



the Athenian



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Wes Ayers/Athenian

Next great American novel told through Snapchats

Josephus E. T. McDuffie
Staff Reporter

It all started with a single picture.

Flashing for a mere six seconds, the photo depicted a young woman smiling to the camera, arm extended in classic selfie-pose, with the single word "Hi" hovering in a line underneath her face. But George Mummord saw more than just a selfie. "It is representative of modern life." It was the start to something great, something momentous. It was the start of the next great American novel.

Mummord, a dropout student from Case Western Reserve University, has been searching for a muse since his senior capstone project. This project, a memoir written on used toilet paper, fell short of expectations and ultimately led to his expulsion despite his clean intentions.

"It was a representation," Mummord

scoffed. "Clearly, they don't know what art even is. It's all about representations."

Regardless, he knew that his senior year project wasn't going to be taken seriously by the world, and so Mummord went searching for inspiration in less-messy, more expansive ways. First, he tried a backpacking trip in Canada. Next, he spent a week living in a playground slide. Finally, he decided to check out social media.

And that's how he found her.

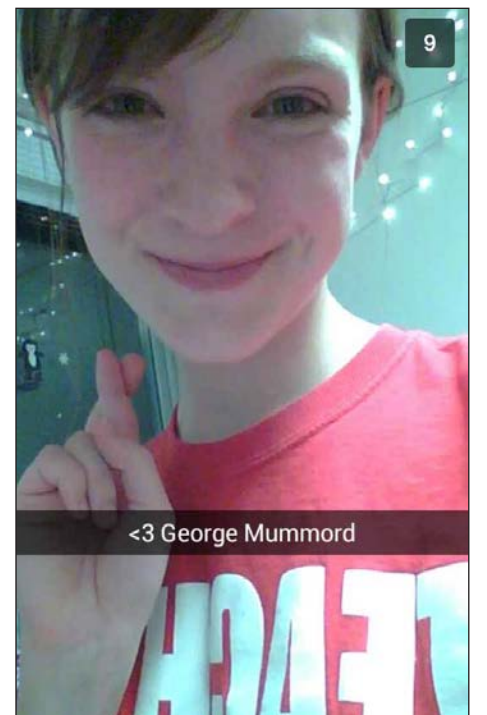
"I just got a smart phone, and I downloaded all of the apps to see if anything was interesting," he said. "Then, a few days later, I received my first message on Snapchat. It changed my life."

The selfie picture, which he screenshot, printed out and framed, is rather simple, but mysterious. "I don't even know who she is," said Mummord, gazing at the paper hung

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Courtesy Athenian archives
Support for Mummord has come in from around the world.



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news

Campus Life by the Year

freshmen

These folk sleep in weird places, like their common room's couches. Who even wants to put their faces near those butt pillows? Freshmen, that's who.

Plus, they puke. Not just in the toilet or in the trashcan – they puke everywhere. These newcomers have to learn their alcohol limits somehow, after all.

Additionally, they fall into the Grab-it trap of waiting hours and hours for the worst sandwiches of their lives. However, the freshmen are able to make some of the best (and worst) memories of their lives... all while they're supposed to be studying for exams.

Case Western Reserve University is an odd sort of university. Though we're known for being one of the top schools in Ohio and for producing some pretty successful nerds, everyone here has some weirdness to them.

But not everyone is strange in the same way. Freshmen behave differently from sophomores, sophomores differently from juniors, and so on. Here is an investigative look at each class's oddities here at CWRU:

sophomores

Many members of the sophomore class are destined to walk the elephant stairs every day. This leads to a lot of crying, but also noticeably nicer legs than any other CWRU class.

Unfortunately, due to the sophomore foot-traffic over the bridge near Veale, many accidents occur (usually on the slippery metal strip).

These students study too much, and have difficulty with developing a social life in midst of the MCATs. It leads to many a sad student contemplating if his major is really worth so many lonely Friday nights drawing chemical structures and missing out on fun.

juniors

This is the year of celebration! (Unless, that is, you're one of the last kids to turn 21 - hang in there, we believe in you.)

Juniors, after finally making it past their work-hard sophomore year, get to lavish in all the life and great tasting food on the north side of campus. Starbucks is the junior's drink establishment of choice.

Plus, there's all the fun stuff of co-ops, internships and generally getting your life together. The juniors meet new friends, since this is the year of change. No more solo cell-like rooms on south side for these winners.

seniors

Seniors know that they've got to make their last few months count, which is why they adopt the "Thirsty Thursday" way of life. Really, who can say no to a dollar beer at Spot Night? Or, cheap alcohol at the Jolly for their weekly karaoke nights.

However, the senior students also have difficulty coming to terms with their next stages of life. There's a lot of crying about a lack of permanent plans, becoming an adult, missing your friends and the never-ending studying.

So, because of the mixed feelings that seniors exhibit, they take to unusually irresponsible decisions. After all, once they graduate, all the fun goes away, right?

Greek Life

Paranormal Greek Week continues

Greek presidents being held hostage for ransom

Michaela Epperson
Contributing Reporter

With Greek Week coming up, fraternities and sororities have put in hours of practice in the hopes of stumping the competition. If you're not in Greek life, you probably don't care much. You can simply just go about your normal busy life, with the minor nuisance of having to listen to your friends go on and on about how time consuming it is, about the events they're participating in, and the performances you can't see. It's probably especially annoying because you know that whenever Case Western students complain about how busy they are, they're really bragging.

But this year things are going to be a bit different. All of the fraternities and sororities are scrambling to put together a campus-wide fundraiser and are putting aside the usual competitive spirit of Greek Week for a new kind of event.

This year Greek Week will be in the quad, and everyone is invited. There will be a jail & bail booth where one of the vice presidents of a Greek organization will be in costume as an alien. The can castles will be made to look like rockets and space shuttles. Additionally, there will be a classic cream-pie-in-the-face station. Many of the usual Greek Week events will still be taking place, and donations are encouraged. The variety show has been lengthened into a full-fledged production involving all Greek organizations, with transitions between the various sets.

What is the theme of this whole production? Aliens.

What brought on this sudden change? The CWRU Greek community is desperate for funds to pay the ransom to get their presidents back. You may have noticed that over the past few weeks CWRU's campus has had an abnormally large number of missing person reports. As it turns out, it's been proven aliens abducted every Greek

president.

Late one Saturday night, a fraternity performed a ritual in the basement of their house that involved five pounds of spaghetti and a projector. They had some trouble getting the projector to work. After one of the computer science majors tinkered around with the controls, the projector flashed on to reveal a picture of their president in what looked like a greenhouse crowded with vegetation, blindfolded. The rows of potted plants looked otherworldly; certainly something that the students claimed to have never seen on campus.

"All of our new members thought it was just a strange part of initiation. All of the board members were wondering who set it up and what was going on," said brother Brody Brotherton.

Panhellenic Council received a letter. One of the sorority sisters noticed that their president's room was entirely empty except one of the small suspicious-smelling potted plants and a sticky note. Another fraterni-

ty member walked in to find high-volume dubstep playing from an unidentifiable foreign PA system. It took them a while to figure it out, but when you sped up the music there was a message saying, "We have your leader."

The ransom is 2,400 gallons of 7up soda, two metric tons of compost, three rubber ducks and a six-pack of beer. Panhellenic Council is currently between approving the fundraising project, investigating possible drug violations and considering kicking all of the chapters off campus, and questioning whether or not the aliens are of age and should be receiving a six-pack of beer.

STORY UPDATE: A new kidnapper message, arriving through Webmail, revealed that the aliens are actually lizard people running the U.S. government. It's difficult to tell whether marijuana is a part of their plans to manipulate the masses.

The ransom has been raised an additional pack of beer, a set of men's tank tops and an assorted collection of fireworks.

From front page

A Stoner's Way:

a day in the life of the stoner

The Life of Sean McDoob
Compiled by a staff reporter

In this month's investigative reporting, the topic was pretty clear. What does a stoner truly do with his time? Are the rumors true? Reporters followed a young man living around the influence and chronicled the events of a particular Saturday.

Disclaimer: All descriptive words remain unedited to maintain the accuracy of the account.

8:30 a.m.: Still sleeping.

10:00 a.m.: Yep, still sleeping.

11:00 a.m.: God damnit, will you just stop bothering me and let me sleep?! It's 11 in the morning on a Saturday! What is this, communist Russia or something!? *Jesus.*

12:00 p.m.: Sorry, I feel like we got off on the wrong foot there dude. It's just that I was having this really awesome dream where I was hired as a background character in "Book of Mormon," but instead of rehearsing, we were all just having a giant shaving cream fight.

It..uh..that made more sense inside my head this morning. Anyways, I'm gonna go smoke a bowl or two. Be right back.

12:30 p.m.: Whoa dude, that it is good ass shit. I'm totally on freaking Mars right now. And I'm fucking excited dude. You know why? Because IT'S LUNCH TIME MOTHER FUCKER!

Sorry bro, I didn't mean to flip like that. It's just that I'm so hungry right now that I think I'm literally sexually attracted to this jar of

mayonnaise. Ok, figuratively, not literally. She's not really my type anyway, I'm more of a mustard guy. But hot damn is she gonna taste good on this tuna sandwich.

Yeah, baby, work yourself all over those celery chunks. Oh yeah, that's the stuff.

1:30 p.m.: Hey, you wanna go watch a movie? I've got some pretty funny shit here. Let's see, how about... "White Chicks?" Dude, what the fuck is this shit. What the actual fuck is this doing in my house. WHO THE FUCK EVER THOUGHT THIS MOVIE WAS A GOOD IDEA!?

I'm sorry, that movie is just so bad that it makes me angry. I don't want to talk about it. Let's just go take a walk instead.

2:00 p.m.: It's so relaxing out here, isn't it? April is my favorite month. Actually no, fuck that April sucks. It's cold and rainy and the trees don't even have any leaves yet. Inconsiderate bastards.

Sorry trees, I'm not mad at you. I just can't stop thinking about how fucking atrocious that movie is. I really should get over it, I know. Maybe Mr. Bong and Ms. Mary Jane can console me. I'm gonna go see them now.

3:00 p.m.: Hey, have you ever just thought about how like...poodles are like the cotton candy dogs?

Whoooooa dude, I have...HANDS.

3:30 p.m.: You know what I fucking love dude? Like, love more than anything else in the world? Fucking toaster strudels. Fuck that mayonnaise bitch, she never really liked me anyway.

Fucking toaster strudel dude!

4:00 p.m.: Oh fuck me dude, I just remem-

ber that I was supposed to pick my little sister up from soccer practice! Shit, where are my car keys? Goddamn I guess I have to take the bus. This is bullshit dude. This is *fucking bullshit.* Why do I always have to all the work around here? Why can't anyone else pitch in once in a while? My life su...wait...I don't have a sister... and I hate soccer.

5:00 p.m.: Man, I'm pretty bored right now. Good thing I've still got this weed. Dude, green crack is my favorite strain too. Lemme just... lemme just hit that one more time.

Oh yeah, that's some good stuff.

6:30 p.m.: Whoa dude...I think I just zoned out there for a while. Is it 8:30 already?! Oh wait, that's a six, not an eight. Son of a biscuit.

I want some pizza.

7:00 p.m.: No, dude. No. You do not bother me when "The Daily Show" is on. Or while I'm eating pizza, for that matter. Come back in half an hour.

