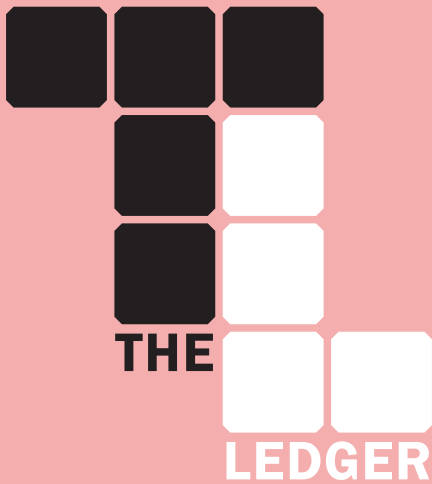




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The Ledger

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2019 graduation dates, events and deadlines

In addition to completing assignments on time, graduating seniors have several important dates they should keep in mind for graduation.

By MITCHELL FERMO
NEWS REPORTER

Commencement is just around the corner, and graduating seniors have many important dates to keep in mind until they walk across the stage of the Tacoma Dome in June to receive their recognitions.

The first major event has already happened: The deadline for submitting the application for graduation has already passed. These applications were due by April 19, and students should have already been in contact with their advisor about graduating.

Students who have both registered to graduate and also registered for Commencement have the opportunity to attend two information sessions on April 26 and April 29 to answer any questions about the upcoming events. The April 26 session will be held in BHS 106 from 12:30–1:30 p.m., and the April 29 session will be held in the Carwein Auditorium in the Keystone building also from 12:30–1:30 p.m.

For students wondering when they can register for Commencement, online forms open starting May 1 and will remain open until May 24. During this registration period, students will also be able to order their cap and gown. In order to participate in Commencement, students must purchase the cap and gown as approved by the university. Last year, the price of the gown was \$54. Students can also request and reserve a maximum of 10 tickets for guests during the registration process, and are able to request more at a later date.

Offices around campus have the opportunity to make a sign for the graduating class of 2019. Signs are due by May 2, and will be put outside lining the central university staircase from May 6 until Commencement.

This year, Grad Week starts May 6, with events going on through June 13 — making it more of a Grad Month. In this time, students will have the chance to review resumes, take photos for their online job profiles, get assistance on finances with help from Human Resources specialists and the opportunity to receive loan literacy counseling. On May 8, the class of 2019's photo shoot by the Steel W will take place from 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m. To wrap up Grad Week, graduates will be able to spend happy hour at the Pine Room from 6–8 p.m. on June 13.

During Grad Week, students will also be able to explore different ways they can give back to the UW Tacoma community. Information about how to join and the benefits of joining the University of Washington Alumni Association will be also made available. Associate Director for Alumni Rela-

tions and Annual Giving Thomas Duke explained one reason to become a UWAA member.

"It is my hope that many of our Class of 2019 seniors will see the value in staying connected to UW Tacoma and the UW as a whole through a UWAA membership," Duke said.

In becoming a UWAA member, alumni receive discounts for museums, Husky sports games, and even dining and online orders from specific retailers. Alumni also retain access to EBSCO-host. Matt Bone, intern for the Office of Advancement, explained another reason to become a UWAA member.

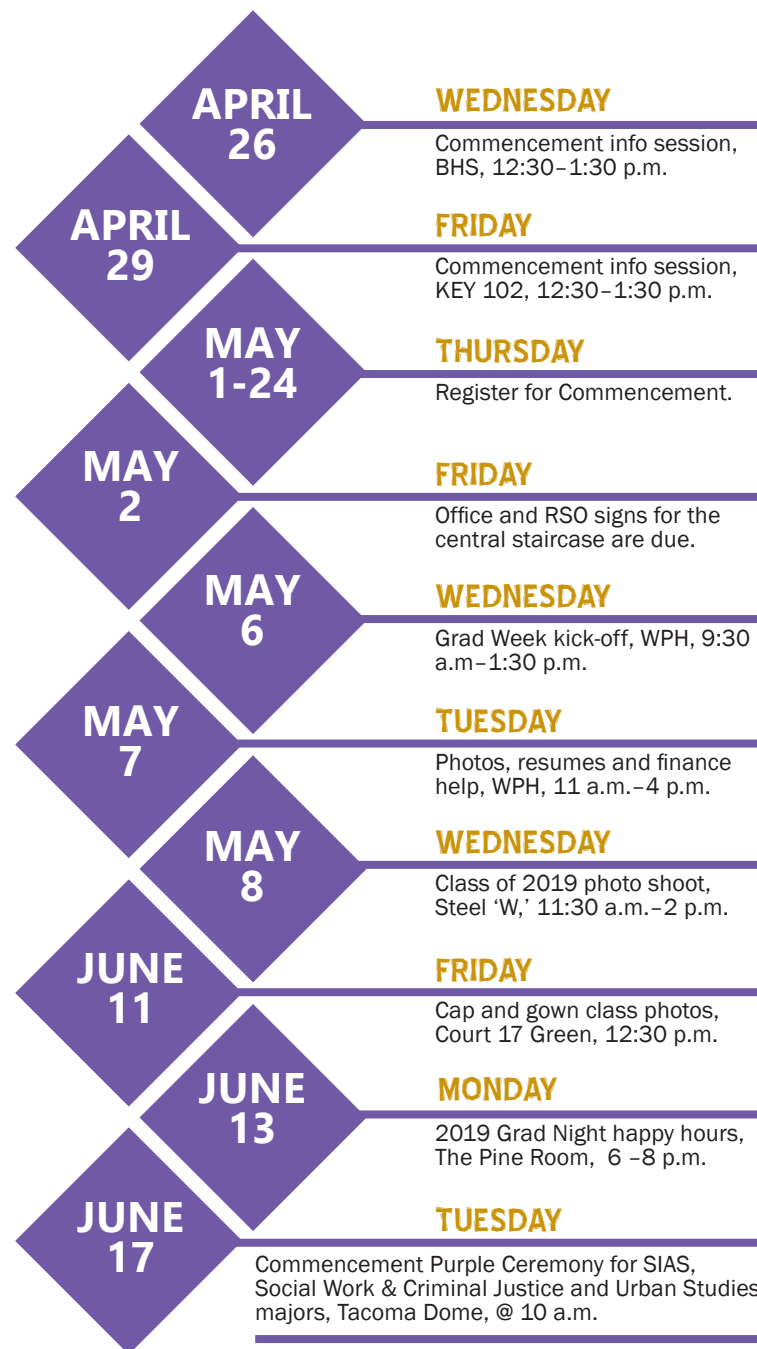
"The UWAA is a network of 60,000 UW graduates, so that's a network of 60,000 people you get to be a part of," Bone said. "It's an amazing networking opportunity. They try to host many events, like public lectures. So, if you're still curious about current ideas and a lot of new discoveries in research [after graduation], then the UWAA can help facilitate that."

