

# arches

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## THAT CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON

*Half a century after a historic win,  
these Loggers reflect  
on their enduring bond*







The soaring performance by seven-time Grammy nominee Nnenna Freelon, who performed with the Puget Sound Jazz Orchestra, was a highlight of Homecoming and Family Weekend. The event was presented by ASUPS Performing Arts and the School of Music.

Photo by Camille McClafferty '28

# The world of heartbreaks, heroics, and hat tricks

“I’ve never been more proud of you.”

These warm words from my dad were not spoken at my college graduation, or when I landed my first newspaper job, or when I introduced him to his grandchildren. Nope, he spoke them about 10 years ago, after I called to tell him I had scored three goals — a hat trick! — in my weekly lunchtime floor hockey game at work.

team winning a national championship to a nationals run for the current women’s soccer team this fall, our stories are overflowing with drama, heroics, and heartbreak. Student-athletes, alumni, and coaches offer advice on how to make the most of World Cup soccer, whether you’re watching from your sofa or the stands, while a physics professor shares his expertise on the science of a soccer ball. And last but not never least, you’ll get to meet the new Grizz, the university’s No. 1 fan.



You should probably know that my dad had grown up playing ice hockey in Chicago and continued playing well into his 70s. He loves the game. The fact that I had discovered this slightly related team sport in my 40s — and then had one exceptionally lucky game — was something that brought him so much joy. A decade later, I haven’t forgotten the hat trick (which to no one’s surprise never happened again), but my favorite part of the experience was his reaction, and his pride.

And that’s the beauty of sport, isn’t it? It gives us so many ways to connect and celebrate, whether we are in the midst of the action or cheering our teams on.

You’ll find lots to cheer about in this special sport-themed issue of *Arches*. From a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the men’s basketball

Sports can bring us together, bring out emotions, and bring out our best. I felt that powerfully about a year after the hat trick. My parents had come for a visit, and I got special permission for my dad to join in the employee game. His passes were smooth and perfectly directed. He had a clear understanding of the game and its players. It was so much fun to see him play, and to play with him. Running down the court, I saw him pass me the ball. I snagged it, ran a few steps, and swung my stick. I think both sides were hoping I’d score — but I missed. We all took a minute to laugh, and then we got back to the game.

As always, I hope you enjoy this issue of *Arches*. And if you have a great campus sports story to share, please email me at [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu) — I would love to hear it. Thanks so much for reading and staying connected to Puget Sound!

—Lisa Kozleski '94

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We are located on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe. The Puyallup people have lived on and stewarded these lands since the beginning of time, and continue to do so today. We recognize that this land acknowledgment is one small step toward true allyship, and we commit to uplifting the voices, experiences, and histories of the Indigenous people of this land and beyond.

Vol. 53  
No. 1  
WINTER  
2026

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**arches** (USPS 912) is published three times a year by the Office of Marketing & Communications, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner St. #1041, Tacoma, WA 98416-1041. Postage paid at Tacoma, Wash., and at additional mailing offices. Printed in U.S.A.

**Editorial Office** [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu); or *Arches*, Office of Marketing & Communications, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner St. #1041, Tacoma, WA 98416-1041.

**Website**  
[pugetsound.edu/arches](http://pugetsound.edu/arches)

**Circulation** To change the address to which your copy of *Arches* is mailed or to remove your name from the mailing list, please call 253.879.3299 or write [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu).

**arches** is printed with soy seal-approved inks on paper that is certified by the Rainforest Alliance to Forest Stewardship Council™ standards.

**Postmaster** Send address corrections to *Arches*, Office of Marketing and Communications, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner St. #1041, Tacoma, WA 98416-1041



# The President’s Perspective

On building a championship culture



One of the university’s key initiatives is to advance a championship culture that empowers student-athletes to achieve at the highest levels academically and athletically, building on an enduring legacy that has shaped generations of Loggers. The Arches team asked President Isiah Crawford to share some insights into why this is such an important goal. Here’s what he had to say:

“Fostering a championship culture on campus remains a strategic priority for us, as a successful athletics program is a key driver of enrollment, retention, and campus and community engagement. It’s been exciting to witness this work in action during the fall athletics season, with our student-athletes standing out on the court (and field and pitch and pool) and in the community time and time again.

“In addition, we also see athletic endeavors as another form of experiential learning that helps prepare students for all that life has in store for them after graduation, and we are dedicated to providing these experiences. To that end, we are in the midst of upgrading our softball and baseball facilities, ensuring a top-tier playing and practice environment that will make Puget Sound a winning destination for years to come.”

# What We’re Talking About on Campus

## WELL, OBVIOUSLY

The Princeton Review ranked our campus as the **18th most beautiful campus in America**, a jump from its No. 20 ranking last year. That’s one of the many accolades for Puget Sound that will appear in the 2026 edition of the annual college guide, *The Best 391 Colleges*. Only about 15 percent of the nearly 2,400 four-year colleges in the U.S. are featured in the guide. Puget Sound also climbed the rankings in Best Athletic Facilities, jumping from No. 22 to No. 13. Other accolades from this year’s rankings include: Best Value Colleges; Best West; Green Colleges; The Best 391 Colleges; Best College Radio Station; Green Matters: Everyone Cares About Conservation; and Best College Library.



## A GRATEFUL GOODBYE

**Dr. Lorna Hernandez Jarvis**, the university’s vice president for Institutional Equity and Diversity, announced she will retire on June 30, 2026, after five years of service at Puget Sound and a distinguished career in higher education. President Isiah Crawford said: “Lorna brought passion, integrity, and unwavering commitment to making Puget Sound a more welcoming environment for every member of our community. She is an empathetic bridge builder whose ability to work

effectively across a broad spectrum of difference has greatly benefited our campus community. Her institutional leadership in advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism will continue to guide our work.” A new vice president is expected to arrive on campus in the summer of 2026.



## WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS

The Logger women’s volleyball team and women’s soccer team both became **Northwest Conference (NWC) co-champions** in November. The volleyball team finished with a 14-2 conference record to tie Whitworth for first in the NWC. The soccer team finished with a 12-0-4 conference record to tie Pacific Lutheran for first in the NWC and earned a bid to the first round of the DIII National Championships, where they won their first game in an overtime thriller. Eight Loggers earned All-NWC women’s soccer honors, including Offensive Player of the Year **Leila Hausia-Haugen ’26**; Rookie of the Year **Kate Short ’29**; and Coach of the Year **Stephanie Cox**.



## ‘I LOVE THIS TREE’

**Easton Umansky ’27** was featured in an article in *The News Tribune* about his summer research project on Tacoma’s urban tree canopy. Through his research, he focused on the social impact of trees and how the urban canopy varies from neighborhood to neighborhood, with historically redlined areas having fewer trees. Umansky said Tacoma’s trees were a deciding factor in choosing to study at Puget Sound.



## PARK IT HERE

Students who live off-campus now have a dedicated space to hang out, after the university opened the **Grizz Lounge** in October. The commuter lounge has been designed to serve as a restful retreat, a collaborative workspace, and a central hub for commuter students between classes, activities, and long study sessions. It is located in Thomas Hall, Room 270, and was created in direct response to student feedback.



## MORALITY ON STAGE

Associate Professor **Wind Woods** and assistant director **Ashlyne Collado ’26** brought *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* to the Norton Clapp Theatre this fall. The play tells the story of Grusha, a servant who risks her safety and happiness to raise an abandoned child during a fictional civil war. When the boy’s biological mother returns to claim him, the dispute is brought before an unorthodox judge whose courtroom exposes the corrupt nature of power.

## MEETING THE MOMENT

In October, the university announced a **Hybrid Master of Education (MEd) Counseling Program** to address a shortage of skilled mental health professionals in the region. The launch of the Hybrid MEd Counseling Program comes at a critical time when the demand for qualified mental health professionals is surging, and the capacity for training them is shrinking. With other regional counseling programs shifting, going on hold, or discontinuing altogether, Puget Sound’s new Hybrid MEd in Counseling is an essential step to addressing the immediate need for skilled counselors in the region. Learn more at [pugetsound.edu/HybridMEd](https://pugetsound.edu/HybridMEd).



# Classes for a Changing World

## CONN 195— The Liberal Arts, the Mystery of Consciousness, and the Future of Knowledge

—with George Erving  
Professor of English, Humanities, and Honors; Honors Program Director



**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course argues that the answers to some of the “big” questions that attend the human condition — such as what am I, what is the universe, and what gives my life meaning — depend upon one’s assumptions about the underlying nature of reality. The course begins by examining modernity’s mainstream, scientific worldview, which holds that reality is ultimately reducible to inert material particles obeying mechanistic laws of motion. It then explores the contrary worldview suggested by quantum physics and elaborated upon in the traditions of philosophical idealism, Eastern religions, Western mysticism, and the beliefs of numerous Indigenous cultures — namely, that reality is an infinite consciousness. Students weigh the arguments, evidence, and implications for each.

**PRACTICAL ASPECTS:** Along with discussions about what a “liberal arts” education means conceptually, and what its status in higher education suggests about society in general, the course considers the practical aspects of a liberal arts education and provides tools to help students succeed. Students are introduced to some of the helpful resources available on campus, and they are given space to consider their academic strengths and interests, to identify opportunities for growth, and to build relationships and community with other students in this class and in the Honors Program.

*Classes for a Changing World is a regular feature in Arches that spotlights one of the scores of inspiring, innovative, and timely courses offered each semester at Puget Sound.*

**ALL ABOUT CONNECTIONS:** Connections courses like CONN 195 offer first-year students substantive topics and themes as context for introducing the multidisciplinary of a liberal arts education. As one of two foundational seminars for first-year students in the university’s new core curriculum, these 100-level seminars welcome students to the academic community at Puget Sound by integrating the introduction to the liberal arts with the development of skills for lifelong learning in diverse communities.

**THE PROF’S VIEWPOINT:** “The seminar is now in its second year and serves as the prequel to the new Honors Program minor in ‘Consciousness, Creativity, and Meaning’ — a five-course interdisciplinary pathway that examines what is perhaps the most vexing problem confronting modern science: the origin and nature of consciousness in sentient organisms. By ‘consciousness,’ I mean the awareness with which everything is experienced (perceived, felt, thought, imagined, dreamed, etc.). In short, your consciousness is what it’s like to be you — it’s the most familiar thing you know, but it’s also a total mystery. And when you begin to look at all the attempts to understand consciousness, you have the basis for a fascinating, wide-ranging program of study that includes neuroscience, philosophy, biology, Indigenous studies, religions, mystical traditions, and the arts.”

# In Memory of a Maestro

October marked the 50th anniversary of the City of Tacoma and the State of Washington declaring a “Leroy Ostransky Day” in honor of the composer and teacher who spent his career at Puget Sound. **Leroy Ostransky ‘48** started teaching at the university in 1952; in 1975, *People* magazine named him one of the nation’s 12 outstanding teachers. The School of Music held a concert in his memory on Oct. 24, with performances of some of his works alongside music by other faculty and student composers, past and present, including **Brianna Babin ‘27, Katy Hassing ‘23, Scott Ordway ‘06, Forrest Pierce ‘94, and Greg Simon ‘07.**



# Rediscover your roots at Summer Reunion Weekend

JUNE 5–7, 2026

## Questions?

Go to [pugetsound.edu/srw](https://pugetsound.edu/srw) or email [reunion@pugetsound.edu](mailto:reunion@pugetsound.edu).



# Your Letters



## Those *Angel City* days

I had to write in response to Amelia Hooper’s *Logger Lookback* [Autumn 2025]! In 1984, I was fortunate enough to be in the cast of a Little Theatre production of Sam Shepard’s obscure play, *Angel City*. Professor Gary Grant directed this seldom-attempted piece of *avant-garde* theater, and our theater was suddenly on the map. We were invited to Washington State University as a showcase piece for the National College Theatre Festival, and from there to a sell-out run back at Tacoma Actors Guild, and finally to Washington, D.C., and a showcase performance at the Kennedy Center! Truly, a great distinction for our little Theatre Arts department. This was very heady stuff for a college sophomore from Denver and remains one of my fondest memories of my four years spent on and behind the then Little Theatre black proscenium.

What a wonderful time to be a *Logger*.

**Sid R. Rundle ‘86**  
Denver

## Reflections on rowing

I rowed at Puget Sound from 1967 to 1970. Initially, I did not even want to row — I wanted to learn to sail. One night I climbed the stairs in the Student Union Building to join the sailing club. At the top of the stairs, I turned left instead of right. That choice to turn left, not right [to the sailing club], was one of the best mistakes I have ever made! The relationships we developed were life changing — I met my best friend in college there, **Dave Miller ‘71**. The team did not win many races, but



we tried, and we grew as individuals, then as a crew. Most importantly, we had fun. We learned to support others in the face of failure, disappointment, and hard times. We learned to not let our lack of success define who each of us were and are. Rowing taught us it wasn’t about wins and losses, it was about perseverance, individual and team improvement, and love for each other.

**Vern Van Houten, ‘71, MBA’73, P’00**  
Port Orchard, Wash.

## Show biz! Jazz hands!

Loved the article [“Flip the Script,” Autumn 2025]. Since 2015, I’ve made four feature films and a few shorts, working in both live-action and animation. This summer, I finished both my new feature film, *5002 Space Aliens*, and my new short *Film That Never Begins*, both of which will be screening at film festivals soon. I like filmmaking because I get to wear so many creative hats, from writing to visuals to editing. Fun!  
**Scott Bateman ‘86**  
Beacon, N.Y.

## Solo shows, standup, and screenplays

I enjoyed the story about Loggers working on the stage and screen [“Flip the Script,” Autumn 2025] and wanted to add my name to the list of alumni working in this wonderfully creative, albeit challenging, industry. After graduation, I was resolved to be the

master of my own fate, so I co-founded an improv and standup comedy troupe in the San Francisco area. That morphed into what became three solo shows (the third, *Florence Nightingale: The Reluctant Celebrity*, played off Broadway, in three other countries and 13 states, so far!). On the side, I performed voice-overs, commercials, a few films and TV, and happily, I’ve collected a few awards for my work (including recognition for my documentary film, *Micropremature Babies: How Low Can You Go?*, on Amazon Prime).

**Candy Campbell ‘70**  
Chesapeake Beach, Md.

## Knitter needed

I read the knitting article in the latest issue [“Social Fabric,” Autumn 2025] with great interest, as about a year ago I had a below-the-knee amputation. Fortunately, I’ve recovered well and am walking around on ol’ Stumpy without issues, but the problem is he gets cold at night. Unfortunately, enquiring about the article didn’t work out nor did finding anybody local. But it did get me thinking there might be a *Logger* out there who could make a custom-knitted leg-warmer for Stumpy or knows somebody who can. If so, I’m more than happy to recompense, accordingly. They’d be welcome to knit whatever pattern and color they wanted as I’m more function over form, but I’ll not deny a big UPS

somewhere on it would be mighty cool. If you think you can help, the editor says to email her ([arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu)), and she will connect us.

