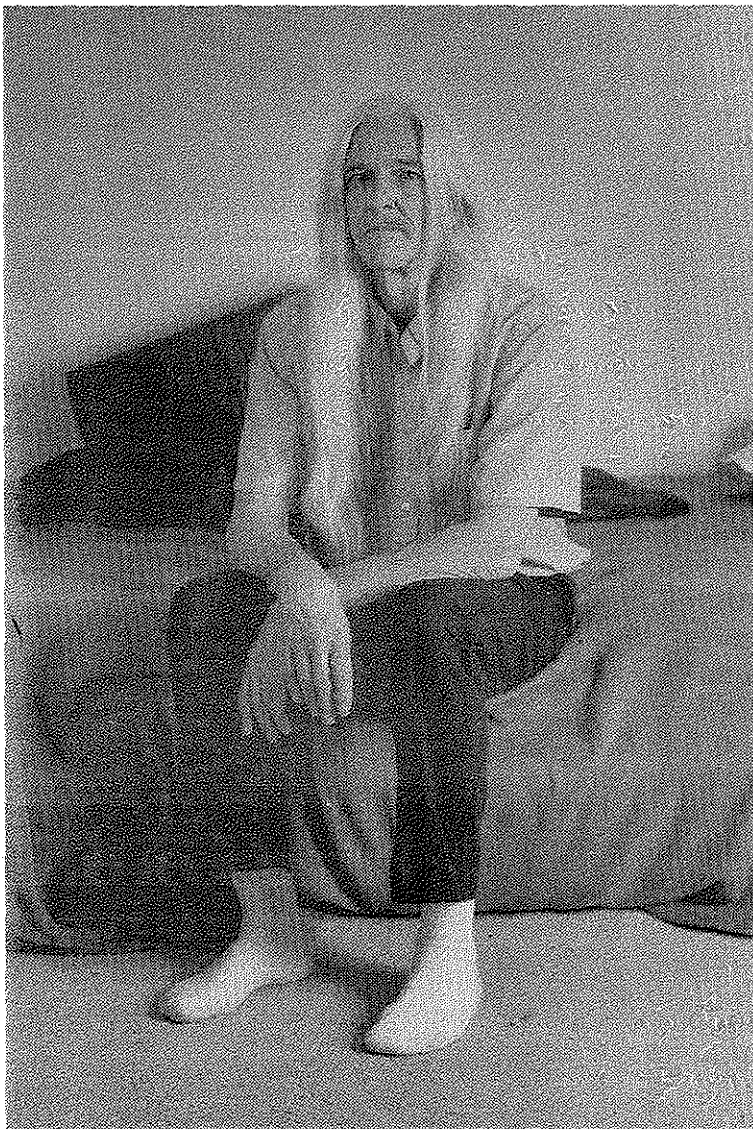
The talent holed up in our all american city is stacked, with new bands moving here just to network and play where their predecessors laid the groundwork for living a life of passion for art.

is a band that sounds like Radiohead lite, Soggy Creep is loud, Whitewood Funk is psychedelic and less funky than you would imagine, Le Grotto sounds like Olympia flavored surf rock, The Loud Potions are psychedelic pop rock who classify themselves as alternative, Swoon is calls themselves "a classic case of the fam jam blues", Brown Edition brings the funk, and The Co Founder founded in September of 2015 were a pop rock group that was voted best pop act

by What's Up magazine in 2015. Brown Edition are established in the Olympia music scene and have been voted Best Band in Olympia by the Weekly Volcano two years in a row and Seattle Musicians of the Year by RAWartist Seattle. Le Grotto has been hailed as the best band in Olympia by K Recs intern John Winter and it's no wonder why. The Olympia trio has been garnering a large following, bringing out other area bands who have made themselves into area favorites.

The weekend gave the listener a great slice of what Olympia has to offer as far as music is concerned. Some of the best musicians in Olympia and the surrounding area came out and really brought their A game. The variety of talent this city has fostered is amazing and the quality of music has really been exceptional, something we were lucky enough to see clearly displayed this weekend. This Arts Walk was a great one for music and showing the people of this city and it's visitors what we've got.

Arts & Culture



cover artist statement:

MONICA

Last year, Evergreen graduate Monica Jane Frisell decided to sell most of her stuff and buy a 1988 Toyota SeaBreeze with a plan to travel the country making portraits and interviews with the people she met along the way. She's spent the last several months gutting and renovating the RV in preparation for the trip, adding shelving and a small darkroom area for processing her film and prints. Monica and her trusty sidekick Lucy (a most elegant and howly terrier) met up with me in the Evergreen parking lot in the SeaBreeze (the perks of having a mobile home/workshop) to talk about Monica's project, *Looking Forward: Portraits from an RV*.