Graduating Huskies can also give back by donating to the 2019 Senior Class Gift. This year, UWT's graduating class is establishing the UW Tacoma Lushootseed Language Revitalization Fund. The goal of this fund is to increase and infuse the Lushootseed language, which is spoken in several of the Coastal Salish Native American Tribes, on and around the UWT campus. Installation of signs and markers will be placed around the campus.

Dr. Michelle Montgomery, an assistant professor in American Indian and Ethnic, Gender and Labor Studies and member of the Haliwa-Saponi and East Band Cherokee Nations, explained the importance of incorporating the Lushootseed language onto campus, as well as what it means to decolonize and Indigenize space.

"The inclusion of Lushootseed language is one step towards decolonizing and Indigenizing the lived realities of Indigenous peoples, in particular acknowledging the University of Washington Tacoma campus as the traditional lands of the Puyallup Tribe," Montgomery said. "Our experiences as Indigenous peoples within western academic institutions are shaped by the physical environment of campuses."

"Physical erasure of Indigenous peoples occur systematically by the non-acknowledgement of traditional Indigenous landscapes and languages that are interconnected to our identities," Montgomery continued. "It is important to demonstrate a strong commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion by decolonizing the settler-colonial narratives for 'who decides for whom' the meaning and value of Indigenous identities."



COURTESY OF PIXABAY

Speakers headline Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium's Ocean Event held on campus

Speakers Dean Burke and Annie Crawley told ocean stories inside William W. Philip Hall.

By TYLER WICKE
NEWS REPORTER

In the second installment of Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium's speaker series, paddle boarder Dean Burke and underwater photographer Annie Crawley told ocean stories at "Our Ocean and You."

The speakers addressed attendees inside UW Tacoma's William W. Philip Hall, presenting photographs and videos to complement their anecdotes.

Burke started the event with a story about his experience paddle boarding with orcas in the Puget Sound in 2015. Before his account of the story, Burke described a reoccurring dream he experienced as a teenager — swimming with orcas. However, that dream became a reality.

"I was just about to head back in, when off in the distance I saw black fins rising," Burke said. "This one large dorsal fin, the male — the head of the pack — just stopped. The fin just sat there, out of the water. And then it rotated. And then it came toward me. And I went, 'I'm not dreaming. This is actually happening.'"

Nine orcas — including a mother and her calf — approached Burke's board and circled him for over 20 minutes.

"This was the first experience of what has been dozens of experiences

like this," Burke said. "They [the Orcas] come up and they sonar, they breathe, and they click and make noises and it's amazing. It will change your life when you see a mammal come up to you like this. We don't pursue them, we just observe. And they'll reward you."

Burke went on to describe the Seventy48 race, which is a 70-mile water race from Tacoma to Port Townsend that must be completed in 48 hours using human power only.

The race begins on the Foss Waterway and ends at the Northwest Maritime Center, which were once considered two of the dirtiest points of access to the sea in the country. After the city of Tacoma cleaned up the waterway, Port Townsend took similar action to restore healthy water in the area.

"Through similar actions in their community, they were able to clean that up," Burke said. "So now we have this bridge between two cities where people can have an experience that will change their lives. Does it matter? We hoped that we would get 30 teams to start the race last year and we ended up with 123."

Annie Crawley — an underwater photographer — followed Burke's presentation with her own, conveying her passion for the sea and stressing the importance of having a clean ocean.

In addition to pushing the importance of maintaining the ocean for

humanity, Crawley shared images of underwater sea creatures and marine life — photos she took herself. Part of what creates her photographs are the stories they tell and how the animals are asking for our help.

"I am giving my feelings from what I heard from these animals," Crawley said. "I'm humanizing them. And that's what I have to do with the stories we tell about our ocean. But I know for a fact that if this mother and baby [whale] didn't want me there, they would swim away."

By 2050, there will be more plastic by weight than fish in the ocean. Every piece of plastic that's been created is still on our planet today. To reduce plastic consumption, the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium created the movement #RefuseSUP, which challenges us to refuse all single-use plastics for 30 days. To provide helpful reminders, you can text "STRAWFREE" to 49767 for a week of helpful tips to go plastic free.

Two more speaker series events are still to come at William W. Philip Hall. On April 23, Point Defiance will host the event "Uncovering Ocean Mysteries," which will feature world scientists and zoo staff who study various marine life. The final event "Ocean Heroes" begins at 7 p.m. on April 30 and will showcase those who protect our oceans. Both events are free to the public.