**Armand Kepler ‘94**  
Auburn, Wash.

## A Logger Legacy

In 1963, I was a returning sophomore football letterman at the start of the season. An older player showed up for two-a-day practices before the season started. His name was Joe Payton, and he was always smiling, never complaining, and first in every wind sprint and lap. We found out that he was a 27-year-old freshman out of the U.S. Army and now in the Army Reserves. When everyone was exhausted after practice from the exercises and soreness, Joe was always smiling and encouraging everyone around him to push on. In game films in 1964, you could see Joe was triple-teamed, catching a pass with one arm rising way above the surrounding smothering group to pull in the ball. What a wonderful legacy for the Loggers.

**Ed Kosnoski ‘66**  
Des Moines, Wash.

## Have feedback for us?

Email [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu) or send a letter to Arches, Office of Marketing & Communications, University of Puget Sound, 1500 N. Warner St. #1041, Tacoma, WA 98416-1041. Letters should be no more than 250 words and may be edited for length or clarity.



# Logger Lookback

## South Sound Sorcerer

By Amelia Hooper  
Director of Prospect and Information Management

If you were a student at Puget Sound between the late 1980s and the early 2010s, you no doubt remember chemistry Professor **Tim Hoyt**. Better known as the Wizard, Hoyt and his rainbow-dyed beard dazzled the campus community at the annual Chemistry Magic Show each October.

In 2013, the Wizard’s final year performing before his retirement, the show drew up to 400 students, friends, and neighbors to Schneebeck Hall, where the audience enjoyed eye-catching chemical interactions that produced color changes, bursts of fire, and even the occasional explosion. Hoyt worked all this magic, of course, in addition to his regular duties as an instructor of introductory-level chemistry courses over 25 years at the university.

The Wizard is just one example of Puget Sound faculty members who have excelled in instilling the campus with a love of learning and a sense of awe for the world around us. Which professors made a difference in your academic life as a Logger? School us by writing to arches@pugetsound.edu!



# A Student’s Summer of Service

For **Tdohasan Chastang Sunray ’27**, the summer wasn’t about rest — it was about giving back. Funded by a Matelich Summer Challenge Grant, the English major spent his summer in the realm of creative writing, embarking on a mission to inspire the next generation of storytellers throughout Oklahoma.



Sunray is an enrolled member of the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma with affiliations to the Ponca and MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians. He has always been passionate about his community and has a history of leading summer basketball camps for kids across the state. But this year, he wanted to offer workshops for young people in his community who needed a different type of support, especially for those not interested in sports.

Originally planned as a nationwide endeavor, he pivoted his workshops to work with young people in the Kiowa, Pawnee, Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, and Comanche tribes, where his community roots are strong. The Matelich grant allowed him to provide campers with more than 100 books and other supplies, such as journals and writing utensils. He felt it was important to make the camp as accessible as possible, giving everything away for free. “When kids see that you’re actually investing in them with something other than just your words, it carries a lot more weight,” he said.

The camps ran for six hours a day for two days and were designed to be anything but a typical English class. The workshops centered on the question: “What does it mean to be a Native writer in today’s world?” To answer this, he used two books: N. Scott Momaday’s *The Way to Rainy Mountain* and Natalie Diaz’s Pulitzer Prize-winning *Post-Colonial Love Poem*. The workshops also included a children’s book to help pass down oral traditions. The book, *Saynday Kiowa Indian Children’s Stories*, is a collection of stories written by Modina Toppah-Waters about a Kiowa trickster.

Sunray said the most powerful part of the experience was watching the students take ownership of their own stories and identities. “I think this whole process was a self-identification thing,” he said. “It’s always people telling us who we are or who we aren’t. But through this workshop and through the books that we read and the discussions that we had, we kind of made out for ourselves what it means to be Native.”  
— *By Veronica Craker*

# It Would Have to be Fiction

Stewart Berg, a 2014 grad from Pacific Lutheran University, turned a long-time campus rivalry into a work of fiction in his new novel, *The Hatchings of Fall ’08: A Tale of Two Universities*. The story involves a group of PLU students who manage to steal Puget Sound’s best-known relic — the hatchet. Serialized in the *Falling Marbles Bimonthly*, the final chapter dropped in November. The main takeaway? The only way the Lutes could ever get their hands on our hatchet is in the pages of a book.



# The Pride of Puget Sound

Congratulations to the following University of Puget Sound community members for making a difference in their work and communities:

**Tanya Erzen**, professor of religion, spirituality, and society, was quoted in the *San Francisco Chronicle* in October in a story about a case before the U.S. Supreme Court examining the constitutionality of religious conversion therapy. Erzen discussed the history of ex-gay ministries in California, which she researched for her 2006 book, *Straight to Jesus*.

Biology professor **Peter Hodum** and naturalist **Olivia Fross ’23** were featured in a story on KUOW public radio about efforts to protect Washington’s population of endangered tufted puffins.

**Heather White**, visiting professor of gender and queer studies, received a \$55,000 grant from the Louisville Institute to study the overlooked role of progressive congregations in the 1970s as sanctuaries for early LGBTQ+ activism.

**Monica DeHart P’23**, distinguished professor of sociology and anthropology, was awarded a prestigious American Council of Learned Societies grant for her research on China–Central America relations.

Executive vice president and chief financial officer **Kim Kvaal** was a guest on the *CBO Speaks* podcast in April. In the episode, Kvaal talks about making technical financial communication accessible and the importance of maintaining strong relationships while navigating difficult financial decisions.

Chemistry major and Logger football quarterback **Hayden Teeter ’26** earned a nomination for the 2025 Allstate and American Football Coaches Association Good Works Team for his community service and leadership.



**Coco Brandabur ’29** and **Princess Akpotu ’29** are the recipients of the prestigious **Matelich Scholarship** for the Class of 2029, which is awarded to exceptional students who embody the university’s commitment to academic excellence, inspirational leadership, and community engagement.



**Ansel Chan ’29** and **Claire Meyer ’29** are the recipients of the distinguished **Lillis Scholarship** for the Class of 2029, which recognizes academic excellence, intellectual independence, and a commitment to pursuing excellence throughout a student’s educational journey.



These scholarships cover tuition, fees, and room and board for up to four years at Puget Sound.



# Women’s Soccer Coach Nominated for Sport’s Highest Honor

Women’s soccer coach **Stephanie Cox** was one of 20 players named on the final ballot for the National Soccer Hall of Fame in October. “Logger Athletics is tremendously fortunate to have Stephanie Cox leading our women’s soccer program,” Athletics Director **Chelsea Herman** said. “I truly believe she is one of Puget Sound’s most valued members, and this honor names her among our nation’s greatest to ever wear the uniform.”

Cox, then Stephanie Lopez, rose to prominence when she and her teammates at the University of Portland won the NCAA Division I title in 2005. She was named the youngest member of the U.S. Women’s National Team in 2007 and went on to appear in 89 games for the USWNT, including two World Cups. In addition, Cox won an Olympic gold medal in 2008 as a defender, and she then enjoyed a long pro career, including two stints with the Seattle Reign. Cox officially took over the Loggers program in December 2022 after a season as interim head coach.

Athletes who have either played at least 20 international games for the U.S. men’s or women’s national teams or at least five seasons of professional soccer are eligible for election into the Hall of Fame once they’ve been retired for three years. The Class of 2026 will be announced after this issue goes to print and will be honored at a ceremony at the Hall of Fame in May 2026. If inducted, Cox will join a roster of outstanding women’s soccer players like Mia Hamm and former teammate Carli Lloyd.



# The Logger Way

New Director of Athletics Chelsea Herman reflects on the power of sport and love of the game

BY LISA KOZLESKI '94

**Chelsea Herman** says one of the best parts of her new job as Director of Athletics at the University of Puget Sound is getting to walk around practices and see the student-athletes in action, under the guidance of coaches she describes as “tremendous masters of their craft.” Her goal, she said, as they develop in the classroom and competition, is for them to know she is their No. 1 fan. Herman knows from experience how formative and fun intercollegiate athletics can be for scholar-athletes, their institutions, and their communities.

A point guard who captained the women’s basketball team at Gonzaga University, Herman went on to earn a master’s degree and Ph.D. in sports ethics and sports administration, as well as an executive MBA. She brings 20 years of senior-level leadership experience to Puget Sound, having served most recently as deputy athletics director and senior woman administrator at California State University, San Bernardino.

Just before Homecoming, Herman sat down with our *Arches* editor to talk about great teams, memorable moments, and setting other people up for success (as good point guards do). Here’s what she had to say:

### First things first — why Puget Sound?

I’m an educator, and knew from growing up in the Pacific Northwest that Puget Sound had a storied history of athletics excellence, was highly academic, and was focused on the holistic development of students. Puget Sound leadership has a commitment to championship athletics, and I wanted to lead an NCAA Division III athletics department where the scholar-athletes work hard in all facets of their lives and play for the love of a game. This is definitely the right place, with the right people, at the right time, and I feel extremely honored to be a Logger and to have joined this special campus community.

### Do you have a favorite sports memory you’d like to share?

One of my all-time sports memories was from the eighth grade, when my mom surprised me with tickets to a PAC-10 tournament men’s basketball game between the University of Arizona and Oregon State. Being with my mom, watching Steve Kerr, Sean Elliott and Gary Payton live was an absolute dream come true. Looking back, that first live college basketball game inspired me and created a dream and a pathway for my entire life.

### Is there anything from your time as a student-athlete that you find yourself still thinking about in your professional role today?

I have so much appreciation for the teachers, coaches, mentors, colleagues, and student-athletes who influenced my life and made me the person I am. I will spend my career trying to pay it forward. Growing up and playing the point guard position meant my job was to lead and to make other people better — to give the great assist, be a great teammate, and set my teammates up to be successful. I also reflect on how sports give us a quiet confidence to try anything, be coachable, accept failure as part of the process, and that when you experience hardships, you get up, try again, and complete the drill. There are no losses, only lessons.

### What teams are you cheering for this year?

First and foremost, I am a Loggers fan! Our scholar-athletes and coaches are very easy to cheer for, and I am excited to watch every single one of them compete this year. Away from Puget Sound, I have fun watching the Seattle Storm, Mariners, and Seahawks, and cheering for my former student-athletes who are still playing and/or coaching. I will always cheer on my alma mater, especially in March, but above all, I am a Logger. There is such great energy, enthusiasm, and passion for Puget Sound athletics!

“Sports can deliver so much joy to a community, and I think it’s important that we understand we are bigger than ourselves. The Logger Way includes everyone, and it’s about more than the wins.”

### What role do you think athletics have in building community?

There are two great things where people can gather around something that is cheerful and brings us joy: music and sports. So while we are here to support the journey of the student-athlete, it’s also very important that we create a community environment we can rally around. At Puget Sound, our role is to provide experiences and spaces to invite our students, staff, faculty, alumni, and community members to voice their shared pride in what it means to be a Logger. To welcome all and offer a fun experience, in pursuit of championship athletics.

Sports can deliver so much joy to a community, and I think it’s important that we understand we are bigger than ourselves. The Logger Way includes everyone, and it’s about more than the wins. We cannot do what we do without each and every one of you.

*To get the latest Logger news and schedules — as well as a chance to meet Herman at a game, race, or match — go to [loggerathletics.com](http://loggerathletics.com).*



New Director of Athletics Chelsea Herman has hit the ground running in her new role. Highlights of her first months include recognizing the newest inductees into the Logger Athletics Hall of Fame, where she and Don Pulisevich '68, MED '68, who was captain of the Logger football team in 1967, took a moment to celebrate the induction of Al Roberts '68 (bottom left); and cheering along with Grizz and student-athletes at this year’s Homecoming game.



PHOTOS BY ALEX CROOK



A POEM OF THE AIR  
While the flakes have yet  
to fly this winter, campus  
photographer Alex Crook  
captured this photo of a  
student experiencing snow for  
the first time in February 2025.  
Can spring be far behind?



# 'THE GREATEST THING TO EVER HAPPEN'



*Fifty years later, the 'tall and talented' Loggers who won the university's first national championship reflect on the moments and mindset that brought the banner home*

**Matt McCully '78** was an end-of-the-bench guard who took the court only for the final minute or so of the University of Puget Sound Loggers' 1976 NCAA Division II men's basketball national championship game victory over the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga.

Yet, it was McCully who found himself on the shoulders of his teammates after the buzzer sounded on an 83–74 triumph that long-ago March evening at Roberts Stadium in Evansville, Indiana.

"They didn't have ladders back in those days, apparently," McCully recalled with a laugh. "They hoisted me up and then I cut the net down."

There was a practical aspect to McCully's ascension: "I was the littlest guy on the team, 5-foot-9," McCully said.

But that wasn't quite it, entirely. "He wasn't just some random short guy on a tall team that we decided to lift up," starting guard **Rocky Botts '78** said. "He was every bit as much a part of that as those who played more. His role was to be the de facto team leader. Everybody deferred to what Matt had to say."

Many of the Loggers who played that championship season agreed that in

STORY BY LES BOWEN  
ILLUSTRATION BY JONATHAN CARLSON  
HISTORIC PHOTOS AND ARCHIVAL SUPPORT  
BY OLIVIA INGLIN



addition to its talent, the team triumphed because of the bond it developed. “Never have I been on a team like that, where every single guy wanted every single guy to succeed,” Botts said. “We were and are, literally, the best of encouraging friends to this day. We share a unique history, bond, and depth of camaraderie that we all continue to nurture and cherish these many years later.”

McCully said he never felt less important than the starters. “Off the court, everybody just liked each other,” McCully said. “I give a lot of credit to the stars on the team. They never treated any of us as though we were less important.”

It was a different time, a different world. There’s a photo of the Loggers with their championship trophy, their leisure suits, and their bushy mustaches. Gerald Ford was president of the United States. College basketball had no three-point line, no shot clock, and no dunking. Competitive collegiate women’s sports

were in their infancy; Title IX had just been implemented in 1975.

As the 50th anniversary approached of “the greatest thing to ever happen at the University of Puget Sound” — as then-Athletics Director **Doug McArthur ’53** described it in a postgame interview with *The Tacoma News Tribune*, back on March 19, 1976 — the members of that 1975–76 NCAA Division II national championship men’s basketball team reflected on a bond that has endured for half a century.

## ‘EVERYBODY WAS SUPPOSED TO GO SOMEWHERE ELSE’

In the mid 1970s, Logger Athletics had lofty aspirations. Under the direction of Puget Sound Athletic Hall of Famer McArthur, who died in 2023 at age 94, baseball was Division I and basketball was looking into making such a move.

The ’76 Loggers became national champions — the first basketball team from Washington to do so — because they were tall and talented, setting school records that still stand, with a 27–7 record and 13 successive wins to close the season. Forward **Rick Walker ’78** remains Puget Sound’s all-time leading scorer, with 1,946 points in 120 games, guard **Tim Evans ’78** is second with 1,929 in 121 games, and 7-foot center **Curt Peterson ’76** ranks fourth with 1,620 in 95 games.

