

THE LUMBERJACK

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By the students – for the people

Free

Jacks football lives on



Rob Smith thanks HSU President Lisa Rossbacher for making the decision to keep Jacks football alive at the Redwood Bowl. | Gabe Rivera

by Keaundrey Clark and Skye Kimya

Through trials and tribulations, Humboldt State football will be playing another year in the Redwood Bowl, as was announced by President Lisa Rossbacher and Interim Athletic Director Duncan Robbins on Tuesday, Dec. 5.

In front of HSU students, athletes, boosters, administration and coaches, it was announced that the team will return after months of doubt by Rossbacher.

“Through a lot of work by the boosters and the community,” said Rossbacher. “Alumni generating pledges for support make this possible for next year.”

President Rossbacher said she was impressed by the passionate group of boosters who led a recent fund drive. This convinced her they could bring in the resources needed to help continue the football program.

Six months of doubt have been put to bed for now, as boosters led by Jim Redd and Ceva

Courtemanche worked endlessly to provide a solution to HSU Athletics financial woes. Redd and SaveHSUAthletics were able to confirm that almost \$511 thousand in pledges and donations for 2017-18 had been reached.

“Not all of this is local community, there are previous athletes from all over the united States that have donated,” said Redd. “People that have just heard about our cause that have donated. It just speaks volumes, that athletics and the

student athletes are very important to this community.”

The future of Jacks football, which is the University’s most expensive athletics program, had been in question due to financial challenges.

The Athletics Department, Office of Advancement and the boosters struggled to maintain a balanced and working relationship to find a solution to the departments financial woes.

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Keaundrey Clark and Skye Kimya may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

Missing



On November 30, 2017, **Erin Elizabeth Henry**, a Humboldt State University student, was reported missing to the Arcata Police Department.

Henry was last seen by a roommate in the 100 block of Samoa Blvd on 11/25/2017. She has not been seen or heard from since. Henry’s wallet, cell phone and car were located at her residence. Henry had recently suffered a broken ankle and is not able to walk without the aid of crutches or a knee scooter.

Henry’s disappearance is out of character, according to friends and family.

Henry is described as a 22-year-old white female, 5 foot 8 inches, thin build with blond hair and hazel eyes. Henry has a distinctive tattoo on her left forearm of a large red poppy flower with the inscription “Anna Rowland 1993-2016” written along the stem (photos are available on the APD Facebook page).

Anyone who has seen Erin Henry or has information as to her whereabouts is asked to call the APD at (707) 822-2428.

Homeless awareness

by Juan Herrera

Being homeless is a spot where not many people would like to be but if the situation appears you always need to be prepared.

The Homeless Student Advocate Alliance (H.S.A.A), a club at Humboldt State, put on a three day event to inform, share and educate the students and community about the severity of homelessness in Humboldt County.

Chant’e Catt, president of the club, said for this being their first annual three day event it was educational and they got their message across.

“Our main purpose of the event is to let other homeless students know they’re not alone,” Catt said. “And I believe we achieved a majority of that.”

Catt said the first day of

the event was more personal for others by students and members of the community sharing their own stories of past and present times of homelessness in their life. Catt herself even spoke about her own times being homeless when she and her family first moved to Humboldt County.

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Tents set up during the Homeless Student Advocate Alliance event, Housing: Indigenous Insight, Thursday in the UC Quad. | Diego Linares

Juan Herrera may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

Ice skating in Humboldt

by Lauren Shea

It’s that time of year again. The Humboldt Ice Rink is back in town for winter. The ice rink is decorated for the holidays and holiday music is played for all to enjoy while skating. People of all ages can come and skate at Newburg Park in Fortuna. This is the third year that the Humboldt Ice Committee has brought the temporary ice rink back to Humboldt. The rink is staffed by many community groups who can earn donations to their organization from hours volunteered at the

rink. The ice rink is supported by over 70 sponsors from local businesses. There is a snack bar offering all kinds of snacks from candy to hot chocolate. The ice rink is open until Jan. 7, 2018. The cost to rent skates is \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under. There is also a new special where people can receive a free pass upon purchasing five rentals for both adults and children. For more information, visit humboldticerink.com.