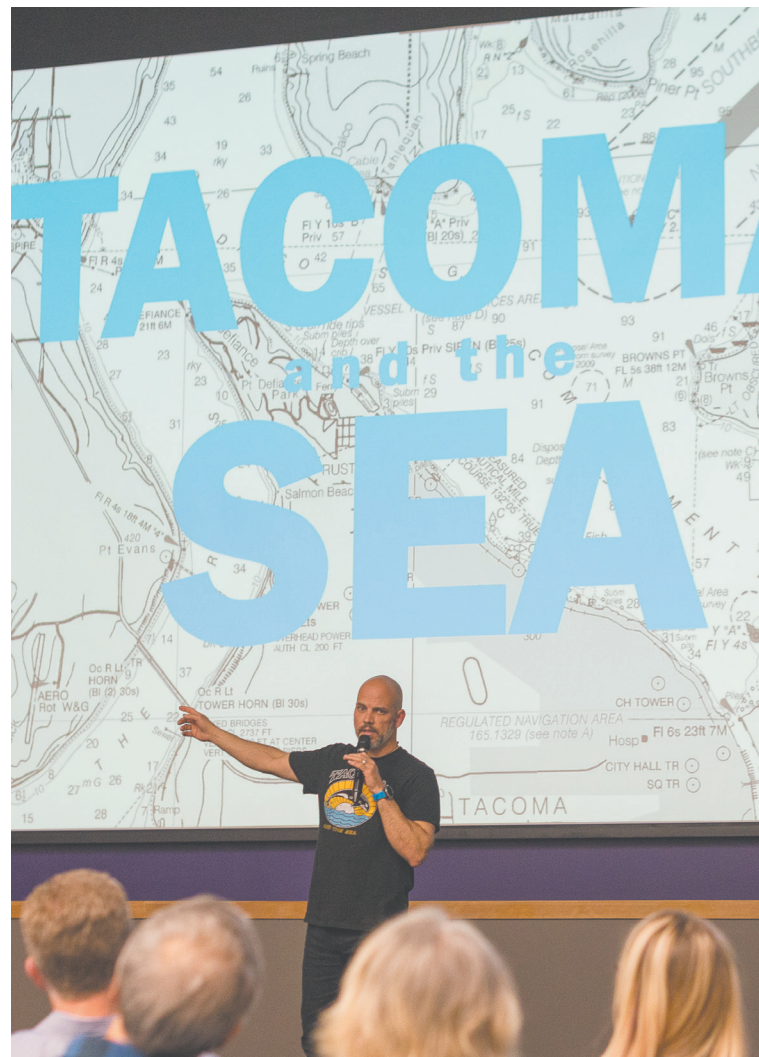


PHOTO BY SARAH SMITH

Burke addresses the crowd at "Our Ocean and You" April 9.

UWT launches new campaign encouraging students to use mass transit options

The Anything but Driving campaign — initiated by the Transportation Services department — aims to reduce the number of students driving single occupancy vehicles to campus every day.



PHOTO BY SARAH SMITH

An example of a transportation method that UWT endorses.

By MEGHAN RAND
NEWS REPORTER

Whether it be by train, bus, bike or parachute, UW Tacoma urges you to get to campus in any way — except by driving. Beginning spring quarter 2019, UWT included the universal U-PASS into every student's tuition cost — paying a mandatory \$45 per quarter. James Sinding, auxiliary services manager for Campus Planning and Retail Services, explained the purpose of the campaign.

"The Anything but Driving campaign was meant to coincide with the universal U-PASS implementation to create one more incentive for student[s] to try another mode of transportation," Sinding said.

The U-PASS is a universal mass transit pass that all UW campuses offer to their students. Prior to this spring, students at UWT had the option to pay the \$45 fee to have access to the pass. Now that the cost is mandatory and included in tuition expenses, students, faculty and staff have the option to use public transportation rather than driving and struggling to find parking.

gling to find parking.

In the Tacoma area, the U-PASS allows students to use a variety of transit services for free, including Metro Transit, Community Transit, Pierce Transit, Kitsap Transit, Everett Transit and Sound Transit Buses. Students may also use the Sounder commuter train service and paratransit services for free. A Husky Card is required to have a U-PASS, as the card itself has a chip in it that is powered by ORCA to act as your transit pass.

"[This hopefully makes students] pleasantly surprised that transit is not all that bad and see the cost saving as another benefit," Sinding said.

The Transportation Services department is offering an incentive to students in the form of a \$25 gift card to the UW Bookstore for using other modes of transportation. To take advantage of this, students are encouraged to log trips on www.piercetrips.com. Five trips will qualify you for a \$5 Starbucks gift card, and 10 trips will qualify you to receive a \$25 gift card to the UW Bookstore after 10 trips.

"Logging your trips on Pierce Trips

challenge gives us a trackable measurement of how many trips are made but not driving alone," Sinding said. "So far in just one week of the challenge there have been over 1,000 trips logged. That's a great success."

This initiative could help mitigate the stress of getting to campus and finding a place to park for students. With 5,375 students enrolled as of fall 2018 and less than 300 of those students living on campus, commuting to campus is a big obstacle for a majority of UWT students. But the Transportation Services department also has other motives for the program.

"Commuting to campus is the largest contributor to UW Tacoma's carbon footprint," Sinding said. "Everyone driving by themselves is not sustainable. Transportation Services goal is to reduce the overall amount of people driving by themselves. We do that through incentives like this Anything but Driving campaign."

If you do not have a Husky Card, stop by the Office of the Registrar in Mattress Factory room 253 to get one, and to start taking advantage of the U-PASS right away.

Husky Volunteers Program continues to engage students with their community

The service medallion is presented to students who complete the requirements of the Husky Volunteers Program. Students are recognized for their contributions towards positive social change and personal leadership growth through building relationships within their community.

By Leticia Bennett
News Editor

Husky Volunteers Program participants have logged community service hours, written reflections and established volunteer relations. The Husky Volunteers Program, created in 2015, encourages and recognizes student volunteer service through documenting thoughtful reflections. Volunteer service can be done on or off campus, on one's own, or through UW Tacoma programs.

Students who complete a specific number of hours are awarded a service medallion from the Center for Service and Leadership at the OSCARS student award ceremony in May. Participants have logged 11,172 hours from April 2018 to April 2019 and have been able to get more involved in helping their community and others around them.

The medallions are given to current graduating, undergraduate and graduate UWT students who want to make a difference through thoughtful service and volunteering. Program participants are awarded a silver medallion for their completion of at least five reflection logs and 100–200 hours of service, a purple medallion for completing ten reflection logs and 200–300 hours of service, and a gold medallion

for completing 15 reflection logs and 300 or more hours of service.

To earn a service medallion, students need to complete a variety of steps. To receive a medallion, students must make an orientation to service appointment at the CSL, attend an orientation to service workshop, identify an organization to serve at if not already identified, log thoughtful service reflections, engage in a leadership social and submit a final reflection and application.

One of the many goals of the Husky Volunteers Program is to allow students to form or strengthen relationships in their communities through their volunteer work regardless of whether they've volunteered before, have a passion for helping others, or are just starting out. Two UWT students shared their current experiences of working toward earning their service medallions.

Barbie Weaver, a senior majoring in Criminal Justice, strives to set a good example. She aims to earn either a purple or gold service medallion.