Frisell says the idea came to her because she's "always wanted to travel around the country while photographing," taking inspiration from photographers in the early days of photojournalism: "They would have a horse and buggy...and they'd have these huge carriages and they'd have all their chemistry back there...and I've always admired that kind of obsession, so I think I kind of just wanted to do it [that way]." Frisell is shooting on large format film (measuring four by five inches in size), so having a darkroom on hand to process and print is an integral part of the project. She says originally she was just

going to put a portable darkroom in a van, but then she realized she wanted to live in it and try to do the project in a fully mobile way.

Describing the SeaBreeze as a "funky tiny home, keyword: funky," Frisell says she's put about four months of work into refurbishing it and modifying it for her needs. When she bought it, the interior was covered in the original faux-wood wallpaper and thick carpeting the color of sand, or like...really bad watered-down coffee. Just getting it ready quickly became an all-consuming project:

"I bought it not knowing about the rot...I built these

two shelves and I was like 'Oh, that doesn't look right...' and I touched [the wood] and it was kind of squishy, and then I was like 'Oh, shit' and I pulled it up and there were all these mushrooms and rot and it was disgusting. I was parked up at my parents' place in Seattle and I just started ripping it apart and all of a sudden I was looking at this gutted...I mean, I went all the way down to the plastic, and I was like 'What did I just do?!' because taking things apart is way easier than putting them back together. That's what I learned. This is my stubbornness manifest, haha. It's not that bad, paint can do wonders. Just don't

look at anything too closely cause then you can see all the shit I've fucked up."

Despite feeling in over her head at times (Frisell had no real experience with carpentry before this project) she says that renovating the SeaBreeze by herself was incredibly satisfying.

"You just [make] a lot of mistakes and you just keep going. This is all a lot of mistakes. So it's pretty cool. Doing one little thing at a time, sometimes you lose the big picture and I'll be like 'Oh, god, I haven't done enough' but I was just looking at some pictures of when I first got it and I was like 'Oh, it doesn't

even kind of look like that anymore' and not just look; it doesn't feel like that anymore, and it doesn't smell like that anymore. It's starting to smell more like mine and feel more like mine."

"I know pretty much every part of this; the more I take apart the more I learn about how it all works, so there's something really satisfying about waking up in something where you're like 'I know the water goes here, and it's caused by this...' and I know it's all mine and I made it all."

In the coming days, Frisell is having the SeaBreeze painted and re-sealed, and then it'll be ready for darkroom work.

Arts & Culture

She's changing out one of the windows to red-tinted plastic: it'll function as her safe light — an idea SO cool I had to stand there slack-jawed for a minute before I could compose myself. (For those who don't know, a safelight is a red or orange-tinted light used in a black and white darkroom to help you see what you're doing without impacting the light-sensitive paper.) Until she leaves the Olympia area, Frisell is using the Photoland labs "quite happily" to process and scan her film and to develop prints.

Although she is still based in Olympia for now, Frisell has already interviewed and photographed around thirteen people, both local and found through day trips.

The setup of Looking Forward: Portraits from an RV is simple: Frisell invites a person into the RV for a conversation, which she records and later transcribes. She says she's not asking people anything too specific — she's interested in how people got where they are, geographically, but she emphasizes, "whatever story

you want to tell me, I take." After the "chat," Frisell makes a portrait of each person, sometimes in the RV, sometimes in their home or the home of a friend. Everyone who agrees to participate in the project will receive, at "some point down the road," a portrait and transcribed story of someone else.

The idea is having connection between people who wouldn't have otherwise met each other. It's kind of a romantic idea. I'm doing everything on large format, so the process is really slow — shooting with that is really slow. People have been really opening up, like more than I ever would have imagined, I think.

Opening up is key to Frisell's project, and she's greatly influenced by the current social/political climate in America. She says the slowing down of the project is also important: from shooting on large format film to sending physical prints via the mail, Frisell puts great emphasis on the slow and the physically real in a world where interaction is increasingly fast and virtual.

I like the idea of the prints going through all of these hands to get where they need to go... I put a stamp on it and I send it out; I'm not just sending you a file via the internet, and there's the physicality of