The architect of the championship team was head coach **Don Zech** who, along with assistant **Mike Acres**, recruited from across the state and was

unafraid to vie against bigger Division I schools. All five starters on the title team came from Washington high schools.

Walker was a 6-foot-5 shooter with a quick release, who led East Bremerton High to the AA state title and signed to play for Division I Boise State. As East Bremerton was savoring its triumph, Zech introduced himself and told Walker: “We feel we have a real good shot at winning the NCAA Division II championship, if we had the right players. You’re instrumental to seeing that happen.”

“That caught my interest a little bit,” Walker said. He decided he wouldn’t mind playing closer to home.

Botts was sure he was going to be a University of Washington Husky until a disappointing senior year in high school, after which he stopped hearing from the coaching staff.

“Tim was going to go to Washington State. Rick to Boise State. Brant was supposed to go to Cornell. I was going to go to Washington, but the phone didn’t ring,” Botts said. “Everybody was supposed to go somewhere else. There just seemed to be a reason we were all there.”

No one regretted signing on once the team came together. “Coach Zech knew his personnel, and he did a good job — a really good job — of putting together the right combination, finding the chemistry,” Walker said. “But I think the players, for the most part, weren’t in it for their own personal gain.”

Did Walker think, before the season started, that the 1975–76 team could win a national championship?

“Zech did,” Walker said.

“Zech said early on, after the first couple of games, that this team is going to win it all,” recalled **Ed Bowman ’57, P’86, P’93**, who was then the dean of admission at the university. He and McArthur called the games on radio and sometimes TV, when the games were tape-delayed and shown on Saturday evenings. “The way they were playing, certainly I believed it. He was a wonderful, wonderful coach.”

In filling out his roster, Zech wasn’t afraid to think outside the box. Forward

**Anthony Brown ’76**, a key reserve who would go on to a long pro career in the Netherlands, didn’t play high school basketball in Compton, California. He came to Puget Sound because his older brother was a football player for the Loggers.

Zech watched Brown playing intramural basketball. “He asked me, ‘How would you like to try out for the team next year?’” Brown, smooth and versatile at 6-foot-7, became a player Zech would lean on heavily if a starter was in foul trouble or injured.

## ‘HE WAS RELENTLESS’

Zech, who died at age 83 in 2016, was head coach at Puget Sound for 21 years, stepping down in 1990. He won more games than anyone in school history, compiling a 405–196 record after leaving the University of Washington, where he was an assistant, in 1969. Zech was named the National Association of Basketball Coaches Coach of the Year in 1976 and was inducted into the Logger Athletics Hall of Fame in 1991.

His former players speak fondly of Zech today, but their feelings weren’t always so cozy. Zech was a demanding coach.

“He didn’t suffer fools easily, that’s for sure,” Botts said. “He was relentless.”

“Coach Zech, let’s say for 60 percent of us, he was an acquired taste,” starting point guard **Mark Wells ’76** said. “You had to do your job, and if you didn’t like the job you were chosen to do, you didn’t play very much. And yet, Coach Zech was basically a genius. He had a knack for knowing how to put the right people in the right places at the right time, and you had to get used to it.”

Botts had been a hot-shot scorer in high school, like most of the Loggers, but his eventual role at Puget Sound was as a defensive stopper.

“They didn’t need another guy chucking up shots. Curt and Rick and Tim could all just really fill it up,” Botts said.

Wells, a 1972 Curtis High School graduate and all-state point guard, transferred to Puget Sound from Montana,

where he played a year of basketball for legendary coach Jud Heathcote. When the three-sport athlete came to Puget Sound, he started for the football team for two years and did four years of track, but he had to sit out the basketball season under the NCAA rules of the time. Watching from the bench that year, he was impressed by his new teammates.

“After I transferred in, my sophomore year, we brought in like five all-state high school players. They were all used to being the top dog at their high school,” Wells said. “Ten of our top 12 players on the championship team were from the state of Washington. It was a really good formula. A lot of pride on that team, to win something for the state of Washington.”

Peterson, the 7-footer with a feathery left-handed shot, was named most valuable player of the Division II tournament. He said of Zech: “A very tough coach. He wanted the best out of us, always. He was willing to do what it takes to get that, but he also cared about us and was willing to help us out.”

McCully said that Zech “talked about recruiting guys who could shoot the ball.” The title team shot a school-record 50.8 percent from the field. “He said, ‘I can teach guys to play defense, I can teach ’em to rebound, I need guys that when we run the offense, when they get open, they make baskets.’ And we had some. We just had great shooters.”

## THE PATH TO THE TITLE

After fairly easy Division II tournament victories over Cal Poly Pomona and Cal State Bakersfield, the Loggers hosted North Dakota in the quarterfinals. **Bill Baarsma ’64, P’93, Hon. ’23**, who taught at the university from 1968 until 2001, recalled vividly the tightest tourney game the Loggers played en route to winning it all.

“It was standing room only at the fieldhouse, something to behold,” he said.

Puget Sound led by one and had the ball in the final half-minute, but a pass drifted just a little too far even for Peterson’s long arms, and North Dakota took

“[HEAD COACH DON] ZECH SAID EARLY ON, AFTER THE FIRST COUPLE OF GAMES, THAT THIS TEAM IS GOING TO WIN IT ALL.”

— **Ed Bowman ’57, P’86, P’93**



In his 21 years as the Logger men’s basketball head coach, Don Zech amassed a 405-196 career coaching record and led the team to 11 postseason appearances, two Great Northwest Conference titles, and the national championship in 1976, when he was named National Coach of the Year.

# CHAMPIONS ABOUND

The 1975–76 men’s basketball team isn’t the only Logger team to go to the heights at the conference or national level. While a comprehensive list of other Logger champions would be too long to list in print (Go Loggers!), we asked our Athletics team to share some standout seasons and performances:

## WOMEN’S TEAMS

### 2002–03 BASKETBALL

Northwest Conference champions

### 2024–25 CREW

Seventh place finish at NCAA DIII championships

### 2007–08 GOLF

NCAA DIII championship tournament appearance

### 2002–15 SOCCER

Fourteen straight NWC championships

### 1990–91 & 1994–95 SOFTBALL

Second-place finish at NAIA championships

### 1988–90 SWIMMING

Six individual national champions

### 2024–25 TRACK AND FIELD

Kyrstin Wilson ’26 — 20th nationally in 100m

### 1993–94 VOLLEYBALL

NAIA national champions

## MEN’S TEAMS

### 2024–25 BASEBALL

First-ever NWC appearance

### 1975–76 BASKETBALL

NCAA DII national champions

### 2024–25 CROSS-COUNTRY

Ben Kerr ’25 — NCAA DIII championship qualifier

### 1982–83 FOOTBALL

Evergreen League champions

### 2013–14 SOCCER

NCAA DIII championship tournament appearance

### 1994–95 SWIMMING

Six individual national champions

### 2024–25 TRACK AND FIELD

Alex Rhodes ’27 — NCAA DIII 400m national champion

Want to share your memories of a championship season? Email [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu).



over with 14 seconds remaining.

North Dakota's ensuing final-seconds shot to take the lead looked good, from where Baarsma sat. "That ball was going in. It bounced around and around and

the gate with five first-half long bombs.

The toughest challenge, however, fell to Peterson. Wilson Washington, who was the tournament's MVP the previous year and would go on to play in the NBA after

they kept it on the whole game."

"We were just bigger and better than they were," Botts said. "It was no fluke. We threw over top of them the entire game."

The Loggers took the lead for good with 5:54 left in the first half and cruised to an 83-74 victory. Like many opponents, the Mocs found it hard to score over Puget Sound's tall, active match-up zone. Gibler, a self-described "wiry garbageman" who was not usually a big scorer, tossed home 22 points, going nine-for-12 from the field. Peterson added 20, shooting eight-for-11.

### 'UNBRIDLED JOY'

And when the final buzzer sounded?

"Unbridled joy," Botts recalled.

There were maybe 100 or so Loggers fans who had made the journey to Indiana, many of them family members of the players.

"Unlike some championship games where the fans fill the floor, we didn't have enough to storm the floor," Walker said.

Back on campus, 2,200 miles northwest of Evansville, though, there were plenty of celebrants. "I remember people telling me that while the game was being played, they would have the radio on, hook it up to the big stereo speakers in the frat houses, the dorm hallways, and every time somebody would make a bucket, they'd all jump up and start pointing at the speaker," Wells said.

One of the people telling him that was Colleen McKay Wells '77, his soon-to-be wife, who was a member of the inaugural Puget Sound women's basketball team in 1973. "As soon as the game was over, everybody stepped out of their dorm rooms or their frat or sorority houses, and the whole campus erupted," Wells recalled her saying.

There was a memorable celebration in the team hotel that night, and plenty of bleary eyes filing onto the Continental



To read this story online or share it with a friend, go to [pugetsound.edu/76champs](http://pugetsound.edu/76champs).

Airlines flight that took the Loggers back home, through a layover in Chicago. "Getting on the plane the next morning was no easy task," Botts said. "That was one special night."

Peterson treasured his perk from being named tourney MVP — an upgrade to first class. "I could stretch my legs," he said. Back at Sea-Tac, a decent-sized group of fans greeted the flight, several Loggers recalled, but there was no victory parade or formal campus celebration. The champions got Bulova watches engraved with the details of their accomplishment.

### BITTERSWEET AFTERMATH

Following their unlikely success, Logger Athletics took a different approach after 1976. Schools the Loggers had beaten to win the title, like Old Dominion and Tennessee-Chattanooga, quickly ascended to Division I. Puget Sound, which had gone 5-6 against Division I teams during its championship season, scrapped its advancement plans and instead went first to NAIA and then to Division III.

"After I graduated, I came back, sat down and talked to Doug [McArthur]," Wells said. "He was just heartbroken that [the move to Division I] didn't get done. We were on the cusp. It just didn't happen."

Teammates said administrators at the time had raised concerns about athletics being emphasized at the expense of academics. But Bowman recalled: "They were good guys and good students. The coup de grâce that really made my chest bulge, especially being dean of admissions, was that all 15 players graduated."

### THROUGH THE YEARS

Just about all the national champions remain in contact 50 years later. They show up for one another in times of grief. They hold regular reunions, and they are far from forgotten in the region.

"When I'm in Tacoma, and we get together for some university function, there's always memories — 'Oh, I was there, I was in the stands!'" Walker said. "It's still there. You run into it. You feel pretty good about

what we accomplished, and the fun that we had."

"All these guys were just great teammates," McCully said. "Still, when we get together, we just all laugh and reminisce and tell lies about how good we were."

"The older you get," Wells said, "the more important it becomes."

\*  
*Les Bowen is a mostly retired sportswriter who spent much of his five-decade career working at the Philadelphia Daily News and the Philadelphia Inquirer. He told the Arches team he really enjoyed learning about the 1975-76 Loggers and their memorable journey to the national championship.*

# A LEGENDARY TEAM



The 1975-76 men's basketball team included student-athletes Rocky Botts '78, Anthony Brown '76, Tim Evans '78, Steve Freimuth '78, Brant Gibler '76, Mike Hanson '78, Phil Hiam '79, Mike Kuntz '78, Matt McCully '78, Curt Peterson '76, Jimmy Stewart '78, Mike Strand '79, Rick Walker '78, and Mark Wells '76; as well as head coach Don Zech, assistant coach Mike Acres, and athletic trainer Zeke Schuldt '68.

The entire team was inducted into the University of Puget Sound Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003. Zech, Schuldt, Peterson, Walker, and Evans were also inducted individually.

## "NOBODY THOUGHT WE HAD A CHANCE, BUT WE KNEW WE DID."

— Forward Brant Gibler '76

around the rim before dropping out. Rick Walker grabbed the rebound, and he was fouled," Baarsma said.

Walker, who stepped up for two free throws, took pride in his rebounding prowess. He wasn't thinking about the shot going in, as he moved into position. "I never think they're going to go in," he said. "I anticipate where I think the ball's going to go, if it misses."

Botts recalled McArthur calling that 80-77 victory the best game ever played in the Memorial Fieldhouse.

Wells added: "That was probably our national championship game right there."

### UNDERDOGS IN EVANSVILLE

Just making a national collegiate basketball championship final at any level was an achievement. Baarsma noted that only five teams from Washington had ever made it that far. The Loggers weren't favored, either in their semifinal match-up with Old Dominion or in the finals against Tennessee-Chattanooga.

The perception was that they were too slow. "The newspapers talked about Paul Bunyan of the Northwest not being able to keep up," Bowman recalled.

Brant Gibler '76, a forward, remembered the team bus pulling over on its way to the semifinal game, so the Old Dominion bus and its police escort could pass. "Nobody thought we had a chance," Gibler said. "But we knew we did."

Against defending champs Old Dominion, Botts, normally the defensive specialist, helped get the Loggers out of

being drafted by the Philadelphia 76ers, was smaller than Peterson, at 6-foot-9. But "he was much quicker," Peterson said. "I was thinking to myself, 'How am I going to defend this guy?' All I could do was try to outsmart him; I wasn't going to outdo him physically. I remember him trying to back me down. Instead of giving up ground, I held my ground. He knocked me down, they called an offensive foul, twice. So they had to take him out of the game."

As the game progressed, Peterson discovered something. "I could score over Washington. I had a nice little left-handed hook shot. He couldn't block that. They ran me around the screens for those nice little outside shots. He never came out on me on those."

Peterson outscored Washington, 18-10, and the Loggers advanced with an 83-78 victory. Peterson went on to be drafted by the Detroit Pistons, but he was cut in training camp and then played professionally in Sweden.

Vanquishing Old Dominion didn't gain the Loggers a lot of respect from the media, however, or from the Tennessee-Chattanooga Mocs. Just about everyone from Puget Sound interviewed for this story recalled the T-shirts Tennessee-Chattanooga fans wore to Roberts Stadium: BEAT PUNY SOUND.

The Mocs thrived on full-court pressure. But Zech's team had spent countless hours practicing how to beat a press.

"They were full-court pressing us, because they didn't think we could get the ball up court," Wells said. "Thank God,





# The JOYFUL Game

## Logger soccer standouts spread World Cup fever

STORY BY LISA KOZLESKI '94  
PHOTO BY ALEX CROOK

There's a lot to love about soccer — starting with the heroic saves, the graceful footwork, and the incredible athleticism players exhibit in a game that seldom stops.

But for **Maya Mendoza-Exstrom '03**, there are even more reasons to love the sport often described as the beautiful game.

"This game is inherently the most egalitarian, inclusive sport played on the planet," said Mendoza-Exstrom, who started playing as a preschooler, earned All-American honors as a Logger, and served as assistant coach for the women's team. More recently, she worked for 11 seasons with the Seattle Sounders — three as the club's chief operating officer — and now is the chief business officer for the Seattle Reign FC; she also chaired the successful bid for Seattle to host the World Cup and is a member of the city's 2026 FIFA World Cup Host City Board.

