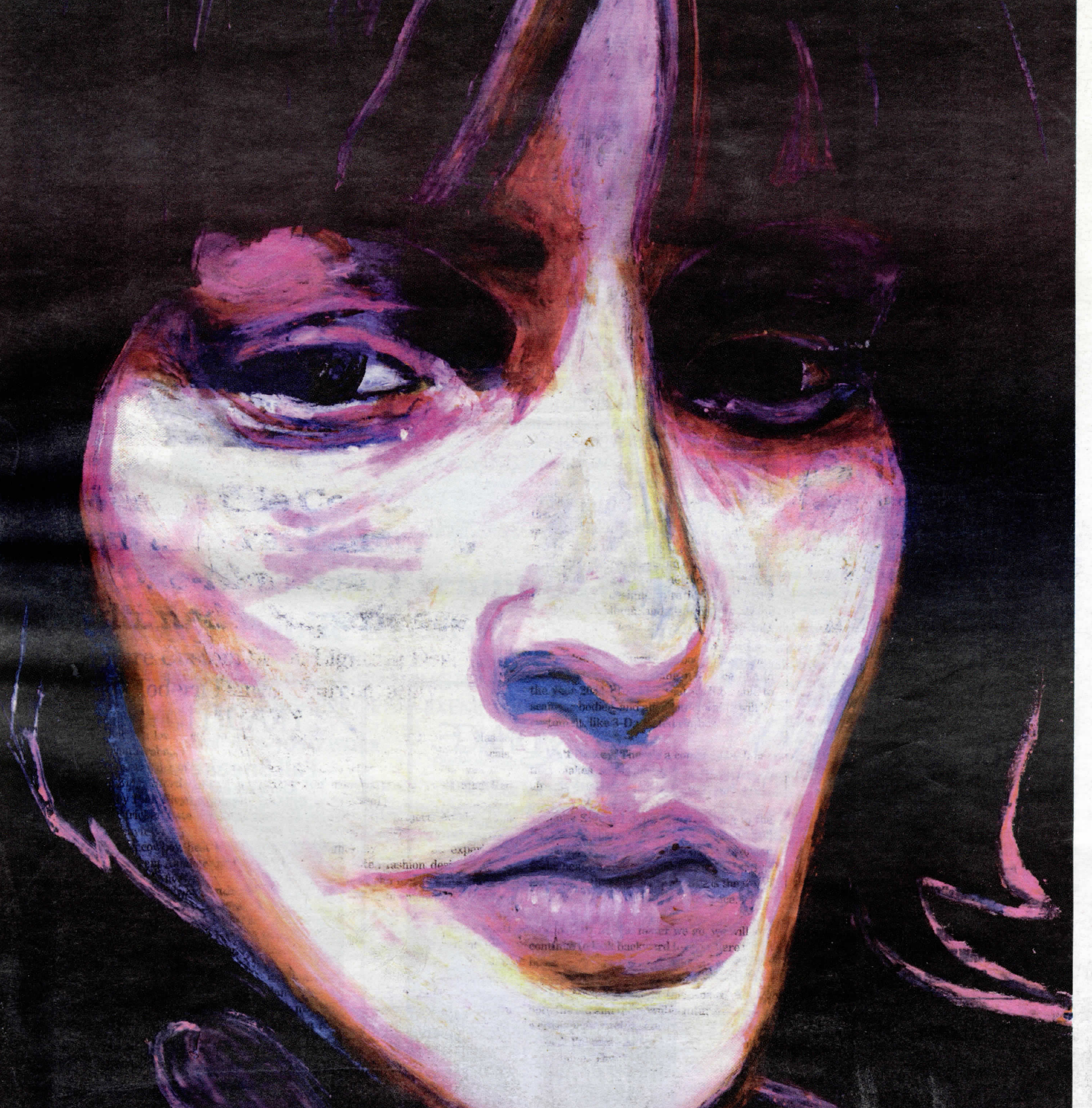


the COOPERPOINT

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STAFF

NEWS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Issac Scott

MANAGING EDITOR

Serena Imani Korn

A&E EDITOR

Blaine Ewig

COMICS EDITOR

River Gates

WRITERS

Emma Rotolo

Ira Zuckerman

Kathryn L. Casterline

Miriam X. Padilla

Phoebe Celeste Thomas

Zachary Newman

COLUMNISTS

Sara Fabian

ILLUSTRATOR

Ruby Thompson

PHOTO EDITOR

Jamie Nadel

COPY EDITOR

Alexandra Hillyer

BUSINESS

BUSINESS MANAGER

Josh Wolf

ASSOCIATE BUSINESS MANAGER

Felix Chrome

CONTACT

OFFICE

The Evergreen State College

CAB 332

2700 Evergreen Pkwy NW

Olympia, WA

NEWS

(360) 867-6213

cooperpointjournal@gmail.com

BUSINESS

(360) 867-6054

cpjbiz@evergreen.edu

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COVER ART

by PATRICK SEMPLE

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Washington State Patrol films Olympia May Day 2013. JUSTIN R MAUGER

Police Use Terrorism Exemption to Deny Public Records

FORMER EVERGREEN STUDENT SUES WASHINGTON STATE PATROL AFTER AGENCY SITES TERRORISM EXEMPTION

By **JOSH WOLF**

Austin Nolen wasn't looking for anything in particular when he filed a public records request with the Washington State Patrol (WSP) regarding Olympia's 2013 May Day demonstration. "At that time, I was sort of in the phase of mind where if anything interesting happens—request records about it, and maybe you'll find something interesting," said Nolen, who is a former Evergreen student.

While Nolen did discover the state patrol's Incident Action Plan for Olympia's 2013 May Day demonstration, what was most interesting was the patrol's explanation for blacking out, or redacting, portions of the plan.

The WSP redacted information from Nolen's records request, claiming that the information was exempt from public disclosure because it was intended to "respond to criminal terrorist acts," which are defined as "acts that significantly disrupt the conduct of government or of the

general civilian population...and manifest an extreme indifference to human life," according to the Public Records Act.

Nolen filed a civil suit against the WSP arguing that the agency "wrongfully withheld and redacted" his public records request "without a valid claim of exemption," according to Nolen's case argument. Nolen's case is one of the only known challenges to the terrorism exemption, and argues that the acts the WSP described "do not amount to a concern about criminal terrorist acts,"

meaning the records should not have been redacted.

According to Washington state law, state agencies must give access to all public records, unless the records fall under a "specific exemption," in which case the state agency must prove why that information is not available to the public.

Public records requests must also consider that "free and open examination of public records is in the public interest even though such examination may cause inconvenience or embarrassment

to public officials or others," according to Washington state law.

It's not uncommon for state agencies to redact information from public records requests. Certain information is exempt from public records, such as names, addresses, and other sensitive information that is not required to be disclosed to the public.

When Nolen first received his

that "due to an administrative oversight, the agency withheld" some information "that is not exempt under" Washington state law. The WSP also admitted to a degree of fault by making a "clerical error" in the records request sent to Nolen, and said that the Thurston County Superior Court should award Nolen some amount of money.

Nolen's case is one of the only known challenges to the terrorism exemption.

public records request from the state patrol, he noticed that the documents didn't match up. The WSP has various interorganizational departments, and while the requests are processed through a central department, individual departments process records requests separately.

Nolen noticed that different departments redacted different information: some departments redacted information claiming that it was exempt because it was related to a "criminal terrorist act," while others released the information for Nolen to read.

One of the inconsistencies in the patrol's redactions was related to protecting banks from rock throwers. In one version of state patrol documents regarding "Site security at the Chase Bank on 9th and Capitol," the WSP wrote: "Do not fall for diversionary tactics; ie. A suspect throws a rock at the window and runs away. Don't chase and then five new suspects attack the bank while you're chasing the distraction causing subject."

In another copy of the same document released to Nolen, this information was redacted, and the state patrol claimed that it was exempt from disclosure because the information was intended to "respond to criminal terrorist acts." By citing this terrorism exemption, the WSP implied that "diversionary tactics," such as rock throwing, are terrorism.

Another inconsistency that Nolen's case points out is the release of officer contact information, while another copy of the same document redacted the same contact information.

The WSP admitted in their Motion for Summary Judgment

Leading up to Olympia's May Day 2013 demonstration, the state patrol was concerned that "potentially large incidents of criminal behavior will occur," according to WSP documents obtained from Nolen's records request. The state patrol wrote that buildings were "damaged and defaced," in previous May Day events, and that "Groups known as 'anarchists' and 'black block', among others, have indicated an intention to create disturbances, specifically targeting banks and governmental representations."

The WSP also mentioned the grand jury investigation into Seattle's 2012 May Day demonstrations, in which former Evergreen students, and others who live in Olympia were incarcerated and ordered to testify, but refused to cooperate. "These suspects have been hailed as heroes for their refusal to speak against fellow protesters while under grand jury orders to do so," writes the WSP.

Nolen's case argues that the WSP's concerns may have been justified, but these concerns did not amount to terrorism, and that the information should not have been redacted. "While certainly WSP may have had legitimate cause for concern about property damage, and perhaps assaults on officers, these concerns do not amount to a concern about criminal terrorist acts...And more importantly, these acts do not manifest an extreme indifference to human life," according to Nolen's case argument.

The next hearing in the case is set for December 19 at the Thurston County Superior Court.

Whoa, That Election Just Happened

BUT HERE'S THE GOOD NEWS

By ISSAC SCOTT & FELIX ASHERAH CHROME

If you're anything like 63.7 percent of the country, you probably didn't vote in the midterm elections this year—either because you forgot, couldn't figure out how, didn't care, or you think voting is just uncool/not part of the anarchist revolution.

Hey, we here at the Cooper Point Journal are supposedly journalists, and it never occurred to us once that we should even think about the election, let alone, like, write about what was on the ballot. That was until our first staff meeting after the fact, and then we were all like, "whoa, that election just happened."

It was the most expensive midterm election in history. Overall, apathy for the electoral process is at an all time high. And the people who actually are voting seem to be either the kind of climate change denying fascists who spend their time brandishing a fetus sign outside of Planned Parenthood, or who celebrate Veterans Day getting day drunk and painting a giant American flag on their Ford F1-50 while blasting Kid Rock in their driveway.

I'm describing exactly the opposite people any reasonable person wants to have a disproportionate influence on our political process. No offence to Kid though, "All Summer Long" is the jam.

But fortunately for us, the West Coast seems to have yet to descend fully into the Idiocracy-style dystopia in which Sarah Palin narrates the constant NFL game broadcast non-stop on TVs surgically affixed to our faces from birth. Miraculously, some good things were accomplished on our coast thanks to people voting in the midterm elections, and no thanks to everyone who didn't vote (myself included). To counter the mood of utter despair, here is a roundup of good news that came out of the elections in Washington, Oregon, and California.



OREGON TOKES UP

OREGON MEASURE 91

Yes 56% - No 44%

Unsurprisingly, marijuana prohibition is falling apart everywhere that isn't Texas or Arizona. This is good news for literally everyone, except for racist cops. What is surprising, though, is how much better Oregon's law is than Washington's. The law contains the same kind of laid-back regulation that helped make Oregon a microbrew mecca, while Washington flounders in hoppy mediocrity.

Some key differences: Oregon will allow possession up to 8 ounces, compared to just 1 in Washington. Oregon will allow people to grow their own pot at home, while Washingtonians need to apply for a license. Washington sharply delineates between producers and distributors, but in Oregon farmers will be able to sell their own legal weed, and even open their own retail stores. Oregonians will be taxed around 12 percent compared to 44 percent here. This

way the state also hopes retailers can compete with the black market. Furthermore, Oregon will allow out-of-state investment in marijuana businesses, unlike Washington.

These are all things lawmakers in the Washington Liquor Control Commission, the group tasked with regulating marijuana, should pay close attention to as it continues to figure out how to implement the law. So far, the legalization process has been marred in the Evergreen State by the extremely high prices of legal weed, and far too little supply. The lack of vertical integration and paucity of licenses for both growers and retailers is to blame. Ironically, Washingtonians—we were so proud of being the first to make the stuff legal—may soon be crossing the Columbia take advantage of the plentiful and cheap weed. - IS



GUN BACKGROUND CHECKS

WASHINGTON INITIATIVE 594

Yes 58.8% - No 41.2%

Washington state now requires background checks for every gun sale. While they were already required for certain types of sales, the confusing patchwork of state and federal laws left plenty of loopholes for those who wanted to avoid a background check.

This measure makes the rules regarding background checks on purchases from licensed gun dealers applicable to all gun sales in the state. This means background checks are now required any time someone gives someone else a gun, even casual deals between friends, or guns sold on Craigslist. It also closes the "gun show loophole" liberal politicians and pundits love to rant about on TV.

There are, however, a few things the law

could not cover. Gifts of guns between family members and the purchase of antique firearms still remain background check-free.

There was another, opposite, gun-related measure on the ballot this time around, Initiative 591. This one failed, but would have prevented Washington state from implementing any gun control measures beyond what the federal government already requires.

The measure also inexplicably wished to ban the government from confiscating people's guns. Since both the federal and state constitutions clearly ban seizing private property without due process, this is a totally unfounded fear primarily used for NRA fund-raising and filling time on FOX News. - FAC



\$15 MINIMUM WAGE IN SF

SAN FRANCISCO PROPOSITION 7

Yes 76.8% - No 23.2%

Seattle's arch rival, San Francisco, has followed in the Emerald City's footsteps by becoming the second United States city to implement a \$15 minimum wage. Voters overwhelmingly approved the proposition, and the 23 percent of SF workers who make minimum wage will see their pay raise to \$12.25 this spring, and gradually to \$15 by 2018. San Francisco already has the highest minimum wage in the country, but the cost of living in the city has skyrocketed in recent years. This measure will increase workers' incomes by about \$2,800 each year, according to a study by University of California Berkeley.

