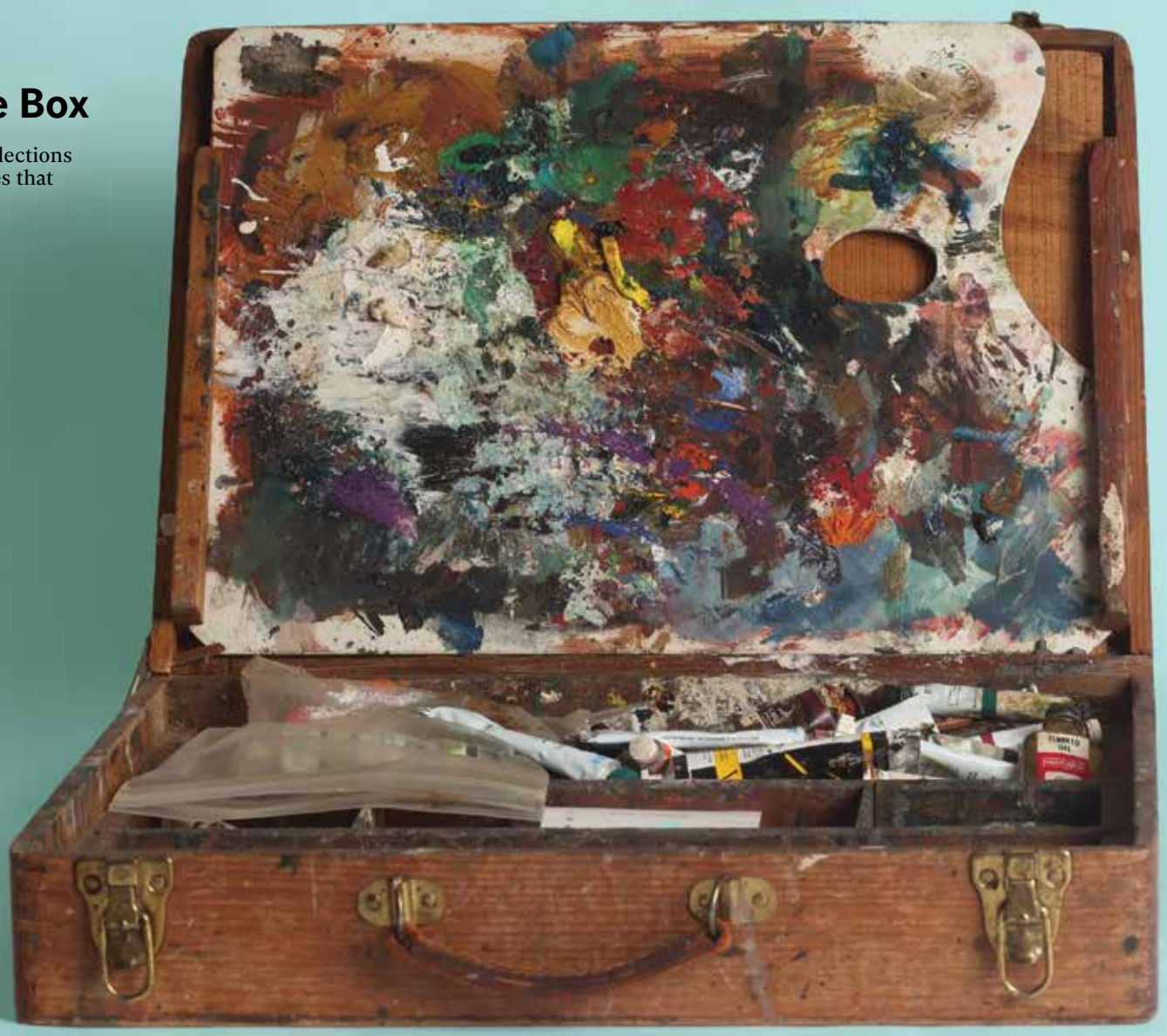
University of Washington Magazine

Beyond the Box

How UW Special Collections preserves the histories that won't be contained



Harborview: Beyond the world-famous trauma center, a cutting-edge academic hospital is redefining specialty care **p. 22**

Second Chance: After clemency and release, student Benjamin Brockie finds his path and fulfills his purpose **p. 32**

Crust-worthy

Business alum Jordan Koplowitz, ’12, knows a thing or two about how to handle dough. At Starla’s, his natural wine bar and pizza restaurant in his hometown of Bellingham, he’s drawing attention as a James Beard Foundation Best Chef: Northwest & Pacific semifinalist. In 2024, Koplowitz opened the spot with partner Christy Wyble, ’17, in the historic Herald Building. The pair first drew national attention a few years ago with their Capitol Hill pizzeria, Blotto.

He joins fellow Huskies Melissa Miranda, ’08, of Musang on Beacon Hill, and Aaron Verzosa, ’09, of Archipelago in Hillman City, as James Beard semifinalists. The finalists will be announced on March 31.

– Hannelore Sudermann

Photo by Finn Wendt for the Cascadia Daily News

Trusted by generations.
Grounded by our own.

As both an advisor and a father, Andy knows the importance of showing up—for everyday moments and long-term planning. That perspective guides his approach to multigenerational wealth strategies, from investment management to fiduciary services and philanthropic planning, helping families protect what matters most and build lasting legacies.

WhittierTrust

Investment Management & Consulting | Trust Services
Family Office | Philanthropy & Family Continuity | Real Estate

CONTACT NICK MOMYER | 206.834.1384 | WHITTIERTRUST.COM

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

University of Washington research makes America healthier, safer and more prosperous.

But those gains are now at risk.

Learn how you can help:
uw.edu/research-makes-america

University of Washington Magazine

VOLUME 37
NUMBER 1
SPRING 2026

JOHN LOK

In an American Indian Studies faculty office, Benjamin Brockie pauses beneath cultural posters—a reminder of the resilience and responsibility that shape his path from incarceration to advocacy at the UW.

ONLINE
uwmag.online

TRUONG NGUYEN

PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT
Báo Nguyễn, '08, combines traditional Vietnamese coffee technique with a passion for social justice at his café, Phin.
uwmag.online/phin

COURTESY OF KUA'S STUDIO

MADE WITH LOVE
Jennalyn Kau'ikeolani Okazaki, '25, creates sustainable goods that demonstrate what makes Hawaii special.
uwmag.online/okazaki

ALISHA JUCEVIC

COMMUNITY KEEPER
While he made his name in basketball, Bobby Jones, '06, found his calling mentoring his community.
uwmag.online/jones

ON THE COVER
A paint case belonging to Seattle artist Paul Horiuchi is among the unusual artifacts housed in the University of Washington's Special Collections. It's one of the unexpected objects currently on display in the "Out of Scope" exhibit at Allen Library.

Horizon House

Independent living **for independent thinkers.**

Two choices. One exceptional future.

Move into a one- or two-bedroom residence in our vibrant First Hill community today or plan your future in our new West Tower—opening in 2029, with a limited number of residences remaining. The decision is as unique as you are.

Learn more at an upcoming virtual event or schedule a tour.

Call **206-414-2514** or scan the QR Code.

A Life Plan Community for those 62 years or older

HorizonHouse.org

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Forward

OPINION AND THOUGHT FROM **THE UW FAMILY**

BY **LEONARD FORSMAN**

Our Moment in History, Our Shared Responsibility

The UW's story is rooted in resilience, reconciliation and commitment to future generations

We often tell the story of the University of Washington as if it emerged fully formed in 1861. In fact, its origins are rooted in an earlier and far more complicated history.

In 1854, Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens conceived of a university for Washington Territory at the same moment tribal leaders, including my ancestor Chief Seattle, made the difficult decision to renounce violence and sign the 1855 Treaty of Point Elliott. What followed was a difficult century for my people and for other tribal nations. The later decades of the century after that have been better, marked by the recognition of treaty rights and the resurgence of tribal cultures, progress to which the University has meaningfully contributed through the School of Law, the Burke Museum and the School of Fisheries.

The University's own early history was also marked by struggle. It took decades to get this ambitious idea off the ground. The UW closed three times in the 19th century, did not award its first degree until 1876 and endured long periods of underfunding before growing into the institution we know today. Now, the University enrolls more than 60,000 students and graduates roughly 10,000 Huskies each year. Its faculty, researchers and students generate knowledge, skills and civic leadership for a complex nation and world. Its clinicians serve all patients, regardless of circumstance, from trauma care at Harborview Medical Center to cancer treatment at Fred Hutch to rural dental clinics through the Regional Initiatives in Dental Education program. The University of Washington is vast in reach and purpose.

> Divisions and suffering can be overcome ... when people commit to common goals.

Gov. Stevens had some ideas that history rightly judges harshly, and others that some would consider forward thinking. The creation of a public university, eventually built along our ancestral waterways, was among the latter.

Chief Seattle also held a vision. In a time of conflict among tribes and with white settlers, he chose a path of peace and the possibility, however uncertain, of his people's survival, even at great cost in the short term. In 1856, just one year after signing the Treaty of Point Elliott, he expressed the hope that elders might live to see schoolhouses built for the instruction of their grandchildren, as promised by treaty. That hope still calls to us today.

In my roles as chairman of the UW Board of Regents and chairman of the Suquamish Tribe, I believe this shared history offers a lesson. Divisions and suffering can be overcome, though sometimes on a longer time scale than we would wish, when people commit to common goals.

Tribal wisdom calls on us to steward the land, waters, plants, animals and people of this place. The UW fulfills that responsibility through transformative education, pathbreaking research and outstanding medical care. It touches lives across Washington, the five-state WWAMI medical education region serving Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho, the nation and beyond.

Chairman Leonard Forsman is the first Native person to serve on the UW Board of Regents. He graduated from the University with a degree in anthropology in 1987.

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY RUSSO

Forward

MESSAGE FROM THE **EDITOR**

A Home for Washington Residents

By Jon Marmor

When Robert J. Jones was named the 34th president of the University of Washington last August, one of the most important messages he delivered was this: There should be no barrier between the University and the local community. If you look at the fall enrollment figures for this year's class, you will see that the University was devoted to educating Washington state residents.

While the number of students enrolled in all three UW campuses hit an eye-opening 63,767, perhaps the key figure was this: 74.1% of the incoming class at all three campuses are Washington residents (that is similar to recent years' totals). It proves that when President Jones talks about community, he isn't referring only to Seattle or Western Washington. He means the entire Evergreen State.

"Washington is absolutely of and for the state of Washington," says Danny Barrow, the UW's new vice provost for Enrollment Management. In a state as large as Washington, a healthy number of prospective students live outside the Seattle-Tacoma metropolitan area. That means reinforcing access statewide by welcoming students from all corners of Washington.

Barrow points out that more students than not tend to choose schools within driving distance of their homes. As a first-generation college student himself, Barrow has a deeply personal understanding of the importance of higher education and the need for access to the UW's three campuses. "Access and opportunity are not just espoused here," he says. "The campuses are built intentionally to serve students and communities across the state. Students from all over the state should be engaged earlier and the pathways available to them."

With the UW in the early stages of creating a new strategic plan, Barrow goes on to explain, "What we do isn't just about numbers. It's about connecting the dots across the University so students can access opportunity and the faculty, staff, alumni and students who are here to serve them."

STAFF

A publication of the UW Alumni Association and the University of Washington since 1908

PUBLISHER Paul Rucker, '95, '02
ASST. PUBLISHER Terri Hiroshima
EDITOR Jon Marmor, '94
MANAGING EDITOR Hannelore Sudermann, '96
ART DIRECTOR Jason Clark
DIGITAL EDITOR Caitlin Klask
STAFF WRITER Shin Yu Pai, '09
CONTRIBUTING STAFF Karen Rippel Chilcote, Kerry MacDonald, '04, Jeremy Pritchard

CONTRIBUTING WRITER
Mike Seely

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
Anil Kapahi, Matt Hagen, Dan Lamont, John Lok, Ron Wurzer

CONTRIBUTING ILLUSTRATORS
Olivier Kugler, David Plunkert, Anthony Russo

EDITORIAL OFFICES
Phone 206-543-0540
Email magazine@uw.edu
Fax 206-685-0611
4333 Brooklyn Ave. N.E.
UW Tower 01, Box 359559
Seattle, WA 98195-9559

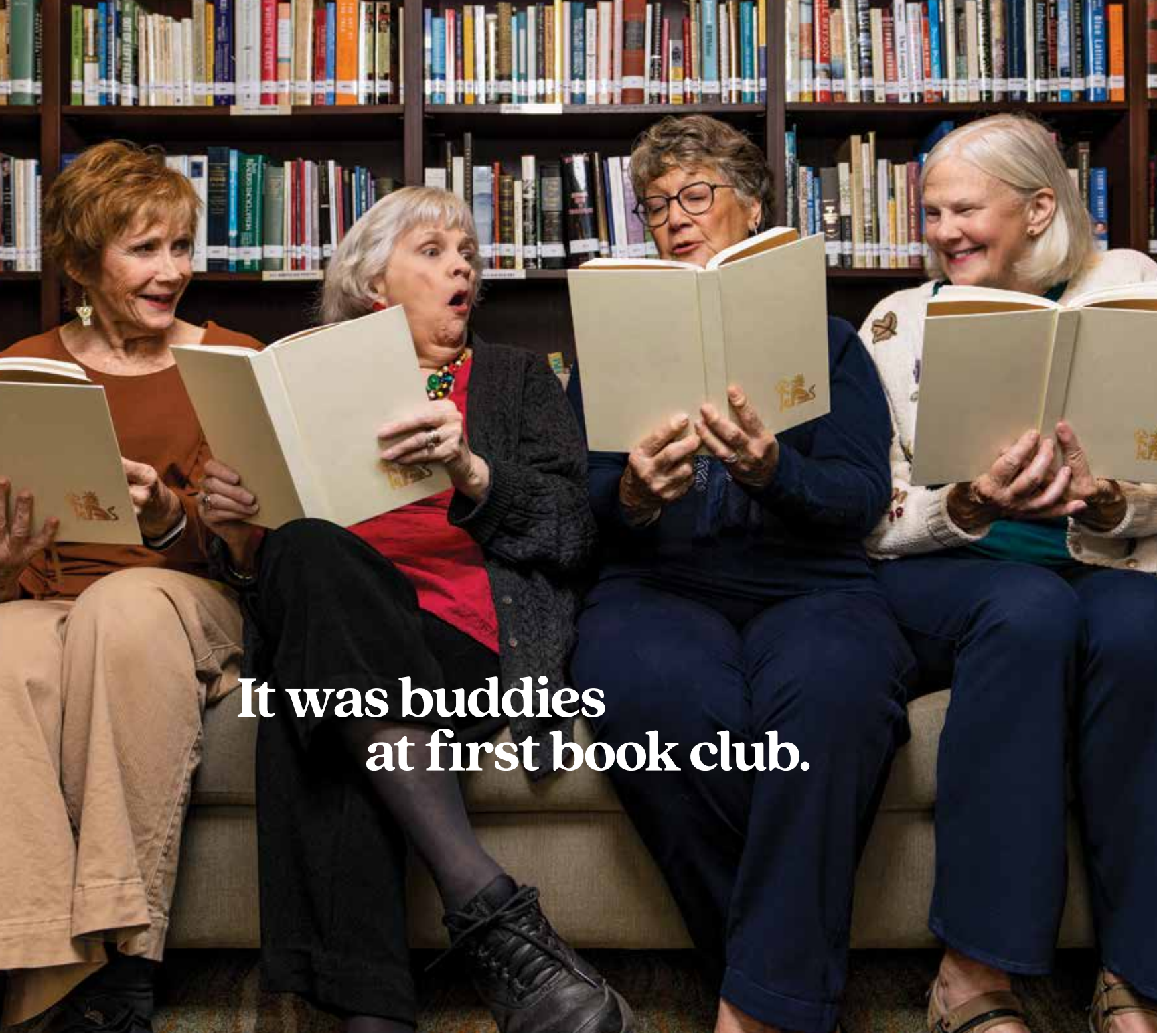
WRITE US!
Email magazine@uw.edu
Online magazine.washington.edu
Letters may be edited for length or clarity.

WRONG ADDRESS?
Write us at
University of Washington Magazine
Box 359559, Seattle, WA 98195-9559
Or: updates@uw.edu

ADVERTISING
Encore Media Group
1631 15th Ave W, Suite 219
Seattle, WA 98119
Brieanna Hansen
brieannah@encoremediagroup.com
206-443-0445 x107

University of Washington Magazine is published quarterly by the UW Alumni Association and UW for graduates and friends of the UW (ISSN 1047-8604; Canadian Publication Agreement #40845662). Opinions expressed are those of the signed contributors or the editors and do not necessarily represent the UW's official position. This magazine does not endorse, directly or by implication, any products or services advertised except those sponsored directly by the UWAA. Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: Station A, PO Box 54, Windsor, ON N9A 6J5 CANADA.

ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID PLUNKERT



Mirabella senior living. Sometimes scholarly. Sometimes playful. Oftentimes, just plain fun. Professor? Bookworm? Fun lover? You've found your place. Call today to schedule a tour.

Located in South Lake Union
116 Fairview Ave N • Seattle • 206.337.0443
www.mirabellaseattle.com

Mirabella Seattle is a resident-centered, not-for-profit Pacific Retirement Services community and an equal housing opportunity.

MIRABELLA.
Senior Living. Seattle Style.

Forward

ROAR FROM THE CROWD

SVEN HAAKANSON

Powerful periodical

I've always enjoyed receiving the latest issue of University of Washington Magazine. If all periodicals were this informative, entertaining and inspirational 20 years ago, we wouldn't have ceded print media to the clutches of the internet.

Paul Strohmeier, '76, Seattle

Missing the Duwamish

I am concerned at how the article in the latest issue, "25 Feet of Powerful Stories," omits any mention of the Duwamish tribe, specifically, where the article states that, "The UW is located on land that touches the shared waters of the Suquamish, Tulalip and Muckleshoot nations." Seattle is named for Chief Sealth, who was chief of the Duwamish and the Suquamish. By erasing the Duwamish, who are still here, you are erasing Seattle's history. More than ever, as many people move to Seattle and study at the University of Washington, it is critical to tell the whole story, not just parts of it. Please correct the record and include the Duwamish in the article.

Heather Pihl

The article "25 Feet of Powerful Stories" is good except for the statement: "The UW is located on land that touches the shared waters of the Suquamish, Tulalip and Muckleshoot nations." There is no mention of the Duwamish Nation. Why not? There seems to be a bad trend going on regarding the Duwamish people. True, they are not recognized by the federal government, but they are the original people of Seattle, named after Chief Sealth, who was half Duwamish, half Suquamish. Please remedy this or at least take note. The Duwamish have been actively pursuing recognition for many years. Let's not erase their (our) history.

Lisa V.P. Steinbrueck, '77, '82, Lake Forest Park

Essential Leisure

I greatly appreciated the story about the necessity of leisure ("Leisure is Not a Luxury," Winter 2025). The human need for leisure long predates any modern research. In the Hebrew Bible, the commandment to "keep holy the Lord's Day" was a practical way to acknowledge that even domestic animals, "beasts of burden," needed time for rest and recuperation. A mid-20th century Austrian theologian, Joseph Pieper, wrote a book titled "Leisure the Basis of Culture," in which he articulated not only the religious argument for leisure, but also its necessity for development of the humanities. Both are desperately needed in our troubled society today.

Marie D. Hoff, '87, Bismarck, N.D.

New Authors!

I enjoyed the recent UW Magazine, especially the articles from Shin Yu Pai and Hannelore Sudermann featuring new authors. I just finished publishing my new book on disasters and preppers. My hat's off to anyone still writing long form in our TikTok age.

Dr. Chris Ellis, '99
Author of "Resilient Citizens: The People, Perils, and Politics of Modern Preparedness."

Grieg's Nose

I can't tell you what happened to Grieg's nose but I can tell you what happened to his sign. In the late 1990s, while walking to a game, my wife erupted in laughter because the sign at the entrance of Grieg's Garden had misspelled his name ("Greig"). I sent an email to former UW President Dick McCormick, jokingly implying that this was because of the general decline in the quality of education at UW since I graduated in 1969. The sign was removed by the next home game.