"Soccer is played in every corner of the world, on any flat ground you can find, by every kind of human, old or young," Mendoza-Exstrom added. "And that is the fundamental power of the sport."



The University of Puget Sound has a long and proud history of excellence and dominance in soccer, especially its women's team.

The 1980s saw two Loggers — **Denise Boyer Merdich '84** and **Lori Bylin Sweeney '88** — named to the very first U.S. Women's National Soccer Team (USWNT) when it kicked off in 1985.

The 1990s, 2000s, and 2010s, under the leadership of Logger Hall of Famer coach **Randy Hanson**, saw 19 consecutive winning seasons and 15 conference titles (14 of them consecutively).

The 2020s have continued that tradition of excellence, with a team now led by head coach **Stephanie Cox**, a former pro and USWNT player who played in two World Cups and won an Olympic gold medal in 2008. This past season, the Logger women's soccer team finished as co-conference champions and earned

a bid to nationals, where they won their first game in an overtime thriller.

"A core memory of mine was from the 2011 World Cup," recalled Cox, who was named one of 20 players on the final ballot for the National Soccer Hall of Fame this fall (see story on p. 7).

"We were playing Brazil in the quarters and one of our players got a red card. So we were playing down a player. But all of us were just cheering and just believing that we could win," she said. "And in the 121st minute, Megan Rapinoe sent this huge cross from so far away to the far post over the goalkeeper's outstretched arm and Abby Wambach headed it in the back post. I'm getting emotional just thinking about it.

"It wasn't the finals, but you walk away with just so much pride at never giving up and always believing and pride in being a part of that team," she added.

"I think that that's something that I

want to pass on to our Loggers. Coming together and achieving something that's greater than just your individual self could accomplish and always believing and having hope and pushing each other to bring out the best in each other, is a worthy goal."

The *Arches* team reached out to current and former Logger soccer athletes and coaches to hear all about their favorite memories of the game and to help fire readers up for FIFA World Cup 2026, coming to Seattle and 15 other host cities across North America this year.

Even if you're not a soccer fan, you can find joy in the game if you immerse yourself in the experience.

As Mendoza-Exstrom explained: "There is nothing more joyful than being together and watching soccer."

**Name:** LEILA HAUSIA-HAUGEN '26  
**Hometown:** BEAVERTON, ORE.  
**Logger position:** FORWARD (first team all-conference honors in 2024 and 2025; NWC Offensive Player of the Year in 2025; second team NCAA DIII All-Region honors in 2025. In addition, she represented Tonga in the 2025 OFC Nations Cup and in the 2024 Oceania Olympic qualifiers)



a DIII rather than a DII or DI school. But I knew that was also limiting my other plans in terms of playing soccer overseas or more advanced options. [But] my grandpa still lives in Tonga, and my mom and I have citizenship, and when I realized that I had this opportunity in front of me, it's like I still have to pinch myself. Growing up in the U.S. and being separated from my Tongan family and culture has made this really impactful in terms of my identity and my connection with my family and ethnicity. To be able to wear the jersey and be a part of the culture and family

there — I have no words for how special it has been for me to do that not just once, but twice.

**Favorite World Cup memory?**

I remember watching the 2011 Women's World Cup on my porch outside with my whole family. I grew up playing soccer, and I remember thinking Megan Rapinoe is so cool, and Abby Wambach is so cool. To be able to play at such a high level as a female soccer player and have this number of people watching and to be a soccer player myself was so empowering. And then in 2023, I got to go watch the Women's World Cup in New Zealand, which was absolutely incredible.

**Great Logger memories?**

One of my most favorite celebrations was when we won in overtime in the first round of the NCAA tournament this year. It was one of the greatest and most fun games I've ever played in. There was a rainbow over the field, they played our team song at halftime, and a freshman scored a banger header to win the game. Then we dogpiled on the field just like in the movies, all crying and screaming together.

**What's it like to be a member of a national team?**

It's absolutely incredible and something I always dreamt about doing, but it felt like it would be so impossible for me. I knew I wanted to go to a DIII school because I wanted to focus on academics and have opportunities that were tied to going to

**Name:** MAYA MENDOZA-EXSTROM '03  
**Hometown:** NORMANDY PARK, WASH.  
**Logger position:** CENTER BACK AND MIDFIELDER (All-American in 2002)



**How has soccer fit into your life since graduation?**

In addition to working for the Sounders and Reign, after graduation I became a U.S. Soccer Federation B Licensed coach and coached at Puget Sound for 13 years. I was also director of coaching at my childhood club, coached within the Olympic Development Program, and coach my daughters' teams.

**Great Logger memories?**

My freshman year, we finished second in the conference and found out we got in (to the championship tournament) with an at-large bid. I remember my teammates knocking on my basement window in A/L [Anderson-Langdon] and saying, "we made it in!" and we went running across campus and all congregated at one of the senior's off-campus houses. That was a Sunday, and we had to play Willamette — who was No. 4 in the country — in a play-in game on Wednesday. Well, we ended up playing four overtimes — a full hour — and it went

club team and realizing it was just this moment in history.

**What are you looking forward to most about this year's World Cup in Seattle?**

My dad will be 80 when the World Cup comes. He was part of the reason why the referendum passed for Lumen Field to be built. He was the soccer voice on the original public stadium authority when we didn't get the World Cup in '94 because we didn't have a venue. And he was like "that's never going to happen again on my watch." So I'm going to be really happy to have a beer with my dad at a game.

**Name:** BRIDGET STOLEE MCCORMICK '05  
**Hometown:** PALO ALTO, CALIF.  
**Logger position:** SWEEPER (inducted into the Logger Hall of Fame in 2021)



**How has soccer fit into your life since graduation?**

I played in co-ed and women's soccer adult leagues after college until I had two knee surgeries and retired from playing for 15 years.

When my daughters started playing soccer, I started coaching their AYSO (American Youth Soccer Organization) teams and after being back around soccer, I realized how much I missed it and started back playing in a women's league in my hometown.

**Great Logger memories?**

I have two. The first is from my very first game. Growing up I had always played striker, but when I got to Puget Sound, Randy put me at center back alongside Maya Mendoza-Exstrom '03, a senior when I was a freshman. I was terrified to

be starting that first game of the season, but Maya told me to just follow her lead. That's exactly what I did all year. Her direction, support, and leadership shaped the way I played in the back for the rest of my time at Puget Sound.

Fast forward to my senior year. We were on the bus heading to the national tournament final in North Carolina when "Footloose" by Kenny Loggins came on over the speakers. First, a few people started tapping their cleats, and then suddenly the whole bus was dancing in the aisles. We were buzzing with both

excitement and nerves, but in that silly, connected moment, I realized how much joy and willingness to lean into each other had fueled our success that year.

**Favorite World Cup memory?**

I remember watching the United States women play in the 1991 World Cup final. It was so exciting seeing the U.S. win the first time. I remember everyone talking about women's soccer players like they did men's soccer players.



**Name:** CORTNEY KJAR  
**BUTTERFIELD '06**  
**Hometown:** RIVERTON, WYO.  
**Logger position:** FORWARD (All-American in 2004, 2005; DIII National MVP in 2005; inducted into Logger Hall of Fame in 2018)

### Great Logger memory?

One of my favorites was singing “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough” in the locker room or bus before each game. I remember every season’s last games and the devastation that came with the loss and also the pride that our team had fought hard to the end and we accomplished a lot. I remember standing on the field before each game listening to the



national anthem being played, taking in the last moment of calm before the game and reflecting on the gratitude I had to play the game that I loved.

### Favorite World Cup memory?

My competitive soccer team went to San Francisco to watch the 1999 Women’s World Cup. We watched the quarterfinal game, and it was so much fun to be in the atmosphere. It was amazing to watch the players who I had admired for so long. I also remember having a watch party at a teammate’s house and watching the USA women win. The memory of Brandi Chastain ripping her shirt off in pure emotional celebration will be something I never forget.

**Name:** LAURA GRINSTEAD  
**PETERSEN '02**  
**Hometown:** SAN DIEGO, CALIF.  
**Logger position:** RIGHT FULLBACK (All-American in 2001; inducted into the Logger Hall of Fame in 2013)

### Great Logger memory?

Going to Hawai’i practically the first week of freshman year after making the team. I packed a big ol’ suitcase of clothes, but the joke was on me. We only played soccer minus going to the beach for a few hours one day! It was a wake-up call! I also remember all the fun van rides with Michelle Moore (one of my best buddies) driving, going to breakfast at Denny’s where



we had \$5 each (yep, \$5) to eat breakfast, and the never-ending van rides to eastern Washington. I also remember taking two weeks off of conditioning the August before my freshman year and then almost dying my first week of tryouts. It didn’t help that we had three-a-days and it was pouring rain. I left 85-degree weather in Wyoming and truly thought I had landed in hell (with wet swampy soccer clothes in a tiny dorm room)!

### Favorite World Cup memory?

The obvious answer for me is when Brandi Chastain scored the winning penalty kick in the 1999 World Cup and ripped her shirt off. I felt like that was the beginning of the awareness of women’s soccer in America.

**Name:** RANDY HANSON  
**Hometown:** PUYALLUP, WASH.  
**Logger position:** WOMEN’S SOCCER ASSISTANT COACH (also served as the assistant women’s soccer coach in 2022; as the head women’s soccer coach from 1995 to 2004 and 2006 to 2015; and was inducted into the Logger Hall of Fame in 2016)

### Where will you be watching this year’s cup?

I am on various lottery and waiting lists for tickets and the prices are rising so I may end up watching the games at home. We have a tradition of purchasing a new TV every



World Cup at my house, so I always look forward to that. I also love being immersed in the tournament for a month.

### What did it feel like to be a part of a national team?

I was fortunate enough to be involved in three U-20 Women’s World Cups in Canada, Papua New Guinea, and France as an assistant and opponent scout, and with the full Women’s National Team as an opponent scout in 2019. There is a feeling you can’t describe when the national anthem plays before the game you are about to play in another country. It is a mix of awe and pride, a feeling that you are part of something bigger than yourself.



**Name:** STEPHANIE LOPEZ COX  
**Hometown:** GIG HARBOR, WASH.  
**Current Logger position:** WOMEN’S SOCCER HEAD COACH SINCE 2023 (also a volunteer coach in 2012 and interim head coach in 2022)

### Great Logger memory?

My first year as interim head coach, we earned an at-large bid to the [championship] tournament. I remember watching the tournament placements being announced with the rest of the team, as we waited in anticipation to see if we had gotten in. We were the very last pick and announcement, and the players were ecstatic to have gotten a berth to the national tournament and then we were headed off to play in Virginia!

### What did it feel like to represent your country on the national team?

I was honored to represent my country in two Women’s World Cups in 2007 and 2011, and on the Olympic team that won the gold medal in 2008. There is an incredible amount of pride representing your country and hearing your national anthem play before the game. With lots of years being removed from that platform and stage, I can reflect and realize how truly remarkable that accomplishment was.



To read a longer version of this story or to share it with a friend, go to [pugetsound.edu/joyfulgame](https://pugetsound.edu/joyfulgame).

## SEVEN TIPS FOR MAKING THE MOST OF WATCHING THE WORLD CUP

*FIFA World Cup 2026 marks the first time in 32 years that the world’s biggest sporting event will be played on U.S. soil. Seattle will play host for the first time, which means six of the tournament’s 26 matches will be played at Lumen Field.*

*Loggers who love soccer say even if you’re new to the sport, you won’t want to miss the experience of the beautiful game played by the world’s top athletes. Here’s some advice on how to make the most of it, wherever you are watching.*

**1.** These days most games are shown on TV or at your favorite local establishment. Since the games will be in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, the kickoff times should be viewer-friendly. There are a couple of apps that let you track the games and the tournament in real time. Two I use are FotMob and SofaScore.  
— Randy Hanson

**2.** Tickets are going to be at a premium so just getting in the stadium will be an accomplishment. There are no real timeouts so make sure you have everything you need at your seat to be fully involved for each half of play. I like taking light rail or the local Sounder train when it is available.  
— Randy Hanson

**3.** If you are watching with young people who play soccer, ask them who their favorite player

is, and talk about what formation they are playing. If your kid plays goalkeeper, for example, focus on what the goalkeeper is doing. Ask them if they can see a different style of play between France and Ghana, or Japan and Mexico. Talk about what’s different in how they play, and how their culture is reflected in the game.  
— Stephanie Cox

**4.** If you are watching with someone who is fairly new to soccer, it can be hard to know the big moments because there are no breaks. But you can watch for set pieces — corner kicks, which are huge scoring opportunities, and penalty kicks, which happen if there’s a foul and one player steps up to the spot and takes a shot on goal. Those are really big moments to watch.  
— Stephanie Cox

**5.** Get downtown early. Check out the new waterfront — it’s fabulous and connects you to everything. The gates will probably open two hours early. If you’re a merch fiend, get your merch early. Inside the stadium, there’ll be lots to do. FIFA always does a great job with their fan activations inside, and so there’ll be plenty to do.  
— Maya Mendoza-Exstrom ’03

**6.** Get to the game early — at least an hour. Take in the excitement as you watch the teams warm up and the crowds coming in. Spend time before the game getting to know the teams that you are watching so you know the players and feel invested in the teams. And buy the souvenirs!  
— Cortney Kjar Butterfield ’06

**7.** The best part of the World Cup is what happens outside the stadium. Being in and around the stadium, whether on a match day or a non-match day, where you’re just in a bar watching with people from all over the world, it’s joyous. If we get nations from Africa or South America, the music and the culture will be on display. That’s the best part. It can just be so joyous.  
— Maya Mendoza-Exstrom ’03





# Beautiful Science in the Beautiful Game

BY JOHN ERIC GOFF  
VISITING PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS

The single most important piece of equipment in the world's most popular game is less than nine inches wide and weighs just under a pound, yet its flight has brought euphoria to entire nations while plunging others into anguish. Such a crucial ingredient in soccer had better fly true. I am a physicist whose main research domain is sports, and investigating the aerodynamics of soccer balls, particularly those used in the World Cup, has been a true delight. You likely stuck your hand out of a moving car's window as a child. Without knowing much science, you felt air drag firsthand. With your palm facing forward, the air pushed back

strongly, but when your hand tilted into "airplane mode," the air drag lessened. The area an object presents to oncoming air affects air drag, but so do its shape and surface features. Counterintuitive though it may seem, roughening a ball's surface may help it travel farther than it would if it were smooth. Golf balls would never soar without dimples; baseballs rely on stitches for most home runs. Adidas has supplied World Cup soccer balls since 1970. The ball used that year in Mexico, the Telstar, featured 12 black pentagonal panels and 20 white hexagonal panels. The iconic black-and-white pattern helped fans with black-

and-white televisions track the ball's movement. That classic 32-panel design continued until 2006, when the 14-panel Teamgeist ball was introduced for the tournament in Germany. Thermal bonding of panels replaced traditional stitching, launching a new era for soccer balls. Further technological advancements helped produce Jabulani, an eight-panel ball used in the 2010 World Cup in South Africa. But fewer panels bring a risk: the smoother the ball, the higher the air drag. Despite some panel texturing, it turned out that Jabulani was too smooth.

