THU APRIL 25

BEN MOORE’S: Salsa Night
EAGLES BALLROOM: Blues Dance Night
LE VOYEUR: Balto
NORTHERN: Shadows, Wounded Giant, Huldrekekk
THE MORGUE: Hot Rush, Street Gnar, The Memories, Holding Hands with Strangers
THE SPAR: Oly Mountain Boys
WASHINGTON CENTER: Charlie Allbright

FRI APRIL 26 - ARTS WALK

CAPITOL THEATER
Mozanine Arts Space: Arts Walk Reception
Full Moon Radio and Glass Elevator at Capitol Theater

CRYPTATROPA: Amerikan Vacuum, CHROME
WINDOWS, Total Life, Stellar Angles, UWE 60D, Divided Light, Anna Phyaxis, and Vampire Squid

EAGLES HALL: Ballroom Dancing
FIST! PRESENTS: The Art and Practice of Disability Justice Workshop, 4pm - 6pm in Sem2 B2103
LABOR TEMPLE: Slightly Out of Tune Jazz Quartet
LE VOYEUR: 7:00 A Midnight Drive, Taturus (all ages)
10:00 Double B Hip Hop Show
SWING WINE BAR: Vince Brown
THE SPAR: Vivid Curse
TRADITIONS CAFE: Olympia Waldorf School Orchestra, Ulumwenga

SAT APRIL 27 - ARTS WALK

CAPITAL CITY GUITARS
4:30 Vince Brown
5:00 Green Tea

FIST! PRESENTS: Warrior Poets: Queer and Trans Poets Writing Survival, 2pm - 4pm in Sem2 B2103
LE VOYEUR: The Deep Wile, Messenger
OLYMPIA BALLROOM: Elbow Coute, AKA and the Heart Hurt Goods, Yevushenko, Hollywood Kill
Krew, THALO
OLYMPIA FARMER’S MARKET: Artesian Rumble
Arkestra
PRECESSION OF THE SPECIES 4:30pm
SWING WINE BAR: Vince Brown
TRADITIONS CAFE: Claudia Schmidt

SUN APRIL 28

FIST! PRESENTS: Frida, Gloria, and Harriet’s Lineage: A Writing Workshop About Disabled and Chronically Ill People of Color, 2pm - 4pm Sem2 B2105
FIST! PRESENTS: Warrior Poems with Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, 7pm - 9pm in Lecture Hall 1
LE VOYEUR: 7:00 Darto (all ages)
10:00 Baby and the Noodles
WASHINGTON CENTER: Olympia Symphony
“Diamonds in the Rough”
Washington State Weighs Budget Options

Tuition may continue to rise

By Ray Still

Since the beginning of winter quarter, many staff members at The Evergreen State College have tracked the Washington State Legislature’s progress since Evergreen’s Office of Financial Management submitted a budget proposal earlier this year. On April 5, the state Senate voted to pass its proposal for the 2013-2015 Operating Budget for Evergreen. The state House passed their version of the budget on April 12. Throughout the month of April, the state House and Senate have discussed which budget to adopt by comparing and contrasting the strategies both budgets use to raise revenue and cut funds.

In many ways, both budget proposals are similar — both fully fund Evergreen’s maintenance budget for the upkeep of the college, and they both restore a 3 percent salary cut made to faculty and staff during the 2011-2013 Operating Budget. Where these budgets differ, however, is whether to raise tuition for undergraduate students, or to add a surcharge on top of the tuition for international students. “For [the Senate] budget, the big moving parts are twofold,” said Julie Garver, the director of governmental relations at Evergreen. “This budget has a zero-tuition [increase] for everybody.” The second part of the state Senate bill however, stated that financial aid would receive no additional funds.

Garver estimated that the state under-serves nearly 32,000 students that are eligible for the State Need Grant. Garver said that these students could receive the State Need Grant, but due to a shortage of funds, the application system works on a “first come, first serve” system. “That [number] may or may not grow given where the economy is,” Garver added. Additionally, the Senate budget included a separate funding policy that adds a 20 percent surcharge based on tuition for all international students in Wash. “In the House, they set up two staggered systems for tuition,” Garver continued. Community colleges, Evergreen, Eastern Washington University, and Central Washington University would see a 3 percent increase in tuition for undergraduates each year for the next two years. Washington State University, the University of Washington, and Western Washington University’s tuition would rise by 5 percent.

The House budget would also give Evergreen $405,000 “for additional instructional support”, which is not included in the state Senate proposal. Despite the surcharge and tuition increases, both proposals fall nearly $5 million short of Evergreen’s budget request, which was submitted on September 3, 2012. Evergreen’s proposal asked for over $111 million — 10 percent more than the previous biennial budget.

Where these budgets differ is whether to raise tuition for undergraduate students, or to add a surcharge on top of the tuition for international students.

Some of these other initiatives, we haven’t… made that solid commitment yet,” explained Trotter. These other initiatives may include adding more full-time academic advisors and financial aid counselors or reducing class sizes for lower-division programs.

Trotter also emphasized that despite Evergreen receiving $5 million less funds than the college requested, there is good news – the maintenance levels will most likely be fully funded under either budget proposal, and there is extra money to begin funding additional initiatives.

