



PHOTO COURTESY/RACHEL PRUSYNSKI

Caring: Rachel Prusynski volunteers with babies in Haiti.

Post-Haiti, student quake victim reacts

By CHELSEA TSUCHIDA

Rachel Prusynski, along with a few close friends, will be returning to Haiti this December to volunteer with a local children's hospital and share her life-changing experience with those closest to her.

Prusynski was visiting her good friend Molly Hightower when the earthquake occurred Jan. 12, 2010. Hightower was working with Friends of the Orphans and was supposed to remain there for one year. Unfortunately, the earthquake happened only six months into her stay.

Hightower and Prusynski met at the University of Portland where they were both undergraduate students. After leaving the university, Hightower decided to work in Haiti for a year, and Prusynski decided to attend the University of Puget Sound as a graduate student in the Physical Therapy program.

During the earthquake, both Hightower and Prusynski were in a building that held the administration offices, volunteer housing and a pre-school. Another volunteer, Erin Kloos, her brother, Ryan Kloos and a doctor volunteer were also present in the building when it collapsed. Prusynski, Erin, and the doctor survived the collapse. Unfortunately, Hightower and Ryan did not. Erin was trapped for 12 hours and was found with serious injuries.

Prusynski was trapped for less than an hour. She was then taken to the embassy and evacuated to Guantanamo Bay, where she stayed overnight before leaving for Florida. She was home to her family in Idaho by Friday evening. Prusynski suffered from a broken arm and a few lacerations. Despite her ordeal, Prusynski returned to school the following week.

In preparation for their return to

Haiti, Prusynski and her roommate, Holly, began The Heal, Help, Hope Initiative, which works to raise support and awareness for the Friends of the Orphans and Mercy Corps.

Friends of the Orphans raises money for an organization called "Our Little Brothers and Sisters." They have nine different orphanages in nine different countries throughout the world. Next to the hospital there was an outpatient facility for children with special needs, which is where Hightower worked during her stay. Prusynski also helped in the outpatient facility as well as with the physical therapy program.

When she returns to Haiti, Prusynski is planning to once again work with Friends for the Orphans.

"I've been really involved with them this whole last nine months. Just trying to stay connected somehow. Although I knew Erin, we weren't best friends and I didn't really feel like I had a lot of support. I had my friends but no one really knew. I had Molly's family but they were dealing with enough stuff, but they've been really great," Prusynski said.

"I'm living for two people now. Molly didn't get this chance, so I have to make the most of it times two. It's something I'm trying to do. I want to make her proud and it's a lot of pressure sometimes. And it's hard to be normal and to enjoy little things. You have to find a balance and that's what I'm working on now," Prusynski said.

Prusynski and her friends will be there for 17 days and will be there for the one-year anniversary of the earthquake on Jan. 12, 2011.

"I wanted to be there to show solidarity. Everyone else is forgetting about them, and they know it. It's important to show that we're not moving on because they don't have the choice. Haiti can't move on," Prusynski said.

McPhail replaces Belafonte as keynote

By CHELSEA TSUCHIDA

Harry Belafonte, who was supposed to appear at this year's Race and Pedagogy National Conference, will not be able to travel to the University of Puget Sound for the conference as he is currently feeling ill and was advised not to travel. He was originally scheduled to deliver the Susan Resneck Pierce Lecture on public affairs and the arts as well as the keynote address for the conference.

Belafonte cancelled earlier this week. Not much information is available regarding the details of his illness.

"Our regards to Mr. Belafonte. We hope that he gets well and we are extremely sorry that he will not be able to attend the conference," Shirley Skeel, Media Relations Manager for the University of Puget Sound said.

The new keynote speaker will be Dr. Mark McPhail from the University of Wisconsin-White-water. McPhail is a scholar on the politics of language and race, who provided expert witness at the United Nations Rwanda genocide trials. He will be speaking Thursday, Oct. 28 at 7:00 p.m. "Where Do We Learn From Here: The Rhetoric and Politics of (Dis)Integration."

Tickets already purchased will still be honored or they may be exchanged for a full refund at the Wheelock Information Center.

ASUPS election fails

By NATHAN FORMAN

The Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS) had their annual fall senate elections this year and there are mixed feelings on campus about what exactly happened. The polls opened Oct. 5 at 9:00 a.m. and closed Oct. 8 at 6:00 p.m.

There were various factors that contributed to the confusion regarding these elections. However, there were three major issues which were especially significant.

The voting program used to facilitate the elections as well as the voting this year was called Referenda. Referenda is an open-source, open-audit voting system. It is based on the work of Ben Adida, who developed the Helios voting system. Referenda was developed by Stefan Moluf as an extension of Helios, intended to enhance the voter's user experience and maintain the integrity of the Helios open-audit model. Referenda is directly synched with the school's operating system, so all students who have accounts with the school should have been able to vote.

However, an error occurred when

setting up the voting system. For the first three hours that the polls were open, the Greek houses' votes for the Greek senators were not processed. Students could only submit their ballot once, so after the Greek houses' ballots were cast but not submitted, they could not vote again.

Another issue concerned the fact that ASUPS set up two computers in the SUB meant to be used for student voting. Unfortunately, these computers did not have updated Java clients, which means that whenever someone attempted to cast their vote, the system would process their vote as "corrupted" and not allow the vote to be cast. However, this only occurred at variable times. These same computers processed valid votes as well.

There was a controversial decision passed by the ASUPS Election Committee, which is comprised of the ASUPS Vice President, two senators and five students at large. The decision allowed two candidates to run who turned in their candidacy eligibility forms after the deadline. However, the clause stated that for candidates to be eligible, they only had to

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Strange student deaths in Washington

By CAITLIN DOXSIE

Over the past month and a half, three different Washington colleges have been struck by tragedy. A number of young students have either died or been hospitalized through different circumstances, alarming the collegiate community.

University of Washington junior Carly Henley was found dead in a back stairwell near the Phi Delta Theta fraternity on Oct. 6, 2010. Henley was 20 years old and belonged to the Delta Gamma sorority. Henley was also an avid singer, songwriter and guitar player. The King County Medical Examiner's Office has ruled her death to be a suicide. Videos of Henley performing can still be found on YouTube. Henley's family has created the Carly Henley Project: Love the Skin You're In, which will transform all of Henley's unfinished songs to studio-quality recordings and produce a CD in her honor. The sales of the CD will be donated to youth music and art programs.

Western Washington University freshman Dwight Clark disappeared on Sept. 26, 2010 after attending an off-campus party six blocks from his



PHOTO COURTESY/HATTIE LINDSLEY

Ceremony: Puget Sound students mourn recent tragedy.

dormitory. Clark was 18 years old and a resident of Auburn, Washington. His body was found 11 days later on the morning of Oct. 6 floating in a log lagoon in Bellingham Bay. Dr. Gary Goldfogel, the Whatcom County medical examiner has concluded that Clark's body does not show any inflicted trauma that may have caused his death. Clark was found with his student ID card, cell phone, credit cards and driver's license. After a complete

forensic examination Goldfogel reported that Clark's death happened in the water and that his body was in the water for the entirety of the time that he was missing. According to Goldfogel, the results of toxicology tests and a final autopsy will not be released for another 6 weeks or so which will determine the exact cause of death. Friends of Clark have started a fundrais-

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