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A couple holds their boy as they skate around the ice rink in Newburg Park. | Lauren Shea

Lauren Shea may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

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Weather

Thursday65°

Friday65°

Saturday63°

Sunday65°

Source: National Weather Service

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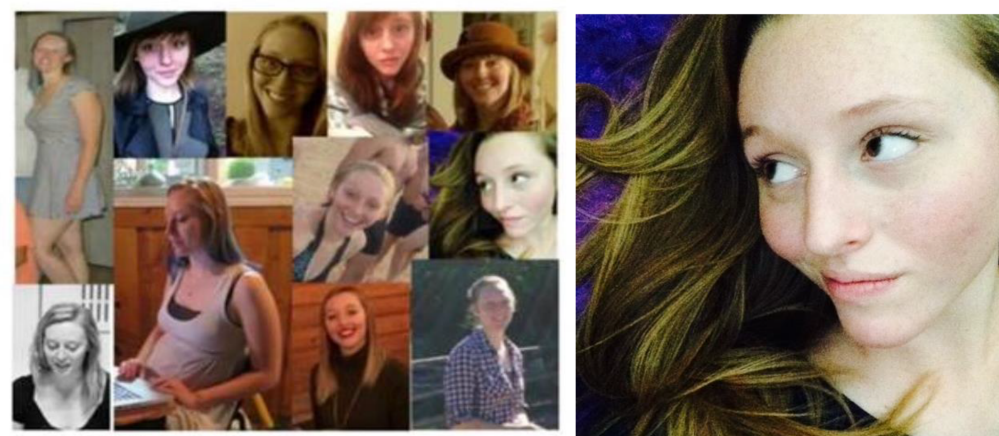
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MISSING

ERIN HENRY

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DESCRIPTION: Short/Medium Blonde Hair; Flower Tattoo on Forearm and Tattoo on her back shoulder. Also has a Fractured Ankle. May be wearing a Boot/Brace or may be on Crutches.

If you have any information regarding the disappearance of Erin call:
Arcata Police Department at (707) 822-2428, or
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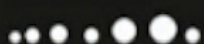
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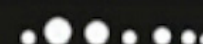
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Bitcoin, ready to pop?

by Robert Brown

Bitcoin gained \$2,000 during the last week of November, causing internet exchange sites to freeze up as people attempted to buy whatever amount of Bitcoin they could afford.

The majority of people, if asked, would more than likely not know what Bitcoin is, despite the fact that it is the most well known and widely used cryptocurrency, valued at over \$10,000 per coin. A debate has sparked online whether or not Bitcoin is experiencing a bubble.

Many financial analysts and cryptocurrency experts say Bitcoin will continue to rise through the summer, reaching \$40,000 by August. Others say it will crash and become worthless, causing people to lose all of the money they have invested. Since its creation, people have continuously claimed that the Bitcoin bubble will pop every time it has reached a new high. When it reached \$100 people said the bubble will pop, and again when it reached \$1,000, and again now that it has reached \$10,000.



Graphic Illustrations | Iridian Casarez

As if that wasn't enough to peak a person's interest, there is a very mysterious element to Bitcoin. Bitcoin is the first decentralized digital currency, invented in 2009 by an unknown person using the name Satoshi Nakamoto. Although some claim the real creator may possibly be Artificial Intelligence. The revolutionary software is open-source and peer-to-peer, and is considered to be the future of technology. Transactions take place between users directly, are verified, and recorded in a public ledger called a blockchain.

There is a unique Bitcoin culture that has been created with new lingo, specific technology, and intricate knowledge of how the system works. The nuances of authentication, how to buy, sell, and trade, managing wallets and vaults, mining coins, Tether's, and Bitcoin's blockchain is enough to make any computer nerd think they have died and gone to heaven.

[continued on thelumberjack.org](#)

Robert Brown may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

Farewell time

by Ahmed Al-Sakkaf

The Center for International Programs hosted a farewell party on Saturday for international exchange students who are going back to their home countries. They are leaving with unforgettable memories they've made here at Humboldt State.

Sonja Willigerode is a German exchange student studying Business. During her semester at HSU, Willigerode took a sustainability-focused business class. In Germany, Willigerode studied economic theory which was "just about money and trade," she said. At Humboldt she learned how to apply that same theory in an environmental context.

"I studied economic theory in Germany and it was just about money and trade," Willigerode said. "But here you learn how you can apply it to environmental context."

This is Willigerode's last semester of study and she chose to spend it abroad here in HSU.

"It was the best semester in my whole studies," she said. "I'm so thankful that I can be here and stayed this semester."