Pete Osborne, '69, Portland, Ore.

Finn's Bust

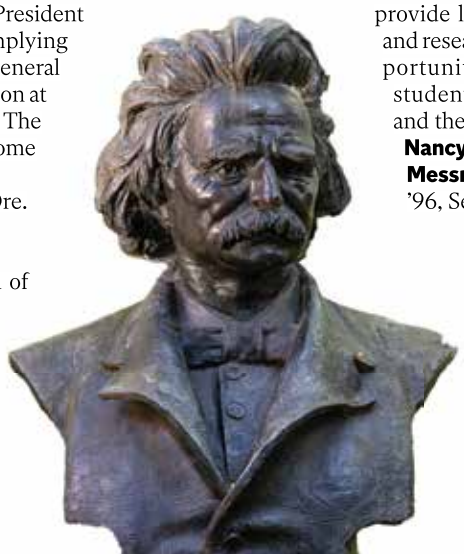
Caitlin Klask's article "Garden of the Mountain King" (Winter 2025) on the Grieg bust and its creator, Finn Frolich, was delightful. As a fellow Finn Frolich researcher, I can assure all that he was an epic artist and personality, and refer to the HistoryLink essay #8849 by Mary T. Henry and the late Olaf Kvamme (UW Department of Scandinavian Studies adviser and National Nordic Museum treasure). It is regrettable that Finn's Belle Epoque zaftig Valkyries from the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition were not also preserved. Finn did indeed obtain that exhibition's faux-Viking (Bothell-built) longboat, which did not round the world but ended up in San Diego, where in 1944 it perished in a Viking funeral blaze. The National Nordic Museum has a similar replica, resurrected in 2009. As for the practice of sculpture fondling, see Wikipedia under "statue rubbing."

Stephen Edwin Lundgren, UW student and longtime employee

Forgetting Forks

I sure enjoyed the article "Uncommon Grounds" (Fall 2025), but I was so chagrinned to see one of the UW's greatest sites unmentioned: the Olympic Natural Resources Center in Forks. The ONRC is a collaboration between the UW and Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). It is a fabulous learning center in a beautiful setting, close to Pacific Ocean beaches, the rain forests and the Olympic Mountains. What a grand place to do research, to study and learn and collaborate. Last night, in the pouring rain and crossing gushing rivers, my husband and I drove an hour down to Forks to see a terrific presentation by DNR data specialist Miles Micheletti on "Mapping the Canopy: How Drones Help Us See the Forest and the Trees." We joined about 25 people at the ONRC and many others on Zoom. As retired educators and community activists, we have spent many hours at the ONRC in training sessions, meetings, presentations and more. I hope that you received many letters mentioning more of the great venues that are run by the University of Washington to provide learning and research opportunities for students, staff and the public.

Nancy Messmer, '71, '96, Sekiu




The future, powered by
YOU
On Husky Giving Day, your gift to the UW makes a lasting impact in just 24 hours. Give on **April 23** and join the community that's fueling the future!
Give on April 23:
huskygivingday.uw.edu
4.23.2026
HUSKY GIVING DAY

Forward

COURTESY GORDON GRUENDELL

Missing Michael Lafromboise

"From Husky Stadium to Vietnam" (University of Washington Magazine, Winter 2025) was a worthy tribute to student-athletes who faced the Vietnam War after graduation. They represent just a few of the many on campus in those days facing mandatory military service. Another deserving athlete was a Husky oarsman and teammate, Michael Lafromboise, '66, a marine aviation officer killed in action. Michael rowed for four years yet never raced in a major race or received a varsity letter. Without his quiet determination and tough, steadfast dedication to push his rowing mates, the varsity crews would never have been as fast.

A very special tribute to Michael evolved in the form of the Michael Laframboise Memorial Trophy. Conceived by his teammate with the help of Coach Dick Erickson, this trophy would be competed for annually only by Northwest colleges other than Washington.

The first race was held in 1970 on the Leschi course and won by Oregon, coached by Davd Thompson, who had rowed with Michael. Coach Erickson and Michael's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Laframboise, presented the trophy and became major benefactors of Husky Rowing for several years.

John B. Baker, '64, Varsity Cox, Wallowa, Oregon

Brian Biggs' Vietnam Story

I collaborated with Jon Marmor on the article "From Husky Stadium to Vietnam." Unfortunately, timing is everything as we get older and one of our teammates that we were trying to track down died a month before the article was published. I met Brian Biggs in 1963; he was a senior and I was a freshman. After he graduated in 1964, I knew that he was going to officer training in the Marine Corps and I lost contact with him after that. After he left the Marine Corps a few years later, Brian then settled down in the Portland area, where he became a well-known coach and drama teacher. After the article was published, I got a call from a former teammate, Ron Hudson, who had known Brian from the Portland area schools. Ron informed me that Brian had died in November. Brian was a Combined Action Program platoon commander in Vietnam. He became personally involved with the village for which he was responsible and helped the villagers build a school during his tour. He wrote a book about his tour: "Prove My Soul: Another Side to the Vietnam War." He returned to the village 25 years later with warm welcomes, and he was reunited with several of the school personnel. I really would have liked to have had Jon interview Brian, but all we have now is the book. Rest in peace, Brian, and *semper fidelis*.

Steve Sanford, '67, Green Valley, Arizona

Paul Skoog's Survival

It was good to see my West Seattle High School classmate Paul Skoog featured. I'm sure playing football under Jim Owens helped him survive the dangers of combat in Vietnam.

I attended the UW School of Pharmacy during the Vietnam era and had a different military experience than Paul. In 1964, I enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves as a "Weekend Warrior" at Fort Lawton in Seattle. My unit was not deployed in Vietnam, so I saw no combat.

Dennis A. Smith, '69, Bremerton

Good but Incomplete

What about the other UW students who served in Vietnam—and some of whom died there? I knew two who were killed in action, Marine Lt. John Bergerson, '66, '67, and Navy Lt. Commander James Ploughman, who were classmates of Trev Sarles, who was mentioned in your article. Isn't it appropriate to at least acknowledge the many other UW students, besides athletes, who contributed their youth and sometimes their lives in this failed war?

Randall Morrison, '67, Berkeley, Calif.

Salt of the Earth

I worked with Dan Spriesterbach at the same company, Brazier Forest Products, that Dan did in Lakewood back in the '80s. Such a humble, kind, salt of the earth human.

Jan Simon, '87, Tacoma

Treasured Memories

I was a Husky football team member from the fall of '64 through '68. I joined Army ROTC, began active duty in the summer of '69, and then served in Vietnam in '70-'71 as executive officer of a postal unit in Cam Ranh Bay.

Your article renewed treasured memories of teammates. Our service shows how important programs like athletics are to the development of leadership and dedication in service to others.

Emmett Arndt, '69, '72, Spokane

JOIN THE CONVERSATION
EMAIL YOUR COMMENTS TO: magazine@uw.edu
(Letters may be edited for length or clarity.)

THE LIFE PLAN COMMUNITIES THAT YOU'VE EARNED

DOWNSIZE YOUR WORRIES, UPSIZE YOUR LIFE

Two communities. One promise.

At Emerald Communities, home to Emerald Heights in Redmond and Heron's Key in Gig Harbor, you'll find vibrant living, lifelong learning, and the peace of mind that comes with a Life Plan Community — where every phase of life is supported with financial predictability and care you can count on.

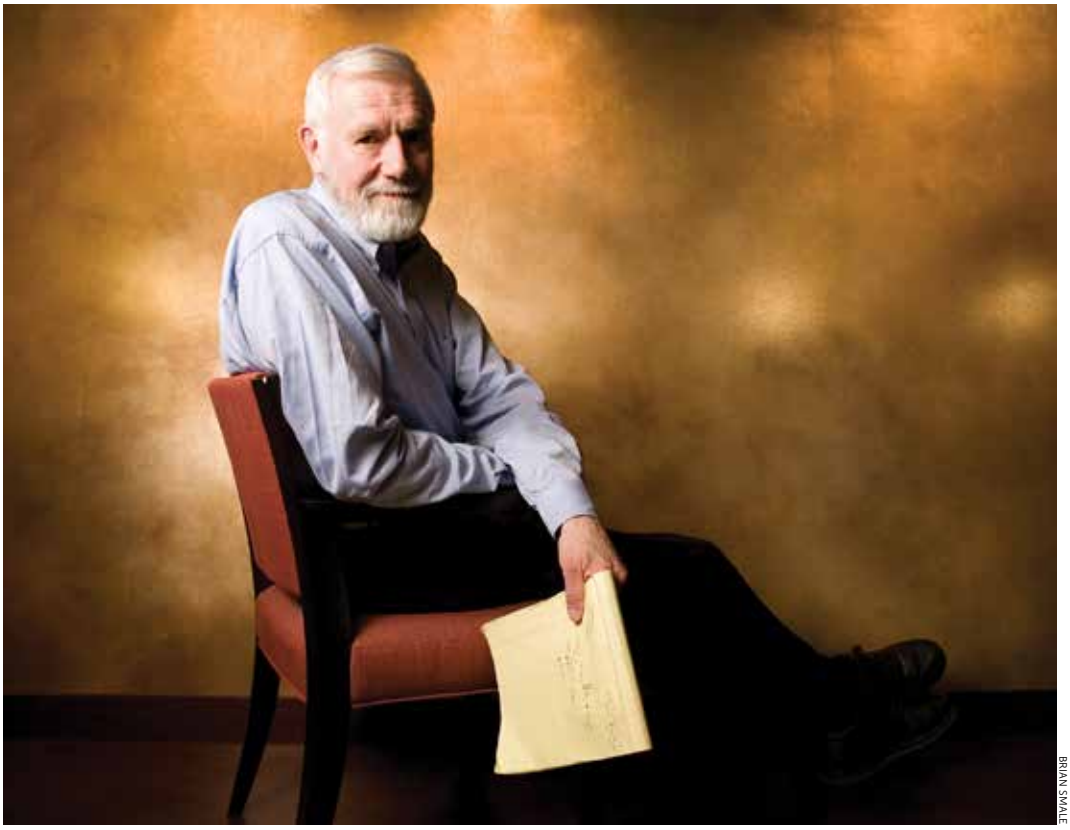
Finally, a place that understands what matters most - your time, your comfort, and your community

EMERALD HEIGHTS™
REDMOND
A MEMBER OF EMERALD COMMUNITIES

HERON'S KEY
GIG HARBOR
A MEMBER OF EMERALD COMMUNITIES

INDEPENDENT LIVING AND A FULL CONTINUUM OF CARE

PET FRIENDLY



BRIAN SMALE

Trust, Science and Saving Lives

Dr. William Foege used knowledge and action to halt resurgent disease

By Hannelore Sudermann

Across a career that changed global health, Dr. William Foege's work continues to guide the fight against preventable disease.

As the incidence of measles rises across the United States—with 588 confirmed cases reported in January alone—the death of Dr. William Foege comes at a moment of renewed urgency for public-health leaders. They are confronting a disease that was once nearly eliminated. Propelled by declining vaccination rates and persistent misinformation about vaccine safety, the resurgence of this dangerous illness is precisely what Foege spent his career warning against.

Foege, '61, who died Jan. 24 at the age of 89, was a physician and epidemiologist who helped move measles from a widespread childhood disease to a rarity. Perhaps best known for his role in the global elimination of smallpox, he spent his career demonstrating how vaccines, trust in science and coordinated public action could save millions of lives. "Bill Foege is a lasting inspiration to others because of his unselfish dedication to protecting people from infectious diseases in the United States and globally," says Dr. Tim Dellit, CEO of UW Medicine and dean of the UW School of Medicine.

Today's outbreaks don't reflect a failure of vaccines, but rather a failure of public confidence and shared responsibility that Foege championed. Dr. Helen Chu, '12, an infectious-disease specialist at UW Medicine, recently noted in a School of Public Health interview that the effects of measles are often underestimated. "I think people have forgotten how bad measles can be when you're a child: Not only does it have short-term consequences of making you very sick with pneumonia, with the infection of your brain and with all sorts of other things that can happen immediately, it also has long-term consequences."

Foege's lifework was rooted in preventing precisely the kind of backsliding the U.S. faces today. A graduate of the UW School of Medicine, he was working in Eastern Nigeria in 1966 when he promoted a surveillance and "ring vaccination" strategy that identified outbreaks and immunized those most likely to be infected. The approach proved especially effective in regions with limited vaccines and medical personnel. A little more than a decade later, after the strategy was widely adopted through the World Health Organization's Smallpox Eradication Program, transmission of the disease had stopped worldwide. Smallpox was officially declared eradicated in 1980.

"Bill Foege figured out the process and carried out the difficult task of wiping out smallpox from the world," says Dr. Wes Van Voorhis, a UW Medicine infectious-diseases specialist. "His contributions also set the pathway to eliminating other diseases that plague humanity."

As director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from 1977 to 1983, Foege navigated the identification of toxic shock syndrome and the start of the HIV/AIDS crisis. He was also instrumental in the rise of vaccination rates in developing nations. Throughout the 1980s and beyond, Foege continued his public-health leadership through the Task Force for Global Health, The Carter Center and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. His work expanded into child survival, injury prevention and global-health policy—always guided by the belief that science must be paired with ethical clarity and public trust.

That belief took root early. The son of a minister, Foege developed an interest in global service as a teenager, inspired by medical missionaries and humanitarians. While a UW medical student, he worked at the Seattle–King County Health Department before joining the Epidemic Intelligence Service, serving in the Peace Corps and earning a Master of Public Health at Harvard.

He received numerous honors for his work. In 2006, the UW School of Medicine dedicated the William H. Foege Bioengineering-Genome Sciences Building. In 2012, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

As measles once again spreads, Foege's legacy serves as a reminder and a way forward: vaccines work, but only when individuals trust the science and communities work together.

Leila Gray, a writer with UW Medicine, contributed to this story.

LEGO LANDMARK

First-year student Joseph Perkins, an aspiring architect, used his love of Legos, and almost all of winter break, to recreate the 1895 Spokane County Courthouse for "Brick by Brick: We Built This City." The new exhibit at the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture celebrates iconic structures of the eastern Washington urban hub. Other Lego recreations include the Radio Flyer Wagon at Riverfront Park and the Spokesman-Review Tower. The exhibit runs through June 14.
Photo by Joseph Perkins

RESEARCH

ASTEROID ON STEROIDS

A team led by UW astronomers has discovered the fastest-ever spinning asteroid with a diameter over half a kilometer. The asteroid, which was found by analyzing data from the Simonyi Survey Telescope at the Vera C. Rubin Observatory in Chile, is 0.4 miles in diameter and completes a full rotation every 1.88 minutes. "In some of the very first test images taken with the Vera C. Rubin Observatory, we're already breaking records with the discovery of the fastest-spinning large asteroid found to date," says Sara Greenstreet, UW affiliate assistant professor of astronomy.

SAFER SURGERY

Researchers from the UW mechanical engineering department and UW Medicine have developed a solution to help surgeons perform safer, more complete and more precise endoscopic procedures in the sinus and skull. The UW-developed VISTA (vision-integrated surgical tracking assistance) system can provide much-needed guidance by creating 3D models of the surgical field of tissue that is being taken out.

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME

The ancestors of today's furry cats and dogs once looked similar to the modern mongoose, a mammal with a long body and small, round ears. In fact, all members of the order Carnivora, which includes a variety of species such as bears, wolves and even seals, evolved from these mongoose-like creatures. UW researchers found that the Eocene-Oligocene Transition, which took place around 34 million years ago, led to changes in body shape between different carnivore families.

ROBUST RECOGNITION

The UW has again earned prestigious recognition for the impact and importance of the connections that faculty, students and staff have with local, regional and global communities. All three UW campuses were honored with the Carnegie Foundation Community Engagement reclassification, placing the UW among 277 peer institutions nationwide. "Community engagement isn't peripheral to our mission—it's central that we move the UW forward in service of the greater good," says UW President Robert Jones.

RON WURZER

A Family's Full-Circle Story

Sophomore Liv Schiller honors the memory of her aunt, a UW graduate who died in a plane crash 24 years ago

By Jon Marmor

There was nothing out of the ordinary about the UW sophomore sitting in a Ravenna café with her mom on a cool December day, enjoying a pastry and coffee. She proudly wore a Husky sweatshirt that belonged to her aunt, Lisa Marie Styer, '86. But Liv Schiller never knew her aunt. Liv, who turns 20 on March 23, was born in 2006, and her aunt was killed in a plane crash that took the lives of 16 Huskies five years earlier—on Sept. 12, 2001.

As the tragedy occurred the day after 9/11, most people overlook that crash on Mexico's Yucatan peninsula. Lisa was among the many Husky fans who were enjoying a leisurely cruise to Florida to watch the Washington-Miami football game when she and 15 others went on a sightseeing flight.

So it was really meaningful when Liv decided to enroll at the UW and follow her aunt's—and family's—footsteps. "The UW is such an amazing school," Liv says. "I love Seattle and get to be near home and family." Her family is full of Huskies, including her mom, Sara Styer, and her mom's siblings, Matt and Joe Styer and Mary Ramey, as well as her grandpa, Eugene Styer.

Even though she never met her aunt, Liv owns a lot of Lisa's sweaters and jewelry. "It makes me happy to wear her things," she says.

Majoring in environmental public health and working part-time in marketing for Dick's Drive-In, Liv maintains a 4.0 grade-point average and is planning to study abroad next year. But she has other things on her mind. Liv has been a rock, helping care for her mom as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer. Liv's older brother, Ian, will graduate soon from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Arizona.

"Liv has handled everything with maturity and grace," says her mom. "My parents are so grateful for and proud of Liv."

Sophomore Liv Schiller carries on her family legacy—and that of her late aunt Lisa Marie Styer—as a University of Washington student.

The Plastics Around Us

Dr. Sheela Sathyanarayana offers advice on minimizing exposure in everyday life

By Shin Yu Pai

Microplastics are everywhere—from cosmetics and food packaging to the dust in our homes. We spoke with Dr. Sheela Sathyanarayana, '07, about what practical steps we can take to minimize our exposure. Sathyanarayana is a professor of pediatrics and adjunct faculty in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences at the UW. At the Seattle Children's Research Institute, she is associate director of the Center for Child Health, Behavior and Development. Her expertise, which has recently been highlighted in The New York Times and the BBC, focuses on endocrine-disrupting chemicals in plastics.

What do you tell your patients about microplastics?

Many people don't realize that using plastic can lead to chemical or particle exposures that stay in the body for years. Research on the health effects of plastic particles in humans is still in its early stages, but we do know the science on the chemicals coming from the particles, and these chemical additives can affect our health. So I talk mostly about how we can reduce overall exposures.

How do you approach the topic with your patients?

As a pediatrician, I talk about supportive environments for a child, including consistent mealtimes, stimulating cognitive development and nurturing environments that include both indoor and outdoor play. Each of these activities also presents opportunities to reduce chemical and plastic exposure. For example, ultra-processed foods tend to have more exposure to chemicals from plastic packaging. Focusing on whole, fresh foods and frozen foods can limit exposure. Encouraging outdoor play can also reduce plastic exposure. Many of our everyday choices add up.

Can people ever get to zero exposure to microplastics?

No. I work with pregnant women, and this can be an anxiety-filled time. I tell them, there's no way to get to zero—it's not the goal. Instead, I encourage them to focus on the things that can reduce their exposure the most.

What are some everyday practices people can adopt?

Take off your shoes when you come into your house and keep your home free of dust from outside. Dust is one of the biggest sources of exposure for babies, especially since they crawl and put things in their mouths. In your kitchen, reduce the plastic you use in food prep and storage. Heat foods in pots and pans, or use glass in the microwave: Heating plastic can cause chemicals to leach into food and degrade the material itself. Upgrade from plastic mixing bowls, cutting boards and measuring cups. Use wood utensils when you can.