9:00 p.m.: Time to watch a movie. And don't worry, I'm over the whole one-that-shall-not-be-named thing. Seriously though, that movie sucks. But I'm over it.

"The Matrix?" Fuck yes. Oh my god, fuck yes. I fucking love Matrix dude! What do you think that pill they gave to Neo actually was? It sure wasn't a fucking banana, that's for fucking sure!

Wait, what? Huh? Time for another date with Mr. Bong? Well ok, if you insist.

11:00 p.m.: Such a good movie dude. Too bad the other two of them sucked.

12:00 p.m.: Man, am I tired. I think it's time to hit the sack. Take it easy dude.

Pork chop sandwiches!

12 sins that (supposedly) will send you to hell

I think just about everyone has heard of the scientific reports about how you'll be less susceptible to cancer if you smoke and how it's actually good for your life, usually after someone tells us that we're damned for the grievous sins.

Well, I'm here to give you a little update - straight from Eternalplanner.com which claims to "Save Your Eternal Soul" - we're all going to hell anyway. Here are the top 12 reasons that they list which you're doomed anyway.

- 1) Praying to saints or Mary
- 2) Wearing an occult item, like a scarf, ring or charm that supposedly has magical powers
- 3) Getting 'tats' or tattoos
- 4) Smoking cigarettes, cigars, marijuana, or any pipe
- 5) Imbibing Alcoholic 'Spirits'
- 6) Having pre-marital sex, or "sex-play"
- 7) Engaging in hand-to-hand combat
- 8) Doing any form of yoga or meditation
- 9) Being a sports fanatic
- 10) Being a gossip girl or guy
- 11) Not forgiving someone
- 12) Choosing your own career path, or making other big-ticket decisions without consulting God

Spotlight on research

A novel medicinal use for marijuana: the start of a new age?

Tejas Joshi
Staff Reporter

While marijuana usage has been linked to decreased academic performance, a growing number of theologians and philosophers claim that consumption of this illicit drug fosters important mindsets in youth. Local pastor, Father Jeffrey Croucher, explained his viewpoints on the issue: "In the theological community, we've found that the intake of marijuana

really opens the minds of youth to pondering important ontological questions regarding, for example, free will, or one's role in the universe. In my church, I often find frequent marijuana users asking me whether the universe can be said to have an end or if there's even a God out there."

To learn more on the issue, we interviewed an expert in the field.

Jeremy Schudler, 14, initially agreed to remain anonymous but later rescinded his request after noting that "Well, you can never like, you know, know another

person anyways. I mean like really, really know them." The local teen—who plans to become a professional skateboarder—stated that after smoking marijuana, he would often "just like sit there and think about like whatever man." He continued: "Like yesterday, I totally thought about how like, one action can save your life even if you don't know; like if you sleep more than normal and wake up late then you gotta eat less, and it's a chain and otherwise you would end up dead in a car accident or something but you didn't. That's just like ... wow."

We agreed.

Emeritus Professor of Philosophy, Elizabeth P. Anderson, at Case Western Reserve University argued that, akin to how doctors may legally prescribe marijuana for medical uses, state lawmakers should legalize its use in classrooms. In her passionate appeal to the Ohio Senate last May, the professor pointed towards several studies at her university which demonstrated that marijuana usage increased the productivity of philosophy majors by 13 percent and the profoundness of their ideas by an additional 35 percent.

When asked for his opinions on the situation, local stoner Jack Belik replied: "We need to just take a collective break from this society. They're just trying to fill in every crack, we just gotta leave the grid, you know what I mean?"

However, at press time we were still unsure about what was meant.



Raymond Krajci/Athenian



Courtesy Athenian archives

Stewart, Shatner hired as collective new face of legalized marijuana

“The Stew” begin their worldwide ad campaign

Hallie Dolin
Staff Reporter

Crime is down, the streets are clean and the air is scented with the fresh sweetness of chewed Oreos—but legislators are still unhappy. What could cause such woe in the face of a better America? The answer: weed...but not for the reasons anyone would expect.

Perplexingly, the nationwide legalization of marijuana a month ago led to sales far lower than expected. After conducting hundreds of surveys, lawmakers have concluded that people who would otherwise willingly smoke pot now refuse to do so for fear that their street cred will suffer. “You’re kidding, right?” an anonymous working adult told reporters when asked if he would ever buy pot. “I’m not some freeloader, and I write my reports in my own house, not on a laptop at Starbucks.”

Members of Congress have reported feeling, in the most printable form, “at a loss.” Their promised economic revitalization, which caused approval ratings for both the House and Senate to soar to over 80 percent, has failed to manifest. While the prospect of tax-based profits from legalized marijuana initially boosted the country’s morale, pot has, in effect, become “so cool that it’s square” for anyone over the age of twenty-five. This axiom, in turn, has directly alienated the

same adults with a steady income who were hailed as the source of revenue.

However, a solution has presented itself in the form of older famous faces. House minority leader Nancy Pelosi proposed two weeks ago that older celebrities be hawked as the “real face of ganja”: a suggestion which elicited sound applause from her colleagues. An estimated \$40 million was spent over the course of 10 days in the process of screening all the cantankerous crabs’ auditions.

Several representatives suggested Wilford Brimley, due to his successful advertising campaign to change the face of diabetes, but he was quickly dropped from consideration when Anonymous reported his long-standing weed addiction. Other factions suggested Al Franken (rejected for being “so five minutes ago”) and Mitt Romney, who declined to comment on the offer at all.

After much deliberation, two representatives of the future were selected. Patrick Stewart and William Shatner, longtime friends and occasional on-screen coworkers, will be featured in a new advertising campaign for taxed marijuana in exchange for, according to Stewart, “fame, intrigue, women and all the dope [they] can smoke.” Having rejected the descriptive portmanteau “P-Shat,” the pair decided to call themselves “The Stew.” Headed by their newly-formed production company, their ad campaign

will feature a worldwide tour and several nude photo shoots.

When asked why they would risk their careers for such a venture, both actors had an answer ready. “Well,” Stewart said, “I always ask myself: what would Captain Picard do? And in this situation, I’m fairly sure that he would light up a big fatty and get a bag of Cheese Nips.”

Shatner, while not so descriptive, was equally clear in his reasoning. “I want to see what kinds of crazy stunts I’ll get up

to once I’m legally under the influence. Oh, and...uh...suck it, Nimoy.”

Fans of both actors have yet to say yea or nay to their heroes’ plans, presumably because, like lemmings, they have already jumped off the metaphorical cliff and gotten too high to function. All fans who can read this are preemptively urged to buy stock in bong cleaner, all manner of snack foods, and Armor-All...for those times when you just can’t resist getting wasted on the road.



Raymond Krajci/Athenian

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CWRU Campus to Open New Community Garden

Compiled from
staff reports

Case Western Reserve University recently announced that the university’s latest endeavor towards sustainability will be to set aside a plot of land on campus for community farming.

“We’re really keeping it open to anyone who wants to participate,” said newly hired Farmer Brookins. “I’m hoping it really encourages students to get their hands in the dirt, and inspires them to grow something, anything. We don’t have any limitations on what you can grow right now, and I can’t imagine why we’d need restrictions.”

The plot will be about the size of a quarter acre. The administration has determined that it will be located outside the new Tinkham Veale and Kelvin Smith Library, occupying any remaining space that might have been left from Freiburger Field.

Two students confided to reporters that they already have a business plan in the works.

“I see a lot of potential for a garden on a college campus,” said student Sean Austendorf. “They tell me I can grow anything? I don’t think a lot of students have realized the potential that’s here. Personally, I see a little

side business growing some... plants.”

His business partner Shawn Muffleport agreed. “There’s a certain kind of plant that garners a high market value in a place like this. Students get stressed out, there’s just so much work all the time... some plants can help you relax. And really, who can argue that relaxing is a bad thing?”

Austendorf mentioned he and Muffleport intended to take up as much space as they could in the garden. “I don’t mean to hog the space, but really, I’m planning to get the best use out of it, so really we deserve all we can get. Not to mention the whole supply and demand principle means I’m not really into the idea of everyone else taking my ideas. Plus, the plants Shawn and I are going to grow...they don’t spread out too much, so we can pack a whole lot of green into our space and turn that into money.”

Some dissenting voices from the CWRU community have expressed concerns that students won’t be prepared to handle the commitment that planting and harvesting takes, particularly in this harsh Cleveland weather. When asked about how they would handle weeding their plants, however, Austendorf and Muffleport declined to comment, but just laughed and laughed.

New USG initiatives very popular among students

Anastazia Vanisko
Staff Reporter

Recently, Case Western Reserve University’s Undergraduate Student Government (USG) has started a controversial initiative, but the campus seems to love it. Why is that?

A closer look at the plans explains why.

After noticing that people were only eating half of the food on their plates, student life representatives decided it might be helpful to add an ingredient that would make students hungry for more. Ultimately, they made marijuana a staple ingredient in every meal, especially desert items such as brownies and cookies. The one downside to this is that, despite the fact that more food is being thrown out, the cuisine in the dining halls is still somewhat bland.

But if you’re lucky, you might get high enough to not notice.

So far, Student Life’s work seems to be doing rather well. People are eating more than ever; it almost makes each \$13 meal swipe seem worth it.

Academic Affairs has also adopted getting high as a key concept in its newest initiative. With student-teacher relationships in mind, Academic Affairs made drug use an important new bond-

ing activity to a new week-long study abroad trip to Amsterdam.

This SAGES course is devoted to the study of how people interact when they’re under the influence. A required part of the class would be to get high in Amsterdam as part of the psychological experiment, while doubling as an ice-breaking activity. This new course has the support of many students and teachers alike. Learning and teaching will never be this fun again.

The final group including drugs in an initiative is Public Relations. The representatives want to make CWRU appear more progressive, and nothing says progressive like being linked to a hospital that is growing its own medical marijuana. A little-known fact is that University Hospitals (UH) has operated a weed farm for quite some time now. This is mainly little known because medical marijuana isn’t yet actually legal in Ohio, but since UH has not yet had any negative repercussions, the hospital gave Public Relations permission to publicize this.

The focus of these initiatives may be surprising. However, it is widely agreed that CWRU needs to stay with the times, and that this is a good way to show the school as open to new ideas. Furthermore, it may attract new types of people that would add to the diversity CWRU prides itself on.

The Third Annual

Jolly Scholar Egg Hunt

April 19th, 2014
10pm-2am



the Jolly Scholar


We're on Tapingo!

Tuesday:
Trivia Night
Thursday:
Senior/Grad Night Happy Hour and Late Night Karaoke
Friday & Saturday:
Jolly Late Night (the biggest party on campus!)
Sunday:
All-You-Can-Eat Wings

Contact us!
Facebook: Jolly.Scholar
Twitter: @JollyScholar
(216) 368-0090
mpv3@case.edu

MTW: 11am - 12am
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CATERING
for your event!

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the
athenian

Hey, **you**, you look funny?

Did you know that you could be **paid** for the skills that you use everyday? *Yes, paid.*

For what? **For everything!**

The **Editor-in-Chief's** responsibilities are extensive and include editing and in-chieving. Piracy experience is a must. The editor is also directly responsible for the success of the magazine.

The **Head of Design** helps to create the magazine and ensures quality of images. Must have a personal vendetta against pixelation and a love for layout that exceeds their love of sleep.

