

# BURNED OUT STUDENTS SEEK SECOND SPRING BREAK

HSU students start to feel the effects of this year’s early “spring” break

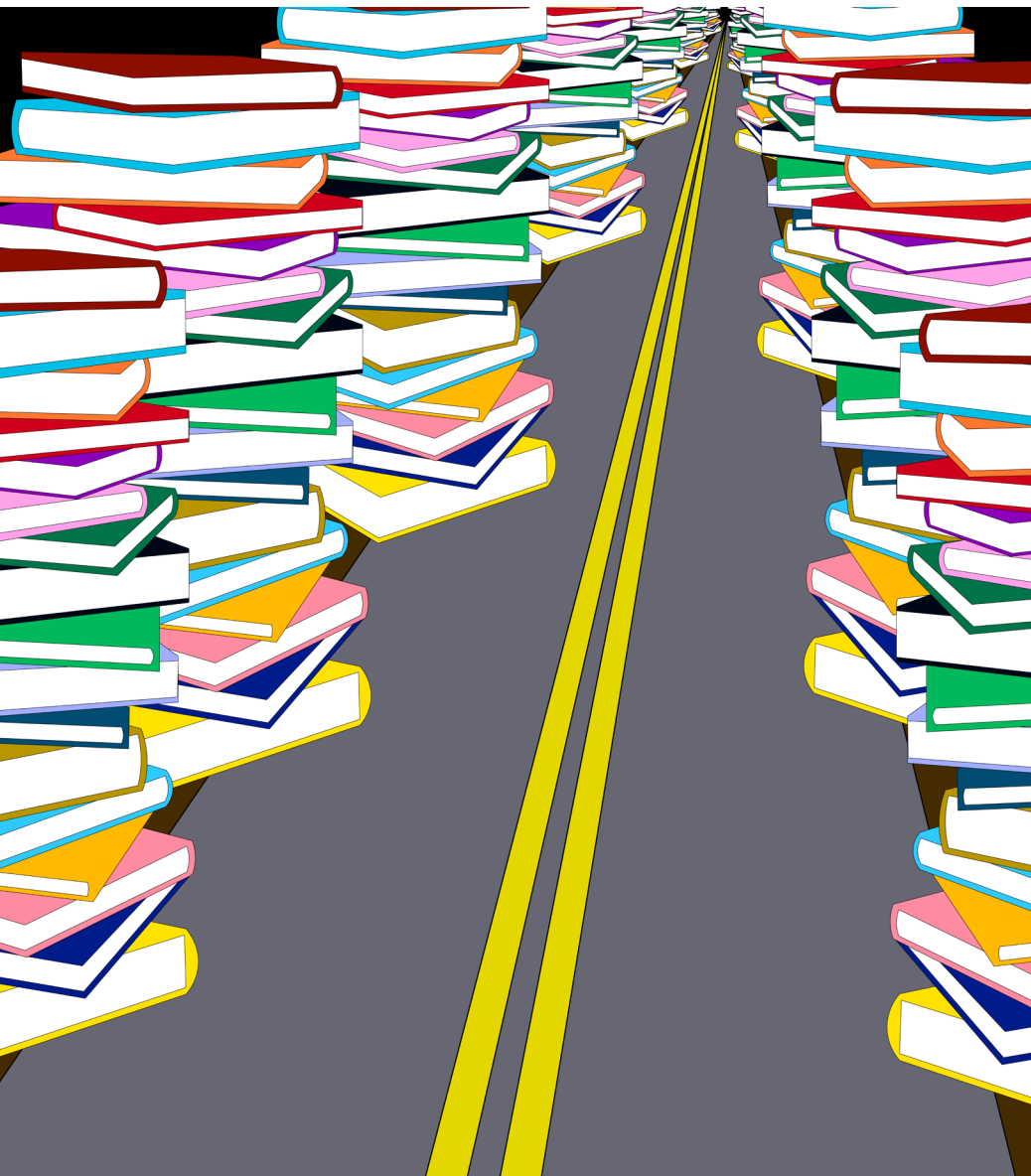
by Poppy Cartledge  
SEE BREAK • PAGE 4



Graphic by Jen Kelly and Sam Papavasiliou

## HSU bookstore to be moved off-campus

*Humboldt State’s bookstore is getting relocated to Pacific Outfitters’ former location*



Graphic by Dakota Cox

by Gabe Kim

It’s five minutes until your class starts in Founder’s Hall. You have a big test that you forgot a scantron for and you are rushing. But then you remember -- the HSU bookstore is right on the way to Founder’s Hall and carries scantrons, among other things.

But then you wake up and realize it was all a dream and the bookstore is nowhere to be found on campus. It is fall of 2021 and you, like many other students, are left without a centralized location to grab school supplies and attire. Come July, this will be the reality for Humboldt State. The university has been cleared to move its bookstore to a new location adjacent to the Arcata Plaza.

Anisa Benamira-Dod is a student frustrated with the decision to move the bookstore off-campus. A junior communication major, she is concerned that the bookstore’s on-campus absence will impact students in more ways than one. More specifically, she is concerned that students will not be able to access the bookstore as easily due to its vicinity.

“I know a lot of people that don’t have cars. And so walking from Creekview all the way down to Arcata -- the Arcata Plaza -- it would just make it a day trip,” Benamira-Dod said. “Not many people would want to go to the

bookstore just for like a few books or something like that if they don’t have a car.”

While it is great to appeal to the off-campus community, Benamira-Dod feels that a separation will occur.

“It’s starting to create a distance between like people who live on campus and people who live off campus,” Benamira-Dod said.

Aaron Ostrom is the founder and co-owner of Pacific Outfitters, a retail chain in Humboldt County with locations in Arcata, Eureka, and Ukiah. The Arcata location will be the future home of the HSU bookstore. For him, it wasn’t sustainable to continue on with his Arcata store due to a number of factors.

When COVID shut everything down last year, Arcata, in his words, turned into a “ghost town.” It wasn’t just the town itself that got shut down. Shipping and manufacturing also got shut down and that really threw a wrench into everything. Faced with this adversity, Ostrom decided that he could turn his Arcata branch into a warehouse for the other two stores that were deemed essential, unlike the Arcata location.