Linus Kaminski is another exchange student from Germany. He's majoring in Water Resources Management. Kaminski loves Humboldt and

*Ahmed Al-Sakkaf works for the Center of International Programs as a front desk assistant.



Ge-Yao Liu the Director for Center for international programs welcoming guests to the international farewell party. | Ahmed Al-Sakkaf

thinks it's beautiful.

"I like the area here, It's so beautiful, the ocean the forest it's beautiful," he said. "There aren't many places where I can see deer and raccoons on just my way walking from my dorm to the library."

Kaminski celebrated Thanksgiving for the first time this year. He celebrated it with the family of one of his American friends. He also played American football for the first time.

"This year it was my first Thanksgiving and it was really cool, I really like it," he said. "There was so much to eat. I also played football it was my first time playing American football and it was so much

fun."

Ruby Saint a bilateral exchange student from Australia. Students in the bilateral exchange program pay their tuition fees at their home university and study abroad at another university. Saint grew up in Tasmania and previously studied at the University of Tasmania in Hobart. This year she also celebrated Thanksgiving for the first time. She and her friends had a Friendsgiving celebration.

"That was interesting , we had like a Friendsgiving," she said. "It was interesting to kinda experience Thanksgiving."

[continued on thelumberjack.org](#)

Ahmed Al-Sakkaf may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

The Homeless Student Advocate Alliance

by Juan Herrera

[continued from front page](#)

"I first hand know the struggles of moving from place to place," Catt said." For my first 14 weeks in Humboldt County I was constantly trying to find a secure place for me and my two children."

Catt said majority of the students that are homeless at HSU are not because they do not have the money, but purely because the lack of housing Humboldt State and the County provides.

Daniela Parada, another member of the club, said the second night of the event was the most eye-opening night. The night went into the meaning of what being "homeless" actually is.

"We wanted to talk about the stigma and labeling that gets put on the homeless community," Parada said. "Most

people assume that anybody who is homeless is dirty, smelly and just plain ole gross."

Parada said most of the time that is hardly ever the case. According to her, a person who goes from couch to couch but still showers daily, dresses nice, etc., is still considered homeless. Would you still call that person smelly and gross?

Parada said the last night of the event was the most hands-on activities they put on. They showed students and members of the community how to put together and take down a tent and also how to start a fire almost anywhere.

"Personally this was the most educational night for people who attended our event," Parada said. "Even though we could not start a real fire, people definitely got the hang of how to start one."

Arri Sanders, a senior at

HSU, said how the event was personal and a huge eye-opener for her.

"I remember when one of my best friends was going through a similar situation," Sanders said. "I honestly didn't realize some of the embarrassments or things homeless people had to go through until hearing it first hand."

Sanders said even though her friend wasn't nearly in as bad as a spot as some she still realized part of what she went through. Sanders said now looking back at it she wishes she would have tried to offer her friend more then what she did.

Sanders had one last message for people who have friends who are homeless.

"Please! Please! Even if they don't ask for it, offer any help you can, because they do need it." Sanders said.



Attendees gather for a presentation during the Homeless Student Advocate Alliance event, Housing: Indigenous Insight, Thursday in the UC Quad. | Diego Linares

Juan Herrera may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

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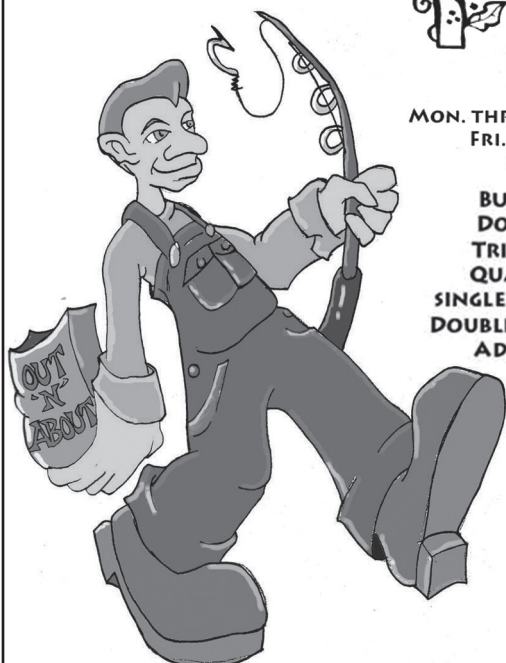
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Humboldt Ice Rink returns

by Lauren Shea

continued from front page



A view from outside the ice rink in Fortuna, CA. | Lauren Shea



A mother and her daughter hold hands as they skate around the rink. | Lauren Shea