The First Mate (or **Managing Editor**) is the captain's right-hand man and the one who assumes his role if he is killed in battle and/or can no longer perform his duties.

The **Jinx** says things at the same time as other people and creates general misdirection and shenanigans. Preference given to individuals who are high.

The **Food Finisher** is responsible for eating any leftover food. Favorite Pokémon must be Snorlax and must have a stomach of steel.

The **Staff Analyst** is in charge of analyzing all canes and walkers, as well as any rods or rod-shaped objects. Must also have experience with employees, women, and gram-positive bacteria.

The **Business Manager** is ultimately accountable for all financial aspects of the magazine. He is directly responsible for distributing any loot and/or booty acquired by *The Athenian*.

The **Advertising Manager** makes money grows on trees and is our connection to the world outside of Hogwarts. *The Athenian* will return your acceptance letter upon taking the role.

The **Scapegoat** is responsible for taking the blame for any backlash regarding *The Athenian's* content and practices. Experience in politics or public relations recommended. Preference given to individuals who are on a first-name basis with Barbara Snyder.

The **Web Manager** is responsible for maintaining *The Athenian* website, facebook and twitter pages. No trolls need apply.

Writers, Columnists and Jokesters receive street credit at the end of each semester. E-mail athenian@case.edu to apply for crew membership.

Anyone that would have a talent that could benefit our paper should apply. Whether that skill be organization or kittens, contact us today for more information!

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Work as a team to accomplish goals and produce a well known magazine. Gain experience with writing and communication.

Character.

Develop your sense of humor by exercising it. This is a great way to become better than other people.

Loot.

The top positions at *The Athenian* are **paid**, and require little more than hard work and perseverance.

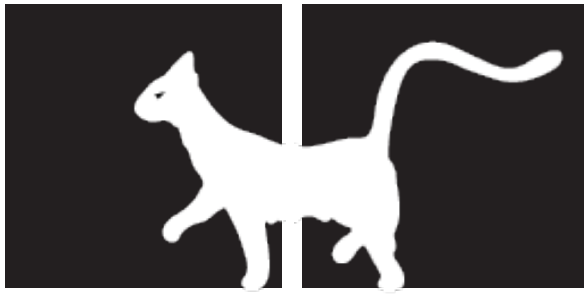
Free food.

Eat food with friends. Share laughter and tears.

Sex Appeal.

The Athenian has been awarded the Brangelina Award – the sexiest award in college humor. - three times 2011-2012, 2012-2013, and 2013-2014.





fun

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Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the Pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody,
but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath & tears
Looms the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds, and shall find, me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate
I am the captain of my soul.

-"Invictus"
by W.E. Henley

The crossword and sudoku solutions are available online!

Visit cwruathenian.com for more comics and fun!

Happy April Fool's!

MOM!!
I GOT INTO HARVARD!!
AND YALE!!
AND OXFORD!!
AND PRINCETON!!!
AND CAL-TECH!!

APRIL 1ST IS A TERRIBLE DAY TO HAVE COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE NOTIFICATION DEADLINES

Zimmer

FILOSOPHISH KATE KRAJCI RAY HART

I see you've made it past the cave of existentialist dread. You are brave. Or stupid.

Fish-sama, give up on your plan for conquest! By the strength of this arm, you will fail!

Fool, boy! Captain Quack, fire the gravity harpoon!

Quack!

PHILOSOPHISHCOMICS@GMAIL.COM

Horoscopes

Aries

April showers bring Mayflowers, but what do Mayflowers bring? Ignorance, ill will and oftentimes disease. Batten down the hatches for a less-than-stellar month.

Taurus

Make sure your prank has met all federal safety regulations. The last thing you'll want is a repeat of last year's fiasco.

Gemini

You won't need to lock your door this month since you've been acquainted with the neighborhood trespasser and you made quite the impression.

Cancer

Now that you've learned that Mentos and Diet Coke does work and that you should keep a safe distance after combining the two, you'll begin to see clearly again. Until then, take care when crossing the street.

Leo

Although you recently received abysmal news from your professor, there is a positive side to your current situation... Okay, maybe there isn't.

Virgo

They say an apple a day keeps the doctor away, but they didn't mean for you to employ the Indians' backup pitcher to hurl them at your physician. It gets too expensive.

Libra

You'll soar through this month like an eagle over a mountain, or rather like a man with a dysfunctional parachute over a cartoonishly large trampoline.

Scorpio

You'll soon believe anything is possible once you see just what duct tape, perseverance, David Bowie's "The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars" on repeat and elbow grease can create.

Sagittarius

To answer the question that's been on your mind, no, you cannot skate down Bellflower in just your undergarments and "GO CWRU" painted on your body. It's not even football season.

Capricorn

Despite your better judgment, you'll succumb to continued pressures to join the Ministry of Silly Walks. Your walk across Euclid Ave. everyday just got a little longer and a lot more embarrassing.

Aquarius

Perhaps this month you should reconsider how you prepare for the grueling torture called schoolwork. Instead of sharpening your pencil, try your pickax, which will undoubtedly help you tear through the papers far more easily.

Pisces

So your parents will offer you to use their credit card for "anything you need." This should be taken literally, and you should try to cover every open space in your apartment. Blank walls mean blank personality.

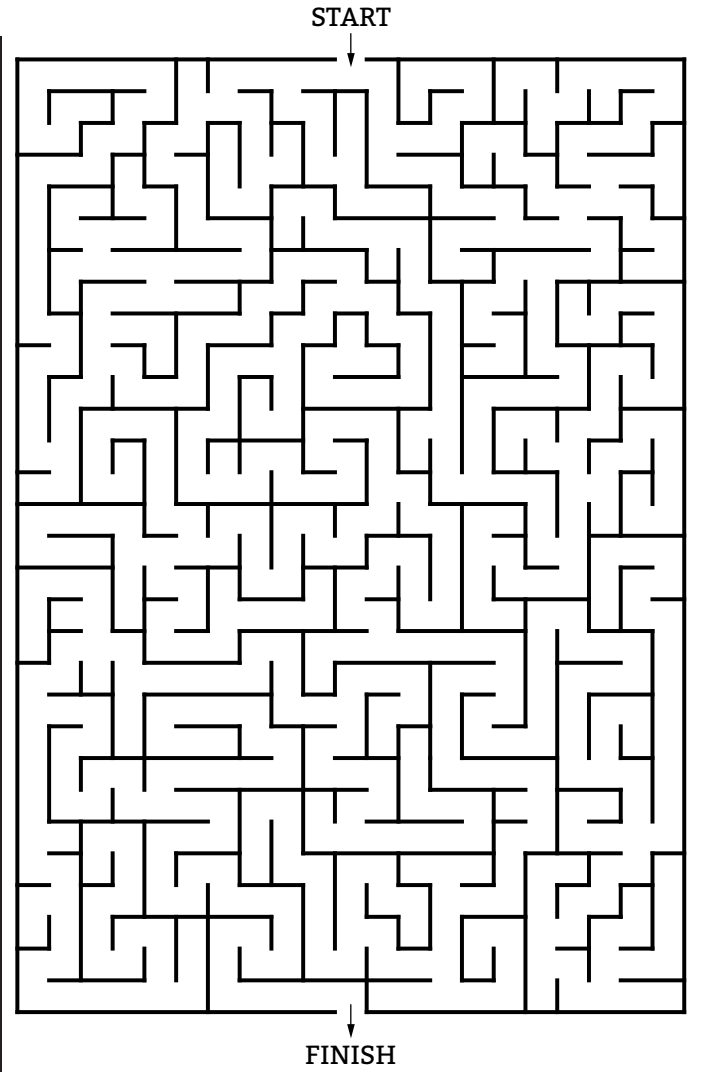
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Enter the contest with one entry each issue by going to the link below (through your computer browser or smartphone via QR code) and vote for your favorite article of each issue. It's that simple and you, the readers, get to determine the month's winner of \$50 and get a chance at several different prizes!

A new semester has started - this is the first issue that can be rated, so get to it!

Congratulations to March's winners, Charlie Topel and Wes Ayers, of \$50 each for their submission!

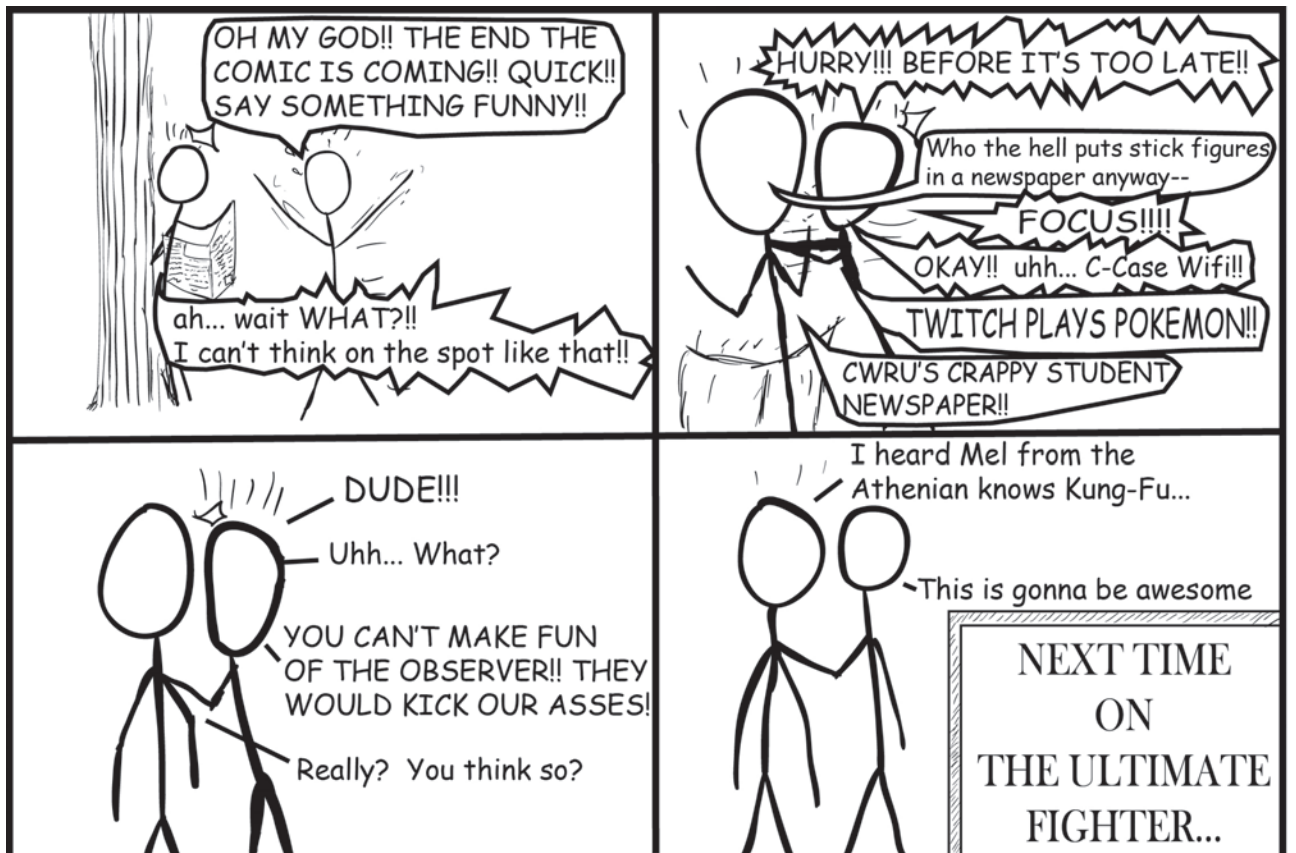
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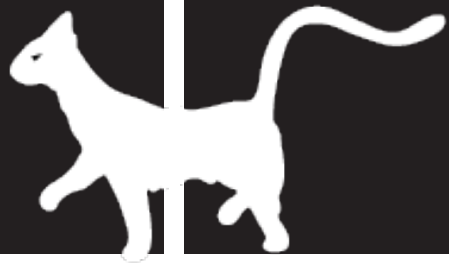


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The art of “Getting Jolly”

Alexander Abbott/
Athenian

Mel Sayre
Editor-in-Chief

While many colleges in the world will designate bars as being the “go to” area – passed down from one student to another – not many can claim, like Case Western Reserve University does, the grand luxury of having a hotspot bar in the dead center of campus. And when I say that, I mean that it’s sitting right below the space where all freshmen are welcomed to CWRU in the student center. Say what? There were people celebrating just underneath us during our initiation into this masochist jail? The answer: most likely.