The mistake was not repeated in 2014. Brazil's World Cup ball, the Brazuca, had just six panels, two fewer than Jabulani, but Brazuca's total seam length was 68 percent greater, and its panels were rougher than those on Jabulani. After collecting and analysing extensive wind-tunnel data, my research colleagues and I determined that Jabulani's drag crisis (the precipitous increase in the drag coefficient as a ball slows past a critical speed) was at too large a speed, and players, especially goalkeepers, complained long kicks seemed to slow down more than they were accustomed to seeing, much like the way a hard-hit beach ball behaves. By "too large a speed," I mean that the drag crisis occurred right in the middle of the speed range where many free kicks and corner kicks take place. Brazuca's rougher surface shifted its drag crisis to a lower speed, restoring ball trajectories more familiar to players.

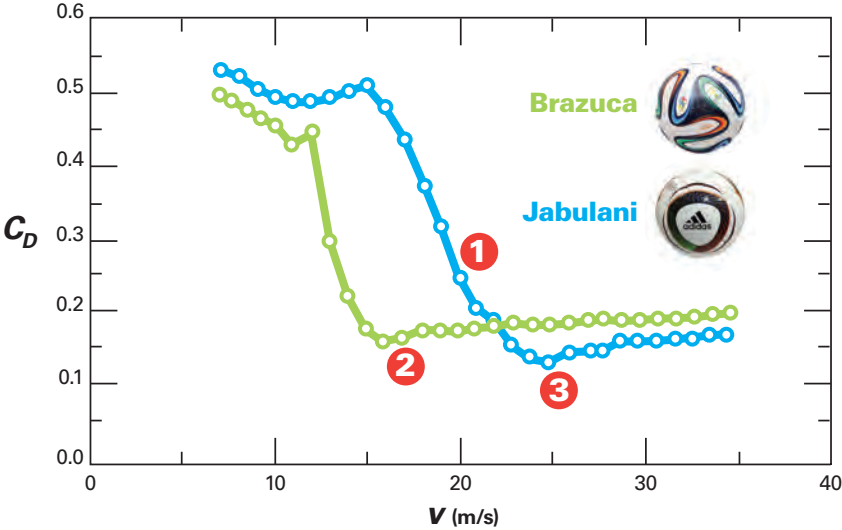
My colleagues and I have also tested the six-panel Telstar-18, which was used in the 2018 World Cup in Russia, and the 20-panel Al-Rihla, which was used in the 2022 World Cup in Qatar. Both balls showed drag-coefficient curves similar to Brazuca's. We are now eager to test the four-panel Trionda, slated for use in the 2026 World Cup in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. That ball will be available around the time this issue of *Arches* is published. We will be looking to see if Trionda's drag-coefficient curve is in the right place!

INFOGRAPHICS BY KRISTOFER NYSTROM / PHOTO BY ALEX CROOK



After discovering the ball used in the 2010 World Cup in South Africa, dubbed the Jabulani, was "too smooth" and seemed to slow down more than players were accustomed to seeing, the Brazuca (left) used in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil was designed with a greater total seam length and rougher panels. This restored the ball trajectories that were more familiar to players.

## Wind-Tunnel Data



- 1 Too many soccer kicks in here!
- 2 17 m/s (61 kph = 38 mph)
- 3 24 m/s (86 kph = 54 mph)



The graph above shows the wind-tunnel data Goff and colleagues published for the so-called drag coefficient as a function of ball speed for the Jabulani (2010) and Brazuca (2014) soccer balls.

A greater drag coefficient means greater air drag. Both balls display what is called the drag crisis, which is the precipitous increase in the drag coefficient as a ball slows past a critical speed.





# The Bear Necessities



*Grizz emerges from summer hibernation  
with the same Logger spirit  
but a whole new look*

STORY BY JONNY EBERLE  
PHOTOS BY ALEX CROOK

Fans at this fall's Homecoming football game witnessed a piece of Puget Sound history unfold. Twenty years after the original mascot's debut, the university unveiled a new look for Grizz, the Loggers' No. 1 fan.

This is the same Grizz, but everyone's favorite bear spent the summer secretly undergoing a makeover. Grizz spent time in the Logger Store choosing the perfect outfit. Grizz was also spotted at Collins Memorial Library and the Athletics and Aquatics Center, bulking up in both mind and body. Of course, Grizz still carries the trademark axe to

lead cheers of "hack hack, chop chop!" at Logger Athletics events.

"We've all been wondering where Grizz has been and now we finally have our answer," said Victor Martin, vice president for university relations. "We're thrilled to share this new iteration of Grizz with the wider Logger community."

Grizz's origins stretch back to the early 1900s, when Puget Sound's sports teams were briefly called the Grizzlies before adopting the Loggers as both a moniker and a mascot. In the early

2000s, members of the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS) began to consider adding a new mascot to be a spirit leader that would rally fans and spread the Logger spirit. Leading that effort was then-ASUPS President Alex Israel '06 and Vice President Ryan McAninch '06. A 2005 article in *The Trail* notes that several mascot options were floated in the early 2000s, including a proposal to adopt Paul Bunyan's blue ox, Babe, to represent the school.

"Nobody wanted to be called the 'Logger Babes,'" Israel told *The Trail*.



# Where's Grizz?

Throughout summer and early fall, Grizz was a bit elusive. While the previous mascot was quietly retired, the new one made several subtle appearances as the mystery grew. Did you notice Grizz hiding in the background of the You Are Here photo in the Autumn 2025 issue of *Arches*? Or at the top of *The Hatchet* weekly email newsletter? Students even shared their theories about what Grizz was up to in a video shared on social media in the lead-up to homecoming.



By evoking the old Grizzlies namesake, Grizz was able to function as a bridge between old Logger traditions and new ones. “Imagine the kind of spirit and excitement this could create, not just among students but alumni as well,”

I do about our fuzzy figurehead. Grizz 2.0 stays true to the cheeky spirit of the original, but with luxurious fur and an outfit that would make any Logger want to steal his look. Definitely a fan!”

“Grizz plays a pivotal role as an icon, ambassador, and emotional connection to our Puget Sound spirit and values.”

— Chelsea Herman, director of athletics

Israel said. “If just by seeing Grizz, people can feel Logger spirit, what’s it going to be like in 10 years?”

Grizz officially debuted at halftime during the Homecoming football game on Oct. 1, 2005, and has been a fixture of campus life ever since. For many Loggers, Grizz is as synonymous with their Puget Sound experience as the hatchet or the giant sequoia. Alumni Council President McKenzie Mortensen Ross ’06 fondly remembers when she first saw the new mascot and still has one of the original Grizz T-shirts in her box of college keepsakes.



“When Grizz debuted during Homecoming my senior year, I was immediately won over by his toothy grin and the mischievous glint in his eye,” Ross said. “I didn’t realize how fiercely nostalgic I was about Grizz until I heard that he was being updated and felt an immediate surge of anxiety. As it turns out, I needn’t have worried — it’s clear that a lot of Loggers feel just as deeply as

When not busy attending events around campus, Grizz can often be found reading in the shade of the President’s Woods, creating in the Maker Space, helping out backstage at Schneebeck Concert Hall, summiting the Mountain, or enjoying a cool dip in Commencement Bay. A true Pacific Northwesterner, Grizz loves a good cup of coffee, fresh berries, and salmon.

“Grizz is so much more than a mascot,” said Athletics Director Chelsea Herman. “Grizz plays a pivotal role as an icon, ambassador, and emotional connection to our Puget Sound spirit and values. We look to Grizz to unite, inspire, engage, and provide a shared identity for our students, staff, faculty, and alumni.”

Grizz’s new look celebrates the mascot’s 20-year history at Puget Sound and honors the 115th anniversary of the founding of ASUPS. It also aligns the mascot with the Grizz artwork seen across campus designed by Art Director Kris Nyström.

When asked about the new look, Grizz, as usual, had no comment, but did offer a high-five. Grizz is eager to get back to work, attending games and events across campus and spreading Logger spirit far and wide.



To read this story online, check out the student video about Grizz’s summer fun, or share this story with a friend, go to [pugetsound.edu/meetgrizz](https://pugetsound.edu/meetgrizz).

# Grizz Close-ups:

1. A hand-knit beanie like the ones worn by first-year students until the 1960s

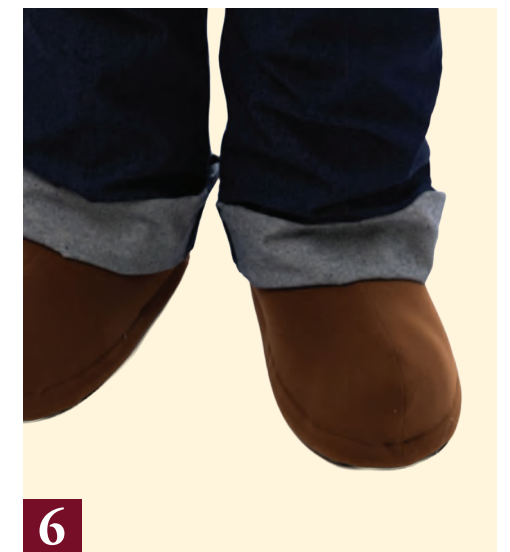
2. A heavy, double-bit axe in a nod to the Loggers’ nickname and the region’s logging history

3. Claws for picking fresh berries in the woods or picking up a latte at Diversions Café

4. A rugged maroon work shirt that’s casual enough for a weekend hike, but classy enough for receptions and ribbon-cutting ceremonies

5. The mischievous grin of a bear who knows where the real hatchet is hidden

6. Sturdy boots for dancing and hyping up the crowd at Logger Athletics games





# Always a Logger

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<b>Scrapbook</b>
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## Celebrating a Friendship of Seven Decades

Doris Zoebel Fraser '59 and Richard (Dick) Shorten '57

BASED ON AN INTERVIEW WITH DIANE MARCZELY GIMPEL

**Doris Zoebel Fraser:** Some friendships begin with a spark, others with a surprise. Ours began with a kiss. It was 1955, and several of us new Alpha Phi pledges gathered in excited anticipation. Representing our brother fraternity, Sigma Chi, was junior class president, Dick Shorten — confident, charming, and full of Puget Sound spirit. After welcoming us, he came to each of us, shook our hands, and gave us each a kiss on the lips. It was certainly memorable.

**Dick Shorten:** I maintain it was purely in the name of diplomacy.

**DZF:** Whatever the reason, it worked. That evening sparked a friendship that would travel through decades — and continents. After graduation, Dick went on to Stanford for his MBA. I moved to San Francisco to work and study. Years later, by one of those inexplicable “Godwink” turns, Dick appeared on my San Francisco doorstep — neither of us can recall how he found me. Over tacos and laughter, we caught up as if no time had passed.

**DS:** I mentioned my Australian friend from Stanford — a fellow

named Don Fraser — and insisted Doris meet him. She did, and the rest, as they say, is history. I stood beside them as best man when they married in January 1964.

**DZF:** Across the years, Dick and Don kept in touch through their globe-trotting careers — Don in international retail and Dick in global business consulting. Dick went on to lead companies in the U.S. and France and spent three decades as chairman for Vistage International. Now 91, he serves as chair-emeritus, mentoring leaders around the world.

**DS:** Though oceans apart — with Doris in Australia, me in New Jersey — our friendship continues. Two years ago, another “Godwink” arrived. Both our beloved spouses passed away within days of each other.

**DZF:** Seventy years on, we still write, console each other, laugh, and give thanks for that College of Puget Sound meeting that set everything in motion. Some call it coincidence. We call it our “Godwink.”

**Dick Shorten '57 (right) was the matchmaker for and best man at the wedding of fellow Logger Doris Zoebel Fraser '59 and Don Fraser on in January 1964 in San Francisco. The Loggers have stayed in touch for 70 years.**

### 1960s

In May, the Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids, Mich., announced the exhibit “Chihuly at Meijer Gardens.” The exhibit will run from May to November 2026 and will be the third time the work of **Dale Chihuly '63** has been shown at the Meijer Gardens.

In July, **Heather Smith Thomas '66** was featured in an article in the *Capital Press* in Bend, Ore. The article discussed how, in a span of 60 years, Thomas has written more than 15,000 articles for horse and cattle publications as well as 23 books about horse training, livestock care, and life on the Idaho ranch she has called home since she was a girl. Many of her stories are posted at [smallfarmersjournal.com](http://smallfarmersjournal.com).

### 1970s

**Ellen Ferguson '72** received the University of Washington and UW Foundation's 2025 Gates Volunteer Service Award in recognition of her work with the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture in Seattle.



**Russell Lau '74, P'14** was elected to the Federal Home Loan Bank Des Moines Board of Directors in September. His four-year term as the Hawai'i member director started Jan. 1, 2026. Lau has served as the chairman and CEO of Finance Factors Ltd. in Honolulu since 1998 and as president and CEO of Finance Enterprises, its parent company, since 2004.

**Jeffery Vance '74** received the 2025 University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Senior Research Excellence Award in recognition of his groundbreaking work that has transformed the understanding of neurodegenerative diseases and opened new potential therapeutic pathways for millions of patients worldwide. Vance is a professor in human genetics and neurology, and his research focuses on therapy for APOE4, the primary genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease. He tells *Arches* he is “traveling throughout the world, but I still miss the Northwest and am proud to be a Logger!”

In September, **Rob Cushman '78** was inducted into the Hood River Valley High School Athletic Hall of Fame. His induction citation noted that he was a three-sport athlete in high school, a four-year letterman at Puget Sound, and is still active in a long college coaching career.

### 1980s

Sigma Chi International Fraternity selected **Michael Corliss '82, P'13** as a recipient of the 2025 Significant Sig Award, which recognizes members who have achieved high levels of professional success in their careers.

Retired Superior Court Judge **Tim Bradshaw '84, JD'88** served as a legal commentator for the closely watched trial of Bryan Kohberger, the former Washington State University student charged with the murders of four University of Idaho students. His commentary was shared on ABC, CBS, and NBC affiliates as well as in *Newsweek*.

In February 2025, **Sue Semrau '84** was honored as the all-time winningest coach of Florida State University's women's basketball. From 1997 through 2022, she compiled a 468–252 career record at FSU and guided the Seminoles to appearances in the NCAA tournament 15 times.

Ubilite, a semiconductor company based in San Diego, appointed **George Holmes '85** as its CEO in April. He had previously served as chair and CEO of Resonant, Inc. and brought 40 years of experience to the role.

**Margaret Dawson '86** was named chief marketing officer for software development company SUSE. She had previously been chief marketing officer for Chronosphere.

### 1990s

**Robert Colter '92**, chair of the department of philosophy and religious studies at the University of Wyoming, executive director of Wyoming Pathways from Prison program, and founder and director of Wyoming Stoic Camp, was interviewed on the 98th episode of the *Wisdom for Life* radio

show. The interview discusses the purpose and origins of Wyoming Stoic Camp, the challenges of teaching about Stoic philosophy, and more.

