

COVID's inequitable effect on education

Why some students chose to take time off by Poppy Cartledge **SEE TIME OFF • PAGE 5**



Illustration by Sam Papavasiliou

Agriculture grant funds Blue Lake Rancheria workshops

by Ian Vargas

Last month, the Native American Agricultural fund awarded the Blue Lake Rancheria \$50,000 dollars for the operation of agriculture programs that will take place at the Daluviwi' community garden. These workshops will focus on the propagation of native plants, mostly food, and also fund a farm stall that will give those taking the workshop the chance to sell what they produce and learn valuable agricultural business skills. Some of this will be done with the assistance of HSU students working with the Food Sovereignty Lab and the Native American studies department to also gain skills and experience.

Daluviwi' means food in Wiyot, and the garden provides food for both the casino restaurant and for the elder nutrition program, which is aimed at ensuring that elders who may be stuck at home can eat properly. Aside from the individual plots that the garden will use to continue growing those foods, there is also going to be a farm stall built that the garden will not only use to sell the excess food grown that does not go to the aforementioned restaurant and elder nutrition program, but also to teach skills used in the agricultural in-

dustry. Daniel Holsapple, HSU alum and manager of the Daluviwi' garden project, hopes to also use this stall for any number of other possible goods.

"The farmstand is going to be kind of multi-purpose, on one hand, we're using it to sell excess produce that doesn't get used by the elder nutrition program or the casino restaurant, and people who use the garden plots will also have access to the farm stand," Holsapple said. "I'm hoping to do some other things like growing and selling native ornamentals or cut flowers."

The community garden workshops were also planned to have a deal with HSU for things like compost and to partner with students from HSU's Food Sovereignty lab project, which works with local native communities to study Indigenous natural resources and environmental sciences. While COVID slowed things down before anything was finalized, according to Holsapple, this would include things like having Native plants available to the Food Sovereignty Lab from the garden.

According to Cody Henrikson, an HSU student who has been working for the Food Sovereignty lab from early on, this partnership currently is taking the form of internships and assistance



Photo by Daniel Holsapple

Seedlings in the Daluviwi' community garden.

with community gardens for the Blue Lake Rancheria and other local communities until the primary workspace is finished with construction and larger scale collaboration can begin.

"We are partnering up with local tribes to support their local gardens and such," Henrikson said. "And provide internships as kind of our first phase of what we're looking at"

The steering committee for the food sovereignty lab is made up of people from the local native communities, including Blue Lake Rancherias Jason Ramos, who is himself an HSU alum. While the lab is still in the process of

getting up and running, hopes are that they will be able to help out even more with local gardens like the Daluviwi' community garden and create a space for the continued preservation of Native food ways. According to Carrie Tully, graduate student and fellow member of the steering committee, these connections will be a big part of the operation of the lab moving forward

"There's going to be lots of partnerships because our steering committee is comprised of a lot of important people and people representing important groups in the local groups," Tully said. "So the partnerships are a big thing."

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The threatened northern spotted owl struggles to survive

A local species endures fires, other owls, habitat loss, and climate change



Illustration of a northern spotted owl by Elise Fero

by Elise Fero

We are watching as the northern spotted owl rapidly declines in population. With fires, barred owl invasions, climate change, and habitat loss, this local species, protected under the Endangered Species Act, needs help.

Spatial Ecology Professor Ho Yi Wan, who has studied the northern spotted owl for many years, explained the importance of the owl in ecosystems.

“When you’re protecting the habitat of a spotted owl, you’re protecting a lot of the forested habitat which a lot of other species use,” Wan said. “It’s like an umbrella approach. When you protect one species you are also, in a way, conserving a lot of other species.”

HSU faculty member Jeff Dunk, a member of the environmental science and management department, explained why the owl originally joined the Endangered Species Act.

“It was habitat loss,” Dunk said. “There were huge rates of timber harvesting that happened from post-World War II through the 1980s. And with automation of timber mills and stuff, we just got more and more effective at harvesting trees and then we started to see a response by the owls, that is they weren’t doing as well after a while.”

But regrowing a forest takes time. “See you can get rid of it really rapidly but it takes a long time to grow back,” Dunk said.

Now, the owl suffers from climate change, fires, and an invasion of the barred owl, as well as continued habitat loss.

“It’s not like they are affecting the spotted owl by itself, no, those things

interact and potentially exacerbate whatever negative influence that each impact might have,” Wan said.

Each of those challenges are hard to battle, especially that of climate change.

“Battling climate change requires international collaboration and all countries need to be on board to battle climate change,” Wan said.

“When you protect one species you are also, in a way, conserving a lot of other species.”

-Spatial Ecology Professor
Ho Yi Wan

The invasive barred owl also provides many problems for the smaller spotted owl. According to the National Park Service, barred owls are taking over nests and food because they are the larger and more aggressive owl. They also invaded the space of the northern spotted owl when they were already suffering from habitat loss.

The National Park Service wrote on their website that they have documented many cases of barred owls moving in to spotted owl territories. Because the species are similar, they can’t always occupy the same territory. Unfortunately, the barred owl issue is quite controversial.

“There’s been some experiments of killing barred owls in some areas and not others and seeing what happens and we do see a response by the spotted owls,” Dunk said. “They survive better when the barred owls are removed and they do a little bit better.”

Dunk understands why it is a difficult topic. Some disagree with this method because it means killing one owl to save another. Either way, something has to be done.

“If we don’t do anything about barred owls the vast majority of spotted owls we have now won’t exist,” Dunk said. “And I don’t mean those individuals, I mean within their geographic range spotted owls will be functionally extinct from much of it.”

The northern spotted owl has a recovery plan. According to the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, this plan includes limiting the area where people can cut trees and take away its habitat, forest restoration, managing the barred owl, and monitoring the northern spotted owl while continuing research of it.