The Scholar is a lot of things. To many, both in the CWRU communi-

ty and outside of it, it is a bar where the bartenders are friendly and always ready for a good conversation. The drinks are always well priced (enough so that every once in a while its frequenters feel like we’re edging up to committing highway robbery). There are 24 taps, constantly changed up to bring some spice into our lives, and the mixed drinks are made on the double. In terms of food, while the Scholar’s hasn’t always been the best, in the past few years the Jolly Man has picked up the slack and have collected a spattering of awards from this place and that. The menu could be considered almost overwhelming if you’re looking at it for the first time – but hey, no one really knows what their usual will be a month down the road, so pointing to some-

thing and choosing generally works.

The service can be considered both good and bad. The waiters and waitresses are mostly students. If you’re sitting down at a booth, the reality is you could wait an hour with mediocre service or get someone amazing and wait a few minutes. However, at the bar, there is a consistently high standard; you’re taken care of regardless if it’s night or day and, even if you’re the most insignificant person in the world, they’ll make you feel like you’re someone.

But it’s not just a bar and a restaurant. It’s a hangout. It’s occasionally a workspace when that senior needs a beer with his or her thesis. It’s a safe haven after a terrible test. But it’s not just for the elderly folk with drinking licenses either - the new blood on

campus more often than not find themselves running away from Leutner and Fribbles once a week to experience real food again. This is the place where all that meets.

That said, The Jolly Scholar has been a hotspot for quite some time. In fact, drinking there on a Thursday night would probably be considered, by some, to be the traditional 21st rite of passage.

While there are still some obvious flaws (Mr. Jolly Man, Wackadoos is still claiming ownership of your receipts – you should get them back), it’s a charming place and one of the better spots on campus to be in and around. We can be who we want to be in The Jolly Scholar, and, for that, I couldn’t be happier.

cont. front page

above his bed. Mummord, who had responded to the photo with a Snapchat selfie of himself with a tag of “Who are you, where are you, do I know you?” never received any reply. The subsequent 67 Snapchats, all sent in the same day, haven’t resulted well either.

The woman, known under the Snapchat username “PeppermintXLatteXLove” will never be known to Mummord. Maybe that’s why he is so inspired by her. “She is the main character in my upcoming novel,” said Mummord. “Her sparkling eyes, beautiful pose, inner tension between right and wrong... all in the six-second slice of life. In the seventh second, she’s gone. Is there anything more poignant than that?”

Snapchat left such a great mark on Mummord’s artistic endeavor that he has written a novel via thousands of different

photos of him, acting out whatever is happening. Of course, for PeppermintXLatteXLove’s character, he will employ the use of a wig and makeup. “I want this to be as real as possible, and I know I can never do her justice.” He sighs. “But, hopefully it will be good enough to get the story out.”

The novel-length tale, claimed as being the next great novel by many sources critics as Forbes and Times, was sent out to undisclosed Snapchat users that Mummord has befriended under a secret username in the meantime. Though he’s never actually conversed with any of them, he encloses the story with a special warning: “Be ready for a beautiful story.” Since then, there has been a viral craze that has swept the world with support for Mummord, many responding in kind with photos and Snapchats of their own, depicting their excitement and anticipation to read the debuting novel.

Peppermint has a special place in



Courtesy Athenian archives

Mummord’s heart, even after the few months it has been since the single photo popped into his inbox.

“She’s my one and only,” he said. “She was my first Snapchat, and the only one I

intend on holding so dear.”

The novel is expected to be available for download for the public – find out more at your nearest Starbucks store with a peppermint latte, discounted now.



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Cleveland Bucket List

Kara Guyer
Contributing Reporter

This winter has been one of the worst, most hateful showings toward Cleveland in Mother Nature’s history. It has some of us (read: all of us) thinking: “Why did we decide to go to school in Northeast Ohio again?” Well, I have no idea how to answer that question. However, here is a list of awesome things that might make good ideas:

- Get hot cocoa or ice cream at Sweet Moses in Gordon Square - An old fashioned Soda Fountain with delightful treats!
- Sokolowski’s University Inn on West 14th St - Fan of pierogis and Polish music? Like a good kielbasa? Some of the best Polish food you never had is being served up right here in Tremont. Check it out.
- Happy Dog - Located in West 65th St. in Gordon Square, this popular hot dog place allows you to top hot dogs, fries and tater tots, or any of their other 100 crazy toppings. From your average chili and hot sauce to cream cheese and potatoes, is there a better way to fuel the munchies?
- Grumpy’s in Tremont - Best breakfast, lunch, dinner, artsy place to eat ever.
- The Cleveland Cavaliers - Tickets are

relatively cheap and you can stay warm while watching your favorite basketball team beat ours. Plus you can take the Rapid into Tower City and never have to step outside walking to the game.

- West Side Market - This place has everything, from fresh home grown fruits and veggies to those awesome gyro’s that made the Food Network. If you are a home cook looking for inspiration, say no more. Spend one hour at the market looking at all the fresh meats, breads and pastries. Remember to bring cash though.
- Movies - When was the last time you saw a movie at a place that wasn’t your couch? You can take a Rapid to Tower City, or if you have a car check out one of Cleveland’s other theatres. Protip: If you join the MARquee Rewards program you often get free popcorn, drinks and movie tickets.
- Visit a beach - Okay, so Cleveland’s beaches aren’t that clean, but a new revitalization project could turn all of that around. Make sure to pop by some of the sandy stretch along Lake Erie during the warm spots in Cleveland’s perpetual winter.
- Concerts - Cleveland’s music scene is off the walls. Whether it’s the Grog Shop, Beachland Ballroom or House of Blues, a live concert is a necessity.



Courtesy pps.org

Nearly two months ago, Twitch began a journey that would raise gods in Kanto, godslayers in Johto, and doges in Hoenn.

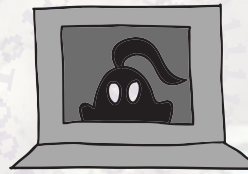
Now, TPP returns to Johto in:

twitch Plays SOULSILVER

This is LC3AC, aka LUCY, the heroine of this story.



She chose Chikorita for her starter.



Buuuuut Lucy boxed Chikorita ASAP. Cause fuck Chikorita, that's why.



This guy right here is the REAL starter: G.....L aka Gurren Lagann, the wool that would shock the heavens. And Faulkner's birds.



Raymond Krajci/Athenian

The Athenian's Playlist of the Month

Josephus E. Tinnertink McDuffie
Staff Reporter

"Pursuit of Happiness"
Kid Cudi, et al

This song's been remixed a million times, but the best one's the one with all the different singers in it. The more the merrier right?



"Paper Planes"
M.I.A.

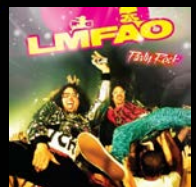
If anyone's seen "Pineapple Express," they've heard this tune. Classic movie. It deserves an Oscar, dude. This song's chill.

"Kaya"
Bob Marley
Bob Marley.
Enough said.



"Yes"
LMFAO

Really empowering tune here. See your dreams, follow them, get that Jacuzzi. The world is yours man.



"Dip"
Danny Brown

I don't really understand what he's saying, but apparently Danny Brown wrote this for his girlfriend or something; go figure. It's got such a sweet beat, I just wish he'd slow down the lyrics.

Food Choice of the Week

The Promise Land of CWRU Restaurants

Grace Gunderman
Contributing Writer

It's impossible to go to this Cleveland restaurant without seeing someone you know. The line can take hours, even days. People flock in hoards and droves; I've always been impressed when I see the line stretch all the way to the door. Their food may not be five stars, but once you reach the front, it doesn't even matter—you would start eating your snow boots if you had to wait any longer. But, if you do choose to eat them, make sure to pick the rubber out of your teeth when you're done.

This restaurant is a good place to bring a first date. Waiting in line gives you plenty of time to chat with them, and decide if they would be worth introducing to your friends. It's also a good chance to flee in the opposite direction. When you reach the promised land, you can finally pay for that golden, delicious burrito. At this point, if your date is bad, then at least it will soon be over, and you can think about chowing down. Maybe your eating habits will even scare them off.

After the line of people, your options stretch in front of you, limitless. If you chose everything, your plate would look more like a mountain. And if you attempted to eat it all, well, your stomach

would probably explode. Nobody wants to be covered in your guts; trust me.

Now that you have reached the promised land, you have to make many choices: carbs, no carbs or fried carbs; black, brown or white; vegetables, chicken, pork or beef; and then select from a plethora of toppings. This restaurant caters to vegetarians and carnivores. Starting first with the carbs business, if you are not concerned for your well-being, just go for it. All of it. And if you REALLY don't care, or are craving some sort of crunch, go for the fried carbs. On the other hand, if you want to keep that slim figure, you may want to go for the no carb, salad base option. But where's the fun in that?

Anyway, once you've made these basic decisions, you have to move on to the next set of choices. The person behind the counter will ask you "Which do you want?" and point. You then have to pick black, brown or white. Once that is complete, you have your choice of meats, vegetables, salsas, cheese and sour cream.

The combinations offered are almost limitless, and the proportions are large enough to keep even the young student's appetite full. When you first get your food, it's wrapped in foil, and feels like a large brick. But, then again, it still



tends to feel like a large brick once it's in your stomach. At that point you don't really care because you are full, and consequently happy. Many of you may be wondering, "What is this restaurant? Where is this restaurant?"

Let me tell you, I am speaking of a local Mexican Food hot spot in the Triangle. It exists for many campus residents, as well as non-campus residents. It really

shouldn't surprise anyone that this restaurant's success trumps the flavorlessness of the dining hall: at that point, anything seems good.

This restaurant definitely is one I would pick if I needed any of the following: a large meal for cheap, somewhere to drown my feelings or somewhere to spend large amounts of time in a line. If you are looking for any of those things, I would definitely recommend you go in for a visit. You won't be disappointed.

Welcome to Chipotle.