"I decided to volunteer with different nonprofits in my community as a way to give back and make a positive impact to my community," Weaver said. "I have two daughters 16, and 6, so I try to set a positive example for them to follow. I decided to do volunteer work before I actually knew of

the Husky Volunteers program, so the service medallion is a bonus!"

Since her time starting at UWT, Weaver has volunteered at several places, such as the Squaxin Island Tribe Behavioral Health Suicide Prevention Coordinator with the Squaxin Island Elders, the Community Kitchen in Thurston County, Sidewalk in Thurston County and the Thurston County legal clinic.

Weaver has also volunteered at various on campus events including the Poverty Emergence experience and the blood drive. While volunteering has come with challenges, Weaver encourages other students to get involved with the Husky Volunteers program and serve in their communities.

"Be the change you wish to see in the world, and earn a medallion while you're at it," Weaver said.

Aliyah Jones, also a senior majoring in Criminal Justice, is working towards earning a silver service medallion. She decided to earn her medallion after seeing that she could make a change in all of her areas of interest.

"I am really interested in changing the criminal justice system," Jones said. "I'm interested in education [and] I'm interested in learning about poverty issues. So I took those bigger ideas and I found my ways to be involved. It was really finding within myself my interests and just getting



PHOTO BY LETICIA BENNETT

Working toward earning their service medallions has come with challenges, but Husky Volunteers Program participants say it has helped them get engaged, forge new relationships and create lasting memories.

out there and knowing that there's somewhere that I can make a connection with that."

Not being from the Tacoma area, Jones was unaware of all the options she had for doing her service work. After having become a part of the Husky Volunteers Program, Jones credits the CSL for helping expand her volunteer options and sees this as a starting point in a larger journey of serving others.

Jones has volunteered at many places, including the Tacoma Rescue Mission, the Adam's Street Family Shelter, Pierce County Juvenile Court, the American Heart Association, Relay For Life and the Department of

Assigned Counsel. Because Jones has had many opportunities to serve and expand her interests, she hopes to help other students interested in being a part of the Husky Volunteers Program.

"All of these [volunteer experiences] have been pushing me to my goal of wanting to make a change," Jones said. "[Other students] can do amazing things as well ... and especially before I graduate, I want to leave an impact with other students because I have gotten so many amazing opportunities while I was here. I just want them to fully absorb that and know that you can get past barriers and there are people like me who will help you along the way."

Huskies in the hallway:

COMPILED AND PHOTOS BY TYLER WICKE

What is your commute to UW Tacoma like?



Diego Morales
Sophomore
Business Administration

"I drive to school. It's a 20-minute drive on I-5."



Carter McCormick
Sophomore
Bio-Med

"I drive, but I can't take I-5 because of the traffic. It's typically 30 minutes, but without traffic, it's 20 minutes."



Drew White
Junior
Computer Science

"I commute from Lakewood. It's typically a 20 minute drive depending on traffic."



Lindsay Givens
Senior
Bio-Med

"It's a 15 minute drive, and it's pretty relaxing."



Wayne Lynch
Professor
Communications professor

"I have arranged to travel to classes at off-peak times. I travel from Seattle to Tacoma southbound when everyone is traveling northbound."

Opinion: What role should corporations play in societal change?

In an era of Amazon, Starbucks and Chick-fil-A, corporate action and responsibility are of growing concern.

By **ALYSSA TATRO**
OPINION COLUMNIST

The rise in corporate power has restructured society and has seen the relationships between the public and private sphere change. Traditionally, corporations were seen as entities outside of societal structures and unbiased in regards to policy. They were expected to remain neutral and stay in the world of economy and capital.

The past couple decades have seen a shift in the way companies situate themselves to the public. The global rise in social media and information sharing — along with a new wave of progressives — have increased corporate responsibility and connection to the public.

Now more than ever, we see companies taking a political stand, engaging in activism and leading discussions on social change. For example, Starbucks launched its 2015 “Race Together” campaign, which was meant to start a public dialogue about racial tensions by having Starbucks employees talk with customers about race. Ultimately, the campaign received immense backlash and was unsuccessful due to the nature of the topic. Although the campaign missed the sensitivity mark, it was a clear attempt from a corporation to get involved in social discussions.

Starbucks also stood out as a corpo-

rate leader in addressing social issues back in 2018 when two black customers — who were waiting for another guest to join them — had the police called on them by a Starbucks employee. Starbucks employees across the U.S. participated in a mandatory training on racial and implicit bias in order to appropriately address the situation.

Whether these training and campaigns were successful or not, the corporate leaders of Starbucks showed that they were willing to engage in important national discussions and hold themselves accountable to the society they exist in.

This push for companies to be socially responsible has continued. Since then, Amazon announced its plans for new office buildings in Nashville, where activists have called for the company’s help in the fight against anti-LGBT+ legislation in Tennessee. Lawmakers in Tennessee have considered a number of policies that would legalize discrimination based on sexuality, such as banning same-sex couples and transgender people from adopting.

The activist group has called upon Amazon to speak out against the policies and all forms of anti-LGBT+ behavior as part of its ‘No Gay No Way’ campaign.

“This is a huge company with tremendous political and financial capital, in every state in the country,” said Conor Gaughan, director of the campaign. “We

want them to use that power to really drive positive change.”