“One way to be a good start is to look at biodiversity and to try to help conserve the biodiversity that we have,” Wan said. “We don’t want to lose any species.”

As individuals, we share information on the species, use public outreach and social media, be careful about starting fires, and learn about the owl and other endangered and threatened species.

“We are all a part of nature, like humans are citizens of the whole ecosystem,” Wan said. “So we should be good citizens within it and as we are taking advantage and taking other resources from nature, we also have the responsibility to be a good start.”

Finding Paul

The time I lost a banana slug in my room



by Elise Fero

Before you ask, yes this is true. Let’s start at the beginning.

I went out looking for flowers and other things to forage and while I was unpacking them in my room later, I found that a baby slug had slimed its way into my basket. I moved the sweet fella to my windowsill, with intentions to move it outside in a few minutes. One accidental nap later, the slug was gone.

I searched my room in hopes that it was in one of my plants, or somewhere close to the window.

No luck.

You may be asking, Slug Girl why is this a big deal? You love slugs?

True, but I have an emotional support animal and a slug’s slime is poisonous. I needed to find it before she did.

After literal hours of looking for a slug the size of my pinky finger nail, I had lost hope.

I even named the slug Paul in case I had a new roommate.

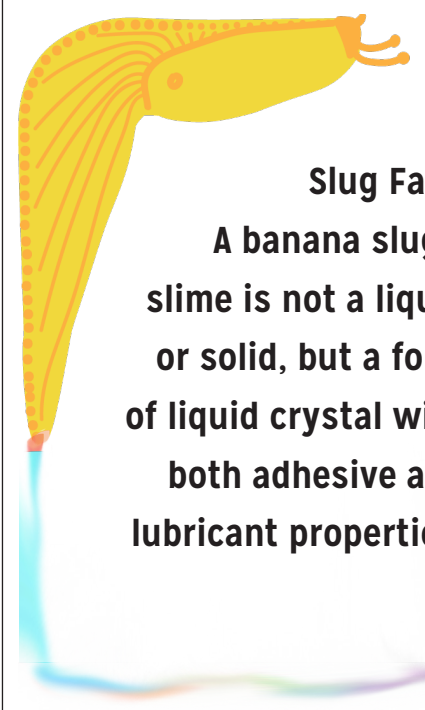
I set out some fruit, including blackberries, before bed in hopes it would lure Paul in. I even dreamed about it working. I woke up multiple times in the night, looked over at the fruit and saw nothing had changed.

I began to worry I’d go weeks without seeing Paul, living in constant anxiety that my ESA would find him and eat him.

My worry came true. It’s been nearly two weeks now and Paul has made no sign of being found. No nibbles in fruit or plants, and he definitely hasn’t been eaten by my ESA.

So where is Paul?

The world may never know.



Slug Fact:
A banana slug’s slime is not a liquid or solid, but a form of liquid crystal with both adhesive and lubricant properties.

Would you like to contribute to The Lumberjack?

There’s more going on in our community than a small group of student writers could ever hope to cover. If you’re a member of the student body we serve, you have a valuable perspective that we’d like to help you share.



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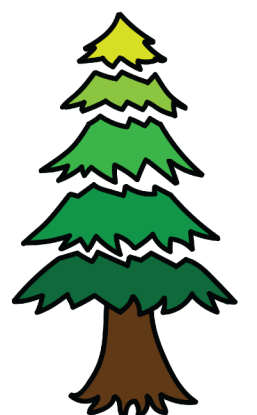
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Final speaker closes the 27th annual Social Justice Summit with talk about radical self-love

by Poppy Cartledge

On March 5, HSU students were able to tune into the final presentation of the 27th annual Social Justice Summit where Sonya Renee Taylor talked about the importance of radical self-love to undo the systems of oppression that constrict us from being our true selves.

Taylor is the author of “The Body is Not An Apology,” but spoke specifically about the second edition of the book that came out on Feb. 9, “The Body Is Not an Apology, Second Edition: The Power of Radical Self-Love.”

millions of people’s lives,” Taylor said in response to contextualizing what it means to be apart of best sellers lists.

She said that New York Times status is unimportant, but what is important is that it means that people are starting to ask better questions about what it truly means for us to live in a just, equitable and compassionate world.

Taylor believes it is essential that readers understand the necessary shift away from masculine energy, disentangling the term from gender and biology. This would move us out of a time



Portrait of Sonya Renee Taylor

Photo courtesy of HSU

“If the ladder had a top that you could actually attain, Jeff Bezos would stop making money and Elon Musk would not be trying to send cars to Mars.”

-Sonya Renee Taylor, author of “The Body is Not An Apology.”

The event opened with Q. Medina ensuring the audience that the Social Justice Summit is intended to breed conversation and provide a comforting place for students to share their personal experiences and opinions that relate to the topic of the event.

“Be open to learning then unlearning and share from experience using ‘I’ statements,” Medina said to the audience.

The presentation from Taylor started with a little background on her 10 years of experience as the founder of the digital media and education company, The Body is Not An Apology.

The content shared by the company reaches half a million people each month, as well as her recent book making it on a number of best sellers lists, including the New York Times.

“What I am seeing and what I am so grateful for is that it has touched

where the focus has been power over the individual and into a time where we question how our individuality impacts the collective.

She said that we tend to have this notion that how we choose to live does not impact anyone else. But, as COVID threw us into a virtual world last March, we saw firsthand how one chooses to use their digital space impacts those around them just as much as within their physical space.

“We are at a time where how we move inside our own beings has to shift because we need each other,” Taylor said.

She said that this particular season of life emphasized that our liberation is bound up together. How one lives in their own body opens up a greater pathway for how others live in theirs or it can continue to constrict and restrict others’ identities.

Taylor said that this practice of radical self-love does not mean solving one’s self esteem or self confidence. Rather it’s the part of us that longs for the source within us—an inherent, original relationship with ourselves and others.