Interview with Lindsay: What to do while stoned

Marisa Neel
Staff Reporter

We can only thank Obama that unemployment is so high that these days the only thing higher is Lindsay Lohan.

With the drug finals coming up this year, we have Charlie Sheen and Lindsay Lohan going head to head in a close battle for the gold. I had a chance to catch up with the "Mean Girls" star while she was in between rehabs last week.

Naturally, we talked drugs. After all, it's best to get advice from those with experience.

Lohan gave me the scoop on what to do and what not to do while completely stoned, stating, "Gotta get the most out of it without complications, ya know?"

We had quite the discussion. For example, while high, Lohan suggests crashing a party. (Do not crash a car.) Or, leak a song you wrote to the internet. (Maybe take this one with a grain of salt; her song was one of the least welcomed leaks since the gulf oil spill.) Or, become a pop star. "How else do you do it?" she asked in a tone far too serious. Or, watch "The Matrix." Or, do homework—apparently, being stoned off the walls makes it fun, and you get to be productive. Killing two birds with one stoned. There is clearly a lot to learn from this girl.

Let's not get too sarcastic. Remember, Lindsay Lohan is actually a talented young lady who just got into many bad situations. She is actually very accomplished, basically a triple threat: Singer, actress, and the sole reason for 90 percent of all gossip websites. Basically, she's pretty fetch.

Even though her voice is as croaky as

the "ain't nobody got time for that" lady, Lohan is on the uphill. Back in rehab for the 11th time, I thought to see what she learned from the whole mess. I asked her to give me advice on what not to do while high. She unfortunately couldn't come up with much. We reached the mutual consensus that you probably should not approach the popo, or contribute to Yahoo answers.

But remember, being stoned isn't everything. There's more to life, as Lohan is beginning to discover. She's now the optimist, glass always half full. Good for you, Lindsay.



Courtesy Athenian archives

You
You
You
You
YOU

You're just our **type.**

...unless you're Comic Sans.

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Journeying out of Skyrim

CWRU police apprehended a young man earlier this week, after having received several reports of the disruption he was causing on the campus quad. The young man, who at the time called himself “Ex Dragon Slayer Ex Ninety Three” but was later discovered to be a sophomore at CWRU, was allegedly standing atop the Spitball, throwing acorns at passerby and “demanding their ear for but a moment,” as witness accounts now tell us.

“Friends and fellow countrymen” he was heard saying, “I demand your ear for but a moment. It is time to wake up from this silly dream you call college! It is time to come home to Skyrim! Our great and wonderful homeland has been invaded by dragons. Dragons!” Eyewitness accounts suggest that the disgruntled students began to form a crowd upon hearing his exclamation.

“How can you settle for this mundane and stagnant game?” the student continued. “How can you abandon a world of excitement and adventure in favor of the assignments of homework and the tests of multiple choices? How can you go each day without missing magic, without missing the warm feeling of fire in your palm?!” At this, it is reported that the self-dubbed Ex Dragon Slayer Ex Ninety Three held out the palm of his hand to show the growing crowd that it did indeed hold fire, but that no fire could be seen. Some spectators speculate that this is due to the light drizzle falling that day, though most attribute the lack of fire to the fact that the student was rather confused.

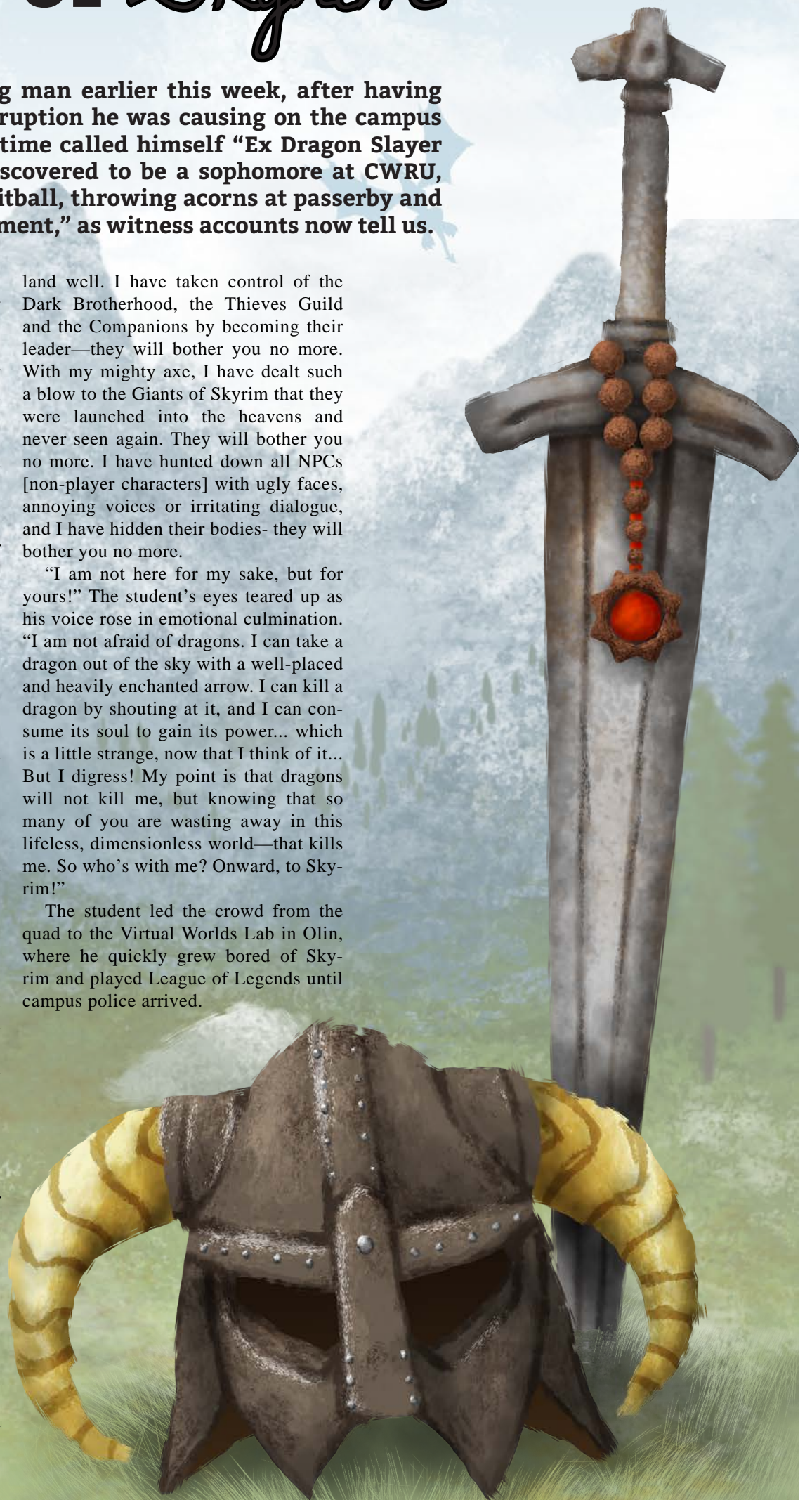
“Have you forgotten your families? Your husbands, wives and children? By leaving Skyrim for this dreary, rainy academic game, you have forsaken them. Yes, it is true that children are immortal in the land of Skyrim, and I admit that my own lovely wife, Mjoll the Lioness, is impervious to death in battle... but they still need us. Skyrim still needs us. If we do not stand between the dragons and Skyrim, with only our wit, strength and boots of fire resistance to protect us, then who will?”

“Many of you are afraid, I imagine, of the old Skyrim.” the student paused to straighten his plastic helmet, then went on. “The old Skyrim which was ravaged by civil war and great evils. You need not fear, for I have vanquished that old Skyrim. I have single-handedly ended the civil war by crushing the Stormcloak rebellion. We can all agree that the Imperial Legion has a bad-ass sounding name and will thus serve our

land well. I have taken control of the Dark Brotherhood, the Thieves Guild and the Companions by becoming their leader—they will bother you no more. With my mighty axe, I have dealt such a blow to the Giants of Skyrim that they were launched into the heavens and never seen again. They will bother you no more. I have hunted down all NPCs [non-player characters] with ugly faces, annoying voices or irritating dialogue, and I have hidden their bodies- they will bother you no more.

“I am not here for my sake, but for yours!” The student’s eyes teared up as his voice rose in emotional culmination. “I am not afraid of dragons. I can take a dragon out of the sky with a well-placed and heavily enchanted arrow. I can kill a dragon by shouting at it, and I can consume its soul to gain its power... which is a little strange, now that I think of it... But I digress! My point is that dragons will not kill me, but knowing that so many of you are wasting away in this lifeless, dimensionless world—that kills me. So who’s with me? Onward, to Skyrim!”

The student led the crowd from the quad to the Virtual Worlds Lab in Olin, where he quickly grew bored of Skyrim and played League of Legends until campus police arrived.



Written by Matthew Canestraro
Illustrated by Wes Ayers

Can you draw like a champ?

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Editorial

That moment when A bittersweet (half) goodbye.

This is where this issue gets serious. Beyond all the giggles, the terrible (but humorous) impersonations of The Observer, and the copious amounts of weed references in this issue, yes, there is a shred of storytelling left for me to do.

In 2010, I waltzed into college thinking I was going to conquer the world. I thought I had it all figured out - what classes I was going to take, what I was going to do for every minute of the day, how I was not going to be in a sorority or lead any groups and just do the awesome grades dance (I'm not sure how well that correlated with taking over the world, but I was going to do it anyway). I even swore in my head that I would play the good girl game: there were drinks I wasn't going to touch, parties I'd stay away from, and men would be restricted to my countless rewatching of Disney movies.

That was perhaps the most disillusioned I've ever been in my life (mom, dad, I'm sorry).

In 2014, I'm leaving with most of that changed. I could probably say that I'm somewhat battle hardened - I'm not in the same major I started with, and am definitely in a sorority (yes, we snap). I've lead more than one group to slay the fierce dragons, and I figured out my poison of choice before I was 21... then promptly stopped caring a month later. I can pretty safely say that college has been a good chapter of my life. Despite this, I still haven't learned to say no, and my bullshitting skills have mostly remained stable despite enduring SAGES. (I'm hopeful that some other chapter of my life will refine those.)

This is my third time putting together this particular annual issue - once in my sophomore year, then in my junior year, and now, as my last issue as the only editor-in-chief of The Athenian. The next time you see this note, I'll be officially handing off my torch to the next captain of this ship with pride, and the rest of this ship's fate will rest with him or her and the crew. But, you'll have to forgive me for reminiscing. This magazine has changed a tremendous amount in the short time I've been at the helm. Just with this particular layout, each year it looks better. I don't think as fondly back to the first time I did it as I do with this iteration, as I remember being a little shocked. There were so many things to look at and so many things to remember. Despite the issues in between, working on this particular layout is always different. This time, while the content was heavily skewed towards one theme, I still see how far we've come in our originality and voice. I can see the things that we've steadily improved upon. Even though, as with all things, there are still some things that we need to change, we're on solid ground and in a good place.

Thus, I'm at the point of my editor's note. Looking back, I see so many different events flickering in and out, trying to find their way into the limelight. I never understood what it was to be truly proud of something I had created before this magazine, but I can say it now: I'm proud of this magazine. I'm proud of how it looks, the staff who create it, and the people who read it. I know I'm not saying goodbye right now, but it is my moment to reflect. This, after all, will be the last time I stand alone on the helm after over two years.