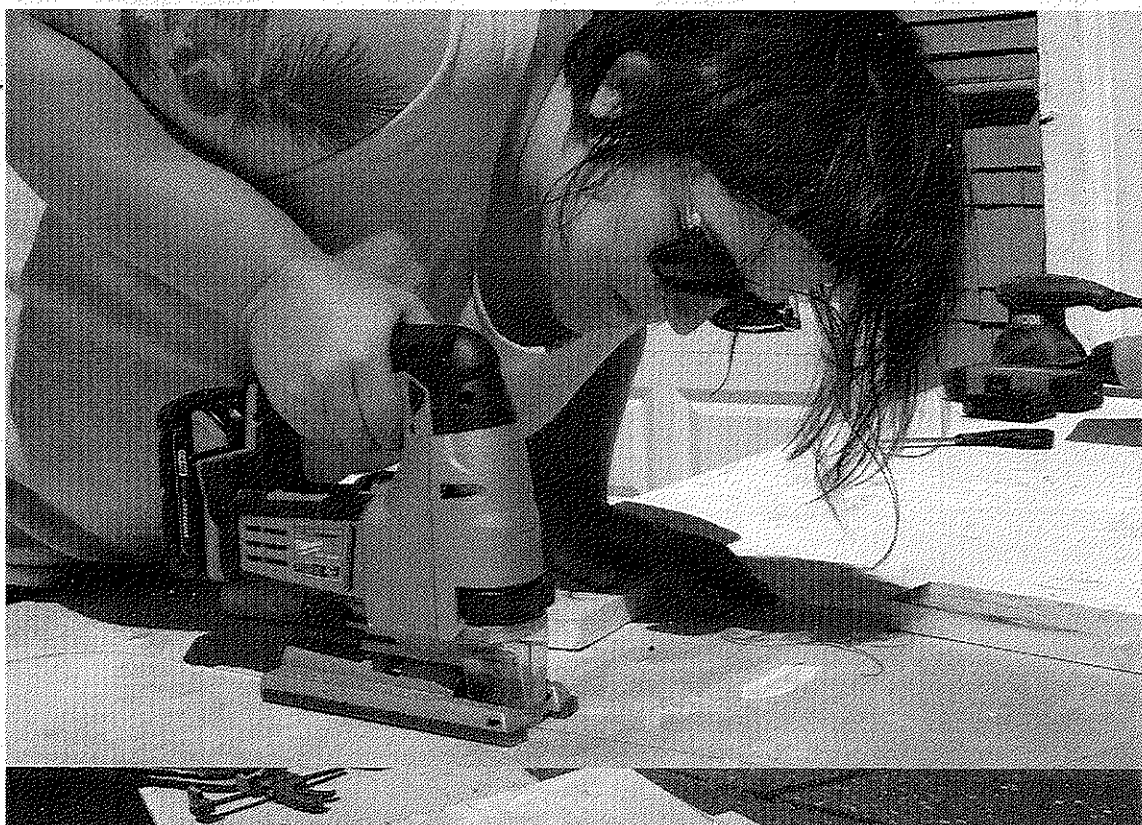
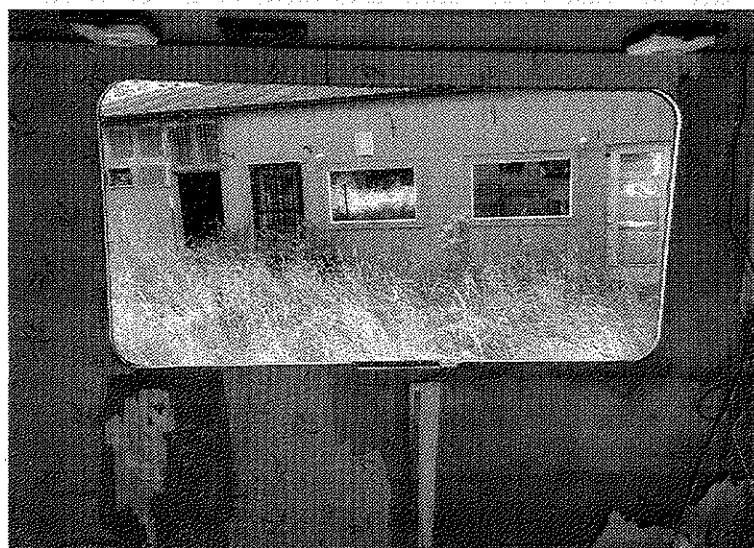
it that I think is cool... Again, [there's] the romantic thing of connecting people in our country when right now it's really a lot of us-against-them talk, and that's also why I'm feeling so inclined to do this [project] right now...people are really mad, and I think rightfully so, but I think people need to start talking a bit more than just yelling. I mean, I don't want to get into politics but it's scaring me, it's scaring me a lot. I'm scared about the future, and I think a lot of people are — whichever side you're on — a lot of people are scared and I think that's really interesting to me. Because we're all in the same country, we're all in the same boat, why is there all this tension, and how can that tension not totally implode on itself? I've been asking a lot of people about that...which has been cool cause everybody has a different opinion.

Last weekend, Frisell took the SeaBreeze to Portland. "That was the first time I was really doing [the project] and was able to envision how it's gonna go." Doing most of her networking through word of mouth and Facebook, Frisell says she was surprised by the response in Portland — there were so many people interested in talking to her, she actually had to turn some away.

For now, Frisell is working on her project in Olympia and in areas reachable by day trips (if you want to be part of the project, contact her!!) When she leaves Washington, she's planning on going to California, slowly making her way south and then east — Frisell has no set route, but says she'll map out friends and acquaintances across the states and plan around them. She has a show in Rochester, New York set for October 2017, and Frisell sees that as a time and place to aim for, and a chance to process, print, and scan (she'll have access to a lab there) and to really take stock of the project after more than a year of work.