To invite our inherent origin of radical self-love we must work to undo the systems of oppression that pull us away from who we have always been to begin with. We must undo the systems of hierarchy, terrorism, violence, oppression and degradation that create a ladder in society with an allusion that there is a top.

“If the ladder had a top that you could actually attain, Jeff Bezos would stop making money and Elon Musk would not be trying to send cars to Mars,” Taylor said, receiving a lot of praise in the comments.

She said that this allusion of the top

of the ladder is really just white, able bodied, relatively young men. The remainder of the ladder consists of the rest of society establishing their self worth through trying to figure out where they fit.

Taylor closed the presentation by saying that the goal of finding radical-self love within ourselves is for us all to hop off this ladder and abolish it. The ladder being the systems of oppression that we understand and organize our lives inside of our bodies and the social world.

The audience responded enthusiastically, with Tim’m West, who is teaching Hip Hop & The Black Experience at HSU this semester, personally expressing his gratitude to Taylor within the chat.

“I love the ownership of your identities and the embodiment of your truths,” West said.

HSU’s formerly incarcerated students club talks about the effects of COVID-19 in prisons

by Ian Vargas

HSU’s Formerly Incarcerated Students Club hosted a webinar on March 5 to highlight the effects of COVID-19 in prisons and ways in which those effects could be mitigated. The Formerly Incarcerated Students Club also works with Project Rebound, an organization that helps formerly incarcerated students return to life outside prison and advocates for solutions to the United States’ high prison rates.

With incarceration rates being as high as they are in the US, prisons can be a prime breeding ground for COVID-19, and often are left without much in the way of support or resources to help combat it. This lack of support can greatly endanger the lives of many people in prison who are highly vulnerable.

The state and the CDC both have implemented guidelines for ensuring that prisons remain safe, but these guidelines are often not nearly enough to ensure that people are actually secured. COVID rates in state prisons are often significantly higher than the rates seen in the state as a whole. Considering that at least 17% of inmates are over 45 and are at increased risk of severe symptoms, this lack of security can be a death sentence for people whose crimes are relatively minor.

According to Jazmin Delgado, President of the FISC and student support for Project Rebound, the responsibility for this comes primarily down to states failing to properly implement safety measures in state prisons. While prisons may test staff and inmates, only half of US states actually require prison staff to wear a mask, and most do not stock

Key Points To Take Away

- Prisons and jails were never equipped with to prevent the spread of diseases during a pandemic.
- Prisons were not made or designed with social distancing in mind.
- There are populations of people within prisons and jails that are at higher risk of contracting and dying from COVID-19.
 - These include the elderly, people with chronic diseases, and pregnant women.
- Stopping the Spread looks like safely lowering incarceration rates
 - Not putting people back in jail or prison due to technical parole or probation violations.
 - Replacing incarceration with reentry options.
- Safely release people from prisons and jails
 - With a plan to help with reentry, health care, and shelter
- VOTE!
 - Voting is always a great way to get involved

Screenshot of HSU’s Formerly Incarcerated Students Club hosted a webinar.

Screenshot taken by Ian Vargas

adequate soap and disinfectant for inmates in accordance with CDC guidelines. This comes partially from a lack of resources, but also a lack of effort.

“State facilities are either A) not implementing these guidelines,” Delgado said. “Or B) not implementing them to the fullest of their abilities.”

Ultimately, a large part of the problem is that prisons are simply not built to allow for proper social distancing and safety measures. Prisons in the US have people constantly coming in and out, both staff and inmates. Additionally, people are packed so close together that the only way for them to properly isolate themselves would be solitary confinement, which is itself deeply undesirable and discourages inmates from

revealing if they have symptoms or not. This has led to large spikes in the numbers of cases of COVID-19 in state prisons, which can become spikes in the surrounding areas when correctional staff return home later.

According to Project Rebound’s Jeremy Teitz, these guidelines are almost impossible to implement and getting harder with rising prison populations.

“How are these guidelines that are already near impossible to follow going to be followed when jail populations are increasing?” Teitz said. “Jails aren’t made for social distancing, and I’m not sure how the CDC thought jails would implement these guidelines.”

Incarceration in the US is a problem that is getting worse. Project Rebound

hopes to assist students who have served prison sentences and to advocate for solutions to this continually rising issue, such as lowering sentencing for nonviolent crimes and allowing for individuals to get their felony records expunged and reenter the workforce. In the words of Project Rebound’s Program Coordinator and HSU Graduate Tony Wallin, this is an issue that affects everyone, not just people who are currently imprisoned.

“We’re at this weird time where things have exploded and you don’t see people who aren’t affected,” Wallin said. “One in three people have a criminal record. There are the same amount of people who have criminal records as have college degrees.”

HSU administers COVID-19 vaccines for employees



Graphic by Gabe Kim

by Gabe Kim

Recently, the Pfizer vaccine has been doled out to different groups and communities around the world. Now, HSU is joining in and offering the vaccine to employees that are cleared to work on-campus and are considered higher risk.

According to Cris Koczera, interim director of Risk Management and Safety Services at HSU, an estimated 637 doses are going to be picked up and distributed to HSU staff and faculty in the coming week.

“What we get is highly dependant on what’s available through the county,” Koczera said. “We find out pretty much the Thursday before how many we’ll have to pick up the following Monday.”

For Koczera, it is pleasing to see the fruits of her and her colleague’s collective labors regarding getting the vaccine center up and running at HSU.

“It was a lot of coordination with the

county because we are functioning as a closed pod unlike a lot of the other sites throughout the county,” Koczera said. “So, our pod is really intended just for HSU staff and faculty at this time and then once we are able to open it up to the wider student population, that will be the plan.”