I hope this magazine has made something of itself in my time here. I hope the freshman know its name and the seniors appreciate where it came from. I hope not for my name to mean something, but that the name The Athenian will be remembered.

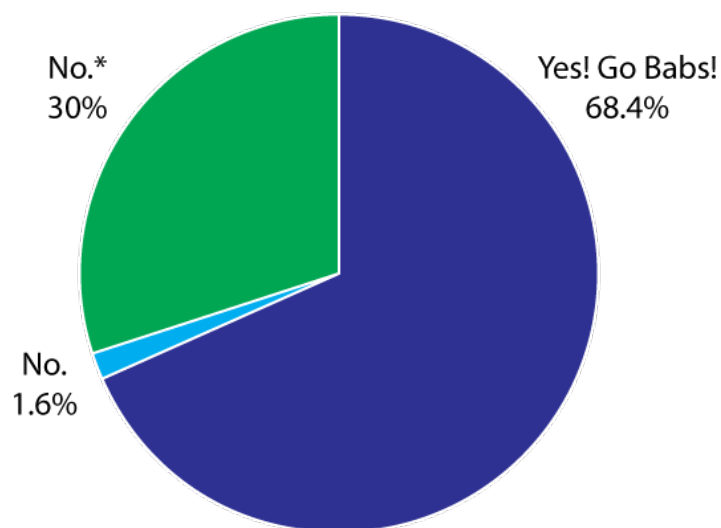
The moral of the story? Be proud of what you accomplish. Sure, what others think you have done matters, but it matters what you think of yourself the most. With that, I bid all of you the best of luck with the rest of the year. Freshman, be proud of your first year and your accomplishments. Seniors, we're at the home stretch and writing the final words of our legacy here. Let's bring it home.



Melanie Sayre
Editor-in-Chief

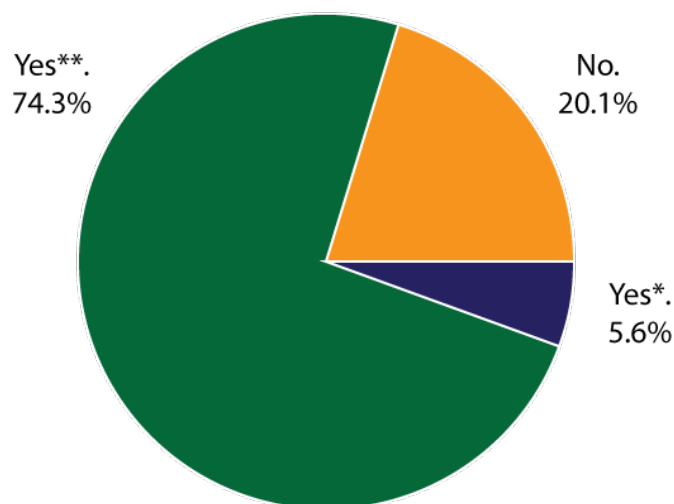
State Your ~~CASE~~

Do you support Barbara Snyder's administration?



*We need a violent revolution to overthrow the tyrannical dictator and install Steve Buscemi as campus president.

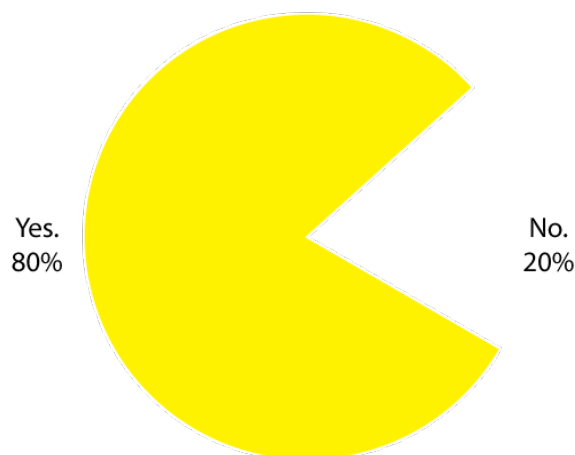
Do you respond to the State Your Case Online Poll?



*And I am a regular student.

**And I work for The Observer.

Does this chart look like Pac-Man?



The Athenian is the monthly undergraduate humor student magazine of Case Western Reserve University, published on the first Friday of every month (exempting April). Established in 2000, The Athenian exists to produce laughs and giggles in an otherwise desolate world that we call CWRU. For advertising information, contact The Athenian at athenian@case.edu. The Athenian is a proud member of the University Media Board since Hundert.

All photos, articles, ideas and correspondence should be e-mailed to athenian@case.edu or not submitted on our website at cwruathenian.com (again, please email). We can publish under pseudonyms or real names. Writings may be edited for clarity and brevity, and while The Athenian makes an attempt to print all photos, articles, ideas and correspondence, space and date of publication are not guaranteed (but we'll definitely take bribes). (But, as an official disclaimer: nothing in this magazine reflects the opinion of the Case Western Reserve University. Additionally, many of the items found within this magazine are made up. There are, however, a few things that are true.)

the athenian

established in 2000 by some pour soul at Case Western Reserve University
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Advice: care less, smoke more

Trust Me, I'm A "Scientist"

Evan Martin

Dope. Weed. Mary Jane. The Devil's Lettuce, if you happen to be a southern pastor from the 1950's. Whatever you call the stuff, 40 percent of Americans 12 and older admit to using it at least once in their lives. Raise that preteen age limit to 21, and that number of at least one-time users climbs to greater than 50 percent.

Seriously, think about that for a second. If you're 21 years old or older, and you haven't tried pot at least once, you're in the minority (and, based on preliminary research, extremely uncool). In the last month alone, an estimated 17.4 percent of the U.S. population got stoned at least once, and around 1 percent of the population uses the drug daily. Now that it's legal in two states, all of those percentages are likely to increase.

Now, if you've spent any time listening to the news, you've probably heard quite a bit of argument over marijuana of late. It's no secret that I fall squarely on the pro-pothead side of this debate, so I try to stay as objective as possible when discussing the issue, particularly with those who don't exactly share my point of view. But goddamn if some of the arguments I've heard against legalization aren't some of the most questionable things I've ever heard. Yes, I realize that pro pot advocates are perfectly capable of making terribly stupid, uninformed or just flat out wrong arguments as well.

But, as public resistance to legalization not-so-slowly but surely continues to burn away like the lit end of a jazz cigarette, as the kids today are calling it

(today is still 1968, right?), opponents too square to get with the times find it harder and harder to convince the voting public of their convictions. For example, California Governor Jerry Brown last month expressed his concern that outright legalization would lead to the decline of America. Or, as he so eloquently put it, "How many people can get stoned and still have a great state or a great nation?"

Now, look. I get it. The vast majority of those opposed to marijuana legalization have good intentions. And if you happen to be one of those people, I imagine you read the last paragraph and thought something along the lines of "You just cherry picked that stupid argument to discredit anti-marijuana views!" To which I respond: No, I cherry picked that stupid argument for purely comedic purposes. I laughed out loud when I first saw it.

I guess what I'm trying to say is this: I can completely understand how reasonable, well-intentioned people could be uncomfortable with the idea of legalization. For Pete's sake, most of us millennials remember hearing throughout middle and high school about how dangerous weed is. Plenty of people go their entire lives without touching the stuff. And you know what? More power to them.

However, if numbers are to be trusted (and, in my experience, they generally can be), the prohibition of marijuana has absolutely not worked. Remember, if you're 21 or older and you've never been stoned, you are in the minority of Americans. Moreover, the numer-

ous potential medical benefits, the low dependency rate (about 9 percent of users) and the absurdly low toxicity of the drug utterly set it apart from other substances. Marijuana is most certainly not harmless, and can certainly interfere with lives when used irresponsibly. But amongst psychoactive drugs, it is almost universally considered to be one of the least harmful—perhaps the least.

Let's put all that aside. Let's also put aside the fact that black people are arrested at a rate 3.5 times higher than whites when it comes to pot-related crimes. And let's put aside the billions of dollars—as much as \$13.5 billion, to be specific—that could be saved through legalization and taxation (as you can imagine, illegal drug buyers and sellers tend not to faithfully pay the taxes that

they are technically required to pay on all transactions).

There's only one fact that ultimately matters when it comes to this question, and it's one that's been constant throughout human history: Appetite cannot be legislated out of existence. No matter how illegal a product is, if there is a demand for it, people will find a way to get it. As long as pot continues to make life more delicious, hilarious and fascinating, the demand for it will be strong indeed. It's time. Legalize it.

Evan is the product of 85 million years of primate evolution. He enjoys sports, Star Wars, living in Cleveland and seeing the world as one giant science experiment with too many variables and not enough explosions.



Courtesy cannabisnews.org

Bring on 2014: A guide to being different

Kayla's Worldly Intentions

Kayla DeVault

Who are you? Are you like everyone else or are you different? Special? Maybe a large part of who you are is where you come from. Well, since the beginning of time people have been divided by this thing called culture. Any deviation from mainstream thinking or traditional custom created a divergence. Enough small differences over time can create more than just a generational gap and actually can cause people to separate from one another.

Therefore, by its very definition, culture is "being different." And "being different" can encompass any wide variety of things, from religion to music, politics and even diets. But sometimes culture seems to try too hard to be different. In that case, culture becomes that lurking group of smoking Goth kids in "South Park" that is always angsty, never popular and bound to rapidly downsize due to juvenile lung

cancer. The key is to know which kind of culture is you.

It was cool to be a shepherd 2,000 years ago. Or, at least a lot of people did that. It was also cool to disrespect women and wear clothes that more closely resembled bed sheets than actual outfits. Life was pretty simple and not a lot was written down. Actually, it was probably so boring that no one could really stand writing about daily life. And there were quite a few people sitting around with their sheep in those days, just watching the sheep do sheep things. Yet the people we remember from 2,000 years ago are the ones who made some kind of religious impact on history or conquered a lot of people.

It was cool to be a specialist 1,000 years ago. You wouldn't specialize in something like child psychology or orcas, but you might specialize in pounding iron into something or blowing glass. It was still cool to pretty much ignore women and wear silly clothing. But, of course, the people who actually defined the culture of that time aren't remembered. Rath-

er than remembering the serfs and peasants of this era, when we think of 1,000 years ago we remember the royalty that took money from the poor and had a lot of people killed.

Today, it's cool to be different. It's so cool that everyone is trying. In fact, thousands and thousands of people try to be different every day in so many ways that it's pretty much impossible to actually be different. From shepherd to specialist and then to individualist, our narcissistic society is so concerned on the individual while the ineffective government pays no mind to them at all. And, as history tells us, these individualists won't be remembered by anyone anyway. No, the future will only remember the governmental body acting as the collective town idiot.

Today's culture seems to encourage us to embrace a past that we weren't involved in but which defines why we're here and how we now live. But that doesn't mean you can't control your own personal culture, like who you are and how you will impact the future. No one wants to be ordinary. Today, everyone wants to be "Royals." Well, with a little bit of effort, you can make sure you're not the ordinary guy wearing bed sheets and blowing glass.

The 2014 Guide to Being Different (But Really):

1. Answer to a different name every day. Like, names are so 1066 A.D. anyway.
2. Buy clothes that you only wear once.
3. Only study when it seems cool to not study, and stop studying when everyone else is actually getting serious about that test (like, whatever, finals).
4. Start smoking but never smoke where

you're actually supposed to.