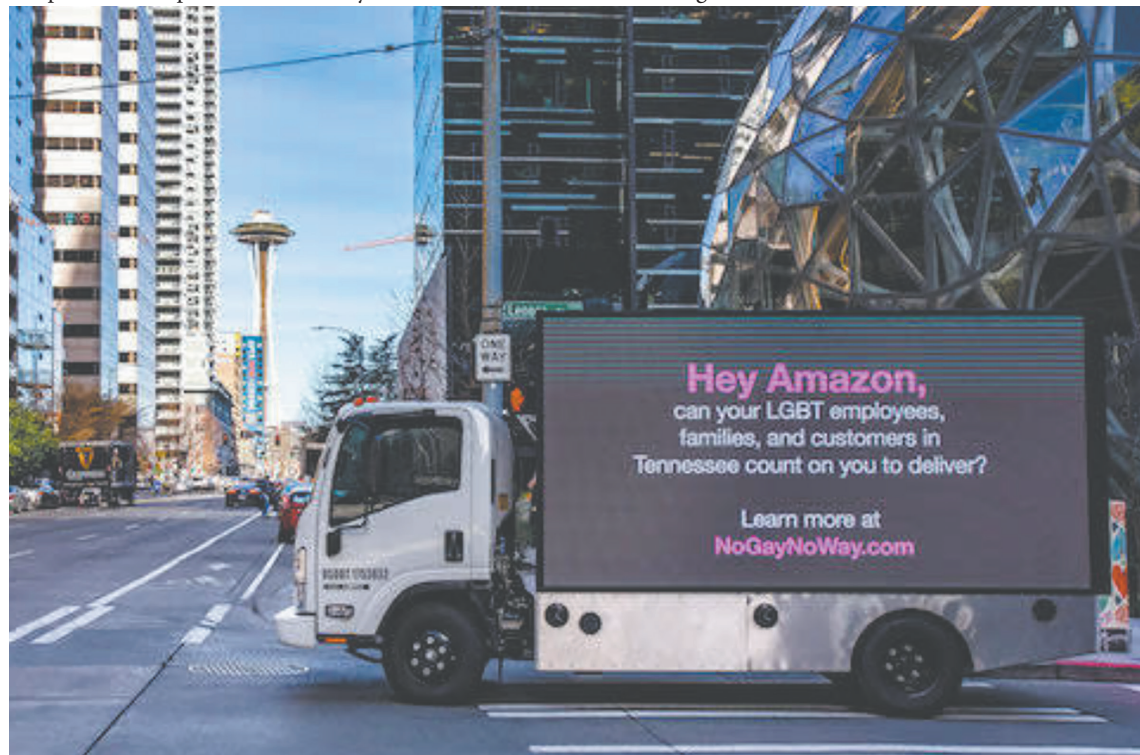
The campaign and its leaders have cited the power and role of Amazon in the nation and in local communities as the reason they should speak out against regressive policies such as the ones being considered in Tennessee.

The tremendous amount of influence and power that corporations have is why

their involvement in social change and discussions is crucial. We cannot have a national discussion about jobs, wages and poverty without including the companies that are so pivotal to these systems. We cannot engage in creative problem solving for environmental issues facing society without including corporations in this discussion. Corporate entities must be involved in social change and

issues because they are part of our society — not separate from it.

The role of corporations in society is rapidly changing from spectator to active participant. As the political landscape of America continues to transform, we will see that our capitalist structures and corporate firms are not only embedded in social issues, but embedded in social solutions.



COURTESY OF @STEVENARTPHOTO

“No Gay No Way” advertisements targeted at Amazon.

Opinion: 4 quick health tips for college students

Dr. Enrique Leon gives tips and tricks on how to give your body the fuel it needs to succeed.

By **CHRISTIAN BELL**
OPINION EDITOR

College is a juggling act. With demanding classes, piles of homework, work and one’s social life — it can all be a bit difficult to balance. However, if you are able to practice healthy habits, you’ll find the energy

viewed Dr. Enrique Leon — a member of the Tacoma School Board who is both a physician and the team doctor for Lincoln and Stadium High schools. He was able to sit down with The Ledger and give four quick tips for fueling a healthy lifestyle!

GET PLENTY OF EXERCISE

Dr. Leon explained that while exercising, students should aim for “at least 150 minutes per week, with 20 minutes minimum of aerobic activity.”

Surprised? Don’t worry! According to the American Heart Health Association, only one in five adults get enough exercise to maintain heart health. If you aren’t getting enough exercise, it isn’t too late to start. Begin slowly by going for a walk or riding a lime bike. Then you can build your way up to running or hitting the weights at the University Y. By exercising 150 minutes per week, students will not only maintain a

healthy weight, but can also improve their sleep, perform better on tests and even increase their lifespan.

THINK TWICE BEFORE VAPING

Dr. Leon also shared a report from the Pierce County Health Department, which found that while cigarette smoking has declined, vaping has increased 77 percent within the last three years. Vaping is the act of inhaling vapor from a liquid that is heated up in a device. An article from Yale Medicine found most vape liquids contain “propylene glycol, [which is] also called glycerin — as a base, nicotine, marijuana, or flavoring chemicals to produce common or outlandish flavors.” Vaping is often called the “healthier” alternative to traditional smoking because it contains fewer toxic chemicals than traditional cigarettes. However, vape pens or e-cigarettes still contain nicotine, which is incredibly addictive. An article from John Hopkins Medicine found that nicotine can cause smoke cravings, which may give people systems of withdrawal if

ignored. The Yale Medicine health researchers came to the consensus that “vape devices have not been proven to help adult smokers quit smoking,” and that “vaping increases the risk a teen will smoke regular cigarettes later.” So, save yourself the risk of poor health and avoid vaping.

PRACTICE MINDFULNESS

I was introduced to mindfulness by a professor a few quarters back, and it has been an immense help for helping me to relieve stress. Mindfulness — in its most simple definition — is the state of being aware or conscious of something. When we are mindful, we pay attention to our place or task at hand, but we don’t allow it to overwhelm us or stress us out. Dr. Leon explained that there are many ways to practice mindfulness, such as meditation, yoga or reading about topics that relax you. Personally, I like to practice mindfulness by meditating. Making sure to take deep breaths, I place all of my worries or anxieties about a task on a cloud and use the moment to fixate on relaxing. Once my meditation

is over, I find I’m re-energized for the tasks at hand. Don’t be afraid to find the method that works for you.

EAT HEALTHY

Food is an essential part of our daily lives, as the nutrients we receive from food help us to breathe, think and grow. But we should be mindful about the foods we fuel our bodies with. Fast food may make us feel full temporarily, but too much of it can make us feel sluggish. Other health problems that come with a diet high in calories, fat and sodium include “heart disease, high blood pressure and obesity,” Dr. Leon said. It is important that students fuel their bodies with healthy foods. Instead of making a McDonalds run — try preparing a home cooked meal. Not only will you be able to see what is going into your food, but you will also improve your culinary skills. Be sure to drink 7-8 glasses of water. Incorporate more fruits and vegetables into your day by making them into healthy mini snacks. Trust me, your body and your mind will feel so much better for it.