“That is in sharp contrast to what our experience has been over the last decade of budget cuts, huge tuition increases, and not being able to make progress on student success initiatives,” commented Trotter. “All we were able to do [then] was attempt to mitigate the erosion of support to students. Now we are coming out the other side.”

The state House and Senate have been negotiating a final version of the budget, and were scheduled to be finished by April 28. However, Garver predicts that the Governor will call a special 30-day session to give representatives more time to work out the details of the budget, saying that the last several biennial budgets needed a special session before they became finalized. A final version of the budget will be prepared by the end of May.

Garver and Trotter also plan to hold an informational forum for students in May. It will be designed to inform students about the possible implications of the new biennial budget, and how it will affect them. The forum would also be open to public comment and suggestion.

More information about the new budgets can be found at evergreen.edu/president/govrelations/home.htm.
Students Discuss “Most Moving Experiences” in Palestine

By Ray Still

Even though it was only an hour and a half away from her home, Ghuson had never been to the sea. So when Elizabeth Moore and Elissa Goss saw their chance, they wrote Ghuson’s name in the sand and sent her a picture of it. Ghuson couldn’t visit the sea because she wasn’t allowed to cross the Israeli checkpoint that lay between her home and the open water.

“She said it was hard, because she remembers hearing stories from her grandmother, because they would take trips out there all the time,” recalled Goss. “A lot of her older siblings, her parents, her grandparents have all been able to go.”

Moore and Goss traveled to Palestine in the beginning of October. For three weeks, they went with the Interfaith Peace Delegation (IPD), an organization that sends delegates to Palestine to educate individuals about the Israeli/Palestine conflicts.

“Most of our days with the delegation were spent meeting groups...We would sit and we would listen,” said Goss.

She described how some of the organizations the delegation met were opposed to the occupation, and they also met some that supported it. “We met groups... like the Israeli Commission Against Housing Demolitions, where they actively help rebuild housing that have been demolished. Sometimes, they rebuild the same house four or six times, with the same family.”

At the end of IPD’s program, Goss traveled back home, but Moore stayed in Palestine with the International Solidarity Movement (ISM), and participated in many non-violent demonstrations. Goss and Moore reported back to Evergreen about their trip on March 4, as a part of Israeli Apartheid Week at the college.

“Every day, we were crossing a border that is only 30 minutes apart from these two communities, East Jerusalem and the West Bank,” said Goss. “Some of the most powerful moments were when we would have to go through the checkpoints.”

As U.S. citizens, Goss and Moore described how they could cross between Israeli checkpoints with little problem. “A lot of the people we met with, they couldn’t go through.

We met people whose family members are on either side, [and] have not seen each other for years.”

“My most moving experiences were working with other internationals, and following the leadership of Palestinians to do direct action,” said Moore about her time with the International Solidarity Movement. “Some of our direct action was during the incursion on Gaza. We cut down a piece of the Apartheid fence.” Moore recalled that this 25-foot wall would sometimes cut straight through private property and public roads, cutting off travel between Israel and Palestine. “The Apartheid wall is a fence in some places, as opposed to a… wall. We took wire cutters and cut down a part of the fence. That was really empowering.”

Goss and Moore also discussed their initial culture shock after returning to Olympia. “In Hebron, most women wear a hijab and most settlers cover their hair too. Coming back, and seeing a lot of hair was weird,” said Moore. She also mentioned how strange it felt after taking bucket showers, sleeping on cots, and making all of her meals, to come back to the luxury of warm water and comfortable beds.

Goss also explained how “As far as [the Boston bombings go], that has been traumatizing for us here. That happens every couple of weeks in the West Bank.”

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Goss also explained how “As far as [the Boston bombings go], that has been traumatizing for us here [but] that happens every couple of weeks in the West Bank.” She explained how her experiences in Palestine have put events like the Boston bombings into perspective.

To Goss, it was the resilience of the Palestinian people that surprised her the most. “People are trying to find work, and making what they can. Shops are still open, trying to sell what they can. People are farming what land they have left… Life goes on.”
Controversial GSU Amendment Repealed

By James Gage

After three months of extensive revisions and heated debate, The Geoduck Student Union (GSU) members rescinded Amendment 3.6 at their meeting on April 10. Amendment 3.6 was an attempt to change the way Evergreen collected voluntary fees and funded off-campus organizations. For more information, read “GSU Amendment Sparks Conflict” in issue 10 of The Cooper Point Journal.

Amendment 3.6 was revoked in lieu of a new contract that was drawn up by GSU members — working in conjunction with other students — during the weeks following the amendment’s passing on January 23.

The amendment was unprecedented in its scope, and could possibly affect funding of future projects on campus. Prior to the amendment, Evergreen operated exclusively on an opt-out funding system which included a student vote. Each spring, in order for a voluntary fee to get on the ballot for funding, 25 percent of the student body would have to vote to approve the fee. If a student wished to abstain from paying a specific fee on the ballot, they could do so by filling out a form that would allow them to opt-out of said fee. This system funded off-campus organizations and projects like the recent CAR renovation.