Christmas decorations inside the ice rink. | Lauren Shea

Lauren Shea may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

Surfing giants in Humboldt

Waves upwards of 20 feet tossed and turned against the Humboldt coastline this week

by Michelle Meyers

Waves upwards of 20 feet tossed and turned against the Humboldt coastline this week. According to the National Weather Service Marine Forecast, a small craft advisory is also in effect until Sunday afternoon. While the first big swells of the season are already arriving, the winter swell season has merely just begun.

With more swells and even bigger waves on the way this season, it begs the question: How do such massive waves come to be?

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), water does not actually travel in waves. Waves are merely the transfer of energy, moving from one neighboring water molecule to the next.

The NOAA says that waves are most commonly generated by wind. Wind-driven waves, or surface waves, start out when changes in temperature produce a change in air pressure. Air then follows its natural path, moving from an area of high pressure to an area of low pressure. This movement is referred to as wind.

As the wind blows across the ocean's surface, it generates ripples. This happens in a



William Doudna changing out the fins in his surfboard before he paddles out | Michelle Meyers

similar way to how ripples are created when you blow over the surface of a cup of water. These ripples increase in intensity to eventually become waves.

What determines the size of a wave?

The NOAA says that the size of these waves are determined by three main factors:

Wind Speed: How fast the wind is blowing.

Wind Duration: How long the wind blows.

Fetch: Distance over water that the wind blows in a single direction.

The biggest waves occur when wind speed is at its highest, wind duration is at its longest and when fetch is long or unlimited.

There are several other fac-

tors that can affect wave size in a certain area, some of those factors include:

Swell Direction: The direction in which the swell originated from.

Ocean Floor Topography: Forms or physical features on the ocean floor.

Tide: Rising and falling tides are caused by a gravitational attraction between the earth, moon and the sun.

Why are these big waves in Humboldt?

"It is because the storms that come out of the North Pacific are incredibly powerful," said Dr. Jeffry Borgeld, Oceanography professor at HSU who specializes in Geological Oceanography.

continued on thelumberjack.org

Michelle Meyers may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

A tournament to save the future

by Bryan Donoghue

For a topic to be special, it needs to have special qualities. The Environmental Resource Engineering department is providing a competition-based classroom for students to work on self improvement. ENGR 480 is a special topic course that involves two topics for students to compete in, water filtration and creating sustainable renewable energy housing operations.

Peter Alstone and Elizabeth A. Eschenbach are professors in the Environmental Resource Engineering department that are advising for the Race to Zero competition and American Society of Civil Engineer's MidPac competition.

This competition is pertinent to the times as Zero Energy Ready Buildings have started to be readily achievable and cost-effective, according the the United States Department of Energy who sponsors the competition. These buildings

are incredibly energy-efficient as their renewable power can offset either most or all of the annual energy consumption.

"The idea behind the net zero thing is that, on net overall, you're zero," Alstone said. "Sometimes you're pushing energy onto the grid. Sometimes you're using electricity from the grid. But the overall net is that you have zero at your meter."

Alstone operates as the advisor for the class and is excited for the competition as it gives students more creative freedom.

"It motivates students to turn themselves into self-learners," Alstone said.

Instead of instructing, Alstone plans to be more hands off with his students, letting them come to him for advice but otherwise staying open to help the students with their ideas.

"There aren't a whole lot of rules of how they should be doing it," Alstone said. "I try to

be hands off more than I'd normally do."

In the other special topics class where students prepare to compete in the Mid-Pac competition, Eschenbach finds that Humboldt State's students consistently perform well and place in the top three for their innovated water filtration ideas.

"If you were to look for the news last year, you'd see that we'd came in first for the water treatment, and we came in second overall," Eschenbach said.

These competition based classrooms are actually based off of a Wildlife competition class known as the Wildlife Conclave. The classes like these are designed to direct students for how they would work in the real world.

"Just as with the Wildlife Conclave and the Forestry Conclave, these are opportunities for our students to actually practice, to have hands on opportunities to apply what they've learned in their class-



A team of Environmental Engineering students created a water filtration system that would be able to make a given sample of water drinkable again. This team of engineers received first place in multiple categories. Environmental Resources Engineering Department

rooms in a setting where they can see how they stand up to other students at a similar place in their education from other institutions," Eschenbach said. "It's a great learning opportunity and it's one that we can't provide in a more tradition setting."