In June, the Seattle City Council unanimously voted to become the first city in the country to

implement a \$15 minimum wage, thanks to a campaign led by socialist city councilor Kshama Sawant.

In Oregon, state law prevents Portland from raising its minimum wage for all workers, but it can raise wages for people employed by the city. Multnomah County, in which Portland sits, agreed to raise the wages for all county employees to \$15 by 2016, after reaching a deal with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. Proponents of a living wage are pushing for the Oregon state legislature to raise the statewide minimum wage to \$15, or repeal the law preventing the City of Portland acting on its own. - IS



DRUG & PROPERTY CRIMES NO LONGER FELONIES IN CA

CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE 47

Yes 58.5% - No 41.5%

California voters passed a proposition reducing many non-violent drug and property crimes from felonies to misdemeanors. Unless someone has been previously convicted of a murder, rape, or certain violent gun crimes, possession of any illegal drug for "personal use" is no longer a felony. Additionally, the threshold that makes many property crimes such as shoplifting, check fraud, and possession of stolen goods a felony has been raised to \$950, up from \$450.

As many as 10,000 people in prison could be eligible for early release, according to the official California Voters Guide. The measure allows resentencing for those in prison for felonies that are now considered misdemeanors if a judge declares they "do not pose a risk to the public." Judges have already begun issuing orders to release some prisoners with felony convictions, and people in jail awaiting felony charges are already being released.

Moving forward the California Legislative Analyst's Office says around 40,000 annually will be affected by the changes, and could mean thousands less people go to prison each year. Those who were previously convicted of a felony can apply to have it changed to a misdemeanor on their record, allowing them better access to jobs, housing, and voting rights.

The measure will save California hundreds of millions of dollars annually, according to the

Attorney General of California, or \$1 billion in the next five years, according to the ACLU. The money saved will go into a "Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund," also created by the ballot initiative. The fund benefits California schools, as well as drug rehab and mental health programs.

California has notoriously over-crowded prisons. According to a New York Times report, the incarcerated population has grown 750 percent since the mid 1970s. This initiative was part of a larger plan to attempt to reduce the prison population since a federal court ruled that California did not have the proper resources for the number of incarcerated people, saying they had to reduce the population by 40,000 by 2016.

Until recent radical reversals of policy at the hands of voters, the California criminal justice system has exemplified the "tough on crime" atmosphere of post war on drugs United States. California consistently incarcerates more people than any other state, and their infamous three strikes law, and others like it, mean massive amounts of people are serving life in prison. Proposition 47 represents an important step in reversing the tide of mass incarceration. - FAC

City News Briefs

YEAH STUFF HAPPENS
AROUND HERE

By ISSAC SCOTT

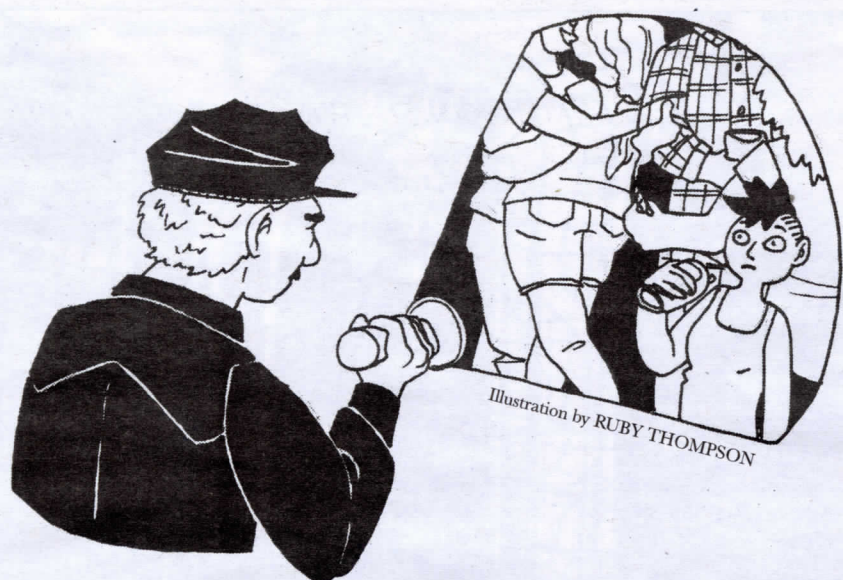


Illustration by RUBY THOMPSON

Know Your Rights

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE COPS COME TO YOUR PARTY

By FELIX CHROME

Before every punk show, zine release, or birthday party we plan, my whole house sits down to talk about the logistics, mostly what to do if a bunch of wasted randos show up or our neighbor calls the cops. Most recently, as soon as we sat down and opened our beers, the Party Intervention Patrol came up in our conversation. Even if you don't host events at your house, chances are you or your friends have been talking about Thurston County's crack down on fun (or underage drinking, or whatever). In light of this chatter, I thought it was time for a refresher on what to do if cops show up at a party. Here's what I learned from legal rights organizations like the ACLU and some members of the National Lawyers Guild, who were patient enough to translate legalese into plain English.

1. DON'T LET THEM IN

You do not have to let police into your house if they do not have a warrant. This might seem pretty obvious, but cops are intimidating and people often find themselves forgetting their rights when a bunch of scary dudes with guns are outside. Instead, step outside, shut the door behind you, and see why they are there. If you are drunk and/or underage, send your soberest roommate over 21 (I suggest working this out ahead of time) to talk to the cops. If you're not hosting the party, just quiet down (stop any music and don't be stupidly rowdy) and chill inside, if it's just a noise complaint, the cops will usually leave and then you can decide to go home or move on to the next party.

2. DON'T TALK TO THEM

If the cops are outside a house as you are walking away or standing outside, it is easy to think you're already busted and have to talk to them. Don't! These stops are legally the same as a cop randomly stopping you on the street. If you try to not engage and simply walk away and a cop hassles you, don't volunteer any information, it can only hurt. I'm sure you've heard it a million times but remember the magic words: "Am I being detained? Am I free to go?" Even if you're not breaking the law or are certain you're clever enough to talk your way out of anything, don't. Cops can use the information you give them against other people, even if it seems harmless at the time. Additionally, cops cannot detain you indefinitely without arresting you, which requires probable cause. If you have been detained for 15 or 20 minutes, ask if you are under arrest. If you are not under arrest, once again ask "am I free to go?"

3. CHECK THE WARRANT

Cops can call a judge and get a search warrant if they come for a noise complaint and see evidence of underage drinking. This isn't very common, but that's what happened when the recent Books To Prisoners show was shut down. And the Party Intervention Patrol is going to keep doing raids like this. If you or your chosen friend/roommate goes outside to talk to the cops, or they knock and say they have a search warrant, do not let them in until they show it to you. Be sure to check all the information. A warrant must have your exact address, the correct date, and signatures by both a judge and the requesting officer. If any of this information is missing or wrong, tell the cops that the warrant is invalid and why. This does not mean that police will not search your house anyway, cops do illegal stuff all the time. Trying to stop cops from entering the house or otherwise obstructing them will probably cause you nothing but problems, regardless of the validity of their warrant, so it's definitely not recommended. Instead, state loudly, clearly, and repeatedly, "I do not consent to this search." You should say this even if the warrant looks fine to you.

4. DON'T CONSENT TO A BREATHALYZER

If you are not driving, you do not have to take a breathalyzer test. The lawyers I talked to were all pretty shocked that cops got people to take breath tests when they shut down the Books To Prisoners benefit, and one Washington lawyer who volunteered to answer more of my questions said he thought it was unconstitutional. To be arrested as a minor in possession, you have to either have an open container of alcohol in your hand or be visibly drunk. Don't let cops trick you into incriminating yourself with a test, no matter what they say. Even once you have been arrested, you do not have to consent to a blood alcohol test. They need a warrant. Simply tell officers you want a lawyer, then shut up. If cops keep asking you questions, repeat that you are invoking your right to remain silent and you want a lawyer.

UPDATES TO THE CITY'S "COMPREHENSIVE PLAN" UNDERWAY

Most people have trouble planning out their week, let alone the next fifteen years. But the City of Olympia's Comprehensive Plan does just that, imagining how the city will grow from now until 2030. First created in 1990, the Comprehensive Plan establishes policies and projections for the direction Olympia will take over the next decade-and-a-half, anticipating the arrival of 20,000 new residents and changes in the economy, culture, and environment.

Right now, the city government is finalizing its updates to the plan, a process that happens every 8 years. The public comment period closed on Nov. 7, and the City Council is expected to approve the revised plan before the end of December. You can take a look at the proposed plan at the City's website www.olympiawa.gov.

The proposed plan calls for "a capital city of pedestrian-oriented streetscapes, livable and affordable neighborhoods, safe and meaningful street life, and high-quality civic architecture." These traits are intended to be both environmentally and economically sustainable, and appeal to the "millennial" generation who will take over the work force in the next decade.

The update has new provisions projecting impacts of sea level rise due to climate change, and outlines the need for large infrastructure projects to prevent flooding in downtown. The sea level is projected to raise at least 3 feet by the year 2100, posing a major threat to low-lying areas, such as downtown.

The plan also expands upon the "urban corridor" designations where public transit and pedestrian-friendly design and denser housing will be required. The main urban corridor stretches from Ralph's Thriftway on the Eastside to the intersection of Harrison Ave. and Division Street on the Westside. The plan calls for expanded public transit service and more mixed-use development. Mixed-use development combines commercial spaces at street level with apartments above so that people can live closer to businesses where they could work, shop, and hang out.

CITY TO REFORM PUBLIC DEFENDER SYSTEM

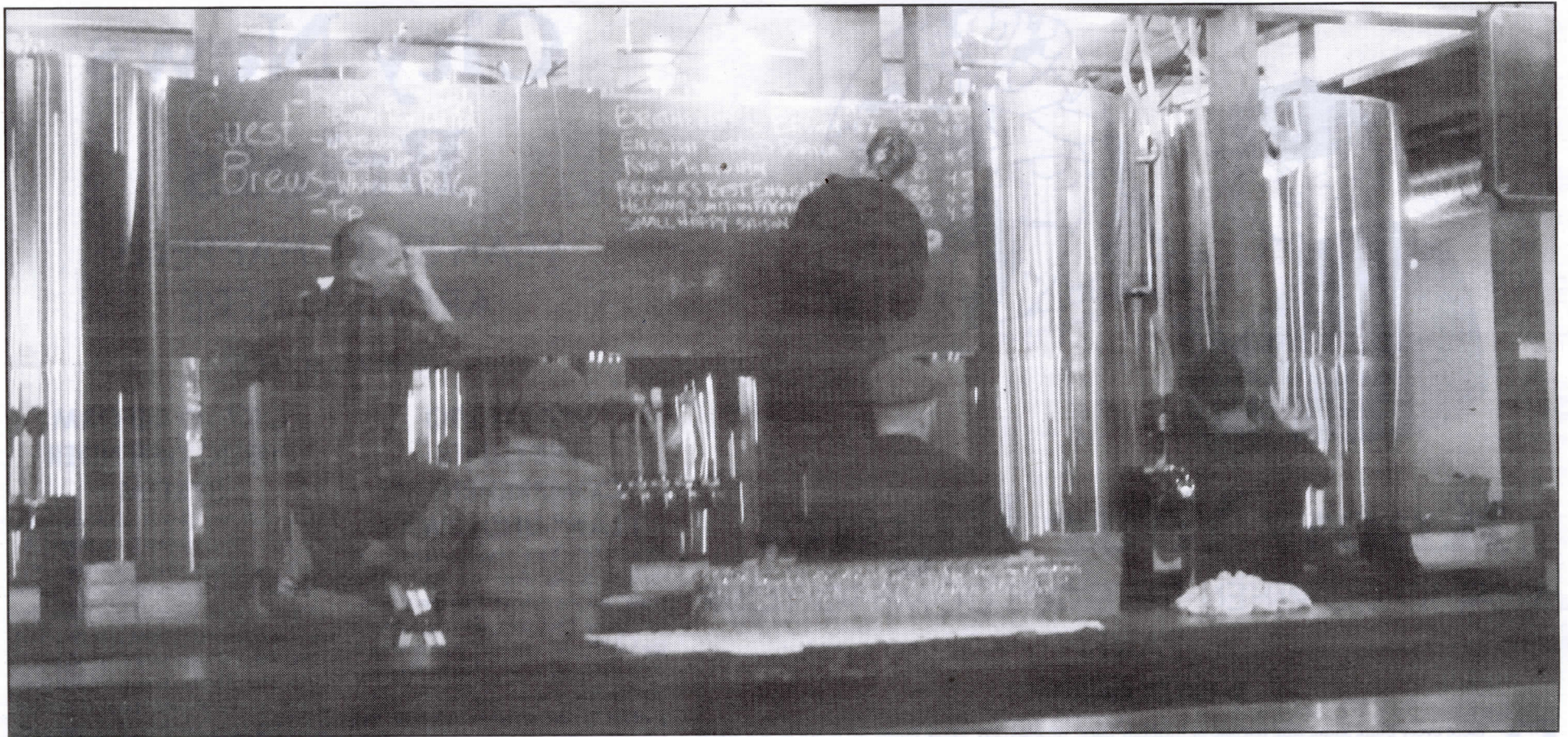
Meanwhile, the City of Olympia says it will enact new reforms to its public defender system to ensure adequate representation for defendants who cannot afford a lawyer, complying with heightened standards set by the state Supreme Court that will come into effect on Jan. 1, 2015. The court has mandated that public defenders in the state take on no more than 400 cases per year, and that each municipality hire a supervisor to ensure the new standards are met. According to several courts, Washington cities provide too few public defenders and burdened them with excessive caseloads, so that it is impossible for poor people to receive adequate legal representation.