Among those who are eligible are student employees who work in “auxiliaries” like housing and dining services. Montel Floyd is a senior who is majoring in critical, race, and gender studies with a concentration in ethnic studies. He works for Housing as a resident advisor in the dorms and is appreciative of the fact that he and his fellow RA’s are able to receive the vaccine considering their importance to the university.

“We are the ground workers for residents right now,” Floyd said. “We have the contact with them -- daily basis, on our rounds -- and if issues arise,

we have to have contact with them -- sometimes like knocking on doors.”

Even so, Floyd is a bit skeptical of getting the vaccine due to what he has heard about what has happened to some people that have gotten it. Still, he believes that the vaccine will do more good than harm.

“I know it’s important to getting it, I have grandparents that I will be going home to soon,” Floyd said. “And also just got into grad school in Georgia and also going to be working for housing there as well, so I think it’s very important to protect myself with the vaccination.”

Rae Robison is a professor in the department of theatre, film, and dance who is going to get the vaccine on March 10. Doing so is especially important to her because her father recently passed away from COVID-19 complications and her mother tested positive for

COVID-19.

“I’m an only child,” Robison said. “He was my person. And right now, I literally just got off the phone with my mother. She’s 77 and they don’t have enough vaccines for her in Arizona.”

Her determination to get the vaccine is fueled by reasons other than the fact that her parents contracted COVID.

“My partner works for St. Joes and we are very aware that if you get it, you can get it again,” Robison said. “The longer my mom and my aunts are not immunized, the more stress I have.”

Robison is humbled by the fact that all of the staff at HSU will get vaccinated.

“Almost all of the staff and faculty and support folks and everyone that works at HSU are older, and in that bracket” Robison said. “I will feel better when the majority of us can get vaccinated.”

TIME-OFF

FROM PAGE 1

As we approach the one year anniversary of COVID-19, students around the country are reflecting on their whirlwind of a year when it comes to their education.

Humboldt State students have continuously voiced their concerns about the effects that the pandemic has had on their educational experience.

For many, the shift to online learning made retaining information difficult and brought them to feel like they weren’t getting the most out of their education. Others found the shift slightly easier, but encountered other challenges when faced with social isolation and virtual overload.

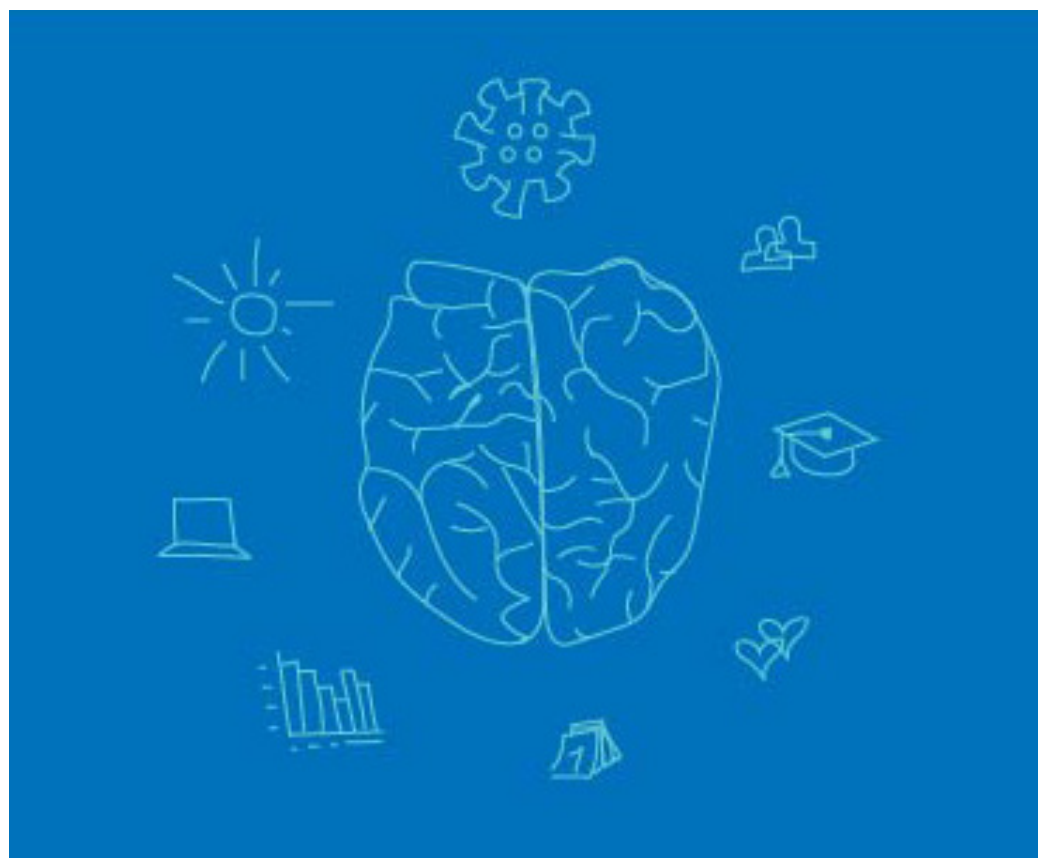
Katie Piper is graduating from HSU in May with a major in geography and a minor in geospatial analysis.

“I was considering jumping into graduate school in the fall but now I just need a break,” Piper said.

Between being tethered to the computer six out of the seven days of the week and having to Zoom into classes three of those days, Piper’s optimism about obtaining her degree has been shot down. In the face of adversity, she felt like being so close to the finish line really pushed her to stay on track to graduate.

Online learning itself has not been too challenging for Piper, but she continues to question the quality of her educational experience.

“I do not like the lack of social interaction and the fact that some days I spend 20+ hours in my bedroom, where I do all my schoolwork, sleep, and hang out,” Piper said. “Some non-students



Graphic by Poppy Cartedge

“Remote learning comes with its own unique challenges and counseling can be a supportive place to work through these challenges.”