These two classes are open

to anyone who wishes to join, no matter what their major may be, but applications have already been sent in. For more information on these two competitions, contact Dr. Eschenbach and Dr. Alstone in the Environmental Resource Engineering department.

Bryan Donoghue may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

Getting ready for finals

by Charlotte Rutigliano

With finals right around the corner, students like Stephanie Toste and Ellen O'Hare are starting to prepare for them now.

Toste who is a senior business marketing major said that she has a final in all four of her classes and is starting to study

for them now.

"I normally review my notes and the book for that class," Toste said, "along with any study guide the teacher provides."

According to Angelica Huerta who has been a Chemistry tutor in the Library's Learning Center for about three years she notices that as

it gets closer to finals there are fewer students that come into the library.

"When it is finally finals week they come in swarms for last-minute study sessions," Huerta said.

continued on thelumberjack.org



Students Darby Lawrence and Ramon Martinez studying for finals in the library. Ahmed Al-Sakkaf

Charlotte Rutigliano may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

7 ways to de-stress while studying

by Phil Santos

Check yo-self before you wreck yo-self!

Finals are here and it's time to do something about it. The biggest obstacle at this point is the sense of overwhelming dread you feel when looking at the work cut out for you. Major projects are daunting at first, but it gets better when you make a structured plan. So take the time to structure how and when you'll study. Breaking things down into smaller sections and having a generic plan reduces the overwhelming feeling of defeat when looking at a stack of unstudied material. Here are 7 things you can incorporate into your study plan.

1. Study Break

An integral part of studying is not studying. Some of us understand this a bit too well. But for the last minute crammers, remember that the mind needs an occasional break - or it will break. Stepping away from study work lets you reset a bit and lets the material soak in. I find that a 10-15 minute break every hour works well for me.

2. Smoke a bowl

We should all follow state and federal laws (wink!). Cannabis affects different people in different ways, but smoking a bowl is one way for some of us to de-stress. Those of us who know we don't study well when high will not be finding that out for the first time this fall. So if cannabis works for you, then go for it. If not, don't

blame this article for helping you forget that cannabis and college don't blend well when it comes to tests.

3. Take a short walk to the community forest

Taking a walk in our forests is something people travel the world to do. So if you're one of the few who haven't done so, interrupting your study sesh to change that is a great idea! Exposure to what we define as nature (parks, ocean and non-human built stuff) can change you by: decreasing stress, increasing focus and your sense of vitality and it can even boost creativity.

Just remember that mountain lions are most active at dawn and dusk. Although a mountain lion attack is a pretty good excuse to miss a final...

4. Study at the community forest or local beach

The weather this week is slated to be rather rain-free. This is a nice window to take your study gear to the outdoors, allowing you to do your work without missing the nice weather. You can reap all the above mentioned benefits of exposure to nature while studying! If you can make it out to the beach with your study gear, you should. There aren't many colleges where you can drive 15 minutes to study on an empty gem of a beach. This gives you a two for one experience - you get a beach day and a study day.

5. Find your jam

I am bothered by the slightest of noises and I feel crazy

for it. The person next to you needs to turn their page more quietly. Someone behind you is hitting their keyboard with hammer hands. You can hear someone breathing and it's almost in harmony with the snifle across the room. All of these noises are very normal, but also very agitating, so I carry headphones with me wherever I go. If it's too noisy to focus, I find my jams and enter a wonderful world of music. I favor various YouTube mixes of an hour or more.

6. Talk to your professor

It's easy to build a persona around our professors, but believe it or not, professors are people too. If there's an aspect of your final that freaks you out, try talking to your professor about it. They may be able to clarify something for you and alleviate some of your worries. They might also tell you you're a complete failure, but wouldn't you rather hear it from the source?

7. Check your perspective

What is most immediate often seems most pressing. But don't fall prey to this logic, it's not true. The finals before you might seem like they will determine your future, but that's like saying you went to HSU, because your mom ate a burrito exactly 10 years before you were born. It doesn't make sense. Finals are a small step in your infinite future.

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Winning Ways: a guide to your fantasy football

by Gabe Rivera

’Tis the season for fantasy football playoffs and for those that made their league play-offs, congratulations! If you didn’t, then you’re already on the right track to next season’s playoffs by reading my column.