COURTESY OF FIUTS

Booths are set to enlighten students on the numerous cultures across the globe.

Opinion: Campus cultural festivals are crucial for students to attend

Campus cultural festivals encourage cultural dialogue and discourse throughout the university, allowing for students to become better informed on the countless cultures around the world.

By **BENGISU INCETAS**
OPINION COLUMNIST

There are many places on campus where students gather and spend time with each other. These include club events, social gatherings, and — most importantly — cultural events!

Tis the season to attend cultural festivals conducted by our wonderful RSO's on campus! Now that the sun is out and the academic year is coming to a close, it's time to expand our knowledge on the cultures of many of our peers.

Through these cultural festivals, students are able to discover the countless countries that we have so much to learn from. At these festivals, students are also able to learn about the several student organizations on campus, which celebrate a variety of ethnicities.

But knowledge won't be the only benefit to attending these festivals. Cultural festivals also allow us to truly interact with the many peers we may have otherwise not seen as much around campus. These festivals create a friendly space for questions and

dialogue between students about one another's culture.

These festivals are a much easier and better place to learn about culture from people of the culture being studied, rather than other places, where information is limited and sometimes false.

By doing so, inclusive campus dialogue is created, which our campus strives for. It's important for us as students to gain this knowledge from each other.

Cultural festivals hold creative booths that feature countries around

the world and showcase various traditional garments, cultural jewelry, ethnic dances and native cuisines. From baked goods in Russia to sweets in Pakistan, there's always so much to try at these festivals. Who would ever want to miss out on new, delicious food?

These festivals also help to break stereotypes. Unknowingly, humans have an instant bias in their mind, whether it be heard from a TV show, from another person, etc. By learning from others who are close to their heritage, we break free from these ste-

reotypes that distance us even more.

Hosting these coordinated cultural festivals gives students on campus a chance to express their own culture. It may not be obvious, but students often wait to have an open platform to showcase their culture to the rest of the UW community, as it's easier than asking for help.

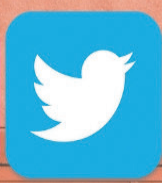
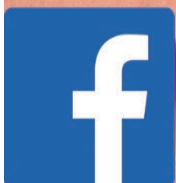
Many UW cultural festivals have been fun and successful in the past, and there is always room for more booths. So go out and support cultural discourse by attending campus cultural festivals!

LOGO CONTEST

Your logo can appear on Tahoma West's merch, issues and flyers!
Submit by April 26th!

Create a logo design and email it to us! Visit our website
for details!

www.tahomawest.org



@tahomawest

tahomaw@uw.edu

Husky Spotlight: Bryce McCann

UW Tacoma student and local musician Bryce McCann sits down to discuss his 'Coleman John' musical project.

By MILES CAMERON
A&E EDITOR

Bryce McCann — originally from Vancouver, Washington — is not only a devoted Urban Studies student at UW Tacoma, but also an accomplished musician. Under the stage name “Coleman John,” McCann has been writing, recording and producing his own songs since 2015. Most recently, “Coleman John” released the album “Nobody Cares,” which can be found on Soundcloud, Spotify, and Apple Music. McCann had the chance to sit down with the Ledger and talk more about his music, inspiration and future goals.

Q: WHEN DID YOU START RAPPING?

A: I really started when I was 13, but I didn't have any concept of how to put words together or anything. I had one line where it was, “when I rhyme, I want it to be sour like a lime,” and then I realized that wasn't going to cut it. Then, there was a summer program I went to before my 8th grade year called The Biz Program, where I began learning stuff about production and I also learned how to write raps and how to count bars. But it wasn't until the past couple years until I started taking rapping really seriously. In high school, I goofed around and made joke songs, put out two mixtapes that were kind of making a mockery of the current state of rap, and then I just realized that this isn't

sustainable — I don't want to be a gimmick. So, that's when I really had to find a way to take this more seriously while also staying true to myself; Still being goofy, but in a serious context.

Q: WHERE DOES THE NAME 'COLEMAN JOHN' COME FROM?

A: Those are my two middle names. My full name is Bryce Coleman John McCann. I was in Seattle visiting my brother and I was talking music with him and I brought up my favorite artists — James Blake, Kendrick Lamar, Isaiah Rashad — they use their first and middle names, and I was like Bryce Coleman ... nah ... Bryce John ... nah... And my brother was like, “dude, Coleman John, that's it.” So ever since I was 15, I've been rolling with that. Plus it's a way of honoring both of my grandfathers, who had passed away before I was born. It's cool to show my music to my family and they see “Coleman John” and know exactly who I'm paying tribute to. It's kind of like they're still here in a way. I'm sort of the vessel that they exist in.

Q: DOES BEING FROM VANCOUVER INFLUENCE YOUR MUSIC?

A: I think it kind of does. You know, hip-hop is a very regional sound. When you look at L.A. hip-hop, it has this specific sound — the Bay Area has this specific sound, and then you know, Atlanta is completely different than Houston, and Florida, New York, Memphis, all that ... and then when you look at Washington hip-hop,

you got Macklemore and then you got Sir Mix-a-Lot. I didn't have a distinct style to base my sound on, so it gives me more opportunity to kind of do my own thing without being held to this regional expectation.

Q: ARE THERE ANY PARTICULAR ARTISTS THAT INFLUENCE YOUR MUSIC?

A: I remember when Tyler the Creator won VMA for best artist and he got up on stage and said “If you're a kid at home and you're watching this, you can do this.” And ever since then, that's stayed in my head. I think Pharrell is probably my biggest influence production-wise, because he recently had this crazy resurgence as an artist after all these hits in the 2000s. He continues to make music with no boundaries. I appreciate his will to try new things and color outside the lines. MF Doom is one of my favorite rappers and he has these hilariously clever, dry, witty lines, but he delivers them so seriously, where on the surface you don't catch it. Those subtleties are something I've started to pick up on. And Prince, definitely Prince. I appreciate how he didn't confine to the role of a pop artist of being safe and sanitized. He was never afraid to take risks, even when he was at his most popular. Prince was just so prolific, and I really appreciate that.

Q: WHAT DOES YOUR ALBUM 'NOBODY CARES' MEAN?