—Elizabeth McCallion, operations coordinator and staff psychologist for counseling and psychological services at HSU

tell me that they would never be able to accomplish school under these circumstances.”

As for many other students, the virtual learning format was a far more difficult adjustment that affected their ability to even take part in many classes.

This was the case for Wren Williams, a forestry major at HSU, who struggled to keep up in many classes as school went virtual in the spring of 2020. The

online format was unable to accommodate for their learning disability and ultimately led to them falling behind fellow classmates.

“When the next semester came around, I did initially sign up for classes, but I couldn’t seem to keep up with online reading and just felt like I wasn’t learning anything in the classes that matter most to me,” Williams said.

Considering they were pursuing a degree in forestry, it was hard for them

to want to take classes about the forest while being stuck inside an apartment doing school work. While taking a break from school, Williams has been able to spend a lot of time in the forest, reminiscing about past labs and strengthening their passion for forestry.

At UC Berkeley, the Student Experience in the Research University (SERU) Consortium administered a special survey on the impact of COVID-19 on student experience at 10 US public research universities in May-July 2020. The students reported significant hardships during the COVID-19 pandemic which they believe will negatively impact their ability to complete their degrees on-time.

The survey revealed that the top obstacle to degree completion was the a distracting home environment or lack of access to an appropriate study space (52%).

Elizabeth McCallion, the operations coordinator and staff psychologist for counseling and psychological services at HSU, emphasizes the importance of utilizing resources on campus as an option to help students who are experiencing hardships when it comes to the current online nature of education.

“Remote learning comes with its own unique challenges and counseling can be a supportive place to work through these challenges,” McCallion said.

Throughout this past year, many students have found that reducing stress, decreasing isolation, and making healthier lifestyle choices have helped to improve their academics.

As we continue through the pandemic, it is essential for students to take care of themselves and to understand what is right for them.

CAPS is available for all HSU students, and for those struggling with the remote learning environment, it may be helpful to get connected: hsucaps@humboldt.edu or at 707-826-3236.

Athletics department hosts annual canned food drive

The event runs March 8-14

by Justin Celotto

Humboldt State's Student-Athlete Committee is holding their annual canned food drive. The drive began on Monday, March 8 and will continue until Sunday, March 14. All proceeds raised will be given to the HSU student food program, Oh SNAP! Macy Thomas, a sophomore volleyball player and co-president of Humboldt State's SAAC, is very happy to be able to continue the annual food drive.

"I am super excited for the CCAA SAAC conference wide food drive this year," said Thomas. "HSU's SAAC is partnering with our very own Oh SNAP! program and I think it's so awesome that we're able to keep our donations within our student community and help our own food security. And of course, getting some friendly institution wide competition in there is always fun as well."

If you wish to donate to the canned food drive held by the Student-Athlete Committee, you can visit the HSU Athletics website for more information.



Image courtesy of Andrew Russell and HSU Athletics

OPINION

Tears of teal

Woes of a sad sports fan

by Thomas Lal

Life is pain. That's a common phrase in my friend group when it comes to describing how we feel when our sports teams lose. Is this a touch on the dramatic side? Yes I would absolutely say so and I embrace that. The sports fan is not a rational human being after all. This season cheering on the San Jose Sharks has proved that much at the very least.

Every chance I get, I sit down and put on the game, only to be continuously let down by a team that is so consistently inconsistent, it somehow defies my expectations on a nightly basis. With a record of 9-11-3 the Sharks have the worst record in the West Division of the NHL and one that ranks higher than only five other teams in the entire league while still having yet to win consecutive games.

This is a team that has become far removed from success that it established since its inception in 1992. Since then, the team has made it to the playoffs 21 times in 28 seasons despite never winning a Stanley Cup title. This year appears that it will be one of the uncommon exceptions to this trend with little to no light at the end of the tunnel for a team that is struggling with long term contracts given to an aging core and a goaltending situation that will only get worse.

The epitome of these problems resides in the Sharks' own net. Martin Jones has been agonizing for management and fans alike to watch while he's on the ice for the past three seasons. Every once and a while the 31-year-old from Vancouver, BC produces flashes of brilliance that remind us how he

used to be; athletic, aggressive, and tough to beat. He holds himself well in the shootout where the Sharks have found themselves all too often this season. Jones then, however, seems to fall apart when it comes to even-strength play, giving up soft goals and generally not seeming like he has enough decisiveness to make the big save when the team needs it most.

The worst part of Jones at this point for the Silicon Valley based team might not even be his performance this season, but the fact that the inconsistent goaltender is under contract through the 2023-2024 season to the tune of \$5.75 million in salary cap space per year. The monstrosity of that contract alongside the titanic contract that belongs to Erik Karlsson who commands an \$11.5 million contract annually

could be disastrous for the organization in the future.

At the end of the day goaltending isn't the Sharks' only problem as they play in a league that favors high skill and high speed forwards with dependable and heavy-hitting defensemen while the team consistently has proven that they can't keep up with the pace of the modern game on a regular basis. Overall team defense has been lacking, and when the Sharks do manage to play solidly defensively, they struggle to find the back of the net at the other end of the rink.

Life may not all be pain, but this season most certainly has been so far and I can only hope that sometime soon I can sit down to watch a hockey game with some reasonable hope that the boys in teal will come out on top.

OPINION

This is why we can't have nice things

"A 31-year-old Florida man..."

by Joseph Nagle

As a sports fan, I was devastated a year ago when the NCAA announced it would not hold its famous March Madness tournament. Sporting events came to a halt entirely, and the NBA was forced to go to Disney World and basically hand the Lakers a championship. For months sports fans around the world have been forced to sit on their couches and watch the game on television, but we would almost all much rather be at the venue.