As this is my first fantasy football column, I should let you know that I’ve been in the game for 18 years and winning is my top priority every season. We will dive into all the positions and examine the matchups that will help you in your playoff run this year.

Winning Quarterbacks
Alex Smith, Kansas City Chiefs: Smith exploded on Sunday, throwing for over 350 yards with four touchdown tosses. He scrambled for 70 yards to show off his legs. The Chiefs quarterback gets another blow up match up against the Raiders who have given up the fifth most points to opposing passers.

Philip Rivers, San Diego Chargers: Rivers had a huge

day against the Browns that could have been even bigger as the Chargers failed to convert five red zone trips into touchdowns. Rivers has now completed 76.3 percent of his passes for 781 yards and four touchdowns over the past two weeks and now hosts a Washington defense that is in the middle of the pack but expect Rivers to take advantage and have another fine day, making him a strong QB1 option this week.

Winning Running Backs
Rex Burkhead and Dion Lewis, Patriots: The New England backfield has been a mess over the years but it seems to have finally taken form as a two headed machine. Lewis and Burkhead have both averaged double-digit touches since the week nine byes and travel to play the Miami Dolphins whose defense has given up the seventh most points to opposing running backs this season.

Mike Davis, Seattle Seahawks: There is finally a workhorse in Seattle and he’s

available in a lot of leagues. Davis took it to the No. 1 run defense on Sunday night, finishing for over 100 yards from scrimmage on 4.0 yards per carry against the Eagles. Eddie Lacy, J.D McKissic and Thomas Rawls saw only one carry each while Davis took control of the backfield with 16 rushes and four targets. Davis has the potential to win a lot of people fantasy trophies this year. Pick him up.

Winning Wide Receiv-ers

Marquise Goodwin, San Francisco 49ers: With Jimmy Garoppolo finally under center for the red and gold, the offense looked much more efficient, holding the ball for over 19 minutes more than the Bears in Week 13. Goodwin converted all eight of his targets for 99 yards and the Niners face two of the leagues worst pass defenses in the Texans and the Titans for the next two weeks. Consider Goodwin for the WR3 discussion.

[continued on the lumberjack.org](http://continued.on.thelumberjack.org)

Gabe Rivera may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

HSU now looks to jump in recruiting and its offseason

by Keaundrey Clark and Skye Kimya

[continued from front page](#)

Balancing the budget, the university is working to address an ongoing structural deficit that has been on the president’s plate for a few years now.

With an additional \$395 thousand for year two; \$375 thousand for year three; \$355 thousand for year four and \$335 thousand for the fifth year, the community of Humboldt showed how much HSU football meant to them.

“We never gave up,” said Redd. “We kept fighting until the very end and the community support is absolutely unbelievable”

Several players walked away from the Redwood Bowl Plaza this afternoon with plenty of appreciation for their community and President Rossbacher.

“It feels great, it feels like I got a lot of relief off of my shoulders. Now I can get ready

and focus for next season,” returning player Jamere Austin said.

Plenty of players have been worried about where they would have headed next, but after today’s decision they are looking forward to continuing in their first step forward, Spring Ball.

“President Rossbacher made the right decision,” returning player Joey Sweeney said. “Next year should be a really good year.”

Head coach Rob Smith held a meeting with players, wanting them to notify their families that the team will be back. He understands that because of the uncertainty surrounding the program, some players won’t return but he hopes players will stay and be a Jack for life.

“Most coaches and most players had kind of checked out, they saw the writing on

the wall, anticipated the program not being here next year and were preparing for life after this,” said Smith. “Now we all kind of need to get together and figure out how to move forward”

One of HSU best defenders Junior linebacker Curtis Williams is excited for HSU’s prospects of a great season next year.

“It feels great,” said Williams. “Knowing we have another season is a great feeling.”

Humboldt State has been playing football for decades. The prospect of losing the team is something the players, coaches, school and community couldn’t face. Head Coach Rob Smith has his work cut out for him this next season.