But then the Arcata store ran out of merchandise. Between that and Humboldt State limiting the number of students on campus, things were not

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# EPD faces fire for vulgar texts

*Humboldt County citizens rallied outside the courthouse to call for the firing of Eureka Police officers who sent vulgar, violent text messages*

Photos and story by Elliott Portillo

Approximately 50 community members gathered outside the Humboldt County Courthouse to protest against members of the Eureka Police Department, after a recent *Sacramento Bee* article revealed a series of misogynistic, demeaning and vulgar text messages sent among six officers in a group chat. Two of the officers are currently on paid leave.

Community members are advocating for a harsher penalty for the officers involved, including firings for the two who sent messages in the group, identified as Sgt. Rodrigo Reyna-Sanchez and officer Mark Mef-tah. The group contained texts which jokingly called for officers to “face shoot” a suspect among other violence laced exchanges. It also contained multiple sexist and misogynist undertones.

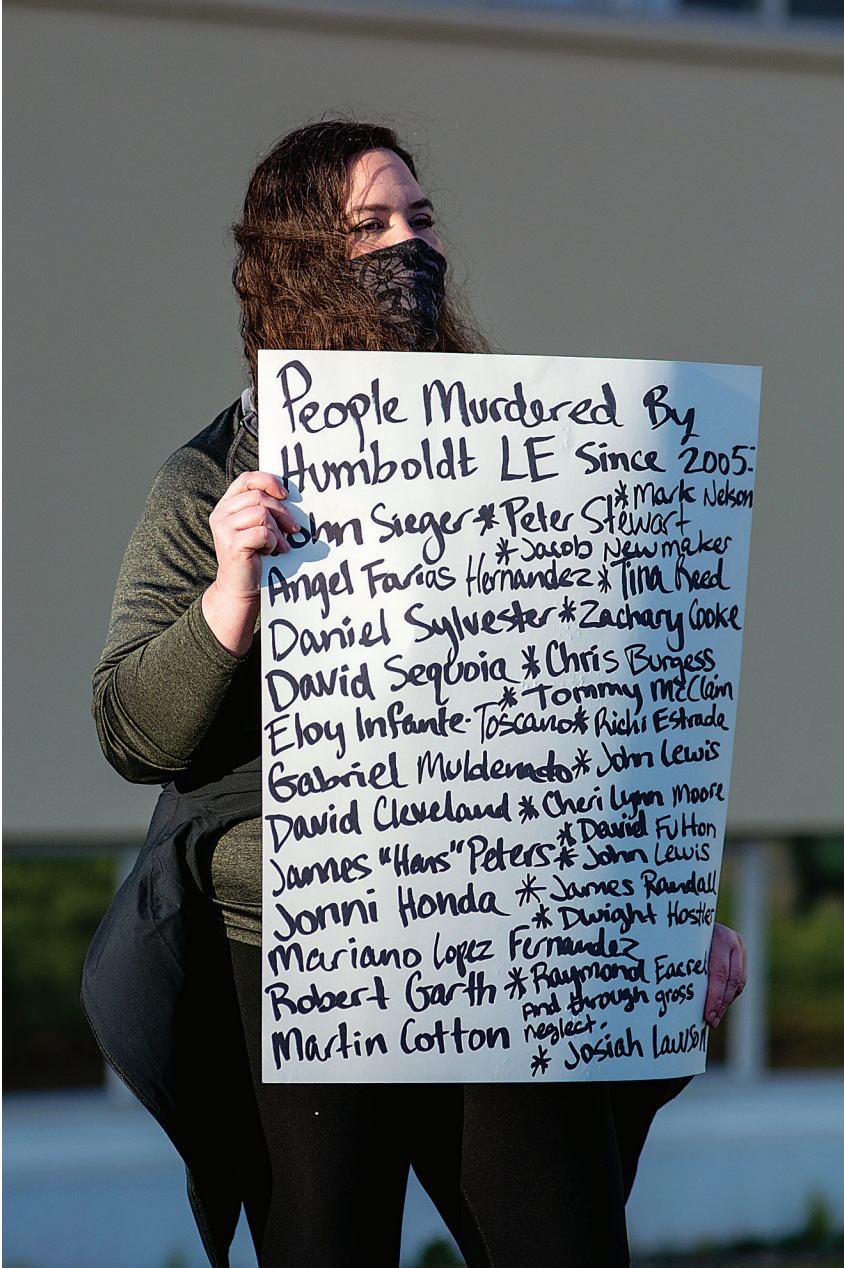
An outside investigator has been brought in to conduct an investigation.



A protestor holds up a sign stating “fire the squad” outside the Humboldt County Courthouse during a protest against members of the Eureka Police Department on Friday, March 19. Two members of the squad were put on paid leave after texts were leaked from a group chat depicting vulgar and violent language.



Yahmo Ahqa addresses the crowd via megaphone outside of the Humboldt County Courthouse during a protest against members of the Eureka Police Department on Friday, March 19.



A protestor holds a sign listing “people murdered by Humboldt LE since 2005” outside the Humboldt County Courthouse during a protest against members of the Eureka Police Department on Friday, March 19.



Protestors gather outside the Humboldt County Courthouse to protest the Eureka Police Department on Friday, March 19.



Signs calling for the firing of officers from the Eureka Police Department face traffic outside the Humboldt County Courthouse on Friday, March 19.



Toopher Boyd, right, and his fiancée Cassandra Chastain, left, of Rio Dell hold signs calling for the Abolishment of the Eureka Police Department at a protest against the department outside of the Humboldt County Courthouse on Friday, March 19.



Two protestors hold hands outside of the Humboldt County Courthouse during a protest against members of the Eureka Police Department on Friday, March 19.

# Wildlife students disappointed by online learning

*Students feel unprepared to begin their careers*

by Gabe Kim

Wildlife and forestry are some of the most prestigious programs at Humboldt State. Many students are attracted to them because of the opportunities that are offered. For decades, these students have been able to get the whole experience of being out in nature and interacting with their colleagues both in and out of the classroom.

But then came the coronavirus pandemic – everything got shut down and things have not returned to normal quite yet, at least not for the wildlife department. And so with this, many wildlife students at HSU are frustrated with the lack of in-person interaction they are receiving unlike the forestry department, which is conducting more classes and labs face-to-face.