While her project and by extent, her life, will be mobile, Frisell says she'd never describe herself as going "off-grid." "That's the complete opposite of what the project is about!" She'll be regularly checking in on social media via her cell phone, and updating her website with new portraits and interviews as often as she can.

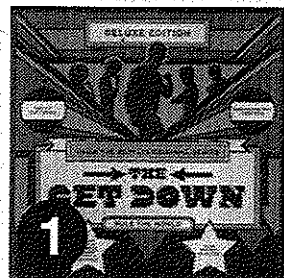
To follow Frisell's progress, you can visit her website at PortraitsFromanRV.com, or follow her on Instagram @ [MonicaJaneFrisell](https://www.instagram.com/MonicaJaneFrisell) (or the project's Instagram: @portraitsfromanrv).



Arts & Culture

KAOS 89.3 FM TOP 20

Albums for the week of Oct. 3



- 1 Various Artists - The Get Down Original Soundtrack
- 2 M.A.K.U. Soundsystem - Mezcla
- 3 Russian Circles - Guidance
- 4 Symbion Project - Arcadian
- 5 Tobias The Owl - Every Eye Is A Universe
- 6 The Breath - Carry Your Kin
- 7 The Frightnrs - Nothing More To Say
- 8 Luisa Maita - Fio Da Memoria
- 9 Fences - To The Tall Trembling Trees
- 10 Courtney Marie Andrews - Honest Life
- 11 Clinton Fearon - This Morning
- 12 Sassyblack - No More Weak Dates
- 13 Various Artists - Say Yes! A Tribute To Elliott Smith
- 14 Headwaves - Headwaves
- 15 Banks & Steelz - Anything But Words
- 16 A Tribe Called Red - We Are The Halluci Nation
- 17 Nots - Cosmetic
- 18 The Album Leaf - Between Waves
- 19 Bacao Rhythm & Steel Band - 55
- 20 Aphex Twin - Cheetah

Flugelhorn Porn

MATHENY THE MUSIC MACHINE

By Sedona Wall

Flu Floopers, Tar Tinkers, Who Hoovers, Gar Ginkers, flugelhorn, Trum Tupers, Slu Slunkers, Blum Bloopers, Who Wompers, Zu Zitter Carzay, Who Carnio Flunx. One of these things is not like the other, the difference being the reality of it beyond its goofy name, and that's a flugelhorn. Similar to a trumpet, it is described to have more of a "dark" and "mellow" tone. The instrument has been played by musicians ranging from Chet Baker and Miles Davis to Scott Spillane (of Neutral Milk Hotel). But there is one flugelhorn player that has graced places ranging from Olympia's own Rhythm & Rye to Azerbaijan, by the Caspian sea, with his unmatched experience and style, Dmitri Matheny. I spoke with him about his experience as a musician, his work, and the best stuff in between.

Dmitri took up the flugelhorn at age 18, and later became the protege of Art Farmer, one of the most iconic flugelhorn players of the 20th century. They didn't meet it the most simple of ways, but instead it one of the most relatable and inspirational ways. Dmitri described himself as a "long-time fan" of Art, buying all of his recordings, playing along with them, upon finding Art's address on the back of a tape, began writing to him. "I would have knocked on his door had he lived it the same state as me." In his letters he would write to Art for advice, sending recordings of himself playing along with Art's music, describing his admiration for his work, "he never wrote back". Then came along Dmitri's golden ticket, after playing a gig one night, Dmitri was invited by a fellow musician to travel to New York to see Art play, and meet him after the show. Dmitri jumped at the opportunity, and after listening to Art's set intently, note to note, he was introduced to the man that influenced him for years before. When he shook Art's hand, Art stated "not THAT Dmitri", referring back to the many letter he received before, yet of course, it was him. Dmitri solicited him for chance to receive one lesson with the promise that he would "never bother him again." Art agreed, and what started as a one time flugelhorn lesson turned into a ten year relationship that reached far beyond just the music itself.

Dmitri looked to Art for advice on everything from "who will take care of my cat on tour" to "how do I tour," and lucky for us Dmitri shared some gems of wisdom that he's picked up over the years. One of the best pieces of advice he received from Art was "to keep the people who believed in you around," everyone from your lawyer, to your publicist, to your friends; those people who were supporting your career from the beginning are the ones who will continue to understand you as an artist and be your strongest support system. I asked him what advice he would give aspiring musicians, those who want to make a career out of music, and he said "everything you need to know can be found in your pocket", that

as artists there is an endless supply of information at our disposal, but nothing can replace the experience one can get from talking to their elders about the craft and getting one on one advice.