When Amendment 3.6 passed, it immediately changed Evergreen’s student group funding system to an opt-in system. Rather than students voting for routine fees on themselves, they would instead need to discover fees on their own and initiate their payments individually. The argument in favor of the opt-in system was that it was more democratic — giving voice to the 75 percent of students who didn’t vote for opt-out fees — and that it would save students money at an already expensive institution.

Backlash against the amendment began even before it was passed. A small group of concerned students from various student groups attended the meeting to vocalize their disapproval and concerns. Students from the Clean Energy Committee, TOP Students for WashPIRG and NARAL opposed the new measure, although WashPIRG would be the only group to be immediately affected. They called for the Amendment’s repeal, but the suggestion was shot down in a vote with only nine for and 17 against.

At another GSU meeting on February 13, three more student groups voiced their objection to the amendment: Generation Friends, Hip-Hop Congress, and the Asian Pacific Islanders Coalition. Individual students, unaffiliated with any group, also came to protest, giving public statements and questioning the new legislation.

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Jose Gomez, an Evergreen professor with a background in constitutional law, offered his support for the amendment’s repeal in a three-page letter addressed to GSU representatives. At their next meeting on February 20, the repeal of the Amendment was once again put to a vote and shot down with only six in favor and 15 opposed.

Douglas Ridley, a GSU representative, mitigated student conflict between the GSU and rallying student interest groups, suggesting that both parties were “just trying to do the right thing.”

Drew Hawley, another GSU representative, explained that “the amendment had good intentions, but it was written and voted on too quickly, and now we’ve got certain issues to work out. I think we need to balance everybody’s wants.”

In response to mounting student discontent, GSU representatives proposed — at the same meeting on February 20 — the creation of a Fee Committee to discuss the amendment and issue recommendations for its revision.

Kyle Conyers, Forest Hunt, Dane Garcia, Ryan Bersentes, Ryan Morikawa, and Jonathan Gottleib were elected to this newly formed committee, but deliberations were delayed until after spring break, giving GSU representatives a chance to review the committee’s recommendations. On March 6, two fragmentary committees were created from the original committee — a lobbying board for middle and lower-level students, and a Disappearing Task Force (DTF) which, according to the GSU’s records, was created “to look at an overview of fees and how the whole process goes down.”

Finally, on April 10, the amendment was rescinded in favor of a contract that closely embodied the recommendations discussed by the two committees and the GSU. The contract revamped the transparency of groups and fees.

Currently, the GSU, the Fee Committee, the lobbying board, and the DTF are all committed to educating the student body on the opt-out fee system. They hope to facilitate a better understanding of student interest groups, how the fee system works, and how students can more easily opt-out of fees they don’t wish to pay. In progress are a number of academic forums, one scheduled for week seven of spring quarter and Orientation Week next year, as well as the creation of a Student Fee Guide, all aimed at instructing students on how to effectively participate with Evergreen’s fee system — how to vote, how to pay, and how to properly support the groups they choose.

Proposed Smoking Ban Debate Continues

GSU vote to ban tobacco sales on campus

By Hunter Paulson-Smith

The Geoduck Student Union (GSU) met Wednesday, April 17, to discuss a reconsideration of the current smoking policy or the possible banning of smoking on campus. Many students and staff members attended this meeting to take part in the discussion.

During the meeting, one staff member brought up the issue that students and faculty do not always adhere to the designated smoking areas. The current policy is that smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of the nearest window, vent, or door.

Elizabeth McHugh, director of counseling and health services, is a proponent of the conceived smoking ban on campus. Her concern is primarily with the health effects of smoking, adding that the department has received complaints from asthma students on campus.

Certain environmental impacts were also a factor. “It’s a bumper to see so much cigarette litter all over our beautiful campus… it’s always shocking to me [to see litter because] we’re in a community that really prides itself on environmentalism and social justice,” explained McHugh.

During the GSU meeting, it was brought up that if smoking on campus was banned, then students would end up smoking all over campus. “I don’t think smoking will ever be banned at Evergreen,” said student Avila Jackson. “It’s not practical at all… where would students go to smoke during breaks in class?”

Sergeant Marron acknowledged this concern, saying, “If you just implement a policy tomorrow saying ‘you can’t smoke’… that’s exactly what’s going to happen.”

Marron further explained that the campuses with the most success regarding smoking policies and bans “are the ones where it became more of a community decision.”

McHugh added, “Colleges and universities across the country and locally are moving toward tobacco-free campuses and I think we’re going to get there. The movement is starting whether or not we go for it now or in 2 years or 5 years. We will be seeing a day in our lifetime when smoking doesn’t happen on campus anymore.”

Although no definitive decision was made regarding the smoking ban, members of the GSU voted on whether or not tobacco should continue to be sold on campus.

The vote was unanimous with eight votes against selling tobacco and two abstentions.

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The debate over smoking on campus will continue to unfold in the years to come. In his final statements, Marron emphasized that it would take a campus-wide “cultural shift” to get a smoking ban passed “that only comes through discussion and education.”

Bicycle Commuter Contest

Join the Thurston County Bicycle Commuter Contest

Ride to school, work, or on errands & win great PRIZES!

Register in April, Ride in May!