Right now, Olympia's four public defenders each handle about 400 misdemeanor cases a year, but only work part time, earning around \$3,500 a month, or \$42,000 a year. The attorneys are also required to procure their own offices, computers and administrative support. Among the roughly 1,250 cases processed by the city in an average year, only 10 ever see a jury trial.

Next year, the city plans to pump an additional \$250,000 into their legal department, making two of the four attorneys full-time, and hiring a supervisor who will be an attorney.

Caseloads in Olympia, although far exceeding the new standards, have actually been relatively small compared to other Washington municipalities. As Olympia's internal documents note, last year the U.S. District Court in Seattle ruled against the Washington cities of Mount Vernon and Burlington in a suit brought by the ACLU. The court found that the public defender system in place systematically deprived poor defendants of legal counsel, and that the city government made deliberate choices to cause the deprivation. Each of Mount Vernon's two part-time public defenders handled more than 1,000 cases a year, spending as little as a half-hour from start to finish on some cases.

A city staff report on the matter says caseloads have remained relatively small in Olympia because of understaffing at the Olympia Police Department (OPD). The city projects that it will need hire an additional public defender when the OPD becomes fully staffed.



Employees at Three Magnets' Soft Opening. KATHERYN L. CASTERLINE

Three Magnets Brewing Co. Opens New Brewpub in Downtown Oly

By KATHERYN L. CASTERLINE

Beer drinkers, rejoice! There is a new brewpub in downtown Olympia. Cancel your plans to visit the craft breweries in Seattle and Portland and go check out the Three Magnets Brewing Co. as soon as you possibly can. Three Magnets is owned and operated by Evergreen alumni Nathan and Sara Reilly, who have been running Darby's Cafe for the past nine years. The couple thinks that the restaurant should be fully operational in about a month or so, though they're going to keep it open as a 21+ establishment in the meantime.

I was invited to attend the brewpub's secret soft open on Nov. 7 and was among the first to test out their brews and sample their fries, which was the only food they had available that night. "You'll have to come back another time," said head brewer Pat Jansen. "All we can offer people tonight is fries or more fries."

The brewpub has already expanded their food menu and will continue to add more options as time goes on. According to Jansen, Three Magnets will serve primarily local and organic food. When he isn't working on new beer recipes, Jansen keeps busy working as the local food sourcing liaison for the company, using knowledge and connections he gained during his time as a student at Evergreen.

There's more reason to be excited about Three Magnets' opening than

just their beer. Brian Wilson, the downtown liaison for the City of Olympia and friend of the owners and brewers, said that opening up this brewpub cre-

Three Magnets Brewing Co.
600 Franklin St. SE Suite 102
Open: 4 - 10 p.m.

ated 40 new jobs. "To see this level of investment from an existing business owner shows their commitment and belief in downtown."

Olympia beer may not be brewed here anymore, but this is still a beer town. "When the brewery went out, it was a big hit to our economy. We're finally starting to reestablish Olympia as the beer city it once was. It's great

to see it happening, even if it is on a smaller scale," said Wilson.

You'll definitely find a sense of community at the brewery. A lot of the beers at Three Magnets are named after local businesses, like their Rainy Day IPA and the Brotherhood Brown. While I've yet to try all of their beers, the Rainy Day IPA is one of my favorites. I got to sample it at the Tumwater Artesian Brewfest earlier this year and have been waiting to get another taste ever since. Three Magnets has actually made an arrangement with the record store—every time they sell a pint of that delicious brew, Rainy Day will donate 25 cents to help out The Northern, an all-ages venue that has been struggling to keep its doors open.

The cheapest beers on the menu right now are \$4.25, which isn't bad given their quality. Jansen has been

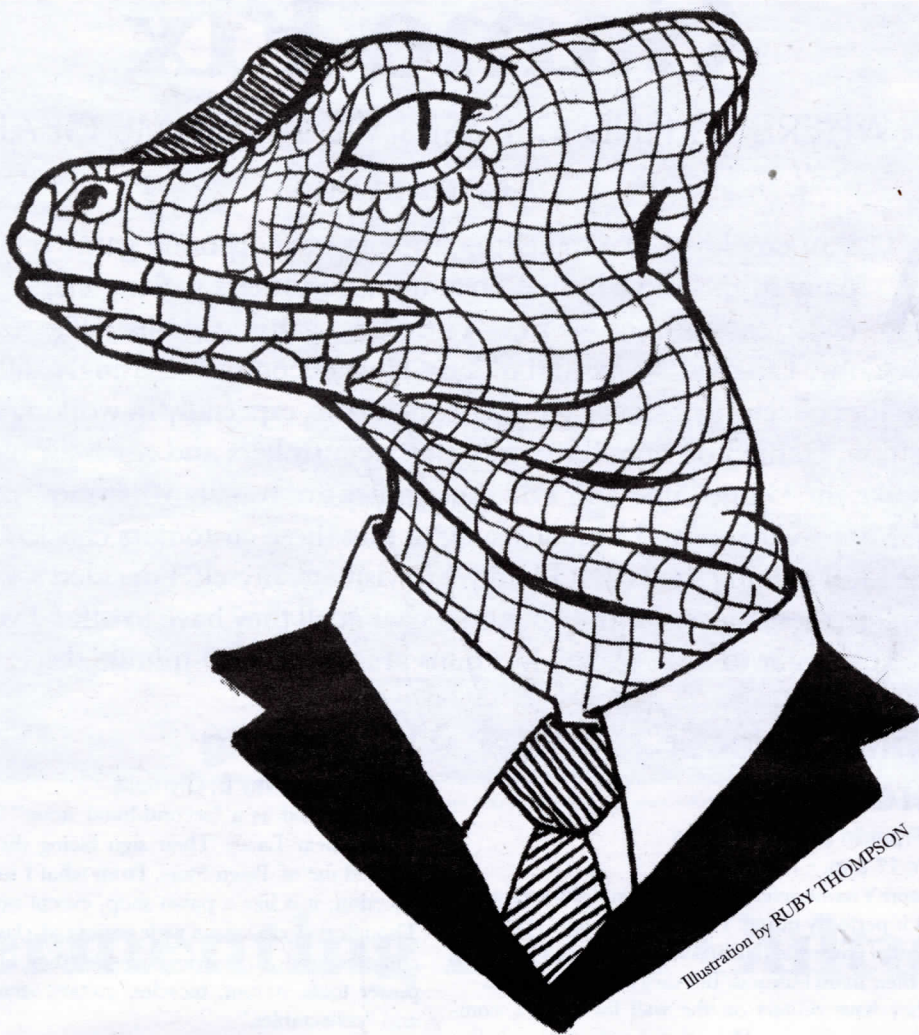
home-brewing for about eight and a half years now. He and the other brewer, Jeff Stokes, work on the recipes together.

A lot of the beers currently featured on the menu are recipes Jansen has worked with before, but the final product is always a group effort. Before anything gets added to the Three Magnets menu, Stokes takes a look at the recipe and adds to it, making it a collaborative effort. Right now they're offering half "repeat" recipes Jansen developed on his own, in addition to the new recipes the two developed together. "Really our goal is to make clean beers with no flaws," said Jansen.

Right now, customers can only sample one brew at a time, but Three Magnets will eventually offer sampler trays. "It took us a while to design a tray that would work with our logo but we finally found something we could work with. Right now we're just waiting for the order to come in," he said.

They will also be ready to open up the all-ages, family-friendly section of the bar soon. "The building was still undergoing construction two hours before the opening," said Wilson. The bar still isn't as complete as the owners would like it to be, but they're making more progress each day.

Three Magnets has been posting updates on their Facebook page on an almost daily basis. While they don't currently have set hours, they plan on opening every day around 4 and closing around 10 at night.



Saturday Night DisInfo

LAST WORD BOOKS HOST WEEKLY DISCUSSION OF ALL THINGS REPTILIAN AND CHEMTRAIL

By IRA ZUCKERMAN

An eccentric among its peers, Last Word Books is packed on Saturday nights. Most bookstores would give into the bars and clubs on these weekend evenings, but Last Word keeps their doors open for a weekly meeting of the paranoid.

A man with lanky, tattooed arms scurried around bookshelves, greeted Nov. 8's assembly and arranged their seating. Few chairs matched as a set. Some looked like they were from a yuppie den, some an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. The guests, casually dressed and mostly bearded, began to settle as sociologist October Surprise began the discussion.

"Hi everyone. For those who are new, I'm October, I'm a sociologist, and I like tinfoil stuff," Surprise addressed the baggy-eyed mass. "We're going to steadily get more crazy throughout the evening."

"Tinfoil stuff" was a reference to the belief that wearing a hat made of tinfoil will deflect invisible attacks on one's mind. Surprise doesn't wear a tinfoil hat,

but he seemed to enjoy the association.

Each Saturday at 6 p.m., Surprise hosts a "conspiracy lecture discussion," called Saturday Night Disinfo. Nov. 1 marked the

"The Reptilians are real. They'll be here tonight."

meeting's premiere, with a discussion on "disinfo" as a concept.

"There's information. Then there's misinformation, where

you made a mistake, you got something wrong. Then, there's disinformation where you got something intentionally wrong," Surprise said. "There's a quote I like: 'Information is like football. Misinformation is like a fumble. Disinformation is a well-executed play.'"

With a master's degree in sociology, Surprise started Saturday Night Disinfo, not in a need to discuss conspiracy theories, but in a genuine fascination with these ideas.

Posters for the discussions, up all over Olympia, are dripping with self-aware irony: the collage of conspiracy-themed clip art depicting an actor faking that he is faking the moon landing, expensively realistic alien halloween costumes, and "AREA 51" in big, federal letters certainly jumps out

to passersby.

"A lot of people are hesitant to see alternate realities. They'll shut down these ideas and get really defensive," Surprise said. "I like conspiracy theories that are either truly explanatory, like 'Oh, that could totally be true,' or ones that are just totally nuts. This is a place to entertain those ideas. This is a place where all concepts are equally tolerated."

Nov. 8's (the second-ever) Saturday Night Disinfo began with a PowerPoint presentation titled "HAARP, Weather, Death." "That title's just for sensationalism," Surprise said. "HAARP (the High-Frequency Active Auroral Research Program) is a giant antenna array meant to manipulate the ionosphere."

And so, the first conspiracy theory of the night was revealed: HAARP is being used to modify Earth's environment. Surprise wasn't stating this to the group as a fact, but opening it up to be picked apart for good and bad ideas. "If you came looking for answers, you're in the wrong place. This is a questions place, not an answers place," Surprise said.

Front-and-center of the congregation was Miles, a man with a wispy voice and grey beard, who seemed to be the in-house source of possible answers—the real conspiracy theorist, the true tinfoil in the room. "One of the ways they modify the weather is Chemtrails, which are different from contrails. Contrails go away. These damn planes are spraying chemicals into the air, like little fiberglass fibers and aluminum meant to refract sunlight," Miles said. "I don't know what the effect would be of the fiberglass quite honestly."

Surprise, through videos, maps, and diagrams, led his guests to the conclusion that HAARP's high frequency pulses have triggered earthquakes and other major phenomena. "With the right frequency, you can blow up buildings," Miles said as his eyes widened.

Just as the meeting's vibes reached a comfortable groove, a stocky latecomer stepped in the room, bringing a noticeable addition to the paranoid aura in the room. His trimmed facial hair and sweater-shirt combo make him appear to be the most successful conspiracy theorist in the room.

Surprise did his best to continue the discussion uninterrupted. "One theory for the Japanese earthquake, is that the West was punishing Japan for trade disagreements," he said. Immediately, the late arrival took control.

"I have a friend who knows the prime minister—that's common knowledge in Japan," his creamy voice claimed. The room responded positively, asking questions and learning that this is Ted Mahr: the Host and Psychic, as his business card declared, of Out of this World Radio on Seattle's Alternative Talk 1150 AM. "The purpose of this radio program is to raise consciousness and to bring love and light to our listening audience," Out of This World's website proclaims.

This is also Ted Mahr, disbarred from law practice in December 2010 for "conduct involving false statements to a tribunal, conversion of client funds, and dishonesty" as D. Angus Lee, Grant County Prosecuting Attorney, wrote in the press release warranting for his arrest due to unlawful practice in June 2012.

At Saturday Night Disinfo, however, Mahr ruled. For five-straight minutes, Mahr expounded on the use of Strontium and Barium particles in Chemtrails to disrupt ecology and human reproduction in South America, waving around flash drives full of data like weapons.

"You have to wonder why they're doing this," Mahr said, his eyes beginning to glow. "It's for a creepy group of reptilian aliens, under an agreement to study us. Why else?" This was the first mention of "reptilians" that night.

"Reptiles like it hot, and these aliens are the same way," Mahr said. "They look at us as a food source."

Miles took this moment to add to the discussion. "That's my theory too. They eat us. Especially a nice South American baby," Miles said, chuckling.

"You think I'm joking," Mahr menaced, spreading his threatening, electric aura around the room.

"No no." Miles said. "I'm very paranoid." Miles managed to keep his cool, but began shrinking into his chair.

Mahr returns to his lecture. "The Reptilians are real. They'll be here tonight," Mahr said. "I'm going to cover you all in white light, so you'll be protected." Whether this was an ongoing gift, or if he had plans for us later in the evening, was to be revealed.

The rest of the night was a blurry tug-of-war between Mahr and Surprise, both trying to take the reigns of the Reptilian conversation.

"When you look at Obama and

"DisInfo" continued on page 8.

"DisInfo" continued from page 7.

Hillary Clinton, you see their eyes are wide open. That's because their souls are in combat with a Reptilian consciousness," Mahr said. "Do not worry. We are getting help from a so-called 'galactic alliance.'" For being an alliance of light years, Mahr speaks of them with shockingly little reverence, but nowhere near the disrespect of the Reptilian aliens and the conspiracy theorists in the room.