The night of the Super Bowl, one of the most highly anticipated sporting events in the world, a 31-year-old Florida man took to the field in an apparent attempt to be the center of attention. Reports have stated he was there to publicize for some adult website, but to name them would only be giving them the publicity they desire. I remember laughing when

I saw the fan running across my screen, I knew the internet would have a blast. However, shortly after I started to think that he might be used as an example that fans are not capable of behaving rationally if we were to be let back into sporting events. There are millions of people around the world who would have loved to sit in that guy's seat and simply enjoy the game. Any other year the stalker would have been nothing short of hilarious. However, after seeing the response to COVID-19, this stalker makes me fearful that people in positions of power will use him as proof that fans are not an essential part of a sporting event.

We have seen numerous instances of fans treating athletes as if they are not humans with real emotions. NBA fans in Salt Lake City have been caught using

racial slurs towards the athletes they are there to watch. There have been countless fights in arenas all over the world, yet there has never been a precedent for removing the fans from the sporting events. Once COVID-19 introduced a rationale for barring fans from stadiums and arenas, the powers that be began to wield the ability to punish the masses for the actions of the few. Our government has behaved as if they are autocrats. Sports have always been a release for the public, and elected officials have done their best to suck the fun out of everything.

There are a few areas in the country where fans can watch live sporting events, but what is the timeline for fans everywhere to enjoy the game with a crowd of passionate peers? I hope it happens soon, we can not continue to run

away from life as we once knew it.

I feel for all of the fans around the world patiently waiting for their chance to cheer on their favorite players and teams amongst a community of like minded individuals. Sporting events have long served as a source of community for many of us around the world, and it seems there is no argument to be made in favor of returning to what we once knew as normal. This is the United States of America. Tailgating, food, beer and friends are what make sporting events worthwhile. Unfortunately, this is also where stalkers go wild and elected politicians act like all-knowing dictators. There is a melting pot of opinions in this country, and no one is right.

I am well aware that my opinion of the stalker changed within moments and I

Choose your fighter: Netflix vs. Hulu

HSU students determine their favorite streaming service

by Brianne Beronilla

The year long, ongoing global pandemic has led many college students to find themselves spending their free time at home on streaming services.

Two of the most popular, Netflix and Hulu both have positives and negatives that appeal to a variety of people. But their appeal can become expensive especially for college students.

Netflix offers three different plans with monthly payments: Basic for \$5.99, Standard for \$13.99 and Premium for \$17.99. Prices differ based on the number of people on each account simultaneously.

Hulu offers four different subscription monthly plans, one starting at \$5.99, a no ad option for \$11.99, a live TV option for \$64.99 and a live TV option that includes no ads for \$70.00.

Despite the similarities, HSU students have strong opinions about which one they prefer.

Abby Miller is a senior and kinesiology pre-pt major who doesn't pay for cable, which makes paying \$16.99 per month for Netflix well worth it for her.

"I like Netflix more mainly because of the content that they have and what I currently have right now," Miller said.

Miller loves finding new shows and movies to watch but also loves watching classic Adam Sandler movies.

"Netflix has no ads and there are a lot of shows to watch," Miller said. "However, I was bummed when they took 'The Office' and 'Parks and Recreation' off. I have had time to explore other shows like 'New Girl' and 'Bridgerton,' and I always love classic movies."

Jordan Howery is a junior majoring in zoology. She has a strong opinion that Hulu is much better than Netflix all around. Even though Hulu has ads, she sees past that and admires the content it gives her.

"My favorite thing about Hulu is the better variety of movies and shows to watch," Howery said.

Many college students share their



Illustration by Jen Kelly

My favorite thing about Hulu is the better variety of movies and shows to watch

-Jordan Howery, zoology major

accounts with their friends in order to save money, which is what Howery does. She enjoys watching crime and mystery especially "Bones" and "Sons of Anarchy" which are both, unsurprisingly, available on Hulu.

"I'm a person who tries out a little bit of everything when it comes to movies and shows," Howery said.

Netflix has one thing that Hulu does not: no ads. Not having to watch commercials is one of the biggest advantages that Netflix has.

Macy Thomas is a junior and a busi-

ness venture management major with a minor in health education.

"Oddly, I resort to Netflix more, but not because I necessarily like it more, it's honestly just my go to," Thomas said. "It definitely gets a point for no ads/commercials. My Hulu subscription is the basic one and the ads get super old."

Being a college student with a limited budget, streaming services are often difficult to afford.

"Right now I am still freeloading off my parents' Netflix subscription but I know it's getting upwards of \$18+ a month," Thomas said. "I'd say it is worth it, but when you remember the days it was \$10 a month, it kind of sucks."

Along with Hulu, Netflix continues to raise their prices each year, but with the continued effects of the pandemic, streaming services still continue to gain popularity with all ages.

"Netflix is way more user friendly and better designed than Hulu," Thomas said. "I rely on Netflix to rewatch the show 'Grace and Frankie.' I absolutely love this show and it's one I can sit and watch to enjoy or have it on in the background and still be productive."

Learning on camera increases social anxieties

Students examine their whys in regard to whether or not they prefer Zoom cameras on or off

by Whitney Mccoy

For the past year now, we've seen hundreds of memes and TikTok videos poking fun at the bizarreness of having our cameras on for Zoom meetings and class times. Undeniably, there is a very personal aspect to our camera that makes individuals feel uncomfortable. Or maybe, for some, a little rebellious.

You know, if you're one of the many who show up with a button up shirt on top and sweats on the bottom. Or maybe you're not wearing pants at all? I think we can agree weirder things have happened at this point.

Raven Linton, a public relations major, says she doesn't feel intimidated by the camera. However, whether or not she turns her camera on or not depends on how presentable she feels.

"I typically have it off because I'm usually in my pajamas," Linton said. "It definitely feels different. However, I actually kind of like the fact that some of the online classes have this because I'm a visual learner, and to me, it feels the same in a sense of getting an 'in-person' lecture."