In February, Dmitri released his album titled, Jazz Noir, which is exactly what you would hope it would be, a mix of melancholy tones, smokey vibes, and tunes that make you want to cuddle up with a trench coat and sip your whiskey on the rocks. His inspiration for the album originally stemmed from his love of old crime shows such as Columbo as opposed to film noir itself. When sitting it Obsidian, he pointed to the drink Audrey Horne on the cocktail menu, stating that his song titled "Audrey's Dance" was inspired by the iconic Twin Peaks character, a show he has been a long time fan of.

On Monday, October 3rd, The Dmitri Matheny group played at the music venue and bar, Rhythm & Rye, giving an unforgettable performance. The selection ranged from songs off of Jazz Noir, to "Caravan" popularized by the likes of Duke Ellington. During the song "Film Noir", Dmitri walked up to the mic, the room went silent, and he began reciting the poetry of Dana Gioia, "It's a farm town in the August heat

With a couple of bars along Main Street.....She's a cold beauty with a knowing wink. If she shot you dead, she'd finish your drink", entranced is the only word that can be used to describe the listeners. Most of which being seasoned and long time listeners of jazz, making them the best audience to for the occasion.

Beyond being a talented musician, composer, and recording artist, Dmitri also is a seasoned educator, teaching at universities such Loyola to Chinook Middle School in Bellevue, WA. "Making a living as a musician is challenging," Dmitri says, "but I'm proof it can be done." Dmitri was also the creator of Discover Jazz, a music history and appreciation course for adults. This is just some of the many educational opportunities Dmitri offers.

"By the end of this, you'll remember what a flugelhorn is."

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Letters & Opinion

RUBY THOMPSON

"Voices Behind the Student Protest at Convocation" continued from page 4.



TARI GUNSTONE

Walker explains that they are, "coming to terms with our history and our tactics. There is a realization of how we put our bodies on the line the moment we walk out of our house." Ruschet adds that, "I've gotten to this point where I feel that liberation is going to be messy and hella violent. Yes, non-violence has gotten us to a certain point, but also, we are still here living in a neo-colonialist, white supremacist society."

This recognition of just how much further there is to go in the fight for racial equality is why the statements made by white students at convocation like, "All lives matter," and "You can't fight racism with racism," are both offensive and blind to the reality of the current context of the black struggle in America. The quick, emotional reactions of white students at convocation that ranged from emotional tears and students getting on their knees to defensive shouting and dramatic walk-outs were a reminder to Walker and Ruschet of the many forms white fragility comes in, "White folks have a really difficult time sitting in their emotions." In fact, Ruschet points out that the "Mammy Archetype" is a common way white people seek comfort from their black peers regarding their emotional unrest about issues of race. Warner reiterates this idea that white folks often look to black folks to liberate them from their white privilege and racism, "I am certainly not here for you to cry to, I'm definitely not here to liberate you from your preconditioned racist ideologies and explain to you how you're benefiting from racism and draw you into my arms and hold you while you take the veil off of your eyes and join hands with your local black person or whatever, no. I am here to say, this is my opinion on what's happening and what needs to stop, and what needs to change. It's up to you how you decide to make that happen, it is not my job, and it isn't going to be my labor that 'liberates' anyone from their racism."

Warner also expressed that the first step a white person can take toward being an ally is "to be able to look at yourself in the mirror and say to yourself, 'I benefit from racism. This does not mean I am racist. It simply means that the systems set in place in this country were meant to benefit some, and roadblock others.'" When you as a white student can say that to yourself without feeling uncomfortable, or wanting to get defensive, or arguing about how you "don't use your privilege like that though" then you can get started." From there, you can work toward action.

Walker and Ruschet encourage white students against passivity in their desire to be an ally, "if white people aren't willing to put themselves at risk to break down white suprem-

acy, I sort of don't want to hear from you. It shouldn't just be black people's job to engage in this because we are not the ones who made this system."