Kylie Berger is a senior wildlife major. She, like many of her wildlife peers, is disappointed with how her department is approaching the pandemic when it comes to how many courses are being offered in-person. “With us not being in person, we are lacking a bunch of in-field skills that we should be able to have before actually being out in the field,” Berger said. “For example, with my 311 class – it was wildlife management and techniques last semester – and that class was mainly supposed to be going out in the field and setting up different traps like wildlife traps like Sherman traps and using telemetry. Just all these important field methods and we just watched videos.”

With this, Berger does not feel prepared for her future career and believes that she is not alone in feeling this way.

“It’s like if I were to be hired, that someone were to say like ‘Oh yeah like have you used Sherman traps



Photo courtesy of Humboldt State University

like we’re going to be doing this’ like I wouldn’t know how to do it because I’ve only watched the video.”

Daniel Barton is a professor and the department chair of the wildlife program. He explained the reasoning behind other programs like forestry and environmental engineering having more hands-on activities. In essence, they have no other choice but to offer face-to-face courses.

“They’re accredited by some outside entity to award a degree in that area,” Barton said.

Dale Oliver, dean of the college of

natural resources and sciences, pointed to a few key reasons why the wildlife program was restricted, including limited capacity in classrooms and some students already having gone back home to finish their degrees.

“One of the biggest challenges is the low capacities that we’re allowed

tirely, virtual semester. Looking back on it now, they both wish that they could have known that the numbers were going to decrease dramatically in the spring. Barton recognizes the students’ concerns with not being in person.

“Every day I get up and I go ‘Man,

**“With us not being in person, we are lacking a bunch of in-field skills that we should be able to have before actually being out in the field.”**

-Kylie Berger



Photo courtesy of Humboldt State University

in our teaching spaces,” Oliver said. “You have a lab that’s got 24 students enrolled and you can only get seven or eight in the lab according to COVID guidelines so that is a little bit of trouble.”

Given the extremely high COVID numbers in the United States, Oliver and his colleagues including Barton had to plan on a mainly, if not en-

when can we get back to a more normal instruction?” Barton said.

Berger is appreciative of how supportive the faculty in her department have been in getting her through the pandemic.

“Despite all the craziness and everything you know we’re all in this together and we’re all trying to adapt,” Berger said.

## BREAK FROM PAGE 1

Although talk has circulated across campus via social media within the past week about a second spring break, Humboldt State officials say that it’s not possible without jeopardizing student learning outcomes.

“Back in December, the university announced changes to the spring schedule,” Grant Scott-Goforth, the communications specialist for the university, said. “We know it’s caused some frustration, but HSU continues to have to make changes to the ever-changing environment of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

This year’s spring break took place

during the week of Feb. 22-26, only a month into the semester. Scott-Goforth said that the difficult decision was to help adapt to requirements from the California Governor’s Office and the CSU Chancellor’s Office amid the regional “stay at home” order announced in December.

HSU students just entered the second half of the semester and they feel concerned about the productivity of the remainder of the semester.

After feeling burnt out already with only Caesar Chavez Day to look forward to, students are hoping for some sort of help from the school or their professors.

Ali Holen is graduating from HSU in May with a bachelor’s in kinesiology and a minor in pre-physical therapy and dance studies. She feels as though some sort of help to alleviate some pressure off of workload would

allow for many students to get their footing and finish off the semester strong.

“The motivation is little to none and the assignments/exams just keep coming,” Holen said.

For Spring Break, Holen traveled to Santa Barbara with her boyfriend. Although they both worked hard to get all their assigned material done beforehand, they ended up spending more time on school during the break than they had previously expected.

The earliness of the break ended up taking a toll on Holen and she is not the only one who feels this way. Both her roommates and coworkers who are students all have similar feelings where they feel like they can’t catch their breath.

Within the past week, students across campus made it known that they are beginning to feel the bur-

den of this long spring semester. In response, some faculty members understand that a second spring break is not possible, but are offering an informal break to allow students to catch up.

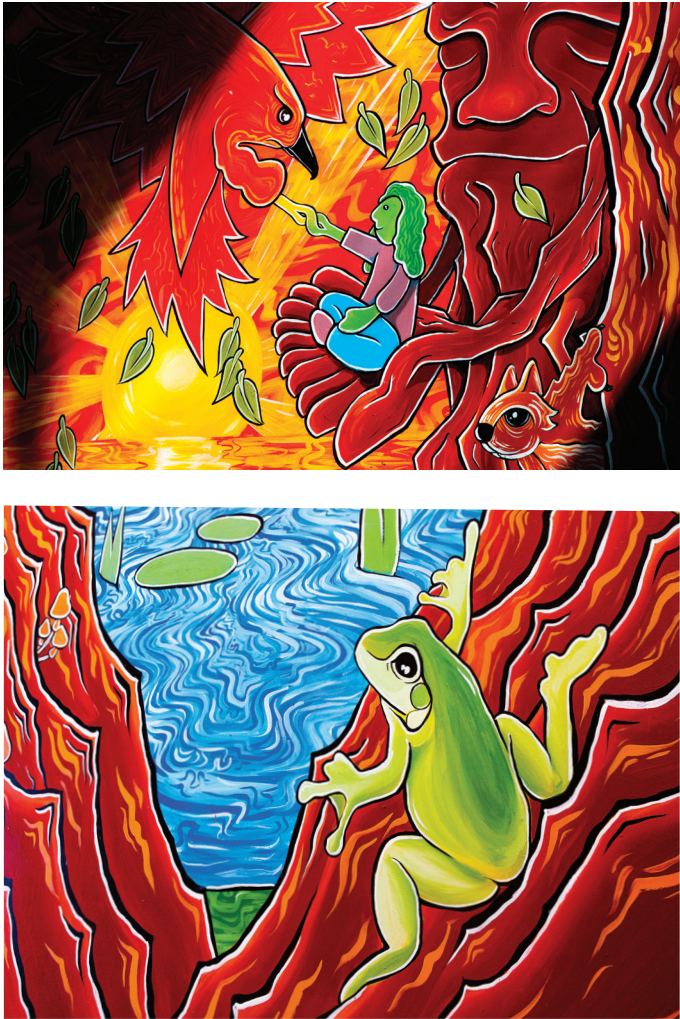
During the week of Mar.29 to April 2, Marcy Burstiner, a professor in the journalism department at HSU, is not eliminating any assignments, but rather giving students the option to do them for extra credit. It will ensure that students who can do the work don’t feel cheated out of learning opportunities.

