



University of Washington Magazine

Beaver Believers

Some people say beavers are nettlesome. UW professor Ben Dittbrenner and Elyssa Kerr run Beavers Northwest, and they're knee deep in damage control.





Leviathan Rising

In his new book, "Leviathan Rising" (MW Editions), Seattle-based photographer Eirik Johnson, '97, explores the surreal spaces beneath the massive hulls of transoceanic barges that travel along the Duwamish River, as in the pictured Dioskouroi. Navigating by sea kayak, Johnson photographed the patinated exteriors of these beastly structures. Angular steel ribs jut out from the sterns and bows overhead, while sunlight radiates across their oil-slicked and rusted skins, marking their voyages and the broader system of oceanic trade. The book, which also includes an essay by Sylvia Wolf, director emerita of the Henry Art Gallery, is the subject of an exhibition at the Tacoma Art Museum opening in late October.

—Shin Yu Pai

Photo by Eirik Johnson

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CHRISTINA SOONTORNVAT

SCIENCE MEETS FANTASY

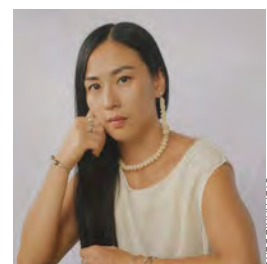
Christina Soontornvat, an award-winning author of young adult fantasy and nonfiction, will give a lecture at the HUB on Oct. 8. uwmag.online/soontornvat



KAREN CHENG

BEAUTIFUL LETTERS

Visual Communication Professor Karen Cheng's students create their own typefaces inspired by everyday life. uwmag.online/typeface



STEPHANIE DENG

SECOND START

Stephanie Deng, '09, left her job in finance to pursue a career creating jewelry inspired by the island of Kaua'i. uwmag.online/stephanie-deng

ON THE COVER

Photographer John Lok captures UW professor Ben Dittbrenner, who founded Beavers Northwest to help manage the environmental upheaval caused by the furry creatures, and Elyssa Kerr, the organization's executive director, at Seattle's Carkeek Park.



Nothing says fun like celebrating the Huskies' first national title in men's soccer. Head coach Jamie Clark created a culture that emphasized camaraderie and fun, and it led to an unexpected national championship in December.

RON WURZER

20 Mysterious Fish

At the UW's Friday Harbor Labs, scientists have their eyes opened wide by the armored and obscure life deep in the ocean.
By Shin Yu Pai

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A group of UW alumni show how beavers, far from being a nuisance, play a key role in keeping biodiversity alive and thriving.
By Mike Seely

28 Kickin' It

The Husky men's soccer team eked its way into the playoffs, then beat five teams on the road to win its first national title.
By Mike Seely

34 Medical Drama

UW Neurology residents learn the importance of communication and empathy in patient care, thanks to UW School of Drama students.
By Nancy Joseph

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Forward

OPINION AND THOUGHT FROM **THE UW FAMILY**



BY **PRESIDENT ROBERT J. JONES**

Unlocking Opportunity

A new strategic plan provides the ambition and focus on the UW's top priorities

As I reflect on my first full year as the University of Washington's 34th president, I am struck by the extraordinary reach of our public university and the responsibility that comes with it. The UW makes a difference in lives across Washington and around the world through teaching, research, patient care and public service. It happens not only in our classrooms, labs, hospitals and clinics, but through the impact that alumni, friends and supporters create in their communities. That collective impact—your impact—is possible because generations of Huskies recognized that a great public university exists to expand opportunity and improve lives. We are all

the heirs to that legacy, and we have a responsibility to extend it for generations to come.

That context helped shape the UW's strategic framework, and this fall, we will expand the framework into a full strategic plan that will guide our institutional strategy for the next five years. The framework and eventual plan are the result of the University's first strategic planning process in 15 years. Throughout that process, we challenged ourselves to be fiercely ambitious but disciplined in focusing on the priorities that matter most. Thanks to the many faculty, staff, students, alumni and external partners who shared insights and

Your engagement strengthens every part of our mission, and it would not be possible without the remarkable Husky community you help build.

asked good questions, the framework rests on four pillars that clearly define our core priorities.

As outlined in the framework, we are committed to delivering high-quality, debt-free education that unlocks opportunity; engaging in radical collaborations that drive breakthroughs for the public good; strengthening healthier communities where everyone can thrive; and stewarding and developing the people and resources that fuel this work.

These pillars are ambitious because the moment demands ambition. They bet big on what the UW does best and what the world needs most: accessible, excellent higher education, partnerships that solve real problems through discovery and collaboration, and a steadfast commitment to healthier, thriving communities. But even the best strategic framework is only words on a page without a dedicated community committed to bringing it to life.

That is why alumni, friends and supporters are essential to this work. You are connected to the UW's history and essential to its future. You mentor students, fund scholarships, open doors to internships and careers, champion research and innovation, invest in faculty and programs, and help extend the UW's impact from Olympia to Spokane. Your engagement strengthens every part of our mission, and it would not be possible without the remarkable Husky community you help build.

Robert J. Jones began his second year as president of the University of Washington in August.

ONLINE

Find out more about the strategic plan at:
WASHINGTON.EDU/STRATEGICPLAN/



MESSAGE FROM THE **EDITOR**

It's Been an Honor

By Jon Marmor

This is my final issue as editor of University of Washington Magazine. After nearly 33 years at the UW Alumni Association, I am retiring, hopefully to a world where the word “deadline” won’t be spoken in my vicinity.

In 1991, I arrived in Seattle from California with my wife to start a new chapter. I enrolled in the UW School of Art + Art History + Design to pursue a BFA in photography, and little did I know that I would walk the same halls as alumni legends Patti Warashina, Alfredo Arreguin and Art Wolfe.

The changes at the University and the magazine have been nothing short of astounding since I arrived. In that span, six UW faculty and four alumni received Nobel Prizes. The U-Pass, which debuted in 1991, got people out of their cars to ride the bus and light rail to campus. UW Bothell and UW Tacoma, which were born in 1990, brought educational opportunities to people all over the Puget Sound region. (My youngest daughter just graduated from UW Bothell.) And in 2028, the Ana Mari Cauce Welcome Center will open on the Seattle campus.

Walking the Seattle campus always filled me with pride as I passed by buildings where students became Boeing commercial airplane designers, teachers, computer-science engineers and leaders in health care, public health, social work,

mathematics and the arts.

During my time here, the magazine (which went from being called Columns to University of Washington Magazine) told incredible stories. There was founding editor Tom Griffin’s two-part series about Japanese American UW students who were taken to World War II incarceration camps; my profile of Tom Lantos, ’58, the only Holocaust survivor ever to serve in Congress; Julie Garner’s story on transgender students and alumni—the first on that subject to appear in any university magazine in the nation; and David Volk’s touching piece on Social Work professor Jennifer Stuber, who created Forefront, a suicide-prevention program after her husband died by suicide.

And there were the fun stories. My favorite? Karla Tofte’s “interview” with Dubs in the September 2013 issue (it accompanied the cover story on the Husky Stadium renovation).

I am so glad to report that, thanks to incredible alumni association and University support, print magazines will live on here while peer institutions have either reduced the number of print issues or done away with print to go 100% digital.

We know how much the print issue keeps readers connected and makes them feel like insiders. That means we are doing our job. And I am honored to have been a part of it.

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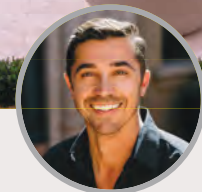
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Kudos for the Colellas

I was delighted to see the article “Family Swim” (Summer 2026). The Colella family has been a cornerstone of the Northeast Seattle swimming community for decades, and it was wonderful to see their many contributions recognized. As both the parent of a swimmer who trained under them, and a colleague who has coached alongside them, I’ve seen firsthand the care, commitment and encouragement they bring to the sport. They continue to be outstanding ambassadors for swimming, a sport that is often overlooked at the UW. Fun fact: Rick Colella currently holds every Pacific Northwest Masters Swimming men’s record in the 70 to 74 age group (that’s 18 out of 18!). It is an incredible achievement and a testament to his lifelong commitment to swimming.

Kirsti Rochon, ’95, Seattle

Responsibility and Cost

“Beyond a Shadow of a Debt” (Summer 2026) identifies changes from earlier decades. But it makes clear there are similarities. A difference might exist in what students learn prior to college. For example, when I first enrolled in the UW in 1957, the word “responsibility” was deeply etched into me. I knew when I left high school, I was not prepared for college, so I joined the Navy reserves for a two-year enlistment. Another major difference was cost. A dollar then was probably equivalent to triple-digit dollars today educationally. While in the service, I took correspondence courses and attended Imperial Valley Junior College, and thus had about 25 college credits when I began at the UW. When I enrolled at the UW in 1957, I got a job working for The Seattle Times from 4 to 10 a.m. daily, and attended classes generally from 11 a.m. to 2 or 3 p.m. I thus earned my way through my first B.A. I realized that the percentages of my success were stacked against me. My father had to quit school in the eighth grade to support his mother, and he was the sole supporter of the family. I was the first member of the family to attend college, and that background contributed to my not being a very disciplined student from grades 1 through 12. But one thing I did know was that responsibility for my future was entirely in my hands. As your story noted, pragmatic and responsible decision-making is necessary.

Richard Pelto, ’61, ’68, ’72, Bothell

Refusal to Make War

The Summer 2026 issue’s “Roar From the

Crowd” section included a letter from a 1969 graduate honoring himself for his military service (“An Honorable Life”). Our nation seems eager to honor those who participate in slaughter and maiming in the name of democracy, justice and any other supposedly justifiable cause. I have waited over 50 years for this nation to honor those who chose prison, exile, lost employment and career opportunities, and lonely separation from family and friends for refusing to kill, maim or torture other living beings. I would think more highly of the human race and of our nation if respect were occasionally shown for the bravery (yes, it takes guts to refuse to bow to society’s madnesses and accompanying punishment) of we who paid our dues through conscientious refusal to make war.

Dave Mandel, ’96, El Cerrito, California

The Desire to Give Back

Thank you for the article about Ben Brockie’s release and entrance into the UW (“No Time to Waste,” Spring 2026). At the close of this story is this quote: “I don’t think I’m unique or special. More people who are incarcerated are smarter and more driven. I just got a chance.” The opportunity to redeem oneself should not be left to chance. I have volunteered at Monroe Correctional Complex, specifically the Latino Development Organization, since August 2025, and I cannot express how smart and driven these men are. They have all chosen to leave the gang culture that is alive and well in the prison system. As a volunteer, my presence makes it possible for this community of incarcerated to build their own programming, education and self-improvement and the ability to contribute. Never have I seen the desire to give back so alive.

Cathy Ferbrache, ’72, Bothell

CORRECTIONS

- The photo of Suzzallo Library in the “Behind the Screens” story in the Summer 2026 issue should have been credited to Dennis Wise.
- Our “By the Numbers” infographic in the “Beyond a Shadow of a Debt” article should have said the tuition at the UW (Seattle campus) increased by 13.4% since 2015.
- The first name of Polyclinic cardiologist John Gust Doces, ’65, ’69, ’72, was misspelled in the Summer 2026 issue.
- Billy the Kid was born in New York City, not Silver City, N.M., as stated in the Sketches page on Seth Goodkind (Summer 2026).

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TheHub

NEWS AND RESEARCH FROM THE UW



The new Haggett Hall, which will become home to 800 students, rises in its North Campus location. It will offer a way of life that fits today's students.

life skills, build meaningful relationships and find community in ways that help them thrive during college and beyond,” says Josh Gana, assistant vice president for student life and executive director of the UW’s Housing & Food Services division.

The master plan organizes campus housing around a neighborhood model, with one neighborhood in West Campus on Northeast Campus Parkway. The new Haggett will complete the North Campus neighborhood. Amenities including dining, grocery and a maker’s space are spread out across buildings in each neighborhood.

Haggett will be home to Husky Haven, North Campus’ health and wellness center. Along with traditional fitness areas, such as weight rooms and a yoga terrace, the center will foster mental restoration, including reflection spaces and access to student-care specialists.

Students will move between buildings to take advantage of these amenities and expand their community in the process. They’ll also have more privacy with ensuite bathrooms, study booths and more.

The new Haggett Hall’s design is based on the concept of biophilia, which emphasizes a connection to nature and our surroundings. The North Campus landscape is more heavily wooded than other parts of campus. Sitting on a site with a 40-foot grade change, the old residence hall had a garage abutting the hillside. The new residence hall is built down the hillside, with a forested courtyard at its center.

Haggett Hall was once just a place to eat, sleep and study. The new Haggett Hall will be a place where students can find other things they need to thrive, like connection and well-being.

“It takes a large campus environment,” says Gana, “and makes it feel a little bit more like home.”

A Dorm That Feels More Like Home

Replacing the vintage 1960s original North Campus dorm Haggett Hall will bring students a new way of life

By Misty Shock Rule

When Haggett Hall opened in 1963, it was the cutting edge of residence-hall living. It was the first coed dorm on the UW Seattle campus, with women living in one tower of the H-shaped building and men in the other. Each room’s hexagonal shape maximized the space while offering a narrow view of Lake Washington and Mount Rainier.

Haggett Hall is again offering a new vision for student life. The 1963 building was closed for demolition in 2021 and a new Haggett is under construction, set to open in fall 2027.

A highlight of the new Haggett is an open-air entryway where students will get a view of Lake Washington and Mount Rainier, says UW Facilities assistant director Shane Ruegamer, ’98. They can take stairs or an elevator down to the courtyard.

“It’s really going to be a gathering place for folks to meet up and go wherever they’d like to go, either to U Village, work out, eat, head to class or simply socialize,” he says.

With space for 800 students, the new Haggett is the last piece of a Housing & Food Services master plan released in 2008, when rooms were overcrowded and building systems like HVAC, electrical, plumbing and more were obsolete in older buildings.

The older dorms physically weren’t meeting the UW’s needs, but that’s not all that had to be revamped. Today’s students want a different way of campus life than they did in the 1960s. “The on-campus residential experience is where students develop

COURTESY UW HOUSING & FOOD SERVICES

Poetry in Public

As part of their service as the City of Auburn's poet laureate, Mateo Quispe, '26, commissioned a series of poetry book nooks in the shape of life-sized canoes by Indigenous carvers from the Muckleshoot Tribe. Inspired by both public art and Little Free Libraries, each nook offers a curated non-circulating selection of poetry, with an emphasis on Indigenous works, alongside books related to Coast Salish art and literature. The structures are installed in public spaces throughout Auburn, including the Muckleshoot Community Center.

—Shin Yu Pai

Photo by Mark Stone



Opening Private Investigation to the Public

By Shin Yu Pai

From Benoit Blanc in “Knives Out” to Jonathan Ames in “Bored to Death,” private investigators in popular culture today have little in common with their hardboiled gumshoe predecessors Dick Tracy and Sam Spade. Hollywood has cemented the image of the eccentric investigator into the American imagination, inundating audiences with cop series, forensic shows and every kind of PI ranging from a Botswana-based female detective to a group of British retirees who gather to solve mysteries. But what kind of actual skills does it take to become a private investigator?

Established in 2001, the UW’s online certificate program in private investigation introduces students to the skills of the investigative profession. Structured over three courses that take eight months to complete, students learn about research, open-source intelligence and writing effective public records requests in their first class. In their second course, participants learn the skills of surveillance, tailing, interviewing and creating an undercover ruse. The program concludes with a course on criminal investigation and prepares students to take the Washington state exam for PI licensure.

Program alumna Patricia Murphy, ’24, host of KUOW Public Radio’s podcast “Seattle Now,” thought about the investigative profession as a potential retirement gig. “Working as a PI is similar to being “a [radio] producer for an attorney,” Murphy says. “You do all the research and legwork that they don’t want to do. You conduct interviews, pull data and research and find people that don’t want to be found. If I’d done it 15 years ago, I’d have found my calling sooner.”

Program instructor Kate Merriwether sees industry professionals who have been in private investigation or law enforcement enroll in the program. Merriwether, who went through the program in 2018, served in the military during Operation Desert Storm. “People love cop shows—we see a lot of media geared toward the prosecution,” she says. “But there’s rarely pop-culture explorations of the damage that people being falsely accused face, or of BIPOC being unfairly treated or railroaded.” Merriwether adds, “There are innocent people in prison that don’t get fair representation.”

There are even style investigators who work for The New York Times’ T Magazine “Style Detective” column who specialize in sleuthing down Bob Dylan’s patchwork denim jacket that Timothée Chalamet bought at auction.



BURKE MUSEUM

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NEWS

HAPPY 50TH, IDAHO!

The UW School of Medicine is celebrating 50 years of internal medicine residency training in Idaho with the 50th Hindson Winter Conference in January. All of the speakers at the conference will be graduates of the UW Boise/Seattle Internal Medicine Residency Track or the UW Boise Internal Medicine Residency.

FANTASTIC FULBRIGHTS

Seven UW students and recent alumni have been awarded Fulbright U.S. Student Program scholarships for the 2026–27 academic year, joining about 2,000 students and recent graduates from around the country to pursue graduate study, conduct research and teach English abroad. The Fulbright scholarship program is the largest U.S. international exchange opportunity for students to pursue graduate study, advanced research and teaching in elementary and secondary schools worldwide.

ROUSING RANKINGS

The University of Washington has been ranked highly among its global peers in both the U.S. News & World Report Best Global Universities and the QS World University Rankings. According to U.S. News, the UW is No. 12 in the world in the 2026–27 rankings and No. 3 among U.S. public institutions. The QS World University Rankings has the UW at No. 92 and No. 7 among U.S. public universities.

WELCOME TO A MINOR IN AI

The UW is planning to launch an interdisciplinary AI minor in the spring. “Students will be able to study a field they are passionate about and also understand AI and how it relates to that field of study,” says Magda Balazinska, director of the Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering and co-chair of the group designing the new curriculum.

PROCESSING A DEFINITION

Over the past five years, the national conversation around health and nutrition has been dominated by the term “ultra-processed foods.” Since nobody can agree on how, exactly, to define ultra-processed foods, a panel of 14 nutrition, food science, policy and legal experts recently created a more practical and operational definition based on ingredients. The panel was co-chaired by Jim Krieger, ’89, clinical professor emeritus of health systems and population health at the UW.