Everyone Welcome!
18 & younger and college students, register FREE
Adult registration, $5 (registration required)
bccblog.com
360-786-1881
intercitytransit.com
Are you a NEW Borrower?
Did you know O Bee Credit Union is a Co-op?
Let us help you get started responsibly. We understand how important good credit is in achieving success, so let O Bee Credit Union help you get there with any or all of these great NEW products:

• 7.52% APR* Savings
• Checking Account**
• Secured Credit Card** $300 Minimum
• Unsecured Credit Card** $500 Maximum ~ 90 Days Employment
• Auto Loans/New/Used/Refinanced** ~ 90 Days Employment

*Annual Percentage Rate*
**Some conditions apply ~ For more information go to: www.obee.com
Basketball Thoughts with David Lukashok

Playoff Spotlight: Clippers vs. Grizzlies

After facing off in an exciting first round match-up during the 2012 Playoffs, the Los Angeles Clippers and Memphis Grizzlies once again meet in the playoffs. Beyond the bad blood between the two teams, little love is lost, and the teams’ contrasting styles is apparent at each and every matchup:

Little love is lost between the two teams, and their contrasting game styles are apparent at each and every matchup.

Blake Griffin vs. Zach Randolph - These two have come close to blows many a time on the court and the differences are clear. The Clippers are known as “Loc City” by it’s fans due to the teams propensity for gravity defying alleyoops and that is embodied most by the inhumanly athletic Griffin. While his counterpart soars through the paint for ferocious slams, Randolph makes his money in the low post, bumping and grunting his way to brutually efficient displays of physical dominance. Since neither player is especially efficient on defense, the two often resort to trading off hard fouls, giving their rivalry an extra bit of edge.

DeAndre Jordan vs. Marc Gasol - It’s hard to find two players in the league who play the same position so differently. Jordan is a high flying phenomenon who’s game lacks refinement but makes up for it by making game changing plays through sheer athleticism. Gasol, while significantly more earthbound, has one of the most developed skill sets in the game, balancing perfectly executed low post moves and passing savvy on offense with being a brilliant shot blocker and defensive leader on the other side of the court. (Editor’s Note- Though it hasn’t been officially confirmed, on 4/23 many sources leaked that Gasol was named NBA Defensive Player of the Year.) While Gasol is the more consistent performer, Jordan’s flair for the big play has been known to get the Clippers playing at an even more athletic and impressive level of play than they usually play at.

Chris Paul vs. Tony Allen - The marquee match up for basketball nerds in this series is the ongoing performance art piece that is Chris Paul’s unstoppable offense colliding with Tony Allen’s immovable defense. Chris Paul orchestrates the Clippers offense while leading all point guards in Player Efficiency Rating for the sixth consecutive year and ranked in the top three in scoring average in clutch scoring. Since joining the Grizzlies three years ago, Allen has made multiple All NBA Defense teams and has garnered the reputation of being arguably the finest perimeter defender in the league. When the two square off in one on one situations, fans everywhere are treated to watching two of the most exceptional performers in any sport in their elements, matched up against their most natural counterparts.

Safeco Isn’t Yankee Stadium By David Lukashok

Prepare to give up any empathy you were willing to afford me. The nicest way to put it is that I am a fan of the professional baseball team known as the New York Yankees. The worst way to say it is that my baseball allegiance is tied to the most bourgeois, globalized, and arrogant form of the unchecked capitalism to call itself a sports team- the perfect representation of the opposite of a Marxist wet dream. In my defense I was born walking distance from the 4-train, a subway line that has delivered fans to Yankee Stadium (The Stadium, from here on out) for decades. Beside my provincial ties, I’m also a big fan of the blue on white pinstripes. For the majority of my life as a Yankee Fan I would make my way over 200 blocks up to the Bronx to go to the Baseball Vatican, the holiest of American Sports Arenas, the House That Ruth Built. But that stadium was torn down and replaced with a multi-billion dollar modern marvel. I was raised on the most traditional idea of a baseball stadium, summer days, shitty hot dogs, and a Yankee win. Therefore, Safeco seemed as far from my comfort zone as it gets. A stadium without any World Series victories? Where’s the history? I was prepared to spend my time on the Bronx-based high horse of Yankee pretentiousness and just try not to make any especially derisive comments. Then there was the sushi. Then there was the bleacher bums. And then I felt the full weight of my elitism. Quick rewind, I went to Safeco Field for the first time about two weeks ago. Mariners-Rangers. Didn’t even get to see King Felix. Didn’t matter. The game was wonderful because it’s a wonderful stadium. Unlike some of the prehistoric stadiums, there are no seats that are displaced by faulty design. Unlike some of the opulent recent structures funded by megalomaniac billionaires, the stadium hasn’t priced out fans who treat the event like a baseball game. Beer spilled. Raunchy chants. The passion that bleeds from the crowd into anyone who came into the stadium indifferent. My long standing pretentions crumbled. I reject the Yankee standard. I guess Safeco is pretty cool.
This week’s cover artist, Matt Smith will be showing a new collection of work at the Matter Gallery.

Check out Leo Shallat (past CPJ cover artist) and other Evergreen students at Urban Medicinals.