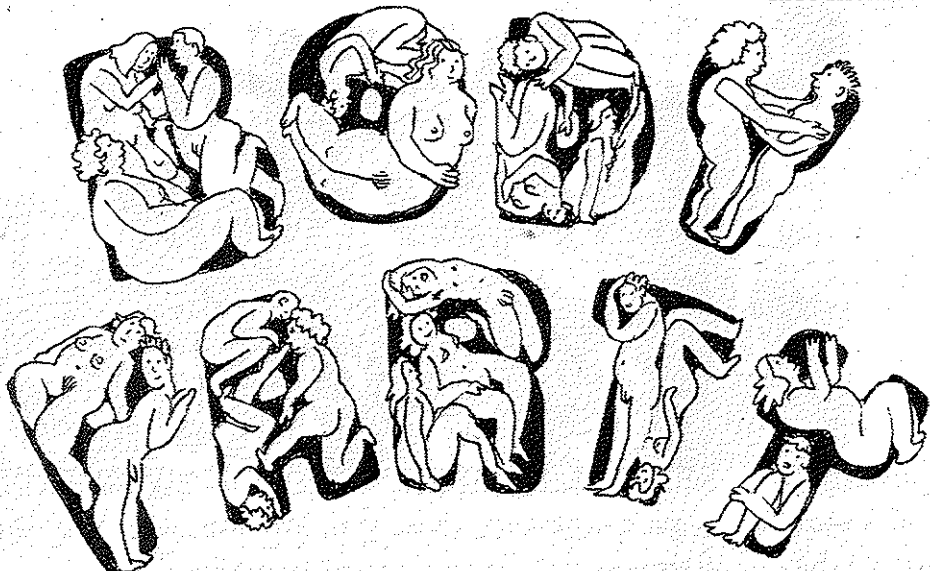
Other pivotal suggestions Walker, Ruschet, and Warner all cited for how white people can effectively stand in solidarity with the black community is to, "know your history," and "listen to people of color." The black struggle in America is multifaceted and preconceived ideas about it are so ingrained in our culture that well intended white individuals can further perpetuate racist ideologies when a strong foundation of understanding is absent.

I asked Walker, Ruschet, and Warner for specific resources for students interested in expanding their education on racial justice. For those ready to learn more, here's a jumping off point for diving into the discomfort of our own inherent racism and a tool to help us effectively engage in the much needed action toward bringing equality to the most marginalized groups in our community both here on campus and out in the greater communities we interact with:

- Black Lives Matter homepage and the Black Lives Matter Syllabus website
- The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander. Ruschet tells me this was their first wake up call to think, "oh my god I'm black and I'm fucked!"
- Prelude to bruise - poems by Saeed Jones
- Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- Americana by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- Sister Citizen: Shame, Stereotypes, and Black Women in America by Melissa Harris-Perry
- The Sisters are Alright: Changing the Broken Narrative of Black Women in America by Tamara Winfrey Harris
- Marsha P. Johnson - iconic black transgender activist during the 1960's to 1990's
- Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha - queer, disabled, nonbinary, femme writer of color
- Janet Mock - black, transgender author, activist, and TV host - check out her show "So Popular"

Lastly, engage in any works of art by people of color. Search for black trans folks and read femme folks of color. Use representations of people of color in media, movies, books, etc. as an opportunity to notice narratives and deconstruct the dichotomies present. Don't dismiss the problematic movies or tv shows, learn from them.

To read a transcript of the entire interview with Lawrence Walker III and AR Ruschet go to cooperpointjournal.com



ADVICE ON SEX, RELATIONSHIPS, & MORE

Dear Body Party,

There are all of these red little bumps around my genitals and I am really really freaked out that I may have herpes? It's all I can think about, my anxiety surrounding it is taking over my life. I know it's really common, but I never thought it would be me.

Thanks,
One in Four

Dear One in Four,

Take a deep breathe- yes, you may have herpes. But you also may not have herpes. Red, irritated bumps around the genitals could be a sign of herpes, but they could also be ingrown hairs, which can be caused by shaving or the rubbing of clothes against your skin. Ingrown hairs, while uncomfortable, are not a sexually transmitted infection (STI). Instead, they are just irritated and inflamed hair follicles.

Herpes sores, as opposed to ingrown hairs, are symptoms of viral shedding, and are characterized by uncomfortable red bumps or blisters that will bust after a day or two and ooze a some sort of milky liquid, becoming painful sores that should dry out and crust over after a week or two. A first outbreak may be complemented by flu like symptoms like body aches and a fever.

Herpes is very common- some estimate as much as 20% of the population in the United States have it- so your fear is understandable. But if your 'sores' have been around for weeks, they are unlikely to be herpes related.

Herpes, like any other STI, can be transmitted after having sex just once with just one person- and because it can be transmitted through oral sex as Herpes simplex 1, which an estimated 67% of the worldwide population has (and can be transmitted from mother to child), it can even be transmitted if you're having sex with someone who has never had sex before.

I'm not a Catholic school teacher- I am not trying to scare you off from having sex. But it is important that, regardless of whether or not you have herpes, you understand that herpes is not some form of 'punishment' for promiscuity. Just like the common cold, or that cold sore you got before prom, it is just something that happens. It's not fun, it's not convenient, but it is just a part of life & sex.

The only way to know for sure what is going on is by getting tested which, thanks to Obamacare, may be covered with no copay through your insurance. If you are at all concerned that you may have herpes, it is worth getting tested because while you are having an outbreak, you are very susceptible to spreading the disease to any sexual partners you may have, or even to other parts of your body. If you call Planned Parenthood downtown with your insurance card handy, they should be able to let you know what will and will not be covered by your insurance.

Herpes testing is a simple procedure which involves swabbing the suspicious sores and sending those swabs to a lab to get tested for the virus.