“Those who feel overwhelmed can skip them and then those who are worried about having fallen behind can make up some work and gain extra credit,” Burstiner said.

There are seven weeks until finals week and the end of the Spring 2021 semester for HSU students.

# Student-made mural makes debut

*A student run art contest has placed a new mural in the Natural Resources and Science building*



Vincenzo Alatorre's painting "The Merge" hangs inside the Natural Resources Building on campus in the stairwell as afternoon sunlight falls over it from the window above. on March 23. Alatorre was selected as the winner of a contest to have thier work featured that was organized between HSU students as well as the natural resources department and the art department. | Photos by Thomas Lal

by Ian Vargas

The Natural Resources building is sporting a new mural, ready for the return to in person classes coming next semester. The new painting was the result of a campus wide contest put on by HSU students and came with a \$1,000 reward for the winning artist. The contest was held last month, and had artists from all over the campus sending in art pieces with the hopes of sprucing up the spaces that students spend the class time in.

The winner of the mural contests was a piece titled "The Merge" by studio arts major Vincenzo Alatorre. Alatorre's painting features a woman sitting in the palms of a tree and conferring with an eagle, over a large pond. The piece symbolizes finding sanctuary in nature and the natural processes of the earth. According to Alatorre, he

heard of the mural contest like many other, through the call put out over Instagram.

"I found out about it over Instagram and the prompts really resonated with me," Alatorre said. "And the opportunity to get my art on campus and get seen caught my attention."

This piece was the culmination of a several month long process started by HSU graduate Allison Muench, who came up with the idea of holding an art contest after looking at the spaces she was working in during class. Muench went forward with the plan to get some new student made artwork put up by collaborating with several members of the faculty, such as dean of the natural resources and sciences department Dale Oliver, and putting the call out to bring in as many students as possible to submit art and vote for the winner.

According to Oliver, the work to a large degree was the result of cooperation between a wide group of different departments at the school.

"There's a public art committee on campus, and they were just starting up. the purpose of that committee was to oversee all public art requests," Oliver said. "They haven't formed completely so what we did was we reached out to the chair, James Laughlin with the art department. Together we decided how this could go forward to get university blessing."

Muench initially wanted to run a contest because she thought that spaces on campus could use some more work, and that it could be a great opportunity to get students involved. After getting the school on board, Muench put out the word over Instagram and via word of mouth to as many students as possi-

ble, with prompts like finding sanctuary in nature and being both lost and found in the natural world. From that came 18 submissions from students in various different parts of the campus.

From there, Muench put out a poll for people to vote for their top three favorite pieces. Muench hopes that projects like this will both set a precedent for further opportunities to allow student artists to showcase their work on campus, and to encourage students to look at the buildings their working in and consider how they could be made more vibrant and interesting. While this was the only one approved for now, Muench hopes there is potential for more art in the future.

"I think if students are interested in repeating this process there is potential for it," Muench said. "Personally I'm hoping to get one more up."

## BOOKSTORE

FROM PAGE 1

looking good.

"It was hard to really justify investing in a bunch of inventory to fill a store back up," Ostrom said. "I gotta pay the bill for all those goods in like 60 days after making that investment."

When HSU came knocking inquiring about the vacant space, Ostrom answered the call with open arms. Now Humboldt State will rent the former Pacific Outfitters location from the local chain. Ostrom is glad to have a local institution taking the place of his old store and feels that there are economic benefits to be gained for both sides in this deal.

"Every single day, we would get people asking about HSU gear and HSU students, of course, showing up, HSU students bring their families," Ostrom said. "So, I think having a bookstore in town will be great for HSU merchandise that they want to sell."

Todd Larsen is the director of housing operations and one of the main individuals involved in the bookstore's relocation to downtown Arcata. From his perspective, there are a few key reasons behind the shift.

"Students have been asking us for more student activity space, student lounge space, and creating a student center which we don't have, as you know, on campus," Larsen said. "It's giving the bookstore more accessibility. Two-thirds of our students live off campus and also parking -- people that come to campus here they can't

even get to the bookstore right in a normal year there's no parking."

Larsen and his team plan to turn the bookstore's old space into a recreational space.

"We're looking at an opportunity to

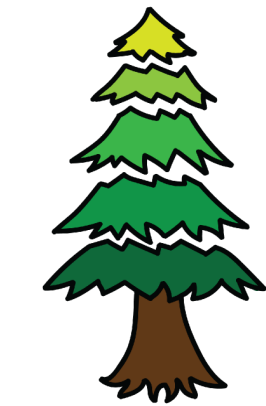
maybe bring in Stars restaurant in the old Windows space," Larsen said. "And really just providing a lot of fun and a central place on campus where students can go. And we don't have that now and it's hurting us."



Photo by Gabe Kim  
The planned destination for the new HSU bookstore in downtown Arcata.

## 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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### Step 3: Publish!

When your work is ready we can finally publish. Depending on your idea, it could end up here in this paper, on our website, or both!



# NCAA Sports begin, but not clubs

by Justin Celotto

Right now I am physically at my best shape as an athlete. But every Saturday instead of putting on my cleats to go out and try to prove myself good enough to play professionally, I am going on walks for 80 minutes to keep my mind off of the idea of even touching a ball.

Most NCAA sports began for Humboldt State around the beginning of March this semester. Yes, it's great that NCAA sports are beginning again. As a rugby player, however, that does not mean much. Rugby is not a part of the NCAA. This means that most rugby programs at universities, including Humboldt State Rugby, are regulated under club sports and not collegiate sports. Currently, club sports are not allowed to play until the chancellor approves. And even after that, who knows when collegiate rugby – a physical sport – will be able to return.

Envision going from playing your sport 24/7 because you want to become one of the best at it to not even knowing when you will play again. I can go to the gyms that have just opened, but it is not the same as going and playing a sport with my teammates.

Yes, the argument could be made that rugby is too physical, but why then are basketball and high school football playing, but club baseball not? Will club sports be back within the next year? Why can we not play when other teams are playing? All these questions start to wear on an athlete and their mental state.

For myself and my teammates, it becomes hard to go to class or even do classwork because there is nothing to look forward to. What is the point of even going to Zoom classes when, for



The HSU Men's Rugby Team battle it out in a scrum against CSUMB on the way to a 24-22 victory at home on Feb. 9, 2019.

Photo by Thomas Lal

some of us, the reason we came to this school was to play a sport even if it is just a club?

Competitive club sports are expected to root for the teams that are playing while also being told by others that their time will come. As the sports news editor I am expected to write about how HSU Basketball played Fresno or how HSU Track and Field had a very good show out at a meet in Oregon.

All of this is hard to write about when the rugby player side of me is told that collegiate rugby may not return for another year. It becomes hard to love sports when you cannot play the sport

you love.

I had always thought of depression as something that was too distant. Something that would never happen to me. But as I have learned that is not the case. It never came to me that I was depressed until around a month ago when sports started to open again. You see, in the beginning I could tell myself that all other athletes are going through the same things. But now as I write articles on other sports playing, I cannot keep telling myself that is the case.

Rugby and other club sports should be able and need to be able to compete again. Even if it were just for in team

scrimmages, student athletes need their breaks from the screen. Student athletes need the ability to go and play their sports competitively. I understand that we still need approval from the chancellor of the CSU system, but you're telling me it has been almost 375 days since COVID-19 shut down and he still does not have a plan to allow competitive clubs to play again?

To all the athletes who have to watch others compete and play in their sports, you're not alone. We all had to retire in our teens and early 20's, we are just waiting a little longer for our Jordan comeback.



MEN'S  
SOCCER

HUMBOLDT STATE VS. DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

MARCH 21

GOALS BY HALF	1	2	FINAL
HUMBOLDT	1	2	3
DOMINICAN	1	0	1

TIME	TEAM	SCORER
21:58	DCU	Brian Sanchez
26:54	HSU	Marco Silveira
67:43	HSU	Thomas Augee
74:08	HDU	Gou Nitta

# Influencer geotagging is becoming detrimental

## Floods of tourism are causing problems in small communities

by Whitney Mccoy

Growing up in a resort town with high rates of attraction, I have witnessed over the last ten or so years how social media has affected our town. This summer especially, the volume of tourism was out of control. Given the pandemic, parks, campgrounds and recreational facilities were closed. Many saw this as an opportunity to camp wherever they desired. Often in areas specifically closed off for parking and overnight camping. None of this stopped the weekend-warrior, city crowds, however, from adventuring up north and all over. Nor did they respect the land either by packing out what they packed in. Leaving our town littered with other people’s trash and even feces — as public restrooms were closed.

This is not just an issue within my hometown — this is happening around the globe. Destination locations are being exploited daily, so much so that many businesses have spoken out despite recognizing the revenue they bring.

The trend of geotagging among influencer’s has become increasingly problematic for small communities who are unable to accommodate resulting floods in tourism.

There are plenty of influencers, as well as celebrities, using their platforms to provide awareness, intentionality and education — to speak on behalf of racial injustice, systemic oppression, intersectional environmentalism, political propaganda amongst many other topics. At the same time, their carelessness in regard to geotagging is becoming a recurring problem. Towns bordering national parks in particular are being most affected, Mammoth Lakes and Lake Tahoe in the Eastern Sierra, Bend and surrounding

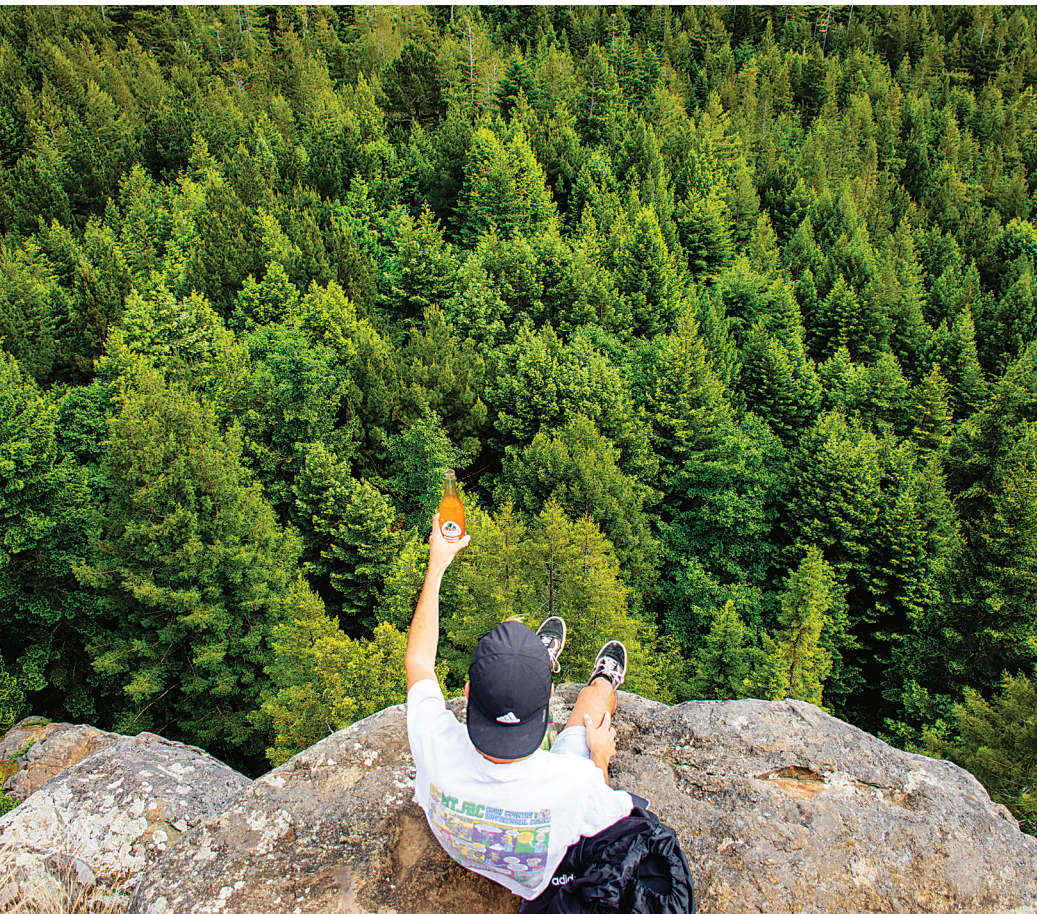


Photo by Elliott Portillo  
Humboldt State student Evan Ledesma at Strawberry Rock on June 11, 2020.

towns in the Cascade Mountains, areas in close proximity to the Rockies, McCall in Idaho, surrounding areas near Jackson Hole and the list goes on.

I am not so naive to think that individuals will stop geotagging on social media. Nor do I think the majority of influencers understand the magnitude of their actions. It is irrefutable, irresponsible and disrespectful to advertise photos and Tik Tok videos to 1 million or more followers, telling them explicitly to visit such pristine locations with a local community of merely 390 people who can’t accommodate them. Local grocery stores are running out of food in an attempt to feed the influx of individuals flocking these towns. Trash and

waste is not being discarded properly. Tourism tax has skyrocketed, making it difficult for local families to afford produce in their own community.

Christine Bumatay, in a Huffpost article, found influencers’ impact on small communities, like the Philippines, to be debilitating. Boracay Island, for example, has in the past shut down for restoration due to experiencing years of over-tourism.

Bumatay spoke with White Banana Beach Club, a local business on Siargao Island, to investigate the damaging effects of influencers targeting luxury resorts and local businesses as a marketing tactic to monetize their platform.

“We are receiving many messages

regarding collaborations with influencers. We kindly would like to announce that White Banana is not interested to ‘collaborate’ with self-proclaimed ‘influencers.’ And we would like to suggest to try another way to eat, drink, or sleep for free. Or try to actually work.”

Public land is under threat as a result of mass amounts of tourism, a NY Times article suggests. According to the article, Jackson Hole Travel & Tourism Board have begun asking influencers to stop geotagging photographs on social media in an effort to protect the state’s beautiful vistas. Where a once nine-mile trek up to Delta Lake would attract one to two hikers a day, there are now as many as 145 people on a given day. Because of the increase in heavy foot traffic among the trail, it has begun showing signs of erosion.

“We want people to have a real connection to nature,” Mr. Modena, a tourism-board member in Wyoming, said, “not just a page with a pin on it.”

Of course we are free to do with our social media accounts as we wish and many will continue to do so — geotagging as desired.

However, it is crucial we rethink our approach to tourism as a whole and the message we are sending to the public. It is paramount effort be made for solutions and outreach regarding mindful, sustainable tourism in heavily trafficked destinations with scarce resources and small communities at stake. Education among travelers and tourists to further advocate for minimizing our tourist footprint needs to be a priority. Instead consider using generic locations for geotagging like, “Tag Responsibly,” and hashtags like, #nogeotag.

The solution starts with us.

# Roommates and quarantine are an inconsistent mix

## Relationships are put to the test in the face of a global pandemic

by Dakota Cox

There are plenty of things to love and plenty of things to hate about college, and roommates are a textbook example of each.

Having lived with my mother then in a studio apartment while I was attending community college, it wasn’t until my first semester at HSU that I got to experience the wonderful highs and woeful lows of living with roommates.

My first experience with roommates lasted a grand total of five months. Spoiling a decade-long friendship, my roommate and his girlfriend removed their names from our lease behind my back. I was left with less than a month of break to find new roommates and, because I no longer qualified for my lease, a new apartment. Needless to say, the experience left a sour taste in my mouth.

By the grace of Ghandi I secured a new roommate and a much nicer apartment, much closer to campus. My new and current roommate is someone I’ve known for the majority of my life, however, the four years standing between us prevented us from ever becoming close friends before moving in together. In contrast to living with my original roommates, whom I’d previously developed much more intimate relationships with, this arrangement has been a significant growing process.

The difference between living with a close friend and a friendly acquaintance is night and day. When it comes to romantic relationships, commitments of this magnitude are almost never taken lightly, and for good reason: moving in with someone unfailingly leads to con-

frontation. It’s the little things that get in the way of getting along, like a sink that’s constantly full of dishes or the inevitable awkwardness of an imbalance of wealth — things you’d be more willing to forgive coming from a close friend. In time, however, as we grow to become a more constant presence in one another’s life, the dynamic of our relationship will likely either evolve into a strong bond or you will prove incompatible.

When COVID-19 made its presence felt in the United States last March, the way we interact as individuals in a society completely changed. As a result, countless relationships have been put to the test in entirely new and intensified ways. This, however, has not been the case for my roommate and I.

Following the abridged in-person instruction of the spring semester, my roommate opted out of returning to online classes in the fall. While I logged into my classroom each day from within the all-too-familiar walls of our apartment, my roommate split his time and his nights between working in Southern Humboldt and coaching baseball at College of the Redwoods. With my roommate gone more often than not and my family living hours away, I became the boy in the bubble.

In the months leading up to the pandemic, my roommate and I developed a genuine friendship, reaching beyond the surface level interactions of our past. It has only been in his significant absence, however, that I’ve come to truly appreciate his presence. Naturally, when your time with a person is limited, you become inclined to cele-



Graphic by Dakota Cox

brate the occasions that you’re together. Rather than spending time dragging each other down, participating in more casual activities like watching movies and playing video games as we’d frequently done in the past, we’ve come to use much more of the time we have to lift each other up in our prospective pursuits.

Ten years from now, when I look

back on the times I spent with my college roommates, it won’t be the cold showers I took because all the hot water was used up or the extra trips I took to the grocery store because my milk disappeared again that I’ll remember. Instead, I’ll fondly reminisce upon the final days before I felt the full weight of adulthood — when we created our own adventures and answered to no one.

# Racial ignorance and a failed relationship

*The Bachelor* faces yet another rough ending

by Brianne Beronilla

The Bachelor this season was full of drama and controversy but not a proposal in sight.

The Bachelor is a reality TV show that revolves around one man who is looking for love among 30 romantic interests who ultimately wants to get engaged by the end.

This season’s bachelor was Matt James, 29, a person of color who even though has never been on the show was past contestant Tyler Cameron’s best friend.

Choosing James was the first time ever choosing a bachelor of color. They have had one person as The Bachelorette, Rachel Lindsey in 2017 who was the first African-American chosen for that role.

This season was history making by showcasing a biracial bachelor. The results however, did not exactly end in a happily ever after. Every season, the host, Chris Harrison, says it’s “the most dramatic season ever.” But this season was filled with more drama than anyone could ever have imagined.

After leaving the show with Georgia native, Rachael Kirkconnell, who received James’ final rose, James called it off and broke up with her after some controversial photos of her resurfaced.

Aliyah Khan is an HSU alumna who graduated in 2020. Being a person of color watching The Bachelor, she had strong opinions against this season specifically.

“I think it’s great to have people of color on The Bachelor because the past has been quite, white,” Khan said.

The photos of Kirkconnell showed her at a party in college with friends wearing a dress that represented the period of time before slaves were freed. It was also discovered that she liked racist photos on Instagram including one showing two Caucasian women posing in front of a Confederate flag.

“I think Rachael Kirkconnell was old

enough to know what she was doing was wrong at the time,” Khan said. “Considering it was only just in 2018 and Matt still had to explain why it was so horrible.”

Khan believes growth is possible in everyone. Even though she did not agree with Kirkconnell’s actions, she is hoping she learns from this.

“I sure hope Rachael educates herself,” Khan said. “It’s the best way to acknowledge the past and move forward correctly and continuously learn and think about others when you make decisions.”

Chelan Rooney is an HSU alumna who graduated in 2019. She was never a big fan of Kirkconnell and was really rooting for Michelle, the runner up.

“I personally did not like Rachael,” Rooney said. “I felt like she was fake and was just on the show to gain attention and for the fame. It looked like there was no connection between her and Matt, but apparently it was just one that wasn’t obvious.”

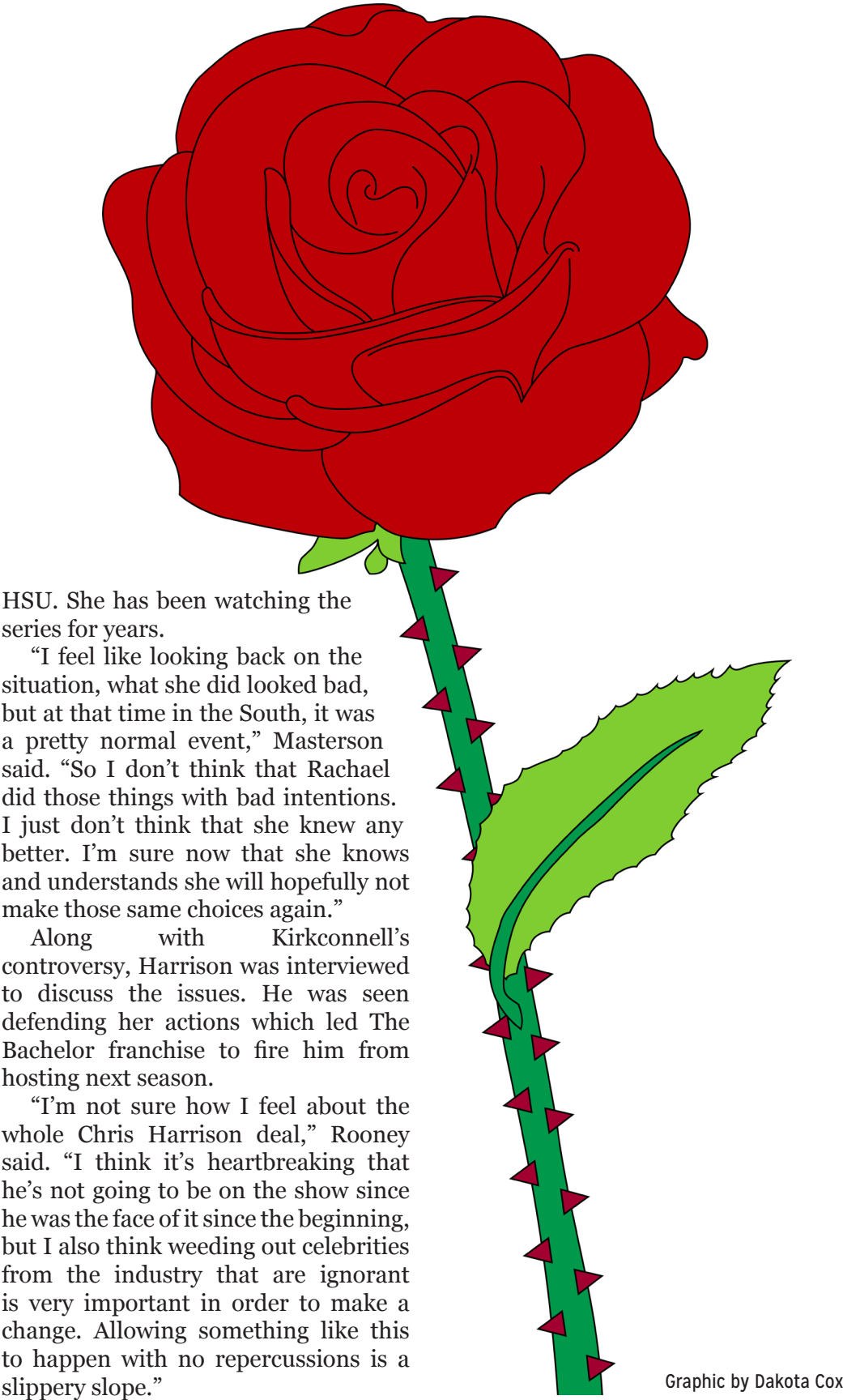
Rooney was not surprised there was controversy with racial tensions on the first ever Bachelor with a person of color and was not surprised it involved Kirkconnell.

“I think the after the final rose episode was held perfectly and I’m happy they all addressed the controversy,” Rooney said. “Whether Rachael was being genuine or not, I don’t know, but I think it was awesome how they addressed her.”

After watching an entire season of James and Kirkconnell falling in love with each other, Rooney believes Matt did the right thing.

“I think Matt made the right decision breaking up with her,” Rooney said. “If he stayed with her, there would be no lesson to learn and he would forever struggle with doubts.”

Jasmine Masterson is an elementary education major in her last year at



HSU. She has been watching the series for years.

“I feel like looking back on the situation, what she did looked bad, but at that time in the South, it was a pretty normal event,” Masterson said. “So I don’t think that Rachael did those things with bad intentions. I just don’t think that she knew any better. I’m sure now that she knows and understands she will hopefully not make those same choices again.”

Along with Kirkconnell’s controversy, Harrison was interviewed to discuss the issues. He was seen defending her actions which led The Bachelor franchise to fire him from hosting next season.

“I’m not sure how I feel about the whole Chris Harrison deal,” Rooney said. “I think it’s heartbreaking that he’s not going to be on the show since he was the face of it since the beginning, but I also think weeding out celebrities from the industry that are ignorant is very important in order to make a change. Allowing something like this to happen with no repercussions is a slippery slope.”

Graphic by Dakota Cox

# If banana slugs ran the Lumberjack

*The Slugberjack is real and it’s coming for you*

by Elise Fero

In a world where banana slugs function like humans, the LJ would be written in a completely different way. Not only that, each paper, other than being covered in slime, would also be biodegradable and taste like blackberries. According to reporter Sluga-Lou Slimeson, here’s what the sections would cover.

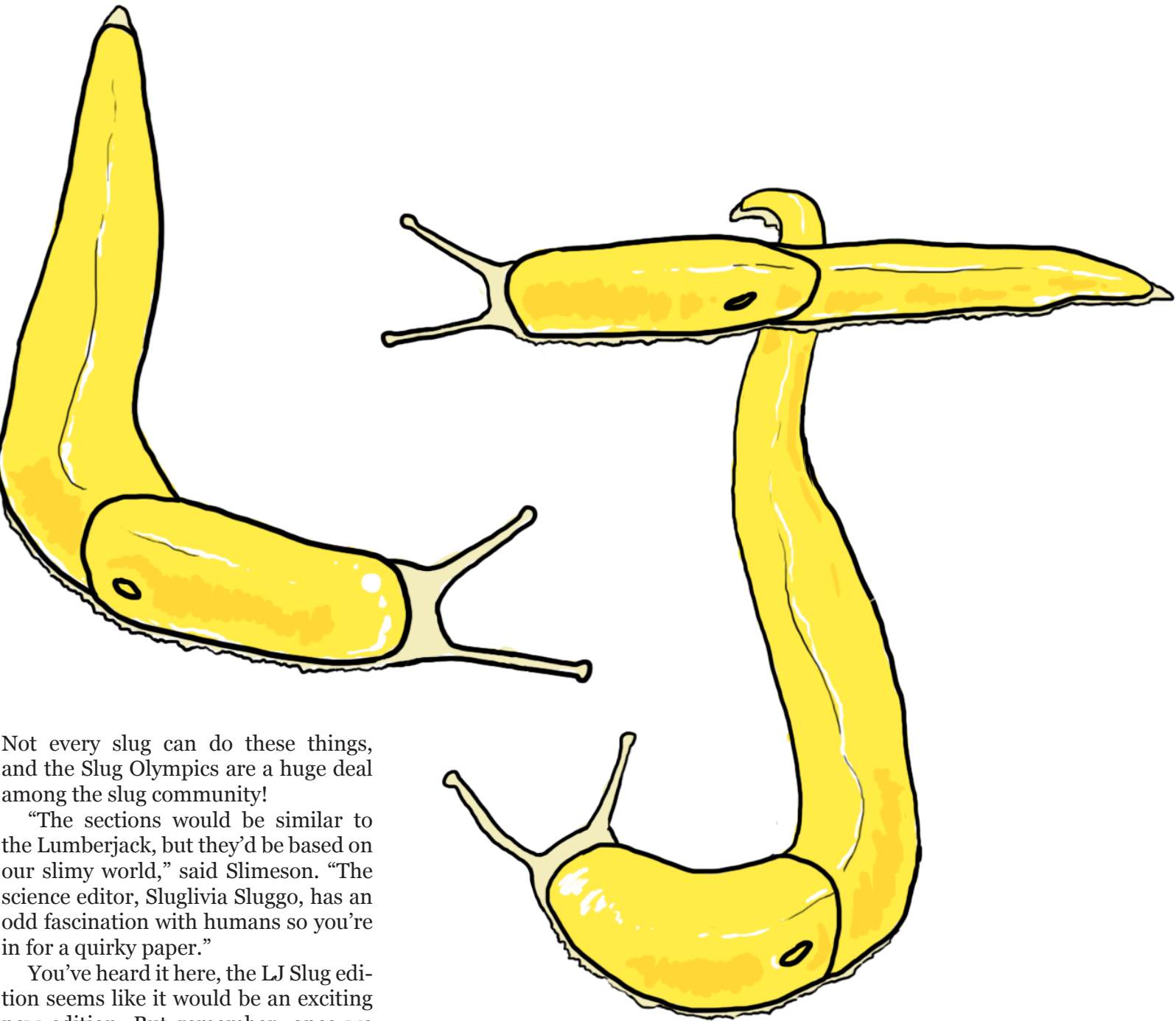
Slugs news! Extra extra! It would cover slug administration at Humboldt Slug University, the merge between slug reporting and slug communications, and the funding to HSU. Seems like a pretty important section this week, especially for HSU!

What would the world be without life and arts? L&A would obviously cover the slug social media apps, the newest slug films, and the hottest slug celebrities. Did you see Leonardo Dislugrio? Or Robert Slugney Jr.? Or Angelina Sluglie? They were looking great this week!

There are absolutely stories about science, because most banana slugs are scientists. There’d be human column, sea slugs (in memory of Sluggy and Slugaroo), and the science behind why humans don’t have slime. A pretty solid section if I say so myself.

Slugs have tons of opinions, and cover humans who walk through the forest. I mean, how dare they walk through THEIR forest and step on THEIR lil slug houses and sometimes.... Oh it’s too hard to say.... Sometimes slugs themselves.

The sports section would cover the fastest slugs, the slugs who were able to cross the pathway, and eat the most blackberries in the Slug Olympics 2021.



Not every slug can do these things, and the Slug Olympics are a huge deal among the slug community!

“The sections would be similar to the Lumberjack, but they’d be based on our slimy world,” said Slimeson. “The science editor, Sluglivia Sluggo, has an odd fascination with humans so you’re in for a quirky paper.”

You’ve heard it here, the LJ Slug edition seems like it would be an exciting new edition. But remember, once we give the slugs too much power, they take over. Beware.

Graphic by Jen Kelly