Food-grade silicone generally doesn't have the harmful chemicals I'm talking about, but it's still plastic and it degrades over time. Make sure it stays intact. If your spatula has melted, replace it. Many takeout coffee cups also have plastic linings, so use stainless steel cups to reduce exposure. I encounter plastic in my everyday life, too. You can't avoid it. The key is being mindful about how and when you use it.

What are the most important changes you have made at home?

We use a triple water filtration system to reduce exposure to "forever chemicals," but you don't need a fancy system. Though it's hard to find a good pitcher that's totally plastic-free, there are some great ones that are certified. Plastic toys are hard to avoid, especially in daycares and schools, but encouraging wooden toys is helpful. Clothing is another big source of plastic fibers, like polyester. Stick to cotton and wool when you can.

Are we facing a new health crisis?

There are 50,000 chemicals used in commerce today, and most are largely unregulated. We only have research on a small fraction of them. And we are still exposed to ones we know are harmful. While this is not entirely new, awareness is crucial. Reducing exposure and improving the environment and health of our population will take a multi-pronged approach: individual choices, policy change and regulatory oversight. At the same time, we're facing a lot of unknowns around the health impacts of specific microplastic particles. But what we do know is that everyone is exposed, and these conversations are all the more important.

GETTY IMAGES

Every adventure drives Husky potential

Whether you're traveling to a casual hike or taking a day trip, your license plate can help UW students find promising paths. Journey proudly knowing that $28 from every UW license plate sale annually supports current and future Huskies through the UW General Scholarship Fund.

uw.edu/huskyplates

QUICK HITS

QUOTABLE

"At the start, we were just fighting to get into the tournament."

—Sophomore Zach Ramsey, who scored the Huskies' first goal in the NCAA championship game and was named the NCAA tournament's Most Outstanding Player as the Huskies captured their first-ever national title in men's soccer.

MAKE ROOM IN THE RAFTERS

Two legendary Husky men's basketball stars from the 1980s had their numbers retired. Christian Welp (No. 40) and Detlef Schrempf (No. 22) led the Huskies to NCAA tournaments in 1984 and 1985 before enjoying successful careers in the NBA. Both came to the U.S. from Germany as foreign-exchange students to play for the Huskies.

LAMB CHOP

Former Husky third baseman Jake Lamb, who became a major-league baseball All-Star, retired in December and joined the Arizona Diamondbacks player development staff. The Bishop Blanchet High School graduate spent 10 years in the majors and played for seven teams, including the hometown Seattle Mariners in 2022.

HONOR ROLL

Husky women's and men's soccer players took national honors after their incredibly successful seasons. UW women's defender Kolo Suliafu was named a First Team Scholar All-American and a Second Team All-American. Sophomore striker Alex Buck was named a Fourth Team All-American. They led the Huskies to their first Big Ten title. Men's midfielder Richie Aman was the United Soccer Coaches National Player of the Year and a First Team Scholar All-American. Defender Harrison Bertos earned First Team All-Big Ten honors.

BY THE NUMBERS

27:40.43

Time of former Husky track athlete Anna Gibson and partner Cam Smith in the ski mountaineering mixed relay at the Winter Olympics. The time was good for fourth in the debut event.

UW ATHLETICS

Unseeded and Unstoppable

Winning six tournament games on the road from coast to coast earned the overlooked Huskies men's soccer team its first national title ever

By Jon Marmor

It was a cloudy, wet, yucky day in Seattle when the bus carrying the UW men's soccer team pulled into Husky Stadium. But there was no gloom anywhere to be found because less than 24 hours earlier, the Huskies captured their first-ever national championship with a 3-2 overtime victory over No. 16 North Carolina State in Cary, N.C.

Both T-Mobile Park and Lumen Field were festooned in purple lights to express the glee with their Emerald City mates who surprised most everyone nationwide with their success on the pitch.

This championship—won by defender Harrison Bertos' winning goal at 1:54 of overtime—was by no means a gimme. Then again, not much was during the regular Big Ten season. The Huskies stumbled at the end, losing their last three regular-season games, and were not seeded when the playoffs began. That left them with a daunting task: needing to win six playoff tournament games on the road against higher-seeded opponents. Despite flying nearly 10,000 miles from coast to coast in the postseason and being away from home for 21 days since Nov. 18, they pulled that off.

In order, the Huskies won at Oregon State, then went to Dallas and knocked off No. 5 SMU. That was followed by a victory at No. 12 Stanford, and a cross-country flight to eliminate No. 4 Maryland. That victory earned the upstarts a berth in the College Cup semifinals, where they defeated No. 16 Furman of Greenville, S.C., for a spot in the national championship final against North Carolina State, which enjoyed a huge home-field advantage and a raucous, partisan record crowd of 10,316 cheering them on.

"I thought they were the best team in the country," Husky coach Jamie Clark said of North Carolina State. "They pushed us right to the limit."

The Huskies shot out to a 2-0 lead, but the Wolfpack rallied with two late goals to equalize the score, meaning it was on to overtime. Once again, no problem. "Going into overtime," Clark says, "instead of hanging their heads, they knew there was one moment left to win and they executed.

"I'm proud, excited, and while it may not sound like it, I'm speechless."

UW men's soccer coach Jamie Clark led the never-say-die Huskies to their second College Cup since 2021. Despite losing their final three regular-season games, the boys in purple rallied with six consecutive road playoff wins to stand atop the college soccer world.

From UW to the world

The official airline of the Huskies is home to the number one airline loyalty program, Atmos™ Rewards.* Earn more rewards, more often across 1,000+ global destinations with 30+ airline partners, including **one**world®.

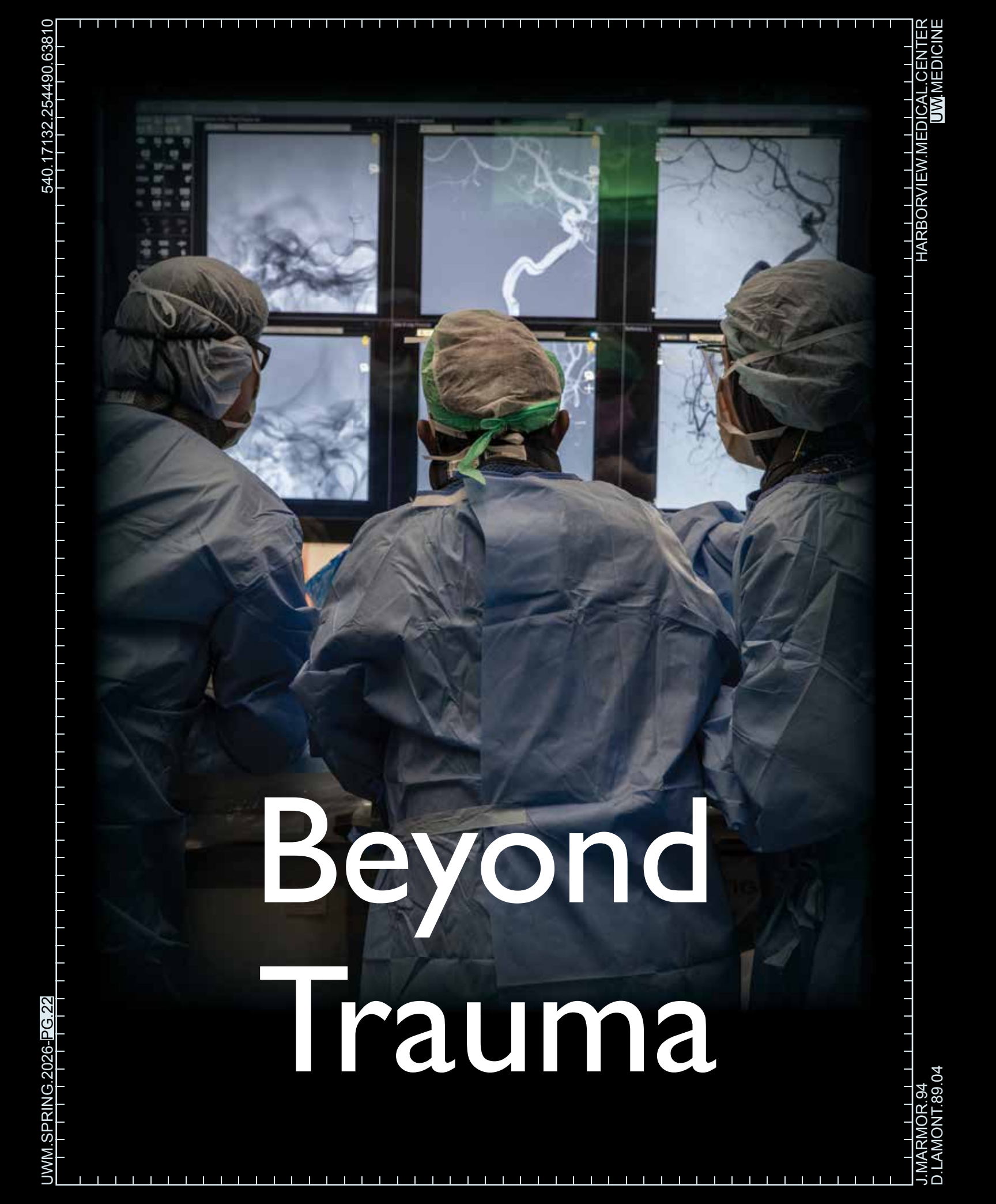
Learn more

ATMOS REWARDS

oneworld Alaska AIRLINES | W

Proud to be the official sponsor of the University of Washington.

*U.S. News & World Report for 2025-2026



Beyond Trauma

Renowned for its emergency care, Harborview also delivers exceptional elective surgical expertise

BY JON MARMOR | PHOTOS BY DAN LAMONT

HARBORVIEW FY.2025.STATISTICS

540
LICENSED BEDS

17.1k
ADMISSIONS

254.4k
CLINIC VISITS

63.8k
EMERGENCY VISITS

SOURCE: UW MEDICINE

PERCHED HIGH atop First Hill overlooking downtown Seattle and the Puget Sound, Harborview Medical Center is like a trusted friend, making sure everyone is safe and sound, always there for you in times of trouble.

Most everyone knows that Harborview is one of the premier Level 1 Trauma and Burn Centers on the planet. If you have spent enough time in the Pacific Northwest, you probably have a Harborview Emergency Department story that goes like this:

Dr. Rich Ellenbogen, chair of Neurological Surgery, recalls the time his wife, a registered nurse, was injured in an automobile accident. When EMTs arrived on the scene, the first words out of her mouth were, "Take me to Harborview!"

That sentiment is repeated daily throughout the region. It's darn near impossible to find anyone in Western Washington who hasn't had their life, or the lives of loved ones, saved by the phenomenal care provided by the UW Medicine professionals and staff at Harborview.

But here's something most people don't know: Harborview doesn't just run the most famous emergency center around. And it isn't defined only by the 95-year-old, Art Deco building at Ninth Avenue and Jefferson Street. The Harborview campus has expanded in more recent years to include facilities like the Ninth and Jefferson Building and the Norm Maleng Building, which are home to advanced biomedical research and state-of-the-art operating rooms, where a wide range of elective surgeries are performed daily.

"There is no hospital like us," says Dr. Louis Kim, chief of Neurological Surgery at Harborview.

In his global travels, Kim has met people who recognize Harborview for its expertise. And yet, he laments, some "in our own backyard" are not aware of what a valuable resource Harborview is for everyone.

Owned by King County and operated by UW Medicine, the hospital's unique structure ensures that any patient who comes through its doors can be treated by some of the nation's best-trained and most-experienced surgeons and clinical staff.

"Many people are aware of our role as a trauma center and safety-net hospital for King County, and that identity and our mission are certainly an important part of what we do," says Harborview CEO Sommer Kleweno Walley, '09. "What many people don't know is that, as a hospital staffed by UW Medicine, we have incredible providers and staff across so many different areas of care."

Kleweno Walley and her team are working to broaden people's perceptions, adding, "No matter what brings you to Harborview, you're going to be seen by some of our nation's top health-care experts."

The fact is, Harborview is a top-tier academic medical center, like UW Medicine's other hospital, UW Medical Center. As part of a leading academic health system, Harborview offers patients care backed by the full depth and expertise of a nationally recognized academic medical enterprise.

"Our academic mission means our patients have access to leading specialists, the newest surgical techniques, and care that's guided by the latest research and

teaching," says Kleweno Walley.

It also means that Harborview doesn't just make the news for its renowned trauma program. Last summer, neurosurgeons at Harborview and the UW School of Medicine made international news when they successfully implanted a new device for the first time in a human, which stimulates a stroke patient's brain to restore lost function.

The patient in that milestone procedure was a 52-year-old man who over the past years had suffered several strokes that severely limited movement in his arms and legs. Rehabilitation helped him recover partial use of his limbs, but the improvement was limited.

With the procedure successfully completed, Harborview's neurosciences team is now working with the patient to go through rehab while receiving stimulation through the device. The hope is that this will result in long-lasting improvements, after which they plan to remove the device.

Dr. Jeff Ojemann, professor in UW Medicine's Department of Neurological Surgery and an attending surgeon at Harborview and Seattle Children's Hospital, is the leader of the team that performed this groundbreaking advance at Harborview. The team is examining the efficacy of rewiring a stroke patient's brain by activating damaged circuits with electrical impulses.

"The thing about Harborview is that it is so cutting edge," says Ellenbogen, who previously served as chief of neurosurgery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and earned a Bronze Star for treating soldiers in Operation Desert Storm who suffered traumatic brain injuries. "The team at Harborview is superb at trauma, but we're not just about trauma. If someone needing elective surgery wants the best possible care, this is the place they should come."

That world-class care includes Harborview's best-in-class nursing team, which is Magnet-recognized by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, one of the most prestigious nationwide honors a nursing program can receive.

Harborview treats a wide range of medical conditions, and includes renowned surgical departments in neurological surgery, orthopedics and spine, according to Lanie Dschaak, director of operations for outpatient surgery at Harborview. Dschaak says other elective surgery offerings include ophthalmology (Harborview's highest volume of outpatient surgery), as well as ear, nose and throat, and gynecologic care.

In January, a suite of new outpatient operating rooms opened in the Ninth and Jefferson Building as part of a larger campus expansion plan at Harborview. Known as the UW Medicine Outpatient Surgery Center at Harborview, the area features a renovated, spacious reception area and waiting rooms offering abundant natural light streaming from floor-to-ceiling windows throughout the space. The five new

> "The team at Harborview is superb at trauma, but we're not just about trauma.

In one of Harborview's new hybrid operating rooms, Dr. Louis Kim, chief of neurological surgery, and his team use an advanced angiography imaging system to see two- and three-dimensional images inside a patient's vascular system.

If someone needing elective surgery wants the best possible care, this is the place they should come.

— Dr. Rich Ellenbogen
Chair of Neurological Surgery

DR. R. ELLENBOGEN

surgical suites are equipped with the latest technology to ensure the highest-quality patient care.

"Harborview is not the same hospital as it was 20 years ago," says Kleweno Walley. "We continue to upgrade our facilities, so our patients are cared for in a more comforting, welcoming environment where they feel more at ease."

Dr. Howard Chansky, who chairs the only academic orthopedics department in the five-state region of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho (WWAMI), says these new outpatient operating rooms are especially helpful for his team's ability to perform less-invasive surgeries, as well as other procedures in a state-of-the-art setting, improving the experience for patients and their families.

Then there are the newly built "smart rooms" for patients who require hospitalization after elective surgery. Two floors that opened last year in the Maleng Building offer private rooms with furnishings for family members who want to sleep over. In addition, these rooms are outfitted with two-way video monitoring that enables specially trained nurses to monitor patients as they recover.

The smart rooms combine care from onsite nurses, who regularly monitor and attend to patients in person, and "virtual nurses," who sit in a control room near the unit to ensure that patients have access to care even if the onsite nurse has been called out to attend to another patient.

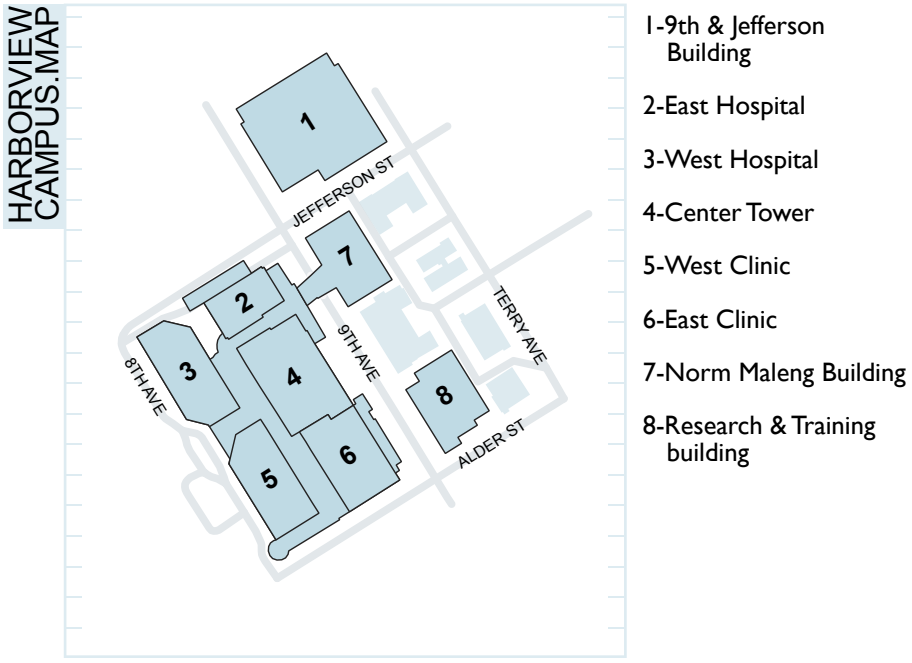
"We act like a second set of eyes and serve as a secondary nurse on the unit," says nurse April Valaquio, RN, who splits her time as a virtual nurse and charge nurse, supervising the nursing staff and patients on the floor on different days. "Between the onsite and virtual teams, we can have more interaction with patients," she says, adding that data from post-discharge surveys has shown that the virtual-nursing feature has increased patient satisfaction with their experience at Harborview.

Virtual nurses help with admission documentation, pain assessments, discharge education, chart reviews, meal ordering, critical-care notification and much more. "Virtual nurses often get to know patients just as well as in-person nurses," says nurse Alison Zhang, RN, who has served in that role for more than a year. "Patients are happy to be here, in private rooms, with a very attentive nursing staff."

To ensure that patients feel comfortable with cameras in their rooms, nursing teams strictly follow all privacy and HIPAA compliance regulations.

Virtual nurses, of course, are not the

In Harborview's new "smart rooms," nursing staff remotely monitor and communicate with patients. Here, April Valaquio, RN, acts as a virtual nurse in a control room while Alison Zhang, RN, checks on a patient.



1-9th & Jefferson Building

2-East Hospital

3-West Hospital

4-Center Tower

5-West Clinic

6-East Clinic

7-Norm Maleng Building

8-Research & Training building

New hybrid operating rooms allow Harborview the ability to schedule more elective surgeries. That means acute-care procedures that run longer than anticipated won't delay elective surgeries.

> Harborview is not the same hospital as it was 20 years ago.
>
> We continue to upgrade our facilities, so our patients are cared for in a more comforting, welcoming environment where they feel more at ease.
>
> **— Sommer Kleweno Walley, Harborview CEO**

S.KLEWENO.WALLEY.09

first time that patients may have interacted with health-care providers onscreen. "We started telemedicine using a camera during the COVID-19 pandemic, and it worked," Valaquio says. "This is the next step in patient care."

To date, Harborview is the only UW Medicine hospital with virtual nurses.

Patients who might be a bit surprised to learn that their planned surgeries are going to be done at Harborview—thinking it treated only emergency cases—should know they are receiving the best possible care. "Why would anyone not want to benefit from the best care available from surgeons with the best training and experience?" says Chansky, who adds that like many UW Medicine employees, he has chosen to receive his own elective care at Harborview.