SEA-TAC UNVEILS NEW ARTWORK

Artwork by Saya Moriyasu, '91, was installed at Sea-Tac Airport earlier this summer. Located in the Skybridge 2 parking garage, "Kokeshi-no-kai" features colorful glazed porcelain and clay shapes installed on top of six parking bollards. Moriyasu's piece takes its main inspiration from Japanese kokeshi dolls dressed in summer kimono.

Located at arrivals doors 6 and 18, artwork by Henry Jackson-Spieker, assistant professor of art and Dale Chihuly Endowed Chair of Glass at the UW School of Art + Art History + Design, features several sculptures that depict abstract forms, including the cast bronze sculpture "Rapinoe #15."

—Shin Yu Pai



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Better Breathing in the Great Indoors

Professor Dan Jaffe studies the way to clear the air in homes and classrooms

By Shin Yu Pai

The German practice of lüften, or “house burping,” has become popular recently to improve indoor air quality. We spoke with Dan Jaffe, a professor at UW Bothell’s School of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics and in the UW Department of Atmospheric Sciences, about the ways to reduce indoor air pollutants. His expertise, which has been highlighted on NPR, The New York Times and Outside Magazine, focuses on regional and long-range transport of pollutants, wildfire smoke, ozone photochemistry, mercury, diesel, coal-train emissions and the chemistry of smoke.

What is lüften, or house burping?

It’s the German practice of opening your windows and doors once a day to let in fresh air. What I do is focused on whether I run my stove. Or if there’s a big party with people in my house. I keep my doors open when I know there’s going to be a big increase in air pollutants in the home.

How do air pollutants accumulate in a home?

Pollutant emissions can come from many sources, for example, cooking on both an electric and gas stove, anytime you fry or grill foods. Even when making popcorn, you create particulate matter. If you have a gas stove, you’re also making carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and other pollutants and creating air pollution in your home. Unless you vent it, you’re going to have bad air quality.

What is the connection between gas stoves and respiratory issues?

Nitrogen oxides are known respiratory

irritants and associated with a variety of health impacts, especially in young children. In one study, more than 12% of asthma in children was attributed to gas-stove use in homes.

What do you think about using air fresheners and candles?

Air fresheners release volatile organic compounds into the air and aren’t doing anything helpful. Candles create carbon dioxide and soot.

Should we do house burping during pollen season or summer forest-fire season?

I definitely wouldn’t do it when there’s wildfire smoke outside! Pollen typically arises in spring and early summer. If I’m going to bring in outside air to ventilate, I want to filter it to get rid of pollen.

Talk about the air-quality study that you conducted at UW Bothell.

We measured the air quality across classrooms at UW Bothell. In some cases, we saw high levels of carbon dioxide exceeding 1,000 parts per million (ppm). Having a large number of students in a classroom generates carbon dioxide. If the room is not ventilated well, this can accumulate to high levels. People get sleepy and experience difficulty focusing at 1,000 ppm.

What else can people do to improve indoor air quality?

You can buy an indoor air monitor for about \$200. I have a PurpleAir sensor that changes colors when air quality gets bad in my home. If I see it turn red in the dining room, when my wife and I are cooking, it’s a trigger for us to ventilate the air.

RESEARCH

BYE BYE, BAD BREATH

To rebalance the oral microbiome and cure chronic halitosis, UW researchers are embarking on a first-of-its-kind experiment. These clinical trials transplant bacteria and other minuscule critters from healthy donors into patients with halitosis. If successful, the healthy microbiota will crowd out the unhealthy and patients’ bad breath will improve. “What we’re trying to do is severely disrupt the original bacteria, and then we bring in the new guys to take hold and establish a new biofilm,” said co-lead Alex Pozhitkov, affiliate faculty member in the UW School of Dentistry.

USING THEIR BEAN

Plants may not appear aggressive, but they can still defend themselves while under attack. When caterpillars chomp the leaves of bean plants, these plants release gases that lure predatory wasps. The wasps prey on the caterpillars, saving the plants from further destruction. A UW-led team demonstrated that this defense strategy is run by a protein called INR (inceptin receptor). The researchers grew bean plants with naturally occurring mutations in the INR gene alongside plants with functional INR in an experimental field in Oaxaca, Mexico.



SCRIPTING SCIENCE

Students in the UW’s Prosocial Computing Group noticed that people were using generative artificial intelligence to make short science videos. The trouble was that these people weren’t scientists, which, given AI’s proclivity to be convincingly wrong, could accelerate the spread of misinformation. So the lab wondered how to enable scientists and other researchers to better adapt to platforms like TikTok. Those discussions led the team to build PaperTok, an AI tool that helps users turn research papers into 45-second videos.

SHAPING WORKPLACE BEHAVIOR

The increased public attention on racial injustice after the murder of George Floyd influenced how Black and white employees interacted at work, new UW research suggests. Researchers investigated how the Black Lives Matter movement affected cooperation between Black and white co-workers. “Employees do not leave the outside world at the door,” says co-author Abhinav Gupta, professor of management in the UW Foster School of Business. “When major societal events occur, people carry those emotions, anxieties and identities with them into the workplace.”



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QUICK HITS

QUOTABLE

“I still feel like I have to earn the respect of people to think of me as a winner or high-level player, particularly with the national team.”

—Former UW soccer star Cristian Roldan, a midfielder on the Seattle Sounders who played for the U.S. Men’s National Team in the 2026 World Cup

FLYING THE FLAG

Flag football will debut as an Olympic sport at the 2028 Summer Games in Los Angeles, so USA Football turned to former Husky and NFL star Marcel Reece to carry the flag. Reece, who played wide receiver for the Huskies from 2006–2007 before a 10-year NFL career, was hired in May as senior vice president of football strategy and operations for USA Football. He was previously senior vice president and chief strategy officer for the Las Vegas Raiders.

THE GOLDEN TOUCH

UW law school alum Bill Foley II, ’74, who owns the Vegas Golden Knights of the NHL, is making a pitch to bring an NBA expansion team to Las Vegas. The Golden Knights have been a tremendous success, making the Stanley Cup finals three times since the Knights joined the NHL in 2017, winning it all in 2023. “We built the Golden Knights into a championship organization from the ground up and we are prepared to do it again,” says Foley, a billionaire who owns other sports enterprises.

CAPTAIN MARY LOU

The USGA’s U.S. National Development Program scored a hole in one when it named former Husky women’s golf coach Mary Lou Mulflur, ’80, the captain of Team Washington. Mulflur is a legend around these parts after spending 42 years as the head coach of the UW women’s golf program, winning a national title in 2016. She retired from the UW in 2025.

BETCHA DIDN’T KNOW...

Husky Stadium hosted the first game in Dallas Cowboys history, an exhibition contest on Aug. 6, 1960, against the San Francisco 49ers in front of 22,000 fans. Former UW standouts Hugh McElhenny (49ers) and Don Heinrich (Cowboys) were on opposite sides of the field that day, nine years removed from their days as Husky backfield mates. Thanks to sports history expert Dave Eskenazi for that one.



It’s a dream come true for Elise Woodward to broadcast Husky football from the Bob Rondeau radio booth in Husky Stadium.

Elise Woodward Is Calling the Shots

As the new voice of the Huskies, the former UW hoops star becomes the first woman to do play-by-play for a major college football team

By Jon Marmor

It doesn’t matter that Elise Woodward, ’97, was born in Eugene in that state below Washington. She left her home state after high school to come to the University of Washington for college and has bled purple and gold ever since. She played four years for the Husky women’s basketball team (reaching the NCAA tournament three times) and was team captain her senior year. And when she hung up her sneakers, she went into sports broadcasting and has been on the air, either on radio or TV, for more than 30 years—many of those years covering the Huskies.

No wonder she was named the new play-by-play voice for Husky football after Tony Castricone left after nine years to become the voice of the NFL’s Tampa Bay Buccaneers. “Having the opportunity to be the voice of University of Washington football is the honor of my lifetime,” Woodward says. “As a Dawg, I take so much pride in the rich history and tradition of Husky football. I am so thankful for the last 23 seasons that I spent on the sidelines, but I’m also beyond excited to trade in my rain gear for the warmth of the Bob Rondeau radio booth.”

It is believed that she is the first woman

to be the full-time play-by-play broadcaster for a major college football team.

Her broadcasting bona fides will make your head spin. She’s been a play-by-play voice for the NCAA women’s basketball tournament for more than a decade. She is also currently the voice of the WNBA’s Portland Fire and has served as the Huskies football sideline reporter for more than two decades. And that’s not to mention broadcasting for the Seattle Storm and Seattle SuperSonics. She spent the past two years with FOX, FS1 and the Big Ten Network, calling women’s and men’s basketball, soccer, volleyball, track and field, gymnastics and lacrosse. She also hosted her own sports talk radio show in Seattle for more than a decade.

Her UW connection started long ago when she took her recruiting trip to the UW as a high school senior. “I had the chance to meet Don James in his office,” she recalls. “He told me, ‘I hope you become a Husky.’ I couldn’t believe he took the time to say hi. Now, decades later, it is a full-circle moment to get this opportunity to call UW football.”

She made her debut on Sept. 6 as the Huskies opened the regular season against Washington State in the Boeing Apple Cup at Husky Stadium.

Says Brandon Forbis, general manager of Huskies Sports Properties: “Elise’s passion for Washington sports coupled with her incredible talent and proven knowledge makes her the perfect person to lead our broadcasts into this next era of Husky Football.”

A photograph of an older man, Ned Kurabi, playing pickleball. He is wearing a grey t-shirt and dark athletic pants with white stripes on the side. He is holding a blue and black pickleball paddle and is in the middle of a swing, looking intently at the ball. The background is a green pickleball court with a white net. A large, out-of-focus orange and yellow pickleball is in the foreground on the right.

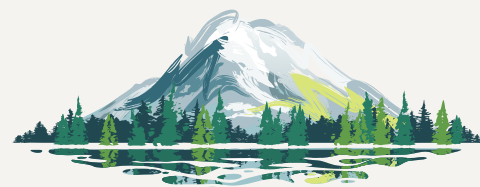
Retired. Rewired.

Ned Kurabi; Emerald Heights Resident

After decades of leadership and service, Ned is still learning, still moving, still showing up.

The best years are still in motion.

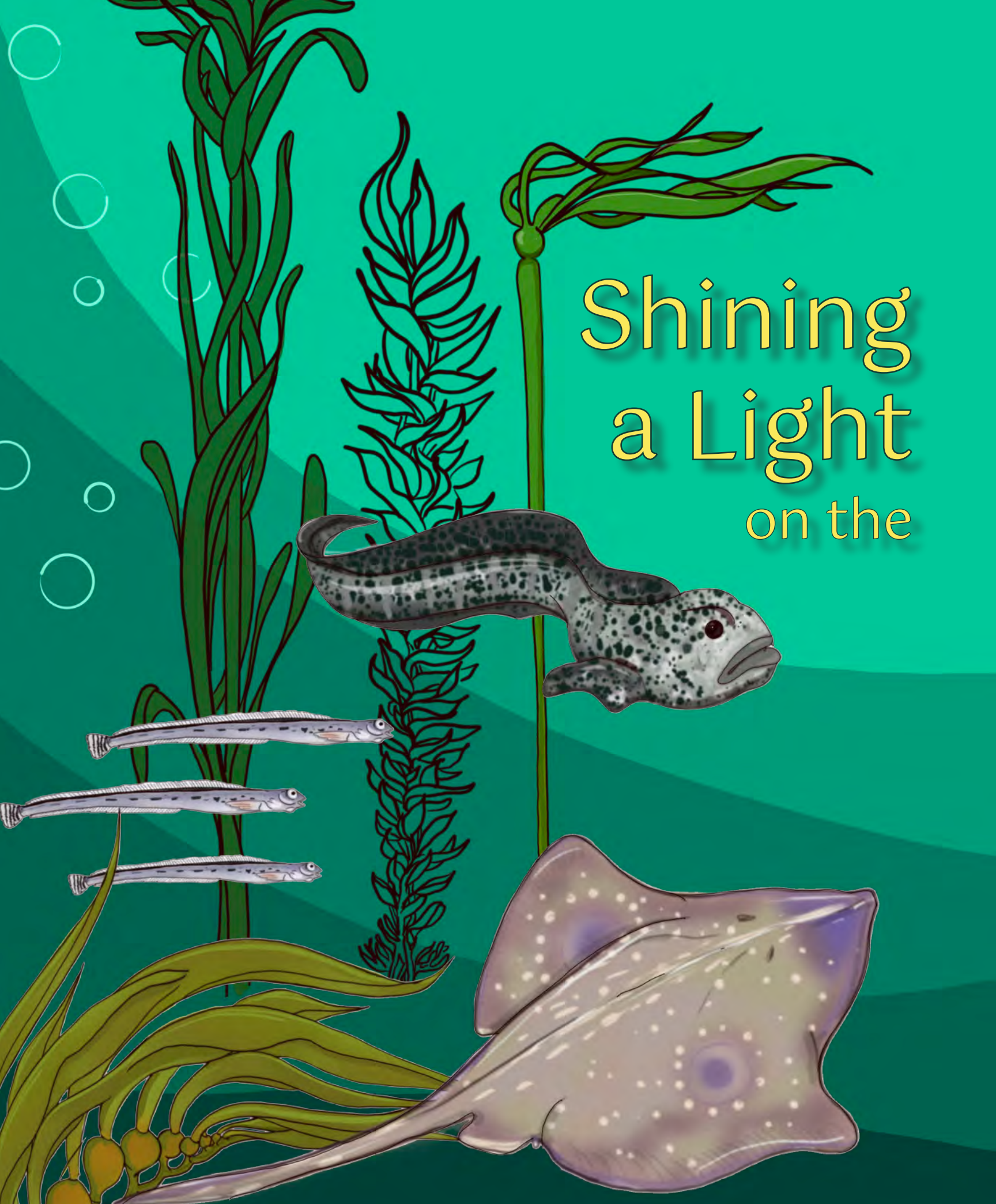
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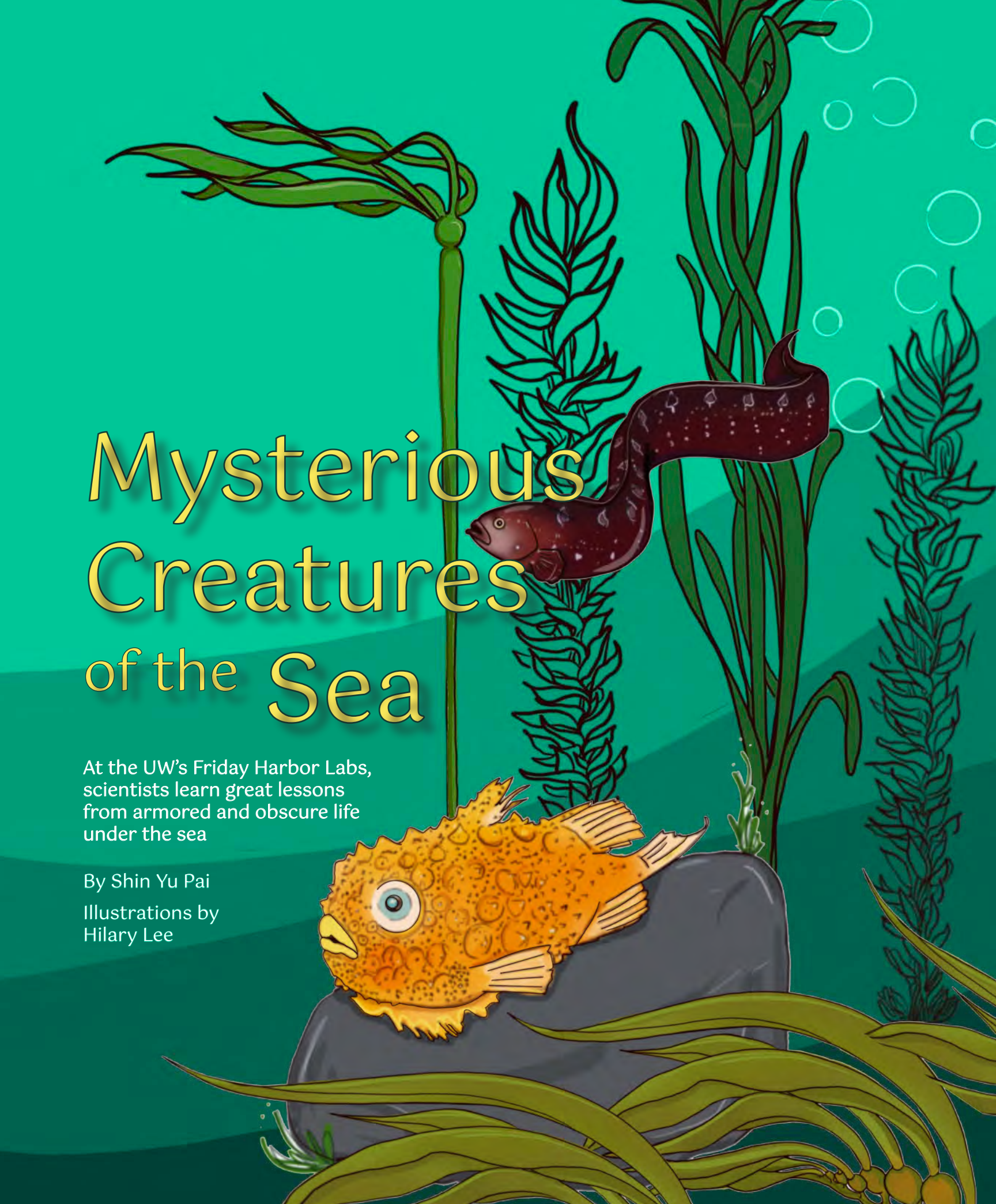


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Shining a Light on the



An illustration of an underwater scene. In the foreground, a pufferfish with a bumpy, orange-yellow body and a large blue eye is positioned near a dark grey rock. Above it, a dark purple eel with white spots is swimming. The background is filled with various types of green seaweed and bubbles rising from the right side. The overall color palette is dominated by shades of green and teal.