"The Reptilians do time travel. We know that in 300 years, we kick them off this planet," Mahr said.

"Have you heard the theory that this is originally their planet?" Miles tried again to start a dialogue.

"I call that theory bullshit," Mahr spits. The room is silent for a few moments. Miles continues to slump into his chair.

Mahr was unstoppable. Each time Surprise was able to return to the powerpoint, Mahr had another three-to-five-minute soapbox speech. For a long time, no one else wanted to speak. Granted, you could count the attendance on your hands, but the new king had control over all.

"I took a trip to Japan last year," one of the young women in the room bravely spoke for the first time. "I didn't hear anyone talking about the earthquake being an attack, but that might be because I was a foreigner. Their disaster response teams were absolutely on top of everything though."

Before anyone had a chance to give a thoughtful response, Mahr changed the subject. "I want to tell you, I am a psychic. My family is psychic. This planet is shifting into the fifth dimension and soon we will all have thousands of years of knowledge."

This college-aged girl responded to one of Mahr's theories, with relevant first-person knowledge. She did not get something of equal value in return. Yet, she continued to step up from the guests and speak her mind. She tried to show that this psychic man is not so scary.

"This talk about Reptilians makes me think about the idea of our brain having a Reptilian base. I think in our very basic nature, humans are evil," the young woman spoke again.

"No," Mahr forcefully stated: no discussion. "They're not evil by nature."

"Well, from my experiences I've seen that humans can be easily attracted to power. When humans have power, I think they're eager to use it for personal gain."

Mahr looked up from his lap as she finished talking; he was fiddling with his cell phone while the young woman spoke and proceeded to ad-

vertise next week's show. The young woman did not speak again.

The night reached its closure, as Surprise ran out of PowerPoint, Mahr ran out of material, and the other conspiracy theorists ran out of patience. It was time to be bestowed with white light.

"Now these rays will only last until midnight tomorrow. Until then, you will be safe from Reptilian influence," Mahr said. "This is kind of like 'Om,' it will open up your fourth eye."

Mahr closed his eyes, took a deep breath, and began to chant a single nasal syllable. This went on for 30 to 45 seconds. Surprise was the only one in the room who couldn't hold his thoughts in, as he quietly guffawed for the better part of the ceremony. All present thanked Mahr for his gift and began to make their ways home: free from the fear of reptilian influence, whether it existed beforehand or not.

The following Saturday, Nov. 15, Surprise opened up to the crowd

"This planet is shifting
into the fifth dimension
and soon we will all
have thousands of years
of knowledge."

about his feelings towards Mahr. "We're trying to figure out if he's a really good scam artist," Surprise said, "or a Reptilian himself."

Without Mahr, Saturday Night Disinfo returned to a democratic congress, with Surprise as the discussion head. He drove topics as far as his conversational partners would, and usually much further. People cracked jokes with each other, played with reptile hand puppets, and appeared to have fun with conspiracies. "Hey! Keep it together there in the back," Surprise cheerfully jumped to his job as moderator. Reptilians aren't even mentioned until 7 p.m.

"There's a local lady who we're trying to get to come next week who knows a lot about HAARP and weather. But we all have to be really polite," Surprise chuckled with a touch of gravity, as the Nov. 15 discussion ends.

Impressionable beware: you may start believing in Reptilian-held presidential orgies inside the walls of Last Word Books. Others may be more confident in their sanity.

Game Fix

WHERE TO FIND CLASSIC VIDEO GAME GEAR

By **CODY BYRE**

As an employee of GameStop, the biggest corporate game retail company in the U.S., I often encounter customers seeking classic games, consoles, and accessories. These old gaming items—Playstation 2, GameCube, Original Xbox and older—have become increasingly difficult to locate for collectors or classic gaming enthusiasts, especially in working or mint condition. GameStop does have third party controllers and cords for older systems like the GameCube and PS2, but games are usually what inquisitors are after. My co-workers and I usually suggest that these customers check out some of the local gaming shops, but I had yet to visit any myself. I decided it was time to explore these places for myself, and see what all they have to offer. I ventured from Tumwater to Lacey, so all locations are within a 20-minute drive.

Capitol Eclectic Merchants

414 Franklin St SE, Olympia
Open: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

The store's name refers to a broad and diverse range, which is perfectly fitting. Their logo strongly resembles an original Nintendo (NES) controller, and classic gaming is their main business. But they don't stop there.

They have posters on the wall for movies, comics, games, and more. They give the place personality, but you can have one for \$5. There is a large variety of classic gaming goodies, as expected. It's the other items that surprised me: model cars, baseballs, rubber stamps, coins, crystals, belt buckles, albums, even a \$115 set of skeletal teeth! Remember the Blu-Ray versus HD-D and accompanying movies are available, in red cases I don't recall ever seeing before now. They even have Laser Disks, another short-lived storage medium.

Another appealing section of inventory, to gamers in the area, are the non-video forms of games. Capitol Eclectic Merchants offers Magic: The Gathering cards of every kind, even individually, in addition to Pokemon and Dragon Ball Z cards. If you're broke, don't sweat it; their business thrives on the buy, sell, trade cycle. Bring in your old stuff and sell it for cash, or use it in-store.

GameStar

720 Sleater Kinney Rd, Lacey
Open: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

When I first pulled up, I noticed the sign was heavily influenced by GameStop's, except it was white and green rather than white and red. The similarities don't stop there, and that is not a bad thing. The inside is very clean and organized, and set up much like a video rental store. The game prices appeared to be very fair, with many classic games \$5 and under. Unlike the other stores featured, GameStar also sells brand new games, and even takes pre-orders and does midnight-releases. I actually saw a sign advertising a 9:01 p.m. release, a rare offer that is allowed sometimes due to the game being released simultaneously at midnight on the East Coast.

GameStar originated in Oregon and has just recently branched north. This is the first location in Washington. Like Capitol Eclectic Merchants, GameStar does not stop at video games. They also use the buy, sell, trade model, and even allow games to be traded in toward the purchase of MTG cards—something I've yet to see offered elsewhere. They sell booster packs for \$3.50 each. This store hosts weekly Magic: The Gathering tournaments, every Friday night, in the Draft format.

Wing Fung

3530 Martin Way E, Olympia

It's advertised as a "second-hand store." This place is right near Lacey. Their sign facing the street reminded me of Pawn Stars. From what I saw of their selection, it is like a pawn shop, except no pawning. Though they do have a wide variety of classic games, consoles, and accessories for sale, they also deal in power tools, stereos, bicycles, guitars, smart-phones, and "collectables."

English is not their first language, so they appeared to misunderstand my questions. I had experienced this language barrier previously when I made a phone call seeking a specific original Xbox game, Phantom Dust, a cult-hit with a reboot in the works. I didn't see it on this trip. The store was tiny, but packed full of inventory. There was plenty of good value to be found; I noted Sega Dreamcasts for \$40, Nintendo GameCubes for \$32, and cartridge games as low as \$3. This store had some of the best prices on consoles, though comparable prices on games, and some overpriced accessories were there to balance it out.

The Toy Box Collectables

5868 Pacific Ave Ste C, Lacey
Open: 12 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

The reviews on this store are overwhelmingly positive. Toy Box is looking to buy and sell gaming and comic-related items that are ideally in mint condition. This store is a little different than the others, in that the condition of the items is of the utmost importance.

Toy Box is flooded with color. There is a barrage of action figures and comic books all over the walls. Gaming is clearly not the focus. Collectibles are. There is an abundance of Marvel items, some Lego, Transformers, and Star Wars. Gaming is represented too—there is a Mario doll hanging up. Toy Box will also seek out rare games that a customer is looking for and order it for them. For those who care about the condition of their classic games, Toy Box would be my recommendation.



OlyKraut employees preparing spicy garlic kraut. CASSIE JOHNSON-VILLALBOS

Fermenting Local Culture

OLYKRAUT EXPANDS REACH BEYOND THE SOUTH SOUND

By CASSIE JOHNSON-VILLALOBOS

Sash Sunday began sharing her small batches of homemade sauerkraut with friends in 2005. The former Evergreen student now manages the production of much larger batches of raw, fermented products and distributes from Seattle to Portland—as the founder and owner of the growing local business OlyKraut.

Since its founding in 2008, health, sustainability, and efficiency are both policy and practice at OlyKraut. Recent expansions of distribution into Seattle and Portland have increased the company's staff to 16, while keeping delivery distance low in cost and fossil fuel consumption.

Sunday says she is excited about future prospects of distributing as far as Spokane, Wash., or Eugene, Ore.—anywhere “within a one-day drive.” “I would feel comfortable feeding the whole Pacific Northwest region,” she said.

Building relationships with local farms is central to the mission and operations of the business. Last year, the company bought and used 60,000 pounds of local, organic produce, including cabbage, ginger, kale, peppers, garlic, among many others. That number is projected to rise almost three fold, to 175,000 pounds, by 2016. “We are really focused on building the local regional food system,” said Sunday.

Sunday started experimenting with raw vegetable fermentation as a student of sustainable agriculture

and microbiology at Evergreen. The hobby branched out from her work on Evergreen's Organic Farm as a student in the Practice of Sustainable Agriculture (PSA) program.

“I was getting into farming, and I ended up with a lot of extra cabbage,” said Sunday. When asked to

Raw, “wild” fermentation relies on salt, oxygen restriction, sanitary food handling, and water quality to maintain beneficial microbes.

write a business plan for her final project in PSA, she imagined one that turned surplus vegetables into valuable food products using the vegetables' own naturally-occurring microbes.

Most commercially-fermented products, such as beer or yogurt, are

processed with laboratory-isolated, industrially-produced yeasts and bacteria. And many foods that were fermented for centuries, like cheeses and sauerkraut, are now merely pickled or curdled to keep up with industrial production demands.

Additionally, most of these foods arrive at the supermarket devoid of beneficial microbes due to modern pasteurization processes. Raw, “wild” fermentation relies on salt, oxygen restriction, sanitary food handling, and water quality to maintain beneficial microbes. Fermentation writer and speaker Sandor Katz gained notoriety for his “fermentation tours” in the early to mid-2000s. As Katz recounted in his April 2012 appearance on campus, he toured co-ops, farmers markets, and colleges all over the United States with samples of raw sauerkraut and his first book “Wild Fermentation.” During the 2005-2006 school year, Sunday saw Katz speak at Evergreen and got inspired to chop and brine some cabbage on her own.

Remembering that first batch, she said, “It was the first time I'd

eaten raw sauerkraut. And I couldn't stop eating it!” Now, she and her staff get to re-live OlyKraut's inception every time a reluctant customer tries a sample and returns to buy a jar. This happens remarkably often at the OlyKraut table at various local farmers markets, said Sunday.

Sunday concluded her higher education path this spring with a Masters of Arts in Sustainable Systems at the Bainbridge Graduate Institute. Once again, her program's final project required students to develop business plans, but this time the plans had to be entered into competitions. As a result, OlyKraut won third place in September at the edge3Fund competition, a joint venture of Kitsap Bank and the Burke School of Business at the University of Washington.

Many business competitions only accept entries from businesses that are already in their start-up phase. Fortunately for OlyKraut, its business plan had been developing naturally for years. In 2008, the business's four original founders established a Community Supported Agriculture collective focused on fermentation.

According to Sunday, her agriculture focus complimented her colleagues' interest in the health and probiotics aspects of fermented foods. Colleagues Kai Tomen and Jeremy (no surname given) moved on eventually, leaving Sunday and nutritionist/herbalist Summer Bock to further develop the business. When Bock relocated to Portland, Sunday continued administrating OlyKraut's growth.

Two other companies, Northwest Naturals and Herbaflora, currently share a 1930s cannery building with OlyKraut as a production space on Friendly Grove Road. Sharing the space limits the time each company can spend in working in the building each week. Even so, OlyKraut supplies three flavors of kraut and brine (Original, Spicy Garlic, and Eastern European) year-round while rotating a selection of six other flavors based on seasonal ingredient availability. The newest seasonal flavor, Smokey Kale, was just released this fall.

OlyKraut remains open to interest and input from Evergreen students. Several students have already served as interns and helped to design new uses for and flavors for the company's ferments. One past intern created a cookbook based on recipes she designed at home and then served to OlyKraut staff during the next day's lunch break. The recipe book is still in-print and will be available as part of a gift basket the week before Christmas at OlyKraut's Olympia Farmers Market stand.

UP & COMING

THUR. NOV 20

Brotherhood Lounge

119 Capitol Way N. 4pm 21+
Happy hour benefiting Interfaith Works Emergency Overnight Shelter

Le Voyer

404 4th Ave E. 10pm
The Mona Reels, Ether Island, Wide Open

Orca Books

509 4th Ave E. 7pm
Dawn Paley: Drug War Capitalism

FRI. NOV 21

The Guest House

Animal Bodies, Appendixes, Arv Ov Light

Le Voyer

404 4th Ave E. 10pm
Twisted Heroes, Eternal Sedation, Hedon

Northern

414 1/2 Legion Way SE. \$5 6pm
The Ground, The Wayfinders, Paralytics, Captain Algebra, Big Bad

Olympia Film Society

205 5th Ave SE. \$6. 7pm
Slime Dunk. Skateboard film premiere by Alex Cooper

SAT. NOV 22

Northern

414 1/2 Legion Way SE. \$5 8pm
Budd Bay Rugby Club Womens' Team Benefit: Sam Densmore, Stiff Other Lip, Gunslinger

Obsidian

414 4th Ave E \$5 21+ after 10pm
Dark Moon Dance Party: LaFricheur, Riff-Raff, Dove Boy, DJ Yall

SUN. NOV 23

Elks Lodge

1818 4th Ave E. 3pm - 7pm.