Chansky, chair of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine, has worked for UW Medicine for 33 years. Ellenbogen, chair of neurological surgery, has been here since 1997. Kim, chief of neurological surgery, has been at Harborview for 18 years.

"There's a reason why people work here a long time," says Kleweno Walley, who herself has been working at Harborview for 28 years, starting as a speech-language pathologist before being promoted into leadership positions and eventually the CEO role. "Harborview is known for its can-do attitude. If a problem needs to be solved, we just solve it. This gives our staff the opportunity to bring ideas forward and help ensure care is focused on our patients."

When Kim speaks at conferences around the world, he says people everywhere are thrilled to meet someone who practices at Harborview because of its sterling reputation.

"We have no shortage of the best, cutting-edge care in our hospital," he says. And with a new hospital tower expected to break ground by the end of 2028, he is even more excited at Harborview's prospects. "Harborview is the best hospital in the world for those outside of King County," he says. "But in our local population, they tend to think only about our emergency department, where people need lifesaving, immediate care. In reality, Harborview is a world leader with the highest level of care and its can-do attitude, which has always been our culture."

Kleweno Walley agrees. "Harborview provides the most skilled and compassionate care," she says. "The best and brightest doctors and nurses and clinical staff translate into the best elective surgery around. Everyone deserves that."


WORLD'S FAIR
SEATTLE

‘Out of Scope’

The weird and wonderful artifacts that refuse to fit—and why they matter to the future of history

BY SHIN YU PAI | PHOTOS BY RON WURZER

History doesn’t always fit in a box. Not a 1960s kidney dialysis machine, nor a salvaged architectural fragment from a demolished building, nor a spectrometer probe once used to measure particulate matter. Definitely not the carved wooden log that served as the first UW student yearbook.

These are some of the objects that land in the hands of University archivist John Bolcer, ’94. Members of the UW community bring him artifacts they hope to donate to the University’s Special Collections. Most of these strange but significant objects fall outside the acquisition scope of the department. So Bolcer must ask: Would the UW want this?

The answer lies in what the object can bring to light. “We have to negotiate what can help tell the story [of the University],” Bolcer says. “Most of what we receive fits in a box.” And those items that don’t—the oversized and unconventional—might be the best for bringing history to life.

Since the 1920s, UW Libraries has collected materials reflecting the history of the Pacific Northwest and the University itself: nearly 20 miles of shelving holding boxes of books, newspapers, magazines, archival papers, records, photographs, architectural drawings, audio recordings and film. But there are exceptions to the rules, and there are times when a special artifact brings history vividly to life.

In the basement of the Allen Library, the current exhibition “Out of Scope” features a trove of unusual objects that found their way into the library over the decades. Curated by Bolcer, with Special Collections Director Lisa Oberg, ’90, and other library staff, the show puts roughly 200 artifacts on display. From fragments and architectural

remnants of long-lost campus buildings and former Northwest School artist Paul Horiuchi's paint case to artifacts of student life, such as a vintage purple freshman beanie or a 1950s dissection kit embossed with the name of its owner—a female science student.

Each display case holds the curators' favorite objects organized by history or theme. Visitors encounter objects that are both everyday and aspirational: vintage UW sports ephemera, materials related to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, obsolete recording equipment, vintage surgical tools—including Civil War-era bone saws—and even a Gutenberg printing press. "We are the holder of rare and unique and weird and wonderful stuff," Oberg says. "It's not to say the rest of the library isn't as wonderful, but this is a treasure in your midst."

There are even more quirky offerings on view beyond the collection of old-fashioned paper nursing caps or photographs from a Scottish terrier dog show.

The first student yearbook, which was handcrafted in 1894 as a single edition, occupies its own case. It's nothing like the old Tyee yearbooks. Carved from a rustic wooden log that still has its bark intact, the improvised "log book" plays with the notion of a ship's manifest and holds individual shingles of wood inscribed with a spidery handwritten scrawl containing the names and personal details of that year's graduates. Because the shingles will fade with prolonged light exposure, a facsimile of the top page is used for the display. It's a playful novelty piece and a snapshot of student humor and history.

The benefit of an exhibition like "Out of Scope" is its ability to capture attention and point people toward resources where they can dig deeper. "The exhibits are the hook," Bolcer says. "They give a sense of the breadth of the collections. This show is 1% of one million items—a tiny fraction of what we have." Each item prompts questions. A freshman beanie from the 1950s might open inquiry into student life at the time and lead to further discoveries like a campus poster that details "rules" for freshmen and consequences of being found without a beanie: getting tossed in Drumheller Fountain. That could lead to "an examination of past norms in relation to contemporary concerns about hazing," Bolcer says.

"Students love to understand what student life was like before them," Oberg says. "Student scrapbooks were the Instagram of the 1920s, when people saved every ticket stub or pressed corsage." For Oberg, these physical touchstones allow students to explore researching with primary source material. The materials can be physically handled; white gloves are required only for photographs and more fragile materials.

Oberg regularly pulls objects from Special Collections to share with classes and school groups. Each year, middle and high schoolers from all over Seattle visit UW Libraries to prepare their presentations for National History Day. Students conduct primary and secondary source research and create a project that presents their findings at local, state and national levels. Oberg recalls showing a 13-year-old who was researching the

Doll with Nurse's Cap

A 1950s doll is displayed in a navy blue UW cape and white nursing hat, markers of the nursing profession. Drawn from a larger collection of nursing paraphernalia donated by a former UW dean of nursing, the "Out of Scope" exhibition features a small display of curated nurses' caps from nursing colleges across the country, alongside various dolls.

Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition Spoon

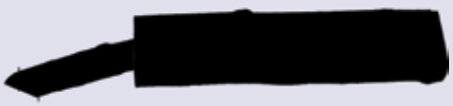
This silver souvenir spoon from the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition features engraved motifs of the 1909 fair. Several buildings were constructed on the UW campus as temporary structures for the exposition, including the "Manufactures Bldg." shown on the back of the spoon.

World's Fair Decanter

The Seattle World's Fair took place in 1962 and brought more than 10 million visitors to the Seattle Center. This souvenir Jim Beam Bourbon decanter, which resembles the towering shape of the Space Needle, commemorates the historic event.

Class of 1894 Log Book

Before the first Tyee was published in 1900, the UW's inaugural yearbook took the form of an 1894 "log book." This novelty volume playfully embraced its theme, offering a snapshot into early student life on campus. Fashioned from a real tree with sheaves of wood as pages, student names were inscribed on each sheet in handwritten script, with personal details about each graduating senior. When displayed, a facsimile page is used to protect the sheets of wood from light.



Salvaged Fragment

Architectural fragments salvaged during renovations at the UW couldn't always be reinstalled after their buildings were updated. This fragment from a Corinthian column was collected by an architect in UW Facilities and transferred to the archives in 2022.

ON THE COVER

Paul Horiuchi's Paint Case

This colorful paint case belonged to Seattle artist Paul Horiuchi, who was associated with the Northwest Mystic Painters and with artist Mark Tobey. Though he began his career as an oil painter, Horiuchi became renowned as a master of collage. He handmade and dyed his own sheets of paper, which he tore and combined with other media to create complex and painterly compositions. Horiuchi was commissioned to design a large mosaic mural for the 1962 Seattle World's Fair. At the time of its completion, it was considered the single largest work of art in the Pacific Northwest. The mural now forms the backdrop for the amphitheater stage at Seattle Center.

Civil War a handwritten letter from that time. "It was written in 1861," Oberg says. "She asked if it was the real thing and just sat down and stared at it. She couldn't believe that something was as old as her life 10 times over.

"Not all students become converts to doing historical research. But everyone who comes here leaves with a different understanding and appreciation [of our archives]," she says. Through examining artifacts in the collections, students become more aware of whose histories are told and whose are left out. Oberg acknowledges there are gaps, but to be stewards of that history is "an essential task of libraries."

UW Libraries maintains a warehouse full of archives at Sandpoint filled with boxes of material that haven't been digitized or photographed. The UW Special Collections team describes and catalogs materials at the box and folder level. Curious and tenacious researchers may be rewarded with unexpected finds once they dig in. The process can feel like a treasure hunt.

The wealth of materials has drawn historians and writers from around the world. Local authors who've done research at Special Collections include David Guterson ("East of the Mountains"), Daniel James Brown ("The Boys in the Boat"), Timothy Egan (the Edward Sheriff Curtis biography "Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher"), David B. Williams ("Too High and Too Steep: Reshaping Seattle's Topography"), Coll Thrush ("Wrecked"), Paul de Barros ("Jackson Street After Hours"), Paula Becker ("Looking for Betty MacDonald") and Nicolette Bromberg and David Martin ("Shadows of a Fleeting World: Pictorial Photography and the Seattle Camera Club").

Along with authors and historians who mine the collections for material, architectural historians researching landmark applications, homeowners tracing their properties and the general public—the largest off-campus user group—all rely on Special Collections.

"Researchers have come all the way from France to look at bioethics related to kidney dialysis in our Scribner collections," Bolcer says. "We've had people from all over the world who study ecological and environmental histories come to look at the impacts of the Bikini Atoll surveys conducted by UW researchers in conjunction with nuclear testing."

During the pandemic, Special Collections librarians hosted virtual visits with international researchers using overhead document cameras. These remote sessions remain popular, expanding access to the collections that once required travel. But preserving history and making it accessible to all comes at a cost.

Oberg says the library holdings provide an expansive index to regional history, documenting nearly 1.1 million items. The abundance, however, belies a more fragile reality. The libraries were hoping to be able to digitize the Special Collections catalog, but funding has dried up. Cuts to the National Endowment for the Humanities have terminated approved preservation grants, and when grant-funded staff positions finish their current contracts, the library will lose critical staff expertise. "We have not felt the full impact yet," Oberg says. "But my larger concern is that small museums will fold. We will have a crisis with those collections. When a small museum that was the passion of a single person dies, the collection ends up on the curb or on eBay. We can't take in all the collections from the small regional museums. And places like the Washington State History Museum or MOHAI all have space considerations and collecting scopes. I worry that the smaller organizations will feel the direct impact."

> "My larger concern is that small museums will fold. We will have a crisis with those collections. When a small museum that was the passion of a single person dies, the collection ends up on the curb or on eBay."
>
> - Lisa Oberg, Director of Special Collections

The UW team anticipates changes to the collections' user base as the pool of students and researchers shrinks in the wake of diminished funding. "I worry about the ability of students to pursue degrees and careers in history and the liberal arts more generally," Bolcer adds.

Most of what comes to the UW's Special Collections fits in a box. But objects that spill beyond the archive's boundaries—whether by size or scope—are often the ones that reveal the most vivid stories. Preserving these items goes beyond the matter of storage, but it often comes down to choosing what histories the collection is willing to hold.

"Out of Scope" will be on view in the Allen Library through Sept. 18, 2026. Special Collections is open Monday through Friday from 1 to 4:45 p.m. Advance appointments are recommended to ensure availability of materials.

No Time To Waste

After more than two decades in prison, Benjamin Brockie begins again—as a student, a father and an advocate for education and Indigenous justice

By Hannelore Sudermann | Photos by John Lok

The last time Benjamin Brockie saw his grandmother, she was in her hospital bed. He had been allowed two hours of compassionate release from prison to see her.

He was dressed in an orange jumpsuit and shower shoes, his wrists locked in shackles that rattled as he walked down the hallway escorted by an armed guard.

When she saw him, she called his name, reached out and began to cry.

Brockie leaned over and she embraced him, but he couldn't hug her back.

"I just felt so shameful," he says now, "because I let my family down."

He had been in prison for six years at that point. He was serving a 67-year sentence for crimes including bank robbery, offenses he committed at 20 and had long recognized as harm to those he threatened. What he hadn't fully grasped—until that moment in the hospital room—was how far the hurt he caused had spread.

"Seeing her like that," he says, "I realized I didn't just harm those victims. I harmed their families. I harmed my family. I harmed my community." Six years later, his actions were still wounding people he loved.

At the end of the visit, Brockie returned to prison certain of one thing: he would probably die there. The realization came with a new resolve. "I wanted to do better," he says. "At least for my family and the family members of my victims."

Brockie grew up in Spokane, where much of his family still lives. He is an enrolled member of the A'aninin tribe of Fort Belknap, Montana. By his own telling, he was not an easy teenager. Money was tight. When he started robbing businesses, he saw it as a quick, albeit reckless, solution.

But in 2003, he was convicted of two counts of first-degree robbery, two counts of threats to bomb and 15 counts of first-degree kidnapping. The sentence—more than 67 years—was crushing. He was barely old enough

to understand what it meant to grow old, let alone imagine never leaving prison. “At first, I couldn’t even think about it,” he says. “It was just hopeless.”

He prayed constantly—for forgiveness and for an opportunity. “If I could go home, I’d go to school. I’d do whatever I had to do to be free.”

He understood how rare it was for a prayer like that to be answered.

Education became a lifeline. Brockie enrolled in an associate degree program studying human and social services. He maintained a 4.0 GPA. He read obsessively. He served on the Advisory Council of Incarcerated Individuals, advocating for rehabilitation rather than punishment. He tutored and encouraged other incarcerated men. He won a scholarship. He tried to become someone who could live with himself. And he dared to hope for a life outside prison.

Around 2016, his case came to the Seattle Clemency Project, a volunteer effort pairing incarcerated people serving extreme sentences with attorneys willing to take on uncertain cases. Bianca Lacaille, ’14, ’17, was a first-year associate at her law firm and her practice was in corporate law. But she was eager to help with Brockie’s petition, especially after traveling to Spokane and meeting him at the Airway Heights Correctional Center.

“I had never been to a prison before,” she says. “Up to that point, we had only communicated by letter.” She could sense his nervousness. “He had so much at stake. But I also saw an individual who was so intellectual and so thoughtful with his words and his worldview. He was able to speak about what he did and had an understanding of the impact he had had on others.” Fellow attorney Hugh Barber, a former King County prosecutor who has taught trial advocacy at the UW, noticed how much Brockie did for others inside—not only trying to improve himself, but helping his peers.

There was no guarantee the attorneys’ work would lead anywhere. Brockie’s first clemency petition in 2019 didn’t even get a hearing. When he heard that news, he sank into a depression, convinced that it had been his only chance. “He half expected us to move on and be stuck again on his own,” Lacaille says. “But I quickly reassured him he was stuck with me, and we were going to keep fighting for him.”

Lacaille and Barber saw possibility in his case. Barber thought Brockie’s sentence was unduly harsh—a lifetime sentence for two bank robberies with a pellet gun. Brockie rejected the argument, taking responsibility for the crimes. He didn’t want his release to hinge on technicalities or sympathy. Accountability mattered to him.

The Brockie today is not the Brockie of 23 years ago, say Barber and Lacaille. That was the argument they ultimately made to the Clemency and Pardons Board in June 2024.

When the decision came to grant him clemency and Gov. Jay Inslee, ’73, signed the commutation in late summer 2024, Brockie, who had been admitted to the University of Washington that fall, didn’t celebrate. He waited.

“I was still scared up until I walked out that front door,” he says. Nearly 60 people waited for him outside the prison, among them his wife, his mother, siblings and friends, people who had believed in him long before the state did. “My family was there. My community. I was free. I was done doing time. I was home.”

Brockie is likely the first Indigenous person to be granted clemency by Washington state.

What struck him most as he walked from prison to the waiting crowd, though, wasn’t the noise or the reunion. It was the sky. “In prison, you never see the horizon completely,” he says. “That first day, I could see all the way toward Idaho, all the way west. The big sky. The wind felt so good.” He pauses, searching for the right word. “It was magical.”

Ten days later, he moved into a reentry residence in South Seattle and began preparing for something he had dreamt of for decades: college.

Most incarceration stories end at the release. But for Brockie, it was the beginning. With an AA degree earned in prison and a scholarship and admission to the UW to complete his bachelor’s, he had no time to waste.

But reentry and the challenges of navigating the University overwhelmed him. Living alongside others who had been behind bars, having a long bus commute where he felt the need to be hyper-vigilant and suddenly facing thousands of daily decisions left him mentally exhausted. Brockie was older but less worldly than most of his classmates. He didn’t know how to use a smartphone. He didn’t know how to open Canvas or send emails, he says. “What was Google Drive?”

“I was using a paper map to try to find my way around,” he says. Prison had taught him structure and routine. Freedom required effort and improvisation.

Brockie worked twice as hard as his classmates, all the while trying to keep his past hidden and not burden anyone with his confusion. “I just wished I had somebody to walk me through it all,” he says. Someone to help him submit an assignment, guide him to an office. To help him start conversations that seemed easy for everyone else.

His sociology adviser, Susanna Hansson, ’84, noticed. “She worked with me over the phone and helped me build a class schedule while I was still in prison,” he says. When he finally got to Seattle, she toured him through campus. “And she has held my hand ever since,” he says. It wasn’t her job to help him reenter the world, he says, but she did it anyway.

More than a year into his studies, Brockie can list exactly what formerly incarcerated students need to survive on campus. Not pity. Not special treatment. Just guidance and safety.

“There are other formerly incarcerated students here,” he says. “But we keep low profiles.” He hasn’t been able to connect with many of them. The isolation is familiar. So is the silence.

“We need a safe space,” he says. “A place where we can come together and share resources.” He recently formed a registered student organization, Formerly Incarcerated Students at the UW, hoping to build for others the support he once needed and advocate for a reentry navigator on the main campus (UW Tacoma does have a support program for formerly incarcerated students).

Brockie is majoring in sociology and American Indian studies, and is expecting to graduate in June.

He has also started a family. He and his wife, Marisol, welcomed their baby last summer. “Bo is a dream I thought would never come true,” he says. “Having a life sentence doesn’t just take your freedom; it slowly takes away the idea that you’ll ever be someone’s safe place, their example, their home.”

Left, Ben Brockie wraps up an office visit with Jean Dennison, one of his professors in American Indian Studies. Above, Brockie relishes every minute he gets on campus.

Now he's applying to law school, aiming to further his work challenging inequities, ensuring Indigenous representation and amplifying Native voices within systems that have historically excluded them. He is following the call to action that Raymond Delos Reyes, '04, a Seattle attorney and member of the Washington State Clemency and Pardons Board, gave as he voted in support of Brockie's clemency petition: "Go to law school. We need you."

Brockie hopes to draw from his own experience to improve conditions and opportunities for imprisoned people. Education should not be contingent on the promise of release, he says. People serving long sentences rarely get access to higher education programs, even though education alone can reshape how someone understands their responsibility to the world. "I was always looking for ways to give back," he says.

Now on the outside, that instinct has expanded. His coursework led to a public health internship last summer with the Urban Indian Health Institute, where he found mentors in Abigail Echo-Hawk, '09, the executive director of the Seattle Indian Health Board, and program manager Sacena Gurule. He worked on designing an awareness program about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and People, exploring ways to reach into prison communities where there might be knowledge about cold cases. He also presented at the Washington State Minority and Justice Commission 2025 Supreme Court Symposium.

He has his family, he has his school, he has his outreach work to other formerly incarcerated students and he has his mission of becoming a lawyer. "I don't mind," he says of the demanding schedule. "I don't think I'm unique or special. More people who are incarcerated are smarter and more driven. I just got a chance."

Brockie knows better than to frame his life as a story of redemption. He doesn't ask to be forgiven or pretend that the harm he caused has diminished with time. Instead, what he believes is that his responsibility is even greater now that he's free.

And every day, he feels grateful walking through a world that he once thought he had lost.

Despite having to live his life at full speed, the sense of wonder he felt on his first day of freedom hasn't left him. "This morning," he says, "I walked across the Quad. I saw the trees and the leaves and the buildings, and I just think they're beautiful." He stops himself, acknowledging the simplicity of it. "I just think how lucky I am."