There is a lot of stigma surrounding herpes but at the end of the day, it's just a disease. While there is no outright cure, taking medications to limit outbreaks, using barrier methods during sexual contact, and refraining from sex entirely during outbreaks can help keep your partners safe and your symptoms manageable. It may complicate your life, but it certainly won't be the end of it.

Stay Safe & Have fun,
-Body Party!

Body Party is a positive, open-minded column about everything bodies, sex, relationships, and self love. This column is not written by a doctor but done by a person who has researched the topic and looked into your questions thoroughly. If you have any questions or problems and want advice about sex, medication, love, STD's ect. please submit them to bodyparty@cooperpointjournal.com

Letters & Opinion

WASTED ADVICE

Greetings. Welcome to Wasted Advice, wherein you ask for advice and I continue to get drunk and advise you. We both win. You can ask me the questions you can't ask your resident advisor.

how do i look hot on halloween without havin a real normie "slutty whatever" costume Have a non-normie "slutty" costume. The worst thing about the "slutty waterer" costume is the lack of originality, so just add a layer of irony and you can show off your flesh-prison without seaming basic. For example, wear your BDSM gear and the European Union Flag and be the idea of austerity.

what r u gonna be 4 halloween? Curious George — its perfect because I've always been very sexually attracted to the man in the yellow hat and I'm hoping that the universe provides me with a tall-hatted man of my own.

What is the best new album out that you're overplaying? I've been really into Princess Nokia's new album, 1992. Its sick, its fresh, its everything

RUBY THOMPSON

I've been hoping and dreaming for since 'tomboy'.

i haven't had sex in a really long time and i want to like without going on dates or whatevr how do i get laid without bein an objectifying creep just trollin for babes or fucking the truly *terrible* men whom hit on me I'll let you know when I figure it out (ask Body Party).

what are ur thoughts on girls?
Hate Lena Duman

should i buy this car w no engine but that i havee an extra engine for since its on Craigslist for \$50 and a rack of bud? how do i actually motivate myself to do the projects i think are a great idea when im drunk? i think yes. Ive done a mental cost-benefit analysis on it and i think that if you don't do it then you'll regret it forever and be damned by it in the afterlife. Alternatively, if things don't work out with the engine, you'll probably be fine in the long run.

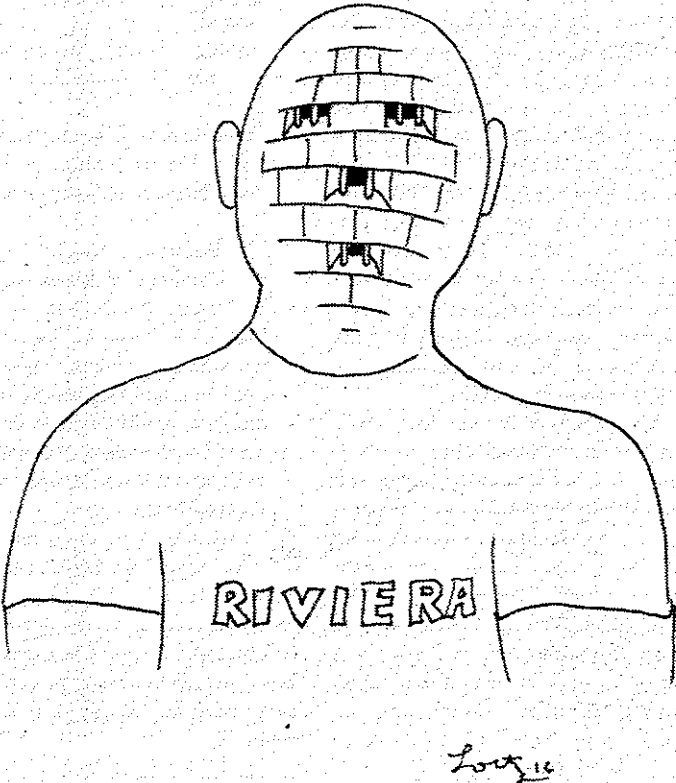
To quote my favorite lyricist: "Now she want a photo, You already know though. You only live once — that's the motto ... YOLO." (Drake) In terms of motivating yourself to do projects, theres only one way to go about it: trick your drum-self into doing it while drunk (thats what I'm doing right now).

Got problems? We can help! You can submit questions anonymously to ask.fm/wastedadvice or email wastedadvice@cooperpointjournal.com.

DÜBER GAL by River Gates



FACE FACTORY 1 by Lortz



OCT. 10 2016

Astrology

RUBY THOMPSON



By Sylvie Chace

Fall quarter is now in full swing and the stress is settling in! Venus, planet of relationships, is about to transition into the fire sign Sagittarius on October 18th after a while of it being in the emotional water sign of Scorpio. Mars, planet of intense and passionate energy, is still in the stable earth sign Capricorn and will remain there until November 8th. Mercury, planet of communication has just entered the balanced air sign, Libra. Overall, the intensity of having Venus in Scorpio and Mars in Capricorn has left us feeling on-edge. There's been no time for tolerating nonsense and getting to the truth of the matter has been weighing on all the signs' minds.