Olympia Record Show

Northern

414 1/2 Legion Way SE. \$5. 8pm
OBN Ills, Pampers, Nudity

MON. NOV 24

Le Voyer

404 4th Ave E. 10pm
Hip Hatchet, Christopher Paul-Stelling

TUES. NOV 25

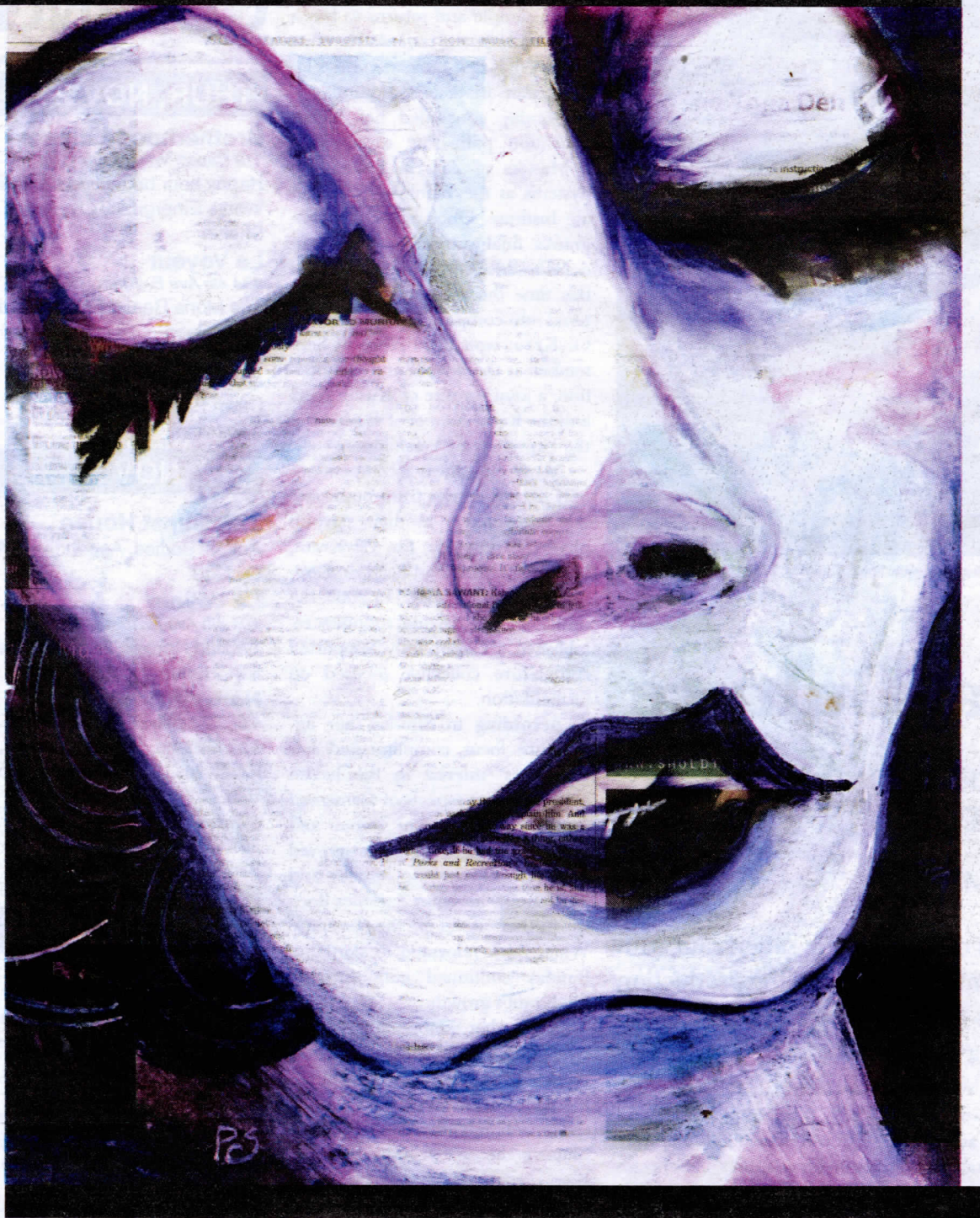
Cafe Love

205 4th Ave E. 8pm
For the Love of Comedy: Comedy Open Mic

WED. NOV 26

Le Voyer

404 4th Ave E. 8:30pm
Open Mic Comedy



artist statement

PATRICK SEMPLE

These two pieces, 'Moonbeam Mirror Light', and 'Deep Sleep' are from a series I've been working on, using oil pastel on newspaper. Initially, I was bored in the kitchen one morning so I grabbed this print of *The Stranger* and went to town on someone's face with pastel; it has since become my favorite kind of drawing paper. It's 15 inches wide by 22³/₄ long dimensions are hauntingly close to an averagely proportioned human face— coincidence? I made the jump from modifying existing faces to creating my own portraits over them, using advertisements and typography as templates for a face; e.g. a list of concerts as eyeshadow, or an erotic French maid as a high-cheek bone.

Since these are oil drawings, the original contents of the pages get mostly covered up; though a faint, extra dimension of letters and opinions linger beneath as shadows, providing an interesting challenge to fit a portrait. Who needs an artist sketchpad when there are little canvases everywhere at our feet, at our disposal? There's something transcendent and oddly pleasurable about drawing on someone's face; I highly recommend doing so if you haven't already. I grew up in a household of brothers, so we became artists early on in this sense.

Drawing peoples' portraits has always been one of my favorite things. Our faces are so telling of the spiritual condition; they are living, breathing stories with one-of-a-kind wisdom, embodying every tear jerking, hard earned moment that each one of us has survived into the present. Lately I've been doing portraits of friends, housemates, or faces that I'm drawn to. When making 'Moonbeam Mirror Light', I contemplated the eternal, ancient power of a gaze, and our natural inclination to want to mirror the feelings of others via body language.

Part of the intention behind these pieces is to show how meditation and true rest are a perfect prescription for the effects of oversaturated media exposure, and addiction to technology. The information on the newsprint is being fully over-taken by looks of contemplation and deep sleep, meant to counteract all of the media we take in daily with our eyes and minds. Throughout my life, I've always reverted back to the practice of art and meditation as a means of turning inward and pressing the spiritual 'reset button'; keeping things surprising, somatic and shamanic when creating art. It is plain to see the isolating effects of what media and technology do to our collective spirit—they ARE useful in bridging the distances between us, but things like meditation, art and ritual are helpful and important reminders that there is no distance.



Left: Olympia native Erica Freas performs at the Northern on Nov. 13. Right: Evergreen grad Mirah co-headlined the evening, on tour from New York. BLAINE EWIG

INTERVIEW: MIRAH & ERICA FREAS

By **BLAINE EWIG**

It's a rare and exciting opportunity to get two busy and prolific artists like Mirah and Erica Freas to sit down and have an hour-long conversation. But the two somehow managed to make time, and lucky for you, we were there for it.

Mirah stopped in Olympia to play a show at the Northern on Nov. 13, with Freas (also known for her work in local band RVIVR, read our review of their record release show on page 14) opening with a solo set.

"I've had a pretty mellow day," said Mirah, as she arrived to what was her second interview of the day, which would be followed by the show later in the evening. Freas joined soon after.

Mirah, an Evergreen grad, comes from the land of indie-

pop, while Freas hails from the Olympia punk scene. However different they may be, they have a lot more in common than one might think. Both Mirah and Freas write heart-wrenchingly beautiful songs accompanied by acoustic guitar, paired with deeply personal, riveting, and poetic lyrics that cause you to question the presence of a soul in anyone in the audience who isn't tearing up at least a little bit. Both have performed solo, collaborated with other artists, and experienced playing with a full band. Both have spent significant chunks of time in Olympia, and each had a lot to say about what it's like to make music in such a small and encouraging community.

As Paula Abdul played in the background of Caffe Vita, we discussed the Olympia music scene's past and present, the politics of writing personal music, communities of solidarity, and the energy that is lost and gained in performance. After Mirah and Freas were done catching up, we got started.

The conversation began with a discussion of the Olympia music scene, and changes that it does—or doesn't—go through.

"The Artesian Well, the park, it's got some painted tiles and some new stuff. But like, it feels the same. I think Olympia has the same feel," Mirah said, reflecting on Olympia as she looked out the windows of what used to be Dancing Goats, where she worked while living in town.

"I think that the scene goes through changes," Freas added. "But if you look at it in a pulled back, macro perspective, it's really consistent for so long. There's always quite a few really good bands. There's always shows, all the time. The houses may change, and sometimes that feels really tragic, but then another house comes up."

Bringing up a beloved, now-defunct show house, Freas looked to Mirah and said "You had an era where it was your friends. And I had an era where it was my really close friends, and now you're having an era," she said, looking at me. "So in the moment it might seem like things are changing a lot but in

"WHEN I STARTED GOING TO SHOWS...I WAS LIKE 'OH, IT'S ACTUALLY MORE ABOUT THE ENERGY THAN THE EXPERTISE'...THAT WAS PRETTY INSPIRING TO ME." - MIRAH

the macro it's like, yeah..." she said, trailing off.

"When I lived here, this was the center of my world," Mirah said. "And I knew all of the bands, and all of my friends were in bands, and it felt really active. Now I just come through to visit people, so I don't have my finger on the pulse of Olympia."

While things have stayed mostly the same, not everything has remained completely consistent. "The economy was hugely influential in the creative output of the town," Mirah said. "And I do hear that that's changing. I've heard it's different." She went on to describe how she and her housemates ran a secret cafe out of their house one night a week to pay their rent. This gave her the opportunity to focus efforts on music and other creative ventures. But Olympia's post-recession economy has been making it harder for artists to get by without money.

"And it's so sad!" Freas lamented. She went on to say that in the '90s and early 2000s, it was the norm to pay no more than \$200 per month for a room. "I think it's becoming more normal to pay \$400 or \$500 for a room," she added. "You can't make that much money here. You need to make art instead because there's not money happening."

The conversation moved on to Olympia's DIY approach and overall attitude toward music. All you have to do in Olympia to put on a show is to find a place to host it, and both Mirah and Freas expressed that this was essential to their involvement in the scene.

"When I started going to shows...I was like 'Oh, it's actually

"Mirah & Erica" continued on page 12.

Arts & Culture

"Mirah & Erica" continued from page 11.

more about the energy than the expertise," Mirah said, explaining that the positive atmosphere made her feel more inclined to engage and create music. "That was pretty inspiring to me."

"Writing in your bedroom and posting it onto the Internet is awesome. And so is playing a live show," Freas said. She added that live performance aren't necessarily the apex of creative output, saying, "I think that spending so much time by yourself figuring it out, I don't know, just singin' into the mirror, or like, figuring out your dance moves, all of those things."

"I still need to do that someday. Figure out my dance moves. I'm gonna put that on my list right now," Mirah said, gesturing as if she were writing it down in an invisible notebook.

Freas informed Mirah that the art of playing guitar and dancing at the same time is two parts "practice and desire," but quickly changed her mind and corrected herself "actually, I think it's just desire."

Writing personal songs like Mirah and Freas do is no small endeavor. People connect with music in profound ways. "I think that the personal is political," Freas said. "I think that

"The energy thing is so fascinating for me," Mirah said. "How at some shows, sometimes I get so tired right before I play and I'm just like 'oh my god I could fall asleep right now,' and I can't imagine how I'll be able to pull that up, but somehow it's there. Whether or not I had energy before the show, afterwards I can also be like unable to talk and it's such an expenditure of energy. And other times I'll play it's like I just had a cup of coffee or something."

This discussion of vulnerability on stage soon shifted towards the idea of "safe-spaces" and communities of solidarity within larger music scenes.

"I had no idea what a privilege it was, my experience when I started making music," said Mirah, describing the Olympia of the '90s. "It was female-dominated, and it was really queer, and it was awesome. It's sort of like I didn't have to physically confront it. I could intellectually confront the sexism that I knew existed, but within the world of music that I began creating music and touring in, it wasn't a physical reality of my experience. It was amazing, and really unique, unfortunately."

"I think the ideal is that we don't need spaces like that because we've socially evolved. I hate separatism," said Freas. "I would rather be in a different space than in a queer safe-

"WE'RE ALL HUMAN, AND WE'RE ALL TRYING TO FIGURE OUR SHIT OUT. WE'VE ALL GOT AREAS WHERE WE ARE THE VICTIMS OF THE LOT THAT SOCIETY HAS GIVEN US, AND AREAS WHERE WE BENEFIT FROM THE LOT THAT SOCIETY HAS GIVEN US."

- ERICA FREAS

by writing about personal things, you're opening the doorway for people who have had similar experiences to also feel those experiences through your music."

"I've heard it from so many people after shows who share with me the effectiveness of my songs in their lives, and that's super meaningful for me," Mirah said, "cause I'm like 'oh good, I am doing something useful.' It helps them with their relationships with themselves, or their relationships with other people, or it was the soundtrack to this important event or part of their lives. I do think that music speaks to people on a level which is like, there's nothing else that can go in to people in the same way. It's really unique. Listening to a human voice sing is powerful. It's powerful to be a singer."

"When you think about it that way, it's like magic," Freas said.

"It is! It's like magic," Mirah agreed, adding, "and it's so multifaceted. There's so many different kinds of energies of music and singing that inspire people."

Both agree that putting one's emotions on display for an attentive audience is a positive experience that one gets accustomed to in time. But sometimes shows can be energetic roller coasters.

Freas said that when she began performing she was "activating and thinking about energetic boundaries," likening her energy to a bubble that surrounds her, which can be popped at any moment during a performance.

space if it's gonna be one that's just a bunch of people pointing fingers outward and separating. We're all human, and we're all trying to figure our shit out. We've all got areas where we are the victims of the lot that society has given us, and areas where we benefit from the lot that society has given us."