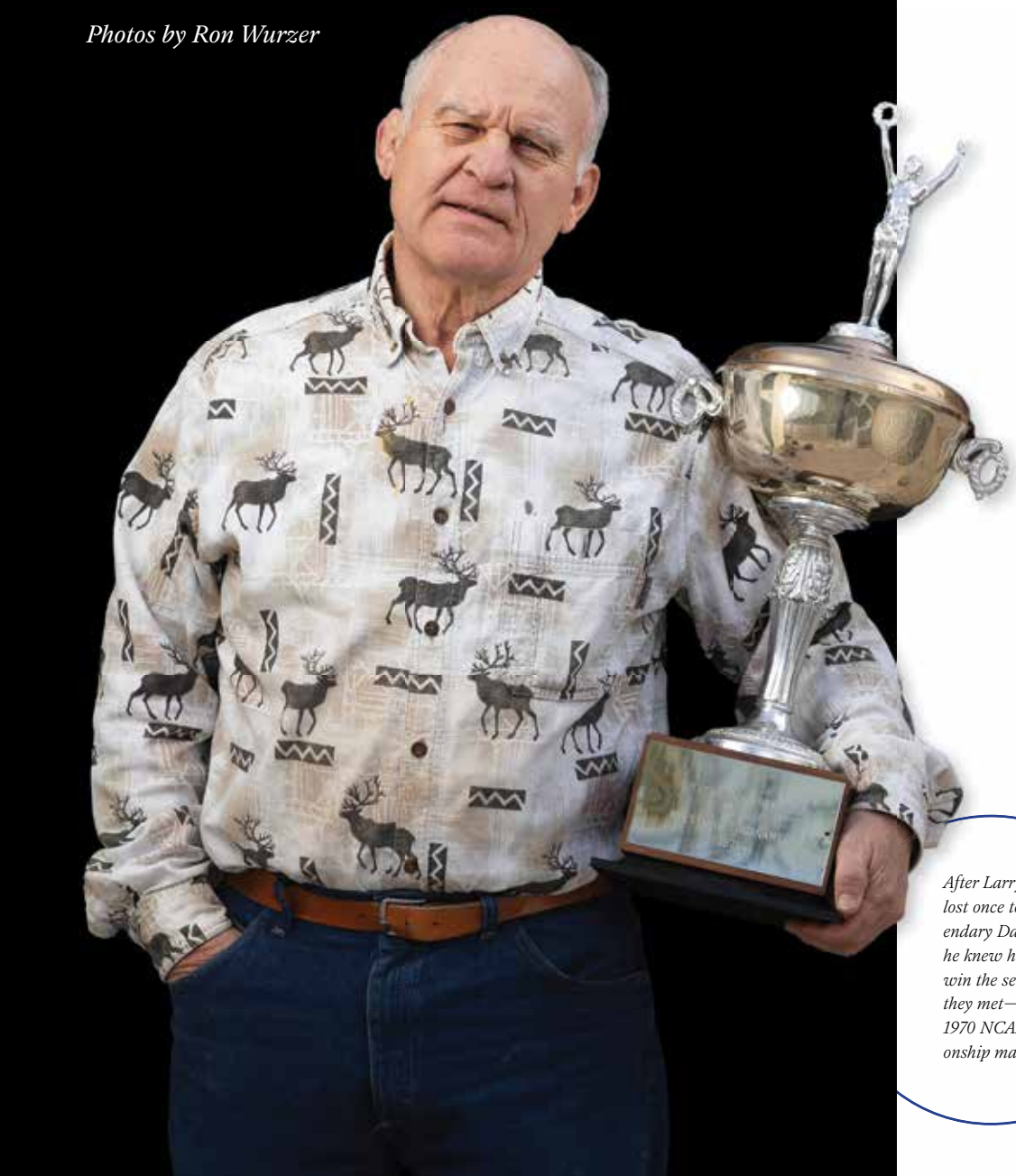
When he's not working or studying, Brockie cherishes his time with his young son. "Bo is a dream I thought would never come true," he says. "Having a life sentence doesn't just take your freedom. It slowly takes away the idea that you'll ever be someone's safe place, their example, their home."

Grappling With Immortality

Larry Owings scored the biggest upset in NCAA wrestling history, and he's spent the rest of his life coming to terms with it

By Mike Seely

Photos by Ron Wurzer



After Larry Owings lost once to the legendary Dan Gable, he knew he would win the second time they met—in the 1970 NCAA championship match.

When Larry Owings was growing up in rural Oregon, everyone—his friends, his family, even his teachers—called him by the nickname "Porky." They did this because he was overweight.

"Nowadays, they would call that bullying," says Owings, now 75. "Back then, you just had to grin and take it. I can't tell you how deep down inside I was hurting. It inspired me to say, 'I'm gonna show you someday.'"

Would he ever.

Owings had four older brothers, all of them state wrestling champs at Canby High School. Taking a gander at their baby brother in junior high, none of them expected Larry to wrestle at all, much less earn any kind of hardware. But a life-changing event—or occupation, rather—occurred in the summer before his freshman year.

"I went to work for an old Norwegian dairy farmer," he recalls. "I hauled hundred-pound bales of hay for him all summer long. Before that, I worked on the farm picking berries, and I hated picking berries. There was no way I was not gonna do good in this job and go back to picking berries."

Owings' weight went from about 150 to 130 through the course of his sweaty vocation, and he also grew a couple of inches. In spite of his siblings' doubts, he joined the Canby wrestling team and worked his way up to varsity at 123 pounds by the end of his freshman year. By the end of his high school career, he would win state championships in both the 136- and 141-pound weight divisions.

During his senior year, Owings was matched in a tournament with an Iowa State University sophomore named Dan Gable, who was undefeated and already an NCAA champion. Gable won their match rather easily, but Owings managed to score some points—quite a feat for anyone facing a man who would go down as the greatest amateur wrestler of all time.

After losing to Gable, Owings said he felt like he "had a score to settle." Two years later, he'd get his chance.

Triumph, then turmoil

There were a lot of colleges interested in Owings' wrestling services after high school, but the University of Washington won out.

"I didn't go to Oregon State because my brothers had gone there," he explains. "I went up to the U-Dub, beautiful campus, coach was very gung-ho. Jim Smith—he's still alive, by the way. He's 90 and lives in Lynnwood. I liked the school, I liked the coach. I wanted to go into architecture, and they had a great architecture program."

Owings, '72, '75, '78, pursued an architecture degree for a quarter before he deemed it too difficult and switched to industrial education. Things on the mat went according to plan, however. By the time Owings was a sophomore, he was Pac-8 champion at 158 pounds with the 1970 NCAA tournament on the horizon.

But instead of competing in that weight class, Owings quickly shed 16 pounds so he could face Gable.

At the time, Gable boasted a record of 117-0. Counting high school, that mark stood at an unthinkable 181-0. Everyone viewed the tournament, which was held near Chicago on the Northwestern University campus, as Gable's surefire coronation—everyone, that is, except for Owings, who told anyone who would listen that he thought he could beat the champ.

"I thought I had a little edge because whenever he wrestled anybody, he always pinned them," says Owings. "He rarely had a full match. I thought, 'I can push him,' so my strategy going into that match was I was going to push him until he was exhausted. And that's what happened in the third round. A lot of people didn't know that I had wrestled him previously."

Owings and Gable met in the NCAA finals. Owings got out to a shocking 7-2 lead and led 8-4 before Gable finally took a 10-9 lead in the third and final round when riding time—points awarded for a disparity in control over the match—was taken into account. But Gable was visibly tired and, having won the vast majority of his matches by takedown, got greedy in the final seconds.

Owings capitalized, dropping Gable to the mat via a devastating leg sweep and exposing his shoulders to earn four additional points. The 13-11 margin would hold. Owings had scored the biggest upset in wrestling, if not all of individual sports, of all time.

The years ahead were kind to Gable, who would go on to win the 1972 Olympics without yielding a single point and then become the greatest collegiate coach of all time at the University of Iowa. As for Owings, he got married during his junior year. While this proved somewhat detrimental to his wrestling career and the marriage ultimately unraveled, he was NCAA runner-up in his junior and senior years and finished with a career record of 87-4.

That record doesn't include the third and final time Owings wrestled Gable at the 1972 Olympic Trials, where Gable would go on to avenge his 1970 loss in convincing fashion.

"When I beat Dan Gable, I went from a nobody to a celebrity," Owings recalls. "It was something I wasn't accustomed to and something I didn't necessarily relish. I became the top dog and everybody was shooting for me. I didn't like that. I'm much more introverted. I like to be the quiet guy that comes in and slips up on somebody.

"I was tired of the monkey being on my back and thought, 'I'll just go out and wrestle Dan Gable, he'll beat me, and everybody will leave me alone.' All of that happened, but people didn't leave me alone."

1970
NCAA CHAMPION

87–4
RECORD AT WASHINGTON

The Hall beckons

Owings plied his craft quietly in the Pacific Northwest as an educator, including stints as a shop teacher and head wrestling coach at West Seattle's Chief Sealth High School, until 2003. Since remarried, he moved back to near his boyhood home in Oregon and began to experience a change of heart about the 33-year-old accomplishment that defined him in the eyes of many.

"I just thought to myself, 'This is never gonna go away. God gave me this talent of wrestling and here I am trying to run away from it and hide. We're gonna stop doing that, we're gonna embrace it and start sharing with other kids," Owings says. "My attitude was the problem all along. Once I changed that and embraced what had happened, I felt better myself and helped a lot of people."

Owings kept working with young wrestlers, something he does to this day. He still dons the headgear and gets on the mat to show them proper technique, something he hopes to do until he's 80.

Considering he wrestled in the most famous match in NCAA history and spent the rest of his collegiate career proving it was no fluke, it might come as a surprise that Owings has yet to be inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Stillwater, Oklahoma. The fact that the UW shuttered its program in the 1980s—it's since been resurrected as a club sport—hasn't helped his cause, nor has the humble lifestyle he has chosen to live in an out-of-the-way corner of the country.

Somehow, Larry Owings has never been inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame despite having defeated several wrestlers who are enshrined there.

But Owings, who says he's stayed friendly, if not chummy, with Gable over the years, has many staunch advocates, and a movement is now afoot to get the man the recognition he's presumably due.

"He's a legend," says Hall of Famer Randall Tomaras, who grew up in Bellingham and has penned a letter of support on Owings' behalf. "A lot of the people only remember that one match. They say he was a one-time wonder. No, he wasn't. He was in the NCAA Finals three times."

"He gave American wrestling its greatest story," wrote Jim Kalin in one of his columns for Amateur Wrestling News. "Ask 100 wrestling fans who Larry Owings is, and all know. Not so with plenty of National Wrestling Hall of Fame Distinguished Members, many who have never won an Olympic gold medal or NCAA title. No wrestler has matched Owings' single moment and season. Isn't that alone worthy of his induction into the Hall of Fame?"

Owings believes it is.

"I probably belong in the Hall of Fame," Owings says. "There are several people in the Hall of Fame that I've beaten. To me, that's gonna be probably the greatest honor you can achieve in United States wrestling. Waiting this long, it might mean more to me."

Columns

NEWS FROM **THE UW COMMUNITY**

MATT HAGEN

Culinary adventurer Annie Sim delights in Seattle's flavors while guiding a bite-sized tour at Pike Place Fish Market.

A Taste for Tours

Annie Sim turns her love of food, culture and community into immersive culinary journeys in Seattle and around the world

By Hannelore Sudermann

In the world of Annie Sim, CEO stands for "chief eating officer." It's with that delicious sense of humor and a passion for culture and cuisine that this UW alum has cooked up a business of bespoke culinary journeys. This year, her company, The Table Less Traveled, is staging two trips to Japan and one each to Portugal, Peru and Italy. At the same time, her home-based business, Savor Food Tours, brings visitors and locals to explore Seattle-area food and culture.

Looking back, Sim, '07, realizes the things she loved most in her childhood—eating, sharing experiences, exploring and independence—were early clues to her calling. "My parents, aunts and uncles—almost all of them—were small-business owners or something like it," she says.

When she was in middle school, her parents first ventured into the food manufacturing and distribution business, supplying noodles, wonton wrappers and fortune cookies to local stores and restaurants for the next 20 years. Then, in 2019, Sim's father, Camillo Cheng, '76, and brother Isaac, '05, bought Tsue Chong Co., a century-old Seattle food company best known for its Rose Brand products.

Sim's own entrepreneurial streak showed up early. At 16 and newly licensed to drive, she had the idea of creating custom fortune cookies to sell to local banks and businesses. She printed fortunes at home at night, trimmed them by hand and paid to have them baked into cookies at her family's factory.

"It wasn't super successful," she says, "but it was a great way to cut my teeth on creating an idea and seeing it come to fruition."

At the UW, Sim's interest in business deepened. "Most people consider accounting to be boring, but understanding how the world works from a business perspective and how you can build your own financial success was really interesting," she says.

After graduation, Sim tried on several careers—marketing, project management, telecom—none of which felt right. She had been saving for a down payment on a condo when she made the pivotal decision to quit her job and use the money to fund a half-year trip around the world. Visiting six countries and spending weeks in each, she was moved by how food connects people and reflects cultural identity. "When I came back, I didn't know how to apply that." It took more time and travel to crystallize her idea: creating meaningful travel experiences centered on cuisine. "I wanted to elevate food as a way to explore the world," she says.

Fear of failure nearly stopped her. But Sim's aunt, Theresa Cheng Borin, another UW alum and faculty member in the School of Dentistry, reframed the dilemma. "She asked me how much it would cost to do the research, build the product and market it," Sim says. "When I told her, she said, 'If you succeed, great. If you fail, it will be the best tuition you have ever paid.'"

Sim started The Table Less Traveled in 2014, with Malaysia as the first destination. "Food is so much a part of the multiethnic national identity," she says. She spent weeks building relationships and securing access travelers wouldn't find online.

Today, deep local connections at the destinations make for immersive, authentic experiences that include cooking classes, farm tastings and time with chefs, cheesemakers and artisans.

That sense of community defines the business. "We keep the trips small, special and intimate," she says. The company accepts 12 travelers per group.

Closer to home, Sim acquired Savor Seattle Food Tours in 2024. "The clientele is a mix of locals and tourists," she says. "In the winter, it's locals rediscovering Pike Place Market. In the summer, we welcome travelers heading to Alaska cruises."

For Sim, the journey—like a great meal—is always better when shared.

GABRIELA NÚÑEZ WHITEMARSH, 07

WASHINGTON STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

CHANGEMAKER, PROBLEM SOLVER, BILINGUAL MATH MAVEN

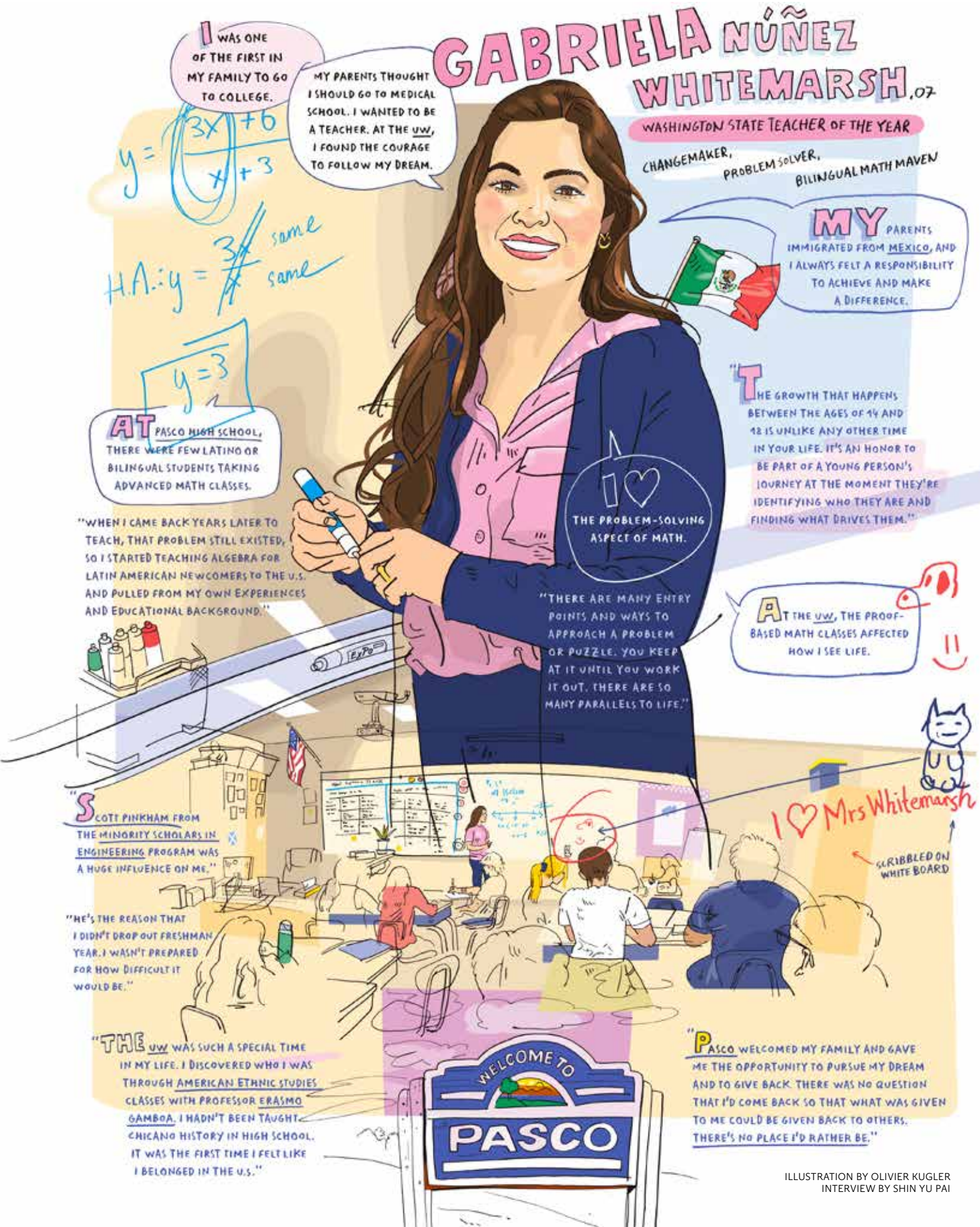


ILLUSTRATION BY OLIVIER KUGLER
INTERVIEW BY SHIN YU PAI

ANIL KAPAHI

Telling an Untold Story

Pulitzer-winning reporter Evelyn Iritani uncovers the diplomatic exchange of American and Japanese civilians while the two countries were at war

By Jon Marmor

One of the most important stories from World War II was lost to history—until today, that is, thanks to former The Daily reporter-turned-Pulitzer-Prize-winner Evelyn Iritani, '78.

A former Seattle Post-Intelligencer and Los Angeles Times reporter, Iritani grew up in Pullman and wanted to escape to the big city. So she came to the UW, where she was pleased to discover a feisty university newspaper and a large Asian American community.

Iritani spent a dozen years at the Los Angeles Times and was part of the team that won the 2004 Pulitzer Prize in National Reporting for a series called "The Walmart Effect." She started working on her new book, "Safe Passage: The Untold Story of Diplomatic Intrigue, Betrayal, and the Exchange of American and Japanese Civilians by Sea During World War II" in L.A. and completed the writing after she moved back to Seattle. In exquisite detail, she chronicles how the United States and Japan engaged in an unheard-of diplomatic effort to trade American civilians in Japan for Japanese civilians in America, all while both nations were engaged in a bloody war in the Pacific Theater in the early 1940s.

Iritani credits the UW for inspiring her to pursue this remarkable World War II story and conducted much of her research at UW Libraries, particularly the Tateuchi East Asia Library.

During a recent visit to a Maple Leaf coffee shop, Iritani was quick to credit the UW for this hard-to-believe story. In the first place, it would never have come to light if it weren't for history professor Richard McKinnon, who told her about the exchange during an interview for the Seattle P-I. "After Professor McKinnon told me this story, I had to look into it," she says. "I wondered, why would Americans be in Japan during World War II?" She also turned to her alma mater for her research, and found UW Libraries and its Tateuchi East Asia Library, especially helpful.

"Safe Passage," which will be released by Farrar, Straus and Giroux on March 10, chronicles how the "herculean efforts" of American diplomat James Hugh Keeley made this unlikely exchange possible despite obstacles ranging from "resistance from within and outside the government, shipboard conflicts among passengers and the moral compromises involved in securing their safe passage."