In July, **Erik Anderson '91** published an article in *Ms.* magazine titled “Teaching Sex to Empower, Not to Control: Sex Ed in Sweden vs. South Carolina.” He is professor of philosophy and chair of the Furman University Philosophy Department.



The new CEO of Darigold, Inc., one of the nation's largest dairy producers, is **Amy Humphreys '92**. She had served as its chief financial officer from 2015 to 2018 and more recently worked for the marketing and processing subsidiary of Northwest Dairy Association as chief financial officer.



In July, **Bill M. Wittress III '93** was elected a member-at-large of the General Council of Phi Delta Theta during the national general council meeting.

## SHARE YOUR STORIES

**Our *Arches* team is looking for input on two stories planned for 2026.**

**For Spring '26:** We are celebrating the many Loggers who teach and conduct research at colleges and universities around the world. Are you one of them?

**For Fall '26:** We're creating the ultimate list of things we love about Puget Sound. Whether it's a view, smell, feeling, sound, person, or idea, we want to hear about it.

Be part of these stories by emailing [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu) before Jan. 20 (faculty alumni) or May 1 (things we love).



CELEBRATING ALUMNI EXCELLENCE

STORY BY JULIANNE BELL '13

Six Loggers who have made a meaningful impact in their professions, in their communities, and at the university will be honored with Puget Sound's most prestigious alumni awards during Summer Reunion Weekend June 5 to 7, 2026. Learn more about the celebration at [pugetsound.edu/srw](https://pugetsound.edu/srw).



Professional Achievement Award (Lifetime)

Myrna J. Orsini '68

MYRNA J. ORSINI '68 IS AN ACCOMPLISHED SCULPTOR AND MASTER STONE CARVER WITH 45 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE. Besides stone, she also works in wood, clay, steel, glass and bronze, and her award-winning works are now displayed in private, corporate, and city collections in seven different countries. She has attended symposiums all over the world and now teaches her craft to students of all ages. "It's a wonderful world. It's a great life," she marvels.

In 1989, Orsini attended a symposium in Nikolaev, Ukraine, and was inspired to start a nonprofit contemporary sculpture park like the ones she saw in Europe. Over the following years, she worked tirelessly to bring her vision to life, purchasing five acres of land with her business partner Doris A. Coonrod in Tenino, Washington. In 1998, she opened the free Monarch Contemporary Art Center and Sculpture Park, which includes a butterfly-shaped maze and a sound garden, as her "gift to the community."

Some of the most rewarding parts of Orsini's work have been helping other artists to progress in their careers and the delighted response of the park's visitors. She can often hear children and families, filled with wonder and joy as they interact with the whimsical sculptures. "The laughter just fills the air in the park," she says. "It's amazing, and it's one of the really poignant parts of my day."



Professional Achievement Award (Mid-career)

Maya Mendoza-Exstrom '03

SOCCER WAS THE FIRST LOVE OF MAYA MENDOZA-EXSTROM '03, AND IT NEVER LET HER GO. It carried her from childhood teams in western Washington to championship squads at the University of Puget Sound, then into coaching roles after graduation and ultimately into a career dedicated to advancing the game.

After earning her law degree and spending seven years in private practice, Mendoza-Exstrom went on to work 11 seasons with the Seattle Sounders — three as the club's chief operating officer. She is now the chief business officer for Seattle Reign FC. She also chaired the successful bid for Seattle to host the World Cup and is a member of the city's 2026 FIFA World Cup Host Committee City Board (see story on p. 18). In addition, Mendoza-Exstrom contributes her expertise to a number of boards and nonprofits, including the RAVE Foundation, the Reign's and Sounders' charitable arm, which works to build small and innovative soccer fields designed for free community play.

"I still don't know what I want to be when I grow up," says Mendoza-Exstrom with a laugh. But professors like Mott Green and Nancy Bristow, who supported her development as both a committed student and an All-American athlete at Puget Sound, "meant the world to me," she explains, and that is "probably why I am still working in this game. I can't quite quit this game, because it's as much academic and intellectual to me as it is a physical sport."



Service to Community

Stacy Wells Chapin '91

STACY WELLS CHAPIN '91 AND HER FAMILY ENDURED UNIMAGINABLE TRAGEDY when her triplet son Ethan, a student at University of Idaho, was murdered along with his girlfriend and best friends in 2022. The case drew international media attention as well as a flurry of rumors from true crime fanatics, making an already devastating loss even worse.

Although it would have been understandable for anyone to succumb to grief under such traumatic circumstances, Chapin showed extraordinary resilience. Drawing on her background as an educator and school principal, she counseled Ethan's fraternity, Sigma Chi, through the aftermath. In response, the organization recognized her with a membership badge, making her the first non-member to receive the pin. The University of Idaho bestowed her with an honorary degree and alumni status for her aid in healing their community.

In honor of Ethan's legacy, Chapin and her husband Jim founded the Ethan's Smile Foundation, which has awarded \$105,750 and 83 scholarships to date. She also wrote the children's picture book *The Boy Who Wore Blue* in tribute to Ethan's kind-hearted nature. "He made all of our lives better," she says. "You have to figure out how to do it without him, but you bring his memory along with you. And I think that's the most important part, the decision you have on how you move forward."



Service to Puget Sound

Louis C. Smith '69

LOUIS C. SMITH '69 SUMMARIZES HIS EXPERIENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND AS THE FAMOUS OPENING LINE OF *A Tale of Two Cities*: "It was the best of times; it was the worst of times." It was the best of times because of the freedom and flexibility he had as a first-year student away from home for the first time, but also the worst of times because he didn't feel the support on campus he had experienced growing up in St. Louis, surrounded by a diverse community that strongly encouraged its young scholars.

However, everything changed when he visited a friend at the University of Oregon and was invited to the Black Student Union, where he was welcomed with open arms. "It didn't take long to realize that this was something I would thrive in," he says. Newly inspired, he founded Washington's first Black Student Union at Puget Sound in 1967, which immediately started advocating for the establishment of an African American studies program and the hiring of faculty and administrators of color.

Smith continues his service to this day. As the president of the Black Alumni Union, he's guided by his vision of "Creating Generational Value While Empowering Dreams." He's moved by the fact that the BSU has surpassed his original goals and still nurtures Black students' experiences today. "The fact that it's still supporting students some 50, almost 60, years later, there's a sense of pride associated with that that outshines everything else," he says.





## Young Logger Service

Jansen Jae Dacquel MPH'24

JANSEN JAE DACQUEL MPH'24 CAME TO PUGET SOUND IN 2022 AFTER GRADUATING WITH A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE in biology at St. Martin's University, and he says he fell in love with the “servant leadership” feel of the Master of Public Health program.

“The main thing that drew me to public health in the first place was that it's more than just a diagnosis — it's all the experiences an individual has throughout their life,” he says.

Shortly after graduating, he found a role ideally suited to his values as the community health worker program lead at Pediatrics Northwest. He praises the organization's “patient first, diagnosis second” philosophy, encouraged by the late founder Dr. George Tanbara, and has helped coordinate cultural humility training for his workplace through the University of Puget Sound.

Already, Dacquel has given back to the public health program by providing mentorship for students, collaborating with faculty, and forging a partnership between Puget Sound and Pediatrics Northwest. He credits professors Alexandria Drake and Sara E. Fischer with changing the trajectory of his life.

“If they were never my professors, I wouldn't be the person I am today,” he says.

“They always pushed me to the point where I questioned everything,” he adds. “I feel like curiosity, especially in the public health field, is vital, because if people aren't curious, then things will remain stagnant.”



## Professional Achievement (Posthumous)

Mike Purdy '76, MBA'79

MIKE PURDY '76, MBA'79, WHO ACHIEVED A FULFILLING CAREER AS A MANAGER, HISTORIAN, AND WRITER, PASSED AWAY IN 2023 due to stage 4 metastatic prostate cancer. As the recipient of the university's first posthumous alumni award, Purdy will be remembered as a respected expert in presidential history and politics, as well as an intelligent optimist and deep listener.

Purdy arrived at Puget Sound in 1972; during the summer of 1973, he served as a congressional intern in Washington, D.C., at the same time as the Watergate scandal, which granted him access to the hearings of the Senate Watergate Committee — an experience that foreshadowed his lifelong interest in politics. In 1976, he graduated with a double major in business administration and public administration, and had served as student body president.

After graduation, Purdy worked as an admissions counselor, assistant director, and marketing director for Puget Sound before spending the next three decades managing government contracts for the City of Seattle, the Seattle Housing Authority, and the University of Washington. In 2010, he launched a successful public contracting consulting business. He also became a U.S. presidential historian, starting a website (presidentialhistory.com), writing two books, delivering lectures, and acting as a frequent media commentator.

“As one who has always loved history, I have often said we make history every day in the small and big choices we make and who we decide to become,” Purdy wrote in his 2023 memoir. “The history of our lives is the cumulation of innumerable decisions and actions.”



**Sharon Morales Santini '94** started working as an art teacher at Liberty Middle School in Ocala, Fla. This is her first year of teaching, and she's working toward her professional certification. She had previously worked in public schools in various roles and as a freelance photographer.

In June, the 20th anniversary of the planned community of Seabrook, Wash., developed by **Casey Roloff '95** and **Laura Roloff '97**, was featured in a cover story in *Pacific NW Magazine*.

**Julie Davidson '96** started a new contract position in July working as a Career Coach at Strawberry.me.

The new head of school at the Westside School in Seattle is **Daryl Wright '98 MAT'00**. He has been an educator for 26 years.

**John Herold '99** and Morgan Reynolds, former chief economist in the Department of Labor, recently published their new book *ChatGPT and 9/11 - Operation Headfake: A Thought Experiment with Artificial Intelligence*. “This book is based on 20 years of research,” he told *Arches*. “I definitely used skills I learned in both of my majors at Puget Sound — Communication Studies and Studio Art. Add in a master's degree in psychology and a lifelong love of technology, and I had the perfect set of tools to produce this book.”

**Stephanie Menefee '99, MAT'00**, who has been teaching elementary music for the Tacoma Public Schools since the fall of 2000, was named the elementary music content lead for the district in 2022. Last year, she was selected as a presenter for MusicPlayOnline, a music curriculum based in Alberta, Canada. She has offered several webinars and in-person professional development classes for teachers focused on a variety of subjects, including reaching neurodiverse students.

### 2000s



Katherine Lam and **Daniel Nguyen '01** were featured in an article in the *Northwest Asian Weekly* in August highlighting their support of the Asian Hall of Fame's Women in Sports initiative. Nguyen, who is an Oregon state representative, and Lam, who is a Port of Portland commissioner, were inducted into the Asian Hall of Fame in 2025.

Earlier this year, **Michael A. Allen '05**, professor of International Relations at Boise State University, published his third book, *A Gamer's Guide to International Relations*. It utilizes popular video games, such as Minecraft and Fortnite, to teach people international relations and how to study it.

**Robin Macartney '05** is a skilled carpenter and an award-winning freelance set and props designer in Seattle. She worked as the scene shop supervisor at Puget Sound from 2007 to 2023 and is currently the props manager for Seattle Shakespeare Company as well as the resident set designer at Theatre Off Jackson.



In April, **Brie Adderley '07** was inducted into the Black Hills High School Athletic Hall of Fame in recognition of her many athletic and academic achievements in Tumwater, Wash. She was the first athlete in her high school's history to earn 12 varsity letters, and played basketball for the Loggers.

### 2010s

**Madeleine Blumgart '10** lives in Paris, France, and is a member of the Paris Choral Society, which rehearses at the American Cathedral; she also serves on its board of directors.

In June, **Joan Ilacqua '10** led a discussion at All She Wrote Books with author Sarah Schulman. Ilacqua is the executive director of The History Project, Boston's queer community archives, and has dedicated her career to centering marginalized community histories through collecting oral history interviews, preserving archival records, and sharing queer stories.

**Kai Correa '11**, who played and coached baseball for the Loggers, was named bench coach for the New York Mets in October. Correa spent the last two seasons as part of the Cleveland Guardians Major League coaching staff.

In June, **Justine McDaniel '12** moderated the Phi Beta Kappa Society's annual Call to Serve reception, which connects recent arts and sciences graduates, interns, and young professionals who are interested in public impact careers. She is a national news reporter at *The Washington Post*, where she has covered politics, national topics and breaking news and was part of the 2024 campaign team.

While in Japan, **Luisa Blackwell '15** earned her master's online in bilingual education and English as a second language from Texas Tech's College of Education, to better coach teachers in the field.

Olympic bronze-medal-winning paracyclist **Clara Brown '17** was inducted into the Maine Sports Hall of Fame in September.

**Max Lamberty '18** recently joined McGrath North law firm in Omaha, Neb., as an associate in the banking and commercial financial services practice group.

**Sofia Gotch '19** was one of 26 artists to participate in the Merola Opera Program in 2025, which culminated in a grand finale performance in August at the War Memorial Opera House in San Francisco.

### 2020s



**Lily Hoak '21** was one of four co-authors of an article titled “Six ways AI could cause the next big war, and why it probably won't,” which appeared in the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* in July. She works as an executive assistant at the California-based RAND — a nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization that develops solutions to public policy challenges.

In August, **Avery Allemann '24**, who was a standout middle blocker at Puget Sound, signed with Clube Desportivo de Fiães in Portugal to begin her professional volleyball career.

PCS Structural Solutions announced in August that **Jackie Lewis '24** had been recently hired to manage the front desk at the company's Tacoma office.

**Albert Chang-Yoo '25** started a two-year Master of Arts in International Communications program at National Chengchi University in Taiwan in August. He received the Taiwan Scholarship, sponsored by Taiwan's Ministry of Education, to fund his studies.

In April, **Audrey Glaubius '25** published a paper in the academic journal *Apollon* based on her experiences traveling through Asia with the Pacific Rim (PacRim) program.

**Wyatt Logan '25** has released a four-song EP, *Voluptas*. Logan was inspired to write the album after two study abroad experiences at Puget Sound: one in Greece the summer before his sophomore year; and the other a faculty-led trip to Rome during his senior year.



## THE LOGBOOK

### Mark your calendars, Loggers!

### We'd love to see you at these campus and community events.

**Jan. 22**  
40<sup>th</sup> Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

**Jan. 23**  
Faculty Wind Ensemble Tribute to Kevin Oldham

**Jan. 26**  
Art Exhibit Opening:  
Art Students

**Feb. 12**  
Loggers Keep Learning Los Angeles

**Feb. 26 to March 8**  
*Fun Home* (spring mainstage musical)

**March 3**  
Logger Day Challenge

**March 4**  
Art Exhibit Opening:  
Professor Rebecca Padilla

**March 12**  
Loggers Keep Learning Minneapolis

**March 29**  
Adelphian Concert Choir  
home concert

**April 3 to 18**  
Senior Theatre Festival

**April 22**  
Art Exhibit Opening:  
2026 Senior Show

**April 29**  
Annual Pops on the Lawn Concert

**May 8 to 10**  
Commencement Weekend

**June 5 to 7**  
Summer Reunion Weekend

Some of these events  
require tickets.