Kelli Tokos
The Urban Onion Lounge and Olympia Ballroom has over a dozen artists showing.

Hard Rock Parking Lot at Old School Pizzeria Saturday 12-8pm

Head over to SafePlace view survivor artwork.
The Shivas Play at the Brotherhood
SHOW REVIEW
K Records band cap off tour in Olympia
By Patrick Stewart

The Sunday late-night crowd may not have been large at Olympia’s Brotherhood Lounge this weekend, but the energy was certainly palpable.

Three bands were set to take the stage, culminating in the rock n’ roll quartet known as The Shivas, from Vancouver, Wash. Kicking their set off with the aptly titled “Swimming with Sharks,” The Shivas immediately displayed their surf influences. Less Beach Boys, more Astronauts, the guitar kicked in with a full dose of surf-psych at it’s garagiest best.

Downshifting occasionally to let the crowd breath with the likes of the rockabilly ballad “Baby I Need You,” The Shivas invariably picked up the pace once again. The show culminated in several of their best know singles: the raucous harmonies of “Gun in my Pocket” and finally, fully, back to their roots with the quintessential surf-rocker “Manimal.”

The Shivas are a relatively new acquisition to Olympia’s very own K Records, and the Brotherhood was the last stop of their tour. If you missed it, never fear; although the band is young (some members are barely twenty-one) they have been playing together for around five years. With an average of over a hundred shows a year, it is a good bet that the next tour wont be far away. You get one mulligan, don’t miss them next time they’re in town.

Playing the supporting set for the duration of the tour were the PDX based (and K Records label-mates) Hornet Leg. A refreshing blend of blues and punk, there was a moment of concern when their lead in song, “Cold Fire,” began with the oft used lyric “when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death.” But from there it was all blistering drums, driving guitar and bass licks, and a half sung, half shouted vocal styling that might be described as the the walking blues punks. Highlights of the set included “Night of the Phantom,” which emphasized the blues influences of the group, and “Still Life,” which managed to be frolickingly playful and catchy while still maintaining a grimy punk edge.

The openers on the show were Olympia’s Morgan and the Organ Donors with their own punk rock/garage/insert vague indie subcategory here) sound. Their aesthetic was messy while still being tight instrumentally, the musical equivalent of the bed-head that takes hours of styling to create. The difference being, the Organ Donors come across as well polished and fun as opposed to contrived and douchey. A particular favorite was “What I Want,” which showcased vocals that were all at once softly pleading and harshly accusatory, only you know, in a good way. Their finale was also a highlight—titled “Mood Swings,” it contained the angst of punk and the fun of pop in ways not often heard; a prime example of the ways in which the two can be corralled together successfully. Think the anti-Green Day.

AKA and the Heart Hurts Goods
LOCAL BAND FEATURE
By Cassie Johnson-Villalobos

“If you met me in person, you wouldn’t never thought I was capable of this,” opens one of the most emotionally potent tracks on Heart Hurt Good, the new CD from Olympia hip hop band AKA and the Heart Hurts Goods.

The 12-song LP is a meticulously distilled collection of love letters to everyday life, including its hardships, in this small city.

Eight years in the making, frontman Mark “AKA” Bowen’s writing feels relevant and alive in its mature completion.

If you’ve spent enough time here, chances are that you have met Mark or one of the members of his live band, the Heart Hurt Goods.

Andrew White (keyboardist), Adam Bakotich (electric guitar), Joe Pearce (acoustic guitarist), Josh White (drummer), and Jamie Simmons (DJ) generate the varying cascades of sound behind Bowen’s seasoned articulation. Live, you’ll hear only a few of the album tracks, but on a scale so expanded and practiced that three to five familiar songs are completely sufficient for old fans and new listeners.

The Heart Hurt Good’s ability to be profoundly uplifting, danceable, and even tear-jerking within the space of one song has resonance outside of the South Sound region, as does the band’s live set. Just concluding six months of short tour stints, they clearly connect with a national audience.

Local producer Smoke’s mixing prowess is especially apparent in the contrast of recordings on the band’s Reverbnation.com page, both completed tracks and demos. “Rocket Man” comes closest to a title track and exemplifies AKAs expression of “that 90 spirit,” as he termed it at a show at McCoy’s this past winter. “Anyone can fly over the palm of the Puget Sound when the horizon reaches down to the ground. And we don’t need a rocket either. Now act like this feeling is not a secret,” declares Bowen over synthesized strings.

The next song “Falling Off the End of the Middle of the End of the Middle of the Midi” represents the first collaboration between Bowen and keyboardist/composer Andrew White. It also features recurring vocalist Nathalie Elam. According to White, he first saw Elam and Bowen perform together when they opened for Macklemore at the Capitol Theater in November 2011. “End of the Midi” resulted from Bowen and White meeting and jamming in early 2012.

Metal guitarist Adam Bakotich and punk drummer Josh White (Andrew’s brother) joined the line-up after meeting and collaborating with Mark. The rest of the band came to the band through a mix of mutual acquaintance, circumstance, and successful jam sessions to form a full ensemble.

Although clearly one of the most compelling contributors to the Northwest hip hop scene, they have not yet been fully recognized by local press. A unique approach to a wide range of influences marks every major moment in our region’s impact on national music.