"In Olympia, I never think about the genders of the shows. Like, I would happily play a show where I was the only cis-woman or the only non cis-male person in the whole show, and I would probably not even notice," Freas said, adding that living in Olympia has given her the opportunity to see shows by people of all genders on a nearly daily basis. But it's not like that everywhere.

"Having toured in different parts of the world and in different parts of the United States, sometimes it's been like ..." Freas trailed off.

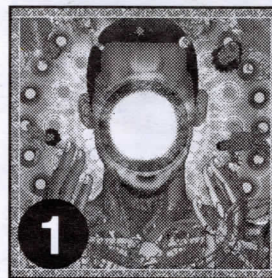
"It's like time travel!" Mirah added.

"Yeah," Freas said, "like sometimes after discussing it with the local people and discussing it amongst ourselves in RVIVR, we've been like 'women to the front,' which I would never say here. What would that even mean here? Who are the women? Why would we do that?"

Mirah will be continuing a U.S. tour with her new album, *Changing Light*, through mid-December, and Freas recently released a new 12" EP, *Bicker & Breathe*, with her band RVIVR.

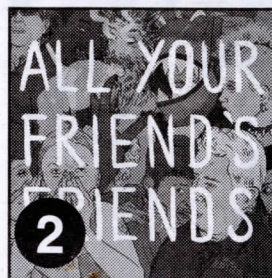
KAOS 89.3 FM TOP 20

Albums for the week of Nov. 10th

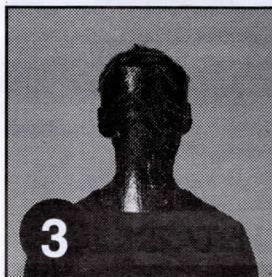


1

- 1 **Flying Lotus** - You're Dead!
- 2 **V/A** - All Your Friend's Friends
- 3 **Clark** - Clark
- 4 **NehruvianDOOM** - NehruvianDOOM
- 5 **Weed Hounds** - Weed Hounds
- 6 **Vashti Bunyan** - Heartleap
- 7 **Mecca Normal** - Empathy for Evil
- 8 **Cooly G** - Wait Til Night
- 9 **Bob Dylan & the Band** - The Basement Tapes Vol. 11
- 10 **John Coltrane** - Offering: Live at Temple University
- 11 **Neil Young** - Story Tone
- 12 **Thurston Moore** - The Best Day
- 13 **FaltyDL** - In the Wild
- 14 **Alarm Will Sound** - Reich
- 15 **The Ukiah Drag** - In the Reaper's Quarters
- 16 **V/A** - 5ofof: Five Years of Friends of Friends
- 17 **Arun Ramamurthy Jazz Trio** - Jazz Carnatica
- 18 **Bobtown** - A History of Ghosts
- 19 **Kiran Aluwalia** - Sanata: Stillness
- 20 **Souls of Mischief** - There is Only Now



2



3



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BEST BETS

ARTS & CULTURE PICKS NOV. 20 - NOV. 28

By EMMA ROTOLO & BLAINE EWIG

UP & COMING

FRI. NOV 28

Le Voyeur
404 4th Ave E. 7pm. ALL AGES
Ed Houchull

Le Voyeur
404 4th Ave E. 10pm. 21+
Moment 2 Shine Dance Party

SAT. NOV 29

Northern
414 1/2 Legion Way SE. \$6 7pm
Divides, We Are Mountains,
Coast Culture, Hold Fast,
RobotsVsGhosts

TUES. DEC 2

Cafe Love
205 4th Ave E. 8pm
For the Love of Comedy:
Comedy Open Mic

WED. DEC 3

Le Voyeur
404 4th Ave E. 8:30pm
Open Mic Comedy
Olympia Film Society
205 5th Ave E. 6pm \$9
The Barefoot Bandit Document-
tary, Q&A with director Carly
Bodmer

FRI. DEC 5

Olympia Film Society
205 5th Ave E. 8pm \$17 21+
Repeal Prohibition Day Celebra-
tion: Cocktails, Burlesque, & Live
Music
Le Voyeur
404 4th Ave E. 10pm \$5
DJ Pasquans B-Day Bash:
Akeem, Lega C'Jones, Steez,
Drumatic, Real Life Click, Zikki

SAT. DEC 6

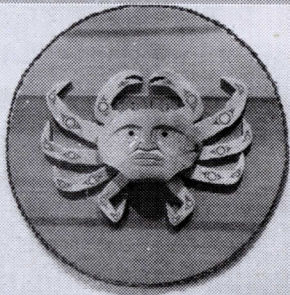
Le Voyeur
404 4th Ave E. 7pm ALL AGES
The American Scene, Elder
Brother, Souvenirs, Trey the
Ruler
Le Voyeur
404 4th Ave E. 10pm
Animal Bodies, Dionvox, Arc Ov
Light
The Red House
8pm \$5
No Body, Rubix Shoes

TUES. DEC 9

Cafe Love
205 4th Ave E. 8pm
For the Love of Comedy:
Comedy Open Mic

Let us know what you have going on: email
cooperpointjournal@gmail.com with "Event:"
in the subject!

FRIDAY, NOV. 21



**Opening Reception 7th Annual Na-
tive American Arts Gallery** This 7th
Annual Native American Arts Gallery will
exhibit many different art pieces ranging
from mixed media, to carving, to basket-
ry. All of the art pieces are made by lo-
cal and regional Native American artists.
Come out and celebrate these artists at the

opening reception on Friday, Nov. 21 from
6 to 8 p.m.. The reception will be in the
Kenneth J. Minnaert Center for the Arts
Gallery at 2011 Mottman Rd. SW, Olym-
pia. Feel free to go back to view the gallery
through Dec. 12, Monday to Friday from
noon to 4 p.m. - ER

SATURDAY, NOV. 22

Olympia Record Show at Elks Lodge
Rainy Day Records' annual record show
will feature records for sale from dealers
all around the northwest. The Elks Lodge
will be packed wall-to-wall with vinyl, pre-
senting a great opportunity for collectors
to pick up rare finds and meet like-minded

music geeks and record enthusiasts. The
event costs \$10 for early entry at 2 p.m.,
\$3 entry after 3 p.m., and will be hosting a
full bar for those 21+. Make sure to bring
extra cash so you can pick up some sweet
finds. - BE



SATURDAY, NOV. 22 THRU NOV. 26



"Pride" at the Olympia Film Society
Based on a true story, "Pride" tells the story
of a group of young, gay men and women
from London, who come together to
provide support to families affected by the
National Union of Mine workers' strike in
1984. The group struggles to find people
to accept their donations because of who
they are. They end up in a tiny town where

they experience many life changing events,
not just for the people in the group, but
for the town itself. Some notable actors
featured in this film are Bill Nighy, Imelda
Staunton, Dominic West, and Andrew
Scott. The movie will be screening Nov.
22-24, show times are available on the
Olympia Film Society website. - ER

SUNDAY, NOV. 23

**OBN IIIs, Papers, & Nudity at
Northern** Northern will be hosting two
out-of-town bands, OBN IIIs from Austin,
Texas and Papers from NYC. Local
psychedelic rock group Nudity will also
be on the bill. It will be a great blend of
sounds from OBN IIIs garage punk to

grooves from Nudity. Pampers will also be
bringing some upbeat punk rock that will
be sure to get the crowd moving. It will be
a great night for dancing and supporting
local music as well as giving these out of
town bands the support they deserve. It
starts at 8 p.m. and is open to all ages! - ER



FRIDAY, NOV. 28



**"Tellebrations" Annual Storytelling
Event hosted by Traditions** If you
are looking for a relaxing and interesting
event, go to Traditions Cafe and Folk Art
to sit back and absorb a wide variety of
stories told by storytellers of the South

Sound Story Guild. There will be a story
there for everyone and will be a warm way
to spend your evening with family and
friends to welcome in December. It starts
at 6:30 p.m. and they are asking for \$10
donations at the door. - ER



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RVIVR Record Release

By **GARRETT BEKEMEYER**

The night began snug from the warmth of a fire at a friend's house. I slugged back cans of Hamm's while we read raunchy letters to the editor found within an issue of Penthouse from the mid-'70s to each other. We then bickered about whether leaving this ideal scenario to face the staggering cold and head down to the show was worth it. I remained steadfast in my chants of "COME ON LET'S GO" for about half an hour, and then we were off.

We showed up just late enough to miss a few of Dogjaw's songs, much to my regret. The show was moved to Le Voyeur, as the planned venue Obsidian was still not ready for operation. However, this pushed the show earlier, so it could end at 10 p.m. in accordance with Le Voyeur's all-ages policy.

Dogjaw kicked it off with a hell of a show. These punk champs know how to fucking shred. Their songs to me are what I think would play through my head as I picture myself blazing across the battlefields, war axe in hand, in a game of D&D. I think it's the kind of sound that gets nerdy outcast kids pumped as hell. To me, their music gives an air of empowerment to the meek. Saying, "Things aren't so bad kid, you fucking rule."

Next, coming in hot and fast, was Delay from Columbus, Ohio. These poppy punk rockers were a staple in the music that made a young outsider weirdo punk like me feel sorta alright in high school. I hadn't listened to them since way back then and was stoked as heck to see them play live, now a few years down the road. They delivered for damn sure. They powered through a quick set of jams that had the crowd fu-

riously grinning and nodding along. I was feeling like a big old happy dweeb.

At this time, the beer from earlier had found most of its way out from my righteous grooving, so I went to the alley and chugged a couple to get ready for RVIVR to play their set. I don't think I've missed a local RVIVR show in my nearly two years in Olympia. Usually, I see them in some basement with me standing up front, clutching a 40-ounce to my chest and screaming along to every word. But now they were here at Le Voyeur ready to shred through their set in searing glory. They hit on all notes of their catalogue, including the crowd pleasing classic "Seethin," a rip-roaring ballad about gettin' your emotions out of you. Most, if not all, of the tracks from their new release were played, closing it out with the stellar title track "Bicker/Breathe."

Seeing RVIVR is one of the few things left in this world that can pull some sort of emotion from me, and this comes especially hard with their song "Wrong Way/One Way," a particularly great one to see performed live. It's a song that can be summed up by, "the only person who can tell you who you are is you," or maybe dealing with the struggles of what it means to be queer, something RVIVR are champions at. They do the best damn job of making you feel good about yourself.

Maybe that was the theme of the night. It's cathartic to drink some beer and smile and scream and boogie down to empowering punk, whether it's comfortable throwbacks to high school or getting in tune with whatever feelings you have with our hometown champions of the heart.

CHEAP EATS

WEST\$5IDE

By ZACHARY NEWMAN

Having moved from the dorms to our house off Division Street, my friends and I have had quite the cuisine around Olympia, without having to go very far (downtown is far—it's, like, two roundabouts away.) But unlike our cute neighbors and the very nice community we live in, we have to be... select with our choices, or risk the chance of starving and being poor. It's like "Les Miserables," but no one cares and everyone sings off key. Well, fear not! For we have opened up our minds and our mouths far wider than we have our wallets to help provide you, the hungry reader, with a guide on how to eat in Westside Olympia for \$5 and under. Let's get frugalicious.



BREAKFAST!

Need a quick caffeine boost to survive that 8-minute walk to the bus stop? Want to catch up with your rad neighbor on why the cops had to come last night? **Page Street Cafe** on Rogers St. is my personal favorite for coffee. Warm, intimate, and friendly overall, the cafe is a recent open, though is owned by the same owners of Dino's on Harrison Ave. At only \$2.30, their large coffee has been my saving grace for weeks now on those mornings when I wake up and just can't deal with anyone yet. When it comes to their delicious food, the prices can be a reach, but worth it.



LUNCH!

Eagan's Drive In—or PEPSI FRIES if you're as hilarious as me—serves hamburgers, fries, and milkshakes the way God intended: quickly and efficiently to a line of cars. Saunter up every day between 2 and 5 p.m. to get in on their happy hour deal. With 98-cent swirl ice cream, and \$1 grilled cheeses like Mom used to make, Eagan's can turn a bad day into a good one, without slimming your wallet or your waist!

Being an East Coast transplant, I get very defensive about my pizza. But wouldn't you know it, **Vic's Pizzeria** has made the best slice of pizza this side of the Hudson River. It's warm, it's greasy, goopy, gluten-free friendly, and all-around perfect. And it's affordable! For just under \$5, you can get two slices, and what more do you really need? I know what I need. Some pizza slices. Right now.



DESSERT!

Support your local business and co-ops! **The Westside Olympia Food Co-op** has an amazing array of locally-sourced food and runs on an ethical business model. While their prices are greater than other grocery stores, so is their commitment to organic and ethical food. Not everything is expensive, however, as you can get an amazing ice cream sandwich from the 8 Arms Community Bakery for just one dollar! Also available and tasty are cookies and other pastries from restaurants around Olympia. The Co-op is volunteer-run, so swing by and apply if you love it!



BUT I LIVE IN A DORM!

For when you want to stock up your dorm with food, **Grocery Outlet** on Harrison Avenue has everything you could want and more for prices that won't break your bank. The grocer offers off-brand products at well discounted prices. A word of warning though, as sometimes the food is just days away from its labeled expiration date. Then again, who doesn't love a good gamble?

Next door to "Gross Out" is the tried and true **Dollar Tree**. My favorite product here is the giant bowl of Ramen affectionately called the "Souper Meal." For \$5, you can buy 5 of these. I advise heavily against purchasing milk here, and also any meat, because my friends still do not trust me after those hot dogs.