A: “Nobody Cares” is kind of like a



COURTESY OF BRYCE MCCANN

McCann proudly stands next to a copy of his 'Nobody Cares' album.

double-entendre because it was written at a time when I felt nobody was really caring what I was going through, and also just (sic) [that] nobody cares as much as you think they do. I feel like with art in general, and life in general, we just become concerned with how other people think of us. I remember being a little kid, writing movie ideas and [I] had such a huge imagination. At that point in time, I would just create things without any idea of what people's opinions even meant. I'm working to find the balance of people's feedback — both positive and negative — because at the end of the day, only I know my

intention and direction of my music.

Q: DO YOU SEE YOURSELF STILL RAPPING FIVE YEARS FROM NOW?

A: Yes, I'm never giving up. I'll be 80-years-old rapping. I think, ultimately, I want to be more than just a rapper, but hip-hop will always be my first love and the foundation of what I do. I want to do all kinds of different stuff — there's so much you can do with R&B that people haven't even done yet, but I'm trying to find the medium of being both experimental and accessible.

Shoutout to everybody making art and being creative. Don't give up. Always keep going, keep trying to improve.

Mayor Woodward graces stage at Alma Mater's 'The Night Show'

A night full of insightful conversation and exceptional musical performances — “The Night Show” fosters a culturally vibrant Tacoma.

By ALEX ALDERMAN
A&E COLUMNIST

The event hall at the Alma Mater glistened and emitted a sort of warmth and intimacy that only a show made by and for Tacoma could achieve. As guests piled in and found their way to their seats — the bar or otherwise — the sounds of conversations among friends and acquaintances filled the room, creating an authentic sense of community and welcoming ambiance. The event of the evening, “The Night Show,” is a late night talk show, concert and game show all tastefully executed in one incredibly unique experience.

The show is truly unlike anything else offered in Tacoma or even the Puget Sound region, as it brings the joys of late night talk shows to life. Honing in on the latest in all things music, art, business, food and design, “The Night Show” engages with guests of local and national importance. The fifth installment of “The Night Show”

featured a segment especially important to the City of Tacoma — a refreshing and fun conversation with Mayor Victoria Woodward.

Mayor Woodward was warmly welcomed by a crowd of enthralled Tacomans, as she allowed them a peek into her life and what she described as “the best job in the world.”

“It is the best job in the world to wake up every single day and wonder what I'm going to do for my city and the people who live here to make it a better place,” Woodward said.

Her pride and love for Tacoma shined through as she began casually talking about a day in the life of being a mayor and specifically what her new program “Coffee with the Mayor” entails — a monthly event open to any and all who wish to converse with her. The event was created in response to her deep desire to connect with the people of Tacoma.

“I was spending a whole lot of time in meetings...but I didn't get to be with

people enough and that started to bother me,” Woodward said.

Her voice carried throughout the gorgeously decorated event space as she answered a few more questions before playing a round of Tacoma Trivia with hosts and audience members. When the question “What do you love most about Tacoma?” popped up, she said — without skipping a beat — “the people.”

By the end of the segment, it is clear that Mayor Woodward truly values spaces that foster a vibrant, diverse and authentic culture in Tacoma — as she gives kudos to programs and events such as Tacoma Arts Live, Tacoma Creates and “The Night Show.” As she rounded out her recount of how her day went, she spoke of “The Night Show.”

“This is important,” Woodward said. “This is what being a mayor is.”

“The Night Show” is an one-of-a-kind, lively experience that moves to cultivate arts and community within

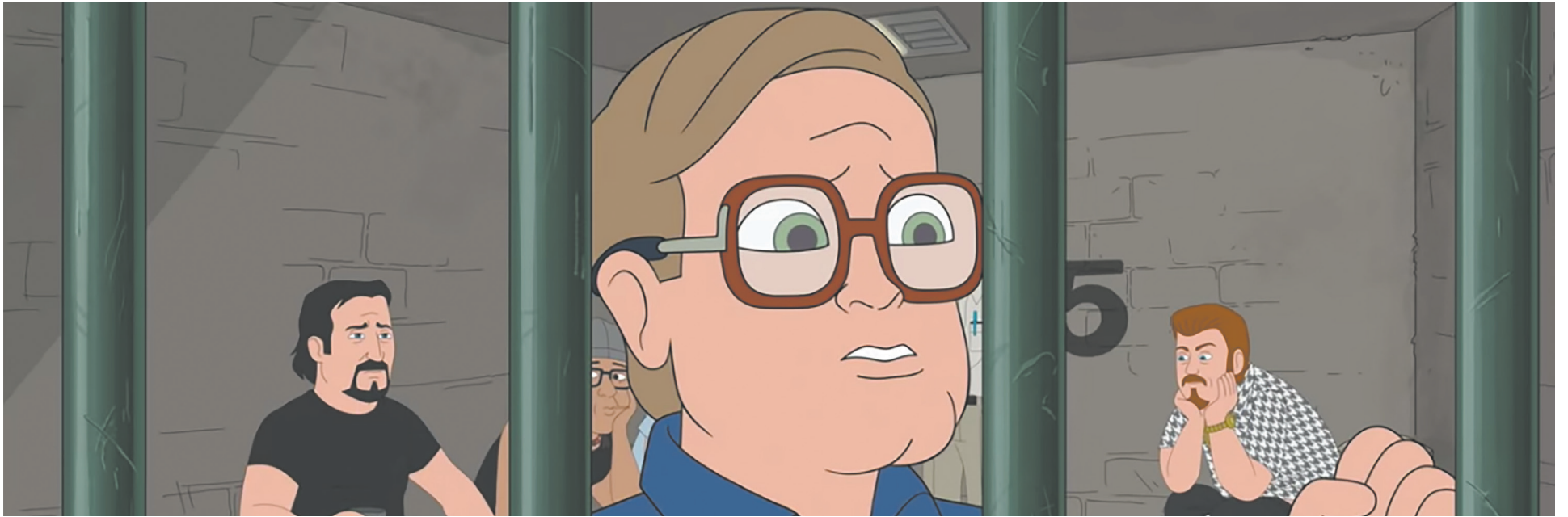


PHOTO BY ALEX ALDERMAN

Mayor Woodward talks about her free time, her duties as mayor and more with hosts Afalava and Jordan.