Seattle hip hop’s real substance has lived in obscurity for decades, appearing occasionally on national airwaves in party hits like “Baby Got Back” and more recently “Thrift Shop.” For the South Sound, despite an unusual density of hip hop fans, street artists, and beat makers, cohesive expression of community identity in the form of rap has remained largely elusive. Maybe the key is employing the full range of available artistry to create a music that accurately represents what we’re really capable of.
**Artist Profile: Matt Smith**

By Melkorka Licea

What medium do you prefer and what challenges you the most?

I don’t think too much about the mediums I use beyond functionality between surface materials and mark-making materials. If a canvas, for example, is very large, I will begin a painting with a large house brush or oil sticks. If the surface is a small piece of wood, or paper, I will most likely use gauche and/or watercolors and inks. The most challenging aspect to my art has been trying to incorporate found and recycled materials without losing any underlying meaning in the piece. If anything, I hope this aspect to my art only deepens their (conceptual, academic) meanings. I love the natural aura and mystique of objects which have seen ages pass, so incorporating them into the creative process seems like a positive step.

How do aspects of your life influence your art?

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Nineveh Assyrian Food Cart

**FOOD REVIEW**

By Giulia Cole

Over the last couple of years our country has become infatuated with food trucks and, I’ve got to admit, so have I. The food truck phenomenon started around 1870 after the civil war, thanks to a Texan rancher named Charles Goodnight. Chuckwagons were filled with food and cooking equipment and used to feed cattlemen and loggers on long work trips where there was no access to trains or food. Eventually this idea developed into something that everyone could enjoy, even people today in Olympia.

On 4th Avenue, just behind Sizizis Cafe, there is a dirt lot with three food trucks: Nineveh – serving Assyrian cuisine, California Tacos – serving Californian-Mexican cuisine, and All Fed Up – serving all kinds of Americanized burritos and “sammies”. There is also a small cupcake shop located next to the food trucks called The Cupcake Gallery, with a creatively constructed seating area in the middle of the hubbub. Adding to the overall ambiance and feel of the area is a giant “Star Wars” mural painted on the side of Sizizis Cafe facing the food trucks and cupcake shop.

For this article, the truck that I decided to investigate was Nineveh, which was named after an ancient Assyrian city. I had never tried Assyrian food, but from the looks of the menu it seemed similar to Greek cuisine. I ordered the Shawarma sandwich with beef and lamb and, let me tell you, when this giant burrito-like pita was handed to me, I was glowing with excitement. This sandwich was about one foot long – maybe bigger – and stuffed with hand-carved beef & lamb, pickled vegetables including tomatoes and cucumber, and a delicious garlic aioli sauce. The pita bread tasted extremely fresh and was thick enough to hold in the juices that were trying to escape from the meat, sauce and pickled veggies. However, when I reached the end – which was by far the best part of the sandwich – the pita was sopping with flavor and juice.

Every aspect of this sandwich had been made to perfection: The warm pita, the meat – which was tender and bountiful – the garlic aioli – which wasn’t too strong and had a great consistency, and the pickled veggies – which did not overpower the rest of the ingredients, but added a great crunch.

The prices were very reasonable too. I felt like I got more than I paid for. Another item on their menu, which I was tempted to order but refrained, was the fried cauliflower – a dish that my mom sometimes makes at home and I absolutely adore. The chefs at Nineveh seem to really know what they are doing and every item on the menu seemed delectable. I will be back and cannot wait to try more.

What emotions do you try to evoke with your art?

I try to evoke feelings of awe through the use of extreme opposition. I hope to create artwork which acts as gateway to the ethereal. Underlying themes of much of my work are what is vacuous, infinite, la solitudine, oneness, absence, presence, and completion, through the use of subliminal repetition, patterning, and often, intensely opposing lurid color schemes.

What is your ultimate goal?

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Upright Citizens: Not For Children

Comedy Night Brings Up-and-Com- ing Comics to Campus

By Kelli Tokos

Even with a small child in the front row, nothing was off limits for the Upright Citizens Brigade.

For the third year in a row, the Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB) Tour came to campus for an hour-long show this past Saturday night, April 20. 150-plus students and community members came out to watch the improvisational comedy troupe from Los Angeles consisting of four “players”: Nicole Byer, David Harris, Tricia McAlpin and Betsy Sodaro.

Setting the pace for their show, the UCB TourCo ran onto the stage and began crowd sourcing material to adlib about.

“Improv is unique because it’s about finding content rather than performing,” said one of Gen. Friend’s coordinators, Gabiel Smith. “Someone practicing or studying improv is more concerned about showcasing the process of discovery within comedy, rather than trying to think of something funny.”

The show began when Gen. Friend’s own Caleb Hepker was chosen to be interviewed by the UCB about his lack of sleep and attempt to learn how to “twerk.” After a short demonstration of twerking by the UCB and Hepker, the players launched into scenes that skillfully incorporated nearly everything Hepker mentioned.

Displaying their quick wit and ability to think fast on their feet, the UCB switched between improvisational scenes fluidly. Their style of comedy – long form improv – focuses on performing short scenes that are related through stories, specific characters, or themes. When one performer mentioned his fear of Best Buy, the group moved seamlessly into a skit about a paranoid customer at Best Buy realizing the store doesn’t always have the “best buy.”