THEATER REVIEW

"My Name is Rachel Corrie"

By ARIA CUMMINGS

On Nov. 8, 2014, The Evergreen State College, along with the Students for Justice in Palestine club, hosted a one-woman play in Lecture Hall 1 called "My Name is Rachel Corrie," which told the story of Rachel Corrie, who traveled to Palestine in 2003 to defend Palestinian homes and water resources from being demolished. Corrie was then crushed to death by an Israeli bulldozer on March 16, 2003. The play was performed by Ashley Malloy, an actor, writer, and activist based in Northampton, MA. The stage was well-lit, though the lights dimmed from time to time, conveying certain emotions and also reflecting where Corrie was living when she was in Palestine.

The play took a fast pace. Throughout, Malloy told Corrie's story from when she was a young girl growing up in Olympia, WA, to a student at Evergreen. From there, it went to Corrie's time in Palestine and the families she spent time with while she was there. Malloy's performance conveyed the many emotions and feelings that Corrie was going through during her time with the International Solidarity Movement. There was even a moment when Malloy told a story of when Corrie and a group of Internationals were waiting to go through a checkpoint and they could only allow five people to go through at a time, only to not be allowed to go through after the checkpoint closed. Malloy also talked about Corrie's relationship with her family, mainly her mother and father.

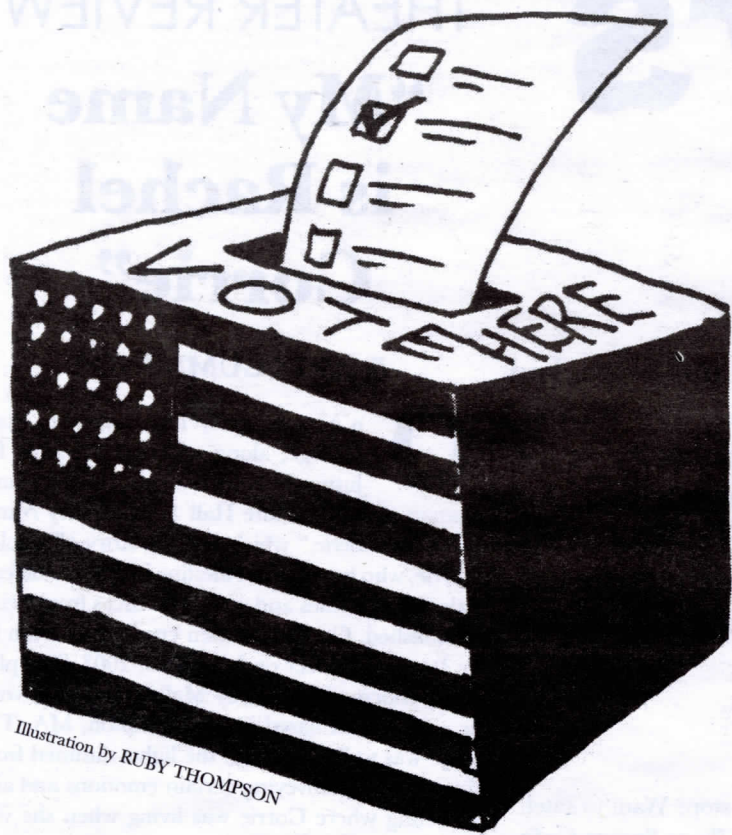
After Malloy's performance, she played a video showing the real Rachel Corrie giving a speech in 5th Grade about how she wanted to end hunger in third world countries, which demonstrated Corrie's passion for those living in other countries that do not have the same privileges as we do here in the United States. Overall, "My Name is Rachel Corrie" told a very emotional story about someone who died fighting for a cause that worth dying for and inspired others to do the same about the causes they believe in. Malloy's performance was both humorous and tear-inducing at the same time, and was given a standing ovation by the audience. If you ever get a chance to see this play, I highly recommend it because this is one of the most moving one-woman shows that I have ever seen.

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Letters & Opinion



Why We Should Vote

By ZACHARY NEWMAN

This past Election Day saw the lowest voter turnout for a mid-term election since 1942. On November 4th, 36.3 percent of Americans mailed in ballots, waited in lines, did whatever they felt they needed to do to be heard. The voter turnout for the 1942 Federal Election was less, but not by much. At 33.9 percent, the difference between the two was just a mere 2.4 percent. While it is hard for this country to get excited about voting—even worse for something as arguably banal as United States Midterm Elections—the fact that most of the country didn't vote is problematic in that it reflects a lack of initiative on our parts.

This is not to say non-voters are without reason; in fact, their reason is painfully understandable. The U.S. electoral process is broken and at risk of further destruction. Critics of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 have recently started to implement tighter restrictions on voting. States such as Georgia and South Carolina have required voters to present ID before they can vote. These voter ID laws are racist and classist in practice, if not in design. If you can not afford a passport or state ID, does your voice not matter?

There is also the matter on how downright confusing voting is in our country. The U.S. does not vote based on the popular vote—like it logically should—but rather through the elec-

toral college. Each state has a certain amount of electoral college members who vote towards candidates. Their votes are weighted more so than the amount of popular votes. If you were to skip out on an election, sure, it would affect the popular vote numbers, yet not the electoral colleges vote. Critics say that, ultimately, your vote does not matter.

The vote itself does not matter; the act of voting does.

Voting is just one example of participation in our democracy. Participation is key to changing the way the country is run; participation pressured Nixon out of office, ended the draft, and made the government recognize that black folks are people too.

Think of voting as this—it is your voice. If you can not demonstrate in the streets, if you can not run for office, you can always vote. But it was not always this way.

After the Constitution was ratified, the only people who could vote were white, land-owning men. It took Alice Paul and other suffragists nearly 150 years before white women received their right to vote, and that was after stories of their abusive treatment in prison came to light. Another 45 years after that, black people received their rights as well, after more than

400 years being denied basic human rights. The conservative politicians and judges who pass and allow voter ID laws are trying as hard as they can to undo these years of toil and hardship. It's sickening.

Americans should rise to this challenge. Voting does not solve everything, but it is a way for us to get our voices out, and a step in the right direction. Washington joins Oregon and Colo-

rado as states that have all mail-in ballots. We're lucky; it eliminates the gripable act of waiting in line to vote. We should not just vote for candidates and candidates alone; politicians are largely untrustworthy and pretty skeezy. Initiatives are arguably more important than

candidates. It is how Washington passed the recent gun control act and marijuana legalization.

People often say that they join our nation's military because they felt it was their "national duty." I don't agree with the idea of blowing up children as our national duty—I feel

like voting is. Not because voting is a miracle—it's not—but a chance to reaffirm our nation's ideals and a way for us to get our voices heard. There's a litany of other ways to be heard, but voting stands as one of the more simple and effective ways to. The system may be in shambles, but we the people can change the system, even if all we are doing is voting.

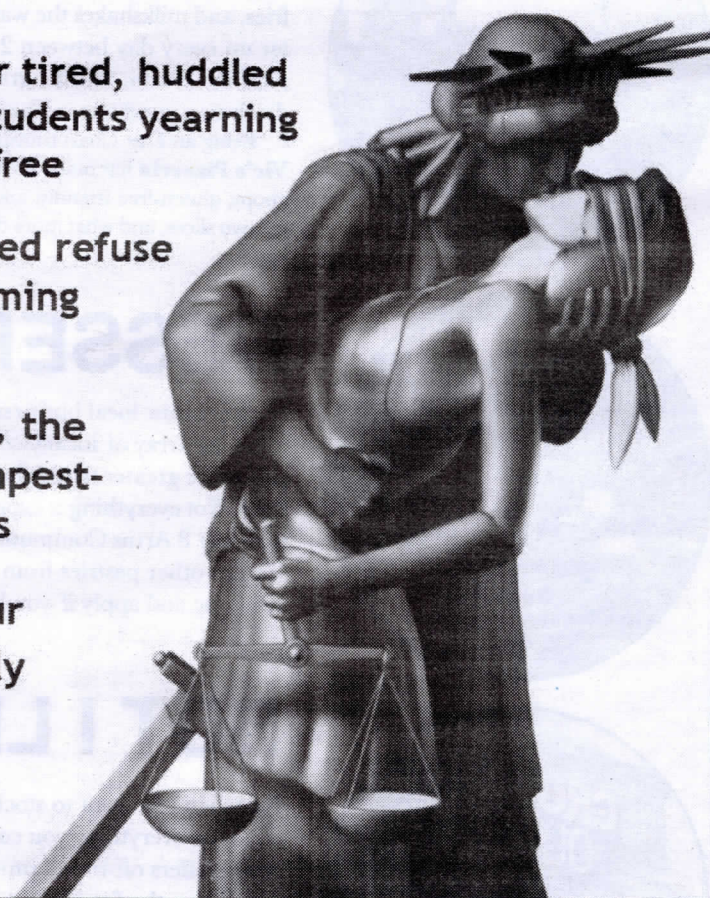
If you can not demonstrate in the streets, if you can not run for office, you can always vote. But it was not always this way.

Give us your tired, huddled masses of students yearning to breathe free

The wretched refuse of your teeming shore

Send these, the thirsty, tempest-tossed to us

We raise our glasses gayly beside the rainbow door



Jake's on 4th
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Ask the G^wídəq Student Union

The G^wídəq Student Union is an elected group of students who represent the student body to the Evergreen administration. We are always working to improve communication between students and the Union. GSU Representative Tyler Bieber gathered questions from students and GSU representative Nick Bense has compiled some answers. Bieber asked: "What would you like our student government to do on campus?"

Brandon Clute suggests a goal for the GSU could be, "To inform the students about what they are doing, why, and how we can have input."

Hopefully this column is a start! We are revamping our current online correspondence techniques to become more accessible and transparent to the student body. This will allow anyone interested to view the daily workings of the GSU to get a better feel for how we operate. We are also working to secure our own category on the Greener Commons that will facilitate another opportunity to directly contact the GSU. Currently we are using a Facebook page and group (Page: G^wídəq Student Union 2014- 2015 - GSU; Group: Geoduck Student Union 2014- 2015) for the student body to approach us; we are attempting to phase this out for several reasons, including access and privacy concerns among students who disagree with Facebook's policies.

Aram Shabanian requests, "More emergency call boxes and a safe walking path."

The GSU sincerely recognizes the need for a more secure campus, and believes advocating for provisions such as these are both necessary and should be of the utmost priority. Rep. Bieber has drafted a bill known as the Safer Communities Act, which details ways in which we can create an increasingly sound environment here at Evergreen. These include a Green Dot sexual violence bystander intervention program, self defense training seminars, a replacement of the the single-officer determination of guilt in sexual violence incidents, and progress recording alongside the campus Office of Sexual Violence Prevention. The GSU is inviting any interested students and groups to join them in the discussion and debate toward finalizing the bill so that it will reflect the sentiments of the student body and have the maximum impact possible. We encourage any and all student input on this important topic. The request for more emergency call boxes and a safe walking path has already been discussed at the Campus Health and Safety Advisory Committee Meetings, which meets from 1 to 3 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month in Lab II 1250 and will be brought up at the next GSU weekly meeting.

Walt Thompson asks if the GSU could help update the weight room at the CRC.

Fortunately, this project is already in the works! Alongside an updated weight room, the college is attempting to completely renovate the CRC to include a variety of additions and improvements. Some students may have seen the survey at the end of last year on their My.Evergreen account, which posed a series of questions to discern popular support for such a project, and the types of improvements would be valued most. In week 5 of this quarter, the architects responsible for designing the upgrades held a presentation in the Library Lobby with some concept art and made themselves available to answer questions on the subject. Some of the highlighted additions include renovations for the aforementioned weight room, outdoor rock climbing walls, showers with increased privacy, gender-inclusive locker and sauna facilities, and a covered area outside where students could participate in a wide variety of activities. One suggested feature even includes support for aerial acrobatics. The renovation could also involve more natural lighting for the entire facility. The new facility would have a severely reduced ecological impact and could support a community garden to provide sustainable food for the Flaming Eggplant. A student fee similar to the CAB Renovation fee has been proposed as a means for financing the effort, however the process is on-going and entirely dependent upon student support. Concerns on the CRC renovation project can be directed to Matt Newman, Director of Recreation & Athletics, at newmanm@evergreen.edu

Want to submit a question or comment for the column? Get in touch with the GSU by emailing us at GSURep@gmail.com or in person at our weekly meetings Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m. in CAB 301. Please submit your comments and questions to the GSU directly or through the CPJ at cooperpointjournal@gmail.com. Although we may not be able to publish every submission and response, we will ensure that all of your concerns are addressed in a timely manner.

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VOX POP

By **ARIA CUMMINGS**

What most surprises you about Evergreen and what bothers you the most? Here's what these new students said:

Myung Ju Kim: "As I came from a different country, I was surprised to see how people can be open (accepting) as well as having mixed-gender suites or different genders in the same rooms in the dorms. Sometimes I feel like some people at Evergreen live in their own world, not realizing the reality like how harsh this society can be."

Alyssia Garcia: Friendly atmosphere. As a transfer student, I know from personal experience that on other campuses people are not nearly as friendly. Walking through campus here, people you don't know will smile and wave which is not something you expect at other college campuses. The Greenery, because the food is really plain and tons of people complain that it doesn't make them feel good yet you are required to have a meal plan if you are a first time Evergreen student and even if you wanted to get an exempt there is paperwork and a whole process and they even tell you at the front desk in RAD that they are very particular when giving exemptions and that you most likely won't get one.

Madelyn: The resources and how beautiful the campus is. I find that academic counseling is my life savior. I don't feel there is as much as a "community" as I expected.

Alice Cunningham: How large the campus is and the fact that you can do your laundry as well as get your mail in the Housing Community Center. It can get too crowded in The Greenery sometimes which makes it hard for me to find a good spot to sit down and eat my food. Plus, people sometimes don't watch where they are going and that can lead to accidents, such as knocking someone over and spilling their food all over themselves.