Though Linton feels rather comfortable either way, it's obvious some students get anxious more than others and whether or not you'll experience it or not is hard to say.

Kimberly Cossio, an environmental studies major, says she prefers to have her camera off for mostly privacy reasons. Noting a lot of the time she is doing other things like cooking or getting ready for work. She adds that for herself, Zoom can get slightly uncomfortable opposed to in-person.

"It is very different to have a camera on you at all times and it can get pretty uncomfortable, just knowing that everyone in the class can see you, rather than being in class when everyone's focus is on the professor," Cossio said. "Most times in in-person classes you can't see other students' faces but only their backside and so there is a significant difference."

Delaney Duarte, a journalism major with a minor in communication studies says she prefers to have in-person sessions because she likes feeling like she has a place to go and enjoys being able to get dressed up, go out and not just be in her pajamas for class, which is why she says she keeps her camera turned off most days.

"I tend to have my camera off," Duarte said. "Sometimes I like having my camera on if I'm put together. I personally don't get anxious though, that's not really me. I don't really get nervous on camera."

Duarte attests that keeping her cam-

era on or off doesn't have much to do with shyness, nerves or anxiety. Yet, she understands that other students may be experiencing this.

"I know a lot of students get anxious though so I'm not saying everyone is like me," Duarte said. "But I do know a lot of students don't want people seeing their background and where they're at. It's your personal space and you're showing it to everyone so they might be anxious with that."

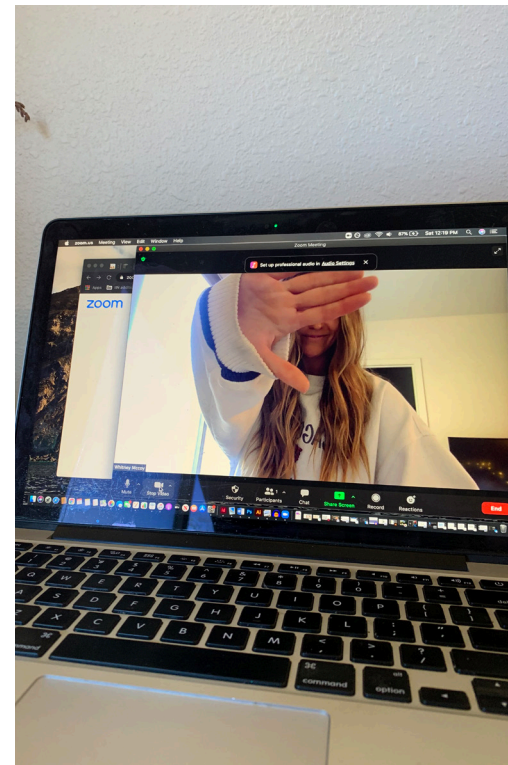


Photo by Whitney Mccoy

Author Whitney Mccoy poses for a photo in Zoom

Ask Evergreen

Quarantine Quandary

Dear Evergreen, What should I do if I have to quarantine for two weeks?

This is no one's ideal situation. Whether you're already infected or think you might be, the 14-day quarantine is an anxiety-inducing time. You can take steps to stay safe by following CDC guidelines. Stay away from people, even others living inside your own home. Monitor your own health, making sure to call the hospitals if you have trouble breathing or a fever above 100.4° F. Be sure to get plenty of fluids and rest.

The most important thing to do in this situation is take care of your health. While avoiding contact and checking for symptoms should be at the top of your to-do list, you have to make sure not to neglect your mental health. Spend time with your friends! There's plenty of ways to enjoy their company from afar. Texting, calling, Zoom and FaceTime aren't the only options. Multiplayer video games are always a good choice, as is putting on a video to share on sites such as Watch2gether, Teleparty, or Squad. And of course, there's always the classic bonding activity of getting on a Discord call and discussing your childhood traumas. Yes, you're isolated, but you don't have to be lonely. Your support system is more important now than ever.

You can also use this time to get started on your list of television shows you meant to get into but didn't. While all your comfort sitcoms are available on streaming services like Netflix, Disney+, and Hulu, there's some seriously underrated originals out there if you're willing to explore. Netflix's Everything Sucks! is a coming of age dramedy that deserves a place alongside Freaks and Geeks and Firefly in the ranks of great shows gone too soon. HBO Max's Infinity Train is a surrealist cartoon that feels kind of like going to therapy, assuming your therapist's building is full of monsters, robots, and talking dogs. Sure, there's a lot of trash among streaming services, but when there's a hidden gem it's worth it.

I know we're all sick of that one friend who picked up piano or wrote a novel or something over quarantine, but the truth is it's a great time to work on your hobby or pick up a new one. Odds are you have at least one thing you meant to learn but didn't. This is your chance to put all those unused paints or unjuggled juggling pins you have collecting dust to work. The bright side of being alone is that no one can see your failed efforts and embarrassing moments. Whatever mispronunciations you made in your Spanish lessons are between you and the Duolingo owl.

Total isolation sucks. It's stressful, it's understimulating, you're alone with your own thoughts – yikes. If you need help, don't be afraid to reach out to a friend or student resources such as CAPS. You may be literally by yourself, but figuratively speaking you aren't alone.



Send questions to:
contactthejack@gmail.com

OPINION

“Judas and the Black Messiah” delivers powerful message

Golden Globe nominated film “Judas and the Black Messiah,” can be simply described as a cinematic masterpiece



Photo by Warner Bros

by Skylar Gaven

“With *Judas and the Black Messiah*,” director Shaka King produces the thrilling true story about the radical Illinois Black Panther chairman Fred Hampton and FBI informant William O’Neal. From beautifully shot scenes to the stunning performances of Daniel Kaluuya (Hampton), LaKeith Stanfield (O’Neal), Dominique Fishback as Hampton’s supporting partner, Deborah Johnson, and many more; this exhilarating motion picture left me paralyzed for half an hour trying to process it all. This film carries you along an emotional rollercoaster of hope, love, anger, and utter disappointment with O’Neal’s betrayal that ultimately led to the late Hampton’s tragic end.

Watching the trailer I knew this was going to be an intense film, but I was not prepared to be as angry and upset as watching the entire film made me. I was familiar with the story of Fred Hampton; a promising leader succeeding in creating a “Rainbow Coalition,” facing a common enemy of brutal police presence in their communities as well as the systemic oppression brought upon by America’s government.

It crushed my soul knowing what was going to happen as the film approached its climax after witnessing how caring, wholesome, and powerful of a person he was. Someone so inspiring and generating a genuine difference was met with an unjust death due to racism and overall inhumane acts of

the FBI. I even shed a few tears in the end.

The cause of Hampton’s death is no secret, in fact the FBI admitted to his inhumane murder that took place in 1969 -- gunned down in a police raid, sleeping in his own home. Even though we know the tragic story of Hampton, the story this film presents will inspire you to believe there must have been a better outcome for the charismatic and sensational leader.

Something that stuck to me was the overall conflicting feelings that the young FBI informant O’Neal had when he became a part of the organization. You can honestly see a young man fighting with himself on whether he is making the right decision or not.

After being welcomed into this party by Hampton, you can truly see that O’Neal is believing that he too is helping with the revolution that Hampton is so determined to make happen; that he believes in the cause that the Black Panthers stand behind.

In the late 60s, The Black Panthers were deemed as “The greatest threat to the internal security of the country,” according to the FBI director at the time, J. Edgar Hoover who was portrayed in the film by Martin Sheen. The BPP has always been criticized as a terrorist, militant group. Though they promoted open carry, they used this to spread awareness to Black citizens that are constantly threatened with police brutality, have the right to act in self defense. The BPP was a political organization that also provided free after school meals for children, medical funds and education for their neighborhoods, and advocated for class struggle no matter the race.

Hampton wanted to advocate for all those who were affected due to government corruption and injustice. Hampton’s radical Socialist views on how we can create a better future encouraged many to stand alongside him. When he died, Hampton was in the midst of building a revolution against a racist and classist government, helping people understand that no matter what walk of life you come from, you have the power to come together and make an earth shattering change.

This film represented the true African American experience in the 1960s. “*Judas and the Black Messiah*,” showed what could have been and what could still be, as long as there are people willing to fight for change. Throughout this film, Hampton reiterates that “Where there are people, there is power,” much like the voices that have been echoing the words “Black lives matter,” for years. We all must remember that we have power in our voices, we are able to make change happen, and in the words of Chairman Hampton and supporting organizations of a once promising coalition... “I am a revolutionary!”

OPINION

The case for a self-determined education

An alternative to a major-based university education

by Dobby Morse

The more time I spend here, the more frustrated I become with the university that I sort of chose to go to.

In response to the administration’s mismanagement of funds, they have chosen to merge small departments of similar goals within the College or Arts and Humanities & Social Sciences in order to consolidate funds. These mergers are happening while HSU undergoes assessment to become a polytechnic university, which would further emphasize STEM above the humanities. This hurts all students.

STEM majors may easily get the idea that they don’t need to develop communication skills, hurting their chances of conveying what their research means. Humanities majors will have a harder time receiving a decent education as their programs shrink to accommodate STEM, potentially encouraging them to leave or not enroll in the first place. Undeclared majors may feel pressured to choose one based on the resources available to them, rather than what excites them.

As an alternative I propose we

abolish the major system entirely. Hear me out.

How many interesting classes have you enjoyed that didn’t count towards your requirements? And how many classes did you consider taking, only to realize that you can’t fit them in and graduate on time? Now what if any and all classes counted towards your degree?

Here’s what I propose. We stop using set lists of classes, and allow students to explore several fields. Any class where a student learns something new should count towards their graduation requirements. Taking preselected major classes limits student adaptability.

The Bureau Of Labor Statistics shows that Americans will have an average of 12 jobs in their lifetime, and only 27% of college graduates work in a field related to their degree. So why major?

In theory, a single discipline allows you to develop skills that will enable you to be successful in your chosen career. But your career will likely shift

away from your degree the longer you are in the workforce. Exploring several fields in college will give you more versatility as you change careers later in life.

While we do need writers who can write, and programmers who can code, we also need to recognize that all types of careers are interconnected. A writer one year may be a filmmaker the next, and may enter a completely different profession the following year.

In modern times, everyone needs a comprehensive understanding of writing, anti-racism, science, especially as it relates to the ecosystem. A handful of GE classes won’t cut it. Forcing students to take classes they know will not help them in the future is unethical. Let us choose from any and all disciplines. Allow us to explore and develop a range of skills and knowledge.

More broadly, consider the real harm created by a specialized education that doesn’t acknowledge the need to question racial or other stereotypical biases. A 2016 study showed that 76% of white med students hold at least one false

racist belief, including thicker skin, stronger immune systems and a higher pain tolerance than white patients. Two-thirds of women lawyers report sexual harassment by their male peers, and that number is higher for women of color. Stated plainly, a high-level degree does not translate well-educated.

Everyone needs a holistic education that allows them to question all aspects of life and build transferable skills. We need scientists who can convey research in an understandable way, teachers who are both experts in their fields and can connect and communicate with students. (Math teachers, I’m looking at you.)

There are standards to be upheld. The graduation proficiency exam could incorporate ways to test people on the qualifications of the field they’re about to enter, ensuring that their courses were chosen with a goal in mind. But we should also acknowledge that most specialized careers require grad school or on-site training.

We don’t need to major. We need to learn, explore, and better ourselves.