Get all of the details you need  
at [pugetsound.edu/events](https://pugetsound.edu/events),  
and hope to see you back on  
campus soon!



▼ Ed Stanton '50, P'75, P'79, P'82 and Blythe Callahan Stanton '51, P'75, P'79, P'82 celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on Aug. 16, 2025, with nearly 200 guests — including many Loggers — in attendance. Front row from left: **Janet Stanton Barnes '82**, **Ed Stanton '50**, **Kathryn Foster Kinman '70**, **Blythe Callahan Stanton '51**, **Martha Coe Parker '74**, and **Peggy Trimble Campbell '51** (who married the best man at their wedding, **Art Campbell '50**, now deceased.) Back row from left: **Rebecca Parker '75**, **Pat Simpson '74**, **Judith Stanton Meyer '79**, **David Kinman '69**, **Wes Stanton '75**, and **Howard Parker '72**.



▲ The Delta Phi chapter of the university's **Sigma Chi** fraternity celebrated its 75th anniversary June 7. Loggers from all seven decades joined in the celebration. Following the social gathering and program, the brothers returned to the chapter house to close with a ritual meeting, an experience some had not had since graduation. Pictured above are all alumni in attendance.

▼ Classmates, roommates, housemates, and sorority sisters from the 1980s met for dinner in Capitol Hill in August. From left: **Kathryn Sahr Calcagni '85**, **Nick Calcagni '83**, **Terri Oshiro Gilmour '84**, **Mary Michener Hudspeth '83**, and **Gary Gilmour '83**.



▼ Loggers joined **Emily Eberhart '05** to help celebrate the completion of an important chapter of her life when she sold her Columbia City Ale House. The restaurant was a community fixture for 25 years and Eberhart was known for creating a welcoming atmosphere for all in the South Seattle neighborhood. Helping her celebrate were (starting in the front row, from left): **Melanie Andersen '05** and Eberhart; **Elizabeth Swarny '05** and **Sarah Studer '05**; Jason Scott and **Dylan LeValley '05**; and kids Ande and Simone.



▼ Captain **Michael Hudspeth '81** and first officer **Eric Illston '92** discovered their Logger connection as they were flying to China with FedEx and asking the usual questions. The pilots, who are based in Anchorage flying the Boeing 777-200, spent a week flying together in Asia.



► Longtime friends, roommates, and housemates gathered for a day of boating on Lake Washington in August. Several of the friends hadn't seen each other in more than 30 years. From left: Kris Bristow; his spouse **Greg Perotto '96**; **Becky Riccio '96**; **Diane Carney '96**; **Adrienne Bauman McCoy '96**; and friend Melissa Frank-Huff.



► Former Puget Sound and Nyenrode Business University classmates met in the Netherlands in June for the 50th anniversary of the Varsity 1975, a Dutch student rowing event. From left: **Hans van Delft '76**; his wife, **Louise van Delft-Pierce '76**; and **Erik de Boer '78**. De Boer writes: "The 1975 team won the race against the young ones of 1984!"



► Summer paddle vibes! The **Minnesota Regional Alumni Club** hit Bde Maka Ska in late July for a fun evening on the water.





▼ **Kathleen Ka'au'a Schwartz '85, Janet Walters '85, and Mary Pyper '85** enjoyed visiting Schwartz's homeland on the Big Island of Hawai'i in July. Schwartz's great grandfather was a famous paniolo, or Hawaiian cowboy, and the friends attended a paniolo rodeo. Walters writes: "I wasn't very much interested in Hawai'i until I met Kathleen. She told me about the Hawaiian paniolo, the variety of the terrain, the language, and the culture. I decided that if I ever did go to Hawai'i, I would go with Kathleen." And so, some 40 years later, the three friends made the trip. Schwartz, who this spring completed her master's degree in Indigenous education, continues to teach kindergarten in Tacoma. Pyper works in higher education at the University of Washington, and Walters is retired from a career in journalism and higher education and now lives in Tabernash, Colo.



▲ A host of Logger family and friends attended the wedding of Matt Cannon and Logan Hamilton, daughter of **Roger Hamilton '93, MPT '99** and **Brenda Freeman Hamilton '96**. From left: **Michael Hamilton '99, Susan Poole Milliren '93, Jason Swygard '92, Chuck Edwards '94, Jason Werts '94, Devra Oppermann '96, Grant Hatton '95, Brenda Hamilton, Gretchen Grey Hatton '95, Roger Hamilton, Shannon Rock Heaton '94, Anna Todd McAllister '94, Kerry McAllister '94, Brian Riley '93, Jason Milliren '94, Rob Johanson '96, Brian Engel '93, and Sean Heaton '94.**



▲ Motivated by the passing of their Kappa Kappa Gamma sister, **Tera Harding Letzring '99**, KKG sisters from 1998 to 2003 gathered with many of their families on a cruise in August to reconnect, reminisce, and have fun. Many had not seen each other since college. Pictured from the front, from left: **Reyna Yamamoto '99, Brittany Henderson '03, and Michelle Becker Robinson '98; Jina Kim '02, Kellie Char Pecoraro '99, Patricia Riordan '00, and Rynne Brown Mancero '00; Arriann Weiss '03, Sarah Ontiveros '99, and Sara Ward '00; Wendy Beardsley Noyes '00, MAT '01, Jennifer Jamieson Leme '00, and Amanda Mills Sharp '01; Heather Lovejoy Fantz '02, Bonnie Engle Bennett '01, Paula Welling '98, and Andrea Van Blaricom '01.** Not pictured but also at the gathering was **Jamie Marshall Valenzuela '98, MOT '01.**



▲ Classmates **Tom Martin '96, Julie MacDonald Martin '96, and Kyle Haugen '97** met up in June 2025 to see the Bach Festival in Leipzig, Germany.



▲ Members of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity gathered in May to refresh old memories and celebrate the life of **Larry Stenberg '61, MED '69**, who died April 8. Stenberg served as Puget Sound's director of admissions for more than 10 years. Front row from left: **Tad Rolfe '68, Bill Ramseyer '65, Jim Mancuso '65, Jim Monroe '70,** and Stenberg's daughter Lynne Stenberg. Back row from left: **Dave Locey '69, Steve DuBois '71, Clay Loges '68, Ross Rogers '71, Jim Buckley '71, Todd Hagstrom '71, Glen Baisinger '69, Jim Chadwick '69, Bill Rhodes '69, Bob Lucey '69, Leo "Kip" Lange '69, Craig Hagstrom '68, Dan Blunk '71, and Marc Blau '73.** Fraternity brothers who missed the photo shoot include **John Barline '69 and Walt Perry '69.**




► **Julie Davidson '96**, former co-chair of the Hispanic/Latinx Alumni Union, attended the annual Sin Fronteras/Latinx Alumni Union Welcome Dinner this fall, along with fellow alums, incoming students and their family members. Davidson has since passed the chair role on to **Parker Phend '09** and **María Arellano '86**. From left: Davidson, **Sofía Cunningham '26, Bella Rico '27, Anabel Rivera Falla '27, Marisa Wiese '26, Max Wiese '28** and Phend.



► **Anita Cussler '09**, the director of advancement at the Alzar School, a semester-long high school based in Idaho and Patagonia, Chile, told *Arches* she is thrilled to work with a handful of other Loggers. Pictured at a recent work gathering from left: **Max Silverson '09**, who is Cussler's husband and the editor of the local newspaper; Cussler; **Laura Bechdel '05**, director of studies and faculty; **Ruby Krietzman '20** a leadership, English, and history teacher; and **Avery Jaeckel '23**, a community and experiential advisor.





# LOGGER DAY CHALLENGE



MARCH 3, 2026

Loggers unite on March 3 to reach new heights. Be part of this year's Logger Day Challenge and see how our collective spirit transforms into extraordinary impact. Every gift, every share, every Logger matters.

READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?  
Visit [pugetsound.edu/loggerdaychallenge](https://pugetsound.edu/loggerdaychallenge).







▲ Loggers **Chris Spalding '15** and **Aaron Pomerantz '15** joined in the wedding celebration of **Deirdre McNally '15** and Erik Woelber in Portland last November (kudos for remembering the Logger pennant!).



▲ Loggers **Sam Anders-Brown '16** and **Stuart Brown '16** got married in May 2025, and they were thrilled to have many Loggers in attendance. From left: **Anne Conery '17**, **Ian Conery '19**, the newlyweds, **David Minerath '16**, **Kathleen Heffernan Brown '81**, **Katie Pyne '15**, **Tessa Brott '15**, **Leah Stromberg '16**, **Lexa Hospenthal '16**, **Brian Gerrity '15**, and **Becca Tansey '16**.



▲ **Auna Lundberg '15** married Michael Olshavsky in June in Wenatchee, Wash. The couple met bowling and continue to bowl together both locally and nationally. Many Loggers came to join in the celebration, including (from left): **Collin Beritich '15**; the groom; **Christopher Chase II '14**; the bride; **Daniel Derosa '15**; **Tamara Kling '15**; **Chris Olshavsky '13**; **Colleen Kirksey Lundberg '70**; **John Fardell '10**; Vicki Sompii; Reggie Frederick, owner of Chalet Bowl and educator; **Ashley Goff '15**; and **Alex Fardell '06**. Not pictured but also at the wedding was **Dick Stratton '78**.



▲ **Nicolette Andres '15** and Graeme Danforth exchanged vows in June in Boulder, Colo., in June, and many Loggers came to help celebrate. From left: **Dan Messenger '15**, **Anna Schierbeek '16**, **Drew Anderson '15**, the newlyweds, **Rachel Sugar '16**, and **Reilly Rosbotham '15**.



▲ The Bay Area Regional Alumni Club held its first event in August, gathering at the Giants vs. Rays baseball game. First row from left: **Jill La Fetra '20** and **Melissa Lim '20**; second row from left: **Ted Meriam '05** and family, **Libby Regan '25**, **Malcolm Willig '21**, **Chase Grossman '21**, **Phoebe Winters '20**, **Gabe McHugh '20**, **Kiara Kramer '21**, and **Hanna Caruso '20**; and third row from the back: **Miguel Ledezma '23**, **Austin Stiver '19**, and **Roxie Trissel '19**.

▼ Four Loggers — **Tracy Cripe '91**, **Amy Anderson '01**, **Nalin Richardson '20**, and **Savannah Schaumburg '20** — played together in a Tacoma Concert Band performance this fall.



▲ **Esther Morgan-Ellis '06** stopped by for a visit with **Heather Houghlum Bede '05**, **MAT'06** and **Ryan Bede '05** in March while in Nashville for the South-Central regional conference of the American Musicological Society. Morgan-Ellis is an assistant professor of music history and world music at the University of North Georgia, and Bede is in her fifth year of teaching in the Williamson County School District. The conference was held at Belmont University, where Bede is a member of the classical voice faculty.



▲ **Matt Hicks '20** and **Bridget Myers '20** tied the knot in June 2025, and a crowd of Loggers helped make the celebration special. The two first crossed paths on one of their very first days at Puget Sound. Back row from left: **Liam Coyle '21**, **Cameron Milton '22**, **Graham Byron '20**, **Danielle Rodriguez '20**, **Zack Doyle '20**, **Declan Peloso '21**, **Collin Heimbach '19**, **Travis Bender '21**, **Luke Groenveld '21**, **Eric Zdechlik '21**, **Ned Stanley '21**, **Jake Brady '21**, **Julian Bieganski '21**, **Joe Brennan '20**, and **Megan Mooney '23**. Front row, from left: **Zoe Gilbert '19**, **Lia Van Steeter '21**, **Nicole Bouché '19**, **Jordan Loucks '20**, **MAT '21**, **Kian Evans '19**, **Elizabeth Ward '20**, **Megan Stills '20**, **Matt Hicks '20**, **Bridget Myers '20**, **Tresa Bild '18**, **Tyler Mick '20**, **Kara Ashpole '21**, **Kai Haven '20**, **Wesley Wells '20**, **Anya Cady '20**, and **Ryota Nishino '20**.



ALUMNI

**Audrey Albertson McKnight ‘42, P’66, P’70** of Tacoma died July 28, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in home economics and was involved in drama, SPURS, Kappa Alpha Theta, Pacific Rim, and other campus activities. After graduation she served on the alumni council and was involved in the Women’s League. Survivors include her children, John McKnight ‘66 and Sue Ingman ‘70, as well as many cousins, nieces, and nephews. Her spouse, Richard McKnight ‘40, and many siblings and other family members were also Loggers.

**Diane Jensen Cornforth ‘50** of Puyallup, Wash., died Aug. 1, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and was involved in drama, *The Trail*, Chi Omega, and the Sigma Alpha Iota music fraternity. She also was instrumental

in starting the college’s chapter of Mortar Board and became its first president.

**Valma Vogler Poteat ‘52** of Greenville, S.C., died Sept. 2, 2025.

**Beverly J. Melander Gibson ‘59, P’93** of Tacoma, a longtime employee in the Registrar’s Office at the university, died Aug. 13, 2025. As a student, she earned a Bachelor of Arts in education degree and was a member of Chi Omega and drama. Survivors include her daughter, Julie Gibson ‘93, and son-in-law Bob M. Jones ‘86.

**Charlie Roe ‘53, P’79**, of Olympia, Wash., died Oct. 6, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. On campus, he was the intramural sports pingpong champion, a member and pledge class president of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, and

a member of the U.S. Air Force ROTC. After graduation, he remained a loyal Logger throughout his life and supported the university in a variety of ways, including by recruiting football players, making financial donations, participating in alumni events, and serving on the Alumni Reunion Committee. Survivors include a daughter, Jeannine Roe ‘79; cousins James Driskell ‘59, Amy Driskell ‘89, and Erin Driskell ‘93; and nephew Thomas Roe ‘93. His mother Gladys Roe 1923; aunt Marion Driskell 1923; and uncle Kenneth Harding ‘29 were also Loggers.

**Clifford Laycock ‘57** of Puyallup, Wash., died June 15, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration. Survivors include his spouse, Myrna Franko Laycock ‘62.

**Leslie Schmittke ‘59** of Gig Harbor, Wash., died Aug. 2, 2025. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi. Survivors include her spouse, Julian Schmittke ‘58; and sister-in-law Jo Ann Schmittke ‘57. Her brother-in-law, Raymond Schmittke ‘58, was also a Logger.

**Leroy W. Calbom ‘57** of Phoenix died June 7, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy, and was involved in student government, Model United Nations, Madrigals, Adelphians, and the residence hall association. Survivors

include his spouse, Rita Calbom ‘60.

**Joyce Roberts Myhre MEd’60** of Tacoma died Sept. 13, 2025. She earned a Master of Education degree. Her spouse, Lloyd Myhre ‘52, was also a Logger.