Kit Rideout: The open-endedness of projects allowing academic freedom, to a point, and the incomprehensible price of a 'breakfast' burrito. People carrying on long and loud conversations in the library because the library is one of my few sanctums of peace.

Carrie Smith: I was shocked at how friendly people were when I asked for help. Not being able to find sources for class projects, such as movies to watch for class that are part of the course curriculum.

Jane: How clean and pristine the campus is and how Evergreen is dedicated to making its campus a safe environment for its students and staff. There are too many people who take up so much room on the sidewalk, which makes it hard to get around on campus, especially when you're trying to get to class on time.

WASTED ADVICE

Greetings. Welcome to Wasted Advice, wherein you ask for advice and a different member of our talented staff answers each week—drunk. We both win. You can ask us the questions you can't ask your resident advisor.

My dog is an asshole who won't stop eating my used cottonballs from removing makeup. How likely is it that he'll die doing this? One of my dogs is an asshole too. That said, I don't know shit about animals. You should probably do the responsible dog owner thing and google this ASAP. If your dog is already dead, I'm sorry, but at least we all know the answer, right?

I really love Nicki Minaj's "Ananconda" but everyone else seems to hate it and her. Should I keep my love secret or proudly flaunt it? Look. I've never met Nicki Minaj, but I trust her. Get this tattooed somewhere on your body, preferably somewhere that's visible to everyone, like maybe right on your face. "Yeah, he love this fat ass hahahahahaha. This one is for my bitches with the fat ass in the fucking club. Where my fat ass big bitches in the club? Fuck those skinny bitches. Fuck those skinny bitches in the club. I wanna see all the big fat ass bitches in the motherfucking club. Fuck you if you skinny bitches, what CHA." If you lose friends over it, they probably weren't real friends to begin with. If they can't handle you and/or Onika, they need to GTFO.

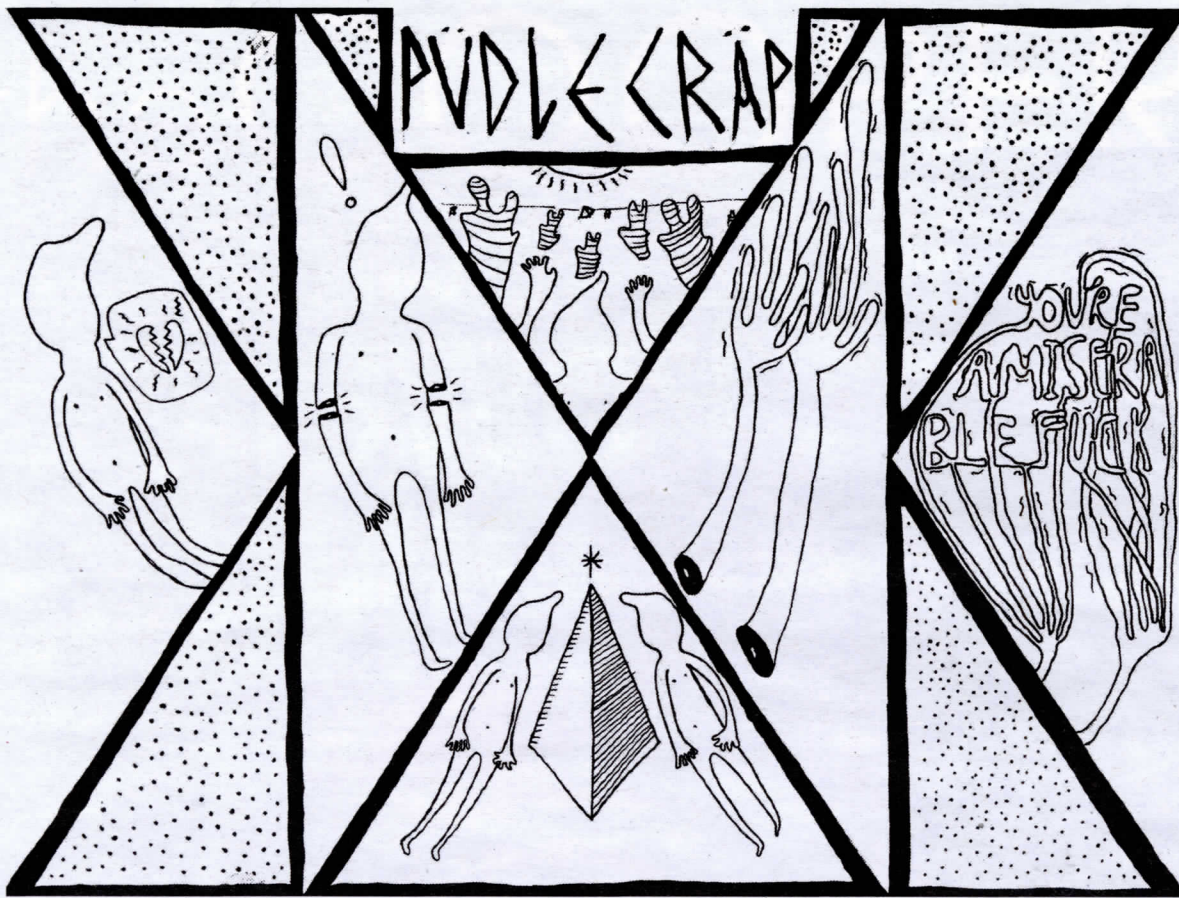
I'm eating a giant, delicious burrito. I think if I finish it I might throw up but there's not enough left to save for a meal later. And it's so good I don't want to put it down. But I might explode if I finish it. What should I do? Whenever possible, eat the burrito. That's actually my life motto. If you explode, so what. You're gonna die someday anyway. Maybe sooner than you think, so eat up!

I'm thinking about getting a tattoo on my face because I'm angry with my parents. What do you think I should get? Conveniently enough, I've already answered your question on someone else's behalf. "Yeah, he love this fat ass hahahahahaha. This one is for my bitches with the fat ass in the fucking club. Where my fat ass big bitches in the club? Fuck those skinny bitches. Fuck those skinny bitches in the club. I wanna see all the big fat ass bitches in the motherfucking club. Fuck you if you skinny bitches, what CHA." Maybe get it in cursive since it's dying out and that's really sad.

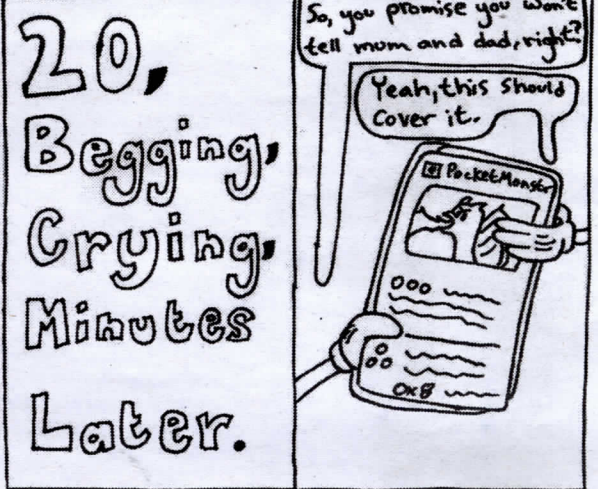
My roommate won't stop making my dog give him high-fives. What should I do? Far as I see it, you have two options here. #1, train your dog in the sacred art of throat rips or ball removal. Make sure he knows to ONLY do this to people who ask for constant high fives. #2 to save your dog some stress and yourself some money, shoot your roommate. Let your dog eat his corpse. You will save money on training lessons and won't have to buy dog food for a few months.

My partner won't go down on me even though I always give him blowjobs. How do I tell him I'd like him to reciprocate oral sex without making him too uncomfortable or pushing him away? I know exactly what you need to do. Do something really sweet, like maybe make him a mix tape with this exact track list: "Lick it Before You Stick it", "Blow", "Kisses Down Low." Those three songs should be good enough. Tell him you want to listen to it together. Put it on repeat and stare him directly in the eyes the entire time. If he hasn't gotten the hint by the fifth listen, dump him immediately.

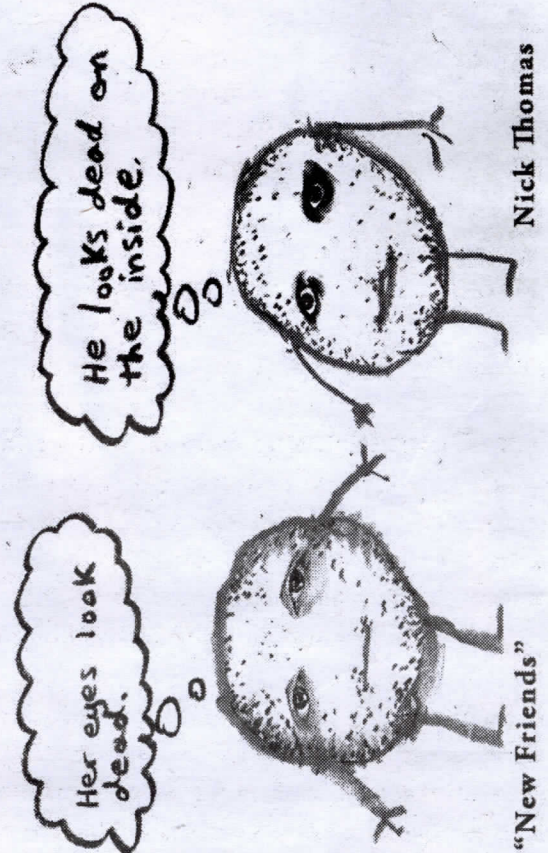
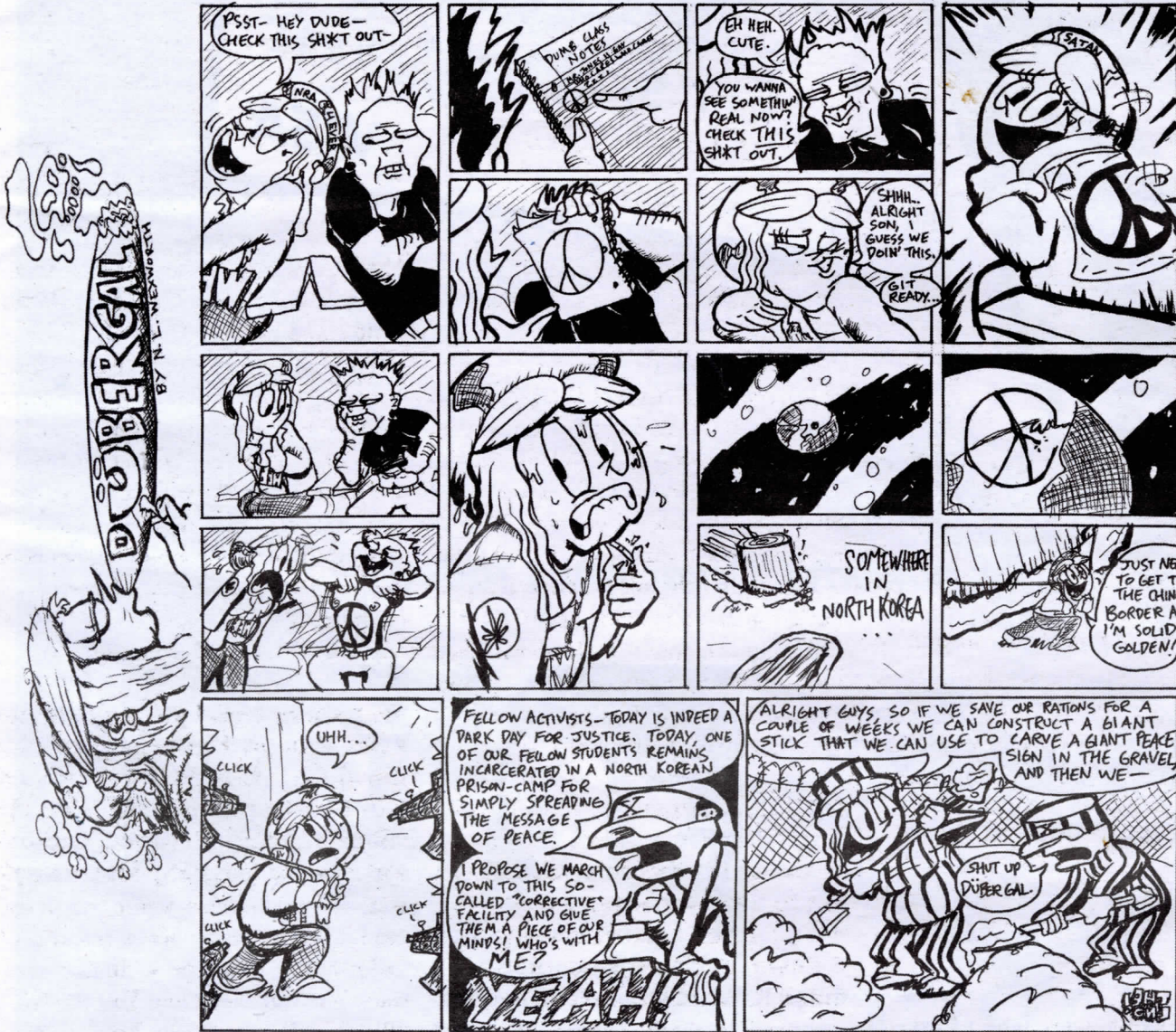
Got problems? We have a new amazing way to anonymously submit questions for us to answer! Just go to www.ask.fm/wastedadvice and type it in.



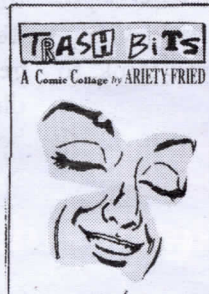
by Zac Püdlecräp



"Kid Currency" Ryan Bowen 11-6-14



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