With Venus transitioning into Sagittarius, the sign of the traveler, we all might find ourselves traveling towards what needs the most attention within ourselves. Getting into a routine with classes might keep us busy from our emotional side, but with the deepening change of the seasons, brings a deeper awareness to what we truly need.

ARIES 3/21 - 4/19

You've been moving forward with a quick and fiery pace lately. You're not one to stop once you've set your mind on what direction you want to take. Channel that energy. You don't need to worry about slowing down for the sake of others, do what feels best for you and your true friends will be cheering you on. Focus your drive into something that keeps you excited and passionate about your life.

TAURUS 4/20 - 5/20

You're known for being quite a sleepy sign, however once angered, there's no ignoring your horns! You've been feeling an urge to test your surroundings; are your friends truly there for you? Is this the right path to take? Does something not feel quite right? You have all the answers within yourself. All these internal questions might be overwhelming but after settling in at the end of each day, trust that what you know to be true and right for you is real and valid.

GEMINI 5/21 - 6/20

Being so open and sociable has its risks, and you're currently all too aware of them. For a sign known for its wit and charm, you've been getting serious lately. While your intelligence and bubbly-ness attracts many people, who are the ones you want to stick around? Who are the people you want to truly open up to? Who has your heart right now? Sit with those feelings and give yourself some space, after all it must be hard to be so charming all the time.

CANCER 6/21 - 7/22

Relationships are work and it seems that you've been putting in an enormous effort into all of your relationships. Let yourself reap the benefits of putting tender care into everyone in your life. Let yourself be the one taken care of. You have enough on your plate already, so sit back and give yourself some space to handle all your daily little tasks in life. Don't worry about cooking everyone else dinner; instead see how your loved ones come together for you.

LEO 7/23 - 8/22

The 'no-nonsense' aspect of the planets positions have been a perfect theme for your life lately. You haven't had the time to put your energy into people who only want to take and give nothing in return. Notice how much more balanced and stable your life feels right now. Giving your attention to who and what deserves it empowers you. Make your mental well-being your drive and your passion.

VIRGO 8/23 - 9/22

This season so far has been testing you. Learn from it. This is your season to grow! What are your new dreams? Your new goals? How are they helping you to move away from the past? Be open to all feedback, be open to all new paths. The fall is still just settling in, there's time to adjust your routine to your new ambitions. You'll find that with all the tests life throws your way, comes great opportunity for creativity.

LIBRA 9/23 - 10/22

You've been shifting around the baggage of your life. With Jupiter, planet of fortune, in your sign, this makes this the perfect season to leave behind the past and start anew. What keeps you going? What keeps you grounded? Hold onto the things that keep you in love with your life. Letting go isn't easy for a sign with as much love to give as you, but it's necessary if you want to live to your best potential.

SCORPIO 10/23 - 11/21

With venus in your sign, all the spare time you've had you've given back to yourself. You are deeply intuitive to your inner emotions. Venus will soon be transitioning away from your deep waters so think about how to communicate your feelings. Healing is hard and we all need help, don't be afraid to reach out and see the community of support you have behind you. It's especially hard for someone as mysterious as you to break down those walls but it's a part of your healing process.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22 - 12/21

You're not afraid to cut out the people who drain you. You're not afraid to be honest and real about what you need from others. With venus soon entering your sign, think about the relationships that have stuck through it all. You're known for being vibrant and energetic, so channel that energy into who and what deserves it. Hold onto the side of you that is blunt, it takes bravery to be honest. Cherish the ones in your life who support this side of you.

CAPRICORN 12/22 - 1/19

As always, you may find yourself exhausted with your work. You are one to give your all into things. You've mastered how to channel your frustration and anger into productivity. However, others don't quite understand you. Don't diminish your light or your energy, but find ways to channel your rightful rage into something that makes you feel more connected to community. You are never alone, and you should never let people who don't understand you try to make you feel small.

AQUARIUS 1/20 - 2/18

Your alias is the water-bearer, and with the changes in the season you've been diving into those inner waters. You want to know yourself, and now it feels like your desires are more clear than ever. Now with the quarter in full-swing it's time to get to work! Put your whole self into what you do, find a way to love your work and what you create, let it be a reflection of your inner self.

PISCES 2/19 - 3/20

For someone known for being a bit on the shy side, you've been reaching out. Seeking help and asking for answers is necessary for emotional growth, and emotional growth is your forte being such an intuitive sign. What lessons are you learning? What are others teaching you? Be open to the stories of people around you and let these influences shape you. Let yourself be open to learning anything you can, an unexpected lesson may teach you something that will help you in the long run.