“We’re in international waters, doesn’t that mean we could marry a horse or something?”

In Smith’s opinion, the UCB “knocked it out of the park.”

The UCB kept the audience on their toes, tied in older pieces of the performance, and used everything they learned from the few crowd-sourced stories to keep everyone laughing.

In one scene the troupe exaggerated the mindset of protesters, pitching to their “leader” random things to protest about such as fog (“God hates fogs”) and stomach aches (“Drop Pepsi-cid AC, Not Bombs”). Hepker had mentioned his program at Evergreen involved social movements. “There’s always something to complain about,” said McAlpin.

Whether the skit was about a fat dog with a rabid food addiction, people who personify their tractor (“Let’s take the tractor to Wal-Mart for a family photo.”), or a man with a disability of having “deaforgasms” working as a porn star, everything was fair game for the UCB.

The show ended with two drunks in a six-wheeled amphibious vehicle. “We’re in international waters, doesn’t that mean we could marry a horse or something?”

By David Lukashock

On April 10 the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition, Feminists In Solidarity Together (FIST), and the Generation Friends Comedy-Arts Coalition came together to co-sponsor Comedy Night, a stand-up event featuring Hannah Boone, Elicia Sanchez, and Hari Kondabolu.

Boone, a current Evergreen senior, is one of the most prolific stand-up comedians in the Olympia area, having been featured at comedy clubs throughout the Northwest and the Los Angeles area. Sanchez, an Evergreen graduate, has been performing in the Seattle area for over three years and has performed at the Bumpershoot Music and Art Festival.

The main draw for the night, though, was Mr. Kondabolu, a major up and comer in the national comedy scene.

His stand up has been featured on shows like Conan and Late Night with Jimmy Kimmel as well as his own episode of Comedy Central Presents... among other notable appearances.

Kondabolu, a Queens, N.Y. native is currently touring college campuses while working on new material.

With a progressive view on gender roles, race relations, and American politics, Kondabolu cleverly skewed subjects that are usually too painful or serious to easily lend themselves to humor. While being on the far side of 30, Kondabolu demonstrated a keen understanding of the average liberal-arts college student’s political and social beliefs without ever reaching the point of being preachy. The whole show received constant support from an enthusiastic crowd.
Intercity Transit: Why I Don’t Ride the Bus
By Kelli Tokos

I don’t ride the bus in Olympia because I don’t want to guess if I’ll be getting a ride home or not.

On April 7, the Nightline bus reached the Farwell street stop and then sat there for roughly 20 minutes while multiple Evergreen students were refused service. The ordeal began when student Matt Ramirez didn’t have an updated sticker on his student ID or the fare to ride the bus.

“It was Saturday of the grace period, so I figured that was fine,” said Ramirez. “If I got there, then I could easily get back.” When Ramirez tried to get on the bus, the driver denied him.

As more people got on the bus, Ramirez became frustrated and called the operator a “dick.” After this there would be no bargaining with the driver. To the point of begging on his knees, Ramirez apologized and tried to get on the bus. No dice.

Soon the passengers already on the bus became fed up with the situation and began loudly voicing their opinions. The supervisor of the bus route was called out to the scene.

The Nightline is known by riders as the “drunk bus,” because it runs at one, two, and three in the morning, hauling people from the bars downtown-and parties along the way-on the 41 route back to the Evergreen campus.

“I didn’t think anyone was beligerently drunk,” said Ramirez, “and if it did seem that way it was only because people were getting frustrated at the fact that this guy was being so difficult.”

Intercity Transit has a set of Rules of Conduct for their service. Within these rules, the rights of operators are established. If a person doesn’t have fare money, uses profanity, harasses an operator, or becomes a threat to the safety of people on the bus, they can be refused service.

According to Communications Manager Meg Kester, Intercity Transit trains its drivers to use discretion in any given situation and to always be aware of public safety. Kester said the driver of the bus that night was concerned for the safety of the passengers.

While worrying about the safety of passengers on the bus is completely valid, and should be the main concern of public services, what about the safety of the people who were kicked off the bus for not having a sticker to prove they had paid? Or what about the people expecting the 3 a.m. bus, which was rerouted after the incident on Division Street by request of the Olympia Police Department?

Evergreen is located in the middle of the woods and the roads to get to campus aren’t safe for pedestrians. There are very few streetlights and hardly any paths—besides a few narrow bike paths—between west Olympia and Evergreen’s campus. When people are stranded on Division Street at two in the morning, they are facing a long walk back to campus in poor conditions.

“Some people called taxis after the supervisor came,” said Ramirez, “I hitchhiked.” He isn’t a stranger to hitchhiking, but admitted to being picked up by drunk drivers in the past—a situation no one should be subjected to.

So what kind of alternatives do students have if they forget to update their latest sticker before the grace period ends the Friday of week one each quarter? Take a taxi (which are sparse in Olympia), walk (hopefully not alone down Division or Cooper Point Road), or get picked up by a stranger (and keep your fingers crossed that they aren’t drunk). These are not feasible options.