Mysterious Creatures of the Sea

At the UW's Friday Harbor Labs,
scientists learn great lessons
from armored and obscure life
under the sea

By Shin Yu Pai

Illustrations by
Hilary Lee

A

S A GRADUATE BIOLOGY STUDENT during the COVID-19 pandemic, Karly Cohen, '22, aimed a simple UV light into the fish tanks of a darkened lab at the UW's Friday Harbor Laboratories and discovered a dazzling, shimmering new world. The fins of the long and rigid-looking, bottom-dwelling poacher fish glowed pink with diatom algae. Then she pointed her light at a tank of spherical lump-suckers, a species that she had studied, and a single fish flashed and pulsed in shocking fuchsia red, taking her by surprise.

Cohen, who is now a postdoctoral researcher and lecturer at Friday Harbor, spent many hours studying the Pacific spiny lumpsucker and thought she knew it well. But when she removed the fish from its tank to photograph it, she noticed that it wasn't just glowing red. Its pelvic fins, which have evolved into the shape of a ventral adhesive disc on the creature's belly, lit up in a brilliant green.

Until then, no one knew of the fish's secret superpower, which is significant to its protective camouflage, and also functions as a means to mate identification and underwater communication. Cohen and UW Biology and Aquatic Fishery Professor Adam Summers published their findings, alerting the world. And then the discovery led her and former colleagues Jonathan Huie, '19, and former researcher Emily Carr to find and document biofluorescence in 47 additional ray-finned fishes.

The biofluorescent lumpsucker is one of many charismatic microfauna studied by UW scientists. From glowing skin and adhesive suction discs to impact-resistant armor, these marine creatures offer a host of strange evolutionary mysteries hiding beneath the waters of the Salish Sea. By studying those adaptations, researchers

are not only uncovering evolutionary history, but they're finding inspiration for new technologies, from medical devices to underwater drones.

Cohen's initial research into the spiny lumpsucker explored how it evolved its tough armor, which keeps it from being battered by the sea. The suctioning disc on its belly allows the golf-ball sized fish to stick to rough surfaces, anchoring to rocks to conserve energy in strong tidal currents. These biological features make it a great model for looking at comparative biomechanics—a field that marries biology and physics to look at how organisms evolve on their own messy and illogical trajectories.

Looking at armored fish, for example, helped scientists think more deeply about how armor works to protect marine organisms from being bashed around in the intertidal. "Lumpsucker armor and the armor on poachers is a great model for trying to make

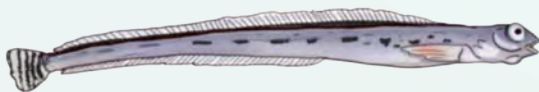
devices that protect people penetrating hazardous environments where they may end up encountering falling debris," says Summers, a professor at the Friday Harbor Laboratories whose research focuses on comparative biomechanics.

"If you're going to burrow through some wreckage, it's nice to not have all your bits scraped off."

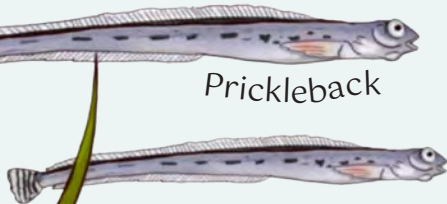
By approaching biological questions with a framework of



Wolf Eel



Prickleback



Skate



physics and mechanical engineering, scientists can translate biological survival mechanisms into groundbreaking technology. Studying the suction discs of lumpsuckers and Pacific clingfish led a research team at Friday Harbor to create and patent a suction cup that provides stronger hydrodynamic adhesion than previous man-made suction cups. “Nature has figured things out over millions of years, so it is good at solving problems!” says Cassandra Donatelli, a professor and comparative biomechanist at UW Tacoma who has spent many summers doing research at Friday Harbor. “Living things have evolved to solve complex problems in the oceans, up in the trees, underground and everywhere in between. As humans try to explore new areas, it’s useful for us to look to nature for inspiration on how to exist and move through these environments.”

Donatelli studies armored fishes and locomotion in elongate fishes like American eels, morays, gunnells and pricklebacks, which have fin spines that stick out through their skin. Her lab has researched developing medical devices and braces around joint injury based on its study of the bony plates on armored fish. Her work on the efficient, streamlined body forms of elongate fishes may inform the design of the more efficient marine devices, like buoys and drones.

“The American eel can swim months without eating and doesn’t lose weight,” Donatelli says. “I studied the behavior and skins of gunnells and pricklebacks, which are similar elongate fishes, to take those fish apart and reconstruct them into model forms to use as an inspiration for refining ocean-monitoring devices.” Drones are used to monitor temperature, currents and salinity in the sea, but the battery life of these monitors dies after a few hours. Donatelli’s research improves upon these designs so that the devices use wave energy and don’t need to return to shore as often to recharge. She’s also testing out a few designs based on armored fishes to make more efficiently shaped buoys.

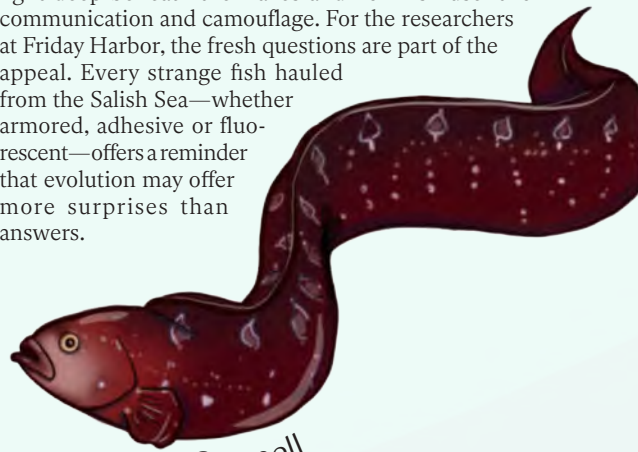
Every fish that Summers’ research team studies at Friday Harbor offers opportunities to better understand mechanics, materials and structure that can be applied to bio-inspired design. For instance, flatfish and skates burrow into the ground. “For engineers, burrowing into the ground requires high-force penetrators,” Summers says. But neither fish uses this approach. They wiggle their bodies so that the solid ground of the seabed rises over them. Based on this observation, Summers’ team built robots which resemble skates and flatfish that mimic burrowing.

Researchers like Cohen, Summers and Donatelli are keen to bring the details of their discoveries to the public. Working with colleagues in Germany led by Andrew Schulz, a postdoctoral fellow and researcher in the Haptic Intelligence Department at the Max Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems, Cohen has created an open-source platform that produces 3-D-printed tactile models from 2-D microscopy images. Users can touch the difference between cells and understand how hard and soft tissues interact to better understand how sharp something can feel. “It’s been wildly useful across colleagues’ classrooms and we’re thinking about

how to expand the tool for teaching,” Cohen says. “What do these shapes mean in the ocean? And in the intertidal vs. in a deep-sea environment? It’s these kinds of tools that let scientists and everyone engage with the natural world.”

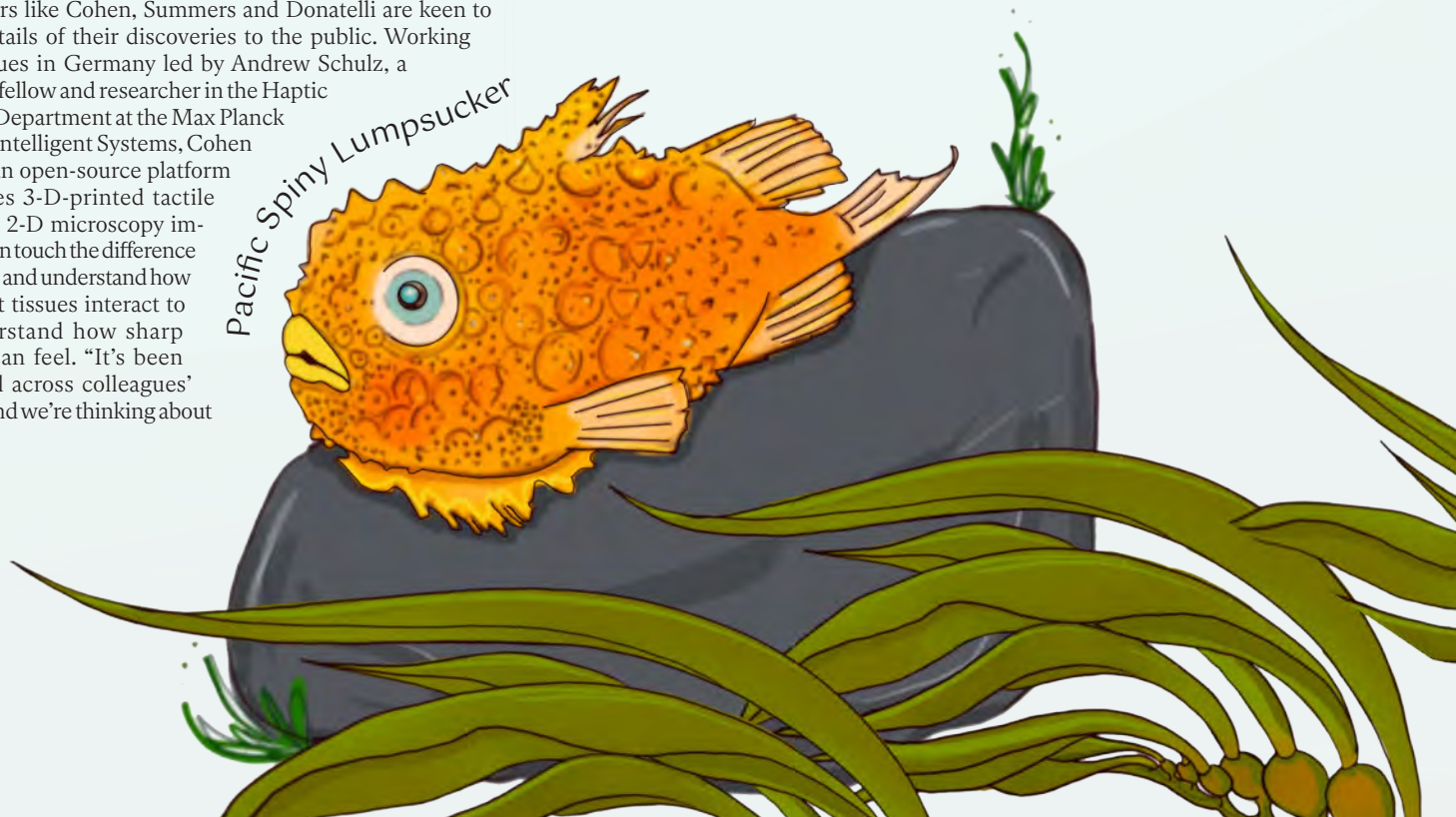
Summers insists that natural history, as a study of organisms in their natural environment, is the basis for discovery and innovation. “Your prep work is to go out and watch things live,” he says. “That’s where you’ll find the motivations for the questions that will lead to your papers. The engine for discovery isn’t in books or libraries. It’s wandering out into the woods, or intertidal and deep sea.”

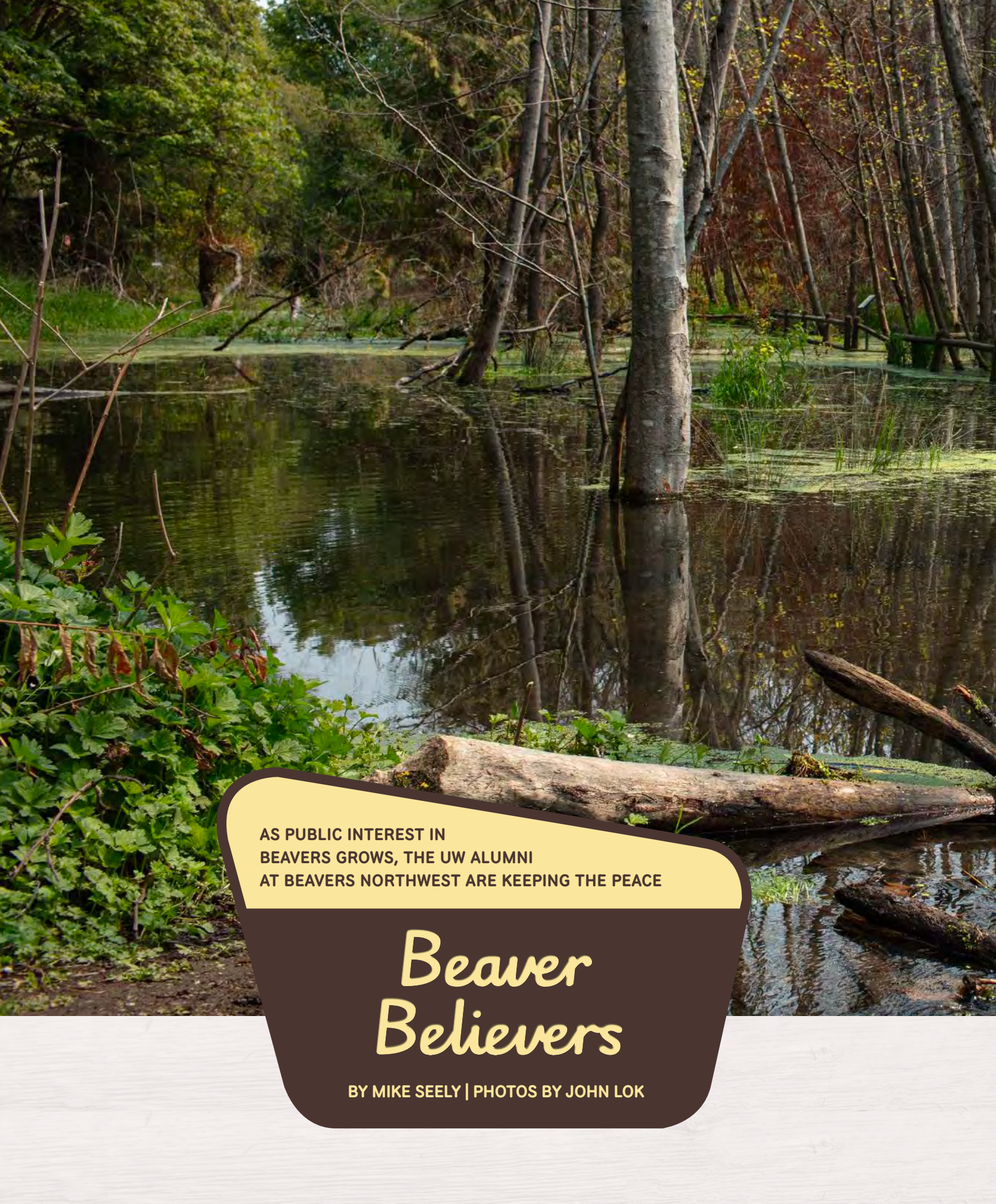
In the years since Cohen first pointed a UV light into those tanks, scientists have identified dozens of glowing fish species. Yet the brilliant green suction disc that first caught her eye raises new questions—like how that hidden glow appears in the filtered light deep beneath the waves and how fish use it for communication and camouflage. For the researchers at Friday Harbor, the fresh questions are part of the appeal. Every strange fish hauled from the Salish Sea—whether armored, adhesive or fluorescent—offers a reminder that evolution may offer more surprises than answers.



Gunnell

Pacific Spiny Lumpsucker

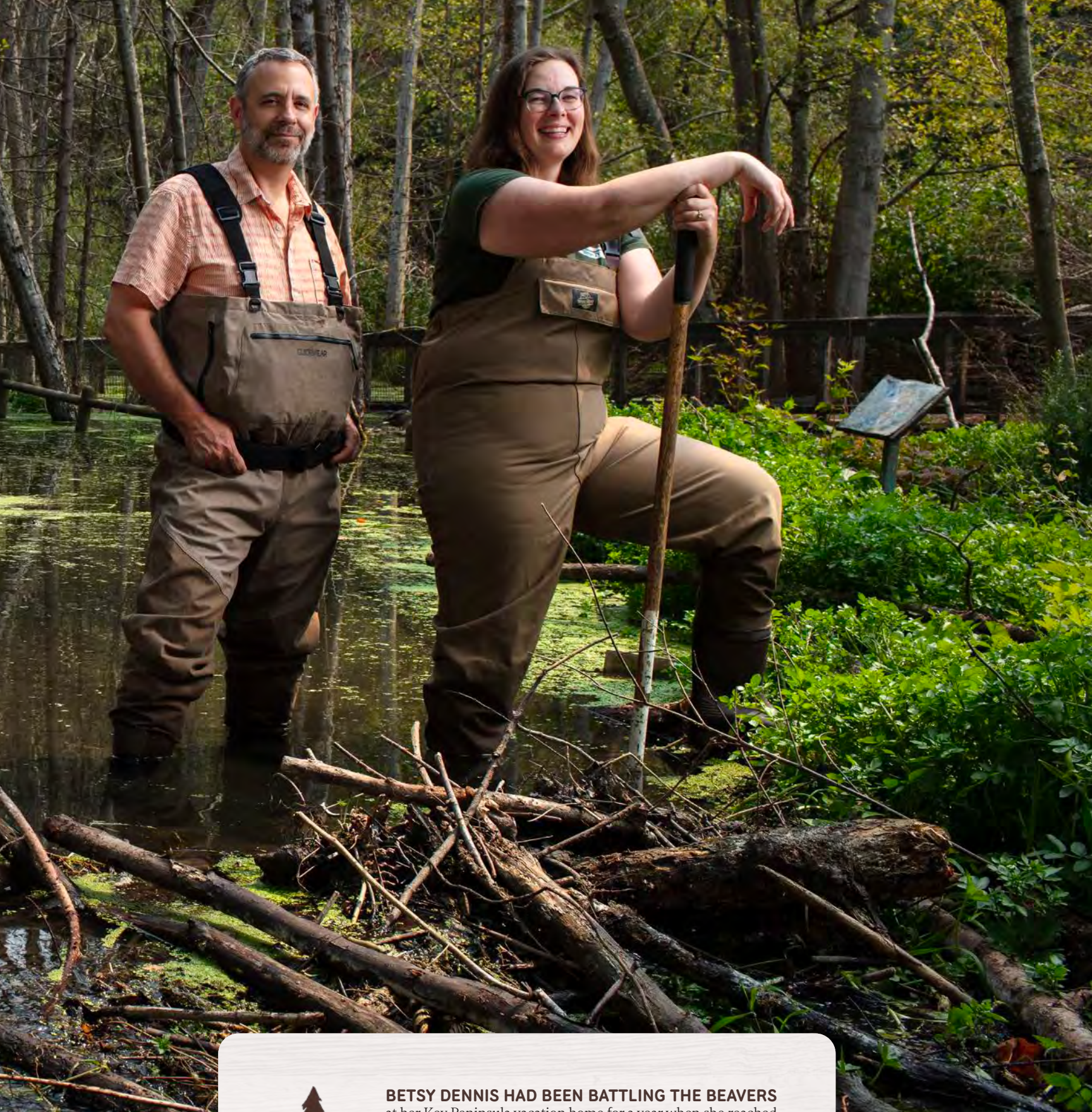


A photograph of a calm pond in a forest. In the foreground, a large, mossy log lies horizontally across the frame. The water is still, reflecting the surrounding trees and foliage. On the left, there are green plants with some brown leaves. In the background, several trees stand, some with green leaves and others with bare branches. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

AS PUBLIC INTEREST IN
BEAVERS GROWS, THE UW ALUMNI
AT BEAVERS NORTHWEST ARE KEEPING THE PEACE

Beaver Believers

BY MIKE SEELY | PHOTOS BY JOHN LOK



BETSY DENNIS HAD BEEN BATTLING THE BEAVERS

at her Key Peninsula vacation home for a year when she reached out to Pamela Adams, a West Seattle beaver obsessive and subject of a local documentary which Dennis had watched.