5. Don't chew gum. Chew sticky tack instead. Way cooler.

6. Wear your backpack upside down. Probably no one will copy you, so you're safe.

7. Go to class. That's so uncool that you'll eventually make it cool but no one will want to copy that either.

8. Make three cheat sheets for test that only allows two, then get the third tattooed on your thigh. People will think you're creative, even better than the Goth kids creative.

9. When it comes to professional sports, remain completely emotionless and unconcerned.

10. Tell people you only eat between the hours of 11 a.m. and 10 p.m. because that's when Chipotle's open. You're openly protesting that they open for breakfast, too.

This guide is only 10 easy steps, but it's enough to get you started. It will give you the tools you need to unpredictably stand out, protect your individualism and hurt enough people (or at least yourself) to get you on track for making that lingering impression on society. Remember, wearing skinny-leg jeans and being edgy doesn't score enough individualist points anymore these days so you've got to think of other means. So find your new "culture" and party on.

Kayla loves to travel the world alone and experience new things in places that most people avoid like the Plague, all the while dreaming of the day her cats will decide to tag along and go somewhere more interesting than their litter box.



Courtesy organicauthority.com

The Japanese on April Fool's Day

Well, There Goes Japan

Shinichi Atatakunakattakara

Despite birthing such bizarre popular phenomena as anime, the Japanese are generally considered to be a rather serious people. Their modern economy is built around stoic salary-men working long days and nights. Their students study more for Japan's infamous college entrance examinations than most American students study in the entirety of their college career. Finally, Japanese housewives, or 'shufu,' are up before the sun preparing breakfast and boxing lunches. The shufu perform household chores, cook dinner and tutor students without rest. The seriousness and rigor of this society cannot be underestimated.

One might expect, then, that they would shun away from April Fool's Day as an unserious holiday, a waste of time. The truth, as is often the case with the Japanese, is not as expected.

In Japan, April Fool's Day is sometimes directly translated to 'shigatsu baka,' but it is more commonly referred to by the name 'eipuriru fuuru,' a nipponized approximation of the English phrase 'April fool.' The holiday itself is not significantly different than its American counterpart: websites change layouts, companies release fake products and friends and family trick each other. Just as the Japanese approach their everyday lives and their confusing culture with an air of seriousness and commitment, their creativity and dedication to their tricks and hoaxes cannot be beat.

Americans have become all too familiar with Google HQ's April Fool's Day antics over the years. Google of Japan has also run a number of interesting announcements for fake products and services. A theme of working around Japan's complex Kanji system provides a number of gags. The first is a newly designed Japanese keyboard featuring no fewer than 2,000 keys for the standard Kanji system used throughout Japan. Don't worry, the system came equipped with two drumstick-like styluses used to type away at the multitude of keys. The drumsticks get incorporated into another faux Google typing product where the user's Morse-code-like rhythm instructs the computer to type the necessary characters. Another website, 'Binjin Tokei' or 'Beautiful girl clock,' which usually features pretty women holding up signs

with the current time, changes its theme to feature poorly cross-dressed men doing the same thing on April Fool's.

Other fake products are just as ridiculous. Domino's has released advertisements for fully prepared canned pizzas, although it was never made clear how one returns the delicious treat to a pie-like state. Red Bull released a collection of 48 new flavors called ARB 48 (April Red Bull 48), inspired by the massive, 48 member Japanese Pop Group AKB 48 (Akihabra 48). The 48 different flavors in newly designed cans were to be released across Japan with questionable flavoring choices such as tofu, ginkgo leaf and natto, which translates to "Don't eat this. Ever."

Another questionable product was released from the makers of the famous instant cup ramen: an instant pudding cup requiring only the addition of hot water. Why would this product be released when pudding cups have existed for a number of years? The world may never know. Lastly, a new level of "questionable product" was achieved when movie posters and advertisements for a Japan-exclusive "Back to the Future IV" started showing up in subways and on billboards. The reader is left to their own thoughts on the terrors that this particular film would present.

Even the serious, big time Japanese newspapers have gotten in on the fun in recent years. Stories have been run featuring a giant new penguin species found and adopted into the Tokyo Ueno Zoo, complete with a photograph of what is obviously a man in a penguin suit standing in the penguin exhibit. Hoax stories have included Astroboy-style repair robots sent to fix war damages in Iraq and ranged from the discovery of massive, politically destabilizing oil reserves beneath Japan to the replacement of government retirement pensions with lottery tickets, all of which lead to hilarious consequences. So if you're in Japan's Tokyo Shibuya station and you see construction for a new Final Fantasy style save point, don't be surprised. Just laugh it off and remember that the Japanese take their hoaxes and tricks just as seriously as their everyday lives.

Sayounara, bromodachi.

Shinichi, despite the name, is an American citizen, not a foreign exchange student. His parents disowned him 3 years ago when he received a 'B' in Professor Butler's MATH 122, but he's pretty sure they still love him.



Courtesy googlejapan.blogspot.com

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• Letter to the Editor •

Dear Editor,

I'm extremely concerned about the lack of clarity regarding smoking areas at this school, as well as the recent article talking about making Case Western a smoke-free campus. First of all, some people wouldn't even make it through their day if they couldn't smoke. Secondly, do smoking areas even exist? Because many students, myself included, have resorted to just smoking wherever they feel like.

Another point that needs to be clearer is what are we allowed to be smoking? Smoking illegal substances is a very touchy subject with some people, so I'm never sure who to ask. Some people are very anti-drugs, and discussing it with them leads to an awkward conversation about why I would even ask such a thing and how I'm choosing to spend my time. In reality, our lovely state of Ohio should legalize marijuana so that the more liberal college students at CWRU don't have to deal with such negative attitudes toward their life choices.

Though I personally am not in favor of a smoke-free campus, I understand that for some the smoke is a bit gross. For example, the squir-

rels might not be fans. Squirrels are a very prominent part of CWRU life. They are everywhere, and they probably don't like their home being polluted anymore than we would in their positions. Imagine if you were a squirrel, and there was someone smoking near your home. (Your home would be in a tree in this scenario, which in case you didn't know, is flammable.) Squirrels have good reason to be paranoid about a cigarette or a joint slipping out of someone's fingers and setting the tree on fire. A squirrel could end up, quite tragically, homeless.

While I see this devastating situation as a good reason for squirrels to want a smoke-free campus, I still don't see any reason for people to desire that possibility. After all, we need to keep in mind the pains addicts will go through if that policy is put in place. Not just physical pain from withdrawal, but also mental and emotional pain from having a major stress outlet denied. Some people (I'm not saying I'm one of them) would need to smoke weed just to write this letter.

Sincerely,

A concerned marijuana advocate

Disclaimer: Read at your own risk. Opinions enclosed within this issue are most likely produced by monkeys on typewriters who have no idea of what they are doing. On the other hand, they are probably also the official view of the voices in the Cat's head.

That said, all comments & opinions expressed herein are our own and not those of our overlord, CWRU.

Unpopular opinion: Marijuana killz

Devil's Advocate in the Room

Charlie Topel

Ladies and gentlemen, we have a war on our hands: the war on drugs. This wildly successful war has been going on for decades, started by the honest patriot Richard Nixon in the mid-1970s to combat the hippy-dippy flower children who infected our youth with their LSD and peace talks. This war, as you all know, has been growing in popularity in the past few years; prison populations are at an all-time high maximum thanks to the efforts of the genuine, hard-working agents of the DEA.

Recently, however, treason-loving "states" have decided to ignore the federal government and legalize marijuana, also known as weed, grass, bud and the Devil's kale. ColoradON'T and WashinGTONED legalized the satanic plant after their atheist lawmen decided to blaze it instead of praise it.

As the rest of the country knows, marijuana kills babies, turns our children into homosexuals and, most dangerously, promotes obesity among our women. In a recent survey of avid watchers of "The O'Reilly Factor," a whopping 96 percent agree that killing children in cold blood is wrong. If killing children is wrong, why do we want marijuana to be legal? Studies conducted by Weed Is Bad Because It's Toxic (WIBBIT), an unbiased research group, found that THC, the main ingredient in Devil's Bud, accounts for 100 percent of all natural disasters in the world.

Trust me, marijuana is the worst.

I understand my opinion is unpopular. I constantly hear from punk kids and ugly sinners known as "scientists" that marijuana actually has "real health benefits." Whenever they tell me these lies, I laugh in their faces and throw whatever I am

holding at them, which are usually anti-marijuana pamphlets. Even if they are correct, that this evil plant has some sort of benefit for people, I still fully believe it should be banned. I know what is best for people: for the government to tell them what to do in their free time, regardless of whether it actually affects other people or not.

The laws of our country are in place to help people, to show them the light that is my personal opinion! Besides, if we start changing these laws, what's next? Duck marriages? Because I know for a fact that all ducks are male (the female equivalent is geese, obviously), and gay duck marriages are the last thing this country needs!

If these scary facts won't sway you, think of all the good that will come of continuing to ban weed and kicking the two Communist states ColoBADO and BREAKINGTHELAWshington out of the U.S. No one will be on drugs. The word "baked" will only apply to cookies fresh out of the oven. Satan will retreat back to Hell and the sinners will perish. But all this is achievable only with the complete annihilation of marijuana and marijuana-based terrors!

So, readers, encourage your kids to use hugs, not drugs; to smoke friendship, not weed; to inject love intravenously, not illicit substances. The war on drugs doesn't have to stop with Bush! Barack HUSSEIN NObama isn't doing anything to protect your kids from WAHWAHWAHshington and SHOCKEDANDAPPALLEDorado. Defend your country, stop smoking dope, and don't let The Devil invade your kids!

Charlie Topel is a sophomore majoring in masochism with a minor in giving up. In his free time he enjoys knitting, baking and composing black metal operas.

Ten things to do with your rock collection

Crisp Perspective

Eleanor Rambo

As temperatures rise and finals approach, tempers often rise as well. Since none of us are faultless, we really can't afford to throw stones around our glass houses. Instead, consider putting those rocks to use in a different way.

If you'd like to use your rocks while enjoying the beautiful spring weather, take them down to Wade Lagoon and skip stones in front of the art museum. Although the body of water is more like a pond, it's lovely on sunny days. Just make sure you don't hit a goose.

Alternatively, if the warm weather has cheered you up too quickly and you're seeking emotional balance, put a rock in your shoe. Nothing will bring you down to earth like foot-related misery. This will also help remind you that even on the prettiest days, life is suffering.

If you're seeking a calming activity to fill your study breaks, make your own Japanese rock garden. These stylized landscape

gardens are relatively small, so you could easily turn your dorm room into one by exchanging your furniture for rocks and sand. Housing might charge you for the clean-up, but you can't put a price on such a classic meditation aid.

Feeling helpful? Try filling Cleveland's potholes with your rock collection. There are plenty to choose from, and Cleveland drivers will thank you. If it doesn't work and your rocks end up scattered across the rest of the road, no one will even notice.

Lonely rock-owners should consider turning their collections into pet rocks.

With just a pair of googly eyes and glue, you can create a steadfast friend in minutes. These desk-bound pets are not interesting or energetic, but they make up for this with their good listening skills. They are also loyal, and will never talk behind your back. If you're especially crafty, add some paint and feathers to your pebbly friend!