The grey area that arises from the sticker system, the grace period, and reliance on the kindness of bus operators has created problems.

“Some bus drivers are more lax and some are more strict about the grace period, riding with a non-current sticker,” said Kester.

Last week, Cecile Malik, a member of the Evergreen community who uses Intercity Transit everyday, witnessed a student getting denied the 10 p.m. bus from campus April 17.

The student had lost her wallet and hadn’t been able to get a new ID yet. She had a large bill, but not the proper change to pay the fare. The driver told her she couldn’t ride without fare or ID to prove she was a student, and the small amount of change she did have was not enough.

“He was really unfriendly and cold,” said Malik.

Taking matters into her own hands, Malik loudly said she would pay the student’s fare and write a complaint to Intercity Transit. The driver stopped Malik from paying and had the student put in her change to ride. “I had never seen or imagined a bus driver being so rude to a passenger, and never thought that one could leave a student behind, alone at night on campus, so far removed from the city.”

People shouldn’t have to guess if they are getting a ride home or not.

Times are tight, especially for services such as Intercity Transit whose “operating revenue continues to be down and lower than expected given the economic sluggishness of these times,” according to Kester. People get frustrated easily about minor things. But when students forgets their IDs, I doubt they are trying to cheat the system; they just want a safe ride home.

Providing a public service, such as transportation, can be challenging.

However, if safety is a priority for Intercity Transit, then how can they allow incidents like these to occur? Is $1.25 really worth leaving students on the side of the road or stranded on campus?
READ IT
WRITE IT
BIWEEKLY
COOPER POINT JOURNAL
I went to Rainy Day Records to get an LP that is so obscure they didn’t even know how to order it. Am I a hipster?  
-Not That I Care

First off, hippies don’t know how to use computers, so of course they aren’t going to know how to order anything in today’s world. The fact that you are asking the question “Am I a hipster?” leads me to believe that no, you are not a hipster, because a hipster doesn’t know it’s a hipster. Only wannabe hipsters actually refer to themselves as hipsters.

I have questions, but I don’t want them to sound like they’re from me. 
-NA

I don’t know what you sound like, because these questions are submitted via email/text, so just ask the question.

I’ve always wanted an entire pizza in my mouth at once. How do I accomplish this?
-Hungry Hungry Hippie

Why don’t you just eat pizza rolls? You can fit a whole one of those in your mouth easily and still have the same great taste! Or, if you really want to do it, take notes from Liz Lemon and shotgun that shit.

Should I go see a psychic? 
-Dorothy & The Gang

Signs point to yes.

Can you transfer out of Evergreen?
-Conservative

Good luck with that one.

Has anyone really been far even as decided to use even go want to do look more like? Furthermore, can you really be far even as decided half as much to use go wish for that?
-Tyler

I had to put my computer down for a minute after reading that question.

How do you get over an addiction to a person? 
-Stuck on You

The same way you get over an addiction to anything, just substitute it with something else. I suggest substituting a person with weed. Nothing bad comes from smoking weed, only happiness.

How do you convince yourself to stop procrastinating and get work done? Even when it’s work you hate…
-to do: pick name

If I can answer these questions while high as fuck, then you can get your fucking work done. Stop procrastinating and just get it over with.

Submit your questions to be answered by our talented staff.

Aries: Consider unorthodox uses to common materials and knowledge in your quest to solve a particularly perplexing problem. The solution hides where you expect it least.

Taurus: As Spiderman’s uncle Ben said, “With great power comes great responsibility.” Do you hold power over anyone? What responsibilities do you have to them?

Gemini: You will get good news from a loved one some time this week. Be prepared to celebrate good fortune with friends.

Cancer: Sometimes, it’s okay to do something half-heartedly. You have to assess your priorities carefully in the upcoming weeks.

Leo: You will oversleep your first alarm next Wednesday. Set two to avoid being late.

Virgo: Sometimes, attempting to peer into the future only leads to unnecessary anxiety. Prepare yourself for any likely challenges, but don’t worry about things left out of your control.

Libra: Think of those who have supported you in the difficult periods of your life, and find ways to give back to them.

Scorpio: Your energy has been drained by circumstances beyond your control as of late. Excise the spiritual sinkholes from your life and find yourself living with a renewed zest.

Sagittarius: Social graces will get you far when it comes to smoothing the ruffled feathers of close friends. Not everything you do this week will be received well, but you can right any wrongs with a little kindness.

Capricorn: Take some time off to enjoy good food, good friends, and good times this weekend. You deserve it.

Aquarius: Wise people plan ahead not only for eventualities, but for possibilities as well. Prepare yourself for what may come as carefully as you would for something you know will happen. It will ensure your success this spring.

Pisces: Just because someone tells you something doesn’t necessarily make it so. Do your own research, and draw conclusions for yourself.
Animalia Moderno-- How do Alligators Party? Txai Villacorta

During the Revolutionary war, the United States adopted Gorilla war tactics

The Life and Times of John Hexer  Sam Bourman-Karns

Submit your comics or questions for Wasted Advice to the CPJ online at cooperpointjournal@gmail.com or in person to our office in CAB 332

Want to draw comics?