Dennis had three ponds on her property and beavers were building dams in the upper one, causing water levels to rise. For a year, Dennis breached these dams herself, but eventually it got to be too much and her neighbor's property began to flood.

"My neighbor was fabulous about it, but I needed to deal with

UW associate professor Ben Dittbrenner, the founder of Beavers Northwest, joins current executive director Elyssa Kerr in the wilds of Carkeek Park.

it,” says Dennis.

As she began working with Dennis to mitigate the situation, Adams says “it progressively got more outside my lane.” Ensuring that the surplus water would flow into another body of water rather than Dennis’ neighbor’s driveway would require the installation of a pair of pond levelers, cage-and-pipe contraptions that needed to be permitted.

Fortunately, Adams knew just the outfit for the job: Beavers Northwest.

Across the course of American history, the way humans have typically dealt with nettlesome beavers is to trap them, kill them and harvest their pelts for clothing and other materialistic endeavors. Until recently, that is: It turns out beavers do a whole lot of good, contributing to the efficiency and safety of ecosystems that allow myriad species, including salmon and birds, to thrive. Simply getting rid of beavers has largely given way to a focus on keeping them alive and in harmony with their human neighbors.

Ben Dittbrenner, ’19, is an assistant professor of environmental and forest sciences at the University of Washington who earned his Ph.D. at the Montlake institution. Before he embarked upon his doctoral work, he worked in surface-water management for Snohomish County.

“We were doing a lot of work helping to relieve the amount of conflict beavers were causing for the county,” he explains. “Beavers come into these areas and they find a spot where a stream goes under the road through a culvert, and they can easily plug that up and cause big problems. For a long time, the standard approach was people would just trap out the beavers. In the past 20 years, beavers have really returned to the Northwest in a big way. It was less effective to trap; another beaver would fill the void almost instantly.

“We were doing non-lethal beaver management and it turned out to be much more cost-effective. The cost of hiring guys to trap beavers and clean up the mess in the culverts cost a bunch of money.”

While Dittbrenner was working for the county, he realized “there was just as much of a problem on private land” and along with co-worker Mike Rustay, ’05, founded Beavers Northwest to fill the void. Without advertising, the organization quickly got referrals from local government agencies and others who knew the type of expertise that Dittbrenner and his organization possessed.

Around 2012, Beavers Northwest got its 501(c)(3) recognition and began applying for grants.

“The news spread that there were these guys managing beavers and maybe doing it effectively,” recalls Dittbrenner. “All of a sudden, all these local cities like Bellevue started to get interested. Many cities have pretty small environmental crews, so having an external NGO they could hire was really advantageous. Soon we were doing as much work with individuals and even the feds. WSDOT has a lot of places where they have beavers on their roads or do mitigation on a wetland.”

Eventually, Dittbrenner started working on his Ph.D., which gave him “a lot of access to undergrads who were familiar with my research on beavers.” Beavers Northwest needed part-time workers, so Dittbrenner dutifully hired as many UW students as he could—to the point where his nonprofit became a sort of outgrowth of the University’s environmental sciences program.

One of those students was Elyssa Kerr, ’14, ’20, who was soon elevated to full-time status.

“She was really scrappy, doing all these different jobs and piecing them all together,” says Dittbrenner. “Not long after that, I started getting toward the end of my Ph.D. and it was really clear that she could do a great job running the organization.”

In 2019, Dittbrenner accepted a job at Northeastern University and sold Kerr his house. At that point, she also stepped into his job as executive director of Beavers Northwest.



WHEN ADAMS GOT IN TOUCH with Beavers Northwest about Dennis’ situation, she was asked how she wanted the collaboration to go. Adams replied, “I want your A-Team.”

Enter Madison Newton, a 2021 UW grad who, in keeping with the Beavers Northwest tradition of putting undergrads to work, started out with the organization in 2020.

She rose to the full-time position of program manager after graduation; Adams says “She’s got that sweetness and she’s badass.”

When Beavers Northwest arrived on the scene, Dennis recalls, “I didn’t know initially how it would be. They were astounding. I got an accurate estimate, which seemed fair enough. They got the permits, worked around my schedule of being in and out of town.

“They came and it took them about four hours for each leveler. They did it over two days. They were really lovely, really nice people.”

Laurie Devereaux, who works for City of Bellevue Utilities as its Stream Team program administrator, has had a similarly positive relationship with Beavers Northwest. The Stream Team has been around for almost 40 years, and Devereaux has worked for the city for 24.

“I think since the dawn of our stormwater utility in the ’70s, Bellevue has been managing beavers in one way or another,” she says. “Since time has gone on, there’s been this increased interest in working with beavers rather than against them.”

Supporting fish and wildlife habitat and protecting the environment are part of the Stream Team’s mission, so in 2006, the city employed some beaver management tactics like wrapping certain trees in mesh to prevent beavers from chewing into them and putting up raptor perches on dead trees. A few years later, the city entered into a contractual relationship with Beavers Northwest to help take them to the next level.

“We’ve been managing beavers on our own for a long time, but working with Beavers Northwest can help us with expertise and with capacity,” says Devereaux. “Beavers Northwest comes weekly or every other week to do those site inspections. The real expertise happens when we have trouble spots, when we have persistent beaver activity in an area and it’s causing problems in our stormwater areas. They come up with a plan to help us design and manage that. And all the reporting that comes with getting that permit is part of their expertise. It kind of has everyone doing what they do best.”



WHEN ASKED to encapsulate what she does for a living, Kerr describes herself as “like a beaver-human therapist.”

“I’m mediating these relationships,” she says. “That’s a big part of what we do because I think, more often than



TOP: Beavers do their thing at Carkeek Park.

RIGHT: Elyssa Kerr, executive director of Beavers Northwest, works at her desk along with a few beaver toys.

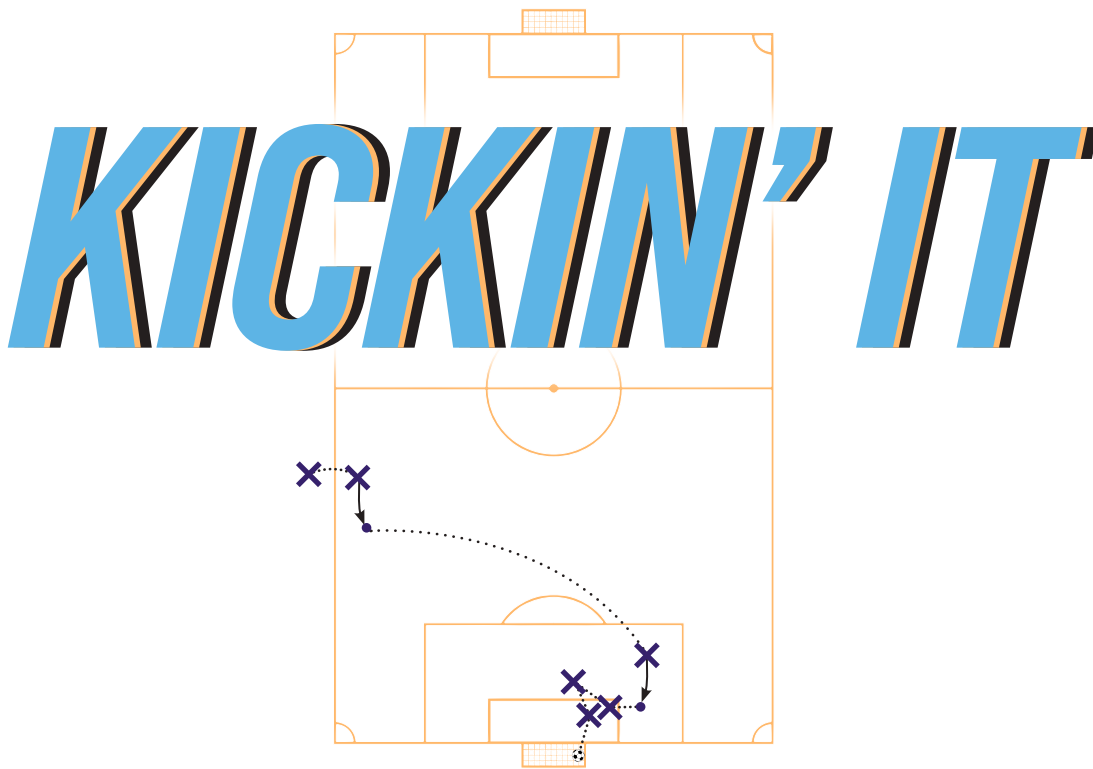


not, we're getting the call from someone that's worried about this future problem. That's really where we become this mediator. Just having that expertise and being able to alleviate fears and present people with a solution goes a long way."

Earlier this year, Beavers Northwest's staff, which includes five UW grads, went to see the well-reviewed Pixar movie "Hoppers," which is all about beavers. A short while after that, communications manager, Joe Mouser, '18, '24, hosted a beaver-centric event where 100 people showed up. The same event a year earlier drew 40.

"Beavers are having a moment," says Kerr. "We're just seeing more and more people excited about beavers. There's an appetite for this information. I do think, generally, people have a pretty poor understanding of beavers, but I think that is changing and we're just seeing more and more people interested in learning more about them."





UW men's soccer coach Jamie Clark wants his boys to have fun. And there's nothing more fun than winning it all.

BY MIKE SEELY

IF YOU AIN'T FIRST, YOU'RE LAST. The NASCAR legend in "Talladega Nights: the Ballad of Ricky Bobby" might have believed that, but Jamie Clark doesn't.

Three times—once as a player, twice as a coach—Clark had made it to the NCAA men's soccer national championship game and lost. He was disappointed, sure, but he still felt those three losses were the best experiences of his life. "I just want to play to the last day, and whatever happens, happens," says Clark, the head coach of the University of Washington's men's soccer team since 2011.

Clark was an All-American defender at Stanford, playing for his father, Bobby, when the Cardinal lost in the NCAA championship game to Indiana in 1998. He was an assistant coach at the University of New Mexico when

the Lobos lost to Maryland in the 2005 final. He was head coach at the University of Washington when the Huskies lost, 2-0, in the 2021 national championship final to Clemson. "I'm not really a huge championship or results guy," insists Clark. "I just love the experience of being with the guys. Honestly, that's what I enjoy."

To a person, everyone you talk to about Jamie Clark will vouch for this statement. He cares at least as much about his players' holistic satisfaction with their lives than he does about the score of yesterday's game. His dad, a legendary player and coach in Scotland and the U.S., was the same way. If the wins came, the wins came. If they didn't, there was more important work to do and more fun to be had.

But then, when everyone—including Clark—least expected it, the Huskies won it all. And that's when he realized what he'd been missing.



COURTESY UWATHLETICS

RON WURZER



NCAA

NATIONAL CHAMPION

THE LINE BETWEEN A NIGHTMARE AND A SWEET DREAM WAS RAZOR THIN, REALLY. Clark's Huskies were expected to make the NCAA tournament in 2025, but they came out of the box flailing and never really found a groove although they went 11-6-2 in the regular season and finished second in the Big Ten with a 7-3-0 record. Still, the Huskies' topsy-turvy season included enough hot spells to prove that the team could play with anyone on their best day, but a three-game losing streak to close out the regular season put them squarely on the tourney bubble.

Had enough underdogs weaseled their way through their conference tourneys, the Huskies would have been on the outside looking in. But the teams that were supposed to win won. Clark had a feeling the Huskies were fine, but he didn't express this emotion to his charges.

"It became pretty clear halfway through the week when NCAA tournament selections were being made that we were going to probably be pretty safe," he says. "But we never really said anything and we just left guys out there, you know, kind of sweating it. We thankfully stopped sweating it in the office a little bit more because we knew we were probably in."

Making the playoffs by the slimmest of margins meant the Huskies had to hit the road for all of their playoff games. First came a 3-2 win at Oregon State in double overtime, then a 1-0 victory in Dallas against No. 5 Southern Methodist. Then came Stanford, Clark's alma mater, with the Huskies prevailing, 1-0.

"Oregon State was probably the very best team that wasn't seeded, so we had to deal with them," says Clark. "SMU just won the ACC, which people argue is the best soccer conference in the country. Then we go to Stanford, who I think has been our historic rival and is the hardest out in the NCAA tournament every year."

Next, playing for a Final Four berth, the Huskies traveled 2,322 miles across the country to College Park to take on the University of Maryland, a team they had lost to 1-0 on Halloween night. The rematch would prove both trick and treat, as the Huskies prevailed, 3-1, to advance to the national semifinals in Cary, North Carolina.

After four road wins, the Huskies would finally be playing on neutral turf—but not really. In the semis, they faced No. 16 Furman, a school located in nearby South Carolina. Despite a loyal alumni contingent that traveled to the East Coast to cheer on the purple and gold, the University of Washington crowd was massively outnumbered. But it didn't matter: The Huskies won, 3-1, to earn a berth in the final.

On the other side of the bracket, the 15th-ranked North Carolina State Wolfpack advanced to the College Cup final. The Raleigh school had not won a men's sports championship of any kind since Jim Valvano guided the men's hoopsters to the ultimate Cinderella run in 1983 to win the national championship.

The shoes were on the Huskies' feet now. Cary is just 4 miles from Raleigh. From the opening kickoff, the Huskies were subjected

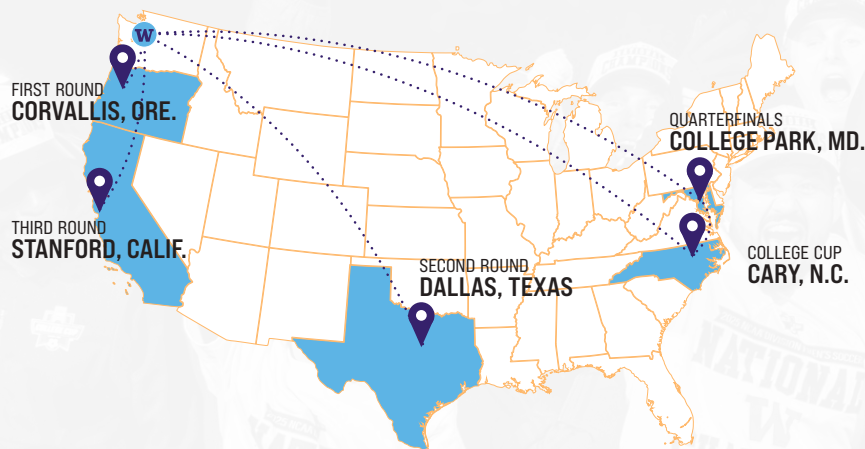
ON THE ROAD

Late goals, dramatic moments, and a whole lot of travel defined the Huskies' path to victory in the 2025 NCAA Tournament.

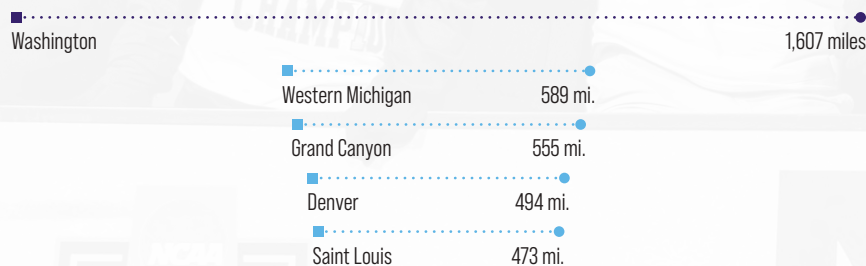
By JASON CLARK

10,160

Miles traveled by the Huskies for NCAA Tournament matches, including return trips to Seattle. The team stayed on the East Coast between the quarterfinals in Maryland and the College Cup in North Carolina.



Average distance from home in NCAA Tournament matches:



Washington and North Carolina State faced off in Cary, N.C., for the National Championship. The disparity in distance from home was the second-largest in College Cup history.¹

2,354

Miles between UW and WakeMed Soccer Park, the site of the College Cup

4

Miles between North Carolina State and WakeMed Soccer Park

¹Hartwick (NY) vs. San Francisco in the 1977 National Championship at California Memorial Stadium

TO THE COLLEGE CUP

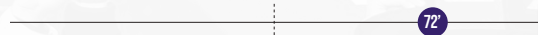
FIRST ROUND
CORVALLIS, ORE.



Washington 3, Oregon State 2 (20T)

The Huskies don't have a dream start—they concede immediately and give up a go-ahead penalty late in the second half. Five minutes from elimination, Connor Lofy scores the equalizer to send the match into overtime. In OT, Richie Aman scores one of the tournament's biggest goals and sends UW to the next round.

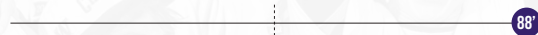
SECOND ROUND
DALLAS, TEXAS



Washington 1, No. 5 Southern Methodist 0

Lofy breaks a stalemate in the 72nd minute with a curling strike that floats over defenders and into the top right corner. The Husky defense shuts down an SMU offense that averaged three goals per game in the ACC Tournament.

THIRD ROUND
STANFORD, CALIF.



Washington 1, No. 12 Stanford 0

Zach Ramsey's cross with time winding down finds Charlie Kosakoff, who heads in the winner to eliminate preseason No. 1 Stanford.

QUARTERFINALS
COLLEGE PARK, MD.



Washington 3, No. 4 Maryland 1

Maryland opens the scoring, but relentless pressure by the Huskies is rewarded with three goals as UW avenges a loss from earlier in the season.

COLLEGE CUP | SEMIFINALS
CARY, N.C.



Washington 3, No. 16 Furman 1

UW opens the College Cup with two first-half goals, and a long-range screamer by Asher Hestad in the 86th minute leaves no doubt as the Huskies advance to the National Championship game.

COLLEGE CUP | CHAMPIONSHIP
CARY, N.C.

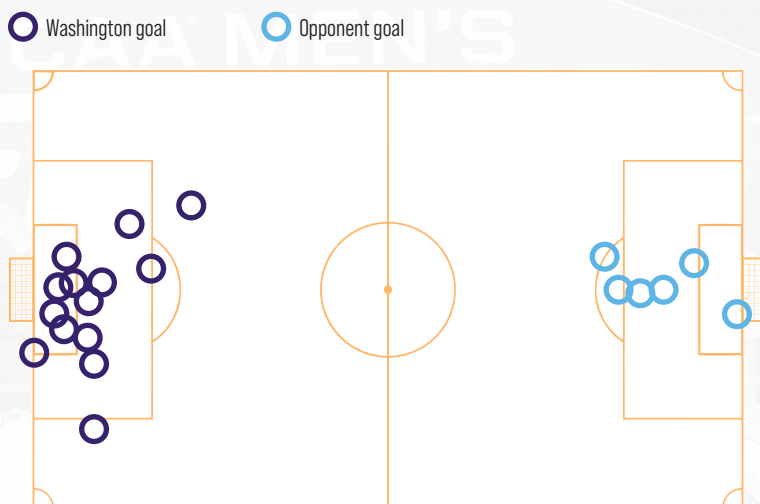


Washington 3, No. 15 North Carolina State 2 (OT)

Goals by Zach Ramsey and Joe Dale put the title in sight for the Huskies, who haven't lost a lead all tournament. But N.C. State scores two goals to send the match into overtime. Soon thereafter, Kusakoff and Egor Akulov find Harrison Bertos for the sudden-death, championship-winning goal.

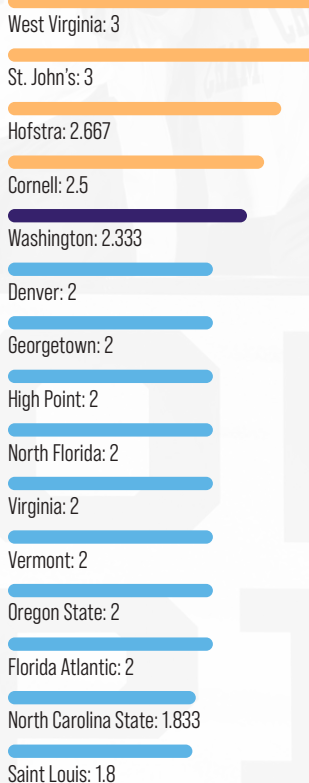
A Knack for Attack

The Husky defense produced two clean sheets and conceded only six goals in six games. But the hallmark of UW's title run was its consistent goal-scoring threat.

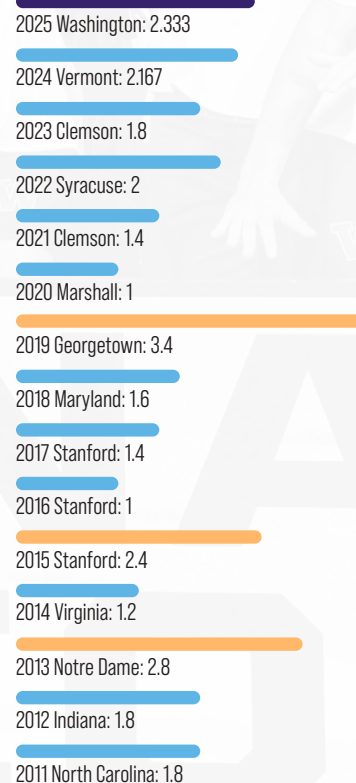


Goals scored per game

2025 NCAA Tournament, top 15 teams



Last 15 National Champions





After a game in Florida, [Clark] pulled all the strings he could pull to let us go to an amusement park as a team. We were all having a blast. He would be on the rides with us, laughing and joking around. Coaches don't do that.

—KALANI KOSSA-RIENZI, DEFENDER FOR THE SEATTLE SOUNDERS AND FORMER UW PLAYER

to a veritable snake pit of hunger and hubris, the smug Wolfpack gaping and gasping with every red-and-white touch.

Toward the end of the first half, the Huskies shut the crowd up, scoring off a deflection of a long clear to take a 1-0 lead heading into the break. The lead would swell to 2-0 midway through the second half, but then the Pack came back, leveling the score at 2-2 by the end of regulation on a pair of spectacular goals that ace Husky goalkeeper Jadon Bowton, who was on the 2021 team that lost in the final, had little chance of stopping.

It was on to sudden-death overtime, the Huskies' season on the brink.

"I GET TO SEE MY BEST FRIENDS EVERY DAY."

This is how Bowton responded when asked by a reporter what the best thing about the 2025 Husky men's soccer season was. He didn't say that the best part was winning the program's first national title, when defender Harrison Bertos scored the decisive goal a couple of minutes into sudden-death overtime.

The same reporter had to tell a dumbfounded Clark who actually scored the winning goal. When he found out, Clark said, "We live by the Bertos, we die by the Bertos."

Bertos, like Clark and dozens of his current and former Husky players, will soon play in Major League Soccer. He was selected by San Diego FC following the 2024 season but will return for his senior season at the UW this fall, with the pro club still holding his professional rights.

After Clark realized Bertos had scored the clinching goal, Bertos said of his coach, "He just told me how proud he was of me, kind of reflecting on what a great year it was, how much I'd grown as a player. He was just so happy for Washington in general."

Bertos explains what makes Clark a unique mentor. "Something that Jamie is so good at is really connecting with his players in different ways off the field. When you're a young player, you might not like Jamie, because he's hard on you, but you learn how he likes to coach and you find ways to mature and find ways to grow. It was like, OK, if I want to be a pro, I need to listen, and Jamie has been through it all."

"It almost feels like he doesn't care as much about soccer. He's more concerned whether you're enjoying your time there," says fellow defender Egor Akulov, a homegrown talent whose mom worked in bioengineering at the



PHOTOS COURTESY UW ATHLETICS

UW. “We got off to a slow start last year and he just kept scheduling fun activities and, before you knew it, things came together.”

“I can confidently say that he made everybody on the team have a good time, regardless if you’re playing or not playing,” adds Kalani Kossa-Rienzi, a former Husky midfielder who now plays for the Seattle Sounders alongside fellow UW alum and U.S. World Cup team member Cristian Roldan. “I have a really specific memory of my junior year. We went to Florida for a game and were gone for like four days. After the game, he pulled all the strings he could pull to let us go to an amusement park as a team. We were all having a blast. He would be on the rides with us, laughing and joking around. Coaches don’t do that.”

IN 2010, IN HIS FIRST AND ONLY YEAR AS THE HEAD COACH AT CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY, Clark guided the Blue Jays to a 13-5-2 record and the second round of the 2010 NCAA tournament. For the following season, he accepted the head coaching position at the UW.

After leading the Huskies to a 12-4-2 record in 2011, the top job at Clark’s alma mater, Stanford, came open and he was a candidate. When he was pondering whether to leave Creighton for the UW after a lone season in Omaha, Clark asked his dad if he could really leave.

“He was like, if you leave, you can’t leave again,” recalls Clark of Bobby’s advice.

Stanford was a dream job. Still, Clark heeded his father’s advice and stayed put. Suffice it to say, he has no regrets. “I couldn’t be happier. This place is home,” says Clark. “Winning a title and not is like night and day. The celebration, the care, the pride, the joy of everyone from actually winning a title vs. being really close to winning a title is just on a different level.”

Hey, when you know, you know.

Facing No. 4 Maryland on the road was ‘not exactly the draw you’d hope for,’ as Clark put it. But the Huskies beat the Terrapins to earn a semifinalist trophy (left).



COURTESY UW ATHLETICS

Coach Nicole Van Dyke’s squad celebrates making the NCAA Elite Eight for the third time in school history.

A Team of Destiny

Playing with heavy hearts, the women’s soccer team reached new heights in 2025

By JON MARMOR

It’s impossible to describe what the UW women’s soccer team experienced, from the gut-wrenching death of goalkeeper Mia Hamant from stage 4 kidney cancer during the season to rallying to capture the Huskies’ first Big Ten regular-season and tournament titles and reach the NCAA Elite Eight.

If you boil everything down to just the facts, you can see how the Huskies enjoyed one of the best seasons in program history. Led by unanimous Big Ten Coach of the Year Nicole Van Dyke, they won their first conference championship in 25 years by going 7-1-2 at home, defeating two Top 5 schools (No. 4 UCLA and No. 4 Arkansas), recording a program-record 12 shutouts and going undefeated (4-0-1) in Big Ten play at Husky Soccer Stadium. Two Huskies, Jadyen Holdenried and Alex Buck, each scored five game-winning goals to tie for second in the Big Ten. It’s no wonder they came in at No. 5 in the TopDrawerSoccer.com Top 25 poll and No. 6 in the final United Soccer Coaches Poll.

Those stats are amazing in and of themselves. But to do it with all the emotions surrounding Hamant all season long? “What our women’s soccer team accomplished was one of the most heartbreaking

and inspiring feats I think I will ever be involved with,” says Athletic Director Pat Chun. “Our coach says you can experience heartbreak and hope all on the same day ... how Mia inspired our athletic program. We will remember the courage [she displayed]. It set us forth and inspired all of our athletic department.”

Somehow, the Huskies players and coaches carried the memory of Hamant with them in their hearts and minds during every practice in the rain, in each test in the classroom, and on the field against the toughest competition in America. “She was part of everything we do,” says Van Dyke, who guided the team to its third-ever NCAA Elite Eight appearance.

And with a team loaded with talent that featured second-team All-American Kolo Suliadu—the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year—and fourth-team All-American forward Alex Buck leading the way, the Huskies were not to be denied. With a 2026 squad that will feature two of the best young players in the nation, goalkeeper Tanner Ijams (11 clean sheets in 2025) and All-Big-Ten freshman midfielder/defender Maylen Montoya, the Huskies will be staking their claim as one of best teams in the nation.

9-1-1

BRILLIANT MINDS

CHICAGO MED

ER

GENERAL HOSPITAL

THE GOOD DOCTOR

GREY'S ANATOMY

• HARBORVIEW SIMULATION ROOM

HOUSE

NURSE JACKIE

THE PITT

THE RESIDENT

SAVING HOPE

SCRUBS

ST. ELSEWHERE

Not the Usual Medical Drama

Acting as patients, UW drama students help teach trainee physicians about communication and empathy in delivering care

By Nancy Joseph | Photos by Mark Stone



Inside Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, a patient in a hospital gown lies on a gurney. While answering questions posed by two UW Medicine neurology residents, the patient's breathing grows labored. The residents must respond.

Across the hall, a 40-something mother and her adult daughter meet with another neurology resident to discuss the mother's memory decline. While the daughter expresses her concern, her mother makes light of recent memory lapses, chalking them up to depression, for which she is being treated.

Such scenarios are quite familiar for neurologists. But on this day, they are simulations, with students from the University of

Washington College of Arts & Sciences' School of Drama performing the roles of patients and family members. Through these simulations, medical residents can hone their diagnostic and communication skills before they face similar, real-life scenarios with actual patients.

But it isn't just the residents who are here to learn. "I've wanted to act for a while, and I've always been interested in medicine, so this was a perfect combination," says Lev Parker, a UW creative writing major and drama minor who played the role of the patient on the gurney. "This was my first performance, my first stage."

Simulations are nothing new in health care—the UW has a "standardized patient"



Left, UW drama student Ella Campanario plays a confused patient. Above, Emma Wardenburg and Alexandria Wilson apply moulage to Campanario. Right, a patient's ear-piece connections are checked.



program involving simulations for clinical training—but neurology training has traditionally been “lecture-based with a lot of self-study,” explains Wolfgang Muhlhofer, associate professor and vice chair of education in the UW Department of Neurology. “That’s not really putting our trainees’ active problem-solving, medical decision-making and communications skills to work.”

To address this, UW Neurology introduced a full-day “boot camp” of simulation training for incoming residents in 2022. To play the role of patients, Muhlhofer explored using paid “standardized patients” through the UW’s standardized patient program. But the cost and lack of availability on the date of the planned boot camp were problematic. So, he reached out to the faculty in the UW School of Drama to see about recruiting student actors as volunteers.

Initially, Drama faculty felt uncomfortable asking students to take on an acting job without being compensated. Then Scott Magelssen, professor of theater history and performance studies and executive director of the School of Drama, offered to create a two-credit course for those interested in participating. Having spent his career

“
Subtext is important because
patients don’t just show up
with a symptom. They all have
a story that they carry around
with them.

– Wolfgang Muhlhofer

studying simulations in various contexts—from living-history museums to simulations preparing soldiers for combat—Magelssen knew how valuable simulations can be.

“Simulations are really important because they rehearse for real life,” says Magelssen, who holds the Floyd U. Jones Family Endowed Chair in the School of Drama. “They use the tools from theater and performance to create a world that is realistic enough that the training feels authentic. They allow us to engage and activate our whole bodies, our emotions,

to gain knowledge and skills.”

Drama students signed up for Magelssen’s course and participated in the neurology boot-camp simulations. The simulations were so well received by neurology residents that the Department of Neurology began offering optional two-hour simulation workshops each quarter. Drama students were happy to be involved.

“I think our drama students are hungry for these kinds of experiences,” Magelssen says. “This was a way to have them participate in the simulations but also have an educational component, an opportunity to reflect on the ways they are using their skills and how their art can make an impact in the world outside of the theater.”

Like any acting role, the simulation actors arrive prepared, with guidance from Muhlhofer. He first sends an email describing the upcoming simulation scenarios, then discusses the scenarios in more detail with interested students over Zoom. Before the event, the students receive a script—“more like Cliff Notes,” Muhlhofer says—containing information about their character and the story to tell the trainee physicians. The notes include things they should mention to the trainees as well as the things they shouldn’t volunteer, along with subtext for the character.

“Subtext is important because patients don’t just show up with a symptom,” says Muhlhofer. “They all have a story that they carry around with them. A lot of times, I leave it up to the actors to improvise based on some basic personality traits, some basic emotions they should have in this particular situation.”

Muhlhofer then meets in person with the student actors for a dry run before the simulation takes place. He will play the role of the trainee physician and offer suggestions for making the patient’s physical symptoms and emotional responses as believable as possible. The more real the scenario feels, he explains, the more the neurology residents will be able to learn from it.

Muhlhofer recalls one scenario in which the patient complained of a headache, suddenly became unresponsive and had a seizure. “The calm scenario turned into this really high-stress situation,” Muhlhofer says. “The resident was rushing around the bed trying to interact with the patient. The resident’s pager fell to the floor, so the resident kicked it across the room to get it out of the way while yelling orders to the nurse. They had a visceral response to what was happening and got so into it that it felt real.”

Colleen Carey, who is majoring in the comparative history of ideas and minoring in drama, recalls playing the role of a patient admitted to the emergency room with a cluster of symptoms. The simulation was run twice with different trainees. She explains: “There are lessons I continue to learn in this arena that cannot be learned anywhere else.”

Columns

NEWS FROM THE UW COMMUNITY



Sculptor Georgia Gerber's famous Rachel (left) is a real-life piggy bank that raises money to support Pike Place Market.



The Big Pig's Big 4-0

Pike Place Market's famous Rachel the Pig, a creation by Georgia Gerber, '82, still entralls visitors and raises money for the Market

By Jon Marmor

There's always a mass of humanity in good spirits watching the fishmongers throw fish at Pike Place Fish Market—and then get their photos taken with the adjacent Rachel the Pig, the bronze piggy-bank creation of Whidbey Island-based sculptor Georgia Gerber.

On Aug. 17, Rachel turned the big 4-0. "Having people send me photos of their children or grandchildren with Rachel is a real thrill," says Gerber, who came down to the Market in late June for a photo shoot with her prized porcine creation.

Funny thing is, Gerber wasn't even the first choice to create the pig. Or the second.

Or the third. She explains: "In 1985, there was a 'call to artists' to come up with an idea for a sculpture of a pig that could represent the Pike Place Market and collect donations for the Market Foundation. The foundation provides social services in the Market neighborhood. Funding for the project was provided by Fratelli's Ice Cream Co.

"There were about 30 entries, as I recall. A committee chose a proposal other than mine, but for one reason or another, that choice did not work out, so the competition was revamped. This time, three specific artists were invited to submit proposals,

and I was not one of them. I wrote a number of times to advocate for myself. The selection committee finally recognized my determination and decided to invite me to participate in the second round."

A very large pig named Rachel lived a couple of miles from her home on Whidbey Island. She based her ideas on the real Rachel and made a small clay model to bring to the presentation. "Later that day," she recalls, "they called to say they had chosen me. It was only natural that she was named Rachel."

A native of rural Pennsylvania who came to the UW for graduate school, Gerber watched with glee as dozens of people—including a group of excited Belgium soccer fans in town to watch a World Cup game—were itching to be photographed with Rachel in late June.

Gerber captured the real-life Rachel's personality just so. The sculpture was created in water-based clay and a steel armature had to be made to support the hundreds of pounds of clay. Rachel was cast in about 15 sections, which were welded together to complete the piece. "I had such a great model, but I think managing to give her just the right attitude and personality is what has helped endear her to the public," Gerber says.

Gerber was caught a little by surprise when informed that Rachel turned 40. "When people learn that I created Rachel, they are surprised, because it feels to them that she's just always been there," Gerber says. "It's funny, but I sort of feel the same way."



Around the Sound

Kara Patajo, '19, is a travel blogger and author of "52 Weekends," a collection of travel destinations in the Pacific Northwest

UW Magazine: I'd love to hear about your UW experience, how you chose the UW, what you studied.

Kara Patajo: I can't remember not wanting to go to the UW. My dad went there and he was the first person in his family to go to college. There's a picture of me at age 4 or 5 on Halloween, wearing a little UW cheer uniform. So years later, it was really exciting when I got my acceptance letter.

What was it like working at The Daily?

I really enjoyed my time at the UW. The Daily was my first job ever. After I wrote my first article, I framed my paycheck. I was so proud of it. It's still hanging in my parents' house somewhere. And seeing your work in print...

that feeling never gets old.

How did the process for "52 Weekends" get started?

I was doing the research for "52 Weekends" before I knew it was book research, creating content for social media for my blog. I believe in following your passions, because they might lead somewhere beyond your wildest dreams.

What is your favorite season?

I love the quiet, shoulder seasons. You get a better value plus fewer crowds in fall and spring. One of my favorite parts of writing the book is having the opportunity to highlight so many local businesses, many of which are located in destinations which are very seasonal.



KARA PATAJO'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A WEEKEND AT THE UW

- ➔ Rent a canoe from the Waterfront Activities Center and row to Union Bay Natural Area or the Arboretum
- ➔ Visit the Burke Museum
- ➔ Hop on a seaplane to see the UW from a new perspective
- ➔ Grab a latte from Café Allegro

Columns

A New Era for Washington Athletic Club

Suzana Sakay, '10, '13, now stewards one of Seattle's most renowned gathering places—a city institution with deep Husky ties

By Jon Marmor

The legendary Washington Athletic Club has been serving the Emerald City and Western Washington for over 95 years. In 2025, the club made history by appointing Suzana Sakay, '10, '13, as its first woman president and chief executive officer. Like many of the club's members and activities, her UW connections run deep.

Besides earning two degrees from UW Bothell (a bachelor's degree in global studies and an MBA), she has taught retail management courses there for the past 10 years. At the WAC, she succeeded Chuck Nelson, '82, the former Husky place-kicker who retired last year after 13 years at the helm of the downtown Seattle club.

Sakay has held leadership roles at the club since 2011, serving most recently as vice president of business excellence and development. Before that, she gained years of experience working in the health and wellness industry. What is particularly eye-opening—and why her first college

degree was in global studies—is that before she moved to the U.S., she spent two years as a translator and interpreter for the NATO peacekeeping mission following the conflicts in the Balkans.

Born in Germany, Sakay and her family moved to the former Yugoslavia, living in a border town between Bosnia and Croatia. During the height of the conflicts, "Everything was upside down," she recalls. They lost their home and spent time as refugees.

Before the Dayton Peace Accords ended the crisis in 1995, Sakay was one of many translators who worked with local authorities and NATO generals as they drew up borders between the newly established states. After the war, she and her husband, Robert, whom she met in Croatia when he was deployed there, moved to Seattle. Going to college was on their minds. And the UW was on their minds, too. "The UW is a family institution," she says.



COURTESY WASHINGTON ATHLETIC CLUB

Suzana Sakay fell in love with business as a UW Bothell student and turned that into a career that has culminated in her new role as president and CEO of the legendary social club in downtown Seattle.

The WAC is also an institution. "We need places to congregate," she explains. "When society shifts," such as in the pandemic, "we need a place that feels like home."

CHECK OUT THE WAC

UW alumni are invited to enjoy a complimentary beer in the WAC lobby during the club's Tuesday on Tap event from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20.

RSVP at wac.net/uw-rsvp.

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World-Class Jazz

After a career spent in educational leadership, “double Husky” Stephan Blanford landed his dream job guiding Earshot Jazz

By Mike Seely

Few people ever get the chance to take their “drop everything and just say yes” job. Dr. Stephan Blanford is one of the lucky few.

Blanford refers to himself as a “double Husky,” having earned his master’s degree in public administration in 2005 and a doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies in 2011. Last year, as the former Seattle Public Schools board director was approaching the end of a self-imposed five-year stint as the Children’s Alliance’s executive director, he noticed an article in *The Seattle Times* about how that same job was about to be available at Earshot Jazz, an organization best-known for its eponymous print publication and fall festival.

“I met with my predecessor probably 10 years ago and was interested in serving on his board,” Blanford, a lifelong jazz fan who lives in the Central District, says of an interaction with former Earshot executive director John Gilbreath. “I was like, ‘If that job ever comes up. I really want it.’”

He got it and, since January, he’s been running Earshot from its Fremont headquarters, which is where *UW Magazine* engaged Blanford in a conversation about what he calls “Black America’s gift to the world.”

Where did you grow up?

Blanford: My dad was in the military, so we grew up all over the United States—Alaska, Hawaii, Japan.

Where were you born?

In Colorado. We left 30 days after I was born and then didn’t go back until I was a junior in high school.

How was that growing up?

Everyone I knew was also doing the same thing, so you just knew it as normal. When I graduated from high school, I’d been in Colorado for two years, and my best friend was sitting next to his best friend, so the three of us were really close and tight. And they started kindergarten together. And they were talking about, we’re friends, but you’re always kind of the outsider because you haven’t been around as long. And at that moment, I realized, “Oh, this thing that I went through was not like most people.” And there’s some downsides to it, but mostly, you know, I have a brother who was born in Japan, and I lived there for three years.

Your dad was a big jazz aficionado.

Yep. He loved Jimmy Smith, the organist,



COURTESY STEPHAN BLANFORD

Stephan Blanford

but he listened to a lot of Coltrane and Miles, ’60s jazz, a lot of the titans of the day.

What is the Seattle jazz scene like today?

It’s pretty robust in comparison to other large cities. If you look at the total number of attendees at festivals, we’re actually punching a little below our weight. My predecessor would say that that has, in large measure, to do with that we try to be very selective. Over time, you’ll see hopefully more diversity in terms of the number of artists and the types of music that they’re presenting.

We live in a city with at least two national-caliber high school jazz bands, Garfield and Roosevelt. Do you work with those kids?

Yeah, we have, and I see great opportunities for that to continue. We have world-class jazz, not only in Seattle Public Schools, but some of the other school districts. That is something that we really want to try to foster. But I’m also very cognizant of the fact that many of the jazz bands are not very diverse. And in particular, you think about Quincy Jones going to school at Garfield. I know his family is passionate about trying to figure out ways to make sure that the kids that live in the neighborhood also have opportunities to be in that jazz band.

How does jazz nourish you?

As I have gotten older, you know, [jazz] truly is Black America’s gift to the world. When we lived in Japan and I was listening to jazz as a little kid, it was something that helped me to understand who I was and to feel a lot of pride in being a Black American.



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Building a Sense of Belonging

Former Green Beret Skyler Brown, '19, is drawing on lessons from West Point, Goldman Sachs and the Foster School to help alumni, students and friends of the UW strengthen community

By Jon Marmor

When Skyler Brown, Foster MBA '19, completed nine years of Army service, more than four of them as a Green Beret, he went looking for an education in behavioral finance and a community where his family could put down roots. He found both at the University of Washington. "I chose the UW because it has world-class professors, and I was encouraged to explore the full university course catalog," he says. "Supplementing business school with classes at the law school and language courses at the College of Arts & Sciences was a gift."

With his wife's roots in Washington, the Puget Sound region was the natural place to land. As a graduate student at the Foster School of Business, Brown saw the UW Alumni Association in action for the first time. "The events drew me in," he recalls. "Our speakers were always insightful and memorable, but our alumni community always added unique twists during Q&A."

After five years on the UWAA Board of Trustees, Brown now serves as the president of the 60,000-member association. His focus is simple: Make sure everyone connected to the UW feels they belong in our Welcome Center era. The Ana Mari Cauce Welcome Center, scheduled to open in 2028, will give the UW family a new front door and gathering space. Brown sees the years between now and then as a chance to strengthen the connections our Welcome Center will celebrate, and a chance to continue growing the type of community that can help our University advance far into the future.

"Sometimes, graduates don't know where to turn after they finish school," he says. "Being present in our larger community isn't necessarily a priority for our students while they focus on graduating. For students and alumni of the University, it's important to build the type of environment that creates a sense of belonging." That sense of belonging, he adds, should also be felt by friends of the University.

Brown is honest about the challenges the UW faces, and quick to see the opportunity in them. His experiences in the military and as a wealth adviser at Goldman Sachs have illustrated how uncertainty can lead to surprisingly positive outcomes. "It's a very exciting time of change at the UW," he says.



MEET THE NEW UWAA PRESIDENT

Name: Skyler Brown

UW Degree: MBA, 2019

Did you know: He earned his bachelor's degree from the U.S. Military Academy and served more than nine years in the Army

Profession: Investment adviser, Seattle office of Goldman Sachs

Born and Raised: San Jose, Calif.

Highlight: While serving in the Army, he became a Special Forces Green Beret with a Persian Farsi language specialty and deployed to Afghanistan and several other countries

One of Skyler Brown's goals as president of the UW Alumni Association is to build a stronger sense of belonging by bringing more alumni, students and friends of the University together.

"We can choose to see what's possible." He credits current University and community leaders' measured optimism with keeping the UWAA motivated to pursue new opportunities across campus, the Big Ten and globally.

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Donna Miscolta's Latest Novel Tells the Rest of the Story

By Shin Yu Pai

In her newest novel, Donna Miscolta, '80, '90, turns her creative gaze back to an earlier work of her own making. Expanding upon the entangled lives of characters she first introduced in a short story published 11 years ago, "Ofelia and Norma" (Regal House) continues the coming-of-age tale of two unforgettable siblings.

Ofelia and Norma are two large-bodied twin sisters who are mirrors of comfort and familiarity for one another throughout their childhoods. Growing up in a household with a mother who is clueless and self-absorbed, the girls turn to each other for support and regulation. The twins lose touch when they seek to explore their separate identities in young adulthood. Ofelia sets her sights on changing her relationship to her body by being disciplined but develops disordered eating habits that she struggles to control around family. Her twin, Norma, is the victim of a brutal fraternity prank that causes her to fall into a deep depression.

Reminiscent at times of Roxanne Gay's "Hunger" and Chanel Miller's "Know My Name," Miscolta's unflinching prose unravels a narrative in which the estranged sisters come together to enact a shocking revenge upon Norma's abuser.

"In the [original] story, there was an innocence and trust that allowed the sisters to overcome the ordeal they experienced in high school," Miscolta says. "But in the novel, they are young women whose sisterhood and their own sense of self are tested in their separate forays into a world that views them in their large bodies as spectacles. Their separation engenders a sense of betrayal, and they search for a replacement for their once inseparable bond."

In the past decade, Miscolta, 73, has reimagined her own life narrative. After a 30-year career working in the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks on public education and school programs, she retired in 2019. During her first year of retirement, Miscolta and her partner traveled to Spain. They explored Madrid, Barcelona and Málaga—a coastal city with a moderate climate and a relaxed, international vibe. "At the time, it didn't occur to us to move there," Miscolta says.

But COVID-19 happened. When travel started up again, the idea of moving to Spain had taken up residence in her husband's heart and brain. In 2023, they sold



COURTESY OF ALEX GUILLEN

Novelist Donna Miscolta turned to writing full-time after a long career in public service.

their belongings and relocated to sunny Málaga, where Miscolta writes and studies Spanish language. She belongs to a multinational writing group that shares its work in English and gathers regularly with a group of women to practice Spanish and learn Spanish history.

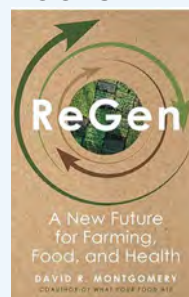
Miscolta expresses fondness and deep gratitude whenever she talks about Seattle. Miscolta moved to Seattle when she was 24. At the UW, she earned graduate degrees in education and public administration. Miscolta focused on teaching English as a Second Language and took courses in linguistics and syntax, building on her previous coursework in Spanish language and literature. She found that she was stronger in writing than pedagogy and pivoted to public affairs. Despite a busy life, Miscolta knew something was missing. When her friend Kathleen Alcalá, '85, read from a new collection of short stories, it triggered a long-buried desire in Miscolta to write fiction. In her late 30s, she enrolled in UW continuing-education classes led by writers like Jack Remick and Rebecca Brown.

The author of four books of fiction, Miscolta hopes to get three more books out. "The writing has never come easy for me, but I've been at it long enough to trust that it will come," she says.

Donna Miscolta reads from "Ofelia and Norma" at Elliott Bay Books on Oct. 29.

MEDIA

BOOKS

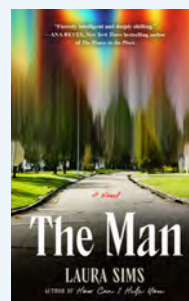


ReGen: A New Future for Farming, Food and Health

By David Montgomery, UW professor of earth and space sciences
W.W. Norton and Co.

The answer to better farming is simple: better soil. To improve soil health and combat

climate change, Montgomery makes the case for regenerative agricultural methods like crop diversity and low or no tillage.



The Man

By Laura Sims, '00
G.P. Putnam's Sons

Sims' suspenseful third novel follows talented amateur photographer Judith Stanley, who notices the silhouette of a man in the background of her self-portraits.

Exploring 1960s domesticity through the lens

of a homemaker, the book takes a creepy—yet fascinating—turn.

TV SHOW



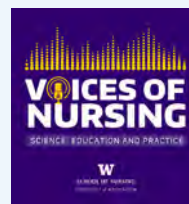
Seattle: A History in Short Stories

Documentaries Seattle and KBTC PBS

A slew of experts from the UW contributed their insights to this documentary series about Seattle's transformation from a rainforest to a tech and aerospace

giant, including Jean Walkinshaw, Tim Egan, Carver Gayton and Leonard Forsman. You can watch full episodes at seattlehistory.com.

PODCAST



Voices of Nursing UW School of Nursing

Listen to top-notch nurse leaders, researchers and scholars as they share triumphs and challenges in health care. Reproductive

rights, burnout, HIV and community-based care are among the hot topics discussed on this podcast.

Back From a Long, Long Break

After being away for 38 years, Eric Muhs' band Student Nurse is back on stage and fans love it

By Shin Yu Pai

When his band Student Nurse opened for seminal grunge band Mudhoney at this year's New Year's Eve show at the Neptune Theatre, bassist Eric Muhs, '81, '05, performed for the biggest crowd he'd ever played for in his decades-long career. The group's atmospheric and danceable art-punk sound distinguished the band from the rest of the Seattle music scene in the early '80s. By the time Student Nurse finished playing its set at the Neptune, the audience was on its feet and cheering.

Student Nurse was a new wave art rock band with a changing lineup of players. Founded in 1979 by Helena Rogers and John Rogers, '71, the band's name came from a comic book series from the 1960s. Muhs met the Rogers through his friend Sharon Gannon, '80, who performed live dance improv sets with the band. When they were looking for new members, Muhs joined even though he was new to playing bass. "We liked his energy so we just went for it," Helena Rogers says.

Muhs' musical interests were deeply informed by his time at the UW. Though he studied nutritional science, Muhs signed up for an electronic music class with Glenn White. At the time, the UW had a modular synthesizer in the Music Building with a 4-track recorder. Muhs and his friends would spend Saturday afternoons playing with the synthesizer and recording system. They made cassettes and sent them to KZAM, a Seattle AM radio station focused on new wave and punk rock and played recordings on weekends from anyone who sent in material. "I submitted several songs under different fake band names and would wait all weekend beside the radio to hear the songs played," Muhs says.

Muhs spent a year at Cornell University and at age 18, he drove to the West Coast. At the UW, Muhs fell in with a community of artsy Socialists who were interested in socially aware music. While attending an XTC show at The Showbox, Muhs heard lead singer Andy Partridge tell the audience that anyone could make punk rock. "That was a message that I'd been waiting for all my life and didn't know it," Muhs says.

With Jack Endino, '80, Student Nurse put out two records—"Problematic" and "Safety Last," for which musician Char



COURTESY OF MIKE MITCHELL

Easter, '96, '11, suggested the title. The band played everywhere from the all-ages venue Metropolis to small shows at art galleries before disbanding in 1984.

After that, Muhs earned a teaching certificate and was a substitute teacher in Seattle and California, where he met his wife, Gabriella Gutierrez. Interested in better career opportunities, they applied to graduate school. Gutierrez got into Stanford University and Muhs returned to the UW for a master's program in science, which helped pave the way to a long teaching career in high school physics and astronomy. Muhs taught for 20 years at Ballard High School. During that time, he was named Washington State Physics Teacher of the Year and became nationally recognized for sending student science experiments into space.

Throughout his teaching career, Muhs continued to make music. He composed music for live performances with choreographer Pat Graney. He's also played the ukulele and 12-string guitar for the past 15 years in a Hawaiian group with UW professor Patrick Perkins, in addition to collaborating

with his wife, who is a poet. Recently, the pair recorded "Frontera Dogs"—a one-hour album of her spoken words.

Student Nurse's 38-year hiatus came to an end during the pandemic, when Muhs and John Rogers remastered archival recordings and put out "Think For Yourself" on CD. To launch the album, they organized an event at Georgetown Records/Fantagraphics. "We were very rusty," Muhs says. "We thought we could do two songs. And then we were aiming for a whole first set." Hundreds of people showed up.

"Eric's tireless energy and creativity have really only increased over the years, including creating the wackiest instruments from mostly found objects," bandmate Helena Rogers says. "When I reconnected with Eric four years ago, I had no idea what a wild magic carpet ride we would embark upon."

Student Nurse is working on a project with legendary music producer Steve Fisk and just turned the recordings from their New Year's Eve show into a live album called "Amplified Stage Fright," which came out June 20.

Helena Rogers and Eric Muhs of Student Nurse open for Mudhoney at the New Year's Eve show at The Neptune.

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GENEROSITY AND OPPORTUNITY AT THE UW



A 50,000-Foot View

The 2026 Gates Volunteer Service Award goes to Jodi Green and Mike Halperin, lifelong connectors and learners who champion the UW as a force for good

By Malavika Jagannathan

Q: What do protein design, whitewater kayaking, democracy, contemporary art, data-driven astronomy, venture capital and cancer care have in common?

A: Jodi Green and Mike Halperin, '85, '90, a pair of longtime Husky supporters whose connections at the University of Washington are as broad as they are deep.

Halperin, a retired emergency medicine doctor, and Green, a former software engineer, have cultivated an all-encompassing relationship with the UW over decades as donors, volunteers, ambassadors and leaders. In that time, they've met with countless faculty to learn about their research, partnered with University leaders to drive strategic initiatives, co-chaired the successful Be Boundless fundraising campaign, and championed the UW as a powerful agent for positive change in the world. And they're still going strong—ready to say yes when the UW calls.

"There is something rare in the way they move through this University," notes Ed Taylor, vice provost and dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs. "They engage the intellectual, civic and moral life of this place with care, humility and a deep sense of responsibility to something larger than themselves."

This year, the UW Foundation is honoring Green and Halperin with the Gates Volunteer Service Award, recognizing their lifetime of philanthropic giving, volunteerism and impact.

This conversation with Green and Halperin has been edited for style and length.

What are your UW origin stories?

Mike Halperin: I moved to Seattle when I was 7. My father took a job in the botany [later biology] department, and we lived in faculty housing. The UW was more than just his job; it was our whole identity. I'd come to his lab in Johnson Hall, where he'd sometimes sleep on an old green Army cot to keep an eye on experiments. Later, I'd take the bus over to buy peanut butter cups at the HUB and to bowl in the basement. And there were our weekend trips with the UW kayak club.

Jodi Green: I didn't grow up here; Mike and I met on the East Coast. When I came to Seattle, I remember getting a tour of campus—seeing Johnson Hall and the old greenhouse. In the early '90s I joined the Henry Art Gallery board, where I learned about service and being a volunteer in the community. Nobody in my family went to college, but my parents really valued education. Going to college gave me a good job and changed my life. When I look around here, I'm looking at thousands of Jodis that are getting this incredible opportunity.

“You can make tremendous positive change in the world by giving *through* the University, whether that’s with your time or your dollars.”

~Mike Halperin

How did you get involved with the UW Foundation, the nonprofit organization supporting the UW in raising private funding to advance the University’s mission?

Jodi: I agreed to represent the Henry on the UW Foundation Board and realized, “I better learn a thing or two about the UW.” If I met anybody at the UW, I’d take their card and follow up with them. That’s how I got to see Affiliate Associate Professor Jana Mohr Lone’s ethics class at a local elementary school. And UW Medicine is such a big enterprise, so I’d ask Mike to come with me when I went to Professor Nora Disis’ lab and to the Institute for Protein Design. I went everywhere and asked too many questions. Eventually, I was asked to chair the board.

Mike: She went around all three campuses—Seattle, Bothell and Tacoma—whether they were official events through the Foundation Board or unofficial “Jodi jaunts.” She had these black notebooks, each one a couple of hundred pages. Everywhere she went—every meeting, every professor, student, dean, the president and the provost—she took notes. It made her this amazing repository of information. That 50,000-foot view of the University is what we learned through Jodi’s time as chair.

How did that big-picture view help you as general co-chairs for the UW’s Be Boundless campaign, which raised \$6.3 billion?

Mike: Over half the dollars that came to the campaign were not from UW alumni. One reason for us to have broad knowledge was to interact with people who wanted to get involved, with either their time or their dollars. As Jodi says, the more we know, the better we serve. We’ve continued to educate ourselves so we could be effective advocates and connect people in the community with the University.

Jodi: We became a sounding board for folks on campus to help them hone their story and talk to people outside the University. At the same time, we’d bring people into the University because we’d learned so much. There are people like me who found their way to the UW—maybe you didn’t go to school here but moved here for a job. It’s a real opportunity to let people in on the secret that is the University of Washington and the many incredible things happening on campus.

What led to establishing the Walt Halperin Endowed Professorship in Biology, named for Mike’s dad, as part of the campaign?

Mike: My father, who was my hero and role model, taught plant physiology here for 35 years. When I came to the UW, I was in his introductory biology class, so I got to experience his teaching personally. He was also a good researcher—and gave so much of his life to the UW. We wanted his name to continue on here.

Jodi: During the campaign, we wanted to do a gift that was bigger than we’d done before and honor Walt’s service here. We took Mike’s folks to lunch at the Faculty Club. Walt was incredibly clever and always had the perfect self-deprecating thing to say. When Professor Toby Bradshaw, the chair of the biology department, announced the endowed professorship, Mike’s dad was speechless for the first time in his life.

Can you give an example of how you’ve used your connections to help a program grow?

Jodi: We visited UW Tacoma many times to strategize on volunteer campaign leadership, see community-based research projects, meet student leaders and tour buildings that are an adaptive-reuse success story. We sat on a bench on what was the old railroad track through the middle of campus and marveled at the diversity of students. We love it there. I developed a deep relationship with Jim Milgard Sr. [then a South Sound business leader] when he was a director of the UW Foundation Board. During the Be Boundless campaign, we met with him in Tacoma and in California, where Mike asked him for a significant gift for the Milgard School of Business, building on the family’s \$15 million endowment to name the school [the largest philanthropic gift ever made to UW Tacoma].

UW leaders invited you to shape the Civic Health Initiative, an effort to collaborate with local communities to strengthen civic participation and public institutions. Why did you say yes?

Jodi: When the UW calls, we almost always say yes. We know we can help shape the mission and goals so donors, volunteers and outsiders can understand what the University’s trying to do. We’re both interested in the state of our democracy, so it was a good fit.

Mike: We understand the breadth and depth of talent here—and the ability of those people to make change in the world. There’s so much fragmentation in the civic health space, and often the answers are already there because of the scholarship, research, and deep expertise of UW faculty and graduate students. Whether folks are elected or running an organization for civic health, they should be working hand in hand with UW people.

(GVSA continued on page 49)

Impact

Superlative Students

Get to know three outstanding graduates—and the passions that drive them—from this year's Husky 100

By Chelsea Lin
Photos by Dennis Wise

ELIAS

An Indigenous champion of the environment. A future engineer unifying humanities and technology. A keyboard-playing memory-loss researcher.

This isn't the beginning of an esoteric joke. Those are three honorees in this year's Husky 100, a cohort of students recognized for how they ambitiously and authentically embody the University of Washington's ethos, by taking what they've learned in the classroom and using it for the good of the community and the future.

Choosing 100 exemplars from a body of more than 60,000 excellent students across the UW campuses in Bothell, Seattle and Tacoma is a Herculean effort. This year, the 10th annual Husky 100—representing 72 majors, 13 countries and 16 U.S. states—were chosen from a pool of 734 applications. Nearly half are Washington state residents. More than 70 just finished their senior year. Approximately three-quarters, including the three featured here, have received scholarships to help make their UW education possible—one way philanthropy fuels the Husky Experience, enabling access to education, research opportunities, a sense of belonging on campus, and beyond.

And every one of them brings an impressive, sometimes mind-boggling, collection of accomplishments. They are leaders, researchers, innovators, mentors and curious beyond comparison. But they're more than their impressive achievements. It's their community-first spirit that really sets these students apart.

Most Likely to: **Honor the Past While Shaping the Future**

When Elias Plaster, '26, was a kid, eating frybread in the stands of the UW's Alaska Airlines Arena while watching the annual UW Spring Powwows, he couldn't have known he would one day be coordinating the event himself, as a leader in the First Nations at UW student club.

Plaster, one of the first in his family to attend college, had a challenging first year, but he attributes his UW success to finding community through First Nations, the Native UW Scholars Program, and *wələbʔaltx*[™] – Intellectual House, the UW's Indigenous community cultural center.

A member of the Lummi Nation, Plaster discovered a home away from his Bellingham home at the Intellectual House, which was opened in 2015 with public, private and tribal support. To increase spaces dedicated to Native student success, culture and belonging, the University is now fundraising to create a Native arts lab, language labs,

Philanthropy fuels the Husky Experience, enabling access to education, research opportunities, a sense of belonging on campus, and beyond.

ZAHRA



outdoor garden of traditional plants and medicines, and more. “Working there has really helped me come out of my shell because of the community,” Plaster says. “I work with students from all different tribal nations, and building those relationships has been helpful and impactful, from homework and coursework to just being able to hang out.”

He became the Intellectual House representative to the Campus Sustainability Fund, a student-run and -funded program focused on justice-centered climate solutions. There he could bridge his cultural connections with his environmental science major.

He’s forged a similar bridge in his work as a field technician for the Lummi Nation Natural Resources Department, trapping invasive species and conducting clam surveys, and as a Climate Division intern, researching and writing a section of the tribe’s 10-year Climate Plan.

Having earned his Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Resource Management, Plaster plans to eventually attend law school; he sees policy change as the path toward the greatest environmental impact. In the meantime, he’s excited to continue his work with the Lummi Nation, protecting natural resources for future generations.

“My time at the UW and the opportunities I’ve worked for,” he says, “have strengthened my understanding of the natural world, leadership, professionalism and what it means to be a Husky.”

Most Likely to: **Pay It Forward**

Zahra Hassan, ’26, didn’t always love engineering. Born and raised in the Seattle area, a first-generation Somali American, Hassan found herself at Seattle Central College after high school on a path of obligation more than passion. “I was just like, ‘I’m going to take the classes and become an engineer. I’m going to make money, and I’m going to die,’” she says, laughing at her own despondency. “I couldn’t imagine there could be so much excitement and joy.”

A self-described “humanities girl,” Hassan fell in love with engineering when she found the UW Department of Human Centered Design & Engineering (HCDE). It seemed to check all her boxes: an engineering program focused on how people interact with technology to improve access, equity and sustainability—and how tech can help create community rather than break it down. She was accepted and was able to enroll thanks to scholarships like the Homecoming Scholar, Patricia G. Lynch and Theodora & Eugene Russell Memorial Scholarship, and Emerging Leaders in Engineering Scholarship.

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, for undergrads planning to earn doctorates, was one of the many awards Hassan says shaped her success as a student. “That program didn’t simply fund my research—it proved that the life I dreamed of was possible. It encouraged me to break barriers and not let fear paralyze me because I knew I would be supported.”

Her research examined self-censorship in academic institutions—what gets said, what doesn’t and why, particularly in student publications. The idea, and her resulting independent study, were sparked in a research class called Privacy, Race and Surveillance.

So much of Hassan’s educational journey has been shaped by mentors—through McNair, in class and beyond—that she serves as a mentor herself at every opportunity. In addition to an internship with the Equitable Development Initiative and Communications for the City of Seattle, she’s a community outreach leader for HCDE and an ambassador for multiple



Make education accessible to every student. When you support UW scholarships, it gives students like these three go-getters the space and confidence to build community, pursue research and inspire the world around them.
go.uw.edu/magazine

organizations. After her own battles with imposter syndrome, she aims to help others, especially women of color, feel welcome in tech.

"Having someone who truly believes in you is so special," Hassan says. "You hear it enough times and it rubs off eventually. It's changed my life."

Most Likely to: **Make You Listen More Closely**

Leo Freedman, '26, came to the UW with one rule: Just say yes. After all, he chose the UW over studying piano at Berklee College of Music largely because of the broad range of experiences available here. He didn't want to miss a thing.

The California native's chosen community at the UW reflects his willingness to jump in. He's held leadership roles in his fraternity, Sigma Nu, as well as at Chabad UW, an organization for Jewish students. He's kept up his piano chops by playing keyboard in local psych-fusion band Transience, where he's drawn to the "radical inclusivity" of playing house shows.

"What's been really cool for me is helping bridge opposite ends of the social spectrum," he says. "I enjoy cultivating and driving a sense of community across campus."

His studies, too, are a lesson in harmony. Freedman graduated in June with a double major in ethnomusicology and international studies and a minor in environmental studies. Thanks to a Libraries Student Employee Endowed Scholarship, he worked under John Vallier, curator of the ethnomusicology archives and the UW 2026 Distinguished Librarian, on moving the archives of music, language and sound to their home in the Allen Library. It inspired his capstone project: a seven-minute ambient audio depiction of the UW, including birdsong, student conversations, passing cars and more.

An online story about that soundscape led Sarah McKiddy, a doctoral student in nursing science, to reach out to Freedman in her research on music-based treatment for patients with dementia. They've spent the last year in a partnership at the Memory Hub, a community center for people with dementia, studying how chamber music affects patients dealing with memory loss.

Freedman says he's been inspired seeing the benefit of music on people with even late-stage dementia. It's reinforced his belief that music is an essential part of human nature. "Making music is a biological thing no different than breathing and walking and eating," he says. "It's just something humans do."

And it's something he plans to continue. He hopes to make more soundscapes around the world, capturing a sense of place, time and community in audio waves.

This year's HUSKY 100,
selected from 734 applicants, represents

72 MAJORS

13 COUNTRIES

16 U.S. STATES

and is made up of

50% WA RESIDENTS

**75% SCHOLARSHIP
RECIPIENTS**



(GVSA, continued from page 45)

Mike and Jodi “engage the intellectual, civic and moral life of this place with care, humility and a deep sense of responsibility to something larger than themselves.”

~Ed Taylor, UW Vice Provost and
Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs

What would you advise someone who wants to support the UW but isn't sure where to begin?

Jodi: The University is an extraordinary place in our backyard that people new in town might not know about. There's probably a center of excellence here that is a good match to their interests.

Mike: I grew up with the UW in my blood, but it was through Jodi that I went to the next level and really learned what this place was like. You can make tremendous positive change in the world by giving *through* the University, whether that's with your time or your dollars. Those working here would love to talk to folks on the outside; the doors are open. The UW wants to know you as much as you want to know the UW, and wants to work with you.



Leading by Learning

By Lisa Simonyi
Chair, UW Foundation Board

Learning is part of who we are as Huskies—and it goes beyond students in the classroom.

No one exemplifies that mindset quite like Jodi Green and Mike Halperin, two UW supporters who are always seeking opportunities to engage with new ideas and different parts of the University. That's why I was thrilled to inform Jodi and Mike that they'd be receiving this year's Gates Volunteer Service Award: the UW and University of Washington Foundation's celebration of a lifetime of philanthropy, leadership and service.

I can't think of another couple whose story is so woven into the UW's fabric. Their relationship with the University spans decades, going back to Mike's childhood crisscrossing campus to visit his dad's biology lab in Johnson Hall, and Jodi's first UW leadership role on the Henry Art Gallery board. It's deepened over time to touch nearly every part of the institution, ranging from data-driven astronomy and civic health to surgery and social work. Their unwavering commitment is rooted in a belief that great work is happening all over the University. And that's why they champion the idea of giving *through* the UW to make a positive impact on our communities and the world.

I've been lucky to get to know Jodi and Mike personally, so I've seen how they ask insightful questions and tackle hard topics. They seek out professors to learn about their research, then enthusiastically share what they've learned with others (thanks to them, I can now tell you about hummingbird beaks!). They shine a spotlight on lesser-known areas. They push the UW to do more and help bring more people into the Husky family.

If you're inspired by their example and wondering where to start, one of the easiest ways is to learn more about a subject area you care about or are curious about. As a public university, the UW is here for everyone—and our brilliant faculty, staff and researchers are eager to share their work with you. Reach out to them with an offer to listen. You never know where that one conversation might lead, what doors it might open or what new thing you might learn. That lifelong curiosity is what drives our University and makes the Husky community such a force for good.



SICILY AND MALTA

COMING AGAIN: MAY 14-27, 2027

Jewels of the Mediterranean Await You

By Tracey Wickersham

Last year, a longtime friend asked if I wanted to join her on a UW Alumni Tours trip to Malta and Sicily. Of course, the answer was a resounding yes!

So, off we went with a group of UW alumni, friends and family on an 11-day adventure. Our active itinerary was full of historic sights, delicious food and rich culture.

We began in Malta, an island nation of historic import for its strategic location. Our first evening started with a welcoming reception in the rooftop bar of our five-star hotel in central Sliema, where we met our full group of Huskies living in Washington, Texas, Florida and Maryland. Our tour director with AHI Travel, Dragan Vrcelj, with us every step of the way, ensuring seamless transportation and logistics, managing group needs with a keen eye and an ever-present smile.

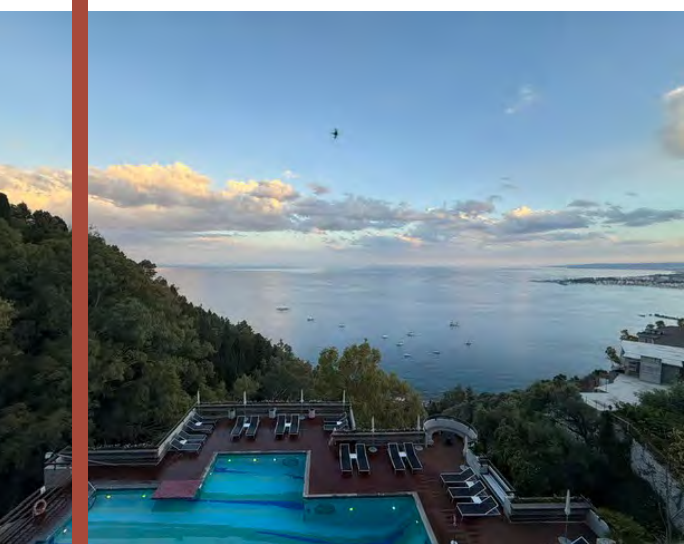
The highlights included a lecture from Dr. Dane Munro, a foremost expert on Malta's complex history and culture, and exploring the ancient walled city of Mdina. Another unique experience was a day trip to the island of Gozo and a visit to Xwejini Bay to meet the practitioner of a centuries-old sea salt farming technique.

Then we took the ferry to Sicily, where the verdant fields presented a stark contrast to the golden limestone and dense cities of Malta. Our hotel in Taormina was perched on a steep cliff, with sweeping views of the Ionian Sea, Mount Etna and even a peek of the hotel used in "The White Lotus" TV show. Sicily highlights: the well-preserved Greek temples at Agrigento, the ancient city of Siracusa, and of course, the food.

I've traveled a lot, but never in an organized group. I enjoyed meeting fellow explorers and basked in the luxury of having experts plan the best use of our time and handle the details. I can't wait for the next adventure! UW Alumni Tours is returning to Sicily and Malta in 2027, so check out UWalum.com/Travel.

Tracey Wickersham comes from a family of Huskies (father, sister and brother-in-law). She retired from a 40-year career in arts and culture, most recently as the senior director of Cultural Tourism for Visit Seattle.