**Larry Stenberg ‘61, MEd’69** of Silverton, Ore., died April 8, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education and went on to earn a Master of Education degree. On campus, he was involved in student government, including serving as ASUPS president, as well as Phi Gamma Delta and the residence hall association. After graduation, he served as Puget Sound’s director of admissions for more than 10 years, where he helped expand recruitment of students to California, Hawai’i, Colorado, and beyond.

**Sosamma C. John MS’62** of Shaker Heights, Ohio, died Oct. 19, 2025. She earned a Master of Science degree in chemistry.

**Hilton B. “Bo” Gardner Jr. ‘63** of Lacey, Wash., died May 28, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

We learned in October of the death of **Glen Mclraith ‘63** of Florence, Mont. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

**Betty Breiten Hassler ‘64** of Sun City, Ariz., died Sept. 5, 2025. She earned

a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology and was a member of Gamma Phi Beta. Her husband, Jeffrey Hassler ‘64, was also a Logger.

**Robert Izzi ‘64** of Seabeck, Wash., died June 23, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education and played football for the Loggers.

**David Richards ‘64** of Poulsbo, Wash., died Aug. 30, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in art and design.

**Galen Willis ‘64, MBA’70, P’02** of Burien, Wash., died June 3, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration and a Master of Business Administration degree. On campus, he was involved in swimming, Sigma Chi, and the U.S. Air Force ROTC. Survivors include his spouse Nancy Skinner Willis ‘65, P’02; and son Lehrer S. Willis ‘02.

**Susan Meer ‘66** of Denver died Oct. 2, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in education.

**Nancy Parker Reid ‘68** of Salem, S.C., died in July 2024. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta, Adelphians, and Madrigals. She was also the 1968 Homecoming Queen.

**Dorine Davis Enz ‘70, P’96**, of Portland died Oct. 3, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree

in education and was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta and the band. She was also involved in student government and Spurs. Survivors include her spouse, Jonathan Enz ‘68, P’96; son Michael Enz ‘96; sister-in-law Linnea Enz Chu ‘66; and brothers-in-law William Simons ‘67 and Doug Hunter ‘71.

**John Sharp ‘70, MBA’70, P’98** of Oakville, Wash., died Aug. 10, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration and was involved in student government and intramural sports. Survivors include his spouse, Lyn Jordan, ‘73, P’98; and a daughter, Erin Campbell ‘98.

**Susan J. Given ‘71** of Tacoma died July 3, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration.

We learned in July of the death of **Carolyn Sandore ‘73** of San Juan Capistrano, Calif., who died Oct. 29, 2020. She was a member of Pi Beta Phi.

**Pamela Van Selus ‘73** of Mount Vernon, Wash., died Aug. 16, 2025.

**Roger Hooper ‘76** of Kentfield, Calif., died May 18, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

**Wallace Eric Wright ‘77** of McMinnville, Ore., died Aug. 14, 2025.

**Bonnie Mangus Musto ‘78** of New Bern, N.C., died

Aug. 19, 2025. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in natural science. Survivors include her spouse, Steven Musto ‘80.

We learned in August of the death of **Ruth Robinson JD’79** of Shoreline, Wash. She earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

**Kenneth Ringstad JD’80** of Fairbanks, Alaska, died July 28, 2025. He earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

**Paul Deffebach ‘82** of Fresno, Calif., died Aug. 26, 2025.

We learned in June of the death of **Judy E. Knight Hollar MEd’82**, of Olympia, Wash. She earned a Master of Education degree.

**Thomas Nolan Jr. ‘82** of Friday Harbor, Wash., died April 15, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in politics and government, and he was involved in cross country and forensics. After graduation, he served as a class reunion volunteer. Survivors include his spouse, Deborah Anderson Nolan ‘83.

**Dianne Weaver MBA’83** of Olympia, Wash., died Aug. 28, 2025. She earned a Master of Business Administration degree.

We learned in October of the death of **Kurt Mueller ‘87** of Tacoma.

**Carole Ressler JD’89** of Lacey, Wash., died July 30,

2025. She earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

**Colleen M. Ross MEd’91** of Sandpoint, Idaho, died Sept. 2, 2025. She earned a Master of Education degree in counseling.

**Patricia J. Blanton JD’92** of Brentwood, Tenn., died Aug. 23, 2025. She earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

**Mahlon McDuff ‘00** of Boulder, Colo., died Aug. 21, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration and was involved with *Tamanawas* and Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

**Sam Richardson ‘06** of Portland died June 16, 2025. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in international political economy and took part in a study abroad program.

CORRECTION

In the In Memoriam notice for **Linda Reeves Wylder ‘67, P’88, GP’24** in the autumn issue of *Arches*, we erred in listing her spouse, Jim Wylder ‘66, P’88, GP’24 as deceased. Wylder is alive, well, and hard at work in his studio where he creates naked raku pottery (naked raku is a variation of the raku technique that exposes the bare ceramic body to the elements of fire and reduction, resulting in visually rich, textural surfaces). His work can be seen at [instagram.com/jimwylder](https://www.instagram.com/jimwylder). We apologize for the error, Jim.

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FACULTY, STAFF, AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

**David Balaam P’15** of Shoreline, Wash., died Aug. 22, 2025. He was a professor for 31 years at the university, initially teaching in the Department of Politics and Government, and then in the International Political Economy (IPE) program, which he co-founded in the early 1990s. He is remembered as an engaging teacher and mentor, sharing his knowledge, experience, leadership, and enthusiasm with students and junior faculty. His legacy includes 928 students who majored in IPE since the program’s founding.

**Beverly Gibson ‘59, P’93** (see alumni listing)

**Jud Keim**, who served as co-defensive coordinator for Logger Football, died Sept. 6, 2025. He joined the staff in the spring of 2025, following a season at Lewis and Clark College and nearly two decades at his alma mater, Pacific Lutheran University.

**William J. Porter** of Minneapolis died July 25, 2025. He was the general book buyer at Puget Sound in the 1970s.

**Larry Stenberg ‘61, MEd’69** (see alumni listing and Scrapbook p. 39)



SEND US YOUR NEWS

We welcome news about marriages, births, new jobs, retirements, elections to office, and more, as well as those unexpected Logger meetings.

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Fill out the form at [pugetsound.edu/classnote](https://pugetsound.edu/classnote) or email [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu).

**To submit news for In Memoriam**  
Email the editor at [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu) with the name of the Logger who passed away, the date of death, and a link to an online obituary, if available.

For more guidance, see [pugetsound.edu/arches](https://pugetsound.edu/arches).





# GAME ON!

BY STELLA ZAWISTOWSKI

Tackle this puzzle that has a roster of well-known Loggers and the sports they love. Victory (in this case, a prize from the Logger Store) could be yours if you share a photo of your completed puzzle. Email the photo to [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu) before March 1, 2026, or post it on Instagram and tag us: @univpugetsound. Congrats to **Jennifer Herod Fahey ‘06** of Redmond, Wash., who won the prize after submitting the Autumn 2025 puzzle.

You’ll find the solution to the Autumn puzzle on p. 42 and the solution to this issue’s puzzle at [pugetsound.edu/gameon](http://pugetsound.edu/gameon). Go Loggers!

## ACROSS

- 1

Wranglers and Cherokees, for example
- 6

Repeated design element
- 11

Police alert, for short
- 14

Prevent, as a crisis
- 15

“Tristram Shandy” novelist Laurence
- 16

“Spirit of \_\_\_ westland, all hail to Puget Sound!”
- 17

Where Loggers play football
- 19

Section of a relay race
- 20

Tube-shaped pasta
- 21

Part of the Puget Sound Symphony Orchestra’s percussion section
- 23

HS diploma alternative
- 26

Most Outstanding Player of the 1976 Logger men’s basketball team
- 29

Official proclamation
- 31

Take to the skies
- 32

Cash dispensers, for short
- 33

DVR device brand
- 34

Rustic place to stay
- 35

Doc who treats dogs
- 37

World Cup gold medalist and head coach of Logger women’s soccer
- 41

Lenovo products
- 44

“Face the facts!”
- 45

Homecoming month at Puget Sound in 2025: Abbr.
- 46

Yellowfin tuna
- 47

17-Across distance units: Abbr.
- 48

It comes between Mon. and Wed.
- 50

Black-eyed \_\_\_
- 51

Subject covered in MATH 110 (Pre-Calculus)
- 52

Tingly YouTube genre
- 53

Former dean who broadcast the NCAA Division II national basketball championship in 1976
- 55

Logger victory
- 57

Noble gas used in lamps
- 59

Actress Zadora
- 60

Cheer heard at Logger sporting events
- 66

Reason for a food recall
- 67

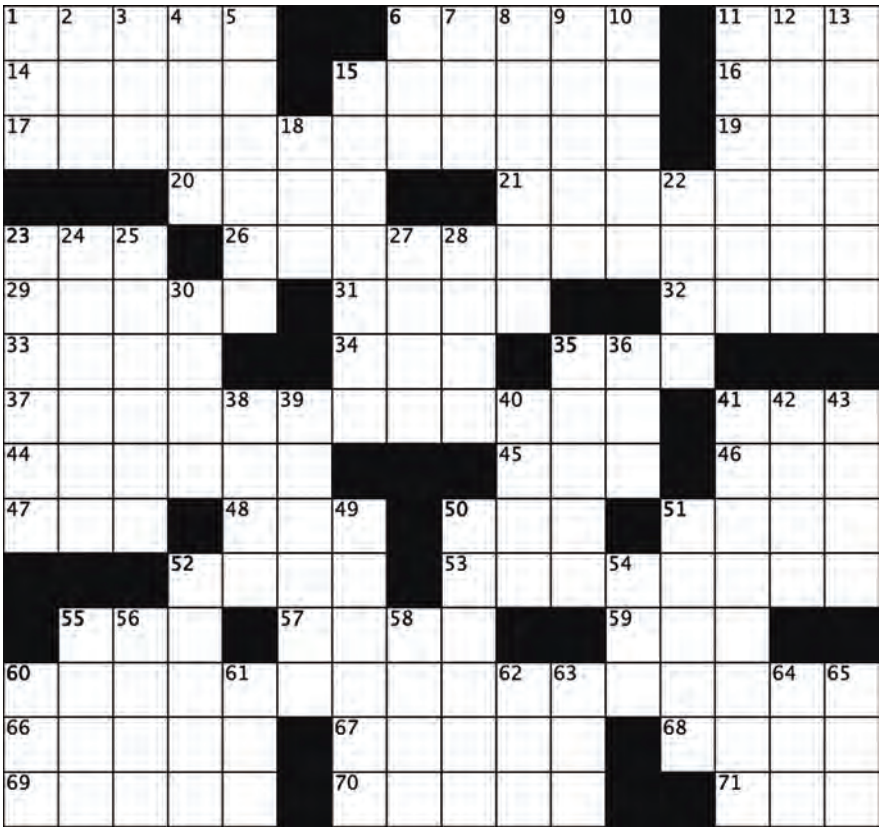
Small jazz groups
- 68

Corn-on-the-cob servings
- 69

Drag queen \_\_\_ X Change
- 70

Healing ointment
- 71

Came across



## DOWN

- 1

Quick punch
- 2

Actress Mendes or Longoria
- 3

“A mouse!”
- 4

Isiaah Crawford, for short
- 5

Uncompromisingly firm
- 6

NYC’s mass transit system
- 7

British reference work, for short
- 8

More clichéd
- 9

Indigenous people of Alaska
- 10

Certain gender identity
- 11

“Finally!”
- 12

Highly talented newcomer
- 13

Gets started
- 15

Mixes with a spoon
- 18

Former Beatle \_\_\_ Sutcliffe
- 22

Foolish person, in British slang
- 23

Makes do
- 24

Made revisions to
- 25

Greg Louganis and Tom Daley, for example
- 27

Nobel-winning author Morrison
- 28

Section of a window
- 30

Deal with adversity
- 35

Language class topic, for short
- 36

Office phone: Abbr.
- 38

Popular Logger Store purchases
- 39

NPR journalist Rachel Martin ‘96, Hon. ‘14, for one
- 40

Like all Puget Sound dorms, nowadays
- 41

Deli delicacy from Italy
- 42

\_\_\_ seed (addition to overnight oats)
- 43

Talk with your hands, in a way
- 49

Builds
- 50

Implement for doodling
- 51

Once bitten, \_\_\_ shy
- 52

Often-sprained joint
- 54

Antonym: Abbr.
- 55

City of East-Central Texas
- 56

Symbol of an app
- 58

Gumbo ingredient
- 60

Bottom of a skirt
- 61

Result of a successful at-bat
- 62

Carpool lane abbreviation
- 63

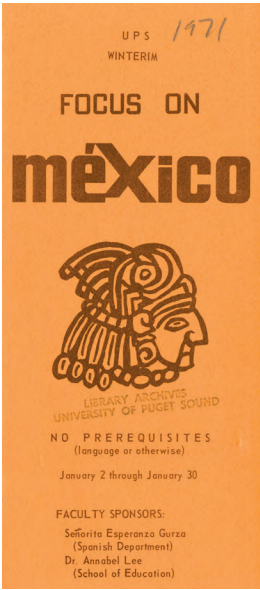
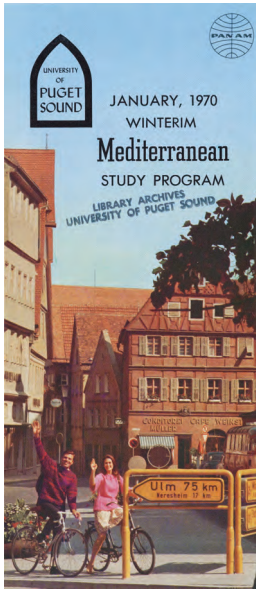
Ending for a sugar
- 64

Stuff studied in geology classes
- 65

Puget Sound clock setting in January: Abbr.

# Making midwinter brighter

Beginning in the 1969-70 academic year, the university introduced a one-month term in January called Winterim. The shortened January term offered students a variety of major and non-major courses, taught both on campus and abroad. The 1976 Winterim catalog provides an example of the range of courses available, including: Bill, Beak, and Talon or Hot Birding in Cold Weather; “I Made it Myself” Handicrafts for the Beginner and Expert; Politics: The Campaign of ‘76; Alpine Skiing; and more.



—Story and image curation by **Olivia Inglin, Archivist and Special Collections Librarian**

Students who traveled abroad for Winterim classes visited a wide array of locations such as Hawai‘i, Mexico, France, Italy, and beyond. Additionally, students could take part in unique activities, including (according to the 1978 *Tamanawas*) a macramé workshop, a pool exhibit featuring a demonstration by champion trick-shot artist Ivor Bransford, a leather workshop, and an “Open Mike” in Todd Hall.

While the January term was mostly popular with students, concerns from campus constituents eventually led to removing the term from the academic schedule. The final Winterim term took place in January 1981.

**Did you take Winterim courses at Puget Sound? Share your favorite mid-winter moments by emailing [arches@pugetsound.edu](mailto:arches@pugetsound.edu), and your memories may be included as a Letter to the Editor in a future issue of *Arches*.**



# arches

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