The roots of this story date to the 1990s when Iritani was assigned a P-I story about the purchase of a Port Angeles paper mill by a Japanese company. "As I dug deeper, I discovered a long relationship between Japan and the Pacific Northwest," she says. She interviewed McKinnon, a Japan expert, who provided a window into Japanese history and culture that would be grist for her first book, "An Ocean Between Us: The Changing Relationship of Japan and the United States, Told in Four Stories From the Life of an American Town." McKinnon told her that he was born in Hokkaido, Japan, and that he and his American father were caught there during the war and traded to America. Unfortunately, they had to leave Richard's Japanese mother behind. "I never heard of the exchanges," she says. However, it would be decades before she was able to return to the story.

Iritani discovered nearly 6,000 people were traded in two exchanges in 1942 and 1943, but her assumption of happy endings turned out to be a fantasy. "It was a far more complicated and tragic story," she says.

Her research took her to National Archives, presidential and university libraries all over the U.S., as well as to Asia, Europe and Latin America. Many U.S. documents were newly classified, but vital maritime records could not be located. In Japan, many government files were destroyed during the war.

A Swedish luxury liner, the MS Gripsholm, was chartered by the U.S. government to ferry the civilians to safety. Iritani found that most of the Americans in Japanese-occupied Asia—which included many missionaries—had suffered greatly and were thrilled to be rescued. But nearly all of the Japanese on the U.S. mainland had been falsely labeled security threats and imprisoned, and two-thirds of them were U.S. citizens. Most of them had deep roots in America and did not want to be sent to Japan, where they would be viewed as enemies. But having lost everything, some agreed to be traded. Desperate to find people to exchange for Americans, the U.S. government struck deals with Latin American governments to round up Japanese residents and ship them to the U.S. where they were added to the exchange pool.

ANIL KAPAHI

An editor told Horsey to trim the first draft of his "sprawling novel" by two-thirds because he had the core of a great book.

Novel Approach

Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist tells stories in longhand in his debut work of fiction, "Beach of Stars"

By Jon Marmor

David Horsey, '75, is known for his editorial cartoons that have won two Pulitzer Prizes. "Beach of Stars," which was published in December, is his first foray into fiction.

Timothy Egan, '81, a National Book Award winner, says "Beach of Stars" is a "masterful bit of storytelling." UW Professor Emeritus Charles Johnson, another National Book Award recipient, says, "The novel is amazingly good." The book opens with a 21-year-old college student working a summer job in Mexico whose decisions lead him to a life of "impulsive actions, bad things and happy coincidences."

We recently spoke to the first-time novelist:

Why a novel?

I've always thought of myself as a storyteller. Most of my stories were delivered in the extremely short form of a political cartoon. For quite a while, though, I've had ideas for several novels in my head and one of them finally worked its way out.

Where did you get the idea?

The first whispers of the idea began forming back in 1989. A couple of my Seattle friends were living in Guadalajara for a year and decided they needed their car. They called me up and asked if I'd drive their old Subaru all the way to Mexico. I had two little kids and a wife who told me it would be insane to make the drive. She was sure I'd be killed by a drug gang. Of course, I could not refuse an adventure, and it turned out to be a great road trip through a fabulous country I'd never seen. That planted the seed for a story about a guy who impulsively takes off from his normal life for a road trip to Mexico and a rendezvous with a woman from his past. UW folks will be intrigued to know my fictional protagonist is portrayed as a UW student.

How long did it take to write?

A long, long time. After that drive through Mexico at the end of the '80s, I wrote a short story that was the very beginning of the tale. Through the 1990s, I expanded the story until it was a sprawling novel that an editor in New York said had the core of a good book if I cut about two-thirds of it. I put that first effort on the shelf for about 15 years.

Talk about UW Professor Charles Johnson.

I met Charles Johnson about five years ago at a social event. He was eager to meet me because, as a young man, he worked as a cartoonist. His career as a novelist, philosopher, essayist and teacher has been stellar, of course, but he still loves cartoons. I mentioned that I was working on a novel. I said it almost apologetically. I was embarrassed to admit I was tinkering in a field in which he is a master. He got an appalled look on his face and admonished me that writing a novel was a wonderful opportunity to write something and get every word as right as possible.

Have you worked on fiction before?

Some of my critics would say I do nothing but fiction in my cartoons and columns. But, aside from that, this novel is my first work of actual fiction.

MEDIA

TV SHOWS

Fallout, Season 2
Amazon Prime Video
Starring Kyle MacLachlan, '82
The actor-turned-Yakima winery owner leaves FBI agent Dale Cooper and the mayor of Portland behind to star as Aufseher Hank MacLean in this American post-apocalyptic drama series. Citizens in Los Angeles must live in underground bunkers following a nuclear decimation to protect themselves from radiation, mutants and bandits.

PODCASTS

God's Table Hollywood
Hosted by former UW student & three-time Academy Award nominee Dyan Cannon
An uplifting podcast that also features Tracy Bregman, Kym Douglas-Robertson and Christine Avanti-Fischer, four women over 50 sharing wisdom, humor and faith. They explore resilience, healing and transformation, welcoming guests from all walks of life to share powerful stories of overcoming challenges and finding purpose.

Sound Bite
Produced and hosted by staff of the UW student newspaper, The Daily
These lively presentations cover topics including the impacts of climate change on Washington, the closure of the venerable Varsity Theatre on the Ave and the life of squirrels on the UW campus. You can find the podcasts on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, TuneIn and Stitcher.

MUSIC

The Work, The Hope, The Promise
By Wes Weddell, '02
The new album from Weddell and his band contains 11 songs that travel the broad and winding highway of Americana/roots music. A native of Pullman, the frontman, sideman, writer and teacher founded the nonprofit Puget's Sound Productions and has worked with The Bushwick Book Club Seattle, a collective of songwriters who compose new music inspired by literature.

ERIK JOHNSON

Surrounded by stories, David Guterson finds inspiration in people, places and the lives he imagines—most recently in his new novel, "Evelyn in Transit."

Writer in Transit

David Guterson finds new life in every story he tells

By Shin Yu Pai

Best known for his debut novel, "Snow Falling on Cedars"—a 1994 national best-seller that won the Pen/Faulkner Award and was adapted into a feature film—writer David Guterson, '78, '82, '83, has resisted being defined by a single book. Over a 40-year career, he has moved across genres and subjects, guided by curiosity, place and moral complexity.

In his latest novel, "Evelyn in Transit" (W. W. Norton & Company), Guterson widens his focus beyond the Pacific Northwest to imagine the life of a Tibetan spiritual teacher. Inspired in part by the true account of Dezhung Rinpoche III, a Tibetan lama who traveled to Seattle to participate in a UW-based research project and taught at the UW for nine years, Guterson's novel traces the teacher's reincarnation into the body of an American boy who is born to the titular Evelyn.

Guterson's connection to Tibetan Buddhism began in childhood. He grew up in Seattle's Bryant neighborhood not far from the Sakyas, a prominent religious family who followed the Dalai Lama into exile in India after the Chinese invasion of Tibet in 1959. The family later relocated to Seattle after meeting an Asian studies professor from the UW who helped arrange their immigration.

As a child, Guterson played basketball with Ani Sakya, '79, whose uncle, Dezhung Rinpoche III, co-founded the Sakya Monastery in Seattle. Sakya himself was identified as the most recent incarnation of Khangsar Khen Rinpoche, a revered teacher, and as a manifestation of Manjushri, the Buddhist deity of wisdom. He would later study law at UW but eventually left his life and practice in Seattle to work as chief legal counsel for the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan government-in-exile, authoring its charter.

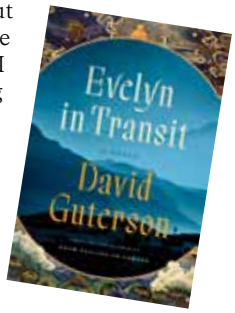
While researching "Evelyn in Transit," Guterson interviewed Carolyn Massey, the real-life mother of the boy formally recognized as the fourth reincarnation of Dezhung Rinpoche. He also consulted his childhood friend, Sakya, who sent his son to be raised in a monastery in Nepal.

As a father of five, Guterson found himself returning to the emotional weight of that decision. As a novelist, he tried to imagine his way into the situation. "Are you going to send them thousands of miles away to only have that be your entire relationship with them until adulthood?" he wondered. The question was unimaginable for him as a parent, but intriguing for him as a writer.

Guterson honed his craft at the UW while studying with writing faculty Charles Johnson, Jack Brenner and Lois Hudson. Half the stories from his first book were written during his time on campus. Reflecting on his mentors, "It was never the pedagogy, it was always the person." He recalled Hudson's generosity in particular. "Lois always opened her office door to me—she read my work closely and looked me in the eye," he says. To this day, he remains close friends with Johnson.

As part of his Master of Arts studies in English, Guterson taught freshman composition and quickly realized how much he enjoyed teaching. He spent another nine months at the UW completing a teaching certificate in 1983, and landed a job at Bainbridge High School, where he taught for a decade. During that time, Guterson finished the manuscript that would become his short story collection "The Country Ahead of Us, the Country Behind." Gradually, he phased out teaching and writing became his priority. Then, in 1994, "Snow Falling on Cedars" catapulted him to bestseller status.

Over the course of his career, Guterson has published seven novels, two books of poetry, a nonfiction book on homeschooling and a memoir. "I do whatever I love as a writer," he says, resisting the pull of critical reception. "Some people will like and not like what you write, no matter what. I never thought I had to build on 'Snow Falling on Cedars' and write 'Hail Falling on Pine Trees.' You have to write what you want to write—do what's in you."



Washington's landscapes are featured throughout many of his books. "I have a deep love for where I live," Guterson says, citing not only Western Washington, but the Yakima Valley and the Columbia Basin. His novel "Our Lady of the Forest" unfolds in the Hoh Rainforest on the Olympic Peninsula, a place he experiences as spiritually charged. And "East of the Mountains" is set amid the desert sagebrush, where a different resonance emerges. "You're relating to the universe," he says. "You're tracking stars. The feeling of this place that I live in really speaks to me. It's not only the place I know—it's a place I love."

Though Guterson came to poetry later in life, he relished approaching it with a "beginner's mind." His book-length poem "Turn Around Time" is a meditation that unfolds across the duration of a long outdoors walk. Nonfiction, by contrast, felt familiar to Guterson, harking back to his earliest days as a freelance journalist. His memoir, "Descent," came out of a period of darkness following 9/11 and a deep depression that he found almost impossible to describe. "It made me understand what Plath meant when she called depression a bell jar. It's a darkness without words. But afterward, when you've come up out of it, you want to try and describe it."

Now on tour with "Evelyn in Transit," Guterson is also wrapping up a new manuscript about teaching fiction writing. He hopes the book will launch a renewed engagement with teaching. From 2003 to 2010, Guterson jointly ran Field's End with Nikki Vick, bringing writers to Bainbridge Island for talks and workshops. The Bainbridge Artisan Resource Network took over managing the program. Guterson now pictures leading short, in-person intensive groups of five or six writers, focusing on manuscript development. "Even though I left teaching behind in 1994," he says, "I never lost my love for it."

Impact

GENEROSITY AND OPPORTUNITY **AT THE UW**

DENNIS WISE

Making Sense of Science

Larissa Robinson-Cooper is researching the connection between Alzheimer's disease and epilepsy—and she's demystifying science for the next generation

By Chelsea Lin

Her passion for science wasn't exactly love at first lab. The only science career Larissa Robinson-Cooper knew of was being a doctor, and that wasn't her dream. Still, she enjoyed Mrs. Smith's anatomy and chemistry classes in her rural Michigan high school enough to stick with science as a college undergraduate. And lucky she did, because she discovered a world of science—and scientific careers—beyond anything she'd dreamed.

Now a fourth-year doctoral student in the University of Washington Graduate Program in Neuroscience, Robinson-Cooper is uncovering connections between Alzheimer's disease and epilepsy, while defining for herself what being a scientist could look like: equal parts research, community outreach and advocating for public policy.

"Now more than ever," she says, "it's important for scientists to learn how to effectively advocate for our research and the funding that supports it."

She discovered her love of research at the University of Michigan, studying pediatric epilepsy in the lab of her mentor and pharmacology department chair Lori Isom—who'd trained as a postdoctoral fellow at the UW. When Robinson-Cooper was exploring options for graduate school, Isom encouraged her to apply to the the UW.

"I fell in love with the school and the city," Robinson-Cooper says of the UW campus in Seattle. "There were a lot of ways to gain experience in science education and outreach, both at the UW and in the Seattle community." She was able to move those 2,300 miles west from Ann Arbor thanks to

> “Philanthropy has a large part to play during these turbulent times in providing funding stability, because research to develop new medications and potential cures takes a substantial amount of time.”

a fellowship from the Seattle Chapter of the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Foundation, which has stood at the heart of scientific advancement at the UW for nearly 50 years *(see sidebar)*.

Now at the UW School of Pharmacy’s Barker-Haliski Lab, Robinson-Cooper has continued researching epilepsy, studying its link to Alzheimer’s disease. Though epilepsy is often associated with children, adults over 65 are actually at the greatest risk of acquiring it—and up to 87 times more likely if they have hereditary Alzheimer’s, which is caused by DNA mutations. Seizures are harder to diagnose in this population, sometimes appearing as bouts of staring or irritability. To better understand this effect, Robinson-Cooper studies the brains of mice with those same DNA mutations, exploring how the mutations cause *neuronal hyperexcitability:* when many neurons in the brain all send electrical signals at once, which overloads the nervous system and causes a seizure.

Research like this takes consistency over a span of years, and that requires sustained funding—which is increasingly difficult to secure. “I think the U.S. stands to lose our position as a major leader in science due to the funding cuts,” Robinson-Cooper says. “We’re already starting to see a ‘brain drain,’ where recent graduates, established professors and industry scientists are accepting positions in other countries. Philanthropy has a large part to play during these turbulent times in providing funding stability, because research to develop new medications and potential cures takes a substantial amount of time.”

In 2024, Robinson-Cooper was selected for the Washington Fellows program of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, a fellowship that engages early-career scientists in public policy work. Last month saw her third trip with the group to Washington, D.C., to meet with representatives, advocating for funding for the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation.

“It was eye-opening to see just how little policymakers knew about where the research funding is allocated and what the timeline looks like,” she says. “I realized just how few scientists are in government, and how that impacts policymakers’ view on science. We need to strengthen communication there.”

Equally important to her is community outreach: making science accessible to the next generation and showing kids what a career in science can look like. She’s helped revitalize the Neuroscience Community Outreach Group, a UW student organization that works to educate and excite young people about careers in neuroscience. The group’s biggest event of the year is an open house during Brain Awareness Week in late March; middle- and high-schoolers come to campus for hands-on activities and the opportunity to hear from neuroscientists about their current research. Funding for the event relies on grants that were still pending at press time.

Robinson-Cooper is passionate about translating the complexities of research for a general audience, and being the kind of role model she lacked growing up. “My interest in science communication stems from coming from such a small town,” she says, recalling those uninspiring early science classes. “I want to be the person giving students resources about the careers they can go into in science, and exposing young people to advanced topics in neurosciences and other areas.”

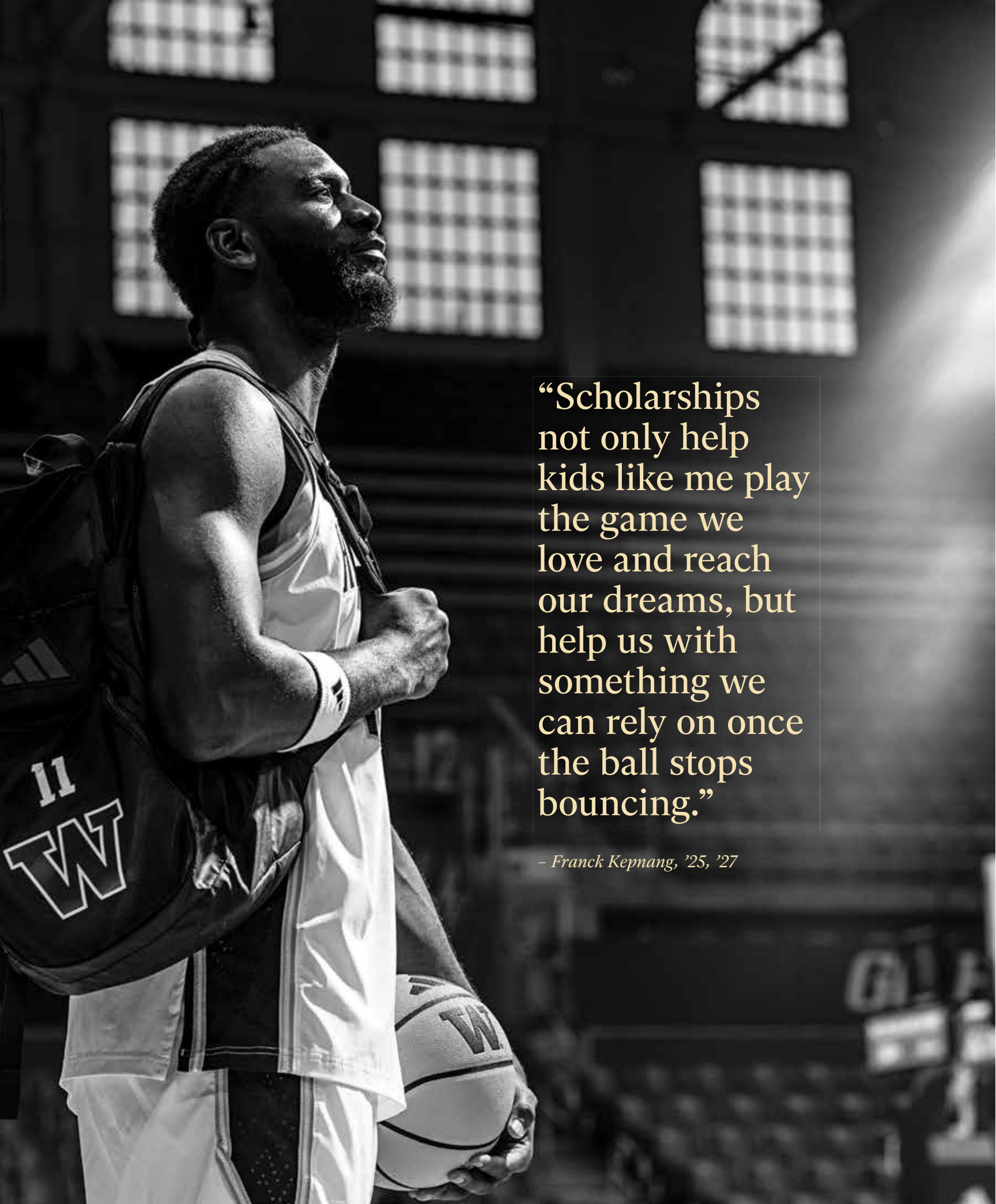
School of Pharmacy Associate Professor Melissa Barker-Haliski says most scientists can talk about their research—to other scientists. “There aren’t always great scientists who can understand the complexity of the work and also communicate its relevance to non-scientists. That’s one thing that’s unique about Larissa,” she says. “The educating and advocating for science she’s doing is going to really help amplify our reach and continue to make the UW shine.”

How ARCS Fuels Innovation

The Seattle Chapter of Achievement Rewards for College Scientists (ARCS) Foundation helps nurture the UW’s fertile ecosystem of scholars, donors and partners joining with a shared purpose. With more than $17.4 million in endowment funds held at the UW, ARCS has created 52 named endowments and, in 2025 alone, provided nearly $750,000 to support 111 Husky scholars. That impact is tremendous—not just for individual students, but for the world shaped by their discoveries.

“ARCS’ support of science research at the UW helps fuel innovation that can lead to lifesaving medical breakthroughs and transformative technologies,” says Margaret Breen, president of the ARCS Seattle Chapter. “Washington’s ecosystem at the crossroads of tech, health care and academia makes the UW a powerhouse for interdisciplinary research with real-world impact.”