"Try filling Cleveland's potholes with your rock collection. There are plenty to choose from, and Cleveland drivers will thank you."

If you'd like to make a stone craft but aren't in need of any pets or friends, create a mini Spirit Rock. The Spirit Rock is geology's response to the Ugly Statue, and is situated next to Denny's on North Side. It's intended to act as a sort of bulletin board for campus events, but is rarely acknowledged, let alone painted. If you'd like to recreate this campus landmark on a small scale, sloppily paint a stone, and then leave it somewhere to be ignored.

If you prefer to contribute original artwork to campus, find an empty lawn and start piling. You may plan the structure before you start, but your statue

will match the others on campus better if you don't. Boulders, pebbles, gravel—go with your gut, and think of the symbolic meaning later. Consider placing your statue between KSL and the Tinkham Veale construction, so that students will be able to see it through the glass walls or from the green roof.

To get into the Easter spirit, paint oval rocks pastel colors and hide them around

campus. If you enjoy seeing people be disappointed, stay nearby and watch other students realize that there's no candy inside your sham eggs.

Has the spring semester left you penniless? Make your own monetary system based on rocks. Although they're not the best foundation for an economy—they're bulky, heavy, and plentiful—convincing others of their value is half the battle. If you're lucky, you'll be able to scoop enough of them up to pay for next year's textbooks. At least rocks are more concrete than Bitcoin, after all, and all you need to mine them is a shovel.

If none of these options appeal to you and you begin to feel the urge to throw stones, donate your collection to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. They probably won't appreciate it, but it's better than beginning a conflict that would shatter the glass neighborhood where we all live.

Ellie Rambo is a sophomore English and Cognitive Science major. She enjoys napping, fondly remembering past naps, and planning naps for the future.



REPORT: Former Brown's owner admits to being "high" during management decisions, sold team to pothead Jimmy Haslam

Release Winchester MacCionaodh, Former Cleveland Brown's owner

According to a new report from ESPN, former Cleveland Browns owner Randy Lerner admitted to being high during most of his management decisions. These moments spanned from his father's death in 2002 until the team's sale in 2012 to businessman Jimmy Haslam. In the report, Lerner also claims that he agreed to sell the team to Haslam since Haslam was one of his "stoner friends." Marijuana was the drug of choice.

This revelation does not come as a huge surprise to members of the NFL community as it is the easiest way to explain a myriad of boneheaded organizational moves. These resulted in the team having five different head coaches in a 10 year span, and several major draft busts including quarterback Brandon Weeden and running back Trent Richardson.

"I mean how else do you justify taking a non-sure thing quarterback who is nearly 30 years old in the first round of the draft?" explained Lerner. "[Team President Mike] Holmgren and I just got totally blitzed out of our minds one day, and you know what, we were sitting there, and we decided we liked the kid's name, Weeden. He's got f***en weed in his name. How chill is

that? But seriously. So after a few 'I love you mans' and some bro hugging it out, we just figured that we'd let the haters hate, and take the Weed-man with the first pick. Weed-man haha. That kid was the shit. You know that—the shit. Wonder what he's up to these days. Been forever, man."

Lerner was unaware of the fact that Weeden was cut only last month after two years of not living up to his hype.

"Shit seriously man, he was on the roster this entire time?" Lerner said. "Dang, not

really sure why he wasn't returning any of my calls."

Bleacher Report "experts" have been attributing Weeden's "I'm better than you" attitude to the fact that he has played in two more professional sports leagues than Lerner.

Haslam, the team's current owner, refused to comment on the allegations despite showing up to his weekly press conference with bloodshot eyes and a suit covered in Dorito cheese powder.

His track record has not been much better than Lerner's, with two coaches lasting only a year a piece during his time with the Browns.

A Browns' employee, speaking under the condition of anonymity, says that Haslam fired both since they weren't comfortable with his smoking habit, and refused to try "more hardcore" drugs with him.

The mens' drug use is still under investigation.



Courtesy msn.foxsports.com

Statistics of the month

11 individuals who attended last week's men's basketball game (a record)

8 fans who were the players' parents

89 number of times the rhyme "It's alright, it's okay, you'll work for us some day" is chanted after a CWRU loss

0 times it is original

85 times it's still entertaining

4000 students who feel that Sparty is not nearly buff

120

student athletes who claim that they "turned down a division one school for the academics of CWRU."

New sport of the month

Athletic students give new meaning to "Rock-Hard"

Introducing The Throwbacks

River Tam
Sports Writer

Watch out, Ultimate Frisbee team—there's a new team in town that can throw.

In a new twist on shotput, the team "the Throwbacks" have started a trend of throwing rocks with as much force as possible. What adds spice to the game and makes it more than just a spitting contest, however, is that these rocks have a target: a human target.

While the Throwbacks are currently still classified as Division III by the NCAA, they assured reporters that it is a temporary situation and it will quickly change when word spreads about their hot new way to work out. They tout that the team is great for stress relief and generally feeling healthier.

The campus leaders of Humans versus Zombies, however, have come out saying they see the sport as a threat to the Big Games Club.

"While on one hand I think I'd find it viciously satisfying and can't wait to try it," confessed one HvZ leader, "I'm afraid people will see us as too similar to the stoners, but not as cool because we don't hurt people."

Throwback Captain Zach Salem explained the rules to reporters as such: "You pick someone your whole team

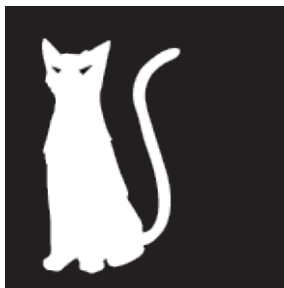
can agree on as the Stoned—that's the first part of the game, so you start out with a positive bonding experience. Then, you throw the actual stones. Personally, most of our team prefers to gather stones beforehand, which the rules allow for, and we designate someone to cart them around behind us with a wheelbarrow. The great thing is you never run out, because you can use the same rocks next time!"

Other CWRU students chimed in about how invigorating they find the sport. "It's like I see life from a new angle! I thought racquetball was good for letting off my anger, but I was so wrong," enthused one freshman. "I almost regret not seeing my classmates from high school anymore. I think they'd make great Stoneds."

This Athenian reporter discovered one student who had undergone the targeting of The Throwbacks, and asked him, as someone who had experienced what might be the negative side of the sport firsthand, how he felt.

"Well," the student, who wished to remain anonymous, paused and took a drag of his cigarette. "It felt like one of those massage things. It really made me... appreciate life."

The student then closed his eyes, and nodded meekly. "I think I need to go to the hospital now."



Nerd version of Fight Club to hold Stoning Festival

Polly Ethyl Ian
Sports Writer

Monday night, on the eve of April Fools, the Case Medieval Combat Club (the reader might know them as 'LARPers') will celebrate the culture and history of rocks as weapons in their annual stoning festival. Stoning, they insist, has a rich and diverse heritage that deserves to be celebrated. "From being thrown by hobbits and flung with slingshots at giants to the brutal and bloody public participation executions of harlots and adulterers, there is a unique and vibrant history behind the weapon," said an anonymous club member. He continued: "That's what we're here to celebrate, the violence and beauty of it all."

The events of the day include a special rock-only battle to be held on Leutner field in the afternoon, with all students welcome as participants. If you feel lacking in experience or reluctant to participate, don't worry. There will be both LARPers and members of the Throwback, CWRU stone-throwing club, on both the Mather quad and main quad demonstrating stone throwing and dodging techniques with random students passing-by. Club members would not confirm anything, but there are rumors that a public execution demonstration will be held at the wet-dry fountain at high-noon. "We cannot confirm or deny anything you might have heard at this point, but what we do know is that a club member has recently defected to a rival army and that there has to be some response to this treachery." The source went on to assure that "definitely no one will die" and "the university hospitals are so close that it's probably safe to get pretty rough with this one."

The cautious student may choose to avoid the quads on Monday, but it is likely that any attempts to stay safe will prove futile as club members in charge of advertising will be making war-like forays into classrooms and dorm buildings to spread awareness of the event. Instead, students are asked to be prepared for bombardment on their way to classes or in their daily commutes, as this will be an intense battle.

Despite the connotations, the club insists that this is a 'fun' and 'interactive' activity. "It's an opportunity to learn and grow as a community" said the anonymous club member, "and we think that everyone should participate." Cider, mead, and pig roast will be provided on the Leutner field after the afternoon's battle, free to all spectators and participants. Reports indicate that heroic stories from the day will be sung by bards at the feast and that dancers will entertain guests late into the night. When asked why the club would go to such extravagant lengths for such a festival, the club treasurer would only say, "We have to burn through our USG funds somehow. Between the food, entertainment, hospital bills and lawsuits, we're pretty sure that we can use up the rest of our money."

The festival, though it may be dangerous, seems to be shaping up to be a good time. Close partnerships with the University Hospitals' Emergency Medical Services and the Nursing School will make the festival safe and fun for all participants while providing some trauma response training for the fledgling nursing students in the arts of field dressing wounds and avoiding combat on the battle field. As is appropriate on a college campus, the focus of the day's events is education, and what is education without a little danger and blood?



Courtesy casedagorhir.webs.com (top) and millaproject.org (bottom)

Cops Versus Druggies: A new game to improve campus spirit

Connie Huang
Sports Writer

A new game, Cops versus Druggies (CvD), is being developed on campus in the wake of polls on changing interests of the CWRU population. Spurred by new lows of participants playing in the various campus-wide traditions, this game will be a desperate attempt on part of the Undergraduate Bonding Board (UBB) to reinvigorate the school spirit.

In essential ways, the game will work much in the same way as its predecessors, notably Humans Vs Zombies. All players start out as druggies except for a few cops. When a cop arrests (makes light physical contact) with a druggie, the

druggie turns into a cop who then tries to arrest other druggies. Druggies can defend themselves by temporarily freezing cops by the usual rules—lightly pelting them with marshmallows or gym socks.

The game was recommended by a member of the UBB based on an anonymous poll conducted earlier in the year to get a sense of the student body. About a third of all students admitted to having dabbled in drugs, as well as least half of the freshmen, making drugs the third most popular student activity. This, of course, landed after going to class and eating right. Unfortunately, this pastime is the least openly discussed among students as well, which may be contributing to the faltering sense of belonging in the

CWRU community.

People are eager to dodge talk about this common interest as if it doesn't exist, but the evidence is quite striking and clear. The biggest clue is that the locker rooms in Veale center smell suspiciously like grass year-round. Also, a random survey revealed that half of the student population shows up to class red-eyed but only one-fourth of the student body complains about not getting enough sleep at night.

And it's not that the faculty and staff aren't noticing. One professor who preferred to remain anonymous said that he knew what was going on but it doesn't concern him. "As long as they keep doing good work, they must doing something

right." One of the crossing guards has noted fewer freshmen are willing to look him in the eye and greet him. "It's like they've got something to hide." When asked if he knew what, he just winked.

CvD will hopefully bring everything out into the open.

To sum up with bites from the UBB's formal petition for the game: "The conversation needs to open up...Think about the school spirit...Kids can't just keep their passions locked up anymore...College is a time to grow and explore your identity, and that can't happen when you're afraid your identity will be looked upon badly."

Needless to say, the game was heartily approved.

We are looking for writers! Contact amn40@case.edu.



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