Tacoma. It provides an environment where local innovation and national inspiration is at the forefront — leaving attendees proud of their city and eager to see what's next for Tacoma's future.

The sixth installment of “The Night Show” is not yet dated, but interested attendees can stay connected by following @thenightshownw on Instagram.



COURTESY OF NETFLIX

Deceeeeeeent!

'Trailer Park Boys' is still strong after 18 years

The boys are back ... but this time, in an animated series titled 'Trailer Park Boys: The Animated Series.'

By JENNY LAM
A&E COLUMNIST

Just when you thought the "Trailer Park Boys" would retire after 18 years of constantly spitting out new seasons, movies, live shows, game apps and even Swearnet, the boys have returned once again — but this time in a spin-off series titled "Trailer Park Boys: The Animated Series," where all the people of Sunnyside are recreated in animated form. Talk about continuity!

Season 12 ended with the characters turning into cartoons after taking a large number of drug-enhanced mushrooms. After John Dunsworth's unexpected passing, they managed to get over the hurdle and continue with the show regardless of no Jim Lahey (played by John Dun-

sworth), no Lucy (played by Lucy DeCoutere), no Trevor (played by Michael Jackson) and no J-Roc (played by Jonathan Torrens). Also, for the sake of giving Mr. Lahey the proper send-off, turning the new season into an animated series makes a lot of sense.

The gags from the previous incarnations are kept the same, such as Julian (played by John Paul Tremblay) always tightly gripping a glass of rum and coke in his hand, no matter the situation he finds himself in. And don't worry — the Rickyisms, aka Ricky's (played by Robb Welles) mispronunciation of words, are still a huge part of the new series, too.

Before you jump right into the new animated series, consider revisiting those early seasons, specifically season one to seven. You'll appreciate

how great the show was before Netflix picked it up and became a soulless, greedy television show created by money-hungry producers — though, the Netflix seasons are definitely still watchable.

The old "Trailer Park Boys" was great and authentic — there was room to improvise and characters were able to grow and learn from their mistakes. In the world of animation, however, it is different — these guys can do whatever they want, push the boundaries and get super weird, such as getting a pet tapeworm and space weed.

Ultimately, each episode of "Trailer Park Boys: The Animated Series" after another slowly becomes a competition of how more ridiculous the guys can get from the previous episode. It becomes a total circus — they go full-blown crazy, and they're not

afraid of it. Somehow, Ricky's clumsiness has gotten even worse and the storyline has gotten more far-fetched. But with the original live-action series, they were able to at least keep one foot in the realm of reality — giving the show an authentic touch.

Nonetheless, there is an overall meta reference in this new season. The characters know they are in a cartoon world, and it's a cool twist on the mockumentary genre.

Reviewing only from episode five, I am willing to give it a chance and finish the rest, but my expectations are as low as they can be. It will definitely be interesting to see how they plan on taking this new direction, and opening up more doors for the mockumentary genre — a very meta-animated mockumentary. Here's to hoping it will work out.

REVIEW

"Trailer Park Boys"

★★★★★

The Good:

- Continuity is on point.
- Meta references are fun

The Bad:

- The storyline has gotten far-fetched.
- Each episode gradually becomes a competition to out-weird the last one.
- Money hungry producers just keep stretching out the show.

Seahawks face big decisions as offseason continues

With Russell Wilson officially locked in for the next five years, what does this mean for other key Seahawks players looking for new contracts before the start of the season?

By BROOKS MOELLER
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Coming off a season that was labeled a "rebuilding" year, the Seahawks entered the offseason looking to make moves that will turn the team into Super Bowl contenders once again. The main goals were to lock up key players into extended contracts and add depth to positions in need of more playmakers. Restricted salary cap space will limit them to only make a few signings, but these are hoped to be ones to make them improve from a 10 win team back to a 12 win team.

One of the biggest questions coming into the offseason was whether the team will resign stars Russell Wilson and Frank Clark to multiyear contract extensions. Wilson had one

of his statistical seasons of his career in 2018, throwing for 3,448 yards and 35 touchdowns. Clark had a breakout campaign, accounting for 13 sacks and 41 tackles. Both men are vital pieces to the team, however both are also asking for significant pay raises due to their performances.

When signing a player to a contract extension, several different traits must be considered in the decision making process management goes through — one of them being age. Wilson — who is turning 31 years-old this year — is in the middle of his prime, and this will likely be his last chance for a large contract. It's a fact that once players hit their thirties, they are not seen as valuable to the team as they once were. Clark will just be turning 26 years-old, and is just beginning the

prime of his career.

The first move made by the Hawks was using the franchise tag on Clark, which gives the team control — meaning no other teams can attempt to sign him. At first, Clark seemed okay with this move, but a few days afterwards, news released that he would hold out until the Seahawks met his demands of a new contract. This puts management in a tough situation, making them careful with the money they spend on other needs. Because of this, management may end up deciding not to give Clark an extension this year and either trade him or let him hold out into the season. Head coach Pete Carroll has made mention of the importance of signing Clark.

"We've got a lot of work to do," Carroll said. "Let me say this, this time of

year, we always cite that it's a really difficult time. There's a lot of stuff that has to take place, there's a lot of business. We want Franky to be with us. We've got some contract issues that we're going to be dealing with and discussions that will go on for months now."

After Wilson announced his April 15 deadline of when the Seahawks can sign him to a long term deal, there was panic and confusion that ensued throughout the fanbase — all because of the thought of Russ not playing for the Hawks. While there were reports that Wilson no longer wanted to be in Seattle and wanted a way out, those rumors were put to rest when he announced on social media that he and the Seahawks agreed on a four year contract. The quarterback is the most important position on the field, and

this sures up this spot for the Hawks for years to come.

Wilson's agent Mark Rodgers mentioned how much he wanted to stay in Seattle, and how the thought of playing anywhere else never appealed to Wilson.

"Russell loves this town, this team, and these fans," Rodgers said. "Part of the compromise involved his affection for all things Seattle. The idea of playing anywhere else was not nearly as appealing as playing right here, the place he and his family call home."

With Wilson locked up, the Seahawks will turn their attention to the NFL Draft next week and continue to work on long term contracts with Clark and middle linebacker Bobby Wagner. The front office is confident that deals will get done with these two after taking care of their quarterback.