Annie Pellicciotti contributed to this story.



"Scholarships not only help kids like me play the game we love and reach our dreams, but help us with something we can rely on once the ball stops bouncing."

– Franck Kepnang, '25, '27

Impact

Center of Attention

A Husky basketball star prepares for a career on and off the court, thanks to a local sports legend's forward-thinking endowment

By Chelsea Lin

Franck Kepnang's aspirations might sound like the daydreams of a fifth grader: play for the NBA, and build robots to help kids in underprivileged communities. But these are no childhood fantasies. Kepnang has spent the last three years as a University of Washington student and Husky men's basketball center laying the groundwork for this exact moment—when his athletic and academic goals are so close he can taste them.

"It's been a journey," Kepnang says, chuckling at the understatement. That journey has taken him from his home in Cameroon to Massachusetts for high school, then out West for college, navigating life on another continent far from family, with multiple season-ending injuries along the way. But with a cheering squad of not only his basketball teammates but also his mother, mentors, physical and mental-health therapists, and an NBA-star scholarship donor, Kepnang feels primed to succeed. "It's been a roller coaster of battling and overcoming adversity—the highest highs and lowest lows. Every time, I just have to work my way back up."

Kepnang attributes his tenacity to his mother, Hortense Tchuisseu, who worked in a sugar factory in Cameroon's capital of Yaoundé and competed all over Africa as a karate black belt. Now retired in Seattle and happy to cook Kepnang's favorite dishes from home whenever the craving hits, Tchuisseu "had to do it all," her son says. "She kept a constant drive to ensure I had every resource I needed, everything I wished, everything I couldn't even comprehend."

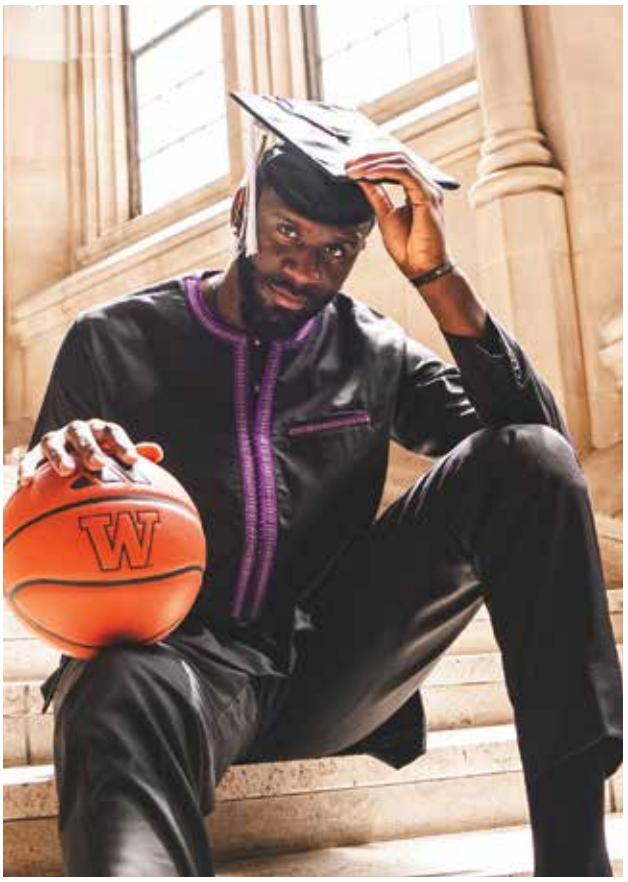
And it was hard to comprehend how fast things changed after a stranger first handed Kepnang—as a 6-foot-tall 12-year-old—a basketball. That stranger was Guy Jean Faustin Moudio, coach of the Cameroonian Junior National Team. Coach Moudio also ran a local basketball club with partner Joe Touomou, who's still a mentor to Kepnang.

With that basketball, Kepnang hustled to catch up to his peers in gaining the basic skills, while his mom and Coach Moudio hustled in the background to line up a scholarship to a boarding school in America where he could excel in studies and in sports. Within two years the young Kepnang was on a plane to the East Coast, fearless and hungry for adventure. He became a top national high school basketball player, with every opportunity in front of him. And then COVID-19 stole the athlete's senior year.

Kepnang decided to graduate early and enroll at the University of Oregon, but after a couple of years he was ready again to chase possibility. He entered the NCAA Transfer Portal, where student-athletes can publicly declare an intent to transfer without having to sit out a season.

He visited the UW in Seattle and everything clicked: "I felt an immediate sense of belonging," he says. "I truly, in my soul, felt like I was where I was supposed to be."

Kepnang is a passionate student—another trait he traces back to his mother—with a dream of becoming a robotics engineer because he has always loved to create. His goals are set on finding automated solutions to make life easier for people in less resourced countries. He was proud to be accepted to the UW's Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering, but ultimately opted to earn his undergraduate degree in geographical data science, a path that aligned well with both his career goals and his basketball training schedule. Though it's a less linear path, he says the skills he's learned are still directly applicable to his career goals. It's been a constant balancing act to keep all the balls in the air, so to speak.



TOMMY CLARKIN

Mentors have supported that balance along the way, including UW Associate Professor of Geography Suzanne D. Withers and Professor of Sociology Alexes Harris, who's also the UW faculty athletics representative. He notes that their guidance, wisdom and care have been instrumental to his well-being and success.

And success, on and off the court, has looked a lot of different ways. As the "big man" on the team, Kepnang is a major force. But for the past three seasons, knee injuries have

DENNIS WISE

Impact

DENNIS WISE

Kepnang (above) is right at home in the UW's Alaska Airlines Arena—the same court Detlef Schrempf (right), '85, played on 40 years prior, before going on to NBA fame and creating the scholarship that supports Kepnang's success.

At the UW, Kepnang says, "I felt an immediate sense of belonging. I truly, in my soul, felt like I was where I was supposed to be."

required months of rest and rehabilitation. That experience has lent him a holistic approach to healing that comprises physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

The silver lining was earning his bachelor's degree last year. "When you're playing basketball, you spend eight hours a day committed to your craft, and then you have classes," he says. "When I got hurt, it was kind of a blessing in disguise, because it gave me time to hit pause on the sports side so I could spend more time on the school side."

A committed scholar, Kepnang takes his schooling particularly seriously because he feels a debt of gratitude to UW alumnus and NBA star Detlef Schrempf and the Schrempf family, who fund the endowed basketball scholarship that made Kepnang's Husky experience possible *(see sidebar)*. "Scholarships not only help kids like me play the game we love and reach our dreams, but help us with something we can rely on once the ball stops bouncing," Kepnang says. "It would be a disservice to the donors to not get the best education possible, something you can rely on for life after sports."

But life after sports is for the future. For now, Kepnang's pursuing his UW master's degree in information systems, specializing in artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, which furthers his intellectual goals and also gives him one final season of eligibility to play collegiate ball in 2026. After that? "If I get the opportunity to go professional," he says, "I have to take it. You only get one body, and I'm trying to use mine as much as I can."

Still, a future after basketball looks pretty great, and he's excited about a time when he gets to tinker professionally. "I just really want to create. In my perfect world, it's just me on Sundays in my garage building stuff."

Give to The Go BIG! Fund. Provide the critical resources that student-athletes like Franck Kepnang need to thrive—from scholarships to academic support, mental health services to advanced sports technology. **gobiguw.com**

Providing an Assist

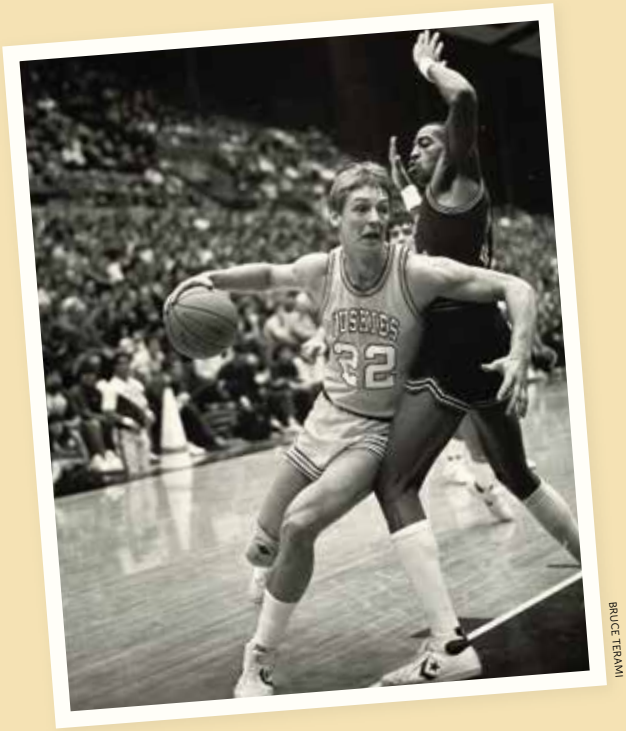
As local sports legends go, Detlef Schrempf is in a class of his own. A former Husky student-athlete turned NBA star, the German-born basketballer played for the Dallas Mavericks and the Indiana Pacers before spending six seasons with the Seattle SuperSonics, becoming a Pacific Northwest celebrity.

Still active in the UW community, Schrempf now helps student-athletes like Franck Kepnang via the Schrempf Family Endowed Basketball Scholarship, which he started in 2019. Support like Schrempf's ensures that student-athletes' financial aid truly meets their financial need, so they can fully focus on their studies as well as their sports.

Schrempf's commitment is as much about showing up as about financial support; he's often spotted in the stands during home games, cheering on his team. "I continue to be involved so we can create opportunities for all student-athletes who come here and take advantage of the great education the UW provides," he says. "We want to create a community of support—so whether it's a pro athlete or a pro at something else, they'll come back and stay involved, too."

Kepnang notes the impact of Schrempf's involvement—of seeing someone so successful give back in this way. The student has made an impression on the mentor as well. "Franck embodies what it means to be a student-athlete here," Schrempf says. "He's a great student with a great spirit. Whatever limitations he faces, he overcomes with sheer will and determination."

Schrempf's No. 22 jersey may be retired now, hanging among the other legends in the rafters of the UW's Alaska Airlines Arena, but his dedication continues to lead and inspire future student-athletes and lifelong Huskies.



BRUCE TERAMI

Graduate Students Are Our Future

By Lisa Simonyi
Chair, UW Foundation Board

If you're like me, you may have watched a loved one face the devastating effects of Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia. A neighbor who loses abilities they once had. A grandparent who gets lost or wanders off. A parent who no longer recognizes their child. It can be a heartbreaking fate for both the patients and those close to them.

I'm proud that the scientists at the University of Washington are looking at all angles of this cruel disease, from early detection and prevention to treatments that help slow its progression. This holistic quest for a better Alzheimer's strategy happens primarily at research universities like the UW. And it's possible only because of doctoral students like Larissa Robinson-Cooper, who's studying the link between Alzheimer's disease and epilepsy at the UW School of Pharmacy.

I didn't fully understand the extent of the roles graduate students like Larissa played until I became more involved at the UW. As an undergrad, I assumed my grad-student teaching assistants were faculty-in-training, which is only partly true. I came to see that when Ph.D. students have their tuition and expenses covered, it's an investment in not only *their* future but *all of ours* as well.

And right now, that future is at risk. Government funding for graduate education has dramatically fallen, and more than half of our doctoral students face an unpredictable future at the UW. If students like Larissa leave because they lose funding, the progress we're making in Alzheimer's research leaves with them. Treatments and diagnostics that could be possible in a few years will suddenly be decades away.

One way to help is by supporting the Graduate Student Research Resilience Fund, which aims to cover the shortfall in graduate student funding. This is more than financial aid; it ensures that students can stay in the labs, classrooms and communities where they teach, mentor and make discoveries. Our whole society benefits from what this fund makes possible.

In less than five years, an estimated 13 million Americans will have Alzheimer's disease. Like me, you may be wondering if that number could include you or a family member. I'm grateful that the UW is at the forefront of this critical research that drives the preventions and cures we're all counting on. And I'm grateful for the graduate students driving those discoveries forward.

▸ Support graduate students: go.uw.edu/magazine

Indulge in Local Dishes and Traditions

From Western Europe to Western Africa, experience regional cuisines in historic destinations.

Romance of the Douro River
September 5-16, 2026
Tour Operator: AHI Travel
The romantic splendor of the Douro River is yours to enjoy on this 10-night journey. After three nights in Lisbon, travel to Porto and settle in your first-class ship to begin an unforgettable seven-night cruise through the Douro River Valley. Daily excursions feature wine estates and charming townships, including Vila Real, Lamego and Salamanca, Spain. Along the way, indulge in regional dishes, authentic port wines and special performances. No single supplement for solo travelers!

The Flavors of Northern Italy
September 4-12, 2026
Tour Operator: Orbridge
Embark upon a cultural and gastronomic journey to the enchanting region of Northern Italy—an area renowned for spectacular landscapes, world-class wine and a rich heritage. This meticulously crafted itinerary offers the unique opportunity to live like a local, featuring guided tours, private artisan visits and tastings, and the ability to deeply connect with the beauty of Northern Italy's culture, cuisine and gracious hospitality. You'll enjoy seven nights' accommodations at a historic country farmhouse and have a hands-on culinary experience with a skilled chef.

Check out these highlighted trips and plenty more at Washington.edu/alumni/travel.

West Africa Discovery
November 4-19, 2026
Tour Operator: Odysseys Unlimited
Embark on an unforgettable journey through a region brimming with history, culture and tradition in the West African nations of Ghana, Togo and Benin. Learn about rich artistic traditions and voodoo religion. Get a taste of modern life in rural villages and coastal cities. Contemplate the historical atrocities of the slave trade at museums and historic monuments. Among the highlights are a voodoo (Vodun) ceremony in a Togolese village and a Zangbeto mask dance performance.

Spring into **Cherry Blossom** Season

This spring, let your Husky spirit bloom with a wide variety of exclusive cherry blossom merchandise at University Book Store — from T-shirts and keychains to decorative mugs and tote bags.

Shop the collection now: ubookstore.com.

View the cherry blossom live cam and learn more about the UW's iconic blooms at uw.edu/cherryblossoms.

WearPurple RealDawgsWearPurple UWearPurple

Making a Difference in the U District

In addition to being home to the University of Washington, Seattle's University District is the fastest-growing neighborhood in the city. As the population expands on campus and beyond, so do the needs of the neighborhood.

For the past few years, the UW Alumni Association has collaborated with longtime partner BECU to bring volunteers and community organizations together for a dedicated day of service aptly called "Better Together."

Open to UW staff, students, alumni and retirees, the program unites multiple generations of Huskies and friends. Volunteers split up into small teams to tackle several projects, making new friends in the process.Some clean up trash and wash storefront windows on the Ave with the U District Partnership. Others lend their skills to a different type of cleaning, assisting organizations like the Burke Museum with data cleanup efforts.

Food insecurity is an ongoing concern for the area. UWAA coordinates with the U District Food Bank, UW Food Pantry, Friday Feast and the People's Breakfast to help support their missions to provide food and resources. Past projects include preparing utensil and toiletry kits, facility cleaning, gardening and meal service.

The Better Together partnership continues to expand. In response to heightened demand during the holiday season, UWAA collected non-perishable food items and requested supplies for the UW Food Pantry, resulting in more than 500 pounds of donations.

The next day of service is May 3, 2026. In addition to previous volunteer opportunities, this year's iteration will include food collections at UW Bothell and UW Tacoma campuses, and a new local nonprofit partner, Teen Feed.

Service, community and Husky heart. Together, we can make a difference.

BETTER TOGETHER PRESENTED BY BECU
SUNDAY MAY 3, 2026 | 9 A.M. – 12 P.M.
VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION OPENS MID-MARCH

Left to right: Huskies gather for a photo at the 2025 Better Together service day; volunteers clean storefronts on the Ave.; UWAA delivers donations collected to the UW Pantry.

COURTESY OF LEGACY WASHINGTON

A Keen Mind, A Driven Spirit

Carolyn Dimmick broke barriers in law, becoming the first woman to serve on the Washington state Supreme Court

By Jon Marmor

Carolyn R. Dimmick, '53, spent her career shattering glass ceilings at every level of the state's legal and judicial systems: She was the first woman appointed to the Washington state Supreme Court and the second woman appointed to the federal bench in the Evergreen State. Not bad for someone who was told by a student adviser not to go to law school because she would "take up the space meant for a man."

Then again, it seems that Dimmick was preordained to overcome obstacles, seeing how she was born on Black Thursday, Oct. 24, 1929, the day of the devastating stock market crash. The experience of growing up the daughter of a master mariner (her dad) and schoolteacher mom, and spending her early years in Juneau, Alaska, fortified her for the path she sought. At the UW School of Law, she was one of only three women in her law-school class, and in 1953, she received her J.D. Her first job out of law school was working for the Attorney General's office in Olympia. She was on her way.

She later worked as a King County prosecutor, and it was her lawyer husband, Cy, who suggested that she apply for a judicial job with King County at the Northeast District Court. Her keen intellect and ability to manage complex cases caught the eye of Gov. Dixy Lee Ray, who in 1981 appointed Dimmick the first woman on the Washington state Supreme Court. "It was daunting," Dimmick said. "But I don't think it was a big deal to anyone—I was just another person on the court. "Three years later, she became only the second woman to serve as a federal judge in Washington. She also was the chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington from 1994 to 1997.

In all, Dimmick served nearly 60 years as a judge on the state and federal levels. "Judge Dimmick owns so many 'firsts,'" Washington Supreme Court Chief Justice Debra Stephens told The Seattle Times. U.S. District Judge Ricardo Martinez, '77, '80, who worked alongside Dimmick for three decades, told the newspaper: "Exceptionally competent and possessed of a keen legal mind, Judge Dimmick was deeply respected by all who appeared in her courtroom—litigants, lawyers and members of the public alike. She was warm and personable, plainspoken and willing to help her colleagues."

Dimmick died Dec. 24 at the age of 96.

RECOGNITION

Mervette "Mimi" Heggeland, '71, '73, '82, was born in Egypt and came to the U.S. with her sister at the age of 16 to start a new life. And what an impact she had at the UW. She earned three degrees at the University, including a Ph.D. in early childhood education and special education. At the UW, she met her husband, a Norwegian student named Per Heggeland, and went on to become an instructor and researcher in the UW College of Education, translating her experience as an international consultant to promote knowledge and institutional development in the Middle East and Asia. Later, she became the director of the International Program for the UW School of Nursing, retiring in 2015. A widely published scholar, her calling was in nurturing others. She died Dec. 8 at the age of 75.

Bryan Johnson, '61, was born in the United Kingdom and came with his mother and sister to Washington state in 1948. He studied broadcasting at Bates Technical College before enrolling at the UW. He spent two decades at KOMO radio before switching to KOMO-TV. He covered some of the nation's biggest stories: the assassination of President Kennedy, the eruption of Mount St. Helens, the 1983 Wah Mee massacre and the 1990 storm that caused the collapse of I-90 floating bridge. He died Dec. 8 at the age of 89.

Columns

In Memory

ALUMNI

CAROL BOWERS
Arlington, age 78, Dec. 20, 2020

DONALD E. CHASE
Age 88, Nov. 23

ELLEN DEAL
Piedmont, Calif.