FIND OUT MORE: UWALUM.COM/TRAVEL



PHOTOS BY TRACEY WICKERSHAM AND TERRI HOSHIMA

THE PLAY IS IN YOUR HANDS

Make every day game day with EA Sports College Football 27. Assemble a dream team of all your favorite Huskies, including Dubs and Harry! Then, coach from the comfort of your couch.



**COLLEGE
FOOTBALL 27**



GET IN THE GAME



Columns

Go Dawgs Go!

Join us for the UWAA's annual 10K Run and 5K Run/Walk on Oct. 18

More than 3,000 Dawgs (and dogs) of all ages will gather for Alaska Airlines Dawg Dash. An annual favorite, this family friendly event supports UW Alumni Association student scholarships, and includes a Pups Run for children under 8 and dog registration. New this year, pet food will be collected on site to support community nonprofit partner Pawsitive Alliance. Lace up your sneaks and join us!

UWALUM.COM/DAWG DASH

Two women sitting on a stone wall outdoors, smiling. They are surrounded by lush green foliage. Large white text "W ALUMNI" is overlaid on the image. In the bottom left corner, there is a QR code with a yellow paw print in the center. In the bottom right corner, there is text about supporting the next generation through mentoring and scholarships, and a link to join the UWAA.

W ALUMNI

Champion the Next Generation

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Pioneering Producer and Documentarian

Storyteller Jean Walkinshaw championed everyday people through her trailblazing TV work

By Shin Yu Pai

Throughout her 60-year career as an award-winning TV producer and documentary maker for local media, Jean Walkinshaw continually pushed the boundaries of civic discourse and culture. As producer of KING-TV's weekly interview show "Face to Face," Walkinshaw shook up TV in the 1960s when she highlighted minority issues by teaming up with host Roberta Byrd Barr, '59, a civil-rights activist and Seattle educator. Together, they made shows that explored race, poverty, nursing home abuses, the unhoused and other critical social issues. Walkinshaw's method, which she adopted early in her career, was to let people "tell their own stories in their own words."

In 1970, Walkinshaw moved to KCTS 9, where she produced "Faces of the City" and made more than 40 documentaries focused largely on the culture of the Pacific Northwest. She is also credited with ushering in an era of high-definition programming at KCTS with her documentary "Rainier: The Mountain."

Born and raised in Tacoma, Walkinshaw studied liberal arts at Stanford before moving to Seattle, where she enrolled at the UW to earn a teaching credential. At the UW, she met peace activist Floyd Schmoe and traveled with him to Hiroshima in 1951 to volunteer with a work crew building housing for atomic-bomb survivors. Upon returning to Seattle, she met lawyer Walt Walkinshaw at a Quaker meeting. They married in 1952 and had three children.

Walkinshaw was invited by Stimson Bullitt, a family friend and broadcasting executive, to work for KING-TV at a time when the station was looking for a morning talk-show host. Intrigued by the power of television, she returned to the UW to study communication and production with Milo Ryan, who founded KCTS.

Walkinshaw was the first female producer inducted into the Northwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Silver Circle. She also won eight Northwest Regional Emmy Awards and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Award. The Jean Walkinshaw Collection, which spans documentaries and interviews that she produced from 1972 to 2008, is held at the American Archive of Public Broadcasting.

Walkinshaw died April 13 at the age of 99.



COURTESY JEAN WALKINSHAW

RECOGNITION



Col. Bruce "Ol' Snake" Crandall, '52, was born in Olympia and was drafted into the Army during the Korean War while attending the UW.

He served as a helicopter pilot in the Vietnam War during the 1965 Battle of Ia Drang, flying 22 missions into heavy enemy fire to evacuate more than 70 wounded American troops. He received the Medal of Honor in 2007.

He died May 31 at the age of 93.



Kenichi Sato, '53, '65, was born in Maui and served with the Military Intelligence Service in World War II. After graduating from the UW, he taught and held leadership roles with Seattle Public Schools. He was president of the UW Nikkei Alumni Association. The Emperor of Japan honored him with the Kunsho Award for promoting U.S.-Japan goodwill. He died March 7 at the age of 99.

He died March 7 at the age of 99.

Columns

In Memory

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Mercer Island, age 93, April 11

JAMEL HASSEN BARDEN
Normandy Park, age 93, June 2

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JANET MAXINE FOGLE
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DALE GORDON FRIEND
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R. DUNCAN JANSON
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ROBERT K. BUTLER
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CHRISTOPHER M. EAGAN
'68, Port Ludlow, age 83, May 3

ROGER MCNULTY
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JEFFREY M. WAESCHE
'68, '72, '76, Jacksons Gap, Ala., age 78, Oct. 7, 2024

CLIFFORD K. SCARBO
'69, Prosper, Texas

1970
STACY BOYNTON HOLLAND
'70, Frankfort, Ill., age 77, April 4

LOIS H. LAMB
'71, Kenmore, age 94, April 2026

LARRY V. LUND
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SCOTT D. WILSON
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LEE HARO
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VERNON JOHNSON
'72, Seattle, age 76, March 22

ARTHUR KAGEYAMA
'72, Seattle, age 79, June 1

KENNETH R. NEAL
'72, Finley, age 79, Aug. 24, 2025

WILLIAM E. HERSHEY
'73, Albuquerque, N.M., age 92, May 18

PATRICE JULIANNE O'NEILL
'73, Freeland, age 79, March 16

DOUGLAS BATCHELDER
'74, Scottsdale, Ariz., age 79, March 24

RAYMOND JACQUE HOUSER
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LORETTA D. SCHNEIDER
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ELLEN BECK
'75, Seattle, age 80, April 17

D. YVETTE CHAMBERS
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MOLLY EVOY DAVIDSON
'75, Seattle, age 73, May 12

REBECCA RUMSEY MEFFORD
'75, Portland, Ore., age 72, Oct. 6

LAWRENCE VAN NESS
'75, Tacoma, age 74, May 5

WILLIAM MICHAEL TAYLOR
'76, Lake Forest Park, age 85, April 1

ROBERT GRAHAM SILVA
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FREDERICK B. MUELLER
'78, Tacoma, age 83, March 25

1980
CRAIG MICHAEL KENNEDY
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MARY COLLEEN COLLEY
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LAWRENCE MARTIN
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BARBARA WILLIAMSON
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STEVEN L. NYLUND
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ALLISON MARIE ELLIOTT
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TERESA MAUREEN STEER
'88, Seattle, age 67, March 15

1990
DOUGLAS ALAN EDELSTEIN
'91, Port Townsend, age 74, March 8

PAMELA JOHNSON
'91, Seattle

ALLISON ELIZABETH LARSEN
'92, '04, Everett, age 56, March 15

RICHARD "RICK" HUNTER
'94, '02, Bellevue, age 55

NANCY CLOUD SCHRODER
'94, Poulsbo, age 78, May 25

GLENN ALBERT JOHNSON
'98, Seattle, age 74, May 10

2000
KRISTEN JAGER SAUCEDA
'01, Mountlake Terrace, age 46, April 8

KATHERINE MARIE TATE
'02, Mercer Island, age 61, March 31

MICHELE KHAZAK
'03, Seattle, age 45, Oct. 17

ALEXANDER DAVID MUNDAY
'12, Cle Elum, age 36, March 28

THOMAS KRISTEN
'22, Bellevue, age 24, Oct. 15

PARKER JEFFRY DUNCAN
'25, Renton, age 23, May 25

FACULTY AND FRIENDS

BILL CLAPP was a major UW supporter who worked with UW professor Akhtar Badshah on international development efforts and was honored by the Dalai Lama as an Unsung Hero of Compassion. He died May 29 at the age of 84.

JOEL CONNELLY, '71, was a Seattle Post-Intelligencer reporter and columnist who became one of the Pacific Northwest's most renowned political commentators. He covered such big stories as the proposed land swap that would have led to logging Larabee State Park in Bellingham to the stunning collapse of the Washington Public Power Supply System. For that coverage, Connelly and his colleagues were nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. He died April 15 at the age of 78.

PAUL DORPAT was a former UW doctoral student who became a local history legend. He came to the UW in the 1960s to attend graduate school in philosophy. While he didn't finish his doctorate, he co-founded the Seattle underground newspaper *The Helix* in 1967. He wrote numerous books on Washington history and wrote the popular weekly "Now & Then" feature in *The Seattle Times*. He died May 27 at the age of 87.

WILLIAM "BILLY" L. DRUCKER held leadership roles at the UW School of Dentistry and Odessa Brown Children's Clinic. He died March 9 at the age of 85.

JOHN PAYNE GEYMAN served as chair of the UW Department of Family Medicine for 14 years before he moved to San Juan Island in 1991 to open a rural medicine practice. He died May 28 at the age of 95.

SPEIGHT JENKINS was a part-time lecturer at the UW School of Music and taught classes in the UW Professional and Continuing Education program. He served as Seattle Opera's general director from 1983 to 2014. Recipient of numerous awards, he was named by *Opera News* as one of the 25 most powerful people in U.S. opera in 2006. He died May 30 at the age of 89.

LINDA KASK served as a physician in Hall Health in the 1990s and retired in 2000. She died April 12.

MARY JO "MIDGE" KRAFT, '64, earned her bachelor's degree in graphic design and fine art from the UW. She was the 1960 Seafair Queen and worked as a graphic designer. She later had a career as a model and was married for 50 years to the late Donald Kraft, '48, former UW Alumni Association president. She died April 8 at age 84.

HENRY ANTON KUCHARIC, '54, '60, was known as "the country doctor in the city" for making house calls and treating everyone with compassion and dignity. He helped eradicate tuberculosis on the Olympic Peninsula and served with U.S. Army Project HOPE—the world's first peacetime hospital ship—and the Peace Corps. He also was a pioneer in caring for patients with HIV/AIDS. A major supporter of the UW, he died April 16 at the age of 98.

VERLA KWIRAM was the spouse of UW chemistry professor emeritus and emeritus vice provost of research Alvin Kwiram. She set up an education program for AIDS-orphaned girls in Kenya. She died April 4 at the age of 85.

JANICE MARIE LABRASH was worked in the kitchen of the UW men's crewhouse "and regaled us with many stories" working those early morning hours, her family wrote in her *Seattle Times* obituary. She died March 10 at the age of 92.

ROGER MACDONALD, '58, was a Husky oarsman who helped the Huskies crew defeat the Russians in Moscow in 1958. He also competed at Henley and the Olympic trials. He died May 1 at the age of 90.

DOUG MARTIN was a former Husky defensive end who played in the Huskies' 27-20 victory over Michigan in the 1978 Rose Bowl. Martin led the Huskies' defensive line from 1976 to 1979 and earned All-Pac-10 honors. His 323 tackles still rank third among all Husky defensive linemen. He was chosen ninth in the 1980 NFL draft by the Minnesota Vikings and played 10 years for the team. He died April 18 at the age of 68.

NANCY REIKO MOTOMATSU, '60, was born in Woodinville and was incarcerated with her family at the Tule Lake Relocation Center during World War II. She earned a master's in librarianship at the UW and worked in the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction as the supervisor of International Education. She died Feb. 23 at the age of 94.

ROBIN PENDERY, '22, was an emergency room nurse at Harborview Medical Center who worked as a seasonal mountaineering ranger in Alaska. She also worked at Seattle-based Alpine Ascents International as a mountain guide. She died June 4 at the age of 33.

DAVID TERRY PRATT, '56, joined the Marine Corps after graduating from the UW with a degree in mechanical engineering. Later, at the U.S. Naval Academy, he taught engineering and coached the Navy Plebe crew that won the 1963 Intercollegiate Rowing Association national championship. He then earned his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering at Cal and started his academic career at Washing-

ton State University, where he helped found the WSU rowing program. After positions at the University of Utah and University of Michigan, he returned to the UW in 1981 as chair of mechanical engineering. He died April 1 at the age of 91.

SCOTT PROBST, '93, was the younger brother of "Survivor" host Jeff Probst. He worked on the show as an art assistant and camera assistant. He also produced video games. He died May 12 at the age of 58.

L. ATLEY RALSTON, '60, spent two years as a flight surgeon at Fort Rucker, Ala., before moving to Wenatchee in a group practice for ophthalmology. He also served on the faculty of the UW School of Medicine. He died May 18 at the age of 91.

GORDON J. RICHARDS JR., '57, was a member of the UW golf team who went on to become a stockbroker for Dean Witter and the Seattle and Bellevue offices of Morgan Stanley. He was a major supporter of the UW. He died April 18 at the age of 91.

COLLEEN ROSEMARY ROSINBUM studied at the UW, worked at the University and was the wife of longtime UW drama professor Ralph Rosinbum. She died April 16 at the age of 100.

WERNER E. SAMSON, '53, '58, a member of the fourth class of the UW School of Medicine, graduated with honors in 1953. He was the first student fellow under Dr. Robert Bruce, the first chief of cardiology at the UW. As a fellow, he performed the first heart catheterization at UW Medical Center. He served more than 30 years as assistant dean and associate dean for admissions in the UW School of Medicine. He and his wife Joan established the Joan and Werner Samson Endowed Scholarship in 2008 at the UW School of Medicine, and in 2016, they established the Werner E. and Joan Samson Endowed Faculty Fellowship in Cardiology at the UW School of Medicine. He was named professor emeritus in 2016. He died May 4 at the age of 97.

JACK LEE SCHERUEBLE became a union organizer and established the first union at the UW, which continues today as Service Employees International Union (SEIU). He had been a firefighter in the Everett Fire Department and

petitioned the City Council to provide funding for updated uniforms and respirators. He died March 24 at the age of 95.

EULALIE BLOEDEL SCHNEIDER was a former UW student who went on to become an interior designer who served on the boards of the Seattle Symphony and Seattle Opera and was a major supporter of the University. She died May 15 at the age of 95.

PATRICIA JEAN SCHWAB spent more than 30 years as an administrator in the student affairs departments at the UW and two other universities. She died March 25 at the age of 82.

KENYON "KEN" SHANNON coached track and field at the UW for more than three decades, and was inducted into the Husky Hall of Fame in 2001. He led the Huskies to 12 Top-25 finishes at the NCAA Outdoor Championships and his program produced 14 individual NCAA titles, 12 of which were in throwing events. He also served as a coach with the 1976 and 1984 U.S. Olympic teams. He died April 23 at the age of 89.

DONALD C. SMITH, '62, '67, '68, transferred to the UW from Grays Harbor Community College. He started as an architecture major before switching to pre-med. At the UW, he earned his medical degree, completed a residency in OB/GYN and a fellowship in reproductive endocrinology. He also served on the faculty of the UW School of Medicine. His research established the link between uterine cancer and high doses of estrogen. He died Jan. 4 at the age of 90.

MACKENZIE SMITH, '55, managed the Husky men's crew and studied medicine at the UW. He served in the Navy and worked as a clinical professor of pediatrics at the UW School of Medicine. Following retirement, he was appointed professor emeritus of pediatrics. He died March 31 at the age of 96.

BILL SPRINKLE, '69, was the

father of current UW men's basketball coach Danny Sprinkle and a former Husky football player. He died June 5 at the age of 80.

DARREL WAYNE STUVER served in Vietnam as a member of the Air Force and later spent 30 years working for the UW Police Department. He died April 11 at the age of 82.

GAIL STYGALL was a leading scholar in the language of law and rhetoric/composition. In 31 years as a UW English professor, she served on the Faculty Senate and the College of Arts & Sciences College Council, and was the UW's faculty legislative representative in Olympia. She also was the director of the UW Expository Writing Program. She died Sept. 25 at the age of 74.

JANE POWELL THOMAS worked as a curriculum adviser in the UW's Foster School of Business. She died May 9 at the age of 90.

VOI TUNUFI was a former Husky defensive lineman who played more than 50 games during his four seasons on Montlake. He died May 3 at the age of 23.

KEVIN JOSEPH WARD worked at UW Medical Center-Montlake in the 1970s. He later earned his medical degree from George Washington University and held medical leadership positions in the Seattle area. He died April 12 at the age of 71.

DOROTHY IRENE WHITNEY spent 12 years as head purchaser for Harborview Medical Center. She died April 23 at the age of 91.

DAVID ENNIS WOODRUM completed his post-medical school studies at the University of Illinois and UW and joined the UW School of Medicine faculty in 1970. A neonatologist and professor of pediatrics, he was instrumental in establishing clinical medical ethics services at the UW Medical Center-Montlake and Seattle Children's. He died April 19 at the age of 87.

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With land lines becoming a thing of the past and thieves making off with copper wire, pay phones have vanished—including the last UW pay phone that once held court next to the Art Building (left).

COURTESY: TENZIN PHADEN / THE DAILY UW

A Line Gone Dead

Say goodbye to a relic of our analog past as the UW unplugs its final pay phone

By Caitlin Klask

Here lies the campus pay phone, relic of an analog past. The removal of the UW's final pay phone, though it occurred on April 1, was no prank. Its purpose was not decorative, even though its home was in front of the Art Building. In fact, it purportedly was one of the most-used pay phones in the western U.S.

But times changed, and the country went from 2.1 million pay phones in 1997 to fewer than 100,000 in 2016. Today, it's not even clear how many pay phones we have left from sea to shining sea.

It's easy to point the blame at the rise of the ever-convenient cellphone, but pay phones had other drawbacks. "The pay

phone is a big, beefy piece of equipment," says Sam Osheroff, an operations engineer for UW Unified Communications. "It has to withstand environmental abuse and physical abuse. People don't want to use them when they're all beat up and gross."

Pay phones also have a problem with copper cabling. The Federal Communications Commission dropped its requirement for regional carriers to maintain their outdoor copper cables. In addition, copper wires make up a fraction of their phone service compared to fiber-optic or wireless services.

If nobody's using pay phones anymore, why would telecommunications companies

bother to repair them?

"One advantage of a copper line is that the power is provided by a bank of batteries," Osheroff explains. If a building loses power (and therefore its internet signal), or if a cell signal is weak, what do you do in an emergency?

There are certain advantages to analog, from avoiding the distraction and eye strain of screens, to having a more reliable emergency system in the event of a power outage. As Osheroff puts it, "There's something lost in having too much digital connectivity." So hold onto your vinyl records and film cameras as we close the book on an analog medium: the pay phone.



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