“Coaches will come and go, Presidents will come and go but this team belongs to Humboldt State,” said Smith

Keaundrey Clark and Skye Kimya may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

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Editorial

Big Brother is still watching you

Personalized ads, location tracking services and obsessive use of social media. Technology is on track to outgrow human intelligence as it continues to ingrain and spread itself throughout our increasingly globalized society. In recent years, George Orwell’s “1984” about a dystopian world of mass surveillance has become our reality. What feeds Big Brother’s insatiable desire for global brainwashing and espionage is our growing dependency on technology. The current world population of 7.6 billion is expected to grow to 9.8 billion by 2050. Consequently, the growing population ensures that there will be future consumers to continue the dependence on technol-

ogy. Overpopulation in combination with more smart phones, computers and other surveillance devices means that there will be more documentation of our private lives. Digital technologies is woven into our classrooms, offices and personal lives. We rely on it for communication, GPS and a myriad of other apps that make our lives easier. But Big Brother is tracing everything we do on these devices. Information is mined, processed and sent to ad agencies to seduce us with products we don’t need. Moreover, consumerism distracts us from the issues happening all around us every single day. A population of latent minds is exactly what Big Brother wants.

“We are governed, our minds are molded, our tastes formed, our ideas suggested, largely by men we have never heard of,” said propaganda expert Edward Bernays. This is happening without our consent and with little concern to us. Civilization is full of sheeple conforming to Big Brother’s values, agenda and desires. The future isn’t looking so bright either. Some futurists predict artificial intelligence dominating the human race. Unless tenacious, drastic and global measures are taken, we will inevitably succumb to its irresistible powers. Until then, Big Brother is still watching you.

Letter to the Editor

Universities should model accountability

The sudden retirement of HSU Athletics Director Daniel Collen raises unanswered questions of accountability. How did administrative oversight fail to anticipate and mitigate Athletics’ budget crisis threatening the football program? Did Mr. Collen’s political campaign and election to the Northern Humboldt School District Board interfere with directing the athletics department? Did Mr. Collen hold appropriate academic credentials for a top university post? (Does his replacement?). Did Collen negotiate a secret settlement to immediately retire after facing lawsuits alleging misappropriation of donations for his fishing trips to Ketchikan, Alaska with two other HSU executives; or, the lawsuit by long-term HSU athletics employee Dan Pambianco alleging he was demoted for exposing Collen’s extravagant university-funded travel; or, Collen’s termination of 25-year track coach Dave Wells resulting in a \$250,000 settlement? Apparently, no reforms were enacted since the infamous \$15 million fraud committed by HSU executive John Sterns in 2001, and the secret settlement from the class-action lawsuit filed by Education Department professors. Following these scandals, former HSU President Alistair McCrone negotiated a retirement settlement by accepting a temporary “consultant” position at his full president’s salary. Sterns’ immediate supervisor, Vice President Don Christensen, became a university administrator in Oregon. (CSU auditors concluded that HSU’s fearful workplace en-

abled Stern’s financial fraud and embezzlement to continue for 3 years!). Humboldt County has extraordinary recreational resources: rivers, forests, shoreline, parks, trails, lagoons, harbor and wetlands, yet, McCrone and former HSU president Rollin Richmond authorized hundreds of millions of dollars over 2 decades on new and remodeled facilities for recreation, leisure, entertainment and sports, requiring more staff, faculty, management and maintenance while simultaneously cutting academics. Expanded leisure activities attracted wealthier students despite high participation fees... until a declining economy persuaded families to rediscover the value of academics closer to home, leaving HSU today with fewer students and a fully funded “resort.” Divesting in HSU academics produced overcrowded classrooms; elimination of numerous courses and entire degrees in nursing, industrial technology and German language; early retirement of the most experienced professors; the highest athletics fees in the CSU system; and three decades of relentless tuition increases culminating in debilitating debt for graduates. HSU’s high-security “campus resort” with pretentious locked-gate housing, rock climbing walls and library lattes are the LAST things needed by hundreds of homeless students (and thousands more working-class) who rely on administrative leadership to focus on relevant academic resources required to succeed. The public deserved to hear

responses to unasked questions of accountability from Collen, Richmond, McCrone, Christensen and many others. Prioritizing accessible academics over a class-centered resort is essential in preparing graduates for the looming realities of environmental, economic and social crises from climate change and perpetual wars for foreign oil, minerals and oppressed labor. Achieving carbon reduction and full employment from a green, U.S.-made economy would require prerequisites in urban planning and social, political, economic and environmental activism tailored to every degree. These include prerequisites in citizenship, labor history, contract law, diplomacy and negotiation that are fundamental in developing confidence and assertiveness within student’s chosen career; in demanding accountability at work, school, community and personal relationships, or in signing countless contracts for housing, employment, transportation, credit cards and healthcare. Accountability at HSU requires transparency. For example, administrator’s academic credentials, compensation and pensions are not being reported. In fact, HSU cancelled publication of its annual directory listing everyone working on campus and their titles. Incompetence, nepotism, favoritism, fraud and corruption, like mycelium, thrive in darkness and costs millions! The Bay Area firm Strategic Edge Consulting, hired by HSU last year, noted communication problems between former HSU Athletics director Collen

and other departments raising broader questions about campus leadership and professionalism. Few ironies are more astonishing than a public university led by administrators lacking advanced degrees in public administration or communication who are charged with promoting and governing “academic excellence” for teachers and students. A credible vision for academic excellence could come from administrators recruited from hundreds of adults graduating with honors on U.C. campuses each year with advanced degrees in public administration, public finance and human resources; individuals more capable in avoiding budget chaos and recurring failures to integrate due-process employment rights into personnel practices. Until then, HSU’s lack of vision and its history of unaccountable multi-million dollar scandals, lawsuits and secret settlements will continue. Without basic skills, experiences, and responsibility in demanding accountability where we live, work and learn, every community’s local government, university and media will continue to cooperate, legitimize and empower this nation’s fascist drift that Donald Trump’s reelection and “Alt-Right” policies rely on. Sincerely, George Clark HSU Liberal Arts graduate 1982, (My debt-free education met the requirement for an “accessible public education” guaranteed under the U.S. Education Act of 1965). HSU Center Accounting Technician 1979-1989

The Lumberjack

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The Lumberjack is a member of the California College Media Association. The Lumberjack is printed on recycled paper and published weekly every Wednesday during the school year. Views and contents of The Lumberjack are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of Humboldt State University. Unsigned editorials appearing in the Opinion section reflect a two-thirds majority opinion of the editorial staff. Opinions expressed in editorial content and columns are not necessarily those of Humboldt State University. Advertising material is published for informational purposes and is not considered an expressed or implied endorsement or verification of such commercial ventures of The Lumberjack, Associated Students or Humboldt State University.

WTF is net neutrality?

Why net neutrality matters

by Phil Santos

Most of us are probably asking, “what the hell is net neutrality anyway?” Here is a short breakdown of what it means and why it matters. The internet is made possible by ISPs (internet service providers) and content compa-

nies. Netflix and Hulu are content companies. In their case, the content is video. ISPs pave the road of the internet and content companies use them to truck their services across the web. Currently, ISPs treat all content providers equally. YouTube videos stream just as

fast as Hulu videos. Every content provider is bound to the same speed limit. This speed limit is the foundation of net neutrality. Net neutrality demands that all content is bound by the same speed limit. Opposers of net neutrality believe that they should be

given preferential treatment. They want the ISPs to make a private high speed toll road to deliver their content faster. The toll for these high-speed lanes will not be cheap and an increased cost at the top will result in an increased price at the bottom.

continued on thelumberjack.org

Phil Santos may be contacted at thejack@humboldt.edu

WHAT'S HAPPENING DECEMBER

Check out our online calender at thelumberjack.org! Any local events can be submitted using the calender submit tab under calender in the main menu.

Wednesday 6

HSU Downtown Movie Night "Coco" @ Minor Theatre 6-9 pm

Pints for Non Profits Planned Parenthood - music w/ The Bret Harte Breakers @ Mad River Brewing Company & Tap Room 6 pm

Thursday 7

The Humboldt Poetry Show @ The Siren's Song Tavern 7:30-10:00 pm \$5

Evening of Dance @ John Van Duzer (JVD) Theatre 7-9 pm

Friday 8

Drag Show and Workshop @ Synapsis Nova 5 pm

Arts! Arcata & Holiday Open House @ Arcata Plaza 6-9 pm

University Singers & Humboldt Chorale @ Fulkerson Recital Hall 8-9 pm

Saturday 9

Wild Weather & Extreme Adaptations @ Sequoia Park Zoo 10 am- 12 pm

HSU Jazz Orchestra @ Fulkerson Recital Hall 8 pm \$8, \$5 senior/child, Free for HSU students with ID

Sunday 10

Humboldt Symphony @ Fulkerson Recital Hall 2-3 pm

TEDxHumboldtBay 2017: Solve for WhY @ Van Duzer Theatre 12:30-4:30 pm



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