AMY O. HALFFMAN
Seattle, age 52, Oct. 3

MARLENE BERNICE JOHNSON
Edmonds, age 93, Sept. 30

ROBERT PAUL MEADE
Camano Island, age 71, Dec. 2

RICHARD BRENT PETERSON
Gig Harbor, age 72, Dec. 11

EUGENE STYER
Bellevue, age 95, Dec. 25

YURI SUZUKI
San Leandro, Calif., age 96, 2025

1940

WILDA MCOMBER
'45, '73, Des Moines, age 103, Oct. 26

BARBARA JEAN CHAMBERLAND
'47, Seattle, age 103, Sept. 18

1950

EDWARD LAWRENCE FISHER
'50, Clyde Hill, age 95, Oct. 5

NATHYLIE CLAUSSEN
'51, Seattle, age 97, Sept. 7

DIANE EVE BERGER
'52, Seattle, age 93, Aug. 28

JOANNE LUCILLE LEE
'52, Everett, age 94, Aug. 14

GARY SMOOT
'53, Yakima, age 95, Oct. 21

RICHARD WIEL CAMPBELL
'54, Seattle, age 96, Sept. 28

CHARLES JOHN GRAHAM
'54, Mandeville, La., age 93, Oct. 24

ELAINE OKIYAMA
'55, Bellevue, age 93, Dec. 5

ROBERT WALTER CAMPBELL
'56, '63, Edmonds, age 91, Oct. 4

SIDNEY SNYDER JR.
'56, Glen Ellyn, Ill., age 94, Sept. 21

DENNIS BEHRENS
'57, '62, Bothell, age 93, Dec. 24

FREDRIC PARRY SJOHOLM
'57, Mercer Island, age 90, Dec. 6

LAWRENCE HALLGRIMSON
'58, Seattle, age 89, Nov. 2

JOHN KOMEN
'58, Grapeview, age 88, Sept. 25

JAMES T. MONAHAN
'58, Bothell, age 92, Nov. 2

1960

SHARON JEAN BENDER
'60, Seattle, age 87, Oct. 27

EDSON SIGURD PEDERSON
'60, Richmond, Va., age 87, Sept. 10

NORMAN WALDRON
'60, Pinole, Calif., age 91, Oct. 11

GENE C. BARD
'61, Saint Paul, Minn., age 90

PHILIP GALLAHER JR.
'61, Wenatchee, age 89, Nov. 2

GARY EDWARD MYERS
'61, '70, Renton, age 88, Aug. 8

MARGARET "MEG" SINGER
'61, Lopez Island, age 86, Sept. 4

HARDY ROY YATES
'61, Everett, age 86, Oct. 17

JUDITH LOUISE FAWCETT
'62, '76, Seattle, age 84, Oct. 11

MIKE RICHARD JOHNSTON
'62, Pasco, age 88, Sept. 25

RONALD FRANK "BUD" JONES
'62, La Conner, age 92, Nov. 14

BARBARA CARSON HAMER
'63, Seattle, age 84, Sept. 19

JOHN B. RABEL
'63, Mercer Island, age 84, Nov. 7

HSIUNG-FEI LEE
'64, Walnut Creek, Calif., age 86, July 7

THEODORE ROBERT PORTER
'64, '66, Lake Stevens, age 83, Aug. 16

RICHARD ALLEN
'65, Austin, Texas, age 80, Nov. 11, 2024

DONALD MARSH ANDERSON
'65, '66, Kent, age 88, Nov. 18

W.J. "TOM" FERGUSON
'65, '67, Seattle, age 83, Oct. 3

WILLIAM MCMAHON
'65, Bremerton, age 82, Nov. 10

LINDA KAY NELSON
'65, Mesa, Ariz., age 83, Sept. 8

GARY NEUMANN
'65, '67, Bellevue, age 82, Oct. 15

MARY RIVELAND
'65, Gig Harbor, age 82, Nov. 6

HENRY VACHER
'65, Tampa, Fla, age 81, April 2025

THOMAS SHERMAN BEWLEY
'66, Shoreline, age 87, Sept. 27

RONALD H. CLARK
'66, Seattle, age 81, Dec. 11

ALVINA MARIE HIX
'66, Kalispell, Mont., age 80, Dec. 4, 2024

ROBERT WILLIAM LOVE JR.
'66, Annapolis, Md., age 81, Nov. 19

LEE ALLEN MOYER
'66

CLAUDE ANTON SOUDAH
'66, Seattle, age 88, Oct. 9

LINDA WILLIAMS RETHKE
'67, Sun City, Ariz., age 81, Nov. 27

FRANK ROGER BROWN
'68, Bellevue, age 79, Nov. 8

ROBERT FORMAN
'68, Anacortes, age 84, Dec. 5

PATRICIA MARY HAUSER
'68, Seattle, age 90, Sept. 24

ROBERT WORTH BUDDMEIER
'69, Medford, Ore., age 86, Dec. 30

JIM BUSH
'69, Tacoma, age 78, Sept. 6

CAROL JO COE
'69, '12, Seattle, age 78, Oct. 15

RICK GREEN
'69, April 30

MAUREEN KIRK
'69, Chico, Calif., age 78, Nov. 23

MICHAEL DAVID WILEY
'69, Oak Park, Calif., age 85, April 24

1970

ROBERT HENDERSON
'70, Lake Forest Park, age 77, Oct. 2

LAURA LEE PARRIS
'70, Mercer Island, age 77, June 10

GERALDINE M. SORENSEN
'70, Seattle, age 101, Oct. 3

STEPHEN SWANSON
'70, Coupeville, age 81, Oct. 26

CRAIG RONALD WILSON
'70, Sammamish, age 79, Sept. 3

KATHY COKELET
'71, Seattle, age 78, Dec. 16

PATRICIA M. CRAIG
'71, Renton, age 94

MARILYN MICK
'71, Shoreline, age 76, 2024

MABEL HASSEN
'72, age 96, Nov. 9

GARY LEE KENNEDY
'72, Des Moines, age 90, Sept. 24

DEBRA CAMERON KRELL
'72, Snohomish, age 75, Nov. 26

STEPHEN EDWARD MARVICH
'72, Shelton, age 75, Aug. 18

CAROL "CAMMY" MOWERY
'72, '79, Seattle, age 75, Dec. 28

HERBERT L. POSTLEWAIT
'72, Spokane, age 84, June 19

JAMES EUGENE STANDIFER
'72, Durango, Colo., age 88, March 2, 2025

WILLIAM FAIRWEATHER
'73, Silver Spring, Md., age 81, Feb. 23, 2025

ADRIAN RYNEVELD
'73, Renton, age 84, Oct. 16

ROSE M. FILICETTI
'74, Capitola, Calif., age 73, Nov. 10

DEMARIS MYLES COLE
'75, '81, Bellingham, age 73, Dec. 11

REBECCA C. MEFFORD
'75, Wilsonville, Ore., age 72, Oct. 6

PAMELA POWEL
'75, Seattle, age 79, Oct. 9

STEVEN R. WASSON
'75, '77, Renton, age 72, Dec. 3

DALE BASSO
'76, La Grande, Ore., age 72, Oct. 24

ARNOLD CHIN
'76, Seattle, age 71, Nov. 27

DIANA FORMAN
'76, Anacortes, age 82, Sept. 9

TERI JO KERTSON
'76, Seattle, age 78, Dec. 19

JEFFREY LEONARD TAZIOLI
'76, Seattle, age 75, Oct. 19

MARK FLOTLIN
'77, '82, Everett, age 71, Nov. 3

NOEL HOLLEY
'77, Portland, Ore., age 78, 2025

CURTIS F. KRUSE
'77, Bellevue, age 77, Sept. 19

KATHLEEN ABRAMS
'78, Indianapolis, age 69, Sept. 26

JAMES FARLOE HAMM II
'78, Redmond, age 70, Nov. 30

KARI ANDERSON
'79, Seattle, age 69, Oct. 16

1980

RICHARD FRANCIS BETTS
'80, '91, Tacoma, age 68, Dec. 6

MONICA REYNOLDS
'80, Lake Forest Park, age 69, Nov. 12

SONDRA SPARK
'80, Albany, Ore., age 85, Oct. 8

ANNA KATHLEEN GEWIN
'82, age 83, Nov. 16

JOHN DENNISON BAKER JR.
'83, '93, Seattle, age 66, Aug. 14

LAEL HASSELO PAUL
'83, Bellevue, age 65, Nov. 22

PATRICIA ALINE SCOTT
'83, Seattle, age 78, Oct. 16

CHRISTOPHER THOMPSON
'84, Beverly Hills, Calif., age 62, July 4, 2022

DONNA GATHANY
'85, Renton

WILLIAM GEIL
'85, Lake Oswego, Ore.

DOUGLAS BRICK
'87, '89, Lynnwood, age 74, July 25

DAVID BROWN
'87, Centralia, age 61, Aug. 4

1990

JANET WALSH JONES
'90, Seattle, age 69, Dec. 12

DEBORAH GREEN
'93, Seattle, age 91, 2025

BRUCE MICHAEL MCNAMARA
'93, Seattle, age 79, Oct. 15

ROBERT JAMES MORTON
'95, Seattle, age 51, Feb. 10, 2025

HOLLY ZIMMERMAN
'95, '97, Union

JASON OLAF SYLTEBO
'99, Lake Stevens, age 51, Oct. 24

2000

CATHERINE FRIEDEL
'04, Port Orchard

DENNIS KIEHNLE
'06, Seattle, age 68, Nov. 25

2010

THEODORE N. TIMBROOK
'17, West Glacier, Mont., age 28, June 4

2020

COLTON JOBES
'23, Woodinville, age 23, Nov. 17, 2024

FACULTY AND FRIENDS

DAVID JAMES BEATTY was an LGBTQ+ advocate, educator and psychotherapist who served as an associate professor in the UW School of Social Work in the 1970s. He later became executive director of the Olympic Area Agency on Aging, a position he held through 2003. He died Oct. 19 at the age of 87.

EDWARD BENSON, '75, graduated first in his class at the UW School of Medicine and went on to serve on the school's faculty. Before going into medicine, he worked on the technical staff at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey. He served the NASA contractor and aerospace giant from 1967 to 1971 during the height of the space race and contributed to the Apollo 11 mission that landed men on the moon in 1969. He died July 28 at the age of 80.

OREN E. CAMPBELL was the publisher and editorial adviser of The Daily student newspaper at the UW, a position he called "the best job in journalism, because I had the opportunity to work with hundreds of outstanding young women and men." In 2005, he was honored for lifetime achievement by the Western Washington Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. He was an SPJ member for more than 70 years and served as chapter president and national board member. He also edited daily newspapers in Nampa, Idaho; Bremerton; Walla Walla; and Rockford, Illinois; and owned a small Oregon newspaper. He died Dec. 1 at the age of 92.

ALISON BENNETT CHRISTINE, '73, worked as a program coordinator for the UW Medical Center's Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery for more than 25 years before retiring in 2008. She died Aug. 9 at the age of 75.

DONNA MARIE CLIFFORD, '79, always wanted to be a nurse. She earned her B.S. in nursing from the UW, then began her career in labor and delivery at Providence Hospital. After working at other hospitals, focused on childbirth education, she was hired by UW Medical Center-Montlake and served until her retirement in 2010. She died Nov. 17 at the age of 85.

DAVID RUSSELL DAVIS was a retired physician who served on the board of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. He and his wife, Jane, also created the Jane and David Davis Endowed Fellowship in Music at the UW School of Music. This fellowship provides financial assistance to graduate students. He died Oct. 20, 2023, at the age of 98.

KAY FRANCIS DE MARS, '90, was a longtime supporter of the UW in the Palm Springs area. She joined fellow UW Alumnae Board members to launch "Coffee and Conversations," which eventually blossomed into the UW Desert Scholarship Luncheon, a part of Dawg Days in the Desert. In 2023, the luncheon committee received the UW Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Award for creating a permanent scholarship endowment valued at nearly half a million dollars. She died June 1, 2024, at age 77.

WILLIAM D. ELLIS was a former UW student who went into the hotel business. He also served on several boards including the Seattle Social Development Project, a UW research project. He died Nov. 5 at the age of 93.

ELEANOR "LUNDY" FORDYCE was the widow of UW Psychology Professor Emeritus Wilbert "Bill" Fordyce, '48, '51, '53, and was active with UW Faculty Wives. She also worked for the UW. She died Oct. 30 at the age of 101.

LEE ELLIOT HOCHBERG served 17 years as an assistant teaching professor at the UW Foster School of Business, teaching business communication. A lifelong storyteller, his career spanned decades in public television and education. He won national acclaim for his reporting on "PBS NewsHour" before he joined the Foster School faculty. He died Aug. 17 at the age of 67.

DAVID J. HOVIND, '64, spent 39 years in leadership roles at PACCAR Inc., including serving as president and vice chairman. A major supporter of the UW, he and his wife Shelley established the Hovind Global Leaders Program at the UW's Foster School of Business. He died Dec. 10 at the age of 85.

JOHN "JACK" HUSTON, '52, was a Chicago native who seemed destined to become a locomotive engineer like many in his family. But he went to law school at the UW, served in the Air Force and joined the faculty of the UW School of Law. He died Nov. 18 at the age of 98.

AKIRA ISHIMARU, '58, was born in Japan, earned his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering there, then came to the University of Washington on a Fulbright Scholarship. He was the first student to earn a Ph.D. from the UW Electrical Engineering Department in 1958, then joined the UW faculty. His research helped lay the groundwork for technological advances and applications in medical imaging, satellite communications and cellular communications, remote sensing, laser surgery, radar systems and astronomy. A member of the National Academy of Engineering, he died Nov. 10 at the age of 97.

SAAD KATTULA worked for 30 years at the University Book Store. He retired on Jan. 1, 2025, and died Jan. 10, 2025, at the age of 72.

SARA KELLMAN worked 25 years for UW Educational Outreach as a conference coordinator until her retirement in 2010. She died Oct. 14.

VICTORINO PAREDES LIM enjoyed a 20-year career at the UW in accounting for planned giving and real estate investments. He died Oct. 20 at the age of 79.

WILLIAM PATRICK MILLER, '63, earned a master's in health physics from the UW and staffed the UW's Experimental Nuclear Reactor for more than 31 years. He grew up in a tight-knit Wisconsin farm community and attended a one-room schoolhouse from first through eighth grade. He died Oct. 4 at the age of 86.

BLANCHE NORDEEN worked for UW Medicine for 10 years. She died recently.

MICHAEL JOSEPH PILAT, '60, '63, '67, was a Longview native who worked at Boeing as an engineer before joining the UW faculty as a researcher and professor. He was an expert in air resources engineering and air pollution control equipment design. He died Nov. 6 at the age of 87.

IRWIN SARASON served as a professor in the UW Department of Psychology from 1956 to 2004. He served as department chairman from 1986 to 1990. He and his wife Barbara co-wrote the "Abnormal Psychology" textbook, which went through 11 editions and has been widely used throughout the world. Their Social Support Questionnaire has been employed in thousands of research studies worldwide. He died Nov. 6 at the age of 96.

ROBERT SPINDEL was the director emeritus of the UW's Applied Physics Lab. After working at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, he came to Seattle in 1987 to become the director of the APL. His primary research interests were underwater acoustics and acoustical oceanography. He died Jan. 8, 2025, at the age of 80.

NANCY TEEL, '80, '89, served on the faculty of the UW School of Dentistry and took over her dad's dental practice. She died Dec. 10 at the age of 67.

TERENCE N. TODD, '60, '61, worked as a student publicity assistant for UW Press, and assistant registrar and new-student orientation director at the UW. His dad was J. Roland Todd, '30, Suzzallo librarian for 40 years, and his mother, Ola, was a library clerical staff member for 20 years. Terence died Nov. 18 at the age of 90.

STEWART EMORY TOLNAY, '73, '75, '81, earned his Ph.D. in sociology from the UW and served on the UW sociology faculty, where he published numerous academic papers and books. He died Oct. 24 at the age of 74.

BETTY LOU WAGNER, '51, was head of the UW Architecture & Urban Planning Library for 53 years after she earned her degree from the UW School of Librarianship (forerunner of the UW Information School). She pioneered new technologies, created lasting relationships with supportive faculty and especially enjoyed working with students. In 1997, the UW established the Betty L. Wagner Endowed Library Fund to provide long-term student assistance and preserve and process the architectural drawings collection. In 2000, the American Institute of Architecture named Betty an honorary affiliate member for her lifetime of service. She died Nov. 8 at the age of 97.

JAMES WHORTON was a professor emeritus in the UW Department of Bioethics and Humanities who served the UW for 38 years, retiring in 2008. He was an expert in the field of biomedical history. His book "The Arsenic Century" is a vivid story about "the poison of poisons in the 1800s." He died Oct. 11 at age 82.

DAVID ALLEN WOOD spent 17 years as a music librarian at Harvard University before joining UW Libraries as head librarian of music, humanities and sciences. He served the UW for 30 years before retiring in 1997. He died Oct. 1 at the age of 90.

MARCIA REED WYTHES and her husband Paul were major supporters of the UW. Marcia, who attended the UW, served on the UW Foundation Board. She died Nov. 10 at the age of 89.

TO SUBMIT AN OBITUARY

EMAIL US AT: magazine@uw.edu
WRITE US AT: University of Washington Magazine, 4333 Brooklyn Ave. NE, Campus Box 359559, Seattle, WA, 98195-9559

Vivian Cho spent 2025 as the Artist in Residence at the University Bridge. Cho's sketches, like the birds featured on this page, are taped to the window of a small office on the bridge.

Where the Bridge Draws Back

Between college and "the real world," design alum Vivian Cho finds herself on a bridge

By Caitlin Klask

You might see self-driving cars in Seattle soon. Generative AI might eclipse tech jobs previously held by humans. But on Seattle's University Bridge, two towers host two professionals whose roles can't be automated.

In the northwest tower, a technician operates a drawbridge. And in the southeast tower, an artist draws the bridge.

Vivian Cho, '25, was the 2025 Artist in Residence at the University Bridge. An animator by trade, Cho studied Visual Communication Design at the UW and found herself at a crossroads—or a bridge—upon graduation. "I'm at a point between finishing college and being like, 'OK, who am I as an artist?'" Cho says. "I think it's very poetic that I've come to work at a literal bridge."

The Bridge Artist in Residence program, a collaboration between Seattle's Department of Transportation and its Office of Arts & Culture, began in 2005 to encourage artwork that reflects the engineering and cultural significance of Seattle's University and Fremont bridges. Artists receive a $10,000 stipend, access to the bridges and free exploration of bridge data and history archives. For the 2025 residency, the city sought artists with animation backgrounds. From September to December, Cho climbed a narrow red staircase to observe and work in the University Bridge tower.

The office, hovering above the Montlake Cut between the University District and Portage Bay, consists of a small bathroom, an air conditioner and a desk stacked with paper and drawing utensils. It overlooks the bridge, which buzzes with pedestrians, cars, cyclists and birds. You can see the Cascade Mountains and Cho's sketches taped to the windows.

"The few people I've had in here, they're like, 'Oh, it must be so distracting.' But I think it's kind of rhythmic," Cho says. "The rhythms of people coming and going by."

The tranquil atmosphere in the tower flows well with Cho's work, which she says leans "more ambient and abstract, a lot more influenced by emotion." After spotting a heron several days in a row, Cho incorporated the bird into her work.

The final project, on display at ARTS at King Street Station from June 4–Aug. 8, is a three-minute-long, hand-drawn animated film called "Interstice." "It explores those in-between moments throughout your day, the beauty in slowing down and appreciating what's around you," Cho says.

At a time when the animation industry is trending toward AI integration, Cho finds a "stiltedness" in computer-generated animation, compared to the painstaking process of hand-drawn works. "If you lose the process—and the process is completely vital in discovering what is the story that you want to tell and how are you going to tell it—there's not going to be any soul," she says. "No matter how good AI gets, it's going to always miss that part."


Students First!
Simply earning a degree is not enough.
Preparing students for jobs, life and the responsibility to tackle society's biggest challenges requires an immersive campus Husky Experience, including internships, research opportunities, social connections and engaging with the community.
At the University of Washington, putting students first is not just a slogan. It is a call to action to help every student on campus fully realize their Husky Experience and become the leaders we need in our changing world.
Consider putting students first and make a gift today.
Questions? Call Tomitha Blake at (206) 221-6063
Academic & Student Affairs Advancement

WALUMNI
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

4333 Brooklyn Ave NE
Campus Box 359508
Seattle, WA 98195

This is your university to explore.

From performances to podcasts and exhibitions to lectures, we have something for everyone, no matter where you live.

Sign up to receive on-campus and virtual events in your inbox.
artsci.uw.edu/signup

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES | UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON